

# Teamwork

## Suburbanites join forces for Thanksgiving parade

The Hudson's Thanksgiving parade tomorrow will have a distinct suburban touch to it.

There will be high school marching bands from Troy and Garden City, a community band from Franklin Village and unicyclists from Redford Township.

Behind the scenes will be planners from Troy and a carpenter from Garden City who will make sure that the nationally-televised parade is successful.

Besides the several hundred thousand expected to line the lower end of Woodward Avenue in Detroit to watch the parade, millions more will view it from the comfort of their living room TV set.

The parade begins at 9:30 a.m. from Woodward and Putnam with the TV crews going live at 10 a.m.

The local persons working on the parade will be part of a 53-year tradition which manages to combine something old with something new.

Thursday's parade will have Noah's Ark, which reflects the "Good Ship Lollipop" theme picked in a float design contest.

There will be 18 floats, 32 bands and seven new floats.

They include a float from the popular Star Wars film "The Empire Strikes Back," the Good Ship Lollipop, Noah's Ark, King Neptune's World, St. Paul Ice Castle, Fish Fantasy and Harmonie Show Boat.

TO PROVIDE the musical sounds for the parade will be three suburban bands, including the Franklin Village group which has performed in the past 12 parades. The group will follow the Santa Claus float at the end of the parade.

Others will be the Garden City East High School Panther marching band, directed by James Chene, and the Troy Athens Red Hawk band, led by Fred Junod. Both bands will be in the early section of the parade.

RIGHT: A member of the Garden City East High School Panther marching band prepares for tomorrow's Hudson's Thanksgiving parade.

FAR RIGHT: This fierce-looking Chinese dragon is sure to get plenty of squeals from the kids when it makes its way down Woodward Avenue tomorrow during the big Thanksgiving parade.

The Redford Township Unicyclist Club, directed by David Brichford, will be near the end of the parade.

It takes a lot of work to make a major parade successful. Many Hudson's employees spend three to 12 months before Thanksgiving to make sure everything is in place.

Among those are Troy's Art Wright, director of special events; Dennis Sibthorpe, events studio manager, and Garden City's Henry Kane, who works on the special floats.

SIBTHORPE, a native of Sussex, England, came to the U.S. in 1957 and went to work for Hudson's that same year.



He heads a crew of seven which works year-round preparing for the parade.

Sibthorpe said, "It's nerve-racking when it's busy, but it's even more nerve-racking when it's quiet."

When the parade is over, his crew gets busy repairing damaged units, covering floats to be used next year and dismantling those which will be retired from Hudson's parades.

The manager admits that he still gets a thrill from the parades — especially when the bands start playing.

In his spare time, he confesses that he likes to watch other parades on TV.

KANE, a native of Ireland who came



to the U.S. in 1954, has been a Hudson's employee for 18 years.

The 52-year-old also puts in a hard day of work on Thanksgiving, claiming that he is known as "Mr. Parade."

He feels that parades are different

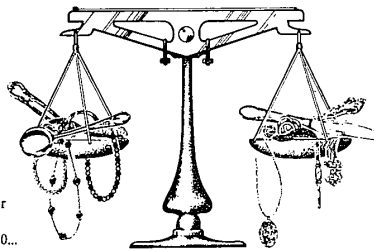
but he most looks forward to good weather.

"My family watches the parade on TV — especially after two years of seeing it in person in bad weather," he said.

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