

Community Calendar

BEAUTIFICATION
Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 8 p.m., the Beautification Committee of Farmington Hills will meet at the city hall.

RUMMAGE SALE
Thursday, Sept. 27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, Sept. 29, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Women of St. Fabian will sponsor their annual used furniture and rummage sale. The sale is at the social hall, at the Church of St. Fabian on 12 Mile Road, between Farmington Road and Orchard Lake Road.

FILM SERIES
Thursday, Sept. 27, "The Three Musketeers," starring Douglas Fairbanks Sr., will be shown at 7 p.m. at the Farmington Public Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile Road. Admission is free.

MACLD
Thursday, Sept. 27, at 8 p.m., the Michigan Assn. for Children With Learning Disabilities meets at East Junior High, 2500 Middle Belt, to hear Claudia Mueller and Mary Frankel discuss "How Children's Learning is Affected by the Progress of their Speech Development." New parents concerned about how their children learn are welcome.

HISTORIC SOCIETY
Thursday, Sept. 27, the Farmington Historical Society will hold its season kickoff meeting at 8 p.m. in Northville's Scout Recreation Hall, on Cady Street, behind city hall. The program includes a slide show by Clarence Phillips on old homes in southeastern Michigan.

FISH FRY
Friday, Sept. 28, at 5 p.m., Job's Daughters will sponsor a fish fry at the Masonic Temple, Grand River and Farmington Road.

RUMMAGE SALE
Saturday, Sept. 29, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the women of First United Methodist Church of Farmington will sponsor a sale of used items in the basement of the church, Grand River at Warner.

PAPER DRIVE
Saturday, Sept. 29, from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., Job's Daughters will be holding a paper drive at the Masonic Temple, Grand River and Farmington Road.

GARDEN CLUB
Monday, Oct. 1, at noon, the monthly business meeting of the Farmington Garden Club will be held at the Farmington Community Center. Mrs. Leonard Wing of Ann Arbor will present a program on birds and music.

ETHNIC LUNCHEON
Wednesday, Oct. 3, at noon, the Farmington Musicale will sponsor a salad potluck ethnic luncheon at the Farmington Community Center, including the program, "A Musical Tapestry."

WOMEN'S CLUB
Wednesday, Oct. 3, at 1:30 p.m., the Farmington Women's Club will meet in the home of Mrs. Mary Legg. The program is "Slight Shaving," with Darole Cramer as guest speaker.

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FIVE MEMBERS OF Farmington's David Abowd family who belong to Junior Achievement's (JA) Youth Auxiliary Council (YAC) joke with Mrs. Kenneth Frankford, owner of the Wooden Nickel Sandwich Shop in West

Bloomfield. YAC is an extension of JA's public relations department for southeastern Michigan. Active JA members of the Abowd family include: Marypat (left), Anthony, David, James and Elizabeth.



METROPOLITAN NATIONAL BANK, of Farmington, recently opened a new temporary branch in the Wide World Shopping Center, on Grand River between Gill Road and Drake, the fourth branch in Farmington. The new office will eventually be replaced by a permanent site on Drake Road, south of Grand River. Construction of the new building is scheduled for next year. From left: Marion Molt, manager, James E. Wibby, president, and Ed Dodson, vice president.

County Assessment Hike Heads For House Fight

By JACKIE KLEIN

PONTIAC
A tightening of equalization guidelines that would boost 1974 property assessments in Oakland County remains a threat unless the House Taxation Committee recommends legislative action.

Even then, says Rep. James Damann (R-Troy), it would take 56 legislative votes to enact a statute to afford relief. Legislators are divided in their opinions of what the guidelines should be, he says.

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners legislative and equalization committees met with state legislators Friday because county officials maintain the State Tax Commission has failed to set up attainable goals for assessors to follow.

The State Tax Commission insists all counties must assess property at 49-50 per cent of true market value. The state constitution requires all property be assessed uniformly not to exceed 50 per cent of cash value.

The county's policy has been that all assessments must fall between 47 and 50

per cent of value. The tightened guidelines means the entire county assessment will be increased. In Southfield assessments could go up as much as 10 per cent.

Oakland Equalization Director Herman Stephens claims a latitude of 40-50 per cent of true cash value should be allowed.

"The State Tax Commission has outlined policies and procedures that are unenforceable. Assessing isn't an exact science and there isn't an assessor or equalization director in the tax commission's rules."

Stephens says that if the 49-50 per cent guideline isn't changed, taxpayers won't be notified of being assessed more than the 50 per cent constitutional maximum in time to appeal to local boards of review.

"If the 49-50 per cent range is enforced, 150,000 taxpayers will be assessed more than 50 per cent. There'll be chaos, and the state tax commission won't be able to handle the multitude of individual appeals."

