

Crash kills woman, 67, while turning onto Halsted

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

A 67-year-old Madison Heights woman, driving home from her Farmington Hills job, was killed in a two-car accident about 7:25 p.m. Tuesday near Halsted-12 Mile roads.

Farmington Hills police Commander Chuck Nebus said the victim, Gloria Lane, was turning left onto northbound Halsted, off of Hills Tech Drive, when her 1974 Corvette was struck by a 1997 Lincoln Towne Car driven southbound on Halsted by a 61-

year-old Northville woman. Nebus said both women were alone in their vehicles. Nebus said it is believed Lane was stopped at a "red traffic or flashing signal" and was making her turn when the Towne Car struck her Corvette on the drive-

er's side.

The impact of the crash was so severe that it sheared half of the roof off of the Corvette. Nebus said the jaws of life were required to help extract the victim, who died on arrival at Botsford Hospital from massive internal injuries.

A preliminary police investigation of the third traffic fatality reported this year in Farmington Hills showed that drugs, alcohol or excessive speed were not factors in the accident, Nebus said. But further investigation is ongoing.

An accident reconstructionist from our Farmington Hills traffic section has visited the site," Nebus said Wednesday. "And speed is not believed to be a factor (with) either vehicle."

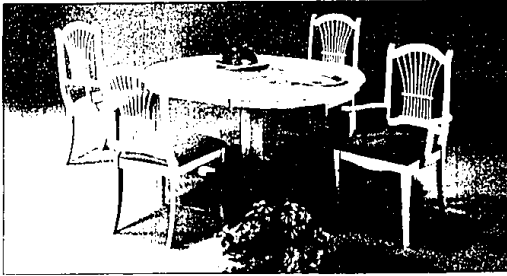
Both vehicles are thought to have been traveling slower than the posted 45 miles-per-hour speed limit on Halsted, he said. Tentative investigation indi-

cates the driver of the Towne Car, who was not issued a ticket, had the right-of-way. But Nebus said "no immediate fault" with either driver has been determined.

The driver of the Towne Car, hurt her knee, Nebus said, but refused immediate medical treatment.

Weather also is not believed to have been a factor. Nebus said the roads were wet, but that it was not snowing.

Is It Your Turn For The Holiday Dinner?



Capture festive holiday moments with a beautiful new dining set from Dinaire*. Now during our Holiday Dining Room Sale, we can help you prepare for it easily and inexpensively. Dinaire* has a choice of oak or maple wood, a selection of sizes, styles, tile patterns and finishes. Come in today and you'll find a great selection, ALL HOLIDAY SALE PRICED!

Now Save 40% OFF

6 Months Same As Cash*



Walker/Buzenberg
fine furniture

240 North Main Street • PLYMOUTH • 459-1300

Mon., Thurs., Fri. 10-9 • Tues., Wed., Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 1-5

*With Credit Approval • Offer Ends 11-30-97

Old Orchard from page A1

the property for commercial use," but that will necessitate its rezoning to commercial zoning, he said.

Todd Breen, 18, head usher at the theater who has worked there about two years, said he'd heard the movie house might be a dollar store before it becomes a restaurant.

"Just what we need, another restaurant," said Esther Corbuck of Farmington Hills as she left the theater with husband Jack on Monday night.

"I think a lot of us are going to miss out" with no theater there, she said. "It's been either go here or to the Americana."

She feared the Bill Knapp's Restaurant south of the theater would suffer without a movie crowd looking for a place to eat.

"Less choices with fewer screens," said Gary Spanski of Livonia about the pending closing. "If they turned it into a Maple Three, with more independent films, it would be better."

Said Cyndy Apkarian of Farmington Hills: "I like the small theaters. I'm kind of upset" at having to go to a big multiplex like the recently opened 20-screen Southfield Star theater. "I hate that. We come here all the time."

Judy Soronen, community affairs director of the Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce, said last week the chamber will be sorry to see Old Orchard go.

"Apparently, the market demands as seen by theater owners show that multi-screen facilities are somehow better, more desirable or more profitable, or

all of the above.

