editorial opinion

Jackie Klein writes

New driver empties gas tank

Where is the little girl I carried? Where does she wander near and far? Why is her mother gray and harried? Lisa has learned to drive my car.

Sunrise, sunset, sunrise, sunset I can't believe it's real One hour following another 'My Lisa sits behind the wheel.

The poem's no Pulitzer Prize winner. But if someone comes up with a nervous mother of the year award. I'm sure I'd walk away with it.

I've got credentials and even physical evidence. Take the bush next to the end of our driveway. My daughter has already taken half of it backing out with

I could show you what looks like a gopher hole at the edge of our lawn. I stuck a sign in it saying. "Lisa was here."

For further evidence, may I point out my empty gas tank? Lisa is at a loss to explain why the car is out of gas when she just "hopped over to the drug store across the street."

It doesn't bother her a bit that it costs \$12 to fill the tank. "You don't have to pay for it," she insists. "Just use your Michigan BankAmericard.'

There is one positive note in this tale of woe and worry. Lisa will drive to an allnight drug store just to get me a package of cinnamon gum. She has been known to make four trips to the grocery store in 20 minutes with a list of six items.

How I used to complain when I was in a car pool for drivers' training and it was my turn once a week. I lost my turn the day Lisa got her license. I also lost my

NOT ONLY am I suffering anxiety. I have developed a guilt complex. Lisa is taking a sixth hour class called "home." That means she gets out of school at 1:45 p.m. Since I'm a working mother, I can't pick her up and the bus leaves an hour

"If you'd buy me a car, it would solve all your psychosomatic problems," sug-gests Lisa who elected to take a "home" instead of psychology. "I'll get a job and pay you back."

This generous offer came from a kid who dunned me for two weeks because I borrowed \$1.50 to buy her a Mad Magazine and some comic books.

There's no lack of communication at our house. There isn't a trace of a generation gap either. Lisa can hardly wait until I get home from work.

She's so excited, she stands on the front porch, waves frantically, grabs my keys, pushes me out of the car and yells, "Goodbye Mom."

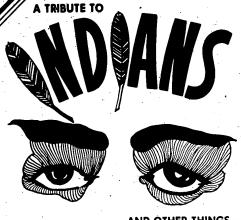
SHE EVEN calls me at work to tell me

how much she misses me. When that happens, I get a gut feeling she's buttering me up for later. All of a sudden, she gets a craving for tutti frutti sundaes at odd hours and she's off and running to How-ard Johnson's. But first she has to pick up her girlfriend who moved to Union

When she comes back with an ounce of gas in the tank, she complains, "There's nothing to do around here. It's a lot more fun in Ann Arbor."

Where is the little girl I carried? At this moment, she could be anywhere between Ypsilanti and Cobo Hall.

Her mother and dad are taking turns watching the digital clock that glows in the dark. And we're thinking of getting back in a car pool.



...AND OTHER THINGS

FEBRUARY 3-9

PAINTINGS—OIL and ACRYLIC

Cel-Twelve Mall

TELEGRAPH-12 MILE ROAD SOUTHFIELD

MON-SAT 10-9

SUNDAYS 12-5

Carl Stoddard writes

Every official needs a free car

Happily, not all of us have lost our sense of humor because of inflation, layoffs and recession.

Leonard Teicher, vice president of the Southfield Board of Education, his tongue planted firmly in his cheek, offered the following resolution to end the recession:

WHEREAS, the trustees of Michigan State University are state officials comparable to the boards of education of public elementary and secondary education;

WHEREAS, a recent Detroit Free Press article stated that trustees of Michigan State University are provided automobiles at taxpayer expense although they only meet one and one-half days per

WHEREAS, the justification given for the expenditures of tax dollars in this manner is that the trustees are on 24-hour

WHEREAS, there are approximately 4,200 public school board members and

other university trustees in the state of Michigan who are not provided automobiles at taxpayer expense, but who are

lso on 24-hour call; WHEREAS, it is logical to assume that each of the 50 states has at least 4,200 elected school officials who are not provided automobiles at taxpayer expense;

THEREFORE Be It Resolved that the Southfield Board of Education strongly urges the Congress of the United States to appropriate and earmark \$840 million for the purchase of a \$4,000 automobile for each school board member in the United

BE IT FURTHER Resolved that copies of this resolution be forwarded to appro-priate state and federal officials.

"I felt the board needed a little levity," Teicher said later

I think he's right, but I would extend it by saying we all need a little levity. Humor is a very important part of our lives. And so far, humor is tax exempt.

Now you have a chance to win 2 FREE tickets to the 1975 Ice Capades. opening at Olympia Stadium on March fith. The Observer & Eccentric and Olympia Stadium are giving away tick-ets--absolutely free. TO WIN, all you have to do is send us a post card with your name and address. That's all.

Address your post card, including your zip code, to: ICE CAPADES, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Michigan 48150. (Or you may hand deliver your post card entry to any of our Observer & Eccentric offices.)

The Observer & Eccentric will then draw names for winners, to be published in four consecutive issues of our Classified Section-5 names will be published on Thursday, February 27; 5 on Monday, March 3; 5 on Thursday, March 6; and 5 on Monday, March 10. Each of the 20 winners will receive 2 free tickets to the all-new ice Capades Show, starring JoJo Starbuck and Ken Shelley, three-time winners of the U.S. Pairs Figure Skating Competition. Ticket winners will view an all-star numbers including precision routines and a special tribute to Duke Ellington. Also on hand will be Lucien Meyer and his chimps, juggler Albert Lucas, vet-erans Anna Galmarini, and Freddie Trenkler, the "bouncing ball of the ice."

It's easy! So don't miss your chance to win 2 FREE tickets to the exciting new toe Capades show. Send in your post card entry today--then be sure to look for your name in the Clas-sified Section of the Observer & Eccentric editions mentioned above.

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Ecology-minded persons who wish to save cans, bottles or newspapers for recycling may use these facilities. To prepare glass, thoroughly wash the containers, remove all metal caps and rings from the glass and separate the glass by color.

LATHRUP VILLAGE-At the Public Services Building, 19101 Twelve Mile Road, adjacent to the high school. Newsy: pers are collected 10 a.m. 2 pm. by volunteers the first Saturday of each month.
 BIRMINGHAM-Daily newspaper pickup with regular trash. Vewspapers must be bundled separately.

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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Livonia, MI 48150



