

# Volk's Woods Dies, But Leaves Example

**EDITOR:**  
It seems to us most fitting that the Volk's Woods matter end where it began—in the letters to the editor columns of Observer Newspapers.

Volk's Woods, 20 acres of beech-maple forest, deemed by experts to be irreplaceable because of its undisturbed, delicate ecological balance, has been sold to a new developer. The new owner will continue the apartment project as originally proposed. He is not interested in selling the property.

We wish to thank all of those who worked so hard to save this as a natural area. The efforts of Roger Sutherland and Grover Niergarth of Schoolcraft College must be singled out for special mention. The response and support which our group received from the community at large was most remarkable and gratifying.

Although we failed in our efforts to save this particular wooded area, it is our belief that future decisions which involve Livonia's natural wooded areas will be influenced by our actions here. Sites designated as parks by the city should be purchased—not left dangling for the commercial developer.

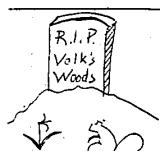
**MRS. ROBERT KING**  
**MRS. WILLIAM LINDHOUT**  
Co-Chairmen  
Save Volk's Woods Committee  
Livonia

## Speak Out On Motorede

**EDITOR:**  
I urge Farmington citizens to investigate and then evaluate the activities of the John Birch Society and its Motorede committee recalling school board members.

I'm usually tolerant of opposing points of view, but I grow increasingly aware of employment of scare tactics and half-truths by this organization, and it seems important for all citizens to make their thoughts known.

**BETTY WHITE**  
Farmington



## The Mayor's Q & A Game

**EDITOR:**  
Recently, some 20,000 citizens of Westland have received questionnaires from Mayor McKinney's office polling the opinion of these citizens for the welfare and betterment of our city. Doesn't it seem a bit contrary to the previous pattern of practice of Mr. Mayor to start a question and answer program at this point of the game?

Taking note from the mayor's statement printed in the Wall Street Journal a few weeks ago, quoting him saying that Westland is a city of bedroom dwellers and that the people don't care what goes on otherwise! We have to make it known that some of the citizens here do care.

When a sizable group of us appeared in person to a so-called public hearing by our city government, it was bewildering and indeed frustrating that we could not make ourselves heard by the mayor or the city council when we wished to voice opposition to the mayor's proposed street paving program.

We were to learn that it was a public hearing in name only and that we would have to join together as a citizens homeowner alliance and it would require legal counsel and representation before we could be heard.

Yes, after having our city paved with a jungle of cement bearing acres of apartment dwellings with parking space for each bedroom occupant, some homeowners of Westland are rightfully beginning to ask why they have begun to be sought out for questions as to their likes and dislikes.

**JOHN R. CASSIDY**  
Westland

## 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.

### 'Frills' Raise Utility Rates

**EDITOR:**  
I see where Detroit Edison Co. is asking for a huge rate increase from their users which, I believe, will be the third one, if granted, in about one year's time.

I am convinced if Edison and some of the other utilities would quit building some of the fancy buildings with all the frills and cut out some of the unnecessary expenses, they all wouldn't have to be in the already over-charge public pocketbook so often.

It's my understanding that there are three members on

the Public Service Commission in Lansing who pass on rate adjustments to consumers. I also believe that all three members are political appointees.

I am convinced that everyone concerned should write your state legislators asking them to pass legislation taking police out of the Public Service Commission by making it a law where these three members are elected by the people so that if they are to be free in handing out our money to these big utility companies, we can at least vote them out some election time.

**LEWIS WYNN,**  
Garden City

### Parochial Facts Cloudy

**EDITOR:**  
It has been almost a month since the editorial, "Parochial Foes Were Right" (Leonard Poger) appeared in Observer Newspapers. This is the first opportunity I have had to answer what I consider a bad case of fuzzy thinking brought in perhaps by an emotionally clouded intellect.

How can he say that the "Supreme Court ruling gave the Council Against Parochialism the enviable position of being able to tell its opponents I told you so?"

The opponents of Proposal C, including State Sen. Levin and his Harvard law consultants, argued that existing auxiliary services and shared time programs between public and parochial schools would be endangered. Advocates of Proposal C said the proposal would not endanger shared time programs or auxiliary services.

