

Her Gratitude Goes To OCC

EDITOR:
I have a great deal of respect for Oakland Community College, and I am compelled to express my opinions in the form of this open letter to the provost, Dr. S.J. Manilla, the board of trustees, faculty, and specifically to the general public.

Occasionally, I hear deriding statements directed toward the curriculum, and the "open door" policy, at Oakland Community College. I must admit that my contemporaries were less than impressed by my decision to register at Orchard Ridge. I was given the impression that this was a "Mickey Mouse" attempt at education, and I would soon learn the error of my ways.

At 34, divorced, and the mother of five daughters, I was determined to complete my education, which had been interrupted at a ninth grade level. Fortunately, I was delivered into the hands of Mr. Janssen for counseling, and through his efforts, I was able to survive the most confusing, and exhausting period of my life.

During this difficult period of adjustment to homework, class schedules, and orientation, I was constantly encouraged by the energetic staff and faculty, who gave me the confidence to continue.

During the second semester, I became aware of the wide open "back door" policy. It is a built-in weeding out system. Students who are not willing to take advantage of the tremendous opportunities that are available to them, simply do not return. Students who want to learn can receive individualized tutoring comparable to a private university.

I have discussed curriculum and teaching techniques with faculty and students, and discovered from students with experiences in various senior colleges, that OCC is comparable academically, and in some cases advanced, in communication of courses.

I have thoroughly enjoyed each of my instructors, and I respect their ability to maintain the high morale that is present on our campus.

I would like to return in the near future, with an MFA to replace the GED with which I registered. Perhaps I can measure up to the standard of teaching that is opening previously closed doors, to students who walk through them with confidence and a degree.

Oakland Community College, I thank you.
JUDY TALBOT
Keego Harbor

Farmington Needs 'YES'

EDITOR:
The last three issues of your Farmington Enterprise & Observer have featured front page articles concerning the Youth Employment Service. A

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.

Farmington Township trustee has attacked: (1) the aims of the YES program and (2) the proposed salary of \$10,800 for the director as "attempting to create the biggest job of all."

In this affluent community, our police costs total millions, but our programs that assist youth account for only several thousand dollars. It is understandable that the trustee would be reluctant to allocate tax money for experimental programs.

YES has already surpassed its original goals in job placements. Their prospectus included specifications for job counseling. This service involves more than just compiling a list of student names and addresses to be made available to prospective employers.

A check of the Detroit papers shows numerous positions for secretaries or keypunch operators offering salaries of \$800 per month. The director of YES would receive a salary of \$900 per month - which hardly qualifies as "the biggest job of all."

Trustee Lichtman is an experienced and successful executive. It is incomprehensible that such statements and attitudes could be expressed by someone of his calibre.

Our Farmington youth deserve more programs such as the Youth Employment Service, which are designed to develop productive, responsible citizens. We urge support and continued funding of this program.

CHARLOTTE C. MULLER
Farmington

School Camp Plan Blasted

EDITOR:
Our congratulations to a Livonia school board majority and a district superintendent who continue to distinguish themselves with irresponsibility of purpose. Their latest folly is a decision to send 900 of our students from 10 elementary schools on an "experimental camping program" this spring.

And happy day, they say this program may be extended to other grades in succeeding years. What about teaching reading, writing and arithmetic? After all, these are only the deficiencies that business and industry report finding in our graduates today.

But don't be negative, Look

at the plus factors, we're told. Our children will be taught nature classes and camping skills. Our teachers will gain new insights into the personalities of their students. The program will expose to the teachers a student's out-of-the-classroom potential.

And there's a further benefit: our school officials neglected. The parents will have a week free from the responsibilities of their children.

To all this we answer, "bunk." We strongly resent even a small portion of our tax dollar being used for a program of camping. We strongly resent a school board majority and superintendent initiating an "experimental program" which we voters rejected in the form of a recent millage request. In short, we don't need any more experimentation and frills. We do need a return to sound, basic education.

Perhaps a constructive suggestion is in order. Our beloved superintendent and his board cronies might consider volunteering their help and guidance to the Detroit school system. But no, we suspect Detroit has enough problems already.

BILL AND PEG SONTAG
Livonia

Opposes View On Abortion

EDITOR:
Rev. Kinsolving did himself and your paper no credit in his poor article, on Catholic response to the Supreme Court's decision of Jan. 22 relation to abortion.

Few of the pro-abortionists (but, indeed, there are some) advocate deciding whether babies are "keepers" after they are born. Still fewer (but more) regard any fetus as "fair game" and would freely abort for any reason or no reason right up until the time of birth.

Those who don't share such stands believe that the infant or fetus near to birth cannot be sacrificed. Working back from full term, no stage of development can be found which would clearly differentiate between fetus of intrinsic value and some lesser thing except stages so early that the mother would not be aware of pregnancy.

The date Jan. 22, 1973, certainly threatens a toll in excess of the other disasters cited by Rev. Kinsolving.

DAVID C. NOLAN, M.D.
Farmington

A Good Word For 3 Youths

EDITOR:
During these times much is said about today's youth. Most of this news is of a bad nature. We, as adults, are quick to find fault and slow to give praise. I am writing this in the hope that three boys see this letter.

On Feb. 26, at approximately 7:25 a.m., one of the City of Livonia Public Works truck drivers was speeding east along Newburgh Road. He had a problem with the tailgate of his truck. In trying to clear this problem, his right hand became pinned between the tailgate

and the chain. Needless to say this man was in very painful situation.

Three boys, probably high school students, in a foreign car (Opel?) took the time to help this man. They got his hand free by breaking the weld on

the top of the chain. They then offered to drive him to get medical care on his fingers.

The driver of the truck didn't get the boy's names and he isn't sure if he thanked them. At this time Mr. Callahan, the truck driver, and myself would like to thank these boys for helping him. It's nice to know in these times someone will take the time to help a person in trouble. Thank you again.

Pianist Stars

DEARBORN
The fourth concert of the Dearborn Symphony Orchestra's 11th season will be held at 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 9, in the Edsel Ford High School Auditorium. Tickets will be sold at the door.

CHARLES HOPPS, foreman, road division, Public Works Dept., City of Livonia

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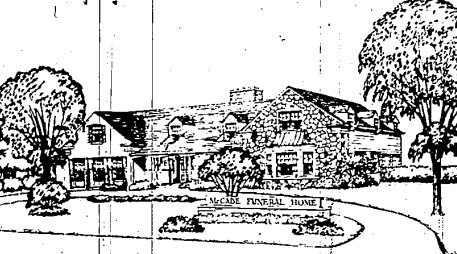
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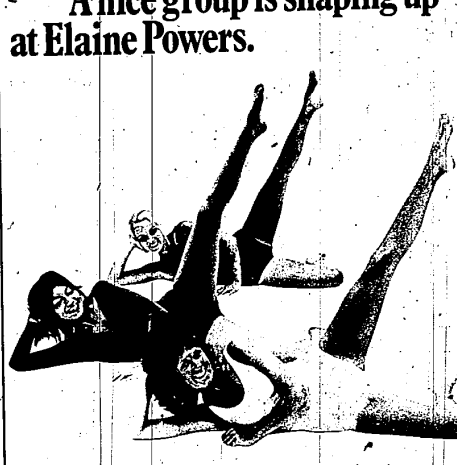
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