Senior olympian appreciates supporters
Letter to the Editor:

"The Quest for Gold...The Sprint for Life." That's the theme for 2010 as I prepare for the Senior Olympics. CANCER...and that's the word we all fear. "You have prostate cancer." And those were the words I never wanted to hear. Cold, chilling words that left me listless.

Hello, everyone, I'm Jimmy O., cancer survivor. For many of us, it is a temporary term. For many of us, the overcast of doubt and fear will always be there. We cling to hope and prayer.

I compete for those who cannot. I try to give hope to those who have none. By Labor Day of this year, I will have competed in seven track and field meets, most notably... Michigan State Games, Senior Olympics, senior games, and the Masters. Recognition of sponsors involved in my efforts for cancer survivors needs to be known by the readership community.

Sponsors:

Gold: Shoreline Sport and Spine, Lakeshore Sports Center, Shoreline Soccer Club

Silver: Norton Family Practice, Culver's of Grand Haven, Noccoa of Grand Haven, StemEnhance, Vallier Fence Company, Russ' Restaurant of Grand Haven

Bronze: Roscoe Chiropractic of Grand Haven, Pro Travel, Discount Tire of Norton Shores, Thelma Oosterbaan, Sheryl Stepanian, Meijer of Norton Shores, Roman Marciniak

Special thannks to Mona Shores High School and White Pines Middle School.

To everyone, and especially all cancer survivors...get up, get active and give hope to someone today!

Thank you and with best wishes

Jimmy "O" O'Hearn
Fruitport

Chronic noise violations in Fruitport Township
Letter to the Editor:

(The Muskegon Chronicle did not print this)

On September 1, 2009, we contacted Fruitport Township Supervisor Brian Werschem concerning loud bass speakers of cars passing by our home. We live next to a stop sign, so often the cars sit at the corner for some time waiting for cross traffic to clear. The vibration of the bass speakers rattles our windows. This not only happens during the day, but also all hours of the night.

Mr. Werschem states in a return email to us that the violators must be caught in the act and suggests we call 911. I'm sure you're thinking the same thing I did. By the time the officer arrives, the violator will be long gone.

We have been working with Fruitport Township Chief of Police Paul Smutz by giving him license plate numbers and vehicle descriptions, but he can still only issue a warning. It is very difficult and very time consuming to sit at the side of the road to obtain this information.

A few years back, Muskegon Chronicle reporter Steve Gunn wrote an article about then-Muskegon City Commisioner Jone Benedict and her push for fine increases for loud noise from stereos.

The city ordinance prohibits "the operation of any sound-producing device 'including car stereos' in such a manner as to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of the neighboring inhabitants or with louder volume than necessary for convenient hearing for the person who is in the room, vehicle or chamber."

Benedict stated that the noise was so loud her ears actually ached, and she didn't feel as though we should have to put up with that.

Then-commissioner Scott Sieradzki admitted a lot of residents had complained to him about loud car stereos and believed the ordinance should be enforced.

These people did something about the problem in their town.

The problem here is chronic and out of control. I spoke with a former supervisor who told me, "It's easy. You place police officers at the site (such as ours) and start citing violators." This is how to "catch" them in the act and send a stiff message.

I encourage everyone to take down license plate numbers and vehicle descriptions and turn them in to your local police department. You can help do something about it, too. Every year we have a new onslaught of drivers who test the ordinances and the laws.

Perhaps they should teach this in drivers' training. This is dangerous when your stereo is so loud you cannot hear emergency vehicles approaching. I don't want to be the one in an ambulance when someone can't hear its approaching and can't get out of the way. Everyone, please help with this problem.

Monica Fox
Fruitport Township

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- Creating Jobs
- Reforming Government
- Fighting for our Schools
- Preserving our Natural Resources

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— Holly Hughes

- Fruitport Class of '76
- Active community leader
- Fourth-generation Muskegon County resident
- Former White River Township Trustee
- Former Montague Area Public School Board member

endorsements

- Michigan State Chamber of Commerce
- Small Business Association
- Associated Builders and Contractors
- Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
- Michigan Association of Realtors
- Michigan Townships Association
- West Michigan Lakeshore Association of Realtors
- Citizens for Traditional Values
- Right to Life of Michigan PAC (Meets endorsement criteria)

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