



Business women throughout the nation have made significant contributions in every field, and in our economy. Their ideas and energy have become a voice in government and industry .. their training and experience have given us new leaders. We feel it's important to recognize and applaud the increasing number of women achievers, and women everywhere who play a major role in our working world.

Owning a business is satisfying, difficult

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — If you think that owning your own business is a piece of cake — no taking orders from a boss, setting your own hours and raking in the profits — then you should read on. For these six area women, being the head honcho may be satisfying, but it is also very demanding work.

Ronda Nietch discovered this fact when she bought The Garden Gate with her mother-in-law 22 years ago. At that time the flower shop was a smaller business located at 212 Sylvan St., but it was a whole new experience for Nietch, who didn't have any background in flower arranging.

"I learned by reading and watching a former employee of the shop," said Nietch. "The business part, knowing what to order, when to order perishable items, was learned through trial and error."

Because the shop was smaller and calmer, it was easier to learn the business and keep an eye on three children, David, Annmarie and Jennifer, who were then 5, 3 and 2. They either accompanied their mother to work or their great-grandmother watched them. When they were older, they learned to pitch in around the house and help out in the shop.

Over the years her love of flowers kept her going and the business expanded into its current location at 4796 Niles-Buchanan Road almost eight years ago. She said the years have gone by quickly, but the memories — the Valentine's Day there was 30 inches of snow on the ground, the Mother's Day they sold everything in the store and the delivery vehicle that was in more crashes than she cares to remember — will always stay with her.

"It's always something different. There isn't a typical day in the flower business," she said. "When the order comes in, you do it and get it out of here."

That statement applies to the restaurant business as well. "It's fun," said Carol Mitchell, who owns Auntie Carole's Table at 115 N. Redbud Trail. "Each day brings new things to discuss and problems to solve."

Mitchell was in the restaurant business for 22 years before breaking out on her own six months ago. A diabetic, Mitchell wanted to offer healthy alternatives such as sodium-free and sugar-free foods. She also wanted to make people feel like they were eating at home so she tries to talk to and greet each customer.

This requires her to be at the restaurant most of the time it is open. Mitchell often works from 3:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. so she can participate in every

part of her business.

Long hours seems to be the norm in the restaurant business. Karen Nelson, who owns Hilltop Cafe along with her sister, Sharon Travis, says her day starts at 4 a.m. when she arrives at work to make biscuits and set up before the employees come in at 5 a.m. Throughout the day she makes specials and soups, chops and dices, and runs the cash register. At home she completes the paperwork — something she hates to do — and always has a phone by her side in case she is needed.

"The work is never done," she said.

While her husband supports her work, Nelson said he doesn't understand why she should be at the restaurant when everything is going smoothly. But he still does his share by helping clean, making small repairs and babysitting the children of relatives who work at Hilltop.

The restaurant is truly a family business. Until Travis moved to Texas, she did the paperwork and Nelson managed the day-to-day affairs.

But unlike her sister, Travis had no previous restaurant experience. She did, however, have a job as a human resources manager.

She soon learned that she enjoyed the restaurant although the pace is hectic. Travis' favorite part is seeing old friends and meeting new people. It's rewarding to have customers appreciate her work.

"Owning your business is the only way to go," said Travis. "It's full say in what happens."

Travis is a graduate of Galien High School and has an associate's degree from Lake Michigan College. She now lives in Dallas, Texas.

Her husband, Robert, has always been supportive in her efforts — even when she takes work home.

For Phyllis Reitz, who owns Blossomland Video with her husband Bill, starting a business just comes naturally.

She was a homemaker until her daughter, Tara, turned 10 years old. Reitz said it only took so much time to clean so she was ready to get out of the house. But she wanted something flexible, a job that would allow her to be home when Tara was out of school and let the Reitzs spend time as a family. She was also looking for something families could enjoy doing together since Buchanan really didn't have much entertainment to offer. So they decided to start their own business 10 years ago. But they weren't really sure what to sell, service or offer — until one evening when the family and Bill's parents were watching the movie "Annie" in their living room.

"Everyone was gathered around

the television set with a big bowl of popcorn and we were laughing and having a good time and looked around and thought, 'this is nice.' Then I asked Bill about opening a video store," said Phyllis.

They set their minds to it and started going about collecting necessary information. Seeking advice, they went to a video store in Kalamazoo instead of going to Berrien Springs and Niles, the only ones in the area at that time, because they didn't want to hurt their competition by stealing their ideas and copying what they had done with their stores. This led to contact with an RCA representative and a video dealer.

Their first store was located in a small building on Redbud Trail. Reitz had 100 VHS tapes and 200 discs.

"When I started seeing the families come in, it was so neat," she said.

Soon Blossomland Video outgrew its space and moved into its current location on Fifth Street. She had so much space to fill after the move that she had a children's corner designed. Toys and educational material kept the young ones busy while their parents searched for the family's entertainment.

"This is one of my greatest experiences. I've never gotten tired of the video business," said Reitz. "I love people. In the 10 years we've been here I've watched kids grow. They used to head straight for the children's corner and now they come in here with car keys in their hands."

But while Reitz focused on other people's families, she never forgot her own. Tara often came in the store after school, did her homework in the back, waited on customers and then

ate dinner with her family.

"She was with us every day. We were a family," said Reitz. "Family things are important. If you don't find time for your family, you're going to lose it."

Like Reitz, Cindy Norris of Galien was also looking for a job with some flexibility. The owner of Norris' Country Crafts said that she worked at Pawating Hospital's X-ray department and once turned down a job because "I'd have to have a boss," she said.

She and her husband, Larry, opened the business five years ago. They bought an old auto shop on the

corner of U.S. 12 and Cleveland Road and spent the next couple of months cleaning the place and preparing it for business.

Although Larry works at Jack-Post Corp. to support the business, one day Norris hopes it can support them in their retirement.

"I like working with my antiques and decorating," said Norris. "I want to get into a small-scale nursery, but we need some big shade trees to protect the flowers."

Her days are spent watching the store and going to auctions. She also spends time with her children Tommy, 11 and Becky, 7.



Ronda Nietch of the Garden Gate in Buchanan isn't a hands-off business owner. She spends around 70 hours a week working in her flower shop. (Photo by Jane Peterson)

Lyssa

On Barton
616-469-1162

WE'VE MOVED
to a charming house
one block off
Whittaker Street.

*"Take a walk on the quiet
side and visit us"*
— Lyssa

SALE UP TO 70% OFF

IF YOU KNOW US...YOU
KNOW OUR SALE ROOM.
IF YOU DON'T KNOW US YET,
DISCOVER US QUICK
WHILE THE SELECTION IS GOOD.

**SELECTED
WOMEN'S
APPAREL**

28 North Barton St., New Buffalo, MI

COUPON SAVE COUPON SAVE

We Salute Women in Business
20% OFF ANY PURCHASE

Present This Coupon at Time of Purchase
Coupon Valid Thru June 11, 1994

GOLDEN DOLPHIN
BATH FASHIONS HALLMARK GIFTS

VILLAGE SQUARE STEVENSVILLE 429-1161

Working at home has challenges, benefits

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — Most people wake up in the morning, get ready, leave for work and arrive home about eight hours later. Others, however, work at home. Although it sounds nice to not have the daily commute, working from home is an entirely different situation.

Just ask Esther Jones of Buchanan. She worked for Clark Credit Corporation for 12 years before her first child was born. Since then, she has operated Creative Tailoring from her home on West Front Street.

