

Readers Express Views On Many Vexing Problems

Livonians Differ On Question Of Residency

Editor's Note--
Following are two letters sent to the Livonia Civil Service Commission on the matter of residency--copies sent also to the Livonia Observer. They come from the same office, but differ in viewpoint between boss and employe.

an employe's performance solely on his job activity would continue and therefore a residency requirement would seem to be superfluous and should be eliminated as a condition of City employment.

Thank you for considering my comments.
D. ROLD JENNINGS
Water and Sewer Accountant

Charges News Item Confuses An Issue

EDITOR:

I would like to make an observation about an article which appeared in the Feb. 28 issue of The Livonia Observer. The article in question was the Fight For School System, which is a threat to the Public School System. I wonder if these people realize that the Public School System, which is in bad financial straits to begin with, saves about \$200 million annually because of the existence of the non-public schools in Michigan.

Apparently, the PTA is opposing the bill on the grounds that it is a threat to the Public School System. I wonder if these people realize that the Public School System, which is in bad financial straits to begin with, saves about \$200 million annually because of the existence of the non-public schools in Michigan.

Simple arithmetic would indicate that it would be a lot cheaper to spend \$21 million for aid, than to be faced with a cost of \$200 million when all the non-public schools close and their students enroll in the local public school. This cost, by the way, is only operating expense. It would take about \$710 million to provide for buildings in which to school these students.

Probably the biggest argument against the bill is the one over the separation of Church and State. This can be dealt with more easily when people are made aware of the fact that the bill does not actually avoid granting aids to churches, religions, and religious societies. All aid is given directly to parents--who may do as they see fit.

The object here is to help pay for the so called secular subjects required by the State. In effect, aids the parents in complying with the State's compulsory attendance law, without interfering with the Constitutional rights of all parents to select the school to which they send their children. It grants them their share of the tax dollars which they provide for education--thereby living up to the State's responsibility to provide educational facilities for all, seeing that it collects taxes from all.

RICHARD MARSTON
Livonia
Water and Sewer Division
DAVID L. JONES,
Commissioner

Travel Restrictions Can Hurt Economy

EDITOR:

I would like to comment on the recent articles which appeared on your editorial page. First of all, the restrictions requested by President Johnson. Granted it doesn't seem to be too much to ask of an individual to postpone or forego a trip abroad in a spirit of patriotism.

However the problem is not that simple. Most travel agencies make most of their profits on foreign travel. If Pres-

ident Johnson's requests are heeded by all, many agencies will go bankrupt. And what about the airlines such as TWA and Pan Am which either specialize in or deal exclusively with foreign flights? And the aircraft manufacturers who will lose orders for the big jets: they're only good for long distance flights and finally many Europeans question the future of their economy which was helped by American tourism.

Will we have to bail them out of a financial crisis? All of these factors make the question a little more complicated than the patriotism of one individual.

Second, in a recent issue you reported a speech in detail which mentioned possible threats by rioters to come out to the suburbs and "kill a white child". In a later editorial you criticized the speaker for being irresponsible in making public such information which will cause undue and unnecessary panic in the suburbs. I agree with you 100 per cent. My question is, if you really felt this way, why did you print the story?

Third, another editorial criticized someone for opposing a referendum on open housing. I disagree with you. If there had been a referendum on every controversial issue regarding civil rights, there would still be slavery in the south and schools, buses etc. would still be segregated.

There would probably be no income tax or compulsory education. There are times when we must trust our elected officials. This referendum idea

is getting out of hand almost as much as strikes.

MARY BIGOT
Farmington

Thanks Observer For Fine Coverage

EDITOR:

Since July 1, 1967, it has been my pleasure as Administrative Assistant in the Clarenceville School District to be the liaison between the district and the news media.

During this time I have come to know many of your staff very well. Most have been extremely cooperative and have helped Clarenceville to receive its due publicity in the three communities into which it extends.

As you are probably aware, Clarenceville dedicated the Louis E. Schmidt Auditorium on Wednesday, March 12. This event was a "coming out affair." If you will, for the Clarenceville School District and its community. Because of this, much emphasis was placed by the district and community people on the promotional phase of the program.

Whatever success we achieved in publicizing and promoting the dedication is due largely to your staff of very capable newspaper people. Tommy Thompson, Tim Richard, Bill Mann and Gary Carleton played a very significant role in accomplishing more than adequate news coverage, attractive programs, etc.

I should like to commend you on your excellent staff and thank you for the Observer's consistent and continued concern for the Clarenceville School District. It indeed has been my pleasure to work with the Observer staff and I look forward to a long future of compatible efforts for our mutual benefit.

Thanking and commending you once again, I am,
GENE W. SCHOLLES
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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Thanking and commending you once again, I am,
GENE W. SCHOLLES
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Redford Suburban League is most grateful and appreciative for the newspaper coverage you gave our ways and means project, the Woody Herman dance.

The proceeds will be dispersed through our philanthropic committee to aid retarded children in many areas in Michigan. The support of the community was most satisfying.

ELAINE MANGO
Ways and Means Chairman

A Plug For Ventura

EDITOR:

In reply to the letter appearing in the Feb. 21 issue and signed A.E. Smith, I'm an old timer in Livonia too, and I'd like to see our growing city as an "overgrown cow pasture."

As to the reference of Peter Ventura; far better to be a ventriloquist than someone's "Charley McCarthy."

Good luck to Peter Ventura on the coming election.
I. HUNTER

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I wish to express my opinion in favor of the proposed amendment for the following reasons:
A. I believe the present rule is an invasion of the employe's private and personal life when it dictates where he shall live and spend his leisure time.
B. I believe there is definite discrimination between the city employes and the school employes who are both paid by the same taxpayer. The city employes must live in Livonia whereas the school employes may live where they choose. This discrimination should be eliminated.
C. Modern transportation has definitely outdated the requirement for residency within the City limits. In no other segment of the business community do we find this restrictive situation.
I would hope that the Commission's policy of evaluating

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