



Badge of Honor

State Sen. Daniel Cooper (D-Oak Park), whose district includes Southfield and Farmington, presents the Senate's resolution condemning the recent United Nations' action equating Zionism with racism to Louis Panush of Southfield. Panush (third from left) is national vice president of the Zionist Organization of America and chairman of the Detroit district's public affairs committee. The presentation was

made following Gov. William Milliken's acceptance of a pin bearing the inscription "Zionism is A Badge of Honor." Pictured at the presentation, from left to right, are: Vernon Leopold of Southfield, president of the Detroit Zionist Federation; Cooper; Panush; Gov. Milliken; House Majority Floor Leader Joseph Forbes (D-Oak Park), whose district includes Southfield; and State Sen. Jack Faxon (D-Detroit).

Law prompts sign-up

Based on the first month's success with the new voter registration-driver license law, more than half a million additional voter registrations will be processed in Michigan before the 1976 election.

"The number of voter registration applications being received in Secretary of State field offices is exceeding our expectations," Secretary of State Richard Austin said. "The people statewide appear to welcome the ease and convenience with which they can update their voter registrations or apply for new registrations at our driver license offices throughout Michigan."

A total of 35,678 voter applications, in close proportion to population distribution, were received in the first month of the program which began Oct. 1. Of these, about half (17,449) were for new voters and half (18,229) were for changes of address. These registrations do not include regular year-around registration activities of election clerks in their own offices.

Registrations totalled 6,327 in Oakland County and 5,426 in Wayne County.

New voter registrations include people moving into Michigan from other states, as well as other residents not previously registered.

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Skies display colorful Yule stars

December brings the official start of winter and also "some of the most beautiful and colorful stars of the whole year," according to University of Michigan astronomer Hazel M. Losh.

The winter of 1975-76 will begin at 6:46 a.m., Dec. 22, Prof. Losh says. "At this time the sun arrives at the winter solstice, the most southerly point it reaches in its apparent yearly journey around the earth," she observes, adding that on this day there will be just 9 hours of daylight and 15 of darkness.

PROF. LOSH points out that in winter the sun is actually closer to the earth than in summer.

"The seasons depend mostly on the tilt of the earth's axis," she explains. "In winter the sun's rays strike our planet more obliquely, thereby lessening their intensity."

The stars on display in the night skies of December will be especially lovely, the U-M astronomer continues. "The yellow star Capella may be found in the pentagon-shaped constellation Auriga, the orange Aldebaran in Taurus, the giant red Betelgeuse in the shoulder of Orion, and Rigel in his knee. All of these will be above the horizon before the brightest of them all, Sirius, the dog star, makes its appearance in the constellation Canis Major."

SIRIUS HAS been admired and revered since ancient times, she continues, rising as it does with such brilliance in the early evening around Christmas.

"It was the 'Star of the East' pointed to by the Three Wise Men," she says.

With the bright Sirius directly overhead in daytime, the ancients believed it added to the heat from the sun, hence one possible reason for the term "dog days," she comments.

Rising near the east point is Orion's other dog, Canis Minor, with the star Procyon. Rising about 20 minutes before Sirius, Procyon means "before the dog."

MOVING STEADILY toward the west is the Northern Cross, and Prof. Losh says it may be seen to "spend advantage" on Christmas Eve.

Police academy graduates 16

Dec. 19 graduation ceremonies from the Oakland Police Academy Basic Police Training course will include 16 area residents among the 37 graduates.

Ceremonies will be held in the Oakland County Court House auditorium. Those graduating include: Michael Young, Beverly Hills Department of Public Safety; Vincent Ziegler, Farmington Police Department; and Joseph Falcon, Troy Police Department.

Charles Adkins, David Roddy and Raymond Walke, Oakland County Sheriff's Department; Paul Desar-

meaux, William Gregory, Timothy Sheridan and Angus White, West Bloomfield Township Police Department.

Mario Eovaldi, Robert Farquhar, James Lelli, Stanley Mroczka, Linda Sharner and Michael Waich, Southfield Police Department.

Saturn rises at about the same time as Procyon, but farther north. On Dec. 21 Saturn is five degrees north of the gibbous moon.

Muzzle loaders can hunt now

The Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters planning to participate in the state's first bucks only deer season for muzzle-loaders that licenses are available only at DNR district and field offices and at the department's headquarters in Lansing.

Licenses for the season through Dec. 14 are \$7.50 for residents, \$1 for seniors, and \$40 for nonresidents. The DNR stresses that rules allow use only of a .44 caliber or larger round ball with black powder in muzzle-loading rifles and shotguns.

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