#### **Merry Christmas!**

Thursday December 25, 1997

VOLUME 33 NUMBER 58

## Westland Observer Putting You In Touch With Your World

WESTLAND, MICHIGAN • 56 PAGES • http://observer-eccentric.com



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SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS





Holiday greetings: Before setting out on his worldwide gift delivery, Jolly Old St. Nicholas took the time to write a letter offering his thoughts and tips for the holiday. **A10** 

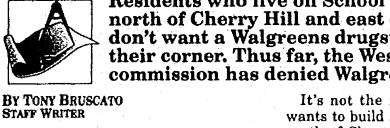
### **COUNTY NEWS**

**Rising trend:** Michigan State Police say air bag theft is on the rise. /A8

### **COMMUNITY LIFE**

It's magic: Interested in visiting dark magical lands? One way is through Magic: The Gathering, a trading card game that has cornered 70 percent of the games market since coming out in 1992./**B1** 

Holiday cheer: The Livonia Woodcarvers have helped bring Christmas to the lobby of the St. Mary Hospital Child Care Center decorating a tree with handcarved, handpainted ornaments. / B7



It's turning out to be a battle between a Westland residential neighborhood and the nation's No. 1 drugstore chain.

Residents who live on School Street, just north of Cherry Hill and east of Wayne Road, don't want a Walgreens drugstore built on their corner.

**Residents who live on School Street, just** north of Cherry Hill and east of Wayne Road, don't want a Walgreens drugstore built on their corner. Thus far, the Westland planning commission has denied Walgreens' request.

> It's not the fact the giant retailer wants to build along Wayne Road, just north of Cherry Hill. It's the idea the development company wants to tear down two adjoining houses, which would put the store right in their neighborhood.

"I like living in this neighborhood," said Virginia Prieur, 62, about her School Street residence. "I like it the

Merrymaking

way it is. If I had thought 18 years ago that I would be living next to a business, I never would have settled here."

Like her neighbors, Prieur doesn't care if a business tears down two old houses on Wayne Road and builds along the major thoroughfare. But the thought of the development company buying two houses along School Street and putting the Walgreens in her neighborhood is upsetting. Especially since the store would abut her property line

"If they build the store with the current plans, I will have a 6-foot wall along the back property line for about 70 feet, and another brick wall alongside my property," said Prieur. "I would hear traffic from a new drive-up prescription window until late at night, garbage and delivery trucks at all hours, and no doubt lighting would be shining in my back yard all night. I already can hear noise from Kmart. and that's about a block away."

#### **Rezoning denial**

Thus far the Westland planning commission has denied Walgreens' request to rezone some of the needed property "because the site plan didn't meet ordinance standards and criteria for rezon-

Please see WALGREENS, A2

#### Dancing at Dorsey: Kyle Hopkins (right) dances with his buddy Steven Heathcote, both 9 years old. while the other kids sing "Jingle Bells" at the Dorsey Center Christmas Party last

## **Chief's** career all in family

#### BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

A third generation firefighter has been selected by the Westland Civil Service Commission to become the city's next fire chief.

Mark Neal will succeed retiring fire Chief Michael Reddy, who is leaving Jan. 16 after  $21\frac{1}{2}$  years with the department.

"I wanted to someday become fire chief, and then it happened ... it's great," said Neal. "It's the culmination of where I wanted to be. It's been a rewarding and gratifying career."

Firefighting is in the blood of the Neal family. Neal's father and grandfather each spent nearly 30 years with the Detroit fire department. And a fourth generation - son Scott - is currently a firefighter in Westland. A career in firefighting nearly didn't happen for Neal. "I was majoring in pre-dental at Eastern Michigan University when my dad started talking to me about firefighting," recalled Neal. "He kept

### AT HOME

**Special surroundings:** Canton residents filled their gardens with color and variety./D6

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

**Band of the Year:** An amalgamation of rockabilly, swing, blues, R&B and rock 'n' roll, the Twistin' Tarantulas play constantly, and the clubs are standing room only./E1

### **REAL ESTATE**

Warm memories: The holidays are a nice time to look back at the wonderful stories from holidays past./F1

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### HOW TO REACH US

Newsroom: 313-953-2104 Newsroom Fax: 313-591-7279 E-mail: newsroom @ oconfine.com Nightline/Sports: 313-953-2104 working to get a handle on it." McCraw, 13, was taken temporarily to an area Reader Comment Line: 313-953-2042 shelter for runaways while the family works with Classified Advertising: 313-591-0900 counselors, Surrett said. He expects her to return to Display Advertising: 313-591-2300 school when the holiday recess ends Jan. 5. Home Delivery: 313-591-0500 The two girls were discovered by the resident man-¥-1





What a doll: Each child got to pick out one gift, like Maryah Lapointe reaching for this Bean Bag Baby



**Refreshments:** Bobby Bean, 13, really enjoyed the pizza and soda pop that were served to the kids. Children enjoyed refreshments, received gifts and sang Christmas carols at the Dorsey Čenter Christmas party for children. Westland police officers also joined in the fun, singing carols with the children.

Please see CHIEF, A2

## City man to face trial in shooting

#### **By VALERIE OLANDER** STAFF WRITER

Two Eastern Michigan University students will stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court for a drive-by shooting Dec. 7 in Canton, seriously injuring a Livonia man.

Testimony at a preliminary exam Monday in 35th District Court in Plymouth claimed Timothy Scott, 26, of Westland, and Edward Bolden, 19, of Detroit, ambushed a Ford F150 truck at the Holiday Estates Mobile Home Park.

Scott is charged with assault with intent to commit murder and Bolden is charged with assault with intent to murder and felony firearm. Scott is suspected of driving the car while Bolden is suspected of opening fire with a 12-gauge shotgun.

Scott's attorney, Wright Blake, said the victims "taunted racial epithets and were drunk."

"To say they played a passive role in this is untrue. They came at him at a high rate of speed . . . (Scott) didn't try

Please see SHOOTING, A2

doll, after changing her mind about a Barbie doll.

## Missing 13-year-old girls found in Westland

#### BY TEDD SCHNEIDER STAFF WRITER

Jennifer McCraw was reunited with her aunt and uncle Sunday evening, two weeks after she apparently ran away from their Canton home with a friend from Central Middle School in Plymouth.

The friend, a 13-year-old Plymouth girl, was turned over to police and released to her mother Sunday night. She will move out of state to live with another relative, according to Plymouth Township Police.

"We couldn't be more pleased they're safe," Rob Surrett, McCraw's uncle, said Monday. "We have no idea (what prompted her disappearance) but we're

ager of Forest Lane Apartments on Wayne Road, south of Warren, in Westland. The Plymouth girl used to live at the complex with her mother, said manager Dale Kendall.

Kendall believes the girls were staying in vacant houses under construction, just east of the complex, and also spending time at an apartment where a teen-aged boy lives. "I went back there (the houses) and saw footprints and other indications that someone was there," he said.

Kendall first spotted the girls Thursday in the

#### on Dec. 8.

The two girls were seen walking along Plymouth Road near the Unisys plant by a Central teacher that afternoon. They were supposed to be in detention for cutting a class but never showed up at the school, according to school officials and Patricia Surrett.

The Surretts said Friday that McCraw hadn't contacted them at all since Dec. 8. The Plymouth girl's mother said she received a brief phone call from her daughter on Dec. 11. She declined to reveal the nature of the conversation.

Classmates and school staff were concerned about parking lot. He recognized the Plymouth girl, he said, the girls' absence and the Surretts hired a private but didn't realize they were runaways. investigator, Jerry Borycz of Statewide Investigation On Friday, he saw a poster with McCraw's picture Service. at an area convenience store. He saw the girls again about 5:30 p.m. Sunday, he Borycz said the family was concerned because there was no real indication of any problems with said, and took them to the office, where he called McCraw. The girls didn't take clothes or money and police and the Surretts. Patricia Surrett, Jennifer's aunt and legal may have decided to leave on the spur of the moment, guardian, first reported her missing to Canton Police he said. 13 ٠,

The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

## Chief from page A1

telling me that firefighting was a great profession, and when - I began looking at it seriously, it became very interesting. I began tak-



ing the tests Mark Neal and finally got hired in

January 1977. I'm proud to follow in my father's footsteps.

"To me, this job has great benefits because you're always helping people," said Neal. "Whether it be medical or fire emergencies, hazardous spills or helping after storms, it's a very gratifying job."

While being gratifying, Neal said the job can be mentally exhausting.

"There are a number of events over the years that I just can't forget," said Neal. "Like the two young girls who were killed at Newburgh and Marquette near John Glenn High School. And, the first fatality that I ever responded to was someone I knew from a previous job. It can weigh on you, but you have to keep going."

Neal has worked with Reddy the past three years and believes he's gained valuable experience.

"I really hate to see him go," said Neal. "Chief Reddy is the greatest manager I have ever seen. He's done so much with the department, bringing us into the future. He was the one who started Advanced Life Support in Westland, which kick-started other communities into doing the same thing."

Neal describes the firefighting business as becoming more diverse in recent years.

"Back in 1963 we handled about a thousand fire runs, and no medical runs," recalled Neal.

"This year, we'll handle more than 7,000 runs, with about 6.000 of them emergency medical runs. Because of that, everyone in the department is now a licensed paramedic."

As for the future, Neal sees the expansion of non-emergency services.

"The fire department is a service organization," Neal said. "We can improve on emergency medical runs, but we need to provide related services in preventative medicine ... like immunizations and flu shots for seniors. We have fire prevention, but nothing in the way of medical prevention."

The fourth generation Neal, son Scott, is proud of his father.

"I'm very excited to be able to work with my dad," said Scott Neal, 27, himself a 5<sup>h</sup>-year veteran of the Westland fire department. "I'm as proud of him as he was for me when I first joined the department. It's a thrill for me to work with him, not only as fire chief, but just as my dad."

The younger Neal may be following in the footsteps of his father, already.

"When I was growing up, I was science-oriented, I wanted to be an engineer," said Scott. "In my third year at Eastern Michigan University my father persuaded me to take the tests to become a fireman. The department called me one day, and I decided to delay school and take the job.

"It's a decision I'll never forget," said Scott, who has just earned his first promotion, to sergeant.

And would he like his dad's job someday? "I would like to climb the ladder as high as I can,' Scott said. "It would be nice to someday make chief, like he has. He'd be a hard act to follow."

Neal will take over as Westland's fire chief during a ceremony to be held Jan. 16, at Reddy's retirement party to be held at the Hellenic Cultural Center.

## Walgreens from page A1

ing," said planner Bruce Thomp son.

Thompson also noted objections from approximately 15 people against the plan, as well as the traffic impact on the neighborhood, and the fact there are already two pharmacies -Checker SavMor Drugs and Kmart - already serving the neighborhood.

"We have to look at how a third drugstore would impact the existing businesses," said Thompson.

That's the same thought of Checker Drugs owner Doug Booker.

"I'm not afraid of competition. but I don't want to be taken advantage of," said Booker. "They've got a lot of money behind them to build and compete.

"With three pharmacies in the area, at least one is sure to have hard times," Booker said. "Why trade one store for another? They should be looking at property in a place that needs a pharmacy. This corner is already too congested."

Steve Murphy is president of Erickson Development in Rockford, Ill., which already has built a Walgreens drugstore in Westland.

"Look at what we did at our location at Middlebelt and Warren," said Murphy. "We cleaned up that neighborhood. We're trying to become a good neighbor."

Murphy hints the drugstore chain is ready to do battle.

#### **Competition planned**

"We're coming in hard and strong," said Murphy. "It's not up to the city to try and control competition. We're seeking the best corner for our demographics, no matter where the compe-



to kill anyone and didn't intend stop, but there is no evidence to 'in the lower back with a 12to hurt anyone," he said.

show he was the passenger at gauge shotgun. The bullet truck shaked," McVeigh testi-

we've already built. Would they

rather have a 24-hour gas sta-

tion or fast food chain which

The next step is for Murphy to

take his case to the zoning board

of appeals to gain a variance in

the plans. If that goes well, the

site plans will be presented to

Meanwhile, residents of School

the city council for its approval.

Street say they will continue to

voice their opposition to a busi-

ness which they believe is

encroaching upon their neigh-

"They asked me earlier what it

would bring more traffic?"

BNJ418

tition is. Residents can see what would take to sell my house," said Prieur. "If a business like Walgreens moves in, who will

right is one of two that will be torn down to accommodate the proposed Watereens.

"This is a quiet neighborhood, I don't know why anyone would want to disrupt it," said Cornell Vartush, 60, who has lived on School Street for 27 years. "Why do we need another drugstore?"

Thrushman, who has lived in the they put a Walgreens there."

want to buy it then?"

neighborhood for nine years. "I like the neighborhood the way it is. We'll have too much traffic if

"I don't want it," said Richard

One person who doesn't mind is homeowner Charles Hanschu,

Too close: Virginia Prieur stands on the west edge of her property and indicates just how close the drugstore will be to her home. Her home is at left, and the home at

> And the second s who has a purchase agreement with Walgreens 1C the project goes through.

"I like this neighborhood," said Hanschu." "They had to do a lot of convincing to get me to move. but they came up with the money."

Murphy tells the Observer his development company is planning four Walgreens stores in Westland.

"We looked into the old Kroger store at Wayne and Ford roads, but it wasn't available." said Murphy. "Our plans include two other Walgreens to be built along Ford Road.'

"I heard a gunshot and the

SYNOPSIS OF MINUTH

A2(W)

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION Livonia Public Schools** 15125 Farmington Road December 1, 1997

\*The following is a summary, in synopsis form, of the Board of Education's regular meeting of December 1, 1997; the full text of the minutes is on file in the Office of the Superintendent, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, and in the principal's office of each school, and is available on request.

President Kokenakes convened the meeting at 7 p.m., in the Board Room, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia. Present: Frank Kokenakes, Daniel Lessard, Joanne Morgan, Patrick Nalley, Dianne Nay, James Watters. Absent: Kenneth Timmons.

Team Effort Award Presented: The Board of Education presented the Team Effort Award to John Covert, Tom Morawa, and Robert Upton in recognition for their work on the Rouge Rescue project. Mr. Covert stated that as many as 200-300 CHS students spend a day helping to clean the river every year.

Audience Communication: Dawn Welling Stark, 27525 Lyndon, and Tom King, 16262 Wayne, addressed the Board regarding Dr. Coller's suspension.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Watters and Lessard that the following consent agenda items<sup>e</sup> be approved as recommended by the superintendent: IV. Minutes & Synopsis of the Regular Meeting of November 17, 1997; VI.A Approval of general fund check nos. 290301 through 291168 in the amount of \$4,239,729.91; Approval of general fund wire transfers in the amount of \$1,567,277.02; VI.B Approval of the low bid of \$56,362 from Red Holman GMC for a 1998 model C7HO42 truck in accordance with the specifications; VI.C Authorized the director of operations to enter into an agreement with CMS Marketing to be its first retail open access electric service provider; VI.D Adopt the following amended budgets for the 1997-98 school year: General Operating, Special Education Debt, Milk and Lunch, Scholarship, Building Technology, Building and Site, Special Maintenance, Capital Projects-Sinking Fund, Athletic, Funded Projects, and Health and Welfare Fund; VI.E Approve the purchase of 44 Chisholm 10/10 Databook LCD panels with video capability and 30 Epson ELP3500 Data/Video projects from Data I Image Systems, Inc. for \$170,476. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Watters. Nays: None.

Presentation-Adams Elementary School Improvement Plan: Principal Sandra Feuerstein, along with presenters Sue Kempf, Casey Conway, Lynn Ross, Pat Downarowicz, John Farkas, DeAnn Urso, Gail Spencer, and Kim Kozan presented the Adams' School Improvement Plan, which included their mission statement, MEAP scores, and core curriculum.

Gift-Cass PTA: Motion by Nalley and Nay that the Board accept the gracious gift of \$3,500 from the Cass Elementary PTA for the purchase of 15 AlphaSmart 2000 keyboards, cases, and other accessories. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Watters. Nays: None.

Gift-Hayes PTA: Motion by Lessard and Watters that the Board accept the gracious gift of \$6,000 from the Hayes PTA for the purchase of books and math manipulatives. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Watters, Nays: None.

Elementary Textbook Purchase: Motion by Nay and Morgan that the Board of Education authorize the purchase of the following textbooks for Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) mathematics, kindergarten through sixth grade: Grades K-4, ACAT Program: Investigations in Number. Data, and Space, 1998, Dale Seymour Publications, Scott Foresman - Addison Wesley for \$6,433; and The Problem Solver, Creative Publications for \$320; Grades 5-6, ACAT Program: Connected Mathematics, Grades 6-8, 1998, Dale Seymour Publications, Scott Foresman - Addison Wesley for \$8,185. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Watters. Nays: None.

Teacher Tenure: Motion by Wattors and Lessard that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the superintendent and grant tenure status to Lea (Gonzalez) Kluk, effective 2/7/98. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Watters, Nays: None.

Resignation: The Board accepted the resignation of Diane Michael-Benz, effective 12/19/97.

Reports from the Superintendent: Dr. Watson read a letter from the Bands of America, Inc. congratulating Principal Michael Fenchel, Franklin High School, for supporting the students of the Livonia Franklin H.S. Marching Band and making a very serious statement about the Importance of music education in our schools; received a letter from the Michigan Reading Association recognizing Harriet Sawyer for accepting a leadership position as president of the Wayne County Reading Council; and received a letter from a parent recognizing Buchanan teacher, Susan Ott, for her ability to see the good in her child; recognized Jay Young, director of Community Services, for his profile in the NETWORK, published by the National School Public Relations Association; highlighted the video of Grandparents Day being celebrated at Randolph, Johnson, and Grant schools; wished Mark Nebus, SHS student, speedy recovery; and sent his condolences to Lou Fax and his family on the loss of his son,

Bolden's attorney, Cyril Pessina, said the evidence is circumstantial. "He may have been pas- remains in Saint Joseph Hospisenger at the time of the traffic tal in Ann Arbor after being shot

the time of the shooting.

## **READER SERVICE LINES**

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B Readers can submit story suggestions, reactions to stories, letters to the editor or make general comments to any member of our news staff through E-Mail via the Internet at the following address: newsroom@oeonline.com.

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Sec. 14

- Order reprints of pictures that have been taken by our stall photographers:
- Provide the publication date, page number, and description of the picture, which must have been published within the past 6 months. • \$20 for the first print, \$7.50 for each additional print paid in advance
- (check or credit card).

pierced the rear passenger com-Tom Esch, 20, of Livonia partment of the truck and went through the front passenger seat, where he was seated.

The 1995 graduate of Franklin High School is expected to fully recover, according to Patrick McVeigh, the driver of the F150. However, Esch is in severe pain due to the bullet searing his liver, he said.

McVeigh, 20, and Esch were going to the home of a girl, whom another friend, Robert Breni, met through an America Online chat room. The suspects are friends of the girl who lived in the trailer park.

McVeigh testified that he and Eschwent to the trailer park after speaking to the girl and her friend several times that day by telephone. They were invited over for a party, he said.

The first time they and two other friends went to the trailer park the girls were not home. The girls later called McVeigh on his cellular phone to tell them they had returned from an EMU party.«Only McVeigh and Esch returned to the trailer park.

McVeigh testified that he saw a black Thunderbird following them inside the complex and they decided to leave, rather shotgun," Baugh testified. than go to the girl's trailer.

tied.

"Tom said he was hit, but at first I didn't believe him because he was so calm about it." 4

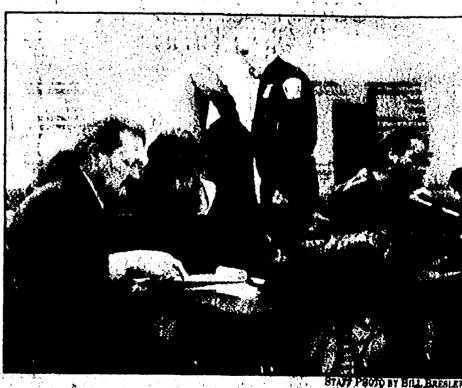
Under cross examination by Blake, McVeigh denied making any contact with the two suspects, nor yelling racial slurs.

Rob Brent testified that someone made a comment on the telephone earlier in the day to the girls questioning "why they were hanging out with black people." He didn't know who made the statement since there were seven or eight people at a house where the calls were made.

Canton Officer Scott Hilden said he spotted the Deeing. Thunderbird on Michigan Avenue, near Lilley. The suspect's car was heading east. The men were apprehended at the I-275 entrance ramp. Hilden said three slugs from a 12-gauge shotgun were found inside the car.

Officer Chad Baugh found the shotgun in two pieces on Michigan Avenue, west of Haggerty.

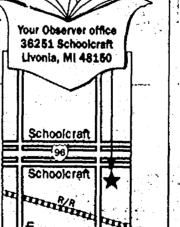
"It looked like if had been thrown from a vehicle. It was on the south side of the road and the barrel was five to seven yards ahead of the stock of the



In court; Attorney Cyril Pessina confers with defendant Edward Bolden. Defendant Tim Scott is at right.



Your Observer office 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150 Schoolcraft Schoolcraft 



Second Reading & Revision of Board Policy AA: Motion by Lessard and Watters that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and adopt new/revised Board policy language for Board Policy: AA - District Organization/District Legal Status, Ayes: Kokenukes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Watters. Nays: None.

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Max .... yearly, \$55.00 <sup>1</sup> As advertising published in the Wijetand Observer is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, oppearol which are avstable from the advertising department. Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Unone, MI (4815021313) 51/2300. The Westland Observer reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer & Eccentric® ad taskers have no surbority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.

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The Observer & Eccentric/THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

## open Friday at 8:00 am after Christmas clearance **Vo** Off on select merchandise









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#### The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

#### GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND WESTLAND YOUR

#### AT THE LIBRARY

#### **BOOK DISCUSSION**

The book discussion group meets 7-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month in the community meeting room of the Public Library of Westland. Join the group by signing up at the Reception Desk. Participants are expected to have read the books and to be prepared to discuss them. Upcoming books for discussion include: Jan. 10 – Caleb Carr, "The Alienist." Feb. 17 - John Dunning, "Booked to Die." March 17, Laurie King, "The Beekeeper's Apprentice." April 21, Michael Connelly, "The Poet."

May 19, Margaret Atwood, "Alias Grace."

#### TRAINING

Training sessions are held 10:30 a.m. each Saturday to train library patrons on the use of the public access catalogs. The computers are the modern-day equivalent of the traditional card catalog. These training sessions take about 15-20 minutes. Library staff will teach the fundamentals regarding use of the public access catalogs and will be available for questions. This training is free and no registration is required.

DECK THE HALLS Deck the halls on Satur-

### CHAMBER **EVENTS**

#### **BOWLING OUTING**

The Westland Chamber will be hosting the Winterfest Bowling Outing from 1-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, as part of Westland Winterfest '98. (313) 326-7222.

#### RECREATION **RECREATION AND FUN**

A recreational get-together for teens and adults who are disabled will be the second Friday of each month at the Westland Bailey Center. (313) 722-7620.

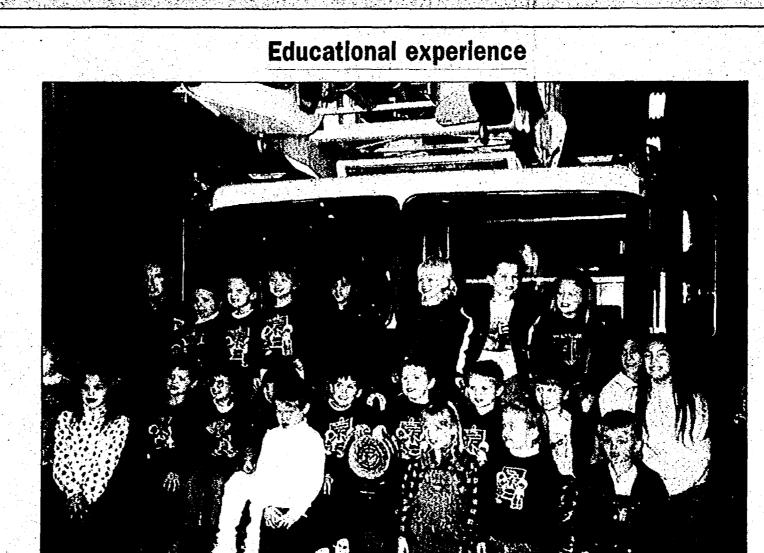
#### FIGURE SKATING

The Westland Figure Skating Club is forming an Adult Introductory Precision Team. The team is for those who want to have fun with other skating adults and get good exercise. Practices are 6-6:50 a.m. Saturdays. All levels are welcome. For information, call (313) 722-1091.

#### VOLLEYBALL

Open volleyball is offered for those age 18 and older 6:30-8 p.m. the second and fourth Friday of each month at the Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy, Westland. All skill levels play just for fun. There is no charge. Baby-sitting is provided. For information, call (313) 722-3660.





Fire station tour: McKinley Cooperative Preschoolers line up in front of a fire engine at a Westland fire station.

## Preschoolers tour fire station

The classes of 4-year-olds from McKinley Cooperative Preschool in Westland recently visited a Westland fire station.

nied by their parents and their where they "live" while they're at

The children were introduced to some of the paramedics and firefighters.

They showed the children where The preschoolers were accompa- the emergency calls come in and

5010.

The children also saw the area where the ambulance and fire engines are kept.

They climbed into the back of an ambulance to look at the medical equipment and they sat in the cab of

the club to sponsor Little League baseball teams, the Salvation Army, School for the Blind. (313) 422-5025 or (313) 729-8681.

#### DEMS' BINGO

The 13th Congressional **District Democratic Party** sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, in the M.J. Hall, 35412 Michigan Ave., next to Farmer Jack, in Wayne. (313) 421-1517.

#### **BINGO AND SNACKS**

The VFW Post 3323, Westland, serves snacks and hosts bingo at 1 p.m. every Sunday in the post hall, 1055 S. Wayne Road at Avondale. Doors open 9 a.m. (313) 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. (313) 728-3020.

#### SMOKELESS BINGO

"Smokeless" bingo meets at, 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday, at Sts. 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 Carolon Condos, etc., are eligible for transportation to bingo if they have a minimum of five players. (313) 722-7632.

days in December. Each Saturday at 2 p.m. will feature a seasonal craft for children that is sure to light up your house with holiday cheer. In the Chil-'dren's Activity Room. No registration required. Dec. 27, New Year calendar.

#### WINTER BREAK SPECIAL

Children ages 4 to 10 are invited to make a collective craft project to keep in the Children's Services area of the library. The program will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29, in the Children's Activity Room. No registration required.

#### FREAKY FRIDAY

Friday, Jan. 2, wackiness will take over the Children's Services Area. If you can find 10 things in the department that seem freaky on that day, you'll get a prize. The event goes on all day Jan. 2 in the 'Children's Services Area.

#### **CREATION STATION**

Get crafty at the Creation Station on the first Saturday of January and February. Designed for ages 4-10 years. At 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3, and Feb. 7, in the Children's Activity Room. No registration required.

#### READ TO YOUR CHILD Feb. 14 is "Read to Your

Child Day." Come to the **Children's Services Area** and read with your child for 10 minutes. For sharing the gift of reading with your child you will both receive a small prize. The event goes on all day in the Children's Services Area.

#### FRIENDS OF LIBRARY

The Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library meet monthly 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway. (313) 326-6123. Meetings last about one hour and are open to the public. The friends also hold a Friends Shop Book Sale during regular library hours at the library.

#### ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Friends will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 13, in the **Community Meeting Room** Election of officers will be held at this meeting. This meeting is open to the public and all are invited to

### SCHOOLS

#### PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools has ongoing registration for the preschool programs at Stottlemyer Early Childhood and Family Development Center, on Marquette between Wayne and Wildwood. Programs include an Early Intervention Program, Head Start, Kids/Plus Preschool, a Pre-Primary Impaired program and Sparkey Preschool. Registration is ongoing from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call (313) 595-2660 for information.

#### **CHURCH PRESCHOOL**

The Westland Free Methodist Preschool has openings for 3- and 4-yearolds 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. (313) 728-3559.

#### **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. (313) 561-4110.

#### CHARTER SCHOOL

The Academy of Detroit-Westland, an entrepreneurial and business charter school, serves kindergarten through seventh grade. The school emphasizes a basic education with business and entrepreneurial skills. The school offers a foreign language class, music and art. a dress code and a computer lab with Internet. Call (313) 722-1465 or (248) 569-7787.

#### LITTLE LAMBS

Little Lambs Preschool, on Farmington Road in Livonia, has openings in the Monday-Wednesday-Friday afternoon session for 3- to 5-year-olds. For information, call (248) 471-2077.

#### FRANKLIN PTSA

The Franklin High PTSA is seeking new members. Membership is open to

#### teacher, Carol Miles.

required to have a student in the school. Price is \$3 for students, \$5 for adults. Checks should be made payable to Franklin PTSA and sent to 31000 Joy, Livonia 48150. **TUTORIAL PROGRAM** 

A free tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy, Westland. The program is for students in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. It will meet 3:30-6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. For information on participating or volunteering, call Shabaura Cobb, (313) 722-3660.

#### **HISTORY ON** VIEW

WESTLAND MUSEUM The Westland Historical Museum is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays at 857 N. Wayne Road, between Marquette and Cherry Hill. (313) 326-

#### FRIENDS MEET

1110.

Friends of the Westland Historical Museum meet 7 p.m. on the second Tuesdays of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Westland Meeting House, 37091 Marquette between Newburgh and Wayne roads. Information, president Jim Franklin, (313) 721-0136. Everyone is welcome.



## **FOR SENIORS**

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the	fire	station.

#### **GRANDMA'S ATTIC SALE**

Grandma's Attic Sale will be at the Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 Newburgh Road, Westland, daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also included in this sale are hundreds of ceramic molds and hundreds of pieces of greenware and a kiln. For information, call 722-7632.

#### **TRAVEL GROUP**

The Travel Group meets 12:45 p.m. every Friday in the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, unless a trip or program is planned. Programs include speakers, films, celebration of birthdays and weekly door prizes. There is a \$3 membership fee for residents, \$12.50 for non-residents. (313) 722-7632.

#### CARD GROUP

The Friday Variety Card Group at the Westland Friendship Center meets at 2 p.m. Players enjoy euchre, pinochle, bridge, Uno, rummy and poker. Light refreshments are served. Call (313) 722-7632 for information or just show up to play cards. The Friendship Center is at 1119 N. Newburgh Road.

DYER CLUB The Dyer Seniors' Center Travel Club meets the first and third Thursdays of each month in the center, on Marquette between Wayne Road and Newburgh.

#### MONTHLY MEAL

The Wayne Ford Civic League schedules its senior meal 11:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### C A L E N D A R FOR M .

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. 48150, or by fax to 313-591-7279. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 953-2104 if you have any questions.

#### on the first Sunday of each School District's Dyer 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 nonmembers. The meal includes beer, beverages, dancing to Big Band music, and door prizes. (313) 728-DANCE FUN Westland Shopping Center

hosts a senior citizen dance 11 a.m. the first Monday of each month in the lower level auditorium, Wayne and Warren roads. Coffee and refreshments will be served at 12:30 p.m. The dance will end 2 p.m. The call (313) 722-7632. dance is held on the first Monday, with the exception of holidays.

#### SENIOR DANCE

Senior dances will be noon to 4 p.m. the first Sunday of every month at the Wayne Ford Civic League, 1651 N. Wayne Road, Westland. There will be dinner, a live band, beer and pop. Members \$5, nonmembers \$7. (313) 728-5010.

#### WORK REFERRAL

Information Center Inc. refers workers to seniors who need help. The program is for people interested in providing transportation, yardwork, housework, etc. Workers can specify the type of work they are willing to do and the communities they want to serve. Chore Worker Program, (313) 422-1052. **DYER CENTER** The Wayne-Westland

#### Event: Date and Time:

Location:

#### Telephone:

Additional Info.:

## the fire engine.

Senior Adult Center has activities Monday-Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts, crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, Kitchen Band, 10 a.m.; bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.; a Hawaiian dance exercise class will be held at 1 p.m. every Wednesday in the Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 Newburgh, Hall A. Instructor is Kammo Oris. Sign up at the front desk or

#### VOLUNTEERS BOY SCOUTS

A few good young men ages 11-18 are needed to work with Boy Scout Troop No. 865 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesdays at Hamilton Elementary School, corner of Avondale and Schuman in Westland. Monthly campouts will be featured. For information, call (313) 729-1283.

#### PET-A-PET

The Pet-A-Pet Club, which offers pet visits to nursing home residents, needs special pets and people. Pets undergo a slight screening and need proof of shots to participate. Local sites include Camelot Hall Convalescent Center (Debbie McDermott, 427-3791, 10 a.m. the second Saturday of the month), Garden City Rehab (Stacy Suida, (313) 422-2438, second Thursday of the month at 3 p.m.) and Roosevelt-McGrath School (Lynn Eichbrecht, (313) 591-3347, the last Wednesday of the month). Information is available from Ruth Curry, (313) 535-0410, or

Daisy Doran, (313) 565-1981. There is a \$5 membership charge.

## **BINGO**

#### DEMS' BINGO

The Metro Wayne Democratic Club sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at the Joy Manor

#### 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. Call the **Jaycee Information Hotline** at (313) 480-4984.

#### PUP TENT BINGO

The MOC pup tent 18 bingo will be held 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the VFW Post Hall, 1055 S. Wayne, Westland. A snack bar is available. Doors open at 2 p.m. (313) 326-3323.

### **CLUBS IN ACTION**

#### **VFW AUXILIARY**

Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Ladies Auxiliary Grand River Post 1519, is open. Relationship to a veteran of combat on foreign soil will insure eligibility. Make reservations by calling membership recruiter Dolores M. Griffin, (313) 427-2791. Meetings are the first Thursday. of each month at 27555 Grantland, Livonia. Current Post 1519 Ladies Auxiliary members include individuals from Westland, Livonia, Redford, Detroit and surrounding areas.

