

Readers Speak Up on Controversial Issues

Express Thanks

EDITOR:

The Western Suburban Junior Women's League would like to press their appreciation for the fine publicity that your society editor and her staff has afforded us this past year.

Being a newly-formed organization, I'm sure you realize that only through publicity can an organization of our type grow and be of service to their community.

Mrs. Miller and Miss Merrill, in particular, assisted us on numerous occasions which enabled us to grow and become known in our area.

We hope in the coming year to embark on several projects beneficial to both the old and young in our community.

We again thank you and hope for your cooperation in the coming year.

MRS. THOMAS MCGINNIS
President
Western Suburban Junior Women's Club

Defends Police

EDITOR:

Recently, an article appeared in a national magazine in regard to police brutality. A summation of the article indicates, "a policeman in performing his duty is guilty until proven innocent."

Please Mr. Commissioner, do not let this happen to our Plymouth Policemen.

Don't take their weapons away.

Don't take their authority away.

Don't take their discretion to use this authority away.

And please Mr. Clifton, support our men in blue and if necessary defend them and their integrity.

Our policemen in Plymouth are of a high caliber and were selected because of their keen sense of judgment. We as citizens of this community are fortunate in being protected by such a force.

At night, we can walk down our city streets without fear of harm. We feel confident in allowing our children to walk to school. We can sleep comfortably knowing our protectors are alert.

How many communities on the fringe of a large metropolis can enjoy this freedom? The count is less each day.

I, for one salute our entire police system and I vote for the preservation of the same.

JAMES W. MCKINDLES

Elderly Give Aid

EDITOR:

Upon my return from vacation, scanning papers for news I came across the article where W.O. Remaley (Livonia Observer, June 23) states that our senior citizens are being treated like little children.

I most heartily disagree. I have worked with the elderly and the retired here in Livonia for almost 10 years and never was treated like a kid.

My husband, Stephen, and I organized the first senior citizens club back in 1959. We set up a club that has grown from 42 members at the first meeting to 700 and five units at present, and needing a place to meet.

If Mr. Remaley was better informed, he would know that we club members do not spend all our time playing cards or picnicking. Senior citizens give much of their time serving the community. They provide transportation to hospitals, churches and clubs for those who can no longer drive; they repair toys and sell papers for the Goodwillies; they help with youth programs.

The ladies sew cancer pads, visit the sick, donate and send useful articles and goodies to Northville Hospital.

They engage in other projects like chair caning, china painting, flower arrangement, knitting, and gardening for themselves and to sell.

Others crochet, knit, make useful articles for sale, and, oh, yes, Mr. Remaley, they make birdhouses and do woodcraft just like yourself. In fact, you really missed something if you did not visit the senior citizens' arts and craft exhibit at City Hall last fall.

Nor are we taxpaying senior citizens too old to staff city elections as chairmen and inspectors. So you can see we are not a bunch of useless people in our later years.

But for those who are old or for other reasons can't do hard work, we should provide a center where they can go and meet others their own age.

I am very happy to serve them a cup of tea or coffee...which is a cup of cheer to them.

MARY SPITZA

Oppose Multiples

EDITOR:

An open letter to the Livonia City Council:

Charles Walker, Chairman of the Planning Board, has requested that Livonia declare a moratorium on apartment building for six months.

I wonder how many Livonia residents are aware of the fact that many acres of Livonia's open land, formerly zoned for large homes, have been rezoned by the city council just since the recent election.

At present, Livonia has 574 multi-family units. The units already approved, plus those under consideration, could bring the number of apartment units in Livonia to well over 2,000.

Walker has stated that many of these apartments are low-quality because the apartment ordinance is not adequate. At the present rate of construction, Livonia will soon be a city crowded with apartments, rather than a community of homeowners.

It has been proven that, in the long run, apartments do not pay their own way. It will cost us all, as taxpayers, to have a large number of low-grade apartments in the community; the quality and appearance of our city will be diminished.

Would our property values not be enhanced more by large, beautiful homes, on very large lots, than surrounded by masses of apartments?

Most people come to the suburbs for just this reason—to live in a more attractive community, to have breathing space and fresh air.

Anyone who thinks apartments are an asset to a community need only drive back into Detroit past solid blocks of apartments, through sections of the city that are grubby and deteriorated and ugly with their rows of apartment buildings, to be reminded why he left the city in the first place.

