

obituaries

ANNA GEE

Mrs. Gee, 75, of Southfield, formerly of Farmington, died Sept. 26 in Metropolitan West Hospital, Westland.

Born in Pennsylvania, Mrs. Gee was a homemaker.

Survivors include her sons, George and John; brothers, Michael and Joseph Phillips; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Services were Sept. 29 at the He-

ney-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, Mass was celebrated at St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church with the Rev. Joseph Drogowski officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Memorials may be made to the Michigan Cancer Foundation.

GEORGE W. LANGLOIS

Mr. Langlois, 82, of Farmington died Sept. 27 in Greenbriar Nursing Home,

Howell

Born in Canada, Mr. Langlois worked for St. Leo's Catholic Church in Detroit.

Survivors include his daughter, Marie Miller, four grandchildren.

Services were Sept. 28 at the Heene Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington. Mass was celebrated at Holy Family Catholic Church, Novi, with the Rev. Kevin O'Brien officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

GRACE E. DIACK

Mrs. Diack, 77, of Redford Township, formerly of Farmington, died Sept. 27 in Presbyterian Village.

Mrs. Diack was a homemaker. Survivors include her daughter, Nancy Asma; sister, Lucille Kimball; one grandchild.

Services were Oct. 2 in Presbyterian Village with the Rev. David W. Sherwin

officiating. Cremation was in Grand Lawn Cemetery, Detroit. Arrangements were made by the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

Memorials may be made to the Presbyterian Village or the charity of your choice.

TERESA DI CICCIO

Mrs. Di Ciccio, 81, of Farmington died Sept. 29.

Born in Italy, Mrs. Di Ciccio was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband, Tony; sons, Ralph and Joseph; daughters, Lucy Vance and Betty Di Ciccio; 15 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services were at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington. Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

Franklin Plaza gets new life with a facelift

By Tom Henderson
staff writer

The Franklin Plaza, best known recently for the failure of a series of restaurants — including the trendy and once very popular Healthy Jones — is once again enjoying good times.

"When we got involved (last year), quite frankly, the concept was to modernize the whole center, bring it up to date, remanufacture it and bring in a better mix of tenants," said William Lakritz, partner in the Southfield firm of Lakritz, Weber and Co., a minority partner in the center and its leasing agent.

"Before, we felt there were too many restaurants, which overshadowed the center. We needed a better mix of retailers. There are two restaurants now, the Plaza Deli and Seros, which is enough for that size center."

The center is 54,000 square feet.

AS PART OF that better mix, Lakritz recently leased space to Donlevys Back Room, a nationwide chain of 40 stores specializing in discount upper line women's wear; Waldenbooks, a division of K mart and along with B. Dalton one of the two biggest book retailers in the nation; and Cadillac Lugage, a 35-year-old Detroit firm that is opening its first suburban outlet.

Donlevys opened Sept. 20, and the store is enjoying excellent business so far, visiting manager Lee Fisher said. The chain already operates stores in Flint and Lansing. Store officials decided the best place to open the first Detroit-area location was in Southfield, Fisher said. Three or four more stores are planned for this area, she added.

WALDENBOOKS HOPES to open within a month for the holiday shopping season. Negotiations, Lakritz said, are under way with two retailers — one who sells children's wear and the other crystal.

"We have five vacancies in the plaza, now," Lakritz said. Lakritz lives in Farmington Hills. His partner, Sanford Weber, lives in Southfield.

"We've purposely kept some vacant rather than just take anyone. We want to upgrade our tenants."

Lakritz and Weber have been involved as leasing agents or minor partners in about 30 shopping centers in the metropolitan area, including the Southfield Plaza on Southfield Road between 12 Mile and 13 Mile roads and the Orchard Place Shopping Center at Orchard Lake and 14 Mile roads.

Southfield Plaza, in particular, has been a success story for them. Recently resembling more a ghost town than a shopping center, it is now fully leased, with its lot full of cars and its stores

full of patrons. Lakritz foresees the same success for the Franklin Plaza. "It's the busiest, most prime corner in Southfield," he said.

Paler joins Irish band

Ron Paler of Farmington Hills has been accepted as a member of the 1884 Marching Band at the University of Notre Dame.

Paler played the saxophone in the Catholic Central High School Band. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Paler.

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CHESS & CHECKERS

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2:30 to 8:30 pm
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2:00 to 7:00 pm

Here's your chance to play the experts in a game of chess or checkers.

Charles Bolter, President of the Chess and Checker Foundation of Michigan, and other experts will be on hand to play persons either individually or simultaneously.

Saturday, October 6, is a special Day of Champions when the following champs will be here to challenge you:

David Wolfram - 1983 State Champion
Laura Lee Romeo - Women's State Co-Champion
Carl Albert - State Champion, Straight Checkers
Rev. Bill Langley - Pool Checker Champion
Paul Dupuis - Chess Champion, plays blindfolded

The games will be played cafe style in The Restaurants on Main Street in Tel-Twelve Mall.

OTHER EVENTS

OCTOBER 6 & 7
Bromellad Exhibit and Sale
African Violet Exhibit and Sale

Tel-Twelve Mall

Telegraph at 12 Mile Rd., Southfield / Daily 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. / Sunday Noon - 5 p.m.



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517-349-7424

Farmington Hills
Orchard Place Mall
855-0488

Battle Creek
Lakewood Square
616-979-3088

Birmingham
1678 S. Woodward
644-5055

Harper Woods
Eastland Mall
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Toledo
Franklin Park Mall
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Dearborn
Fairlane Town Center
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Ann Arbor
Briarwood Mall
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Genesee Valley Mall
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