

Westland Observer

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THE WEEK AHEAD

Community meeting: ACTION, A Coalition for The Improvement of Nursing Homes, will hold a community meeting at 2 p.m. today at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, 6123 Central City Parkway. Rep. Eileen DeHart will be the guest speaker.

MONDAY

Westland Center: Westland Shopping Center will host a senior citizen dance from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday in the lower level auditorium. Coffee and refreshments will be served at 12:30 p.m.

Auditions: The Plymouth Theatre Guild holds auditions for "Arsenic and Old Lace," 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday in the Water Tower Theatre, on the campus of Northville Psychiatric Hospital, 41001 W. Seven Mile Road, between Haggerty and Northville roads, Northville. For more information, call (248) 349-7110.

City council: The Westland City Council will hold its regular meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, on the second floor of Westland City Hall, Ford Road west Wayne in Westland.

Seuss birthday: Dr. Seuss' birthday party will begin at 7 p.m. Monday in the Community Meeting Room at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland. Read stories, use interactive media and join in activities based on the books of the famous children's author, such as snacking on Sneetch-cakes.

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Car thefts plunge for 2nd year

The number of Westland car thefts dropped from 654 to 472 in the last two years as community police officers tightened patrols around apartment complexes, retail centers and other high-theft areas.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland car thefts plunged 27.8 percent from 1995 to 1997 — a decline Police Chief Emery Price attributed to a strong economy and a community policing program.

But police now hope to push the brakes even harder on car thieves by joining four other communities in starting a new "Stop Thief" program.

The number of Westland car thefts dropped from 654 to 472 in the last two years as community police officers tightened patrols around apartment complexes, retail centers and other high-theft areas, Price said.

"People are going to steal cars," Price said, "so the officers are concentrating on those areas."

Community policing keeps the same police officers in the same neighborhoods, rather than assigning them to

citywide patrols.

Price said crimes like car thefts tend to decline when the economy is healthy and fewer people are out of work.

"The economy certainly has an effect on it," he said.

In a new development, Westland police will now start stopping some drivers from 1-5 a.m. to make sure they aren't driving stolen vehicles, Price said.

Car owners may give police permission to stop their cars without reason during that period by placing a "Stop Thief" decal in the rear window.

To participate, vehicle owners need to go to the Westland Police Department.

Please see THEFTS, A2



Westland Car Thefts Decrease	
1995	654
1996	578
1997	472

HELEN FURCEAN / STAFF ARTIST

Realizing dreams



Storytime: Tracey Floto reads "We're going on a bear hunt" as the kids, sitting with their mothers, follow along.

Literacy program gives pair Even Start

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Irene Booker and Kimberly McBee didn't want their children to make the same mistakes they did when they quit school.

So these 29-year-old women enrolled in a family literacy program, Even Start West, at Lincoln Elementary School in Westland.

Booker and McBee not only earned their GEDs, they also learned to forgive themselves for past mistakes and to embrace new dreams.

"I've got more self-confidence now. I feel like I can do anything," McBee said. "I'm going to be a teacher."

"I got my GED, and it was the

greatest feeling in the world," Booker said. "I want to go into child psychology."

Holding part-time jobs, Booker works at Farmer Jack, McBee at Mr. Pita. They know they face challenges in trying to reach their next goals.

But these women are survivors who seem determined to succeed, even though so-called friends and some family members at times discourage them.

"They're a real source of support for each other," Donna Marie Meszaros, Even Start West program manager, said. She has a doctorate in clinical psychology.

Please see LITERACY, A4



STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LEMITUX

Stuck on her: Cassandra Little, whose mother enrolled in the Even Start family literacy program, tries to remove stickers from her face.

Grant to fund more widening on Newburgh

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Newburgh Road will have five lanes through most of Westland — barring a half-mile stretch from Palmer to Glenwood — by late this year, city officials said.

A new widening phase between Avondale and Palmer became possible after state legislators last week announced a new transportation grant.

The impending half-mile phase should be completed late this year,

along with another half-mile widening project already in progress between Enterprise Drive and Avondale.

That prediction came Thursday from Westland Economic Development Director Scott Veldhuis, who said the project will ease traffic and improve access to expanding businesses such as Red Spot Inc., Intra Corp. and, further south, Ford Motor Co. in Wayne.

Motorists perturbed by construction-zone traffic snarls along Newburgh should see relief by year's end. The

widening project coincides with an ongoing task to build a Newburgh underpass at CSX railroad tracks near Avondale.

Mayor Robert Thomas hailed the latest \$570,825 grant as "great news."

The money will help the city pay for the new \$1.1 million phase. A bond issue will cover the remaining tab, Veldhuis said.

The new phase is far cheaper than the \$9 million widening from Enterprise to Avondale — a project made

expensive by moving Newburgh under CSX tracks. That phase comes largely from federal dollars, Veldhuis said.

As the latest grant was announced last week, state Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton Township, and state Rep. Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, issued statements supporting the project.

"This grant is welcome news to the hundreds of residents who travel down Newburgh Road on a regular basis," Bennett said. "Everyone, including

Please see GRANT, A2

Governor signs new law at Friendship Center

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Nearly 225 Westland senior citizens watched Friday as Gov. John Engler, in a ceremonial bill-signing, approved a new law to punish criminals who pose as utility workers.

Visiting the Friendship Center — a social hub for Westland seniors — Engler drew praise for supporting a bill targeting impostors who often get inside homes and commit robberies, sexual assaults and other crimes.

"This has been a long time coming," 77-year-old Winfield Vernier said after Engler entertained an enthusiastic crowd by mixing business, politics and humor.

Engler chose a senior audience for his ceremonial signing of Senate Bill 6 because utility worker impersonators often target the elderly.

"All too often seniors are the target of these kinds of crimes," the governor said.

Moreover, Engler's visit occurred in legislative territory of state Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton Township, who sponsored the bill.

Bennett told the crowd he pushed the bill after



STAFF PHOTO BY SHARON LEMITUX

learning that posing as a utility worker wasn't a crime. Suspects previously could be prosecuted only for other crimes they committed on the scene.

"I was very surprised to find that it was not a crime

to impersonate a utility worker," Bennett said. Engler agreed. "It was really just a loophole."

Please see ENGLER, A3

Q&A: Winfield C. Vernier and his neighbor Virginia E. Liddon of Westland during a question and answer period after Engler's speech.



Signing off: Westland Fire Chief Mark Neal, Friendship Center director Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek, state Sen. Loren Bennett, and Westland City Council President Sandra Cicirelli look on as Gov. John Engler signs a law sponsored by Bennett, making impersonating a utility worker a crime.

Engler from page A1

Prison term
Convicted utility worker impostors now face a two-year prison term and a \$1,000 fine, along with potentially harsher penalties if they commit other crimes.

Engler voiced hope that crimes committed by utility worker impersonators also will be reduced by new technology allowing residential meters to be read from utility trucks.

"In the future, hopefully nobody will even have to go inside the house," he said.

Engler noted that 25 residents in Detroit, alone, suffered thefts or sexual attacks in 1996 when they let utility worker impostors inside their homes.

The new bill actually took effect Jan. 1, but Engler touted it Friday with his ceremonial signing. The measure won sweeping support in the state House and Senate.

"I don't think anyone would not support this bill," state Rep. Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, said Friday at the Friendship Center.

Westland Mayor Robert Thomas was not among the local dignitaries attending Friday's ceremony. His secretary said he had other commitments.

State issues

Engler fielded questions from seniors and addressed a wide range of other topics during his Westland visit.

■ He said Michigan will spend \$500 million to \$600 million a year for the next decade to improve roads. "That does not mean we will not have any potholes. We still have winter."

■ He said serious crimes have reached their lowest point in Michigan in more than 20 years, in part because of 300 new anti-crime laws.

■ He said juveniles who com-

mit adult crimes should receive adult punishment. "We're saying now you have to be responsible." He voiced support for two new prisons.

■ He touted a Michigan unemployment rate that last year declined to 4.1 percent, saying it dipped to its lowest point since the early 1960s and beat the national average.

■ He boasted that Michigan ranked No. 1 among all states last year for new businesses and expansions. He rounded out the top four with Ohio, Texas and California.

■ The governor voiced hope for a change in federal law that restricts physician choices for Medicare recipients. He called the restrictions "wrong."

■ Showing his humorous side, Engler noted that he and Friendship Center director Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek walked by an exercise room as he toured the building. "Sylvia thought maybe I wanted some time alone in there."

■ The governor singled out his judicial appointee C. Charles Bokos - a Westland District Court judge who has since been elected - as "a real role model for judges around the state."

■ He commended Kozorosky-Wiacek as an "irresistible force" as she lobbies for senior programs. He also lauded a Friendship Center expansion that's under way.

Westland senior Eleanor Doherty, 78, said she was impressed by the governor.

"I thought he was great," she said. "He explained everything, he answered questions, and he was humorous."

"Seeing him in person, I had the impression that he was senior-oriented," Doherty added. "I never got that impression from listening to him on the radio or TV."

Suspects bound over in separate robberies

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Westland judge Thursday ordered two suspects charged in unrelated robberies to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

District Judge Gail McKnight ordered trials for Wayne resident Reginald Spencer, 19, and Melvindale resident Alan Richard Eggleston, 17.

She ordered them to trial after hearing testimony during separate preliminary hearings.

Spencer is accused of robbing Hungry Howie's pizzeria, 1820 S. Newburgh, at 7:41 p.m. Feb. 17.

Eggleston is charged with robbing a woman of her purse as she left Family Drug Mart, 1930 S. Venoy, at 8:05 p.m. Feb. 18.

McKnight ordered the suspects to appear March 11 in circuit court for a formal arraignment on the charges.

The Hungry Howie's robbery occurred after a man walked to the counter and demanded money from a female worker, who complied because she feared he had a gun even though he didn't reveal one, Westland

police reports said.

Police soon arrested a suspect walking along a nearby residential street, saying he wore only one shoe and that a police dog found the other while sniffing its way from the pizzeria to Martin Street.

Police recovered about \$370 that the suspect said was his own money.

The robbery outside of Family Drug Mart occurred as a woman was leaving the store, but two witnesses saw the incident, chased a man and restrained him until police arrived, a police report said.

Police recovered the woman's purse and returned it to her.

In court Thursday, McKnight refused to reduce bonds for Spencer and Eggleston.

Spencer remains jailed in lieu of a \$25,000 cash bond. He could face a maximum sentence of life in prison if convicted of armed robbery.

Eggleston is jailed in lieu of a \$50,000/10 percent bond that requires \$5,000 to be posted. He could face a maximum 15-year term if convicted of unarmed robbery.

These tales could get a bit hairy

Haircut - a cutting or clipping of the hair of the head, the style in which hair is cut.

Hairstylist - the current politically correct name for the barber, beautician, cosmetologist and hairdresser entrusted with performing miracles (sometimes, they can, sometimes they can't).

If we find one we like, we stick with him or her, only to feel lost and abandoned in a world filled with styling studios when he or she decides to retire, leave town,

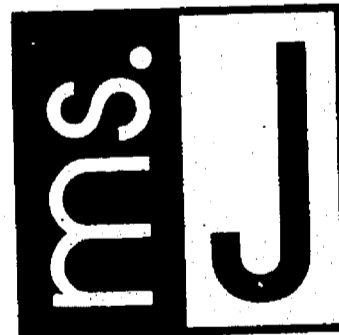
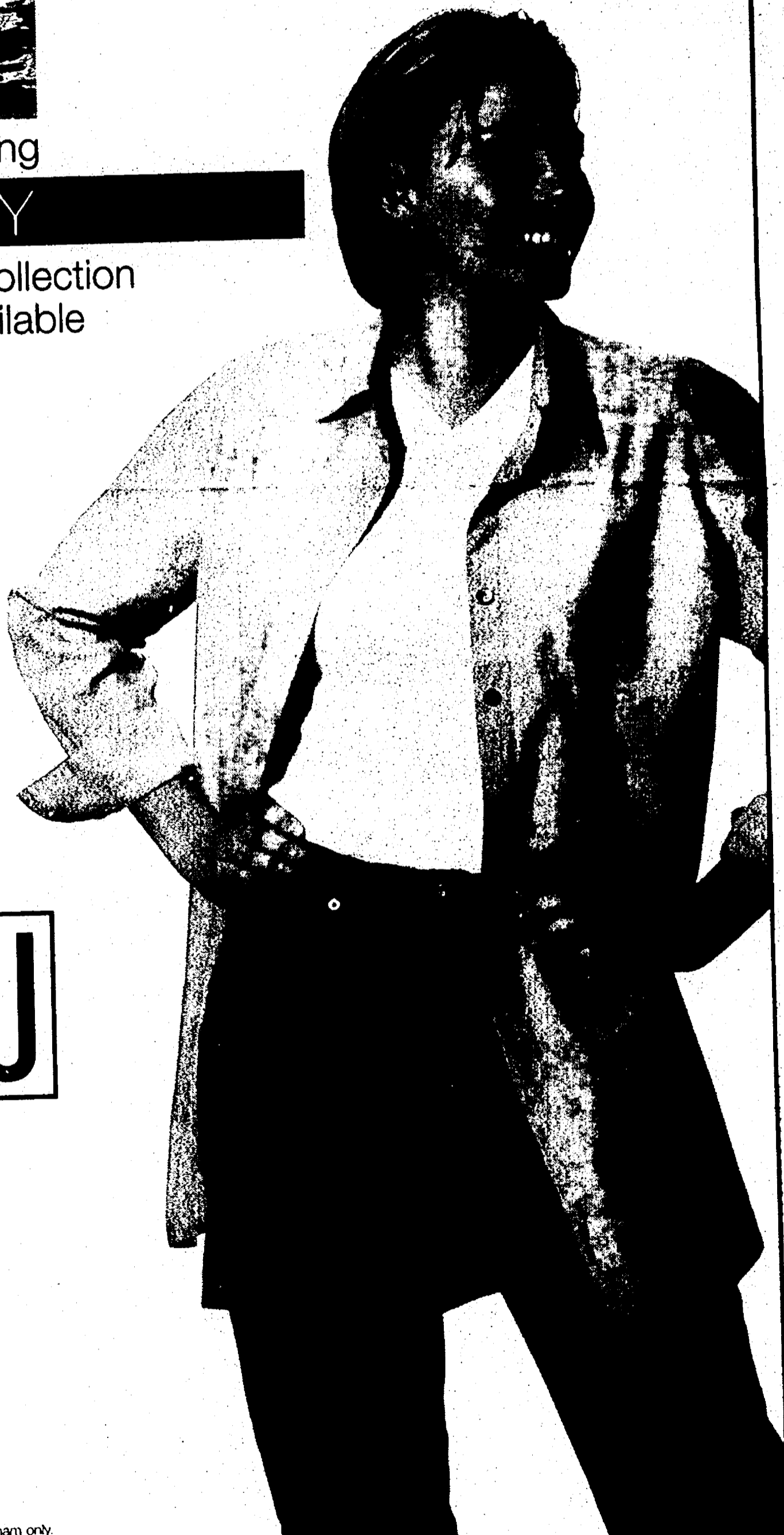
or get out of the business.

