

Allied Food Center Is Largest In Mid-West

A meat-processing plant that sends cuts of beef through a "shrink tunnel" for vacuum-packing that's 98 per cent bacteria-free.

A dairy plant where you see no milk and very few people...

A vacuum-chamber process for keeping the flavor of milk uniform all year...

A bakery with a giant mixer that turns out a 1,000-pound batch of dough every 15 minutes...

ALL THESE are features of a 65-acre Allied Supermarkets manufacturing and distribution center, located at 31700 Plymouth in Livonia.

Seven buildings in the center put 33 acres of the site under roof. The buildings are "color-coded" to simplify distribution - for example, the meat processing plant is painted a deep red color.

The center has been in operation about a year and is the largest of its type in the Midwest.

DURING AN AVERAGE DAY, 12 tank trucks full of

Correction

The telephone number published for Mrs. Catherine Walker in THE OBSERVER of Wednesday, Feb. 24, is incorrect. Mrs. Walker's address is 565 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth.

Cheryl Fagan Wed In Orchard Church

Cheryl Lynn Fagan was married to Arthur Wagner Jr. Jan. 16 in Orchard United Methodist Church, Farmington.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Fagan of Farmington Road, Farmington. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wagner of Denver are parents of the bridegroom. Hearing the couple's vows

milk, five tons of sugar, 50 tons of flour, 10 tons of meat and 180,000 cases of canned and bottled goods flow into the center.

When the processing is complete, a fleet of 250,000 tractor-trailers take food to some 450 stores and supermarkets in Michigan, including Wrigley Supermarkets in the Detroit area.

Also supplied are K-Mart supermarkets operated by Allied and a number of stores, including Big-A supermarkets, which are supplied by the Abner A. Wolf wholesale grocery division of Allied.

A number of innovations are to be found in the sprawling complex.

Among them is dairy equipment described as the most flash available. "You don't see the milk here," a company spokesman told a group of press visitors as he pointed to huge tanks and overhead pipes.

"It's all enclosed and automatically processed. And although this is one of the largest dairy plants in the state, the automation is such that our staff of employees is one of the smallest."

THE EQUIPMENT includes a vacuum chamber that flash heats milk to 200 degrees to good about uniform flavor.

"What cows eat makes a difference in the flavor of the

milk," the spokesman said, "so there are definite differences at different times of the year."

"The flash heating seems to remove these flavors that many find objectionable."

...

THE CENTER is the home of Delcrest Foods, a division of Allied, and its Camelot and Mel-O-Crust food lines. However, more than 90 per cent of the brand names warehoused and distributed by the center are national brands other than Allied's, such as Del Monte and Stokely.

"This kind of operation was made possible by the high volume of food sold through supermarket chains, such as Wrigley," said Thomas McMaster, chairman of Allied Supermarkets, Inc. "Standard packaging and handling systems must be developed to handle the tremendous flow of materials."

An entire, 27,000 sq. ft. building is devoted to the heating and refrigeration equipment needed to maintain dozens of coolers and freezers, heat water and make two million pounds of steam per day.

Its two air conditioning systems have a capacity of cooling 2,750 average homes through the summer.

The center uses enough water, electricity, and natural gas to supply a community of 15,000 people.

SOME 60 EMPLOYEES working on three shifts are required just to maintain the center.

"Keep in mind that this facility is operating at much less than full capacity," says Mr. McMaster. "We built in extra capacity and room for expansion. The last 30 years have brought about a revolution in the food distribution business, and the pace of improvement is increasing daily." McMaster continued, "Our Livonia center represents that latest state of science, but we are already looking at improving our systems, in order to hold down the cost of quality food."

Farmington Women Meet

Mrs. Edward Sabon will tell about her trip to Oberammergau, Germany, and the famed Passion Play for the meeting of the Farmington Woman's Club at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 3, in the home of Mrs. George Cherkets, 33306 Oakland.



CAROL SOWDERS
Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Sowders of Roseland Avenue, Livonia, announce the engagement of their daughter, Carol Lynn, to Glenn M. Harkle, son of Mr. and William Marshall of Detroit. The bride-elect is a 1969 graduate of Franklin High School and her fiancé is employed by Consumers Petroleum Co. A March 27 wedding is planned.



NANCY MacMILLAN
Mrs. Frederick Benson of Livonia and Paul MacMillan of Detroit announce the engagement of their daughter, Nancy Colleen MacMillan, to Gary Robinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Robinson of Plymouth. The bride-to-be is a 1969 graduate of Plymouth High School. Her fiancé graduated from Plymouth High in 1968 and attended Eastern Michigan University. An April 3 wedding is planned.



LYNN NUZOFF
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Nozhoff of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Lynn Sharon, to Ronald C. Shipway, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Shipway of Redford Township. The bride-elect is a 1969 graduate of Stevenson High School and a student at Schoolcraft Community College. Her fiancé graduated from Redford Union High School in 1967 and SCC in 1970 and is employed by Siemens Corp. They plan to be married April 17 in St. Matthew United Methodist Church, Livonia.



DONNA BORREGARD
Mr. and Mrs. Donald R. Borregard of Grosse Pointe Park, Livonia, announce the engagement of their daughter, Donna Lynn, to William Thomas Macorkindale, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon F. Macorkindale of Middleboro Avenue, Livonia. Both are 1969 graduates of Bentley High School. The bride-elect is a dental hygiene student at the University of Michigan and her fiancé is stationed with the U. S. Air Force at Homestead, Fla. No wedding date has been set.

Wilcox-Holdsworth Vows Exchanged

Plymouth High School graduates Barbara Ann Holdsworth and John Paul Wilcox were married Feb. 5 in Our Lady of Good Counsel Church.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Holdsworth of Auburn Street, Plymouth, and the bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wilcox of Old Salem Street, Plymouth. The Rev. David Britz officiated at the candlelight ceremony. Keum Ja Kim was the soloist and Karen McAllister was the organist.



MRS. JOHN WILCOX (Barbara Holdsworth)

THE BRIDE, given in marriage by her father, wore a gown of ivory peau de soie and applied lace with pearl and crystal clusters. It had an empire waist and a A-line skirt. Her ivory off-length veil was held by a pearl and crystal headpiece. She carried ivory and pink roses and white carnations.

Mrs. Joseph Wilcox Jr., as matron of honor, wore a floor-length empire waist styled gown in orchid chiffon with plum velvet skirt. Wearing identical gowns were Beth Holdsworth, Marsha Motkus and Janice Wilcox, as bridesmaids. All carried baskets of carnations.

Joseph Wilcox Jr. was best man and John Norman, Russ Reeves, Jim Wilcox and Tom Holdsworth were the ushers.

MRS. HOLDSWORTH wore a blue floor-length gown with a sequin trimmed bodice and tulle skirt. The bridegroom's mother wore an aqua floor-length gown with a matching coat. Both wore corsages of cymbidium orchids and pink roses.

A buffet dinner was given for 250 guests in the VFW Hall in Plymouth. The bridegroom is stationed with the U.S. Army in Hagerstown, Md.



MRS. ARTHUR WAGNER JR. (Cheryl Lynn Fagan)



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