

# Campaign funding law needs new look

STATE LEGISLATORS would do well to begin considering changes in the state election laws governing public funding of gubernatorial campaigns.

Democratic gubernatorial nominee James Blanchard was quoted recently as saying he thinks the law should be revised so that a gubernatorial candidate is not limited to spending \$1.2 million in the primary and \$1.2 million in the general election.

Blanchard's idea seems to have less merit. Certainly one who has just spent more than a million dollars winning a primary election campaign against several challengers can be excused for thinking that much more than a million is needed to conduct a general election campaign. In campaigns, there is never enough to do all that the campaign team would like to do.

THE MAJOR candidates now spend most of their money on television commercials. To allocate more public funds just so that a candidate can buy a few more commercials which claim little more than candidate A stands up more than B, or that B is a better deliveryman than C, seems ludicrous.

It would seem that public and commercial television stations afford the candidates any number of opportunities for face-to-face debate of the issues — especially during a general election campaign — rather than having voters choose on the basis of a host of cleverly contrived commercials.

The number of commercials we deal with now are such that by election time they seem all too frequent, repetitious, insipid and boring.

THERE MAY be merit to the idea of in-

creasing the minimum a candidate must raise before receiving public funding.

We can recall as early as last January, Democratic candidate Ed Pierce saying that he expected that some of the candidates would drop out because they did not have a serious chance. He specifically stated that he was not one of the candidates who would drop, but suggested that some of the other lesser candidates — presumably Ferency, Kammer, Satron or Plaweczko — would.

At times, commitment to supporters, pride, determination and belief in the righteousness of one's candidacy will keep a candidate in the race long after it has become apparent that he or she has no serious chance.

CANDIDATES will trudge on hoping that lightning will strike or that scandal will stike the enemy camp. If for no other reason, a candidate will stay in a race only to espouse a particular philosophy, belief or idea.

Maybe that is as it should be. But there is also the likelihood that some candidates stay in the race strictly because they have public funds.

The present limits on funding should, at the least, be discussed and the Legislature would do well to take up this issue once the election season is over.

## Feel important, use circumlocution

HOW DO YOU make yourself sound important when what you're saying is really not all that important? Bureaucrats, educators and social workers have had the answer for years.

The secret is professional jargon — gobbledeygook, to some. The idea is to use technocratic, sociological terms and words which make it appear that you are privy to some knowledge that the person you're addressing is not.

The bureaucrats have used jargon to gain governmental promotions, grants and jobs. Maybe it's time the rest of us started taking advantage of the power of obfuscation.



**Richard Lech**

Instead of telling people I was sitting around watching TV, I will say I "monitored video transmissions of a comedic and dramatic nature as one of my lifestyle choices last night."

Talking with friends over a cup of coffee can be "conducting meaningful interpersonal dialogue with my peer group."

The introduction of jargon on a general basis could help others feel important.

Las Vegas comedians, for instance, could use a bit of this high-blown bureaucratese.

COMEDIAN: "There are some persons of the feminine gender who are functioning at less than peak capabilities. As an example of this dysfunctioning, take my wife... please!"

tioning, take my wife... please!

"I went to my medical practitioner and said, 'Doc, I chronically experience stress, both systemic and topical, when I do this.' He advised, 'Don't do that.'"

"The other day my opposite-sex partner said, 'I have some positive input and some negative input for you. The positive input consists of the data that my maternal family member is not going to be enjoying a cohabitant status with us for two weeks. The negative input is that she is going to be serving in a cohabitant capacity with us for three weeks instead.'"

Whatever the comedians would lose in timing, they would gain in a new-found sense of self-importance.

BASEBALL announcers could also increase their sense of importance and perhaps that of the team.

BROADCASTER: "Well, Blue Jay batters have really maximized their response to the input of Tiger pitchers. The number of Toronto runners situated on the bases has reached its optimal level. Sparky is through dialing with his pitcher; he apparently feels the pitcher's continued presence in the game is viable.

"The pitcher winds and thrusts the ball, and, oh boy, that pitch nearly made one-to-one contact with the batter. The batter is in an irritation mode and is coordinating his motor skills for a trip to the mound. We now have a real hands-on experience involving both benches."

