

Court, schools assist youths

They were youngsters in trouble on the road to nowhere. John, 16, was a shoplifter who was flunking out of Troy schools. Bill, 15, skipped school. When he was attending classes in the Rochester area, he was disruptive. Dawn, 14, also had an attendance problem at Oak Park schools. She'd missed 45 days in a single school year.

These are some of the youngsters who recently came to the attention of Oakland County Youth Assistance, a cooperative venture between Probate Court and Oakland Schools.

Missing school was bad enough in itself. But idle hours left lots of time for drugs, promiscuity, violence and other, more serious problems.

"Luckily we got to some of these youngsters before they got into serious trouble," said Richard Thibodeau, resource development specialist with Youth Assistance. "Some of the youngsters we help are in more serious difficulty. But our goal is to get to them early, before they get in real trouble."

"Sometimes with the help of their parents or other responsible adults, we are able to turn them around, get them headed in the right direction." Youth Assistance was able, for example, to get special tutoring for John in Troy. His math and reading skills improved and now he's enrolled at Oakland Community College.

For Bill, the 13-year-old in the Rochester area, Youth Assistance arranged a different kind of help. His dad died when Bill was 10, so with the help of his mother, Youth Assistance arranged for counseling, including a wilderness experience in Northern Michigan.

His life turned around. He even volunteered to work, under supervision, as a youth aide at Youth Assistance summer recreation programs for younger children.

For Dawn, who had missed 45 days of school, Youth Assistance arranged for counseling and special attention from her grandmother. One year later Dawn not only like school, but she was working on a 3.5 grade point average.

ago.

The youngsters are helped, said Thibodeau, through the determined effort of volunteers working in close relationship with court and school authorities. "The goal is to provide help that effectively meets the needs of individual youngsters," he said. "We try to strengthen the family and guide and encourage the youngster."

In honor of its 40th anniversary, Youth Assistance will sponsor Dr. James P. Comer, an eminent psychiatrist, educator and director of the School Development Program at the Yale University Child Study Center.

Comer will talk on "Parents and Schools Working Together" beginning at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26, at the Southfield Civic Center, 26000 Evergreen Road. Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$8 at the door. To register call Thibodeau at 558-0053 or Elaine Sturman at 872-2534.

Among other things, Comer will address the need for parents to cooperate with teachers and other faculty members in the governance of schools.

The Petix Semi-Annual Sale

Savings of 20% to 50% on everything from shirts to suits, shoes and more.

With names like Giorgio Paolo, Joseph Abboud, Austin Reed and Jhane Barnes you'll get the fine clothing we're famous for at a very special price.

Steve Petix...
"The look of the '90s"



STEVE PETIX CLOTHIER

31455 Southfield Road
Beverly Hills, MI 48025
313/645-5560

340 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
313/459-6972

"One call did it all"

Mrs. Leroy Goodall of Livonia placed a classified ad for household goods and was very pleased with the results. How about you? If you plan to replace a few things around the house, remember to call your Observer & Eccentric classified ad taker and

Reach Michigan's Finest Suburban Market

It's Love Line Time!

Cakes, flowers, dinner and wine are nice, but for a really special touch, publish a "valentine" to your special someone in our classified section.

For just
\$2 per line,

you can give a memorable message to the one you love. There is a minimum of 3 lines per Love Line and there are five average words per line. If you'd like to add a photograph to your message count it as 12 lines.

Place your Love Line by phone by noon,
Friday, February 11, 1994.
It will appear on Valentine's Day, Monday, February 14.

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER WITH YOUR LOVE LINES TO:
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS,
36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MI 48150
Attention: Classified Department

Sanders WARM UP YOUR WEEK WITH SPECIAL SAVINGS FROM SANDERS...

Sanders
Cup of Hot Soup & your choice of Tuna, Chicken, Ham or Egg Salad Sandwich*
ONLY \$2.99
Exp. 1/29/94

Sanders
Cream Puff Hot Fudge Made with your favorite ice cream and Sanders rich Milk Chocolate Fudge Topping
ONLY \$1.99
Exp. 1/29/94

*Not avail. at 12 Mile & Middlebelt location.

SHOP EARLY FOR VALENTINE'S DAY!

Mail Order Available. Call 1-800-3-SANDERS

...A Tradition in Taste Since 1875.

Sanders
VISIT THE LOCATION NEAREST YOU!

Westborn Mall, Michigan & Outer Drive, Dearborn
16567 E. 10 Mile & Grosse Pointe
17043 Kew-Forest & St. Clair, Grosse Pointe
5107 Rochester & Long Lake Road, Troy
29405 12 Mile & Middlebelt, Farmington Hills
33316 12 Mile & Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills
2100 Southfield Rd. (in Sears), Lincoln Park

29158 Van Dyle & 12 Mile, Warren
6558 Telegraph & Maple, Bloomfield Township
8238 23 Mile & Van Dyke, Shelby Township
Newburgh Plaza, 6 Mile & Newburgh Rd., Livonia
Livonia Mall, 7 Mile & Middlebelt, Livonia
Macomb Mall (in Sears), 32123 Grosse Pointe, Roseville

Shall We Dance!

Detroit Country Day School is offering parents and their 4 or 5 year-old children the opportunity to participate in creative movement workshops presented by the nation's leading authority in dance curriculum and teacher education.

Dr. Susan W. Stinson

Author of national guidelines for K-12 dance curriculum

Head of the Dance Department at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro

National Dance Association 1994 Scholar

Author of *Dance for Young Children: Finding the Magic in Movement*

Thursday, February 3

at
Detroit Country Day Lower School
3003 West Maple Road, Bloomfield Hills

9-10 a.m. workshop for parents and 4 year-olds

10:15-11:15 a.m. workshop for parents and 5 year-olds

Admission is free. Registration is limited.

To register, call the Lower School, 433-1050, today.

Sponsored by the Detroit Country Day School Friends of the Arts

Observer & Eccentric

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

644-1070 OAKLAND COUNTY 591-0900 WAYNE COUNTY
852-3222 ROCHESTER-ROCHESTER HILLS