

ELECTION LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Is she GOP?

In response to Mr. Carvell's letter to the editor supporting Cathy Webb, he seriously doubts that the MEA would contribute to a Republican candidate.

Perhaps Ms. Webb does not qualify as a Republican with her liberal positions and endorsements.

Is there any reference to the Republican party on her signs and literature? No. And let's just see if the MEA doesn't show up on the Webb PAC list when all is said and done.

Doug Burley, Farmington

Has some concerns

In the recent debates, Cathy Webb claims that she has the fiscal responsibility to represent our district in Lansing.

If so, as treasurer of our local school board can she explain why the superintendent of schools earns more money than the governor of our state? Also do the citizens know that the superintendent is provided with a new car of his/her choice each and every year at the taxpayer expense? if this happens within our community, how will she spend our tax dollars in Lansing? It concerns me.

Bill Smith, Farmington Hills

They're for Terry

The Republican State Representative race is now between two leaders, Terry Sever and Cathy Webb. We have known both candidates for many years. Both are good, honorable people who have given much of themselves to their community.

The contrast between Sever's and Webb's definition of what it means to govern is distinct. A key example of their difference is a recent event.

Cathy Webb, as a member of the Commission for Children, Youth and Families proposed a new law to the Farmington Hills City Council. This law would have required all children under the age of 16 to wear bike helmets. The proposal was wisely voted down by Terry Sever and a majority of his City Council colleagues.

There were many reasons why this concept was misguided. First, our residents recently voted in favor of a safety millage. They voted to increase taxes, but not for the purpose of policing bike helmet violations. Second, it would be impossible to consistently enforce such legislation which would increase our young people's lack of respect for the law. Third, and most damaging it would have put government right between children and their parents.

Giving parents the message that they are unable to teach their children right from wrong, or how to be safe, is not going to strengthen families. Both candidates say that they are in favor of parental responsibility and strong families. Terry Sever's actions support his promises. Cathy Webb's actions speak of greater government control.

Terry Sever has consistently sought input from residents on all important issues. Terry makes sure that we have a say in the decisions that directly impact us. He voted to let citizens decide if we wanted more parks, the activities center, the ice arena, and increased protection.

"We, as a community, now have these things, not because Terry Sever decided we should have them, but because he asked us if we wanted them."

A vote for Terry Sever is a vote for strong families; for less, not more, government; and for a representative who listens to and votes the will of the people. Terry will not make decisions by what he thinks is good for us, but what we think is good for us.

Bob and Kim Dennis, Farmington Hills

A Carl voter

You are correct in stating that July 25 that the Democratic House primary is no as intense as the Republican primary.

This fact may speak to the professional approach taken by both Democratic candidates. However, I believe that you have endorsed the wrong candidates. Among Mr. Dilbert, Ms. Webb and the other candidates, there is only one who is the most qualified for the job, and he is Carl Christoph.

Democrat Carl Christoph, is the most qualified candidate running for the Michigan House of Representatives. Mr. Christoph is the only candidate who's present job puts him in daily touch with the laws of the State of Michigan and in daily touch with State agencies. Mr. Christoph is a practicing attorney whose work is respected both by both fellow lawyers and judges.

When other candidates talk about Court Reform, Tort Reform, the Penal Code and the Department of Corrections, they are only using information obtained in Party briefing books. Mr. Christoph knows these issues first hand and has the background to tackle these issues based on experience, not speculation.

Mr. Christoph is the only candidate with earned college degrees in Business, Education and Law. He is unquestionably the most qualified candidate for the 37th District House of Representatives.

Ellen M. Paynter, Farmington Hills

More for Linda

Last Saturday I was attending mass at St. Fabian's Catholic Church. I noticed a young woman passing out Andrew Raczowski literature to people as they went into mass.

When I informed her that the priest does not allow political literature to be handed out before or after mass on church property, she said, "Don't worry about it, we have permission."

I know for a fact that this is not true since my friend Linda Jolicœur is also a member of this parish. She was told she could not hand out any political information.

A man appalled that Mr. Raczowski would send his supporters into a church to pander for votes. I'm even more disgusted, however, that this woman would claim to have permission when she did not. It's unfortunate that some politicians will do anything to get elected. I hope the voters will reward those who play by the rules.

Please join me in supporting Linda Aug. 6.

Josephine Ondik, Farmington Hills

'We need Linda'

As a life-long resident of Farmington Hills, I am worried about the state of our community. Obviously, in the Republican primary, we are supposed to vote for a candidate who can put their personal feelings aside and be concerned about the welfare of our great community.

It is clear to me, as I am sure it is to other voters in the community, there are three candidates in the district (Webb, Raczowski, Sever) who cannot do this. Shame on you three, behaving like children on a playground. The voters don't like dirty politics. And I hope they reward the one candidate that has run a clean campaign based on the issues.

