

Civic Awareness

# Pornographic Mail: Its Source And Prevention

By Mary Fisher  
Farmington Jaycee Auxiliary

Distributing pornographic literature through the U.S. mails has grown into a billion dollar business and doubled in the Farmington Area alone in 1969. Discovering pornographic mail is a difficult task for local postal employees since it is generally mailed first class making it difficult to identify.

MANY TIMES pornography is not ordered and causes a surprise when delivered to the receiver. Companies distributing pornography purchase mailing lists to promote their goods with no discretion used concerning the age of the recipient. Children are susceptible to receiving this mail.

Recently, a lady in Farmington received pornographic literature through the mail. Her name was obtained from the Audubon Society mailing list.

Businessmen are not immune because sometimes telephone directories are used. It can prove to be very embarrassing to the businessman when his secretary opens the mail he never ordered.

MOST OF THE pornographic mail comes from New York and California although the trade is inter-

(As a community project, The Farmington Jaycee Auxiliary will be writing a series of articles in an attempt to help readers develop a civic awareness of problems confronting the Farmington Area. The article below written by Mary Fisher examines the problem of pornographic mail and its traffic in Farmington.)

national in scope with material also coming from Denmark.

The "Law Pandering Provision" passed in April 1968 permits individuals to use their own judgment to determine if material received through the mail is provoking, subjective material.

A receiver of pornographic mail can obtain recourse through Title 39 of Code 409 by requesting Form 2150 from any mailman or post office.

The sender is given 30 days to remove the receiver from his mailing list. If he does not comply, he is referred to federal postal officials in Washington, D.C. Since the code was enacted, some 18,000 prohibitive orders have been issued for Michigan alone.

However, by the time legal action is taken these companies are generally out of business

under one name and issuing more pornography under another name.

Michigan also has an obscenity statute which delegates most of the responsibility to the inspection service of the federal government. Much of the material mailed has not been considered objectionable since rulings by the Supreme Court, the *Ulysses* Case probably having the biggest impact on these decisions.

CURRENTLY, there are 200 bills being considered in Congress to strengthen government action

to terminate or reduce initial mailings of pornographic material.

One bill would permit persons to notify the post office in advance that they are not interested in receiving "any sexually oriented material" through the mail.

Readers wanting to petition congressional leaders for support of these measures may write: Sen. Philip Hart and Robert Griffin in the Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C., or Rep. Jack McDonald, 1204 Longworth Building, Washington, D.C.

## local news

By MARIE LONG GR 4-3114

**Senior Drop-in Center**, which meets in the Masonic Temple each a trip soon to the Shrine Circus.

A special Valentine dessert is being planned for Feb. 11. For further information call 474-1807.

**MRS. RALPH D. ALTEMUS** of Cass Township, is the daughter of Peggy Ann and husband Jim Williams and grand-

children James Dewey and Kelley Ann in Hackettstown, N.J.

She will be east for two weeks and while she is gone Mr. Altemus will keep the home fires burning. He is an excellent baker and cook.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Welday have purchased the former Mahlon Bradley residence on Oakland Ave. The Weldays have two sons, Paul and Douglas.

Hill is technical coordinator for Burroughs Corp. Mrs. Hill is employed by J. K. Lasser Co. We welcome the Hills to Farmington and all the many new residents who have moved here.

A welcome goes to Mr. and Mrs. Roger Peck and family who recently moved to Independence Commons from Livonia. Mr. Peck has the Chevrolet Sales and Service on Grand River Ave., Farmington.

and children Brent and Laura of Lake Orion spent the weekend with Loren's mother, Mrs. Lucile Lemon of Hull Rd. Sunday guests were Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Long Sr. of Grand River Ave.

Loren, his wife "Skip," and the children also visited her parents, the Frank Diltgens of Orchard Lake Rd.

WELCOME TO Mr. and Mrs. Alan DiNoble, formerly of Detroit and now residents in the Jamestown Apts. Mr. DiNoble is in sales and promotion for Motown Records. Mrs. DiNoble is a special education teacher in Oak Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Baker, formerly of Cincinnati, are new residents of Independence Green. Mr. Baker is in sales promotion for Jam Handy Organization and an account executive for Chevrolet.

Mr. and Mrs. David Hill and family of Roosevelt Ct., Independence Green, are new residents from Omaha, Neb. Mr. Hill is in sales and promotion for Motown Records. Mrs. Hill is a special education teacher in Oak Park.

J. B. STROMIER of John St. is home from Ann Arbor where he was hospitalized. He is able to return to work on a limited basis.

Herbert C. Long Jr., son of yours truly and H. C. Sr. of Grand River flew to Florida last week on business for United Motors to GM subsidiary. He spent a week and returned Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Loren Lemon

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# The Sitter Who Sat

In the midst of confusion surrounding New Year's Eve events last month, this journal forgot to mention the 10th anniversary of the saga of the Edina Sitter Who Sat.