Yet the people voted on the entire amendment, and it did contain this clause, Levin's opinion and that of his Harvard consultants was based on the entire amendment. A legal opinion has to be based on each and every word in a document, and Sen. Levin's opinion was made on this basis. You do him and his colleagues a disservice with your reasoning.

Your editorial was out of order and dead wrong.

**THERESA HOARE**  
Redford Township

## Area Deaths And Funerals

**JOSEPH P. FALLON**—Funeral services for Mr. Fallon, 74, of 2847 E. Lewis Rd., Redford Township, were held in St. Agatha Catholic Church, Charles J. Step Funeral Home handled the arrangements, and burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Mr. Fallon died on May 11 in Botsford Hospital after a six-month illness. He had lived in Redford for four years at the time of his death. He was employed as a tool and die maker, and was a member of St. Agatha parish. He is survived by his wife, Anne; daughter Margaret; Kathleen, and Sister Ann; Rosemary O.P.; son, Gerald; states. He is survived by his wife, Theresa C. Connor, and seven grandchildren.

**PERRY J. NEWMAN**—Services for Mr. Newman, 76, of 11841 Stark Rd., in Plymouth, were held in St. Joseph's Church, Plymouth. The Rev. Henry J. Walsh of the First United Presbyterian Church of Plymouth officiated and burial was in Parkview Memorial Cemetery.

Mr. Newman died April 24 in St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. He was a retired mechanical engineer and was a member of the First United Presbyterian Church of Plymouth. He is survived by his wife, Lillian; two daughters, Mrs. Robert L. Adams and Mrs. Jack W. West; and a son, Charles Newman of Livonia; 12 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

**MELVIN T. STACKPOLE**—Services for Mr. Stackpole, 67, of 27833 Persh in Livonia, were held in R.G. and G.R. Harris Funeral Home in Livonia. Father Robert Burkholder officiated and burial was in Northview Cemetery in Dearborn.

Mr. Stackpole died May 4 in Botsford Hospital. He was district manager for United Greenfield Tap and Die Corp. and a member of Presbyterian North Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife, June; his mother, Mrs. Mabel Stackpole; one son, James; one brother, Bernard; and two grandchildren.

**SHELDON S. BLACKMAN**—Memorial services were held Sunday in the First Unitarian Church, Ann Arbor, for Mr. Blackman, 46, of 1450 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth. Following his death May 8 in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital after a short illness.

Mr. Blackman had been an elementary school teacher in Livonia for more than 15 years. He is survived by his mother, Rose of New York; a brother, Allan, of San Francisco; a daughter, Elizabeth, and four sons, Daniel, Peter, Willie and Kenneth, all of Plymouth.

**BERT Z. VAN LOO**—Services were held Thursday in Zealand for Mr. Van Loo, 84, of 702 Harding, Plymouth, following his death May 6 in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Mr. Van Loo had moved to Plymouth in 1942 from Zealand and was a machine operator for Dunn Steel Co. He was a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church of Plymouth.

Survivors include his wife, Martha; two sons, James and Edward, both of Plymouth; two daughters, Mrs. Grant (Carolyn) Edson, of Grandville, and Mrs. Boyd (Irene) Vandenberg, of Hudsonville; a brother, Maurice, of Chicago; a sister, Mrs. Dora Boonstra, of St. Joseph; six grandchildren and one great grandchild.

**JOHN A. KELSEY**—Services for Mr. Kelsey, 28, of 11800 Garden in Livonia, were held in St. Mary's Church in Northville, Rev. Ronald D. Moss, pastor of the First Church of the Nazarenes, Plymouth, officiated and burial was in Oakdale Gardens West, Garden City.

Mr. Kelsey died May 6 in St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor after a long illness. He was a barber and an employee of the Livonia Public School.

He is survived by his wife, Sandra; one daughter, Katrina; his mother, Mrs. Nancy Kelsey, of Muskegon; three brothers, Gregory of Hart and Joseph and Norbert of Muskegon; and three sisters, Mrs. Elsie Bowers of Hart, Mrs. May Moore of Montague and Mrs. Lillian Rodriguez of Ludington.

