

Livonia, Plymouth, Redford Slate Major Displays

Fireworks To Brighten Area Celebration

Independence Day 1968 will be no different than in years past. Observers in communities will celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence 192 years ago with a four-day week-end starting Wednesday evening.

Top drawing card in the area will be Thursday night's fireworks spectacular at the Detroit Race Course in Livonia, expected to bring 25,000 to 30,000 people on to the grounds of DRC.

Co-sponsored by the track and Livonia parks and recreation department, the display will feature 1500 in ground and aerial fireworks, beginning at 9:30.

People attending the DRC display are urged to arrive early to avoid the traffic snarl. The track is located at Schoolcraft Rd. and Middlebelt Rd.

THE MOST AMBITIOUS July 4th celebration will be in Plymouth, where the local Jaycees

have something lined up for not only Thursday, but Friday and Saturday as well.

The Jaycees have long urged Plymouthites and people from neighboring communities to "stay at home for the Fourth" and spend the day at the festivities in Plymouth.

Fireworks for the community will be held at the Oasis Driving Range north of Five Mile Road and east of Haggerty in Northville Township near Livonia.

Residents of Lake Pointe and numerous subdivisions in western Livonia will be able to see the Plymouth display without leaving home.

The Plymouth display has been tossed all over as Jaycees had difficulty in planning a site. Twelve were considered before the Township location was finally selected. The fireworks will begin at dusk.

THE JAYCEES in Plymouth

also organized the only full-scale parade in the area. The parade begins at 1 p.m. but the parade route begins filling up an hour or more before.

The parade runs down Plymouth Main St. from Krogers to the park in the center of town, past a reviewing stand. The line of marchers then continues down Main St. to Hartough, then to Junior High East.

Out-of-towners should look

for parking behind Main Street stores.

A horse show will follow the parade at the East playground area.

In addition, a carnival has been provided in Kellogg Park, a departure from years past, when Jaycees entertained Plymouthites with an air show at Mettetal airport.

Farmlington has no official July Fourth celebration, as they hold a four-day Founders Festival in late July. Community energies are expanded on this annual affair.

However, two subdivisions in Farmlington Township—Kendallwood and Colony Park—have

developed quite elaborate plans over the years for July 4th. A parade, featuring neighborhood kids, begins about 10 a.m. with a special highlight this year, Senator Phillip H. Hart will speak at the parade's close about 11:20 a.m. at Wooddale school.

An afternoon of games and fireworks at night will cap the celebration.

Workers Begin Cleanup Along Hines After Flood

Workers moved into Middle Rouge Parkway along Hines Drive over the weekend to begin cleanup chores after last week's flooding.

The park was flooded all along the course of the Rouge, from Seven Mile Rd. in Northville to Ford Rd. in Dearborn. The greatest potential loss to the popular park would have been picnic furniture, which floated freely down the parkway after the Rouge went over its banks.

"These tables have been retrieved for the most part," Carroll Porter, superintendent of parks said Monday. Porter, who lives in Plymouth, said he has seen the parkway flood many times.

"The only worse one was in 1947," he related.

Crews were out the night of the flood gathering the park tables. They worked into the night to prevent what could have been a substantial loss. One crew was spotted near

Ford Rd. and Outer Drive where the furniture jammed up.

Porter said the park, which was designed to handle flood waters like those that came last week, was not seriously damaged.

The Wayne County Road Commission began work in restoring the shoulders of the roadway winding through the park Monday.

"I hope we can be back to normal in a week to ten days," Porter said. He said mowing

operations would be hampered by the extremely wet ground.

"I'm hoping things can dry out. But even so, the grass is likely to grow very fast. And since the machinery is heavy, it would bog down in the ground if we tried to mow before it was dry," Porter explained.

About 40 men worked in the park saving the furniture and performing other tasks. About thirty, both full time, and seasonal, make up the regular crew; ten from the forestry division helped during the flooding.

The cleanup of the park will be completed as part of routine maintenance, Porter added.

The immediate flood plain of the park is under public ownership, and thus no private residences were affected in the flooding.

A few foolhardy motorists tried the park after the barricades closed it off, and had to abandon their cars.

"We have to know the park pretty well to get through it when it's flooded," Porter said.

Homeowners continued the messy job of cleaning out flooded basements. Some, like 32 families in Redford, cleaned out their entire homes as flood waters there rose to several feet.

Steven of the families had applied to the Red Cross for assistance in the flood. The Red Cross in Redford expects their expenditures in flood relief to total \$10,000.

County Health officials issued warnings about possible health hazards found in flood waters, which contain sewage. They recommended that the basement floors and walls be washed and disinfected; that all contaminated food be discarded; and that clothing and furniture should either be carefully cleaned or tossed out.

Many people in the area were surprised to learn flood damage to homes is not covered by homeowners insurance policies.

In other parts of the State the severe weather continued to wreak havoc.

Savage thunderstorms pounded the western coast of Michigan Saturday around noon. Trailers were overturned at the Grand Haven State Park; several airplanes in Grand Haven were damaged; a roof on a supermarket in Muskegon collapsed.

Winds with gusts up to 100 miles per hour uprooted hundreds of trees, downed power lines and overturned small crafts caught on the lake.

Sixteen injuries and one death, a power company employee working on lines, were reported.



OBSERVER

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Plymouth VFW Unit Retains State Title

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Mayflower Post of Plymouth, swept top honors at the annual VFW convention in Muskegon over the weekend.

The VFW Color Guard, famous around the state and nation, won an unprecedented third championship, and retired a trophy that has traveled around the state since 1955.

Commander Bob Smith, won the title "All State Commander" at the commanders banquet in Muskegon on Saturday. During his term of office in the Plymouth VFW chapter, he has excelled in membership, community service and hospital work.

