

# Merry Christmas! Korean orphans bring love, joy

By Arlene Funke  
staff writer

It's Christmas in July for Alan and Linda Minsterman — new adoptive parents for three Korean-born sisters. The girls are aged 2, 3 and 5. They arrived during the Fourth of July weekend after a 40-hour plane trip from Korea, where they had lived in an orphanage.

The last couple of weeks have been a whirlwind for the Minstermans — who live in Canton and have no other children — and their new daughters.

There have been getting-acquainted sessions with family and neighbors, an "adoption shower" with gifts of clothes and toys, visits to doctors, dentists and school.

Mrs. Minsterman, 31, feels like she's in a dream. She bubbles with excitement over her ready-made family.

"IN A WAY, I can't believe they're here," said Mrs. Minsterman.

"I guess I'll calm down eventually," she added. "It's like Christmas, and I have three new dolls with new dresses. (The girls) are so soft and warm."

she continued. "They need cuddling."

Minsterman, also 31, took a few days off work from his job as an electrical engineer for Ford Motor Co. But he laughingly admitted relief at being able to go back to work after several hectic days.

"It's quite a change — not only one (child), but three," said Minsterman. "They're well-behaved and they're trying to learn English."

"They aim to please," he added. "They're healthy (and) we're quite fortunate."

THE MINSTERMANS have named the oldest girl Diana Lynn. She will be 6 in September and is very protective of her younger sisters.

Susan Florence, the middle girl, will be 4 on Aug. 15. She smiles and laughs easily.

"The baby, Sarah Elizabeth, is a clown-and-a-half," said Mrs. Minsterman. "She's a ham."

The couple, who moved from Pennsylvania to Canton in 1976, are especially excited because they have wanted a family for some time.

They married in 1972, and two years later Mrs. Minsterman was treated for cancer. Doctors advised her to wait five years before trying to get pregnant.

After the five years passed, Mrs. Minsterman didn't conceive, so the couple decided to adopt. They opted for a foreign adoption largely because they felt there would be greater opportunity for a younger child, said Mrs. Minsterman.

They applied to the foreign adoption branch of the Michigan Department of Social Services, which works with international agencies.

They agreed to take a multiple placement and, in April, were approved for adoption of the three Korean sisters, who had been living in an orphanage in Seoul.

TOTAL COST of the adoption, including fees and airline fares, was about \$5,000, said Mrs. Minsterman. Adoption becomes final in a year.

The three girls have overcome their initial fear of riding in the family car, and are beginning to adjust to American food. Mrs. Minsterman is learning to prepare a few Korean dishes, including cabbage with a special hot pepper sauce.

"By (the second day) they had adjusted to the fact that we were their mom and dad," said Mrs. Minsterman.

"When we go out, they're usually holding hands."

A Korean-born friend, Kim Francis, has been helping out as an interpreter, said Mrs. Minsterman.

During a recent visit, the sisters were gathered at the kitchen table, eating pieces of fresh fruit and chattering in Korean with a smattering of English. They wore identical dresses made by

Betty Shade, Mrs. Minsterman's mother, who is visiting from the Philadelphia area. The girls played with stuffed animals, sang Korean songs and marched around the house.

"This thrills me no end," said Mrs. Shade. "They were a little shy at first."

DIANA soon will begin kindergarten at Field Elementary School. Mrs. Minsterman has high praise for the support of family, friends, neighbors and a tutor at Field, who is giving English lessons to the two oldest girls.

The family also hopes the excitement will soon wear off.

Mrs. Minsterman said her daughters are "like kids everywhere."

"They sing. They get silly. They fight and play."

"Taking three (children) at once — everybody thinks (that) is amazing," added Mrs. Minsterman. "It's easy. They're easy to love."

## Road unit won't get bogged down

The Oakland County Road Commission is trying a new method for building a roadway over a marshy area.

