

Westland Observer

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SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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IN THE PAPER TODAY

Winter activities: Winter doesn't mean you have to be sedentary. There's plenty to do. /A3

COMMUNITY LIFE

Music for children: Jaclyn Niedermeyer, 2½, knows that Era laundry soap commercial on TV features the "1812 Overture," an appreciation of music she has acquired through the Kindermusik program. /B1

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Music: Folk musicians find sanctuary at the Raven Gallery and Acoustic Cafe located in an old church in Northville. /E1

Art: Printmaking exhibition at the University of Michigan Museum of Art offers a peek at peasant life in France during the late 1700s, 1800s and early 1900s. /E1

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Duo jail-bound

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Detroit man who seized money from a car dealership worker making a bank deposit has been sentenced to a one-year jail term.

Kelly Irby, 28, also has been placed on two years probation by Wayne County Circuit Judge William Leo Cahalan after pleading guilty to felony larceny charges, a court clerk said Monday.

Accomplice Willie Brown Jr., a 26-year-old Oak Park resident, received a six-month sentence and two years probation from Cahalan after pleading guilty to the same incident, the clerk said.

The pair could have faced a maximum 10-year prison term.

The Detroit Violent Crimes Task Force arrested Irby and Brown following an Aug. 30 incident that occurred at 11:30 a.m. at the Comerica branch on Ann Arbor Trail, east of Merriman, in Westland.

The arrest followed a tip from a witness who supplied a license plate number of a getaway van allegedly used by the two suspects, Westland police Sgt. Tom Kubitskey has said.

The incident occurred as an employee of Tennyson Chevrolet in Livonia was preparing to enter Comerica to deposit an undisclosed amount of money, Kubitskey said.

The male employee had gotten out of his car in the east parking lot when one suspect seized his money bag and fled on foot toward a nearby condominium complex, police reports said.

A witness reported that the bandit fled to a Ford van being driven by a second suspect. Kubitskey said the vehicle was later traced to Irby and Brown.

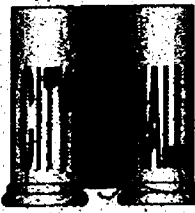
Police arrested Irby at his residence, and Brown was captured while walking on a street, Kubitskey said.

Most of the seized money was recovered, he said.

During an Aug. 31 arraignment, Irby was jailed in lieu of a \$50,000 cash bond, while Brown was held in lieu of a \$15,000/10 percent bond.

Irby had been on parole for offenses of auto theft and larceny at the time of his arrest, Kubitskey said.

Mayor outlines goals for '97



He's not without political opposition, but Westland Mayor Robert Thomas is confident he will reach his goals in 1997. Goals include upgrading parks and improving emergency medical services.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

In a year that will see him bidding for an unprecedented third term, Westland Mayor Robert Thomas has promised an ambitious 1997 agenda for improving parks, beefing up emergency medical services, correcting sewer problems and launching a Newburgh Road widening project.

Thomas, 46, also has pledged strong leadership for the 19-community Conference of Western Wayne, saying his new role as chairman will allow him to push for deeper involvement in county and state issues.

Thomas' eighth year in public office promises to be among his busiest. As he leads Westland, assumes a regional leadership role and seeks

another four-year term, he is certain to draw criticism from longtime enemies such as former Councilman Kenneth Mehl.

Judging by recent trends, he also could come under attack from one-time ally Glenn Anderson, a respected council member who appears to be growing increasingly disillusioned with Thomas' leadership.

At the same time, Thomas appears to have gained support from some veteran politicians such as Councilman Charles "Trav" Griffin, a former mayor who lost to Thomas in a 1989 election upset.

"I have made an effort to build

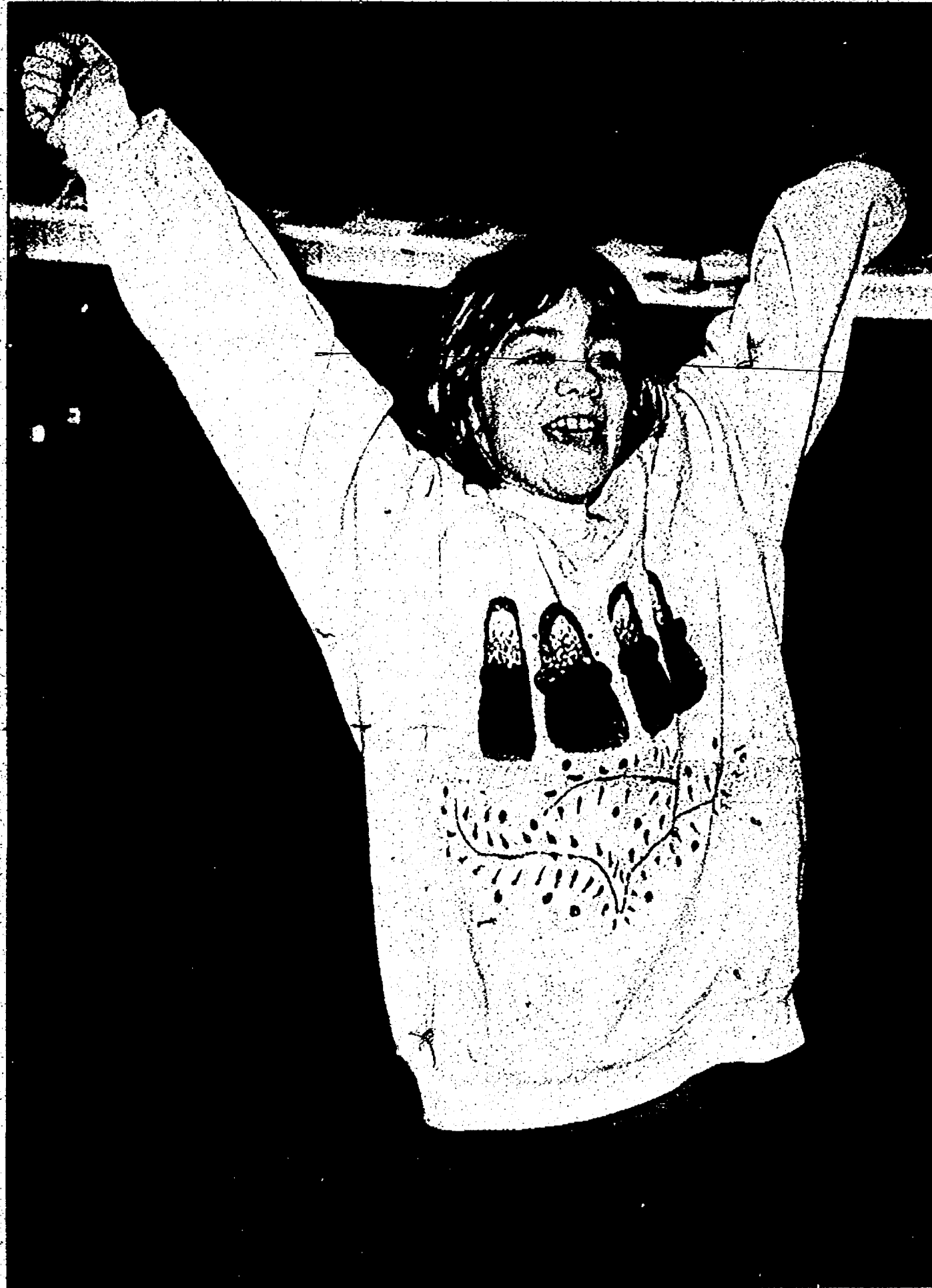
bridges with people who were perceived as my enemies," Thomas said Friday, during a one-on-one interview in his City Hall office.

Thomas won a second term in 1993 with a landslide victory over challenger Charles Pickering, beating the councilman by a nearly 2-to-1 margin. But some critics, such as Mehl, say that Thomas' popularity may be on the wane.

To be sure, Thomas suffered a defeat in August when Westland voters rejected a 1.5-mill tax levy for public safety improvements, part of

See GOALS, A2

Vacation elation



Crafts: Kids at the YMCA camp do Christmas thank-you cards. Above, Marissa Williams, 7, draws the cover for her card.



Game time: Ryan Lopez, 6, plays the freeze game with other day camp children.

Good bowler: Day camp participant Jackie Snyder, 9, gets a spare, something that's definitely worth celebrating.

STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

YMCA day camp offers lots of fun for young

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Youngsters looking for something fun to do during vacation are finding it at the Wayne-Westland YMCA.

The YMCA's day camp is being held Dec. 23 through Jan. 3, not counting Christmas and New Year's Day. The children, age 5 to

13 or so, learn about character development. Such traits as honesty, caring, responsibility and trustworthiness are emphasized, said Stacie Foy, camp director.

"We swim. We went bowling. We play games," said Foy, 23, a Garden City resident who plans to graduate in May from Eastern Michigan University with a degree in elementary education. Puzzles,

crafts and other fun fill the two weeks.

Outdoor activities are also planned, weather permitting. "That's pretty much what we do all day," Foy said.

There's little TV watching. A Disney movie is one option for youngsters, but that's pretty much it for the little screen.

About 20 kids signed up for this-

year's camp. Sessions run 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with care before and after stretching from 7-9 a.m. and 4-6:30 p.m. Price of that care is \$1 an hour per family. Camp sessions are \$72 for members, \$82 for non-

members per week.

"Most of them are working parents," Foy said. "It's very useful for

See CAMP, A2

Students help needy

Adult education students at the Tinkham Center in Westland recently raised money to buy food for needy families, Westland Goodfellows president Jerry Smith said. Students Kenfontae Keith and Cristo Broadnax headed the drive to collect money from the student body. Other students who donated included Dave Codd, Jerome Cook, Bryan Cooke, Neijla Daniels, Cherie Duke, Jodie Grassel, Jack Hetu, Alecia Holmes, Nicole Hopper, Marcus Houston, KeKe Jackson, Ronald Legion, Rob Little, Armondo Martin, Carin McGraw, Jay Newcomb, Jerome Ross, Angela Stabile, Jennifer Traxler, Brandy Ward and Jennifer Wiper.

Credit union lauded

The Michigan Credit Union League has pre-

PLACES & FACES

sented Wayne-Westland Federal Credit Union a first-place award for the 1996 Dora Maxwell Social Responsibility Award. The credit union's staff since 1987 has adopted Jefferson Barns Elementary School to provide assistance for the purchase of T-shirts for students passing exams and repairing playground equipment. The employees also provide Christmas gifts to more than 300 students.

Tree pickup

Residents are advised that compost and Christmas trees will be picked up on their trash

day Jan. 6 through Jan. 17.

Students inducted

Twenty-three Lutheran High School students have been inducted into the National Honor Society after being selected by the faculty council based for accomplishments in scholarship, leadership, service and character. They are Michael Baltz, Lindsay Bayush, Tera Bias, Philip Bossard, Jessalyn Bowman, Heather Chisolm, Farrah Davis, Andrew Ebendick, Jake Hatten, Sarah Hoffmeier, Ryan Moser, Sarah Nagy, Christopher O'Brien, Cheryl Polkinghorne, Ivan Popov, Christen Rae, Jessica Saskewitch, Lindsay Smith, Christopher Szarek, Sarah Voigt, Aimee Weber, Bradley Woehlko and Megan Zehel.

Goals from page A1



Mayor Robert Thomas

the mayor's Project 2000 plan. Mehl and other critics view Thomas as vulnerable in 1997, but Thomas said Friday that he is confident of winning a third term.

"I feel just as confident about this election as I did the last one," he said.

Rumors of potential challengers aside, only one opponent, Dixie Johnson McNa, has confirmed that she will try to unseat Thomas.

"There's nothing or nobody that can talk me out of it," she said Monday. "I'm running for the people of Westland - to work for them and not for myself."

Regardless of how many challengers emerge, Thomas said he

and his supporters will launch his re-election campaign in the spring.

"We will start campaigning early," he said. "We won't wait to see who the opponents are."

On Friday, meanwhile, Thomas outlined his list of goals for 1997 - a year that he said will see the quality of life continue to improve in Westland.

• Thomas will ask the city council to allocate as much as \$250,000 for parks improvements. He wants to put new playground equipment in every park and install a walking/jogging path in the 22-acre Jaycee Park, at Wildwood and Hunter.

'We will start campaigning early. We won't wait to see who the opponents are.'

Robert Thomas
—Westland mayor

• In another park project, Central City Park will receive a "playscape," described by Thomas as a "huge wooden piece of playground equipment" that can accommodate 60 to 60 children. The playscape will be built - probably around late August - by community volunteers using materials and money raised from donations.

• The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland will become fully operational this year, allowing the city to boast one of the area's best libraries.

• A project to widen Newburgh Road from two lanes to five - south of Cherry Hill to Avondale - will be launched, along with plans to move the road under the C&O railroad tracks. The \$10 million project, boosted by federal grant dollars, won't be completed until 1998. A temporary two-lane road will be built to accommodate traffic during construction.

• A combined sewer overflow project will begin this spring in an area bounded by Merriman, Farmington, Ann Arbor Trail and Joy Road. A \$10 million project being bonded by the city, it is mandated by the Clean Water Act, Thomas said. The reason: Major storms cause the sanitary sewer and stormwater systems

to mix, releasing sewage into the Rouge River.

• The city's Downtown Development Authority will see minimal advances, with the potential for trees being planted along the stretch of Ford Road through Westland. Most DDA efforts to spruce up buildings along Ford and Wayne roads won't occur for years, however.

"In five to 10 years, it will be one of the most important things happening in the city," Thomas said.

• An Advanced Life Support program will be launched - likely by early February - that will place paramedics at two of the city's four fire stations. Fire Chief Michael Reddy has said the plan is certain to save lives.

Thomas had hoped to place paramedics at all four fire stations, but voters' rejection of the 1.5-mill public safety tax in August, forced officials to scale back plans for now. Paramedics will respond from five stations at Ford Road and Carlson and on Palmer west of Merriman.

• A community police program will remain in the Norwayne neighborhood, roughly bounded by Palmer, Merriman, Glenwood and Wildwood. Two officers will continue to work out of the Dorsey Community Center.

Efforts to expand the community police program - hampered by the public safety millage defeat - could improve if the city is able to secure grant monies, Thomas said.



Lots of style: Brooke Cooper, 6, bowls during a YMCA day camp session.

STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Camp from page A1

The kids have fun while they're here."

Last week included a trip to Town 'N Country Lanes for bowling. This week features a trip to Caesarland for pizza and fun.

The swimming pool at the YMCA is particularly popular, Foy said, and the day campers swim every day.

"I've been here for a while, so I have a lot of experience," said Foy, who's worked on the camp for about 3 1/2 years. Several others work on the camp, and also help out at the YMCA summer day camp, as does Foy.

For information on YMCA programs, call 721-7044.

'I've been here for a while, so I have a lot of experience.'

Stacie Foy
—camp director



Top form: Matthew Miller, 9, watches his bowling ball make its way down the lane.

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Balancing act: "I think it's kind of difficult," said 12-year-old Marcus Brown about his second time trying ice skating at the Redford ice rink after school let out.



Ski, skate, sled for winter fun

BY ZACHARY GORCHOW
STAFF WRITER

Sharpen your skates, grease up your sled and break out your ski equipment.

With winter officially under way, area parks and recreation departments are offering a variety of cold weather recreation to local residents, including ice skating, skiing and sledding.

Programs range from family-oriented activities to those that allow older students to have fun without having mom and dad tag along with them.

Canton Township features a family skate night on three outdoor ponds behind the Canton Administration Building, said Bob Dates, Canton Parks and Recreation supervisor.

The area is in Heritage Park, off of South Canton Center Road, between Ford Road and Michigan Avenue.

One pond is for hockey and the others are for open skate.

The ponds get "into the hundreds" of skaters on an evening with good weather, Dates said. Hot chocolate and cookies are served and the event is free to anyone from the area.

"It seems like any family activity here in Canton is very popular," Dates said. "There are so many young families in Canton."

Depending on ice thickness, skating will begin Jan. 23 and run through February.

Bring your own equipment and skates.

Young skiers who aren't old enough to drive or don't have access to a car can make it to the slopes without having to rely on their parents.

Canton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a weekly bus trip to Alpine Valley Ski Resort in White Lake for students 13 years and older, on Friday evenings through February, depending on weather conditions, Dates said.

The bus is usually packed, he said. Area students like the program because local ski clubs primarily ski at Mount Brighton Ski Area, he said.

"A lot of teenagers in this area like to ski and snowboard," he said. "Alpine Valley's a different scene, something new."

Students from throughout the area are welcome to participate, with a cost of between \$20 to \$30 per week depending on whether you rent equipment, which is available at the ski lodge.

Ice skating enthusiasts who



Open skate: 11-year-old Jamie Weston ice skates during an open skate at the Redford ice rink.

prefer the smoothness of an indoor rink to the choppiness of a frozen pond can glide across the ice at the Redford Arena.

Bob Proudfoot, a retired Redford resident, said he began skating regularly after he had a mild heart attack in 1990.

"The best thing I could do was exercise," he said. "So I asked (my doctor) if I could skate — it was something I used to do as a youngster."

Although Proudfoot joked that his hockey days were "long gone," he said he still loves to skate.

"It gets your heart rate up fast and it beats riding a stationary bike — that is so boring," he said.

Nicole Loar, 11, came to the Redford Arena with her fellow Safety Patrol members from Redford Union's Roosevelt Elementary School as part of a pre-winter vacation field trip.

Although some of the students were making their first attempt at ice skating, Loar said she sometimes skates on a rink behind her house. She said she likes skating because of the variety of stunts one can perform, or at least attempt.

"I like all the tricks you can do, like turning and trying to stop," she said.

The arena offers open skating most days through Jan. 5. Skating times vary depending on the day.

For a schedule, call the arena's hotline at 937-2757. The facility is off of Beech Daly Road, between I-96 and Plymouth Road.

Livonia's Eddie Edgar Sports

Arena also offers open skating to the public.

Kathy Ortiz, a Canton resident, visited the arena for the first time Monday with her family.

"It seems to be well-situated in a nicer area and better lit," she said. "It looks like the facility is kept neater and cleaner."

The arena's regular open skate times are from 1 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. weekdays, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturdays and 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sundays.

Some specials that the arena is sponsoring include: a hot dog, pop and skating pass for \$2.50 from 1-2:45 p.m. Friday and Jan. 17; a discount skate for \$1 from 3-4:30 p.m. Jan. 11; and a family skate for \$2 per family from 4-5:30 p.m. Jan. 26.

There is a 5 person limit for each family. Additional skaters must pay an extra 50 cents each.

The arena does not rent skates.

It is near Lyndon and Farmington roads, between Five Mile Road and I-96.

Livonia also has cross-country skiing at three golf courses — Fox Creek Golf Course, Whispering Willows Golf Course and Idyl Wyld Golf Club.

Skiing is open when weather permits. For ski conditions, call 261-2260.

For those who lack the agility to skate or ski without fear of taking a nasty tumble, they can turn to an old fashioned sled to enjoy the season.

In Farmington, sledding is available at "Shiawassee Hill" on Farmington Road just north of Shiawassee Street, said Paul Smith, assistant director of public services.

Andrew and Ryan DeFilipi, 9 and 7, braved a recent cold snap with their dad, Terry, barreling down the thin, crusty layer of snow on Shiawassee Hill.

Ryan said he liked the hill because it allows sledders to catch a little air.

"I like to jump ramps," he said. Despite the night's subzero windchills, Terry said it would take more than frigid weather to dampen his sons' resolve.

"It's pretty chilly — that won't stop them though," he said.

Smith said the city also is planning to have outdoor skating in City Park when the weather becomes cold enough. Skating will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., weather permitting.

For those who enjoy cross-

country skiing, Farmington Hills offers one of the area's more popular courses at Heritage Park. It is a different facility than the Heritage Park in Canton Township.

The park, between 10 and 11

Mile roads off of Farmington Road, has 4 miles of trails with varying terrains, said Andrew Lang, Farmington Hills recreation superintendent.

"The terrain at Heritage Park allows for a change of pace," he

said. "It's the complete package for cross-country skiers."

Skiers who need to rent equipment can do so at Heritage Park on weekends from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at cost of \$8 for 2 hours and \$3 for each additional hour.



Like flying: Karen Fitzgerald works on her skating form at the Redford ice arena, saying ice skating is "like flying without an air-plane."

STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Skate, ski at local facilities

Here's a rundown of more places to skate and cross-country ski in the area.

In Plymouth:

The Compuware Arena is opening up its new facility to the public for skating and drop-in hockey.

Skating is from 9:10-11 a.m. and 12:40 p.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and Sundays from 12:40 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Rates are: \$4 per person and \$2 for children under 4 and for seniors. Skate rental is \$2.

Hockey is from 7-8:50 a.m. and noon to 2 p.m. — Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

The charge is \$7 per player. Goalies can play for free.

The Plymouth Cultural Center Ice Arena has holiday skating times and special rates. Times

are:

■ Jan. 3 — 9:50-11:50 a.m., noon to 1:20 p.m. and 7-8 p.m.

■ Jan. 5 — noon to 1:20 p.m. and 1:30-2:50 p.m.

Rates are:

■ City residents — \$2 for adults, \$1 for children and \$1 for seniors

■ Non-residents — \$3 for adults, \$2 for children and \$1 for seniors.

Skate rental costs \$1.25.

At the Westland Sports Arena, regular times are:

■ Monday through Friday — noon to 1:45 p.m.

■ Saturday and Sunday — 1-2:45 p.m.

Weekday rates are: \$1.75 for students under 17, \$2.25 for adults and \$2 for skate rental.

Weekend rates are: \$2.75 for students under 17 and \$3.25 for

adults.

In Garden City:

The city's Civic Arena has open skate sessions during the holiday season.

Times are:

■ Jan. 3 — 1-2:45 p.m. and 7-8:45 p.m.

Weekday rates for 1-2:45 p.m. sessions are: \$1.25 for children and \$1.75 for adults. All other sessions are: \$1.75 for children and \$2.50 for adults. Skate rental is \$1.50.

Additional cross-country skiing can be found at Maybury State Park, which is off of Eight Mile Road, one mile west of Beck Road.

The park has more than 10 miles of groomed trails with varying degrees of difficulty. Call (810) 348-1190 for ski conditions.



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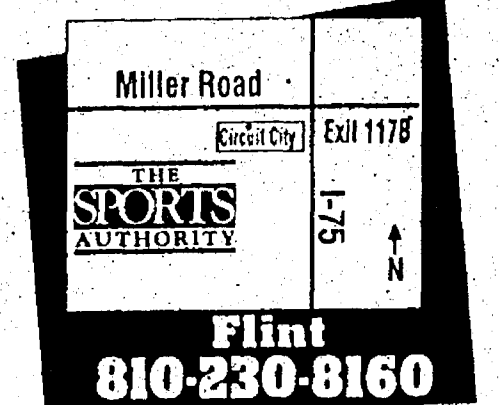
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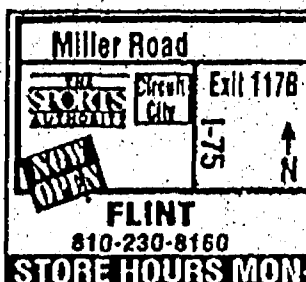
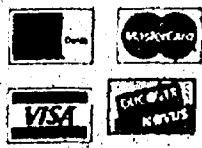
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Health insurance bills OK'd

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

A compromise package of health insurance bills provided "a positive note" for state Rep. John Jamian as he closed five years in the Michigan Legislature.

"I left tonight knowing that we restored the people's rights regarding health care and insurance providers," said Jamian, R-Bloomfield Township, as the lame-duck Legislature shut down. Jamian, 42, didn't seek reelection.

The Health Insurance Association of America, at blistering odds with Jamian for months over the package, praised Senate efforts to reach a compromise that wouldn't drive up individual health insurance contract price.

"The bill now avoids the significant rate hikes the House-passed legislation may have caused," said HIAA.

Democratic Reps. Sharon Gire of Macomb County and Laura Baird of Okemos called "this bipartisan and historic legislation a win-win situation." Senate

majority leader Dick Posthumus, R-Alto, praised it as pro-consumer legislation.

The House on Dec. 11 concurred in Senate amendments to the five bills by overwhelming votes ranging from 101-0 to 96-5. Voting no most often was Rep. David Gubow, D-Huntington Woods. All other area lawmakers voted yes.

Gov. John Engler is expected to sign House Bills 5570-74.

Jamian's first goal was to require insurers to cover "preexisting conditions" of an individual under a group policy. "Preexisting conditions" include such ailments as diabetes, hypertension and heart problems.

His second goal was to allow insurers to exclude an individual buyer from coverage of a preexisting condition for six months.

Critics of health insurers, such as Sen. John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, accused them of "cherry picking" good risks on which they could make money.

Small business critics of the bills said uninsured people often demanded coverage the day before they were due for an

organ transplant.

Jamian said the package, as passed, still calls for full disclosure of information by insurance companies "in plain English" and permits denial of coverage for preexisting conditions only in limited instances.

"The main focus of the legislation is intact," said Jamian, chair of the House Health Policy Committee. "Patients now will have everything they need to make informed decisions about which insurance plans are best for them and their families."

The Michigan Health and Hospital Association gave this outline of the package:

- HB 5572 permits third-party insurers with group policies of more than 50 members to deny coverage for persons with pre-existing conditions for six months if the person had been diagnosed or treated in the previous six months.

- For individual or small group (2-50 members), coverage could be denied for 12 months if treatment for the condition had been received six months before assuming the policy.

- HB 5571 and 5573 prohibit the Blues and health maintenance organizations (HMOs) from excluding coverage for pre-existing conditions for persons covered under group policies; but they allow a six-month exclusion for non-group policies if treatment was received six months prior to enrollment.

Health insurers said they have long practiced "guaranteed renewability" of health policies; "and this provision will put that practice into law."

Insurers said the bills "shorten the time insurers can look back in determining preexisting conditions that can be excluded from coverage as well as the time that conditions can be excluded after a policy is in force."

Insurers predicted the limit on excluding preexisting conditions "may require some insurers to raise rates," but won't cause the significant price increases that may have been caused by the original House bills.

Bloodmobile visits S'craft College

Schoolcraft College is sponsoring an American Red Cross Bloodmobile visit between 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 6 in the Waterman Center.

Appointments may be scheduled by calling (313) 462-4400, ext. 5050. Walk-in donors also are welcome.

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Health seminar offered

If your New Year's resolutions include promises to take better care of yourself, Schoolcraft College is sponsoring an event just for you.

Make a date to attend "Health Yourself - 1997" between 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 22 in the college's Waterman Center. Admission is free; some screening tests require a fee.

Several area health organizations will have displays and testing available to provide information on health issues. The United Health Organization will provide Health-O-Rama screening, including blood pressure, height and weight, cholesterol kits for \$10, 22-profile blood screening for \$22 and prostate specific antigen screening for \$25.

Flexibility and strength testing and blood pressure screening will be offered by the Botsford Center for Health Improvement. Schoolcraft College's physical education department will provide free body fat composition screening. The college's culinary arts students will provide free tastings of heart-smart cooking. Town and Country Eyecare will provide free vision acuity screening and UV testing. Anew Therapeutic Massage will give free mini-massages and information on massage therapy.

For more information, contact Schoolcraft College's Health Service at (313) 462-4400, ext. 5050. The college is located at 18600 Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile roads, just west of I-275. Free parking is available in the north parking lot.

Learn how to win government contracts

The federal and state governments purchase billions of dollars in goods and services each year.

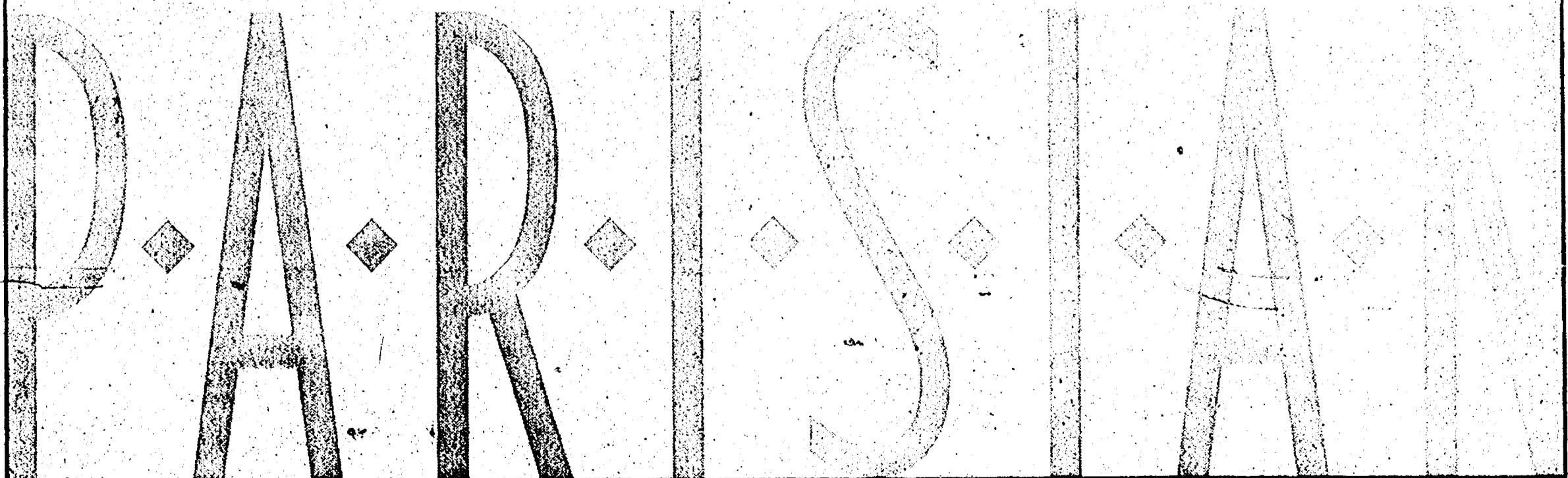
People can learn to navigate through the bureaucratic requirements and win government contracts by attending the Government Contracting Seminar offered by the Business Development Center at Schoolcraft College.

The seminar will be offered on Jan. 9 and Feb. 13 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Topics include the philosophy of government purchasing, requirements of committed contractors and services and resources available to small businesses entering the government market.

The seminar fee is \$25. People can register by calling (313) 462-4438.

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Friends group has tips for homeowners with septic tanks

The Friends of the Rouge recently released a fact sheet for the public about septic systems, maintenance and problems that can be caused by those systems.

The report is part of the federally-funded Rouge River Wet Weather Demonstration Project.

Here are excerpts from that tip sheet: Septic systems are waste water treatment systems that use septic tanks and drain fields to dispose of sewage in the soil. They are typically used in rural or large lot settings where a sanitary sewer is not available.

When a septic system is correctly located, adequately designed, carefully installed and properly managed, it will act as a waste disposal system that is simple, economical, effective, safe and environmentally sensitive, according to the Michigan State University Extension Service.

A septic system is usually made up of a septic tank and a drain field. The septic tank generally is constructed with reinforced concrete, is buried and watertight. This tank receives untreated household waste. The drain field consists of a series of perforated pipes, which distribute the liquid from the septic tank to the surrounding soil.

Even though the best designed and

installed system eventually will fail, proper maintenance will ensure a longer lasting waste disposal system.

A failure of a septic system can cause serious problems. Sewage can pond on the ground near the drain field or back up into buildings. Animals and people can become ill from contact with these discharges.

Pollution may enter surface waters and shallow drinking water supplies. In addition to public health concerns, there are costly repair bills to repair or replace the system.

How septic work

Waste material from the house enters the septic tank where:

- Heavier solids settle to the bottom and form a sludge layer.
- Lighter wastes such as oil and grease rise to the top and form a scum layer.
- Between these two layers is liquid waste water.

When waste enters the tank, bacteria begin to break down the solid materials. This breakdown reduces solids, but also leaves a residue behind in the tank.

As time passes, this residue builds up, and must be removed to prevent it from entering the drain field and clogging the system. The center liquid layer flows

Septic tank owners should have their tanks pumped out by a licensed contractor once every two or three years.

slowly from the tank into the drain field. Perforated pipes allow the liquid to be equally distributed in a gravel-filled disposal field. Once the liquid reaches the disposal field, it soaks into the soil.

The soil acts as the final filter to treat waste received from the septic system.

Maintenance tips

Have your septic tank pumped out by a licensed contractor every two or three years. Have the operator check to make sure a tee or baffle is located on the outlet of the tank. The baffle stops scum from floating into the disposal field.

Check with the health department if you are having problems. They can assist with operation, maintenance and design questions.

Learn the location of your septic tank, drain field and well. Keep a sketch of it handy with your maintenance record for service visits.

Divert other sources of water, like

roof drains, house footing drains, and sump pumps to lawn areas away from the septic system. Excessive water floods the system, keeping the soil in the drain field saturated and unable to adequately treat the waste water.

Take leftover hazardous household chemicals to your approved hazardous waste collection center for disposal. Use bleach disinfectants, and toilet bowl cleaners sparingly and in accordance with product labels.

Cut the grass over the disposal field. Shorter grass (about 2 or 3 inches) increases plant activity called evapotranspiration. This process removes nutrients from the disposal field through the root system and increases evaporation.

What not to do

- Don't enter a septic tank. Toxic gases are produced by the natural treatment processes in septic tanks and can kill humans in minutes. Extreme care should be taken when inspecting a septic tank, even when just looking in the lid opening.
- Don't place heavy machinery or vehicles to park over or drive on the drain field.
- Don't plant trees or shrubs on the drain field. Plant roots can damage the

system.

- Don't cover the drain field with concrete, asphalt or decks. The area should only have a grass cover.

- Don't overuse a kitchen garbage disposal unit, or add commercial septic tank additives.

- Don't use your toilet like a trash can or poison your septic system and the ground water by pouring harmful chemicals and cleansers down the drain. Harsh chemicals can kill the beneficial bacteria that treat waste water.

- Do not flush coffee grinds, disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, cigarette butts, fat, paper towels, dental floss, kitty litter, tampons, condoms, grease or oil, or hazardous materials, such as paints, thinners, oils, photographic solutions, varnishes, pesticides or old gasoline.

Signs of a failing system

Your system may be failing if you notice one of the following symptoms:

- Sewage backup in drains or toilets.
- Slow flushing toilets, sinks or drains.
- Visible liquid on the surface of the ground near the septic system.
- Lush, green grass over the drain

See SEPTIC, A9

DIA showcases film and video festival

The 1997 Michigan Student Film and Video Festival will be Saturday, May 3 at the Detroit Film Theatre in the Detroit Institute of Arts.

This festival is the only event of this kind in the United States which showcases productions from children in kindergarten through 12th grade. The major focus of the festival is to positively reinforce children's participation in film and video production.

All entries are awarded with a certificate and medal. Selected winners also receive various spe-

cial awards including scholarships. The festival is organized by Detroit Area Film and Television (DAFT), a charitable statewide educational association.

The festival is open to K-12 students from Michigan public schools, private schools, cable companies, community service organizations, or can be produced by children independently at home. Students compete in either the elementary, junior or senior levels, depending on their age.

In addition, handicapped chil-

dren may choose to enter their programs in a special division where they would only compete against other handicapped children of their own age.

The festival is a juried event. Entries cover a wide range of topics and subject matters, styles and techniques—reflecting the unique and creative forces in today's youth.

Student entrants are given the judges' evaluations plus written suggestions on how to improve their production, as an educational support for their growth and development as student

media makers. Many past festival winners have gone on to receive great success in the film and video industry, winning Emmys and Academy Awards.

If you are interested in getting more information about this event, would like a workshop presentation on student film/video production, or would like to see the 1996 festival award video, contact festival director, Margaret Culver, Harrison High School, 29995 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, 48334 or call (810) 489-3491.

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Severe weather focus of poster contest

The Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness is sponsoring a Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest, open to all students currently enrolled in fourth or fifth grades.

The deadline to enter is Feb. 1, 1997.

Posters must emphasize the importance of being prepared in the event of Michigan severe weather, such as tornadoes, floods, snow storms, severe cold, lightning and thunderstorms, according to contest sponsors.

The first-place winner will receive a \$200 U.S. Savings bond; second place will be awarded a \$100 U.S. Savings bond; third place will receive a \$75 U.S. Savings bond and honorable mention will be awarded a \$50 U.S. Savings bond.

Posters must be 15-inches by 20-inches and submitted on quality poster or illustration board. The work must be original and may be in any media with the exception of pencil, chalk, charcoal or glitter. All

posters will become the property of the sponsoring organization.

The artist's name, age, grade, home address and telephone number, along with the name, address and telephone number of the student's school, and art instructor (if any), must be attached to the back of the poster on a 3-by-5 index card.

Entries must be postmarked no later than midnight on Feb. 1. To enter, send posters wrapped flat to National Weather Service, 9200 White Lake Road, White

Lake, MI 48386.

For further information, contact Gary Campbell at the National Weather Service at (810) 625-3309, ext. 726, or Lori White at the Michigan Association of Insurance Companies at (517) 482-1643.

The Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness was formed in 1991 to coordinate public information efforts regarding flood, tornado and

winter safety. The Committee includes representatives from the National Weather Service, Emergency Management Division of the Michigan State Police, Michigan Association of Insurance Companies, Michigan Emergency Management Association, Department of Natural Resources, Michigan Association of Insurance Agents, American Red Cross, Michigan Association of Broadcasters and WDIV-TV in Detroit.

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Child safety seats recalled

Kolcraft, a manufacturer of child safety seats, has announced the recall of over 51,400 car seats.

The defective seats have crotch straps which are incorrectly installed.

Models affected are the Travel-About, Plus 5, Plus 4 and certain models of Infant Rider manufactured March 4-April 20, 1996, July 17, 1996, July 25, 1996 and Aug. 19. Also affected are the Kolcraft Travel-About, Plus 5 and Carters Travel 5 (nos. 13833, 13842 and 13852) manufactured May 1-Sept. 30, 1996.

Owners of these seats are instructed to call Kolcraft at 1-800-453-7673 to receive instructions on how to examine the strap retainer for proper installation and how to properly install the clip, if necessary.

Parents are reminded that children under 13 should be properly buckled in the back seat of vehicles with passenger-side air bags. Adult drivers should sit as far back from the air bag as comfortable and practical when driving.

Anyone wishing to receive more information or register a complaint concerning this recall campaign are encouraged to call the Auto Safety Hotline at 1-800-424-9393.

Want to get in shape? S'craft has aerobic workouts

Schoolcraft College is determined to help you look and feel your best with an expanded program of aerobic exercise.

Starting Monday, Jan. 6 participants can begin an eight-week program of three times a week aerobic workouts, with the option of extending it for a second eight weeks in March. The class meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. The fee is \$74. The second session begins March 10 and extends another eight weeks.

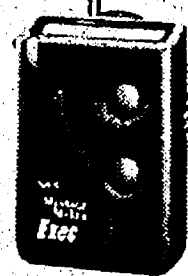
For those not quite so ambitious, a 12-week session meeting twice a week begins at 7:05 p.m., Monday, Feb. 3 or at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 4. A session meeting once a week for 12 weeks begins at 1:10 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 2.

There are also 12-week programs of step aerobics meeting both one and two hours a week and aerobic/weight training, meeting either one or two hours each week. Fees for all classes are \$74 with reduced rates for seniors.

For information on physical fitness classes call 462-4413. Schoolcraft College is located in Livonia at 18600 Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile roads just west of I-275.

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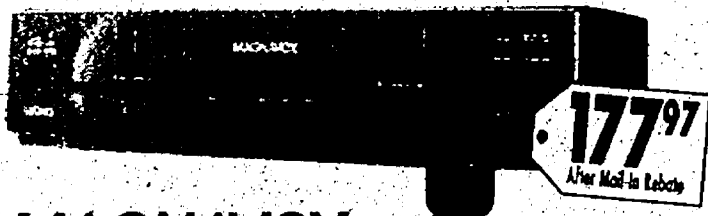
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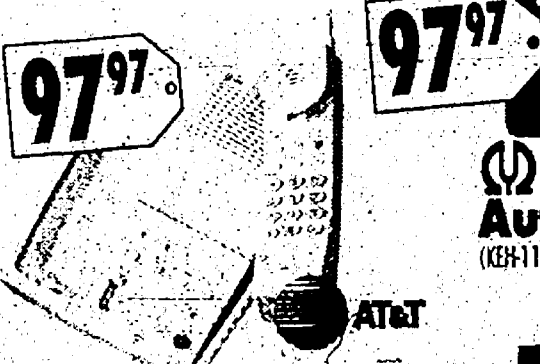
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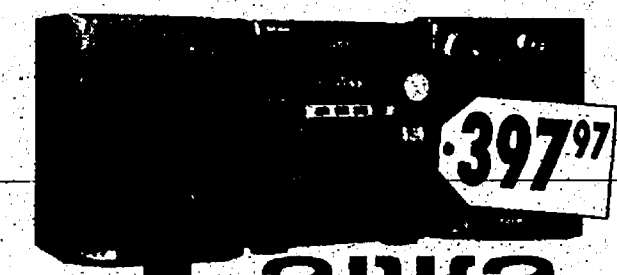
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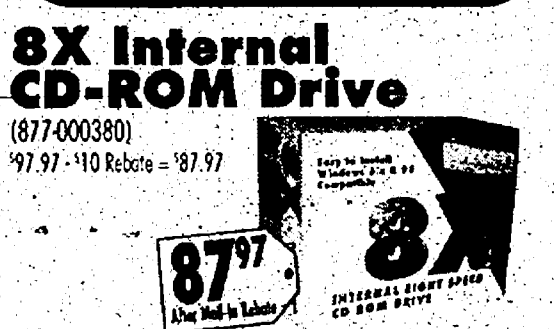
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Scholarship applications accepted for the 1997-98 academic year

Madonna University is accepting scholarship applications through Monday, March 3, from admitted students for the 1997-98 academic year. Scholarship applications may be obtained at the University Financial Aid Office or by calling (313) 432-5663. The majority of awards stipulate that the recipient be an admitted full-time student who possesses a minimum grade-point average of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale. Madonna University scholarships available for the 1997-98 year include: Detroit Edison Foundation Endowed Scholarship, awarded to minority students pursuing science, especially prospective teachers in elementary schools; Kristen H. Hallerman Scholarship, awarded to a beginning nursing student from either Plymouth Canton High School, Plymouth Salem High School or Garden City High School; William Randolph Hearst Scholarship, awarded to students in service-oriented degree programs; Charles and Patricia Derry Video Communications Scholarship, awarded to a video communications major; Bishop Moses B. Anderson/Frank Hayden Scholarship, awarded to African students or American students of African heritage; Lions/Lioness Club Scholarship, awarded to hearing-impaired students; Livonia Jaycees Scholarship, awarded to junior or senior students; and the Joyce and Don Massey Scholarship.

ing student from either Plymouth Canton High School, Plymouth Salem High School or Garden City High School; William Randolph Hearst Scholarship, awarded to students in service-oriented degree programs; Charles and Patricia Derry Video Communications Scholarship, awarded to a video communications major; Bishop Moses B. Anderson/Frank Hayden Scholarship, awarded to African students or American students of African heritage; Lions/Lioness Club Scholarship, awarded to hearing-impaired students; Livonia Jaycees Scholarship, awarded to junior or senior students; and the Joyce and Don Massey Scholarship.