"It's a sort of a toss up," she said. "There's pros and cons to both."

Working at home allows Jones to spend time with her two children, C.J., who is 6 and Gerilyn, 2. She planned to work at home before the children were born and made her decision between pre-law and tailoring back in 1980 thinking that sewing would be more practical. So she studied from the best teachers in the area, perfected her skills and acquired equipment. It helps that she learned sewing basics when she was 7-years-old and still enjoys the creativity and challenges of the craft.

"With small children it is definitely the answer," said Jones. "I'm not jerking them out of bed, throwing snowsuits on them and taking them

to daycare at 7:30 a.m."

But it's not always easy to separate work from home life. Jones tries to work a normal 9 a.m.-5 p.m. day, but it doesn't always work that way.

She rewards her children for giving her time to work with a nickel bank. Each time they do something responsible, they get some nickels in a bank to spend as they wish. It's easy for her to keep an eye on the youngsters since they have a playroom next to her work area.

Still, work gets mixed with home life. Jones finds herself ripping out seams when watching television and greeting unexpected customers during dinner although her business does not take walk-ins and only accepts customers on a referral basis.

"I'm a perfectionist with my work and sometimes that rubs off into your life," she said.

But overall she enjoys working at home. She particularly likes the flexibility saying that she can work at 2 a.m. if she wants to.

"You're still not totally your own boss. Your clients still have some control," said Jones, "but it is rewarding to hear customers say, 'I never thought I could look as good as this' or 'I never thought you could do that'."

Helen Jackson of Buchanan also enjoys the rewards of her business — even after doing it for 50 years.

She started sewing as a four-year-

old and remembers going to see 10 cent movies, admiring the movie star's dress and going home to make one for herself. In fact, it was a dream of hers to go to Hollywood and be a dress designer. She was accepted to a design school in Philadelphia, but it was during the Depression and her family couldn't afford to send her.

Her business evolved after she hemmed dresses for the Koenigshof sisters back in the 1940s.

"It was just something that was natural for me to do," she said. "It's something I love to do."

Word of mouth spread and Jackson soon found herself creating wedding dresses, repairing horse blankets and boat covers, making drapes and custom designing furniture slipcovers. The oddest job she ever did was create a space suit for a Niles man who belonged to some sort of club.

"Every job is a challenge. There has to be a way," she said.

Like Jones, Jackson discovered that working at home allowed her to stay with her three children, Marie, Carla and Jim. She also doesn't have to drive in bad weather, call in sick or dress up for work.

However there are disadvantages. Jackson said her work is never done and her sewing room is always a mess.

"There's no end to sewing. There's

never a slow time," she said.

But Jackson feels the work is worth it. The majority of her earnings go to charities such as

Greenpeace and Pets Alive. Jackson is an avid animal rights activist and environmentalist, so her work is personally rewarding as well.



Esther Jones of Buchanan developed a skill she could use to work from her home before her two children were born. She knew she wanted to stay at home with her "miracle" children so she runs a sewing and alterations business on referrals from her home. (Photo by Jane Peterson)

Childcare a workable solution for mothers

About 1.6 million children comprising 8 percent of grade school children of employed mothers come home to empty houses in 1991, according to the United States Department of Commerce report titled, "Who's Minding the Kids? Childcare Arrangements Fall 1991." Of these children, nearly one-third were 5-11 year-olds, while the remaining two-thirds were 12-14 year-olds.

"The mother's job characteristics are the most important factors in determining if a child is a latchkey

kid," said Lynne M. Casper, one of the report's authors. "Factors such as income take a back seat to whether the child's mother works full- or part-time, or has an evening or night shift."

For example, children ages 5-11 whose mothers were full time workers were 4 times more likely to be latchkey kids than children whose mothers were part-time workers.

Other report highlights include:

—Forty-seven percent of preschoolers whose mothers work evening or night shifts receive in-

home childcare. Two-thirds of this care is provided by the father.

—The proportion of preschoolers cared for by fathers while mothers were at work increased from 15 percent in 1988 to 20 percent in 1991.

—The number of preschoolers cared for by family day care providers declined from 24 percent in 1988 to 18 percent in 1991.

—Organized childcare facilities for preschoolers was more likely if the child's mother worked full-time rather than part-time.

BRAND NAME MERCHANDISE

"3 Floors Of Quality Furnishings"

(616) 426-4804

The Dunes Furniture Co.
Red Arrow Hwy at 3 Oaks Rd., Sawyer, MI
Monday 9AM-9PM Tuesday-Saturday 9AM-6PM Closed Sundays

COUPON COUPON COUPON

angie's 426-4437
Red Arrow Highway in Sawyer, MI
\$2.00 off large pizza!
\$1.00 off medium pizza

FREE DELIVERY New Troy, Lakeside, Harbor, New Buffalo, Sawyer, Bridgman, Three Oaks

Not valid with other offers.

COUPON COUPON COUPON

Working Women of the 90s

Women in the work force today are helping in many ways, from Lawyers, Dentists, Construction Workers and Small Business Owners. Women work to better our world!

Drs. Beistle, Smydo & Jilek
121 Main St., Buchanan
695-3601

A woman's work is never completed

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — Often when a man retires, he spends his days playing golf, going fishing or involved in some other activity. When a woman retires, she may do the same, but she still has work to do. It's just disguised as dirty dishes, sloppy bathrooms and messy floors.

"You really don't retire," said Lorraine Schrimsher of Buchanan, who still has a house to clean and laundry to wash. But she gets through these menial chores and manages to spend time at the Buchanan Senior Center, work at the Berrien County Youth Fair and volunteer at Pawating Hospital's gift

shop and information desk. Schrimsher also visits her 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

"Since I've retired, I'm busier than ever," she said. "I don't know how I found the time to work."

But she did. Schrimsher worked for many years in the Buchanan and Niles area in order to see that her kids had a good future. She worked in customer service at Old Kent Bank, as a cashier at Schrader's and the old A & P, and for Frank Poorman, at Kennedy Motors and at Reese Jewelers. Schrimsher stopped working in 1985 to spend time with her husband, who is retired from Bendix.

Her retirement has worked out fine, but there are still some aspects she misses. "I missed the people I just had to get back to doing something," she said.

Mary Louise Hess of Buchanan agrees. Although she was ready to quit working 10 years ago, she wasn't ready to stop moving. She does her housework, helps her 97-year-old mother, participates in line dancing, walks, plays cards and travels around the country. She's been out East, to Branson, Mo., Yellowstone National Park, Canada; and Phoenix, Ariz.

"I've always had something to do. I'm not one to sit around," said Hess, who retired 10 years ago after doing office work in Buchanan for 28

years to help her four children get through college.

She advises other women preparing to retire to do the same. "Find what you want to do and do it," she said.

No one had to tell Norma Taylor of Niles that. She worked as a job placement coordinator for the Niles school system and the Michigan Employment Securities Commission for 25 years. Since her retirement in 1981, Taylor has kept busy being a mother and grandmother, acting as secretary of the Niles Women's Bowling Association, bowling in three leagues and being a bowling secretary / treasurer for some leagues. When she's not bowling or line dancing, Taylor is chairperson of the Niles Area Military Support Group, an organization that mails cards and letters each month to 30 military personnel from the area to let them know that they're not forgotten and to catch up on some hometown news.

"I couldn't have had a better retirement," said Taylor.