**RALPH R. ESCHBERGER**—Mr. Eschberger, 48, of 2847 E. Lewis Rd., Redford Township, died Sunday in Harper Hospital, Detroit. May 4. Funeral services were held last week in the Charles J. Step Funeral Home with burial in Evergreen Cemetery. The Rev. Victor Harbison, St. Agatha parish.

Mr. Eschberger, a computer operator, came to Redford 19 years ago. Survivors include his wife, Elizabeth; sisters, Mrs. Victor Vachon, Mrs. Robert Brooks and Mrs. D. W. Gabbert; son Gary and daughter, Claudia.

**MICHAEL FOLLEBOUT**—Funeral services were held recently for Mr. Follebout, 23, of 28740 Pipers Lane, Farmington, in the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Farmington with burial in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia, and arrangements made by the Thrayer Funeral Home, Farmington. Officiating was the Rev. Victor Meunier of the Prince of Peace.

Mr. Follebout, who died April 26 in Botsford Hospital after a short illness, had lived in Farmington ten years and was a computer programmer for University of Michigan. He was survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Follebout of Farmington; brother, Raymond; grandmothers, Mrs. Emma Follebout and Mrs. Meta Binkler.

**EMMETT R. REED**—Funeral services were held recently for Mr. Reed, 78, of Farmington, in the Thrayer Funeral Home in Farmington with burial in Oakdale Hills Cemetery, Novi. Officiating was the Rev. James A. Crawford of Village United Presbyterian Church of Detroit.

Mr. Reed, who died April 27 in Botsford Hospital.

**Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.** Officiating was the Rev. George H. Sweet of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Detroit.

Mr. Sallow, who died May 1 in Botsford General Hospital after a short illness, was assistant manager of the National Bank of Detroit branch in Farmington at Lakeside and Grand River. He had lived in the Farmington-Detroit area all his life, graduated from Farmington Senior High in 1925 and was a member of the Farmington B.P.O. Elks Lodge 1585.

Survivors include: wife, Dorothy; daughter, Cattle; son, Robert; brother, Floyd; and grandson.

**ARTHUR R. HATCH**, Services for Mr. Hatch, of 8243 Ravenna Rd., Westland, are scheduled for 1 p.m., Thursday, May 13, at the Schneider Funeral Home, in Plymouth. Rev. William Rutter of the Newburgh Methodist Church, Livonia, will officiate. Burial will be in Parkview Cemetery, Livonia.

Mr. Hatch died May 9 in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, at the age of 63. A local resident for 22 years, Mr. Hatch was an interior designer for American Motors Corp. He was a member of the Newburgh Methodist Church in Plymouth. Chapter 115 of the Order of the Eastern Star, and Plymouth Rock Lodge 47 of the Free and Accepted Masons.

Mr. Hatch is survived by his wife, Susana; one son, one daughter, one sister, and two brothers.

**ROBERT C. BALLOW**—Funeral services were held recently for Mr. Ballow, 84, of 18555 Trinity Ave., Detroit, in the Thrayer Funeral Home with burial in

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**53 STORES AND SERVICES**

**LIVONIA MALL**  
NEW MALL AT MIDWAY

### Intersection Is Dangerous

**EDITOR:**  
What makes Seven Mile and Merriman a posted high accident corner? Is it the particular design of the intersection, or is it a human problem involving driving attitudes?

I use that intersection twice each day, and indeed it "lives" up to its reputation. Since there is little we can do to modify driving attitudes and neurotic acting out on the road, we should, in the interest of safety and to protect the

driver against himself, prevail upon our local government to redesign that intersection. Accidents are obscene.

**EDWARD K. JACOBS,**  
Counselor and  
Driving Instructor,  
Livonia

### CDF Abroad

Funds are available through the community development service program of the Community Development Foundation, an international nonprofit voluntary agency, headquartered in Norwalk, Conn., to help refugees in Cambodia and on the South Vietnam border.



Carved wood Bishop 57 inches; circa 1480  
Harris, Harper Chapel, H. C. Resler, Mgr.

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