

Reader Questions Role Of 'Humane' Society

EDITOR:

Last Monday, Sept. 25, I called the Livonia Dog Pound to ask them where I could call to find a kitten. They referred me to the "Cat Humane Society" at 22211 Livonia.

When I drove over there, I found that it was a private address. There was a sign on the front door that said "go to the side door". Unfortunately, the side door was inside a fenced off area containing several dogs. Rather than take a chance and possibly be bitten by the strange dogs, I called "HELLO!" over the fence several times.

No one came to meet me. In the meantime, a very pleasant woman and her teenage daughter drove up in front. They were bringing a whole basket of unwanted kittens to the Humane Society. We waited for a few minutes and then the woman told me I could have any of the kittens I wanted. I thanked her and happily made a choice. We then discussed the care and feeding of kittens when the lady (?) of the house finally noticed us and came out of the back yard toward the inner fence.

"Let me see that cat!", she snarled at me. Though somewhat startled at her rudeness, I thought she may have noticed something important (sickness, injury) about my cat. The woman literally snatched the kitten from me, explaining "A-hah, just as I thought, it's a female!" She then made the following statements:

"You can't have this kitten until it's spayed. We don't believe in letting cats reproduce. There are too many cats in the world now. My husband has a very strong rule about this. Besides, it will make a much nicer pet after the operation." I was completely shocked by her statements, particularly since she was talking about MY cat, not hers! I replied that in my opinion she had nothing to say about it, for it was already my cat. The other woman and her daughter also implored the woman to return my animal to me, but she refused.

I should have called the police. Since then I have heard rumors that she and her husband get money for each operation that is done.

What happens to the kittens that are not adopted? I have also heard that this couple destroys all unwanted cats. Is this what happened to my kitten after I left?

The strange part of all this is that they call themselves "The Humane" Society.

Enraged,
Sandra Bennett
Mrs. G. Bennett
15370 Coyle
Detroit

Study Chairman Makes Reply

EDITOR:

The opinions expressed in this letter are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of other members of the Future Farmington Area Study Committee nor the committee as a whole.

I have followed the incorporation campaign very closely over the past several months and as a city resident have made every effort to avoid becoming involved and "clouding the issue", a frequently used term around here lately. For this reason I have waited until Sunday, Oct. 22, to write this letter so that the election will be "history" by the time these comments are made public.

First, I must take exception to a statement attributed to me in a letter to the editor appearing in the Oct. 22 issue of the Farmington Enterprise & Observer. Mr. Perrin failed to quote my entire reply when he asked me publicly what my future course of action I personally favored.

I stated that on the basis of other studies completed in other communities that I have had the opportunity to examine, it would appear that consolidation would probably be the best thing for the Greater Farmington Area. However, I would like to make my final judgment when I see the results of our study. I fail to see how Mr. Perrin can question the "objectivity" of that approach.

I do think it is significant, however, that at every public meeting I took the opportunity to attend where incorporation was the "announced" topic for discussion, the subject always drifted over to consolidation, and although the various speakers were divided over the question of incorporation, there was nearly universal acceptance to consolidation as the most logical and eventual solution to the problem.

I WOULD LIKE to commend City Hall and other citizens of the city who are deeply concerned about the "entire" community for showing their good faith and not becoming involved in trying to "torpedo" the election, Oct. 23.

It doesn't take a political scientist to realize that the whole election could have been thrown into a greater state of confusion and chaos quite simply with an announcement a few days before the election (whether it be fact or rumor) that consolidation petitions had been circulated, submitted, and nature's collected, the \$500 filing fee was ready, and the petitions would be filed when the court house opened Tuesday morning. This "what if" prevents the threat of annexation, and tie up the entire area for two years and would encourage a NO vote on incorporation from the persons who want consolidation as well as those who prefer to retain township status. These two groups together must certainly constitute a majority of township voters.

Because city residents wanted to bargain in good faith and show their respect for the efforts and hard work of the Citizens Council, an act of political chicanery was not instituted so the citizens of the township could make their decision without another choice to further confuse them.

SHOULD incorporation fail, I would hope persons on both sides of the city limits signs would continue to exhibit this good faith by not filing for annexation.

proper conduct. It is about time we citizens stand behind our Police Department and the officers who try to do a good job.

Why is all the emphasis placed upon trying to divert attention from the criminal by making charges against the policemen?

I think Officer Avery is to be commended for his sincere effort to perform his duty. Chief Jordan should be praised for defending his officers and resisting the pressures brought to divert attention from the person charged with the crime.

Mrs. John White

Word Of Thanks

EDITOR:

I would like to publicly express my appreciation to all of the people who registered (and were not able to give) and to those who were able to donate blood for me on Oct. 19 at the Red Cross Station at Five Mile and Merriman.

Many thanks to Mrs. Arlene

Dickinson, who organized the Blood Bank for me, and to the Red Cross for being so accommodating for time and place.

My family and I hope everyone knows the gratitude we feel and can best express it by saying:

Thank you and God Bless you,
ANN WILSON

Counseling In Suburbs

I would like to reply to the September 17th article quoting Reverend Ronald C. Starnok, Chairman of Livonia's Commission on Children and Youth, that aside from the schools and churches, there isn't much in the way of professional counseling help for youngsters in our area who find themselves in trouble.

While expansion of such services is always desirable, our community should know that at

present there are several agencies qualified to help families and children in need of professional guidance.

Some of these are:

Catholic Social Services of Wayne County
Garden City District Office
31406 Ford Road
Phone: 425-5315

Family Services of Metropolitan Detroit
Out-County District Office
Room 202
15223 Farmington Road,
Livonia
Phone: 427-9310

Hawthorn Center
18471 Haggerty Road
Northville
Phone: FI 9-3000

Methodist Children's Home Society
26445 W. Six Mile Road
(Redford Twp.) Detroit 40
Phone: KE 1-4600

Northwestern Child Guidance Clinic

6221 Merriman Road
Garden City
Phone: 425-6110

Northville State Hospital
4000 W. Seven Mile Road
Northville
Phone: FI 9-1800

The fees these agencies charge are prorated according to income and size of family, or in the case of medical services, are approved for payment by Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

MRS. EVELYN S. SMITH, MSW
AARON A. GOLDSTEIN, ACSW

Graveyard Vandalism

EDITOR:

Last week for the fourth time a growing shrub was stolen from the grave of our only son (and child), who was killed while in the service of his country.

The grave in one of our large, beautiful well known cemeteries is plainly marked with a tablet, designating the

rank and air-force service of our son. An American flag flies over this tablet at all times and it is visited almost every week by his parents (us) who keep it in flowers of all seasons.

We have heard that this might be the work of vandals but it is our impression that these shrubs and trees are stolen by some rotten-hearted individual who puts them to his own use. They are carefully removed, roots and all, and are never destroyed or thrown around the area.

We sincerely hope that whoever is guilty of such a low-down act gets a big kick-out of watching these shrubs grow, knowing where they came from. We know that the V.F.W. and other service organizations would be interested in learning the (culprit or) culprit's names.

We also believe this to be quite a wide spread activity at this time and would like to hear from others regarding same.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hawthorne

THURS. FRI. SAT!

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