

# Gift from page A1

sion to end their operation of the store.

The final day that Guild members ran the store was Friday, March 10; it re-opened Monday, March 20, staffed by hospital employees while the remaining store stock is sold and an independent professional company is brought in.

Confirming that the store locks were changed was Beverly Weiss, Botsford's administrator for volunteer services.

But Weiss and Cooper late last week said they do value the long service volunteers have given at the gift shop and that they even want them to stay.

"No appreciation?" Cooper said. "It's not that at all."

An offer stands until mid-April for the gift shop volunteers to transfer service over to the Friends of Botsford, a hospital-wide volunteer organization. Weiss said some members of the Guild had already committed to making the transfer.

"When you volunteer, it's almost a status," Cooper said. "We have people with 15,000 hours here since the early '70s and we'll maintain those credits. It's tantamount to seniority. And we're going to encourage them to stay. But they somehow or another need to reach closure."

## Basic issues

Meanwhile, in an interview Thursday Cooper insisted that Guild members knew at a February meeting the direction the gift shop was headed unless they could pull together as a group and try to soothe apparent disension within the ranks.

That lack of unity hindered the basic operation of the store, with volunteers working abbreviated shifts and opening and closing it sporadically.

"It was hit or miss," Weiss said.

Disension among gift shop workers, according to Cooper, played a major role in the deci-

sion to end the Guild's operation of the shop. Too much time was being spent on taking care of internal Guild problems, time that the hospital could have been spending on other pressing issues, he explained.

"There's a whole lot going on in our industry today," Cooper said. "... When you have any group, where there always seems to be a pot boiling, that's one more diversion."

Cooper said he thought Guild members had "gotten the message" at the February meeting, adding he "didn't threaten to close the Guild down at that time. We talked positively about the how volunteerism is needed at Botsford."

But that was not how Lubinski recalled the session.

"He wanted everything his way," said Lubinski, who volunteered four hours every Friday.

"The one meeting we had with him (Cooper), he treated us like children. Do things his way, with no discussion."

## Costly perk

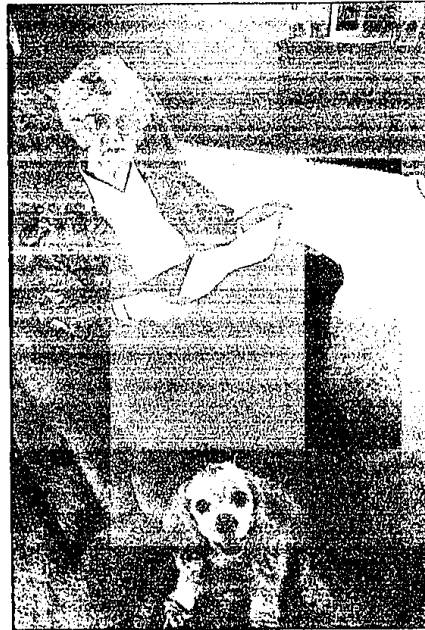
Regardless of how the decision was conveyed, Lubinski said customers "loved the gift shop, but there were not enough volunteers to keep it open."

Abdo emphasized that volunteers liked working there, too.

"We're mostly older women, a lot of us widows," Abdo said. "And the gift shop was a chance for us to get out and meet people." She added that she still doesn't hold the decision against the hospital.

Lubinski, Abdo and 12-year gift shop volunteer Ann Phipps said they thought a lot of the problems began at the end of 1998, when Cooper announced he was discontinuing unlimited \$5 discount prescriptions for volunteers, whether they worked through the Guild or Friends of Botsford.

"It was a perk," Phipps said. "We paid \$5 for prescriptions



Upset: Eunice Lubinski holds the letter from Botsford Hospital that details the closing of the gift shop. Her dog Buff keeps watch on the photographer.

and they took them away. I actually feel it could have been handled in another way. Maybe they could have done something else to give a perk to the people. Maybe one prescription a month. ... But when that happened, a lot of people quit."

