

Mayor's mom on hand for speech

BY SUSAN STEINMUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Among those in the audience Thursday when Mayor Jeanne Stine gave her annual state of the city address was one of her biggest supporters — her 90-year-old mom.

Stine joked in her speech opening that she had initially tried to discourage her attendance, in case she made a mistake. "I told her, 'Mom, you don't want to come. I haven't written a word yet and I don't want to embarrass you.' But I see that my mom came in spite of my warning," she told the audience.

Stine introduced her mother, Eleanor Foster, at the beginning of her address, "so that if she wishes, later she can exit gracefully." She also intro-

duced her stepsister and her husband, Pat and Garry Singel, both Troy Chamber members.

Stine needn't have worried. Her mom, of course, found the speech wonderful. "It was a special treat," the hale and hearty Foster said afterwards. "I was surprised at what all she brought in."

Stine is the oldest of Foster's 11 children. Foster, a Sterling Heights resident, also has 56 grandchildren and 65 great-grandchildren, "with three more on the way."

Foster said she remembers their birthdays and anniversaries with the help of an index card system.

In recognizing her stepsister and husband from the podium, Stine also added a humorous note by saying, "Now you know how I get re-elected — a great number of my family live in Troy."



STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN STURMEZANO

It's this way: Chamber director Bob Wangbichler (left) talks with Ian Blair of Michigan National Bank and Mark Crawford, another director, at a reception before the luncheon.

Speech from page A1

Oakland County recognized the need for Big Beaver improvements and had "early on recouped federal funds for that construction in order to allow for the viability and vitality of Somerset North."

But today, federal, state and county funds are drying up. "This leaves us with no alternatives; the city must assume the responsibility."

She said that as a result there will probably be a couple of questions on the April ballot asking for approval of a dedicated road

Other topics

Stine also touched upon other issues and events in the city over the last year and currently. She mentioned the old Troy High School property and the task force of volunteers which is determining possible uses for it, the hiring of a firm to provide design plans for it; the decision to move the 52-4 District Court from city hall to the community center, which in turn will move temporarily to the old Troy High;

the new city manager, James Bacon; the new computer system; a new financial system in software; a new phone system installed last week, including a voice-mail facet; a new Police and Fire Records Management System; and a new city program of mediation for neighbors unable to get along with each other.

With regard to growth, she mentioned the completed installation this year of a new water main along Adams Road; the ethnic diversity in town with 63

identified ethnic groups; religious diversity with 55 churches and more being built, examples being the ground breaking for Congregation Shur Tikvah and the opening of St. Lucy Croatian Catholic Church; and an office vacancy rate that dropped from 12 percent two years ago to 8 percent today.

Stine also mentioned: a new apartment building slated for construction near the Somerset Collection; assisted care living quarters set for development by The Damone Group; the private

sports arena now under construction; and Delphi Automotive's plan to open the doors of its new world headquarters in late spring.

"In 1990 our taxable value was \$2.9 billion, today, it is about \$3.7 billion," she noted. "In Michigan, only Detroit has a higher taxable value than Troy."

Stine ended her speech by thanking business members and residents for their participation, investment and commitment to "our city — Troy. We'll never find a match."

Also at the meeting, five new directors elected to the board for three year terms were introduced. They are Dale Apley of Doeren Mayhew; Sid Frank of Frank & Stefani; Peter Marshall of DoubleTree Guest Suites Hotel; and William Zeidler of Kelly Services.

Leon Sowell of Ameritech and Carol Wright of BDO Seidman were re-elected to the board to serve additional three-year terms.

Woman finds car moved and purse, phone missing

A woman leaving a doctor's office at 755 W. Big Beaver 6 p.m. Tuesday found her car parked in the opposite direction with the engine running. The passenger door lock was punched and her radio, cellular phone and purse containing credit cards, cash and identification were missing.

Vandals pay up
Officers confiscated a BB gun from teenagers who sent a BB through the window of a home

POLICE BEAT

on Owendale Thursday evening. The homeowners heard a noise outside the home around 6:45 p.m. and found five teenage boys standing on the neighbor's driveway and shooting BBs at their house. Children in the area told officers who the culprits were. After being confronted, the teens agreed to pay for the damaged window, police said. The BB gun

was confiscated.
Larceny

Two employees at American Speedy Printing, 1800 W. Maple, discovered personal belongings missing while they were at work. On Jan. 13 a male employee reported two credit cards missing from his wallet, which had been left unattended. On Jan. 17 a female employee reported \$300 dollars missing from her purse, which had been left on a chair under her desk.

OBITUARIES

JUDITH ANN PERRY

Judith Ann Perry, 66, of Troy died Jan. 21 at Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital, Pontiac. She was born Sept. 11, 1940, in Hazel Park.

Mrs. Perry was a member of Life Line Baptist Church and a past member of Troy Firefighters

Women's Auxiliary.

