



DAN DEAN/staff photographer

A videotape in which Anthony Bonelli talks about the murder of his girlfriend is shown

as Bonelli sits, head bowed, in Oakland County Circuit Court.



DAN DEAN/staff photographer

Alice Gilbert, Oakland County Circuit Court judge, listens to testimony during a hearing for accused murderer Anthony Bonelli.

## Confession is admissible in Anthony Bonelli trial

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"I doubt that he clearly understood his rights" when he confessed to Fracchia's murder, the psychiatrist said. "I think he was still very confused. I think he was very pliable and did what he was told to do (by police)."

BONELLI HAD been abused by his stepfather and, being fearful of authority, could have told Orchard Lake police what he thought they wanted to hear, Sargent said.

His testimony, however, was countered by Jennifer Balay, a staff psychologist from the state Forensic Center who also had met with Bonelli after Fracchia's death.

"I could not see any evidence of mental confusion," Balay said, adding that she did not believe Bonelli was acting under what was termed "command hallucinations" at the time of Fracchia's death.

Bonelli appeared confused only at one point in statements he made to Orchard Lake police, and that was before his arrest when he said

*'I doubt that he clearly understood his rights. I think he was still very confused. I think he was very pliable and did what he was told to do (by police).'*

— Dr. Douglas Sargent  
Grosse Pointe Farms psychiatrist

he didn't want to waive his rights, Balay said. But Bonelli then told police he was willing to talk about Fracchia and later waived his rights, she added.

"I do not see . . . evidence that he was confused, disorganized or responding to delusional ideas about what he was doing," Balay testified. If Bonelli had been suffering from mental confusion, it should have been apparent throughout the statements to police, she said.

Though Andary sought to prove that Orchard Lake police Sgt. Da-

vid Sims and officer Philip Jaskot coerced Bonelli into confessing, assistant prosecutor Fred Miller countered that police were "scrupulously honoring" Bonelli's rights.

After Judge Gilbert issued her ruling, Miller said he was "happy for the family of the victim" that Bonelli's statements can be used against him during the trial.

Andary, the defense attorney, said he did not consider Tuesday's action a setback, calling the hearing "the first step in showing that (Bonelli) was suffering from mental illness."

## Hills OKs sidewalks for Farmington Road

By Susan Buck  
staff writer

Sitting on opposite sides of the Farmington Hills council chambers Monday night, residents who were for and against sidewalk installation on Farmington Road between 12 Mile and 13 Mile Road presented their final views.

The council voted 6-1, with a nay vote from Mayor Jean Fox, to approve installation of the sidewalk on the east side of Farmington Road from East Tulipwood to the existing sidewalk north of the Kendallwood Swim Club, and on the west side of Farmington Road from Bayberry north to 13 Mile Road.

Council estimates installation cost to be about \$97,300.

Council member Aldo Vagnozzi asked for a division vote from the original motion on sidewalk installation between Heartstone and Kendallwood on the east side. That vote was 5-2, with nay votes cast by Fox and Vagnozzi.

COUNCIL MEMBER Nancy Bates said that she hoped the homeowners association would convene and hire a snow removal service to take care of maintenance.

"I sympathize for all of the reasons you are opposing sidewalks," said Council member Jon Grant. "I understand all of the problems you have with liability, landscaping destruction and the fact that you don't want a sidewalk in your front yard. I have a fire station going in across the street from me because it is a matter of public safety and it is something that we need."

"I don't want fire trucks running by my house at two o'clock in the morning."

Kathleen Quick of Farmington called the sidewalk installation "a great idea. Two cars have gone into the ditch in front of our house. If anyone had been walking on the side of the road, they would have been in jeopardy of getting hit by a car," she said.

Farmington Road resident Al Barnes thanked Farm-

ington Hills police for being on Farmington Road with radar April 11-13.

SGT. RAY Cranston of the Hills' traffic division said Tuesday that selective enforcement at that location was made by the police chief. Some 110 tickets were written: five for non-hazardous violations and 105 for hazardous violations of which the majority were speed violations, he said. The most common speed in that area is 52 mph, Cranston said.

Barnes asked for statistics on accident potential and pedestrian safety with sidewalks.

Another Farmington Road resident, Chris Heintzman, questioned the utility of sidewalks and mentioned increased maintenance. He suggested a lowering of the speed limit on Farmington from 40 mph to 25 mph.

"You must address the issue of maintenance as responsible government," former council member Paul Sowerby told council, speaking against sidewalks. "The people who are speaking for the sidewalks don't live on Farmington Road. It's a nice thought, and I know the planning commission wants it, but it is unfair to the property owners."

George Wakefield, a Farmington Road resident, said the council is benefitting the majority of subdivision residents and walking over the rights of the minority who live on Farmington Road.

The vote was final action on the issue on which discussion began last Sept. 18 when the council determined that sidewalks would be installed along Farmington Road between 12 and 13 Mile Roads.

The decision whether the sidewalk would be placed on the east or west side of the road was postponed until an evaluation could be made with regard to conflicts that would occur as a result of the storm sewer that was proposed on Farmington Road.

No conflict exists now because the city has determined the best routing for the storm sewer is not along Farmington Road, but further east in the Kendallwood subdivisions.

## L. Brooks Patterson to speak at Republican club meeting

Guest speaker L. Brooks Patterson will present the rationale of the Patterson/Anderson "Property Tax Cut Proposal" petition drive in addressing the Farmington Area Republican Club Tuesday, April 24.

The address will be delivered at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, at the Botsford Inn, Grand River and Eight Mile, Farmington Hills.

The free program will be taped and televised by Metrovision's Bob Carlson. It will later be featured on Metrovision's Cable Channel 12.

Patterson, former Oakland County prosecutor, and Patrick Anderson, chief economist for the Alexander Hamilton Insurance Co. in Farmington Hills and former Farmington

Area Republican Club president, are co-sponsors of the proposal.

The proposal aims to cut property taxes statewide in Michigan by \$550 million, permanently cap school millage rates in the Constitution, limit the total amount of taxes the state can levy in the future and increase (at state expense) state aid to local schools by establishing a minimum per-pupil guarantee.

With a sufficient number of signatures to be collected by July 4, 1990, the Patterson-Anderson proposal will become a ballot question to be voted upon by the voters of Michigan in the November 1990 election.

THE FARMINGTON Area Republican Club, whose membership in-

cludes many area public officials, is a non-profit organization of residents of Farmington and Farmington Hills and surrounding environs.

It aims to bring all residents who are interested together socially to become acquainted and to better understand political issues from the Republican point of view. There are individual and family memberships.

Attorney Richard Poehlman is president. Attorney and former Oakland County commissioner Jack McDonald serves as program chair.

Other officers are Julieann Hovanesian, vice president, Janet Larson, corresponding secretary, and Debra DeLong, recording secretary.

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