But it didn't seem that way at first. In her job with the Niles schools, Taylor worked closely with the students and developed bonds with

them. It was hard to let go at first, but now she loves to hear from past students and know that she touched their lives.

She advises younger women to plan for their retirement. "People should look forward to retirement as with any other phase of life," said Taylor.

Dorine Young may take that advice — someday. The 71-year-old site manager for senior nutrition at the Buchanan Senior Center has no plans to retire.

"I'm not ready yet," she says simply.

She really enjoys her part-time job and working with other seniors. Young claims it keeps her younger.

In addition to her duties and volunteer work at the center, Young participates in line dancing, Buchanan Business and Professional Women organization and the TOPPS club.

So it appears that many senior women enjoy and stay active throughout their retirement years — despite the dirty dishes, sloppy bathrooms and messy floors that wait for them at home.

Fran Terry successfully juggles work, family and other activities

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — Not many women get their first job the way Fran Terry did.

"I just fell into it," she said.

That's the truth. Terry graduated from Buchanan High School on a Wednesday. Two days later she went into Inter-City Bank to open a checking account and a teller asked her if she wanted a job. She filled out the application and was later hired. She started out in bookkeeping, was promoted to consumer loan secretary, then consumer loan representative, consumer loan officer and finally Buchanan branch manager.

Terry did take some time off when her daughter, Dawn, now 16, was born. She went back to work part-time and Dawn's grandmother watched her for an hour after school.

Today their schedules blend. When Terry leaves for work, Dawn leaves for school. When Terry comes home,

Dawn is getting back from practice or other school-related activities. When Terry brings work home, she reads while Dawn does her homework.

Terry finds her job very gratifying. She enjoys the personal contact with people who are customers as well as friends, giving out advice and training new employees who rise through the ranks. She's glad to see women working in different capacities, being promoted within the bank and taking on jobs that were once dominated by men. On the other hand, she regrets not having enough time to see as many things get done as she would like.

But Terry's life doesn't only revolve around work. She has four classes left to take at Lake Michigan College before completing her associate degree requirements. She is also involved in the community. She is a member of the Buchanan Downtown Development Authority, participates in the Optimist Club, does work for the Buchanan

Chamber of Commerce, is assistant treasurer of the Buchanan Church of Christ, is active in the Buchanan school system and sports programs, is a member of the Buchanan Preservation Society and volunteers at Pears Mill.

Still, if Terry had to do it all over again, she would do some things differently. She would have completed her education first instead of taking one class a week like she does now.

But for "falling into it," Terry's career has turned out pretty well. Instead of seeing herself as a secretary, she is shooting for the vice-presidency. This time it won't be by chance — she will have earned it.

Exercise makes you feel better

by Jane Peterson

NILES — Buchanan area women should watch out, they no longer have an excuse for not exercising. With numerous activities around and an excellent facility at the Niles-Buchanan Family YMCA Center, women of all ages can get in shape and feel better.

According to Denise Siegel, YMCA physical director, diet and exercise must go hand-in-hand. Aerobic exercise should be undertaken 3-5 times a week for at least 20 minutes a session. The Y offers lap swimming, an indoor track, step aerobic classes, aqua aerobics and starting in July, a walking club.

"Walking and swimming are highly recommended for beginners," said Siegel. "The best way to start is in the water and work your way out."

Siegel has this advice for beginners: go slow and build into an exercising routine. err on the side of caution, check with a doctor before starting a program and know what your limits are.

Many beginners overdo it. If you've finished exercising and can't breathe or even talk, you've overdone it. If you find yourself in this predicament, Siegel says to cool off by walking slowly while taking deep breaths to get oxygen back into your body.

"Don't stop the activity," said Siegel. "The worst thing you can do is stop."

Beginners should also realize that results won't come quickly. Siegel said it usually takes between 2-5 months to physically see a change. To keep from being discouraged, Siegel says, "Find a buddy. You'll last so much longer."

This applies to all women — teens, young adults, mothers and seniors. The Y has a babysitting service Monday-Friday in the morning and Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

There's also an aqua aerobics class at 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays that's geared specifically to seniors.

"This can help seniors feel the best they can. If you feel 20 years younger, you'll look 20 years younger," Siegel said.

Treats

GIFTS & CARDS

695-2454

Country Crafts Of All Kinds


- Potato baby dolls
- Rabbit dolls
- Party mugs & T-shirts
- Sport team lamps, clocks, snack bowls and chip & dip

AND MUCH MUCH MORE

M-F 11-5
Sat. 11-4

211 East Front St. Buchanan, MI

We Salute The
Business Women of America



F.S. CARBON CO.
324 E. Dewey • Buchanan

Err on the safe side

(NAPS) — Everyone knows how violent the world we live in has become. Crimes against women are especially upsetting. To protect yourself and your family, become aware how to prevent theft and breaking and entering in your own home.

Police studies prove that most burglaries are committed, not by professionals, but by juveniles who spot an open window, a faulty lock or some other target of opportunity. In fact, more than 40 percent of home burglaries are what police call "no force" entries.

One of the most economical ways to increase home security is to install deadbolts on all exterior doors.

Single cylinder deadbolts use a key on the outside and a thumb turn on the inside. Make sure the deadbolt has at least a one-inch throw and a reinforced strike plate with three-inch screws. The throw is the total length of the bolt when it is projected out from the door in the locked position. The reinforced strike plate attaches to the door frame. It should be made of heavy-gauge steel and have at least three-inch screws for reinforcement. The plate's main purpose is to strengthen the door frame. When a door is violated, in most cases it is due to the door frame being fractured.

Some other security tips to consider are:

—replacing door and door frames

that are in poor condition. Doors should be made of hardwood or steel and have peepholes.

—install a separate keyed lock to your garage door and the garden with a keyed lock and deadbolt.

—secure glass doors by installing vertical bolts or placing a metal rod or piece of wood in the track to help prevent intruders from sliding the door open.

—if you've just moved into a house or apartment, it's a good idea to have the exterior locks rekeyed or replaced.

—don't hide spare keys in mailboxes, planters or under doormats. Those are the first places a burglar will look.



Peggy Roberts (left) and Fran Terry enjoy working at Shoreline Bank. Both like meeting new people. (Photo by Jane Peterson)

Opportunities don't pass by Roberts

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — Peggy Roberts knows how to grab an opportunity when one becomes available. Saying that she saw herself as only a secretary when she began working at Shoreline Bank (formerly Inter-City Bank) almost 10 years ago, she has risen through the ranks: first as secretary to the branch manager, then as an administrative assistant and finally as a mortgage loan officer.

In fact, Roberts didn't even plan a career in banking. The opportunity arose and she took it. Now firmly planted in her career, she has her eye on the bank's vice presidency.

Roberts enjoys banking because of the personal contact with customers. She likes meeting people, helping them and seeing the immediate results.

"It's gratifying to see how you can help someone," she said.

Her typical day includes a variety of tasks such as taking applications, underwriting and closing loans and assisting in other branch duties. At

the end of the day, she travels home to Galien and spends time with her husband, Mike, and two sons: Matt, 17 and T.J., 15.

Roberts did not work when her sons were young. She went back after T.J. started school and both boys went to a babysitter's house until mom got off work. Looking back, Roberts said she missed out on their after school chatter as they told their babysitter everything that happened during their day and by the time she asked about their activities, she received, "Nothing," as a standard reply.