Crafters can apply now for spring show at Schoolcraft

Crafters of every ilk are encouraged to apply for a spot in the 1997 Spring Craft Show at Schoolcraft College March 8. The show features about 150 crafters and attracts crowds of more than 2,000. The show is juried, and a limited number of exhibitors are accepted in each

category to maintain a balanced representation in each craft. Crafters are asked to submit a photograph of their work with their application if they have not been accepted for a previous show. The show features all types of handmade crafts including

painting, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, textiles, needlework, photography, glass, leather and woodcarving. The fee for a 12-foot by 12-foot space is \$80; a 10-by-10 space costs \$55; a 8-by-9 space is \$40 and an 8-by-4 hallway space costs \$40. Exhibitors who want

electricity will be charged \$15 for that service. Applications must be received by Jan. 10. To obtain an application, contact the Department of Marketing and Development at (313) 462-4417.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day observed at Madonna University

Madonna University will co-sponsor the second annual Martin Luther King Jr. Observance on Jan. 20. The observance is organized by People of Livonia 'Addressing Issues of Diversity and there is no charge. "The purpose of the event is to increase awareness within the community and recognize Martin Luther King's efforts," said Donna Pomerson, chairperson of the observance. The flashlight observance will begin at 6:30 p.m. from the Civic Center Library, 33000 Civic Center, in Livonia, along Five Mile Road to the Bentley Center

Auditorium, 15100 Hubbard. Participants are asked to bring a flashlight. The program begins at 7 p.m. and includes musical selections performed by high school choral groups and a dramatic recitation by LaRon Williams, an African-American storyteller. Refreshments will be provided after the presentations. Sr. Martinez, director of Madonna University's office of multicultural affairs and coordinator of Madonna University's

participation in the event, said: "Our university had a very large turnout at last year's march. This is our second year sponsoring the event, and I hope to see

many students and faculty participating again." For more information, contact PLAID at (313) 523-9356.

Septic from page A6

field, even during dry weather. Often this indicates that an excessive amount of liquid from the system is moving up through the soil, instead of downward, as it should. While some upward movement of liquid is good, too much could indicate major problems. • Unpleasant odors around the house.

If you suspect you have a failed system, contact the Wayne County Environmental Health Division at 326-4920 for assistance in assessing the situation. If you have any questions about the Rouge Project or information about septic systems and its relationship with the Rouge River, call the Rouge Hotline at (313) 961-0730.

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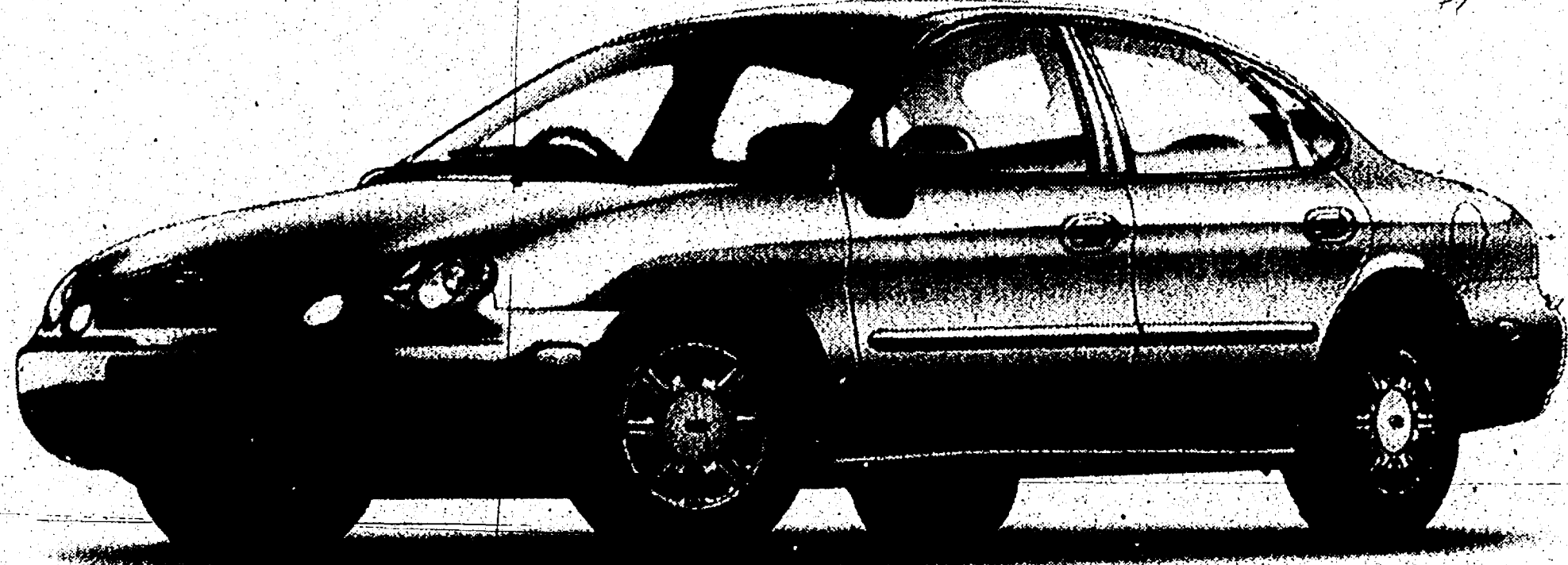
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CORRECTION
On Page 2 of the January 2, 1997 One-Stop Shopping Guide, Frozen Alaskan Pollock Fillets were shown at 2 lbs. for \$1. The correct price is 2 lbs. for \$3. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused our guests.
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Westland Observer

OPINION

A10(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1997

1996'S UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CATCHING UP ON WHAT HAS (NOT) HAPPENED IN THE LAST YEAR:



ROADS

For a decade, western Wayne County's system of state freeways, county roads and local streets has been deteriorating. Our Leaders in Lansing just aren't embar-

assed by it. They would rather boast about "21 tax cuts" than about "21 worst road problems fixed." In the lame-duck session, the Legislature juggled a few million out of the Secretary of State's office for road and bridge work, but it was a fraction of what is needed.

So area cities like Plymouth, Northville and Novi have given up waiting and are voting their own bond issues and taxes to take care of city streets. Townships in western Wayne County are desperately seeking "their" share of county road funds. Lazy Lansing has succeeded in shoving the problem onto the locals.

It is a bad solution, but locally voted taxes may be the only way around the state's political quaking at the "T" word.



ARTS

The state Senate passed one bill to allow a regional property tax for the arts. The House passed a different bill. The differences didn't get resolved before the

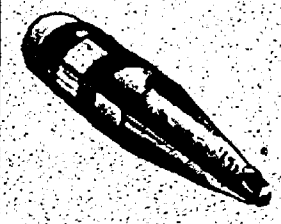
lame duck session of the Legislature adjourned.

Maybe it's just as well. The truculent Detroit City Council refuses to surrender an inch of political control over the Detroit Institute of Arts, though the city provides only a sliver of DIA's budget. Ditto with the Detroit Zoo, which receives big doses of state funds but remains entirely under Detroit's political thumb.

Suburbanites, for their part, will be unwilling to pump tri-county money into a department of one city's government. Already suburban voters have coughed up more tax money for public transportation, county parks and two downtown stadiums. An arts tax would be a tough sell at any time, under any governance system. But the timing and Detroit's iron political hand make it especially difficult now.

A great opportunity lies ahead for the Big Four - Wayne Executive Ed McNamara, Oakland Executive L. Brooks Patterson, Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer and whoever emerges from the Macomb County brawl.

SCHOOLS



The attack is still on against public schools by those who would raid the treasury for "voucher" money. Meanwhile, western Wayne school officials have assigned themselves the

daunting task of getting a better deal on school funding. They say Proposal A helped rescue poor school districts in mid-Michigan but put a lid on increases for the former "out-of-formula" suburban districts. As their revenues rise 2.7 percent per pupil each year, their built-in expenses for special ed and pensions edge up at 4 to 6 percent. Something has to give.

Keep in mind suburban districts no longer have control over their revenue streams by asking for more local property tax hikes. The state now controls the purse strings.

Officials in 10 western Wayne school districts operate through MAISL, the Metropolitan Association for Improved School Legislation. MAISL clearly must make an alliance with Oakland County school districts and Ann Arbor, which have similar problems.

A good sign is that the state House of Representatives will turn over dramatically in 1998 as term limits kick in. New lawmakers are less likely to have the fanatical devotion to tax cuts that have characterized past deterioration of state government.

COURTS



The big push for "court reform" was precipitated in large part by requests for more judges in western Wayne County, along with Oakland County and the Ypsilanti area. The

Engler Administration put a lid on adding ever more judges until judges are better deployed.

As 1996 ended, we were inching toward a single "trial court" system as the circuit and probate courts share more powers. The notion of having a separate criminal court just in Detroit clearly is no longer acceptable to the suburbs.

Meanwhile, State Bar leaders are probing "merit" selection of judges - a potentially vast improvement over blindly picking "name" candidates at the polls.

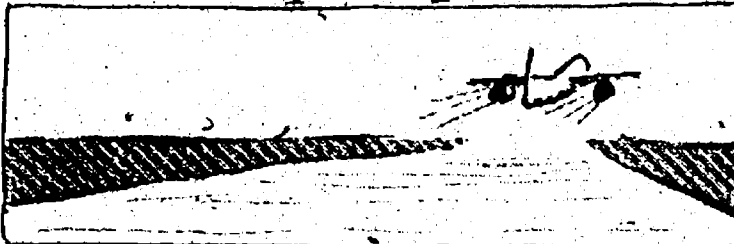
A good sign is that in 1998 we no longer will see people fresh out of law school winning important judgeships that call for courtroom experience as well as good report cards. State voters amended the constitution to require five years as a licensed lawyer before one can become a judge.

ARKIE HUDKINS

Happy NEW Year '97

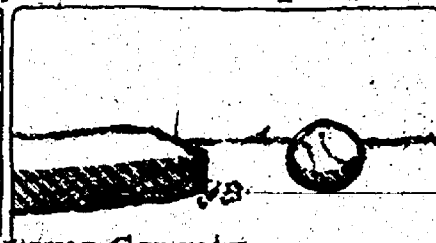
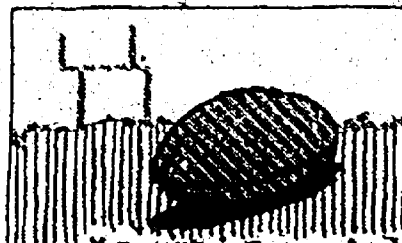
Metro Airport Expansion

Newburgh Lake Cleanup



Park Improvements

New Lions Stadium & New Tigers Ballpark *



* And both are in Wayne County

LETTERS

Education problems

The problem with public education, in my opinion, is twofold. First, like almost every institution in our society it is competition-based. The typical argument is that without competition people get lazy and don't work. It is also used as a way to categorize children.

I can't think of a better way than using competition in a learning environment to kill a child's love of real learning. A child begins with an irrepressible sense of curiosity and wonder. Formal schooling, instead of encouraging this, kills it.

The second "great evil" in public education is the grossly biased emphasis on left-brain thinking. We extrude our children through the modern mold of left-brain analytical thinking with complete disregard to their own preferred modes of learning, again robbing them of joy and self-esteem.

The primary purpose of public education is to enable the individual to lead an informed, happy, productive life. This includes preparing them for adult contribution to society (i.e., a job).

At this point, industry is ahead of education in changing its philosophy about learning and working. We are being given more freedom to do things in unique and different ways. Our training (classes) are hands-on, group-oriented, and process-oriented with brainstorming and encouragement to accept all ideas (and to evaluate later). Diversity is important in industry. Companies try to maintain a diverse workforce because they realize that this is the way to get fresh ideas.

Public education fails the child at the most personal level, telling them that they don't know how to think and they are not as good as, or are better than, their peers. It fails the children at the professional level by not giving them the skills that industry looks for.

The kind of radical reform it would take to make public schools work would never be paid for by the public. All the more sad: We are training our children for despair and defeat.

The idea that there is only one right answer for a problem or only one way to learn is a dangerous lie. I wish teachers could get the support they need from parents and administration so they could have small enough classes and enough freedom to do their job the way they know they can and should.

Cynthia Agathocleous
Canton

Party time?

On my first reading of the editorial titled "Tis the season for miracles" I assumed the author hit the egg nog a little early and feeling all warm and fuzzy, penned this collection of thoughts and sentences.

Neal Zipser
Livonia

On my second reading, after a few shots, I could discern a message coming out; something about believing things will turn out for the better if we continue to believe they will (I think).

Anyway, no matter how much I drank, I could not figure out why the lady wanted to step into the Red Sea before it parted.

Party on, dudes!

Janusz M. Szyszko
Canton

Against 3rd code

I am one of the several households in Livonia that will be affected by Ameritech's plans to keep the 313 area code when the company adds a third area code to the city in early 1997. And I, along with my neighbors also affected, am not happy.

Like usual, this is an example of a utility being able to do what it wants. Utilities, in general, are monopolies. Currently, we as citizens do not have a choice where to purchase our natural gas or electricity - or who our local phone carrier is.

Meanwhile, Ameritech is always guaranteed to make a profit, no matter how many area codes they make or how many residents they disturb. Therefore, my neighbors and I believe this matter will not be resolved by Ameritech and we are sitting ducks. There are numerous reasons why we oppose the third area code.

First of all, Ameritech claims that the three area codes are necessary because there are three "central service facilities" in Livonia. Why should this matter to the customers? Because it may be easier for Ameritech's administration, let's make a few customers inconvenienced?

We also don't believe it's fair that we'll have to call the pizza place across Seven Mile Road using a different area code and then a third area code calling our relatives two blocks to the west.

I have a pair of simple solutions. Divide up area codes fairly like a split down a mile road. People on the same side of the block on the same street should have the same area code. Is that too much to ask for?

And if the increase in beepers, cellular phones and fax machines are to blame for using up all the phone numbers, why not make them change their area codes? All beepers will now be 243. All cellular phones will now have the area code 714 (or whatever).

It's not fair to make businesses change their letterhead or categorize residents for the sake of making things simpler for the monopoly ... for Ameritech.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

What issues do you think the Michigan Legislature should address in 1997?



"I think they need to take a look at the environmental regulations. They're kind of lax right now."

Susan Chase
works in Livonia



"Fixing the roads, maybe."

Rory Gronevett
Plymouth



"School funding. ... More money for our schools."

Kenny Gallant
Livonia



"I think our roads are a scandal."

Tom Kilaz
Livonia

Westland Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Area groups on road to improvement

The Michigan Legislature is stalled over a series of bills to curb urban sprawl. Luckily, local officials, business people and other concerned residents of established communities are not waiting around for whatever state lawmakers finally put together.

They are beefing up the quality of life in our older suburbs, making it more desirable to remain or locate a home or business where culture and services already exist. One important way is by improving our roads, which has become an important benchmark in assessing quality of life.

"At one time, roads were just for traversing through the community," U.S. Rep. Joseph Knollenberg, R-Bloomfield Township, said last week at a ceremony celebrating a new road beautification project spanning Southfield and Oak Park. "We've started looking at our highways as having to be pleasing to the eye and having to provide a better quality of life."

Telegraph and Greenfield roads will be upgraded with walkways, crosswalks, trees, shrubs and colorful

wildflowers thanks to \$526,000 in federal funds together with \$250,000 from the cities of Southfield and Oak Park. The Telegraph project includes the three-mile stretch from I-696 to Eight Mile. Greenfield will undergo 1.3 miles of beautification between Mount Vernon and Eight Mile.

It's probably no coincidence that both projects tie-in to Eight Mile Road. That's because the Eight Mile Boulevard Association has been hard at work since 1993 improving the 27 miles of that road, from I-94 on the East to I-275 on the West — in terms of both beautification and safety.

The road, previously a much-maligned border between Detroit and the suburbs of Oakland and Macomb counties, is showing the results of the cooperation of the 13 communities and three counties along its route.

In its first three years, the Eight Mile association has generated more than \$700,000 for improvements through a combination of federal, state, local and private contributions. Their objectives include landscaping the median, reducing litter and blight, improving bus stop facilities;



JUDITH DONER BERNE

coordinating police enforcement and crime prevention activities and helping developers and brokers attract or expand business establishments.

Specifically, more than 30 businesses have improved, opened or expanded since 1993, according to Sharlan Douglas, EMBA director. "They've added three-quarters of a million square feet and a thousand jobs." The association has created a Business Advisory Council and an annual Eight Mile Clean Team Day to encourage businesses to clean and spruce up their properties. Working in cooperation with neighborhood groups, they have prevented the expansion of topless bars and closed

one bar outright.

And they urged the joint sweeps against prostitution that six police departments and the Wayne County Sheriff's Department conducted this past summer. Next up is creating 24 perennial gardens on the Eight Mile median from Grand River to Vernier at a cost of \$400,000. Five are scheduled for this year.

Not to be outdone, the Grand River Corridor Study Group was launched in 1994-95. Redevelopment plans for the sector from Eight Mile to west of Middlebelt in Farmington Hills, attracted about \$600,000 in combined state and federal grant money and city funds. Curbs have been replaced, landscaping and lighting improved and blighted property purchased and cleared. Still to come are improvements west of the West River Shopping Center to the Farmington border.

Now plans have just been completed to re-beautify Woodward Avenue, Michigan's major artery. The Woodward Avenue Action Association begins work this spring on a mile-long \$93,000 pilot project from Catalpa to

Lincoln. Most of the money comes from two state grants.

Long-range, the association is seeking \$800,000 to beautify the stretch from Eight Mile to Quarton, says Will Hicks of Beverly Hills, who chairs the Woodward Avenue Action Committee. Beautifying the median is the number one priority, Hicks says. Redesigning parking, urging individual businesses to improve storefronts and assigning more logical addresses are also on the docket. The latter includes changing the name of Hunter to Woodward and Woodward to Old Woodward.

Business owners and officials from Birmingham, Berkley, Royal Oak, Huntington Woods, Pleasant Ridge and Ferndale are united in the effort to improve Woodward, Hicks reports. "It was felt that no other road was such a major representation of Michigan."

Roads are for moving along. It's obvious that many people and communities are involved in making them reasons for staying put as well.

Judith Doner Berne, a West Bloomfield resident, is former managing editor of the Eccentric Newspapers.

Welcome school changes or face stagnation

BY EDWARD A. SKOLARUS
GUEST COLUMNIST

Leaders of private educational institutions must become aggressive and militant if charter schools, vouchers and schools of choice are to become a reality throughout the United States.

Recycled arguments, emotionalism and lack of rational analysis have hindered and deterred the implementation of this issue. Due to the nature of these institutions, pacifism reigns.

Lack of historical analysis has caused confusion and chaos among educators.

In 1791, freedom of religion guaranteed the right to worship as one chooses without interference from

Congress. The Supreme Court has interpreted this amendment as a guarantee of the separation of church and state.

I believe that the founders of this nation, who came to this country to be free from religious oppression, intended this amendment to prohibit Congress from establishing a national religion or church. The archaic decision of the Supreme Court must be reversed if the United States is to maximize the brain power of this country.

In 1868, the 14th Amendment to the Constitution guaranteed "equal protection under the law." In 1896, in the case of Plessy vs. Ferguson, the Supreme Court ruled that separate

facilities for different races, as long as they were of equal quality, did not violate the provisions of this amendment.

In 1954, Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, the Supreme Court declared that separation is inherently unequal and thus gave birth to the Civil Rights movement. It is time for the Supreme Court to re-evaluate the issue of separation of church and state in light of 1996 and the future.

Education segregation exists today throughout the United States whether it be geographic or the economic status of the parents.

Why do we shackle our students to the school bell in the district in which they live? Colleges admit students

from other states and countries, but our students are confined.

Handicapped, alternative education and special education students might be able to attain maximum self-esteem and academic excellence if they had the choice to attend schools which specialize in these areas.

Public education has maintained a monopoly on education and now is the time to free parents and students.

Parents pay taxes and should have a voice in how their tax dollars are being spent and whether they choose to send their children to private institutions of learning should be a matter of right not choice. Taxation without representation has been the penalty for choice too long.

Charter schools, vouchers and schools of choice must become a reality if we as a nation wish to continue to be a world power. Educational opportunities must be available to all students regardless of school districts or economics.

Educational achievement and structure are directly proportionate to the greatness of that nation. Time creates changes in our society, but change is feared by people reluctant to change and pursue the status quo. Let us not fear change but welcome change, because without change there is only stagnation and decay.

Edward A. Skolarus is a retired educator.

Cable company should adjust customer survey

If you read a stack of community newspapers, such as this company's, one issue stands out nearly everywhere. Although there are several cable television companies, most articulate folks hate the local cable firm, and for the same reasons.

Once they get the franchise, cable TV companies hike rates faster than inflation. And while people in different towns deal with different cable companies, we tend to cuss them out in the same language.

The thought occurred as I paid my own January cable bill. The notice said the cable company "has adjusted some of its monthly service rates." "Adjusted," my eye. The total bill is up 10 percent. The regulatory fee paid to the Federal Communications Commission is down 20 percent, from 5 cents a month to 4 cents, but the big ticket items are mostly up.

"Standard cable service" is up 42.1 percent to \$16.12. Combined broadcast basic and standard service is up 10.3 percent to \$26.42. And the addressable converter fee is up 18.9 percent to \$2.08. Some "adjustment."

The cable company added insult to injury by enclosing a customer survey. Here are some of the significant questions: "Have you ever spoken with one of our customer service representatives? If so, how would you rate the customer service representatives when you've called or visited our office?"

"Have you ever had a technician come to your home for a service call? If yes, how would you rate our repair service?"

The survey is a phoney, of course, and designed by the company to make itself look good. Here's what an honest cable TV survey would ask:

■ We are raising our basic service rate 10 percent. Did you get a 10 percent pay raise this year?

■ We are eliminating CICO, the Canadian public channel with its arts and drama programs, and substituting a home shopping channel. Do you approve?

■ What do you think of the way we promote high-price programs such as boxing matches or first-run movies on a pay-per-view basis?

■ What do you think of the increasing number of one-star and two-star movies shown on premium channels? Do you suspect the net-



TIM RICHARD

works are deliberately reducing their quality to prompt you to buy "pay-per-view" programming?

The cable company's alibi is that "costs" are up. What they hide is the fact that costs have two components — price per unit and the number of units (customers).

For example, suppose the price per unit is \$1 and the company has 10,000 customers. Its total cost is \$10,000, right?

Now suppose the unit price drops to 90 cents, but the number of customers rises to 12,000 as more homes are wired in. The total cost now is \$10,800, an increase, even though the price per unit has dropped. Do you see the little mathematical trick the cable company plays?

Moreover, in this example, the cable company's total costs have risen, but so has its revenue, even if fees stay the same. It serves more than 20 percent more homes. It switches from a commercial-free educational channel to one where it can sell sponsors, so ad revenue rises.

In short, the alibi of a "cost" increase doesn't begin to justify a fee increase that's more than triple the rate of inflation.

Your impulse will be to call your local franchise authority, in either city hall or township hall. Will that do any good? Doubtful, because as I said at the outset, the handful of cable companies operate pretty much the same way.

What to do about it? I'm not certain, but I have this environmental book that I got for Christmas called "A Sand County Almanac." Maybe we all should read more. The price of a library card still is zero.

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

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Entrepreneur: Dave Antil, a former Redford resident, has married new technology with good old rock and roll in his "Virtual Graceland."



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Selling Elvis takes a new twist

BY RENEE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER

Elvis lives!

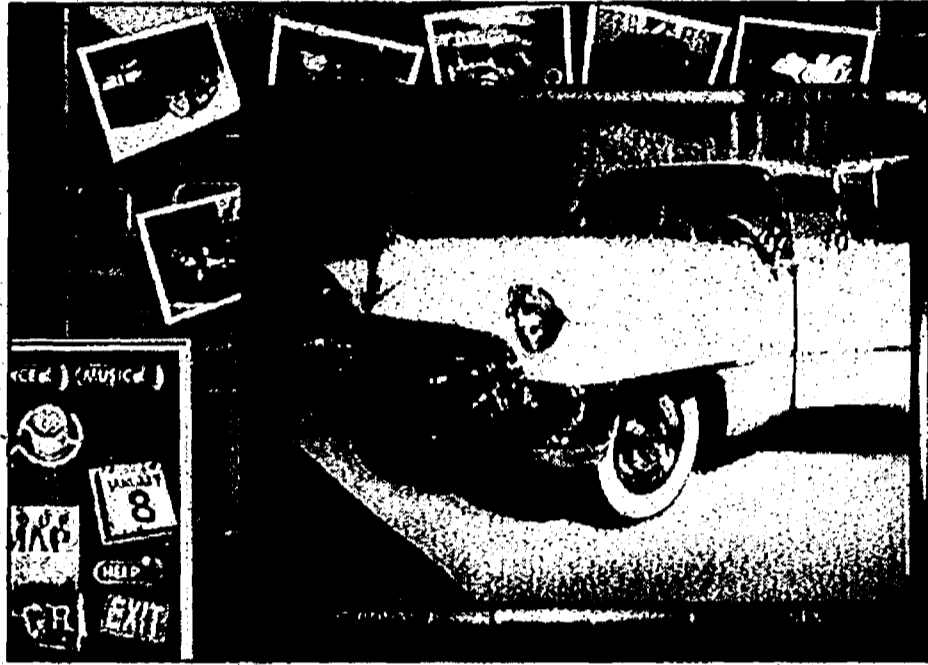
Thanks to former Redford resident Dave Antil, co-founder of Highway One Media Entertainment, a multimedia developer and publisher in Santa Monica, Calif., the king of rock and roll is alive and well in cyberspace.

"Virtual Graceland," a two-disc CD-ROM produced by Highway One for both Macintosh and Windows, puts the user in Elvis's footsteps for a personal tour of Graceland.

Viewers can use the mouse to scan each room and zoom in on over 500 "hot spots." In the trophy room, they can click on the famous black leather suit from Elvis's 1968 TV special. In the mirrored ceiling room, they can click on a jukebox and listen to "Heartbreak Hotel."

"When you go into a room you can either hear an actual tour guide tell you about the room or you can go on the 'unchaperoned tour' and really walk in Elvis's footsteps. That's where all the fun stuff is," said Antil.

Antil, a Catholic Central graduate, headed to California in



1987 with a degree in broadcasting and cinematic arts and business from Central Michigan University. He got his master's from the University of Southern California and worked in the television and movie industry until he co-founded Highway One in 1993.

"I've trying to stay as close to the forefront of what's happening in the whole CD-ROM busi-

ness," said Antil, who recently left Highway One to establish a new company, Pacific Ocean Digital.

Marketing Elvis isn't new, but marketing Elvis intimately revealed on CD-ROM is

"With this program you can experience Graceland and Elvis in a way known to only a handful of people," said Antil. "With this technology you can hear

Elvis's recordings, share his conversations with family and friends, and go behind the scenes of his movies, tours and records. You can even see what Elvis saw as he looked out his windows."

The project, developed with Crunch Media over a period of about four years, is fully endorsed by the Elvis Presley Estate. "We are the official CD-ROM tour. Lisa Marie and Priscilla have both seen the product and love it. Priscilla opened up her vault of home videos," said Antil.

Since its release in September, the disc has selling quite well, according to Antil. "There's a real deep grassroots fan base. There's over 510 clubs in the world and about one million official fan club members."

Antil said die-hard Elvis fans will need about 20 hours to go through everything on the disc. "Some of the little gems are hidden."

"Virtual Graceland" is available at some local stores. It also can be ordered through Highway One Media Entertainment by calling toll free 888-ELVIS CD.

OBITUARIES

JEANETTE MARCZEWSKI

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Marczewski, 84, of Garden City Monday at Santeiu Chapel followed by interment at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West in Westland. The Rev. Edward Prus officiated.

Born in Pennsylvania, Mrs. Marczewski had worked in food preparation. Survivors include sons Stephen Sr. of Garden City and Thomas; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one brother and one sister. Memorials are suggested to St.

Raphael Catholic Church in Garden City.

MARGARET M. ROHRIG

Services for Mrs. Rohrig of Redford were held recently from the Charles R. Step Funeral Home and Divine Providence Church. Burial was in Mt. Elliot Cemetery.

Mrs. Rohrig, 92, died Dec. 25 in Botsford General Hospital.

She was born in Detroit. She is survived by her husband, Charles; two stepsons, Ted and Charles; and a sister, Shirley Roney.

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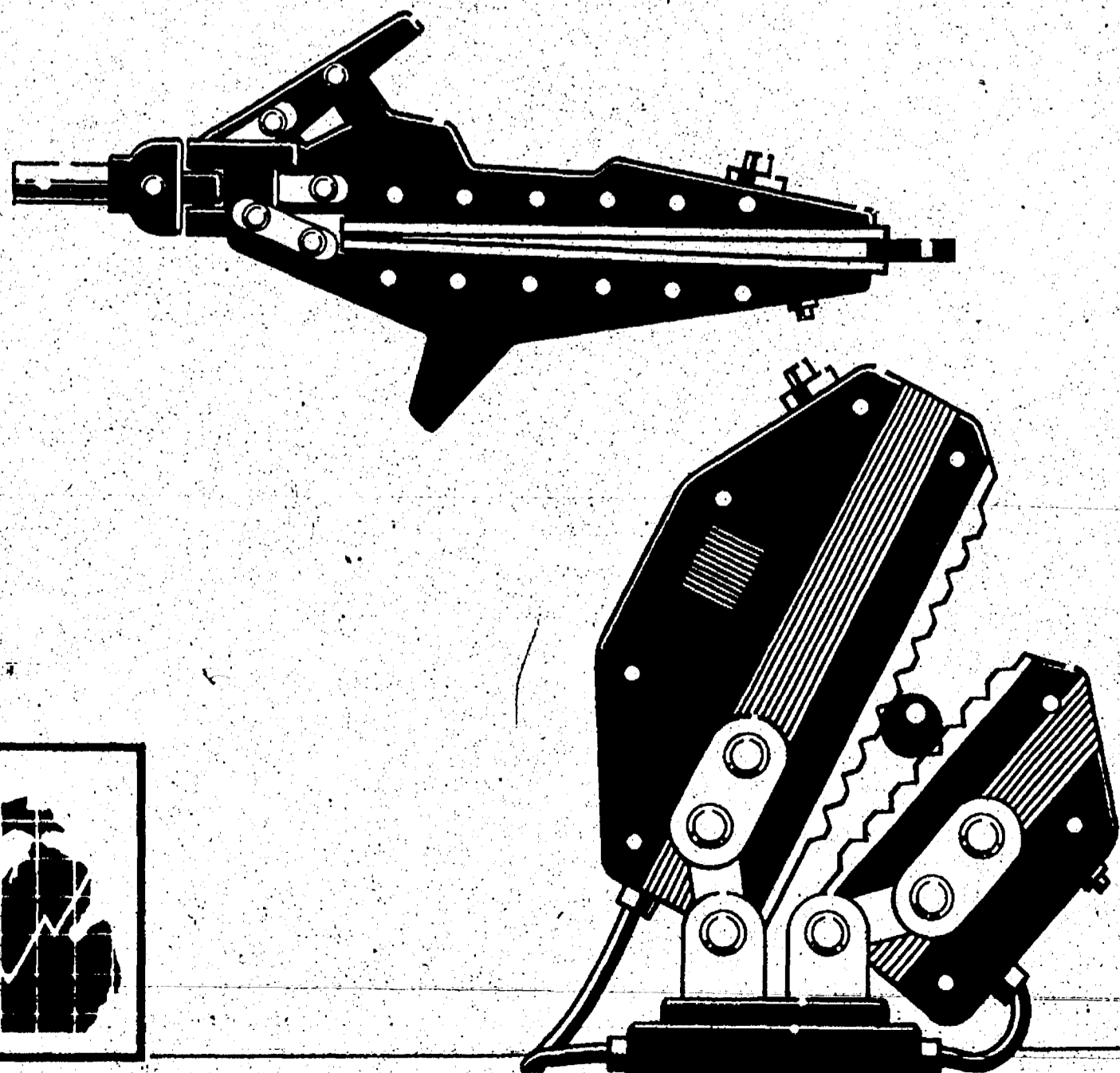
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COMMUNITY LIFE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1997

B

FAMILY ROOM



KAREN MEIER

You can call me foolish optimist

At some point in Peter Ustinov's life he said, "The point of living, and of being an optimist, is to be foolish enough to believe the best is yet to come." I wonder if Mr. Ustinov said that on a day like today, the second of January, the beginning of a brand new year, when hope and uncharted waters and a year full of calendar pages stretched before him.

It'd make perfect sense if he had. It makes perfect sense to me, but then I'm one of those foolish optimistic types he spoke of.

Now, most of us fools know we are fools. Yet others insist on telling us how foolish we are, telling us over and over, getting madder at us at each retelling, and sometimes yelling at us for it. Such is the life of a fool. But beyond that, a foolish optimist is told he is devoid of sense, pain and reality.

The optimist, though, knows considerable pain and reality. It rains down on him, too, in buckets, but somehow he's equipped with a bucket for bailing it out and surviving the deluge. And he works really hard at this effort. The work is back-breaking and heart-wrenching and lonely. And foolish to a whole bunch of passers-by. But for the optimist, it's the only way to survive.

And that part, that it's the only way to survive part, I know about.

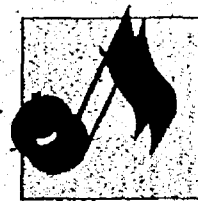
I tried it the other way; it doesn't work. It's icky. Living on the flip-side of foolish optimism makes me grumpy, vindictive, jealous, bitter. It makes me think mean things about people and life. It makes me suspicious and judgmental of everyone.

When I experimented with this other way of looking at things, I didn't look for the good in people, because that's being optimistic. I looked instead for the evilness residing on the surface and inside people.

And yikes, it was there. And it was pretty easy to see it once I was in that flip-side frame of mind, the frame of mind I was encouraged to

See FAMILY ROOM, B2

Kids learn music the Kinder way



■ When Jaclyn Niedermeyer hears the Era laundry soap commercial, she knows it's the "1812 Overture," an impressive accomplishment for the 2 1/2-year-old music aficionado.

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Cheryl Niedermeyer has seen a definite increase in her 2 1/2-year-old daughter Jaclyn's appreciation in music since she began Norma Atwood's Kindermusik program.

"There's an Era commercial where they play the crescendo to the '1812 Overture.' Miss Norma plays that here in class and every time that commercial comes on Jaclyn stops what she's doing and starts dancing," said Niedermeyer of Detroit.

Kindermusik, taught at Arnoldt Williams Music in Canton is a music program for children ages 18 months through 7 years old and their parents. Through singing, moving, listening, playing simple percussion instruments and creative activities, Kindermusik encourages musical instincts and fundamental skills.

Kindermusik was developed in 1976 by Lorna Heyga of North Carolina. Since its inception, the Kindermusik program has grown into an international movement with more than 2,100 teachers in the United States, Canada and 10 other countries.

"She saw the need in the United States for an early childhood development music curriculum," Atwood said. "She saw how advanced the German children were and how there were so many benefits from early childhood music further on down the line."

Heyga brought the program to the United States and redesigned it with colleagues.

"They put it to American folk tunes and developed further programs with it," Atwood said. "Originally it was just a young child program but now we start at 18 months with the beginning program," Atwood said.

Atwood, a Canton resident, heard about the class four years ago while teaching in Farmington Hills.

"I first found out about it in Farmington Hills when I was an early childhood music instructor teaching a curriculum I had developed," she said. "Someone gave me a brochure of Kindermusik. I went to the training and just fell in love with it. It's a marvelous program for little people."

The program is taught in three stages. The classes are one day a week and range from 45 minutes to an hour. The "Kindermusik Beginnings" class, which costs \$100 plus materials, is designed for children ages 1 1/2-3 1/2.

"The young classes are for parent and child," Atwood said. "We sing, we dance, we do rhythm instruments, we do finger play and creative movement. We use different types of instruments like the xylophone and the glockenspiel."

"We do a lot of rhythmic activities because what we're trying to do is internalize rhythm into the child, and also tonal patterns which are sung so they can start to hear pitch and they can duplicate it and repeat it and echo it."

Children ages 3 1/2-4 1/2 move on to "Growing With Kindermusik." The children are with Atwood for 45 minutes and then the parents come in for 15 minutes. In that class they

See KINDERMUSIK, B2



Hear that?: Laura Pairitz and daughter Meg, 3 1/2, listen to the sounds a triangle makes, while Cheryl Niedermeyer (photo below, from left), daughter Jaclyn, 2 1/2, Kathy Fowler and son Michael, 3, lend an ear to hear musical notes during their Kindermusik class.

STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER



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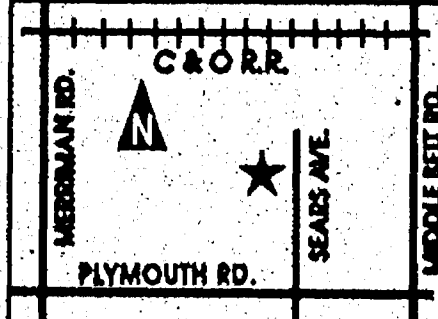
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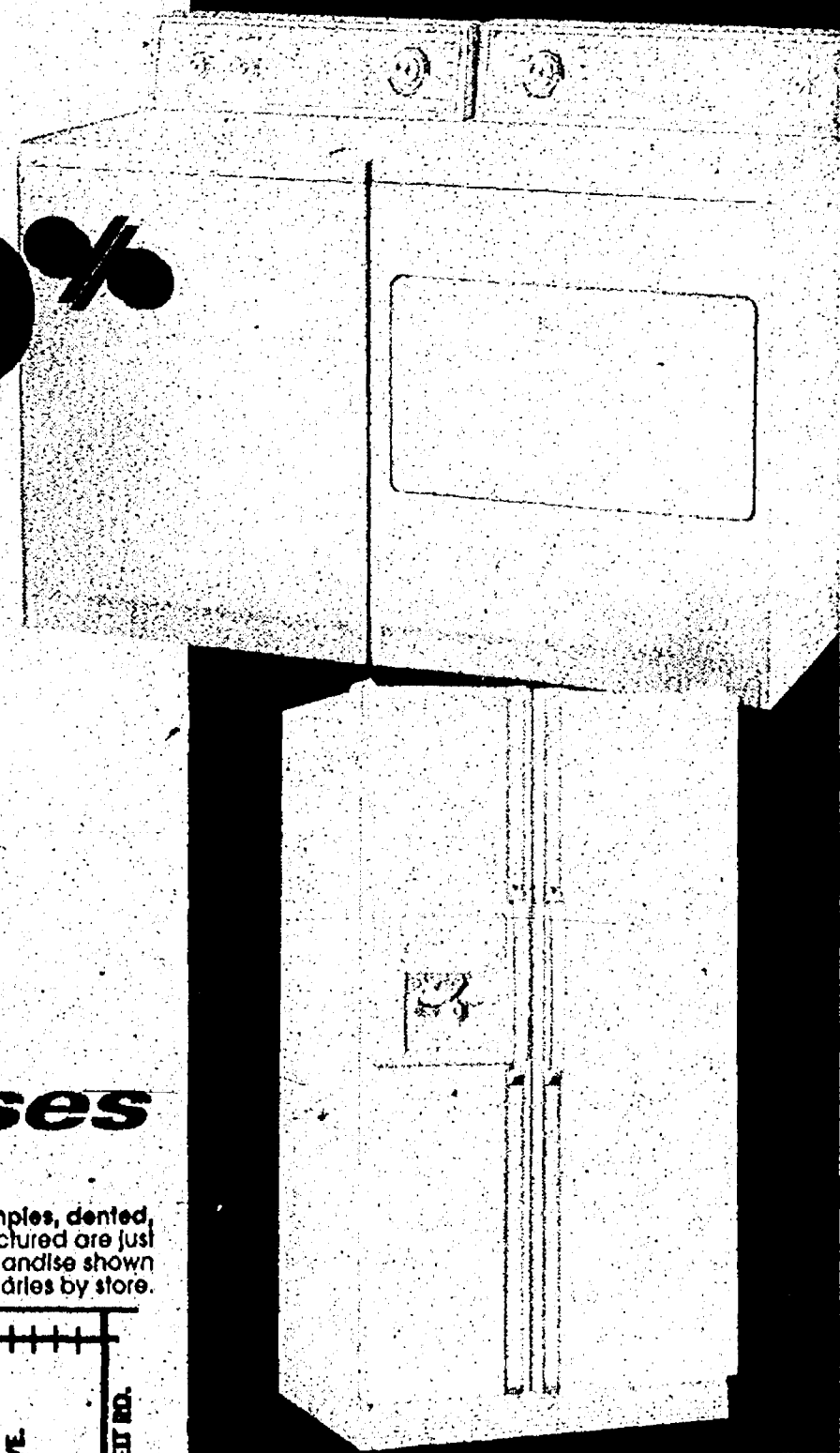
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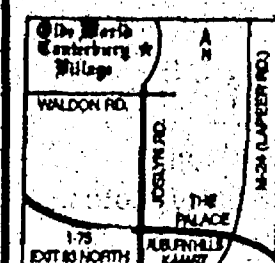
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Kindermusik from page B1

learn larger concepts - highs and lows, softs and louds.

"We do a lot of imagination work, pretending that we're forest animals or that we're cats and mice or whatever," Atwood said. "They know that they are these specific animals by the sound of the music, so they can interpret the music and hear it."

The children also work with more of the rhythm instruments and more ensemble type work with rhythm instruments, Atwood added.

The three "Young Child" programs, which like "Growing With Kindermusik" is priced at \$125 plus materials, come next. During those classes Atwood gets into the more technical aspects of music.

"We get into the theory concepts," Atwood said. "They learn about the music staff. They learn about music notations. They start to read off of music at this age."

"Then we get a glockenspiel and they're reading their notes onto the glockenspiel which is then interpreted onto the keyboard."

They also learn how to hear the music and compose music as a result of their knowledge of the staff and the notes and the placement of the notes on the music staff, she explained.

By the time children graduate from the class, they will have composed a composition and learned how to play it on the glockenspiel and keyboard. They are also into a lot of music

appreciation and delve into different cultures around the world.

"We put it to dance, to singing, and to instruments," Atwood said.

Provides reinforcement

Along with teaching the children about music, Kindermusik reinforces the child's self-esteem, according to Atwood.

"It's amazing what comes from these children. The littlest ones come in here and they actually start to rhythmically tap or clap and they actually sing out for us," she said. "It's amazing because some little ones like that are not really vocal yet; they especially aren't that coordinated yet."

"Through the use of the rhythm stick or working with rhythm their confidence and their abilities are strengthened and they become quite the little musicians after awhile."

That's one of the reasons that Kathy Fowler of Plymouth Township enrolled her 3-year-old son Michael in the program. She heard about Kindermusik from her sister.

"They say there's a definite link between this and math," she said. "I think it's great for him to come here. Music is food for your soul. By taking these classes maybe he'll have the confidence that he wouldn't have had otherwise."

Steve Thornburg of Northville sees his 3-year-old son Robbie get up and do things that he nor-

mally wouldn't do.

"Like singing, he'll get up and sing in front of people. He does it because it's normal here," he said.

Like Fowler, Thornburg says that the program will help Robbie develop his logical and sequential thought processes.

"I never made that tie to mathematics," he said.

Atwood hopes that the Kindermusik program encourages the children to start music lessons at Arnoldt Williams Music.

"We're trying to develop within the center here a conservatory program so it's basically starting with the early Kindermusik children and building into the piano labs and into the private lessons."

Niedermeyer wants her daughter Jaclyn to be one of those children.

"I'm hoping this is something we can take to the completion," she said. "As an adult, we don't have a lot of outlets. It's my hope that when she's an adult and she comes home from work that she'll come home to play the piano or sing as opposed to going to the bar."

Professional career

Atwood is convinced that she was born singing. She started her professional training at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston as a special student in voice when she was 8 years old. Two years later she was singing professionally.

Atwood studied at the conser-

vatory until she enrolled in Northeastern University in Boston where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in theater and music. The former Ohio resident has appeared in "The Sound of Music" in Chicago, "No Sex Please. We're British" in Ohio with June Lockhart, and "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" in New York.

