



NEWSLETTER

February, 1991

P.O. Box 21483, Detroit, Michigan 48221

Frank Benedict, President
18605 Fairfield
341-UDCA

Michael Gruber, 1st V. Pres.
18105 Birchcrest
342-0053

Marsha Hightower-Brightwell
2nd V. Pres.
18223 Birchcrest
342-1736

Ann H. Kerwin, Sec.-Trea.
17516 Birchcrest
861-5760

Reginald Cunningham
8290 Birchcrest
342-8755

Jack Doherty
17410 Fairfield
863-5919

Kay Everett
17355 Wildemere
863-6792

Lydia Fischer
17610 Warrington
863-8392

David Florkey
17566 Muirland
342-0911

Erma Lee
18110 Wildemere
861-5648

Jackie Pittman
17417 Muirland
862-9234

Pauline Robinson
17334 Muirland
863-1222

John Sase
17325 Warrington
863-9510

Jay Smith
17185 Quincy
862-9212

Charlene Snow
17517 Birchcrest
342-4423

Florence Murray, staff
18225 Parkside
861-7546

*In honor of Dr. M.L. King
and for Peace on Earth*

The World House

"... We have inherited a large house, a great "world house" in which we have to live together-black and white, Easterner and Westerner, Gentile and Jew, Catholic and Protestant, Moslem and Hindu - a family unduly separated in ideas, culture and interest, who, because we can never again live apart, must learn somehow to live with each other in peace. . .

"All inhabitants of the globe are now neighbors. This world-wide neighborhood has been brought into being largely as a result of the modern scientific and technological revolutions . . . The years ahead will see a continuation of the same dramatic developments. . .

"Along with the scientific and technological revolution, we have also witnessed a world-wide freedom revolution over the last few decades. The great masses of people are determined to end the exploitation of their races and lands. Oppressed people cannot remain oppressed forever. . .

"The large house in which we live demands that we transform this world-wide neighborhood into a world-wide brother-

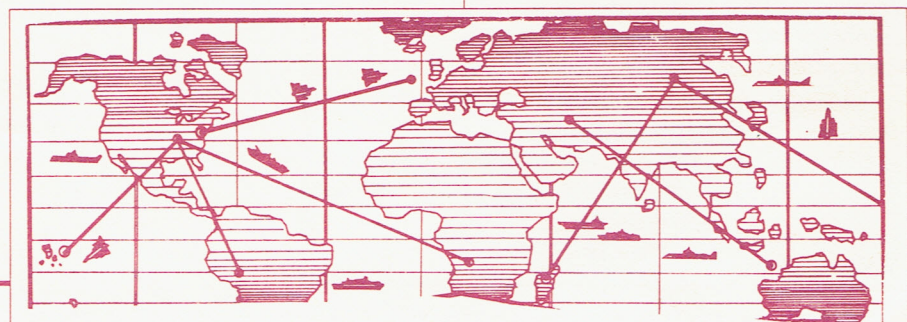
"There may have been a time when war served as a negative good . . . but the destructive power of modern weapons eliminates the possibility."

hood. Together we must learn to live as brothers or together we will be forced to perish as fools. . .

"One day we must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek but a means by which we arrive at that goal. We must pursue peaceful ends through peaceful means. . .

"There may have been a time when war served as a negative good by preventing the spread and growth of an evil force, but the destructive power of modern weapons eliminates even the possibility that war may serve any good at all. . ."

Excerpted from: Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community? by Dr. Martin Luther Kings, Jr., Published by Harper and Row, 1967



UNIVERSITY DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

January 1 - December 31, 1991
Membership Application/Renewal

1991 fees are as follows:

1991 Membership Dues	\$20
Capital Improvements	
My contribution is	\$ _____
(suggested: \$10 or more)	
Landscape Fund	
My contribution is	\$ _____
(suggested: \$5 or more)	
TOTAL	\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Make check payable to UDCA.
Mail to: P.O. Box 21483, Detroit, MI 48221
Your cancelled check is your receipt.

**I am interested in serving on the
following UDCA Committees:**

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Block Clubs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety/Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social/General Meeting | |

The University District NEWSLETTER is published in February, April, June, October and December to inform residents of the University District of activities and of matters of common interest and concern. Residents are encouraged to submit signed articles. The NEWSLETTER retains the right to edit articles and refuse publication. Deadline for submitting articles is the 15th day of the month prior to publication.

