

# School success may tie into speech

**By Michele Glanco**  
staff writer

When 4-year-old Jeffrey begins kindergarten this fall, it will be easier for him to communicate with his teacher and friends.

Like many other children, Jeffrey has difficulty pronouncing certain sounds.

So his parents decided to have him see a speech therapist at the Sinal Hospital satellite on Farmington and Or-

chard Lake roads in West Bloomfield so he could brush up on his pronunciation before school starts.

While the speech sessions won't help Jeffrey improve overnight, they will make the transition from nursery school to kindergarten easier.

Speech and language disorders can not only hamper a child's ability to communicate, they can affect his academic success as well, according to Karen O'Leary, a speech pathologist at

Sinal Hospital's West Bloomfield center.

"Reading is very much a language-based activity," O'Leary said. "If they're starting to read in first grade — or now they sometimes start in kindergarten — they're going to have problems because it's going to be difficult for them to sound out the words."

"That's going to make them feel different from the other children," O'Leary said. "And that's not good."

**DEALING WITH SPEECH** and language disorders doesn't become any easier when the child gets older either, O'Leary said.

"If we begin to see a child when he's in third grade, he's getting into phonics already and is expected to be able to follow instructions to solve math problems," O'Leary said. "It's much more complex."

If parents suspect their child's communication skills may not be up to par, it's best to bring them in to see a speech therapist before they begin elementary school, O'Leary said.

However, there is a wide range of what can be considered normal from the ages of 2 to 3, O'Leary said. So par-

ents of toddlers who seem to be having trouble expressing their thoughts might want to wait six months to see if the problem clears up.

**SOME CHILDREN** with speech and language disorders may also have trouble understanding and following directions, O'Leary said.

"Often, they'll look at their neighbor to see what they're doing," O'Leary said about children who have difficulty keeping up with the teachers' instructions. "Unfortunately, they're sometimes penalized for cheating when what they're really trying to do is find out what's going on."

Getting parents involved in the therapy is one goal the staff is working

towards O'Leary said.

Moms and dads can actually view their child's speech session through a one-way mirror.

"That way they can see what's going on and how we're working with the child without disrupting the session," O'Leary said.

The staff also has made guidebooks to go along with regular preschool workbooks that can be bought in stores so parents can work with the child at home, O'Leary said.

The guidebook suggests modifications to the lessons so that the preschooler will be working on speech skills as well as building skills that will help them in kindergarten.

## Checklist for speech problems

Parents can use the following checklist to see if their pre-schooler might have a speech and language disorder which might benefit from therapy.

- Difficulty in acquiring speech sounds.
- Substitution of one sound for al-

most all other sounds. For example, they might say "wed" instead of red.

- Frequent omission of the medial or final sounds in words.
- Prolonging or repeating the first sound of a word.
- Reduced ability to remember a sequence of directions or have very

slow ability to process spoken information.

- Cannot understand that words may have more than one meaning.
- Difficulty with word retrieval.
- You'll hear children use frequent stereotypic phrases like "you know," "that thingamajig" or "what do you call it."

A child does not have to have all of these problems in order for therapy to be sought. Parents are the best judges of whether or not seeing a speech therapist would benefit their child.

Your hometown voice

## High-tech facility talks to animals

**By Yom Henderson**  
staff writer

It was a magic day for animal lovers Aug. 18 at the dedication ceremonies of the Michigan Humane Society Charitable Animal Hospital, a high-tech, high-love, \$1.2 million clinic on Marquette east of Newburgh in Westland.

The hospital — which will be open for business in two or three weeks, depending on delivery of supplies and fixtures — is a 6,000 square foot of the newest in veterinary medicine, complete with four examining rooms, two operating rooms, the latest in testing equipment and even an isolation room that is hermetically sealed from the rest of the clinic. There, animals with communicable diseases now can be given a chance to recover, instead of being killed to avoid contaminating the rest of the animals.

The dedication ceremonies began on the clinic grounds, where 170 Humane Society boosters gathered in a tent for the keynote address by Dr. John Hoyt, president of the Humane Society of the United States. Thick black, rolling thunderheads poured down rain as Hoyt, a Presbyterian minister, began with a couple of jokes, explaining that he was stalling for time so the rain could stop and those in back could hear what he had to say.

Moments after he finished the jokes and began his speech, the rain stopped, night turned back into day as the thunderheads rolled on, and the sun came out.

"THIS IS A very important and significant occasion — the dedication of this imaginative, innovative, highly functional and unique facility," said Hoyt. "This makes you a leader in animal shelter design and utilization."

"No other animal society has so daringly reached your level of excellence in caring for animals," Hoyt said that all animals are entitled to "competent, qualified veterinary care when needed. This charitable animal hospital is a microcosm of what

is happening in animal care in this country. This is a refuge and sanctuary for the healing of animals and symbolizes that animal welfare has at last come of age."

Hoyt stressed the Humane Society belief that animals are important in and of themselves and not in how they relate to or serve man. "Man has become so adept at exploiting animals for his own uses. We, too, often accept the non-sensibility that animals are non-feeling beings."

