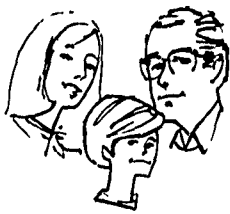


ENERGY SAVERS from the WISE FAMILY

by Penny, Paul & Larry



There's a new family in town—the Wise family—who will be presenting energy conservation tips through this column.

In the column by Penny, Paul and Larry Wise, all types of energy conservation

tips will be given including ones on home heating and cooling, cooking, lighting, use of appliances, and automobiles.

Reader participation in the column is encouraged. If you have a favorite way of stretching your energy dollars, whether yours go for gas, oil or electricity or a combination of the three, tell the Wise family about it by sending your suggestion to them in care of this newspaper. Any questions you might have will be welcome, too.

Use of home appliances, according to Penny, is a good place to practice conservation habits that will stretch your utility budget and promote a longer life for

the appliances. Your dishwasher, for example, will use the same amount of electricity and hot water whether it is completely full or only half full—so save the dishes until there's a full load.

Paul has been doing some maintenance around the house and he has found that repairing leaky hot water faucets can save many gallons of hot water. "Often it's a simple matter of changing a washer," he says.

In past winters their son, Larry, had been a television addict when storms cancelled school and outdoor play. This year he plans to help conserve energy by working on his model plane hobby instead of turning on the t.v. when winter weather keeps him indoors.

Jumping in the car for every errand used to be our practice. Now we try to walk to places nearby.

We feel better for the exercise, and we're saving on our car's gas bills and upkeep, too. Those short trips were really wearing the car out faster.

Putting around the kitchen is one of Paul's favorite hobbies. He's found several ways to cut down on utility bills by following some simple energy conservation practices there.

Did you know that using pots that fit the surface unit on your range and making sure that the pots have flat bottoms ensures that all the heat from the surface unit

goes into the pan rather than being wasted?

In school Larry's class has been talking about ways to help families save energy at home, and he suggested that we could leave the curtains open on sunny days to take advantage of the sun to heat the rooms.

His teacher thought that was a good idea and explained that the curtains could also help to keep the heat in the house at night by preventing drafts around the windows.

To save hot water, the whole family has switched to showers from tub baths. The average tub bath takes 10 to 15 gallons of hot water while the average shower uses only eight to 12.

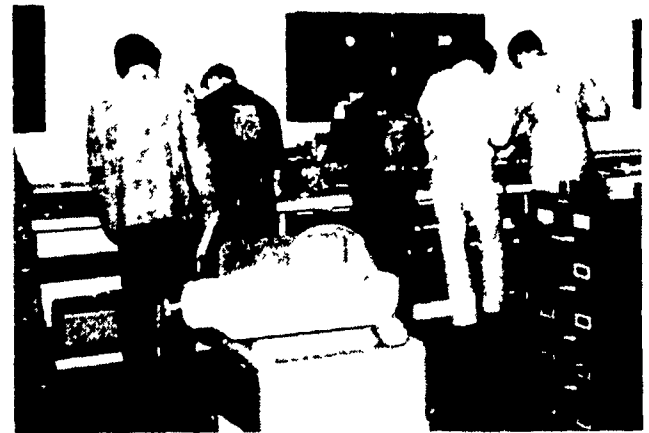
Long soaks in the shower are out now, too. We try to see who can be done fastest!

With the colder weather here, Paul decided to check the heating units in the house to make sure we were utilizing all the heat possible.

Clean filters, vents and units can make a difference in the amount of heat output. Cleaning the units two or three times a year can mean cleaner air in the house, too. Filters should be checked once a month during the winter and replaced if necessary.

Putting a humidifier in the house has helped save fuel, too, as we're more comfortable at a lower temperature with the added moisture in the air.

(This is one of a series of columns on energy conservation. Reader suggestions are welcomed and should be sent to the Wise family in care of this newspaper.)



The picture above depicts some of the activity of the FFA Area Small Gasoline Engine Contest recently held at the Garden Spot High School.

FFA Engine Contest Held

The Area Small Gasoline Engine Contest was held on December 20 at the Garden Spot High School Agricultural Department. Six teams from Lancaster and Chester Counties participated. The top three teams from the area are entitled to go to the State Contest to be held in June.

The E-town team consisting of Ken Gruber and James Rutt placed first; the Ephrata team placed second with Jim Felpel and Tom Horst troubleshooting; Grassland team placed third with Leroy Gehman and Nelson Gockley being the team; the Manheim team placed fourth with Joseph Snavelly and Kevin Rohrer. The fifth place team came from Central Chester AVTS and the team consisted of Charles Pierce and Greg Hurst. Owen J. Roberts team also competed.

A contest consists of three parts with the top team score getting first place and down the line. A regular test on engines is given including the identification of 18 engine parts and tools to identify.

The second part of the contest is the use of the Small Gasoline Engines Manual to find required specification for a particular engine model.

The third part and probably most important part of the contest is the actual troubleshooting on the engine. Each engine is "bugged" with several problems and the team has to discover these problems and correct them and make the engine run correctly, all within 60 minutes. The individual with the best score will receive a small socket set donated by Morris Company. The best score this year is Ken Gruber from E-town.

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The program will be rebroadcast Wednesday, Jan. 16 12:45 A.M. to 2:00 A.M.

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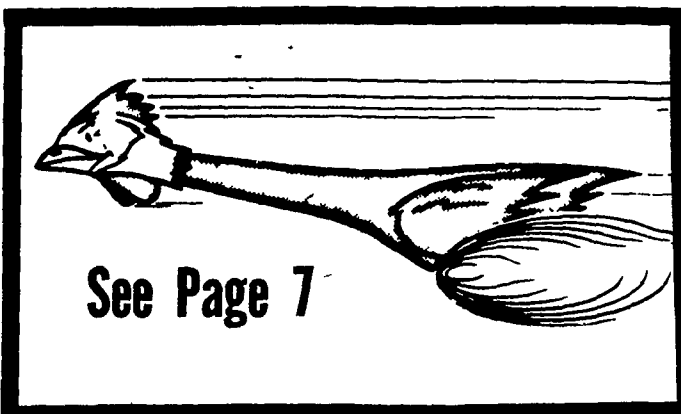
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YOUNG ENOUGH . . . Dr. O. T. Bengtsson decided at age 76 she needed more exercise than just commuting to her medical office in New York City—so she learned to ride a bicycle. Bob Salzman, left, is a professional instructor who teaches adults to ride, through a method which separates balancing from pedalling, thereby establishing confidence.

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