#### **WEEKENDERS**

The Weekenders family campers meet the second Wednesday of the month in Franklin High School, on Joy east of Merriman. (313) 531-2993.

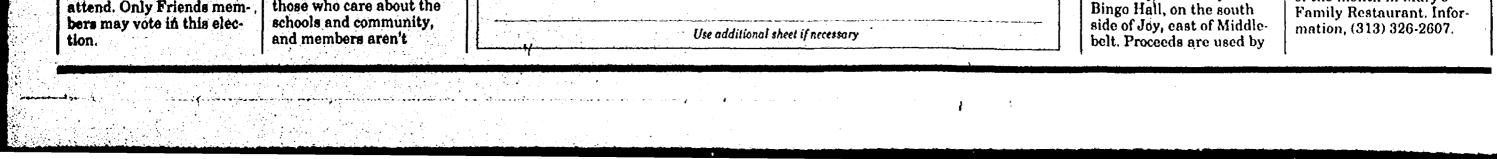
#### FREE CLASSES

The Showman's Dog Training Organization sponsors free junior showmanship classes for dog owners ages 7-17 at the AMVETS Hall on Merriman near Avondale at 8:30 p.m. the first and second Tuesdays of each month through September. Call (313) 729-7580.

#### HOST LIONS

The Westland Host Lions Club meets 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of the month in Mary's





## Knollenberg rips global warming agreement

#### BY TIM RICHARD STAFF WRITER

'In a word – yes or no – should the U.S. Senate ratify the global warming agreement?

"I need two words: hell no," replied U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg, R-Bloomfield Township, who spent a week in Kyoto, Japan, observing the negotiations.

The third-term congressman from the 11th District which includes Redford and part of Livonia gave the usual reasons of harm to American industry, but he had some close-up comments about the United Nationssponsored conference itself.

"I have never been in the gunsights of so many countries. The deck was stacked against us. And it was a long time ago.

"The Green Movement (antiindustry environmentalists) was in charge. The U.S. was dead before we got to Kyoto.

"We heard, 'The U.S. has an obligation' (from the Danes and Dutch) and 'America has a burden to pick up and carry the rest of the world.'

"It exempts 80 percent of the world's (developing) nations"

like China, India and Mexico. "It gives them a license to pollute at will. Multi-national corporations would go there – and also get cheaper labor."

But it was the European Union, rather than Asia, that was trying hardest to stick the U.S. with the job of scaling back emissions to 1990 levels, Knollenberg said in an interview this week in his Farmington Hills district office.

He said Time magazine was correct in reporting that the EU will have the easiest time meeting emissions targets. Reason: "The collapse of East Germany in 1990 forced many inefficient, pollution-belching factories and power plants out of business, cutting Europe's emissions as a side benefit."

Great Britain's job is easier because Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher broke the coal miners' union in 1985, and the nation switched to natural gas.

France will have little trouble because it's reliant on nuclear energy – and Knollenberg thinks that's the way to go, even though nuclear power plants and research have been halted here.



"The president won't send it (the treaty) to the Senate," Knollenberg predicted. "He'll use the regulatory process, the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)."

What about Vice President Al Gore's speech in Kyoto favoring of a global warming treaty?

Gore made a speech, got back on Air Force 2 and left. He would say he jump-started the reaction. There was actually a mixed reaction to Gore.

"There was heavy, heavy

■ 'If you believe in global warming, this treaty won't get you there. It won't clean the environment, and it will be devastating to the American worker because the cost of energy will rise.'

> Joe Knollenberg —congressman

press. I went to a press conference the second day. The press was enviro-laden," he said, quoting a question about alleged strong poll support for an energy tax in the U.S. "Not in my district," Knollenberg said.

Participants took it for a fact, engraved in granite, that the world is being dangerously warmed by energy emissions. "No one questioned it. It's a fact (to them).

"But the debate (in the U.S.) will center on the science. The Big Three (auto makers) and the utilities can't be all wrong. The AFL-CIO is connected to my view."

He cited University of Michigan research – still incomplete – on pumping carbon dioxide, the chief emission, into a tented area. "We know carbon dioxide helps trees. There are more trees in the country than at the time of the Pilgrims.

"Some scientists are saying, 'Let's study this before we jump off the cliff.'

"If you believe in global warming, this treaty won't get you there," Knollenberg went on. "It won't clean the environment, and it will be devastating to the American worker because the cost of energy will rise."

Knollenberg and 13 other U.S. representatives were appointed by Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga. Knollenberg is a ranking member of the House Appropriations subcommittee on energy and water.

That panel oversees the Department of Energy, nuclear weapons and reactors, nuclear wastes, the Army Corps of Engineers, energy research and development, the Tennessee Valley Authority (now zeroed out of the budget), and the Appalachian Regional Commission.

The feeling is bipartisan. "John Dingell (D-Trenton, and dean of the Michigan congressional delegation) and I see eye to eye. Dingell was there," Knollenberg said.

Next-door congressman Sander Levin, a Democrat, already is battling EPA air quality standards, saying, "In my view, EPA's new standards would have a negative impact on the nation's economy and the economic well-being of southeastern Michigan."

The Kyoto Protocol, as it's known:

■ Was agreed to by 150 nations Dec. 11.

■ Requires the U.S. to cut emission of greenhouse gases to 7 percent below 1990 levels; the EU must cut emissions by 8 percent and Japan by 6 percent; 35 other countries also have quotas.

Allows industrialized nations to trade "emissions quotas" among themselves.

Asks but doesn't require developing nations to cut emissions.

The Wright

*County lease* car proposal starts friday: all stores open 9 am! on hold for now BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER lloon Wayne County commissioners red will not lease or purchase county vehicles, at least not for the time being. Commissioner Bernard Parker, D-Detroit, had introduced an after-christmas ordinance that would delete a section in an ordinance that prohibits county elected officials from purchasing, leasing or operating a county vehicle to complete his or her duties. Commissioners referred the

Commissioners referred the item Thursday to the Committee

on Roads, Airports and Public Services, which is expected to study the proposal in January.

Parker's resolution would change an ordinance introduced by Commissioner Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, and approved by commissioners in October 1993 that prohibited the use of county-owned vehicles by elected officials. The ordinance itself regulated the purchase, lease and operation of county vehicles.

Parker believes his ordinance will save the county money through car leases.

"Right now the commissioners obtain up to \$350 per month for mileage," Parker said last week. "I think it would be cheaper for us to lease the vehicles at \$300 a month."

McCotter expects costs to lease vehicles may fall between \$300 and \$350 a month per commissioner. While the money may be already budgeted for commissioners, it is general fund money and taxpayers' money, McCotter said.

"It's greed and it's wrong," McCotter said.

Patterson said he would even ask County Executive Ed McNamara to veto it, if the item was ever approved by the commission. Even though Patterson has the largest district in square miles of any commissioner, he said he would not use a lease vehicle funded by taxpayers.

Patterson said he only requests and receives reimbursement for miles in his district that he drives to Sumpter or Huron townships, and not for driving within Canton or to commission meetings.

Patterson believes the commissioners who earlier expressed interest in changing the ordinance, now are backpedaling.

"You can see them trying to get it back in committee," Patterson said. "You heard (Commissioner Robert) Blackwell say that he didn't introduce it." (Blackwell had responded earlier that day to a published report incorrectly indicating he introduced the ordinance.)

Vice Chair Kay Beard, D-Westland, said she isn't opposed to some county employees using cars if their duties require them to have transportation, but she 'doesn't believe the county commissioners should use them.

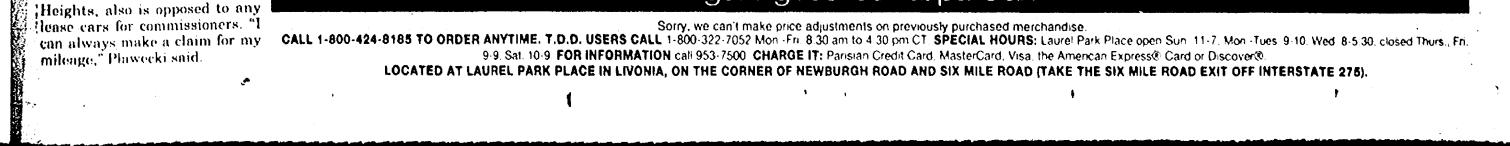
"I don't think the commissioners need (county) cars."

Commissioner Edward Plawecki Sr., D-Dearborn take an Contractor Contractor

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The Observer & Eccentric/THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

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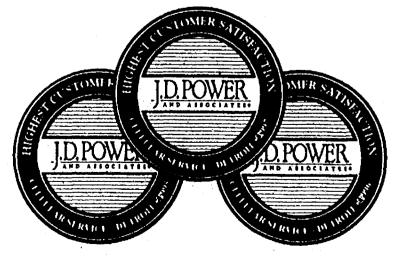
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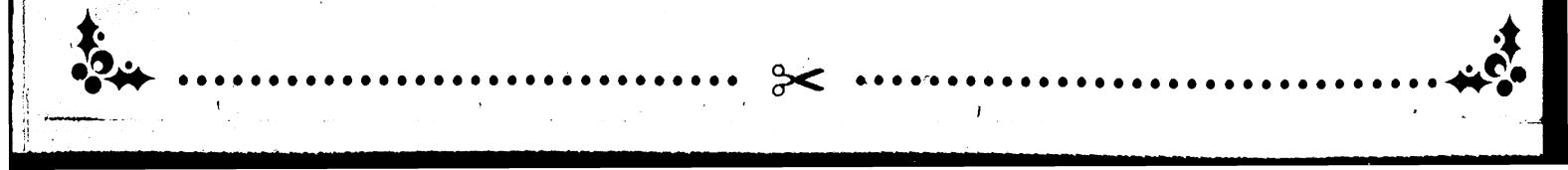
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(A7-ReWGc)\*A9

Area light shows sure to brighten holiday weeks

Looking for a little inexpensive holiday family fun?

Check out the holiday light displays along Hines Drive, at the Detroit Zoo and at Domino's Farms in Ann Arbor while there's still time.

Billed as the country's largest drive-through light show, Wayne County's LightFest runs through Thursday, Jan. 1, along Hines Drive, between Merriman and Warren roads.

The display features overhead bridge displays, deer "leaping" over cars on Hines Drive, and a four-story poinsettia wreath with candles, said Kathy Lewand, administrative assistant for Wayne County parks.

For \$5 per car, motorists can enjoy a mix of new and old displays, featuring more than 800,000 lights on more than 35 displays. About 7,000 vehicles visited the LightFest this past weekend, Lewand said. She didn't have an total number for the entire event.

"Attendance is good," Lewand said. "It started out slow and we were concerned. But it has picked up considerably and we're pleased with the turnout. It's something people enjoy."

This year Wayne County has two new wetlands-themed exhibits, in conjunction with the newly opened Crosswinds Marsh in Sumpter Township, including a giant heron and animated frogs leaping from lily pad to lily pad.

Much of the money for new displays was donated by Friends of Wayne County Parks, with others sponsored by companies like Blue Care Network, NBD Bank and AAA Michigan.

Can a federal court nullify an Act of Congress by finding it to be unconstitutional even though it was passed overwhelmingly?

Can the President send troops

Powers from 10 a.m. to noon sor at the Wayne State Universi-Saturday, Jan. 10. The educational forum will take place at issue. After the panel discussion, Wayne County Regional Educa- the audience can participate in tional Services Agency, 33500 the discussion with questions

This is the fifth year of the

event, which started with rough-

ly 25 light displays. The number

has grown by approximately two

a year, and includes displays

depicting the Nativity,

For additional information,

Heading east on I-696, you can

still stop and take a walk on the

wild side, by enjoying the fourth

*Rivers to host legislative forum* 

Hanukkah, and Kwanza.

call (313) 261-1990.

Zoo lights

lights. Be sure to dress warmly as the half-mile walk usually takes about 45 minutes. Wild Lights visitors will also be able to visit the new Edward Mardigian Sr. River Otter exhib-

it and the reptile house. There will also be singing groups and costume characters

annual Wild Lights celebration to entertain each night, as well at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak, as a hospitality tent with refreshments. featuring more than 50 animated animal displays with 350,000

Wild Lights at the Detroit Zoo illuminates through Sunday, Jan. 4, except on Christmas Eve, Christmas, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. The lights will be on Monday through Thursday and Sunday from 5:30-8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, the display will be on until 9 p.m.

Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children 2-12. Children under the age of 2 are admitted free.

**Proceeds** from Wild Lights goes to the Detroit Zoological Society to help fund educational programs and for exhibit renovations.

In 1994, Wild Lights attracted 25,000 people. This year, zoo officials are expecting nearly 60,000 people through the turn-

The Christmas Light Display at Domino's Farms in Ann Arbor has attracted more than a million people and raised nearly \$500,000 for charity over the past five years.

Last year 70 charities shared more than \$70,000, said Ashley Moran, director of the non-profit group Spirit of Christmas, which sponsors the event.

Domino's Farms has over one million lights this year and added six new displays, some with animation and more than 30 light displays, said Moran.

The holiday event costs \$5 per car Monday through Thursday, and \$7 on the weekend. Buses are asked to pay \$50. All the proceeds will benefit children and charities around metro Detroit.

Last year the event had 42,000 cars drive through, with 80,000

include a drive around the pet-

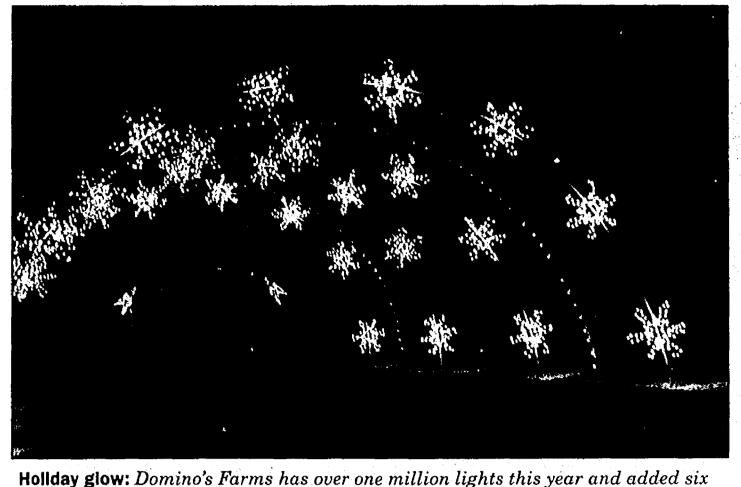
Moran says inside visitors will see 20, 14-foot designer-decorated trees, a "Christmas Around the World" creche exhibit, a miniature electric train, ornament-making for children, and a gingerbread house gift shop.

The focus of our exhibit is children, because Christmas is for kids, said Moran. Organizers are looking to broaden the event's appeal to make it an area event, not just an Ann Arbor experience.

The Christmas Light Display at Domino's Farms runs through Wednesday, Dec. 31, with the displays aglow from 6-10 p.m.

Take U.S. 23 to Exit 41, then a

new displays, some with animation and more than 30 light displays



At the zoo: Wild Lights at the Detroit Zoo illuminates

through Sunday, Jan. 4, except on Christmas Eve, Christmas, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

> ting farm, added Moran. Visitors will drive through most of the light display before entering the building for indoor attractions.

overseas without the permission of Congress?

Can an administrative agency enforce rules which were not voted on by Congress?

For the answers to these questions and more, please join U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D-13th District, for a discussion she is sponsoring on the Separation of

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K PIPELNED CACHE MOTHERBOARD

ANYTHA D&G HEATING & COOLING Van Born, in Wayne.

**Rivers** has invited Roderick Hill, a professor at the University of Michigan Law School, forinvited to attend. mer Congressman William Brodhead and Robert Sedler, profes-

and comments. Western Wayne County residents of the 13th District are

ty Law School to discuss the

stiles. For more information on Wild Lights, call (248) 541-5835.

**Domino's Farms** 

people visiting the indoor dis- half-mile east. Follow the signs play. This year it is expected to draw 50,000 cars and 100,000 Road, north of Plymouth Road. people.

to Domino's Farms on Earhart

The route was expanded to

SATURN of ANN ARBOR Off Jackson, between Hagner & Zeeb 734-769-3991

SATURN of FARMINGTON HILLS Haggerty, north of Grand River 248-473-7220

SATURN of LAKESIDE Hall Road & Romeo Plank 810-286-0200

SATURN NORTH I-75 & Dixie Highway (Exit 93) 248-620-8800

SITURN of PLYMOUTH 1-275 & Inn Arbor Road 734-453-7890

SITURN of SOUTHFIELD Telegraph, north of 1 2 Mile 248-354-6001

SITURN of SOUTING ITE 16600 Fort Street 313-246-3300

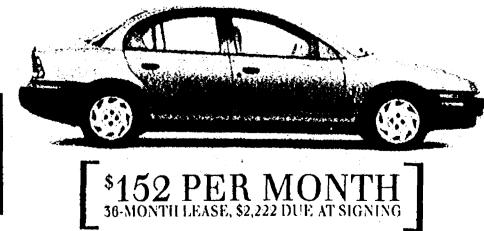
> SITURN of TROY In the Troy Motor Mall 248-643-4350

SATURN of DARREN 13-1/2 Mile & Jan Dyke \$10-979-2000

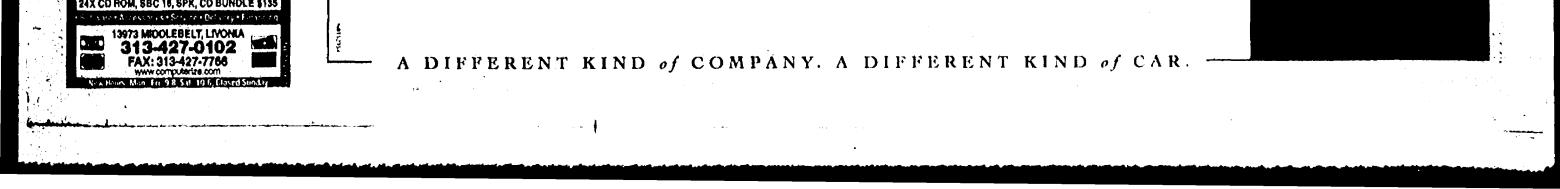
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(A8-ReWGc)\*A7

The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

## Madonna offers summer program for '98 grads

Beginning in June, 15 to 20 high school graduates, who received their diploma during the 1997-98 school year and are eligible for financial aid at the college level, will have an early opportunity to complete six college credit hours at Madonna University in Livonia.

Tuition and registration fees for these courses will be provided through privately funded grants for those in need of financial assistance.

The 1997-98 high school graduates must be student. applicants interested in attending Madonna University in the 1998 fall term and demonstrate an economic need. All participants must be admitted to Madonna University prior to acceptance to the Summer Start Program.

"We are proud to offer economically disadvantaged students a jump start on their education. This is Madonna University's second year providing this program," said Sister Nancy Marie Jamroz, Madonna University vice president for student life.

"It is a great opportunity for these students as they will participate in learning seminars as well as develop a learning community with other first-

year college students."

Classes will be held three days a week from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Students will attend two classes, English 101 and Computer Science 208. The courses will incorporate writing and math/computer skills to assist future academic success.

Students can get a "head start" on what college professors expect and can meet other first-year students.

Lunch will be included with the program and one lunch period each week will be designated "Lunch and Learn Session" which will cover such topics as time management, self integrity and study skills. Lunch costs are being funded through contributions, as well.

"The purpose of this program is to help students feel comfortable in a college setting and to acclimate them to the campus scene during the summer months," said Sr. Nancy Jamroz.

For more information, students may contact their high school counseling office, or call Madonna University's Office of Multicultural Affairs at (734) 432-5541 or Admissions Office (734) 432-5339.

Madonna University awards associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees.

## Madonna sets March 2 deadline for scholarships

Madonna University in Livonia is accepting scholarship applications through Monday, hearing impaired students; March 2, from admitted stu- Livonia Jaycees Scholarship, dents for the 1998-99 academic awarded to junior or senior stuyear.

African heritage; Lions/Lioness Club Scholarship, awarded to dents; and the Joyce and Don Massey Scholarship

## Air bag thefts on the rise: state police

'Street thieves can quickly steal an air bag, easi-

ly conceal it and turn it into instant cash as long

as there are people out there willing to pay and

For 10 minutes of work, \$150 is good money.

That's what Lt. Bill Darnell of the Michigan State Police western Wayne County Auto Theft Unit, referring to air bag theft ---a crime law enforcement and insurance industry officials say is becoming one of the most costly and widespread trends in auto-related crime.

Darnell, who was part of the investigative team that confiscated over 1,000 suspected stolen air bags estimated at a street value of more than \$1 million from a Detroit area used auto parts dealer, attributing the increase to convenience and a ready market.

"They only weigh about three pounds," said Darnell. "Street thieves can quickly steal an air bag, easily conceal it and turn it into instant cash as long as there are people out there willing to pay and not ask questions.'

And, according to Darnell, that's what's happening.

"They act as a kind of pawn

shop, purchasing air bags from anyone off the street for \$150 to \$200 and then reselling them for \$400 to \$500 to distributors, who then resell them to auto body and automotive repair shops for

not ask questions.'

\$600 to \$700," Darnell said. William Liddane, director of Help Eliminate Auto Thefts, said this activity makes virtually every car a potential target: HEAT is a statewide auto theft prevention program that operates a confidential toll-free tip reward line (1-800-242-HEAT) for reporting auto theft related crimes.

"Citizens need to be vigilant even when they think their cars are not the type thieves are interested in, because behind

every steering wheel with an air bag is a \$100 to \$200 enticement for some thief."

Lt. Bill Darnell

-Michigan State Police

Jerry Hinton, manager of claims investigation for AAA of Michigan agrees. "So-called reputable auto and auto body repair shops are buying used air bags which in many cases are stolen and then billing insurance companies for new replacements."

Motorists not only face higher insurance premiums, but the question of whether the used air bags will be safe. "Are these used air bags the correct replacement per manufacturers' specifications and will they perform properly once installed?" Hinton asked.

Citizens must practice basic

anti-theft precautions, Liddane recommends. "Always remove keys and lock doors. Park in well-lighted areas. Avoid parking near Dumpsters or large vans or trucks and other obstacles that decrease visibility and provide cover for thieves."

The HEAT tip line is a powerful tool to help law enforcement. HEAT rewards tip line callers up to \$1,000 if their tip leads to the arrest and binding over for trial of a suspected car thief; up to \$10,000 if the tip results in the arrest and binding over for trial of suspected theft ring members and/or chop shop operators. HEAT also rewards \$2,000 for information leading to the issuance of a warrant for a carjacking suspect.

Since its inception in 1985. HEAT has recovered 2,390 vehicles valued at \$27 million. During that period, the HEAT tip line has received 5.263 calls leading to the arrest of 1.978 suspects. HEAT has awarded \$1.7 million to tip callers since 1985.

## Patterson seeks check on commission travel

#### BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER

At least one Wayne County commissioner wants travel and trade missions defined and "clear objectives" outlined for commissioners.

Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, introduced an ordinance Thursday that calls for a plan to outline objectives of commissioner's trips before the commission approves any travel or trade missions. He also wants an oversight system created, and transactions covered.

"I'm just trying to put a procedure and a plan in place to make us more accountable," said Bruce Patterson, R-Canton. "It's what they do in private business. They need to cost-justify

this process."

"There seems to be an attitude among some commissioners that once they get an office allocation, it's their money and not the taxpayers," Patterson said.

Patterson wants an audit completed of travel accounts, expenditures and documentation to be reviewed by the commission's Ways and Means Committee.

The resolution was referred

Thursday to the General Government and Ways and Means committees. It is expected to be discussed in January.

Patterson also introduced a resolution calling for the commission to oppose the Kyoto Protocol because adoption of it would be what Patterson called "catastrophic" to Wayne County and the state of Michigan due to

emission standards that would increase regulatory and operational costs of manufacturing plants and industry.

That resolution was referred to the commission's Committee on Environment, Sewers and Drains for study.



Scholarship applications may be obtained at the University Financial Aid Office or by calling (313) 432-5663

ships available for the 1998-99 vear 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 Anderson/Frank Hayden Scholarship, awarded to African students or American students of



**Appeals court on FOIA** Judicial panel says revealing gun ownership doesn't invade privacy

#### BY TIM RICHARD STAFF WRITER

The state Court of Appeals has ordered Michigan State Police to lift the veil of secrecy from pistol records for Redford resident Fred Mager.

The court scoffed at the State Police's claim that opening records under the Freedom of Information Act would be an "unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

"We conclude that the ownership of a gun does not reveal intimate or embarrassing details of an individual's private life," the panel said in a 3-0 decision Dec. 15.

"Defendants (State Police and FOIA officer John McCarthy) do not point to - and we are unaware of - any customs, mores, or ordinary views of the community that would lead to the conclusion that gun ownership is an intimate or embarrassing detail of an individual's private life.

It concluded: "We reverse the trial court's grant of summary disposition in favor of defendants and remand for the trial court (Ingham Circuit Judge Peter Houk) to enter summary disposition in favor of plaintiff (Mager) with respect to the information sought."

It was signed by Judges Michael J. Kelly, Maureen Pulte Reilly and Kathleen Jansen.

#### Will state appeal?

: The state has 21 days to appeal to the Supreme Court. The odds are against the state, however, because: 1) The Court of Appeals opinion was unanimous; 2) the Supreme Coust already has ruled on what constitutes an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; and 3)

pistol. A copy is sent to State Police headquarters for a central file.

Prior to Nov. 1, 1995, the forms were kept on index cards. Since then, they have been stored in a computer. Mager insisted it is a simple matter to run a copy of the computer tape.

Mager supports a bill by Rep. Alan Cropsey, R-DeWitt, to eliminate the 83 county gun boards' discretion in issuing permits to carry concealed weapons (CCWs, in police jargon). "I want to expose the records of the representatives and senators that don't support the Cropsey bill;" Mager said.

He said gun owners can take some credit for the 1996 defeats of Reps. Jim Ryan, R-Redford, and Eric Bush, R-Battle Creek defeats that helped Democrats regain control of the Michigan House.

Also on his bad list is Rep. Frank Fitzgerald, R-Grand Ledge, who has announced he's seeking the GOP nomination for attorney general.

#### 'Politics involved'

"I'm not a hunter," Mager said. "I carried a rifle in 1967 in the boonies (Vietnam). I'm a certified instructor and a political action force."

For eight years Mager has delivered for Bob's Pizza in Detroit, a job that "pays well" but exposes him to some danger. He wounded one man who tried to rob him. The man was facing a court appearance the following Monday morning on armed robbery charges.

Mager is a member of Brass Roots, Michigan Gun Owners and the Council of Responsible Gun Owners. "I undertook this on my own," he said, without

obtained some of the records by filing FOIA requests with county clerks. "About one-third complied," he said.

Complying were Macomb, Kent and Washtenaw counties. He said Livingston, Isabella

and Midland counties refused. Wayne and Oakland counties

sent him lists of names (11,000 from Oakland alone) but blacked out the addresses, making the records useless for his purpose.

#### School precedent

One reason Michigan State Police cited in refusing his FOIA request was that the list would contain three million names. Mager said that in Florida, a larger state, the total list was 259,000 names.

He said he sent the Indiana State Police a check and got the same kind of list promptly in the mail.

Mager started his suit early in 1996. But his case got a major boost last July when the Michigan Supreme Court defined privacy under FOIA. The high court said, "Information is of a personal nature if it reveals intimate or embarrassing details of an individual's private life."

The Supreme Court decision cited in Monday's Court of Appeals decision – came in the cases of Bradley vs. Saranac Board of Education and Lansing Area School Administrators vs. Lansing School District.

In those combined cases. teacher Christine Bradley and the Lansing principals sought to block release to parents of their personnel records, especially disciplinary records. The high court ruled the records were public large." property and couldn't be exempted from a FOIA request.

Mager's attorney is Daniel G. allows a union to obtain names

records, motor vehicle ownership, driver's licenses, private security guards, civil service supervisory and managerial personnel, registered voters, dog owners and campaign contributions

Courts have even held that the city of Pontiac had to reveal the identity of Silverdome stadium boxholders, Bambery noted.

#### For 'criminal mind'

Defending MSP, assistant attorney general Thomas Quasarano said records of law enforcement personnel's names and addresses are exempt under FOIA; that many police officers obtain CCW permits; but that the records don't segregate names of police from others.

Quasarano said uncovering the identities of permit holders would reveal "the places and locations of firearms," handguns owned and possessed by private homeowners, gun collectors, antique gun collectors, private detectives and security guards, jewelry dealers and businesspersons generally, gun dealer inventories, gun and hunting club members, prosecuting attorneys and law enforcement officers who register their pistols as a safeguard in the event of theft, and others."

Opening the records, he said, would open "a Pandora's box by creating a virtual shopping list for anyone bent on the theft of firearms. . . and whatever else the criminal mind might evoke."

In contrast, he said, revealing holders of hunting and fishing licenses "does not open the doors of one's home to the public at

The Court of Appeals disagreed, noting that case law Bambery of DeWitt, Fighting the and addresses of security "privacy" argument, Bambery's guards, and a newspaper to brief said the state routinely obtain "mug" shots of defendants issues the same kind of informa- awaiting trial from the Oakland

## **Commission OKs** auditor general budget

#### BY'KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER

Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy received an early Christmas gift Thursday from the Wayne County Commission.

The auditor general along with the commission counsel — received \$240,559 after commissioners voted 14-0 to amend the county commission's budget.

The transfer of 0.2 percent from various county departments means Dunleavy can add six more employees to the auditor general's office to provide staffing levels needed to audit each county department every two years as the revised county charter mandates.

Voters approved charter changes in November 1996 to strengthen the offices of the auditor general and commission counsel.

Dunleavy's budget was the center of much discussion during budget approval in October. He received a separate budget at that time, but also pushed for appropriations through budget transfers to add staff.

Dunleavy believes he can have a greater ability to perform oversight of major construction projects, including the expansion of Detroit Metro Airport and county parks construction projects.

The Commission counsel department will add two more attorneys to bring that department total to five.

Vice Chair Kay Beard, D-Westland, requested Chairman Ricardo Solomon, D-Detroit, suspend the rules and the commission take immediate action.

**Commissioner Thaddeus** McCotter, R-Livonia, said outcounty residents perceived commission budget as "perks," and the separate line item would help define that.

"It is a clear delineation of who is spending what." McCotter said.

"Right now we don't spend the attorney general money on ourselves," McCotter said. "This will clearly show that."

After commissioners denied a motion to send the amendment to committee. they approved the line item amendment, 8-6. Beard, McCotter, Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, and Edward Plawecki Sr., D-Dearborn Heights, approved those items.

Commissioners then amended the budget. 14-0.

Beard was pleased that the amendment was approved.

"One year ago, voters amended the charter to strengthen the auditor general and commission counsel." Beard said. "(Commissioners) pushed to get this done to allow an increase in staffing.

pirit of Whristmas presents

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the high court must grant leave to appeal.

Mager sought a record known as "MSP Form RI-11, Safety Inspection Certificate." It is issued when local police departments perform safety checks of a

help or approval from the groups

"There's politics involved. That's the main reason they (State Police) don't want this out of the bag," he said.

Mager said he already has

tion Mager was seeking on hunt- Sheriff's Department. ing licenses, fishing licenses. marriage licenses, divorce,

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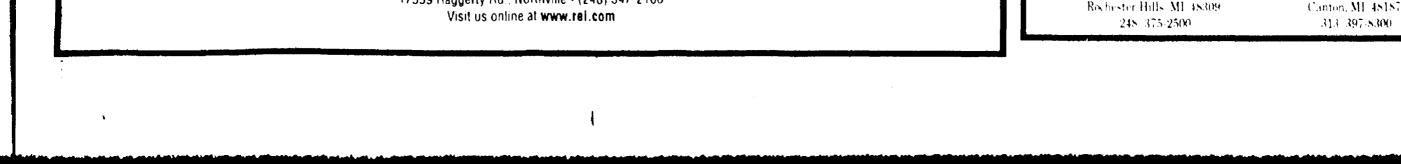


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## Westland Observer **OPINION**

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

## Speaking up Girl encourages diversity

■he Empire State Building, one of the most recognizable icons of American culture, is traditionally bathed in colored lights to celebrate various holidays and events. During the Christmas season, the lights are red and green.

A couple of years ago, on a December night, a 7-year-old Jewish girl noticed that the lights on the building were blue. She wondered if the lights were in honor of Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights. Well, no, she learned upon inquiring, the blue lights were displayed on Dec. 12 of that year to recognize the birthday of Frank Sinatra, "old blue eyes."

That was OK, but the girl, Mallory Blair Greitzer, thought that Hanukkah deserved to be honored on America's most famous (if no longer tallest) edifice. She began a campaign to try to make it so.

It took two years (and a letter to Leona Helmsley, whose management company operates the building), but this year on Dec. 23, the first night of Hanukkah, the lights on the Empire State Building were blue and white, honoring the Jewish Festival of Lights for the first time in history. Tonight, Christmas Eve, they revert to the red and green Christmas colors. A menorah will be displayed in the lobby of the building during Hanukkah and a crescent and star will be on display for USA Muslim Day.

