

Merriman House Child Care Aides Praised

EDITOR:
The article about Merriman House, printed Dec. 6 in your Women's Section, was very nicely done and certainly very helpful in promoting our rummage sale, which was quite successful.

The article, however, omitted some important items I would like to mention here. There was so much activity going on in the house at the time of the interview that regrettably some areas had to be overlooked.

The work of the child care aides goes beyond performing household responsibilities. They engage children in recreational and self-care activities during many hours of the week and weekend.

These dedicated aides also implement and help formulate treatment plans outlined for each child. Several workers have taken children to their own homes. Truly the role they play is crucial in changing the children's behavior to be more socially acceptable and in increasing each child's skills in a variety of areas.

The staff at the Northwestern Guidance Clinic, Mr. and Mrs. Daniels, and myself are very grateful to them for their many special talents, life experiences, and for all their endeavors and efforts on behalf of these children who have come to love and respect them.

Another omitted item of importance was that Mrs. Delora Yori, president of our board, and Mrs. Mary Ann, who was involved in encouraging community support of the program and also in screening the children for Merriman House.

I do hope this letter is printed so that they will know how sincerely they are appreciated; how unintentionally these most important aspects of their work came to be left out of the article; and how, without reticence, I now correct this error.

MRS. NOLA THOMAS
Merriman House Coordinator
Garden City

READERS' FORUM

Please type (or write clearly) and limit letters to 300 words.

- Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause.
- The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

Sports Not All School Offers

EDITOR:

In response to Mr. Vasilast's comments in your Dec. 13 Dissent column about "Why no fan support?" I must say that I disagree strongly with his reasoning. Because of this, I wish to present another viewpoint.

I am a student at Redford Union, a senior, and one of the more "dedicated" supporters of the Panthers. I admit proudly that I have missed only two football and basketball games in three years at RU. Events I cannot always attend, such as wrestling, swimming, etc., I follow avidly in the Observer.

However, the real place for high school sports in my life is becoming evident. I no longer live and die by the fate of the Panthers, although I am sad when we lose and overjoyed when we win. I feel that the case with most of my classmates for a few major reasons.

First of all, but not necessarily most important, money is becoming tighter regardless of Mr. Nixon's efforts. Students can no longer afford to attend all sports events as it would break them forever.

Secondly, many students are finding other things to do with their time. Some play hockey. Some do homework. Others have dates. Most students have found out that they do not need to cheer for their Panthers to fulfill their obligation of attending school.

Mr. Vasilast criticizes the artists, writers, and musicians for being selfish and not giving their all to cheer their team on to victory. He also asks "Who ever saw a work of art as exciting as a touchdown?" I have to admit, I do not see many people refusing to go to the games because of art, writing, or music.

However, which is supposed to be more important: athletics or academic pursuits? Academics, the administrators and parents said. But they are not giving their valuable time and money to attend sports events?

To answer his question about art, I must ask Mr. Vasilast if he ever read Plato or Emerson, or listened to music, or saw artistic works? In my opinion, most works of art might not be as exciting, but they will increase your knowledge more than a touchdown would.

Finally, and probably the most important, the large majority of students could not care less about the football, basketball, or any other team. The star players are no longer treated like great heroes, being revered and catered to. Students have begun to realize that athletics is not all there is to high school.

At least I hope it is not.

JIM GOOD
Redford Township

Mail Carrier To Be Missed

EDITOR:

William Williams was a special person. As our mail carrier in the southeast portion of Livonia, he might have just dropped letters in our boxes and let his job go with that, but he didn't.

He cared about the mail, but more important he cared about people. He knew the parents of servicemen were anxious for mail from their sons, and he made special trips across the street on his rounds so they would have those letters as soon as possible.

He cared about the elderly, dependent on and waiting for their social security checks, and in some cases made special trips back to the post office to get those checks for them.

