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Election Results

It will be Michael J. Hand against Earl Oppert in the battle for the Farmington district judgeship in the general election in November.

At least, that was the indication in unofficial returns from 16 of the 19 precincts which showed Oppert leading the voting with 1,339 against 1,273 for Hand.

Others trailed as follows: Robert Nelson, 546; Bernard Kahn, 334, and Edward Reagan, 87.

In the race for the three-year term for Township Trustees, with one to be nominated, incumbent Peter Klopp trailed Charles Williams, 466-417, with five of 15 precincts reporting. Both are Republicans with no opposition for the Democratic nominee.

The battle for a four-year term, with two to be nominated, found Frederick Lichtman in front on the Republican ticket with 474, followed by Margaret Schaeffer, 408, and incumbent James Skilman, 406, and George Crook, 124.

Aldo Vagnozzi, of Farmington, had a commanding lead over Leonard Baruch, of Southfield, in the Democratic battle for state representative of the 6th district with a total of 351-171 in 12 of 19 precincts. However, the official tally didn't include any precincts from Baruch's home district.

Gary Frink compiled a big edge over Ron Mardiros with 12 of the Farmington district's 19 precincts reported in the congressional race. Frink had 308 to Mardiros' 199.

WESTLAND—Wayne Community School District officials are busy on a variety of pressing problems to prepare the large school district for the opening of the new term for 21,000 students.

PLYMOUTH—William Harding, long-time Assistant Superintendent of the Plymouth Community School District, has resigned to become head of the Mt. Clemens schools. He plans to leave August 9.

REDFORD—Top officers in the State Democratic Party will meet Monday to review the request of sanctioned Redford Township Democratic Club Chairman Joseph Patchett for a hearing and appointment of an administrator for the 18th District organization. Patchett's executive board endorsement of candidates led to disenfranchisement by the 19th District executive board.

GARDEN CITY—Conspiracy charges against three former Garden City officials in the Civic Center land purchase have been dropped by Circuit Judge Joseph Rashid. The state attorney general's office said that the prosecution's chief witness in the case is ill and would not be available to be at the trial, which was to start Monday.

What's Inside

Tim and Nancy Richard are covering the Republican National Convention for Observerland readers in Miami Beach.

In the jargon of the newspaper business, Tim is working flat-out—up at 7 a.m., chewing a luncheon sandwich on the run and writing in his hotel until the early hours of the morning.

His first dispatches back to Observerland tell of a growing restiveness among delegates to Gov. Romney's favorite son role, the life of a convention delegate, the emergence of Observerland's Bill McLaughlin as a GOP state chairman candidate.

Readers can keep up with the moves and maneuvers of their delegates by reading Tim's reports from Miami Beach, the first of which are carried on today's Public Affairs Page.

Keeping up with Tim will be something else.

We expect him to put a pair of roller skates on the expense account.

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City Puts Pension Plan On Ballot

Farmington voters will have the opportunity November 5 to vote on a charter amendment calling for updating the existing retirement plan for city employees.

The Farmington city council voted unanimously Monday night to place the charter amendment on November's general election ballot to ask voter approval of the pension revision.

The actual statement appearing on the ballot will read: "Shall Chapter Five, Section 5.11 of the Charter of the City of Farmington be amended to permit the increase of members' straight life pension of 0.2 per cent of final average salary times credited service;

to provide for voluntary retirement for policemen and firemen at age 55; to permit payment of deferred benefits at voluntary retirement age; and to permit the increase of pensions to present retirees."

THE REVISION would increase benefits to city employees approximately 20 per cent and would add \$1,334 to the average annual city budget.

The city's 44 employees, including 19 in the public safety department, support the retirement fund through payroll deductions.

A pension computed on the basis of one per cent times the years of service for the first \$4,800 earned and one and one-half per cent above that. The proposed revisions increase these percentages to 1.2 and 1.7.

General employees with 10 years service may retire voluntarily at age 60 under the present plan but the proposed change will allow police and firemen to voluntarily retire at age 55 with ten years or more service.

The present plan allows an employee with 25 years service who resigns before age 60 to leave his accumulated contributions on deposit and receive a deferred pension at age 65. The revision reads: "An em-

ployee who is 50 and has 15 or more years of credited service who terminates city employment may leave his accumulated contributions on deposit and receive a deferred pension at age 62."

In case of non-duty total disability, the years of service required for disability benefits would be reduced from ten to five if the amendment is approved.

