

Absentee ballot applications available

Absentee ballot applications for the Nov. 6 Farmington Hills city council-mayoral election are available on the city's Web site, www.ci.farmington-hills.mi.us. The applications are also available by phoning Farmington Hills Clerk Kathy Dorman at 473-9561. A prospective absentee voter can also get an application from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at the clerk's office, 31555 11 Mile Road, at the northwest corner of Orchard Lake Road. The office will also be open Saturday, Nov. 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registered voters can vote absentee if they meet one of six conditions: absence from the community on election day; age 60 or older; physical inability to attend polls; having to work as a precinct worker in a precinct other than where they vote; inability to attend polls due to their religion; or they're in jail awaiting arraignment or trial. Applications can be mailed to the clerk's office or placed in the drop box outside the building. Absentee ballots are to be mailed by Oct. 8. The deadline for submitting absentee ballots is 8 p.m. election day. In Farmington, absentee bal-

Contracts

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ing for each of its four unions — the Farmington Education Association, the Educational Support Personnel, the Farmington Transportation Association and the Custodial, Maintenance and Cafeteria Association. "It was beneficial to both parties to do this as early as possible," Zurvalle said. "It's good to have that stability." The contract extension covers a total 1,598 employees: 916 teachers, 370 secretarial/clerical and paraprofessional staff, 105 transportation and 208 custodial, maintenance and cafeteria staff. The existing four-year employee contracts don't expire until June 2002. Each unit is covered under Farmington Michigan Education Association agreements. The extension provides for 3 percent salary increases each year until 2004. The school district uses 3 percent as an "equivalent," because the increases vary according to steps, Zurvalle said.

"The best way to explain this is that it will cost the district 3 percent in new money spread differently through the schedule based on education and level of experience," said Tom Chrzanowski, president of the teachers' union. "We're proud of the extension. It shows the good relationship between the school district and the union. It went very quickly because we truly trust each other. We didn't fight about it. We did it in four or five meetings. We didn't see any need to change the existing language. That doesn't mean we both wouldn't like some changes." There isn't the same type of dissonance between labor and management as 20 years ago, Chrzanowski said. "But, I don't want to characterize that we are the only ones getting along with management," he said. "Other districts are doing so also."

DISASTER HELP

The City of Farmington Hills Police and Fire Departments, have verified the following reputable organizations that are accepting contributions:

UFA Widows and Children's Fund; c/o Uniformed Firefighter's Association; 204 East 23rd Street, 5th Floor; New York, NY 10010

PBA Widows and Children's Fund; c/o Patrolmen's Benevolent Association; 40 Fulton Street, 17th Floor; New York, NY 10038

NYCPPI (aids the families of police, fire, EMS, and other city employees); The City of New York; 100 Church Street, 20th Floor; New York, NY 10007

The New York Fire 911 Relief Fund; Contributions can be dropped off at the Farmington Hills Fire Headquarters at the southwest corner of 11 Mile and Orchard Lake Road or sent to: IAFF General Secretary-Treasurer's Office; 1760 NY Avenue NW; Washington, DC 20006-5395

Other organizations include:

- The American Red Cross, 800/HELP-NOW
- The Salvation Army, 800/SAL-ARMY
- United Way, (212) 261-4036 (the United Way's September Eleventh Fund will help the victims of the attacks and their families and provide immediate support to established emergency assistance agencies).

Awards

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Warner Mansion, on Grand River, west of Farmington Road. The two highest award winners will be announced then.

Individual awards: Carol LeBlanc, 14360 Brookfield, Livonia; Skip Rosenthal of Books Abound, 33336 Grand River; Mardy Stirling, 23121 Wilmarth; Betty Truesdell, 35200 Drakeshire; Mary MacInnis of Silverwood Appraisal & Investment Services, 31567 10 Mile and Scott Saxton, 33724 Oakland.

Residential awards: Tim and Karla Miller, 33625 Oakland St.; Doug and Andrea Bartley, 23919 Grace; Deborah Reed, 23897 Pickett; the Robert Rock family, 33922 Oakland; and the Jeffrey Rehbine Family, 33728 Grand River.

Business awards: Encore Design & Consignment, 23330 Farmington Road; Mulligan Windows & Siding, 32700 Eight Mile; Dr. Jeffrey Zanotti, 31904 Grand River; and Foremost Duct, 33106 Eight Mile.

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