

# Farmington Observer

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## Farmington joins in water rate battle

By MARY GNIEWEK

A \$100 contribution from the city of Farmington added to the funding of a statewide petition drive aimed at ballot consideration of regional control of the Detroit Metropolitan Water Board.

City council recently allocated the fund to "Citizens for Regional Water and Sewerage," a committee chaired by Oakland County Drain Commissioner George Kuhn.

"Since 1975, we've had five rate increases of over 530 percent," Kuhn said. "That's the reason for the petition drive."

The committee is soliciting wide-

spread financial support and is currently operating with a \$10,000 budget.

"We hope with support we'll get the job done by mid-spring," Kuhn said.

He hopes to collect 300,000 petition signatures so that voters can decide in the November election if the 97 communities who buy water or sewer services from Detroit should have more control of the rate-setting water board.

Kuhn's proposal would restructure the board on a one-vote-per-area basis. His proposed nine-member board would be comprised of six suburbanites and three Detroiters.

The seven-member board now in operation has four Detroit and three sub-

urban representatives. They are all appointees of Mayor Coleman A. Young.

"SINCE THE ENTIRE board was appointed by Mayor Young, if they don't agree with his philosophy, they're out," said Earl Billing, Farmington director of public services.

Livonia Mayor Edward H. McNamara was the Farmington area board representative until his criticism of board mismanagement led to his expulsion by Young in late 1977.

"We're trying to get this on the ballot so that we have more of a stake in the operation," Billing explained.

Petitions are available at the Farmington City Hall.

The latest increase brought Farmington residents a 30 percent water and sewer rate hike, effective in bills mailed after Dec. 1, 1979.

The rates reflect increases passed along from Detroit, which is under a federal mandate to bring the water system up to federal Environmental Protection Agency standards.

The quarterly bill of Farmington residents ranges from a \$5.60 minimum charge to more than \$100. The sewer rate was hiked from 125 percent of the water charge to 155 percent in December.

Both charges are spelled out on each billing.

Farmington is responsible for its own water distribution system. The city buys water and sewer services directly from the city of Detroit. The Farmington Hills water system is served through Oakland County.

Drain commissioner Kuhn argues that Detroit mayors have dominated the rate policy since 1940.

A LESS RADICAL alternative to Kuhn's proposal is being offered by State Rep. John Bennett, D-Redford Township.

Bennett sponsored a bill which would

expand the Detroit water board from seven to nine members, four suburban and five Detroit representatives.

Bennett's bill, which was co-sponsored by 39 suburban Detroit representatives, would allow the suburbs to elect their own representatives.

"This bill would allow true representation for the suburbs," Bennett said. "Now the seven-member board's three suburban members don't speak for us because if they get out of line, the mayor (Young) will fire them."

Bennett's bill was approved by the state House of Representatives and is now in a Senate committee in Lansing.



Terry Vigone takes a break with her pet dog Precious as she explains the mystery of the auras. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

## What's your aura?

### Homemaker says colors reveal your story

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

She looks like any Farmington Hills homemaker in her print dress and carefully sprayed hair.

There's a Victorian style dollhouse under construction in her dining room. Her living room is decorated with books and aquariums. She collects kitchen witches.

But Terry Vigone deviates from the accepted path of typical homemakers. She's a psychic who says she delves into the past, present and future of persons by following the colors or auras which surround them.

"I follow the color patterns until I get to something," she said, motioning as if she were pulling a kite back to earth.

"I let the colors wash over me. I become that person. I feel what the person feels."

Usually she holds something that belongs to the person she is studying, practicing a method called psychometry.

Unlike others who insist on maintaining an air of bocus-pocus, Ms. Vigone tries to explain how she sees, as well as what she sees, to her audience. She speaks before groups such as those as-

sembled for classes in Do Something Different, a series featured in community centers and adult education programs in southeastern Michigan cities, including Farmington.

HER SESSION at the Farmington Community Center is scheduled for 1 p.m. Jan. 22 and is part of a series of eight lectures on psychic phenomena.

