

Help Red Cross save a life

Holiday time is traditionally a time of family gatherings and friends sharing the festive season. It is also a time of accidents and emergency surgery. The American Red Cross Blood Services, Southeastern Michigan Region, reports it is also a time of decreased blood donations and the possibility of a critical blood shortage.

Once again, the Red Cross will sponsor the annual Save-A-Life Sundays on Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, in an effort to avert a shortage of blood. The Save-A-Life program was initiated in 1974 as a one-day program and expanded to two days in 1979 to help meet increased blood needs.

All Red Cross regional blood centers will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both days.

"Blood donations decrease during the holiday season because many businesses and industries which supply much of the blood collected for patient needs are closed during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day," explained A. Wil-

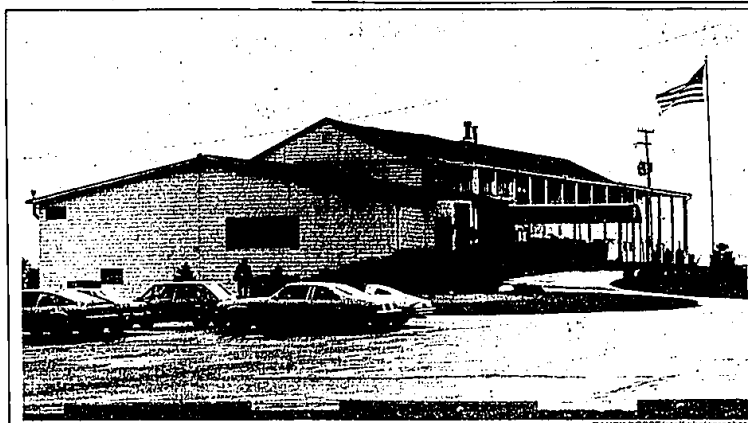
liam Shafer, M.D., director of the local regional Blood Services.

According to Shafer, there is generally a dramatic increase in elective surgery after the holiday season. This, combined with the reduction in donations, could create a major shortage in the supply of blood.

Blood can be donated by anyone in good general health between the ages of 17 and 65 years old. Donating blood takes less than an hour and includes a free mini-physical and post-donation snack. The actual donation procedure takes less than 10 minutes.

"Giving the gift of life, a blood donation, is the most caring way to start the new year," Shafer said.

To make an appointment to donate blood during one of the Save-A-Life Sundays, call the nearest Red Cross regional donor center listed in the phone book under American Red Cross or call 833-4440 and ask for the Save-A-Life supervisor.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Numbered days

Farmington Country Club representatives tonight will propose to the Farmington Hills City Council a plan whereby the club's corner, clubhouse and all, would be sold and a new building constructed on another side of the 18-hole golf course. The eventual widening of the 12 Mile and Haggerty intersection would

chew into FCC's parking lot, creating a problem with the existing clubhouse. Club officials refused to disclose details because they "would jeopardize" a deal with the corner's potential buyer, thought to be a bank.

Christmas time need not be costly

Now is an excellent time to begin planning and preparing those special homemade holiday gifts from your kitchen. In our fast-paced world of today, a home-baked or handcrafted gift is especially appreciated. It is also a thoughtful gift with a less monetary tag.

Work simplification is a desirable goal for busy homemakers. Plan your time and money wisely.

Make a market order and shop the day before the project is started. It's most convenient to have the supplies on hand the day of the project. If you don't have a big block of time, plan smaller, simpler projects that will be completed in a shorter time. Plan three or four mini project sessions instead of two long ones. Make it now; store and give it later.

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