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THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY

Sound of music: Madonna University will host a music recital featuring works from Bach to Barber at 3 p.m. Sunday in Kresge Hall on campus, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Admission is by donation to the music scholarship fund. Call (734) 432-5709 for information.

Toy soldier show: The second annual Toy Soldier and Figure Show will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Livonia Holiday Inn, Six Mile Road at I-275. Admission is \$4, with children under age 12 free.

TUESDAY

Candidate to speak: Larry Owen, a 1998 Democratic candidate for governor, will speak at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Westland Historical, Cultural and Community Meeting House, 37025 Marquette, one block east of Newburgh in Westland.

FRIDAY

Card party: St. Richard's Women's Guild Annual Card Party will be at 7 p.m. Friday at St. Richard's Social Hall, 35851 Cherry Hill Road, a quarter mile west of Wayne Road, in Westland. Tickets are \$6 and can be bought at the door. Call (734) 721-5353.

Fun night: Get together at the Bailey Center in Westland from 7-9 p.m. Friday. Bring table games, cassettes or cards. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for residents, and \$6 for non-residents.

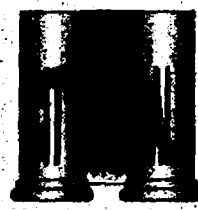
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Mayor cuts ties with chamber



Mayor Robert Thomas has severed ties between his office and the Westland Chamber of Commerce. Thomas refused an offer Wednesday from chamber president John Toye for the two sides to meet.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Mayor Robert Thomas has severed ties between his office and the Westland Chamber of Commerce, accusing its board officers of trying to damage him politically. Thomas refused an offer Wednesday from chamber president John Toye for the two sides to meet, saying earlier

attempts to settle differences "have fallen on deaf ears."

What's more, Thomas denied initiating suggestions for Toye and president-elect Kim Shunkwiler to resign their posts, but he told the Observer that "nothing short" of such "fruitful action" will convince him to resume chamber relations.

Toye declined to respond directly to allegations raised in a three-page letter

that Thomas sent to him on Jan. 12. Thomas accused board officers of a "political agenda" and said he was removing his chamber representative, Deputy Mayor George Gillies, from the board.

Thomas charged that Toye, Shunkwiler and former chamber president Dennis LeMaitre have campaigned against him in elections as recent as last November, when the mayor won a third four-year term.

"I don't believe the chamber president or the board of directors should get involved directly in the elections," Thomas said in his letter. "They should work with whomever is in office for the

betterment of the entire business community. That is hard to do when the chamber president is trying to oust the mayor."

Brief statement

Toye issued only a brief statement in response to Thomas' letter.

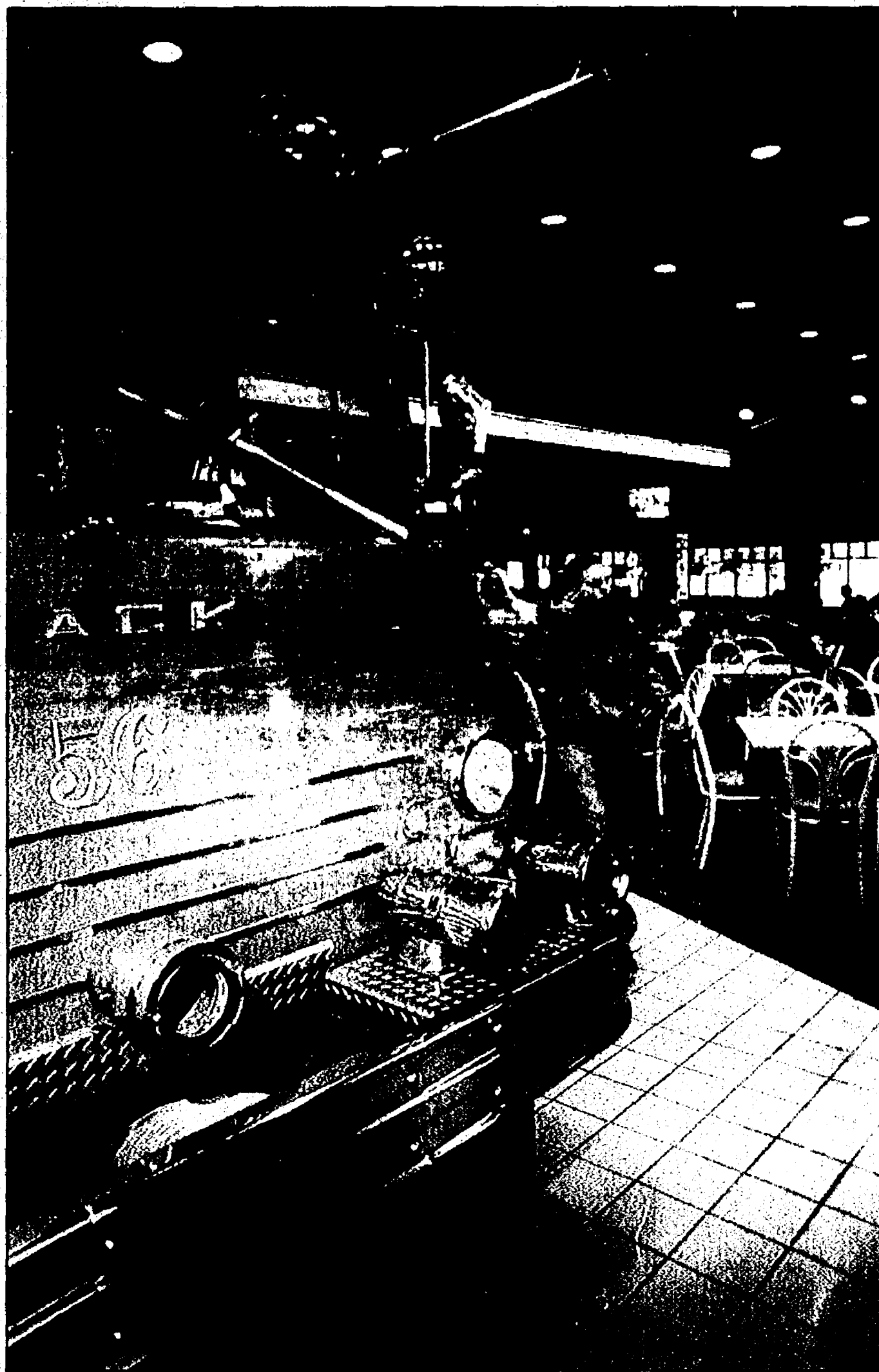
"The purpose of the Westland Chamber of Commerce is to support, strengthen and assist in the growth of the business community. In doing so, the chamber works with various branches of government and the mayor," Toye said. "The present chamber board of directors will focus on the

Please see CHAMBER, A2

At the academy

What's brewing: A firetruck lends atmosphere as well as providing seating in the back area of the truck at the new Fire Academy and Grill in Westland.

It is located at 6677 N. Wayne Road and is the dream child of two retired Westland firefighters: Michael Reddy, who ended his career as fire chief earlier this month, and George Riley, the former assistant chief, who retired last year.



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JACOBFIELD

Ex-firefighters brew up new pub

BY RENE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER

There's more than 99 bottles of beer on the wall at the Fire Academy and Grill on Wayne Road south of Warren, Westland's newest - and probably most colorful - brew pub, which opened Dec. 8.

Besides brightly painted murals, a genuine fire engine outfitted with a booth for diners, and firefighter man-

nequins climbing the walls, the restaurant sports several mammoth fermenters for hand-crafting several brews. In other words, there's lots to look at in this dream child of two retired Westland firefighters: Michael Reddy, who ended his career as fire chief earlier this month, and George Riley, the former assistant chief, who retired last year.

"We're home-grown boys," said

Riley, who did much of the interior design while Reddy handled the decoration. "We started planning in 1995 and purchased our liquor license in 1996. It took a long time. We were to be in a couple of different buildings. We wanted to be in Westland. When you've been connected to a community all your life, you want to stay. The community has been

Please see PUB, A3

Franklin plays host

Franklin High School Band Boosters will again host the annual Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association District 12 Solo and Ensemble Festival beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, for middle school students and Saturday, Feb. 7, for high school students.

This is a judged event of middle and high school musical students from communities throughout southeast Michigan.

The students perform for individual judges as soloists or musical ensembles. Awards will be presented. Students earning a 1 rating are qualified to enter the state finals held later in the year.

There is no admission fee and the public is invited to attend. The Franklin Band Boosters will have food and refreshments plus souvenirs and other

PLACES & FACES

items available for purchase.

Franklin is at 31000 Joy Road, just east of Merriam in Livonia.

Bowling along

The Westland Chamber of Commerce will hold its third WinterFest Bowling Outing from 1-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7. Games will include Red Pin and 10-pin No Tap.

To sponsor a team for \$150, the price includes bowling, two drinks, buffet dinner, trophies and prizes. To receive all of the above, plus business

signs on the lanes all weekend, the cost is \$225. For information, call the chamber office at (734) 326-7222.

School selected

The Mobil gas station at the corner of Ford Road and John Hix Road in Westland selected P.D. Graham School of Westland to be the recipient of a \$700 Mobil Educational Alliance grant for the 1997-98 school year.

Mazhar "Mike" Haidar, the manager of the Mobil Station, chose P.D. Graham as the school to receive the grant for equipment and/or supplies. Haidar then ran a special promotion on a Tuesday in November 1997, when a percentage of every gallon of gas sold was donated to P.D. Graham School.

Please see BOND, A4



Fired up: Fire Academy and Grill owners George Riley and Mike Reddy stand with storage tanks in the background.

■ 'We wanted to stay active in the community. My parents moved into the community in 1945. We wanted to open a business that would accent the community.'

Mike Reddy
-retired Westland fire chief



Firefighting equipment: A high temperature fire suit on a mannequin sits on a ledge above diners.

Pub from page A1

good to us. Where else would we want to go?"

Because they were new to the restaurant business, Riley and Reddy decided to open quietly. "But we were slammed from day one. There was a hold at the door every dinner," said Reddy.

Success shouldn't have surprised them. Riley and Reddy have owned other businesses together, including travel and construction.

Riley said they work well together, offering complementary strengths. But why such a risk-taking venture as a restaurant?

"Public service," said Riley. "You develop a lot of contacts over the years. We've met and enjoyed lots of people. This just seemed like a natural extension."

"We wanted to stay active in the community. My parents moved into the community in 1945," said Reddy. "We wanted to open a business that would accent the community."

Riley said their financiers continue to be surprised at the Fire Academy's quick success. "We far exceeded our market plan. The bank wanted us to be more conservative about our plan, but we've more than doubled those

numbers," said Riley.

In addition to keen business sense, it helped that Riley is somewhat of a beer aficionado.

He used to brew beer at home and sell home-brewing equipment. He also attended the Siebel Institute of Technology in Chicago, a premier 150-year-old beer brewing school.

However, the 10 different beers brewed at the Fire Academy are done by Tye Osley, a master brewer formerly with Stoney Creek Brewing in Frankenmuth, Mich.

Reddy admits to a passion for root beer, which Fire Academy also brews.

"A lot of brew pubs have bottled root beer. They don't brew it. Ours has that taste that gives it a little kick."

Along with beer, the Fire Academy serves a basic but varied full menu.

It also has a gift shop that sells clothing items with the "Brewery Fire Department" logo.

These items are available through the restaurant's Web site (WWW.Fireacademy.com). Riley said they expect to sell half-gallons of beer to go in the near future.

Both Riley and Reddy stressed that the Fire Academy and Grill is not a sports bar.

"This is a family restaurant," said Riley. "Certainly, we have police officers and firefighters, but we draw lots of family. Our presentation is definitely aimed at drawing kids in."

Reddy believes the restaurant's success to date is due to its comfortable ambience. "It's kind of a homey feeling. It gives you a warm feeling."

The Fire Academy and Grill is located at 6677 N. Wayne Road. It's open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 11 a.m. to midnight on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and noon to 11 p.m. on Sunday. Phone: (734) 595-1988.

OBITUARIES

ZOA KUBITZKI

Funeral services for former Garden City resident Zoa Kubitzki, 97, of Westland were Jan. 20 in John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home with cremation rites accorded. Officiating was the Rev. David G. Huber from Our Master Lutheran Church.

Mrs. Kubitzki, who died Jan. 19 in Westland, was born in Rawsonville, Mich. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are: son, Dr. Wilbert Fletke of Lansing; brother, Grant Price; sister, Stella Moxie.

Mrs. Kubitzki was preceded in death by her son, Harold Fletke, and sister, Barbara Davidson.

WILLIAM "PAT" HOLLINGSWORTH

A funeral Mass for William Hollingsworth, 77, of Canton was Jan. 22 in St. Theodore Catholic Church, Westland. Officiating was the Rev. Daniel J. Zaleski. Arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

Mr. Hollingsworth, who died Jan. 20 in Canton Township, was born in Pocahontas, Ark. He served with the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was a plastic maker for an office machine manufacturer.

Surviving are: wife, Rosamond; daughters, Diane Allison of Garden City, Judith Pitera of Westland and Nancy Ponkey of Canton; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

THOMAS GREEN

Funeral services for Thomas Green, 27, of Westland were Jan. 22 in St. Gemma Church, Detroit. Arrangements were made by Harry J. Will Funeral Home.

Mr. Green, who died Jan. 18 due to injuries in an automobile accident, was born in Southfield. He was a cook.

Surviving are: mother, Diane Green; sister, Terri; and girlfriend, Linda Okalski.

Mr. Green was preceded in death by his father, James.

SUSAN E. HENRY

Funeral services for Susan Henry, 49, of Westland were

Jan. 21 in Harry J. Will Funeral Home with burial at Cadillac West, Westland.

Mrs. Henry, who died Jan. 18 in Wayne, was born in Detroit. She was a teacher (paraprofessional). She worked for the Wayne-Westland schools.

Surviving are: husband, Paul; son, Donald; daughters, Amy Lawrence and Kimberly Mitchell; sisters, Elaine Murray and Kathleen Smith; and two grandchildren.

Mrs. Henry was preceded in death by her brother, Richard Rogers.

BEATRICE E. BENFORD

Funeral services for Beatrice Benford, 89, of Westland were Jan. 21 in John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home with burial at Grand Lawn Cemetery, Detroit. Officiating was the Rev. Willet J. Herrington III from St. Andrew Episcopal Church.

Miss Benford, who died Jan. 19 in Westland, was born in Enderby, England. She was an administrative secretary.

Surviving are: niece, Eileen Doug of Livonia; great-nephew, Grouss Gross; great-niece, Diane Irvine; five great-great nieces and nephews; and three great-great-great nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association or American Cancer Society.

ARVIN J. HERBERT

Arvin J. Herbert, 84, of Wayne died Jan. 20.

Funeral services were Friday, Jan. 23, at St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne, with the Rev. Jack Baker officiating. Burial was in St. Mary Cemetery in Wayne.

Survivors include: wife, Leta; daughters, Clara Burns, Sandy Koponen, and Martha Cassidy; son, Jim; 11 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brothers, Carl and Harold. He was preceded in death by Walter and Margaret Mullendane.

BARBARA NELL COEN

Barbara Nell Coen, 56, of Westland died Jan. 12 in Wayne.

Funeral services were Jan. 15 at Uht Funeral Home with the Rev. Don Doolin officiating.

Mrs. Coen was a homemaker. She is survived by husband, Donald; daughters, Marguerite Lyman, Diane Dugal, Sandra Parker, Nancy Alvarez; son, Donald C.; sisters, Lola Parrot, Cloe King, Sue Rollins, Betty Maiden; brother, Bill Trent; and seven grandchildren.

Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, American Lung Association or the Heart Fund.

HOWARD M. DRURY

Howard M. "Fuzzy" Drury, 83, died in Harrod, Ohio.

He retired in 1973 after 22 years as an automobile spray painter at Ford Motor Company in Wayne.

During World War II, he worked for Stinson Aircraft in Romulus also for Kaiser-Fraser Automobile Factory. He was member of the Ohio National Guard prior to World War II.

Funeral services were Jan. 24 at Hanson-Neely Funeral Home in Ada, Ohio. Burial was in Cadillac Memorial Gardens West in Westland.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Diabetes Foundation.

Survivors include: sons, Timothy of Howell and Richard of Wisconsin; daughters, Lucia Oliverson and Rebecca; three brothers, Lyle, Lloyd and Richard; sister, Jeanette Barnes Spencer; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two sisters, Lois Hefner and Randa Motter.

ALICE MARIAN MUNSON

Alice Marian Munson, 76, of Westland, died Monday, Jan. 19, in Livonia.

The funeral was Jan. 23 with arrangements by Uht Funeral Home.

Survivors include: nieces, Priscilla Galdes, Carol Selby, Susan Mumfuro, Kathleen Gibbons and Valerie Canovali; nephew, Frank Galdes.

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CITY OF GARDEN CITY MICHIGAN NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that sealed proposals will be received at the office of the City Clerk, in the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135 (telephone: 734-525-8314) on or before FEBRUARY 11, 1998, at 2:00 p.m. for the following item(s):

- SUMMER RECREATION STAFF T-SHIRTS
- AND DIRECTOR SHIRTS
- TROPHIES
- SOFTBALLS
- T-SHIRTS-HOCKEY JERSEYS

Proposals must be submitted on forms furnished by the City Clerk, in a sealed envelope endorsed with the name(s) of item(s) bid.

The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part and to waive any informalities when deemed in the best interest of the City.

STEVEN SMITH
City Clerk-Treasurer

Published: January 25, 1998

CITY OF GARDEN CITY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 12, 1998

Present were Mayor Barker, Councilmembers Dodge, Lynch, Wiacek, Briscoe, and Waynick. Absent and excused was Councilmember Kaledas. Also present were City Manager Bayless and City Clerk-Treasurer Showalter. Moved by Briscoe; supported by Wiacek: 01-98-018 RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting of January 6, 1998. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Wiacek; supported by Lynch: 01-98-019 RESOLVED: To approve the accounts payable, as listed. AYES: Unanimous Moved by Dodge; supported by Lynch: 01-98-020 RESOLVED: To approve the Mayor's reappointment of Wilma Healy to the Garden City Hospital Finance Authority, term of office to expire November 30, 1999. AYES: Unanimous Moved by Dodge; supported by Lynch: 01-98-021 RESOLVED: To approve the Mayor's reappointment of Will Tipton to the Garden City Hospital Finance Authority, term of office to expire November 30, 2000. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Wiacek; supported by Dodge: 01-98-022 RESOLVED: To approve the Resolution authorizing publication of notice of intent regarding DDA Bonds, authorizing certain filings with the Michigan Department of Treasury and authorizing reimbursement from bond proceeds, as recommended by the City Manager. Ayes: Unanimous

Moved by Briscoe; supported by Waynick: 01-98-023 RESOLVED: To approve the resolution calling for a public hearing on February 2, 1998, at 7:30 p.m., in Council Chambers on the Garden City Hospital Finance Authority Bonds, as recommended by the City Manager. AYES: Unanimous The Committee of the Whole discussed the following items:

- Engineering Joint Venture Invoice, HRC-ML.
- Designation of Civic Arena as public notice location.
- Police Station HVAC Maintenance Contract.
- Transfer ownership of 1996 Class C licensed business with a Dance Permit-28937 Warren
- City Manager's sidewalk report on Pardo.
- Calling for a necessity hearing on the Pardo/Hartel Street Reconstruction Project.
- City Manager's salary ordinance hearing.

