

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Listen to Lincoln

Should I ever have the opportunity of meeting Mark Steckloff, whose letter of Oct. 24 excoriated Andrew Raczkowski, I will raise my right hand in a Nazi salute and fanatically shout out, "Heil Hitler!"

His diatribe against our next state representative was an almost perfect reincarnation of Herr Joseph Goebbels, master propagandist of the infamous Nazi regime whose specialty was the Big Lie.

Distortions, misrepresentations, unsubstantiated allegations, and snide innuendoes were the marks of this despicable National Socialist. And with great success in Nazi Germany.

But I remind Mr. Steckloff of President Lincoln's classic admonition about those who spread the Big Lie: "You can fool all of the people some of the time, some of the people all of the time, but not all of the people all of the time."

Mr. Steckloff should take Lincoln's dictum to heart.

Albert Rosen,  
Farmington Hills

## A vote for Andrew

In a recent letter in your letters to the editor column, one reader described Mr. Dibert as a fiscal conservative.

Is there anyone in the Democratic Party who can be considered as conservative? Let's not say one thing to the voters and then change our stripes when we get to Lansing.

We don't need to burden our senior citizens and families with any liberal tax-and-spend schemes.

Our state has made tremendous strides forward under our conservative leadership in Lansing. Michigan is a success story that is being told around this country today. The Republican leadership in Michigan is responsible for this success and let's keep our state moving forward. Let's continue to trim government waste and create jobs here in Michigan.

To do this, we need to cast our votes for Andrew Raczkowski as our next state representative on Nov. 5.

Michael Pachana,  
Farmington

## An Andrew supporter

Andrew Raczkowski has the full endorsement of the Farmington Hills Police Officers Association for state representative of the 37th District.

The association believes the citizens of Farmington and Farmington Hills will be best served by Andrew's combination of education, experience as a local businessman and his enormous enthusiasm for taking on the challenges of representing our community in Lansing.

Throughout this election I have been extremely impressed with Andrew's personal integrity and his insistence on running an issue-oriented campaign.

After many conversations with Andrew, it's clear to me he has a well-thought-out plan of action for legislation which will benefit our district.

Most importantly for our cities is Andrew's demonstrated ability to educate himself on issues, listen to different points of view then come to a decision which will best serve those he represents.

The FHPPOA urges everyone to exercise their right to vote and strongly recommends Andrew Raczkowski for state representative.

Wayne Beerbower,  
president, FHPPOA

## Andrew's the best

Where's the local support? Steve Dibert wants to represent me and the rest of the Farmington community, but look where he draws the majority of his support.

His endorsements come from Madison Heights, Clio, Bloomfield Township, and Wayne County.

What do these communities have to do with what goes on in Farmington.

On the other hand, Andrew Raczkowski has the support and endorsement of the Farmington Hills Police Officers and the Oakland County Sheriff. These are law enforcement officials who live and work within our community and know, first hand, the issues and challenges that our next State Representative will face.

And Andrew Raczkowski has demonstrated his knowledge of the

issues to gain these endorsements. He also has the integrity to do what he promises.

Andrew has grown up here in the Farmington community, attended our schools, and knows the issues that face our senior citizens and families. Mr. Dibert has only lived here for several years.

We need a strong voice in Lansing to stand up for our community and its citizens, and it is clear that Andrew Raczkowski is our very best choice for state representative on Nov. 5.

Judy Parren,  
Farmington Hills

## Supports Andrew

What a debate! On Wednesday, Oct. 16, the debate between state house candidates Andrew Raczkowski and Steven Dibert was held.

Andrew Raczkowski clearly articulated his points and demonstrated a clear understanding of the issues, while Dibert sat confused and dumbfounded through most of the questions.

I encourage other readers who may have missed the debate to try and catch a replay. It was certainly enlightening.

I have been watching politics for more than 20 years, and Andrew Raczkowski is one of the most intelligent, articulate candidates I have ever seen.

I hope the voters will join me in electing him to be our next State Representative on Nov. 5.

Christa Murphy,  
Farmington Hills

## She's for Andrew

As a Farmington Hills resident and business owner, I feel compelled to endorse the candidacy of Andrew Raczkowski for our state representative.

I am one of Andrew's business customers and have gotten to know him. His "bend-over backwards" character to satisfy the customer, will be transferred to a representative we can all count on.

In the business world, your word is your bond and I can vouch for Raczkowski's word.

It is obvious that this young man has the intellect, courage, integrity and drive to serve and represent our Farmington area.

I am pleased to write you and endorse Mr. Raczkowski's candidacy.

Laura Rembisz,  
Farmington

## Supports Andrew

I am an Army Reserve soldier who has the honor of serving with Lt. Andrew Raczkowski.

My service with Raczkowski included tours in Michigan as well as at Fort Benning, Ga. I am proud to serve with him as well as to be able to vote for a man that encompasses what it means to be a true leader.

Raczkowski is a man and soldier that is always depend on for his ability, strength and integrity. He is a soldier's soldier, always taking care of his subordinates, respected by his peers and an asset to his command.