Members included Young, officer of the day; Jack Olsvater, Duane Johnson, Bill Fletcher, Herman Cuthaw, rifle bearers; Bill Kamen, color bearer; Bob Smith and Ray Danol, flag bearers.

The trophy will rest in the trophy case at the VFW hall on Mill St.

The team defeated two Detroit teams and one from Berkeley in the state finals. Having been defeated in Miami, Cleveland and New York on previous occasions, Young feels that their 84.37 score in Muskegon may well do the trick later this summer in Detroit. A perfect score is 100.

"Hal Young's personal interest, devotion and drive has created an incentive within his men that has led them to accomplish this feat," Jim McKindley, VFW member and spokesman for the group said.

The next increase, on July 1, 1969, will raise the weight limit from 30 to 40 pounds; on July 1, 1970, the size will be increased to 78 inches; and on July 1, 1971, the size is scheduled to be increased to 84 inches.

Parcels weighing up to 40 pounds can be mailed between first class post offices less than 150 miles apart. Also, packages addressed to or from 2nd, 3rd, and 4th class post offices, overseas APO's and FPO's, and the states of Alaska and Hawaii are not affected by the increase in size and weight provisions of the Public Law 95-593, which became effective January 15, 1967. Parcel post mailings to and from these offices remain at 70 pounds and 100 inches.

Madonna Gets \$5,000 Book Grant

Madonna College has been awarded a \$5,034 library grant for the 1968-69 school year according to Sister Mary-Banatha, president.

The grant made available through the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare and authorized under Title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965 will allot \$5000 for the purchase of basic library materials including books, periodicals and audio-visual materials.

The remaining \$1,034 is a supplemental grant to be used for developing the library's resources in the areas of nursing, medical technology and social sciences.

This is the third year that Madonna College has qualified for a library grant. Announcement of this year's grant was made by Grant Vehn, Associate Commissioner for Adult Vocational and Library Programs.



FLASHES ACROSS THE SKIES like this will be familiar to the communities covered by the Observer Newspapers Thursday night as fireworks displays will be held. The major programs are slated for the Detroit Race Course at 9:30 p.m. and at the Oasis Driving Range, Five Mile near Haggerty in Northville Township where the Plymouth Jaycees will stage their annual picturesque show.

WONDERLAND CENTER

PLYMOUTH ROAD AT MIDDLEBELT

4th ANNUAL BATHING BEAUTY CONTEST

GIRLS ages 17 thru 21 ENTER NOW!

WINNER GOES TO THE STATE FAIR BEAUTY CONTEST!

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY JULY 20

FINALS JULY 27

GRAND PRIZE

\$300 IN MERCHANDISE FROM YOUR FAVORITE WONDERLAND STORES.

Seek Entrants In Wonderland Beauty Contest

Wonderland Center, Plymouth Road at Middlebelt, is holding its fourth Annual Bathing Beauty Contest on July 27. All single girls aged 17 through 21 years old are invited to submit entries.

To enter, send name, age, address, and telephone number to "Miss Wonderland Contest," Wonderland Center, P.O. Box 2387, Livonia, 48150. If possible, include a recent snapshot or portrait. Photos showing your full figure are preferred, but are not essential.

If you're single and not over 21 years of age... you can win the title of "Miss Wonderland" and \$300 worth of merchandise of your choice... during Wonderland's fourth annual Bathing Beauty Contest! Big second and third prizes, too! HURRY! SEND YOUR ENTRY TODAY! CALL FOR COMPLETE DETAILS; PHONE KE 5-0373.

HOW TO ENTER: Send your name, age, address and telephone number to "MISS WONDERLAND CONTEST," Wonderland Center, P.O. Box 2387, Livonia, Michigan 48150. If possible, include a recent snapshot or portrait. Photos showing your full figure are preferred, but are not essential.

Raise Limit For Postal Deliveries

Beginning July 1, mailers will be able to send 30 pound parcels between first class post offices which are 150 miles or more apart. The present weight limit is 25 pounds.

This is the second of five increases affecting size and weight limits for parcels scheduled to take effect annually until 1971, when a 40 pound, 84 inch maximum size will be authorized between all first class post offices. The size limitation is now 72 inches in combined girth and length.

"The size and weight increases for parcel post marks another step forward to improve parcel service to both the public and the business community," Postmaster General W. Marvin Watson said today.

Offer Tips For Holiday Driving

Extra caution by motorists can reduce death and injury tolls when traffic volumes mount during the four-day Fourth of July holiday weekend says the Michigan Good Roads Federation.

"Vacationing travelers who follow a few simple rules of common sense driving can avoid turning a happy holiday into a tragedy," declares Richard W. Walker, executive director of the Federation.

"Traffic during the first summer holiday weekend is expected to double on many north-south roads creating dangerous congestion on some state and local routes which have not yet been improved to modern traffic needs," Walker said.



DAVID B. McDOWELL, Superintendent of the Clarendonville Public Schools has been elected to serve as a member of the Executive Board of the Metropolitan Detroit Bureau of School Studies, Inc. His position represents all schools in the Metropolitan area of Detroit employing 150-250 teachers. His election came at an annual meeting of the Metropolitan Detroit Bureau of School Studies, Inc. The term of office began July 1 and expires June 30, 1970.

Despite the expected peak travel, however, holiday driving can be pleasurable and safe if motorists remain alert and cautious.

The Federation listed these Fourth of July driving tips:

Adjust travel speed to the main flow of traffic. Avoid cutting in and out of your lane and pass with care even where visibility is good. Allow extra time to reach your destination. Drive with your lights on. Plan your trip to avoid high peak travel hours. Stop and rest briefly at least every two hours. Observe speed limits and obey traffic signals. Do your celebrating after arrival and never mix alcohol with driving.