

## Yoder, Allen, Seibert Win; Residency Amendments Lose

City of Farmington voters Tuesday elected three incumbents to the City Council and defeated two of three proposed charter amendments seeking to liberalize residency requirements for officeholders.

Ralph Yoder led the field in the council race with 999 votes to earn a four-year term on the council.

The other four-year term went to John Allen who finished second with 946 votes, 53 behind Yoder. The two-year term goes to Fred Seibert who finished third with 745 votes, winning easily over his nearest challenger by 254 votes.

The unsuccessful challengers were John Courville with 491 votes, William Hartscock with 460 votes and Thomas Brennan with 336 votes.

The three incumbents will now return to the council and join the other members who were not up

for election this year - Mayor Wilbur Brotherton and John Richardson.

CITY RESIDENTS expressed strong opposition to lowering the residency requirements from three years to one for elected and appointed officials.

Residents did approve Charter Amendment A by an overwhelming majority of 1,141 to 190. This amendment was a technical wording change concerning the number of members to serve on the city's zoning board of appeals.

Charter Amendment B, which would have lowered the three year residency requirement to seek elected office to one year, was defeated 773 to 579 votes.

Charter Amendment C, which would have

lowered residency requirements to hold appointive jobs on commissions and boards, was defeated 706 to 641.

THE VOTER turnout was light with about 1,350 of the city's 5,000 registered voters turning out at the polls for a turnout of 27 per cent.

There was an absence of any clear issues in the campaign. The only "surprises" after the votes were tallied were that Yoder led the field and that the two residency charter amendments were defeated by such a wide margin.

Yoder led in precincts three, four and five while Allen led in precincts one and two. The three incumbents led the field in all five precincts.

Hartscock ran well in precincts one, two and three and Courville's strongest precincts were one and three.

On the charter amendments, Precinct Five came the closest to approving B and C with B losing by nine votes and C by just one vote. Precinct Five includes the areas most recently annexed to the city from the township.

### today's hot line

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### what's inside

#### Principals Bargain

The superintendent of schools and his two top administrators have been working for Farmington Schools since last July without a contract. But contracts have been extended, and now the school board is considering a request to allow school principals to organize into an informal bargaining unit.

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#### A Pooh Premier

Winnie-The-Pooh will premier in Farmington Thursday, Nov. 4, but for adults only. Details on the production by Farmington High inside include an explanation of why the younger set cannot come.

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#### Lowering Aim

There may be fewer parking spaces on the north side of Grand River in downtown Farmington than earlier anticipated...A parent training program is being offered by the Farmington YMCA...And a Farmington artist is preparing for his first one-man show.

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#### Calling Ecologists

If your group is concerned about the environment, SEMCOG is looking for you. It's compiling a directory of organizations, and we've printed a simple coupon you can use.

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## Cluster Housing Added To City's Development

The Farmington City Council voted this week to allow cluster housing and took steps to protest a proposed Detroit Edison electric rate increase. Both actions came at the council's regular meeting Monday night.

The new cluster zoning provides for attached, single-family homes arranged in clusters within a development to allow for more open space.

A CLUSTER development has the advantage of community living, explains City Manager John Dinan, with swimming pools, tennis courts, community centers available and ground maintenance performed by the developer.

The ordinance includes a maximum of 10 bedrooms per acre and is designed to allow development of homes on rolling topography. Hills do not have to be leveled, said Councilman John Richardson, because the units can be attached together in the low portion of the terrain.

It is expected the first request for cluster rezoning will come from Bruce Polozoker, who wants to

develop land near Drake Heights and Chatham Hills subdivisions.

THE COUNCIL also voted to join 11 other municipalities in contesting proposed electric

rate increases by Detroit Edison Co. Edison has proposed a 16 per cent hike for domestic electricity charges which amounts to half of the \$70 million extra income which would come from the rate increases.

Another troublesome rate request is a proposed \$15,000 hike in charges for street lighting which would, for instance, raise the City of Farmington's current street light annual bill from \$30,000 to \$45,000.

The 11 municipalities pooling funds for legal services, accountants and expert witnesses includes Detroit, Livonia, Warren, Royal Oak, Dearborn Heights and Highland Park.

Detroit has agreed to kick in \$25,000 to protest the hike for residential users and other 10 municipalities will add \$20,000 to finance the appeal. Detroit produces its own power for street lighting and is not appealing this phase of the rate hikes.