Marsha Hightower Brightwell, Editor

Newsletter Committee:

Martha Cuneo, Suzette Ditsky,

Ann Kerwin, James Zemboy

Advertising:

Gloria Paramore, 862-3553.

Membership

Membership applications from the following residents were processed. Names are arranged by street. The numbers in parenthesis represent the block on which the resident lives. Blocks are numbered from McNichols to Seven Mile Road.

RENEWALS

Warrington

Charles and Tommie Lewis (5)
John and Julie Sase (5)

Oak Drive

John and Suzette Ditsky (5)
Edward and Dorothy Marable (3)

Birchcrest

Marsha Hightower-Brightwell (5)
Michael and Ann Kerwin (3)
Dave & Marge Marquardt (8)
Valerie Maryman (8)
Mrs. Mattie K. Washington (8)

Santa Maria

Murray and Patricia Walker (1)

Fairfield

Sophie Angelescu (4)
Monsey G. Wilson (3)
Albert J. Winn, Jr. (2)

Muirland

Bill and Joyce Bruton (3)
Harold and Harriet Gale (7)
David And Ellen Florkey (3)
John A. Mitchell (6)
Jackie Pittman (2)
Francis J. Smith (2)
Art and Jackie Tarnow (8)
Richard and Phyllis White (6)

Wildemere

Eugene & Lonnie Coleman (4)
George & Rosie Hardeman (6)
Mike And Rita Honka (8)
Erma Lee (4)
Millicent E. McCauley (4)

Parkside

Barbara Brown (1)
Rohlann and Sarah Callender (1)
Michael and Celestine Carter (1)
Dorothy A. Conway (1)
William And Barbara Craft (1)
Gwendolyn Davis (1)
Ophalia Doods (1)
Beverly Goode (1)
Fred Hall (1)
Dr. William and Fanniece Hawkins (1)
Francis and Jessie Johnson (2)
Gregory and Jackie Johnson (1)
Robert and Mary Lee (3)
Walter and Phyllis Marshall (1)
Edgar and Pearline Mosley (1)
Fred and Gloria Paramore (1)
Jesse and Carolyn Payton (7)
Tamara Perrin (1)
Mildred Prude (1)
Irvin and Margaret Rabideau (1)
Robert and Angela Rice (1)
Luther and Anne Tatnall (1)

NEW MEMBERS

Warrington

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Love (1)
Frederick and Linda Riley (1)
Ms. Lena C. Richardson Wells (1)
Hugh Briggs/Frances Smith (4)

Birchcrest

Diane Tinsley (3)

Wildemere

Martin and Lori Craig (7)



Detroit Gardens

- Design
- Installation
- Renovation
- Maintenance

Ellen W. Pisor
342-4654

President's Message

Those frivolous Christmas gifts have been shuffled off to some out-of-the way storage place. The residual impact of the Holiday shopping binge will hit this month when my deferred billing statements arrive. It gets dark early. It's cold out. My money-sucking boiler came on for the umpteenth time today. I even have second thoughts about letting my oldest daughter wear the new Piston's athletic jacket that Santa brought. Would it really compromise her safety? Even the suede loafers I so desperately wanted for Christmas are still in the catalogue under my night stand. Can you sense that this might just be my Winter of Discontent.

Why shouldn't I be a little bit out of sorts. Everyone is preoccupied with the Persian Gulf Crisis. The longer the conflict rages, the higher oil prices will rise. Our dependency on oil leaves few alternatives. We'll stand in rain, sleet or snow digging a little deeper to pay the self-served or attendant price of fuel. We must get to work. To compound matters, our local anemic economy is about to shed more red ink if Governor Engler's proposed budget kicks-in. Real estate taxes are sure to rise disproportionately to offset some of the revenue shortfall. City services will continue to decline and the soft housing market trend felt elsewhere will tighten its grip on our neighborhood once again.

I'm sure you get the picture. Since this is nothing new, higher prices for petroleum and petroleum-based products plus economic stagnation, signal the coming of harder times for us all. The peace and improvements in our residential housing stock will surely suffer.