Gentlemen of the council, we urge you to support Mr. Walker in his request for a moratorium on apartments. This is your community. You live here too.

MARJORIE L. ARNETT,
Chairman
The Committee for a Responsible Council

Rude Spectators

EDITOR:

On the past Fourth of July a fireworks demonstration was held in the vicinity of our home, and let me tell you that I have never seen a wilder, ruder pack of people in all of my life, with complete and utter disregard for the rights and property of others.

Let me cite instances:

We have a field of muskmelons bordering the road and three children ranging from the ages of 11 to 13 deliberately trampled the vines while their parents looked on. Said parents being of the same age, or a little less mature.

Hordes of people walking through the yard where a crop of grass is emerging, as any darn fool could plainly see. Yet, still having ample room to walk on the shoulder of the road, and when told to please use the shoulder, either grinned or just kept on walking.

We realize our home is far from being a mansion, but nevertheless belongs to us, and not a public thoroughfare.

One man backed in so close to our mail box that the bottom of the box came to rest on his back fender.

Supposedly adults deliberately walking down corn stalks in one of our fields nearest the site where one step either way would have left the stalks standing. To say nothing of what their wild offspring did while unattended and the trash and beer bottles that will have to be picked up before we harvest. Tractor tires don't grow on trees. One person making a U-turn in the corn, I think, to get the jump on the homeward bound traffic.

We had a full tank of ammonia nitrogen parked in the barnyard which plainly states that it is highly flammable. Three children were playing with sparklers less than 15 feet away. Their parents proceeded to park their carcases in lawn chairs that were backed up before we harvest. Tractor tires don't grow on trees. One person making a U-turn in the corn, I think, to get the jump on the homeward bound traffic.

When cautioned as to what could happen if a spark landed in the right spot, the responses to the children was to "Move back a little honey." I finally had to demand that the sparklers be completely extinguished. Guess what kind of looks I received.

We could very easily have had our own fireworks but the aftermath would not have been as pretty as the one they came to see.

A cherry tree with more kids in it than cherries. A swing set overloaded by some 500 pounds. A farm wagon set up for the convenience of the smaller children (including my own) taken over by teen-agers intent on making love right then and there with the little ones taking it all in.

A neighbor's rail fences bearing the load of so many spectators that it finally gave way to the weight. Looking like crows on a telephone wire. We will go with the crows for having more brains.

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MARJORIE L. ARNETT,
Chairman
The Committee for a Responsible Council

This is directed to those whom the shoe fits so well and not to those who came and acted like humans.

One does wonder, though, if Mrs. Q. has not taken leave of his senses, and one wonders how the other fellow would have reacted in the same situation. One thing for sure a company of National Guardsmen would have had their hands full trying to contain the rowdiness.

I could have released a couple of tubes on the aforementioned lanks and given some of them a Fourth of July that would

long be remembered. The idea occurred to me more than once. The wind was in my favor, but this would have put me in the same class as those I am writing about, and me and mine are certainly not and never will be.

It is certainly hard to stand by and watch this sort of thing happen when you have put months of hard labor and many dollars into crops that you are anticipating some kind of return. It is enough that a farmer has to fight the weeds, the elements, the bugs, and the price

squeezes, to have something like this happen.

I wonder how high they will jump when I ask a nickel more on a dozen ears of corn?

Some wonder that those in charge of staging had difficulty in locating a site.

An Indignant
OKED BALMAIN
14888 Haggerty Rd.
Plymouth

Trial News Fair

EDITOR:

When I was first appointed defense counsel for Dr. Ronald

E. Clark in November 1967, I had the pleasure of meeting Fred DeLano of your news staff. Our contacts were frequent before the preliminary examination in December and then periodically until the trial last month at Mason.

Both my client and I were impressed with the impartial and unbiased reports which Fred wrote for your publication. His fairness and accuracy in reporting the testimony produced at the trial without drawing inferences or including extraneous matters was especially

appreciated by myself as trial attorney.

DeLano possesses one of the most pleasing personalities I have encountered during my practice. His competence, experience and flair for securing pertinent information on his assignments deserves the commendation of all persons with whom he is in contact. You are fortunate to have a reporter of his ability on your staff.

DIETERLE, ROWSTON AND MANN

PHILIP E. ROWSTON

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