

Ways to make sure the builder you select is one you want, F1

Westland Observer

HomeTown COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK
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Thursday
April 16, 1998

Serving the Westland Community for 33 years

VOLUME 33 NUMBER 90

WESTLAND, MICHIGAN • 80 PAGES • <http://observer-eccentric.com>

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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Message to Mom

Why is your mother special? Tell us in 50 words or less and you may win lunch or dinner for your mom (and three other people) at Alexander The Great. Mail, fax or e-mail entries by noon Friday, May 1.

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Be sure to include your name, your mother's name, your address and telephone number. You may send a photo, however, judging will be based on your message.

We will print as many entries as possible on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10. The contest is open to readers of all ages.

IN THE PAPER
TODAY

OPINION

Behind the wheel: Some motorists are putting on makeup, chatting on the phone and doing everything but paying attention to the road. /A16

COMMUNITY LIFE

What a blast: Thermonuclear Tuesdays? Planet X? You won't find them on cable TV's SciFi Channel, but at the Tri-City Christian Center, which is reaching out in an unchurched way to young people. /B1

AT HOME

Working wonders: Members of the Michigan Woodworkers' Guild display a variety of hand-made pieces at their Showcase of Skills. /D6

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Council to study flooding April 22

Swamped by complaints about flooding of residential basements and yards, Westland city officials will discuss possible solutions during a study session that some consider long overdue.

Hundreds of residents have directed a barrage of complaints at city officials during the last year, pleading for help to end flooding of their properties.

City officials will tackle the problem during a study session scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, on the second floor of Westland City Hall on Ford Road.

"It's a big, big expensive problem," Mayor Robert Thomas said.

Some flooding issues have coincided with a federally mandated sewer-separation project that officials have pegged at \$10 million.

Wednesday's session is open to the public, although Thomas said he hopes officials will focus on identifying problem areas and seeking solutions rather than spending hours hearing a recap of earlier complaints.

Council members Charles Pickering and Glenn Anderson are among the critics who, in March, questioned why the administration stalled talks for months. Pickering called the delay "a

Please see **FLOODING**, A3



Water woes: Westland resident Patrick Thomas has complained to the city about the flooding problem in his yard.

Macarena madness



All together now: Lisa Carreon, first grade (left to right), Samantha Wood, second grade, and Robin Mulka, kindergartner, dance the Macarena recently with all the Hamilton Elementary students. Principal Larry Wood performed the Macarena dance during an assembly at the Westland School as a reward for students after the kids, grades kindergarten through fifth, read 4,156 books as part of the Reading-Month Challenge in March.



Helping out: Principal Larry Wood (left) brought up some help for the dance: second-grader Melissa Smith; teacher Cathie Ormond; second-grader Corey Olsen; first-grader Chris Olsen; teacher Kim Tew and fifth-grader Thiago Nanuk.



Doing a dance: Principal Larry Wood gets set to dance the Macarena.

Second ice rink tops rec list

■ The top recreation needs are listed in a report that Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski has given to the Westland City Council.

A second ice rink for Westland Sports Arena tops a preliminary wish list of city recreation enthusiasts.

More ice for hockey and figure skating programs ranked No. 1 on a newly released report stemming from a community brainstorming session, which sought residents' views on Westland parks and recreation needs.

Rounding out the six biggest needs identified in the report are:

- A new recreation complex offering an aquatic center.
 - A new baseball/softball complex.
 - A new soccer complex.
 - Playground equipment for Corrado Park.
 - A new park in the Middlebelt-Avonedale area.
- The top needs are listed in a report

Please see **RECREATION**, A2

Man charged in robbery outside party

An 18-year-old Wayne man, accused of robbing a John Glenn High School student after she refused to give her phone number to him, was arraigned Saturday on armed robbery and felony firearms charges.

The charges came six days after the 17-year-old victim told Westland police that she was robbed while attending a party on Gilchrist, near Newburgh and Glenwood.

The girl told police the incident began at 1:30 a.m. April 5 when she refused to give a man her phone number and explained that she had a

Please see **ROBBERY**, A2

On "Road to Riches"

John Allgeyer, 63, of Westland won \$1,000 last week in the "Road to Riches," the Michigan Lottery's weekly television game show.

Allgeyer, a retired electrician, mailed some of his entries from Las Vegas for luck and was selected. He plans to put his winnings toward a vacation in Hawaii and make some investments. In his spare time he enjoys traveling and watching baseball.

Creative classes

An informational orientation for the water color and oil painting class and the arts and crafts class will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, May 8, at the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, West-

PLACES & FACES

land. Refreshments will be served. Both classes are scheduled to be held on Friday afternoons and will be taught by artist Jane Sullivan.

The orientation is to acquaint students with Sullivan, get an idea of how many students will be attending on a regular basis, and discuss which supplies are needed for class and which skills the students can expect to learn.

The arts and crafts students will find out about projects they can expect to do in class and which supplies will be needed. For information, call (734)

722-7632.

Civitan awareness

April is Civitan Awareness month. Civitans are groups of individuals who provide assistance to those in need.

The Wayne Civitans support service projects including Marshmallow Drop, Halloween Walk, Special Olympics, Civitan Park, Library Reading Project and scholarships to students in the Wayne-Westland School District.

Fund-raising activities include apple sales, the Grand Giveaway and a golf outing. Meetings are the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at a local restaurant. For information, call (734) 595-6558.

Quiz teams to compete

Recreation from page A1

High school quiz teams from across Michigan are brushing up on their facts and figures in preparation for the 11th Annual McDonald's State Championship High School Quiz Bowl on April 24/25.

From the Observer area the following Class A high schools will be among 69 competing in this year's tournament: John Glenn in Westland, Stevenson in Livonia, Detroit Catholic Central in Redford, North Farmington in Farmington Hills and Plymouth Salem and Plymouth Canton.

For two days, 600 students and advisers will meet at St. Clair County Community College in Port Huron for this event. The

Class A champion qualifies for a special national competition in Orlando, Fla.; first-place teams from all classes are eligible to participate in the annual National Academic Championship in New Orleans or Washington, D.C.

"Every team in this competition is either a league champion or major tournament winner," said state Sen. Dan DeGrow, R-Port Huron, who is co-sponsor and organizer of the event. "Most have faced some tough competition to get to this level, so it will be interesting to see which teams return home with state titles."

Mobile Secretary of State branch to visit Westland

A mobile branch of the Secretary of State will visit Westland Friday, giving residents easy access as it parks at Farmer Jack at Merriman and Cherry Hill.

The mobile branch provides a full range of services and has

been on the road since last August.

The Westland hours will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The local stop follows earlier visits this week to two Dearborn Heights locations.

Next week the mobile branch moves to Novi on Wednesday.

that Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski has given to the Westland City Council, which holds the city's purse strings.

Kosowski's department compiled the list following a March 25 community meeting attended by 89 residents, who shared views for improving parks and recreation programs.

Recreation needs will be fine-tuned even more after another community meeting - still to be scheduled for sometime in mid-May.

The new findings didn't surprise Matt Gorman, who manages the Westland Sports Arena on Wildwood north of Ford. He said the arena lacks enough space to accommodate existing programs - much less any new ones.

"We don't have enough ice time to accommodate the requests we have right now from the Westland Hockey Association and the Westland Figure Skating Association," Gorman said Tuesday.

The arena already is used 16 to 18 hours a day, he said.

There's no definite word on whether a second ice rink will be built onto the sports arena - or

when. That will depend on a still-pending final report that will outline a long-term plan for the Westland Parks and Recreation Department.

The city is being helped by The Strader Group, a consulting firm, in drafting a new master plan.

The March 25 community meeting helped city officials and their consultants gain some insight into what residents want. The session included small workshops and large group discussions.

"We had a very good showing with 89 people in attendance," Kosowski said in his report. "The meeting was very positive and portrayed the scope of our residents' recreation needs," he added.

The Strader Group is now completing its parks inventory, gathering cost projections on suggested improvements and looking at possible ways to pay for them.

The master plan may help the city get money from the state for some improvements, Kosowski said.

"In order to apply for recreation grants through the state,

communities must have an approved recreation master plan on file with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources," he said.

The master plan is intended to:

- Determine whether the current parks and recreation facilities meet city needs.
- Identify what improvements are desired.
- Identify where the city should spend money for improvements.

Mayor Robert Thomas was encouraged that a new recreation center ranked high on the preliminary wish list.

"I think we need that for our community," he said Tuesday.

Thomas has proposed using Tax Increment Finance Authority revenues - rather than seeking a general tax increase - to build an estimated \$13 million recreation center similar to Canton's Summit. Thomas also wants to build a new City Hall, expected to cost \$7 million to \$8 million.

The county already has agreed to let the city capture \$1 million a year in county tax revenues for the recreation center, which

Thomas said will boost total

annual TIFA income to \$3 million. But the city would have to use non-county TIFA dollars to pay for a new City Hall.

Officials have said the new buildings would likely be built near the Westland public library on Central City Parkway.

Thomas said a new, upscale recreation center is needed to offer better family programs than the city now provides at the Bailey Recreation Center.

"The Bailey Center is OK," Thomas said, "but there's really not much available there."

He singled out an exercise room that is crowded and contains mostly free weights.

"A family would never go in there to exercise together," he said.

City officials have said new recreation programs are becoming increasingly important as families strive to live healthier lives.

Thomas also said new recreation programs - along with other measures - will help to revitalize Westland as it seeks to boost its image.

"We need to market our city just like other communities do," he said.

Westland Observer

(USPS 663-530)

Published every Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Periodical postage paid at Livonia, MI 48151. Address all mail (subscription, change of address, Form 3500) to P.O. Box 5004, Livonia, MI 48151. Telephone 981-0200.

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Arrest made in mobile home break-ins

Westland police recently made an arrest for a series of break-ins at Westland Meadows mobile home park at Merriman and Van Born - no thanks to one woman.

The woman had contacted the Westland Police Department to demand that police investigate the break-ins and return all seized property to the owners, Lt. Marc Stobbe said.

But her enthusiasm changed when she learned that one of the suspects was her 16-year-old son. She wouldn't even allow him to be questioned by police, Stobbe said.

"When it turned out to be her son, it was a different story," he said. "She didn't want to cooperate."

It didn't matter, though. Police had enough evidence from other sources to have the teenager placed in a Wayne County youth home as the case is petitioned to juvenile court.

Purse snatching

A 73-year-old Livonia woman told police that her purse was snatched while she was walking to her car at the Westland Meijer about 5:45 p.m. Saturday.

The woman reported she was pushing a shopping cart to her car when her purse was grabbed by a person she described as a 6-foot white male in his late 20s.

The man then ran to a vehicle and fled from the parking lot onto Warren Road, a police report said.

The victim managed to jot down the license number, which police said belonged to a car reportedly stolen in Taylor one day earlier.

The woman reported she was missing her brown leather purse, a check book and a small amount of money.

Purse grabbed

An 84-year-old Westland

CRIME WATCH

woman told police that someone grabbed her purse from inside her car after she left Wayne Med Mart on south Wayne Road about 2:30 p.m. Saturday.

The purse was later found and returned to her.

The woman told police she sat in her car and that a man opened the passenger door and sat next to her, talking briefly before seizing her purse and fleeing, a police report said.

The woman also told police the man took her keys. She described him as a 6-foot white male.

Less than three hours later, a Romulus man found the victim's purse in the roadway on Tyler, near Hannan, in Romulus. The man and his wife returned the purse to the victim and then drove her to her car at Wayne Med Mart, police said.

The woman reported that the only thing missing from her purse was \$40.

Attacked at school

A 14-year-old girl who went to Adams Middle School to meet her younger sister reported being knocked to the ground and kicked in the head by another girl, a Westland police report said.

The victim told police the incident occurred at 2:45 p.m. April 7 after she was accused of talking to the attacker's boyfriend, the report said.

The victim's younger sister, 13, tried to stop the fight by hitting the aggressor with a purse but - in turn - was hit herself, the report said.

Trailer stolen

A 34-year-old Taylor man told police that a trailer containing \$7,000 in construction tools was stolen from in front of a friend's house in the 33100 block of Avondale.

The incident occurred between 11 p.m. April 5 and 6 a.m. April 6, the man told police.

Robbery

from page A1

boyfriend. As the two stood outdoors, the man revealed what the victim described as a silver and black handgun and held it to her chest, demanding her purse, a police report said.

The girl wasn't injured, but she reported being robbed of her purse, her John Glenn High identification, her driver's license, \$50, a pair of earrings and a pager.

The victim didn't know the man's last name, but she talked

CRIME

with several party-goers and obtained information that led police to him, the police report said.

The suspect let police search his residence, where officers found some of the evidence reported missing by the victim, the report said.

During a later interview, the suspect denied he ever threatened the girl with a gun, police said. Officers found two BB guns at the residence.

The suspect also recanted a portion of a statement he made to police, removing his name from it and demanding to speak with an attorney, the report said.

The suspect is jailed in lieu of a \$50,000/10 percent bond. He is scheduled to appear in Westland 18th District Court on April 23 for a preliminary hearing that will determine whether he should stand trial.

If convicted, he could face a maximum sentence of life in prison.

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Flooding from page A1

travesty." But Thomas said there is no easy solution to flooding problems that vary in scope and severity.

Even if the city could fix every flooding problem, he said, others would crop up.

On Tuesday, Ravine resident Patrick Thomas said city workers finally began installing a new culvert on his street in response to complaints he has made since last fall. He and his wife, Dale, have lived in their house about 15 years.

Patrick Thomas said his yard has been like a pond since a neighbor filled in a drainage area, diverting water to his property.

"It has never dried up since last fall," he said.

"We've been calling, calling and calling," he said, adding that the city didn't respond for nearly a year.

Patrick Thomas was skeptical of any relief Tuesday, saying only time will tell whether the new culvert resolves his problem.

Meanwhile, Mayor Thomas has suggested that Wednesday's session focus on specific problems, such as:

■ **What:** City council study session on flooding
 ■ **When:** 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 22
 ■ **Where:** Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road.

■ **Yard flooding** due to heavy rains and whether the problem could be alleviated by installing new sewers or having some homeowners tap into an existing system.

■ **Overloading of sewer system** interceptors and whether an expansion and new pumps might help ease the problem.

■ **Basement flooding** and whether the problem should be the responsibility of the city or homeowners.

■ **Investigating** the possible need for water-retention ponds where excess water could be routed to avoid flooding of prop-

erty. Those are only a few of the issues that Thomas said could bring fruitful discussions during the study session.

However, Thomas already has cautioned that the city shouldn't imply that it will assume responsibility for all flooding problems.

In one example, he said some flooding occurs because homeowners neglect repairs such as replacing "weeping tiles," which help route water from homes to the sewer system.

"We shouldn't be involved in those kinds of situations unless we did something to cause the problem," the mayor said.

As a result, some homeowners may be faced with spending their own money to correct basement flooding.

Councilman Richard LeBlanc said he hopes the city will be able to identify some specific ways of addressing problems such as sewer backups on August and other streets.

"We know it's a problem and, for whatever reason, it has not been dealt with," he said.

City officials have received



Dig It: City workers began digging a culvert on Tuesday in response to flooding on Ravine Street in Westland

flooding complaints for years. However, the number of complaints has escalated since February of last year, when raw sewage flooded more than 400 north-end basements due

to a sewer system construction flaw.

Just two months ago, city officials received more than 125 complaints of basement flooding when heavy rains pounded

the city. Some residents have even suggested that city officials should be voted out of office unless they address the problem.

Churchill grad's gift may save boy

When he thinks about his son, Christopher, Clayton Evenden beams with pride.

A 5-year-old South American boy may be able to fight the deadly disease leukemia because of Christopher Evenden, a former Livonia resident the boy has never met.

In March, Christopher Evenden, a 1980 graduate of Churchill High who now lives in Texas, went to Georgetown Medical Center near Washington, D.C., to undergo surgery to extract some of his bone marrow.

The marrow has since been given to the boy through a bone marrow transplant. Eventually, the Evendens will get word as to whether the transplant has been successful.

"I hope my son can make a difference in this young boy's life," said Clayton Evenden, a retired Livonia Public Schools teacher who now works as a substitute teacher in the district.

Father went to Texas to be with son while he was recuperating from the March 12 surgery. Christopher Evenden, 35, has since returned to his duties as a staff sergeant in the 7th Equipment Maintenance Squadron at Dyess Air Force Base, near Abi-

lene, Texas.

In 1994, Evenden joined the marrow registry during a donor drive at the base. He gave about two tablespoons of his blood for cell typing.

The results went into a computer database, which is used to find preliminary matches during national and international donor searches.

In six months, to his surprise, the C.W. Bill Young Marrow Donor Center contacted him to tell him his marrow type was a preliminary match for the young South American boy.

Evenden underwent further tests, and finally got the word: He was a match for the boy.

Once introduced into the boy's bloodstream intravenously, Evenden's marrow should make its way into the child's bones and begin to produce healthy blood cells to replace the child's diseased blood.

The success rate for the transplant is about 50 percent.

Evenden went into the U.S. Air Force immediately after graduation from Churchill. The 17-year veteran is married to Christina, and has three children.

Retiring Glenn teacher made mark in Canton

If anyone wrote a book about the Canton Public Library, Kay Baldrice-Basner would be in the foreword.

Baldrice-Basner, a teacher at Westland John Glenn, was one of the driving forces behind establishing a library system in Canton. On June 30, she will step down from her seat on the library board as its second-most senior member to retire in Arizona.

"We set a goal to establish a superior library system in western Wayne County," she said of her early days on the board.

It all started on the third floor of township hall in late 1980. Five years later construction began on the library and today, not only can its 60,000 registered patrons walk through the doors of one of Canton's busiest public facilities, but also check in to the library from anywhere in the world via its Web site.

"We were swamped from the day we opened the door and we've been well-received from then on," she said.

Baldrice-Basner moved to Canton in 1973 and several years later was recruited by neighbor Jim Gillig to set in motion plans for a library.

Baldrice-Basner, along with Gillig, was appointed to the provincial library board in 1979. They were elected to the first board in 1980 (and every four years thereafter) to serve on the six-member board of trustees.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed it. We do get a lot of positive feedback (from the public)," she said.

The board is currently comprised of three senior members and three new ones, elected in 1998. The last two years has

been training for both the old and new, she said. The senior members have been providing insight and knowledge to new members and new members have been offering a new perspective and viewpoint to the old members.

"We're all very vocal. We all take a stand, but walk away with a consensus. We really do work well together," she said.

One of the issues the board has been discussing lately is whether to expand - possibly even build a new branch library.

"We do know we're swamped again. We know we need more space so we're looking at new technology and what we're going to need in the way of space for it."

A decision isn't expected soon, and that will be for a new board to decide, Baldrice-Basner said.

The board will interview candidates in June for Baldrice-Basner's seat with an appointment expected by July 1.

The appointee will serve the remaining two years of Baldrice-Basner's post before the 2000 election.

Baldrice-Basner will be retiring from her job as an English teacher at John Glenn High School in Westland in June.

She has taught for the Wayne-Westland School District since 1965.

"I just plan on reading some good books. I teach a writing class so most of the time I'm reading papers. So sure, I'll be doing some pleasure reading... playing some golf."

She also won't be far away from the Canton Public Library at <http://metronet.lib.mi.us/canton>.

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CARRIER OF THE MONTH: WESTLAND

Jenny Turrin, 13, has been named the Westland Observer's Carrier of the Month for April. A seventh-grader at Frost Middle School, Turrin is the daughter of Jim and Michelle and the sister of J.T. Turrin, 8. She has had a route since October 1996.

Her favorite subject is science and her hobbies include writing, reading and swimming. She is on the honor roll and student council. "I want to attend U of M and become a writer or a lawyer," she wrote.

She likes visiting customers on her route and feels having a route has helped her develop responsibility.



Jenny Turrin

If you want to be a Westland Observer carrier, please call 591-0500.

Empty Bowls lunch set for May 4 in Dyer Center

Eat lunch and help feed the homeless.

The third annual Empty Bowls fund-raiser luncheon is scheduled for 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Monday, May 4, in the Dyer Senior Center, 36745 Marquette, Westland.

Admission is \$10 and lunch includes julienne salad, roll, fruit, beverage and dessert, plus a handcrafted bowl for participants to take with them. Paul Chisholm, art instructor at Vandenberg and Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary Schools, is creating the bowls. Funds from the luncheon go directly to maintain the Wayne-Westland Food Bank.

Reservations must be made by

April 30 to the Family Resource Center, (734) 595-2314. Send checks for \$10 made out to the Salvation Army, to Jacque Martin-Downs, Instruction Department, Wayne-Westland Community Schools, 36745 Marquette, Westland.

Entry is limited to the first 100 people to return their checks. No tickets will be sold at the door. The program is presented by the Wayne-Westland Community Schools, KIDS FIRST Homeless Program, the Salvation Army, and the Dyer Senior Center in cooperation with the Family Resource Center and the Skillman Foundation.

Dana Crowe of Livonia is a winner in the Service Merchandise Scholarship Program.



Dana Crowe

Crowe attends Franklin High School and plans to major in accounting at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

She is a member of the National Honor Society and the Franklin Marching Band and is an award-winner in the Continental Math League Competition, American High School Math Competition and Livonia PTA Reflections contest.

The Service Merchandise Scholarship Program was created to serve as a lasting tribute to Mary and Harry Zimmerman, who founded Service Merchandise Co. in 1960. The Zimmermans' strong belief in higher education served as an inspiration for the Service Merchandise Scholarship Program.

Each year Service Merchandise awards 100 scholarships of \$500 each to students who have demonstrated exceptional classroom abilities as well as outstanding participation in school and community activities.

Seven Westland residents have been awarded scholarships based on merit and/or financial need for the 1998 winter semester at Walsh College: Donald Letourneau, general business major, Walsh College Merit Scholarship; James Allen, finance major, Walter B. Fisher Scholarship; Janet Terne, general business major, George and Elizabeth Pyle Seifert Scholarship; Marie Rumschlag, master of science in management, Walsh College Merit Scholarship; Suhail Shatar, master of science in finance, Masco Corporation Scholarship; Weiping Huang, accountancy major, Walsh College Merit Scholarship; William Portman, computer information systems major, Walsh College Student

Government Scholarship.

Two Westland residents recently graduated from Walsh College: William Drabing, bachelor's degree in accountancy, cum laude; and Diana Saunders, master's degree in management, with high distinction.

Seven Westland residents were among the December graduates at Central Michigan University: David R. Cebulski, bachelor's degree; Patricia L. Devoy, master's degree; Karen Y. Lamb, bachelor's degree; Diana Renee Moss, master's degree; Kelly A. Paschke, bachelor's degree; Craig L. Sexton, bachelor's degree and Brandon E. Wilson, bachelor's degree.

Five students from Westland were named to the fall semester honors list at Central Michigan University: Colleen L. Coppens, John V. Ericson, Jennifer L. Medvecky, Brandon E. Wilson and Jeffrey A. Wood.

Christopher James Vitarelli, a senior Bible and communication arts major at Cedarville College in Ohio, has been named for inclusion in the 1998 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Vitarelli's selection was based on academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities, and potential for continued success. He is the son of George and Lillian and is a 1994 graduate of Churchill High School.

Eastern Michigan University has named the following Westland students to the dean's list for the fall semester of the 1997-98 academic year: Robin Lynn Achille, Amanda Ann Alfonso, Kathleen Carole Angelosanto, Julie Ann Ayers, Denise Rene Babler, Nicole R. Bersano, Brenda Marie Blackmer, Nicolette Danielle Boahbedason, Amy Michelle Bray, Cara D. Brooks, Curtis G. Chapman, James D. Cherkwalk, Shannon Marie Cordon, Sean Jason Davidson, Mary Margaret Dean, Sharon

ACHIEVERS

K. Downey, Julie Angela Erikson, Bradley Michael Erlisman, Erin L. Facone, Mary Anna Fagan, Maria Ines Fernandez, Jeffrey Adam Fisher, Angela Lynn Fremder, Dianna Marie Fry, Thomas Peter Furbacher, Jeff Alan Futrell, Suzanne Elaine Gajsek, Patricia Ellen Garland, Scott Joseph German, Carrie Suzanne Gibbons, Stacy Lynn Gliniski, Susan Ruloff Goodwin, Michelle Lynn Greenstein, Christina Fay Grim, Jason L. Groom, Jason Fredric Hagelthorn, Jon C. Haupt, Nicole Laura Helmer, Jacob Scott Henry, Jason Paul Hielop, Shih-Pei Hsiao, James Joseph Jednak, Jennifer Ann Keeney, David Walter Kirkpatrick, Ronda K. Koch, Laura Vakare Konieczny, Joyce Marie Krause, Laura A. Kuzilla, Tiffany Jean Labo, Todd Ronald Lancaster, Jeanie Marie Lawrence, Kristin Anne Lazar, Robert Joseph Ledesma, Sarah Jane Lomas, Katherine Yvonne Longedorf, Allison Marie Loveday, April Jean Majerus, Pamela Ann Matevia, Laura Van McAnalley, Richard A. McClain, John Keith McLeod, Tracy Lynn Mikulin, Stephanie A. Miller, Jennifer M. Moores, Richard Alan Moreno, Jamie L. Murphy, Scott R. Ozga, Colleen Michelle Phillips, Kelley Ann Phillips, Steven M. Roberts, Connie Marie Rowell, Jeanette M. Rusch, Tracy A. Rynkiewicz, Anna A. Sander, Sherlynn M. Schleit, Colleen Marie Schlim, Mark A. Slawski, Kathleen A. Stanislawski, Laura Ann Stone, Timothy Patrick Sullivan, Brian Stuart Taylor, Rachel Rene Thomas, David N. Thompson, Kynthia Rene Traub, Kimberly Ann Walesch, Jinzhi Wang, Nicole Renee Watkins, Mary Louise Wertz, Kelley A. West, Kathleen Rose White, Kenneth Nils Wisht Jr., Christine M. Wynjarsky, Michelle Kristin Young, Brian Arthur Youngquist.

Students on the dean's list

must carry a minimum of 10 credit hours and maintain a 3.5 grade point average out of a possible 4.0.

Bruce A. MacDonald, a graduate of Wayne Memorial High School, and Jonathan M. Kreger, a graduate of Westland John Glenn High School, have been named to the dean's list at Northern Michigan University in Marquette. The dean's list includes students with grade point averages between 3.25 and 3.99.

Donald K. Zang of Westland has had poetry published in "Verdant Lands of Spring," a book of poetry compiled by the National Library of Poetry. The poem is titled "The Master-Painter - God." Zang has been writing poetry for a year and a half.

Andre Shea was honored by the University of Detroit Mercy for scholastic achievement and community services at the annual Honors Convocation at the University of Detroit Mercy. The University of Detroit Mercy is Michigan's largest private university. It is sponsored by the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) and the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas.

Ten John Glenn High School students received certificates for being in the top 2 percent in the Tandy Technology Scholars program. Marta Baldysz, Mary Johanna Crofts, Brian L. Miller, Boneva Marie Needham, Denise Marie Novak, Joseph Anthony Ostrander, Jason Douglas Piasencia, Kevin Thomas Razor, Kimberly Marie Stange and Rachael Elizabeth Watkins received certificates. This is the ninth year the Tandy Technology Scholars program has made awards to teachers and graduating seniors at American high schools. The program is financed by Tandy Corp. and administered by Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. The program encourages excellence and competition in mathematics, science and computer science.

CITY OF GARDEN CITY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 30, 1998

Present were Mayor Barker, Councilmembers Dodge, Lynch, Wiacek, Kaledas, Briscoe, and Waynick. Absent none.

Also present were City Manager Bayless, City Clerk-Treasurer Bettis, City Attorney Cummings, Department of Public Service Director Barnes, Deputy Treasurer Smith, Parks & Recreation Director Whitson, Fire Chief Hines and Police Chief Kocsis.

Moved by Briscoe; supported by Wiacek: 03-98-128 RESOLVED: To approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of March 16, 1998. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Waynick; supported by Lynch: 03-98-129 RESOLVED: To approve the Accounts Payable, as listed. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Dodge; supported by Kaledas: 03-98-130 RESOLVED: To the Planning Commission:

- 1. To appoint William Hartmann, term of office to expire March 31, 2001.
2. To reappoint George Graziotti, term of office to expire March 31, 2001.
3. To reappoint Edward Weiland, term of office to expire March 31, 2001. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Dodge; supported by Wiacek: 03-98-131 RESOLVED: To appoint John Ronchetto as a Regular Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, term of office to expire March 31, 2001. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Dodge; supported by Kaledas: 03-98-132 RESOLVED: To the Recreation Commission:

- 1. To reappoint Mike Fearon, term of office to expire March 31, 2001.
2. To reappoint Dennis Kapelanski, term of office to expire March 31, 2001.
3. To appoint David Takessian, term of office to expire March 31, 2001. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Dodge; supported by Wiacek: 03-98-133 RESOLVED: To appoint Councilmember Briscoe as Council Liaison to the Recycling Committee. AYES: Unanimous

The Council as a Whole discussed the following items:

- A. Civic Arena Floor Replacement - Final Payment.
B. Engineering Payment - Wade Trim.
C. Presentation of Pardo Street Design.
D. Parks and Recreation Fee Schedule.
E. Purchase of Police Cars - and respective appropriations.
F. Police Department - Computer Server Data Transfer.
G. Police Computer Professional Services Agreement with Plante Moran - Pulled from Agenda.
H. DPS-Fifty Six (56) Various Tire Casings.
I. Presentation on Water Meter Modernization.
J. MDOT Plan - Traffic Signal Modernization.
K. Protective Clothing for Structural Fire Fighting.
L. Fire Exhaust Extractor.
M. Depository Resolution for Allyson Bettis.
N. Lions Club Annual White Cane Fund Raiser.

Moved by Dodge; supported by Wiacek: 03-98-134 RESOLVED: To authorize the final payment for the Floor Replacement project in the amount of \$10,319.00, to be paid to Rink Systems, Inc. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Briscoe; supported by Lynch: 03-98-135 RESOLVED: To authorize payment to Wade-Trim for professional services rendered from December 28, 1997 through January 31, 1998 in the amount of \$20,482.83. AYES: Councilmembers Lynch, Wiacek, Briscoe, and Waynick. NAYS: Mayor Barker, Councilmembers Dodge and Kaledas. Motion passed.

