

**IN AUGUST HEAT**

**Freshmen Visit  
WMU Campus**  
Roy Coons and Bonnie Hunt of Birmingham were among those completing freshman orientation last week at Western Michigan University.  
When they return to the campus in mid-September they will be completely registered and have their fees all paid. They will only need to attend the orientation meeting for all new students Sept. 13, and attend their first classes Sept. 15.

**SUMMER RENTAL  
Pianos — Organs**



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**Nature Plays It Cool**

By CLBO SYMONS  
Special Writer

Any day now you can expect to awaken to unusual silence. No robin will salute the first faint light; no Bob White whistle up the dawn, and no catbird will make small talk among the honeysuckles. The very absence of these familiar sounds may be the reason you awakened. But no "silent rain of death" brought on this "silent summer," although, unhappily, it does have a bearing.  
Whether or not you are aware of it, this absence of sound is the first sign that August is upon us. The month of heat and drought, of inactivity, sleeping—and quiet.

IF YOU SIMPLY turned over and went on snoozing, it means that you are in tune with the times. You are behaving like most normal animals who adjust their habits of living to this trying season.  
"August is a difficult month for most living creatures," say nature writers, John and Jean George. "They must fit their routines to

this prolonged period of heat and drought. A toad, for instance, which absorbs moisture from the ground, can't afford to hop around. He sensibly retires under a damp log or pile of leaves."  
Most birds stop singing, partly because the breeding season is over and partly because it's too hot to waste energy on song. Also, some are beginning to moult. But seed eaters such as the cedar waxwing and goldfinch can still be heard, for they nest during this hot season.

BUT MOST OTHERS move about as little as possible, especially during the heat of the day. They may be seen with their heads under their wing, lolling about in the shade, dusting themselves or opening their mouths from time to time—a bird's way of cooling off.  
Nature seems hushed and languid during August. This torpor gives the month its special character, so that we have come to think of it as the still or muted month.

Everyone has heard of hibernation, an escape from winter cold. Not so well recognized is estivation, its summer counterpart, an escape from prolonged heat and dryness.  
HIBERNATION, estivation and migration have a common denominator—temperature. They are all adjustments to extremes to those that need it.  
Estivation is total with some creatures; their bodies function at a greatly reduced rate. Some wake up now and then but remain in their cool burrows.  
Even animals which do not sleep straight through the month slow down during the heat of the day. The chipmunk, a part-time estivator, digs in for a nap of at least two or three weeks duration.  
His body temperature drops, and he needs neither food nor water in his lethargic state. The groundhog takes a siesta during the August daytime but comes out in the cool of the morning and evening.

**THE GROUND SQUIRREL** is a true estivator. Curled up in his underground chamber, his heart beats and breathing are reduced that he seems almost not to have life at all. Still his summer sleep is not as deep as hibernation where there is totally any discernible physical activity.  
The lively red-squirrel gives up his foraging and high-wire act for longer naps in his cool tree den during the season of peak heat. Even the dogs become snappish and hole up under the porch or dig a place in the cool ground during "dog days."

Invite your pet to go for a walk or point out a cat, and he may open one eye long enough to give you a disdainful Noval coat sort of look. It will mean, of course, "Only me and my Englishmen go out in the midday sun."  
ANIMALS OF VARYING sizes all over the earth go into this deep sleep of estivation during the period of prolonged heat and aridity in the Southern Hemisphere. It occurs in February instead of August, as here.  
The sleepers include many kinds from microscopic animals to porpoises, from certain fresh-water fish in the tropics to the dormouse of England, from snails, toads and frogs to the yellow-bellied marmoset of the United States.  
Because insects, unlike most animals, thrive on heat, August is their festival month. The rasping of the katydid, the crackling flight of the locust, the fiddling of the crickets and the monotonous and shrilling of the cicadas are but the tuning-up for their hot weather concert.

