

Farmington Observer

OPINION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1998

(FJA7) 33411 GRAND RIVER, FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN 48335

Legal difficulties

The Farmington Observer of Oct. 8 contained two articles on the front page about the legal difficulties of Terry Sever and David Moffitt.

These incumbent officeholders are seeking to represent the Farmington area as Oakland County commissioners. Mr. Sever has defaulted on his personal and business property taxes. Mr. Moffitt has failed AGAIN to file required campaign finance reports.

These politicians are seeking an office which controls an annual budget of almost \$300 million of the taxpayers' money. I would like to urge the voters of Farmington and Farmington Hills to take a close look at their opponents.

Deborah Goldberg and Ryan Gesund show a firm grasp of the issues as well as a pattern of complying with the law.

Marie M. Weigold
Farmington Hills

Up to expectations

Two years ago the Farmington Hills Police Officers Association and the Police Officers Association of Michigan endorsed Andrew Raczowski for state representative of the 37th district. We hoped his unique insight and youthful energy would result in aggressive initiatives in the state legislature with consideration given to law enforcement issues which impact our area and the state.

Andrew has in fact lived up to those expectations and fulfilled his promises to our community. Not only has he spearheaded legislation which protects local businesses unfair labor practices, he is also a strong advocate of tough laws dealing with criminal behavior.

Representative Raczowski's reelection will put him in line for leadership positions in Lansing, which will result in an even stronger voice for our district's concerns and needs.

He is eager to get back to work implementing more positive changes,

which is why our association wholeheartedly supports his re-election.

Wayne Beerbower
Farmington Hills
Police Officers Association

Vote for Goldberg

On Nov. 3, we will elect a new county commissioner to represent the 19th District (which includes the southern half of Farmington Hills and all of Farmington).

We have a unique opportunity to elect someone who has watched the county commission for over 20 years and is familiar with how county government works. We have the chance to elect a person of strong character who understands our communities and has the courage and convictions to work with the county executive and other commissioners to make sure that our road repair, 911 emergency service, improved and repaired storm sewer and drain needs are met.

Deborah Goldberg is endorsed by the Oakland Press and many community leaders, including Farmington Hills Mayor Aldo Vagnozzi and Mayor Pro Tem Vicki Barnett. According to The Detroit News (Thursday, Oct. 15), Deborah Goldberg is "refreshingly forthright, without being strident ... and ... concerned about responsive services." I agree! She would represent our communities well!

I urge you to join us and vote for Deborah Goldberg for county commission.

Mark Steckloff
Farmington Hills

Explain your excuse

So, you have already decided that you are not going to vote this year, is that right? Well, would you mind explaining your reasons to all the veterans buried in Arlington Cemetery and the hundreds of other military cemeteries around the world?

I think they would like to hear your excuse, since they gave up their lives so that you could still enjoy the free-

dom and privileges you have and they do not!

When you get through explaining your reasons for not voting, stop off at any veteran's hospital and repeat your excuses to these veterans whose lives were so dramatically changed when they fought to preserve our freedom. When you finish explaining to them, there are veterans posts all over the country where you can explain to the veterans gathered there why you are not going to bother to vote.

When you have completed these tasks, take a good look in the mirror and ask yourself if you can really not bother to vote. This message holds true for every election! While you're making excuses, you might want to explain your position to the families of deceased, wounded and surviving veterans. They deserve better!!

Anthony B. Brehler
Livonia

Consider facts on B

Shocking! Shocking! The editorial staff (Phil Power) of the Farmington Observer has recommended a YES vote on Proposal B. This, in spite of the fact, that doctors, who object to the practice, will be required under severe penalty to recommend another physician who will agree to participate in the suicide. What a horrible ethical dilemma for the doctors who have sworn to protect life.

Let us consider some facts. In Oregon, where assisted suicide has already been legalized, insurance providers have already cut back on pain medication and hospice care for patients with terminal diseases other than cancer. What could be a more coercive action than that? The people

FARMINGTON OBSERVER'S ENDORSEMENTS Election '98

TUESDAY, NOV. 3, ELECTION

U.S. Congress (11th District)

R - JOE KNOLESBERG ✓
D - Travis Reed
L - Dick Guch

State Senate (15th District)

R - BILL GULLARD JR. ✓
D - S. Ruth Fuller

State House (37th District)

R - ANDREW RACZKOWSKI ✓
D - Steve Dibert

Oakland County Board of Commissioners (19th District)

R - TERRY SEVER ✓
D - Deborah Goldberg

Oakland County Board of Commissioners (19th District)

R - DAVID MOFFITT ✓
D - Ryan Gesund

State ballot proposals

Proposal A:
To change the word "handicapped" to "disabled" in the state constitution.
Yes ✓
No

Proposal B:

Initiate legislation to legalize the prescription of a lethal dose of medication to terminally ill, competent, informed adults in order to commit suicide.
Yes ✓
No

Proposal C:

To authorize bonds for environmental and natural resources protection programs (\$675 million).
Yes ✓
No

Wayne County ballot proposal

Should the county eliminate the tax allocation board?
Yes ✓
No

KEY:

R - Republican
D - Democrat
L - Libertarian
N - Natural Law

of Oregon have the choice to commit suicide or suffer!

According to your editorial, the fastest growing segment in the population is over 85. Will the age of this portion of the population be bullied and coerced into ending their "misery"? Because there will be more people over the age of 85 than in the past, does this make them less than human? Are these human beings not still citizens of the United States with the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in spite of the fact that they may be feeble and ailing? Who will decide in the future if and when the sick and elderly will die? Will it be the patient? I think not. Will it be the family? The insurance company? The government?

There is a subtle move to get the public to accept suicide (and eventually euthanasia). It is a well-known fact that the most expensive medical care comes in the last months of life. How handy if all that money unused on medical care could be used to line the pockets of the insurance companies, corporations and politicians. There are strong forces at work to decrease the population. What better way to do this than to get people to take their own lives. What have we come to? In my wildest dreams I would not have expected to see these frightening events come to pass in my country. I am outraged and sickened at what is

happening.

Please cancel my subscription (of many years) to the Observer. I cannot support a periodical that takes such an anti-life position.

Gloria Gerber
Farmington Hills

Supports Smietanka

What's the difference between 4 and 24? Of course, the answer is 20 — the difference between John Smietanka's (Republican candidate for attorney general) and his opponent Jennifer Granholm's prosecutorial experience. John Smietanka is the most qualified candidate to ever run for attorney general.

The Democrats are going to try to claim that Smietanka failed to pay child support, but it was only for a short period of time that he fell behind when he was starting a new business. He more than made up the difference and also paid for his daughter's tuition to parochial school, not because he was ordered to do so but because he wanted to.

Elennor Whitson

YOUR NEEDS ARE CHANGING. FIRST OF AMERICA IS CHANGING, TOO.



First of America is now National City.

More resources to help you. More ATMs to serve you. More people to advise you. These are just a few of the benefits you'll gain when First of America becomes National City. You know where you're going

in life. Now, through National City, you have a partner who can connect you with the right investment opportunities, financial services and advice. Take charge of your financial future. Follow your own lead.

National City
FOLLOW YOUR OWN LEAD