Moved by Dodge; supported by Kaledas: 03-98-136 RESOLVED: To award the bid for police vehicles to Royal Oak Ford, the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$19,168.00 per vehicle for a total of \$95,840.00 for the purchase of (6) vehicles. AYES: unanimous

Moved by Dodge; supported by Lynch: 03-98-137 RESOLVED: To approve the Supplemental Appropriation of \$12,500.00 from the Drug Forfeiture Fund to Capital Projects Fund-Police Cars, Ordinance No. A-98-007. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Dodge; supported by Wiacek: 03-98-138 RESOLVED: To approve the Transfer of Appropriations in the amount of \$15,884.00 from Contingencies, Emergencies Fund to Capital Projects Fund-Police Cars, Ordinance No. A98-005. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Dodge; supported by Lynch: 03-98-139 RESOLVED: To reject the bid from PC Complete due to non-performance. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Kaledas; supported by Dodge: 03-98-140 RESOLVED: To award the bid for the Computer Server Data Transfer to Cygnus, the second lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$2,630.00. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Dodge; supported by Lynch: 03-98-141 RESOLVED: To award the bid for twelve (12) sets of turn-out gear to Douglass Safety Systems in the amount of \$11,181.60. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Dodge; supported by Briscoe: 03-98-142 RESOLVED: To adopt the Depository Resolution for Political Subdivisions from National Bank of Detroit for Allyson M. Bettis to replace Steven J. Smith. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Lynch; supported by Kaledas: 03-98-143 RESOLVED: To allow the Lions Club to solicit at Middlebelt and Ford Road the weekend of April 24th through 26th and the weekend of May 1st through May 2nd, 1998 subject to standard City Administrative requirements. AYES: Unanimous

Moved by Briscoe; supported by Lynch: 03-98-144 RESOLVED: To go into closed session to discuss Attorney opinion on the Nankin Landfill. AYES: Unanimous

Council returned from closed session and the meeting was then adjourned.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS City Clerk-Treasurer

THEODORE REZNICK

A funeral Mass for Theodore Reznick, 61, of Westland was April 13 in St. Richard Catholic Church, Westland. Officiating was the Rev. John F. Hall.

Arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home. Mr. Reznick, who died April 7 in Livonia, was born in Detroit. He was a coordinator of communications.

Surviving are: wife, Lucille; sons, Paul of Clawson and John of Westland; daughters, Margaret Parks of Milford and Leza Rebera of Whitmore Lake; and six grandchildren.

Memorials may be made in the form of Mass offerings to St. Richard Catholic Church or American Lung Association.

MARIE S. NEWTON

Funeral services for Marie Newton, 80, of Westland were today, April 16, in St. Raphael Church with burial at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens. Arrangements were made by L.J. Griffin Funeral Home.

Mrs. Newton, who died April 10 in St. Joseph Hospital, was born in Waterloo, N.Y. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are: husband, William, and daughter, Cynthia.

OBITUARIES

ROBERT E. BATTISTI

Funeral services for Robert Battisti, 49, of Westland were April 13 in Prayer Baptist Church, Westland with burial at United Memorial Gardens, Superior Township. Officiating was the Rev. Larry Bartlett. Arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

Mr. Battisti, who died April 7 in Detroit, was born in Greensburg, Pa. He was an assistant manager at a party store.

Surviving are: father, Sylvester Battisti; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

JANICE EILEEN SNOOK

A funeral service was April 13 for Janice Eileen Snook, 54, of Romulus at the Reece Funeral Home in Ottumwa, Iowa. Local arrangements were handled by the Uht Funeral Home.

Mrs. Snook was born May 18, 1943. She died April 7 in Dearborn. She is survived by: her husband, Norman of Romulus; sons, Norman Jr., Scottie, Dean and Brian Keith, all of Westland; her mother, Kathleen; a brother, James L. Klicker; four sisters, Judy Wheeling, Rebecca Farrell, Candace Canaday and Lori Fite; grandchildren, Chiara and Scotie Dean II.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Tuesday, April 21, 1998, the Westland Police Dept. will conduct a Public Auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 AM at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Road, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Table with 5 columns: YEAR, MAKE, BODY STYLE, COLOR, V.I.N. containing vehicle auction details.

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

CITY OF GARDEN CITY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING APRIL 22, 1998

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals in the Council Chambers of the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on Wednesday, April 22, 1998, at 7:30 p.m., for the purpose of hearing and considering all comments of all persons interested in or concerned with the following:

Location: 33420 Donnelly, also known as the E 70 ft of Lot 1322, Folker's Garden City Acres Subdivision, No. 8, City of Garden City, Liber 60, Page 27, WCR

Request: The applicant is requesting a 353 square foot dimensional variance to Section 161.023 (B) of the Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of adding a storage area to the rear of an existing garage.

Location: 32636 & 32635 Ford Road, also known as Lots 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, and 2201, Folker's Garden City Acres No. 14 subdivision, City of Garden City, Liber 62, Page 95, WCR.

Request: The applicant is seeking a waiver to the Zoning Board of Appeals to Section 161.075 from a locational restriction for Regulated Uses, regulated Uses are not permitted under the Zoning Ordinance within a 300 foot radius of a Residential Area. The applicant is seeking a waiver to allow a Specially Designated Merchant's Establishment within 300 feet of a residential district.

ALLYSON BETTIS City Clerk-Treasurer

JOBS AND CAREERS FAIR

The Westland Chamber Jobs and Careers Fair is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the Westland Shopping Center. More than 2,000 job seekers are expected to attend the event, which is in its second year.

The event's major sponsor is the Observer Newspapers. WYCD, Young Country, 99.5, will be sponsoring radio advertising.

For details on the fair, call (734) 326-7222 or visit the chamber's Web site at www.westland.org on the Internet.

SPRING DINNER DANCE

The chamber's Spring Dinner Dance will be 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 29, at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy Road in Westland. During the evening, the chamber will present the Athena Award to an individual in the Westland community. The award honors the talents and expertise of women in leadership roles of business, community and government. Also, the Business Person of the Year will be announced. All nominees for both awards will also be honored. The evening includes dinner, open bar, dancing and the awards ceremony. Dress is evening attire. Entertainment will be spon-

sored by the Silver Sounds professional disc jockeys. Tickets are \$30 a person and can be purchased by calling (734) 326-7222.

Nominations for the Athena Award are due April 22 and nominations for the Business Person of the Year award are due April 25.

NEW MEMBER COFFEE

A new member coffee will be held on 9 a.m. Wednesday, May 6, at Marquette House, the senior facility on Marquette across the street from John Glenn High School.

GOLF CLASSIC

The chamber's 18th annual Golf Classic will be Tuesday, June 16, at Pheasant Run Golf Course, Canton. Each golfer can play 18 holes of golf including cart, free range balls, open bar, and snack.

A continental breakfast and country cookout banquet at the Summit on the Park, contests, prizes, goodie bags and a silent auction are also included.

A foursome can participate for \$550 with the early bird package, when registered by May 15. A variety of sponsorships are available, ranging from \$125 to \$500.

Call (734) 326-7222 for more information.



Fox finds respite in local park

A Plymouth Township woman says she "was just so shocked" to see a red fox cross her path last Saturday morning at McClumpha Park.

"I saw it right away when I drove into the township park," said Kathy Nordstrom, who was taking her 3-year-old daughter Keliisa for some fun at her favorite play place. "I just followed it into the parking lot, drove near him, put the window down and took some pictures."

The park is on Ann Arbor Trail between Beck and Sheldon roads in Plymouth Township.

Nordstrom said the fox acted like it didn't even know she was there.

"He pranced in front of my car like he owned the park," added Nordstrom. "He looked at me like it wasn't a big deal, then looked across the road and nonchalantly walked away."

Nordstrom expressed concern about a fox walking so closely to a playground where children were playing.

However, it really isn't all that unusual, and generally nothing to be alarmed about.

"We have reports of fox in many areas of western Wayne County, including all along Hines Drive," revealed Carol Clements, a naturalist at Wayne County's Nankin Mills Interpretive Center. "We're also getting many reports of fox living in the Holliday Nature Preserve from Canton to Westland."

According to Clements, it's unusual for a fox to stroll into areas where there are people, indicating it may have been ill and disoriented.

"They mostly are out in the early morning dark hours, or during dusk," said Clements. "They generally are afraid of



Spotted: Kathy Nordstrom frequently brings her daughter, Keliisa, to Plymouth Township Park to play on the playscape. On a recent visit she spotted and was able to photograph a red fox.

wildlife biologist in the Livonia office of the Department of Natural Resources.

Payne says the fox Nordstrom saw could be ill, or friendly because it was once a pet. He notes there are some places in the Birmingham and Bloomfield areas where fox are used to people and walk the open fields during the day.

"However, it would be very hard to get a fox to attack unless you cornered it," said Payne.

"The fox is being pushed around by all the development in the area," noted Payne. "In fact, in some areas of Plymouth Township you'll also find coyotes."

people and will stay away unless they are provoked." A state official agreed.

"It's not unusual, but certainly a rare occurrence, to see a fox," said Tim Payne, a

Airport passenger traffic up

Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport ended 1997 with a 3.2 percent increase in passenger traffic, the sixth consecutive year of growth. Passengers arriving at or departing from Detroit Metro Airport totaled 31,588,281 - more than three times the state population.

December 1997 posted a 6.3 percent increase over December 1996. Detroit Metro has broken passenger records in 51 of the past 53 months.

After a 15 percent increase in 1996, international passenger

traffic dropped 2/10ths of 1 percent. Landings and takeoffs were up over 3 percent for December, but down 1/2 of 1 percent for 1997.

Geneva-based Airports Council International (ACI) is expected to release 1997 worldwide airport rankings next month. In 1996, Detroit Metro ranked 14th in the world and ninth in North America in passengers.

Detroit Metro was sixth in the world in aircraft landings and takeoffs.

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Appliance dropoff to mark celebration of Earth Day

In the spirit of Earth Day on April 22, a Livonia business owner hopes to do his part to help protect the Earth's atmosphere.

Jim Gray, owner of Air-Care of Livonia, is offering his business location as a free dropoff site during the month of May for residents to leave very small refrigerators that are the "college-dorm style," window air conditioners and dehumidifiers. All units must be whole.

Residents must call Gray first to make arrangements for the dropoff.

Gray is accepting the appliances to help residents dispose of them without releas-

ing freon and other refrigerants into the atmosphere.

That will help the environment, because those refrigerants contain carbon fluorocarbons (CFCs), which are destroying the ozone layer. R-12 refrigerants are banned by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The program helps residents get rid of an item that generally costs \$40 to \$60 to dispose, Gray said.

Gray is troubled by the number of appliances he sees set out by residents as garbage, as many of these units have cut hoses, which releases CFCs into the atmosphere.

"The CFCs attach themselves to oxygen molecules, and it creates holes in the ozone layer over Antarctica," Gray said. Scientists believe those holes will expand unless world production and use of CFCs are curbed.

The EPA has enacted laws banning the production of R-12, but not R-22, refrigerants. R-22 is slated to be banned in the near future but it is still available.

Gray's phone number is (734) 425-0074. His business is at 30870 Schoolcraft, on the northeast corner of Schoolcraft and Warner Court, between Middlebelt and Merriman roads.

Power play

Lawmakers use funding issue to force SMART, DDOT talks

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Detroit legislators are trying a power play against SMART, the suburban bus service, to halt its perceived competition against Detroit Department of Transportation buses.

SMART general manager Richard Kaufman, however, says the issue is whether SMART is getting Detroiters and suburbanites to suburban jobs.

"If Al Martin (DDOT manager) thinks there's duplication, he can stop a few of his buses. I don't have any extra out there," Kaufman said.

Detroit's point man is state Rep. Keith Stallworth, a freshman Democrat. Stallworth got himself appointed chair of a special House appropriations subcommittee on public transit.

Stallworth talks of pulling the plug on SMART's funding if Kaufman doesn't halt competition with DDOT. He appears to have the backing of House Speaker Curtis Hertel, D-Detroit.

"I want consolidated service. If we have to use the appropria-

tions process to get these two young men to talk ... " Stallworth said in a recent interview.

The interview with Stallworth, Martin and Kaufman is scheduled to be broadcast Sunday (April 19) at 12:30 p.m. on Channel 7's "Spotlight" program.

Mission: jobs

Kaufman, a former Wayne County circuit judge, doesn't discuss coordination with DDOT schedules. He sees SMART's mission as getting 200,000 passengers a week - half of them Detroit residents - to jobs in western Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

SMART stands for Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation.

In 1967, downtown Detroit had more than 130,000 jobs. By 1995, downtown employment had shrunk to fewer than 65,000 jobs.

"Our purpose is quality transportation for the entire Detroit metropolitan region," Kaufman said. "The only place we both have buses is in Detroit. But SMART buses come a lot less

frequently than DDOT. My buses are running out to the far reaches of the suburbs.

"I don't think there's any duplication, but if there is, I can't stop the SMART buses which come every half-hour or every hour for those people who need to get from Detroit to the suburbs, or from the suburbs to Detroit. If Mr. Martin thinks there's duplication, he can stop a few of his buses. I don't have any extra out there."

'Duplication' hit

DDOT's Martin does indeed think there's duplication. He says DDOT and SMART run buses one or two minutes apart on eight routes - including Woodward, Grand River and Greenfield. "There is increased competition in the city," said Martin, a former SMART and state public transit administrator. "We need to coordinate."

Stallworth agrees. He wants the two systems to produce a coordinated plan by May 10 for the Woodward corridor. If not, then the Legislature may dictate

Please see POWER PLAY, A8

Millage question in committee

Merge or lose funding.

That is what the Wayne County Commission's Ways and Means Committee wants the area's two public transportation providers to do or else one could lose all its millage funding.

Commissioner Bernard Parker said if SMART, (Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation) and the Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT) don't consolidate routes, cutting SMART's funds is the answer.

"The merger would allow citizens to use a transportation system that meets the needs of the city of Detroit," Parker said.

"I will not support renewal of the millage unless there's some dialogue between the two providers," he added.

Committee chair George Cushingberry agreed.

"I believe it's important for us to recognize transportation as a complete system," he said.

Parker and other committee members are upset the two

WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION

transportation providers haven't consolidated routes.

SMART and DDOT aren't duplicating any bus routes, according to both Richard Kaufman, SMART general manager and Floyd Best, who heads the SMART bus drivers Union Local 1564.

Past attempts to merge were thwarted by DDOT, not SMART, both men contended.

SMART's millage is up for renewal Aug. 4, and commissioners have until May 14 to decide whether the issue will go on the ballot. The Ways and Means Committee meets at 11 a.m., Tuesday, April 28, to further discuss the issue. The meeting will be held in room 402 of the Wayne County building at 600 Randolph Street in Detroit.

The millage provides SMART with about \$6 million per year.

Suburban Wayne County residents in Livonia, Westland, Red-

ford and Garden City, will be asked to renew a four-year 1/3 mill for SMART's public transportation system of buses. Plymouth and Canton townships along with the city of Plymouth opted out of the SMART system.


Clifton Sharpe, representing SORT, Supporters of Regional Transportation, said a good transportation system should be one of the area's top priorities - along with police, fire and education.

"We are the motor capital of the world," Sharpe said. "We should have a bus system second to none."

A merger could be the answer. "I personally think that SMART and DDOT should get together to pass a resolution and make sure it goes forward. We need to follow what (SMART's) name says," Sharpe said, referring to the word "suburban."

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Family event kicks off Saturdays along Hines Drive

Bikers, walkers, joggers, in-line skaters and others who enjoy Hines Park should set their exercise appointments for Saturdays beginning May 2.

Wayne County Parks and Recreation has announced that 6 miles of Hines Drive will be closed 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. every Saturday between May 2 and Sept. 26 to vehicle traffic. The drive will be closed from the Warrendale Picnic Area (west of

Outer Drive) to the Nankin Mills Area (Ann Arbor Trail).

At the May 2 kickoff in the Hines Park-Nankin Mills area, special events will include a moon walk, probotron, an in-line skate mobile and organized games for children.

Other events and activities planned throughout the year include:

- 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 16, a fishing derby at

WAYNE COUNTY PARKS

Northville's Hines Park-Waterford Bend Area. Anglers should bring their own equipment and bait. To register, call (313)261-3285.

- Saturday, June 6, an area-wide Rouge Rescue event. For sites and times, call (313)961-4050.

- 8 a.m. Friday, June 12, the Friends of Wayne County Parks Pro-Am Celebrity Golf Classic, at Warren Valley Golf Course. Threesomes can hook up with either celebrities or local pros. Proceeds go toward Wayne County Parks. Cost is \$100 per amateur, including lunch. Call

(313)261-3285 for information.

- June 29 through July 2, Detroit Senior Olympics on Belle Isle. The Wayne County Park System, the Detroit Recreation Department and several other sponsors are teaming up to present various competitive events for participants age 50 and older.
- 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 20, the 12th annual Wayne County Senior Citizens' picnic in

the Hines Park-Warrendale Area in Dearborn Heights. Wayne County Executive Edward H. McNamara will be on hand for an afternoon of food, entertainment and prizes. For tickets, call (734)326-4736 or (734)326-4444.

- 9 a.m. Saturday, June 20, Nursery School Olympics in Trenton's Elizabeth Park. events

Please see HINES, A8

spring

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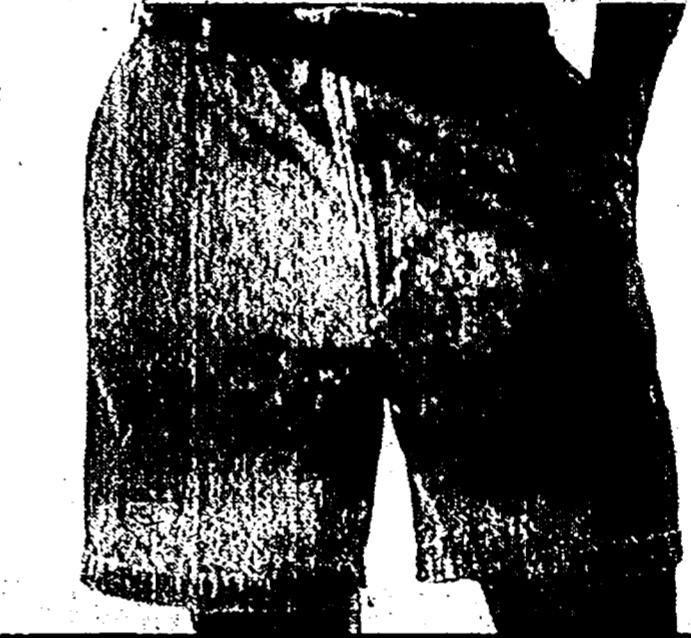
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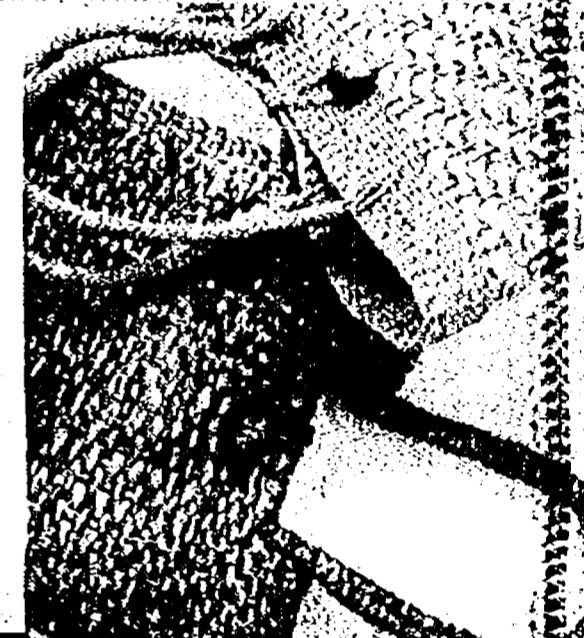
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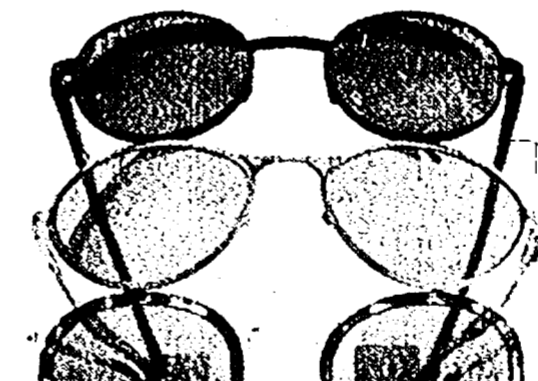
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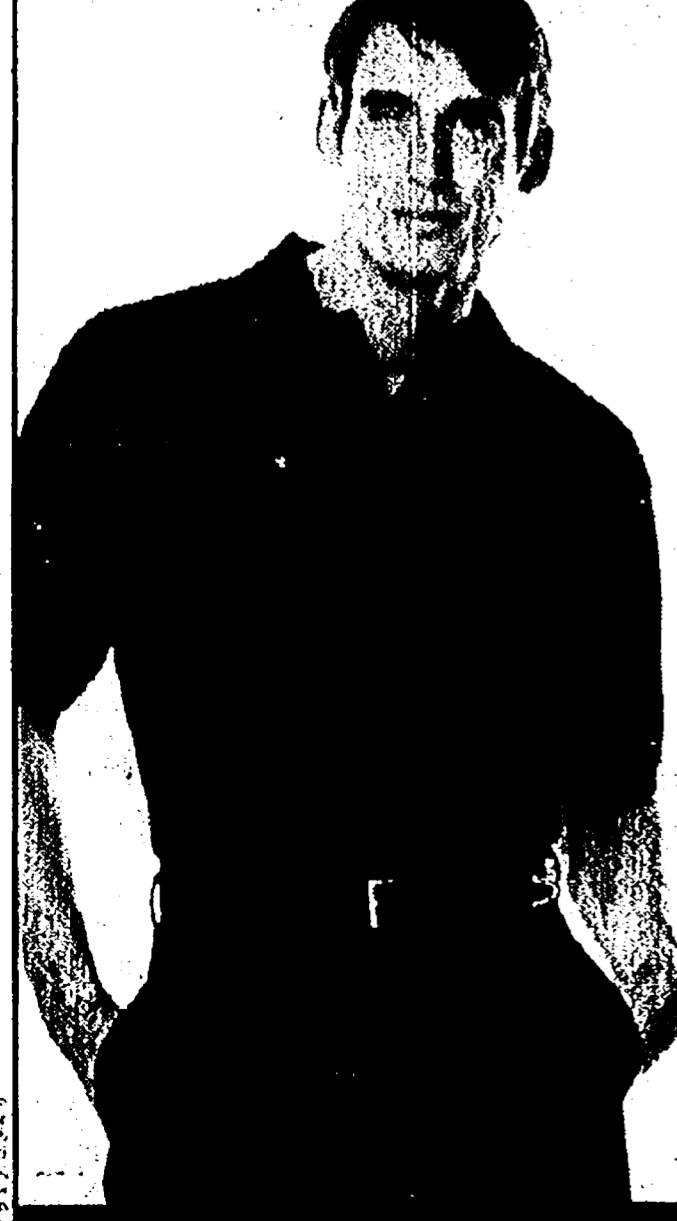
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Newburgh Lake restoration may lift fish advisory - DNR

A state official believes a fish consumption advisory for Newburgh Lake will be lifted in two years.

Mark Oemke, the state's project manager overseeing the \$10 million Newburgh Lake restoration, said recently that if everything goes as planned, the Department of Natural Resources will return in 2000 to

check fish for any contamination from polychlorinated biphenyls.

But he expects the fish to obtain a clean bill of health as nearly all the PCBs have been removed from the lake. A second fish kill is expected in September, followed by a restocking of fish in October.

"We'll wait two years, because

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Hines from page A7

include marshmallow shot put, paper plate discus, diaper derby, toddler trot and more. Pre-school children ages 3 to 5 with parents or guardians. Co-sponsors are McDonald's, Michigan Recreation and Park Association and Trenton Parks and Recreation.

■ 11 a.m. Tuesday, July 7 is "Mud Day" at Hines Park-Perrin Area in Dearborn Heights. Two hundred tons of top soil and 20,000 gallons of water will flood the park and "Mr. and Ms. Mud" will be crowned.

■ Noon to 9 p.m. July 11-12, Polka Fest in Hines Park-Warrendale Area in Dearborn Heights. Wayne County Parks will present the stylings of Big Daddy-Lackowski and his La-

Dee-Das and other popular area polka bands. Ethnic dancers in authentic Polish costumes will perform and feast visitors can sample Polish cuisine. Call (313)261-3285 for a schedule.

■ 2 p.m. until dark Aug. 8 and 9, "Jazz on the River" at Elizabeth Park in Trenton. The event is sponsored by Smooth Jazz V 98.7 and corporate sponsors. Call (313)261-3285 for a schedule.

■ 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20 at Elizabeth Park in Trenton, "Somewhere in Time," featuring antique auto displays, trolley and riverboat rides, musical entertainment and refreshments. The event, co-sponsored by Trenton Parks and Recre-

ation, will celebrate how the park looked during the Roaring 20s.

■ Date to be announced, a "Friends of Nankin Mills Wine and Cheese Reception" will be held at Nankin Mills in Westland. This fund-raiser will help purchase displays for the new Nankin Mills Interpretive Center. Tickets will be available at the parks office.

■ 8 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, the Friends of the Rouge Pedalfest along the Middle Rouge Parkway in Westland. The fund-raising event's proceeds will go toward preserving the Rouge River. For an entry form, call (313)961-4050.

■ 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, a

Halloween festival featuring costumed characters, games, entertainment, hay rides, a candy hunt and more at Hines Park-Nankin Mills in Westland. Call (313)261-3285 for details.

■ 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, the second annual Wayne County Lightfest and 8K Fun Run/Walk at Hines Parks's Merriman Hollow Area in Westland. To register, call (313)261-3285.

■ During the 1998 holiday season, four miles of Hines Park will be aglow for the Wayne County Lightfest, the Midwest's longest drive-through light display. Call (313)261-3285.

For information on all events listed above, call (734)261-1990.

Power play from page A6

a schedule in the boilerplate of the state appropriations that go to DDOT and SMART, he said. Stallworth also talked of shifting some SMART money to DDOT.

SMART has a total budget of \$60 million. It gets \$35 million from the state and about \$10 million from the farebox. The rest comes from a fraction of a mill of property tax voted in 1995 in Macomb, most of Oakland and suburban Wayne counties.

That millage, Kaufman said, is up for renewal Aug. 4. From a ridership point of view, Kaufman said SMART is a success story that deserves voter sup-

port.

Chamber reverses

The DDOT-SMART conflict came to light about six months ago when the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce threatened not to support SMART's renewal millage unless there were better coordination with DDOT over routes. But it apparently has had a change of heart.

"Last month the executive board of the Detroit Regional Chamber endorsed the SMART millage and committed to raising \$100,000 to get the information out," Kaufman said.

He added, "I've got the solid backing of my bosses for any plan that helps the rider." He said the federal government rated SMART among the seven "most progressive transportation systems in the country in terms of getting people to jobs."

DDOT has a total budget of \$150 million. Martin said about 25 percent of its revenue comes from the farebox (\$37 million) and \$65 million from the state, with the rest coming from the city's general fund.

"SMART has made progress," said Martin, "but we're not realizing coordinated transit network." He called cooperation

between them "loose."

Despite the tough talk about "coordination" versus "getting Detroiters to suburban jobs," the two agencies have cooperated in other areas. SMART's recent report says:

■ They use the same linehaul scheduling software.

■ They have compatible radio and vehicle locator systems.

■ They accept each other's tickets and transfers.

■ SMART allowed DDOT to use SMART's bus purchase options so that Detroit could acquire new buses under more favorable terms.

