## Adults read Dick & Jane

By PATRICK TOUHEY

Ray Harkowitz (not his real name) has a well-guarded secret.
The 40-year-old father of two holds down a job, drives a car, provides for his family and deals with all the every day complications that everyone else does.
From all outward appearances, he's just another guy on the street.
But Harkowitz can't read, His chi-dren don't know it. His friends don't. And his employer certainly doesn't know.

Outside of his wife and his reading

Outside of his wife and his reading thor, no one knows.
"If someone reaches adulthood without knowing how to read, they are pretty professional about hiding," said carolyn Burns, reading coordinator for the Good Hope Literacy Council.
"They have to have a pretty good system worked out for giving people the impression they know how to read. It's just too embarrassing for them to admit."

admit."

Mrs. Burns manages a team of Laubach reading tutors in the Plymouth and Canton communities. Her organization offers one-to-one literacy tutoring to people 14 years of age and older.

THE LAUBACH READING method was first developed by Dr. Frank Laubach, a Methodist missionary. Although Mrs. Bums operates her tutoring through the Lutheran Church Women's Program, she points out that the program and the method is non-denominations.

The tutors volunteer their time and

The tutors volunteer their time and come from all walks of life. The only requirements that they be willing to predict the come from a week for a year with their student.

"At the end of the year, the student should be reading at the fifth-grade level. But really each person is able to progress at his own speed." Mrs. Burns said.

While the Laubach program offers help to high school students as well as adults, Mrs. Burns said, the most difficult to reach and work with are the older lilliterates.

"It's kind of like the Alcoholics

older illierates.

"It's kind of like the Alcoholics Anonymous. The first step for the adult who can't read is to admit it to himself. By the time a person gets to me, be has already come to terms with the problem."

But before that first step can be taken, something has to happen to make the individual want to learn to read.

make the individual want to learn to read.
"For one of my students it was hiree-year old daughter. He would make mistakes while reading chi-dren's stories to her and she would correct him."
Usually, though, the illiterate adult has a well-honed defense system to keep his secret from becoming known. Mrs. Burns told of one 30-year-old man who had to keep turning down job promotions because he was terrified his boss would find out he couldn't read if he took on new responsibilities.

"IT'S AMAZING how well people can keep the charade up. Most of the time a spouse will front for them if they have to sign contracts or fill out applications."



Adults who cannot read or write often develop a sophisticated defense system to hide their disability, according to Carolyn Burns, reading coordinator for the Good Hope Literacy Council. (Staff photo by Cary Carolyn)

## Because illteracy is such a sensitive issue, Mrs. Burns said, she and her tutors have to guarantee confidentiality. Only the individual, the tutor and Mrs. Burns know the person's identity. UF has low overhead

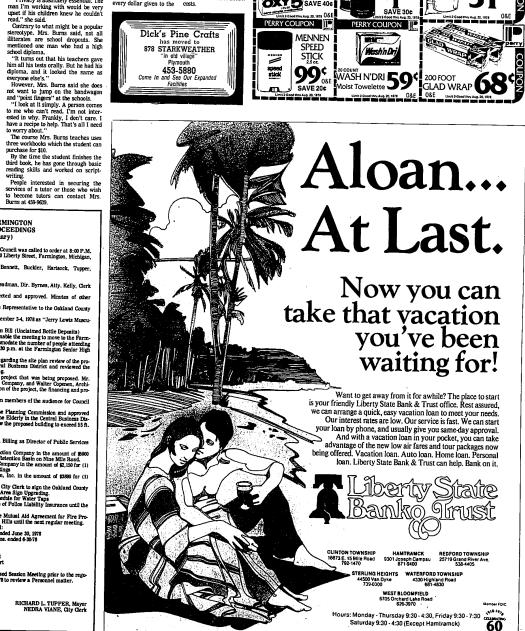
"Privacy is absolutely essential. The man I'm working with would be very upset if his children knew he couldn't

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## CITY OF FARMINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS (Summary)

A Regular Meeting of the Farmington City Council was called to order at 8:00 P.M. in the Farmington Manicipal Building, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan, by Mayor Richard L. Tupper.
ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Councilmen Bennett, Buckler, Hartsock, Tupper,

Yoder. ABSERT: None CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: City Mgr. Deadman, Dir. Byrnes, Atty. Kelly, Cierk

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: GIY logs. Desoman, Dir. byrnes, Atty. Kelly, Gerk Vanc.

Name of previous meetings were corrected and approved. Minutes of other hands of previous meetings were corrected and approved. Minutes of other consistency of the consistency of

an Sendor High School in orner to accommonate the nutures to propose accommonate the nuture to propose accommonate precing. The meeting reconvened at \$100 p.m. at the Farmington Sendor High of Auditorium.

or Tupper opened the Public Hearing regarding the site plan review of the prod Biosning for the Elderly in the Central Business District and reviewed the stant had occurred prior to the Sendor High the Send

consideration.

Council accepted the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approved the Site Plan for the proposed housing for the Eiderly in the Central Business District; and further granted a variance to allow the proposed building to exceed 55 ft.

and further grained a variance to many the projected variating to light, allowing resolutions were adopted:
Approving the appointment of Earl R. Billing as Director of Public Services effective August 21, 1978
Accepting the bid of Timmer Construction Company in the amount of \$500 for repairs to the City's Surm Water Retention Bash on Nine Mile Road. So Expurped Company in the amount of \$2,156 for (1) Truch Sidely and \$500 Expurped Company in the amount of \$2,156 for (1) Truch Sidely & 500 Expurped Company in the amount of \$2,156 for (1) Truch Sidely & 500 Expurped Company in the amount of \$2,850 for (1) Water State of the City Manager and the City Cert to sign the Oakland County Road Commission Contract for United Area Sign Upgrading.
Authoriting as increase in the Fee Schedule for Water Tapy of in the death of the granting the produces of Police Liability Insurance until the regular meeting.

— Autoriumg as use as the second and the control to the control tables action regarding the purchase of Police Liability Insurance until the Coxell tables action regarding the Selective Mutani Aid Agreement for Fire Protection between Parmingsion and Fermingston Hills until the next regular meeting. The following reports were received and Illicit.

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RICHARD L. TUPPER, Mayor NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk