

Time Lag Could Be Fatal To Study

Last Sunday all kinds of people gathered on Belle Isle for the now celebrated "love in."

Enough space in the news columns has been devoted to that event so we won't really discuss it further except to observe that love and the good of mankind was the theme.

The theme was repeated Tuesday night in Farmington when governmental leaders of the city, township and the two villages met to consider a proposed study from the Michigan State University Institute for Community Development and Services.

Unfortunately, like Sunday, things didn't go just as hoped.

Frankly, a roadblock, which could jeopardize the entire study of the future develop-

ment of the community, cropped up.

Township officials asserted that, while in favor of a study, they wanted to wait until after the Oct. 23 incorporation election. They reason that if the study is made and the final report completed and finished in mid-August the incorporation issue will be clouded.

Having seen the last incorporation election and being aware of how strongly the township hall gang is in favor of incorporation, we can't really quarrel with their concern.

It would be nice if the general electorate wouldn't be confused by the release of a report on alternatives for the entire 36-square mile area just before the election, but practically speaking the officials are almost 100 percent correct.

The problem arises though in the basic law of inertia. For those of you who don't remember your high school science, it is the

rule whereby it takes more energy to get something moving from a stationary position than it does to keep it moving.

Specifically, if the momentum on this study is not kept up and the idea is shelved until after October it may never get off the ground again.

Why is the concurrence of the Township officials needed to do the study?

One reason is that the four governmental units are being asked to put up the cold, hard cash — \$3,500 total — to pay the cost of the study.

The other is if the governmental units don't cooperate to the fullest extent possible then the job simply can't be done.

Another Township viewpoint was a expressed that perhaps the City should make some sort of positive move to demonstrate that they were supporting the idea.

As Township Supervisor Curt Hall noted, "we in the Township are somewhat suspect of the City."

City Councilman John Allen noted that the City representatives had been present at all of the sessions of the study committee and observed that this was an indication that the City was interested in the idea.

His comment struck home. The Township Board refused to name anyone to serve "officially" on the study committee and Trustee Tom Nolan did serve "unofficially."

All in all, it's a touchy situation. The outcome of it and whether or not this independent study is made—at whatever time during the next 12 months—is vitally important to the entire area.

If it fails because of the time lag then the entire area will suffer.

—SUE SHAUGHNESSY

editorial

OUR READERS SPEAK School Staff 'Unhappy' With Story

ThePrincipal

To the Editor:

Our entire Wm. Grace School staff was most unhappy with the recent article in the Enterprise describing our Title I programs.

As educators we have been most cautious about labeling children or parents in any way that would be detrimental. The article did just what we have tried not to do. We have stressed—and rightly so—that Title I is an educational program aimed at bolstering children who have an educational lag. We were, indeed, sorry to see the article written in the way that it was.

We have always had excellent coverage by the Enterprise and cannot understand how this article was permitted to be published using such terms as "deprived", etc.

N. Abid
Principal
Wm. Grace School

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Include your name, address, telephone

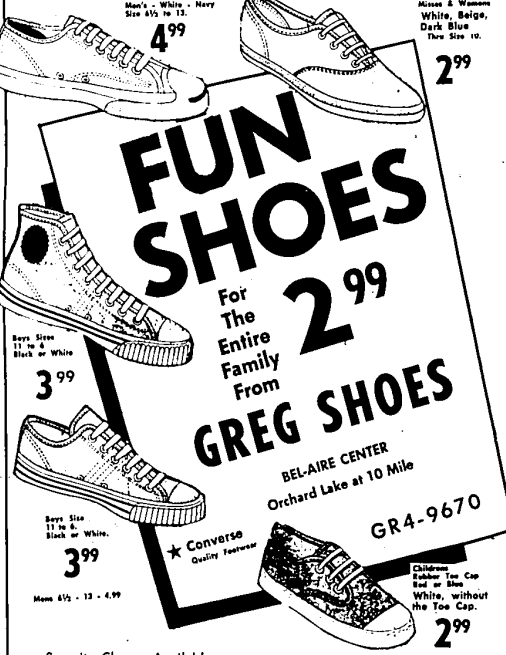
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EDITOR'S NOTE: To create the "impression" Mr. Abid desires would have required departing from the truth. The truth is that (1) the Act of Congress specifically uses the term "deprived" and (2) teachers and members of the administration used the term "deprived" freely and repeatedly in explaining the program to the Board of Education. The story was accurate and honest. We stand by it.

Stephanie Rulter
Margaret Ellingham
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Carolyn J. Kugler
Carolyn Danielson
Sandra Lee Rogers
Mary L. King
Grace Campbell
Barbara Miller
Florence Sharp
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TheTeachers

To the Editor:

We are appalled by the lack of sensitivity and good taste used in preparing your April 23 article on the Title I Resource Center.

The Centers operating in four Farmington area schools at this time, service the entire school populations as closely as time and energies permit. Priority is, of course, given to those children who, for any number of reasons, are experiencing difficulty in their academic work.

Among our children are some who, if we must classify people, might belong to the less advantaged segment of our population. It was because of, and thanks to these children that we were able to qualify for Title I funds which have enabled us to establish a staffed resource center available to benefit the entire school.

A universal characteristic of people, rich and poor alike, is sensitivity accompanied by a need for respect and acceptance. This is a fact which should require no restatement. We do then no favors when we accuse them of raising children who "lack adult models

Pvt. Rikard Goes To Fort Knox, Ky.

Army Private Charles A. Rikard is assigned to Company "E" 19th Battalion, 5th Brigade, in the United States Army Training Center, Armor (USATCA), at Fort Knox, Ky.

Following the completion of his basic training, Pvt. Rikard, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Rikard, of 25174 Westmoreland Dr., will receive at least an additional eight weeks of either advanced instruction or on-the-job training to qualify him in a specialized military skill.

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