

School Chiefs Miss the Message?

EDITOR:
I have just finished reading the election results, and it appears the Livonia school board and superintendent can't recognize the facts or they wouldn't consider asking for certain bond issues again.
Even allowing non-property owners to vote on the bonding, which rightfully belongs to property owners, couldn't push these fanciful ideas across.
The board members didn't sacrifice of terrible personal sacrifices when they were running for election. In fact, nothing would be asking too much.
But now the grueling grid is forcing them to take a taxpayers vacation, when last year there wasn't sufficient funds for a full day of school for all grades. And they have the gall to say, "I defy anyone in this community to criticize the board."
Maybe it is time the board and superintendent take inventory before there is a recall.
William A. Villorot
Livonia

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.

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read the book may be sound. The reasons given for reading the book are not sound. I do not envy Mr. McClellan's boys, I just feel sorry for them. Giving a young person everything he wants or thinks he wants is not love.
HARRY WISSMAN
Livonia

Peru Story Helped A Lot

EDITOR:
This letter is sent as a sincere expression of my gratitude for the article which appeared in the Observer Newspapers Sept. 23 regarding my brother, Rev. John T. Murphy, OP, and his work in aiding the citizens of Chimboite, Peru after the devastating earthquake of this year.
I cannot speak too highly of Dan Gilmartin, editor of the Livonia Observer, for the graciousness that he showed to both Fr. Murphy and myself.
FRANK J. MURPHY
Livonia

Priest Says Thank You

EDITOR:
I would like to thank Dan Gilmartin, editor of the Livonia Observer, for the wonderful article on the earthquake in a recent Observer. There was a lot of work involved and I appreciate it.
JOHN MURPHY, OP
Detroit

Maybe PSC Needs Review

EDITOR:
The Public Service Commission has just allowed Michigan Bell a large rate increase. Their rates were already too high and they still want more.
The people on the Public Service Commission are very generous in passing out large rate increases to Michigan Bell, Michigan Consolidated Gas Co., Consumers Power Co. and Detroit Edison.
These companies are building large fancy buildings and making big profits, yet the people on the Public Service Commission grant them big rate increases that put more of a burden on consumers who are already struggling to pay their bills.
I think it's time that the Public Service Commission Act be changed so that people using services from these companies can vote and elect members to this board instead of having them appointed as I believe they now are.
I would advise all concerned persons to write your state senator and state representa-

tative and ask them to change the Public Service Commission Act or law so that we will have the right to vote and elect who we want to serve on this board.
LEWIS WYON
Garden City

How Milliken Would Split \$

EDITOR:
The Observer Newspapers for Sept. 16, 1970 carried a letter from Donald F. Anderson of Livonia questioning Gov. Milliken's recent statement of possible state support for a stadium in downtown Detroit.
Mr. Anderson's principal complaint was that the governor had said that some increased revenue resulting from an extension of the racing season could be devoted to a partial subsidy of the downtown stadium. Mr. Anderson suggests that the money should go to Livonia because Mayor Ed McNamara is the Democratic nominee for governor.
The facts are somewhat different.
The governor said in fact that the state racing commissioner had informed him that he anticipates extending the racing season. This will bring some extra revenue into the state.
The governor then said "some of the money will probably be devoted to state support of racing, and some to reimbursement of local governments for the cost of police and fire protection and other services which will be required of local governments by additional racing days. But beyond that, a portion of the additional revenues could very well be used in support of a new stadium, if needed."
It is thus clear that rather than ignoring the needs of Livonia, the governor has clearly recognized them and has indicated that he will support greater revenues devoted to those needs.
Thus the question of Mr. McNamara's political ambition, and the governor's reaction to it, is not relevant here.
MRS. GLEN LYALL
Livonia

sent there. When a school teacher starts to uphold lawlessness, I believe she is no longer fit to teach school. In a free country.
If she is so sure that the guerrilla element is right for Jordan, then she should return there and help them; not be over where we do not need her or her kind. We have enough problems now.
There are plenty of teachers of American heritage who are in need of a position that we do not need to hire anyone whose sympathy rides with those who want to overthrow the government.
If Miss Haddad has the opinions and feelings so well described in the story — then I for one would be glad to start a fund to return her to Jordan. We do not need her in the Plymouth school system.

VERN SCHILAWSKE
Plymouth

The Picnic Is Defended

EDITOR:
In reply to Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Paquette who so openly criticized Livonia's 20th anniversary picnic:
I would like to inform them that all services were donated, over 500 donated their services, for one enjoyed it and received other compliments.
I'm sure if more people donated a few of their services other than mouth, it would have been better organized.

A few facts: we planned for 6,000, and we were swamped with 12,000 people.
I personally would like to thank the 48 auxiliary police who shared the hot sun and long lines of people.
I would also like to thank John and Alice Dufour, senior citizens and many other people who donated their services to take care of the lines of people.
The price of food was more than the price of your ticket. We need lots of critical doors instead of complainers doing nothing.
I helped in a small way, and I'm proud of our city.