Stephens advocates a complete reorganization at the top level of the State Tax

Commission and a revised property tax law.

Rep. John Wellborn (R-Kalamazoo), a member of the House Taxation Committee, said: "The State Tax Commission sits as judge, jury and prosecutor and doesn't apply the same set of rules for each of the 10 counties. No way in hell can a person hit 50 per cent."

Wellborn suggested the possibility of amending a pending Senate Bill to require all property to be equalized by separate classification, to include the widened equalization range or variation of true cash value.

"The problem is that members of the Legislature don't understand assessing. The concern is that if the 49-50 per cent level is established, assessors and equalization departments will tend to move to 40 per cent instead of the median 46 per cent. A levy of 47-50 per cent has been recommended."

The main problem, said Damann, is the constitutional 50 per cent assessing requirement. "If the Legislature allows levies, the final decision will rest with the courts. Also, the State Tax Commission is badly understaffed to administer laws as written

by the Legislature."

"The State Tax Commission must be beefed up body-wise and brain-wise," agreed Rep. James Delfabough (R-Bloomfield Township). "The name of the game is the House Taxation Committee, whose job it is to hear testimony and place a bill before the House and Senate."

Residential sales studies are unverified and undocumented by the State Tax Commission, said Wellborn. "It's politically feasible for elected or appointed assessors to lower assessments on residential property and penalize others."

Commissioner Alex Perinoff (D-Southfield) said he felt the 49-50 per cent range was unrealistic and suggested a 45-50 per cent levy.

"The governor and Legislature should tell the State Tax Commission to shape up or ship out," declared Commissioner Lew Coy (R-Wixom), whose district includes Farmington.

"How can we tell the Tax Commission to ignore the constitution when we've told them to abide by the 50 per cent rule?" Damann said later.

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TOM LEMON of Farmington is a new member of the Marching Chipewags from Central Michigan University.



CITY OF FARMINGTON VOTER REGISTRATION MUNICIPAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 6, 1973

REGISTRATIONS WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ANY LEGAL VOTER NOT ALREADY REGISTERED AT THE FARMINGTON CITY HALL, 2800 LIBERTY STREET, FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN DURING THE FOLLOWING HOURS:

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1973 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1973 (LAST DAY) 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk

Published: September 23, 26, 29, October 3, 1973

FARMINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be received for site work and pavement at the Power Access Road located at 11181 Gill Road, Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan. Proposals will be received at the Board of Education until 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 3, 1973, on forms furnished by the Owner. Plans and Specifications are available at the Board of Education, Department of Plans and Services, 2800 Silverman, Farmington, Michigan. Proposals shall be accompanied by a bid security or certified check to the amount of 5% of the proposed. The awarded contractor shall be required to provide performance and labor and material bonds in the amount of 100% of the contract costs. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject or to alter, in whole or in part, and to waive any formalities should it be deemed in its best interests.

EMMA S. MAKINEN, Secretary

Published: September 23, 26, 1973

STARTING OCTOBER 1st DANCE CLASS IN BALLET AT THE ALL NEW JACK BARNES DANCE SCHOOL

ORCHARD LAKE ROAD, ONE BLOCK NORTH OF MAPLE
CALL: 851-2400

CITY OF FARMINGTON COUNTY OF OAKLAND

TAKE NOTICE THAT the following persons have qualified as Candidates for Coordinator for the City of Farmington Regular Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, November 6, 1973.

COUNCILMEN - THREE (3) TO BE ELECTED

JOHN H. RICHARDSON
RICHARD L. TUPPER
ANDREW BARBUCK, JR.
WILLIAM D. GARDEN
WILLIAM S. MAITROCK
JOHN MCLEARY
WILSON J. PURDY

NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk

Published: September 26, 1973

CITY OF FARMINGTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City Council of the City of Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, will meet at 8:00 p.m. Monday, October 15, 1973, in the Council Chambers, 2800 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan, to hear all interested persons on the request to revise the following property from its former Multi-Family District to "O" Office District:

A parcel of land being a part of Lot No. 4 of Assessor's Plat No. 1, City of Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, beginning at the northerly corner of Lot No. 9 Assessor's Plat No. 1, City of Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, and proceeding thence West 65.63 feet to a point on the northerly line of Lot 8; thence S 14° 1' 1" E 13.13 feet along said lot line; thence S 89° 25' 23" E 148.78 feet to a point on the easterly line of Lot 8; thence S 1° 32' 30" W 4.08 feet to the point of beginning and containing 1.8623 acres of land, more or less.

All interested persons will be given a chance to express their views at the above time and place. Any other information desired regarding the above is available at the office of the City Clerk. (Property adjacent to units facility under construction) (Farmington Road north of Freedom Road)

NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk

Published: September 26, 1973