

# Kaplan comes out swinging in bout for prosecutor's job

BY PAT MURPHY  
STAFF WRITER

Hours after becoming the first official candidate for Oakland County prosecutor, Democrat Steven Kaplan went on the attack. Kaplan told about 100 supporters at a Wall Lake fund raiser that he's ready to challenge incumbent Richard Thompson on his plea bargaining policy and to put forth his own programs — such as the "scared straight" program to deter youthful offenders.

Kaplan filed nominating papers with the Oakland County elections division thus becoming the first official candidate. He posted a \$100 filing fee — in lieu of nominating petitions — to qualify for the Aug. 6 primary ballot.

Two other candidates have announced for prosecutor, but as of 5 p.m. Friday, neither had filed petitions or filing fees. The deadline is 4 p.m. on May 14.

Those candidates are incumbent Richard Thompson, a Republican, and a challenger, David G. Gorcey, a former assistant prosecutor now practicing in Royal Oak where he is a city councilman.

The winner of the GOP race will likely face Kaplan, a Democrat, who thus far does not have a primary opponent.

Thompson was unavailable Friday. Lawrence R. Kozma, chief of legal operations in the prosecutor's office, said, "There's no doubt, he (Thompson) is running. He'll probably file in a week or so."

Gorcey said there's no doubt about his running either. "I've been running hard with fund-raisers and public appearances," he said Friday. "Yesterday was a particularly good day. My accountant (and campaign manager) told me we received \$2,000 in contributions that one day."

Kaplan himself has been a candidate since shortly after the 1992 election when, as an upstart and relatively unknown, he carried a mandate within 42,000 votes of upsetting Thompson, an entrenched incumbent.

He is a West Bloomfield resident who works as an assistant prosecutor in Macomb County. Thursday's fund-raiser at Key Largo in Wall Lake was the last of four \$20 fund-raisers noting, Kaplan said, about \$15,000. Others were in Waterford, Auburn Hills and Southfield.

Kaplan told supporters he intends an issue-oriented campaign, challenging the incumbent's performance. "I want to know why he plea bargained with a habitual offender?" Kaplan said, referring to earlier this month when an

accused murderer was allowed to plea to a lesser offense.

That was Kenneth Tranchida, 42, who on April 17 was allowed to plead to second degree murder, and being a fourth offense habitual offender in the death of Oakland University student Tina Biggar, killed in August, 1995.

Tranchida, a Southfield resident, had been charged with first degree, or premeditated, murder, which carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison with no chance of parole.

Tranchida was scheduled to be sentenced Friday, and his attorney, Michael Modelski said the penalty could be equally as harsh. "He could get up to life in prison for second degree murder and life in prison for being a habitual (repeat) offender," the attorney said.

Kaplan has been critical of Thompson's policy against plea bargaining, insisting that is applied unfairly and, on occasion, resulted in future unnecessarily going free.

There's one case where the prosecutor refused to plea bargain on an 87-year-old shoplifter, Kaplan

said. In another case, two defendants in a murder case were acquitted, he said, in part because

Thompson refused a plea bargain with two of their accomplices who demanded lesser charges.

## FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS INVITATION TO BID

Farmington Public Schools will accept sealed bids for Cable Infrastructure, Phase III, until 1:30 P.M., Tuesday, May 7, 1996 at the Lewis Schulman Administration Center, 32500 Shiawassee, Farmington, Michigan 48336, addressed to Paul Hein at which time they will be publicly opened and read for presentation to the Board of Education at their next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities therein; or for reasons of establishing uniformity, to award the contract to other than the low bidder.

It is strongly recommended that bidders attend a prebid meeting at 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday, May 7, 1996 at the Board of Education, Farmington, MI 48336 at 3:30 P.M. on Tuesday, April 23, 1996 in the media center.

A bid bond for 5% of the bid amount issued by a carrier licensed by the State of Michigan and with an excellent or superior rating from AM Best Company must accompany your bid proposal. No certified checks accepted.

For bid forms or proposal information, contact Mr. Bill McCarthy at MCS&V, 26001 West Five Mile Road, Bedford, Michigan 48220, (313) 636-1140.

BOBBIE FELDMAN, Secretary  
Board of Education

Published April 23 and 29, 1996

## CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

### PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ZONING MAP AMENDMENT

DATE: MAY 16, 1996  
TIME: 7:30 P.M.  
PLACE: Farmington Hills City Hall  
31555 Eleven Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336  
ITEM: Rezoning Request 8-3-96

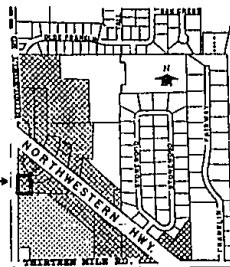
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Farmington Hills Planning Commission will give formal consideration to a proposed amendment to the official Zoning Map of the City of Farmington Hills by amending Section 34.32 of the City Code by changing the zoning classification of the following parcel of property as follows:

Reasoned from OS-1, Office Service District classification to RC-1, Multiple-Family Residential District classification.

Sidwell #23-01-361-063

A part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 1, City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, commonly known as 29800 Middlefield Road.

The proponent in this matter is Dr. Kishan L. Aggarwal.



