

# Reducing school elections on hold for next year

BY TIM RICHARD  
NEWS WRITER

There'll be a year's delay before the Michigan Legislature can simplify and reduce school elections.

"We want to slow down and make sure we do it right," said Rep. Bob Brackenkridge, R-St. Joseph, head of a task force seeking to reduce the number of elections and election dates.

"I told the legislative committee of the Michigan Association of School Boards, and they see it coming," said Brackenkridge, a former county clerk. "But it's like a string from a big ball of yarn. You pull it, and everything moves."

said Brackenkridge, a former Berrien County clerk.

"I intend to reintroduce this next January," he said, anticipating his own re-election to a fourth term.

Currently, school board members are elected on the second Monday in June each year (except in Detroit). School boards also schedule special tax and bond elections at various times with the approval of a county committee.

**3 votes a year**  
Brackenkridge has two goals:

1. To eliminate the need in many places of the city and town-

ship maintaining one set of election records and polling places while school districts maintain a second set of records and different polling places. He wants cities and townships to conduct all elections.

2. To reduce the number of elections of all types to three a year — for example, May, August and November. The only exceptions would be recall elections demanded by voters and special elections to fill congressional and legislative vacancies.

In his district, voters in one village voted nine times in a year — the village elections, township state primary and election, and

multiple school money elections.

Even where there are no villages, many voters become annoyed at repeated school district tax and bond elections. In Brackenkridge's view, school districts would elect trustees annually in May and be confined to the May, August and November dates for ballot issues.

Meanwhile, Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, has joined two legislative senators in a three-bill package of school election reform. Their plan calls for electing school boards in November in even-numbered years — the same as for state and U.S. representative and county boards.

The Senate bills also would as-

sign cities and townships all election responsibility. Special school money questions would be confined to Tuesdays in April, August and November.

**What's so complex?**  
What's so complex that Brackenkridge wants another year of work?

Many cities' charters specify election dates — e.g., in March, April, August and September. While state law takes precedence over a city charter, legislators are reluctant to infringe on municipal home rule.

Villages have a different election schedule — Feb. 10 for the

primary and March 11 for the general election this year.

Officials of the State Bar of Michigan would like to separate non-partisan judicial elections from the partisan, even-year elections in August and November.

They're eyeing May, when school boards would be elected.

Phil Fowler, chairman of the company that owns this newspaper and a University of Michigan regent, is getting attention with his advocacy of a single "education election" in spring for school boards, community college boards, State Board of Education and the Big Three university boards.

## Clean up drug abuse by washing car

Message from Farmington Families in Action: Clean your car and help the community clean up drug and alcohol abuse.

Farmington Families in Action, a local anti-drug group, will collect \$2.50 for every \$5 car wash ticket purchased at Colonial Car

Wash, on Nine Mile Road west of Farmington Road.

Tickets purchased through FFIA by March 31 can be used for up to a year. Call Nancy Smith (478-5682) for tickets, or purchase them at the following schools: Flanders, Gill, High Meadow,

Hillside, Larkshire, Longacre, Power, East, Duncional and Farmington High School.

Funds raised will help FFIA promote substance abuse awareness and prevention programs for parents, teens and pre-teens in the Farmington area.

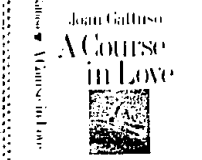
## A COURSE IN LOVE

JOAN GATTUSO

will be at Borders to sign her book and discuss how to find the perfect partner by becoming the perfect partner.

*A Course in Love*  
Useful Teachings on Love, Sex, and Personal Fulfillment

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5 • 7:30 PM



Borders Books • Music • Cafe  
43075 Crescent Blvd.  
Novi, MI • (810) 347-0780

**One On One**  
Computer Consultants, Inc.

- SPECIALIZE IN HOME & SMALL BUSINESS COMPUTERS
- OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE
- LOWEST PRICING AND PROMPTS AVAILABLE
- SERVICE
- CONSULTING
- PROGRAMMING
- REPAIRS
- PERIPHERALS
- SOFTWARE
- NETWORKING
- DATA BACKUP
- DATA RECOVERY
- DATA MIGRATION
- DATA CONVERSION
- DATA ARCHIVING
- DATA SECURITY
- DATA INTEGRITY
- DATA COMPLIANCE
- DATA AUDITING
- DATA MONITORING
- DATA ANALYSIS
- DATA REPORTING
- DATA VISUALIZATION
- DATA STORAGE
- DATA RETRIEVAL
- DATA DISTRIBUTION
- DATA ARCHIVING
- DATA SECURITY
- DATA INTEGRITY
- DATA COMPLIANCE
- DATA AUDITING
- DATA MONITORING
- DATA ANALYSIS
- DATA REPORTING
- DATA VISUALIZATION
- DATA STORAGE
- DATA RETRIEVAL
- DATA DISTRIBUTION

GET THE MOST FROM YOUR COMPUTER SYSTEM

CALL 478-5682

## Parenting workshop set

Linda Ghabtain of the Child Abuse and Neglect Workshop will present a workshop on "Peaceful Parenting" during Preschool Night, 7-9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6, at the Hills Branch of the Farmington Community Library, 12 Mile Road between Orchard Lake and Middlebelt.

The event, sponsored by the Farmington Area Preschool Council, will provide an opportunity for parents to meet directors and teachers from 18 local preschools. There will be brochures and artwork to be viewed.

For more information, call Vicki Palmer at 474-4910.

## YMCA HIGHLIGHTS

These YMCA Highlights appear courtesy of the Farmington YMCA, 28100 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. For more information, call 553-4020.

