

69th House race heats up as primary nears

This is another report on one of many candidate forums scheduled throughout the Farmington area before the Aug. 2 primary. The focus here is on the Republican and Democratic primaries for the 69th state House seat.

By Casey Hans
staff writer

The weather's not the only thing heating up this summer. The race for the 69th district state House seat is getting hotter as six candidates prepare for two primary races Aug. 2. Their opinions on issues are getting stronger and their platforms are taking shape little more than three weeks before the election.

It's the first time in 14 years an incumbent is not vying for this seat, which covers the cities of Farmington, Farmington Hills and the villages of Beverly Hills, Franklin and Bingham Farms.

"The focus is on the primary," said Republican candidate Mike Sarafa at a recent candidates night. "It's being called the most competitive Republican race in the state. To me this is a good sign."

"We must keep the spirit after the signs come down," Sarafa, a Farmington Hills resident, faces Republicans Michael Bouchard of Beverly Hills, Jan Dolan of Farmington Hills and Paul Weldon of Farmington Hills. There also is a Democratic race pitting Farmington resident Ken Murray against Bingham Farms resident John Dolan.

THOSE VOTING must choose to cast ballots either in the Republican or Democratic primary. Winners of

'The focus is on the primary. It's being called the most competitive Republican race in the state. To me this is a good sign.'

— Candidate Mike Sarafa

the two primaries will face off in the Nov. 8 general election.

Meanwhile, candidates are using the final weeks of their campaigns to attend various candidates nights, interviews and go door-to-door meeting the voters. Most are targeting residents with a record of primary election voting. Sarafa said he had encountered many people who had met each of his Republican opponents.

They are also individualizing their campaigns by narrowing their platform pitches, and becoming more informed on a variety of issues.

● **REPUBLICAN RACE**

Paul Weldon continues to hammer on property tax and assessment reform as his main issue. A 2.5 percent property tax cap across the state "will enhance and encourage development," he said.

Michael Bouchard puts crime is-



sues at the top of his list. He advocates a 6-12 month plan of education, wrap-up laws, tougher drug forfeiture laws, tougher sentences for dealers, drug awareness for teachers, and an automatic waiver to adult court for juveniles charged with major offenses.

For Jan Dolan, education funding is the top priority. Equitable school financing, she said, will affect the quality of education. "100 of 500 districts are now on the verge of bankruptcy. Our children have to have equal opportunities to live up to their potential."

Mike Sarafa puts the emphasis on drugs and crime together "because they're related." He calls for sound education and tougher sentencing.

● **DEMOCRATIC RACE**

Ken Murray says he will take a "crash course" on the status of education if he gets to Lansing. School finance reform and the quality of education are his top priorities.

John Dolan looks at a very large picture. He said his main concern is seeing that our state and nation can face the challenge of global competition. He said it is a challenge "we all face."

Giving the Republican race an added twist have been reports of political sign snatching and minor property damage incidents. Some candidates' signs have been trenched. One incident of vehicle damage was reported.

Candidate confrontations TV broadcasts help boost election awareness

Metrovision Cable Channel 12 will broadcast debates among candidates for U.S. senator, state representative, county prosecutor, county commissioner and county probate judge.

The Farmington Area Republican Club's debate between Republican U.S. Senate hopefuls Bob Huber and Jim Dunn is scheduled for 7 p.m. July 22. Air time is one hour. The winner in the Aug. 2 primary will face U.S. Sen. Don Riegle, a Democrat, Nov. 8.

The Troy Republican Club's debate among GOP county prosecuting attorney candidates Jack McDonald, Jeff Lieb, Dick Thompson and Richard Fessler is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. July 15, 10 a.m. July 18 and 4:30 p.m. July 19. Air time is one hour, 20 minutes. The winner will face Democrat Barry Kraemer in November.

The Farmington Hills Council of Homeowners candidates night for state representative-69th district, county commissioner-27th district, county prosecutor and probate judge is scheduled for 6 p.m. July 15, 1:30 p.m. July 18 and 5 p.m. July 19. Air time is two hours.

"Metrovision is extremely accommodating in scheduling these programs. Program director Mary Con-

'In our local communities, a better voter turnout in the primaries would be very desirable because this election decides who the candidates will be to run on partisan tickets in the November general election.'

— Julieann Hovanessian
citizens group president

way will arrange for the rebroadcast of any of these or other programs which the station televises by individual request of any resident who calls or writes her at Metrovision," said Julieann Hovanessian, president of Citizens for More Responsible Government in Farmington and Farmington Hills.

The number to call is 553-7300.

"Video recorders which many people own also make it convenient to view these programs," Hovanessian said.

ACCORDING TO the Farmington Hills City Clerk's Office, only 18 percent of registered voters voted in the

primary election of the governor's race in August 1986. Only 16 percent of registered voters voted in the August 1984 Presidential Primary.

"In our local communities, a better voter turnout in the primaries would be very desirable because this election decides who the candidates will be to run on partisan tickets in the November general election," said Hovanessian, also a Farmington Hills Committee to Increase Voter Participation member. "These will be the office holders whose policies we will have to live with in our local communities."

"Poor voter turnouts, I believe,"

Hovanessian said, "are the result of people not realizing how important their vote actually is and even more importantly in not knowing who to vote for."

The key to helping improve this situation she believes is education — in the schools and the media.

She is working with Farmington Public Schools to investigate ways to involve high school government students in local and state government and to better prepare them for their role as active informed citizens.

The plan's implementation is set for fall, said Farmington Public Schools secondary social studies program curriculum chairman Norman Dickson. "Hopefully, students will even be encouraged to conveniently register to vote in their high schools," she said.

