

Farmington readers' forum

Letters must be signed, original copies and include the address and telephone number of the writer. None can be returned. Names will be withheld from publication only for sufficient reason. Letters should be limited to 300 words in most cases. We reserve the right to edit them. Send letters to Readers' Forum, Farmington Observer, 33203 Grand River Ave., Farmington 48024.

Jaycees' leaders criticize column

To the editor:
Your recent column by Steve Barnaby ridiculing the Michigan Jaycees and the three of us personally for being involved in the effort to make Michigan the 33rd state to call for a Federal Balanced Budget Amendment is certainly revealing.
Barnaby revealed his lack of knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and the lawful role provided good citizens who, by majority vote across the land, may want to update the guidelines under which they choose to govern ourselves and finance the functions of the federal government.
Barnaby revealed he doesn't know what 9,000 Michigan Jaycees are doing to serve their communities, some of which he also purports to serve.
The Jaycee Creed is:
We believe that faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life.
That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations.
That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise.
That government should be of laws rather than of men.
That earth's great treasures lie in human personalities.
And that service to humanity is the best work of life.
Even though generations of Jaycees between the ages of 18 and 35 have been improving their hometowns for over 60 years, and despite Steve Barnaby now being in the exhausted roster age category, Barnaby could not have been a Jaycee. He wrote that he disagrees with everything Jaycees stand for, and he doesn't know that the Jaycees haven't sold jelly to raise funds for handicapped children since the 1970s.
Also revealing is Barnaby's strange mindset as an editor: "Balancing the budget is one heck of a good idea. But first you've got to have a new order in Washington. A new way of thinking has to be adopted, not a new amendment." Then Barnaby says, "Forget this project, Jaycees, stick to what you know."
Mr. Barnaby doesn't make sense.
This week, Sen. Levin, voting with 74 other senators said, "Enactment of this proposal to balance the federal budget will force the Congress to come to grips with the budget deficit." That's what the Jaycees earlier said the Federal Balanced Budget Amendment will do.
Sen. Riegle, voting with 23 other senators against the Federal Balanced Budget Proposal, said, "It will give bureaucrats an opportunity to pick and choose where these cuts will be applied."
Barnaby revealed only one sensible thought in his entire column: "A new way of thinking has to be adopted." We agree.
We suggest the Observer Eccentric Newspapers

start with an intelligent columnist on the editorial page replacing Steve Barnaby and follow the new leadership of the Michigan Jaycees to a Federal Balanced Budget Amendment.

Rick Young, president
Michigan Jaycees, 1985
Thomas Ritter, president
Michigan Jaycees, 1974
Richard Headlee, president
U.S. Jaycees, 1983

Letter triggers League reaction

To the editor:
In response to the letter of William Brokhahne, Farmington Observer, Oct. 24, 1985 — Color the League of Women Voters, Confused!
To the best of our knowledge, there was no question concerning the consolidation of Farmington Hills with Farmington included on either our Voters Guides or questions directed to the candidates for city council on the televised forum.
And one more, the audience provides the questions asked of the candidates and the League accepts no responsibility for these questions. Don't kill the messenger.
Included in our membership are the honorable David Honigman and Wilbur Brotherton, both representatives to the Michigan State House. Should you wish to further enrich our membership with the male gender, please feel free. BYOC (Bring Your Own Coffee).
Lila Schwartz, president,
League of Women Voters
West Bloomfield-Farmington Area

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Citizen of year deeply thankful

To the editor:
What can I say? Your beautiful, beautiful coverage of the Chamber of Commerce dinner Tuesday night (Oct. 29) is still casting its warm glow over this end of Farmington Hills.
The phone has not yet ceased ringing off the wall... and sales of The Avery Watercolors have increased slightly, the bookstores are telling me.
Lisa Simon's perceptive "profile" came out beautifully also, and Joanne Maliszewski's fine account of the dinner shall always be a treasured memento. And thank Randy Borst for me, for his magical photographic genius, which can disappear most of the double chins and a great deal of the surplus 50 pounds.
This was an evening which shall live long in our memories, enhanced and magnified by the talents of your most creative Observer staff.
Jean Fox
Farmington Hills

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Drain's cost goes up

Construction estimates have increased nearly \$1 million for the tri-city Caddell Drain project, Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman reported to the city council Monday night.
A cost increase from \$4.25 million to about \$5.1 million was attributed to inflation, additional work, and higher-than-expected costs to acquire industrial-property easements.
The cities of Farmington Hills and Novi are also participating in the drain project, being managed through the Oakland County Drain Commission. The three cities have instructed drain commissioners to re-bid the project.
The Caddell Drain project is the first bond/drain project done without a popular vote since the statewide (Headlee) Tax Limitation Amendment was passed in 1978. The project had to be researched extensively to assure compliance, causing a large expense in bond counsel costs, Deadman said.
NO DECISION was made Monday in financing the cost excess. The communities can sell additional bonds, fund locally or borrow from the drain commission and repay over an agreed time period, Deadman said.
A \$4.25-million bond originally funded the project. Current interest earnings on the money will delay some of the increased expenses. Farmington's portion of the project is 11.9 percent.
Farmington administrators are concerned with potential erosion problems in the primarily open-ditch drain project, especially in the Chatham Hills area, Deadman said.
Council will discuss the project again after county bids are received.

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