

# Pookie is missing; Grandmom waits

For the past week, a black and white cat named Pookie has been the object of a desperate search by Mrs. Rose Marches of Farmington.

Her search for the two-year-old pet involves more than an owner's concern for her animal. The cat was instrumental in helping her 25-year-old granddaughter cope with the death of her parents. Mrs. Marches wants to find the cat before her granddaughter, now studying to be an equestrian in England, returns to Farmington in April.

"Every letter she writes, she asks about the cat," said Mrs. Marches. During the holidays, her granddaughter, Margaret, sent Mrs. Marches letters written on stationery illustrated with a picture of a black and white cat dressed in a Father Christmas costume.

"The picture reminds me of Pookie," she wrote. Pookie came into the Marches household about two years ago when a neighbor gave him to Margaret. At that time, she was working to cope with her parents' deaths and turned to the cat for companionship and comfort.

AFTER POOKIE worked his way into the troubled woman's heart, he

became more than just a family pet.

While Margaret began taking steps toward getting a job and saving enough money to travel to England, Pookie became firmly ensconced in the guest bed.

As the months progressed and Margaret's goal of studying riding in England came closer, she continued to dote on Pookie, giving him fish and chip snacks from fast-food restaurants.

"He had it better than some children," recalled Mrs. Marches.

Last week, the black and white cat with the long bushy tail took off to forage around the neighborhood. When he stayed away too long, Mrs. Marches began to comb the animal shelters trying to locate Pookie.

She's sure that he would have turned up by now if he strayed and is beginning to suspect that someone has taken the cat into their home, under the assumption that Pookie is a stray.

After a week of unsuccessful advertising for the cat's whereabouts, she is beginning to worry about her granddaughter's reaction to the news. Although Mrs. Marches has brought home a kitten from the Oakland County shelter which was suffering from frostbite and starvation, she is unsure about the new cat's chances of survival.

IF Pookie is lost, she would like to try to have another cat at home for her granddaughter. But any other cat would show up as a poor second to Pookie, she fears.

"She told me before she left, 'what-ever you do, take care of my cat,'" Mrs. Marches said.



## Framing pictures

Pat Lindheim's picture framing workshops and classes are among the most popular in Farmington Community Center. The teacher is a graduate of University of Minnesota and a perennial art student, furniture refinisher and frame collector. She shares her knowledge with her students in classes which begin Jan. 27. Inquiries will be taken by calling the center, 477-8404.

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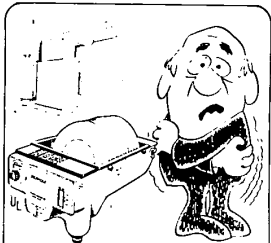
## Homeowners host a party

Churchill Commons Homeowners Association, of Farmington Hills, is hosting its first dinner dance Jan. 28, in Bay Pointe Golf Club, in West Bloomfield.

"Stardust and Showflakes Ball" will begin with cocktails at 7 p.m. A prime rib dinner is set for 8 p.m., which will be followed by dancing and entertainment, from Lenny Lieberman and his orchestra.

Tickets include an open bar until 1 a.m.

The event is open to guests. Reservations are being taken now by Anita Solomon, 477-3722.



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