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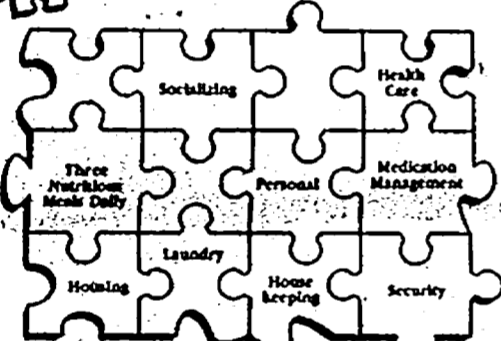
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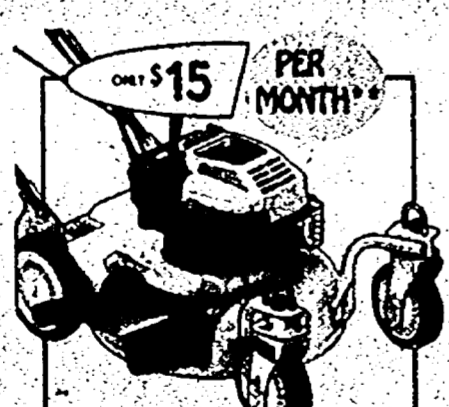
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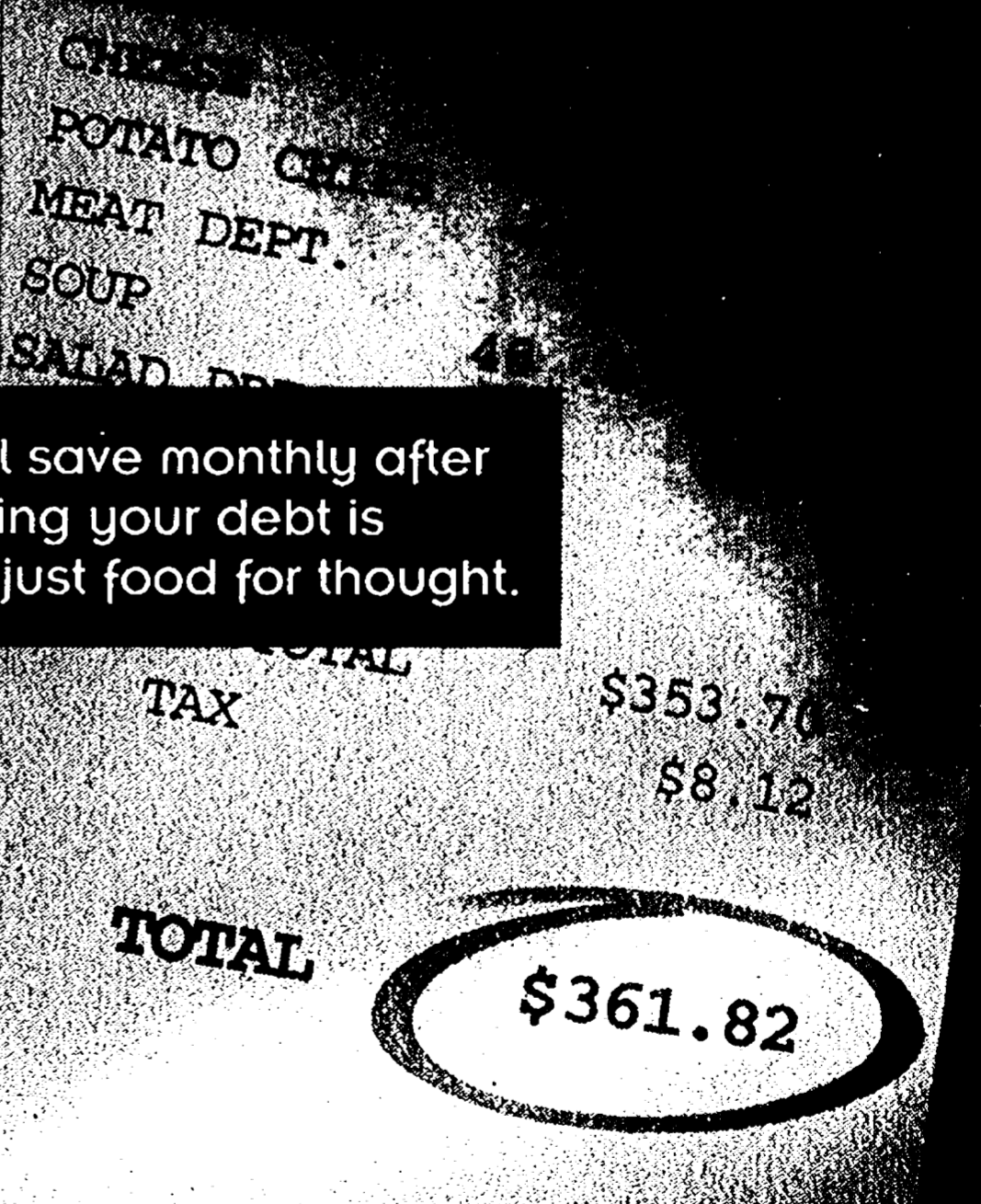
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Bipartisan group pushes package of gun bills

TIM RICHARD
OF WATKINS

Q. Now that the Legislature on Easter break, bring us up to date on all the gun legislation. Is there another package of gun control bills being drafted in Lansing?

A. Sure, but let's get our terms straight. We're not talking about getting rifles and shotguns. We're talking about pistols and permits to "carry a concealed weapon," or CCW.

Michigan's Constitution is stronger on gun ownership than the U.S. Constitution. The state constitution says: "Every person has a right to keep and bear arms for the defense of himself and the state."

Q. OK. Let's start with the Cropsey bill that was being drafted two years ago.

A. It's dead. Rep. Alan Cropsey, R-DeWitt, proposed that Michigan do away with its 3 county gun boards that award CCW permits. He wanted Michigan to become a "shall issue" state — if you meet the qualifications, the state shall issue you a CCW permit.

Cropsey held that many county gun boards issued permits only to police officers and ex-cops, denying them, without reason, to others.

Gun owner groups were strongly in support, but the law enforcement caucus and others were vehemently opposed.

Q. Isn't Cropsey part of a new group...?

A. Right. A bipartisan group of state representatives is pushing a package to create uniform standards for issuing a concealed weapons permit. Other key members: James McNutt, R-Midland, a former sheriff; Candace Curtis, D-Swartz Creek; and Howard Wetters, D-Kawkawlin.

It adopted the "shall issue" policy. You would be entitled to a CCW permit once you met a list of qualifications.

Q. And that was a pretty long list, wasn't it?

A. All applicants must be at least 21 years old and be a resi-

dent of Michigan for more than a year (versus six months eligibility to vote).

It requires a 12-hour training course.

You may not have been convicted of a violent felony, felony, violent misdemeanor, or a misdemeanor which carries a potential sentence of more than a year in prison.

You may not have been acquitted of a crime by reason of insanity.

You may not be under a court order of legal incapacity or involuntary commitment.

If a cop suspects you of drinking while carrying a pistol, he or she can order a blood analysis. If you test 0.02 percent blood alcohol content (BAC), this would be reported to the county gun board, and your license could be revoked. By the way, 0.02 is one-fourth the BAC for drunken driving. In other words, the bill creates a "zero-tolerance" for drinking while carrying a concealed pistol. Wetters is sponsor of that bill.

One bill makes concealed weapons carried in violation of law subject to seizure and forfeiture.

Another would amend the Open Meetings Act to allow county gun boards to consider applicants' mental health, substance abuse and juvenile crime records behind closed doors.

Q. That's a pretty long list of hurdles. Will the gun owners buy that?

A. Some think Cropsey sold out. Others say he had to trim his sails to get any change.

Q. Any response from the Senate?

A. A big one. Newly-elected Sen. Dave Jaye, R-Macomb County, is chair of a newly-created Hunting, Fishing and Forestry Committee. His approach keeps the gun boards but is called the "Gun Owners' Rights" package. His committee is considering these bipartisan measures:

■ Revamps the gun boards to put non-law enforcement people in a majority. The prosecutor and sheriff still would be on, but

the State Police representative and township supervisor would be gone.

The new members would be a person who teaches pistol safety but isn't a law enforcement officer; two others would represent the general public. The three would be appointed by the county executive (in three counties) or the board of commissioners in the other 79 counties (SB 969, 970, 973 and 983 — Bill Bullard Jr., R-Milford, and John Cherry, D-Clio).

■ Requires that gun boards conspicuously display time and location of CCW meetings. Gun boards must meet at least twice a month for four hours during the evening (SB 985, Loren Bennett, R-Canton).

■ Requires Michigan to adopt Florida's CCW standards (SB 987, Jaye).

■ Requires county to pay legal costs if a denied applicant wins approval on appeal (SB 984, Virgil Smith, D-Detroit).

■ Limits police fee for processing fingerprints to \$5. Limits time to five business days, plus five-day extension. Requires police to pay applicant a \$10-per-day fine for processing delays (SB 970, John Cherry, D-Clio).

■ Requires Michigan to honor other states' CCW permits (SB 967, Art Miller, D-Macomb).

■ Allows voter registration wherever hunting and fishing licenses are sold (Joel Gougeon, R-Bay City).

Bills being drafted in the Senate:

■ Permits 18-year-olds to purchase pistols from either licensed dealers or other individuals (Jaye).

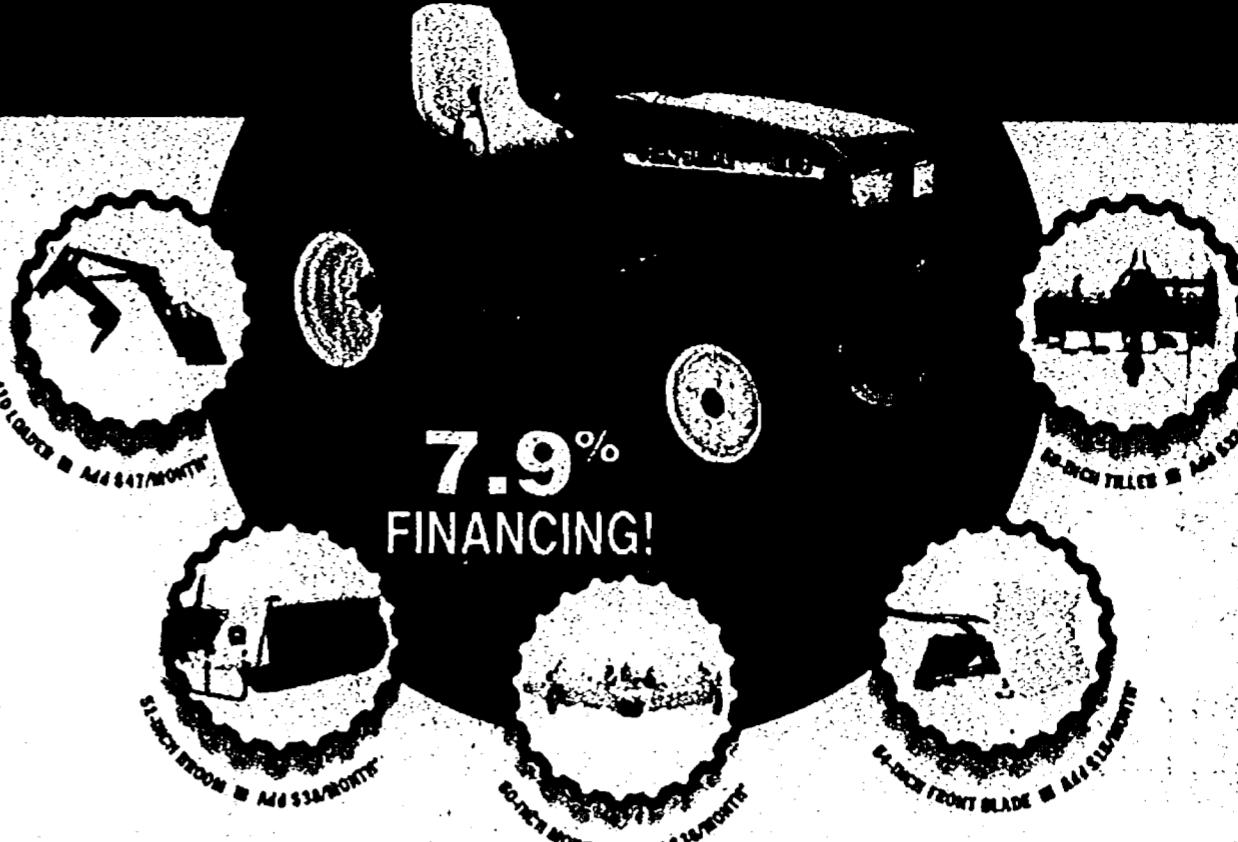
■ Makes gun boards subject to the Administrative Procedures Act due process requirements.

Jaye's overall thrust is to enhance gun owners' rights to obtain a CCW permit and curb arbitrary powers of law enforcement people.

Q. Any predictions?

A. A stalemate, with the House passing one package and the Senate another, is a distinct possibility. Two teams of horses are pulling in different directions.

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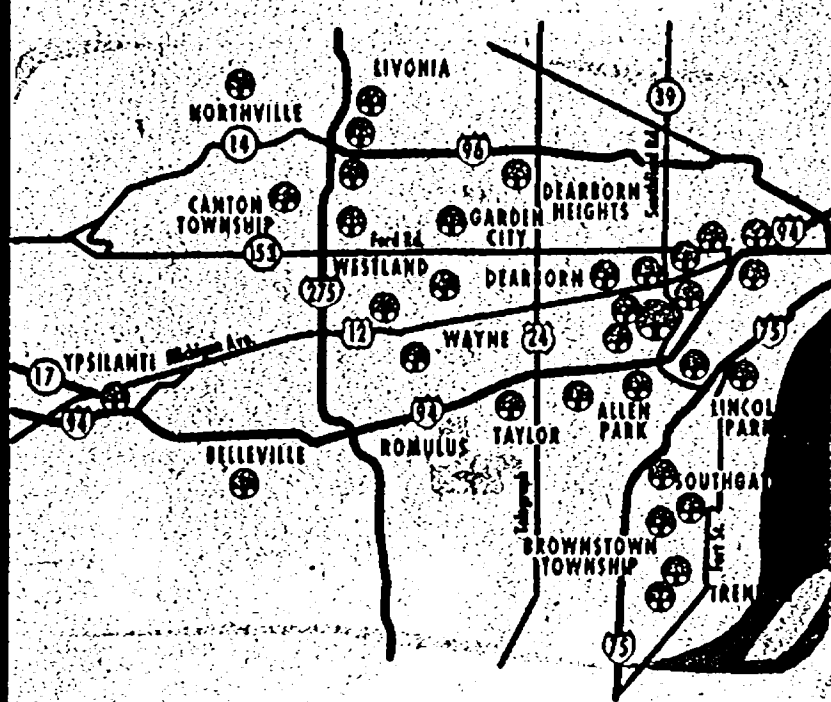
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Observer News Roundup provides a summary of headline stories throughout western Wayne County.

CANTON

COMMUNITY POLICING
Community policing in Canton Township started out as an experiment to see how well the police department could work with the community and help prevent crime. It's worked out so well that a second phase is being planned. Canton Police are preparing to put a full-time police officer to work in three of southeast Canton's mobile home parks and the surrounding areas. This officer's duties would be similar to those of a "beat cop" who residents, business people and others know by name. The intent is to provide proactive rather than reactive police service, according to John Santomaro, Canton Public Safety director. That means, when possible, stopping crimes before they start rather than arriving on the scene after they're out of control.

GARDEN CITY

DOWNTOWN FACELIFT
A bid for \$2.8 million in streetscape and water main improvements to be constructed in the Central Business District over the next two years was awarded by the city council Monday. The contract award to Wayne-Oakland of Canton is contingent on the sale of bonds which will fund the Downtown Development Authority project. The council also agreed to move ahead with the planned bond sale subject to council debt allocation schedule regarding the water main work. Other than some planter boxes located on Middlebelt, most existing streetscape will have to be removed to accommodate irrigation equipment and pedestrian lighting. The first year of the project will focus on Ford Road between Brand and Garden. The second

phase, the work will be on Middlebelt between Beechwood and John Hawk.

LIVONIA

CITY WINS LAWSUIT
The city of Livonia has won favorable rulings from two courts in a lawsuit filed by the West Livonia Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. The church, claiming the city had violated its constitutional right to practice its religion, filed the suit following a 1996 city council vote that blocked the church's plans for a new building.

Citing the strong position local governments occupy in the courts when it comes to land-use issues, a federal judge last fall dismissed two of the suit's three counts.

The remaining count, an appeal of the council's vote to deny a zoning waiver, was dismissed by a Wayne County Circuit Court judge last month.

Congregation members could not be reached for comment. The congregation, based in a building on Seven Mile that members said they have outgrown, had wanted to put up a church of 5,032 square feet on 2.39 acres of land on Merriman near Norfolk.

The Jehovah's Witnesses wanted to build a one-story building that would be more easily accessible by the handicapped than the current church.

PLYMOUTH

HIGH SCHOOL LOCATION

Constructing a third Plymouth-Canton high school that isn't within walking distance of the current high schools is not a good idea for both teachers, students and the community. That's according to a group of nearly 200 Plymouth-Canton high school teachers, which is lobbying the board of education to abandon plans for a third high school at the corner of Joy and Beck roads. While the board of education insists the high school bond issue called for a structure to be

built at that corner, the teachers believe location wasn't specified. They want the new school built within walking distance of the other two, allowing for students to interact and curriculum to be distributed equally, approving a

REDFORD

CRIME DECREASES

Crime decreased in Redford Township last year for the third successive year, and local law enforcement officials credit an increased presence of officers due in part to federal grant money.

The size of the police force is not expected to decrease when the grant money runs out.

Police officials are applying for more grant money to help pay for civilian police and fire dispatchers and to buy computer equipment to eliminate some paper work.

The money to pay for the officers comes mostly from property tax increases and more revenue sharing money, said Redford Supervisor Kevin Kelley.

WESTLAND

RECREATION PLAN

A second ice rink for Westland Sports Arena tops a preliminary wish list of city recreation enthusiasts.

More ice for hockey and figure skating programs ranked No. 1 on a newly-released report stemming from a community brainstorming session, which sought residents' views on Westland parks and recreation needs.

Rounding out the six biggest needs identified in the report are:

- A new recreation complex offering an aquatic center.
- A new baseball/softball complex.
- A new soccer complex.
- Playground equipment for Corrado Park.
- A new park in the Middlebelt-Avonedale area.

The top needs are listed in a report that Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski has given to the Westland City Council.



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County agency audit

Inadequate controls blamed for mounting debt

Wayne County may not be able to collect as much as \$17 million owed to it by mental health service providers.

The agencies which contract with the county have carried outstanding balances for several years, according to an operational audit of the Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency by legislative county Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy.

But an official with the Detroit Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency told the Wayne County Commission's audit committee earlier this month she expects a \$40 million budget shortfall to be reduced to about \$3 million.

Jarold Ann Adams, the agency's executive director, said the county's largest mental health contractor is owed \$15 million in federal Medicaid payments and a possible state bailout may bring that shortfall down to about \$3 million. The agency is expected to discuss the issue with state officials.

Debts owed

The agency is overseen jointly by Wayne County and the city of

Detroit. In 1996 it served 59,342 residents with mental illness or developmental disabilities. (See related story.)

The agency has 82 service providers that owed money as of Nov. 30, 1996, 38 of which had an outstanding receivable balance with the county that was at least one year old. Eight owe \$500,000 or more. The largest debt owed, \$17.3 million, is due from the agency's largest service provider, Wayne Community Living Services.

Agency officials also "may have exceeded their authority by authorizing advances that appear to be loans" to various service providers without the documented approval of the board or the Wayne County Commission, Dunleavy stated in the report.

In 1992, one provider received a \$5.2 million advance that was categorized as a Medicaid expense. No repayments were received until 1995, as the agency has collected \$5 million of the debt by deducting amounts from the provider's subsequent program advances. More than \$200,000 was still outstanding at the time of the audit.

Inadequate monitors

Since 1992, the money owed Wayne County by its mental health service providers increased to \$82 million as of November 1996.

"Although \$38 million of this amount is in Medicaid and current year balances, the remaining balance is overdue and has accumulated for several years for various reasons," Dunleavy said.

Agency officials believed the delay in compliance audits by outside auditors and "post-audit" cost settlements contributed to the growing receivable balance, to which the auditor general concurred, but challenged the agency's actions.

"Our audit confirmed that compliance audits are running behind schedule and have just recently been completed through the 1993-94 fiscal year," Dunleavy said. "In addition, the service provider with the largest receivable balance failed to have the required financial audit for several years."

Auditors found that providers' agreements with the agency

were not current, and that advanced program payments were not held in a trust account by the service providers as is required in the service providers' contract.

"Inadequate monitoring by the board, the Wayne County Department of Health and Community Services (Health Department) and the County's Department of Management & Budget appears to have also contributed to the current crisis," Dunleavy said.

Under the agency's agreements with service providers, the agency can withhold a portion of the provider's monthly allocation to offset any balance due, but many providers are nonprofit organizations with limited sources of revenue. "As such, any reduction in their current payment could result in a reduction of services provided or, depending on the amount withheld, the closure of a providers' operation," Dunleavy said.

If that happened, the county has an obligation to the state to ensure that services would continue to be available to program

Please see **AUDIT, A16**

STATE CAPITOL CAPSULES

Watercraft rules

The state Senate and House have passed similar bills regulating personal watercraft, the generic name for Jet-skis.

The bills require personal watercraft (PWC) users to be at least 16 years of age (instead of 12). They require operators between ages 16 and 19 to attend a boating safety course. And they prohibit liveries from renting to anyone under 19 unless he or she has completed a safety course and displays a certificate.

House action came March 25; the Senate voted a day later. All votes were overwhelming.

The Senate passed two tie-barred bills, meaning both must be enacted for either to become law. Senate Bill 830 prohibits renting to a 16-year-old unless he has a boater safety certificate or the livery operator himself trains the teen.

The House bill carries a fine of up to \$1,000 for a first offense. The Senate bill has a fine of \$100 to \$500 and up to 90 days in jail for a first offense.

The bills are likely to wind up in a joint House-Senate conference committee to work out differences.

Sen. Mat Dunaskiss, R-Lake Orion, voted for the bills but objected to "age discrimination" in them. "Young riders are not the major problem on the lakes," he said, quoting Oakland Sheriff's marine safety officers. "Young riders are safer than the adults, mostly because of the marine safety courses that they're already required to take."

Now, despite these facts, they (12- to 15-year-olds) will be punished simply because of their age and not able to ride until they're 16."

Tornado drills

Gov. John Engler has signed a bill by Rep. Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, to require state-supported schools and colleges to conduct two tornado safety drills a year, besides the current eight fire drills.

Public Act 46 was signed March 30 during Severe Weather Awareness Week. Law noted a majority of tornadoes strike between noon and 6 p.m.

Senate passes

The state Senate has approved:

■ A bill requiring thumb imaging of applicants for cash assistance. "This attempts to identify fraud in the welfare system and correct it," said Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, sponsor of SB 957.

■ A bill prohibiting hospital strikers from threatening patients or people caring for them. "This bill protects patients' rights by making sure they have a safe environment, unimpeded," said Sen. Robert Geake, R-Northville, sponsor of the measure which passed unanimously.

■ "MICHILD," a program to provide health care to some 156,000 children whose parents earn too much to qualify for Medicaid but not enough to

Please see **CAPSULES, A16**

How mental health board operates

The Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Board was created under the Michigan Public Act 54 of 1964. Six are appointed by the city of Detroit and six are appointed by Wayne County.

The board provides mental health and related services to Wayne County residents. It is a quasi-independent agency of Wayne County and is a unit within the Wayne County Department of Health Community Services.

The board operates through its agency, the Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency.

The agency contracts with service providers to administer services to Wayne County resi-

dents. Each service provider has a contract amount, which is based on the estimated total cost of services to be rendered less the amount expected to be received from Medicaid, Medicare, private insurers and others.

Service providers receive a monthly advance from the agency representing 1/12th of their annual contract amount. At the end of the contract period, service providers submit a final report.

Based on this report, the agency begins a two-stage cost settlement process. The pre-audit settlement process consist of comparing the amount of money advanced versus the service provider's reported expenses.

If contract expenses exceed advances, the agency owes money to the service provider.

If amounts advanced exceed contract expenses, the service providers owe money to the agency. The service provider has 30 days to repay the agency or enter into a repayment agreement.

Compliance audits are performed to determine advanced money received and the amount of expenses incurred in connection with the contract.

After all the compliance audits are complete for a given year, the agency reallocates money from one provider to another. This occurs because some ser-

vice providers underspent their contract amounts, creating a pool of money. That pool can be reallocated to those service providers whose audit reveal they rendered services above their contracted amount.

As of Nov. 30, 1996, the county was owed \$82 million from its mental health providers, with \$38 million related to current balances and Medicaid money. The remaining \$44 million has accumulated over the past five years, according to Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy.

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JA to honor business leaders at hall of fame dinner

Four individuals who made their names in a wide variety of business endeavors will be honored as laureates tonight by Junior Achievement of Southeastern Michigan.

The sixth-annual black tie dinner and induction ceremony takes place at 6 p.m. tonight at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Dearborn.

Among the honorees are William Pulte, Irma Elder, Peter Karmanos Jr. and Phillip Caldwell. Florine Mark, a 1997 laureate, will also be recognized because a family tragedy kept her from attending the 1997 ceremony.

Pulte began his career in 1950 as a self-employed builder. Six years later at age 24 he incorporated his business and 14 years later, Pulte Home Corp. went public. The \$2.3 billion Birmingham-Bloomfield based company became the largest residential builder in the United States in 1996, according to Builder and Professional Builder magazines.

Pulte Home Corp. is now building custom homes in 25 states as well as Mexico and Puerto Rico. Elder, who owns three Michigan car dealerships, took over Troy Ford after her husband's death in 1983. She has since acquired the Jaguar-Saab and Aston Martin Lagonda of Troy and Signature Lincoln-Mercury



Phillip Caldwell

Jeep-Eagle of Owosso. Elder also works with 25 boards of directors throughout the state and was named Michigan Women's Foundation "Entrepreneur of the Year" in 1994.

Karmanos is chairman, chief executive officer and co-founder of Compuware Corp. in Farmington Hills. Under Karmanos' direction, Compuware has become Michigan's fifth largest exporter, offering more than 60 software products to customers in dozens of countries. Karmanos also co-owns the Carolina

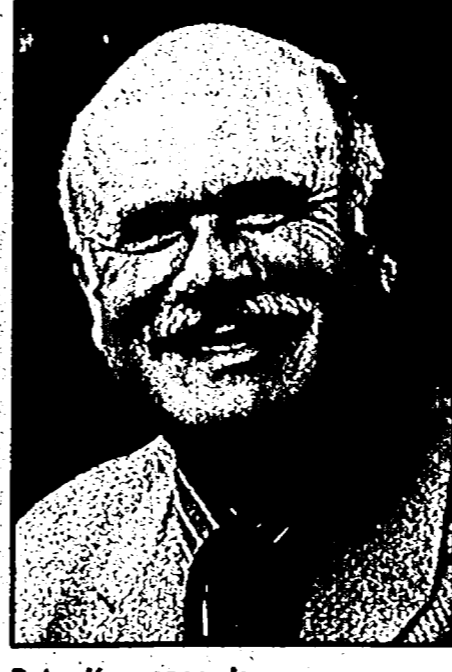


Irma Elder

Hurricanes of the National Hockey League and co-owns the Plymouth-Whalers of the Ontario Hockey League.

Karmanos founded the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute in his late wife's honor in 1995 with a \$15 million gift. The center combines the resources, research and treatment capabilities of several of Michigan's top medical organizations.

Caldwell is the former chairman and chief executive officer of Ford Motor Co. A farmer's



Peter Karmanos Jr.

son, he grew up in South Charleston, Ohio and majored in economics at Muskingum College. He later enrolled in Harvard business school but received his commission to the Navy in 1942, when he was sent to the Pacific in January, 1944. He joined Ford in 1953 and participated in one of the greatest corporate turnarounds in history. By the time Caldwell retired, Ford's U.S. market share had increased from 16 to 19 percent.

Mark is president and chief executive officer of the WW



Florine Mark

Group Inc., the largest franchise of Weight Watchers International. Her Farmington-Hills based company employs 2,500 people, all successful Weight Watchers members.

Mark conducted her first Weight Watchers meeting in a Michigan school auditorium in July, 1966. Now, Mark operates franchises in eight states and Canada and Mexico. She also sits on several boards of directors in Michigan, including the Renaissance board and the American Red Cross.



William Pulte

Junior Achievement, a not-for-profit organization, was founded in 1919 by Horace A. Moses, president of Strathmore Paper Co.

The program has grown and changed over the years to meet the needs of students in grades K-12. JA of Southeastern Michigan is the ninth largest JA area in the nation, reaching more than 66,000 students.

Observer area communities participating in JA in 1997-1998 include Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Redford and Westland.

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County gives weather-alert radios to schools

Wayne County has taken the lead to distribute tone-alert weather radios to schools and medical facilities with hopes of reducing the likelihood of injury and loss of life that result from severe weather conditions.

County officials say last July's storm made it evident that the devastation could have been more extensive had the storm hit a hospital or while children

were in school. These radios can prevent a catastrophe by providing school and hospital staff with extra time to protect students and patients. They are activated by the National Weather Service when severe conditions are forecast. A loud signal followed by a message alert school and hospital personnel to life-threatening weather conditions.

"We are taking steps to make sure that people have a chance to protect themselves against devastating weather," said Edward McNamara, Wayne County executive. "Being warned and ready is the best prevention against human loss."

These radios will be purchased with a \$21,000 grant received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the Hazard Mitigation

Program. The county's Emergency Management Division applied for this grant after the county was designated as a federal disaster area following the July 2, 1997, storm that killed six people, injured 47 and caused \$90 million in losses.

In addition, the county received another grant to conduct a severe weather public awareness campaign.

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Audit from page A13

Agency's response

recipients. Adams concurred with the report that a contracted auditor failed to complete audits in a timely fashion. "Additionally, the state has acknowledged that they have not completed five years of cost settlements for one of our providers," Adams said. Adams expected a response on a cost settlement report in excess of \$14 million within 60 days.

The agency also disagreed that the advances were "unautho-

rized" and that the advances were classified as "loans."

"The advances were made to assist with cash flow problems for the providers involved and to assure ongoing client services," Adams wrote in her response.

Adams said the agency has provided monthly reports to its board since June 1996, completed the outstanding audit of the noncompliant vendor in August 1997 and entered into a contract with Pierce, Monroe & Associates to assist in reconciliation. A contract is being prepared

for an outside accounting firm to assist the agency in reviewing internal controls and policies, while a working committee of representatives of the agency, the agency's board of directors, the Department of Management and Budget, Corporation Counsel and a service provider to establish agreement on repayment plans.

What's next

Dunleavy recommended the agency, its board, the Departments of Health and Community

Services, Management and Budget, and affected service providers work with the state Department of Community Health to determine the receivable balance for reallocation and a time frame for this process.

The Mental Health Board and Wayne County Commission should pass ordinances prohibiting agency officials from advancing service provider funds in excess of the contract amount "without the expressed and documented approval" of the board and commission, Dunleavy said.

Without timely actions, the receivables and county liability will continue to grow.

Dunleavy expected the issue and the report will be revisited in a few months by the commission's Committee on Audit.

"That report was very effective to get people to come to the table and take action," Dunleavy said. "The result is the state and the county are trying to resolve this problem."

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Vietnam exhibit comes to area

A smaller version of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., will be making a one-week stop in Trenton. The half-scale, 252 foot-long Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall will be displayed at the Chrysler Trenton Engine Plant April 19-26.

The names of the 58,202 members of the armed services who died or are missing in action in Vietnam are etched into the Wall's aluminum panels. The display will be open to the public 24 hours a day in a field adjacent to the Chrysler plant.

The Moving Wall travels throughout the United States. The Trenton visit was initiated and organized by the Trenton Local 372 Veterans Committee, which is seeking donations and volunteers to ensure the project's success. The project costs approximately \$12,000.