In addition to her work and home responsibilities, Roberts is active in the United Way, and Galien Athletic Boosters, is the Galien United Methodist Church treasurer and Galien Babe Ruth Association secretary.

But it seems that no matter what activities Peggy Roberts decides to participate in in the future, one thing will remain the same — she will recognize an opportunity and not let it pass her by.

If you don't want to work you have to work to earn enough money so that you won't have to work.

—Ogden Nash

Introducing the area's newest health care services for women

Women's Specialties of Stevensville

Southwestern Medical Clinic is pleased to expand its tradition of personal, caring health care with complete women's medical services at a convenient Stevensville location. You have a choice of three highly qualified physicians. Or choose one of our team of experienced, certified nurse-midwives.

You'll find:

- Family-centered maternity care (low- and high-risk)
- Well-woman care
- Contraception consultation
- On-site lab, X-ray and ultrasound
- Infertility counseling and treatment

- Choice of delivery locations. The Birthplace at Berrien General Hospital or The Family Birthing Center at Mercy Memorial Medical Center
- Endometriosis treatment
- Menopause management
- Care of female diseases
- Advanced surgical procedures

Physician Staff:



Lawrence C. Cairns, M.D.,
FACOG
Obstetrics/Gynecology



Jeffrey L. Schaffer, M.D.,
FACOG
Obstetrics/Gynecology



Helene M. Johnson, M.D.
Obstetrics

Certified Nurse-Midwives: Offering well woman exams, contraceptive counseling and obstetrical care



Elia R. Ditts, R.N.,
C.N.M.



Barbara J. Evans, R.N.,
C.N.M.



Janet Nightengale, R.N.,
C.N.M.



Esther R. Triphan, R.N.,
C.N.M.

Call now for an appointment
429-0900

Women's Specialties of Stevensville
Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.


Southwestern
Medical
Clinic, PC

5515 Cleveland Avenue, Suite 2, Stevensville, MI
(1/4 mile north of Lakeshore High School, in front of Hickory Trace apartments)

*We Salute the Women in
Business of our community!*



**DENISE'S
GROOMING SERVICE**



Located at
Bremen Veterinary Services
Baroda, MI 49101
616-429-1176

THE BOSS

Dixie Detgen's life is filled with teaching music

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — Dixie Detgen's life revolves around music

The Buchanan Community School's band director teaches around 300 elementary, middle and high school students each school day, performs the oboe in the St. Joseph Municipal Band, the Southshore Concert Band and a South Bend, Ind. band, judges other bands, attends music conventions, participates in church choir, writes articles for trade journals and lectures at musical events

Lucky for her, she enjoys her career "I like starting with something that is unrecognizable and

through a long, tedious process put on a wonderful performance," she said

She's been doing this for almost 27 years A graduate of New Troy High School, Detgen earned bachelor and master's degrees from Western Michigan University and completed post-graduate work at VanderCook University She said she was fortunate that she started her teacher training with a master teacher, Russell Reed The two remain lifelong friends

Not everything has gone so smoothly, however "I'm very busy," she said. "I regret not having much time for family or a social life."

Detgen's day begins at 7 a.m., when she arrives at school and does some paperwork, from 8-8:45, she directs the fifth grade band; around 9 a.m. she's at the middle school for her prep period in which she completes more paperwork, from 9:50-10:47 she directs the eighth grade band; 11:02-noon is spent with the high school band, lunch is from 12:02-12:20 p.m., from 12:24-1:25 p.m. she teaches the seventh grade band At 2:20 p.m., school is out, but Detgen said she rarely leaves before 4 p.m. During solo and ensemble time, it's around 6 p.m. She does take work home and says her telephone never stops ringing at home

With her other activities, this leaves little time for her family, which includes husband Corbin, a fourth grade teacher at Ottawa Elementary School, and daughters Stacie, 30 and Kristie, 27 For seven years after the birth of Stacie, Detgen stayed at home She taught private lessons, studied for her master's degree and raised her young daughters "It was finally easier to go back to work," she said

She gives credit to her husband for pitching in and doing any housework that needs to be done When the kids were young, at least one parent attended each event they were involved in

Detgen taught both of her children when they were in the middle school band She said she treated them like any other student Although the girls weren't pressured into joining band, Detgen told them if they started, they

would have to practice and not quit Stacie followed in her mother's footsteps and became a band director. Kristie performs with the 126th Army Band, Michigan Army National Guard.

Detgen believes that all students should take part in some kind of fine art activity She said data proves that students who participate in the arts score higher on standardized tests and the longer they participate, the better they do

"People need some kind of outlet," said Detgen "I'm not trying to teach children to be performers necessarily There's a discipline,

competitive spirit and dedication to seeing it through to the end It's team work "

Detgen's outlet is doing outside things "Judging is for me," she said "It's my release "

Other musical activities involve her family When Corbin Detgen can get away, he attends conventions, plays and concerts with his wife "It's made for some nice family relationships," said Detgen.

Despite her many years and affiliations in music, Detgen suspects that when she retires, she will have to cut the apron strings. She plans to do this for her successor's sake and her own



Jan Wurtz has a good time operating The Sequin Parrot in Bridgman. She learned that there is a lot of work in running your own business, but it is rewarding. (Photo by Phyllis Cummings)

Owning a business can be therapeutic

by Phyllis Cummings

The Sequin Parrot was a saving grace for owner Jan Wurtz, and a fulfillment of a lifelong desire.

"At 40 years old, I wasn't really sure what I wanted to do with my life," said Wurtz. "I always wanted to grow up and be something, I just wasn't sure what it was But I was one of the lucky ones I had someone who pushed me along "

"After the death of our mother, my sister, Becky Turk, prodded me into doing something besides sitting around the house," said Wurtz "It was her idea to get me out of civic life and out of sitting at home being an old bum, to let's start using my mind and talents again So we did just that."

"She is such a talented lady," said Wurtz, "that we wanted to do something that would take advantage of her artistic nature and mine. So, we decided to open a boutique "

Within three weeks, they had done just that Wurtz rented a store front on Lake Street in Bridgman, cleaned up the mess left by the previous business, and opened the doors to the Sequin Parrot

"At first we had just a T-shirt line and focused on the applique part of the business," she explained "We had appliques that could be used to

enhance and refurbish your wardrobe. We slowly started working with new reps and companies and expanded our line."

But it wasn't easy starting a new business, Wurtz explained "This was a big learning experience for me," said the owner of the Sequin Parrot "I've been associated with retail all my life, but actually owning and running a business is so different There's so much that goes on behind the scenes, I had no idea how tough it was "

Wurtz feels that being a woman was a bit of a stumbling block for her at first But difficulties with vendors and reps, only increase her tenacity

"They don't get by me very easy," she said "I don't take no for an answer. After all, I am a persistent cuss If I see something I want for the shop, I go after it "

"When you are a woman, I don't care what anyone tells you, you don't get respect for that," explained Wurtz "It still isn't out there like it should be. But I learned my money is as good as anyone else's, and if they want my business, they'll be here."

Wurtz employs five to six different designers to complement her quality lines for clothing Artists, including several local area painters and jewelry makers, supply Wurtz with the unique items for her shop. She also has artists from across the country.

Shawna Clevenger is pleased to announce the Grand Opening Of...