He was concerned about the young mothers who had to make emergency runs to the hospital with children who had some sort of mishap. He missed those who moved from the neighborhood and often inquired about their new homes and jobs.

He had time and kind words for the young ones who followed him, like the Pied Piper, down the block, and he took care to see they didn't follow him too far.

He watched and commented with interest on a family's building project. He showed his concern about a father's serious illness and his happiness when he had recovered. He was the friendly mailman who always had time to smile, to wave, and to call "Good morning, Mrs. Smith." In short, he cared about us.

To some he was "Bill," to some "Mr. Williams," and to all a friend. We regret his collapse and death at the end of his route one day this week, and we'll miss him.

FRIENDS OF
BILL WILLIAMS
Livonia

Florida Trek No Help At All

EDITOR:

When the people of Michigan decided on a state lottery, we were given the impression that the money would go into the state general fund and help the schools out of financial trouble.

However, the schools seem to be in worse shape, while our legislators are down in Florida spending the same money.

Somewhat, I fail to see how that is helping our schools - or anything, for that matter.

MARC MORDUE
Westland

Carl Pursell On Job Here

EDITOR:

There has been a great deal of criticism directed at certain legislators this past week due to their attendance at a Miami Beach conference.

I wonder how many readers noticed that our State Senator, Carl Pursell was on the job here in Michigan.

Let's give credit where credit is due.

RICHARD ANDERSON
Plymouth

Coach-of-Year

Ken Semelsberger, three-time Wayne State University football letterman, has been named Detroit Catholic League First Division Coach of the Year at Detroit Servite, his former high school. He had a 7-1 record in his first year as head coach.



BREAKING GROUND for a \$174,000 addition to Schoolcraft College's liberal arts building are (from left) Vice president of Instruction Robert Keene; Desmond P. Hamill, architect from Hamill - Becker - Carne in Livonia; College President C. Nelson Grote; Robert Orr, director of plant operations for the college; trustee Rosina Raymond; Tom Kelly, architect; and Henry Good, general contractor from H.F. Good Building Co. in Taylor. The addition will have six classrooms and 12 faculty offices and will open next fall.

WSU Seeks Ties With 2-Year Schools

The strengthening of community college relationships, was approved by Wayne State University's Board of Governors.

Four steps were included in the recommendation to strengthen the relationships, particularly those of southeastern Michigan.

The board approved the providing of additional university course offerings at the third-and fourth-year levels in

the geographic areas served by southeastern Michigan community colleges.

It also recommended that Wayne State provide only courses and programs which are of university level and quality and that WSU eliminate courses and programs which are better offered by the community colleges.

The board also approved the recommendation that the university extend cooperative

programs which permit community colleges to make appropriate use of expensive University resources such as computers and libraries.

The establishment of "model" systems articulating instructional programs of the University and the community colleges so as to maximize transferability of community college students to the University, consistent with the academic standards of the University, was also approved.

Area Deaths And Funerals

CLARENCE (SHORTY) WALTERS - Services for Mr. Walters, 62, of 22991 W. Warren, Farmington, were held in the Henry-Sundquist Funeral Home with the Rev. Al Mathison of New Hudson Church following prayers at the Henry-Sundquist Funeral Home, 14000 W. Warren, Farmington. Burial was in North Farmington Cemetery.

Mr. Walters died Dec. 6 at his home after an extended illness. He had lived in Farmington for approximately 40 years. He was a retired machanic for Pontiac Motor Co., Pontiac.

Survivors are his wife, Mable Emma, a son, George of New Hudson; two daughters, Mrs. Wilma (Lillian) Ketter of Pontiac and Mrs. Thomas (Shirley) Leach of Farmington; a brother, Elmer, and a sister, Mrs. Eleanor Wright of Detroit; and seven grandchildren.

MADGE W. CLARK - Services for Mrs. Clark, 75, of 30091 W. Waukegan Road, Farmington, were held in the McCabe Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Wilmer Miller officiating.