The City of Farmington's share in the \$45,000 legal battle against Edison is expected to be under \$500 for which the city hopes to prevent the \$15,000 hike to light its street lights.



FROM FINLAND—Seija Lambert, reporter from Finland, was taken on a tour of the new Observer Newspapers' plant on Friday by Jerry FitzSimons of Farmington. FitzSimons (right), who works in the circulation department of ONI, met Mrs. Lambert while touring Finland this past summer and was taken on a tour of the newspaper she works for. The favor, was returned Oct. 29. Assisting in the tour is Charles Prowhow. (Observer photo)

### Halloween Incidents Few, Mild

It was a relatively mild Halloween weekend in the Farmington area with only a few cases of serious vandalism being reported.

In Farmington Township, police received four reports of candy being doctored but only one has been verified. The one involved a common pin being placed inside a candy bar.

On Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 30-31, the township police received 32 complaints about Halloween "tricks" but only five involved serious destruction of property.

In the city, police logged 16 complaints on Saturday and Sunday with most being minor incidents.

Township police were kept busiest Saturday afternoon with a flood of phone calls from residents wanting to know when children should make their rounds for treats.

### New Voters Can Register

The Farmington Township Clerk's office is making special efforts to register to vote newly enfranchised 18 to 21 year olds.

Representatives from Clerk Floyd Cairn's office will be going to the three high schools in Farmington and Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College.



NATIONAL AWARD—Emory Daniels, editor of the Farmington Enterprise & Observer, shows the plaque he has been awarded from Suburban Newspapers of America, a national association of community newspapers, for winning first place in feature writing competition among papers with circulations over 30,000. The prize-winner was a feature on the City of Farmington's plan for redeveloping its downtown business area, including a discussion of the future of downtowns. (Observer photo).



YEAaaa CHAMPS! -- Ralldr Cheerleader Robin Diebel lets out a vict'ry yell as North Farmington High captured the Northwest Suburban league championship Saturday with a 22-8 victory over Thurston for a season record of 6-1. Check the sports pages inside for details. (Observer photo)

## Schools Weigh Bussing Stand

By MARTHA MAHAN

The Farmington Board of Education will meet today (Wednesday) with its Citizens Advisory Council executive board and the PTA Council to discuss whether to take an official stand in the school bussing controversy.

Meanwhile, the board voted Monday to contribute \$100 to the Michigan Assoc. of School Administrators (MASA), region 9, for research and information into the bussing possibility.

The funds were voted, however, with the "expressed understanding that the region or its legal counsel is not authorized to represent the Farmington public school district in any position or legal action."

Supt. Roderick J. Smith said the Farmington schools' attorney, Robert Kelly, had advised the board against uniting with other school districts for actual representation or as a part of a specific group.

AT THE same time, Trustee Kenneth F. Perrin, in a statement, declared his

personal opposition to cross district bussing for the sake of achieving racial balance and urged Farmington residents to take three steps to let their opposition to bussing be known.

(Perrin's statement was later endorsed by Trustee Betty Brennan but other trustees said they would withhold comment until after Wednesday's meeting with the Citizens Advisory Council and PTA.)

Ferrin urged residents to: 1. Contact Gov. Milliken, Atty. Gen. Kelley and the State Board of Education asking them to appeal Federal Judge Stephen Rohs' finding of de jure segregation in Detroit public schools; 2. Support the bill now in Congress which would block implementation of any court order requiring forced bussing until all appeals have been exhausted; and 3. Support the proposed constitutional amendment of U.S. Sen. Robert Griffin which provides: "This Constitution shall not be construed to require that pupils be assigned, or transported to

public schools on the basis of their race, creed or color." PERRIN ALSO suggested that Farmington residents contact friends in other states and ask them also to write Washington.

"The outpouring of thousands of letters can be far more effective than the passage of any single resolution by this board," Perrin said. He commended residents of Farmington for their "calm and reasoned approach in the face of a very difficult situation" and advised against joining in school boycotts. A boycott hurts the education of the child and, from a practical standpoint, serves no useful purpose," he said. About 20 districts reportedly have joined in the MASA, region 9, group to hire an attorney to research the bussing case and possibly take some action. Farmington trustees indicated, however, such a step could backfire if Judge Roth were to choose them as a handpicked party to the case, and allow only the one attorney to represent them all.

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