There is no great moral to this story, but this is the time of year that is often referred to in the American Jewish community as "The December Dilemma" - a time when Christmas symbols are omnipresent while other religious beliefs and observances seem to be given short shrift. It is also a time when the message of "Peace on Earth and Goodwill Toward Men" is occasionally interrupted with protests about religious symbols on public property or in the

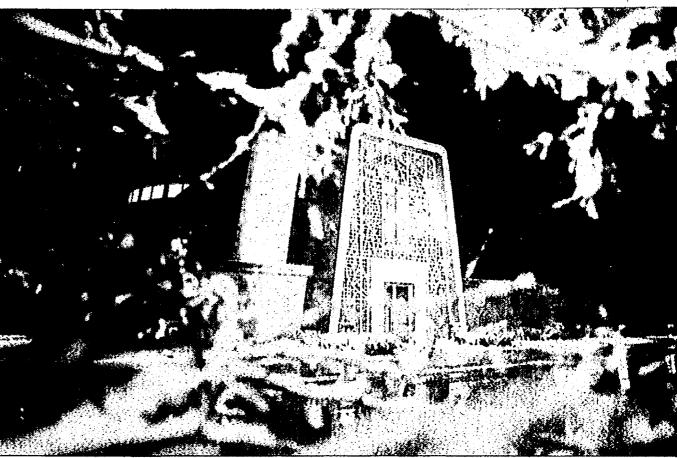
None of this is particularly surprising, given the diversity of American culture and the freedom we enjoy to protest that which goes against our personal convictions.

Still, there is a message in Mallory Blair Greitzer's successful campaign to balance the red and green Christmas lights on the Empire State Building with the blue and white lights of Hanukkah. She didn't ask that the Christmas lights be turned OFF, but that the Hanukkah lights also be turned ON. Good for her, and good for Leona Helmsley for listening, even if the symbolic gesture is only for one night.

A country as rich in cultures and traditions as the United States should focus on celebrating and learning from each and every one of them, not pitting one culture against another or trying to stifle those traditions that do not have equal significance for every single individual. What better time of year to recognize this than in December.

This year isn't unique, but it is unusual, in that three celebrations - Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa - overlap almost exactly. Hanukkah, the eight-day Festival of Lights that begins on the 25th day of the lunar month of Kisley, began this year at sundown on Dec. 23; the traditional "12 days of Christmas" last from Christmas Eve on Dec. 24 through Jan. 6; and the African-American Kwanzaa begins on Dec. 26 and continues through Jan. 1.

The histories are different, the symbols are different, the customs are different. But all these holidays share one common element: They are joyous occasions celebrating various religious and cultural traditions. They are, indeed, "happy holidays." That is their message, and that is our message to all of you. Happy Holidays!



**Seasonal scene** 

STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHE

All aglow: It's a picturesque holiday scene as the new St. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Westland glows through snow-laden branches on a recent evening.

### LETTERS

### Do it right

One of the toughest issues facing the Michi-gan Legislature is electric deregulation, an issue so steeped in technical jargon that most people prefer to ignore it.

But ignoring this vital issue would be a huge mistake. Michigan manufacturers including my company, SMS Group - are high-energy users, heavily relying on power to run our businesses and make the products that we sell around the world. We not only need but demand a reliable energy source. That's why I am personally concerned that deregulation be pursued in an orderly, fair and comprehensive manner, ensuring us the best, most reliable energy sources possible. As a business person, I have monitored this issue closely, because the outcome will have a significant impact on my company's ability to compete, grow and create new jobs. I also sit on the board of the Michigan Manufacturers Association and have worked hard to bring all parties to the table to collectively seek a solution that ensures a reliable source of energy well into our future. Make no mistake about it, restructuring is coming to Michigan one way or the other. Washington has put the industry next in line for restructuring, following the deregulation of the airlines, trucking, natural gas and telecommunications. As a state, we can sit back, do nothing and let Washington set a "one size fits all" national policy that will probably fail to address Michigan's unique needs as a peninsula state. That could endanger our state's jobs, businesses, and fail to ensure that our future electricity needs are met. Or our state lawmakers can tackle the issue by crafting a forward-thinking approach that provides a smooth transition to a more competitive marketplace while protecting jobs and businesses. Handling restructuring at the state level offers another benefit. Our lawmakers can settle the matter before the end of this year and put Michigan's public policy on the cutting edge. That's where we need to be to help keep our economy healthy and strong. That will also let business and electricity providers begin to plan for the future, rather than waiting to see what happens in Washington. The demand for electricity is rising in Michigan, yet no new generating plants are under construction. Our legislators should make electricity restructuring one of their top priorities and

work to pass a restructuring plan.

This can't be delayed because too many jobs are at stake and too much of Michigan's future is at risk. We need action now to power Michigan's future.

> Jeffrey Clevenger president and CEO SMS Group Inc. **Troy and Saginaw**

### Work together

A10(W)

classroom.

## Editorial's message timeless

(Editor's note: Exactly 100 years ago this year, what may well be the most famous editorial in history first appeared in the New York Sun. Written by Francis Pharcellus Church, the editorial was a response to a letter from an 8year-old girl, Virginia O'Hanlon. It is as meaningful today as it was then.)

## Dear Editor:

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says "If you see it in the Sun it's so."

Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He

exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see....

No Santa Claus! Thank God, he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Reprinted from the New York Sun, Sept. 21, 1897

Setting educational policy in Michigan is a Shuge responsibility that involves a large number of people – not just legislators like myself. One of the groups with the most knowledge and insight is teachers.

Recently, I conducted a special "listen-in" hearing in Brownstown with the chair of the Senate Education Committee, Sen. Joanne Emmons, R-Big Rapids. The purpose was to give teachers a chance to speak out on concerns they may have with the current school system, as well as to offer changes.

The teachers' responses were extremely helpful and positive.

The "listen-in" meeting originated from surveys sent out to educators across the district asking for input on ways to make life in the classroom more productive and effective for teachers and students.

For many teachers, it was the first time they had been asked to speak out publicly on education in Michigan. Through the surveys and the "listen-in" meeting, we received many thoughtful, intelligent responses from teachers.

Educators responded to a wide variety of subjects, including class size, parental involvement, technology upgrades, safer schools, inclusion of special needs students, attendance, testing and funding.

The comments made will serve as the basis for legislation to improve our educational system. Already, a series of bills have been worked on in the Michigan Senate which address the issue of safety and discipline in the classroom.

Whatever changes are needed will only be made after careful and deliberate consideration with all parties involved.

Working together, we can make education in Michigan – especially in Wayne County – better than ever.

Sen. Loren Bennett **R**-Canton

## Santa writes to youngsters

### Dear Kids,

I just finished reading all those thousands of letters you send me every year. I can't respond in person to every one of them, but the nice folks at the Observer said they'd publish my letter to all of you, so here it is.

I can't promise that every single one of you will get every present you asked for, but I'll do the best I can. If you get to bed early and get a good night's sleep, I'll try to be quiet and not wake you up.

Meanwhile, you could do a few things for me, if you would. If you have a fire in the fireplace tonight, please ask your mom or dad to put it out before he or she goes to bed. I come down that chimney pretty fast, and it gets mighty hot in there.

If you have any extra pet food around, the reindeer would appreciate a dish of food and maybe a bowl of water. Any kind of dog food or cat food is fine. They don't like fish food very much.

of yogurt instead of eggnog and cookies. She thinks I need to lose weight!

Just one more thing. Ask your parents if they can make sure there's enough room in the driveway to park the sleigh. Last year, Vixen and Dasher got tangled up in some Christmas lights on one of those steep roofs, and they're a little bit spooked about landing on the rooftop now. They'll get over it, but this year I'm trying to keep the landing spots flat and low.

Take care now, and I'll see you tonight. You won't see me, but tomorrow morning you'll know I've been there.

Love, Santa



Westland Observer

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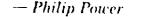
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#### Speaking of food, I really like those snacks you leave for me. But Mrs. Claus told me to

#### ask if you'd leave skim milk or maybe a carton

journalists and as caring citizens of the communities where we work.



(A11-ReWGc)\*A13

#### **POINTS OF VIEW**

## Miracle of Hanukkah offers modern lessons

wo thousand years ago, the great religious leaders of the Jewish people described the miracle of Hanukkah in astoundingly concise terms: During the occupation of the Holy Land by the Greeks the latter entered the inner sanctum of the Jerusalem Holy Temple and defiled all the oils. (Jewish law recognizes states of "spiritual impurity" and "spiritual defilement." The olive oil used for the daily lighting of the Temple candelabrum, or Menorah in Hebrew was required to be utterly pure.) When the Hasmoneans defeated them, one small jug of oil was found which evidently had not been touched by the Greeks. (The touch of an idolworshipping pagan would defile the oil and render it unfit for Temple use.) The little jug contained enough oil only for one day. The Menorah was rekindled and the oil miraculously lasted eight days, until new oil could be prepared.

From the text of the Talmud it is

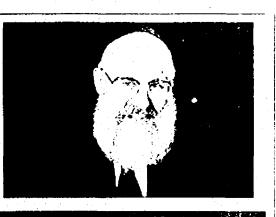
clear that the defilement of the oil was not accidental, but intentional and systematic. A question begs to be asked. If the purpose of the Greeks was to extinguish the light of the Menorah and prevent its rekindling, why did they merely *defile* the oil; they could have poured it all out?

Choosing their words with exquisite care, the great Talmudic sages were clueing us in as to the true objectives of the Greeks, not to prevent the rekindling of the Menorah, but rather that it should be rekindled with defiled oil.

Like oil from an olive, we can extract from the above the essential meaning of Hanukkah, as follows:

One of the most common words in Jewish religious parlance is the "Torah." This Hebrew word, meaning literally "the Teaching," refers to the overall body of G-dly wisdom given to the Jews, beginning with the Bible.

The Greeks were willing to recognize the Torah, or even accept it as a



RABBI Y.M. KAGAN

perfect and beautiful literary creation, a work of poetry, wisdom, profound philosophy, etc. – provided it was considered as a human creation like their own mythology (for sure a human invention – with the deities represented in human shapes and forms, with human characteristics and passions.) As such, the essential core principles of the Torah could be and ought to be changed and modified from time to time, so as to be politi-

cally correct, to harmonize with the character of the ruling class and the novel ideas of the period. Such an approach, as planned by the Greeks, would gradually do away with the permanence and immutability of such well-known Jewish religious practices as the Sabbath, circumcision, and other commandments.

In a word, the Greeks did not aim at the suppression of the Torah, but at its acceptance as the G-d given word, as G-d's Torah.

Similarly, the Greeks were not adverse to the moral and ethical values contained in Torah, but they prohibited the so-called "supera-rational" precepts - such as keeping kosher which, more than any other, distinguish the Jewish way of life and make it specifically Jewish, holy and pure.

Hanukkah reminds us that the greatest danger to the Jewish way of life lies not in the threat of extinguishing its light completely, but rather in the tendency to defile it by

feeding contaminated "oil" to its "Menorah." This tendency expresses itself in many ways: in the worship of materialism and material success; in the presentation of one man-made ideology after the other as the panacea of all human ills; in the idolatry of science and technology; in the tendency to measure everything by the yardstick of human reason.

Such attitudes do not necessarily rule out "religious experience," but either confine it to a narrow domain or worse still, produce a sort of pseudo-religiosity, where consecration and commitment are sacrificed to convenience and compromise.

Hanukkah teaches Israel and us that the sanctity and purity of Jewish life must, can, and will be preserved at all costs.

Rabbi Y.M. Kagan is with the Lubavitch Foundation in Farmington. Hills.

## Messiah's magic found on the road with strangers

he bus pulled out of New York City's Port Authority 10 minutes late. It was a cold, wind-swept Christmas morning with no traces of snow to cover the litter-strewn city. The streets were virtually empty, a rare sight at any time of the year in New York.

The bus, too, was nearly empty. An elderly couple in the front who would later get off in Westchester County: a young man, military looking, who immediately fell asleep; a middleaged woman and her young daughter, who did not seem to belong on a Greyhound bus at 8:10 a.m. on Christmas. The driver made no acknowledgement of my entry. He, in fact, made no sound until another driver relieved him in Rochester. Even the little girl was remarkably quiet for the entire trip.

It was the first Christmas in what was then for me 24 Christmases in which I did not awake in my childhood home. I must confess a part of me felt free and very adult. Another part, however, felt very alone. Christmas dinner was a hamburger and some cardboard-like French fries in the bus station in Albany. The waitress was cheerful. She was in her late 40s or early 50s and widowed, she told me. Her only child was a son who could not get home for Christmas. That is why she decided to work. Everyone who comes in today will be my family, she said.



Rev. Richard Martzolf

Rather than alone and forlorn, I began to feel peacefully present with Christ. It is a feeling I would later identify as Immanuel: God with us.

home. She had to work Christmas Eve and hated that her daughter would spend Christmas on a bus, but • she had no other choice.

We spoke of past Christmases, our best and our worst. We weren't sure where this one would fall, but we knew it wouldn't be the best.

It was a 12-hour bus trip. Somewhere on the journey I realized I was both connected to and now disconnected from my family in a new way. I would, in fact, spend only one more Christmas Day in the home of my birth. While something was lost on that trip, something new began to emerge. As I stared at the miles of frozen upstate New York farmland, I began to feel a unique sense of my own identity.

Rather than alone and forlorn, I

began to feel peacefully present with Christ. It is a feeling I would later identify as Immanuel: God with us.

What I will never forget about that trip is that for the first time I saw Christmas as being transcendent of time and place. Christmas was not only in family, trees and presents. It was also in strangers, aloneness and memory. While circumstances may vary and one may say this Christmas was better than that, the real power of Christmas is not in the circumstances. It is the inner experience of the God who is with us.

Peace to all, the angels proclaim. For unto you is born a Messiah.

She gave me a big hug when I left and wished me a Merry Christmas. It was a genuine, motherly hug.

Between Albany and Rochester, I struck up a conversation with the middle-aged woman. She too was headed for Buffalo and her family

Peace to all.

The Rev. Richard Martzolf is the pastor of Christ the King Lutheran Church on Farmington Road in Livonia. He is a Livonia resident and a former newspaper reporter.

## Traditions of yuletide endure

hen I was growing up, way back in the pre-television days of the '40s and '50s, the favored entertainment for my parents and their circle of friends was to get together and sing Christmas carols.

Each Christmastime, they would gather at a different house, sing for an hour or so, have a drink, sing again and finally break for a buffet supper.

And everybody had favorites. My mother's was the dramatic tale told in "The Coventry Carol." Mine was and still is "Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming," calling up such intense associations of the burning faith of the Middle Ages. Who could resist that soaring tenor line from "The First Noel"?

One family in the group was German in origin, so at the end of the evening we always sang a verse of "Silent Night" in German, "Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht" ringing in our ears as we walked through the snow to the car.

Everybody knew the words; most knew the parts.

Why? Because they were taught to every kid in elementary school. Back when I was in school, we always had Christmas trees and the Creche, complete with animals and Wise Men.

Nobody thought much about whether kids who were not Christian were made to feel uncomfortable by the practice. Most people back then simply assumed that Christian observances of Christmas were the appropriate expression of the dominant culture of America. And if Jewish kids who celebrated Hanukkah or black kids who followed Kwanzaa felt left out or put down, that was just too bad.

Of course, it was precisely that unthinking assumption of a dominant religious culture that led to the wholesale application of the First Amendment to state-supported schools and to the consequent elimination of religious practices such as Christmas carols from the school curriculum.

And although some may regret the way the First Amendment has now been interpreted so as to ban entirely all forms of religious practice from the schools, that may be a satisfactory tradeoff in a diverse America that seeks to respect all forms of religious commitment.

I found myself reflecting on this over the weekend because my wife. Kathy, and I have and compliance regulations call or write: Including singing "Stille Nacht, heilige resurrected the old practice of my parents' gen-Nacht" at the end of caroling parties. eration and make our big annual holiday party Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Commu Ronald G. Miller, deputy director a Christmas sing. We invite lots of friends, nications Network Inc. He welcomes your com Wayne County Human Relations Division Christian and not, with the clear understanding ments, either by voice mail at (313) 953-2047. Ext. 600 Randolph, 5\* floor • Detroit, MI 48226 • 313-224-5021 that we will be singing carols from 5-6:30 p.m., 6 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@oconline.com when we stop and have vocktails and nibbles. 1 · 44 1



PHILIP POWER

I suppose all this is politically incorrect, but don't much care. It's a lovely celebration of the season. It's consistent with my family's culture. And if some people don't want to sing Christmas carols, they can come after 6:30.

In fact, it turns out that a lot of the people most happily singing at our party this year were Jewish.

How did they learn the carols? Just the same way I did – in elementary school back in the '40s and '50s.

But that mechanism certainly isn't available to our kids.

Does that mean that Scott and Nathan, our children, will never enjoy Christmas carols in the way my parents did and I do? Or that the only way they will learn them is through the pre-masticated Christmasy pop culture propagated by radio and TV?

No. It means that Kathy and I will have to teach them, include them in our caroling parties, talk with them about how much the carols and our tradition mean to us as a family. It means that we will urge our church to include carol singing as a regular part of Sunday school.

It means that the ways by which the particular culture of our family will be carried on from generation to generation will be up to us to build and develop as a family. We won't be able to rely on the all-too-easy assumption of my parents' day that the schools are going to do it for us.

It's harder. But it's better. Because it requires us to go to the conscious effort of identifying those parts of our family culture that we feel are of such value as to take the time and trouble to pass them on to our children

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#### **JACQUE MARTIN DOWNS**

## Teen moms benefit from giving time

amuel is just 1 year old. His lit-tle eyes show unconditional love for his mommy as she holds him tightly. But when he's placed into the arms of the child care worker, his dancing eyes stop dancing as he realizes that he's being transferred from loving arms to a stranger.

His mom has just turned 15, is not married, and has a quasi-boyfriend in the wings. Her tempestuous relationship with her mom and a non-relationship with her stepdad make life miserable, but she knows that finding a place of her own is out of the question.

Samuel's family worries that she's going to ask for child support; she worries that he's going to disappear. Finishing high school seems "iffy" at this point ... her future looks dim.

Samuel and all of the babies like him belong to the adolescent mothers and fathers who participate in our program known as Young Mother's Assistance Program (Y-MAP). Our most recent Y-MAP function involved ENTHUGASTS DISCOVER IN THE CARDS



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Interested in visiting dark magical lands? One way is through Magic: The Gathering, a trading card game that has cornered 70 percent of the games market since coming out in 1992.

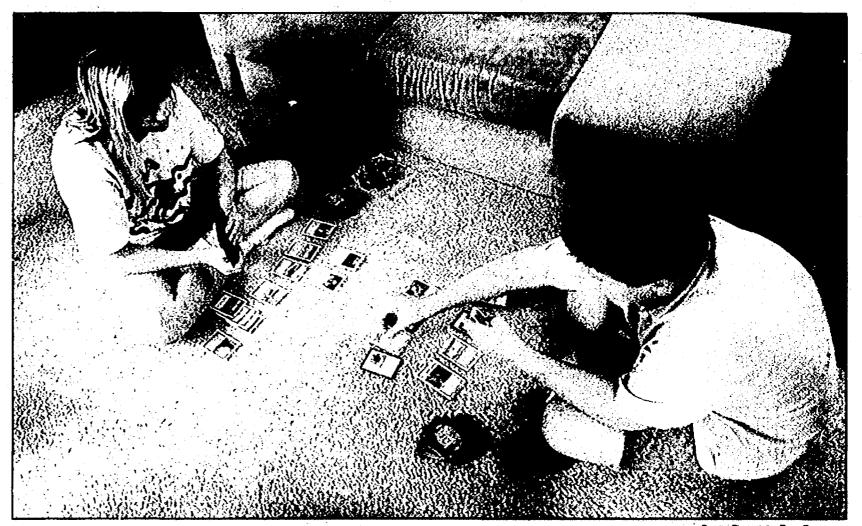
### BY CHRISTINA FUOCO STAFF WRITER

As a wizard, Shelby Lincoln has no mercy. She is grinning, having just drained the life from her friend and fellow wizard Garrett Brink.

"I always beat him," Lincoln said enthusiastically with the emphasis on "always."

Lincoln and Brink, both Canton Township residents, are visiting dark, magical lands where wizards roam, fight off each other's spells and hope to end their rivals' lives.

Their fascination is with Magic: The Gathering, a trading card game so hot that kids - and adults - will pay upward of \$160 for a card that's out of print. The alternative rock festival Lollapalooza even had a booth devoted to Magic at its stop at Pine Knob last summer. There's a \$1 million pro tour, and the finals were televised on ESPN 2 this fall. Since Bo Milbank of Westland picked up Magic three to four years ago, the game has "continued burning its way through the current games. It's kind of taking over the market." "It's put a lot of companies out of business; 70 percent of the market for games was being eaten by Wizards of the Coast (the makers of Magic)," said Milbank, who runs a Friday night gaming league at the Bailey Recreation Center in Westland. "Companies like TSR have actually filed for bankruptcy. Since 1992, over one billion cards have been sold. These guys are rich beyond their wildest dreams at this point." Jason Freese of Rider's Hobby Shop



our prevention team putting on our annual holiday monthly support group and party for the teen parents and their babies. This particular might's presentation was on alcohol, advertising and how large companies lure teens into drinking.

Our speaker masterfully captured the 85 teens' attention as he enthusiastically conveyed the point that every teen is being sucked in by the alcohol industry to buy alcoholic beverages.

We are very proud of our Y-MAP program because it services a population of unmarried teens who don't get a lot of support. Unmarried teen moms aren't a crowd who have made smart choices. They know it, their parents know it and their babies are a product of those choices.

Our job is to advocate for the babies. This includes helping the parent by steering him or her toward resources he or she is in need of (food, housing, baby formula, diapers). It includes teaching them parenting skills, about the hazards of substance abuse and abuse and advocating for them to finish school.

All of this is done to ensure that they will be the best parents they can be. It's to the taxpayer's advantage, too, because we hope to keep these single parents clear of substance abuse, off the welfare rolls and give their children a jump-start to begin preschool and kindergarten with the same skills as their peers.

#### A time to give thanks

We are particularly grateful this holiday season to all the unsung heroes who contributed gifts to the young mothers.

The Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia donated their church for our support group meeting. Their members (from children to adults) participated in a drive to give sleepers and books to the "newborn babe" which were ultimately given to the teens and babies.

We also appreciate all of the Hegira staff who contributed gifts (Livonia Counseling, Northville Counseling, Romulus Help Center, Westland Counseling, Next Step, Oakdale Treatment Facility, Hegira House, **Psychiatric Intervention Center and** Hegira's fiscal and administration).

We thank the Canton Target Store for the donated Christmas tree, Sears Portrait Studio for the coupons for photographs, a Euchre Club and a group of Moms of Toddlers donations, Schellhase, Rekiel and Mitcham of Livonia for their sleepers and books and an individual donation of toys and personal hygiene products.

But mostly, as a prevention director, I am most proud of the prevention team. The dedication of these young ladies is extraordinary. Every mem-

Variety: Mike Wrobleski, owner of Merri-Seven Coins in Livonia, shows off the Black Lotus card as well as the decks, priced at \$8.95, and some of the 2,731 individual cards players can buy for

Magic: The Gathering.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

**Dueling wizards:** Female players like Shelby Lincoln, who challenges fellow Canton resident Garrett Brink to a game of Magic: The Gathering, are few and far between, according to league organizers. For players like the Canton Township youths, the Black Lotus card (top photo, center), is a very rare card that makes it possible for a player to win in the opening hand.

in Canton Township said that market- cards. The game's never the same." ing has upped the status of Magic.

"It's picked up considerably especially after the commercials started airing," said Freese, standing in front of a wall of shelves holding different boxes of Magic cards.

Freese himself is an avid player having been introduced to it two years ago.

"I enjoy the challenge and all the different cards," the 21-year-old music student from Belleville said. "There's tons of different expansion sets, and there's thousands and thousands of

#### Game of strategy

The object of Magic is to reduce your opponent's score from 20 to 0 by strategically playing cards that among other things cast spells and attack.

Cards are sold in decks, which cost about \$8.95. Players build their decks by purchasing multiple decks or any of the 2,731 individual cards from dealers. They must have a minimum of 40 cards to play Magic, although Freese and Milbank suggest 60.

Players begin by shuffling their decks and drawing seven cards. They alternate taking turns. Each turn is made up of a series of actions, such as playing cards and attacking their opponent.

The cards are of five different backgrounds - white, blue, black, red or green – each of which is a spell. The remaining colorless cards are either artifacts (another type of spell) or lands.

Mike Wrobleski of Merri-Seven Coins in Livonia, explained that there are also five different branches or lands of Magic - forest, island, mountain, plains and swamps. Lands create the energy (mana) needed to play spells.

The basic strategy of Magic lies in choosing when to play your cards and when to use your creatures to attack your opponent or protect yourself. More complex strategies involve combining your cards to make them more

powerful and choosing which cards to use in your deck to make it most effective.

"We like to say that Magic is a combination of the strategy of chess, the bluffing ability of poker and just the luck of the draw," Wrobleski said.

A child's version of the game called Portal spells out the game using a paper game board.

"They have portals for little kids and ignorant people," said Lincoln, as she pulls it out to teach the basics of the game.

While Shelby and Garrett played a game, Lincoln's mother, Pam, explained why her daughter enjoys Magic.

"Shelby likes imagination and fantasy things. She reads a lot of fantasy books," said Pam Lincoln of her daughter, a student at Plymouth's East Middle School. Garrett attends Lowell Middle School.

According to Milbank, Shelby Lincoln is in the minority.

"We see usually male (players)," Milbank said. "We do have a couple of gals who show up; a lot of teen-agers. It's hard to have an average player. We have a lot of high school kids, college kids, adults in their 40s. It runs the full spectrum.

"My wife calls it the 'Geek Fest' and I'm the 'Lord of the Geeks.' Truthfully, there are some geoks there, but for the most part it's non- geeks who have

Please see MAGIC, B2

## Guide has the answers to parental questions

#### BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI SPECIAL WRITER

Most parents would love to have thousands of pediatricians at their fingertips, available to answer questions about their child's growth problems, allergic reactions, coordination deficiencies and countless other concerns.

"The American Academy of Pediatrics Guide to Your Child's Symptoms" offers caregivers insights into the '100 most common childhood symptoms. Topics include fears, frequently ill children, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, irritability, posture defects and temper tantrums as well as learning, speech and vision problems.

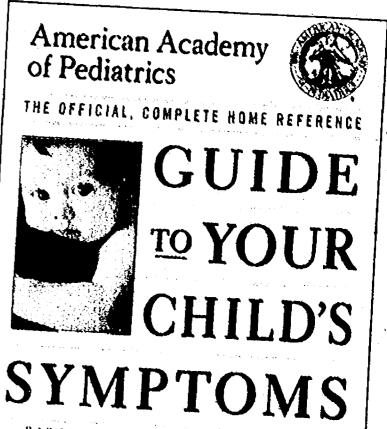
"I think it will be a very good book for working parents when their child wakes up and they don't know

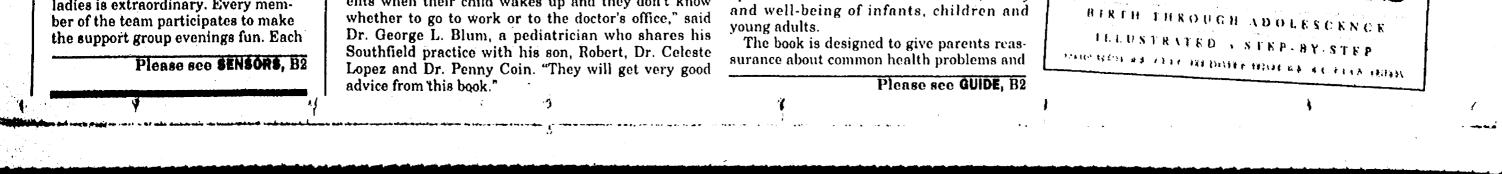
Released last month, the book is a quick reference guide, allowing the reader to flip to specific areas according to symptoms.

"It covers a lot of health issues that parents worry about," said Blum, who is immediate past president of the Michigan chapter of the AAP.

Blum also works on its national committees and is newsletter editor of the "Michigan Pediatric Update" and a clinical associate professor at Wayne State University's School of Medicine.

The AAP is an organization of more than 53,000 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of infants, children and





B2(WQc)

The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

## Volunteerism nets nonprofits grants from Ameritech

Eight nonprofits are on the receiving end of contributions from the Ameritech Foundation, recognizing their employees' volunteerism.

The foundation has contributed stotal of \$189,000 in grants to 151 eligible nonprofit organizations in Michigan through an employee program designed to increase support for volunteerism and community service.

The Ameritech Pioneer Program for Employee Volunteerism and Community Service, now in its third year, provides contributions of up to \$1,000 to organizations for which Ameritech employees have volunteered eight hours a month for at least six months in 1997. There were 201 employees in the program this year.

"The program's goals are threefold - to recognize Ameritech employees who volunteer their time to community service, to provide an incentive for other Ameritech employees to donate their time, and to link the Ameritech Foundation's grant making with employee involvement," said Lisa Hamway, director of corporate contributions for Ameritech in Michigan.

Kathleen Tell of Livonia landed a grant for the Girl Scouts for her volunteerism. Tell, who works in product management at Ameritech, has been a troop leader for 11 years for senior scout troops at Novi, Livonia

state who participated in the Stevenson and Redford Thurston Habitat for Humanity. High schools.

Ameritech engineer Robert Desoff of Plymouth was recognized for his efforts with the MacTechnics Ann Arbor Computers Users Group Inc., where he serves as the newsletter editor and on the community service project team in addition to being an all-around volunteer.

Benefiting from Thomas Napolitano's volunteerism was the Southeast Michigan **Returned Peace Corps Volun**teers Inc. A Livonia resident and Ameritech software engineer. Napolitano currently is its treasurer. The group works with other organizations on such things as World Medical Relief, Motor City Blight Busters and

Two organizations have benefited from the work of Al Calille of Plymouth. Cub Scout Pack 1532 has enjoyed his help with its Pinewood Derby, overnight campouts and other activities. And the Plymouth Family YMCA receives pro bono legal counsel from Calille, an Ameritech attorney.

Sharon Waite of Redford, an Ameritech engineer, has beendevote her time to the Huron Forest Camp Cherith Inc. She is a vice-president and member of its Board of Directors and technology committee. She also has been involved in weekend projects, hands-on events and served as a tent counselor at the camp.

Inc. is the beneficiary of Elaine Stewart of Westland's volunteerism and a recipient of a foundation grant. Waite is a human resource specialist at Ameritech and volunteers in patient care at the Angela Hospice Home. She also helps train volunteers for the agency's bereavement team and coordinates the Angela Hospice Choir. And Joseph Dluzniewski of

Livonia has been giving his time to the Metro West District of the Boy Scouts. A customer service specialist, he has served as an assistant pack leader and in organizing trips for the Boy Scouts.

Ameritech has a tradition of giving back to the communities

Angela Hospice Home Care it serves. Last year, the company contributed more than \$25 million to 2,000 nonprofit organizations and Ameritech Pioneers -25,000 employees and retirees throughout the Midwest - volunteered 332,500 hours of community service.

"The heart of any corporation can be measured by how enthusiastically its people give back to their communities," Hamway said. "Day in and day out, the men and women of Ameritech increase the size of Ameritech's heart through cheerful giving.

"They have a long-standing desire to strengthen their communities and empower their neighbors, and they willingly offer their time and talent to make a difference."

## Magic from page B1

#### other interests outside Magic."

#### Taking it seriously

Merri-Seven is one of eight or 10 "arena stores" in the area which hold monthly tournaments under the auspices of Wizards of the Coast. Wrobleski and his store's assistant manager; Ramon Moore, serve as judges.

The new season begins in early January when Merri-Seven will move to Merriman and Five Mile roads. It costs \$3-\$5 for the season.

"If you join the arena here you can go to any other arena in the country," Wrobleski said. "It's being played all over the world."

Occasionally, Milbank will hold a "tournament illegal," where the rules are "considerably different" than arena play, at the Bailey Center.

"They can build a deck anyway they want; all the standard rules for Magic are dissolved for that night," he said. "You're not allowed to have more than four of any particular card, but on our night, if you want to run 25 lightning bolts, you can do it."

On Friday, Dec. 19, Milbank hosted a tournament where players had to use "Christmas. decks." All the decks had to include red and green cards or any other artifact with a Christmas motif to it.

Besides selling the cards, which Wrobleski and Moore have done since 1993, and judging tournaments, the duo teaches adults and children how to play.

"There's a lot of parents who come in here with their children who want to get involved," Wrobleski said. "They like to know

that when their kids get into it, there's someone to answer questions. The game is not totally self-evident. Parents like that option because they don't want to learn the game."

Wrobleski and Moore said they get a lot of "gun slingers" who come in to the store, thinking they can beat them at Magic. One high school student strutted into Merri-Seven with an entourage and said he wanted to play Ramon. He wasn't available, so Wrobleski offered to play.

"I had one absolutely silly deck, but it was for jokes and one that was a tournament level deck," he said. "I asked him which deck he wanted to play. He picks the silly deck. To make a long story short, he got me down to seven or eight points. He thought he was doing really

good and stuff. His buddies were all slapping him on the back."

"The big guy," Wrobleski, pulled out a Eureka card which allows the player to play all the permanent cards in his or her hand.

"Because of the way the kid was playing, instead of having seven cards in my hand, I had 20-21 cards in my hand," he said. "I attacked him with just enough stuff, so he couldn't defend himself. No matter how he did it, he was going to lose. He looked down there and it looked like he had a tear in his eve.

"He picked up his cards and walked out. His little entourage had their heads down following him. As he was walking out the door, I asked him, 'You want to play my good deck next?' I didn't see him for about a month."

## Leagues cater to fans

Magic: The Gathering leagues are held in at least two locations in this area:

Bo Milbank hosts The Battlefield, a gaming night for Magic: The Gathering, Warhammer 40K, Warhammer Fantasy and Necromunda, 6-10 p.m. Fridays at the Melvin G. Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford Road (half mile west of Wayne Road, behind City Hall), Westland.

The cost is \$3 per night. Those ages 12 and older are admitted. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Merri-Seven Coins hosts a Magic league, held under the auspices of Wizards of the Coast, the makers of Magic. The next season begins in January when Merri-Seven Coins will move from 19159 Merriman Road to its new location at Merriman and Five Mile roads.

