Print from NEXT PAGE

The school fundraising season was just a couple of weeks away. What could they do?

"We decided to do a test run and overprint the existing name in metallic silver to see if it would work." Shelby said. "They loved the product and it came out better than suitclepated."

Graphic Enterprises of Detroit, a large-run commercial printer in their network, did the job.

"The printer who originally did the brochure wanned no part of it." Shelby said. "He said, "God bless them."

The two salespeople probably

it." Shebby and. "He said, 'God bleas them.'

The two salespeople probably saved \$25,000 by making over the old brochures rather than starting from scratch, Larry said.

A firm needed some transparencies prepared and colorized for an out-of-town sales presentation the next day, EPN got the call only a few hours before the rep) plane was scheduled to depart.

A courier was placed on stand by, When the prototypes were finished, the product was quickly dispatched to Apha 21 of Southfield, a network company, which handled the technical duties, then returned 20 minutes before the flight departed.

handled the technical duties, then returned 20 minutes before the flight departed.

"They could have had 10 people looking at one art board with 35 pages, but it would have been ridiculous," Larry said.

A business needed a flier prepared to be distributed with payroll checks later that afternoon. Had the art work, but its regular printer was loaded that day and just couldn't get to the job.

EPN got a call from a PR/marketing firm that was aware of its services of Wixom, a printer in the network to handle the project.

The deadline was met and the customer was hoppy. "They ordered a reprint the day it was de-

III 'This is no different than if your car broaks down on the freeway. You have your own mechanic, but you're going to call road ser-vice. You want that comfort zone.

Larry Fox Emergency Printing Network

livered, more of the same ple-tures," Larry said.
Human nature being what it is and the unnerving propensity for things to go wrong if they possibly can sometimes override good in-tentions.
"From my experience, one per-son thinks another handled it, an-

"From my experience, one person thinks another handled it, another person may have been overloaded and it just alipped through the cracks," Shelby said.
"To tell people how to solve problems most efficiently and meet deadlines, that's my first choice," he said. "I just don't want to sell."

The network participants, which are paid only when they're used on a job, benefit from the association, too, Shelby said.
"We're selling for them," he said. "They ont have to pay us. They're getting business they otherwise wouldn't get in many cases. It's unique."

EPN is a logical extension of Fox Printing, which subcontracts all of the special forms work it gets.
"We're marriage makers," Lar"We're marriage makers," Lar-

all of the special forms work it gets.
"Wo're marriage makers," Lar-ry sald, "After seeing what's going on, tolemarketing accomplish-ments, projects we have . . I'm proposing that in two or three years, we'll double our total busi-ness."

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SUBURBAN BUSINESS LEADERS

To submit materials to this col-umn, please send a brief biograph-ical summary along with a black-and-white photo, if possible, to: Business Editor, Observer & Ec-centric Newspapers, 36251 School-croft, Livonia 48160.

Southfield-based telephone Southfield-based telephone message provider Answering Ser-vice Inc. has promoted Mary El-Ion Smith to assistant menager of Lincoln Park office and Sandy Singelyn to assistant manager of their Grosse Pointe office.

Frederick Thomas has been named vice president of minangement information systems at Ross Roy Inc., in Bloomfield Hills. He will be responsible for directing the activities of the information systems department. Ross Roy Retail, a division of Ross Roy Inc., hired Cynthia Hown as ander Conventier, Hewa

Ross Roy Retail, a division of Ross Roy Inc, hired Cynthia Hewa as senior Copywriter. Hewa is responsible for writing copy or arious retail accounts. Ross Roy Advertising, another division of Ross Roy Inc, has hired Nancy Perchard as a sen-ior buyer, Heldi Spiegal as me-dia buyer, and Steven Kraft and Lealle Sam as assistant media buyers.

William Patterson, a 14-year veteran of the Oakland Wayne and Mecomb county real estate scene, has joined the real estate office of RE/MAX Rite Way, Inc. as a Realtor-associate.

Elton Kruger has been hired as vice president, media group su-pervisor at the Young & Rubicon Detroit. Also in the media group department, Y&R has hired Juli-

ann Johnson as a medis buyer for the Lincoln Mercury Dealer Association account, and Gayle Scholl as a media purchase ser-vice assistant for the Lincoln-Mercury Division account.

Michael Davis of Bloomfield has been appointed sales representative in the north Detroit District of Janssen Pharmaceuti-

Robin Chrumka and Mike ROBIN CHARMEN and MILES Stocker have been promoted in the creative department at CME/ KHBB Advertising in Southfield (formerly Campbell-Mithun-Esty).

Esty).

Chrumka becomes vice president, senior art director, and Stocker, vice president, associate creative director. They were previously senior art director and vice president, senior writer respectively.

tively.

