

Fashions shown
for Donor's Day, 1B



Falcons win
WLAA, 1D

Celebrity walkers
blaze new trail, 3A

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farmington FOCUS

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NICE job! Farmington Public Schools will host a Volunteers Appreciation Day June 5 in honor of the volunteers who graciously give their time for the benefit of the school district.

PRIMARY off. Warren Dolan of Farmington Hills has withdrawn for the GOP nomination in the 27th Oakland County Board of Commissioners district, leaving incumbent Donn Wolf of Farmington Hills without primary opposition. Wolf will face Farmington Hills Democrat D. Eugene Kuby in the November general election.

CALLING all Elks. The Farmington Elks Lodge wants to honor charter members with a dinner June 2, but is having a hard time finding some of the folks who formed the lodge in 1958. If you are a charter member and have not been contacted, or know of one, call Bill Blais of Farmington, 474-7340.

QUOTE of the week

Something went wrong.

— Farmington Hills city councilman Aldo Vagnozzi, reacting to the massive tree removal at Oxford Place, a cluster home development going in along the natural beauty stretch of Drake Road. See the opinion page: 18A.

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EARLY DEADLINES

Due to the Memorial Day holiday, we will be closed Monday, May 28. To place your in-column "Liner" ad in our Monday edition, please call today, Thurs., May 24 between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. 591-0900

MEMORIAL DAY
In Memory of Those Who Gave Their Lives to Keep Us Strong and Free
HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY

Tax hike to pay for sewer upgrade

precinct breakdown, 10A

By Susan Buck
staff writer

Farmington taxpayers will pay for a planned \$12 million sewer separation and improvement project through increased property taxes. In a special election Tuesday, voters overwhelmingly supported that payment method by a more than 3-1 margin: 1,138 yes, 314 no.

A "no" vote would have prompted the massive infrastructure project to

be funded through higher water and sewer rates.

The "yes" vote means residents will be taxed in relation to property values to pay off general obligation construction bonds.

A homeowner whose home has a market value of \$100,000 and an assessed value of \$50,000 will pay another \$150 annually, based on an estimated tax increase of 3 mills the first year.

That estimate is based on the city receiving a 2-percent state loan, resulting in a saving of \$7.5 million over the 20-year life of the bonds.

'Seventy-eight percent of the voters voted 'yes' in favor of the proposition. That indicates that voters are concerned about the environment.'

— Bob Deadman, city manager

ABOUT 19 percent of Farmington's 7,536 registered voters took the time to vote, 224 by absentee ballot. "It was a fair turnout, a credible

turnout," said Bob Deadman, city manager.

"I'm pleased that voters indicated how they want to fund the project.

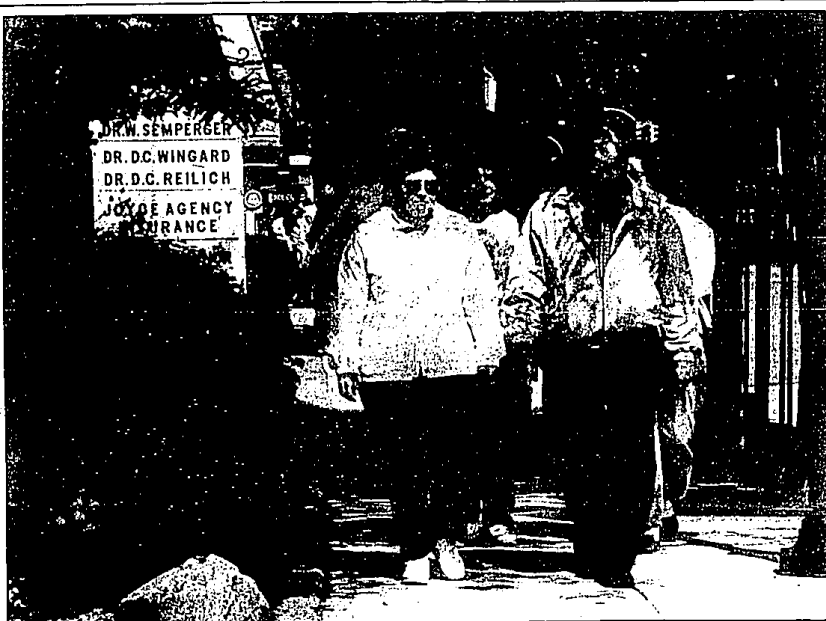
Seventy-eight percent of the voters voted 'yes' in favor of the proposition. That indicates that voters are concerned about the environment. 'Yes' votes were consistent across the precincts and also the absentee ballots.

Precinct 5, Longacre School, recorded the highest voter turnout: 269.

Mayor Pro Tem Ralph Yoder was pleased but surprised the turnout was so high.

