

## Don't forget to vote in Farmington race

There is a city council election Tuesday in Farmington, too. City council incumbents Mary Bush, Arnold Campbell and James Mitchell are guaranteed re-election. But voters must decide which candidate will only get a two-year term.

The top two vote-getters will receive four-year terms, with the third-place finisher getting two years.

No other local ballot issues will be decided.

The city's six polling places open at 7 a.m. and shut down at 8 p.m. They are:

- No. 1. Farmington City Hall, 23600 Liberty Street;
- No. 2. Ten Mile Community School, 32789 W. Ten Mile;
- No. 3. Farmington Senior High School, 32000 Shawanigee;
- No. 4. Flanders Elementary School, 32600 Flanders Street;
- No. 5. Longacre Elementary School, 34850 Arundel;
- No. 6. Farmington Training Center, 33000 Thomas Street.

—Tim Smith

## Plans for 14 Mile/OL draw fire

BY GREG KOWALSKI  
STAFF WRITER

It's almost certain that property at the northwest corner of 14 Mile and Orchard Lake in West Bloomfield will be developed.

But what will go there is far from settled.

Plans for the latest proposed development came under fire at a public hearing last Tuesday.

"What was proposed was way too much," said Margaret Raben, president of the Concerned Citizens for West Bloomfield, a citizen group that keeps a close watch on proposed development in the township. "This proposal was unacceptable."

The 63-acre parcel is the last largest undeveloped parcel in the township. Schmier & Feuring Properties of Boca Raton, Fla., proposed to devote about two-thirds of the eastern side of the parcel to retail. The remaining area would be about equally divided between residential and office space.

But two concerns in particular have drawn the most citizen reaction, Raben said. One is the expected increase in traffic in

the area, especially with plans proposed for a Super Kmart, a hypermarket complex of shops, offices and housing on the Farmington Hills side of that same corner. The other concern is the plan to put two restaurants on the West Bloomfield site.

"I'm not sure that site needs two restaurants," Raben said. In order to accommodate the proposed retail, a portion of the site will have to be rezoned from residential to business.

That's a mistake, Raben said. "Once it is rezoned they have no control over what goes in there."

Township planning manager Thomas Bird said rezoning was the prime issue at the meeting. The developer wants to rezone much of the retail area from B2 to B3. The distinction is that B2 permits more shopping center-style development while B3 generally is for businesses on smaller lots.

### ■ 'What was proposed was way too much.'

Margaret Raben  
—president of Concerned Citizens for West Bloomfield

"The commission felt B2 was adequate," Bird said.

Also under the plan, the retail would be brought right to the side of Orchard Lake. That is likely to draw the ire of other businesses along Orchard Lake who were required to have large setbacks from the road in order to locate there.

No one was available from Schmier & Feuring to comment.

Raben also said Concerned Citizens take a dim view of the way the retail property is designed. About 65,000 square feet retail space is planned along with four office buildings, all being one story. "They will be huge," Raben said.

As for the increased traffic, that seems inevitable, Raben said. "Will it get worse?" Raben said. "Yes. The idea is to manage it."

A key proposal is the install a boulevard and turnaround lanes

on Orchard Lake at the intersection of 14 Mile.

"The most critical issue is traffic and congestion," Supervisor Jeddy Hood said. "The question is, do we allow this to go forward without infrastructure changes?"

The general feeling of the township, she said, is to hold back on development until the infrastructure is upgraded.

"Will there be an increase (in traffic)? Probably," Hood said. But it may not be as bad as some people fear.

Stores generally are open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., which is after peak morning rush hour traffic times.

Hood said she would like to see at least a half-mile of Orchard Lake rebuilt to give residents an idea of how it can be improved.

Hood stressed that Tuesday's public hearing was for informational purposes and a final decision on how the property will be developed is a long way off.

The commission has set a special work session to reconsider the issue again at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 13, in Town Hall.

## Counterfeit \$10 bills hit two stores

BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills police are urging store operators to keep an eye out for counterfeit money after two bogus \$10 bills were passed at different businesses during the past week.

A counterfeit bill turned up at Sears Hardware on Middlebelt and 12 Mile Oct. 24 while another one was discovered at Videoland on Farmington Road Oct. 30. Hills police have few leads and, as is typical policy, turned the matter over to the U.S. Secret Service.

Store owners and employees are wary of bill denominations of \$50 and \$100, but counterfeiters are changing strategy, police said.

"Normally, the denominations tend to be much higher," said Chuck Nebus, Hills police commander.

"It's becoming more common to see the smaller bills, so they figure they can catch the store owners and employees off guard," he said.

A bogus \$10 bill turned up when a store owner was counting money at Videoland for a

bank deposit. A person at the store couldn't tell officers when the bill was received, police reports said.

"It didn't look good," said Anthony Dickow, who called Farmington Hills police.

U.S. Secret Service received reports of counterfeit \$100s, \$50s and \$20s turning up at strip centers in suburban Detroit as well as Saginaw and Benton Harbor since January.

U.S. Treasury issued new \$100 bills earlier this year in attempt to combat counterfeiting, which is one of the oldest crimes, police

experts said.

Police recommend people compare suspect bills with genuine ones, noting the differences — not similarities. Genuine bills should also have red or blue fibers in the paper.

If receiving a bogus bill, people should not try to give it back to the person who is passing it.

Instead, police urge that the cashier make note of the person's description and, if possible, to delay the individual and call police or the U.S. Secret Service office.

### AGENDAS

#### Farmington City Council

City Hall, 474-4700

8 p.m., Monday, Oct. 20

Agenda items include:

■ Public hearing for 1998-99 Community Development Block Grant Program.

■ Public Hearing to request Special Exception Use Permit, Child Care Center 32724-80.

■ City Manager to report on request for Special Exception Use Permit, 32724-80 Grand River, Village Commons Shopping Center and consideration to accept bid award for sale.

■ Schedule study session with architect regarding Public Safety Department renovations.

■ Board and Commission appointment to the Commission on Children, Youth and Families and the Downtown Development Authority.

■ Consider budget amendment.

#### Farmington Board of Education

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