The Observer Community Life section is looking for stylists and their clients willing to talk about their respective relationships - good and bad. If you'd like to share your story with us and our readers, call (734) 953-2131 and leave your name and a daytime telephone number. You can also reach us by fax at (734) 591-7279 or e-mail at: chans@oc.homecomm.net



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SHOPPING HOURS • MON-SAT 10-9 • OPEN SUN AT NOON

Literacy from page A1

Booker and McBee became close friends as they attended adult education and parenting classes at Lincoln Elementary, earning their GEDs last June.

They didn't realize until they met that they once attended the same elementary school which, coincidentally, happened to be Lincoln.

Heart transplant

Booker, a Westland resident, enrolled in Even Start West programs in August 1996 - just three months after she shrugged off death by receiving a heart transplant. She suffered from

'The dream of getting their GED gives these parents the potential to look at new dreams.'

Ouida Cash

-Youth Living Centers executive director

cardiomyopathy with congestive heart failure.

"I was looking for help because I was having trouble dealing with issues from my heart transplant," Booker said. "And I wanted to get my GED and go on to college."

McBee, a Wayne resident, quit Garden City High School in 10th

grade for restaurant work. She needed to earn money so her mother could stay home and care for McBee's younger, disabled sister.

McBee later started working for her GED but quit again - this time to marry.

Now Booker and McBee are single-handedly raising 5-year-old daughters - another situation they have in common. Booker's daughter is Cassandra and McBee's is Felicia.

Booker also has an 11-year-old son, Jason, who lives with his grandmother. And McBee has two sons, Mikey, 7, and John, 9, who live with their father.

The two women qualified for the Lincoln school-based program because they didn't have high school diplomas and because they agreed to attend with their daughters.

Even Start West, a federal program, is a joint venture of the Inkster-based, nonprofit Youth Living Centers and Wayne-Westland public schools. It is aimed at improving family literacy by educating parents and helping them learn skills they can stress with their children.

"The dream of getting their GED gives these parents the potential to look at new dreams," Ouida Cash, Youth Living Centers executive director, said.

Families attending Lincoln classes get help from people like early childhood coordinator Tracey Floto, adult education teacher Jackie Sanders, case manager Amy Morelli and child care workers Pat Sparks and Tanya Lynn Doyle.

"This is a good, family-oriented group of people," Booker said. "When I got my GED, it was the greatest feeling in the world. My son used to talk about wanting to quit school, but when I got my GED he was so proud of me. It just lit up his eyes."

"He has a different attitude now," she said, smiling. "He goes around bragging to everybody about his mother."

McBee, too, worked hard for her GED.

"Kim kept her nose to the grindstone the entire time,"



EVEN START WEST

What is it? A family literacy program that includes adult education, parenting information and enriched educational opportunities for children. Case managers also may visit homes to help families set personal and family goals. The aim is to help parents improve their lives and set better examples for their children.

Who is eligible? Parents should have a child 8 years old or younger, program manager Donna Marie Meszaros said. Parents must be eligible for adult basic education programs or within compulsory school age. Parents with diplomas may qualify if they still lack basic skills.

Where is it? Even Start West has programs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday at Westland's Lincoln Elementary School, 33800 Grand Traverse. On-site services began April 1, 1996. Another program is available at Inkster Family Investment Center, 29999 Pine Street, Inkster.

Why it's important? To help families improve their lives. One in five U.S. children live in poverty, and child literacy levels are linked to educational levels of their parents, particularly mothers.

Meszaros said.

The program also allows time for fun, however. It has included field trips for picnics, movies, zoos and other outings.

Two trailblazers

Booker and McBee are among the first six people to receive their GEDs through Even Start West, which has served 24 families since it opened at Lincoln in early 1996.

The program complements two other family-oriented, Lincoln-based programs: a Family Resource Center and an Oakwood Healthcare Systems clinic.

"We see the school as a community center," principal Cynthia Swift said. "We are trying to provide a variety of programs for families."

Thirteen families are now enrolled in Even Start West, which receives some help from Community Literacy Council volunteers.

Family members who want to attend classes but don't have transportation shouldn't give up.

"We can remove that impediment," Meszaros said.

Program leaders hope that Even Start West will help families break the cycle of being under-educated - a situation that can lead to deeper problems such as poverty.

People like Booker and McBee are helping.

Said Meszaros: "They are setting a wonderful example for other parents."



STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LAMIRUS

Listening in: Kim McBee and her daughter, Felicia McBee, listen to a story told by early childhood coordinator Tracey Floto.



Ouida Cash



Donna Marie Meszaros

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: 734-525-8814) on or before MARCH 12, 1998, at 2:00 p.m. for the following item(s):

SELF PRIMING CENTRIFUGAL PUMPS

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

Publish: March 1, 1998

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
1998 BOARD OF REVIEW DATES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO all property owners of the City of Garden City that the Board of Review will meet in session on the following date and time to receive and examine the assessment roll for the current year:

Tuesday	March 3, 1998	9:00a.m.
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The Board of Review will meet in session on the following days and times to hear appeals on the 1998 Assessment Roll:

Monday	March 9, 1998	9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.
Tuesday	March 10, 1998	1:00p.m.-9:00p.m.
Wednesday	March 11, 1998	9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.
Thursday	March 12, 1998	1:00p.m.-9:00p.m.
Friday	March 13, 1998	9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.

Appeals by appointment or write-in. Write-ins must be received by Monday March 9, 1998.

Tentative ratios and factors for the 1998 tax year are:

Commercial Ratio	49.51%	Factor 1.0000
Industrial Ratio	49.48%	Factor 1.0000
Residential Ratio	45.47%	Factor 1.0996
Personal Property Ratio	50.00%	Factor 1.0000

Taxes are paid on taxable value, which is the lower of assessed value or capped value, unless there is a property transfer. The capped value is based on the CPI (Consumer Price Index) which will increase 2.7% for 1998. As a result, residential taxed values will increase only 2.7% unless there has been a transfer of ownership or an addition to the property.

The 1998 Assessment Roll will be open for public inspection from March 4, 1998 through March 6, 1998 in the assessment office from 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m.

STEVEN SMITH, City Clerk-Treasurer

Publish: February 22, 26 and March 1, 1998

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Why Travel Far for Cancer Therapy?

Radiation Therapy Associates P.C. in Garden City is now offering three dimensional conformal beam therapy, an advanced cancer treatment previously available only at major medical centers.

The treatment allows radiation oncologists to use advance computer graphics to view the internal anatomy in ways that weren't previously possible, which ultimately allows them to enhance the level of precision of the radiation therapy they prescribe and deliver.

This 3-D technology is especially helpful in the planning of radiation therapy for various malignancies, including those of the prostate, lungs and some brain cancers, in addition to other types.

The team of experts at Radiation Therapy Associates also uses both conventional x-ray beam therapy in addition to electron beam irradiation administered with a high energy linear accelerator. We also perform radioactive implantation.

Radiation Therapy Associates P.C. is a research affiliate of the Southwest Oncology Group. Dr. Ronald Lutsic has received an appointment as a clinical investigator by the National Cancer Institute in addition to maintaining a faculty appointment at the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery. He is board certified in radiation therapy.

Ronald C. Lutsic, D.O.
Radiation Oncologist
Medical Office Building
6255 N. Inkster Road,
Lower Level Suite 7
Garden City
(Call for appointment)
522-8540 FAX 522-5405

Vietnam monument group seeks help from local leaders

BY RENE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER

Memories fade within a generation or two. Monuments last forever.

On Feb. 13, U.S. Army veteran Richard Eberhart of Westland, appeared before the Conference of Western Wayne, a consortium of 18 municipalities, to discuss raising funds for the proposed Michigan Vietnam Monument in Lansing.

Eberhart, who served in Korea from 1965-66, is the Wayne County captain for the Michigan Vietnam Monument Commission's fund-raising campaign. The Michigan Legislature established the commission in 1988 to design, fund and build a monument honoring the 2,649 Michigan citizens who died or were declared missing during the Vietnam War.

To date, the commission has raised \$1.4 million, including \$1 million appropriated by the Michigan Legislature last August. The commission's goal is \$2.6 million.

For Eberhart, the monument represents a lasting tribute to his friends who died in Vietnam.

"I missed going to Vietnam. Several of my friends were killed there. Most were 19 years old. I try to imagine all the things they missed between when they were 19 and now," he said.

Ways to help

Eberhart suggested ways municipal leaders could help, including placing donation slips in city employee paychecks. He also proposed communities in Wayne County donate \$1 for each of the 2,649 Michigan casualties.

Since the conference met, Westland Mayor Robert Thomas has inserted the personal donation slips in paychecks and plans to propose the \$1 per casualty city donation at the next Westland City Council meeting.

"I for one, just one guy's opinion, think we should do it. It's the least we can do for the people who lost their lives in Vietnam," he said.

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey comes from a family of military veterans. His father fought in both world wars and his brother, a retired Navy admiral, is a much-decorated Vietnam veteran. Kirksey proudly wears a Michigan Vietnam Monument star lapel pin.

He said he supports the commission's efforts but wants to remain "sensitive to other issues." He will not place donation slips in employee paychecks or make a donation from Livonia's general fund. However, he will meet with commission representatives to discuss other ways of promoting the monument.



Project: Completion of the Michigan Vietnam War Memorial, initially slated for fall 1998, has been extended to 1999. The monument will remove Michigan from the dwindling list of states that do not have official memorials honoring their Vietnam War veterans.

"I'll do what I can to create an awareness of this very worthwhile project," he said.

Keith King, chairman of the Michigan Vietnam Monument Commission's public relations department, said the "A Penny a

Life" campaign, launched in November 1996, has been a success. The campaign asks donors to give \$26.49 for each copper star lapel pin bearing the number "2649" they receive. That number symbolizes Michigan casualties of the Vietnam War.

Moving forward

"That campaign has truly been the campaign that has helped us move forward," said King, who

served 11 months in Vietnam as a U.S. Army gunner. "I think the individual person has responded positively. What we need is corporate giving."

Stroh Brewery, Foodland, Chrysler Corp., and the UAW are the largest corporate supporters to date. King said the many Michigan companies involved in producing materials for the Vietnam War have yet to donate.

King, whose son served in the Persian Gulf, still remembers Thanksgiving with his family in 1970. It was the day he came home from Vietnam. "When people talk about being thankful, I have a lot of reasons."

A 1-acre parcel of state land has been set aside in the middle of the 2.5-acre Michigan Veterans Memorial Park in Lansing for the new monument. The monument's winning design was chosen from more than 200 entries in a national competition launched in late 1992.

The monument will be set within a large circle surrounded by 49 lights, representing each of the other states that participated in the Vietnam War. A square plaza divided by an illuminated glass walk will be located within the circle. An 8-foot high, curved steel beam, anchored at only two ends, will sit to the north of the glass walk. It will hover two and a half feet above the ground. The names of Michigan residents killed or declared missing in action will be inscribed on panels fastened to the inside of the beam.

Completion, initially slated for fall 1998, has been extended to 1999. The monument will remove Michigan from the dwindling list of states that do not have official memorials honoring their Vietnam War veterans.

For more information, contact the Michigan Vietnam Monument, 611 W. Ottawa, Lansing, Mich. 48913, 1-800-492-2649.

Vietnam's toll heavy on state

Keith King, chairman of the Vietnam Monument Commission's public relations committee, said the commission cross-checks all facts it publishes about the Vietnam War, which spanned 1959-75.

Sources include the U.S. Department of Defense, the Registrar for the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and each branch of military services.

Approximately nine million men and women served in the Vietnam War, of which 25 percent were drafted and nearly 70 percent enlisted.

58,202 names are engraved

on the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., including those who died in Vietnam, those who died later of wounds received in Vietnam, and those listed as POW/MIA.

2,300 U.S. citizens are classified as POW/MIA.

75,000 veterans were permanently disabled.

Over 400,000 Michigan residents (almost 10 percent of the state's population) served in the military during Vietnam. Of these, 161,000 served in Vietnam.

The names of 2,649 Michigan residents are inscribed on

the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Based on population, Michigan lost more lives in Vietnam than any other state.

72 Michigan citizens are classified as POW/MIA.

The average age of the soldier/sailor/airman in Vietnam was 19. Nearly 25 percent of males today between the ages of 35 and 54 are Vietnam veterans.

All branches of the military were involved in Vietnam. However, veterans who served in the Army (16 percent) or Marine Corps (25 percent) are more likely to have post-traumatic stress

Please see VIETNAM, A7

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Higher ed bids for more state aid

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

"This becomes a donnybrook, more and more every year," said state Sen. John J.H. Schwarz as he listened to one university after another lament the 1.5 percent state aid increase proposed by Gov. John Engler.

"The governor is correct on more prison space," said Schwarz, chair of the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on higher education. For the Department of Corrections, Engler proposes \$1.4 billion, a 5 percent increase, in order to add 5,420 prison beds.

But after several years of hefty increases for universities, Engler proposes a flat, across-the-board hike of 1.5 percent to \$1.46 billion for fiscal 1999.

"We're fighting different factions. We're going to-toe with Corrections," Schwarz said at a Feb. 20 budget hearing in Ann Arbor. He made only one promise: "There absolutely will be a floor (on per student aid) when this bill leaves the Senate."

At the bottom of the heap are Grand Valley State University at \$4,086 per student followed by the University of Michigan-Flint with \$4,210 and Central Michigan University at \$4,216.

Top three are Wayne State University, \$10,141; the Uni-

versity of Michigan-Ann Arbor, \$9,087; and Michigan Tech, \$9,087.

"I represent one of those that keeps getting poorer," said David Brandon, board chair at Central Michigan University.

Schwarz, the Legislature's top man on higher education money bills, divides the 15 campuses into two groups: three apples and 12 oranges. The apples are U-M, Wayne and Michigan State.

That was when he promised a floor for the 12 oranges rather than a flat across-the-board 1.5 percent increase.

CMU makes pitch

Central Michigan vice president Richard Davenport supported that view. "We would respectfully ask the committee to start by adjusting last year's funding floor by inflation before applying any across-the-board adjustments," he said.

"Or, better yet, appropriate any increased dollars - equally - to each public university student in the state," Davenport said.

Davenport called CMU a special case because:

"We have been in the top quarter of public universities in terms of growth for the past two years (while) state funding is lagging considerably behind the average."

"CMU is offering the nation's first bachelor's degree in vehicle design" in coopera-

tion with Megatech Engineering.

CMU has a new College of Health Professions to address rural health care for an aging population. It wants to build a state-of-the-art building for physician assistants, physical therapists, speech pathologists and audiologists.

'Difficult time'

"The economy seems to be booming, but it's a difficult time for higher education," said University of Michigan President Lee Bollinger.

