

Joyful from page 1A

said. "But since Cati got here, I've felt a sense of family and a commitment to others. It has broadened my horizons."

She says having Cati move in was a crash course in motherhood — something like the movie "Babyboom." Baby-proofing the house, putting glass away, plugging electrical outlets, buying a crib and toys are all part of her new role.

Friends and co-workers have been supportive of her new lifestyle. When Carman began doing the weather reports on the morning news and had to get up at 5 a.m., she worried about waking Cati that early every morning. But the photographer's wife offered to stay with Cati until she awoke and then take her to the babysitter. Things like that have helped a lot.

The hardest part of parenting has been "trying to manage a career and manage her at the same time," Carman said. "It wasn't tough, but all worth it."

And giving up time for a social life wasn't a sacrifice, she says. "I knew it would put a crunch on my social life but I didn't care," Carman said. "It didn't matter that I couldn't pick up and go anywhere. What was important to me was to be a good parent figure."

Learning to live with Cati has had its moments. And Carman confesses that keeping a

■ I don't want her to move out. She's such a joy!

*Kam Carman
Cati's aunt*

straight face with her niece is difficult.

Carman, who also does One Tank Trips on Channel 2, took Cati on a trip to Disneyworld. The hotel did not have a crib for Cati, so Carman let the baby sleep in the bed with her. Later that night, Carman awoke to find Cati scratching her (Carman's) teeth.

"I'm trying to tell her 'Shh, go to sleep,' and it was hard not to laugh," Carman said. "And it's hard not to laugh when Cati puts toys in the fireplace or flushes them down the toilet."

"Things like that are par for the course," Carman said. "She's a typical kid. She's never a nuisance. There have been times when I would say, 'Oh, brother.' But it was never, 'When is this kid going home?'"

But Carman's sister has moved to Farmington Hills, and Cati will probably go "home" soon. They are living with Carman, but Carman thinks they will probably move out in January — hopefully nearby.

Visits from page 1A

Loe's first partner, Godfrey Wanack, was a native of Australia and, at 102-years old, had a lot to tell about the secrets of long life.

"He said to eat home cooking, go to bed early and take walks," Loe said.

Conway said that's one of the benefits the volunteer officers en-

joy. They get back something. "They're doing something to help people," she said. "And they're getting something back. They often share the same interests."

Conway said Lori Parker, who matches volunteer officers and seniors, looks for common interests such as a love of travel or an

appreciation for art. But some of the common ground is unexpected, like the fact that Loe has some knowledge of German and his partner was a native German speaker.

Dwyer will admit there is a downside. Two of the original seniors, including Wanack, died within the past year.

"I was about as prepared for that as I could be," Loe said. "But the benefits far outweigh the negatives."

Dwyer agrees.

"It's been a terrific program," he said. "I see it expanding with more officers, cadets and dispatchers."

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