Mrs. Clark died Dec. 4 at Beaumont Hospital after a short illness. A former California dress shop owner, Mrs. Clark moved to Farmington in 1965. She was a member of North Park Methodist Church.

Survivors are a daughter, Mrs. Frances (Phyllis) Henderson, a son, Joseph B. Rathbun Jr.; a sister, Mrs. Josephine; and two grand-children.

EMILY (MAIME) BATEMAN - Services for Mrs. Bateman, 51, of 38274 Livonia, were held in Fred Wood Funeral Home with the Rev. Gene Sorenson of Unity of West Suburban Church officiating. Cremation was at Evergreen Cemetery.

Mrs. Bateman died Dec. 14 in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia. She was a homemaker.

Survivors are her husband, Everett; a daughter, Maureen; her mother, Mrs. Miriam Hall; a sister, Mrs. Maureen Leggett; and a brother, John Hall.

GEORGE E. HAYES - Services for Mr. Hayes, 71, father of Daniel Hayes of Livonia, were held in the Rev. Gerald D. Cannon officiating. Burial was in Grand Lawn Cemetery.

Mr. Hayes, who lived in Bountree Township outside Alger, Mich., died Dec. 12 at Mt. Carmel Mercy Hospital, Detroit. He had been ill three weeks. He was a former supervisor for Michigan Bell Telephone Co. and a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Detroit.

Survivors, in addition to his son, are his wife, Isabelle; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

R.G. & S.R.

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MARY (NANNY) FINN - Services for Mrs. Finn, who lived at 23017 Heyden Drive, Farmington, before moving to Oak Hill Nursing Home, were held in the Rev. Al Mathison of New Hudson Church following prayers at the Henry-Sundquist Funeral Home, 14000 W. Warren, Farmington. Burial was in North Farmington Cemetery.

Mrs. Finn died Dec. 8 in Oak Hill Nursing Home following an extended illness. Her husband, Charles J., died in 1968. Mrs. Finn moved to Farmington in 1965. She was a member of Our Lady of Sorrows of South Farmington.

Survivors are two daughters, Mrs. Margaret (Margaret) Burger of Redford Township and Mrs. Robert (Eileen) Behr of Farmington; and 15 grandchildren.

MADELINE S. SARKANY - Services for Mrs. Sarkany, 61, of 24600 W. Redford, Redford Township, were held in Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Dearborn Heights, following a rosary and prayers at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, The Rev. E. E. Spier officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Mrs. Sarkany died in St. Mary's Hospital, Livonia, after an illness of six months. Her husband, Emory, died in 1940. Mrs. Sarkany moved to Redford from Dearborn Heights in 1965. She was a member of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church and of the Senior Citizens Club. She was a housewife.

Survivors are a son, Leo of Redford Township; a sister, Mrs. Margaret Tomanyasi of Pennsylvania; and two grandchildren.

CHARLES T. PERENCE - Services for Mr. Perence, 62, longtime Plymouth resident, were held Dec. 18 at Schwartz-Wolfe, Funeral Home in Kalamazoo where he moved eight months ago. The Rev. Arthur Tunnell of South Boardman Methodist Church officiated. Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery.

Mr. Perence died Dec. 15 at Tiverton City Osteopathic Hospital. He retired from the Plymouth Bowl last May.

Survivors are his wife, Gertrude; three sons, Samuel of Pittsburgh, Walter of Kalamazoo, and Charles of South Livonia; two daughters, Mrs. Kenneth (Barbara) Lash of South Livonia and Mrs. William (Evelyn) Shifflet of South Livonia; his mother, Mrs. Augusta White of Plymouth; three brothers, Neal of Plymouth and Lawrence and Maynard of Detroit; two sisters, Mrs. Naomi Post of Garden City and Mrs. Richard (Eugene) Lancer of South Boardman; and 25 grandchildren.

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