I hope this is a fleeting case of paranoia that will quickly pass. I'm an optimist at heart. Certainly a few more \$120,000 home sales in the area will help. Continued support of our efforts by our current members and increased participation

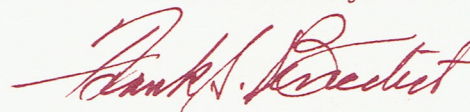
by those neighbors who benefit from our efforts, yet fail to join the Association, would also help. But, most of all, in this year which marks the 50th Anniversary of the University District Community Association, we must commit ourselves to doing whatever we can to maintain the neighborhood for future generations. The overriding concern that I've heard during the past year as President of the Association is that the neighborhood is losing that sense of camaraderie that it is known for. Is it becoming like any other suburban community? Where next-door neighbors very seldom speak to each other let alone "communicate" or better yet become friends. Friends, you see, will find solutions to life's inevitable problems.

As one of Detroit's premier neighborhoods, we must continue to set an example. The battle lines are clearly evident to the south of Six-Mile Road and east of Livernois. If we choose to halt this insidious creeping housing blight, we can — if not, it will decimate this neighborhood like any bomb that falls in the Gulf war.

The choice for me is clear: I plan to work harder in "91 to safeguard and nurture my most treasured possessions — my family and home.

I trust you will be my willing ally

For a better University District,



Block Captains Kick Off '91

by Jackie Pittman

On January 26, 1991 University District block club captains and UDCA board members had an interesting and productive kick-off session. The breakfast meeting was held to consider ways that block clubs and the board can work together to identify neighborhood concerns, find solutions, and further the Association's goal of promoting a harmonious and productive community.

The major concerns were:

- Identifying blocks that are in need of captains.
- Developing a list of suggested duties for block captains.
- Developing organizing guidelines or a handbook for blocks that do not have captains or are inactive.
- Scheduling block captains meetings three or four times a year.

These concerns will be studied by the three member Block Captains Committee and the Board. A progress report will be given in a future issue of the Newsletter.

Persons interested in becoming block captain or serving as contact person are encouraged to contact me at: 862-9234

If The Governor Has His Way,
This Will Be A Sign
Of The Times For Your
Favorite Places In Michigan.

CLOSED

Eliminating the Michigan Equity Package from the state budget will close the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Detroit Public Library, the Detroit Zoo, the Detroit Historical Museum and thousands of other such organizations throughout the state.

I request that you vote **AGAINST** this proposal.

Name _____

Address _____

UDCA Residents: Return to: Senator Harry Gast, Chairman Senate Appropriations Committee, State Capitol Building, Lansing, MI 48909

Portraits of our Neighbors . . .

Carl and Marla Wellborn

Family: Carl Jr., two years old and Carla, eight months old

Likes: Spending time with family and friends

Dislikes: Carl doesn't admit to any, but Marla lists loud car radios

The Wellborns have lived in the University District for 2½ years. They own Reflections of Color Gallery on the Avenue of Fashion, just south of Seven Mile Road. The gallery specializes in prints by African American artists including Carl Owens, Katheline Wilson, Paul Goodnight and Frank Frazier. The gallery also has a selection of wood carvings from Ghana, Kenya, and Tanzania. Prices for framed prints start at \$62.00, but, they also carry unframed prints. Framing services are available. Wood carvings begin at \$15.00. You may remember the artwork they donated as door prizes for last year's annual dinner-dance.

Carl and Marla encourage you to stop in, browse, and ask questions. Their goal is to provide a warm and friendly environment where you may select art for your home or office.

Carl has a B.S. in industrial design while Marla's is in marketing. When not at the gallery, Carl relaxes by drawing and roller-skating. Marla's interest include reading and interior sewing.



Vernice Davis-Anthony



FAMILY: A wonderful husband who does more than his share of the housework. Three children: Dana, a junior in pre-med at Michigan State University; Dara, a senior at Cass Tech, planning a career in criminal justice; and Todd, a third-grader at Golightly Educational Center, who loves baseball, hockey golf and skiing.

DISLIKES: Being among negative people.

LIKES: Macaroni and cheese, apple pie, spiritual readings; slow, relaxing music.

Vernice Davis-Anthony feels like a native Detroit. Originally from the Philadelphia area, she studied nursing at Wayne State and has devoted her professional life to the cause of public health. Regarding the many problems facing Detroiters, Vern states, "If you're not a part of the solution, you're a part of the problem."

A life-long goal for Vern has been to make a positive impact in the area of health and human services. Governor Engler recently presented Vern with an opportunity to realize that goal — and indeed to be a part of the solution: she now heads Michigan's Department of Public Health.

