

Something to think about

By Sal Pirotta

While viewing the waves from a bench on the waterfront, it was evident that some waves graced the shore with elegance, while the approach of others was prodigious truculence. The gentle waves caused little turbulence. On the contrary, the furious waves left behind tragedy and destruction.

Approaching my senior years, this demonstration provoked in me the thought that life is much like the waves. The waves were created by someone and are destined to dissipate when reaching the end of their journey. Life also has a creator and will definitely end.

How is life for you? Will you allow others to tread the water with minimal danger, or will it cause them to choke and gag with the fear of being devoured?

Even if we live to be 100, from the viewpoint of eternity, life is short. What legacy will we leave behind? What do you hold dear? Is it money, fame, or material possessions? You cannot take these mentioned with you. Or are your family, friends and loved ones dear to you? It is possible that you may all gather at the same shore.

It is not too late to change your cause or create a new wave — a wave that is filled with less destruction, more comfort and is safer for those around you. If it is necessary to create a new wave, there is no time like the present to do so. If it is not necessary, be thankful that your creator allotted you gentleness and the grace to arrive at your destination peacefully.

'A few of our favorite things' featured at Gallery Uptown

(Submitted by Gallery Uptown)

"A Few of our Favorite Things" is the March show at the Gallery Uptown, 201 Washington Avenue, in Grand Haven. It includes artwork from five artists: Maggie Bandstra, oil paintings; Christa Barnell, oil and mixed media paintings; Josey Brouwer, collage and fiber art; Lisa Dionne, metal sculpture; and Michael Coleman, oil paintings and mosaics.

The opening reception for the show will be Friday, March 5 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Talks by the artists will start at 7 p.m. The exhibit continues through March 30.

The artwork is fun and fanciful, detailed and astonishing, colorful and illustrative. Join us for our first Friday reception and discover some favorite artwork of your own.

The gallery is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, visit www.galleryuptown.net or call (616) 846-5460.

Open wide for Tooth Time!

(Submitted by the Grand Rapids Children's Museum)

Give your child the opportunity to learn all about dental health with fun games and hands-on activities at the Grand Rapids Children's Museum. They can test their tooth smarts on the Wheel of Dental Knowledge to win all kinds of cool prizes. They can even watch Captain Fluoride and the Tooth Fairy battle the Cavity Critter and Ginger Vitis. They can play as dentists and hygienists by dressing up and working on patients with dental instruments, including a patient with braces and an X-ray machine!

Target stores will provide for free admission to the Children's Museum on March 7, 2010.

The Tooth Time exhibit is open through March 21.

The Grand Rapids Children's Museum is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursdays, 9:30 to 8 p.m. and Sundays, noon to 5 p.m. Regular admission is \$6.50 per person.

For more information, visit www.grcm.org.

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Fruitport Charter Township

A

Precinct 4

B

C

OFFICIAL BALLOT
Special Election
Tuesday, February 23, 2010
Muskegon County, Michigan
Fruitport Charter Township, Precinct 4

TO VOTE: Completely darken the oval opposite each choice as shown:

IMPORTANT: To mark your ballot, use only a black or blue ink pen.
DO NOT USE ANY OTHER INK COLOR!

WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED VOTING: Place the ballot in the secrecy sleeve so that votes cannot be seen and the numbered stub is visible. Return the ballot to the election official stationed at the tabulator. (If voting by absentee ballot, follow the instructions provided by the clerk for returning the ballot.)

NOTE: If you make a mistake, return your ballot to the election official and obtain a new ballot. Do not attempt to erase or correct any marks made in error.

LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSAL

BONDING PROPOSAL

Shall Fruitport Community Schools, Muskegon and Ottawa Counties, Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Eight Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$8,600,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefor, for the purpose of:

partially remodeling, furnishing and refurbishing, equipping and re-equipping school facilities, in part, for energy conservation improvements; acquiring, installing and equipping technology for school facilities; purchasing school buses; constructing, equipping, developing and improving athletic facilities; and developing and improving sites?

YES

NO

The following is for informational purposes only:

The estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed bonds in 2010, under current law, is .76 mill (\$0.76 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a -0- net increase in millage. The maximum number of years the bonds may be outstanding, exclusive of any refunding, is seventeen (17) years. The estimated simple average annual millage anticipated to be required to retire this bond debt is 1.13 mills (\$1.13 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation).

If the school district borrows from the State to pay debt service on the bonds, the school district may be required to continue to levy mills beyond the term of the bonds to repay the State.

(Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited, and the proceeds cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs, teacher, administrator or employee salaries, or other operating expenses.)