Moved by Dodge; supported by Wiacek: 01-98-024 RESOLVED: To post all Council meeting agendas on the municipal cable channels in detail by Thursday evening. AYES: Councilmembers Dodge, Wiacek, and Waynick. NAYS: Mayor Barker, Councilmembers Lynch and Briscoe. Motion defeated.

Moved by Dodge; supported by Wiacek: 01-98-025 RESOLVED: To instruct the City Manager to have appropriate department heads and professional service representatives available at Council meetings when they have an item on the agenda. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Dodge; supported by Wiacek: 01-98-026 RESOLVED: To have all Councilmembers turn in to the Mayor by January 19 rules and format for the Council meetings, and from these the Council as a whole shall adopt how the meetings are to be formatted and any necessary rules. Mayor ruled the motion out of order.

The meeting was then adjourned.

RONALD D. SHOWALTER
City Clerk-Treasurer

Published: January 23, 1998

Bond from page A1

ics merely "have an ax to grind," although he didn't elaborate.

"This is one of the most honest, most credible elections that I believe we've ever been involved in," he said.

Potter's one-page letter charged that a taxpayer-funded school district publication, Educational Connections, shouldn't

have included this headline: "Citizens' committee recommends bond election for building improvements and technology."

"Why didn't the committee file with the county and have a fundraiser to generate the funds to publish their desire to have the election and for voters to approve it?" Potter asked.

SPOTLIGHT ON Orthodontics
by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D.

PLAYING THE ANGLE

Most of the malocclusions (bad bites) that orthodontists refer to are classified by a system devised around the turn of the century by Edward H. Angle, the "father of orthodontics." He identified three basic classes of occlusion, all of which are based on relationships between the upper and lower first molars. A Class I malocclusion, the normal relationship between the teeth and jaws, is described by the lower first molars being positioned slightly forward of the upper ones when the jaws are closed. In a Class II malocclusion, when the jaws meet, the lower first molars are either under, or to the rear of, the upper first molars. In a Class III malocclusion, the lower molars are positioned far in front of the upper ones.

This column has been presented by THE ORTHODONTIC GROUP, 19223 Merriman (442-8885). New techniques and materials have decreased the discomfort of wearing braces, and have also decreased the frequency of office visits and overall treatment time. Ask us about our computer imaging system which allows patients to better visualize the end result. Remember, a good experience with orthodontia is based on making the right choice in a family orthodontist and in taking steps to keep costs at a minimum through self-care at home between visits.

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WAYNE-WESTLAND SCHOOLS

But Baracy said the committee in question was simply charged with the task of studying district needs and issuing a recommendation - not with fund-raising efforts.

Moreover, Baracy said the district publication simply presents factual information about the bond proposal, without calling for a "yes" vote.

Potter also charged that the citizens' committee should have announced its meeting schedule to comply with the Open Meetings Act - an allegation that Baracy dismissed.

Baracy said the citizens' committee isn't subject to the same rules as the school board.

Potter also alleged that one committee member was released from her district job but continued to be paid while attending committee meetings.

Potter also said other employees were required to attend meetings at work to learn about their role in passing the bond proposal.

"That's not true," Baracy responded, adding that employees have only attended "informational" meetings.

Potter and other critics have angered citizens who support the bond proposal.

"I can't imagine looking at the children of your neighborhood and not trying to afford them the best future," citizens' committee co-chair Kitty Monit said. "I would question if these people have walked through the buildings and seen what needs to be done."

Monit helps co-chair a citizens committee that studied buildings and recommended the bond proposal to the school board. She and husband Skip Monit, also a committee member, have three children in the district: a Taft-Galloway Elementary third-grader, a Franklin Middle School seventh-grader and a Wayne Memorial High freshman.

"It's going to be the thing that gets our kids set for the future," Kitty Monit, a part-time elementary paraprofessional, said. "I don't want my children to head out of school, especially high school, and be behind everybody else because they haven't had the same opportunities."

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Tinkham honor roll is listed

The honor roll for the first marking period at Tinkham S H Alternative includes: **SORINTHEA BONILLA, SCOTT EDWARDS, BEKIM GOCAJ, KIM HILL, JASON KEOMANY, JOEL KLOSNER, LORINDALEE LOUK, CYNTHIA MARTINEZ, JENNIFER POTTER, PATIENCE SHORK, SARAH STEINBRENNER, JAMES THOMAS, EVONNE TODD, JENNI VALDEZ, MATTHEW VANOOPYEN, RANDALL VANOOPYEN, SCOTT WHELAN**

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(Includes Soup Bar...2 soups daily)

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Regional bus system SMART, D-DOT to talk coordination

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Will the two regional bus systems serving Detroit and its suburbs eventually merge?

It is a question that may be better answered once D-DOT, SMART and Wayne County officials talk about improving coordination between the two systems over the next several weeks.

Over the next several weeks Richard Kaufman, general manager of Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation, Al Martin, director of Detroit's Department of Transportation, and Mike Duggan, assistant county executive, will talk about coordinating bus routes, and the two systems use of similar computer systems and radios. These three officials decided to discuss these issues after meeting Thursday with six Wayne County commissioners who serve on the Committee of Roads, Airports and Public Services.

The committee discussed the bus systems after a resolution from Commissioner Bernard Parker, D-Detroit, calling for the merger of the two systems.

"We will discuss the coordination of schedules, fare boxes, radios and computer systems," Duggan said later. "If this coordination is successful, the discussions could move into the

next phase, which would be talks of a merger."

Before the three officials decided on the continued discussions, they needed to assess the transportation issue for commissioners.

'Difficult to understand'

Before Martin arrived at the committee hearing, Duggan and Kaufman wanted to make sure commissioners knew that SMART was not to blame for DDOT's discontinued routes.

Duggan said D-DOT made some decisions a year ago that were "difficult to understand" by adding routes that were "extremely cost inefficient."

"Less than one year ago, they started a whole bunch of service to the suburbs," Duggan said. D-DOT started routes to Novi and Troy and DDOT's annual costs doubled from \$30 million to \$60 million.

They cut the routes because they realized they made a bad decision, Duggan said. The cuts were effective last Saturday, but many of the routes are duplicated by SMART, such as the routes to Livonia and Wonderland malls, Schoolcraft College and Madonna University, Duggan said.

"The suggestion that this was abandonment just is not true," Duggan said.

Duggan referred to a recent newspaper article which

referred to a "long-standing turf war" between the two bus systems. In the article Martin said SMART, the suburban carrier, should "step up to the responsibility" of providing transportation so the region can get comprehensive public transit.

Kaufman said he was "dazed" by the news article's assertion. Actually D-DOT had printed a brochure highlighting not just the DDOT's routes, but SMART ones listed under each one, Kaufman said.

Position was 'political'

Commissioner Edna Bell, D-Detroit, asked Duggan if there were any conversations about a merged bus system. Duggan said the Greater Detroit Chamber of Commerce favored a merger, but the city of Detroit had taken a political position on the transportation issue.

"I think what is going on here is just plain wrong," Duggan said.

Commissioner Robert Blackwell, D-Detroit, who chairs the commission's Committee on Roads, Airports and Public Services, asked if the Big 4 — the three county executives of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties and Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer — had met to resolve the issue.

Duggan responded that they were working to match fare

boxes and computers for the two systems, but he believed the city was not.

"If anyone here has any influence, there are people in Archer's office who agree with me, we just can't get them to the table to talk about it."

Martin later explained D-DOT initiated those routes for provide employment opportunity for Detroit residents. Martin wanted coordination of services with SMART, but one route that was eliminated and one SMART has not continued was a route from Detroit to Novi.

"We have not been able to work out a true coordination of routes," Martin said. "We could not continue that service because of financial reasons."

"We decided it would be in the city's best interest to eliminate these runs."

SMART has serviced areas already affected by the D-DOT route cuts, except Holbrook and Eight Mile routes, which have a low ridership rate and will not be picked up by SMART.

D-DOT has shortened the time span between buses on current routes, telling commissioners D-DOT's first obligation was to improve service within the city of Detroit.

Commissioner Parker, D-Detroit, introduced a resolution of support of regional transportation two weeks ago. Park-

Please see BUS, A6

House panel to hear from public on SBT

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Ever since it was passed in 1976, Michigan's single business tax (SBT) has been under attack from business.

In every session of the Legislature, a multitude of bills seeks to alter its base (value added by a firm) or its rate. The Engler administration's boast of 24 tax cuts includes several changes in the SBT alone.

Lt. Gov. James Damman headed a commission appointed by Gov. William G. Milliken to revise it during the late 1970s. Few revisions were made.

The House Tax Policy Committee will try again, beginning at 9 a.m. Monday, Jan. 26, in the Southfield City Hall, 26000 Evergreen. (An earlier announcement in this newspaper listed the correct day but the wrong date.)

After listening to experts, the panel, chaired by Kirk Profit, D-Ypsilanti, will listen to public testimony.

The Small Business Association of Michigan last week made its views known. It would prefer, no business tax at all but would settle for these cuts:

■ A higher exemption for gross receipts, aiding small firms.

■ Elimination of health care from the tax base.

■ A credit for research and development.

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce magazine reported, the state Treasury Department is issuing new guidelines for multi-state companies, the subject of three Court of Appeals decisions in the past year.

When SBT was passed, conventional political wisdom held that one or more of the Big Three automakers drafted the bill, and rigged it to help large manufacturing firms by applying it largely to payrolls. Small businesses, particularly office-type firms, began the attack.

SBT was designed to replace

Please see SBT, A6

House panel eyes change in court site for lawsuits

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

State attorneys would have to go to local circuit courts to sue cities and companies under environmental laws, under a bill being considered by the state House Conservation Committee.

Currently, attorneys representing the Department of Natural Resources may sue in either Ingham Circuit Court, near the State Capitol — making defendants and their attorneys drive hundreds of miles to fight cases — or the local circuit court.

"It's 600 miles from Ironwood to Lansing," said Rep. Paul Tesanovich, R-L'Anse, the bill's sponsor. "Even the federal government doesn't require that," he said, noting there's a federal court in Marquette.

The House panel, chaired by Rep. Tom Alley, D-West Branch, heard only brief testimony in Lansing Jan. 21. No vote was taken.

Don Stypula, environmental affairs advisor to the Michigan Municipal League, didn't get a chance to testify. But he prepared remarks to say it would help cities in Eaton and northern and western Oakland counties who have had run-ins with DNR.

Those communities have had landfill and sewage treatment lagoon problems with DNR where they were unable to negotiate settlements, Stypula said.

Co-sponsors include Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, Tom Kelly, D-Wayne, Greg Kaza, R-Rochester Hills, Deborah Whyman, R-Canton, Kirk Profit, D-Ypsilanti, and Tom Middleton, R-Ortonville.

Current law — the 1994 Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act — allows DNR and the Department of Environmental Quality to choose between Ingham Circuit Court and other circuits in filing a suit.

"I like this bill," said Rep. Mike Middaugh, R-Paw Paw, "but I imagine the attorney general is going bananas over this."

Attorney General Frank Kelley had no spokesman at the hearing, but Alley wants to hear from his office before taking a vote on Tesanovich's bill. "I'd like to have a hearing in the Upper Peninsula in March," he said. "There's some controversy over this. We need to continue discussions."

Rep. Liz Brater, D-Ann Arbor, suggested an alternative if the Tesanovich bill works too much of a hardship on the attorney

Please see LAWSUITS, A6

Sign of the Beefcarver locations:

Allen Park Southfield Rd. (between Dix and Allen) 01/07 at 2:30 PM 01/14 at 2:30 PM 01/21 at 2:30 PM 01/28 at 2:30 PM 02/04 at 2:30 PM	Bloomfield Hills Woodward Ave. (north of Square Lake Rd.) 01/07 at 2:30 PM 01/14 at 2:30 PM 01/21 at 2:30 PM 01/28 at 2:30 PM 02/04 at 2:30 PM
Dearborn Michigan Ave. (east of Outer Drive) 01/06 at 2:30 PM 01/13 at 2:30 PM 01/20 at 2:30 PM 01/27 at 2:30 PM 02/03 at 2:30 PM	Eastland 8 Mile and Kelly 01/15 at 2:30 PM 01/29 at 2:30 PM
Mt. Clemens Gratiot and 16 Mile Rd. 01/08 at 2:30 PM 01/22 at 2:30 PM 02/05 at 2:30 PM	Royal Oak Woodward (north of 11 Mile Rd.) 01/08 at 2:30 PM 01/15 at 2:30 PM 01/22 at 2:30 PM 01/29 at 2:30 PM 02/05 at 2:30 PM
Madison Heights 14 Mile Rd. (across from Oakland Mall) 01/06 at 2:30 PM 01/13 at 2:30 PM 01/20 at 2:30 PM 01/27 at 2:30 PM 02/03 at 2:30 PM	Warren Van Dyke (north of 12 Mile Rd.) 01/16 at 2:30 PM 01/30 at 2:30 PM
Sterling Heights M-59 (west of Schoenherr) 01/09 at 2:30 PM 01/23 at 2:30 PM 02/06 at 2:30 PM	Westland Wayne and Cowan Rd. 01/08 at 2:30 PM 01/15 at 2:30 PM 01/22 at 2:30 PM 02/05 at 2:30 PM

Macomb Hospital Center 12000 E. 12 Mile Rd. Warren Executive Office Bldg. Auditoriums A and B (12 Mile Entrance) 01/06 at 10:00 AM Auditorium B 01/13 at 10:00 AM Auditorium A 01/20 at 10:00 AM Auditorium B	01/27 at 10:00 AM Auditorium A 02/03 at 10:00 AM Auditorium A
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Richard named to journalism hall of fame

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Tim Richard believes one of his more significant newspaper stories was one that was never published.

In 1968, Richard, who was a reporter with the Kalamazoo Gazette, was excluded from secret meetings of the board of Western Michigan University.

"One day I asked for minutes of past meetings and the board secretary accidentally gave me the minutes of the secret meetings, during what they had made policy decisions," Richard said.

"I wrote the story and the editor spiked it."

Richard said he never received a full explanation about why the story was killed, but believed the editor could not fathom the WMU board doing anything wrong.

"I got a fire in my belly about the issue of open government."

That issue started Richard on a long newspaper career which now finds him as news service regional editor for Hometown Communications Network Inc., the parent company of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. In his current role, Richard covers state, regional and community college issues.

He advocated and worked toward the eventual passage in 1976 of the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

For his longtime commitment to the public's right-to-know, Richard, 62, was elected to the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame on Jan. 17.

Words of praise

Stan Soffin, chairman of the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame Committee, said the committee was impressed by Richard's "courageous leadership on behalf of a free press."

"(Richard's) commitment to the FOIA and Open Meetings Act - and (his) tireless work behind the scenes to protect these measures - will stand as a model for Michigan journalists for years to come." Richard will be inducted April 18 at the Kellogg Center at Michigan State University.

The nomination letters reflect some of the professional respect that exudes from his peers and bosses.

Phil Power, owner and chairman of Hometown Communications Network Inc., wrote in his nomination letter that Richard is the "single most competent" political and governmental reporter in Michigan.

"Tim's journalistic output is truly prodigious," Power said. "He regularly writes core stories on significant events with localization possibilities scattered throughout."

Power also cited Richard for singlehandedly reporting policy issues associated with the State Board of Education and with its attempt fundamentally to change the nature of Michigan public schools.

"He is particularly the greatest example I know of a disciplined, serious and perceptive reporter relating statewide events to the needs of individual readers in their hometown communities."

Bill Ballenger, editor of Inside Michigan Politics, once called Richard "perhaps the Capitol's most serious, scholarly reporter."

Another Richard nominator,

Lee Ann Johnson, cited Richard's efforts in co-founding the Michigan Freedom of Information Committee, and efforts in championing prisoners' rights in the press.

Marsha Stopa, president of the Metro Detroit Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, wrote: "The Michigan Freedom of Information (Act) is alive and well today because of Tim Richard's determination to never let legislation get swept under the rug or hidden in obscure language. Most of what we in the media know about FOI and sunshine laws has in some way, come to us through Tim Richard."

Richard grew up on Detroit's west side and attended Redford High School. He attributes excellent high school journalism teachers with getting him started as a reporter.

After he graduated in 1953, Richard attended the University of Michigan where he received a bachelor's degree in economics in 1957 and a master's degree in business administration in 1959.

He spent seven years at the St. Joseph Herald-Press and Kalamazoo Gazette. Richard joined the Observer & Eccentric in 1967, working as Oakland editor and editorial page editor.

Big stories

Richard's career has taken many interesting turns and twists, judging from some of his favorite stories.

In 1961, Richard won a first prize in the Michigan Associated Press contest for a feature series on St. Joseph (public) Junior High School and how it matched

the standards set in James Bryant Conant's post-Sputnik book "The Junior High Today."

The unpublished WMU expose in 1968 led directly to his advocacy of the Open Meetings Act, and activity in the Society of Professional Journalists and Michigan FOI Committee Inc. to defend the "sunshine" laws and teach people how to use them through seminars and newsletters.

In 1971, Richard wrote about the "age of majority" in the old Observer and sold the idea to Gov. William Milliken, which resulted in the state laws lowering legal ages from 21 to 18.

"I had done a study of the maturity of people, and found people were maturing three, four and five years earlier than a century ago," Richard said. "Our laws were based on 21, and that age of maturity, because that's when a man was strong enough to wear and bear armor."

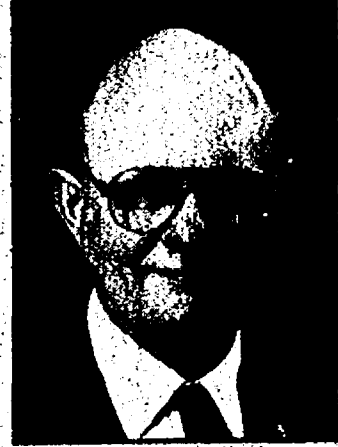
But Richard is known for his work on FOI and Open Meetings acts, work he did for the public good and the public's right to know. He enjoys helping out citizens with FOI requests and giving seminars on the same.

"You have a right to know what the government wants to do to you before it does it to you. You have a right to know the amendments before the final product comes out, who's really on your side or who's voting yes at the last minute."

Richard has won his share of awards, receiving Suburban Press Foundation's national prizes for feature story and editorial. He received six awards from the Michigan Associated Press Editorial Association.

Last year, he won first prize for a column from the Michigan Press Association.

Richard and his wife, Nancy, live in Livonia.



Tim Richard

Bus from page A5

er's resolution calls for SMART to add a "sufficient number of routes" to accommodate displaced riders who formerly rode with D-DOT.

Kaufman recently told officials who serve on the Conference of Western Wayne that SMART was delivering on its millage promises of three years ago. This 1/3 mill is expected to be on suburban Wayne County community ballots in August, but it is not known yet which communities will opt in or opt out of the

millage. "I think we've been pretty good in delivering transportation," Kaufman said. "We're way ahead of schedule in reducing the deficit."

Kaufman believes any discussion of a merger at this time is premature.

"If we can't do some of the smaller things, then we shouldn't get into some of the larger issues, such as a possible merger," Kaufman said.

Lawsuits from page A5

general: That the state be required to sue in a court within a certain number of miles of the defendant rather than in the defendant's county.

Tesanovich indicated he would consider the idea. "I don't speak for the attorney general," he said, "but we legislators make the laws."

The committee discussion revolved mainly around municipal defendants, but the bill also

would apply to individual and corporate defendants.