Recently she has cut down on her performances to concentrate on teaching and directing the children's choir at First United Methodist Church in Ann Arbor and the newly formed Rising Star Singers. The singers is an "Up With People"-like program, designed for youths ages 8-18. Auditions will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, at Arnoldt Williams Music, 5701 Canton Center Road, Canton.

"I really enjoy seeing the people around me achieve some success and to see them get out of performance what I always got out of it," Atwood said. "Music has always been my life. It's my passion. I've seen so many people who have worked with teachers who have made it a negative. I was compelled to go out there in the world and say, 'No it's a passion.'"

"You have to approach it that way and you have to love what you do."

For more information about Kindermusik or the Rising Star Singers, call Arnoldt Williams at (313)453-6586. It is at 5701 Canton Center Road, Canton.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRISLER

Chlming in: The Kindermusik program lets instructor Norma Atwood share her love of and passion for music with the youngest of students.

Family Room from page B1

visit by several who live there.

I visited, but I can't figure out how anyone can live there. Honestly, how can anyone LIVE there? I experimented, and I couldn't do it. I couldn't figure out how to actually LIVE like that, because what I wound up doing was existing. Day to day, going through the hours in rote fashion, forcing myself to believe that the best was not yet to come, that the best may have already happened or worse, that it just never does, ever, that folding clothes and scrubbing the floor and cooking spaghetti and washing the dishes was it and moreover, it meant nothing to anybody.

I forced myself to not be optimistic. It was unbearable. It wasn't living. It was robotic. Robots and machines have no faith, they have no optimism, and that's how I felt in this experiment.

The experiment, the foray into this way of viewing life and living life, was at best unsettling. At worst, the experiment, had I continued it much longer, would have produced a new me, a new me that saw life as joyless and hopeless and faithless and just not worth living.

A life without optimism would be JOYLESS, at least that's what was starting to come out of this whole terrible thing. To not

■ To not look on the bright side, to not look FOR the bright side particularly when the bright side is next to impossible to see, took the joy right out of everything.

look on the bright side, to not look FOR the bright side particularly when the bright side is next to impossible to see, took the joy right out of everything. Like when Jack wet his pants three times in four hours.

Without optimism that could only be viewed as hideous drudgery, but with a foolish dose of optimism, there could be some joy there, because a 2-year-old was wearing pants that were

indeed getting wet which meant he wasn't wearing a diaper which meant he was in the middle of potty training and things could only improve from that point on and the best was yet to come.

Being joyless was terrible, but worse than that, much, much worse, was finding myself teetering on the edge of FAITHLESSNESS during this experiment. That was frightening.

After seeing that, after feeling that, I didn't just kind of go back to my old foolish ways of being an optimist, I RAN back, I leaped back. It was a leap back into faith.

Being an optimist is inextricably tied up with looking towards the future, towards the things yet to come, towards possibly good things, possibly amazing things, yet to come. That's where faith comes in, because that's all we have where the future's concerned.

Oh sure, machines prognosticate and predict and prophesy and forecast what lies ahead given current statistics and current gigabytes of data, but what

does a faithless, soulless machine really know about things like miracles, or acts of God, or the strength of the human spirit?

Nothing.

So I ran back. I'm back now, just in time for the new year. I'm optimistic. I'm foolish. And I believe the best is yet to come.

Happy New Year to you all!

If you have a question or comment for Karen Meier, a Plymouth resident, call her at 953-2047, mailbox number 1883, on a Touch-Tone phone, write her at The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or reach her at her E-mail address: FamilyRoom@worldnet.att.net.



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WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Jordan-Skotzke

Mr. and Mrs. James E. Jordan of Tucson, Ariz., announce the engagement of their daughter, Christine Elizabeth to Thomas Skotzke, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward and Louise Skotzke of Lawrenceville, Ga.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Cleary College. She is employed by Northwest Airlines as a training specialist.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Michigan Technological University. He is employed by a consulting engineering firm as a systems specialist.

A May wedding is being planned.



Cervantes-Ferreyra

Rudy and Louella Cervantes of Detroit announce the engagement of their daughter Lisa Marie to Cristian O. Ferreyra, the son of Oscar and Elsa Ferreyra of Dearborn Heights.

The bride-to-be is a 1987 graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School and a 1991 graduate of Central Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree. She works as a customer assistance manager at Electronic Data Systems.

Her fiancé is a 1987 graduate of Crestwood High School and is currently attending the University of Michigan, pursuing a degree in international studies. He works at Northwest Airlines taking reservations and as a Spanish interpreter.



A July wedding is planned at St. Edith Catholic Church in Livonia.

Van Ess-Schlaepfer

Alice Louise Schlaepfer and Craig Karl Van Ess were married on Sept. 28 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Grand Rapids. The Rev. William Evertsberg officiated.

The bride is the daughter of George and Dianne Schlaepfer of Livonia. The groom is the son of Robert Van Ess of Kentwood, Mich., and Doris Van Ess of Grand Rapids.

The bride is a graduate of Livonia Bentley High School and Wayne State University School of medicine. A medical doctor, she is employed by Advantage Health.

The groom received his bachelor's degree from Aquinas College, his master's degree from Grand Valley State University and his Juris Doctor degree from Valparaiso University School of Law. He is employed by Arthur Anderson.

The bride asked Ann Schlaepfer to serve as maid of honor with bridesmaids Carol Schlaepfer, Cynthia Schlaepfer, Sharon Rasmussen and Laura



Gabel. The groom asked Robert Van Ess to serve as best man with Groomsmen Kurt Van Ess, Bradley Van Ess, John Ratter and Nancy Van Wesepe.

The couple received guests at the Spring Lake Country Club in Spring Lake before leaving for a honeymoon to Cancun and Cozumel, Mexico. They are making their home in Pierson, Mich.

Zladeh-George

Christina Jill George and James Michael George were married May 5 at St. Clement's Church in Dearborn. The Rev. George Shaloub and Bishop Nippon officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Anis and Salwa George of Livonia. The groom is the son of Khamis and Hala Zladeh of Farmington Hills.

The bride is a 1994 graduate of Eastern Michigan University. He is employed by the Livonia Public Schools.

The groom is a 1996 graduate of Wayne State University School of Medicine. He is employed by Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.

The bride asked Linda George to serve as maid of honor with bridesmaids Jenny Kowusas, Michele Hanania, Marianne Abdelnour and Leah Johnson.

The groom asked Sean Zladeh to serve as best man with



groomsmen Steve George, Edward Suzzina, Al Abdelnour and Ron Khoury.

The couple received guests at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Hawaii. They are making their home in Farmington Hills.

Clark-Dyc

Carolyn Clark of Livonia announces the engagement of her daughter, Christine Mary, to Rick Dyc, the son of Richard Dyc Sr. of Redford and Nancy Hadley of Midlothian, Va.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and Schoolcraft College.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Redford Union High School and Northern Michigan University. He is employed by Tarmac America Inc.

A March wedding is planned for St. Edith Catholic Church in Livonia.



Miller-Piner

Patricia Piner and James Miller were married Oct. 26 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton.

The bride is the daughter of Bill and Margaret Piner of Plymouth Township. The groom is the son of Bill and Elaine Miller of Houghton Lake.

The bride is employed by Valassis Communications in Livonia. The groom is employed at the Kmart Distribution Center in Canton.

The couple honeymooned at Sandals in St. Lucia and won a Sandals honeymoon through Bride's Magazine which they are



taking in February to Antigua.

Strick-Belleperche

Lisa Ann Belleperche and Joseph Dennis Strick were married Sept. 27 at Golden Rings Wedding Chapel.

The bride is the daughter of Marshall and Janet Belleperche of Livonia. The groom is the son of Alzada Strick, also of Livonia.

The bride is a 1996 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School. She is employed by Livonia Little Tots Day Care.

The groom is a 1994 graduate of Livonia Franklin High School. He is employed by the Livonia Public Schools.

The bride asked Jena Belleperche to serve as maid of honor with Dina Belleperche as bridesmaid.

The groom asked Fredrick Strick to serve as best man with groomsmen William Strick Jr.



The couple received guests at a reception at the Karas House before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Cancun, Mexico. They are making their home in Canton.

Podrasky-Tabbert

Peter and Jean Podrasky of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Michelle Susan, to Edward Robert Tabbert, the son of Edward and Mary Jo Tabbert of Whitmore Lake.

The bride-to-be is a 1991 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and is working on an associate's degree at Schoolcraft College. She is employed in the accounting department at Tapco International in Plymouth.

Her fiancé is a 1990 graduate of Redford Union High School. He is employed by the Ford Motor Company and J. Park Construction.

An August wedding is planned for St. Raphael's Catholic Church in Garden City.



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Our Annual Bridal Supplement
Coming Sunday, February 2
Our premier Sunday edition will include one of our most popular supplements—our annual Bridal section.
Not only will this traditional tribute to matrimony appear in our new Sunday editions, it will contain a new feature—anniversaries.
So, whether you're planning a wedding or celebrating a milestone in your marriage, you won't want to miss it!

The Observer
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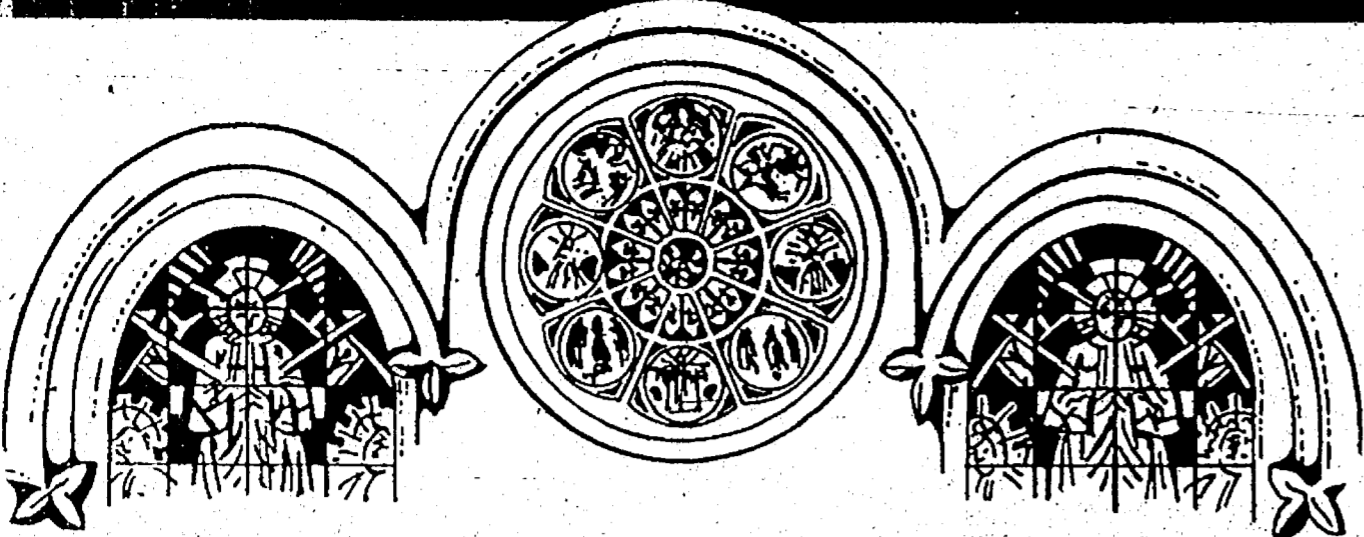
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Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.
Wed Family Hour 7:15 P.M.

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11:00 a.m. "Mary Had A Little Lamb"
6:00 p.m. "The Joy The Lamb Brought"
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421-8451

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Livonia, MI 48150
313-207-1817

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CHRISTMAS EVE 11:00 AM
Phone (313) 207-1817

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10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
& Sunday School

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Sun. 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
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451-0444
Rev. RICHARD A. PERFETTO

Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

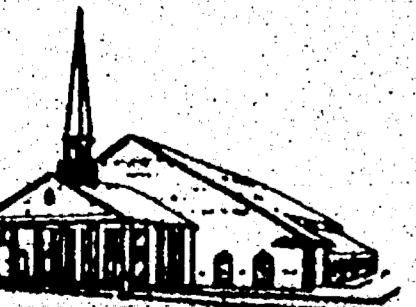
LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

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9415 Merriman • Livonia
313-261-1360

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
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St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
17810 Farmington Road • Livonia
(313) 261-1360

May thru October • Monday Night Service • 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.



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Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

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(1 Mile West of Sheldon)
Plymouth • 453-5252
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Family Sunday School 9:45 A.M.
K. M. Mohr, Pastor
Hugh McMartin, Lay Minister

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School
5885 Venice 1 Blk. N. of Ford Rd., Westland 425-0260

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Bible Class & SS 9:30 A.M.
Monday Evening Service 7:30 P.M.
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Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor
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CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
42690 Cherry Hill Road, Canton 981-0285 Roger Aumann, Pastor

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Preschool & Kindergarten

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Pastor Ken Roberts
313/459-8181

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6820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290
Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Adult & Children's Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Family Worship

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SUN. 9:00 A, 11:00 A, 6:00 P

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Sunday Memorial Service 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School 11:30 A.M.
Bible Class
Wednesdays 8:00 P.M.
36516 Parkdale, Livonia • 425-7610

CHURCHES OF CHRIST

MEMORIAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Christian Church)
35475 Five Mile Rd. 454-6722
LIVONIA • 427-2290
MARK MCGILVREY, Minister
Tim Cole, Associate Minister
Paul Rumburg, Youth Minister
BIBLE SCHOOL (All ages) 9:30 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.
Morning Worship - 9:30 & 10:45 A.M.
Adult Worship & Youth Groups 6:30 P.M.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

CHRISTIAN HARMONY MINISTRIES
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Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
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1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 474-1444
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
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Reading Room - 345 S. Haven, Plymouth
Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
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26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI (I-96 & Telegraph • West of Holiday Inn) • 352-6200
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New Worship Service at 9:30 with contemporary music, drama, question and answer time and a fresh way to hear the ever-relevant message of the Bible.
Also services at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.
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Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor
Worship Services
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8:00, 9:15, 10:45 A.M.
and 12:05 P.M.
Dec. 22nd & 29th
No Evening Service
Shuttle Service from Stevenson High School
for All A.M. Services Except 8:00 A.M.

Nursery Provided
Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M.
WUFL-AM 1030

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45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 453-1525
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Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Ladies' Ministries - Tues. 9:30 A.M.
FAMILY NIGHT - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
Arthur C. Magnuson, Pastor
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 455-3196

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Livonia 48150 • 421-5406
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10:30 a.m. Worship
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Nursery Care Available
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Rev. Janet Noble, Pastor
A Creative Christ Centered Congregation

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(313) 422-0494
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Nursery Care Provided
We Welcome You To A Full Program Church
Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor
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Tamera J. Seidel, Senior Minister
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Pastor Jason H. Prusi (313) 981-2217
School 459-8222

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Worship 11:00 A.M. AND 4:00 P.M.
(Nursery Provided In A.M.)
Pastor Frank Howard - Ch 453-0323

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20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
474-1444
Rev. Jean Love
Worship Services 10:15 AM, 6:00 PM
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 AM
Office Hrs: 9-5

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)
Chuck Sorquist, Pastor
10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School
11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes
Nursery Provided • 422-6038

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
29887 West Eleven Mile Road
Just West of Middlebelt
476-8860
Farmington Hills
9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Worship, Church School, Nursery

January 5th
"Three Men and a Baby"
Pastor Richard A. Peacock

Pastor Richard A. Peacock
Pastor Karen B. Poole
Rev. Robert Bough

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth
45101 N. Territorial Rd. (West of Sheldon Rd.)
(313) 453-5180
Dr. Dean A. Klump, Senior Minister
Rev. Tonya M. Arnesen, Associate Minister
7:00 a.m. Informal Worship Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Children's Worship
Nursery Provided All Ages
Wednesday Evening Education All Ages

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
422-0149
Worship Services & Sunday School
9:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

January 5th
"Be careful what you say to yourself!"
Rev. Edward C. Coley Preaching
Dr. Gilson M. Miller - Rev. Melanie Lee Carey
Rev. Edward C. Coley

Catch the Spirit at Aldersgate
United Methodist Church
10000 Beech Daly, Redford
Between Plymouth and W. Chicago
Bob & Diana Goude, Co-pastors
937-3170
3 Styles of Creative Worship
8:00 a.m. - Cozy, Traditional, Basic
9:30 a.m. - Contemporary, Family
11:00 a.m. - Traditional, Full Choir

Sunday School
9:30 Adults, 11:00 Children • Youth
Christmas Concert Faith
Mary
Monologue By Melissa Timm

Faith United Methodist Church
6020 Denton Rd. (313) 453-2276
(at Michigan Ave. 4 Miles West of I-75)
Pastor Margery A. Scheicher
Church School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Nursery Provided
"Where Faith and Friendship Meet"



RELIGION CALENDAR

Listings for the Religion Calendar should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (313) 591-7279. For more information, call (313) 953-2131.

NEW BEGINNINGS
"Moving On" will be the title of the program for the 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2, meeting of New Beginnings, a grief support group held year-round at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia.

New Beginnings is for people suffering as a result of the death of a loved one. It recognizes that people grieve differently, but have a similar need for the support of each other.

For more information, call the church at (313) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkison at (810) 380-7903 and Rosemary Kline at (313) 462-3770.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
A Men's Bible Study and Fellowship meets at 6:30 a.m. Fridays at Kerby's Koney Island Restaurant, Six Mile and Newburgh roads, Livonia. All men are invited. Call Roy at (313) 464-2291 or Harold at 207-3846

for more information.
SINGLE POINT
Single Point Ministries of Ward Presbyterian Church will host a Convivial Conscience, a year in review with home movies for everyone, at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, in Knox Hall of the church, 17000 Farmington Road, Livonia. The cost is \$20 per person and includes dinner. Tickets are available by calling (313) 422-1854.

Other activities include Olive Horning presenting a portrait of Corrie Ten Boom and talking about "The Hiding Place" at Talk It Over, 7:30-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10 (free child care); a games and dinner night 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 17 (cost is \$6 per person), and karaoke, beginning at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31, in Knox Hall.

Single Point also will have a seminar, "Lifemapping" with John Trent, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, in Knox Hall. Trent will offer tools to get past the past and head into the future and encouragement, and a new direction. Tickets cost \$20 per person. Call (313) 422-1854.

BETHANY PLYMOUTH/CANTON
Bethany Plymouth/Canton, a ministry providing support for single adults, gathers at 11:15

a.m. Sundays for 11:30 a.m. Mass at St. Aidan's Church, Farmington Road, north of Six Mile Road, Livonia, followed by coffee or lunch. Call Bill at (313) 421-3011 for information; for breakfast at 10 a.m. Sundays at the Redford Inn, Five Mile Road west of Beech Daly Road, Redford - call Val at (313) 729-1974 - and for coffee and conversation at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Archie's Plymouth Road east of Merriman, Livonia - call Tony at (313) 422-3266.

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 "Is care in Christian Science as reliable as medicine?" on Jan. 5, "How do Christian Scientists feel about Jesus?" on Jan. 12. 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 (800) 886-1212.

NEWBURG NIGHT OUT
The winter term of Newburg

Night Out will begin Thursday, Jan. 9, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Dinner will be served 5:30 p.m., with classes, drama, choirs and Noah's Arc starting at 6:30 p.m. Child care for youth and children will be available. For more information, call the church at (313) 422-0149.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS
Clareville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt Road, Livonia, is selling 1997 Entertainment Passbooks for a donation of \$40. To order one, call Jim Robinson at (810) 347-1535 or the church office at (810) 474-3444.

A.R.K. CONNECTION
Youngsters ages 4-10 (younger children may attend with a parent) are invited to participate in the A.R.K. Connection 7-8 p.m. the third Monday of the month at the First United Methodist Church, 3 Town Square, Wayne. The program focuses on the Actions and Reactions of Kids, the connection between actions and reactions to Christ, families and society. There will be games, singing, crafts and time for thought. For more information, call the church at (313) 721-4801.

Interfaith marriage is focus of workshop

Intercultural or interfaith marriages often represent incredible challenges for all members of the families involved ... from the couple themselves who must adjust to spiritual and cultural changes to their parents who must deal with feelings of disappointment, confusion, even denial, and children who grow up sometimes between two very different families.

Too often these families lack the support they need to help them bring harmony to their relationships and form respect for all members of their extended families.

The Birmingham Temple is offering an intercultural marriage workshop, "Making Inter-marriage Work," 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, to address issues pertaining to such relationships and provide an enlightening and provocative time for those who attend.

The workshop will examine the issues of personal identity, raising children, developing a shared philosophy of life and celebrating two cultures as well as such community issues as resources and interest groups.

An annual event at the temple since 1983, the sessions have resulted in the formation of a ongoing forum in which to share ideas, offer support, socialize and listen to speakers.

The workshop registration fee is \$15 and includes lunch.

To register or for more information about the workshop or

forum, call Judy Schneider at (810) 541-7034 or the Birmingham Temple at (810) 477-1410. The Birmingham Temple is at 28611 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

SPOTLIGHT ON: TAX STRATEGIES FINANCIAL MATTERS



by Pat J. Paige CPA

CLIMBING THE LADDER

One of the strategies that investors can use when purchasing certificates of deposit (CDs) is a technique known as "laddering." It involves choosing different maturity dates so that the CDs mature in a staggered manner. This way, if rates drop, only a part of the total investment in CDs need be invested at the lower rate. By the time the next set of CDs matures, rates could be up again. Thus, laddering enables investors to keep their investments fluid and at the same time, protects against investing all funds allocated for CD purchase at once if rates are low. Laddered investment can also be used as a regular source of income. As they come due, the funds can be used to meet living expenses. With proper planning, these cash infusions can be used as regular income, thereby avoiding the necessity of selling off other investments that would continue to produce income, such as stocks, long-term bonds, and mutual funds.

Deciding which stocks are the right investment for you has everything to do with how long you intend to hold on to the stock, before cashing it in.

Our professionals at PAIGE & COMPANY, P.C. have the ability to help you achieve your financial planning objectives. Let our years of experience and training work for you. For a consultation, call us today at (810) 540-0250 or visit our site on the World Wide Web at WWW.http://paigepas.ednet.com. We are located at 30850 Telegraph Road, Suite 100 in Birmingham.

HINT: Laddering can also be applied to the purchase of bonds.

PAIGE & COMPANY, P.C.
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Madonna VP national group's president

The Catholic Coalition on Preaching has elected the Rev. Francis S. Tebbe as president.

Tebbe is vice president for planning and mission effectiveness at Madonna University in Livonia.

Established in 1990, the CCOP consists of 13 national organizations or institutions with a deep interest in the continuing development of Catholic preaching.

The CCOP's primary goal is to support and enhance effective preaching in the Catholic Church.

At this same meeting the group reaffirmed its commitment to the goal and voted to restructure the CCOP with a governing board, an executive committee and officers. Tebbe will also serve as chair

of its newly established governing board and executive committee. A member of the CCOP steering committee since 1990, Tebbe has assisted in planning the organization's biannual convention on Catholic preaching.

He is also president of the National Organization of Continuing Education for Roman Catholic Clergy.

In his role at Madonna University, Tebbe chairs the institutional committee on planning and mission, directing campus-wide planning initiatives and enhancement of the university's mission.

He is also the self-study coordinator and chairperson of the steering committee for Madonna University's continued accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Tebbe earned a doctor of ministry degree from Andover Newton Theological School in Massachusetts, a master's degree in education from Boston College and a master's a divinity from St. Leonard School of Theology.

Prior to joining Madonna University in 1993, he was associate director for the Institute for Church life and director of the Sabbatical Program for Church Leaders at the University of Notre Dame.

Madonna University, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 1997, offers associate and bachelor degrees in more than 50 professional areas of study and awards master's degrees in the diverse areas of business, education, hospice, health services administration and nursing.



Rev. Francis Tebbe

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VIPERS

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Peter Cavaglia Hockey Card Giveaway to 1st 5000 fans

AND

THIS SATURDAY @ 12:00
Bobby Jay Hockey Card Giveaway to 1st 5000 fans

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CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND WESTLAND

DIAL FOR DATES

For updated events in the area, call 953-2005.

UPCOMING

GIFT OF LIFE
The American Red Cross will hold blood drives Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 2-4, at Wonderland Center, Plymouth Road at Middlebelt. Hours are noon to 6 p.m. each day. Walk-ins are welcome.

TOURNAMENT
The Garden City recreation department has set a Jan. 10 deadline for the Jan. 16-18 girls three-on-three basketball tournament. It is open to girls in the fourth, fifth and sixth grades who live in Garden City or attend a school in the city. Registration will be held at the Maplewood Community Center or at the recreation department in the Civic Arena. A coach-supervisor, who must be 18 or older, must be present at registration. Fee is \$20 per term. 261-3491 or 525-8846.

FREE CLASSES
The Showman's Dog Training Organization will sponsor free junior showmanship classes for dog owners between 7 and 17 at the AMVETS Hall on Merriman near Avondale at 8:30 p.m. the first and second Tuesdays of each month through September. The next classes are Jan. 6 and 13. Call 729-7580.

FOR WALKERS
The Maplewood Senior Center, Garden City, has formed a new walking club. It will be held from 10-11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 5 of the community center, with a fee of \$2. The club will have a 20-minute and a 30-minute walk. 525-8851.

OPEN SKATING.
The Westland Sports Arena, on Wildwood near Hunter, will continue its open skating program through March 31. Hours are 1-2:45 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, and noon to 1:45 p.m. weekdays. The Thursday session will be for adults only. 729-4560.

QC DEMS
Garden City Democratic Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in Room 5, Maplewood Community Center, on Maplewood west of Merriman. Call Carol Larkin, 421-2638, or Billy Pate, 427-2344.

WESTLAND DEMS
The Westland Democrats meet at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Rowe Meeting House, on Marquette just east of Newburgh. For information, call John Franklin, 595-7638, or Paul Krarup, 729-6248.

MILITARY GROUP
The 82nd Airborne Division Association/Wolverine Chapter meets at 6 p.m. the second Sunday of each month at VFW Post 3323 Hall, on Wayne Road at Avondale. It is open to veteran qualified parachutists and veterans of any military branch. 728-5859 or 728-7214.

VETS TO MEET
The Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 387, meet the second Wednesday of each month at the Bova VFW Post, on Hix between Ford and Warren Road, Westland. The chapter is open to all Vietnamese veterans. Associate memberships are available. 728-3231.

BENEFITS

LOTTO DRAWING

The Garden City Knights of Columbus Council 4513 has a daily three-digit lottery drawing based on the Michigan Lottery daily numbers. Proceeds are used to finance the Knights of Columbus Hall's building improvements. Tickets are \$10 for the month with a guaranteed winner every day except Sunday. Tickets are available at the hall, on Ford east of Merriman. 425-6380.

FOR SENIORS

MONTHLY MEAL
The Wayne Ford Civic League schedules its senior meal 11:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month at the league hall, on Wayne Road, two blocks south of Ford, for people 50 and older. Cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. The meal includes beer, beverages and dancing to Big Band music, and door prizes. 728-5010.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

AIM
Anxiety or panic attacks? AIM (Agoraphobics in Motion) meets 7:30 p.m. every Thursday in Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman, Livonia. AIM is a support group for those working on recovery from anxiety disorder or phobias. (810) 547-0400.

RATIONAL RECOVERY
Rational Recovery is a non-profit, self-help organization for people experiencing problems caused by alcohol and/or substance abuse or other self-defeating behaviors. The group meets at 12:30 p.m. every Thursday at the Garden City Hospital Community Health Center, on Harrison north of Maplewood, Garden City. (810) 476-2657.

EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS
Emotions Anonymous, which holds a 12-step program for a new way of life, meets at 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays in Room 5 of Garden City Hospital's Community Education Center, on Harrison north of Maplewood, Garden City. 421-1776.

CHILD BIRTH CLASSES
Garden City Hospital, on Inkster Road at Maplewood, is sponsoring classes for parents of newborns, weekend childbirth instruction, a "refresher" childbirth education course, and a new support group for expectant teen-age mothers. For information on all programs, call 458-4330.

WEIGHT LOSS
Garden City Hospital will host a weight loss peer support group at 11 a.m. Saturdays in Classroom 3 of the hospital's Medical Office Building, on Inkster Road near Maplewood. Members will focus on self-esteem issues and follow their own nutritional and exercise program. 261-4048.

BLOOD PRESSURE
Free blood pressure screening is available 9 a.m. to noon the third Wednesday of each month at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center, Wayne. A registered nurse will be available in the emergency room. Cholesterol and glucose screening are also available for a nominal fee. Appointments aren't required.

FOR YOUTH

OPEN GYM
The Mayor's Task Force on Drugs and the City of Westland Parks and Recreation Department present

"After School Open Gym and Activities" 3:15-5:15 p.m. Mondays at Stevenson Middle School, Wednesdays at Marshall Middle School, and Thursdays at Adams Middle School. The winter program begins the third week in January and the spring program begins the first week in April. Programs last eight weeks. 722-7620.

EDUCATION

ADULT ED
Wayne-Westland Schools Adult Education has free classes in adult basic education, GED preparation, high school completion, and vocational training. Register at Tinkham Adult Center, 450 S. Venoy, Westland. 595-2429.

BINGO

K OF C BINGO
The Notre Dame Knights of Columbus hold bingo games starting at 6:45 p.m. Thursdays in its hall on Van Born, east of Wayne Road. 728-3020.

MONDAY BINGO
The Notre Dame Assembly Knights of Columbus holds bingos at 6:30 p.m. Mondays in its hall on Van Born east of Wayne Road. There are specials held on the last Monday of each month. 728-3020.

WFCL BINGO
The Finesse Girls Travel Softball Boosters hold a bingo from 6:30-9:45 p.m. every Monday to raise money for the girls softball program. The bingo games are held at the Wayne Ford Civic League hall, on Wayne Road, two blocks south of Ford.

DEMS BINGO
The Metro Wayne Democratic Club sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at the Joy Manor Bingo Hall, on the south side of Joy, east of Middlebelt. Proceeds are used by the club to sponsor Little League baseball teams, the Salvation Army, School for the Blind. 422-5025 or 729-8681.

DEMS BINGO
The 13th Congressional District Democratic Party will hold bingo games at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, in the Cherry Hill Hall, on the southwest corner of Cherry Hill and Venoy. 421-1517.

BINGO AND SNACKS
The auxiliary of VFW Post 3323, Westland, serves snacks and provides charity games at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday in the post hall, on Wayne Road at Avondale, 326-3323.

SHAMROCK BINGO
There will be bingo at 11 a.m. Wednesdays at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 35100 Van Born, east of Wayne Road, Wayne. Doors open 9 a.m. Food available. Proceeds go to charity. 728-3020.

SMOKELESS BINGO
"Smokeless" bingo meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday, at St. Simon and Jude Parish Hall, 32500 Palmer, east of

Venoy, Westland. Offered are three jackpots of \$400, \$300 and \$200.

NO SMOKE
"No smoking" bingo will be 1 p.m. every Tuesday at the Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh Road, Westland. Residents from Westgate Towers, Taylor Towers, Greenwood Towers, Liberty Park, Presbyterian Village and Carlon Condos, etc., are eligible for transportation to bingo if they have a minimum of five players. 722-7632.

K OF C BINGO
Pope John XXIII assembly of the Knights of Columbus Council 1536 hosts bingo games at 6:45 p.m. every Thursday. The games are located in the Livonia Elks Lodge, 31117 Plymouth Road, one block east of Merriman, Livonia. 425-2246.

CIVITAN BINGO
Wayne Civitan bingo is at 6:30 p.m. every Monday on Elizabeth between Michigan Avenue East and Michigan Avenue West next to the Farmer Jack in Wayne. Money raised helps support many projects in the community, such as youth, park equipment, Special Olympics, First Night Wayne and reading projects. Information, 728-3915.

JAYCEES
Westland Jaycees host bingo games at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, Westland. Three jackpots paying \$250, \$300 and \$300, progressive. 525-2962.

RECREATION

BASKETBALL
Registration being accepted for men's and women's basketball leagues with Westland Parks and Recreation Department, 36651 Ford, Westland. 722-7620.

SQUARE DANCE
Beginner square dance classes held 7:30-9:30 Tuesdays in Bailey Recreation Center (behind City Hall), on Ford Road, Westland. Fee \$3 per person weekly. Mike Brennan, 274-3394.

FOR DISABLED PEOPLE
A recreational get-together for teens and adults who are disabled will be the second Friday of each month at the Westland Bailey Center. 722-7620.

OPEN SWIM
The Wayne-Westland YMCA has daily open swim available 7-8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1-3 p.m. Saturday. Family swim is 8-8:45 p.m. Friday and 3-4 p.m. Saturday. The YMCA is at 827 S. Wayne Road, Westland. 721-7044.

WOLVERINE PACERS
The Wolverine Pacers, a race-walking club, meets at 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, and 9 a.m. Saturdays in Levagood Park, Dearborn. Gary Gray (313) 464-8890.

ON THE ROAD

GC TRAVEL

Garden City Travel Club: Information, call trip director Laree Yard at 522-4446.

CLUBS IN ACTION

CAMPING CLUB
Moonlighters Camping Club meets 8:15 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month at Canfield Community Center, 1801 N. Beech Daly, south of Ford, Dearborn-Heights. Family camping with all ages, scheduled camp outs during the camping season. Harvey and Marion Grigg, 427-3069.

WEEKENDERS
The Weekend family campers meet the second Wednesday of the month in Franklin High School, on Joy east of Merriman. 531-2993.

HOLY SMOKE MASTERS
The Holy Smoke Masters Toastmasters Club meets at 6 p.m. Thursdays at Ryan's Steak House, on Warren Road east of Wayne Road. It offers an eight-week seminar on public speaking called "Speechcraft." The fee for "Speechcraft" is \$30. 455-1635.

GARDEN CITY LIONS
The Garden City Lions meet 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of every month in the Silver Saloon, 5651 Middlebelt, Garden City. Contact Henry Tolk, 421-4954.

HOST LIONS
The Westland Host Lions Club meets 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of the month in Denny's Restaurant, Wayne and Cowan Road.

MOTHERS OF MULTIPLES
For information on a Mothers of Multiples Club in your area, call Shelly Weir, 326-1466.

CHILDBIRTH ASSOCIATION
Classes for childbirth preparation are being offered at several Wayne County locations. Morning and evening classes available. Registering new classes every month. Newborn care classes and Caesarean preparation also offered. 459-7477.

WESTLAND JAYCEES
Westland Jaycees meet 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in the Bova VFW Post, on Hix south of Warren. Hot line, 525-0962.

CORVETTE CLUB
The Corvette Club of Michigan meets at 8 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month in Les Stanford Chevrolet, Dearborn. Glenn Simms, 675-5633, or Paul Jenkins, 981-4254.

CAMARO BUFFS
The new Eastern Michigan Camaro Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month at Krug Chevrolet in Taylor. 326-5658.

AMBASSADORS
Ambassadors Junior Civitan is seeking people ages 13-18 for community service activities. The club

meets 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of each month in the Westland Historical, Cultural and Community Meeting House, 36993 Marquette, east of Newburgh. 729-5409.

PURPLE HEART
The Military Order of Purple Heart meets at 8 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month in the VFW Hall, on Ford west of Venoy. Meetings are open to combat-wounded veterans.

SCHOOLS

NURSERY OPENINGS
GARDEN CITY CO-OP
Garden City Co-op Nursery School has openings for 3-year-olds for the upcoming school year. A new program to start in the fall is for mothers and toddlers. Parents may call Shari Schmidtke, 261-1345, or Debi Zahor, 425-0174.

LIVONIA COOPERATIVE
The Livonia Cooperative Nursery, located at West Chicago and Hubbard, is taking applications for the upcoming school year. Openings are available in the 3- and 4-year-old classes. Call Susan at 422-6210.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM
The Wayne-Westland Community Schools have ongoing registration for the preschool program, housed in Marquette School, on Marquette east of Wayne Road. There is a free program for eligible 4-year-olds in the Kids Plus program and a tuition-based program for others. The Kids Plus program is for children who will be 4 years old by Dec. 1 who also meet two "at risk" factors to qualify. The program is free for children who qualify. Call 595-2660 for appointments.

HEAD START
Garden City Public Schools has openings for 3- and 4-year-olds in its Head Start program. Eligible are those in low- or modest-income families and/or having disabilities. Classes meet Monday through Thursday mornings. For information, call supervisor Judy Hanson, 425-0540.

SPACE OPEN
The Little Lambs Preschool has openings for a new Tuesday/Thursday morning session for 3- to 5-year-olds. The preschool is at 9300 Farmington Road, just south of West Chicago, Livonia. Interested persons may call 427-7064 or 421-0749.

CHURCH PRESCHOOL
The Westland Free Methodist Preschool has openings for 3- and 4-year-olds in the morning and afternoon sessions. The younger pupils attend Tuesdays and Thursdays with the other pupils attending Mondays and Wednesdays. A Friday enrichment class is also available. The preschool is at 1421 S. Venoy, Westland. 728-3559.

OPENINGS
United Christian School, on Florence near Middlebelt, north of Cherry Hill, Garden City, has morning and afternoons for 3- to 5-year-olds. The school offers classes two, three and five days a week as well as flexible hours for parents who need more than the scheduled preschool hours. There is a full curriculum in pre-reading, writing and early math, including hands-on computer time. 522-6487.

REGISTRATION
McKinley Cooperative Preschool, housed in Good Shepherd Reformed Church, Wayne Road at Hunter, is registering youngsters between 2 and 4 years old. The school has

a certified teacher. Morning and afternoon classes available. Registrations are now being taken for youngsters between 2 and 4 years old. Call 729-7222 for information.

SUBURBAN CHILDREN'S
Suburban Children's Co-op Nursery has fall schedule openings in its 2-year-old toddler parent class 9:30-11 a.m. Fridays. There are openings in the 3-year-old class 9:15-11:15 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, and in the 4-year-old class which meets three afternoons. All classes are in the Newburg United Methodist Church, on Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne Road and Newburgh. Call Debbie, 453-7409.

UNITED CHRISTIAN
Enrollment at United Christian School is being accepted for preschool sessions, which are offered for two, three and five days a week. There is also day care with flexible hours. There is a full curriculum in pre-reading, writing and early math, including hands-on computer usage. The school is at 29205 Florence, corner of Middlebelt, just north of Cherry Hill, Garden City. 522-6487.

PLUS PRESCHOOL
Registration for preschool by appointment for the Kids Plus Program is ongoing. Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 1. Family must meet two "at risk" factors. Program runs four half-days a week. Parents must provide their own transportation. Program is free for those students who qualify. Call 595-2688.

HEAD START
Head Start registration for the Wayne-Westland School District is ongoing, by appointment at Stottlemyer School, 34801 Marquette. Classes meet four half-days a week. Children must be 3 or 4 years old by Dec. 1, 1996. The program is free, but family must meet income guidelines. 595-2688.

STOTTEMYER PRESCHOOL
Ongoing preschool registration is being taken for the 1995-1996 school year at Stottlemyer Preschool Center, 34801 Marquette, east of Wayne Road. For information on tuition and who qualifies for free tuition, call 595-2688.

YWCA READINESS
The YWCA of Western Wayne County Early Childhood School Readiness Program is available to 4- and 5-year-old children. The YWCA is at 26279 Michigan Ave., Inkster. 561-4110.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN
Our Redeemer Lutheran Preschool is accepting applications for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds. The school is at 24931 Union in west Dearborn. 562-9246.

HISTORY ON VIEW

GC HISTORY
The Garden City Historical Museum is open 1-4 p.m. Wednesdays in the Log Cabin on Cherry Hill east of Merriman. Admission is free.

WESTLAND MUSEUM
The Westland Historical Museum is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays, at 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill. 326-1110.

VOLUNTEERS

CHAMBER
The Westland Chamber of Commerce is seeking volunteers to perform light clerical work. 326-7222.

CALENDAR FORM

The Observer Newspapers welcome Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48160, or by fax to 313-591-7279. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 953-2111 if you have any questions.

Event: _____
Date and Time: _____
Location: _____
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Observer & Eccentric



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SOULMATE WANTED

Petite, pretty, 5'8", 115lbs, slim-tan, 48-year-old blonde, brown eyes, degreed, enjoys tennis, golf, working out, theater and romantic candlelight dinners... LET'S TALK... BEAUTIFUL EYES... WAITING FOR YOU... NEW TO ME... FUN-LOVING REDHEAD... YOUNGER MAN WANTED... TIRED OF MR. CLOSE ENOUGH... CLASSY LADY: VELVET OR JEANS... JUST RELOCATED... ATTRACTIVE, OUTGOING SWF... LOOKING FOR... ANIMATE ME... ATTN: CLASSY GENT... VEGETARIAN WITH BRAINS... SMART & SASSY... HOI HOI HOI... SEEKING SOMEONE SPECIAL... DOWN-TO-EARTH... SHE'S THE ONE

LOOKING FOR A KEEPER?

Attractive, intelligent, loyal, full-figured SWF 38, long brown/blue, curving back injury, seeks gentle man to share time with, children welcome, wives read! Let's not be lonely... SATISFACTION GUARANTEED... SET THE NIGHT TO MUSIC... HELLO LADIES... MISSING SOMEONE SPECIAL?... DO YOU FEEL ALONE?... DANCER... ONE OF A KIND... SUN & FUN... VERY INTERESTING... TAKE CARE OF ME!... NOT COMPLICATED... SEEKING SOULMATE... CHEERFUL... SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP... LOVAL AND SINCERE... TIRED OF BLIND DATES?... LET'S CHAT... IN SEARCH OF... MARRIAGE/CHILDREN... FUN AND ADVENTURE... MONOGAMOUS DEVOTED LOVE... WHY GOOD-LOOKING?... AFFECTIONATELY YOURS

OLDER WOMAN WANTED!

Hangman, romantic, athletic, confident, passionate, clean-cut SWM, 24, 6', dark hair. Seeking attractive, slender, caring, active, easy WF, 25-45, for heavenly friendship/relationship, that will keep you smiling... TRY THIS QUALITY GUY... HELLO LADIES... MISSING SOMEONE SPECIAL?... DO YOU FEEL ALONE?... DANCER... ONE OF A KIND... SUN & FUN... VERY INTERESTING... TAKE CARE OF ME!... NOT COMPLICATED... SEEKING SOULMATE... CHEERFUL... SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP... LOVAL AND SINCERE... TIRED OF BLIND DATES?... LET'S CHAT... IN SEARCH OF... MARRIAGE/CHILDREN... FUN AND ADVENTURE... MONOGAMOUS DEVOTED LOVE... WHY GOOD-LOOKING?... AFFECTIONATELY YOURS

PERCEPTIVE, AWARE, SPIRITUAL

...describe us both. Healthy, handsome, open-minded SWM, young 34, with depth, seeks similarly conversant, understanding, compassionate, free-spirited woman 21-34... FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL... COME DANCE WITH ME... SLENDER BLONDE WANTED... HELLO THERE... SM SEEKING FEMALE... SPORTS FAN... STUFF... WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?... CHARISMATIC-ENTREPRENEUR... ARISE MERLIN... FIRE KEEPER... MICROWAVE... HONEST AND SINCERE... HEW TO WESTLAND... ADVENTUROUS... WHY BETTLE?... LOVES TO PLEASE... OLDER WOMAN WANTED...

