

Tisch campaigns for tax cutoff

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Get elected to such a body, he says, and "it won't long before every meeting you'll be saying what the superintendent told you the Thursday before."

One way or another, he says, this will be the last try for the tax cut.

"I deserve a reward," he said. "I also don't have to be whipped three times in a row. Twice is enough."

But Tisch doesn't think he's going to be whipped this time. To make sure he isn't, several times a week he climbs into a bright yellow Vega emblazoned with his name and drives somewhere in Michigan to tell his story. Wednesday it was Livonia. Tuesday it was Mt. Clemens. Thursday it was Southfield.

And when he tells his story, Tisch isn't shy.

FOR INSTANCE, some tax-cut critics say a state property tax cut would benefit out-of-state residents who own property here.

"They're guilty of 'the greatest falsehood that's ever been perpetrated on the human mind.'"

Others contend that the biggest beneficiaries of a property tax break will be the biggest property owners.

"The lumber baron deserves just as much of a break as you," Tisch replies.

Judging from the kinds of questions the Compton Village homeowners ask, Tisch agrees with the observation that most of them don't seem to understand how property taxes work.

"MOST PEOPLE do not. And it's a good thing they don't," Tisch said. "If they knew how property taxes worked, some people in the Capitol would be shot."

"I think people are tired of the taxation policy of the state of Michigan," said Tisch, who told the homeowners Michigan is the "highest taxed state in the union based on cost of living."

"We think we're paying enough tax in the state of Michigan. Matter of fact, we think we were paying enough in 1978," he added.

But Tisch doesn't have all the answers, or at least he's not willing to answer all the questions.

One of the homeowners asked him if the reduction in locally-generated property taxes to school districts might lead to cross-district busing.

"I don't have a lot to say about cross-district busing. That's a local concern," said Tisch, adding "there's nothing in the constitution about cross-district busing."

Tisch CLAIMS that the state budget has increased over the past 10 years by \$4 billion more annually than would have been the case had the budget simply matched inflation. He estimates his measure will lay off something like \$2 billion from the state budget.

Tisch sidestepped an audience question about what happened to the other \$2 billion.

Tisch wants to collect about 400,000 petition signatures to ensure that he meets the required 287,000 valid signatures. At the Wednesday meeting, a local supporter turned over some 3,700 signatures.

Chances are good that Tisch will make the ballot. At the very minimum that means, as Tisch puts it, "we'll have an interesting fall."

"We've got some bright people with us this time," he said.

School support brings thanks

Betty Nicolay of Farmington Hills was one of 10 recipients of a Volunteer Leadership Award presented in a ceremony during Michigan Week at the Brooks Memorial Fountain in Marshall May 19.

Mrs. Nicolay was honored for her record of achievement in the community and in particular for her years of service and support to the Farmington schools.

With declining enrollment threatening the school district in 1977, Mrs. Nicolay led a task force which worked for nearly a year to produce a complete blueprint for future direction in educational policy. This has since become the basis of school district curriculum policy.

She also served on a school boundary and school closing task force, which was faced with reorganizing boundaries due to changing enrollment.

William McLaughlin, director of the Michigan Department of Commerce, made the award presentations.

Hills banker gets promotion

Gary W. Laidlaw of Farmington Hills has been appointed assistant vice-president of the Detroit Bank and Trust's Northland office.

Laidlaw has been with the bank since 1964 when he started as an administrative trainee. He has held positions of increasing responsibility since then and achieved officer status in 1978.

He received his BA from Oakland University in 1964. He is involved in community and professional organizations such as the Southfield Exchange Club and the Oakland University Alumni Association.



GARY LAIDLAW



Betty Nicolay of Farmington Hills accepts her Volunteer Leadership Award from William McLaughlin, director of the Michigan Department of Commerce. Mrs. Nicolay was one of 10 Michigan citizens cited for outstanding community service.

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