

Grandparents have legal avenues available when grandkids are adopted

Q. My son and daughter-in-law were divorced. My daughter-in-law is about to remarry. Her future husband wants to adopt her two children who are my grandchildren. My son now lives overseas and is considering allowing the new husband to adopt his children. If the adoption occurs will they be able to stop me from seeing my grandchildren?

A. While the law usually provides that an adopted child is to be considered the natural child of the adopting parent, there is an exception made for visitation by grandparents. You can obtain a grandparent visitation order if it is made during the time of the adoption proceedings and if it is considered to be in the best interest of the child. You can also petition for a court order, for visitation rights, after the adoption is established. It probably would be wise to discuss this with an attorney.

Q. My neighbor is 87 and his eyesight is failing. He lives on a fixed income and I don't think he can afford to see an eye doctor. I know he has Medicare but I don't think he has any other insurance. Is there some place he can go for an eye exam that won't cost him a great deal of money?

A. The National Eye Care Project will provide eye care for low income older persons who do not have access to an ophthalmologist through a managed care plan or any other prepaid health plan. This is a nationwide service and the volunteer physicians will provide a com-



RENEE MAHLER

plete eye examination and treatment for any condition found at the time of the exam. The doctors will bill Medicare or any other private health insurance. The service however, does not cover the costs of eyeglasses, prescriptions or hospital service.

For additional information call, toll free, 1-800-222-3937 between 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Q. Can you please give me an easy to understand definition of cognitive ability? My father's doctor keeps talking about his cognitive functions and I really don't fully understand what he is talking about.

A. To put it as simply as I can, cognitive ability is the ability to think, to remember, to plan and to organize information. The term, cognitive ability or function, is usually used when talking about someone with some form of dementia. Dementia usually interferes with a person's cognitive abilities.

On Aging columnist Renee Mahler is a gerontologist and a former member of the Michigan State Commission on Services to the Aging. To leave a message for Mahler from a touchtone phone, call (313) 953-2047, mailbox 1869. Send your questions for her to The Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

Reunions

from page B8

reunions@taylorpub.com.

STERLING HEIGHTS

Class of 1988
A reunion is planned for Nov. 27.
(313) 586-0770

TAYLOR TRUMAN

Class of 1978
Nov. 28 at Laurel Manor in Livonia.
(734) 675-0244 or (313) 565-5725

TRENTON

Class of 1989
Aug. 28 at Arnold's Banquet Center, Riverview.
(248) 360-7004, press 6

WARREN COUSINO

Class of 1978
Nov. 27 at Andiamo Italia, Warren.
(800) 677-7800 or by e-mail at reunions@taylorpub.com.

WARREN FITZGERALD

Class of 1978
A reunion is planned for Nov. 27.
(248) 651-1288 or (810) 791-5522

WARREN WOODS

Class of 1978
Nov. 27 at Mirage Hall, Clinton Township.
(248) 280-2675

WARREN WOODS TOWER

Class of 1988
Is planning a reunion.
(810) 730-1214 or (810) 771-7328

WATERFORD

Class of 1979
Is planning a reunion.
(248) 674-3946

WATERFORD KETTERING

Class of 1968
Is planning a reunion.
(248) 628-3926, (248) 691-1768 or (248) 623-6057

WAYNE

Class of 1950
Is looking for classmates for its 50th class reunion.
(734) 428-9379 or (734) 721-8036

WAYNE MEMORIAL

Class of 1983
Sept. 26 at Roma's of Garden City.
(248) 360-7004, press 1

Somerset's holiday decor enhanced by new lighting

The Somerset Collection's holiday tradition of providing children of all ages with a fantasy world of Renaissance kings, beautiful princesses and a winter wonderland begins 9:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 21, with the arrival of Santa and the Royal Procession to the castle in the North Grand Court of the Troy shopping center.

Enhancing this year's holiday production is the addition of theatrical lighting by Illuminating Concepts, a Farmington Hills-based architectural and themed entertainment lighting design firm.

The resulting special effects include creating a three-dimensional effect for Santa's castle and the illusion of a delicate snowfall inside the Grand Court of Somerset Collection North.

"Illuminating Concepts is delighted to help build on the Somerset holiday tradition," said Michael Shulman, lighting designer for the Somerset Collection holiday display. "We can't wait to see the expressions on the children's faces as they walk into this winter wonderland. The decor and lighting truly create a lifetime experience for everyone."

Illuminating Concepts has developed a relationship with Somerset that will last well after the holiday season. Shulman added, "The lighting designs that we are creating will change seasonally. Our goal is to highlight the beautiful architecture of Somerset Collection while making it exciting to see 'what's new' throughout the year."

Illuminating Concepts has earned every major lighting design award and is the recipi-

ent of over fifty awards in the last eight years. The company has completed projects at facilities throughout the world, including The Fox Theatre, Detroit; NikeTown, London, Paris, Sydney, Berlin, New York, Portland, Atlanta, Boston, Seattle, Honolulu, San Francisco and Chicago; Planet Hollywood Retail, Las Vegas, Chicago, Singapore, Berlin and Guam; Disney's MGM, Orlando and The Rainforest Cafe at Mall of America.

Ron Harwood, principal and senior designer at Illuminating Concepts, formed the lighting design firm in 1981 to unite his knowledge in the lighting field with that of commercial development. Company designs complete multi-media shows that integrate architectural lighting, theatrical lighting, special

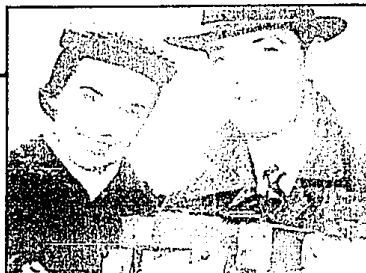
effects, film, video, lasers and customized sound.

The Somerset Collection houses more than 170 stores and restaurants. It features the state's only Nordstrom, Hugo Boss, Cartier, Crate & Barrel and Tiffany & Co., among others. The Somerset collection is on Big Beaver Road, one mile west of I-75, in Troy.

Michael Shulman
Illuminating Concepts

Correction Notice

In our November 19th ad, we featured the game Centipede for Sony Playstation. Due to delays in manufacturing, this game is not yet available. We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.



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Schedule Of Events

NOVEMBER 20 - FRIDAY
WHITEWATER CAFE OPEN HOUSE 6-8 P.M. - GIVING TREE
BRING UNWRAPPED TOYS FOR TREE THROUGH DEC., 15
FOR WILLIAMSTON CHRISTMAS CLEARING BUREAU

MCDONALDS OPEN HOUSE 6-8 P.M. - GIVING TREE
BRING UNWRAPPED MITTENS, SCARVES, HATS FOR TREE
THROUGH DECEMBER 15

NOVEMBER 21 & 22 - SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
MERCHANTS' OPEN HOUSE
FREE HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE RIDES 1-4 P.M. BOTH DAYS
REFRESHMENTS AT VARIOUS BUSINESSES

DECEMBER 5 - SATURDAY
5:00 - 8:00 P.M. - CAROLING DOWNTOWN
6:00 P.M. - LIGHT PARADE WITH FLOATS AND BANDS
AFTER PARADE - TREE LIGHTING AT CITY HALL

DECEMBER 5 & 6 - SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
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