

For Township Offices, We Endorse: Teeples, Stader, Levy, Berger, Cairns

On Nov. 3, Farmington Township residents will elect officials not only to govern the township for the next two years but to provide leadership during the transition to a city form of government.

Citizenship will mostly result within the next two years, either for a territory of 33-square-miles or of 16-square miles. The Farmington, Enterprise & Observer has urged the defeat of annexation Nov. 3 and will continue to support the efforts of township residents to obtain citizenship.

Since the August primary, we have been attempting to read the pulse of township residents to determine their needs and desires for future leaders.

WE HAVE COME to the conclusion that Farmington Township voters are not primarily concerned with having Republican or Democratic leaders. We think the voters want LEADERS who will lead regardless of party affiliation.

We believe township residents are dissatisfied with the present township administration and are asking for elected officials with enough imagination to think, enough tolerance to understand and respond, and enough courage to lead.

This newspaper recognizes the many accomplishments of the present administration. But we recognize also the short-sightedness of present leaders.

Our endorsements today reflect those incumbent leaders we believe are able to lead and those challengers we believe ought to be given the chance.

We believe the best qualified candidates who are capable of providing the kind of leadership residents desire are:

EARL TEEPLES, a Republican, for supervisor; FLOYD CAIRNS, Republican, for clerk; HARRIS BERGER, Democrat, for treasurer; and DAVID STADER, Republican, and BURTON LEVY, Democrat, for trustees.

For Oakland County Board of Commissioners, we endorse both incumbents who happen to

be Republicans: DELOS HAMLIN for District 17; and CHRISTIAN POWELL for District 18.

Hamlin is running unopposed but has worked hard for his constituents and deserves re-election. Powell has worked diligently on the

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board, has many important committee assignments and is well-qualified. His opponent, Henry Kralick, has not shown enough to convince us he is a better man than Powell.

IT PROBABLY is not necessary to endorse Teeples for supervisor because his is the only name to appear on the ballot. But we want our support to be made known.

Teeples has lived in Farmington Township for 17 years and has been a township police officer for 14 years. That background is just as good a qualification, if not better, than offered

by Curtis Hall when he ran 10 years ago as a former school teacher and owner of a car sales dealership.

Some of Teeples' political adversaries would have us believe that because he is a cop he's stupid. Of course, that is not necessarily true. Teeples is an intelligent man, has worked under the present administration, and knows what the problems and shortcomings are.

This newspaper does not choose to ignore the August primary election. There was a large enough turnout to make it a valid election with a definite mandate for change.

Township residents in August had a choice between the incumbent with over 10 years experience as supervisor and Teeples. Despite the wealth of experience Hall had, voters felt Teeples was the best qualified.

We believe Teeples is qualified and support his election. Once elected, this newspaper will ride herd on Teeples just as we have on Hall.

We expect Teeples will provide leadership for all the problems facing the township and not just within the police department.

THE WRITE-IN candidate, Louis Rebeck, has not shown us enough to even consider an endorsement. As a PR man, Rebeck is qualified to run a political campaign but not necessarily qualified to be township supervisor.

All Rebeck has said is the voters deserve a choice and he is the best choice. His one stand has been to urge a "NO" vote on annexation. On the other issues, Rebeck has been silent. Silent, we believe, because he does not know what the issues are and is running for the sole purpose of unseating Teeples.

Voters had a choice in August. We believe Curtis Hall is much more qualified to be supervisor than Rebeck. But the voters chose Teeples over Hall.

Rebeck should have established he was more qualified than Hall but has not. The choice is clear and voters will continue with Teeples for supervisor.

FLOYD CAIRNS is running unopposed, but we endorse his candidacy because he is an over-qualified clerk, has rich experience, and has an open mind to legislate with the best interests of the township in mind.

Berger should be elected treasurer because without question he is best qualified for the job. Those qualifications include: a degree in accounting from Wayne State University; administrative experience with Ford Motor Co; township residence for seven years; and the promise to work at least eight hours a day, five days a week.

Berger's opponent, Thomas Nolan, might be well qualified as a trustee or planning commissioner, but Nolan is running instead for treasurer.

Nolan does not have any particular qualifications to serve as treasurer. We admit he would do a fine job on the board, but Nolan has not convinced us he is equipped or able to be treasurer.

During the campaign, Nolan has addressed himself to issues facing him as a trustee. But he has not been campaigning as a candidate for treasurer. His primary desire for the job is to continue on the board.

