

Westland Observer

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SEVENTY FIVE CENTS

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IN THE PAPER
TODAY

Take a chance: Scott Lucas and his parents Frank and JoAnn are looking for 9,000 people who would like to \$150,000 while helping several charities in the state. /11A

OPINION

Looking ahead: City officials must start thinking of how they will expand programs for senior citizens, based on a major increase in that age group's numbers in the next two decades. /8A

BUSINESS

On the move: Look for news about area residents receiving promotions and awards in the Business People column. /4A

SPORTS

State champion: Westland John Glenn's Shelley Underwood is the Division II individual balance beam gold medalist. /1C

March Madness: Wayne Memorial takes on Adrian in a Class A regional boys semifinal game at Romulus. /1C

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Comedy Club: After eight years of success, Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia is going through its second incarnation. /1B

AT HOME

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LOTTERY

The Lotto jackpot was worth at least \$2.2 million. The Michigan Lottery numbers for Wednesday, March 13, 1996 are:

DAILY 3:
379

DAILY 4:
7340

CASH 5: 5, 6, 11, 14, 29

LOTTO: 4, 11, 16, 23, 36, 38

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School chief gets A-plus rating



Nine months into his job as school superintendent, Duane Moore is riding a wave of support from his bosses, the seven members of the Wayne-Westland school board. The calm relations follow years of political turmoil for his predecessors.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Amid sweeping praise from Wayne-Westland school board members, Superintendent Duane Moore has received an "outstanding" job rating that will be accompanied by a 4 percent salary increase over two years.

Moore's salary will increase from \$114,000 to \$118,605 during the next two years, following the board's decision Monday night to award consecutive, 2 percent raises for the 1996-97 and 1997-98 budget years.

In his ninth month on the job, Moore's three-year contract also has

been extended for a fourth year, though salary issues for 1998-99 will be negotiated later.

Moore, 54, received unanimous high marks in his first job performance evaluation from school board members.

"We believe that Dr. Moore's leadership and vision for the school district has provided a positive atmosphere which focuses on the student and has resulted in our staff continuing to improve their commitment and dedication to the teaching profession," the board said in a prepared, three-page statement.

The board approved Moore's evaluation in a 6-0 vote, with vice president Patricia Brown absent.

Contacted by telephone Tuesday morning, Brown said she strongly supported Moore's top rating.

"I think that we've really been fortunate to get such a quality superintendent who came to us with so much experience," she said.

Moore assumed his fourth superintendency when he started his Wayne-Westland job last July. His most recent post had been in South Lyon.

See MOORE, 2A

Children enjoy reading program



Annual event: City Councilwoman Justine Barns reads a children's story to a large group of youngsters during the Wayne County Reading Council's 12th annual program Saturday morning.

Reading program attracts children

Hundreds of children took advantage of the Wayne County Reading Council's 12th annual reading program Saturday.

There were scores of Wayne-Westland school district students performing or showing off their language arts projects at Westland Center. They were joined by youngsters from the neighboring Livonia, Greenwood and Dearborn Heights No. 7 as well as those from the Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit schools.

The students acted out stories such as "Merlin" and created living characters from popular children's

books at the mall's center court stage.

Among the "celebrity" readers on hand were U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D-Ann Arbor, state Rep. Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, and Westland City Councilwoman Justine Barns.

The reading council, a professional, non-profit organization made up of language arts professionals, had more than a dozen displays promoting the importance of reading.

One display was from the city of Westland's library staff, which is planning to open the city's first independent library in early fall.

One youngster who especially en-

There were scores of Wayne-Westland school district students performing or showing off their language arts projects at Westland Center.

joyed the reading program, called "Literacy is a family treasure," was Andrew Somjak, 6, of Farmington.

His mother, Beth, a Livonia school district teacher, said her son won a book on the Titanic oceanliner at the council's reading fair two years ago and got so "hooked" on the subject that he wrote the author

of the book and collected other materials on the oceanliner which struck an iceberg in the North Atlantic on its maiden voyage and sank in 1912.

President of the reading council is Opal Noel, who noted that the organization is affiliated with the Michigan Reading Association and International Reading Association.

2 men arrested in string of robberies

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Two men suspected in a string of armed robberies in southeast Michigan are in custody at the Westland Police Department following their arrest Tuesday in Detroit.

Brian Whitehead, 39, of Plymouth, and Albert Dubenko, 41, of Detroit are facing arraignment today (Thursday) in Westland for a holdup that occurred just before 7 p.m. March 4 at the Hep In convenience store on Jay

at Newburgh, Westland police Sgt. Scott Fetner said.

Two robbers — one armed with a small, stainless steel automatic handgun — escaped with about \$200 after threatening a male employee, Fetner said.

The men also are under investigation for as many as 15 similar holdups in Canton Township, Livonia, Novi, Northville Township, Lyon Township, and Washtenaw County, Fetner said.

No shots were fired during any of

the robberies, he said.

The arrests of Whitehead and Dubenko came Tuesday evening after officers of the Metro Street Enforcement Team staked out an In & Out party store on Fenkell in Detroit, Fetner said.

MSSET is a team of officers from the Westland, Wayne, Garden City and Inkster police departments.

An investigation had revealed that the two suspects frequented the party store, he said.

"MSSET deserves a lot of credit" for

the arrests, Fetner said.

No gunfire erupted as officers arrested the suspects. A gun was found in one suspect's pocket, Fetner said.

During most of the holdups, one person carried out the actual robbery while the other remained in a getaway car, the sergeant said.

The robbers typically escaped with \$50 to \$200, he said.

Several law enforcement agencies had worked to solve the string of robberies.

Schools try to get out of special ed costs

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

After selling the former Fischer Elementary School for \$925,000, Wayne-Westland officials want to stop providing special education services for students of a private school that bought the building.

Even though Wayne-Westland students no longer attend Fischer, which is now the Dearborn Heights Montessori Center, state law requires local

public school officials to pay for special education services such as speech therapy.

That's because Fischer remains in the public school district's geographic boundaries.

But Wayne-Westland officials, facing annual costs of \$70,000 to provide the special education services, have found what they believe is a solution to an economic problem.

They want the Fischer property to

be declared part of the neighboring Crestwood School District, which would then have to pay the special education tab.

"Isn't that wonderful?" Crestwood business manager Paul Martini said Tuesday. "They sell the building, pocket the money and then say, 'Here, you take it.'"

Wayne-Westland school officials said they have tried unsuccessfully to reach an agreement with Crestwood

officials.

Therefore, the Wayne-Westland school board on Monday adopted a resolution asking county school officials to intervene and to declare the old Fischer building part of the Crestwood district.

That would push the special education costs for the Montessori center onto the Crestwood district.

See COSTS, 2A

Costs from page 1A

Fischer was closed along with three other Wayne-Westland elementaries at the end of last school year, in a consolidation move that saved the district about \$1 million a year.

The building is located at 466 N. John Daly in Dearborn Heights, but it housed Wayne-Westland students until last year. Wayne-Westland annexed the building in 1984 from the former Cherry Hill School District.

The Wayne-Westland board's resolution, adopted in a 6-0 vote, notes that the old Fischer property "is contiguous to the Crestwood School District and, in the opinion of this board, should

properly be part of the Crestwood School District.

Wayne-Westland officials are asking the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency "to detach the (old Fischer) property from the Wayne-Westland Community School District and attach it to the Crestwood School District."

Wayne-Westland students don't attend the Montessori center, which draws its student population from the area of Dearborn Heights and Dearborn, Wayne-Westland officials said.

It isn't known when county officials will decide the issue. Either way, the decision could be appealed to the state level.

Moore from page 1A

On Monday, the board approved Moore's evaluation one week after discussing his job performance in a closed-door session. "I'm very pleased," Moore said Tuesday. "It is very gratifying that when you work hard, it is appreciated."

Moore commended his administrative staff and other district employees with helping him to achieve successes during his first few months. And the school board, he said, "has been tremendous."

Calm relations between Moore and school board members came in the wake of political turmoil that ravaged the district for years. Routine board feuding forced out the last two superintendents, Dennis O'Neill and Larry Thomas.

Moore accepted the Wayne-Westland job at an opportune time for restoring stability. Many issues, such as the closing of four elementaries and the redrawing of school attendance boundaries, had been resolved during Thomas' three-year tenure.

But Moore cited some key issues that continue to face the district, with uncertainties in state funding among the most crucial. Officials are worried that deep cuts may be necessary in some programs, such as adult education.

Moore said school officials also must continue efforts to improve curriculum and to strengthen relations with the communities that the district serves.

On Monday, board president Francis "Bud" Winter lauded Moore's efforts to build positive relations with community leaders in Westland, Wayne, Canton Township, Inkster and Romulus.

"A good school district also adds strength to each community, and that is what's happening now," Winter said.

Winter also commended Moore for working with employee unions to achieve contracts that brought pay freezes or modest pay increases at a time when the district was financially strapped.

The board evaluated Moore in seven areas: professional leader-

ship; curriculum and instruction; community relations; business and finance; employee relations; board relations; and intergovernmental relations.

Board member Martha Pittenbarger, in her first year as a board member, said Moore has been responsive to questions she has had.

"Anytime I have gone to him,

he has been more than helpful," she said Monday.

In addition to salary increases, Moore will now have a "bank" of sick days, allowing them to accumulate. He will continue to be provided an automobile for personal and business use, but the board specified when offering him a contract that the car be American.

Westland Observer

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R. D. SHAWALTER
City Clerk Treasurer

Published March 14, 1996

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Published March 11 and 14, 1996

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Wheeler will leave post as chamber executive

By JOANNE MALISZEWSKI AND LEONARD POGOR
STAFF WRITERS

Joyce Wheeler, who helped the Westland Chamber of Commerce grow to a major community organization in the past 22 years, will step down as executive director next month.

Reflecting on her years with the chamber, Wheeler said in a telephone interview Wednesday morning:

"I feel like its mother," reflecting on the "care and feeding" of the chamber, which grew from 97 to its current 300 members under her tenure.

Although she will be stepping down from the full-time position, she will "probably do some odd jobs as needed to help out" with her successor, Linda Shapona, now the Canton Chamber of Commerce executive director.

Wheeler's retirement plans were a secret to many chamber members who were at the group's monthly program luncheon Tuesday at the Hellenic Cultural Center.

While there was no Westland chamber announcement, word got out when the Canton group said Monday that Shapona will leave in early April.

Wheeler said Shapona will start her Westland chamber duties April 22.

Reflecting on her 22 years with the Westland group, Wheeler said she is most proud of initiating the city directory 10 years ago and the



Joyce Wheeler

more recent involvement with Schoolcraft College's school-business partnership.

In her career, Wheeler, 61, served as president of the West Suburban Area Council of Chambers and was instrumental in starting the Five Star Chambers, of which Westland, Garden City, Canton, Wayne and Dearborn Heights are members.

Wheeler also initiated the twice-a-year garage sale 15 years ago as a chamber fund-raiser.

Looking forward to a reduced work schedule, Wheeler said that she will do more traveling and visiting her grandchildren.

"It's time to retire," said the

chamber leader.

Wheeler said that she will mostly miss the people she worked with over the years.

"We have a wonderful board of directors," she said. "In my 22 years, we always had a good board. A majority (of board members) were positive people."

From Canton, Shapona commented:

"It's a career move to increase my skills in chamber (work) and to learn more. There's a lot of different opportunities for me there," said Shapona.

Canton chamber president Janet Volante said: "For the most part, yes, we were surprised. I think sometimes people feel they need a change in their life or career. Westland came to her. They recruited her. They are getting a great person."

Wheeler's impending retirement has been quiet. But Shapona announced her resignation from the Canton chamber Monday.

The Canton and Westland chambers of commerce are approximately the same size. But the Westland, including Westland Center, has some 1,700 businesses, about 70 percent more than Canton's 1,000.

During Shapona's tenure, the Canton chamber grew in membership and popularity. She is the recipient of a number of awards, including her recent Michigan

Chamber of Commerce Executives Award, which honors chamber executives. The award is designed to recognize educational and professional achievement in the chamber management profession.

She was responsible for modernizing the chamber. Under her leadership, membership doubled and the budget tripled. Member activities and programs were in-

creased by 100 percent. Shapona also helped develop the first Program of Work and strategic plan for the chamber.

Shapona also helped create and coordinate Leadership Canton — the first leadership program in western Wayne County. The program is in its second year.

"Westland doesn't have one yet," Shapona said. Her philosophy on what cham-

bers should be is well-known. "I think they should be the premier organization in a community. Business supports the community. It is the place for residents to stop and get information. A chamber needs to be effective administratively and active in the community to make the business community stronger and to make the community a desirable place to live and work."

Rising to the challenge



JIM JACDFELD/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wins Golden Apple: Nancy Spinelle, a learning specialist at a Livonia school district elementary, is cheered by three of her students, Derek Ashburn (left), Kyle Koslowsky and Alex Cramer, for winning a Golden Apple from Livonia Public Schools, which serves the northern section of Westland. Spinelle, director of community relations for the Livonia Education Association, was applauded for starting the "Food to Share" program at Kroger stores. So far, the program has raised nearly \$10,000 for local needy families. The award is given to employees and volunteers who go the extra mile in service to the district.

PLACES & FACES

Tiffany wins prizes

Tiffany Clemons, the Wayne-Westland Junior Miss of 1996, competed in the state program recently and returned home with \$1,750 worth of scholarship prizes. The John Glenn High School senior won \$750 of scholarship aid by being a second runner-up, and \$500 each for winning the scholastic and physical fitness achievement awards. The program was held in Alpena, where contestants from throughout the state stayed with local families. Tiffany is the daughter of Brenda Carter of Westland and Gary Clemons of Belleville. Co-chairs of the Wayne-Westland program, held in late November, were Dennis and Pat Hermetz. The local contestants were honored with certificates last week by the Westland City Council.

YMCA campaigns

The Wayne-Westland Family YMCA is sponsoring a paper drive from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day this week, through Saturday, at the Y's activities center, 827 S. Wayne Road. Papers must be bagged. The Y will also hold a garage sale from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, in the same location. On sale will be household items, toys, appliances and tools. Proceeds will benefit the Invest in Youth

program which provides Y programming and services to low-income families. For information on either benefit, persons may call the Y at 721-7044.

The bunny is coming

The Easter bunny will arrive at Westland Center's east court at 11 a.m., Saturday, to open the spring shopping season. There will be a "Mad About Spring" performance by the Children's Theater of Michigan, who will do songs, stories, exercises and activities for children. The bunny will remain in the mall's center court from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon-6 p.m. Sunday through April 6. Photo packages will be sold.

New officers

The Holy Smoke Masters Toastmasters public speaking organization has new officers for the year. They are president John Elbe of Westland; vice president for education Marc Sullivan of Plymouth; vice president for membership Robert Vichinsky of Westland; treasurer Mark Fairless of Troy; secretary Marjorie Staudenbaur of Westland and sergeant-at-arms John Elbe. The group meets at 6 p.m. Thursdays at Ryan's Steak House, on Warren Road, east of Wayne Road.

OBITUARIES

RONALD E. MACK

Services for Mr. Mack, 61, of Garden City, municipal attorney for that city for 33 years, were Monday from St. Raphael Catholic Church with burial in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. The Rev. Edward Prus officiated. Arrangements were by the Santelu & Son Funeral Home, Garden City.

Mr. Mack died March 6 of a heart attack.

Born May 22, 1934, in Dearborn, Mr. Mack attended St. Alphonsus High School and Orchard Lake Seminary and graduated from the University of Detroit Law School in 1960. He was a partner in the Detroit law firm of Berry, Hopson, Francis, Mack and Seifman for 30 years and more recently established a practice in Westland.

Over the years, Mr. Mack was active at St. Raphael Church, was an officer of the Garden City Lions Club, was a leader in the defunct Garden City Civic Theatre, and a long-time supporter of Garden City High School athletics.

A memorial scholarship has been created in Mr. Mack's name for Garden City High graduating athletes.

Survivors include: wife, Marie; sons, David, Christopher (Joan), and Thomas (Marikate); grandchildren, Kent, Lara and Brian; mother, Agnes Mack, and two brothers, Joseph and James.

Memorials may be donated to the Ronald E. Mack Memorial Scholarship Fund, Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt, Garden City 48135.

NICHOLAS J. MICHALAKIS

Services for Mr. Michalakakis, 67, of Garden City were March 8 from St. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church with burial in Parkview Memorial Cemetery,

Livonia.

Mr. Michalakakis died March 5 in Garden City.

Born July 28, 1928, in Greece, he was a teacher.

Survivors include: wife, Sayoko; sons, Chris and Dimitri; daughter, Marlon Killebrew; four grandchildren and brother, Harry.

MARIE S. PALACH

Services for Mrs. Palach, 95, of Garden City were March 14 from the Santelu & Son Funeral Home with burial in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. The Rev. Tony Gathen of Marion Hill Monastery officiated.

Mrs. Palach died March 11 at home.

Born March 19, 1900, in Germany, she was a homemaker.

Survivors include: daughters, Theresa (Leonard) Kearns and Joan (Don) Holmes of Garden City; 11 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and brother, Jack Graf.

Memorials may be donated to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen or the Hospice of Washtenaw County.

HELEN L. GOYER

Services for Mrs. Goyer, 80, of Garden City were March 15 from the L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, Westland, with burial in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Livonia. Rev. Jonathan Allen officiated.

Mrs. Goyer died March 12.

Born June 6, 1915, in Bicknell, Tenn., she was a homemaker.

Survivors include: husband, Garland; daughter, Dolores Knox, Carol Draper and Garlene Dolekta; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; one brother and one sister.

CHARLES E. BRIGG

Services for Mr. Grigg, 61, of Westland were Feb. 28 from Uht Funeral Home with interment in Cadillac Memorial Gardens West. Pastor Peter Harris officiated.

Mr. Grigg died Feb. 25 at home.

Born Oct. 1, 1934, he was an electronic technician.

Survivors include: wife, Barbara; daughters, Joni, Carol and Nani; sons, Chuck, Eugene and Steven; seven grandchildren; father, George; sister, Nancy, and brothers, George, Ed and Bob. He was preceded in death by his mother, Opal.

Memorials may be donated to the Arbor Hospice.

NAOMI DEMARIA

Services for Mrs. DeMaria, 79, of Westland were in Manchester, Ky., with burial in Sawyer's Cemetery, Ky. Arrangements were by the R. G. and G. R. Harris Funeral Home, Garden City.

Mrs. DeMaria died March 4 in Westland.

Born July 18, 1916, in Burning Springs, Ky., she lived in the area for 25 years and was a retired Livonia Fisher Body plant employee and a 30-year member of the Merriman Road Baptist Church, Garden City.

Survivors include: daughters, Bonetta Reid of Dearborn Heights and Janet Calso of Westland; son, John Ekins of Portland, Tenn.; 14 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren, and a sister, Odessa McKelwain of Kentucky. She was preceded in death by a son, Donald Ponder, and a daughter, Mary Ponder.

RECAPTURE THE ROMANCE

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BUSINESS PEOPLE

This column highlights promotions, transfers, hirings and other key personnel moves within the suburban business community. Send a brief biographical summary — including the towns of residence and employment and a black-and-white photo, if desired, to: Business People, Observer Business Page, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, Attn: Business Editor. Our fax number is (313) 591-7279.



Richard Neumeyer has been appointed director of security and store operations at Sibley's Shoes Inc.

This is a newly created position for Sibley's Shoes. Neumeyer has been with Sibley's for more than 18 years, most recently as a supervisor for several Sibley's Shoes locations. Sibley's Shoes is a 40-store Michigan retail shoe chain founded in Detroit in 1920. Its executive offices are in the Renaissance Center in downtown Detroit.

Ron Frömmert was recently elected to the Michigan Floral Association Board of Directors.

Frömmert, who is the Michigan representative for American Floral Services and lives in Livonia, was elected to serve a three-year term as an association director-at-large by members across the state.

Frömmert has served for a number of years on the association's awards and nominations committee. In addition to his involvement with the association, Frömmert has been a leader in community scouting and assisted in a local mayoral campaign.

The Michigan Floral Association is a full-service trade organization representing more than 700 florists, growers and wholesalers. Headquartered in Lansing, the association offers group savings on insurance and financial services, conducts educational seminars, publishes Michigan Florist magazine and interacts with state government agencies.



Park Jarrett III, who directs the Aid Association for Lutherans' general agency office in Livonia, has been honored for exceptional business performance during 1995.

The Jarrett agency ranked 20th among the 80 association general agencies in the United States in overall insurance sales. The agency serves Lutherans and their families in southeastern lower Michigan. There are 32 district representatives in the Jarrett agency.

Aid Association for Lutherans is based in Appleton, Wis.

The association provides life insurance and retirement products to its 1.7 million members nationwide. In addition, the association provides disability income and long-term care insurance in most states.

The association's members are organized into 9,152 local volunteer groups, called branches, throughout the United States. They meet regularly to carry out

volunteer efforts to help themselves and their neighbors, and to undertake projects to improve communities where they live.

Robert Orłowski, a resident of Grrosse Pointe Park, has accepted the position of branch manager at the new Plymouth Wayne Welding Inc. "Super Store" that will open in late February in Warren.

Plymouth Wayne Welding is a 35-year-old company with its headquarters in Garden City and a branch store in Howell.

Orłowski is a former employee of the Linde Division of Union Carbide and Praxair Inc. During his 22-year stint with the industrial gas giant he served in administration, customer service and sales support positions.

Orłowski will operate the new welding supply "Super Store" at 21801 Groesbeck, just north of Eight Mile. The outlet will offer direct distribution and over-the-counter sales for thousands of products used primarily in the welding industry, such as industrial and specialty gases, welding machines, supplies and automated welding systems including welding robots. It will be one of the largest stores of its kind in Michigan. It will feature a state-of-the-art showroom designed by a national consulting firm and an in-store product demonstration and training center.



Robb Howell, retired on Jan. 31, is an Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL) District Representative.

Howell served members of the fraternal organization for 25 years. He joined AAL's field staff in 1971 and was honored 14 times for outstanding sales and service to AAL members. In addition, the National Association of Life Underwriters awarded Howell its National Quality Award eight times and its National Sales Achievement Award nine times. Howell was an associate of the Park Jarrett III Agency of AAL in Livonia.



Elise L. Rohn, an attorney in the Detroit office of the law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, has been appointed vice chair of the Michigan chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers' Association for the remainder of the 1995-6 chapter year.

She was elected to this position in 1994, and has been a member of the association since 1986.

Rohn, a member of the firm's International Law Practice Group, practices immigration law and procedure, and is active in the International Law Section Immigration Committees of the American, Michigan, and Detroit Bar associations.

She is a speaker on immigration-related issues and has published articles in the Michigan International Lawyer.

The 240-attorney law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone has offices in Ann Arbor, Bloomfield Hills, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Howell, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Monroe, and Washing-

ton, D.C., with affiliated offices in Pensacola and St. Petersburg, Fla., and Gdansk and Warsaw, Poland.



George I. Sass, has been named president and CEO of Johnson Johnson & Roy, an Ann Arbor-based landscape architecture, urban planning, civil engineering and environmental services firm.

He will also serve as a board member for The Smith Group, of which JJR is a member firm.

"Nineteen ninety-six marks JJR's 35th anniversary. As one of the nation's largest land planning firms we have continued to provide highly creative solutions to problems involving the critical interface between people and their environment. With this legacy as our foundation, we are continually embracing new technologies and methodologies to better inform ourselves and our clients on the potential opportunities and limitations of our land and water resources," Sass said.

Since joining the firm in 1969, Westland resident Kim Irvine attended the national convention of Discovery Toys Inc. in Nashville, Tenn., recently.

Irvine, who has been affiliated with the company for a year, oversees a group of five consultants.

At the event, the company announced a new alliance with RIF — Reading is Fundamental, a national literacy organization. Discovery Toys, under the umbrella of its Literacy for Life program, will donate a portion of profits from each book sold, up to \$10,000, in support of this community-based organization.

Irvine attended three days of seminars in child development, self-esteem and positive parenting, combined with marketing and business management training at the convention.

Discovery Toys Inc., headquartered in Martinez, Calif., offers developmental toys, books and games, educational software, personal care products for children and home study parenting programs. Discovery Toys distributes its products through a network of 40,000 educational consultants.

he has served in many roles from project designer to office director, as well as principal-in-charge of several major urban planning and design projects throughout the United States. Award-winning projects completed by JJR under his direction include the city of Detroit Land Use Plan, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation Headquarters, and the General Motors' New Center Revitalization Program.

Sass received his degree in landscape architecture from Michigan State University and is a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

JJR has offices in Ann Arbor, Detroit, Chicago and Washington D.C. with a staff of more than 100 planners, designers, engineers and scientists.

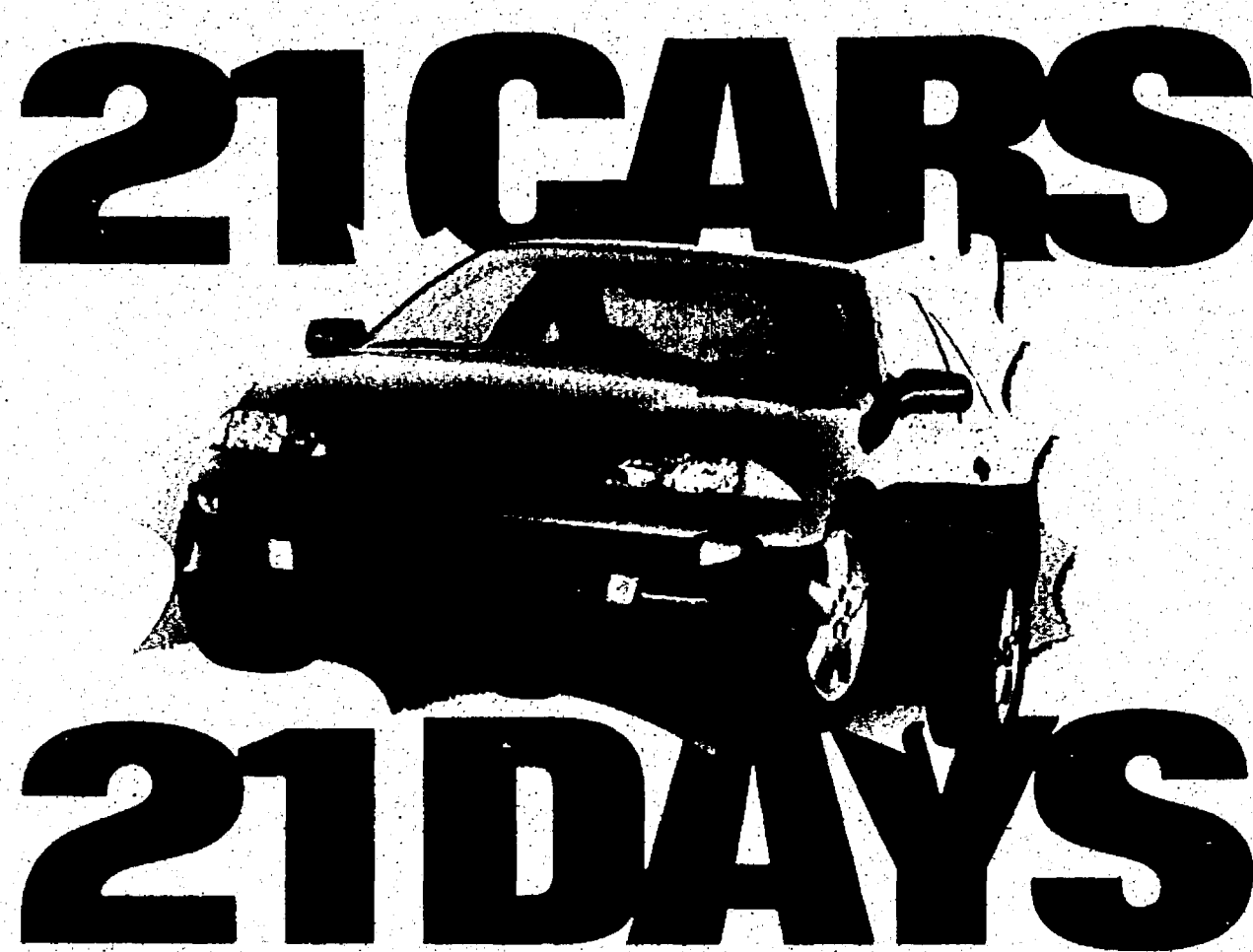
Lawrence R. MacLeod of

Canton, district sales manager for the AP North American Aftermarket Division of AP Parts International Inc., has been honored for his region's sales performance in 1995.

The region, which encompasses all of Michigan and Indiana and which is one of eight regions in the United States, was designated "Region of the Year," for achieving nearly a 10 percent increase in sales last year.

MacLeod, who has been with AP Parts for nearly 23 years, is one of three district sales managers in the region.

"The efforts of Larry and the other district sales managers were outstanding," David Colburn, senior vice president and chief operating officer of the division, said.



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Commission, executive differ on ethics issue

BY BETH SUNDRLA JACHMAN
STAFF WRITER

The Wayne County Commission's legal counsel last Thursday told commissioners that the executive's veto of an amendment to the ethics ordinance didn't count, but the county's deputy CEO disagrees.

Also on the issue of ethics, commissioners on Thursday sent to committee a proposed ordinance to establish an independent citizens ethics board.

Commissioners approved, at the Feb. 1 meeting, an amendment to the ethics ordinance which eliminated a requirement that county elected officials seek waivers for employment with county contractors. County executive Edward McNamara vetoed the amendment on Feb. 19, saying in a letter to the chairman of the commission that it "created a terrible appearance." McNamara also called it a double standard, exempting only elected officials from review and scrutiny for employment with county vendors.

"In my opinion it (the veto)

doesn't have any effect," Ben Washburn, commission counsel, told the commissioners March 7. The county executive has 10 days to issue a veto, he said.

The original ordinance was sent to McNamara dated 1995 so a corrected version was sent dated 1996, which McNamara vetoed, but by then the veto period had expired, Washburn said.

Deputy CEO Michael Duggan called that nonsense. "We vetoed the ordinance; there's no question in my mind," he said. The ordinance was transmitted with errors after the Feb. 1 meeting, but a corrected version wasn't transmitted until Feb. 16, Duggan said.

Before the amendment, the ethics ordinance required county elected officials who wanted to be employed by a county contractor to come before the commission and have a waiver approved by a two-thirds vote.

Commissioner Robert Blackwell of Detroit proposed the amendment, saying one elected official can't supervise another elected official.

Local commissioners Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, and Michelle Plaweckl, D-Dearborn Heights, were among the no votes at the Feb. 1 meeting, while Vice Chair Kay Beard, D-Westland, voted yes and commissioner Bruce Patterson, R-Canton Township, abstained.

Duggan criticized Patterson's abstention, since Patterson has issued statements that he wants ethics reform. He also called the proposed citizens ethics board an attempt to water down the current ethics board, of which he is a member. A citizens board could be more easily manipulated by elected officials, he said.

Patterson said he abstained from the Feb. 1 amendment vote because the proposal had been brought before the commission shortly before the meeting and he wanted more time to review it. He also said he supports a citizen-based independent ethics panel, calling it "absolute folly" to have

a body sitting in ethical review of itself.

The proposed independent citizens ethics board would be made up of seven people. Each county-wide elected officer and the chairperson of the County Commission would designate a board member.

The proposal would prohibit county employees, a county elected official, an employee of a county vendor or a person who has a substantial financial interest in a county vendor from serving on the ethics board.

The current ethics panel is made up of Duggan, chief deputy clerk Veronica Massey, chief deputy treasurer Leonard Remick, undersheriff Melvin Turner, and chief assistant prosecuting attorney George Ward. It issued a resolution critical of the commission's Feb. 1 amendment, saying it has the effect of permitting county elected officials to solicit and accept employment from county

vendors and shields such arrangements from public scrutiny. The ethics board also called it an "indefensible and inappropriate weakening of county ethical standards."

Beard said she has heard criticism that the amendment was made to avoid seeking a waiver, but that the commission addresses the issue in its rules. Any commissioner who has a conflict of interest, such as employment with a county contractor, has to declare

that and abstain from voting, she said.

"It doesn't happen all that often," she said. Former Commissioner Arthur Blackwell, son of the current Commissioner Robert Blackwell, had to abstain from voting on several occasions, she said.

"There were times I even abstained when I didn't need to," she said of her decision not to vote when money was granted to nonprofit organizations for which she worked as a volunteer.

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Loves a parade: Nancy Harm rides Harmony Diamond in a prepared environment to train the horse to ride in parades. Harm will teach a class as part of Schoolcraft College's equine program.

Spring equine program saddles up

By BETH SUNDRLA JACHMAN
STAFF WRITER

Riding horses in parades is a labor of love for some area residents.

One, Nancy Harm, an adjunct professor of psychology at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, is teaching a class in how to prepare a horse to ride in a parade.

It's part of Schoolcraft College's equine program. The program is in a resurgence now, and is unique in a suburban setting, according to Sherry Zylka, coordinator of continuing education services at Schoolcraft.

About 50 different courses are offered on a rotating basis, according to Kaye Aprill, coordinator of the equine arts and sciences program at Schoolcraft.

In addition to Harm's class, "Parade Horse: Training, Preparation and Participation," which is March 31, several other classes are offered including "Neonatal Foal Diseases," March 30; "Horse Farm Maintenance," starting April 3; "Grooming Techniques, Halter Presentation and Showmanship," April 20; "Carriage and Pleasure Driving Basics," April 27 and 28; and "Trailing Your Horse," April 13.

Admission to the college isn't necessary to take the classes. An equine arts and science certificate program is also offered, when students complete 15 continuing ed-

ucation units in core classes and five units in elective classes, Aprill said.

Classes are offered for all levels of horse interest, Aprill said. "We have instructors who can help people decide how to choose a horse and advanced classes for horses and trainers," she said.

The instructors are at the highest level, she said. "I feel it's a very educational program both for those who know nothing about horses and those who need to learn more," she said.

Harm, who helped to get the equine program going in the '70s after the program had died out, is offering her course for the first time.

In the course, riders learn how to handle a horse in unusual circumstances, such as a parade or trail class.

Harm has ridden in more than 60 parades. She owns seven Arabian horses and makes and collects costumes, which she uses the parades. After five or six hours of preparation, consisting of main and tail shampooing and conditioning, sculpturing of the horse's hair with about three different blades or clippers, and makeup to accentuate the nose, eyes and ears of the horse the horses are ready to parade.

"We started out just having fun, and now it has grown on us," Harm said of her fellow riders and

volunteers who participate in parades.

Harm says she has used her knowledge of psychology in training horses. She doesn't use the term "breaking horses."

"I train them from one hour after birth," she said. It's a bonding process, where they get used to being handled, she said. The animals are also exposed to unusual items, that might make them shy away. Harm sets up a course with 40 rubber and plastic balls of all sizes and has the horses ride through. "It's a rich stimulating environment for them to look at," she said.

Obstacles are set up for the horse to walk over. "The horse's natural instinct will tell them to stop or balk at a strange situation," Harm said.

Another part of the horse's training is to play tapes of noises such as firecrackers and sirens.

Harm sees an increase in the popularity of horse ownership. "A lot of people are coming into the horse market," she said. Many of them are baby boomers who always dreamed of owning a horse.

She recommends taking classes and talking to people before buying a horse.

For information on the equine program contact Schoolcraft College, Continuing Education Services, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia 48152, call (313) 462-4448.

Immigration topic of talk at Madonna

"Building Environmental Bridges: Who's Doing What in Wayne County," a seminar, is planned for Wednesday, March 13.

The seminar is designed to give an overview of what's happening environmentally in Wayne County.

The annual meeting of Wayne County Soil Conservation District will also be conducted.

The program runs from 8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency, 5454 Venoy in Wayne County. Cost is \$25 and includes lunch and beverages. Registration dead-

line is March 5.

It is sponsored by USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension — Wayne County, and Metropolitan Detroit Landscape Association.

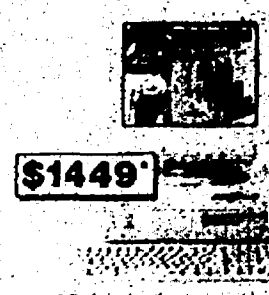
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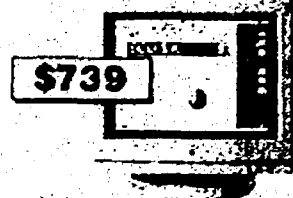


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OPINION

8A(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MI 48160

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1996

Planning ahead

Let's look to seniors' future

The city of Westland should be a more attractive and livable community for its nearly 90,000 residents — if city officials adopt the principles of a proposed master land use plan.

One of the eight major goals is the encouragement of development which makes Westland a destination, not just a place to drive through.

Others include objectives to make the city distinctive and attractive while also preserving the residential neighborhoods.

But several details that the City Council and administration should be aware of are buried in the demographic section of a summary of recommendations and comments given to the city's Planning Commission two weeks ago.

Those census figures and future population studies show that the "graying" of the community will continue until the first decade of the next century.

According to the planning consultant, the number of empty-nester residential units will increase by 45 percent in the next 25 years.

While the city's population is projected to increase 7.2 percent to nearly 91,000, the average size of households will continue to drop, to a level of 2.2.

At the same time, retail jobs are expected to drop substantially while manufacturing jobs are projected to increase.

This clearly reflects a need for city officials and planners to make sure that future city services, primarily in the area of recreational programs, are more geared to seniors than youths.

While there will always be thousands of children who need ball fields and active recreation park sites, the growing need is for passive recreation programs and facilities for retirees.

It's too early to start planning a major addition to the city's senior resources department's Friendship Center, but certainly there should be some preliminary thinking on what type of additional services should be provided for that age group.

It shouldn't take a bundle of money to accomplish that goal, with the growing number of empty schools and classrooms which can be converted into neighborhood "Friendship Centers."

While there are many issues involved in the planning consultant's preliminary report on the master plan revision, we hope city leaders will pick out a few to focus on and move on to make Westland a more livable community.

Public can help limit tuition

As higher education becomes more expensive, Michigan needs to make sure public university boards make an effort to hold down tuition rates. Fortunately, this is a case where people can fight "city hall."

Under a 1995 law, a student's family is eligible for an income tax credit of \$250 a year — or \$1,000 over four years — for tuition, with one catch: The university must hold its tuition increase at or below the consumer price index (CPI), which, during the 1990s, has been in the 3-percent ballpark.

The law was sponsored by Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, and enacted with a great deal of fanfare. Now there's an effort to repeal it.

Only four universities have capped tuitions and made 155,000 students eligible for the tax break: Michigan State, Western Michigan and Grand Valley, all at 2.6 percent; and Lake Superior State, 2.5 percent. Families of their students received tax breaks totaling \$12 million.

Here is the record of others in Southeastern Michigan:

- Eastern Michigan University, 4 percent.
- Wayne State University, 4.1 percent.
- University of Michigan-Dearborn, 4.7 percent.
- Oakland University, 5.9 percent.
- University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, 6.8 percent.

Three of our 15 universities are governed by elected boards. The others are governed by boards appointed by the governor. All boards have eight members. None is a dictatorship. We need to keep pressure on the schools that aren't cost-conscious.

Unfortunately, Gov. John Engler and key members of the Senate Appropriations Committee on higher education don't see it that way. They want to declare the tax break a failure, end it, take the savings and spread it

more or less evenly to all 15 universities.

We oppose that move. The tax credit should stay, as written.

There is no guarantee — or even a ghost of a chance — the universities will use the extra revenue to cap tuitions. They are most likely to succumb to administration, faculty and staff pressures to keep on spending.

The benefit should be targeted to students and their families at the universities which control costs. They are the most deserving. Tuition is a far higher proportion of university revenue than it was a generation ago.

What can students, parents and grandparents do?

■ If you're close to a campus, visit the governing board and give them a piece of your mind. Their meeting schedules are published. They are governed by the Open Meetings Act, which requires them to listen to public comment. If even a few people gripe about high tuition, the board is likely to pay attention and exercise some ingenuity in holding down costs and tuition.

■ Pay attention to whom the Republican and Democratic parties nominate in their post-Labor Day conventions. Become a delegate in the party of your choice, and ask the candidates tough questions.

■ If you can't take part in the party conventions, look up the candidates when they come to town. Ask them if they'll hold down tuition. Tell them to hold down tuition. If they won't promise to hold down tuition, tell them you won't vote for them.

■ Write letters to the editor about the candidates' views.

The law is designed so that constituents will put pressure on the university board. The law will work if constituents use it. Tuitions can be capped.

ARKIE HUDKINS



LETTERS

GI Bill for parents

Heaven help me, but I agree with Tim Richard (Business approach won't work with schools, Feb. 29!)

Schools should be run for the educational benefit of the students. Tenure, mission statements, unions, outcomes, cooperative groups, and other business programs borrowed from the corporate world should be thrown out.

Public schools should be required to use curricula and teaching methodologies that are proven to work for the students.

Since that isn't going to happen, let's cut to the chase. Vouchers and charter schools are only in demand because public schools embraced a host of "innovations" that don't work and parents don't like (i.e., whole language, inventive spelling, values clarification). In other words, without financial resources, parents have no choice but to send their child to public school.

Now, believe it or not, private schools are open to the public. They exist to serve the public — just as public schools are supposed to. Unlike public schools that are never shut down when children fail to learn, private/charter schools have to offer educational options parents want, or close their doors. The downside of private schools is the extra cost in addition to taxes already paid.

Most parents clamoring for charters and vouchers support the concept of public schools. However, public schools don't respond to valid complaints in a timely manner. Schools never accept blame when their programs don't work.

Instead, by the time the pedagogical pendulum swings back to what works, a generation of students has been miseducated. (Does anyone remember "look/say"?)

Parents and students can't afford to waste time waiting for public schools to come to their senses. Unless Richard can find a way for public schools to become accountable right now, he needs to get off of his anti-choice soapbox.

Parents should be able to spend their state per-pupil allocation at any institution that meets their child's needs. If public schools are confident that they already satisfy their constituents, they shouldn't be threatened by a K-12 type of GI Bill.

Patricia Alspach

world of entertainment.