Refer to House Bill 5410 when writing to your state representative, State Capitol, Lansing 48909. The Conservation Committee usually meets at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays on the fourth floor of the Capitol Building; contact the clerk at 517/373-5734 for the agenda.

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SBT from page A5

about eight other taxes, including the corporate income tax. The corporate income tax was unpopular because its revenue stream was so volatile in Michigan's cyclical economy. The prevailing view was that Michigan had too many types of taxes on business and should replace them with a single tax.

Business spokesmen, then and now, have been of two minds about business taxes. First, they hold that businesses aren't people, don't really pay taxes, but simply collect taxes for government.

Second, they hold that all business taxes are "double taxation" of personal income, and business shouldn't be taxed at all. Michigan Democrats contin-

ually monitor the percentage of state revenues provided by business. Whenever it slips, Democrats say Republicans are favoring business and socking it to "working families."

Currently, SBT provides about \$2 billion a year versus 4 billion-plus from the personal income tax.

How to be heard

No specific bills are listed on the House Tax Policy Committee's agenda. That's unusual because committees generally have a specific bill in front of them when they meet.

Here are the Legislature's own guidelines for testifying before a committee:

■ Be as brief as possible - no more than five minutes, preferably no more than three.

■ "If you decide to testify, notify the committee as soon as possible." You will be asked to fill out a card with your name, address and group affiliation.

■ "If you represent a group of individuals or an organization, choose one person to present the group's point of view and bring others along as supporters. No committee wants to hear the same testimony over and over." Typically, group spokespersons are called on before individuals.

■ "Prepare testimony and/or suggested amendments in advance."

■ "Avoid emotional speeches and propaganda."

■ "If you are asked a hostile question, keep a cool head."

■ If you can't stay until the end, write out your comments and leave a copy with the committee.

Other Tax Policy Committee members include John Freeman, D-Madison Heights, David Gubow, D-Huntington Woods, Nancy Cassis, R- Novi, Barbara Dobb, R-Union Lake, Tom Middleton, R-Ortonville, and Deborah Whyman, R-Canton.

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by Stuart M. Feldheim
Attorney at Law

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Personal injury attorneys see themselves as advocates for the rights of the individual, believing that truth and justice should prevail over the profit motives of big business and insurance companies. Big business and insurance companies never introduce legislation to put a cap or limit on their profit but they would like to cap your right to recover damages when you are injured. Think about it.

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6:00 p.m.
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HOME COOKING



KEELY WYGONIK

The best recipes are ones you share

The very best recipes are home-made and shared with family and friends. Some are holiday traditions such as Auntie Flo's Fruit Salad, which is a must on Peggy Peck's Thanksgiving dinner table.

Peck, who lives in Redford, sent her treasured recipe in response to our request for a "dish to pass" on Thanksgiving, which appeared in the Nov. 23 issue of Taste.

Auntie Flo's Fruit Salad is delicious. So good that after reading the recipe in our paper, Jean McDonald of Livonia cut it out.

"I made it for Christmas," said McDonald who loves to cook. "Everyone makes cookies so I thought I would do something different."

She made Auntie Flo's Fruit Salad, divided it into 10 little, clear cocktail glasses, put them in bags, and took them to bingo to share with friends.

"Everyone loved it, and asked for the recipe," said McDonald.

Garlic Guru



Tom Reed

Tom Reed has earned the reputation "Garlic Guru" for sharing his garlic recipes and tips. He will be at the Spring Home & Garden Show Thursday-Sunday, Jan. 29 to Feb. 1, at Novi Expo Center, (248) 737-4478. On Wednesday, Jan. 28, he'll teach a 7 p.m. cooking class at Vic's World Class Market, 42875

Grand River, Novi. The class costs \$25 per person, call (248) 305-7333, Ext. 130 for reservations and information.

"Fresh garlic is nature's antibiotic," said Reed. "Start your day with a garlic shooter, 2 cloves of garlic, minced fine, put it in a small glass of grapefruit juice, and chug it all at one time. I don't get colds or flu."

Reed said he believes garlic can make this country healthier, and he's on a mission to prove it. "I really think I can have an impact," he said explaining studies have shown garlic is an effective weapon for fighting heart disease, many forms of cancer, lowering cholesterol, and strengthening your immune system.

Sharing a recipe is one of the nicest things you can do for someone. Reed said he enjoys sharing garlic recipes, because it's his way of helping people lead healthier lives.

When was the last time someone asked you for a recipe? Will you share it with our readers?

Please send your "Recipe to Share," along with your name, address, phone number, and best time to call. Be sure to tell us why this is your favorite recipe to share.

We're looking for every kind of recipe including salads, soups, snacks, sandwiches, casseroles, entrees and desserts. We'll interview some of the cooks who shared our favorites, and print their recipes, with tips for success, in the Sunday, Feb. 22, issue of Taste.

If your recipe uses canned goods, be sure to specify what size can in the ingredient list. Include sources for hard-to-find or unusual ingredients.

Send your recipes to me - Keely Wygonik, Taste Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them by calling (734) 591-7279.

We're confident "Recipe to Share" will be a popular new feature that you'll look forward to reading every month in Taste. Don't be shy, we

Please see HOME COOKING, B2

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Taste next week:

- Focus on Wine
- Living Better Sensibly

Have fun banishing winter blahs

SANDRA DALKA PRYSBY • SPECIAL WRITER



Dinner guests: Jim Uzelac joins guests (from left) Jack and Kathy Dawson of Rochester Hills and Debbie Friedman of Bingham Farms.

Guests never quite know what to expect when they get an invitation to Jim and Pauline Uzelacs' Bloomfield Hills home for a party. What they do know - the Uzelacs always plan something that is sure to banish the winter blahs.

One recent gathering involved six couples, including the hosts, and an invitation for dinner. The guests knew this wasn't going to be just an ordinary evening when they were greeted by strangely and colorfully garbed Jim and Pauline, both teachers in the Waterford School District. They also knew something was amiss when they were shown to the dining table.

Each guest was handed a menu guaranteed - "to fill you up" - "to stagger your imagination" - "to give you heartburn." Listed were 28 "foods" and guests were asked to select four items for each of the four courses, no duplications were allowed.

There, were however, a few problems. Careful inspection of the dining table revealed no eating utensils. Also, the "menu" gave guests no indication of what exactly they were ordering.

"What on earth is 'Load Up Deluxe'?" asked Debbie Friedman of Bingham Farms. Her husband, Larry, asked the same question about "Sniffles Stopper."

Host Jim, serving as waiter, was mum. No help was given with selections. Nor was hostess Pauline in attendance. She was hidden behind curtains covering the opening to the kitchen.

"What the heck," said Jack Dawson of Rochester Hills as he and his wife, Kathy, dutifully filled in their course selections. Other guests followed their lead with chuckles and a sense of adventure.

One by one, each guest was served their first course choices. The "Sniffles Stopper" turned out to be chicken noodle soup, a great first choice, but only if the dinner selected was "Diggin' Deep." That turned out to be a spoon. Another good first course choice was

"Greek Love." That was a feta cheese salad. However, it helped if guests who chose this also ordered the "Load Up Deluxe." That was a fork.

Guests watched in wonder as each diner was served their selections. And each watched in awe as table mates found creative, and not so creative ways, of consuming their selections without needed utensils.

Soup bowls were picked up and the contents consumed by drinking; salads became finger food. This was acceptable for as stated on the menus, "Emily Post's rules of etiquette will not apply to any of the courses served tonight."

The merriment continued around the table as each course offered other surprises. "Chip off the Old Block," was a toothpick, a great aid if "Boxer's Glory" (cauliflower) or "Midnight Special" (kielbasa and sauerkraut) or "Squealer's Fright" (roast pork) was ordered. Utensil sharing was a must, and guests were accommodating, for "Chop Chop" (Chinese salad) and "Water Wonders" (seafood salad).

While some guests ate hearty during the meal - unknowingly they made "good" selections - nobody was allowed to leave hungry. After the fourth course, the Uzelacs invited everyone into the kitchen to help themselves to a buffet of all the choices.

"We love having unusual events," said Pauline. "We want our guests to have evenings to remember, mixed with a lot of fun and good people."

According to Jim, they design their parties so all the guests are sure to get to know one another.

"You really get to know the person sitting next to you, couples are never allowed to sit next to each other, if you have to share eating utensils, washed, of course. Also, this dinner took almost three hours, enough time for the guests to become friends.

The Uzelacs are now planning their next extravaganza, but won't give a hint of the theme. "But it will be different, and hopefully, lots of fun. "If it's anything like past events, guests won't be disappointed."

Jim and Pauline Uzelac share Entertaining Tips

- Always invite some new and interesting individuals to add zest to "the same old crowd."
- Pick a theme, such as "A Winter Picnic," "Mexican Night," "The Roaring '20s," or "A Croquet Party." Ask guests to dress accordingly, and plan the menu and decorations around the theme.
- Want an unusual theme? Use things as products of the season such as peaches or apples and have a peach or apple festival. In winter, consider hosting a soup or chili tasting. Follow through with appropriate decorations such as everything peach-colored for peach festivities, or a cowboy motif for the chili event.
- Plan a menu that can be prepared ahead of time so you can be with your guests.
- Although their most recent party, Banish Winter Blahs, required a variety of food offerings, some were served straight out of the container such as olives and cottage cheese, others were made ahead of time - gelatin dessert, tossed salad and chicken soup. The roast pork, fried rice and pierogi were prepared just before guests arrived.
- Start the evening, especially one with many guests, with a "mixer" game so that everyone mingles. At one of their parties guests were taken, individually, to a separate room where an object such as a paper clip, safety pin or rubber band was attached to them. The object of the game was for guests to discover which object was on which person and where it was located. "The evening was spent with everyone looking people over. In the process they got to know one another," said Jim.
- Stay within your budget. Whether formal or casual, the Uzelacs decide ahead of time how much they're going to spend and plan accordingly. "Otherwise you can go overboard on the food and/or decorations," said Pauline.
- Think "party" when visiting garage, estate and close out sales. The Uzelacs found a wonderful deal on large sea shells, which, in turn, were used for a party with a sea theme. Another purchase of clown costumes at a garage sale led to a "Just Clowning Around" party.
- Have fun. Try something unusual. Once the Uzelacs supplied their friends with Groucho Marx glasses (plastic noses attached), which they wore for an evening out for dinner at a restaurant.
- Put as much planning and effort into a party for your friends as you would for a birthday party for one of your kids. In fact, according to Pauline, "A Kid's Party" is always fun for adults.

Chilling out at Winter Freeze Chili Cook-off

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Competition at the fifth annual Winter Freeze Regional Chili Cook-off and Salsa Contest in Allen Park Jan. 18 was hotter than a habanero, which is the hottest chile, having 30 to 50 times the firepower of jalapenos.

Yet, the 38 cooks competing for \$650 and the chance to advance to the World Championship Chili Cook-off in Reno this October were cool.

Gary and Laura Ray of Livonia stirred a simmering pot of chili next to Diane Adamski of Redford whose late husband, Jim Adamski, was the reason they started competing in chili cook-offs.

"We were friends for years, he could cook a pot of chili," said Gary remembering his friend.

The Rays have been competing for nine years. "It's fun, it's like a family reunion," said Gary. "We hug and kiss, we share ideas."

"There's a lot of good competition here today," said Laura. She wasn't kidding.

Of the 38 cooks competing in this International Chili Society sanctioned event, 23 have been to the World Cook-off, and six of the 23 placed in the top five in previous world competitions.

Georgia Weller of Bloomfield Hills, one of the six, won the 1996 World Cook-off, but didn't place in the top five at this event.

She cooked beside her husband, Jim, who placed third in the chili cook-off and second in the salsa contest. When the winners were announced, Georgia was among the first to congratulate him.

"We're happy for each other when one of us wins," said Jim who has also competed at the World. "We've cooked in 36 states. It's fun, that's the absolute only reason we do it. The people are great."

"This cook-off is respectable," said Gary Ray. "These people are big shooters, it's an honor to be here. I'm going to taste everyone's chili."

Marilyn Frederick of Farmington Hills was the head chili judge. Her brother Frank Klancnik, who has also competed in the World, was chairman.

"Frank has a good reputation," said Frederick explaining the success of the Winter Freeze Regional Cook-off. "A lot of the cooks know him. There aren't many cook-offs in early winter. A bunch of cooks are aching to cook, and want to compete early to qualify for the World."

The participants came from Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri, and as far away as Reno, California, and Colorado. Of the 38 competing 13 were from out of state. Bob Hall of Illinois placed first.

"We had space for 41 cooks, but three didn't show up," said Klancnik who grew up in Farmington Hills. "We turned 20 cooks away, it was heartbreak, we're looking for a bigger hall for next year. It's a regional cook-off, which qualifies you for the world championship and \$25,000 prize, and it's fun."

Please see COOK-OFF, B2



Prize-winning cook: Jim Weller of Bloomfield Hills placed third in the Winter Freeze Regional Chili Cook-off with his "Macktown Chili."

Champs share recipes for prize-winning chili

See related story on Taste front.

- CHEF BOY-R-BOB CHILI**
- 2 tablespoons Wesson oil
 - 3 pounds chuck tender, cut into 1/4-inch cubes
 - 1 (14 1/2 ounce) can chicken broth
 - 1 (14 1/2 ounce) can beef broth
 - 1 (8 ounce) can Hunt's tomato sauce
 - 1 (4 ounce) can green chilies (seeded and chopped)
 - 4 tablespoons Gebhart Chili Powder
 - 4 tablespoons California Chili Powder (mild)
 - 1 tablespoon New Mexico Chili Powder (hot)

- 2 teaspoons Pasilla (light) - (this is a very mild chili powder)
 - 1 1/2 tablespoons garlic powder
 - 1 tablespoon onion powder
 - 2 teaspoons brown sugar
 - 1/2 teaspoon Tabasco Sauce (red)
 - 1/2 teaspoon Tabasco Sauce (green)
 - 3 tablespoons cumin
- Brown meat in skillet with oil. Drain and add to 6 quart pot with rest of the ingredients, except 1/4 of spices.
- Simmer for 2 1/2 hours, stirring occasionally. Add remainder of spices and cook 1/2 hour longer.

Add water as needed, salt and pepper to taste.

Recipe compliments of Bob Hall of Taylorville, Ill., winner of the 1998 Winter Freeze Regional Chili Cook-off.

- JIM WELLER'S FAMOUS "MACKTOWN CHILI"**
- 3 pounds cubed Tri-Tip Beef or Chuck Tender Beef (Chuck Tender is available at most Foodland Stores)
 - 7 tablespoons chili powder
 - 2 tablespoons hot Mexican chili powder
 - 3 tablespoons cumin
 - 2 teaspoons salt
 - 1 teaspoon brown sugar
 - 1 teaspoon cornstarch

- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
 - 1/4 teaspoon white pepper
 - 1/2 teaspoon red Cayenne pepper
 - 2 tablespoons onion powder
 - 1 tablespoon garlic powder
 - 1 (14 ounce) can chicken broth
 - 1 (14 ounce) can beef broth
 - 2 (8 ounce) cans tomato sauce
 - Water as required
- Combine all spices Using a 6-quart stainless steel stockpot, add tomato sauce, broths, and 70 percent of combined spices.
- Bring to a boil and reduce to simmer.
- In a separate pan, brown the

cubed meat, drain and add to stock pot. Simmer for 2 hours or until meat is almost tender. Add remaining 30 percent of spices, and continue simmering for an additional 30 minutes.

Additional water may be added as required depending on consistency of sauce. Additional sauce may also be required. If additional heat is desired, try adding Tabasco or Crystal Hot sauce. Makes approximately 3 quarts of chili.

Cook's note: This will make a competition type chili that can be used in an "ICS" or "CASI" sanctioned Chili Cook-off.

For chili society membership information:
ICS - (714) 631-1780 - member-

ship \$30 a year, includes quarterly newspaper.

CASI - (520) 378-7179 - membership \$15 a year, includes monthly newspaper.

The "Goat Gap Gazette" is also a monthly chili newspaper available by writing to: P.O. Box 800, Brooksmith, Texas, 76827-0800.

Here are some mail order sources for chili spices:

- Pender's - (800) 633-1870
- Stewart's - (415) 671-8530
- Beaty's - (805) 524-2078

Recipe, and information compliments of Jim Weller of Bloomfield Hills, third place winner, Winter Freeze Regional Chili Cook-off.

Cook-off from page B1

"I won this cook-off five years ago when it was a district cook-off," said Hall who is chairman of the Illinois Chili Cook-off. The recipe he uses is his mother-in-law's, "but I perfected it," he adds.

There are no secrets to making great chili he says. "It's the blend of spices, and your personal preference. You want a good, smooth chili for home. Competition chili is too robust. You kick up the spices to get the judge's attention. Take mom's or grandma's recipe, try it, perfect, stay with it, and don't play with it."

Competition chili is different from chili you make at home. For one thing International Chili Society rules don't allow beans and other fillers.

What's his secret I asked Hall after the prizes were announced. As a judge I tasted 19 of the 38 samples submitted, his was one I picked as a winner.

"Salt makes the judges come back to taste it again. It causes the other spices to stand up. You can add too little or too much salt. You've got to get the judges on the first taste."

Skip Cooley left Reno early in the morning to compete in the cook-off, and placed fifth.

"It's the camaraderie," he said when asked why he came, with Hall nodding in agreement. "And the dedication to being as good as you can be."

One secret Hall and some of

the other cooks shared was the kind of meat they use. No ground beef for them.

Gary Ray like other cooks I talked to uses a Tri-Tip cut of beef, which he purchases at Butcher Block in Livonia. Hall uses chuck tender, "it's the tenderloin of the chuck. I dice and chop it into squares."

If you're thinking of competing in a chili cook-off, try to judge one. "The best thing is to be a judge, because then you know what they look for," said Hall.

For the best home-cooked chili, he recommends making a batch and inviting friends over to critique it. Try a blend of spices and pick out a blend that works best for you.

Les Eastep tied with Hall for first. Gail Ihlenfeldt of Belleville placed fourth.

"We had a taste-off to pick second place," said Frederick. "If the first-place winner can't go to the World, the second-place winner takes their place. Three judges, who didn't taste the chilies on the final table, tasted the two tied for first to pick a winner."

Ken Brundage of Livonia, and Bob Vargo of Walled Lake were among the chili cook-off contestants from Michigan. Vargo also participated in the salsa contest.

Other local salsa contest participants included Lynne Hunter of Plymouth. John Beadle of Ida won the salsa competition.

These recipes are compliments of the Garlic Guru, Tom Reed.

THE GARLIC GURU'S ROASTED GARLIC GOAT CHEESE

- 20 cloves peeled fresh garlic
 - 20 pitted kalamata olives
 - 3/4 cup olive oil
 - 3 ounce package goat cheese (log form)
 - 2 sprigs fresh rosemary
 - Coarsely ground black pepper
- In a heavy sauce pan, heat olive oil, garlic, and olives for approximately 30 minutes over very low heat. Do not allow to boil. Garlic should become very soft.
- Roll the goat cheese in pepper so it is completely covered. Place cheese roll standing up in a shallow bowl.
- Surround the cheese with the oil, garlic and olives. Garnish with rosemary. Serve with sourdough bread.

With a knife, cut a piece of cheese and put on bread. Next add an olive and garlic clove and a small piece of rosemary. Wash it down with a great California cabernet.

