Residents answer W's T-shirts benefit work of hospices



when the second was a month of the art of the second was a filled by the second was a medical care in the second was affordable health care and the second was affordable health care and the second was affordable health care as the state's biggest problem. Two-thirds believe that the state of federal government should bear the burden of medical care costs while 77 percent were opposed to reducing the availability of health services as a method to be used to control crosts. a method to be used to control

Although concerned with crime and criminals, more than 400 people interviewed believe that health care should be given a higher priority than prisons. Limits on payments from medical malpractic lowest the west favored by 76 percent of those naswering the question-maire while 44 percent believe that incompetent physicians and other health care professionals are a major reasons contributing to the high costs of medical malpractice suits and insurance. In regard to doctors, 58 percent agreed that physicians should be able to legally help their terminally ill patients end their life. It was also found that low-income respondents were more likely than even older adults to report declining health. This could be due to the fact that low-income persons either do not there one of the control of the Although concerned with crime

United Way funds to help cancer patients

Way of Oakland County's 1992-1993 allocation of \$56,243 to the

cannot afford it.

When the people surveyed were asked to name the greatest threat to their own health cancer was listed by 31 percent, 25 percent said offording medical Insurance and 11 percent stated that taking care of older family members was detrimental to their own health.

This is just a sampling of the questions asked on the survey. However, one fact is quite obvious. Health care is of great cancern not only to older adults but to all Michigan citizens. What was of particular interest one was the number of people who helieve that caregiving, for an older south, and the spouse, relative or friend, as direct threat to the caregiver's own health.

Indeed caregiving is a difficult job and one that can be quite detrimental to the physical and emotional health of the caregiver and even other family members. Othen caregivers do not know there are agencies and organizations to help. They may not know how to contact these agencies either, or that many of the services are based on an ability-to-pay, sliding-scale fee. Some of them are free.

In certain instances Medicare or Medicald will help with the costs. The best place to seek information is at your local area agency on aging or disease-specific organizations such as the Alzheimer's Association. Parkinson Foundation, American Heart Association.

These services are listed in your local steahous discretives in the cost of the content of the cancer Society and the American Heart Association.

can Heart Association

These services are listed in your local telephone directories. They offer a variety of programs and services that certainly will help make cappibles askes. caregiving easier.

Rence Mahler is a gerontologist and the director of communications and admission at a Rochester Hills nursing facility. She is a former member of the Michigan State Com-mission on Services to the Aging, Send your questions to her at the Observer & Eccentric, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 46009.

Oakland County cancer patients tributions to the United Way of tand to benefit from the United Oakland County, will provide such Oakland County, will provide such items as pain medication, wheelchairs and cancer pads, as well as Michigan Cancer Foundation. The funds, distributed from con-rehabilitation services.

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ON AGING

In December of 1991, the Michigan Health Care whealth caner was listed the winter problem. When the people surveyed were asked to name the greatest threat to show the people surveyed were asked to mame the greatest threat to show the problem of health care provider, was conducted by the Public Sector Consultants of Lansing, Right

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ON 1991, the Michigan Health Care whealth cancer was listed by 31 percent, 25 percent said of closed with the help of the K mart Corp.

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Six of the top designers — Glorgio Armani, Karl Lagerfeld, Donna Insae Mirahi, Calvin Klein and Jean Paul Gauliter — didn't say no when approached by the magazine to design commemorative T-shirts. They are being solid through selective retailers, including Jacobson stores in Livonia, Birningham, Rochester, Grosse Pointe, Ann Arbor and Dearborn, at \$20 each.

"We've lost a lot of very famous designers to AIDS and we decided we wanted to give something back to the community and the people who have supported us with this spectacular T-shirt promotion," said Stephanie George, publisher of W mugazine at a kick-off tea at Jaconson's Birmingham store July 21.

