

# the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

Weekend of May 13-14, 1972

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today's  
**hot line**

Volume 83 Number 61

**what's inside**

## Election Information

Tuesday residents of Farmington Township and the City of Farmington will be going to the polls for the presidential preference primary. Election information printed inside includes endorsements on cityhood and charter commission candidates for township residents and a listing of precinct delegates for city and township.

Pages 3A, 2A, 5A,  
13A, 14A

## Postal Cuts

The U.S. Postal Service has announced changes designed for efficiency and economy. The changes, however, could result in a cut in service to residents unless mailers retrain their mailing habits.

Page 4A

## Murder Suspect

A Farmington resident has been charged with murdering his mother-in-law. A rifle believed to have been the murder weapon has been found and the accused is waiting for pre-trial examination on May 16.

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## Women Educators

Four outstanding women educators were honored last week by a national society. They can be seen on our Women's page.

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## ROOT FOR THE HOME TEAM!



Baseball is exciting -- especially when your son's at bat with two out and the bases are loaded. Observer sports writers and photographers capture this excitement in every issue of your hometown newspaper.

# Cityhood, President Choices Will Be Decided Tuesday

Farmington area residents will be going to the polls Tuesday to express their preference for presidential candidates and to decide the question of incorporation for Farmington Township, Quakertown and Wood Creek Farms villages as a home rule city.

A large turnout is anticipated for the incorporation vote in the township and in both city and township for the

presidential preference vote. The anti-busing movement has generated support in both city and township for Gov. George Wallace, whose name will appear on the Democratic ballot in the partisan primary contest.

There have also been a number of workers for Sen. George McGovern, however, and the current blockade of Haiphong harbor could turn out large number of voters

also to express an anti-war sentiment.

**CITY RESIDENTS** will be voting on the presidential preference, contest, for precinct delegates and on two state proposals.

State Proposal A is a proposed state constitutional amendment to allow the Legislature to authorize lotteries and permit the sale of lottery tickets. The state-

conducted lottery is proposed as a revenue-raising means to help the state's distressed financial condition.

State Proposal B would amend the state constitution to permit legislators to be elected or appointed to another civil office during their term of office but would require them to resign from their legislative office.

Presidential candidates whose names will appear on both city and township ballots include Republicans Paul McCloskey Jr., and President Richard Nixon and Democrats

Chisholm, Sen. Vance Hartke, Sen. Hubert Humphrey, Sen. Henry Jackson, and McGovern. "Uncommitted" stickers will appear on the ballot position previously designated for Sen. Edmund Muskie because he has withdrawn from the Michigan primary.

**TOWNSHIP** residents will be voting on the question of incorporation, electing nine charter commission candidates from a field of 41 candidates, voting on two advisory questions on cross-district busing, and voting on the Detroit Edison franchise.

The incorporation questions calls for formation of a new home-rule city from all of Farmington Township, including the villages of Wood Creek Farms and Quakertown.

If the question passes, nine commissioners will draft a charter for voter approval. Cityhood becomes effective when, and only when, residents approve a charter.

The commission would have two years to get voter approval for a charter if incorporation passes Tuesday; otherwise, the territory reverts back to the township.

The township negotiated a new franchise with Edison and came up with one containing a timetable for all Edison electrical power lines to be eventually placed underground except for certain major transformer lines.

**POLLS** WILL open at 7 a.m. Tuesday and close at 8 p.m. Residents are cautioned to vote early to avoid the discomfort of having to wait in line.

Inside today's edition of the Farmington Enterprise & Observer can be found a listing of precinct delegate candidates with notations made on which candidates have expressed a preference for a Democratic presidential hope.

Of the Republican delegate candidates, all are committed to Nixon except for four uncommitted candidates. None will appear on the ballot as committed to McCloskey.

Also inside is information about the charter commission

form of government with the State Boundary Commission then having to decide on three annexation petitions now on file to annex portions of the township.

**THE ADVISORY** questions on busing, placed on the ballot by the township board, are:

"Do you favor immediate legislative action to place a moratorium on any more court ordered busing of school children?"

"Do you favor an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit the forced busing of school children?"

Although not explicit in the ballot wording, it is assumed the moratorium referred to is one which would be enacted by the U.S. Congress.

The vote on the Detroit Edison Co. franchise is a formality which gives the utility company the right to provide electricity to township residents.

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candidates and editorial endorsements concerning the cityhood question and charter commission candidates.

**OPPOSITION** to the cityhood question had been almost silent except for expressions of the village councils of Quakertown and Wood Creek Farms.

On Thursday and Friday, however, township residents received in the mail a broadsheet, folded into booklet form stating opposition to cityhood.

The anti-incorporation leaflet was paid for by six subdivision associations in Farmington Township, three in Quakertown and three in the northeast section of the township above Wood Creek Farms and surrounding the Franklin Hills Country Club.

The matter stated that: The information contained herein was researched by, and the cost of bringing it to you was paid for by, the following Farmington Township organizations:

Biddestone Woods Assn., Coventry Lake Assn., Fair-Lake Assn., Franklin Forest and Fairway Assn., Normandy Hills Assn. and Ramble Hills Assn.

The anti-cityhood leaflet argues that incorporation would result in higher taxes, that it threatens the community's character, and that it is unnecessary to incorporate to prevent annexation.