SKORDALIA

- 2 large potatoes (peeled & boiled until soft)
 - 4 garlic cloves, peeled and finely minced
 - 1 slice white bread, crust removed
 - Salt & freshly ground pepper to taste
 - 1/2 cup white vinegar
 - 1/4 cup olive oil
- Soak bread in water and squeeze out water. Cool the potatoes and place in blender with other ingredients. Mix just until thoroughly mixed and smooth. Don't over process, or you will have glue.
- Chill until serving time. Serve at room temperature with crackers, pita chips or baguettes.

Toss up some salad surprises for friends

See related story on Taste front.

CHINESE SALAD

- 2 packages Ramen noodles (broken up)
 - 1 package silvered almonds (about 1/2 cup, or to taste)
 - 1 package sesame seeds (1 tablespoon, or more according to taste)
 - 1 stick (1/2 cup) butter or margarine
 - 1 napa cabbage
 - 1 bunch green onions, chopped
- Fry noodles, almonds, and sesame seeds in butter until golden brown. Tear cabbage in small pieces and toss together with browned ingredients and onions.

- 1 cup sugar
 - 1 tablespoon soy sauce
 - 1/2 cup vinegar
- Blend four ingredients together. Add dressing to salad and toss 20 minutes before serving.
- Serves 4-6

SEAFOOD SALAD

- 5 pounds imitation crab meat, shredded
 - 1 pound salad shrimp
 - 3 bunches green onions, green part only, chopped
 - 8 stalks celery, chopped
 - 4 cups mayonnaise
 - Poppy seeds and garlic salt to taste
- Thaw crab meat and shrimp. Mix all ingredients together. Chill. Serves 12.
- Recipes compliments of Pauline Uzelac

Home Cooking from page B1

know you've got a great recipe to share, and look forward to hearing from you.

Feel free to call me, (734) 953-2105 if you have any questions.

To get our new feature - "Recipe to Share" - started we

asked Philip Power, chairman of HomeTown Communications Network, the company that owns this newspaper, to share one of his Venison Chili recipe.

"I like it because it takes a full afternoon of simmering, and I can sit in the kitchen in front of the fireplace reading, or maybe watching a football game, thinking about how good that chili's going to taste. I like it made from venison, but I suppose you could use buffalo or even beef cut into small chunks rather than ground up."

PHIL'S VENISON CHILI

- 2 pounds venison steak
- Marinade Ingredients
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/2 cup red wine (I prefer Burgundy)
- 1/2 cup red wine vinegar
- 3 cloves garlic, smashed
- 1 1/2 tablespoon herbs of your choice such as Italian, or combination of

thyme, oregano, and rosemary

1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Chili Ingredients

- 1 big Spanish onion, chopped chunky
- 3 stalks celery, coarsely chopped
- 1 green pepper, chopped fine
- 2 cups canned tomatoes in juice
- 3 cups meat stock of your choice
- 3 heaping tablespoons chili powder
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon ground ancho chilies or cayenne pepper to taste
- 1 heaping teaspoon ground yellow cornmeal

Combine and whisk marinade ingredients.

Marinate venison steak 24

hours in refrigerator, turning occasionally.

Pat steak dry. Cut into bite-sized chunks. Brown in 3 tablespoons of olive oil in a Dutch oven. Take meat out and brown vegetables, adding more olive oil if necessary. Put meat back into pot, add tomatoes, meat stock and spices. Simmer for 3 hours, adding water if necessary. Taste and correct seasonings. Mix a little of the liquid from the simmering chili with the cornmeal to make a paste. Stir into chili to thicken. Simmer 20 more minutes.

Serving suggestions: Over rice, or with corn chips. You can top it with grated cheese such Cheddar, or sour cream. If you want to add more protein, add a can of (drained) red pinto beans during the last 20 minutes of cooking. Serves 8 with leftovers.

Keely Wygonik is editor of the Taste section.

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Canned or fresh, beans are nutritious, versatile

The humble bean has been dubbed the near-perfect food. It offers the perfect balance of plant-based protein, complex carbohydrates and dietary fiber, as well as being low in fat and sodium. Beans contain no cholesterol, but are rich in vitamins and minerals, including B-vitamins, calcium, iron, zinc and potassium.

Whether you use canned or dried varieties, beans are not only nutritious, but also highly versatile. Add them to vegetable soups or make bean gumbos. Mix them into stir-fries, casseroles and pasta sauces. Nothing beats the variety and fresh flavors in a hearty bean stew made with kidney beans, carrots, mushrooms, celery, potatoes, onions, green peppers, corn and peas.

While cooking the beans, steam the potatoes and carrots until just tender. When the beans are done, drain off all but two cups of cooking water. Then mix in all of the vegetables, along with seasonings, including soy sauce, vegetable bouillon cubes, parsley, sea salt, basil, paprika and cayenne red pepper. Simmer the soup for 25 minutes, until the vegetables are cooked and the flavors are blended.

Home-cooked or canned beans can be marinated and tossed cold

salads, and combined with pasta or greens. Canned beans will absorb dressings and marinades better if you rinse them and allow them to come to room temperature before using.

Great Northern beans pick up the zesty flavors of salad made with lightly steamed strips of zucchini and red pepper, capers and minced red onion, and dressed with olive oil, garlic, balsamic vinegar and cumin.

Pureed beans or chickpeas mixed with herbs and spices make a Middle Eastern hummus that's great as a dip for raw vegetables, or as the filling for Southwestern dishes like tacos or tostadas.

Creamy Mediterranean white bean dip is the perfect spread for toasted rounds of Italian bread. Simply mix four cups of cooked or canned cannellini beans in a food processor with three scallions, six sliced garlic cloves, 1/3 cup lemon juice, 1/4 cup toasted pine nuts and two tablespoons chopped fresh basil. Puree the dip until smooth and serve at room temperature.

Big bowls of steaming stews like this Great Bean Gumbo will keep you warm on chilly days.

GREAT BEAN GUMBO

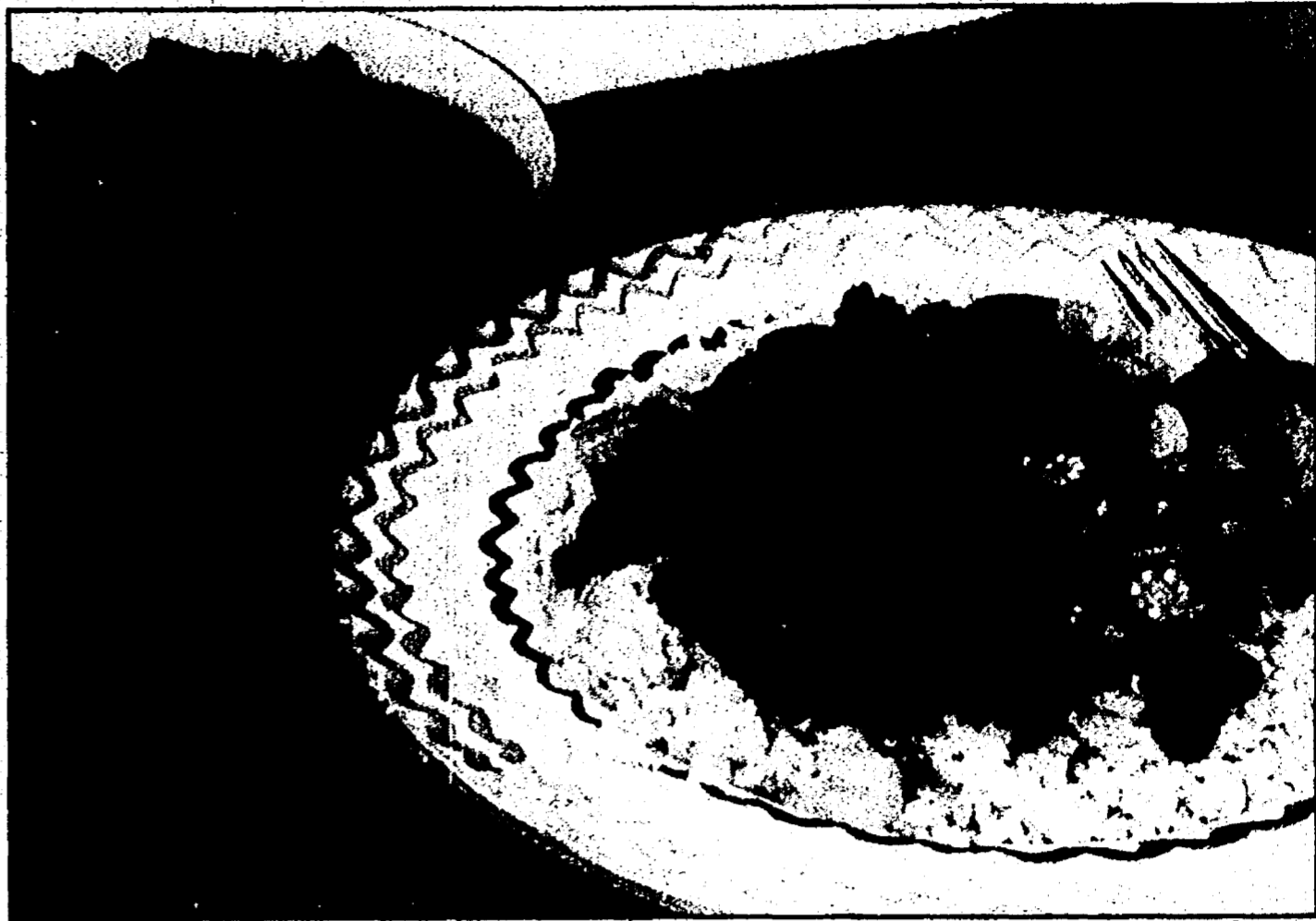
- 1 1/2 cups frozen okra
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 clove garlic, mashed
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 cup diced celery
- 1 medium green pepper, chopped
- 2 (16 ounce) cans whole tomatoes
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon thyme
- 1 cup frozen peas
- 1 (16 ounce) can kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- 3 cups cooked brown rice

Cook okra in a cup of boiling water until just tender. Set aside. Saute onions and garlic in olive oil until soft and golden.

Add celery and green pepper and cook until tender. Add tomatoes, and heat to boiling. Reduce heat.

Add pepper, cayenne, and thyme, and simmer for 45 minutes.

Add cooked okra, peas and beans, cooking for a few minutes longer until the peas are done.



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Winter warmer: Serve big bowls of Great Bean Gumbo to conquer the chill of winter.

Serve over cooked brown rice. Each of the 6 servings contains 300 calories and 4 grams of fat from the American Institute for Cancer Research

Make-ahead appetizers help you be a guest at your party

AP - When it comes to entertaining, what is more stressful? Cooking? Planning? Or the expense of it all?

The top six problems encountered by home cooks, according to recent research, are: preparation, planning, expenses, overall stress, shopping and no time to visit with guests with preparation at the top of the stress list.

"This research confirms that cooking for any size gathering can be a challenge," says Lydia Botham, director of Land O'Lakes Test Kitchens & Consumer Affairs. "Simplifying food preparation, such as selecting make-ahead recipes, will minimize the hassle of hosting a party."

Botham suggests the following recipes for holiday appetizers: Zesty Roast Beef Roll-Ups, Mexican Confetti Squares and Hot Artichoke & Sundried Tomato Dip.

over sour cream mixture. Place 2 slices roast beef over spinach; sprinkle with about 3 tablespoons cheese. Roll each tortilla up tightly; wrap with plastic food wrap. Refrigerate 4 hours. To serve, cut each tortilla into 1-inch pieces or diagonally in half. Makes 10 appetizers.

Nutrition facts per appetizer using regular sour cream: 200 cal., 10 g pro., 15 g carbo., 11 g fat, 40 mg chol., 290 mg sodium.

Nutrition facts per appetizer using light sour cream: 180 cal., 11 g pro., 17 g carbo., 8 g fat, 30 mg chol., 290 mg sodium.

Nutrition facts per appetizer using no-fat sour cream: 170 cal., 11 g pro., 18 g carbo., 6 g fat, 30 mg chol., 290 mg sodium.

MEXICAN CONFETTI SQUARES

Preparation time: 25 minutes
Chilling time: 2 hours

- 8-ounce package light cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup sour cream (regular, light or no-fat)
- 4 ounces (1 cup) mozzarella cheese, shredded
- 2-ounce jar diced pimientos, drained
- 2 tablespoons sliced green onions
- 2 tablespoons chopped mild green chilies, drained
- 2 tablespoons chopped ripe olives, drained
- Ten 8-inch flour tortillas
- Paprika or chili powder
- Jalapeno pepper rings or sliced olives, if desired

In small mixer bowl combine cream cheese and sour cream. Beat at medium speed, scraping bowl often, until smooth (1 to 2 minutes). By hand, stir in cheese,

pimientos, green onions, chilies and olives.

Spread about 1/3 cup cream cheese mixture over one tortilla. Top with another tortilla; spread with about 1/3 cup cream cheese mixture. Repeat layering two more times ending with tortilla; wrap in plastic food wrap. Repeat with remaining tortillas and cheese mixture. Refrigerate at least 2 hours or overnight.

To serve, cut tortillas into 1-inch squares; sprinkle tops with paprika. Garnish with jalapeno pepper rings. Serve with toothpicks. Makes 6 dozen appetizers.

Tip: Serve the cream cheese mixture in a bowl with crackers for a great party spread.

Nutrition facts per appetizer using regular sour cream: 35 cal., 1 g pro., 4 g carbo., 1.5 g fat, 5 mg chol., 70 mg sodium.

Nutrition facts per appetizer using light sour cream: 35 cal., 1 g pro., 4 g carbo., 1 g fat, 5 mg chol., 70 mg sodium.

Nutrition facts per appetizer using no-fat sour cream: 35

cal., 1 g pro., 4 g carbo., 1 g fat, 5 mg chol., 70 mg sodium.

HOT ARTICHOKE & SUNDRIED TOMATO DIP

Preparation time: 15 minutes
Baking time: 22 minutes

- 1/4 cup freshly shredded Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup sour cream (regular, light or no-fat)
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped sundried tomatoes (oil-packed or dried, softened)
- 8 ounces (2 cups) Swiss cheese, shredded
- 14-ounce can artichoke hearts, drained, chopped
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon hot pepper sauce
- Chopped fresh parsley, if desired
- Crackers, toasted baguette slices or bread sticks

Heat oven to 350 degrees F. In

large bowl stir together all ingredients except parsley and crackers. Spoon into 9-inch ovenproof shallow dish. Bake 22 to 26 minutes or until edges are very lightly browned. Sprinkle with parsley. Serve with crackers, baguettes or bread sticks. Makes 12 servings.

Tip: To soften sundried tomatoes, cover tomatoes with boiling water. Let stand for 5 to 10 minutes; drain.

Nutrition facts per serving using regular sour cream: 150 cal., 7 g pro., 7 g carbo., 11 g fat, 25 mg chol., 340 mg sodium.

Nutrition facts per serving using light sour cream: 150 cal., 7 g pro., 7 g carbo., 10 g fat, 25 mg chol., 340 mg sodium.

Nutrition facts per serving using no-fat sour cream: 140 cal., 7 g pro., 8 g carbo., 9 g fat, 20 mg chol., 340 mg sodium.

For a free brochure, "Hassle-Free Hosting," call 1-(800)-782-9602, or send a postcard with your name and complete address to: Land O'Lakes Sour Cream, "Hassle-Free Hosting," P.O. Box 26341, Shoreview, MN 55126-0341.

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Can you find the accountant?

(Hint: He's the one next to the marketing director.)

Today, more accountants, marketing directors and construction workers are serving in uniform than ever before. In fact, more than 50 percent of today's military is made up of members of the Guard and Reserve. Which means people from all walks of life are even more relied upon to make up our armed forces. So if you employ members of the Guard and Reserve, please give them the freedom to protect ours. (And, by the way, the marketing director is next to the schoolteacher.)

EGR Ad Guard

ZESTY ROAST BEEF ROLL-UPS
Preparation time: 20 minutes
Chilling time: 4 hours

- 1 cup sour cream (regular, light or no-fat)
- 2 tablespoons prepared horseradish
- 1 tablespoon Dijon-style mustard
- Five 8-inch flour tortillas
- 30 fresh spinach leaves or leaf lettuce, stems removed
- 10 thin slices (5 ounces) deli Italian roast beef or roast beef
- 4 ounces (1 cup) Cheddar cheese, shredded

In small bowl stir together sour cream, horseradish and mustard. Spread about 3 tablespoons mixture evenly on each tortilla.

Arrange 5 or 6 spinach leaves

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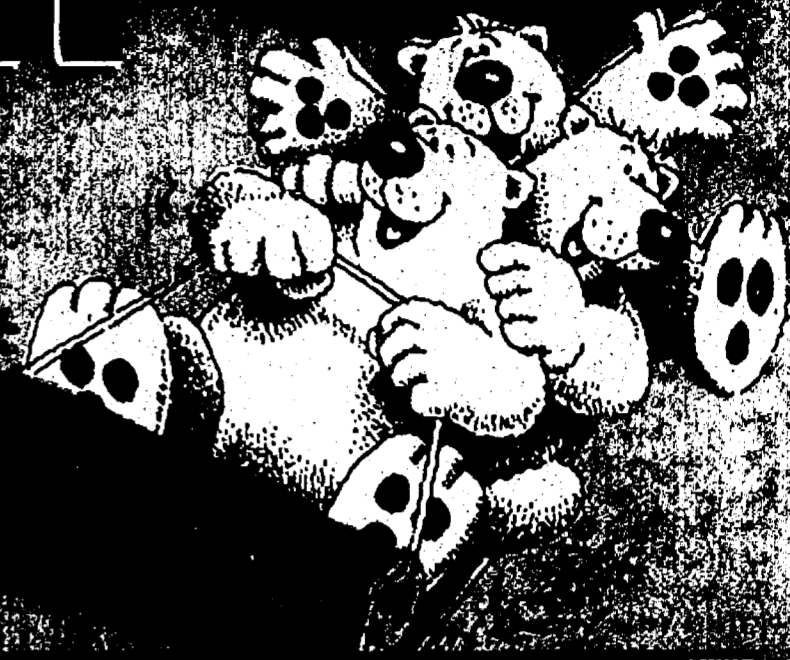
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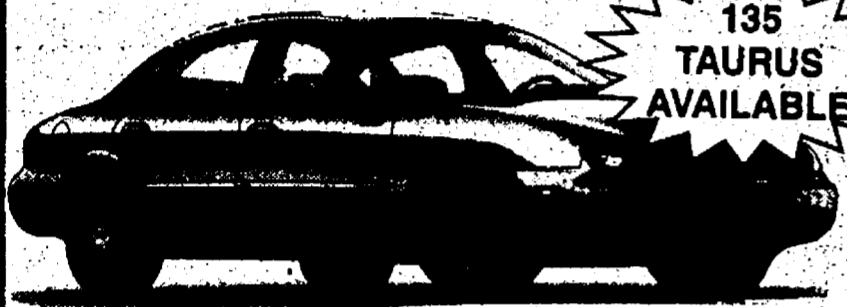
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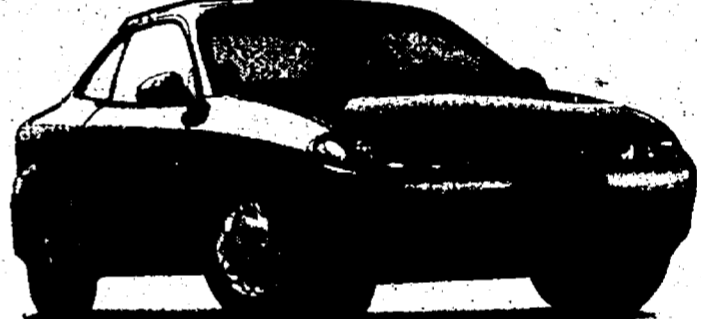
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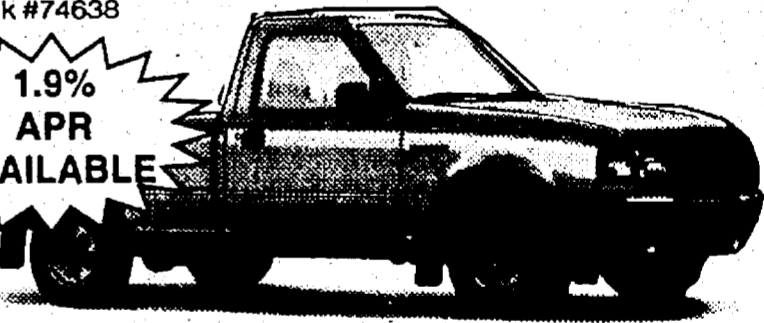
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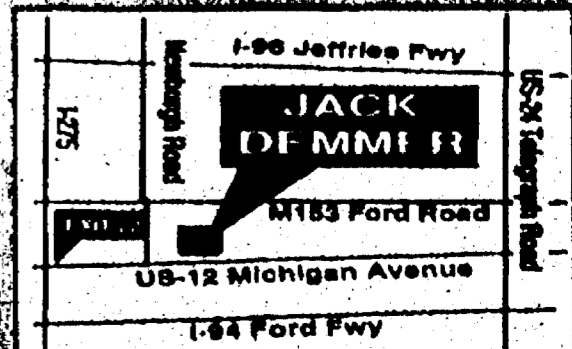
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ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

'Good art' cuts across mediums

For years, ice carvers have been looked upon as less than sculptors who work in clay, marble and bronze. The only difference between the two is that unlike sculptors working in traditional mediums, ice carvers have a specific amount of time to execute an art work depending on the number of ice blocks - from four hours for one to three blocks, to 20 hours for a 10-block sculpture.