LOOKING FOR 'THE ONE'

Attractive, never married WM, 43, 5'10", 165lbs, blonde hair, Catholic, degreed, N/S, humorous, honest... OVER 50?... NOT FOUND IN STORES... WONDERFUL COMPANIONSHIP... FEMININE FAVOR FACTOR... OLDER WOMAN WANTED!... SEeks MOELDANCER... WHERE ARE YOU ANKEL?... LOOKING FOR LOVE?... TIME FOR A CHANGE... ADVENTUROUS... ARE YOU INTO UNIFORM?... SANDY NAIR BLUE EYES... SOMEONE SPECIAL... BODYBUILDER... PERCEPTIVE, AWARE, SPIRITUAL... HELLO IT'S ME... LOOKING FOR 'THE ONE'... THE ULTIMATE MAN... SEKING SOMEONE SPECIAL... BEHAVISIVE BLUE-EYED MAN

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Men Seeking Women. SOBER INTRODUCTION. I don't find you at the bar... WHY BE ALONE?... JEWISH KENTUCKY BELL... CALL 1-800-518-5445 OR FILL OUT THE COUPON BELOW TO PLACE YOUR FREE AD!

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To Listen and Respond to Ads, Call 1-900-773-6789. Call Costs \$1.98 a Minute. Must Be 18 or Older.

HEALTH NEWS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1997

C

MEDICAL BRIEFS

Accreditation announced

The American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine's Ultrasound Practice Accreditation Commission recently announced that the Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine/Oakwood Healthcare System is one of the first ultrasound practices nationwide to achieve accreditation in obstetrics and gynecologic ultrasound.

The Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine, under the directions of Drs. George Kazzi, M.D., David Moses, M.D., and Michael Bork, D.O., has achieved accreditation in recognition that their practice has met voluntary standards set by the diagnostic ultrasound profession. The entire practice was reviewed including the practice's personnel, the physical facilities, the documentation, storage and record-keeping practices, policies and procedures, quality assurance and how the practice meets AIUM's standards.

The division successfully completed the application process for OB/GYN Ultrasound Practice Accreditation and was awarded accreditation in this area for three years. "This is an example of the culmination of hard work and commitment to perinatal care. We have a team of perinatologists, nurses and ultrasound sonographers who are committed to the overall quality care of women in childbearing years," said Moses.

Well managed

Crain's Detroit Business has named the Epilepsy Center of Michigan a winner in its seventh annual "Best-Managed Nonprofit" contest. The announcement was made in a recent edition of the weekly business publication.

The Epilepsy Center was a winner in the category of nonprofit organizations with budgets under \$3 million. Nonprofit organizations in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw and Livingston counties are eligible for the contest.

"This is incredible news," said Arlene Gorelick, executive director of the center. "We are elated to have the work we do for people affected by epilepsy recognized in this manner."

Organizations that enter the contest are evaluated in the following areas, according to Ruth Benedict at Crain's Detroit Business:

- overall financial health and diversity of funding sources;
- effectiveness and efficiency of management, board, staff and volunteers;
- evidence of agreement between the organization's stated purpose, mission and goals and its actions;
- innovation and problem-solving;
- and use of diverse resources (from money and volunteers to in-kind gifts, training and technology).

Judges cited the center's strategic management and courageous changes, including the transferring of medical services to the Detroit-based Henry Ford Health System, as noteworthy. They also praised center efforts in legislative advocacy, noting a successful campaign to block a repeal of the state's motorcycle helmet law.

Founded in 1948, the center is the state's only nonprofit organization focusing solely on epilepsy. Epilepsy is a disorder of the brain characterized by a tendency to have recurrent seizures. A seizure is caused by an unusually large burst of electrical energy within the brain. More than 90,000 people in Michigan have the disorder.

Empowering parents

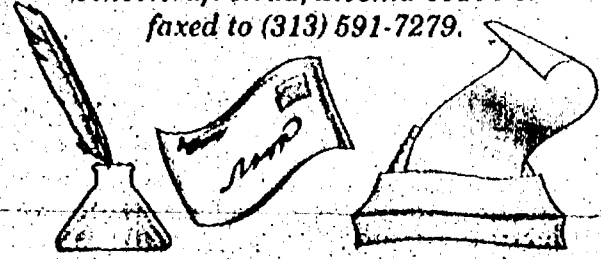
A peer-led educational program for parents of children with hemophilia and other bleeding disorders is being launched at Children's Hospital of Michigan and more than 20 hemophilia treatment centers nationwide. Parents Empowering Parents is a peer program developed by the hemophilia treatment center at Children's Hospital through an educational grant from Bayer Corp. The program promotes effective parenting skills while focusing on the unique challenges faced by parents of children with bleeding disorders. Ten weekly sessions are presented to parents by parents of children with bleeding disorders, in tandem with a social worker and a nurse.

The program was developed by Danna Merritt, MSW, a social worker at the Regional Comprehensive Hemophilia Diagnostic and Treatment Center at Children's Hospital, and by Dr. Sandra Joseph, director of the MapleTree Counseling Center in Livonia. It was piloted at Children's Hospital more than a year ago.

Following the course, social workers, nurses and parents from 23 hemophilia treatment centers across the country spent three days at a training seminar held last May in San Antonio, Texas. They studied the process-oriented program with Merritt and Joseph before bringing it back to their centers.

Items for Medical Briefs are welcome from all hospitals, physicians, companies and residents active in the Observer-area medical community.

Items should be typed or legibly written and sent to: Medical Briefs, c/o The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia 48150 or faxed to (313) 591-7279.



TAMOUS GRAVES/STAFF ARTIST

Hospital programs aim to help seniors stay healthy

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
SPECIAL WRITER

Nearly a decade ago the medical community noted the advancing age of the population. As a result, more and more hospitals began instituting programs like ElderMed at Botsford General Hospital and CareLink at St. Mary Hospital to address the health needs and issues of those age 50 and over. Benefits of membership vary but all aim to enhance general health and well being. The best part—membership is free.

"ElderMed is part of a commitment to the community to improve health," said ElderMed manager Sandy Baumann.

"Research has shown that when people have supportive help in their life, they live longer. ElderMed produces social activities, lectures on health care, a monthly newsletter, outreach programs, screenings, and walking clubs at Laurel Park Place and Livonia Mall.

"It's a way to expand their social network, and the stimulation and socialization is something to look forward to," said Baumann of Livonia.

In 1988, ElderMed at Botsford began with a few members. Today, seniors enrolled in the program number more than 24,000. The 1994 recipient of the State of Michigan Older Learners Award in the mental/physical health category, ElderMed takes a different approach in programming activities for its members. Among the upcoming events are a lecture dealing with forgiveness and anger by the hospital chaplain, and two trips to Alaska on Princess Cruise Lines in July and August.

A monthly luncheon with speaker gives members the chance to expand their horizons as well. On Friday, Jan. 10 a Detroit Institute of Arts docent will give a tour of the great masterpieces in the museum's collection after a 12:30 p.m. lunch at Vladimir's in Farmington Hills. The cost, including lunch, is \$8 for ElderMed members, \$9 for nonmembers. To register call (810) 471-8020.

"This is a member driven organization. We survey members once a year for their likes and dislikes and the types of programs they'd like to have in the future. Because of my own background, I taught chemistry at Madonna University, I come at programming from an educational angle instead of a medical."

Promoting Fitness

CareLink, a St. Mary Hospital program for adults 55 and over, co-sponsors a walking program at Wonderland Mall in Livonia which allows members to walk in climate-controlled comfort without worrying about slipping on snow and ice in winter or being deluged by rain in spring and summer. As part of membership in the Wonder Walkers, blood pressure screenings are offered 8-10 a.m. on the second Monday of the month at the information desk.

"We're always encouraging them to exercise. There are security guards to ensure their safety. All they need to do is register," said Marianne Simancek, St. Mary Hospital health education and wellness program coordinator.

"CareLink is really a very unique program to meet the educational needs and problems of a certain population. The

goal is to help a person's health and well being. We offer financial planning and health education programs."

A pharmacy discount of 10 percent on most purchases at the Fairlane Pharmacy in the Marian Professional Building is part of CareLink membership benefits as are a variety of health education programs and classes, a physicians referral service, and a newsletter.

To stress the importance of mental and heart healthiness, CareLink, in cooperation with the American Heart Association, will present "HealthScore '97: Fit in Fitness" 1-3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4 in St. Mary's Auditorium. Co-sponsored by the American Heart Association, the seminar's focus is to help seniors fit fitness in their lives. To register call 1-800-494-1650.

"We'll be offering fitness assessment and different exercises, strategies to get started and maintain and exercise program," said Simancek.

At Garden City Hospital, the name of the 50 and over program is Growing, Caring, Healthy Senior Club. Membership benefits include discounts on hospital services and a monthly luncheon during spring, summer and fall with speakers which include physicians and hospital personnel. The Senior Club also co-sponsors the Westland Walkers at Westland Shopping Center. Speakers including Karen Parsell, manager of the hospital's Sleep Disorder Center, discuss current health issues such as the myth that seniors need less sleep. For more information call (313) 458-4330.

Time to resolve to become a healthier you

BY LAURIE HUMPHREY
STAFF WRITER

Now that the new year is here, it's time to make those life-altering resolutions — no swearing, more reading, more family time, and the ever popular, better health.

For some, better health could mean a change in eating habits. For others, better health could mean more exercise. According to Michael Guerra, physician assistant at Oakwood Canton Health Center, better health should mean both.

There is no easy way to lose weight, explained Guerra, although people keep trying. "People often want the magic bullet," he said, citing the relatively new Redux pill. "But experience has shown me that most people will be disappointed in the long run.

"Dieting is not effective if you don't modify a person's behavior."

Julie Carrigan, chief clinical dietitian at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia, offers these tips to keep in mind when trying to lose weight.

- Eat breakfast. "You need to eat breakfast because the metabolism stays at a resting rate until the first meal of the day.

"Even though you can be up for six hours, your metabolism is still sleeping until you eat something."

- Everything in moderation.

"To cut way back will cause the metabolism to slow down dramatically.

"Even (cooking) oil can be used if it's in moderation"

- Exercise.

"Do anything that gets the heart rate up."

"Walking is just as good as running," she said, adding "but weight-lifting won't work."

- Concentrate on overall well-being and health.

"Concentrate on inches, not pounds" she said because once people start exercising, they may gain weight from increased muscle mass. Muscle weighs more than fat.

- Don't give up.

"If you fall off the wagon for a day or two, that's only a day or two in a lifetime of healthy habits."

According to Guerra, "body weight loss is metabolically a challenge." It is a challenge that some people can't overcome because they set unrealistic goals.

"People choose a regimen of exercise that is not realistic for them," said the 11-year practitioner. "They have to choose a regimen that they can commit to long-term."

For those who are not already in fair health, Guerra suggests just a brisk walk. For those needing a little more activity, he suggests aerobics, or something that works the cardiovascular system.

"In order to burn fat calories, you need aerobic activity," like treadmill, rowing machines, cross-country skiing machines.

In terms of use, Guerra explained that it is much better to have moderate resistance and use the machine for longer than to have a higher level of resistance for only 10 or 15 minutes.

"If they can commit to 20 minutes, four times a week, they're doing good."

One fallacy Guerra hopes to squelch is the belief that people who skip meals will lose weight faster and keep it off.

"People seem to think that skipping meals and fasting is a good way to lose weight, but it is one of the first things people should eliminate

from their plan."

He recommends "gradual weight loss" and encourages people not to give up if they don't see results immediately.

"It takes an excess of 400 calories per day in a week to gain 1 pound," he said. "If it takes that long to gain one pound, it takes that long to lose it."

For those who fall from the routine, Guerra warns against giving up. He said people should try again or else "they often feel bad and eat more."

Drinking a lot of water is one trick to help stay on a weight-loss course. "Water makes you feel full more prematurely, although, it does not add anything metabolically," he said.

To help people stick to a course for better health, St. Mary's offers a Healthy Eating Program called Life Steps, a 10-week course. A free orientation session will be held in mid-January. People should call (313) 655-8600 for more information.

"We're coming up on the busiest time," said Carrigan, because there are new people joining the course as well as those who refuse to quit trying.

WAYNE BUSINESS Finance

Good home page requires content that changes



EMORY DANIELS
O&E ONLINE

You've heard of team teaching? Why not team writing? My colleague Barry Jensen in today's At Home section is completing a two-part series on doing your own Web page. (Part One ran in At Home on Thursday Dec. 26.) It's a broad subject, so I thought I'd collaborate. So when you are done with this column, read Barry's, or vice versa.

To have your own home page on the Internet, you hopefully will have content on it and will change that content from time to time. So let me talk about preparing content for the Web site Barry will help you construct.

A Web site document, like a page, is nothing more than a text document - ASCII text, that is. If you prepare your home page documents using word processor software, make sure you use your "save as" option and save it as text file. ASCII DOS text is best, if available.

Web documents also can be prepared on a standard text editor, like "notepad" in Windows or "Simple Text" in MAC land.

Personally, I think it's best to learn to prepare hypertext documents or home pages using a text editor and doing all your commands by hand. The discipline of doing so provides the understanding and knowledge that later will allow you to proof your work and find errors faster when things go wrong.

If you write your content using a word processor, in all likelihood there will be elements that will be foreign to Unix and will

not be recognized when introduced. When you upload a document for your Web site and find odd characters like little squares or apple-like icons, what you see is the result of Unix trying to handle foreign markup code.

For instance, Unix may not know what to do with the bullets your word processor produces. So while still in your word processing software, do a search and replace and replace all bullets with asterisks (*), double hyphens (-) or whatever substitute you choose.

The same is true with paragraph marks your word processor generates. Select the "show codes" option and determine what symbol your processor uses for paragraphs. Replace that symbol with <p>. The process is cumbersome, another reason why I think it's best for beginners to start with a text editor, then all you have to worry about

is inserting paragraph <p> marks.

As Barry indicates in his columns, most hyper text markup language (html) codes require beginning and ending elements. Examples of such pairs are: <h1>, </h1> (heads); , (bold face); <i>, </i> (italic); <a>, (part of href statement for linking); <center>, </center>. Some coding does not, such as <p>,
 (hard return), and <hr> (horizontal rule). You learn by doing because the absence of a required ending element will cause visible and obvious results.

There's a lot of advanced coding to learn that has to do with tables, frames, background colors, Java applications, etc. But get the nuts and bolts down first and do it well before moving on.

Some of the Web page and document creation software will let create tables, frames or other

advance features with a click and point. Once you know the basics, take advantage of any feature your software provides.

All hypertext documents that use standard convention, like home pages, begin and end with <html><body> and </html></body>. This knowledge plus using <p> for paragraphs and
 for hard returns is enough to get by with.

Get a hold of a listing of html codes (available at several online sites or any standard text on Web authoring), and you are off to the races. When you name your document, keep the name short, simple, descriptive and use the extension .htm or .html, such as index.htm or archive.html.

Any hypertext document you generate, or any home page you create with or without Barry's help must make it from your hard-drive to your online directo-

ry. Next week's column will talk about how to use FTP to upload Web documents and place them online.

To edit a document once it is uploaded, O&E Onliners will use Telnet. Viewing, of course, will be done with a browser so you will be employing three pieces of Internet software in the process. Or, you also can make your changes offline, upload it again with FTP, and place it. Whatever works best for you.

The third piece in my series will be what to do once you've have mastered Barry's instructions and have a home page in place. How do others learn of its existence?

Emory Daniels may be reached via E-mail at emoryd@oonline.com. Past columns are archived online at <http://oonline.com/1-emoryd/archive.html>.

BUSINESS DATEBOOK

Business-related items are welcome from the Observer area and should be sent to Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Our fax number is (313) 591-7279.

TUES, JAN. 7

BUSINESS OWNERS
The Women Business Owners of Southeastern Michigan will meet on the first floor of the 777 Building on Eisenhower and State Street in Ann Arbor. There will be a mixer activity 6:30 p.m. with the meeting 7-8:30 p.m. Jeanne Ballew will discuss "Unforgettable Introductions: How To Make a Memorable First Impression." Price is \$10 for non-members, free for members. For reservations, call Monica Jilla at (313) 944-2133.

WED, JAN. 8

TAX TIPS
Christopher Vaughan will discuss which interest expenses are deductible, how to deduct a child's college tuition and if theft losses create deductions from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Eastern Michi-

gan University's Depot Town Center, 32 E. Cross St. in Ypsilanti. Vaughan is a certified public accountant and managing partner of Wright, Griffin, Davis and Co. The cost is \$10.

NAWBO
National Association of Women Business Owners North Network will meet 7:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, 1500 Opdyke in Auburn Hills. Price is \$10 for members, \$15 for guests, including continental breakfast. The group is open to women who own and operate their own businesses. Reservations are not required. For information, call (810) 253-3711.

THURS, JAN. 9

WILLS AND TRUSTS
A wills and trusts workshop will be presented by John Hancock Financial Services and attorney Don Rosenberg of Barron & Rosenberg. It will be 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. in the Mt. Clemens General Building, 22500 Metropolitan Parkway, Clinton Township. It is in the Gratiot-16 Mile area. There is no charge. For reservations, call Dave Howard, CPA, at (810) 792-3939, Ext. 269.

JAN. 9, FEB. 13

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS
A seminar on government contracting will be offered by the Business Development Center at Schoolcraft College 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9 and Feb. 13. Schoolcraft is at 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads in Livonia. Topics will include the philosophy of government purchasing, requirements of committed contractors, and services and resources available to small businesses entering the government market. Price is \$25. To register, call (313) 462-4438.

TUES, JAN. 14

VENTURE GROUP
The Southeastern Michigan Venture Group will meet 8 a.m. at the Southfield Marriott Hotel, 27033 Northwestern, Southfield. Speaker will be Andy Kokas, founder and CEO of Health Vision in Dearborn. Price is \$30, including breakfast, with a discount of \$10 for chamber members. Price is \$35 after Jan. 10. For information, call (313) 596-0351.

THURS, JAN. 16

SHARE OF AMERICA
The Southeastern Michigan Council of the National Association of Investors Corp. will offer a free investment seminar on "How To Own Your Share of America" 7-9 p.m. at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, north of Cadieux between I-94 and Jefferson in Grosse Pointe. Additional seminars are scheduled for 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, at the Macomb County Library in Clinton Township; 7-9 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at the Dearborn Civic Center; and 7-9 p.m. Thursday, April 17, at the Bloomfield Township Library. To register, call Joyce Manby at (810) 626-7041.

WED, JAN. 22

BUYING POWER
Metro Detroit Marketing professionals will have an opportunity to hear about a recently completed landmark study on business-to-business buying. "Know the Buyer Better" was conducted by Penton Research Services. A 6 p.m. presentation outlining the

findings will be made by John Skeri, PRS senior research analyst at the Southfield Marriott. Sponsored by the American Marketing Association of Detroit, the presentation will look at: popular purchasing trends, considerations in purchasing decisions and the projected trend in partnering agreements with a supplier, just to name a few. Reservations can be made for the presentation, which includes dinner. Some tickets will also be available at the door. Admission is \$30 for AMA members, \$35 for non-members. Make reservations by calling (313) 964-3789.

TUES, JAN. 28

WOMEN MEET
National Association of Women Business Owners-South will meet 7:30 a.m. at the Cranbrook Office Centre, 30161 Southfield Road, Suite 317. The building is near 12 1/2 Mile and Webster. The network is for women who own and operate their own businesses to provide support and share solutions. Price is \$10 for members, \$15 for guests, including continental breakfast. Reservations not required. For infor-

mation, call Gail Parker at (810) 647-3586.

THURS, FEB. 6

ACCOUNTING
The Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants will offer a winter accounting and auditing conference at the MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Those attending should take the Crooks Road exit off I-75. Registration will be 7:50 a.m., with adjournment at 4:50 p.m. There will be a number of breakout sessions. For registration information, call (810) 879-2456.

MONDAYS

BUSINESS WOMEN
Suburban West Business and Professional Women meet on the first Monday of each month at the Holiday Inn at Six Mile and I-275. Networking is 6-6:30 p.m. and dinner is 6:30-7 p.m. A short business meeting is then conducted. Cost is \$13 and reservations need to be made. For information, call Laura Hathaway at (810) 669-3547.



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- BOOKKEEPING PRODUCTS** BIG E-Z Bookkeeping Co. <http://www.bigez.com>
- BOOKS** Apostolate Communications <http://www.apostolate.com>

- BUSINESS NEWS** Insider Business Journal <http://www.insiderbiz.com>
- CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE** Livonia Chamber of Commerce <http://oonline.com/livoniachamber>
- CHILDREN'S SERVICES** St. Vincent & Sarah Fisher Center <http://oonline.com/svsf>
- COMMUNITIES** City of Livonia <http://oonline.com/livonia>
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SPORTS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1997

No. 1 1996 story: Sheila Taormina winning the gold

Ring out the old, bring out the new?
Not quite so fast, guys.
1996 had some epic moments that this scribe would like to share with you one last time.
It was a year to remember, for sure.
Here are my top eight golden moments as Livonia-Westland Sports Editor:

1. Olympic gold medalist Sheila Taormina: We should all know the story by now.

July 25... Atlanta, Ga. ... Olympic Games ... long-shot to make the finals for the U.S. women's 800-meter freestyle relay team ... swims fastest split (2:00.57) ... Swims third leg and helps U.S. win gold medal by beating favored Germans while setting Olympic and American records ... meets President Clinton and daughter Chelsea ... Instant celebrity ... Not bad for 27-year-old in her last hurrah.

On Monday night, Livonian Sheila Taormina, former Stevenson High student and University of Georgia star, had some quality time to herself.

She was in her new house, eating ice cream and watching a movie with a friend.

She's been on a whirlwind schedule since her Olympic gold medal moment.

It started with an elaborate Livonia City Hall celebration and it hasn't stopped since.

"My schedule was really hectic in September and October," Taormina said. "Sometimes I make 10 to 15 appearances a week. I can't count how many I've had."

Taormina is back at her full-time job at Northern Engraving, but she also has another full-time gig — speaking engagements at schools, swim clinics, nursing homes, auctions, charity events, open houses, homecomings — you name it.

"Things are quieting down a little. I do appearances mostly on the weekends now," she said. "I work a full day and then visit places. Some days I'm really exhausted. I don't get home until 11 at night."

Taormina has traveled all over the country — the White House, Georgia, Idaho, Phoenix and New York.

But despite the numerous demands on her time, she feels a special obligation to reach out.

"I visited a girl in the hospital who has leukemia and that hit close to home," Taormina said. "It reminds me I don't have it so bad, and that most of the little things I get upset over are very small in comparison."

"Once I get to an event, I see what other people are doing to help others and it touches my heart. I'm impressed with their energy because they're doing things on their own time as well."

A New Year's resolution for the Olympic Gold Medalist?
"I've been focused so much on running around that I've missed church a lot," she said. "I need that closeness with God."

2. John Buffington, cyclist: Amazing guy.

The 43-year-old Livonian was only one of 10 finishers in the Race Across America, a grueling 2,805-mile bike ride from Irvine, Calif. to Savannah, Ga. But the ex-Purdue footballer did it in 9 days, 23 hours and 3 minutes.

He's now back on the job at Office Depot.
Quite a feat.

3. Livonia Stevenson, state Class A boys soccer champions: Coach Walt Barrett gained his second title by pulling one out of the hat as the Spartans defeated Troy, 2-1, in overtime, on a goal by Mark Dietrich to win the coveted crown.

Many thought the 19-2-1 Spartans didn't have a chance after losing five Division I scholarship players from the year before.

4. Western Lakes football: Does anybody doubt how strong this league really is anymore?
— Walled Lake Western won the Class AA title by surprising Sterling Heights Stevenson, 34-18.

Ironically, Westland John Glenn, the WAAA champion, beat Western twice during the regular season (28-17 and 24-0). The 11-1 Rockets lost to Sterling Heights Stevenson in the semifinals, 17-7, after two tough playoff wins over Redford Catholic Central (15-14) and Dearborn Fordson (22-8).

And then there was Farmington Hills Harrison, which finished 11-2, losing to Rockford, 24-17 in the state Class A finals.

5. Wayne Memorial boys basketball: What a run the Zebras made, becoming the first Observant team to reach the semifinals since Redford Bishop Borgess did it in 1988 with Parish Hickman, Dwayne Kelley and Shawn Respert.

Wayne, behind the playmaking of Lorenzo Guess, the long-range bombing of Jameel Wooden and the rebounding of Richard Johnson, scored some dramatic wins, including a tough district triumph over Belleville.

The run stopped at the Breslin Center when Southfield-Lathrup rallied in the final quarter for a 77-67 victory. All in all, a great year at 23-3.

6. Anne Aristo, state champion swimmer: The senior from Livonia Stevenson won two individual state crowns and was a member of the first-place 200-meter freestyle relay squad along with Jordyn Godfroid, Marti McKenzie and Adrienne Turri.

Aristo set a state record in the 500 freestyle (4:48.67) and broke an Eastern Michigan pool mark in the 200 freestyle (1:49.41).

All told, Aristo finished her prep career with six individual state titles, a slew of league records and a whole lot of respect.

Aristo is headed to Stanford University.

7. Lorenzo Guess signs with MSU: He kept them Guessing right until the final moment.

Many thought he was going to be a Wolverine basketball player, but the 6-foot-3, 190-pound two-sport star will get a crack as a quarterback under the guidance of Nick Saban at Michigan State.

Wayne Memorial hasn't seen an athlete of his stature since Pat Sheridan.

If anybody can play and excel at two sports at the big-time college level, it's Guess.

Tom Izzo has to be smiling, too.

8. Madonna University volleyball: The Lady Crusaders made their third NAIA nationals appearance in four years led by the play of four-year performers Kelly McCausland (Redford Union) and Julie Martin (Livonia Stevenson).

Under the guidance of coach Jerry Abraham, Madonna finished with a school-record 52 wins (against only six losses).

In the NAIA Nationals earlier this month in San Diego, Calif., Madonna went 2-2 in pool play, bumped out by the national champion (BYU-Hawaii) and runner-up Point Loma Nazarene (Calif.), the host school. Quite a tough pool.

McCausland earned first-team NAIA All-American honors, while Martin was selected to the third team.



BRAD EMONS

Lady Ocelots capture classic

Engel MVP as SC gains tourney title

Redford Thurston's Kristi Engel took MVP honors Saturday as host Schoolcraft College won its own holiday women's basketball classic with an 80-76 victory over Lakeland (Ohio).

The win improves the Lady Ocelots' overall record to 8-3.

Engel, a 5-foot-11 sophomore, had a team-high 21 points in the victory.

Three others scored in double figures including 5-6 Forward Julie Schmidt (15), who was also named to the All-Tournament team; Sheila Coulter (12) and Theresa Cooper (11).

Crissy Harmon (Walled Lake Central) also contributed nine.

Engel was instrumental on both ends, coming up with a total of 14 steals in two games, including a first-round 67-33 victory Friday over George Brown (Ontario).

"Since high school Kristi has improved game-by-game," Schoolcraft coach Ed Kavanaugh said. "She's taking the ball to the basket, shooting 60 percent from the field and playing strong defense."

Schoolcraft played even (33-33) throughout the first half with Lakeland, a team that was 25-4 a year ago.

The Lady Ocelots put the clamps on sharpshooter Lakisha Price, who scored just six first-half points.

Price, however, finished with a game-high 32 points. (She made the All-Tourney team along with teammate Candy Williams, Georgia Risnita of Windsor and Triesha Hylton of George Brown.)

"We changed up our defenses," Kavanaugh said. "We went half-



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Floorburns: Schoolcraft College's Crissy Harmon (left) slides to gain possession of the ball in front of George Brown's Marife Villagonzolo (middle) and teammate Kristi Engel (right).

court from a man-to-man. We made some key stops and scored at key times."

Schmidt finished with 16 rebounds and seven assists. Engel added 12 rebounds and blocked three shots.

"Julie guarded their best player, and had two great games," said Kavanaugh. "She was close to double figures in rebounds both games."

Against George Brown, Christine Edwards paced the Lady Ocelots in scoring with 16 points. Engel fin-

ished with a unique triple-double — 15 points, 12 rebounds and 10 steals.

Schmidt added nine boards. Alana Caver had nine points, six steals and five assists. Harmon contributed nine points.

In the other first-round game Friday, Lakeland advanced with a 75-61 win over the University of Windsor. In the consolation final Saturday, Windsor topped George Brown, 54-33.

The Ocelots travel this weekend to

Ontario for the Seneca Classic before opening Eastern Conference action Wednesday, Jan. 8 at home against Delta.

Schoolcraft is favored to win the conference this year after finishing second behind St. Clair CC last season.

"This was a big win for us," Kavanaugh said of the Lakeland conquest. "I think we're improving each time out. We've played a tough schedule and we've faced a number of ranked teams."

Owens Tech seizes crown from S'craft

If only coach Greg Thomas had another five minutes in his championship game Saturday.

The Schoolcraft men's basketball coach switched to a zone defense in the second half, but the Ocelots' comeback fell short as Owens Tech of Toledo, Ohio won the SC Holiday Classic with an 81-71 victory.

Trailing 46-31 at intermission, Thomas went with his head instead of his heart.

"I think if we had played zone earlier we would have been in better shape," said Thomas, whose team fell to 4-7 on the year. "I should have taken the advice of some other coaches in our conference. I thought we could run with them and I should have gone zone to slow them down."

SC, which lost by 17 in an earlier meeting with Owens, outscored the perennial JC power 40-35 in the second half.

"We were right there (in the second half) and then we missed a couple of shots here and there. I got a technical and all the sudden we were down six points," Thomas said.

Naron Burks, a 6-foot-1 freshman guard from Willow Run, and 6-6 sophomore forward Naron Burks of River Rouge, scored 20 and 15, respectively.

Both were named to the All-Tournament team.

Tymon Marshall added 11 points and 12 rebounds, while Dwaun Warmack dished out seven assists.

Antoine Jones and C.J. Captain scored 18 and 15, respectively, to lead Owens Tech. Captain was also named to the All-Tourney squad along with Concordia College's Jim Balow, a 6-5 freshman from Livonia Stevenson, and Rodney Hampton of Lakeland (Ohio).

Tournament MVP Wesley Lamb of Owens Tech was held to six points by SC.

SC opened tourney play Friday with an 81-73 triumph over Lakeland as Warmack and Reeves each poured in 20 points. Marshall added 12 points and eight rebounds, while Burks chipped in with 10 points and 12 rebounds.

Guard Pete Males (Garden City)

Crusaders earn split

MEN'S HOOPS

The Madonna University men's basketball team lived and died by the three-point shot last weekend at the Findlay (Ohio) College Tournament.

Madonna split a pair of games to come home before the New Year with a 4-12 record.

Spalding College made 12-of-22 shots from three-point range on Saturday en route to an 86-72 win over the Crusaders. On Sunday, Madonna made 15-34 from three-point range and used balanced scoring to roll past St. Mary's College, 103-69.

Madonna had a better shooting percentage than Spalding, finishing at 48.3 percent (29-60). Spalding was 30-68 for a 44.1 percent clip.

Kristian Magro scored 26 points and grabbed a game-high 17 rebounds for Madonna. Brandon Slone added 21 points and

eight rebounds and Mike Maryanski contributed 12 points.

The Crusaders struggled at the free throw line, making only 9-17. Spalding had a 35-34 rebounding edge.

The Crusaders committed 17 turnovers to Spalding's 12.

Four Crusaders scored in double figures on Sunday, led by Maryanski with 27 and Magro with 24. Slone added 18 points and Christian Emert 13. Emert also had 11 assists, most going to either Magro or Maryanski.

Maryanski was 10-14 from the floor while Magro made 10-16 shots.

Maryanski was 7-10 from three-point range and Emert 3-6. Magro led the rebounders with eight.

had six assists and eight points.

Tim Robinson led Lakeland with a game-high 22.

"It was a good tourney for us and we played well," Thomas said. "I thought we outplayed Lakeland throughout because we didn't let

down. We went at them inside and outside."

In the other first-round game, Owens held off Concordia, 87-77.

Lakeland took the consolation game with a 68-60 win over Concordia.

Shamrock trainer does more than tape ankles



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Trainer extraordinaire: David Broz played at Ball State.

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Chris Young, Detroit Catholic Central's 6-foot-10 junior center, received an elbow in the chops one day during a preseason practice.

Sensing a fat lip coming on, Young looked around, rather helplessly.

You see, the blow came from David Broz, a 6-10 former basketball player at Ball State University who happens to be the CC trainer. Broz had received similar treatment from Young a few trips earlier down the court.

An incident like this will make Young grow up in a hurry.

"David was pushing Chris pretty vigorously and Chris boinked him in the ear with his elbow," recalled CC assistant coach John Mulroy. "About two or three trips later, David let him know who's boss, kind-of-like the old Gordie Howe stories. There was a low rumble that started about

David's tennis shoes. I don't think anyone in the gym thought he was kidding."

Now, Broz is far from a Bill Laimbeer type.

While his primary job is to tape and ice players' injuries, it's an added bonus that he can suit up and practice. Broz scrimmages with the Shamrocks and even participates in some of their drills.

Funny, but Young probably appreciates him as much as anyone.

"He's shown me a lot of moves," Young said.

Broz is also there to offer encouragement, like the night he spent a good 15 minutes talking to star guard Marc McDonald after CC's loss to Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

Broz assists other sports at CC, but he stops short of lacing up the skates for hockey coach Gordie St. John.

"People who are champions learn

from their mistakes," said Broz, explaining what he said to McDonald, who has signed with Loyola (Ill.). "I enjoy the competitiveness of sports, have played Division I and would like to help by passing that knowledge along."

Seeing Broz on the sidelines next to Mulroy and head coach Rick Coratti, the first thing opponents must think is how fortunate they are that he isn't playing.

At 24, Broz is still young enough to pass for a player.

"Either that or a coach," Broz said. "I've been given every title except trainer, which is fine because as a trainer I consider myself an extension of the team."

Broz came to CC from MedHealth shortly after the start of football season. That's when Coratti, a defensive coordinator with the CC football

See CC TRAINER, C4

Chargers take 1st

Livonia Churchill put together a 4-0-2 record Saturday en route to the Ypsilanti Lincoln Invitational volleyball tournament title.

The Chargers, now 6-0-2 on the year, split their first two matches in pool play — Monroe St. Mary's (12-15, 15-13) and Warren Woods Tower (15-2, 7-15).

In their other two pool play matches, Churchill defeated Walled Lake Western (15-2, 15-1) and Novi (15-10, 15-3) to reach the elimination round.

In the semifinals, Churchill ousted host Lincoln (15-5, 15-3) and won the crown with a win over Monroe St. Mary's (15-13, 15-10).

Megan McGinty, who came up

VOLLEYBALL

with some key blocks in the championship game versus St. Mary's, was Churchill's top hitter on the day with 28 kills.

Lori Leszczynski was next with 27 followed by Amanda Eszes (20), Lisa Fabirkiewicz (12) and Jessica Sherman (10).

"We had very nice balance and scoring," Churchill coach Mike Hughes said. "It was very competitive volleyball. We hadn't faced Warren Woods Tower in a couple of years — they were very quick. It was a nice day for us."

Defensively, Danielle Socklosky led in digs with 22, while Andrea Will contributed 18.

CC trainer from page C3

team, met him.

Imagine the kind of defensive end he'd make.

"We've always had outstanding trainers," said Coratti, noting that the tradition started after he gave up training on a part-time basis. "but having David is just like having another coach. He knows his training stuff, is great with the kids and so insightful."

Mulroy couldn't stop thinking of basketball when he first saw Broz at a football game.

"I showed up one day for the DePorres game and here's this big rascal blocking out the sun," Mulroy said. "I asked somebody 'Who's that assistant coach?' Somebody said 'That's the trainer.'"

Every other player in the CC program needs a step ladder to cover Young, so at 6-10, Mulroy said Broz was going to suit up at practice even if he couldn't walk and chew gum at the same time.

He is far from that.

The son of a coach from Westchester, Ill., Broz started four seasons at BSU from 1990-94. Broz was a member of the Mid-American Conference all-freshman team and an academic All-America honorable mention selection before his career ended. The Cardinals reached both

the NCAA Tournament and the National Invitational Tournament in Broz's four years.

Broz played at Proviso East High School. East's big rival was West, which incredibly had current NBA players Michael Finley, Sherrell Ford and Donnie Boyce in its lineup during Broz's playing days.

"Even if he had never seen a basketball, he was going in there to bang Chris Young," Mulroy said. "He's a coach's son who really is steep in his knowledge of basketball. He can see things that really are pretty specific, not like 'Oops, that's real bad' or 'Hey, that's real good.'"

Injuries actually led to Broz changing his major from communications to sports medicine as a sophomore at BSU. Broz suffered two dislocated shoulders and underwent one knee surgery at BSU, helping him get to know the trainers pretty well.

Before long he was taking classes with them. He took his current job after finishing a two-year commitment at BSU in the training field.

"I'm in it for the kids," Broz said. "I love it here. This is a great group of guys and coaches here at CC and I'm really enjoying my time."

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP HOCKEY
Saturday, Jan. 4
Redford CC vs. A.P. Cabrinl at Redford Ice Arena, 8 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Friday, Jan. 3
Romulus Tournament, 8:30 a.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday, Jan. 3
Luth. Westland at Luth. East, 7 p.m.
Cranbrook at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Salem at Ypsi Lincoln, 7 p.m.
Canton at Farmington, 7 p.m.
Seaholm at N. Farmington, 7 p.m.
Ypsilanti at Harrison, 7 p.m.
Garden City at Churchill, 7:30 p.m.
St. Agatha at Loyola, 7:30 p.m.
Redford CC at Borgess, 7:30 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Jan. 4
Spring Arbor at Madonna, 7 p.m.
Schoolcraft at Daytona CC, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 5
Schoolcraft at Florida CC, 7:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Thursday, Jan. 2
Schoolcraft at Seneca (Ont.), TBA

Friday, Jan. 3
Schoolcraft at Seneca (Ont.), TBA

Saturday, Jan. 4
Madonna at Tri-State (Ind.), 3 p.m.
TBA — time to be announced.

Other highlights, notables from the year 1996

LOOKING BACK ON 1996

Coaches gone: Mike George (Madonna baseball); Glen Donahue (Schoolcraft men's basketball to Central Michigan); Nick O'Shea (Livonia Churchill girls soccer); Nancy Oestrike (Westland John Glenn softball to Eastern Michigan); Jim McIntyre (Livonia Stevenson boys basketball); Larry Jackson (Livonia Franklin boys basketball); Lisa McPhee (Livonia Ladywood girls basketball); Tom Lang (Livonia Churchill boys basketball); Steve Naumcheff (Livonia Churchill football).

New coaches: Ron Vanderlinden (head football coach University of Maryland); Marylou Jansen (Madonna women's basketball); Bob Kummer (assistant at UNC-Charlotte men's basketball); Mary Kay Hussey (Livonia Franklin girls soccer); John Fillettraut (Livonia Churchill football); Dan Ramthun (Lutheran Westland boys basketball); Tim Newman (Livonia Stevenson boys basketball); Dan Robinson (Livonia Franklin boys basketball); Rick Austin (Livonia Churchill boys track and basketball); Dana Orsucci (Redford Catholic Central soccer); Andrea McAllister-Gorski (Livonia Ladywood girls basketball); Greg Haeger (Madonna men's baseball).

Athletic directors gone: Don Albertson (Livonia Churchill).

New athletic director: Marc Hage (Livonia Churchill).

Milestones: Livonia Stevenson tailback Gade Clark (over 4,500 all-purpose yards); Livonia Franklin pole vaulter Paul Terek (runner-up in Class A at 15-1); Lutheran Westland's state Class C champion 800-meter

relay team (Rebekah Hoffmeyer, Amy Clark, Hana Hughes and Laura Clark); Lutheran Westland's 3,200-meter state Class C champion relay team (Jason Collins, Phil Kimmel, Sam Patterson and Brad Polkinghorne); Madonna University will join Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference in 1997-98; Schoolcraft men's basketball coach Glen Donahue wins 1,000th game vs. St. Clair, 94-75; CC wrestler John Spolsky Class A heavy-weight champion with 55-0 record; Livonia Stevenson hockey player Kyle McNellance scores school-record 44 goals; Wayne Memorial boys basketball coach Chuck Henry wins 300th game in 86-61 win over Romulus; Westland John Glenn's Bobby Hayes helps Michigan to NCAA hockey title in dramatic 3-2 win over Colorado College; Livonia Hockey Association Pee Wee AA Knights go 61-16-3 and win Tier II USA Hockey Championship; Lutheran Westland football team goes 8-1 (best in school history and just misses playoffs).

State runner-up: Livonia Stevenson girls cross country (Class A).

Bronze medal: Livonia Stevenson girls swim team (also won sixth straight Western Lakes championship).

State quarterfinalists: Livonia Stevenson wrestling (Class A); Livonia Ladywood volleyball (Class A); Catholic Central hockey (Class A).

Glad to be coaching again: Madonna men's basketball coach Bernie Holowicki (quadraple

bypass surgery); Livonia Franklin boys soccer coach Dave Hebestreit (emergency surgery for brain aneurysm).

Gone but not forgotten: Bob Cox (avid Ford Field basketball fan); Luvic Lucaj (Clarenceville football and basketball player).

Profile in courage: Livonia Clarenceville pitcher Scott Hatch (recovered from serious head injury when he was hit by a car while on his bike).

Olympic trials qualifier: Sheila Taormina and Anne Aristeo, women's swimming; Scott DeWolf and Matt Martin, men's swimming; Kate Keleman, women's air rifle; Jeff Cassar (alternate men's soccer).

Controversy: Detroit Cooley's 74-73 regional semifinal boys basketball win over Catholic Central; Plymouth Canton's 3-2 regional overtime semifinal win over Livonia Churchill.

New to scene: Lights at Franklin and Ford Field; 4,300-seat Compware Ice Arena in Plymouth Township; high school football scoreboard show featuring Observer sports writers on WDFN Radio; Clarenceville boys soccer; Norm Hoopes Baseball Field (Westland John Glenn).

Observerland champions: Catholic Central (wrestling), Plymouth Salem and Westland John Glenn (tie for boys track); Alan Menzies (golf).

Marathon men: Livonia Heart and Sole Running Club members Gary Baughman and Dave Meisner (back-to-back 26.2-milers on successive days).

