Nun jailed in demonstration 'lived in void'

Sister Elizabeth La Forest, the 73ydar-old former communications director for the Sisters of Niercy in
Farmington Hills, said she spent
nine days in the Oakned County Jail
leign in a void, never really knowing what time it was.

"As Forest, who was released from
jail" Friday, was "sentenced last
makin for hocking traffic in an antiniclear demonstration last August
actylliliams international, a missite
engine manufacturer in Walted
Like.

engine manusacture.
Like.
Staking constructive use of her iself time was a difficult task that was compounded by a feeling of

timelessness, she said.
"There were no clocks and you weren't allowed to keep your watch," said LaForest in a phone intriview Monday. "You lose part of your identity."
Fellow immates, she said, estimated the time of day for her by checking which soap opera was on TV, she said.
"It's so said. Some of these people have nothing to do all day but watch cartons and sopes. Some were there for 90 days, some for six months, rever asked anybody why they were there. But they all said they'te never chere. But they all said they'te never chere. But they all said they'te never the work there again."
THE NUN'S sentence carried a \$105 fine and 10 days in the Oddland County Jail or 50 hours of communi-

ty service. She surprised District Judge Michael Batchik of Walled Lake when ahe opted for jail over community service.

La Forest told the judge she preferred to conserve her energy for teaching Arab students enrolled in her English as a second language class. In the Hamitamek Public Schools' adult deacation program.

"I was in the new our! of the jail, the new addition," she said. "There were no bars as such. I was in die." There were no bars as such. I was lead." La Forest said she spent the lirthe days of her zentence with Marlens Sciole Zerger, a fellow Williams protester. "The other lamates realized that we were both a little different."

When Zerger went home, La For-eat was alone in the cell.
"We were locked in all night.
There was room for 32 people but only 17 were there. I retured early, but I could still hear the TV laugh track. The TV was on all day," she said.

ALTHOUGH THERE were some magazines, like Good Housekeeping and Parents, La Forest found no

and rarents, La rovest found no newspapers.
This particularly distressed her. The woman who was in the news likes to keep up on the news.
So La Forest led the group in prayer. "We would gather around. They all had Bibles. Unfortunately, they were the King James version

and the woman didn't understand all the 'thee's' and 'thou's.' The Good News version, which is more in the vernacular, would have been bet-ter," she said.

La Forest made a few collect calls and enjoyed receiving an abundance of mail, which came from places as far away as Toledo and Milwaukee far away as Toledo and Milw as well as from the local area.

"I think my name is now a house-hold word," La Forest said. "I didn't expect any publicity." Will she return as a protester? Of

course.

"Our country is going to pot," said
La Forest. "We're spending billions
on national security. Pretty soon,
we'll have nothing left to recure."



Sister Elizabeth La Forest

Hills eyes trade of state land for park **We're doing two things. We no longer support the interchange there and we are requesting that the state convey the land to the city," Mayor Toryiced carego, south of the freeway, they hope to make lato a park.

Drake and asked that the 45 acres "be prepared for disposition, sale, grant, donation or transfer" to the city.

The city council also agreed to designate the acreage, if sold or given to the city, for recreation purposes.

"I want to stress the purpose of acquiring the property is for recreation and open space," Sever said.

In its resolution, the city council continued support of Michigan Department of Transportation plans for a new 1-690 interchange west of Haggerty in Novi and one just east of inster in Southfield, as well as a boulevard on 12 Mille in Farmington Hills.

AS A prelude to buying additional acreage for more parks and recreation needs in the community, the council also authorized city administrators to apply for help through the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Pund.

The control of the control of the control of the city and to buy approximately 55 acres for a cost of up to \$25. million. If the city is awarded the grant, the state would pay for 75 percent of the total project cost and the city the remaining 25 percent. Sever said he has been working this year to find and possibly acquire. Sever said also has been decreasion. Possible land acquisition has been discussed in the council's closed sessions since the beginning of the year. Though no property has yet been bought, discussions continue on Sever said. linue on several parcels, Sever said. State Department of Natural Re-

sources guidelines say the city should have 10 acres of park land for every 1,000 residents, which would mean approximately 660 acres for Farmington Hills. The city, however, has 238 acres — primarily the 211-

Farmington Hills. The city, however, na 238 acres — primarily the 211-acre Heritage Park on Farmington Road, between 10 and 11 Mile.

Parks and recreation officials in February confirmed the need for a westside park to meet the fast-growing need to provide four more baseball fields, two soccer fields, restrooms and concession stands.

IN ADDITION to eying the MDOT acreage south of 1-698, city officials have been discussing expansion of the nine-hole San Marino Golf Course on Haisted, Another 20-30 acres would be needed to add nine holes. Key acreage to accommodate the expansion is school-owned property at the corner of Haisted and 11 Mille. "They (school officials) have Indiated a willingest so tway this if we

"They (school officials) have Indi-nated a willingess to swap this if we can find comparable property on the west side of the city." special ser-vices director Dan Potter said in February. City officials also are in negotia-tions to buy acreage in the city's south end for a youth athletic park similar to Pioneer Park at 13 Mile and Farmington Read.

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None hurt in home fire

continued from Pago 1
was hurt. Two other children, Rickie, 14, and Vickt, 11, weren't yet
home from school.
"Y! couldn't believe I was seeing
what I was seeing," said Bonnie,
whose brother died in a house fire in
Redford Township 23 years ago.
THE FIRE, which appeared to be
caused by an electrical overload;
gutted the bedroom that spanned the
upstairs, said Al Ellis, Farmington
Hills fire investigator.
Among what was lost in the fire

3) 60

were clothing, Christmas ornaments, stereo equipment, things of senti-mental value and many of Kim's possessions.

Brushing away tears while watch-ing the firefighters Monday, Bonnie sald she wasn't sure when she'd be up to going back inside. "The best part," she said, "is that everybody is well."

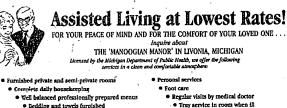
Firefighter Larry Henderson said "yellowish, while smoke" was visi-ble from the front upstairs window when he arrived. Firefighters extin-

guished the fire within 10 minutes.

Heat damage was limited to the upstairs. There was smoke damage throughout the four-bedroom house. No dollar estimate was available. The Bielicklie weren't sure Monday to what extent the house is insured.

The house had no smoke detectors, but the family said they would install them now.

The Bielickis have lived on Jack-sonville for 11 years. Their only pre-vious fire involved a boat parked in the yard 8 years ago.



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