And finally, survivor pensions would become payable under the new plan to beneficiaries of employees who die after completing 10 years service or before 25 years service.

Dinan if the new plan would compare favorably with pension provisions of other cities.

Dinan explained that about two-thirds of the 240 cities in the Municipal League already have a pension plan similar to the one proposed for Farmington. He said it wouldn't put the city ahead of anyone but "would at least put us in the mainstream."

Dinan explained that the increase was being offered to current retirees to help offset inflationary pressures. He noted the city has only three or four retirees under the current plan and the revision would only amount to a 20 per cent increase for every \$100

received.

He added that the 0.2 per cent increase actually is equivalent to a 20 per cent hike since it is multiplied by the number of years service.

Dinan had said earlier that the total cost of the proposal amounts to less than two and one-half per cent of the city's total budget.

The updating is necessary, he said, to encourage retention of career employees and to offer incentive for experienced personnel to remain with the city.

The motion to place the charter amendment on the ballot was made by T.M. Seibert, supported by Ralph Yoder, and adopted unanimously.



LOOK-A-LIKES—When Pat Norton (left) returned to her home in Farmington after a year in Germany, she brought with her a German dirndl and her German "sister," Baerbel Rosenbaum. The German girl will be here for a year.

It's Even Exchange; Baerbel's Here Now

If Patricia Norton, of Farmington, and Baerbel Rosenbaum, of Germany, continue the way they have for the past year they'll keep trans-Atlantic planes in business.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Aylward S. Norton, the American girl just came home after a year's sojourn in Guelte, Germany, with Baerbel.

The German girl is now here for a year with Pat.

Pat will spend the year at Oakland Community College. Baerbel will attend night classes at North Farmington

High.

THIS IS PAT'S second trip home. She was here in May for the wedding of her brother. A violinist, Pat spent the summer on tour with the All-Student Band and Orchestra USA. Her summer's tour included 13 concerts in 10 countries.

Although, Pat's mother is happy to have the two girls here, the Norton daughter says her mother may have second thoughts. "She's doing all our laundry," says the daughter.

BAERBEL was unprepared for the size of Michigan, "It's all so big," she comments. "Michigan is nearly as big as Germany. Everything you have is so big."

She continues, "And there's so much food in my supermarkets. You have such a great choice. Even your cars are so much bigger. Mostly at home, we have Volkswagens."

"And everywhere you go there are expressways. We have autobahns, but they are not the same."

ALTHOUGH the German girl is well acquainted with her American "sister" by this time, she may find American youth slightly different than Europeans.

Pat notes, "The kids take life more seriously over there. Their school activities are much more limited."

People in Baerbel's part of Germany were much more friendly, Pat found, than the Prussian-type in northern Germany.

ANOTHER THING that Pat found is that European food is fattening. She won't say how much weight she gained, but she does admit to falling in love with Italian spaghetti and lasagne.

She'll have to learn to like American-style spaghetti all over again. According to Pat, the Italians don't eat spaghetti with meat sauce.

In between loads of laundry, perhaps Mrs. Norton can learn how to make Italian-style spaghetti.

City To Buy Land To Expand Oakwood

IN OTHER ACTION, the council approved final plans for the Dray Heights subdivision pending approval by the Planning Commission at its meeting next Monday night on a minor change.

The change involved moving of a sidewalk, as requested by Farmington School District, to provide a more direct route for children walking to school.

The relocated sidewalk will be constructed on a sewer line easement with a fence running alongside the walk.

The council approved the purchase of a land contract between the city and owner calling for \$3,000 down and \$2,000 a year for five years at six per cent interest.

"This has always been a problem piece of property and it would seem logical that long range planning would certainly justify the expansion of the city's Oakwood Cemetery," City Manager John Dinan told councilmembers. "Even if the city did not use it as a cemetery, we believe that the property will always be worth \$12,500 that we are paying for 200 feet of frontage on Grand River Avenue."

A future need for more cemetery space led the Farmington City Council Monday night to approve a \$12,500 purchase of 1.32 acres adjacent to the Oakwood Cemetery.

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THE PROPERTY includes three lots on a parcel 200 feet wide by an average depth of 280 feet including a 30-foot easement for U.S. Locust private road.



HIS GOVERNMENT REMEMBERED—Mrs. Judy Walker, 21145 Waldron, Farmington, holds her infant child as she receives awards from Army Capt. Deka presented posthumously to her husband, PFC Robert W. Walker, who died earlier this year as a result of enemy action in Vietnam. Awards included the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal.