

# Observer Newspapers

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Serving the rich Northwest Wayne County and South Oakland County Suburban markets with a group of affiliated newspapers in Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Redford, Garden City, Westland and the Township of Plymouth, Farmington and Redford.

## The I Love

Throughout the United States today we are seeing an attempt to solve problems by use of force.

We quell riots with guns, sticks, tear gas; we are attempting to subdue the Viet Cong with napalm, machine guns, and tanks; men argue and shoot out their differences with revolvers.

Will it always be thus?

Some say "yes"; others say "no."

It would be appear rational to believe that we can't kill everybody who disagrees with us.

There was a movie cartoon done on this subject some years ago which carried this theme to the extreme.

At the end only two human beings were left—the other pro's and anti's had killed each other off. The two were the vegetarian and the anti-vegetarian and the movie closes with both shooting each other and

sinking into pools of water as their hands clutch feebly.

Certainly, the Golden Rule cannot be discarded as an entirely unworkable piece of human legislation: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Easy to say and hard to practice. Yet held in high regard by many.

On the other hand, there are those who daily hold their two-minute hate period.

Bringing the subject closer to home, may we consider the local situation which appears to be "hate niggers."

This type of labeling and animosity does more damage to the individual than to the class of people to whom he belongs.

Because his hate does not end with hating Negroes, he ultimately hates himself.

If life is worth living, it is worthwhile to live with one's self and to love one's self.

—BILL GAIL

## Job As Tough, Salaries Less—City And School

By W. W. EDGAR

Recent announcement of the salary schedule for the top officials in the Livonia school system provides an interesting study for those who delight in making comparisons and studying inequities in the various facets of our existence.

For instance, which is the more important position in the city—being the Mayor or Superintendent of Schools?

On the first impulse, one would be inclined to choose the Mayor's chair as the top office in the city. But if you looked at the salary schedule of the two positions,

there is no comparison.

The Superintendent of Schools, who has the responsibility of supervising the education of 32,000 pupils, is paid an annual stipend of \$35,000, while the Mayor's job of guiding the growth of the entire city of 100,000 population is considered only a part-time occupation and pays only \$8,400 for all the grief that must be taken.

The top-soldier comparison doesn't end there.

As a further example the City Clerk's job is of considerable responsibility and the City Treasurer is responsible for collecting all of the

taxes and handling the city's funds, yet both positions have part time pay salaries of \$7,200 and \$6,600 respectively.

There is another interesting comparison in the city's legal offices, where the City Attorney's position is only part time with a salary of \$10,000, while the assistant works full time for a stipend of \$11,880.

THE OBSERVER has made an interesting comparison of the salary scales and finds that there are five positions in the school system that pay higher salaries than the highest honorarium in city government. These positions are: Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent, Business Manager, Director of Secondary Education and Director of Elementary Education.

Each of these positions carries a salary above the \$15,000 paid to the City Engineer, top man on the City's Salary Totem Pole.

THE OBSERVER also found in the study that there is a differential of more than \$60,000 in salaries in the dozen top positions.

There also is an interesting comparison in the work load of the various positions. Such departments as the City Engineer and the City Planner, the two top paid positions in the city, never know such things as hours in a day. They are strangers to time clocks, whereas most positions in the school system have assigned hours.

At left is a comparison of the top salaries in both the Livonia School System and City Government.

| CITY                              | SCHOOL  |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| *Mayor \$8,400                    | Superintendent \$25,000                         |
| *City Clerk \$7,200               | Asst. Superintendent \$20,000                   |
| *City Treasurer \$6,600           | Business Manager \$20,000                       |
| City Engineer \$15,000            | Director Secondary Education \$18,000           |
| City Planner \$14,102             | Director Elementary Education \$18,000          |
| DPW Director \$13,500             | Director (Pupil Personnel Services) \$17,500    |
| City Assessor \$12,500            | Director of Personnel \$16,500                  |
| Industrial Co-Ordinator \$12,000  | Asst. Superintendent (Research) \$15,000        |
| *Assistant City Attorney \$11,980 | Director of School Community Relations \$14,750 |
| Budget Director \$11,980          | Asst. Director Personnel \$14,000               |
| Municipal Court Judge \$11,500    | Administrative Asst. \$13,750                   |
| Water-Sewer Director \$11,500     | Comptroller \$13,700                            |

\*Part time

\*City Attorney is part time and pays \$10,000

## OMBUDSMAN

(A new feature in The Observer Newspapers — we will do our best to be a go-between, a red-tape cutter as the name indicates. When you have exhausted all other measures on a problem write to us (keep it short, please) and we'll see if we can help. Yes, John Q, you can fight city hall — with your own Ombudsman!)

Dear Ombudsman:

I have a problem and wonder if you could help. I work every day and don't get home until after 6 p.m. I have had my T.V. set in repair with Starlit T.V. on Joy Road in Garden City. They called me and said it was ready.

I want my T.V. but all my bill-paying by check, but

I'm not home when they deliver. I hold them to leave it and I would send a check, or would send the check ahead. They said they would not take a check, only cash. I don't want to leave cash in a mail-box but I want my T.V. Would you see if you could help.

Virginia Roberts  
Plymouth

Dear Miss Roberts:

Starlit T.V. has had a lot of trouble with checks lately, but when we explained your circumstances to the right person they said they would cooperate with you. If you drop a check in the mail to them today they will deliver your set immediately.

Plymouth

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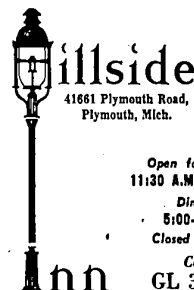
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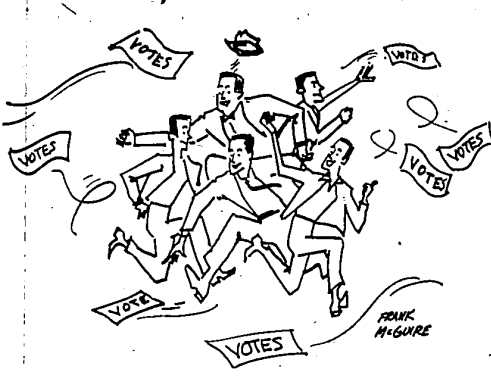
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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Thank You From The Conners

Editor:

My daughter-in-law Kathryn Conners and my wife and myself would like to express our deep appreciation to the many people in Livonia, some we do not even know, who have sent us cards and extended sympathy to us over the loss of our son, Pat Conners, who was killed in Vietnam Aug. 30.

It was consoling to us to have so many people care particularly since we had the two-weeks waiting period from the time we heard of our son's death and until his body was shipped home for burial. Livonians were most kind to take the time to express their concern. We also discovered we had wonderful neighbors, and they, too, shared our grief. Thank you, all.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Conners  
Livonia

### Kindred Sounds Off To and On Voters

Editor:

How many of us realize that there are two curtains involved in the staging of local elections? "Process" we call an Election? I would assume most citizens of legal age are familiar with the opaque curtain that closes behind them in the voting booth. For it is that yard, or, of cloth that finally closes the voter from the political propaganda and partisan drum-beating . . . and rightly so!

But, there is another curtain, variegated and loosely woven, that the voter must open wide so that his mind's eye might better focus on the issues and candidates. Because this political fabric has been fashioned on the looms of disorder and confusion, with both electorate and candidates furnishing yarn, while the news media, (recently we had) assist the weaver that best suits their design!

Too many voters, through apathy, ignorance, laziness and dogmatism, make a mockery of the sacred and vital privilege to vote. Sadler than not voting at all, is voting without careful afterthought! How often have you heard these lamentable phrases: "Why vote . . . they're all crooks!" — "I switched parties in the Primary to get rid of it." — "Who cares about the individual candidate, I vote for the party!" — "They

(?) gave me a list . . . so I went in and pulled the lever!" — "Gosh, I dunno . . . Hey, Dora, who did you vote for?" — "I forgot to register!" — "Well, it was raining . . . by the way, where do I go?" — "Well, it didn't have time to study the ballot!" — "You're kidding . . . was there an election?" — "I heard . . . or read somewhere that it was one of those . . ."

Ad infinitum! The vast majority of American citizens have allowed themselves to be lethargized, mesmerized, and victimized by a curtain of political ignorance of their own weaving. Thus, allowing political seagulls and power seeking groups to take the helm, and share the spoils!

Too many of our elected officials are compromising their integrity and basic moral standards to assure themselves of victory. Too many fundamentally worthy aspirants to public office find it necessary to make deals and take dirty money from special interest groups to finance the campaign, knowing that they will be called upon to make decisions in favor of these leeches and against the best interests of their constituents.

Yes, and there are good men willing to serve honestly who haven't the intestinal fortitude to withstand the smears, slander, lies and dirty politics . . . so they join the crowd on leaving the political arena. The "Curtain" grows thicker and the voters more near-sighted.

Let's consider the news media for a moment. It can be an instrument of good or it can be a shroud of shame! It can inform the voter or viewer or listener or it can misinform! It can perform its vital function of honest unbiased reporting or it can resort to "Yellow Dog" journalism! It can give in to the advertiser's social, economic and political beliefs to grab the almighty dollar or it can be a flaming sword of truth that will rip away the curtain that blinds and distorts!

Let's face the facts! Let's not misdirect the responsibility for the mess we have created, nurtured and harvested. Each one of us must share the blame for high prices, high taxes, high crime rates, violence in the streets, treatable diseases, and the nibbling away of the U.S. Constitution. It is time that we got up off our posteriors and

did something for our posterity! It's not too late . . . but it damned near is! REMEMBER . . . IN OUR REPUBLIC THE PEOPLE DO NOT SERVE THE GOVERNMENT . . . THE GOVERNMENT SERVES THE PEOPLE!!!

George Kindred  
Livonia

### About That Dump

Editor:

It is now 7:25 on a warm humid evening and we have to close our doors and windows because of the terrible odor from the dump, I live midway between Five Mile and Schoolcraft Roads and I think we pay enough taxes not to have such a stink in our neighborhood every Saturday evening. Maybe Mr. Moeckle doesn't live anywhere near this area, but I suggest he start doing something about this problem instead of fighting our city policemen.

