

editorial opinion

Jackie Klein writes

New driver empties gas tank

By JACKIE KLEIN

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 our car.

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 all-night 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 car.

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 month;

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

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 also 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 States;

BE IT FURTHER Resolved that copies of this resolution be forwarded to appropriate 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.

Your ecology calendar

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.

To prepare cans, clean only. Paper need not be removed.

Newspapers should be tied in bundles with heavy string or rope or secured in heavy paper bags.

SOUTHFIELD—In the old city offices, 28000 Berg Road at Ten and One-half Mile, one block east of Telegraph.

TROY—At the DPW Yard, 4695 Rochester Road, from 9 a.m. to noon on the first and third Saturday of each month.

LATHRUP VILLAGE—At the Public Services Building, 19101 Twelve Mile Road, adjacent to the high school. Newspapers are collected 10 a.m.-2 p.m. by volunteers the first Saturday of each month.

BIRMINGHAM—Daily newspaper pickup with regular trash. Newspapers must be bundled separately.

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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

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

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