Now, I'm not suggesting that we become so protective that our children are not prepared to enter the real world. What I am suggesting is that we and our children are subjected to entertainment, specifically movies, that is a long way from "The Wizard of Oz" and "E.T."

Regardless, there are movies currently running in our community that do have a very positive message for all of us. Two weeks ago, I had the opportunity to see "Mr. Holland's Opus." As a child of the '60s and '60s, as a parent and as a strong supporter of the music program throughout the Farmington school system, the movie scored a 10, as well as two thumbs up.

I won't spoil the impact of the movie by getting into the details, but we certainly have teachers, just like Mr. Holland, in many of our schools, teachers that have made and will make major impacts in the lives of our children as well as ours, as parents or past students.

I'd like to suggest three possible plans of action: First, go see "Mr. Holland's Opus." It will make you feel good. Second, take the time to stop by and see that special teacher who made a difference in your life or is making a difference in your child's life. Tell him or her just how much we really appreciate what they are doing. And last, but not least, support your school's music program by attending the musicals, the concerts and the marching band competitions and by supporting them financially whenever possible.

It may be just that part of your life that's been missing.

Bob Washer, president,
Farmington High School Music Patrons

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, as do your neighbors. That's why we offer this space on a weekly basis for opinions in your own words. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity, we ask that you sign your letter and provide a contact telephone number.

Letters should be mailed to: Editor, The Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

Did you agree with the acquittal of Dr. Jack Koverden on assorted out-of-state charges?

We asked this question at the Westland Post Office.



'Yes, I did. I believe it's a person's right to determine their own fate. The government already interferes in everything else.'

George Allen
Westland



'Yes, I agree with it.'

Audrey Gibson
Westland



'Absolutely not. He's a creep.'

Bettyanne Knudson
Westland



'I agree. I'm all for him.'

Lenore Kneeling
Westland

Westland Observer

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— Philip Power

LETTERS

Role of schools

In your recent article by staff writer Tim Richard on "School to work plans draw fire, favor," I would like to share my opinion on this subject, and I think that it is shared by many others.

There is no doubt that there is a need of help in our education system but school to work isn't the answer.

If educators work diligently on the basic education skills (math, reading, science, history) then the responsibility of training employees by employers would be much easier. It is not up to the schools to train students for a select group of companies in their field to aid in their training procedure.

The purpose of schools is to give children a solid education so that they may choose their own profession with confidence that with that education they received will give them the necessary skills to learn the job.

Paul Pierson, Livonia

Engler knocked

I would like to express my views on Gov. John Engler's decision to cut funds from adult education programs.

He has said that young people over 20 should not have the privilege of attending school free of charge.

One thing wrong with this proposal is that if the young adults haven't graduated yet, there is a really good chance that they don't have a good enough job to afford tuition. Personally, this does not affect me because I am only 18; however, the adult education program has helped me and many others to straighten out our lives.

I also believe that everyone has or should have the right to a free education. I think that Gov. Engler should stop and consider what he is doing to the millions of people that would like to proceed with their high school education and make positive changes in their lives.

Adult education to me is like another chance to better myself and receive my high school diploma.

Michael Mars

Urge reform passage

Maybe the millenium has arrived in this election year, and meaningful campaign finance reform is on the horizon. Reform is a real possibility if voters let Washington know of their support of reform measures.

For years there has been discussion (and precious little action) on campaign finance reform. Apparently representatives and senators are reluctant to lose the considerable advantages they enjoy as incumbents.

Incumbents are better known and better financed than challengers. Their franking privileges allow them more constituent access than challengers can manage for rebuttal. Political action committees have become a very prominent factor in campaign finance but PAC contributions are mostly directed to those who are in a position to enact legislation — the incumbent.

Fortunately for the political health of the election process, pressure has risen considerably for some way to reduce the inordinate amount of money being spent on primaries and general elec-

tions. HB 2566, the Bipartisan Clean Congress Act introduced in the House, answers many of the objections voters have about campaign finance. It would impose a spending limit of \$600,000 per candidate, offer discounts on TV and radio ads, reduce postage rates for campaigns, prohibit campaign donations of more than \$250 from individuals, and, if constitutional, ban PAC contributions which have a disproportionate influence on special interest legislation.

One way to encourage passage of HB 2566 is to write to your congressperson, U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D-Ann Arbor, to urge her to cosponsor this legislation. This year seems an auspicious time to enact HB 2566 into law and would help to diminish anti-government feeling and cynicism. Time is important, however. It is almost inevitable that if the bill passes, tactics delaying its implementation will be attempted by some of the congressional leadership.

Jeanette Katz, Livonia League of Women Voters

About suicide

In the media blitz of the Kevorkian trial, it is easy to side with those who are suffering and request suicide as the solution to their pain.

It is argued that approving suicide would give one control of his own life and death. This argument implies that one can choose to live or die, that the decision is one that relates only to self.

I am concerned, however, for the time when assisted suicide becomes not only acceptable, but expected as the unselfish act, the decision that releases our loved ones of the burden of our care.

Feiger speaks of suicide as a civilized act. The infirm and elderly of many Native American tribes were expected to walk away from the camp to die in the woods rather than drain the resources of the community.

Is this the civilization we hope to emulate?

Barbara Ann Lanigan

Supreme Court upholds expansion of police state

The police state won one this month. The vote was 5-4.

The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Michigan courts' decision to let Big Brother seize the 11-year-old car of an Oakland County couple after the husband got caught in an unzipped position with a prostitute in Detroit.

Politically, what's interesting is that the Right and Left joined forces. Chief Justice William Rehnquist wrote the lead opinion and was joined, predictably, by Justices Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas and Sandra Day O'Connor — plus Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a Clinton appointee.

The case was complicated because the wife, Tina Bennis, was co-owner of the car for which the couple paid \$600. In other words, an innocent party was being punished by Detroit police and the Wayne County prosecutor's office. One evening in 1988, John Bennis

crused a northwest Detroit neighborhood looking for a lady of the evening. It's a neat neighborhood. As a teen, I used to walk through there. At night. Alone. That was years ago.

But when Bennis took his fateful ride, neighborhood street corners had become pickup points. A civic-minded resident who worked for the prosecutor reportedly had raised Cain about such activity.

Two cops caught Bennis and his pickup in the act. OK, let the culprits pay the penalty. But confiscating an innocent wife's property? That's police state stuff.

Originally, the purpose of confiscating property used in commission of an illegal act was to break up organized crime. As Rehnquist pointed out, 19th century privateers (entrepreneurial pirates) could have their ships confiscated. More recently, Michigan has used



TIM RICHARD

the concept to seize the garages and tools of auto "chop shops."

Michigan law declares a property a "nuisance" and forfeitable when used for "lewdness, assignation or prostitution . . ." Rehnquist cited "a long and unbroken line of cases" allowing forfeiture, "even though the owner did not know that it was to be put to such use." A Nixon appointee, Rehnquist

was elevated to chief justice by Reagan.

Dissenting, Justice John Paul Stevens (a Ford appointee) stormed: "Fundamental fairness prohibits the punishment of innocent people."

Added dissenting Justice Anthony Kennedy (Reagan): "This forfeiture cannot meet the requirements of due process." To the argument that the 1977 Pontiac had little value, Kennedy replied, "Nothing supports the suggestion that the value of her co-ownership is so insignificant as to be beneath the law's protection."

And if Tina Bennis' interests were insignificant, consider that the American Bankers Association filed a brief on her behalf, arguing that forfeiture threatens banks with loss of their collateral. It's not nice to alienate financiers.

Rehnquist and his authoritarians from both ends of the spectrum added

another link to the chains of the police state. Other links include excessively imposing life sentences, lifting driver's licenses for offenses unrelated to driving, lifting professional licenses for offenses unrelated to malpractice, charging a 9-year-old with stalking, and so on. In a police state, any rational, however contrived, will do.

Justice Stevens, like the late Earl Warren before him, saw the issue properly: "Fundamental fairness."

Local footnote: When the Michigan Supreme Court in 1994 ruled against Tina Bennis, Justices James Brickley and Charles Levin wisely dissented. Brickley is eligible to seek re-election this year. Levin will be forced by age to retire.

Tim Richard reports on the local implications of state and regional events.

Changes in our politics show scary times ahead

Meditations on the March 19 Michigan presidential primary election: With Pat Buchanan's soaring language and raw emotional power still stirring the hearts of Michigan's notoriously independent voters, this year's primary feels a little like the Michigan presidential primary of 1972. That was the year George Wallace stunned the Democratic Party establishment by winning our primary with more votes than President Nixon and George McGovern combined.

How'd he do that? Simple: He talked bluntly about things — nasty things like race, law 'n' order, morality and school busing — that most respectable politicians were scared to talk about.

Let's face it: Those things touched a lot of folks where they lived. Wallace touched them and, in so doing, extended a long and powerful tradition of silent populist discontent that runs back to Father Coughlin, the "radio priest" from Royal Oak, and Huey Long, the "every man a king" senator from Louisiana.

Buchanan also talks bluntly about things — nasty things like abortion, immigration, jobs and tariffs — that most respectable politicians are scared to talk about.

These things touch a lot of people where they live. Political transactions are denominated in emotion, not cognition. And Buchanan's campaign is the only one fueled on high-octane emotion.

His appeal is a special conundrum for the Republican Party. The traditional GOP reflex is to support the workings of the free market, free trade and the global economy at the same time as it advocates traditional family values. Buchanan, however, realizes that it is precisely the unfettered workings of the global market that are doing most to erode today's economic security and community morality.

Much as the Republican hierarchy would wish it, Buchanan won't go away. Neither did George Wallace in 1972 nor Jesse Jackson in 1988. Nor will Ross Perot.

Each represents a party and discontents that the traditional two-party structure has failed to accommodate. That's why the American political system keeps straining the boundaries of the two traditional parties.

A couple of weeks ago, I had dinner with a group of thoughtful and engaged people. Con-



PHILIP POWER

versation turned to the politics of the future. To my surprise, everyone felt there would be three or more parties within 10 years.

What's driving this? Certainly the new global economy and the force of technology have shattered the economic foundation of people's lives and threatened the stability of their values. Traditional politics can't keep up.

But there are two more subtle and pervasive factors.

One is the "reflexively cynical" (James Fallows' phrase) way the news media treat politics and politicians. Like the Chinese water torture, relentlessly cynical media coverage eventually wears down innate trust in a political system.

The other has to do with fundamental changes taking place in how we access information. Digitized database technology, plus the distribution capability of the Internet and the World Wide Web, are the most significant advances since Gutenberg invented movable type in the 16th century.

With the Web, transmitting and receiving information become individualized, no longer dependent on mass media companies. When opinion and information are filtered through the individual prisms of countless individual participants in the Web, the basis of the traditional clumping of people into just two parties changes forever.

For me, at least, that's scary, just like listening to George Wallace back in 1972 or Pat Buchanan today.

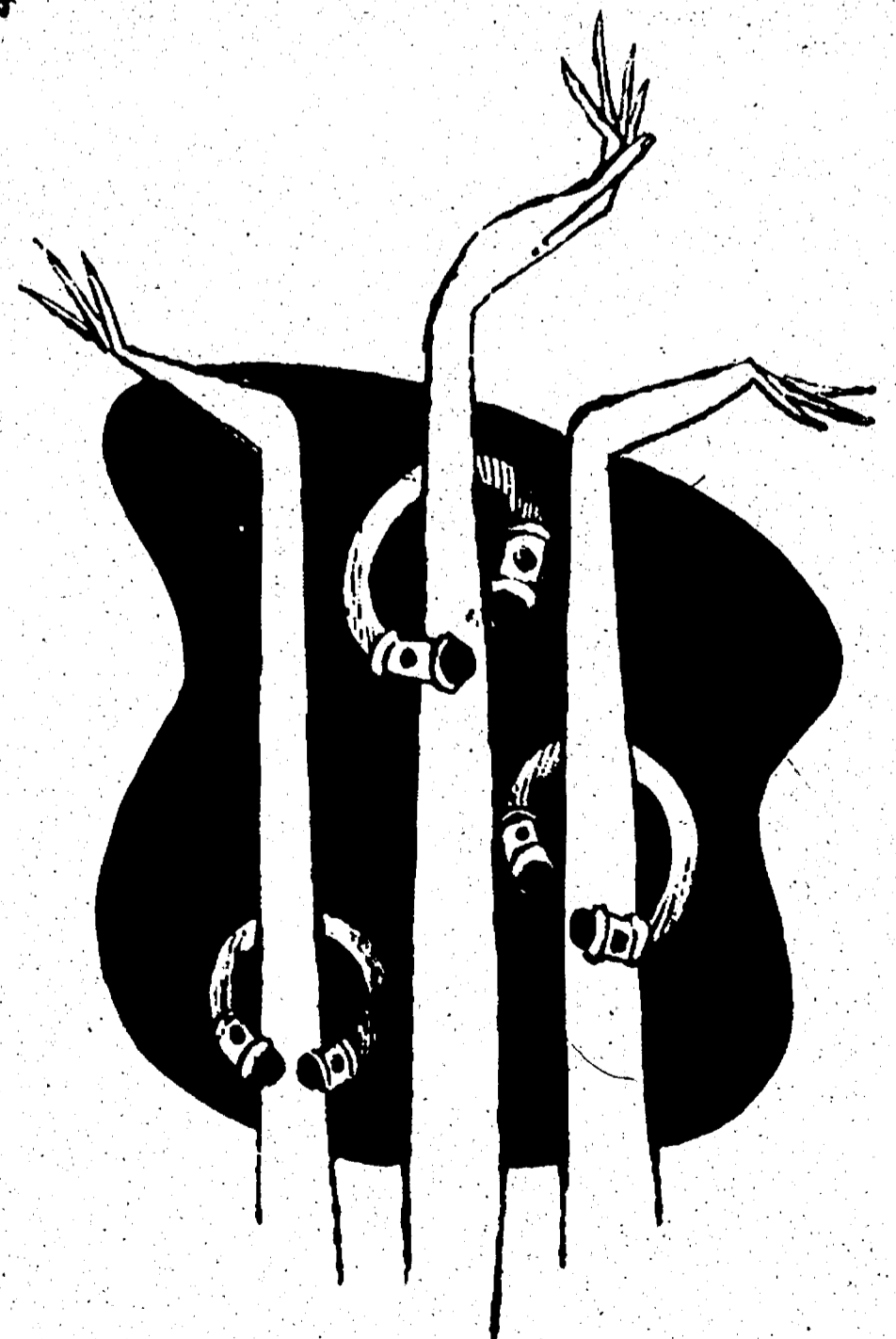
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Cox named to circuit court bench

Gov. John Engler has appointed Sean Francis Cox to the 3rd Judicial Circuit Court in Wayne County.

Cox will be filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Richard C. Kaufman, who Kaufman resigned to take a job as general manager of SMART, the regional bus system.

"Sean will bring to the circuit court bench a high level of integrity, as well as a strong work

ethic and excellent legal skills which will allow him to excel as a circuit court judge. These skills, coupled with Sean's extensive involvement in civic and bar association activities, make his progression to the bench a natural one," Engler said.

Cox, a Canton Township resident, received a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan in 1979 and a juris doctor degree from the Detroit

College of Law in 1983.

After receiving a law degree, Cox joined the firm of Kitch, Saubier, Drutches, Wagner & Kenney. He later served with the law firm of Bloom & Kavanaugh and is currently practicing with the Livonia law firm of Cummings, McClorey, Davis & Aho. Cox is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, the bars for the Eastern District of Michigan and the U.S. District Court,

as well as the Federalist Society and community volunteer organizations.

Cox is married to Janine Cox and they have four children.

The appointment extends through Jan. 1, 1997. Cox will have to run for election in November 1996 to serve the remainder of the term which expires Dec. 31, 1998.

Kindergarten roundup Tuesday

The Children's Center at Schoolcraft College will hold its annual kindergarten roundup 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 19. Parents may register their children for the 1996-97 school year during this time.

The Schoolcraft kindergarten has instruction from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in a new facility.

The teaching staff uses a language-based curriculum, and the children begin using computers and have instruction in music and movement one day each week.

Parents can also use day-care ser-

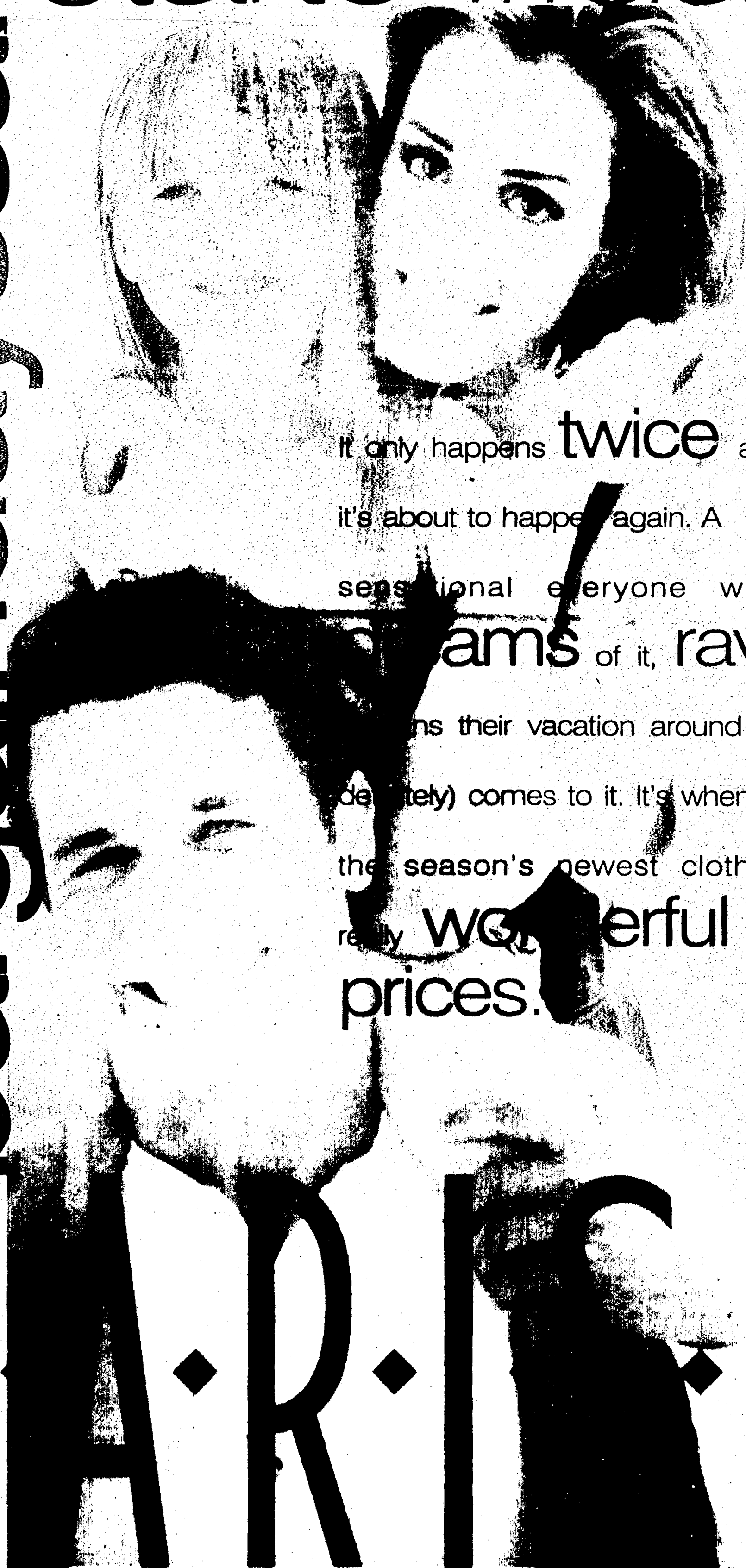
vices from 7-9 a.m. and after school from 3-6 p.m. Included in the basic fee are lunch, two snacks and the before- and after-care programs.

Tuition for the program is \$125 a week. A \$50, non-refundable deposit is required to ensure a place for fall '96. There are a limited number of spaces available.

The roundup will be held at the Children's Center, on the south side of the south parking lot on the Livonia campus, at 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, west of I-275.

Passes starts friday!

Boardgainoday



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FAMILY ROOM



KAREN MEIER

Comfort found
in food, friends

Not so long ago, I didn't understand much about the custom and the tradition of giving and sharing food during the times in life when there is great upheaval. It used to seem to me that food would be the last thing on anyone's mind when turmoil and crisis hit. And if it was death that had caused the world to be upside down, then food seemed almost disrespectful.

I remember when my grandparents passed away, and this was years ago, there was, after the funeral in the little room off to the side of the church's vestibule, a table set up with small cookies delicately decorated with pastel flowers and green stems. The cookies seemed to mock the occasion.

My heart was heavy and sad, and this food

See FAMILY ROOM, 12A

For sale: Chance
to win \$150,000



Scott Lucas and his parents, Frank and JoAnn, have 9,000 raffle tickets they want to sell by March 29. If they do, the winner will get \$150,000 and the University of Michigan Hospital Trauma Burn Center will get a sizable donation.

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

So, how would you like \$150,000 to put down on a new home?

Yeah, right, you say; in your wildest dreams.

Well, it's not such a wild dream, especially if you're holding the winning ticket in a raffle that will benefit the University of Michigan Hospital Trauma Burn Center and several other charities.

It's billed as the New Home Raffle and is the brainchild of Frank and JoAnn Lucas of Brandon Township, son Scott of Farmington and their Helping Hands for Children Charity.

"This is the first time the family has taken on such a big project and we'd like to make it an annual thing," said Scott, who is a wrestling coach at Farmington High School

and a volunteer coach in a program for kindergartners through eighth-graders. "My parents started the charity over a decade ago."

Scott helps people as a Westland firefighter. Seeing the aftermath of fires — destroyed homes and burned bodies — and hearing about people giving away cars or holding 50/50 raffles to raise money prompted Lucas to approach his parents and the burn center about a benefit.

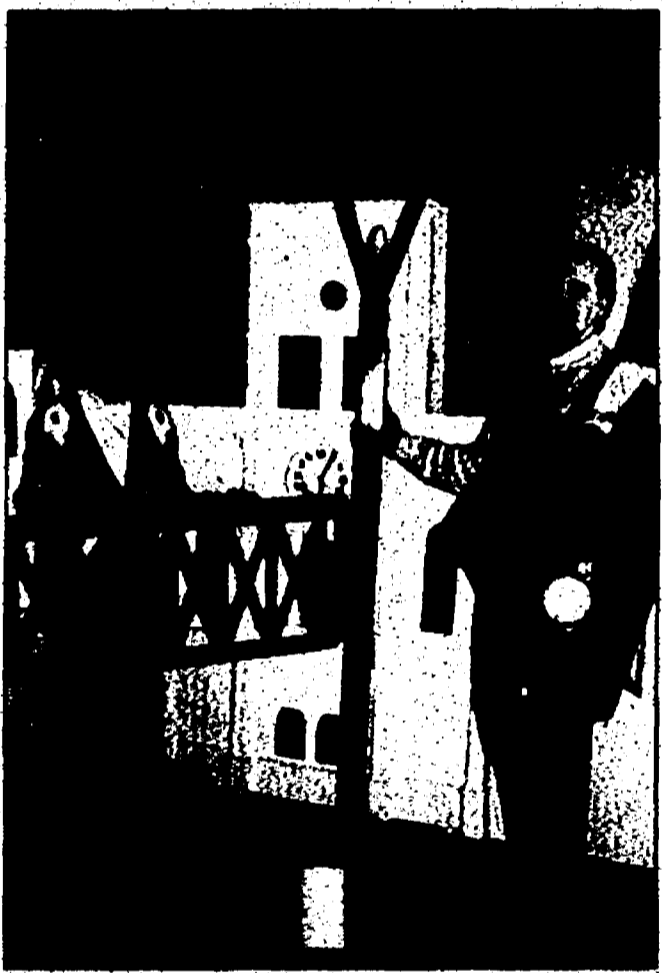
The Lucases formed Helping Hands "years ago," after being exposed to "lots of children needing lots of things" at Detroit Osteopathic Hospital where they took a sister for physical therapy. The charity started out collecting primarily clothing and toys, but needed money to do more. The raffle seemed like a good idea, but the Lucases were apprehensive about "going big," Scott said.

See RAFFLE, 14A



TOM HAWLEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Such a deal: If you have \$50, even \$500, Scott Lucas has a deal for you — a chance to win \$150,000 in a new home raffle being sponsored by Helping Hands for Children.



Hard at work:

Jim Mankiewicz plays a game of peekaboo with wife Kathy and Chris Petersen from behind a replica of New Orleans' St. Louis Cathedral, the backdrop for the Catholic Central High School Stage Band at this weekend's dinner-dance.

Mardi Gras comes
to CC in a big way

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Greg Normandin was a student at Detroit Catholic Central High School when the parents of band members staged their first benefit dance.

"It was what you would expect of a school function — crepe paper and pop," said Normandin. "It's grown more sophisticated with the years."

Twenty years later, Normandin has traded in his instrument to become director of the the high school's 75-member band, and the crepe paper has been traded in for black netting, twinkle lights and plenty of Styrofoam creations.

The band's biggest fund raiser of the year, the 1996 "Night on the Town" will offer the sell-out crowd of 485 to "Live the Legend of Mardi Gras" in the parents' version of Jackson Square in New Orleans' French Quarter.

"Just about every parent who has a son in the band is working on this," said Beth MacFarlane who handles publicity for the event. "In fact, I would say all because this is such a big function, such a big event."

Charlene Gronewelt and Tammy O'Connor are chair the event, while Cher Petersen and Kathy Mankiewicz are in charge of the decorations.

The black netting covered in the twinkle lights spans the ceiling of the cafeteria, creating a night sky. Styrofoam panels

have been shaped to look like wrought iron and painted to resemble second-story balconies that ring the square.

The parents have even made a scale model replica of St. Louis Cathedral and huge coach lamps that will hang from pillars around the room.

If that isn't enough, parents also made feathered masks for the party goes and Mardi Gras beads that will be thrown along with money from a float during a parade that will ferry the king and queen into the "square."

Plan ahead

"We start planning in the fall and by November, we pretty much have everything in place for the auction and the raffle where we make money," said MacFarlane.

"They're terrific parents, we have nothing to worry about with these parents," said Normandin. "In fact, last year by the end of the evening we knew this year's theme would be Mardi Gras."

The parents really go out for these functions," added Donna Shade who works in the high school's alumni, development and public relations office. "It's all volunteer, there's no arm-twisting involved."

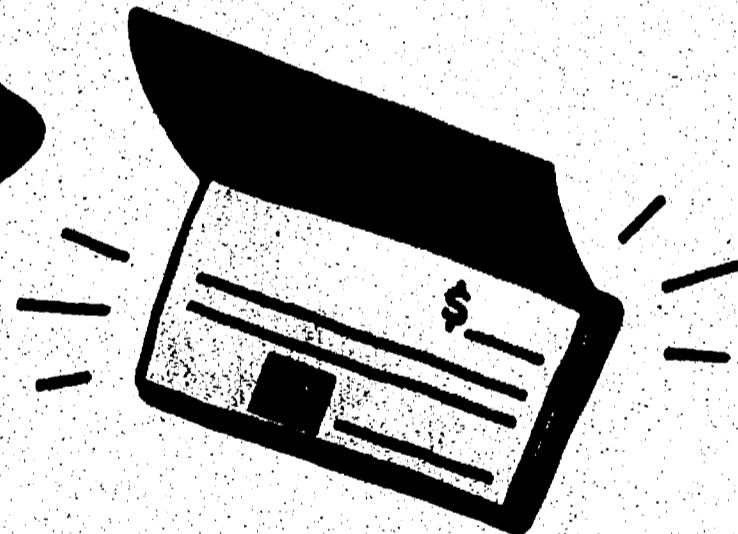
And that's quite a change from last year's "Life Styles of the Rich and Famous" which saw the cafeteria transformed

See MARDI GRAS, 18A

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WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Anderson-Syverson

Jim and Carol Anderson of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Colleen, to Eric Syverson, the son of Gene and Marilyn Syverson of Livonia.

The bride-to-be, a 1989 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School, will graduate from Eastern Michigan University in May.

Her fiancé is a 1989 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 1994 graduate of Eastern Michigan University.

A July wedding is planned at St. Colette's Church in Livonia.



Brown-Tringali

Kenneth and Barbara Brown of Dearborn announce the engagement of their daughter, Tamara Suzanne, to David Eugene Tringali, the son of James and Margaret Tringali of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a 1985 graduate of Dearborn High School. She is employed as a teacher in Dearborn.

Her fiancé is a 1984 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School. He is employed by Michigan Induction.

A November wedding is planned at Divine Child Church in Dearborn.



Syria-Lyons

Vernon and Cora Lee Syria of Belleville announce the engagement of their daughter, Judith Ann, to Scott Allen Lyons, the son of James Lyons of Allen Park and Mary Frederick of Dearborn.

The bride-to-be is employed as director of training for 1st Optometry Eye Care Centers.

Her fiancé is employed by the Ford Motor Company.

A May wedding is planned in Temple Baptist Church in Redford.



Ramos-Jones

Wendy Nora Jones and Joe G. Ramos Jr. were married Dec. 29 at the Botsford Inn in Farmington Hills. District Judge Karen Khalil officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Eric and Nancy Jones of Redford. The groom is the son of Jose G. and Amabely Ramos of Elsa, Texas.

The bride is a 1986 graduate of St. Agatha High School. She received her bachelor of science degree in English, language and literature from Eastern Michigan University. She currently is teaching at the Mary Hoge Ninth

Grade Academy in Weslaco, Texas.

The groom is a 1984 graduate of Edcouch-Elsa High School and a graduate of the University of Texas Pan American with a bachelor of arts degree in English and a minor in political science. He currently is teaching at the Mary Hoge Ninth Grade Academy.

The bride asked her sister, Kelly Jones, to serve as maid of honor. The groom asked Vance Lane to serve as best man.

A dinner reception for the immediate family was held at the Botsford Inn followed the wedding. The newlyweds are making their home in Weslaco.



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Raffle from page 11A

"I wanted to go slow," Frank said. "It's a great idea, but a substantial undertaking. There were a lot of unknowns, but we're learning things along the way."

The Lucases also had the help of attorney Bruce Haffey of the Troy law firm of Cox, Hodgeman and Giarmarco, who handled the legal aspects of the raffle pro bono.

Initially, the family had lined up builders who committed to a lot and home in one of their developments as the prize, but that was changed to a cash prize when the state informed the Lucases that they couldn't raffle off something they didn't own.

For its part, the burn center has been supportive of the effort. With much of its money coming from fund-raisers, the people there "were thrilled," said Scott, who graduated from Westland John Glenn High School.

"Donations like these are invaluable to the hospital's continuing leadership in trauma burn care," said Katie Barrett who works in the Injury Prevention office of the trauma burn center. "They support research in skin care, nurse education and sending young burn survivors to burn camp each summer. Without the generous support we've received from concerned community members over the years, none of this would be possible."

Simple idea

The idea is a simple one: sell 9,000 raffle tickets in time for a drawing at noon Friday, March 29, in the burn unit. Priced at \$50 a ticket or 11 tickets for \$500, the group needs to sell 6,000 tickets to cover the \$150,000 prize. If less than 6,000 are sold, 50 percent of the ticket sales will be awarded in cash.

"I know people who buy a three-digit number in the Lottery every day and spend \$20-30," said Frank. "And the odds are a 7 million-1 chance of winning. Ours is 9,000 to 1."

In addition to a chance at winning \$150,000, people who buy a ticket get a "free vacation certificate" that entitles them to a three days-two nights stay in hotels in such locales as Anaheim, Calif., Las Vegas, Nev., Branson, Mo., Gatlinburg, Tenn., South Padre

'I know people who buy a three-digit number in the Lottery every day and spend \$20-30. And the odds are a 7 million-1 chance of winning. Ours is 9,000 to 1.'

Frank Lucas

Island, Texas, and such Florida destinations as Daytona Beach, Orlando, Clearwater and St. Petersburg.

"We wanted to include the free vacation certificate so that you get something even if you don't win the grand prize," Frank said.

A vast majority of the money raised will go to the burn center, but several others charities around the state will benefit from the raffle, including the Michigan State Firefighters Union, which will use the money to help set up a critical incident debriefing team.

The first of its kind in the state, the team will work with rescue workers in the aftermaths of ma-

jor disasters like the crash of Flight 255 at Detroit Metropolitan Airport and the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, Scott said.

Get your tickets

The tickets went on sale in February and no stone is being left unturned in an effort to sell all 9,000 of them. Information has been circulated around Ann Arbor with the help of posters at the burn center and Lucas's brother who works at the local newspaper. Helping Hands expects response to build when letters from the firefighters union reach members across the state.

The senior Lucases have been

circulating tickets in their neck of the woods, so to speak. Helping Hands will even have a booth at the International Builders Home, Flower and Furniture Show at Cobo Hall March 16-24.

Ticket sales have been slow, but the Lucases aren't discouraged. Regardless of the outcome, they plan on having another raffle — "I think we'll do an auto raffle, like a classic car," Frank said.

Tickets can be ordered by sending your name, address and a check, made payable to Helping Hands for Children, to P.O. Box 7777, Ann Arbor 48107-7777 or to the Trauma Burn Center/New Home Raffle, 1500 E. Medical Center Drive, UH1C43, Ann Arbor 48109-0033, or by calling Scott Lucas at (810) 471-4249.

Persons or groups interested in helping distribute tickets can call Frank Lucas at (810) 628-0846, or Katie Barrett at the University of Michigan Hospital, (313) 763-6556.

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NEW VOICES

MICHELLE and **CHRIS MANROSS** of Canton announce the birth of **CONNOR PATRICK** Dec. 8 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. Grandparents are John and Sally Price of Fairfield Glade, Tenn., and Rick and Karen Manross of Livonia.

JEFFREY and **SHERESE MOM** of Plymouth announce the birth of **KATRINA JEANNINE** Nov. 22 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. Grandparents are Jerald and Janice Mom of Lake Orion and Stanley and Marcia Bultman of Grand Rapids.

birth of **MICHELLE RENEE** Feb. 1 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. She has a brother, Michael William, 1 1/4. Grandparents are Joan Lavalles of Ann Arbor, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Muhleisen of Windsor, Ontario, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Conklin of Birmingham. Great-grandparents are Lillian Muhleisen and Mrs. Gordon Reitz.

Dave and Barb Zantop of Canton, Steve Darmofel of Canton, and Christine Dudley of Harpers Ferry, W.Va.

has a brother, Anthony. Grandparents are Lucian Wilson of Booneville, Ky.

JENNIFER OPPERMAN of Garden City announces the birth of **KRYSANDRA LYNN** Feb. 16 in the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital, Garden City. Grandmother is Gall Opperman of Garden City.

WILLIAM and **KIM KONK-LIN** of Plymouth announce the

TOM and **ROBYN DIRLAM** of Livonia announce the birth of **JOSHUA PHILLIP** Dec. 22 at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. He has a brother, Zachary, 4 1/4. Grandparents are Dick and Marvis Dirlam of Jackson, Phil Atzenhoffer of Jackson and Wayne and Carol Hopkins of Phoenix, Ariz. Great-grandparents are Ruth Dirlam of Jackson, Irena Baker of Cement City, Mich., and Ida Steinbrenner of Ocala, Fla.

JIM and **BECKI MEYETTE** of Canton announce the birth of **KAITLIN KRISTINE** Aug. 8 at Hutzel Hospital in Detroit. She has a sister, Alyssa, 2, and a brother, Bradley, 3 1/4.

GARY and **LISA O'KEEFE** of Canton announce the birth of **STEPHEN NICHOLAS** Feb. 19 in the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital, Garden City. He has a brother, Daniel, 18 months. Grandparents are Richard and Evelyn O'Keefe of Livonia and Stanley and Adelle Michalik of Canton.

STEVE and **JULIE DARMO-FAL** of Canton announce the birth of **ALYSON ROSE** Dec. 10 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. Grandparents are

BRENT and **MICHELLE TAPP** of Canton announce the birth of **PAIGE IRENE** Feb. 9 in the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital, Garden City. She has a sister, Kirstie. Grandparents are Robert and Faye Hughes of Wayne and Gerald and Darlene Tapp of Canton.

TIM and **LUANN ROSS** of Canton announce the birth of **MATTHEW TYLER** July 27 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital of Ann Arbor. He has a brother Bryan, 7. Grandparents are Terry and Phyllis Ross of Onsted and Leo and Dorothy Coney of Shepherd.

JOE and **SANDY HARBOT-TLE** of Holland, Mich., announce the birth of **ALYSSA ELAINE** Jan. 18 at Zeeland Hospital in Zeeland. Grandparents are Bob and Elaine Cockrum of Westland and John and Carol Harbottle of Muncie, Ind.

THOMAS and **SANDRA HU-DIE** of Westland announce the birth of **MATTHEW AARON** Feb. 18 in the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital, Garden City. He has a brother, Ryan, 5. Grandparents are Paul and Betty Rochelle of Nashville, Tenn., and Dallas and Hellen Hudie of Lexington, Mich.

MICHAEL WRIGHT and **LUCINDA WILSON** of Westland announce the birth of **KAR-ISA CHELSIE RAE** Feb. 5 in the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital, Garden City. She

KEITH and **JONI JOHNSON** of Redford announce the birth of **DAVID KEITH** Feb. 10 in the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital, Garden City. Grandparents are Keith and Marian Johnson of Garden City and Vernon and Nancy Davis of Kinsley, Kan.

Mardi Gras from page 11A

into a mansion, according to MacFarlane.

While some of the decorating was down last weekend, a majority of the work will be done after school is out on Friday and up until about four hours before the doors open at 4 p.m. Once the revelry has died out in the wee hours of Sunday morning, the parade will start the tear-down.

The evening includes a sit-down dinner with an authentic New Orleans-style dessert, served by members of the band. There also will be two cappuccino carts and dancing.

"The stage band will perform and the other band members will serve as waiters and also do the actual Mardi Gras parade and valet parking," MacFarlane said. "Everybody has a part in this."

The float will see double duty during the evening. Following the parade, a palm reader and caricaturist will set up shop. There also will be a surprise in the parking lot, according to MacFarlane.

such band expenses as new instruments and uniforms. A good tuba can cost as much as \$10,000 and uniforms run \$500 each. According to Normandin, one student opted for a \$12,000 tuba instead of car to land a college scholarship.

"The band has doubled in size in the last 10 years and it's a challenge to keep up," said Normandin. "Last year we were able to buy enough uniforms to cover all of the incoming freshman."

"Uniforms can usually last about 20 years, but the kids are getting bigger. We've expanded the uniforms and have reached the point where we can't do it anymore. We'll probably have to buy more this year."

While the dinner-dance is a sell-out, people can still buy tickets for the raffles. Call Normandin at (313) 534-0660 and specify that it's for raffle tickets, Shade said.

The money-makers

As for the money-making part of the evening, the main raffle will feature a grand prize of airfare and hotel accommodations to New Orleans, of course. Those tickets cost \$5 and only 1,000 will be sold. Tickets for the other raffle, which includes a ladies-only table, are priced at \$1.

There also will be a silent auction, featuring themed baskets, many prepared by the band's different musical sections along the lines of going away to college. A lot of families also donate baskets, even Normandin and his wife.

"My wife and I donate dinner for eight," he said. "We bring the food, we make the food, we clean up the food and serve the wine. We even dress up like chefs. It's very tres gourmet . . . not just hamburgers."

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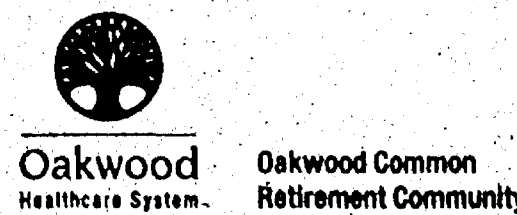
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RELIGION CALENDAR

Items for the religion calendar should be submitted no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN

Dinner reservations can be made through Thursday, March 14, for the Metro West Christian Women's After 5 gathering 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 19, at the Holiday Inn and Holidome, 1-275 and Six Mile, Livonia. The program will be "Hello, Dolly!" and feature local doll collector Chris Pigott, singer Susan Morrow and Esther Hoover speaking on "Little Things Mean a Lot." All-inclusive tickets are \$12 and are available by calling Jan Paver at (810) 349-7404 or Gerry Johnson at (313) 464-6433.

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Jim Olsen will present a family



JIM OLSEN

concert, "Tales and Tunes," at 7 p.m. Friday, March 15, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Olsen brings a message of hope and assurance to God's people through music, stories and personal testimony. He accompanies himself with a guitar in a variety of musical styles. A freewill offering will be taken. For more information, call the church at (313) 522-6830.

MINI RETREAT

The women of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church will have their spring mini retreat 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 16, at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 Merriman, Westland. The featured speaker, Lois VanWageningen, has taken her

topic from 1 Timothy 6:6 — "Godliness with contentment is great gain." Using women from the Bible as examples, she will show how to be a contented woman in a discontented world.

Tickets are \$12 and include a continental breakfast and brunch. For more information, call Susan Thomson at (313) 420-2243.

FREE CONCERT

Spiritbound, a men's trio from Nashville, Tenn., will be in concert at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at Wayne Wesleyan Church, 5225 Venoy, Wayne. The concert is free of charge. For more information, call the church office at (313) 722-5210.

Spiritbound also will perform at 11 a.m. Sunday, March 17, at the Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy, Canton. For more information, call (313) 455-0022.

BLOOD DRIVE

St. Matthew Lutheran Church will have a blood drive 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, March 17, in the school gymnasium, 5885 N. Venoy, Westland. Call (313) 425-0260 for a blood donation appointment.

REVIVAL SERVICES

Revival services will be held Sunday through Wednesday, March 17-20, at Main Street Baptist Church, 8500 N. Morton Taylor Road, Canton. The Rev. Benjamin Haley of the Southwest Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, will preach at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. March 17 and 7 p.m. March 18-20.

Haley, a graduate of Carson-Newman College, is currently working on a degree in the School of Theology at the seminary. For more information, call the church at (313) 453-4785.

ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP

An alternative, nontraditional worship service will begin Sunday, March 17, at New Life Lutheran Church, which worships temporarily at the Masonic Temple, 730 Penniman, downtown Plymouth.

