

# Saving environment is everyone's concern

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(Editor's note: The following article, written by Steve Jonas, is the first in a series dealing with the preservation of our environment. Jonas, an elementary interim teacher in Farmington, is involved with the Teacher Corps Cycle IX and has chosen an environmental awareness campaign for Farmington as part of his community project requirement for Teacher Corps.)

Have you ever seen a group of children playing near a stream or river and testing the speed of the current? You may have seen them throw in branches, leaves, candy wrappers or maybe even a bottle. And then, when

the bottle reached the nearby bridge, they possibly have been on top testing Newton's law of gravity (or maybe their accuracy) with a couple of rocks ready to be dropped on the bottle which is now floating underneath them.

I witnessed exactly that scene in a state park near here recently. My immediate reaction was anger as I rushed over to stop them from breaking the bottle in that stream.

"Are you crazy?" I asked them, naïvely expecting a "yes" answer or at least a sign of understanding. I told them I wouldn't let them do it.

They agreed and left. What did I

learn? Probably that they should only break bottles when adults aren't watching.

AFTER A LITTLE SOUL-SEARCHING back and apologized, I admitted that I too threw rocks at bottles when I was their age. How could they know that they were helping to pollute the stream, to destroy its natural beauty and to assure that no one would be able to swim or wade in it again because of that broken bottle.

By now you must be wondering what the point of this article is. Well, I think that we, as a people, have become very unaware of and unconcerned about what is happening to our environment. This is a very simple phenomenon to explain.

It seems entirely logical that our advanced technology, a technology that has put people on the moon, would be advanced enough to solve our environmental problems. So why should we have to worry about it?

One need only look at a few examples: Our fuel crisis, DDT, the military nerve gas disposal problem, or the smog in Los Angeles to see this is not the case. Government, industry and individuals have acted and are acting with near total disregard for the environment.

Now, we are faced with very serious problems with air, land, water, noise pollution and the depletion of our limited supply of natural resources.

I believe it's time we all started to take the matter more seriously. We can begin by looking at many of our common, everyday practices which we take so much for granted.

For instance have you ever thought about how much garbage your home accumulates in one week? Multiply that by the many hundreds of thousands of homes in this section of Michigan alone. Then add to that all of the refuse that industry accumulates.

Consider where all of that garbage goes. It's still here somewhere; it doesn't disappear. If it gets burned, it's just being transferred from land to the air—that's pollution! If it is used as landfill, it will take tens, hundreds, even thousands of years to decompose.

We're talking about only one week's refuse accumulation. It doesn't take a mathematical whiz to realize we are burying ourselves in our own refuse.

My point is that just as those children didn't realize what they were doing to the stream, often we do not realize what we are doing to the environment. I think it is very important that we as adults act as good models of environmentally sound practices to the children who will one day be making the important environmental decisions of this planet.

I am certain we cannot live on this earth and make no impact on it. But we can minimize our impact by practicing good sound ecological living. I am not merely saying this is a good idea; I am saying it is necessary that we all do our part. Please—help save the earth!

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## Library dedication set for next Sunday

Dedication ceremonies for the new Farmington Community Library, on Liberts in downtown Farmington, are scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7.

U.S. Rep. William Bradford, whose 17th district includes Farmington and Farmington Hills, will be the speaker. The public is invited to attend the dedication and after the short program tour the new building.

There also will be an open house for the new wing of the Farmington city hall which is in the same building. The groundbreaking for the 11,000 square foot library took place just a year ago (December 1974) with a year given as the probable completion time. Cost of the new facility, designed by Merritt, Cole and McCullum, is \$740,000. With equipment, library director Gordon Lewis says total cost will be \$825,000.

Many community groups and individual donors have helped defray the cost of equipping the new building. The dedication will be a culmination of the efforts of many residents over the years to improve the former library.

The library started in one room of the old Tolan Hall, now the Masonic Temple. From there it was moved to the old post office.

The drive to improve it began in the 1960s and in 1967, voters approved a millage for improvements and expansion. The need for the new library has been clearly established especially in the past year.

Lewis reported earlier this year that circulation has doubled in the past three years and continues to grow at the rate of 5,000 per month.

The library continues to encourage residents to contribute funds for books as a memorial or living tribute at the time of the dedication.

The main level of the new building houses adult fiction and non-fiction. The lower level has community rooms, a children's room complete with a uniquely designed tree house, local history room and storage areas. The combination of features which

characterizes the 12 Mile Road building, is again evident in the new one. Liberts in downtown Farmington, are carpeting, to stone, brick, wood and glass.

## Wibby honored by bankers

James E. Wibby, president of Metropolitan National Bank of Farmington, was one of more than 100 bankers from across the nation who recently were recognized by the American Bankers Association as Certified Commercial Lenders, joining 352 commercial lenders who have already received the CCL designation.

Wibby who lives in Farmington with his wife, Betty, has been president of MetNB Bank since 1969. He has been active in community affairs and is currently president of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce and immediately past president of the Farmington Exchange Club.


The CCL program, which is sponsored by the ABA's Commercial Lending Division, is designed to raise professional standards and improve the commercial lending function within the banking system by identifying, examining and recognizing persons with a high level of knowledge of the principles and practices of commercial lending.

Determination of eligibility for the CCL designation is based either on certified long-term experience or on satisfactory completion of educational and job experience requirements.

## Western grad

Bradford H. Morrell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland Morrell of Birmingham, was graduated from Western Michigan University with a bachelor of business administration degree. Morrell majored in accounting and minored in economics and general business. He has accepted a position with the U.S. treasury department.

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