Candidates ask 'cooperation' on group homes

Local governments shouldn't have a veto over location of state-paid grup homes for the retarded, but the state makes its own job easier by consulting with home town officials.

That was the consensus of candidaces — both Republican and Democratic — to a question from the Association for Retarded Ciliens of Oakland County. The gathering last week drew 21 candidates and an audience of 30 to a Birmingham library.

"Communication" was the key to state-local cooperation, candidates said repeatedly.

in institutions.

Local units have sought to limit the number and size of group homes through zoning restrictions, population limits, caps on the number of residents in each, and so on. Court battles have been won by the state.

ARC asked candidates for the Oakland County board if local officials should have "any control" over group bornes.

cials should have "any control" over group bornes.

Democrat Paul Owen Asbba, chal-lenger in the 22nd District (Birming-ham and part of Southfield), said "there should not be controls. How-ever, the department (Mental Health) should consult with local of-

ficials. When a group home goes in, these are the people who are first contacted."

Donald ensen, Birmingham city compared to the company of the company of

Southfield, called direct control of group home sites "a responsibility of the state" but advised the state to develop "a closer working relationship with the county mental health board. Pernick deplored the fact that Republicans have denied Democrats any seats on that heard.

Republicans have denied Democrats any seats on that board. The "hidden issue," said Democrat Charles Saigat of the 13th District (Troy, Birmingham) is education of the public. "The people do not know," said Saigat, who is seeking the seat held by Commissioner Robert Page, R. Birmingham. Page did not attend.
"The less restrictions blaced on

not attend.
"The less restrictions placed on selection of sites, the better," said Al Zolton, Democratic nominee in the 15th District. Republican incumbent

David Mofflitt dld not attend. The district straddles corners of Farm-ington Hills and the townships of Bloomfield, Southfield and West Bloomfield.

ANOTHER ARC member questioned complained of "long waiting lines" for mental health services for the developmentally disabled. Candidates were asked if they would support expanded services to reduce waiting lists.

Democrat Ashba of the 22nd District said he would "oppose empire-building in Pontlac" to pay for such services.

But Republican Jensen of the 22nd countered. "I don't get the impression the county is stingy as far as

mental health is concerned," adding that "I hope sincerely that ways can be found."

Commissioner Susan Kuha, R. Clawson, said community mental health funds are provided on a 90-10 state-county basis, and that the state has been short oftener than the coun-

by.
Democrat Salgat of the 13th Disrict asked, "If this county — the
third of fourth riches in the U.S.—
can't take care of the can't
illuman see feet a rich the can't
illuman see feet a rich taking a
the 15th District. "That's unconsclonable."

cionable."
Answers from state legislative candidates were reported in last Thursday's editions.

10,000 balloons to publicize lupus

More than 10,000 balloons will be launched at several locations throughout Michigan during the month of October to observe Lupus Awarencess Month.

Each balloon will represent some-one in Michigan who has a little-known illness called systemic lupus crythematosis (SLE) or lupus, for short.

Lupus can range from a very mild of the event by launching 5,000 baldisorder to a serious, disabling, life- loons from the State Capitol lawn threatening illness. The majority of Co. 1. cases of lupus can be controlled if diagnosed early and proper treatment is implemented.

Gov. James J. Blanchard kicked the event by launching 5,000 baldisors from the State Capitol lawn threatening the event by launching 5,000 baldisors from the State Capitol lawn threatening the event by launching 5,000 baldisors from the State Capitol lawn threatening the event by launching 5,000 baldisors from the State Capitol lawn threatening threatening the event by launching 5,000 baldisors from the State Capitol lawn threatening threatening

THE MICHIGAN Lupus Founda-tion will sponsor an awareness and screening day on Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the community room of Northland Center, Green-field at Eight Mile roads in South-field.

Doctors will speak throughout the day and a free screening test for lupus will be offered.

Gov. James J. Blanchard kicked off the event by launching 5,000 balloons from the State Capitol lawn

headquartered at 19001 E. Eight Mile Road, East Detroit.

Mile fload, East Detroit.

SYMPTOMS OF lupus are joint pain, fatigue, unusual swelling, pleurisy-like chest pain, low-grade fever and a sun-sensitive rash. These symptoms usually come and go over a long period of time without a determination of their cause.

The disease is more common than muscular dystrophy, leukemia, or multiple scierosis.

An estimated one million Americans have this disease and 5,000 die from it each year. Although anyone of either sex. any race, or any age can get this disease, it most often af-

fects young women of child-bearing years.

The disease is not contagious and is not a form of cancer.



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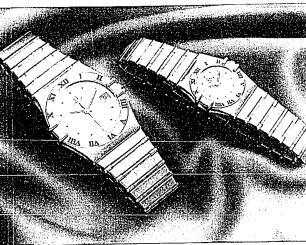


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