He added that he "was a little un-

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SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Stretching out

Corinne (left) and Richard Klarich of Farmington begin the route along Grand River, east of Farmington Road, Saturday morning during the unveiling of Farmington's Downtown De-

velopment Authority walking path. The path starts at the city hall and offers two routes through the central business district. For the story and more pictures, see Page 3A.

School budget debated

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

No cries and hucs were heard about Farmington Public Schools' slightly lower tax rate for 1990-91. But four of the nine school board candidates dominated a public hearing with questions on the proposed \$92 million operating budget.

"We believe we are entitled and need the state equalized value increase," Superintendent Michael Flanagan said.

The proposed operating tax rate of 32.05 mills reflects a .34 mill drop from the 32.39 mills levied this year. The lower rate is required by the Headlee Tax Limitation Amendment.

But that doesn't necessarily mean Farmington and Farmington Hills taxpayers will pay lower taxes. If a taxpayer's property tax assessment increased this year, so will the taxes.

Without the hearing, held Tuesday at Warner Middle School, school officials would have been required to lower the tax rate to a level that would reap the same revenue as they received last year.

DESPITE THE lower rate for 1990-91, the 11,000-student district will receive more revenue because the district's SEV grew.

"We are not recommending that we go for an override (of the Headlee Amendment). Although the need is there, we don't think the feeling is," Flanagan said.

Four of the school board candidates — Richard DeVries, Laura

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Cities lend support to push for new library

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

The Farmington and Farmington Hills city councils will support construction of a new, larger building to replace the existing cramped Farmington Community Library branch on 12 Mile.

The advisory vote by the two councils May 17 is the first public support for a new facility since voters defeated a \$14.5 million bond pro-

posal and maximum 1.5-mill operating tax request last November.

"These city councils ought to be getting behind the library and come up with a solution for expanding this library," said Farmington Hills councilman Jonathan Grant, who made the motion of support.

The vote was taken following presentation of the proposed 1990-91 library budget, which is financed by both Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Farmington Hills councilman Ben Marks opposed the measure. Farmington councilman Richard Tupper chose not to vote. "It (the motion) is too abstract," Tupper said.

Building a new 80,000 square-foot building is one of three options studied by the Farmington Community Library trustees. The other options are to add on the existing site and expand onto a vacant site immediately west of the existing library.

THE TRUSTEES' new proposal is to sell the existing 12 Mile branch — officials assume they can get \$3 million — to reduce building costs. The project could be reduced to \$10 million.

Farmington council said that the Farmington Hills council would have to determine whether a new library should be built on the 26-acre Farmington Hills-owned Peltz property, west of Farmington Road, south of I-696.

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Holiday parade salutes Air Force

The Air Force will be the honored military branch at this year's Memorial Day parade in downtown Farmington on Monday, May 28.

Immediately after the parade, Lt. Col. John D. Morgan, commander of the 3554th U.S. Air Force Recruiting Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, near Mount Clemens, will deliver the principal address at a memorial service at the Veterans Memorial on Grand River, just west of Farmington Road.

As squadron commander, Morgan is responsible for recruiting activities in Michigan. The festivities will "honor those men and women who have given their most precious gift to their

country, their lives," said Walter Christensen, chaplain at American Legion Groves-Walker Post 346 in Farmington.

"It will always be the duty of those who have served to honor all who have made this supreme sacrifice," added Christensen, a Korean War veteran and former Army medical corps paratrooper. By taking part in the festivities, participants show "their expressions of faith in our nation's effort to peace, freedom, equality and justice. We must never forget those who did so much to uphold our American ideals."

BEFORE THE memorial service,



Lt. Col. John Morgan
principal speaker

Morgan will lead the parade and be present on the reviewing stand to salute color guards representing the armed forces and veterans groups.

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Hills man rescues injured motorist

By Susan Buck
staff writer

Joe Walsh, general manager at the Radisson Suite Hotel in Farmington Hills, credits himself for saving the life of Louis James (Jim) Camilli, 33, a city employee who apparently lost consciousness and drove into a ditch near Orchard Lake Road, south of 11 Mile, Friday.

But both Walsh, 27, of Farmington Hills, and co-worker Rhonda Hager, 40, of Brighton, Radisson sales manager, left the scene as soon as medical personnel arrived.

That's why people from the city don't know about him or his efforts

nor can they say whether his efforts actually did the trick. Because they did not see Camilli's original condition, they are hesitant about attributing lifesaving efforts to Walsh.

But Walsh said Monday he isn't as interested in getting credit as he is in finding out the condition of the man he helped.

"That wasn't my point," Walsh said. "His heart was beating, but he wasn't breathing. It looked like he was choking on something. I cleared his air passage and did the Heimlich maneuver."

"I'm physically okay," said Camilli

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