## It was a time to remember

They grieved Monday for children who will never have "the chance to sing their song once more."
They listened, some with tears in their eyes, as 42 names of those killed in drunk driving accidents

names of those killed in drunk driving accidents awere read.
They gave thanks for the support of friends and family who came together to pray.
More than 70 held red roses and candles during the annual MADD candight vigil at Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills.
The fourth annual vigil is sponsored by the Oakland County chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) in conjunction with 396 vigils nationaled Monday night.

THE 12-MEMBER Southfield Lathrup High School madrigal choir volced their support through song, and the church's pastor, Dr. William Ritter, prayed for the group to "consecrate to memory" those who had died, and "remove the anger and bitterness from our hearts — sweep away the pain."

Southfield resident Al Sloolin, chairman of the Cakiand County MADID board, read names of those killed submitted by families and friends for the memorial service.

hitted submitted by families and friends for the memorial service.

Some attending were relatives, some friends, as one just concerned about people driving while intoxicated in Oakland County. All are victims, according to MADD chapter president Penny Blen, who lost her daughter in a drunk driving accident in September 1981, shortly after MADD's national campaign began. "It have a real need — a push behind me," the Orienville resident said. "Others are involved because they are concerned." Blen and her husband Greg Blen, became involved with the Oakland County chapter in April 1982, at its inception.

County chapter in April 1982, at its interpolu-THE VIGILS are held to support the living, to remember those killed and to ask communities to "be more responsible," Bien said. Since 1981, MADD has monitored and changed state legislation, offered such projects as "life ride" over the New Year's Eve holiday, and acted as a public service agency to area groups. The main community involvement for MADD members is in the courtroom. "We go to court" to support families with members killed in a drinking-related accident. "I think six to eight people sitting in the courtroom has an impact on the judge's ver-dict," she added.



Farmington Hills Mercy High School 11th grader Gina Rondello takes part in the vigit.

The county MADD chapter is opposed to pending legislation to cap civil legal awards in drunk driving litigation. "The threat of a lawsuit is a deternent," Bien said. "They'll be taking away that deterrent."

TO HELP each other, the county chapter has a Victim Support Group founded last June. The peace counseling group meets monthly in Waterford.

"It's a chance for people of together and share experiences," Biten said. "Feople feed they're all alone."

for some, holidays are a particularly suffect time, when the peace of the peace o

The county group has 130 paid members with a mailing list of more than 300. They meet four times each year.

flatter her with pearls...



Thursday, December 12, 1985 O&E



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looked, according to Farmington Postmaster Reineth Harris.
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he said.

he said.

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