MRS. JAMES BRANDRETH  
Livonia

### Need Park Coordinator

Editor:

Members of the League of Women Voters of Livonia, who actively supported the last three recreational bonding propositions, are concerned over the delay in hiring a parks coordinator.

During our work on the parks campaigns, many of us had an opportunity to work closely with members of the Parks and Recreation Department. We know, from this experience, that the department needs additional personnel to handle the operation of the city's recreational program.

With the increased work load resulting from passage of the bond issue, we believe it is imperative that the City Council, as soon as possible, approve the request for hiring a coordinator to handle land acquisition.

Additional duties of the Parks Coordinator would include the necessary preparations and paper work required for federal participation in this land acquisition. A delay in the appointment may result in the loss of choice land for park sites.

MRS. JOHN FEDERSPIEL  
President, Livonia LWV

Editor's Note: This resolution rests with the City Council at the present time.

## DIABETES? OR HYPOGLYCEMIA

High-Blood Sugar? Or Low Blood Sugar?

One-hundred and fifty years ago, average annual consumption of sugar per capita in the United States was about one pound. Today, the average American consumes over 100 pounds per capita each year! The increase in high-blood sugar and low-blood sugar has been staggering. In fact, within a dozen years, half of us in the United States, old to young, will be forced to take care of the other half, who will be incapacitated, because of disability.

Learn how to maintain a better-balanced body chemistry! We have many cases of low blood sugar patients in steady chronic care. Dr. Abrahamson's book, Body, Mind & Sugar—has indicated that it is practically impossible to control low blood sugar if the patient insists a drinking coffee.

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## OBSERVING the Scene . . .

By MYRA CHANDLER

Hang on to your common sense folks, the candidates are coming to town.

Not just the local fellows we have a chance to see daily, but the VIP variety will be crisscrossing Observer-land next week.

These are the professional persuaders and they are most accomplished because they have elections under their belts, know the pit-falls of the wrong answers. They will have square jaws, clear eyes and firm handshakes.

You have never been approached by a really smooth salesman unless you have had an opportunity to look deep into the blue eyes of one, Bill Milliken—running teammate of Governor Romney for Lieutenant Governor, and have him tell you what their team will do in the future and have done in the past.

He will be in Livonia Tuesday, Sept. 20 at Roma Hall.

Then there is former Governor William, past master at persuasion. He is getting back on his feet and has called a meeting this Wednesday at his home for all District Chairmen to evaluate the best way in gaining that two per cent the pollsters say he is behind. He will be in this area in the next few weeks.

A new face to most voters, but who made a tremendous impression in the area on his primary trip through town, Robert Griffin. He has all the attributes, jaw-eye-handshake, plus a Cavanagh-type approach (he even sounds like him on radio). He will be in the area all day Monday starting with a breakfast at Paul Steak House in Redford Township. He will attend tea, in shopping centers, at plants, have lunch with Livonia Chamber and generally visit "we folk."

Saturday Zolton Ferency will have his shining hour. He will concentrate mainly on Livonia, being guided about town by Ron Marderos, 19th district chairman. I haven't personally met the fighter-Ferency, but he has my award of the week for the candidate with the farthest to go and the least likely to get there.

Still, American people traditionally like an underdog, and although he doesn't make noises like that, still, there is the Romney image. I'm anxious to meet candidate Ferency just so on those days when I feel I haven't got a chance—I keep trying anyhow. The Dem standard bearer, certainly deserves credit for this.

Unlike Romney a great many of Ferency's close associates more than just respect him—they feel they are on a par with him and sort of enjoy him.

And now we come to the Chief, the vote getter from all parties and capturer of the Independent, George Romney. The most marvelous advantage he has is his tremendous energy. He is as fresh on the last syllable as the first, often uttered at 6:10 a.m., in front of a plant gate. Governor Romney is an ace at this. He is scheduled daily from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a marathon of 10 to 22 speeches. This is tough, try just one sometime and you have to respect the candidate.

I would hope all of our communities will offer courtesy to the candidates we encounter during the coming weeks, regardless of our philosophy. We don't have to vote for them, but for the sake of the community we call our home we owe them the hospitality awarded a respected visitor crossing our boundaries.

Particularly is this true of government officials. Mayor Freeh of Garden City was crude in his snubbing Senator Griffin last week in his City Hall.

Community leaders at times, must be above politics, even during campaigns.

## Supervisor Reverses Inflationary Trend

In these days of rising costs and every hand and the economy in a whirling spiral George Clemence, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds in the Garden City school system, stands as a man apart.

When asked to submit figures for his department's share of the new school budget, he did the unusual. He asked for a reduction from the figure allowed him a year ago.

Originally the department was budgeted for \$19,400. In the new budget he has been granted the reduced sum of \$18,740.

It was pointed out that with the opening of West High School last year, a full complement of supplies was given the new school. Now, after a year's experience, this stock can be reduced.

Few department heads ever admit such findings, so George deserves some kind of medal. —W. W. EDGAR

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