Although techniques may differ, originality, proportion and quality of craftsmanship remain essential when creating "good art." I've found this to be true the last three years I've served as a one of the judges scoring works in the 16th annual Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular competitions.

Chefs representing the American Culinary Federation were one of two teams of judges presiding over this year's competitions. This was only the second time that American Culinary Federation and National Ice Carving Association judges had both sanctioned the event. The first joint judging, a few weeks earlier in Cincinnati, was engineered by Dan Hugelier, chef instructor at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, and NICA president Glen Motley. All of us looked for a number of elements in judging the ice sculptures created by amateurs, professionals and students during the competitions. Artistic achievement/strength of design, craftsmanship, detail and precision, strong lines, symmetrical or even depth and uniformity, originality, creativity, and proportion were divided into four separate categories for which American Culinary Federation judges awarded points from one to 10.

Please see EXPRESSIONS, C2

Ice Carving Course

What: Class offers lecture and hands-on ice carving (single and multi-block) experience for beginning and advanced students with chef instructor Richard Teeple. All necessary tools provided. Additional ice carving experience available with the college's Ice Carving Club. Check out their web site under "student activities" at <http://www.henryford.cc.mi.us>

Where: Henry Ford Community College (Gate Room, Student Center), 5101 Evergreen, south of Ford Road, Dearborn.

When: 2-5 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 9 to March 16, excluding March 9.

Cost: \$231 for Dearborn residents, \$255 non-residents. For more information, call (313) 845-9865/730-5960.

If you would like to know more about ice carving before taking the course, visit Teeple and his students at the East Dearborn Snow Frieze Tuesday-Sunday, Jan. 27 to Feb. 1. Sponsored by the business community, the event will raise money for flooring improvements in Dearborn Facilities and Services for the Retarded's group homes.

Close to her heart: Patricia Bombach took great care in painting this portrait of her grandsons Daniel (left) and Jason Bombach.



Carol Masters knew immediately when she saw Patricia Bombach's portraits at the Ann Arbor Art Fair that the artist's style would sensitively convey the beauty and intelligence of her co-worker and friend, the late Dr. Deborah Budd Iverson.

Dr. Iverson was abducted from a Birmingham parking lot and murdered in May of 1996. Two months later Bombach, a paraprofessional for Livonia Public Schools, was commissioned by Masters to create a memorial portrait. The painting now hangs in William Beaumont Hospital's Ophthalmic Learning Center, which is dedicated to Dr. Iverson's memory.

"Patricia does capture something in Debbie, especially in the eyes," said Masters, administrative assistant in the ophthalmology department chair at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. "Everybody loves the portrait, (Dr.) Bob Iverson and her parents just love it."

Producing portraits of relatives and loved ones who have died is never easy for Bombach. She painstakingly lays down each stroke or line to capture the personality and create an accurate likeness. Working from a snapshot of Dr. Iverson in a lab coat, Bombach began to create a portrait which relayed the doctor's love of education and dedication to her profession.

"It's always hard for me to do a portrait of someone who's passed away," said Bombach, a longtime Livonia resident now living in Northville. "It's a challenge but also a great opportunity. I wanted to create a portrait that really showed Dr. Iverson's inner beauty and that would be a wonderful reminder of her life."

For more than 25 years, Bombach portraits of people and pets have recorded precious memories for several families, including those of children who have died from cancer. Nevertheless, Bombach still struggles because she wants it to be perfect.

"Patience is important for both my art work and working with students in special ed," said Bombach, a pastel artist who also works in oil.

A paraprofessional in special education for the last 19 years, Bombach teaches work skills in the greenhouse at the Western Wayne Skills Center. The students, ages 16 to 26, learn how to craft flower arrangements and wreaths so they have the skills necessary to gain employment.

"I feel the Lord gave me a talent, and I have to pass it on," said Bombach, whose work has been published in Detroit Metropolitan Woman magazine. "When the students see a finished product, it makes them feel good about themselves. If they're in special ed or have a disability they

MUSICIANS

Orchestra spotlights young musicians at chamber concert

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Bonnie Holyoak believes the support of young artists is important to the future of symphonic music. To insure its survival, the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra hosts a Youth Artist Competition every year, which awards cash prizes and an opportunity to appear with the orchestra.

This year, conductor Russell Reed decided to take the nonprofit organization's support a step further by including a duet performed by two young harpists in the Jan. 31 Chamber Concert at the Plymouth-Canton Little Theatre.

The young musicians will step into the spotlight for the program, which features string quartets, a brass trio, bassoon duet, an alp horn solo and flute quartet.

"These young musicians are the ones who will carry on," said Bonnie Holyoak, orchestra executive director. "If they don't become involved, there



Christina Szlag

Myers, director of the Detroit Metropolitan Harp Ensemble. A graduate of Harrison High School in Farmington Hills, Szlag is a first year music student at Eastern Michigan University. This is her first appearance with the Plymouth Symphony as a featured artist.

"It's going to be a fun concert," said Szlag. "I've always played with the

won't be any symphonic music."

Christina Szlag, a Farmington Hills harpist has performed with the PSO in "The Nutcracker Ballet," for the last two years.

Szlag began studying harp 10 years ago with Ruth



Ross Huff

Concerto Competition, and as a result was a featured soloist on the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Educational Concert Series.

This is also Sarah Hamilton's first appearance as a soloist with the orchestra. Hamilton, first chair flutist at Novi High School, won second place in the Youth Artist Competition, along with Ross Huff, a trumpet player and

harp ensemble, so I've been amongst the crowd."

Szlag will perform a duet with Allegra Lilly, a seventh grade student at Bloomfield Hills Middle School. Lilly is the 1997 winner of the Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra's



Sarah Hamilton

Novi high schools entered the orchestra's annual competition in mid-December. First-place winner Stephen Goto, a senior at Plymouth-Canton High School, will make a guest appearance in a violin solo at a future concert.

Hamilton, who will perform the first movement of a Poulenc sonata during

Portrait artist stirs memories

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN • STAFF WRITER



Treasured art: (Left) Patricia Bombach works from photographs to capture the personalities of pets in portraits. (Far left) Bombach was commissioned to create this portrait of Dr. Deborah Budd Iverson after she was murdered in May of 1996. The painting now hangs in William Beaumont Hospital's Ophthalmic Learning Center, which is dedicated to her memory.

need to feel good about themselves."

In addition to portraits, Bombach creates landscapes which are on exhibit at Frame Works where she is a featured artist during the "Plymouth Is Artrageous" gallery walk last September. From a fieldstone dam in Romeo to a cascading river in Yosemite, Bombach relays tranquility and a peacefulness in the predominately green scenery.

"Her work has a real warm feel to it," said Frame Works production manager, Jamie Spaulding. "And she does commissioned landscapes of certain places for people if they bring her photographs that are special to them."

According to Spaulding, many of Frame Works' customers look for art, by local painters when they are about to make a purchase for a home or office.

"Patricia must have a good rapport with her customers because we get a lot of repeat orders,"

said Spaulding. "And if people don't like something, Patricia will come in and change it for them so they're happy with it."

After more than a quarter of a century, Bombach continues to study art. She travels twice a week to Romeo for an informal portrait work session, and a landscape class with August Gloss, owner of Starkweather Alley Gallery there.

An accomplished artist, Bombach, as a member of the Michigan Guild of Artists and Artisans in Ann Arbor, exhibits in the annual Summer Art Fair. She has also shown her work at the Liberty Fest Fine Art Fair in Canton, and the Wyandotte Street Fair. One of the most cherished achievements came in 1993 when she was asked to create a Christmas ornament for a tree in the State Dining Room at the White House.

In keeping with her love of teaching, Bombach has taught drawing to children at the Plymouth Community Arts Council and adults in the Plymouth-Canton Continuing Education program.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BERGLER

Ice art: Richard Teeple (right), ice carving and chef instructor at Henry Ford Community College, discusses elements of a sculpture at the Plymouth Ice Spectacular with Chuck Usatics, a culinary arts instructor at Romulus High School.

Please see MUSICIANS, C2

Expressions from page C1

A judge's lot

Hugelier; Helmut Holzer, an Austrian born Certified Master Chef from Atlanta; Joe Decker, pastry chef instructor at Schoolcraft College; Richard Teeple, ice carving and chef instructor at Henry Ford Community College; Chef Milos Cihelka, a Bloomfield Hills resident who retired from the Golden Mushroom, and myself met with carvers late Friday afternoon just as the professional team competitions were about to begin.

The first topic discussed was safety. One of the carvers had already run a chainsaw across his fingers while carving wood earlier in the week, requiring more than 100 stitches. That brought up a lecture on safety and a discussion of the rules. Since a third person or helper is not allowed to assist carvers during the 20-hour stint, a member of a competing team volunteered to lift the carver's ice block in place. The rule that no power tools may be used after midnight (until 6 a.m.) raised the question - could carvers use irons after midnight. A vote was taken by judges and carvers and there were no objections.

Rules are important to maintain fairness and ensure safety of the carvers. On Saturday, a carver was injured with a chisel, requiring six stitches. That's

why judges like Mark Scofield, a chef at The Community House in Birmingham, constantly walk the area looking for situations which could cause carvers injury. Scofield, as a line judge, watches whether competitors are breaking the rules. He also makes safety calls when necessary. Even so, there's always an ambulance on site.

"I can remember times walking past a carver with a jammed chain saw and seeing him hit the trigger with a screw driver while the saw was still plugged in," said Scofield, a Livonia resident who began carving ice in 1974 while a student in the culinary arts program at Schoolcraft College.

Scofield remembers one year when Cihelka was competing and another carver bumped into his sculpture. The next year, the area surrounding each carver was expanded. As interest in ice carving competitions continues to grow, safety is a major concern for everyone. City officials estimated the crowd at 750,000 this year. And with the Plymouth Ice Spectacular web site receiving 41,000 hits from all over the world, can larger crowds be far behind.

"As a line/rules judge, it's my responsibility to maintain safety for the carvers so they don't

become so engrossed in their work that they bump into one another, and to make sure the spectators are safe."

Scoring judges as well as line judges participate in the competition. After Holzer said "get your chain saws ready and your power tools plugged in" the students dug into the ice to carve outlines of mermaids and bucking stallions. Hugelier walked the area looking for safety concerns. Like a snowblower, a stream of ice flew off the blocks. Speaking was difficult and shouting necessary to be heard above the orchestra of chain saws whirring in dissonance.

Safety first

"Safety is the first consideration," said Hugelier, a carver for more than 25 years.

A co-worker of mine at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers was concerned about carvers not wearing eye protection when he visited the Plymouth Ice Spectacular on Sunday.

Teeple, who served as educational coordinator of the competitions, said that some carvers do wear them while others don't because of a tendency for goggles to fog from body heat but he does plan to bring up the issue as a safety concern before next year's competitions.

Teeple, who spent eight days before and during the festival assisting students, watching for safety violations, and demonstrating ice carving techniques, will stress safety in an ice carving course beginning Monday, Feb. 9, at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn. Students are issued goggles as part of their ice carving kit when signing up for his ice carving class.

"Safety is the number one concern," said Teeple, who will wear goggles while competing at Zehnder's Snowfest in Frankensmouth Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 7-8.

"In competition, judges constantly monitor to make sure the students have a good, safe event because they get distracted while focusing on the ice. It's important that they do not carve with one hand and that they cut away from the body. We make sure equipment is properly grounded. I was shoveling snow and blocks of ice from the area so they don't back up and fall over it."

Linda Ann Chomin is an arts reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. If you have an interesting idea for a story involving the visual or performing arts, call her at (313) 953-2145.

Ice carving winners

The Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular, North America's oldest and largest ice carving competition, awarded \$10,000 in cash prizes and scholarships Jan. 17-18. The results of Saturday's team professional competition were close with "Ride the Grey Winds" by Peter Slavin and Marty Long of Philadelphia placing first. The sculpture, featuring a female figure and four hounds, was a crowd favorite along with carvings of three coins by third place winner Paul Ahrens (Cincinnati). Here's a guide to the rest of the American Culinary Federation winners:

Professional Individual Gold Medal: Aaron Costic, Ohio for a female figure; Gold Medal: Jim Bur, Eastpointe for a tree frog; Gold Medal: Matt Williams, Ohio.

Professional Team - Glen Motley and Matt Williams (Ohio) took second place and a Silver Medal.

Amateur Individual Bronze Medal: Ron White, Mich., Second Place; Karl Malin, Traverse City.

College Individual - Silver Medal: Alison Edwards, Henry Ford Community College; Silver Medal: Kevin Kleiner, HFCC; Silver Medal: Tajana Raukar, Schoolcraft College.

College Team - Silver Medal: Alison Edwards and Marvin Purdy, HFCC; Bronze Medal: Dennis Dobbins and Brad Crum, University of Akron; Bronze Medal: Kevin Kleiner and Nicholas Watts, HFCC and Western Michigan University.

High School Individual - Bronze Medal: Gerald Ford, Edsel Ford High School; Bronze Medal: Michael Watts, Detroit Catholic Central in Redford; Bronze Medal: Cedric Duckworth, Oakland Technical Center.

High School Team - Andrew Wilcox and Joseph Mulso, Oakland Technical Center; Jill Blake and Stacey Priest, Oakland Technical Center.

Chamber Concert

What: The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra presents light chamber music performed by its members and winners of the Youth Artist competition.

Where: Plymouth-Canton Little Theatre, 8415 Canton Center Road at Joy Road, Canton.

When: 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31. An afterglow takes place immediately following the concert at the Willow Brook Inn, 44255 Warren, east of Sheldon, Canton. Admission is free.

Cost: Concert tickets are \$8 adults, \$6 for seniors/college students, and \$5 for children K-12. Call (313) 451-2112.

Musicians from page C1

the Chamber Concert, said she was surprised at winning the competition because she knew most of the other musicians from attending the All-State program at Interlochen and "knew they were really good."

The \$300 cash prize will go into the bank for her college expenses. She hopes to attend either Michigan State University or the University of Michigan as a music major next fall.

"I'm looking forward to the concert because it will be such fun to perform," said Hamilton.

Hamilton's mother Kathy is proud of her daughter, a senior at Novi High School.

"We're very proud of Sarah," said Kathy Hamilton. "I'm probably the only mother of a teenager that comes home and yells about turning down classical

music." Huff, also a second-place winner in the competition, began trumpet studies six years ago at Arnold Williams Music in Canton. He has attended master classes with jazz trumpeter John Faddis and Kevin Good of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

A winner of the Jeanet M. Allison Scholarship sponsored by the Plymouth Community Arts Council in 1997, Huff has performed with the Michigan State Band and Orchestra Associations' All State Honors Band in the Michigan Youth Arts Festival at Western Michigan University. He is a 5-year veteran of the All State Band Program sponsored by the University of Michigan at Interlochen Center for the Arts.

In 1996 as a member of the Symphony Band at Plymouth Canton Educational Park, Huff performed for President Clinton at a ground-breaking ceremony for the Metro Airport expansion.

He is a member of the newly formed Wind Ensemble at the Educational Park and the award-winning Plymouth Canton Marching Band. A student of Jean Moorehead Libs, Huff teaches trumpet to beginning students. He has recorded with Detroit Police Chief Isaiah McKinnon and the "Blue Pigs."

"I didn't go into the competition expecting to win anything," said Huff. "I just went in to do my best and see how I measured up against other trumpet players around my age."

ART BEAT

Art Beat features various happenings in the suburban art world. Send Wayne County arts news leads to Linda Ann Chomin, arts reporter, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.

DREAM CATCHER WORKSHOP

The North American Art Gallery and Trade Center will hold an open house and dream catcher workshop with Andrea (Ojibwe) and Truman (Oneida) White noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25 at the gallery, 17321 Telegraph Road, Suite 207, Detroit.

The class is \$10, materials \$5. Learn more about North American Indian art and culture by bisiting the gallery during the open house. For more informa-

tion, call (313) 535-7602.

RECITAL OF CLASSICS

Cellist Peter Rejto and pianist Michele Cooker are the featured artists in a concert noon Wednesday, Jan. 28 in the Forum Recital Hall at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile roads in Livonia.

The free concert is open to the public.

The program consists of Beethoven's "Sonata in A Major, Opus 69," and works by Debussy and J.S. Bach.

Rejto has been hailed as one of America's premier cellists.

FINAL DAYS

The Livonia Arts Commission presents a display of minerals, fossils, shells, and carvings by Lawrence Woolams of Ann Arbor

through Jan. 29 in the showcases on the second floor of the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile east of Farmington. While you're at the library, don't miss the exhibition of paintings by Livonia artist Barbara Demgen continuing through Jan. 30 in the Fine Arts Gallery. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday, until 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

OPEN HOUSE

The Plymouth Community Arts Council will officially dedicate the new Joanne Winkelman Hulce Center for the Arts Saturday, Jan. 31 at the center, 774 North Sheldon Road, Plymouth.

The public is invited to an open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Children on hand at 10 a.m.

will participate in the unveiling of the long-awaited sign in front of the building. The action is symbolic of the council's focus on the next generation. The adults are the current caretakers of arts programming and the children, the future artists and art appreciators.

ART ON THE RUN

Sandra Weed is a busy artist and teacher. The Westland resident and her students from Schoolcraft College and the Visual Arts Association of Livonia are exhibiting 85 paintings through Jan. 30 in the lobby of Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive east of Farmington. The works include oil, acrylic, watercolor, and Sumi brush painting.



