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ONDITIONER - Experienced needed. Apply in person: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. at 820 33rd 51. S.E.

AUTO REPAIR TECHNICIAN— Position opening immediately! Qualifications for a good future with good wages are: State certification and experience. Call for confidential interview, 245-9119, ask for Jerry.

BABYSITTED NEEDED - After school responsible teenager. Hours 3pm.-5:30pm. Call 458-0117.

Tuesday, February 16, 1988

This paper is made possible by a grant from the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council, Contract #86300. It's purpose is to inform others of the activities and issues surrounding this Supported Employment Challenge Grant Project. Named after that part of the day which provides the greatest opportunity, The Morning News also serves to document our "early start" in the supported employment initiative in Michigan.

"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm" - Emerson

No Phone Booth Required

Heroes. In comic strips they fly, do amazing stunts, always say the right thing...at the right time. Free of major blunders, they can call on any number of talents...even some not previously in their repetoire...and escape injury while saving an entire town. They are as limitless as the imaginations of their creators, but always restricted to two dimensions.

Real life heroes are quite different, and they can't fly on their own. Sometimes a famous person, or the great guy next door, real heroes are those who never really stop to think. They don't stop to think that the challenge is too great or the obstacles too high. In fact, by accepting challenges in an unassuming and casual manner, they enthusiastically deny they are heroes at all. They explain they are doing what needs to be done, or correcting a mistake of the past. True heroes rarely announce their hero status. They require the rest of us to be sensitive to their contributions, or risk never knowing they were there. While they are the best sort of hero, and perhaps the most plentiful, they often slip by unnoticed... "unsung".

So, here's to our heroes. Together once again, they are drama students - seven with autism, twenty without - who work together for an hour each week. The chances they take, the effort they put forth, the friendships they form where before there were none...make them all worthy of hero status. If heroes teach, and provide us with renewed determination and enthusiam...then these are the best of the lot. Each Wednesday, they capture our respect and admiration.

Admittedly, we're somewhat protective of all of them. They are not doing this for recognition as heroes, this is not Metropolis, and no one is on the phone to <a href="The Daily Planet">The Daily Planet</a>. Mainly because this is how things are supposed to be. While now it may have it's rough edges, it is apparent this coming generation may perfect the art of not requiring perfection. In drama, everyone comes as they are, and are accepted as they come. It's too simple for a news story, too obvious for most, and for us...well, too special to shout "it's special." But just between you, and us... we've heroes among us.

(THANK YOU, DRAMA STUDENTS, FOR REMEMBERING US WITH CHOCOLATE HERSHEY KISSES FOR VALENTINE'S DAY! WERE WE SURPRIZED!)

## Welcome, Amy Jo O'Strander

We've a new job coach- our very first job coach in a supported employment situation. She is a Grand Valley State University freshman, working towards running her own day care center someday, as her interest lies in early childhood education. She coaches junior varsity pom pons. Currently the owner of FIVE dogs-a litter of puppies, 4 weeks old, included- she has a ready smile, warmth, and sense of humor necessary to keep everything going. Best of all, from our perspective, is Amy Jo's desire to work with Donna as her Job Coach. A Rax employee herself, Amy Jo will work closely with Donna in this new, and exciting, training site. We welcome Amy Jo to this important project!