Cooper, who estimated the hospital lost a total of 40 volunteers because of the end to those

prescriptions, explained that when the annual cost rose to about \$350,000 - for \$5 prescriptions alone - something had to be done.

"What happened was, you had a number of people leave who were here only for the benefit," Cooper said. "Which truly flies in the face of volunteerism. It became a very costly benefit."



The play's the thing: Sandy (Lauren Fisher) is the new girl in school.

# Grease from page A1

Adler, Alanna Thompson, Mary Tudor, Jayme Weltz, Jessica Williams, Shannon Young, Lauren Zokalik and Emily Zanotti.

## Rydell High students

Matt Adler, Jeff Chung, Rob Feldman, Shawn Head, Adam Hertz, Mike Kaplan, Scott Lachman, Joey Levine, Ryan Lewis, Andy Ludwig, Ben Myers, Eric Najdich, Ben Ryberg, Chris Rivard, Charlie Stambouljan, Sean Straesberger, Tom Szafranski, Alyson Adams, Kathy Bockli, Shana Cherniak, Ashley Cohen, Andrea Coleman, Aissa Danzig, Amy Dunayevich, Meredith Fleming, Sufna Gheyara, Ali Grossel, Rachel Grossman, Jennifer Gulczian, Denise Head, Lindsay Hillenber, Courtney Hooper, Kristie Keenan, Dianna Khadr, Katie Kosinski, Danielle Krausman, Lisa Lovick, Julie Maltzman, Tasha O'Neal, Michelle Rosen, Amy Rothberg, Sara

Sinuk, Stacey Szczepanok, Mary Tudor, Jayme Weltz, Jessica Williams, Shannon Young, Lauren Zokalik and Emily Zanotti.

## Specialty Dancers

Cristina Bozintan, Shara Cherniak, Samantha Cohen, Ashleigh Dexter, Stefanie Elson, Krystie Richeson, Stephanie Roberts, Alanna Thompson, Kellie Zande and Kimmie Zicherman.

## The Grease Pit

Keyboard (Adam Casini), Alto Sax (Noah Liebman), Tenor Sax I (Mike Rosen), Tenor Sax II (Dan Panock), Trumpet I (Ryan Seale), Trumpet II (Jason Bokowski), Trombone (Jeff Higgin), Guitar (Rob Klegon), Guitar (Mike Faulk), Bass (Chris Clayson), Drum Set (Chris Burrows) and Aux Percussion (Rob Evory).

# Harrison graduate named fellow at Albion

Elizabeth L. Graham has been named an Albion College fellow at Albion College for the fall 1999 semester.

To be designated a fellow, a

student must maintain a 3.7 grade point average for three consecutive on-campus semesters and successfully complete four units of credit during

each of those semesters.

Graham is a senior majoring in economics and management and is a member of the Gerstacker Liberal Arts Institute

in Professional Management. She is the daughter of Douglas L. and Jeanine L. Graham of Farmington Hills and a graduate of Harrison High School.

There isn't a better time to get a jump on your education than right now.

Take classes at Oakland University this spring and summer and learn with world-class faculty who are active in their fields as:

- ▶ experts
- ▶ advisers
- ▶ authors
- ▶ and breakthrough researchers.

Oakland offers opportunities to gain real-world experience from faculty and corporate partners who care about your success.

For more information, call (800) OAK-UNIV



Think Success. Think Oakland University.

Office of Admissions  
101 North Foundation Hall  
Rochester, MI 48309-4475  
www.oakland.edu

Yes! I am interested in finding out more about Oakland University's spring and summer classes.

- Please send information on:
- College of Arts and Sciences
  - School of Business
  - Administration
  - School of Education and Human Services
  - School of Engineering and Computer Science
  - School of Health Sciences
  - School of Nursing
  - Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
Office of Admissions  
101 North Foundation Hall  
Rochester, MI 48309-4475  
or FAX to (248) 371-1111