For donations of \$250, \$350, \$500 or more, donors will receive a bronze, silver or gold plaque. All donations are tax-deductible.

Many community tributes have been planned for the week, including a continuous reading aloud of the names etched on the wall. More than 400 statewide union members are expected to participate in UAW day on April 26, according to George H. Turner, chairman on Local 372 Veterans Committee.

For more information, contact George H. Turner, (313) 676-9060, Fax: (313) 526-1652, Pager: (313) 589-3406 or James L. Edwards of Livonia after 4 p.m. at (248) 471-4873.

Lake

from page A8

it wouldn't make much sense to test them right after they've been restocked," Oemke said. That group of fish will be checked for "residual" contaminants.

A report will be made to the Michigan Department of Community Health. That department is responsible for the fish advisory and must decide whether to lift

it after the restoration project. Soil samples will be collected by environmental consultants throughout the project. Most of the PCBs had been removed by November, Oemke said.

Wayne County officials are now saying that the Newburgh Lake restoration should be finished by late November.

Contractors and work crews are expected to complete this year the lake's excavation, the resurfacing of Hines Drive between Newburgh and Haggerty roads, fish kill and restocking and plantings of trees, according to Roger Van Omen, a chief engineer of Wayne County's Department of Public Works.

"The lake excavation is expected to be completed by Labor Day," Van Omen said. "The road and park restoration will follow that work this fall. We hope this is completed by late November."

About 370,000 tons or about 95 percent of contaminated soil has been removed. About 585,000 total tons of contaminated and noncontaminated soil needs to be removed.

The excavation will make Newburgh about 8 feet deep.

SPRING SALE

BONUS SPECIALS 3 DAYS ONLY

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40% Off Entire stock of Jantzen knit tops for men Reg. \$20-\$58 sale \$12-34.80

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40% Off Beach towels Reg. \$26-\$32 sale 15.60-19.20

50% Off Entire stock of luggage Reg. \$60-\$420 sale \$30-\$210

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\$10 Off Entire stock of regular-price shoes for ladies and men* Reg. \$29-\$140 sale \$19-\$130

199⁹⁹ .40 Ct. t.w. diamond stud earrings Fine Jewelry. Reg. \$400

Bonus Specials end April 19. Selection varies by store. Men's shoes not at New Center or Courtland Center/Flint. Exceptional Value Items with 99¢ price-endings are excluded from sale pricing. Previously purchased merchandise will not qualify for adjustments during this event. *Excludes Calvin Klein, Coach, Le Oubon, Monet, Manella, Easy Spirit, Ecco, SAS and Dangle Green

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Westland Observer

OPINION

A16(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1998

Image improvements City shows signs of progress

Westland's image is in need of some polishing and we're glad to see some signs of silvery linings on the horizon. In his State of the City address last week, Westland Mayor Robert Thomas discussed some areas of Westland's image that are lacking and some steps to improve it.

Also, last week, the Westland Chamber of Commerce voted in new officers, including a change in leadership that has city officials ready to start working with the chamber again. Earlier this year, Thomas cut off ties with the chamber because of a list of past disputes, including chamber leaders who had campaigned against him.

Outgoing chamber President John Toye and President-elect Kim Shunkwiler were the objects of Thomas' derision. Last week, Shunkwiler was passed over for the office of president, and he resigned from the board.

We hope this election leads to a new sense of cooperation between the city and the chamber.

Two city entities cooperating for the good of the city can only help Westland's hopes to improve its image.

Communities need to be marketed just as malls are marketed, Thomas said in last week's address. "You have to get people to want to move here," he said.

For example, Thomas talked about the inability of Westland Center to attract and keep more upscale businesses such as Eddie Bauer and American Eagle. That inability probably stems not from any faults at the mall or a lack of shoppers, but from a perception of Westland, Thomas said.

Perceptions of areas of Ford Road and south Wayne Road could be contributing to the

image problem for the mall. Driving down Ford Road through Westland gives an impression in contrast to the image of Ford Road west of Interstate-275 in Canton Township, Thomas said. In Canton, a downtown development plan is already in place and has resulted in decorative brick walls, special lighting and pedestrian areas.

Meanwhile, Westland has formed a Downtown Development Authority to make changes in the Ford Road-south Wayne Road corridor. We hope those changes are carefully planned and make improvements that will reflect well on the entire city.

Thomas also tied his proposal to extend a Tax Increment Finance district in Westland — and a plan to use the money to build a new recreation complex and city hall — to the need for an image improvement in Westland.

Compare the Bailey Recreation Center to recreation centers in nearby communities such as the Wayne Recreation Center in Wayne and the Summit on the Park in Canton Township, Thomas said. A new rec center and city hall would help the city's image in the way the new library has already made an improvement in the city's image, he said.

Thomas said he has also met with Wayne-Westland Schools Superintendent Greg Baracy to talk about ways to improve image. The recently approved \$108.3 million bond sale for technology and building improvements should help the schools' image.

While officials have some work to do in putting a new spin on the city's image, we think it's a good sign that these items are at least being discussed. With some vision, Westland could be on the road to great things.

Close shaves cause bad driving

You've seen it. Maybe you've done it. A woman, driving down the freeway on her way to work, rearview mirror twisted toward her face while she applies her eye makeup. Her male counterpart, driving in another lane, left hand on the wheel, his right hand guiding a battery-powered shaver over his face.

We've seen drivers in such animated conversation that they take both hands off the wheel to gesture at their passenger and only occasionally seem to take their eyes off the passenger to check the road.

The mother, adjusting her child's car seat, while pulling onto the freeway. The teenager, drinking a pop and eating a hamburger, after pulling out of the fast-food drive-through into city traffic.

Then there's the dog lover with his pet hanging out the window — on the driver's side while sitting in the driver's lap.

"People have too much to do in a car," says Westland police Sgt. Peter Brokas. "They're using cell phones and fiddling around with CD players. Men are shaving in the car and women are putting on makeup."

Brokas is head of the Westland Police Department's traffic bureau. He was commenting on a study that showed traffic crashes in that community had risen from 2,094 to 2,234 during a two-year period.

"A lot of our accidents are occurring because people are speeding and not paying attention," Brokas added.

Based on our observations, more and more people ARE paying attention — but to things other than driving. Topping the list of distractions is the cellular phone.

A study on "Cellular Telephones and Traffic Accidents," published last year in the New England Journal of Medicine, concluded that using a cellular telephone while driving quadrupled the risk of a collision. At least one Canadian insurance company has added an extra \$50 a year to the premiums of drivers who have cellular telephones in their cars. And in Australia, Brazil and Israel, it is illegal to talk on a phone while driving.

Cell phones, however, aren't the only distractions. A letter writer, responding to the journal article, reporting being passed on I-95 in Maryland by a male driver holding a plastic foam cup and a cigarette in one hand, a cell phone in the other and what looked like a newspaper propped on the steering wheel — all at 70 miles per hour.

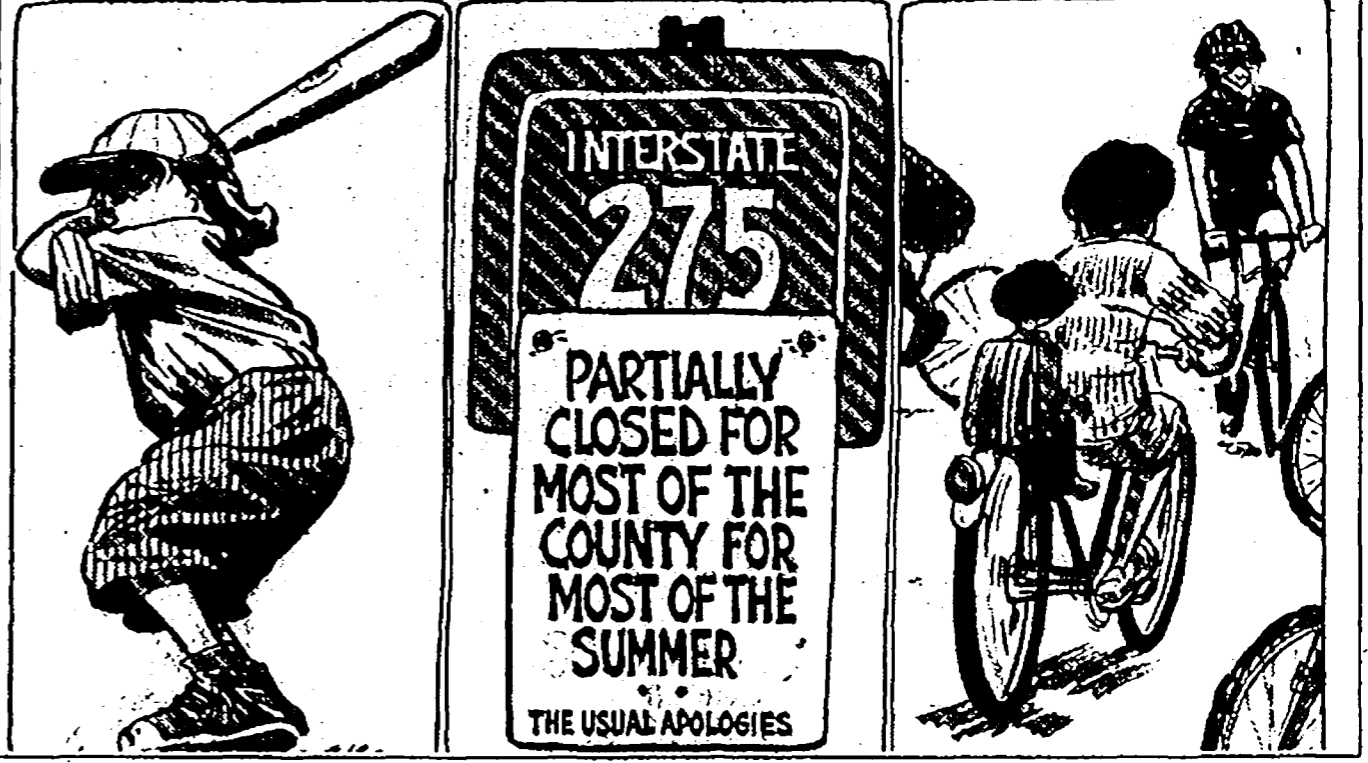
And in a traffic safety crackdown in Ontario last year, provincial police stopped 50,000 motorists for, among other things, drinking coffee, reading books, shaving, eating cereal, having their legs out the window and playing the drums.

It isn't surprising in an age when automobile reviewers rate cars not only on their performance and safety features but on the quality of the stereo system and how many cup holders are built in. One manufacturer doesn't even call its product an automobile anymore. It's "the ultimate driving machine."

Call it what you will, but no matter how good the stereo or how many cupholders are included, the machine doesn't drive itself. That's still the job of the person in the driver's seat, with both hands on the wheel and both eyes on the road.

ARKIE HUDKINS

How do we know that Spring is really here?



LETTERS

Shrill, hollow insults

Tim Richard's column ("Mackinac Center seeks school money with code words," March 19) made me laugh.

His anger at the success of the Mackinac Center is transparent. He does not himself exert any influence, change any minds, or contribute anything to thoughtful public discourse, but he is furious that the Mackinac Center does.

The center's ideas have received many endorsements from editorial boards, legislators and public officials. But rather than take on the actual content of his opponents' ideas, Tim resorts to mudslinging, straw men, and misrepresentations to make his points.

If the Mackinac Center is as bad as Tim says it is, why does it attract economists like Dr. Paul McCracken, former chair of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, and David Littmann, first vice president of Comerica Bank?

Maybe anyone who doesn't agree with Tim is a "deceitful rogue," but I think his shrill and hollow insults say more about him than they do the Mackinac Center.

Steven P. Schaller
Clawson

Warren a watchdog

Some readers tire of Walter Warren and his comments. The remark "just go" echoes what racists used to say to blacks who criticized. Warren seems to be a "watchdog" in the community. He is also exercising his First Amendment Rights to the Constitution of these United States. Now we have already lost our Fourth Amendments Rights with the approval of such "Supreme" decisions coming from Florida and the United States itself which have authorized police agencies to ransack and confiscate your property without cause. Fifth Amendment Rights are allowed to go by the wayside in Grand Jury investigations. Second Amendment Rights are on the brink and would like to be discarded by many. So any idea which tires of First Amendment Rights scares the hell out of me.

If it weren't for watchdogs such as Warren, whether one agrees or disagrees with his opinions, the powers could run an even larger machine and coalition for their own benefits. They could sway even more votes in their own directions. They could continue to pursue their own agendas instead of for public needs. And they could corrupt absolutely.

When citizens stop watching and stop speaking out, the power is lost — from the people, by the people, and for the people. If, in fact, it hasn't already as the result of apathy and inertia of some citizens who have become

so bored and lazy they now speak only one word, "baah!"

Beatrice Scalise
Westland

Avoid name-calling

So Tim Richard is upset with the folks at the Mackinac Center again ("Mackinac Center seeks school money with code words," March 19). What else is new?

He's called them everything from "bozos" to "right-wing fanatics" and this time they're "deceitful rogues." Given the amount of time and ink Tim devotes to attacking them, you have to figure the Mackinac Center is doing something right.

Of course, Mr. Richard's vitriol is far from the only evidence of this.

Since you can hardly pick up a newspaper or tune into a public debate in Michigan anymore without noticing Mackinac Center ideas being discussed, I'd say their goal of shifting the window of public opinion has been largely successful.

These facts bother Tim, who would prefer all policy debate to remain mired in name-calling, sloganeering, and failed economic ideas rather than based on empirical evidence and modern research from reputable and credentialed scholars.

The Mackinac Center is the largest "think tank" of its kind outside of Washington, D.C., and it has been credited by a number of public officials, including the governor, for not only raising the level of debate but for actually improving Michigan's public policy.

Tim Richard could take a lesson from those he disparages on how to really influence public opinion. Here's a hint — it doesn't involve name-calling!

David M. Holt
Livonia

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, as do your neighbors. That's why we offer this space on a weekly basis for opinions in your own words. We will help by editing for clarity and brevity. To assure authenticity, we ask that you sign your letter and provide a daytime contact telephone number. No anonymous letters will be published.

The week prior to an election, this newspaper will not publish letters that discuss new issues, since last-minute attacks don't allow a chance for rebuttal. Responses to already published issues will be accepted.

Letters should be mailed to: Editor, The Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150; faxed to (734) 591-7279; or e-mailed with your name, city of residence and phone number to bjachman@oe.homecomm.net

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

How often do you use the Westland library?

We asked this question Monday at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland.



"I came here to get my tax forms. I come here once in a while."

Jennifer Trombath



"It's my first time ever. I just moved here from Chicago."

Leslie Radz



"This is the very first time. I came to get some tax forms."

Jan Grobbel



"Three to four times a month."

Dave Kirkland

Westland Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Kids need to learn difference between right, wrong

The time: March 1998. **The place:** A lovely neighborhood in western Livonia.

The scene: A well-maintained park in the Castle Subdivision, just north of the Randolph Elementary School.

The subject: A permanently-set bench in this park made of steel base and 2-by-4 wooden slats.

The happening: Malicious destruction of this bench, the 2-by-4s virtually broken in half (impossible for damage to be done by human hands, there had to be a sledge hammer or some heavy object used) and the pieces scattered around this bench.

The accused: Young kids about 11-13 years old (Two women, one with two children and the other jogging were questioned. This was who they accused of this destruction).

Time is running out. Action needs to be taken now. Whoever committed this malicious act should be forced to

face up to their actions. The culprits should be taken to the scene and publicly "spanked" in front of the taxpayers who will pay to replace this bench.

This is parental abuse? Bug manure, it is disciplining a child who needs to be shown the difference between right and wrong. Do you want to be the parent whose child goes out and shoots his peers or someone just because he wants revenge?

Parents need to know where their children are every minute and must teach their children good values. You cannot depend on the school system to bring up your kids, they are just here to teach reading, writing and arithmetic, not to teach children right from wrong.

Order should be maintained in school and if children were properly taught at home, there would be minimal problems in the classrooms. Parents are the only ones who can grab

GUEST COLUMNIST



WALTER HAMILTON

the bull by the horns and discipline their children. Parents must sacrifice – even if it means for the woman to not work or to give up the second job – to promote good in their offspring.

Television should be banned like cigarettes and dope and the many vices in existence – because trash is what is being shown. The best way to stop this trash is to quit watching or

better yet, quit buying the sponsors' products. It will be a sacrifice, but this is what is needed now, not tomorrow.

The music business should start promoting wholesome subject matters in their presentations. Rap is no good for children; there is no music value in it, just a lot of bad words and an ear-deafening rhythm. If it must remain, why can't the words promote good, not evil? Even many of the sports figures today are questionable for your children to look up to. Screen who your children idolize in the sports world. It is your duty!

Whoever wrote this is a goody-goody or from the Dark Ages. "How can one do these things? I don't have time, I have to work." These are some of the poor excuses parents who read this are going to cry. Do family things, promote goodness in your home, promote a greater being, pro-

mote love to friends and family, promote self-respect in yourself and your children. It is time now for parents to get back to the nitty gritty and stop this foolishness which is leading to destruction and disrespect in this world today. This will be no easy task, but a challenge to the parents of America. Are we big enough, do we have enough perseverance?

We are Americans and we have always stood up to anything that is a threat to our well-being – it is now even closer, just outside our back doors.

I was shocked when I saw this destruction. I just felt the responsibility to our community to express myself regarding this subject. I hope you can find a space so the parents of our community can respond.

Walter B. Hamilton is a Livonia resident.

Gloria Steinem sees big picture of women's rights

In my next life, I'm coming back as Gloria Steinem. I like the way she thinks. I like the way she speaks. I like the way she looks. And, of course, her impact on the women's movement is legendary.

But I and perhaps others who came to see her at Oakland University in Rochester Hills Tuesday afternoon weren't necessarily prepared for the warmth and charisma that emanates from this important writer, editor, lecturer, film producer and feminist activist.

Slim, bespectacled, auburn hair pulled back in a braid, Steinem's first words to the audience of about 400 were: "Are we going to have a good time or what?"

She had done her homework about OU and used it effectively. "It's especially nice to be on a commuter campus where the average age is 26-27," suggesting that the energy and maturity level was high. "It's nice to have a

campus founded by a woman (Matilda Dodge Wilson). It's nice to be on a campus where there's no football, so the jockocracy doesn't reign."

Her talk, entitled "A Future in Which Everyone Matters" represents that her concern for equal rights isn't just about women. She talked about how history has ignored all minorities.

"Our study of history was likely to begin with the arrival of Europeans," she said. "We have been trained to be blind in order to keep from recognizing the brutality and slaughter in the founding of our country." She advocates "a kind of history that is vertical history – who was on this land before us. We know too little."

Steinem urged us to "stop laundry-listing issues" – racism, sexism, gay rights, Native American rights – because in truth they're all connected.

It's not happenstance, she put forth, that the abolition and suffrage

movements and later the feminist and civil rights movements were parallel.

"Both rest on control of women's bodies. The definition of patriarchy is controlling reproduction."

And, women have shared common interests with gays and lesbians, she said.

Steinem drew her biggest applause from the mostly female audience when she said: "Children have two parents. Men are as responsible as women for their children's care. That's where we are right now in this country. We've shown that women can do what men can do. Now we have to show that men can do what women can do."

Among the women were a number from Steinem's generation, including some mother-daughter combos such as OU student Dawn Nardi and her mom, Kathy from Rochester Hills, and even a mother and son, Josette and Chad Silver of Franklin.

"She's wonderful. It reaffirms the things I believe," Josette said. Chad, one of two males taking women's studies, was struck by Steinem's take on history.

Most of the audience appeared to have no clue of the controversy that has erupted, alleging that feminists such as Steinem are excusing the president because he is all that stands between them and a pro-life Congress.

So, she reiterated the premise of her column printed a couple of weeks back in the New York Times: the fact that President Clinton respected when a woman said "no" means he did not commit sexual harassment.

"I'm wondering whether we are letting Bill Clinton off the hook," OU student Lisa Bradford responded.

"Look, I'm as mad as you are at Clinton," Steinem said. "But the ultra-right is using his weakness to destroy sexual harassment law the way it's doing to affirmative action."



JUDITH DONER BERNE

"We don't want to commit suicide here," Steinem explained. "He's going to be gone in two years. What worries me is what happens to sexual harassment law."

Although I disagreed with her when I first read her column, I now think that she may see the bigger, more important picture. I hope that ability is included in my next life as Gloria Steinem.

Judith Doner Berne, a West Bloomfield resident, is former managing editor of the Eccentric Newspapers. You can comment on this column by calling (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1997, or in a letter, e-mail or fax to the editor.

Watch schools

State law requires anybody teaching at any public school (charter or not) to hold a state teaching certificate. If a school can't find a teacher certified to teach a given subject, it can hire teachers with emergency or one-year permits.

Responding to a complaint, the state Department of Education started investigating teacher certification credentials at charter schools (also called "public school academies"). Targeted were the 45 schools chartered by Central Michigan University, by far the most active university overseeing 107 charter schools in Michigan.

State Superintendent of Education Arthur Ellis was going to present the department's report to the State Board of Education at its meeting on April 1. But the Detroit Free Press got hold of the report and broke the scoop.

The story claimed that the investigation concluded that 132 out of 695 teachers were not fully certified. Some had been denied a permit, some were awaiting certification, and a lot were teaching with emergency one-year certificates.

Critics jumped in, asking why CMU had allowed schools to open for business without first verifying certification of all teachers. "If they didn't, they should have," said state Rep. James Agee, a former public school administrator.

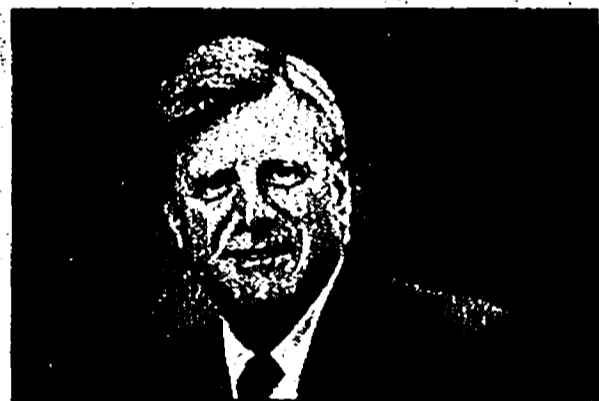
Six days passed before the State Board of Education put out its own handout under the headline, "State Board of Education Members Applaud Central Michigan University Charter School Oversight." The press release asserted that of the 132 teachers investigated, only five held questionable certificates.

"Among the reasons that higher numbers were reported in the Detroit Free Press and elsewhere was that some teachers' Social Security numbers were not known by Department of Education staff, which prevented the department from locating them in the certification database."

The release quoted only three State Board members, all Republicans. Clark Durant, former board president, said, "The Democrats on the board have been on a witch-hunt. They want to make political hay out of the fact that five charter school teachers had not filled out certification paperwork on time while ignoring that on any given day one out of every seven teachers in Detroit is a substitute who lacks a state certificate."

In my view, the whole thing turned out to be a tempest in a teapot. But the underlying issues are serious and deserve a careful look.

They have to do with the energy, professionalism and integrity by which Michigan public universities carry out their responsibilities for the public school academies they charter



PHILIP POWER

Lots of universities do it. In addition to CMU, the most active institutions include Eastern Michigan University, Oakland University, Grand Valley State University and Saginaw Valley State University.

Lots of money is involved. Universities get paid 3 percent of the "state foundation grant" for each student at a charter school. There are some 107 charter schools enrolling around 20,000 students, each of whom gets a \$5,500 foundation grant from the state.

That makes a total of \$110 million going to charter schools in Michigan. And it means that overseeing universities are getting a little more than \$3 million for their work.

The obvious question is: Just what are these universities doing for the \$3 million? Herb Moyer, a former school superintendent now on the Board of Education, isn't sure. "It's now just a matter of laundering 3 percent out of every dollar. Charter schools are a \$110 million experiment. I think we owe the taxpayers a very significant report of what's going on."

Such reports are hard to come by. When in 1997 the state auditor general conducted an audit of CMU's procedures and finances, the university refused to turn over 34 documents, claiming attorney-client privilege.

The same audit showed CMU also failed to catch other abuses in charter schools: Some schools were not doing criminal records checks on teacher applicants they hired. Some failed to offer special education services as required by law. Some had board members with conflicts of interest. Some did not conduct proper lotteries for admissions. And some failed to post meeting notices as required by the Open Meetings Act.

Charter schools are an experiment that might turn out well and might turn out badly. Having an oversight system vested in state universities, whose boards are politically appointed by a governor who has made charter schools an important part of his platform, puts at risk the integrity of this important experiment.

This abuse cries out for legislative remedy. Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@online.com

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County parks summer series focuses on family entertainment

Wayne County Parks and Recreation's Summer Family Entertainment Series kicks off in June with an event featuring live reptiles, hay rides and birds of prey.

The series kicks off 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 13 at Hines Park-Nankin Mills park in Westland. Featured events include live entertainment, clowns, hay rides, a birds of prey who and a live reptile exhibit. Families can round out the day with a nature walk led by county naturalists.

Participants can bring a picnic lunch or buy food from the concession stand.

Other events in the series include children's concerts 6:30 p.m. Tuesday evenings at various locations. Here is a listing of the concerts:

■ Ben's Un-Bear-Lievable Show June 16 at Hines Park-Warrendale, located east of Telegraph Road in Dearborn Heights. Ben Spitzer and sons will juggle and perform various

magic routines during this interactive show.

■ Ging Family Dino-Dixie Revue, June 23 at Bell Creek Park at Inkster and Five Mile roads in Redford.

■ Tini-Lau and the Tahiti Wahines, June 30 at Hines Park Nankin Mills on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. Participants, encouraged to wear Hawaiian shirts, can learn to do the hula and see actual fire dancers.

■ Marc Thomas and Max the Moose, July 7 at Nankin Mills. Marc will perform popular music and ventriloquism with "Max the Moose."

■ The Spoon Man, July 4 at Hines Park's Waterford Bend area on Northville Road, north of Six Mile Road in Northville. He will perform various routines with spoons.

■ Chautauqua Express, July 21 at Trenton's Elizabeth Park, east of I-75, south of West Road off Jefferson. The musical trip

will be presented by Guy Sferlazza of Chautauqua Express.

■ Red Rug Puppet Theater, July 28 at Hines Park Waterford Bend. Beth Katz will present her one-woman walking puppet stage for an old-fashioned "Punch & Judy" style audience-interaction puppet show geared toward children of all ages.

■ The Mystery of the Lost Dinosaur, Aug. 11 at Hines Park-Warrendale. Participants will help solve the mystery of a missing dino buddy in the show presented by magician Gordon Russ.

■ The Magic of Mark St. John, Aug. 18 at Trenton's Elizabeth Park.

Movies in the park are planned June 26 at Elizabeth Park, July 17 at Nankin Mills, July 31 at Waterford Bend and Aug. 28 at Warrendale. Participants should bring chairs, blankets and picnic baskets. Refreshments will be sold at the concession stand.

Capsules from page A13

afford private or group insurance. Pronounced "my child," the program will receive \$92 million in matching federal funds, said Sen. Geake who guided passage.

License bill moves

The House approved a bill raising penalties for dangerous drivers. Sponsored by Rep. Penny Crissman, R-Rochester, House Bill 5123 awards up to 15 years in prison and \$5,000 in fines for people who drive with a suspended or revoked license and cause the death of another person.

The bill was reported out of the House Judiciary Committee and sent to the House floor.

Pay first

A public body from which you have requested information may require that you pay a copying fee prior to delivery, Attorney General Frank Kelley has ruled.

"However, a public body may not refuse to process a subsequent Freedom of Information Act request on the ground that the requester failed to pay fees charged for a prior FOIA request," he added. Reason: FOIA provides a specific list of exceptions, and failure to pay a previous bill isn't among them.

Where the cost will exceed \$50, the public body may require a good faith deposit of up to half the copying, and it "may refuse to process a FOIA request if the requester fails to pay a good faith deposit" properly requested, the attorney general said.

If a person who has ordered

copies of documents fails to pay, the public body may sue to recover. Statute of limitations, under the Revised Judicature Act, is six years.

Source: Attorney General Opinion of April 1, 1998, at the requests of Sen. Jon Cisky and Rep. Michael Hanley, both of Saginaw.

Appointments

Gov. Engler has appointed: Nancy Hillegonds of Plymouth Township to the Michigan Board of Medicine, which examine and licenses people entering the practice of medicine. Hillegonds is a former executive assistant in the Department of Consumer and Industry Services. She will represent the general public.

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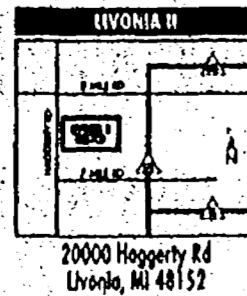
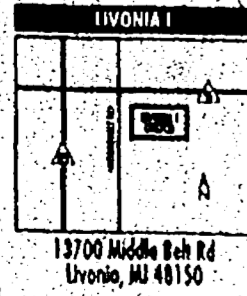
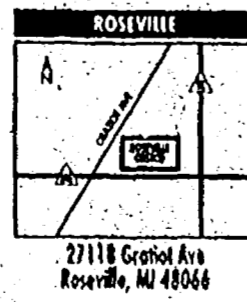
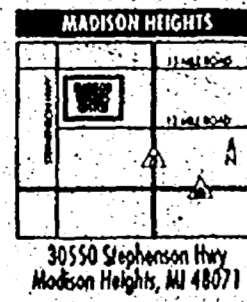
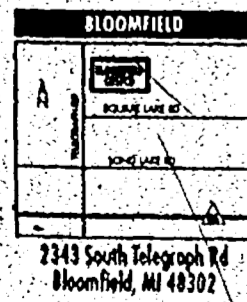
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JACQUE MARTIN-DOWNS

Being held prisoner by your feelings

What do you do when you think of the adjective desperate? Have you ever seen yourself as desperate?