The forming congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will feature the Chicago Folk Service with Communion at 11 a.m. A video, "Blind Shepherd of the Hills," which chronicles the ministry of a blind ELCA pastor in Virginia, also will be shown.

The traditional service with

Communion, based on the "Lutheran Book of Worship," will move to 8:30 a.m., with youth and adult education starting at 9:45 a.m. A reception follows both services.

For more information, call pastor-developer Ken Roberts at (313) 459-8181 or (313) 455-1436.

SHARON AND ROBIN

Sharon and Robin, a musical ministry, will be presented 6:30 p.m. Sunday, March 17, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia.

Sharon and Robin have been

using music as a tool to both praise and proclaim the name of Christ since 1978. They offer a variety of musical styles, including contemporary, inspirational and original, enhanced by their classical training in voice and piano.

The program is open to the public. For more information, call the church at (313) 422-0149.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

The radio series "What Is This Christian Science and Who Are These Christian Scientists?" a weekly program to answer questions about the religion, is being broadcast 8:30 a.m. Sundays on

CKLW-AM 800. Topics include "What Is It Like To Be a Christian Scientist Today?" on March 17 and "Ministering and Ministers" on March 24. The series also can be heard at 1:30 p.m. Sundays on WQBH-AM 1400. It is produced by the Christian Science Committee on Publication for Michigan and sponsored by local Christian Science churches. For more information, call 1-800-886-1212.

GRIEF SUPPORT

The Walking Together Through Grief Support Group will meet 7:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, beginning March 27, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia. The program offers support for anyone who has experienced the death of a spouse, child, infant, parent, sibling, relative or friend due to illness, accident, suicide or murder. For more information, call the church at (313) 422-1470.

Seminar on Grief

For Anyone Who Has Lost Through Death
A Mate, Child, Parent, Sibling or Another Special Loved One.

Sat., March 30th
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Ward Presbyterian Church

Farmington Road at Six Mile in Livonia

\$1750 Includes Seminar Materials, Book, Continental Breakfast and Lunch

1996 Spring Grief Seminar Registration

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- Loss of Spouse (over 45)
- Loss of Child
- Lay person (learning bereavement ministry)
- Professional Interest (counseling)
- Loss of Parent (under 18)
- Loss of Parent (over 18)
- Loss of Sibling

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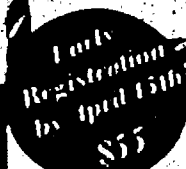
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Sullivan performs at First Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Northville will close out its 1995-96 Fine Arts Series with a concert by pianist Paul Sullivan on Sunday, March 24.

Sullivan will perform original compositions as part of the 7 p.m. concert at the church, 200 E. Main, Northville.

Sullivan, a composer and pianist, has built a distinguished reputation in many areas of music. His seven albums of original music, along with his compositions for the Pilobolus Dance Theater, ABC-TV and the Winter Olympics Committee, have introduced his music to audiences worldwide.

Sullivan grew up in Boston, attended Phillips Exeter Academy and received a bachelor of arts degree in music from Yale University in 1977. He pursued a freelance musical career in New York, which included appearing as a conductor, performer and com-

poser on and off Broadway and creating and teaching an electronic music course at Yale.

Since moving to coastal Maine in 1988, Sullivan has forged his various musical loves and influences into a distinctive and personal style, and has released several albums of original compositions.

Focusing on the natural beauties of his world, he has developed an intimate and lyrical musical vocabulary. The singing melodies

in his music reflect his earliest years as a choirboy, when he absorbed the unparalleled melodic grace of Palestrina and the Gregorian Chant.

Sullivan has performed with a variety of musicians in places ranging from the late night jazz clubs of New York City to remote mountaintops in Oregon. He performs solo piano concerts throughout the country.

Blending his classical music training and jazz experience, Sul-

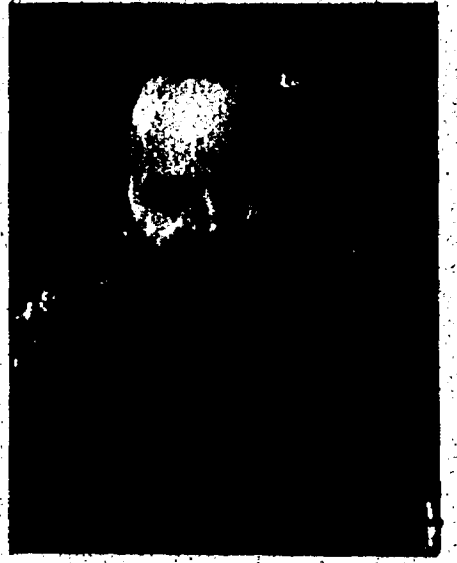
livan's original compositions reflect the beauty and wonder of our natural surroundings. A warm and articulate performer, he is funny and generously shares lots of stories and observations in the course of his concert.

In addition to performing and recording, Sullivan was recently commissioned to score a dance routine for the Pilobolus Company, which will be performed at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

"Paul Sullivan has a strong fol-

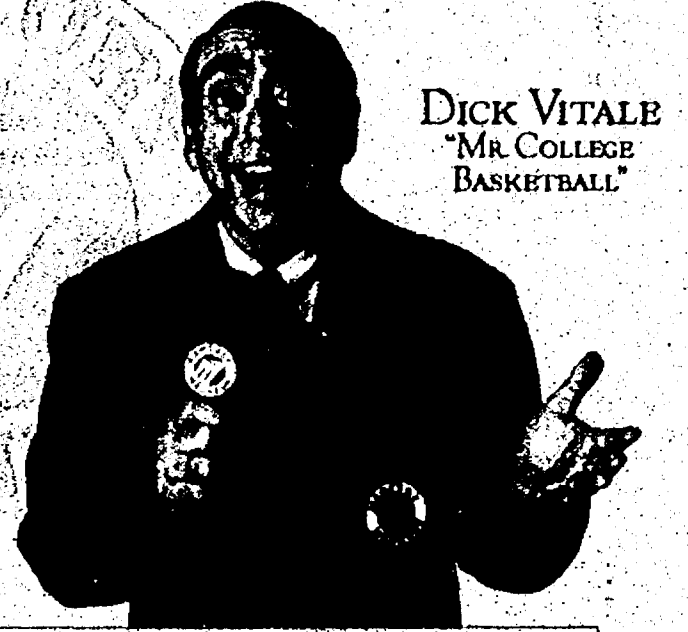
lowing in the Midwest and only performs in the area about once a year," said Scott Van Ornum, director of music at the Northville church. "We are very fortunate to have him here and we know the audience and community will be delighted."

Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for students and senior citizens and \$15 for families. Free child care will be provided. For more information, call the First Presbyterian Church at (810) 349-0911.



Paul Sullivan

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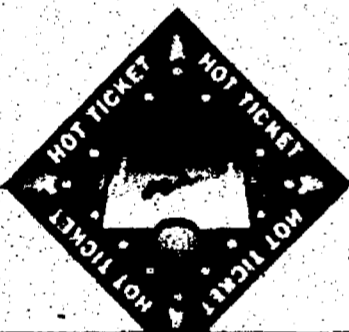
Michael Tilson Thomas directs the award-winning San Francisco Symphony at Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor. Call (313) 764-2538.



Champion fiddler Liz Carroll kicks off the St. Patrick's Day Irish Fest 7:30 p.m. at Bonnie Brook Country Club, 19950-Telegraph. Tickets \$10 at the door. Call (313) 537-3489.



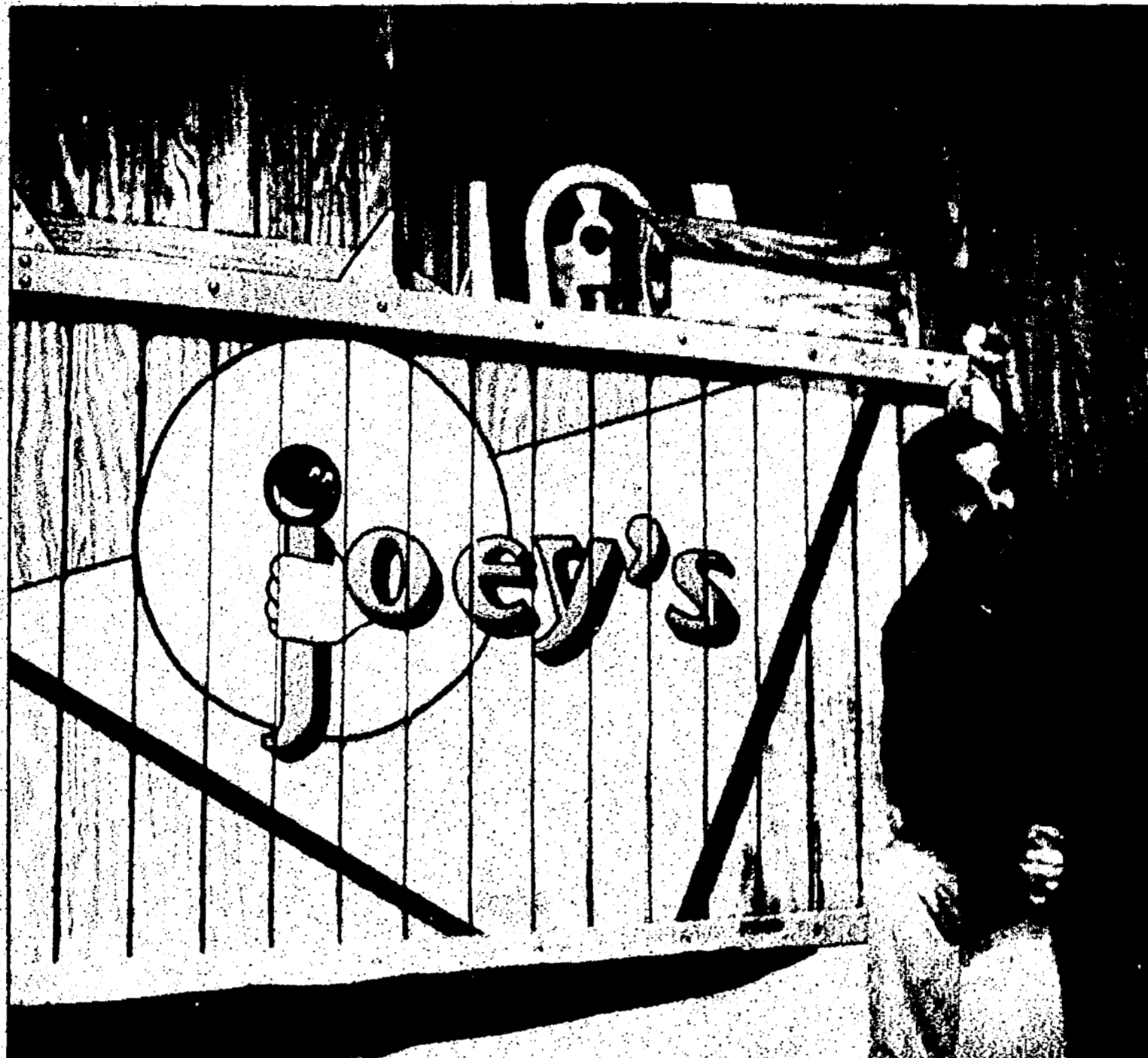
"Take Me Home Country Roads" - John Denver performs live at the Fox Theatre, Detroit. Call (810) 433-1515.



Hot tix: This year's Shrine Circus features the Chepiakova & Kim horse and bear act, daring acrobatics, and other amazing performances at the State Fair Coliseum on the Michigan State Fairgrounds. Call (810) 645-6666 or (313) 366-6200.

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO



Grand opening: Plymouth comedian Joe Bielaska shows off the stage at the newly remodeled Joey's Comedy Club, above Kickers All-American Grill, in Livonia. The club opens Sunday, March 17, with German comedian Klaus Myers, after undergoing a \$1.3 million, nine-month renovation.

No joke Joey ready to open club

STORY BY
CHRISTINA PUOCO
STAFF WRITER



Plymouth comedian Joe Bielaska calls himself "Mr. Do 20 Things At Once." He wants to do a radio talk show, a movie, and a local television show.

So friends were a little skeptical when he talked about opening a comedy club in the late-1980s.

"People laughed at me when I wanted to start this comedy club," Bielaska said. "I'm a dreamer . . . Dreamers make things happen in the world."

After eight years of success, Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia is going through its second incarnation. The old Joey's Comedy Club and the restaurant downstairs, Stoyan's Seafood and Steakhouse, at 36071 Plymouth Road in Livonia just finished undergoing a \$1.3 million renovation.

The comedy club, and the main-floor restaurant now named Kickers All-American Grill, is scheduled to open Sunday, March 17, with German comedian Klaus Myers, feature act Ken Dumb, and house emcee Bielaska.

Comedians are scheduled to perform Thursdays through Sundays, with an open mic night on Wednesdays. Next month, the improv troupe "Left of Center," directed by Greg Hall, will join open mic night. Bielaska has already

booked the club through the summer with Joey Kola, Leo DuFour, and the Stunt Johnson Theatre among those set to visit.

July is a traditionally slow month for comedy clubs, Bielaska explained, so he's hired comic/musician Shawn Riley to bring his "Jimmy Buffet-like" act into the club for college night specials.

A Dearborn Heights native, Stoyanovich closed the restaurant and comedy club in June after he and his brother Billy purchased the building and land from their family. They gutted the 34-year-old building and expanded it from 6800 to 17,000 square feet. An elevator was installed to make the comedy club handicapped accessible.

"It needed a facelift and we provided a facelift," said Stoyanovich, who now lives in southern Florida. "It will be good for the entire area."

The building's exterior is a reflection of Stoyanovich's team colors. The bright teal roof and soft coral paint continues inside to a light pickled wood look and mahogany trim. At the foot of the stairs leading from Kickers to Joey's is a waterfall with a mirrored background that opens into the mezzanine.

Joey's Comedy Club

Where: The newly remodeled Joey's Comedy Club above Kickers All-American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road (between Levan and Wayne roads), Livonia.

What: Comedians Klaus Myers, Ken Dumb and emcee Joey Bielaska.

When: 7 p.m. Sunday, March 17
Tickets: \$9 available at the door and in advance by calling (313) 261-0555

"We want to pay the building off fast, so please throw quarters," Bielaska said with a laugh.

Joey's Comedy Club takes on a Motor City feel in a cozy wood cabin setting. To reflect the surrounding industrial neighborhood, a replica of the Diego Rivera mural "The Detroit Industry" provides the backdrop to the stage.

There's other changes to the club as well. Unlike the last club, patrons will be able to order off of a limited menu. A new ventilation system was installed to keep the smoke out.

"The old comedy club used to have a lot of smoke, and we cured it of that," said the restaurant and comedy club's general manager John Setzke. "It's real conducive to laughter. . . . It's a classier, top-

notch room. I feel there is no other room like it in the area."

The re-opening of the club marks a sort of rebirth for Bielaska as well. The full-time airline pilot sold the name Joey's Comedy Club to the Stoyanovich family two years ago and backed off from the club. With this club, he's planning a more hands-on approach.

"They hired me as the talent coordinator and I'm just wearing several hats. I'm taking care of the advertising, media, and public relations," said Bielaska who has opened for TV star Tim Allen, as well as comedians Soupy Sales and Frank Gorshin.

He is also acting as "mascot" - the same way Dave Thomas of Wendy's represents his company.

"They're using me as the mascot. On the back of the menu they've got a little caricature of me. They're going to put the club history on there and use me on commercial voice-overs."

"In simplicity, it's so much fun right now. It's truly a pleasure to do this. It's not even work to me. . . . We've been the west side's top choice for comedy. Now it's bigger and we feel a lot better."

EXHIBITION

Glass Art

What: An exhibition of framed and free-hanging glass works by Debra J. VanTol.

Where: Through March 24.

Where: Livonia Civic Center Library's second floor show-cases.

When: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, until 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

Artist's glass works reflects light

BY LINDA ANN CROSEN
STAFF WRITER

Debra J. VanTol considers herself lucky to have the kilns, torches and beveling equipment necessary to work with glass. VanTol and her husband Steve own Village Glass Works, a stained glass studio where they sell supplies, teach classes, and design and construct stained and leaded glass for homes, churches and businesses. The Auburn studio allows the creation of her work.

The color, shine, transmission and refraction of light through glass inspire VanTol. Using a combination of sculpting and fusing techniques after firing the glass to 1,600 degrees, the 41 year old artist creates lyrical pieces, both framed and free-hanging.

As a prelude to the April celebration of Michigan Glass Month, the

Livonia Arts Commission is presenting an exhibit of VanTol's glass art in the second floor show-cases at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

VanTol extensively exhibits her fused glass art. In addition to the library show, her work will be on display during the month of April at Form & Function in Rochester Hills and the Lawrence Street Gallery in Pontiac. From March 15 to April 26 you can view VanTol's work in the "Image, Light & Structure" exhibition at the Oakland County Galleria executive office building in Pontiac.

Wearing heat protective gloves and face mask, VanTol manipulates the hot, red-orange pliable glass into art works which many times resemble flowers such as trillium and day lilies. Her degree in interior design most definitely

influences the outcome of each composition in glass. Created in jewel tones with cathedral, iridescent and dichroic glass, the art seems to flow and ebb amidst the highly textured surfaces.

"My inspiration has always been water. There's a lot of fluidity and movement to them because I love water. The technique lends itself to that," said Debra VanTol who admires the work of contemporary glass artists Dale Chihuly and Paul Stankard.

"When heated glass is like honey. It can be worked and picks up impressions. Through keeping records of our sales, we've found people like the textured surfaces and like to touch it. Working with tools to create glass art can be very tricky though. As it cools down the glass can shatter. So I have to keep going back and forth to the kiln."

VanTol will return the glass to the kiln one final time to allow it to cool down slowly.

The author of four books on using dimensional kiln formed glass, VanTol has taught at glass studios, conferences and conventions throughout the country. When she's not creating art or traveling, VanTol and husband Steve design and construct major liturgical, residential and commercial installations for such new architecture as Saginaw's Holy Cross Community Hospital and Zion Lutheran in Grand Traverse.

They also restore stained glass windows for churches like First Presbyterian Bay City. It's not an easy job, says this admirer of glass masters Tiffany and LaFarge. "Trying to reconstruct the window the way the artist intended can be a challenge."



Hot Glass: Debra J. VanTol uses a variety of sculpting and fusing techniques to create abstract wall hangings.

FINE ARTS

Irish Fest concert features champion fiddler

By M.B. DILLON
STAFF WRITER

As champion fiddler Mick Gavin of Redford can tell you, there is no school in which to enroll if you're a musician interested in learning traditional Irish music. "There isn't a Juilliard School of Irish Music. Folk music moves along real slowly with respect for where it came from," Gavin said. "If you want to learn it, you sit

down by the fire with the old people and you spend time." That's exactly what Chicago's Liz Carroll did, at the knee of such traditional masters as Joe Cooley, Seamus Cooley, Joe Shannon, and the late beloved fiddler, Johnny McGrievy. Winner of the 1994 National Endowment for the Arts Heritage Award, Carroll appears in concert at the 11th Annual Irish Fest at

7:30 p.m., Saturday, March 16, at Bonnie Brook Country Club, 19950 Telegraph Road between Seven and Eight Mile Roads. Hosting the St. Patrick's Day Fest is the Traditional Irish Music Organization, headed by Mick and Anna Gavin.

Corned beef and cabbage dinners will be served and there'll be a cash bar. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

Carroll will warm up for the evening show with a live performance on WDET radio, 101.9 FM at 2:30 p.m. Saturday.

Carroll is a two-time All-Ire-

PREVIEW

land fiddle champion who's been featured on the acclaimed Irish television series, "The Pure Drop," and "Bring Down the Lamp."

She's dazzled festival crowds across Ireland, the British Isles and North America with her extraordinary virtuosity, said Gavin. "She's a wonderful musician, a composer, and a great influence on Irish music. She's very, very admired. Not only that, she's a lovely person; a wonderful per-

son," said Gavin. A wife and mother, Carroll has recorded and performed with the popular Irish group "Green Fields of America," "Cherish the Ladies," and "Triam." Carroll, whose parents hail from Limerick and Sligo, has a style that appeals to young and old.

"The Gavins' 9-year-old son Sean has heard Carroll play. 'She's cool. Liz Carroll is one of the best fiddlers in the world,'" said Sean, a young musician himself. "I like the music. It's so fast, and it has a good tone to it. I like that stuff."

Carroll will be accompanied by fellow musicians Jim Dewan and Joe Sheehan, who like Carroll reside in the Midwest mecca of Irish music. Following the concert, musicians are invited to join in a traditional jam session with Carroll and local musicians including Marty Somberg, Terence McKinney, Gavin and others.

St. Patrick's Day festivities continue at 3 p.m. March 17 with a host of Irish musicians, pipers and dancers, food and a cash bar.

For more information, call (313) 537-3489 from 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

Madonna University hosts arts and crafts show

Artbeat features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Arts editor, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.

ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

Madonna University presents its 11th Annual Spring Arts and Crafts Showcase 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 23 in the Activities Center on campus. The show features 86 artists and crafters working in a variety of media from jewelry to pottery.

Admission is \$2 adults, children under 12 free. A \$1,000 raffle will be held at 4:45 p.m. Tickets are \$1 each. The winner need not

ART BEAT

be present to win. Madonna University is at 36600 Schoolcraft at Levan in Livonia. For more information call (313) 432-5603.

GENEROSITY REIGNS

More than 34 local artists, galleries and businesses did their part to support the arts by donating works to a silent art auction preceding a gourmet dinner and live jazz performance at Fox Hills Country Club Feb. 17.

The auction was a golden opportunity to purchase a piece of art and in so doing help the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

More than \$5,000 was raised for the renovation of the new arts council home on Sheldon Road.

Plymouth artists donating their talents included Tom LeGault, Kris Darby, Mary Cotter, Gordon Eddy, Kathy Sandberg, Graham Martin, Laura March, Victoria Chester, Judy Shellhass, Bonnie King, Kristen Cooper, Judith Braun and Diane Quinn.

From Livonia: Susan Argiroff and Debbie Malek, and from Canton, Sharon Dillenbeck.

Local businesses from Plymouth include Chameleon Galleries, Wild Wings, Native West, Creative Framing & Gallery, Frances Jewelry Gallery, Plymouth Guitar, Heidi's Flowers, Victorian Gallery, Robin's Nest Antiques & Collectibles, and Penniman Showcase.

Other contributing artists were Michael Glenn Monroe, Brighton; Mary Kalocay, Clarkston; Deborah Fredericks and Hugh Burley, Ann Arbor; Dennis Blaisdell, Novi; David Beaubien, Chelsea; Rick Denomme and Sally Harrison, Northville.

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ENTRY FORM
BEST PICTURE: "Apollo 13" "Babe" "Braveheart" "Sense & Sensibility" "The Postman"
BEST ACTRESS: Susan Sarandon ("Dead Man Walking") Elizabeth Shue ("Leaving Las Vegas") Sharon Stone ("Casino") Meryl Streep ("The Bridges of Madison County") Emma Thompson ("Sense and Sensibility")
BEST ACTOR: Nicholas Cage ("Leaving Las Vegas") Richard Dreyfuss ("Mr. Holland's Opus") Anthony Hopkins ("Nixon") Sean Penn ("Dead Man Walking") Massimo Troisi ("The Postman")
BEST DIRECTOR: Mike Figgis ("Leaving Las Vegas") Mel Gibson ("Braveheart") Chris Noonan ("Babe") Michael Radford ("The Postman") Tim Robbins ("Dead Man Walking")
BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS: Joan Allen ("Nixon") Kathleen Quinlan ("Apollo 13") Mira Sorvino ("Mighty Aphrodite") Marc Wainwright ("Georgia") Kate Winslet ("Sense and Sensibility")
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR: James Cromwell ("Babe") Ed Harris ("Apollo 13") Brad Pitt ("12 Monkeys") Tim Roth ("Rob Roy") Kevin Spacey ("The Usual Suspects")
ORIGINAL SONGS (The Breaking Category): "Colors of the Wind" (Pocahontas) "Dead Man Walking" (Dead Man Walking) "Have You Ever Really Loved a Woman" (Don Juan DeMarco) "Moonlight" (Sabrina) "You've Got a Friend" (Toy Story)
Send or fax entries by noon Thursday, March 21 to: Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Fax: (313) 591-7279.
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Photo: Organ Pipes, c. 1931, Margaret Bourke-White. Photo courtesy of the estate of Margaret Bourke-White.
The exhibition is drawn from the Corvix Photographic Art Foundation and Warren and Margot Corvix collection, and co-organized by the Detroit Institute of Arts and George Eastman House. Air travel provided in part by Northwest Airlines.
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FINE ARTS

Displays showcase works by talented young artists



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS
For the first time students from Clarenceville Public Schools will display work March 15-25 in the Livonia Civic Center Library Fine Arts Gallery. Join the young artists for an opening reception 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, March 15. Clarenceville High School art teacher John Watson coordinated the exhibit spotlighting 75 pieces of jewelry, pottery, sculpture, painting and drawing. "It's exciting to take the kids artwork out to the community. It's important for the kids to take their art beyond the boundary of the school and gives them the rec-

ognition they deserve," said Watson. Of exceptional note, says Watson, are watercolors by the middle school students, and figurative sculpture by high school artists produced in a new three dimensional design class. "Some of the sculptures are kind of fun. There's one of David Letterman holding his top ten list and another of the assistant principal with a detention list. We did them working in groups so students would learn the meaning of cooperation and team work," said Watson. Library show hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday, until 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday. Students from Livonia Public Schools take over the fine arts gallery April 1-19. ■ Madonna University's art de-

partment showcases in two parts the work of its graduating seniors in the Exhibit Gallery on the second floor of the library wing on campus, 36600 Schoolcraft at Levan, Livonia. Part one featuring the work of Benie Angeles, David Bonczak, Julie Oswalt, Anne Marie DeRoche, and Donna Bailiod continues through March 21. From a mixed media portrait of Freddy Krueger by Angeles to a commercial illustration in gouache for Yves St. Laurent lipstick by DeRoche, "these graduating seniors show promise," said art department chairperson Ralph F. Glenn. Bonczak's wood sculptures are much like his intaglio prints entitled "Etruscan Horses" and "St. Cecilia." All are delicately balanced. For equine lovers, Oswalt's clay head of a horse is a must see.

For the best of commercial illustration don't miss Angeles' truck and motorcycle renderings in mixed media. He makes a set of aluminum pots, rendered in marker, sparkle by playing highlights against shadows. Part two of the graduating seniors show opens 6 p.m. Friday, March 22. ■ Many members of the Palette Guild art club, while not students in the true sense of the word, still take classes and workshops to improve their skills and stimulate creativity. Their Spring Art Show runs through March 29 at Livonia City Hall on Five Mile Road east of Farmington Road. Marion Marzion of Livonia made a special trip to see the show because it featured the work of Redford Township artist Eve-

lyn Henry. "She inspires me and it's inspiring to see what others do. I can admire the hard work they put into it and I can go and try new techniques after seeing it," said Marzion who formerly taught cartooning at D & M Arts Studios in Plymouth. Evelyn Henry, who honed her design skills in the art department of Campbell-Ewald over a period of 21 years, took Second Place for a acrylic painting titled "Sam." The show was juried by William Bostick. She also won two Honorable Mentions, one of them for a pastel of purple coneflowers with orange centers strongly contrasting a green backdrop. A frequent award winner, Henry is at her best when rendering florals in pastel. Her tech-

nique brings the flowers to life. Florence Hirschmann of Plymouth captures the architecture of "Yugoslavian Homes" before the land was under fire. She portrays peaceful times when red geraniums in pots decorated porches, untouched by bullets and bombs. Also in the show are Rosemary Juracek of Livonia sporting mostly northern Michigan scenes, and Alice Wasik of Plymouth who took an Honorable Mention for a watercolor. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Linda Ann Chomin of Canton Township is a freelance writer specializing in the visual arts. Her Artistic Expressions column appears weekly in the Arts & Entertainment section of The Observer Newspapers.

New roller coaster at Cedar Point

Named for the most voracious predator of the insect world, "Mantis," the newest roller coaster at Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio, features a 145-foot-tall lift hill, a 137-foot drop at a 52-degree angle and six twisting elements, including four incredible upside-down inversions — all while passengers are standing up. Mantis will travel over 3,900 feet of tangled track while reading speeds of 60 miles per hour. This megacoaster will be Cedar Point's 12th roller coaster. Cedar Point will open Saturday, May 11 and will be open every day through Labor Day, Sept. 2. "We've built our reputation on introducing world-record-breaking roller coasters," said Monty Jasper, vice president of maintenance and construction at Cedar Point. "Mantis is taking the technology of a stand-up roller coaster into an entirely new generation. It will redefine this type of coaster."



Megacoaster: This tangled mammoth maze of steel is Mantis, the world's tallest, fastest and steepest stand-up roller coaster, now in its final construction phase at Cedar Point amusement park/resort in Sandusky, Ohio.

GREAT ESCAPES

Send items to be considered for publication to: Keely Wygonik, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48160, or by fax (313)591-7279.

Weekend trip

CEZANNE EXHIBIT
Plymouth Arts Council presents "Cezanne" hosted by David Green, June 21-23. Round trip to see the exhibition in Philadelphia. Trip includes roundtrip air fare, two nights at the Embassy Suites Hotel, city tour, breakfast daily, VIP ticket to the Cezanne exhibit at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, ticket to the Museum of American Art or the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, ticket and transfer to the Barnes Foundation collection. Tickets

\$559 per person, double occupancy, \$175 single supplement. (313) 455-5810

Tours

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Jane and Ed Wojtan are hosting their fourth tour of Poland, June 9-23. The cost is \$2,285 per person. Many interesting historical and beautiful places will be visited. Call for a detailed fact sheet. (313) 425-2727

PARIS IN SPRINGTIME
"Music lovers" tour May 2-10 hosted by area French travel specialist David Green and music specialist Shirley Harden. The eight day "Une Petite Fete Musicale" includes performances of operas and ballets, walking tours, and other musical events. Call for information. (800) 874-6470

GREAT BRITAIN

Travel May 20-29 with Marty Figley, Observer & Eccentric garden writer to Great Britain with stops in London, Cardiff and Edinburgh. You'll visit gardens, manor houses and castles, and the Chelsea Garden Show. (810) 644-2187 or 1-(800)-451-0637.

Travelogue

SONG OF IRELAND

March World Travel and Adventure Series presentation 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 15, Southfield City Council Chambers. Cost \$4 includes light refreshments during intermission. Film visits natural wonders, historic and cultural sites in Ireland. (810) 424-9022

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GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

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MOVIES

'Birdcage' full of laughs



JOHN MONAGHAN

It's taken almost 20 years for Hollywood to remake "La Cage aux Folles," the French farce that surprised everyone by becoming a huge international hit. Translated literally in both name and story, "The Birdcage" is filled with a clever cast and nearly as many laughs.



Comedy: Armand Goldman (Robin Williams, right) and Albert (Nathan Lane) share a long-term relationship in United Artists' "The Birdcage," the contemporary American version of "La Cage Aux Folles."

The action moves smoothly from Paris to Florida's South Beach, where Robin Williams' Armand manages the glitzy Birdcage drag club. Star performer Starina is also his "wife," the pouty Albert, played by Nathan Lane.

Starina's nightly temper tantrum (a dramatic refusal to go on stage) is nothing compared to what Armand's son brings home from college. He's getting married and wants the families to get together for dinner. The only hitch is: he wants Armand and Albert to play it "straight."

Armand refuses at first. "It's taken me 20 years to get comfortable with who I am," he tells his son, but of course he gives in. He packs away his flamboyant objets d'art, replacing them with stark furnishings and crosses. Transforming Albert proves a greater challenge.

In one of the movie's funniest scenes, Armand (the classic "male" half of the couple) tries to get his partner to spit, talk football, and walk like John Wayne. Getting Albert to stop lifting a pinky when drinking coffee is another case entirely.

The girl's parents, played by Gene Hackman and Diane Wiest, have problems of their own. The Ohio senator is embroiled in scandal by association when his ultra-conservative committee partner is found dead with a prostitute. They hope that an old-fashioned white wedding will restore their standing at the head of the moral majority.

Recognizing the comedy's in-

herent stagginess (it was originally based on a play), director Mike Nichols glitzes up "The Birdcage" with garish colors and fancy camerawork. In an elaborate opening shot reminiscent of Welles or Scorsese, the camera swerves in from the ocean, up the beach, and through the doors of the club, where it mingles with the crowd.

Nichols, who made the landmark "The Graduate," also manages to keep a tight collar on the usually over-the-top Robin Williams. He allows a little freedom, including an impromptu tribute to modern dance, a cha-cha-cha of "Bob Fosse, Twyla Tharp, Michael Kidd, Martha Graham" as Armand tries to direct Starina's latest number.

The true wackiness in "The Birdcage" is reserved for Nathan Lane, the Broadway actor still best known to movie audiences as The Lion King's meerkat buddy Timon. Prone to tantrums, he stamps off at least a half dozen times in the movie, usually followed by an ultra-tolerant Armand.

"The Birdcage" continues a tradition — by now, almost a

REVIEW

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SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan

DETROIT FILM THEATRE Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Call (313) 833-2323 for information. (\$5; \$4 students) "The White Balloon" (Iran - 1995). 7, 9:30 p.m. March 15-16; 4, 7 p.m. March 17. A little girl loses the money she has been given to purchase a prized gold fish in this Cannes award-winning film from Iran. "Angela" (USA - 1995). 7 p.m. March 18. In this directorial debut from Arthur Miller's daughter Rebecca, a 10-year-old girl and her younger sister try to cope with their volatile and often terrifying home life by obsessing on con-

cepts of heaven and hell, goodness and evil. KINOTEK Windsor Film Theatre, 2135 Wyandotte St. West, Windsor. Call (519) 254-FILM for information. (\$4.50 Canadian; \$4 U.S.) "Stalker" (USSR/West Germany - 1979). 8:30 p.m. March 18-19. Science fiction in concept but philosophical in spirit, Andrei Tarkovski's epic tale tracks three men from their wasted environment into a mysterious and forbidden terrain called The Zone. MAIN ART THEATRE 118 N. Main Street at 11 Mile, Royal Oak. Films play through at least Thursday, unless noted otherwise. Call (810) 542-0180 for information and showtimes. (\$6.50; \$4 students and matinee; \$3 twilight) "The Birdcage" (USA - 1995).

Robn Williams and Nathan Lane are a gay couple who must play it straight when Williams' son wants to entertain his fiancée and her conservative family. Mike Nichols' remake of the 1978 French farce "La Cage aux Folles" delivers big laughs. "Restoration" (Britain - 1995). In this long-promised period piece, Robert Downey, Jr. plays a notorious womanizer in the court of Charles II who may have been stung by true love. Sam Neill, Meg Ryan, and Sir Ian McKellan co-star. "French Twist" (France - 1995). When Victoria Abril discovers that her realtor husband is cheating on her, she gets sweet revenge when a tenderhearted woman (played by the director, Josiane Balasko) has her van break down

in front of the house. "The City of Lost Children" (France - 1995). From Jeunet and Caro, the French directing team behind "Delicatessen" comes this outrageous fantasy about a group of tough, precocious young orphans who escape the world of adults through bizarre dreams. Starts Friday. "Shanghai Triad" (China - 1995). During the bloody opium wars of the 1930s, a young boy is assigned as servant to a mob boss' beautiful mistress (Gong Li). Another splendidly-filmed epic from "Raise the Red Lantern" director Zhang Yimou. Starts Friday. MAPLE THEATRE 4135 W. Maple, Bloomfield. All titles play through at least next Thursday, unless noted otherwise. Call (810) 855-9090 for in-

formation. (\$6; \$2.95 twilight) "Angels and Insects" (USA - 1995). A gothic romance about a penniless biologist who marries into the family of an eccentric philanthropist, only to find himself trapped in a web of eroticism and deceit. Mark Rylance and Patsy Kensit star. Starts Friday. "The Birdcage" (USA - 1995). See Main Art Theatre listing above. STAR JOHN R John R at 14 Mile, Madison Heights. Call (810) 585-2070 (\$6.50; \$3.50 matinee/twilight) "Fargo" (USA - 1995). In this sixth film from Joel and Ethan Coen, Frances McDormand plays a pregnant sheriff investigating a bizarre murder case in the Upper Minnesota snowbelt. Drier and less satisfying than the Coens'

other pictures ("Raising Arizona" and "The Hudsucker Proxy" among them) but still one of the most unique and uncompromising films of the year. Steve Buscemi co-stars. "Bottle Rocket" (USA - 1995). A low-budget examination of three would-be thieves who learn the importance of friendship, honor, and duty as they ineptly pursue a life of crime. STATE THEATRE 2115 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313) 981-5450 for information. (\$1) "Dazed and Confused" (USA - 1994). 9 p.m. March 18. Richard Linklater followed his cult hit "Slacker" with this tribute to the last day of school, 1976, as a group of likable stoners begin another endless summer.

Win tickets to 'The Star Maker' preview

Be one of the first 50 readers to send or fax your name, address, (including zip code), and daytime phone number to receive a pass for two to a preview screening of "The Star Maker," 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 21, at the Main Art Theatre in Royal Oak. Entries must be received by noon Monday, March 18. Send or fax information to: Keely Wygonik/Entertainment Editor, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. To fax call (313) 591-7279. Tick-

ets will be mailed to the first 50 entries on Monday, March 18. You must be 18 or older, and employees of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers are not eligible. "The Star Maker" is the story of a self-described talent scout and his travels through the back roads of Sicily. Armed with a camera, his mission is to sell screen tests to poor village folks. The time is 1953 as Joe Morelli speeds into town. "Citizens!

Universalia Films in Rome invites you to participate in its hunt for 'New Faces in the Movies!' Step up before the camera, say a few lines from 'Gone With the Wind,' make a few faces and who knows what awaits you? Only 1,500 lire per screen test — a deal," claims Joe. In front of Joe's camera, shepherds, policemen, mothers, children, outcasts, bandits and war heroes all try their hand at acting, but end up confessing them-

selves. They welcome the slick movie man from Rome into their world and into their hearts. In doing so, their honesty begins to shake Joe off center after years of scraping his way through life. Admit this tale emerges the radiant Beata who awakens Joe's soul. It is Joe's love for Beata that changes his destiny, and her's, forever. "The Star Maker," a Miramax release, is rated R.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

SCHEDULED TO OPEN Friday, March 15 "EXECUTIVE DECISION" Action thriller set in the sky. An elite team must storm a hijacked 747 in order to save the 400 on board and another 40 million people on the ground. The tricky part is that the plane must be recaptured while still in the air. Stars Kurt Russell, Steven Seagal. "ED" Family film about a baseball pitcher who gets help from a chimpanzee who plays third base on a minor league team. "SHANGHAI TRIAD" Epic tale of greed, revenge and lust for power set against the Shanghai opium wars of the 1930s. SCHEDULED TO OPEN Friday, March 22 "DIABOLIQUE" A thriller about a man thought to have been murdered by two women in his life, but has in fact begun

a campaign of terror against them. Stars Sharon Stone. "GIRL 6" Comedy about one woman's struggle to become a Hollywood movie star. Stars Theresa Randle. "RACE IN THE SUN" The new science teacher at Hawaii's Kona Pali High School takes a bunch of bored and disillusioned kids and moves them to design and build their own solar car. What begins as a senior science project becomes an entry in the world Solar Car Challenge. "THE STAR MAKER" At the Main Art Theatre. Story of a self-described talent scout and his travels through the back roads of Sicily. Armed with a camera, his mission is to sell screen tests to poor village folk. "LITTLE INDIAN, BIG CITY" Released in France under the title "Un Indien Dans La Ville," this family comedy is about an international trader who jets to the Amazon to settle his divorce with his absentee wife of 13 years, only to discover he has a son.

Oliver Stone to speak at University of Michigan

Film director Oliver Stone, whose films include "JFK," "Platoon," "Born on the Fourth of July," and "Nixon" will speak at the University of Michigan 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 20, at Hill Auditorium, 825 North University. Ann Arbor on the topic — "Making Movies Matter." Tickets are \$8 for the general

public, and \$5 for students, available at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all Ticketmaster outlets. Call (810) 645-6666 to charge tickets. Stone's script for "Midnight Express" won an Oscar, and he went on to write "Scarface," "Year of the Dragon," as well as

directing such films as "Wall Street," "Talk Radio," "The Doors," and "Natural Born Killers." The event is sponsored by University of Michigan Hillel, Michi-

gan Student Assembly, U-M Program in Film and Video Studies, Borders Books and Music Briarwood, University Activities Center, Video Watch and Michigan Theatre.

A TREAT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY. MATT LEBLANC Ed. Heroes come in all shapes and sizes. STARTS FRIDAY, MARCH 15. AMC AMERICANA WEST, AMC SOUTHWEST CITY, AMC CANTON, SHOWCASE DEARBORN, SHOWCASE WESTLAND, STAR WINDHURST. AMC BEL AIR 10, AMC STERLING CTR. 10, SHOWCASE NOVI TOWN, SHOWCASE PONTIAC, STAR GRATIOT AT 18 MILE, XMAS WEST RIVER. AMC ABBEY 8, AMC LAUREL PARK, BEACON EAST, SHOWCASE WYANDOTTE, SHOWCASE WINDHURST, STAR TAYLOR, COLEMAN CENTER.

THE BIRDCAGE. "THE BIRDCAGE" IS THE FALLING-DOWN FUNNIEST COMEDY YOU'LL SEE THIS YEAR! HYSTERICAL! SCREAMINGLY FUNNY! I LAUGHED 'TIL IT HURT. 1996 HAS ITS FIRST GREAT SMASH COMEDY. AMC BEL AIR 10, AMC SOUTHWEST CITY, MAIN ART THEATRE, SHOWCASE DEARBORN, SHOWCASE PONTIAC, STAR GRATIOT AT 18 MILE, STAR ROCHESTER HILLS, WINDHURST 12 OAKS. AMC LAUREL PARK, AMC WONDERLAND, SHOWCASE WYANDOTTE, SHOWCASE WESTLAND, STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE, STAR TAYLOR, WINDHURST WEST RIVER. AMC MAPLE 3, AMC WOODS 6, SHOWCASE DEARBORN, SHOWCASE WESTLAND, STAR LINCOLN PARK 8, WINDHURST LAKESIDE.

FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS FOR THE RIDE OF YOUR LIFE! KURT RUSSELL EXECUTIVE DECISION. AMC AMERICANA WEST, AMC SOUTHWEST CITY, AMC STERLING CTR., GCC NOVI TOWN CTR., SHOWCASE DEARBORN, SHOWCASE WESTLAND, STAR LINCOLN PARK. STARTS FRIDAY, MARCH 15. AMC BEL AIR 10, AMC SOUTHWEST CITY, BEACON EAST, QUO VADIS, SHOWCASE DEARBORN, STAR GRATIOT AT 18 MILE, STAR ROCHESTER. WATCH THE ACADEMY AWARDS MARCH 23!

See a special sneak preview screening of the comedy from Touchstone Pictures on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20 at the AMC OLD ORCHARD THEATRE. LITTLE INDIAN, BIG CITY. To enter, send in a postcard with your name, address, and daytime phone number to LITTLE INDIAN, BIG CITY, P.O. BOX 1908, Birmingham, MI 48012. The first fifty entries will receive a four pack of tickets to the Preview screening. Compliments of Touchstone Pictures and Observer & Eccentric. Employees of O&E, O&E & O&E are not eligible to win.

"UP CLOSE & PERSONAL IS THE FIRST GREAT MOVIE OF 1996!" "Up Close & Personal" is simply sensational - my favorite romantic movie of the year! A truly engaging modern romance. Robert Redford and Michelle Pfeiffer are dynamic together! Romance is on the air. "Up Close & Personal" is an old-fashioned love story! Robert Redford and Michelle Pfeiffer are magic together! UP CLOSE & PERSONAL. AMC BEL AIR 10, AMC SOUTHWEST CITY, GARY CANTON, SHOWCASE DEARBORN, SHOWCASE WESTLAND, STAR GRATIOT AT 18 MILE, STAR LINCOLN PARK 8, STAR WINDHURST. AMC LAUREL PARK, AMC SOUTHWEST CITY, GARY CANTON, SHOWCASE DEARBORN, SHOWCASE WESTLAND, STAR GRATIOT AT 18 MILE, STAR ROCHESTER HILLS, WINDHURST WEST RIVER. AMC OLD ORCHARD, AMC WOODS 6, SHOWCASE DEARBORN, SHOWCASE WESTLAND, STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE, WINDHURST LAKESIDE. NO PASSES OR COUPONS ACCEPTED.

"TOTALLY IRRESISTIBLE! A FAMILY WINNER!" "NOTHING SHORT OF ASTOUNDING!" "HOMeward II" IS BOUND TO PLEASE! "EXCITING!" NOW PLAYING. AMC ABBEY 8, AMC AMERICANA WEST, AMC BEL AIR 10, AMC EASTLAND 2, AMC LAUREL PARK, AMC SOUTHWEST CITY, AMC STERLING CTR. 10, AMC WONDERLAND, SHOWCASE DEARBORN, SHOWCASE WESTLAND, STAR GRATIOT AT 18 MILE, STAR TAYLOR, STAR WINDHURST, WINDHURST 12 OAKS, WINDHURST WEST RIVER. Visit "Homeward Bound II" at http://www.disney.com. WHEN IN FLORIDA VISIT Disney World. COUPONS ACCEPTED.

STREET SCENE

DC Talk taps into mainstream

DC Talk and Audio Adrenaline perform at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Drive, (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. Tickets are \$15 reserved. Superfan seating available. For more information, call (810) 377-0100.

By **CHRISTINA FUOCO**
STAFF WRITER

With an album that debuted at No. 16 on Billboard's Top 200 albums chart, DC Talk is hoping that the "Christian rock" label that has been placed on them will be history.

"Courtney Love and Tina Turner are Buddhists, but you wouldn't call them 'Buddhist rock.' The DJ doesn't say, 'Here's another Buddhist rock selection from Tina Turner.' In that example, we don't want to be called 'Christian rock,'" said DC Talk vocalist Kevin Smith, a former Grand Rapids resident.

"That totally puts a title on the whole thing and scares people away. We're more intent on performing, entertaining, and sharing what we believe in through

our lyrics. We don't like to be get up and titled and packaged before we get a chance."

DC Talk's latest album, the hook-laden, loud-rockin' "Jesus Freak," sold more than 85,000 copies in the first week of its release, making it the best first-week sales for a Christian album ever. By comparison, USA Today reported, Michael W. Smith sold 51,000 when his album was released last year, and Amy Grant sold 55,000 albums the week "House of Love" premiered in 1994.

Hip-hop, fuzzy guitars and synthesized keyboard sounds fill "Jesus Freak" upping its mainstream potential. Lyrically, DC Talk speaks about why people need Jesus in their lives ("Like It, Love It, Need It"), the need to confess ("Between You and Me"), and racism ("What Have We Become" and "Colored People").

"Lyrically I think DC Talk is very blatant. This one has more majestic lyrics, which I think is just another evolving factor in DC Talk," said Smith whose group also includes Michael Tait and Toby McKeehan.

Another evolving factor is the subject matter of the songs, he added.

"I might want to write a song about a lover. I might want to write a song about death. It doesn't always have to be about God and Jesus. We live on this Earth and we deal with things that have to deal with everyday life. I want to write about things that matter to me."

Visually, the group has even tapped into the epitome of mainstream — MTV. For the video for the single "Jesus Freak," DC Talk hired director Simon Maxwell, best known for his work on Nine Inch Nails' "Hurt" and the Orb's "Little Fluffy Clouds."

The video has been called controversial because of its scenes involving burning crosses and books, hate crimes.

"I personally don't think that (it's controversial). I'm probably a lot more left of center than most people," Smith said.

"I definitely think the 'Jesus Freak' title evokes a lot of different images. It played with the theory that the person was an outsider because he believed in

Christ. It's all about Christian oppression. . . The song is really kind of an anthem saying, 'Even though I'm an outsider, I'm not afraid to say it and I'm not afraid to stand by it.' I think that people can appreciate and respect pure honesty."

On tour promoting "Jesus Freak," the band comes to The Palace of Auburn Hills on Saturday, March 16. Smith describes the show as "pretty intense. You'd have to see it for yourself to get the full picture."

"We're doing a lot of the music from the record. We implemented some film during five or six songs. The light show is fabulous. . . It's definitely decidedly more rock 'n' roll. There's a lot of distorted guitar in the record. (But) we don't want to be looked at as a pop group that decided to be modern rock. We still consider ourselves, alternative rock. Toby likes the label 'schizophrenic pop.'"



Branching out: DC Talk is hoping that their latest album "Jesus Freak" will push the band out of the "Christian rock" genre and into the mainstream. The band performs Saturday, March 16, at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

EASTER EGG DECORATING CONTEST

Decorate your own Easter Egg and enter Livonia Mall's Easter Egg Decorating Contest for Children ages 3 years to 10 years old

1. Pick up your 9" styrofoam egg on SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. at the LIVONIA MALL COMMUNITY ROOM located in entrance "G" corridor.
2. Take your egg home and decorate it using your own handmade decorations.
3. Return your decorated egg on SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH between 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to the center mall area (near Sbarro's)

Winners will be announced at 12:00 noon.
Prizes will be awarded in 3 age categories: Ages 3-5, Ages 6-8, Ages 9-10
After judging you may take your decorated egg home and enjoy it for the Easter Holiday.
Limited number of eggs available on a first come basis.
Each child that enters will receive a surprise!

MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED PRIOR TO EGG PICK-UP TO PARTICIPATE!
To register: Complete this coupon and take to the Livonia Mall Management Office or Mail it to:

LIVONIA MALL: 29514 Seven Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48152

Name _____
Address _____
Age _____
Phone _____

LIVONIA MALL

Seven Mile and Middlebelt Roads

Save Energy. Sit In Front Of The TV.

"Our House," a home energy-efficiency show brought to you by Detroit Edison, has some timely suggestions that can help you lower your energy bills. Starting March 17th, watch "Our House," Sundays at 7:00 a.m. on WDIV Channel 4.

Co-hosts Tom Tynan and Paula Engel offer many energy-saving projects for the home and tips to help preserve the environment. You'll see all new shows on energy efficient windows, kitchens and interior designs, as well as building an energy efficient home and conducting your own energy audit. Plus a special show about the Greening of the White House.

"Our House" is the only show that gives you the energy saving know-how. And it's Detroit Edison's way of helping you save energy at your house and money on your energy bills.

Our House

"Our House," Sundays, 7:00 a.m.,
WDIV, through June 9th

Get up-to-the minute Open House information!

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To hear listings in Oakland County PRESS 1, in Wayne County PRESS 2 and for Additional Areas PRESS 3, or press the number following the city you are interested in:

<p>Choose your price range and listen to the listings for the city you've chosen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To back up, PRESS 1 • To pause, PRESS 2 • To jump ahead, PRESS 3 • To exit at anytime press* 	<p>OAKLAND COUNTY:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Birmingham</td><td>4280</td></tr> <tr><td>Bloomfield</td><td>4280</td></tr> <tr><td>Farmington</td><td>4282</td></tr> <tr><td>Farmington Hills</td><td>4282</td></tr> <tr><td>Millard</td><td>4288</td></tr> <tr><td>Nor'A</td><td>4286</td></tr> <tr><td>Pocheater</td><td>4285</td></tr> <tr><td>Royal Oak</td><td>4287</td></tr> <tr><td>Southfield</td><td>4283</td></tr> <tr><td>South Lyon</td><td>4288</td></tr> <tr><td>Troy</td><td>4284</td></tr> </table>	Birmingham	4280	Bloomfield	4280	Farmington	4282	Farmington Hills	4282	Millard	4288	Nor'A	4286	Pocheater	4285	Royal Oak	4287	Southfield	4283	South Lyon	4288	Troy	4284	<table border="0"> <tr><td>Walled Lake</td><td>4286</td></tr> <tr><td>Lakes Area</td><td>4281</td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">WAYNE COUNTY:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Canton</td><td>4261</td></tr> <tr><td>Garden City</td><td>4264</td></tr> <tr><td>Livonia</td><td>4260</td></tr> <tr><td>Northville</td><td>4263</td></tr> <tr><td>Plymouth</td><td>4262</td></tr> <tr><td>Redford</td><td>4265</td></tr> <tr><td>Westland</td><td>4264</td></tr> <tr><td>Dearborn</td><td>4315</td></tr> </table>	Walled Lake	4286	Lakes Area	4281	Canton	4261	Garden City	4264	Livonia	4260	Northville	4263	Plymouth	4262	Redford	4265	Westland	4264	Dearborn	4315
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BORNEN SCENE

Ferndale's Magic Bag set to change hands April 1



CHRISTINA FUOCO

After five years, Magic Bag owner Steven A. Milgrom is handing over the intimate club to a new owner. On April 1, Jeremy Haberman, a Michigan State University graduate who worked

bagful of great memories and turn it over to a very enthusiastic new owner, who plans on taking the Bag to an even more successful level. Jeremy's love of music and booking instincts portend an exciting future for Detroit's premiere showcase," Milgrom said.

Musically, Haberman will continue booking eclectic acts. (The theater has hosted a diverse lineup including De La Soul, Everything But The Girl, M'Shell Ndege Ocello, Ben Harper, Patti Smith, Tribal Tech, Vinx, Zap Mama, Luka Bloom and Danny Gatton.) But he will place an em-

phasis on blues and jazz.

"This place is the hottest place in town to see live music and it's only getting hotter," Haberman said. "There is great value beyond just watching a show here. The building is acoustically perfect, and there is no other venue in the area that can provide that level of listening pleasure, especially for a large national act."

The Magic Bag will undergo an extensive renovation headed by well-known PeterHansRea designer Ron Rhea. Facade renovations will include reinvigorating the marquee as well as restoring some of the original architectural

charm of the moviehouse. Interior renovations include tiering the theater auditorium, replacing the theater seats with tables and chairs and other seating. Other target areas of improvement will include the lobby and bar as well as all patron facilities.

The funk band War will close out Milgrom's era with two shows on March 30. For more information, call (810) 644-3030.

Misc. notes: In case you're wondering what the meaning is behind the Roman numerals tattooed on the fingers of Red Hot Chili Peppers' guitarist Dave Navarro, it's his, his father's and his

grandfather's birth dates, according to the awanky guitarist who was dressed in black crocheted pants and a deep red velvet smoking jacket prior to his show last Thursday. . . . The Verve Pipe's video for "Photograph," the first single off its upcoming album "Villians" (RCA) debuts on MTV Monday, March 18. . . . Canadian popsters Pure had to cancel their show at St. Andrew's Hall in Detroit on Tuesday, March 12, due to visa problems. . . .

Notable shows this week: Bob Seger returns to The Palace of Auburn Hills on Thursday, March 14. . . . Two of the area's

best acts garage rockers The Hentchmen and roots rockers The Volebeats play the Blind Pig in Ann Arbor on Friday, March 15. . . . Former Lone Justice singer Maria McKee plays The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall on Saturday, March 16.

If you have a question or comment for Christina Fuoco, you can write to her at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or via e-mail at CFuoco@aol.com. You can also leave her a message by calling, with a Touch-Tone phone, (313) 963-2047, mailbox No. 2130.

SINGLES CALENDAR

Send items to be considered for publication to: Keely Wygonik, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150; or fax to (313) 691-7279.

DANCE PARTIES

WEDNESDAY DANCES

Wednesday Suburban Singles hold "single mingle" dance parties every Wednesday 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Bonnie Brook Country Club, Telegraph Road south of 8 Mile, Redford. Note, new location. Admission \$4. No jeans. Must be 21 or older. Arrive early for hot hors d'oeuvres. (313) 842-0443

THURSDAY DANCES

The Ultimate Singles Dance Parties will be 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. every Thursday at the Farmington Elks, 23666 Orchard

Lake Road, south of 10 Mile. You must be 21 years old. Cover charge of \$4. Draft beer and wine \$1. Hors d'oeuvres served 8-10 p.m. All singles clubs and groups invited. No jeans. (810) 476-1940

WESTSIDE SINGLES

Dance parties 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Fridays through March 29 at Burton Manor in Livonia. Dressy attire. Must be 21 or older. Admission \$5 (\$3 before 8:30 p.m.). (313) 981-0909

TRI-COUNTY SATURDAY DANCES

"St. Patrick's Day Dance" will be 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, March 16, at Burton Manor, 1-96 and Inkster Road, Livonia. Admission \$4, or \$3 before 8:30 p.m. Ages 21 and older. Fashionable attire. (313) 842-7422

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DANCE

A St. Patrick's Day Dance will be 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, March 16, at St. Ives, 29350 Lahser, Southfield. Cost \$7/members and \$8/non-members; includes beer, wine, pop and munchies. (810) 247-8426

TRI-COUNTY

Tri-County Saturday "St. Patrick's" dance; see information under Tri-County Saturday Dances listed above.

SINGLE GROUPS

FARMINGTON SINGLE PROFESSIONALS

A non-profit social group for singles ages 25-40, who share common interests and want to form new friendships. It's not limited to the Farmington area and members participate in more than 200 activities per year. (810) 478-9181

CATHOLIC ALUMNI CLUB

The Catholic Alumni Club is a non-profit organization comprised of single Catholics age 21 and older who have a bachelor's degree and are free to many in the Catholic Church. Indoor volleyball at 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Bimex Middle School. \$3 members, \$5 non-members. (810) 557-6183, (810) 682-1807.

ACTIVITIES GROUP

The Activities Group is single adults participating in activities on an organized year-round basis. They are not affiliated with any self-help group, religious or political organization. Membership fee is \$30. (810) 624-7777

BETHANY

Bethany, a support and social group for divorced and separated Christians, meets 8 p.m. the third Saturday of each month at St. Kenneth Church, Haggerty Road south of Five Mile, Plymouth Township. (313) 261-9123, (313) 729-1974

EXPRESSIONS

An adult discussion group meets 7:30-11:15 p.m. the second and fourth Friday of each month in First Unitarian-Universalist Church, 1917 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor. The program is not church-affiliated. The group is open to those age 21 and older. Admission is \$5 per person and \$2 for volunteers. Snacks are served at each meeting. (313) 996-0141

METRO MINGLERS

The Metro Minglers, a singles group for people with disabilities ages 21-35, is sponsored by the Easter Seal Society. (313) 338-9626, (810) 646-3347

NEWBURG SINGLES

Newburg Singles ministries meets 7 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month in Guthrie Hall of Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, east of Newburgh, Livonia. The March only meeting will be 6:30 p.m. following the Lenten dinner. All other meetings

begin at 7 p.m. (313) 663-0014

PWP/LIVONIA-REDFORD

The Livonia-Redford Chapter 130 of Parents Without Partners meets the first and third Thursdays of the month at Mama Mia's Restaurant, 27770 Plymouth Road between Inkster and Middlebelt in Livonia. Orientation is 8 p.m., the general meeting 8:30 p.m., followed by dancing. (313) 464-1969

PWP WAYNE-WESTLAND

The Wayne-Westland Chapter 340 meets the second and fourth Fridays of the month in the Wayne AMVETS Hall, 1217 Meridian, Westland. Meeting is 8-8:30 p.m. Dance is set for 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$4 before 9 p.m., \$5 after 9 p.m. New members welcome. (313) 525-6937

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We have two specials for you! Two special supplements to your hometown newspapers are coming your way: • Spring Home Improvement on Thursday, April 4, and • Home, Garden and Landscape on Thursday, April 18. If you've looked longingly at the lawn furniture or maybe even the lawn mower, you're ready to enjoy our two special tributes to the home. Spring Home Improvement will give you ideas about clean-up and Home, Garden and Landscape will get you out in the sunshine with all the wonderful green, growing things. April will be here before you know it and with it, our double helping of great home information. Of course, our weekly AT HOME section is always there for you, too! THE Observer & Eccentric Attention Advertisers: If you would like your message to appear in these colorful supplements, call 313-591-2300 in Wayne County or 810-901-2533 in Oakland County

Shamrocks' Spolsky winds up 55-0

BY DAN O'NEARA
STAFF WRITER

John Spolsky won all 55 matches he wrestled in 1995-96 for Detroit Catholic Central, but it was the last four that concerned him most.



Spolsky

The senior heavy-weight added that many wins to his total last weekend in Battle Creek to finish his career as the Division I state champion.

"The 55-0 part was kind of a bonus," Spolsky said. "I was hoping to get to the state tournament and be 4-0, because that's all that matters."

Spolsky just missed doing the same last year, suffering his only loss on a close decision with Rob Renes of Holland West Ottawa in the state finals.

"I can't say I wouldn't be motivated if I had won last year, but that was definitely something that kept me going," he said. "Being that close and having a taste of it was definitely a big motivation."

Spolsky began the tournament Friday with quick pins over Bay City Western's Tony Grant (1:01) and Westland John Glenn's Marc Dugas (0:39).

"I wouldn't say they were easy; I think I did the right things to make it look easy," Spolsky said.

"I prepared real hard for it and was kinda pumped to do well. I didn't want to come up short again."

The key match was the semifinal, which proved to be the championship bout.

Spolsky faced Flint Northern's Eugene Callaway in a rematch and, after some uncertainty in the first two periods, won a 9-4 decision.

He tied it with a stalling point late in the second period (1-1). He got an escape and a takedown early in the third, and he built his lead from there.

"Obviously, if I didn't win I wouldn't go on, so that was the championship match," Spolsky said. "I was pretty confident after that. That got me past my biggest hurdle."

"I wanted to get that three-

WRESTLING

point swing to protect myself. I didn't think I could pin him, but I was just lucky I got those (stalling/penalty) points. A lead gives you a little more confidence and loosens you up a little.

"I made him kinda force things and have to shoot something, and all I had to do was play defense."

The final probably seemed anti-climactic, especially when Spolsky pinned Lake Orion's Dan Geppert in 1:50.

"I was comfortable and relaxed, having been there," he said. "My whole plan was to take it to people hard and get it over with quickly, so I had more time to rest."

"I guess when I get people on their back, I do a good job and don't let them get away too quickly. I'm just happy it worked out the way it did."

It was the second state title in 1995-96 for Spolsky, who was an all-state fullback on CC's Class AA championship football team.

CC teammate Dave Gardner (135) placed second, Livonia Stevenson's Jon Sata (135) fourth and Livonia Churchill's Eugen Barbu (189) fifth.

Wayne's Richard Watson (130) and CC's Kevin Griffin (145) were sixth; Plymouth Canton's Doug Cooper (275), Stevenson's Dan Christenson (130) and CC's Dario Ianni (119) seventh; Garden City's Aaron Smitt (215) and Plymouth Salem's Jeremy Breithaupt (152) eighth.

The state-meet experience was bittersweet for Gardner, who did well by most any standards but fell one win short of winning it all.

"I kind of choked in the finals," the Livonia resident said. "I think I put all I had into my semifinal match, because that was the one my coach and I were worried about. I put all my heart into that match and just didn't have anything left in me for the finals."

Gardner coasted into the semis by pinning Southgate's Sam Musleh in one minute and defeating Holland's Emery Petchauer 11-2.

He advanced to the final with an impressive, 7-3 victory over regional champion Matt Griffin of

Brighton.

Gardner was behind 3-2 in the second period but reversed the situation to lead 4-3 at the end, and he controlled Griffin in the third.

"I had lost to him 12-3, so I went into that match like it was finals," Gardner said. "I was really pumped up. After I won, we were real happy, and I thought I'd probably pull it off."

But Gardner lost an 8-3 decision in the finals to Novi's Taka Watanabe, who was second in the district and regional to Griffin.

"I've looked at the match on tape, and I didn't shoot any of my shots," said Gardner (50-4), who defeated Watanabe in overtime a year ago. "I was getting frustrated and letting that take over by not really doing anything. I look back and see things I could have done."

Stevenson's Sata fared the best of the 18 other Observerland wrestlers who qualified for the state tournament, including four teammates.

But the meet had a bad beginning for Sata, who lost his first bout 17-4 to Brother Rice's Joe Cotant.

That knocked him out of championship contention right away, but Sata won his next four bouts to earn a berth in the consolation finals.

Sata (43-10) had the satisfaction of avenging his loss to Cotant with a 7-4 decision for his fourth straight win.

"I was kinda nervous in the first match," Sata said. "After that, I realized it was my last hurrah; I had to come back and do the best I could."

(Cotant) lost in the semis and I was on roll. I wrestled him a different way and learned from my mistakes. In the first match, I tried a few things that didn't work for me, and I wound up on my back a few times.

"I was more aggressive in the second match and was shooting on him instead of letting him shoot on me. I went after him, and it worked out. I was the aggressor instead of being defensive in the first match."

Sata pinned Rochester's Brad Hillard (3:22) to start his winning streak and followed that with decisions over Grand Haven's Matt

Niemiec (8-4) and Petchauer (11-5) to earn the rematch with Cotant.

"My whole goal was to be all-state," he said. "After the first match, I had to look at what I had to do to accomplish that, that being to win my next two and qualify for the second day."

"After Friday's matches, I knew I had top-eight wrapped up. (Coach) Mike Krause said 'OK, you have your place. Now what place do you want?'"

"If I had won my first match, I might have done better, but I might have done worse. I'm happy to be fourth in the state, but I'd be happy with anything higher."

Sata lost his last match to Griffin on a pin (4:31). Coincidentally, the three ahead of him were from the same general area.

"After taking third at the district and regional, I wasn't sure how I measured up against the rest of the state," Sata said.

"I took losses to every one. That was discouraging early in the year, but to realize the best guys at my weight were in the same area is kind of neat."

Turner takes 4th

Lutheran Westland High senior LaRoy Turner finished fourth in the 275-pound weight class at the Division IV individual meet last weekend at Western Michigan's University Arena in Kalamazoo.

Turner won in the first round against Chris Brock of Springport, 13-11, but was knocked into the consolation bracket by eventual runner-up Norman Davis of St. Louis, a pin in 1:58.

Turner won his next two matches, pinning Tom Cole of Bangor in 4:31 and Shawn Sumner of Breckenridge in 2:12. He won on a walkover against Mel Ross of Marlette before losing in the third place match of Matt Bolles of Muskegon Catholic Central, a fall in 2:39.

Teammate Michael Faith (145) went 0-2 on the day.

Clareceville's two state qualifiers, the Rose brothers Craig (152) and John (189), combined for a 1-4 record. Craig won his first consolation match against Adam Swager of Climax-Scotts, 3-2.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Items for the Sports Roundup must be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday (for Monday edition) and 5 p.m. Tuesday (for Thursday edition). Items run once only.

LIONS VS. POLICE

Members of the Detroit Lions will take on the Livonia Police in a benefit basketball game beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 26 at Livonia Churchill High School.

The game, which features autograph sessions and giveaways, will benefit the Livonia Police Officers Benevolent Association.

Tickets are \$10 per person, \$15 per couple or \$25 per family.

For more information, call (313) 522-0043.

ALL-SECTION CAGERS

Katie Cushman and Stacy Lamphere, Madonna University's two steadiest players this past season, were named to the NAIA All-Great Lakes Section women's basketball team.

Cushman, a freshman point guard, averaged 15 points and 3.5 assists per game for the Lady Crusaders, who finished 20-13, their best record ever. She set a school record for most points scored in a season and connected on 116-of-130 free throws, an 89.2 percentage which currently is best in the nation.

Lamphere, a senior forward, led the team with averages of 15.5 points and 7.3 rebounds per-game.

U-11 WOLVES 187

Sporting an 8-0 record, the Livonia YMCA under-11 Wolves recently won the under-12 boys second indoor season at Total Soccer.

Members of the Wolves, coached by Joe Knoeri, include Tim Allen, Brady Crosby, Nik Djokic, Brian Ennis and J.T. Katikos, all of Livonia; Matt Okopny, Farmington Hills; Brian Popeney and Mike Simons, Canton; Mike Borowiak, Fraser; Keith Mullins, Dearborn Heights; Tony

Zenn, Dearborn; Josh Churella and Jeff Ehehalt, Novi; John Haezebrouck, Southfield.

Pat Frederick and Andy Shiner are assistant coaches. The team manager is Edward Allen.

BASEBALL SIGNUP

Baseball registration is on for the American Little League for boys and girls ages 6-12 living east of Merriman Road.

The cost is \$40 per child, \$65 for two children and \$20 for each additional child.

For more information, call Sandra at (313) 634-3861.

SOFTBALL LEAGUES

The City of Wayne Parks and Recreation Department is accepting teams for men's division I and II, Tuesday and Thursday evenings, men's over 35/40, Wednesday and Friday evenings.

For more information, call Jeff Rutter at (313) 721-7400.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Motorsports Hall of Fame in Novi is in need of volunteers to serve as museum guides and to staff the museum gift shop. Volunteers may select dates and times convenient to their schedules. Training sessions are conducted monthly.

For more information, call Kate Melasi, volunteer coordinator, at (810) 349-7223.

FOOTBALL SIGNUP

The final registration scheduled to tryout for the Wayne County Twisters, a semi-professional football team, is scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday at the Omega Restaurant, located at the intersection of Michigan and Second in Wayne.

Players must register before trying out. The team's season begins in August.

According to Glenn Brothers, one of the team's organizers, 44 players have registered thus far.

For further information, call Brothers at (313) 981-7141.

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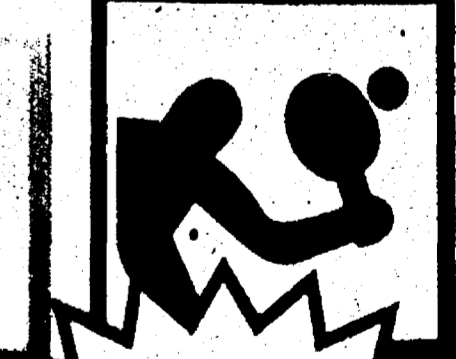
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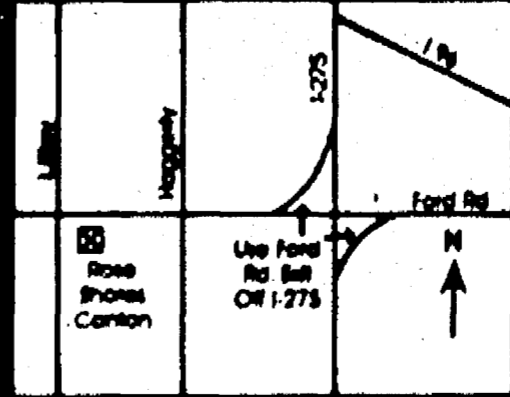
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Rose Shores Fitness & Racquet Club

Underwood wins individual title in balance beam

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

Shelly Underwood's apology will be resting in somebody's trophy case.

Westland John Glenn's Underwood, a little disappointed over her season, made amends during the weekend by winning the Division II balance beam event Underwood in the individual portion of the Michigan High School Athletic Association girls gymnastics meet held at Troy.

Her 9.2 on the beam was .05 better than anyone else's score in that event and got her off to a good start in the all-around, where she wound up ninth.

"She went into the meet very confident," said her coach, Debbie Hosen. "She wanted to end up with a bang. She did the absolutely best she could do. I couldn't be prouder of her."

"It was surprising," Underwood said of her first-place finish. "I was happy. Surprised. Shocked."

Of course when you're one of the best in the state, you have to know it.

"But I didn't think I'd get first," Underwood said.

She scored 8.9 on the vault, good for eighth place, was 25th in floor exercise and "unfortunately, she fell on bars," Hosen said.

"I was nervous," Underwood admitted.

John Glenn, which just missed qualifying for the MSHAA team championships, had sophomore Stephanie Thompson place

eighth on the bars. The Rockets also received a ninth in floor exercise and beam from Sarah Coombs and 19th from freshman Jessica Beach in floor exercise.

"I had a pretty bad season," Underwood said, "so I wanted to finish as good as I could. That was my goal."

Underwood's "bad season" consisted of things which happen to people — illness and injury.

"I had a strep throat, which put me out a week, then I hurt my ankles, which put me out another week," Underwood said. "I couldn't do anything for about three weeks."

She made up for it in the state meet, though. Nice way to go out.

"I'm done," Underwood said of her gymnastics career. "I'm going to try out for cheerleading at Eastern."

That's after the high school track season, though. She already dove on the swim team and also was a cheerleader for the Rockets.

"I don't know how she does it," Hosen said. "Plus, she was Homecoming Queen."

Two things, aside from being an excellent student, seem to do it for Underwood — hard work and a sense of humor.

"She's always doing something funny," Hosen said. "She's high-spirited. And an over-achiever. There's never a day when she doesn't come in and want to work."

Underwood began gymnastics at the age of six at the Michigan Academy of Gymnastics. Six years later, she stopped.

"I was sick of it," she said. "I had been doing it constantly, and I needed a break. I started back up in junior high."

She made the varsity as a sophomore and progressed to where she finished third in the state in the vault as a junior.

Blazers must get through Bedford

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Who's the favorite among the eight remaining teams in the state Class A volleyball tournament?

According to Livonia Ladywood coach Tom Teeters, it's longtime nemesis Temperance Bedford, who the Blazers meet in the quarterfinals beginning at 5:30 p.m. Friday at Portage Central High School.

VOLLEYBALL

STATE FINALS FACTS

CLASS A TOURNAMENT

Quarterfinals (Friday, March 15, at Portage Central): East Lansing vs. Fraser, 4 p.m.; Livonia Ladywood vs. Temperance Bedford, 5:30 p.m.; Walled Lake Central vs. Flint Kearsley, 7 p.m.; Kalamazoo Central vs. Romeo, 8:30 p.m.

Semifinals (Saturday, March 16, at Portage Central): 10 a.m. and 11:30 p.m.

Finals (Saturday, March 16, at WMU's University Arena): 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$3 each for quarterfinal and semifinal site sessions; \$4 finals. An all-tournament pass is \$8.

Bedford is three-time Schoolcraft Invitational champions and rated No. 3 in the state. The Kicking Mules, making their eighth straight Kalamazoo appearance, have beaten Ladywood twice this season — two straight games in pool play at the SC Invite, and three games at the Bedford Tournament.

"In my mind they're the favorite because they've beaten (No. 1) Kalamazoo Central," Teeters said. "They have two very good hitters. Their defense is very good. They recover many of the balls you block off their spikes. They swing away like us and they don't worry about being blocked."

"They're just a good, disciplined team." So Ladywood has no chance? Not so fast.

The Blazers are 48-8 overall and have beaten three other teams who have reached the



TOM HAWLEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Happy trails: Sarah Poglits (No. 8) and her Livonia Ladywood teammates have reached the Final 8 in Class A. The Blazers face Bedford on Friday.

quarterfinal field including Fraser (twice), Flint Kearsley and Romeo.

If Teeters can recapture the glory of his 1988 and '89 teams, which captured state titles, his Blazers must do two things:

"It's our serving versus theirs, and our serve reception vs. theirs," he said. "If we do that we have a chance."

Although the Blazers have relied on the spiking and serving of seniors Erin LeSage and Stacey Judd, along with the steady digging back-row defensive specialist, also a senior, several others have stepped up to the plate and delivered some big hits.

Sarah Poglits, a 6-foot-1 sophomore who hits from the left side, has added another dimension to the Ladywood attack. She was the trump card in last Saturday's conquest of Plymouth Salem and Farmington Hills Mercy at the Ferndale regional

"The key is to get Sarah more hits off second ball attacks," Teeters said. "What we've got going now is a strong lefty in Sarah. We also may consider Jenny Young (a 6-foot frosh), too. We may be using her as a middle blocker."

"Hopefully Bedford will have to cover a lot more of the court and it will confuse their hitters."

When 5-11 junior Kristen Dause went down midway through the season with a knee injury, another junior, 5-10 Cathy Hermann, has come through in the clutch.

"We use as many as four middle blockers and they've filled that hole in the offense," Teeters said. "They've taken up that responsibility and have done the right things at the right time."

"Cathy has essentially replaced Dause. She runs the

slide (play) well and can hit from the weak side."

A year ago, Ladywood lost a pair of first-team All-Area players to graduation — 6-3 Anne Poglits, who is now playing basketball at Michigan; and setter Renee Rozell, now playing at Oakland Community College.

Judd, a hard-hitting and serving 5-9 senior, has filled the gap up front, while 5-9 junior Nicole Vondracek has assumed the team's primary passing role.

"There was a void left from last year when Renee left, but Nicole has come in and demonstrated she's a very versatile player," Teeters said. "She's gaining more and more experience at that new position and she has help out there because Sarah (Poglits) and Erin (LeSage) can also set."

Now all Ladywood needs to do is execute and duplicate the 1989 Blazer squad which eliminated Bedford in the regional.

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Confusion from page 1C

Cooley appeared to have a safe 74-70 lead after Dotson's two free throws with 10.6 seconds left. A three-point basket by Hoener with 4.1 left cut the Cooley lead to 74-73, leading to a Cardinals' timeout and all of the controversy.

Cooley, with the ball under its own basket, chose to throw the in-bounds pass deep.

Deshawn Woodhouse saved the ball as he was going out of bounds under the CC basket, but it ended up in the hands of Shamrocks' senior guard Chris Kennedy.

He passed the ball to Hoener, who was near half-court. After a couple dribbles, Hoener was fouled during his three-point shot attempt.

"As I was going up, he bumped me, I let go (of the ball) and heard the horn," said Hoener, who had 17 points on seven of 12 shooting. "That's it. I'm positive."

Cooley coach Ben Kelso thought the scoreboard showed no time remaining when Hoener had the ball at half-court.

"What I said to them (the officials) was the clock ran out when the boy was at the half-court circle," Kelso said. "It was 'no call' at all because the clock ran out back there."

Cooley senior guard Chris Wilson, who had two key three-point plays in the fourth quarter and finished with 21 points, was near the controversial play.

"He got fouled, but the game was clearly over," Wilson said. "I saw triple zeroes. If he counted that, I was going to cry. When I heard the whistle I thought we



Pleading their case: Catholic Central coach Rick Coratti (top) and athletic director Robert Santello confer with the Dearborn scoring crew.

were going out the wrong way."

McDonald scored 25 first-half points, including all eight of CC's points in the first quarter. The Shamrocks recovered from a 17-8 deficit after one quarter to lead 32-29 at halftime after an 8-0 run to start the second

quarter.

McDonald's three-point shot, his third in the last three minutes of the second quarter, gave the Shamrocks their three-point lead with :39 left in the half.

"We bumped him, had hands in his face," Wilson said. "He's

a pure shooter."

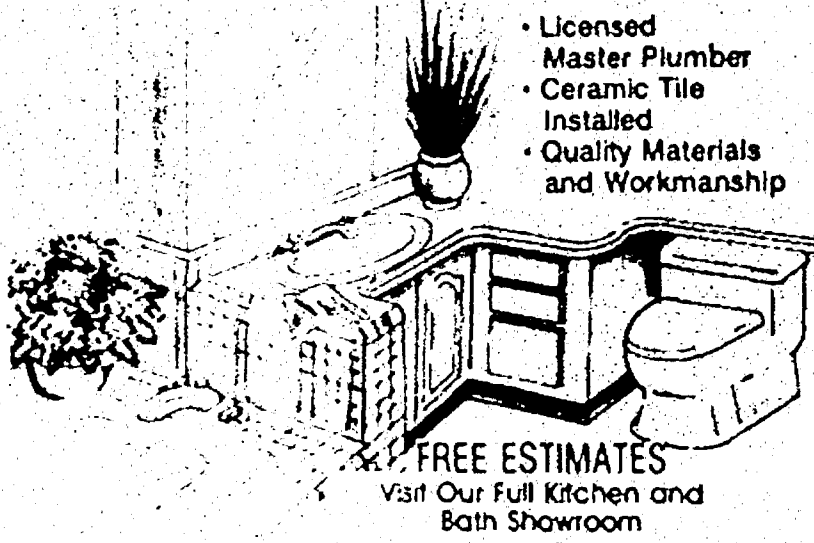
CC senior guard Chris Misiak, scoreless in the first quarter, had 10 second-half points. McDonald, Misiak and Hoener combined for all but seven of CC's points.

JIM JAGFIELD/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Regional from page 1C

ing Wayne 10-9.

The Zebras then went on a tear as 6-2 senior super sub Richard Johnson sparked a 13-2 scoring run.

Johnson scored seven points during the surge. He converted a three-point play with 4:14 left to give Wayne a commanding 49-32 advantage. Roland Patterson then

followed with a breakaway dunk to increase the lead to 19.

Johnson led a balanced Wayne scoring attack with 16 points. Junior guard Lorenzo Guess added 12, while brother Lavelle contributed 10.

Patterson finished with nine and Jameel Wooden chipped in with eight.

But it was the play off the bench from Johnson which proved to be pivotal.

"I didn't think I played very well the last two games," Johnson said. "My role is to step up and play defense, and get some put-backs. It doesn't matter to me if I start. We're in the tournament now so my job is to come in and play hard and play well."

Johnson said Henry stressed offensive and defensive rebounding at halftime.

"And no easy layups," Johnson said. "Just go out there and lock them down."

Senior Derek McKelvey, who led Adrian 19 points in the first meeting, scored only 11 in the second go-around, all in the first half.

Sean Carlson, a 6-3 junior guard, added 10. He had 13 in the

previous encounter. And 5-8 Josh Palmer, who had 16 in January, wound up with just three.

Adrian's other guard, Mike Riley, finished the night hitting only three of 22 shots from the floor. He normally makes 40 percent from three-point land.

"Their defense forced us into hurried shots," said Adrian coach Pat McDevitt, whose team bowed out at 20-4 overall. "They (Wayne) did to us what we've done to teams all year long. It was a combination of us not getting off to a good start and our impatience."

"And Lorenzo picked it up. Lorenzo can take care of the ball versus anybody and nothing bothers him. (Richard) Rashad also hurt us inside (six points) in the first half."

McDevitt believes Wayne is in position to make a serious run in the state tourney.

"I think they can go the whole way," he said. "I don't think you need a big man to win it all. They have a decent inside game and they go seven deep, and don't lose a thing out there when they go to the bench. They're well-coached and under control."

Henry, meanwhile, was happy about the fact that his team learned from the first encounter.

"We just felt more prepared to face their system," he said. "They made 11 three-point shots against Monroe (district final), and a lot of times they get points off their defense."

"We ran several different schemes offensively in the first half. We wanted to push the ball up the floor, reverse it and take whatever we could get inside our outside."

Pershing ousts Canton

Can there be victory in defeat? If so, Plymouth Canton's basketball team discovered it sometime in the second half of Wednesday's state regional game against top-ranked Detroit Pershing.

So the 73-57 loss in the Southfield-Lathrup regional was not unexpected.

How good are the unbeaten (23-0) Doughboys? Consider this: Canton limited their top player, one of the nation's best, 6-foot-9 Winfred Walton, to 5-of-20 shooting from the field — and still lost by 16.

Why? Because Pershing is no one-man show. Walton still scored 22 points, thanks to 12-of-13 free throw shooting. And he got plenty of scoring assistance from Lequient Lewis, with 24 points; and DeJuan Williams, with 13; and Jason Poe, with 11.

Canton could counter only with Ron Hunter. He was the Chippewas' lone double-figure scorer, netting 30 points. Next highest was Mark Bray, with nine, followed by Rob Johnson and Nick Hurley with eight apiece.

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because it's our major source of fund raising. Proceeds from the show will be used for conservation efforts throughout the year." Show hours are 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$8 adult and children 12 and under will be admitted free.

The Southfield Civic Center is located at 26000 Evergreen Rd. just south of I-696.

Reminder

The Michigan Bear Hunters Association and the Michigan Bear Hunter's Conservation Association are holding their annual convention on Friday and Saturday at the Troy Marriott. If you want to find out about the impending threat to hunting in Michigan and how we can win a proposed ballot initiative to outlaw baiting and the use of hounds to hunt bear, the way 96-percent of the states' bear are harvested, attend the convention.

