## VIGH

FROM PAGE AT

spoke, as did State Rep. Andrew Raczkowski, who urged everyone to remember

andrew Macsowski, who urged everyone to remember Sept. 12.

"Remember how we came together as a nation," he said, asking that everyone donate an hour of time each week to honor the methory of those who lost their lives. Local familles who have loved ones serving in the Armed Forces were honored by the Armed Forces were honored b

they'd lost a family member to war.

American Legion commander Wally Christensen spoke of 
those past sacrifices, remindlag participants, Yall of these 
heroes sacrificed their tomorrows so our todays could be 
free.

Rev. Ben Bohnsack of 
Nardin Park United Methodist 
Church, Sohali Khan of the 
Thwhced Center and Rabbi 
Daniel Nevins of Adat Shalom 
Temple each offered prayers 
and words of unity.

"Muslims pray to and believe 
in one Almighty God, as most 
religions do, Khan said.

Those who do wrong do not 
represent any religion...We 
stand shoulder to shoulder



with each and every member of

Eleven year old Amanda Amish listens to speakers at the vigil.

our community."

Many Muslims died side by side with other human beings in the terrorist attacks, he added.

Nevins read Psalm 121, the first line in Hebrew, which he

said "speaks of God's protec-tion of us as we make our way through the world." As the Farmington High School marching band played "You'll Never Walk Alone" and FHS chorus members sang "America the Beautiful," can-

dlelight was passed through the crowd.

The evening concluded with a recitation of the Jaycees Creed, which emphasizes love of country and community service.

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 $\mbox{\it Jan}$  and  $\mbox{\it Darreii}$  Thomas of Farmington fisten with emotion to a prayer during the vigil service.

## CANDIDATES

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by \$1,000 or more.
Knol said the proposal has
increased school funding, from
\$50 billion to \$54 billion statewide. In talking with school
district officials, she has
learned there may be places
where administrative costs can
be reduced "and put more
money where we really need it."
Countering, Vagnozzi said
only eight percent of school
dollars go toward administrative costs. He believes the state
should step up to the plate with
regard to special education,
which must be fully funded by
load district.

which must be fully funded by local districts.

Because they're not getting enough state and federal aid, local officials have had to dip into general education funds to cover special education costs. Some districts have sued the state in order to recoup those

state in order to recoup those funds.

"We have not received what the courts said we should receive," Vagnozz said. "I want the state to meet its obligations for special education." You can come up with different figures based on what you feel is administration," Knol argued. "If you talk to local educators, there is red tape out there." She added the federal government should be paying more toward special education costs as well.

## TAX ABATEMENTS

The candidates also diverged on the issue of reducing taxes on businesses that are building or expanding in the communi-

Vagnozzi said he would only consider tax abatements appropriate if jobs are created. He said he would like to see more help given to smaller businesses, rather than large

businesses, mther than large corporations.

Overall, my opinion is we should reduce taxes, "Knot said." But the fact is, this is a global economy. These large corporations are competing with other states, other countries."

She considers tax abatements an incentive to keep large businesses in the community and said the state's offer of assistance through MEGA (Michigan Economic Growth Authority) is ted to creating a certain number of Jobs.

## BUDGET DEFICIT

Asked how they would deal with an anticipated billion dol-lar state budget deficit, both candidates talked about looking for ways to streamline state government. Knol talked about



Vannozzi

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looking for efficiencies, the way she has learned to do in her work with Johnson Controls, based in Plymouth. Too just have to have a mindset where you look for efficiencies, she said. That's the type of mindset I will bring to Lansing."
Though she said she doesn't believe in raising taxes. Knol would also consider a higher tax on diesel fuel, which remained the same even though other gas taxes have increased, and collecting taxes at the gas pump, in order to reduce tax evasion.
Vagnozzi feels the state's budget has been squandered and mismanaged.
We had a rainy day fund, and that's gone, he said, calling for an independent audit to determine where that money went.
Rather than raise taxes, he

which he said "smeared" one of her opponents. The brochure criticized candidate Terry Sever's business practices and claimed he still owed \$9,000 in state taxes, which Sever paid several months ago. Vagnozzi also said Knol favors school vouchers, while he opposes them. Knol pointed out her business background in a high tech industry and said she and Vagnozzi differ on economic

siders vouchers an option, "they're not going to work in Farmington and Farmington

I'm going to Lansing to work on," Knol said. "I'm running a campaign that's focused on issues."

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went. Rather than raise taxes, he Rather than raise taxes, he said he would look at consolidating state departments. He cited the Dept. of Natural Resources and Dept. of Environmental Quality as an

environmental Quality as an example.

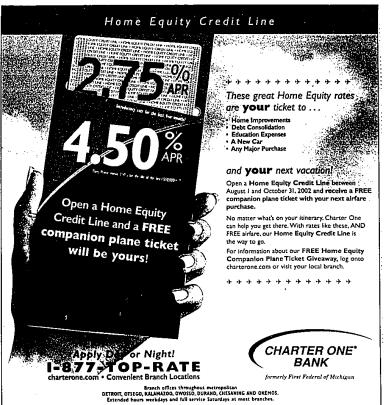
Asked to define the differences between them, Vagnozzi talked about running a "clean campaign" on the issues and referred to one of Knol's primary campaign brochures which he said "smeared" one of

industry and said she and Vagnozzi differ on economic development issues. She said that while she con-

There are many other issues

issues."
As for the brochure, she said,
"You can call it a smear if you
want, but sometimes the truth
isn't pretty...Fiscal responsibility is an important issue."

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