

Bouchard speaks at Business Roundtable

The Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Cross-Cultural Leadership Forum will host the October German Business Roundtable, Tuesday, Oct. 30, at Andiamo West Restaurant in Bloomfield Hills, on Telegraph south of Maple Road, starting with a reception at 11:45 a.m.

The Roundtable is sponsored by Campbell & Company, an international marketing and communications firm located in Dearborn (www.campbellco.com).

Keynote speaker will be Michael J. Bouchard, Oakland County Sheriff, who will speak about Cyber Crime: How to Protect Your Company.

The luncheon cost is \$45 per person (\$40 for CLF members) and can be paid in advance by check or credit card.

An Executive Briefing on Quality Marketing Communications and the Automotive Industry runs from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and will be conducted by David Scheinberg, president and CEO of Campbell & Co.

Make reservations no later than Wednesday, Oct. 10. For information, call (248) 488-9002.

Yes or no?: Jim Evans places his ballot in the ballot box under the watchful eye of poll worker Marylou Knight. A little over 5 percent of the eligible voters in Farmington Public School district participated in Tuesday's election, but the turnout was described as "steady" by election workers.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRADLEY

Millages from page A1

Pontiac, Royal Oak and Walled Lake. Each receives students from several districts.

Both millages failed in Clarkston, Clawson, Holly, Huron Valley, Lake Orion, Madison, Oxford, Pontiac, South Lyon and Waterford. In Royal Oak, the vocational education tax passed, but not the special education tax.

Superintendent speaks

"It was gratifying that they passed in most districts," Maxfield said. "It was expected to be fairly close. It was interesting that the vocational education millage passed by a higher margin."

The special education millage will provide both relief and a cushion for district budgets, he said. The vocational education millage will provide needed upgrades at all four centers and allow for a new collaborative approach, Maxfield added.

"I'm pleased with the relatively strong expression of support for both the special education and vocational education millages," said Farmington Public School Superintendent Bob Maxfield of the local turnout. "Unlike last June's election which was a renewal, this does cost people additional money. We believe this additional funding is an investment for kids."

Maxfield was impressed with the level of knowledge and sophistication he found when speaking to Farmington area parents and other residents. "There was a healthy debate in town about the issue," he said.

District officials say they need more money for special education than is provided by the state and federal government. The amount of aid has not increased

as fast as the costs of the program.

To get more money for special education, local school districts have tapped into their general operating budgets for up to 50 percent of the cost for mandated special education programs, according to literature provided by Farmington Schools.

The special education tax will be distributed among all the school districts in Oakland County. Farmington Schools will receive about \$3.2 million.

The vocational education proposal will provide students with access to the technologies and equipment that are critical to student success in their possible career area, officials said.

The money will be used to improve the four Oakland Technical Centers, make career preparation programs available to all students, and pay for grants to school districts for technical education programs.

Using \$200,000 as the average home price in the Farmington area, residents can expect to pay an annual increase of \$117 for special education and \$22 for vocational education.

The Farmington Public School District runs its own elections with the help of the Farmington Hills City Clerk who allows use of the voting equipment.

In a presentation to Farmington City Council recently, Maxfield and school board president Cathy Webb stressed the district's desire to avoid cuts and maintain small class sizes, an exemplary fine arts program, athletic opportunities and employee training.

Kim Heath and Angie Smith, who co-chaired the millage advocacy committee in the Farmington Public School District led a

phone bank of about 30-50 people, primarily made up of parent volunteers both Monday and Tuesday. The Farmington Michigan Education Association on Hills Tech Drive in Farmington Hills provided use of their phones to the committee.

"I'm pleased that it passed," Heath said. "I believe it will be beneficial to all students, not just special ed. In voc ed, we need to allow our students to have those opportunities."

"I'm just glad we won," Smith said Wednesday morning.

The group began its phone efforts by using a list provided by the Oakland County Intermediate School District and generated by a research company. Heath said. The list contained the numbers of voters most likely to vote yes.

They continued that phone bank Tuesday rather than going out personally to the polls, Heath said. "The committee got together and looked at what our options were," she said. "We decided that in past elections it didn't do anything for you or against you. It didn't help, so why not use the people inside."

Satisfaction spread

"I'm pleased and I appreciate that voters approved both of the county issues," said School Board President Cathy Webb.

Voters in both cities will elect city officials on Nov. 6; Farmington voters will also decide whether the city should borrow up to \$1.8 million to begin a sewer rehabilitation program. If the city's tax proposal passes, residents would pay \$46 per year on a home that sells for \$200,000.

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September 2001

Capuchin Soup Kitchen has been serving Detroit's hungry and homeless for more than seven decades. The Capuchin Soup Kitchen serves about 2,400 hot meals per day, in addition to providing clothing, household furnishings and substance abuse treatment to preserve its 1929 mission to serve the poor and disadvantaged through provision of various social services.

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