The \$3-5 cost allows players to participate in tournaments in any arena store in the United States. For more information, call (248) 474-5372.

## Guide from page B1

possibly calm them down, if Previous AAP books include tobacco and alcohol problems, e overreacting to some "Caring for Your Baby and learning and behavioral disor-Young Child" and "Caring for Your School Age Child," which combined have more than 1 million copies in print. Both books were selected by Child magazine as one of the best parenting books of the year.

ders, issues concerning disabled children, sports medicine, nutrition, child-health financing, public education, professional education and advocacy for pediatricians.

The holidays have arrived ... so has the parties, gifts of food

wrap. Many holiday foods are

Think Trim has tips for the holidays

(3) Don't be fooled by the gift but plan time to exercise. Remember any exercise is better than no exercise and you can even make exercise a part of your holiday celebration with family and friends. Take a long walk in the neighborhood to see all the holiday decorations (6) Start now. Think of how much further along you'll be in

thing that really isn't serious.

Or, it could alert them to something that they hadn't thought about," Blum said referring to warnings listed on each päge, highlighting symptoms that should be taken seriously and warrant calling a doctor for more information.

The second part of the book is an allustrated first aid manual, which covers lifesaving techniques and how to treat less serious situations such as bites, stings, cuts and scrapes. Safety issues concerning playpens, battorooms and what to do in poisoning situations also are addressed.

Most all of the publications of the American Academy of Pediatrics are well-written and wellreceived," Blum said. "They're a good source of information and quite accurate."

"The American Academy of Pediatrics Guide to Your Child's Symptoms" is available at Borders Book Stores and other major outlets for \$25.

"It's a comprehensive book and, if someone is buying one book for the care of their child, this certainly would be the book to get," Blum said. "I think it's a very good book for parents of children of different age groups."

The AAP was founded in 1930. by 35 pediatricians who met in Detroit in response to the need for an independent pediatric forum to address children's needs. The group tackles drug,

"These are all things that we learn from our academy and our readings," Blum said. "Doctors are always studying. We're always trying to get better at what we do and we try to keep one step ahead of the parent who reads a lot, too."

During 30 years of practicing medicine, Blum said the most common question he hears is from mothers asking if their newborns are healthy.

"That's the most important thing we can tell the parent of a new baby, but unfortunately we can't tell that to everybody," Blum said.

and even more parties.

If you're like most Americans, you will gain 7-10 pounds this holiday season. So should you succumb to the temptations of the season and yow to diet in the New Year?

"No," says Lorraine Stefano, founder and director of Think Trim. You can enjoy the holidays without gaining weight and she has a few healthy tips to help you out.

(1) Go through the buffet line twice. Start by going through the line without your plate. Look over the entire buffet and make some choices. Then go through with your plate, remembering you can have some but not all.

(2) Stuff your turkey, not yourself. Stuffing is truly only for turkeys. Sample some of the holiday food but remember moderation is the key.

around all year long. The red and green foil-wrapped chocolate Santa tastes the same as the chocolate pumpkin you ate a few months ago.

(4) Choose healthy alternatives. This is the perfect time of year to redo that old family recipe by making some healthy substitutions.

(5) Stay active. With the holidays schedules become busier,

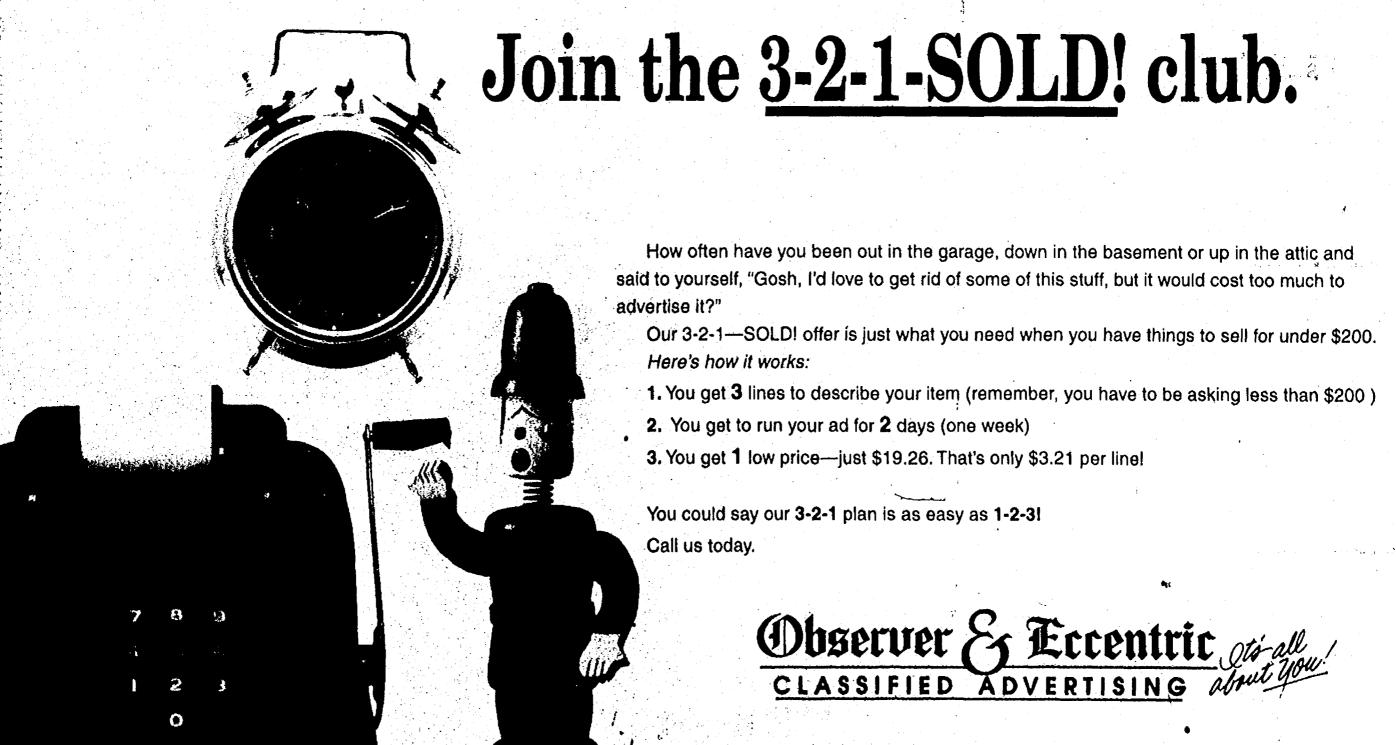
## Sensors from page B1

of them shows a tireless commitment which does not go unnoticed by the teens. So if you ever run into Jan Yuergens, Connie Moore, Ty Madge, Sherri Fick or Sue Beck, give them a pat on the back. They work relentlessly to get these teens back on track.

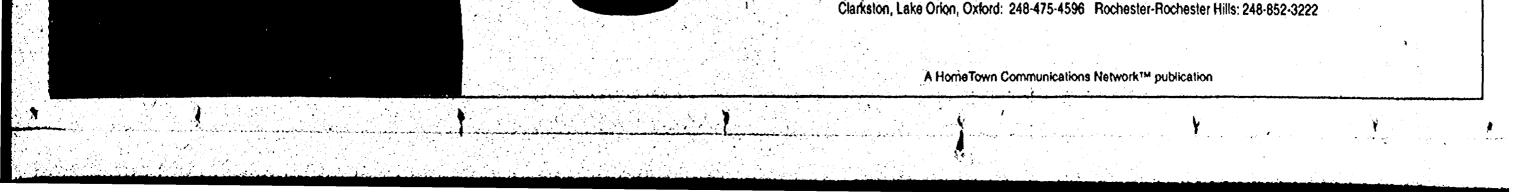
Jan. 1. For more information about the Think Trim program, call (248) 589-3283.

#### They, too, are holiday heroes.

If you have a question or comment for Jacque Martin Downs, a prevention specialist and the director of Hegira Prevention Programs, write her at The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.



WAYNE COUNTY: 313-591-0900 Fax: 313-953-2232 OAKLAND COUNTY: 248-644-1070



#### **Shepherd-Gaudreau**

Fred Shepherd of Livonia announces the ongagement of his daughter, Alison Kathleen, to Jon Paul Gaudreau, the son of Ray and Barb Gaudreau of Livonia.

The bride-to-be, the daughter of the late Kathleen Shepherd. is a 1993 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and is pursuing a degree in chemical engineering at Michigan State University. She will graduate in May 1998.

Her fiance also is a 1993 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and a 1997 graduate of the Center for Creative Studies. He is employed as a designer for Chrysler Corp. in Auburn Hills.

A May 1998 wedding is planned in St. Aidan Catholic

#### **Carlisle-Harrison**

Jim and Cyndi Carlisle of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Karin Anne, to Stephen Russell Harrison, the son of Greg and Judy Harrison of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1994 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School. She expects to graduate from Grand Valley State University in April with a major in psychology/special education and a minor in elementary education.

Her fiance also is a 1994 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 1997 graduate of Grand Valley State University with a degree in biomedical sciences. He is interviewing for acceptance to medical school.

A July wedding is planned at Memorial Church of Christ in Livonia.

Church in Livonia.



## VideoMagic holds seminar

Merchants specializing in more information, call Salloum weddings can get help educating brides about shopping for a particular service through a seminar being organized by Mark Salloum of VideoMagic Produc tions in Livonia.

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### WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

#### Mokanyk-Jensen

William Theodore Mokanyk of Greensburg, Ind., and Julie Elizabeth Jensen of Plymouth were married July 4 at Old St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Ann Arbor by the Rev. Terrence Dumas.

The bride is the daughter of John and Arlene Jensen of Plymouth. The groom is the son of John and JoAnn Mokanyk of Greensburg, Ind.

The bride received a bachelor's degree from Indiana University and a secondary teaching certification from Eastern Michigan University. She is currently teaching at Northville High School.

The groom earned a bachelor's degree from Indiana University. He is employed by National Speciality Services.

The bride asked Katie Randlett to serve as her matron of honor with Julie Rohrig, Christine Kelly, Erin Flanagan, Tammy Ho and Claire Goff as bridesmaids.

#### **Fournier-Stark**

George and Nita Fournier of South Deerfield, Mass., announce the engagement of their daughter, Leslie Karen, to Douglas Thompson Stark, the son of Tony and Loretta Stark of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in exercise physiology. She is employed by Diagnostic Ultrasound Corp. as a territory manager.

Her fiance also is a graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in building construction management. He is employed by the City of Royal Oak as a firefighter and as a real estate appraiser by Heritage Appraisal Services in Livonia.

A November wedding is being planned.



Darren Mokanyk served as the best man with Erik Jensen, Chris Chapman, Ryan Schutte, Travis Snyder, Kevin Foster and Mike Greiwe as groomsmen.

The couple received guests at the Mayflower Meeting Housein Plymouth before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Grand Cayman.

#### **Miller-Whitmore**

Michael William Miller of Livonia and Rachel Suzanne Whitmore of Plymouth were married Oct. 25 at Our Lady of Orchard Lake Church by the Rev. John Sullivan.

The bride is the daughter of David and Irene Whitmore of Plymouth. The groom is the son of Regis and Kathy Miller of Livonia.

The bride is a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School, Michigan State University and Madonna University. She is currently employed with a Detroit law firm.

The groom is a graduate of Wayne Memorial High School and Michigan State University. He is currently employed with Isuzu Motors of America.

The bride asked Jan Hartford to serve as her matron of honor, with Jennifer Graskewicz, Jennifer Mankarious, Marcie Bilesimo, Lea Anna Brunsman and Elizabeth Kuehnle as bridesmaids. Toni Bilesimo was the flower girl.

Glenn Moore served as best man, with Mark Miller, Dave

#### **Beardsley-Porter**

Ken and Mary Beardsley of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Threse, to John Randal Porter. the son of Frank and JoAnn Porter, also of Canton.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and Sally Esser Beauty School. She currently works as a cosmetologist at Shear Madness in Livonia.

Her fiance is a graduate of Westland John Glenn High School. He currently works at Elite Communications as a supervisor of the Prime Star Division.

A February wedding is planned at St. Thomas A' Becket



Darrow, Scot Steiber, Jerry Smart, Terry Desselles, Bob Graskewicz and Dave Bilesimo as groomsmen. Michael Bilesimo was the ring bearer.

The couple received guests at the Forest Lake Country Club before leaving on a honeymoon trip to California and Maui. They are making their home in Livonia.



Church in Canton



•B3

Salloum is organizing "How to Shop for Your Wedding Day, two two-hour seminars on Feb. 8 at the Dearborn Inn. It is designed to educate couples about what they should look for in a good DJ, photographer, Baker, bridal dress and the like.

In addition, couples will have an opportunity to speak with participating businesses one-onone to answer questions or book services.

Each seminar will have seating for 40 couples. There will be short lectures of about 10 minutes by individual businesses, followed by the "open house."

Businesses interested in participating in the seminar can secure an exclusive place in the seminar with a \$50 deposit, payable to VideoMagic Productions, is due by Dec. 31. For

### CRAFTS

Listings for the Crafts 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.

#### SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Applications are being accepted for the spring craft show March 7 at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia. The fee is \$90 for a 12-by-12- foot space, \$55 for a 10-by-10-foot space and \$40 for a 8-by-9-foot space or an 8-by-4-foot hallway space. There is an additional \$15 fee for electricity. Applications must be received by Jan. 9 to be eligible for the first jury round. To receive an application, call the department of marketing and development at (734) 462-4417.

#### **MADONNA UNIVERSITY**

Madonna University is accepting applications from crafters for its 13th annual spring arts and crafts showcase 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 28 in the Activities Center on campus, Schoolcraft and Levan, Livonia. Booth space measuring 9 feet by 6 feet with two chairs and one 6-by-8-foot table is \$50. Booths with electricity are limited and are an additional \$5. Exhibitors may purchase up to three spaces.



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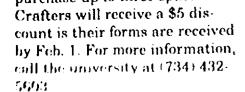
#### Livonia

 Livonia Internal Medicine 17316 Farmington Road

Plymouth Health Center

9398 Lilley Road

#### Plymouth



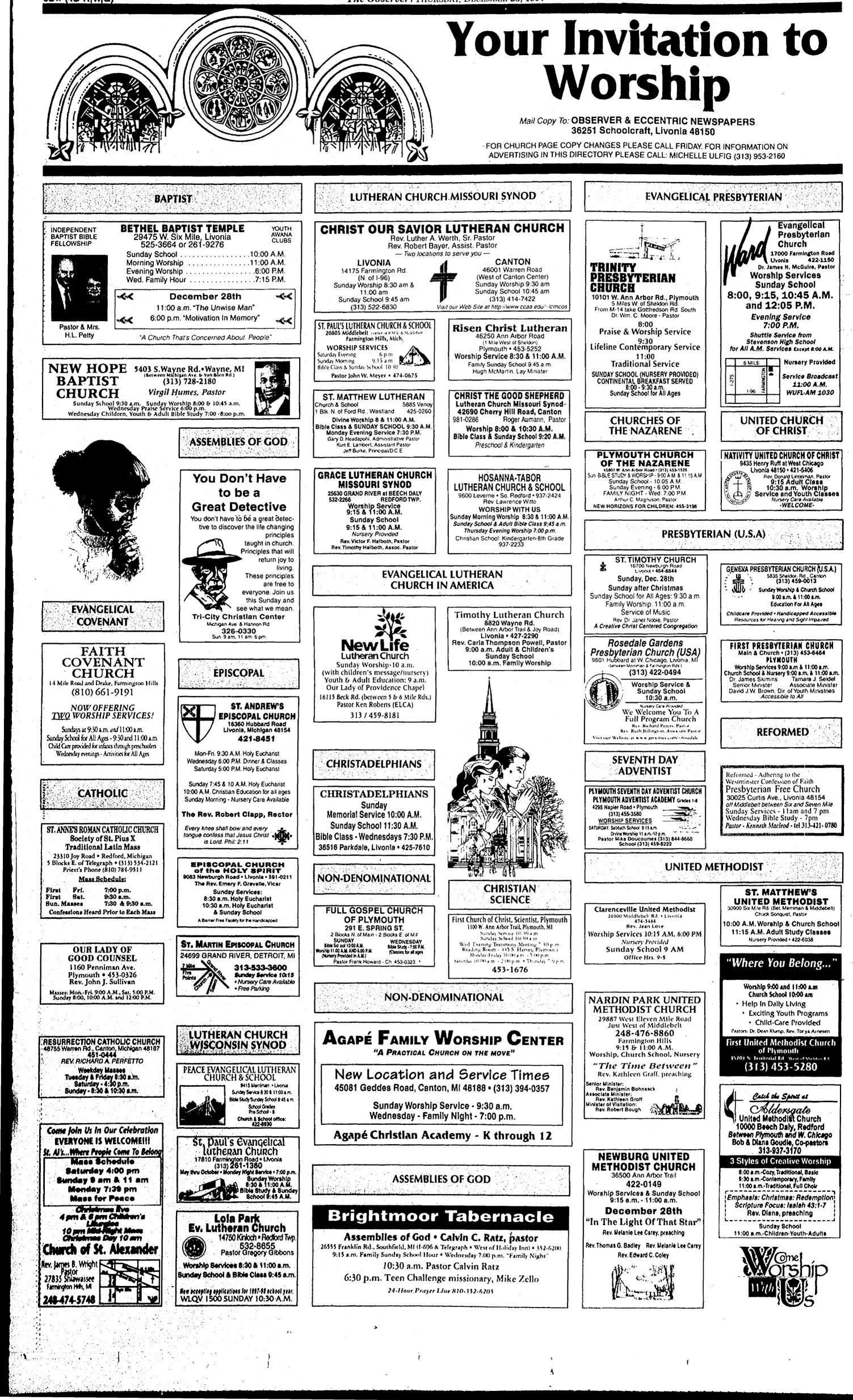
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68\* (48-R,W,G)

The Observer/THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997



## Woodcarvers' talents brighten up child care center

### BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

It sure does look like Christmas in the lobby of the St. Mary Hospital Child Care Center, and the elves doing the work are the Livonia Woodcarvers.

A Christmas in the center's lobby is filled with the carvers' handiwork, close to 200 handmade and handpainted wooden ornaments members have been making for two years.

"I knew it would be a two-year project," said Tony Pietrzak, toy chairman for the 200-member club. "When the center opened a year ago, we wanted to do something nice and we came up with the idea of the handmade ornaments."

"We're extremely grateful," said center director Sister Joyce Marie Van de Vyver. "We've been able to have someone to go to for help. They're a real resource."

The club members provided about 65 ornaments last year. and Pietrzak expects at least that many more to add to the tree this year.

Club members begin working on the ornaments in October. Pietrzak buys the lumber, which is trimmed down and patterns applied by members with craft saws. The blocks of wood are then given to members to be carved and painted.

Additions to the tree this year

diers and the head of Santa surround by a Christmas tree, the winner of an ornament contest resemble a neighborhood. The the group holds, according Pietrzak.

this," he said. "And the ornament doesn't have to be just Christmas stuff. We have one guy who's going carve some little cars for the tree."

The ornaments are only small part of what the group has done for the center. The front of the reception counter in the lobby showcases their talents. Sister Van de Vyver came up with the idea to make the center appealing to both adults and children.

The interlocking blocks are done in different colors of stain as are the numbers which are also puzzles. The number one is in one color, two is in two pieces and two colors and three in three pieces and three colors.

"It took a lot of interaction with Sister Joyce to get something appropriate for the lobby," Pietrzak said. "Any ideas she comes up with, I help. If I can't do it. I find someone who can."

"We wanted it to be child-like but something adults could relate to," Sister Van de Vyver added. "We wanted it to be tasteful and appealing to adults and children alike."

The shake-style awnings over windows facing on the indoor

include 6-inch-tall wooden sol- were Sister Van de Vyver's idea, executed by Pietrzak.

She wanted the room to windows, painted in different pastel colors, flank doors leading "We use the whole club for to the different child care rooms that surround the play are on three sides.

> Pietrzak made the shakes and took about two weeks to make the awnings that were installed just before the center's grand opening in July 1996.

"They really help make it nice, not institutional," said Sister Van de Vyver.

The center is one of several organizations that benefits from the woodcarvers' talents. Members have been making wooden toys to give to children placed with Spectrum Human Services and for young patients at Children's Hospital of Southeast Michigan for about 10 years.

At the hospital, the toys are given to children or placed in waiting rooms to be played with while children wait for treatments. In addition to wooden cars and trucks, the woodcarvers have come up with a brightly painted children's rocker made to look like an airplane.

And like Santa Claus, Pietrzak has made a list of things to make for the center. The future projects includes cradles, a rocking horse, small business-style signs for the doors play area, the sky room, also and more ornaments, if neces-



Hollday cheer: Thanks to Livonia Woodcarvers like Tony Pietrzak (from left) the Christmas tree in the lobby of the St. Mary Hospital Child Care Center is filled with handmade wooden ornaments, eye-catching for 19-month-old Sarah Bates of Livonia and center director Sister Joyce Van de Vyver.

sary. "I had cancer three times and I beat it three times," he said. "This is my chance to give something back, my chance to return

something. "The guild members do a lot of

ter, especially the specialty items we wouldn't be able to purchase or obtain in any other way," added Sister Van de Vyver.



## Museum celebrates Kwanzaa

nice things for people. They

"This is a big help to the cen-

enjoy doing it, especially this."

The Museum of African American History will observe Kwanzaa daily Friday, Dec. 26, through Thursday, Jan. 1.

An African American holiday, Kwanzaa is celebrated to reaffirm the commitment to family, community and the black struggle.

start at noon each day with a Kwanzaa ritual, followed by a dance performance. From 1-3 p.m., visitors will be treated to a range of Kwanzaa performances, activities and workshops offered throughout the building. The tradition of Kwanzaa was created out of the philosophy of Kawaida by Dr. Maulana Karenga, a black studies professor and black activist. It was first celebrated by his family and friends on Dec. 26, 1966.

principles by which African Americans should live - Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Ujamaa, (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity) and Imani (faith). Each day, one of the seven principles The Kwanzaa celebration will (Nguzo Saba) is featured to clari-

fy its significance.

a first come-first served basis.

The workshops, activities and performances throughout the day will correlate with the day's featured principle.

For children, there will be workshops where they will make a collage in celebration of Detroit, create self-portraits and design spirit bottles and African masks with Detroit artists Adrienne Edmonson, and Donald Calloway. The workshops will emphasize creativity, purpose and self-determination.

Five generations: Marie Flowers of Allen Park decided to sit down with a few of her relatives this past summer, all five generations. Joining the great-greatgrandmother (from left) was great-grandfather Brian Mastaw of Northville, grandmother Janet Mastaw of Redford, mother Michelle Frush of Redford and her infant son, William.

Derived from Kwanzaa, a Swahili word meaning "first fruits of the harvest," Kwanzaa

At the museum, the Kwanzaa daily ritual will consist of the lighting of the candles, clarification of the day's principle and the pouring of libations. Representatives and families from the community, such as Gregory Guice of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Dr. Robert Bland of Lewis College of Business, Nkenge Abi of the Shrine of the Black Madonna and Baba Ademiwole, will lead the ceremony.

The ritual will take place in the Dr. Charles H. Wright Thecelebrates the minimum set of ater. Seating will be available on 9800.

The museum will be open 9:30; a.m. to 5 p.m., including Monday, Dec. 29. Kwanzaa activities are free of charge with museum admission - \$3 for adults and \$2 for children.

The Museum of African American History is at the corner of Warren and Brush streets in Detroit. For more information, call the museum at (313) 833-



Mr. Sponge ····

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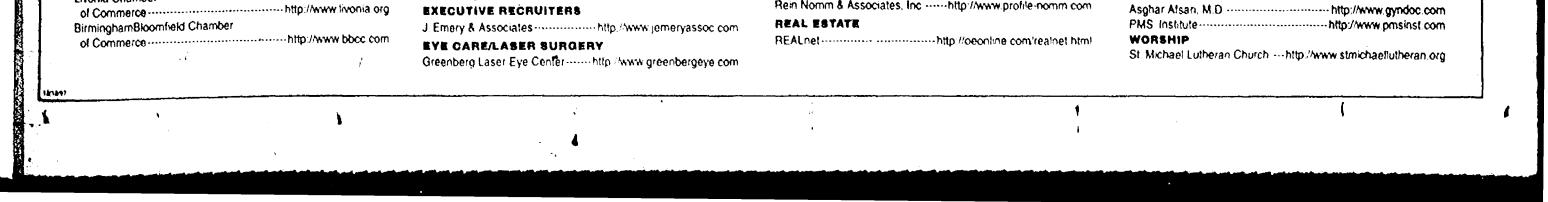
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B8\*(B6-ReWGc)

#### **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.

#### **CHRISTMAS WORSHIP**

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church will have its family service at 5 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at the Canton campus, 46001 Warren Road, and at 7 p.m. at the Livonia campus, 14175 Farmington Road, The 11 p.m. candlelight service will also be at the Livonia campus. Worshipers will be given a votive candle to raise during the singing of "Silent Night." The Choir of Christ Our Savior, Handbell Choir and instrumentalists will unfold the story through song, scripture and prayer. A pre-service concert of organ, handbell and instrumental music will begin at 10:30 p.m.

Christmas Day, Dec. 25, worship with Communion will begin at 10 a.m. at the Livonia campus. It will feature uplifting music with the choir and instrumentalist.

For more information, call the church office at (734) 522-6830. 🗖 St. John's Lutheran Church of Redford will have Christmas Day worship with Holy Communion at 10 a.m. at the church, 13542 Mercedes, east of Inkster Road and south of I-96. For more information, call the church at

(313) 538-2600. The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit will have a service with the Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day at the church, 9083 Newburgh Road, Livonia. For more information, call the church at (734) 591-0211.

#### **ENTERTAINMENT BOOK**

St. Aidan Youth Group is raising funds in December by selling the Entertainment Ultimate Book which contains discounts on dining, travel, shopping, movies, special events and sports. The books cost \$40 with a portion of the proceeds going to help fund youth conferences and workshops. For more information, call (313) 425-5950 or (248) 474-1396. ■ St. Matthew United Methodist Church is also selling the 1998 Entertainment book : The cost is at \$40 with \$8 going to the church's Mission Committee. To order, call Dick Horie at (313) 522-4856.

Tuesdays and others courses in 4T, meditation and unity basics. For more information, call (248) 449-8900 or at its Web site. http://www.cotw.com.

#### DIVORCECARE

DivorceCare, a special video seminar and support group, has begun a 13-week session, 7:15-9:15 p.m. Sundays at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon Road, Canton Township. The series features nationally recognized experts covering such topics as "Facing Your Anger," "Facing Your Loneliness," "Depression," "New Relationships," and "Forgiveness." Child care is available. Call (313) 459-3333 for more information.

#### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

The radio series, "What is This Christian Science and Who Are These Christian Scientists?" is being broadcast at 1:30 p.m. Sundays of WQBH-AM 1400. The topic will be "Just what is a Christian Science practitioner?" on Dec. 28.

"The Christian Science Sentinel-Radio Edition" also can be heard at 9:30 a.m. Sundays on WAAM-AM 1600. The conversational program discusses current public topics as well as shares healing through prayer from people all over the world.

#### TEAMKID

TeamKid, a unique club which blends activity with interactive learning, discipleship and Bible memory, meets 5:45-8 p.m. Sundays at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman Road, Garden City. The program is for children in grades 1.6 and provides practical Biblical answers in a fun and interesting setting. For more information, call the church office at (313) 421-0472.

#### MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Men Who Make a Difference, a small group of Christian men dedicated to the biblical principles of building a "Godly Man," meets at 7:30 p.m. Mondays at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman Road, Garden City. The group is open to men o all denominations who wish to diligently seek the face of Jesus. For more information, call (313) 421-0472.

p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at **Salem National Evangelical** Lutheran Church, 32430 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. For more information, call the church at (313) 422-5550.

#### **ROSE BOWL PARTY**

Merriman Road Baptist 👎 Church's Men Who Make a Difference will host a Rose Bowl Party on New Year's Day, Jan. 1, at the church, 2055 Merriman Road, Garden City. The party starts 30 minutes before the kickoff. Participants will enjoy the entire Rose Bowl game on a big screen television while munching a variety of snacks. The party is open to all. For more information, call the church at (734) 421-0472. **BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST** 

Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance divorced and separated Christians, will have a dance at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3, at St. Robert Bellarmine Church. West Chicago and Inkster roads, Redford. The cost is \$8 and includes refreshments. For more information, call Roase at (734) 464-3325.

The group also meets on Sundays for breakfast and Mass - 10 a.m. at the Redford Inn, Five Mile Road west of Beech Daly Road, Redford, and at 11:15 a.m. at St. Aidan's Church, Farmington Road north of Six Mile Road, Livonia - call Val at (734) 729-1974; for coffee and conversation at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Archie's Restaurant, Plymouth Road east of Merriman, Livonia, and for pinochle at 7 p.m. every other Friday - call Rose at (734) 464-3325.

#### **QUEST SPEAKER**

Journalist Jack Lessenberry will speak on the issues of race in America at 9:45 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 4, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

Lessenberry is a member of the journalism faculty at Wayne. State University and Madonna

ing and stretching exercises that have been practiced by the Chinese since the 11th century. For more information, call (248) 332-1281.

#### **BIBLE STUDY**

The Ladies Bible Study of Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, will host a morning Bible study 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, beginning Jan. 6, at the church, 21260 Haggerty Road, Northville. Women of the Word, which will meet in the lower level, will use the "Joy of Living" interdenominational series with lessons on the books of I-II Corinthians. The teachers will be Nona Kelly of West **Bloomfield and Debbie Stottele** of Novi. The semester registration fee will be \$12 which covers necessary materials. Child care will be provided. For more information, call (248) 348-7600.

#### **NEW BEGINNINGS**

New Beginnings, a grief support group held year-round at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile Road, east of Merriman Road, Livonia, continues with its monthly speaker series on Thursday, Jan. 8, with "Moving On." There are no fees. Anyone may attend any or all sessions as they feel the need. For more information, call the church office at (313) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7903, or Rosemary Kline at (313) 462-3770.

#### **PARENTING TODAY**

Having trouble communicating with your kids? Find out how to really talk to your children by attending the Active Parenting Today classes offered at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile Road, Livonia. The 6-week course will be offered 6:30-9 p.m., beginning Thursday, Jan. 8.

The cost of the course is \$15 (spouses are free) and includes a parent's guides. Preregistration is preferred. Child care will be available for a nominal fee, but only open to those who call and request it at least one week before the first meeting. For more information or to register, call the church at (734) 422-1470.

and Lisieux (France) from April 24-May 7. The price is \$2,895 per person in a double room. A single supplement is \$280. For more information, call Carlson Wagonlit Travel in Plymouth at (313) 455-5810.

#### **HISPANIC CHURCH**

The Hispanic Pentecostal Church conducts worship services at 2 p.m. Sundays at the Open Door Church, 33105 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia. The Rev. G. Diaz officiates. For more information, call (248) 471-5282.

#### FROM THE HEART

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church offers From the Heart Cancer Support Group at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays of the month in Rooms B2 and 4 at the church, 17000 Farmington

Road, Livonia. Family members, those with cancer and friends are invited to share, encourage and support one another in a loving, hopeful God-focused environment. For more informatjon, call the church at (318) 422-1826.

#### LITURGY ON TAPE

The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is available on videotape for a cost of \$15, plus \$3 postage, from Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 86075 W. Seven Mile, Livonia 48152. The tapes make a great gift for a shut-in or those unable to attend the liturgy. The tapes also can be given to those people who are either seeking or expressing an interest in the Orthodox faith.



#### SUNDAY LESSONS

"Lessons Learned" will be the lesson at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, at Church of Today West in Village Oaks Elementary School, 23333 Willowbrook (between Haggerty and Meadowbrook roads), Novi. The church also offers youth education, a course in miracles at 7 p.m.

#### **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

Ward Presbyterian Church will celebrate New Year's Eve with an evening of fellowship, beginning at 9 p.m. with a sacred Christian concert, featuring Dale Hicks, at the church, 17000 Farmington Road, Livonia. A buffet is available at 10 p.m. by advance reservation only. The evening will conclude with a Watch Night service at 11 p.m. Chimes will ring in the New Year and close the service just after midnight. For more information, call (734) 422-1826.

#### WATCH NIGHT

A Watch Night Holy Communion service will be held at 7

University. He also is a consultant, editorial adviser and freelance writer for many national and regional publications, including Vanity Fair, Esquire George, New York Times and Boston Globe. He received and Emmy Award for a "Frontline" documentary on Dr. Jack Kevorkian. Locally, he is a contributing editor and columnist for The Metro Times, Oakland Press and Toledo Blade.

