

Blessing the animals



Blessing of Animals is a tradition for children who attend left) officiates at the prayer service which includes the faculty, school St. Fabian. The event celebrates the Feast of St. Fransudents, their parents and their pets. At right, Greg Kocis of Assisi, the patron Saint of the Bernardine Franciscan zlowski and Jackle Denamore discovered they had look-alike Sisters who serve the school. The Rev. Norbert Kendzierski (at dogs.

Special children joined with families

Services. This is never more evident than in the Foster Care program of

than in the Foster.

Foster Care Is the temporary removal of a child or children from the home of the parent for the mental and/or physical health of the child.

Professional staff work with the parent and child to bring reconciliation as soon as possible.

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as soon as possible.
When Margle's parents died, her
brother, his wife and three children
plus another male friend moved into
the family home, which already
boused Margle and her five children.
The house was small. The adults
abused aleabol and drugs daily.
Adult males slept in the same room
as the young girl children, and sexually molested them. The house was
fithy. On the rare occasions the children went to school, their clothes
and bodies were dirty. A school social worker notified Protective Services, and they, in turn brought Catholic Social Services into the picture.
At this point everyone in the house
left — and left Margle with \$3,000
worth of utility bills. In addition, the
court ordered her children to be
placed in temporary foster care.
With help and encouragement from
the agency staff, Margle entered an
alcohol treatment program, gol 1
ob at Tace Dell, and began to pay

alcohol treatment program, got a job at Taco Bell, and began to pay

or emotionally handicapped, mentally retarded, older, and/or a minority. Some may be part of a sibling froup of two or more who need to be placed together.

It takes a very special type of person to be able to welcome some of these children into the harm. Prospective adoptive parents participate in a series of group assessment and evaluation meetings, which help them to decide whether or not to adopt. When assessments and home studies are completed, families are ready for one or more children.

Families are found for the children. Children are not found for the families.

Jamilies.

Adoption and foster care for special needs children require special workers with specific skills to make sure that the children get the best care available for them. Anyone interested in exploring the possibility of becoming a special needs foster parent or adoptive parent, call Joanne Blake at 333-3700.

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All families, at times, have problems. Often help from a third party
is all that is needed to resolve difficulties. The United Way Agency,
provides substance abuse prevention
and treatment programs for children, teens, adults, and older adults.
Counselors can help families set
goals and work toward attaining

Organized

those goals.
For help in Farmington, call 471-4140.

Housing developer is elected to board

David A. Fons was elected to the Michigan Manufactured Housing Association board of directors by the general membership in the annual election. His new position as an MMHA Director will help steer the industry in such areas as legislation, insurance and liability, industry professionalism, public relations and marketing.

MMHA is a non-profit state trade association representing the manufactured bousing industries. It is a division under the umbrella of the Mitchigan Manufactured Housing, Pecreational Vehicle and Campground Association (MMH & RVCA) headquartered in Livonia.

Fons has been a manufactured housing retailer and broker since 1974, and works for Quality Homes in Farmington Hills. Currently Quality Homes has offices in 35 manufactured housing communities.

Fons has developed several mo-Fons has developed several mo-bile home communities — most re-cently Commerce Meadows in Wix-om. He became a member of MMHA in 1966, the year he got involved in the manufactured housing industry. Fons is also a member of the



MMH & RVCA executive board which makes all the final decisions for the association. He lives in Farmington Hills with his wife, Mel-inda, and their children, Kelly and

off the bills. She was allowed to see her children once a week under supervision. Meanwhile the foster parents took the children to regularly scheduled courseling appointments, a group alcohol and drug prevention program, and saw to it that the children to the supervision of the

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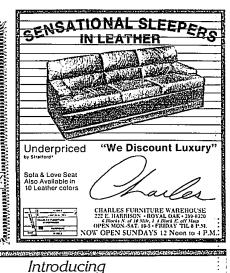
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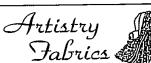
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