

Opinion

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oral quarrel

No sure way to stop drinking and driving?

This week's Oral Quarrel asked our readers: How can parents, teachers and fellow students stop young people from drinking and driving? How would you change attitudes?

Following are the responses:

There is no real way to stop them from drinking drunk. I think teens are beginning to get a better knowledge of how stupid it is because of the increasing statistics of deaths. But there is really no other way to stop it. I think they are becoming more wise about it.

I believe they cannot stop them from drinking and driving. If they are going to drink and drive they should get plastered out of their minds so they can't even walk. Oral Quarrel is one of the best things I have read in your paper.

As a North Farmington senior I feel just before graduation they should have very graphic films of fatal car accidents involving teens who drive drunk.

A SADD program is in the process of being formed at my school right now and I feel that one such program should be started in every high school in the U.S. It does help. Who knows, maybe some day it could save your life?

At my school and we hope it never happens again but the students have to start.

I think the way parents can change the attitude is by learning about the way the kids are drinking and by checking their own drinking. Too many parents are having parties and having people in for three or four drinks and then these people are going out driving. And that is an example that is shown to the kids.

I would throw them and their parents in jail.

We'll we can start by raising the driving age to 18 years of age.

We need to deglamorize drinking. We need to get the movies and television to show the person who drinks too much as a jerk.

The most a teacher can do with today's youth is not much but to preach to them not to let the driver of the car drink and drive. It's a big joke to think that the kids are not going to drink. Today, teens want

As a Farmington High senior and an organizer of Students Against Drunk Driving, I think alcohol is not needed for graduation. It's to be remembered not to be forgotten because you were drunk. It should be worked on.

The students can get the entire student body in Students Against Drunk Driving. After the tragic deaths of the Carloni sisters at my school, many students and teachers are taking action. It seems that it takes a death like this to make people aware. I know it has upset a lot of people

There is really only one way and that is for us adults to stop giving the example of drinking. Until that becomes a reality, I suggest that the driving age be increased to age 18. It might help a little.

The only way I see they could is to stitch their mouth shut, cut off their hands so they can't drive and keep them at home on graduation night and completely ruin their whole life forever.

Wait until the onion snow falls before planting

THERE IS a tradition down in the Pennsylvania Dutch country where The Stroller was born and raised — that regardless of the date winter isn't over until we have what they call the onion snow.



Folks will wait for days for this fall so they can start their vegetable gardens. The first thing on the list is to get the onions into the ground. Once this is done the rest of the gardens will follow — and it is quite a tradition.

It isn't a heavy snow — just enough to call it a snowfall. But the folks cheer when they see it coming. It is the one snow that is welcomed during the year.

And even with this tradition there is no set date when it falls. One year out here in Detroit it didn't fall until early in May and the Tigers had to postpone one of their games in what then was Navin Field.

THE MEMORY of the onion

snow came to mind the other day when we had a light fall — just enough to be seen on the black-topped driveway at our home. As one of the neighbors saw it he called over the fence, "Is this the onion snow?"

It wasn't. So The Stroller claims our winter has not yet ended. We must have a regular snowfall and it can come at anytime now.

It always was a great sight back home when the onion snow fell just to see the neighbors — mostly women — race out into the garden plot to get the onion sets into the ground. They didn't want to miss a day for the garden

onions are a great dish to the Pennsylvania Dutch.

AFTER THE onion sets were in the ground came the radishes and lettuce. And then the cucumbers. And all this was followed by the placing of the tomato guards and the planting with the hope that the birds and other animals which prowl the gardens wouldn't get them first.

There was another tradition which was carried out in our little frame house. That was to plant sweet peas (flowers) on the side of what we called the outhouse. You see in those days only the rich had

indoor toilets. The rest of us had a building out in the garden area.

And mother used the south end as her flower garden. Innocently, she always said that the ground was more fertile there. And you couldn't question her for she was lucky enough to have a great yield of sweet peas.

GARDENING AND flower growing were great times back there when The Stroller was young. And until he moved out to Livonia in what then was called "the country" he didn't have a garden.

Once away from the city he was

quick to have a garden, just like back home. And as luck would have it, he was successful in a most unusual way.

He planted cucumbers and then left on a short vacation. When he returned a neighbor called to ask about the cucumbers. When he

looked out he picked one up and screamed, "Look at this!" He had raised a large cucumber. What's more he entered it in the Northville Fair and won first prize. That's the kind of luck one can have if he follows the Dutch and waits for the onion snow.

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