

Election Is Prime Topic as Observer Readers "Speak Up"

Water Fund Surplus

Editor: We wish to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to each and every one of you who, by your vote, expressed your confidence in my ability to serve as your Supervisor.

We also wish to express publicly, our gratitude to the truly wonderful people who made many sacrifices to help us in this effort. It would be impossible to single out any one person's efforts over another's. Let us say a great big thank you to each and every one of you.

To Mr. Democrat in Redford Township, John Bennett, a very special thanks for the many kindnesses and courtesies you have shown me. You are a credit to your Party and your community. Good luck to you in your new endeavors, John. You certainly deserve promotion.

We entered the jungle of politics with a reputation for honesty, integrity and truthfulness. Mr. McDonald, several times, twisted and distorted my statements. Good luck to you in your new endeavors, John. You certainly deserve promotion.

The only Democrat who issued any public statement about a Water Department operating surplus was myself. Mr. Engler placed a full page ad in a local newspaper and a full page ad in a 4-page political publication calling the Democrats, stating there was no surplus in the Water Department and that we were lying to you "steal your vote."

Let's set the record straight. The operating surplus in the Redford Township Water Department as of June 30, 1964, is \$891,400.00. This represents an increase of \$117,653.65 in operating surplus for just 3 months! This is based on the Water Department Audit Report signed by Mr. Robert G. Adams, a Certified Public Accountant.

So long as there is a partisan system of local politics in our Township, we know it is now our duty to serve as a watchdog in the interests of all the people. We accept this responsibility to the community and will do our best to prove worthy of this trust.

NATHANIEL BANKS
Redford Township

'Hounded for Parks'

Editor: I would like to appeal to the citizens of Livonia—as a taxpayer and citizen, I am opposed to our tax money being spent for golf courses, park sites, law suits, most of these law suits the mayor has lost and we the citizens foot the bills.

Now we are being hounded for park sites at an increase of taxes.

These are luxuries that can come later, it's about time, we citizens fight for more important needs.

1) Fire stations.
2) More police and firemen (not integrated).
3) Paved streets.
4) Street lighting on public thoroughfares.
5) Adequate drainage in some areas.

I would rather my increase in taxes go for the above mentioned, not golf courses or park sites.



STEPHEN ROFFI, now in the third grade at Redford Township's Horace Mann School, is a celebrity already. At least, that is the way his classmates think of him after his drawing of an octopus appeared in Scholastic Magazine. The periodical is published for thousands of second grade classes across the country as a supplement to regular reading. Here he looks at the paper, proud as Punch of his creation, which his second grade teacher, Miss Eileen Thomas, sent to the publisher last spring. Stephen's present teacher is Mrs. Nancy Spore. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Harry Roffi, of 11790 Columbia.

The mayor has asked for an increase of money, to run his own office, he got an increase last year, and is asking for it to be doubled this year.

Our firemen had to wait nearly five years, for an increase in their pay, along with our policemen.

What ever happened to promises of lower taxes? Each year taxes have gone up. Senior Citizens ignored their pleas for lower income apartments. City ordinances being passed from one department to another.

To me, it seems that, we the citizens have to pay the bills, but we are not allowed to be heard, on anything anymore, so let's wake up, Livonia, find out what is going on at City Hall. Instead of being like puppets on a string, like some of our poor city officials.

DISGUSTED CITIZEN

Shirking our Duties?

Editor: I simply cannot restrain myself from answering the writer of the letter signed "A Redford Township Citizen," which was published in your paper on November 4.

Putting the blame for the traffic accident of October 17 on the police is just another way of shirking our responsibility as adults and parents. By allowing our children to obtain driver's licenses at age 16 and by permitting the teaching of driving courses in our high schools we have in effect handed our teenagers a loaded gun.

I live in the vicinity of one of our high schools and every day God performs miracles and keeps near-accidents from happening to drivers and pedestrians alike.

I would suggest, "Township Citizen," that if your sons are allowed to drive that you do a little checking into their driving habits when they are away from your home. Every day I see such horrible examples of careless, homicidal driving being committed by someone's teenager that I am heart sick.

TERRIFIED OF TRAFFIC.

YOURS TRULY,
FLORENCE LATHEES
Plymouth

Better Use of Funds?

