

"If It Fitz..."

Gabby, Itch and Terrible Jean

By Jim Fitzgerald

The National Association of Litho Clubs recently convened at the Detroit Plaza Hotel. I attended, with a vacuum cleaner. The Cincinnati Sex Symbol was also there, with the Itch.

"Lith" is a Greek word meaning stone. Naturally, this doesn't mean Litho Club members get stoned. It means they are lithographers who run around printing words on flat stones because they drink too much to know any better.

That's not a fair description. It is an injustice to judge all lithographers by the behavior of the Cincinnati Sex Symbol, the only Litho Club member who is also my brother-in-law. You may remember him and his red T-shirt from last February.

It was then that I wrote about a visit my four sisters and I and our spouses made to New Orleans. Sister No. 3, Nancy the Itch, is married to the sex symbol, whose given name is Gabby. Everyone in the French Quarter soon learned Gabby is the Cincinnati Sex Symbol because that's what it says, in large

litho letters, on his only shirt. The label is necessary because there is absolutely no other evidence of his symbolic status. The sex symbol is short and round. By his own description, Gabby looks like a pull toy.

When the Itch pulled the toy into Detroit for the litho convention, three of her siblings were waiting to pick up the party where it left off five months earlier, when they were deported from New Orleans for marching close-order drill in a cemetery without a mortician's license. The sister who lives in Texas was the only Fitz who couldn't make it to the Detroit meeting, but she phoned every hour to forbid us to have a good time without her.

It is recalled that my much older sister, Terrible Jean, wasn't mentioned in my original report on the New Orleans party. This omission disturbed many readers who feared that her much younger siblings had left Terrible Jean home simply because Greyhound declared her too old to travel. The consensus was that this is no way to treat a matriarch, even if she did once use her little brother for a tent stake, headfirst. I am constantly amazed at the great number of people who approve of innocent little brothers being abused.

Actually, Terrible Jean

was in New Orleans, leading the singing in the cemetery, but when I wrote a column about the party, I wiped her out of it by accidentally hitting the wrong button on the magical keyboard which propels these words off into computer land. Terrible Jean loves publicity, so I apologized to her for the error, and she graciously hollered that I have been of no earthly use to her ever since she quit putting up tents.

Anyway, Terrible Jean was definitely present at the Cincinnati Sex Symbol's convention, as several innocent bystanders could testify. They were bystanders when our platoon marched into Rembrandt's Roadster, the downtown bistro where John Williams plays super piano while Katherine Grimshaw provides all the fine singing anyone — except Terrible Jean — could ever want. Terrible Jean decided it should be a sing-along bar and immediately went into her Mitch Miller act, commanding everyone present except me to sing. She allows me to hum only.

This awful noise went on for three hours. After we left, the Roadster management revised its dress code so as to ban anyone with a pull toy, or a vacuum cleaner.

You are probably wondering about that vacuum cleaner. The thing is, my wife had another commitment that night, and I didn't want to be a ninth wheel. It looked like rain, and arks must be boarded by twos. There was an unusual vacuum cleaner parked in the hotel hallway, so I took it by the handle. When I promised to be gentle at curbs, I had a date.

No plugs or extension cords were needed. Just being in the same party with the Cincinnati Sex Symbol was enough to turn my vacuum on.

Onward and Upward, but don't tell my sister in Texas

Soybean acreage will shrink slightly this year to 71.3 million acres, the U.S. Department of Agriculture predicts.



THE CHEERLEADERS' BAKE SALE was just one of the food stands available to replenish shoppers at the sidewalk sales. Manning the booth are Jill Seurnyck, 15, of 6570 Hurds Corner Road, and Lori Sawdon, 15, 6550 E. Gilford Road.

Funeral held for Margaret Boyne



Margaret Boyne

Funeral services were held Saturday for Tuscola County Farm Bureau President Margaret Boyne, 61, who died Tuesday, July 15, at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit after a short illness.

Mrs. Boyne of 5961 W. Marlette Road, Marlette (Koylton township), was first elected to the county Farm Bureau board as an at-large director in 1976. She was re-elected in 1979.

Her fellow board members elected her county vice-president in October, 1977, and president in October of 1978 and 1979.

She had served on various county and state Farm Bureau committees and had attended the Michigan and American Farm Bureau conventions.

Mrs. Boyne had been a 4-H leader for 36 years and

served on the state 4-H Council Advisory Board at the time of her death.

She was born March 27, 1919, in Koylton township, the daughter of Benjamin and Theresa Hall. She graduated from Kingston High School in 1935.

She married M. Ford Boyne Jan. 8, 1936, in To-

ledo, Ohio. He died March 5, 1976.

She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Thomas (Marilyn) Jolicour, four sons, Thomas F., Terry F., Donald D. and Ronald R. Boyne, all of Marlette, and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at the Marlette First Presbyterian church, of which she was a member. Rev. Sandy Shaw officiated.

