

Singers celebrate Melissa's miracle

Melissa Garr attends concert; made honoree

BY TIM SMITH

When it comes to Melissa Garr, the musical tributes are coming in fast and furious. It all began with Farmington Community Chorus' memorable Heritage Park concert in August, when more than 500 people came out to sing and pray for the critically injured 16-year, and, at that time, she was in a coma and not given much chance to recover.

coma and not given much chance un recover.

But nobody could have predicted that one of the guests for me of last week's two Farmington Community Chorus holiday, concerns would be Melisan here.

Ainother tonst to music-loving Milisan took place during Fridigy, performance of "Holidays Recisited." at Farmington High Chorus processing and the member of the member of

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Encore: The Farmington Community Chorus performs under the direction of Steve SeGraves, Accompanying the singers is Susan Garr.

There was good reason to be emotional. Melissa, who made her way across the stage with the aid of a walker, was strong enough to softly talk into a microphone. Still with weakened occal tords, and with a trache, she "thanked everybody for their love, prayers, cards and letters," Hall said.

Melissa's mother and Farm.

Cool performance: A highlight of "Holidays Revisited" was the rendition of "Let it Snow." The Farmington Community Chorus performed to a total of 1,700 spectators lust Thursday and Friday, at Farmington High School.

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LOWER

ington Community Chorus mem-ber Susan Garr accompanied the

ber Susan Karr accompanied the chorus on the piano. According to Hall, Melissa len after the first half to return to the hospital, where she contin-ues to receive physical, occupa-tional and speech therapy. Melissa's appearance, and homorary award, topped Friday night's highlights. And then

ries of the Hudson's Building, a sullidingly performed by chorus member Lorry Richard. In spoken word form, Richard painted a verbal picture of child-hood trips with his sister to visit Santa Claus at the legendary Hudson's building in downtown Detroit.

Holson's building in downtown Detroit.
Hall estimated that a total of 1,700 spectaturs turned out watch the two concerts.
Meanwhile, the Farmington High School Madrigal Choir dedicated its performance on Dec. 4: to Melissa.
The Madrigals then traveled Dec. 12 to do n private rendition for the teen at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.
"Melissa's bravery and endurance has inspired the choir, while the devotion and layed and the following of the choir, while the devotion and layed and the following of the choir, while the devotion and layed the choir, while the devotion and layed the choir and the choir and

there was the music.
Hall said there were 24 songs performed on both nights. Those included "Let it Snow." "Alleluia," Tell it On the Mountain" and "Cool Yule," complete with seat singing and dancing.
Another highlight was "Memories of the Hudson's Building," a salibany nor formed by observed.

OBITUARIES

DOUGLAS JAYE

Douglas Juye, 24, of Farmington Hills, died Dec. 20.

Mr. Juye was a paramedic.
He is survived by mother,
Ginas father, Sueven of Israel;
brother, Joel; grandparents,
Cecile Breyer, Richard Miller,
Edith Juye; and great grandmother, Rebecca Goodman,
Internment at Beth El Memorial Park, Arrangements made
by the Ira Kaufman Chapel.

Memorial contributions cun besent to the Cystic Fibrossis Foundation, 1133 Enst Maple Road,
Suite 201, Troy 48083.

Suite 201, Troy 48083.

DOUGLAS JAYE

Milton Bailen, 86, of Farmington, died Dec. 17.
Mr. Builen was a retired Chrysler auto production work-

er.
he is survived by daughter.
Rachel (Bruce) Smith of Bloomfield Hills: and granddaughter.
Carolyn Smith.
Arrangements made by the Ira
Kaufman Chapel.

Kaufman Chapel.
RUHD DREYGOS BURDICK
RUTH DREYGOS BURDICK, 80, of
West Bloomfield, died Dee, 20.
Mrs. Burdick was in retail
sales for Sam's Cut Rate.
She is surevived by daughter.
Carnlyn 1Stevent Marks of
Farmington Hilbs: grandchildren, Andrew and Amy Marks:
and sister, Rose Stocker

and sister, Rose Stocker Hertzberg. Internment at Beth El Memo-rial Park, Arrangements mude by the Ira Kaufman Chapel, Memorial contributions can be sent to Temple Israel, 5725 Wal-nut Lake Rond, West Bloomfield, 48322.

ROBERT WILFRED FERRARI

ROBERT WILFRED FERRARI
Robert Wilfred Ferrari, 76.
died De. 18 at Botsford General
Hospital in Farmington Hills.
He was head custodian for
Farmington High School and
Eagle Elementary School. He
served in the Essex Scottish
Regiment during WVIII and was
wounded in the battle Dieppe,
France, He received a special
mention in a dispatch for Distinguished Service from King
George VI.
He is survived by wife, Marion, brather, Donald Eval; sisters, Gloria Aubin, Bernie (Clifford Dufault, Jochane (Robert)
Stone and Amerite (James)
Tuson, brathers-in-line, Robert
(Geraldine) Ouellette and Roy-

mond (flose) Quellette, and many nices and nephews. Funeral services were held Dec. 20 at Our Lady of Sormws Church in Farmington with the Monsignor Hurley officiating. Arrangements made by Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington.

ROBERT KNIGHT SMITHAM

ROBERT KNIGHT SMITHAM
Robert Knight Smitham, 54, died Dec. 19 at Providence Hospital in Novi.
Mr. Smitham came to the U.S. from England in 1968. He was pruject engineer at General Mators Powertrain of Ypsitantiand worked in the U.K. with Vauxhall Motors of Luton. He was a member of the Farmington Players and the Grent Lakes Lighthouse Assoc. He whunteered as Santa Chaus für the city of Farmington and elassical musir. He is survived by wife, Barbara: and daughters, Kirsten and Katte.
Funeral services were held Dec. 21 at McCabe Funeral Imme in Farmington Hills.
Memorial contributions can be sent to the Childron's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan.

ELMER J. ROHN JR.

ELMER J. ROHN JR.

Elmer J. Rohn Jr., 71, a
retired Ford Motor Company
engineer, died Dec. 17, after fosing a 12-year battle with
prostate cancer.

Born in Detroit, Mr. Rohn
served in the Army Air Corps
during World War II and
obtained his engineering degree
from General Motors Institute.
Retired since 1983, summers
were spent and the family home in
Farmington while winters were
spent in Stun Gily West. Ariz.
Elmer was active in the untique
car holdy, being a member of
the AACA, LFOC, Model T Club
and VMC CA. He enjayed doing
volunteer work and was a member of the Detroit Jamior Chamber of the Detroit Jamior Chamber of Commerce earlier in los
life. Most recently the assisted
grade schoolers with computers.
He is survived by wife. MorJyn; son, Jamoes daughter, Jame
Los; and three grandchildren.
Memorala services were held
Dec. 21 at Heeney-Sandquist
Funcral Home in Farmington.
Memorala entributions can besent to the Salvativa Aray
16130 Northband Drive, Southfield 48075.

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