

consumer mailbag

Environmental issues
interest new resident

We moved to Michigan a short time ago and are just now feeling settled down. We are concerned about environmental issues but have no idea of how to become involved. Can you help? Is there a membership group? Can I join?

Concern Inc. Detroit is not a membership organization. However we welcome new volunteers to help us with our many consumer-related environmental projects. Concern Inc. Detroit also works closely with several groups whose focus is more issue-oriented. One in particular is the East Michigan Environmental Action Council.

As part of a grant to increase membership EMEAC will send you a free packet of information containing a few of their most requested publications. They include:

• "Phone Lines to Action" Lists the phone numbers of the government agencies and citizen groups that can help you with landfills, wetland and stream filling, gravel mining, pollution and other problems.

• "A Guide to the Michigan Environmental Protection Act." Shows citizens and local officials how Michigan's most important environmental law gives

them the power to protect themselves from environmental harm.

• "The List of Books" suggested reading lists on the influential new environmental books in the field of energy and materials, land ethics, alternative futures and limits to growth.

For more information on membership call 878-4940. To receive sample publications send a SASE to EMEAC, 5600 Crooks, Troy 48068.

ECO-TIP

East Michigan Environmental Action Council's monthly meetings are open to the public. They take place the second Tuesday of the month at 8 p.m. at the Cranbrook Institute of Science. Call 878-4940 to reserve a seat as space is limited.

Consumer Mailbag answers your questions on consumer and environmental issues. Address mail to Concern Inc., Detroit, 1 Northfield Plaza, Troy 48068.

Alcohol frequent nursing home friend

Elderly alcoholic women, mostly widows, make up a significant proportion of patients in the nation's nursing homes, a University of Michigan researcher says, but their condition often remains unacknowledged and untreated.

"In Michigan and many states, it is technically illegal to admit an alcoholic or other chemically addicted person to a nursing home," said Richard Douglass of the Institute of Gerontology at U-M.

"Many admitting physicians list alcohol-related disorders near the bottom of their diagnoses so that the condition is not readily apparent."

"The wisdom of these outdated laws should be challenged. Obviously, if the alcohol-related problems of these patients are not even acknowledged, they cannot be given proper personal and medical care."

Douglass studied the records of 236

elderly persons, 50 percent of the patients who were admitted to nursing homes under Medicare in Oakland County in 1977.

SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT were women, and all but 15 were widows, consistent with the higher life expectancy of women. Among the 188 for whom he obtained complete research data, 22 had medical diagnoses that listed conditions related to alcohol abuse. Twenty of these patients were women.

"The conditions were rarely listed among one of the top three diagnoses but were readily apparent among the fourth through eighth. If medical care plans for these patients were based principally on the first three diagnoses, the care could well be in conflict with that recommended for alcoholic patients," he said.

"We found the alcoholics were much

more likely to be living in another institution or with an adult child before admission to the nursing home, while the non-alcoholics were more likely to have been living with a spouse, a sibling, or independently in their own homes."

"This suggests a higher level of dependency among the alcoholics."

"THE RECORDS also reveal that the alcoholic patients were much more isolated from their extended families, receiving far fewer visits from children and other relatives than their non-alcoholic peers. It is not clear whether they were drinking because of loneliness and alienation from the family, or whether other circumstances precipitated the drinking problem and that hurt the family relationships."

"One factor in the increase of alcoholic nursing home patients is the trend to deinstitutionalize mental hos-

pital patients in Michigan and other states."

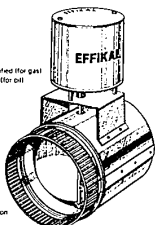
"Elderly mental patients are too frail for such alternatives as adult foster care. Thus, they are usually moved to nursing homes."

"If the laws forbidding admission of alcohol-addicted patients to nursing homes were strictly upheld, these patients would have nowhere to go."

Even before entering a nursing home, the older woman alcoholic has often been bypassed by the treatment system, Douglass said.

"The great majority of alcoholics over the age of 50 in treatment programs are men, enlisted through court referral programs, industrial outreach programs and the Veterans Administration."

"Few programs are targeted at the older woman living alone."

PUT A REAL DAMPER
ON HEATING BILLS.

Any gas or oil, furnace or boiler, which is connected to a vent pipe, can have its efficiency increased from 8-28% with the simple installation of an EFFIKAL Automatic Damper System. Very few automatic dampers can deliver this high range of performance. In fact, an independent testing laboratory found that EFFIKAL consistently outperforms other leading electric brands... and is 4 TIMES MORE EFFECTIVE than the thermally actuated vent damper brands!

So, if you're ready to put a damper on heating bills... make sure it's a real one... make sure it's an EFFIKAL!

The Gas Flow Detector, exclusive to EFFIKAL, monitors the flow of gas into the appliance and will not allow the flow to stop. The unique device on the EFFIKAL is totally safe and extremely efficient.



Five year warranty on all parts. In addition, we offer a 15% fuel savings guarantee.

