

# The Farmington

## ENTERPRISE & OBSERVER

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64 pages, 5 sections

Philip H. Power, Publisher

### today's hot line

### what's inside

#### Sewing Tips

A donation of time rather than money is the theme of a Farmington woman who has dressed a total of 25 Goodfellow dolls. For some tips on the best means to outfit the Christmas presents turn to . . .

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#### Remove Fence?

The barricade might be up on Salvatore St., but a group of residents appeared at the Farmington Township Board meeting Monday to try to have the structure removed.

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#### Our Endorsements

We've taken a long, hard look at the candidates for Congress and the State Legislature in Observeland and come up with some analyses and endorsements that you'll find valuable. Read the Editorial Page before going to the polls.

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#### Local Theater

Two community theater groups in these suburbs are preparing plays for your cultural enlightenment and amusement. Check them out—and find out what's going on in local movie houses and restaurants on the Amusements Pages.

Pages 6-7B

#### Sports Scene

The Suburban Six high school football league was rocked—by the Rocks of Plymouth, who crushed previously undefeated Livonia Bentley . . . Stevenson is the only unbeaten team in the area . . . M' gets Rose Bowl fever.

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### upcoming

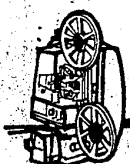
SUNDAY'S EDITION will feature more endorsements—this time in local races, county supervisor and district judges. We think we've clarified some of the issues and that you'll find the endorsements helpful.

NEXT WEDNESDAY, watch the Hot Line for election results from your home town. The national networks won't tell you who won the local judgeship or the state representative seat—but the Observer Newspaper Election Team will.

### NEW FILM STAR?

Got a new son or a new grandson in the family—and a new projector to screen his performances?

The old projector is just collecting dust, and some other baby's parents would surely like it. Why not advertise it in an Observer Twin-Action Want Ad? Just dial GA - 20900.



# Nixon In Suburbia, Backs McDonald, Sees Victory

By LEONARD FOGER and SUE SHAUGHNESSY

Richard Nixon in his presidential campaign roared into Observeland Tuesday morning in his quest for Michigan's 21 electoral votes. The Republican candidate spoke to a standing room only crowd which jammed Livonia's Roma Hall.

He called for "new leadership from top to bottom" and gave incumbent GOP 19th District Congressman Jack McDonald a plug, calling him "a needed force in Washington."

Nixon told the crowd that "we have a week of hard work ahead of us in this district to bring out a very large vote which will help us carry this very close state."

While in Michigan, the candidate made three stops in the Detroit suburbs of Livonia, Warren and Southfield.

"WE'RE GOING TO WIN," Nixon told the cheering crowd as he ripped into the Democrats and their record of the past four years.

He warned his partisan followers that this is Halloween week, the Democrats are playing tricks and the voters can expect more.

"But the American people are going to get the treat when they (the Democratic Party) are ordered out of town—we're moving in on Jan. 20," Nixon declared.

He also warned voters that his opponents are engaging in personalities "because they are afraid they are going to lose" next Tuesday. "The only real issue in the campaign is the record of the last four years," Nixon claimed.

In appealing to the sports fans in the audience, who had cheered Detroit Tiger outfielder Al Kaline, Nixon said that "a new team will quit striking out and go to the long ball."



CONGRESSMAN Jack McDonald welcomes the man at the top of the Republican ticket.

## City Retirement Plan On Tuesday's Ballot

A proposal to update the existing retirement plan for City of Farmington employees will be on the Nov. 5 ballot.

The actual statement appearing on the ballot will read: "Shall Chapter Five, Section 5.11 of the Charter of the City of Farmington be amended to permit the increase of member's straight life pension of 0.2 per cent of final average salary times credited service; to provide for voluntary retirement for policemen and firemen at age 55; to permit payment of deferred benefits at voluntary retirement age; and to permit the increase of pensions to present retirees."

THE REVISION WOULD IN-

crease benefits to city employees approximately 27 per cent and would add \$14,354 to the average annual city budget.