"And I guess it's a matter of personal taste as to which people prefer — small theaters or multiplexes — but we won't have much of a choice."

"It takes away a little of the variety, but they don't share their profit margins with me."

She said she and husband, Rusty, prefer the Farmington Civic in downtown Farmington, which they attend frequently. She said its owner, Greg Hohler, finds competing with the multiplexes tough "but I certainly hope for those of us going there that he manages to keep his niche and survives."

Local touch

Hohler, self-described "last kid on the block" — the only full-time independent movie-house operator remaining in all of metro Detroit — said Thursday he didn't think the Old Orchard's closing would be significant to his business.

"I plan to be here as long as I can," he said, though movie rentals have risen the last two years, forcing him to raise his price per ticket from \$1.50 to \$2. "It's nostalgia for old-time movie houses that keeps me going. Whether that's enough to keep me afloat remains to be seen."

"I believe they (film distributors) are trying to put the discount theaters out of the market-



place. A film rental place can make more from the Star theater in Southfield in one day than he can take from me in six months. They're forcing the smaller and less competitive ones out."

He said the big movie chains are calling it "the re-screening of America, but I call it the over-screening of America. You're going to see a lot more theaters closing. Each of these national corporations is trying to outdo the next guy and they're putting new ones up like gangbusters. The older ones are going to close."

Hohler, whose theater has been in the family since his father opened it in 1940, said he "couldn't retrofit an old theater like this one into stadium seating," which is being offered by the new multiplexes and in which each row of seats is on a separate step, providing unobstructed views of the screen.

Then Hohler was struck by a thought: "It's like what I've got in the balcony," which he made into a separate theater a few years ago. "We had that type of seating 57 years ago."

**INSTANT
HOLIDAY
MONEY
IS HERE!**

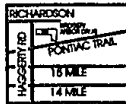
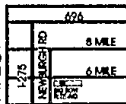
\$10 OFF ANY MERCHANDISE TOTAL OF \$50 OR MORE
\$20 OFF ANY MERCHANDISE TOTAL OF \$100 OR MORE
\$30 OFF ANY MERCHANDISE TOTAL OF \$150 OR MORE

PLUS \$10 OFF EACH ADDITIONAL \$50 MERCHANDISE PURCHASE OVER \$200

**CHOOSE FROM OUR ENTIRE STOCK OF
MEN'S AND WOMEN'S
FALL AND WINTER FASHIONS**



**NEWBURGH
PLAZA**
37205 W. 56 MILE ROAD
AT NEWBURGH
LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48152
(313) 591-8244



**WESTWIND
LAKE VILLAGE**
4778 HAGGERTY ROAD
AT PORTAGE TRAIL
WEST BLOOMFIELD, 48323
(248) 889-1999

LIMITED TIME ONLY...SALE ENDS SUNDAY, NOV. 30th
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED. PRIOR SALES EXCLUDED. SORRY, NO LAYAWAYS DURING THIS PROMOTION. "HOLIDAY MONEY" NOT APPLICABLE TOWARDS 1998 SPRING/CRUISE MERCHANDISE OR GIFT CERTIFICATE PURCHASES. EXTENDED HOLIDAY SHOPPING HOURS: MONDAY thru FRIDAY 10-9 SATURDAY 10-7 SUNDAY 12-5

**WE'RE
DECORATING
OUR STORE
WITH
15%
SAVINGS!**

You always save at Calico, but during our big
November 4-Day Sale —
you'll save even more on beautiful fabrics
and home accessories of your choice.

HURRY!!!

**OUR NOVEMBER SALE
IS 4 DAYS ONLY!**
NOVEMBER 21 THROUGH NOVEMBER 24

Excludes custom labor, furniture and prior purchases

CALICO CORNERS

Fabrics, furniture and inspiration.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS
1835 S. Telegraph Rd.
(North of Square Lake)
(248) 332-9183

GRAND OPENING
NOVI
25875 Novi Road
(248) 347-4188

ST. CLAIR SHORES
23240 Mack Ave.
(South of Nine Mile)
(810) 775-0078

FOR A FREE COPY OF OUR CATALOG VISIT OUR STORE OR CALL 1-800-213-0368.