#### For more information, call the church at (313) 422-1470. TAI CHI CLASSES

The Taoist Tai Chi Society of Michigan will offer beginning and continuing Tai Chi classes 7-9 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, beginning Jan. 5, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Tai Chi is a series of gentle turn-

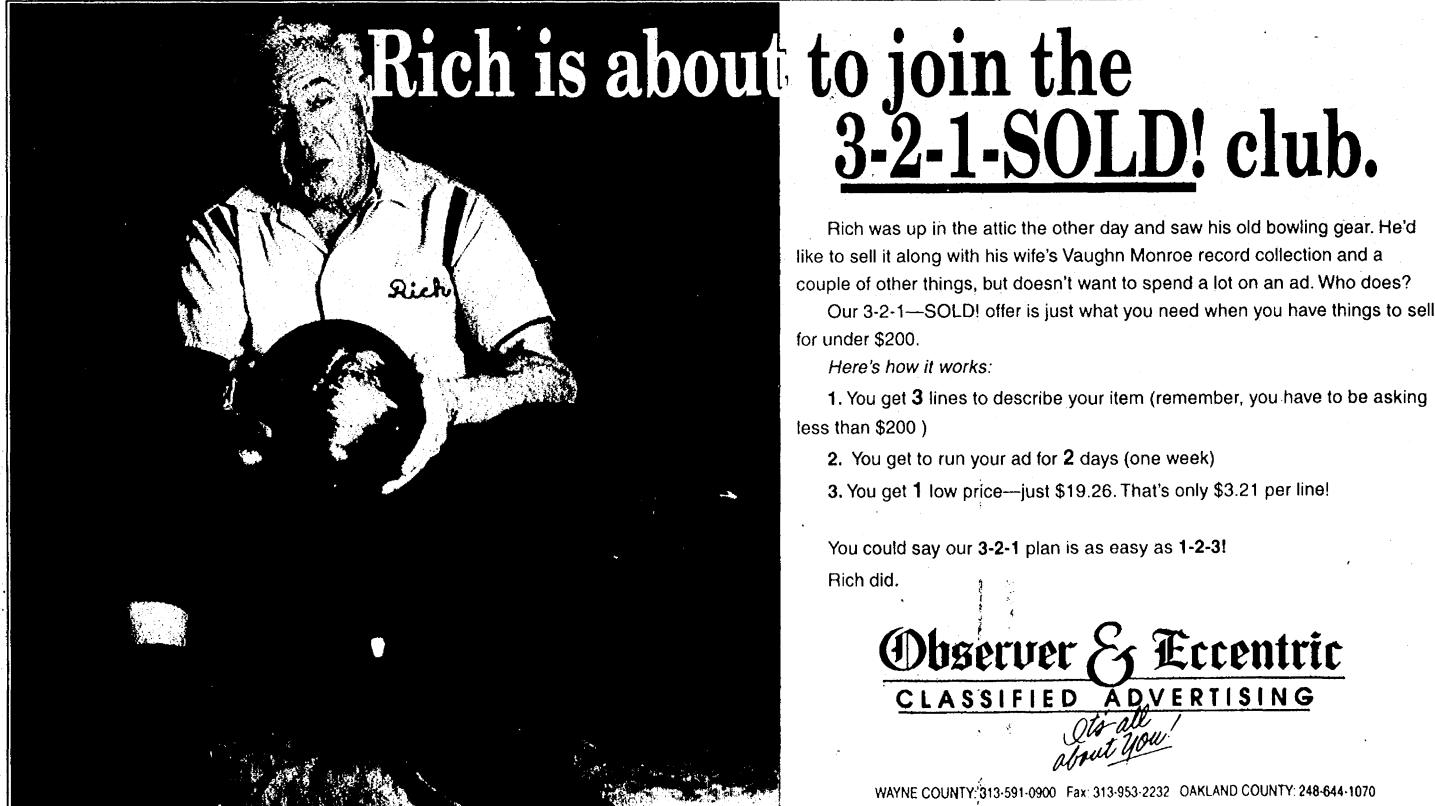
#### MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Worldwide Marriage

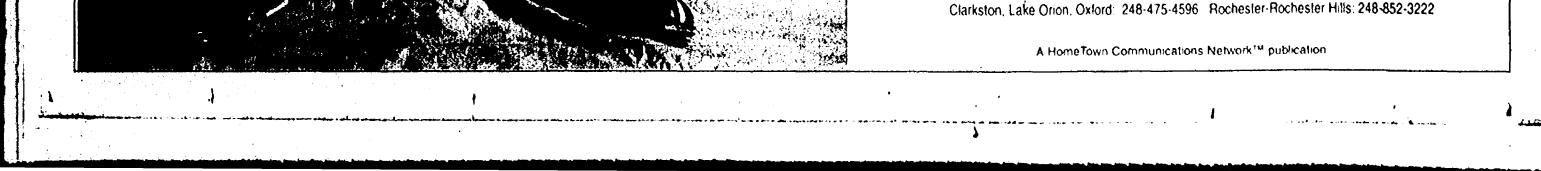
Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other Friday through Sunday, Feb. 13-15 and March 20-22, at St. John's Family Life Center in Plymouth. For more information or to register call (248) 528-2512 or (810) 286-5524.

#### PERSONAL ENRICHMENT

The Rev. Gerald Flannery of St. Aidan's Parish in Livonia is inviting the public to join him on a journey of personal enrichment to Fatima (Portugal), Lourdes

Christmas gifts







## The Observer

**INSIDE:** WLAA swimming, C3 Outdoor calendar, C4

L/W Page 1, Section C



BRAD EMONS

## SC men's hoops is something to talk about, but does school care?

s much as I love holiday shopping at the last minute, I certainly had my fill late Saturday afternoon at crowded Twelve Oaks Mall.

Venturing south on I-275, I decided to pull off the Seven Mile exit ramp and catch the second-half of the Schoolcraft-Kellogg Community College men's basketball game.

Turned out to be the best bargain of the day and a great stocking stuffer.

I was more than curious to get my first look at the Ocelots, who have been turning a few heads under firstyear coach Carlos Briggs, a former Schoolcraft All-American player.

And after what I witnessed Saturday night, I'll be back for more.

Schoolcraft pulled out a ming-boggling 75-74 victory on Kevin Melson's basket at the buzzer.

Briggs, who led SC to its best season ever in 1984 (since then there have been 13 straight losing seasons), called timeout with just .45 seconds remaining (after the ball had been knocked out of bounds) to set up a desperation play.

The 6-foot-6 Melson, who has got

## Ocelots win on Melson shot, 75-74

**MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS** 

Melson then split a pair of free throws with nine

SC, however, had two fouls to give in order to put

With just five seconds remaining, Jones missed the

SC's Jimar Eddins grabbed the rebound, but a side-

Ocelot coach Carlos Briggs called timeout to set up

Isolating two players on the perimeter and sending

Derek McKelvey to the corner for a possible three-

point try, Eddins lobbed the ball into Melson, who

found himself isolated one-on-one in the post against

line pass was batted out of bounds in the Ocelots'

a final shot and his set-play worked to perfection

Kellogg in the bonus situation. The Ocelots fouled

quickly at seven and five seconds.

front-court with only .45 seconds left.

against Kellogg's man-to-man defense.

front end of a one-and-one.

a Kellogg defender.

With a flare for the dramatic, the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team pulled out a miracle 75-74 victory over Kellogg Community College Saturday night at home.

seconds to go. Kevin Melson's basket with no time remaining gave the Ocelots, now 10-2 overall, the win. seconds to play, pulling SC to within one, 74-73.

The 6-foot-6 forward from Detroit Communication & Media Arts, led Schoolcraft and all scorers with a game-high 32 points.

Melson, who ranks third in the country in scoring at 28 points per game, was 14 of 18 from the floor and six of eight from the free throw line. He also grabbed eight rebounds.

Schoolcraft trailed 40-34 at halftime and by as many as 11 against the hot-shooting Bruins in the second half before staging a furious comeback.

Cat-quick point-guard Mario Montgomery (Detroit) came off the bench to spark the defense.

He also hit a key three-pointer during the surge.

SC took a five-point lead with just over two minutes remaining, but Kellogg rallied back to gain a two-point advantage, 74-72, on a basket by pointguard Antonio Jones (23 points) with just under 30

## **Brzezinski thrives** once again for BC

Livonian makes All-Big East team

#### BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

The 1996 football season for Boston College offensive lineman Doug Brzezinski was nothing short of a disaster.

It was more like a scene from the movie "Titantic." He was

"Things just got out of control," Brzezinski said. "He was a good coach, but he trusted the players too much. With Henning, the players always pushed the envelope.

"Guys were just dogging it and going through the motions the weight room, and some weren't even showing up. A lot of guys, who were used to being coddled in high school, claimed they were hurt and were getting out of practice and not playing when they could have. "There was a lot of stress and it was

Melson caught the pass and wheeled inside for the winning two \_ just beating the buzzer.

David Jarrett (Westland John Glenn) added 15 points for the winners. Emeko Okonkwo (Pioneer) contributed 11, while Eddins had eight.

Terry Curtis and Larry Daily chipped in with 18 and 15, respectively.

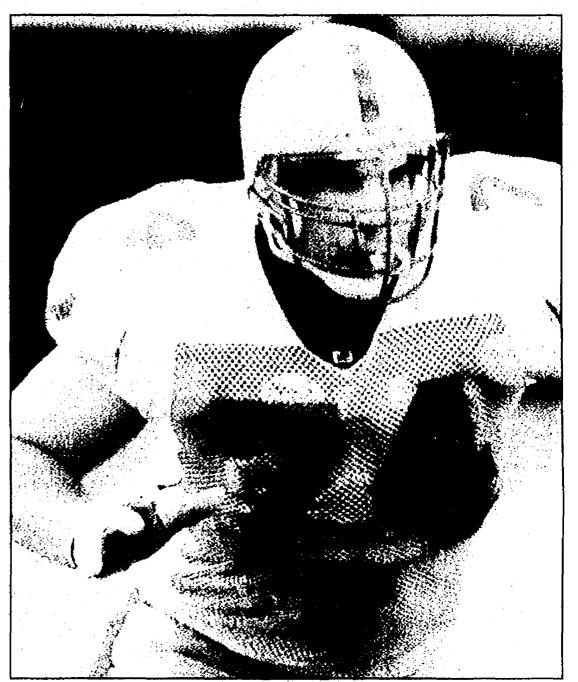
Kellogg (8-6 overall) hit 12 three-pointers on the night.

NORTHWOOD 97, MADONNA 65: The Fighting Crusaders fell to 1.12 on the season Saturday with a road loss to Northwood.

Damon Coleman scored 28 points and grabbed six rebounds to lead Northwood (7-1) to the win.

For Madonna, Mark Hayes had 23 points, Narvin Russaw 13 and Nick Hurley (Plymouth Canton) had eight points.

Poor shooting had a hand in Madonna's setback. The Crusaders shot just 40.4 percent for the game while Northwood made better than 50 percent of its shots.



be one of the midwest's top JUCO players, showed his Scottie Pippenlike qualities by scoring the gamewinner on a layup off an inbounds pass from Jimar Eddins at the buzzer.

Needless to say, Schoolcraft men's basketball, off to its best start in school history (10-2), could be Observerland's best kept secret.

But it's not the way the Ocelots won it, but the way they played which impressed me more than anything else.

Briggs, who led the nation in scoring during his days at SC, averaging 30 points-plus before going on to star at Baylor, has the Ocelots playing unselfish hoops, for sure.

He runs a disciplined offense and his players seem to have a commitment toward defense.

Melson, who does it inside and outside, is certainly a diamond in the rough after sitting out his first year at SC with an injury.

The word is leaking out. Division I coaches are migrating to Six Mile and Haggerty in droves to see this kid.

Briggs, a fourth-round pick of the San Antonio Spurs who later played professionally in the Philippines, came to SC's battered program in August with virtually no players (with the exception of holdovers Melson, Garden City's Pete Males and Jose Bru) just two weeks prior to the start of the first semester.

Briggs, who is widely known throughout Detroit basketball circles, left his full-time high school teaching job in Texas to become a part-time coach at SC.

He held three tryout sessions, finding starters Emeko Okonkwo and Jimar Eddins, both from Ann Arbor Pioneer; along with back-up pointguard Mario Montgomery.

Throw in Westland John Glenn's athletic David Jarrett late into the mix (he signed just a week prior to classes) and you have a remarkable transformation of a perennialy pitiful junior college basketball program.

And he has quickly transformed the **Ocelots into an Eastern Conference** contender - unheard of in these parts.

Ironically, Western Conference teams in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association used put SC on the schedule for a sure win.

But after beating Kellogg, Grand Rapids (twice) and Lansing, SC is becoming a team to be reckoned with.

And if SC had not lost two close games in a New Jersey tournament, they'd be mind-boggling 12-0 at this point.

Briggs has a plan and is just getting started. He keeps close tabs on his players academically, and does his homework recruiting and scouting despite having only one paid assistant

treading water. But the 6-foot-

4, 305-pound left tackle from Red-Catholic ford Central survived

the year of turmoil to earn All- All-Big East pick Big East honors in 1997.

Although BC finished 4-7 for the second straight year, Brzezinski was one of four Eagles named to the All-Big East's first team.

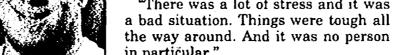
"It was a relief more than a surprise," said Brzezinski, a senior from Livonia with one year of eligibility remaining. "Last year was a horrible year for me. I got benched in the Pitt game. There were a lot of problems within the team."

These were just not small problems, but BIG problems for BC, which was rocked by a gambling scandal where three Eagle players bet against their own team.

"It was kind of blown out of proportion by the media," Brzezinski said. "College athletes all over bet, but this whole thing was idiotic. These guys were calling their bookies from the hotel."

The national media scrutiny which followed turned out to be a huge distraction and the school's football program had been sullied.

Dan Henning, former San Diego Chargers head coach and Detroit Lions offensive coordinator, stepped down following the probe after three seasons as BC's head coach. (Henning is now the offensive coordinator for the Buffalo Bills.)



in partičular." Doug Brzezinski

After a 4-7 season in '96, BC went with Tom O'Brien, the offensive coordinator at Virginia as its new head coach. His offensive coordinator and offensive line coach was Jeff Jagedzins-

ki from East Carolina. The two new coaches ditched Henning's one-back set. And the offensive line gave up only 21 sacks after allowing 53 the year before.

"Doug and the whole offensive line progressed," O'Brien said. "Our center, Damien Woody, and Doug are both built about the same. Both very good players, with pro potential. They give us a formidable middle.

"Doug has a very good work ethic. Off the field he worked to better himself and we'll do what we can, as coaches, to make sure we can better him on the field.

"He never gets flustered, but what I'd like to see — and we've talked about it during the off-season — is him get a little more fiery on the field. We'd like him to be a leader on this team and show a lot of enthusiasm his senior year. And he has the talent to be some type of All-American player."

The blocking schemes stressed fundamentals and the approach was much the same when Brzezinski played for Tom Mach at CC. (Brzezinski was a junior starter on CC's 1992 state championship team.)

"I liked our offense a lot more because it was simplified," said

Block of granite: Redford Catholic Central High product and Livonia native Doug Brzezinski starred this year for Boston College Eagles.

Brzezinski, a former soccer player who didn't play football until the ninth grade. "Under Henning, we had five different ways of blocking. Things got confusing. We went back to a more basic set. It was a lot more physical. It was a lot better, more fun. It just made more sense."

And the discipline was also Mach's style.

"He (O'Brien) addressed the problems right away, he stressed team unity right away." Brzezinski said. "Nobody was putting up with any guff. He threw two or three guys off the team right away. It was all business. There was no gray area."

This fall, the Eagles lost several close Big East games, including a double overtime loss to Miami. They beat West Virginia, a top 25 team, which turned out to be Brzezinski's top game.

"Coach O'Brien had been in the Marines, and he said don't look for any sympathy," Brzezinski said. "He knows what it takes. I like it a whole lot better. Things are getting better now."

This year the Eagles racked up nearly 5,000 yards in total offense with an even balance of rushing and passing.

A three-year starter, Brzezinski, a Sociology major, is looking forward to his final season in a BC uniform.

But there was a time when he felt bewildered.

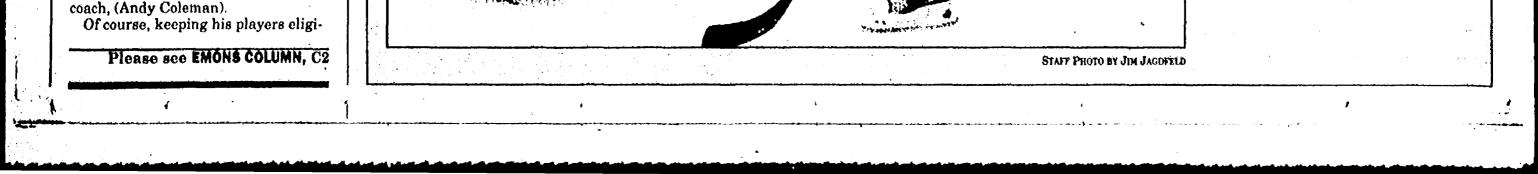
The BC coach that recruited him out of high school, Tom Coughlin, left shortly after Brzezinski signed his

Please see BRZEZINSKI, C3



#### Metro rivals deadlock

Sliding through: Redford Catholic Central's Dave Turner (right) tries to flip the puck around Birmingham Brother Rice's Mike Healy, who lines up to place the check, during Saturday's Michigan Metro High School Hockey League battle played Saturday afternoon at the Plymouth Township Compuware Arena. CC, the defending state Class A champion, rallied from a 3-0 deficit to earn a 4-4 tie with the Warriors. See high school hockey roundup on page C3.



C2(LW)

## **Stevenson surprises field**

### BY C.J. RISAK STAFF WRITER

Some things don't change. Some things do.

In reference to the Western Lakes Activities Association Relays swim meet, hosted by Plymouth Salem last Saturday, what didn't change was that Salem - winner of the last five WLAA league titles - could not find a way to win the Relays championship. It marked the third-straight year the Rocks have failed to claim the crown, in large part due to their own mistakes.

What did change? Well, there's a new power in town: Livonia Stevenson.

It isn't a major surprise that the Spartans emerged as the Relays champion. Once Salem put itself into a hole by getting disqualified in the first relay, the 400-yard medley — an event the Rocks had finished first in, but were DQ'ed for a jump start - the impetus shifted to Stevenson.

From then on, it was the Spartans' meet to lose. And they didn't.

#### BOYS SWIMMING

points, with Salem second (224) and two-time defending Relays champ Plymouth Canton third (212). Northville was fourth (184).

"It was a fun meet," said Stevenson coach Doug Buckler, admitting that finishing first added to the enjoyment. "It's been awhile since we won it.

"We went into the meet with the attitude that we can't win it, so let's just have fun and do what we can."

There were a couple of reasons Buckler doubted his team could emerge on top. First and foremost, there was Salem, which was expected to be even better this year than last.

Also, the Spartans were a tired team, swimming their third meet of the week. "I haven't had three meets in one week in my life," said Buckler.

It apparently didn't harm them much. They won four of the 10 relays; for that matter, so did Salem. The only events Stevenson finished with 242 to evade capture by the

were the 200-yard breaststroke relay (won by Livonia Franklin's Chris Supplee, Erik Koppin, Dave Bosman and Jody Gomez) and the 400-yard individual medley relay (won by Canton's Aaron Reeder, Kurtis Hornick, John Cook and Mike Dempsey).

There was one other significant occurance that impacted on the meet and its final results: North Farmington. The Raiders — one of the league's top teams - were no-shows, for reasons as yet undetermined.

"This is the first time it's ever happened, so I don't know what the consequences will be," said Salem coach Chuck Olson. "That's up to the administrators."

Without doubt, the opening event was the difference in the meet. When Salem was disqualified, the team that took over first place in the 400 medley was Stevenson (Joe Bublitz, Kevin VanTiem, Mark Sgriccia and Mike Malik).

"We did our typical relays thing," said Olson, noting that in each of the previous two

league's two heavyweights years the Rocks' disqualifications in the 200 backstroke relay cost them a meet title. "Only we got DQ'ed in the first relay this time.

"(Stevenson) swam real well and didn't run into as many problems as we did."

The Spartans' other relay wins came in the 200 butterfly (Steve Domin, Brad Feathers, Sgriccia and Keith Falk); the 500 crescendo freestyle (George Earhart, Jacob Varty, Malik and Falk); and the 200 medley (Bublitz, VanTiem, Domin and Brad Buckler).

Salem won the 400 free (Dan Kelly, Dan Jones, Mike Kilgore and Brian Mertens); 200 back (Aaron Shelton, Brent Mellis, Matt Casillas and Nick Corden); diving (Chris Cameron and Mike Belvitch); and 200 free (Corden, Tim Buchanan, Jones, Locke).

The Rocks set the only new meet record in the 200 free relay, winning in 1:29:70 (former record, 1:31.81, by Northville in 1991).

### WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION BOYS SWIM RELAYS RESULTS

#### WLAA SWIM RELAYS Dec. 20 at Plymouth Salem

Team finishes: 1. Livonia Stevenson, 242; 2. Plymouth Salem, 224; 3. Plymouth Canton, 212; 4. Northville, 184; 5. Walled Lake, 158; 6. Farmington Harrison, 130; 7. Livonia Franklin, 127; 8. Livonia Churchill, 114; 9. Farmington, 105: 10. Westland John Glenn, 100; 11. North Farmington (did not show).

#### FINAL RELAY RESULTS

400-yard medley relay: 1. Stevenson (Joe Bublitz, Kevin VanTiem, Mark Sgriccia, Mike Malik), 3:52.28; 2. Canton, 3:59.34; 3. Northville, 4:11.49; 4. Farm-

Brian Mertens), 3:34.45; 2. Walled Lake. 3:35.88; 3. Canton, 3:36.90; 4. John Glenn, 3:39.07; 5. Stevenson, 3:43.56; 6. Harrison, 3:53.93; 7. Northville, 3:54.58; 8. Churchill, 4:47.35; 9. Franklin, 5:23.71.

200-yard breaststroke relay: 1. Franklin (Chris Supplee, Erik Koppin, Dave Bosman, Jody Gomez), 2:06.55. 2. Farmington, 2:08.79; 3. Northville, 2:10.28; 4. Canton, 2:11.80; 5. Stevenson, 2:13.13: 6. Salem, 2:15.40: 7. Walled Lake, 2:15.90; 8. Harrison, 2:34.93; 9. Churchill, 2:44.69.

200-yard backstroke relay: 1. Salem (Aaron Shelton; Brent Mellis, Matt Casillas, Nick Corden), 1:48.05; 2. Northville, 1:50.71; 3. Canton, 1:56.24;

(Steve Domin, Brad Feathers, Mark Salem, 4:44.81; 6. Canton, 4:51.82; 7. Sgriccia, Keith Falk), 1:42.94; 2. Salem, 1:58.47; 3. Canton, 2:00.99; 4. Walled Lake, 2:10.70; 5. Northville, 2:20.00; 6. Churchill, 2:23.49.

One-meter diving relay: 1. Salem (Chris Cameron, Mike Belvitch). 344.45 points: 2. Farmington, 319.05; 3. John Glenn, 301.05; 4. Franklin, 283.15; 5. Stevenson, 248.95.

400-yard individual mediey relay: 1. Canton (Aaron Reeder, Kurtis Hornick, John Cook, Mike Dempsey), 4:10.55; 2. Harrison, 4:11.27; 3. Salem, 4:13.09; 4. Franklin, 4:18.60; 5. Stevenson, 4:24.79; 6. John Glenn; 4:48.48; 7. Northville, 4:51.32; 8. Walled Lake. 5:07.94; 9. Churchill, 5:11.21.

Churchill, 4:56.80; 8. Harrison, 5:43.43; 9. Farmington, 5:50.98; 10. Franklin, 6:33.41.

200-yard medley relay: 1. Stevenson (Joe Bublitz, Kevin VanTiem, Steve Domin, Brad Buckler), 1:46.87; 2. Harrison, 1:48.36; 3. Salem, 1:51.19: 4. Farmington, 1:55.06; 5. Canton. 1:56.63; 6. Northville, 1:57.69; 7. Walled Lake, 1:59.63; 8. John Glenn, 2:18.22; 9. Churchill, 2:23.43; 10. Franklin, 2:47.00.

200-yard freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Nick Corden, Tim Buchanan, Dan Jones, Andrew Locke), 1:29.70 (new Relays record: old record 1:31.81. Northville, 1991); 2. Harrison, 1:43.00; 3. Stevenson, 1:44.08; 4. Canton, 1:46.70; 5. Walled Lake, 1:48.25; 6. Mike Malik, Keith Falk), 4:29.44; 2. Northville, 1:51.42; 7. Farmington, Northville, 4:39.33; 3. Walled Lake, 1:57.31; 8. Churchill, 2:02.08; 9. John 4:39.78; 4. John Glenn, 4:44.77; 5. Glenn, 2:03.88; 10. Franklin, 2:23.47.

## Emons from page C1

ble is the true test, especially at SC, which annually promotes its Student Athletic Support System program, but in reality is no more than a public relations sham.

And it's a shame the men's basketball program faces so many obstacles, especially from an administration that cares little about athletics in general.

Believe me, athletics at Schoolcraft College is a necessary evil. The coaches win in spite of the

school's indifference. If athletics were important, then they'd have a full-time athletic director in place and not a registered nurse with a masters

degree overseeing the program. It's too bad President Richard W. McDowell, Dean of Instruction Lou Reibling, VP Conway Jeffress or a Trustee or two

couldn't have seen the jubilation

#### in that gym following the miracle finish.

It was, however, good to see a . pair of faculty members in attendance (but I won't mention their names to protect the innocent).

I just hope Briggs is around long enough to see this thing through. He's brought excitement and an awakening to a sleeping program.

It's something former SC coach Glen Donahue envisioned doing before he left to take an assistant's job two years ago at Central Michigan.

SC returns to action this Saturday and Sunday for its holiday tournament.

It would sure be nice to see some support this weekend administrative, that is.

Anyway, shopping can take a permanent break.

## Madonna women's team trips Kalamazoo College Hornet '5'

Katie Cushman scored 20 points and Chris Dietrich added 13 as Madonna University rolled to a 91-61 women's college basketball home victory Sunday over Kalamazoo.

The Crusaders jumped to a 51-30 halftime lead and were never challenged in the second half. Madonna improved to 8-4 while the Hornets dropped to 2-7.

Cushman nailed four threepointers on her way to scoring 20. She added five assists and a pair of steals.

Dietrich had six assists to go with her 13 points. Dawn Pelc had six rebounds to lead the Crusaders.

#### Lady Ocelots falter

Apparently, not much progress was made in the 16-day layoff between games for Schoolcraft College's women's basketball team.

On Saturday SC met Kellogg CC, and the outcome was even worse: This time the Ocelots trailed from the start and were crushed, 67-32.

The two defeats left SC at 3-5 for the season. Edison improved · to 8-1; Kellogg is 7-2.

In the loss to Edison, the biggest difference came at the free throw line. The Ocelots, who led 40-37 at the half, were a poor 13-of-29 at the stripe (44.8 percent) compared to Edison's 23-of-32 (71.9 percent). SC also had more turnovers (28 to Edison's 24) and was outrebounded (35-1 31).

Theresa Cooper's 19 points and 10 rebounds topped the Ocelots. Amber Tackett added 14 points, six steals and five boards; Crissy Harmon had 12 points and four assists; and Jenny Talbot got 10 points.

Best for Edison was Rachel The Lady Ocelots returned to Brugger, who nailed 15-of-19 floor shots en route to scoring 38 points. Angie Benham scored 12, with Jamie Bridge and Shivvonne Garland each contributing 11 points. Bridge also had 11 rebounds and seven steals; Garland dished out five assists. The loss to Kellogg was SC's worst offensive performance of the season. The Ocelots trailed 29-14 at the half and never did recover. They connected on just 12-of-42 shots from the field (28.6 percent), while Kellogg made 26-of-64 (40.6 percent). SC's woes at the free-throw line also continued; the Ocelots made just 6-of-15 (40 percent); Kellogg wasn't much better (15of-32, 46.9 percent). In addition, SC was outrebounded by a wide margin (40-30) and committed a whopping 30 turnovers (Kellogg had 15). Talbot was the only Ocelot to reach double-figures in scoring: she had 11 points and seven rebounds. Kellogg was led by Cari Pacey's 17 points, Kendra Yeo's 13 and Niki Sullivan scored 11 and grabbed 10 boards.

ington. 4:17.42; 5. Churchill, 4:19.34; 4. Franklin, 2:19.02; 5. Stevenson, 6. Walled Lake, 4:30.13; 7. Franklin, 5:06.02.

400-yard freestyle relay: 1. Salem 9. John Glenn, 2:46.68. (Dan Kelly, Dan Jones, Mike Kilgore,

2:22.09; 6. Churchill, 2:25.01; 7. Harrison, 2:29.79; 8. Walled Lake, 2:33.72; 200-yard butterfly relay: 1. Stevenson

500-yard crescendo freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (George Earhart, Jacob Varty, action Friday at the Macomb CC Tournament, with dismal results: After a strong first half, they were battered in the second in losing 88-66 to Edison (Ohio) CC.

of 1-275

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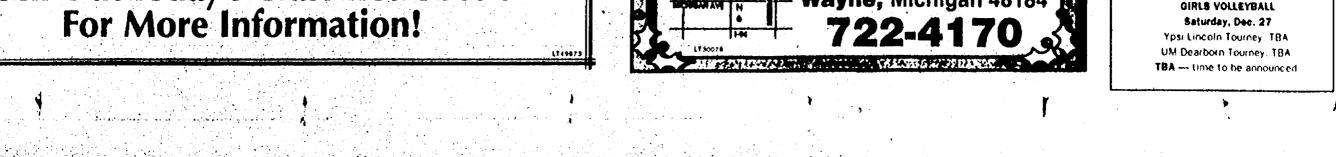
(Grosse lie Tournament) Salemivs, A.P. Cabrini, 6 p.m. Riv. Richard vs. Grosse IIe: 8 p.m Monday, Dec. 29 Grosse Ile Tourney, 6 & 8 p.m MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Saturday, Dec. 27 Madonna at Findlay (Ohio), 6 & 8 p m (Schoolcraft Holiday Classic) Owens Tech vs. Durham (Ont.), 5 p.m. S'craft vs. George Brown, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28 Schoolcraft Holiday Classic, 3 & 7 p in Madonna at Findlay (Ohlo), 1 & 3 p in

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday, Dec. 27 (Schoolcraft Holiday Classic) Lakeland CC vs. Windsor, 1 p.m. S'craft vs. George Brown, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28 S'craft Holiday Classic, 1 & 5 p.m PREP HOCKEY Saturday, Dec. 27 RU at U.D Jesuit Tourney, 5:30 p in Sunday, Dec. 28 UD Jesuit Tourney, TBA ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE Saturday, Dec. 27 Pif. Whaters at Windsor, 2 p.m.



**Check Out Today's Classified Section** 



#### **HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY ROUNDUP**

## CC, Churchill icers fit to be tied

**Redford** Catholic Central's hockey team is idle until Jan. 10 and you can't fault coach Gordie St. John for thinking the Shamrocks started their holiday break after the first period of Saturday's game against Birmingham Brother Rice.

The Shamrocks jumped to a 3-0 lead after one period only to allow Rice to score three unanswered goals in the third and earn a 4-4 tie before a small afternoon crowd at Compuware Arena in Plymouth.

"It was a holiday type crowd," St. John said. "Everyone was out shopping."

If that's the case, someone should have purhcased a hat for Rice's Joe Kustra, whose hat trick sparked the rally.

CC's Tony Keshishian was equally impressive, scoring two goals with an assist.

"It was a night for the K men," St. John said. "It was Tony's best game by far and that Rice kid is a good player."

The tie left the Shamrocks at 3-0-2 overall. The defending Class A state champions haven't lost since a mid-season game last year against Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook.

"After a good first period we kind of fell apart," St. John said. "Rice played much better hockey." We didn't carry out our assignments and took stupid penalties. It showed us what we have to do to be good."

Devlin had the other CC goals. David Moss, Greg Berger and Jim Melton picked up one assist each.

Rice freshman defenseman Andy Mechigian assisted on three of the Rice goals. Kevin LeFere, who missed some games early with a shoulder injury, scored one goal. Chris Cassidy assisted on two goals.

Mechigian has been seeing as much ice time as veteran defensemen Eric Bryant, Ryan Dettloff and Dan Pszenyczny.

"Mechigian's learning on the fly, doing a good job," Rice coach Mike Brown said. "We've been throwing him right to the wolves."

Rickey Marnon was the CC netminder. Rick Bartley started in goal for the Warriors before being relieved by last year's No. 1 netminder Aaron Smith.

Bartley was coming off a 3-0 shutout victory over Ann Arbor

Pioneer.

The Warriors, 4-0-3 overall, are idle until Jan. 7. Saturday's game was the first the Warriors have played at full strength, according to Brown.

"We have two weeks off to lick Nathan Lewarne and Ian our wounds," Brown said. "We're a little knicked up and need time away from the rink. I believe the holidays are time for family anyway. Believe me, I played a few times on Chrismas Night in the I (International Hockey League).

"It's a good way to end 1997 on a positive note. It's not the way you want to start out that game but we fought back and it was a good learning experience for our younger players."

The third period collapse isn't going to ruin St. John's Christmas, either.

"If we continue to improve as we have in the first month, we'll be tough in March," St. John They beat a tough Dearborn team by six said.

CHURCHILL 3. DEARBORN 3: Matt York scored three times Saturday for host Dearborn, including the game-tying goal with 6:45 remaining.

Churchill is now 4-1-2 overall and 4-0-1 in the South Division of the Suburban High School Hockey League. Dearborn is 4-4-1 and 2-2-1

"It's disappointing any time you give up a goal like that because we put an emphasis on penalty killing," Churchill coach Jeff Hatley said.

Churchill led 2-1 after one period on goals by Brandon Martola (from Matt Grant and Antti Kervinen) and Anton Sutovsky (from B.J. Tehan and Kervinen).

The Chargers also led 3-2 after two periods as Sutovsky notched his second goal of the game from Martoia at 4:46. Each team had three penalties.

Greg Sliwka went all the way in goal for Churchilf

The Chargers return to action Jan. 3 vs. Royal Oak before a big South Division showdown with unbeaten Stevenson.

"We're going to work hard over Christmas, it will be like training camp again," Hatley said. "Stevenson is undefeated and has a very talented team with a lot of skilled players.

"They're going to be tough to beat. goals, a team we tied.

"But we were in this spot two years ago. We tied Birmingham and came back over Christmas and ran the table."

