



K-9s get free chow

The Fulton Agway has donated free dog food for the Fulton Police Department's canine unit for 1982. The city's two dogs consume about 40 pounds of food each every month. The donation will save the city just over \$7,400 this year. In the photo from the left: Dog handler Doug Kinney, along with his dog, Barle; and Ray Casner, assistant manager at the Fulton Agway.

### Fulton speed skaters are practicing for future Olympics

by Marlene Chelmer

Looking for something healthy and sports-oriented that their two daughters could participate in has led one Fulton family to become avid speed skating enthusiasts. Maurice and Colleen Hangeac, ages 9 and 13 respectively, began skating two years ago and have begun competing in both indoor and outdoor speed skating events. "We found out about the Syracuse Speed Skating Club and just started going down more as recreation skaters," said the girls' mother, Katie. "When we saw the opportunity for the girls, we thought it would be a good sport to get them into."

Both girls are members of the sport board at Colleen's school. "You get 10 minutes," Colleen averaged about 15 seconds per lap on a 111 meter oval while her younger sister travels at 15 seconds each lap.

To prepare for weekend competitions, Katie and her husband, Bill, travel to a Syracuse rink every four times a week where their daughters are trained by locally well-known skater Gretchen Burns. "We have a good coach, she helps us learn," Maurice said.

Workouts include skating laps, practicing both starts and passing, and learning the correct way to fall on the ice.

At the indoor competitions, Colleen will race in three lap, 4.5 lap and nine-lap events while her sister will compete in two lap, three lap and four lap races. At outdoor events they compete in fewer laps on a 400-meter oval.

When the girls aren't competing or working with their Syracuse-based coach, they practice on a sidewalk located in the basement of their Patrick Circle home. They credit that sidewalk with reducing their lap times. Colleen said it also teaches her skating techniques. In the wake of the 1992 Olympics held in France, the



Local speed skaters Colleen Hangeac practices skating techniques on a sidewalk located in the basement of her Patrick Circle home. Looking on is her sister Maurice, also a speed skater.

girls' here is Cathy Turner who got the first ever gold and silver medals for the United States in the short track skating events. Bonnie Blair, another gold medalist in speed skating this year, is another favorite of the Hangeac family. Like those two women, Maurice and Colleen would like to compete in Olympic games someday.

But for now they are concentrating on other events. They competed for the first time in the recent Empire State Games, held in Lake Placid. Both girls competed in the Scholastic Division open to girls, ages 8 to 18. Colleen qualified for finals in the 1,000 and 1,500 meter events. She placed fifth in both those events. Meanwhile Maurice was happy to compete

this year was to qualify for the Empire State Games. "And, they achieved that. Anything else would have been icing on the cake," Katie said.

The day after the races, the girls competed again this time in the Lake Placid Indoor Speedskating Championships. At this event Maurice placed third in the Pony Girls Division. Colleen was honored too, as she received the Most Improved Speedskater for 1992 from the Northern New York Skating Association. For her honor, she was awarded an engraved plaque and her name will be added to a plaque at the site of the 1992 Olympic Oval where the March 1 events were held.

### Fulton United Way... serving those who served

United Way of Greater Fulton has been in the business of helping people for half a century. Fulton United Way Fund Drive Co-Chair Constantine Whittore... "The chapter is there for the veterans and their loved ones," added Fund Drive Co-Chair Brian Campbell. "The services provided are not only important but vital to the well-being of so many. We all need to know that someone cares enough to be there for us in our hour of need," stressed Campbell. "The Fulton United Way recognizes that and is there for those in need."



United Way of Greater Fulton, Inc. Fund Drive Co-Chair Brian Campbell explains the services the Vietnam Vet Chapter No. 477 has to offer veterans, to Fund Drive Co-Chair Constantine Whittore. The Chapter is located at 873 Onida St. in Fulton. The number to call is 683-0817.

President Emmons has a Master's Degree and a background in counseling. "I am available practically 24 hours a day," said Emmons. "When I am not here, the answering machine is on and I will return calls as soon as possible. We are here to help." (622-7634)

"Job placement is another area where we can offer assistance," said Emmons. "There is still a lot of discrimination out there, even after all these years. We reassure Vietnam Vets that they were serving their country and doing their duty just as any other veteran has done; and, so tell employers just what they have to offer and show them they can do a good job. We offer as much assistance and guidance as we can," said Emmons. "It is important not only for their livelihood, but for their self-esteem. Sometimes discrimination is a subconscious reaction. The stereotypes and prejudices remain in people's minds and that makes it very difficult for veterans as they go forward and lead their lives."

Emmons related that "It is hard for Vietnam Vets to witness the special treatment that Desert Storm troops received when they came home when they really boy badly they were and often still are treated. These are things we all have to recognize, because in this area we can all help, just by the way we act." "That is why counseling is so vital," explained Emmons. "We can set up appointments at the chapter even go to homes, if necessary. Help must be available to explain their benefits, their rights; to see to it that veterans get what they are entitled to. It is imperative to help them to lead the happy, productive lives they deserve." President Emmons said that there is only one female member at this time. He would like to see that change. "We know there are many more women that serve and qualify to belong to the Chapter and we wholeheartedly welcome them. Their lives would be so much better if they were not alone. And, they deserve to get the help if they need it and want it. We encourage the female veterans to join and derive the benefits of the support system the chapter offers."

"We are very grateful to the Fulton United Way for the support," said Emmons. "It is necessary in order for us to continue to give help when and where it is needed."

Committee seeks volunteers to work on virtually any aspect of this event. Anyone interested in lending a hand, or who wants to perform as part of the weekend's entertainment, may call 596-5624.

Hours for the three-day festival are set as follows: Friday, August 7, 4 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, August 8, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday, August 9, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. "Let's make this year's Riverfest truly a community event, from planning to participation," said a committee member.

### Riverfest planning begins

Spring has hardly sprung, but plans for Fulton's annual Riverfest have already begun. A committee of volunteers has been formed to coordinate the festival for Friday, August 7, through Sunday, August 9.

Foreword by Willie Cook will be read at the Saturday evening. Entertainment for all three days is being planned as well. Another new feature involves special public transportation to and from various Riverfest activities, which will be held along S. First St. and in city parks.

Right now the Riverfest

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