10 vying for 4 regular council terms

3 incumbents, 7 challengers in race

ANDIDATES for the Farmington Hills City Council have accelerated campaigning as election and Tuesday, Nov. 7 – approaches.
Maillags, door-to-door visits, telephone solicitations, handouts and candidate inghis are among the sources of campaigning for the 13 candidates.

candidates.

Ten candidates are seeking regular terms and three are vying for remaining two years of a vacancy on the city council.

the city council.

Five of the seven non-partisan council seats are up for grabs this fail. Incumbent Jody Soronen Is not seeking re-election.

In the regular race are incumbents Ben Marks, Aldo Vagnozzi and Philip Arnoli, Challenging them are Jonathan Grant, Vernon Kielpinski, Lawrence Lichtman, Ronald Oliverio, Albert Rosen, Bettye Stines and George Sarkisian.

Among these 10, voters

Among these 10, voters rindy vote for up to four. The top three vote-getters in the Nov. 7 election will earn four-year terms, the next high-est finisher will serve a two-year

NANCY BATES and Herbert Liner are challenging income Liner are challenging incumbent Paul Sowerby in the race to fill the remaining two years of former coun-

a). How would you rate the quality of life in Farmington Hills in generating for life in Farmington Hills in generating for retirects in particular?
We enjoy an excellent level of quality of living in our city. It is the expectity obligation to continue to which to make it even better for all those who live here. It is the responsibility of each citizen to let the council know what or where things are not going well, and tough as it can be, the council must act in an equally responsible way to address

equally responsible way to address the problem, sometimes courting disfavor with an unpopular decision that is in the best interest of all the

citizens.

2. Do you feel the city has adequately responded to youth recreation needs?

Philip Arnold

regular term incumbent

Ben Marks

règular term

cilman Joe Alkateeb's four-year term. Sowerby was appointed in March to replace Alkateeb until the next city election (see facing

page).

The next candidate night is 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 25, in the Farmington Hills City Hall council chambers, 31555 11 Mile. The Council of Homeowners of Farmington Hills is hostiers the night.

ing the night.

Council members are paid \$1,800 per year. They meet the second, third and fourth Mondays of each month, and have many special meet-

ings.

Thirteen candidates is the largest

Thirteen candidates is the largest field in the city's 16-year history.

• Grant, 37, owns Reliance Forms & Supplies, Farmington Hills.

• Kielpinski, 35, is a janitor at the Mid-Eleven Shopping Center, Farmington Hills.

• Rosen, 68, is English department head at Chadsey High, Detroit.

• Lichtman, 31, is an attorney with offices in Bloomfield Hills.

• Vagnozzi, 63, is an editorial consultant at Aaron Publication, Detroit.

troit.

• Arnold, 50, is manager, profit and volume analysis, for Ford Motor Co. casting divis

 Marks, 66, is general partner in Farmington Hills Office Develop-ment Co. ment Co.

In the past, I believe we did not do as good a Job as could have been done to provide you'd be to be to good a Job as could have been done to provide you'd be to good to good the good of t

costs?

Joining the solid waste consortium is the only economical way we are going to start solving the problem of solid waste, which is a national prob-

lem. As a member, we will have an equity involvement in the planning and implementing of the effort to

Oliverlo, 34, is first vice president-investments at First of Michlgan Corp., Southfield.
 Stines, no age given, is a music teacher in Detroit.

Sarkisian, 37, is a layout technician, experimental engines, for Ford

ABSENTEE BALLOT applica-tions are available at city clerk Ka-thy Dornan's office in the city hall, 31555 11 Mile, or by calling 473-9560.

offic

office.

By law, an absentee ballot will be only issued to a registered voter who:

will be out of town for the entire time the polls are open.

is physically unable to go to the polls.

olls.

• is 60 years or older.

• is an election worker in a preneckellurer than the one in which he or she lives.

• is forbidden by religion from

o is confined to juli awaiting arraignment or trial.

make our solid waste disposal costs affordable.

council?

If I didn't feel that I could do a good job as a council member, I would not be running. My 23 years of Farmington Hills community service, my five years as councilman and one year as mayor of the city, and my proven record as a diligent, persevering, conscientious member of that body, quality me to seek re-fection. I love this community and serving it is a cherished bonor.

4. Why are you running for city

5. Should the city continue to add new police officers to its sworn force of 95 to further approach the desired ratio of 1.7 officers per 1,000 residents (city's current ratio is 1.3)? The citizens of this city have told

us they want the best in police pro-tection. Yes, I believe we should bring our police force to the ratio of 1.7 officers per 1,000 residents.

cent. Success is mandatory to preserve the environment.
4. Why are you running for city

sponse with regard to youth recreation. The parks and rec commission, via continuing dialogue with the youth sports organizations, has completed Ploneer Park and is planning a park in the southeast area. Educational programs at Heritage Park have been directed toward the younger children. Scouting groups, etc. Building upon these programs, we can provide new experiences at minimal cost.