## SUBURBAN HOCKEY STANDINGS

#### SUBURBAN HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS (as of Dec. 22)

SOUTH DIVISION: 1. Livonia Stevenson, 7-0-0/14 points; 2, Livonia Churchill, 4-0-1/9; 3. Dearborn, 2-2-1/5; 4. Northville, 2-4-0/4; 5. (tie) Livonia Franklin, 1-2-1/3; Walled Lake Central, 1-3-1/3; 7. Redford Union and Walled Lake Western, 1-4-0/2 each.

Overall records: Stevenson, 7-3-1; Churchill, 4-1-2; Franklin, 4-3-1; Dearborn, 4-4-1; Northville, 3-4-0; W.L. Western, 3-5; Redford Union, 2-7; W.L. Central, 1-6.2.

Leading scorers: Ryan Sinks (Stevenson), 7 goals-7 assists/14 points; Darin Fawkes (Stevenson), 5-8/13; Jeff Lang (Stevenson), 7.5/12; John May (Stevenson), 6-5/11; Bill Marshall (Stevenson), 4-7/11; Brandon Martoia (Churchill), 3-7/10; Kevin Boone (Northville), 5-4/9; Matt York (Dearborn), 6-3/9; Joel Halliday (RU), 6-2/8; Justin Robinson (Western), 6-2/8; Dan Cieslak (Stevenson), 3-5/8; Mike Radakovich (Stevenson), Bill Kulush (Clarkston), 3-6/9.

3-4/7; Matt Grant (Churchill), 1.6/7.

(LW)C3

NORTH DIVISION: 1. Clarkston, 5-0-0/10; 2. (tie) Royal Oak, 4-0-0/8; Waterford Mott, 4-2-0/8; 4. Birmingham, 3-1-0/6; 5. (tie) Bloomfield Hills Andover, 2-2-1/5: Waterford Kettering, 2-3-1/5; Troy, 2-3-0/5; 8. Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 1-4-0/2; 9. Southfield, 0-6-0/0.

Overall records: Royal Oak, 7-0-0; Clarkston, 5-1-1; Mott, 5-2-0; Troy, 5-3-1; Birmingham, 4-3-0; Andover, 3-4-1; Kettering, 2-5-1; Lahser, 1-6-0; Southfield, 0-6-0.

Leading scorers: Bret Postal (Clarkston), 6-9/15; Anthony Facione (Clarkston), 10-4/14; Darin Egerer (Birmingham), 9-3/12; Fern Kidder (Troy), 8-3/11; Rob Adham (Troy), 7-4/11: Scott Epstein (Andover). 7-4/11; Joe Tigay (Andover), 5-6/11; Damien Lewis (Roya! Oak), 6-4/10; Mike Beether (Mott), 5-5/10; Nick Luxon (Royal Oak), 3-7/10; Tim Atkins (Royal Oak), 6-3/9; Josh Del Dotto (Birmingham), 4-5/9; Adam Leech (Clarkson), 3-6/9;



Whalers have eye on 1st place

The Plymouth Whalers moved to within two points of first place in its division Saturday with a 2-1 home victory over North Bay.

Kevin Holdridge and Harold Druken scored for the Whalers and Julian Smith added a pair of assists. Plymouth improved to 43 points, just two behind London in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division.

Holdridge opened scoring in the first period as Troy and Julian Smith assisted. Druken's game-winner came at the 7:05 mark of the second period on a

### **OHL HOCKEY**

urday at Windsor and Monday, Dec. 29, at home against Erie.

#### Whalers transaction

The Whalers made a major trade Dec. 19 that involved four teams and 12 players.

Plymouth acquired defenseman Paul Mara from Sudbury and left wing Rick Smith from Windsor. In exchange, defensemen Luc Rioux and Mark Ridout, right wing Andy Burnham and 1998 second-round draft choice were dealt. In Mara, the Whalers acquire a former OHL all-star defenseman. A 6-foot 4-inch native of

**PREP HOOPS** 

ing three baskets from three-

point range. Keenan Weir had

18 points and Kefentse Booth

Sam Hoskins led Borgess

King, fresh off a 48-46 loss to

"The guys played harder."

King coach Benny White said.

"We didn't have any keys to

"We had a humiliating loss

the last game and the guys

took the resolve to come out

The Spartans return to the

winning, stopping anybody.

Northwestern,

with 15 points. Teammate

Aaron Jessup added 14.

improved to 2-3 overall.

and fight today."

scored 10.

Detroit

Massachusetts, he recorded nine goals and 34 assists for Sudbury in his rookie year. Mara has eight goals and 18 assists this year for the Wolves.

Left wing Smith is a 19-yearold Brighton native. He had eight goals and five assists for Windsor this year.

"Mara is one of, if not, the best defensemen in the Canadian Hockey League," Whalers Associate Coach Greg Stefan said. "There's no doubt in my mind he

power play.

North Bay's lone goal was also via the power play, at 9:17 of the second period.

The Whalers (20-9-3) play Sat-

World renowned musician

Kasuku Mafia, the self-pro-

claimed "Greatest One Man

Band In The Land," performed

at Monday's boys basketball

game at Redford Bishop

The Blues would have been

an appropriate theme for his

post-game routine as the host

Spartans lost a non-league

game to Detroit Martin Luther

King turned the game into a

rout by outscoring Borgess 17-

6 in the second quarter and 21-

11 in the third for a 55-31 lead.

margin respectable, outscoring

the Crusaders, 26-15, in the

King's James Thues led all

scorers with 25 points, includ-

The Spartans made the final

Borgess.

King, 70-57.

fourth quarter.

will add to our already strong defensive unit. With the addition of Mara and Smith, we believe we have an opportunity for a successful playoff bid."

High School.

disappointed."

optimistic.

C state title.

said.

But he would rather be away at a bowl game.

at home, I always have to be doing something," said Brzezinski, who works out regularly at Gold's Gym on Eight Mile Road.

## Spartans win Delta tourney

Surprises aren't something volleyball coaches generally like.

But Livonia Stevenson's Kelly Graham got one she didn't mind Saturday — namely, a Delta College Invitational championship.

"It was really a surprise," she said. "We're usually all over the place in our first match.

"It's like going in blind. You never know what's going to happen.'

A total of 10 schools competed in the tournament. Teams were divided into two pools of five.

The Spartans swept all four pool matches to garner the top spot for the championship rounds.

Stevenson started with a 15-8, 15-5 romp over All Saints Central of Bay City. The Spartans then beat Bay City John Glenn (15-5, 15-5), St. Charles (15-8, 15-12) and Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary (15-8, 15-4).

## VOLLEYBALL

den. Stevenson beat the Eagles in three games, 4-15, 15-6, 15-7.

The Spartans faced Saginaw Heritage in the finals and prevailed 17-15, 15-11.

The Stevenson coach said the tournament victory will help her team gain momentum for the rest of the season. "It's definitely a plus," Graham said.

A number of Spartans played well at the Delta College Invitational.

Stephanie Dulz recorded 60 kills, 17 solo blocks and nine aces. Lindsey Pfeifer notched 13 kills and seven aces.

Sarah Wittrock finished with 26 assists and eight aces. Czech Republic exchange student Irena Bicankova added 21 assists, eight kills and five serving aces.

Becky Peterson connected on 43 of 44 serves, including Livonia moved on to the four aces. Katie LeBlanc

## **COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

## Brzezinski from C1

NCAA National Letter-of-Intent to take the head coaching position with the NFL expansion Jacksonville Jaguars.

"I was still committed to the school and I said to myself that I had to stick it out," he said. "But it (1996) was like a nightmare. It reminded of a book I read, 'Heart of Darkness.' I thought about transferring."

He is now home for the holidays with his family, including brother Nick, a junior tight end who caught touchdown pass in CC's 23-6 state Class AA championship win over Ann Arbor Huron.

"I get nervous sitting around

A big year could put Brzezinski high in the NFL draft, but he isn't thinking about the prosjust vet.

#### semifinal to face the other totaled 15 kills and seven pool's second place team, Lin- blocks.

He's just trying to keep the Boston College ship from sinking and steering it back on course.

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## MOVIES Most kids would help others if they had 'royal' power

Kids - what would you do if were a prince Roni's brother you were a princess or prince, and had the power to do anything? Would you try to help others, or buy a lot of toys?

Readers who responded to our ouestion won an activity book from "Anastasia," Fox's first fulllength animated feature film. now playing at metro Detroit movie theaters. They also received a T-shirt.

"If I were a princess I'd want all the children in the world to get as many dolls as they wanted," wrote 5-year-old Veronica (Roni) Allen of Livonia. If he Evan, who is 7, "would have a train drive me wherever I'd want to go and for all the children to have rides on it."

"If Stephanie Kasmicski of Rochester, age 5, was a princess she would "help people, and get presents for the whole world so no one would be sad or left out."

"If I had the power of a princess I would make myself a member of the W.B.A. team for Detroit," wrote Amie King of Redford. "I play basketball for my school team and the R.T.J.A.A. and the A.A.U. If I was

on the team I could help them win the championship."

Her sister, Erin wrote, "If I was a princess and had her powers to do anything, fewould get new lungs for my grandma because she can't breathe very good. For my other grandma I would get new knees because hers hurt all the time. For my two grandpas 1 would get them new hearts because they both had heart attacks. For my sister I would make her the captain of the new Detroit W.B.A. team because she loves basketball so much. For my mom and dad I would get them a bigger house because ours is getting to be too small."

If Kristina Klusek, age 4 of Canton "would take care of kids." Her sister Melissa who is 7 would "buy toys for the poor and make sure everyone was taken care of, and make sure everyone was happy."

Matthew B. Street of Southfield, age 5 "would go to Toys 'R' Us when I wanted to, go to grannie's when I wanted to, and get a cookie when I wanted."

Morris, his brother, who is 7 "would give lots of toys to the poor children, if I were a prince.

would also take my powers, put them in a ball and put it all over me to get rid of my chicken pox."

Their sister, Melanie Lynn Street, who is 3 "would dance with Cinderella like this: (Melanie twirls around with her hands over her head like a ballerina – as dictated to her mom).

Lily Greig of Kochester, age 9 "would give money to hospitals. and I would give delicious lunches to Meals on Wheels."

"Anastasia" is a great mystery of the 20th century. The year was 1916 and a young princess named Anastasia lived in a world of elegant palaces. Her family, the Romanovs, was celebrating its 300th anniversary as the ruling dynasty in Russia. But a dark shadow was descending over the palace. The fire of revolution began to rage across the country, ultimately destroying most of the Romanov family. Anastasia escapes. A magical mix of action, adventure, comedy. romance and music, "Anastasia" is an animated motion picture by Twentieth Century Fox about the lost Russian princess, the fabled last surviving member of





 $(\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{0}))$ BEST PICTURE BEST ACTOR (Drama) BEST SUPPORTINGACIOR BEST DIRECTOR FREEMAN AND HOPKINS ARE SHOO-INS FOR ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS." TERRY LAWSON, DETROIT FREE PRESS "TWO THUMBS UP." SISKEL & EBERT **A STEVEN SPIELBERG FILM MORGAN FREEMAN ANTHONY HOPKINS** DJIMON HOUNSOU MATTHEW McCONAUGHEY DREAMWORKS PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSIRIATION WITH HEO PICTURES "AMISTAD" NIGEL HAWTHORNE DAVID PAYMER PETE POSTLETHWAITE STELLAN SKARSGÅRD AV WALTER PARKES LAURIE MADONALD \*\*\*\*\*\*RSTEVEN SPIELBERG DEBBIE ALLEN COLIN WILSON \*\*TROAVID FRANZONI 🚈 KSTEVEN SPIELBERG 📴 🖽 www.amistad-thefilm.com NOW PLAYING AMC MAPLE 3 AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY **BIRMINGHAM 8 BEACON EAST RENAISSANCE 4** SHOWCASE DEARBORN SHOWCASE ANEVRH SHOWCASE 274 101112 SHOWCASE HEIGHTS SHOWCASE WESTLAND STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE STAR ROCHESTER HILLS STAR SOUTHFIELD STARTING DEC. 25 AMC BEL AIR STAR TAYLOR THEATRE DIRECTORIES OR CALL THEATRE FOR SHOWTIMES + SORRY, NO PASSES OR COUPONS ACCEPTED FOR THIS ENGAGEMENT WATCH THE GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS ON ABC ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 18TH

## IT'S TIME TO UNWRAP THE HOLIDAY SURPRISE OF THE YEAR.

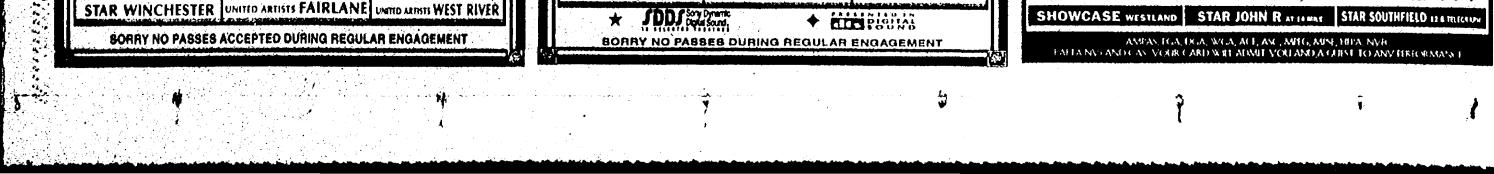


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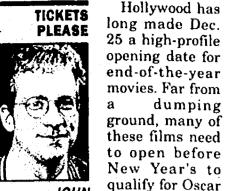
STAR WINCHESTER\*

The Observer & Eccentric/THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

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MOVIES

## Quirky movies highlight holiday weekend



ground, many of these films need to open before

Hollywood has

dumping

nominations.

JOHN MONAGHAN

The eight movies bowing today run the gamut from quirky comedy to numbing tragedy. Three of them, "Jackie Brown," "Deconstructing Harry" and "The Sweet Hereafter" feature between them so much maverick moviemaking that you hope other filmmakers use them as the basis for their New Year's resolutions.

In his first film as director since "Pulp Fiction," Quentin Tarantino has assembled a few of his favorite things and rolled them together into something called "Jackie Brown." The movie is based on a novel by Elmore Leonard, stars '70s action heroine Pam Grier, and features a soundtrack of vintage soul.

At well over two hours, the combination grows unwieldy to say the least. Grier plays an airline stewardess collared for drug and money smuggling who promises to play ball with ATF agents to bring down the murderous gun salesman Ordell (Sam Jackson.)

The plot thickens (and sometimes coagulates) when she makes a side deal with Ordell to smuggle more money under the Feds' noses. The most interesting thing about the payoff is the way Tarantino plays with one of his trademark: non-linear time.

Ultimately, this is more an Elmore Leonard movie than a Moore, Elisabeth Shue, Richard Benjamin, and Julia Louis-Dreyfuss in another intensely personal story of a self-absorbed writer (Allen, of course) whose complex relationships fuel his fiction.

The movie poises between real-life and the writer's short fiction, adding up to a reminder of how clever Allen truly is as a short story author. In one, a young man uses the bachelor pad of a dying friend to date a prostitute. When the doorbell rings, a black-cloaked vision of death insists that, despite the man's pleas of mistaken identity. it's time to meet his maker.

How Allen juxtaposes these stories with real life is consistently clever. Who else would

years stars Kirstie Alley, Demi cast scratchy-voiced Demi Moore who the writer warns (a la "Manas the fictional equivalent of Kirstie Alley?

> In yet another homage to favorite directors Ingmar Bergman and Federico Fellini, Allen references the former's "Wild Strawberries" when the writer makes a long, flashbackfilled trek to his old school's awards ceremony. By the end, he is in a Fellini version of hell, with naked writhing women and an office for Satan with central air. And doesn't anyone else find it funny that the nearly 60-yearold Allen has wooed some of the screen's most beautiful women in recent years? Julia Roberts and Helena Bonham-Carter have recently succumbed to his charms and now there's Elisa-

"AN EPIC FILLED WITH ADVENTURE, EXCITEMENT AND HOPE."

**"BREATHTA]** 

hattan") not to fall in love with him

These inside jokes are only frosting on the cake for a truly inspired movie that defines the nature of the artist as loner, loser, lover, misanthrope and hedonist. With Woody Allen, you get all of the above.

"The Sweet Hereafter," the latest from Canadian Atom Egoyan, won the top prize at Cannes this year. But don't let that, or the film's depressing content, scare you away.

In one of the richest film experiences this year, Ian Holm plays a lawyer who descends on a small Northern Canada town after a bus accident has killed beth Shue, as a fan-turned-lover virtually all of the town's chil-

Maria Salay, CBS-TELENOLICIAS

ADVENTURE."

-Ron Brewington AMERICAN URBAN RADIO NETWORKS

"A TRIUMPH FOR

**KEVIN COSTNER.** 

Don Motter, ENTERTAINMENT, HML-OUT

EXTRAORDINARY FILM.

AN UNFORGETTABLE

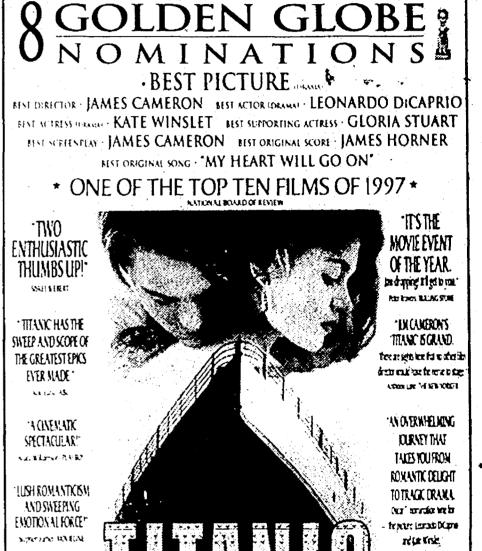
"A MOST

dren. While some welcome his promise that justice will be served, others rightly see him as a money-hungry shyster profiting from misery.

Yet it's difficult to see Holm's character strictly in terms of villain. Throughout the proceedings, he is constantly reminded of his own heroin-addicted daughter, who constantly rings his cellular phone with sweet talk but inevitably tries to squeeze him for drug money. What Holm and the townspeople need to realize is that fate doesn't play by the rules. And despite the human need to lay blame on senseless tragedy, sometimes none can be found.

Egoyan, known for complex (often pretentious) studies of family politics, gets it right this time. With his clever use of wide screen, he creates at least one image that will be burned foreyer into your mind: a bright yellow school bus carefully negotiating turns on icy mountain roads. surrounded by an endless expanse of heavenly white snow.

John Monaghan welcomes your calls and comments. To leave John a voice mail message. dial (313) 953-2047 on a touchtone phone, mailbox 1866.



Tarantino one. The kinetic quali ties and bizarre twists that made "Pulp Fiction" such a blast are replaced here by characters and twists of fate that probably worked far better on the page before Tarantino got ahold of it.

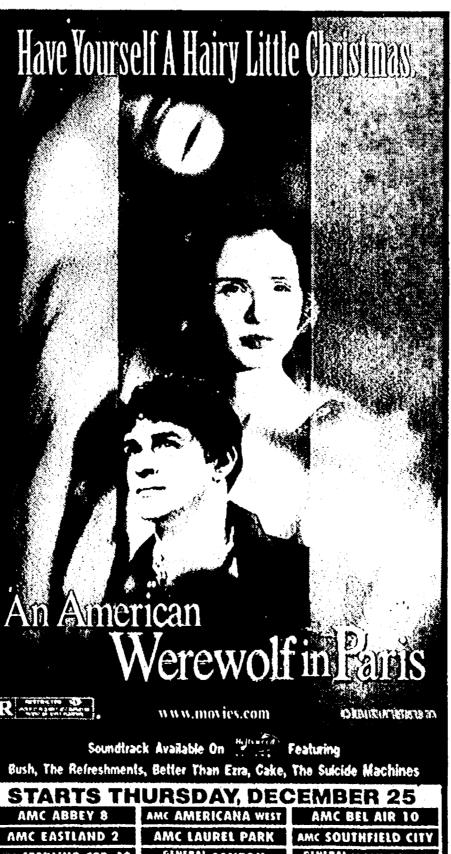
Still, you have a fascinating cast, including '70s TV actor Robert Forster as an aging bail bondsmen, Robert De Niro as Ordell's right hand man and Bridget Fonda as a "surfer girl' whose self-confessed ambitions consist of smoking pot and watching television.

Bizarre casting continues to be a staple of Woody Allen movies and "Deconstructing Harry' is no exception. His best film ir

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**C6(LW)** 

The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

**Outdoor Calendar** 

### DATES/DEADLINES

#### BASS

Bass season ends statewide on Dec. 31.

#### DEER

The second archery season runs through Jan. 1 statewide. A special late antierless only firearms season runs through Jan. 4 on private land only in Zone III.

#### GOOSE

The special late Canada goose season runs Jan. 2-Feb. 1 in southern Michigan. The boundaries for the late hunt have been changed this year and are now the same as those for the South Zone of the regular waterfowl season. The entire south zone is open during the late hunt with the exception of the five GMU's.

#### SQUIRREL

Fox and gray squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

#### RABBIT

Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

#### **CLASSES** FLY TYING

The Challenge Chapter of Trout Unlimited and Birmingham Continuing Education will offer a 10week fly tying class beginning at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19, at Birmingham Seaholm High School. Registration begins Jan. 5. Call (248) 203-3800 for more information.

#### ARCHERY JUNIOR OLYMPICS

The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior **Olympic Archery Development** Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information.

#### JUNIOR ARCHERS

A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West

Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

### **OUTDOOR CLUBS**

#### SOLAR

The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation, a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

## **FISHING CLUBS**

#### **CLINTON VALLEY BASS ANGLERS**

**Clinton Valley Bass Anglers is** seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. The next meeting is slated for 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 11. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

#### **METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS**

Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

#### MICHIGAN FLY FISHING

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

#### FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Senior Citizen's Center in the Livonia Civic Center. Call Jim Kudej at (313) 591-0843 for more information.

#### FISHING BUDDIES

**Fishing Buddies Fishing Club** meets monthly in Rochester Hills. Call (248) 656-0556 for more information.

#### **BASS ASSOCIATION**

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Dearborn Civic Center. Call (313) 676-2863 for more information.

### SHOOTING RANGES

#### **BALD MOUNTAIN**

**Bald Mountain Recreation Area** in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5stand), rifle, pistol, and archery. shooting facilities. Range hours are noon to sunset on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursday's and Fridays and 10 a.m. to sunset on Wednesdays. On Saturdays and Sundays the rifle and pistol range is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the sporting clays course is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenshield Rd. (three milesnorth of the Palace of Auburn Hills). Call (810) 814-9193 for more information.

#### PONTIAC LAKE

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call

(810) 666-1020 for more information.

#### ORTONVILLE RECREATION

**Ortonville Recreation Area in** Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 22 are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (810) 693-6767 for more information.

### **METROPARKS**

**METROPARK REQUIREMENTS** Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks, toll free: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178.

#### **1998 PERMITS**

The 1998 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 and \$8 for senior citizens. The annual boat launching permits are \$18 and \$9 for senior citizens. Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

DEER THROUGH THE SEASONS Explore the world of the park's largest mammal, the whitetailed deer, through slides and a short walk during this program, which began Sunday, Dec. 21, at Kensington.

### **OAKLAND COUNTY** PARKS

**COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS** Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

#### **RECYCLE CHRISTMAS TREES**

Ten Oakland County Parks will be recycling Christmas trees Dec. 27-Jan. 11. Trees may be dropped off 9 a.m.-4 p.m., seven days a week. Independence Oaks and Orion Oaks will remain open for Christmas tree recycling through Jan. 25.

#### FULL MOON CROSS COUNTRY SKI Experience an evening of cross country skiing under the light of

the full moon during this program, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, at Independence Oaks.

### **STATE PARKS**

**STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS** Maybury State Park, Proud Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area. Highland Recreation Area and Island Lake Recreation Area offer nature interpretive programs throughout the year. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and additional information on the programs at Maybury call (810) 349-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain call (810) 693-6767. For programs at Proud Lake and Highland call (810) 685-2433. For programs at Island Lake call (810) 229-7067.

## Sunday Rec story ideas?

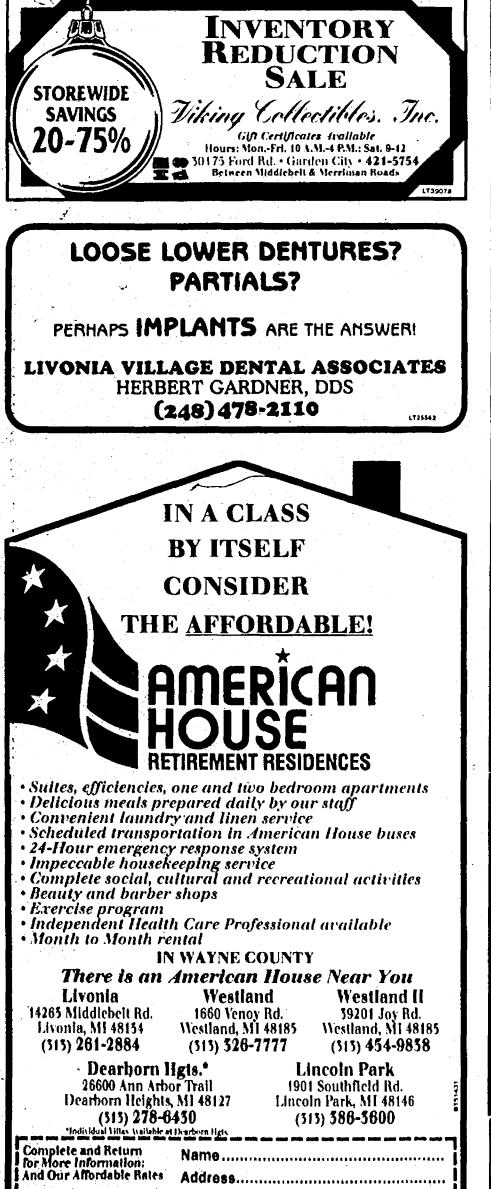
The Observer publishes a **Recreation News page** each Sunday and is looking for feature ideas.

If you have a story idea about a local outdoorsman, club or group of unique athletes, write to: Brad Emons, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mi. 48150; or send via fax to (313) 591-7279.

**Correction** Notice

Due to unforeseen demand, the Pentium<sup>®</sup> 166MHz computers and the Hewlett Packard 3100 computer package advertised in our December 25 insert may not be available at all stores.



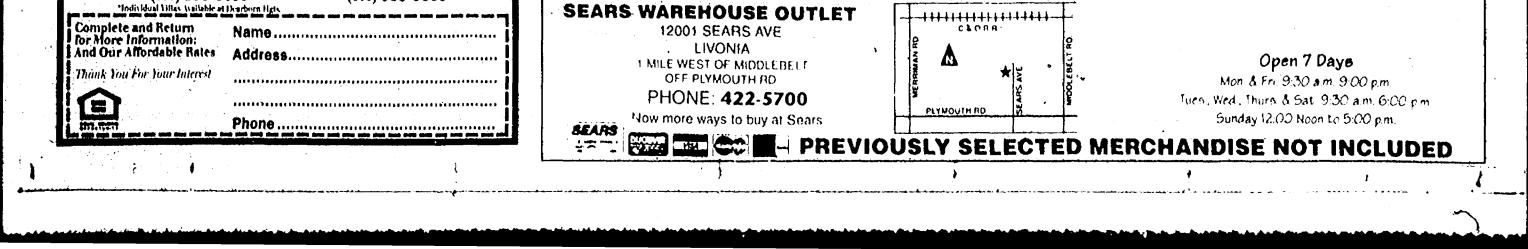


We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

## **Sears Outlet Store Furniture & Appliances** Original Retail Prices **New Shipments** arriving EVERYDAY! One-of-a-kind, out of carton, discontinued, floor

samples, dented, used, scratched and reconditioned merchandise. Items pictured are just a few examples of the hundreds of great values. Merchandise shown is representation only. Actual merchandise varies by store.





# **Entertainment**

## The Observer

Wygonik, Editor 313-953-2105

THE WEEKEND FRIDAY

"The Living Nativity," is part of The Radio City Christmas Spectacular at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward, Detroit. Call (248) 433-1515 for tickets, and performance times.

SATURDAY

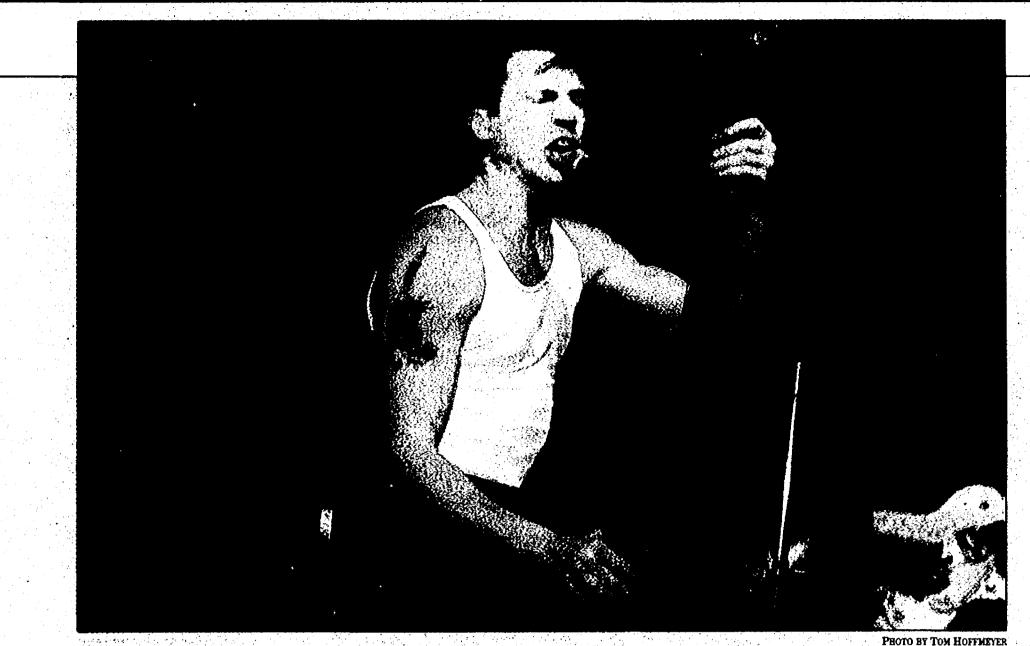


19 Wheels performs at the 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Doors open at 8 p.m. for the 18 and older show. Tickets are \$6. (248) 335-8100.



Thursday, December 25, 1997 on the web: http://observer-eccentric.com

Page 1, Section



Go cat go: When not touring the United States, the local rockabilly band Twistin' Tarantulas packs them in on Sundays at Fifth Avenue Billiards in Royal Oak. The band is, from left, drummer Alex "The Thrilla From Manila" Trajano, bassist/singer "Pistol" Pete Midtgard, and guitarist "Gorgeous" George Friend.

wistin	' Tara	antulas:	Who: Twistin' Tarantulas, Mudpuppy and Nobody's Business What: Performs
			When: 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 Where: Upstairs at Fifth Avenue Billiards, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak.
		)&E	Why: It's New Year's Eve How: Tickets are \$35 which includes a compli- mentary glass of champagne, or \$60 per couple which includes a complimentary bottle of cham- pagne, Both ticket prices include a light buffet
(1 B)			and party favors. Only those 21 and older will be

Hot Tix: Toy & Hobby Expo '97, Friday-Sunday, Dec. 26-28 at the Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Dr., Novi features art work by Paul Adams, the world's largest mobile train display, new and used model railroad and toy trains, antique toys, collectible dolls and more, call (248) 348-5600.



BY CHRISTINA FUOCO STAPF WRITER

> Feeling jovial, a teenage Pete Midtgard popped Humble Pie's "30 Days in the Hole" into his eight-track player.

"I had this speaker on the floor in my room that really was a cardboard box with just a round speaker tied into it (sitting) on a hardwood floor," Midtgard recalled.

"I cranked it up really loud and when the bass came in, the speaker started skating around on the floor like one of those little football guys. That's when I said, 'Man, I want to be that guy. I want to be the guy who makes the speaker rattle across the floor and shake the glass.' I wanted to be the bass player."

Midtgard's bass playing abilities have undoubtedly improved since then as he's now known as "Pistol Pete," the lead singer and upright bass player for the rockabilly band Twistin' Tarantulas.

Bass gripped tightly and sweaty hair flapping with the beat, Midtgard and his band attract dancers like flies to fly paper.

## **Band** of the Year

An amalgamation of rockabilly, swing, blues, R&B and rock 'n' roll, the Twistin' Tarantulas play constantly and still the clubs are invariably standing room only.

The Twistin' Tarantulas were on the cusp of the rockabilly/swing revival long before others jumped on the now trendy bandwagon. Like rockabilly or hate it, the Twistin' Tarantulas rock.

The Twistin' Tarantulas are The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers' 1997 Band of the Year.

#### Side project

Midtgard grew up in Pontiac attending Pontiac Central High School. He graduated, what he calls, "Phi Beta Drop Out."

"I was in a hurry to go to a new school school of hard rocks. I got a PhD from the hard knock school of adolescent rage. I can't push the first button on a computer, but I still remember binary codes."

While he was in school, he played multiple instruments including the tuba and trombone. It was at age 16 or 17 that he plopped in the aforementioned Humble Pie tape.

admitted. For more information, call (248) 542-9922

#### Other shows:

Twistin' Tarantulas perform at 10 p.m. Sundays throughout December and January at Fifth Avenue **Billiards in Royal Oak** 

They also perform at 10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, at the Kodiak Grill, 45660 Mound Road, Utica. For more information, call (810) 731-1750. Twistin' Tarantulas play Saturday, Jan. 31, at the Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., in Ann Arbor. Doors open at 9:30 p.m. for the 19 and older show. For more information, call (734) 996-8555.

