



May 2012



## "Hello" From the Chair

Much has happened recently. Sterling Heights has been holding budget hearings and they are talking about massive layoffs and or a huge millage increase.

A road millage is being discussed along with a millage for Public Safety (this would cover both police and fire). Are you aware that Sterling Heights residents are already paying a millage to cover police and fire pensions?

On May 3rd a Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held and they voted to approve the contract to establish the DIA "Taxing Authority". There will be one more meeting before it is officially a done deal. Most think it is a foregone conclusion that the DIA millage will be on the primary ballot. In so doing the Commissioners have given up more of their power to an authority that will be able to tax us with no oversight from our elected officials and the people will be powerless to get rid of the appointed board. The millage will generate at least \$23 million a year between three counties and go on for 10 years. Sterling Heights Commissioner Ray Gralewski voted no! Sterling Heights Commissioner David Flynn led the charge to get this on the primary ballot.

**Macomb County will also be placing a .04 millage renewal for Veterans on the primary ballot.**

Don't forget to attend the Sterling Heights Memorial Day Parade on May 28th at 10 a.m.

Remember to send in your volunteer stories. We are going to publish one or two of them next month.

Have a grand and glorious day and God Bless

*Philis*

## WHAT SAY YOU

### Marlinga running for Probate Court

<http://macombdaily.com/article/20120425/NEWS06/120429699/marlinga-to-run-for-probate-court>

### Social Security going broke faster

[http://portal.wowway.net/news/read.php?rip\\_id=%3CD9UASME02%40news.ap.org%3E&ps=1011](http://portal.wowway.net/news/read.php?rip_id=%3CD9UASME02%40news.ap.org%3E&ps=1011)

### Shelby Township officials say they don't have to give video under the freedom of Information act.

[http://macombdaily.com/article/20120422/NEWS01/120429994/shelby-township-officials-police-officer-in-foia-fight&pager=full\\_story](http://macombdaily.com/article/20120422/NEWS01/120429994/shelby-township-officials-police-officer-in-foia-fight&pager=full_story)

### How social security and Medicare work

[http://portal.wowway.net/news/read.php?rip\\_id=%3CD9UAPME00%40news.ap.org%3E&ps=931](http://portal.wowway.net/news/read.php?rip_id=%3CD9UAPME00%40news.ap.org%3E&ps=931)

### Woodward light rails group wants to pay for 10 years

<http://www.freep.com/article/20120423/NEWS01/120423048/Woodward-Avenue-light-rail-line-M-1-Rail-Group?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

### Romney stumps with rumored VP Rubio

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120423/POLITICS01/204230400/Romney-stumps-rumored-VP-prospect-Rubio?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p>

### Story regarding who got appointed to the board to give county wide a raise.

<http://macombdaily.com/article/20120502/NEWS06/120509943/pay-panel-studies-bargain-salaries-for-macomb-county-officials>

### Morouns want ballot proposal to decide bridge

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120420/METRO05/204200416/Morouns-want-ballot-proposal-public-bridge?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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How do you feel about AMC Theaters getting a Class C Liquor License so that they can serve liquor to movie goers? Do you think they need this to be competitive?

## "Heroes" Corner

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about **Simon Haddad, Irene Meric, Juanita Parker, Leo Garry, Nanette Danner, Michael and Judy Moreau, Kevin Grand, Paul Smith (Sterling Heights Councilman), Ron Babin,** and others who showed up at the meetings regarding the DIA "Taxing Authority" and spoke out against another tax. Even though they were called "Yahoos" and "gadflies", by the opposition they kept their composure and stuck to the topic. I have heard that the supporters of the DIA were impressed by the organized opposition. You are all truly "**HEROES**"!



Paul Smith

## DO YOU KNOW



David Flynn

- City Councilman **Paul Smith** was denied showing his charts and ideas regarding the Sterling Heights budget at the April 24th Budget Meeting. (see story below)

<http://macombdaily.com/article/20120427/NEWS01/120429583/sterling-heights-councilman-denied-request>

**David Flynn** led the charge for the reconsideration vote by the Economic Development Commission regarding the DIA "**Taxing Authority**". The next vote will be to appoint the "Taxing Authority". (Below are the minutes to the May 3rd full Board Meeting)

<http://www.macombcountymi.gov/clerksoffice/boc/2012-05-03-minutes.pdf>

- Friday, April 27th **Hackel's lawsuit against the County Board of Commissioners** was heard in Circuit Court by Judge Foster. (story below)

<http://www.freep.com/article/20120427/NEWS04/120427031/Hackel-Macomb-County-Commissioners-battle-in-court>

- Wednesday, May 2nd **David Flynn** brought us another potential millage increase via Transit Legislation (see below)

[http://www.macombcountymi.gov/MACOMB\\_GOV/Agendas/EconDev/2012/Economic%20Development%20Preliminary%20Agenda%2005-02-12%20%28special%20meeting%29.pdf](http://www.macombcountymi.gov/MACOMB_GOV/Agendas/EconDev/2012/Economic%20Development%20Preliminary%20Agenda%2005-02-12%20%28special%20meeting%29.pdf)

*Life has no remote  
Get up and change it  
Yourself!*