Officials say it is a method which costs about one-tenth of the cost of the more usual method of dealing with bogs.

The work involves a 1,100-foot stretch of newly-widened Opdyke Road near Silver Dome stadium.

The conventional method would call for dredging up the bog and replacing it with topsoil — to make the foundation firm. This would have cost an estimated \$1 million for the 1,100-foot

stretch, officials said.

The innovative method involves digging a three-foot deep trench at the edges of the existing road, then laying down 50-by-300 feet sections of Celanese "Mirafix" fabric, a sort of plastic burlap.

Normally used to separate different kinds of soils in railroad beds, the Mirafix overlapped the trench. The trench was then filled with slag and compacted. The overlapping fabric was folded over the trench.

The road is then a builder's equivalent of a bean bag chair set on a 35-

foot-deep bog.

When a car or truck passes over the road, the forces dissipated over a six-inch square section of road. The saw-sage-like beanbag spreads the force over several square feet by the time it reaches the soft bog.

Oakland County Road Commission officials say it may be the first time a road's been built that way.

The new technique cost about \$100,000.

The entire three mile widening project was initially budgeted at \$1.5 million.

**Give Your Windows The Works**

**20-50% OFF**

- Verticals
- Horizontals
- Woven Woods
- Shutters
- Shades

Are Not Everything? Manufacturers offer several suggested retail prices, and use the LOWEST price. We check and compare the retail prices before you buy.

**Supreme Shutters**  
WINDOW SHADE CO.

Call the Store Nearest You

Old Orchard Shopping Center  
Maple at Orchard Lake Rd. 626-2400  
Open Mon. thru Fri. 10:00 to 5  
Summer — Sat. 9 to 1

15150 7 Mile Rd. 342-8922  
Open Mon. thru Fri. 8:30 to 5  
Sat. 9 to 1

**WALLPAPER 25% OFF EVERY DAY**

PLEASE NOTE: Discounts are not applicable to specified prices. Installation or repairs. Installation and measure additional. No freight on sizes up to 8x14.

**REINVEST**

Securities, Inc.  
Call 425-9000  
Livonia or 649-4450  
Troy

**16.5% annual yield**  
**\$1,780.70**  
A \$10,000 deposit earns per year!

- \$10,000 minimum not required
- Diversification
- Quality Portfolio

CALL, WRITE or COME IN.

State Headquarters, Metro West:  
Remvest Building, 33636 Five Mile Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48154 313/425-9000

Troy: 3270 W. Big Beaver, Suite 125  
Troy, MI 48064 313/649-4450

Convenient local offices also in:

Farmington: 313/476-6670 Kalamazoo: 616/372-5940  
Flint: 313/733-6780 Grand Rapids: 616/942-1980  
Saginaw: 517/792-9575 Midland: 517/636-7020

\*May be tax deferred within the structure of your Keogh, Pension Plan or Individual Retirement Account, either new or existing. ATTENTION RECENT RETIREES with lump sum pension money: Roll over into an Individual Retirement Account to further defer taxes.

Remvest Building  
33636 Five Mile Road  
Livonia, MI 48154

Yes, I'm interested in increasing my investment potential.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE AREA \_\_\_\_\_

The securities are offered by offering circular only, available at company office, which explains "secured" and "unsecured" and are for sale only to bona fide Michigan residents of the State of Michigan and are not intended for resale to nonresidents.

BOIL cracked but not broken decorative dishware in a pan of milk. Put in enough milk to cover cracked area. Boil for forty-five minutes. Crack seals and dish looks like new. Your telephone will ring when you run an Observer & Eccentric Classified Ad.