**WHO, WHAT, WHERE . . . Y?**  
The fifth in a series of television shows that will begin airing Monday, Feb. 5 at 6 p.m. and every other Wednesday beginning Feb. 7 at 5:30 p.m. on Info Channel 12. This show focuses on programs that involve our teen population component. There is YMCA is receiving form the city and the city's initiative with Todd Lipi spearheading some additional programming with the same population of young people.

**WINTER WORKOUT LAND**  
It is still here and everyone who wants to get in shape and get fit will receive prizes for doing so. Through the month of February, if you work out at least three times a week, you can win sweatbands, tee-shirts and sweat shirts. This is a great way to motivate yourself to stick to your New Year's resolutions.

**FRIDAY NIGHTS**  
The Farmington YMCA is offering teenagers a chance to learn both volleyball and basketball skills. Both sports are assisted by staff. These nights are open to both boys and girls in 6th-10th grades, 7:15-8:30 p.m. 6th-8th grades and 8:30-9:30 p.m. for 9th-10th grades.

**CHOLESTEROL**  
Frustrated with your latest cholesterol reading? Need help working on your diet? Didn't know that some foods may be hypocholesterolemic (work to lower cholesterol)? Starting Tuesday, Feb. 6 and Tuesday, Feb. 20, 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. Sponsored by Botaford Health Development Network meeting at the YMCA Limited Enrollment.

**WINTER CAMP BREAK**  
Camp activities include: swimming, crafts and games. (K-5th grade) Feb. 12-18, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There will be at least one field trip to an entertainment venue during the week. There is also available after camp childcare for those families who need it.

**VALENTINES EARLY BIRD SPECIAL**  
FREE! FREE! FREE!

Order early, by February 13th, and get a heart-shaped, hand-filled VALENTINES MYLAR BALLOON added to any local order of \$24.99 or more for FREE. (93" value)

If the orders save \$2 on the service charge.

Harry Miller  
FLOWERS

Member: Inter-County Delivery  
DEARBORN FARMINGTON HILLS  
11000 E. 12 Mile Road

**Insulation Special**  
6" R-14 Fiberglass  
Blown in Attic  
Insulation  
1,000 Sq. Ft. - '369  
JONES  
INSULATION  
348-9880

Get it? Get it!  
Call 812-953-2638

THINKING ABOUT...  
**A NEW FURNACE**

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE  
(810) 476-7022  
D&G HEATING & COOLING  
19140 Farmington Road • Livonia

**DERMATOLOGY Today**

**REMOVING FRECKLES AND SUN SPOTS**

Freckles, the freckles and sun spots brought on by the sun and aging, in some cases prove to be genetically ingrained as to make them candidates for removal. These clusters of melanocytes called solar lentigos most often occur on the face, hands, and upper chest. The first two of these areas can be removed free of these dark spots by a variety of methods. One involves the use of a medium chemical peel with trichloroacetic acid using 20%-25% acid on the face and 30%-50% on the hands to remove the epidermal layers of skin along with the offending spots. Solar lentigos may also be removed with applications of liquid nitrogen or by light photocoagulation, in which an ultimate medicine destroys a small amount of epidermis and the contained pigment cells with electromagnetic energy. For the chest area, glycolic acid may be more appropriate for a chemical peel.

To schedule an appointment please call our office at (810) 645-0830. We are conveniently located in the Medical Village, Suite 17, on Southfield Rd. in Beverly Hills and we work with most insurance companies.

P.S. The results of sun spot and freckle removal can be permanent with the judicious use of sunscreen thereafter.

**& Found**  
Wm. Russell

Specializing in High Fashion Colours, Cuts and Styling at  
JC Penney Styling Salon  
at Twelve Oaks Mall, Novi  
(810) 348-9712

**WHICH SUMMER EXPERIENCE IS BEST FOR YOUR CHILD?**

LET ME HELP YOU MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE!

SCATA  
A Free Service Since 1970

STUDENT CAMP & TRIP ADVISORS, INC.  
SUSIE PAPPAS (810) 540-9885

**WINTER SALE WINTER SALE!**

**ALL MEN'S AND WOMEN'S WINTER FASHIONS**

**50% OFF!**  
ORIGINAL TICKET PRICES

BLAZERS • DRESSES • KNITS  
SKIRTS • SWEATERS • SHIRTS • TIES  
SLACKS • CO-ORDINATES AND MORE

**KLEINS**  
NEWBURGH PLAZA  
37205 WEST SIX MILE RD AT  
NEWBURGH ROAD, LIVONIA

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 10-9 • SATURDAY 10-6  
ALL MAJOR CHARGE CARDS ACCEPTED • (313) 591-9244

1/2 OFF MERCHANDISE FINAL SALE • ALTERATIONS AT COST • NO LADYWAYS  
INTERIM MARKDOWNS HAVE BEEN TAKEN • NO ADJUSTMENTS TO PREVIOUS PURCHASES

**Mercy High School**

**OPEN HOUSE**  
February 4, 1998 - 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
**HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST**  
February 3, 1998 - 8:00 am - 11:30 am

Mercy High School provides an alternative educational setting for academically motivated young women. If you are interested in a College Preparatory Education for your daughter in a caring, culturally diverse environment, look into Mercy High School.

Give Your Daughter a Lifetime Advantage  
Women who make a difference

Celebrating 60 years as a private, Catholic High School

Mercy High School • 29300 Eleven Mile Road • Farmington Hills, MI 48336 • (810) 476-8000