Money garnered from the sale of the T-shiris will go to the AIDS program of the Hospite of Southeastern Michigan in South-field, City of Angels Hospice in Hol-lywood, Calif., Centra Teresa Ga-brieli in Milan, Italy, AIDS Re-source Center's Baitly House in New York City, Hospital Necker In Paris, France, and Shanti Project in San Francisco, Calif.

Hospice of Southeastern Michigan is the third largest hospice in the United States. It recently opened a 15-bed AIDS unit in Detroit with the help of a \$100,000

have a waiting list."

Presently, 5 percent of HSEM'a patients have AIDS.

Cassin is excited about the T-shirt promotion and agency's "new partnership" with Jacobson's, lauding the retailer for its "commitment to the community and its willingness to take a leadership role" in forwarding the work of hospices.

She also had praise for W magazine.

"I'm very impressed that the publishers of W magazine realize the importance of hospice care for people with AIDS." she sald. "The number of people with AIDS is in-creasing every year, so there will be an even greater need for hospice ser-vices.

"We are very grateful to W and to Jacobson's for their help in sup-porting AIDS hospice care."

George would like to roise \$2 mil-lion for the hospice programs and, if the enthusiasm at the by invitation only ten is any indication, she will have little trouble selling the neces-ary 500,000 T-shirts. Cassin esti-mates that local sales of 50,000 of the shirts will be enough to open a second AIDS hospice unit.

The 100 percent cotton T-shirts come in one size. They will be available only through Aug. 15 at Jacobson stores or by mail by calling 1-800-222-WMAG. There's an additional charge for shipping and

Gays from page 1C

He said the revelation produces a myriad of emotions; a sense of loss, anger and, later, a feeling of resolu-

anger and, men, the tion.

"You go through a sense of loss because you realize there are some things you'll never have," John said. "You'll never have a wife and

Mental illness has warning signs, too.

the 3.2 kids, the traditional family life. You know you won't have that family in the traditional sense.

"There's anger, sure. You're iso-lated and there's a lot of negative attitudes towards the gay communi-ty."



Tee Time: Jacobson stores in Livonia, Rochester, Birmingham, Ann Arbor and Dearborn are selling T-shirts designed by Giorgio Armani, Karl Lagerfeld, Donna Karan, Issace Mizrahi, Clavin Klein and Jean Paul Gaultier for the benefit of the Hospice of Southeastern

Counsel from page 1C

Two counselors at a center in Farmington Hills gave the following comments about gay men and women but preferred not to have their names used, to protect the identity of individuals who may be known to hat held left. be their clients.

be their clients.

A woman psychologist at the center, who has many lesbian clients, said she goes along with the Kinsey Report on sexuality. "There's probably 10 percent for the population) that has a predetermined definite sexuality. The other 80 percent in that continuum falls between homosexual and heterosexual."

A high percentage

She reports that leablans are not

She reports that lesblans are not a small percentage among homosexuals but instead constitute 50 percent of those individuals.

The psychologist said most of the lesblans seek her help for problems unrelated to their sexual preference. "That's not really a treatment issue. When anyone's involved in a

fulfilling relationship, it's not an issue anymore."

She said lesbians seem to become

aware of their sexual orientation not in childhood but during their teen-

aware of their sexual orientation not in childhood but during their teenage years.

A male, clinical social worker at the same counseling center said he thinks gays are probably born that way. "From everything I have read and seen there has to be some kind of genetic factor involved in it. In some families there are brothers that are both gay, or gay ocusins."

He said that in telking to gay, men, from the time they were small children they knew they were different from the other guys. "It has to be set early in the family system."

The social worker doesn't believe mothers should get blamed for sons who are gay. There's enough shame involved in the way society looks at gay people, without the family taking on blame, he said.

He periodically runs a supporting the gay male, and for HIV-positive males. These counseling sessions last 8-12 weeks.



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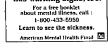
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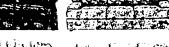
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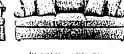
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