

Volume 84 Number 59 • Three News Sections

# New Charter Vote Tuesday: 19 Go For Council Posts

## Poppy Day

Poppy Day isn't far away. The American Legion post is looking forward to their annual fund-raiser to aid needy veterans and their families.

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## Bishop Honored

Farmington's Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic parish recently honored its parish priest, who also is a bishop in the Detroit Archdiocese. The story is in today's Church Section.

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## VFW Queen

The Farmington VFW queen has been named. Who is "Miss Americanism" this year? Turn to:

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## Candidates Speak

The last candidates forum gave some of the candidates running for Farmington Hills Council a chance to air their views.

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## Music Week

Some 600 young people will be involved in Music Week events scheduled for May 6-12. The coordinating job is undertaken each year by members of the Farmington Musicale, with many of the programs taking place in Southfield.

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## FOCUS: Suburbia



Farmington Township voters will go to the polls Tuesday, May 8, to decide the fate of a proposed charter for the City of Farmington Hills and pick a seven-member council from a field of 19 candidates.

Township Clerk Floyd Cairns announced polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Voters go to the same precincts as for last November's presidential election, he added.

On the eve of the election, charter supporters led by Richard Frankel were campaigning door-to-door. A group called "Citizens for Better Government," formed several weeks ago and led by Wood Creek Councilman David Goldman, was vying up a series of meetings aimed at defeating the charter.

At issue is the work of the nine-member charter commission, which has drawn up a charter, outlining a city with a seven-member council, a city manager, and a "weak mayor," elected by councilmen from among themselves.

The council is elected at large.

The charter sets a tax limitation beginning at six mills and escalating one mill per year to a maximum of 10 mills by 1980.

One new service—a "human rescue division"—is included in the charter. A section on "governmental ethics" calls for council approval of appointment of relatives and revealing business interests if an official does business with the city.

The candidates are pinning their chances on the charter passage. If it fails, there is no council, and it goes back to the commission for re-writing.

The top seven vote-getters will have a non-partisan primary if more than double the number of vacant seats file. The top three in this race get a full four-year term. The list of candidates includes:

Thomas Achtenberg, Robert Baers, William Ortmann, Donald Chisholm, L. Keith Deacon, Joan Dudley, Henry Grysh, William Hutton, Vivian Jursek, Frederick Lichtman, Robert McConnell, James Moreen, Earl Oppenheimer, Melvin Pannovich, Larry Perry, Wylie Pruner, Margaret Schaeffer, Joanne Smith and L. David Stader.



Thomas Achtenberg



Robert Baers



Donald Chisholm



L. Keith Deacon



Joan Dudley



Henry Grysh



William Hutton



Vivian Jursek



Frederick Lichtman



Robert McConnell



James Moreen



Earl Oppenheimer



William Ortmann



Melvin Pannovich



Joanne Smith



L. David Stader



Margaret Schaeffer

# Annexation Concerns Township

## analysis

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the last in a series of articles analyzing the effect the proposed charter for the City of Farmington Hills will have on Farmington Township.

By DAN McCOSH

The potential annexation of several areas of Farmington Township has been raised as an argument in favor of incorporation.

How real is the threat? Since 1956 there have been seven annexation attempts by the city, two of which have been successful.

Today there are three petitions before the State Boundary Commission on file, as well as a petition to incorporate the Village of Quakertown as a fifth-class city.

The petitions remain in effect until the term of the current charter commission expires on May 16, 1974.

Recent rulings of the boundary commission also indicate it would be easy for unpopulated sections of the township, such as the industrial park, to be annexed by a neighboring city.

With fewer than 100 persons living in an area, it may be annexed by a resolution of the neighboring city, under

the new rules of the commission.

This has been seen as a threat to the industrial park area of the township, which currently accounts for about 16 per cent of the tax base of the township.

Richard Frankel, who is heading the drive for charter adoption, also points out the industrial park is still being filled and will become more valuable in the future.

It was the threat of annexation of two parcels of land by the City of Farmington that provided the most recent impetus to the incorporation drive.

Petitions for the incorporation election were filed in Lansing only minutes before annexation petitions were filed in the Oakland County courthouse.

Merely filing for incorporation, even without the charter being approved,

delays the annexation of any more land by surrounding communities.

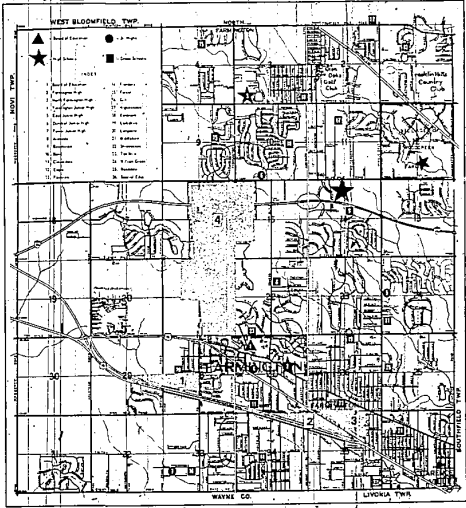
Charter opponents de-emphasize the loss in tax base.

On paper, it can be pointed out that even a loss of a third of the tax base of the township can be "made up" by either a small increase in millage (from 3.2 to 4.9, for instance), or by the increasing assessment of the remaining land.

This is possible because the present millage is so low that even a one-mill increase represents a nearly 35 per cent increase.

But annexation would also mean carving out chunks of the map, leaving an unwieldy, irregular boundary for the township.

It would also destroy much of the industrial-commercial residential balance members of the current township board have established.



ANNEXATION proposals now on file are areas labeled (1), (2) and (3) on the above map. Area (4) is the proposed City of Quakertown, also on file.

## FAAC Holds Fund Raiser

"A meal fit for a king" is promised by Dr. Mervyn B. Ross, chairman of the second annual Fab Line dinner, Monday, May 14, at Morcy Center, Middle-Belt and 11 Mile Road.

Proceeds will also be shared with the vocational center.

been made for the students to display their expertise with ice carvings, table displays, flower arranging and food preparation.

Tickets for the dinner are available from Dr. Ross or any member of the FAAC Board of Directors.

## 'Yes' On Charter

### Editorial

The residents of Farmington Township will have a chance to vote on a proposed charter for the City of Farmington Hills Tuesday, May 8.

Township residents voted to incorporate as a city last year. The proposed charter represents the elected charter commission's views on the best structure of the new city.

It outlines a graduated tax limitation which prevents any sudden tax hike for residents. The limitation reaches a "ceiling" of 10 mills.

We feel the commission has produced a document that outlines a responsive, efficient government for Farmington Hills, with the flexibility and potential for future growth of the community.

The charter also includes some innovations:  
• A "human rescue" service, for emergency medical care.  
• A section on governmental ethics—one of few local charters to address the problem.  
• Adoption of the present zoning in the villages of Quakertown and Wood Creek Farms as the new city zoning.  
We urge support of the charter.

Council Endorsed--3A