Referring to recent Detroit and Michigan news stories about proposed dove hunting and euthanasia at the Detroit Zoo, Hoyt called for aggressive action by animal-rights groups.

"Those that don't believe in animal rights are legion," he said. "And Detroit may very well be headquarters of idocy of this intellectual myopia."

### THEES carpets

## carpet sale

SAVE Up to \$400

featuring fibers of DUPOINT ANTRON®

CALL: 422-5200

Shop Daily 9 to 5 Sat. 9 to 5 Closed Sun.

### the Piazza Dance Company

Teachers Certified to teach by Dance Masters of America

- New York Style Jazz
- Tap
- Ballet • Pointe
- Hawaiian • Tahitian
- Rhythm (13-15 yr. olds)
- Beginners to Advanced (16-adult)

**FREE - 1st LESSON**

With payment of 1st month tuition Offer good for new students only

**3-1st Place Winners**

In 1985 Dance Masters of Michigan Statewide Competition

4297 Seven Mile Road  
Highland Lakes Shopping Center

**348-3720**

### DICK'S


#### UPHOLSTERY SHOP

If your furniture isn't becoming to you...it should be coming to me!

## 10% OFF

### ALL FABRICS

20157 W. 5 Mile • Livonia  
E. of Middlebelt 625-5625



### Arthritis Today

Joseph J. Weiss, M.D.  
Rheumatology  
20317 Farmington Road  
Livonia, Michigan 48152  
Phone: 478-7860

### FEAR OF FALLING

Give-way weakness refers to a sudden loss of strength in the legs. When the individual is moving forward to take the next step, a leg buckles, and the person falls. No preceding pain or unsteadiness gives a warning.

What has occurred is that the body anticipates that the next step will cause pain, and refuses to allow that move to occur. In most instances the potentially painful area is the knee joint which goes into flexion, rather than taking its normal weightbearing position of extension. The result is loss of balance and a fall.

### THINK FALL BOWLING LEAGUES

OPENINGS IN ALL TYPES OF LEAGUES

- MIXED • MEN • WOMEN
- RETIREES

DAYTIME & NIGHTIME STARTING EARLY SEPT.

### YOUTH LEAGUES BOWL ON SATURDAY

9:30 A.M. & 11:30 A.M.

THURS. SNACK LEAGUE 4:00 P.M.

REGISTER EARLY RECEIVE 2 FREE GAMES

RETIREES LEAGUE FRI. 9:30 A.M.  
Practice Special Thru Labor Day

50\* a GAME

Automatic Scorers

**24001 ORCHARD LAKE RD.**  
Farmington (Near 10 Mile)  
476-1550

# Class for '86

TURN OVER A NEW LEAF... WITH FALL SAVINGS

#### GALS' SWEATS

Choose from a great assortment of pastel jogging pants and crewneck sweat-shirts. Hooded fleece pullover, now \$8.99.

**\$6.99**

JOGGING PANTS OR CREWNECKS.

#### STUDENTS' & BOYS' KABOS® SWEATERS

Be the "fall" guy in a colorful shaker sweater for fall. Sizes S-L. Save \$3.

**\$9.99**

#### GALS' KNIT TOPS

Fall is the time for "knit pickin'". So take your pick of these seasonal knit tops in 5 bright fall colors. Sizes S-L. After ad. \$11.99

**\$7.99**

#### YOUNG JUNIORS' & GIRLS' SWEATERS

It's a fall shako — crew neck shaker sweaters in sizes S-L. Save \$3.

**\$11.99**

#### GALS' CORDUROY

It's time for a change. Of dress, that is. Choose from trouser or baggy style cords in assorted colors.

**\$12.99**

#### GALS' CALVIN KLEIN® DENIM JACKETS

Wear your jeans on your sleeve, in a matter of speaking, with those street smart denim jackets. Sizes S-L. Save \$10.

**\$39.99**

#### GUYS' VESTS

INVEST in your education with shaker v-neck sweater vests. Save \$4.

**\$9.99**

#### GUYS' KABOS® SWEATERS

The "fall" guy look is in, with crewneck styled sweaters in bright fall colors. Acrylic or acrylic blends. Save \$4.

**\$14.99**

#### GUYS' CASUAL SLACKS

Take up the slack, casually. Plain or pleated pants in a poly/cotton blend. Sizes 28-36. Save \$4.

**\$15.99**

#### GUYS' FASHION JEANS

Up to 1/2 OFF Regular Price. Save as much as \$24.00. If you want to be the "Dean of Jeans," get these fabulous GUESS and CODE BLUE brands.

**\$24.99**



### Sagebrush®

Clothes You Live In

VISA® & MASTER CARD® accepted. Prices good through August 31, 1985.

- TEL-TWELVE MALL
- WESTLAND MALL
- NEXT TO MEIJER® IN ROYAL OAK
- NEXT TO MEIJER® ON: FORD ROAD AT CANTON CENTER
- PARDEE AT EUREKA IN TAYLOR