Ms. Vigone didn't grow up knowing she could see something different. She says she saw the notes in her piano lessons as colors. Certain tones produced certain colors. But she took for granted that everyone saw these things.

"I would tell my mother about the colors and she would agree with me," she laughs.

Her family was Roman Catholic and psychic phenomena wasn't recognized as a suitable topic for discussion. So, Ms. Vigone kept seeing colors accompanying sounds, voices and persons without thinking much of it until 10 years ago when she began reading the works of Edgar Cayce.

"I was delighted. There isn't anything I'm more interested in now than psychic phenomena."

Her interest in the field doesn't con-

flict with her religious beliefs, she says. "People ask me in classes if I believe in God. They still think this is somehow forbidden."

"But it's not. It should make church going more meaningful. It should broaden your faith."

In her readings she tries to give the person a "reason for being."

"I'M VERY careful. I don't tell them just stories. I try to be honest and truthful."

Her own experience in the field started from scratch. She confesses to be amazed when she discovered what a psychic did. And although she believes in reincarnation, now, she says, "I thought it went out with flying carpets and Aladdin's lamp."

While under hypnosis she experienced a previous life. In that other life she was a 13-year old Quaker girl in Indiana. Her father was a strict man and she was afraid of him. One night she ran away and hid in the trees.

Under hypnosis, Mrs. Vigone says she saw the country cabin catch on fire and she felt the heat of the flames as she saw herself as a little girl hiding in the trees.

"I knew my grandmother and baby brother were in the house. I knew they would die in the fire. I felt fear and guilt."

She accepts the event as part of a past life because she suffered from nightmares about a fire when she was a little girl. She would dream that there was fire in the trees which was on its way to destroying the world.

Fear of fire persisted into adulthood.

After the experience under hypnosis, she says her adult fears of her home burning in the night were not as strong.

HELPING CONQUER fear is one aspect of her readings. A young woman is told that an auto accident which caused her mother's death isn't her fault. She wasn't in the car at the time. She had let her mother drive her car. The woman leaves comforted.

Another is told that there are bunny rabbits in her surrounding aura of color. That means she will have children, according to Ms. Vigone.

Another woman is told that she knows someone who collects guns. She doesn't. Several months later, she meets and falls in love with a gun collector.

## Draft wins favor among some Students mull military options

By MARY GNIEWEK

Ten years ago their predecessors marched in anti-war demonstrations and wore peace lapel buttons.

If youth in Farmington are an indication, the national mood has changed. With the oil crisis, the hostage issue in Iran and Russian invasion in Afghanistan closing in around them, a sampling of high school students said they're ready to fight.

And though local Army recruiters won't attribute it to the Iranian situation, enlistment is up, too.

"It's not because of Iran. We don't even discuss that with people applying," said Sgt. Gary Sizemore, Farmington station commander.

"These people are coming in for careers, job training and education. Nobody's coming here screaming, 'We want to go to Iran.'"

The Farmington center recruits from a 225-square mile area that includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Novi, Walled Lake, South Lyon, Union Lake and Milford.

Each of the four recruiters is assigned a quota.

"We went 140 percent in December, and were already 66 percent for the first week of January," Sizemore said.

Recruits can enlist at 17 with parental consent and are accepted to age 35.

"As opposed to last year, we're way ahead of ourselves. Eighteen- to 21-year-olds are mainly joining," Sizemore said.

RICHARD ROY, a government teacher at Farmington High School, was a bit surprised by the responses of his fifth-hour class. Asked if they'd serve if a military draft was reinstituted, the majority of students said they'd go if called.

"Out of my four government classes, I thought they'd be the most negative," Roy said.

If a majority of the class of predominantly 17 year olds seemed committed, they were also reluctant.

"I'd go if there was a good reason," said Dave Ellis. "But I don't think there should be a draft."

Mike Neill agreed.

"I wouldn't look forward to it, but if they started one, I'd go," he said.

"I wouldn't want to go, but I'd go if I had to," said Mark Bryson.