3. Is participation in the Southwest Oakland County Solid Waste Consortium the wisest way for the city to skim escalating solid waste disposal costs?

serve the environment.

4. Why are you running for city council?

To serve my fellow citizens. Since moving to Farmington Hills 16 years ago, I have been contributing to the community. Originally as a subdivision officer, 11 years on the planning commission (three as chalman), any contribution to the planning commission (three as chalman), any young the contribution have been exceptive and I wish to continue working on behalf of our residents.

5. Should the city continue to add new police officers to its sworn force of 95 to forther approach the desired ratio of 1.7 officers per 1,000 residents (city's current ratio is 1.3)? Protection of our residents should be our first consideration. Presently, we have not seen any indication of substantially increased crime. To meet a ratio of 1.7 would require additional expenditures of approximately \$1.5 minutely \$1.5

1. How would you rate the quality of life in Farmington Hills in general and for retirees in particular? ('Quality of life, an issue of great importance to our residents, is good ut can be better. We must lessen ass-through traffic by demanding he state complete projects such as he Haggerty Road exit from 1-695. The selective addition of ones nance the Haggerty Road exit from 1-698. The selective addition of open space by parks will enhance the environ-ment. Certainly implementation of the Year 2000 committee recom-mendations will improve the quality of life. I believe retirese experience he same quality as others.

2. Do you feel the city has adequately responded to youth recre-

tion needs? During the past few years, we have witnessed a substantial re-

egular term

How would you rate the quality life in Farmington Hills in gener-and for retirees in particular?

The majority of residents I talk to a Farmington Hills are very uncom-fortable with the rate of growth in bur city in both residential and compur city in both residential and com-mercial construction. These resi-tients feel threatened and perhaps betrayed by the city for allowing Farmington Hills to turn into anoth-er Southileid. Since a significant number of retirees are longtime reshumber of retirees are longume res-idents of Farmington Hills, they re-pnember the city when it had a more human touch to it and want to keep it that way if at all possible. 2. Do you feel the city has ade-

Participation in the waste consor-tium appears to offer the best hope for addressing escalating disposal costs (dumping fees were just in-creased 47 percent) as well as the as-sociated environmental issues. The consortium will provide economics of scale for recycling. However, Oaktand County is a key player. By combining recycling with their planned incinerator, landfill materi-al should be reduced about 90 per-George Sarkisian

quately responded to youth recreation needs?

The Department of Special Services publishes a pamphlet that offers recreation programs for all age
groups in this city. Yet study after
study shows the youth of America as
a group is in the rible physical shape
and ranks among the worst in the
world. Again, I must go back to the
fact we have so little park space for
park space would allow more sponpark space would allow more sponlaneous recreation, which kids are
looking for.

J. Is participation in the Southwest
Unktand County Solid Waste Consortion the wifest way for the city to
select the program of the city to
select the consortium and the special size.

skim escalating solid waste disposal costs?

I am constantly made aware of many facets of our society where two or more parties participate to take advantage of a particular service or need. Solid waste disposal and getting bigger. If we don't take advantage of the merits of colicctive

thinking and function, we are only hurting ourselves.
4. Why are you running for city

council?

I have been able to see the tremendous growth that has taken place around here. I am not sure that all of it has been desired or needed.

place around here. I am not sure that all of it has been desired on needed, although I am sure the city cut the city at the time of its decising the city at the time of its decising the city at the time of its decising the city at the time of the city at the time of the city at the time of the city at the city and city are city at cit

Ronald Oliverio

egular term

hallenger

1. How would you rate the quality of life in Farmlagion Hills in gener-land for retirees in particular? I believe our city, with its low trime rate and respect for senior ci-tens, makes it a great place to live or the elderly as well as any other we grown.

quately responded to youth recre-

skim excalating solid waste disposal costs?
Yes, at the present time although Browning-Ferris fee's are becoming absurdly high and may require gov-ernment intervention.
4. Why are you running for city council?

When I see certain incumbents put

the desires of a developer over the demands of their residential constituents, it angers me, When I see citizens safety concerns treated with arrogance and contempt, I know its time for a change. It I am elected to the city council, the people will know they we elected someone who represents them, period.

Jonathan Grant regular term

challenger

challenger

1. How would you rate the quality
of life in Farmington Hills in general
and for retirees in particular?
In general, excellent. We must establish our priorities utilizing citizen
input. I support continued funding
and expansion of senior citizen programs. We currently operate an excellent program at Mercy Center,
working within very limited facilities. Retirees everywhere are caught cellent program at Mercy Center, working within very limited facili-ties. Rethrees everywhere are caught by spiraling inflation. The cap on the senior ciltizens homestead exemption for property tax relief has not been increased since its inception in the 1970s. I fully support efforts toward seeking an increase in this exemp-tion to bring additional property tax relief.