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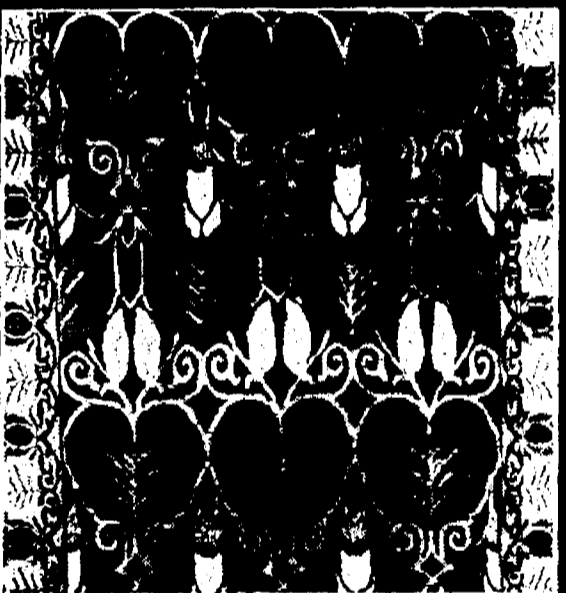
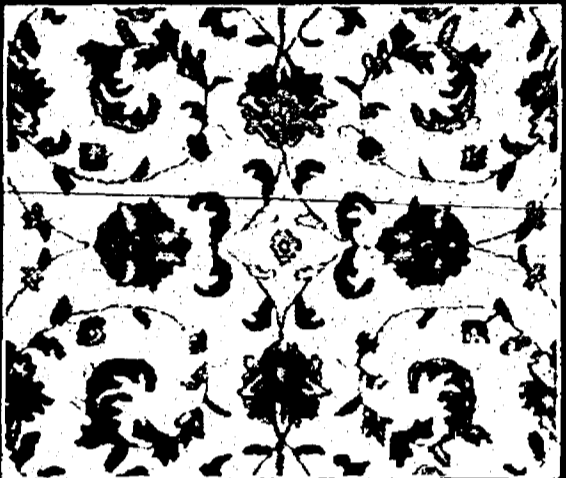
COVER STORY: Renovation removes barriers, page 8



Inside: **Interior Motives**, page 4 • **Celebrating Family**, page 7 • **Inviting Ideas**, page 14



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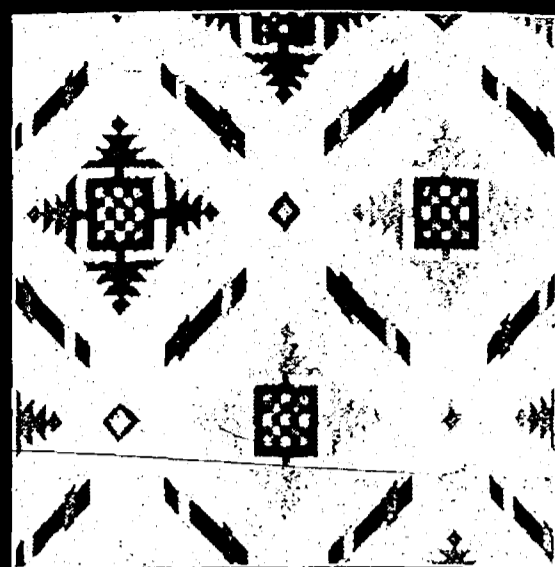
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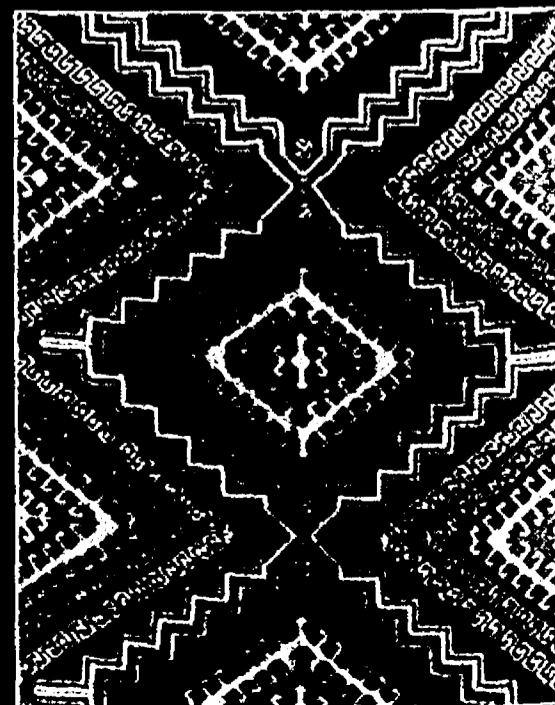
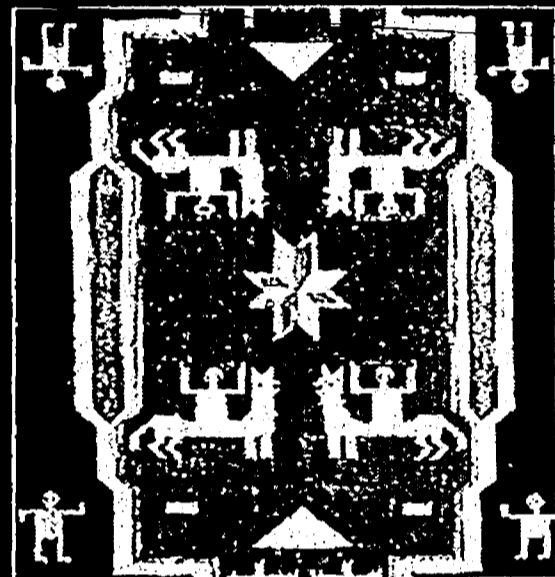
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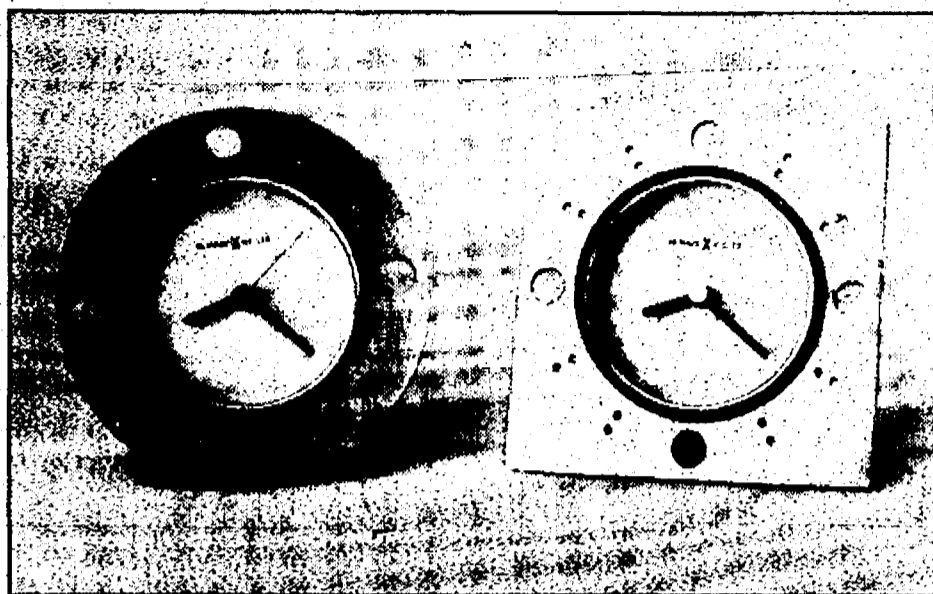


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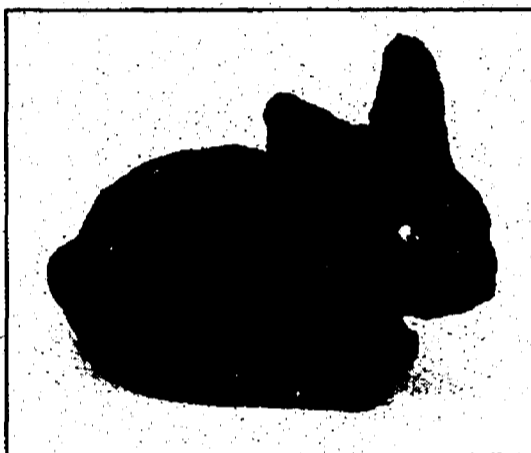


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Dropping in

How now, brown cow?: *The Amish in Pennsylvania* hand-make these perpetual garden nurturers of cow manure in the shape of bunnies, owls and swine. About the size of a thick paperback book, the creatures sit in your garden all year, giving of themselves to fertilize the soil with every rain and sprinkling. By Tewksbury Gardens. Available for \$12.99 at Brickscape, on Old Novi Road just north of Eight Mile and east of Novi Road in Northville. Call (810) 348-2500.



AT HOME

Mary Klemic, editor (810) 901-2569

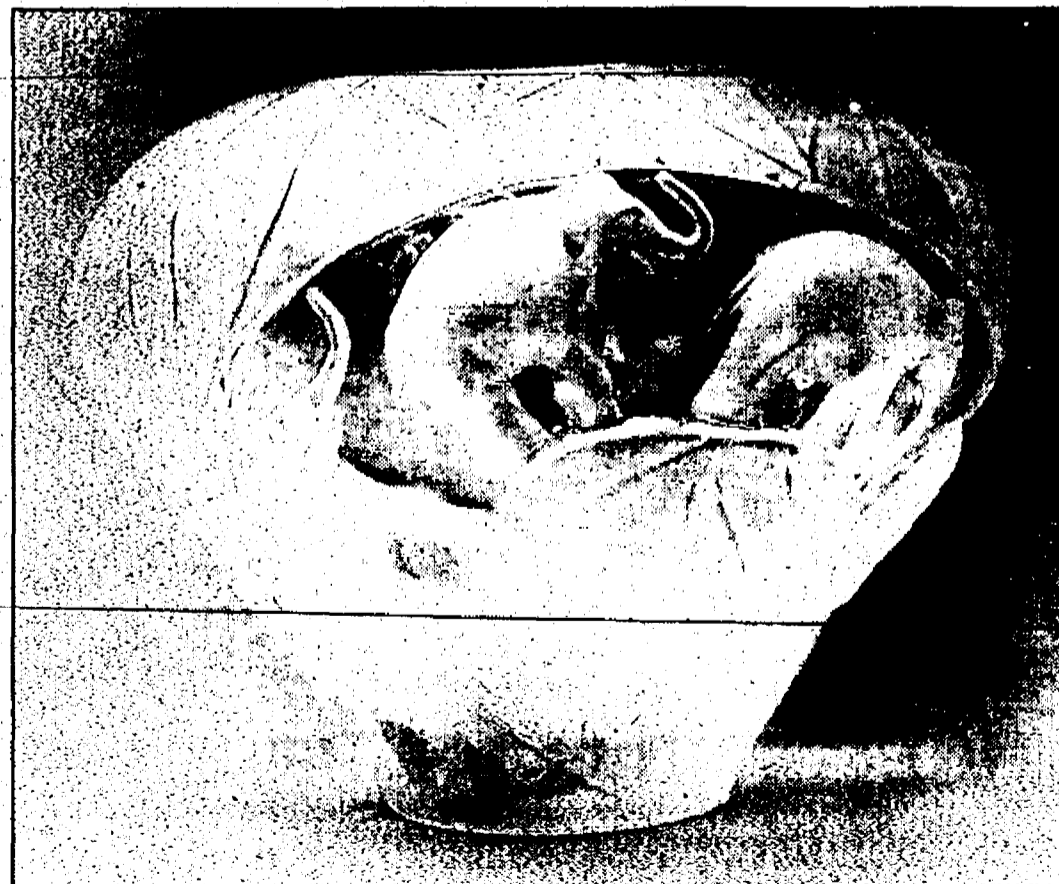
We are looking for your ideas for *At Home* and for the Marketplace roundup of new ideas.

Send your comments to:
Mary Klemic, *At Home*,
805 E. Maple,
Birmingham, MI 48009



Dig it

Handy item: Brickscape in Northville offers this bag of deluxe hand tools. The bag contains a Cape Cod weeder, transplanting trowel and three-tine claw "guaranteed to last for a generation." Cost is \$39.99. Brickscape is on Old Novi Road just north of Eight Mile and east of Novi Road. Call (810) 348-2500.



Tusk, tusk

A bowl to remember: Decorating with elephants has become trendy. Jungle-inspired touches have been popping up in the most fashionable interiors. The pack of delightful pachyderms marching across this frosted crystal bowl by Lalique brings a safari right into your living room. Available at Jules Schubot Jewellers in Troy, the handcrafted piece retails for \$3,350. Call (810) 649-1122.

Good taste involves selectivity



NAOMI STONE LEVY

Is it possible to legislate good taste? Who becomes the authority? I'd like to think I have the answer, but that is arguable. What would make me right and my neighbor wrong? Having set out the questions, let's examine some replies.

I may be stirring up a huge argument as a very longstanding member of the American Institute of Interior Designers when I state that in my opinion, that membership doesn't entitle one to claim good taste. I have viewed some of my cohorts' completed interiors that I thought were appalling. I repeat the thought: Who is the authority? Surely not me!

My definition of truly good taste expects discrimination. Selectivity is an

important ingredient. As an amateur or a professional you must discriminate. You cannot use everything you see that you like, even though each item of itself may be tasteful. Too much gives way to the famous "Less is more," and I say that advisedly.

Fabrics, furniture, lamps and accessories should never compete for attention. If a very strong printed fabric is used that has a multitude of colors, the accompanying fabrics should play "second fiddle," as in a symphony orchestra. They must blend with the primary fabric to resonate good taste.

Furniture is another case in point. Overloading a small room with ponderous pieces should never occur. Likewise, it is just as incorrect to have everything tiny in scale in a large room, having no focal point. This, again, is where you must discriminate. Good taste will tell when you have reached correct proportions.

Lamps should never dominate an

interior. They can beautifully blend with other components. And, heaven forbid, the lamp shades should ever overpower the lamp. Haven't you driven by a home and seen in a picture window a huge lamp with an overdressed shade? Not good taste!

Accessories are an integral part of any design. Some can be small; others quite large, such as a piece of sculpture on a stand. Depending on the background of the room, add complimentary pieces of pewter, brass, glass or pottery.

If you have a wonderful pitcher, it would be in good taste as an accessory, but don't overload any room with too many bits and pieces. Not good taste!

How does anyone know who has displayed that elusive and singular and mesmerizing talent? I have to allow you to make the final judgment for yourself.

You can leave Naomi Stone Levy a message dialing (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1897.

Learn more about horticulture

Visitors may explore the University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens throughout the year with a docent-led tour and discover more about the world of horticulture.

Docent-led tours of the Conservatory will take place 2 p.m. every Sunday in January and highlight special plants in bloom. Sign up at the front lobby reception desk prior to the tour. Conservatory admission is \$2 for adults.

Docent-led tours of the outdoor trails will take place 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5. The January tour theme is "Signs of Life in the Dead of Winter." The brisk walk in the woods requires warm clothing and boots. Tour participants should meet docents on the front steps of the Gardens.

The Matthaei Botanical Gardens is at 1800 N. Dixboro Road in Ann Arbor. Call (313) 998-7061.

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Passing along useful information



JOE GAGNON

A few days ago while doing a radio show I mentioned that there was a list in one of the newspapers which had names of companies and products that could cure many homeowner problems. The list contains local and national phone numbers that every consumer should have at their disposal and was written by America's Master Handyman, Glenn Haege.

The minute I mentioned this name on my talk show, my producer whispered in my ear that I couldn't do that and in most cases that is true. On my radio show things prove to be a little different than those that have to do with issues. This is a consumer help and awareness program, which management at WJR gives me free rein to do, with one thought in mind: help the radio listening audience.

This newspaper you are reading today does much the same. It doesn't object to my telling you that the article written (mentioned above) was in the News and Free Press on Dec. 21. It is the object I'm sure, that journalism, whether it be in print, for the eye or for the ear should always focus on the betterment of each individual's knowledge.

The relationship between this writer and The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is one of admiration on my part. What began a year and a half ago has extended from how to maintain your refrigerator to many articles dealing with consumerism and a few trifles from my personal life.

The editor of this column has not interfered in what I write for you the reader, and out of that comes a feeling of trust that I enjoy immensely.

I believe that this newspaper has gotten to know me just as you have and from the comments I receive from many of your who read this column, I feel very proud of what I do. To be able to

say columnist after my name is quite a thing for a fellow raised in the northern wilds of Canada.

Of the many seminars I do annually, there is one coming up on Jan. 15 that I feel very humble in being invited to speak.

The Livonia Town Hall is going into its 34th year of bringing a series of lectures into their community with world renown speakers on different subjects.

The list of past speakers such as Dan Rather, Barbara Walters, David Niven and so many others is quite intimidating to this washer repair man. I'm sitting here looking at the list and saying to myself, "this must be a joke."

Then again, I wonder how many of these famous people ever realized how little they knew about the service industry when they were having an appliance repaired in their home. Maybe I should invite all of them to return as part of the audience this year, if not, then I hope to see you there.

Many times when doing seminars I am asked about the automotive repair

industry which, quite honestly, I can't answer. In the past three weeks I have met three gentlemen who have started just recently a business that will help consumers with repair questions on their vehicles. I have spent a lot of time checking out these three chaps to make sure they are not fly-by-night artists.

I am about to venture into unknown territory to bring you knowledge that makes you a more aware consumer.

I hope that 1997 will be a better year for all of you, and I intend to play a small role in that effort, thanks to this newspaper. Happy New Year to all from the Appliance Doctor.

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 on WJR-AM. He is author of "First Aid from the Appliance Doctor," available at area bookstores.

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It's your move: Time to pare down

BY MARILYN ATTENSON
Special Writer

Even though I'm an interior designer, and am able to think through the logistics of good design, I often must make the same design decisions for myself as everyone else does. For instance, our recent move from a grand old house to a lovely smaller place. The scenario goes like this:

What do I give up? New space is

smaller. Ceilings are lower. I like all my armoires. Do I give up this vase? Is it worth something? What will Aunt Matilda think of me if she doesn't see her vase? Look at this bowl. It was a wedding gift. Been in its box for 30 years. Grandfather clock must move. I'll fix it eventually. It is my dining room table. I don't care if it's bigger than the dining room!

All who have moved have gone through this tortuous process of what to

move and not move. We have flippantly labeled this agonizing process "paring down."

It is agonizing because most people don't think about incorporating their furnishings in their new place until they have moved into their new place. They don't think of the total move, only each part of the moving process.

Don't forget: You decided to move because you wanted change. Paring down isn't just to clean the basement and garage. It is a selection process.

What to move? Where will you place the armoire, clock, piano, punch bowl? Do you have any room measurements of your new place? Did you do any floor plans? Do you know how much storage space you'll have?

Because people are still emotionally involved in the space they are moving from, not the space they are moving to, they don't bother to gather the right information, and agonize over "possession decisions."

But, no one has to give up anything. You need to choose what you want to move with you, based on your new space's size and shape. What are your decorating plans? What ambiance do you want in your new space?

I just finished paring down. We

moved from a very comfortable home to a half-the-size condo. If I couldn't place the possession in the new condo, it didn't make the move.

We chose to move because we wanted an easy lifestyle. With the latter in mind at all times, we went through all furnishings and possessions with the following criteria: We had to really want to still own it. If one of us didn't "just love it," the item didn't make the move; the item had to enhance an area or be a usable object that would complement our lifestyle. All possessions had to have a reason for living with us.

We weren't giving up anything. We were editing our furnishings and accessories for our new life in our future home.

The value of the item, or who gave it to us, didn't enter into the discussion. Size, shape, where and how were continuously discussed. Our new decor was always part of the conversation. Each item was tagged designating its new place - we were already in the process of moving. It went very well. Somehow, we knew it would.

Attenson, an interior designer from Bloomfield Hills, is in Michigan Design Center's "Designer On Call." For a free consultation, call (888) DIAL-MDC.

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Make '97 a giving year: Help others

BY LISA LUCKOW-HEALY
Special Writer

On Aug. 31, 1995, my life changed forever. It was the night I lost my 18-year-old brother, Mark, to an automobile accident. My family and I were devastated.

Acquaintances passing the funeral home that week told us they thought a celebrity had died because so many people were going in to pay their respects. The funeral itself was reminiscent of a movie scene with the dozens of caring friends and family converging upon the burial site.

Since that horrible night, my family and I have had many long hours to reflect upon our past, present and future.

Losing a loved one has a profound impact on your life. It makes you realize that all the daily activities, rushing to school, planning your life around a client dinner party, worrying about a forthcoming business transaction or holding a grudge mean absolutely nothing without the love and support of family and friends.

As a family, we've repeatedly reminded each other not to dwell on the "should have, would have, could have" phrases, because nothing is going to change the past.

But the memory of Mark that lives on within all his family and friends has been an inspiration to reach out and touch the lives of others in need of help and support - to make a difference in someone else's life by putting that individual first.

With the New Year just begun, ask yourself and your family how you can combine your love and support through volunteer efforts. There are hundreds of volunteer organizations throughout Michigan and the United States that depend on volunteers like you not only during the holidays but the whole year through.

Ways to help

One such organization is Lighthouse of Oakland County, a non-profit that assists low-income individuals with emergencies. Students, families and church organizations are some of the volunteers reaching out to the Lighthouse.

"One local corporation brings their entire staff to Lighthouse at Thanksgiving to help prepare meals for needy families," said Noreen Keating, president, Lighthouse of Oakland County.

"If corporations can do it, more families can, too, by getting involved as part of their child's school community service project. A local man and his child work with the Comerica Bank Trust

office in Birmingham to gather the soft drink can returnables on a monthly basis, turn the cans in for their deposit and submit that money to us to help others."

Sheila Clemons-Steger, manager of development services, Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan, said there are numerous ways families can help her organization grant wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses.

"Our new program, called 'Kids for Wish Kids,' is a community service project many schools are tailoring to their needs," she said.

"Basically, students in grades K-12 can participate by working together to raise money to grant a wish for a child in their area. The program teaches students how to focus on individuals other than themselves by demonstrating how they can pool their resources to make a difference in a seriously ill child's life."

"Kids for Wish Kids" is a program that promotes team-building between the students and their families.

"Parents can foster the spirit of giving in their children while encouraging other members of the student body to participate and tackle the awesome responsibility of making another child's wish possible," Clemons-Steger said.

Paint the Town is an organization that selects a community in the city of Detroit and in its surrounding satellite cities to send volunteers to paint homes and perform general repairs. This widespread volunteer effort takes place in mid-August.

"Students in Cub Scouts come out with their parents to lend a hand and receive merit badge credit for their participation," said James Jackson, loan administration, Standard Federal Bank in Troy, a corporate sponsor of Paint the Town.

"The young people who volunteer with their families, many of whom are employees of companies who support the organization, are exposed to community service at an early age."

The Lighthouse of Oakland County, Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan and Paint the Town are just a few of the hundreds of local and national organizations looking for volunteers like you to help make 1997 a giving year.

Lighthouse of Oakland County:
(810) 335-6752

Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan:
(800) 622-WISH

Paint the Town Hotline: (810) 827-2398.

Lisa Luckow-Healy is a marketing and public relations consultant and the mother of two from West Bloomfield. Her articles frequently appear in Metro Parent magazine and several business trade publications.

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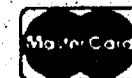
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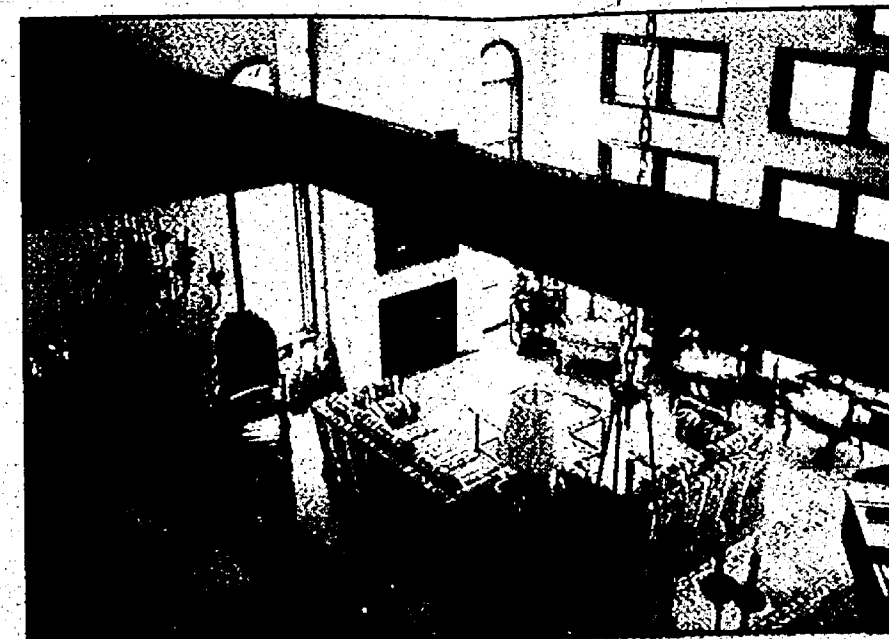
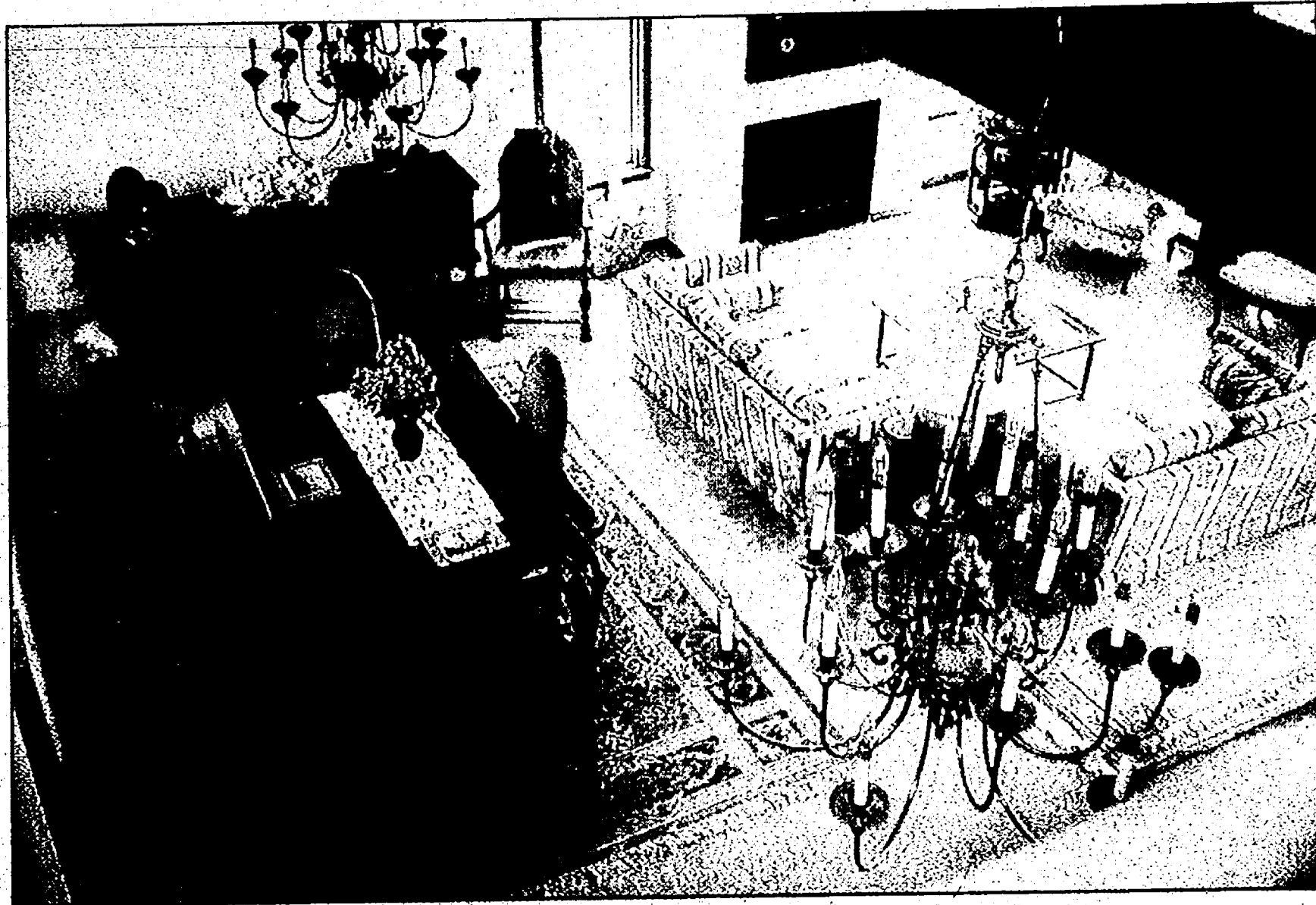
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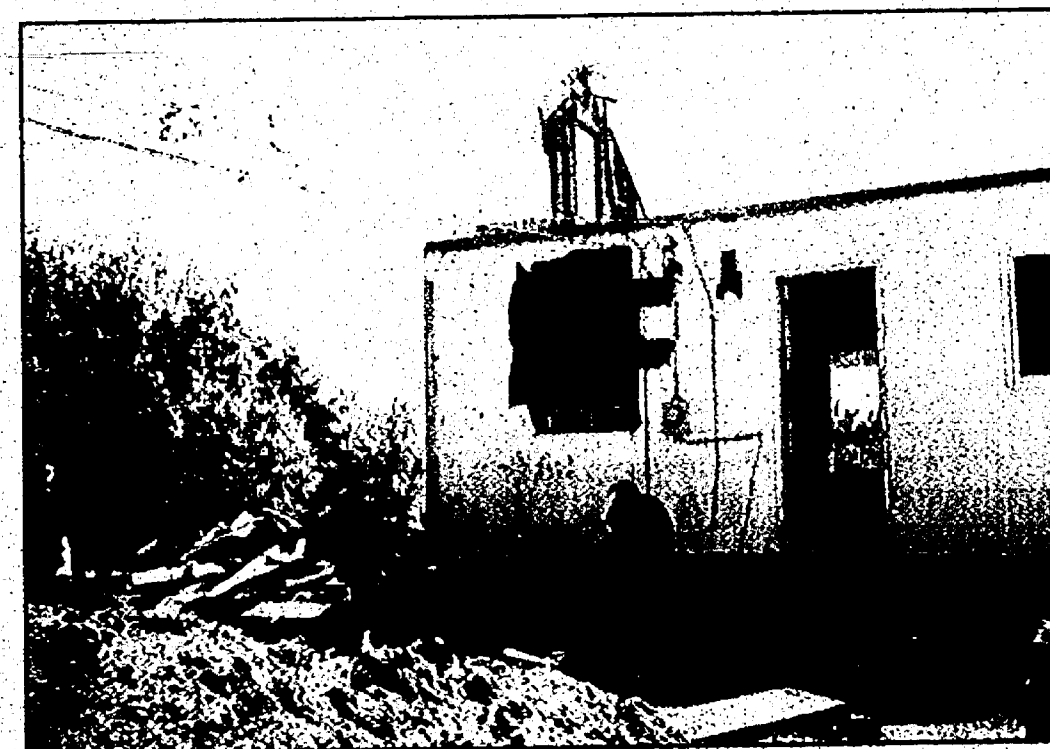


Open floor plan: (Top and left photos) The living room/dining room of the Rabideau home, shown here in two views, looks out onto the lake. The two-story ceiling creates a spacious feeling.



Two in one: Marge Rabideau's mother, Margaret DeMarke, lives in a separate barrier-free suite with its own view of the lake.

On the cover: Photos show the Rabideau residence on Lake Oakland before (right) and after (far right) Bloomfield Township architect Michael Trautman turned it into a multi-gabled home.



In progress: Walls were torn down and the house raised 16 inches to create a walk-out basement.

Renovation removes barriers in house

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
Special Writer

When Irv and Marge Rabideau decided to convert their one-story home on Lake Oakland into a 3,500-square-foot dream home, they knew the first floor must be readily accessible to Marge's 86-year-old mother, Margaret DeMarke. Margaret had hip replacement surgery in 1984 and presently walks with the aid of a cane. A barrier-free floor plan was a must.

Previously, the Rabideaus owned a spacious 5,600-square-foot house in Detroit's Palmer Woods, so moving from an 18-room residence to 900 square feet in Waterford Township was unacceptable.

"We had that spaciousness we didn't want to lose. Because lake property is difficult to acquire, we decided to tear down and rebuild. We wanted a view of the lake from as many rooms as possible," said Irv Rabideau, formerly a librarian at Madonna University in Livonia.

The first step was to contact Michael Trautman, a Bloomfield Township architect who specializes in bar-

rier-free design. As part of Albert Kahn's staff in the early 1970s, Trautman worked on Children's Hospital in Detroit. Since then he has designed homes for paraplegics, clients with closed head injuries and quadriplegics in wheelchairs. Trautman took the Rabideaus' asbestos-sided cape cod and turned it into a multi-gabled home that was readily accessible to Margaret.

After their first meeting in March 1994, work began one year later to remove existing architectural barriers and demolish about one-half of the house built in 1950. Only the shell and footings of the existing structure survived after completion. The house was then raised 16 inches to allow for a walk-out basement to the lake.

"One of the criteria was budget considerations. It's less costly to use the existing facility as a starting off point. There's been a savings of 60 to 70 percent of what it would have cost new," Trautman said.

A wall of windows, running the length of the living room, opens onto a 12-by-50-foot deck. The two-story ceiling combined with the windows creates a magnificent view of the lake.

"I like the openness and the trees are beautiful. It

reminds me of where I grew up," Rabideau said.

The barrier-free mother-in-law suite complete with walk-in closet, bathroom and shower is all one level without raised thresholds between rooms. The sleeping area has direct access on the deck.

A gradual incline formed from earth creates a natural ramp for Margaret to enter the home easily.

"What I like about designing barrier-free structures is the impact you can have on someone's life. They improve immediately because they have more control over their environment. They take more initiative to move around," Trautman said.

"The first floor is essentially barrier free. It's what we refer to as a three-generation home."

Since the project was open to modifications while work was in progress, a wrap-around window in one wall was added to the architectural plans. It extends the view from the wall of windows opening onto the deck in the mother-in-law suite.

"The windows turn the corner so you get so much more of a view. The vista you get of the lake is pretty grand," Trautman said.

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<p style="text-align: center;">COUPON</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Furnace Clean and Check</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Complete Inspection</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$59.95</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">EXPIRES 11-30-96</p>	

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garden spot

Plan ahead in buying house plants

Happy New Year! Soon all the decorations and debris of the holidays will be cleared away and we can take stock of our house plants.

This might be a good time to toss out

some of the more bedraggled ones and buy something new and exciting to get us through these winter months.

Before you go shopping for a plant, carefully consider the conditions in your



MARTY FIGLEY

home, particularly where you want to put a new plant.

Is the light coming from the north, south, east or west? Is the area on the dark side most of the time? Is there an abundance of bright light? Is your home dry or more humid? Do

you have a garden room or greenhouse? Do you have time to care for a plant with special needs, or would one that needs less care be more suitable?

Many books are available that include information about these needs. The library is a good resource, or your favorite bookseller will be happy to advise you about a good book.

Before you go on a "house plant shopping spree," become acquainted with the plants that may interest you. Take the book when you go shopping,

because some plants may catch your eye and not be at all the one that will thrive in the conditions in your home. Our local nurseries have so many plants from which to choose, we can be easily distracted.

If you are in the market for a flowering plant, be aware of the length of time the bloom is attractive. Also, bloom color is an important factor and can either look perfectly at home, or look like a sad mistake.

When you visit the nursery or florist, don't pick up the first plant that attracts you, but rather browse around the whole store for a while. Take your time and enjoy the experience.

Have a budget in mind before you begin. Large plants are often more expensive than their smaller brothers or sisters and they may have problems adjusting from their store home to yours when they have been acclimated to that store. It's also fun and sometimes a chal-

See Figley, page D11

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Figley
from page D10

lence to buy a smaller plant and watch it grow into a fine specimen with your ministrations.

Examine your chosen plant carefully (top and bottom of leaves, stems, joint where leaf meets the stem) to be sure there is no insect infestation. A sticky secretion will indicate aphids, while white flies cause leaves to turn yellow and drop. Spider mites give the leaves a speckled, mottled appearance and spin webs. Mealy bugs cause a white cottony mass to form on leaves or stems and scale look like spots or blisters.

Look for yellow foliage, there may have been too much light; look near the bottom of the plant for missing foliage. Leaf damage may indicate cold problems, stay away from leaves that have been broken and are discolored.

Look for as many growing points as possible in the variety you choose - you'll get more plant for the money; foliage plants should have leaves to soil level.

Stick your finger in the pot to check if the soil is soft and loose, and examine the bottom of the pot. If one or two roots are growing out, that is a good sign, but if there are a lot of roots covering the bottom of the pot, it could be pot bound and would need special care and repotting.

Most generally our greenhouses, nurs-

eries and retail stores are very clean and the staffs take care to control these problems. In case you notice a problem when you get the plant home, ask about a guarantee.

Before you leave the store, have the clerk carefully wrap your new plant to protect it from the cold weather. It's also a good idea to warm up the car.

Remember to remove the foil wrapping around the plants and be sure there are drainage holes in the bottom of the pot. An attractive cache pot can hold the plant in its original pot and add its own beauty to the picture. It also catches the runoff when the plant is watered, but water mustn't be left standing in it.

TIMELY GARDEN TIPS

- Order seeds, plants and supplies for the new gardening season.
- Set a paperwhite narcissus bulb just above the water line in pebbles, or use a hyacinth vase.
- Don't walk on frozen lawns - it will damage the grass.
- Pour clear water through your house plants to leech out the buildup of fertilizers and salts.
- Replace mulch around strawberry plants and remove old berry canes at the base.
- Tighten guy wires on newly planted trees if they have been heaved by frost.

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let's remodel

Be informed when picking material

Q: I am somewhat overwhelmed by the number of choices of products on the market for my remodeling project, which is a kitchen update. Can you give some criteria for purchasing products?

A: This is an easy situation in which to find yourself overwhelmed. Not only does the product need to fit within a budget and the style of the room, but it needs to work with your other product choices. Below are some considerations to keep in mind when choosing products or materials.

■ Price is not always an indication of quality. Judge each product individually and do not use prices as a factor in determining quality.

■ If you have a question about the life of a product or its effectiveness, talk to your remodeler. If he or she cannot help you, seek advice from professional showrooms or from the manufacturer of the product.

■ Don't make uninformed decisions



about a product - find out what it has to offer over the other choices available.

■ Divide the cost of an item by its anticipated longevity to figure the annual cost. An expensive product that will last for 20 years may be a better choice than an inexpensive product that will only last five years. Product life should be a factor in your selection process.

■ Ask about manufacturer guaran-

tees and service options available on each product. Written copies of manufacturer warranties should be available from your contractor.

■ Talk to your contractor about which product will best suit your needs. Some materials wear better than others in given circumstances. For example, painted surfaces might chip and peel more in a humid environment like the bathroom. Your contractors should be able to guide you toward the best choice for your lifestyle and environment.

■ Some products have internal parts which may or may not be replaceable. Ask your contractor about the maintenance and repair costs for each of your product choices. You don't want to spend a lot of money on a fixture that can't be repaired down the road.

■ Some products are better investments than others in adding to the resale value of your home. Your contractor should be able to offer an opinion on whether a specific product is a

good choice for a particular situation.

Choose wisely. The product chosen will be a factor in the final cost of the job. A professional contractor will be invaluable in helping you look at all of the products available. They have installed products and have been called for repairs on the ones that give people trouble.

Taken from "The Master Plan" - The National Association of the Remodeling Industry.

For your home improvement questions or a copy of our roster book, call Gayle Walters, executive director of the NARI-Michigan Remodeling Association at 810-478-8215. Questions can be mailed to the association office at P.O. Box 1531563, Livonia, Mich. 48153. Members of the association include professional contractors, wholesalers, manufacturers, consultants and lenders representing all facets of residential and light commercial remodeling. Members also answer questions on "Home Improvement Radio," with Murray Gula on WEXL-AM, 1340, 1-2 p.m. Saturdays. Call in your questions at 810-544-1340.

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• **Adult Botany** - 7-9 p.m. five Thursdays, Jan. 9-30 and Feb. 6, \$65. This is an introduction to the diversity of land plants, from mosses to flowering plants. Emphasis is on the major groups of plants as responses to ancient and modern ecological challenges. Instructor is David Michener.

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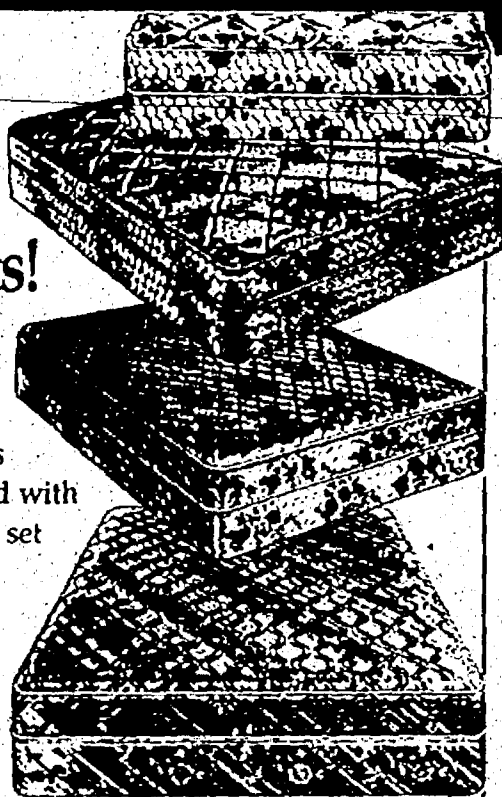
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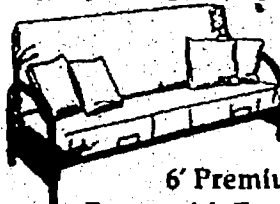
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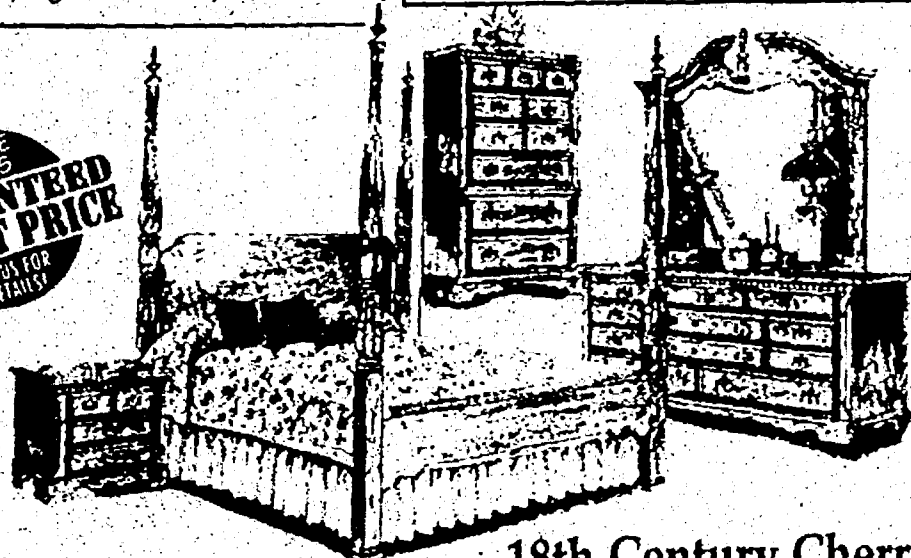
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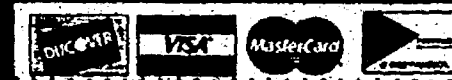
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inviting ideas

January: a perfect time for hot tea



RUTH MOSSOK JOHNSTON

There really is a National Hot Tea Month, and it's in January - just in time for this cold winter weather. Ignite your creative fluids and do "Tea" at home, a nice alternative to doing-lunch, and easier on the pocketbook after the Holidays!

An Anglophile at heart, I do love my tea. I have my specific favorites, as in all foods and beverages - nothing tastes better to me than a really strong black tea, the kind I lived on whilst living in England - perfectly creamed and in a china cup. With trying to avoid heavy doses of caffeine, I allow myself one cup of real strong black tea daily, then I move down a notch to Celestial Seasonings Vanilla Maple - perfectly sugared, then on to herbals the rest of the day.

The history of tea traces back 5,000 years, dating back to 2,737 BC, when

China's Emperor Shen Nung while watching a kettle of boiling water for his dinner, observed leaves from a plant blow and infuse into the boiling water. The aroma being so tantalizing, he tasted the brew, hailed its properties, and since that time, shares in the legend of its discovery.

By the 9th Century, tea in China was proclaimed as a royal beverage and the Japanese Tea Ceremony was established. With a value of twice its weight in silver, tea reached European shores in the middle of the 16th Century. Proclaimed for its medicinal benefits, France sold it in pharmacies and importers marketed it to English Puritans as a medicinal draught. Tea became the rage in the 18th Century - the beverage of Kings and Queens, the topics of poetry and writings, themes of still life paintings and a statement of rebellion in Boston.

