Farmington Observer

Volume 92 Number 6

Farmington, Michigan

Headlee, Kenerson tapped as top citizens

Tax reform and civic leadership were honored at this year's Farming-ton Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year dinner.

the Year dinner.
For the first time in its history, the Chamber named two Cltizens of the Year — Richard Headlee and Al Kenerson.
More than 200 persons showed up for the annual dinner at the Botsford Inn last Thursday.

last Thursday.

The Carriage House was aglitter with Farmington area society as politi-

cians, business persons and civic leaders turned out to bonor the duo.

Kenerson, a long-time community spaceful the leaders by there is only one individual who seems on a long-time community spaceful the leaders by the long to the leader so the leader so like the leaders by the pull it all to activist, was bonored for his work in raising funds for the newly constructed in the leader so the leaders by the leader so the leaders with the leaders of the leaders of

Farmington Road, north of Ortunal
Lake Road.

The 55-year-old businessman, president of Christy Industries and Acme
Saw Oo, was nominated by YMCa exCutive director Gary Unruh.

"The building is a culmination of
The building is a culmination of
The building is a culmination of
The WYMCA is was activities building.

Through Kenerson's efforts, \$900,000
was raised to complete construction of
the YMCA is was exclutively building.

Through the years, he has been involved in the Jaycees (holding a national Jaycee senatorship), New Horizons,
Boys Scouts and the Farmington Clen

RoadThe St-year-old businessman, president of the project.

"Would venture to estimate that Al Kenerson put in over 1,000 volunteer

"Would project."

"Would venture to estimate that Al Kenerson put in over 1,000 volunteer

"Would project."

"Would venture to estimate that Al Kenerson put in over 1,000 volunteer

"Would project."

"Would venture to estimate that Al Kenerson put in over 1,000 volunteer

"Would project."

"Would project

Boys Scouts and the Farmington Glen Aquatic Club.
Thompson-Brown Realtors President William Bowman, who also supported Kenerson's nomination, lauded his efforts to see the Y building project become reality.
"It observed this great dedication on behalf of the citizens of our community which helped this dream come true," said Bowman.
"During the time of construction the building, I saw him lead the way and disregard disappointments," he said.

Kenerson served as Y board chair-man for eight years.

HEADLEE, who also doubled as last week's guest speaker, is best known for his successful campaign for passage of a 1978 tax reform proposal inserted into Michigan's Constitution.

The 50-year-old businessman is the president and chief executive officer of the Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance. Co. based in Farmington Hills. Headlee also is a Hills resident.



Al Kenerson, long-time advocate of a bigger and better YMCA, was honored for his years of ha work. His wife, Helen, shared in the honor.

Suburbanites socked with water rate price hike

Farmington Hills consumers will pay nearly double for water beginning in December and rates are expected to rise sharply in Farmington next Janu-

ary.

Local municipalities, pawns in a contract between Oakland County and the city of Detroit, the area's water supplier, have no control over the rate hikes.

Richard Headlee played a dual role at this year's Chamber of Com-merce dinner by being name a,co-citizen of the year and the featured

\$1.10 maintenance fee per 1,000 cubic feet won't change. The \$3 hike from Detroit will be passed to consumers. Thus an average bill in Farmington Hills will rise from \$3.60 (\$2.50 Detroit, \$1.10 county). Farmington's rates will be determined in early December, according to City Manager Robert Deadman. Toose billed monthly can look for the first increase in January. Those billed quarterly can expect the first hike in March.

"Our increase will be less than

Farmington Hills because we are actually under the new Detroit water rate system," Deadman said.
"I don't know of anything we can do to bring down the rate," added Lawrence Savage, Farmington Hills city manager.

A SPECIAL HOUSE committee of the Michigan Legislature has asked Deroit Mayor Ooleman Young to post-pone the rate hike until April 1, 1981 "Whether or not the legislature can study the request. The committee noted that the prosed increase will yield an additional committee carries enough authority to get an answer from (Detroit) I posed increase will yield an additional

the additional state and Sewer Board seems to do things the way it wants to do them," said Mayor Joann Soronen of Farmington Hills.