The non-profit Vote America Organization, with support of General Dynamics Corp., last spring sent to all high schools packets of teaching materials to help generate a spirit of "feel the power" that voting brings.

on the agenda

Below are highlights from agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Farmington Hills City Council
Farmington Hills City Hall
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m. Monday, July 11

The council is expected to enact the following ordinances:

- To amend traffic code and revise penalties for violations for operating vehicles under the influence of liquor.
- To amend the building, electrical and plumbing codes.
- To amend the city code to provide a 4 percent fee in lieu of taxes for Tapiola II, Ltd.

Council also will introduce amendments to the alarm system-false alarm ordinance and for the conveyance of the Hanaway property on Freedom Road, between Drake and Gill. Also to be introduced in the intent to revise the sewer use ordinance.

The city manager will recommend adoption of the building official and code administrator building permit fee schedule and plan review schedule, as well as adoption of a new bond fee schedule.

The full board will meet to interview architects for a proposed new school/early childhood center, and for an already approved media center renovation at Farmington High School.

Cultural Awareness Committee
Farmington Hills City Hall
West-end meeting room
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m. Monday, July 13

The committee will discuss participation in the Farmington/Farmington Hills Founders Festival.

Farmington Community Library
Farmington Hills branch
meeting room
32737 12 Mile
5 p.m. Thursday, July 14

The library board will acknowledge staff member Jean Jambas as the recipient of the 1988 Loleta D. Fyan award for young Librarian of the Year given by the Michigan Library Association. A recommendation will be presented to the board about power surge protection devices for office automation equipment and the GEAC circulation system.

The director will report on recent in-service staff meeting featuring management consultant Penny I. Griffith of PG Associates on "Building Effective Work Relationships."

clarification

Berry Zakarison is the correct name of the family friend of Timothy P. White, Russell D. White and Michael Green, three men killed in a car accident July 2 in northwest Detroit.

\$200.00 REBATE
AIR-CONDITIONING
CARRIER SALE

100% EFFICIENCY
100% SILENCE
10 YEAR COMPRESSION WARRANTY
EASY SERVICE ACCESS
NO EFFICIENCY LOSS

INSTALLATION AND RUNNING FOR AS LOW AS \$125.00
Expires 7/31/88

TRU TEMP
Cooling, Inc.
Garden City Canton Township
427-8512 851-5000

**Fine Furniture...
Where Quality Costs
You Less!**

Classic Interiors
20292 Middlebelt, Livonia • South of 8 Mile
474-6900
Mon., Thurs., Fri. 9:30-9:00, Wed., Sat. 9:30-5:30

If you don't like the idea of a nursing home!

HAVE WE GOT A PLACE FOR YOU

Forget the nursing home expense and environment. This supervised residential care community is none of that. It's friendly, homey, pleasant and attractive. It lets you live your life as independently as you like, yet provides all the personal assistance you need in daily living.

24-Hour Professional Staffing makes sure you always get your medication. Your room is comfortable. Your meals are appetizing and there is no extra charge for special diets. Your laundry and housekeeping are done for you. You go on shopping trips and excursions. There are a lot of social activities. And recreational facilities are great. You're going to love it!

Accept Our Invitation to visit us for a cup of coffee and a tour. Come anytime and bring a friend. Just call ahead. Or, better yet, join us for an ice cream social or other special event at 2:30 PM any Wednesday.

The Farmington Hills Inn
30350 W. Twelve Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48018
(313) 851-9840

Livonia Mall's SUMMER FAIR SIDEWALK SALE
JULY 14-17, THURS.-SUNDAY

Join the stores at LIVONIA MALL for an old fashioned sidewalk sale. Sales and bargains galore! Meet your favorite cartoon characters - Thursday & Friday, July 14 & 15

THE "ANYTHING GOES" BARBERSHOP QUARTET
FRIDAY, JULY 15
7:30 P.M.

FAMILY PET SHOW
(With Mich. Humane Society)
SAT., JULY 30th
REGISTRATION 10 A.M.-11 A.M.
DEMONSTRATIONS:
ACADEMY OF ANIMAL PETS
TRAINERS Obedience Classes

FUN FAIR GAMES FOR YOUNG & OLD
SAT., JULY 16th
FREE BALLOONS

musicland Sam Goody **TRUST-OFF Contest**

WED., JULY 13th
12 NOON-3 P.M.
REGISTER AT LIVONIA MALL MUSICLAND

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST AND EXHIBIT
JULY 18-24 — \$500 Grand Prize

NAME _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
CATEGORY: AMATEUR, COLOR OR BLACK & WHITE

Send in your photos and win big! Send in 10 photos to Livonia Mall Musicland, 70117 Main Rd., Livonia, MI 48150.

CONTEST RULES:
1. ELIGIBILITY: All amateur photographers.
2. DATES: Photos must be taken by July 15, 1988. Required and mailed. Each entry is 12 in. There is no fee to enter.
3. PRIZES: \$500 Grand Prize, 1st Prize, 2nd Prize, 3rd Prize, 4th Prize, 5th Prize, 6th Prize, 7th Prize, 8th Prize, 9th Prize, 10th Prize.
4. DEADLINE: All entries must be received by July 15, 1988.
5. JUDGING: All entries will be judged by a panel of judges.
6. DISPLAY: Winning photos will be displayed in a special exhibit.
7. CANCELLATION: Contest may be cancelled without notice.
8. RESERVATION: No cash refund. Prizes are awarded in cash or in kind.
9. ADULTS ONLY: No minors.
10. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.

LIVONIA MALL
MIDDLEBELT & 7 MILE RDs. 478-1106