# Farmington Observer

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Farmington, Michigan

Twenty-Five Cents

on-area connection, send o note to our downtown office a 3203 Grand River, Farmington

NAME that street. NAME that street.
An eighth-of-mile stretch of
11 Mile, cast of Drake, has been
renamed Pleasant Valley,
following eight council action
last week.
"The residents believe that
the designation of 11 Mile Road
causes motorists who are
unfamiliar with the area to
thick that the road rece through

think that the road goes through to another mile road, which is not the case. It is argued that the motorists become lost, resulting in unnecessary travel and turn-arounds on this section of 11 Mile," City Manager William Costlek wrote in his cport to the city council.

COMING aboard. Lynn Sanders of Farmington Hills has joined the United Foundation staff as an sociate campaign director-

associate campaign director-inortheast unit.
She'll solleit money for the Torch Drive from small businesses and individuals in Macomb County and Detroit.
The Torch Drive annually raises operating dollars for te-charitable groups in the tri-county area.

### HE'S a grand-prize

winner.

- Farmigon High School student Bih Williams won a grand prize for his architectural drafting of a home – both exterior and interior plans — as part of the Michigan Industrial Educational Awards program. On May 20, the Farmington Doard of Education viewed student work entered in the program. As showcase is planned for the central office lobby so such works can be

obby so such works can be riewed by the public.

CHANGING a previous policy, Farmington Hills City Council has issued C.P. Curbside Painting Co. of Berkley a permit to paint house

Berkley a permit to paint house numbers on curbsides. Such painting is not required by the city. It's at the homeowner's discretion. The policy was changed after C.P. satisfied council concerns over neatness and liability. A solicitor's themse was granted to C.P. provided the company includes in its flyers a notice that the city requires homeowners to post clearly readable addresses on their houses.

MOVING up.
The Mercy High School board
of trustees has appointed Sister
Regina Marie Doelker as
principal effective July 1.

HAPPY 25th.
Mayor Joe Alkateeb has
ssued a proclamation honoring
t. Alexander Church for its
5th year in Farmington Hills.

#### MEETING date's

hanged.
Because Monday, Oct. 13, is the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur, the Farmington Hills club (Concil has moved its meeting scheduled for then to Tuesday, Oct. 14.

FOOTNOTES: One year ego this week — Ciling health problems, Farmington Hills Cily Councilman Charles Williams said he will not seek re-election in the fail.

## Budget OK'd in split vote

By Joanno Maliszowski stalf writer

The only complaints voiced this week about Farmington Hills' \$19.5-million operating budget and 1-mill tax increase — devoted entirely to

men Donn Wolf and Terry Sever, council members approved the 1986-87 budget supported by 9.8 mills — a 1-mill increase over the 1985-86

1-mill increase over the 1985-86 levy.

In adopting the budget in a 5-2 vote Monday, council approved a \$2.9-million capital improvement budget. It includes approximately \$1.2 million in revenue for roads —

dollars that will be garnered from the I-mill tax increase. The 1986-87 budget represents a 14.3 percent increase over last year's \$17 million budget. But 2.7 percent of the increase is due to new dobt incurred for construction of the new police facility and the Caddell Drain project near 10 Mile and Grand River.

"MY POSITION has always been very clear. I will not support a tax increase without a vote of the peo-ple," Wolf said in a prepared state-

"I see no reason to deny the people the opportunity to give us, or no give us, more money to spend via the ballot box. We are only here to serve with what the people give us. They will tell this council what we can spend — not the council teiling them

## 2 incumbent trustees pace school voting

only 2 percent of the Farmington school district's registered voters came out Monday to re-elect incumbents Janke Rolinck and R. Jack Inch for their third four-year terms on the Farmington school board. According to the unofficial vote taily, Rolinck was the top votegotter with 705 votes, followed closes; by Inch with 692. Newcomer Paul Bitzman brought up the rear of the tree-person race with 425 votes. Rolinick carried three of the four precincts, with inch winning by a 37-vote margin in district one, which includes his home city of Farmington. Of the 52,008 residents registered votes and the school district. He said 1,036 voters cast ballots — 77 by absence.