Bollinger cited these as U-M's top needs:

■ **Library** - "Student use of references has increased by 50 percent in a decade. Then there are technology costs added on."

■ **Faculty** - "At the full professor level, our faculty salaries are 16 percent below our cohort. Ten thousand dollars, to a young faculty member with a family, would be quite an inducement."

■ **Undergraduate education** - "The number of seminars has doubled for beginning students. We are using more senior and full professors for undergraduate classes."

■ **Life sciences**, including genetics and cloning.

Bollinger said that instead of linking university appropriations to the consumer price index, "we should link U-M to

personal disposable income across the state ... 3.7 percent is what I have for personal disposable income."

Graduate growth

U-M Dearborn has not only grown, but its growth has been at the more costly graduate student level, said Chancellor James Renick.

Renick asked for 10 more faculty members for automotive engineering, computer science, engineering management, adult instruction and communications at a cost of \$699,000.

Videoconferencing and other technology will cost \$1.25 million, and deferred maintenance will cost \$2 million a year for the next five years, he said.

Engler, however, proposed \$346,000 more for a total of \$23.4 million for UM-D.

Like other presidents, Renick foresaw tuition and fees rising 5 percent or more if Engler's 1.5 percent hike becomes law.

The Senate Appropriations subcommittee will hear university budget presentations on Monday, March 2 in Meadowbrook Hall, Oakland University, Rochester. Schedule: North-ern Michigan at 10 a.m., Wayne State at 10:30, Michigan Tech at 11, the King-Chavez-Parks minorities program at 11:30, and OU at 11:45.

Forum set on tax reform

U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D-Ann Arbor, will be sponsoring a public forum on "Tax Reform: For Better or Worse?" on Saturday, March 7 from 1 to 4 p.m. in the College Theater of the Literature, Arts and Sciences building at Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Drive in Ann Arbor.

Rivers has invited several guest speakers to discuss proposed changes in the tax code, including the flat tax, the national sales tax and the constitutional issues surrounding taxation. Guest speakers include

Professor Gary Wolfram of Hillsdale College, Professor Kyle D. Logue of the University of Michigan Law School, Howard Mason of Citizens for an Alternative Tax System, and Donald Lubick, assistant secretary of the U.S. Treasury for Tax Policy.

There will be ample time for questions and comments from the audience after the discussion.

For information, contact Rivers' district offices in Ann Arbor (734) 741-4210 or Wayne (734) 722-1411.

Vietnam from page A7

disorder symptoms.

■ The incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is 27.9 percent among Hispanic veterans, 20.7 percent among African American, and 13.7 percent among white/other veterans. For women in combat zones, most notably Corps I and Corps II, the incidence of PTSD (at some point in their lives) is 27 percent.

■ Credible estimates show between 90,000 and 130,000 Vietnam veterans have committed suicide due to PTSD.

■ African Americans composed 12 percent of those who

served in the Vietnam War but represent 13.5 percent of those killed. Hispanic Americans represent 5 percent of veterans. Native Americans represent about 1 percent.

■ Homeless shelters report that 36 percent of their services are provided for Vietnam veterans.

The Vietnam Monument Commission is composed of all volunteers. It is headquartered in the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund Office and is sponsored by the Department of Military Affairs in Lansing.

Workshop to focus on finding peaceful solutions

County Executive Edward McNamara, County Prosecutor John O'Hair and Sheriff Robert Ficano have joined together with the Alliance for Peace to chair a workshop, "Best Practices: Finding Peaceful Solutions to Violence in our Community," for suburban Wayne County communities, west and south of Detroit.

The workshop scheduled for Saturday, March 7, focuses on finding solutions to violence in our communities. The morning sessions identify emerging issues of violence prevention and the afternoon sessions focus on what is working in communities. Several renowned individuals from area agencies, law enforcement and the prosecutor's office are scheduled to speak.

The workshop is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency Annex, 5454 Venoy Road in Wayne.

Youths will have an opportunity to participate in a "hands on" violence prevention training.

A Peace Circle Program, a program which promotes positive alternatives to violence in communities, will be introduced at

the end of the workshop. Area businesses will be asked to sponsor the circles in their places of business so that members of the public can make a pledge.

The circle represents a connected community, while purple ribbons representing peace will be attached to the circles. Pledge cards connected to the ribbons to allow participants to write down and commit to peaceful actions.

The goal of the program is to have all local governing authorities and 100 business participating in this program with 100,000 pledges by March 7, 1999.

The circles will be gathered and put on display at community spaces as they are completed. Area school children will participate in creating the circles and materials.

Funds raised through this program will be split between First Step and Youth Assistance programs.

The cost of the workshop is \$25 per adult registration and

includes morning refreshments and a box lunch. Youth participants may attend at no charge.

People should call if interested in attending as seating is limited. Participants can register by sending a check to Wayne Metropolitan CSA, Best Practices, 3715 W. Jefferson, Ecorse MI 48229 or by calling the Resource Connections at (313) 791-8440.

The Alliance for Peace is a coalition of agencies and individuals in suburban communities seeking peaceful solutions to violence.

Its member agencies include the Conference of Western Wayne, Downriver Guidance Clinic, Hegira, Inkster Police Department, Inkster Police Department, Northville Youth Assistance, The Senior Alliance, United Way Community Service-Wayne Division, Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency, Wayne County Sheriff's Department and Wayne Metropolitan Community Services.

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As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please include the date of the reunion and the first and last name of at least one contact person, and a telephone number.

ANN ARBOR PIONEER
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July 18 at the Crowne Plaza.
(810) 465-2277 or (810) 263-6803

BELLEVILLE
Class of 1988
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(800) 677-7800

BIRMINGHAM SEAHOLM
Class of 1968
Aug. 1 at the Doubletree Guest Suites, Southfield.
(248) 366-9493, press 6
Class of 1978
Sept. 19 at the Doubletree Guest Suites, Southfield.
(248) 366-7004

BISHOP BORGESS
Class of 1978
Sept. 6 at the Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi.
(734) 397-8766 or www.reunion-works.com

BLOOMFIELD HILLS LANSEER
Class of 1987
March 21 at Doubletree Guest Suites, Southfield.
(248) 360-7004, press 2
Class of 1978
Aug. 1 at Somerset Inn, Troy.
(248) 366-9493, press 3

CHERRY HILL
Class of 1983
Reunion and alumni family picnic is planned for August.
(734) 729-6783

CHIPPEWA VALLEY
Class of 1978
July 24 at Zuccarb's in Chesterfield.
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DETROIT CASS TECH
Class of 1968
Looking for classmates for a reunion.
Pam Yee Gianola, 1243 Smith Road, Beulah, Mich., 49617-9493 or e-mail at mie-nai@aliens.com
Class of 1988
Is looking for names and addresses of classmates.
(313) 896-0786, (313) 859-0261 or (313) 882-1632

DETROIT CHADSEY
Class of 1978
Is planning a reunion.
(248) 442-9320, by fax at (248) 442-8830 or Sharon Law-Williamson, 28479 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia 48152
Class of 1958
Oct. 10 at the Detroit Golf Club, Detroit.
(313) 882-4626 or (248) 548-5384

DETROIT COOLEY
Class of 1948
A reunion is planned for Oct. 9-11.
(248) 473-4437

DETROIT KETTERING
Class of 1978
Is planning a reunion.
Send name, address and telephone number to Chrystal Esaw, 27930 Berkshire Dr., Southfield 48076, or call (248) 358-5236, (313) 526-8667, (313) 839-9868 or (313) 372-3159

DETROIT MACKENZIE
January-June classes of 1919-48
A reunion is planned for Sept. 18.
(248) 553-4033 or (734) 464-3793

DETROIT MUMFORD
Class of 1958
Oct. 3 at the Northfield Hilton Hotel, Troy.
(248) 851-5678, (248) 855-9262, (248) 626-5406, by fax at (248) 855-9194 or by e-mail at Mmalesin@Mich.com or gr4245@aol.com

DETROIT PERSHING
Classes of 1949-53
Are planning a reunion.
(248) 471-5609 or P.O. Box 530-244, Livonia 48153-0244
January-June classes of 1952
A fall reunion is being planned
(248) 623-3454, (810) 771-9810 or (810) 979-4594

DETROIT REDFORD
Class of 1973
Sept. 26 at St. Aidan's Banquet Center, Livonia.

(248) 360-7004
FARMINGTON
Class of 1988
A reunion is planned for July 25.
(313) 266-0783 or (313) 394-0649
Class of 1968
Aug. 7 at the Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi.
(810) 465-2277 or (810) 263-6803

FARMINGTON HARRISON
Class of 1988
A reunion is planned for July at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club, Westland.
(248) 442-2862

GARDEN CITY
Class of 1988
Sept. 12 at Roma's of Garden City.
(248) 360-7004, press 5

GARDEN CITY WEST
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Center, Livonia.
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Class of 1978
Oct. 24 at the Doubletree Guest Suites, Southfield.
(248) 360-7004

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Class of 1978
A reunion is planned for Aug. 15.
(734) 420-2558

NORTH FARMINGTON
Class of 1978
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Class of 1988

Oct. 3 at the Best Western Hotel, Farmington Hills.
(248) 366-9493, press 6

OAK PARK
Classes of 1957-59
Is planning a reunion for November.
(248) 559-1746 or (248) 354-0092

OUR LADY OF LOURDES
Class of 1948
A reunion is planned for June 6.
(313) 282-7862

PLYMOUTH CANTON/SALEM
Classes of 1988
A joint reunion is planned for

June 20.
CEP Class of '88, P.O. Box 5366, Plymouth 48170

REDFORD THURSTON
Class of 1973
Nov. 28 at St. Mary's Cultural Center, Livonia.
Donna Erndt, 33466 Vargo Dr., Livonia, or call (734) 522-9405 or (313) 535-4000, Ext. 412

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Class of 1983
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Lean on pork as part of a healthful diet

To those of us who remember the pork of 10 or 20 years ago, lean pork may sound like an oxymoron, a combination of words that contradict one another, such as jumbo shrimp. Yet the pork we buy today is 30 percent leaner than the pork available in 1981. That's because pork producers are breeding leaner pigs to meet the demand of consumers who know that by choosing limited portions of lean meats, in combination with lots of fruits and vegetables, they can eat for better health.

Just how lean is today's pork? Loin and sirloin cuts can have less fat per ounce than skinless chicken thigh. With only 27 percent of calories from fat, pork tenderloin compares favorably with the 20 percent of calories from fat in a skinless chicken breast.

Eating food that fits with your lifestyle and individual preferences is a key to "personalized nutrition," and the focus of this year's "March is National Nutrition Month" campaign.

Dietary guidelines for healthy eating, such as those recom-

mended by the American Institute for Cancer Research, are designed to be flexible, allowing you to meet your nutritional needs with foods you enjoy.

Pork can easily be enjoyed as part of a healthful diet. Avoid high-fat cuts of pork, including country-style ribs and Boston roast and be sure to trim all visible fat before cooking.

Choose a cooking method that doesn't require added fat, such as grilling, broiling, baking, roasting on a rack, or stir-frying, and limit the portion size to about three ounces cooked, roughly the size of a deck of cards.

Many dishes use small portions of pork to add flavor to more plentiful amounts of vegetables and grains. Stir-fry pork tenderloin strips with broccoli florets, shiitake mushroom caps, yellow bell pepper slices and sliced green onion and serve over steamed rice. Or, make savory kabobs by marinating cubes of pork tenderloin in a mixture of apricot preserves, minced green onion, reduced-sodium tamari, minced fresh ginger and minced

garlic. Thread the pork on skewers with onion pieces, bell pepper squares, cherry tomatoes and pineapple cubes and broil.

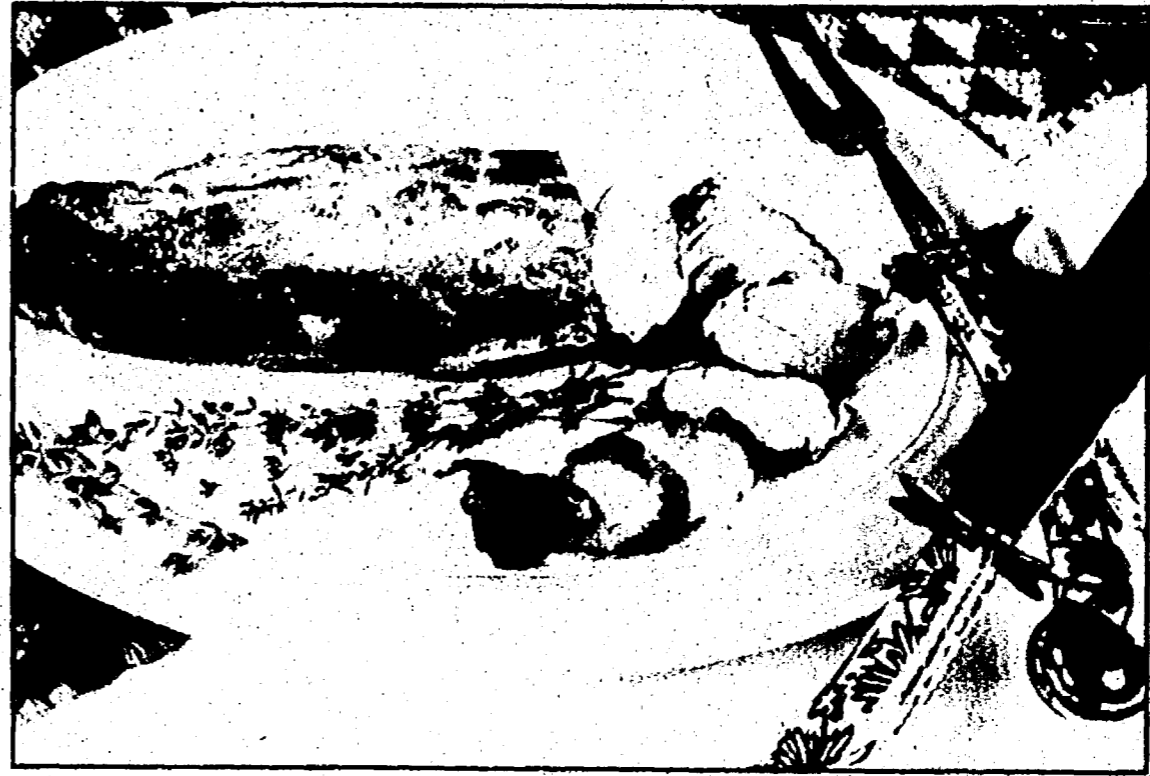
Juicy Glazed Roast Pork Tenderloin features an irresistible mixture of honey, mustard and cinnamon. Served in thin slices, along with steamed rice and sautéed vegetables, it's a sure-fire hit that takes only 30 minutes to cook.