Today, tea is iced, infused, and used as an ingredient or a marinade - along with the drinking of a hot "cuppa." The innovative and quality conscious company - Republic of Tea's slogan is "Sip

by Sip not Gulp by Gulp" - this American Zen-ish phrase is not referring to etiquette of the ancient beverage, but to paraphrase its Minister of Leaves, Bill Rosenzweig, it's a slowing down from the frenetic pace of the '80s, no more gulp by gulp running on (the rush of) caffeine in coffee - but a change to a more moderate and appreciative '90s with life lived sip by sip with tea. The Tea Association of the USA Inc. is hoping Bill Rosenzweig is right - as the bulk of the tea consumed by Americans, is over ice.

Black Teas, green teas, oolong teas, herbal teas and flavored teas make up the market that spans over a thousand types and manufactured by numerous companies. A few tea companies to look for:

Republic of Tea, Celestial Seasonings, * St Michael, Twinings, Benchley, Harney and Sons, Ltd., Crabtree & Evelyn, Jacksons of Piccadilly, R.C. Bigelow Inc., John Wagner & Sons, Fortnum and Mason, Stash Tea, and of course, Lipton (which is now selling flavored teas).

*St Michael - One Cup Extra Strong Tea Bags - Rich, Bright and Malty (these are my most sentimental favorite) can be found at Marks and Spencer, (in Devonshire Mall) in Windsor, Canada - phone:519-966-1940, British shops, or in the U.K.

What began as an English afternoon "pick me up" in between meal times developed into tea-time as a social occasion. In England, it is still acceptable to have tea around 11 a.m. (a typical break for the working-class) and afternoon or high tea late in the day. Early tea usually consists of a light snack, perhaps a scone with jam and clotted cream accompanied by a traditional cup of tea. Afternoon Tea (4-5 p.m.) incorporates not only a pot of carefully brewed tea but delicate finger sandwiches, a variety of cakes, gateaus and frosted confections.

High Tea which divides day from night (generally around 6 p.m.) can easily replace dinner - Dickensian in style.

See Johnston, page D15

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teapots are accompanied by heavier foods such as: rich deep cheeses, smoked meats, egg filled tarts, combination sandwiches and full-bodied cakes.

First and most important, how to brew the perfect pot of tea: A friend of mine who grew up alongside a samovar has only one way to describe proper water for tea, "A mad boil." In the same forceful way she never says rolls or toast must be hot, or very hot. They must be "hot-hot-hot!" This is pronounced as much as possible like a one-syllable sound of intense excitement, about no matter how dull a bun...

The following is from M.F.K. Fisher's "The Art of Eating":

1. In a kettle, bring freshly drawn cold water to a boil - do not wait for a rolling boil as all of the freshness and oxygen will be boiled out.

2. Warm the serving pot with hot water and pour out (the warming of the pot ensures that the kettle water stays at the proper temperature.

3. Add the tea leaves (1 teaspoon per person and 1 for the pot) and pour the kettled water over the leaves allowing them to infuse for 1-7 minutes (one minute for a small-leafed tea which gives off its essence quickly and up to seven minutes for a large leaf brew). The typical infusion time is 3-5 minutes.

4. Always serve tea with an additional pot of water and milk or cream, allowing for personal taste. Milk or cream is generally added to the cup prior to the pouring of the tea.

5. When pouring the tea into cups, hold a tea strainer above the cup to catch the leaves.

Newsworthy Tea Notes:

■ 1 pound of good quality tea yields 200 cups of brewed tea (according to The Tea Association of the USA).

■ 1 cup of tea has approximately 36 milligrams of caffeine - coffee has 100 (depending on the brewing time).

■ Recent studies indicate that green tea may possess medicinal qualities to ward off cancer.

■ TEA A MAGAZINE™ is published 6 times a year - this beautiful bimonthly magazine is all about tea. To order: mail to P.O. Box 348, Scotland, CT 06264 - cover price is \$4.95 per issue or save 20% by ordering a subscription.

■ Tea Association of the USA, Inc. can be reached at 212-986-9415

■ Afternoon tea in America is usually a combination of British High Tea and Afternoon Tea. Detroit area hotels (The Ritz-Carlton, Dearborn, and the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham), and independent tea rooms offer this type of "Tea" - some offering the option of

champagne.

■ Stash Tea by mail (good mail order department): 1-800-826-4218

■ Crystallized ginger added to tea is a delicious change from sugar or sugar substitute.

■ A brand new book on TEA - Tea In The East by Carole Manchester (Author of French Tea), 1996 published by Hearst Books, an affiliate of William Morrow & Company, Inc. (\$23.00).

The following recipe is from the Lipton Kitchens - this recipe uses tea as an ingredient - it would be delicious on an English muffin, a bagel or a slice of toast to accompany a nice cup of tea.

BERRY TEA JAM

1 cup boiling water

2 Lipton Flo-Thru Tea Bags

2 cups frozen strawberries or raspberries

1 cup sugar

In a teapot, pour boiling water over tea bags; cover and brew 5 minutes. Remove tea bags.

In medium saucepan, combine tea, strawberries (or raspberries) and sugar; bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, stirring occasionally, 30 minutes or until slightly thickened. Cool slightly before refrigerating; chill until set. Makes about 1 cup jam.

Japanese garden design topic of talk

The University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro in Ann Arbor, will present the second in a series of lectures and luncheons titled "The Art of Living with Nature" noon to 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16, in the Botanical Gardens auditorium.

Guests will enjoy an authentic Japanese *Tein-ben* landscape garden box lunch especially designed for the Gardens by Fuji Restaurant and adapted to please American palates.

Author and landscape designer Keith Alexander will present a lecture, "Japanese Garden Design in America: A Natural Response." Alexander's slide-illustrated lecture will be a visual treat, blending the beautiful and the unusual. He will explore the theory and history behind Japanese gardens and share his thoughts on the creation of an American garden with Japanese influence within our own environment.

Tickets for the lecture and luncheon are \$25 per person. Tables will seat eight. Reservations are required, due to limited seating. When reserving, indicate the other guests included in your party. Call (313) 998-7061.

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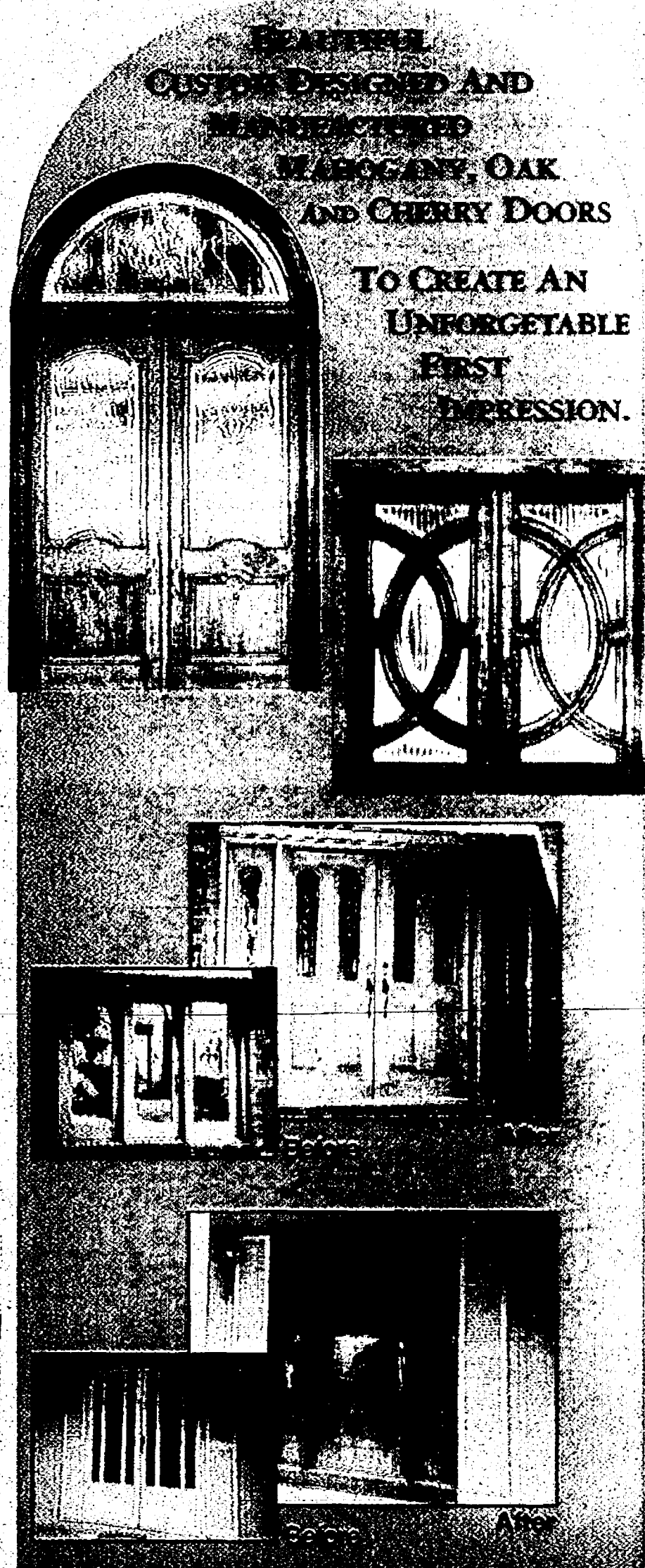
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FRIDAY



Madonna portrays the ambitious Eva Peron, one of the most beloved and controversial figures of the 20th century in "Evita," now showing at metro Detroit movie theaters.

SATURDAY



If the "weather outside is frightful," take a sleigh ride tour of Greenfield Village in Dearborn. Call (313) 271-1976 for information.

SUNDAY



Former Detroiters Susan Merson stars in "Family Secrets," a one-woman show at the Aaron DeRoy Theatre, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield, (810) 788-2900



Hot Tix: The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Austrian conductor Hans Graf, celebrates the 200th anniversary of the birth of Franz Schubert, Jan. 3-5 at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. Tickets range from \$40 to \$16 (box seats: \$58), call (313) 833-3700.

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

KEELY WYGONIK, EDITOR • 313-953-2105

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1997 • PAGE 1 SECTION E

FOLK MUSICIANS FIND SANCTUARY AT THE Raven Gallery

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

The legendary Detroit folk music venue The Raven Gallery has had a profound impact on Tom Rice's life.

By going to the club which closed in the late-1970s, he schooled himself on the music that he loved. He and his wife, Rita, attended a concert there on their first date.

"I learned to love folk music by going to the Raven Gallery and seeing guys like Josh White and Ron Coden. People like Joni Mitchell and Gordon Lightfoot, Richie Havens, Jose Feliciano, Steve Martin, who used to be a banjo-pickin' comedian, all started there, although that was before I started going there," Rice said.

In honor of his half-sister Donna, who died from Huntington's disease, Rice held the second in a series of benefits for the disease in 1977. One of those who came out to see Josh White Jr. perform was Kitty Cohen, the wife of the Raven Gallery's owner the late Herb Cohen.

"We sat around and talked a little bit and reminisced about the old club. I told her how my wife and I had our first date there and got married a year later. It was a wonderful place for a first date. It was so intimate and cozy and comfortable. I never thought of it in my life but I said 'Wouldn't that be neat to open a club?'"

Kitty told him that if he ever did he could call it The Raven Gallery.

"It was one of those spontaneous conversations. I don't think she ever thought I would take her seriously. ... I think when she saw a young guy like myself who was really enthusiastic about folk music and acoustic music she thought I'd be the right guy."

Twenty years later Rice took that conversation seriously. After several unsuccessful attempts to buy another building in Northville, Rice opened The Raven Gallery and Acoustic Cafe in an old church at 145 N. Center St. in Northville. The folk/acoustic

venue is nestled in a 12,000-square-foot building with Rice's Gitfiddler music store and the Northville Academy of Music and Arts.

"Here's this beautiful sanctuary with incredible history, beautiful acoustics and great ambiance. The stage was already built, the sound booth was already built. We came in and put it all together with a sound system and lights. We've been running shows and people are coming," Rice said.

The Raven Gallery opened unofficially on July 27 with Ramblin' Jack Elliott. The official opening read like a who's who of folk music: Ron Coden, Charlie Latimer, Dean Rutledge, Josh White Jr., Phil Marcus Esser and Barbara Bredius entertained the crowd.

The Raven Gallery offers local and national acts Thursdays through Saturdays with an open mic night on Wednesdays - all in a smoke-free atmosphere. Upcoming acts include folk artists Jan Krist and Tim Diaz on Friday, Jan. 3, David Folks on Saturday, Jan. 4, and jazz/pop musician Brad Hodge on Thursday, Jan. 9. Ticket prices range from \$8-\$12 for most shows. For more information, call (810) 349-9421.

"This is something I want to say very clearly. We will never allow smoking, even when we get a liquor license. It's not that I'm discriminating against smokers as people, I just want this to be a very clean, smokeless environment. It's very apropos for listening to music, staying in a room for a long time and being comfortable, and being able to breathe. It's also for the artist to be able to breathe and see their people."

To test market the idea of a new Raven Gallery, Rice held concerts at the Northville Recreation Center and a church in Salem. With The Ark opening a new building, and the 7th House in Pontiac occasionally offering folk acts, Rice isn't too concerned about the competition.

"I believe that you don't want to have 100 of them. But

See RAVEN, E2



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRISLER

Strumming along: Raven Gallery owner Tom Rice doesn't play professionally any more but still picks up stringed instruments when he has the chance.

ART EXHIBITION

Popular printmaking exhibit gives peek at peasant life in France

Images d' Epinal

What: An exhibition of late 18th to early 20th century popular printmaking from the town of Epinal, France. Organized by the Musee de Quebec in conjunction with the Musee departmental d'Art Ancien et Contemporain in Epinal, the exhibit features more than 170 woodblocks and lithographs disseminated as children's games, paper soldiers, illustrated stories, posters of political and religious figures, and fairy tales to the lower and middle classes, primarily in France. Admission is free.

When: Through Jan. 5. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, until 9 p.m. Thursday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Where: University of Michigan Museum of Art, 525 South State Street in Ann Arbor. For information call (313) 764-0395.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
SPECIAL WRITER

Ever wonder what printed material existed for children and adults during the late 1700s, 1800s and early 1900s in France? The University of Michigan Museum of Art in Ann Arbor presents a rare look at life in this era with an exhibition of popular printmaking which continues through Jan. 5.

Images d'Epinal documents the printmaking industry during the late 18th to early 20th century in the village of Epinal, France. The exhibition features 170 woodblocks and lithographs illustrating the popular imagery that was disseminated as children's games, decorative wallpaper and clock faces, posters of historical figures and events, devotional pictures, paper soldiers, and fairy tales such as Little Red Riding Hood. It is considered "low" art because it was used primarily by lower class, but also middle class, French who had no access to original art.

Visiting the exhibit raises such issues not only of the targeted audience's social class, but

the values underlying the messages in the imagery, and the relationship of "high" and "low" art.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see such a rich selection of images that evoke a lost era that actually has many connections to us today. The same fairy tales we read as children, they did. It's a great exhibit for families, from the littlest child who can't read but would love the images to parents who can rediscover many of the fairy tales they've forgot," said Annette Dixon, University of Michigan Museum of Art curator of Western art.

"Some of these are after engravings or paintings. Popular printmaking made access to art wider for the common person."

Epinal prints have been studied extensively in France during the last decade but never shown in North America. Rediscovery of this art form allows exhibition visitors a look at a culture whose time has passed.

See PRINTMAKING, E2



French Imagery: Images d'Epinal allows visitors to revisit the lives of lower and middle classes from the late 18th to early 20th century via the popular prints of France. The exhibition continues through Jan. 5 at the University of Michigan Museum of Art.

8 days a week

A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

RECEPTIONS

THE ART GALLERY
Featured for January at the artists cooperative at Great Oaks Mall, Walton and Livernois, Rochester Hills, are Don Hughes, landscapes in oil; Inge Marchio, watercolor variety; Margaret Serratori, abstract watercolor; and Joanie Ugelow, expressions in stoneware; (810) 651-1579. Meet Serratori 2-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7.

CARY GALLERY
An exhibit of new watercolors by Mary Aro to Feb. 1 at 226 Walnut Blvd., Rochester; (810) 651-3656. Opening reception for the artist 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE GALLERY
"Detroit," a photography exhibit by Waterian Domanski, will continue to Jan. 26 at the Orchard Lake campus, near the corner of Orchard Lake Road and 18 Mile; (810) 683-0345. Opening reception for the artist 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5. Gallery hours are noon to 4:30 p.m. Sundays.

SWANN GALLERY
Works by Cheryl Pastor and Camille Jungman, and "Eyes of Vision: Eyes of Truth," a group photography show, to Feb. 2 at 1250 Library, Detroit; (313) 965-4826. Opening reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3.

URBAN PARK DETROIT ART CENTER
"Future Shock," an exhibition of paintings by Ron Zakrin of Mount Clemens - who says his style, "Cyberrealism," attempts to capture the human experience in an age of robots - through Feb. 3 on the second level of Trappers Alley in Greektown, 508 Monroe, Detroit; (313) 963-5445. Opening reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3.

PROGRAMS

ANN ARBOR ART CENTER
"First Sundays Free" noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, in ArtVentures, the drop-in art activity center at 117 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor; (313) 994-8004. Participate in a free, creative, educational, hands-on cultural art project. ArtVentures features four monthly art projects centered around a cultural theme: January features art of the Inuit. Birthday parties, group bookings available.

POPULAR MUSIC

ANTI-FREEZE BLUES FESTIVAL
With Sugar Blue, Willie D. Warren with the Garfield Blues Band, Johnny Yarddog Jones with Bobby East, Wailin' Inc., and The Alligators, Friday, Jan. 3; Larry McCray with The Bobby Murray Band, The Butler Twins, The Grandmasters with Jeff Grand and the Black Crows' Eddie Harsch, Mudpuppy and Robert Jones, Saturday, Jan. 4; and AC Reed, Big Dave and the Ultrasonics, Johnnie Bassett and the Blues Insurgents, Jocelyn B. and Alberta Adams, and the Hasting Street Blues Band, Sunday, Jan. 5, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$15 per day; or \$36 for a three-day pass. (blues) (810) 544-3030.

ATOMIC NUMBERS
9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2, Rick's, 611 Church St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (alternative rock) (313) 996-2748

BARNSTORMER
8 p.m. through Sunday, Jan. 5, Diamondback Saloon, 49345 S. I-94 Service Dr., Belleville; Thursday, Jan. 9-Saturday, Jan. 11, High Kicker Saloon, 593 W. Kennett, Pontiac. (country) (313) 699-7899/(810) 334-5550

BIG DAVE AND THE ULTRASONICS
9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3-Saturday, Jan. 4, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10-Saturday, Jan. 11, Sisko's on the Boulevard, 5855 Monroe Boulevard, Taylor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (810) 543-0917/(313) 278-5340

BLACK FUZZ
9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge, 18 and older. (psychedelic rock) (313) 485-5050

BLUE-EYED SOUL
With Milkhouse and the Gershwins, 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, Lili's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. Cover charge, 21 and older. (rock) (313) 875-6555

BLUE ROSE



Anniversary celebration: Detroit Symphony Orchestra concertmaster Emmanuelle Boisvert is a featured soloist Jan. 3-5 at three DSO concerts celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of Austrian composer Franz Schubert. The DSO, under the direction of Austrian conductor Hans Graf, will honor Schubert's birthday with a performance of his well known Ninth Symphony nicknamed "The Great" symphony. These concerts will also feature two works by German composer Felix Mendelssohn: the Overture to "The Fair Melusine," and his Violin Concerto in E minor, which will turn the spotlight on Emmanuelle Boisvert. Preconcert conversation 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3. The moderator is Paul Chummers, DSOH General Manager. Tickets range from \$40 to \$16 (box seats: \$58) available at Orchestra Hall box office or call (313) 833-3700.

9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, Fox and Hounds, 1530 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. (blues) (810) 644-4800

BLUE SUIT BLUES BAND
9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, Rhino's Pub, 6211 Chase, Dearborn. \$2. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 581-1726

BRILLIANT
With Hot Moon, 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, Lili's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. Cover charge, 21 and older. (alternapop) (313) 875-6555

BUGS BEDDOW BAND
8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3-Saturday, Jan. 4, Old Woodward Grill, 555 Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Cover charge, 21 and older; 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10-Saturday, Jan. 11, Roger's Roost, 33626 Schoenherr, Sterling Heights. (blues) (810) 642-9400/(810) 979-7550

BUSTER'S BLUES BAND
10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, Coyote Club, 1 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge, 21 and older. (blues) (810) 332-HOWL

BUTTERFLY
With Small Change, 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (alternative rock) (313) 996-8555

CITY HEAT
9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, Fox and Hounds, 1530 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. (blues) (810) 644-4800

COWSLINGERS
With the Volcanos, 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$6. 18 and older. ("cowpunk"/garage surf) (313) 833-P00L

SAL D'AGNILLO
10 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, Coyote Club, 1 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge, 21 and older.

(singer/songwriter) (810) 332-HOWL

THE DETERANTS
Celebrate release of CD with party and performance, with special guests Grayling and The Hand Me Downs, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (alternative rock) (313) 996-8555

THE DT'S
With Walk on Water, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (alternative rock) (313) 996-8555

PRISCILLA EDERLE
10 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2, Coyote Club, 1 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge, 21 and older. (singer/songwriter) (810) 332-HOWL

EKOOSTIK HOOKAH
9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (Deadhead) (313) 996-8555

FAMBOOEY
With Number Six and the Prisoners, 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge, 18 and older. (funky hip-hop) (313) 485-5050

FATHERS OF THE ID
9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, Rivertown Saloon, 1977 Woodbridge, Detroit. Free. 21 and older. (alternative rock) (313) 567-6020

FIENDS OF WONDERLAND
9 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6, Rick's, 611 Church St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (dance/funk) (313) 996-2748

JAWBONE
9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, Rick's, 611 Church St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (rock) (313) 996-2748

THE JOHNSONS

10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, Coyote Club, 1 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge, 21 and older. (alternative rock) (810) 332-HOWL

MICHAEL KATON BAND
8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7-Wednesday, Jan. 8, Fox and Hounds, 1560 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. (acoustic blues) (810) 644-4800

LAP DOGS
9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge, 18 and older. (horn-driven dance band) (313) 485-5050

JIM MCCARTY AND MYSTERY TRAIN
9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3-Saturday, Jan. 4, Sisko's on the Boulevard, 5855 Monroe Boulevard, Taylor. Cover charge, 21 and older. (blues) (313) 278-5340

MILK AND CHEESE
9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge, 18 and older. (rock) (313) 485-5050

MOTOR DOLLS
With Trash Brats, 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge, 18 and older. (hard alternative rock/glam punk) (313) 485-5050

MUDPUPPY
8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, Fifth Avenue Billiards, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Cover charge, 21 and older. (blues) (810) 542-9922

ROBERT PENN
9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3-Saturday, Jan. 4, Fox and Hounds, 1530 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. (blues) (810) 644-4800

PLAIN
With Makeshift Glean and Scott Carpenter, and the Real McCoys, 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex,

4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$6. 18 and older. (alternative rock) (313) 833-P00L

THE PRODIGALS
9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, Old Woodward Grill, 555 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Cover charge, 21 and older. (surf) (810) 642-9400

RESTROOM POETS
10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, Mount Chalet, 4715 N. Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Cover charge, 21 and older. (roots rock) (810) 549-2929

RIGHTEOUS WILLY
9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, Coyote Club, 1 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge, 21 and older. (rock) (810) 332-HOWL

SENSITIVE CLOWN
8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, The Palladium, 17580 Frazho, Roseville. Cover charge, 18 and older. (alternative rock) (810) 778-6404

SHARK SANDWICH
9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, Rick's, 611 Church St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (alternative rock) (313) 996-2748

SIMPLE NEPTUNE
With Sensitive Clown, 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, Lili's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. Cover charge, 21 and older. (alternative rock) (313) 875-6555

SOUTH NORMAL
With Vietnam Prom, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (experimental) (313) 996-8555

JERRY SPRAGUE AND THE REMAINDERS
9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, Rick's, 611 Church St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (blues) (313) 996-2748

TOP KAT
9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, and Tuesday, Jan. 7, Rick's, 611 Church St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (funk) (313) 996-2748

TWISTIN' TARANTULAS
9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, Memphis Smoke, 6480 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Free. 21 and older. (rockabilly) (810) 855-3110

THE VOLEBEATS
With Big Back 40, 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$6. 18 and older. (alternatwag/alternapop) (313) 833-P00L

JAMES WAILIN
9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, Moby Dick's, 5452 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. Cover charge, 21 and older. (blues) (313) 581-3650

CLUB NIGHTS

BIRD OF PARADISE
Acid jazz night with DJ Bubblicious, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Tuesdays at the club, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. \$3. 21 and older. (313) 662-8310

CROSS STREET STATION
Ska and world beat, 9 p.m. Sundays. Cover charge, 18 and older; Retro dance party, 9 p.m. Tuesdays. \$3. 21 and older. Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. (313) 485-5050

FAMILY FUNKTION
"Uptown Remix," acid jazz, hip-hop, funk and soul dance mix with local and national guest DJs, 10 p.m. Fridays, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$5. 18 and older; "Family Funktion" night 9 p.m. Wednesdays, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge, 18 and older. (acid jazz/funk) (313) 832-2355/(810) 544-3030

THE MAJESTIC COMPLEX
"Psychedelic Sunday" with funk music, 9 p.m. Sundays in the Magic Stick. Cover charge; "The Chamber" with gothic/Industrial and deep dark retro music with DJ Tim Shuller, 9 p.m. Mondays in the Magic Stick. Cover charge; "Figure Four Tag Team DJs," acid jazz and early disco/retro tunes with DJs Bubblicious, Scott Zacharias, Paris and Bone, 11 p.m.-4 a.m. Thursday in the Magic Stick. Cover charge; "Rockabilly Bowl" with DJ Del Fridays in the Garden Bowl. Free; "Rock 'n' Bowl" 9 p.m. Saturdays while DJ Cheryl spins alternative, funk and R&B in the Garden Bowl. Free. All events in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 18 and older. (313) 833-P00L/(313) 833-9700

MOTOR LOUNGE
"Blue Mondays" with Johnny "Yard Dog" Jones and Bobby

Murray with a special guest blues artist weekly; Darren Revell hosts "Big Sonic Heaven," Tuesdays; "Pearl Harbor Club" featuring "volcanic drinks" and the "seedy side of the Swing era" with hosts Jeff King and Perry Lavoisne; Band leader Dan Haddad and "The Motor Powertrain" Thursdays with live jazz; Fridays and Saturdays, dancing with DJ St. Andy, at the lounge, 3515 Caniff, Hamtramck. (313) 369-0090

ST. ANDREW'S HALL/THE SHELTER
10 p.m. Wednesdays "The Incinerator," alternative rock in the Shelter, \$6, 18 and older; 10 p.m. Fridays "Three Floors of Fun" with hip-hop, alternative rock, and techno/house, \$3 before 11 p.m., \$5 after, 18 and older; 10 p.m. Saturdays "Soul Picnic" with funk, hip-hop and soul in the Shelter, \$3, 18 and older, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. (313) 961-MELT

3-D
"Prophecy," techno/alternative dance night, 9 p.m. Fridays; alternative dance, free before 10:30 p.m. Saturdays; Video appreciation night, 8 p.m. Tuesdays, free before 9 p.m.; "Noir Leather Presents Sin," a night of fetish and fantasy with demonic music by Aeshma Daeva, 9 p.m. Wednesdays, free before 10:30 p.m., at the club, 1815 N. Main St., Royal Oak. Cover charge, 21 and older. (810) 589-3344

THEATER

ATTIC THEATRE
"Molly Sweeney" in repertory with "Jacques Brel," through Sunday, Jan. 5, at the theater, 508 Monroe, in Trappers Alley, Greektown area of Detroit. Times vary for each show. \$15-\$25. (313) 963-9339

FISHER THEATRE
"Smokey Joe's Cafe - The Songs of Leiber and Stoller," Tuesday, Jan. 7-Saturday, Jan. 26, at the theater inside the Fisher Building, Detroit. 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays; 7:30 p.m. Sundays; 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays; 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. \$25-\$47.50. (313) 872-1000

GEM THEATRE
"The All Night Strut! Holiday Show," through Sunday, Jan. 5, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2 (\$11.50), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3 (\$28), 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4 (\$28); 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5; "The All-Night Strut!" Thursday, Jan. 9-Sunday, Jan. 26, at the theater, 58 E. Columbia (across the street from the State and Fox theaters), Detroit. 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays (\$11.50), 7:30 p.m. Fridays (\$28), 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays (\$11.50), 6 p.m. Sundays (\$9.50). (313) 963-9800

HILBERRY THEATER
"Tartuffe," through Thursday, Feb. 1, at the theater, Wayne State University campus, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. It runs in rotating repertory with Alan Ayckbourn's "Time of My Life," which runs Jan. 10-March 1. 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays. \$9.50-\$16.50. (313) 577-2972.

JEWISH ENSEMBLE THEATRE
"Family Secrets," a one-woman show featuring former Detroiters Susan Merson, whose Broadway and film credits include "Saturday Sunday Monday," "Children of a Lesser God," "Vanity," "Lost in Yonkers," and "Things to Do in Denver When You're Dead," through Sunday, Jan. 12, at the Aaron DeRoy Theatre, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, and Sundays; 8 p.m. Saturdays. \$10-\$23 with discounts for seniors, students and groups. (810) 788-2900

MASONIC TEMPLE
"Phantom of the Opera," through Jan. 7, Masonic Temple, 500 Temple, Detroit. 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; 7:30 p.m. Sunday; and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. \$20-\$65. (313) 832-2232/(313) 871-1132

MEADOW BROOK THEATER
"The Woman in Black," Jan. 8-Feb. 2, at the theater, Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Walton and Squirrel boulevards, Rochester. Tickets at

Continued on next page

MOVIES

'Michael' a far-from-heavenly comedy

TICKETS PLEASE



JOHN MONAGHAN

In "Michael," John Travolta's earth angel has a simple philosophy: (1) you should ingest as much sugar as you can and (2) there is no such thing as a bad joke.

Wonderful Life's Frank Capra. And when she's good, like in "Sleepless in Seattle," she can bring a smile to even the most crumdegeony critic.

white-robed, halo-wearing angel. A substantial beer gut hangs over his boxers as he shuffles to the refrigerator for breakfast, which includes a can of beer and a bowl of Frosted Flakes literally buried in sugar.



ZADE ROSENTHAL/NEW LINE CINEMA

Angel: John Travolta stars in the Turner Pictures' comedy, "Michael."

"Murphy Brown" and cast in increasingly substantial roles, wouldn't be bad if Ephron had any sense of pacing.

John Monaghan welcomes your calls and comments. You can listen to him on Dave Dixon's Radio Show AM 1270, 8 p.m. to midnight Saturdays.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

Grid of movie listings for various theaters including AMC Theatres, General Cinemas, Showcase Theatres, United Artists Theatres, and MGR Theatres. Each listing includes theater name, address, phone, and movie titles with ratings.

The real miracle in "Michael" is that Travolta manages to carry some of this silliness off. In the two or three years since his comeback in "Pulp Fiction," he's tackled a half dozen eclectic roles, from villain in "Broken Arrow" to scientific oddity in "Phenomenon," which, like this, mines the star's real-life spiritual side.

SCREEN SCENE

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

The hit at last year's Toronto Film Festival focuses on David Helfgott, a real-life concert pianist plagued by an overbearing father and mental illness.

Under. "The Crucible" (USA - 1996). Arthur Miller adapted his own play for the screen, the story of the Salem Witch Trials in which as piteful girl (Winona Ryder) holds the fate of the man she had an affair with.

Advertisement for Beavis and Butt-Head Do America featuring cartoon characters and movie title.

Advertisement for 'NOW PLAYING' listing various theaters and their current movie offerings.

Advertisement for 'SHINE IS A GREAT FILM' featuring a Golden Globe nomination and a quote from a critic.

Magic Bag Theatre 22920 Woodward, Ferndale. Call (810) 544-3030 for information. "Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation."

MOVIES

Gripping tale awakens 'Ghosts of Mississippi'

BY DAVID GOODMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) — On a June night 33 years ago, Medgar Evers, a prominent black civil rights leader, pulled into the driveway of his Mississippi home and was gunned down from behind by an assassin with a high-powered rifle.

Gushing blood, he dragged himself to his door, only to die as his wife, Myrlie, and their young children stood helplessly by.

Facts discovered later about the murder weapon and other evidence strongly implicated a local white supremacist named Byron De la Beckwith. But two all-white juries deadlocked and Beckwith was freed.

"Ghosts of Mississippi" advances the story to the late 1980s. It follows the real-life story of a youthful district attorney who became interested in "exhuming" the case, to bring justice to Evers' widow Myrlie (Whoopi Goldberg) and to exorcise the ghosts of unbridled racism that still hang over the new, "integrated" South.

History has left us with a gripping tale. And producer-director Rob Reiner ("When Harry Met Sally...," "A Few Good Men," "This

Is Spinal Tap") deserves a top grade for unimpeachable intentions. His "Ghosts of Mississippi" is a generally competent drama that succeeds as a detective story and moral fable, one that convincingly answers the question, "Is it ever too late to do the right thing?"

But the film's disappointing courtroom scenes lack any kind of real bite and when it turns to domestic matters, "Ghosts of Mississippi" gets as saccharine and artificial as a made-for-TV movie.

When Assistant District Attorney Bobby DeLaughter (Alec Baldwin) first gets the idea that the ancient case can be resurrected, everyone scoffs. Witnesses are dead. Files are long missing. Physical evidence has disappeared. Besides, as his boss (Craig T. Nelson) reminds him, the understaffed D.A.'s office has a full-case load featuring recently buried corpses and other victims who are still very much alive.

The sequences in which DeLaughter barrels along dusty Southern back roads — accompanied by his investigators played by William H. Macy and Lloyd "Benny" Bennett as himself — are brisk and sharp. One

impressive scene has DeLaughter's team meeting a reluctant witness at night, in a moonlit swamp hung with vines and moss.

As DeLaughter begins spending his evenings combing old files and traversing the state to interview old witnesses, his wife Dixie (Virginia Madsen) starts to feel neglected and embarrassed — her father was the judge who presided over Beckwith's second trial.

"You're going to pursue this thing" she gasps. "You're going to humiliate me in front of my friends, my family and the entire state of Mississippi." Before long, Dixie is back at her mother's house leaving her husband to play Mr. Mom to their three children.

With his boyish mane and eye-crinkling smile, Baldwin is appealing as the idealistic attorney. Despite doing double duty at the office, Bobby never looks disheveled and even has time to meet and marry a new love interest (Diane Ladd). Even with mom gone, the DeLaughter youngsters are always sitcom well-behaved. And the house is always neat.

Goldberg, swathed in staid

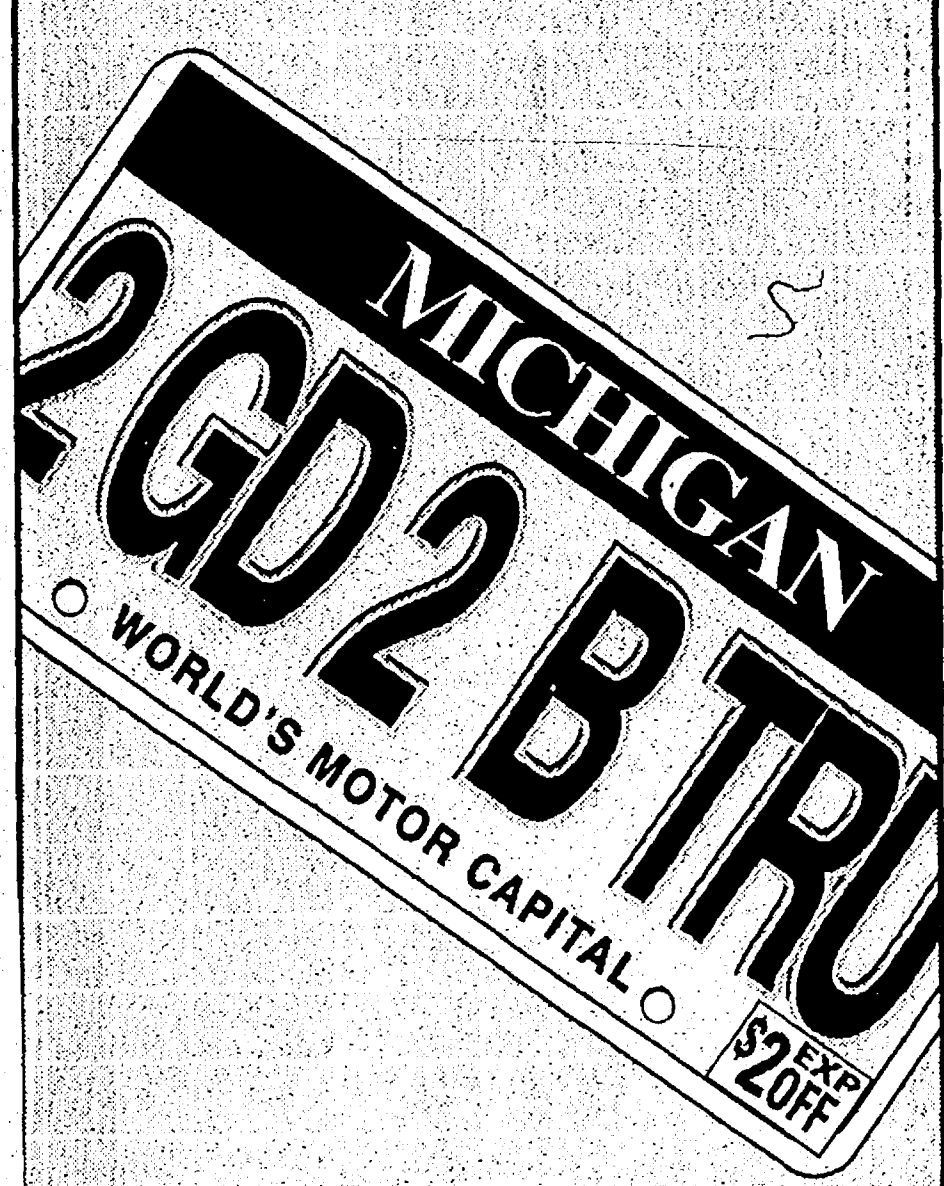
clothing, her wild locks tamed under a heavily lacquered matronly hairstyle, is fine every time she appears as the wry and determined Myrlie Evers, but too often she isn't given enough to do, except look as solemn as a figure on Mount Rushmore.

The film owes much of its energy to the supercharged performance of James Woods as the unrepentant, arch-racist De la Beckwith.

Even with layers of latex to give him the crevices, jowls and wattles of a 72-year-old, Woods seems to be having the time of his life playing the swaggering, smirking hate-monger. Woods has always specialized in villains, but this time he outdoes himself.

The murdered man's sons, Darrell Evers and James Van Evers bring authenticity to the project by portraying themselves, while their sister, Reena Evers, appears as a juror. Yolanda King, daughter of Martin Luther King Jr. is cast as Reena in the film.

The Castle Rock Release runs a little long at 123 minutes. It opens at metro Detroit movie theaters Jan. 3.



(Too good to be true!)

TIME MAGAZINE says:
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5 WINNER
GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS
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SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR GRATIOT	SHOWCASE STERLING HILLS
STAR ROCHESTER	12 OAKS	STAR LINCOLN PARK
		STAR WEST RIVER

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STAR TAYLOR	WHITLED ARTISTS FAIRLANE	WHITLED ARTISTS LAKESIDE
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- SISKEL & EBERT

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- Liz Smith, SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

"MICHAEL' IS AN ENCHANTINGLY QUIRKY, COMIC FANTASY. LIT BY JOHN TRAVOLTA'S FABULOUSLY ENGAGING LEAD PERFORMANCE."
- Susan Stark, DETROIT NEWS

MICHAEL
BOB HOSKINS

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SHOWCASE STERLING HILLS	STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE
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STAR ROCHESTER
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STAR TAYLOR

101 DALMATIANS
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STAR WINCHESTER

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CALL FOR SHOWTIMES

Restaurant smokin' with the blues

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

When business started to wane at Mr. B's restaurant in West Bloomfield, its principal owners knew exactly what to do to boost sales.

They decided to try to replicate the success of their Memphis Smoke restaurant in Royal Oak.

"With the competition in the area, we just weren't pleased with the performance of the restaurant," said Rob Jackier, one of the principal owners.

"We had always done pretty well, but we feel that we've had a winner with the Memphis Smoke concept. It's been fabulously popular in Royal Oak. We decided there's nothing like this concept in Michigan that we know of - the Southern-style barbecue combined with the blues music. We decided that this neighborhood would be right for that."

The group closed Mr. B's in mid-August and turned it into a Memphis Smoke in about three weeks, general manager Gary Mrochinski said, and officially opened Oct. 7. The interior white brick walls were painted to look as if they were sandblasted. Pictures and paintings of traditional blues artists like Jimmy Rushing, B.B. King, Albert King and Muddy Waters line the walls. A stage, offering entertainment Wednesdays through Sundays, is centrally located in the restaurant with televisions in nearly every corner.

Corporate chefs Dan Schuler, Randy Banish, and Dan

Memphis Smoke
Where: 8480 Orchard Lake Road (at the northwest corner of Orchard Lake and Maple roads), West Bloomfield.
Hours: 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Fridays, noon to 2 a.m. Saturdays, and noon to midnight Sundays. The kitchen is open until 12:30 a.m. during the week, and 1:15 p.m. week-ends.
Credit: Visa, MasterCard and American Express are accepted.
Information: (810) 855-3110.
There is also a location in Royal Oak at 100 S. Main St. Call (810) 543-0917 for more information about that restaurant.

Lauwery, created the menu for the new Memphis Smoke. Lauwery, formerly of Fishbone's restaurant, is also the chef of the restaurant.

Like the Royal Oak location, Memphis-style "dry rub" ribs (\$8.49-\$10.99) are the restaurant's signature items.

"Sometimes it's a little confusing in this neighborhood when you ask them if you want them (ribs) wet or dry," Jackier explained.

"Wet ribs are your traditional ribs with barbecue sauce. Sometimes people think that

"dry" ribs are dry - they have nothing. We baste the ribs on the charbroiler with a special basting sauce. They're smoked for 2 1/2 hours and then we put the dry-rub powder on it and it gives just an incredibly unique taste."

The menu offers a variety of barbecue items from beef brisket (\$8.49) and pulled pork smoked for more than 14 hours (\$8.49) to barbecue salad with beef, pork or turkey (\$6.49). A catfish dinner (\$8.49), blackened turkey medallions served over Creole tomato sauce (\$8.99), Memphis jambalaya (\$8.49), an array of sandwiches (\$6.49-\$6.99), and salads (\$2.99-\$7.99) are other examples of Memphis Smoke fare.

Children get a choice of three items - chicken fingers, a hot dog or spaghetti - priced at \$3.99.

There are subtle differences between the Royal Oak and West Bloomfield locations, Mrochinski and Jackier said.

"At this store (West Bloomfield), we're offering fresh fish specials every day, some with pasta and some without. The Royal Oak store does that occasionally. Both stores offer smoked prime ribs on the week-ends Fridays through Sundays," Jackier said.

Each Memphis Smoke has its own personality too, according to Mrochinski, who came to Memphis Smoke from Mr. B's Roadhouse in Clarkston.

"We've got such a wide group of people in here. We've got everything from 16-year-olds on their first date to somebody cele-

brating their 50th anniversary. It's a step apart from Royal Oak where here it's more relaxed. You're more comfortable or at home here. Here it gives people the opportunity to be themselves," Mrochinski said.