On Friday night there will be a special event featuring a dinner buffet and a hunting and fishing trip auction. Friday's program will be emceed by Bob Garner, host and producer of the television show Michigan Out-of-Doors. Saturday's daytime program features a lineup of speakers who will address all aspects of the initiative. Saturday evening, former Detroit Tiger great and avid hunter Jim Northrup will emceed the banquet portion of the convention, which includes dinner, awards and a grand auction. For more information and to order tickets call (313) 878-5845 during the evenings and on weekends.

Hunters and anglers are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax information to (810) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker evenings at (810) 901-2573.

head start on the fly fishing season, the Southfield Civic Center is the place to be this weekend as the Michigan Fly Fishing Club holds its 18th annual Midwest Fly Fishing Expo.

"This is the oldest and largest show of its kind in North America," said Dale Ross, publicity chairman of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club. "We've got nationally and world-renowned speakers and authors coming in. We'll have everything you need, from the beginner to the advanced fly fisherman including rod building and fly tying demonstrations, books, videos, seminars, everything you can imagine."

Featured speakers include Gary Berger, Flip Pallot and Carl Richards.

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club is a non profit organization established 26 years ago. The mission of the MFFC is to preserve and promote fly fishing and the art of fly tying and rod building and to protect gamefish and their natural habitat.

The MFFC contributes annually to research projects and habitat improvement projects statewide. It's budget for 1996 stands at \$40,000 and the Midwest Fly Fishing Expo is the club's major fund-raising event.

"This is the major fly fishing event of the nation," added Ross. "We rely heavily on the (Expo)

COLLEGE SPORTS

Lady Crusaders off to 11-3 start

If the rest of the season follows this pattern, Madonna University's softball team will do well indeed.

The Lady Crusaders compiled an 11-3 record on their trip to Fort Myers, Fla., five of them by shutout. Looking like they were in midseason form, they won their first four games and seven of their first eight.

Among the bigger surprises was Dawn Shaffer, a junior transfer from Oakland CC who led the team in hitting with a .439 average. The third baseman also had seven doubles, two stolen bases, two home runs and 19 runs batted in.

Other offensive standouts for Madonna were: senior Jennifer Pinter, .375; junior Jeanie Baxter (from Redford St. Agatha), .355; junior Jamie Vickers, .300; sophomore Courtney Senger, .294; junior Melissa McGue, .286; and senior Michelle Birchmeyer (Redford Thurston), .220.

Two Crusader pitchers returned home with four wins apiece: sophomores Shanna Streng, who was 4-3, and Angie VanDoorn, who was 4-0. Freshman Janell Leachinger was 2-0 and senior Lynda Weichel was 1-0.

Madonna opened the trip March 2 by beating St. Thomas 3-1, with Streng tossing a two-hitter, with Stacey Piontkowski getting three hits and Birchmeyer two. VanDoorn followed by shutting out Grand Valley State 2-0 with a four-hitter; Senger's triple in the seventh drove in the game-winning run.

Weichel then blitzed Bridge-water State 6-0 on March 3, firing a two-hitter. Shaffer and Baxter each drove in two runs,

SOFTBALL

Baxter collecting two hits. After that came a 15-4 win over Regis College, with Shaffer knocking in six runs with a double and two homers. Pinter added three RBI on two hits, with Senger getting two RBI on two hits.

Later that day, the Crusaders suffered their first loss: 4-1 to NCAA Division I St. Joseph. Streng was the losing pitcher.

Madonna regrouped to win three times the next day (March 4). The Crusaders beat Jamestown College 8-0 on Streng's one-hit shutout, with Weichel and Senger knocking in two runs apiece; Trevecca Nazarene 5-4 on Birchmeyer's two-run homer in the fifth; and Penn State-Behrend 6-1 on Leachinger's one-hitter. McGue and Shaffer each had three hits against Behrend, and Christy Riopelle drove in two runs on two hits.

On March 5, the Crusaders

opened with a 6-4 loss to Gannon University, then finished with wins over Trevecca Nazarene, 4-2, and Jamestown, 4-0. Piontkowski had two hits against Nazarene, and Shaffer had two doubles and three RBI to support Streng's seven-hit shutout against Jamestown.

Madonna blanked St. Anselm 7-0 on March 6, Leachinger tossing a five-hitter and Sheffer connecting on a three-run triple (she had four RBI all together), then lost 4-1 to Concordia.

The Crusaders' final game was against Nazarene, and it was a 3-2 victory. Baxter knocked in the game-winner with a single in the seventh; she had three hits in the game. Streng was the winning pitcher.

The Crusaders don't play again until March 23-24, when they partake in the Wayne State Tournament.

for the Crusaders was on defense, where they committed 19 errors which resulted in 19 unearned runs.

"It's a case of coming out of our gym and not being ready," George said. "It's hard to get outfielders the work they need inside and we had two freshmen starting in the outfield. We misjudged a few flies that cost us some runs. Those balls will be caught in a few weeks."

On the mound, freshman Joel Fabris established himself as the closer with two saves in four relief appearances.

Starters Craig Benedict (0-1, 1.42 ERA in 12.2 innings), Dan Pydyn (1-1, 1.80 ERA in 10 innings) and Eric Butler (1-1, 2.38 ERA in 11.1 innings) pitched very well at times.

After two defeats, Madonna picked up its first victory by holding off Moravian 7-6. Voletti knocked in a pair of runs with

two doubles and scored twice. After three more setbacks, the Crusaders beat Gannon University 6-5. The victory went to Butler, who scattered six hits in his six innings of work, struck out four and walked none.

Voletti went 5-for-5 with three RBI in Madonna's 14-1 rout of Indiana Wesleyan. Pydyn recorded his first victory, striking out six in six innings of two-hit ball.

The Crusaders capped the trip with another victory over Indiana Wesleyan, 5-3. Sophomore Jason Dubey surrendered three runs in five innings to pick up the win.

"Our goal was to go down there and play everybody, which we did," George said. "There were some young kids put in situations they normally aren't put in and they made some nice improvements by the end of the week."

George optimistic about young club

The young Madonna baseball team recovered late in its annual Florida trip and returned to Michigan a more mature team.

The Crusaders, who lost five of their first six games, bounced back to win three of their last five games to finish the trip 4-7.

The trip was far from a disaster, according to coach Mike George.

"We didn't play well early, but we played some very good teams," George said. "We have no seniors on the team and were playing teams that had 15 to 20 games under their belt. We were just coming out of our gym."

"We were also playing some very good teams. Five of our first seven games were against Division II nationally ranked teams, including St. Leo College — the No. 1 ranked team in Division II."

Sophomore second baseman Eric Marcotte, a 1994 Plymouth Canton graduate, led the team

BASEBALL

with a .480 batting average, which included a team-high 12 hits.

Catcher Delano Voletti batted .478, with a team-high six runs batted in and four doubles. Sophomore outfielder Pete Quinn (Redford Thurston) led Madonna with eight runs scored.

Kevin Foley (.087), Kurt Wilczynski (.136) and Dan Taylor (.148), who began the season as the top three in the Madonna batting order, struggled at the plate throughout the excursion.

"The numbers don't show how well we hit the ball," George said. "We hit the ball very hard and had a lot of shots that were hit right at people. Kevin (Foley) had at least seven balls he hit hard right at people."

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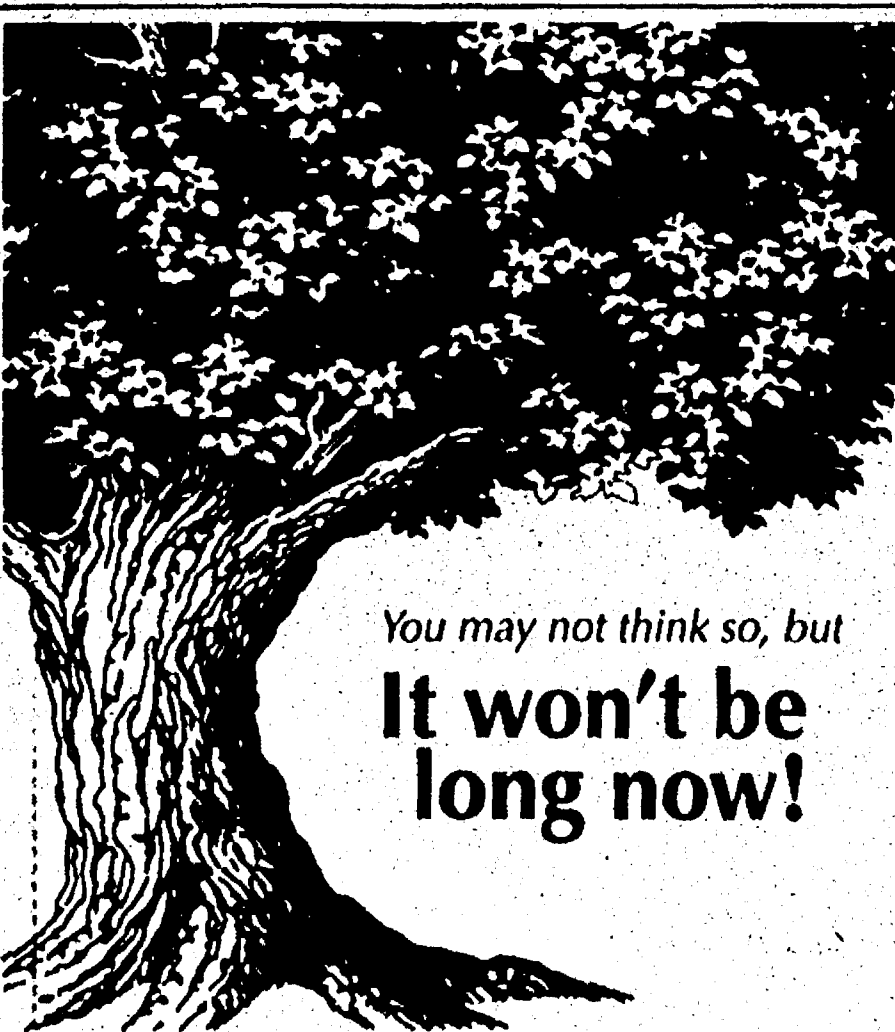
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We are now smack into the presidential primary season as the hunt is on to find out which candidate will emerge this summer with the delegate votes needed to get his party's nomination.

Both major parties have Websites on the Internet, various newspaper and public affairs organizations have election sites, and individual candidates are selling themselves on the Internet.

If you point to <http://www.democraticparty.com> you will find the active state Democratic party sites and a short list of links to Democratic presidential candidates. Point to <http://www.republicanparty.com> and you find a display of active state Republican party sites and a much longer list of links to Republican presidential candidates.

The Washington Post, Newsweek and ABC News has established free "ElectionLine" at <http://www.electionline.com>. "CBS Campaign '96" at www.cbnnews.com/campaign96 offers current headlines and feature stories on the campaign trail, funding, dates and delegates, issues, polls, campaign headquarters, and "Election 101." The Raleigh News & Observer, (NandoNet) has a focused site on the presidential campaign at <http://www.nando.net/newsroom/candid.html>.

The Public Affairs Web at <http://www.publicaffairsweb.com> is a global index to all aspects of American public affairs with thousands of links to "public service links," a public affairs yellow pages, secure weekly polling and results online, and the latest information and ideas concerning candidates, state and local ballot measures.

By the way, the unofficial Engler for Vice President Website can be accessed at [http://www.coast.net/\(tilde mark\)mrec/engler96](http://www.coast.net/(tilde mark)mrec/engler96). If Engler is not the VP choice, chances are a governor of another state might get the nod. If so, and that person is an unknown, visit the state governors page at <http://162.114.210.6/nasire/STgovernor.html>. As of November 1995 there were some 30 governors listed. "Countdown '96" at <http://comeback.com/countdown/> is a

presidential election/politics resource that has been updated weekly since its debut in September. New national, state and local political parties have been added as well as a comprehensive list of links to presidential candidates. Also check out the humor and opinion sections and the online polls.

"Election '96" at <http://www.learfield.com> is different in that it has weekly audio updates, insightful commentary, and all the latest news available at the Radio Iowa's Campaign Countdown.

Project Vote Smart in August moved its homepage to <http://www.vote-smart.org>. This, too, is a comprehensive page and has the added advantage of being non-partisan.

Portraits of announced presidential candidates can be found at <http://dolphin.gulf.net/Primaries.html>. Here for each candidate you will find a biography, voting records, stands on key issues, and a speech by the candidate. An organization called Voter Information Service maintains a Website at [http://world.std.com/\(tilde mark\)votinfo/](http://world.std.com/(tilde mark)votinfo/).

"Campaign Central" at <http://www.clark.net/ccentral> has government, political and campaign

links including analysis of Senate and Congressional races. A site claiming to be a one-stop shopping center for "the new American conservatism" can be accessed at <http://www.townhall.com>. Visit here and you will find pitches for each of the Republican candidates seeking his party's nomination.

GrammNet is an electronic newsletter distributed several times a week containing news and analysis about his campaign. GrammNet, independent of the Phil Gramm campaign team, is put out by David Levenstam, a CPA who started the newsletter in February 1995 with 15 E-mail addresses. The newsletter now has 945 subscribers. To subscribe send an E-mail message to admirlocke@aol.com with "Subscribe GrammNet" on the subject line.

You can direct questions to Emory Daniels by e-mail with emory@oeonline.com or fax number 591-7279. To sign up for O&E On-Line, dial (313)591-0903, at "log-in" prompt type "new" and at "Key:" prompt type GL6NY2. Past columns may be accessed online at [http://oeonline.com/\(tilde mark\)emoryd/archive.html](http://oeonline.com/(tilde mark)emoryd/archive.html).

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Walter's HOME APPLIANCES

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JENN-AIR 30" GAS ON GLASS COOK TOP
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JENN-AIR 30" ELECTRIC SMOOTH TOP COOK TOP
#ECE3400 Wipe clean glass, ceramic surface, ultra quick twin radiant elements, backlit controls.

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KITCHEN AID 36" GAS ON GLASS COOKTOP
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BUSINESS DATEBOOK

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

INSURANCE COURSE
Schoolcraft College is offering an insurance course, "Qualified Plans." The one-day course pro-

vides a general survey of qualified plans' principal characteristics; the types of qualified plans and their eligibility; contribution, taxation and vesting requirements; and tax penalties and their use and application for individuals,

non-incorporated businesses and corporate situations. The course is approved by the state of Michigan for four continuing education credits for insurance agents in life and health. The class will be 8 a.m. to noon. To register or for

more information, contact Schoolcraft College's Continuing Education Services office at (313) 462-4448. Schoolcraft College is at 18600 Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile roads, just west of I-275.

PaineWebber's Account Vice
President Gregory R. Wright and Investment Executive Phillip P. Bocketti will be the speakers. Topics include: preparing for retirement, tax ramifications, maximizing return on IRA accounts, pension distributions, IRA rollover or 10-year averaging; lump sum distributions, and estate planning. For information call Tom Grossman at (800) 852-6228.

nate legal red tape in business planning by taking the Schoolcraft College class "Legal Issues for the Entrepreneur." The one-day class deals with the basic legal issues involved with starting and running a business. The class is 6:30-10 p.m. For information, call (313) 462-4448.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

WOMEN ENGINEERS
The Detroit section of the Society of Women Engineers is sponsoring a seminar on "Women as Financial Decision Makers" at 6:30 p.m. The dinner meeting will be at Topper Restaurant and Lounge in Dearborn. The seminar will feature Colleen Stewart and Judi Nienus from Merrill Lynch. Registration fee is \$15 for members and \$17 for nonmembers and includes dinner. For information, call (313) 845-4574.

TRAINING EMPLOYEES
A new Schoolcraft College course will help managers learn to train employees through a step-by-step method using an assessing, designing, delivering and evaluating model. The course is designed to give students a foundation in basic training skills. A textbook is required and can be purchased at the college bookstore. Students should bring the text to their first class. The five-week course begins Tuesday, March 19, from 7-10:10 p.m. For information, call (313) 462-4448.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

COMPANY BUDGET
The Schoolcraft College course "Planning and Administering the Company Budget" will help employees prepare and implement their company's budget plans. The course will examine decision-making techniques to develop a corporate planning model and the role of the budgeting process. A textbook is required and should be brought to the first class. The five-week class begins Wednesday, March 20, from 7-10:10 p.m. For more information call, (313) 462-4448.

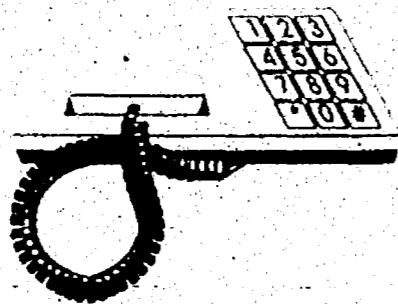
ESTATE PLANNING
A retirement and estate planning seminar will be 7-9 p.m., sponsored by PaineWebber.

ENTREPRENEURS
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TAX HELP

FORMS BY FAX
The Michigan Department of Treasury has announced that taxpayers can now order and receive Michigan tax forms by fax. Callers must use a fax phone and may order up to six forms per call. This is an automated system that is available 24 hours per day. To obtain forms by fax, call (810) 754-0362.

that the transmission will begin immediately. The fax service is available for forms only. Instructions can be ordered by calling 1-800-FORM-2-ME. The instructions will be sent within two weeks.

(313) 722-1411. The 1040 forms are available on a walk-in basis at several local post offices and libraries.

Callers are provided with step-by-step instructions for using the fax system, including how to obtain a menu of the forms available by fax and how to select those forms. Callers should be aware

FORMS BY MAIL
Tax time is always a headache, especially now that two area IRS offices have closed. Congresswoman Lynn Rivers is making tax forms available to constituents.

Because of the rules of the U.S. House of Representatives and Congressional Courtesy, this service is available only to residents of the 13th Congressional District. Tax assistance questions should be directed to the IRS toll-free hot line at 1-800-829-1040. The best time to call this number is 3-4 p.m. Walk-in service is available at the IRS office in Detroit, in the McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Ave., Detroit.



"Prime" means the "Bank Prime Loan" rate published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in its statistical release H. 15(519) entitled "Selected Interest Rates." Use of the word "Prime" does not indicate that the rate is the best or the lowest rate offered by any lender. There is a \$96 annual fee. The APR may vary each month, but will never be higher than 18%. There may be a charge for cancellation of your account within the first 3 years. Insurance must be carried on the real property securing the account. All accounts are subject to credit approval and an acceptable property appraisal and title search. Huntington and Huntington Direct are federally registered service marks of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated. ©1996 Huntington Bancshares Incorporated.

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78th Annual

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- Playhouse Construction & Nail Driving Contest by Joint Carpentry Apprenticeship Council
- Michigan Kitchen & Bath Show
- Parade of Notable Homes
- Home Buyers Clinic
- Masonry Institute Display of the Latest in Residential Masonry
- Gardens Created by Metropolitan Detroit Landscape Association
- Arts & Crafts Display
- Treasure Chest Contest
- House of Nails Contest

Home Buyers Clinic I & II

Monday - Friday 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00 & 7:30 p.m.
Saturdays 12:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 6:30, 7:00 & 8:30 p.m.
Sundays 11:30, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00, 2:30, 3:30, 4:00 & 4:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday 2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Regular Admission: Adults \$6.00, Seniors and Children 6-12 \$4.00, Children under 6 admitted FREE
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COBO CENTER • MARCH 16-24

MEDICAL BRIEFS

Items for Medical Briefs are welcome from all Observer-area hospitals, physicians, companies and residents active in the medical community. Items should be typed or legibly written and sent to: Medical Briefs, c/o The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or faxed to (313) 591-7279.

BREAST-FEEDING SUPPORT

The Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia has answers to questions about breast-feeding through its Breast-feeding Support Group, which meets from 7-8 p.m. to night, Thursday, March 14, in the Marian Pavilion Conference Room A. There is no charge, but registration is required. Call (313) 655-3314. The center also has breast-feeding supplies and educational materials.

St. Mary will also host a Breast-feeding Class 7-9 p.m. Thursday, March 28 in Pavilion Conference Room A for expectant mothers in the seventh to eighth month of pregnancy. Cost of the class is \$15 and registration is required. For information call (313) 655-2882 or (800) 494-1617.

HEALTH-O-RAMA SCREENINGS

Oakwood Healthcare Systems is supporting Project Health-O-Rama, a community-wide event that offers free or low-cost health screening tests and services for adults age 18 and older, again this year with health screenings during March and April in various southeastern Michigan locations. If you would like to talk to an Oakwood health professional about tests and services in the Western Wayne/Eastern Washtenaw area, call (313) 278-5155.

Project Health-O-Rama will be held at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 16, in the hospital auditorium. Free tests and services available at all sites include height and weight, blood pressure, vision, glaucoma, counseling and referral and health education information. St. Mary Hospital will offer information on mental health awareness. St. Mary is at 36475 Five Mile Road Livonia, Michigan 48154, (313) 464-4800.

Several lab tests are optional and carry a nominal fee. A Blood Panel Test of 23 profiles costs \$20. A thyroid blood test that measures the level of thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) in the body is a new profile in 1996 in the Blood Panel Test. A four-hour fast is recommended prior to taking the Blood Panel Test. Participants are advised to drink water, plain tea and black coffee only. Also new in 1996 is the Cancer Antigen (CA-125) blood test for women that may detect ovarian tumors, both benign and malignant. Cost of this test is \$25.

RUNNING PROGRAM

A runners' clinic will be held on Saturday, March 16, hosted by Botsford General Hospital's Total Rehabilitation & Athletic Conditioning Center (TRACC). This interactive program will include information and demonstrations on the 'how-to's' of: preventing sports injuries; training properly for endurance sports; developing the best nutritional program for maximum performance; and getting back to healthful running after an injury.

Sponsored by TRACC, in conjunction with Running Fit and Wolverine Orthotics, the seminar will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Botsford Center for Health Improvement, 39750 Grand River Ave. in Novi. There is a \$20 fee, which includes refreshments, compliments of Manhattan Bagel. Because of limited space, registration is required. For more information or to register, call (810) 473-5690.

BREATHERS' CLUB

St. Mary Hospital in Livonia offers a free Breathers' Club Support Group meeting each month on the third Thursday from 7 to 8 p.m. This educational program is for people with chronic lung disease. A guest speaker gives a presentation each month.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 21, in the hospital auditorium near the Five Mile entrance. This meeting will include a presentation by Lucy Caramanna, R.N., Patient Representative on 'Patient Rights, Living Wills and the Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care.'

No registration is required. For more information, please call (313) 655-2924.

BREAST CARE CLINIC

St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will hold a Breast Care Clinic from 4 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 27, in the Women's Center. Staff will perform a complete breast examination and provide

instructions on how to perform a breast self-examination. If indicated, a mammogram will be done. Cost of the breast exam is \$21. Cost of mammography is extra. However, this cost may be covered by insurance. For more information or to register, please call (313) 655-3314 or (800) 494-1615.

MARRIAGE CLASS

St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will offer a Premarital AIDS Class from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

on Saturday, 7-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 11 in the Marian Pavilion Conference Room B near the Levan Road entrance. Upon completion, participants receive certificates necessary to obtain a marriage license in Michigan. Registration is required, with March 1 deadline for March 9 class and April 4 deadline for April 11 class. Cost is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. Call (313) 655-3314 or (800) 494-1615.

BREAST-FEEDING CLASS

A breast-feeding class will be

at the University of Michigan. Plymouth Health Center 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 20, 9398 Lillie Road, in Canton. Nurse Sarah Morris Collins will discuss maintaining milk supply, avoiding common problems and finding community resources. The fee for the class is \$15, payable at the door. M-Care members can receive a 50-percent discount. To register, or for more information, call 459-0820.

DIABETES SUPPORT

St. Mary Hospital in Livonia

will host a Diabetes Support Group meeting on Wednesday, March 20 from 7-8:30 p.m. in the hospital auditorium near the Five Mile hospital entrance. Guest speaker Judy Morgan of the William Beaumont Hospital Wound Care Center will discuss "Prevention and Treatment Options for Wounds." There is no charge to attend the meeting and registration is not required. For more information, call St. Mary at (313) 655-2922 or (800) 494-1650.

POSITIVE PARENTING

The Marian Women's Center, St. Mary Hospital in Livonia, offers a free lecture on "Positive Parenting" from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, in the hospital auditorium near the Five Mile entrance. Guest speaker will be Corinne Kee, a clinical associate and adjunct faculty member at Madonna University's School of Nursing. There is no charge for the lecture, but reservations are requested, since seating is limited. Call (313) 655-2882 or (800) 494-1617.

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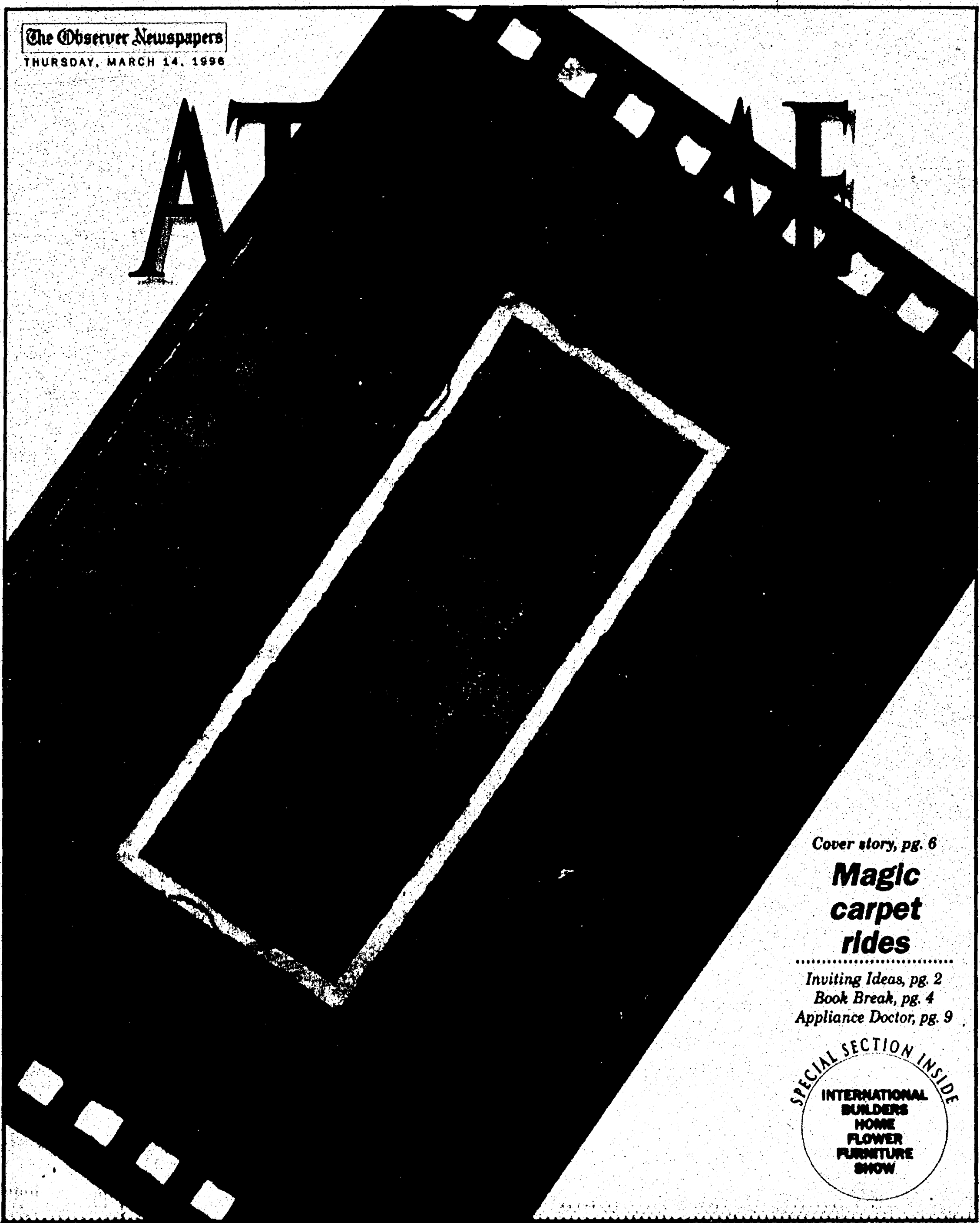
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The Observer Newspapers

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1996

ARTS



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SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE
INTERNATIONAL BUILDERS HOME FLOWER FURNITURE SHOW

INVITING IDEAS

Celebrate St. Patrick's day with harp party



RUTH MOSSOCK JOHNSTON

St. Patrick's Day filled with its little leprechauns, symbolic shamrocks, and "Fighting Irish" has gone mainstream — everyone enjoys the celebration of this holiday "spirit" — Irish or not. We've all seen green beer on St. Patty's Day, pale-green shakes at fast food havens, and even green bagels — now that's what I call cross-ethnicity.

We all need a mood change around mid-March — the weather is not sure what it is doing, and we are anxiously awaiting the green buds-a-popping outdoors — help speed up the process and see a little green.

An Irish Harp party would be ideal, as the emblem of Ireland's nationality has been a harp. If the harpist from the symphony is tied up, perhaps one of your neighboring high schools have a harpist to spare, if that's a no-go, use the harp motif as the centerpiece of your table(s). The obvious color scheme is shamrock green, but add some elegance with a touch of gold. On the tables, place some verses from some old Irish melodies, many of which will in-

clude the "harp" or have your guests do a little research and bring some verses or limericks with them as an entrance fee to the party.

Your menu can be all sorts of green things — do salads, it could just be desserts, or do different courses keeping in line with your color scheme — green and gold. To make this party really simple, you could just do soup, salad and potato bread. The bread could be colored with food coloring or make some parlied butter or green cream cheese to spread on it.

For appetizers make a vegetable dip and color it green with food coloring. Coloring pastes — available at cake decorating shops or Kitchen Glamor stores work beautifully. Try Green Goddess Shrimp — start with Hellman's Mayo (light, low-fat or regular), add chopped green onions to taste and color, and pulse in food processor or blend in a blender until smooth. Remove to a mixing bowl and add whole cooked, chilled shrimp, mix until shrimp are well coated.

Make a shamrock salad by cutting off the ends of a whole green pepper, removing the seeds and membranes, fill with a combination of chvre cheese or any easily spreadable cheese, and finely chopped vegetables. Let chill and when

firm, slice. The filled slices will look like shamrocks. Your salad course could just be a variety of mixed field greens with a green goddess type dressing or a vinegar and oil — garnish with green pepper, fresh broccoli florets or capers. Other options are a Tabbouleh salad made with chopped parsley, bulgur wheat, fresh lemon juice, olive oil, and chopped mint.

A starter soup could be made with asparagus and leeks, split pea, watercress, or a basic boullion sprinkled with chopped green onions. Your options are many, just keep it green.

For a main course — stuffed Savoy cabbage, stuffed grape leaves, stuffed zucchini, or dumplings. But whatever you are stuffing, make sure there are lots of potatoes — the staff of Irish life. Pesto sauce over pasta or crisp-quick cooked green beans would be another

option. Dessert is easy — pistachio ice cream or mint chocolate chip is already green — add your favorite softened ice cream to a prepared crust and make a simple green ice cream pie — decorate with shamrock shapes.

Make a Blarney Stone out of a full carton of ice cream — any flavor and cover the brick of ice cream with shelled, crushed pistachio nuts.

You could do a crock of gold by filling a bowl with edible gold-leafed nuts or buy the gold foil wrapped chocolate coins. There are many types of St. Patrick's Day cookie cutters. You can always do some lovely cookies with beautiful green icing.

Ruth Mossock Johnston is an author and food columnist who lives in Franklin. To leave a Voice Mail message for Ruth, dial (313) 953-2047, mailbox 1902.

Michigan antique show this weekend

The Michigan Antique Show and Sale will take place Saturday-Sunday, March 16-17, at the Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion in the Meadow Brook Complex at Oakland University, Rochester.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$6, free for age 16 and under. Re-admission is free.

Parking is free and food service will be available during show hours. Local delivery will be offered.

Nationally recognized exhibitors will offer investment grade antiques from the 17 to early 20th centuries, including country and formal furniture, folk art, quilts, glass, paintings, Oriental rugs, prints and maps.

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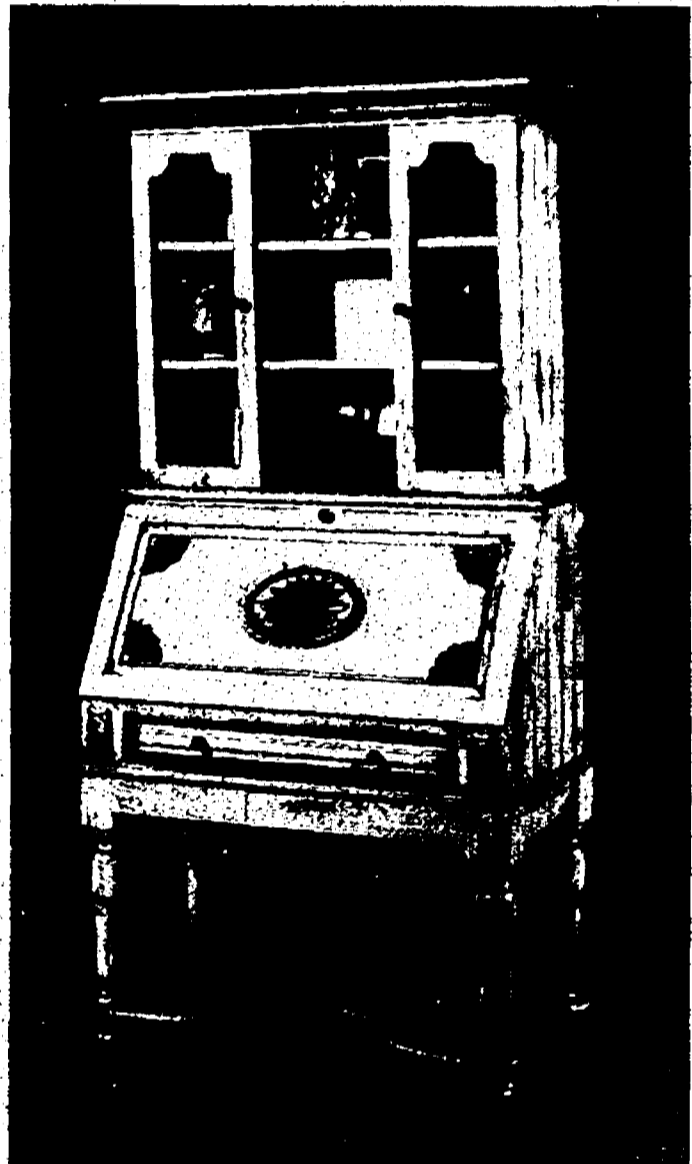
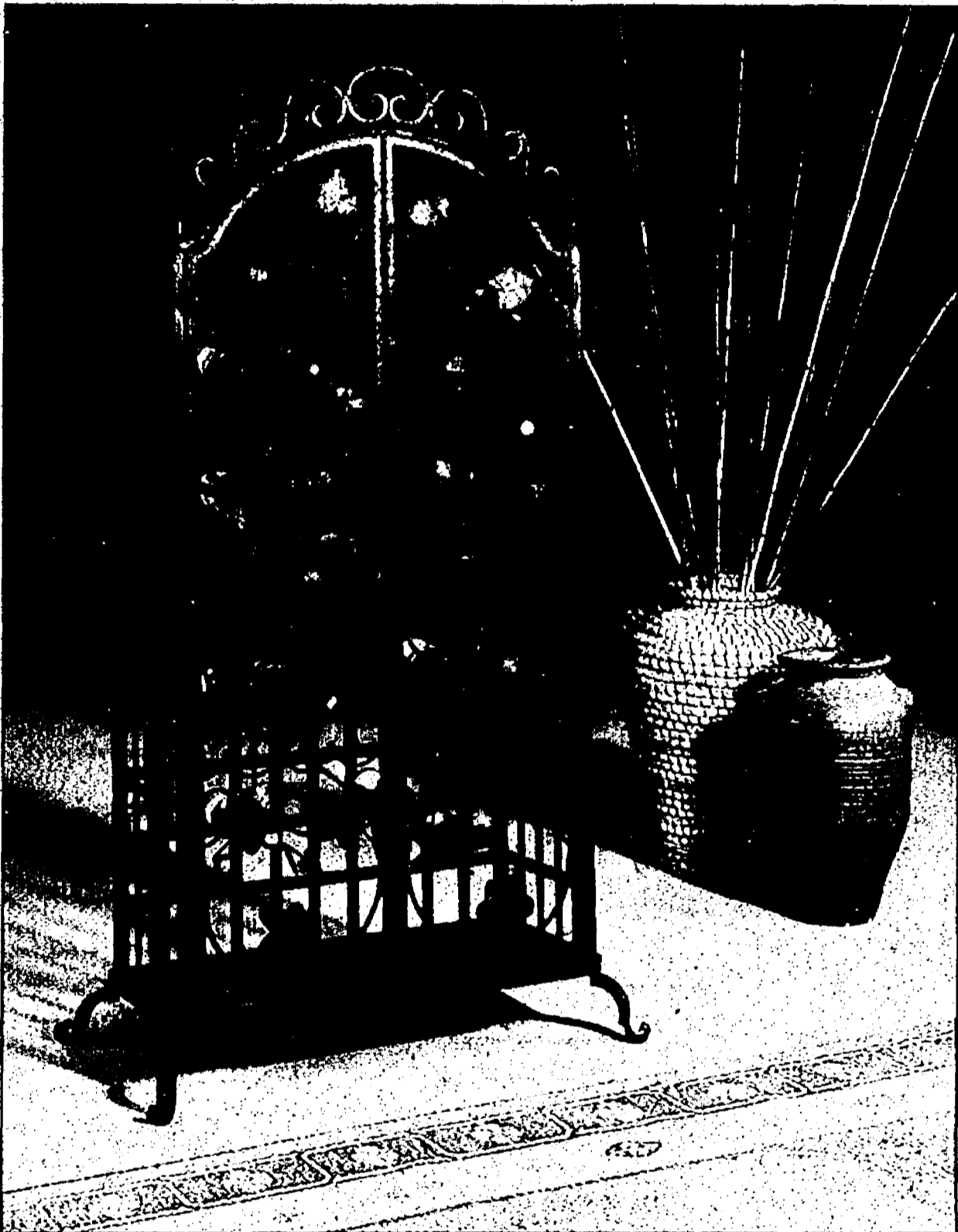
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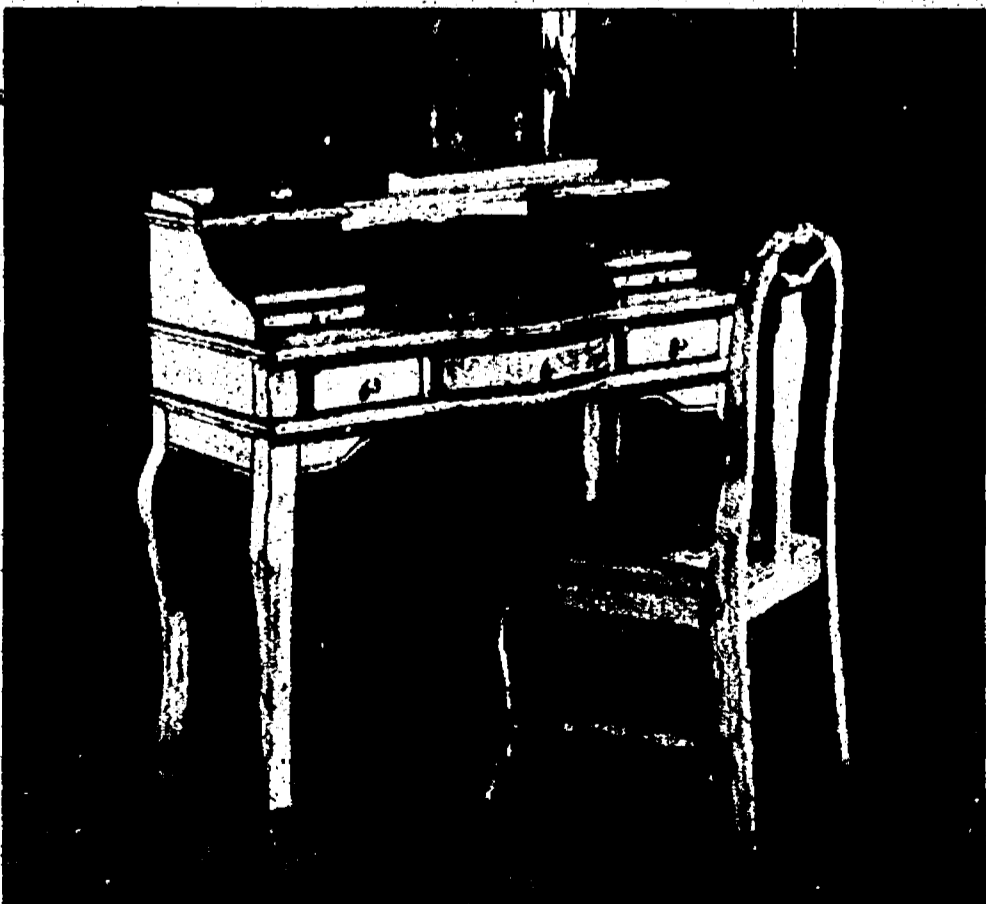
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AT HOME
 Mary Klemic, editor
 (810) 901-2569
 We are looking for your ideas for At Home and for the Market Place roundup of new ideas.
 Send your comments to
 Mary Klemic, At Home,
 805 E. Maple,
 Birmingham, MI 48009.

Authors series hosts expert on youth gangs

Youth gangs are spreading across the nation at an alarming rate. Big cities, the suburbs, rural areas all are susceptible to gangs.

The Cultural Arts Division of the city of Southfield's Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a special Author's Lecture to help answer some of the most common questions regarding gangs and offer some ways to keep children from turning to gangs in the first place.

At 11:30 a.m. Sunday, March 24, in the Radisson Hotel in Southfield, Mike Knox will discuss his book "Gangsta in the House" and attempt to show why gangs are so common today. Tickets for the luncheon and lecture are \$15 and must be reserved in advance by calling the Cultural Arts Division at (810) 424-9039. Tickets are also available for the lecture only, which will begin at 12:15 p.m., for a cost of \$5.