THE AUGUST HEAT, strangely enough, speeds up certain other forms of life. The feverish activity of such things as fungi and bacteria increases a million-fold, while they busy themselves converting leaves into humus.  
And there is the beginning of new life among the seeds, nuts and acorns. Seeds are, however, the chance sleepers. But some of these 5,000-year-old, Rip Van Winkle seeds have been awakened by a bit of moisture and soil to grow and flourish.  
AS THE SEASON writes fits in one act of life, it prepares for the succeeding one. Examine the tips of every beech, maple and elm twig, and you will find that already cells are forming buds which will be next year's leaves.  
When they are complete, rain will come, and wind will whirl the old away. And so will begin another sleep—and another season.  
Thus nature plays it cool by going underground or taking a nap during the sultry stillness that is August. Obviously, though, there is more to this business of estivation than meets the sleepy eye.

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**Airman Training  
in USAF Reserve  
For Two Weeks**  
Charles J. Kehoe, 1787 Henrietta, Birmingham, is currently on a two-week encampment with Detachment 1, 11th Mobile Communication Squadron, Air Force Reserve. An Airman Second Class, Kehoe is the public information specialist for the detachment.  
In addition to the two-week encampment, the members of this unit train one week-end a month to maintain their skills and readiness.  
In civilian life Kehoe is employed as an engineer. He is also an apprentice actor at Will-O-Way Theatre in Bloomfield Hills and will be performing in G. B. Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" through Aug. 16.

Television stars on hand to entertain the youngsters at the Michigan State Fair will include Cap'n Jolly, Ricky the Clown, Bozo the Clown, B'Wana Don, Hoopdeck Paul and Johnny Ginger. The fair runs from Aug. 28, through Sept. 7.

**Area Students  
Bid Farewell  
To 350 Guests**

Students numbering 350 from 11 European countries were guests of the Northville Rotary Club July 25 at a farewell dinner. With families and friends, there were approximately 1,700 people present at the Northville High School. Gov. Romney sent a message to the group.

Students were guests of Northville families overnight. Last Sunday evening they left on chartered buses for New York, a tour of the World's Fair and Wednesday's departure by ship for their homes after spending a year living with American families in the Youth for Understanding Teen-Age Exchange Program.

**MICHIGAN YOUTH** Choral members participating in the program included Charles Leffler, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Leffler, 6745 Colby Lane; John McKenzie, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawson McKenzie, 5855 Wingcroft Court; Rachel Weaver, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Weaver, 440 S. Cranbrook, all of Birmingham. Bloomfield Hills participants were Jeff Keith, 17, son of Dr. and Mrs. Kelly Keith, 731 Parkman Drive; Owen Pinkerman, 11, son of Mr. and Mrs. Owen Pinkerman II, 200 W. Hickory Grove; and Mary Todd, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Guerin Todd, Fairfax, Va.; and from Southfield was Margaret Johns, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Johns, 17338 Roxbury.

**Cancer Society  
Appoints Director**  
John R. Harrell of Royal Oak has been appointed Director of Crusade and Field Services of the southeastern Michigan division of the American Cancer Society. The division embraces Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.  
Previously Oakland County field representative and director of Field Services, Harrell has been associated with the society for three years.  
He is married to the former Jacqueline Trombley of Birmingham.

**Cadet Training  
in ROTC Program**

Cadet Ron L. Osterhout, son of Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow L. Osterhout, 31259 E. Rutland St., Birmingham, participated in rifle training during the six-week camp for U. S. Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Cadets at Fort Rley, Kan.

During the training the cadets participate in field problems and receive instruction in the newest in weapons and equipment in order to get a realistic picture of the duties of a U. S. Army officer. Cadet Osterhout is participating in the ROTC program at Michigan State University. The 20-year-old cadet is a 1961 graduate of South High School. He is a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

The key word at the 115th annual Michigan State Fair is "Free." Nearly all the entertainment can be seen at no extra admission charge. The fair opens Aug. 28, and runs through Sept. 7.

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