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# Farmington Observer

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Twenty-Five Cents

## Candidate mad over losing seat

**'What kind of a message will this send to persons interested in serving the city and possibly running for city council? I say it sends a very chilling message.'**

— Aldo Vagnozzi  
Hills candidate

### Hills appointments, 14A

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

The Farmington Hills City Council acknowledged his feelings. But the council is sticking by the city charter.

"I think it's shabby treatment for someone who has worked hard in the community on various commissions and boards and in other activities. What kind of a message will this send to persons interested in serving the city and possibly running for city council? I say it sends a very chilling message," city council candidate Aldo Vagnozzi told the council Monday.

Despite Vagnozzi's last-minute bid to retain his seat on the Farmington Community Library Board of Trustees, the council confirmed Mayor Ben Marks' appointment of Mary Kay Zolton to replace the two-year library veteran.

Vagnozzi told the council he attended the September library board meeting and only one more meeting is scheduled before the Tuesday, Nov. 3, election.

"If I'm elected, I will be glad to support Mary Kay Zolton. If not, I would like to get back on the library board to help prepare for the crucial decision of expansion and financing, which I've been working on for a long time," Vagnozzi said.

THE COUNCIL'S action capped a continuing debate between council members. Vagnozzi and Marks over a provision in the city charter that requires all city council candidates on boards and commissions to resign their posts.

When Vagnozzi announced his candidacy, he asked the council to give him the same consideration given to library president Jonathan Grant two years ago when he made an unsuccessful bid for council election. Then-mayor Jan Dolan reappointed Grant to the library board following his defeat.

"The reason the appointment was made two years ago was Mrs. Dolan's reasons. I don't know what they

are," Mayor Marks responded. Councilwoman Jan Dolan was absent.

Though Marks sympathized with Vagnozzi, he reminded him that the city council tried to change the charter provision two years ago when it was put on the ballot. Voters opposed any change.

"What is being done now is not unprecedented," councilwoman Joan Dudley said, reminding Vagnozzi that when she was mayor in 1978, she also followed the charter and asked board and commission members to resign when they announced their candidacy.

But Vagnozzi charged that mayor-

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## Teach music at home, say 2 legislators

By Janice Brunson  
staff writer

State legislation encouraging home music lessons may make an ordinance now under consideration by West Bloomfield Township unnecessary.

Last week, Sen. Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills, and Rep. David Honigman, R-West Bloomfield, co-introduced nearly identical legislation permitting the teaching of music lessons in private residences.

Home music lessons became an issue last June when noted musicians Betty Kowalsky Stasson and Jerome Stasson were cited by West Bloomfield Township for running a home business in violation of township zoning.

Each legislator's bill contains three parts, aimed at villages, townships and cities. The bills prohibit municipal governments from enacting zoning ordinances that prevent home music lessons.

Honigman's House bill "forbids" local governments from enacting such zoning regulations. Faxon's Senate bill "prohibits" it.

**'Giving lessons in the home is an historic right. We should do everything possible to preserve the custom.'**

— Jack Faxon  
state senator

even though state legislation is now pending.

"WE WILL have to take a look at the state bills and work to make our amendment compatible," Basso said.

Faxon is well known as an arts advocate and is a personal friend of the Stassons.

"Because of my relationship with music teachers in Michigan, it seemed rather natural I would pick up on this cause," he said.

"Giving lessons in the home is an

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RANDY BORSI/staff photographer

### Stopping to touch the flowers

Four-year-old Stephanie Dobroski stops to touch the flowers, as well as see, taste, hear and smell them. More pictures and the story about North Farmington Garden Club's Five Senses Garden is on page 1B in this issue's Suburban Life section.

## Observer wins 4 state awards

The Farmington Observer won major awards from the Michigan Press Association (MPA) for general excellence, editorial writing and sports photography.

It placed second to another Observer & Eccentric newspaper, the Birmingham/Bloomfield Eccentric, for general excellence, the highest professional honor for Michigan weekly and daily newspapers.

The Observer placed first for editorial writing and for sports picture

(Steve Pecht, photographer) and second for best editorial page.

"We're proud of the recognition but prouder of our acceptance as a legitimate, community chronicler and voice," said Bob Sklar, Observer editor.

The Livonia Observer took first place for best lifestyle/family section. The Southfield Eccentric placed third.

The Birmingham/Bloomfield Eccentric also placed first for use of graphics and third for best sports

picture. The Troy Eccentric received an honorable mention for best sports picture.

The Nebraska Press Association judged the contest and awarded 250 certificates of excellence to both daily and weekly newspapers throughout the state. Newspapers competed in circulation classes.

Other general excellence ratings were presented to the Detroit News, Port Huron Times Herald, Menominee Herald-Leader, Northville Record and Novi News.

The Northville Record and Novi News are part of the Sliger Livingston Newspapers, which, like the O&E newspapers, are part of the Livonia-based Suburban Communications Corp.

Contest winners were announced in conjunction with National Newspaper Week Oct. 4-10. Theme of the week is, "Your Newspaper: People-Serving People." The week stresses the community service role of newspapers and the relationship between personal freedom and a free press.

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### INTERIORS 1987

SPECIAL SECTION  
IN TODAY'S ISSUE

## Blend of cultures studied

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

Take a look through the Farmington-area telephone directories. Smiths and Jones are still listed in their usual abundant numbers. But there's a change occurring.

Along with the Smiths and the Joneses are family names and names of cultural and religious organizations that touch the corners of the world. The homogeneity of Farming-

## cultural collage

A page of Farmington-area ethnic news

**'It (last winter's teen runaway along Orchard Lake Road) made a lot of people aware that this is a very multicultural community. A lot of people didn't know that.'**

— Charles Nobis  
police sergeant



## Schools play up ethnicity

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

A melting pot of ethnic diversity has bubbled over and is spilling into the Farmington community with mixed results.

Some welcome the addition of other cultures, others fear it. Education and civic leaders have pinpointed cultural changes in the community and are looking for ways

## Series begins

To help provide insight into our area's multi-ethnicity, the Observer today kicks off a periodic series of background reports.

On Page 1, you'll find stories that help put the community's cultural diversity in perspective. On Page 3, you'll be introduced to a Korean dance troupe that recently performed in Farmington Hills.

Mail newsworthy information with a local ethnic flavor to: Cultural Collage, Farmington Observer, 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

— Bob Sklar, editor

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