BOOK BREAK

Collection of essays focuses on Midwest



VICTORIA DIAZ

"*Imagining Home: Writing From the Midwest*," edited by Mark Vinz and Thom Tamaro (University of Minnesota Press, \$17.95, 212 pp.).

In this collection of essays, 16 writers explore essentially how the American Midwest has shaped their imagination and their development as writers.

Almost all of the writers are university professors (as are Vinz and Tamaro), and the collection suffers to some extent because of this. Nobody writes poorly, of course (although some write much more effectively than others), but a reader may sometimes get the feeling that, if gathered together in one room, hardly a dissenting voice would be heard among these essayists about such telling issues as politics, the environment, and "family values." Because of this, the collection overall takes on a kind of predictable, bland flavor. After awhile, one wonders if it wouldn't be rather refreshing to see someone just suddenly declare their undying devotion for the likes of Rush Limbaugh or the lumber industry.

Some of the essayists are native to the Midwest. Others, though they have lived here for a number of years, are "adopted" sons and daughters.

In "Putting Myself in My Place," California native Robert Schuler concludes "I worship nature." This is a rather superfluous statement, since he has made it clear almost from his first paragraph that he is practically giddy on the subject, especially if we are talking about nature in the Midwest. Probably overdone on sunshine, he came here almost 30 years ago in search of a teaching job, and straightway fell in love with a little town in Illinois seemingly because the air was filled with snow and roads were impassable.

Much of his essay is a listing of the flora and fauna of western Wisconsin (where he now lives) and/or a description of it, instead of a real comment on how it has shaped him or his work through the years. More disappointing, his descriptions are sometimes faintly cliched, and do little to bring his revered landscape to life. Finally, he never writes about the seemingly cruel, unlovely side of nature, lending a naive and superficial flavor to his commentary.

Michigan transplant (from Holyoke, Mass.) Jack Driscoll fares somewhat better in his "Homings In." Having been warned that the Midwest was "barren and flat and full of Bibles," he came here with distinct reservations 20 years ago and (with one exception) didn't return to Massachusetts, even to visit, for nearly 10 years.

"This is the only place where I've ever felt true faith as a writer, the love

After awhile, one wonders if it wouldn't be rather refreshing to see someone just suddenly declare their undying devotion for the likes of Rush Limbaugh or the lumber industry.

and connections to a spirit beyond myself," he observes. Once called "a Michigan snow poet" by a reviewer he demonstrates here a decided gift for bringing a reader into the mostly wintry landscape around his home in the Upper Peninsula. "Some mornings, while staring out on all this, I actually believe that I might say something eternal," he writes.

With "Is Minnesota in America Yet?" Bill Holm argues for secession at the same time that he paints a vivid picture of the state he's been in since birth, and the people he's lived with. With keen wit and insight, the writer (of Icelandic ancestry) reveals, for instance, that "the commonplace notion of Minnesota smugness . . . that we are somehow cleaner, more virtuous, harder working, better governed, more boring but more civilized than 'them'" is really partly true.

You get the feeling, reading this, that Minnesotans would be happier, perhaps, as Canadians. "We'd have civilized health insurance at last, better fishing, and a musically and morally superior anthem," Holm notes.

Writing from Wisconsin, Midwest native Larry Watson takes a slightly different, thought-provoking tack in this collection, arguing that he has been not so much influenced by the place in which he grew up as the time period.

" . . . when I write about the 1940s or 1950s, I am recapturing my childhood," he stresses. Or trying to: Thomas Wyble was wrong but Proust was right. We can go home again, but the only paradise is the paradise lost. We can go back to Bismarck, but we can't return to 1966."

LAST WORDS: The Dreaming With Your Eyes Open Film Series continues on Thursday, March 21, at Borders Novi, as Dr. Marvin Hyman of the Academy for the Study of the Psychoanalytic Arts leads a discussion on Alfred Hitchcock's "Spellbound." Film begins at 7 p.m. Call 347-0780 for further details.

Victoria Diaz of Livonia, a longtime member of Detroit Women Writers, has a lifelong interest in reading "everything from great novels to cereal boxes." You can leave a message for her on a Touch-Tone phone by dialing (313) 963-2047.

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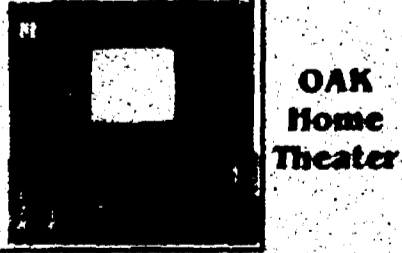
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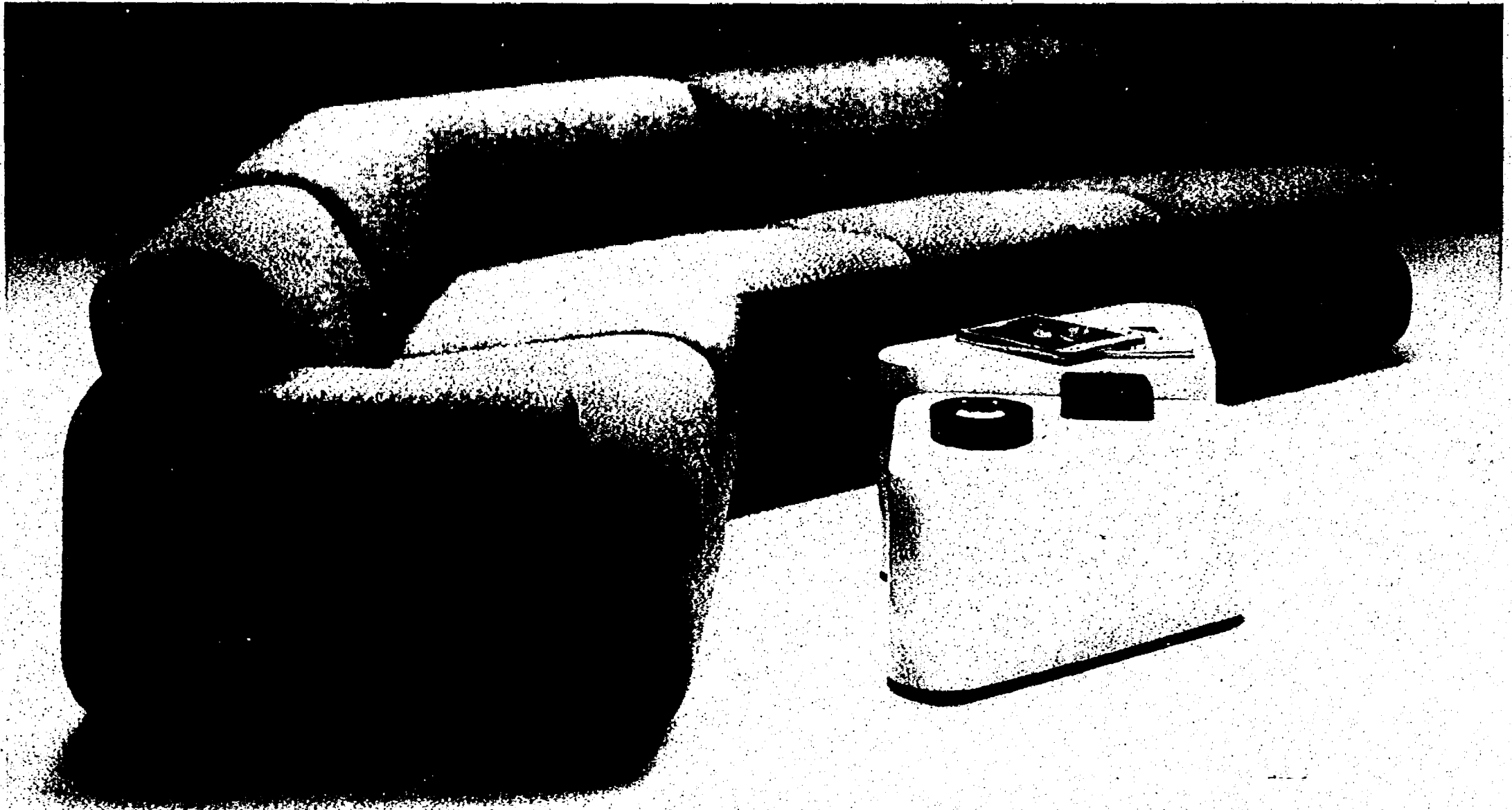
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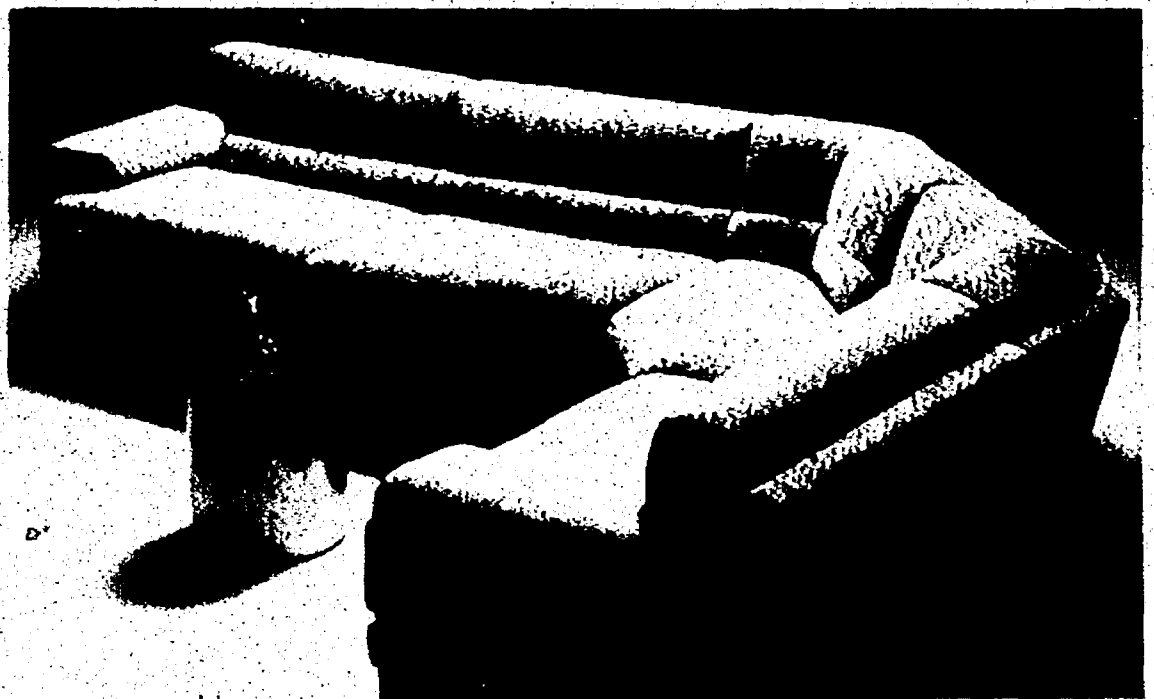
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COVER STORY

ARTWORK FOR THE FLOOR

STORY BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

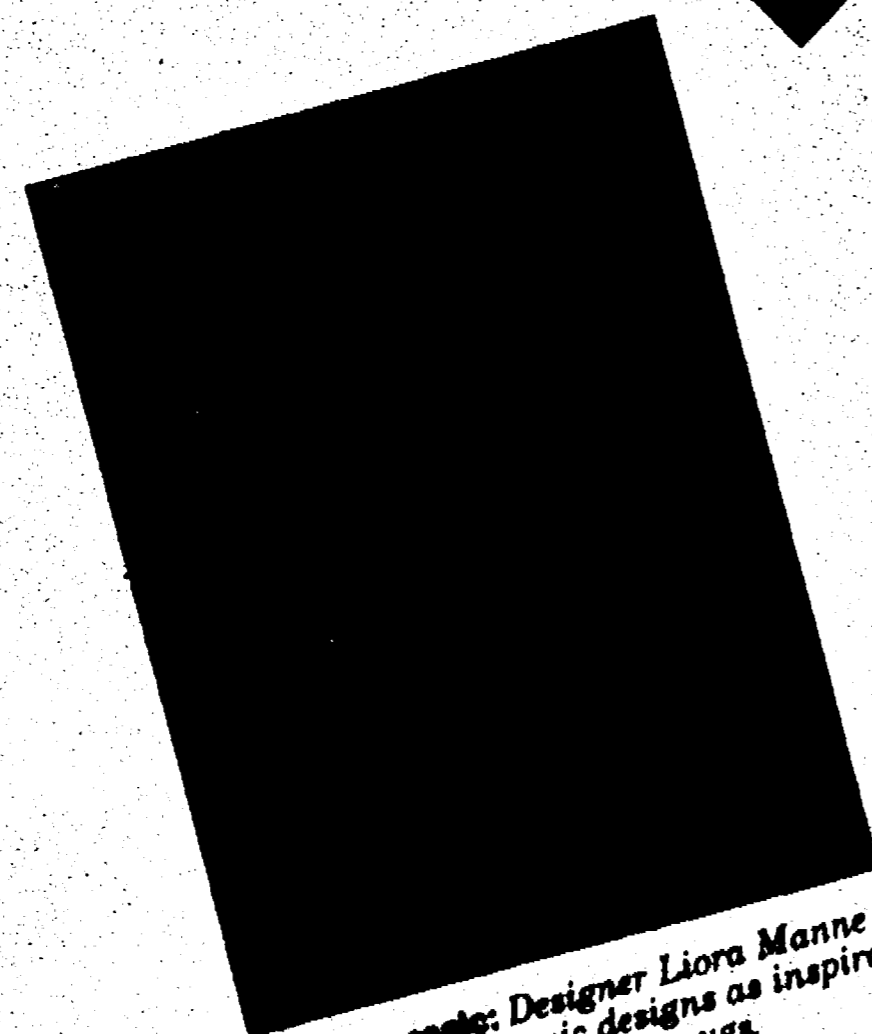
Modern classic: Designer James Tufenkian has created bold, new designs using traditional Tibetan craft.



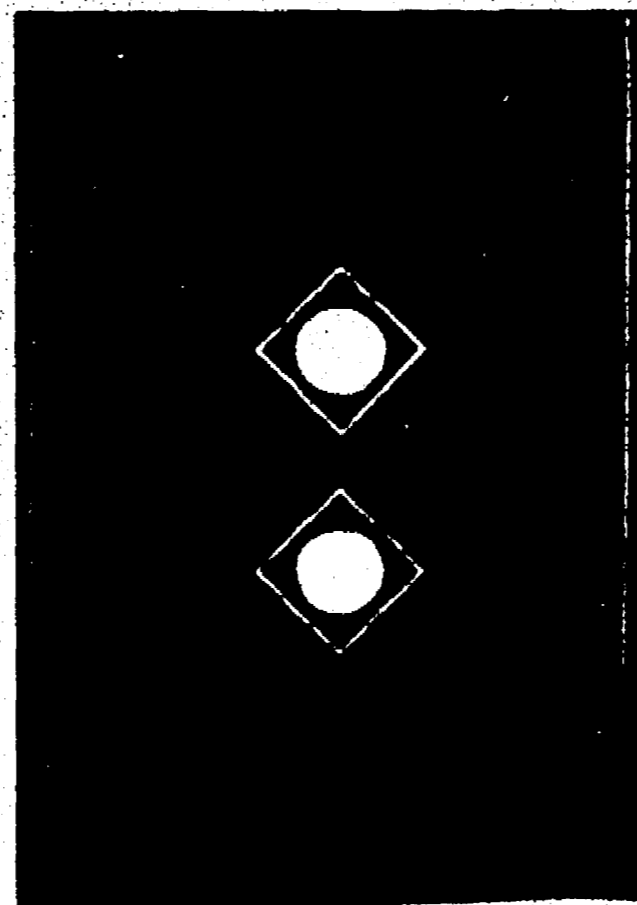
Master weaver: Jampa Tenzing demonstrates the ancient Tibetan craft of wool rug weaving.

On the cover:

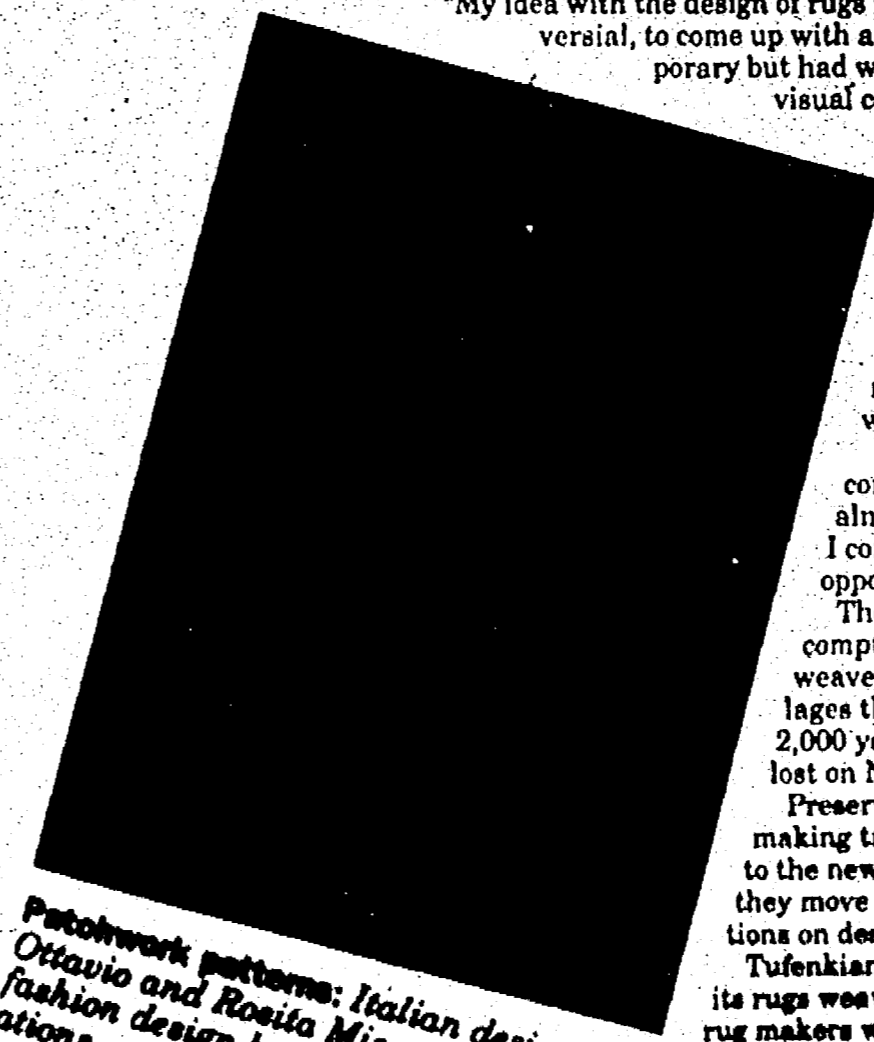
This Havana Gold design is part of David Shaw Nicholls' Gardens Collection. Nicholls is one of four contemporary designers featured at McQueen's Carpet.



Woven mosaic: Designer Liora Manne uses ancient mosaic designs as inspiration for her modern area rugs.



Architectural geometry: Scottish designer David Shaw Nicholls uses his background in architecture to create bold, new rug designs such as this tivoli.



Patchwork patterns: Italian designers Ottavio and Rosita Missoni bring their fashion design background to rug creations.

Ancient craftsmanship is combining with modern design techniques and computer applications to create a revolution in area rug design.

McQueen's Fine Carpets is featuring this month the work of four innovative rug designers, each with a different vision and approach to rug design. The special display marks the opening of a new 6,000-square-foot showroom at 4066 West Maple, east of Telegraph in Bloomfield Hills.

David Shaw Nicholls brings an architectural background to his computer-generated designs. Liora Manne takes inspiration from ancient mosaics, gemstones and floral patterns. Missoni brings haute couture design to carpets. James Tufenkian brings bright and subtle colors to bear on rich Tibetan craftsmanship.

McQueen's hosted Nicholls, Manne and representatives from Missoni and Tufenkian at the opening of their new showroom.

"I went into the rug industry purely on a whim, not by design, plan or family connections and from day one was very successful," said Nicholls. "I believe I came into the industry in its infancy."

Nicholls was born in Scotland and educated as an architect in Glasgow. He continued his studies in design in Milan, Italy, where his work in architecture and furniture design introduced him to rug designing. He founded his Studio of Design in New York in 1987.

"My influences stemmed from my experience in European design. I take no guidelines from the rug industry, none of the patterns from traditional motifs," he said.

Nicholls' designs are a complete break from the traditions of Oriental carpet designs from the Near and Far East with which we are most familiar. He uses geometry, simplified florals and broad fields with swirls, circles and architectural elements.

Nicholls develops patterns on computers. These designs are used for furniture table tops as well as rugs.

"My idea with the design of rugs was to not be controversial, to come up with a look that was contemporary but had warmth, a feeling of visual comfort, not concerned about stark treatment of design but giving a viable alternative to traditional motifs," Nicholls said.

Nicholls is especially proud of the companies tightly woven flat weaves.

"My flat weaves are concerned with simple, almost abstract planning. I consider them skins as opposed to rugs."

The rugs designed by computer in New York are woven by hand in Indian villages that haven't changed in 2,000 years, an irony that isn't lost on Nicholls.

Preserving the ancient rug making traditions is important to the new designers, even as they move in revolutionary directions on design.

Tufenkian-Tibetan Carpets has its rugs woven in Nepal by Tibetan rug makers who use techniques that are centuries old.

Master weaver Jampa Tenzing demonstrated these techniques at

McQueen's and talked about the craft his parents brought from Tibet. Tenzing was born on the border between Tibet and Nepal in 1959 when his parents fled the Chinese invasion of Tibet to join the Dalai Lama in Nepal. Tenzing learned his craft from his parents.

"I began making rugs at 16 years old. My parents taught me how to make rugs. They made rugs for themselves in Tibet but in Nepal they had to make rugs for a living," Tenzing said.

Tenzing had praise for Tufenkian's employment practices in Nepal, especially in light of recent controversy over how goods, especially textiles, are manufactured in Asia. He said Tufenkian-Tibetan employs between 2,000 and 3,000 people and provides schools, medical care, housing and higher than average wages.

"The technique of weaving goes back 100,000 years. We don't really know how old," he said. "In Tibet, we don't feel that rugs are that important - we are Buddhist and that is what is important."

The Tufenkian rugs are made from Tibetan wool which Tenzing says is the highest quality because the sheep come from high, cold plateaus where their wool develops rich lanolin oils. Unlike many rug companies, Tufenkian doesn't bleach the wool in order to preserve the oils which give luster to their rugs.

As a master weaver Tenzing says he must understand both design and process. He said it takes at least eight years of concentrated work to know enough to be a master weaver.

Douglas Tashjian, national sales manager for Tufenkian, said the rich wool and special Tibetan knotting techniques allowed Tufenkian to create bold, difficult designs, but it has also allowed subtle, sophisticated designs as well.

"James Tufenkian makes an effort to do things on the cutting edge of home design," Tashjian said. "There is now a need for non-assuming, quieter floor coverings. We can be very bold but also, by using a couple of colors and simpler designs we can take a more laid back approach."

The ancient and contemporary come together in the designs of Liora Manne for LaMontage of New York. The Israeli-born designer, who came to the United States as a teenager, created a new method of rug weaving using a felt needlepunching process. But her designs come from everywhere and show an appreciation for the past, especially the Mediterranean culture of her youth. She is best known for applying mosaic design to carpets.

"I always loved mosaics. They are great visually but also have cultural history and come from all around the world," Manne said. "Growing up in Israel, it was part of the culture. The blending of fibers is similar to working with stone. I create the colors of stone with fiber."

Manne calls rugs art works for the floor and takes her influences from a wide variety of sources including Art Nouveau, the Arts & Crafts Movement, William Morris, wrought iron designs and garden patterns. Manne started LaMontage in 1990 to create items for the home that combined classic design with a new informality and warmth.

"I love color and color combinations, that's what I love to play with," she said, showing the rich, subtle color variations in her designs. Manne, trained as a textile engineer, said she is developing a yarn dyed in 16 to 18 different shades.

"I love getting into the nitty-gritty," she said.

Modern, rather than ancient, influences are behind the Missoni carpet line. The Italian designers Ottavio and Rosita Missoni are famous for their fashions, especially their knits. Ten years ago they decided to branch out into rug designs.

"They are famous for their patchworks," said company representative Mark Karimzadeh. "There is a lot of geometric pattern to create an overall pattern."

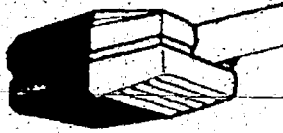
The line has grown to 60 designs using bold patterns and bright colors. Missoni's rugs are both hand-made and machine-made by Italian craftsmen.

"Their rugs are very fashion forward and contemporary in look with colors that Missoni uses in fashions," Karimzadeh said.

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Show features water wonder

BY MARTY FIGLEY
SPECIAL WRITER

When you visit the 78th annual International Builders Home, Flower and Furniture Show March 16-24 at the Cobo Conference-Exhibition Center in Detroit, you will be astonished to see what engineering know-how can accomplish!

Hours are 2-10 p.m. Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Admission is \$6 for adults, \$4 for youngsters ages 6-12 and seniors, free for children under 6. Family tickets for two adults and accompanying children are available at Farmer Jack for \$9. Discount admission coupons were mailed to homeowners in their Detroit Edison bills. Free admission coupons for ages 6-12 are available at McDonald's. Frank's is offering free admission coupons Monday, March 18. For information, call (810) 443-2200 and enter SHOW or call (810) 737-4478.

Cobo Hall will be transformed into a "water metropolis" when, according to Metropolitan Detroit Landscape Association president and CEO Larry Wright, "Three water cannons will shoot water into a pond beneath a large water fountain which looks like a white dandelion in full bloom. You should be able to see the water from anywhere in the hall."

Periodically the water will be syn-

chronized to music to create special effects.

Visitors will walk across bridges enabling them to go from one area to another as they enjoy the peaceful streams that will flow from a pond where the cannon have been placed. Disney World has nothing on MDLA members and their ingenuity!

"Water gardens are becoming a main fixture in landscapes; they are easier to build with the new materials available today."

Hardened preshaped plastic liners and flexible rubber liners often replace the necessity of concrete forms. Stone, shale and weathered rock add a "realness" to these water gardens. Art pieces and accent lighting are readily available and add that certain personal touch to water gardens. Some of the products on display such as brick pavers, wall stones and retaining walls have been tumbled in a drum to give them an Old World look.

The surrounding gardens, which encircle this special mammoth water feature, will encompass more than 1-1/2 acres of space. Most of them will have water features, from quiet ponds to cascading waterfalls. Many landscapes will be constructed to show visitors the thousands of colorful flowering plants, and the many trees and shrubs that enhance any garden. The gardens are sponsored by Detroit Edison and Tony

V's Sunrooms and Spas.

"New landscape materials such as different woods and the latest in how to treat and paint them, allows us to showcase these products. Homeowners can see the actual products; even landscapers get ideas at this show."

It takes a lot of "stuff" to create the diversified gardens at this International Builders extravaganza. Fifty double-bottom gravel trains full of sand (2,000 cubic yards) and 80,000 gallons of water are used in 51,000 square feet of gardens, built by more than 500 people. And remember, after the show, everything has to be dismantled and removed from the large building.

Wright designs the garden floor plans and coordinates the construction of the major features and the purchase of plant material, which requires timing so the multitude of flowers are at their peak bloom period during the nine-day show.

On the last day of the show, Sunday, March 24, plants from the gardens will be sold 4 p.m. This year the balance will be recycled to help beautify the empowerment zone of Detroit. Also, MDLA has joined forces with Focus:HOPE, the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan, Rotary District 6400 and the Detroit Rotary Club to build a community park and playground at Glazer Elementary School in Detroit.

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APPLIANCE DOCTOR

Appliance Repair Act
needs your supportJOE
GAGNON

In past columns I have mentioned state Rep. Lyn Banks of Livonia and her involvement in the appliance repair industry. She has drafted a bill in Lansing which deals with ethics in the repair industry and should help consumers tremendously to recog-

nize if they are being ripped off or not.

To get this bill passed into law possibly before the summer break by legislators will take some quick action. I know it takes time and effort to write a short note to your state legislator, but I'm begging you to do this for me and yourself and others. Drop a note or phone call to your district representative and ask that person to inquire and co-sponsor Rep. Banks' legislation. If you and I can get enough of them to stand beside Ms. Banks on this issue, it will fly through without stopping at Go.

This bill will require that a service technician writes on an invoice exactly what they are doing to your product. They will have to list a breakdown of exact charges pertaining to their service call and hourly labor rates. They will list the part number used and cost of the part to the customer. The consumer upon reading the invoice will be quick to recognize whether they are being taken to the cleaners or not.

As it stands now, the service industry is not required to write anything on their invoice except the fact that they repaired the product. Under the existing methods, many consumers are charged exorbitant prices for repairing their major home appliances.

Other states are way ahead of us with these kinds of laws already implemented. For many years I've been helping consumers get their monies returned to them through small claim courts. It is time that we all band together to fight against the unethical people who are in the service industry. Before I leave this earth, I have to make this happen and I can not do it alone. I urge you please, to contact your state representative and ask them to co-sponsor the Appliance Repair Act sponsored by Lyn Banks.

I would like to thank the many thousands of people who introduced themselves at the recent Home and Garden show at the Pontiac Silverdome. It certainly was a warm feeling to answer your questions and have you comment that you read my column. The most often asked question by the visitors was pertaining to the loud noise level of their new refrigerator. The only honest answer is that they are noisier than yesterday. It is known as the nature of the beast and there is not much we can do about it. Until the manufacturers in

■ To get this bill passed into law possibly before the summer break by legislators will take some quick action.

this country listen to our needs, there will not be much change in the noise levels.

Bulletin Board Information — General Electric is making a special offering to anyone experiencing a defrost heater failure on GE, Hotpoint, RCA, and Profile Side by Side refrigerators manufactured between August 1993 and December 1994.

If one of these products experiences a defrost heater failure in years two or three, the consumer receives a defrost heater replacement at no charge. If this happens to your refrigerator, call GE at 1-800-GE-CARES and give them the model and serial numbers.

A few weeks ago I interviewed the director of the U.S. Office of Consumer Affairs in Washington, D.C. During this interview we discussed the 125page book called Consumer's Resource Handbook. This book should be in the hands of every American consumer because it is filled with information that everybody needs. It has information about almost every aspect of consumerism there is out there. It has names and agencies across the country that people need to contact. During the five working days following my interview with the director, they received 800 to 900 phone calls per day requesting this free book. This agency was installed by President Kennedy and throughout the years has lent much assistance to consumers. Congress wants to dissolve this group, so I ask you contact your congressman and suggest to him or her that you would like to keep it in existence. If you have doubts about my request, then call the toll free number 1-800-664-4435 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on weekdays and ask them to send you the free book called Consumer's Resource Handbook. Every call to the White House switchboard is monitored, so tell them you read about it in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Joe Gagnon, the Appliance Doctor, will answer your questions about maintaining and repairing large appliances. Gagnon is president of Carmack Appliances in Garden City and does a weekly radio program WJR-AM. He is author of "First Aid from the Appliance Doctor," available at area bookstores.

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You have the plot of land and the packets of seeds, but do you have the right tools? A new, one-day course at Schoolcraft College in Livonia will help you become the best equipped gardener in the neighborhood.

"Garden Tool Selection, Use and Care" will help you pick, use and maintain your tools. Topics include the history of tools, sharpening techniques and

safety methods to use when handling tools. The class will take place 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 16.

To register or for more information, call the college's Continuing Education Services office at (313) 462-4448. Schoolcraft College is at 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile, just west of I-275.

Seminar explores 'Backyard Habitats'

How can you tell when a skunk is about to spray? What should you do to aid an injured bird or animal? How can you remove a critter from your yard without injury to it or yourself?

These and many other questions will be answered at the "Backyard Habitats" seminar 10-11 a.m. Saturday, March 16, at Gardenviews, 202 W. Main, Northville. Call (810) 380-8881.

GARDEN SPOT

Florist's shamrocks need light, moisture



MARTY FIGLEY

St. Patrick's Day is almost here, and you may receive a shamrock, *Medicago lupulina*, an annual, which is also called hop clover and the one florists carry. The European wood sorrel, *Oxalis Acetosella*, is also called the Irish Shamrock. The identity of the original shamrock

that St. Patrick used to illustrate the Trinity — three separate things could be at the same time one — is uncertain.

The word "shamrock" comes from "seamrog," which means "three-leaved." These plants are in the oxalis family (the Greek, *oxys*), which means acid or sour. Our garden weed, *oxalis stricta*, is a member of this species, of which there are more than 800. They are members of the clover family.

Oxalis were grown as houseplants in this country as early as 1832. The blossoms are delicate looking but the leaves are the important feature here.

Our shamrocks from the florist will need the same care as they did then. An area with lots of bright indirect light to prolong the delicate blossoms and moist but not saturated soil. Allow the soil to dry out between waterings and fertilize about every three weeks with an all-purpose houseplant fertilizer, according to package directions.

After the blooming period is over, these plants, which grow from a bulb, will need a rest. Withhold water at this time and store the pot in a dry, out-of-the-way place where the foliage can die down unobtrusively. In a few months bring them back into the light and they will repeat their cycle.

After the second year, the plants can be divided and shared with a friend. Simply remove the bulbs from the pot and carefully separate them. Plant them in a slightly acid soil — a mixture of one part sand and one part commercial potting soil is ideal. In a six-inch pot, place six to nine bulbs if they are small, no more than three if they are large. Water the soil well and place in bright indirect light.

Spring boost

It may not be too late to force some branches of shrubs such as forsythia, pussy willow, horse chestnut or winter honeysuckle for indoor enjoyment. Perhaps you have a Cornelian cherry dogwood or a Japanese quince that could be forced for a special "spring boost."

The technique for forcing branches is the same for all. Choose branches with many buds and cut them when they are full of moisture with a sharp pruner. A hand-held pruner with a hook and blade action is the best.

You may mash the ends if you want, but the latest reports say that isn't necessary. A few slits up from the bottom



MARTY FIGLEY

'Tis tradition: Shamrocks are a traditional St. Patrick's Day plant.

of the stem wouldn't hurt. Simply place the branches in a container of lukewarm water and set them in a room with temperatures between 50 and 70 degrees. Every day or so mist the branches with warm water and refill the jar with warm water.

It will take about two weeks for the buds to begin to open. At that time transfer them to a favorite vase and enjoy.

Increasing

We have talked about increasing the supply of shamrocks. If the time has gone by and you have other houseplants that need dividing, why not do it today? Wet the soil well before knocking the plant out of the pot — a piece of cardboard slipped around the base of the plant at the soil line can help eliminate broken stems and roots. Carefully separate the roots by hand and make sure each division has some established roots.

Repot the divisions in a pot that is just a little wider than the plant. Use a good potting soil and take care not to damage the roots. Tap the pot as you fill it to remove air pockets before setting the plant in place. Water gently. A little extra water may be necessary for a week or so. Place the pots in an area that doesn't have real bright light for a few days.

Plants that send up shoots from the base such as aloes, primroses, ferns, violets and bromeliads are good candidates.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (313) 963-2017 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1859. Her fax number is (810) 644-1314.

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Show offers 'Art in Bloom'

The seventh annual Ann Arbor Flower and Garden Show, sponsored by the University of Michigan's Matthaei Botanical Garden, will be held March 28-31 at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds on Ann Arbor-Saline Road in Ann Arbor.

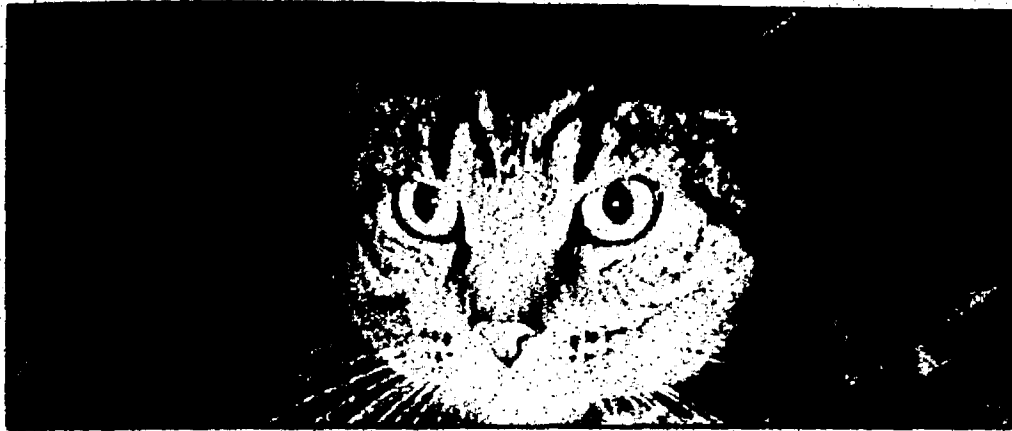
This year's theme is "Art in Bloom" showing how artists have been influenced by horticulture. The centerpiece will be a recreation of Monet's garden at Giverny, France.

Show hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

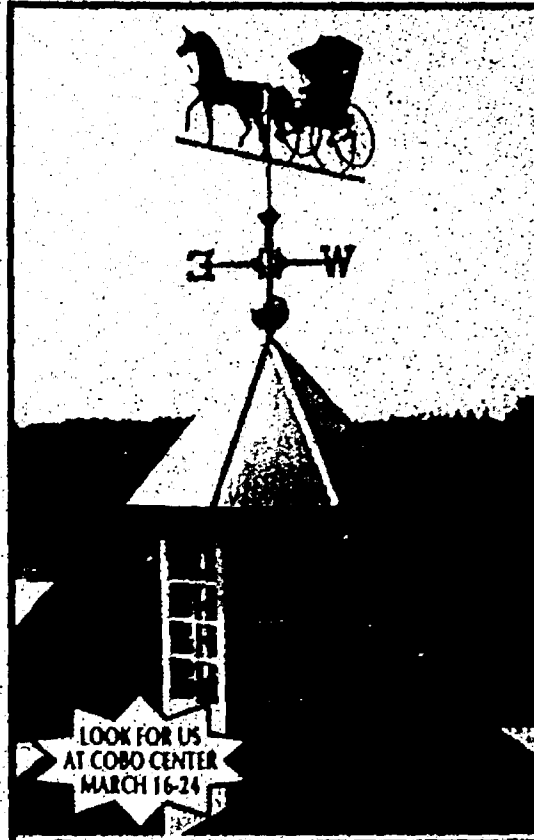
Thursday-Saturday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Advance adult tickets are \$8. Senior citizens will receive a \$1 discount off tickets purchased at the door Thursday and Friday. Tickets sold at the door will be \$9 adults, \$3 children 4-12 years old, and free to children under 3. Tickets are available at all Kroger's and the Botanical Center.

An opening night gala will be held Wednesday, March 27, 7:30-10 p.m. Advance tickets are \$50, at the door \$60.

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Sugar: This 4-year-old male-neutered tiger cat is litter-trained and good with children and other pets. He has his front paws declawed. He is a little shy at first, but is very affectionate when you spend some time with him. Sugar (No. 1303) and other pets are available at the Michigan Humane Society Westland shelter. Call (313) 721-7300 between noon and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.



