

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fine candidates

As I leave the office of mayor, due to term limits and a desire to take a rest, I am interested in seeing candidates elected to Farmington Hills City Council who will carry on my approach to city government of bringing the residents into the decision-making process.

Two candidates who strongly fit that description are present city council member Vicki Barnett and planning commissioner Barry Brickner.

Barnett is finishing a very impressive four-year term during which she championed several important issues. She fought for less density and for housing that is compatible with existing neighborhoods, vigorously defended our city's home rule rights as our legislative representative and consistently favored open government.

Barnett is also a hard-working public servant who keeps in close touch with residents. She can be seen throughout the city at local functions and has always made herself available to the public. She is equally involved in school efforts. She has truly been a tremendous help to me on the city council.

I had the pleasure of appointing Brickner to the city's planning commission and I have been completely satisfied with his performance. His record on the commission has been one of support for the residents, including his strong opposition to allowing cellular towers in residential neighborhoods.

Brickner helped write the ordinance that has earned Farmington Hills the reputation of having the toughest conditions for the placement of cellular towers in the entire area. He also voted to maintain the residential nature of Farmington Hills and supported recent proposals to lower density in several city neighborhoods.

Both Barnett and Brickner are firm supporters of the senior activities and youth programs, as well as strong advocates to continue and improve the senior transportation program.

I wholeheartedly recommend the re-election of Vicki Barnett and the election of Barry Brickner to the Farmington Hills City Council. Call

me at 474-3655 if you need more information on these two fine candidates.

Aldo Vagnossi, mayor
City of Farmington Hills

Give support

Tuesday, Nov. 2, is an important day in the life of Farmington. That is the day we choose our city's leaders for the next two and four years. I urge that JoAnne McShane be your primary choice.

I have worked with JoAnne when she was mayor and as a member of the Gov. Warner Mansion Development Committee for the past two years. I know that she is committed to retaining Farmington's historic background and utilizing that knowledge to help Farmington to grow from that solid base.

She originated the phrase "Pride in our Past and Faith in our Future" during the 1976 Bicentennial celebration and she strives to make that phrase a true statement.

Through observation of her actions as a city council member and a member of the planning commission, it is evident that she does her homework. Her observations, questions and comments are lucid, terse and fair. She is well aware of the master plan and the goals for Farmington growth and is continually working for their implementation.

If you wish as I do to have Farmington continue as a business and cultural center, give your support to JoAnne McShane.

Dick Carvell
Farmington

Surprised

When I picked up last Thursday's Farmington Observer, I was surprised to see my name so well crafted in a letter by Farmington Hills resident Tom Murphy. Mr. Murphy, if you recall, was

responding to Michigan Democratic Party Chairman Mark Brewer's letter from the week before.

I would like to take this opportunity to clear up several misleading items in Mr. Murphy's letter which was obviously orchestrated by Rep. Raczowski's damage control team.

First, I am not, regardless of rumors being spread by members of the local Republican Club, running for state representative next year. I repeat, I am not running for state representative next year!

Second, the rallies and outcries over House Bill 4777 were bipartisan. Members of the Farmington and Farmington Hills city councils, many of whom are Republicans, went on record criticizing Rep. Raczowski for his co-sponsorship of this legislation, not only in this paper but on public record.

I have publicly stated that I agree with Farmington Hills Councilperson and Mayoral candidate Nance Bates' assessment of what happened. I have also said that I believe somewhere buried beneath all the rhetoric and hype from both sides lies the truth.

I purposely stayed away from the rallies and marches and have not commented on HB 4777 until I could finish researching the effects it would actually have on both communities. In other words, I am looking for the truth.

I do, in a way, agree with Mr. Murphy. It was inappropriate for Mark Brewer to write that letter and I have sent him a letter expressing my con-

cern. I would also consider it inappropriate for Betsy DeVos to send a letter if the situation was reversed.

I believe if we as residents of the 37th District do not like what bills Rep. Raczowski authors or co-sponsors, it is our responsibility as voters to let him know, not the responsibility of the state political parties.

Stephen Dibert
Farmington

Give support

If you want someone who:

... tries to keep money to support local interests here in the community through state-shared revenues; ... supports community development to enhance the local economy while respecting the environment and quality of life;

... is a "listener" who keeps her ear tuned to the needs of every resident ... from "Kids World" playscape age to senior citizens who want a safe, walkable community;

... is committed to preserving and maintaining the small town, historic character of our city through efforts to encourage restoration and utilization of the Governor Warner Mansion and the Civic Theatre;

... is a visible figure in our community attending not only City Council

meetings, but also activities and forums for Farmington Families in Action, Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council and Southeastern Michigan Council of Government;

Then vote for JoAnne McShane on Nov. 2, and she'll be there for you into the next millennium.

Pam & George Wright
Farmington

Safety Issue

While it is great to see the early completion of the I-275 reconstruction, I can't believe the state did not have the contractor install a median barrier as part of this project.

The high speed and traffic volume combined with the narrower median greatly increase the chances for deadly crossover accidents.

The new median barrier on I-96 between Novi and US-23 has virtually eliminated these collisions. The state missed its best opportunity to make I-275 much safer as well as smoother. The cost, inconvenience and worker hazard all increase if they install the barrier at a later time. I fear more serious accidents will occur before this situation, which was easily avoidable, is corrected.

Robert C Brown Jr.
Livonia

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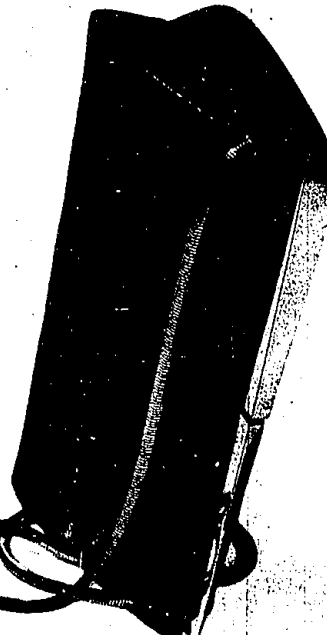
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