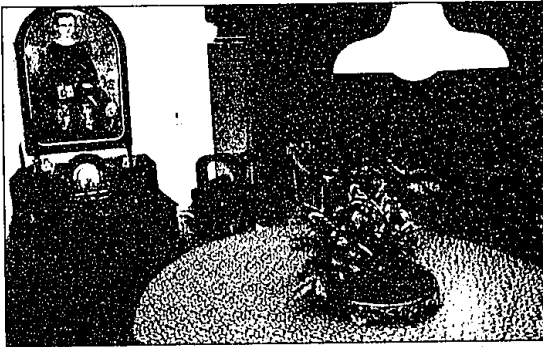


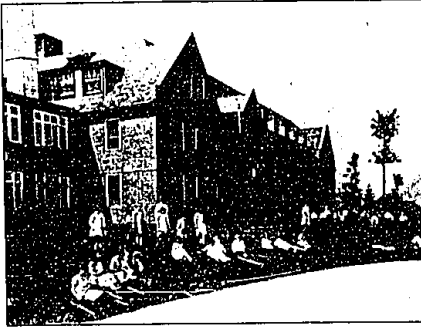


A new something old: Louise Whittington shows property manager Cheryl Dzikowski a newly-purchased antique.

Room for collectibles: The Whittingtons say they like the challenge of finding new locations for the collectibles they've acquired over a lifetime.



SHARIN LEBLOND/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



FILE PHOTO

## Botsford Commons

from page 1A

Louise and Ebbie Whittington are glad that was the plan.

"We had lived on about five acres in Northville," Louise said. "And we'd lived there for 40 years. But my husband was starting to feel that it was too much (property) to take care of."

The Whittingtons, who had been in the florist business, looked at other developments, such as Henry Ford Village and Oakwood Village. In December of 1993 they were invited to an open house at Botsford Commons and signed a contract a month later.

They moved into their home in November 1994.

They love their patio home, which includes a basement. But it has been the personal contacts that have impressed them.

"The quality of the people we deal with and the way they handle things has really impressed us," Whittington said. "We have privacy, but we're part of a community."

"I'm so glad we chose to move here," she said.

The apartment building features an open view from the second floor, art work in the halls, pastel decor and easy access to the community town center that

features an entertainment center, library, exercise pool and workout area and a dining room equal to that of an upscale restaurant.

In addition to lawn care,



Linda Mlynarek

snow and trash removal, the Commons features 24-hour security, 24-hour medical emergency, scheduled courtesy transportation and other services.

All 51 apartment units are occupied and 55 of the 86 con-

dominiums have been sold and 46 are occupied.

The condos feature special bathrooms, wider stairs in the units with basements, and sinks and adjustable shelving to provide for handicapped access and easier mobility.

Mlynarek said the idea of the combination of condos, apartments and acute care on the same campus provides options for residents.

"They can live independently," she said. "And if their medical or other circumstances change, they can have home nursing care, meals or other services right in their home. And they are close to a long-term care facility if they need that."

Although the housing is not restricted to older residents, it is designed with them in mind. The combination of independent assisted living arrangements is in keeping with changes in how families and the elderly choose to live.

"At one time there were only three choices for the elderly: a hospital, a nursing home or a home," Mlynarek said. "This provides them with a lot more options."

## Toy story

### Students give lots of love

BY TIM SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

**B**oxes upon boxes of toys, books and video games were stacked Wednesday morning in the lobbies of Detroit Country Day's four campuses. All were labeled and set to go to their destinations: four metro area hospitals, to be happily delved into by sick children of all ages.

It was evidence enough that Country Day students and their families came through in a big-hearted way for the "Give A Little Love" community service program, spearheaded by Janet Zavis of Farmington Hills.

Zavis estimated about 2,000 in videotapes and books and another 3,000 "gently used" toys and miscellaneous items were donated for the cause.

"Can you believe this?" asked Zavis, looking at the items donated to the lower school on Maple Road near Cranbrook. "This is a lot of stuff."

Zavis glanced down at a Brio table, earmarked for the Southfield-based Providence Hospital's Cranio Facial Institute and its patients, many plagued by facial deformities and emotional distress because of their injuries.

"They can get socialization out of it," Zavis said. "As they're standing here in the Brio table's shoulder-to-shoulder, they realize they're having fun. It helps

**■ Sixteen boxes of books were slated for Children's Hospital in Detroit, to help upgrade its library. Another eight boxes contained various crafts and supplies, to help equip two children's play rooms at Beaumont.**

them overcome the stigmas of their facial deformities."

Special donations also highlighted the two-day program: a brand new CD player will go to Royal Oak's Beaumont Hospital, to keep older patients occupied with music; a washer and dryer is earmarked for Hutzel Hospital in Detroit. That will enable inpatient covers for the pediatric and neonatal intensive care units to be laundered on site; they previously have been taken home to be washed by nurses, Zavis said.

Over at the junior Country Day campus near Lahser-Maple roads, plastic bags filled with board games ("50 Tails for 50 Wholes") and boxes of addition and subtraction flash cards awaited dispersal to hospitals.

Sixteen boxes of books were slated for Children's Hospital in Detroit, to help upgrade its library. Another eight boxes

contained various crafts and supplies, to help equip two children's play rooms at Beaumont.

"I think we had an excellent response," said B. Palmer of Bloomfield Hills, who helped orchestrate the collection at that building. "It doesn't surprise me, because Country Day parents have always arisen to the occasion when it comes to helping others."

Zavis said items that could not be sent on to the hospitals for safety or health reasons (such as used stuffed animals) were instead picked up by St. Vincent de Paul.

Recipients of "Give A Little Love" were Providence Hospital and the Providence Cranio Facial Institute, both in Southfield, Beaumont, Children's and Hutzel hospitals and the Hutzel House for pregnant women. Those were selected because they were most in need.

"Hutzel House and the hospital haven't received anything," Zavis said.

According to Zavis and another parent volunteer, Linda Gilyard, it is hoped that other schools will join Country Day in the charity effort next year, thus enabling additional hospitals to receive items.

Country Day has campuses in Bloomfield Hills and Beverly Hills, with students from West Bloomfield, Birmingham, Troy and other Oakland County communities.

## Ill children, hospitals have long benefited from Hills generosity

Last week's "Give A Little Love" Detroit Country Day charity effort, launched by Janet Zavis of Farmington Hills, isn't the only such endeavor to provide hospitals with items for young patients.

In 1980, David and Pam Haron, of Farmington Hills, along with Leslie Colburn of Bloomfield Hills, Harry Colburn of Southfield and Barbara Simon of Los

Angeles, established the Phyllis Ann Colburn Memorial Library at Children's Hospital in Detroit.

The library was established in memory of a woman who was "devoted to books and children," said David Haron.

Recently expanded, the Colburn library is a most pleasant area for ambulatory patients and their families who would like to

enter the world of the past, present or future through books. Magazines, videotapes and a computer are also available to entertain and enlighten," Haron continued.

For bed-ridden children, volunteers cart in assorted entertainment, while closed circuit television is also available in rooms.

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