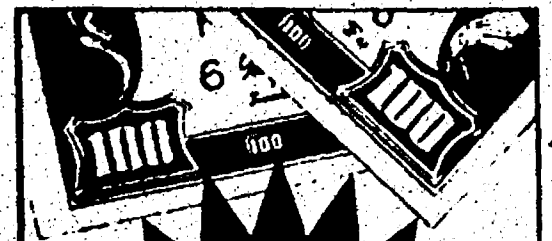
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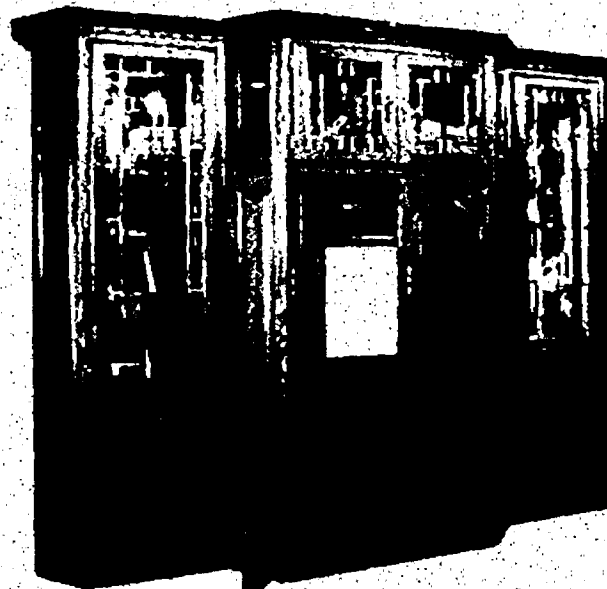
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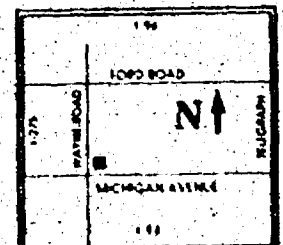
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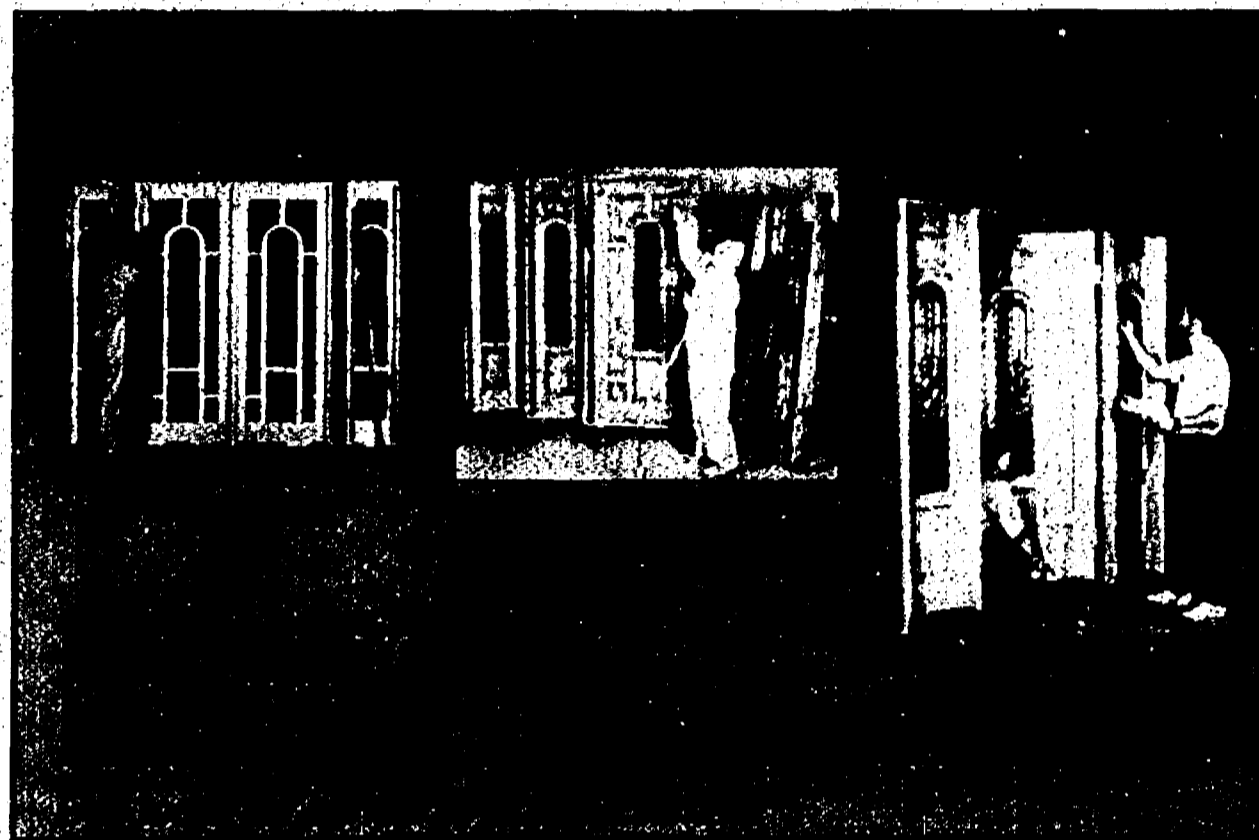
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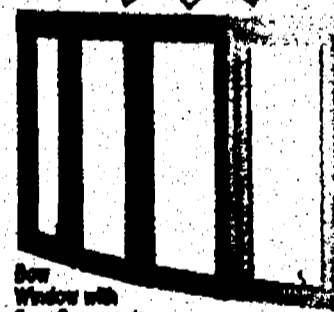
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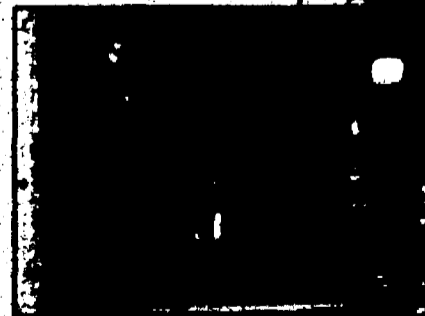
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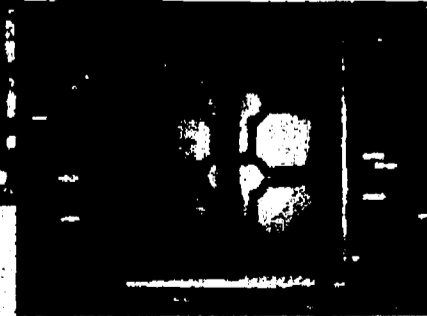
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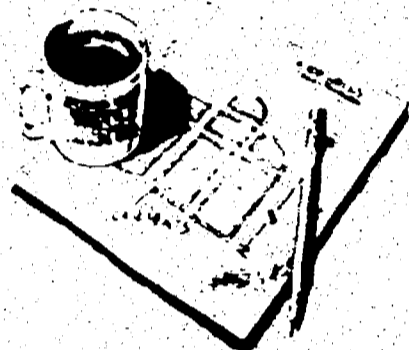
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Facts About Builders Show

Event: INTERNATIONAL BUILDERS HOME, FLOWER AND FURNITURE SHOW.

seventy-eighth annual show featuring products and services for home and garden presented by the non-profit Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA)

Location

& Date: March 16-24, 1996, Cobo Conference-Exhibition Center, Detroit, Michigan

Hours:

Monday - Friday 2:00pm - 10:00pm
Saturdays 11:00am - 10:00pm
Sundays 11:00am - 6:00pm

Admission:

Adults - \$6; Seniors and Children 6-12 - \$4; Children under 6 admitted free; Family tickets for two adults and accompanying children at Farmer Jack - \$9; Free admission coupon for children 6-12 at McDonald's

Features: This year's show includes almost 400 exhibitors in 500,000 square feet of exhibit space. Exhibits include products and services for kitchens, baths, doors, windows, yards/gardens, remodeling, financing, arts & crafts, decorative accessories, furniture, appliances, heating and cooling.

Featured attractions of the show include:

- Synchronized water cannons shooting water 75 feet overhead into a 50-foot diameter pond, encircled by over an acre-and-a-half of spectacular gardens, featuring a fountain shaped like a dandelion in full bloom. Gardens are created by the Metropolitan Detroit Landscape Association and sponsored by Detroit Edison and Tony-V's Sunrooms & Spas
- National Kitchen & Bath Association Jim Kregel's seminars on trends and creativity on a budget for

kitchens and baths at the Michigan Kitchen & Bath Show sponsored by The Detroit News and Free Press Classifieds

- "The Ultimate Laundry Room" from Better Homes and Gardens and Whirlpool
- "Wall Wizard" Brian Santos secrets of wallpapering, painting and faux finishes
- Sculpting brick, carving limestone, spreading mortar and laying brick sponsored by The Masonry Institute of Michigan
- Cooking specialists Mad Dog and Merrill displaying outdoor grilling techniques on March 18-24 sponsored by MichCon Gas
- Demonstrations and over 100 cut flower arrangements from Professional Allied Florists Association members
- Home Buyers Clinic seminars on financing, electrical power safety tips and remodeling sponsored by Observer & Eccentric
- Parade of Notable Homes featuring a pictorial display of new homes and free plan book sponsored by BIA, Standard Federal Bank and The Detroit News and Free Press Classifieds
- WXYT's Ask the Handyman Glenn Haeger on March 16-17 & 23-24
- House of Nails and Treasure Chest contests

24-Hour Public

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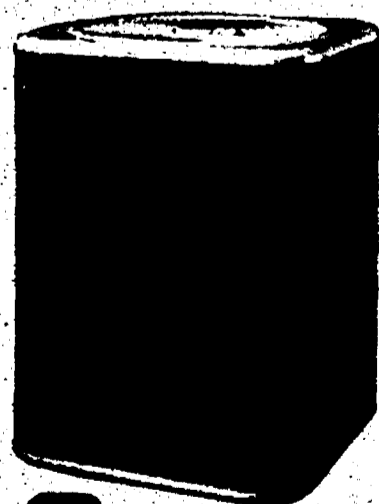
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'Our House' Host to Make Detroit Edison Exhibit Appearance



Tom Tynan, a hands-on home improvement expert and co-host of the television series 'Our House,' will share energy-saving tips at Detroit Edison's exhibit at the International Builders

Home, Flower and Furniture Show. Tynan will be at Detroit Edison's exhibit from 4 to 9 p.m. March 21 and from 2:30 to 6 p.m. March 22 during the 78th annual show, which runs from March 16-24 at Cobo Center.

'Our House,' a home energy-efficiency show, is brought to your house by Detroit Edison at 7 a.m. Sundays on WDIV-TV 4. Tynan and his co-host, Paula Engel, discuss and demonstrate a variety of simple home improvement projects that can help viewers reduce their energy costs.

Detroit Edison's Builders Show exhibit also will feature the utility's vision of tomorrow, including a demonstration of a geothermal heating and cooling system, a prototype of a charging station with an electric vehicle and a home automation system

that allows you to control a variety of home appliances and electronics.

Other highlights of Detroit Edison's exhibit include:

- A demonstration of a home automation system that provides home security features with comfort and convenience.
- A solar energy display based on Detroit Edison's SolarCurrents program, which allows customers to receive a portion of their energy needs from the sun.
- A customer connections demonstration, featuring pre-construction meter mounts, which eliminate the need for temporary service during new construction and allows the immediate installation of permanent electric service.
- Dramatic presentations by Detroit Edison safety experts to teach people about the possible hazards associated with both direct and indirect contact with power lines.

The Builders Show hours are 2 to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays. Discount coupons good for \$1 off of Monday through Friday admissions are being mailed with Detroit Edison bills. The coupons also are available at Detroit Edison customer offices.

Family photos, collectibles make rooms special

By Elizabeth Schelbner
Copley News Service

The way you decorate your home is an outward expression of who you are and what's important to you. That doesn't mean that if you have a less than tidy house, you're a messy person, but it does give the world a partial glimpse into your psyche.

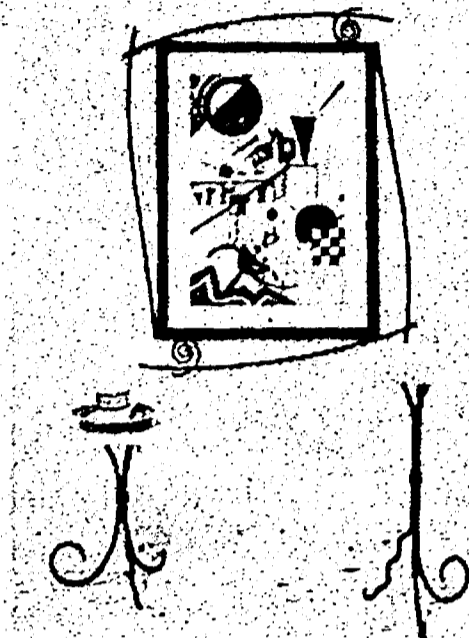
Decorating has a lot more to do with individual style than financial status. You don't need a lot of money or expensive taste to create a home you'll feel comfortable in and be proud of. In fact, some of the most charming and attractive homes are those that reflect the unique tastes and pleasures of the owners while evoking a tranquil, lived-in quality.

THE GREAT FRAME-UP

Whether it's original artwork or framed posters, nearly everyone has prints that are worth displaying. Like any other decorative element, paintings can fundamentally change the look of a room.

It's no secret that a large painting on a wall will attract attention while a group of misaligned prints will look jarring. Try to determine beforehand what look you want to achieve. Although there is nothing wrong with an eclectic grouping, you may want to keep similar pictures together.

Before hanging any picture, have someone hold it up so you can see how it will look on the wall. Try a variety of positions before settling on one. For added interest, you may want to prop pictures up on a shelf or table rather



than hanging them from a wall. Frames are more important than most of us realize. Too often we stick a cherished photograph in whatever frame we have lying around.

Decorators say it's important to match the style of frame to what it displays. An antique photograph of your great-grandparents in a modern brass frame, for example, would probably look out of place.

Options for framing pictures run the gamut, from basic unfinished wood frames to 19th-century French gilded frames. If you're looking for frames with character, your best bet is to shop at flea markets, garage sales or antique stores.

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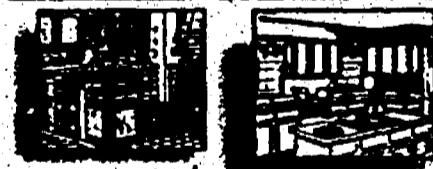
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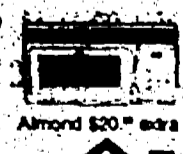
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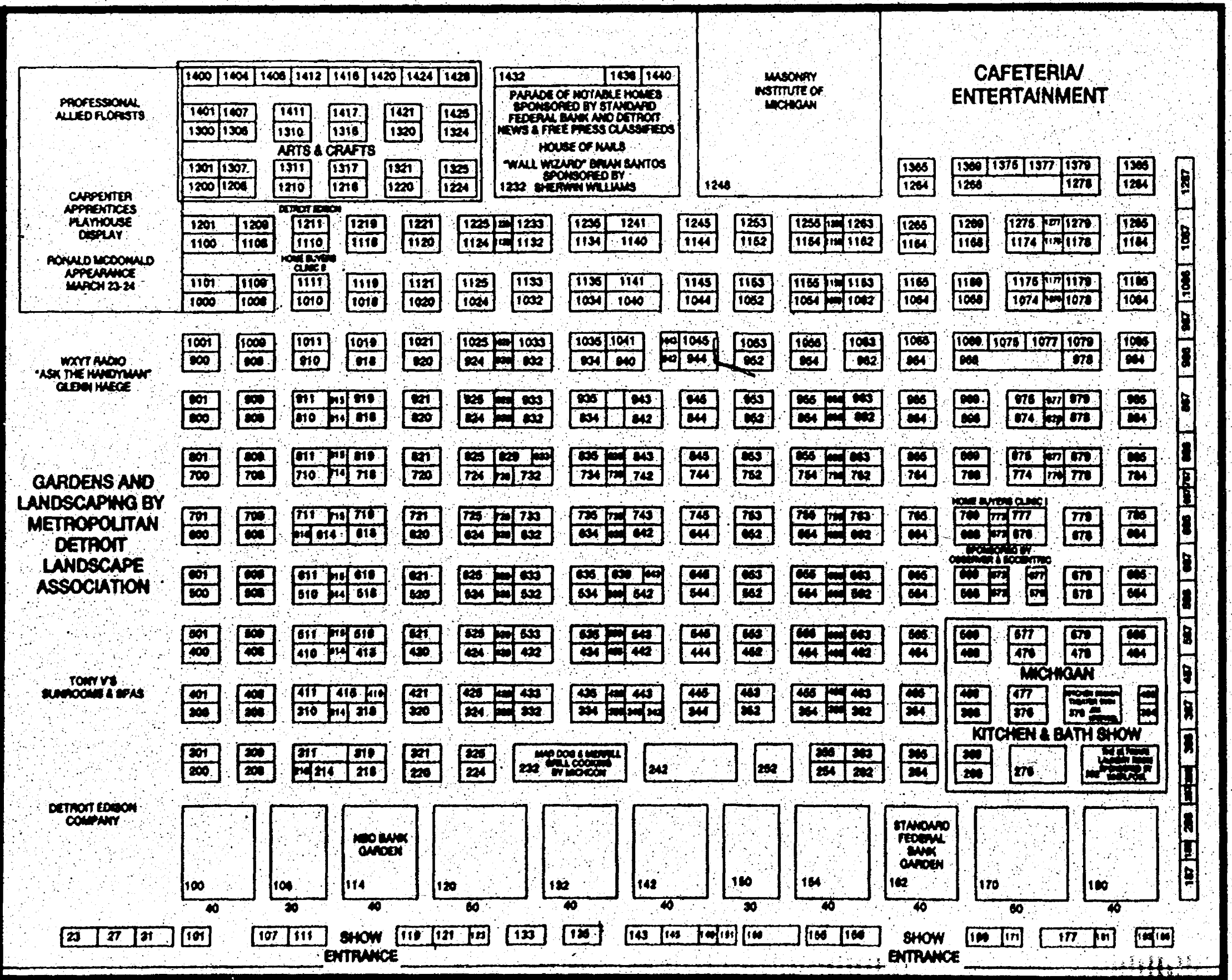


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INTERNATIONAL BUILDERS HOME FLOWER FURNITURE SHOW

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ANN ARBOR FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

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March 28-31

Times: Sat 9-5, Sun 9-5

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Design Ideas for home's most functional room

By Nicola B. Godfrey
Copley News Service

By square footage it's the most expensive room in the house to design or remodel. But, as designer Ellen Cheever so succinctly puts it: "Based on use and function, it's one of the most important rooms to invest in because it's where you start and finish the day doing very specific activities."

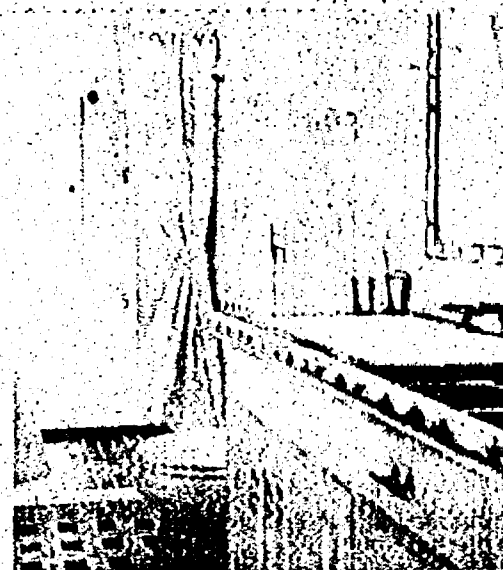
We're talking, of course, about the bathroom. You can't live without one, and many people, it seems, have a hard time living with the one they have, typically because in most older homes' bathrooms are small, confining and not very comfortable or functional.

Cheever, a certified bath and kitchen designer and author of "Kitchen & Bath Showcase" (Vitae Publishing Inc.), says it's important to begin bathroom design by determining who uses the bathroom first in the family, when they use it and, beyond the obvious, what they do in there.

"There are three broad types of baths," Cheever explains, "and from a design standpoint, you approach each very differently."

First there's what she calls "the proverbial powder room." This is usually either the bathroom on the first floor or a guest bath typically not used on a daily basis by family members.

"The sky's the limit in this bathroom as far as graciousness and exciting, unique use of products. You might use a pedestal lavatory with a wonderful glass shelf above it because you don't have everyday grooming going on. Or you may consider a clear-glass shower or tub



enclosure. They take more to maintain, but in a guest bath it makes the room look prettier and bigger and allows you to see the beautiful marble or decorative tile in the shower," Cheever says.

Then there's the hall bath serving the majority of bedrooms. Typically, it's the bathroom used mostly by children. For this hard-working bath, Cheever suggests a functional stall shower instead of a tub, so you can gain an extra foot to maximize storage and shelf space, allowing each family member using this bathroom to have his or her own drawer or shelf.

Last, there's the bathroom that usually gets the most attention design-wise: the master suite, which is not always as large as its grandiose name suggests. To help make the master suite larger, Cheever says consider having just one vanity in the bathroom and adding plumbing for a second sink in the bedroom.

The space gained may allow for more luxury, such as a whirlpool or two-person tub. If you do have two sinks, consider placing them back-to-back.

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COBO CENTER • MARCH 16-24

Radio Handyman to Broadcast Live from Builders Show

March 16, 1996 — NewsTalk Radio AM-1270 WXYT will broadcast the "Ask the Handyman" show featuring Master Handyman Glenn Haege LIVE from the 78th annual International Builders Home, Flower and Furniture Show at the Cobo Conference-Exhibition Center on Saturdays and Sundays, March 16-17 and 23-24 until noon.

Glenn Haege has an extensive back-

ground in the do-it-yourself industry. His career includes ten years with a national paint manufacturer and 13 years with the largest independent hardware chain in the country. As he's done for the past twelve years, Glenn continues to invite industry experts to be guests on his radio show and answers home improvement questions from callers.

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STEPHANIE CULP

Expert offers tips to conquer clutter

By Priscilla Lister
Copley News Service

Are piles of paper taking over your home? When you enter your closet, do you find yourself on a warlike mission that seems impossible to win? Do you fear windowed cabinets in your kitchen would reveal the disorganization in your world?

You can conquer clutter, and Stephanie Culp can help you. The Copley News Service columnist and author of eight books, including "How to Conquer Clutter," "Streamlining Your Life" and "Conquering the Paper Pile-Up" (all published by Writer's Digest Books), "You Can Find More Time For Yourself Every Day" and, her most recent, "Stephanie Culp's 12-Month Organizer and Project Planner" (both published by Better Way Books), says clutter comes down to the fact that "we just have too much stuff."

"In general terms, I advocate the in and out inventory rule," says the Wisconsin resident. "If something new comes in, something old goes out."

Culp got her start in the business of organizing other people's homes and offices after she'd helped friends at night and on weekends while she was vice president of an importing firm for Chinese antiques.

"People knew I was organized, and finally I decided to turn this into a business," she said. "I've been quite successful, and now I'm a consultant and travel nationally to work on business projects as well as large home projects."

To organize incoming paper — that stuff that just seems to combust spontaneously year after year — Culp suggests that you set up four baskets, labeling them "To Do," "To Pay," "To File" and "To Read."

"Throw the rest away," she asserts. She prefers wire baskets for this task, "The bigger and deeper, the better; small plastic ones never work because papers fill up in there too fast."

Place these organizing paper baskets where you need them: in your home office or bedroom or kitchen, wherever that paper comes in for handling.

"The 'To File' basket can be on the floor somewhere, under your desk — it doesn't have to be up on top of something because that's just stuff that's going to storage," she adds.

How about those piles of magazines many of us accumulate?

"Review subscriptions you have and let some go — this is a revolutionary thought," says Culp. "And then instead of hanging onto them because there's something in there you have to read, keep scissors and stapler in a basket, clip articles and staple them, and throw the rest away."

As for closets that have gotten away from you, "as a new year's thing, break down the task into manageable segments," advises Culp.

"Don't try to do all your closets in one day. Do one closet a day, and while you're working on that project, don't allow yourself to be distracted by other things, such as phone calls, visitors,



snacks. You really need to eliminate things you don't need or don't use. Mementos are good, but mementos need to be selections, not entire archives worthy of warehouse space."

When you weed out your clothes closet, keep only clothes that you regularly wear, "period." "You might install a new closet system, which can sometimes even double closet space," adds Culp. "Especially in older homes and apartments where closet space is really not used well at all, systems make a big difference."

Two top franchisers of closet systems are the California Closet Co., based in San Francisco, with 114 locations nationwide, and The Closet Factory, based in Los Angeles, with 30 locations nationwide. Both firms have branched out from offering organizing closet systems to organizing home offices, garages, basements, pantries and other areas of living space.

Firms like these can take your closet from a mess of a single rod and shelf to a built-in organization of double rods, shelves and drawers that literally maximize the unused space your closet could provide. The cost for these closet systems ranges from \$300 to \$40,000.

Culp also suggests that when you tackle your own closet, bring along a friend.

"A closet with 14 items in it that mix and match that you absolutely love and look great in is a lot better than 40 items you're always digging through and yet you never feel just right when getting dressed. When you're going through your closet, have a friend who can tell you to rid yourself of something that looks horrible on you. They'll probably take half the stuff with them, and that's always a plus — saves you a trip to charity," she adds.

In your kitchen, likewise, "the biggest secret is to get rid of stuff you never use," says Culp. "Almost everyone has fancy dishes or cookware they never use or duplicates like three lemon peelers, and the last time they peeled lemons was 1952."

As for bathroom clutter, get rid of expired medicines first, says Culp.

"If you have 12 containers of eye shadow, get rid of 10. Old makeup gathers bacteria and is really not good for you, and people usually keep tons of it. Also put shelves in the bathroom, over the toilet or over the towel rack where you can keep additional bubble bath or washcloths — they can be attractive extra storage."

NEIGHBOR RELATIONS

Noise is root of many problems

By Priscilla Lister
Copley News Service

"Every American has neighbor problems. Neighbor wars affect the famous as well as regular folk. If not today, then yesterday, and almost certainly tomorrow."

So writes Bill Adler Jr. in his book, "Outwitting the Neighbors:

A Practical and Entertaining Guide to Achieving Peaceful Coexistence With the People Next Door" (Fireside/Simon & Schuster).

Whether you have complaints about bushes, noise, kids or dogs coming from that place next door, there are ways to resolve these issues without taking your neighbor to court.

Before we consider specific strategies, listen to some very sound advice from an unidentified, wise woman in the Midwest who spoke with Adler for his book: "Get along with your neighbors at all costs. Find out what they are like and be flexible. It's the only solution. ... If you can ignore the problem with your neighbor, do so."

"The problem will eventually disappear — teenagers eventually grow up; dogs die. ... For kids who trample my bushes, a little manure helps, and for the barking dogs, earplugs do the trick. What can you win, except stress, anger and frustration? Nothing. Just get along. Calm down. Life's too short."

NOISY, BAD KIDS

Whether it's that toddler in the upstairs apartment who screams constantly, or the teen-age juvenile delinquent who won't stop riding his bike through your rose beds, use your head before you strike.

"Confrontation is tough, because parents are defensive about their kids," says Adler. "Try sleeping in another room. Get a white-noise machine. Try some environmental sound tapes. Test out earplugs."

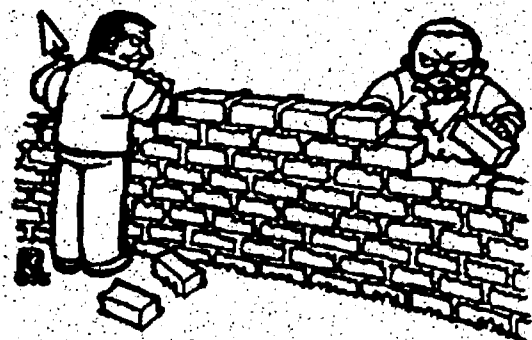
Other soundproofing techniques that might really make a difference in your life are installing acoustical tile on your ceiling or even offering splitting the cost of carpeting in the apartment overhead with the hardwood floors. Get some sound-absorbing drapes for windows.

As far as those trespassing issues, Adler gets a little creative.

"We had a problem with neighborhood kids cutting through the corner of our back yard. We spoke to the parents without success. They usually cut through after dark. So I started piling all the dog droppings at the corner they went through. After a week, they never did it again," says one neighbor.

Adler himself suggests if you don't have that dog poop on hand, put on your bathrobe and go outside to ask those kids nicely to play elsewhere "because you're sick with the black plague. Cough a lot and tell them how three people at your office have died from it. They'll scatter."

Don't be too hard on kids, though, or you'll create persistent monsters —



those kids who will perform masterful tricks to "get even" with you. "Choose your battles carefully. One adult cannot rule the neighborhood, and without parental support, you have to be pretty clever."

NOISY NEIGHBORS

Whether it's a howling dog or the party that never quits, noise can be truly intrusive.

"Of all the complaints people have about their neighbors, noise ranks at the top," says Adler.

Don't forget those white-noise machines and earplugs and acoustical tiles. If the noise is only occasional, try simply asking your neighbor to be quieter.

You can also get help for serious noise problems from local police — check to see if your neighborhood is governed by noise regulations, which most are.

When all else fails, you might "amass defensive noise to use against your enemies when there's no hope of a solution."

One couple was so distressed over the rock music blaring from their neighbors into the wee hours of the morning, the next morning at 6 they played a record that contained a full 15 minutes of U.S. Marine recruiting ads plus some John Phillip Sousa marches and the national anthem — at full blast and on repeat mode.

"From then on, anytime they started making a racket at night, all I had to do was stand under the skylight and holler, 'Join the Marines, fellas,' and they'd quiet right down."

Use your head and your heart, consider ways you can minimize your own response to any neighborly problem, try to have reasonable conversations first, try to compromise and just try to get along.

If all else fails, there are other, formal ways of forging agreement still short of going to court.

Neighborhood mediation services are increasingly available throughout North America. Your local bar association is usually one of the first places to seek it. Or check your yellow pages under "Mediation." Many centers are staffed by volunteers and often perform free mediation services — exacting compromise from neighbors willing to meet with each other and a mediator.

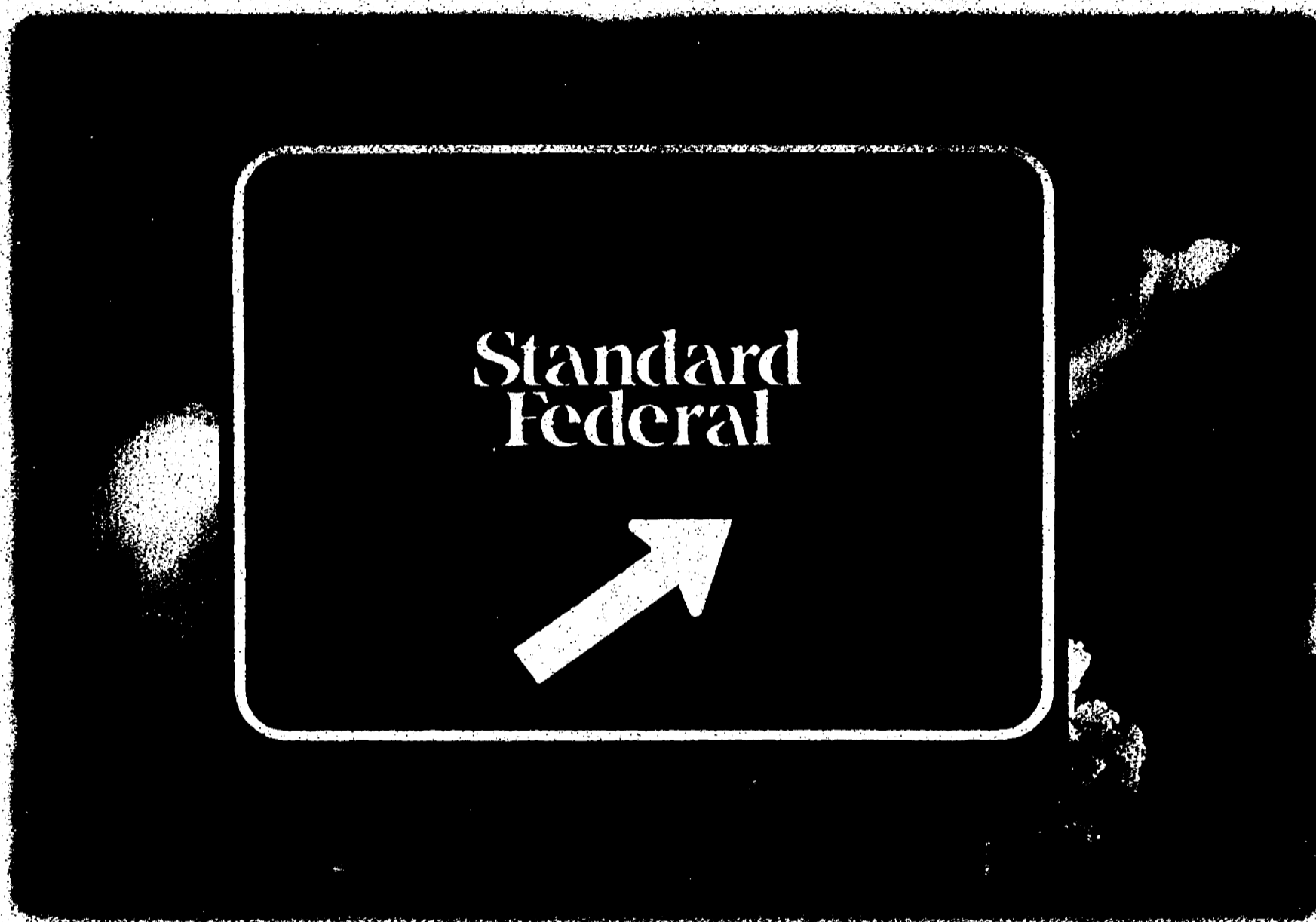
The American Bar Association's Section of Dispute Resolution, 740 15th St. NW, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 662-1680; has a directory of such programs, but check with your local bar first.

Other mediation services may not be free but will be substantially cheaper than legal fees in taking your case to court.

Other resources include:

The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, 2100 K St., NW, Washington, DC 20037; (202) 606-5445.

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This column highlights promotions, transfers, hirings, awards won and other key personnel moves within the suburban real estate community. Send a brief biographical summary — including the towns of residence and employment and a black-and-white photo, if desired — to: Movers & Shakers, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Our fax number is (313) 591-7279.

Granzow certified



Maud Granzow, a Realtor with the Prudential Great Lakes Realty in Bloomfield Hills, has earned the designation Graduate Realtors Institute.

Granzow, a real estate professional for six years, is a member of the Women's Council of Realtors.

She has achieved certification from Prudential Relocation Management as a home marketing specialist and home finding specialist.

LaMont appointed



Catharine B. LaMont has been appointed director of Commercial Advantage, a new division created by First American Title Insurance Co. with offices in Troy.

Commercial Advantage will exclusively serve the title insurance and settlement needs of Michigan attorneys, commercial developers and builders and other professionals specializing in commercial/industrial real estate.

Eisenshtadt certified



Carol Eisenshtadt, a Realtor with Max Brook in West Bloomfield, has received the Graduate Realtors Institute designation.

Eisenshtadt, a West Bloomfield resident, specializes in relocation, home marketing and finding houses for buyers throughout the metro area.

Stauffer certified

Grace Stauffer, an associate with Chamberlain Realtors in Birmingham, has received the professional designation of Certified Buyer Representative.



REAL ESTATE

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1998 • PAGE 1 SECTION E



Jim Jaccella/Staff Photographer

Getting started: Houses purchased by first-time buyers, while functional and pleasing, generally aren't as large or have as many amenities as move-up houses.

Professionals help first-time buyers

By **DOUG FUNKE**
STAFF WRITER

Most of us will own a house or condominium at some point in our lives.

We hear it's one of the best investments we can make with annual appreciation in value and tax deductions for mortgage interest and property taxes.

We marry and come to believe that a neighborhood with houses is a better environment than an apartment complex to raise children.

For whatever reason, the time comes for neophytes to spread their wings and take flight toward what can be a most daunting task — buying that first house.

Prospects can scout open houses on their own to get a feel of what's out there and how far their money will go.

Or, if time or knowledge are issues, buyers can consult professionals. Realtors have computers that can help focus the process immediately.

"Many times, we're able to point things out they haven't thought of," said David Castelli, a Realtor with Century 21 Castelli in Garden City. "A Realtor can help them choose a house to fit their lifestyle and future plans."

Many Realtors consider open houses a waste of time.

"I think it's more efficient to sit

'We're in a real wild seller's market now. Pre-qualifying will save time looking. If you aren't pre-qualified and another offer comes in, guess who has the edge.'

down and think about what's important," said Cicely Brookover, a Realtor with Weir, Manuel, Snyder & Ranke in Birmingham. "A Realtor can at least start putting things on the computer and narrow the search."

A good Realtor also will make sure that the financial houses of prospective buyers are in order before they start their search for brick and mortar.

"I tell them to talk to a mortgage banker," said Sally Flynn, a Realtor with Max Brook in Bloomfield Hills. "I have them go there and get pre-qualified. Then get pre-approved."

"We're in a real wild seller's market now," Flynn added. "Pre-qualifying will save time looking. If you aren't pre-qualified and another offer comes in, guess who has the edge."

A general rule of thumb among lenders is the mortgage payment, including property taxes and homeowners insurance, can't exceed 28 percent of gross income. The figure including all debt is 36 percent.

"If for some reason they're not at a point where they can afford a house,

the mortgage person can point out which bills to pay off and where they can be saving," Brookover said.

First-time buyers early in the process tend to think they can have it all, agents say.

An initial list of essentials might include formal dining room, four bedrooms, two full baths, fireplace, air conditioning and two-car garage.

After shopping around, they learn to settle for less. A Florida room may replace the formal dining room. They may end up with a fireplace or air, but not both. Four bedrooms could shrink to three.

"They come in with some set ideas," Brookover said. "They often are refined. My job is to open possibilities. Nobody gets exactly what they want."

At least among most first-time buyers.

"Hope is the last thing to go," said Mike Baker, a Realtor with Re/Max Crossroads in Canton. "They hope to get a little more for the money than a friend did or a relative did."

First-time buyers generally need

more hand-holding from agents, but that's changing, Baker maintains.

"They're getting it in different ways now," he said. "We have home warranties (an insurance policy sellers are providing if something goes wrong that first year). They want attorneys to look over papers."

Disclosure forms required of sellers should offer a layer of protection.

Several recent first-time buyers offer a variety of thoughts about the experience.

"Basically, I found if you see a house you really like, you better make an offer right then," said Judy Potts, who bought in Westland.

"I think everyone should have a pre-approved mortgage just because of the aggravation, upset and time it (the application process) takes," she added.

Working with a Realtor makes a difference, said Mike Michalski, who bought in Livonia.

"No way would I have found this house by myself, and I probably would have paid more money, too," he said.

"If you're real specific, they (Realtors) can get you what you want," said Beth Wolff, who bought in Garden City. "Know what you want when you start looking."

"Save as much as you possibly can," Ron Wolff said. "Unexpected expenses do come up."

Sally Flynn

Time counts when honoring landscape contract

REAL ESTATE QUESTIONS



ROBERT M. MEISNER

Q. There is a clause in our landscape contract that was put in by a board member to the effect that time is of the essence in regard to the landscaping contract. Can you explain to me what that is?

A. Time is of the essence is a term that is utilized in contracts to emphasize the fact that timely performance of the obligations under the contract is important and a material consideration in regard to the performance of the contract.

Simply put, if due dates and/or other time periods are not adhered to, that may be a basis to establish a substantial breach of the contract. Each potential breach must be examined on its facts as to whether or not it constitutes a materi-

al breach of the contract.

Generally, time conditions in a contract where "time is of the essence" is one of the terms that will give the non-defaulting party a basis to terminate the contract and seek damages and/or other relief.

Q. I have heard of the term "acquiescence" in real property disputes, particularly with respect to easements. Can you tell me what the courts generally consider to be the law of acquiescence?

A. The law of acquiescence is concerned with a specific application of the statute of limitations to cases of adjoining property owners who are mistaken about their property lines.

Often property owners, for example, treat a fence as the property line. If the boundary lines, not the recorded property line, are used as the property line, then one property owner possess what is actually

the other property owner's land. The property owner whose land is being possessed by another has a cause of action against the other property owner to recover possession, but after 15 years, the period for bringing the action expires.

If no action is taken, an easement can be established by way of acquiescence.

Robert M. Meisner is an Oakland County area attorney concentrating his practice in the areas of condominiums, real estate, corporate law and litigation. You are invited to submit topics that you would like to see discussed in this column, including questions about condominiums, by writing Robert M. Meisner, 30200 Telegraph Road, Suite 467, Bingham Farms, Mich. 48025.

This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real estate briefs features news and notes on professional associations, office activities, upcoming meetings and seminars, new services/products and available consumer publications.
Write: Real estate briefs, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 3625 Schoolcraft, Livonia, 48150. Our fax number is (313) 591-7279.

BUILDERS SHOW
Frank's Nursery & Crafts is offering free admission coupons good Monday, March 18, for the 78th annual International Builders Home, Flower and Furniture Show at Cobo Center in Detroit. Show hours that date are 2-10 p.m.

The show, sponsored by the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan, runs Saturday, March 16, through Sunday, March 24.
Admission normally is \$6 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens and children six to 12, no charge for kids under age six.
Show hours are 2-10 p.m. Mon-

day through Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays.

REALTY BOARD MOVES
The Birmingham Bloomfield Rochester South Oakland Association of Realtors has moved to 901 Tower Drive, Suite 190, Troy, from Bloomfield Hills. The new headquarters is off Crooks between Square Lake and Long Lake roads.

The phone number has also changed to (810) 879-5730.
The move better centralizes merged operations of some 2,500 members who previously belonged to one of three associations.

BOMA ON INTERNET
The Building Owners and Managers Association International is now located on the Internet's World Wide Web and can be accessed using any major on-line service through <http://www.boma.org>.
BOMA, comprised of owners, managers, developers, leasing

professionals and asset managers, collectively represents all facets of the commercial real estate industry.

TALKING WINDOW
Century 21 Castelli & Lucas has launched a talking window on its building at the northwest corner of Ford and Canton Center roads in Canton to better market some of its listings.

Visitors see photos of house available for sale, then use a special glass keypad to hear WindowTalk, a recorded description of the offerings.
Prospects can also leave their telephone numbers for a quick, follow-up response from a sales agent.

"Many people go window shopping looking for houses at all hours of the day and night, sometimes browsing, but often looking seriously without the threat of a salesperson," said Jack Lucas, broker owner.

"Because WindowTalk is sold on an exclusive basis, we believe that it enables our office to pro-

vide the best possible service both during office hours and after hours," he said.

SATELLITE OFFICE
The Lockwood Group, a Birmingham Farm-based residential developer, has opened an office in Detroit's Renaissance Center — Suite 1855 in the Tower 100 Building.

"We have a lot of confidence in Mayor Archer and his plans to revitalize the city, and we want to be part of those plans," said Rodney M. Lockwood Jr., partner in the Lockwood Group. "It's our belief that Detroit needs new downtown residential development to kick-start the city's economy."

The Lockwood Group's most significant proposed development in Detroit is Isle Village, 150 luxury townhouses at the former Uniroyal site on Jefferson. The Archer Administration has the proposal under consideration.

PRUDENTIAL ACQUISITION

Prudential Great Lakes Realty brokers Dan Stehl and Jerome M. Baranski have announced expansion of the company's business operations with the acquisition of Dowsett Realtors in Davison.

"The company's presence in the Davison market is another element in our overall extension plans," Stehl said. "It's a strong community and the area is experiencing a growth period."

The existing office building at 1040 S. State Road will be renovated, the sales force expanded. Former owner Jim Dowsett has been named vice president and will concentrate on commercial real estate.

DEMATTIA PROJECTS
R.A. DeMattia, a Plymouth design, construction and land development firm, announces two projects — a research and development facility for Inalfa Roof Systems in Auburn Hills and additions and renovations for the

existing Johnson Controls headquarters in Plymouth Township.

THE MICHAEL GROUP
Coldwell Banker the Michael Group in Clarkston has been selected as a Coldwell Banker Premier Office, the highest award given to Coldwell Banker real estate offices that consistently demonstrate exceptional performance and dedication.

Robert J. Pilarek is broker/owner.
"Bob and the members of the sales associate team at the Michael Group have established a standard of excellence for offices throughout the system," said Robert Rist, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Affiliates.

The Michael Group, established more than 20 years ago, has over 50 agents serving north Oakland. It deals with residential, commercial and vacant properties.