Applies for energy tax credit.

MICHIGAN FURNACE COMPANY
1656 Robinson Drive • Troy, Michigan 48064
Phone 313/588-9224

OUT-OF-SIGHT
SAVINGS
ON EYEWEAR
AND
CONTACT LENSES

\$20.00 OFF

New soft lenses that were \$69.00 are just \$49.00 with presentation of this coupon at time of purchase. Professional and fitting fees not included. Prior discounts do not apply. Offer expires March 31, 1981. (One coupon per purchase.)

Bausch & Lomb or American Optical
Soft Contact Lenses Reg. Price \$69
PEARLE vision center
A SEARLE COMPANY

\$10.00 OFF

Save \$10.00 on a complete pair of prescription glasses. Choose from our large selection of fashion, classic and children's frames. Present this coupon at time of purchase to claim your discount. Prior discounts do not apply. Offer expires March 31, 1981. (One coupon per purchase.)

Complete Pair of Prescription Eyeglasses.
PEARLE vision center
A SEARLE COMPANY

\$3.00 OFF

Bring in this coupon at time of order and get \$3.00 off the tinting of Halfweights® brand lenses, when purchased. Prior discounts do not apply. Offer expires March 31, 1981.

Tinting of Halfweights® Brand Lenses
PEARLE vision center
A SEARLE COMPANY

GROSSE POINTE WOODS—21207 Macq. Rd., Tel. 356-2500 • SOUTHGATE—Southgate Shopping Center, 13615 Eureka Rd., Tel. 382-6800 • LIVONIA—20355 Middlebelt Rd., Tel. 478-0234 • 34901 Plymouth Rd., Tel. 425-2400 • ALLEN PARK—14555 Southfield Rd., Tel. 382-5100 • GARDEN CITY—29316 Ford Rd., Tel. 261-6880 • BELLEVILLE—Lakewood Shopping Center, 20155 Rawsonville Rd., Tel. 485-3580 • ANTON—44750 Ford Rd., Tel. 455-3190 • DETROIT—8350 Telegraph Rd., Tel. 533-4800 • 18351 Plymouth Rd., Tel. 273-1102 • 19841 W. 8 Mile Rd., Tel. 531-7460 • TAYLOR—11050 Telegraph Rd., Tel. 946-9572 • DEARBORN—22050 Michigan Ave., Tel. 274-8815 • For other locations call toll-free 800-331-1000.

HAGGERTY'S HAVING A "Precedent" Setting Sale

We're setting a Precedent by Chopping down the Money Tree - Slashed - and that's good news for your

Have you ever seen a 4'x8' sheet of paneling that looks like 3-16" solid Cherry Planks? Then you haven't seen the new

ARTISAN Genuine Hardwood

Cherry 16 Paneling \$20.15 per panel

For only 1¢ You Get

- Package of nails with each panel
- Tube of panel adhesive with each panel
- Caulking gun with every three panels

Interior Pre-Hung Door

1 1/2" Thick

2'x6'	28.30	32.75
2'x6'	29.50	34.50
2'x6'	30.00	36.00
2'x6'	33.00	39.00
3'x6'	34.50	40.50

Includes: F.I. Jamb, Stops, Hinges Drilled for Hardware

Shelves a-plenty in a hurry

Shelving by W

Save 20% ON ALL HARDWARE AND SHELVING

NOW! BOLD, DEEP WALL TEXTURES

Ruff-It

• Easy to apply
• Premixed — ready to use
• Crack resistant — 6 colors
• Covers up to 80 sq. ft.

OUR REG. \$15.95
2 GALLONS IN PLASTIC PAIL

SAVE \$6.00 **\$9.95** pail

Do-It-Yourself Folding Door Kit

Ready to reassemble? Add a room? Plan better storage now... with full access... folding doors. Assemble your own folding doors with pre-finished painting and an ACME door kit.

FOR BEDROOM FAMILY ROOM GUEST ROOM DEN ATTIC BASEMENT LAUNDRY ROOM GARAGE SHOP

3-0x6-8

- Install in minutes
- no special tools
- tap-in hardware
- use two kits for a 4-door installation

SEE THE ACME DISPLAY IN OUR PANELING DEPT.

DOOR KITS \$15.00-45
\$40.55 (paneling extra)

Save 20%

Armstrong Suspended Ceilings

Bring your room dimensions for free estimates. See our beautiful displays at both locations.

10'x12' ROOM \$57.16
Includes Tiles & Gridwork
20% Savings

2x2 TEXTURED TILE #943
98¢
Fireproof, Soundproof

HAGGERTY LUMBER

WALLED LAKE 2055 Haggerty Rd. (313) 356-6166
Mon-Fri 8-6, Sat 8-5 Sun 10-3

HOWELL 227 N. Barnard (517) 546-9320
Mon-Sat 805 Sun 10-3

PRICES GOOD THRU FEB. 24, 1981
ALL PRICES CASH & CARRY