

# New Hills survey to gauge voter apathy and attitudes

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

The Farmington Hills Voter Participation Committee wants to know why a greater number of residents aren't voting in local elections.

"We found we all had ideas of why people don't vote, but then we vote," said committee chairman David Haron. "We've been going in five or six different directions. But we had to know why we're going where we're going."

That's the basis of a voter attitude and participation survey the committee will have conducted within the next few months. Five marketing consulting firms have replied to the committee's request for proposals.

Bids for the survey range from \$2,000 to \$16,000. In mid-July, the nine-member committee will review the proposals and recommend one of the five firms to the city council.

"Essentially, we want to know why you aren't voting," Haron said. "Do people just have the feeling their vote doesn't count? Is that the reason? Or is everything going well and they're happy?"

Haron said he hopes the survey will give the committee clues on how to promote elections and get voters to the polls. "Should we have more in the newspapers, on TV or in the streets. We don't know. That's why we're doing the survey."

THE COMMITTEE is hoping to

provide 25 questions with yes and no responses and another five to which respondents can offer more information. "How they (firm awarded bid) conducts the survey is pretty much up to them," Haron said.

While waiting for the survey, the committee is eyeing the Aug. 2 primary as a time to conduct a little experiment of its own. Signs encouraging voters to go to the polls will be placed at a couple of key precincts in the south and north ends of the city to determine if they generate a greater voter turnout. The precincts likely will be those with documented low voter turnouts.

"It's an unscientific poll to see if participation is greater," Haron said.

The voter participation committee was reactivated late last year before the Nov. 3 city-council election to generate voter interest and increase turnout at the polls.

The committee faces some tough attitude changing considering the community's turnout history. In the 1987 Farmington Hills City Council election, 14 percent, or 5,982, voted out of 42,953 registered voters.

## election '88

News and notes from the Election '88 campaign campaign trail. The primary is Aug. 2. The general election is Nov. 8.

**● CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS**  
Veteran political talk show host John Akouri will interview Republican state representative candidates Michael Bouchard, Jan Dolan, Mike Sarafa and Paul Weldon from the 69th district.

The John Akouri Show first hit cable TV in March 1986 when he was asked by the American Opportunity Society to interview presidential candidate Jack Kemp, R-New York.

Akouri, a two-time cable award winner, then hosted a live call-in candidates night program during the election of 1986. During the Iran-Contra hearings last summer, he interviewed U.S. Rep. William Broomfield, R-Birmingham, via telephone from Washington.

Akouri's mini series, "The Steps to the Capitol," will air at 7:30 p.m. the first Monday of each week leading to the Aug. 2 primary.



John Akouri

**● DOLAN FUND-RAISER**  
Helga and David Miller of Farmington Hills are hosting a fund-raiser to honor Farmington Hills resident Jan Dolan, Republican candidate for state representative from the 69th District, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 21.

The hors d'oeuvres and wine reception will give friends a chance to support her campaign and discuss campaign issues. Tickets are \$30 per person or \$45 for two. Call 477-6685.

**● BOUCHARD BACKED**  
Singer Kenny Loggins stopped at state House candidate Michael Bouchard's campaign headquarters July 2 to show his support. "I feel Michael Bouchard is an

honest, dedicated candidate and the people of the 69th district are lucky to have his candidacy," Loggins said. Bouchard, a Beverly Hills Republican, arranged a meeting between Loggins and Greg Blen, Mothers Against Drunk Driving state chairman. The meeting was to discuss ideas to increase support for MADD's Michigan efforts.

Loggins supports MADD on a national level through benefit concerts. Bouchard said he has seen the effects of substance abuse through his work as a 12-year veteran of the Bloomfield Township Police Department.

The 69th state House district includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Bingham Farms, Franklin and Beverly Hills.

# Abortion issue debated

Continued from Page 1

EACH OF the three Republican candidates who oppose abortion offered their reasoning.

Welday believes "it is the duty of government to protect innocent human life" and that "state government should not be in the business of financing abortion. As your next state representative, I will vote against any attempt to use our tax dollars in this manner," he said.

