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THE

Observer & Eccentric®

NEWSPAPERS

Watching from page 1A

the balliwick Republican Jan Dolan, who announced recently that she'd not seek a fifth term — includes just Farmington and Farmington Hills. The normal elections, an August primary and November election, apply.

Senator never popular

The 37th always has been a stable House district with Dolan, a former Hills Councilwoman with a good grounding in local issues, in office. Honigman, however, has never been popular with Farmington-area leadership.

First, the West Bloomfield resident was out for a long period because of illness, and then he introduced some controversial legislation that seemed at odds with local ordinances.

Overall, though, there has been a "chipping away" of home rule — limited self government by a dependent political unit by the state, said Farmington Hills' Vagnozzi.

And revenue-sharing — money from Lansing for local projects like road repairs — has dried up, he complained.

"In the last couple of years, they've chipped away nearly \$2 million," Vagnozzi said. "We

could have beefed up our police and fire (departments) much earlier... all our services really."

It hasn't done much good to "complain to the state," Vagnozzi said.

"The last couple of years, we've gone up there with the Michigan Municipal League and complained about revenue sharing, complained about the distribution of road funds," Vagnozzi said.

"I don't think we should have to do that. I'd hope our needs would be taken care of by our representatives. If it's a question of siding with the governor or with the cities, I'd hope our new representatives would side with the cities."

Said Farmington's Lauhoff: "If you look at a graph of our revenues coming from the state, you'll see that they've been up and down over the years. Gradually, they've stayed flat. This year, they're increasing less than 1 percent."

Grief from Lansing

There have been other problems with state edicts. For example:

- Cities were required to redraw

their voting precinct boundaries so that each precinct is bordered by a road or river."

■ Clerks must now submit names of election workers to local party officials for approval. "Clerks have enough trouble finding people to work at the polls," Vagnozzi said. "Now they have to go through this. Had they checked with our clerks, they would have found that this is not a workable process."

■ Cities must, if requested, pick up absentee ballots. "Again, they should have checked with our clerks," Vagnozzi said.

Problems often arise between state and local governments because of political party affiliations.

Local government is usually non-partisan, not identified with any party. That's not the case in Lansing, however, where a Republican leadership might demand loyalty and support from the senators and representatives — sometimes at the expense of the people back home.

"We're non-partisan, non-political, just trying to do a job down here," Lauhoff said. "Unfortunately, we have to deal with people who are political in Lansing. When you deal with Lansing... well, it's a whole different world."

About endorsements

Superintendent Maxfield is concerned about the state's slashing funds for adult education. And he'd like the new representatives to listen when the school people have concerns.

"We don't expect them to drop everything and do what we want," Maxfield said, "but we'd like them to be accessible to us. We expect to get information when we need it."

Republican Senate candidates are Terry Sever, a Farmington Hills councilman; State Rep. Barb Dobb of Commerce Township, and Willis Bullard of Milford; and Ed Cox of Northville. Barry Brickner, a member of the Farmington Hills Planning Commission, is the lone Democrat.

House Republican hopefuls are Cathy Webb, a Farmington Schools trustee, and Andy Raczkowski, who ran unsuccessfully against Jan Dolan two years ago. A Democrat, Stephen Dibert, has said he's running.

So far, Dolan has endorsed Webb, and Honigman has come out for Bullard. Such favoritism from outgoing politicians doesn't impress Vagnozzi.

LOTTERY

The Lotto jackpot was worth at least \$10 million. The Michigan Lottery numbers for Saturday, April 13, 1996 are:

■ DAILY 3:
536

■ DAILY 4:
8500

■ LOTTO:
12, 14, 35, 39, 40, 49

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BORED?

There is something for every member of the family at the **FARMINGTON AREA YMCA**



Fitness Classes For all levels of enthusiasts. The classes include water, land, step & toning.

Gym & Swim For children 3-5 years of age. The class combines 30 minutes of gymnastics skills with 30 minutes of swimming lessons. Participants must wear their swimming suit under their gymnastics clothes. Instructors lead participants from gym class to swimming class.

Me and My 'Babe' Spend this hour and a half learning and playing with your 18-30 month old toddler. Quality time learning songs, games, crafts and activities which you can continue at home including a chance to learn gross motor skills. This program is located at the Y's Tot's Child Care Center, 28650 Eleven Mile Road.

Strength Training Learn how to use our Family Wellness Center and Olympic Room weight equipment under the supervision of a trained instructor to increase your muscular strength and total body fitness.

Summer T-Ball T-Ball is a fast action game similar to baseball. The ball is placed on a tee to insure that each child has the opportunity to hit the ball. The ball has a sock type cover and is soft to prevent injuries. As with all YMCA sports, the child comes first! Coaches work with players to keep winning in its proper perspective. All players play an equal amount of time in every game. The only thing warming the bench during "Y" T-ball will be the sun!

GOLF This class teaches fundamental skills and basic stroke techniques with all clubs. Class meets at Eldorado Golf Course Driving Range: Pontiac Trail, 1/2 mile west of Haggerty. You must supply your own clubs. Bucket of balls is at your own expense.

Tuesday Jack Emery 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday Jack Emery 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday Jack Emery 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

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FARMINGTON AREA YMCA

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