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THE SWEET HEREAFTER (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30

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Waterford Cinema II
7501 W. Highland Rd.
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BOOKS

Cardboard characters make novel long, tedious

One Better
By Rosalyn McMillan
(Warner, \$22, 360 pp.)



VICTORIA DIAZ

Middle-aged widow Spice Witherspoon owns a gourmet's delight called Southern Spice. It's a glorious, four-star restaurant in downtown Rochester, Mich., a five-story, reconverted Victorian mansion where the elite meet to eat "country cure ham from Virginia, (and) bacon with the rind on," not to mention Seruga caviar or "egg-white shrimp omelets with a tropical citrus butter sauce."

Spice lives above the store in a sumptuous, two-story duplex affair, appointed with Ming vases, ivory linen and Faberge silver to-die-for. Through hard work, she's not only made herself rich but highly respected in her community. To say that this is important to her is putting it mildly.

So what's her problem? It's a long story. Maybe it's too long. Though Detroit author McMillan would seem to have a real flair for stirring up readers' tastebuds, and though she appears to want to say something important here about truth

and love, her characters never take on much more dimension than paper dolls. Consequently, many readers may find that this book loses its punch early in the game.

Essentially, Spice's problems center around on a dark past and her two adult daughters. Sterling is a 26-year-old, hero-in-adicted ne'er-do-well. Always obsessed with her personal appearance and supported by her indulgent mother, she's also obsessed with fellow ne'er-do-well and drug dealer Bennie.

Older sister Mink, on the other hand, is an over-achiever. Not only one of the first black females to pilot a commercial airliner, she's recently been promoted to captain. With loving husband Dwight and cute daughter Azure, she resides in one of the splendid old mansions of the Boston-Edison District. She also drives a sparkling new Jag and owns her own 310 twin-engine Cessna, made possible by her \$270,000 annual salary.

Her mother, Otis Witherspoon, brother of Spice's deceased husband, and Golden Westbrook, beloved pastor at Detroit's Divinity Baptist Church, vie for the lovely, but highly independent Spice's attention. "I enjoy my freedom... I don't need a husband anymore," she declares at some point - and somehow a reader

gets the feeling this should be filed under Famous Last Words. Also, in the meantime, Spice's talented chef and longtime friend, Carmen, has developed some life-threatening drinking problems, due to her own dark past, which is inextricably linked with Spice's.

In addition to its cardboard characters, McMillan's novel is hampered by an omniscient, flowery "voice" that interjects a kind of ill-fitting, intrusive commentary from time to time. ("Death is the foreshadowing of life; we die that we may die no more." or "Memories are like books that remain a long time shut and need to be opened from time to time to exhume the dust that's collected.") Also, a conclusion that's very hard to swallow - especially in its melodramatic timing - does little to enhance this book.

McMillan's imagination seems liveliest when it comes to painting word-pictures of things instead of people. Living spaces, restaurants, clothing, food, the background tapestry of Detroit in general - all of these add more spark and sparkle here than do leading players. The author paints a surprisingly engaging (though not always flattering) portrait of the thriving metropolis of Novi, by the way, with its linen shops and bookstores side by side with truck stops, automate laundries and the ubiquitous Red Roof Inn

Victoria Diaz is a Livonia freelance writer who specializes in book and theater reviews. You can reach her by voice mail at 953-2045, then press 1854.

Author takes a hard look at life

What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day
By Pearl Cleage
Avon Books, 1997, \$20



ESTHER LITTMANN

What does a woman do when she discovers she's HIV positive? Declare her innocence on the TV talk-show circuit? Write a book about her undeserved misfortune? Not Ava Johnson, protagonist of Pearl Cleage's first novel, "What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day." Preferring honesty to pretense, she holds herself accountable and alerts her former lovers to the problem. Once owner of a fashionable beauty shop and good-time companion to the rich and powerful, Ava pulls in her wings and heads toward home. She plans to cocoon with big sister Joyce and then move on to San Francisco, the AIDS tolerant capital of the United States.

Home is Idlewild, Mich., a small town that was once a summer haven for middle-class black families. At one time, they "exuded the confidence of people who knew the house note will be mailed on time and the car payments are always up-to-date." But now Idlewild, like many of its rural counterparts, has caught the urban disease: drugs, broken homes, child abuse, and crime.

For every action there's a reaction, and in this town it goes by the name of Joyce. When Ava arrives, she finds her widowed sister raising consciousness and compassion with survival lessons for the unwed mothers of her newly formed "Sewing Circus." Teaching birth control, nutrition, and self-defense, her ultimate goal is to help mend the torn fabric of black society. Ava, meanwhile, is occupied elsewhere - helping Joyce raise Imani, an abandoned crack baby and reveling in the warm embraces of a new love, a man whose curious blend of street smarts and Buddhist quietude speaks to her needs.

Complications arise, predictably, from the town's teen predators, but also from an unlikely source. Why, Ava wonders, do the reverend and his strait-laced wife want to break up the Sewing Circus? The secret that lies behind their hostility toward Joyce's efforts spices a novel already bristling with outrage and suspense.

As author of two nonfiction books, columnist for the "Atlanta Tribune," and playwright whose productions have appeared in the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and the Kennedy Center, Pearl Cleage is a courageous voice in women's literature. Her rollicking and sometimes humorous tone belies the deadly seriousness of her subject matter: nihilism in the black community. In "What Looks Like Crazy," Cleage describes, with chilling realism and an ear finely tuned

to the cadence and diction of inner-city lingo, violent youths consumed by self-hatred and women abandoned or dependent on abusive men.

"I thought there was a limit we would reach," writes Cleage in the persona of her protagonist. "A cutoff. A damn bottom line. We used to brag about it. There were certain crimes we considered ourselves incapable of committing. When we read in the paper that someone had stabbed their mother to death or raped a 2-year-old, we would shake our heads and cluck our tongues and turn the page because we knew it wasn't one of us."

"Not anymore. We do it all, mostly to each other, and when we get caught and the six-o'clock news shows us in our bright orange prison coveralls with our hands cuffed behind us and lint in our hair, we don't look sorry. We don't even look scared. What we look is bored."

Avoiding the simplistic just-say-no solutions and self-righteous claims of victimization, Cleage's novel - beneath a solid surface of entertainment value - is a call for responsibility, compassion, and desperately needed mutual support.

Pearl Cleage appeared for a signing of "What Looks Like Crazy" at Borders Book Store.

Esther Littmann is a resident of Bloomfield Township. She is a private tutor with Una Duorkin and Associates. You can leave her a message from a touch-tone phone at (313) 953-2047, mailbox number 1893.

BOOK HAPPENINGS

Book Happenings features various happenings at suburban bookstores. Send news leads to Hugh Gallagher, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (313)591-7279.

BORDERS (ROCHESTER HILLS)
Super bowl Spa, 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 25; David Kraus gives travel tips, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27; singer/songwriter Dan Hazlett 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30; Leader Dog presents program on how they train dogs, 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 31 at the store 1122 Rochester Road, Rochester Hills (248)652-0558.

BORDERS (FARMINGTON HILLS)
Nancy O'Hara signs her book "Just Listen: A Guide to Finding Your True Voice," 7 p.m. at the store 30995 Orchard Lake Road, (248)737-0110.

BARNES & NOBLE (BLOOMFIELD HILLS)
Mystery book club discusses Julie Kaewert's "Unbound," 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27 at the book store, Six Mile and Haggerty Road, Northville.

BARNES & NOBLE (BIRMINGHAM)
Mystery book lovers, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28; Fiction Book Club discusses "Smilla's Sense of Snow," 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30; Linda Cos discusses "A New Year, A New Beginning," 4 p.m. Saturday Jan. 31 at the store

6576 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27; Emmy-winning documentary maker Gary Glazer discusses downtown's resurgence 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28; Jeffrey Caponigro discusses "The Crisis Counselor," 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29; Dennis Cyporan Trio, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30; meet Angelina Ballerina, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31 at the store 34300 Woodward, Birmingham, MI 48009, (248)203-0005.

TRUTH BOOKSTORE
Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu will discuss his book "Black College Student Survival Guide," a book on how black students can succeed in attaining a college degree, 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, at the bookstore, Northland Mall, Southfield (248)557-4824



FINE ART

Cranbrook exhibit explores how fashion shapes identity

By FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

Maybe it's all the talk about allegations, subpoenas and denials coming out of Washington. Whatever the reason, it's time to face the difficult truth: We're all superficial.

Most of us not only judge a book by its cover, but we buy it, maybe read a chapter and then tell everyone what a great book it is. Why worry about substance when it's easier to be fashionable?

Somewhere between superficial judgments and searching for matching socks is a place where art meets fashion. A checkered state of mind examined in Cranbrook Art Museum's "Art on the Edge of Fashion."

In a series of sculptures, photographs and installations, "Art on the Edge of Fashion" slides into an unfashionable world that would make Paris designers shudder. Outrageous is one thing, but fashion that challenges stereotypes, preconceptions of gender and culture is, well, pretty heady stuff.

"This exhibit goes beyond the aesthetics and utility of fashion," said Irene Hofmann, who coordinated the exhibit, which premiered at Arizona State University Art Museum in Tempe.

"There's an awareness (in the exhibit) of how clothing and fashion play a role in shaping identity," she said.

Thankfully, the exhibit doesn't take itself too seriously. There are several tongue-in-cheek reminders that fashion might make us appear hip, but there's no cloaking the soul.

Particularly humorous are Charles LeDray's flag of Ken and Barbie clothing, and Kerrie Peterson's documentation of the wonders of strategically applied makeup.

There's no way Beverly Semmes' elongated arms of her gigantic-sized formal velvet gowns would make the pages of *Vogue*. But they do make a monumental impression.

And then, there's a truly frightening thought: Nick Vaughn's disproportional hodgepodge shirts and slacks make Jerry Seinfeld's gland-swollen "puffy shirt" look like fashionable art.

The funniest, by far, is Vaughn's vision of fashion without pretense, proportion or pride that reveals a world of dorky, Ionesco-like creatures.

What would we be without fashion, asks Vaughn. Hmm. Maybe ourselves. If looking at Vaughn's disheveled fashion models offers a clue, that's both a relief and a worry.

In an advanced consumer society where fashion trends change almost as rapidly as Dennis Rodman's hair color, "Art on the Edge of Fashion" is as superficial and substantive as American culture itself.

Now that's a dizzying thought.

Fashion is immediate

"Fashion's influence surpasses the white cube of the art gallery," wrote curator Heather Lineberry in the catalog to the exhibit.

"An artist shows a new body of work about every other year compared to the six-month cycle of the fashion world," she said. "Fashion is immediate."

Who could argue? Fashion is not only immediate, it's pervasive. There's no separating fashion, commerce, art and culture.

But fashion is not merely about appeal and aesthetics. It's about creating a style that makes a statement about individuality and personal identity. (We've all heard the explanation from body piercers about the "need to be me.") And ultimately, that's the square aim of "Art on the Edge of Fashion."

The more serious pieces in the exhibit examine how fashion can be shaped to bring meaning to an individual's personal history. And in understanding how cloth-

'Fashion's influence surpasses the white cube of the art gallery.'

Heather Lineberry
Curator

ing fashion, in particular, has perpetuated gender stereotypes.

Much of that awareness, according to Hofmann, was inspired by feminism and the recognition of prejudices in language and social customs.

Over the years, how many women have been compared - or have compared themselves - to Marilyn Monroe, Raquel Welch, Farah Fawcett, Christie Brinkley? Or more recently, to the angelic, scantily clad women in a Victoria's Secret catalog or the anemic waifs on the covers of fashion magazines?

A man's archetypal woman is parodied in Kerrie Peterson's two sculptures, "Standing Woman I" and "Standing Woman

II." The former is a oversized black linen dress hung on a steel pole inspired by Lachaise's original sculpture, while the latter, a narrow silk dress, could be draped over one of Giacometti's existentially stark sculptures.

True mystery

Historically, stereotypes of "beauty" have been inseparable from what many males find to be sexually desirable. To its credit, "Art on the Edge of Fashion" ventures into a much more personal and practical place.

For instance, Christine LoFasco has created a boudoir chair to comfortably shaped suit any woman's bottom side, and a gold-leaf jacket made from credit-card

slips.

In "Maternity," a tea-stained skirt pattern held together with pins, LoFasco breaths life into an unformed garment. A case where the person makes the fashion, rather than vice versa.

And in "Hysteria," the most coherent mingling of politics and fashion in the exhibit, LoFasco has typed the words Hysteria and Herstory on a translucent skirt. Her point, however, is a bit over-the-top: "History ... teaches that those who forget to think of themselves will be forgotten."

So, what shouldn't be forgotten about the exhibit?

In an age of retro-fashions, trendy hairstyles, liposuction and plastic surgery, "Art on the Edge" offers a dose of therapy for anyone coming to grips with their superficial side.

The lesson is clear. Change clothes, hair style or address, if you must. But you can't hide.

Come clean. It's becoming fashionable to proclaim: Superficial and proud.



Unflattering: Nick Vaughn's photographs of himself offers a jarring impression of how perceptions are shaped by fashion.

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services, a complete pharmacy and an Urgent Care

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An interactive health education center will open in

the building early in 1999.

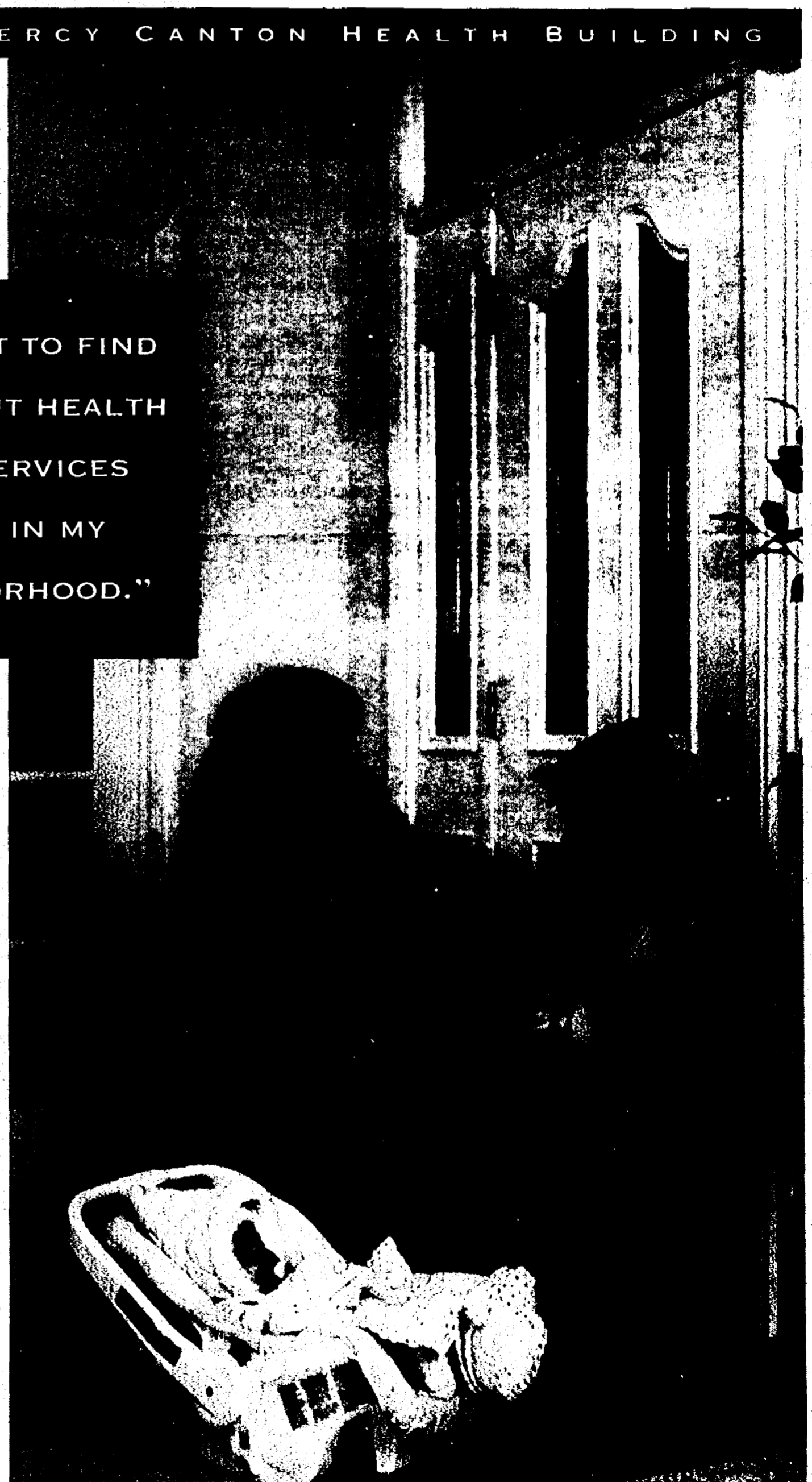
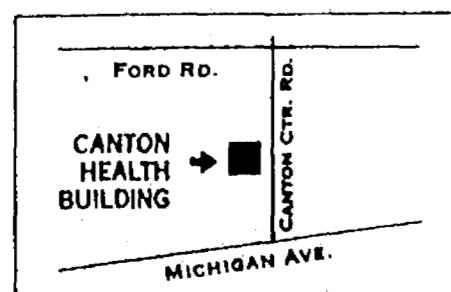
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For more information, or for the name of a doctor near you, call the Saint Joseph Mercy HealthLine (800) 231-2211

Exhibit

What: "Art on the Edge of Fashion"

When: Through April 5

Where: Cranbrook Art Museum, 1221 N. Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills; (248) 645-3323

Hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday

Other exhibits

■ "Beautiful Scenes: Selections from the Cranbrook Archives by Buzz Spector," through March 29. An unusual exploration of the history of the Cranbrook Educational Community drawing on the themes of utopia and arbitrariness.

■ "Olga de Amaral: Nine Stelae," through April 5, an installation of nine suspended woven constructions incorporating gold and silver leaf by the Colombian fiber artist.

■ "Chairs of Words: A Visual Essay by Carla Harryman," through March 29. Combination of contemporary literature by Michigan-based writers with works from the museum's permanent collection.

■ "Selections from the Permanent Collection for Young Visitors," through March 29. Exhibit features a fun, hands-on activities and informative "learning to look" labels designed for young visitors.

TRAVEL

Belize is alive with jungles, beaches and caves

BY SHARON BEAR
SPECIAL WRITER

The shark suddenly turned direction. It was swimming straight toward me. It closed in. Face to face our eyes locked. Now only about two feet of warm seawater separated us. A few inches closer and abruptly the predator veered left. Reaching out my hand, I caressed the passing rough gray skin. It hadn't wanted the piece of lobster meat I had proffered. Oh, well.

Nurse sharks probably prefer fish. So down I dove and fed the lobster morsel into the gentle lips of a manta ray. This magnificent being undulated its thanks in silent ballet below. Never before had snorkeling been this much fun.

But then this was Belize. Home of the world's second largest barrier reef. Poster child of unmarred ecology and gentle adventure. Mother to the '90s travel mantra: Eco-cultural tourism.

En route from Belize Airport to the jungle lies the world famous Belize Zoo. This is not your ordinary zoo. It's a "must see" if you wish to actually see most of Belize's jungle animals (who normally hide), like the jaguar. These serene, elegant cats lazed comfortably in natural habitats. Surprisingly an "albino" jaguar, which lacked orange coloring, was there for black.

Meandering the zoo's forested pathways, natives of the Belize wilderness (kinkajou, jaguarundi and tayra) studied this homo sapien as I studied them. I

would later recall these mysterious faces when I visited their natural home, the jungle.