Editor: Drive into Farmington this holiday season and see the new Christmas lights. And when you do, remember that for every five or 10 of these new lights a child could have had a new Christmas toy or a needy family a better meal.

When I read that Farmington was to have a "traditional" football classic this year, I was pleased that they had joined other communities with a fine fund-raising project. These games heighten interest in local athletics by providing a mythical city championship, but more important they offer the chance for local charitable organizations to receive some needed assistance. Detroit has similar games with their Soup Bowl and Goodfellow games—all for good causes. But what use does Farmington plan for the extra money raised with their game?

Will it help the Farmington Old Newsboys who sell newspapers to raise money for the food baskets Goodfellows distribute? Or maybe help repair and distribute the toys the Elks collect—all these so "that no child shall be without a Christmas?"

No. They are going to use it for an important project—put up new Christmas lights in the city.

I am not against the practice of "lighting up" the town, shopping center or homes. In fact, I look forward to seeing the lights every year because it heralds the beginning of the holiday season with all its attendant joys and excitement.

But the reason for lighting the town or shopping centers, whether it be Northland or Farmington, is still the same: it is primarily a promotion to attract people—and business. It is probably justifiable, certainly it is an enjoyable practice, but it still is a promotion, and as such, I believe it should be paid for by all the people it benefits most—the Board of Commerce members or the local merchants.

Perhaps there is no charitable need for this "extra" money in Farmington. If it is true then why not keep the money where it is earned, and improve the facilities that earn it instead of using tax money for this purpose.

If the Board of Commerce is determined to buy lights, why not use the money toward lighting one of the high school athletic fields? Then "Progressive Farmington" wouldn't be the only community in this

area without a lighted field. (The increased attendance at night games would probably quickly pay for the lights.)

Or the money could be used to provide more seating so that the many people who do attend the regular season games would not have to stand for two hours as so many did a week ago at N.F.

It could be even used to remedy the disgraceful situation that exists at N.F. After nearly four years, there still is not a single American flag or flagpole on the athletic field.

I am sure the response in coming years will be greater if the cause is lasting and worthwhile.

Sincerely,
WARREN G. BOPP
Farmington

Wants Traffic Signal

The following is a letter sent to Mr. Sam Levine, traffic engineer for Oakland County.

In my opinion you are a penny pinching nitwit, who doesn't care or want to be bothered with the life and safety of some 50 or 60 school children who cross at this corner of Power and Grand River in Farmington, Michigan. And like so many times in the past no light will go up. No, not until some tragedy has taken place and then the State Highway

The U.S.A. has given out handouts to the foreign press copied word-for-word from labor publications without corresponding exposure from more conservative publications. The American Embassy in London was the scene of a discussion on the American election top-heavy with partisan material and talk. No wonder foreign residents consider Senator Goldwater as all that is undesirable in a president.

I too, was in Europe this past summer and read and heard some of the results of this vilification.

YOURS TRULY,
FLORENCE LATHEES
Plymouth

'Duty to Pursue'

Editor: It seems to be the fashion now to blame policemen for crashes which result from the high-speed pursuit of cars, whose drivers are trying to escape, after a traffic violation. An officer would naturally prefer to not risk his own neck in a dangerous chase. He does it because we citizens have hired him to protect us against law-breakers.

In any situation calling for police action, an officer is greatly limited in what he must or must not do, by numerous laws and regulations, which he, as an individual, did not make. Put the blame where it belongs, not on the policeman.

Should we citizens be blamed collectively for bad laws and regulations concerning crashes resulting from police chases? In my opinion, the police should be required to pursue fleeing law-breakers. A person who attempts to escape at high speed after violating the law puts the lives of innocent people in terrible danger. Regardless of his age, and whether he does this thing because of panic or desire for greater thrills, he is demonstrating that he is unfit to be at liberty in society. If allowed to race away, a wild spree could be continued without check, persons fleeing from felonies would have their chance of escape improved, and enforcement of traffic laws would become even more difficult than it is now. Unless deketted on the against a traffic offender. It is

Big Thanks

Editor: Dear Mr. and Mrs. Redford Township:

Thank you for the overwhelming vote of confidence. I promise you that I will do my very best for the people of Redford Township and the State of Michigan.