I am very happy at this time to announce my full support for Mrs. Linda Jolicœur, truly a person that we need in Lansing.

Vera Salamino, Farmington Hills

A Massie voter

Massie Kurzeja has worked for the whole city, not just our area, because she has a great love for this city and its residents.

If this were not so, why would she have given up so much of her personal time over the years?

The only special interest that Massie Kurzeja has is the best interest of the residents, their well-being, and quality of life.

A vote for Massie Kurzeja is a vote for the people.

Carol Boyd, Farmington Hills

'Support Andrew'

We are writing to endorse the candidacy of Andrew Raczowski for state representative. As Republican city directors for Farmington and Farmington Hills, we are convinced that backing Andrew in this quest for this position is the right thing to do for the Farmington area.

Other key Republicans in Farmington and Farmington Hills are also working to ensure Andrew is elected. Three-fourths of the Republican Precinct Delegates in Farmington and Farmington Hills support the

Raczowski Campaign.

All of our delegate elected members of the Executive Committee of Oakland County Republicans are on record supporting Andrew. All of the Board members of the mighty 11th Congressional District are supportive of Andrew's message.

From within this Republican grassroots support it is not hard to figure out that Andrew is the only true Republican in this race. He deserves your support.

We know Andrew Raczowski from a personal level. He has many qualities which have not been pointed out in the press. The main reason that he is running for this office is that he senses a chance to truly make a difference in the lives of his constituents.

He is not going to Lansing for a job. He is going to make a difference.

K. David Jaske, Richard DeVries, Republican city directors

Another Andrew vote

As a parent who has taken her children out of the Farmington School District, I am very interested in who will be our next state legislator.

Only one candidate has addressed the issue which concerns parents the most - teaching our children skills that will make them competitive in the future. One candidate has come forward and stood up for phonics and real mathematics in our schools. One candidate wants to see parents able to play a greater role in our local school system.

If you have children in our local school district, please join me and cast your vote for the "3-Rs" - Republican Raczowski.

Judy Parran, Farmington Hills

'Irresponsible'

I am very upset with the report on the state representative debate held on July 30. You only reported half of what Carl Christoph said.

I was at the debate and Christoph's statement was: "I don't jump out of airplanes and I don't charter them." We know what the jumping out of airplanes refers to, and the chartering of a plane refers to Cathy Webb doing that at the Founder's Festival parade.

The fact you mention Christoph's statement "received a lot of laughs" is incomplete and misleading. Like I said, I was at the debate and the laughs were for the entire statement. It is unfair of your paper to single out Andrew in this manner. I am outragedly appalled at your paper's ability to misrepresent the facts in favor of the candidate you endorse.

Endorsing a candidate is one thing; and irresponsible journalism is another.

Melody Jaske, Farmington

Another for Andrew

As you know, I recently retired for the Michigan Senate three years before my term expired because of ill health.

During my tenure, I became very fond of the people I served. As a result, I am hopeful and concerned that a caring and effective state representative be selected to represent the good people of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Deeply concerned about the well-being of others and bursting with energy and enthusiasm for doing good deeds, Andrew Raczowski is just the person for the job. I have known Andrew for many years. He is always fair and even-tempered.

He has the courage and depth of personal conviction to follow his heart and stick up for ordinary and vulnerable people even when powerful self-interested people and groups stand in his path.

We all stand to benefit from Andrew's tireless can-do spirit, abiding optimism and straightforward, common sense approach to difficult problems of public policy. Besides all this, he has an engaging sense of humor and a warm smile that he shares with everyone who has the good fortune to cross this vigorous young man's path in life.

I urge the readers to join me and Dick Headline in supporting Andrew and cast your vote on Tuesday, Aug. 6, for Andrew Raczowski for state representative.

David Hoenigman, West Bloomfield

Disputes editorial

I am a retired 25-year veteran of the Detroit Police Department and I am presently employed as a police officer in Oakland County. I dispute your July 11 editorial regarding the sheriff's race, in which you report that Paul A. Molin has no real law enforcement experience.

I have personal knowledge that Mr. Molin has almost 10 years' experience as a Detroit Police Reserve officer. I have worked with Mr. Molin in a police capacity and I am proud to report that he is one of the finest police officers that I have had the pleasure to work with.

Please note I said police officer because my experience with him not only includes working in a patrol capacity in downtown Detroit but also on special assignments that go far beyond the usual responsibility of a reserve officer.

Mr. Molin has singlehandedly effected arrests, testified in court and experienced the same pride in being able to walk out of court knowing he did a good job.

You should also note that Mr. Molin has worked with almost every former Detroit police inspector who has attained chief status here in Oakland County, including my former chief in West Bloomfield Township. Detroit police inspectors are required to rotate a citywide assignment called "2400."

