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LOCAL & STATE

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IN BRIEF

Slain candidate's name to be crossed off ballot

MOUNT CLEMENS — Election workers in the 19th Senate District will cross out on today's ballot the name of a candidate killed in a car accident, the Macomb County Clerk's office said Monday.

Carolyn Celletti, a 40-year-old independent candidate running for the Senate district that covers Clinton Township, Roseville, Sterling Heights and Utica, was killed Oct. 12.

Patricia Grossmer, 35, of Macomb County, is accused of purposeful driving through a red light. Police say Celletti was killed when Grossmer ran a red light in Sterling Heights and struck a GMC Envoy, which in turn slammed sideways into Celletti's 1999 Plymouth Voyager.

The man in the Envoy was treated for severe injuries.

From wire reports

PACs raise millions more than in 2000

150 committees raised \$29.3M so far this year

By DEE-ANN DURBIN

Associated Press

Michigan's top 150 political action committees have raised \$8 million more than they did in the 2000 election, according to a nonpartisan group that analyzes campaign finance records.

The Michigan Campaign Finance Network said Monday that the top PACs had raised \$29.3 million through Oct. 25, compared with \$21.1 million in 2000.

Although campaign finance laws restrict how much individuals or groups can give an individual candidate, there is no restriction on how much they can give a PAC. PACs, in turn, can donate to candidates or run ads for them.

Mystery shopper gets paid to shop, dine out, see films

Posing as customer, woman evaluates services, products

By RICHARDS S. SAVARIS

Associated Press

FLINT — Have you bitten into a cream-filled doughnut and come up with a mouthful of more dough than cream?

Stood in a long line at the checkout, waiting for the clerk to stop socializing long enough to speed up service?

Teri, 49, of Flint can sympathize. And she works to make sure it happens less often. Teri has been a mystery shopper for 4½ years.

Also called a secret shopper, Teri's job is to remain inconspicuous — Teri shops stores as often as twice a week to observe and report on service.

She's mystery-shopped at almost every type of business, including bakeries, restaurants, clinics, carpet cleaners, hospitals, video stores, bridal shops and cell phone sellers.

Overall, Teri has a good opinion

Biggest fund-raisers

Top 150 political action committees in Michigan raised \$8 million more than the year than in the 2000 election.

Table with 2 columns: Committee Name, Amount raised. Top entries include House Republican Campaign Committee (\$2,071,581), Senate Republican Campaign Committee (\$1,563,294).

The West Michigan Leadership Caucus has donated \$33,500 to Land's campaign committee and is running ads for her, Robinson said.

Land has defended the spending, saying she can't ask people to donate unless she puts up money herself.

Wit Council candidate Denise Vockey was an organizer of a 100-waiter club.

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Not everyone is patient or persistent enough to be a mystery shopper, Rogers said. A new shopper accepts about five assignments per month, if available.

Teri finds some jobs posted on Web sites. Others come directly from employers who contact her based on her rating.

She has taken assignments as far away as Novi, Durand, Auburn Hills and Birch Run but turned down a job at Detroit Metropolitan Airport because the \$15 pay wasn't worth the time and effort.

The pay isn't going to turn her rich, but Teri isn't complaining. A typical job, she can take from 15 minutes to three hours, pays \$10 to \$20, but it adds up. It's not unusual for her to earn \$80 for a day's work, she said.

Eyes on you: Teri, of Flint, shown here in October, keeps a watchful eye on businesses as a mystery shopper, entering in data gathered from her trips into a computer.



Eyes on you: Teri, of Flint, shown here in October, keeps a watchful eye on businesses as a mystery shopper, entering in data gathered from her trips into a computer. She prefers to remain anonymous.

Wit Council candidate Denise Vockey was an organizer of a 100-waiter club.

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agencies in the United States. Rogers said it is a competitive \$300 million to \$700-million-a-year industry, with tremendous growth potential as more companies become aware of the services and benefits available.

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CAPITOL QUESTION

Election candidates

Michigan's ballot today will include several races where many voters are unfamiliar with the candidates, such as the state board of education and the boards of Michigan State University, the University of Michigan and Wayne State University.

Some say these positions should be filled by the governor. What do you think?

Please respond by noon Thursday and include a phone number where you can be reached. Responses must be verified in order to run. Results will be published Sunday.

You can: Call 485-4463 and press 8978 to have a voice-mail message.

Mail to Capitol Question, 120 E. Lenawee St., Lansing MI 48929.

Fax it to 371-2398.

Email candiv@lsj.com.

Corrections and clarifications

The Lansing State Journal strives to provide accurate and fair reporting. If our policy to correct substantive errors of fact, if you think we may have published incorrect information, please call 371-2124.

Wit Council candidate Denise Vockey was an organizer of a 100-waiter club. The type of club was incorrect on page B8 of Saturday's State Journal.

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