

Improve Road Patrol Or End It, County Told

Local police chiefs and elected officials will be invited to help decide the future role of the Wayne County Sheriff in law enforcement. Plymouth Township is affected.

The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee of the County Board of Commissioners plans to issue the invitation as a result of a year-long study of the Sheriff's department.

Committee members agreed to invite mayors, township supervisors and police chiefs to a meeting in the City-County Building Auditorium after the Aug. 4 primary election. The date has not been set yet.

THE OPERATION of the Sheriff's Road Patrol which provides out-county police services, was analyzed by the National Association of Chiefs of Police. The Citizens Research Council of Michigan coordinated the over-all study.

The study report concludes there is "a dire need for improvement" of the Road Patrol operation and that townships in particular should pay more of the cost if they want the sheriff to continue to provide local police services for them.

If the county is unwilling or unable to establish a modern professionalized police force, it recommended that the county discontinue providing local patrol and investigation services," the report states.

Eight townships constituted the "primary service area" of the Road Patrol, with the remaining townships and a number of cities receiving supportive and specialized services to varying lesser degrees, according to the report.

These townships are Brownstown, Canton, Huron, Northville, Plymouth, Romulus (since incorporated), Sumpter and Van Buren. The report said Brownstown is served primarily by the Flat Rock State Police post.

TWO MAJOR CONCLUSIONS are stated in the report:

• "First, the Wayne County sheriff department, as presently organized and operated, does not provide a suitable vehicle for the provision of police services in the county."

• "Second, the present method of financing the (sheriff's) local patrol and investigation services... through general county-wide taxes is inequitable... most unincorporated areas pay very little for police services even though they have a relatively greater ability to pay than many of the incorporated areas that must pay both for their own police services and for the services in unincorporated areas."

The report lists four alternatives and states that "various combinations" of the alternatives are possible. These are:

1. Discontinue the provision of local police services by the county;
2. Continue to provide local police services to unincorporated areas that do not have local police departments;
3. Offer comprehensive police services to all local units in the county on a contract basis; or
4. Provide specialized police services on a county-wide basis.

"We are going to consider this report most thoroughly and give careful consideration to the views of the local officials," commented Committee Chairman Ralph Patrick Turco (D-Westland).

Other members of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee are: William L. Dunbar, Detroit, vice chairman; Albert R. DeBiasi, Allen Park, Michael J. Novak, Detroit, Carl D. Pursell, Plymouth, Eugene A. Sikora, Detroit, and Jerome A. Szymanski, Detroit.

Junk Mail, Bussing Opposed

Constituents of U.S. Rep. Jack McDonald (R-Farmington) overwhelmingly support his bills to stop federal agencies from selling mailing lists to the public and to oppose use of federal funds for bussing to earn racial balance in schools.

In response to a questionnaire, McDonald's constituents also gave him solid backing to force true draft reform and to provide greater federal subsidies to expand and modernize the U.S. merchant marine fleet.

McDonald's 19th District includes Redford Township, Livonia and Farmington.

"Save me from junk mail," a Farmington man pleaded. "And McDonald says his bill, if passed, will do just that."

HE SAID IT IS a practice of the Federal Aviation Agency, the Coast Guard and other federal agencies to gather private information through required forms and sell the names and other data to commercial firms to use in direct mail advertising.

"Since it's (the bill's) introduction last year," McDonald said, "several of my colleagues have joined me in seeking to end this unethical practice."

His survey showed those favoring this legislation were: men, 91%; women, 90%; and the 18-21 age group, 71%.

McDonald says he has publicly opposed use of federal funds to bus students to achieve racial balance in schools, and he has introduced a bill to that effect.

The tally against the use of federal funds for this purpose was: men, 91%; women, 92%; and 18-21, 85%.

McDonald pointed out that hearings on controversial draft legislation have been pending in the House Armed Services Committee.

"This reorganization is long overdue and I have urged Chairman Mendall Rivers to go forward with true draft reform and not mere tokenism," he declared.

His questionnaire response on general approval abolition of the draft was: men, 88%; women, 89%; and 18-21, 85%.

McDonald voted in favor of President Nixon's 10-year program to strengthen and expand the merchant marine fleet, authorizing \$10 billion in the next 10 years.

He pointed out that American flag ships now carry only about 6.4% of the total tonnage of US trade.

"Ten billion dollars is a small investment to make in order to increase (on a permanent basis) our peacetime employment, and put American goods in American ships for the world market," he said.

McDonald's survey favoring this issue was: men, 78%; women, 69%; and 18-21 group, 65%.



LAWN PARTY -- Members of the Plymouth branch of the American Association of University Women invited prospective members to join them in an outdoor gathering last week at the home of Mrs. James Stebbins, left. Among the ladies on hand were Margaret Stadel, second from left, Mrs. Dorothy Burke and Mrs. Hugh Jarvis. (Observer photo)

Esch Hits Sale Of Mail Lists

U.S. Rep. Marvin Esch (R-2nd District) is adding his voice to those calling for a "screaming halt" to the federal government's sale of mailing lists for commercial use.

It is an issue raised several months ago by Rep. Jack McDonald (R-19th District) — "MANY PEOPLE in South-eastern Michigan have complained of this practice," said Esch.

With 30 colleagues he has introduced a bill that would prohibit the sale or distribution of any list of names of federal employees, past or present, members of the Armed Forces or persons who are licensed or required to register with any federal agency.

McDonald's campaign has been specifically aimed at preventing agencies, such as the U.S. Census Bureau, from selling lists of names compiled as part of federal polling.

"THE PROBLEM is that the federal government has no definitive policy on this matter. Each agency, often with good intentions, interprets existing law in a different manner, sometimes in directly opposite ways," said Esch.

The Internal Revenue Service, until recently, was guilty of selling the names of those who registered as gun collectors. The Federal Communications Commission still sells, at cost, the names of all licensed ham radio operators. The Federal Aviation Administration

tration sells the names of licensed pilots and the Coast Guard the names of registered boat owners.

"Quite obviously, the sale of mailing lists can end up, and often does, as a serious infringement in the individual's right to privacy. All of us have a right to believe that our relations with the federal government are based upon a judicious sense of confidentiality."

"HAVING SOMEONE buy a mailing list for what amounts to peanuts and then either mailing us material we clearly do not want, or even come to see us when we do not want to see them, is without doubt an activity in which our government should have no part."

Chrysler VP Will Guide JA

Joseph F. Kerigan, vice president of stamping, Chrysler Corp., U.S. automotive manufacturing group, has been elected president of Junior Achievement of Southeastern Michigan. He was previously vice president of the youth organization.

Succeeding Kerigan as vice president is Frank O. Riley, vice president, General Motors Corp.

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