

### IN BRIEF

#### Hills woman appointed

**M**axine Cooper of Farmington Hills, a media veteran of Campbell-Mithun-Early Advertising of Detroit, has been named vice president and an officer of the company.

She brings more than 20 years of media experience to her new position. As associate media director, Cooper coordinates all aspects of the planning and buying for Chrysler's 28 Jeep and Eagle dealer associations nationwide and four Century 21 regional offices.

Cooper joined the agency in March 1991 from Highland Superstores' in-house agency where she was media director.

#### Company promotes

**M**atthew Thibadeau of Farmington Hills is one of three promoted to managers in the audit department of Deloitte & Touche.

A certified public accountant, Thibadeau was previously a senior accountant with the audit department. He serves clients in the manufacturing, defense and food service industries.

Thibadeau has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Northwood Institute.

The Michigan Deloitte & Touche is an audit, accounting, tax and consulting firm.

#### Volunteer honored

**J**eanne Nietert of Farmington was among 132 volunteers honored by St. Mary Hospital of Livonia recently.

"You do so much for so many people all through the year," Sherri Fletcher, director of volunteers, told honorees.

Volunteers donated a total 28,225.50 hours in 1991. On the average, 109 volunteers donate 2,171.26 hours per month in 40 areas of service in the hospital.

Niertert was honored for donating more than 3,500 hours.

Others interested in becoming a St. Mary Hospital volunteer should call, 464-4000, ext. 2412.

#### Smith-McAdams promoted

Farmington Hills resident Susan Smith-McAdams has been promoted to the position of senior account executive at BBDO, Detroit, a division of the BBDO Worldwide network, a Southfield-based advertising agency.

As senior account executive, Smith-McAdams will be responsible for management assistance on the Dodge Truck and Hydro Aluminum Bohn accounts.

## Marvelous Marvin's has gizmos galore

By Tim Smith  
staff writer

**F**OR THE FIRST CLUE that Marvin's Marvelous Mechanical Museum is a strange but wonderful place, one need go no farther than the front entrance. Rather than tiles, the vestibule ceiling features vintage pinball game boards from the 1940s.

Once inside, patrons find their senses bombarded with frenzied delights: There are wild, coin-operated arcade games from years gone by as well as contraptions of all kinds dangling from the ceiling, bumping and whirling in all directions.

That and much, much more is displayed at Marvin's Marvelous Mechanical Museum — located on Orchard Lake Road south of 14 Mile near the West Bloomfield-Farmington Hills border.

"They call this a visual overload, a sensory overload," said fun-loving proprietor Marvin Yagoda, 53, who also is a Detroit pharmacist.

Yagoda reopened his fascinating "world" in 1990 at the former Tally Hall, (it had previously been open from 1980-89) and many patrons are glad he did.

"MY CUSTOMERS are everybody, from the young to the old," he said. "People drive by here and wonder what it is. This is an adventure."

In fact, every nook and cranny features some kind of gizmo, geared at wholesome family fun in the tradition of P.T. Barnum and Walt Disney. Yagoda started his collection in the early 1960s, after spotting old nickelodeons in Ann Arbor.

As a result, space is at a premium. Hanging from a heat duct is a wooden sign that confirms what "Marvin's" is all about: "Walt Disney and P.T. Barnum Inspired Us to Create This Place For Your Pleasure. Have Fun!"

"I wonder how I got all this stuff. I think I'm nuts sometimes," said Yagoda, who in fact travels extensively to add to his oddball collection, including a wood-and-tin mousetrap more than 60 years old.

Asked to estimate its size, he said the family-oriented establishment has some 700 electrical outlets — all being used.

"You figure it out, I have things hanging from the ceilings, the walls, everywhere." Most of the stuff, however, is only for show, not sale.

A FEW examples of the prevailing zaniness include the following:



DAN DEAN/staff photographer

Marvin Yagoda scans his empire, which is home to the most marvelous mechanical machines anyone could ask for.

- A 250-foot track, 40 feet above the floor and featuring 50 radio-controlled airplanes, running in zig-zag fashion from one end of the place to the other. Yagoda said he also is a pilot.

- Old coin-op games, triggered by cams and levers. "The Drunkard's Dream" features a man swigging beer from his seated position on the floor, quickly followed by various demons popping their heads out of beer barrels.

- "That's what happens when you drink too much, you start seeing things," said Yagoda, describing what the scenario means.

- Starting down from a ceiling high above the 5,000-square-foot floor are Larry, Moe and Curly Joe, mugging in a promotional poster for "The Three Stooges Go Around The World In A Daze."

- There's "Marvin's Marvelous Monkey Band" and "Marvelous Marvin's Magic" located near each other along a wall. "If it's my place, I'll put my name on it."



Zoltan, the story teller, will reveal your future — if you dare to ask.

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