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# Property Taxes Hitting Hardship Level For Some

EDITOR:

Thank you for putting the tax story on page one of the Garden City Observer's March 17 issue.

An \$800 tax for an average home in Garden City, valued at \$30,000 state factor—something must be wrong with our society to need that much in taxes on a house selling for under \$15,000.

As a supervisor of a computer room in Redford Township, I can appreciate such tax news item. It doesn't take a computer to know that according to the school census figures and U.S. Census the average income in Garden City is under \$12,000 a year. What a hardship for senior citizens and married couples with two or more children.

One lady from my street even said, at the last school millage election, that to build the O'Leary Building would not necessitate higher taxes; she now lives in Grand Rapids. Our city taxes are not so bad, but we don't get much service in return either: missing sidewalks, poor snow removal, poor streets and no dog-catcher.

"What can one man do?" Move to Riverview, Dearborn, Canton or River Rouge for low taxes? Or can we stay here and vote down the next tax millage proposal or

write our state representative, mayor, etc.

I do not believe, like some, that bad morals was the cause of Rome's fall. Rather greed, selfish corrupt officials and HIGH TAXES.

W.D. ROSS  
Garden City

## City Hall Does Care

EDITOR:

I wanted to tell you that I wrote to the mayor about all this lip-service about keeping Livonia clean and nothing actually done about it.

I was very pleased with the letter I received two days later from the mayor himself. Because the mayor forwarded my letter to him, Robert Osborn, director of the Livonia Dept. of Public Works, stopped by our house.

I appreciated the fact that I received a personal answer to my letter and also a visit by Mr. Osborn. This shows that city hall does care about complaints people have, even if they come from an 11-year-old like myself.

WENDY McMAHON  
Livonia

## ONI Praised On New Plant

EDITOR:

Phil Power (Observer publisher) and his staff are to be congratulated on the excellent planning and construction of your new Observer offices—certainly one of the most modern newspaper facilities in the United States—and most impressive and practical.

We appreciate your inter-

est and support of our parks, facilities and services and are glad to be of service anytime.

May your newspapers continue to expand and become an important source of public enlightenment. Best wishes.

JOHN K. STERLING JR.,  
Information Officer  
Huron-Clinton  
Metropolitan Authority

## Councilmen Insulting

EDITOR:

I am writing to you concerning the Westland City Council meeting of March 8 wherein the news media brought to the public's attention the rude tactics by which said council uses on its citizens.

I have attended many a council meeting and have witnessed many, many times rude, insulting and disgraceful mannerisms displayed by our council to our citizens. I say "our citizens" because I have never seen the council display themselves this way to any builder wishing to build in "Apartment City."

I say the council as a whole is insulting to its citizens because I have never heard one councilman speak up and that these tactics are inexcusable.

Some months ago, our city was facing a rezoning controversy in the south end and as it proved to be the only reason the people won their wishes (to oppose a proposed industrial park) is because they brought in higher and more insulting government agencies to handle their case. For the first time the council got a little of its own medicine and they got scared.

One councilman was quoted as saying, "If we had any guts at all, we would have approved the rezoning." Is this the way our city should be run? I would like to add that I would like to commend Mayor Eugene McKinney and the Observer Newspapers for initiating a campaign to have Westland's name included in the Wayne Community School District's title. I've noticed the Observer has listed weekly school lunch program "The Westland Community School lunch program." Bravo!

GLENN SHAW  
Westland

## Dental Help Is Available

EDITOR:

I was most disappointed to read the letter "ADC Mother Plymouth." I am sure there could be others who feel as she does. However, Plymouth is sensitive to the needs of its children, and help is available if the right sources are contacted.

The Plymouth community is one of only a few in Michigan that has a dental fund. The dental fund's purpose is to help defray the cost of dentistry for all eligible children in the Plymouth school system. It is supported by the Plymouth Community Fund and all dentistry is performed on a pay-fee basis.

When need is determined, he child is referred to any, but preferably a dentist in the child's neighborhood (eliminating transportation problems) for complete dental care. The patient is then incorporated into the doctor's seal system and seen every

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## READERS' FORUM

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