I could extrapolate further, but space considerations force me to terminate. This column with extreme prejudice.

Republican gubernatorial nominee Richard Headlee backs the idea of requiring that gubernatorial candidates raise \$100,000 in small donations (less than \$100) before becoming eligible for matching public funds. The law presently allows candidates to receive public funds once they have raised \$50,000 in private contributions.

Those who favor increasing the requirement from \$50,000 to \$100,000 indicate that the higher requirement would tend to eliminate the clutter of candidates who have little hope of being nominated in a primary election.

Headlee's contention deserves to be consid-



**Bob Wisler**

**HAGGERTY LUMBER & SUPPLY CO.**

WALLED LAKE • 2055 Haggerty Rd.  
 (313) 368-8166 / (313) 824-1553  
 Mon.-Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-4, Sun. 10-5

**Williamsburg**  
 HAIR FASHIONS  
 FOR MEN AND WOMEN

LOOK your best for School

2 Haircuts for 1  
 FOAM PERMS \$30<sup>00</sup>

reg. \$45.00

27718 Seven Mile  
 2 1/2 Blocks E. of Livonia Mall  
**538-1044**

**Learn to be a Professional COURT REPORTER**

- Challenging Career
- Above Average Earnings
- Respected Profession
- Day or Evening Classes

September Classes Now Forming  
 CALL 552-0061 • Southfield  
 Elsa Cooper Institute of Court Reporting

## Many fine lessons aren't from school

THE LONGER you travel along life's highway, the more you become aware that many of the important things you learned along the way were not taught to you in school.

This thought came to The Stroller the other day when he watched one of his fellow diners trying to enjoy a helping of peas without spilling them all over the table.

First, he tried a fork. That didn't work. The peas kept slipping off to the table. Next he used a spoon. That was some improvement, but not much. The peas kept wiggling away as they usually do.

As he sat watching, The Stroller was carried back to a dinner one Sunday afternoon when Mother had prepared a fine meal that included mashed potatoes and stewed peas.

AS USUALLY was the case with Sunday dinner, she had invited a guest. She was sure we would enjoy the company of the young fellow from the farm just outside of town. It was quite a surprise when "Cowboy" Heckman walked in. He was a buddy of The Stroller when he was learning the machinist trade.

After we sat at the table and grace was said the potatoes were passed to the guest. He quickly helped himself, but instead of having them as a lump on his plate he flattened them out. We wondered why.

Then came the peas. Instead of heaping them alongside his potatoes, "Cowboy" spread them over his flattened out potatoes. It was a sight we never had seen. But he



the stroller  
**W.W. Edgar**

didn't lose a pea.

It was a real lesson in eating peas and one that wasn't taught in school. To this day when peas are served along with the mashed potatoes, he follows Cowboy's advice and spreads them on top.

YEARS LATER, when The Stroller's father opened a small lunch room, we used to get the major league baseball scores by wire about 7 o'clock each evening. There was no radio or television in those days. So, folks used to take a walk downtown in the evening to get the baseball scores and enjoy a piece of pie or a cup of coffee.

One evening when The Stroller finished writing the scores on on a large card he placed it outside where all passersby could see it.

When his father noticed this, he came racing around the counter, grabbed the card and brought it back inside.

"I cast us money to get those scores," he said, "and folks won't buy coffee pie if they don't come inside."

The Stroller learned the lesson — a first step in a business course — and another one not learned in school. The baseball fans never again were offered a free look outside at the baseball scores.

**SONG BOOKS**

**25¢**

WHERE?  
**HAMMELL MUSIC'S**  
 MUSIC FAIR & RUMMAGE  
**SALE**  
 15630 MIDDLEBELT  
 LIVONIA 427-0040  
 NOW THRU AUG. 28th

**McCabe**  
 funeral home

31950 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills Michigan 48033

DETROIT LOCATION: 18570 Grand River Ave. 836-3752

**HAMMELL MUSIC'S ANNUAL MUSIC FAIR & BASEMENT RUMMAGE SALE**

NOW THRU AUG. 28th

15630 MIDDLEBELT LIVONIA 427-0040

Standard or Custom Glass Doors & Accessories for any Fireplace

All Name Brand Manufacturers

**JIMMIES RUSTICS**  
 Livonia • 29500 W. 6 Mile Birmingham • 221 Hamilton  
 522-2026 644-1935

**FREE TUITION**  
 IF YOU QUALIFY  
**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**  
**MEDICAL LAB. TECHNICIAN**

Call now:  
**Michigan Paraprofessional**  
 Downriver — 721-1777  
 Southfield — 559-7737

Check our new **HOT LINE** for all your carpet needs.

