

# Doing it yourself... with a little help

"From now on I'll take care of the repairs myself." Who hasn't said it, and meant it, a hundred times? Especially after a repairman's bill that bent the budget, or an agonizing wait for a repairman to become available, or the nagging feeling that the job wasn't really all that difficult to do. But then, when it happens...

"Henry, the shelf in the basement just came loose and the jars are sliding off..."

Sure enough. And among the debris are bits of concrete block pulled out. Not only is the support area for the shelf gone, but it's an open invitation for moisture to come in.

**WHAT TO DO?** The amateur handyman may think of several practical remedies, but not all of them will really work.

A wedge or plug of wood? Maybe of some value, but it wouldn't solve the moisture problem.

A flat plate of wood glued to the wall? Lots of work, not too good looking, and probably not too strong.

Quick-setting hydraulic cement? Now you're talking, Henry. A quick trip to the hardware store, read the instructions, mold the cement into a carrot shape or a ball and press it into the hole.

Certainly will be as moisture-proof as before, and may well hold the shelves as well. (Might be worth checking to see if more or stronger anchors aren't a good idea, too.)

Henry's learning fast... and so must every amateur handyman, for common sense can guide you only so far in solving most home maintenance problems. After that you need to know what you're doing. That knowledge is not hard to ob-

tain. Among standard all-inclusive "do-it-yourself" texts are "The Reader's Digest Complete Do-It-Yourself Manual," and "Time-Life Books' 'How Things Work In Your Home (And What To Do When They Don't.)" If you don't own them, they're available at the public library.

Once you've acquired a modest "how-to" library and a small arsenal of the most frequently needed tools, you'll need to lay in a supply of home repair materials that will most likely be needed to handle those unforeseen emergencies. Supplies that should be in everyone's "survival kit" are these:

Fillers and patchers—Putty, wood filler, caulking, and grouting materials, liquid rubber and metallic compounds. These are used for filling openings that shouldn't be there, like the hole in Henry's wall, or spaces between the bathtub and the tile, or gaps between floorboards, to keep them from moving and squeaking, or splits in siding, or minor roofing leaks.

Adhesives—In addition to general purpose adhesives, there are special adhesives for paper, cloth, wood, plastic, glass or ceramics, metal and other materials. It's important that you know which one to use, and how to use it, not every adhesive job should be clamped, for example. Most manufacturers publish charts or other guides, which will save much grief. It saves money to buy the right adhesive, even if you don't use it all up on the job for which you get it.

Coatings—Paint, stains, varnishes. If your fixing leaves a scar, paint it. Paint conceals a multitude of sins. Again, it's important to choose the right finish.

Abrasives—Basic to most maintenance and repair jobs, abrasives are used to remove stains, tarps, and

rust from wood or metal surfaces before painting them; to eliminate pita from electrical contact points to re-vive appliances that won't start; to grind to a straight edge the wood that you cut with a non-professional skill; and much more. Industry and commerce use abrasives for such diverse jobs as improving the appearance of eggs and shaping giant steel forgings. (There's even a special abrasive material made for skin care!)

Sandpaper is the most commonly used home abrasive, and comes in a wide selection of "grits" for just about any of the jobs described. The sophisticated home handy person will want to investigate the many power tools designed to accommodate abrasive wheels, belts, discs and sheets, to plane, grind, finish, rub and polish, level, smooth, shape and shine.

All of these products make the home handyman's job easier. But the first rule to observe, according to SM

Co., a leading manufacturer of many helpful products, is to "go easy" and know your limitations. "If you're just beginning to solo," says SM, "keep the easier jobs for yourself and move up the ladder as you learn. Leave the tougher jobs for the pros until you're sure you can handle them."

There may always be a certain level of job you'll never be confident enough to tackle yourself, but even so you can save a lot of money and frustration on the others.

- \$25 SURVIVAL KIT**  
A homemaker's "survival kit," which represents an investment in the neighborhood of \$25, should include the following tools:  
12-foot, 3/4 inch metal tape measure  
Phillips head screw driver  
Three-inch screw driver with 1/4" blade  
Four or six-inch screw driver with 1/4" blade  
locking plier/wrench  
wood saw  
hammer

replaceable-blade utility knife and set of blades  
circular hand drill and set of bits  
putty knife  
mason's trowel  
oil can with bent spout  
small utility saw  
small collections of nails, brads, screws, nuts, bolts

**GARAGE DOOR OPERATORS**  
FOR ANY DOOR  
**GENIE "450"**  
\$178 Installed  
Any Season  
**ALLIANCE**  
**AUTOMATIC DOOR CO.**  
631-0680  
SOUTHFIELD

**SOUTHFIELD GRAND OPENING SPECIALS!**  
**FREE!**  
\$4 HAIR CONDITIONING TREATMENT  
WITH SERVICES OR  
\$2 off services at



Masters of Hair Care  
OFFER VALID TIL JAN. 31, 1978 with this ad only at our Southfield location on Southfield Rd. north of 12 Mile in the Farrell's Shopping Plaza  
**A GREAT GIFT IDEA!**  
PROFESSIONAL 1000 WATT HAIR DRYERS  
ON SALE FOR JUST \$16.95 WHILE THEY LAST  
AT SIR EDWARD IN DEARBORN • FERNDALE  
• ST. CLAIR SHORES • ANN ARBOR • SOUTHFIELD

**SALES MANAGEMENT TRAINING**  
Superb opportunity for 3 top caliber persons who want to grow with "Michigan's Largest." Must be strongly motivated, possess high ethics, available in 30 days or less. For confidential interview, phone Vice President in nearest office.  
Metro West, Neil Appicelli: 281-2900  
Metro N.W., Jim Stevens: 851-1900  
Metro North, John Hussey: 558-2300  
**Real Estate Co.**

## Weekend features American Heritage

An opportunity to spend a weekend experiencing America's past is now available in a special package program. The Dearborn Inn with Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum, is sponsoring an American heritage lecture series weekend package.

