

'Common Sense Economies' Asked In Schools

EDITOR:
Twenty-one mills? No! Bear in mind, this is a Wayne-Westland School District "renewal." Too often, practically always, a request for a "temporary" millage becomes a permanent assessment, and for no good reason. It's not needed here if school management will effect common sense economies and abandon the extravagant practices which do not add one whit to the education of the students.

Not only locally, but nationally, citizens are getting "fed up" with the spend, spend, spend policies of the schools. A few years ago, an eminent columnist conducted a search for the "villain" responsible for high prices and found the "villain" to be taxes, principally Federal taxes at that time, but now it's school taxes which are about 80 per cent of our city and county taxes, in some cases.

The excessive school taxes are driving citizens living on fixed incomes right out of their homes into cramped quarters in mobile homes or apartments where they can no longer enjoy having a little garden or flowers or pets.

And for what? For "director of instructional media" or "director of student personnel services" or "coordinator of counseling" or "resource center coordinator." All of the non-teaching staff could be eliminated. Schools are for teaching, not for a lot of non-essential jobs resulting in high costs.

The Wall Street Journal

READERS' FORUM

- Please type (or write clearly) and limit letters to 300 words.
- Letters must be signed with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause.
- The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

Left Turn Tip Helps Traffic

EDITOR:
I can sympathize with Kenneth A. Kemp of Farmington who was a little peeved because he received a traffic ticket. It's only human to be aggravated by this, especially if one feels that he is in the right. Something that aggravates me is to be behind a driver who is trying to make a left turn.

And now, in the Dec. 6 issue of The Observer, we read: "Westland Schools Name Director of Research." First, a request for excessive mileage, then hiring this "director of program evaluation, research and planning in the curriculum division." That's the way the article terms it, and it's certainly further evidence of the spend, spend, spend policy.

Let's vote "no" emphatically on any millage until economies are effected instead of continuing to add to non-teaching costs.

R. H. CLOUGH
Westland

putting extra-miles on my car and using more gasoline in order to avoid making left hand turns? First of all, to make driving as safe and as easy as I can for myself. That's the way I am most interested in helping.

However, if my practice helps to ease congestion a little bit, which it probably does, that helps the other driver also.

There are probably a lot of drivers who make this practice a part of their driving. I have been wanting to pass this tip along to other motorists for many years.

HAROLD J. McDONALD
Garden City

Likes Matching Election Dates

EDITOR:
The example set by the Crestwood school board in changing their traditional June elections to coincide with city elections should be applauded.

This decision will not only save the district money, but insure a larger voter turnout for elections held by the school board members. The savings in election costs alone should be a sufficient reason for the Livonia school board to consider a similar change.

CHARLES W. CHANDLER
Livonia

Perrin Denies Sport Promise

EDITOR:
R.T. Thompson writes in an editorial of your Dec. 28 edition that the Farmington Board of Education, prior to the August 1971 millage election, met with a citizens' group which promised to raise the money needed to continue the athletic program, and that the board agreed to accept.

This is absolutely not true. The school board did not, prior to the millage election, meet with any citizens' group to discuss private funding of the athletic program. The school board did not, prior to the election, make any commitments, either publicly or privately, to accept any money raised by private support of the athletic program.

KENNETH PERRIN, President of Farmington Board of Education

EDITOR'S NOTE: It is curious that Mr. Perrin chooses to reply to this point but ignores more serious allegations. That he and the board broke faith with the voters by accepting gift money for athletics; that he and the board improperly conducted secret meetings; that he and the board should have given an explanation of why they forced the superintendent of schools to resign; and that he explain how a policy-making body can conduct "executive" sessions.

County Approves Air Patrols For Parks

Sheriff's helicopters will begin flying regular patrols along the 26-mile length of Edward Hines Drive soon in one of two new law enforcement programs recently approved by the Wayne County Board of Commissioners.

The board authorized the helicopter patrols and increased policing of the county park system at its last full-board meeting of the 1971-72 term.

HELICOPTERS will be used by the Sheriff for the first time in history for tasks such as patrol of high crime areas, crowd control and apprehension of fleeing suspects. They are expected to be in the air by summer.