New low pricing on all brands. Ask for Mr. Carsen - 476-8437

**RITE CARPET**  
 Livonia  
 Mon.-Fri. 9P-5, Sat. 10-4

TRANSMISSION REBUILDERS INC. OFFERS

**TRANSMISSION TUNE-UP**

• Road Test  
 • Renew Pan Gasket  
 • Adjust Bands  
 • Check for Leaks  
 • Change Fluid

**SPECIAL \$5.95** PLUS FLUID

with this ad  
 At all 4 locations

**FREE TOWING - ONE DAY SERVICE**  
 NATIONWIDE WARRANTY

**RELIABLE SERVICE SINCE 1957**

NOW 4 LOCATIONS TO SERVICE YOU

<b>LIVONIA TRANSMISSION</b> 27950 W. 5 Mile 522-2240	<b>FARMINGTON TRANSMISSION</b> 30400 Grand River 474-1400	<b>NORTHVILLE TRANSMISSION</b> 5 Mile at Northville Road 420-0444	<b>T.R.I. TRANSMISSION SERVICE</b> N. of 15 Mile, Corner of Pontiac Trail & Haggerty 669-2900
--	---	---	---

**LIVONIA True Value HARDWARE STORE**

Acrylic LATEX HOUSE PAINT

Our finest. Resists blistering, fading! Custom colors higher. HPX

**SALE \$1.98**

**TRU-TEST LATEX HOUSE PAINT** **SALE \$9.98**

SELECT LATEX HOUSE PAINT

Vinyl acrylic formula resists fungus, mildew, alkalis, blistering & fading. White

**SALE \$8.98**

**E-Z PAINT LATEX FLAT** **\$13.98**

6.2 GALS. LATEX FLAT FINISH IS HERE!

Lowest price ever! Superior! Non-stain! Low odor! No brush marks! No roller marks! No roller marks! No roller marks!

**SALE \$2.78**

16 FL. OZ.

**X-O RUST, ENAMEL**

Resists rust! High gloss non-toxic finish in handy aerosol spray.

**COUPON SPECIAL**

9' X 12' DROP CLOTH **1¢**

Waterproof plastic protects furniture, floors, carpets from paint splatters and dyes. By 12" Lt. Vt. 100P

OPENING THIS FALL

**SEVEN FARMS MONTESSORI OF LIVONIA**  
 34563 SEVEN MILE (NEAR FARMINGTON)

**REGISTRATION**  
 Thursday, September 2 — 9 A.M.-Noon

- Accredited by the American Montessori Society
- Certified Montessori and Elementary Teachers
- Art, Music, Movement, Yoga
- Half Day, Full Day KG and Day Care.

OUR TWO OTHER LOCATIONS:

OPEN HOUSE:  
 THURSDAY, Sept. 1, 7 pm  
 NOVI MONTESSORI  
 777 W. Eight Mile (at Taft)

OPEN HOUSE:  
 THURSDAY, AUGUST 26 - 7 pm  
 LAKES AREA MONTESSORI  
 2800 Fisher Ave. (Near Maple & Haggerty)

For Information Call 477-3621

**LIVONIA True Value HARDWARE**  
 5 Mile at Farmington

GA2-1155-937-1611

HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 9-9, Sat. 9-7, Sun. 10-3

**Back-to-School Sale**

One week only! Aug. 23-29

- \* Boys and Girls Shoes 10% to 50% OFF
- \* 1/2 OFF All Summer Sandals
- \* 20% OFF New Fall, Winter Boots
- \* Tennis Shoes 10% to 30% OFF

**Greg SHOES**

Bel-Air Center 10 Mile at Orchard Lk Farmington 477-2343

Orchard Mall Orchard Lk N. of Maple West Bloomfield 851-5566 Sun 12-5