

Drug Program Has Supporter

EDITOR: At the Livonia Board of Education meeting last Monday night, I was relieved that Mr. Bogolea, director of the community Commission on Drug Abuse, had not only immediate plans being put into action, but long range plans to help young adults become more perceptive in understanding themselves and the decisions they make.

I felt that Trustee John Stymieski's demand for numbers of drug users now, and then at a later date, in order to justify Mr. Bogolea's salary was not only threatening, but in poor taste. There is no value in obtaining numbers which would be inaccurate, since the drug user will not advertise his use any more than the alcoholic.

Numbers will never tell the reasons why people are taking drugs. As far as any principal covering up the number of users in his school, this seems ridiculous because no school official or teacher can solve these problems without parental help.

Perhaps a year ago 20 per cent of students were using drugs as far as any person could estimate. It doesn't take any secret survey to find out that this number has increased not only at Stevenson or Franklin or Bentley, or Churchill, or wherever your children might be attending school.

It is a shame that too many teenagers having problems at school or at home can't go to adults for help, instead of burdening each other with their problems which they are unable to solve.

Instead of standing around counting, let's offer our help to the students, the schools and to Mr. Bogolea.

MRS. R.C. DANIELS
Livonia

West-7 Club Serves Area

EDITOR: As a charter member and newly elected board of director, I would like to reply to a letter printed by the Observer Newspapers from a misinformed Clayton A. Shackett Jr. of Redford.

The name of our club is the West-7 Youth Club. Space does not permit our constitution to be printed, but I am sure the name of our club tells you who we are working for.

We are a chartered organization with the State of Michigan, and we are registered with the federal government as a non-profit, tax exempt organization.

The West-7 Youth Club sponsors 27 baseball teams. There are six teams for eight and nine-year-olds, 10 teams for 10, 11, 12-year-olds, eight teams in the Babe Ruth

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AT

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453-4302



League and three teams in city league competition. The West-7 Youth Club is second to none in the State of Michigan.

Yes, we sell subscriptions to "Life" magazine to supplement the donations from our many sponsors. As the West-7 Youth Club increases its numbers of teams, more money is needed.

Yes, Mr. Larry Brown is now the president of West-7 Youth Club, and he is a police officer for the Detroit Police Dept. Mr. Brown is one of two Detroit police officers now serving on the board for 1970.

I am a little bewildered at Mr. Shackett's remark, "Again people from outside the township are coming in to find funds for their programs" mainly because the West-7 Youth Club program covers a large part of Detroit, almost all of Redford Township and part of Livonia.

At present, we are operating out of the garages and basements of the homes of board members. We are hoping some day to have a building of our own instead of using basements and garages.

So please get all the facts first because we need all the help we can get.

FRANK SOAVE
Livonia

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Shackett's information was that Larry Brown was an officer in the Redford Township police department. As both he and Mr. Soave have pointed out, Brown is a Detroit officer. The Shackett letter appears to have been written in good faith, but we are happy to have Mr. Soave set the record straight.

Time Wasted In Plymouth

EDITOR: Recently I sat through a fact-finding meeting of Plymouth city commissioners in futility. The meeting was supposed to again review the request of the chief of police for additional manpower which has already been approved in the budget by the city commissioners.

The discussion covered-in addition to the subject of the meeting-personal phone calls to commissioners by private citizens, unlisted phone numbers, personal feelings, philosophy, city and township boundaries, schools paying for police participation and "don't ticket parking violators."

A one-hour meeting took four hours to conclude that another meeting and more information were necessary.

In the Tuesday four-hour meeting, the commissioners took 27 minutes to be informed on the city hall telephone system and 32 minutes to be informed on the func-

tions and organizational structure of the police department.

With most of the commissioners not new to their positions, I am alarmed and disappointed at what little they seem to know about these areas.

The conclusion:

- 1- The commissioners are not accepting the opinion and facts presented by experts they have appointed.
- 2- The commissioners are not up to date on their homework.
- 3- The commissioners are overriding statistical facts with personal feelings.
- 4- The commissioners are not using the channels of communications available to their position for which they are now criticizing.

5- The commissioners are willing to jeopardize the work the Plymouth Police Dept. is doing in the Plymouth community school system based on boundary limitations rather than community responsibility.

E.W. MARTIN
Plymouth

Blind Curve Needs Light

EDITOR: In regards to the recent articles in your paper concerning the children crossing Ann Arbor Road at Hix for Washington School, I'm in the sixth grade at Johnson and live on the north side of Ann Arbor Trail right at a blind curve.

This is not bad in daylight, but we don't have any lights on Ann Arbor Trail for the driveway to aid us in crossing the road or to help the cars coming to the school for evening activities.

Could you please direct our concern to the proper authorities and help light up our street crossing?

GLENN ROSSOW
Livonia

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