Orphan Annie's

NEW & CONSIGNMENT CLOTHING FOR GALS

Friday, June 3rd

Tue - Sat 11-7

Sun 12-4

108 Main Street, Buchanan (616) 697-4500

Price • Service • Reliability



IT'S ALL HERE At Your Hometown Pharmacy



- ★ Prescription Drugs
 - ★ Hallmark Cards & Gifts ★ Russel Stover
 - ★ Cosmetics ★ Home Health Care Aids
 - ★ Fanny May ★ Hearing Aid Dept. ★ Film Developing
- And so much more . . .*

Caring for Buchanan for over 70 YEARS

Your health & happiness store

WISNER-BECK DRUG STORE, INC.

Free Prescription Delivery

802 E. Front Street
Buchanan, Michigan

695-3511



Buchanan a good place to start a business for Clevenger

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — Spend an hour with Shawna Clevenger and you may call her a risktaker. But she describes herself as confident instead — confident that her new shop, Orphan Annie's, will succeed and confident that Buchanan is a good place to start a business.

A Buchanan High School graduate, Clevenger always wanted to open her own business, but wasn't sure what to sell. When her boyfriend, Jeff, suggested a clothing consignment shop, she just jumped on the idea and it took off. Within a couple of weeks she had a storefront

on Main St., consignment contracts and inventory. On Friday, June 3, her shop will open for business.

Orphan Annie's will offer new and consigned jewelry and clothing. Clevenger wants to give women an alternative to high-priced mall clothing and let them feel good about themselves. That's why in the future she plans make-up classes and other special events for women only.

Although she has never worked in a clothing store, Clevenger is no stranger to the business. Her mother, Darlene Clevenger, operated Reincarnations, a clothing consignment store in downtown Buchanan in 1987 and she helped on

weekends.

Clevenger has no doubt that her shop will be successful. She is planning special promotions to help get it off the ground, plans to be actively involved in the Buchanan Area Chamber of Commerce and wants to spread the word that Buchanan is worth taking a chance on.

"There's a purpose for me opening this store. I'm here for a reason,"

said Clevenger. "I feel real good and positive about things."

Her daughter Nikki, 4, is also becoming active in the business. She accompanies her mom to the shop and plays dolls or wants to dress up. Clevenger said Nikki has picked up on some of the business language as well. She understands what the words "sales," "customers," and "consignment" mean. Sometimes she'll play with the cash register

pretending to wait on a customer and other times she's the customer, expecting friendly service.

Clevenger plans to keep Nikki in the store with her during the day. For those times when she is unable to do so, she has plenty of relatives in the area who help out.

"I'm pretty lucky," she said. But when it comes to her shop, skill is better than luck — Clevenger is confident about that.

Seager's life is never dull

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — Debbie Seager is not your typical lawyer. She never really aspired to be a lawyer and it wasn't a lifelong dream of hers. Even when she took a chance and was accepted to law school, she wasn't sure she belonged there and that being a lawyer was right for her.

That could be because it took a long time to get to that point. A graduate of Berrien Springs High School, she started attending Lake Michigan College when her two boys, Ric and Paul, were in elementary school. But to do that, she felt she had to earn some money for classes. She didn't like the idea of taking her husband's money. So, Seager held down a succession of part-time jobs including selling cosmetics and decorative home furnishings to fund her education.

She earned an associate's degree from LMC and then decided to apply to St. Mary's College because she liked the idea of an all girls school. It was there she discovered her love for the law.

After receiving a bachelor of arts with a major in history and minor in political science, she thought, "Now what can I do?" Seager applied to the Notre Dame Law School, but never thought she would be accepted. Even later, when she was attending law classes, she had thoughts that officials would find out they had made a mistake and that she didn't really belong there.

One of the first things she had to deal with was how different Notre Dame was from St. Mary's. At the latter, officials were supportive of women's efforts. At Notre Dame, it was cut throat, hard edged and different for women.

"Women have a difficult time getting respect," said Seager. "Women just weren't listened to the way a man is."

But she stuck it out and learned a few lessons along the way.

"I learned that if I have all my facts and do the best I can to draw a conclusion, then I can defend my position," she said.

After graduation from law school, Seager decided to take the summer off to study for the Bar Exam. She finally took the exam in July and didn't find out that she had passed until that November. Then she wanted to have a nice old-fashioned Christmas for her family before she went searching for a job because it wasn't something she had time to do for a couple of years while going to school.

However, around that time she learned another valuable lesson. Life isn't always planned. She had discovered that she was pregnant with her third child, Jenny.

By the time Jenny was born, Seager was working. She took a maternity leave, but was asked to come back to work when her daughter was one month old because her partners needed help. So, Seager brought the baby to work with her. She couldn't do that for very long, though. Her clients enjoyed playing with the baby so much that 20 minute meetings easily turned into an hour.

Today Seager works full time, is the mayor of Buchanan and devotes a lot of time and effort to city activities.

"I go from morning until I can't keep my eyes open anymore," she said. "My life has never been dull and I've never been in a rut. Sometimes I wish for boredom."

To feel that you have done what should be done raises you in your own eyes.

—Eugène Delacroix



A TRUCKLOAD OF BEAUTIFUL PINE FURNITURE JUST ARRIVED!

- Hutches • Bookshelves • Table & Chairs • Microwave Stands • End Tables
- Entertainment Center • Cuno Cabinet • Postal Desks • School Master Desks • Mini Heart Presale
- Much, much more. Also lots of Oak & Wicker! ALL AT UNBELIEVABLE LOW PRICES!

Come see Doris, she loves to give a deal!

"The Classics" ... (616) 422-1991

Reproduction Furniture, Floral, Gifts, Downtown Baroda, 10 6 daily, closed Sundays

Color your yard with Perennials



Easy to plant

Our container grown plants can be set Spring, Summer or Fall

Area's largest selection

And you will enjoy our clear advice, & attention to detail

A Living Color Catalog

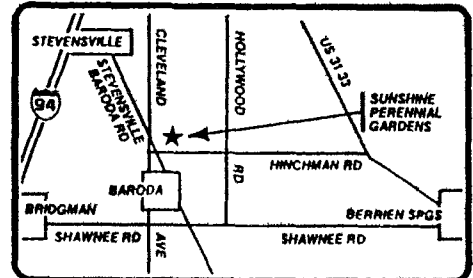
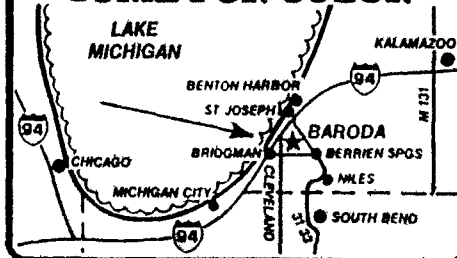
awaits you. See your selections blooming in five display gardens

PLANT NOW

- Hosta
- Ornamental Grasses
- Daylilies
- Peonies

- Shady character for your property and no care!
- Heads in the sky, feet on the ground, beautiful in between!
- Two hundred American cultivars for Sunny areas!
- Landscape statements that will out-live you!

COME FOR COLOR



12 minutes from Buchanan for quality!

Sunshine Perennial Gardens

10 til 6 (EDT) every day • 1251 W Hinchman between Cleveland & Hollywood Rd

Area's largest perennial selection near Baroda, MI.

NORRIS' COUNTRY CORNER
 US 12 & Cleveland Ave., Gallip, MI 545-8163
 Fri-Sat 10-6; Sun 12-5

Other Times by Chance!

