

COMMUNITY LIFE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1997

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Bookstore thrives on who-dun-its

■ This bookstore caters to fans of suspense and high drama.



BY MARY RODRIQUE
STAFF WRITER

The name Murder, Mystery & Mayhem says it all.

The bookstore in the Drakeshire Plaza in Farmington Hills stocks the Nancy Drew and Goosebumps series for young readers, as well as authors Stephen King and Ann Rice for more mature tastes.

But there's more than books of murder, horror and espionage. Murder mystery party games, with titles like "Burritos and Banditos" and "Bullets and Barbecue," line the shelves.

Tapes of old radio series like Dragnet and the Lone Ranger are available, as well as videocassettes of classic movies like Alfred Hitchcock's "Vertigo," and the television series Columbo and The Rockford Files.

"I bought the store about this time last year," said Yvonne Peaslee, who lives in Rochester and taught elementary school students music there for several years before switching careers.

The bookstore, previously located on 7 Mile Road west of Farmington Road in Livonia, was going out of business and she couldn't resist the challenge of making it her own.

"My husband suggested I buy it. So I did. Then he asked me why I listened to him," she joked.

But she has no regrets. Son, Jeff, a culinary arts student at Schoolcraft Community College, works there part time. Peaslee's 16 year old niece, Michelle, has found her first after school job in the store. Manager Suzze Tiernan of Livonia



STAFF PHOTO BY SHARON LAMMERS

Mugging mayhem: Bookstore owner Yvonne Peaslee gasps in the hands of her manager, Suzze Tiernan. The popular store carries books of murder, suspense, and espionage.

describes herself as "the best customer of the store in its former location" before she was hired last August. She is also working on a degree in accounting at Schoolcraft.

Sharron Olds, who formerly owned a used bookstore in West Bloomfield, was hired in October. "One of the reasons I located here is because the Farmington Chamber of Commerce was so helpful, providing useful information like demographics," Peaslee said.

"Our customers are friendly, well read and fun to talk to. We enjoy

being here." Business continues to improve steadily, she said. Mostly as satisfied customers tell their friends about the place, added Tiernan.

Two large sofas and a coffee pot in the front of the store provide a cozy spot to read.

Each section of the store is set off with props, like an antique radio near the tapes. A woman's black hat, dressy gloves, ball of yarn and knitting needles are placed in the Agatha Christie section, balanced on the other side by a man's black

derby and a shiny pocket watch. The trademark hat and pipe are displayed near Sherlock Holmes stories.

There are framed photos of Humphrey Bogart from "The Maltese Falcon," and a portrait of a young earnest Perry Mason in the courtroom.

WHND Honey radio broadcast live from the store last Friday the 13th for two hours. WFON radio recently interviewed two authors appearing

See MYSTERY, B2

Out of the closet: prostate conditions deserve our attention

Sooner or later, if a man lives long enough, he is likely to encounter an aggravating condition known either as BPE, benign prostatic enlargement, or BPH, benign prostatic hyperplasia.

Because both conditions produce the exact same symptoms, only a doctor can tell the difference, and frankly, often a doctor cannot differentiate the two.

These conditions are not of the type that make for friendly conversation, as the symptoms are generally embarrassing nature, that is, the need for frequent urination which may be urgent at times and the inability to empty ones bladder or difficulty in getting started. But these problems are common to many men in their fifties and older, and many times younger. They are just not something one speaks of openly.

The prostate is a gland which is wrapped around the urinary duct which empties the bladder and if it is enlarged or if the muscles around it are tight it can squeeze the urinary duct and cause all of the above mentioned symptoms.

A doctor can detect an enlarged prostate gland by a simple rectal examination with a gloved finger. By feeling the gland an experienced physician cannot only tell if the gland is enlarged, but can detect any lumps or hard spots which may indicate prostate cancer, the most common cancer in men.

There are more accurate methods of determin-

See PROSTATE, B2

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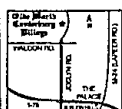
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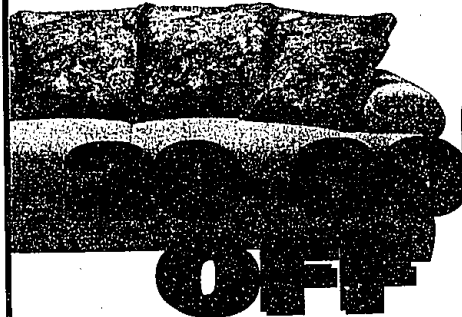
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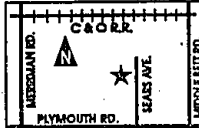
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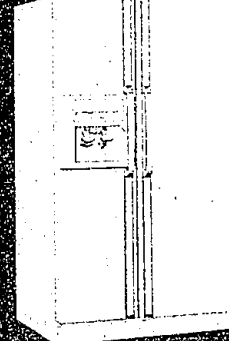
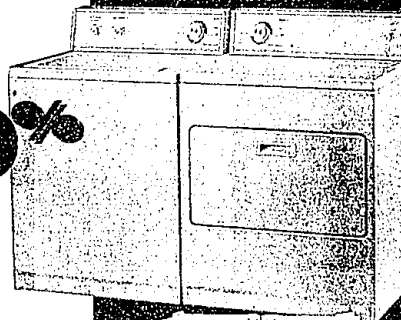
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