

from our readers

Help fight lung threats

To the editor:
The American Lung Association, the nation's oldest voluntary public health agency, is chiefly

supported by contributions from Americans — young and old, in every walk of life and economic bracket — to the Christmas Seal Campaign.

Throughout its 80-year history, the volunteers of the Lung Association — called the Christmas Seal People — have been and continue to be a dominant force in public health education, particularly in all areas related to lung health. They point out that cigarette smoking is the greatest single cause of chronic pulmonary diseases, including lung cancer, emphysema and bronchitis. Recent statistics show that 110,000 Americans died of lung cancer last year, an increase of 41 percent over the number who died 10 years ago.

Women in particular are gaining "equality" with men in the lung cancer mortality race. A total of 139,000 newly diagnosed lung cancer cases are projected for 1984 and, increasingly, these are women. By the year 2,000, if not earlier, lung

cancer will overtake breast cancer as the leading cause of death among American women nationally.

Emphysema, which disables its victims, afflicts more than 2.3-million Americans, an increase of nearly 60 percent over the past decade.

The far-reaching programs of the American Lung Association include counseling on the dangers of smoking during pregnancy, conducting a massive public education campaign to reach preadolescents before they begin smoking cigarettes or marijuana, teaching both children and adults with asthma how to self-manage the disease, initiating and supporting efforts to maintain clean air, acting on the dangers of occupational lung hazards, and creating health programs for schoolchildren from the primary grades up so they become knowledgeable about what's good — and what's bad — for their bodies.

Locally, the American Lung Association of

Southeastern Michigan has set a goal of \$700,000 for this year's Christmas Seal Campaign. Ninety percent of every dollar stays here in Wayne-Oakland and Macomb counties to fund over 40 free community services. The remaining 10 percent goes to the national headquarters of the American Lung Association to fund lung disease research and community service programs.

development on a nationwide basis. I urge all of your readers to answer their Christmas Seal letter with a generous contribution — and, to everyone, use Christmas Seals on all your holiday cards and packages.

Ernie Harwell, Director
American Lung Association of Southeastern Michigan

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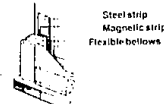
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Renters want help

Continued from Page 1

come families coupled with a housing shortage.

"In Farmington Hills, I don't think those facts exist," Bibeau continued.

But Falls insisted that a shortage of apartments does exist and that management firms are employing unfair practices.

"I'D LIKE to ask the city council to at least look into the rental problem in Farmington Hills," Falls said.

The only suggestion came from Councilman Ben Marks. He suggested the tenants' association contact the mobile home association which had simi-

lar problems with rent several years ago.

"They mobilized, and they fought it," Marks said.

He added that "I don't think personally there is anything we can do legally." When government gets involved, Marks said, "you wind up a war."

Dudley, on the other hand, told Falls that if the tenants' association's attorneys feel there is a basis for city intervention, they should approach council. "It's not our place to take affirmative action," Dudley said, particularly when the city's legal counsel says there is no basis.

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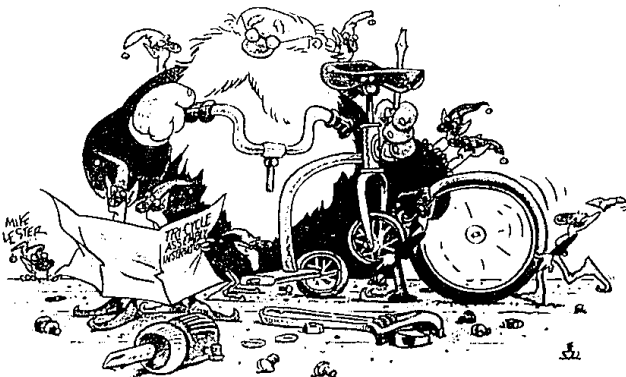


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