GLAZED ROAST PORK TENDERLOIN

- 1/4 cup Dijon-style mustard
- 2 tablespoons orange juice
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 teaspoon grated orange rind
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon ground allspice
- 2 pounds pork tenderloin, trimmed of all visible fat

Preheat the oven to 325°F. In a small bowl, whisk together the mustard, orange rind, cinnamon and allspice. Set aside.

Place the pork on a rack in a shallow roasting pan. Insert a



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

meat thermometer into the center of the pork. Roast for 30 minutes, or until the thermometer registers 160°F. During the last 10 minutes of roasting, brush the pork occa-

sionally with the mustard mixture.

Remove the tenderloin from the oven and let stand for 5 minutes before slicing.

Each of the 8 servings contains

186 calories and 5 grams of fat. **Surefire hit:** When you're wondering what to make for dinner, consider Glazed Pork Tenderloin with steamed rice and sautéed vegetables. *Recipe and information from the American Institute for Cancer Research.*

Readers clarify their favorite 'Recipes to Share'

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Thanks again for sending me your favorite "Recipes to Share."

Gwen Krestel of Farmington Hills shared her Creamy Chicken & Cheese Enchiladas, and wanted to clarify one point.

In the recipe she says you can prepare the recipe ahead of time. "You will need to heat the enchiladas longer if made ahead of time, instead of the tortillas," she said.

A couple of readers wanted to know if you should drain the crushed pineapple called for in Auntie Flo's Fruit Salad recipe. "Yes, you should," said Peggy Peck of Redford.

It's hard to think of every detail when you're sharing a recipe you can make without even looking at it. I know people who, determined to get one of

their grandma's favorite recipes, ask her to stop after every step so they can measure the ingredients. Grandma never uses a recipe.

What is your favorite "Recipe to Share?" This is our newest feature, and you'll find it in Taste on the fourth Sunday of every month. We're counting on you to make it successful.

Please send, or fax your recipes to share, to Keely Wygonik, Taste Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax (734) 591-7279.

Be sure to include a daytime phone number with your recipe, and be as specific as possible - what size can? what size package? should you drain the fruit, vegetables, or beans before combining with other ingredients?

We'll feature one reader each

month in an article. Along with our thanks, that person will be interviewed by me for the story, photographed with their "Recipe to Share," and receive a newly published cookbook, and apron.

We look forward to hearing from you. Just in case you missed last Sunday's paper, here are the recipes for Creamy Chicken & Cheese Enchiladas and Auntie Flo's Fruit Salad.

CREAMY CHICKEN & CHEESE ENCHILADAS

- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 2 cups chopped cooked chicken
- 1 can (4 ounce) chopped green chilies
- 1/4 cup chicken broth
- 2 teaspoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin

- 4 ounces cream cheese, cubed
- 8-10 flour tortillas (6-inch)
- 1/4 pound Velveeta cheese, cubed
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1/2 cup chopped tomato, divided

Microwave onion, garlic and oil in 2 quart casserole on High 2 to 3 minutes or until tender, stirring after 2 minutes.

Stir in chicken, chilies, broth and seasonings. Microwave on High 4 minutes or until thoroughly heated. Add cream cheese, stir until melted.

Spoon about 1/3 cup chicken mixture onto each tortilla; roll up. Place seam side down, in 8-inch

square baking dish. (Can be refrigerated at this point. You will need to heat Enchiladas longer if made ahead and refrigerated).

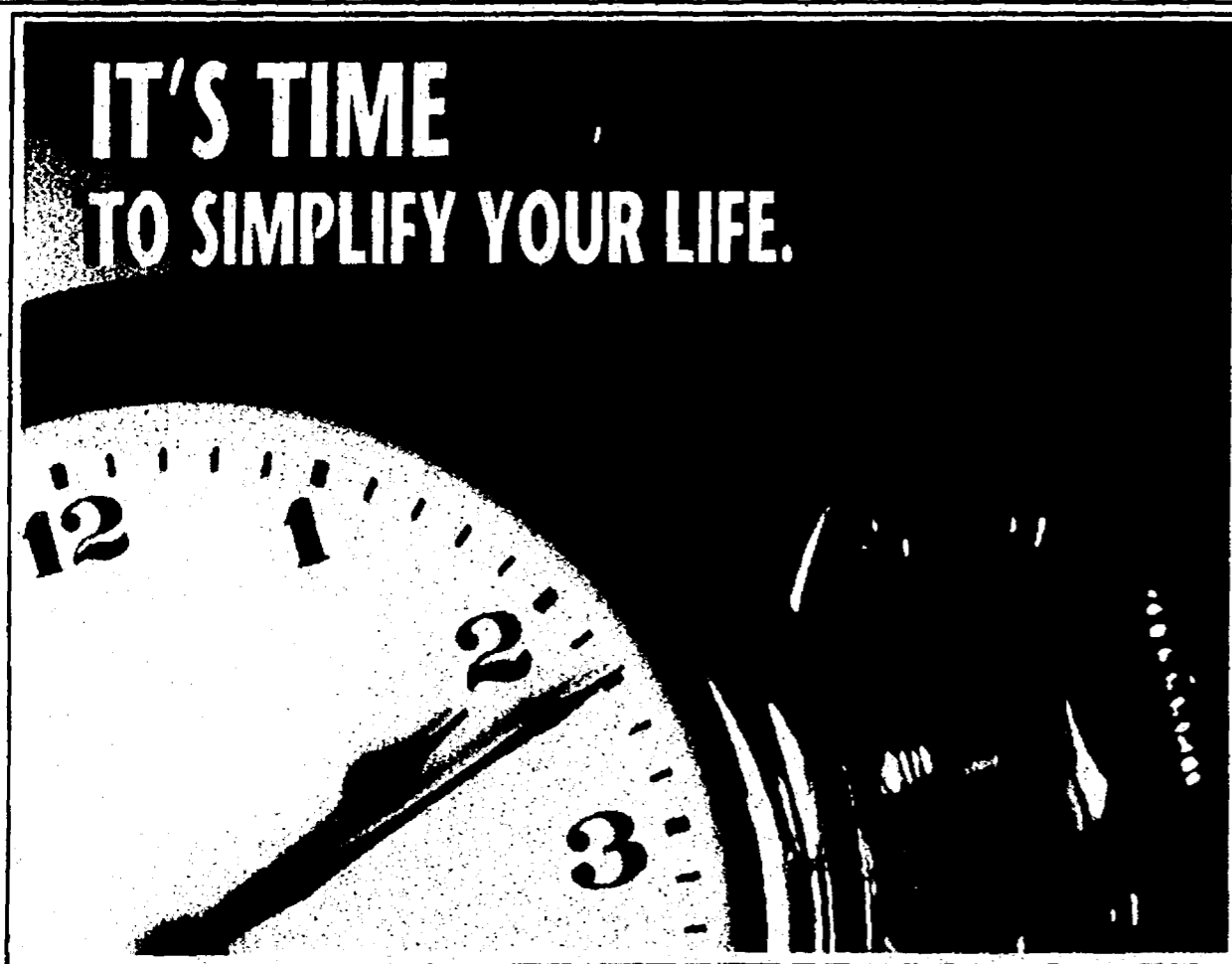
Microwave Velveeta, milk and 1/4 cup tomato in small bowl on High 2 to 3 minutes or until cheese is melted, stirring after each minute. Pour sauce over tortillas, top with remaining tomatoes. Microwave on high 6 to 8 minutes or until thoroughly heated, turning dish after 3 minutes.

Serves 2-3 people. Can be doubled (use 9 by 13-inch baking dish).

Recipe compliments of Gwen Krestel of Farmington Hills.
AUNTIE FLO'S FRUIT SALAD
1 (3 ounce) package lime Jell-O

- 1 cup hot water
- 1/2 pint whipped cream
- 1 cup finely chopped marshmallows
- 2 packages cream cheese (3 ounces each)
- 1 (9 ounce) can crushed pineapple, (drained)
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- 1/4 cup sugar
- Pinch of salt
- Dissolve Jell-O in hot water and cool. Put sugar in whipped cream. Mix marshmallows, nuts, pineapple and cream cheese.
- Fold in whipped cream and sugar mixture. Add to Jell-O. Chill until firm.

Recipe compliments of Peggy Peck of Redford.



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Live video, audio is the future of the Internet



MIKE WENDLAND

PC TALK I have seen the future of the Internet.

And the future is live. Live video. Live audio. Music. Images. News.

Want to see an example? Check out WDIV Online (www.wdiv.com), Channel Four's

Web site. Look on the far right hand column you'll find a hyperlink that takes you to live coverage of the Walter Budzyn retrial in the beating death of Malice Green, direct from a courtroom in the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice.

Right away, let me confess my bias. I work at WDIV and, in fact, founded the Web site. But aside from my pride, this really is a pioneering use of cyberspace.

From Monday through Friday between 9 p.m. and 4 p.m., the station has put its special fiber optic feed from the courtroom directly on the Internet. You're now able to see and hear the action as Judge Thomas Jackson presides over the trial.

At times this feed may contain videotaped replays of specific parts of the testimony to be used in upcoming news broadcasts as sound "bites" for an edited news story to be shown on television. Or, if you tune in after 3 p.m. or around 11:30 a.m., you may watch as the on-air reporter pre-

pare reports for an upcoming news broadcast. At other times, the feed includes interviews taped earlier or being done live. But, most times, it contains the courtroom activity.

You see it and hear it as if you had a front row seat in the courtroom, which is exactly where the camera is located. Witnesses are questioned and cross-examined, objections made, evidence shown and diagrammed. You get it all, as it happens, instead of a one minute, thirty second taped report of someone else's version of what happened.

WDIV uses the most popular... and free... live video and audio software now offered for Internet consumers. Called RealVideo (www.real.com), it plays World Wide Web "programs" in a miniature box on your computer screen.

There are other Internet video applications out there. Some are as good or better than RealVideo. But, if for no other reason than they have been the best marketed, RealVideo is the clear favorite.

What does it look like? Well, as promising as it is, it is not of the quality you get from regular television.

Depending on the speed of your connection and congestion on the Internet, it may be amazingly smooth (through ISDN lines or T1 connections like those used by universities and major corporations) or somewhat herky-jerky (as with 33.6 or slower modems).

But in all cases, the Net programming is understandable and well worth the look.

Here's some of the things you can listen and see... live.

■Film.com (www.film.com) offers movies, short films and interviews, plus reviews from top film critics.

■(www.timecast.com) Timecast an online guide, with links, to live concerts, press conferences, sports, business and entertainment happenings. The other day, for example, they were offering a live-recorded concert from the Royal Albert written by Paul McCartney.

■Bloomberg Business Video (www.bloomberg.com/videos) lets you watch the latest financial, world, technology, or business news clips.

■C-Span (www.c-span.org) offers live press conferences and speeches all day long, an archives of special briefings from various government agencies.

■Fox (http://foxnews.com/video) News is one of the most video-friendly sites on the web. The other day, I watched in fascination as it carried a live broadcast

of the solar eclipse in the caribbean. You can still see it from an archived clip on their site.

■(http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/lc/live/) NASA offers live Net audio and video of major space launches and happenings. You can still look over clips from the Mars Pathfinder mission, as well as Senator John Glenn's press conference announcing his return visit to space.

■Trinity Broadcasting (http://www.tbn.org/media.htm) This is Christian TV, offering live video and audio and a video "Prayer Line."

■(http://www.gna.gov/bh/home.htm) This is live TV from Bahrain. Lots of Arabic music and cultural events and local news. I watched it carefully during all the latest tension with Iraq for what very nearly was an attack on Baghdad.

Where will this all end? It won't. Connections will get faster, the video smoother and larger.

What happens to regular television? Cable and satellite television?

They'll all still be there. But anything you can get over the air or by cable will also be simulcast on the Net.

Mark my words.

Mike Wendland covers the Internet for NBC-TV Newschannel stations across the country and locally on WDIV-TV - 4.

in the 90s

by Herbert M. Gardner, D.D.S. & Martha P. Zinderman, R.N., D.D.S.

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A crown is a dental restoration used to replace the structure lost from the crown of the tooth due to wear, attrition, abrasion, or breakage. While crowns are usually constructed of porcelain over metal, they can be made of different materials including: gold alloys; precious, semiprecious, or nonprecious alloys; porcelain; and composite resins. All-metal and porcelain-jacket crowns are usually reserved for back teeth (which exert strong chewing forces), and all-porcelain crowns are usually reserved for front teeth. A crown may cover either an entire crown of the tooth or a portion of it. Depending on what portion of the tooth it does cover, a crown may be referred to as a partial or quarter, half, three-quarters, or seven-eighths crown.

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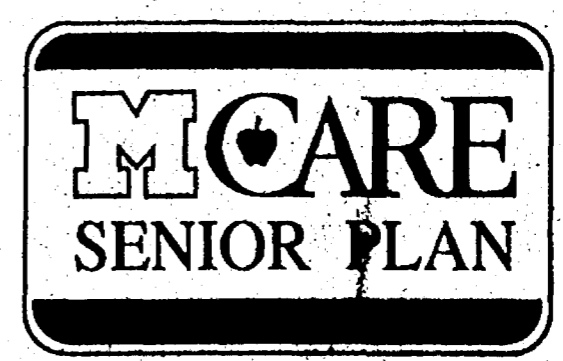
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"I CAN COPE"
Cancer Patient Program

St. Mary Hospital, Livonia presents the American Cancer Society's "I Can Cope" program for cancer patients, their family, and friends as follows:

Tuesdays, March 17 - April 21 (6 weeks)
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
St. Mary Hospital
West Addition Conference Room B

"I Can Cope" is a free program for cancer patients, their family and friends. The course is designed to help newly diagnosed patients learn how to take an active role in their treatment and recovery. If you would like to learn more about cancer, its causes, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, management of side effects, adjustment to changes in body image, exercise and proper nutrition, community resources and new potentials as a person with cancer, then "I Can Cope" is for you.

Presentations will be made by a team of health care professionals, including an oncologist, radiation oncologist, nurse, social worker, dietitian and pharmacist as well as other community resource professionals.

There is no charge for the program.
Registration is required by March 10.
For more information or to register,
please call (734) 655-2922 or 1-800-494-1650.

St. Mary Hospital
36475 Five Mile
Livonia, Michigan 48154
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ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

Duo gets no respect at home

Heidi Hepler recently returned from two tours of Europe baffled by the fact she and husband Michele Ramo are relatively unknown in her hometown of Livonia.

In 1996, the husband and wife musical duo approached the Livonia Symphony Orchestra to premiere one of the pieces Ramo composed for orchestra only to be turned down by the board. Now, Hepler and Ramo are in negotiations for the Munich Youth Orchestra to debut the same work in Germany.

Livonia Symphony Orchestra president Robert Bennett was not at the helm in 1996 when Hepler and Ramo approached the board. Bennett and a committee begin meeting March 2 to schedule the music programs and concerts for the 1998-99 season. He promises to look into premiering Ramo's work as well as featuring the duo on one of their programs.

