

Botsford Inn nears sesquicentennial

The raising of an 1836 American flag will herald the beginning of a yearlong celebration of the sesquicentennial anniversary for the Botsford Inn in Farmington Hills.

Assisting with the ceremony led by John Anhut, innkeeper, will be the American Legion, the Farmington Community Band, a police regiment and a full color guard. This will launch a series of festive events to be held during 1996.

A 25-member steering committee representing a cross-section of residential and business community, city officials and employees have been meeting monthly since January 1995. Their aim

has been to create events that will strengthen the ties of memory and goodwill and especially, encourage individuals to share the joy and pride that accompanies birthdays.

"In the best tradition of inn-keeping, I welcome the entire public to the Botsford Inn. Since it is a nationally registered historic site, all citizens should feel a part of this legacy," Anhut said.

BUILT IN 1836, it is the oldest operating lodging facility in the state. It was a stagecoach stop on the "Old Post" road between Detroit and Lansing before Henry Ford put the country on wheels. Ford met his wife, Clara, at the inn. He bought it as a romantic ges-

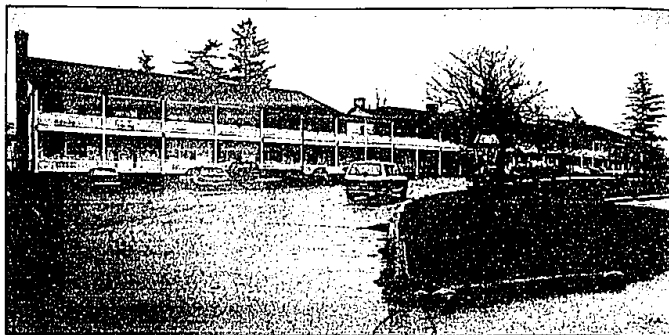
ture in 1924 and operated it as an historic inn for 27 years. It was sold to the Anhut family after Clara's death in 1951.

The 150-year-old inn has a colorful history that has been carefully preserved by the Anhut family. Although there have been 13 additions to the original structure, it retains its rustic charm. Touches of Americana are throughout the Inn and guests relax in a Victorian parlour among antiques that once rested in the Fairlane home of Henry Ford. A garden courtyard is filled with trees and flowers reminiscent of the formal gardens so coveted by Clara Ford.

Detroit-area natives may recall the Botsford Inn more vividly from the days of "Melody Circus," when a green-striped theater tent occupied the property behind the inn. "Brigadoon," "South Pacific," "Paint Your Wagon," "Guys and Dolls" and "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" were some of the Broadway plays that entertained many dates on a Saturday night during the 1950s.

The celebration activities "afforded the community a chance to experience the uniqueness of the inn as an historic site, a mini-museum of living history and a repository of many fine objects of art and antiques," Anhut said.

AN AVID historian and preserver of



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

The 149-year-old Botsford Inn is where Henry Ford first met his future wife, Clara.

local Farmington-area culture, Jean Fox has devoted hours of research to the history surrounding the Botsford Inn.

Fox was aided in her research by the history department from the University of Detroit. Her book, "More Than A Tavern — 150 Years of the Botsford

Inn," will be published in January. A calendar of events, "An Invitation to Celebrate," is available by calling 474-4800.

Byrd's Meats
Choice Meats

HOLIDAY SPECIALS
NOV. 21st THRU THANKSGIVING

FRESH TURKEYS
12-35 LBS.

ORDER NOW — also — **FRESH STUFFED TURKEYS**
FROZEN
HONEYSUCKLE — BUTTERBALL — also — **BONELESS**

FRESH CAPONS, ROASTERS, DUCKS & GEES

SHRIMP SPECIAL
SIZE 26-30
\$6.98 LB.

SELECT SHUCKED OYSTERS \$4.98 LB.

HAM SPECIAL
ALEXANDER-HORNUNG
FARMER PETE
HORMEL CURE #1
MORREL E.Z. CUT
All Sugar Cured
and Fully Cooked

Mon.-Sat. 9-7, Sun. 10-5
33068 W. SEVEN MILE RD.
Next to Joe's Produce
478-8880
We're Your Steadfast Specialists

ELECTROLOGIST "Par Excellence"

"I am so glad I found you,"
my Happy Patrons tell me.
YOU WILL TOO!

Lottie D. Halperin C.C.E. ("Fellow") ESA
"Fellow" - Highest Award For Competence and Expertise

Certified Clinical Electrologists
Society of Clinical and Medical Electrologists
Private office in Medical Complex

32920 W. 13 MILE RD. (near Farmington Rd., Ste. 401)
CALL 851-9175 for Consultation And
Removal of Facial and Body Hair

HEALTH INSURANCE
INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP

American Community Mutual Insurance Company
Home Office-Livonia, Michigan

M. Daley Hill
General Agent
127 E. Main • Northville
349-8680

Local news you can use

NOV. 24th thru NOV. 27th
4 BIG DAYS
10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tues. til 8 p.m.
PROCEEDS SUPPORT J.C.C.
PROGRAMS FOR MENTALLY IMPAIRED

Boutique items and much, much more...
Educational software, Toys, Handpainted items & sweaters, jewelry...

at the JEWELRY COMMUNITY CENTER
Maple at Drake • W. Blvd. • 661-1000

Thanksgiving Day
Family Buffet

A VARIETY OF FRESH ITEMS

- Sweet Potatoes w/peaches & cashews
- Chestnut & Raisin Dressing
- 1/4 Duck w/Wild Rice
- Stuffed Lemon Sole and More

with Turkey "n" Trimmings
(all you care to eat)

12:00 Adults
6:00 Children (under 10) Starts 2 P.M. - Reservations
851-8222
In Farmington Hills
12 Mile at Middlebelt

COMMERCIAL GIFT SERVICE

LET US ASSIST YOU IN YOUR GIFT SELECTION THIS HOLIDAY SEASON
May we suggest some special gifts...the unusual yet practical, the fun or the fancy, the sweets and treats...for all those special people who make your job easier all year round. For great gift ideas for clients, employees, business associates, please call our Commercial Gift Sales Manager at 644-6900.

Jacobson's
Birmingham

We welcome Jacobson's Charge Card or The American Express® Card.

Shop until 8 p.m. on Thursday and Friday
Until 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday

BLOOD
...
a gift from the HEART

American Red Cross

Blood Services

Southeastern Michigan Region

Tarkett® Celebrity™ BONUS

PURCHASE A CELEBRITY KITCHEN FLOOR AND RECEIVE A ZENITH KITCHEN COUNTER TOP 12" B&W TV... FREE A \$84.95 VALUE!

absolutely FREE!
a 12" Black & White TV
AS \$84.95 VALUE
Celebrity Kitchen Floor®

6 Patterns & 20 Colors to choose from.

THE WORLD'S BEST FLOOR

6 Reasons why Celebrity is Best

- Most substantial construction — 50% thicker than ordinary inlaid vinyl flooring.
- Most scuff resistant surface
- No-wax guardian wear layer surface.
- Exclusive 10 year limited warranty. Ask for details.
- Tough inlaid vinyl construction.
- Non-asbestos quickfloor™ backing.

Maximum purchase of 20 sq. yards or more. Maximum of one (1) TV per purchase. Offer good on first quality goods only.

Offer provided by Radio Distributing Company and expires on December 15th, 1995.

AR Kramer Flooring
FINE FLOOR COVERINGS SINCE 1920
LIVONIA • 522-5300
15066 Middlebelt (between 5 & 6 Mile Rd.)
Hours: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Tues., Sat.: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.