STADER is an able young man who certainly is competent enough to provide the legislative leadership needed on the board as a trustee. As a planning commissioner, Stader knows the problems facing the township and is independent enough to seek the best solutions and not the political solutions.

This newspaper has full confidence in the ability, sincerity and independence of Stader and believes he represents the type of fresh blood needed to provide the leadership voters now are demanding.

LEVY is our other choice for trustee because he is qualified and can provide fresh leadership.

Levy is a professor of political science, has several years experience working with state government, and now serves as a consultant with the U.S. Department of Justice.

Levy is a student of government and knows that the mechanics of government are established to serve people. His background can add valuable experience to the board which now has practicing attorneys as three of its four trustees.

We have equal confidence in Levy's competence, independence and sincerity. Levy can certainly contribute to the board and his personal knowledge of government and police problems are especially needed.

EARL OPPERTHAUSER HAS been a capable trustee, does his homework well, and has at least done what he felt was in the best interests of the community.

We believe residents want new blood and fresh thinking, however. Those residents who remain satisfied with the Hall administration should certainly vote for Oppertbauer.

We have left William Hatton out because we believe Stader and Levy are better choices. Hatton has served the community for years as watchdog on government, and we are certain he will continue that role.

Here Are The Candidates



LOUIS C. REBECK, Republican write-in candidate for supervisor. Has lived in Farmington Township for three years and was an auxiliary patrolman until becoming a candidate. He is a graduate of WSU with business administration degree. Rebeck is employed as a supervisor of labor relations for Pontiac Motor Division. His name will not be on the ballot and must be written in or a sticker pasted in which he will supply voters.



EARL TEEPLES, Republican candidate for supervisor. Has lived in Farmington Township for 17 years and has been on the township police force for 14 years. He has been nothing officer, has been a speaker on the police drug abuse program, and a detective sergeant. Only Teeples' name will be printed on the ballot because in the August primary he defeated his Republican opponent.



HARRIS BERGER, Democratic candidate for treasurer. Berger is a seven-year resident of Farmington Township living in Old Hestwood subdivision. He retired from Ford Motor Co. after some 25 years during which he was supervisor at the Dearborn assembly plant. Berger majored in accounting and has a degree in business administration from WSU.



THOMAS NOLAN, Republican candidate for treasurer. Presently a member of township board, Nolan has also served on the planning commission and housing commission among other committees. Nolan is a 10-year resident of Farmington Township and for 10 years has been a district sales manager for Transportation Service, Inc. of Detroit.



WILLIAM WATTON, Democratic candidate for trustee. Hatton is a three-year resident of Farmington Township and has served as president of the Farmington Township Road & Civic Association, a citizens service chairman with M&T Chemicals, Inc. of Ferndale, and previously was a physical chemist with Dow Chemical Co. Hatton received his BS from Indiana University and has taken graduate work at Indiana U. and Yale.



L. DAVID STADER, Republican candidate for trustee. Stader is secretary of the township planning commission and is making his first attempt for elective office. Stader is an eight-year resident of the township, holds a B.S. from Western Michigan University, and has taken graduate work at WSU. Stader is employed as an accounting manager with Michigan Bell Telephone Co. in Southfield and is a commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

Rebeck's 'Platform' Revealed

Louis Rebeck, write-in candidate for Farmington Township supervisor, has circulated a position of statement for township residents.

The platform was printed and circulated by the Republican Committee of Farmington which has its campaign headquarters at Grand River and Farmington Rds. in the City of Farmington.

Rebeck, 28-year-old labor relations consultant for Pontiac Motors Division, has lived in the township for three years and was asked initially to be a write-in candidate by William Flattery, his campaign manager who also manages the

Detroit First Federal Savings & Loan branch office in the City of Farmington.

REBECK REPEATS in the letter the explanation given previously on why he is running as a write-in candidate against supervisor-elect Earl Teeples, Republican:

"I feel that professional, administrative experience is of paramount importance to the accomplishment of the goal of protecting the community's investments. I have the experience necessary to accomplish this objective," asserts Rebeck.

Rebeck received a B.A. in

business administration from Wayne State University and is now doing graduate work for a master of business administration degree.

He says his experience as supervisor in personnel with GM has provided "a formidable background in administration."

