Brodhead launches vigil for freedom

Congressman William M. Brodhead (D-17th) launched a "Vigil for Freedom" for Soviet Jewry with a speech in the U.S. House of Representatives

in the U.S. House of Representatives list week.

State week.

Charging that "the Soviet government has regarded the human rights provisions of the Belsinki Agreement as empty promises. Brodhead called woon House members to join him in a daily floor speeches to all the state of the belsing of Soviet Jews who have attempted to emigrate from Russia.

Working the Soviet Land Soviet and the statement of the soviet person of the so

sional coordinator of the vigil. Each week for the next several months, members will lead off house sessions by giving brief speeches about particu-lar individuals and families who have attempted to leave the USSR.

In his kickoff speech, Brodhead spoke of the Alexander Maryasin fam-ily who live in Riga in the Latvian SSR. Brodhead had "adopted" the family who have been attempting to emigrate to Israel since 1973.

"Since 1973, the family has been job-less and has been forced to sell its pos-sessions merely to exist," he said.

"Letters I have written to Soviet Party Secretary Brezhnev and to other Rus-tian officials have gone unanswered."

"THE MARYSINS, along with thou-

sands of other Soviet Jews, have lost everything because of their desire to live in peace and freedom. It is my hope that this vigil for freedom will strengthen our resolve to assist them. Brothead pointed out that the Soviet government has drastically reduced the numbers of Jewish citizens permitted to leave Russist from over \$5,000 in 1975 to about 1,100 a month through 1976.

The members of an informal group in the USSR established to monitor the government's compliance with the Helsinki accords have been officially and unofficially harassed, or like Anatoly Scharansky, imprisoned for months without the rights of other Soviet citizens.

Individuals wishing to emigrate often face long waits before receiving their papers, as well as repeated refusals, firings from unemployment, disruption of amil and telephone services, curveillance and other forms of intimidation.



27725 W. 8 Mile Road 478-4380

Ross takes a walk on campaign trail

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY
Consumer advocate Douglas Ross
says he won't be making a lot of promises in his campaign for the 15th district State Senate seat.
"I'm making a very conscious effort
to break the pattern in American politics of overpromising the people what
government can do for them and what
a public official can do for them," said
the Democrat and former head of the
Michigan Citznes' Lobby.
"No one person can go to Lansing or
Washington alone and solve their problems to their satisfaction."
Ross is the only announced candi-

lems to their satisfaction."
Ross is the only announced candidate thus far for the seat held by State Sen. Daniel Cooper (D-Oak Park). If Cooper seeks re-election, he and Ross and any other Democratic candidate

will square off in the August primary. Rather than invest a lot in advertising. Ross is planning a walking campaign through subdivisions in Farmington. Farmington is farmington, Farmington is farmington and Southfield, part of the 19th district. On the opening of his Farmington area office, Ross said bringing government closer to the people, working for senior citizens' aid and concerns over low income housing and land use will be emphasized in his campaign.

LOW INCOME housing should be available for persons who work in the area, according to Ross.

"What people don't want is a high concectration of low income projects. In order not to dramatically change the character of the community, we

should disperse low-income housing."
"Low income people have to be boused." Ross said. "They can't be dropped into the river. The only solution is that low to moderate income people live throughout the suburbs." Housing and aid for seniors are among area residents' concerns, he easily said.

Ross added that demand by seniors for low income housing has been "phenomenal" and is an "absolute neces-

tor low income housing has been "phenomenal" and is an "absolute necessity.

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IN ADDITION to better transporta-tion for seniors. Ross favors assistance in paying utility bills for the elderly remaining in their homes. During the winter, a program initiated to give seniors some relief against rising utility costs was a vic-tim of poor administration, Ross said, as checks were sent out only a few weeks are. weeks ago.

weeks ago.

Besides getting help in paying heating bills, Ross said seniors should also
be able to stay in their own homes and
apartments as long as they can. Chore
service, which would provide help in

.
home tasks, like shoveling the walk or grocery shopping, and a meal service would help seniors stay out of nursing homes, the consumer advocate said.

bomes, the consumer advocate said.

HIS WALKING campaign is aimed at bringing government closer to everyday experience, he said.

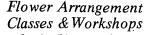
"There is a need for government proposals and agencies to work better so they become ways to improve our lives rather than be seen as obstacles to work around." Ross said.

Open government would make way for practical efflicient actions, according to Ross.

The proposed lobbyists' disclosure law and an "enforceable" conflict of interest law would, Ross said, help to open government to the voters by informing them of officials' outside interests.

informing mem or orincais outsizes.
Programs could be kept on a more practical, relevant level through annual evaluation, he said. Subsequent evaluation, he said subsequent did not not account of the country of the c

areas are the consequences of poor land use. Controversy over the com-pletion of 1-275 is an example of resi-dents, retailers, developers and envi-ronmentalists working together towards a solution to a land use prob-lem, according to Ross.



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Franklin appeals Southfield rule

By JOE MARTUCCI

By JOE MARTUCCI
Franklin is asking Southfield's zoning board of appeals to overturn the city council's recent approval of plans for the Park Lassille development.
Franklin Atty. Michael Feal acknowledged that this in a "little known" method of appeal, but he said it's provided for in state zoning laws. Southfield Atty. Sigmund Beras, however, said he's never heard of such an appeal in his 11 years as city attorney. Usually, opponents seek to have a city council decision over turned in circuit court, he noted.
"This is a novel way of proceeding. The never experienced anything like this at all," said Beras.
Joining with the village in the appeal is Concerned Citizens of Franklin.
Joining with the village in the appeal is Concerned Citizens of Franklin.

homeowners' group opposed to the \$125 million high-rise Park LaSalle

project.

The appeal is set for April 18, according to Feiler. He said no building permits could be issued in the

The Franklin attorney also said the zoning board proceeding would be quasi-judicial in nature. Testimony will be taken and a formal record kept, as in court.

Traditionally, zoning boards of appeals rule on variances, special

appeals rule on variances, special exceptions and hardship cases. These arise when a developer is unable to

BUT FEILER contends the zoning board also has the power to overturn the city council's approval of Park LaSalle site plans. He said when the council considered the plans it was acting in an administrative not legislative—capacity.

Legislative bodies set policy and administrative ones implement it. Actions of legislative bodies can only be considered the legislative bodies can only council has unduly narrowly considered the Impact statement requirements. The one filed thy the developer) does not address itself adequately to all the issues. Feller said.

Southfield officials required the Park LaSalle developer, S.B.

McLaughini, to file a community impact statement to determine effects on roads, drainage and the environ-

on roads, drainage and the environ-

ment.

Project opponents have argued that
the developer's study was inadequate.
Southfield council members didn't see

Solument counter memoers of on t see it that way.

Feiler said the community impact statement "is an integral part of the site plan review process" and that approval "should not have been manted."

granted."

Opponents are also considering a separate legal action against the developer under the provision of the state's Environmental Protection Act, according to Franklin's attorney.



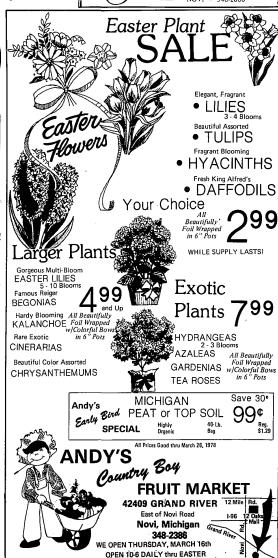




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