Pallbearers were Michigan Farm Bureau Vice-President Jack Laurie, county Farm Bureau Vice-President Letoy Schluckbier, Mervin Knoll, Thomas Young, John Borek and Dave Sting.

Burial was in Kingston cemetery.

The county Farm Bureau Board of Directors met Tuesday evening to select a successor.

The Haire Net



If you ask anyone will tell you that they are 100 percent dedicated to a better environment.

There isn't much hedging until you get to specifics. But most times when it comes to the nitty gritty, environment plays second fiddle to special interests.

The automotive companies dragged their feet on fuel efficient, better environmental autos as long as they could.

It wasn't until the market place changed that the industry decided they could do what the government mandated and now is talking about exceeding the Federal standards.

Self-interest and survival are great motivators.

Industry isn't alone of course. There are farmers who run untreated sewage into drainage ditches. There are tourists who toss garbage around the countryside. Until recently the Chronicle burned its used papers in the back alley. Certainly adding to the pollution.

It isn't often that the average person is tested, but when they are they often come up short.

You can see that in the debris found in beautiful Michigan streams. In litter left on campgrounds and community parks.

You see it more often at the neighborhood gas pumps.

The more efficient cars and the higher price of gas have resulted in a glut of oil and gas.

The glut has resulted in a gas war and surveys show that the spread between leaded and unleaded has widened.

In some areas leaded gas is selling for as much as 10 cents a gallon less than unleaded.

That's a couple of bucks

per fill up and many motorists are using leaded gas even though unleaded is required.

It's against the law for stations to pour leaded fuel into cars requiring unleaded but scant attention is paid to it.

Many, many stations give the customer what he wants and there has been no indication of legal action.

At the growing number of self-service stations, of course, the customer is on his own.

It's easy to see why a family fighting the losing battle with inflation would opt for the cheaper gas.

After all, it's hard to see what good unleaded fuel is really doing to help pollution in the Thumb or the community.

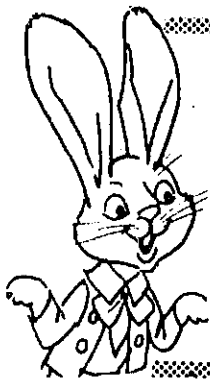
There aren't any hero medals awarded for obeying the law and doing our bit to make things a little better for those who follow.

Just a little bit of inner satisfaction for those of us who believe the battle is too important not to keep fighting every way we can.

Coming Auctions

Saturday, July 26 - John and Catherine Palmer will hold a household auction at their residence, 4553 Leach St., Cass City, located one block west and one block north of stoplight. Lorn Hillaker and Clark Hillaker, auctioneers.

Saturday, Aug. 2 - John and Marge Zawilinski will sell personal property at the place located one mile east of Cass City and 1 1/2 miles north at 5283 Schwegler Rd. Lorn and Clark Hillaker, auctioneers.



Rabbit Tracks

By John Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

President Tom Herron reports that the 2nd annual July 4 Festival will cost the Chamber of Commerce about \$1,000. That's considerably less than the over \$4,000 that the celebration cost last year.

The aim of the Chamber is to break even, Herron said. The reason that the event did as well as it did, Herron says, is the cooperation of many in the community.

It's impossible to thank them all without missing someone, but everyone on the Chamber board is very appreciative of the help received, Herron said.

Everyone calls it Freiburg, but it is listed as Freidberger on maps and there is a Freiberger Road. I'd guess that either spelling is correct.

A discussion about the name led to a discussion of what name is most frequently misspelled and mispronounced.

My candidate is Wilmot.

It's called Wilmont and spelled that way time after time. Wilmont comes naturally to the tongue and most of us have to make a conscious effort to say and spell the name the proper way.

It's always fun to talk with Rotary exchange students immediately after a year abroad. Kent Wischmeyer spent a year in Australia and sounds more like an Aussie than a Cass Cityan. Incidentally, Kent reports a fabulous year "down under."

Retail sales aren't supposed to be doing well these days because of the recession. It wasn't true during sidewalk sales in Cass City last week.

While not uniformly great, the consensus was that sales were better than last year.

Maybe it's because buyers are more bargain conscious now when many budgets are straining.

The weather

	High	Low	Precip.
Wednesday	92	61	.05
Thursday	92	51	.23
Friday	90	56	0
Saturday	100	68	0
Sunday	92	68	.01
Monday	85	63	1.27
Tuesday	84	54	.01

(Recorded at Cass City wastewater treatment plant.)

Business classes possible

The Cass City Department of Community Education is seeking input from area residents as to the possibility of establishing college classes to be taught locally in business and management through Saginaw Valley State College.

Individuals who would like to pursue an undergraduate

degree or a master's in business administration degree are asked to contact the community education office, 872-4151, as soon as possible.

Areas of specialization might be accounting, economics, law and finance, marketing and management.

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