

Funeral home plans bereavement program

McCabe Funeral Home is sponsoring "Coping with Grief" during the holidays Wednesday, Dec. 11, at the Farmington Hills Public Library, 22737 W. 12 Mile Road. Cathy Clough, director of bereavement services at Arbor Hospice, will facilitate the free seminar. Clough will explain common symptoms and effects of grief, and she will explain how people can continue to remember the deceased as they learn to live without them.

McCabe Funeral Home is planning a similar program 7 p.m. Dec. 6 at the Canton Public Library. The funeral home has branches in Farmington Hills and Canton.

Debate from page A1

rain in state spending," Raczkowski said.

Dibert said he was a strong supporter of public schools, choice when it comes to abortion and favored a ban on assault weapons.

Like Raczkowski, Dibert runs a small business and said he favors measures to help business.

Dibert called on "mainstream Republicans" to support him and reject Raczkowski's "extreme" views.

■ 'Boot camps have less than a 10-percent recidivism rate. We need to stiffen penalties on users and pushers.'

Andrew Raczkowski
—Republican House candidate

■ 'Take them to a morgue to show them what happens. If they are convicted of drug possession, jail doesn't help.'

Stephen Dibert
—Democratic House candidate

drug users and reform them.

"Boot camps have less than 10-percent recidivism rate," Raczkowski said. "We need stiff penalties on users and pushers."

He added that he endorsed by Oakland County Sheriff John Nichols, the Farmington Hills police union and other law enforcement groups.

Dibert said more proactivity rather than reactive means were needed.

"You can't just tell kids to stop," Dibert said. "Take them to a morgue to show them what happens, if they are convicted of drug possession. Jail does help."

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"A majority of Republicans here are in the mainstream and want a balanced budget without cutting major social programs," Dibert said.

Raczkowski countered that Dibert's views represented the "extremist points of view of Democrats."

"Republicans have brought about welfare reform and reform of the single business tax," Raczkowski said.

To questions of credibility, Raczkowski blasted newspaper accounts about his background and defended his military record (as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserves) and held up a transcript from Central Michigan University that he said showed he had earned a master's degree. That degree had appeared on

his campaign literature, but a CMU official said he had not been awarded the degree.

Dibert said Raczkowski has made false claims about his background that aren't true and held up a League of Women Voters' guide that says Raczkowski has a "J.D." juris doctor law degree.

On the issue of assisted suicide, Dibert said he believed a process that includes a panel of physicians should be instituted for those wanting an assisted suicide.

Raczkowski said he believed in better pain management and the use of hospices for those with terminal illnesses, but not legalized assisted suicide.

"We're becoming a disposable society," he said.

On the issue of road improvements, Raczkowski said he was against a "regressive" gas tax and would eliminate the prevailing wage to save money in the future, use revenues from earnings of the general fund surplus and use part of that "rainy day fund" for the immediate task of fixing roads.

Dibert said he would favor legislation holding contractors more accountable for cost overruns and cited the Blue Water Bridge between Port Huron and Sarnia, Ontario, where a \$90 million project ended up costing \$350 million, as an example of the problem.

Raczkowski said stronger measures, including more boot camps, were needed to punish

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