The jungle is an paradox. Still, immobile, yet alive with a harmonious cacophony. My eyes saw nothing move, yet hundreds of unseen eyes saw my every move. Telltale footprints of taper, coatimundi and jaguar informed me I was walking in the steps of the hunted and the hunter.

It was late night ... a "jungle walk" with only my headlamp and a young guide named Pedro. (He also carried a machete and a gun). In our cautious search for a glimpse of the shy, big animals the powerful pungent smell of pig-like peccaries announced our proximity to marsh.

My jungle base was a quasi primitive camp at Ian Anderson's Caves Branch Jungle Lodge. Here one can pitch a tent by the Caves Branch River or rent a thatched roof cabana complemented with kerosene lamps, ceiling fans and lots of screening. (Bugs and critters are free).

Using available resources, the latrines were mahogany-constructed and grass hut showers utilized overhead holey buckets. At night tiki torches romantically lit the camp pathways. And a sight that would make my great-grandmother proud - camp staff scrubbed laundry on a large washing stone in the river.

All meals were served "family style," meaning everyone had a plate at the table ... including the cook, two dogs and a highly mischievous spider monkey named Julius. Julius' pranks are legendary - especially a \$5,000

roof rethatching. (Words to the wise: visitors always keep cabana doors tightly latched.) Rates accommodate everyone: \$5 tent, \$50 cabana per night.

More upscale is Pook's Hill Lodge, carved in the heart of the jungle. This exotic destination provides mountain bikes, horses and foot paths for exploring 7,000 acres of lush rain forest and rushing rivers. It is the nature lover and birder's idyllic retreat. With a tropical view today-for, the private, clean cabanas sport electricity and hot showers.

Caribbean/European cuisine served on an intimate dining porch helps create a tropical oasis for an easy price (\$90 double and meals \$5-\$15). Hosts Ray and Vicki Snaddon also nurture an iguana project and rescue orphaned parrots.

Among Mayan ruins overgrown with towering hardwoods and wild grapevines, we "budding birders" spotted a mangrove swallow, cormorant and the brilliant yellow kiskadee flycatcher. They chirped along with the plentiful parrots and colorful toucans.

One of Ian Anderson's popular adventure tours was a day tubing and exploring Footprint Cave. After we eight "northeasterners" donned life jackets, head lamps and inner tubes, our knowledgeable guide Carlos led our little flotilla far into the ancient cave.

In these dens the Maya believed their gods actually lived and the cave was the entrance to the netherworld. (For this reason caves were entered only by Mayan priests for the highest ceremonial rituals).

Discovery Expeditions is a top-rated, dependable tour operator that we used for several excursions. A trip down the New River to Lamanai Outpost Lodge was one of my favorites. At this remote compound I discovered exquisite lodgings, spectacular surroundings and once-in-a-lifetime opportunities doing jungle research. A complete eco-adventure in one spot.

There are 200 cayes (pronounced "keys") off the Belize coast. Each caye possesses a unique flavor. Each its own mini-paradise. The 185-mile-long barrier reef blesses the cayes with tranquil water rich in marine life. The reef also affords dream vacationing for snorkelers, divers, kayakers and pretty



Cave dweller: Writer Sharon Bear explores the Footprint Cave.

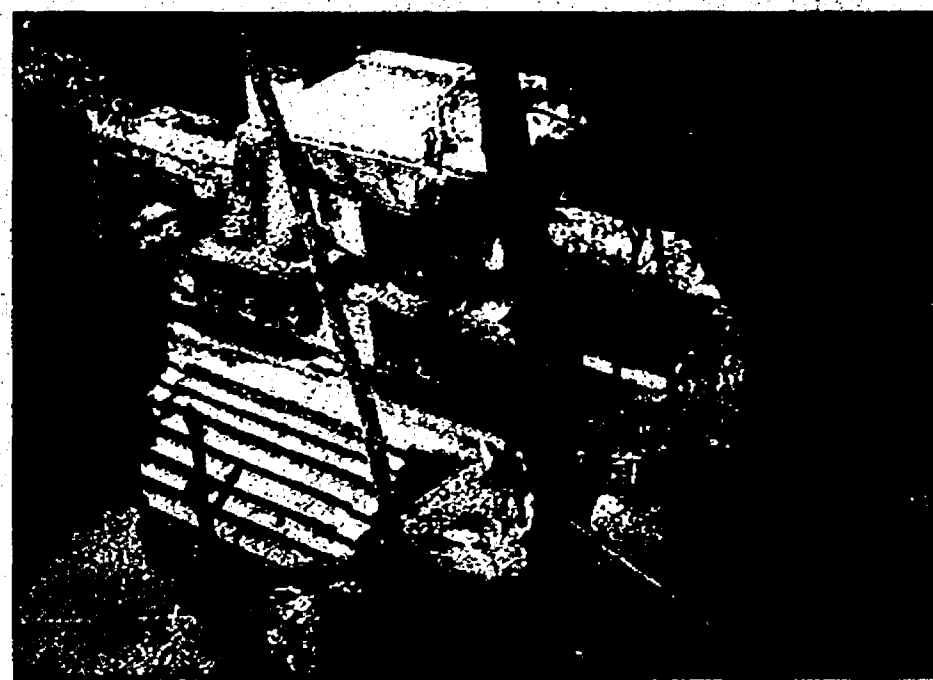
much anyone who just wants a quietly lapped beach with clean lazy water to salve city-stressed nerves.

With our first step onto Caye Caulker, my traveling companion, Lucy, and I shucked shoes and chorused, "Let's never leave." Streets are sand. Bars and beach restaurants are sand. Golf carts, bicycles and feet rule the three main sandy byways.

Accommodations at the Vega Inn were on the beach, two beds, clean share-a-bath and \$12.50 a day. At Daisy's Hotel the rate was only \$10 per night - but "bring your own towels and soap."

Ambyrgis Caye is a more cosmopolitan version of Caye Caulker and launch site for most diving expeditions of the barrier reef.

To the north of San Pedro Town, which has the award-winning Elvi's restaurant, lies a little "find" worthy of its own story, the Essene Way. Opened in October of last year, this is a jewel. A non-denominational Christian retreat with no preaching, unless you BYOP, bring your own preacher. At an all-inclusive rate of \$100 to \$190 a day per family, the resort



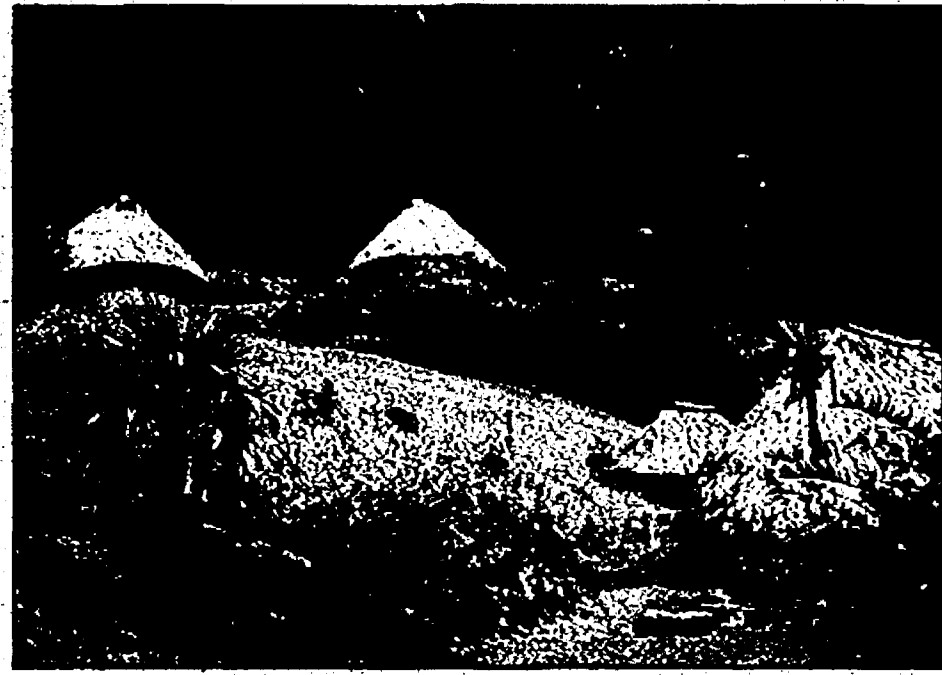
Ancient ruins: This was once the private residence of a Mayan family from the Pre-Columbian era in what is now Belize.

boasts 18-family chalets, a swimming pool, recording studio and instruments, restaurant and fitness programs.

Each year more coventioners find Belize City the best location for taking off for water sports, the interior and cultural experiences.

If you should someday find yourself on a plane to Belize City, there is an adage, let me warn you, "Be careful about drinking the water - for if you do, you will come back to Belize."

Sharon Bear is a Birmingham free-lance writer.



Tropical resort: The Pook's Hill resort, named for Rudyard Kipling's stories, features jungle inspired villas.

GREAT ESCAPES

Great Escapes features various travel news items. Send news leads to Hugh Gallagher, assistant managing editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.

TELL US YOUR STORY

We want to hear from you? Have you been someplace interesting this past year? Have you had a special adventure? Is there a quiet island you'd like to recommend or a highly promoted place you'd like to warn against? Do you have special tips for other travelers to make their journeys easier? Have you met some interesting people in other countries that you'd like others to know about? We want to share your stories and your color pictures on our travel page. Call Hugh Gallagher at 734-953-2118, or fax him at 734-591-7279.

WINTER CYCLING

REI (Recreational Equipment Incorporated), 17559 Haggerty Road in Northville, is presenting Todd Scott to discuss "Winter Cycling: Staying Warm and Upright." This instructional clinic will feature the fundamentals of winter cycling - clothing, nutrition, bike maintenance,

lighting - at the various levels of participation, what to expect and how to stay safe and have fun. The program is Thursday, Feb. 5. For times and more information, call REI (248)347-2100.

WINTERFEST

Grand Haven holds its annual Winterfest Jan. 30 to Feb. 7. The 20th annual event kicks off with a Winterfest Parade noon, Saturday, Jan. 31 in downtown Grand Haven in western Michigan. The festival also features art competition and exhibition, musical performances including a tribute to Stephen Foster, skiing and skating, a raquetball competition, tobogganing and a Mardi Gras Weekend, Feb. 6-7. For more information, call (800)968-0898.

WORLD OFFERS HOLIDAYS

British Airways Holidays is offering special low prices for holidays to London, Paris, Dublin, Nice and Hong Kong to name a few.

World Offers Holidays in Europe features round-trip midweek transportation in British Airways World Traveller economy class and three nights accommodations including continental breakfast daily at a choice of hotels. Per person price is based on double occupancy. Low prices

for each city include: London, \$479; Paris, Lisbon or Madrid, \$489; Amsterdam, \$529; Dublin, \$639; Nice, \$579 and Berlin, \$559.

Asian tours feature round-trip midweek transportation in British Airways World Traveller economy class including round-trip airport transfers in Asia and six nights hotel accommodation at a choice of hotels. Prices are per person, based on midweek occupancy. Examples of low prices are Hong Kong, \$1499 and Singapore, \$1279.

World Offers Holidays are valid for midweek travel Jan. 30 through March 30, 1998. Travel on Friday, Saturday or Sunday in either direction will be subject to a \$25 surcharge. Higher rates are available for six night stays in Europe and for travel in April and May. Further information on World Offers Holidays is available from travel agents, local British Airways sales offices or by calling the airline directly at 1-800-FLY-VPBA.

WORLD CUP TRAVEL

Unique Tours and Travel are offering World Cup Soccer travel to France for June 10 to July 12. Packages begin at \$899 and include tickets and transporta-

tion to and from stadiums, final and semi-final matches, accommodations. Packages range from five days, four nights, 2 games to 18 days, 17 nights, 10 games. For more information, call 1-800-328-8201.

MUSEUM EXHIBIT

COSI Toledo, the city's hands-on science museum is presenting

a special exhibit, "Turbulent Landscapes: The Natural Forces that Shape Our World," Jan. 30 through May 10.

The exhibit is comprised of 21 interactive, kinetic art works that illuminate the beauty and order of nature's apparently chaotic systems. Turbulent

Landscapes will enable visitors to experience phenomena such as the creation of sand dunes or the patterns of wind and water first hand.

COSI is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon to 5:30 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call (419)244-COSI (2674).

HEY, SKIERS!

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for all three ski areas on our web site: www.boynecountry.com (where you can also view Boyne USA's live video ski-cam). For lodging assistance, give us a call:

1-800-845-2828

Petoskey-Harbor Springs-Boyne Country Visitors Bureau, Petoskey, Michigan.

www.boynecountry.com



1998
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NOVI EXPO CENTER

Thur. January 29, 2pm-10pm
Fri. January 30, 2pm-10pm
Sat. January 31, 10am-10pm
Sun. February 1, 10am-7pm

1998 Spring Home & Garden Show. It's the first home and garden show of the year, and the Novi Expo Center will be transformed into an exciting world of ideas and information.

Kitchens, baths, appliances, floors, heating, lighting, furniture, spas, landscaping, arts & crafts, remodeling, everything for the home and garden. With the knowledgeable people necessary to help you plan your projects for the coming year.

OVER 300 EXHIBITS...PLUS:

- "Garlic Guru" Tom Reed as seen on Good Morning America
- Live broadcasts of WJR's Joe Gagnon and WXYT's Glenn Haage, Rick Bloom and Mike Wendland
- Landscaped flowering gardens
- Demonstrations on decorating, home repair and remodeling
- Treasure Chest contest with daily prizes.



Admission:

Adults - \$6; Seniors - \$4;

Children 6-12 - \$3;

Children under 6 admitted FREE

Family tickets for two adults and accompanying children available at Farmer Jack - \$9

Sports & Recreation

The Observer

INSIDE:
Prep hockey, D3
Recreation, D6

L/W Page 1, Section D

Brad Emons, Editor 734-953-2123

on the web: <http://observer.eccentric.com>

Sunday, January 25, 1998

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Express 3-on-3 champs

The under-13 Livonia Youth Soccer Club Express, consisting of Bobby Geisinger, Jake Horgan, Jeremy Horgan and Elisha Sage and Vinitesh Shukla, won the National 3-on-3 championship final with a 4-3 win over Nebraska on Jan. 17 in Winter Haven, Fla.

Three of the five members are Observer carriers. Uniforms were donated by the Soccer Post.

The unbeaten Express, coached by Bob Geisinger and David Horgan, reached the final by winning state and regional tournaments.

Wings win playoffs

The Livonia Youth Soccer Club Wings, recently captured second place behind the Canton Chaos in Division I with a 7-1-1 record, but went on to win the Novi SoccerZone's playoffs with a 4-0 record. The Wings posted victories of 9-0, 8-1, 5-0 and 8-1.

Members of the Wings, coached by Tom Faro and Nick Augustine, include: Ryan Anolik, Justin Augustine, Curt Bonn, Bryan Budd, Dave Campbell, Brad Carroll, Brian Druchnik, Matt Epaco, Brian Guzowski, Steve Hryciak, Tim Kaminski, Scott Kreig, John Misnig, Mike Shafer, Klai Shirlin, Nick Show, Nick Soper and Nick Stage.

The team manager is Vicki Guzowski.

Soccer registration

The SoccerZone, located off Grand River between Meadowbrook and Novi roads in Novi, is accepting mail-in or walk-in registration, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday (through Feb. 5) for its eight-game, third-session (Feb. 14 through April 17).

The team fee is \$695 (does not include referee fees varied by age groups).

The individual fee for players not currently affiliated with a team, is \$55.

For more information, call (248) 374-0500.

Elks hoop winners

Sam Yashinsky and Samantha Mahoney captured the boys and girls 10-11 age division titles, respectively, at the Elks Hoop Shoot district free throw contest Jan. 10, at Livonia Churchill High School.

The two will advance to the state finals Feb. 14, at Royal Oak Kimball High School.

Bryan Askins and Joe Green, along with Stephanie Licavoli and Lauren Baker, also competed in the district competition after winning contests at their schools and on the local level, sponsored by the Farmington Elks Lodge No. 1986.

Jack Roush saluted

Jack Roush, the Livonia-based owner of five NASCAR teams, was honored Jan. 17 at the 32nd annual Michigan Auto Club Racing Fan Club awards banquet held at the Warren Chateau.

Roush was named Michigan Auto Racing Personality of the Year.

Plymouth's Tom MacDonald was received the Late Model Division award from the Owosso Speedway.

The awards banquet was supported by 35 automotive and racing related industries. Forty of the top racing drivers and 12 race track general managers from speedways in Michigan were also recognized for their efforts.

Swim club membership

Families interested in placing their names on a waiting list for the Newburgh Swim Clubs should write to: P.O. Box 531073, Livonia, MI. 48153-1073, to receive application information.

Murray kicking camp

Former Detroit Lion and current Minnesota Viking Eddie Murray will hold an instructional kicking and punting camp for boys ages 8-20 Wednesday through Friday, June 24-26, at Adrian College.

For more information, call 1-800-555-0901.

To submit items for the Observer Sports Scene, write to: Brad Emons, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI. 48150; or send via fax to (313) 591-7279.

Churchill stuns Harrison, 51-45

Wayne blasts Belleville

The pieces of the puzzle are slowly being put together by the Livonia Churchill boys basketball team.

The Chargers used a balanced scoring attack Friday to upset visiting Farmington Hills Harrison in a Western Lakes Activities Association game, 51-45.

Churchill is now 3-6 overall and 2-1 in the WLAA, while co-preseason WLAA favorite Harrison, which dropped its second straight, falls to 7-2 and 2-2.

Senior forward Erik Uhlinger led the winners with 12 points and 11 rebounds. Senior forward Corey Cook added 11 points and 13 boards.

Senior center Lamar Smith had 10 points, while junior guard Justin Jakes added nine.

Three Harrison players scored 10 apiece — Lamar Wilson, Andrew Burton and Matt Derocher.

Churchill trailed 23-21 at halftime, but outscored the Hawks 30-22 in the second half.

Churchill was 14 of 25 (56 percent) from the free throw line, while Harrison was just six of 17 (43 percent).

"Rebounding said it most and our ability to control tempo," Churchill second-year coach Rick Austin said. "We're dangerous when we play up-tempo."

After close losses to WLAA leader Westland John Glenn and unbeaten Milford, Churchill was due.

"Our kids are starting to play with a hunger," Austin said. "This group is hungry to win. The kids are adopting the philosophy. The team chemistry is good. They do whatever we ask and they're fun to coach."

HOOP ROUNDUP

In other games played Friday:

•WAYNE 73, BELLEVILLE 52: The Zebras may have played their best game of the season Friday by crushing arch-rival Tigers at home.

Wayne, which won its fourth straight, was forced to play much of the game without the services of Brian Williams. The senior guard suffered a bone bruise Tuesday in a game with Dearborn and was limited to about a quarter's worth of action.

"Everyone picked it up a step," coach Chuck Henry said of his team, which improved to 6-4 overall and 3-2 in the Mega Conference.

The difference in the game? "We shot so much better than we have all season," said Henry. "I'm not sure why."

Wayne led 32-19 at halftime and wasn't challenged in the final two quarters.