Vern has lived in the University District for about ten years. She likes the stability of the neighborhood and particularly values the warm friendships she and her family have developed here. Vern and her husband enjoy playing golf together and are both closely involved in the school and sports activities of their children.

by Jim Zemboj



SAVON FOODS

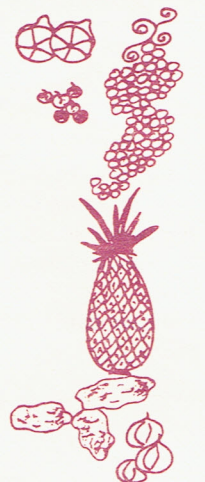
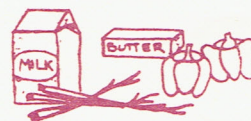
18000 LIVERNOIS

OPEN

Mon. - Sat. 8 to 9

Sun. - 9 to 5

862-8700





UDCA Social Activities

Do you want to meet your neighbors? Spend an inexpensive evening out, enjoy activities with your children in the neighborhood?

The UDCA would like to sponsor three or four informal social events during the next year, in addition to our ever-popular Spring dinner dance. What are you interested in doing? We envision holding a few gatherings at All Saints' or Gesu's hall on Friday or Saturday evenings. We also have some ideas for children and youth activities. Some ideas have been suggested; we're open to other possibilities. Please check off your preferences below to help us with planning.

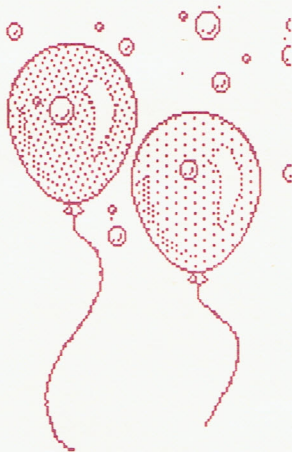
- Ethnic potluck
 - Pancake supper
 - Bridge, whist or pinochle evening
 - Easter egg hunt
 - '50s or '60s dance party
 - Ice cream social
 - Spring athletic games for youth
 - Halloween party for children
- Other ideas:

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____

I'm willing to help with planning some of the above activities.

I'm unable to help plan the event, but would attend.

Please return to Charlene Snow at P.O. Box 21483 College Park Station 48221.



ACADEMY OF THE SACRED HEART



- CHALLENGING COLLEGE PREPARATORY CURRICULUM
- MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID AWARDED EACH YEAR
- STATE CHAMPION CALIBER SPORTS PROGRAM
- MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF SACRED HEART SCHOOLS
- MARCH 16, 1991 ENTRANCE TESTING FOR MIDDLE AND UPPER SCHOOL APPLICANTS

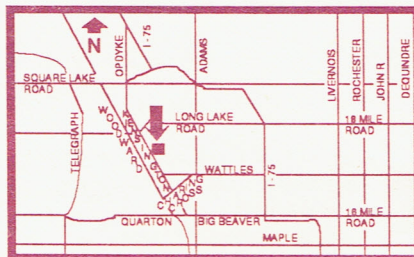
140 YEARS OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Lower School
Pre K - Grade 4
COED

Middle School
Grades 5-8
ALL GIRLS

Upper School
Grades 9-12
ALL GIRLS

To receive information or schedule a visit to the Academy, please contact Admission Director, Barbara Lopiccolo.



1250 Kensington Road Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
 (313) 646-8900

Is Your Home's Property Tax Assessment Accurate?

The first week in February may have brought property tax assessments. Homeowners found out the amount by which their property tax assessment increased. There is no obligation to mail notices if assessments did not increase. An increase in the assessment means an increase in real estate taxes.

Most of us know by now that if we disagree with the assessment, we must file an appeal at Neighborhood City Hall or the Tax Assessor's office at the City-County Building. The next step would be to appear before the Board of appeals. If satisfactory resolution is not reached at this level, homeowners may appeal to the state tax tribunal and even to the Supreme Court.

But how does a home owner objectively decide whether an assessment is accurate and fair? The January 1991 issue of Money magazine outlines a strategy.

If your assessment increased, ask the tax assessor for a copy of your property record card. This card lists property characteristics such as lot size and number of bedrooms. Review the card to determine if your property is accurately described. You may also ask for the work sheet on which your bill was calculated. Review the work sheet to determine whether errors were made in simple arithmetic. Errors in these documents should produce an immediate reduction. I was assured by the tax assessor's office that property owners could easily obtain these documents. There is no charge if you want to review it at the office. If you would like to take a copy with you, you may purchase them for a dollar each.