The LSO has a long history of supporting emerging artists and debuting new works. In fact, the board is currently looking at a proposal to present a work by an American composer at each of next season's concerts. Perhaps the debut of the "Afro-Brazilian Concerto for Guitar and Orchestra" will take place in Livonia after all. The concerto was written in two movements by Ramo in 1991 and arranged in 1996.

"The opening is very classical oriented," said Ramo. "The first movement is a dialogue between English horn, bassoon and guitar."

The second composition, "Summer Sun," is a ballad composed by Ramo with lyrics by Hepler.

Classical roots

Hepler and Ramo have devoted their lives to their art. Ramo quit school at a young age to study violin. By age 17, he was under contract with the Orchestra Del Teatro Massimo in Palermo. This was no easy feat as orchestra members are required to have a master's degree in performance. So, Ramo continued the course he'd begun at the Conservatory of Music in Trapani and Palermo. He earned a master's degree in violin at the Conservatory of Caltanissetta in Italy in 1985. Advanced studies in guitar led him to world renowned guitarists Joe Pass, Alirio Diaz, Charlie

Heidi Hepler and Michele Ramo

■ 8-10 p.m. Wednesdays March 4, 11, 18 and 25, at Java Master Coffee House, In West Bloomfield, (248) 626-7393

■ 5-9 p.m. Thursdays and 6-10 p.m. Sundays at Florelli's Restaurant in Flat Rock, (734) 782-1431

■ 7-10 p.m. Fridays March 6, 13, 20 and 27, at Cafe Cortina Restaurant in Farmington Hills, (248) 474-3033

■ 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays March 7, 14, 21 and 28, in the Capucino Bar at Vic's Market in Novi, (248) 305-7333.



Exquisite Corpse: Elbert Weber, Jack Olds and Judy Harthorn created this art work while taking part in a game invented by the Surrealists.



Crowling about it: Ellen Wilt, Helga Haller and Judith Jacobs collaborated on this work in "The Exquisite Corpse" exhibition at the Ann Arbor Art Center.

'Exquisite Corpse' gives birth to exhibit

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Elbert Weber threw Jack Olds a curve when he painted the head and upper torso of a woman. The two Livonia artists were participating in a game invented earlier this century by the Surrealists.

Player one creates the head of a figure then covers or folds it over before passing the work on to player two who executes the torso, and player three, the legs. When the last player finishes, in this case Judy Harthorn of Grosse Pointe Shores, the work is unfolded or uncovered revealing the Exquisite Corpse.

Unknowningly, Weber and Olds both created breasts on the female torso. The bountiful work is one of 32 in an exhibition at the Ann Arbor Art Center. A closing reception and silent auction of all but a handful of the two- and three-dimensional Exquisite Corpses takes place Friday, March 13, to benefit the art center.

"The fact you had no idea about what the other two artists are doing guaranteed it to be a little on the scary side but I was interested in trying the game to broaden my horizons," said Weber.

The corpses on exhibit at the art center are anything but exquisite - surreal most definitely. Artists were encouraged to radically depart from the traditional figure as Surrealists did. Some portion of nearly all of the works deviate from the norm. Several generate provocation in varying degrees.

"These are very surreal," said exhibition director Sharon Currey. "This exhibit proves that art doesn't have to be serious or brooding. These are bizarre. They're fun and make you smile. It sort of brings art out of the ivory tower."

Anyone can participate in the game. Create your own Exquisite Corpse from a free kit available at two Espresso Royale Cafes (214 Main Street and 640 Packard) in Ann Arbor. Customers choosing to leave the works at the coffee shops will have them collected and compiled into a book at the art center for everyone to enjoy the night of the closing reception. You don't have to be an artist to participate. Several children have used their imaginations to create whimsical, out-of-this-world characters.

Connecting people

"I like the idea of bringing the exquisite corpse back to the cafes," said Currey. "Customers can create their own with collage materials. The kits are very self contained so that someone who knows nothing about the exquisite corpse can do one. And because you don't have control over the final product, it releases inhibition. The artists said it was a fun experience to get out of their studios but frustrating because they had no creative control over the final product."

West Bloomfield artist Deborah Friedman conveys color in all its glory in a work she completed with Lenore Dimpart, Birmingham and Madeline Barkey, Ferndale. Friedman found the game beneficial in a number of ways. In fact, the only aspect of the game she disliked came in the initial stages of securing

commitments from other artists to participate.

"I like the fact that anything goes," said Friedman, a graduate student at Wayne State University. "It's not planned so you just throw caution to the wind. I took some of that freedom I felt and put it into my own work. It gave me confidence. I'm currently going through a transition in my work and have thrown out the narrative element. Now, the work speaks for itself."

The idea for "The Exquisite Corpse" came about when Currey and a committee, including Eastern Michigan University art professor Richard Rubinfeld, met in May to nail down the art center's 1998 exhibition schedule. Rubinfeld liked the historical aspect of producing a show of works resulting from the game originally played by three to four artists or writers in Parisian cafes and parlors. According to Rubinfeld, the Exquisite Corpse actually evolved around 1925 from word games played by Andre Breton, Yves Tanguy and Jacques Prevert and was named after a poem written by Breton.

"It's historic, collaborative, takes advantage of chance, and it's fun," said Rubinfeld, who judged 100 entries with Currey, Ben Upton and Susanne Stephenson. "The results were absolutely intriguing because they were exploring things that weren't rational. I thought it was a very successful exhibition. There's some really haunting works. I imagine it would be very fruitful to do performance this way. The possibilities are endless."

One set of artists juxtaposes the lower half of Mr. Peanout's body with the Bee Gees and the head of a crucified Christ.

Using her own photographs Lorelei Byatt assembled a head from images pertaining to her life. Judith Peebles filled small white paper bags with a silicone like material for the breast, a pink plas-

Please see EXQUISITE, C2

The Exquisite Corpse

■ **What:** An exhibition featuring two- and three-dimensional art works created after a game invented by the Surrealists which was played by three to four artists or writers in Parisian cafes and parlors.

■ **When:** Through Sunday, March 15. A closing reception and silent auction of the works takes place 6-9 p.m. Friday, March 13.

■ **Where:** Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 West Liberty. (734) 994-8004.

■ **Related activity:** An Exquisite Corpse Literary Game Day takes place in a cafe environment 1 p.m. Sunday, March 8, at Borders Books and Music, 612 East Liberty, Ann Arbor. An Ann Arbor Art Center instructor will provide a history of the game and lead the group in a round of literary Surrealist games. Kits will also be on hand for playing the art version of the exquisite corpse. Free.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Struggling pianist returns for concert

■ **What:** Pianist Nishan Aghababian performs a concert featuring J.S. Bach, Franz Liszt, Robert Helps, and Richard Strauss.

■ **When:** 3 p.m. Saturday, March 7. **Where:** Hammell Music Recital Hall, 15630 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 427-0040. ■ **Cost:** Donations accepted.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Nishan Aghababian struck his first note on the piano at age 5. Envious of an older brother who was about to begin piano studies, Aghababian insisted on learning the keyboard as well. By the time he was in junior high, Aghababian's older brother quit taking piano lessons to play football. Aghababian, on the other hand, decided music was the only career for him.

Winning first place in the Young Artists Competition sponsored by the Oakway Symphony (now the Livonia Symphony Orchestra) in the early 1980s simply reaffirmed Aghababian's decision to seek a career as a performer and teacher.

After concertizing throughout the United States, Europe and Japan, Aghababian, at age 34, returns to his native Livonia to perform the music of Bach, Liszt, Strauss and Robert Helps Saturday, March 7, at Hammell Music Recital Hall.

"The program is an exciting one because it's pieces that aren't often heard," said Aghababian, a Princeton, N.J., resident. "The Liszt

pieces show a side of the composer that's very often overlooked."

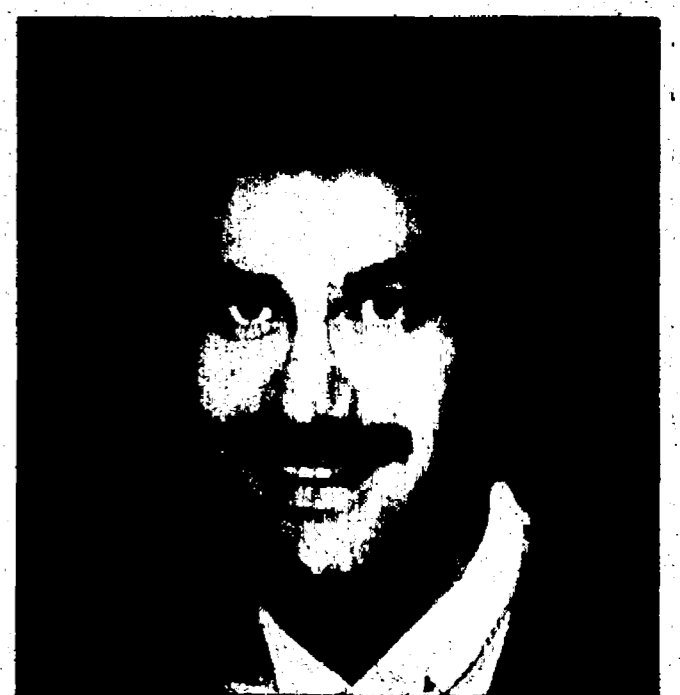
Aghababian approached Hammell's about performing a solo recital because he wants to spend more time on stage. Until now, he's spent most of his career teaching.

Born in Detroit of Armenian and Romanian parentage, Aghababian began teaching piano while a student at Franklin High School in Livonia. In the last several years, he's been on the faculty of the University of South Florida, Brooklyn Music School, Hackley Music Institute, Westchester Conservatory/Mercy College and Stecher and Horowitz School of Fine Arts. He currently teaches privately in his home and at the New School for Music Study in Princeton.

Aghababian's wife Chihiro is also a pianist and like Aghababian she teaches. The two have three daughters under the age of 4. Aghababian jokes that by day he's Mr. Mom, at night he teaches to pay the bills.

"Like everyone else in the arts, I'm struggling," said Aghababian. "That's why I'm asking for donations."

Please see CLASSICAL MUSIC, C3



From Bach to Liszt: Pianist Nishan Aghababian, a Livonia native now living in Princeton, New Jersey, will perform a solo recital Saturday, March 7.

Please see EXPRESSIONS, C2



On the road: Heidi Hepler and Michele Ramo performed in the Internationales Theater Frankfurt on a recent tour of Europe.

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

General Cinema Bargain matinee daily plus \$3.25 (Two-Like) show daily... CAUGHT UP (R) 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20... TITANIC (PG-13) 11:30, 1:20, 3:30, 5:15, 8:00, 9:30...

Star Southfield 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern... Star Southfield 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern... Star Southfield 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern...

United Artists 12 Oaks Inside Twelve Oaks Mall... KRIPPENDORF'S TRIPE (PG-13) 12:20, 2:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40... TITANIC (PG-13) 11:30, 1:20, 3:30, 5:15, 8:00, 9:30...

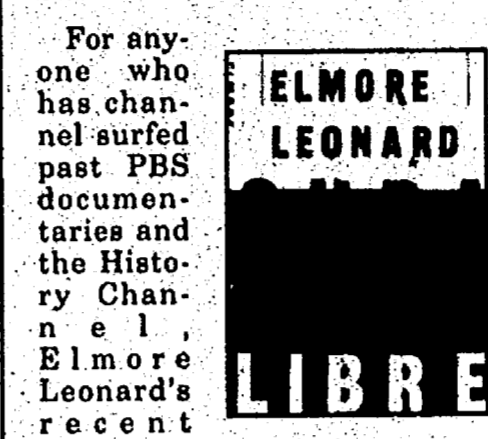
NP SENSELESS (R) 2:00, (4:30 @ \$3.25) 6:45, 9:10... NP PALMETTO (R) 1:30, (4:20 @ \$3.25) 7:15, 9:55... KRIPPENDORF'S TRIPE (PG-13) 12:20, 2:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40...

NP SENSELESS (R) 2:00, (4:30 @ \$3.25) 6:45, 9:10... NP PALMETTO (R) 1:30, (4:20 @ \$3.25) 7:15, 9:55... KRIPPENDORF'S TRIPE (PG-13) 12:20, 2:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40...

BOOKS

Leonard teaches history, leaves room for romance

BY FRANK PROVENZANO STAFF WRITER



For anyone who has channel surfed past PBS documentaries and the History Channel... Hey, this is one of America's most prolific novelists who may simply refer to as "Dutch." Who could resist his literary coolness and unfolding plots?

send him to Havana." That's Leonard. Taking understatement to a new level... Leonard's western character, Ben Tyler, is a wizened bank robber and horse trader. He arrives three days after the sinking of the U.S.S. Maine in Havana Harbor.

unaware of the growing tension on the island. He was also unaware that the ship that carried him and the horses from the states also carried guns for the American-backed insurgents.

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.

p.m. Thursday, March 5; Harry Cook signs his book "Christianity Beyond Creeds," 2 p.m. Saturday, March 7; Paul Herron discusses "Anais Nin: A Book of Mirrors," 3 p.m. Sunday, March 8 at the store, 34300 Woodward Ave., Birmingham (248)203-0005.

SOUTHFIELD LIBRARY Garden writer Janet Macunovich discusses designing a perennial garden 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 3; AARP presents a program on income tax preparation for seniors 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, March 6; the DIA's Elliot Wilhem discusses foreign films 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 9 at the Marcotte Room of the library, 26000 Evergreen Road, Southfield (248)948-0470.

Second City takes new approach

The Second City - Detroit: "Down Riverdance," 8 p.m. Wednesdays (\$10), Thursdays (\$10) and Sundays (\$10), and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays (\$17.50) and Saturdays (\$19.50), through spring, at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Call (313) 965-2222.

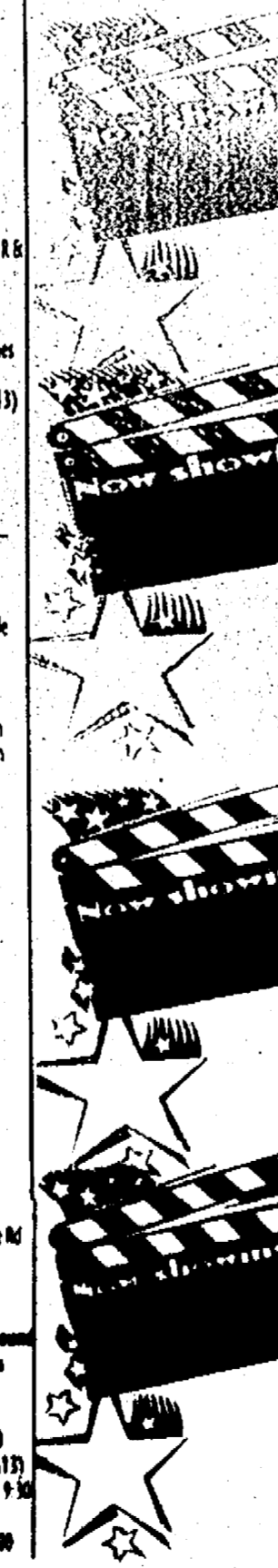
version of "The Glass Menagerie," opposite Larry Campbell. Laura is a role she's played all over town, including at the Livonia-Redford Theatre Guild. This is the first time that I know of that Second City has put a comedic spin on serious drama. It's a gamble, you have to assume the audience is sophisticated enough to be familiar with Tennessee Williams, and it works.