CALLING IT a "good race," Rol-nick attributed her first place win to "what the board has done over the past eight years. It was definitely an approval from parents. It was a vote for education."



Inch sald he is happy, but tired.
"I'm very pleased," he sald, "and thankful for the people who helped me and supported me." The 2 percent turnout idd not surprise the incumbent. "It's never what you want. Sometimes, you have the desire to rent a bus, pick people up and take them to the polls."

Inch called the election a "quality program."

program."
"I did what I wanted to do," Bliz-man said about his loss, "I worked hard on the campaign, and I'm glad I dld."



#### Pitching in

People of all ages pitched in to help clear Kevin Schaffer, left, 13, of Desrborn and Fred logiams along the 128-mile-long route of the Harrison; a longitime Farmington Hills natur-Rouge River during Rouge Rescue 38 Satur-alist; combine energies to tug a rope attached day. At the Farmington Hills work site behind to a log blocking the river flow. For the story the Farmington Nursing Home on Folsom, behind the river cleanup, see Page 3A.

## Develop more parks, Hills survey says

Editor's note: Farmington Hills voters will consider a half-mill voters will consider a half-mill exclusively for parks and recreation capital improvements in a special election Tuesday, June 24. It would be the first dedicated millage in the city's 12-year history. Following is the first of two parts previewing the election. For a related editorial comment, see Page 18A.

Much-publicized Heritage Park— the former Spicer property — is by no means a new topic in Farmington Hills.

The Parmington Hills Parks and Recreation Commission was inter-ested in the 212-acre Spicer property when the land was on the selling

block to cover estate taxes in the mid-to-late 1970s.

"We on the commission had long hungered for land," Commission Chairman Dennis Fitzgerald said. "The original master plan for parks and recreation identified Spicer as something we should have.

Aware of the Spicer family's desire to self the land, commission members asked the Farmington

Hills City Council to make efforts to purchase the acreage, west of Farmington Road, between 10 and 11 Mile.

Finally, Farmington Hills was awarded a \$1.2-million Michigan Land Trust Fund to help purchase the property. The city put up \$800.000 toward the purchase, which was completed in April 1985.

PLACING A special 0.5-mill re-

At the time, city officials agreed to purchase the property, commis-

Piesse turn to Page 4

## **'Boom and bust'**

## Crises help to bring neighbors together



Editor's note: This is the third installment in a series examining Farmington Hills' homeowner associations and their impact on the city.

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer Neighborhoods

Nothing brings people together like a crisis.

And the notion holds true for many neligiborhood associations.

While the mojority of homeowner groups in Farmington Hills are formal organizations with by-laws and officers, many breathe life only when the neligiborhood is faced with a threat or problem.

"Neligiborhoods are very compilcated, it's not like running a business. It's like infiating a balloon.

They have a 'boom and bust' period,' said Oakland University Professor Don Warren. "They are very much like political parties, driven by the intensity of the problem." Section 36 Homeowners Association—one of the city's oldest associations—illustrates the 'boom and bust' nature of homeowner groups. Long before Farmington Hills interpreted to operate the sections own water system. Even after Oakland County took over the system, the Section 36 association remained active as long as there were problems to solve, said George Roberts, a Section 33 active, "We formed as a defense against the (Farmington) township and eventually the city." Roberts said.

LIKE NEWER associations today,

LIKE NEWER associations today, the Section 35 organization was heavily involved in zoning issues and even established a committee charged with keeping an eye on what was happening within and around the area, Roberts said.

While Section 35 was in its growth period, the association was incredibly active in dust control, paving and neighborhood beautification. Development of Waldron Park also brought out the troops.

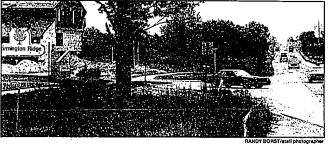
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Homes You'll Love at First Sight

CRIEATIVE IJIVIING SEAL ESTAT

IN EVERY THURSDAY EDITION



Traffic on Haggerty Road can be a he times. Above, a car tries to pull out onto Haggerty from the Farmington Ridge subdivi-

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