

Livonia's Celebration Was No Picnic To Them

EDITOR:
My family and I are directing this letter to you because we do not know exactly who is responsible for the Livonia 20th anniversary picnic at Ford Field.

When we planned our Labor Day activities, we all looked forward to this much publicized city event. We have lived in four different states and have attended several public gatherings of this type and have always enjoyed them greatly.

Unfortunately, this was definitely not the case at Ford Field on Labor Day.

It was evident to everyone present that they were victims of poor planning, poor organization, lack of equipment, inadequate restroom facilities, inexperienced help, virtually no disposal containers which, combined with hundreds of hot parents and children waiting in line for over two hours for food (nothing to drink, however) made for a most irritating way to spend a holiday.

If you tasted the ordeal in line, or "mobs" as I heard one distraught mother put it, and at long last, received some food, you were obliged to sit not at tables or even on benches — but on the ground with children, senior citizens and so many others whom we felt so sorry for.

If you wanted something to drink or icecream, you had to stand in line again. I saw two men faint or collapse and expected to see more.

My husband is an unusually patient man but when we sat on the bare dirt to eat and an elderly couple had their plates spilled by children running by and seeing other people literally sitting among garbage to eat, he told the whole family to prepare to leave immediately.

He was furious and with reason. After leaving the immediate eating area, our children were still holding their dirty cups (an amazing feat considering they juggled a plate, napkin and plastic eating utensils without a table or counter of any type to aid them.)

We began walking to our car, carrying melting ice cream (spoons had broken) and walked the entire width of Ford Field looking for a trash container. There were none. We carried those cups all the way home.

We got just a short glimpse of the games, and it appeared they were not well organized, not roped off, people in charge were not identifiable, nor were contestants.

There were no signs directing people to restrooms, restrooms or games that I could see. Wherever there was

READERS' FORUM

Letters must be limited 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. Please type or write plainly. The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

a crowd, you went to find anything — sort of a stand in line for trial and error.

It was a Labor Day holiday wasted.

MR. AND MRS. GERALD PAQUETTE
Livonia

Loser Backed The Winner

EDITOR:
I would like to add some background material to an article that appeared in the Aug. 12 edition of the Livonia Observer. The article dealt with my "upset" victory over Dave Leathley for the GOP precinct delegate position.

While I did, in fact, win the election, it must be pointed out that I had the endorsement and support of Mr. Leathley in my campaign.

ALBERT J. BUTLER JR.
Livonia

GC Board Has Trust

EDITOR:
I have recently received a kind letter from Garden City School Supt. Don R. Shader. The letter informed that the Garden City Board of Education has reduced the school millage levy by 2 1/2 mills for 1970-71 and pointed out that the action was in keeping with the recommendation of the Lay Finance Study Committee I co-chaired in 1967-68.

While I deeply appreciated the letter, I did not need to be reminded that Garden City has been blessed with school boards which are totally trustworthy for as long as most local residents can remember.

If this were not true, our committee could not have confidently recommended that the board be issued a "blank check" to levy 7 1/2 mills on an "as-needed" basis. If it were not true, the community would not have approved that recommendation at a time when lesser millage issues were being badly off after Michigan and barely six months after passage of a \$4 million bond issue.

Five of the seven board members who were given this "blank check" have been

overwhelmingly re-elected, a sixth has retired honorably and the seventh is president of the board.

These mandates must be comforting indeed to the dedicated gentlemen who sit on our board when they are besieged and beleaguered by minority fringe groups who attempt to intimidate with a show of force which pales by comparison.

MRS. DELORA YORI
Garden City

GM 'Shock' Not Sincere?

EDITOR:
Mr. Bramblett said in a television interview that he, along with other General Motors Corp. executives, is in a state of shock because the firm's workers want a few more dollars in their paychecks. The men who toil by the sweat of their brow enable Mr. Bramblett and other top brass GM to be paid salaries, bonuses, dividends and stock that probably range from \$40,000 to \$80,000 each annually.