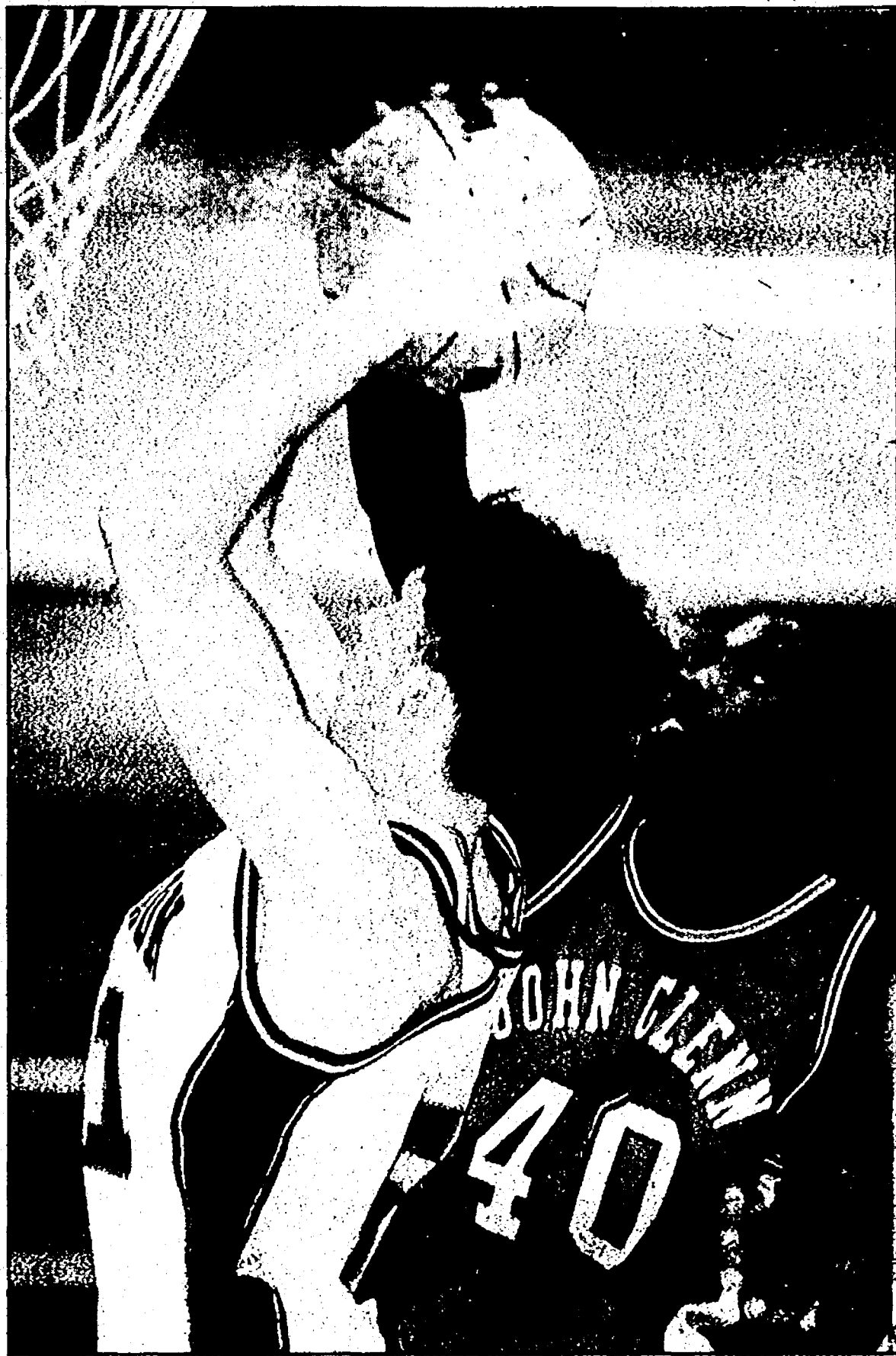
Senior center Quentin Turner led the Zebras with 15 points and 12 rebounds. Shomari Dunn, a senior forward, added 11 points and guard Reddick Borkins had nine.

Belleville fell to 3-7 overall. Wayne plays Romulus in a critical Mega Red Division game Friday, Henry he said.

"They're undefeated in the division and we have two losses," he added. "If we have any realistic chances, it's a must win."

•JOHN GLENN 61, STEVENSON 56: Perhaps host Livonia Stevenson reached a turning point after losing seven-straight games before Friday's loss against a team battling for first in

Please see CAGE ROUNDUP, D2



STAFF PHOTO BY BRIAN MITCHELL

Inside stuff: Westland John Glenn's Cornelius Murray (right) blocks Livonia Stevenson's Bryan Schleif during Friday's Western Lakes Activities Association tussle.

Franklin edged by Plymouth Canton

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

BOYS BASKETBALL

Plymouth Canton's young basketball team took a step in the right direction. It won without a ton of points from leading scorer Joe Cortellini.

"That's what we told our kids," Chiefs' coach Dan Young said Friday night after his team eked out a 41-40 victory over Livonia Franklin. "We won without Joe having a big scoring night."

Junior Cortellini scored nine points, right behind Eric Larsen's 10, eight of which came from 10 free throw tries. Everybody who played for Canton scored.

"We told our kids he's not going to be able to carry us every night," Young said. "We all have to step up, win in

other ways.

"This was huge for our confidence, huge for our team. They defended Joe very well. And he wasn't really rolling."

The winning point was Scott Samulski's only one of the evening, which came with 27 seconds to play and made the score 41-38.

There were some shouts of a free throw line violation but both teams had possessions after that which came to naught.

Brian Facione came down and scored on a shot from just inside the free throw line with 19 seconds left to bring his team within a point.

Canton, 3-6 overall and 2-1 in the

Western Lakes Activities Association, threw the ball away with seven seconds to play.

"We had a shot to win," Coach Dan Robinson of the Patriots said after Franklin slipped to 4-5 overall and 0-3 in the WLAA.

The Patriots were led by Nick Mongeau, who had 13 points, and Eddie Williams, who had 10. Facione added eight.

Franklin was hurt when it had seven straight scoreless one-shot possessions in the second quarter, watching a 15-10 lead turn into a 24-15 deficit as Canton made 7-of-10 shots in the quarter. It was 26-17 at the half.

"I attribute that to their defense," Robinson said. "They play an awful good man-to-man. We played better

defense in the second half. We keyed on Cortellini and some others rather than everybody."

Canton scored all eight of its fourth-quarter points on free throws and shot 39 percent for the game (12-for-31), mainly due to Franklin's sticky man-to-man defense.

The Patriots shot 34 percent (15-of-44) but were badly outshot at the line. Franklin was 5-for-6 on free throws while Canton was 16-for-23.

"This is going to be a tough, hard-fought game," Young said minutes before the contest began. "It should be a close one."

Missed a great chance there. Should have asked him who was going to win the Super Bowl.

Lutheran Westland garners Metro dual victory vs. C'ville

It all came down to the last match.

And heavyweight Matt Meyer pinned freshman Mike Manning to give Lutheran High School Westland a hard-fought 46-38 wrestling victory Wednesday over Livonia Clarenceville.

The result left Lutheran Westland 4-9 overall, 1-1 in the Metro Conference while Clarenceville, also 1-1 in the league, is 5-8-1.

"It was a good win for us," Coach Dennis Tuomi of Lutheran Westland said. "If we're going to stay alive in the conference race."

"We lost to Harper Woods. They're undefeated, so they're in the driver's seat."

The two Metro Conference rivals had tied in an early season meeting, 39-39.

"But they had some kids who just became eligible to wrestle," explained coach Todd Skinner of Clarenceville, which lost one of its starters earlier in the season. "It was very close."

"It came down to the heavyweight match. We wrestled as tough as we could."

But though the outcome was decided on the last match, you could make a case it was decided earlier. Clarenceville voided two weight classes.

"Giving up two weight classes really hurt," Skinner said. "We were down by 12 at the start and only lost by eight.

PREP WRESTLING

Had we been able to fill those weight classes, it would have been a more interesting match."

It wasn't bad as it was.

One of the Warriors' newcomers, Brian Soos, was beaten by Trojan freshman Dan LeClerc while the other, Jason Hemple, won his match.

It's all part of the sport, though.

"We're growing," Tuomi said. "I just don't know if it's fast enough. We usually start out slow. We hope to get better and make it enjoyable."

Clarenceville wrestles Harper Woods soon and was in the Harper Woods tournament during the weekend.

"We beat Lutheran North this year for the first time ever," Skinner said, "so hopefully that will help us build our program."

"If we can pull our heads together and defeat Harper Woods, we could possibly end up in a three-way tie for first in the conference."

In the Auburn Hills Avondale Tournament (Jan. 10), Clarenceville had three medalists: Tondreau (125), first place; Ragland (189), second; and Wehl (140), third.

See more wrestling results on page D2.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRIAN MITCHELL

Gridlock: Lutheran Westland's Brian Soos (back) won't let Livonia Clarenceville's Dan LeClerc out of his grasp.

MEDICAL BRIEFS

Prostate drug study

Henry Ford Hospital and William Beaumont Hospital are seeking participants for a study examining the effectiveness of certain drug combinations on men who have a problem with urination. All tests, medication and clinic visits for the study are free. Men who have a weak urinary stream, get up at night to urinate, have to urinate frequently or have some difficulty postponing urination are excellent candidates for the study. Call (313) 523-2722, before Jan. 31.

Red Cross blood drive

Schoolcraft College is sponsoring an American Red Cross Bloodmobile visit from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, in the Waterman Campus Center. Donors will receive a free bowl of soup, courtesy of Schoolcraft's College Food Services. Appointments may be scheduled by calling (734) 462-4400 ext. 5050. Walk-in donors are welcome. Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads, just east of I-275.

Cellac sprue support

Tri-County Celiac Sprue Support Group (TCCSSG) is a support group for persons who have been diagnosed with celiac sprue and dermatitis herpetiformis (families, spouses, friends). The next meeting is Feb. 9 at the Southfield Presbyterian Church located at 21575 West 10 Mile Road. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. For further information call M. Campbell (248) 477-5953 or E. Lobbestael at (313) 522-8522.

Monthly meetings include information on gluten-free food, label reading, recipe sharing, taste testing, ideas for children and information from professionals.

Red Cross blood drive

The American Red Cross will be accepting blood donations from 2-8 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 10-11, in Madonna University's Take 5 Lounge in Livonia. To make an appointment call the office of student life at (734) 432-5428. Walk-in donors are also welcome. Madonna University is located at I-96 and Levan Road in Livonia.

Volunteers needed

Community Hospice and Home Care Services of Plymouth and Westland, is offering its winter volunteer training program for individuals interested in donating their time, effort and talents to support those in need of hospice care. The 8-week program begins Wednesday, Feb. 18 at Cherry Hill Presbyterian in Dearborn. The classes will be held Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m. Call Laurie Behling, director of Volunteer Services (313) 522-4244.

Books aid newborns

The Pediatrics Department at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital - Ann Arbor has begun a program to provide books and reading materials for parents and special care newborns to foster a love for books and early childhood reading development. More than 400 newborns who are in St. Joe's Special Care Nursery each year will benefit from the new program, which is funded by the Karla Fund, a special project within Ann Arbor's Baby Book Club. For more program information call Victor Stoeffler at (734) 761-4414 or Barton Hamilton at (734) 741-0466.

Items for Medical Briefs are welcome from all hospitals, physicians, companies and residents active in the Observer-area medical community. Items should be typed or legibly written and sent to:

Medical Briefs
c/o The Observer Newspapers
36221 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, MI 48150
or faxed to (313) 962-7279
<http://newsroom@oeonline.com>



Natural tuneup

Yoga pushes away stress, anxiety

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

Most of the 17 men and women of all ages, shapes and physical abilities raised their hands when yoga instructor Ginger Frig asked if they were taking her class to conquer stress. As they followed her movements it was easy to imagine them battling their demons using body stretches and deep breathing exercises as their swords.

On Tuesday nights for six weeks, these strangers will come together for the "E-Z Hatha Yoga" instruction at Botsford Hospital's Total Rehabilitation Athletic Conditioning Center in Novi.

"More than anything, people come to get rid of stress and let go," Frig said. "In the afternoon class, there were four new students and all were recommended by their doctors. The West is finally catching up to the East."

While no one knows for sure how long yoga has been practiced, there is proof that it has been around at least since 3000 B.C. Originating in India, yoga means to join. Hatha means sun and moon.

"Imagine that the sun and moon represent the dualities in our life - day and night, pain and pleasure, hard and soft, breathe-in and breathe-out, logic, intuition, contraction, relaxation," said Liliias Folan on her tape, "Liliias Yoga, Workout Series."

Her television shows "Liliias, Yoga and You" and "Liliias!" have appeared on public television for more than 20 years. "Enter hatha yoga whose ultimate purpose is to balance these opposing forces," Folan said on the tape. "Tension is an important and juicy part of our life. It's that starting of the race feeling. But, staying chronically tense is like wearing a body suit of armor."

"Relaxation is healing - just as too much relaxation turns people into marshmallows. Hatha yoga with all of its practices returns you to a natural balance of tension and relaxation."

Balance body, mind

The stretches, meditation and deep breathing are intended to balance the mind and body with an understanding that to change one affects the others. The religious aspect sometimes associated with yoga isn't involved in class. Frig stressed that yoga is not a religion and shouldn't be confused as one. After demonstrating a few simple stretches at the start of the class, Frig uses a calm and reassuring voice to explain that the students don't have to lift their legs over their heads to do yoga.

"Yoga is for anybody at any age," said Frig, a Botsford yoga instructor for eight years. "But, yoga is not a magic pill. It's another alternative method to help you and it's all free. You can do it in your home, in your car or standing in the airport. Sometimes it's just a matter of standing the right way or breathing correctly."

Stretching her legs and arms in another position, Frig added: "You get up in the morning and you can start with something simple, like this. You do what's comfortable for you."

In her second year taking yoga classes at Botsford, Ann Schurr of Farmington Hills said she hopes yoga will prevent her from becoming stiff when she gets older.

"I have arthritis and I like to keep limber,"

Schurr said. "You're very relaxed when you get done. I do a little every day." Her friend, Sue Darold, also of Farmington Hills, said she takes yoga for the stretching benefits and for stress reduction.

"My medical doctor said it's a good thing to do," she said. "I'd recommend it to everyone and to start early before they get any medical problems."

Frig's classes have students from their teens to their 80s. Each student will walk away with an understanding of how to breathe correctly, a skill most of us never expect that we need to learn. "It's a wonderful tool," Frig said.

Many benefits

"When you slow down breathing and breaths, you get instant results. You won't get as upset about things that are out of your control. You realize the only thing you can control is yourself. The benefit from doing hatha yoga is that you'll be much more flexible and it will help you relax. Just by the way you breath will affect your heart rate, blood pressure and your sugar levels."

Most of us take weak breaths that don't give our bodies the necessary oxygen. Deep breaths, on the other hand, calm our muscles and organs by releasing built-up tension and stress. Yoga experts advise taking slow, even and long breaths. Consciously take even longer to exhale. After awhile the process becomes natural. During the class, Frig regularly reminds the students to stop if they experience pain. A half hour after they began, some admitted feeling muscles they had forgotten about. "Take it to the edge, but never go into pain," said Frig after demonstrating one posture.

Some medical experts draw a link between yoga and improving medical conditions like, infertility, arthritis, high cholesterol, back pain, asthma and mental stress, according to "New Choices in Natural Healing," by Prevention Magazine.

"Scientific research is proving many of these claims," the book said. "For example, researchers in Britain studied yoga's effects on 18 people with mild asthma, who ranged in age from 19 to 54. The result: All 18 reported more improvement in their conditions when they used yoga-style breathing." Yoga also helps heart patients and improves cognitive and motor skills among children with learning disabilities.

During the class, some of the students are more flexible than others. Frig tells them not to judge themselves on how they're performing. "Just keep coming back," she said. "There's no prizes, no perfection. Do what's good for you. You're going to tell the difference as you age. When you go to reach something. It gets better

Please see YOGA, D5



STAFF PHOTOS BY JIM JAGFIELD

Reach: Tom McTigue of Redford performs a stretching exercise to relieve body tension. He is one of 17 people enrolled in the E-Z Hatha Yoga class sponsored by the Botsford Health Development Network at the Total Rehabilitation Conditioning Center.



Deep breath: Patti D'Avanzo of Novi practices a deep breathing technique to improve oxygen flow and diminish tension.

Self-guided imagery good for mind, body

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

"All man's miseries derive from not being able to sit quietly in a room alone." - Blaise Pascal

Laurie Pappas likens meditating to giving her mind a daily bath. The tranquility found in our own minds is a doorway to better feelings about ourselves and the world around us.

"Many of us have heard that we use only 10 percent of our minds," said Pappas, co-director for the Detroit Metropolitan Center for Attitudinal Healing, with a support group at Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills and Royal Oak Unity Church.

"This cosmic part of our minds is much greater; full of wisdom, love, understanding and compassion and that's the part of our minds that can feed us new ideas, new thoughts, inspirations and ways of looking at things," Pappas said.

"Cleaning out the mind provides pure energy of cosmic awareness which is full of love, wisdom and compassion. When we can get in that state that's when we feel peaceful, good, comfortable, happy."

Meditation is a process of turning your attention from the outer world

inward and finding that calm, still place inside, explained Donna May, stress management instructor and consultant for Botsford General Hospital. She teaches meditation as a stress reduction mechanism, a way to lower blood pressure and a means to strengthen immune systems.

Being calm

By being calm we can regulate our blood pressure, she said. Some people also use guided imagery to fight cancer by imagining their immune systems are strong. Studies have also shown that meditation can reduce the severity of premenstrual syndrome, asthma, migraines and chronic pain. In fact, some doctors believe that stress and tension are responsible for more than half of all medical problems.

"Our immune system is dependent on how we receive our outer world," May said. "It's almost as if we have an immune system within producing chemicals and hormones based on our interpretation of what's going on around us."

For instance, if you perceive a roller coaster ride as fun your body produces hormones, like interferons and interleukins. But if the roller coaster ride was terrifying your body produces stress chemicals, like adrenalin and

■ 'Meditation is a process of turning your attention from the outer world inward and finding that calm, still place inside.'

Donna May
-Botsford consultant

cortisol. While there's many different ways to meditate, typically it's done by focusing attention on breathing, or repeating a sound, word or phrase. This clears the mind taking you to a calm and quiet place within. Oxygen consumption is lowered and the heart and pulse rates slow. At the end you might want to concentrate on purposeful thoughts, like imagining your immune system strong, or goal-setting.

To improve relationships, for instance, the person might see himself or herself and the other person in a bright white or pink light representing love and harmony. The biggest problem most people have is an inability to still the mind.

"The mind just wants to dart in all directions and that's very normal for the first few minutes you are meditating," May said. "You want to avoid evaluating your experience of meditation and experience what is there for

you to experience."

Other times, though, most of us accidentally become fully involved in meditation while doing something else, like gardening or taking part in a sport. Someone calls your name, but because you're so absorbed, you don't hear anything. Oftentimes, people who take May's classes are referred by physicians. In fact, meditation has been popular for centuries in the East and relatively recently has become accepted in the West.

Fine for all

"Meditation is something anyone can do if they have the motivation, the effort and the determination," she said. Meditation sometimes helps people feel less nervous, less depressed, more self-reliant, more self-confident, improves work experiences by accepting the peace in the present moment.

"We realize that most of our fear is in the past and the future and our power is in the present moment," May said. "You learn thought management so you can get back to that calmness. We learn that unwanted emotions are signals to tell us that we need to change our procedures or our perceptions so we can get back to experience the natural state of well being."

Please see IMAGERY, D5

