

Dan McCosh writes



# Energy And Emotion

FARMINGTON  
Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman had a talk with a guy from Detroit Edison recently, trying to pin the light bulb people down on what their problems were and what the city could do to help.

Was it necessary to cut down street lighting? And since the city pays a flat rate, regardless of the amount of light used, would it get a reduction if it cut back?

No answers.  
"I guess I'll just go back to worrying about local problems," Deadman said.

Both city councils and the school board have decided to get on with energy-conservation measures.

The schools have trimmed their heat and are attempt-

ing to save on gas. Farmington vetoed lighting Christmas decorations, and patrolmen are instructed to stop idling squad cars.

But is "setting an example" enough?  
It appears there are really two energy crises: one is the reality of shortages, the other is the energy-saving games people appear to be jumping into with the spirit of a Puritan Renaissance.

The schools, for instance, had a difficult time getting gasoline for the buses last year, and even more difficult time getting fuel oil this year.

One obvious conclusion of the two shortages is that it presents nearly an insoluble dilemma for the district.

If more busing is needed because schools are closed for lack of fuel oil what is saved?

One gets the feeling no consideration is going to be given to this kind of trade-off if severe cuts are to be made.

Another odd announcement was made by Farmington Hills City Manager George Majors, when he told the council he might be able to heat a new addition with oil, propane or electricity, since natural gas installation permits are nearly unavailable.

It appears possible to get a permit for oil, which is not available, but not for gas, which is being delivered.

As for electric heat, it is inefficient, since it involves burning fuel to make electricity, then converting the electricity back to heat.

Just replacing electric hot water heaters with gas would probably light up many Christmas trees to come.

An architectural engineer mentioned the tremendous

cost in home heating when the fireplace is lit. The reason is that an open hearth sucks a tremendous volume of warm air from distant parts of the house and sends it up the chimney.

This fact was recognized by Benjamin Franklin, who invented the Franklin stove in an effort to solve the problem.

But try to tell this to the homeowners stockpiling wood, thinking they are meeting the crisis head on.

The common theme to these bits of trivia is that the energy crisis is mainly a scientific, technical problem, which needs a lot of serious analysis.

Instead, the reaction to it has been highly emotional and political.

One wonders how long the public sympathy and interest can be maintained as long as this situation remains.

# Solving A Real Crime

Continued from Page 1A

are records of crimes committed in other areas.

Particularly for a small department, they are the way a pattern of similar crimes in an area can be detected.

Again, the working detective sets sail on a sea of paper.

The cryptic descriptions of people, crimes and cars are sifted daily, and any similarities have to be checked out.

This means talking to detectives in other departments on the phone, usually driving over to check over mug shots of potential suspects.

A conversation with the Lincoln Park police produced a lead almost immediately. "Heathch", an informer told the Lincoln Park police that a local man had told

him he had robbed a store in Farmington.

Mug shots presented to the witnesses failed to identify the suspect, however.

At this point, Daniels was

## Free Movie Is Shown

FARMINGTON  
The movie "Pewee Had a Little Ape" will feature the Farmington Public Library's second Saturday series December program for elementary school children.

The program will begin at 2 p.m. Dec. 8 at the library on 12 Mile Road.

It will also include a skit presentation of "The Judge" and a special guest appearance of "Ryder Duckie" of Sesame Street.

convicted he had his man, and he found it difficult to shake the feeling he was getting away.

"But you have to keep an open mind," he said.

More teletypes, more phone calls, and a flood of pictures from other departments kept him busy.

A lot of investigations kept down at this stage, and sometimes other cases intervene.

But the working detective keeps going, sometimes for an amazingly long period of time. Case files stay open, sometimes even after the culprit has been picked up across the state.

Sgt. Switzer recently closed a case after a full year.

In this case, however, another robbery in Livonia with another alarm film of the suspect brought another similarity.

"They had someone under surveillance, and they identified him from our film," Daniels said.

The actual arrest was routine, and the driver of the getaway car was also picked up.

"You know, I really love this job," Daniels said after concluding the story.

"I think I'd do about anything to make a case."

# Library Seeks Identification Of Bible Owner

FARMINGTON

Who is Laura Bacon Walcott Botsford? Farmington Library staff are attempting to identify the original owner of an 1886 family Bible, donated to the library recently by Mary Fraser, a resident of Detroit.

The library staff has been attempting to identify Mrs. Botsford in the library's historical reference materials.

"If any local history buff can tell them which Botsford was Laura's husband, they will earn the gratitude of the staff," said Mrs. Mary Mitchell, director, said.

The Bible is in excellent condition. It is illustrated with color plates and has metal clasps. Separating the old and new testaments is a "family temperance pledge."

The Bible will be on display during December at the 12 Mile Rd. library.

Miss Fraser, the donor, taught school for 40 years in the Detroit area, ending her career as head of foreign languages at Cass Tech High School.

"I am very happy that it got into hands that will appreciate it for not only what is in it, but also for its age," Miss Fraser said.

the farmington  
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& observer

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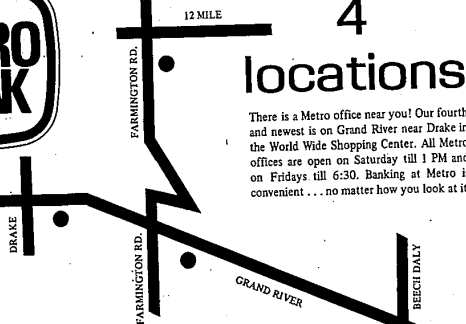
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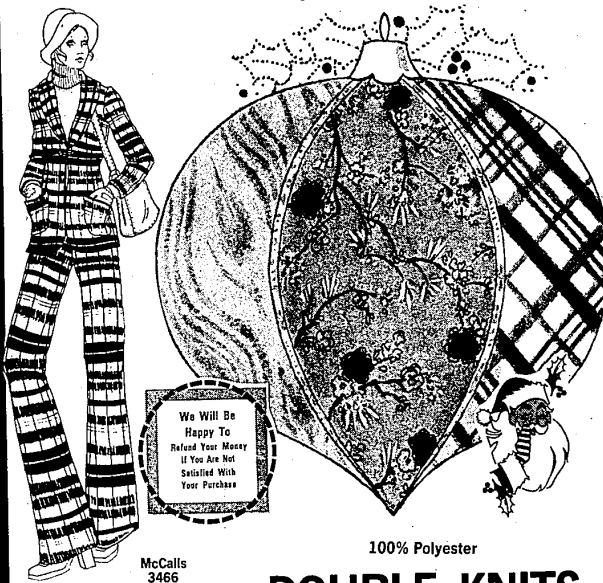
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farmington

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