Windmills • Wishing Wells • Farm Toys • Antiques • Lighthouses
 Gift Baskets • Pewter Jewelry
 Balloons • Flowers



Change of careers natural for Nancy Shaffer

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — Nancy Shaffer is not a woman afraid of change. She has switched careers three times in her life and has found each experience to be "exciting, with only a small twinge of doubt." Her latest career move is as a full-time Buchanan agent for Modern Realty, Inc.

"Changing careers keeps you from getting bored, stale. I highly recommend it," she said. "It's a continual learning process."

Shaffer and her husband of 30 years moved back to Berrien County one year ago from Rochester, Minn. where they both worked for IBM. When the company began cutting positions and rearranging assignments, the couple decided to move back to Michigan to be near their families.

She decided to pursue her realtor's license because it was "something she always wanted to try." She achieved her goal and will mark her first anniversary with Modern Realty in July.

"I like it for the most part," said Shaffer, who has a bachelor's degree in education from Central Michigan University and a master's degree in professional development from Winona State University in Minnesota. "There are so many variables when it comes to bringing people and houses together. No two transactions are the same."

What Shaffer enjoys most is working with people. Her biggest reward is getting people matched with the right house. "I really like my job when we sit down at the closing table and everyone's happy," she said.

Flexibility is another plus for

Shaffer. She doesn't spend every day sitting at a desk. She may be out showing homes, scouting properties or meeting with clients.

The drawback of being a realtor is that work and home life are not easily separated. "It's not like working a 9 a.m.-5 p.m. job," she said. "But I try to be accommodating because clients have their own jobs."

According to Shaffer, she may get calls on Saturday nights and holidays, show a property during evening hours or complete paperwork at home. There's rarely a day that is totally devoid of the business. Shaffer said it may only be 10-15 minutes, but the work is still there at some point during the day.

She added that her husband is very supportive of her hectic lifestyle.

Which is why Shaffer has learned to be a good time manager. She said it is a necessity in her business because things happen at all times of the day and if a realtor is unorganized, he/she can be totally frazzled. The key is to work smarter, not harder.

Smart is a word that describes Shaffer. If she can handle the ups and downs of the real estate business — and it certainly appears that she can — she can handle anything. After all, who knows what will happen in the future for a person who's not afraid of the unknown.



Nancy Shaffer of Modern Realty in Buchanan works many hours to match a home with the right family. This is the perfect job for her since she enjoys working with people. (Photo by Jane Peterson)

Tomorrow is the most important thing in life. Comes into us at midnight very clean. It's perfect when it arrives, and puts itself in our hands. It hopes we've learned something from yesterday.

—John Wayne

Honoring Women in Business and their Success stories



STREFLING REAL ESTATE, INC.

9270 Cleveland Ave Baroda, Michigan 49101 616-422-1500

4369 S Red Arrow Hwy Stevensville, Michigan 49127 616-429-1531

Come Browse
Enjoy a free, flavorful cup of gourmet coffee or iced flavored Cappuccino.

We are the area's most favored craft shop!

- Over 75 crafters exhibiting on 2 full floors
- Complete selection of Americana, Victorian, and true country crafts!
- Wonderful wood, elegant stained glass,
- beautiful dried florals, and adorable soft sculptures
- Complete line of packaged gourmet foods,
- perfect for gift giving and/or self indulgence
- 36 fresh roasted gourmet coffee flavors

Need a unique gift for a unique person? Let us create a gift basket especially for that person!

Downtown Dowagiac on Front St
PEDDLER'S CART (Gourmet Coffee, Crafts & Gifts)

Mon Fri 10-6
Sat 10-5
Sun 11-3

Walk-ins Always Welcome
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE



Kangaroo Klippers

465-3444 4520 Lake Street, Bridgman across from LaSalle Federal

OPEN MONDAY THRU SATURDAY

Sentiments, Inc.

A resale connection for designer clothes, collectibles and gifts for the home!



LOOK ESPECIALLY FOR OUR WEDDING & FORMAL DRESSES

Tues-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-6pm
307 E. Main St., Niles 684-1556

Going Places

Women are setting goals. They live a busy life, many times juggling home & work schedules. Making decisions for their futures. We admire the working women. "You're Looking Good"



FAPCO, INC.
216 Post Rd., Buchanan

Falkenstein enjoys being herself

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — Karen Falkenstein is not your typical elementary school principal. Her office is cluttered with papers, deluged with pig memorabilia and has a green and white aura from her days at Michigan State University.

But growing up, Falkenstein thought she would lead the typical life for a girl raised in the 1950s: being a teacher, getting married and having children.

Falkenstein soon discovered that

life isn't always planned.

She did become a teacher, but went into special education after her dad became sick and died in the Battle Creek VA Hospital from MS when she was in high school.

She did get married, but later divorced.

She does have a child, but she's a stepdaughter from her second marriage. Falkenstein had uterine cancer and couldn't have children.

Today Falkenstein, as principal of Ottawa Elementary School in Buchanan, is comfortable with her

life. She has degrees in special education and elementary education and a master's in reading instruction from MSU and is working on her doctorate in K-12 administration from MSU.

She began her career student teaching at Stark elementary and then taught at Moccasin elementary from 1973-79. The following year, Falkenstein became acting principal at Moccasin and later principal of Ottawa.

Falkenstein considers herself a real people person and spends most of her

days talking with teachers and students. She enjoys facilitating relationships and taking care of problems early on.

"Every day is different," she said. "I like the unexpected."

She believes that being a woman has helped her in her job for four reasons: society feels more comfortable talking problems over with a female; she's a good listener and nurturer, people tend to forget she's an administrator; and she knows what it's like to be the odd one out. In her administrative job, she often finds herself the only woman among a bunch of men.

Falkenstein is adamant about what she dislikes about her job — paperwork. And because she spends so much of her day involved with other people, she often finds herself staying late to finish the paper trail.

She also spares some time to participate in non school-related

activities. Falkenstein is a board member for the Samaritan Center and Big Brothers/Big Sisters, a member of First United Methodist Church and is national chairperson for the MSU Alumni Board.

All this leaves little time for her husband, Chuck and stepdaughter, Amanda. He works long hours at Buchanan Floral, but somehow they manage to make time for each other. In her "spare" time Falkenstein enjoys reading mystery novels, dancing and performing. Someday she would like to run in a marathon.

But right now her feet are firmly planted in her principal job. If there is one thing she is pleased about, it is having young boys see a strong female in a leadership position and for girls to have a role model. She said the limiting of girls voices has been incredible and she wants this generation to rise above that and be their own individuals.

In breast cancer, early detection important

(NU) — The debate over when women should begin getting routine mammograms — at age 40 or 50 — should not obscure one simple fact: early detection is critical.

Consider these statistics:

—One out of every eight American women will get breast cancer.

—Nearly two million women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in the 1990s, and about 460,000 will die, according to the American Cancer Society.

—Breast cancer, if detected before it has infiltrated the lymph nodes, has a five-year survival rate of more than

90 percent. Once it reaches the lymph nodes, the rate drops to 71 percent. And if it spreads beyond the lymph nodes, the rate plummets to 18 percent.

"In tumors of one centimeter or less, we have a 94 percent survival rate, with the patient free of disease. More than one centimeter in size, the possibility of spreading into another part of the body is more common. Therefore the survival rate is not as good," says Dr. Raul M. Matallana, internationally known mammographer and professor of radiology at the University of Miami.

"The main situation that we have to resolve is how to make an early detection."

