

# Will Fair Housing Get A Court Test?

By MARGARET MILLER

Open housing laws will have to be strengthened through amendment or tested in the courts before any real change in housing patterns can happen.

That's the opinion of Mrs. Frank Wylie, former head of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission, and she predicts that open housing indeed will come eventually.

"We've had open housing laws on our books for several years now," Martha Wylie said in a recent talk to women of the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth.

"Yet housing has become more segregated than ever as far as city and suburban patterns are concerned."

"THE PROBLEM is there are so many levels where discrimination can take place—with the seller, the real

estate agency, the salesperson, the lender and others.

"There has to be implementation to make it easier to find out where the discrimination takes place. I think it will have to occur through amendments or in court cases."

Mrs. Wylie pointed out that "fair employment practices have been court-tested and desegregation of schools is on its way through the courts" so, she said, it seems reasonable that housing must go the same route.

Mrs. Wylie told the Observer she is no longer a member of the Civil Rights Commission because "Gov. William Milliken saw fit not to reappoint me when my term expired. In December, although I had nothing but praise for my work as chairman."

The commission now is headed by Ed Barrera of Saginaw, who she said may be



the first Mexican American in the country to hold such a post, and the new director is James Blair, formerly head of the New Jersey division on human rights. "Both are fine men," she said.

Mrs. Wylie said she had declined a request from the governor that she serve as a member of the Oakland

University board of controllers.

SHE WAS ASKED by the church women if "housing shouldn't come ahead of the busing issue."

"I don't like to call it the busing issue—it's really a school desegregation issue, and busing is a tool," she answered.

"And while it's true that truly integrated housing would end school desegregation, that seems a generation away, and school integration NOW has been ordered by the U.S. Supreme Court."

She also stated that "the Federal Housing Administration a few years ago

helped create school segregation by having different policies for granting FHA mortgages to white and black buyers.

"That is part of what Judge Stephen Roth was talking about when he found 'de jure' segregation in Detroit schools," she added.

MRS. WYLIE described the work of the state Civil Rights Commission, listed what she considered reasons for opposition to its work and made suggestions to the church women interested in useful action toward implementing equality in civil rights.

She mentioned that, while many cases that come before the commission are brought by blacks and members of other minority races, an increasing number involve discrimination against women on the basis of sex.

She cited particularly a

case in which the pay of 233 nurses aides had been upgraded to the wage of male orderlies.

"In talking to you about opposition to the work of the Civil Rights Commission," she said, "I'm not concerned with the bigots. It's the 'good people' who also resist our efforts to implement laws."

MRS. WYLIE said she could see four major reasons. "First," she said, "a lot of progress has been made in the last 10 or 15 years, and people tend to think the job has been done. But it hasn't. While national average income is up, the income of whites has risen faster than that of blacks, so the gap is wider."

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## m. m. memos

Seems to me I remember reading that there was a sign in the final Apollo spaceship—"Last man out: Turn out the lights."

I find it hard to believe. Astronauts must be better organized than daughters—and mothers. But if in some future space program anyone in our clan goes into orbit, I'm sure the vehicle will be found bobbing in the ocean lit up like a Christmas tree.

The man of our house had come to the conclusion that the home is equipped with automatic lights. You turn them out and they go on again within a short time and with no human hand being put to the switch.

At least, we have it on good authority that no one has turned on those lights that continue to burn.

This is particularly true of lights in closets, lights in bedrooms, lights in the basement. Also the light over the sewing machine, I must add.

The matter has been discussed around the house for years. Our friends get into the act. They tell us that when they drive up the hill behind our house it shines forth like a beacon—the best lit in town.

The girls used to be oblivious to this sort of talk. Now they pay a bit more attention when THEIR friends tell them they drive up the hill and we look like the Taj Mahal.

One of them has a theory. It's not, she says, that so many lights are on. It just seems that way because there are so many windows.

As the price of illumination rises with everything else, we redouble efforts to snap those switches. Meanwhile, I'm wondering about engaging the services of a certain character I've heard about.

You know, the little man who turns out the light in the refrigerator when you close the door. I wonder if I could get him to circulate all through the house.

—Margaret Miller

## Cathy's Research Goes To WSU

The "bad news" chemical compound that kept Livonian Cathy Gerovac busy all summer turned out to be good news after all.

For eight weeks, in a special student seminar on the campus of Carson Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn., the Bentley High School senior worked on the original compound in a cancer research project.

She finished it the last day, and it's now being tested in England to see if it deters tumors in animals.

CATHY HASN'T learned any results of that testing yet.

