

## Community Corner

This week's question:

Curbside recycling is a reality in the Farmington area. How's it going with you?

We asked this question at several locations in Farmington.



"Fine... no problems. I always took my recyclables to the center anyway."  
— Rosemary Fitzpatrick  
Farmington



"All right... but I'm just one person and I don't have much to recycle."  
— Marjorie Hone  
Farmington



"It's going fine, but I've been recycling for a long time."  
— Ellen Austin  
Farmington Hills



"Very well, I realize it's important to start recycling now."  
— Mary Lou Schillman  
Farmington Hills



"I live in an apartment, so I don't participate. I wish I could, though. I'd do it in a minute."  
— Roxanne Giordano  
Farmington Hills



"I live in an apartment, but I wouldn't want to mess with (recycling). It's messy. They need to come up with a better system."  
— Bruce Habermehl  
Farmington Hills

## Residents, officials critical of Edison

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WHILE HIS city did not send a representative to Monday's hearing, Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman said he and others are working directly with Detroit Edison officials on concerns they have.

In addition to ongoing electrical concerns, the lack of priority treatment to nursing home facilities during recent storms was particularly disturbing, he said.

"We didn't feel it got the kinds of attention it should have gotten."

WHILE AREA officials talked solutions, residents and business owners recited a litany of woes.

Ray Stone said he experienced three power outages in the 19 years he lived in Livonia but now suffers three a year at his new Farmington Hills home.

"When my neighbor's air conditioner comes on, my lights dim," said Irene Brown, speaking on behalf of residents in Farmington Meadows subdivision.

Farmington Nursing Home staff members said they feared for patients' safety after the home lost power for three days.

"I have to tell you I felt guilty about going home, when I had air conditioning and refrigeration," said nursing home worker Cherylann Johnson of Livonia.

Joseph Jakino of Farmington Hills, a former employee of Consolidated Edison in New York, suggested state-by-state comparisons between Detroit Edison and other utility companies in

terms of outages and response times.

"There's a perception among are fire chiefs that it's not getting better, it's getting worse," Farmington Hills fire Chief Richard Maranucci said.

Although Edison representatives were at the three-hour public hearing, none spoke.

AFTERWARD, OFFICIALS acknowledged the company image took a beating. It was charges of Edison insensitivity that might have stung most.

"We'd like to think we are competent but we obviously have to prove it to these customers," said Oakland County division manager Maurice Vermeulen.

"As for being insensitive, I just don't believe that's fair."

"We had people handling 150 complaints a day. We instruct everyone to be courteous but it's hard not to occasionally lose your cool when you're in a situation like that."

Poles and wires more than 10 years old are annually examined and replaced if necessary, he said. And projects under way in the Farmington Hills/West Bloomfield area should substantially reduce power outages.

MORE THAN 1 million Michigan residents lost power, and several people lost their lives, as a result of the July 7 storm that prompted the public hearings.

Public Service Commission chairman Steven Fetter said the utility's day-to-day operations are being investigated, as well.

At the very least, the committee will issue a report Aug. 30. Utilities will be allowed to file

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responses before a Sept. 24 public hearing in Lansing.

A final Public Service Commission report is due in late October or early November.

Written comments are still being accepted on the performance of Detroit Edison and Consumers Power.

Comments can be sent to Michigan Public Service Commission, executive secretary, P.O. Box 30221, 6545 Mercantile Way, Lansing 48909. Comments should refer to Case U-9916.

## obituaries

RUTH A. LESSNER

Mrs. Lessner, 73, of Farmington Hills died July 26 in Botsford Hospital, Farmington Hills.

Born in Detroit, Mrs. Lessner was an executive secretary for a contracting firm. She was a member of Nardin Park United Methodist Church and S.E. Michigan Dialect Society.

Survivors include her sister, Marilyn Truitt; nephews, Larry and David Williams and Doug Truitt; niece, Linda Truitt.

Services were July 29 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Dr. William A. Ritter of Nardin Park United Methodist Church officiating. Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery, Detroit.

JEROME MISTRETTA

Mr. Mistretta, 76, of Farmington died July 26 in Botsford Hospital, Farmington Hills.

Born in St. Louis, Missouri, Mr. Mistretta worked in the construction industry.

Surviving is his wife, Bernice. Services were July 30 at the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. J.T. Milligan of Garden City Church of God officiating. Burial was in Parkview Cemetery, Livonia.

HARVEY W. MUSSELMAN

Mr. Musselman, 99, of Farmington Hills died July 27 in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia.

Born in Germfist, Michigan, Mr. Musselman was a machinist. He was a charter-life member of the Farmington Elks.

Survivors include his son, Gilbert, one grandchild.

Cremation was in Evergreen Crematory, Detroit. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Arrangements were made by the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington. Memorials may be made to Farmington Elks.

LYDIA H. TROUT

Mrs. Trout, 93, of Farmington Hills died July 28 in Botsford Hospital, Farmington Hills.

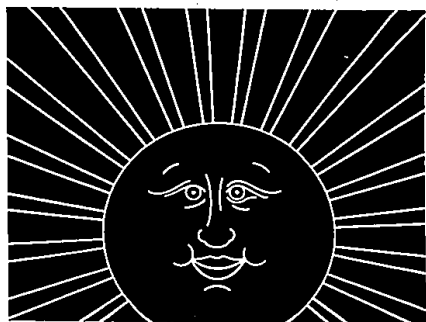
Born in Detroit, Mrs. Trout was a homemaker. She was a member of Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills.

Survivors include her son William, six grandchildren.

Services were July 31 at the Nardin Park United Methodist Church, Farmington Hills with the Rev. Dr. William A. Ritter officiating. Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery, Detroit. Arrangements were made by McCabe Funeral Home, Farmington Hills.

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