The definition of desperate is reckless or dangerous because of despair or urgency. Mostly, we'd like to think of ourselves as in control of our lives and not out on a limb looking desperate ... you might even conjure up a picture of someone who looks rather pathetic when desperate. It's not a label we necessarily like.

It was 10 p.m. She was famished. The soup for dinner had not filled her up. It was day No. 3 of a seven-day soup diet. Discomfort had been minimal until this point but now, though a quiet had settled over the house, a distress call came from her stomach. That tummy needed more food.

It was beginning to cry out to her and tell her she'd pay a BIG price, if it didn't get some food into it. She said to her husband, "I don't think I can go any further on this diet. I'm feeling miserable. This is hopeless; I'll never lose this weight ... I gotta have something sweet to eat."

Is she unique? Absolutely not. Her desperation to eat might easily be replicated by you when you don't get what you want. Try going three days without:

- Turning on the television set.
- Watching a sporting event.
- Reading the newspaper.
- Drinking your morning coffee.
- Driving above the speed limit.
- Betting or buying a lottery ticket.
- Smoking your cigarettes.
- Imbibing your favorite alcoholic drink.

Dr. Dean Ornish wrote in his book, "Love & Survival," that many of us are suffering from emotional heart disease. He believes that a great number of people are in pain (emotional) and to kill the pain, we distract ourselves by numbing out.

The numbing out is done through behaviors that eventually we can't stop. "But," he says, "the pain is the messenger. And instead of doing something about it, we clip the wires to the fire alarm." It's just so much easier to sit back and reach for whatever immediate gratification you want.

The National Institutes of Health report that this year, unhealthy behavior will account for 1 million deaths - nearly half of the total U.S. deaths.

Are we being good role models for our children? Of course we're not. Let's look at three things we can change that Dr. Arnold Lazarus of Rutgers University, author of "The 60-Second Shrink: 101 Strategies for Staying Sane in a Crazy World" (Impact, 1997), wrote in his book:

■ In our moment of desperation, when we think we just cannot go another minute without ...

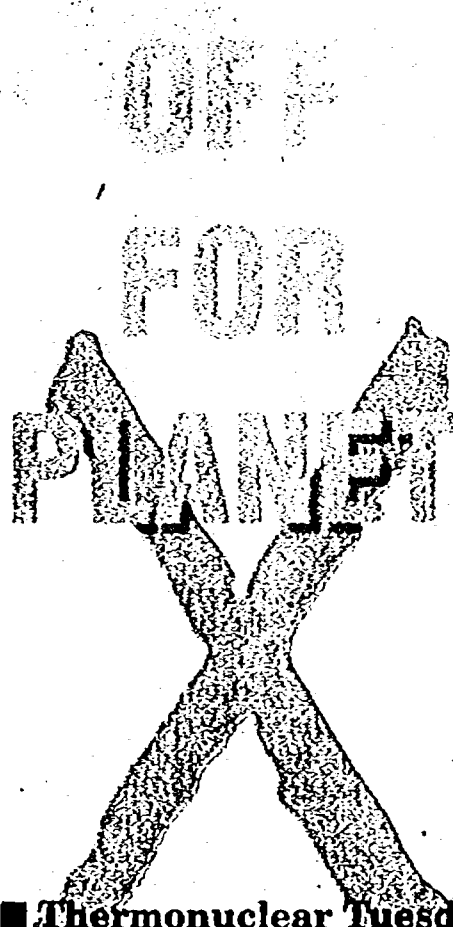
Stop and reflect on why it is so important to have it. If I don't have it, will I die? Not likely. If I don't have it for a little while, I'd be accomplishing something positive. And then tomorrow when I struggle with the same issue, I might be able to go longer without it. Changes happens over time with repeated attempts.

■ Keep a log. Even the smallest successes should go into it. Write in it about times when you made positive changes and how you did it.

■ Be proactive. If you're dieting and didn't bring lunch to work and now the office is swimming in pizza boxes because everyone decided to order out today, shame on you for not planning ahead. Redesign a schedule so you can avoid pitfalls that get you into trouble.

■ Reward yourself for working on your habit. Just remember that the "reward" should come in the form of a treat which is outside the habit. If you are trying not to eat junk burgers, buy yourself a new CD or tickets to a game. Don't hit some other fast

Please see SENSORS, B2



Thermonuclear Tuesdays? Planet X? You won't find them on cable TV's Sci-Fi Channel, but at the Tri-City Christian Center which is reaching out in an unchurched way to young people.

Kevin DeVries of Planet X Ministries really doesn't like "churchy" events.

With their in-your-face religious tactics, those events are sometimes threatening to those considering a relationship with Christ, he explained. DeVries' goal is to produce events that appeal to everyone and subtly share God's message.

"We make our events palatable to non-church and church persons," DeVries said. "A lot of other organizations are into developing subcultures. I don't see that as biblical. Christ, if I'm understanding his ministry correctly, is not about imitating anyone and he's not about isolating anyone."

"He was about infiltrating cultures. He was about comfortable hanging around people at parties."

The Canton-based organization offers a variety of activities from

interactive sports and basketball tournaments to ska concerts and outdoor adventures.

Once a month, Planet X Ministries, an interdenominational youth outreach, holds Thermonuclear Tuesdays (TNT) at the Tri-City Christian Center in Wayne, which hosts the event.

The evenings, which run 7-9:30 p.m. and cost \$3, begin with such interactive sports as bungee run, jousting, bouncy boxing, sumo wrestling, bull pull, trampoline and three-point basketball contests before moving on to guest speakers and a pizza snack.

DeVries' "non-churchy" theory is reflected within the guest speakers and performers that he has scheduled. Bronco McKart, the International Boxing Association's junior middleweight champion, is scheduled to speak on April 28. The versa-



What a blast: Mandy Robinson (above), 12, of Plymouth gets pulled back in the bungee run at the Tri-City Christian Center's recent Thermonuclear Tuesdays, while Carrie Briscoe (left) and Melissa Stone (photo below, right), both are ninth graders at Garden City High School, try out sumo wrestling.

tile athlete Charlie Ward is set for June 30.

Ward, the 1993 Heisman trophy winner, was drafted by the Milwaukee Brewers in 1993 and the New York Yankees in 1994. He is the starting guard for the New York Knicks.

Buck, Nester's Bad Habit, Tone Fatty 5 and The Felluz, bands who play ska music, a fast form of reggae, will hit the stage May 19.

Most duplicated

Since its inception two years ago, TNT has become "one of the largest and most duplicated mid-week youth outreaches in the entire Great Lakes area," according to DeVries.

That's exactly that he hopes to accomplish with the entire Planet X program.

"I want to provide an organization that models programs that people can mimic. If it works, let other people use it."

Planet X Ministries also hosts the "Acoustic Cafe" program at the Coffee Studio in Plymouth. Performers have included the folk/rock duo

LoveBucket, acoustic modern rock artist Clayton Ring and the modern "radio rock" trio Felix Culpa.

Ron Moore, a solo acoustic folk/alternative singer, brings his show to the coffeehouse from 7:45-9:30 p.m. Sunday, April 19.

In scheduling the acts, DeVries looked at "grassrootsy, folksy, not dorky, unplugged artists."

"The whole object of the night is not to have a mosh pit," the Westland resident said. "You can grab a cup of Joe, sit back and enjoy the music."

"I wanted to create a non-preachy, non-threatening evening. (The ministry) is in more of a story format."

Planet X Ministries is a division of Tri-City, for which DeVries has been organizing youth events for 3 1/2 years. He adopted the name Planet X Ministries on Sept. 11, 1997, for two reasons.

"One, it has more to do with Generation X, and 'planet' is popular these days and Planet Hollywood and I think there's a restaurant in California called Planet X, which is a

Please see PLANET X, B7



Putting an X on music, adventure

Canton-based Planet X Ministries is offering several events in the area and a series of outdoor adventures.

For information on any of the following events, call Planet X Ministries at (734) 326-7717 or e-mail them at planetxmin@aol.com.

■ International Boxing Association junior middleweight champion Bronco McKart will be the guest speaker at the ministries' Thermonuclear Tuesday program from 7-9:30 p.m. April 28, at Tri-City Christian Center, 39390

Michigan Ave., east of I-275, Wayne.

The ska bands Buck, Nester's Bad Habit, Tone Fatty 5 and The Felluz perform on May 19.

The 1993 Heisman trophy winner Charlie Ward, a starting guard for the New York Knicks, brings an outdoor 3-on-3 tournament June 30.

The TNT evenings also include interactive sports like bungee run, jousting, bouncy boxing, sumo wrestling, bull pull, trampoline, 3-point basketball contests, pizza

and a love offering. Tickets are \$3.

■ The ministries is also promoting a series of outdoor adventures. The ministries' Ambassadors in Mission trip to Costa Rica, Aug. 11-22, is open to any Christian student or young adult ages 15-29.

The revival offers team members the opportunity to minister in the streets, schools, churches, mountain villages and cities through translated dramas, puppets, personal testimonies, music, preaching and distribution of "The Book of Life." The cost is \$1,100.

Understudies show their loyalty to Hilberry

"Loyalty" is a word that Understudies members frequently use to describe their group which raises funds for Wayne State University's Hilberry Theatre.

Wendy Evans, promotion director of the Hilberry and Bonstelle theatres, said she's fortunate that the group which limits itself to 80 members is so dedicated to the theater. Last year, the Understudies raised \$176,013 for the graduate theater.

Understudies President Sue Nine, who describes herself as "the past president of more than half the groups in town," explained that this particular organization rises above the others.

"The warmth and commitment of these people is more than I find in almost any other group," said Nine, a Bloomfield Hills resident and WSU graduate. "While it's a Wayne State University project, interestingly enough, many of them do not necessarily have a university connection except for this."

"They're people interested in fine theater. I think I've been impressed knowing and understanding the loyalty of the Understudies. In a state where the Big 10 schools get incredible dedication and devotion, I find it amazing that we have been able to attract the esprit de corps and enthusiasm of the members that we have."

Grand opening

The Hilberry Theatre opened Jan. 14, 1984, with the gala President's Preview, an invitation-only performance of "Julius Caesar," hosted by the late



Well-known: The edifice of the Hilberry Theatre is as recognizable as its neighbor, Old Main, on the campus of Wayne State University in Detroit.

Clarence B. Hilberry, then-WSU president. Hilberry solicited donations himself to turn the former First Church of Christ Scientist into an open-stage theater. The theater was created as a performance center for the nation's first graduate repertory company.

Before the second season opened, Hilberry recruited two women to form a women's committee to launch a fund-raising drive. They raised \$26,000 toward the support of the 1964-65 company.

The Understudies group has remained an organization for women, described by Evans as an "extraordinary group," most of whom are in their early 50s.

"These are some of the most active and influential women in the Detroit area. They are an active volunteer force in so many different places - the DIA (Detroit Institute of Arts), MOT (Michigan Opera Theater) and Wayne State University," she said.

With a raucous laugh, Nine said there aren't any men in the organization because there hasn't been a man who has applied to join.

"(That's) maybe because the original request from the president went out to women. At that time, it was women who were the primary volunteers," she said. "That's not true today. I know that. If there was a nice man who was really interested and enthused, he's welcome."

The only requirement for Understudies members is they must raise \$150 in donations annually.

"We also think it's wise that they've been to the theater and know what the (Hilberry) program involves," Nine said.

Thousands of graduate students apply annually for positions within The Hilberry Theatre, a company of 45-50. Students who make the cut receive full school

Please see UNDERSTUDIES, B3

St. Agatha's ready to celebrate golden anniversary

Former and current parish members, pastors, students and alumni will have plenty of reasons to celebrate at St. Agatha Catholic Church in Redford this year and they can begin the festivities in style.

This is St. Agatha's 50th year in the community and the half-century celebration will begin on Sunday, April 26 at the 11 a.m. Mass, celebrated by Cardinal Adam Maida.

Immediately after Mass, there will be a reception, held through both school buildings and the church.

"I'm real excited about it," said current pastor, the Rev. Thomas Slowinski. "We were hoping to be able to come up with an idea, and I think we did, that would be as unique as the celebration."

According to Slowinski, the party will be a one-of-a-kind,

befitting the special nature of the occasion. There will be a jazz combo, a harpist, a pianist and a string quartet for entertainment.

"Wherever you walk throughout the buildings, you'll hear music; there'll be food, champagne, beverages and hors d'oeuvres," he said, adding the event will be catered by Opus One.

The parish was founded in 1948, but services were held in various locations until the building on Pembroke and Beech Daly was completed. It was built with the intention of converting it into a gym as part of the school project, according to Slowinski.

"One of the last buildings built was the church," said Slowinski. He said the cornerstone on that reads 1956.

The complex was completed around 1960 except for a two-story additional wing that was later added to the high school.

There are currently 500 students in preschool through 12th grade at the schools. One of the things Slowinski hopes to do is to establish a more active alumni association at St. Agatha.

"It is a great opportunity to seize the moment," said Slowinski of the anniversary celebration. To that end, he said the church has hired a development director. Slowinski hopes 1998 will be the year to look to the future and establish a viable alumni association.

Susan Jacoboni, publicity chairperson for the 50th anniversary event, is a St. Agatha alumna. A 1981 graduate, Jacoboni began her St. Agatha education in the sixth grade. She said the planning committee of about 20 parishioners began preparing for the momentous year last fall.

The April 26 event is just the beginning of the summer of celebration.

"The next huge event for us is our annual festival which is the last weekend in May," said Jacoboni. The festival, which runs May 28 through 31, "has really grown to be quite an event."

Closing out the celebrations will be a dinner-dance at the Western Country Club in Redford, according to Jacoboni.

The committee is trying to locate as many alumni and former parishioners as possible. They are anticipating an attendance of around 500.

Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased after Mass on April 18 and 19 and at the door on April 26. For more information, call (313) 531-0371.



At celebration: Cardinal Adam Maida will celebrate Mass at St. Agatha Church in Redford on April 26 as part of the parish's 50th anniversary.

Understudies from page B1

ships, a \$15,000-per-year stipend and health insurance. After the three-year program, most of the students earn master's degrees or doctorates in fine arts or theater.

"Right now, each package that somebody gets per year is worth over \$16,000. The university contributes some money for that, but we're responsible for the rest through ticket sales and donations," said Evans, who is also a professor and head of the graduate program in theater management.

Feeling proud

Nine isn't shy when she describes the Hilberry Theatre's mission.

"The Hilberry Theatre, we brag, we think, probably has the finest training program in the country and that's a big statement," she said. "We say that because we have the best track record of placing people in jobs."

This year's company includes box office assistant manager Angela Keller of Livonia; properties designer Fred Florkowski of

Redford; actress Sara Wolf of Rochester Hills; actor Mark Finnell of Farmington Hills; costume designer Kathleen Crosby of Rochester; and lighting director Brian Boyer of Gaylord, whose resume includes electrician work with the Birmingham Theatre, The Palace of Auburn Hills, Pine Knob Music Theatre and Meadow Brook Music Festival.

Besides performing for subscribers, the actors and actresses also perform for students. Canton resident Pamela Yockey, an Understudies member since 1993, encourages Hilberry students to visit her classroom at West Middle School in Taylor.

"Last year I had four of the members of the crew come in and do a mini play for my athletic banquet. I've had the opportunity for them to come in and talk to the students one-on-one," said Yockey, who teaches history.

The benefits of the visits are twofold.

"It gives them (the students) a reality check on the fact that they don't just go to New York and become famous," Yockey

said. "They see that some decided to teach drama, work on scenery or do other things. It's fun to see it from that standpoint. It also brings the (arts) world closer to each one of the students."

It also shows the middle school students that you don't need to be wealthy to enjoy the arts, she explained. For example, students enthusiastic about the visits by the Hilberry company have started their own theater group at the school.

"They're going to do everything from song and dance. It's an opportunity for the kids to do little mini-showcases. That's a start for a community, which is very nice."

The Understudies' major act is its annual fund-raising drive which began Sunday, March 1, in conjunction with the season ticket renewal campaign, and runs through September.

The Understudies members recruit donors through letters and try to woo prospective donors by taking them to see plays.

"My husband always likes to

call it a glamorous ponzi scheme that does good," Nine said with a laugh.

At the annual "Dinner with the Director," members invite prospective donors to have a meal with the director of the evening's play. This year, they will have dinner with director James Thomas, chairman of the theater department, and then see the play "Three Sisters" on Thursday, April 16.

The Understudies group meets several times a year - the fund-raising campaign meeting in February, its annual campaign meeting in June, and in September the members greet and welcome the new students.

"One of the highlights of the Understudies year is when you get to come in and meet the students," Evans said.

The first Saturday in October the Understudies celebrate the opening of the season with a President's Preview, a black tie event that includes dinner at the Whitney restaurant and a play at the theater.

Like most organizations, the

Understudies' role has expanded since its formation. They have also raised funds for the endowed Lily Tomlin Scholarship Fund, named after the actress/WSU alumna and given to an undergraduate student working at the Bonstelle Theatre. Recently, the group started a babysitting program to allow spouses of the Hilberry actors and actresses to see their performances.

"We're very, very fortunate to have a group like the Understudies," Evans said. "We feel lucky. They've given us such generous and continuous support for all these years. They're really passionate about the theater and about Wayne State theaters in particular. It's a very, very loyal group."

People interested in joining Understudies can call Sue Nine at (248) 644-4747, Wendy Evans at (313) 577-3010, or write the Understudies at Wayne State University, Department of Theatre, 4841 Cass Ave., Room 3225, Detroit 48202.

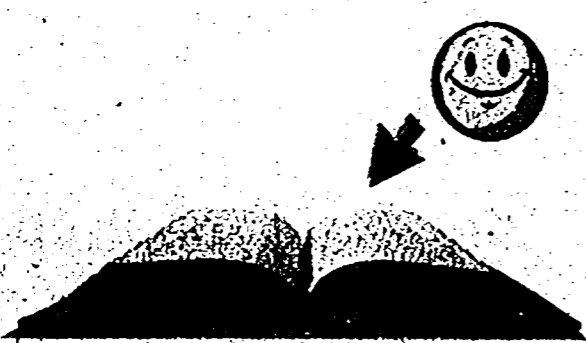
Sensors from page B1

food restaurant instead. I propose that the bulk of the American population is desperate, and to quell our desperation, we indulge in maladaptive behaviors. Let's try not to be held prisoner by our feelings.

The 10 p.m. call from your stomach makes you feel like you have to have ice cream. Don't forget that your feelings have no IQ and your brain can overrule

them anytime ... I know, I know, they sure like to rule the roost, don't they?

If you have a question or comment for Jacque Martin-Downs, a special projects coordinator for the Wayne-Westland Community Schools and private therapist, write her at the Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.



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WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Claus-Hoyer

Jim and Jane Claus of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Renee, to Ronald James Hoyer, the son of Dennis and Shirley Seger of Garden City.

The bride-to-be is a 1991 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and a 1996 graduate of Schoolcraft College with an associate's degree in business. She is employed as a sales administrative assistant by Wallace Computer Services in Livonia.

Her fiancé is a 1990 graduate of Livonia Franklin High School. He is employed by Bill Brown Ford in Livonia as an auto technician.

A May wedding is planned at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville.



Northville.

Gardner-Parker

Larry and Barbara Gardner of Redford announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Colleen, to Timothy Paul Parker, the son of Samuel and Connie Parker of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a 1988 graduate of Redford Thurston High School. She is employed as a general manager by Cooker Restaurant Corp.

Her fiancé is a 1990 graduate of United Christian School. He is employed as a planning supervisor for O.E. Systems in Troy.

A May wedding at the Audubon House in Key West, Fla., is being planned.



Rahaim-Durocher

Joseph and Dianne Rahaim of Farmington Hills announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie Marie, to Timothy Luke Durocher, the son of Lawrence and Mary Jo Durocher of Garden City.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Mercy High School in Farmington and Madonna University with a bachelor's degree in science. She is employed as a corporate legal assistant at Wise

& Marsac in Detroit.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Garden City High School and Central Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in finance. He also was the president of the class of 1994 at the Detroit College of Law. He is practicing with DeBiasi and Associates in Taylor.

A September wedding is planned at Orchard Lake St. Mary's Church.

Dunigan-Rauton

Thomas and Julie Dunigan of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Ellen, to Daniel Webster Rauton, the son of Edward and Linda Perkins of Wayne.

The bride-to-be is a 1996 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School. She is attending Lawrence Technological University.

Her fiancé is employed by Tank Management Inc. in Livonia and is attending Schoolcraft College.

A June wedding is planned at St. Simon and Jude Church in Westland.



Hagerman-Carr

Pamela Christine Carr and Jeffrey Alan Hagerman were married Sept. 13 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Kalamazoo. The Rev. Mark Rutenbar officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Sandra Carr of Livonia and Donald Carr of Beachwood, Ohio. The groom is the son of Merle and Winifred Hagerman of Kalamazoo.

The bride is a graduate of Western Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and Northwestern University with a master's degree in direct marketing.

The groom also is a graduate of Western Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

The bride asked Cheryl Koopman, Lisa Carr, Roxanne Stenaman, Alena Jandounek, Lori Visser, Pam Hagerman and Kristen Torchalski to serve as her attendants.

The groom asked Jim Buck-



hout, Terry Steger, Dave Ream, Mike Lauka, Chris Carr, Dave White and Tyler Carr to serve as his attendants.

The couple received guests at Rose Street Market in Kalamazoo before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Hawaii. They are making their home in Woodstock, Ill.

Myrick-LeTourneau

June Myrick of Woodbury, Ga., and Mel Myrick of Greenville, Ga., announce the engagement of their daughter, Libby Carol, to Craig Michael LeTourneau of Savannah, Ga., the son of Pat Spinali of Redford Township and Bill LeTourneau of Mount Pleasant, S.C.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Flint River Academy High School and Georgia Southern University. She is employed as a social service case manager for Chatham County.

Her fiancé is a 1991 graduate of Redford Union High School and a 1995 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a degree in occupational therapy. He is employed as an occupational therapist at Effingham



Hospital in Georgia. An October wedding is planned in Savannah, Ga.

Rize-Everard

Phyllis Rize of Westland announces the engagement of her daughter, Deanne Nina, to Wayne Michael Everard, the son of Michael and Sandra Everard, also of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a 1989 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School and a 1995 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in education. She is employed as a special education teacher in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

Her fiancé is a 1988 graduate of Livonia Franklin High School and a 1996 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in education. He is employed as a special education teacher in the Warren Woods School District.



A July wedding is planned at St. Bernardine Church.

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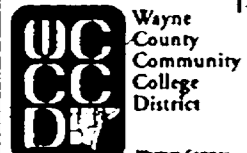
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Helping out: Eight years ago, Mattie Lynch decided to use some of her free time once she retired to help out at Schoolcraft College's Women's Resource Center.

Luncheon honors S'craft volunteers

Mattie Lynch estimates she has helped 1,500 people over the eight years she has donated her time and talents to the Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College.

"Two or three stories I have heard have never left me," said Lynch. "You help just by listening and trying to show people they have different options. We never tell them what path they should take, but what paths are open to them."

The college is honoring Lynch and other volunteers at a luncheon today as part of National Volunteer Recognition Week this week.

The approximately 100 volunteers at Schoolcraft perform a myriad of jobs from tutoring students in the Learning Assistance Center to helping the Beekeepers Club maintain the bee hives on campus. They range in age from teens and early 20s to the late 70s and 80s.

"I have no plans to stop being a volunteer," Lynch said. "You get out of it just what you put into it. There is such a wonderful group of people there, I almost can't do without them."

Road rally is MADD benefit

The Wayne County Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving will hold a road rally fund-raiser Saturday, April 25.

The fun begins with registration at 6 p.m. at Kirk of Our Savior Church, Cherry Hill Road west of Wayne Road, Westland.

The rally starts at 6:30 p.m. Participants will receive clues that will lead them to dinner and a celebration at the final destination. All locations are in western Wayne County.

More than 40 volunteers, including SADD students and a police officer, are helping with the road rally.

The cost is \$40 per couple, and tickets and further instructions are available by calling the MADD office at (734) 721-8181.

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Oops! Hospital lists parents' top 10 mistakes

No matter how hard we try to keep up with the current news on what's good for our kids, there is always a controversy left unturned. It's hard to make time for kids and keep up with the latest parenting news.

Children's Hospital of Michigan is trying to keep parents in the know about what's good for their kids and what parenting tactics should be avoided.

"Every mom and dad is different," said Dr. Herman Gray, vice chief of pediatric education at Children's Hospital. "Parents know their kids better than anyone else, but sometimes we need a little guidance."

For some, the controversies are generational. Many parents say they'll never do what their parents did, and others plan to do it all over again. Regardless, Gray advises getting answers from a qualified resource.

"No matter what the question, issue or controversy, ask your pediatrician," he said. "Chances are he or she has heard it before and can help. There is no such thing as a dumb question when it comes to parenting."

In hopes of clearing up some parenting mysteries, and settling some controversies, Gray suggests taking steps to correct some common parenting blunders. It is important to remember, however, that while these missteps happen frequently, most parents have the best interest of their child in mind.

Gray recommends examining the following missteps to dispel some of the mystery behind parenting.

Coming into the pediatrician's office unprepared.

Fevers are a common occurrence among children. But when parents visit the pediatrician with no record of when their child's fever spiked or whether or not the child even has a fever, the doctor is at a disadvantage. A parent cannot determine whether a child has a fever by touching the child's forehead.

Making a child eat when the child is "full" or not hungry.

Often times mealtime is a battle between parent and child. The bottom line: the child will eat when he or she becomes hungry. Keep in mind what and how much a child eats at six months is not appropriate at 12 or 18 months.

Failing to vaccinate children.

Consult with your pediatrician about the age-appropriate immunizations your child needs.

With the exception of a few monsters under the bed, frightening lightning and an occasional scary movie, children should sleep in their own bed.

Not finishing the prescribed antibiotic.

Even if your child is feeling, acting and looking better, the infection may not be gone. It is crucial for children to finish the entire course of antibiotic prescribed by the pediatrician.

Smoking in the house or around children and pregnant women.

Research shows that second-hand smoke and women who smoke while pregnant can increase the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), low birth weight and asthma as well as increased ear, sinus and bronchiole infections.

Improper isolation rules.

When a child has a highly contagious disease, it is very important not to expose other children or vulnerable adults (pregnant

women or elderly adults) to the disease. For example, if you suspect your child has the chicken pox, call your pediatrician's office before you arrive, so they can make special arrangements for your child to enter through a back door and not expose the other children.

Allowing children to sleep with parents.

With the exception of a few monsters under the bed, frightening lightning and an occasional scary movie, children should sleep in their own bed. Parents need to recognize that kids need their own space and should enforce some rules that acknowledge separate sleeping areas for parents and children.

Rewarding bad behavior.

Parents must remain consistent when disciplining their chil-

dren. Set clear limits with your child, be cautious not to give a child mixed messages about what a good behavior and what is not.

Avoiding regular check-ups.

That's a cardinal sin in both adult and pediatric medicine. Your child should be seeing a pediatrician on a regular basis, not only when the child is sick.

Misunderstanding the common cold.

Colds are caused by a very common virus that cannot be cured by medication. Parents need to let colds run their course. A normal cold will last 10-14 days with symptoms like a runny nose, headache, congestion and sore throat. However, symptoms that persist should be addressed with your pediatrician.

Children's Hospital of Michigan is a private, nonprofit, 245-bed hospital that has been treating children for 110 years. It is a member of The Detroit Medical Center, the academic health center for Wayne State University.

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American Girls parties benefit juvenile diabetes research

C.S. Mott Children's Hospital is inviting girls and their mothers, relatives and friends to step into the past and experience 19th century New Mexico at "Welcome Josefina - An American Girls Event" Saturday and Sunday, May 16 and 17.

"Welcome Josefina" will be held 10 a.m. to noon and 2-4 p.m. Saturday, May 16, and 1-3 p.m. Sunday, May 17, in the

cafeteria of Novi High School, 24062 Taft Road, Novi.

Proceeds will benefit C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and go toward research for juvenile diabetes.

The fundraising event will celebrate the arrival of Josefina Montoya, the newest fictional heroine in the popular American Girls Collection of books, dolls and accessories.

Josefina is a 9-year-old Hispanic girl growing up in northern New Mexico in 1824. Through the on-screen presentation, girls and their guests will travel back in time to see what life was like in the 19th century New Mexico as the Santa Trail pushed America west.

The program reflects the sights, sounds, celebrations and daily activities that Josefina and

her family would have experienced living on their ranch outside Santa Fe.

In addition to the show, the girls will hear lively music, create colorful paper flower decorations called ramilletes and learn how to embroider using the traditional colcha stitch. Guests also will enjoy a taste of traditional New Mexican refreshments.

Girls are encouraged to bring their favorite doll. Each girl will take home her handmade crafts and free party favors, including a keepsake Memory Book to record her special remembrances of the day.

The cost is \$20 per person (\$10 of which is tax deductible) and includes refreshments, an on-screen presentation, craft materials and party favors. Tickets

are available by sending a check to American Girls Event, care of Lisa Barton, 23083 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336.

Tickets for a raffle, featuring products and accessories from the Josefina Collection as prizes, cost \$2 and are available in advance. For more information, call Barton at (248) 344-4182 or Nancy Wagner at (248) 380-2849.

ANNIVERSARIES

Viers

James Arthur and Claire Frances Viers are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary with a Mass at St. Bernadine's Church and a small party at their Westland home.

The longtime Westland residents exchanged vows on April 3, 1948, at St. Brigid Church in Detroit. She is the former Claire Frances Viers.

They have six children - Darrell Viers, Karen Eshbaugh and husband John, Daniel Viers and

Fran Kliza, Susan Viers, Elizabeth Adams and husband Mark and John Viers Jr. They also have 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

They are both retirees of Michigan Bell Telephone. He also is a member of IBEW Local 58.

Their interests include their family, church and vacation home on Whitefish Bay in Paradise, Mich.



Reaume

Lawrence and Florence Reaume of Northville are celebrating their 50th anniversary with renewal of their vows at Our Lady of Victory Church in Northville and dinner at Giovanni's Restaurant in Detroit as well as a stay at the Bed & Breakfast Winery in Traverse City.