**LOSE 17 TO 25 POUNDS IN JUST 6 WEEKS!**

HERE'S A SENSIBLE WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAM THAT REALLY WORKS!  
**NO CONTRACTS**  
**NO SHOTS - NO DRUGS**  
CALL TODAY

HOW TO WIN AT THE LOSING GAME  
**DAILY DIET COUNSELING**


**SOUTHFIELD 642-5665**  
30233 Southfield Rd.  
Cranbrook Center, near 13 Mile

**TROY 435-5555**  
2820 W. Maple Rd. Suite 124  
1 Block east of Coolidge

**LIVONIA 477-6590**  
19075 Middlebelt  
1 block south of 7 Mile

**WEST BLOOMFIELD 855-3430**  
6070 W. Maple Rd. Suite 205  
at Farmington

*"I did it!"*  
Denise Wyles



**Get your pictures back tomorrow or get them FREE!**

**The Quick-As-A-Fox Guarantee**

Bring your roll of 110, 126, or 35mm color print roll film (full frame, C-41 process only) for developing and printing to a Fox Photo retail store, Monday through Thursday, before the afternoon pick-up. (Check your friendly Fox store for exact time.) Your pictures will be ready after the last delivery the next day, excluding holidays. If not, your order is FREE!

**Plus, you can now choose your photofinish. Diamond Gloss or Satin Sheen**

Diamond Gloss gives the professional look to all your shots, with superhard, bright color. Satin Sheen finish gives your pictures a soft, warm glow—it makes every picture prettier.



Open late during Art Fair

**Summer Sleeper Sale**

Fine upholstery brings together good looks, long-lasting quality and comfort, and plenty of styles and fabric choices. Of the many upholstery lines, there's only one which deserves to be the perfect partner to the solid hardwood furniture we make at our own custom shop.

Right now, every sleeper in this custom upholstery line is on sale. Custom order a sleeper of any style, choosing from our full fabric collection, and save 20%.

If what you want happens to be the Basic Contemporary style pictured, we have a limited number of sleepers, in two favorite fabrics, in stock for immediate delivery. We're passing on the special savings we realized by pre-ordering these pieces, with an incredible 39% off the regular price.

Either way, you can order matching sofas, loveseats and armchairs with similar savings at Cubecraft.

contemporary custom furniture

**Summer Sofa Sale**

Fine upholstery brings together good looks, long-lasting quality and comfort, and plenty of styles and fabric choices. Of the many upholstery lines, there's only one which deserves to be the perfect partner to the solid hardwood furniture we make at our own custom shop.

Right now, every sofa and loveseat in this custom upholstery line is on sale. Custom order a sofa or loveseat of any style, choosing from our full fabric collection, and save 20%.

Either way, you can order matching armchairs and sleepers with similar savings at Cubecraft.

contemporary custom furniture

**cubecraft cubecraft**

Showroom hours: Daily 10-6, Fri. 10-8, Sun. 12-5

212 E. Washington St., Ann Arbor  
313/668-8545  
CUB91 Cubecraft

Showroom hours: Daily 10-6, Fri. 10-8, Sun. 12-5

212 E. Washington St., Ann Arbor  
313/668-8545  
CUB91 Cubecraft

**1/2 OFF DEVELOPING AND PRINTING** 499 A

On any 110, 126 or 35mm color print roll film (full frame, C-41 process only) One roll per coupon. Includes use of other coupons. Valid at any Fox Photo walk-in or drive-up store. Coupon must accompany order.

**FOX PHOTO OFFER GOOD THRU 7/25/91**

**10 Convenient Area Locations To Serve You!**

- PLYMOUTH: 482 West Ann Arbor Trail
- BIRMINGHAM: 3636 W. Maple
- DEARBORN HEIGHTS: 2293 Michigan Ave.
- 8438 Telegraph Rd.
- Colony Park S/C: Warren & Garing
- INKSTER: 30209 Cherry Hill
- NORTHVILLE: 300 North Center
- PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP: 4631 Washtenaw
- REDFORD TOWNSHIP: Beech-Daily & Grand River
- SOUTHFIELD: Greenfield Plaza

**FOX PHOTO**  
For every moment worth a memory.