Before we were offered one penny toward our new contract, General Motors raised

the car prices an average of \$125 each and their truck prices \$175 apiece. The shoe was on a different foot then, and I am sure the giant corporation wasn't worried about the consumer who buys these cars going into shock over this large hike in the GM prices.

I am buying a house with \$83 monthly payments, plus I have a son in college and am driving a 1964 Chevrolet. I don't think Mr. Bramblett or Mr. Cole or any of the other top brass would want to trade places with me or the other thousands of hourly or lower-paid salary employees who work for GM.

If the big wheels had their bonanza cut in half, they would still be much better off than the average worker.

LEWIS WYNN
Garden City

Politics Snarl Track Funds

EDITOR:
It would appear that politics has entered the negotiations of Livonia city officials' attempts to obtain additional revenue from the local horse racing season.

Not only can we not obtain additional revenue from the current racing season, but now Gov. Milliken has stated that he would extend the current racing season, by 30 days

with the resultant revenues earmarked for the downtown sports stadium. It is estimated that this decision could result in an additional \$1.5 million annually.

I am sure our mayor, Edward McNamara, has intended any extra revenue to be directed to more suitable problems such as improving Middle Belt Rd. which (except for Telegraph Rd.) has become the most traversed north-south road in Wayne County.

But, alas, the main problem rises to the surface—politics! McNamara is a Democrat and running-mate to Sander Levin, Democratic gubernatorial nominee. Milliken, both a Republican and the incumbent governor, together with State Racing Commissioner Leo Shirley, are not about to give McNamara any additional race track revenue for Livonia when they see him as a threat to their future political careers.

So it is the people of western Wayne County who are the pawns in a political game which will result in no additional funds to benefit the people who have to put up with the noise, litter, dirt and traffic congestion that results from the local race track.

DONALD F. ANDERSON
Livonia

They're Happy School's Open

EDITOR:
We hear so much regarding the young, but does anyone consider how times have changed?

When I raised my children shows cost a dime. A bunch of kids went to the show together. We had junior clubs, went on picnics; a boat cost a dollar for a whole day. A hot dog cost a dime and pop five cents.

We had alot of fascinating games. Have a gang of teenagers in. My daughter would bake a cake, read fortunes and everybody had a good time.

Now the kids run the streets all day, throw balls, planks, furniture around; play ball on someone's place who has well-kept lawns, shrubbery; throw flowers down; have no respect for age.

All they do is scream and screech all day. Lots of older people would move but it is the same thing in every neighborhood at least two sets of parents who have no initiative to do anything for their kids. My children and grandchildren are blessings to me.

Here are two sick old folks who are delighted to see school open. Teachers deserve all they earn and more. They

How To Vote By Absentee

EDITOR:
Applications for an absentee voters ballot for the special Livonia School District Election to be held on Monday, Sept. 21, are available at the Board of Education offices.

All school district elections are conducted in accordance with the election laws of the State of Michigan. They are very specific. Procedures are provided for every registered voter to cast his vote, either in person or by an absentee ballot.

Absent voters ballots are for those persons whose circumstances prevent them from personally going to the polls on election day. An absentee ballot can be issued only after an application is signed certifying the registered voter:

- Elections to be absent from the community for the entire time the polls are open on election day; or
- Is physically unable to attend the polls without assistance of another; or
- Cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of his or her religion; or
- Is an election inspector in

have to tame these undisciplined children.

MRS. JAMES OSBORN
Livonia

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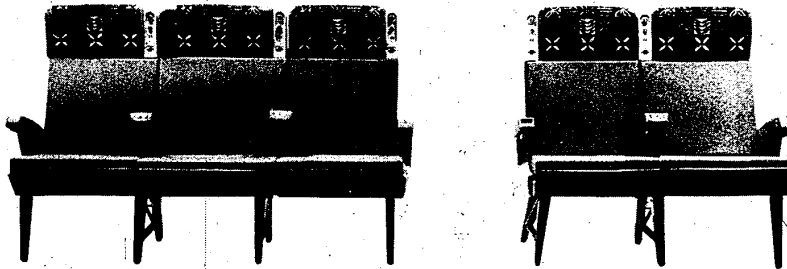
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4181 Plymouth Road
—Livonia—