The couple married Feb. 7, 1948, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Detroit. She

is the former Florence Parpenelli.

They have three married children - Denis and wife Nancy of Livonia, Karen Rushlow and husband Michael of South Lyon and Christopher and wife Diane of Novi. They also have six grandchildren.

Retired for eight years, they are members of the Italian American Club and enjoy wine tasting, gardening and golf.

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Planet X from page B1

spinoff of Planet Hollywood," he explained. "Also, it's all-inclusive. 'Planet' means all of the things that are inside of that."

Governed by a board of directors, Planet X Ministries is incorporated as a Domestic 501(c)3 Christian nonprofit youth and young adult organization. The ministries is a dream come true for DeVries.

"This unique opportunity has

allowed me the privilege to pursue my dream - to serve a local church while also impacting the church of Jesus Christ at large," he said.

Besides assuming the production and promotion of TNT and the Acoustic Cafe, Planet X Ministries works with other organizations as well.

"We promote in-house events and produce other people's

events as well," DeVries said. "It's a platform for other members to promote their ministries as well."

Planet X is partially supporting itself through Planet X Entertainment, which rents amusement attractions to various organizations. DeVries explained he is following the example of the Apostle Paul, who made tents to support him-

self.

"We always have to think about fundage. Rather than put pressure on people to make donations, we have an honest service-related project."

DeVries and Planet X Ministries are targeting Generation X which he defines as kids who are just entering middle school through adults aged 33. School-

age children are most important to him.

According to DeVries, there are one million junior and senior high school students, many of whom have not heard or do not understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He says "it is time to stop complaining about the winds of our culture or simply expect it to change."

"Even though each denomination has its own opinion, there's a lot about the church of Christ that we can find in common," he said. "So let's get the message of Christ out there and invite people to have a relationship with Christ."

"It's like the old axiom, we can do much more together than separately."



Take that: C.J. Warmolts, 14 of Westland (left) and Jesse Saavedra, 13 of Westland (right) try out jousting during a recent Thermonuclear Tuesday at the Tri-City Christian Center.

UM-D center holds open house

The University of Michigan-Dearborn Child Development Center will have an open house for its kindergarten, preschool and toddler programs 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, April 22.

The open house, which is intended for prospective students and their families, will be held in the administrative office of the Child Development

Center, Room 1031, on campus.

The fall 1998 enrollment for the kindergarten program is open to all children who will reach the age of 5 before Dec. 1. The toddler and preschool programs are available for children ages 1 (who are walking) to 5.

Early childhood program teachers and staff members

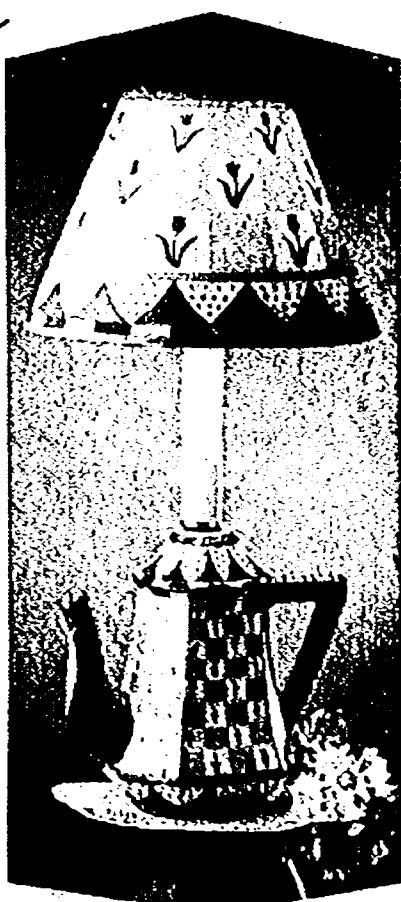
will be available to answer questions regarding educational programs, enrollment, tuition and scholarships.

The early childhood programs are accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

For more information, call the Child Development Center at (313) 593-5424.

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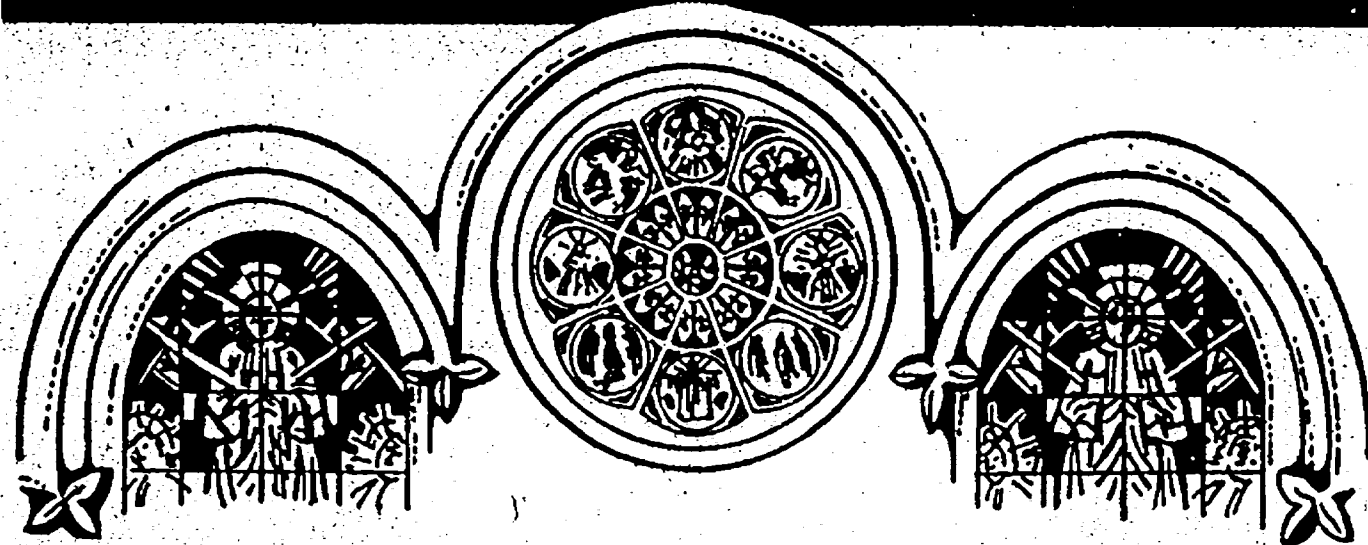
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YOUTH AWANA CLUBS

Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.
Wed. Family Hour 7:15 P.M.

April 19th
11:00 a.m. "An Open Heart"
6:00 p.m. "Dr. Spock, Stand Up?"

"A Church That's Concerned About People"

Pastor & Mrs. H.L. Petty

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
5403 S. Wayne Rd. • Wayne, MI
(Between Michigan Ave. & Van Born Rd.)
(313) 728-2180
Virgil Humes, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Not All Bad Words Have Four Letters

Loneliness, sorrow, trial, difficulty, trouble, fearfulness, sin, doubt, temptation, anxiety, death, illness, hatred, guilt, brokenness, concern, hopelessness.

Get some good words this Sunday.

Tri-City Christian Center
Michigan Ave. & Hannon Rd.
326-0330
Sunday 9 am, 11 am, 6 pm

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills
(810) 661-9191

NOW OFFERING TWO WORSHIP SERVICES!

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages - 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Child Care provided for infants through preschoolers
Wednesday evenings - Activities for All Ages

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Society of St. Pius X
Traditional Latin Mass

23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121
Priest's Phone (810) 784-9511

Mass Schedule:
First Fri. 7:00 p.m.
First Sat. 9:30 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
1160 Penniman Ave.
Livonia • 453-0326
Rev. John J. Sullivan

Masses: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 A.M. Sat. 3:00 P.M.
Sunday 8:00, 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M.

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
48765 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187
451-0444
REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO

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

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
17610 Farmington Road • Livonia
(313) 261-1360

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

Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church
14750 Knoch • Redford Twp.
532-8655
Pastor Gregory Gibbons

Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:45 a.m.

Now accepting applications for 1997-98 school year.
WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Luther A. Werth, Sr. Pastor
Rev. Robert Bayer, Assist. Pastor
— Two locations to serve you —

LIVONIA
14175 Farmington Rd.
(N. of I-96)
Sunday Worship 8:30 am & 11:00 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
(313) 522-6830

CANTON
46001 Warren Road
(West of Canton Center)
Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:45 am
(313) 414-7422
Visit our Web Site at <http://www.ccaa.edu/~lmcms>

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
20805 Middlebelt corner of 8 Mile & Middlebelt
Farmington Hills, Mich.

WORSHIP SERVICES
Saturday Evening 6 p.m.
Sunday Morning 9:15 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30

Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

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

Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.
Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
Monday Evening Service 7:30 P.M.
Gary D. Headoph, Administrative Pastor
Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor
Jeff Burke, Principal/D.C.E.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DAILY
532-2265 REDFORD TWP.

Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
Rev. Victor F. Halboch, Pastor
Rev. Timothy Halboch, Assoc. Pastor

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

NewLife Lutheran Church
8820 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290
Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Adult & Children's Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Family Worship

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

CHRISTADELPHIANS

CHRISTADELPHIANS
Sunday Lecture Series April 26th at 2:15
"The Holy Spirit: God's Power At Work."
Sunday Memorial Service 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School 11:30 A.M.
Bible Class - Wednesdays 7:30 P.M.
36516 Parkdale, Livonia • 425-7610

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH
291 E. SPRING ST.
2 Blocks N. of Main - 2 Blocks E. of M
SUNDAY 10:00 A.M. Bible Study - 7:30 P.M. (Classes for all ages)
WEDNESDAY Bible Study - 7:30 P.M. (Classes for all ages)

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 474-3446
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room - 445 S. Harvey, Plymouth
Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. • Thursday 7-9 p.m.
453-1676

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Agapé Family Worship Center
"A PRACTICAL CHURCH ON THE MOVE"

45081 Geddes Road, Canton, MI 48188
(734) 394-0357

New Service Times
Sunday Worship Services - 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday - Family Night - 7:00 p.m.

Agapé Christian Academy - K through 12

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Brightmoor Tabernacle

Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, pastor
26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI (I-696 & Telegraph • West of Holiday Inn) • 352-6200
9:15 a.m. Family Sunday School Hour • Wednesday 7:00 p.m. "Family Night"

10:30 a.m. Pastor Doug Rhind
6:30 p.m. Pastor Tom Elmore and Youth Ministries
Join us for prayer service every Friday at 7:30 pm
24-Hour Prayer Line 810-352-6205

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
5 Miles W. of Sheldon Rd.
From M-14 take Gottfredson Rd. South
Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor

8:00 Praise & Worship Service
9:30 Lifeline Contemporary Service
11:00 Traditional Service

SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages

Ward
40000 Six Mile Road
Northville, MI 248-374-7400
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Worship Services Sunday School
8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M.
Evening Service 7:00 P.M. In the Chapel

Nursery Provided

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

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
4801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 453-1522
Sun. BIBLE STUDY 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
FAMILY NIGHT - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
Arthur C. Magnuson, Pastor
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 455-3196

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
8435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago
Livonia 48150 • 421-5406
Rev. Donald Lindean, Pastor
9:15 Adult Class
10:30 a.m. Worship Service and Youth Classes
Nursery Care Available
WELCOME.

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A)

ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH
16700 Newburgh Road
Livonia • 453-8844

Sunday School for All Ages: 9:30 a.m.
Family Worship: 11:00 a.m.
April 19th: Strange Sighting, Strong Power
Rev. Anna Marie Austin, preaching
Rev. Dr. Janet Noble, Pastor
A Creative Christ Centered Congregation

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(between Warren & Farmington Rds.)
(313) 422-0494

Worship Service & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Nursery Care Provided
We Welcome You To A Full Program Church
Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor
Rev. Ruth Billington, Associate Pastor
Visit our Website at www.gpcusa.com/~rosedale

GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
5835 Sheldon Rd., Canton
(313) 459-0013

Sunday Worship & Church School 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Education For All Ages
Childcare Provided • Handicapped Accessible
Resources for Hearing and Sign Impaired

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Main & Church • (313) 453-6464
PLYMOUTH

Worship Services 9:00 am & 11:00 a.m.
Church School & Nursery 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Dr. James Skimins Tamara J. Seldel
Senior Minister Associate Minister
David J.W. Brown, Dir. of Youth Ministries
Accessible to All

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

PLYMOUTH SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
PLYMOUTH ADVENTIST ACADEMY Grades 1-8
4295 Napier Road • Plymouth
(313) 455-3580

WORSHIP SERVICES
SATURDAY: Sabbath School 8:15 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
Divine Worship 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Pastor Mike Doucoumes (313) 844-8660
School (313) 455-8222

Mt. Hope Congregational Church
30330 Schoolcraft Livonia • 734-425-7280
(Between Middlebelt & Merriman)
Sunday School & Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Nursery Care Available
"The Church You've Always Longed For."

UNITED METHODIST

Clarenceville United Methodist
20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
474-3446
Rev. Jean Love

Worship Services 10:15 AM, 6:00 PM
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 AM
Office Hrs. 9-3

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
29887 West Eleven Mile Road
Just West of Middlebelt
248-476-8860
Farmington Hills
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Worship, Church School, Nursery

"Unless I See"
Rev. Kathleen Groff, preaching

Senior Minister: Rev. Benjamin Dohnsack
Associate Minister: Rev. Kathleen Groff
Minister of Visitation: Rev. Robert Bough

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)
Chuck Sorquist, Pastor

10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School
11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes
Nursery Provided • 422-6038

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

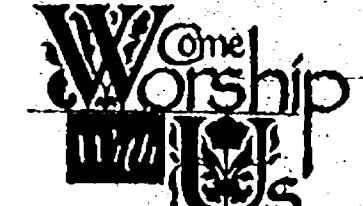
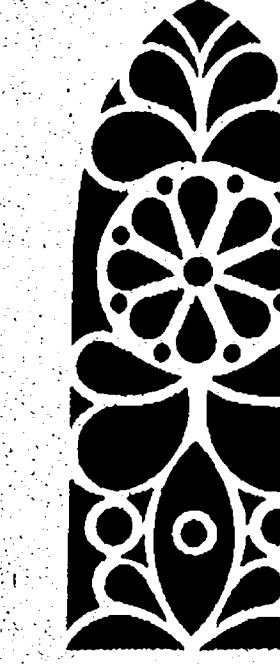
NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
422-0149

Worship Services & Sunday School 9:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
April 19th "I believe God"
Rev. Edward C. Coley, preaching
Rev. Thomas G. Badley Rev. Melanie Lee Carey
Rev. Edward C. Coley

3 Styles of Creative Worship
8:00 a.m. - Cozy, Traditional, Basile
9:30 a.m. - Contemporary, Family
11:00 a.m. - Traditional, Full Choir

WORSHIP PREVIEW:
April 19
Emphasis: Paul; Conversion
Scripture Focus: Acts 8: 1-20
Rev. Bob, preaching
Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Children - Youth - Adults

Women's Worship



RELIGIOUS NEWS

Dunn performs at Riverside



Clinton Dunn

The community is invited to come and praise the Lord in a worship celebration with Clinton Dunn at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, April 19, at the Riverside Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road, Livonia.

son Symphony and Muncie Symphony. He also has performed with many symphonic chorales and the Northern European Opera Company in Lille, France. He has been a guest artist at the Praise Gathering in Indianapolis and the Hosannah Music Conference in Columbus, Ohio.

SUNDAY LESSONS

Church of Today West-Unity will offer the first lesson, "Creating the Field" in a seven-week series of "Serving an Awakening World," given by Barbara Cleverger, minister, as its weekly Sunday lesson at 9 and 11 a.m.

The church also offers youth education at both services. A course in miracles is taught year-round at 7 p.m. Tuesdays. Other basic courses include 4T, meditation and unity basics.

'WIND AND FIRE'

The Northwest Wayne Vicariate is sponsoring a six-week "Wind and Fire" seminar at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, April 23 through May 25, at St. Edith Church Hall, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia.

SINGLE POINT

Single Point Ministries of Ward Presbyterian Church will present "Talk It Over" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 23, in Room C317/C319 of the church, Six Mile just west of Haggerty, Northville.

SPRING DANCE

St. Damian Parish will have a youth dance 8-11 p.m. Friday, April 24, in the community room of the church, 3055 Joy Road, Westland.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other.

experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other Friday through Sunday, April 24-26 and May 29-31, at St. John's Family Life Center in Plymouth Township.

MOM'S SALE

St. Edith Parish's MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) will have a Mom's Sale, featuring gently used children's clothing, toys, books and furnishings as well as maternity clothes, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 25, in the parish hall of the church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia.

ORGAN RECITAL

Timothy Lutheran Church will host an organ recital by Frank Kuhlmann at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 26, at the church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia.

COMMUNITY CONCERT

St. Thomas a' Becket, Resurrection and St. John Neumann parishes will present a community concert of contemporary Christian music, "Joyful Songs of Praise," at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 26, at St. John Neumann, 44800 Warren Road, Canton.

FELLOWSHIP DAY

Church Women United of Suburban Detroit West will have its May Fellowship Day at 9:15 a.m. Friday, May 1, at Redford United Methodist Church, 22400 Grand River, Detroit.

Please see RELIGION, B10

Sendings for the Religious News should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-7279.

EARLY REGISTRATION Christ Our Savior's Early Childhood Program is accepting registration for its fall program at the church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Preschool and day care is available two-five days a week for children 2 1/2 through 6 years of age.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALES A spring rummage and bake sale will be held 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday, April 16-17, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 18, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 20805 Middlebelt at Eight Mile.

church, 6443 Merriman Road, Garden City. There will be a \$2 a bag sale 1-2 p.m. For more information, call (734) 421-8628. The high school youth of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church will have a rummage sale 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 24, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia.

of Meadowbrook Congregational Church will have a rummage sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 24, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the church, 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile, Novi. St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church will have its spring rummage sale 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 2, at the church, 26431 W. Chicago, between Inkster and Beech Daly roads, Redford.

more information, call Rose at (734) 464-3325. The group also meets regularly on Sundays for breakfast and Mass - 10 a.m. at the Redford Inn, Five Mile Road west of Beech Daly Road, Redford, and at 11:15 a.m. at St. Aidan's Church, 17600 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia - call Val at (734) 729-1974 - for coffee and conversation at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Archie's Family Restaurant, 30471 Plymouth Road, Livonia, and for pinocle at 7 p.m. every other Friday - call Rose at (734) 464-3325. 'SOUNDS OF MUSIC' Calvin Taylor, pianist and recording artist, will appear in concert for the 10 a.m. worship service Sunday, April 19, at St. Matthew United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, Livonia.

Taylor, who has toured throughout the world, has degrees in music from Oberlin Conservatory and the University of Michigan. He has authored several music books, including "Spirituals for Piano" and "The Patriotic Piano." He also records for Master Disc Records and his composition, "Intermezzo," has been performed by several symphony orchestras. For more information, call the church at (734) 422-6038.

St. Paul's Preschool accepting enrollment

Enrollment registration is currently being accepted for St. Paul's Presbyterian Church Preschool for the 1998-99 school year.

The preschool, fully licensed by the state of Michigan, will be in session Sept. 14 through May 28, 1999.

Preschool/kindergarten classes meet 9:15-11:45 a.m. and 12:15-2:45 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. They are open to children who will be 4 years old on or before Dec. 1, 1998.

A 3-year-old preschool is open to children who will be 3 years old on or before Dec. 1 and who

are completely toilet trained. The class meets 9:15-11:45 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. A combination 3-4-year-old class is open to children who will be 3 years old on or before Dec. 1 and completely toilet trained or 4-year-olds between July 1 and Dec. 1 and who have not been previously enrolled in a preschool program. The class meets 12:15-2:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For tuition fees or more information, call the church at (734) 422-1470. St. Paul's Presbyterian Church is at 27475 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

SCIENCE LECTURE The First Church of Christ, Scientist, Farmington will sponsor a lecture by Mark Swinney, a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship, at 3 p.m. Saturday, April 18, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia. The topic will be "Christian Science: The Case for God's Love in Your Life." Child care will be provided. BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance for divorced and separated Christians, will have an ice cream social at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 18, at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, Haggerty, south of Five Mile, Plymouth Township. The charge is \$5 for adults and \$3 for teens. For

INTERNET ADDRESS DIRECTORY

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Large directory listing with categories: ACCOUNTING, ADVERTISING PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS, CHILDREN'S SERVICES, COMMERCIAL PRINTING, HEALTH CARE, HERBAL PRODUCTS, HOSPITALS, INDUSTRIAL FILTERS, INSURANCE, INTERACTIVE CD ROM PUBLISHING, JEWELRY, LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION, METROLOGY SERVICES, MORTGAGE COMPANIES, NOTARY SERVICES, NURSING EDUCATION, ORIENTAL RUGS, PARKS & RECREATION, PERSONAL GROWTH, PLANNING AND TRAFFIC CONSULTANT, POWER TRANSMISSION, PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR, PUBLIC AND INVESTOR RELATIONS, REAL ESTATE, REALNET, REALTOR ASSOCIATIONS, RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES, SCALE MODELS, SHOPPING, SURPLUS FOAM, SURPLUS PRODUCTS, SWIMMING POOL EQUIPMENT, TOYS, TRAINING, TRAVEL AGENCY, UTILITIES, VIDEO/WEB SITE DEVELOPMENT, WELD GUN PRODUCTS, WHOLISTIC WELLNESS, WOMEN'S HEALTH, WORSHIP.

'Puzzle Club' finds spot on Internet

Beginning this month, families around the world can listen to and read a new value-based mystery novel on their home computers, courtesy of the Internet and Lutheran Hour Ministries.

A new feature, now available at the Puzzle Club Web site (<http://www.org/puzzleclub>), is providing "listeners" the opportunity to hear the engaging children's mystery, "The Puzzle Club Counterfeit Caper," online as told by RealAudio by Puzzle Club author Dandi Daley Mackall.

The Puzzle Club is a worldwide multi-media ministry program developed by Lutheran Hour Ministries. The program encompasses animated television specials, and online family activity center on the Internet and a children's book series, written by Mackall, to help share positive, family-oriented message about the importance of forgiveness, hope, friendship and family.

"Counterfeit Caper" reveals how the four main characters met, became friends and formed The Puzzle Club. It is among several 80-page adventure novels in the series, with more to be released this coming summer and fall.

"This is a very exciting and unusual project for me," said Mackall who began writing the adventure novels for Lutheran Hour Ministries in 1997. "I've always loved storytelling, and this was a rare opportunity to share the Puzzle Club story with a very unique and diverse audience."

In addition to hearing the story in RealAudio, visitors to the Web site can also order a free copy of the book, play interactive games and learn more about the characters in The Puzzle Club.

For nearly a year, Lutheran Hour Ministries, a worldwide media ministry organization, has

been using the innovative Internet technology of Real Audio to help deliver the "good news" to millions of Web "listeners" around the globe via home computers.

The Puzzle Club also has turned up on the television with its "The Puzzle Club Christmas Mystery," recently receiving a Silver Angel Award in the television/video category from the Excellence in Media organization.

Excellence in Media recognizes those who promote positive values in media through print, radio, television, video, motion pictures, stage and Internet.

"The Puzzle Club Christmas Mystery" was broadcast throughout the United States and around the world during the 1997 holiday season and is slated for broadcast again in 1998.

"We are thrilled and honored to be recognized by the Excellence in media organization of

"The Puzzle Club Christmas Mystery" program," said Roger Hebermehl, executive director of Lutheran Hour Ministries. "It is our hope that God will continue to give us the opportunity to create high quality, family-oriented programs that will open doors for us as we seek to share the gospel with the new generation."

Lutheran Hour Ministries, a service of the International Lutheran Laymen's League, a volunteer organization of 160,000 members, also produces the popular radio programs, "Woman to Woman" and "The Lutheran Hour" and the syndicated television program, "On Main Street."

The league is an auxiliary of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and Lutheran Church-Canada.

Religion from page B9

coordinator of the Wayne Metropolitan Community Service Agency. A continental breakfast will be available for \$2. For reservations, call Edith Warson at (313) 538-7060 by Monday, April 27. Participants should bring their love pillows for Children's Hospital.

REVIVAL SERIES

The Episcopal Diocese of Michigan is hosting a revival series on "Resurrection," Sunday through Wednesday, May 3-6, featuring well-known evangelical preacher, the Rev. Antoine Campbell, rector of St. James Episcopal Church in Houston, Texas.

The preaching mission will be at four different churches - 7 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at Christ Church Cranbrook, 470 Church Road, Bloomfield Hills; 7 p.m. Monday, May 4, at St. Andrew's Church, 306 N. Division St., Ann Arbor; 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, at All Saints Church, 800 Abbott Road, East Lansing, and 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 6, at Cathedral of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

Campbell, who hails from Gary, Ind., characterizes his preaching style as evangelical. His church is committed to outreach. It repairs housing for the elderly and operates an art camp for at-risk children as well as a medical van that provides health services to the community.

The former vicar of Holy Cross/Faith Memorial in South Carolina when it was named the 613th Point of Light by President George Bush, he is a former athlete and naval pilot who once refused nomination as bishop. For more information, call the Rev. Dean Bancroft, dean of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, at (313) 831-0471.

BIBLE STUDY

The Livonia Family YMCA is starting a Bible study group designed to focus on daily successful living. The group will meet 7-9 p.m. Monday, May 4 and June 8, at the Y, 14255 Stark Road, Livonia. The program will offer music, fellowship, prayers, devotional readings, Bible readings and fun with Bible trivia. The program is free of charge. For more information, call (734) 261-2161, Ext. 3316.

NEW BEGINNING

New Beginnings, a grief support group held year-round at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, east of Merriman, Livonia, continues with its monthly speaker series at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 7, with "Physical Effects of Grief," presented by Jeanne Hess, a registered nurse.

The program is for people suffering as the result of the death of a loved one. There are no fees. Anyone may attend any or all sessions as they feel the need. For more information, call the church office at (734) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7903, or Rosemary Kline at (734) 462-3770.

CHARITY SPEAKER

St. Damian Parish in Westland will present charity speaker Pam Stenzel at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 7, at the church, 30055 Joy Road, Westland. Stenzel will speak on "Box Has a Price Tag." Pizza and pop will be served at 6 p.m. Cost will be \$2 for youth. For more information, call (734) 421-6130.

Flea Market

Rice Memorial United Methodist Church will have its annual flea market 9 a.m. to 4

p.m. Saturday, June 6, at the church, Beech Daly at Eight Mile, Redford. There will be more than 40 booths, bake sale and lunch will be available. For more information, call John Frith at (313) 537-7865.

EXERCISE FUN

The Merriman Road Baptist Church Fitness Bunch meets 6:15-7 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the church, 2055 Merriman Road, Garden City. The program consists of low-impact light aerobics, perfect for toning and shaping muscles. For more information, call the church office at (734) 421-0472.

CONFIDENTIAL HELP

Life Care Ministries of Livonia offers a free, confidential Christian telephone listening service 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday by calling (734) 427-LIFE.

HISPANIC CHURCH

The Hispanic Pentecostal Church conducts worship services at 2 p.m. Sundays at the Open Door Church, 33105 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia. The



Real good time: The students of Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran School in Redford found out recently that an entertainer can be captivating at Jerry Jacoby's "Real Character Is No Accident" assembly. The kindergarten through eighth-grade audience learned about respect, honesty and responsibility from the guitar-playing Jacoby.

Rev. G. Diaz officiates. For more information, call (248) 471-5282.

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OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Club gymnasts excel

The Michigan Academy of Gymnastics of Westland, coached by former 1988 and '92 Bulgarian Olympian Dian Kolev, earned several high places in the state meet held March 28-29, at Michigan State University's Jenison Fieldhouse.

In Class I, Conan Parzuchowski of Dearborn Heights, a candidate for the national team, took first in the all-around after finishing first in still rings, vault and high bar. He also took second on floor, pommel horse and parallel bars.

In Class III, Michigan Academy's team of Dan Rais (Livonia), Nick Hitchcock (Plymouth), Mike Assenmacher (Dearborn) combined for a third-place finish.

Rais, sixth all-around, finished third on parallel bars. Hitchcock was third on high bar.

In Division IV, Michigan Academy won the team title.

Canton's Chris Bosworth led the way with a second-place finish in all-around after a first in vault; second, high bar; third, floor and still rings.

Teammate Bobby Hornschemeyer of Plymouth took eighth in the all-around highlighted by a second in still rings. Ryan Cunningham of Canton was second in vault.

In Class V, the Westland club again won the team title.

Cody Stafford of Livonia and Ben Muylaert of Canton each finished second in the all-around.

Stafford finished first in parallel bars; third, floor and still rings. Muylaert also took first in parallel bars and still rings, along with a pair of thirds on vault and pommel horse.

Andrew Starnes of Garden City, sixth in the all-around, took second on still rings and third on floor.

Martin Vecchio of Livonia added a 10th in still rings, while John Furcean (South Lyon) and Andrew Petřovich (Dearborn) also contributed to the first-place team award.

In Class VI, Nathan Phillips (Canton) was third all-around highlighted by a second-place finish on high bars.

Churchill cager selected

Erik Uhlinger, a 6-foot-1 senior guard from Livonia Churchill High School, will represent Michigan in the 1998 U.S. Eastern Regional Basketball Championship, July 6-12, in Columbus, Ohio.

Approximately 120 players, ranging from sophomores to seniors, tried out April 4 for the Team Michigan spots at Eastern Michigan University.

Uhlinger hopes to continue his basketball career at either Olivet College or Concordia College.

Rutherford wins opener

Former Eastern Michigan University and Livonia Churchill High stand-out Mark Rutherford won the home opener last weekend for the Clearwater (Fla.) Phillies in a 2-1 win over the Class A Devil Rays, 2-1.

Rutherford allowed six hits and one run over five innings. He struck out two and walked two.

U-D baseball notes

The University of Detroit-Mercy evened its baseball record at 10-10 Monday with 12-8 win over visiting Northwood.