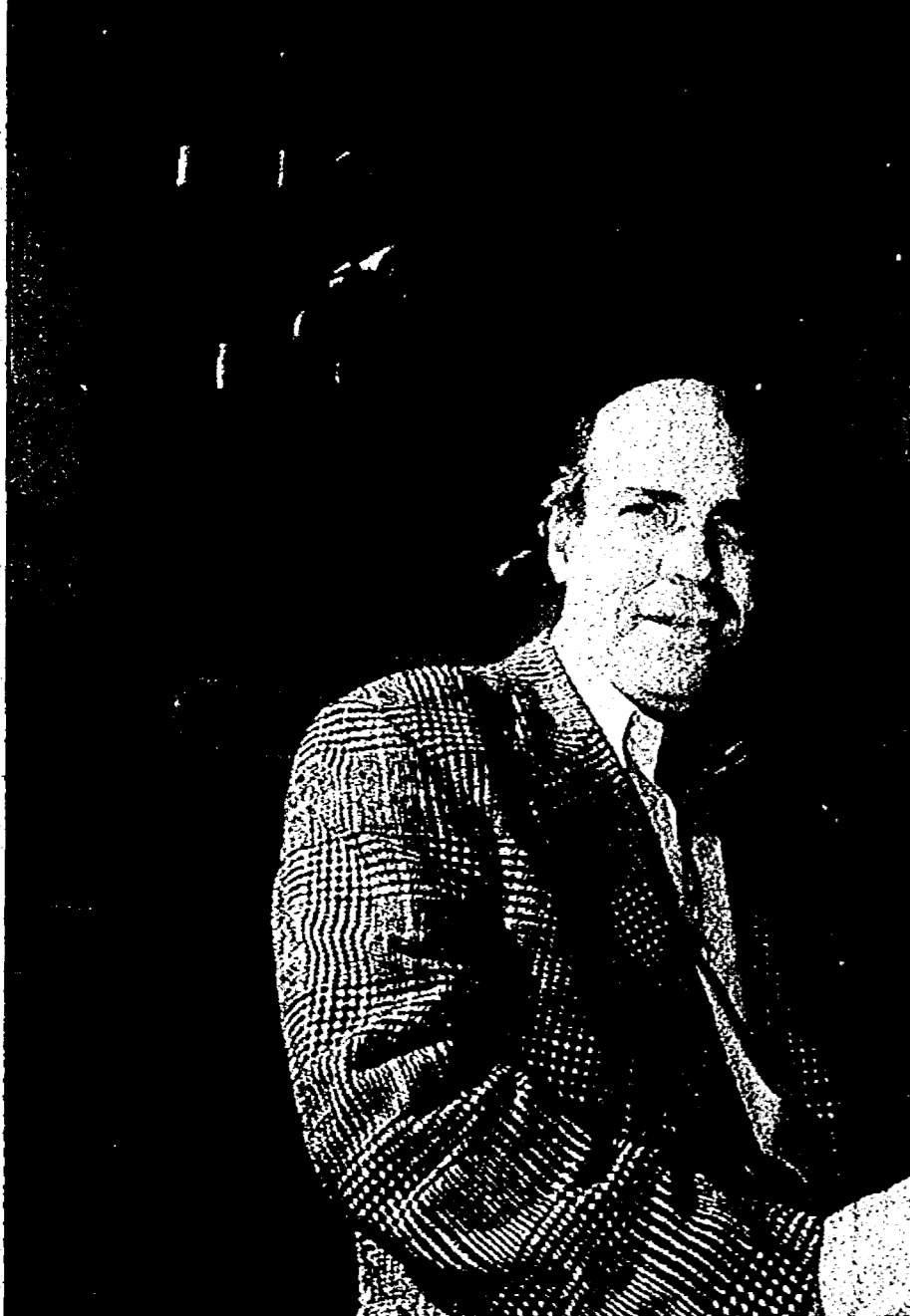
Jackier, a Rochester Hills resident, offered a variation on that explanation.

"Royal Oak being Royal Oak there's tons of foot traffic. Many of the patrons who come to Royal Oak don't come specifically to go to one restaurant or one bar. They come to be in Royal Oak. They'll go to Memphis Smoke, and Mr. B's Pub, Fifth Avenue (billiard hall), and they'll go to Woody's. They'll just cruise around. This location, because there's no sidewalks, is what we call a destination location. Most people plan on coming in."

Jackier, along with Mike Nash, Marty Tuchman and Ralph Gustafson. Mr. B's own nine Mr. B's, two Memphis Smoke, two Monterray Cantina restaurants and the South Lyon Hotel. Mr. B's will celebrate its 20th anniversary in June. Jackier said he and his partners are planning on opening a third Memphis Smoke by the end of 1997.

Mrochinski feels that the change from Mr. B's to Memphis Smoke was a good idea for the West Bloomfield building.

"We feel the investment's worth it. The investment's in the people who walk in the front door. ... Anybody who shows up is going to be definitely pleased."



Smokin' Idea: Mike Nash and his partners decided to change Mr. B's on Orchard Lake Road to a Memphis Smoke barbecue restaurant to attract more clientele.

STREET SCENE

Mudpuppy finds its musical roots in New Orleans



CHRISTINA FUOCO

The Detroit blues/funk band Mudpuppy knows when it has found something good.

Starting out as a back-up band at the Holly Hotel, Mudpuppy found its niche after lead singer/bassist Paul Randolph made a trip down south.

"I had gone to New Orleans for Mardi Gras, and I was so blown away by the whole music culture in that city that I came back and said, 'Man, this is what we need to do,'" said Randolph, a former member of Urban Voodoo Juice.

"Everybody agreed that was really the beginning of Mudpuppy."

Randolph and his band evolved its sound into a blend of Chicago strut, bayou funk, Memphis soul and St. Louis swing.

"It's always nice when you get a gut feeling about something, you go for it and it goes over well. We're pretty much sticking to our guns. Certainly we don't try to come off as being from New Orleans, but we definitely listen to the music and we're all influenced by it."

Mudpuppy's sound is showcased on its self-titled debut record, which is available at Adray Appliance, Photo and Sound in Dearborn, as well as Dearborn Music. The eight-song release includes three originals - "Lies," "Make Up Your Mind," and "Better Think Twice" - as



Defrosting: Mudpuppy - from left, drummer/vocalist Darryl Pierce, guitarist/vocalist Mark Pasman, lead singer/bassist Paul Randolph, keyboardist/vocalist Ted Pulker, and percussionist/vocalist Lorenzo "Spoons" Brown.

well as covers of "Kansas City," "Too Poor," "Voodoo," "Call The Plumber," and "Spoonful."

Randolph, an Oak Park resident, said that although he's happy about the first CD, he's looking forward to heading back into the studio.

"We've kind of fallen into a certain style of playing and writing within the context of Mudpuppy. Everybody comes from different playing experiences and backgrounds. It's nice to have a full library to reference from. We're all very proud of the first CD, but I think we're all very anxious to start on the second one. The second one is pretty much

gonna nail it on the head; the direction of Mudpuppy."

The band's resume includes stints with Stevie Wonder, Mary Wilson, the avant garde jazz band Greeo Galaxy, Robert Penn, Alberta Adams, and groups involved with the Parliament-Funkadelic organization.

The album pushed Mudpuppy to the forefront of the Detroit blues scene. They appeared on

the "House of Blues Radio Hour," carried by CIDR-FM 93.9 "The River," hosted by Dan Aykroyd.

The band also contributed a cover of "Lovin' Machine" to the Autism Society CD, "Blues from the Heart II," which also featured Robert Jones, Lonnie Shields and Steve Nardella.

Mudpuppy - which also includes guitarist/vocalist Mark Pasman of Southfield, percus-

ionist/vocalist Lorenzo "Spoons" Brown of Detroit, keyboardist/vocalist Ted Pulker of Walled Lake, and drummer/vocalist Darryl Pierce of Westland - performs Saturday, Jan. 4, as part of the "Anti-Freeze Blues Festival," formerly known as "The Magic Bag's Deep Freeze Blues Festival," Friday, Jan. 3-Sunday, Jan. 5, at the Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. The three-day event features food from the Mardi Gras Cafe in Southfield.

Sugar Blue, Willie D. Warren with the Garfield Blues Band, Johnny "Yard Dog" Jones and Bobby East, Wailin' Inc. and The Alligators open the festival on Friday, Jan. 3. The following day, Saturday, Jan. 4, Larry McCray and the Bobby Murray Band, The Butler Twins, The Grandmasters with Jeff Grand and Eddie Harsch, and Robert Jones perform. AC Reed headlines the closing day of the festival with Big Dave and the Ultrasonics, Johnnie Bassett and The Blues Insurgents, Joce'lyn B and Alberta Adams, and The Hasting Street Blues Band.

Tickets are \$15 per day or \$36 for a three-day pass. For more information, call (810) 544-3030.

In case you were curious about who the kidnapers were listening to in the movie "Ransom," that was none other than Smashing Pumpkins' singer Billy Corgan. He joined forces with award-winning composer James Horner to pen the score for the movie.

If you have a question or comment for Christina Fuoco, you can write to her in care of The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, or you can leave her a message at (313) 953-2047, mailbox No. 2130, or via e-mail at CFuoco@aol.com.

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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 and Shakers, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, 48150. Our fax number is (313)591-7279

Remy joins Great Lakes



Karen Remy has joined the Prudential Great Lakes Realty Bloomfield Hills office as an associate broker. Remy has more than 10 years experience in real estate and is a multi-million dollar sales producer. She has earned the professional designation of Graduate Realtors Institute. Remy also lives in Bloomfield Hills.

Kaljian honored for sales



Mary Beth Lockey-Kaljian, a sales associate with Century 21 Today in Farmington Hills, recently received recognition for sales achievement with emerald status in the Century 21 Masters Club. Lockey-Kaljian, a multi-million dollar producer, lives in Redford.

French's sales honored



Carol French, a Realtor with Century 21 Town and Country in Rochester, achieved centurion status, the highest level of sales achievement, this year after reaching the emerald level in 1995. French, a Rochester Hills resident, is a seven-year veteran who specializes in residential sales in the Rochester, Troy and Bloomfield communities.

Bromberg elected regent

Stephen A. Bromberg, president and chief operating officer with Butzel Long, attorneys and counselors, has been elected as a regent of the American College of Mortgage Attorneys. Bromberg, a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, practices all aspects of real estate law in the firm's Birmingham office. He lives in Bloomfield Hills.

REAL ESTATE



STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN STORMZAND

Her very first: Holly Hohnholt of Century 21 Associates in Rochester has seen the value of the first house she sold go from \$46,000 to an estimated \$130,000.

Agents remember their first sales

BY NORMAN PRADY
SPECIAL WRITER

Like memories of that first kiss or that first car, thoughts of that first real estate sale can last a lifetime.

And for some sales agents, the experience of their first sale and the feelings they felt then are part of their daily work now, influencing how they do their jobs, how they treat their customers, and what they think their rewards are.

"Money is the icing on the cake," said Sandy Sersen, a sales associate with Mayfair Realty in Livonia.

But there's "a feeling I still get," she said, thinking back to her first sale, "when everyone's happy"

It was a bungalow with a basement. On Evergreen near West Chicago in Detroit. In 1981, "It was all white and orange. White walls with orange trim. They loved it."

For "maybe \$23,000," a man in his 40s bought the house for his widowed mother.

Sersen got into the business when she was "a for-sale-by-owner" who was being pursued by agents wanting to list her house. She thought, "I could do this" and now is doing \$6 million of it every year.

"Sure, an expensive home is great compared to an inexpensive home as far as your own income is concerned," but more important is "that feeling

you get at the closing, knowing that you did it right."

Another agent said that worrying about her customers, from the first one on, is part of a day's work.

"I worry that the buyers don't understand the problems they face — risking their financial futures and their dreams," said Carol Dunshee, sales associate with Chamberlain Birmingham.

It was her experience with her own problems that took Dunshee into real estate sales. They were the problems of relocating back to Birmingham after her husband's out-of-town transfers.

Relocating, she said, is filled with "extreme stress — about kids and school, pets, time, and interim housing. A wonderful agent is someone who understands" the problems "and what you're looking for. You don't know the market, and there's great fear of being sold a house that's overpriced and poor quality for the area."

"After our relocating experiences, I decided this was something I could do and do better."

That first customer, three and one-half years ago, was a young single man looking for a house he could renovate. The challenge was to find a house in sufficient disrepair that he could buy at a bargain price but not in such extreme disrepair that it

couldn't be resuscitated.

"It was wonderful," Dunshee said. "The thrill of the hunt to find exactly what he could handle."

They found it in Royal Oak; he handled it; sold it not long ago at a good profit and invited Dunshee to his recent wedding.

David Beardsley, who can't recall all the details of his first sale, is clear about why he wanted to make it.

"I can't remember. I think it was in Westland 21 years ago, over in Tonquish (subdivision) across from Hudson's."

What he does remember is the reason this life insurance salesman went into real estate. "I hated selling life insurance."

While driving past a real estate office on Plymouth's Main Street, he thought to himself that if he can sell life insurance, "I can sell something people want."

He knew from the beginning, he said, that a house is "the most important thing people will ever buy. They live in it; they decorate it; their egos are involved, and they love it."

Is he pleased with his career change? "I love my job."

For Holly Hohnholt, a sales agent with Century 21 Associates, Rochester, first sale memories go back to 1983, to an 800-square-foot Rochester house purchased by a sin-

gle man who worked at the Orion GM plant.

"People say prices can't keep going up, going up, but they do."

That first house was \$46,000. Four years later, it sold again. For \$89,000. "Now," Hohnholt said, looking back over the property's 13-year role in her life, "it's maybe \$130,000."

John Kersten's first sale was in 1966: a house in Harrison Township. "A 2,200-square foot ranch. About \$45,000. Now worth about \$275,000 to \$300,000."

In the 30 years since, Kersten has built his business "on quality service and making myself as knowledgeable as I can be."

Now president of Century 21 Town & Country, a company reported to have had 1994 sales of almost \$700 million, Kersten said his first sale taught him a clear lesson.

"It helped me realize that people really require service. And deserve it."

His definition of service is "attention to detail, devoting time, and the degree of focus to solve people's problems in the home-buying experience."

With his first sale in mind, he offers a continuing message to his hundreds of sales associates:

"When you promise something to a customer, be prepared to deliver."

Developer must disclose existence of flood plain

REAL ESTATE
QUERIES



ROBERT M. MEISNER

Q. I am buying a unit having signed a purchase agreement and found that the developer did not disclose to me the existence of a flood plain over my building. I am also told now that there may be additional insurance involved. Do you have any comments?

A. Unfortunately, I have observed certain situations where the developer has failed to disclose in the disclosure statement and purchase agreement the fact that the property in question is being constructed on a

flood plain.

While this may not necessarily preclude the development from going forward, additional protective actions must be taken by the developer in order to ensure compliance with federal regulations. Moreover, the association may be required to obtain insurance at a substantial additional expenditure. Obviously, this is a material fact that should have

been provided to you at the time of purchase. You should look into the matter immediately and decide whether you wish to rescind the transaction based upon the true status of the circumstances.

Q. I am a landlord and have heard recently about a case dealing with a so-called landlord's lien not being valid here in Michigan. Can you give me any insight into that?

A. I presume you are speaking about a recent Michigan Court of Appeals case that held that where a landlord did not file a financing statement to perfect his "landlord's lien" on the collateral in question, the tenant is not liable, despite an apparent exclusion of landlord liens from the filing requirements imposed by Article 9 of the UCC.

In a fairly exhaustive opinion, the court of appeals basically indicated that Michigan does not recognize either a common law landlord lien or a statutory lien. Since it can only be created by statute, the court in following other states' decisions, indicated that the exclusion under Article 9 of the UCC regarding landlord liens is inapplicable and the lien in question

must fall within the coverage of Article 9, which would require that the lien be perfected as is the case with other security interests.

The court in that case indicated that the security interest entered into was not a landlord's lien as that term is normally defined in Article 9.

The court was saying that a lien set out in a lease does not become a landlord's lien by virtue of the fact that the relationship is between a landlord and a tenant.

You should review this matter with respect to all future lease arrangements that you have with your counsel to ensure that you are protected and secured.

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 MI 48025.

This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion.

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HOMES SOLD WAYNE COUNTY

These are the Observer-area residential real-estate closings recorded December 2-6 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.

Table listing real estate sales in Canton area, including addresses like 1382 Aberdeen St and 1747 Bentley Ct.

Table listing real estate sales in various areas, including addresses like 45471 Brunswick Dr and 41480 Conner Creek Dr.

Table listing real estate sales in various areas, including addresses like 44645 Lowell Ave and 648 Merrimac Rd.

Table listing real estate sales in Garden City and Livonia, including addresses like 43629 W Arbor Way Dr and 18914 Bainbridge Ave.

Table listing real estate sales in various areas, including addresses like 17380 Brookview Dr and 19070 Merriman Rd.

Table listing real estate sales in various areas, including addresses like 29302 Meadowlark St and 19070 Merriman Rd.

Table listing real estate sales in Plymouth and Redford, including addresses like 47328 Adams Ct and 9995 Arnold.

Table listing real estate sales in various areas, including addresses like 9372 Dale and 13520 Dixie.

Table listing real estate sales in Westland, including addresses like 35779 Castlewood Ct and 30715 Cooley Blvd.

Observer & Eccentric MORTGAGE MARKET. Includes interest rates for various terms (30 yr, 15 yr, 1 yr) and programs (ARM, Jumbo, etc.) across different lenders like American Finance, Old Kent Mortgage, Prime Financial Group, etc.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS. Real estate briefs features news and notes on professional associations, office activities, upcoming meetings and seminars, new services/products and consumer publications. Includes Real Estate Investors Association seminar info.

CALL COLDWELL BANKER SCHWEITZER REAL ESTATE. Advertisement for real estate services featuring various property listings in Milford, Farmington Hills, Dearborn, Canton, Northville, Livonia, and Westland. Includes contact information for Charles G. Jackson.

"Welcome Home" Quality...Beauty \$176,900. Advertisement for a home in Northville, Michigan, featuring 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, and a large lot. Includes contact information for Charles G. Jackson.

Rethinking making the big down-payment

MORTGAGE SHOPPING



DAVID C. MULLY

As Michigan's long winter begins, one thing that may help you shake off the season's doldrums is the thought of buying a new home. Spring is traditionally the time people begin the process of looking for a new place to live. It's not too soon to start seriously thinking about the move you'd like to make.

While interest rates continue to remain low, many people find this a great time to buy their first home or upgrade to the home of their dreams. As you

being to consider the possibilities within your reach; consider that traditional thoughts on home buying have changed.

As one example, one of the cardinal rules of home buying has been to put as much money down on the house as you possibly can. This was considered a good practice both for first-time buyers and buyers moving up to a more-expansive home. The conventional wisdom said take all of the equity out of your first house and use it for the down payment on your second one.

Let's rethink that strategy. Many people feel that, due to changes in the tax laws and current economic conditions, it may make better fiscal sense for buyers to hang on to some of their equity and make a lower down payment.

You may ask, "Why would anyone want a larger mortgage with higher monthly payments?" The reason is, since mortgage interest payments are one of the few tax deductions left for homeowners, you could come out way ahead in the long run.

Let's look at an example. You've lived in your present home for some time and now you're looking to move up. Finding a home you like for \$200,000, you sit down to calculate how much you can put down on the house. You find you have \$50,000 in equity from the sale of your first home plus \$10,000 in savings for a total of \$60,000. Let's assume that you also have two car loans totaling \$20,000 with combined payments of \$525 per month at an interest rate of 12 percent.

You could put 25 percent down on the house, which would use up the \$50,000 plus an additional \$5,000 for closing costs, leaving you only \$5,000 when all is said and done. What if you only put 10 percent down? This will use \$20,000 of your available saving plus another \$5,500 for closing costs. (The higher closing costs are a result of the larger loan amount.) This leaves you with \$34,500.

You can now pay off your car loans and, in effect, convert your non-deductible car loan interest into totally deductible mortgage interest. Even though your monthly mortgage payment will be \$310 more, the elimination of the \$525 car payment will reduce your total monthly payment by \$215. This amounts to an annual savings of \$2,580.

After paying off the car loans, you will still have \$14,500 or \$9,500 more than the original 25-percent-down scenario. Plus, the low down payment will result in \$3,522 more deductible interest in the first year alone. Then, if you invest the extra \$9,500 into an account paying 7 percent and add the \$215 savings each month, in four years you'll have more than \$23,000, even after paying taxes on the interest earned.

This low down-payment strategy isn't for everyone. The ideal candidate is a move-up buyer with a strong income, substantial cash reserves and good credit. This plan won't work unless you are committed to carrying in out.

If you have any questions about whether this strategy will

work for you, contact your local real estate or mortgage loan professional. If it's right for you, the low-down-payment plan will allow you to get the home of your dreams while retaining your financial flexibility.

David Mully has been writing his weekly "Mortgage Shopping" column for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers since June 1995. He has been involved with residential mortgage lending in the Detroit area since 1988 and is a senior loan officer. For information about a new mortgage, call Mully toll-free at 1-800-405-3051, fax him at 810-380-0603 or send e-mail to cgbox04@prodigy.com. You can access Mully's previous Mortgage Shopping articles on-line at <http://oeonline.com/~emoyd/mully>

Use wintertime to remodel basement into livable space

Homeowners have finished on the exterior for the winter and are turning their attention to the inside of their houses.

One of the most popular winter home improvement activities is remodeling a basement.

In the past, basements were used mainly for storage. Today, homeowners often use their basements as extensions of primary living areas.

They are spending between \$10,000 and \$50,000 on basement remodeling projects that often include high-tech entertainment centers or home offices, said Keith Paul, president of Home Advantage Referral Service.

His company offers a free public service that refers screened and monitored contractors to homeowners who are planning remodeling projects or looking for home services.

"Basements aren't just for storage anymore, and more and more homeowners are turning them into real, usable living space," Paul said. "And the good thing is that homeowners usually get back at least 75 percent of their investment in a basement remodeling when they sell their home."

Owners of older houses want more space for their children to play and for entertainment purposes, Paul said.

As a result, remodeling often includes car-

peting, dedicated entertainment areas, walls that are dry walled and recessed lighting rather than the fluorescent shop lights of the past.

Wet bars also are becoming more popular, and it's common for the bars to have kitchen-style cabinets, islands, microwaves and larger sinks.

Remodeling contractors also are called to convert basements to offices for work-at-home or tele-commuting professionals.

"As the price of newer, larger homes in the Detroit area keeps rising, many homeowners are looking for ways to add space to their current home without having to add a dormer or building an extra room," Paul said. "Often, basement remodeling is the best and least-expensive way to accomplish this."

Before hiring a contractor to remodel their basements, homeowners should always verify the contractor's license and insurance, Paul advises.

He also suggests getting more than one estimate and calling a contractor's references before signing a contract.

Homeowners who are considering a remodeling project can receive more information and a brochure, Seven Tips You Must Know Before Hiring a Remodeling Contractor, by calling Home Advantage at (800) 733-3778.

Don't let frozen pipes put chill in your day

(NAPS) - Turning down the heat while you're away from home this winter may sound like a good way to save some money, but it can lead to thousands of dollars worth of damage to your home.

If your water pipes freeze and burst, a one-eighth inch (3-millimeter) crack in a frozen pipe can spew up to 250 gallons of water a day, destroying floors, furniture, appliances and keepsakes.

That's why State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, the nation's largest insurer of homes, suggests setting the thermostat no lower than 55 degrees Fahrenheit (12 degrees Celsius) when you're away. It's also a good idea to ask a friend or neighbor to check your house daily to ensure it's warm enough to prevent freezing and to see if everything else is OK.

you can do to make sure you don't return home to find flood-like damage inside your home.

- Insulate pipes in your home's crawl space and attic. These exposed pipes are most susceptible to freezing. The more insulation you use, the better protected your pipes will be. An insulating pipe-sleeve, heat tape or thermostatically controlled heat cables can be used to wrap pipes. Be sure to use products approved by an independent testing organization, such as Underwriters Laboratories Inc., and use the cables only for the use intended.
- Seal leaks that allow cold air inside. Look for air leaks around dryer vents and pipes. Use caulk or insulation to keep the cold out and the heat in.
- Disconnect garden hoses and, if practical, use an indoor valve to shut off and drain water from pipes leading to outside faucets. This reduces the chance

of freezing in the short span of pipe just inside the house.

- If you're going to be away for an extended time, it might make sense to shut off and drain the water system. You must be aware, however, that if you have a fire protection sprinkler system in your house, it will be deactivated when you shut off the water.
- If the forecast calls for temperature to fall below freezing, turn your faucets on so that a trickle of hot and cold water runs overnight. This is especially important for faucets on outside walls. Also, be sure to open cabinet doors to allow heat to get to uninsulated pipes under sinks near exterior walls.

Free brochure

For a free brochure about preventing frozen pipes, see a State Farm agent or write: State Farm Insurance, Public Affairs Department (FP), One State Farm Plaza, Bloomington, IL 61710.

A preventable disaster

There are several other things

Housing starts exceed forecast

(AP) - Builders boosted housing construction in the United States in November at the fastest rate in 16 months with the strength showing in the Midwest and South.

The Commerce Department said Tuesday the 9.2 percent gain is the best since July 1995. It followed two consecutive drops and is much bigger than the modest advance predicted by analysts.

The increase brought the seasonally adjusted annual rate of housing starts to 1.51 million. That's up from 1.39 million in October, slightly higher than originally estimated.

With Federal Reserve policy-makers meeting to consider changes in interest rates, stock and bond market traders studied the report for signs of excessive growth that the central bank might feel compelled to quash as inflationary.

During the summer many analysts were looking for the Fed to boost interest rates, but signs of moderation in the economy since then have allowed it to keep the short-term benchmark rates it controls steady.

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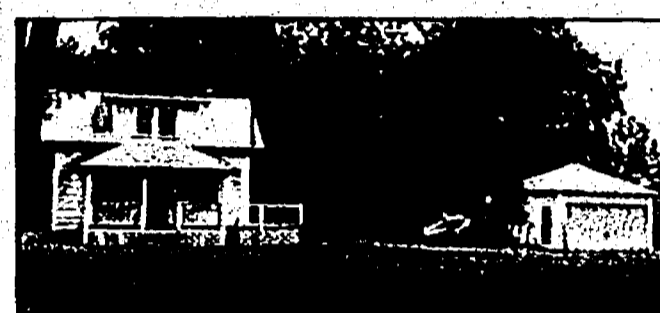
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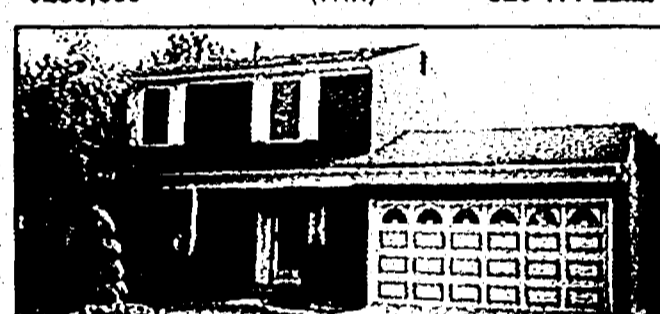
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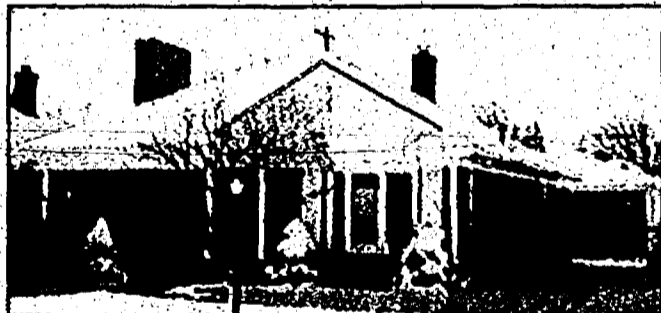
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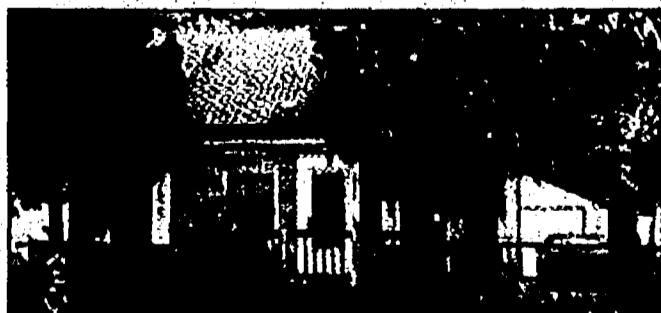
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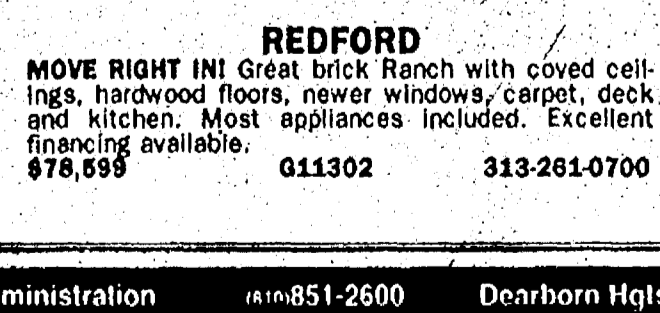
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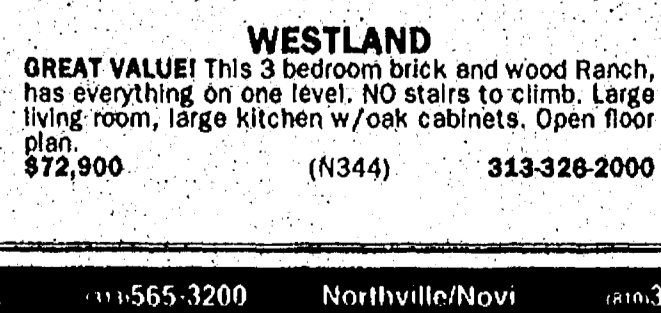
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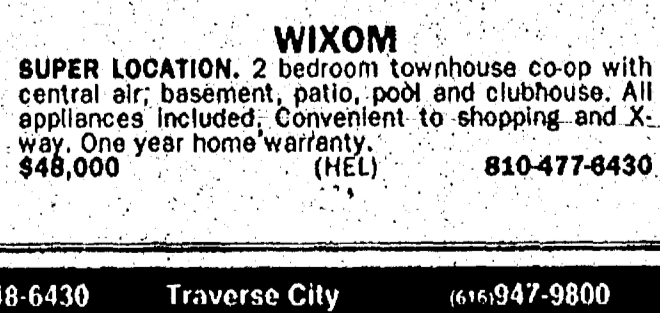
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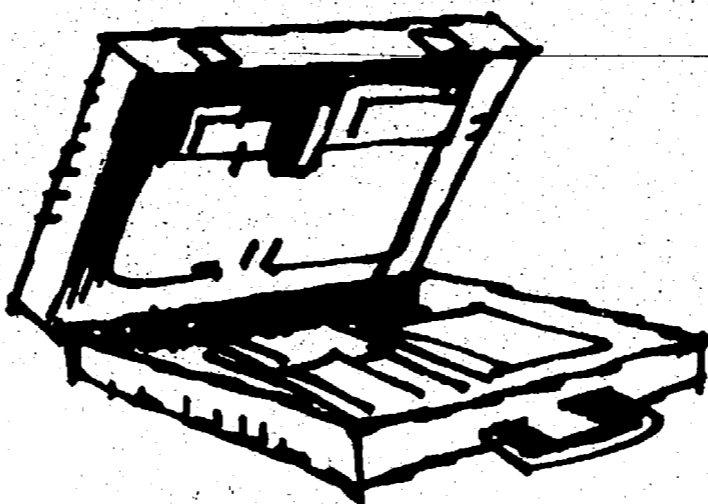
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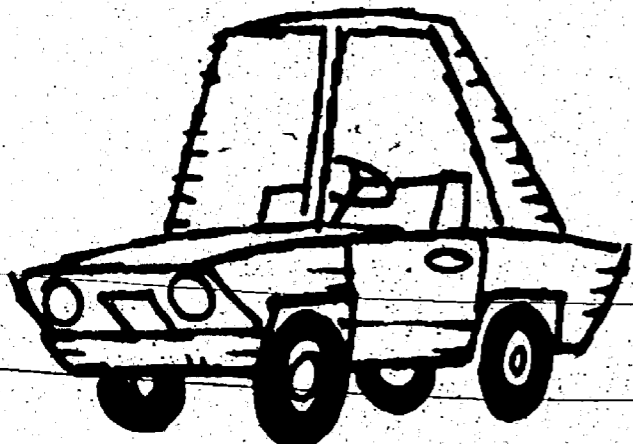
1. Give the reader specific information. Pretend you are someone reading the classifieds. What would you like to know about the item, service or job you are advertising? Be sure to add details such as color, size, condition, brand name, age, features and benefits. Be accurate! Don't embellish your ad with misleading information. Stick to the facts and reap the rewards!



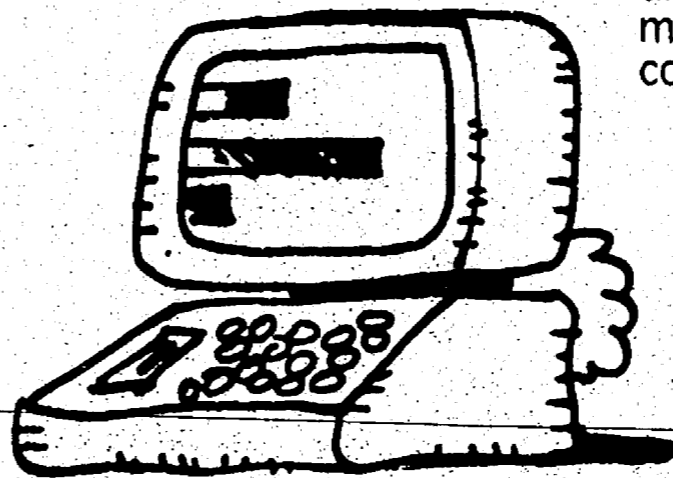
2. Include the price. Don't waste your time or a potential buyer's time. If you advertise the price of the item or service you offer, the people who respond to your ad will be those who are genuinely interested. Surveys show that readers are more interested in those items and services they know are within their price range.



3. Avoid abbreviations. Don't make a potential customer work too hard! Although you may be tempted to cut down on the cost of your ad by using abbreviations, surveys indicate that many people don't understand such abbreviations as EIK (eat-in kitchen) or WSW (white side wall) tires and won't take the time to figure them out. A confused reader is a disinterested reader. Get the most for your money and use complete words.



4. Include phone number and specify hours. Be sure to let potential customers know when and where to call. Surveys show that even if a person is very interested in your item or service, he or she will not call back after the first attempt. Stay near the phone during the hours you indicate you will be available. Don't risk missing a sale!



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Observer & Eccentric

NEW HOMES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1997

AT HOME
H1

This builder prefers low-volume approach

Tom Walsh, a Livonia builder, knows his niche and is in no hurry to expand beyond his capabilities.

Walsh has done only about a dozen houses on scattered lots since starting his own business in 1992. None has come close to \$200,000.

"I try to give people all the amenities \$200,000, \$300,000 houses have - vaulted ceilings, skylights, first-floor laundries, two-story foyers the drama - but they're just smaller," he said.

A big house for Walsh would be 1,600 square feet, like the speculative Cape Cod he has under construction in Farmington Hills.

"I try to stay within \$130,000 to \$180,000," he said. "It gives a young couple, a young person, maybe someone downsizing, something to choose from other than a 30-year-old, cookie-cutter ranch."

"You can see as we go through these houses, even though they're small, they function very well. They're not only pretty houses. When you go inside, you can live in them," he said.

Walsh said he's studied environmental design at Center for Creative Studies. He's also a painter and sculptor.

"I design everything myself with the client," he said. "My drawings I give to an architect in Plymouth, D.S. Wright and Associates. He does the working drawings."

Sometimes, clients will have a very clear idea what they want. Other times, Walsh will have to lead them by the hand.

"I'll build anything," he said. "I like things that have flavor, drama, a lot of curb appeal, a lot of gables. I like to accentuate the staircase, use that as a kind of visual dynamic. Here, I stacked two bay windows. From the outside, it looks like an octagonal turret."

Walsh currently has a roughed-in 1,600-square-foot spec available in Farmington Hills.

The Cape Cod will feature a first-floor master with vaulted ceiling, vanity with dressing/make-up area, walk-in closet and shower.

The main living area also will showcase a family room with sloped ceiling and fireplace, eating nook with vaulted ceiling, kitchen with the sink oriented

'I'll build anything. I like things that have flavor, drama, a lot of curb appeal, a lot of gables. I like to accentuate the staircase, use that as a kind of visual dynamic.'

*Tom Walsh
scattered-site builder*

toward an opening in the wall and view into the family room, dining room, laundry and half bath.

Two bedrooms and a full bath are upstairs.

The model also will feature a two-car garage, basement and dishwasher. Vinyl siding is the predominant exterior material with some brick and wood accents.

Walsh estimates the completion price at \$170,000-\$175,000.

"A houses like this looks and functions just like a big one. It's just smaller and more affordable," he said.

A custom house he's building by contract next door, a 1,300-square-foot colonial, features a family room, kitchen/eating nook, living room, first floor laundry, half bath, two-car, side-entry garage and covered front porch.

Three bedrooms and a full bath - with a sliding door to the master and a regular door for the other two bedrooms - are upstairs. The master has a skylight.

That house will price out at \$135,000-\$140,000, Walsh estimated.

"These houses are probably resistant to glitches in the economy," he said. "They're affordable."

Walsh described his typical buyer as a younger, dual-income couple with kids or one on the way who are building for the first time.

Walsh has learned to be a one-man band.

"I'm a builder, Realtor, salesperson and designer," he said. "The hardest part is finding property now. Lots I used to pay \$20,000, \$25,000 for are now going for \$40,000. I have to be that much more efficient."

Walsh built a colonial in Farm-



Walsh touch: Tom Walsh, who builds just a handful of houses a year, uses his design training to create a dramatic exterior and functional floor plan.

ington Hills for Bill and Robin Otto and son, Jackson.

"It was really a nice experience. He constantly called us and updated us on things," Robin said.

"As far as working with us and changing designs, he was fine," she said. "He let us put our own wood floor in the kitchen and dining room and was happy to deduct that from his price."

The Ottos were comfortable dealing with Walsh.

"He's able to give you as a homeowner more attention," Robin said. "My in-laws saw his house on Clarita he was

building in Farmington Hills. He said he'd build the house on a lot we were interested in."

Cynthia and Paul Williams, along with sons Daniel, Matthew and Jordan, bought a colonial Walsh built in Livonia.

"He was very agreeable with everything we wanted," Cynthia

said. "He just wanted to make us happy and he did. Because he is a single builder and not a big corporation, he seemed to take more pride in his work."

The Williamses found Walsh in a newspaper advertisement, checked out his work and liked what they saw.

"Our house looks huge from the outside," Cynthia said. "It really is a nice, good-sized house. But it's not mammoth. There's no wasted space. It's a house we really use."

Walsh can be reached at (313) 522-5147.



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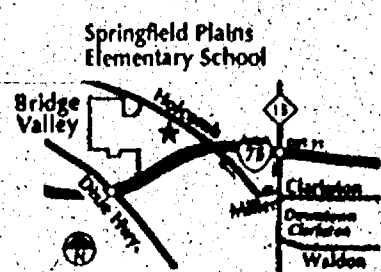


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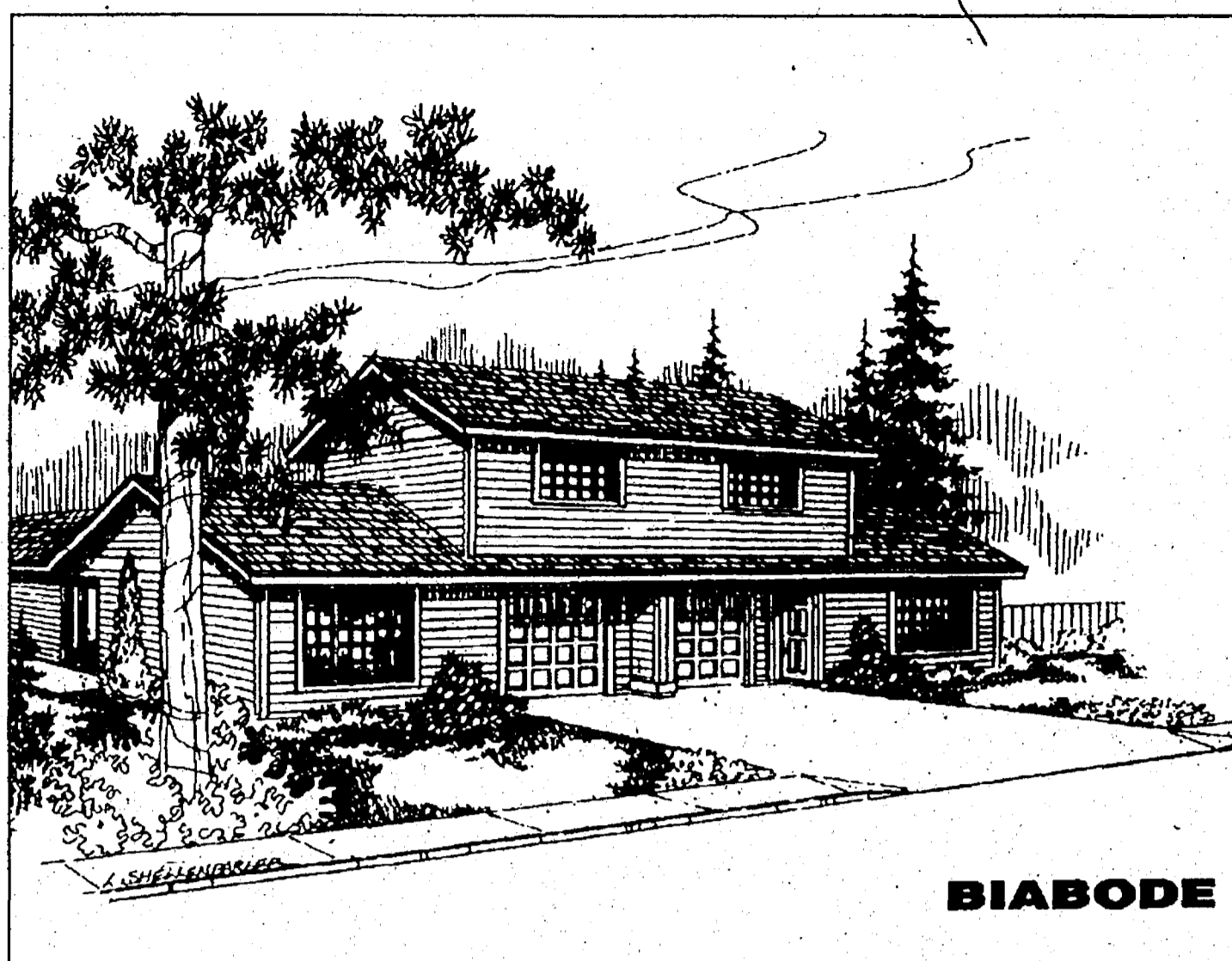
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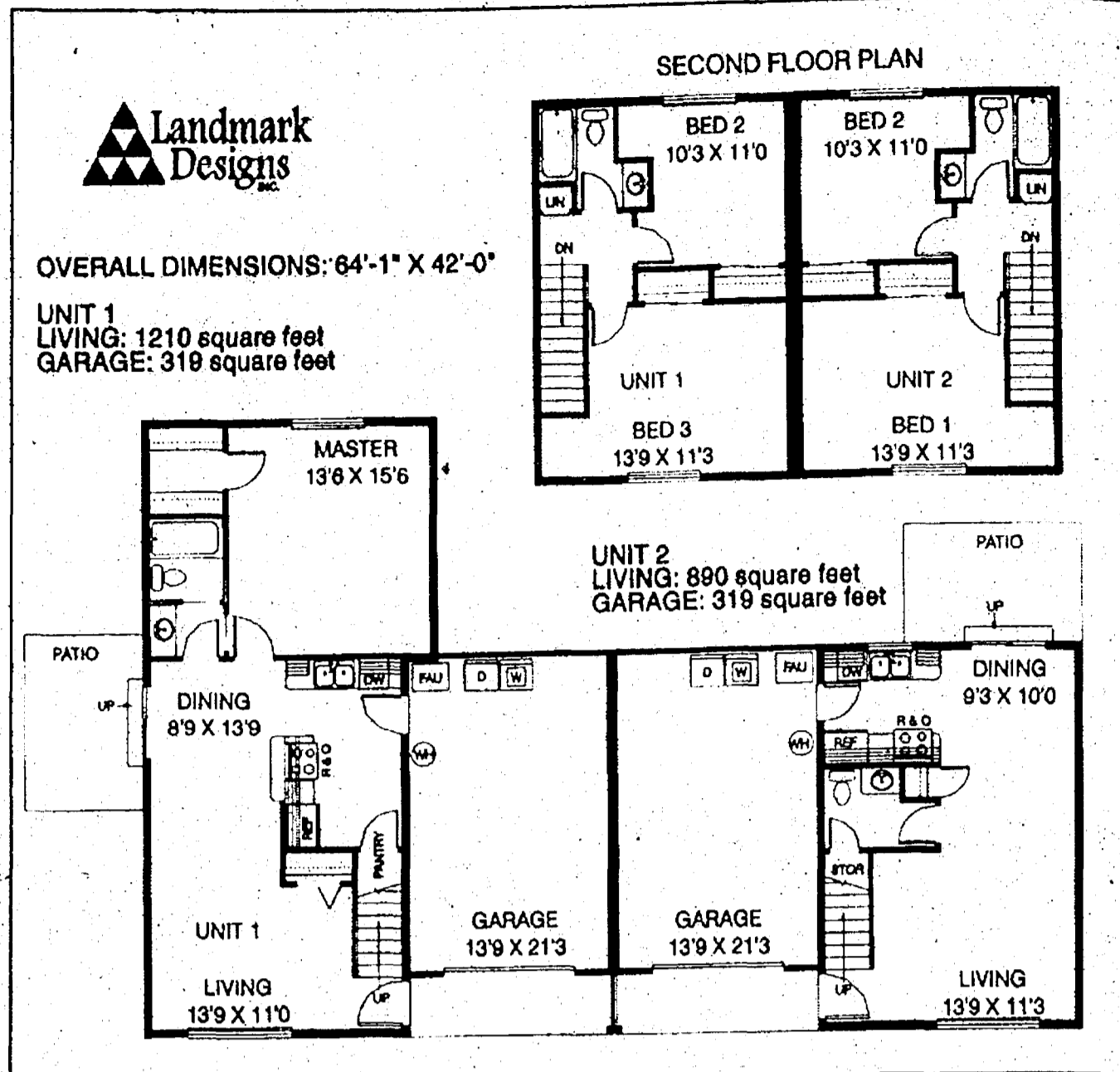
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Biabode: This design for a duplex provides for garages, patios and an expanded living space for the owner. The second unit can be rented out.



