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Farmington Observer

Volume 101 Number 53

Thursday, April 5, 1990

Farmington, Michigan

112 Pages

Fifty Cents

farmington FOCUS

To write The Observer: 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024. To call: news line, 477-5450; sports line, 591-2312; weekend line, 591-2305; home delivery, 591-0500; classified ads, 591-0900; display ads, 591-2300; fax line, 477-9722.

AT THE Farmington City Council meeting Monday night, District Judge Margaret Schaeffer of Farmington thanked former mayor Ralph Yoder for his 25 years of service on the council.

Quipped Yoder: "I appreciate your comments and I won't forget that," waving the jointly funded agencies' budgets he had just received from City Manager Bob Deadman.

The two-judge district court is among the agencies jointly funded by Farmington and Farmington Hills.

BACK on board. Gov. Blanchard has reappointed Karen Fields of Farmington to the Residential Builders and Maintenance and Alteration Contractors Board.

She's president of P.K. Fields Interiors and a member of the American Home Economic Association and the American Society of Interior Designers.

Her term representing licensed residential builders expires March 31, 1993.

QUOTE of the week

The democratic process is alive and well.

— State Sen. Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills, in reaction to three potential Republican opponents this year. Story: 6A.

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School officials review drug incident

By Casey Hans
and Bob Sklar
staff writers

Farmington High officials are seriously reviewing an incident in which a 16-year-old student went on a bad trip and wound up hospitalized, after taking a hallucinogenic drug she said she bought at school.

"It's a big deal because there were some drugs in the building," said Jerry Allison, assistant principal.

"We're certainly not treating it lightly."

On Friday, a teacher read to students a statement that announced, "all day, Farmington students were very upset about drugs being sold in our school." It encouraged students to come forward with information.

A six-week program was introduced to help students, such as the student who was taken to the hospital, and others who might have drug or family problems, Allison said.

Parents as well as students have offered tips and information about last week's incident. "We've had many students step forward," Allison said. "They're concerned."

ALTHOUGH THE school district is working on an internal help procedure, "the police will have to make the next move" if someone is to be charged with possession or sale of drugs, Allison said.

Investigators planned to interview

the 16-year-old victim this week, said Commander Charles Lee of the Farmington Department of Public Safety.

The Farmington High freshman had a "severe reaction" after overdosing March 29 on what is believed to be lysergic acid diethylamide, known commonly as LSD or acid.

According to police accounts, the student ingested the drug with friends in the Farmington High parking lot at 2:30 p.m. and became

disoriented. At 4:45, she arrived at her house in Farmington Hills, where her disorientation turned to combativeness. A police officer assisted paramedics in taking her to Botsford General Hospital for treatment.

She was still hospitalized Monday, but her condition had stabilized, Allison said.

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Street named for Yoder

Next time you visit the post office in downtown Farmington, you'll likely travel along Yoder Drive.

The Farmington City Council voted Monday to honor 25-year veteran councilman Ralph Yoder with a short surprise ceremony, which included giving him his own firefighters hat and naming the new roadway between Silem and Orchard streets after him.

"I'll settle for that," said Yoder, appearing pleased with the attention lavished on him Monday.

"I have, for the most part, enjoyed these 25 years and hope to enjoy the rest of my term," he added.

Yoder has hinted that this will be his last term on the city council, but Mayor Shirley Richardson noted that, in the past, he has also threatened to make other terms his last.

Yoder began his service to the council on April 12, 1965. He was first elected to a two-year term, then has been re-elected to four-year terms ever since.

"In 1968 and '69, we really didn't see eye to eye in matters when I was serving on the Beautification Committee," Richardson said. But "time and age" changed that.

"I wouldn't be sitting here today if it weren't for Ralph Yoder."

Councilman William Hartsock read a proclamation from Farmington Hills Mayor Jean Fox, which lauded Yoder for his years of service as a community leader and an "eminent councilman."



Veteran councilman Ralph Yoder stands beside the newly installed street sign at Orchard Street and Yoder Drive in downtown Farmington.

Sever, Marks eye Senate

GOP may target Faxon, 6A

By Bob Sklar
staff writer

Farmington Hills councilmen Terry Sever and Ben Marks will seek the Republican nomination to run against state Sen. Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills.

