

PUBLIC LETTER BOX

Letters submitted to the Editor for publication must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request. Opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the policies of this newspaper.



Another Objection on Industrial Zoning

I believe a correction is in order to a statement made in the Enterprise, December 12, relative to proposed industrial zoning in Farmington Township. "The proposed (industrial) area," the

with no objection."

This last sentence is not correct with respect to the Star Cutter property at Drake Road and Grand River. There has been considerable objection to zoning this section industrial from residents in the area, if there has not been more objection, it is because no public hearings have been held by the planning board relative to zoning this property industrial.

The proposed rezoning of the Halsted - Haggerty and the Eight Mile Road areas were well publicized and public hearings before the planning board were held after considerable publicity in the Enterprise. The Star Cutter piece was not included in these hearings

but is now slipped in by the planning board as part of its recommendation anyway. We have been led to think that each industrial zoning recommendation would be preceded by free, open and public hearings before the planning board. Such apparently is not to be the case.

Is the planning to be just the ideas of a few or is the public to be informed of proposed zoning changes and to have an opportunity to express its views before the planning Committee? Why can't the maps of the proposed industrial, commercial, recreational and neighborhood master plans be published in the Enterprise for everyone to see? After all, if the

taxpayers are footing the bill to the tune of approximately \$7,500 per year for township planning they ought to see what they are getting.

A Citizen

Politicians think that by stopping up the chimney they can stop its smoking. They try the experiment, they drive the smoke back, and there is more smoke than ever; but they do not see that their want of common sense has increased the evil they would have prevented.

—Borne

Relatives often give the tie that binds.

Cottontails Now Getting Hunters' Attention

Although he is around throughout the year, in abundant numbers, the cottontail rabbit doesn't really achieve prominence until the winter months, say the Conservation Department. When snow is on the ground and other hunting seasons past, rabbits receive the attention that has made them Michigan's most popular small game animal.

At least 300,000 hunters take to woods and fields each year, seeking the sport and good eating provided by the bouncing cottontail.

Their efforts, too, and bagged some 1,487,000 rabbits last season.

The reasons for the rabbit's popularity are many, conservation officials state. Rabbits are available to almost everybody; they are found close to towns; you don't need expensive equipment to hunt them; they are a tasty dish; and hunting seasons are long — extending through March 1 throughout the state.

Southern Michigan contains the main cottontail range, but bunnies also are found in the northern lower peninsula and even in the upper

peninsula. In northern parts of the state, however, most hunting pressure is directed at snowshoe hares. About 283,000 of these broad-footed hares were bagged by Michigan hunters last season.

Even with long seasons and heavy pressure, all surplus rabbits and hares are not harvested. As a matter of fact, hunters could take about two-thirds of the rabbit population each year without damaging the next year's production. In actual practice, hunters don't come close to harvesting two-thirds of the crop.

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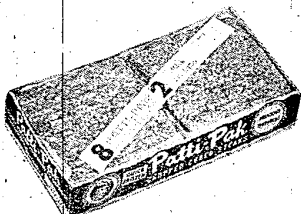


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