Matallana is chairman of the Medical Advisory Board of Digital Mammographics, Inc., the Florida-based company in the forefront of developing a computer-based diagnostic system designed to provide fast and accurate analysis of mammograms. The system, already in use in Europe, incorporates a database of 32,000 patients and provides medical personnel with a means to detect minute problem areas in women's breasts.

For more information about the technology, write to M.I. Feldman, Senior Vice President, Operations, DMI, Dept. NU, 3861 Talah Drive, Palm Harbor, FL 34684-2458.

How to shake the "post-partum blues"

(NAPS) — No matter how much happiness a new baby brings to a family, many mothers feel "blue" after giving birth.

Healthy Start, a federal program promoting safe pregnancies and regular prenatal care, says if you feel sad or cry easily in the days following your baby's birth, don't worry. After-delivery, "post-partum blues" is common. Physical reasons can cause this depression; it often accompanies the body's effort to regain fluid-salt and hormonal balances after birth. In most cases, this balance returns in four to seven days. It may take ten days for some mothers.

Being overtired or stressed can also make you feel depressed — and a new baby can certainly wear you out! You need rest, as you are undergoing significant physical and emotional changes. Try to sleep when your baby sleeps. If you feel stressed, take a break; call a friend, take a shower or bath, ask your partner or friend to watch the baby while you relax.

Seek help if you're blue — talk with your partner or friend, another mother or your health care provider. You and your baby are better off when you're feeling good.

For more information on having a healthy baby, write: Healthy Start, P.O. Box 826, Merrifield, VA 22116.



COUNTRY MATES

Come on in! and
We're open every day



120 W. Buffalo (U.S. 12) New Buffalo Mich. 489 2890 Mon Sat 10 to 6 Sun 12 to 6

IMPERIAL FURNITURE

proudly offers



...guaranteed for life.



**Quality-Built By Skilled...
Swiss/Amish Craftsmen**

HARDWOOD FRAME CONSTRUCTION

PATENTED COIL SPRING / SUSPENSION

HIGH RESILIENCY FOAM SEAT CUSHIONS

One look tells you, this is not ordinary furniture. The detailing, the way everything comes together, you know it's something special. Traditional beauty, skillfully built by Swiss Amish craftsmen, sets it apart from all the rest. Come in and see it, and let us tell you about all the fine features that make this furniture such an outstanding value. And while you're here, take a look at the other Smith Brothers sofas, loveseats and chairs displayed on our floor.

Custom orders welcome.
Free set up and delivery.

IMPERIAL FURNITURE

2 miles south on M-51 S
Dowagiac, MI
616-782-5020

MF96
W'til 8
Sat 9-5

Lakeshore

QWIK LUBE

Across from Lakeshore High School
John Beers & Cleveland • Stevensville • 429-2010
M-F 9-6; Thurs. till 8; Sat. 8-5

FULL SERVICE OIL CHANGE

COUPON

\$3.00 OFF

Full Service Oil Change

Discount not valid with other offers
COUPON GOOD
Thru July 16, 1994



ONE TOUGH MOTOR OIL

Going back to school can be a rewarding experience

by Jane Peterson

Many people complain about their jobs, bosses and pay, but never do anything about it. They see the ads on television promoting new skills and get the college brochures in the mail on going back to school, but think that would take too much time, money or effort. Well, two local women believed it was worth the effort and are finding the experience immensely rewarding.

Patty Gowanlock of Niles went back to college one year ago. A ticket agent for Amtrak, she wasn't sure if her job was going to exist 20 years from now with new technology taking the place of people. Gowanlock wanted to go back to

school for years, but as a single mother, decided to wait until the two children were older. When Amanda was 13 and George was 11, she signed up for classes at Lake Michigan College.

Enrolling was the easy part. Walking into the classroom for the first time was hard.

"I almost turned around and ran," she said. "But I figured if I would get through the first class, I would make it."

Gowanlock said attending classes has helped her self-esteem. She also realizes the importance of an education and believes that she values it more now than if she would have gone on to college after high school.

She plans on earning her

associate's degree in 1996 and her bachelor's in 1998. She plans to continue for her master's and doctorate.

"I'm very driven right now. I don't want to stop," said Gowanlock. "I want to go all the way through."

Her ultimate goal is to obtain a job which requires problem solving skills. Currently she is considering becoming a trainer for a company, teaching part-time at a travel school or maybe marketing.

Gowanlock believes that going back to school has already opened doors for her. She volunteers for a junior achievement program at an area elementary school, does more things with her children and volunteers for additional

responsibilities at work.

Peggy Rodgers of Galien spent a long time being a mother and employee before going back to school in 1992. Still, she calls herself a lifelong student.

"Young people don't value education," said Rodgers. "But life is an education. I wouldn't have appreciated the opportunity the first time."

Rodgers is a graduate of Galien High School. She married her husband, Carl Jr., at a young age and had her first child at age 18. When her children were young, she worked outside the home and did volunteer work.

Now, Rodgers' children Carl III, 32, Scott, 29, and Joseph, 18 are grown and she is pursuing a dream.

She wants to have a working studio/office for an interior decorating service and art gallery.

"I'd need to make money, but I want to surround myself with the arts," she said.

Rodgers received her associate's degree in applied fine arts and has 15 credits toward a bachelor's degree at LMC.

Like Gowanlock, she believes college has opened doors for her. She will teach a continuing education class at LMC Sept. 17-Oct. 22 and a class at Flynn Theatre in Sawyer June 28-July 26.

Rodgers advises anyone whose life is established to go back to school. "It's so important to keep learning all your life. The No. 1 thing is to keep the learning experience alive."

Group unites working women

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — Today there is a club for just about everybody. Groups of people who share an interest unite together for support, to share ideas and offer friendship. That's the idea behind the Buchanan Business and Professional Women and its state, national and international organizations.

The Michigan Business and Professional Women federation was formed in 1912 in Detroit to offset the loneliness of the pioneer business women. Then called the Detroit Business Women's Club, the group lost no time establishing a working scholarship fund with a \$2 donation to assist women and girls in getting more education.

Today there are some 60,000 members in approximately 3,500 local organizations in 53 federations that make up the National Federation

of BPW/USA.

Local organizations, such as the Buchanan BPW, offer networking opportunities, leadership experiences, friendship and fellowship, personal and professional skills development, participation in the legislative process and information on critical issues facing working women.

The objective of BPW is to elevate the standards for women in business, promote interests and extend opportunities. Federations strive to put qualified women in policy making posts in government and business and professional fields.

Members are all ages and are involved in all phases of business. The young member is able to develop leadership and management skills, receive guidance and contribute new ideas to the group. Mid-career members develop self-awareness, realize their potential and find

support and sharing. Mature members bring experience, career expertise and contribute insight and encouragement.

For more information about the Buchanan BPW call Maryellen Schutze at 695-7110.

Diana's Design

★ **NEW** ★

We now can do full color process mugs with your full color photo!

Only \$12.95

SAME DAY DELIVERY!

2813 Lawrence, Stevensville • 429-8205

There is no failure except in no longer trying.

—Elbert Hubbard

Home Financing made simple by LaSalle

LaSalle Federal Savings Bank understands that today's businesswoman has many demands on her time. To help her, we have made home financing simpler and faster than ever. At LaSalle Federal, you will see the same friendly loan officer throughout the mortgage process...from application to closing. And with our seven-day mortgage loan approval,* you don't have to go through the long process of waiting. Call or stop by one of our convenient locations today!