The package, which combines overnight accommodations, some meals and admissions to the Village and Museum, is designed to coincide with the Museum's 1975-76 Antiques Lecture Series. It started in November and will be offered on selected weekends through May.

The lecture series, now in its 24th year, has this season taken a bi-centennial theme: "Homes of Colonial Heroes." Individual lectures, presented by noted curators, collectors and antique experts, focus on the estates of early statesmen and leading figures of the Revolutionary period. Among the subjects they cover are New York's Johnson Hall, home of Sir William Johnson; Virginia's Gunston Hall, home of George Mason; and Pennsylvania's Lemon Hill, home of Robert Morris.

VISITORS with a special interest in this area of Americana, will begin their heritage weekend by attending the antiques lecture on Friday evening in the Henry Ford Museum theater. They may return to the village and museum throughout the weekend to enjoy their leisure or to view Sunday afternoon presentations in the Museum Theater.

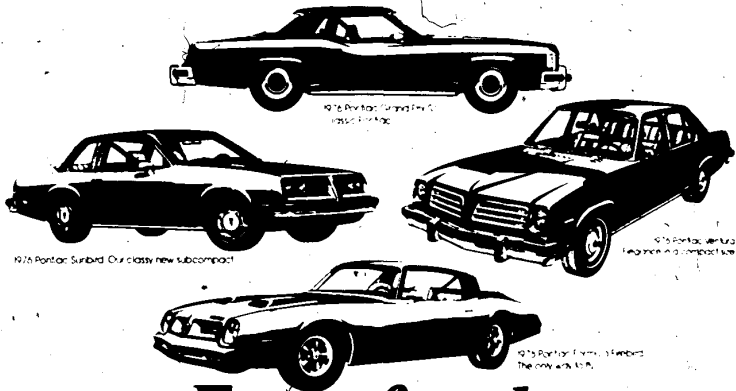
Highlighting Saturday's activities is a candlelight dinner in the museum's Heritage Hall followed by a lecture and guided tour of the vast collections contained in the museum.

The package plan will be in effect Jan. 9-10, Feb. 11-12, March 12-13, April 9-10, and May 14-15.

The price—\$55 per person, double occupancy, \$65 per person, single occupancy—includes the Friday evening antiques lecture; lodging Friday and Saturday nights at the Dearborn Inn; Saturday breakfast and Sunday breakfast or brunch at the inn; Saturday night dinner and guided tour of the museum; admissions to Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum; and admission to Sunday theater presentations when applicable.

For additional information or to make reservations for the American Heritage Lecture Series Package Plan, write Dearborn Inn, Dearborn, Michigan 48123.

**marks the spot where you'll find the auto show's great cars.**



**Even after the auto show is over.**

**PONTIAC The Mark of Great Cars**

It stands for quality. Value. A sense of responsibility to you and your needs. It stands for innovation. In our products. In every facet of our business. Perhaps most important, it stands for integrity. Never to compromise our philosophy that all Pontiac owners deserve to get their money's worth. Every Pontiac must live up to the mark. Anything less would be less than a great car. And Pontiac exists to produce great cars. The Wide-Track people wouldn't have it any other way.

## TREAT YOURSELF . . . MAKE NEW FRIENDS . . . LEARN TO EARN!

Call 377-3120 for a Winter Term Evening & Saturday Course Brochure  
**A SAMPLING OF THE 110 NON DEGREE COURSES OFFERED**

- Introduction to Real Estate
- Business Analysis
- Real Estate Law
- Real Estate Appraisal
- Real Estate Finance
- Residential Construction
- Introduction to the Law
- Rules of Legal Assistance
- Legal Research & Writing
- Real Property
- Litigation
- Estates & Trusts
- Estates Planning & Documents
- Introduction to Management
- Management Communications
- Organizational Psychology
- Business & Industrial Economics
- Consumer Problem Analysis
- Management by Objectives
- Effective Use of Your Time
- Hydrolics
- Introduction to Plastics
- Reaction Injection Molding
- Injection Molding
- Blueprint Interpretation
- Calligraphy
- English Crown Design
- Joy of Indian Plans
- Creative Floral Design Workshop
- Photography
- Self-Writing Agreements
- Writing for Film & TV
- Weaving Without a Loom
- Medical Terminology
- Medical Insurance Terms
- Medical Office Procedures
- Human Anatomy & Physiology
- Efficient Reading
- French & Spanish
- Introduction to TA
- Assortment Training
- Starting & Operating a Small Business
- What to Know Before Buying a Home
- Legal & Financial Information
- Every Woman Should Know
- Preparing Income Tax Returns
- Computerized Training
- Stock Market
- Accounting

**DIVISION OF CONTINUING EDUCATION**  
**OAKLAND UNIVERSITY**  
Courses Begin The Week Of Jan. 19