"Whether or not the legislature or "Whether or "Whether

The Hills City Council will consider enactment of the rate hike Nov. 10 after hearing from Donald W. Ringler, of the Oakland County Department of Public Works, water and solid waste di-

Public Works, water aits some vision.

"We're not unsympathet to the problems of Detroit, but I don't think the suburbs should pay the total cost of upgrading the water system," Mrs. Soronen said.

Neither do a lot of other suburban users. A group called Citizens for Regional Water Representation, headed by Oakland County Drain Commission-

tion before voters in the spring.

"We'd like to have 300,000 signatures," said Dorothy Webb, southern Oakland County coordinator for the

group.

The petitions are being drawn from the seven-county southeastern Michi-gan area, where 97 communities buy water or sewage treatment from De-



MICHAEL DORNAN

Dornan leads in city manager sweepstakes

BY MARY GNIEWEK

Manager Lawrence Savage, is the fa-vorite candidate as he enters his second and final interview with the Walled Lake City Council tonight.

say anything until the council has spo-

A Farmington Hills administrator may become the next city manager of walled Lake.

Michael Dornan, 29, assistant to City farmington Hills.

Dornan is negotiating a trade-off with the Walled Lake Council, agreeing to work without a contract if he can forfeit the residency requirement and keep his West Bloomfield Township ad-dress for the first year of employment in Walled Lake.

SIMULTANEOUS WITH Dornan's impending departure, the Farmington full council supported the city masser's request to create the new position.

The stage literally doesn't have enough hours in the day to do everything. Mrs. Soronen said. "Council was very supportive of his request."

Savage justified the new position,

If Dornan is not a unanimous choice tonight, one of three other finalists would be contacted.

SIMULTANEOUS WITH Dornan impending departure, the Farmington Hills Mayor Joann Soronen said the council was aware of the impending departure, the parmington Hills Mayor Joann Soronen said the council was aware of the impending full council supported the current budget. The great was met with unanimous support then.

port then.

It was endorsed again Monday as the
Hills City Council approved a request
from Savage last week to create an assistant city manager position in Farmington Hills.

"This job should strengthen our posi-tion. It's a matter of so many things I can't delegate," Savage said.
"I have a number of people in mind for the job," he continued. "I'll make my decision over the next couple of weeks."

for the next six weeks.

Cairus, a 25-year veteran of civic service, will undergo open heart surgery this week.

what's inside



The Ice Follies are coming to town November 8-23

Orchard Lake progress hindered by decline in gas and weight tax

Declining revenues from state gas and weight taxes as well as a hold on government funds for such projects have nudged back the completion date for the widening of Orchard Lake Road from two to five lanes is a band for the widening of Orchard Lake Road for the widening of Orchard Lake Road for the widening of Orchard Lake Road and weight taxes have made it difficult to between Grand River and Willoway.

The Oakland County Road Commission to the county road commission to match federal funds for the actual consistency of the county road commission to match federal funds for the actual consistency of the county road commission of the great funds and weight taxes have made it difficult to the county road commission to match federal funds for the actual consistency of the county road commission to match federal funds for the actual consistency of the county road commission to match federal funds for the actual consistency of the funds for such projects at the pace that was expected last tree with the last depth of the pace that was expected last tree and weight taxes have made it difficult to the county road commission to match federal funds for the actual consistency of the funds for such projects at the pace that was expected last tree and commission, which had budgeted for larger gas and weight taxes have made it difficult revenues as well as more federal funds for the actual consistency of the funds for such projects at the pace that was expected last tree and commission, which had budgeted for larger gas and weight taxes have as well as more federal funds for the actual consistency of the funds for such projects at the pace that was expected last tree and commission, which had budgeted for larger gas and weight taxes have as a well as more federal funds for the actual consistency of the funds for such projects at the pace that was expected last tree well as a tree with the last and weight taxes have as and weight taxes have a