

Owendale celebration July 4-6

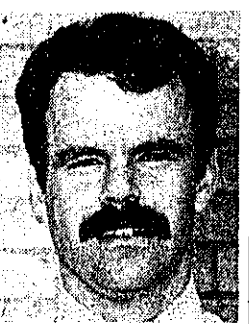
The Owendale Anniversary Committee has announced the village's 75th anniversary celebration will be Friday through Sunday, July 4-6. Activities will begin Friday evening, with the big parade scheduled Saturday. Events scheduled all three days are children's rides and a beer tent. Saturday events tentatively scheduled, in addition to the parade, are pony pulling, water ball contest for fire departments and children's games.

There will be a community church service Sunday morning and an afternoon picnic and games for families. A booklet describing the history of Owendale may be published. The anniversary celebration was originally scheduled to be the final week end in June but was postponed because organizers of the Sebewaing Sugar Festival changed the normal date of their event to that week end.

PEDALING AROUND

Buying American

By Mike Eliasohn



It probably will be about a year yet before I buy a new car, barring unforeseen circumstances, but I'm already doing my advance planning. When one buys a car only once a decade, a decision on which car to buy isn't done on the spur of the moment.

It's too bad when I plunk down my \$6,000 or \$7,000 (ouch!), it probably won't be for an American car.

There's a chance I might buy a German-designed car with a German-made engine that is otherwise made in Pennsylvania, but only a chance.

What I regret is that Detroit hasn't seen fit yet to build the type of car I want to buy and I'm quite sure a year from now, it still won't. Apparently, there are a lot of people who feel the way I do, because 22 percent of the 1979 cars sold in the United States were foreign-made.

What kind of car do I plan to buy? For presumably obvious reasons, I plan to buy the one that gets the most miles per gallon -- well, probably the third most.

The most economical car is the Volkswagen Rabbit diesel (made in Pennsylvania except for the engine). Besides the fact that the extra cost might not be worth it in terms of the miles I drive or will someday drive, there is an ecological reason for not buying one.

According to Popular Science magazine, a 42 gallon barrel of crude oil yields about 18 gallons of gasoline but only a little more than eight gallons of diesel fuel. On the average, a diesel gets only about 25 percent better mileage than an equivalent car with gasoline engine.

"On a national basis," according to Popular Science, "our energy situation depends on how many miles we can get from a barrel of crude oil -- not how many miles a single individual gets from the fuel he puts in his tank."

At present, there is (barring spot shortages) enough diesel fuel to meet needs, but "if most cars on the road were diesels, the economic force of supply and demand would drive the price of diesel fuel far above that of gasoline."

The most economical gasoline powered car, overall, according to three recent magazine comparison tests, is the Datsun. I want a front wheel drive car, which leaves the Datsun out.

What's my choice then? Well, according to those comparison tests, I have a few choices -- but they aren't American-made, with one "if." The "if" is that one of the comparison tests shows the gasoline Volkswagen Rabbit (made in Pennsylvania) as being at the top of the chart along with the Datsun. The other two comparison tests put the Rabbit at close to the bottom of the "10 best" list, so I have a year to resolve the discrepancy.

Still, Volkswagen is selling every Rabbit it can make and is looking for a site for a second plant. Honda recently announced it will build an auto assembly plant in Ohio. (Michigan loses again.)

The point of all this is -- why can't Detroit -- General Motors, Ford, Chrysler -- build a truly economical car?

While Japan and other foreign countries are producing cars that can break the 40 mile per gallon mark on the highway, Detroit is producing a few that can break the 30 m.p.g. barrier and bragging about their cars that only get 20-30 m.p.g.

Presumably, Detroit will some day build cars that are as economical as ones built overseas.

But until then, persons who want to buy the most economical cars being made have to go elsewhere. Unfortunately, it's the American auto workers, and those who work for the auto company suppliers, who are the losers.



HONORS BAND -- As the banner indicates, Owen-Gage High School played host Sunday afternoon to the Tri-County Honors Band. Conducting the 93 musicians from 17 upper Thumb high schools was Carl St. Clair, associate director of bands and assistant professor of conducting at the University of Michigan.

Owen-Gage hosts tri-county band

Owendale-Gagetown High School played host Sunday afternoon to 93 musicians from 17 upper Thumb high schools who participated in the annual Tri-County Honors Band Concert.

The concert is held on a rotating basis at the various schools. Guest conductor for the concert, attended by several hundred spectators, was Carl St. Clair, associate director of bands and assistant professor of conducting at the University of Michigan.

Students were selected to perform in the band based on tape recorded auditions they submitted to a committee of band directors.

Selected from Owen-Gage were Rita Sullivan, flute; Robin Sullivan, clarinet; Mike Sullivan, baritone saxophone (brother and sisters); Vicki Alexander, clarinet; and Jennifer Errer, alto saxophone.

Others from area high schools were Lonnie Wilson, clarinet, Cass City; Tina Neu and Deb Johnson, both clarinet, Kingston, and from Uby, Doug Blackwell, cornet, Tim Grifka, trombone, Jackie Moshier, baritone, and Tom Cook, tuba.

Other schools which had musicians participating were Unionville-Sebewaing, Harbor Beach, North Huron, Brown City, Lakers, Caro, Bad Axe, Sandusky, Millington, Mayville, Vassar, Peck and Marlette.

Purpose of the band, according to the concert program, "is to give outstanding musicians in the schools of the three counties an opportunity to participate in a more challenging experience through the preparation of a program in one day's rehearsal under a guest conductor." The rehearsal was conducted Saturday.

Selections performed were "My Jesus! Oh, What Anguish," (Bach-Reed, composers and/or arrangers); "Overture to a New Era" (Caesar Giovannini); "Music of McCartney" (Warren Barker); "Brittany March" (Peter Sivanich); "Synopsis for Band" (Leland Forsblad); "Kunihild" (Kistler-Barr); "Concerto for Madison Avenue" (John Higgins) and "Billboard March" (John Klohr).

The concert was tape recorded by WKYO Radio, Caro, and will be broadcast at 3 p.m. Sunday.

A recent report to the American Meat Institute says electrical stimulation of freshly-slaughtered beef carcasses can increase tenderness about 20 percent.

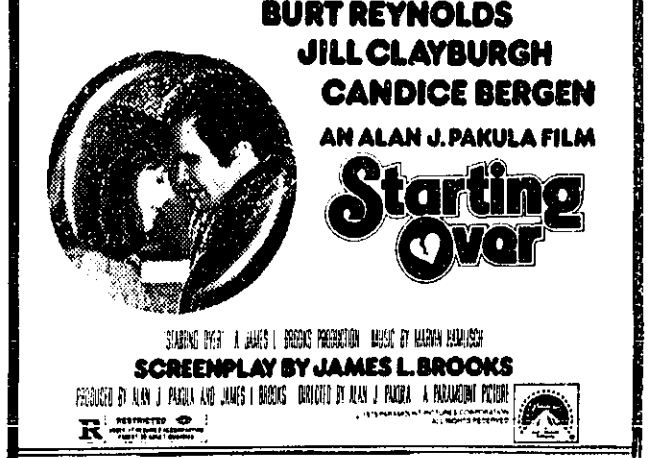


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