

# COMMUNITY LIFE

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1996



LEON SCHOCHIT

## Jeweler reflects on 50 years in gem business

Long before retiring from the diamond business, I used to buy my merchandise from a local supplier. This merchant dealt with six of us wholesale brokers throughout Michigan. My office was in the now defunct Metropolitan building in the heart of downtown Detroit.

It was wonderful working and living downtown. I knew almost every cafe, tavern, business and storekeeper there. They were all my friends and customers.

There were many fine jewelers in the Metropolitan building; however, the few dishonest ones made the whole place look bad because the building became known as the Den of Thieves. The year was 1946 and we sold most of our diamonds to the 250 dealers located there. The local supplier who I purchased my stones from was high in price, but convenient for me. One day I had a request for a white diamond. I asked this supplier for such a stone and told him specifically that the diamond could be flawed, but it had to be a good white color. I also emphasized the fact that the client would not accept a yellow stone no matter how free of blemishes or how cheap.

Well, he proceeded to show me an extremely dark yellow diamond. I thought he was joking. When I complained about the color, he said to show my customer the stone at night, in the

See DIAMONDS, 14A

## Local woman to carry torch

A Farmington Hills woman will carry the Olympic torch on Sunday

BY HUE MARSON STAFF WRITER



What? Marlene Kershaw worry? You would think a "Community Hero" would have a few concerns about carrying the Olympic Flame on Sunday.

No, she says, she's not worried about dropping the torch. Nor is she worried about putting out the flame or setting herself on fire as it is transferred to her torch.

One of 32 "Community Heroes" who will carry the Olympic flame during the Michigan leg of the 16,000-mile, 84-day relay, Kershaw does admit to just one itty-bitty concern... her shorts won't fit.

"The committee provided the torchbearers with a shirt, shorts and socks, and they only had sizes small, medium, large and extra-large, so I ordered a large," Kershaw said. "Now, I'm worried they won't fit, which gets me on the treadmill every night."

While the Farmington Hills resident might laugh about a snug fit, she is dead serious about the job at hand. She has been in training since finding out in February that she was among the 10,000 people selected to carry the flame from Los Angeles, Calif., to Atlanta, Ga., for the opening of the 1996 Summer Games.

Joanne Verbanic of Farmington was also selected as a torch bearer.



In training: Armed with a modified Tihi torch and joined by her son Jon, Marlene Kershaw has been using the track at the North Farmington High School track to prepare for the Olympic Torch Relay on Sunday.

(Nancy Swanberg) told me she had nominated me, so I think being chosen is an even bigger honor."

Swanberg, director of the Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College, nominated Kershaw for her work with the center's From Chocolate Chips to Micro Chips program. She told the selection committee that in nine years time, Kershaw "has developed, expanded and given life" to the program for displaced homemakers.

"Her design of 'One-Step Shopping' provides self-discovery activities, a structured career search, assertiveness training and job-hunting techniques," Swanberg noted. "Over nine years, 200 women have jobs earning \$15,000. Cards and letters from participants clearly indicate that they name Marlene as their hero, mentor, model and leader."

Kershaw was "elated and honored," when Swanberg told her of

the nomination. She describes the nomination as an "elegant essay."

Swanberg also has had T-shirts made for volunteers and staff members to wear as they line Kershaw's half-mile stretch of Sunday's relay. Kershaw, who needs someone to hold a flag that will mark her segment, has decided to ask Swanberg to be her flagbearer.

"She has allowed me to develop and implement ideas," she said.

See TORCHBEARER, 14A

## Tee Up This Summer

In Detroit's Nicest Golf Outings For Women

Ladies, this is your chance to play in one of the nicest golf events of the summer... As Bavarian Village Ski & Golf presents Detroit's 3rd annual "Nicest Golf Outings For Women". This season we have added two additional outings. Come prepared for a fun and relaxing day at one of three spectacular golf courses. Please join us for one or all three of these outing designed specifically for women. Pick up a registration form at any Bavarian Village International Ski & Golf

### Celebrating 400 Years Of Women in Golf

Monday June 24th | Thursday July 18th | Thursday August 15th

Pick Up Your Registration Form at any Bavarian Village Ski & Golf

#### \$100 Per Player Includes:

- 18 Holes of Golf with Cart
- Luncheon including an Informal Fashion Presentation courtesy of Bavarian Village
- Special Prize Giveaways & more!
- Proceeds to Benefit the Greater Detroit Chapter of The National Association of Women Business Owners

Informal Fashion Show Presented By



IZOD CLUB

Sponsored By



Detroit Observer & Eccentric



Presented By

**Bavarian Village**  
INTERNATIONAL SKI & GOLF

- Bloomfield Hills 2540 Woodward 810-338-0803
- Birmingham 101 Townsend 810-644-5950
- Farmington Hills 27847 Orchard Lake Road 810-553-8585
- Novi Novi Town Center 810-347-3323
- Grosse Pointe 19435 Mack Ave. 313-885-0300
- Mt. Clemens 1216 South Great 810-463-3620
- Ann Arbor 3336 Washtenaw 313-973-9340
- Dearborn Heights 26312 Ford Road 313-562-5560
- East Lansing 248 East Sojinnow 517-333-3529
- Flint 4261 Miller Road 810-732-5560
- Grand Rapids 2025 30th Street 616-452-1199
- Troy Troyville 616-941-1999

Ameritech GOLF GUIDE

Public Golf Course Information With Map • Michigan Golf Facts • PGA/PGA/Benford Tournament Information • U.S. Open Information • OFFICIAL GOLF DIRECTORY OF THE METRO DETROIT AREA

## FOR FATHER'S DAY, GET YOUR FAVORITE "SOFTIE" A NORDICTRACK!

ON DAD'S SPECIAL DAY, SHOW HIM YOU CARE ABOUT HIS HEALTH. HE ALWAYS LOOKED OUT FOR YOU.



**NordicTrack** Ski Exercisers

STARTING AS LOW AS \$299<sup>95</sup>

NordicTrack AbWorks<sup>®</sup> Abdominal Exerciser GREAT VALUE \$119<sup>95</sup>

**\$50.00 of Accessories, FREE!**

Purchase any NordicTrack fitness machine including skiers, treadmills, riders, and strength machines at \$299.95\* or above and receive \$50.00 in fitness accessories, free!

Complete your gift to Dad with a starter kit— choose from workout gear, gadgets that attach to any of the NordicTrack machines like, a bookholder, fan, or weighted ski grips, and much more!

COUPON GOOD THROUGH JUNE 16, 1996.

\*Offer good only at retail locations. Not valid with any other offer. Offer does not apply to previous purchases. Limit one per purchase.

**NordicTrack™**

CALL 1-800-TRACK-96 TO FIND YOUR NEAREST NORDICTRACK STORE OR KIOSK.

Twelve Oaks Mall (810) 380-6830  
Outlets at Birch Run (517) 624-5000

Biarwood Mall (313) 683-9577

Lakeside Mall (810) 566-7011  
The Commons Collection (810) 649-4000

©1996 NordicTrack, Inc. NordicTrack and related marks are registered trademarks of NordicTrack, Inc. All rights reserved.