

Campaign takes on a partisan accent

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

In the non-partisan Farmington Hills City Council election, at least two candidates are drawing battle

lines with financial help from Democratic and Republican leaders, political organizations and supporters.

By charter, Farmington Hills' city elections are non-partisan.

Veteran council watcher Aldo

Vagnozzi and city activist Jean Fox are two of the nine candidates whose required election expense reports show contributions, in part, based along political party lines.

The Farmington Democratic Club

has endorsed Vagnozzi and incumbent Jean Dudley. The Farmington Area Republican Club supports Fox, incumbents Joe Alkateeb and Terry Sever and newcomer Richard Lytwyniak.

Only three of the nine candidates vying for four seats on the Farmington Hills City Council — Fox, Vagnozzi and Raymond Cassar — have filed complete pre-election finance reports required by state law.

Two of the three incumbents failed to file complete election expense reports by the Oct. 23 deadline. Alkateeb, the biggest campaign spender, filed only a portion of his required election expense report. That portion includes only the total amount received and spent so far in the campaign rather than a list of contributors. Terry Sever did not file any of the expense information.

THE REMAINING four candidates filed waivers of the election expense report because they neither collected nor spent \$1,000. The candidates include incumbent Dudley, Vernon Kieplinski, John Heenan and Lytwyniak.

A peek at Vagnozzi's election expense report shows contributions ranging from \$25-\$100 from a variety of sources, including well-known state Democrats. Contributions were listed from state Attorney General Frank J. Kelley's officeholder expense fund, Secretary of State Richard Austin, the committee to re-elect U.S. Congressman William D. Ford of Taylor, and the (David) Bonior (of Mount Clemens) for Congress committee. Each man is a Democrat.

Contributors to Vagnozzi also included the 18th District Democratic Committee in Birmingham, the Detroit Federation of Teachers political action committee and the UAW Oakland County PAC.

Former Democratic candidates for local, state and county offices also contributed to Vagnozzi's campaign. They include Michael Bresnold, Farmington Democratic Club president and unsuccessful candi-

date for the seat held by veteran state Rep. Wilbur Brotherton of the 6th District; Vicki Barnett, a former state representative candidate; and Al Zolton, a former Oakland County Board of Commissioners and Farmington Public Schools candidate.

GARY KOHUT, an unsuccessful Democratic candidate for the seat held by U.S. Rep. William Broomfield of the 18th Congressional District, and Southfield City Councilwoman Vicki Goldbaum also contributed to Vagnozzi's campaign.

Other contributors to Vagnozzi's first race for the city council include Farmington Public Schools trustees Susan Rennels and Janice Rolnick; former school board trustee Michael Shipice; William Bowman, president of Thompson-Brown Realtors, Inc.; Joanne Smith and Paul Blizman, Farmington Hills planning commissioners; Beverly Papal, Farmington Community Library director; Marion McCracken, president of Michigan NOW; Farmington Hills City Councilwoman Jan Dolan also contributed.

Fox's contribution list parallels Vagnozzi's, but on the other side of the political fence. As with Vagnozzi, Fox's contributions range from \$25-\$150 from a variety of sources, including well-known Republicans.

Well-known Republicans contributing to Fox's campaign include Oakland County commissioner (15th District) David Moffitt, Oakland County commissioner (27th District) Jack McDonald and state Rep. (6th District) Mat Dunaskiss.

Other well-known contributors include Paul Weldon, Farmington Hills planning commissioner and president of the Farmington Area Republican Club, and Farmington

Hills City Councilman Donn Wolf, a Republican Party activist.

Fox is listed as one of four candidates showcased by the Republican Club Oct. 20, according to an invitation from club president Weldon. Candidates Alkateeb, Sever and Lytwyniak joined Fox at the club meeting.

"THE BOARD of Directors of the Farmington Area Republican Club made the decision that we would extend invitations only to bonafide members of the organization," according to the letter.

Contributors to Fox also include John Traflet and Paul Blizman, Farmington Hills planning commissioners; Dwain Whinnery and Paul Sowerby, both on the zoning board of appeals; John Hovanessian, a former planning commissioner; and Martin Krohner, a Wayne County assistant prosecutor and Council of Homeowners Associations of Farmington Hills member. William Bowman of Thompson-Brown Realtors, Inc. also contributed to Fox's campaign.

Farmington Economic Development Corporation members who contributed to Fox's campaign include Paul Inman of Paul Inman Associates and John Anhut, Botsford Inn owner.

Others supporting Fox are Kathryn Briggs, Farmington Hills historical Commission chairwoman, and Don McCuskey, owner of the historic Harger House, which Fox worked to preserve.

Andrew Halli, who withdrew his Farmington Hills council candidacy a day after the nominating petition filing deadline, and Jonathan Grant, Farmington Community Library president and former council candidate, also contributed to Fox's campaign.

Spending Candidates unveil expenses

Continued from Page 1
showing a complete list of campaign expenses.

Because Alkateeb failed to file a complete pre-election report by the Oct. 23 deadline, detailed information about his expenses and contributions is unavailable.

But the portion of the report he

filed shows Alkateeb received \$4,900 in contributions, \$1,060 from a fundraiser and another \$890 in unitemized receipts. He also had \$226 in campaign revenue remaining from his successful election campaign in 1983. The report also shows Alkateeb spent most of his revenue, leaving a balance of \$573.

Fox's report shows \$6,190 in contributions, including a \$4,000 loan she listed as a debt. Contributions included more than \$2,000 from a fund-raiser at the Botsford Inn. In-kind contributions totaled \$217.

As of the Oct. 23 deadline, Fox spent more than \$3,000 for letters, photographs, brochures, cards, postage, poll cards, voters lists and room fees for the Botsford Inn fundraiser. Her expenditures included a \$100 consulting fee to Farmington Hills city councilman Donn Wolf, who is not seeking re-election. In announcing his decision not to run in August, Wolf cited Fox's decision to run and his political involvement elsewhere.

Running third in expenses to Alkateeb and Fox, Vagnozzi collected \$2,530 in revenue for his campaign for a first term on the city council. A fund-raiser at Ginopolis' Sept. 15 netted Vagnozzi's campaign \$1,500.

Vagnozzi spent just more than \$2,000 for mailing, postage, lawn signs, brochures, photos and organizational services. He had a balance of approximately \$520, according to his expense report.

In his first political race, Cassar received \$1,375 in contributions. He spent his money on the usual campaign brochures and political signs, according to his expense report.

road watch

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• Drake Road between 13 and 14 Mile is closed to through traffic until Nov. 15. The contractor is placing the asphalt pavement.

• Tuck Road between Eight Mile and Folsom is closed to through traffic until Nov. 15. The concrete curbing is scheduled this week.

• 13 Mile is being widened at Northwestern Highway. The intersection will remain open during construction. The concrete curbing is scheduled this week.

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