

Readers Speak Up On Controversial Issues

Give Diplomas
To Servicemen

EDITOR: It has come to my attention that the Livonia high schools do not grant honorary diplomas to our young men on the basis of successful completion of G.E.D. tests taken in the service. To my way of thinking, if these young men have the initiative and desire to finish high school by taking these difficult tests, they deserve to have their efforts recognized by the schools which gave them the basic education necessary to quality and successfully complete the tests. They are a credit to the community and our school system. I am sure that the reason it hasn't been done before this is an unintentional oversight but now that it has been brought to the attention of the board I'm just as sure that this unfortunate situation will be corrected.

our high schools can do honor them in the same way. There are various reasons why these boys drop out of school but once they enter the service they become men. It is the maturity of men that causes them to realize that if they are to return to civilian life and become a credit to their families and community they must have an education. No one forces them to take the tests, only their own good sense and maturity. We should all be proud of an educational system that inspires them to go on to higher education and greater goals. Detroit has set the precedent by granting certificates on the basis of the tests and I certainly feel our School Board owes the same recognition to Livonia's young men. I'm sure that the reason it hasn't been done before this is an unintentional oversight but now that it has been brought to the attention of the board I'm just as sure that this unfortunate situation will be corrected.

As the parent of one of these young men I assure you that I'm just as proud of my son's efforts to complete high school as if he'd remained in school here. One of the main reasons we allowed him to enter the service so young is our awareness of the maturity that made him want to take advantage of the many educational opportunities offered by the Army, including the G.E.D. certificate, a year of college while in the service, and four years of college after he's discharged. It was a man-not a boy-who asked for and got our permission to go into the service and without even completing basic training he worked his way into a position of responsibility. Let's all give credit where credit is due. They should be numbered among the students of Livonia's schools that have successfully completed high school. It can only enhance already enviable record of quality education and accomplished young people.

some issues if you can, but admit that we have the best voting practices in Michigan. D.M. "HOPPY" HANSON

Kill Archaic Property Tax

EDITOR: I must explain why -- as a teacher and a property owner of Livonia -- I am voting against extension of the present millage. We in the Livonia School System are building a progressive, flexible, educational program which encompasses not only the present needs, but also the future growth. The necessities in this endeavor are good teachers and adequate buildings and facilities... money, money, money. Tradition would have us bill the property owner and bill the property owner and bill the property owner. Tradition will have us pushing to the limits until we hit them, the point at which the property owner will balk at forking over, no matter what the consequences. When this limit is reached, we will all be rushing to the planning table to quickly dream up new modes of financing education. I would rather stop tradition and all action now to do that much-needed planning so that when others founder by taking our present path of renewal-extension, renewal-extension we will have something substantial with which to avoid second-growth pains. I would rather drop the archaic gracefully while we can instead of frantically when we must. LEE ANN DUGGAN

Redford Dems Issues 'Tired'


EDITOR: It must be near election time because the Redford Township Democrats are trotting out their old tired "issues" again. Why not get some new ones? That voter registration bit is really worn. Mrs. Rice's department has been subjected to scrutiny over and over. Each time the Secretary of State's office (and Mr. Hare is a Democrat) has initiated an investigation, we have learned that all is in order and no corrections were necessary. This should prove that we have the most honest and reliable voting system anywhere in Michigan. Its about time we thanked Mrs. Rice and her tireless workers for an honest job -- well done. Sure voter registrations aren't soaring. That's not because of the lack of opportunity. It's that age old problem. Voter Apathy! If anyone wanting to register can do so at Town Hall day or night (also in the firehouses and banks). Come on, Democrats, Find

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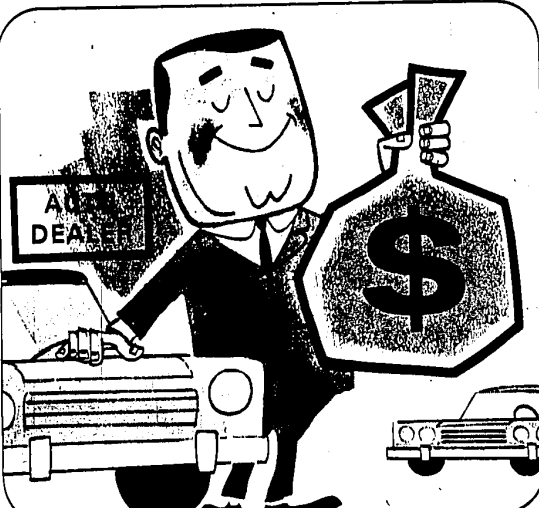
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