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United Air Lines is happy to announce something less than the competition. One less seat in each row in Coach on our DC-8 to Hawaii. This means you sit 5-across. Instead of 6, like everybody else. (And only United flies nonstop to Hawaii.) We also made each of our Coach seats bigger. Almost 15%, as a matter of fact. As a result, we now have the widest Coach seats in the sky. Then as an added gesture, we spaced our rows a little farther apart for added legroom. So you can stretch out and enjoy a frosty Mai-Tai in our Royal Hawaiian atmosphere. Or be catered to by our Hawaiian steward and Island-dressed stewardesses while you have a Chef's Gourmet meal. But that's not all. There are movies. Stereo. And a coupon book that can save you a lot of money in the Islands. All this at no extra cost. After all, we should do more. Hawaii is "our little corner of the world." Call United at 965-5500, or your Travel Agent, for information and reservations.

United gives you exclusive nonstop service to Honolulu. Leave Detroit daily at 12:30 PM and you'll arrive in Honolulu at 4:45 PM their time.



Only United has 5-across seating to Hawaii.

Hearing Slated On Bus Service

A public hearing will be held in Lansing to determine whether Short Way Lines, Inc., of Toledo, should be given the permanent right to replace Northville Coach Lines, Inc., as the provider of bus service in six Wayne and Oakland County communities.

The hearing will be held at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29 on the fifth floor of the seven-story state office building in the new Capitol building complex at Pine and Ottawa.

The Public Service Commission of the Michigan Dept. of Commerce, which will hold the hearings, granted Short Way a temporary certificate last May after the Northville firm discontinued service between Northville and Detroit.

Short Way provides service from Detroit to Plymouth, Northville, Livonia, Southfield, Ypsilanti and Pontiac.

The bus line also provides twice-a-day service to the Northville State Hospital and the Livonia Mall.

Levin Drug Plan Belated -- Beebe

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Sander Levin's interest in the drug abuse problem is better late than never as far as State Sen. N. Lorraine Beebe (R-12 District) is concerned.

But the lady senator, who is chairman of the Michigan Senate Committee on Health, Social Services and Retirement, is wondering if Levin's "really interested in progress or simply with promises."

In public statement, Sen. Beebe, whose district includes Redford, said she noted with interest Levin's recent statements over radio and TV and "am particularly pleased to see that Levin has finally joined the fight against the problem of drug abuse."

POINTING OUT that the committee she heads "has worked very hard on this subject and has had the full cooperation of Gov. William Milliken," she said, "Sen. Levin, on the other hand, never appeared before our committee and did not work on the floor of the Senate to pass legislation in this vital area."

"In fact, until the broadcast, I had the impression that he wasn't even concerned particularly with it," she said.

"We have seen good bipartisan cooperation in this vital area up until now, although Sen. Levin has done little or nothing. I regret that he has now attempted to make political capital out of this problem. He will not succeed," she continued.

Over radio and TV on Sept. 20, Sen. Levin announced a program to launch a \$30 million effort against drug abuse.

COMMENTING on this program, Sen. Beebe said: "I hope he will soon tell us where the money will come from.



CARL RIEGALL
Top Salesman

Riegall Wins Gulf Award

A Livonia gas station operator's merchandising methods have won him a national award from the Gulf Oil Co. Carl Riegall, proprietor of Riegall's Service, Inc., 13801 Merriman, will receive an expense-paid, four-day tour in Houston, Tex., for his sales and service efforts in the last 18 months.

Riegall will make the trip to Houston on Oct. 24. A highlight of his deluxe tour will be dinner with the president of Gulf.

Only five Michigan Gulf operators earned the award, and only 96 were so honored nationwide.



DIVING from a 50-foot perch into sponge rubber circles by dangerous steel spears, England's John Carney will make the plunge six times daily at Wonderland Center, Plymouth Rd. at Mile Belt. His scary dives will start Thursday, Sept. 17, and continue through Tuesday, Sept. 22.

Precedent Set

The Nobel Peace Prize was given to the International Institute of Law in 1904, setting the precedent of giving to the prize to an organization instead of an individual.