

Obituaries

MARY K. MCCONACHIE

Mary Kathryn McConachie died Nov. 19, 1996, in her residence in Northville. She was 73. Mrs. McConachie was born in Sistersville, W.Va., to Harry and Zella (Moore) Allensworth. She was a bookkeeper prior to her retirement in 1979. Mrs. McConachie is survived by daughter Sandra (James) Cole of Farmington Hills; son Kenneth C. Taber of Northville; mother Zella East of Northville; best friend Helen Hill; and five grandchildren, Eric, Jason, Adam, Aimee and Ian Cole. Mrs. McConachie was preceded in death by her husband John M. in 1994.

Services were held on Friday, Nov. 22, at Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home in Northville. The Rev. Lory Brafford (cousin) from Altavista Church of Christ in Altavista, Va., officiated. Interment was in Woodmere Cemetery, Detroit. Memorial contributions to Angela Hospice in Livonia or Gilda's Club would be appreciated by the family.

VIOLET HARRIS

Violet (Dickson) Harris of West Bloomfield, died Nov. 24, 1996. She was born Aug. 10, 1919, in Detroit, Mich., and was 77 at the time of her death.

Mrs. Harris was a homemaker who lived in Northville for 22 years before moving to West Bloomfield two years ago. She graduated from Commerce High School, Detroit, and was a member of Nomads (a national travel club).

Mrs. Harris is survived by a son, James (Laurel) of West Bloomfield; and grandchildren, Jim and Julie.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harold.

Services were held on Friday, Nov. 29, at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington. Rev. David B. Brown of Ward Presbyterian Church was the officiant. Interment was at Oakland Hills Cemetery, Novi.

Memorials to the Children's Hospital of Michigan or The Sal-

vation Army would be appreciated.

LILLIAN L. RAKESTRAW

Lillian L. Rakestraw of Charlotte, Mich., formerly of Northville and Lyon Township, died Nov. 23, 1996, in Charlotte. She was 94.

Mrs. Rakestraw was born July 12, 1902, in Northville to Clinton and Lola (Herber) Lyke.

Mrs. Rakestraw had been a school teacher and lived in the area most of her life. Her memberships included Salem Bible

Church, the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel, past member of Salem Senior Citizens, and Thayer Cemetery Association.

She is survived by her daughter, Lila (Duane) Taft; brother, Harry of South Lyon; sister-in-law, Virena (Russell) Lyke of South Lyon; and three grandchildren, Sherry (Phill) Warwick, Richard L. (Melante) Miller, and David P. (Kim) Miller; and 13 great grandchildren.

Mrs. Rakestraw was preceded in death by her husband, Lyke; brother, Russell; and sister-in-

law, Theda Lyke.

Services were held on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at Casterline Funeral Home in Northville.

Pastor Lance Rubringer of Salem Bible Church officiated at the services.

Interment took place in Thayer Cemetery in Northville.

ESTHER E. COCKIN

Esther E. Cockin of Manton, Mich., died Nov. 21, 1996, at Lakeview Lutheran Manor in Cadillac, Mich. She was 82. Mrs. Cockin was born Feb. 5, 1914, in

Homer, Mich., to Ira and Ella Winifred (Barnes) Reed.

Mrs. Cockin graduated from Homer High School in 1930, and attended business school in Jackson. She was a resident of Northville for 60 years before moving to Manton. Mrs. Cockin was a very active member of the Northville United Methodist Church.

She is survived by her son Kenneth Allen (Bernadine) of Millford; daughter Carolyn Lee (Stewart) Bryce of Manton; five grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Mrs. Cockin was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Alton, two brothers and two sisters.

An 11 a.m. memorial service will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14, at Northville United Methodist Church.

Arrangements were made by Peterson Funeral home in Cadillac, Mich.

Memorial tributes to Northville United Methodist Church Women's Society or the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association would be appreciated.



