STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LEMIEUX

**Playground joy:** *Natalie Perach, left, and Nicole Brandt, who are both second graders in Bridget Livorine's class, play on the new equipment at Kenbrook Elementary.*

**PTA doings:** *Kenbrook PTA members raised money to improve the Farmington Hills school's playground.*

# In swing

## *School's new playground gear a hit*

The first part of a $60,000 playground equipment construction project was completed recently at Kenbrook Elementary School in Farmington Hills.

The $15,000 structure — phase one of the four-part project — includes two slides, a bridge made of tires and an image panel, which is a series of brown and white blocks that can be turned to create designs and pictures.

The structure is made mostly of aluminum and steel. Therese Jamison, a member of the school's playground committee, said school officials plan to add to the equipment every spring.

Before the new structure was built, the school had only a limited supply of playground equipment, which included one slide, some swings and a jungle gym, Jamison said.

**Before the new structure was built, Kenbrook Elementary had only a limited supply of playground equipment, which included one slide,**

The project was funded entirely by donations. Money came from the school's PTA, parents and relatives of Kenbrook students, the Westbrooke Manor and Kendallwood Subdivision Homeowners Associations and local businesses, which include Hank's Clothes, Harry Miller & Flowers, AMC Old Orchard III, Schroeters Flowers and Gifts, Elite Auto II, Bruegger's Bagel Bakery, Mermel Gifts & Toys, Mrs. Maddox Cake Shop, Lois Gross Cleaners and Jeanne's Hallmark Shop.

Jamison said the play structure is a hit with students, who helped choose the equipment last school year from a booklet of options. Students are looking forward to the next phases of the project, and many are saving their own money to donate toward the cause, Jamison said.

"I think that phase one is good, but the upcoming phases are even more exciting," she said.


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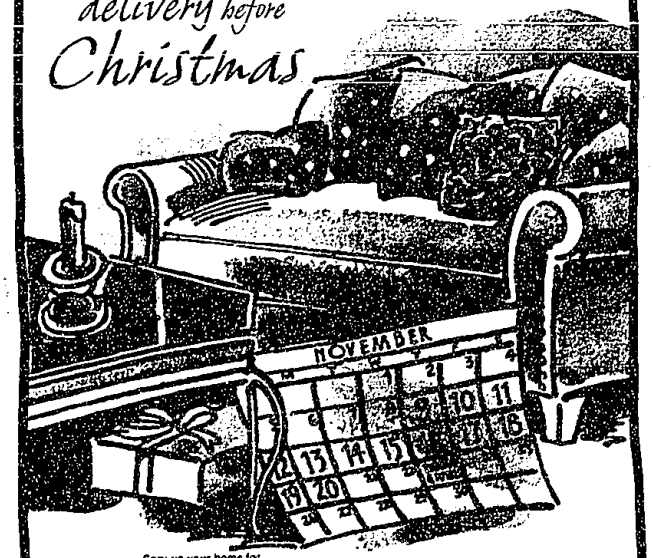


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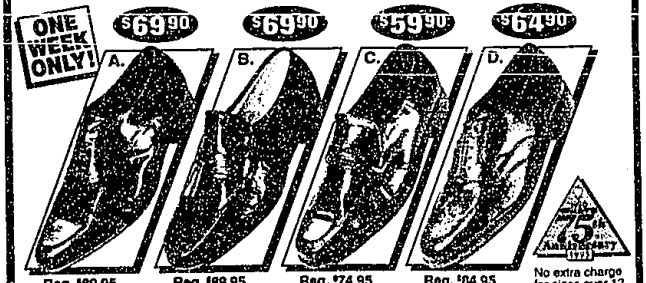


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