Honeybees — They're only natural

"My dog was going crazy trying to get into the house," said Joyce Wielkopolan of Karle Street in Westland. "That's about the time she realized those shadows on her front yard were actually cast by a swarm of about 8,000 bees — honeybees.

"My son rode his bike up to the front porch, looked up, dropped his bike and ran to the back of the house,"she continued. "He was white."

After calls to her husband, the fire department and four or five bee keepers, the Wielkopolans found Gerald Judge, a Farmington resident, bee fancier and president of AFCO Underwriters Inc. of Farmington Hills.

"Every spring I have a ball," said Judge scooping up handfulls of bees as though they were peanuts and placing them in an observation container. "I know what I'm doing."

Judge dressed in a short-sleeve shirt, cutoffs and sandals, said the swarm was "perfectly normal. The only thing unusual is that man is infringing on their territory."

Judge sprinkled a little talcum powder on the tree limb.

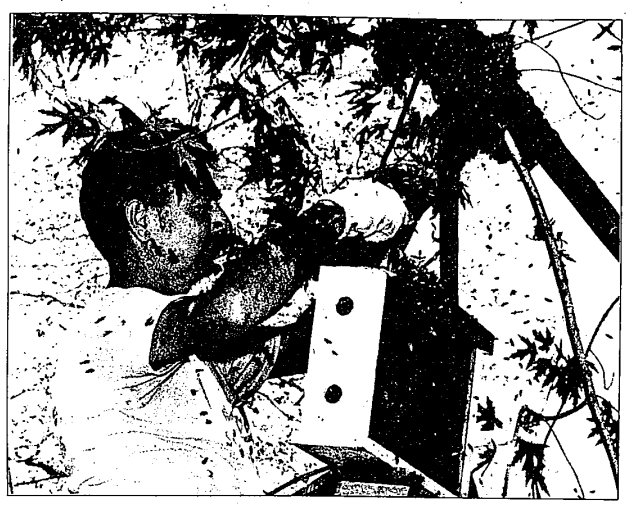
"This removes the queen smell from the tree and puts it where I want the bees to go," he told the gathering neighborhood children. Bees emit 26 different smells and are sensitive to human oders.

He added that it would be three or four days before other worker bees from a two-square mile area give up searching for the queen. If bees work, they last three weeks. If they don't, you can expect to see them next summer.

Honeybees are frequently blamed for the stings of their buzzin' cousins. And killer bees really are misnamed.

"They're just extra ambitious," he said.

Climbing back up the tree, Judge retrieved the bees, placing them in his car — a yellow Renault with black stripes.



Gathering bees into an observation hive takes slow, sure movements, says Gerald Judge.

A big part of being a beekeeper is not to show any fear.

Judge carefully handles the hive containing about 8,000 swarming bees. Note that the keeper isn't wearing gloves during this maneuver.

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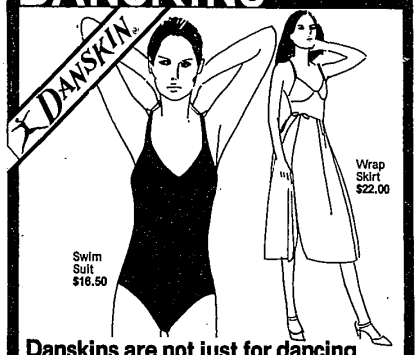

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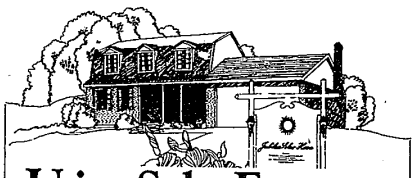


Using Solar Energy...

Come see how Detroit Edison is using the sun's energy to heat space and water in its experimental Jubilee Solar Home.

Visit the Jubilee Solar Home and see how Detroit Edison is experimenting with the sun's natural energy to help keep your future bright.

Fortunately, Detroit Edison customers have plenty of electric power available. Today, and many years into the future. It's a result of a lot of planning, development and investment and the fact that more than 84 percent of Detroit Edison's power is generated from coal, our nation's most abundant fuel. The balance is generated by other fossil fuels.

Looking far ahead, Detroit Edison is conducting research on other energy sources that may prove to be practical in our, geographic area. While it may be some time before solar energy developments make possible economical applications for people's homes, the Jubilee Solar Home already will have begun to determine if the sun's energy may someday be a useful replacement for the oil and natural gas now used for heating so that these fuels may be saved for other uses where only they will do.

The Jubilee Solar Home looks like a traditional house. But if you walk around to the back you'll see the solar collectors on the roof. Heat from the sun is captured by the collectors, stored in the water, then distributed by air to heat the home. Solar-heated water also warms water for bathing, laundering and cleaning. Solar energy is expected to fulfill 20 to 30 percent of the space heating requirements and 80 to 90 percent of the water heating requirements.

On days when the sun doesn't shine or when more heat is needed, an energy-efficient heat pump moves the natural heat, always present in the outdoor air, inside the home. Electric elements provide additional heat as required. In warm weather, the heat pump reverses automatically for energy-efficient air conditioning.

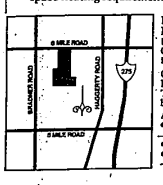
The Jubilee Solar Home is exceptionally well insulated to keep heat inside in winter and to make air conditioning more efficient in summer. All doors and windows, and even the fireplace, are designed to be energy efficient.

When you visit the Jubilee Solar Home, be sure to examine some of the new ideas in electric appliances and lighting selected for energy efficiency, convenience and safety. And note the interior lighting and outdoor security lighting system, designed to use little electricity.

Detroit Edison's Jubilee Solar Home was built by Fred Greenspan Development Corporation in cooperation with the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan.

Keeping plenty of power in your hands.

Detroit Edison



FOLLOW THIS MAP TO GET TO DETROIT EDISON'S JUBILEE SOLAR HOME
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- 17075 White Haven Drive

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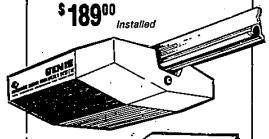

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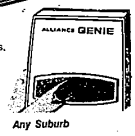

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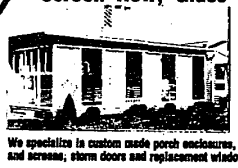

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