You should next check the assessor's estimate of your home's market value. If you disagree, ask the assessor or a local realtor for recent sales prices of three to five comparable properties. Obtain the record cards for each of these properties and compare them to yours. It is also a good idea to drive by each house to verify whether their exteriors are comparable. Photographing the houses as well as your own may help substantiate your claims.

UDCA resident Leslie Golightly, co-owner of Center Metro One Realty indicates that properties in the District appreciated greatly in 1990. She is aware of a house that recently sold for \$120,000.



The Money article featured two Michigan families. One lives in a seventy year old \$115,000 four bedroom English Tudor house in Grosse Pointe Park. Their property taxes are \$4,011. The other family lives in an eleven year old four bedroom Tudor, but in Shelby Township. Their taxes are \$5,900. Grosse Pointe Park has a tax rate of \$55.46 per \$1000 of assessed value while Shelby Township's is \$61.75 per \$1000.

Detroit's tax rate is \$77.31 per \$1000.

To accurately compute your home's assessment, multiply the fair market value of your home by 50%. If the product is less than the official assessed value, your real estate taxes are too high.

You must file for an appeal on or before February 15, 1991. The tax assessor's office will be open 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

CMR

Center Metro Realty

19416 Livernois
Detroit, Michigan 48221
863-7400

*We at Center care about your community.
Please allow us to serve you.*



**Leslie Golightly
Nora Langdon
& Company**

Termite Inspections
VA-FHA

PHILIP T. E. MITCHELL
Chief Chemist

MITCO PEST CONTROL
Commercial & Residential
You do it or we do it



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Since 1959

18951 Wyoming
Detroit, MI 48221-9998
(313) 863-6649

School News

Registration at Gesu School for 1991-92

Registration began February 1 for new students in kindergarten and first grade at Gesu School for the 1991-92 school year. Registration for new students in grades two through eight begins March 1.

Interested parents can call the School Office at 863-4677 for information about Gesu's academic program, before and after school child care, and bus transportation.



The Uses of History

by Albert Shanker, President
American Federation of Teachers

When the members of Congress met in a tremendous debate about authorizing war against Iraq, their arguments and counter arguments were full of references to history. . .

This was not a way of fancying up their speeches for an important occasion or showing off their learning in a Congressional version of Trivial Pursuits. When it came to this critical moment, members of Congress drew on history to help them think about and explain the decision they were making — to each other and to the American people. . .

No one could have followed the debates, or had an intelligent opinion about the wisest course of action in the Gulf, without at least a basic knowledge of history. And that made me wonder how much longer we'll be able to count on Americans' grasp of history and therefore, on our ability to make intelligent decision about the present and the future of our country. . .

There is a lot of discussion about what sort of education will best prepare students for the world of tomorrow. . .

History is especially vulnerable to these questions about the value of content in a changing world. . .

As the members of Congress debated about the best way to deal with the Persian Gulf crisis, you could see that their knowledge of history gave them a common set of understanding. . .

So, when kids say, "Why should I study history?" one of the answers is so they can become good citizens. . .

But it's more than that. This debate showed how exciting — and even essential — it can be to apply ideas to events and grope for solutions. . .

reprinted from the *New York Times*, January 20, 1991



Hampton Middle School

Teachers from Hampton Middle School spent the days between semesters attending inservices and preparing for the new semester which began January 22nd.

Many students in the Hampton "Adopt-a-Student" program and their sponsors attended the Contemporary Jazz Mass sponsored by James Tatum's Foundation for the Arts at Orchestra Hall on January 15th and had a wonderful time. The "Adopt-a-Student" program pairs students who need extra adult support with Hampton staff members. The adopted students receive intensive mentoring, tutoring, and counseling from these "volunteer parents".