A couple of students believe if the United States becomes involved, it would mean nuclear disaster.

"Why don't they just forget it? If there's a war, that would be the end," said Mary Juracek.

"There's no sense in going," said Chris Davis. "If there's another war, it'll probably be the last one. We have a choice of getting blown up here or there."

"I'd go to Canada," he added.

"MAYBE IF IT was Iran, I'd go," said Doug Bawden. "I wouldn't go if it was Afghanistan. Not us, why should we get involved?"

"We're always trying to cause peace everywhere in the world," added Steve Metson.

Several female students said they'd volunteer for military service.

"I'd help with medical or secretarial work," said Nancy McGovern. "But I don't think it'd be good for the women to fight."

"If there's a draft, I'd rather enlist," said Kathy Flinchum. "It would make more sense."

"If the U.S. was invaded, I'd be the

first one to enlist," said Kelly McDonald. "The U.S. should protect its honor."

Elsewhere in the school, several students seemed to favor a military draft.

Dave Watson, 17, enlisted in the Marine Corp and expects to leave for camp June 30.

"I think they ought to reinstitute the draft," he said. "If we get into a war, we'll need it."

Watson said he enlisted for four years to learn communications skills.

"The Marines offer more than anyone else," he added.

"I'd consider enlisting," said Doug Sako, 15. "You'd get experience."

Sophomores Kevin Flynn and Kevin Gentry said they also support a military draft. But seniors Dave Polus and John Twomey don't.

"I'd go in the event of a war, but if I were a male, I'd give it second consideration," said Melissa Bryan, 17. "Men go into combat, women don't."

"If I could help my country, I think that'd be great," she said.

MRS. GREENBERG, a resident of West Bloomfield and an optometrist with offices in Westland, Hamtramck and Madison Heights, said she is not an idealist. "I became involved when I found out something could be done," she said.

With three offices and three children, I wasn't looking for things to do. It (The Hunger Project) came into my life and moved me."

The Hunger Project is a 2-year-old international organization devoted to ending world hunger. The project helped bring Cambodian starvation to world attention.

In November, the project placed ads in newspapers across the country, asking for a worldwide commitment to end the Cambodian famine.

Locally, the project contacted every church in Michigan, Mrs. Greenberg said. The response was great.

In the immediate area, religious organizations from Garden City to Rochester responded with contributions of money, clothing and supplies for distribution within Cambodia, providing relief at refugee centers in Thailand or to

settle and maintain refugee families in the United States.

A SAMPLING of the contributions reported to Mrs. Greenberg are:

• In Garden City, the Merriman Road Baptist Church held a dinner with random seating at tables named for countries. People at the table designated the United States received a full-

course meal; the rest were served beans, according to Pastor Ray Bobb. The dinner netted \$1,000 to stave off Cambodian hunger.

• Also in Garden City, Tony Farncocks donated 10 percent of the profits from his recycling business to help.

• In Westland, St. Bernadine's special collection for the Cambodians (Continued on page 4A)



KELLY McDONALD



DAVE POLUS

## Fighting hunger in Cambodia cause taken by suburbanites

By JUDITH BERNIE

Individuals, churches and synagogues throughout Wayne and Oakland counties have pitched in to stave off famine in Cambodia.

Joann Greenberg of the Detroit committee for The Hunger Project wants "the people who have participated in Cambodian relief to know what they have done has made a difference."

Word from UNICEF, she said, is that "the course of history has been literally changed for the Cambodian people because of the money pouring in."

According to Mrs. Greenberg, "Three months ago, 15,000 people a day were dying. The prognosis was that the population would be wiped out. In a six-week period, individual Americans contributed \$15 million to Cambodian relief in addition to \$105 million pledged by the U.S. government. Mrs. Greenberg said.

"I don't think this came out of guilt. It comes from their munificence and desire to help someone."

"It's more than newsworthy," she added, "it's historic."

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BACK IN ACTION

The Fox is back in action. But this time he has to fight off the Wolf and his pack. To see how he's doing, turn to Crackerbarrel Debate on 6B.