

Minister Shocked By Goose Lake Performance

Minister Raps Rock Festival

EDITOR:
I write this letter as a pastor concerned for all of the young people of our country, and because I have five children of my own I also write as a concerned parent. What does the state hold for them?

The "festival" of the past week at Goose Lake has been the most shocking event that I have ever witnessed. Young people that are so openly lauding law and order and decency. I know that there is, and will be a certain amount of this type of thing out never has been done so openly and without the condemnation of the masses.

Are we going to allow our state government to deteriorate or degenerate to the place where they conduct themselves like a pack of animals? The lost dreams, broken bodies, wrecked lives that stem from one of those lost weekends will not be limited to this generation but to the next and ven the next.

Don't we care what happens to our children? Don't we have enough backbone to stand for that is right and enforce the law? The very thought that we are going to let the state and country be over run by a minority group of rebellious youth and greedy men who seek advantage of our young people is very appalling to me. I understand that there is no other "festival" planned for Labor Day. Are we going to let this thing continue? If we do, so things that are taking place

behind the fence will soon, and naturally so, move into the open. Let's do something. Let's stop it NOW.

REV. KENNETH E. LICE

McCann Removes Signs Quickly

EDITOR:

Your paper has made several pointed statements about the "potency of a name" in the recent Democratic primary contest with regard to the candidacy of Livonia attorney, John McCann. I wonder if you have given attention to the fact that the first election signs to be removed from the city streets and thoroughfares were those bearing his name.

I think that this prompt action gives an indication that John McCann is more interested in responsible citizenship than a few extra weeks of "exposure" at the expense of the appearance of Livonia's streets.

MARY F. RICE
Livonia

Nixes Tax On Property

EDITOR:

I know you're an advocate of finding some other way to tax than to get school funds through the property tax. I have written letters to the governor, state representative Washington, D.C., — but of course nothing is being done. We are going to be priced right out of this house. This assessment business is not fair. This happens to be a new house, so they really soaked us, and now our taxes have been raised again this year.

We're in a two-bedroom home (living room, kitchen and family room) and are paying over \$500 school tax. Of course, no children. Only had one, so we've really paid more than our fair share. (If they had a head tax, they'd sure stop the population explosion.) We have scrimped and saved to get this house. My husband is

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READERS' FORUM

Letters must be limited to 300 words. Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause. Please type or write plainly. The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

a city worker, and we could not have had it if it wasn't for my working too.

My husband is a disabled vet. We do not get his tax exemption because this house is assessed at more than the other one we were in. We can't afford vacations and can't keep up with the current automobiles. We'd rather live in a decent house, but why should we be victimized?

If everyone lived like us, we'd have no inflation. The time is long past when we can look to the property tax for schools, or for older people — who don't want to be — will be come public charges, not to mention the fact that we have forfeited all our lives to live decently in our older years and then we won't be able to.

I'd even go to Lansing and start lobbying — if I knew how to go about it.

MRS. STEPHEN CHURCH
Garden City

Must Livonia Be Big City?

EDITOR:

Why is it so imperative that Livonia become a "big" city, perhaps comparable to Detroit?

Why is it so urgent that every square inch of land be utilized now?

Why did residents choose Livonia? Because they desire "big" city living and atmosphere? Or because they desired "small-town" city living? Why do we need massive highway and roadway systems now? Because we want more industry, more shopping centers like Wonderland, Livonia Mall, attracting thousands of people from other areas? Because we desire more congestion, added noise? Because we want no open spaces in which we and our children can breathe fresh (not polluted) air?

Are the extensive roadways going to solve supposedly existing heavy traffic conditions, or are they being proposed (to be paid for by taxpayers) to invite more commercial businesses and industry, which supposedly would enrich Livonia? All of this will help keep Livonia beautiful, quiet and free of air pollution?

Are there large property owners who just might be speculative and are vying for top-dollar by having property commercially zoned so they can "cash in" and move out of a "big city" to the country, where well-kept, two-lane roads limit traffic and do not attract large shopping complexes, industry, etc.?

Does every two-lane main road have to become four-to-five-lane highways, e.g., Five Mile, Six Mile, Newburgh, Merriman, etc.?

Won't certain corners attract large business, e.g., discount stores, shopping com-

plexes, etc., when roadways are expanded? How many Livonia residents find our existing traffic conditions as unbearable as perhaps Detroit. Dearborn, etc., where four- to five-lane highways with traffic lights at almost every half-mile exist?

Is there something wrong with being a "small-town" city like Farmington, Plymouth, etc.?

Why can't we live in the atmosphere that we chose to invest thousands in because we like the two-lane, small-town roadways, the clean air, the lack of heavy traffic and commercial areas?

J.A. SPONBURGH
Livonia

Rudeness In Pct. 26

EDITOR:

The townpeople of Livonia and people in Precinct 25 and 26 deserve to learn of the so-called handling of the primary election just held in Livonia.

Some time ago I was asked to run as a write-in candidate as a Republican delegate. Needless to say, I was not only reluctant but very reserved as to my ability to represent the 26th Precinct. I was willing to try.