To sign up for the Twistin' Tarantulas' mailing list, write "Pistol" Pete Midtgard at 2748 Vermont, Detroit, Mich., 48216

"I was into Humble Pie, Kiss, Led Zeppelin, Black Sabbath, Deep Purple, all the big arena bands. Back then I had a lot of the cultural habits that were real common in the '70s."

Hearkening back to his high school days, Midtgard and the Twistin' Tarantulas cover Misfits songs and Motorhead's "Ace of Spades."

"What else? It's one of the greatest songs ever written as far as I'm concerned. I've done that song in every band I've been in. When I started playing the upright I wasn't about to change."

Midtgard honed his skills in a variety of acts including the Frantic Flattops and Flying Saucers. In December 1993, the Twistin' Tarantulas were created as a side project

Please see BAND, E2

## NEW YEAR'S EVE

Plan an informal, fun-filled New Year's Eve at home

#### What's On TV

New Year's Eve College Football Bowls

# Sun Bowt, El Paso, Texas - 2 p.m. CBS (WWJ), Arizona State (8-3) vs. lowa (7-4)

Elberty Bowl, Memphis, Tenn. --3:30 p.m. ESPN, Pittsburgh (6-5) vs. Southern Miss. (8-3)

III Flesta Bowl, Tempe, Ariz. - 7 p.m. CBS (WWJ), Kansas State (10-1) vs. Syracuse (9-3).

Countdown to 1998 # Tonight Show, broadcast live --11:35 p.m. NBC (WDIV) I Dick Clark's Rockin' Eve - 11:30 p.m. ABC (WXYZ) after the local news

When New Year's Attacks - 11 p.m. Fox (WJBK) - live from Reno, 90 minute show counts down to new year, features top musical performances, comedians, fireworks, Top 10 Scarlest Moments of 1997, and a midnight stunt to bring in the New

### Sip champagne

### BY ELEANOR AND RAY HEALD SPECIAL WRITERS

You did it! You copped out and didn't get reservations for New Year's Evel Don't fret, you have a week and can either plan to max out at the peak of hedonism or cheap out.

Champagne and hedonism pair nicely. In the category of magnificent, indulgent. unforgettable, extravagant maxing out for around \$145

a bottle, you can get the world's best, 1989 Champagne Krug or the 1985, to usher in the new year. You have the champagne idea; now for the caviar.

If you've not purchased caviar before, here are the basics. Russian caviars are identified by the species of

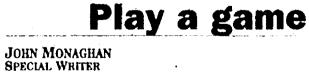
## **View a video**

BY JOHN MONAGHAN SPECIAL WRITER

other ways to ring in a New Year than simply watching Dick Clark drop that silly ball in Times Square. Your local video store is more than happy to meet your needs, whether you're spending the holiday with friends, a lover, or just by yourself.

Throw Your Own Premier - it's easy to have your

own premier with major movies that for some reason never made it to area screens. One that's getting decent notices is "Traveler," starring "Titanic's" Bill Paxton and "Boogie Nights" Mark Wahlberg as gypsies who traverse the rural South, bilking people out of their money.



For awhile there it seemed like parlor and board games were all just derivations of Monopoly and Charades. That's not true anymore as stores have whole aisles of clever ways to liven up New Year's Eve parties. Here's just a sample:

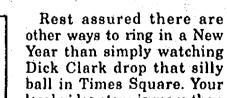
🗰 Outburst – In a game that promises "common knowledge and uncommon

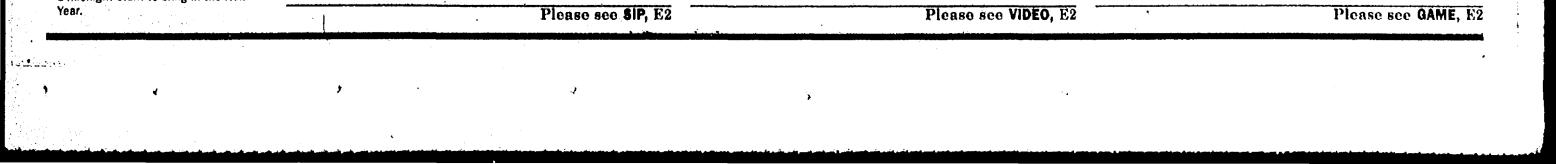
hilarity!" you are given a topic like "Canine Commands" and must come up with all 10 desired responses in only 60 seconds. Other categories: "Dances of the Sixties" and "Parts of the Body that Come in Pairs."

■ Planet Hollywood – Is the official game of the Tinsel-









The Observer & Eccentric/THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

people in my past that when I

was wandering with no direc-

tion, these people were beacons.

They were lighthouses when I

After a pause, Midtgard said,

"Oh, I have to sing the chorus for

"In my darkest moments when

I felt so alone/ At times when I'd

wander so far from home/ You lit

a candle while I cursed the dark/

You're a lighthouse in a foggy

ted that he got the

lighthouse/foggy world connec-

tion from the Frank Capra film

bit more serious subject matter.

The first CD has a lot of those

songs that I wrote when I first

started playing rockabilly. My

feeling about rockabilly at that

time was that it had to be all

fluff. You don't want to say any-

thing too deep because it's just

"There's a couple songs on it

fun, happy happy, joy joy music."

"I'm writing songs with a little

Quickly, he sat up and admit-

where I should be."

you."

world."

"Meet John Doe."

## Band from pageE1

for Midtgard – who was playing with theGarfield Blues Band and Johnny "Yarddog" Jones - and "Gorgeous" George Friend, then of the R&B group the Sun Messengers.

"I was doing pick-up blues gigs all around town playing the upright until the Tarantulas finally got to a point where we knew we were see-worthy. We've been full time almost two years," Midtgard said.

Five drummers later, Alex "The Thrilla From Manila" Trajano, formerly of the avant jazz troupe Blue Dog, is on skins,

"Alex is awesome. Alex is the find," Midtgard explained.

Midtgard realizes that one day he, too, may leave.

"Musicians do come and go. That's the nature of musicians. They do a certain bag long enough then they get tired of it. Me. I have my own thing that I do. There will always be a Twistin' Tarantulas, but I think

the only main stay is going to be me. Other guys are going to come and go. That's just something that you learn to accept after awhile."

Maracas player Frederick ("Ready Freddy") Spencer made an unexpected exit from the Twistin' Tarantulas Friday, Nov. 1, 1996. A captain in the armed services, Spencer was shining his shoes and brass buckles and buttons on the cloth wheel on a bench grinder. Police believe that his tie got caught, yanked him down and snapped his neck.

"I wrote a song about what I learned from that experience. It was a strange thing because I had this song in mind earlier. One time I was thinking about spectator sports and thinking about how spectators get so involved in this thing, but they're not in the arena. I've never been able to understand that personally," Midtgard explained.

"I was thinking about people who love to sit back and criticize the people that are in the arena doing the battle. They're not trying anything."

The chorus, he said, encourages people to make the most of their lives.

"There might not be a tomorrow," Midtgard sang. "There's not much left of today. So live your life in the arena and love, don't sit in the stands and fade away."

Prior to Spencer's death, Midtgard struggled with the song's verses. Afterward, the words flowed.

"It was real simple then. It was the last time he taught me a lesson - that you should live' and love and love to live because you never know your fate."

"The Arena" will be on the Twistin' Tarantulas' follow-up to "Attack of the Twistin' Tarantulas," its debut CD released in the fall 1996. Midtgard is planning to record soon and release a new CD this summer.

Also included on the CD will be "Lighthouses."

"Lighthouse' is about different

Game from page E1

town-themed restaurants, players are given categories like "Reasons to press STOP on your VCR," "Famous Blond Actors," or "Movies with One Name." You must come up with as many answers as possible while an electronic timer (with a "Mission Impossible"-style suspenseful tune) gives the game tension.

Monopoly Special Editions -You've probably lost the shoe and the few \$500 bills that remain are looking pretty dogeared. Still, even if you do buy the "Deluxe Edition," it won't prevent your opponents from hitting Boardwalk before you do.

And in a twist on the "Your City Here" versions of the game produced in bergs nationwide. Monopoly's "Star Wars Classic Trilogy Edition" mixes Chewbacca and Community Chest. Here the pewter tokens now resemble X-wing fighters as you develop cities and spaceports throughout the galaxy. Channel Surfing – The favorite pastime of couch potatoes worldwide is now a popular (and socially acceptable) parlor game. Using the remote control on your cable television (not included), you must search for such items as "Tacky Outfits," "Fruit," or "Somethings That Makes You Gag," all explained for you on game cards. In a clever twist, a "Ring" could be a wedding ring, but it could also be a sound.

Tom Clancy's Politika – For those of you frustrated by the world political situation, here's a strategy game that allows you to control the fate of modern Russia. The premise here is that the Russian President has died, leaving the country in the hands of the Russian mafia. Unlike the books, where you're at the mercy of the Mr. Clancy's literary whims, here you call the shots.

Act One – Another game where knowledge of Hollywood helps, this time with 1,400 lines or other clues from the most memorable moments in TV and movie history. Draw a card, act out a scene, and then your partners have to guess what it is. based on your performance and their familiarity with classics such as "I Love Lucy," "Star Wars," "The X-Files," and "The Godfather." Compatibility – A game like this can either lead to holiday fun or some serious family disharmony. Here you and your partner choose a subject that both of you have some strong feelings about and then pick from a stack of pictured cards' with related images. The "Marriage" category might prompt a cuddly Teddy bear, but there are also cards of prison cells. Rank these pictures in order of personal importance and watch the sparks fly.

LAST CHANCE TO VISIT EGYPT!

\*\*\*\*

ANCIENT

EGYPT

that have odd twists to them like 'Snake in the Grass.' I'm sitting there telling this girl she's got to get away from this guy because he's treating her (badly) and by was wandering too far away from the way, I'm available. That was the only song I was lyrically proud of on that record."

A shuffle, a stroll and Latin and bossa nova beats have become standard fare for the Twistin' Tarantulas' shows.

"We try to educate. There's a real big dance scene that's evolving. For the longest time, all these so-called dancers all they could dance to was one groove, which is fast swing. All they know how to do is spin each other around and dance really fast. If you don't play fast swing, they wouldn't dance."

Finally, Midtgard tossed out a threat.

"I started saying to them, 'Look man. If you're really dancers then you should know how to do a shuffle and a stroll and a mambo and a bossonova. If you're really going to get out here and wear the clothes, and

## from page E1

sturgeon (beluga, ossetra or sevruga) and the sea from which they are taken (generally Caspian or Black). Other caviars are described as granular, pressed, flavored or pasteurized. It is most important to purchase fresh caviar. Beluga is the most expensive.

Fish departments of upscale grocery markets in the area regularly carry caviar during the holidays. Ordering caviar by telephone from a reputable importer and having it shipped overnight is a snap. We've used Caviarteria, Park Avenue, New York (800) 4-CAVIAR or for American caviars, Carolyn Collins Caviar Company, Chicago (800) 226-0342.

Become a style mayen on New Year's Eve! Imitate James Bond. Go to a New Year's Eve showing of "Tomorrow Never Dies," the latest James Bond film. Watch

wear the two-tone shoes and the pin-striped suits, you folks should learn how to dance to all these different steps, not just 'Sing, Sing, Sing.'

Nevermind the threats, the crowds keep pouring in to clubs like Fifth Avenue Billiards every Sunday night. Midtgard knows full well that his band is all about its live performances.

"We're a fun band to watch." Mitdgard said confidently while crossing his arms. "It's not because we put on some big dog and pony show. We enjoy what we do. That comes across: I love the music that I play. It comes from the bottom of my heart. I try to look nice, keep my hair combed."

"We try to mix it up. It's all in a very similar vein. We play American roots music. We don't do one bag. We have a nice full bag of tricks. We can do swing. We can do blues swing. We can do straight-ahead rock 'n' roll. We can do rockabilly. It all has a common denominator to it. It's always the three of us playing."

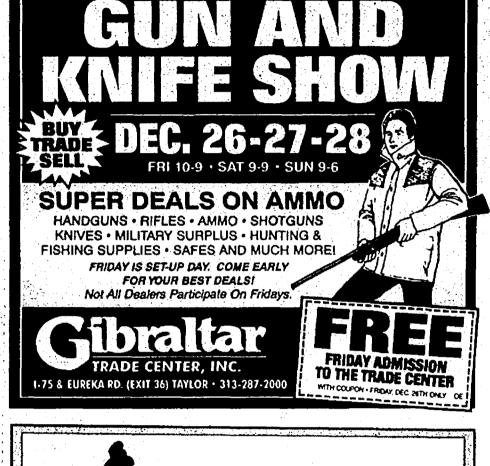
Champagne - "Live and Let Die," "Moonraker," "Octopussy," "A View to a Kill," "The Living Daylights," "License to Kill," "GoldenEye" and "Tomorrow Never Dies."

Bollinger Special Cuvée runs about \$30 if the Grande Année seems a tad pricey. No kidding, it's really good with fresh popcorn!

Prepare a simple, romantic dinner with wine. Chardonnay remains America's most favorite white wine. 1996 Alderbrook Chardonnay \$13 is most appealing.

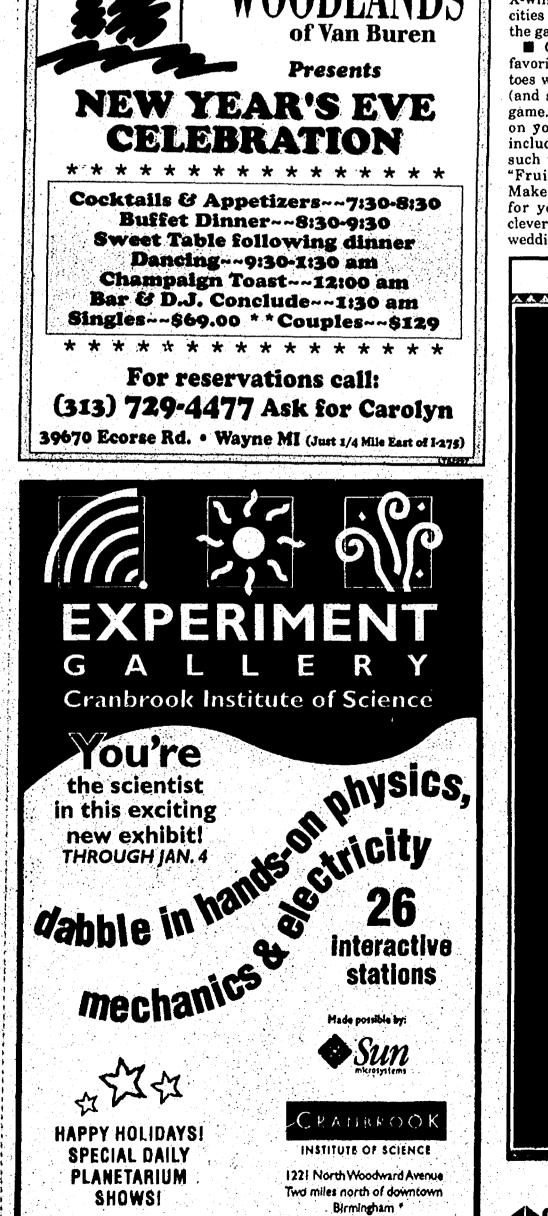
Or you could order pizza. Drink good but cheap red wine with your pizza. The following are \$10 or less.

1995 Napa Ridge Cabernet Sauvignon; 1995 Georges Duboeuf Cabernet Sauvignon: 1995 Lindemans Bin 45 Cabernet Sauvignon; 1996 Walnut Crest Merlot: 1996 Sutter Home Merlot; 1995 Lindemans Bin 40 Merlot: or 1995 Fetzer Eagle Peak Merlot.



MICHIGAN'S FINEST

Ë2(OF\*)



(248) 645-3200

Pierce Brosnan as Agent 007 drink the 1989 Champagne Bollinger Grande Année \$70. This is the 19th Bond film and the eighth in which Agent 007 drinks his favorite champagne. You'll get thirsty, so have your bottle chilled and imitate the Bond style when you get home! It's also great with caviar.

You just want to stay home? Fine, rent the video of one or all seven other Bond films in which Agent 007 drinks Bollinger

### Video from page E1

■ Offbeat Romance – Before vou rent "Sleepless in Seattle" again, try a charming little romance called "Before Sunrise," from Richard Linklater, the director of "Dazed and Confused" and "Slacker." Here Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy play young Bohemians who meet on the train in Europe and decide, on the spot, to spend one memorable night together in Vienna.

Better in Black and White - The holidays are almost over, but there's still time to catch "Shop Around the Corner" (1940) a Jimmy Stewart movie directed by Ernst Lubitsch that gives "It's a Wonderful Life" a run for its money. Here the stammering one plays head clerk at a Budapest gift shop who doesn't realize that the co-worker he constantly argues with (Margaret Sullavan) is the same woman he has been wooing through a personals ad.

**Hong Kong Action** – With the Hong Kong influence making itself more and more known through the American success of Jackie Chan, John Woo and hopefully soon Chow Yun Fat (his new movie opens in February), it's time to catch up with the Asian invasion on video. Now that you've seen Woo's "Face/Off," check out his "Hard Boiled," whose high-octane shootout in a big city hospital includes some of the most heart-pounding action ever put on film.

New York, New York - If you can't be in New York this holiday, you can see it in its glory in "On the Town" (1949), for my money the most exuberant MGM musical ever made. Here sailor boys Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra and Jules Munshin spend such a memorable 24 hours in Manhattan (it was filmed on location) that you'll be planning your next trip.

🗎 Pre-"Scream" Screams -Now that you know both "Screams" practically by heart, check out the offbeat movies Wes Craven made before he became a household name, though preferably those without II or III after the titles. "Last House on the Left," "The Hills Have Eyes," and Deadly Friend" won't disap

point.

FOR \$10 OR LESS. FINAL DAYS: والرجام والأصبي المتعالي والمتعالي المتعاد المتعاد المتعاد المتعاد المتعادين SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

> THROUGH JANUARY 4, 1998 AT THE DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS



This exhibition of also hu the Flands Internation

the Roemer-Pelizzeus Museum, Hildesheim, Germany. In Detroit the exhibition is sponsored by the Chrysler Corporation Find. Additional support was provided by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Attains and the DIA Founders Society Education programs are separated by Kelly Services

N 54

The Observer & Eccentric/THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

ing. We had four A&R people on

one record. ... They were just

looking for the next Green Day

or ska/punk band. They were try-

ing to get us to make a record we

The Devlins now call

Radiouniverse home which is

also where Black Grape, Live,

and Angelfish, the project by

Garbage's Shirley Manson,

The Devlins, which also

includes drummer/percussion-

ist/vocalist Sean Devitt, is to

ska/punk what the Ramones are

to classical music. The quiet hum

of Colin Devlin's guitars embrace

his moody, atmospheric vocals

backed by simple tones of a

Intimate lyrics like "Tell me

your secret, what you desire. I

will still be there for you ... You

light up my dreams, light up my

skin, you're so far away, you're

holding it in" in "World Outside"

draw listeners into Colin

grand piano and drums.

didn't want to make."

answer.

### STREET SCENE

## The waiting is over for Irish rockers The Devlins



(Radiouniverse).

band offered its first full-length seems appropriate that album "Drift" (Capital).

"It definitely was a long wait, for more reasons than the obvious one," said Devlin, who was waiting to catch his flight to his hometown of Dublin.

"After we finished the whole promotion of the record in the United States we had to do it all over again at home. We didn't get a simultaneous release. It was only about two years ago when we started working on this one. It doesn't seem that long for us but for everybody in the States - anybody who cares - it seems like a long time."

The Devlins and its fans are hoping that "Waiting," produced and engineer by Pierre Marchand (Sarah McLachlan), and mixed by Tom Lord-Alge (The Verve Pipe, Oasis), will produce the superstardom that the band deserves.

"We felt that the record company didn't do our first album justice in the States. We didn't have management at the time to realize that. We just hooked up with really good management and they negotiated our way off our label and onto another label."

"With our old label, all the staff changed and still is chang-

## Dave Wagner accepts end of good run

BACKSTAGE PASS ANN DELISI

Tis the season for giving, acceptance, peace on earth and goodwill toward men. Unfortunately, it's also the season for busy malls and parking lots, slow mail delivery and office parties at which more than a few employees will

City,

gramming, and

vocals for Irish pop band The

Devlins - is talking about his

band's latest disc "Waiting"

It's been four years since the

do and say things they'd regret if they could only remember them.

It's the time of year newspaper and magazine columns recap the year that was, too. And why should this one be any different? Besides, with Backstage Pass pre-empted to make way for special holiday programming on Detroit Public Television, we have time and space.

Speaking of having time on one's hands, one of our crack Backstage Pass correspondents has found himself with a dubious temporal windfall: Dave Wagner was victimized by a format change after 18 years at classical radio station WQRS-FM. Even number surprises Dave. "18 years? Wow, that's a long time, I coming artists - into a very inti- tion, but since I've left I've l wonder what that is in radio' mate setting. Every program has all these people telling me h years?" He doesn't wait for Lorne been, spectacular, and you're much they valued it. It's tou Green to do the math, saying, close to the performer. So often ing really,

too many people in the radio business get to do the same show on the same station for such a long time."

What? Here I am ready to hunker down and get small about corporate radio's abandonment of classical music, and Dave's already over it! "The past is gone. I've taken a Zen sort of attitude on all this. When you buy a house and it'ss a colonial and it's white and it's your. house, and you paint it pink, you have the right to do that."

Assuming the loss of that venerable format is the nadir of the year in classical. I asked Dave for his 1997 highlights. "Back in February, there was a great recital by violinist Cho-Liang Lin. The concert was in Ann Arbor with the Ars Poetica Chamber Orchestra. It's a highlight because he's such a brilliant player. And I love that orchestra, because it's made up of top players from Detroit, Cleveland and Dallas, who they fly in to put on these fabulous concerts."

I asked Dave to predict a high always bring great arts – up and

"That's a heck of a good run. Not classical concerts are such a formal presentation, with the orchestra elevated on stage, and they perform and the audience watches and then leaves. I mean, people leave uplifted, but they leave. It's not like, say, going to see a reggae band.

> "For the Pro Musica series, the DIA always has an afterglow where you can actually talk to the performer. I don't know who gets a bigger kick out of it, the audience or the musicians. And that's because classical musicians are used to sort of being secondary to the music itself. They're conduits - they play the music, but the music is the star. That's what's special about the Pro Musica series, it's so different from the typical classical music setting. People get to connect with the musicians, much like what you hear that all the time in country music – the stars connecting with their fans. I think that's a good thing."

Bringing a touch of Twitty to Tchaikovsky is what makes Dave special. "The best thing is connecting with people. The great thing about radio is all point for 1998. "The ongoing Pro- those people enjoying what you when he says it himself, the Musica series at the DIA. They do. I didn't realize how much people enjoyed that radio st

Devlin's world.

"Colin's words I think are more sort of outward looking on this record. For the first one all the lyrics were written in his bedroom. They were very introspective and all about relationships." Peter Devlin said of his brother.

"This one there are some very" personal songs about relationships. This record deals more with what we've been going through the last three years getting a record deal and traveling all over the world and touring, all the promotion and waiting around. It is a bit more outward looking."

The Devlins' tour schedule for its debut "Drift" included shows with Sarah McLachlan. Among those dates was a show with McLachlan at the Music Hall in Detroit.

"People were standing up at the end of us. We got a half standing ovation which is better than none," Devlin said with a

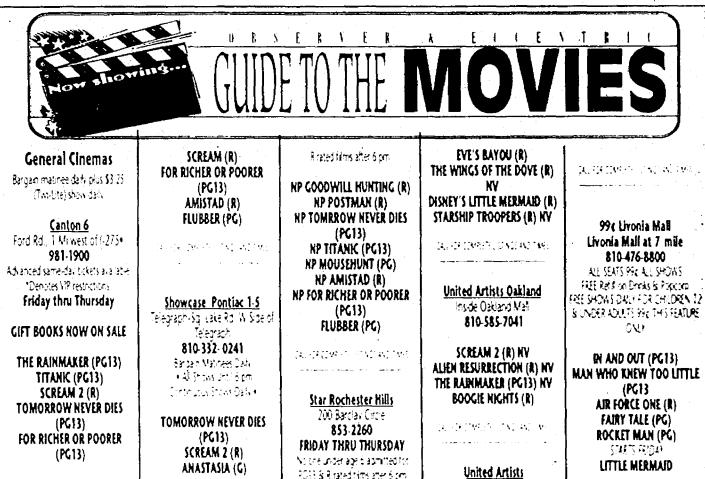
laugh. This year and next. The Devlins are planning on sharing a stage with Paula Cole and Ben. Harper On New Year's Eve. The Devlins will celebrate with the Barenaked Ladies at The Palace

of Auburn Hills. "I can't wait for that show," Devlin said using that word again.

"We're looking forward to that It's a big venue.

Tickets for the Barenaked Ladies "Holiday Spectacle," \$25. are still available at The Palace box office and all Ticketmaster outlets. Showtime is 9 p.m. for the all-ages show. The Palace is located at 2 Championship Dr. (1-75 and Lapeer Road): Auhurn Hills, For more information, call (248) 377-0100 or (248) 645. 6666.

If you have a question or com ment for Christina Fusco, you may leave a message for her at (313) 953-2047, ext. 2130





## Courses taught by Robert Schefman

Drawing - All Levels - In this class held on Tuesdays from 9:00 - 12:00 noon, students will explore a variety of drawing media, techniques, and subjects with an emphasis on drawing as our most immediate and fundamental means of expression.

Oll Painting - All Levels - Students will work from the model in this class held on Thursdays from 9:00 -12:00 noon or 12:30 - 3:30 to breathe life into their painting. The class will study the formal concerns of value, color, and composition; going beyond into subject matter. A good drawing foundation is essential.

Level 3 Painting Studio - This course is team taught with Leslie Masters on Tuesdays from 12:30 - 3:30. The goal of this class is to provide serious, advanced painters with a group venue to examine their direction in painting, participate in discussions, and move ahead in the art process. Class members will be expected to work outside of class and approval from the instructors must be received to enroll in this class.

Robert Schefman received his BFA from Michigan State University and his MA from University of Iowa. He has participated in a wide variety of group shows including Interventions at the Detroit Institute of Arts in 1995. He has completed numerous commissions in painting and sculpture for schools such as Wayne State, University of Iowa, and Cooley Law School in Lansing, and for restaurants such as Stelline at Somerset and at Tribute in Farmington Hills. His most recent mural commission was for Dearborn's 19th District Court Building.

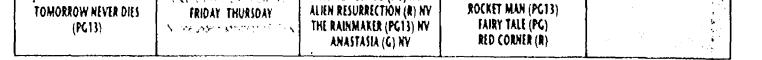
You can register for these classes and more by signing up for the Winter Semester at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association. Classes start January 5 through March 28.

## Call (248) 644-0866

The BBAA is a Community Supported Regional Art Center. Sponsored by The Observer & Eccentric Newspaper

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days a week A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

#### THEATER

#### **AVENUE PRODUCTIONS/ATTIC** THEATRE

\*A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline," featuring Susan Arnold as "Patsy" singing 20 of Cline's most memorable songs with a five-piece band, 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28; 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through January; 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5-Saturday, Feb. 7, 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12-Saturday, Feb. 14, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Group rates available. \$22 Thursdays and Sundays, \$27 Fridays and Saturdays. Colangelo's Sunday brunch package \$33; Baci Abbracci dinner packages \$35 and \$39. (248) 335-8101

**DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE** "In the Sweet Bye and Bye," a comedy by Donald Driver, through Wednesday, Dec. 31, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. 8:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. \$15, \$40 for season subscription. 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31. performance \$50 and includes champagne and buffet supper. (313) 868-1347

#### **FISHER THEATRE**

"Les Miserables," through Sunday, Jan. 4, Fisher Theatre in the Fisher Building, Detroit. 8 p.m. Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and special holiday performance 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31. No performance Thursday, Jan. 1, \$15-\$58. (248) 645-6666/(313) 871-1132 meadow brook theatre "A Christmas Carol," 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, at the theater, Wilson Hall at Oakland University, Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, Rochester, Student, senior and group discounts available.

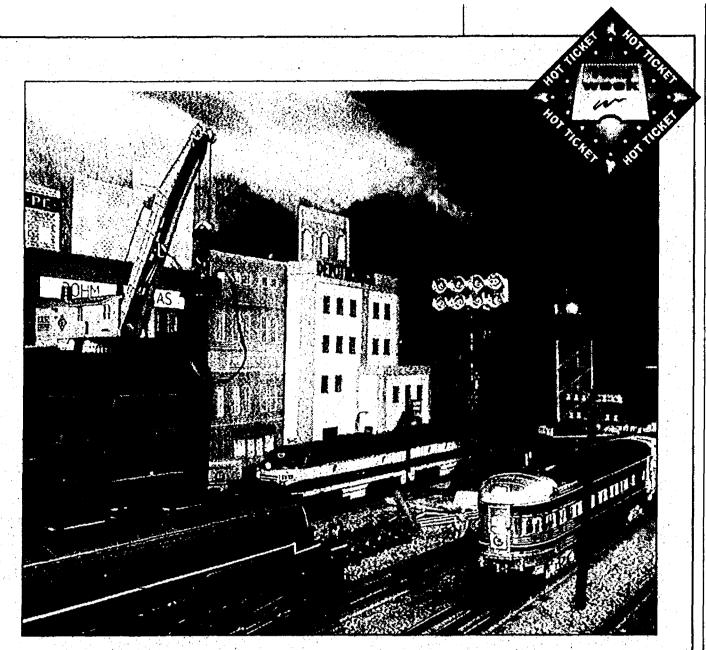
#### YPSILANTI'S NEW YEAR JUBILEE

Featuring 40 performances by a variety of artists including Sheila Landis and Rick Matle, Paul VornHagen, Joel Mabus, Wild Swan Theatre, LaRon Williams, Cranberry Creek, O.J. Anderson, George Bedard and the Kingpins, Al Hill and the Love Butlers, Lonestar Dance Company, Nite Flight, and Charlene Berry, Wednesday, Dec. 31, in a variety of locations throughout Ypsilanti's Historic Depot Town. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-12, and free for children ages 5 and younger. Tickets available at Busch's Valu-Land Stores in the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti area, and at the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti Area Visitors and Convention Bureau. Free badges available for families who cannot afford it. (734) 484-6620/(734) 483-4444/(734) 995-7281.

#### FAMILY EVENTS

DETROIT ZOO'S "WILD LIGHTS" Light show featuring more than 50 animated animal displays along a half-mile trail, 5:30-8 p.m. through Tuesday, Dec. 30 (except Christmas and Christmas Eve), at the zoo, 1-696 and Woodward Avenue, Royal Oak. \$3 adults, \$2 children 2-12, free for children younger than 2. DZS members' admission, \$2 adults. \$1.50 children 2-12. (248) 541-5835/(248) 541-5717 YPSILANTI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS Featuring miniature train rides and horse-drawn wagon rides, 6-10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 25, and 6 p.m.-midnight Wednesday, Dec. 31, Riverside Park along the Huron River, Ypsilanti's Historic Depot Town. Donations accepted. (734) 483-4444 or http://www.ypsi.org

CLASSICAL DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



Trains: Toy & Hobby Expo 97 Friday-Sunday, Dec. 26-28 at the Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Drive, Novi, features new and used toy and model trains, antique toys and models, collectible dolls, bears. doll house miniatures, and the World's Largest Mobile Model Railroad - The Wonderful World of Toy Trains display. Artist Paul Adams will be exhibiting his Railroad and Auto Art, which has several metro Detroit themes. Adams applies railroad and other transportation scenes into realistic watercolor paintings. He plans to start work on prints of Briggs Stadium and Olympia Stadium as they were in the 1940s and '50s. He will be working on one of these prints while exhibiting at the show. Show hours are 5-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28. Admission is \$6 adults, \$3 children ages 4-12; parking \$4. Call (248) 348-5600 for information.