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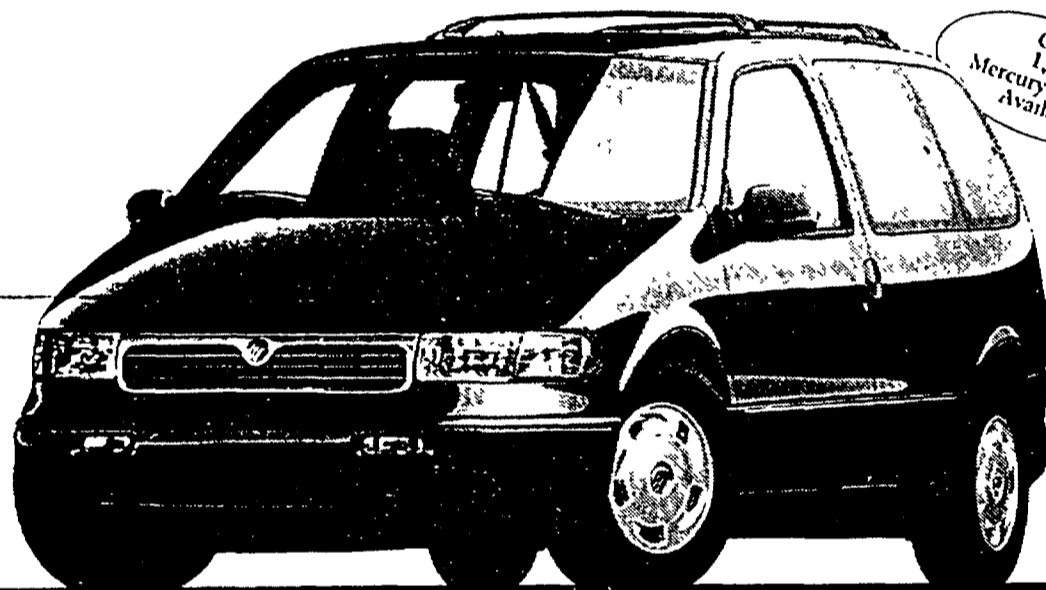


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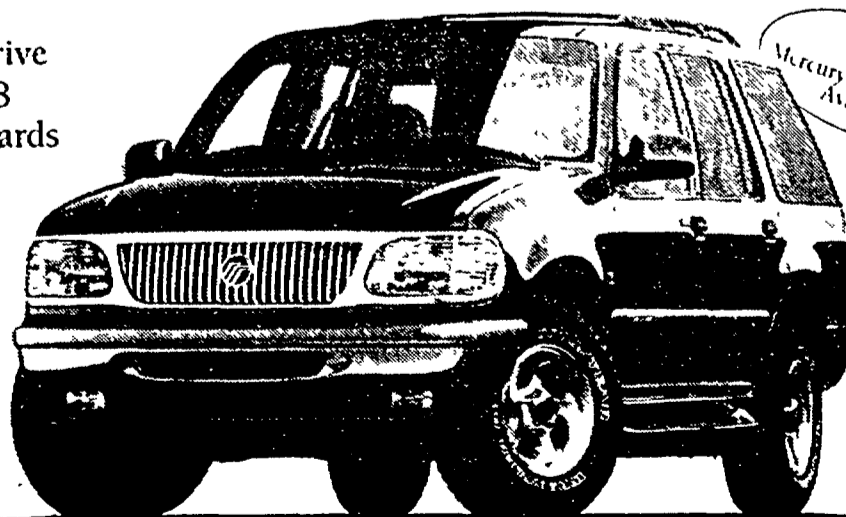
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Business tax credit approved by House

By **TIM RICHARD**
Staff Writer

Speaker pro tem Frank Fitzgerald had to keep the House of Representatives roll call board an extra quarter-hour as GOP lieutenants rounded up the votes to renew Gov. John Engler's controversial MEGA program.

After much arm-twisting, the House on Nov. 20 gave MEGA a one-vote victory, 57-44, with 56 needed for passage, as a coalition of liberal Democrats and conservative Republicans fought the business-aid measure.

"Government ought to reduce taxes all the way across the board," said Rep. John Jamian, R-Bloomfield Township, a firm no vote. "Jeff McKevey (aide to Engler) said, 'We need your vote.' I told him, 'Get yourself a real job or a business, and then come back and tell me MEGA is good tax policy,'" said Jamian.

"This place is run by 22-year-olds," Jamian grouched.

MEGA stands for Michigan Economic Growth Authority Act. The House bill extends the authority's three remaining years, from the original sunset date of Dec. 31, 1996, to the end of 1999.

Created in 1995, MEGA gives single business tax credits to companies that have located and expanded in Michigan and created a minimum number of jobs.

Sponsor Beverly Hammerstrom, R-Temperance, quoted University of Michigan figures: 25 projects authorized so far, out of 79 applications, will generate 17,000 jobs - 7,000 directly and 10,000 indirectly.

The cost, according to the state Jobs Commission: \$158 million in tax breaks.

Critics said MEGA creates winners and losers, with the winners being big companies.

Local lawmakers Nancy Cassis, R-Nowi, and Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, voted yes on the measure.

The MEGA renewal bill now goes to the Senate. Refer to House Bill 4840 when writing your state senator, State Capitol, Lansing 48909.