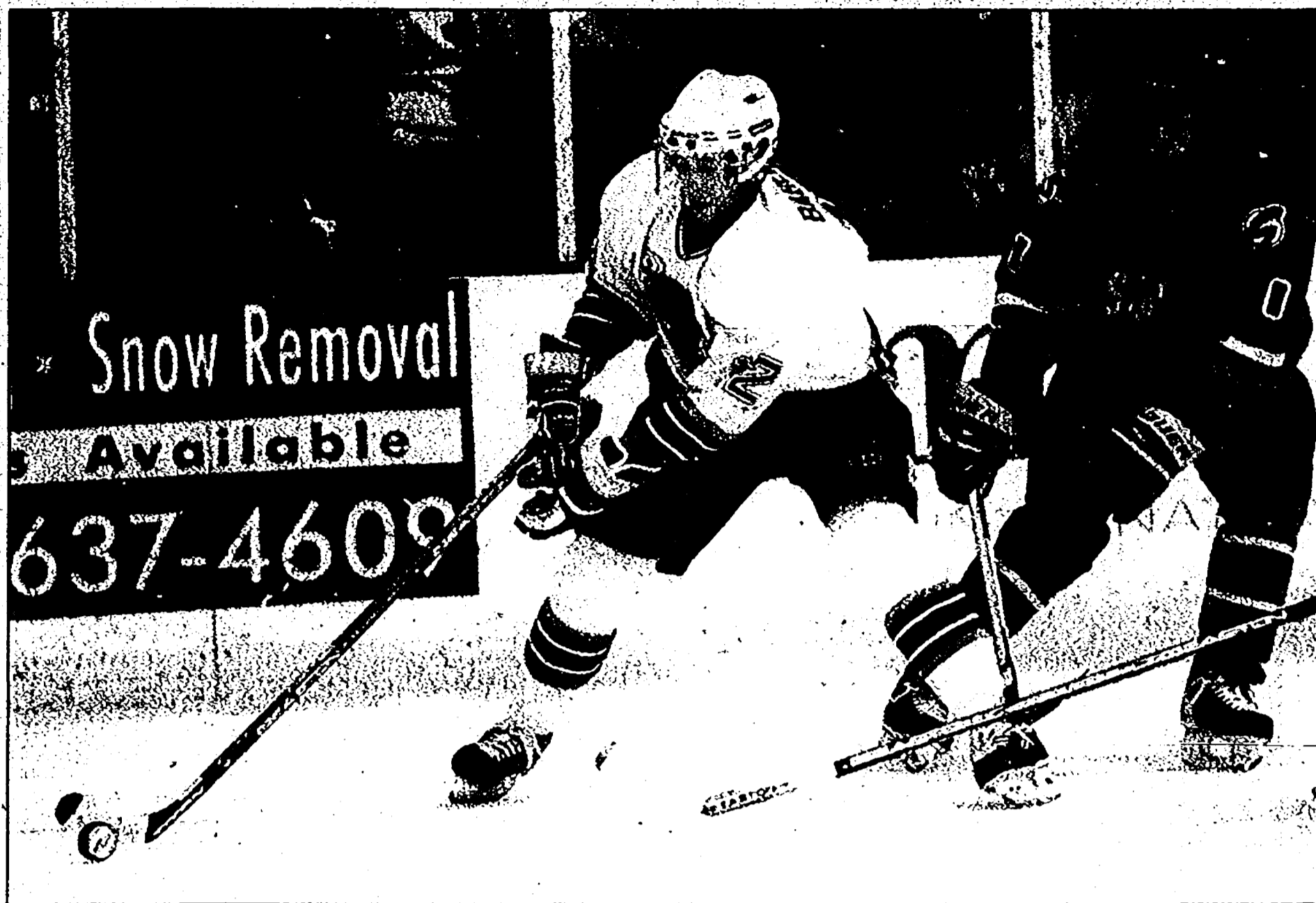
Second baseman R.J. Casey (Garden City) went 3-for-5 with two RBI, while first baseman Mike Dagaunno (Redford Catholic Central) went 3-for-4. Designated hitter Mike Pesci (Farmington Hills Harrison) went 2-for-5 and clubbed his seventh homer of the year.

Center fielder Chris Karney (Redford CC) and right fielder Dave Knight (Plymouth Salem) each added two hits.

Freshman Dave Wampler (Livonia Franklin), who earned his second collegiate win last week against Central Michigan, started for the Titans and worked the first four innings before giving way to Dave Susalla (Redford CC), who went the next three to earn the victory.

To submit items for the Observer Sports Scene, write to: attention sports department, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mich. 48150; or send via fax to (734) 591-7279.

Puck control: Yuri Babenko of the Plymouth Whalers (left) tries to keep possession against Mike Velinga of the Guelph Storm during Monday's play-off game before 3,221 fans at the Compuware Arena. Guelph dominated action, limiting the Whalers to 17 shots on goal en route to a 5-1 victory. The Storm now holds 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven series in the semifinals of the Ontario Hockey League playoffs.



Storm warning: Whalers fall, 5-1

This is no time to go into a slump. Not when you're in the Ontario Hockey League semifinals. Especially when your opponent is the league's best team during the regular season.

But that's just what the Plymouth Whalers have done. In their first home game of the best-of-seven series, the Whalers were outplayed from start to finish, losing 5-1 to the Guelph Storm Monday at Compuware Arena.

Which gives the Storm a 2-0 series advantage, with the third game to be played at 7:30 p.m. tonight at Guelph. Game four will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Compuware.

Was the score a true reflection of the game? Well, perhaps not... Guelph actually could have, and probably should have, won by an even larger margin.

After all, the Storm had two goals called back, one for one of their players being in the Whalers' crease when the puck went into the net and another after a penalty was called against them. And although he let five shots get past him, Plymouth goalie Robert Esche did stop two clean breakaways and had several other big saves.

Meanwhile, the Whaler offense continued to flounder. In the first period, they outshot the Storm 9-8 — but still

OHL PLAYOFFS

trailing 1-0, thanks to a goal scored by Nick Bootland just 81 seconds into the game.

But after the first, Plymouth would have no offensive advantages. The Whalers managed just eight more shots in the rest of the game, giving them a total of 17. Guelph had 26 shots in the game.

"Yeah, it was (disappointing)," said Whaler coach Pete DeBoer. "But we are in the OHL semifinals, and they're a good team. And they seemed to beat us all over the ice."

"I think we got frustrated. It wasn't a matter of composure. We just need to get some rest and play with more energy."

If DeBoer does find the needed element, the first application should go to his top-scoring line of David Legwand, Harold Druken and Andrew Taylor. Coming into this series, all three were listed among the OHL's top 10 playoff scorers.

Guelph, on the other hand, had no one listed in the top 20.

But thus far, it's Guelph's defense that has dominated. Legwand, Druken and Taylor have been held without a

single point in the series.

"That's our go-to line," admitted DeBoer. "We've relied on those guys all year. We have other guys who can score, but that's our key line, our key guys. We'll only go as far as those guys can take us."

Unfortunately, the Storm's close-checking defense kept Legwand, Druken and Taylor from getting many chances. But the Whalers did have some, particularly in the first period. Problem was, they didn't cash in on them.

The best went to Julian Smith, when a rebound from a hard shot from the point came right to him on the right side, with nothing between him and an open net. But Smith swung and missed at the bouncing puck.

Less than a minute later, Legwand had possession of the puck to the left of Guelph goalie Chris Madden, with Druken breaking down the right wing. However, Legwand held the puck, passing on the pass.

Against a goalie like Madden (a play-off-leading 1.40 goals-against average, with a .956 save percentage and a 5-0 record), missed opportunities often are haunting. Esche could not continue to repel the Storm, and the Whalers could not gain any momentum, particularly

in such a penalty-filled affair (20 called against Plymouth, 11 against Guelph).

The Storm struck again with 8:19 left in the second period, when Matt Lahey popped in a rebound off a shot from the right point by Darryl McArthur. The power-play goal made it 2-0.

With 3:49 remaining in the period, Manny Malhotra intercepted a pass deep in the Whaler end and fired a shot at Esche, who made the initial save but couldn't stop Eric Beaudoin from knocking in the rebound, making it 3-0 — capping a second period that saw Guelph outshoot the Whalers 16-6.

It appeared the Whalers might get something going in the third period when Smith, stationed directly in front of Madden, took a pass from Kris Purdy and slipped it in, making it 3-1 with 18:32 still to play in the final period. Kevin Holdridge also assisted.

But the rally was short-lived. Nine Whaler penalties in the period ruined it; Kent McDonnell and Chris Hajt added goals for Guelph to make the victory an easy one.

"They won all the battles for the puck," summarized DeBoer. "A good team like that will make you look bad."

Now the Whalers have to figure a way to look good.

Livonian proves resilient after spill

Matt Gable is a freshman at Redford Catholic Central where he was a starting defensive end on the freshman football team as well as a rising star on the varsity ski team.

Yellow flags can fly in both, and football coaches might not admit this, but they are easier to accept in their sport.

All they lose is yardage. In skiing, a yellow flag means a skier is down — imagine the feeling that gives a parent.

Gable overcame a serious fall at nearly 75 miles per hour in the downhill race to finish 16th overall in the point standings at last month's United States Ski Association/Rolex Junior 3 Olympic Championship for 13- and 14-year-old boys in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

"We were pretty panicked," said his mother, Cathy Gable, who felt helpless seeing only the yellow flags go up from her view at the base of the hill.

Fortunately, Gable was wearing a helmet, which is mandatory, when he went straight into the safety fencing during the first training run. It took the medical staff 15 to 20 minutes to cut him out, according to his father, Tom Gable, also his coach at CO.

The Livonia resident suffered a concussion, facial abrasions and an eye injury that required surgery when he returned home. Miraculously, he was released from the hospital that day and cleared to race the last five days of competition.

Gable was in arguably better shape than his skis, which were last used by members of the Austrian Ski Team



National competitor: Matt Gable of Livonia finished 16th in the USSA/Rolex Junior 3 Olympic Championship held recently in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

and loaned to him by a representative from Fisher Manufacturing. Gable has the skis in his basement. They aren't displayed as prominently as his medals and trophies.

"I bent them pretty bad — they were really long, twice my height," said Gable, one of eight skiers from Michigan who qualified at the Marquette Mountain Championships. "I don't know if I did a few slips but I think I had to the way my skis bent. I was

(rolled up) in a ball, stuff was hitting me.

"There is so much space you think you can just stop. But it doesn't work that way."

Speed to burn

The speed on the downhill was about 15 mph faster than Gable was used to on Michigan slopes. Upon returning the second day after scoring no points in the downhill, he finished

SKIING

fourth in the Slalom, 22nd in the Giant Slalom and 52nd in the Super G to take 16th overall.

"Not bad for a 'Flat lander' from Michigan," Tom Gable said.

Gable's coach Scott Winkquist advised him not to try anything risky.

That he came back isn't surprising. At a CC practice earlier this year, Gable came down the slopes on one leg after suffering bruises to his other leg in a fall.

"I think a few would have backed down but I just wanted to race," Matt Gable said.

Gable has been skiing since age 4 and racing for about seven years. His sister, Nikki Gable, also started early and now skis for Seattle University after earning all-state honors at Farmington Hills Mercy in 1995.

The early introduction came from their father who was an accomplished skier on the USSA Sponsors Circuit (for skiers 25 and over), finishing among the top five nationally.

"Early 30s is considered old for skiing so the 25 and over is the Over the Hill Gang," Tom Gable said, smiling.

Football, you bet

After football season ended last fall, Matt Gable received clearance to go to Colorado Springs and train with the Winter Sports Club for two months. He learned how athletes with Olympic aspirations train for his

Retired Westland coach no less than Riehl deal

Don Riehl ended an illustrious 44-year coaching career earlier this year when his Pierce Middle School boys basketball team in Redford Township finished another successful season with a win over Allen Park.

The Pierce family celebrated Riehl's retirement with a half-time ceremony, giving him gifts and plaques, including one from the Michigan High School Coaches Association.

The goods went in Riehl's car while the referees were already in his back pocket, joked Allen Park coach Pat Coll.

"All the other people in the gym played for you before. Did the refs too?" Riehl said, repeating Coll's post-game question to him. "I said 'Yeah, 30 years ago.'"

Riehl was joking, but pity the guy who used to make the referee assignments for Riehl's games. Searching long and hard for officials who don't know the legendary coach could make him want to retire, too.

The plaques will go on the wall at home, where they are secondary to something else Riehl's received over the years: Cards and letters from former players and students who appreciated the path he led them on.

The letters even make Riehl feel even better than the four-year 51-game winning streak his girls basketball teams at Pierce enjoyed in the early '90s.

One of his former players wrote an essay for class about Riehl being an important person in his life. The young man said Riehl is "one in a thousand," although he probably just mixed up his clichés.

"One in a million is more like it. These are my trophies," says a teary-eyed Riehl, clutching a boxful of cards and letters. "I've been blessed with great kids and parents over the years."

Riehl took more pride in building character and self esteem in kids than winning - and that's saying something because he won close to 1,000 games coaching teams at both Thurston High School and Pierce.

Riehl, who retired as a teacher about 10 years ago, coached football, girls and boys basketball, track and girls softball the last 18 years at Pierce.

Prior to that he coached and taught at Thurston, starting when the doors first opened in 1953 after he graduated from Hillsdale College. He coached varsity football, baseball and girls track as well as junior varsity boys and girls basketball and wrestling in his years at Thurston.

"Don cares so much about the kids," Pierce assistant principal Russ Justice said. "He'd find out a kid is struggling in the classroom and on a Sunday he'd go to their house to see what he could do to help."

Riehl turned 66 this year and jokes that after surviving a brain hemorrhage, four-way heart bypass surgery and prostate cancer in the last 15 years, he's a "bionic man."

Not nearly as bionic, evidently, as his mentor at Detroit Cooley High School, where he prepped. Riehl's football coach there, Abe Eliowicz, used some unusual methods to get his team ready for the next game.

"If the other team had a real good running back my coach would come out in practice with the equipment on," Riehl recalled.

It's one of his coaching methods Riehl didn't embrace.

Serving several generations

How much of a fixture has Riehl been in South Redford?

Well, Riehl remembers coaching Doug Spicer in the early '60s on the Thurston baseball team and seeing his parents in the crowd with a baby girl. Her name was Linda Spicer.

"Eighteen years later she's running track for me at Thurston," Riehl laughs, recalling the irony.

The Spicers were one of the great athletic families in Thurston history. Doug played football at the University of Indiana, Keith played baseball at the University of Michigan and in



Last hurrah: Riehl had everybody's attention during his final season as the Pierce Middle School boys basketball coach, ending his 44-year career in South Redford.

the Tigers organization and Rob had stints in the National Football League and World Football League after playing at Indiana.

"He was a great coach, seemed so up with the guys, a real motivator," said Rob Spicer, now a manager for Kmart Headquarters in Troy. "He was a real teacher, too, a student of the game, taught us the basics and good sportmanship."

Another of Riehl's star football players from his days at Thurston was quarterback Mike Fitzsimmons, who went on to be a standout defensive end at Central Michigan University.

Fitzsimmons, a 1979 Thurston grad who married his high school sweetheart, Sharon Biskner, is now a senior financial advisor.

"Coach Riehl had a real pivotal impact on my life and I feel a real deep sense of gratitude to him," Fitzsimmons said. "He kind of reached into my life and brought a sense of stability when I was at times a 'yahoo.'"

coached Tim Wojcik, who started at fullback for CMU after a standout career at Thurston, and Steve Rakowski, who played at Michigan after a career at Dearborn Divine Child.

Wojcik was one of the most fierce hitters he's ever seen.

"He was just a tough kid, went through a brick wall for you," Riehl said.

Some of the well-known female athletes Riehl coached at Pierce include Daune Koester, a three-sport star who went on to play at Thurston and volleyball at Maryland; Sue Nissen, a basketball star who was a standout at CMU after a career at Divine Child; and Michelle Birchmeier, a Madonna softball star after a career at Thurston.

Lynn Valine, who ran track for Riehl from 77-79 at Thurston, became a South Redford School District teacher.

"He was very inspiring, an all-around good guy who saw the good in everybody, just kind of had a way about him," said Valine, a teacher at Fisher. "Even when he retired as a teacher and was just coaching he'd check up on kids. If they're having trouble he wanted to know about it. It wasn't just sports and coaching for him."

Riehl retired from teaching about 10 years ago and decided he'd coach until his wife Barbara's retirement from her job at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Changing times

Thurston was undergoing a major shift in enrollment, dropping from a high of about 2,500 students to less than 1,000 during the '70s.

Riehl's last football team at Thurston had 23 members, playing teams with larger enrollments in the Northwest Suburban League.

"I said 'You're my iron men, guys who never quit no matter how hot it gets in a steel factory,'" Riehl said. "I said 'Don't quit. If you quit, there's no one to help you out.' At the end of the year I got a plaque that said 'To a great coach, from 23 Iron Men.'"

At Pierce in the mid 80s Riehl

his feet. In 1983, while an assistant coach for the Livonia Stevenson football team, Riehl suffered what was diagnosed as a brain hemorrhage.

He was hospitalized for more than six months before returning to teaching and coaching later that spring.

"We had just beaten Livonia Franklin the week before, were doing drills, having a great time, yelling," Riehl recalled. "And then it felt like someone hit me in the head with a baseball bat. I couldn't walk, didn't flop over but I told (another assistant coach) Don Berg I had to go in for a few minutes."

Riehl made equally successful recoveries from heart surgery in 1989 and prostate cancer in 1995. His experiences made him a perfect volunteer at the University of Michigan Medical Center, where he has helped patients ease their fears of surgery.

"It alleviates their fears," Riehl said. "When you talk to someone who's had it and is still kicking, it helps."

Riehl's devotion extends to his family and neighbors in his Westland neighborhood. He and Barbara have been married 41 years, have two grown sons (Kevin and Dan) and are the original owners of their ranch home whose purchase price was \$16,290. And they love to spoil their grandchildren.

"We have 3 3/4 grandchildren," Barbara said proudly, referring to the fourth on the way.

You wouldn't know Riehl and next-door neighbor Ken Heim, also a retired South Redford teacher, are senior citizens, watching them march down the street with their snowblowers this winter.

"I try to forget birthdays," Riehl says, laughing.

Except when he walks through Bill Knapp's, a restaurant that offers birthday specials - one percent off the bill for each year.

"I got 66 percent off the other day," he said.

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COLLEGE BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Madonna sweeps at home, but loses 2 to host Saints

The Madonna University baseball team got a taste of its own medicine Monday.

After sweeping a doubleheader from Siena Heights over the weekend, the Crusaders traveled down to Adrian Monday only to get swept by the Saints in a pair of tight games, 4-3 and 12-11.

In the opener, Siena jumped out to a 3-0 lead off Bob Mason. The big hit was a two-run homer by Siena's John Hill.

Mason (3-4) settled down and lasted 5 1/2 innings, scattering nine hits while walking five and fanning five.

The Crusaders, now 15-17 overall and 7-5 in the WHAC, collected seven hits off Siena's Rob Redmon (2-2). Bob Hamp had two of the hits, including a run-scoring double.

In the nightcap, the Saints led 8-1 after three innings and held on for the win as the Crusaders' rally fell short.

Madonna's bats came alive, as

the Crusaders mounted a 16-hit attack. Leading the way was third baseman Daryl Rocho who was 4-for-4, including his 18th double of the season, to go along with two RBI.

Jeff Warholik added three hits and two RBI, while Todd Miller, Kevin Foley (two RBI) and Aaron Shrewsbury chipped in with two hits apiece.

The Saints hit three home runs, including one from Eric Justice (Redford Catholic Central), who was 4-for-4 with three RBI. James O'Connor (2-2), the first of three Madonna hurlers took the loss. He was roughed up by the Saints who scored eight times in his 2 1/2 innings of work.

Tye Golden, a sophomore formerly of Westland John Glenn, improved to 2-3 with the win in relief.

It was a different story Saturday as Madonna swept a doubleheader from the Saints 13-1 and 5-1. The two losses ended a five-game Siena winning streak.

In the opener, Shrewsbury went 3-for-4 with four RBI, including a double and a home run. Foley and Rocho also had their bats in high gear as each collected three hits and drove in a pair of runs.

Mark Serra (1-4) picked up his first win of the season going the distance, allowing six hits while striking out four and walking only one batter. Ryan Gaines accounted for the only run off Sera with his third homer of the week.

Sophomore Mitch Jabczynski (4-1) equaled Serra's performance in the second game, as he pitched a complete game three-hitter, while striking out six with two walks.

The bottom of the lineup provided some punch as Pete Quinn and Delano Voletti each belted a homer.

Voletti and Shrewsbury each had two hits in the nine-hit Madonna attack.

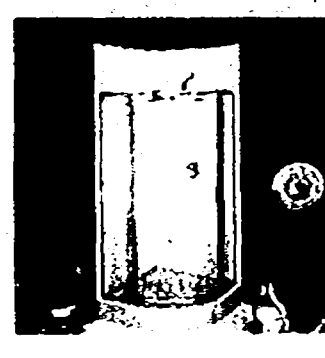
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VanDoorn, Price right in Lady Crusaders' double-header sweep against Cornerstone

The Madonna University softball team swept a doubleheader Saturday at Cornerstone College in Grand Rapids, 11-0 and 6-4.

The win improved Madonna to 17-12-1 overall and 8-6 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

The difference was the pitching of Angie VanDoorn and the effectiveness of the top of the Madonna batting order.

First, the pitching. VanDoorn hurled hitless ball for the first four innings of the opener, before giving way in the fifth to Shanna Price with an 11-0 lead. Price did allow a hit, but retired the rest of the Cornerstone batters.

Catcher Vicki Malkowski had three of the 12 Madonna hits. She also drove in a pair of runs.

Shawna Greene, Stephanie Dick (two RBI), Courtney Senger and Jamie Heins each added two hits in the rout.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

In the nightcap, VanDoorn wasn't perfect, but improved to 8-6 as she survived a four-run, fourth inning by Cornerstone. VanDoorn scattered seven hits, walked three and fanned three in the complete-game effort.

Most of the damage on offense was by Madonna's first two batters in the lineup. Greene was 4-for-4 with four runs scored and three stolen bases from the lead-off spot. Christy Riopelle was 3-for-4 with two RBI and two runs scored.

The Crusaders had led 3-0 before the Cornerstone rally.

Trailing 4-3, Madonna came back by tying the game with a single run in the top of the fifth inning and later taking the lead for good with a two runs in the seventh inning.

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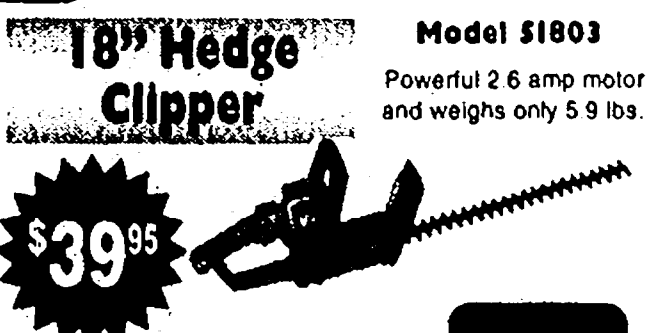
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Gable from page C1

sport and also received tutoring to keep up with his classwork at home.

He kept up well, earning a 3.9 grade point average for the first semester. It's slipped some, but certainly not as fast as one of his downhill runs.

Matt's love for football comes from his father, who earned all-state honors at Dearborn Sacred Heart before playing a year at the University of Detroit and three at Wooster College. U.D.'s football program ended after his freshman year.

His company, Standard Paper, later sponsored a flag football team he played on that won a national championship.

Matt hopes to someday earn a starting role for the QC varsity team, which won a Class AA state championship last year and four in this

decade.

Because of his eye surgery, Matt couldn't participate in March Madness, a weeklong off-season running and weight lifting regimen for the football players.

But he got out of bed every morning before school to watch.

Nikki chose to imitate her father only on the slopes, leaving football to Matt.

"Nikki had Tom to encourage her in skiing," their mother said. "Matt had his older sister to chase, not to outdo, just to keep up with."

Matt Gable also counts Cass Zarlikowski, a skiing legend from Livonia who has known the family for years, as inspiration on the ski slopes.

"He calls every day," Matt said. "I've always looked up to my dad and all the coaches I've had."

Salem coaching trio departs en masse

VOLLEYBALL

For nine years, the trio of Allie Suffety, Candi Gilles and Brian Gilles controlled the fate of Plymouth Salem volleyball.

That era has now, officially, ended. The question is: Can their successors match their success?

Those three guided a program from the depths, a team that was struggling just to reach respectability, to championship status. The Rocks dominated the Western Lakes Activities Association over the past six years, collecting three league titles while going undefeated in conference regular-season matches four times.

In the last six years, Salem posted a 63-3 record in WLAA regular-season matches. Can't do much better than that.

Leaving after nine such seasons of coaching should be done with a load of fanfare. But that hasn't happened.

In fact, Brian Gilles admitted he and his wife — Candi coached

Salem's junior varsity — might have stayed another year had their disillusionment with the administration not been so prevalent.

"We brought this program to this position, we developed a program," said Suffety, who shared the varsity head coaching position with Brian. "We wanted to make it consistent, where everybody was learning the same things. We wanted to give them something they could have pride in."

But, despite their efforts and their on-court successes, Suffety and the Gilles felt they never got the support their program warranted.

"Those kids got very little respect and neither did we," Suffety said.

One thing all three coaches wanted to be known: This was

not a case of their retiring now that the cupboard is bare. Rebuilding is not necessary.

"The program is there," said Brian Gilles. "It's in place. A lot of great kids are coming back."

"That's not the reason we're leaving. We would have been retiring at the end of next year anyway."

Their retirement was prompted by several issues. First, there was the league's move last season from a best-of-five-games format to a best-of-three games. Such a switch, without advance consultation, enraged the Salem coaches. To other WLAA teams with fewer players, the move was a good one. But for Salem, less games meant less playing time for many of the Rocks.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association measures the volleyball season in playing dates, not number of matches. In other words, a Saturday tournament in which a team plays 10 matches counts the same as a best-of-three-games match between two WLAA rivals — as one playing date.

The Salem coaches didn't mind the best-of-three format so much, but they wanted to combine WLAA matches into double-duals (or even triple), to preserve playing dates so that teams that wished to could play more tournaments.

"We felt we had taken this program as far as we could take it," said Brian Gilles. "With us being locked into a 12-team league, and we took this team to a top-five ranking (in the state)."

Not that they were satisfied with that. "I'm not interested in just settling to be league champions," Gilles said. "Our goals changed over the years."

Problem was, the equipment needed to upgrade a program did not change. While the boys basketball team practiced on the main floor of Salem's gymnasium after school, the volleyball team was relegated to the section behind the bleachers — a tiled floor that often needed to be mopped by one of Salem's coaches before it could be used.

"You know, they're redoing the rest of the gym (next year)," said Gilles. "But not the upper level. Is that right?"

For Suffety and the Gilles, that seemed just one more slap in the face at a school where certain sports matter, and others — well, who cares?

"We took this program from where it was to where it is today," said Suffety. "I have no regrets. It's just sad that it has to end in such frustration."

No accolades, not even many thank yous — an end with little in the way of appreciation. That is, indeed, sad.

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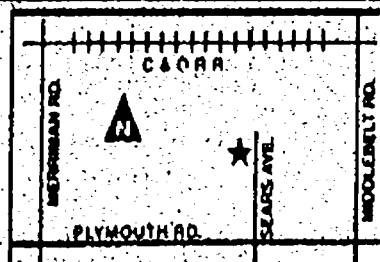
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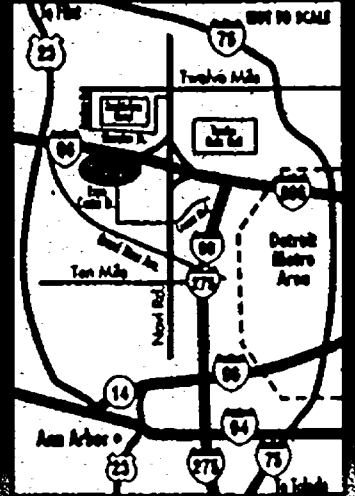
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WEEK AHEAD

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PREP BASEBALL
Thursday, April 16
Wayne at John Glenn (2), 11 a.m.
Friday, April 17
L.A.H. East at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 18
(all double-headers)
PCA at Clarenceville, 10 a.m.
Reoford CC at Brother Rice, 11 a.m.
John Glenn at Belleville, 11 a.m.
GIRLS SOFTBALL
Friday, April 17
Clarenceville at Luth. East, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 18
Franklin, Wayne Memorial at Taylor Tournament, 9 a.m.
BOYS TRACK
Saturday, April 18
Dearborn Elks Relays, 10 a.m.
GIRLS TRACK
Thursday, April 16
A.A. Pioneer Invitational, TBA.
Saturday, April 18
Lady Chief Relays at Plymouth Canton, 9 a.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE SEMIFINAL PLAYOFFS (Best-of-7 series)
Thursday, April 16
Whalers at Guelph, Ont., 7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 17
Ply. Whalers vs. Guelph Storm at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 19
(if necessary)
Whalers at Guelph, Ont., 6:30 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL (all double-headers)
Friday, April 17
Indiana Tech at Madonna, 2 p.m.
Saturday, April 18
Spring Arbor at Madonna, 1 p.m.
Sunday, April 19
Aquinas at Madonna, 1 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL (all double-headers)
Tuesday, April 14
Madonna at Tri-State (Ind.), 3 p.m.
Saturday/Sunday, April 18-19
Madonna at College of St. Francis Tournament (Joliet, Ill.), TBA.
TBA — time to be announced.