But she has been asked to be one of 12 students in this area to report her research in the ninth annual Southeastern Michigan Junior Sciences and Humanities Symposium. It will be held Friday and Saturday, Feb. 23 and 24, at Wayne State University.

Presenting her paper on "Cancer: Compounds and Research," she will reproduce for overhead projector the complicated formula she wrote out for our photographer in a visit to The Observer Newspapers office.

Her appearance for the symposium will have to be worked into a full schedule. Cathy carries several advanced classes at Bentley—and has a 3.9 grade point average.

She's also senior class vice

president, a member of the Livonia School Board Advisory Committee, active in several other school organizations and has a part-time job.

Planning to go into medicine, she has been accepted by Michigan State University and also has applied for admission to the University of Notre Dame. She decided against accepting the four-year scholarship Carson Newman College offered her because she wanted to go to a bigger school.

HER SCIENTIFIC summer at the Tennessee school Cathy described as "really fantastic."

About 35 high school students from all over the country participated in various aspects of scientific research.

"I worked with Dr. Carl Tabb Bahner, who was giving his summer to the symposium and to further cancer research," Cathy said.

"He got me working on this compound—it was called the 'bad news' compound there because it took so long and often didn't work as it was supposed to."

"I was at it six hours a day, five days a week, and finished the last morning of the eight weeks. Later, when it was tested, it checked out pure."

However, Cathy guessed

CATHY GEROVAC shows part of the formula for the chemical compound she made in a summer of cancer research. (Observer photo by Leonard Poger)



that it probably was necessary for someone in the research project to make the compound again after she returned to Bentley classes.

"After all that work," she said, "I wound up with one gram of one per cent of a gram."

A REPORT on the research, with Cathy as co-author, is due to appear in a journal of medical chemistry.

This student researcher was most impressed by the dedication of the professional

men involved in the symposium.

"After what I saw there this summer," she said, "I'm convinced a cure for cancer can't be far away—maybe 10 years."

The WSU symposium, jointly sponsored by the university and the U.S. Army research office, will involve more than 150 top high school students and 75 teachers from Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw and Monroe counties.

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## Boycott For A Porpoise

Mrs. Lane of Redford Township likes her tuna-fish sandwiches as well as the next person.

But she's willing to give them up for the sake of Flipper and his friends, and she hopes others in this area will consider doing the same.

Mrs. Lane is supporting the Detroit Audubon Society's Operation Dolphin, part of a nationwide drive to get the tuna industry to stop using the huge nets that kill thousands of dolphins and porpoises along with the tuna catch.

THE PORPOISES and dolphins, she said, should be

protected because their high intelligence makes them useful in research.

But, as warm-blooded, air-breathing mammals, they are smothered when trapped with the tuna in the nets that have proved an efficient method of taking tuna.

A statement from the Detroit Audubon Society, which has taken up the cause because it seeks to protect all wild life, explained the problem.

"The traditional method of capturing tuna for market formerly employed hook and line," the statement said. "Some tuna are located by

sighting dolphin, which the tuna usually accompany."

"The tuna fleet has switched to a more productive method called purse seining. A net, perhaps a mile long, is towed by a ship in an encircling maneuver until the loop is closed."

"This also traps the dolphin, and many thousands are injured and killed accidentally." The tuna industry estimates about 200,000 U.S. government estimates are higher and Smithsonian scientists estimate up to 900,000 are killed yearly."

THE SOCIETY is asking

that all interested boycott tuna products by refusing to buy them "to make it economically desirable by the tuna industry to cease the useless slaughter of dolphin."

Mrs. Lane, who lives at 17666 Lennane, said she has information and bumper stickers distributed by the Audubon Society in the cause, and she also is asking Overland residents interested to send letters or telegrams to heads of companies that produce tuna.

These, she said, should be sent to the Ralston Purina Co., Checkerboard Square, St. Louis, Mo., 63168; the Del Monte Corp., San Francisco 94119, and Star-Kist Foods Inc., Terminal Island, Calif. She also recommended writing to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, Calif., 92037.

MRS. LANE said she had become interested in the Audubon society and its aims because she and her family live in the wooded area near Presbyterian Village.

An elder in Village Presbyterian Church, she has asked members of her congregation to consider that "since God has given man dominion over all things, it's man's responsibility to protect our environment against needless destruction."

Also sacrificing for a porpoise is the Lane's 20-pound cat "Sweetie Pie."

"He loves tuna," said Mrs. Lane. She hopes he understands.

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MRS. GLORIA LANE of Redford Township puts a "Save a Dolphin" bumper sticker on her car. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)