Sincerely,
JOHN BENNETT
Your State Representative

Partisan News

Editor: I enjoyed Mrs. Raymond's article in the last "Observer." However, there are facts which bear on the main thesis of her article. One is, that the theoretically non-partisan agencies of the Federal Government have been made the organs of the administration. The Voice of America has become the voice of the Democratic machine. Parts of the vitriolic editorial on Senator Goldwater, from the Saturday Evening Post, were broadcast to foreign correspondents and to American voters abroad.

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YOURS TRULY,
FLORENCE LATHEES
Plymouth

Manager, City Councilmen, and Police Department are in agreement that we need a light. Who are you to STOP it?

We are not asking for something that is not necessary this is something we need to help keep Farmington safe for our children.

We do not want to make headlines or seek publicity but if that is the only way to reach a goal than that may be the next step if you are not willing to study this further.

Very Sincerely Yours,
Mrs. Geraldine Kinjorski,
2885 Brookdale,
Farmington

A Different Analysis

Editor: As chairman of the now defunct Livonia Club for Governor Steering Committee, I would like to express my deep appreciation for the fairness you exhibited in your new columns during the last gubernatorial campaign.

When I took of this position, I felt that possibly I was wasting my time attempting to get any coverage for our committee and our candidate, because it would either not be printed, or it would be twisted, slanted and slurred. I reminded myself that you were a Republican, and a Republican candidate for the State Senate.

However, you proved the odds wrong. I would venture to say that 90% of the news releases and issue materials submitted to you, regarding our committee, and Neil Stedler, was printed without embellishment or cutting. For that I am most grateful. There were only two instances where you attempted to editorialize in our material. However, I am still grateful.

My mother once told me that in life, along with the kudos there are always knotes. I am now referring to your Facts and Opinions column of November 4. Without stating any facts, it is your opinion that something went wrong with the presidential election, and many American citizens found "themselves" locked into a position where many (if not most) did not really want to vote for either Presidential candidate and only went to the polls out of duty, with a sense of heavy burden?

I dispute that! If the usual spirit that runs in this country during a presidential election was missing, it was due to the fact that there was no contest. The results indicate that most Americans did believe in their hearts that Goldwater was wrong and Johnson was right. And they did so in such overwhelming numbers that they voted that the pollsters were correct—the election was over before it started.

Thank you,
DELL LAMB

Goldwater's Ideas?

Editor: I liked your editorial last week. It was very good. The American people do need something to work for—we each need to have a rebirth of personal responsibility. Your thoughts were very good, but shades of Goldwater—you don't seem to realize it but some of your ideas coincide with Mr. Goldwater. May I point out to you that maybe millions more people should have bothered to read his material, his books, etc. to find out just what he believes in and his ideals. I think it is a shame that the press in the United States gave Mr. Goldwater such a bad image. People would have been amazed to find out how much they thought and ideals were the same as Barry Goldwaters had they read his literature. You won't believe this but I know some people who still think he was against civil rights, and social security and, still more unbelievable, some people still think he was for war.

Thank you,
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15x10.7 Green WOOL PILE TWIST \$25

12x16.2 Helle WOOL PILE TWIST \$35

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Department will be very big and solicitous and put up a light. When it's too late you will put your great seal of approval when some child is killed or crippled for life.

I would like you to spend one day in Farmington and try crossing on foot and by car. It has taken as long as 7 or 8 minutes to get across at times. And for a child who may be late this is a little too much.

For your study of this corner I have seen meters longer on less traveled streets. If one life is saved by a light then it is worth every cent it would cost to erect and maintain.

I suggest you do some soul searching and make another study of this corner soon.

Or is this to be another Beech and Grand River, Orchard Lake and Grand River, Telegraph and Schoolcraft, 12 Mile and Middlebelt, and so many more that I could name.

Farmington Is Willing to Foot The Bill

Just remember any child that is going to school today is a son of the future and I think that some of the politicians in this state start thinking of this. Some day soon a child will die at this corner and I hope and pray that it will not be mine.

When the people, Mayor, City

Manager, City Councilmen, and Police Department are in agreement that we need a light. Who are you to STOP it?

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