

# Active housewife seeks spot on board

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is the third in a series of stories about the candidates who are running for the Farmington Board of Education in the June 11 school election.

By Tom Czar  
staff writer

Roxanne M. Fitzpatrick is a busy suburban housewife who'll be even busier if her latest project works out.

Fitzpatrick — wife and mother, president of a parent-teacher association council, member of school-district task forces — wants to continue her interest in public education by getting

elected to the Farmington Board of Education.

The 32-year-old mother of three children is one of five candidates who are running for two seats on the Farmington Board. The top two vote-getters in the June 11 election will serve four-year terms.

Fitzpatrick's desire to become involved in school matters goes back to the days when her youngest child were in the Royal Oak Public Schools.

"My son was in a co-op nursery where the parents come in and work along with the teachers," she said. "I kind of wanted to know what was going on in the class. It just kind of blossomed from there."

"My interest continued when we moved to Farmington Hills. I'm the kind of person who likes to know what's going on, and I've always tried to be very involved. If you want anything to be changed for the better, you've got to know what's happening right now."

**FITZPATRICK KEEPS UP** with Farmington school matters through the PTA she's been council president the past three years — and by serving on task force committees which study district problems.

She's especially pleased with the PTA work, although she now has someone filling in as president while she campaigns for the board.

"We do an awful lot more than most people know," she said. "We have state and national affiliations so we can look out bills having to do with education. We also have our Reflections programs and our high school scholarships on the local level."

While serving on school task forces



Roxanne Fitzpatrick, involved with schools

cause everything is changing so fast especially in science and math," she said.

"Every five years we look over the text books. They've been in the process of doing that for awhile now. At the high school level, each area has a director, and they go over all the books. It's a long process. I couldn't believe how long it takes."

**FITZPATRICK, WHO** spent two years at Macomb Community College after graduating from Warren Mot High School, said she has spoken to present board members about "making sure that, when the kids leave the Farmington system, when they graduate, they're marketable in something."

"Maybe they won't be able to go on and get a \$30,000 job," she added, "but if they don't go on to college, they'll be able to get a secretarial job, or will vocational training they'll be able to go on to something."

"I really do stress that the kids have a marketable skill when they leave their high schools."

Farmington's teachers "should have a major or a minor in the class that they are teaching," Fitzpatrick said. Furthermore, teachers who need retraining should get it at district expense. "If we want to keep things rolling, if we want kids to get the best possible education," she said.

Fitzpatrick has received an endorsement from the political action committee of the Farmington Education Association (FEA), the union which represents the district's teachers.

The candidate has been "going every place" in the community in an effort to gain voter support.

"I've got about 100 people who are

going to be phone-calling, distributing fliers, sending out endorsement cards, things like that," she said. "Whether or not I get on the school board, I still plan on being very involved in everything."

**THE FITZPATRICKS** — Paul, a project coordinator for Williams International in Wall Lake, Minn., and their three children — have lived in Farmington Hills at 26300 Holly Hill Drive for about five years.

## cable connection

By Lark Samouelian  
special writer

rating, Craig Tarplinian.

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### COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAM-MING SCHEDULE

- 6 p.m. — Duel of Knowledge #5, North Farmington vs. Mercy.
- 6:30 p.m. — Ruth, David Stern.
- 7 p.m. — People, Places and Ideas, Barbara Klein.
- 7:30 p.m. — Ukrainian Egg Deco-

6 p.m. — Chamber Show, Jody Sorenson.

6:30 p.m. — Hobbies, Paul Godwin.

7 p.m. — Groveland Oaks (golf) Oakland County Parks & Recreation.

7:30 p.m. — Welcome to My Father's House #1 (Children's Story), Kathy Bauer.

6-8 p.m. — Farmington Hills Capital Improvements, public response.

6 p.m. — Presentation to Parents, Mike Winchester.

7-7:30 p.m. — Happy Birthday #5, Barbara Majoris.

7:30 p.m. — Health Talks, Janice Carter, Cecile, Joan Martin, Henry Ford Hospital.

6-7:30 p.m. — Viewer's Choice. Please call 555-7300 before 2 p.m. Friday.

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