

# Where Do Candidates Stand On The Arts?

**EDITOR:** Approaching us rapidly now are elections which will provide new members for our Board of Education.

The Farmington Community Arts Council, at its annual meeting last Wednesday, asked me to write you in support of arts in education. The council is concerned that we continue our modest programs in art and music in our schools, but even more, it is insistent that the arts become a basic part of the education of all children, from pre-school through secondary school.

Obviously, it's up to local community leaders to see that this happens.

For too long, the humanizing aspects of education—the arts—have been ignored in favor of so-called "practical and measurable" matters. Ignoring the arts is foolish and counterproductive!

Let me point out that today we are graduating from high school some of the early results of our " Sputnik Reaction"—a bankruptcy in obtaining in favor of science and technology. Many of these youngsters are searching in their own way for the things we have taken from them these last 12 years.

Arts in education means not only a richer arts education, but also a richer history, math, astronomy, — a richer everything. It's bad enough that our schools exclude the humanities from science, but worse, we exclude the humanities from the humanities.

This occurs when we teach Louis XIV's birthdate and ignore Versailles. It occurs when we drill in reading and spelling, but fail to recognize the communication value in children's poetry created in our own classrooms. It occurs every day in our current educational system.

Let me hasten to compliment the many local teachers who are working to involve the arts in their classrooms, but they would be the first to agree that their efforts have not been inspired, for the most part, by administrative guidance from the board of education or elsewhere.

The council challenges our voters to learn where the candidates for Board positions stand in this critical area. Ask now...and make your choices on June 8 with the arts in mind. Help us reverse this trend towards cultural bankruptcy.

**GEORGE ASSEMANNY,**  
President,  
Farmington Community Arts Council

**Researching A Family Tree**  
**EDITOR:**  
On Feb. 21, 1970, the Observer had an article entitled "What's In A Name?" The article mentions that the Department of Education can help find answers. What Department of Education? Michigan Dept. of Ed?  
Also it says a visit to the State Library's genealogy collection often brings surprising results. Where is this State Library? Lansing? Is the Michigan Pioneer Record and the Michigan Biography

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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.

Collection to be found in this library? I hope my letter isn't too blunt, but I would like to know the answers to my questions. Thank you for any help you may send me as I'm interested.

**RAYMOND JOLIFFE**  
Redford Township  
**EDITOR'S NOTE:** You've asked some excellent questions, and we're pleased to answer them. What follows is bound to help any professional or budding genealogist in obtaining information on family or Michigan history.

All correspondence should be directed to Richard J. Hathaway, head of Michigan unit, Michigan Dept. of Education, Bureau of Library Services, 735 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing 48913.

For best results, says Hathaway, give him as much information as you can about the person or event under research. In turn, Hathaway's office will respond with the facts it can dig up. There is no charge except for photo copies. Hathaway charges 10 cents a page for them if more than one or two must be made.

The Michigan Pioneer Record and the Michigan Biography Collection may be found at the address listed above. But Hathaway points out that he cannot circulate these or his other books. He advises you or anyone doing extensive research on a subject to visit the library if possible. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily year-round. Saturday the library is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. except during June, July and August.

Good luck. We hope your part by administrative guidance from the board of education or elsewhere.

## They Back Jim Collins

**EDITOR:**  
Last March, 4,486 persons told the Wayne Community School District they approved of what the district was doing and expected the district to continue using good judgment and common sense in administering our present school system.

Problems continually arise at any given moment, at any given level. Some are worked on immediately; others are prevented from becoming major problems by pre-planning.

As members of that area newest to the district, we found no catastrophes. We were accepted by the WCSD in a way befitting those who backed the best educational value for its tax dollar by paying the highest school taxes in the state for years.

We, of Tonawash Creek-McKee area, reflected our acceptance and approval of what was done for the education of our children by sending more "yes" votes in the polls than any other precinct.

We are proud of this and we are proud of Jim Collins, school board candidate, but we will not ask voters to elect Jim Collins just because he lives in our area.

No one owes us anything. Voters do owe themselves something though. Voters owe themselves a careful examination of Jim's views on what others have nicknamed into "issues".

16 years of residence here. We owe so many to many that it will be difficult to express ourselves individually to all but a few.

**JOHN C. SCHULZ**  
Livonia

## Westland Men Saved A Life

**EDITOR:**  
We would like to extend our special thanks to the Westland Police and Fire Departments.

Tuesday, May 5, my mother-in-law took seriously ill in our home. Upon calling the police department they expedited a fire ambulance to our home in a matter of a few minutes.

My mother-in-law became ill Tuesday morning and each day she had become increasingly worse. I made a doctor's appointment but could not get her on her feet long enough to get her dressed, let alone out to the car.

The doctor's office informed me that he did not make house calls. After my husband came from work she passed out and it took us several minutes to bring her around. Again calling the doctor's office, his receptionist advised me to call the police department for an ambulance.

The police and firemen arrived in record time. The two firemen handled my mother-in-law with the greatest finesse and patience I have ever seen. The way these men perform their job, considering all the different types of jobs they are called upon to do is really admirable.

A few minutes later with the aid of the police they had my mother-in-law in St. Mary Hospital for emergency care. I believe they may have saved an 81-year-old lady's life, and our children's only grandma. She came back in fine fettle.

All our gratitude to these fine men who are here in our time of need.

**MR. AND MRS. L. PETERSON**  
Westland



**JOE SPINO**

## Spino Picked To Manage Southland

Shopping Centers, Inc., has appointed Joseph P. Spino division manager and Miss Patricia Hobar assistant division manager and promotion manager at the new Southland Shopping Center in Taylor.

Spino has been with SCL and two of its shopping centers—Westland and Northland in Southfield—since 1954. He and his wife live in Livonia. They have two married daughters.

Miss Hobar served as promotion manager at both Northland and Westland. She lives in Detroit.

## Founded In 1830

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, often called the "Mormon" church, was organized April 6, 1830 at Fayette, Seneca Co., N. Y., by Joseph Smith, first president.

After settling in Kirtland, Ohio, and Independence, Mo., the members located in Nauvoo, Ill., to escape persecution.

## 2 National Honors For The Observers

Two national honors have come to Observer Newspapers. Theodore A. Serrell, executive vice president of the National Newspaper Association, has announced that members of the Observer family won honorable mentions in a contest.

The group won the rating for the best editorial page in the category of newspapers of more than 4,000 circulation.

The Farmington Enterprise & Observer was honored in the community service category for newspapers of more than 4,000 circulation.



**RUSSELL D. LEMONS** has been appointed manager of the Troy office of Rose Extremator Co. The branch will serve communities in south-eastern Oakland County. Lemons and his family live at 4005 Koppernick, Plymouth.

## Local Reps 3-3 On Betting Bill

**LANSING**  
Observant state representatives again split 3-3 as the House last week voted to legalize off-track horse betting.

The full House vote was 58-47, two more than necessary for passage. It was the third time the bill came to a vote.

**IN FAVOR** were Reps. Marvin Stimpson (D-Livonia), Vincent Pettipiece (D-Westland) and Richard Young (D-DeARBORN HEIGHTS) whose district includes parts of Westland and Livonia.

Opposed were Reps. Raymond Baker (R-Farmington), John Bennett (D-Bellport) and James Twines (D-Garden City) whose district includes parts of Westland and all of Plymouth.

The bill faces an uncertain future in the Senate. The bill would permit off-track betting on Michigan thoroughbred and harness races. The state would license parimutuel agents under a quota system—one for every 50,000 population. Licensed agents would take bets and transmit them to tracks.

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