Mr. Molin regularly assisted these inspectors when they were assigned "2400" and this is not a "ride along" or courtesy assignment. It is a duty that is given to reliable, experienced and trusted officers who can give the extra assistance that "2400" duty may require, such as when called by precinct officers to take charge of various serious events and crime scenes.

These events may include barricaded gunmen, lost children, multiple homicides and circumstances that go beyond the responsibilities that usually are addressed at the precinct level.

Based on your stated requirements for a sheriff, I assert that Paul A. Molin has greater experience and leadership skills and is more apt to achieve wide-ranging respect and support to lead us into the 21st century, than any other candidate.

Mr. Molin has my vote and I know that he also has the vote of most of the Oakland County police officers who know him and know he has been a good and honest cop.

G.T. "Mac" MacPherson, Commerce Township

More than a name

In discussing the circuit court race on Aug. 1, your article failed mention that until a few years ago there were three judges with the same name, who were all males and two had the same first name. Nanci Grant has a lot more than a name. In addition to being a respected attorney, she is endorsed by the Detroit News, the Detroit Free Press and is supported by many circuit, district, probate and federal judges for the circuit bench.

Honorable George LaPlata, U.S. District Judge (Retired) Birmingham

Anyone but Carlin

Who is he kidding? Gerald Carlin wants to get back into the public trough. Does he really think the voting public would elect a sheriff with questionable values and judgment?

Not to kick a dead horse, but just because he had many misdeeds dismissed by a local judge does not mean he is clean. People who work for the government ought to know that they should be beyond reproach.

Carlin is far from that. I don't believe that voters would elect a sheriff whose judgment and deeds had to be investigated by the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office. Vote for anyone but Carlin.

Ronald E. Lilly, Rochester Hills

A Romney gal

A pack of paid political jackals are proclaiming, "Send the woman back to the kitchen and send the man to the Senate." I say baloney. I have been in enough tough primaries to know that sometimes the "crap" gets piled so high you need hip-boots and a shovel just to get back to the issues voters care about.

And heaven forbid we talk about issues of concern to Republican voters - taxes, welfare reform, gun control,

the economy and the right to life. Ronna Romney has the support of Republicans around this state because she is committed to the issues that move them.

The Michigan Farm Bureau backs Romney because she understands how vital agriculture is to the economy of this state and this nation.

Right to Life endorses her because of her steadfast devotion to the civil right to life shared by babies, the sick and the weak and everyone else.

The NRA believes that she is the candidate ready to protect the Second Amendment's right to bear arms. As a Republican who will cast her ballot for Ronna Romney on Aug. 6, I back Romney because she listens. Those old dogs are barking because that is what they are paid to do.

I say put a muzzle on it -- we are going to send the best to the U.S. Senate. We are going to send Ronna Romney.

Joanne Emmons, state senator 23rd District

No surprise on Nichols

A recent article in The Oakland Press Bar Panel: "Thumbs Down on Nichols" regarding the Oakland Bar Panel's evaluation of candidates for judicial office, did not surprise me. This year, as in 1990, they failed to recommend (Rudy) Nichols for judge, even though he has conscientiously served, and been one of the hardest workers on the Oakland bench for the last six years.

To some extent this is a good sign. Nichols has steadfastly refused to play favorites with those who appear before him. In other words, he serves not only attorneys but those members of the public who appear in his courtroom.

What does stand out like a sore thumb is that Nichols was rated "Qualified" instead of "Well Qualified" or "Outstanding" despite his long record of hard work and dedication and despite a recent published report indicating he was one of the judges who was least likely to be reversed on appeal.

Apparently, the lawyers and other members of the bar panel either didn't consider all the facts or did so and thumbed their noses at them anyway.

Gregory K. Need, Clarkston

Ethics needed

The State Department of Education is considering the idea of teaching ethics and values in our schools. This idea has strong support among politicians in our state.

We would all be better served if those holding or campaigning for political office would model ethical behavior. Actions speak louder than words.

This summer's primary election campaign is a disgrace.

The behavior of many of the candidates is anything but ethical. Lies, innuendo and distortions have marked campaigns across the state, even in our local elections.

What are we teaching our children? "Ethics classes" should start with the people who hold or seek leadership positions. Spare the schools another responsibility that should be assumed by parents.

I hope voters soundly reject candidates who fail to address important issues.

We need political leaders with vision and integrity. Instead, we are subjected to behavior which degrades the elective process.

We need to retain incumbents with a solid record of accomplishment or elect challengers who offer a well-articulated alternative.

Sam Rayburn, former Speaker of the House, once said, "Any jackass can kick down a barn; it takes a skilled carpenter to build one."

We need leaders who can help us build a better future. We need leaders who have the strength and courage to deal with the difficult issues of the day.

We need leaders who teach our children about ethics every day via personal example.

Gary M. Doyle, Superintendent Bloomfield Hills Schools