Multiples from page 13A

Lisa Mollenkamp of Redford and McGinty both had taken fer-tility drugs because of prior mis-

Carriages.

Twins have 'little mother'
'Mollenkamp and her husband,
Brian, have four children, the oldest of which are 3-year-old twins,
Andrea and Brandon.

"Because they are boy and girl,
many people don't know they are
twins." asid Lies Mollenkamp,
32. "Sometimes I forget they were
both born the same day,
"Andrea is the little mother.
She likes to plan things for them.
She keeps an eye out." Brandon is
essay going, a bit shy and fond of
sports. They are devoted to each
other, but have many separate
firends.

At Vandanhars Elementer.

At Vandenberg Elementary School in Redford, Andrea and Brandon are in the third grade and are assigned to different

and are assigned to different. classrooms.

"Every one of their teachers have been just exactly what they needed," Mollenkamp said.

To help keep track of permission slips, notes, projects and special school days, Mollenkamp purchased bulletin boards for each child.

Other Mollenkamp siblings ard jordan, 6, a first-grader, and infant brother. Evan.
Brian Mollenkamp is an executive at a home medical equipment company. Lisa is a homemaker. Beth are active in their church and a Lisa also volunteers at homeless shelter for women and children.

Both try to make special time.

children.

Both try to make special time for each of their children. Family members have been helpful.

"There were always arms available," Lisa said. "I do treasure those times."

Becoming individuals
: As children get older, they want to assert their individuality. Andrea and Brandon don't like "together" birthday parties.
: Palaian, too, has encouraged her twin daughters to develop their own tastes. They don't dress the same. And, like the Mollenkamps, they have blossoped by being in different classrooms. Palaian makes sure Lisa doesn't get overlooked. All three girls attend Eagle Elementary School in West Bloomfield.

Mollenkamp and Palaian look for ways to economize. Both have traded used clothing. Mollenkamp shops at the Eastern Market in Detroit for bargains of ruits and vegetables and spaces out shopping trips for back-toschool supplies. She takes her children to Wayne County Health Department clinics, where immunications are free.

Both Palaian and Mollenkamp receive discounts from their pediatricians for their twins.

Parenting twins is hard, but "a wonderful experience," Palaian said. "I wouldn't change it for the world."

'It's all worth it'

McGinty considers her go-go schedule a small price to pay for a bouseful of bables.

"When you go through fertillity problems and have trouble, it's all worth it," McGinty said.

McGinty spent much of her pregnancy confined to bed, but tiling tozemia and high blood pressure. The triplets, born prematurely, needed special care.

The bables are on three different formulas. Charts are kept of their eating schedules, bowel movements and medications. Their bottles are color-coded. Relatives help out and McGinty has hired a woman to ease the relentless routine of feedings and other chores.

"A shower is a precious thing around here," said McGinty. Sean McGinty, a computer programmer, has taken on extra assignments to carn extra funds. The McGintys have sold their sports car and Gayle works two days a month.

When people spot her triplets stroller, "you pretty well got mobbed, but it's fun," she said. "It's not hard; it's just busy. It is definitely a different lifestyle."

Also elated are Karen and Richard Miller of Farmington Hills, who adopted twin girls after several childless years of marriage. The Millers twins, who will turn three in August, are blond, blue-eyed mirror images of cach other. Andrea Miller is intuitive, quiet and focused. Ashley is talk-attive and friendly.

"I'understand when people get them mixed un," said Karon, 34, a former social worker. "Close friends and family try to treat them as individuals."

Telling them apart
Miller tells her daughters apart
by personality traits. Andrea
welghs less and Miller can tell the
difference when she picks her up.
Each girl has a cowlick, but it's
on the opposite side of each
other's heads.
"They are each other's best
friend," Miller said. "They kiss
each other's box-box- Fhey give
pats and kisses, It's just darling."
Despite the physical and finan-

Despite the physical and finan-cial stress, the Millers feel

cial stress, the Millers feel blessed.
Richard, 35, is a soles manager for an auto-related business. The Millers have been married 11 years and had been disappointed in earlier adoption bids.
"Mothering is the hardest (job) with the least pay, and the most rewarding," Karen said.

For more information about Mothers of Multiples, call 851-0859.

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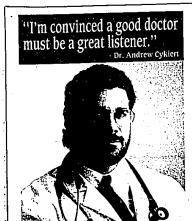
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