REBECK PROMISES an "efficient and effective government" if he is elected. "I am a firm believer in the Republican philosophy of strong and efficient local government, and the importance of the individual in his government," he writes in candidate

comments. The City of Farmington, "through a technicality in the law, is attempting to seize the fruits of our labor. Therefore, I am strongly opposed to the annexation attempt by the City of Farmington."

Rebeck promises to give full attention to protection of property values and to the master plan's approach to development. "This I do in accordance with the direction of township residents and the economics of the times so as to preserve our natural environment."

He added he would provide "successful representation" in the county for all township residents on roads and drainage.

SPEAKING ON police, Rebeck states: "Our police department is among the most modern, finest equipped and professionally staffed in this area."

"Because of its rapid growth to meet the needs of our increasing population, this department needs strong leadership, rather than agitation, to make it an efficient and effective force for the community."

On drug abuse, Rebeck says he will "strive for maximum participation and support by township government in local drug programs as well as greater utilization of state and federal programs."

Fire protection must be improved, says Rebeck, by keeping equipment the most modern available and by providing additional facilities as the population demands.

"I believe firmly in the fullest utilization of public monies (state and federal) to keep local taxes down."

REBECK CONCLUDES: As a write-in candidate, I must ask you for a little extra effort.

"I will provide you with an instruction sheet outlining the simple procedure that must be followed to cast a vote for me. Take the instruction sheet with you to the polls on Nov. 3. Please do not hesitate to request assistance at the polls. Your extra effort to vote for me will be an extra effort for good government."



EARL OPPERTHAUSER, Republican candidate for trustee. Oppertbauer is an incumbent member of the township board and chairman of the township's housing commission. Oppertbauer is an 11-year resident of the township and lives in Kendallwood subdivision. He is a graduate of WSU law school and the U.S. Air Force College. He is a former township planning commissioner and served on the drain commission in Bedford Township. He is a general claims attorney for the Grand Trunk Western Railroad.



BURTON LEVY, Democratic candidate for trustee. Levy holds a BS in education from Boston University and a PhD in government from University of Massachusetts. Dr. Levy is a professor of public administration at WSU and for the past five years has been a consultant on police matters to the U.S. Department of Justice. Levy joined WSU's staff after resigning as director of community services for the Michigan Civil Rights Commission.

City Has Nothing To Offer -- Dietz

The City of Farmington has nothing to offer the township if it accomplishes its annexation with the Nov. 3 vote, claims a spokesman for the Southern Farmington Township Residents Against Annexation committee.

"What does the city have to offer township residents living in the area below 10 Mile Rd., the area proposed to be annexed? asks Paul Dietz, an attorney and resident of the southern part of the township.

"It can offer us nothing," Dietz asserts. "There is not one thing the city has to offer that we are not very capable of getting for ourselves if and when we desire it."

The claim the city has nothing to offer can be understood, says the committee, by examining what city administrators have been promising voters.

"They have promised us better roads, sewers, sidewalks, street lights, police and fire protection. It's surprising we haven't been promised bluer skies and greener grass in the wonderful new city."

ROADS and sewers and sidewalks cost money whether the

south end is part of a city or part of a township, Dietz adds.

"If we don't get them free because we become part of the city. We get them only if we pay for them. All these city services aren't free and when they have done and will do a much better job of governing us if we become part of the city than we can do in the township."

"They have got to be joking: How can they keep a straight face? Take a drive through the city. Notice the dilapidated stores, poor traffic, inadequate parking and poor traffic flow. It's a mess."

THE SAME CITY officials who want to plan the future development of the southern part of the township, he continues, allowed Federal's Department Store to build only a few feet from the street with no planning for the future widening of Grand River.

It was these same city off-

icials who sat on their hands while two hamburger franchises built within a block of each other in downtown Farmington, he adds.

"You certainly must ask yourselves how this city of only 2 1/2 square miles hopes to accomplish good government of an area 12 1/2 square miles considering the inadequate job it has done with the much smaller area?"

The 36-square-mile township was mapped out well before the turn of the century, Dietz adds. "It seems a shame that now that we're losing our rural atmosphere we also are threatened with the loss of our united community spirit."

"Sure we have had some squabbles between the north and south ends of this township, but what family or community hasn't?"

Both the north and south parts of the township are served by the same library system, and school system, as well as court system, notes Dietz.

Do we want to split our community because of the greed of the City of Farmington officials? No! And that's how you should vote on annexation Tuesday."