She is survived by three daughters, Tonya Perry of Shelby Township, Joylyn Perry of Troy, and Jenny Perry of Troy; three sons, John L. Perry Jr. of Troy, Jesse Perry of Dallas, Texas and James Perry of Troy; her mother, Grace Thiel of

Marine City; a half sister, Cindy Arnold of Marine City; one half brother, Carl J. Weatherburn of Clarkston; and one grandchild.

Funeral services were held Jan. 25 in Price Funeral Home. Private interment was held at Oakview Cemetery, Royal Oak. Memorial tributes may be sent to charity of the donor's choice.

ON THE AGENDA

Troy City Council

City council meets at 7:30 p.m. today, Monday, Jan. 27, in the lower level conference room at city hall in the Troy Civic Center complex off of Big Beaver west of Livernois. The meeting is open to the public.

Agenda items include:
• Resolutions regarding Somerset North: amendment to development agreement; amendment to ground lease; Successor and assumption agreement (substitution for subordination, non-disturbance and attornment agreement).
• Discussion of capital improvement needs: review of specific projects; draft language for ballot questions for the April 7 city election.

Board of Education

Pennies from page A1

the other co-chair of the Peace Garden.

The money raised from the penny drive will go toward buying a block with the school's name on it. "Then the children could go take a walk in the garden and see the school's name," Schmidt added.

Student involvement on the project is at the discretion of each elementary school's staff.

So far the committee formed to coordinate the garden has raised \$21,000, which is short of the \$40,000 goal.

"I think once people see it get going they'll help us (financially)," Gaffney said. "We would love it if people in the city would

send us \$5 or \$10."

Several parent teacher organizations have already bought paving blocks, which are \$100. Each block will have the name and/or message of the purchaser cut into the stone as a permanent record of the contribution.

"We felt we wanted something from the children," Schmidt said. "We thought this was a way to get them involved."

Student participation in the creation of the Peace Garden is important to Gaffney too.

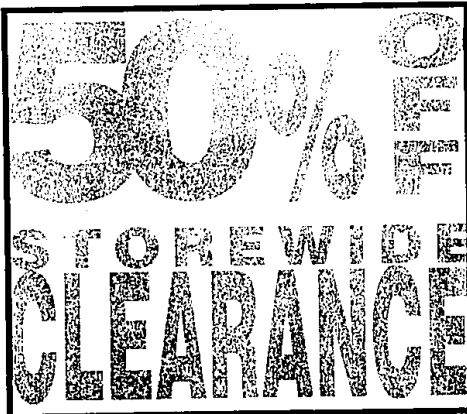
"What we're trying to do is have a place where teachers can take their children, dedicated to peace," she said.

The money raised will go toward fountains, the planting areas, lighters, art work and topiaries, which are shrubs or trees trimmed into shapes.

Also being sold for \$500 are "peace panels." The hope is to have the word "peace" written in all languages spoken in Troy.

"We were hoping to have a late spring dedication," Gaffney said. But with city officials continuing a project to develop a civic center master plan, the garden's location behind city hall may be changed, she added.

Donations may be sent to Troy Peace Garden at 520 West Big Beaver, Troy, 48084.



DOWN THEY GO AGAIN...THOSE ALREADY LOW CLEARANCE PRICES ON SELECTED ITEMS THROUGHOUT THE STORE HAVE TAKEN A TUMBLE. YOU CAN REALLY, REALLY SAVE BIG ON THE THINGS YOU WANT NOW. BUT HURRY, THIS IS TOO GOOD TO LAST LONG!

SAVINGS OFF ORIGINAL PRICES
WHILE QUANTITIES LAST

Jacobson's

BIRMINGHAM 810-634-6900 LIVONIA 313-991-7696 ROCHESTER 810-651-6000

Chamber to hold advertising program

The Troy Chamber of Commerce aims to help local businesses cut advertising costs at its program, "Advertising Advantage," 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29, at Walsh College Conference Center, 3838 Livernois between Big Beaver and Wattle.

"This new program will allow small businesses to explore their options and opportunities for

effective, affordable advertising this year," said chamber President Gayla Houser. "Savings for some may be as high as 50 percent," said Houser.

Participating media include Direct-mail coupons — Mike's Marketshare Coupons and Troy Savings Magazine; Local print — The County Line, The Troy Eccentric, The Oakland Press, Troy Somerset Gazette and Troy

Times; Regional print — Crain's Detroit Business, Crain's Small Business, Detroit Free Press, Detroit Monthly and The Detroit News; Radio — Q95.5 FM, Star 97 FM, 104.3 WQMC and WJL 950; Cable — TCI Cable Advertising; Internet — Americtech.

Cost to attend is \$15 for Troy chamber members and \$20 for prospective members. For more information call (810) 641-8151.