Both are former mayors. With a campaign platform stressing a crackdown on sale of alcohol to minors, Sever, 39, said Monday: "I'm planning to file my statement of committee organization with the state Bureau of Elections this week. I'll be kicking off a campaign here the next 2-3 weeks."

Marks, 60, said "It's time for a change" but offered no peek at his campaign platform when queried Monday. He did say: "I'm in it. I'm putting my people together. I know what I have to do and as soon as I get my chairman on line, I'll give a whole position statement."

He'll formally announce his candidacy in 30-60 days, said Marks, a Farmington Hills builder/developer, 24-year resident and six-year councilman.

The primary is Aug. 7. Election Day is Nov. 6. Also considering running in the GOP primary is Southfield councilwoman Denise Alexander. (See related story, Page 6.) The filing deadline is May 15.

BESIDES THE obvious issues of taxation, crime and education, Sever plans to zero in on toughening state law "to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors."

Specifically, he would increase penalties for licensees whose businesses sell to minors and would work

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Hills' city attorney quitting after 22 years

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

After 22 years, Paul Bibeau is calling it quits as city attorney for Farmington Hills.

Bibeau's Farmington Hills firm — Larson, Harms, Wright & Bibeau — informed the Farmington Hills City Council Monday that it will not seek renewal of its annual contract. The announcement came at the beginning of the council's long-planned review of legal services, in which two other firms were invited to make proposals.

"This decision was not easy in the making, however, when we sat down, we, in accord, came to the decision to sever this relationship with the city," Bibeau said.

BIBEAU HAS long been associated with the city, working with the late Terry Brennan, township attorney and city attorney in Farmington Hills' early days.

Bibeau joined Larson, Harms & Wright early last year after he disbanded his firm, Brennan, Bibeau & Pochman. Last July, the new firm was given a one-year contract, which expires June 30.

"After an untold number of meetings" over 22 years, "I'm not getting any younger," Bibeau told the council. "And I think personally it's time for a change for me."

THE DECISION was not primarily financial but the city did not fit into the firm's future plans, Bibeau and fellow partner Harold Larson told the council. The partners' decision was unanimous.

"That long-range planning affects our relationship with the city," Larson said. "We want you to know this is no gun to Paul's (Bibeau)

head. We are blessed with unanimity."

The partners "feel the (financial) arrangement is inadequate," Larson later said. The city's financial arrangement for legal services "is a factor that caused us a lot of thinking and certainly needs to be addressed," Larson said.

Councilman Lawrence Lichtman wasn't surprised.

"I've felt for a long time the city is getting a bargain on legal services," he said.

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Lawmakers blast EPA over Haggerty connector

By Darrell Ciem
staff writer

Eight Michigan congressmen Monday accused the Federal Environmental Protection Agency of holding hostage the proposed Haggerty Road connector by threatening to deny permits for the embattled project.

The EPA has said it will recommend denial of the project unless the Federal Highway Administration

forces local communities to adopt wetlands protection plans.

"This is a case of bureaucracy run amok," charged U.S. Rep. Bob Carr, D-East Lansing.

Carr drafted a letter to EPA administrator William K. Reilly outlining concerns about moves that could block the controversial plan to build a \$75 million, multi-lane boulevard west of Haggerty from 12 Mile Road to Pontiac Trail.

The letter was signed by seven other congressmen, including U.S. Reps. William Broomfield, R-Birmingham; John Dingell, D-Dearborn; Carl Purcell, R-Plymouth; David Bonior, D-Mt. Clemens; Bob Traxler, D-Bay City; Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph; and Dennis Hertel, D-Detroit.

IN A prepared statement, Carr charged that EPA officials in Chicago have "no grounds" to cause "ob-

struction of the Haggerty bypass project."

Carr contended the project has met state environmental restrictions that are stricter than federal requirements, adding, "I don't know what these people in EPA Chicago think they're up to, but we intend to put a stop to it."

Some communities that would be affected by the project, such as West Bloomfield and Novi, already have

adopted wetlands protection ordinances, though some, such as Farmington Hills and Commerce Township, have not.

EPA's argument that future development years down the road might adversely affect wetlands as grounds to block this road is completely from left field," Carr charged in his statement. "Any de-

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