

'Medicine chest' isn't best place for pills

On the surface of things, it might appear that the reason a medicine chest is so called is that it's a good place to store medicines.

Not necessarily, according to the Food and Drug Administration. Potential danger lurks when there's medicine in the medicine chest.

One reason is that bathroom medicine chest are usually right over the sink, and accessible enough to tempt the curiosity of children who live in or visit your house.

To help you know not only to child-proof your medicine chest, but to keep it safe and up-to-date for adults too, the Food and Drug Administration has a free reprint from its magazine, the FDA Consumer. For your copy of "What's in Your Medicine Chest," write to Consumer Information Center, Dept. 419X Pueblo, Colo. 81009.

should be destroyed. Empty the bottle of medicine into the toilet, flush it down and rinse out the bottle.

Don't put leftover drugs in the trash basket where they can be dug out by inquisitive youngsters.

Newly purchased drugs that don't look right should be returned to the pharmacy. Drug products that have lost their labels also should be destroyed.

A FINAL safety precaution, always keep the telephone number of local poison control center, doctor, hospital, rescue squad, fire and police departments near every phone in the house.

And tape the emergency phone list wherever you keep medicines and emergency supplies, as well as inside the bathroom medicine chest door.

When you order "What's in Your Medicine Chest" (free), you'll also receive a free copy of the Consumer Information Catalog. Published quarterly by the Consumer Information Center of the General Service Administration, free catalog lists 200 selected free and moderately priced federal consumer booklets.

EVEN IF THERE aren't any children in your household, the medicine chest is not a good place for drugs.

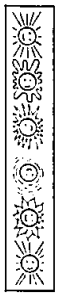
The warm, moist atmosphere of the bathroom can cause some drugs to deteriorate. Ideally, both prescription and non-prescription drugs should be kept in a cool, dry place.

What else should be kept will depend on the makeup of the family. If there are young children in the family you're likely to need baby aspirin, anti-bacterial topical ointments, and medicine to treat the symptoms of diarrhea. Almost every family will want to keep aspirin or a non-aspirin pain reliever on hand.

No matter what the age of your family, avoid overstocking drugs. Some drug products lose potency on the shelf over time, especially after they are opened. Other drugs change in consistency. Ideally, supplies in the medicine chest should be bought to last over a period of no more than six to 12 months.

BE SURE TO review the contents of your medicine chest every six months and discard old supplies. Also be sure that any new prescriptions you get are clearly dated.

Tablets that have become crumbly, medicines that have changed color, odor, or consistency, or are outdated



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FORCE

County OKs \$99,000 for jail rent

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners last week unanimously authorized \$99,490 to be spent on housing inmates outside of the County Jail for the remainder of 1982.

The money will be transferred from the contingency fund to the budget of Sheriff Johannes Spreen.

Under a federal court order, the county is required to reduce the jail population to avoid overcrowding. While county officials work on alternatives to sentencing, many inmates have been housed in jails of neighboring counties.

Oakland had earmarked \$35,000 for rental space in neighboring counties, but found that was not meeting the bill. Spreen, therefore, asked for additional funds.

Until a permanent solution to the jail overcrowding is developed, the county will continue to rent space in nearby facilities. The 1983 proposed budget allocates \$41,850 to cover the rental fees until Jan. 31.

MSU faculty leader denounces pay offer

A Michigan State University faculty leader is denouncing a 5-percent pay increase proposed by the administration as too small. The faculty is seeking 8 percent.

"Once again the MSU administration has demonstrated its lack of respect for the recommendations generated by the faculty governance system," said Dr. Philip Korth, president of MSU Faculty Associates MEA-NEA.

Korth's comments came in response to the administration's rejection of the University Committee on Faculty Affairs' proposal that faculty receive an 8-percent salary increase, effective Jan. 1, 1983, for the 1982-83 academic year.

The administration is proposing to the MSU board of trustees that faculty receive a 5-percent salary increase, effective Jan. 1, 1983.

"AVERAGE SALARIES at MSU are

the lowest among Big 10 universities. The administration's proposal is calculated to preserve that dubious honor," said Korth.

He said that the 5-percent increase proposed by the administration is only a 3.75 percent raise, since faculty would not begin to collect the increase until after Jan. 1, 1983.

"Despite the administration's oft-re-

peated 'concern' about the need to improve MSU's salary position among the Big 10 universities, no effort is apparently going to be made to make this university competitive with its peer institutions in the Midwest."

Korth echoed UCUA budget subcommittee chair Michael Rubner's "dismay" over the administration's rejection of the committee's 8-percent salary recommendation.

'Fuzz busters' are legal now

Drivers may legally use police radar detection devices — commonly known as "fuzz busters" — the Michigan Supreme Court has ruled.

Police had been using language from a 1949 section in the Vehicle Code which prohibits any vehicle to be equipped with a radio receiver capable of monitoring police conversations.

But the court said the law is "not meant to apply to the radar detection devices introduced on the market several years ago," especially following the advent to the 55 mph speed limit.

Specifically, the court upheld the dismissal of charges against a former Troy resident who received a ticket in 1976 for having a radar detector in his car.

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