Chrumka and Stocker work as a team creating advertisements for Chrysler Corp.'s Jeep and Eagle Division, Consumers Power Co. and Century 21.

Scott J. Szczesny has been named buyer for Inalfa Hollandia, Inc., a leading suppiler of North American OEM electric aliding sunroofs in Farmington Hills. In his new position, Szczesny will coordinate procurement, delivery and inventory of all production materials for Inalfa Hollandia. Prior to joining Inalfa Hollandia, Szczesny was an inventory controller/hoyer for Federal-Mog-uil Corporation, where he was responsible for the acquisition and management of inventory for engine components.

Earl Roberts of Century 21

Town & Country in Troy was re-cently recognized as being among the top producing sales associates in the Century. 21 Metro Brokers Council during the month of Oc-

John R. Oatey has joined Southfield based sales and consulting firm Lucas Management Systems' software project management software project management Systems as a Business Consultant Formerly with Project Advisors Consortium International, Ltd., Oatey will assist with Professional Conaulting Services.

with Professional Consulting Services.

Lucas Management Systems is the world's leading supplier of project management software and consulting services with more than 2,000 customers worldwide including serospace, defense, construction and engineering, telecommunications, finance, pharmaceutical, manufacturing, government, and software development sectors.

Richard Russell, an agent with American United Life Insurance Company's AL Fire and Associ-stes in Southfield, has qualified for membership in the prestigious Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT). Only three percent of the world's life insurance agents qualify for the MDRT each year through high-level client service, production and strict ethics standards.

Gary Hubbard has been pro-moted to general manager of the Bob Evana Restaurant in South-field. Hubbard, originally from Battle Creek, mich., is promoted to general manager from assistant

manager at the Bob Evans Restaurant in Livonia.

Brian Fannon, president of Quality Homes in Farmington Hills has been appointed by Gov-ernor John Engler to the Michi-gan Manufactured Housing Com-

ernor John Engler to the Michigan Manufactured Housing Commission.

The Manufactured Housing Commission regulates the state's manufactured housing industry which includes the sale of homes by retailers and the placement of homes in manufactured homes, communities and on private prophaerty.

Doug Stranahan has been, and a divisional president and frequency 21 system for an area covering, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Western. Pennsylvania, West Virginia and, I Kentucky. In his new role, Stranahan will be responsible forseven regions, and his division will provide administrative support services to these regions.

Som Georges, Mark Western

Sam Georges, Mark Warren and Jolie Levine of Century 21 Today in Farmington were recent by recognized as being among the top producing sales associates in the Century 21 Metro Brokers Council during the month of Oc-tober.

Victor Kurzela has been so-lected Quality Achiever of the month by the Jervis B. Word Company in Farmington Hills. Kurzela was recently named lead-er of the Trolley Department at Webb's New Hudson facility. His Zero Defects attitude and com-mitment to the Quality Improve-ment Process are a part of his dai-ly work routine.

Puppets from NEXT PAGE

extend memory retontion.
While such results are difficult to measure, Jim Flaberty, vice president of Hiram Walker & Sons, a Windsor-based liquor importer and distributor, said he was pleased after using the Great Imposters to apice up several sales meetings.

Impostors to spice up several sales meetings.

"Every year we have a national soles meeting, and the puppets were brought in to add some human to the event. They've worked out very well, and the people who saw and were impersonated by them, remark about the puppets frequently," said Flaherty. North said the Great Imposters

was on the verge of signing a con-tract with a company based in Oakland County. Clients of the Fort Wayne headquarters include General Motors, Shell Oil, IBM, Isuzu, Kraft Cheese and Texaco.

The Great Imposters offer a series of products and services which range from a rental library of generic puppets on video to customized productions written and produced for a specific client.

and produced for a specific client.

North said 95 percent of the
puppets appear on video, with either a live speaker engaging an
on-screen personality or an imposter delivering the message

without interruption. The remaining work is live. The cost to create a customized puppet of a president or sales manager is \$1,250 for the first minute, said North.

"The prices go down after that, and most presentations average between three and five minutes," she said. The Great, imposters even spoof well-known television shows, such as "60 Minutes," and "This is Your Life." In the pupt version of "60 Minutes," the Great Imposters send their ace proter, Mike Mallee, to investigate the working style of a select-

ed employee.

For custom videos, a profile of the individual along with a photograph or video tape is required. Lead time is 30 to 60 days, and the puppets can mimic gestures, looks, movements and anecdotes.

"We do all the taping and creating in Fort Wayne, and then ship out the shows or tapes as needed," said Miller. "We've even had some people who have asked to keep the suppets after seeing a likeness of themselves live or on screen."



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