None of the subdivisions sponsoring the leaflet has ever been threatened by an annexation attempt and contain homes valued higher than the average residential home value of the township.

The last-minute distribution came as no surprise to pro-cityhood campaigners. Quakertown has expressed its opposition and the northeast area, primarily Section One, has opposed previous cityhood attempts.

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**CITY DEATH** -- Jan Domanski, 30, of Detroit, was found dead Thursday at about 8:45 a.m. by City of Farmington Police on Freedom Rd. west of Tree Hill Blvd. Police said he was shot in the head while the car was in motion. Lt. Daniel Byrnes, public safety director, says the case is still under investigation, including the cause of death. (Observer photo by Craig Gaffield)

## Nicita Quits School Job

Joe Nicita has submitted his resignation as director of secondary education for Farmington School District effective June 30.

Nicita, who has held the position here for six years, is leaving Farmington to become superintendent of the Jackson-Northwest School District.

Nicita, selected for the Jackson superintendency out of a field of 75 candidates, has submitted his formal letter of resignation which will be accepted at Tuesday night's regular school board meeting.

**THE JACKSON** district he will oversee is an area of 115-square miles surrounding the City of Jackson.

It is a combination of suburban and rural areas and includes several townships. The district has a student enrollment of about 4,300 students and has seven school buildings.

The present superintendent has resigned to accept a position as administrator of the school in Jackson State Prison. Nicita will begin his superintendency July 1.

He explained that being a school superintendent has always been his personal career goal which he has been working towards and now feels ready to accept.

Nicita has completed work on a doctorate degree specializing in curriculum development and administration at Wayne State University and will be taking his doctorate oral exam on May 19.

NICITA joined Farmington schools six years ago as secondary education curriculum director.

During his tenure here, he spent three years on the board of education's labor negotiation team, was intensely involved in all three family life education curriculum programs and the junior high curriculum study.

He also was quite active in past school millage campaigns.

Before joining Farmington schools, Nicita was principal of Nankin Mills Junior High in Westland and principal of Huron High School in Huron Township near New Boston. While living in Taylor, Nicita served four years on the school board, three as secretary and one year as president.

He has a specialist's degree from Michigan State University in administration, a master's from Eastern Michigan University in education and a bachelor's degree from EMU with a major in math.

"I have always felt that at sometime when I had gained the necessary experience and maturity," says Nicita, 39, "that I would like to be a school superintendent."

"Completion of my doctorate degree and six years in the central office of Farmington Schools have prepared me for this new challenge."

OF THE 75 candidates, the field was narrowed to six,



JOE NICITA

including Nicita and five others who presently are superintendents in other school districts in Michigan.

Nicita adds that his decision to move has nothing to do with the recent millage defeat. "I didn't begin to seek another position because of the fact the citizens are not supporting the school district."

"This was a career goal and is why I applied for the Jackson superintendency. I can honestly say, however, that I leave here with fewer reservations because of what I can see happening to the district. But I would have taken this job whether the millage proposal passed or failed."

"I am very definitely concerned about what will happen during the coming school year in the Farmington School District."

"We have had millage defeats, but I have been especially impressed with Farmington schools and the community of Farmington. I am sure my experience here will help me in the future. Our family has never enjoyed living in a community as much as we have living in Farmington."

Nicita was a charter member of the Rotary Club of Farmington and is completing his term as Rotary president this year.

Nicita and wife Emily have four children, two sons and two daughters, and live in Muer Cove Estates subdivision.

## School Cuts Protested

A shortened student day is one measure under consideration in Farmington School District to balance the 1972-1973 budget.

Reductions are necessary due to voter rejection of a millage request, according to school officials. It affects more than \$1 million of the tentative budget for next year.

**ROGER ALLEN**, Farmington Education Association (FEA) executive director, said tentative plans call for a shortened school day at the junior and senior high levels.

The teachers' union charges that students would have to choose between classes; that courses geared to slower students "would seemingly be dropped under this proposal," and that the junior high schedule would be "for all intents and purposes a half-day program."

"Teachers adamantly oppose this program in that it is as unnecessary as it is punitive," states Allen. The FEA further states: "To suggest that program reductions of the magnitude presently being considered are necessitated is to do a great disservice both to students and community members."

**BILL PRISK**, district business manager, admits a reduction in the school day is under consideration.

"In trying to live within one's means, you make a lot of considerations," he said. "No decision has been made. Many considerations are being made, and this is one."

"We haven't even officially gone to the board with it yet. It's not even a recommendation," added Prisk. He said that meetings have been scheduled with the FEA and Citizens Advisory Council before a decision is made.

Students presently have a six hour day, and Prisk said that one consideration would reduce the schedule by roughly one class period.

The FEA said students also would not receive a lunch period.

A REDUCTION of about \$450,000 is needed from this year's budget to balance next year's budget providing none of the cuts from the present budget are reinstated.

Of that amount, the FEA claims, layoff of 40 teachers accounted for a \$350,000 reduction, leaving the district with \$90,000 to be cut from other areas.

"We're looking at everything that we do to effect economy," says Prisk. Other possible ways under consideration include: reducing the busing schedule, revising the athletic program, and reducing administrative and maintenance costs.