Any person who is interested in this proposed zoning map amendment is invited to participate in the discussion of the proposed zoning change at the public hearing above mentioned. Copies of the Zoning Map, Zoning Map, and Application for Rezoning may be reviewed at the Planning Office, Farmington Hills City Hall at 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan, on any business day between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

DALE A. COUNTEGAN, Director  
Planning & Community Development  
City of Farmington Hills

Rezoning Request No. 8-3-96

Phone: 473-0643

Published April 29, 1996

## So far no takers for county top job

BY PAT MURPHY  
STAFF WRITER

With the filing deadline roughly two weeks away, it might seem that Oakland County's top elected position is up for grabs.

As of 5 p.m. Friday, nobody had taken out nominating petitions to run for Oakland County Executive, a post currently occupied by L. Brooks Patterson.

That is likely to change, however, possibly as early as Wednesday when Patterson has scheduled an "announcement breakfast" at the Palace in Auburn Hills.

The executive's office Friday could not say what the announcement would be. But Patterson himself gave hints at the April 19 annual Economic Outlook Luncheon.

Basking in forecasts showing Oakland County continuing to have economic prosperity through 1997, Patterson privately told reporters, "I'll probably have an announcement around the first of the month."

Among Democrats, however, the picture is far less certain.

Elizabeth P. Howe, who ran against Patterson four years ago, last week reiterated that she is not interested in a rematch. "People have approached me," said the Pleasant Ridge resident. "But frankly, interest in that job has passed me by."

But I think Democrats are going to come up with a good candidate," said Howe, now an adjunct professor at Walsh

Business College. "I'm not free to mention any names, but I think people will be pleasantly surprised," she said.

The filing deadline is 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 14. As of late Friday, some newcomers had filed — either nominating petitions or \$100 filing fees — relating the probability of a flurry of activity over the next two weeks.

Incumbents Lynn D. Allen and C. Hugh Dobany, both Republicans, are the only candidates so far for county clerk and treasurer, respectively.

In the sheriff's race, however, Michigan State Police commander Matthew E. Hogan III of White Lake has filed as a Democrat, while Paul A. Molin of Farmington Hills has filed as a Republican.

Incumbent Republican John N. Nichols Friday said he will likely file on the day of the deadline.

Announced challenger Gerard Carlin, former captain of the sheriff department's substation in Rochester Hills, said he will likely file around May 9. "I've been campaigning hard," he said, "and I think it will be a good contest."

While numerous candidates have taken out nominating petitions, those to have filed for county commissioner as of later Friday are:

■ 19th District — incumbent Donn W. Wolf, Republican, Farmington Hills.

## CARRIER OF THE MONTH: FARMINGTON

Tauben Baessler, 14, delivers the Observer on Maple Street in Farmington. He has been delivering the Observer since 1992.

The Power Middle School eighth grader's favorite subject is math. He has played soccer for nine years. His soccer team has been the division champions for the past two years. He was recently a winner in the 27th Annual America & Me Essay contest.

Tauben plans to study computer drafting this summer at the Oakland Technical Center and continue this study next year at Farmington High School.

Tauben enjoys delivering the Observer on roller blades. Delivering papers is good exercise, teaches responsibility and gives you spending money.

Tauben is the son of Bob and Tove Baessler. He has one brother, Robin, 10 and a sister, Inge, 17.



Tauben Baessler

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## FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS INVITATION TO BID

Farmington Public Schools will accept sealed bids for two (2) modular classrooms until 1:30 P.M., Tuesday, May 14, 1996, at the Lewis Schulman Administration Center, 32500 Shiawassee, Farmington, Michigan 48336, addressed to Paul Hein at which time they will be publicly opened and read for presentation to the Board of Education at their next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities therein; or for reasons of establishing uniformity, to award the contract to other than the low bidder.

A bid bond for 5% of the bid amount issued by a carrier licensed by the State of Michigan and with an excellent or superior rating from AM Best Company must accompany your bid proposal. No certified checks accepted.

Bid specifications may be obtained from the purchasing department, 32500 Shiawassee, Farmington, Michigan 48336, (810) 489-3346.

BOBBIE FELDMAN, Secretary  
Board of Education

Published April 29 and May 6, 1996

## CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

### PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ZONING MAP AMENDMENT

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PLACE: Farmington Hills City Hall  
31555 Eleven Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336  
ITEM: Rezoning Request 7-3-96

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Farmington Hills Planning Commission will give formal consideration to a proposed amendment to the official Zoning Map of the City of Farmington Hills by amending Section 34.32 of the City Code by changing the zoning classification of the following parcel of property as follows:

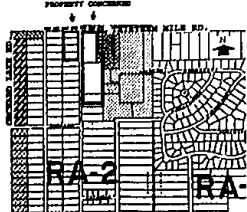
Reasoned from RA-2, Single-Family Residential District and OS-1, Office Service District classification to RC-1 or RC-2, Multiple-Family Residential District classification.

Sidwell #23-11-120-001, 010, 011; Pt. of 23-11-120-002;

#23-11-102-015 thru 018

A part of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 11, T1N, R0E, of the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, located on the south side of Thirteen Mile Road, east of Orchard Lake Road.

The proponent in this matter is Steven J. Schafer, Phoenix Land Development, who seeks this rezoning for multiple-family residential development.



Any person who is interested in this proposed zoning map amendment is invited to participate in the discussion of the proposed zoning change at the public hearing above mentioned. Copies of the Zoning Map, Zoning Map, and Application for Rezoning may be reviewed at the Planning Office, Farmington Hills City Hall at 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan, on any business day between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

DALE A. COUNTEGAN, Director  
Planning & Community Development  
City of Farmington Hills

Rezoning Request No. 7-3-96  
Phone: 473-0643

Published April 29, 1996

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