Cause That Gratifies

EDITOR:
Speaking for some of the adults who participated in the Rouge Clean-Up, we want to congratulate the outstanding effort of the Livonia Jaycees and neighboring Jaycee chapters for sponsoring the cleanup project.
We know it is only a beginning, but with the hundreds of young adults assisting, we believe progress is being made. It was gratifying to watch the young people working for a good cause.
CARL PURSELL
County Commissioner

Mr. Upton's Weekend

EDITOR:
I couldn't help but chuckle after reading about Supl. Ron Upton's proposal to have our Livonia school board members and certain administrators sent to a hotel in St. Clair for a clustered three-day weekend at an expense to the taxpayers of only \$1,700.
I especially liked Mr. Upton's idea that Dr. Don Friederich and Dr. Henry Huemer share the same room. How else can two intelligent human beings discuss principles, strengths and weaknesses?
There just aren't many superintendents who would issue an open invitation to the press at a cost to them of only \$28 per day.
After all, I think the press should be there. The public is certainly entitled to know who is the best bridge player, who can hold their liquor and who can't, and what time they all retire.
Especially Henry and Don.
We should certainly all keep in mind how much our children are going to benefit from such a meeting.
JAMES REED
Livonia

Finds Masked Avenger's Sour

EDITOR:
I find it distasteful to have to write a reply to a nameless "Masked Avenger." It's like writing to nothingness. However, your first appearance in the Sept. 9 Observer deserves attacking. It does serve other things too, but I can't deal with them as a novelty. So I assume the role of gadfly.
Your article began: "One of the things that disturbs many of the Democratic faithful about Livonia Mayor Edward McNamara is that by hearing them in his home may draw a blank."
False. You may be too young to know or too unversed in Michigan's political past, but there was a popular U.S. senator from Michigan named Patrick McNamara. The majority of Democratic faithful over 30 remember him well, friend, and his name. He died while in office. Robert Griffin was appointed to replace him by former Gov. Romney. (And I'm under 30.) It's time you changed your faithful Democratic sources.
If you want to deal with a subject, then go beyond the surface. There are very genuine reasons for unhappiness with McNamara. If you had gone to the convention and listened, you'd have heard objections with realism to them.
For instance, the black caucus' objection to his being from a suburb known for its whiteness. Less than six black families.
For instance, the New Dem-

ocratic Coalition complaining because the dissident liberal to radical party in fact, nothing would be asking too much.
But now the grueling grid is forcing them to take a taxpayers vacation, when last year there wasn't sufficient funds for a full day of school for all grades. And they have the gall to say, "I defy anyone in this community to criticize the board."
Maybe it is time the board and superintendent take inventory before there is a recall.
William A. Villorot
Livonia

Editorial Hit On Reasoning

EDITOR:
My conscience tells me I must reply to Bob McClellan's editorial of Wednesday, Sept. 16. I haven't read "The Catcher in the Rye" so I will not comment on the book.
The editorial says, "In the story, the boy uses base language, mocks the church and encounters a naked prostitute." Then later on Mr. McClellan says, tell "...the mothers that their youth will need all the intellectual ammunition..." That is intellectual ammunition?
The book "...depicts a kid spitting in his elder's eye. That is what youth must do to keep this world spinning around..." I can't believe what I am reading. Also, the idea throughout the editorial telling me my young boys are going to hear filthy words outside the home; therefore, they should be prepared by hearing them in the home. Unbelievable!
"...tune in on the Woodstock record..." "And all those 40,000 kids can't be had." Why? Maybe the kids aren't, but parents who promulgate the ideas above are.
The basic idea of allowing the children in Garden City to

Miss Haddad, Go Home!

EDITOR:
The story on the front page of the Plymouth Mail & Observer for Wednesday, Sept. 16, "Teacher Defends Jordanians" has brought several things to my mind.
If the school teacher in question, Miss Elin Haddad, is serious that plane hijacking is "the least they can do," then I personally suggest that Miss Haddad be returned to Jordan at once.
If she wouldn't like to go voluntarily, then she should be

A Blue Ribbon For The Family

Another in a long line of national and state journalistic awards was bestowed upon Observer Newspapers, Inc., this week when the Plymouth Mail & Observer was hailed by the National Editorial Foundation, of Washington, D.C., as one of its 168 "Blue Ribbon" designs for 1970-71.
The Mail & Observer is one of seven members of the ONI family published by Philip H. Power, and has had as its editor for more than two years Fred DeLano, a 30-year veteran of the national public relations and newspaper fields.
In his congratulatory letter to Power and DeLano, Foundation President George Wortley III, of Fayetteville, N.Y., declared:
"Your newspaper is one of only 168 in the entire United States to earn the coveted designation of 'National Blue Ribbon newspaper' for 1970 and 1971. This award indicates that you conduct an alert and progressive community-minded operation."
Wortley added that 25 criteria measuring each newspaper's service to its community against a national standard were employed in judging, which was conducted by a panel of editors from previous "Blue Ribbon" designs.

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Area Death Funeral

TROY A. BLACKFORD. Funeral services for Mr. Blackford will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 3, at the funeral home in Plymouth with the Rev. W. D. Webster officiating. Burial was in Parkview Memorial Gardens in Detroit.
Mr. Blackford, who moved to Plymouth about 15 years ago, died suddenly on Sept. 25. He had been a machinist for the Nash-Kelvinator Corp. of Detroit.
He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Irene Blackford of Plymouth, and two daughters, Mrs. Helen Ann Blackford of Dearborn, Mrs. Helen Ann Blackford of Dearborn, and Mrs. Helen Ann Blackford of Dearborn. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Mrs. Pearl Blackford of Dearborn and Mrs. Pearl Blackford of Dearborn.

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