

Farmington Observer

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Charges filed in traffic death

The Oakland County Prosecutor's office has filed negligent homicide charges against a Grand Blanc woman for her part in the traffic death of a West Bloomfield man April 3.

The woman, Elenore Mario Young, 39, had been driving a Mercury Sable, with a tire missing, that struck a Ford Taurus station wagon, driven by Jeffrey Bernard Gregg, 50, at 5:40 a.m. at the intersection of Northwestern and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills.

Gregg had been driving south. His car was struck in the side by Young's. He died from injuries and she was hospitalized.

Hills police have issued a warrant for her arrest. The maximum penalty for negligent homicide, a high misdemeanor, is 2 years in prison and a \$2,000 fine.

SMART from page 1A

Matthew M. Wirgau, chairman of the SMART board of directors. "We targeted our votes and we got them out," he said. "But none of that would have been any good if the support wasn't there in the first place."

SMART's campaign — organized and run by the Committee to Save Regional Transportation — was financed with more than \$350,000 in contributions from business, labor organizations and groups as diverse as the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Wirgau, a Bloomfield Hills resident, is one of two Oakland County representatives on the SMART board. He's also among those who acknowledge SMART must change — its mode of operations as well as its image.

"The first thing we (SMART) have to do is deliver on the promises we made," he said. "The second is to convince people there is no mismanagement. I really don't know where people got that idea, but we've got to change it."

Tuesday's election results went "about as expected," said Oakland County deputy executive John L. Grubbs. Telephone polling in Oakland indicated support in the 70 percent range, he said, "and that's what we got."

Critics of the SMART election — especially those county commissioners who advocated that their respective communities not participate in the election — totally misread the will of the people, Grubbs said. "That was rocky advice."

Grubbs and his boss, Oakland Executive L. Brooks Patterson, previously said SMART must restructure some of its routes — focusing on neighborhood to neighborhood service — to entice some of the 41 communities that opted out of SMART to rejoin the system.

Commissioner Donn L. Wolf, Farmington Hills, said he was disappointed — but not surprised — at the election results. "I didn't want SMART to pass, but I wanted the people to make the decision... and they have."

The election — and the publicity surrounding it — had one beneficial effect, Wolf said. "It

SMART ELECTION RESULTS

Community	Yes	No	Turnout
Auburn Hills	558	447	8.2%
Berkley	1,261	537	15.5%
Beverly Hills Village	991	338	16.6%
Bingham Farms Village	127	15	15%
Birmingham	1,984	461	15.2%
Clawson	914	386	13%
Farmington	760	261	13.2%
Farmington Hills	5,674	2,815	17.7%
Ferdale	1,554	365	12.3%
Franklin Village	140	51	9.2%
Hazel Park	860	341	9.6%
Huntington Woods	1,064	119	24.6%
Madison Heights	1,749	997	13.9%
Oak Park	1,670	255	11.2%
Pleasant Ridge	327	92	18.3%
Pontiac	2,163	712	7.2%
Royal Oak	6,172	2,702	18.2%
Royal Oak Twp.	337	21	7.1%
Southfield	6,119	1,978	14.7%
Troy	4,144	1,863	11.7%
Total Votes	38,566	14,756	13.7%

Official results

Source: Oakland County Clerk's Office

Pooch

from page 1A

parks safer for students walking through on the way home from school.

Frey admitted there is a special interest, but added there are tennis courts and softball diamonds.

"The park is about special interests," he said.

The plan raised a litter of questions from council.

They wondered who would clean up after other dogs. Potentially, Frey said.

"Our dogs are depressed and getting overweight from sitting around all day watching the O.J. trial. 'Not to mention the doggy therapy bills that are piling up.'"

Martin Frey

tial liability might be a concern, especially if a dog attacks another.

"Are we going to have doggie police to maintain this club in the park?" Councilwoman Jo Anne McShane said.

City Manager Frank Laubhoff said Tuesday he'll consult with Michigan Municipal Risk Management regarding council members concerns.

Several owners tried to quell council's worries. Some said they were unaware council was even considering a leash ordinance until after it came into effect.

"The dogs really enjoy being together," said Pickett Street resident Linda Andridge. "I know they don't pay taxes, but their owners do."

Election

from page 1A

be busy lining up poll workers for Monday and making phone calls.

"It will be a busy weekend," Enberg said.

Levin plans to go door-to-door and have a phone calling party to rattle up voters. She's also been campaigning at community events such as the Memorial Day parade, Farmington Hills police open house, and school carnivals.

Levin sees the OCC ballot question as a help to her bid.

"I think it will draw out voters who normally don't vote in school board elections," Levin said.

In a comparison of voters Enberg did on those who turn out for both OCC elections and school board elections, she said there's only a 20-percent overlap.

"It's essentially doubled our mailing list," Enberg said. "In that way, it's been more of a challenge to reach all the people who might be out in this election."

focused a lot of attention on SMART and public transportation," he said. "And now that there's property tax money involved, you're going to see a lot more involvement (in policy decisions) by Oakland officials."

Aside from all the political posturing associated with the SMART vote, Tuesday's election was concrete proof that people

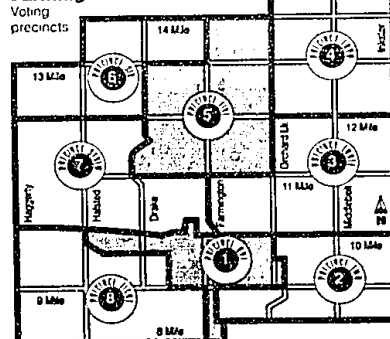
care about each other, said Kelley Murphy, a SMART employee who lives in Southfield.

"Most of the people who voted for SMART don't use the system," she said. "So they didn't personally have anything to lose or gain. But they were willing to raise their taxes so people who need the transit system will have it."

"I was pleased by the election results, but not surprised. Not many people ride SMART, but those who do don't have any real alternative."

Vagnozzi

Farmington Public Schools



Where to vote:

1. Longacre Elementary
34850 Arundel
2. William Grace Elementary
20040 Shawnessie
3. East Middle School
25000 Middlebelt
4. Warner Middle School
30003 W. 14 Mile
5. Wooddale Elementary
28600 Peppermill
6. Forest Elementary
34545 Old Timber
7. Hilde Elementary
35601 W. 11 Mile
8. Oak Elementary
21195 Gar

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