HOUSES SOLD IN WAYNE COUNTY

These are the Observer-area residential real-estate closings recorded February 5-9 at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office and compiled by Advertising That Works, a Bloomfield Township company that tracks deed and mortgage recordings in Southeastern Michigan. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

REDFORD	FLINT	WESTLAND	PLYMOUTH
• 18259 Brady 67,000	• 24811 Lyndon 120,000	• 15353 Sumner 45,000	• 34919 Donnelly St 78,000
• 15613 Gaylord 65,000	• 12824 Norborne 66,000	• 8252 Beatrice St 80,000	• 35213 Lewis St 101,000
• 25535 Ivanhoe 72,000	• 19377 Poinciana 65,000	• 7425 Cavett St 86,000	• 28155 Merritt Dr 107,000
• 17170 Lennane 74,000	• 24725 Ross Dr 79,000	• 36076 Central City Pkwy 59,000	• 38374 Oakwest Dr 200,000
	• 9183 Salem 81,000		• 35127 Webster St 46,000

- CANTON**
- 2456 Archer Dr 154,000
 - 2494 Amber Dr 173,000
 - 7921 Brampton Dr 258,000
 - 45045 Coachman Ct 152,000
 - 8752 Forestview Dr 70,000
 - 941 High Ridge Dr 168,000
 - 7209 Inngate Rd 135,000
 - 43135 Ironside Ct 144,000
 - 2465 Lancelot Ct 171,000
 - 42714 Lacey Pointe Dr 82,000
 - 43664 Lotus Dr 135,000
 - 6478 Marshall St 209,000
 - 46510 Mornington Rd 251,000
 - 6205 Portenidge Ln 145,000
 - 45151 Prestbury Rd 129,000
 - 299 Queens Way 135,000
 - 44223 Richmond Ct 163,000
 - 2819 River Meadow Cr 147,000
 - 42118 Saratoga Cr 144,000
 - 2434 Woodgreen Ct 213,000
 - 7307 Dacosta 48,000
 - 7290 Dolphin 44,000
 - 7741 Lamphere 65,000
 - 8359 Parkland 66,000
 - 7695 Rockdale 65,000

- GARDEN CITY**
- 415 Belton St 50,000
 - 32544 Bock St 76,000
 - 6444 Deering St 71,000
 - 31418 Marquette St 61,000
 - 33565 Marquette St 100,000
 - 27502 Windsor St 70,000

- LIVONIA**
- 20221 Arguing St 95,000
 - 28755 Bayberry Park Dr 149,000
 - 34603 Bretton Dr 266,000
 - 28436 Cleveland St 87,000
 - 18918 Comstock St 187,000
 - 18265 Farnore St 50,000
 - 19277 Fitzgerald St 92,000
 - 36208 Lawrence Dr 75,000
 - 9021 Lionel St 83,000
 - 27901 Long St 81,000
 - 31846 Maine St 126,000
 - 18183 Meadowridge Dr 129,000
 - 10010 Stark Rd 223,000
 - 14323 Sunset St 118,000
 - 19784 Weyher St 80,000

- PLYMOUTH**
- 23841 Hamlet Ln 84,000
 - 45225 Hamham Ave 87,000
 - 200 Pines St 100,000
 - 2000 Plymouth King 120,000
 - 2000 Plymouth King 120,000



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WYOMING	FLINT	PLYMOUTH
• 24811 Lyndon 120,000	• 15353 Sumner 45,000	• 34919 Donnelly St 78,000
• 12824 Norborne 66,000	• 8252 Beatrice St 80,000	• 35213 Lewis St 101,000
• 19377 Poinciana 65,000	• 7425 Cavett St 86,000	• 28155 Merritt Dr 107,000
• 24725 Ross Dr 79,000	• 36076 Central City Pkwy 59,000	• 38374 Oakwest Dr 200,000
• 9183 Salem 81,000		• 35127 Webster St 46,000

NORTHVILLE CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION
Four bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, three fireplaces, large master bedroom with two walk-in closets. Partry off large open kitchen. Woodside Village is the location, close to shopping and expressways. ML#582256. \$349,900. 313-455-6000. **2207**

DUNBARTON PINES IS THE PLACE...
For this 1941 colonial. Four bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths invites you to move right in! This impeccable home is highlighted by crown moldings and custom window treatments. ML#612715. \$222,900. 313-455-6000. **2059**

ORIGINAL OWNERS
Have pampered this stately Dunbarton Pines colonial to perfection. Enjoy the walk-out lower level with finished rec. room and full bath overlooking the spectacular in-ground pool. Massive gourmet kitchen, four bedrooms, three baths, and library. \$299,900. 313-455-6000.

ONE-OF-A-KIND
Stunning 3,000 square foot 1945 vintage four bedroom, 3 1/2 bath colonial. Hardwood floors, extra large kitchen, formal living and dining rooms, circular staircase in large vaulted bedroom, finished walk-out with wet bar and full bath with steam shower. ML#61792. \$199,900. 313-455-6000. **2204**

HOME HOTLINE
HOW TO USE THE HOME HOTLINE:
• Dial 1-800-778-9485
• Enter 4 digit code below picture.
• Our Home Hotline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
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ACROSS

- 1 Pailor
4 Billboards
9 Yell
12 Call
13 Experiment
14 Wrestling
15 One issue of a newspaper
17 Revised
19 Pipped
20 Money that's specialty
21 TV's Margaret
23 Least steady
27 Pull the hair
29 Curly and
30 Hidden ID
31 Ending with velvet
32 Eat
34 Balors
35 Flimdy's
36 Sempco (mfr.)

DOWN

- 1 River
2 R-V
3 Port
4 M
5 Oscar winner for "Reverend of Fortune"
6 Soccer
7 Solum
8 Most streamlined
9 Novellet Zola
10 Map abbr.
11 Part of TOIP
12 Small
13 Fiction
14 Mr. Letterman
15 Puffer
16 Tearful
17 Gregory - of "Waiting for Godot"
18 Tower of ice
19 Down - Mean Streets
20 Able to be elected
21 Flower
22 Honorable
23 Pocket bread
24 God of love
25 - at noir (card game)
26 Bathroom wall pieces
27 Great
28 Weaken
29 Stalls -
30 - term
31 Ending with infant
32 - Tech
33 Alternative word

Answer to Previous Puzzle

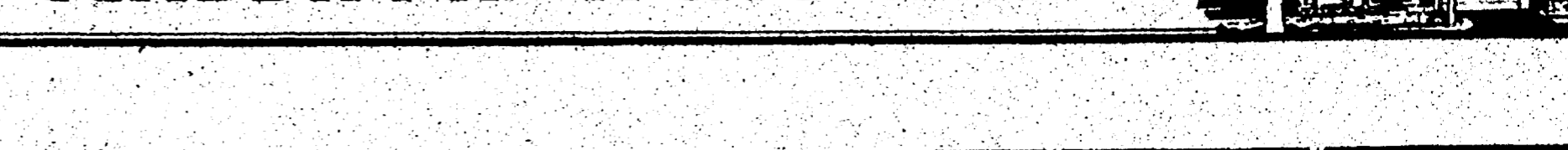
STIA OOTIE IMA
LAUNDRITES OIAI
NY SAN TRAINER
VITA BON UNIT
ENINA TIM EMIA
ONO GAS HILL
IR YULELOO SIA
NAB YAR OOH
SHUI MIA OIIC
SOU ADZ MAH
ONHOLD DEIC MAH
TICE NEGLEIEMO
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396 Commercial/Industrial Vacant Property
REDFORD TWP. 24350 JOY ROAD

396 Commercial/Industrial Vacant Property
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396 Commercial/Industrial Vacant Property
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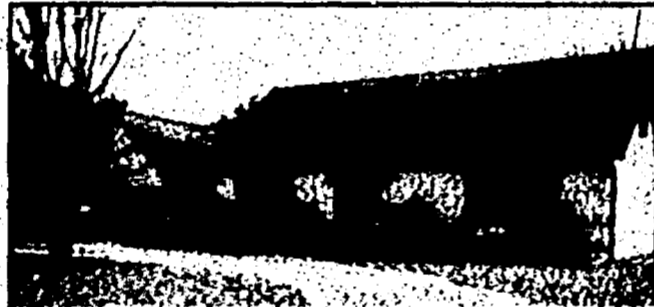
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CHARMING 3 bedroom brick ranch w/ family room, fireplace, oversized lot, new kitchen cabinets. Move-in condition. Great price.
\$112,900 (L424) 313-326-2000



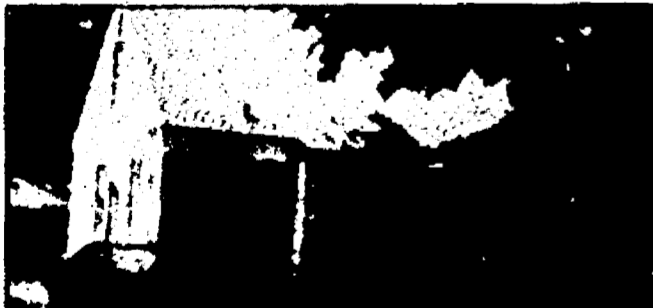
LIVONIA
HOTI HOTI HOTI Super clean! Livonia brick Ranch with updated kitchen and baths. Finished basement and two car garage. Great location and a great price!
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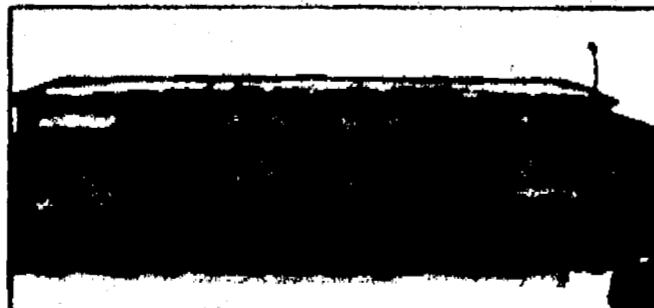
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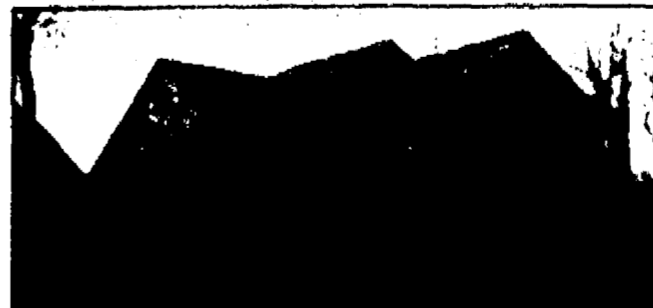
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• Minimum of one year customer service/customer relations experience
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Company offers competitive benefits and salary. If you are qualified and wish to apply, send your resume to: Rayton, 2850 S. Industrial Hwy., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

NEW HOMES

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1996

★ 1G

Recreation is big draw for South Bay Shores

Everything about South Bay Shores, 61 site condominiums on Duck Lake in Highland, comes back to the lake and nearby recreational opportunities.

"What attracted me was the water," said Walter Cohen, whose firm in Southfield developed the 60-acre parcel off Wardlow between Harvey and Duck Lake roads.

"There's a lot of beautiful tracts in Oakland County, but very few lake sites left, if any," Cohen said. "I know of none prettier than this. When you walk off the shore, there's no muck, no weeds."

"It's like being in a resort community without having to drive," said Michael E. Berger, a Farmington Hills builder whose firm, BRG Homes, has purchased 16 lots at the site.

George Bulmer, chief executive officer of Highland Building who purchased a half dozen lots in South Bay Shores, lives on Duck Lake now.

"We've been here for 25 years," Bulmer said. "We've got every conceivable recreation item a person could want within five minutes. You still have a beautiful rural atmosphere."

The subdivision will have a sandy beach and a boat launch for exclusive use of the residents.

Lots start at \$70,000. The 27 lakefront sites go from \$145,000 to \$230,000.

Buyers can bring in their own builders or use BRG or Highland Building.

"All the houses are going to be very upscale," Bulmer said. "They're going to target a very upscale market."

"We have a conglomerate of 50 different drawings. We're not locked in. It's not a boilerplate project. We're going to be flexible enough to build what people want," Bulmer said.

Highland's on-site spec model, a two-story of 3,165 square feet, is nearly finished.

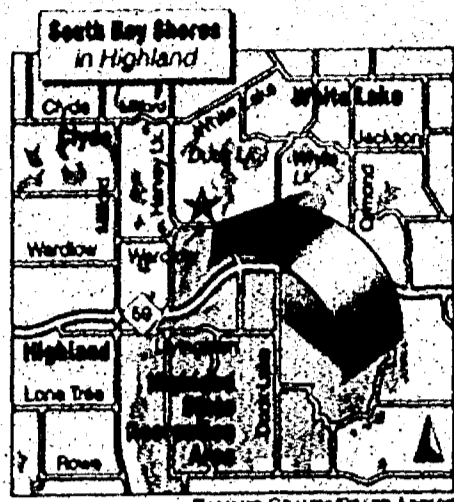
The master suite is on the main level, as is a library, great room, dining room, kitchen/eating nook, laundry and half bath.

Three bedrooms and two baths are upstairs.

Outstanding features singled out by Bulmer include "all the glass, breathtaking views off the back and many volume ceilings." He also touted the sun room — or dad's room — as a special refuge.

Price of the model, including lot, is \$379,900.

BRG Homes offers a variety of houses in its South Bay Shores publicity packet ranging from \$224,000 to \$327,000 depending



TAMMIE GRAVER/STAFF ARTIST

on square footage.

"What we intend to do is sit down with customers — we have hundreds of plans — and work with them to customize homes the way they want them," Berger said. "If you don't have something to show, they can't get excited."

His on-site model, a story-and-a-half of 2,865 square feet, includes as standard fare fireplace, whirlpool tub in the master suite, first floor laundry, two-car garage and basement.

A stunning angled cathedral ceiling highlights the family room.

The main living area also features a library with pitched ceiling, formal dining room, kitchen with island, eating nook with an octagonal ceiling and a pedestal sink in the half bath.

The master suite, with a multi-level pan ceiling, separate tub and shower, dual sink vanity and walk-in closet, also is on the first floor.

Three bedrooms and two baths, one a jack-and-jill between two of the bedrooms, are upstairs.

The base price is \$261,600 (not including the lot). The model has about \$45,000 in upgrades.

Brick, stone and wood side are the only approved exterior materials. No vinyl or aluminum.

Duck Lake is some 325 acres, Cohen said, with all kinds of canals fingering out of the main body of water to be explored.

"This is a family development for people active recreationally," he said. "We're right across the street from Highland State Recreation Area with 8,000 acres. On the north side of Duck Lake is a public golf course. We're three miles, I think, from Alpine Valley Ski Resort."

South Bay Shores is serviced by a community well water system and septic tanks on individual lots. It's within the Huron Valley



Taking shape: South Bay Shores offers 61 detached condominium sites on Duck Lake in Highland.

school boundary. A sidewalk will wind along one side of the street in the sub.

The property tax rate in South Bay Shores is \$21.77 per \$1,000 of state equalized valuation, half of market value. That means the owners of a \$350,000 condo there

would pay \$3,800 the first year. The monthly association fee is estimated at \$63.

Edward and Judy Greaves have purchased a lakefront lot in South Bay Shores. They haven't yet selected a builder for what will be their third brand new house.

"We live on Lower Straits Lake now. What we wanted was another polished, restricted community in our price range," he said.

"South Bay Shores fits the bill. We wanted someone to guarantee to us some person wouldn't park a camper across the street or leave a

boat on a trailer in the driveway. "I use a seaplane," Greaves added. "I can get in and out of that lake."

The sales office at South Bay Shores, (810) 887-4009, is open 12:30-5:30 p.m. daily, closed Wednesdays and Thursdays.

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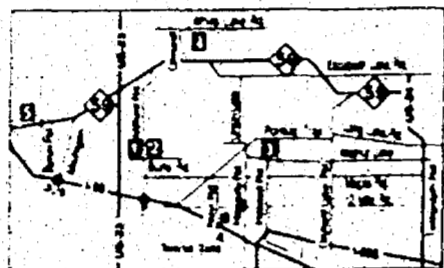


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Geothermal heating saves money

A typical homeowner can expect to save up to 60 to 70 percent on heating bills.

Homeowners interested in saving money on utility bills for heating and cooling need look no further than their own back yard. A geothermal, or water source, system can harness and enhance the heat from the earth and ground water to heat and cool a house more cost effectively than a conventional system. While the exact amount of energy savings varies with climate, the type of house and its present comfort system, a typical homeowner can expect to save up to 60 to 70 percent on heating bills and up to 30 to 40 percent on cooling.

"There is an increasing demand from home-

owners for this environmentally sound, highly efficient option for heating and cooling," says John Manning of Carrier Corp., which recently introduced the WeatherMaker GT and GTX Water Source Comfort Systems. Manning points to a recent study by the Electric Power Research Institute showing a high degree of customer satisfaction with water source systems compared to conventional systems. He also cites a report by the Environmental Protection Agency acknowledging the energy and environmental benefits of ground source technology.

A Simple, Natural Source of Energy

Water source, or geothermal, technology is a simple and natural source of energy, according to Manning. Using a steaming cup of hot chocolate on a cold winter day as an example of how the system works, he explained that the steam is heat transferring from the warm drink to the colder air.

Similarly, in winter, the geothermal heat pump uses a system of underground loops filled with cold liquid to draw heat from the ground. As the heat travels through the system, it is enhanced to a higher temperature and distributed throughout the house. At this higher temperature, the water source method delivers heat warmer than that generated by air source heat pumps.

In summer, the process is reversed to draw excess heat from the house. Since the ground or ground water temperature is lower than the indoor temperature, heat naturally transfers via the underground loop system from the house to the earth.

Saving Energy Saves Money

With a water source system, part of the heat used to warm the house is free. Two-thirds of the energy comes naturally from the ground. The homeowner pays only for the remaining third in the form of electricity, which is used to move and enhance this natural heat. This three-unit ratio of heat (two generated from the earth and one from electricity) is called the Coefficient of Performance, or COP. Carrier's WeatherMaker GTX, for example, achieves a COP-heating rating of up to 4.5 for efficient year-round performance.

Similarly, in the air conditioning mode, a heat pump's Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) (units of heat) can be removed from the house for the cost of one kilowatt hour, a unit used by utilities to determine homeowners' electricity usage — and bill. The WeatherMaker GTX has an EER of up to 21.0.

An added energy- and money-saving advantage of this method of heating and cooling is the water heater option. In summer, heat extracted in the cooling process goes directly into the house's water tank, providing free hot water, as well as the added benefit of improved overall system efficiency. In winter, the water is heated at an efficiency that is two-and-a-half to three times greater than a standard electric water heater.

In addition, utilities in many parts of the country currently are offering incentives — including substantial rebates — for geothermal systems, making them especially attractive for homeowners to install.

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Better Homes. Better Schools. Better Location. Better See.

Don't miss this prestigious enclave of luxurious homes located in the heart of Farmington Hills. Only 46 generous homesites tucked into the magnificent natural woodlands and gently rolling hills. Many accommodate premium walk-out levels. Three and four bedroom plans range from 2,500 to over 3,600 square feet and feature a choice of first or second floor master suites and two or three car garages. Children living here will attend Farmington Hills Schools, ranked among the highest in Michigan. Low Grand Opening pricing is only available for a limited time.

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Special Grand Opening Prices From \$264,900 To \$344,000.

HALSTEAD FOREST
Halstead Forest is located on 13 Mile Road just west of Halstead Road in Farmington Hills.
Sales Center (810) 553-4061
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Another Fine Community By
Beniregna Building Co. & Italo American
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Homes from \$69,900

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Owner participation welcome
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Modular homes available

MANY LOCATIONS ... ONE PROMISE ... BEST PRICE AND QUALITY!

Fine COMMUNITIES offered by **Tri-Mount**

ANN ARBOR
From \$199,900

Dhu Varren

- Wonderful New Colonial
- Beautiful Curved Staircase Colonial
- Spectacular Cape Cod
- Walkouts And Daylights Available

RALPH BOLHOUSE
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Located on the South side of Dhu Varren Road between Mason and Pontiac Trail. Dhu Varren Road to be paved Spring '96

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From the '140's

Ashford Village

STANDARD FEATURES

- Brick & Vinyl Exterior
- Insulated Windows & Screens
- Walkout Dishwashers
- Oak Cabinetry
- 1st Floor Laundry
- Fireplace
- Full Basement

MILESTONES

- Large Lots
- Paved Asphalt Driveways
- City Water & Sewer
- Sidewalks
- Private Park Area
- Walk-out basements
- To Call For More

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Located off of Textile Road, East of Carpenter Rd

PLYMOUTH
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THREE QUARTER ACRE LUXURY LOTS
WONDERFUL COLONIALS • SPACIOUS CAPE COD

- Walkouts & Daylights Available
- Spec Homes Available From \$299,900 Too!

VALINDA TURNER
313-455-1073

Located on the west side of Ridge Road South of North Territorial north of Powell

MILFORD
From \$168,900

Huron Meadows "Selling Quickly"

A PERFECT LOCATION

- 27 Sites Walkouts Available
- Full basements • Brick & Vinyl Exterior
- Near Camp Dearborn & Kensington Park

PAM ROBINSON
810-685-0908

Located on the west side of Milford Road, four miles north of I-96 south of GM Road.

MILFORD
From \$99,900

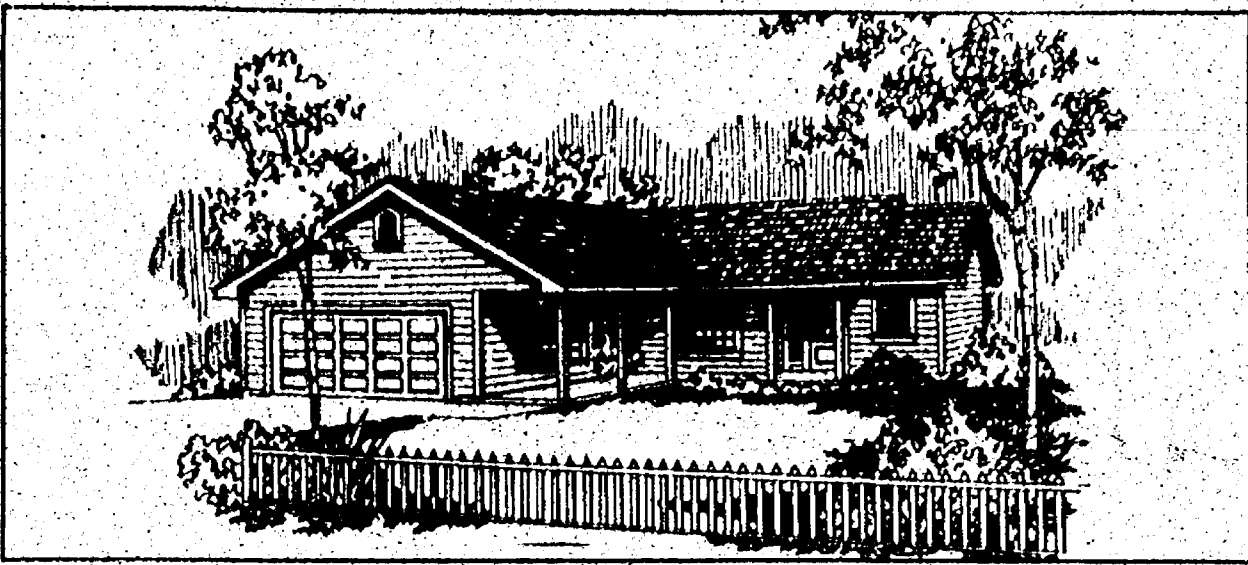
MILFORD PLACE CONDOMINIUMS

WHAT A WONDERFUL PLACE TO LIVE

- 2 Bedrooms • 2 Baths • Garages
- Basements Central Air • Decks
- Private Entrances • Whirlpool Appliances

SHIRLEY FLORKA
810-684-2281

Located on the east side of Milford Road, four miles north of I-96 south of GM Road.



The Decidedly: This house is designed for young families with limited budgets.

Decidedly designed for value

For a study kit of the DECIDELY (335-170), send \$10.00, to Landmark Designs, P.O. BOX 2307-DE48, Eugene, OR 97402 (Be sure to specify plan name & number.) For a collection of plan books featuring our most popular house plans, send \$20 to Landmark, or call 1-800-562-1151.

The 1,444-square-foot Decidedly is a small ranch style house with an attractive lap siding exterior. This floor design will fit the needs of young families purchasing their first house and wanting the most value for their building dollar, or empty nesters wishing to down-size their current living accommodations. Easy to maintain and economical to build, the Decidedly could be the house plan for which you have been searching.

The modest entry, with a convenient coat closet, leads into a very generous vaulted living room. With a built-in plant shelf adding a nice touch, this space functions as the main gathering area in the house. Here friends and family can get together to discuss the events of the day, or relax while enjoying a favorite television show.

Directly facing the living room, in an open design that maximizes the available square

footage, are the kitchen and dining room. A skylight brightens the walk-through kitchen that features a pantry and hanging eating bar in addition to all the built-in appliances. Having the vaulted dining room adjacent to the kitchen allows the cook in the house to prepare and serve meals without missing any of the lively conversation. A good-sized covered patio is the perfect place to set up the barbecue and invite the whole gang over, weather permitting.

The large, vaulted master suite is isolated for complete privacy. Amenities here include a wall-length closet and private bathroom with twin basins and linen storage.

The two bedrooms at the opposite side of the house can serve as guest quarters for those with no children still at home, or one can be used as a home office, exercise room, den, etc. Each has ample closet space and shares a skylit bathroom that is in the adjoining hallway.

Completing the floor plan is a big utility room with lots of extra storage space. As an added convenience, the utility room opens into the garage. This arrangement provides a dry path for bringing groceries directly into the house.

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Phase II CLOSE OUT!

7 1/2 Units Remaining in Phase II

For the discriminating buyer - beautifully designed with comfort, quality and convenience in mind. A few remaining units feature first floor master suites. Spacious floor plans, 2-3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, full basement, 2-car garage and much more. Starting at \$134,500.

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QUENTHER BUILDING CO.

FROM \$134,500

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- Distinctive Elevations
- City Sidewalks with Platted Lots
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\$168,900

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Closed Thursdays
Call (313) 397-9430

Located on the southeast corner of Palmer & Sheldon Rds. "Canton's Golden Corridor" (shaded area on map)

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Beyond Expectation...



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Two Bedrooms from \$103,000
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Sales Center is open daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday Noon-5 p.m. and by appointment.

Located at the corner of Evergreen Road and Civic Center Drive at Prudential Town Center, in Southfield.



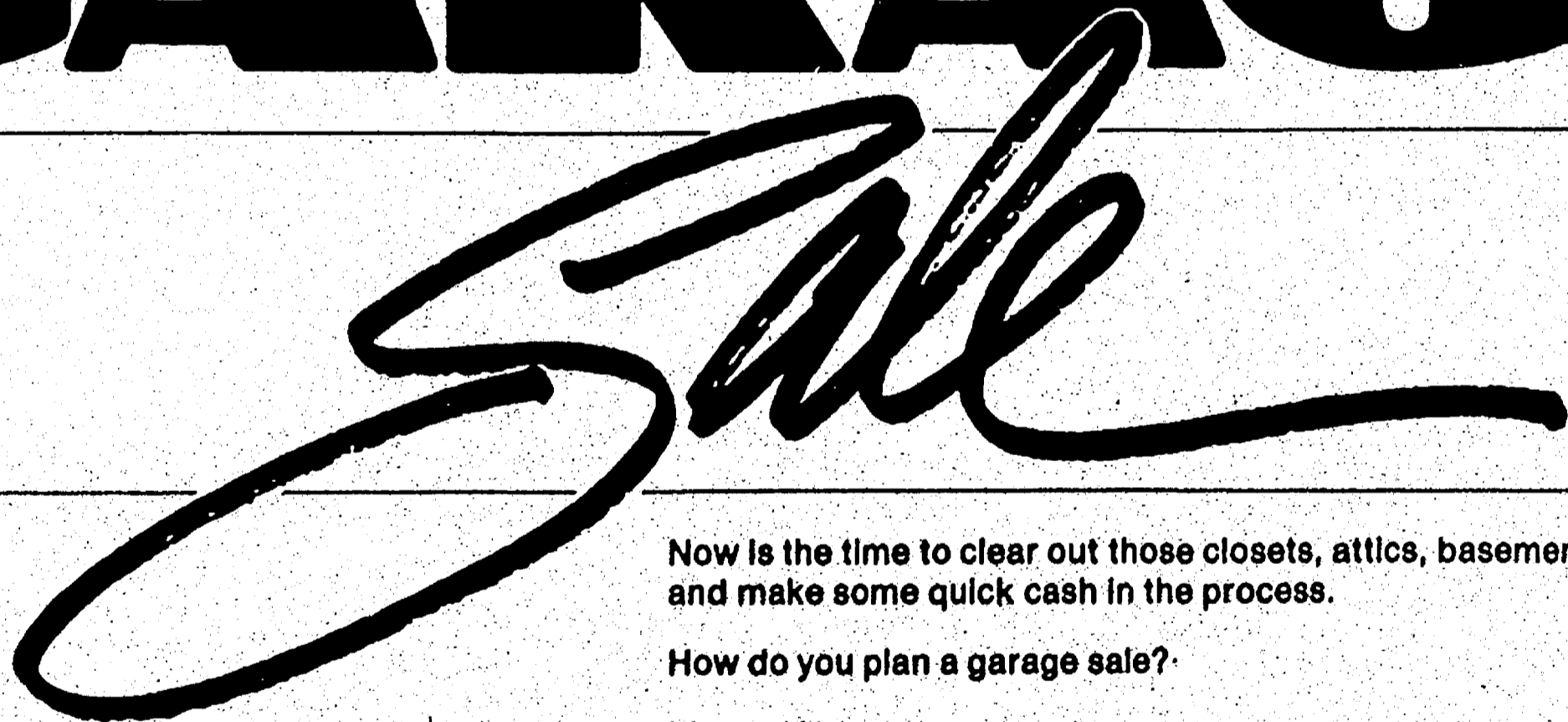
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How do you plan a garage sale?

It's easy!

Just follow these simple guidelines:

1. Gather together the items you have for sale. Sort them into appropriate categories and price them fairly.
2. Place a classified advertisement in *The Observer & Eccentric* by calling one of the numbers below.
3. Hang signs throughout your neighborhood alerting residents to the upcoming sale.
4. Decide what to do with all the money you'll have after your sale!

Or, if you love to bargain-hunt and would rather shop than sell, be sure to look for our special garage sale listings every Monday and Thursday in your hometown newspaper. *Observer & Eccentric* classifieds make it easy to earn money and save money. Discover for yourself, today!

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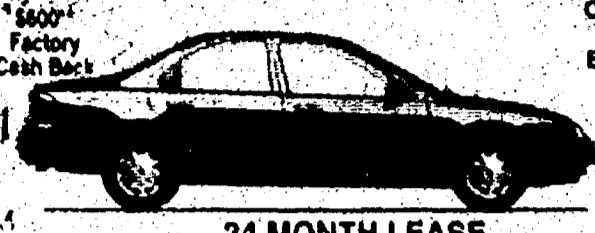
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Champagne Clearcoat Metallic, Preferred Equipment Pkg. • Rear Window Defroster • Heated Mirrors • Power Antenna • Man Control Air Conditioning • AMFM Stereo Radio W/Cassette • 2.0L DOHC 4 cyl. Engine • 5-Speed Manual Transaxle P185/70R14 BSW Tires, Frt/Rear Carpeted Floor Mats, Stock #61300

\$600* Factory Cash Back
24 MONTH LEASE
\$89** per month
\$4,907**
Down: \$2950, \$1950, \$950
Lease: \$129**

1996 SABLE GS 4 DR. SEDAN



Torredor Red Clearcoat Metallic, Preferred Equipment Pkg. 450A • Group 1 • Speed Control • Floor Mats, Front and Rear • Group 2 • Elec AMFM Stereo/Cassette • Power Door Locks • 3.0L 6-Cylinder Engine • Automatic Overdrive Trans. Includes \$500* Sable Renewal Incentive. Stock # 61172

\$1,100* Lease Cash Back
24 MONTH LEASE
\$122** per month
\$5,504**
Down: \$2950, \$1950, \$950
Lease: \$122**

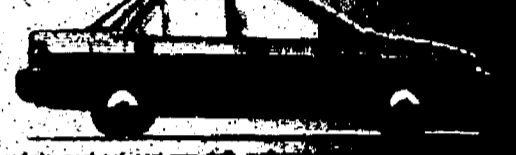
1996 VILLAGER GS WAGON



Torredor Red Clearcoat Met. Graphite cloth, Preferred Equipment Pkg. 681 A • GS Trim • Air Conditioning • Front • Electric Rear Window Defrost • Dual Power Mirrors • 7-Passenger Seating • Speed Control • Power Windows/Locks • 3.0L Fuel Injection Engine • 4-Speed Elec. Auto. Transaxle • P205 BSW All-Season Radials • 3.86 Ratio Regular Axle • Flip Open Liftgate Window. Stock #61444

\$1,000* Lease Cash Back
24 MONTH LEASE
\$122** per month
\$5,314**
Down: \$2950, \$1950, \$950
Lease: \$122**

1996 TRACER 4-DOOR SEDAN



\$600* Factory Cash Back
24 MONTH LEASE
\$129** per month
Down: \$2950, \$1950, \$950
Lease: \$129**

1996 GRAND MARQUIS GS 4 DR SEDAN



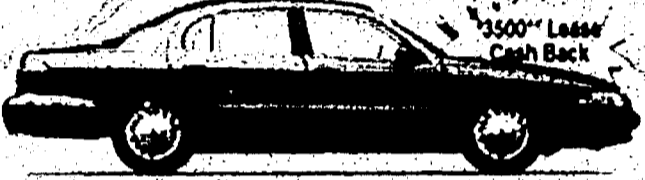
\$600* Factory Cash Back
PURCHASE FOR
\$18,995
Down: \$2950, \$1950, \$950
Lease: \$129**

1996 COUGAR XR7 2-DOOR



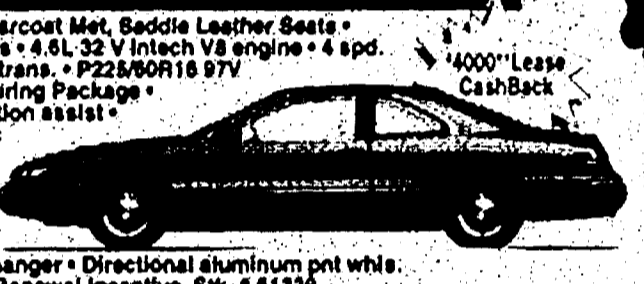
\$600* Factory Cash Back
24 MONTH LEASE
\$169** per month
Down: \$2950, \$1950, \$950
Lease: \$169**

1996 CONTINENTAL



\$3500* Lease Cash Back
24 MONTH LEASE
\$299** per month
\$8,848**
Down: \$2950, \$1950, \$950
Lease: \$299**

1996 MARK VIII 2 DR.



\$4000* Lease Cash Back
24 MONTH LEASE
\$316** per month
\$9,328**
Down: \$2950, \$1950, \$950
Lease: \$316**

1996 TOWN CAR EXECUTIVE 4 DR.



\$3500* Lease Cash Back
24 MONTH LEASE
\$326** per month
\$9,648**
Down: \$2950, \$1950, \$950
Lease: \$326**

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- 1993 BRONCO XLT 4X4 \$18,595
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- 1994 F150 XL \$10,985
- 1995 F150 4X4 XL \$15,450
- 1994 E150 FORD CONVERSION VAN \$16,995
- 1993 AEROSTAR XL SPORT \$10,995
- 1995 FORD WINDSTAR QL \$15,495
- 1992 FORD F150 SUPER CAB XLT \$13,995
- 1993 F350 CREW CAB DUALY \$18,988
- 1993 F350 SUPER CAB DUALY \$17,475
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- 1994 F150 FLARESIDE XLT 4X4 \$17,995

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O'VARSLITY'S HAVING A USED CAR SALE!!
NOW TIL ST. PADDY'S DAY!!



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- 1992 SABLE LS 4 DR. \$7,895
- 1995 FORD ASPIRE \$7,995
- 1991 TRACER L.T.S 4 DR. \$5,995
- 1991 CHEV. CAPRICE 4DR \$8,495
- 1992 ESCORT 4 DR LX \$6,350
- 1992 FORD MUSTANG LX \$9,995
- 1993 ESCORT LX 4 DR \$7,995
- 1992 TEMPO QL 2 DR. \$6,888
- 1989 TAURUS S.H.O. \$6,995
- 1990 GRAND MARQUIS G.S. \$6,995

BUDGET PAYMENTS

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- 1992 GEO PRIZM 4 DR. \$137/mo
- 1992 RANGER XLT \$159/mo
- 1995 MERCURY TRACER \$198/mo
- 1994 ESCORT LX 2DR. \$169/mo
- 1995 MERCURY MYSTIQUE \$219/mo
- 1993 FORD THUNDERBIRD LX \$205/mo
- 1993 FORD TAURUS LX \$148/mo
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- 1994 LINCOLN MARK VIII \$19,995
- 1994 MUSTANG Q.T. CONVERTIBLE \$17,995
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- 1995 MARK VIII \$25,950
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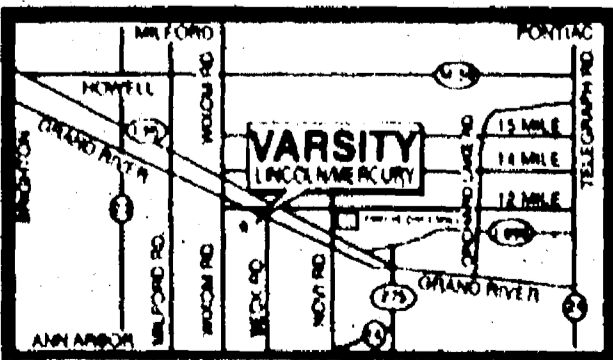
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CIVIC 1994 Wagon 5 speed rear wiper, 16000 miles, 83000 miles, 83762
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856 Lincoln
CONTINENTAL 1994. Many to choose from this week's special buy...
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PROTEGE, 1991 LX 1.8 Liter, dual overhead cam, 5 speed, 56000 miles, 100000 miles, 83762
860 Mercury
GRAND MARQUIS, 1996 LS 5.0V8 grey, fully loaded, air/m, cassette, excellent condition, well maintained, no rust, 82995. 313-425-0145

860 Mercury
GRAND MARQUIS, 1996 LS 5.0V8 grey, fully loaded, air/m, cassette, excellent condition, well maintained, no rust, 82995. 313-425-0145

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864 Oldsmobile
CUTLASS - 1990 Corsair, power locks, 1111 wheels, 133000 miles, 133000 miles, 313-532-3633

866 Plymouth
HORIZON, 1989 Southern car (TN), elderly lady owned, absolutely no rust, parked auto, 70000 miles, 4 brand new tires & brakes, Sunranger clean & dependable. Drives like a new car. \$12000. Best. \$12000. Best. Sunranger inquiries only. SOLD

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ES 250, 1990, black, 54000 miles, 54000 miles, 83762

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MAZDA 323, 1993, hatchback, black, 5 speed, air, stereo cassette, 24,000 miles, 82995. 313-425-0145

860 Mercury
GRAND MARQUIS, 1996 LS 5.0V8 grey, fully loaded, air/m, cassette, excellent condition, well maintained, no rust, 82995. 313-425-0145

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MAXIMA 1990, fully loaded, low mileage, 29,000 miles, 83762

864 Oldsmobile
CUTLASS 1990 Supreme, 6L, 50,000 miles, 50,000 miles, 313-532-3633

866 Plymouth
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868 Pontiac
GRAND AM 1992, 4 door, black, air, AM/FM stereo tape, 27,000 miles, 27,000 miles, (810) 476-8878

870 Saturn
SC 1994, blue/black, 4 door, automatic, air, AM/FM cassette, very clean, 18,000 miles, 18,000 miles, 83762

856 Lincoln
CONTINENTAL 1994. Many to choose from this week's special buy...
HINES PARK
LINCOLN/MERCURY 313-453-2424

858 Mazda
MAZDA 323, 1993, hatchback, black, 5 speed, air, stereo cassette, 24,000 miles, 82995. 313-425-0145

860 Mercury
GRAND MARQUIS, 1996 LS 5.0V8 grey, fully loaded, air/m, cassette, excellent condition, well maintained, no rust, 82995. 313-425-0145

862 Nissan
MAXIMA 1990, fully loaded, low mileage, 29,000 miles, 83762

864 Oldsmobile
CUTLASS 1990 Supreme, 6L, 50,000 miles, 50,000 miles, 313-532-3633

866 Plymouth
HORIZON 1991 RS, automatic, 64,000 miles, 64,000 miles, 313-453-2424

868 Pontiac
GRAND AM 1992, 4 door, black, air, AM/FM stereo tape, 27,000 miles, 27,000 miles, (810) 476-8878

870 Saturn
SC 1994, blue/black, 4 door, automatic, air, AM/FM cassette, very clean, 18,000 miles, 18,000 miles, 83762

872 Toyota
CAMRY 1994, air, air/m, cassette, 4 door, 5 speed, 38K, excellent shape, 810-458-3303

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If you can afford a Chevy, Ford, Pontiac or Buick - We've got an Olds for you!
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1996 MUSTANG
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350 V8 engine, air conditioning, four speed automatic transmission, ABS brakes, 33 gallon fuel tank, full size spare tire, fixed rear door glass, AM/FM stereo. Stock #957565

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18,995	11,995	15,995	14,995	7995	FUN IN THE SUN!	7995	8495	10,995	

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Tues., Wed., Fri. 9-6

(313) 453-2500

GM Employees Option I - Option II PEP PLAN HEADQUARTERS Suppliers Welcome

*Plus tax, title, license. Dealer's price. Lease payment based on approved credit on 13,995 rate per year of 196 excess mi. for 24 months or 28 months. (Excess miles through NBD - not available with GM OPT. II). Lessee responsible for excess wear & tear. Lessee has option to purchase at lease end for predetermined price at lease inception. Security deposit equal to first payment plus \$25. First month's payment, license, title & sales plus down payment due at inception. Supplier subject to certain restrictions. To get total amount multiply payment by term. Subject to 6% use tax. Requires \$1000 down. Commercial Buyers must be authorized and title must be in company name. Not eligible for PEP, Option I, Option II or GM Supplier Plus tax, title, license. Dealer's price included where applicable.