



Posted: July 15, 2008

## A promise for Detroit schools

Thank you for your July 8 editorial promoting Kalamazoo Promise-type programs in Michigan ("Spread Kalamazoo Promise, for students and economic growth"). Although money doesn't necessarily solve problems by itself, it does motivate people to change, and this can solve problems.

At last month's PromiseNet conference in Kalamazoo, representatives of many communities in Michigan and elsewhere discussed their progress in developing local Promise-type programs. Our program for the Detroit Public Schools hopes both to motivate current Detroit parents and students to prepare for college, and to encourage young people with college aspirations for their families to move into Detroit and enroll in Detroit Public Schools.

Both groups will be motivated, in part, by our goal of providing free college tuition at any Michigan public college or university. Although our program is still in its infancy, we are confident that the region's historically generous business, nonprofit and philanthropic communities will support this effort to transform the Detroit Public Schools and ensure a college education for all of its graduates.

**Nat Pernick**

*Executive director*

*The Detroit College Promise*

*Bingham Farms*

### Move vote to Sundays

In response to your July 7 editorial "Remove some obstacles to voter participation": One other

change that would encourage larger voter participation would be to change elections days to Sundays, as is the case in most European countries.

Weekday voting is a remnant of outdated blue laws, which at one time also mandated stores to be closed on Sundays. Today, Sundays are the biggest shopping days of the week, and I believe the same would be the case if voting days were changed to Sundays. Those who could not vote on that day for religious reasons could obtain absentee ballots.

**Gerald H. Manko**

*Bloomfield Hills*

### Man up to own scandal

It's nice to see Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick man up and say he'll "cooperate" with the scandal involving the City Council. Too bad he lawyered up and won't do the same in the case against himself.

**Scott Barnhart**

*Southfield*

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**Mom Dilemma #36:**  
Your daughter insists on wearing her princess costume to the grocery store. Allow it or not?

**YES, at least she's dressed!**

**NO, I have some rules!**

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