2. Do you feel the city has ade-sately responded to youth recre-

No. I support additional programs for our youth K-12, in particular for teens 12-17. We need more after school activities and summer pro-

Vernon Kielpinski

1. How would you rate the quality
of life in Farmington Hills in general and for retirees in particular?
Life is pretty nice. But crime
seems to be on the rise. With Boys

Republic changing, it may have de-creased. As for retirees, not enough

has been done for them. Actually we insult them. We keep taking from them. Some of them can't get around. We stick some of them into

grams. I am committed to acquiring additional property for recreational Iacilities, while there is property available, for future development. The city has made progress in this area; however, we still need active recreational property, as well as safe ways for our citizens to access it.

3. Is participation in the Southwest Oakland County Solid Waste Consortium the wisest way for the city to skim escalating solid waste disposal

Formal sections of the control was a section of this Formal section of the Formal sectio voice at the county level in regard to decisions made countywide on solid

4. Why are you running for city

council?

I am one of the many individuals in our city who has a strong sense of responsibility to being involved in their community. My commitment is

strive to address the perceived needs of our citizens with regard to visibility and response time. Police protection is an important issue to our community and should, therefore, be evaluated annually to assure that we are satisfying the community's needs.

strive to address the perceived needs

founded on the belief that one mus

founded on the belief that one must take an integral role in determining the environment in which one places oneself. I have a very diversified background of community involvement with both the residential and the business sectors. I am the type of individual who will work well with our administration to assure costeficitive government that will provide the quality of life we all desire for our city.

5. Should the city continue to add new police officers to its sworn force of 95 to further approach the desired ratio of 1.7 officers per 1,000

residents (city's current ratio is 1.3)? As the city grows, the need for po-lice officers grows to respond to the increasing number of requests. I do not believe we should strive to ob-tain a national standard. We should

2. Do you feel the city has ade-uately responded to youth recre-tion needs? 4. Why are you running for the

ation needs?

More or less. We should mix youth and senior adult recreation. Neither group has enough recreation. We can never have too much recreation.

horrible rest homes, a place that many of us hope we never see. They should be able to enjoy their golden

as a superior much recreation.

3. Is participation in the Southwest Oakland County Solid Waste Consortium the wisest way for the city to skim escalating solid waste disposal costs?

school activities. I would like to see young people serve on our parks and recreation commission so they can help develop programs for their age

group.

3. Is participation in the Southwest

3. Is participation in the Southwest Onkiand County Solid Waste Consortium the wisest way for the city to skim escalating solid waste disposal costs?

Yes. Not only is it wise, but the work of the Southwest Oakland County Solid Waste Consortium is prodding Oakland County to take a more aggressive role in this area. We need to move toward curbaide recycling pickup if we are to slow down the escalating costs of trash removal.

Yes, recycling is the best. Some businesses are helping. One note here though. I have always been for recycling.

city council?
Two years ago when I ran, I knew nothing about our city government. What I have learned in two years makes me sick.

makes me sick.

5. Should the city continue to add new police officers to its sworn force of 95 to further approach the desired ratio of 1.7 officers per 1,000 residents (city's current ratio is 1.3)? residents (city's current ratio is 1.3 Yes. Serious crime is on the rise

Two years ago, I felt that after more than 25 years as a council watcher, it was time to put my experience to work as a council member. Since 1987, I have initiated a number of programs that I want to see come to fruition. I also want to work toward solution of traffic and road members, stepting days in develop-

Aldo Vagnozzi

regular term

regular term

challenger

regular term

challenger

i. How would you rate the quality of life in Farmington Hills in gener-al and for retirees in particular? I would rate the quality of life as good in general and the same for re-tirees. This is confirmed by my visits in recent months to more than 2,000 homes and from the results of the

homes and from the results of the city survey.

2. Do you feel the city has adequately responded to youth recreation needs?

I think we can do more, especially in the area of summer and after-

How would you rate the quality of life in Farmington Hills in general and for retirees in particular?
 I would rate life in Farmington Hills good for retirees; however, more security and recreation is

2. Do you feel the city has adequately responded to youth recreation needs?

ation needs?

There is a great need for more parks, the YMCA's recreation and free recreation for our youth.

removal.
4. Why are you running for city council? **Bettye Stines**

Oakland County Solid Waste Consor-tium the wisest way for the city to skim escalating solid waste disposal

Yes, as a group the consortium Yes, as a group the consorting of a collective manner. The southern communities of Oakhand County have the largest amount of solld waste and therefore will have more cost. The consortium should join the county in its solld waste plan with a note on the board according to the waste discord

Why are you running for city

council?