Saturday, Dec. 27; Bill Hildebrant and J.R. Remick, Wednesday, Dec. 31 (\$65 includes tax and gratuity, four-course meal, comedy, dancing); Bill Thomas, Friday, Jan. 2-Saturday, Jan. 3, at Mr. B's Roadhouse, 595 N. Lapeer Road (M-24), Oxford. (248) 628-6500

#### HOLLY HOTEL

Norm Stulz, Seth Buchwald and Chrissy Burns, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 (\$15 in advance only), and 10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 (\$20 in advance only), and 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 1, and 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2-Saturday, Jan. 3, at the hotel, 110 Battle Alley, Holly. (248) 634-0000

#### JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

Joe Delion and Joey Bielaska, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27; Steve McGrew, Hector Rezzano and Joey Bjelaska, 6:15 p.m. and 10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31. Dinner/show packages available; Hector Rezzano, Mike Malak and Joey Bielaska, Friday, Jan. 2-Saturday, Jan. 3, at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays unless otherwise noted. Cover charge changes according to act. (734) 261-0555

#### JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S

Bill Hildebrant, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27 (\$8, \$18.95 dinner/show package); Mike Green, 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 (\$15 includes 5:30 p.m. appetizers), and 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 (\$55 includes buffet served from 8-9 p.m.), 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885 BERNIE MAC

7:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$27.50-\$50. All ages. (248) 433-1515/(313) 983-6611

#### (248) 377-3300

#### COMMUNITY THEATER

#### **CONLEN PRODUCTIONS**

"Amahl and the Night Visitors," a post-Christmas musical drama for the entire family, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, at Faith Bible Church, 34541 Five Mile Road, Livonia; 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, at St. Michael Lutheran Church. 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton; 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 4, at Church of Divine Savior, 39375 Joy Road, Westland, Free. (734) 459-2332

#### YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

#### MARQUIS THEATRE

"Aladdin," 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 27-28, and Jan. 3-4, and 2:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Monday, Dec. 29, Tuesday, Dec. 30-Wednesday, Dec. 31, and Friday, Jan. 2, at the theater, 135 E. Main St., Northville. \$6.50. (248) 349-8110

#### WILD SWAN THEATER COMPANY

"The Town Mouse and The Country Mouse," Saturday, Dec. 27-Sunday, Dec. 28, and Friday, Jan. 2-Sunday, Jan. 4, Henry Ford **Museum's Anderson Center** Theater, 20900 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn. (313) 271-1620

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### RECORD AND CD MUSIC COL-LECTIBLES SHOW

i

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, and Gary Graff, Jim McFarlin and The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers' Christina Fuoco will sign copies of "MusicHound R&B: The Essential Album Guide" from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Clawson Knights of Columbus Hall, 870 N. Main St. (1/2 mile north of 14 Mile Road), Clawson. \$3. (248) 546-4527

#### SPORTS CARD, COMIC AND COLLECTIBLES SHOW

3-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, and 11 a.m. -4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, at the Roseville Towne Center, 12 Mileand Gratiot, Roseville, Free, (248) 557-1529

#### TRADITIONAL POLISH CHRISTMAS TREE

On display 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Mondays Fridays through Thursday, Jan. 1, American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple

Performing J. Strauss Jr.'s "Clear Track Galop (Bahn Frei)," Bernstein's "Tonight," and Webber's "All I Ask of You," with the Keith Saxton Sextet performing for dancing onstage after the concert, as part of "A Singing, Dancing Gala for 1998," 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$25-\$85 includes party hats and noisemakers. (313) 833-3700

#### POPS **/SWING**

#### ATOMIC FIREBALLS

9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (swing) (248) 335-8100. THE IMPERIAL SWING ORCHESTRA 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$10. 19 and older. (swing) (734) 996-8555

#### AUDITIONS

**PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHORUS** Open auditions for singers (male voices especially needed, particulary tenors but female voices also needed) 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, auditions by appointment 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 13, 20 and 27 at First United Methodist Church of Plymouth, 45000 North Territorial Road, west of Sheldon. Rehearsals for annual Spring Concert begin Jan. 13. (313) 455-4080

#### CHORAL

#### INTERGENERATIONAL CHOIR The Jewish Community Center choir performs Russian and Hebrew ethnic and holiday music 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, at the Detroit Historical Museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit's Cultural Center. \$3 adults, \$1.50 seniors/children ages 12-18. (313) 833-1805

#### JAZZ

#### SEAN BLACKMAN AND JOHN ARNOLD

10:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27, Tuscan Grill, 222 Main St., Rochester. Free. All ages, (248) 652-1600 PAUL FINKBEINER TRIO

9 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham, Free. 21 and older; 9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2-Saturday, Jan. 3, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. \$5. 21 and

#### (248) 645-2150/(734) 662-8310 **GROOVE COLLECTIVE**

With JWQ, 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$20 in advance. 21 and older. (acid jazz) (313) 833-9700

#### MIKE KAROUB'S CELLO JAZZ

8-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27. Tuscan Cafe, 150 N. Center St., Northville, Free, All ages, (248) 305-8629 KOG'S KATS

7-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, O'Mara's, 2555 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley. Free. 21 and older. (248) 399-6750

#### KATHY KOSINS

With her vocal, piano and bass trio, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 at the Oakland Grill, 32832 Woodward Ave. (south of 14 Mile Road), Royal Oak. (248) 645-2150/(248) 549-7700 SHEILA LANDIS

With Rick Matle, 10 p.m.-1 a.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Jimmy's, 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cover charge, 21 and older; With Rick Matle and Dennis Sheridan, 8:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Lentine's Southern Barbecue, 41240 Hayes, Clinton Township. Free. 21 and older; With Rick Matle, 8-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, Cafe Anzu, University of Michigan's north campus, 1733 Plymouth Road (at Murfin), Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (313) 861-8101/(810) 412-2233/(734) 769-1212

#### PHIL LASLEY TRIO

9 p.m.-1 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (sax, piano, bass trio) (248) 645-2150

#### **CARL MICHEL**

Guitarist performs with bassist John Dana, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Agape Caffe, 205 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Free. All ages. (734) 534-4185 **MUTUAL ADMIRATION SOCIETY** (M.A.S.)

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27, D.L. Harrington's Roadhouse, 2086 Crooks Road (at M-59), Rochester Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (top 40/contemporary Jazz) (248) 852-0550

SHAHIDA NURALLAH AND FRIENDS 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. \$40, \$75 per couple. 21 and older. (734) 662-8310 OHNNY O'NEAL

Saturday, Dec. 27, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. \$10. 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

#### SAX APPEAL

8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27, Peabody's, 154 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 644-5222 STEPHEN GRANT WOOD

10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, Jimmy's, 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 861-8101 ALEXANDER ZONJIC 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27 (\$7.50), and Wednesday, Dec. 31 (cover charge), Thai-Chi Express, 630

Woodward Ave. (two blocks north of Jefferson Avenue), Detroit. 21 and older. (313) 963-8424

#### WORLD MUSIC

#### **BENNY CRUZ**

11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30, Detroit Historical Museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit's Cultural Center. \$3 adults, \$1.50 seniors/children ages 12-18. (Latin American) (313) 833-1805 MICHAEL O'BRIEN

9:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road (between Woodward Avenue and Southfield Road), Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (acoustic Irish) (248) 642-1135 ANGELO PRIMO

10:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, Tuscan Grill, 222 Main St., Rochester. Free. All ages. (248) 652-1600 JOHN L. SULLIVAN BAND 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, and Wednesday, Dec. 31, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road (between Woodward Avenue and Southfield Road), Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (Irish) (248) 642-1135

#### FOLK

BALDUCK MOUNTAIN RAMBLERS 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Sunrise Sunset Saloon, 15222 Charlevoix, Grosse Pointe Park. Cover charge, 21 and older. (313) 822-6080 RON CODEN

8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27, O'Mara's, 2555 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley, Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 399-6750

CAHAL DUNNE

writer, pianist, storyteller, at Cowley's Old Village Inn, Grand River and Farmington roads, Farmington, \$35 per couple includes dinner. Reservations. (248) 474-5941.

#### ORIN ROSSE FINESSE

9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, O'Mara's, 2555 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 399-6750

#### CHARLES GREENE

8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30, O'Mara's 2555 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 399-6750 LISA HUNTER

9-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Espresso Royale, 214 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (734) 668-1838 JAN KRIST

10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Jimmy's, 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 861-8101

#### DANCE

#### OAKLAND COUNTY

TRADITIONAL DANCE SOCIETY Karen Missavage calls to music by Cheri and Steve Whalen, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, First Baptist Church, 210 N. Main St., Royal Oak. \$7, \$6 members and students. (248) 968-3565/(248) 642-3306

#### **DEIN PERRY'S TAP DOGS**

Friday, Dec. 26-Sunday, Jan. 4, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays (\$26 and \$36), 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays (\$22.50 and \$32.50), 7 p.m. Sundays (\$32.50 and \$22.50), 8 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays (\$22.50 and \$32.50), and 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31 (\$26 and \$36). All ages. (313) 872-1000 THE RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, and 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$50. All ages, (313) 983-6611/(248) 645-6666 WOLVERINE SILVERSPUR

#### DANCERS

7:30 p.m.-1 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Italian American Cultural Center, 28111 Imperial St., Warren. \$20. (810) 772-4765/573-4993, (313) 526-9432

#### COMEDY

**BIG RED'S COMEDY CLUB** Comedian/hypnotist Jim Hoke

#### MAINSTREET COMEDY SHOWCASE

Claudia Sherman, 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27 (\$12); Jackie Flynn, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 (\$22.50), and 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 (\$27.50 includes party favors and a split of champagne), at the club, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734) 996-9080

#### MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

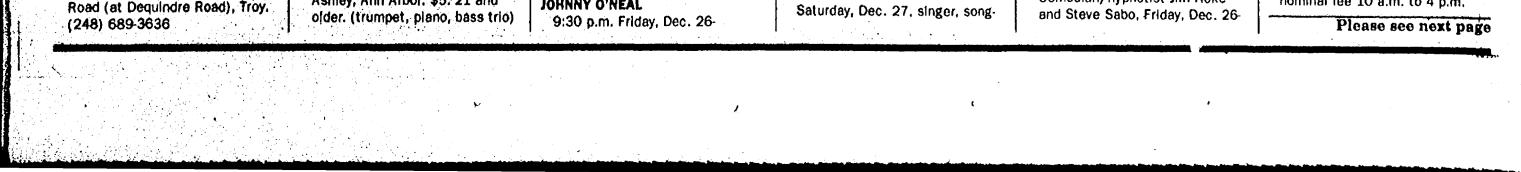
Ken Brown of WJR's "Albom in the Afternoon," with Derrick Richards, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27, and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, . Dec. 28 (\$6); Christopher Titus, Billy Ray Bauer, and MC Steven Bills, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 (\$45 per couple for show only), and 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 (\$60 per couple, includes party favors and ... a split of champagne), at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. (248) 542-9900 or http://www.comedycastle.com SECOND CITY

"Generation X-Files" through January at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays, and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. The cast performs a free improvisational comedy set after Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday shows, and the late shows on Fridays and Saturdays. \$14 Thursdays, \$17.50 Fridays, \$19.50 Saturdays, and \$12 Sundays and Wednesdays. New Year's Eve performances: 5:15 p.m. dinner and 7:30 p.m. show (\$70 includes dinner at Risata and a complimentary glass of champagne, \$25 show only), or 8:15 p.m. dinner and 10:15 p.m. show (\$90 includes dinner, complimentary champagne, dessert buffet and afterglow party, \$40 show, dessert afterglow and champagne) The show's title is reflective of current cultural trends, not necessarily the show's content. (313) 965-2222

#### MUSEUMS AND TOURS

#### DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

After an August fire, the New Glancy Trains exhibit is open in the museum's Wrigley Hall Gallery with a 25 percent larger layout and additional interactive elements for visitors, upcoming events include the Glancy Trains Show with toy train appraisal for nominal fee 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



#### The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

#### (OF\*) E6 2)

## days a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Christina Fuoco; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (313) 591-7279 \*\*\*\*\*

#### Continued from previous page Saturday, Dec. 27;

"Remembering Downtown Hudson's" exhibit, a nostalgic look at what made the Hudson's downtown Detroit store an icon of the city's prosperous era, runs through December 1998, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday. Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free admission Wednesdays; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1805

#### DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER

IMAX movies include: "Super Speedway," 10 a.m. and 11:10 a.m. Mondays through Fridays; "Special Effects," 12:20 p.m. and 1:20 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, 12:45 p.m. and 1:45 p.m. Saturdays, and 1:45 p.m. Sundays; "Destiny in Space," 12:45 p.m. Sundays, at the museum, 5020 John R (at Warren Road), Detroit. \$6.75 for adults. \$4.75 for youths 3-17, and seniors 60 and older, includes one screening of an IMAX film, a visit to the Exhibit Floor, a live science demonstration in the **Discovery Theatre and a short** laser presentation. \$2.50 for each additional IMAX movie. Discounts available to groups to 10 or more. Hours are: 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and 12:30 p.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. (313) 577-8400 or http://www.sciencedetroit.org HENRY FORD ESTATE

#### Featuring rooms decorated for the holidays by area florists, open for public tours, 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Mondays-Fridays in December, hourly from 10 a.m. 3 p.m. Saturdays in December, and every half hour from 1-4:30 p.m. or more by reservation;

Sundays. \$7, \$5 for groups of 20 Candlelight tours, 6 -8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27. \$7; all at the estate, 4901 Evergreen Road, University of Michigan-Dearborn, Dearborn. (313) 593-5590

p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave... Ferndale, \$15 per night, \$25 for two-day pass. 18 and older. (blues) (248) 544-3030 THE ARTIST FORMERLY KNOWN AS PRINCE

8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (1-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. \$19.99, \$45, and \$65. (248) 645-6666/(248) 377-0100 or http://www.tlcketmaster.com JOCE'LYN B. AND THE DETROIT STREET PLAYERS

9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Soup Kitchen Saloon, 1585 Franklin St. (at Orleans), Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 259-2643

#### BARENAKED LADIES "HOLIDAY SPECTACLE"

With The Devlins, 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. \$25. All ages. (alternapop) (248) 377-0100 JOHNNY BASSETT AND THE BLUES INSURGENTS

9:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road (between Woodward Avenue and Southfield Road), Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 642-1135

#### GEORGE BEDARD AND THE KING-PINS

With Sarah Brown, Bill Kirchen and Cub Koda, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. All ages. (rockabilly) (734) 761-1451

#### **BIG DAVE AND THE ULTRASONICS** 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 19 and older. (jump blues) (734) 996-8555

THE BIZER BROTHERS 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Pages, 23621 Farmington Road, Farmington. Cover charge. 21 and older. (pop) (248) 477-0099



#### The Artist: Formerly Known As Prince performs 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, at The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. \$19.99-\$65. (248) 645-6666/(248) 377-0100 or http://www.ticketmaster.com

Road, Dearborn. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 581-3650

#### DOKKEN

With Devil's Night and Illegal, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, The Palladium, 17580 Frazho, Roseville. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. 18 and older. (rock) (810) 778-6404 DUNGBEATLES

9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Bo's Bistro, 51 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (248) 338-6200

#### (248) 543-4300 KEOKI

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, as part of "Maximum Overload" at the Motor Lounge, 3515 Caniff, Hamtramck. \$12.50 in advance. 18 and older. (techno) (313) 369-0090 or Motor3515@aol.com KILLER FLAMINGOS

#### 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Cover charge. 21

and older. (R&B) (248) 543-4300 JOHN D. LAMB 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River, Novi. Free, 21 and older. (rock) (248) 349-9110

#### JOE LEBEAU AND THE COOLFLAMES

7-10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27-Sunday, Dec. 28, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty, Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (734) 451-1213 LITTLE SONNY AND THE DETROIT RHYTHM BAND

9:30-11:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, as part of "Chase the Bluesl Night" at First Baptist Church, 300 Willits Street (at Bates Street), Birmingham. Cover charge. All ages. (blues) (248) 644-0550

#### LOOSE COUNTY ROAD COMMIS-SION

9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (734) 485-5050 JIM MCCARTY AND MYSTERY TRAIN

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27, Moby Dick's, 5452 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 581-3650

#### MEDICINE HAT

10 p.m.-2 a.m. Friday, Jan. 2-Saturday, Jan. 3, Bullfrog Bar and Grill, 15414 Telegraph Road (one block north of Five Mile Road), Redford. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 533-4477

#### MONKEYCHUCK

Jacket and DJ Hannah from London, England, 9 p.m.-4 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Motor Lounge, 3515 Caniff, Hamtramck. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, (313) 369-0090 or motor3515@aol.com PURPLE FLY

9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Union Lake Grill and Bar, 2280 Union Lake Road, Commerce Township. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (248) 360-7450

#### **RIGHTEOUS WILLY**

9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (248) 543-4300 ROCKET 455

With Murder City Wrecks and Easy Action, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (garage/punk rock) (313) 833-POOL

#### **RUSTED ROOT**

Annual holiday show, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets at Ticketmaster. All ages. (Deadhead) (313) 961-5451

#### SGT. ROCK

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Woodbridge Tavern, 289 St. Aubin, Detroit. Cover charge, 21 and older; Wednesday, Dec. 31, Holiday Inn North Campus Ann Arbor, 3600 Plymouth Road (at U.S. 23), Ann Arbor. \$140 per couple includes music, dinner, munchies, dessert, six cocktails, champagne toast; \$215 per couple includes the above plus a room and breakfast. (classic rock covers) (313) 259-0578/(734) 769-9800

#### SHE'S SO HUGE

10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$5 in advance. All ages. (rock) (248) 335-8100

#### SOLEDAD BROTHERS

9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Garden Bowl in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Free. 18 and older. ("trashy, twisted blues twopiece") (313) 833-9851

#### Palladium, 17580 Frazho, Roseville. \$20 in advance. 18 and older. (R&B) (810) 778-6404 RANDY VOLIN AND THE SONIC BLUES

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27, Bogey's, 742 E. Walled Lake Road, Walled Lake. Cover charge. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, Goose Island Brewery, 1538 Cass Lake Road, Keego Harbor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 669-1441/(248) 644-4800/(248) 682-4566 WAILIN' INC.

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Fifth Avenue, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 543-4300/(248) 542-9922 J.C. WHITELAW

## 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27.

Jimmy's, 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 861-8101

#### NEW YEAR'S PARTIES

#### **CLUTCH CARGO'S**

Four-level dance party ~ Mill Street Lounge (level one): lounge tunes with DJ Jay Miller performances by Jamaican jazz band The Articles, and the percussionfueled Mew; Level two: flashback '80s dance music party with WPLT DJ Darren Revell; level three: old school funk with DJ Tony Tone; and level four: techno and house with DJ Will Web, 8 p.m.-4 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at the club, 65 E. Huron St. (at Mill), Pontiac. \$12 until Dec. 25. (248) 645-6666/(248) 333-2362 THE GROOVE ROOM

9 p.m.-4 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at the bar, 1815 N. Main St. (at 12 Mile Road), Royal Oak. Free from 9-10 p.m., cover charge afterward. Free champagne and party favors. (248) 589-3344

#### HENRY FORD MUSEUM AND GREENFIELD VILLAGE

"1850s Holiday Evenings at -Eagle Tavern," featuring a holiday dinner with a 19th Century twist, Friday, Dec. 26-Wednesday, Dec. 31, and Saturday, Jan. 3-Sunday, Jan. 4; "Traditions of the Season," featuring holiday trees and decorations from various eras, through Sunday, Jan. 4, at the museum and village, 20900 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn. \$12.50 adults, \$11.50 seniors ages 62 and older, \$6.25 for children ages 5-12, and free for children ages 5 and younger. Group rates available. (313) 271-1620 MUSEUM OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

"Sacred Arts of Haitian Vodou," the first comprehensive exhibition to explore the arts produced within this religion, runs from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays Sundays through Sunday, Dec. 28, at The Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren Ave. (at Brush St.,), Detroit. "Sacred Arts" features a wide spectrum of art objects including sequined flags, sacred bottles, pots, painted calabashes, beaded rattles, bound medicine packets, dolls, cosmographs, musical instruments, multimedia assemblages and contemporary paintings. The exhibit is rated PG-13 as some of the images in Sacred Arts of Haitian Vodou may not be suitable for children ages 13 and under, or individuals sensitive to graphic images. Adult supervision is suggested. \$3 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. (313) 494-5800.

#### POPULAR MUSIC

#### "ANTI-FREEZE BLUES FEST"

With Lonnie Brooks, Thornetta Davis and the Sharecroppers of Soul, Mudpuppy, Johnny "Yarddog" Jones, and Motor City Josh, 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, and Johnnie Johnson backed by George Bedard and the Kingpins, Johnnie Bassett and the Blues Insurgents, Jim McCarty and Mystery Train, The Reefermen with James Wallin' and Harmonica Shaw, and Mimi

BLUE CAT

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800

#### **BLUE CRUSADERS**

9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800

#### BOTFLY

With Enemy Squad and Uncle Booby, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8 in advance. 18 and older. (funky rock) (313) 833-9700

#### BRILLIANT

10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Rivertown Saloon, 1977 Woodbridge, Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (pop) (313) 567-6020

#### BUGS BEDDOW BAND

9 p.m.-1 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Kingsley Inn, 1475 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older; 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 2-Saturday, Jan. 3, Beale Street Blues, 8 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-1400/(248) 334-7900

#### **CITY LIMITS BLUES BAND**

With Barbara Scott, Paul "Big Rufus" Clayton, and comedian Tim Costello, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Knights of Columbus hall, 2430 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte. (734) 284-2709 THE CIVILIANS

10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Kodiak Grill, 45660 Mound Road, Utica. Free. 21 and older; 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Mount Chalet, 4715 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (810) 731-1750/(248) 549-2929 ALICE COOPER

9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$45. All ages. (rock) (313) 961-5451 TOMMY D BAND

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 27. Hennessey's, 49110 Grand River, Wixom. Hee. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 344-4404 DEMOLITION DOLLRODS

With Detroit Cobras and 2 Star Tabernacte, 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Magic Stick In the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10. 18 and older. (punk) (313) 833-POOL

#### DIAMOND DUKES

9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Moby Dick's, 5452 Schaefer

#### **EKOOSTIK HOOKAH** 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave.,

Ferndale. \$10. 18 and older. (Deadhead) (248) 544-3030 THE REV. MARC FALCONBERRY 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River Ave., Novi. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 349-9110

#### **FOOLISH MORTALS**

10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Kodiak Grill, 45660 Mound Road, Utica. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (810) 731-1750

#### JERRY GARCIA BAND

- Featuring Melvin Seals, Jackie LaBranch, Gloria Jones and Donnie Baldwin, 8 g.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$16 in advance. 18 and older. (Deadhead) (313) 833-9700
- GARFIELD BLUES BAND 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Soup Kitchen Saloon, 1585 Franklin St. (at Orleans), Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues)
- (313) 259-2643 GRIN
- 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (rock) (734) 996-8555 HOARSE

With Grayling and Dean Frativa, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 19 and older. (rock) (734) 996-8555

#### **HOWLING DIABLOS**

With Parka Kings, 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$20 in advance. 18 and older. (funk rock/ska) (248) 544-3030 IMMATURE

4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 1, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$26 in advance. All ages. (R&B) (248) 433-1515 JIMMIE JACKSON AND THE BLUES CONNECTION

9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800

#### JOAN OF ARC

With Remington, 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, Magic Stick in the Malestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$6. All ages. (pop) (313) 833-POOL JOHNNY "YARDDOG" JONES With The Sidewinders, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Memphis

Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge, 18 and older. (pop) (734) 485-5050

SCOTT MORGAN 9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. 19 and older. (rock) (734) 996-8555 MOTOR CITY JOSH AND THE BIG 3 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31,

Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty, Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (734) 451-1213 MOTOR JAM

With Jody Raffoul, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Union Lake Grill and Bar, 2280 Union Lake Road, Commerce Township, Free, 21 and older; With Jody Raffoul, 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Kodiak Grill, 45660 Mound Road, Utica. Free. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30, Karl's Country Cabin, 9779 Gotfredson Road, Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (248) 360-7450/(810) 731-1750/(734)

#### 455-8450 MUDPUPPY

With the Twistin' Tarantulas and Nobody's Business, 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, upstairs at Fifth Avenue, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. \$35 includes complimentary glass of champagne, \$60 per couple includes complimentary bottle of champagne. and light buffet and party favors for both. 21 and older. (blues/rockabilly) (248) 542-9922 STEVE NARDELLA

9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800 19 WHEELS

With Solid Frog, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontlac. \$6 in advance. 18 and older. (roots rock) (248) 335-8100

#### PAKISTANI TAMBOURINE

With Medicine Hat and Government Honey, 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Bullfrog Bar and Grill, 15414 Telegraph Road (one block north of Five Mile Road), Redford. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 533-4477 PARKA KINGS

With Gyga and Hot Stove Jimmy, 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$5. All ages. (ska) (313) 961-MELT

#### PLANET E RECORD LABEL **NEW YEAR'S PARTY"**

With Kevin Saunderson, Carl Craig, Monk, Jazzhead, Java

#### SOLID FROG

9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Rivertown Saloon, 1977 E. Woodbridge, Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 567-6020

#### SPEEDBALL

With Hoarse, Big Block, Full on the Mouth, The Deans and Fletcher Pratt, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$10 in advance. 18 and older. (rock) (313) 961-MELT SPONGE

With the Howling Diablos, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, The Palladium, 17580 Frazho Road, Roseville. \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. 18 and older. (rock) (810) 778-6404

#### SUICIDE MACHINES

With En Kindel and Social Scare, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$6 in advance. All ages; With Bumpin' Uglies, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$6 in advance. All ages. (punk)

(313) 961-MELT **CURTIS SUMPTER PROJECT WITH** 

**CURTIS DAVIS** 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty, Plymouth.

Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (734) 451-1213 TELEGRAPH

With Old Spice and The Exceptions as part of Telegraph's annual Christmas show, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$4 in advance. All ages. (ska) (313) 961-MELT

#### MARY THOMPSON AND THE DELTA CHILDREN BLUES BAND

8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, B.C. Beans Coffee and Art Gallery. 2964 Biddle, Wyandotte. Free. All ages. (blues) (734) 284-2244 THUS

With House of Usher, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$7. 18 and older. ("Detroit's only Russian progressive rock band") (313) 833-POOL UNITY

9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, D.L. Harrington's Roadhouse, 2086 Crooks Road (at M-59), Rochester Hills, Cover charge, 21 and older. (top 40) (248) 852-0550 USHER

8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28,

#### **ROYAL OAK BREWERY**

New Year's Eve party with DJ Romeo, 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at the bar, 210 E. Third St., Royal Oak. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 544-1141

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#### **ROYAL OAK MUSIC THEATRE**

"Fourth Street" dance party hosted by radio station WQKI, 9 p.m.-4 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at the theater, 318 W. Fourth\* St., Royal Oak. \$45 includes dinner, champagne, party favors, and breakfast. \$15 from midnight to 4 a.m. and includes breakfast. (248) 546-7610

#### "TIMES SQUARE II"

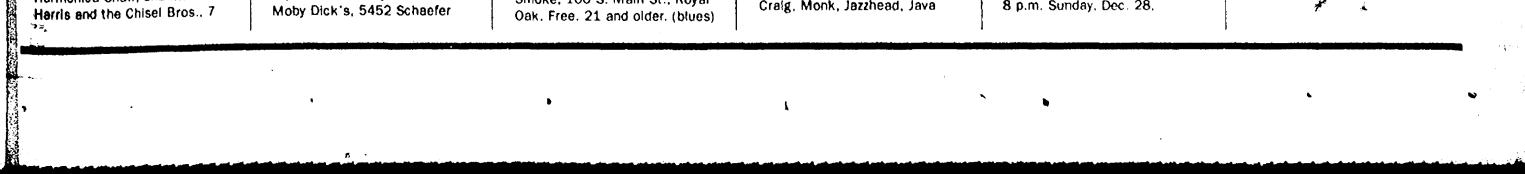
Free, non-alcoholic outdoor celebration features music and dancing in Saginaw Street, food and beverage vendors and party favors, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. At midnight, an illuminated ball will hit the top of a 100-foot pole at the front of the Phoenix Center, A fireworks display follows. (248) 857-5603

#### TREMORSI

"A Starry Stoli Night," featuring eight Stoli flavored vodkas, and includes prime rib buffet 6-9 p.m., champagne toast and prize balloon drop at midnight, free continental breakfast 1 a.m., doors open 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at the nightclub in Holiday Inn, 17123 Laurel Park Dr.; Livonia. \$30, \$40 after Dec. 28. (734) 462-2196

#### YPSILANTI'S NEW YEAR JUBILEE

Featuring 40 performances by a variety of artists including Sheila Landis and Rick Matle, Paul VornHagen, Joel Mabus, Wild Swan Theatre, LaRon Williams, Cranberry Creek, O.J. Anderson, George Bedard and the Kingpins, Al Hill and the Love Butlers, Lonestar Dance Company, Nite Flight, and Charlene Berry, Wednesday, Dec. 31, in a variety of locations throughout Ypsilanti's Historic Depot Town. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-12, and free for children ages 5 and younger. Tickets available at Busch's Valu-Land Stores in the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti area, and at the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti Area Visitors and Convention Rureau. Free badges available for families who cannot afford it. (734) 484-6620/(734) 483-4444/(734) 995-7281



## DINING Convenient, light and right dining between the holidays

### BY ELEANOR HEALD SPECIAL WRITER

There's an old saying that, "you can please some of the people some of the time, but you can't please all of the people all of the time." Experienced restaurateurs and parents of three kids, ages 2, 7 and 9, Paula and Chuck Darany of Birmingham, took on the challenge of proving the old adage dead wrong!

Tired of squabbles resulting from attempts to please the family five, they opened Pasta Pickup six months ago as a unique carryout. With a variety of noodles and an array of sauces, you can please an entire family or crowd of friends. Everyone can have dinner exactly the way they like it!

Pasta Pickup is convenient. Dinners are uniquely packaged in individual eat-in containers and come with plastic utensils within a big brown bag to keep them hot. When you're finished eating, there are no dishes to wash.

For \$5 you pick your pasta (spaghetti, fettuccine or zitimostaccioli) then sauce (meat, marinara, pesto, Alfredo or olive

The Pasta Pickup Where: 33488 Woodward, Birmingham (248) 64PASTA. Hours: Daily lunch 11 a.m to 2 p.m. and dinner 5-9 p.m. Menu: A variety of noodles and sauces create different combinations pleasing pasta lovers of all ages.

#### Inn Season Cafe

Where: 500 East Fourth Street, Royal Oak (248) 547-7916. Hours: Tuesday-Friday 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; until 9:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday. Saturday opening is noon. Menu: Meatless preparations in a variety of ethnic diversities.

Selected items prepared without dairy products. Carryout menu:

#### Harvest Moon

Where: 545 Forest, Plymouth (313) 454-7593. Hours: Monday-Thursday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Fridays until 8 p.m.

Menu: Housemade soups and sandwiches with many specials appealing to vegans. Carryout available.

Credit Cards: Cash and checks; credit cards are not accepted.

#### Seva

Where: 314 East Liberty, Ann Arbor (313) 662-1111. Hours: Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday; brunch served 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Menu: In addition to breakfast, lunch and dinner items cater to vegetarians and vegan's. Dine in or carryout,

oil and vegetables) and get it tuccine with marinara sauce. with salad, bread or bread sticks. For kids 10 and under, a half portion is half price. If you can't decide, the most popular is fet-

#### **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

🖬 Golden Mushroom -18100 W. 10 Mile Road Southfield (just west of Southfield) (248) 559-4230. Old-time favorites and new culinary creations. Dinner seatings begin 5 p.m. the last is 10:45 p.m.

■ Water Club Grill – 39500 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth (313) 454-0666. New Year's Eve Gala features prime rib and seafood buffet including snow crab legs, white clam linguini, herb baked chicken, peel & eat shrimp, dessert table and more. Two seatings available in the lower level, the first includes the buffet

live music by Meridan, dancing until 1 a.m., party favors and champagne toast at midnight. Cost \$38.95 per person. Cash bar, tax and tip not included in prices listed. Dinner will be served in the main dining rooms from 4 p.m. to midnight, regular dinner menu.

■ Cafe Cortina – 30175 W. 10 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. (248) 474-3033. New Year's Eve special menu, party favors, dancing. \$95 per person..

**Corsi's** - 27910 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia, (313) 531-4960, New Year's Eve Family Buffet, 5-9 p.m., adults \$7.75. seniors, \$7.50; children under 10.

Paula Darany was characterized by her husband Chuck as "a great home cook and pasta fanatic." She adapted recipes from friends to come up with the popular selections.

For \$1 extra you can personalize your pasta with one of the following: mushroom, artichoke hearts, olives or roasted peppers. For \$1.50 more, you can choose sauteed vegetables, meatballs, chicken, shrimp, Italian sausage, melted mozzarella or sundried tomatoes.

Vegetable lasagna or ravioli with cheese filling are \$6. Chicken Parmigiana or Eggplant Parmigiana are \$7. All four come with salad and bread sticks. Dessert Italian ice or chocolate chip cookies are \$1.50. The following three eateries

after holiday excesses, it's a good time to discover a healthier way of eating that's quite tasty.

#### Inn Season Cafe

For more than 16 years, Inn Season Cafe has been home to the best meatless preparations around. At lunch and dinner, chef/owner George Vutetakis pleases with grain or cultured soy burgers served on an organic whole wheat bun with all the trimmings \$6 and goes on to offer vegetarian, organic, healthy creations in a number of ethnic diversities from Chinese to Middle Eastern.

Several selected dishes appeal to vegans. Filling this bill are such starters as Bruschetta \$5. toasted whole grain bread with marinara sauce, calamata olives and soy cheese or Black Bean Avocado Quesadilla \$6, whole wheat tortilla filled with refried black beans and soy cheese, pan braised and served with mild ancho salsa. Both can also be ordered with dairy-fresh cheese.

If you like wraps in place of a standard sandwich, the California Wrap \$6.50, whole wheat lavash rolled with roasted tomalakes or the deep sea are served to. cucumber, baby lettuces, avocado, sprouts and cheese with choice of dressing is delicious. A different and equally wonderful, more Middle-Eastern version, of and served with brown rice and the same is House Wrap \$6 with sweet red pepper, hummus and marinated onion.

You won't miss the beef, chickmenu. Specialty beverages en or pork in a Mexican Burrito, include sparkling sangria or \$7 (lunch) or \$8.50 (dinner) cider, fresh juices and hot cider. because the vegetable, bean and Harvest Moon rice filling is so wonderfully flavorful. It's the same with Classic, Szechuan, Tofu Arame or are housemade soups; at least Cashew Ginger stir-fries.

Pizzas with a number of toppings, available only at dinner, have a Tuscan crust made with roasted garlic, fennel, organic whole corn meal and organic



with salad and potatoes.

A standard is Whitefish Lun-

cheon \$8, a four-ounce fillet

baked with sesame-Dijon sauce

Daily dessert selections round

**Owner Pat Cahill's specialties** 

three are on the menu daily, and

more than a dozen vegetarian

out this creative vegetarian

choice of vegetable of the day.

Dinner on the double: Paula and Chuck Darany offer a variety of noodles, and an array of sauces to please an entire family or crowd of friends at Pasta Pickup.

STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLYNSKY

sandwiches. Many daily specials are vegan oriented. Baked goods are also dairy free.

Harvest Moon's 28-seat eatery is also home to the only allorganic juice bar in Michigan.

#### Seva

Whether the preference is small courses, salads, sandwiches, chargrill, pasta or pizza, Seva obliges.

Mexican favorites, Greek and Middle-Eastern specialties along with stir fries are chock full of healthy vegetables. Vegan versions of most dishes are available.