Although Bouchard said he was opposed to abortion because of his "pro-life beliefs and values," he believes the voters should make the decision.

"This question will be appropriately answered by Michigan voters," he said. "It is a personal issue and deserves the personal answer that the ballot question will allow. My vote will be to discontinue abor-

tion funding." Sarafa added that he is "against Medicaid-funded abortions, and abortion in general, except in cases where the life of the mother is at stake."

"Unfortunately, we've made the abortion issue a political question."

THE 69TH state House district covers the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills and the villages of Franklin, Bingham Farms and Beverly Hills. Each of the major parties will select a candidate in the Aug. 2 primary; winners will face off Nov. 8.

Winner of the election will take the seat held by veteran state Rep. Wilbur "Sandy" Brotherton (R-Farmington) for the past 14 years. Brotherton announced in January he would not seek re-election.



This totally different insurance plan is what everyone who owns a home and car should have.

**PCP.**  
Continental's all-in-one coverage for you, your home and your car. If you now have separate auto and homeowners policies, you're probably not getting as much insurance coverage for your insurance dollar as you could.

CALL FOR RATES  
ED BERGER  
DALE HOUBRAN  
STEVEN BERGER  
422-7850

DISCOUNT RATES TO SENIOR CITIZENS  
AND MULTIPLE CAR FAMILIES  
**C & C UNDERWRITERS, INC.**  
31300 PLYMOUTH ROAD - LIVONIA

Pelican Flies In Special Shipment  
**SUMMER MERCHANDISE**  
from an Arizona Store Bought Out!

- Slacks
- Shorts
- Shirts
- Knit Tops
- Skirts
- Sweaters

All  
**1/2 OFF**

LOCATED IN THE DOWNTOWN  
FARMINGTON CENTER  
33245 GRAND RIVER  
FARMINGTON

The Pelican  
THE RELATED STORE & MORE  
478-6154

**3 DAYS ONLY** Thurs., Fri., Sat.  
July 14, 15, 16

**ALL MENS & WOMENS SUMMER FASHIONS**

**25-75% OFF**

**SUPER  
SIDEWALK  
SALE**

**KLEIN'S**

OPEN MON.-FRI. 10-9:00  
SAT. 10-6:00 591-9284

**NEWBURGH PLAZA**  
909 W. MILE & NEWBURGH RD.

**RED TAG  
SUMMER  
CLEARANCE**  
SALE 20%-60% OFF

For the Next 10 Days its all on Sale

**Above Ground Pools** - Summer Clearance Sale. Special NOW JUST \$999

SAVE 20 TO 50% OFF ON ALL INFLATABLE POOL TOYS

**DESIGNER PROFILE  
IN-GROUND POOL**  
16 x 32 FOR \$2995

FEATURING

- Walls
- Liner
- Filtering System
- Deluxe Vacuum
- Stainless Steel Ladder

SAVE \$1000

SAVE 80 TO 90% OFF ON ALL PATIO ACCESSORIES - PLACE MATS, DINNER SETTINGS, GLASSES, NAPKINS, PITCHERS, DRINK CUPS, TRAYS, ETC.

**SPECIAL GROUP  
PATIO CHAIRS**  
NAT'L BRAND NAMES  
BROWN JORDAN  
SAMSONITE  
METALCRAFT

WERE \$200"  
NOW ONLY \$79.95

SAVE 50% OFF ON ALL REPLACEMENT CUSHIONS

SAVE 50% OFF ON ALL REDWOOD PATIO FURNITURE

**SPECIAL GROUP  
CHAISE LOUNGES**  
BRAND NAMES SUCH AS: BROWN JORDAN  
SAMSONITE  
METALCRAFT

WAS \$400"  
NOW \$99.00

SAVE \$300

**PATIO UMBRELLAS** WERE \$200 A PIECE NOW ONLY \$79.95

SAVE \$120!

WE ARE CLOSED WEDNESDAYS  
3500 Pontiac Trail  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
(313) 662-3117

**CORNWELL  
POOL & PATIO**

874 W. Ann Arbor Rd.  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
(313) 459-7410

Complete Line of Spas - Patio Furniture - In Ground & Above Ground Pools