Hines Drive will be the focus of the air patrols, according to Sheriff William Lucas, and deputies will assist local police in the communities along the patrol route on an emergency basis. Hines Drive runs through Plymouth, Livonia, Garden City, Westland, Inkster and Dearborn Heights.

The federal funds were approved by the Michigan Crime Control Commission which allocates the funds, the day before the commissioners gave the program their approval on a 137 vote.

In all the one-year cost of the helicopter unit will amount to \$262,100, including the deputies' salaries and a county cash contribution of \$4,788. It was revision of an earlier grant application to include the cash contribution that the commissioners acted on officially.

According to police, helicopters patrol more effectively than scout cars and take only 15 minutes to cover as much area as a car would in six hours.

Leasing and operation of two helicopters by the Sheriff's department will be covered for one year with a \$185,225 grant in federal law enforcement assistance funds. The three-person aircraft will be piloted by Sheriff's deputies who will carry another deputy as observer.

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AREA DEATHS AND FUNERALS

MADDALENE STANTON - Services for Mrs. Stanton, 72, of 17331 Springdale, Livonia, were held in St. Bernard Catholic Church, 28000 Grand River Road, Farmington, on Dec. 29. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Mrs. Stanton died Dec. 15 at Mt. Carmel Hospital, Detroit. She was a widow.

Survivors are two daughters, Mrs. Frances Shipley and Mrs. Jack (Gladys) Haines; two sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth (Pauline) and Mrs. Alice (Pauline) Haines; and three grand-children.

JULIA E. BRODIE - Services for Mrs. Brodie, 82, of 21111 Bennett, Redford Township, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home with Rev. James R. Barnes officiating. Burial was in Grand Lawn Cemetery.

WALTER J. DABROWSKI - Services for Mr. Dabrowski, 62, of 25256 Linden, Redford Township, were held Dec. 19 in St. Valentine Catholic Church, Redford Township. Burial was in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

JOSEPH MILLER - Services for Mr. Miller, 60, of 34355 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, were held Dec. 21 in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home. Burial was in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

RAY CHAMBERLIN - Services for Mr. Chamberlin, 76, of 23115 Violet, Farmington, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

MARGARET E. MORAN - Services for Mrs. Moran, 82, of 23115 Violet, Farmington, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

FRED J. LACROIX - Services for Mr. Lacroix, 88, formerly of Livonia, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

MIRIAM E. WILL - Services for Mrs. Will, 84, of 14111 Lexington Drive, Farmington, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

KIRK H. MCCOWAN - Services for Mr. McCowan, 32, of 8750 W. 17th, Farmington, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

Memorial Gardens-Westland. He died suddenly of a heart attack at his home, 2444 W. 17th, Detroit, on Dec. 29. Burial was in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

NEVILLE H. MINOR - Services for Mr. Minor, 54, of 8631 Dixie, Redford Township, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

BARBARA UROUKAT - Services for Mrs. Uroukat, 22, of 23124 Ashland, Farmington, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

ALMA ROBINSON - Services for Mrs. Robinson, 63, of 14000 St. Marys, Detroit, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

MARJORIE M. BEATTY - Services for Mrs. Beatty, 53, of 14332 Aubrey, Redford Township, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

JOSEPH J. SCHMIDTKE - Services for Mr. Schmidtke, 62, of 14130 St. Joseph Drive, Plymouth, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

JANE C. MCCAGHERY - Services for Mrs. McCaghery, 82, of 17823 Beaverton, Detroit, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

CELESTE GIOIA - Services for Mrs. Gioia, 62, of 39874 John Drive, Canton Township, were held in the Charles R. G. Funeral Home.

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23 at Clearwater after an extended illness. He was general engineer for Michigan Bell Telephone Co. before his retirement and a member of Telephone Company of Livonia. He was a member of the American Legion 408.

Survivors are his wife, Lillian; two daughters, Mrs. Richard (Barbara) Miller and Mrs. William (Barbara) Miller; and three grand-children.

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To go to the INDIANAPOLIS SPEEDWAY. This will be a trip for 2, all expenses paid. Plus the winner's name will be on the rear wing of the MVS EAGLE 1973 Racer at Indianapolis. (This drawing to be on a National level and will take place March 15). Runner-up will win a MVS Team Jacket (one to be given away locally).
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