I am a concerned resident, just like you. I am concerned that as this city grows that we preserve our fine neighborhoods. I am also concerned that we keep a high quality of city services. I am committed to work in

toward solution of traffic and road problems, slowing down of development, adoption of a strong code of ethics, and senior citizens programs. 5. Should the city continue and new police officers to its sword force of 95 to further approach the desired ratio of 1.7 officers per 1,000 residents (city's current ratio is 1.3)? Yes, after meeting our obligations, we must search for additional funds to add to the police force, including aggressive ciforts for available county, state and federal grants. the best interest of the residents to the best interest of the residents to make sure we maintain good police and fire protection, improved code enforcement, that we have a good emergency preparedness plan and, above all, that we have a good land use development plan. I believe I can make a contribution to city government with my experience as a businesswoman, a teacher and a resident.

ident.
5. Should the city continue to add 5. Should the city continue to aud new police officers to its sworn force of 95 to further approach the desired ratio of 1.7 officers per 1,000

desired ratio of 1.7 officers per 1,000 residents (city's current ratio is 1.3?)

Before adding more police officers, the city should establish or expand a reserve and cadet unit to supplement the sworn officers. Crime prevention involving residents and businesses should be encouraged.

3. Is participation in the Southwest Larry Lichtman

regular term

challenger

challenger

1. How would you rate the quality of life in Farmington Hills in general and for retirees in particular?

My wife and 1 are raising two school-age children and we believe that Farmington Hills provides a quality of life well-suited to families As a planning commissioner and former zoning board of appears chain man, I have always been sensitive to preserving the family almosphere the city's RCE District Zoning Ordinance provisions to promote affordable, quality housing for our senior residents.

residents.

2. Do you feel the city has adequately responded to youth recreation needs?

The city has not done as much as it should have done to promote active youth recreation. Other public services have been viewed as being more essential and deserving of a higher budget priority. At this point,

however, the city is fully capable of allocating more funds for active youth recreational needs. As the father of two school-age children, I believe we must be responsive to our families' needs.

3. Is participation in the Soothwest Ooking Construction the wisest way for the city to skim escalating solid waste disposal costs?

Participation in the consortium may be a most issue. The consortium in which Farmington Harmington Hills participates with Farmington Hills participates with Farmington Moult Southfield, South Lyon and Walled Lake, by all accounts is approaching dissolution because Oakland County is itself becoming more responsive to the concerns of the consortium. Seeking out alternatives to the dwinding availability of landfill sites, while researching new and more cost-officient means of recycling solid waste, are items that require continued attention.

4. Why are you running for city council?

Given my lifelong residency, my family's long-standing service to the city, my service as zoning board of appeals chairman and as a member of the planning commission, as we ver, I can bring to the council a comination of important attributes. My record of service indicates an ability to work with fellow officials in a productive atmosphere of mutual respect.

5. Should the city conline to add new police officers to its sworn force of 35 to farther approach the desired ratio of 1.7 officers per 1,000 residents (city's current ratio is 1.37; Adequate police coverage is, and should be, a priority. As with any sponsible position to take is that the goal should be evaluated each fiscal year. Adding additional officers should be continued, subject to adjustment in any fiscal year where capital improvement projects or other matters mandate emergency attention.

Albert Rosen

regular term

challenger

challenger

1. How would you rate the quality of life in Farmington Hills in general and for retirees in particular? The quality of life is diminishing in general in our city and even more so for retirees. Example. Observer, Sept. 11: "Council splits on senior tax credit." Why should Sever and Arnold adopt such a stance?

2. Do you feel the city has ade-uately responded to youth recre-

ation needs?
From what I have read and observed, the answer to adequately is

no.

3. Is participation in the Southwest Oakland County Solid Waste Consortium the wisest way for the city to skim escalating solid waste disposal

yes, only by a coordinated and concerted action, can we address the critical problem of waste removal economically and feasibly.

4. Why are you running for the

city council?

To bring othics into government. Repeat: chiles in government.

S, Should the city continue to add

S, Should the city continue to add

continue to the continue to add

force of 95 to further approach the desired ratio of 1.7 officers per 1.000 residents (city's current ratio is 1.37. Is the police department presently operating on an intense ratio basis or is there some "fat" that can be eliminated, i.e., non-essential desk duties performed by volunteers, more efficient scheduling, etc. More money does not equate, ipso facto, into a better police function.

age group.

1 2. Do you feel the city has ade-

ation needs?

I would like to see more parks and perhaps a large outdoor public pool in the future.

3. Is participation in the Southwest

Onkland County Solld Waste Consor-tium the wisest way for the city to skim escalating solld waste disposal

sents them, person.

5. Should the city continue to add
new police officers to its sworm
force of \$5 to further approach the
desired ratio of 1.7 officers per 1,000
residents (city's current ratio is 1.3)?
I would get the opinion of the chief
of police and take it under advisemerk.