* subject to qualified appraisal; certain restrictions apply



MEMBER FDIC

Buchanan	695-3884
Bridgman	465-5500
Coloma	468-6741
Decatur	423-7081
Niles	684-7780
St. Joseph	982-4175

O...the

S U M M E R

STYLE

See... *Continuations...*

offering a continuation of your style

- Fine Leather Bags & Belts • Hats • Jewelry
- Distinctively Different Gift Items

O...the & Co. Clothiers

220 State Street
Saint Joseph, MI 49085
(616) 983-1300

Monday-Friday 9:30-6; Sat. 9:30-5:00; Sunday 12-5:00
VISA, MasterCard & American Express



Doris Henderson (right) helps a customer at The Classics in Baroda. Henderson has been in business for 29 years. (Photo by Phyllis Cummings)

Henderson loves doing business in Baroda

by Phyllis Cummings

A love affair with the business and the people is what has kept Doris Henderson, owner of The Classics in Baroda, in business for 29 years

"I love the people," said Henderson "I like to hug each customer and let them know how welcome they are here. And I love the business end, the buying of beautifully crafted furniture and woven rugs, I love buying the antiques and the candles and the baskets. They are all so beautifully made I enjoy making the flower arrangements and designing things for the shop. Frankly, I love it all "

Henderson and her husband began the business as an act of charity.

"There was a place that sold all sorts of rummage and craft items," she said "They couldn't pay the rent on the building so my late husband, he was an angel, thought we should help them out. So we began to do the work and paying the rent. Not too many months after we started, I became a widow. And unknown to me, my husband had put the business license in my name. I was so surprised, but so pleased too. And

I've had the business ever since. Of course in a few different locations, including Orchard's Mall and Nashville, Tenn But it's been pretty much the same, and it's been good to me "

Smart shoppers appeal to Henderson She says a customer that is well informed about the quality of merchandise and the going price makes her job easy.

"I like to see people who are smart come through my door," she explained. "That way I don't have to hire someone to sell the merchandise. Basically, the customer knows that they are looking at quality goods, at a fair price and they sell themselves. I like that "

Henderson doesn't foresee an end to her "miracle career" any time soon.

"I retired once, but I didn't like it," explained Henderson. "I went around the world, but heck, that wasn't any fun. I liked being right where I am better. I'm an old cookie now, but this shop keeps me young. We may be on the older side, but we have young ideas and young hearts."

Women doctors keep Buchanan healthy

by Jane Peterson

BUCHANAN — Everyone knows that being a doctor is a tough job Once you make it through several years of medical school, you have to deal with medical forms, malpractice insurance and tons of paperwork. But Buchanan doctors Brenda Smoke and Joyce Jilek say it is worth it They get great satisfaction from helping their patients — both those recovering from problems and those looking to prevent future ones

Smoke's fascination with the eye led to a career in optometry. She wanted to help people understand that eyecare is important because if their vision is good, it does not necessarily mean their eyes are O.K

"You can't replace your eyes," she said "By being able to service patients' needs and bring benefit to them, everyday is a joy."

Smoke opened Smoke Family Vision Center in Buchanan with her husband, Steven, four years ago. The move made her one of two female optometrists in southwestern Michigan In fact, only 18 percent of the 27,000 licensed optometrists around the country are women. She believes that being a woman has both helped and hindered her career.

"The patients like seeing a woman and some children respond easier with a woman," she said

But while she has earned respect from her patients, it wasn't as easy gaining respectability in her profession Being the only woman at some conventions, other doctors sometimes weren't sure how to talk or be around her.

"I have to work harder to prove myself," she said. "It's a challenge, but it keeps me on my toes "

And on the road Last year the Smokes opened an office in New Buffalo, so she spends every Monday-Wednesday in the Buchanan office and Thursday-Saturday in New Buffalo Her typical day revolves around patient appointments — and she wouldn't have it any other way Smoke, who graduated from Northern Michigan University and the Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago, enjoys the one-on-one contact.

But what is it like working with and sharing an office with her husband?

"It's worked out better than I thought it would. It's nice to work toward a goal together," she said.

That goal is to stay in Buchanan until they are ready to retire. According to Smoke, the couple

plans to remain devoted to their patients because they made a lifetime commitment when they opened the practice

"I'd do it all over again without even a second thought," she said

Dr. Jilek feels the same way She practices dentistry at 121 Main St. in Buchanan and loves her work, the patients, her hours and the variety of cases.

Jilek moved to Buchanan with her husband, Joe, a few years ago She said they were both fortunate to have found a job within the same small community because it makes it easier to look after their children, Ellen, 3, and Joseph, 5 Working three days a week also allows Jilek to maintain a balance of work and home life

Jilek graduated with a bachelor of arts in English and German from the University of Michigan in 1980 and from dental school in 1985. Being a woman has helped Jilek in her career She said it is more soothing to children and therefore makes them less fearful of going to the dentist.

Maybe someday doctors Brenda Smoke and Joyce Jilek will become less fearful of paperwork. Until then it appears they will continue to do what they love best — helping their patients lead healthy lives

RESTONIC

BEST DEAL SALE!

SAVE '85!

\$69.00

REG. 11541 RESTONIC®
ULTRA REST
TWIN SIZE, EA. PC.

Full set \$119 New 1179
Queen set \$99 New 929

SAVE '85!

\$185

REG. 2881 RESTONIC®
ELEGANCE PILLOW TOP
TWIN SIZE, EA. PC.

Full set \$275 New 246
Queen set \$275 New 299
King 3-pc. set \$1875 New 1546

SAVE 120!

\$229

REG. 3491 RESTONIC®
MARVELOUS MIDDLE®
TWIN SIZE, EA. PC.

Full set \$349 New 229
Queen set \$349 New 299
King 3-pc. set \$1149 New 1029

Thanks to a special arrangement with Restonic®, you'll get tremendous savings on a huge selection of quality sleep sets in every firmness and size!

ERHARD & Carpet

FURNITURE

3 miles North of New
31 Bypass
Open Mon-Thurs. 10-8
Fri 10-4, Closed Sat
Sun 10-5
6681 U.S. 31 North,
Berrien Springs •
429-6444

Best of Both Worlds Under One Roof

Quality "Like New" Children's Clothing & Accessories
Also Ladies Plus Sizes, Mens & Ladies Jeans-All Sizes
On Consignment • Now Accepting Spring/Summer Clothing

Mini Craft Mall

• Featuring 25 Craft Booths • Displaying a Wide Variety of Hand Crafted Gifts for all Occasions, at Bargain Prices!

CRAFT BOOTH RENTAL AVAILABLE

SPECIAL FEATURES

- Greeting Cards
- Browsing Headquarters for all your browsing needs
- U.S. Postage Stamps
- Custom Photo Buttons

Stop in Today & Be Pleasantly Surprised While Saving Money Too!

LIL' ANGELS BOUTIQUE AND CRAFTS

Hours: Mon-Fri 1-7 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sun 1-5 p.m.
9212 Cleveland Rd., Baroda, MI 48101 • (510) 422-1665

***We at Hilltop Cafe salute
America's business women.***

***Their contributions to the business
community are tremendous
and they are appreciated.***



HOURS:

**6 am-10 pm Mon thru Sat;
6 am-9 pm Sunday**

**708 E. Front St.
Buchanan, Michigan 49107
695-9515**