As a man who has served with Raczkowski, I am best able to enunciate his ability to be a trusted and respected leader.

Not only do I salute you for running for office, but I will also be voting for you.

Eric Levos,  
Farmington Hills

## Will split ticket

I am a Republican and very proud of it. I resent Andrew Raczkowski's claim to be a mainstream Republican.

Mr. Raczkowski and his followers represent an extremist faction of the party and his views are not shared by mainstream Republicans in the Farmington area.

Andrew Raczkowski is pro-life which is fine, however, he goes a step further and advocates a Right-To-Life platform which wants to dictate the types of birth control devices a couple may use. This militant platform goes against everything we as Republicans actively campaign for the freedom to make our own personal decisions.

Over the past several months, I have had the opportunity to get to know his Democratic opponent, Steve

Dibert, very well. Steve is small businessman and fairly moderate Democrat, contrary to the flaming liberal that Mr. Raczkowski continually attempts to pin on him.

Steve Dibert is a person of courage, dignity and full of the "life experiences" Rep. Jan Dolan called for as a qualification for being state representative when she announced her retirement in February.

Representative Dolan, incidentally was called a "tax and spend liberal" by Mr. Raczkowski in the August primary because she had the courage to vote the wants of her constituents over the demands of the Republican party leadership 11 out of 3,000 times in 1995.

I think Mr. Raczkowski should quit taking campaign lessons from Rush Limbaugh, who calls everyone "liberals" who do not share in their extreme and ultra-conservative beliefs.

I believe Steve Dibert has more in common with the political beliefs of Jan Dolan, Cathy Webb and Terry Sever than Andrew Raczkowski does. I don't always agree with what Steve Dibert says, but I know I'm going to get an honest answer and I know he'll have the courage to cross party lines if his constituents ask him to.

This is one Republican who is splitting his ticket on Nov. 5 and voting for Stephen Dibert because we need mainstream representative not extremist representation.

Robert J. Compagnoni,  
Farmington

## About war service

As a Marine veteran from the Second World War and a 50-year resident of Farmington Hills, I am appalled by Andrew Raczkowski's claim that he "fought for freedom" during Operation Desert Storm, even though he freely admits his unit never left Fort Benning.

How could he have "fought for our freedom"? I have seen action at Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

Mr. Raczkowski doesn't know what "fighting for freedom" means until he sees hundreds of people die before his eyes on a battlefield.

Mr. Raczkowski better think about the people who died for our freedom at places like Guadalcanal, Okinawa, Iwo Jima, Bataan and Omaha Beach before he tries to paint himself as Audie Murphy or Rambo.

John Murphy,  
Farmington Hills

## Write in Cathy Webb

As an election day approaches I feel quite sure that there are other citizens out there that are in the same quandary I find myself with regard to the election of this districts next state representative.

Being a very informed voter, I am familiar with both the Republican and Democratic candidate. I have heard them speak on some of the issues and I have read all the available literature on both.

Quite honestly I cannot say that I believe either of them are the right choice for this district. Therefore I find myself in the position of having no candidate to cast my ballot for election day.

I feel obligated to exercise my right to vote for each and every office and issue on the ballot; yet I cannot vote for either of these two candidates in all good consciences. They are, in my opinion, just wrong for Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Neither has the experience, neither has the community connection necessary to truly represent the constituents of these fine communities, one of them doesn't seem to know the issues and the other one has all the wrong answers in my opinion.

Not the least of my concerns is what I perceive to be a not so brilliant planned attempt to intentionally mislead the voters of our communities on the background and experiences of at least one of these candidates.

Being that I cannot "pass by" this selection on the ballot, I intend to exercise my right to vote through the write in process. It is my intention to write in Cathy Webb for state representative, and I urge those other citizens out there that are not able to cast their vote for either of the two available candidates to do the same.

If you choose to use this option, remember you must connect the arrows and write in Webb or the name of your write in of choice, in order for the write in vote to be valid.

Good luck with your decisions on Nov. 5. Please remember that the per-

son we elect to fill this seat is one of our strongest voices in Lansing. They will have a major impact on our communities over the next two years.

Don't cast a vote for someone unless you believe that person is right for the job. We do have another choice, write in Cathy Webb.

Jon Grant,  
Farmington Hills City  
Councilman

## Still for Cathy Webb

Nov. 5 is fast approaching and the state Representative will be determined.

After much thought and consideration, we have decided to write in Cathy Webb for the State House of Representatives and connect the arrow next to her name. We believe it is important for voters to demand that our representatives have a high degree of integrity.

We have decided we cannot vote for Andrew Raczkowski due to his apparent lack of honesty and misrepresentation during the campaign. We simply do not share Steve Dibert's views on important issues.

Therefore, we will write in Cathy Webb for representative. We encourage others to vote their conscience as well. We need an honest, hard-working person in Lansing.

