

Finance reports reveal spending for Tuesday's election

**BY JONI HUBBED
STAFF WRITER**

With the primary election just a few days away, candidates for 47th District Court Judge and the House District 37 seat vacated by term-limited State Rep. Andrew Raczkowski have filed financial disclosures.

In the judicial contest, candidates Larry Leib and Paul Blizman recorded the highest level of expenditures. Blizman contributed the most to his own campaign, more than \$29,000.

James Brady: \$28,665 total contributions, \$28,441.97 expenditures
 PAC (political action committee) contributions - Realtors PAC of Michigan \$500
 Paul Blizman: \$42,655 total contributions, \$41,246 expenditures
 Barry Brickner: \$25,747 total contributions; \$19,034 expenditures
 PAC contributions - Pipefitters Local PPAC \$250
 Sidney Krauzman: \$9,750 total contributions, \$550 expenditures

In the House District 37 race, John Akouri out-raised and out-spent both of his opponents by more than two to one.

Larry Leib: \$51,828 total contributions, \$41,617 expenditures
 PAC contributions - Butzel Long PC PAC, \$100; Clark Hill PAC, \$100; Strobel Cunningham Caretti PAC, \$100; Mich. Regional Council of Carpenters, \$250; Plunkett and Cooney PAC, \$200

Annette Raczkowski: \$12,300 total contributions, \$7,739 expenditures
 Alan Vosko: \$18,012 total contributions, \$14,396 expenditures
 PAC contributions - ACPAC Auto Club, \$500
 In the House District 37 race, John Akouri out-raised and

out-spent both of his opponents by more than two to one. Valerie Knol accepted the largest amount of political action committee contributions, a total of \$3,850.
 John Akouri: \$39,300 total contributions; \$38,741 expenditures
 PAC contributions - Realtors PAC \$1,000, AFD PAC \$500, Arab American Leadership PAC \$500, Citizen BeztaK-Michigan PAC \$250
 Valerie Knol: \$18,445 total contributions; \$13,494 expenditures

PAC contributions - Michigan Township PAC \$250, Small Business Association of Michigan PAC \$100, Michigan Farm Bureau PAC \$500, Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers \$1,000, Auto Dealers of Michigan PAC \$2,000
 Terry Sever: \$4,880 total contributions; \$4,545 expenditures
 PAC contributions - Daimler Chrysler Corp. Michigan PAC \$200.

Farmington officials take protest on the road

**BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER**

Farmington city officials are gearing up to join others from across the state for an August 13 rally in Lansing to protest Gov. John Engler's veto July 25 of \$845 million appropriated for local revenue sharing in the 2002-2003 budget.

Farmington would lose a half million dollars.

"It's that serious," Lauhoff said Friday. "This is money owed. This is the citizens'

money. Nothing I've seen in a long time is this important." Seething with outrage, Lauhoff said a number of officials planned to attend the 9 a.m. rally in the Capitol lawn.

Besides himself, those expressing interest in attending are Farmington Mayor Jim Mitchell, Councilwomen Mary Bush and JoAnne McShane and Farmington Public Safety Director Gary Goss, Lauhoff said.

Listening that funding means the council may need to put a

hold on all capital purchases that are not an emergency. "That's how hard it hits," Lauhoff said.

He explained the funding loss by saying in order to make up the funds, each household with a home valued at \$200,000 would have to come up with an additional \$160.

Engler's veto comes at a time when the city has already set its budget for the coming fiscal year, which began July 1.

House Republican chair files complaint over disclosures

**BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER**

The chairman of the House Republican Campaign Committee filed a complaint this week with the state regarding candidate Aldo Vagnozzi's campaign disclosure form.

Vagnozzi, former Farmington Hills mayor, is running as a Democrat for the Farmington area's 37th District House of Representatives.

The 76-year-old said the claims against him are baseless and are nothing more than a desperate move by some Republicans to discredit him.

State Rep. Gene DeRossett, chair of the campaign committee for the House Republicans, stated in a press release that Vagnozzi's report failed to disclose many contributions and expenses.

"This type of sloppy book-keeping is simply unacceptable and should be investigated," DeRossett stated, stating Vagnozzi's report included

errors marked "TBD" and several items of his disclosure document were left blank.

Vagnozzi's campaign finance chairman is Gerald Goldberg. On Friday, Goldberg said he plans to submit an amended campaign finance report to the state this weekend or by Monday at the latest.

"We're late," he said of putting the final numbers in the report that was due on July 26. "Circumstances didn't allow us to do it on time."

He said he attempted to use a state elections electronic filing computer program to complete the report, but when that didn't work, he had to file it handwritten.

"I just assume to have it as accurate as possible and amend it later," he said.

Attorney Dave Murley with the state confirmed the complaint was filed, but said it will not likely be reviewed until next week.

"It may go back to the error and omissions division of the

elections bureau," he said.

Gloria Flakes, deputy director of the bureau of elections, said a candidate can amend his or her report before the department reviews it.

She said once the reports are reviewed, any errors discovered are brought to the attention of the candidate. That person has nine business days to correct the errors, she said.

Vagnozzi said he was disappointed to hear about the complaint.

"I think they're afraid of losing this seat," he said. "I was hoping we could run on a decent campaign."

"I think the voters of this district will not be taken in by false charges," he added. "They know me, they know my record, and hopefully, I win on my record."

Vagnozzi's opponent in the primary is Charisse Heath of Farmington Hills.



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