The city's 44 employees, including 19 in the public safety department, support the retirement fund through payroll deductions.

The new plan will increase the city's contribution to the fund with the payroll deductions remaining the same. At present, retirees are paid a pension computed on the basis of one per cent times the years of service for the first \$4,800 earned and one and one-half per cent above that. The proposed revision increases these percentages to 1.2 and 1.7.

GENERAL employees with 10 years' service may retire voluntarily at age 60 under the present plan, but the proposed change will allow police and firemen to voluntarily retire at age 55 with 10 years or more service.

The present plan allows an employee with 25 years service who resigns before age 60 to leave his accumulated contributions on deposit and receive a deferred pension at age 65.

The revision reads: "An employee, who is age 60 and has 15 or more years of credited service who terminates city employment, may leave his accumulated contributions on deposit and receive a deferred

pension at age 62."

In case of non-duty total disability, the years of service required for disability benefits would be reduced from 10 to five years if the amendment is approved.

And finally, survivor pensions would become payable under the new plan to beneficiaries of employees who die after completing 15 years of service rather than the present 25 years limitation.

CITY MANAGER John Dinan said that about two-thirds of the 240 cities in the Michigan Municipal League already have a pension plan similar to the one proposed for Farmington. He said that it wouldn't put

the city ahead of anyone in the benefits but "would at least put us in the mainstream."

Dinan explained that the increase was being offered to current retirees to help offset inflationary pressures. He noted the city has only three or four retirees under the current plan and the revision would only amount to a 20 per cent increase for every \$100 received.

He added that the 0.2 per cent increase actually is equivalent to a 20 per cent hike since it is multiplied by the number of years service. Dinan said that the total cost of the proposal amounts to less than two and one-half per cent of the city's total budget.

The updating is necessary, he said, to encourage retention of career employees and to offer incentive for experienced personnel to remain with the city.

DIRECTOR of Public Safety Robert F. Deadman supported the provision permitting voluntary retirement of police and firemen at 55.

"The death of a Ferndale fireman while at a fire a few weeks ago, points this up," he said.

Deadman placed the average age of the city police and fire department at about 39 and said that the average time on the job for the officers was five to six years.

## Amendment To Replace County Coroner

Oakland County voters will be asked to choose between the existing county coroner system and a proposed medical examiner system for the county on the Nov. 5 ballot.

The medical examiner system is supported by the State Bar Association, the Michigan State Medical Society and the Oakland County Medical Society.

Approval to place the question on the ballot came from the Oakland County Board of Health and the Oakland County Board of Supervisors.

UNDER the current system the Oakland County Health Officer serves as the county coroner. However, the laws governing the operation of the coroner's office were first written in 1846.

A total of 27 counties in Michigan, including Wayne, Washtenaw, Kalamazoo and Kent counties, are now under the medical examiner system. Eighty per cent of the state's population is guided by the medical examiner system.

Under the state law the county medical examiners shall be physicians licensed to practice within the state and shall be residents of the county for which they are appointed or of an

adjoining county.

The medical examiners will be required to make examinations upon bodies of such persons only as are supposed to have come to their death by violence; or whose death was unexpected; or without medical attendance up to a time 36 hours prior to death unless the attending physician is able to determine the cause of death. Examinations would also be required in deaths resulting from abortions or in the case of a prisoner in a county or city jail.

THE CORONER may hold inquests upon the written request of the prosecuting attorney or the petition of five residents. Under the medical examiner system an autopsy may be ordered, while the coroner does not have this power.

The law would also prohibit the removal of a body by any person without a signed permit from the medical examiner or his deputy. The penalty for this misdemeanor is a \$500 fine and/or one year in the county jail.

The City of Farmington's Director of Public Safety Robert F. Deadman called the medical examiner system "much more workable" than the coroner operation.



HEAD FIRST — Jack Hay, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Hay of 23875 Beacon, Farmington, gets into the Halloween spirit as he examines

the inner workings of a Jack-O-Lantern. Area witches and ghosts will be out in force Thursday for their annual night of "Trick or Treating."

## Read, Study Sample Ballot, Page 8C