

Hills PD to host Halloween Party

The Farmington Hills Police Department is hosting its second annual Crime Prevention Kid's Club Halloween Party at the William Costick Activities Center on 11 Mile between Middlebelt and Inkster on Wednesday, Oct. 23. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m. followed

by a special "Spooktacular Halloween" show by Doug Scheer of Scheer Genius Productions at 7 p.m. The party is open to all Farmington Hills school children in kindergarten through fifth grade and their siblings. They must be accompanied by an adult. Each child will receive a goodie bag and

flashing safety light.

Costumes are optional, but prizes will be awarded for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in a costume judging contest.

Those who plan to attend should contact Officer Sandie Rochford by noon on Oct. 22 at (248) 473-9632 or by e-mail at strochford@ci.farmington-hills.mi.us

Vagnozzi backs video game bill

BY PAUL R. PACE

STAFF WRITER

Should video games come under the same scrutiny of government control as cigarettes and alcohol?

State Rep. David Woodward, D-Royal Oak, was at Aldo Vagnozzi's campaign headquarters Oct. 10 to tout a bill he helped formulate that would put violent and sexually explicit video games out of the hands of children.

Vagnozzi, Democratic candidate for the state House for the 37th District of Farmington/

Farmington Hills, said he would support passage of the bill that would make it illegal to sell or rent such video games to children that contain graphic violence and sexuality.

At the press conference, the two showed a video of a 12-year-old boy who just purchased a popular video game called "Grand Theft Auto III," a crime-filled game that has the main character gaining points by shooting and killing police officers, beating prostitutes with a baseball bat, running down pedestrians in a vehicle and killing pedestrians on a city

street with a sniper style scope with cross-hairs.

"I was outraged by what I saw. The more people you kill the more points you get," he said of Grand Theft Auto.

Under the bill, retailers would not be able to rent or sell games with a "Mature" or "Adult Only" rating to a minor. The proposed fine for doing so would be a \$1,000, 90 days in jail or both.

Currently, there are no penalties to rent or sell violent or sexually explicit video games to children, Woodward said. ppace@oe.homecomm.net | (248) 477-5450

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Knol discusses education vision

BY PAUL R. PACE

STAFF WRITER

Valerie Knol, Republican House candidate for the 37th District, discussed her vision for education in Farmington/Farmington Hills Thursday.

She was joined by Secretary of State candidate Terri Lynn Cassis, the 15th District Senate candidate. Also making an appearance was Lynn Posthumus, wife of Republican gubernatorial candidate Dick Posthumus.

"Students throughout the

state should have access to a quality public education," Knol said. "There are improvements that can be made at all levels, from K-12 to higher education. By working together, parents, teachers and legislators can make a profound difference for all students including those with special needs."

Knol's education plan includes:

■ Protecting the promise of Proposal A.

■ Consolidating elections on education issues including school board and bond proposals.

■ Allowing local school districts, instead of the state, to decide if students can carry cell phones in case of an emergency.

■ Working with school districts to make sure they are aware of available state grants to update technology.

■ Developing a blue ribbon panel to examine workable ideas for improving special education.

The conference was third in a series, Knol said. Future events will focus on health care and the environment.

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Ballot proposals discussed at forum

Rusty Hills, Chairman of the Michigan State Republican Party and Mark Brewer, Chairman of the Michigan State Democratic Party will speak pro and con on state

Proposal 1, which supports the elimination of straight party voting, at a public forum Tuesday, Oct. 22.

The event, held from 7-9 p.m. at the Bloomfield Township Library Community Room, 1099 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills, is sponsored

by the League of Women Voters Oakland Area, the AAUW of Birmingham, and the Society of Professional Journalists / Detroit Metropolitan Chapter.

The forum will address both sides of all four state proposals on the November ballot.

Proposals 2, 3, and 4 concern state bonding to improve water quality, collective bargaining with binding arbitration for state employees, and the reallocation of tobacco settlement money.

Other speakers participating in the program are State Sen.

Bruce Patterson (Canton), Majority Floor Leader of the Senate, Bill McMaster, Chairman, Taxpayers United, Dr. Alan Kilar, Michigan Employees Rights Initiative, June Winters, Director of the Office of State Employer, Judy Stewart of the American Cancer Society and David Doyle, Vice President, Marketing Resource Group of Lansing.

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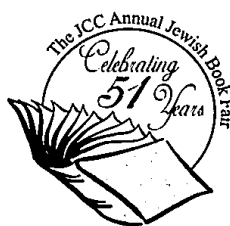
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