Nifty duplex provides home, income for owner

Ownership of a duplex can provide many benefits for those interested in acquiring an income property. Some may choose to reside in one unit, while renting the other. Another option is to rent both accommodations and manage the holding.

One of the more modern and innovative duplex plans to hit the market in quite a while, is the Biabode. This two-story design has 1210 square feet of liv-

ing area in unit one, with the master suite on the main level and two bedrooms on the second level. The other side is an 890 square foot unit with two bedrooms, one and a half baths.

Both units have an attached garage that conveniently opens directly into the kitchen. This allows one to unload groceries with a minimum of bother. There is space in each garage to put a washer and dryer.

The master suite, in unit one, is a rarity in duplex design. Extending out from the back of the building, the amenities here include a large sleeping area, walk-in closet and a semi-private bathroom.

Both units have a living room that flows unimpeded into the dining area. The kitchen dimensions vary somewhat, but both allow for easy serving and feature built-in appliances. Unit one's din-

ing room has a sliding glass door leading to a side patio. Unit two's dining room has a sliding glass door to a back patio. Both patios have enough room to relax in the sun, with a barbecue and some lounge chairs.

The top levels in both units hold two bedrooms, each with closet space. The front bedroom is somewhat large. They share a corner bathroom with a linen closet located in the hallway.

For a study kit of the Biabode (4405-0800E48), send \$10 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove OR 97424. (Be sure to specify plan name and number.)

For a collection of plan books featuring our most popular house plans, send \$20 to Landmark, or call 1-800-562-1151.

Mortgage delinquencies are down

By ROB WELLS
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fewer homeowners fell behind on their mortgages in the third quarter, a trend that could extend into next year, an industry group said Thursday.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said mortgage delinquencies fell to 4.16 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis in the three months ended Sept. 30, down from 4.35 percent in the second quarter. It was the third consecutive quarterly decline.

McCord attributed the improvement to lower interest rates, a stronger economy, job growth and a fall in loan-to-value ratios, which shows homeowners have more equity built up in their homes.

Responding to a question, McCord said it's possible the trend in rising personal bankruptcies and credit card debt problems could pose problems for mortgages. But he said that probably wouldn't happen, especially if interest rates decline.

The percentage of

foreclosures started in the third quarter fell slightly, but the percentage of loans in foreclosure climbed to 1 percent of all loans from 0.96 percent in the prior quarter.

The foreclosure statistics reflect past credit problems — such as the rise in delinquencies in 1995 — and should improve in the coming months, he added.

The improvements in mortgage delinquencies were seen in all categories. For 30-day delinquencies, the rate was 2.92 percent, down from 3.05 percent in the second quarter; 60-day delinquencies, 0.65 percent, down from 0.67 percent; and delinquencies 90 days or more, 0.59 percent, down from

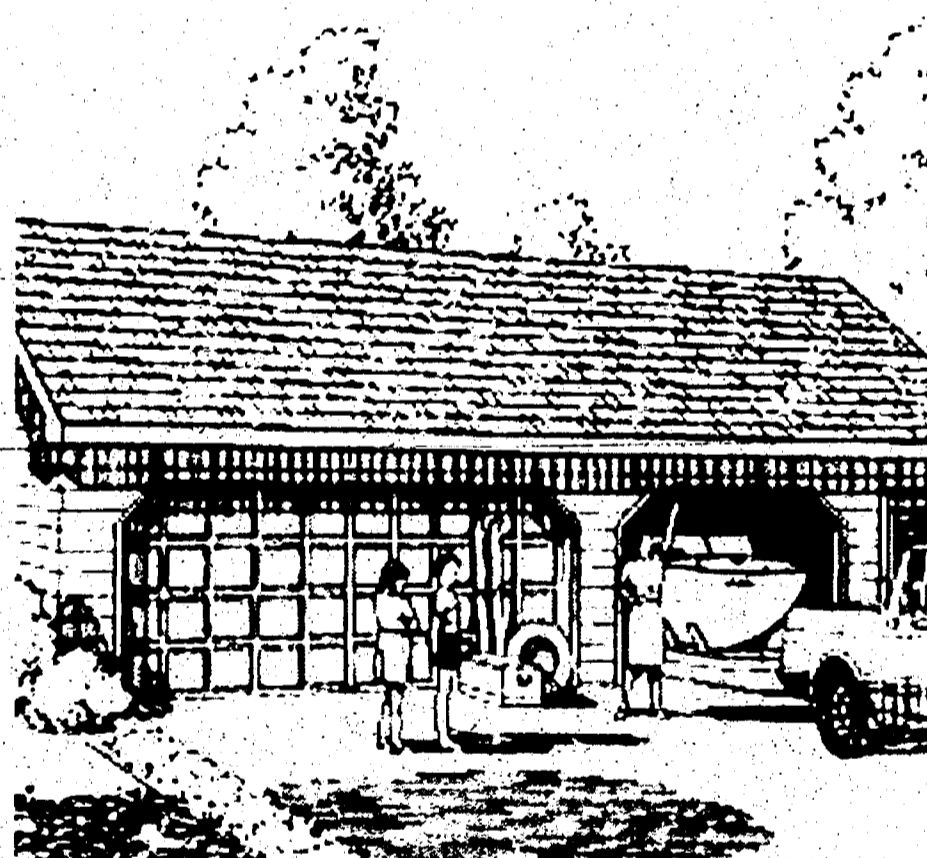
0.63 percent.

For conventional loans, the rate was 2.67 percent, down from 2.80 percent; for VA loans, 6.68 percent, down from 6.80 percent; and for FHA loans, 7.83 percent, down from 8.11 percent.

Around the country, the Northeast experienced the largest decline, with 4.24 percent of home loans in trouble, down from 4.49 percent. In the South, rates fell to 4.84 percent from 5.06; in the West, 3.40 percent, from 3.60 percent; North Central, 3.83 percent, down from 4.01 percent.

The survey of 22.5 million loans on one- to four-unit homes encompasses about one-third of all residential mortgages.

The Weekly Do-It-Yourselfer



Deep-eave garage

This week's do-it-yourself project plan, an eave entry two-car garage, includes many design options. There are six sizes, from 20' x 20' to as large as 22' x 26'. They can be built as stand-alone structures or attached to your house. Included in the package are three foundations, three roof styles, the option for a side window and door and three garage door configurations. Two com-

plete sets of the plans are included: one for you or your builder and one for the building department. Plans include full framing instructions. Illustrations are drawn with full elevations and cross sectional diagrams. Step-by-step instructions are included. A full materials list will make your trip to a local lumberyard for materials another easy step toward the completion of your new project.

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Radically new fiber glass insulation is encapsulated

Although most homeowners recognize the need for insulation in order to increase home energy efficiency, some shy away from installing it because fibers can cause skin to itch and can create airborne dust.

Now Schuller's new ComfortTherm insulation is overcoming their reluctance. That's because the popular gold fiber glass found in homes and commercial buildings has taken on a different look and feel.

It's been encapsulated with a high-tech poly wrap system which is extremely user-friendly.

Poly wrap offers more than comfort

Besides handling comfort, the poly vapor facing is superior to traditional kraft paper facing in three ways.

First, the poly facing is twice as resistant to moisture vapor penetration as kraft. The wall cavity stays dryer, and the insulation maintains its thermal efficiency.

Second, unlike kraft facing, the ComfortTherm facing is Class A rated, and has a fire hazard classification of 25/50 to maximize fire protection.

Third, the poly facing and the triple-reinforced flanges by which the wrapped insulation is stapled to the wall studs are tougher and more resistant to tearing than kraft.

Batts pre-cut for quick installation

ComfortTherm batts are factory pre-cut to fit standard 8 ft. wall cavities for fast and

easy installation. This assures a better fit, compared to hand-made cuts from rolls.

Factory cuts also save time and reduce potential itch and dust generated from job-site cutting.

The new batts are available in R-11, as well as the high-performance values of R-13 and R-15. Higher R-values mean greater insulating power.

All three values of batts fit into standard 2 in. x 4 in. stud walls. The R-13 and R-15 batts are made of higher density fiber glass. Although they cost more initially, their cost may be recouped in lower utility bills.

R-11 batts are recommended for interior walls for sound-control, to further add to living comfort.

ComfortTherm is environmentally correct

ComfortTherm, along with Schuller's traditional GoldLine™ fiber glass insulation, is made with recycled bottle glass. Schuller is the only insulation certified to contain at least 25 percent recycled glass by Scientific Certification Systems.

Each truckload of Schuller fiber glass insulation contains over one and a half tons of recycled glass that would have ended up in a landfill.

For more information on Schuller's new ComfortTherm insulation, see your nearest dealer, or contact the Product Information Center, Schuller International, Inc., P. O. Box 5108, Denver, CO 80217. Or call 800 654 3103.

Schuller's new ComfortTherm batts are encapsulated to protect against itch and dust.

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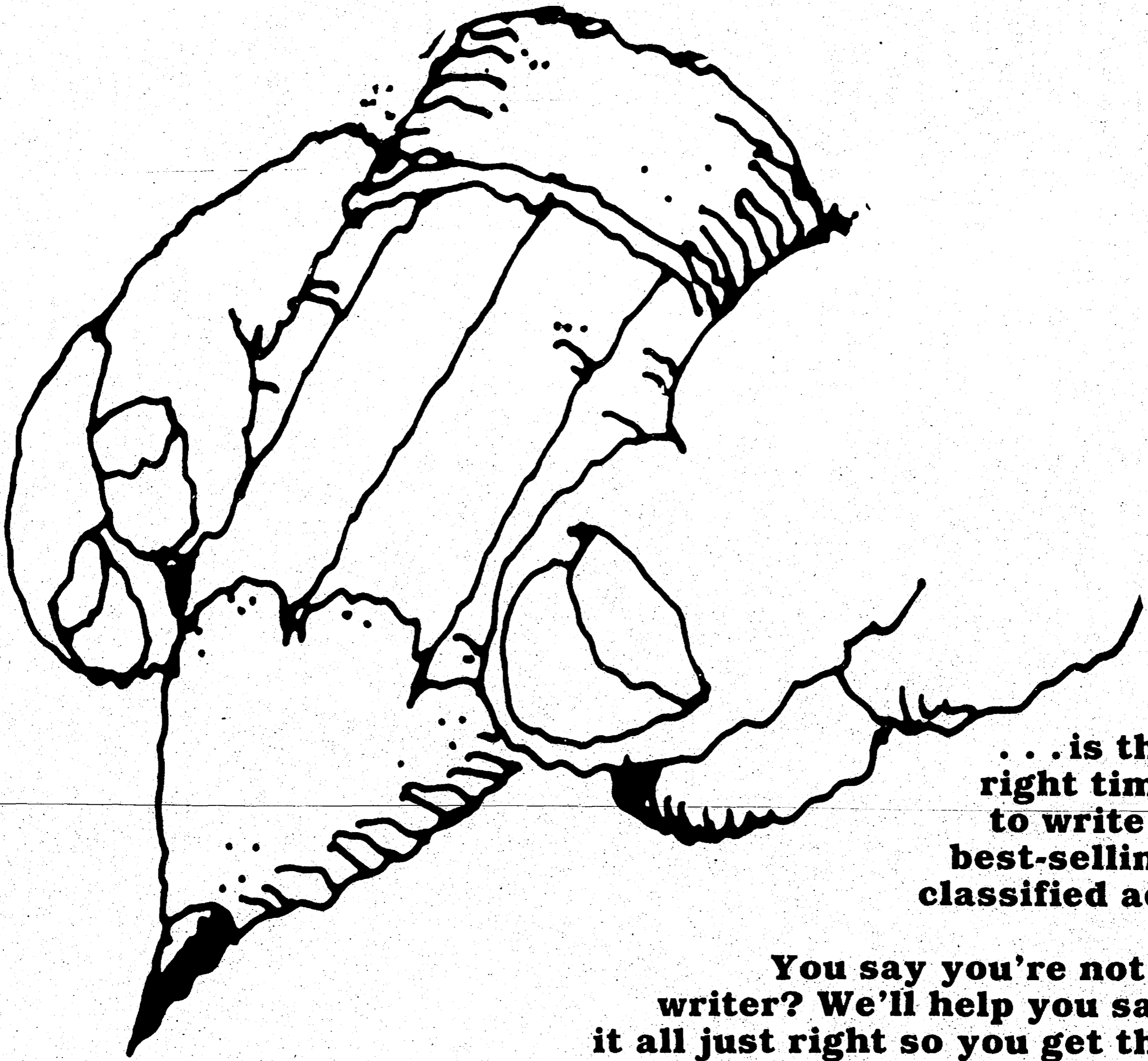
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Detroit needs a homestead act to save houses



STEVEN SIVAK

Last week I spent time discussing Detroit and its relationship to other cities. I admit to being critical of the city. Many have thrived in its peculiar form of destruction but, for me, I can only imagine what the city was like during the Jazz Age of the Twenties and Thirties. To imagine that the city was once one of the top five wealthiest cities in the country is almost unbelievable. Money just poured out along Woodward Avenue - the mansions, the performance halls, the fine neighborhoods of Boston Edison and

the like. I do not think that stadiums, casinos and automobile race tracks are a first step towards the rebirth of the motor city. They, I believe, are a separate component of what makes a healthy prosperous city. Not all - and maybe not most - of what a city does to make itself great will come from the private sector, e.g. casinos and stadiums. These are money makers for a group of businessmen - they may work into a city's plan or they may not. I think it foolish to believe that the private sector will supply Detroit with neighborhoods and middle-income job opportunities. Detroit under its own will and ability to attract industrial manufacturers will need to do this for itself.

marks against the city are the elements of destruction, decay and potential for crime. Why not bulldoze dysfunctional and poverty-stricken neighborhoods that have a population density below a certain percentage? Take the existing residents and relocate them to more comfortable and safe neighborhoods. Schoolchildren would then plant oaks and maple saplings, creating parks and something to look at other than burned and destroyed buildings, which only lead people to have little respect for their surroundings. The city would appear to be cleaner and safer, and existing neighborhoods would be reinforced by increasing the population of such areas. It is obvious that the population of Detroit will not be

what it once was, and it is also probable that the tax revenues will never be as high as they once were. Natural areas can be left alone, as they are in the wild, but by ignoring a city and not maintaining it will only lead us to the situation we currently have in many parts of the city. This bulldozing scheme takes care of much - not people who are here to gamble but those who want to paint their houses and rake leaves in the fall and walk with baby carriages down the sidewalks of their neighborhoods. What could possibly encourage young people to come back to this city? Money. Although the city is poor, it does have money in the form of abandoned houses. Why not have a policy similar to the one that

was used to attract settlers to the western half of the country; a homestead program if you will. The city of Detroit offers up houses whose title is held by both the city and the homeowner for seven years and, at the end of this time period, the city signs off and the property is fully owned by the resident. The catch is that the residents must renovate the houses and perhaps the city offers low cost loans for those willing to undertake the burden. Who would be entitled to take advantage of the program would depend on one's politics. I like the idea that this house is both an enticement as well as an award for having completed something that the city so badly needs - so perhaps this is a

reward for going to college? Allowing suburban flight to continue will only create more desire to create Renaissance Centers whereby fast, smooth-running cars quickly move back and forth down the freeways bringing commuters and evening entertainment opportunities. Neighborhoods and jobs must be the cornerstone of a happy and healthy city.

Steve Sivak is a licensed architect in private practice and an adjunct professor of architecture at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield. He specializes in well-crafted residential and commercial architecture and can be contacted at (313) 769-8502.

THE Observer & Eccentric
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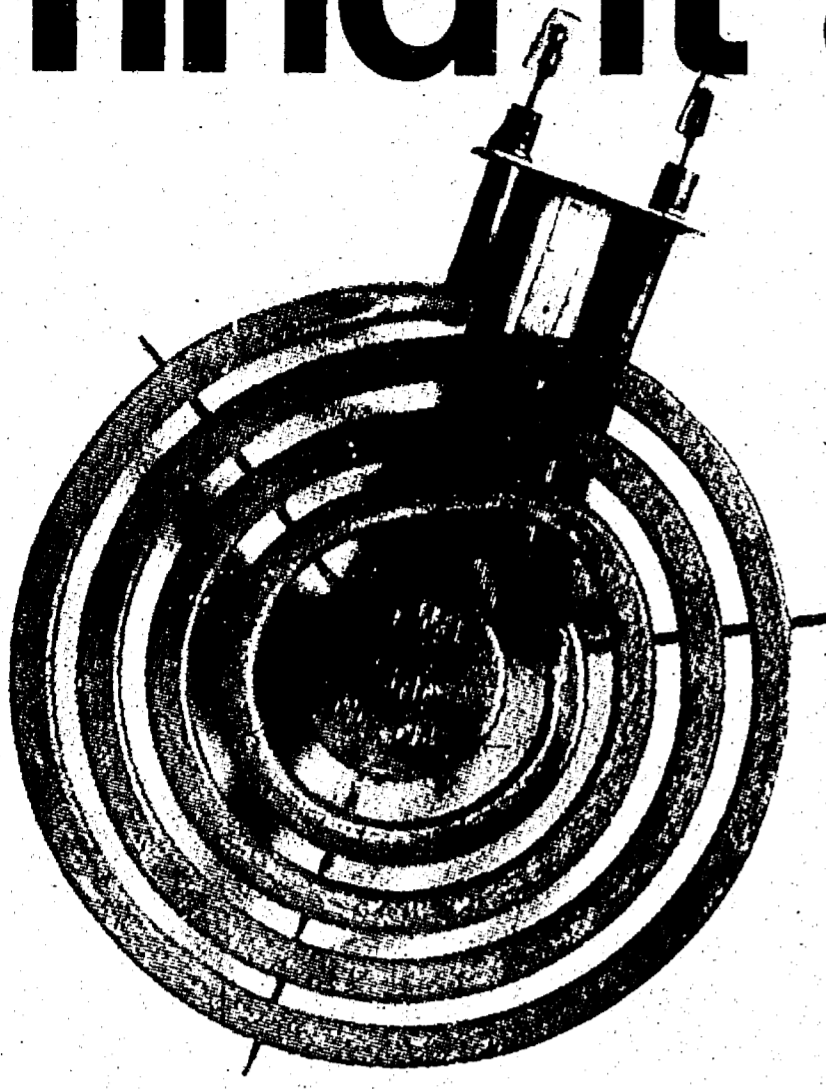
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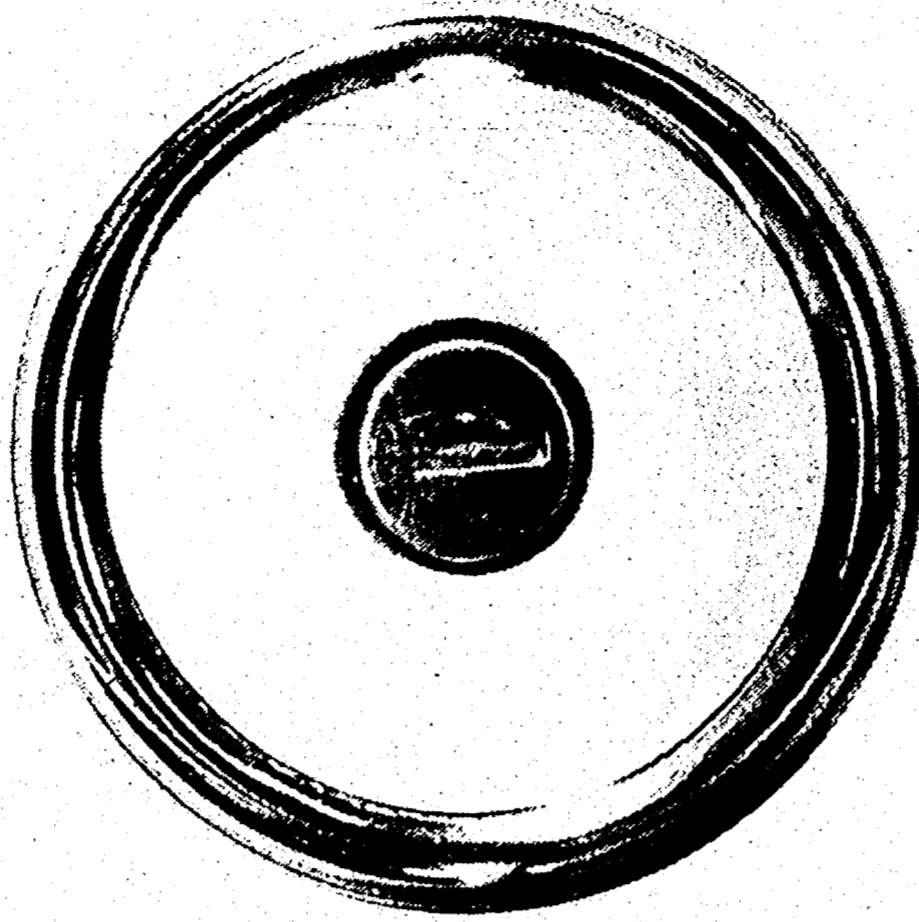
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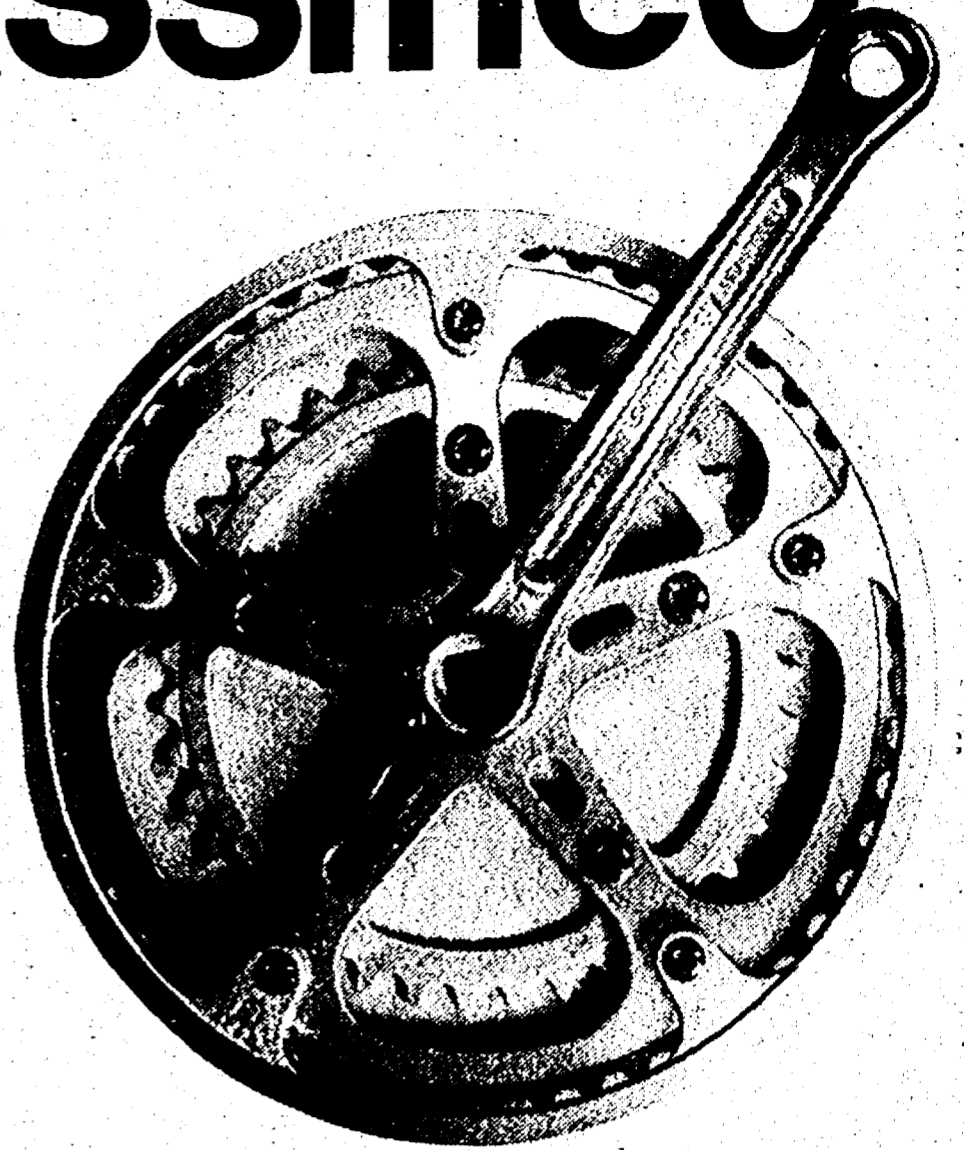
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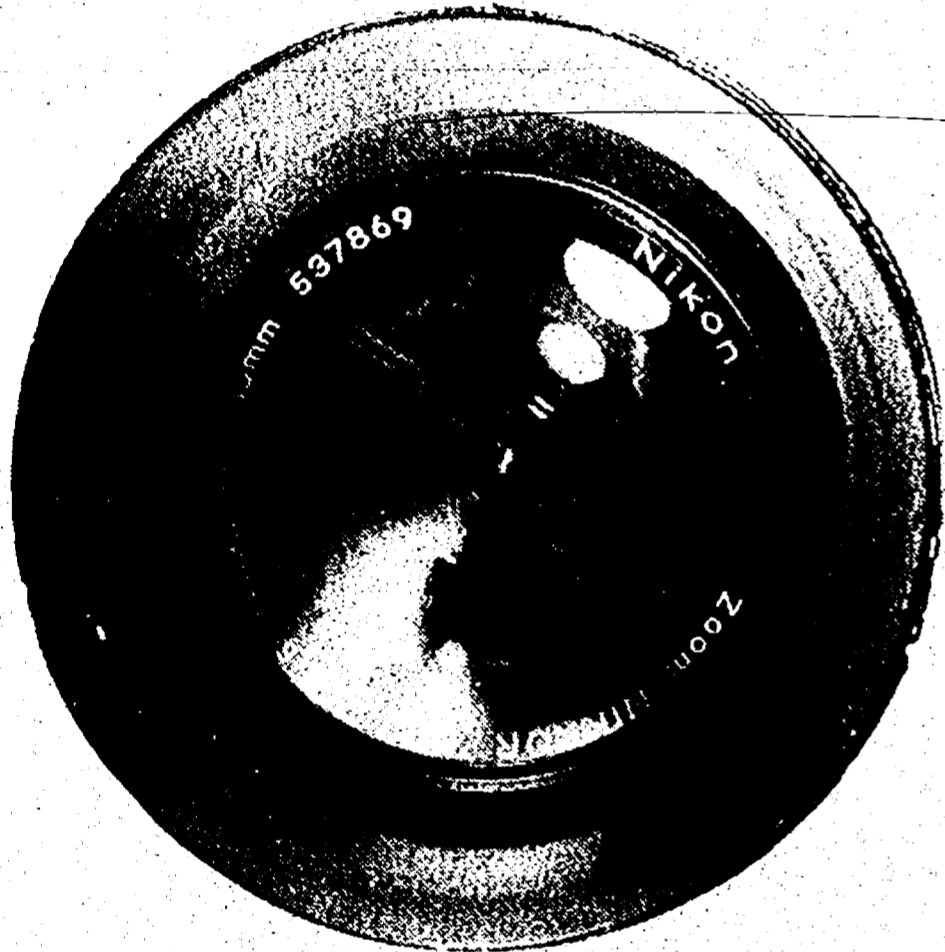


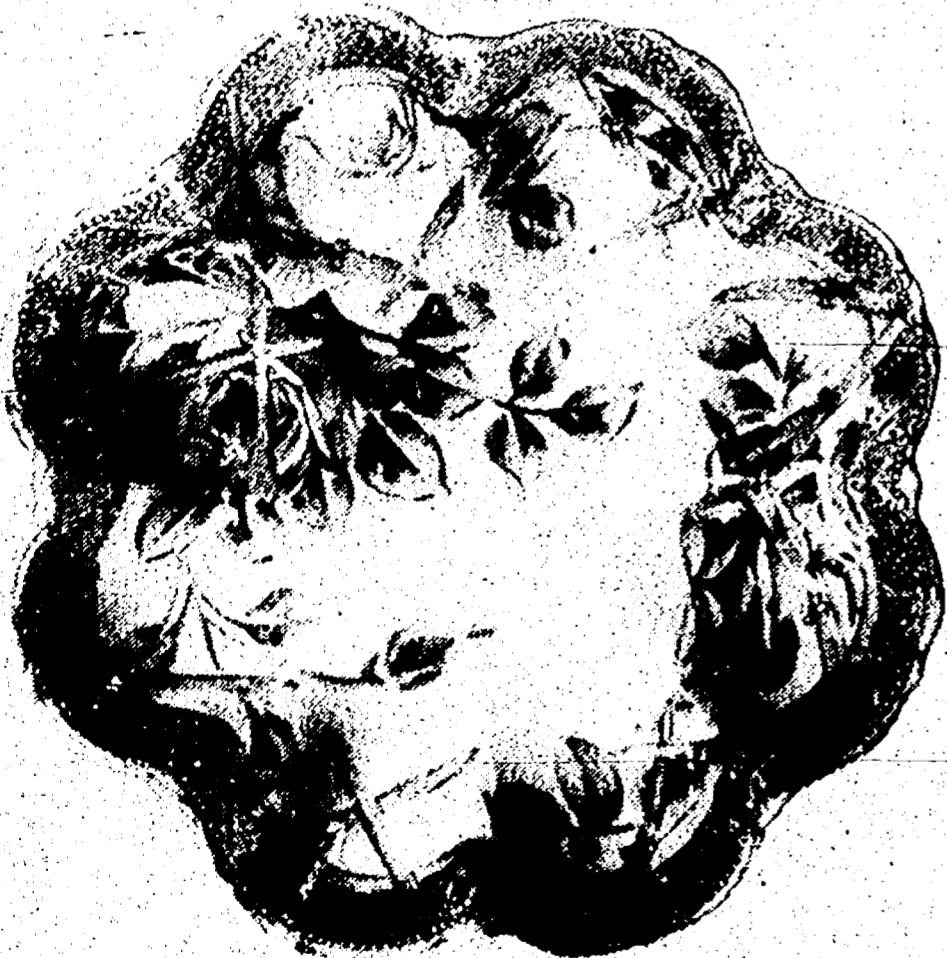
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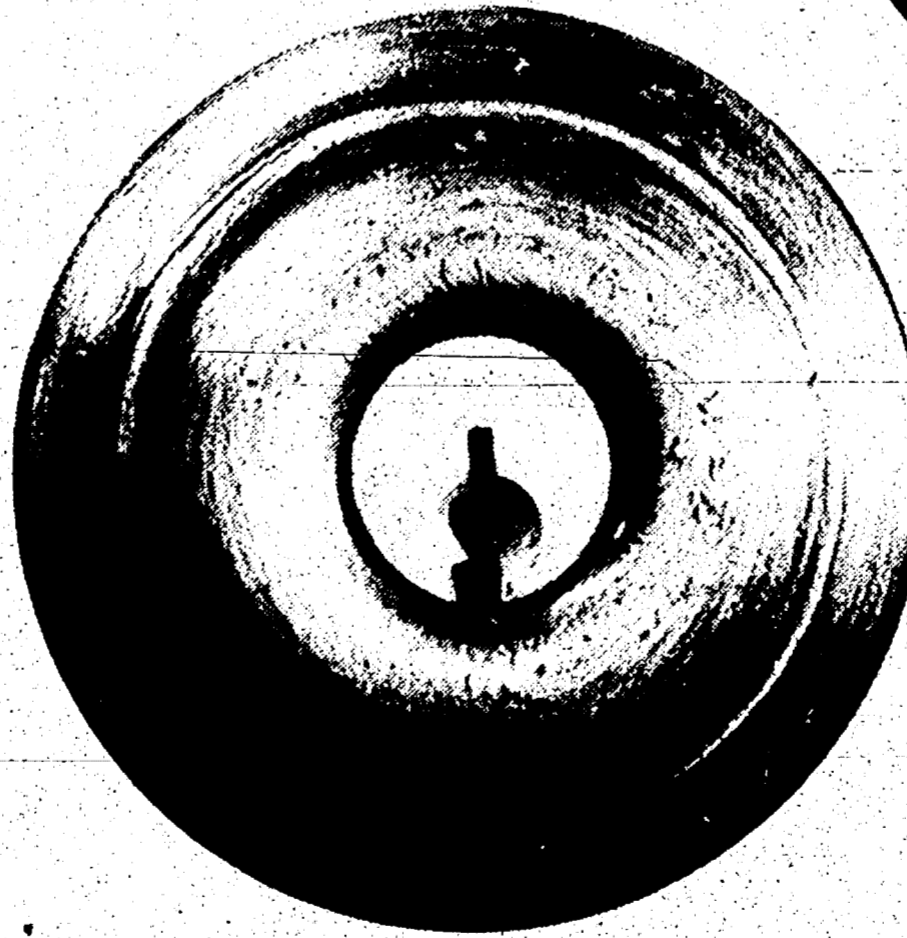
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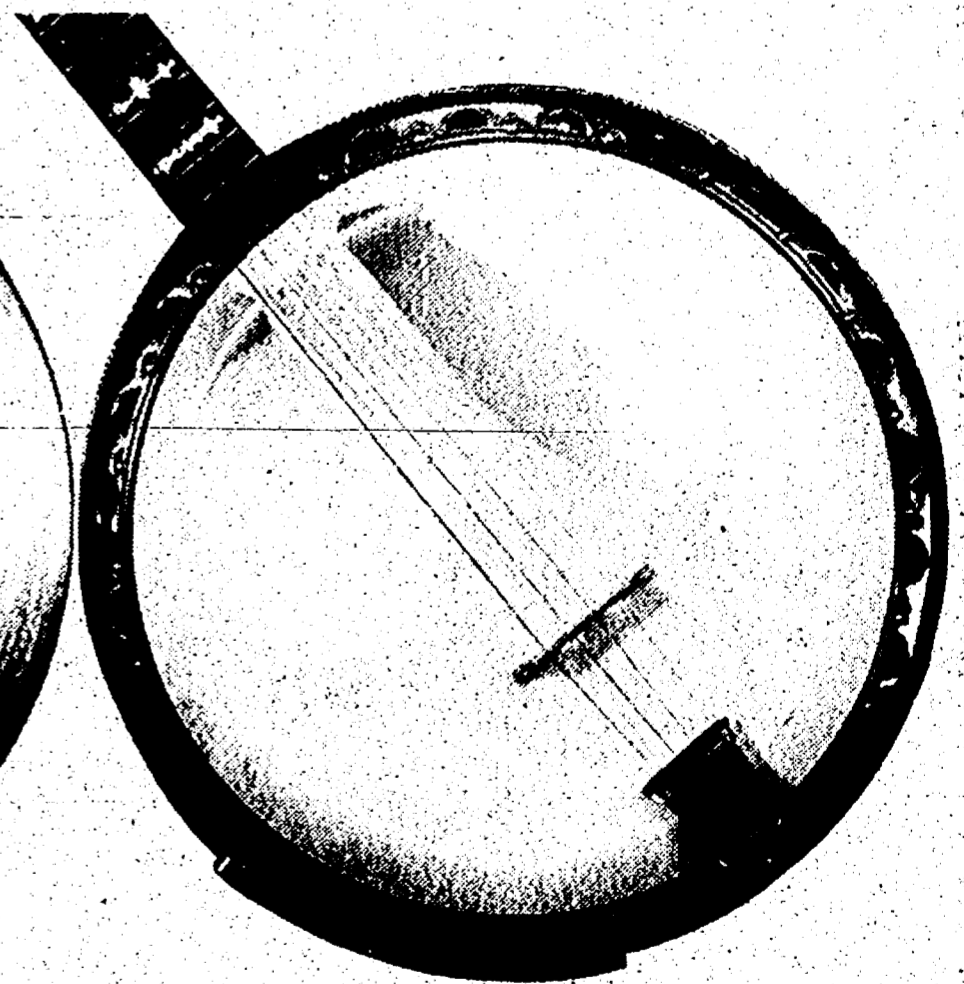
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homes



musical instruments

Observer & Eccentric

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713 Moving Sales
- MOVING SALE: 10-4pm, Fri-Sat
- RLY/HOUGHTON - TVs, lamps, chairs

716 Household Goods
- DINING ROOM Set - Oak pedestal
- DINING ROOM Set - Table, 2 leaves

719 Pools/Spas/Hot Tubs
- HOT SPRINGS Classic 1991, white
- HOT TUB - 5 person, Dimension

745 Hobbies/Coins/Books
- MODEL RAILROAD - HO gauge
- 747 Jewelry
- DIAMOND RING

752 Sporting Goods
- NORDIC TRACK Achiever - 1 1/2 yrs
- POOL TABLES

788 Household Pets-Other
- COCKATELS For New Years
- AUTOMOTIVE RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

812 Campers/Motor Homes/Trailers
- COACHMAN 1993, 31' trailer
- WINNEBAGO 1989 Chateau 31H

822 Trucks For Sale
- FORD 1988 F150, 5 speed, 6 cyl
- FORD 1990 F250 XL 351 auto

A. & T. SALES RESPECTFUL ESTATE AND HOUSEHOLD SALES

714 Clothing
- BRIDES - Winter/Spring, size 10
- DEPT. 56 Santas workshop

721 Bicycles
- IN-SEASON FITNESS SALE
- RECONDITIONED AIRYDYES & BIKES

722 Building Materials
- LEFT OVER womanized deck lumber
- DESK, LEATHER love seat, cabinets

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- HOME AIR purifier - makes clean

780 Animal Services
- ALL BREED puppy & dog Obedience
- FIND IT, IN CLASSIFIED

800 Airplanes
- CLASSIFIED SELLS
- 802 Boats/Motors
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816 Auto/Truck Parts & Service
- TWO FORD F350 HD & motors
- 818 Auto Financing

822 Trucks For Sale
- FORD 1989 Ranger 2.3, 5 speed
- FORD 1993 Ranger XL - Air, 5 speed

ESTATE SALES BY DEBBIE IN HOUSE
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- Auction - Consignments

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- AREAS LARGEST CONSIGNMENT FURNITURE STORE

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- DAVID WHITE Instrument Ltd

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751 Musical Instruments
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- CLASSIFIED SALES ADD UP
- 029 Brick/Block & Cement

031 Building/Remodeling
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044 Carpet Repair/Installation
- AAA CARPET REPAIR & CLEANING
- Expert Inst. & Quality Pav. avail.

070 Electrical
- E & M ELECTRIC
- Licensed & Insured Free Estimates

086 Floor Service
- BRADLEY HARDWOOD FLOORS
- Repairs • Installations • Refinishing

103 Hauling/Clean Up
- CLEAN UP & HAULING SERVICE
- We will come in & clean out all

127 Linoleum/Tile
- METRO FLOOR COVERING
- For carpet, tile, linoleum, Sales &

146 Piano Tuning/Repair/Refinishing
- McCracken Piano Service
- Tuning, Rebuilding & Refinishing

177 Siding
- VINYL & Aluminum Siding, Gutters, trim

031 Building/Remodeling
- ADDITIONS PLUS, INC.
- Beautiful additions, kitchens, baths

041 Carpentry
- BARRY'S CARPENTRY
- Bathing • Basements • Kitchens

048 Chimney Building/Clean/Repair
- Chimneys
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073 Excavating/Backhoe
- EXCAVATING, TRENCHING, sewer,
- water lines, parking lots, septic tanks

082 Financial Planning
- NEED MONEY FAST?
- WE CAN HELP!

104 Heating/Cooling
- AIR CONDITIONING • HEATING
- Sales • Service • Installations

142 Painting/Decorating/Paperhangers
- AA SUNSHINE HOME IMPROVEMENT
- Painting, wallpapering, m/r repairs

147 Plastering
- JOES PLASTER & DRYWALL
- Water damage, ins. work, plastering

194 Tile Work - Ceramic/Marble/Quarry
- AA SERVICES
- Ceramic & Marble Sales & Repair

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100 Gutters
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106 Home Improvement
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108 Housecleaning
- CHORES & MORE Cleaning Service
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162 Remodeling
- KITCHEN • BATHS
- COUNTERTOPS & BASEMENTS

199 Typing
- MAPLE TRANSCRIPTION
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