There are skits about relationships and jobs. "We're getting caught up in the corporate jungle," the cast cautions. "It's better to be us than them." TV is shown as "something evil sucking the life out of us" in a funny skit involving Eric Black, Key and Exner. They turn it off, and Eric says, "I'm going to finish his thesis." Exner's going to study for her psych exam, and Key is going to the library to get a book to read. They don't succeed, the TV doesn't stay off for long.

There's a lot of blarney, but no leaping leprechauns, "Wild Irish Roses," or high energy dancing in The Second City - Detroit's 12th revue, "Down Riverdance," which premiered Thursday, unless you count the corporate jungle scene. Mainstage alumni Rico Bruce Wade, newly named executive producer, is taking the troupe in a new direction, and it flows, kind of like a "River" with lots of surprising twists and turns, and a few rapids thrown in for excitement.

Newcomer Mary Jane Pories has a good stage presence, and blends seamlessly into the ensemble led by veterans Larry Campbell, Margaret Exner, Catherine Worth, Keegan-Michael Key, Eric Black and Brandon Johnson. Her performance as Laura of "The Glass Menagerie" fame sparkled like sunlight reflecting off glass.

From this little bit of material, the cast builds a skit, and even bursts into song. The ability to think on your feet is what makes improvisational comedy so fresh. The fact that The Second City does it so well, is the reason people keep coming back. "The world's in a mess, everyone's stressed," the cast sings. "News flash, we're almost out of cash."



EXHIBITS

Expanded Cranbrook blends natural science, design

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

So much for cool detachment and scientific objectivity. Giddiness and sentimentality have replaced academic seriousness at the Cranbrook Institute of Science.

These days, the notion of evolution is more than a subject for a science exhibit. The 68-year-old natural history museum is in the midst of an unprecedented expansion and renovation.

Three months before the doors open to the revamped museum, designed by internationally renowned architect Steven Holl, an attitudinal transformation has commenced.

The perceived exclusivity of the Bloomfield Hills campus is about to melt away along with the old-fashion museum exhibit style of scientific ideas.

"We're working to preserve the long tradition of Cranbrook, and to make the science museum more accessible," said Elaine Gurian, acting director of the Institute of Science.

"There's a new spirit at Cranbrook," she said.

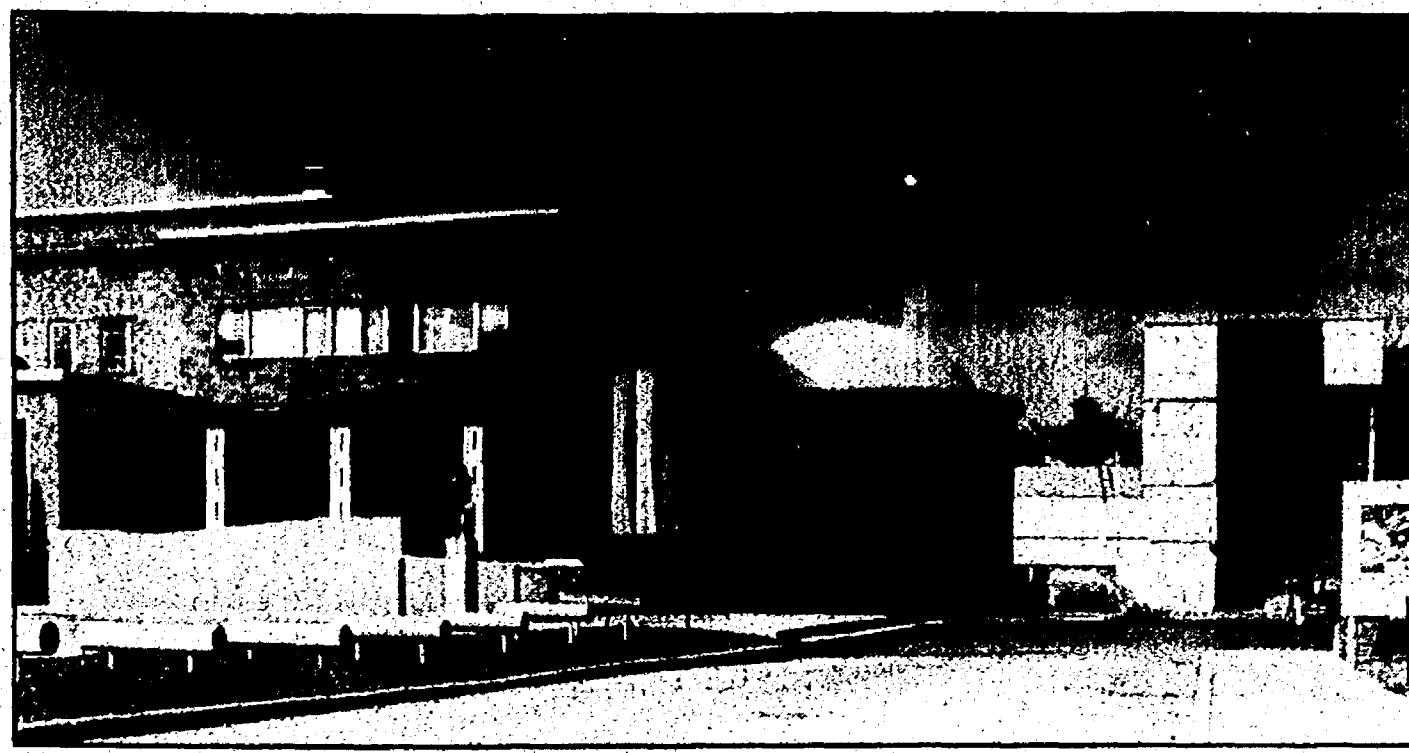
That "new spirit" is largely an effort to extend the Cranbrook Educational Community far beyond the boundaries of the five schools and two museums on the grounds in the affluent north-west suburb.

With the growing popularity of the Cranbrook Art Museum, the much-anticipated expansion of the Institute of Science could further the case for a new public perception of Cranbrook.

Unfortunately, the person who challenged the natural history museum to inspire curiosity, not just to convey facts, won't be around for the mid-June opening.

In early January, Institute of Science Director Daniel Appleman passed away.

During the months of his fight against cancer, he enlisted the administrative support of his close friend, Gurian. The two colleagues had worked together at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in the mid 1980s.



Enlightened: The expansion includes a newly constructed three-story glass-prism entrance.

Dan's vision was to blend the perspective of a scientist with that of a public educator," said Gurian, who commutes weekly from her home in Washington D.C.

The new look at the Institute of Science will not only reflect Appleman's vision but the emerging trend among museums, said Gurian, who was also a consultant for the African-American Museum in Detroit.

Working for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Boston's Children's Museum, Baltimore's Children Museum and National Museum of New Zealand, Gurian has grappled with the future appeal of museums.

"Museums will rely less on their collection, and more on other forms of expression, such as stories, song, and dramatic presentations," she said in a speech delivered at the Education for Scientific Literacy Conference in November 1994.

"These changes will help museums become more effective storehouses of cultural information," she said.

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<p>Cranbrook Institute of Science</p> <p>Major features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ All new exhibits ■ Four new exhibit halls ■ Light Laboratory ■ Upgraded herbarium ■ Multi-media science information center ■ Science garden ■ Water exhibits ■ Terrace cafe overlooking reflecting pool ■ Children's theater and demonstration theater ■ Large museum shop <p>Space</p> <p>Original square footage: 63,000</p> <p>New addition: 33,000 square feet</p> <p>Total: 96,000 square feet</p> <p>Budget</p> <p>Construction: \$20.6 million</p> <p>Exhibits: \$6.4 million</p> <p>Approximate total: \$27 million</p>	<p>A Time Line</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ June 12 - Opening of new wing, and summer traveling exhibit, "Robot Zoo." ■ June-Sept. - Installation of permanent exhibits: "Tyrannosaurus Rex Skeleton," "Dinosaur: How Dinosaurs Evolved into Birds," "Tides of Ice," "Mystery of the Mastodons," "Water Gallery," and "Connections Theater" ■ Mid October - Opening of new traveling show, "Beyond Numbers." ■ Fall of 1999 - Installation of remaining permanent exhibits. <p>Current Exhibit</p> <p>Through May 3 - "Hunters of the Sky," an exhibit of birds of prey, including eagles, hawks, falcons, owls and osprey. Admission: \$7, adults; \$4, children. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-12-5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 12-5 p.m. Sunday. 1231 N. Woodward Avenue, (248) 645-3200.</p>
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MTV with substance

Three months prior to the doors opening and a shell of the expanded museum reveals a macato stone facade, and a tall metal framework, which will support a three-story glass-prism entrance.

The design is intended to blend with the other architecture at Cranbrook, and to integrate natural light, said Beth Yorke, Cranbrook's project manager of new construction.

For instance, the German-industrial glaze on the translucent wall adjacent to the outdoor science garden will cast myriad-colored light based on the time of day into the museum's interior.

While the glaze design has been used in Europe, the presence at the Institute of Science marks the first U.S. appearance of that style, said Yorke.

But clearly, what will draw crowds is what appears on the inside of the museum.

In June, the traveling exhibit, "Robot Zoo," will be the inaugural attraction.

Then in October, five permanent exhibits will be revealed, including a Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton, the Water Gallery which displays the various states of H₂O - and a state-of-the-art theater where meteor showers will appear in holographic detail.

Within a year after the grand opening, the remaining six permanent exhibits will be installed.

With the MTV-aesthetic in mind, teams of scientists and designers are recasting the 11 permanent collections to reflect 1990s multi-media sensibilities, including descriptive text utilizing the latest print designs and videos with state-of-the-art effects.

"What's unique about this museum is the Cranbrook Fac-

tor," said Gurian. "There's a synergy between design and science. This place lives and breathes design."

Designers who've created evocative work for Nike and Michael Jackson are part of the 12-person Cranbrook design team. Input from scientists on the team is intended to ensure that the subject-matter drives the exhibits.



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7 p.m. Dinner presented by Big Rock Chop and Brew House
8 p.m. Awards presentation followed by dancing to the music of the Larry Rivers' Climax Jazz Band

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Exhibit will be on display March 7 - 27, 1998 and available for purchase.

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Music Director and Conductor

Cabaret 25

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Where can I find?

This feature is dedicated to helping readers locate sources for hard-to-find merchandise. If you've seen any in your retail travels (or basement) please call Where Can I Find? (248) 901-2555. Slowly and clearly, leave your name number and message, and you should see your input in next Sunday's column.

Here's what we found:

- Sander's Colonial Buttercream Cake can be found at the Crowley's 12 Mile/Farmington, Michigan/Outer Drive in Dearborn, Six Mile/Newburgh. Also spotted at The Sander's Bakery Outlet store on 10 Mile between Hooyer and Van Dyke, in Warren.
- The halibut fish entree is at Sir Cedric in Windsor and Pat & Hanks, Tecumseh East, also in Windsor.
- A large scrapbook (12x15) can be found through Creative Memories, Naomi Kasle of Troy is a distributor (248) 689-4328, or call Creative Memories direct (888) 227-8748. Another caller, Michelle, also sells Creative Memories (248) 442-1458.
- There are two Stanley home distributors in the area Karen Calka (734) 484-8720 or Pat Rose (313) 722-9461.
- The hood ornament for the 1982 Dodge pickup truck can be found in Hemmings Motor News, throughout which ads sell different parts for truck and cars. Pick it up at any major book store.
- Wood to Wood is available by mail at Dawn Ashletts Cleaning Service (800) 451-2402.
- Mary Ellen called to say crochet cotton can be found through the Kraft Gallery (508) 744-2334 or (508) 744-6980.
- A Marathon service station at Joy/Newburgh in Livonia, carries Teaberry gum in a large pack for 99-cents.
- Another place to find Chupa Suckers is The Bay or Simpsons or Etons in Canada.
- The owner of The Country Store, 213 Commerce (248) 363-3638 said they have Beanie Babies.
- We tracked down two chafing dish for Dan of Troy. Still looking for more.
- Susan had a 1950's Betty Crocker cookbook for Hulda.

We're still looking for:

- The book "The Star Fish" by Irv Furman.
- Kay and Jean are both looking for Z-Brick paint for interior walls, when applied it resembles brick.
- Lynn from Plymouth is looking for a Dairy Milk bottle from the '30s.
- Hilda would like the video "Lady and the Tramp."
- Linda is looking for a book that describes how to make doll clothes for the Teeny Tiny Mini Tiny Tots dolls by Geck.
- Deborah is looking for an old-style, single-unit roaster on a stand with coasters, it even baked bread!
- Betty is looking for the doll Poor Pitiful Pearl from 1972.
- Lynette is looking for a dress by Pablo.
- Dr. Emmaline Weidman is looking for a Purple Monster from Space Jam.
- Bob is looking for a Zippo bar top lighter.
- Patty is looking for a replacement pad for a playpen 40x40.
- Old-fashion night caps with a peak and ball at the end for Sol of Lathrup Village.
- "Bonanza" board game by Parker Bros. for Gwen.
- Joe is looking for parts to a Sunbeam master shaver with Coleman blades.
- A game, "Kids on Stage," for Linda.
- The video "Hope & Glory," for Jack.
- Julie is looking for a Farberware counter top convention oven hot air (like a microwave oven).
- Lori wants the "Pivot Pool" game by Milton Bradley.
- Mary is looking for hand soap, 4711 White Rose glycerin.
- Linda is looking for the movie soundtrack "Rich in Love" CD or cassette.

Compiled by Sandi Jarackas



Child's play: At Wonderland Mall, the best part of the day is a trip to the play pit with mom, to meet other toddlers and enjoy some cool, new toys.



Wonderland

Let's go to the mall, today, mommy!

BY DONNA MULCAHY
SPECIAL WRITER

Some malls have large, custom-built play structures for children to climb on and through. But Wonderland Mall in Livonia has done something a little different, and it's a big hit with pre-schoolers and their parents.

Instead of having, say, a giant tube of paint and other such things for kids to climb on, like at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi, or giant food for kids to play on, like at Lakeside Mall in Sterling Heights, Wonderland has taken a simpler approach.

It's filled a big, carpeted pit in its center court with ride-on toys and other play equipment that a pre-schooler might be lucky enough to have in his back yard or basement.

The toys include: two red, one-seater cars, with yellow roofs and doors that open; a purple 4 x 4 jeep; two, three-wheel motorcycles; two dolphin-shaped ride-on toys; two mini rocking horses; three plastic gas pumps; a plastic mini climbing tower with a slide; a push-toy for babies just learning how to walk; a picnic table and a table with four chairs.

