

# Centre is Hart of the area

*Country hoedown fundraiser set for March 25*

Yoga classes, karate lessons and a Pooch Academy may not sound as though they belong under the same roof, but they're all going on at the Hart Community Centre.

The centre has been open for seventeen years now, and the families that use it don't know what they'd do without it.

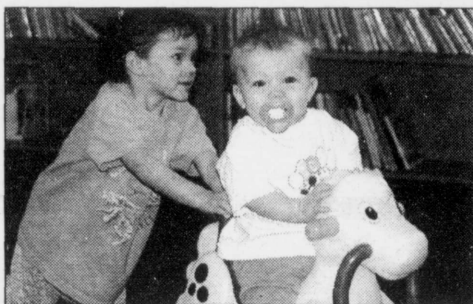
Sherry Boerdyk brought her four-year-old daughter Madison to the Hart Kiddie Kastle play group Tuesday morning in hopes of getting her "into something besides my hair."

Sherry has lived in the Hart for three years, and has enjoyed other programs at the centre, like the "Baby and Me Shower," an afternoon of pampering for just-new moms and moms-to-be. She especially likes the play group at the Hart Centre because it's so close to home. "The less we have to travel and drag the kids around, the better," she says.

Pat Lechkobii also brought two little girls to the play group, and a visit to the centre is something they look forward to every week. "One of the main reasons we come here is so the kids can have a chance to meet other kids from the area before they start kindergarten," Pat says. "And for only \$35, it's a great deal. You know the centre isn't making a profit out of it."

"The Hart community Centre does not receive government funding, and is run by a non-profit society," explains Virginia Nicholson, the centre's manager.

The money the centre makes through its banquet



Four-year-old Madison Gainer and her nine-month-old sister Alexa spend Tuesday mornings at the Hart Kiddie Kastle play group.

MELISSA SHAW/FREE PRESS

facilities, fundraising and community support is all that allows Ms. Nicholson to open the doors each day and she wants to get the message out to the Hart

community the centre is there for them and needs their support to stay open.

"We've gone through some really hard times," says Ms. Nicholson. "Two

years ago we nearly had to close, and it was really tough and go. The building is 17 years old, and the bills are pretty hefty. But this centre is so important, it helps keep the community spirit alive."

To help raise the cash to buy new tables for the centre's banquet facility as well as its everyday maintenance, the centre is throwing a "Hart Country Hoe Down" on March 25, featuring Rhythm Express. Barn doors open at 6:30 p.m., chow down starts at 7:30 p.m., and the Hoe Down will be underway by 9 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the Hart Community Centre office at 4900 West Austin Road, as well as at Spruce Capital Feeds.

## tax tips 2000

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What conditions make moving expenses a valid tax deduction?

#### Answer:

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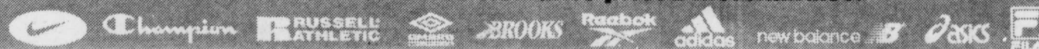
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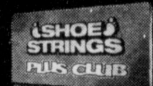
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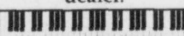
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