Although the observance is celebrated more in Minnesota than Farmington, our neglect in not mentioning the anniversary date is unarguable.

IT WAS ON New Year's Eve 10 years ago that the events first occurred which, now enriched by tradition, have been retold many times around Minneapolis-St. Paul.

The happenings that tragic night occurred in Edina, a suburb of the Twin Cities. The tale starts with a 16-year-old girl being asked to babysit on New Year's Eve for a middle-aged couple in the neighboring apartment house.

## Daniels Den

By EMORY DANIELS

Our heroine arrived on time and her employers left for a nearby party. Unfortunately, the sitter was not advised that the bathroom seat had just been treated with a miracle plastic paint which carried the label "It stays on."

Well, our gal became the first guinea pig. Early in the evening, she visited the bathroom and sadly discovered the label's claim was true. Our sitter sat, and sat, and sat.

She sat until 3 a.m. when her employers returned. At first, turpentine was tried but failed

to remove the seal of the trouble. What would one do next?

AT TIMES LIKE this, it's hard to determine what specialist should be called. A plumber? A fireman? Police-man? Who?

Well, to this day nobody quite knows why but the man of the house decided to call the family doctor.

The physician arrived and attempted to use alcohol to dissolve the paint. No result. Our sitter remained sitting.

While the sitter was sitting, events took another turn. The doctor, struck by the humor of the situation, burst into a spasm of laughter, tripped over the sitter's feet and fell into the tub knocking himself out.

Now WHO DOES the man of the house call? At this point the choices were a minister, psychologist (although a head-shrinker hardly seems appropriate), an engineer, chemist, or a photographer.

This time the man of the house made a wiser choice and called for an ambulance crew. The Edina Sitter was literally torn loose, but heroine and the doctor, who had suffered a concussion, were rushed to the hospital.

Lawsuits were threatened, but the parties agreed to settle with the insurance company, which now has sole possession of the names and particular incidents of that night's happenings.

Tradition has it that the Edina Sitter actually was never torn loose from the seat on that fateful night and is still sitting faithfully near Moosehead Falls, Minn.

That bit of speculation must be left to historians to unravel, but it is known that the Edina Sitter has not been standing since that night.

The glue manufacturer now uses the events that night in its advertising campaign. Last year, the firm sponsored a limerick contest with huge giveaways for the person who could best complete the line:

"There once was a sitter from Edina who..."

## Parents Plan Fair

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FARMINGTON The North Farmington High School Parents' Club is trying to increase the efficiency and usefulness of the counseling program by holding a meeting between staff and parents.

The meeting, described as a "country fair" by Mrs. Richard Hogan of the parents' club, will be Feb. 10 in the North Farmington High School cafeteria at 32900 W. 13 Mile beginning at 8 p.m.

Fourteen tables will be set up in the school cafeteria and manned by representatives of the counseling staff, administration and departments such as mathematics, English, physical and social studies.

The parents will be encouraged to discuss their children's immediate and long-term goals with school representatives.

## Carr Cited

Gary Carr of 30355 Glenmuir, Farmington, has been named to the honor roll at Ohio State University.

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# Canterbury Commons

The groundhog didn't see his shadow, so does that really mean an early spring? With all of the snow and zero weather we're having, we'd bet on a late, cold spring. Good for the ski buff, and bad for the sun burnies.

Skating at the commons ice rink has been good this year, and we understand there will be lights installed soon for night skating. That's making good use of a fun thing.

THE CANTERBURY Teen Club is in the process of getting organized. They're planning a ski trip sometime in February. A meeting was held this past week to discuss both the by-laws and the ski trip. All Canterbury teens are invited to join. For membership information, call either Paul Marshall or Rick Goldberg.

The activities committee is planning a Scotch Doubles evening of bowling on Feb. 21 at 10 p.m. You'll be receiving more information from your block captains. It sounds as if there will be plenty of time before bowling that evening for get-togethers or cocktail parties.

RAY AND MILLIE BRADFORD recently hosted an evening of slides for a few of their neighbors. Slides shown were

By JOANNE TAKAI/626-1786

of all of the Canterbury activities since 1956. Enjoying themselves watching the slides were the Spassels, Dahlbergs, Weimers, Hills, Houses, Fenzels, LaVanways, Larsons and Rezaeks. We understand that the last few slides were "very interesting."

David Duff celebrated his eighth birthday by treating nine friends to dinner at Ted's Restaurant in Bloomfield last Saturday.

## OCC Slates' GED Test

FARMINGTON The General Education Development Test will be given by Oakland Community College on Feb. 13-14 at the Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Township.

The testing session begins on Friday at 6 p.m. and ends at 10 p.m. It resumes on Saturday at 9 a.m. and concludes at 4:30 p.m.

A certificate of high school equivalency will be awarded by the Michigan Department of Education to persons passing the examination.

Applicants must be a minimum of 19 years of age and the testing fee is \$5. For an appointment or information, telephone 476-2620.

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