# 'Bifocals' columnist Delano dead at 72

An optimist, a lover of life and an

An optimist, a lover of life and an adventurer.

"I can't timesime a finer epitaph," wrote Fred Delars: in December, after receiving a leiter from one of his many readers describing him so. Delano, ?2, longtime columnist for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers dide Friday of a heart attack while recuperating from surgery in Hennington Beach, Calif.

Delano was visiting family and friends in Newada and the West Huntington Valley Noviang Center of the column "Though Bifocals," Delano charmed and entertained of the column "Though Bifocals," Delano charmed and entertained readers with his anecdotes about themselves, their neighbors, himself, his cotter of friends and his wife, Olga, who he affectionately referred to as Mother Goose in his column. She died on Feb. 11, 1988.

Never a pretentious person, Delano left political and social analysis to other columnists at the newspaper.

### Chamber holds mixer

Businessmen and women are invited to meet and mingle at the Oak-land County Chamber of Commerce member mixer beginnign at 5:30 pm. Wednesday, March & In Kings Court, 2505 Pontlac Lake Road, Waterford.

O Your hometown voice O Your hometown

## obituaries

lating something you didn't know," be wrote about his column in 1985. Delano had a large following through the years, particularly in the Plymouth area where he could be seen often walking up and down mainstreet always in search of new material for his column. He also spent time working as a columnist for the Plymouth Community Crier.

for the Plymouth Community Crier.

He also was one of the original members of the journalistic staff which helped to develop the community journalism philosophy along with Observer & Eccentric owner Philip H. Power.

"He was one of those who chose to devote themselves to community journalism. He was able to do anything he chose. And he was one of the early people who found community journalism highly rewarding," said Power.

"I PREFER to compose para-graphs that entertain, that tell of people and things, now and then re-proper and things, now and then re-

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cash bar will be available.

put himself in the other guy's posi-tion."

"Fred Delano was very simply an inspiration, one of the best fournal-ists I've ever known," said Steve Barnaby, managing editor of the Ob-server & Eccentric Rewspapers.

"In his days here as a working edi-tor, be helped to mold many careers. He would gently scold young report-ers who were reluctant to get the en-tire story. But he also would reassur-nigly help those same young report-ers who needed help in developing an angle.

ers who needed help in developing an angle.
"And although he expected a lot out of others, nobody ever worked harder than Fred."
Glenna Merrillat, of Plymouth, who worked as women's editor of the Plymouth Observer under Delano, described him as "the consummate newsman."

After his son David was killed in an accident, Delano came to the office and wrote his obliuary, said Merrillat.

Merrillat.

In typical Delano journalisticashion, before leaving for Colifornia in January, he left his family with a complete biography so that "we would be prepared in case anything happened," said son-in-law John Smith. In typical Delano journalistic administrative assistant to the executation, before leaving for California in January, he left his family with a complete biography so that "we would be prepared in case anything appened," said son-in-law John Smith.

Born in Dowagiac, Mil, he was a devoted Wolverine fan. Delano graducted from the University of Michigan in 1937 with a bachelor of arts degree. He majored in Journalism and history.

While at the U-M, Delano was associate sports editor at the Michigan

Daily. He was a member of the U-M Marching Band, class treasurer and a member of the Druide, a senior member of sign Beth Chi, a Journalism society. He also was a member of Signa Detta Chi, a Journalism society and Signa Nu, a social fracternity, and the control of the Chicago Tribune while a student.

After graduating, Delano worked as Detriet Free Press Filat bureau chief. In those days, the Free Press published a special Filat edition.

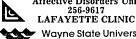
He was a general assignment reporter at the twice-weekly News-Advertiser in Filat and a daily sports columnist for the Long Beach, California, He also was a member of the sports staff of the Chicago Tribune. He worked full-time at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers from 1967 to 1979, During but time he was a reporter, editor of the Plymouth Observer, Wang County editor, acting managing editor and administrative assistant to the executive editor.

From 1979 to 1982, Delano worked



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Wayne State University

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cancer:

1. Eat more high-fiber foods such as fruits and vegetables and whole grain cereals.

2. Include dark green and deep yellow fruits and vegetables rich in vitamins A and C.

3. Include cabbage, broc-coll, brussels sprouts, kohl-rabi and cauliflower. rabi and cauliflower.

4. Be moderate in con-sumption of salt-cured, smoked, and nitrite-cured

5. Cut down on total fat intake from animal sources and fats and oils.

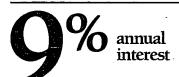
6. Avoid obesity. 7. Be moderate in con-sumption of alcoholic

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