

# Kughn's hobby rescued a toy train company

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"There's been a huge resurgence in toy trains," said Kughn. He estimates Lionel sales have gone up 2 1/2 times since he took over. "It's a great training ground and a hands-on hobby. It's an intriguing, stimulating thing to do."

The cheapest Lionel Train set can be bought for just under \$90, Kughn said. He once spent \$15,000 for one.

But no matter the price, Kughn theorizes that sales have taken off because the hobby is no longer considered an all-male domain.

"Fathers, sons, mothers and daughters all are getting into it and having fun," said Kughn, who attained much of his business success in real estate and development. "Years ago, it was thought of as a boys' hobby, supported by fathers."

"And it's not just a toy you play with and put on the shelf, it's a tremendous learning experience. Through that, parents can relate to their children. Families are looking at that today; something they can do as a unit."

FINDING TIME for his own family is difficult.

"That's because Kughn is affiliated with more than 40 hobby groups and his civic-mindedness once netted him a Michiganian of the Year award from The Detroit News."

But he does find time and probably spends much of it talking about trains around a sealed-down railroad track.

Family commitment proved fruitful for Kughn when he couldn't come up with a name for his personal museum, which opened in the mid-'70s.

The collector and his wife, Linda, enlisted their children, Gary, Sue

and Jennifer, for a brainstorming session, said Kughn's secretary, Ailsa Lucky. Hence "Carall," a name that serves his twin hobbies equally well.

And family enthusiasm for Lionel trains has been passed down to two generations. The oldest of Kughn's seven grandchildren, almost 8, "is just getting into it."

**MEANWHILE, GETTING INTO** Lionel ownership resulted from some friendly ribbing at a train collectors convention, during a period when the company was losing steam. "Some guys were teasing me," he recollected. "They said, 'Buy Lionel Train, then you'd have it all.'"

Talks began in October 1985, shortly after Kughn heard that Lionel was on the selling block. Six months later, the company was his.

"I had a lot of expectations," Kughn said. "The train company wasn't doing that well, and I wanted to revitalize it. I feel it has been."

Ties have bound the Dearborn resident with Lionel for many years.

But since 1970, he has collected a different kind of toy — antique and classic cars. Among the precious fleet is a 1912 Flanders 20 and several Cadillacs from the early 1900s.

He also has several railroad cars from those years stored at Carall, including a Pullman observation car owned by Henry Ford.

His latest hobby also grew out of a "boyhood thing that I thoroughly enjoyed," Kughn said over his cellular phone.

With his toy trains and classic cars to keep him busy, it's no wonder Kughn remains young at heart.

## NFHS band to visit D.C.

The North Farmington Raider Symphony Band & Chamber Orchestra will be traveling to Washington, D.C., during Inaugural Week to participate in the All-American Music Festival, an invitation must competition.

School officials say they are honored with the invitation for Jan. 18-22, and preparation for this important festival is at a fever pitch.

The support of the band and orchestra through participation in

Fruit Sales and other fund raising activities, has enabled the band to take this trip. Touring the city, placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, viewing the inauguration and parade, and visiting the Smithsonian are only part of the activities the band and orchestra will undertake.

Students will also have pictures taken in front of the capitol with their representatives.

## campus pipeline

If you have news from a college, university or other campus of higher education — and there's a Farmington-area connection — we'd like to hear from you so we can share your news item with other Farmington Observer readers. Send items to: Campus Pipeline, Farmington Observer, 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

● **STUDENT SELECTED**  
David Cunningham of Farming-

ton, has been selected for membership in the Management Honor Society at GMI Engineering & Management Institute in Flint.

A senior electrical engineering student, Cunningham was selected by his sponsor for society membership on the basis of outstanding leadership and managerial ability.

GMI Engineering & Management Institute, with a student enrollment of more than 2,600, is the nation's only accredited college of

engineering and management planning of a five-year cooperative plan of education.

As a cooperative education student, Cunningham is sponsored by Marketing Displays Inc. of Farmington Hills.

● **ELECTED PRESIDENT**  
Todd Sullivan, a Lake Forest College junior from Farmington Hills, has been elected president of the college's student government.

Sullivan is a graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School in Redford Township.

Sullivan, a dean's list student, president of the Athletic Advisory Committee and member of the varsity lacrosse team, defeated the incumbent vice president, Junior Chris Larsen, of Hingham, Mass., by 53 votes out of 635 cast. Sullivan polled 344 votes to Larsen's 291.

## obituaries

### MILTON E. HECKEL

Mr. Heckel, 70, of Livonia died Dec. 24 in St. Mary's Hospital.

Born in Wisconsin, Mr. Heckel was a truck driver and a member of Teamsters Local 209.

Survivors include his wife, Susie; daughters, Linda and Judith; son, Mark; several sisters and brothers; and eight grandchildren.

A memorial was held at Christ the King Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Richard Martzoff officiating. Arrangements were made by the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

### OTTO H. TECHOW

Mr. Techow, 70, a Farmington resident, died Dec. 23.

Born in Detroit, Mr. Techow owned Otto's Electrical Repair Shop and was also a member of First United Methodist Church of Farmington.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret; son, Bruce; sisters, Claudy Schuchard and Vera Hanse; and grandchildren, Beth and Dawn.

A funeral service was held at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home with the Rev. Alfred Ramsey officiating. Memorial Tributes may be made to First United Methodist Church of Farmington.

### ELSIE M. LEMPIO

Mrs. Lempio, 80, of Oak Hill Care Center in Farmington, formerly of Novi, died Dec. 20 in Botsford Hospital.

Born in Franklin Mine in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Mrs. Lempio

was a homemaker and a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Survivors include her son, George D. Lempio of Novi; sisters, Sue Waarala, June Pohjala, and Eleanor Manta; brother, Toivo Suokonen; and four grandchildren.

A funeral service was held at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home with Rev. Jonathan K. Bomgren officiating. Burial was at Acacia Park Cemetery.

### EDNA MAE CHADDOCK

Mrs. Chaddock, 89, died on Dec. 19 at Oak Hill Nursing Center in Farmington.

Born in Lima, Mrs. Chaddock was a retired salesclerk and a resident of Farmington.

Survivors include her daughter, Nancy Decker; and four grandchildren.

Funeral was held at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home with Rev. Arthur Hunt officiating. Burial was at Evergreen Cemetery.

### JOHN (AL) TERVO

Mr. Tervo, 87, a resident of South Lyon, died Dec. 18.

Born in Laurium in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Mr. Tervo was involved in retail agricultural sales and was also a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Farmington Hills.

Survivors include his wife, Sadie S.; daughters Betty Troy, Nancy Niva, Norma Kilberg, and Dawn Kuschner; sisters, Nelma, Effie, Edna, Viola Toth, Esther Mollanen, Helen Rautio, and Evelyn James;

eleven grandchildren, and six great grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

Funeral was held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church with the Rev. Jonathan Bomgren officiating. Memorial tributes can be made to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 35300 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills, MI 48024.

### DRAGICA COLNAR

Mrs. Colnar, 86, a resident of Farmington Hills, died at Oak Hill Nursing Home in Farmington Dec. 25.

Born in Yugoslavia, Mrs. Colnar was a homemaker.

Survivors include daughters, Ljubica Siglic and Katca Delic; sister, Kalica Kratulic; three grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.

Funeral was held at Our Lady of Sorrows Church with the Rev. Kean Cronin officiating. Burial was at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Detroit. Arrangements were made by the Heenev-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington.

### ANGELINA MANGIAPANE

Mrs. Mangiapane, 84, a resident of Farmington Hills died Dec. 26 at Providence Hospital.

Born in Italy, Mrs. Mangiapane was a homemaker.

Survivors include sons and daughters, Vito, Fred (Olga), Angela Spurling, and Joseph (Jennie); Seven grandchildren; Twelve great grandchildren.

A funeral service was held at Church of the Holy Family in Novi with Fr. Ken Chase officiating. Burial was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit. Arrangements were by the Heenev-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington.

### VIRGINIA ROSE NOWAK

Mrs. Nowak, 63, of Detroit died Dec. 24 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn.

Born in Detroit, Mrs. Nowak was the office manager at Armstrong Bulck for 35 years and was also a member of the Detroit Historical Society Guild for 15 years.

Survivors include one daughter, Gayle Koumarotlis; one brother, James; and one grandson, Matthew.

Funeral was held at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home with Pastor David Schrader officiating. Burial was at Woodmere Cemetery. Memorial tributes can be made to the Detroit Historical Society Guild or to the Cancer Foundation.

### ELEENORA B. CARRUTHERS

Mrs. Carruthers, 95, of Farmington died on Dec. 25 at Oak Hill Care Center.

Born in Munster, Ohio, Mrs. Carruthers was a registered nurse and taught nursing at Grace Hospital for many years.

Survivors include one brother, Harry Budde; one niece, Dortha Roberts; and nephews, Frank and Arthur Credit.

A private memorial was held at Oakland Hills Cemetery Chapel.

● Twice a week is better ● Twice a week is better ● Twice a week is better ● Twice a week is better ●

The holidays should be a happy time for a five-year-old.



Last year, Sadie had her best Christmas ever. She spent it in the warm, familiar home of the family that raised her since she was a puppy.

But this year things are different. Two weeks ago, her family moved away. They packed up everything but an old couch that they dropped off at a neighbor's house. And Sadie, whom they dropped off at the Michigan Humane Society.

Now she's without a home. But Sadie's got another problem. She's not a pup anymore. Though well-mannered and housebroken, to a prospective owner she's not as desirable. At five, she's already considered an older dog.

Unfortunately, Sadie's case isn't unique. Every year, the MHS takes in over 40,000 homeless animals just like her.

But, despite that fact, we refuse to treat her as a statistic. Statistics don't like to have their bellies rubbed or chase tennis balls. And statistics don't whimper at night from being lonely in a strange place. But dogs like Sadie do.

The hard truth is that the number of animals, young or old, waiting for adoption continues to be greater than the number of people waiting to adopt them.

And that's where you come in. We need people like you to give Sadie and animals like her what they really need this Christmas—a warm and caring home.

Or you can do the next best thing. Make a generous holiday donation to the MHS. Because it's only through your support that we can shelter and care for the countless animals that come to us every year. Your support helps us find them the homes they desperately need.

The holidays should be a happy time for a five-year-old. And with your help, they can be.



Thousands of animals are cared for lovingly each year by the Michigan Humane Society. This holiday season, won't you help us help them?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

The Michigan Humane Society is a non-profit organization funded by private contributions. All contributions are tax deductible. Thank you for caring.

Please make checks payable to: Michigan Humane Society, 7401 Chrysler Drive, Detroit, MI 48211.

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