When I arrived at Precinct 26, I inadvertently left a "Leave-no-re-entry" button pinned to my dress. For this I excused my error and quickly removed the offending button. I explained to these so-called mature individuals that I was there as a challenger for the Republicans in the 25th and 26th Precincts. I asked if I was permitted to sit at the registration table. The chairman said yes, but I was not to put my hands on the table or have political literature visible.

Having been reared by a very intelligent mother in a very respected community, I politely asked this woman where I would be permitted to sit at the registration table. I was told I could sit with them if I behaved myself.

I asked one of the precinct workers if there were any pencils for the write-in voters. I was told, "Addison didn't like write-in candidates," and therefore did not supply pencils for this reason.

By Addison, I assume they meant Addison Bacon, the city clerk. If Mr. Bacon and the mayor and the city of Livonia cannot supply such inexpensive supplies to the voters, then perhaps the city of Livonia is in more dire straits than I realized.

All in all the ladies in Precinct 25 were more than gracious but I am sorry to find this graciousness was almost nil in my own Precinct 26.

I would like to become more active in politics but my first experience was so distasteful. I doubt if I will force myself again to be with such rude citizens — who, I might add, are paid by the taxpayers of Livonia.

PHYLLIS M.K. FLYNN
Livonia

Stempien Hit On Expenses

EDITOR:

State Rep. Marvin Stempien (D-Livonia) is again in the news. According to a recent report in the Observer, he was questioned by the League of Women Voters as to what he considered the statewide priorities for the next session of the Legislature. His response was: "Spending must be reduced through elimination of activities which prove ineffective or non-essential."

A few days before the Observer report, the Detroit Free Press reported the disgraceful spending of our tax funds by our legislators on postage in pushing their personal re-election bids.

The leading spender for June was reported as Marvin Stempien with \$2,540. If all of Michigan's 148 lawmakers equalled this spending in postage, the taxpayers would have to support a \$380,360 monthly expenditure.

Since lawmaker Stempien imposed this tax burden on the taxpayers in preparing for the August primary when he was unopposed, he should set some sort of record in preparing for the November general election when he will face opposition. In any event, he should ex-

plain the obvious contradiction between his personal spending of tax funds and his campaign statement to the League of Women Voters.

CHARLES W. CHANDLER
Livonia

News Source Dislikes Story

EDITOR:

While reading your Aug. 6 article on the Schoolcraft College board's decision regarding its presidential search committee report, I discovered certain statements attributed to me. To raise the old cliché about being misquoted would be trite but accurate, particularly in terms of intent and context.

First, the remark relating to one of the added candidates was given in relationship to the committee's position on his candidacy, not as a statement of fact standing alone. The failure of the committee to include his name seemed to me an indication of at least the student and faculty representation on that committee and I so stated.

Second, my comments were so placed in the article as to give the appearance of two unrelated statements when, in fact, they were both intimately related.

It would be unfortunate if these statements were taken as facts when they were offered as an opinion in reaction to an event which had just occurred; namely, the board action. These comments in no way reflect any group's official position, nor do they have any bearing upon the individual's qualifications as a presidential candidate. Indeed, I am personally in no position to speak officially for any group without their prior consent (it would be presumptuous for me to do otherwise), nor can I pass judgment on qualifications I have not examined.

STUART BLOOM
Schoolcraft College
EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Bloom was one of four sources quoted in a complex story on the search for a new president. The story was accurate as written and was as fair as we could make it. We stand behind it.

'I Liked It Way It Was'

EDITOR:

I am a little behind in my letter writing because I had

another sick spell so just picked up the paper with the article, "Why not an Amphitheater Center?"

That really turned me up. Why not first things first? A decent public transportation system. When I came out to Livonia in 1954, we had a dinky little bus that ran from Farmington Rd. to Telegraph Rd. on Five Mile. It was always full in those days, and I almost always took it around noon-time.

It hooked up with the DSR at the street below Five Mile. Then Detroit extended its bus line to Inkster Rd. The poor man could not make a living so had to give up the service.

Population has changed out here and our needs have increased.

I moved from an adjoining state to Detroit in 1911. They were talking about a subway or some other mode of rapid transit system then and are still talking about it in 1970. What are they waiting for?

What is Livonia waiting for? We will wait a long time for the metropolitan rapid transportation system unless someone gets a move on them, and really does something. Let Livonia give us some kind of a system soon. Hook up with existing Detroit transportation system and plan that system in coordination with the existing one.

If we are waiting for the Wayne County Authority to act, it is a lost cause.

Another thing I am fed up with is the voting day for school elections planned for another

day rather than main election day so that the majority of the electorate don't turn out and the school authorities have everything their way. People tied to the school system are the only ones who get out to vote, and that Ron Upton and other school employees are always asking for more.

These are my main gripes for now this time. When I went to school children did not have to be entertained. They went out to work and earned their athletic equipment etc. Parents bought their books and children kept them nice and resold them from year to year.

It isn't the same U.S.A. any more. I liked it the way it was. I still am able to read and spell better than my children.

M. AGNES MANLEY
Livonia

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