Pam and Jack Lowry,  
Farmington Hills

## Why the write-in?

The persistence of Cathy Webb supporters in encouraging election in votes for her in the coming election and their denouncing of Andrew Raczkowski's win over her in the primary is amazing.

They cannot accept with any sort of grace the fact that the voting citizens rejected Webb and chose Raczkowski.

They have thrown any semblance of party loyalty to the winds and do seem determined to make sure that Raczkowski loses to his democratic foe.

Perhaps their reasoning is that if that happened, then the public would rue its choice of Raczkowski and then embrace Cathy Webb in the role of a savior in future elections.

The denouncement of voters and the pique displayed by Cathy Webb right after her loss in the primary makes me wonder what her role is in this write-in business, of any.

If Raczkowski's winning percentage of the total vote cast was as minimal as portrayed, what does that say about the percentage cast for Webb?

This entire affair has the aura of a high school cliques favorite losing the election for prom queen, juvenile

Tom Murphy,  
Farmington Hills

## Scare tactics

I can't believe you endorsed Proposal G over Proposal D. Your article sounded like scare tactics to me. Thirty states have already outlawed the use of bait piles in hunting bears. Is Michigan going to stick to the "good-ole-boys" make all the rules mentality?

You should have checked with some of the states that have outlawed this practice (like Colorado) before you misled the public with a picture of bears killing kids.

Shame on you. Shame, shame, shame.

Pam Nichols,  
Farmington Hills

## A Dole voter

My choice for the presidency on Nov. 5 will be the man who doesn't use illegal drugs. His opponent did use illegal drugs, but claimed he didn't chew, gulp or swallow.

My choice doesn't engage in trysts and dalliances with other women. He did serve his country in war, and never expressed regret doing so, even though he was severely injured.

Most important, despite all the discussions about the intelligence of the two candidates, their speaking abilities, and comparisons of personalities, Bob Dole does know that the free market, free enterprise system is far more efficient in producing goods and services than an elitist group in Washington planning the production.

The present office-holder seems determined to take the United States to a socialist utopia.

When one makes the contrast and comparison of the capitalist and

socialist systems, he should reach the understanding that free labor and free ownership vastly outperforms planned production.

Neil Goodbred,  
Livonia

## Vote Republican!

There are many misguided folks who think the Slicker is the best choice for president and who think that Hillary Rodham Clinton is an arcular, loving helpmate with no desire for power.

These are the same ones who are waiting for dividends from their Brooklyn Bridge stock, or wondering why their ocean-front lots in Arizona aren't selling.

And a lot of folks think that the Democratic party is the party of the people. Nothing could be farther from the truth.

The sad part is that, too often, the people are so involved in their own affairs, too tied up working multiple jobs to pay the taxes which their Democratic quiltings have shackled them with, too often seduced by a biased and vindictive national media, and their denizens of dishonor, trained in universities covertly controlled by educators whose hatred of the ideals which have made this nation great knows no bounds, to take the time to clean the goo off their shoes. In other words, they don't vote, or they don't vote intelligently.

The Pied Pipers of the media, along with the totally depraved entertainment industry, and the bloated big shots of organized labor who have plunged their puffy pink fingers into the bags of dues money without so much as a "May I" are trying, sardonically, to portray the Republicans in such a light so as to ensure their defeat and return the government to the catastrophic course which, fortunately, was redirected by the awakening of sensibility in 1994 elections.

Guys and gals, we simply can't let this happen. We've got to get out the hose, broom, rake and sweep the sewage back into the tank. In other words, get out and vote and make it straight Republican.

Sure, maybe Dole is not a charismatic as Slick Willie; but how important is that? If either George Washington or Abe Lincoln was running today, neither would win because today too many people choose looks and mien as sole criteria for elevating an individual to the highest office in the world. Has Slick Willie initiated one good thing in the four years that he and his thoroughly despicable gang have been permitted to pollute Washington?

You know they haven't. Has he reduced taxes? No. Has he reduced the deficit? No. Has he improved health care? Absolutely not.

It wasn't until 1995, and the current Congress, that any attempts, limited as they have been, were made to reduce taxes, reduce the deficit, safeguard health care, institute control over the corrosive spending policies of the supercilious and elitist liberals.

F.M. Seibert,  
Farmington

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F.M. Seibert,  
Farmington

## Yes to save bears

A plea to protect bears: Please vote yes on Proposal D and no on Proposal G.

Proposal G puts wildlife in the hands of politicians and those who influence them — like trophy hunters. Proposal D protects wildlife from unfeeling sportsmanlike hunting and yet does not stop hunting.

Don't be confused by the hired guns in the ads by Ernie Harwell and Kirk Gibson, who are working for the opportunist and out-of-state interests in trophy hunting.

Leland R. Walter  
Linda Walter,  
Bloomfield Township

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, as do your neighbors. That's why we offer this space on a weekly basis for opinions in your own words. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity, we ask that you sign your letter and provide a contact telephone number.

Letters should be mailed to: Editor, The Farmington Observer, 33411 Grand River, Farmington Michigan 48335. Or they can be faxed to 810-477-9722.