All of the toys are made by Little Tikes, a company known for its durable plastic play equipment. The cars and other ride-on toys are foot powered, and metal folding chairs are placed around the rim of the play pit for parents to sit on.

"I get a kick out of watching the kids play together," said Cathy B. Young, assistant marketing director for Wonderland Mall. "They'll pull up next to each other and talk to each other when they're sitting in the cars, just like grown-ups do, and they try to put gas in each other's cars. It's fun to watch."

Signs posted on pillars next to the play area say it's for children under 5 years of age, or under four feet in height, and that they must be supervised by a parent or adult guardian.

Young said security officers regularly walk by the area and so far, there haven't been any problems.

In the past, the 60-foot by 20-foot carpeted pit was used as a staging area for special presentations, like puppet shows and fashion shows. But, when it wasn't being used for a special event, the empty pit was a magnet for young children and their parents. Parents would take a break from shopping by sitting on the rim of the pit, while their children blew off some steam by running around and doing cartwheels inside of it.

"We saw that it was an area families were using, so we decided to put some toys out there, to give kids a little bit more to do," Young said. Last fall, the mall's management put a few balls in the pit, along with a chalkboard easel and some chalk.

"But then we were worried that someone was going to get hurt, because the kids were whipping the balls at each other and the chalk kept getting stolen," Young said. So management took that stuff out, and in January, began putting out the toys that are there now, she said.

Julie Tokarz of Livonia said she likes the play pit because it gives her 3-year-old grandson Alex Tokarz an opportunity to socialize. In their neighborhood, she said, there aren't any kids his age who are home during the day.

"So on a day when we have nothing to do, I take him here to play," Tokarz said. "It's especially nice on a rainy day like this."

She said the only thing she worries about is whether or not the toys are kept clean. Young said they are cleaned several times a week, before the mall opens, by students from the Livonia Skills Center.

Becky Anderson of Redford, who was at the Wonderland play pit with her daughter Constance, 2, said she likes the mall's choice of play

equipment and that she doesn't worry that her daughter might get hurt on it.

"This is the kind of equipment that I would have, if I were to have this stuff at my home. It's not super high, not made of metal, and Little Tikes is a good name," she said.

Holly Larkin of Westland, who was there for the first time with her daughter, Morgan, 20 months, and son, Mason, 4 years, said she likes the play pit, too.

"I normally don't shop here, but the play area might bring me back," she said. However, she said the carpeting needs to be vacuumed more often. It was littered with crumbs and bits of paper when she was there. Young said the carpet is vacuumed daily.

Young said that Wonderland's management has been thinking about having a play structure built for the mall, but Tokarz and Anderson said they hope Wonderland keeps what it has. They say they like the toys that are there now better than the big play structure at Twelve Oaks Mall.

"It's hard to keep track of your kids there; it's so big and crowded," Tokarz said. "I like this better because it's smaller, and because kids learn to share when they have this stuff, rather than when they're all climbing on the same thing, like at Twelve Oaks. With these toys, they have to learn to take turns."

Besides the play pit, Wonderland Mall offers other activities for children and families, including Jeepers! (an admission-required entertainment facility that has indoor amusement park rides, games, a soft playground with giant slide, and a diner that features Pizza Hut pizza), an AMC theater, a train for children to ride at Christmas and Easter time, an indoor walking club, and free monthly presentations, which are now held next to the play pit, instead of in it.

Wonderland Mall is at Plymouth Road and Middlebelt in Livonia. Call (734) 522-4100.

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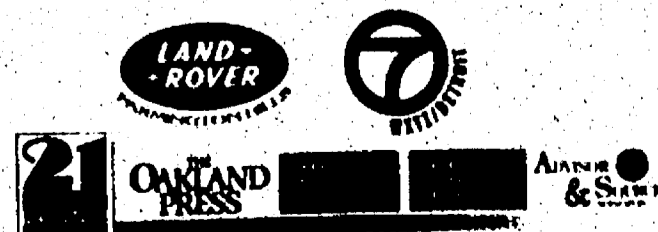
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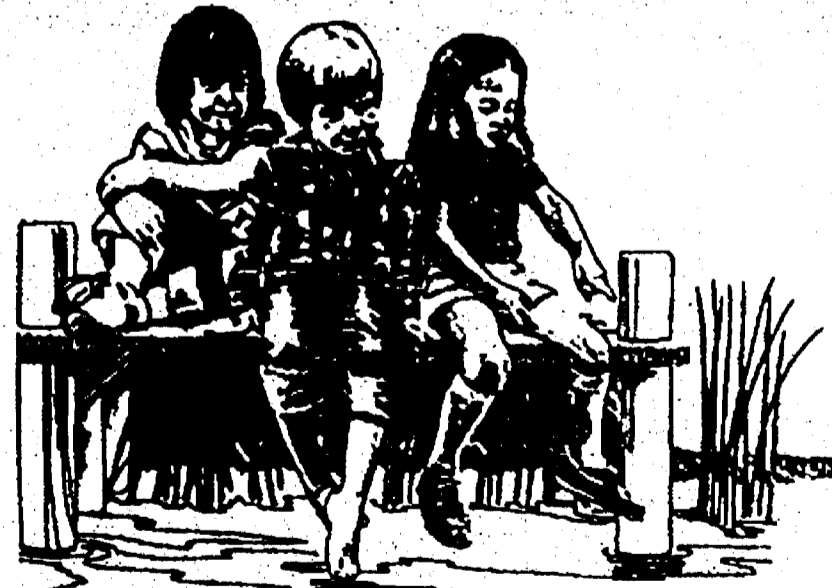
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Southwest Florida offers multitude of diversions

BY NORMA SCHONWETTER
SPECIAL WRITER

Best known as the place where Ponce de Leon visited in the 16th century looking for the fountain of youth, Southwest Florida is a most versatile vacation spot. There are a multitude of attractions for winter as well as summer. It's a location that lends itself to families, honeymooners and couples, popular with golfers and tennis players year round. From a back water charter of from the pier with rented equipment, this area is a fisherman's paradise. Nature lovers will marvel at close-up views of pelicans, egrets, blue herons, ibis, roseate spoonbills and much more. For music lovers there's the beautiful Philharmonic Center for the Arts in Naples.



Sunset view: On the Lee Island Coast the sun outlines swaying palms.

Naples, located on the Gulf of Mexico, offers 41 miles of beaches at its front door, the Everglades at its back and magnificent sunsets to feast your eyes on. In between are museums, amusement parks, zoological preserves and Caribbean gardens with tropical plants.

Naples has been growing in leaps and bounds and is now second in growth to Las Vegas. The city of Naples is in Collier County, which is larger than the state of Rhode Island. The permanent population is 175,000, swelling

to 340,000 January through March. Naples is becoming the Palm Beach of Florida's west coast, with trendy boutiques and Fifth Avenue corridor.

At Everglades National Park, located 30 minutes east of Naples, one can see dolphin, manatees, bald eagles, wading birds and alligators. Miami is less than two hours away and Orlando is a four hour drive.

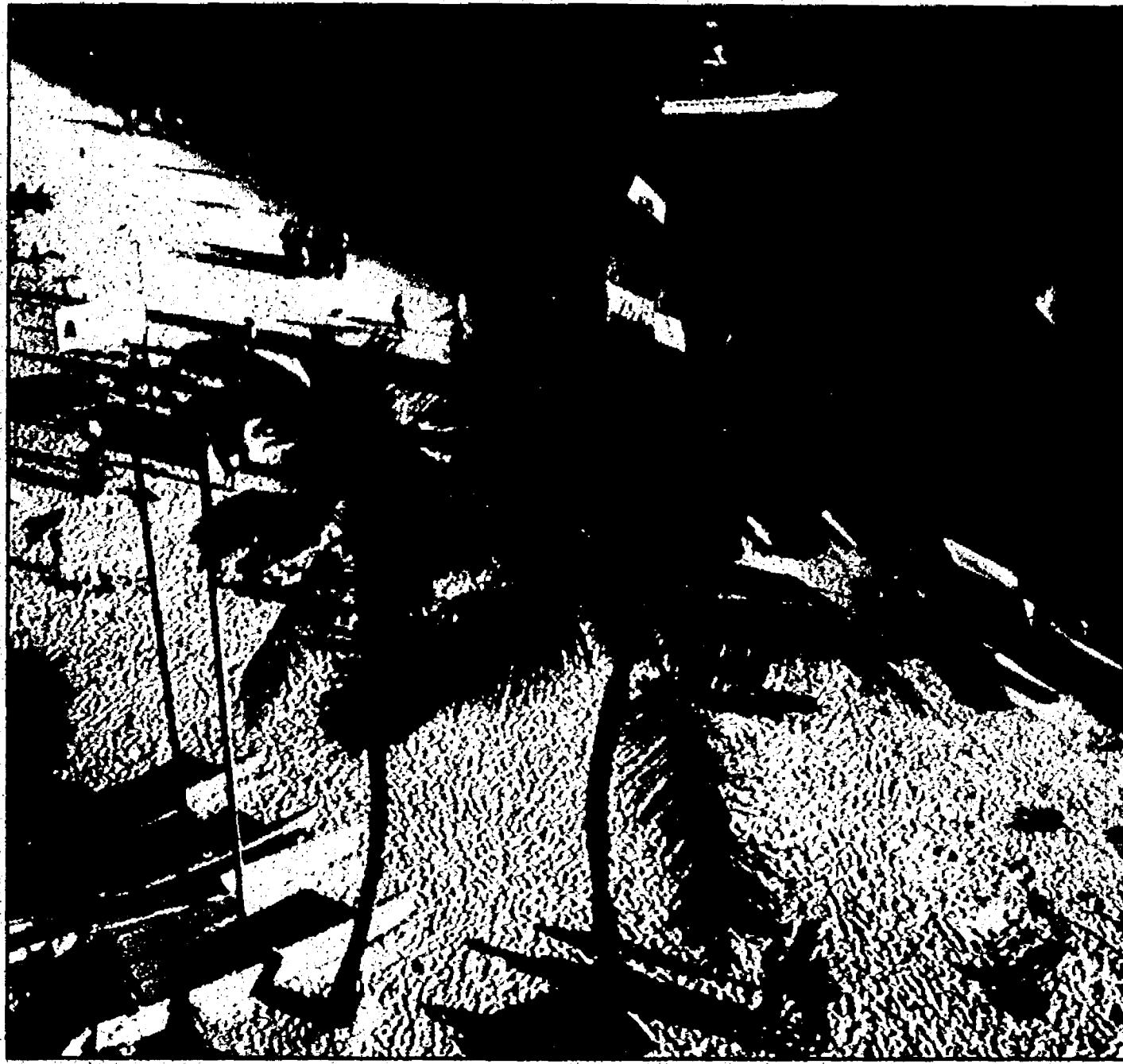
The Lee Island Coast is known as Florida's Tropical Island Getaway. The best known areas are Sanibel and Captiva islands, connected to the mainland by a three-mile long causeway and to each other by a bridge. Sanibel Island, known for its shelling beaches, the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge and shell museum, is 45 minutes from Naples or Fort Myers. Fifty-foot high shell mounds created by the Calusa Indians about 1629 can be viewed here. The first Calusa Indians are believed to have arrived 10,000 years ago. It is believed that when Ponce de Leon discovered the west coast of Florida in 1513, he named it Coast of Seashells.

This is a resort island with abundant bird life. The favorite mode of transportation is bicycling.

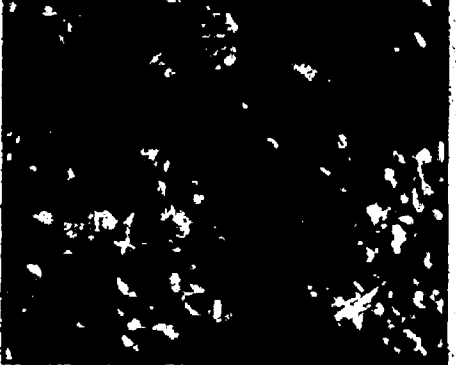
Baseball fans can take the whole family out to the ball game throughout spring and summer in this area, which is the spring training headquarters to two major league teams, the Minnesota Twins and Boston Red Sox.

A visit to two of Southwest Florida's Four-Diamond resorts offers an opportunity to enjoy the fantastic food of the area, from the exciting gourmet to healthy alternatives. The emphasis is naturally on seafood, however there are sensational pasta and chicken dishes.

The Registry in Naples is a Four-Star, Four Diamond resort which offers a complete daily program for children from 5 to 12. Resort activities include tennis programs, three nearby golf courses, fitness and spa facilities. It is a self-contained resort with 474 luxurious rooms on 23 gulf-front acres, known for its casual elegance, luxurious



Sunny beach: The beaches of south Florida offer sailing, swimming and sunbathing.



Shell game: Collecting shells is one of the most popular south Florida activities.

accommodations and exceptional eight restaurants.

A tram to the beachfront travels along a boardwalk, bordered by a mangrove preserve, that's perfect for joggers. The beautiful expanse of white sand beaches offer windsurfing, sailing, canoeing and kayaking.

Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa, a Four-Diamond, 80-acre resort, containing 320 rooms, was voted one of the top 10 U.S. Spas by

Conde Nast Traveler Magazine for the second year. It overlooks Sanibel and Captiva Islands. This is a charming hotel that combines Victorian style and contemporary casualness. It is known for its modern spa and world-class tennis facilities.

The 40,000-square-foot, world-class spa and fitness center, championship tennis facility with 13 courts, was the site of the 1992 Davis Cup tournament.

Enjoy a soothing massage, pampering body wraps and complete beauty and physical fitness services. There are 10 whirlpools, indoor lap and aquacise pool. The spa offers the BETAR bed, a unique apparatus that promotes relaxation by diffusing oil of lavender into the air and mixing specially chosen music to create illusions of floating on a bed of sounds. This is the ultimate in relaxation.

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.

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We want to hear from you? Have you been someplace interesting? 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 or e-mail him at hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

MICHIGAN SUMMER GUIDE

Travel Michigan has released two publications for summer travel planning - the 1998 Michigan Travel Ideas and the

1998 Michigan Summer Travel Guide.

The 144-page full-color 1998 Michigan Travel Ideas, the annual guide to Michigan travel destinations and attractions, was produced again this year by Travel Michigan and Midwest Living magazine, with support from General Motors and other advertisers. Features cover topics including Great Lakes cruising, golfing and harbor towns.

The 1998 Michigan Summer Travel Guide is 64 pages of useful travel information.

For free copies of the two booklets, call toll-free (888) 78-GREAT (784-7328). As well as taking orders for the free guides, travel advisers are available to assist travelers in planning their vacations and weekend getaways 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Friday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Visit Travel Michigan's web site at www.michigan.org.

SHAW FESTIVAL

Tickets are now on sale for the 1998 Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. The Shaw season runs from April 15 to Nov. 1. The festival features plays written by George Bernard

Shaw and his contemporaries, covering the long period of Shaw's life, 1856 to 1950.

