

IN THE PAPER TODAY



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESELER

Salute: More than 360 guests enjoyed the 5th annual Stars & Stripes gala at Costick Center Friday. See HomeTown Life/C-1

THE WEEK AHEAD

Box office best: North Farmington High School presents "It Was A Dark and Stormy Night," a comedy/thriller. Join the fun November 9 and 10 at 7:30 p.m., North Farmington High Auditorium. For tickets, call 426-4740.

Forum: The Farmington / Farmington Hills Multicultural / Multiracial Community Council presents Talking to Parents about Diversity at 7 p.m. Nov. 8, at the Farmington Training Center, 33000 Thomas Street. For more information call 489-3339.

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City, Hills incumbents win out

Bates, council win by large margins



By KEVIN BROWN
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Most Farmington Hills voters showed confidence in their city government Tuesday by returning incumbents to office.

Voters gave Nancy Bates a second two-year term as mayor and re-elected John Grant, Jerry Ellis and Cheryl Oliverio to four-year council terms.

Bates beat Ron Oliverio by a near 2-to-1 margin, 7,028 votes to 3,705.

"It feels great," said Bates, with husband, Charlie, and about 50 well-wishers at a festive incumbents' victory party at Ginopolis Restaurant.

Jon Grant, the top council vote-getter with 5,932, was elected to a fourth term. "I'm very excited. I'm really

pleased. I really appreciate the support from all the community," he said.

Jerry Ellis, who fell just short of Grant with 5,927, joked, "I'm going to be demanding a recount because I don't believe I lost to John by five votes." Ellis was elected to a second term.

Cheryl Oliverio, with 5,329 votes, said she was "relieved, excited" to be re-elected to a third term.

Of the Hills 56,832 registered voters, 10,923 cast ballots, putting voter turnout at 19 percent, up from 18 percent in the 1999 city election.

Bates said that in coming months she wants to examine hometown security issues, "and get more information to make sure we're really on top

Please see HILLS, A2

Results: Incumbent Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates handily won re-election by a two-to-one margin over challenger Ron Oliverio. Pictured above, supporter David Kinchen returned from his studies at Michigan State University to celebrate with the mayor, whose new term will be her last. Pictured right, incumbent council members Jon Grant, Cheryl Oliverio and Jerry Ellis were re-elected to council despite the efforts of challengers Randy Bruce, Ken Massey, Jess Elson and Robert Monroe Webster.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESELER

Farmington council switches; voters approve tax

By SUE BUCK
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City of Farmington voters went to the polls Tuesday, said "yes" to a sewer repair issue and re-elected three council members in an uncontested race.

Voters gave a resounding thumbs up to the sewer repair project. They were asked to authorize borrowing a maximum of \$1.8 million to finance the project. The cost will be .34 mill or \$34 a year on a home that is valued at or sells for \$200,000.

"Almost 90 percent of the people endorsed it," said Farmington Mayor Bill Harisock. "It was a reaffirmation of the things we are working on. The administration and council tries to be proactive

and not wait for a problem to occur."

The tax payment is usually deductible from federal taxes, depending on the filing status of the property taxpayer, according to city information.

Farmington city officials hoped for approval of this plan to rehabilitate and restore the aging Farmington interceptor sewer early, with a cost-saving, cured-in-place plastic liner. The liner will bolster the integrity of the sanitary sewer walls. A smoother wall created by the resin allows for more efficient flow-through and can possibly add 50 years of sewer life, officials said.

Engineering studies revealed serious deterioration problems in the linking interceptor, which runs for four miles from Farmington to Detroit. The \$2.5 million total construction cost will be

reduced further with application of \$500,000 from the city's Water and Sewer fund and \$165,000 from the Oakland County Water Infrastructure Fund.

Federal financial assistance is still pending and may further reduce the cost of construction and tax burden.

Some voters polled outside the Farmington Training Center Tuesday evening expressed support of the millage.

"I was in favor," said Lynn Morgan. "It's a good idea to do an update."

Pat Weston liked the fact the cost is tax deductible. "It needs to be done," she said. "It has

Please see FARMINGTON, A2

New program honors student 'turn arounds'

By JONI HUBBED
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A program designed to recognize student achievements that aren't usually in the public eye has come to Farmington Public Schools.

Students in grades seven through 12 who have demonstrated a significant change in their lives are eligible for the "Turnaround Achievement Award." Committees have been set up at each middle and high school building to receive nominations from teachers, administrators, parents, police officers, youth assistance and others.

"What we wanted to do was find a way to recognize students who too often aren't noted," said Superintendent Bob Maxfield. "Too many of our recognition programs are aimed at students who have high academic averages or who've distinguished themselves in arts or athletics."

Students will be judged on the basis of significant improvements made in a broad range of areas - from behavior

Please see TURN, A7

Cornucopia Ball



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESELER

A little hustle: While the band played, those who attended Saturday night's Cornucopia Ball at Bosch Corp. got into the spirit of the event. Story and photos, page A3.