Plans are in place for:

- indepth study of the crisis in the Middle East
- many activities for Black History month
- school and Area D Science Fairs in March
- school and Area D spelling bees
- Vision screening for seventh graders on February 6th & 7th, and hearing testing on February 19th
- induction of candidates into the National Junior Honor Society
- many incentive programs for "on-target" Compact students
- continuation of tutoring and after-school programs
- motivational seminars for students

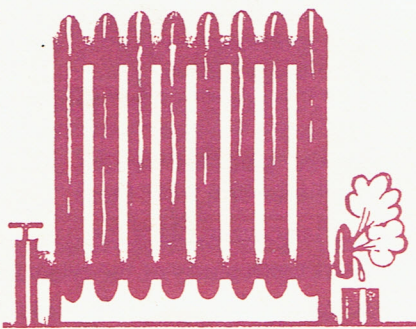
We'd like to congratulate some of our staff members. Mrs. Connie Harris, Administrative Unit Head, and Mr. Philip Walker, Science Teacher, both received grants from the Eisenhower Foundation to fund proposals which they submitted. These proposals will enhance the Science and Math departments and certainly benefit our children. Congratulations also to our students who are on the semester honor roll and also those Compact students who are "on-target".

We have an extensive volunteer program and we need the assistance of our community. If you would like to tutor, mentor, help in the office, help with attendance, have some special talent, please call Mrs. Carter, Assistant Principal at 270-0180. We need you!

Energy Conservation and Environmental Preservation

With single digit temperatures and triple digit heating bills many of us may need reminders of ways to lower the thermostat but still remain comfortable. Regardless of whether you are a long time conservationist or have had your consciousness raised by recent world politics, the following tips are timely.

- Eat well balanced nutritional meals to allow the body to produce its own heat
- Wear closely woven fabrics or thin layers of protective clothing
- Hang draperies so they extend at least four inches above, below and beyond sides of windows
- Be sure mail and milk chute doors close tightly
- Make sure fireplace damper fits tightly. Keep damper closed when fireplace is not in use.
- Reflect radiator heat into the room by placing a sheet of aluminum foil against the wall behind the radiator
- Check the glass gauge found on steam boilers to be sure water is at the recommended level.
- Wear cotton flannel pajamas, gowns, and bed socks
- Flush sediment out of hot water heater monthly
- Roast chicken or turkey in a greased brown grocery bag. This eliminates the need for basting and opening oven door during cooking
- Defrost freezers when 1/4 inch of frost has accumulated
- Turn off dishwasher after the rinse cycle and open the door so dishes can air-dry
- Keep lint screen in the dryer clean so that airflow is not impeded and the machine caused to use more energy
- Dry clothes in consecutive loads
- Unplug instant—on television sets when not in use.



Now that we've warmed ourselves and our houses, let's clean house! The back-to-basic natural cleansers will never be accused of polluting streams and rivers or poisoning humans or animals:

WATER SOFTENER - 1/4 cup vinegar in final rinse

OIL STAIN REMOVER - White chalk rubbed in before wash

GLASS CLEANER - White vinegar and water or rubbing alcohol and water

COPPER CLEANER - Paste of lemon juice, salt and flours, or rub vinegar and salt.

HOUSEHOLD CLEANER - 3 tbsp. baking soda mixed into 1 qt. warm water

STAINLESS STEEL POLISH - Baking soda or mineral oil for shining; vinegar removes spots.

TOILET BOWL CLEANER - Vinegar

COFFEE/WINE STAIN REMOVER - Blot with club soda

MILDEW REMOVER - Lemon juice and salt, or white vinegar and salt

LINOLEUM FLOOR CLEANER/WAX - Mop with 1 cup white vinegar mixed with 2 gallons of water to remove dull, greasy film. Polish with club soda.

MOTHBALLS - Cedar chips or dried lavender sachets

DRAIN OPENER - Prevent clogging by flushing drain weekly with boiling water. If clogged, pour 1/2 cup baking soda, then 1/2 cup vinegar down the drain.

AIR FRESHENER - Leave open box of baking soda in room, or add cloves and cinnamon to boiling water and simmer, or use fresh flowers or herbs

FLEA AND TICK REPELLENT - Feed 2 tbsp. of brewer's yeast and 1 clove of raw garlic to companion animals daily. Sprinkle fennel, rue and rosemary on carpets and bedding areas to repel fleas. Place eucalyptus seeds and leaves and cedar chips around animal sleeping area.

CHEMICAL FERTILIZER - Compost

SCOURING PADS - Let pots and pans soak in a baking soda solution before washing.

FURNITURE POLISH - Mix three parts olive oil and one part vinegar or one part lemon juice with two parts olive oil. Use with a soft cloth.

GLASS CLEANER - Wipe with a damp cloth or sponge sprinkled with dry baking soda. Rinse with a soft towel.