The festival has three theaters running the plays in repertory. Niagara-on-the-Lake in on Lake Ontario just north of Niagara Falls.

This year's plays at the large Festival Theater are Shaw's "Major Barbara," April 16 to Nov. 1; Kaufman and Hart's "You Can't Take It With You," May 2 to Nov. 1; and Oscar Wilde's "Lady Windermere's Fan," June 26 to Oct. 31.

At the Court House Theatre, dedicated to more experimental or neglected works, are Christopher Fry's "The Lady's Not For Buring," June 26 to July 9; Shaw's "John Bull's Other Island," July 4 to Sept. 26; and John Galsworthy's "Joy," June 18 to Sept. 27.

At the Royal George Theatre, dedicated to lighter fare including mysteries and musicals, are a new musical featuring music by George and Ira Gershwin, "A Foggy Day," May 3 to Nov. 1 and Edward Percy's mystery "The Shop at Sly Corner," April 15 to Oct. 31.

Ticket prices range from \$32 to \$65 Canadian including taxes. To order tickets, call 1-800-511-SHAW. The Shaw Festival internet site is <http://shawfest.sympatico.ca>.

GIACOMETTI IN MONTREAL

The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts will present the works of the great sculptor Alberto Giacometti, June 18 to Oct. 18. This major exhibition will feature sculptures, paintings and drawings from the Foundation Maeght (the most important collection of works assembled during the artist's lifetime) and from

various European and North American collections.

Giacometti was born in Switzerland but worked in France from 1927 until his death in 1966. His early works of the 1930s reflect the influence of Surrealism as well as African and Oceanic art. In the 1940s, the human figure gradually emerged in the artist's repertoire and was to become his dominant theme.


IRISH LECTURE

Dr. Terry Barry of Trinity College, Dublin, will present a lec-

ture on "The Coming of the Vikings to Ireland," 8 p.m. Thursday, March 19, at the Oak Park Public Library, 14200 Oak Park Blvd.

Dr. Barry is primarily a medieval archaeologist with interests in the Viking and High Medieval periods of Irish history. The lecture is sponsored by the Metro Detroit Chapter of the Irish American Cultural Institute. The donation is \$5. Refreshments will be served.

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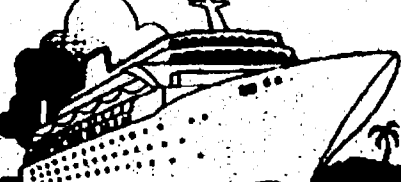


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HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

Lawson fuels Rockets past Western

Lawson, behind junior guard Stephen Lawson's game-high 24 points, won at Western for the second time in two weeks with a 54-43 win.

Sophomore guard Eric Jones added 14 points, while sophomore center Yaku Moton added 10 as Glenn improved to 12-6 overall.

Jack Teasdale, a 6-foot-8 senior center, had 17 to lead Western, which dropped to 8-10. Ben Dewar added 14.

Western, which tried to control the tempo in a 49-40 loss to

DeLoach said. "We didn't see anything different."

"We wanted to run and get in position to run. They wanted to slow it down and control it."

When Glenn began to tap Western's guards, the pendulum began to swing.

"They got us at a pace we didn't want, but that's tempo," Stanczak said. "The key run was in the second quarter. We could never quite catch them after that."

Western, however, stayed within striking distance, outscoring Glenn 8-7 in a sloppy third quarter.

The Warriors got within six, 42-36, with 5:56 left in the game on a three-pointer by Wes Hazel, but Glenn repelled the surge as Lawson scored seven straight unanswered points, including a nifty feed from Jones for a layup, to put the

away.

"That's where Stephen is at his best -- the full-court game," DeLoach said. "It's a tough to play with."

Glenn held on despite making 10 fourth-quarter turnovers, including seven consecutive possessions down the stretch.

The Rockets counteracted their inability to hold on to the ball by making eight of 14 shots in the final eight minutes.

Western was 16 of 48 from the field (33 percent) and only eight of 16 from the line.

"If we could make our free throws and layups it could have been a different," Stanczak said.

Glenn, meanwhile, made 21 of 48 (43.7 percent) shots from the floor. The Rockets converted on 11 of 19 free throws.

Wayne Memorial to start getting serious.

The Zebras pulled one out Thursday night as Quentin Turner scored five points in overtime to rally Wayne Memorial from a six-point deficit to a 73-69 boys basketball victory over Belleville.

Belleville tied the score at 62 on a late shot in regulation by A.J. Grantham to force the overtime.

It got a triple and ran off the first six points of the extra period before Turner got host Wayne turned around and on the road to victory.

Guard Brian Williams had 26 points, five rebounds, five assists and two steals to lead the Zebras to an 11-8 overall record and a 6-5 mark in the Michigan Mega Conference Red Division.

Turner had nine points and seven rebounds while junior guard Nathan Wade added nine points also. The Zebras made 13-of-23 free throws.

Belleville, which made all but five of its 19 foul shots, got 23 points from John Edwards. Kevin Harrison had 12 points and Kevin Edwards 11.

Wayne had a 16-7 lead after the first quarter but Belleville cut into that with a 23-16 third quarter advantage.

CLARENCEVILLE 72, LUTHERAN WESTLAND 70: Two Justin Villanueva free throws in the late going created a 66-61 tie and his Trojan teammates took it from there.

Albert Deljosevic, who had 22 in the game, had eight of Livonia Clarenceville's 16 fourth-quarter points Friday night to help the Trojans overcome an early Warriors' lead.

Villanueva scored 18 points and added 12 rebounds while Rick Murphy had 16. The Trojans went on a three-point binge in the third quarter, with Murphy netting three and Deljosevic two. Clarenceville outran Lutheran High School Westland, 30-26, in the period.

Scott Randall scored 20 points for Lutheran Westland while Brian Spoljaric had 17, including four three-pointers in the first half. Spoljaric sprained his ankle in the first half and was not able to return until late in the game. His three-pointer with two seconds left accounted for the narrowness of the margin.

Lutheran Westland, which made 17-of-27 free throws, is now 7-11 overall and 6-9 in the Metro Conference.

Clarenceville, 6-12 overall and 4-12 in the Metro, made 9-of-17 free throws.

HURON VALLEY 45 LIGHT & LIFE 35: When leading scorer Jeremy Zahn went down with a knee injury, the rest of the Hawks picked up their game.

Tom Husby ended up with 22 points and Westland Huron Valley Lutheran, now 6-13 following its third straight win, turned up the defensive pressure in the second half.

Light & Life only scored nine points in the final two quarters in falling to 1-18. Chris Holloway led his team with 17 points.

Huron Valley trailed, 26-19, at the half but squared the game at 31 by the time the third quarter was over and won going away.

Husby hit four three-point shots in the second half. The Hawks were 12-for-23 at the free throw line in the game but were a sharp 7-for-9 in the final period.

FRANKLIN 59, NORTHVILLE 52: Eddie Wallace scored a game-high 23 points Friday, leading Livonia Franklin (7-11) to the win over the host Mustangs (8-9).

Jay Fontaine contributed 10 points for Franklin.

Bob Allan had 14 points and 10 rebounds for Northville.

CANTON 42, STEVENSON 30: It took some time, but once Plymouth Canton figured out just what Livonia Stevenson was doing defensively, the Chiefs got in gear.

A slow start -- the score was just 5-4 in Canton's favor after one quarter -- was offset by a 16-9 second-quarter burst as the Chiefs rolled past Stevenson 42-30 in a Western Lakes Activities Association consolation round basketball game Friday at Canton.

Stevenson remains winless at 0-18. Canton improved to 6-12.

"They ran a 1-3 zone at us with a chaser on (Joe) Cortellini," said Canton coach Dan Young. "It took our guys a little while to figure it out."

The Chiefs led 21-13 at the half and 29-21 through three quarters. Their lead was at 15 through most of the fourth, with a Spartan three-pointer at the buzzer narrowing the gap to the final margin.

Cortellini led Canton with 11 points. Indeed, he was the only player to reach double figures in scoring for either team.

The Spartans were paced by Harland Beverly with seven points. Bryan Schiels and Mike Voutsinas added six apiece.

Wayne pulls out OT win; Trojans get by Warriors

Shamrocks sputter in playoff test, 55-46

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Turnabout is Fair play.

Southgate Aquinas couldn't agree more after its 55-46 victory over Redford Catholic Central in Wednesday's Catholic League Central-AA boys basketball semifinal playoff game at Schoolcraft College.

Aquinas senior center Brian Fair, who played his freshman year at CC before transferring, scored seven points and grabbed three rebounds against his former teammates.

The Raiders outscored the Shamrocks 18-12 in the fourth quarter and it was Fair's three-point play with 7:40 remaining that got things started, giving Aquinas a 40-34 lead.

Fair, who attended St. Michael Grade School in Livonia, followed his older brother Derrick to Aquinas. Their father, Steve Fair, was an all-stater at Aquinas in the 1970s.

"My dad's senior or junior year he beat CC at Aquinas and now I can finally tell him I did it," said

Fair, who still remains friends with CC player Chris Respondek. "I dreamed of playing CC. At the beginning of the year we weren't pulling together. Now I think we're unstoppable."

The Raiders, No. 1 ranked in Class D, did a remarkable job against the Shamrocks' 6-foot-10 senior center Chris Young and 6-1 junior guard Nick Moore.

Young was held to 10 points, attempting only eight shots and making four. Most of his 16 rebounds came on the defensive glass.

Moore was scoreless in the second and third quarters and finished with 10 points, seven in the first quarter.

The two-time defending Catholic League champion Shamrocks fell to 14-4 overall.

"Fair did a hell of a job and he goes unnoticed," Aquinas coach Ernie Price said. "Both (Young and Moore) are great players. My assistant last year (Mark Montgomery) coaches at Central (Michigan) now and he told me they'd take Nick right now. The kids really stepped up to the

challenge. Defensively is where we won the game."

If the Raiders can look this good against a solid Class A school, Class D schools should be fodder for them in the state tournament. The Raiders, 13-5 overall, will try for their first Catholic League championship since 1993 at 4 p.m. Sunday at University of Detroit-Mercy's Calihan Hall.

The winner of tonight's game between Redford Bishop Borgess and Harper Woods Notre Dame will be the Raiders' opponent.

Justin Gorman, a 6-6 senior forward, led Aquinas with 19 points, including five baskets from three-point range.

Senior forward Dan Horvath, who has signed a baseball letter of intent with Michigan State University, had 13 points, including a driving dunk over Young with 2:55 left that gave Aquinas a 45-40 lead.

Talk about a grand slam.

"The first time I went to the elbow (left of the free throw line), I saw him back off and I shot it,"

Horvath said. "I said to my coach the next time I'm going to the hole. It definitely capped the game and they were dead after that."

Moore's desperation three-point shot at the end of the first quarter gave CC a 16-12 lead heading into the second quarter. The teams were tied at 26-26 at halftime but the Shamrocks lost their shooting touch, making only seven of 31 shots from the floor in the second half and 17-49 overall.

Aquinas' 6-9 sophomore center Brian Carter, who became eligible in the second semester after transferring in from Gibraltar Carlson, blocked two shots and altered several others. "I think he grew up some today," Price said.

CC sophomore guard Rob Sparks had nine points, all on three-pointers, while senior forward Don Slankster scored eight off the bench and senior guard Joe Jonna seven.

"They did a hell of a job defensively," CC coach Rick Coratti said. "Give them credit. They played well."



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Top seed Salem rips Churchill to move into WLAA semifinals

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER

Score one for Goliath.

As top seed in the Western Lakes Activities Association basketball playoffs, Plymouth Salem was given the role of the biblical giant. The Rocks proved eighth-seeded Livonia Churchill was no David by taking a 68-48 road victory Friday night.

Analogies aside, Salem coach Bob Brodie was just hoping for a solid performance.

"The kids were off from school this week," he said, "and hadn't played a game in a week."

"We were hoping not to have a letdown after winning the conference title outright."

The Rocks (16-3) did anything but letdown Friday. Salem completely dominated Churchill from start to finish.

Junior Tony Jancevski got his team rolling in the first quarter. The 6-foot, 9-inch center scored nine points as Salem took a 21-11 advantage by the end of the frame.

"He's an awesome force when he plays hard and stays within himself," Brodie said.

The Chargers (6-13) showed signs of life early in the second quarter. A pair of baskets by Ryan Vickers and a third from George Kithas made it a 21-17 game with 5:15 to go before halftime.

But the run was made with most of Salem's starters on the bench. The Rocks called timeout

after their lead was cut to four and inserted those starters.

A 14-0 run by Salem followed. Churchill coach Rick Austin said the Rocks simply had too many weapons for his team.

"Their team speed and height killed us," he added.

Salem led 37-21 at halftime. Jancevski finished with 11 points in the half and Andy Power added nine.

Power played a strong all-around game. The senior point guard finished with 12 points, five assists and three steals.

"Our game plan was to take Power out of the fastbreak," Austin said. "But we didn't have anybody fast enough to keep up with him."

Churchill never got closer than 15 points to Salem in the second half.

Austin said he knew his team wouldn't match up well with Salem. But he was hoping for a better effort.

"Our big challenge was to play Salem like we weren't the eighth seed," he commented. "We poorly attempted that tonight."

Matt Mair and Jancevski each scored 13 points for the Rocks. Jeff McKian played a solid game, too, scoring eight points, grabbing 10 rebounds and making four steals.

For Churchill, Vickers and Erik Uhlinger each scored 11 points.

Tony Goins from page D1

"Tony developed a different work ethic. He realized he just can't go through the motions. He's playing 37 to 40 minutes a game now and we rode Tony's back the last half of the season."

"And we stayed in games due to Tony."

The Tartars finished the year 13-13 overall, but missed the GLIAC playoffs.

"I want to get in the habit of playing hard," Goins said. "It feels like I lost time. But I guess it comes from maturity. There are no guarantees."

"I had to learn that you have to leave it all on the floor."

With the Tartars losing just one starter, Goins is already

looking forward to next season. He looks at the Pistons' Grant Hill as a player he can pattern his game after.

"Next year we have to be more disciplined," he said. "You can't have mental breakdowns in close games, especially the way we did this year in the last two minutes of a ball game."

"And we haven't been to the (NCAA) tourney in five years. I have to make sure we'll be better next year."

He'll work the summer for a moving company and play in between against stiff competition in such settings as Detroit's St. Cecilia and Prime Time league in Iowa (with ex-

Glenn teammate Guy Rucker).

"What drives me is to be the best player in the conference," Goins said. "But the only way is to keep playing hard and let others be the judge."

He's even beginning to convert his biggest critic (and his now biggest supporter).

"We hope things have a carry-over effect," Hammye said. "But he can't just rest on 12 games. He has to do it over an entire season."

"And if we can put a few more players around him, the future is bright."


And by this time next year, Goins fans might be asking for a curtain call.

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