West Bloomfield 'half' on tap

Nancy Gavor loves kids, competition and five-kilometer runs. On Sunday, morning Gavor will be sparked by all those who compete in the 5K Run/Walk at the annual West Bloomfield Half-Marathon, 5K Run/Walk and Kids Fun Run. Gavor, recently named women's cross-country coach at Schoolcraft Community College, will have company when she lines up for the 5K at 10:30 a.m. at West Bloomfield High School. A physical education teacher at Orchard Lake Middle School, Gavor has recruited many of her students at OLMS to run or walk the 3/1-mile course with her and to raise pledges for Kaleidoscope Kids Hospices of Henry Ford Health System. Kaleidoscope Kids is a hospice that provides support and care for children in the last phases of incurable illnesses so that they may live as fully and comfortably as possible. The special fund was initiated last year in memory of Miriam Kaptur, a long-time employee of West Bloomfield

Parks and Recreation and a past race director who died of inflammatory breast cancer in 1996. "I'm hoping to get 100 kids to enter the race," said Gavor. The students have been enthusiastic about the event from the first time Gavor approached them with the challenge of participating. "They were overwhelmingly positive. My entire first hour class wanted to either walk or run it," said Gavor. "That made me very excited. (The parents) were also very supportive and several of them will be participating in the race themselves." Gavor has been helping her students prepare for the 3.1-mile challenge by leading them through four minutes of running every day in gym class as well as calisthenics, jumping rope and other cardiovascular intensive exercises. "The kids are aware that they don't have to run the entire way," said Gavor. "A lot of them will walk rather than run. The point isn't to set world records. They

can go as fast or slow as they want." Over 1,000 runners and walkers are expected to participate Sunday in the 22nd running of the West Bloomfield Half-Marathon, 5K Run/Walk and Kids Fun Run. A portion of each entry fee will be donated to Kaleidoscope Kids Hospices of Henry Ford Health System in memory of Miriam Kaptur. Donations can also be made at the run and should be made payable to Kaleidoscope Kids. All events begin at West Bloomfield High School, 4925 Orchard Lake Road and all registered participants will receive a shirt. The itinerary for this year's race is as follows: 5K Run/Walk begins at 10:30 a.m. and the registration fee is \$16; Kids Fun Run begins at 11:30 a.m. and the registration fee is \$12; the Half-Marathon begins at 12:45 p.m. and the registration fee is \$20. For more information and to register call West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation at (248) 738-2500.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

YOUTH SOCCER CHAMPS
The Michigan Hawks girls under-12 Premier Soccer Team opened its outdoor season on a winning note earlier this month when it traveled to Louisville, Ky. The Hawks won the championship at the Louisville '98 Invitational Spring Classic. Competing against teams from Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana, the squad went undefeated. Members of the team include: Colene Brockman, Nicole Cauzillo, Kathryn Cummings, Erin Doan, Melissa Dobbyn, Jordan Falcusan, Whitney Guenther, Nikki Hermann, Lindsay Hill, Jill Kehler, Deanne Dubas, Kelly

McMann, Sophia Naum, Jamie Poole, Marissa Sarkesian and Jennifer Szymanski. The Hawks are coached by John Buchanan and Tiffany Graves, and sponsored by the Livonia YMCA. ROCKERS SOCCER CAMPS
The Detroit Rockers, featuring former Livonia Stevenson High All-Stater and ex-Yale University standout Lars Richters, will stage five area summer camps. The cost is \$99 (before May 1) and includes personalized instruction from Rockers player, a Kendis NPSL soccer ball, free camp T-shirt, a free 4X6 group photo for each camp, two free tickets to a Red Wings preseason

game and one free 1998-99 Rockers VIP season ticket pass. (Half-day camps are \$119 registering after May 1). Here is a list of the camps:
■ 9:30 a.m. to noon, June 15-19, at Livonia's Bicentennial Park;
■ 9:30 a.m. to noon, July 6-10, at Plymouth's Heritage Park;
■ 9:30 a.m. to noon, July 20-24, at Canton's Recreation Complex;
■ 1-3:30 p.m., July 27-31, at Little Caesars Field in Farmington;
■ 1-3:30 p.m., Aug. 3-7, at Livonia's Bicentennial Park. For information, call (313) 396-7070.

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The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations will conduct an accreditation survey at GrandCare Home Health Care & GrandCare Hospice on May 19 - May 26, 1998.
The purpose of the survey will be to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission standards. The survey results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which accreditation should be awarded the organization.
Joint Commission standards deal with organizational quality of care issues and the safety of the environment in which care is provided. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent and valid information about such matters, may request a public information interview with the Joint Commission's field representatives at the time of the survey. Information presented at the interview will be carefully evaluated for relevance to the accreditation process. Requests for a public information interview must be made in writing and should be sent to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins. The request must also indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview. Such requests should be addressed to:
Division of Accreditation Operations
Organization Liaison
Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
One Renaissance Boulevard
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60281
The Joint Commission will acknowledge such requests in writing or by telephone and will inform the organization of the request for any interview. The organization will, in turn, notify the interviewee of the date, time, and place of the meeting.
This notice is posted in accordance with the Joint Commission's requirements and may not be removed before the survey is completed.
Publish: April 16, 1998

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CLASS REUNIONS

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 HURON
Class of 1978
Aug. 8 at the north campus Holiday Inn, Ann Arbor.
(410) 437-8452 or (734) 429-1213

ANN ARBOR PIONEER
Class of 1978
July 18 at the Crowne Plaza.
(810) 465-2277 or (810) 263-6803

BELLEVILLE
Class of 1988
Sept. 19 at the Marriott, Ypsilanti.
(800) 677-7800

BERKLEY
January-June classes of 1948
Sept. 25-27 at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, Novi.
(248) 644-0811

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) 360-7004

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

BISHOP GALLAGHER
Class of 1978
A reunion is planned for Nov. 28.
(313) 885-8639

BLOOMFIELD HILLS LAHSER
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 Zuccaro's in Chesterfield.
(810) 465-2277 or (810) 263-6803

CLARKSTON
Class of 1988
A reunion is planned for Aug. 29.
(248) 922-9734

DEARBORN
All classes
A western Caribbean cruise for alumni and friends aboard Royal Caribbean's Majesty of the Seas will sail from Miami on Oct. 25.
(800) 545-0435

DEARBORN EDSSEL FORD
Class of 1968
Aug. 8 at All Saints Knights of Columbus Hall, Taylor.
(313) 271-9008 or P.O. Box 578, Dearborn Heights, 48127

DEARBORN FORDSON
Class of 1968
Aug. 8 at Burton Manor, Livonia.
(248) 477-0965 or fhs68@aol.com

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) 896-0736, (313) 859-0261 or (313) 882-1632

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 CHADSEY
Classes of 1948 and 1949
Oct. 3 at St. Clement Hall, 19600 Ford Road, Dearborn.
(313) 268-4129 or (313) 383-2343 for 1948, or (313) 273-1589 for 1949

Class of 1958
July 31 at the Novi Hilton Hotel.
(248) 548-4829

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

Class of 1950
A reunion is being planned.
(313) 421-3160 or (734) 625-2603

DETROIT DENBY
Class of 1952
A reunion is planned for Sept. 27.
(248) 546-0110, (810) 465-2373, (810) 568-4641 or (313) 822-7488

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And other Corktown area schools
A May 16 dinner-dance is being

planned.
(313) 292-7989

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Aug. 7 at the Novi Hilton Hotel.
(810) 465-2277 or (810) 263-6803

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
Class of 1967
Aug. 21-23 at Laurel Park Marriott Hotel, Livonia. Dinner-dance on Aug. 22 costs \$60 per person.
(734) 427-8768, by fax at (313) 427-2311 or (734) 420-0156

IMMACULATA
Class of 1948
Oct. 3-4 at Novi Hilton Hotel,

Novi.
(248) 661-1238 or (248) 477-2585

JOHN GLENN
Class of 1968
July 25 at the Bailey Recreation Center, Westland.
(734) 729-3424 or (248) 641-1528

Class of 1973
Oct. 10 at St. Aidan's Banquet Center, Livonia.
(248) 360-7004

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

REDFORD THURSTON
Class of 1973
Nov. 28 at St. Mary's Cultural Center, Livonia.
Donna Erndt, 33466 Vargo Dr., Livonia, or call (734) 622-9405 or (313) 535-4000, Ext. 412

ST. RAPHAEL
Class of 1974
A reunion is being planned for later this year.
(734) 729-3320 or (734) 266-3137

WARREN WOODS TOWER
Class of 1988
Is planning a reunion.
(810) 790-4214 or (810) 771-7328

WATERFORD KETTERING
Class of 1968
Is planning a reunion.
(248) 628-3926, (248) 681-1768 or (248) 623-6057

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Sept. 26 at the Roma's of Garden City.
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Thursday, April 16, 1998

THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Musica Viva International Concerts presents Theodossi Spassov and other outstanding artists in an evening of music and dance from around the globe, 8 p.m. at Smith Theatre, Oakland Community College, Farmington Hills. Tickets \$18 at the door, \$16 in advance, (248) 471-7667.

SATURDAY



Laurie Kuhlman (right, Fern), Kathleen Coleman-Lozelle (Charlotte) and Chris Kirouac (Wilbur) in the Marquis Theatre production of "Charlotte's Web," 2:30 p.m., 135 E. Main, Northville. Tickets \$6.50, (248) 349-8110.

SUNDAY



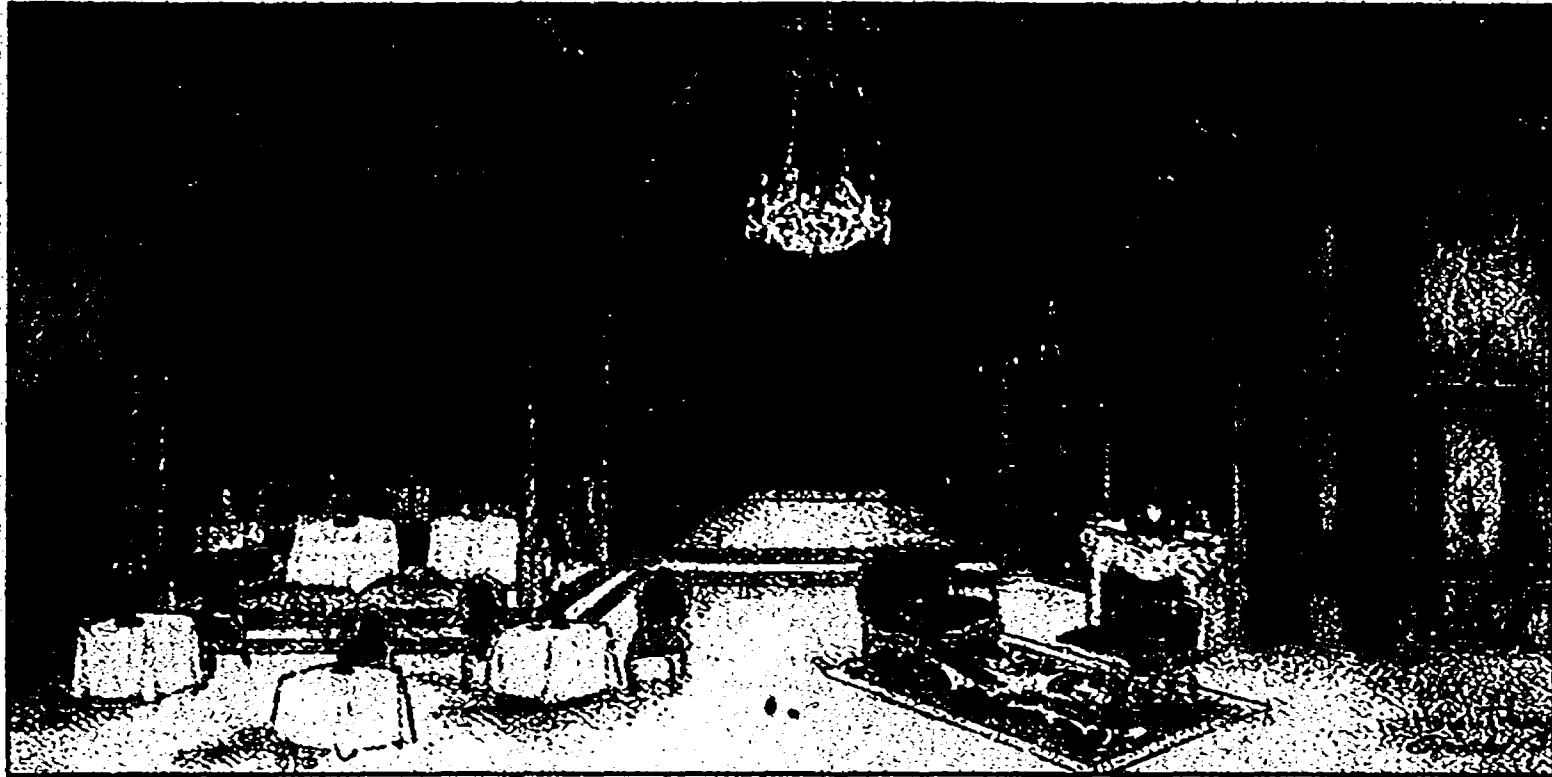
Pianist Leif Ove Andnes performs with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra 3 p.m. at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$17-\$60, call (313) 576-5111.

HOT TICKET



Hot Tix: Eartha Kitt stars as the Wicked Witch of the West in "The Wizard of Oz," with Mickey Rooney as The Wizard, through Sunday, April 26, at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$45.50 (main floor and mezzanine), \$32.50 and \$17.50, with school and group discounts available. Call (248) 433-1615 or (313) 596-3211.

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE



Set design: This is an artist's rendering of one of the scenes in Michigan Opera Theatre's first-ever production of Jules Massenet's classic French opera, "Manon." The sets were designed by Michael Beaulac.

In full bloom

'MANON' OPENS THIS SPRING SEASON

A moment before Marcello Giordani answers the phone, the high-pitch cry of an infant resounds with ear-splitting precision.

"I'm on the road 11 months of the year," said Giordani, over the cries of his young child. "If I didn't take my family with me, I'd never see them."

For international opera singers, the world is indeed a stage - and a living room.

Even at nine-months, it seems as if the offspring of the Italian tenor recognizes that timing is everything.

His father's timing hasn't been so bad either.

Giordani makes his third appearance at the Detroit Opera House in the role of Des Grieux, opposite Grioux, opposite soprano Ruth Ann Swenson, who performs the title role of "Manon."

Two years ago, Giordani was part of a star-studded lineup for the Opera House's gala opening, which featured Luciano Pavarotti and Joan Sutherland.

"Then, the city was like a ghost town," he said. "But now, it looks like the city has waken up."

While the Detroit Opera House may not be the Met, and Detroit could not be mistaken for Paris, there is a cosmopolitan ambience surrounding the Michigan Opera Theatre's first-ever production of Jules Massenet's classic French opera,



Marcello Giordani

which opens Saturday and runs through next weekend.

The production of "Manon" is a collaboration with the Montreal Opera Theatre. It is directed by Montreal Opera's Bernard Uzan, who has worked with Swenson on several other successful operas.

The chorus features local singers Judith Szeft and Patricia Pierobon of Troy and Anthony Lynch of Rochester Hills.

"Manon" opens MOT's spring season, which also features "The Elixir of Love" and "Porgy and Bess."

World repertoire

"Manon" is one of the most beautiful written operas in the French repertoire," said David DiChiera, managing director of MOT.

"This production is another step for (MOT) in developing a world repertoire."

Next season, MOT will produce its first-ever Russian along with another famous French opera, "Samson and Delilah."

While audiences will likely be pleasantly surprised at the familiarity of Massenet's music, the opera world is taking notice of the pairing of two of the most vocally agile and up-and-coming stars, said DiChiera.

There have been only a few other times in MOT's history when operatic stars with the stature of Swenson and Giordani performed lead roles.

Because "Manon" is a demanding role in terms of singing as well as acting, DiChiera waited for the ideal soprano to showcase the role.

Prior to rehearsals for "Manon," Swenson sang at the Met opposite Pavarotti in "The Elixir of Love."

Apparently, Swenson is using her Detroit performances to sharpen her portrayal before traveling to France in June where she'll play Massenet's heroine at the Opera Bastille.

Last fall, Giordani, who critics have called "a matinee idol" for his passionate interpretative singing, was also at the Met, where he performed the lead tenor role in "Manon."

"Manon" also features the American debut of soprano Stefani Bonfadelli, a popular singer who has performed throughout Europe.

Human nature

The operatic tale takes place on an ethereal plane where a young girl, Manon, must choose among love, pleasure and greed.

The role is considered highly complex because Manon grows from innocence to the embodiment of feminine grace and manipulation to degradation and remorse.

"This is a story about human nature," said DiChiera. "People spend their lives, worry about what's important, and realizing things, sometimes, when it's too late."

In opera, life's lessons are seldom easy. By the time Manon learns that love is the most important thing in life, it's too late.

Tragic stories, however, make for great operas, where melodrama is elevated into an art of visual and auditory opulence.

While Detroit might not be the Met or Paris, it certainly looks more and more cosmopolitan.



PETER LOVINO/DREAMWORKS PICTURES

Family adventure: A little girl named Marie (Hallie Kate Eisenberg) makes a special friend in Paulie, a remarkable parrot who can not only speak but comprehend human language.

DreamWorks Pictures 1998-99 Movie Slate

- "Paulie" - Family adventure, opens Friday, April 17
- "Small Soldiers" - Live-action with state-of-the-art animation, scheduled to open Friday, July 10
- "Saving Private Ryan" - World War II action drama, scheduled to open Friday, July 24
- "In Dreams" (Tentative Title) - Psychological thriller, scheduled to open Fall 1998
- "The Prince of Egypt" - Animated feature, scheduled to open Friday, December 18
- "Antz" - Computer-generated animation comedy, scheduled to open Spring 1999.

DreamWorks launches 'Paulie' and new film slate

Their films didn't make billions like "Titanic," but they did make money, and that's a dream come true for DreamWorks Pictures, a studio founded in 1994 by dreamers.

Director Steven Spielberg, former Disney executive Jeffrey Katzenberg and music mogul David Geffen founded the studio, which recently announced its 1998 film releases.

It's a diverse group of films, truly something for everyone. "This is a slate of movies you can pay attention to," said Teresa Press at a recent media preview.

A highlight is DreamWorks' first full-length animation feature "The Prince of Egypt," scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 18. It's the first animation film to feature a female director - Brenda Chapman, and that, many women would say, is miraculous.

Val Kilmer and Ralph Fiennes star as Moses and Rameses, two brothers, one born a slave, the other a prince. This beautifully crafted film, based on the biblical story of Moses, also brings together the vocal talents of Sandra Bullock, Danny Glover, Jeff Goldblum, Steve Martin, Helen Mirren, Michelle Pfeiffer, Martin Short and Patrick Stewart.

Six new songs written by Academy Award-winning lyricist Stephen Schwartz ("Pocahontas") and a score composed by Academy Award-winning composer Hans Zimmer ("The Lion King") help tell the story of "The Prince of Egypt."

Woody Allen stars as "Z" a neurotic ant in "Antz" an animated feature

Please see DREAMWORKS, E2

THEATER

'Lost' family members struggle in 'Yonkers'

It's 1942, and Grandma Kurnitz and her family are "Lost in Yonkers," New York. She's mean, definitely not huggable, but she's doing the best she can to survive and keep her family together. Grandma lives above a candy store with her grown daughter, Bella, who's not all there. Grandma bosses Bella, her sister, Gert, and older brothers, Eddie and Louie.

Eddie's down on his luck, and his wife just died. He wants his mother to take care of Arty and Jay for awhile so he can take a job on the road.

Louie doesn't like his mother, but he loves and respects her.

Sounds a little bit like your family, or someone you know, doesn't it?

"Lost in Yonkers," Neil Simon's Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning play, which opens Saturday at Meadow Brook Theatre, is normally

On Stage

What: "Lost in Yonkers" by Neil Simon
Where: Meadow Brook Theatre, Wilson Hall on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills.
When: Continues through Sunday, May 10. Opening night 8 p.m. Saturday, April 18; previews 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, April 16-17. Performances 8 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 2 p.m. Wednesday; 8 p.m. Friday; 2 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Sunday.
Tickets: \$22-\$32; preview tickets \$18, call (248) 377-3300. Student, senior and group discounts available.

described as a bittersweet comedy.

"It's a play about families, and the trials and tribulations we go through to keep family together," said Debra L. Wicks of Rochester Hills, who is directing Meadow Brook's production. "This play

can be real disturbing to many people. It should trip an emotional trigger to help you find out something new about yourself and the world around you."

"Lost in Yonkers," begins with laughs in the first act and ends with laughter. In between "we have life," said Wicks.

Besides emotional baggage, "Lost in Yonkers," carries the weight of telling a story to audiences who can say - "been there, seen that."

Jewish Ensemble Theatre presented "Lost in Yonkers" four years ago, and the movie version starring Richard Dreyfuss and Mercedes Ruehl is available on video.

Honrietta Hermelin of West Bloomfield stars as Grandma Kurnitz, a role she played four years ago

Please see YONKERS, E2



Comedy: Adam Rochkind (left to right), Terry Heck and Parker Plague in Meadow Brook Theatre's production of "Lost in Yonkers."

DreamWorks from page E1

scheduled to open next spring. "Handling dirt was never my idea of a rewarding career," Z tells his analyst. Being an ant isn't a profession that encourages individuality and personal expression. Is it any wonder Z is unhappy?

Z lives in Central Park, and judges to be an individual. He has a thing for the beautiful Princess Bala (Sharon Stone), the spoiled daughter of the queen. But she has no use for an ordinary drone, and Z is out of his league.

Preview clips show Z attempting to rescue Princess Bala who is attached to chewing gum stuck to the bottom of a running shoe. Animation makes you see the world from an ant's perspective, and you'll never squash an ant again.

Discover America through the eyes of 'Paulie' as he travels across the country to find Marie. Told by 'Paulie,' this film reveals the wonders of the bird world, and our world, through a series of funny adventures.

"Paulie," the first of DreamWorks' 1998 film releases, flies into metro Detroit movie theaters Friday, April 17.

Paulie is a parrot who doesn't mimic, he talks to people. His first owner, and love, is Marie, a little girl (Hallie Kate Eisenberg) who raises him from a baby. Helping Marie overcome a stutter gives Paulie the gift of gab but doesn't prevent her parents from sending him away when they feel she is becoming too attached to him.

Discover America through the eyes of "Paulie" as he travels across the country to find Marie. Told by "Paulie," this film reveals the wonders of the bird world, and our world, through a series of funny adventures.

On July 10 look for "Small Soldiers," a film which asks the question - "what if toys had military intelligence, and were so smart they play back?"

Unlike "Toy Story," a battle of toys against a bully, this film blends live action with state-of-the-art computer animation to tell the story of a war between the Gorgonites, and the Comando Elite. Suburbia is the battlefield, and the action figures take their job seriously. Parents get caught in the crossfire of this explosive not-for-little kids film.

Believing that any time is a good time to release a really great film, DreamWorks is releasing "Saving Private Ryan," starring Tom Hanks and Matt Damon on July 24.

As armies storm the beaches on D-Day, a unit of troops is ordered to find and retrieve one soldier - Private James Ryan. The quest is set off by the delivery of some very bad news to Ryan's mother - her other three sons were killed in action.

"It's the strongest anti-war film I've ever seen," said Press. "It's about human emotion more than anything. There are people today who have no concept of World War II. This will be an eye opener for them."

"Saving Private Ryan," directed by Spielberg, asks the question, "Why is one man worth risking eight... why is the life of this private worth more than their own?"

Claire Cooper (Annette Bening) is haunted by the twisted visions of a killer (Robert Downey, Jr.) in "In Dreams," a psychological thriller due to be released this fall.

Coming to her in her dreams, the killer gradually begins to close in on Claire's waking life, drawing her into a dark vortex of insanity.



Drama: Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks, right) and the Sarge (Tom Sizemore) lead a squad of soldiers behind enemy lines to find and retrieve one man, Private James Ryan, in "Saving Private Ryan."

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Yonkers from page E1

at JET. Adam Rochkind of West Bloomfield has done "Lost in Yonkers" before too. He starred as Arty at JET's, and now plays Jay, the oldest brother, opposite Parker Plague of Canton who is Arty.

"It's not the same. The actors are different. I have to relate to each actor like a family member, that's new" said Hermelin, who unlike the cold, unfeeling character she plays, loves her family and isn't afraid to show them.

During the interview she excused herself several times to answer a grandchild's question and took a call from her brother, David, the ambassador to Norway, who is visiting from Oslo. "He called on his car phone and started singing this song, he wanted to know if I knew what it

was," she said laughing.

"I've done the ground work, but I don't remember how a line was played before. My lines are a response to the moment I am experiencing on stage. It's new. In rehearsal we began to create this wonderful world in Yonkers."

Hermelin takes a positive approach to her character, even though people don't like her. "My sin is surviving my children," she said. "If you don't love, you can't feel loss. Life is hard, and you have to be hard like steel. If she's hard, she thinks her children and grandchildren will be able to face the hardness of life."

As the play unfolds, we learn a lot about grandma from the other characters. When she was

12 she went to a demonstration with her father in Germany. The soldiers came, and he was killed. A horse ran over her foot and broke it. Instead of getting her foot fixed, grandma used the money to bring her family - a husband and five children with one on the way - to America. After the child, Bella, is born, her husband dies. She starts a business, and distances herself from her children after two - Rose and Aaron, die. There's bittersweet humor when Louie says - "she never took an aspirin for the pain." Grandma's tough as nails in more ways than one.

"It's sad just to see all this," said Hermelin. "I understand it. As you grow older in life you lose people - my parents, friends, and you see other people who've lost children. Thank god I have not.

How did my mother and father survive the loss of a child? You think, 'Oh my god, I couldn't go on, but you I would have to. My character did what she had to do to survive and raise her children. She had these losses and developed this response - 'I had to hold people away from me, because it's hard to lose them. I became this woman.' Her grandchildren are important to her, but she never lets on."

For Wicks the challenges included working with set designer Peter Hicks to build doors that could be slammed in anger, finding the right dinnerware and period costumes, especially shoes, and working with Plague and Rochkind on their volume. "This is their first time at Meadow Brook," said Wicks. "It's a big stage."

TV, she says, is smaller than life; films are bigger than life, but theater is life-size, the actors are relating with the audience.

"People go to see plays over and over," said Wicks. "When I was acting I did 'South Pacific' six times and each time it was a different production."

For "Lost in Yonkers," she says "I couldn't have asked for a better cast. They look like a cohesive family. People should come in and allow the information and emotions to wash over them. I think American plays about families will always endure."

On stage, there is only joy for Hermelin, despite the character she plays. "You don't know what's going to happen out there. It's exciting."

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THEATER

Wonderful 'Wizard of Oz' on stage doesn't disappoint

'The Wizard of Oz,' continues through April 26 at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$45.50 (main floor and mezzanine), \$32.50 and \$17.50, with school and group discounts available. Call (248) 433-1511, or (313) 596-3211 for information and show times.

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

Birmingham native Jessica Grove is taking the first steps on the yellow brick road to stardom in a dazzling staging of the MGM version of L. Frank Baum's 'The Wizard of Oz.'

The 1939 movie classic is one of the most beloved entertainments ever. An unusual convergence of all the right elements resulted in a family movie that has yet to be equaled. It made a star of Judy Garland and gave Ray Bolger, Bert Lahr, Jack Haley, Margaret Hamilton and Frank Morgan their most enduring roles.

Director Robert Johanson took on the daunting task of bringing this magic to life on a theater stage.

The magic survives in a production that will delight little children with its special effects and adults with its wonderful music and nostalgic ties to the original film. This is not a cheap, traveling show ripoff of a known product. It is a first-class entertainment from sets to music to outstanding perfor-

REVIEW

mances.

The Harold Arlen-E.Y. Harburg score is the best book musical ever written directly for a movie. (The Gershwins and Cole Porter wrote songs for the movies but never an integrated musical score.) It has life, wit, charm. It has the bounce of childhood but an irreverence that appeals to adults. For the stage production, Johanson has revived 'The Jitterbug,' a number rightly dropped from the movie because it was too contemporary but here an interesting tie to the '30s. The singers and the orchestra give full value to the music.

The performances are generally excellent, beginning with Grove's warm, sweet and caring Dorothy. She doesn't have Garland's nervous tremor, but she brings a quality to the part that is all her own. Lara Teeter as Scarecrow, Dirk Lumbar as the Tin Man and Ken Page as the Cowardly Lion each bring their own styles to their parts. Lumbar is probably closest to the film model but it is Page who gets the 'lion's' share of laughs and sympathy. Judith McCauley as Glinda is a fine singer who creates the same magical serenity that Billie Burke did in the film.

But the real star turn here is

the indefatigable Eartha Kitt who is obviously enjoying herself immensely as the Wicked Witch. She hisses, cackles and does acrobatics as she sails through the air on her broomstick. How does she get that kind of energy?

Two other familiar faces round out the cast, AMC movie host Bob Dorian as Uncle Henry and the Winkie General and the legendary Mickey Rooney as the Wizard.

And a word, too, for Plenty, the dog who plays Toto with such patience and style.

The sets by Michael Anania provide a neat parallel to the film, beginning with a shades of gray Kansas that turns into a blaze of color Munchkinland. The Art Deco Emerald City and the German Expressionist Witch's lair are faithfully and fully recreated. And the Yellow Brick Road is brought right up front for the audience to get up-close and personal with the dancing foursome.

Special effects are handled flawlessly from a rowdy, twisty tornado to flying monkeys to disappearing slippers to fire shooting brooms. The kids will love it.

This is a stage production that works on its own terms and does tribute to its enduring sources.

This is a great introduction to live theater for children.



GERRY GOODWIN

Courage: Mickey Rooney as the Wizard in 'The Wizard of Oz' gives the Cowardly Lion (Ken Page) his courage.

'Three Sisters' well performed at Hilberry

Wayne State University's Hilberry Theatre presents 'Three Sisters,' the dramatic classic by Anton Chekhov in rotating repertory through May 16 at the theater, 4743 Cass Ave. on campus, Detroit. For ticket information, call (313) 577-2972. BY SUE SUCHTA SPECIAL WRITER

REVIEW

tured both the heavy melancholy of Masha's loveless marriage and the passion of a desperate woman pursuing an ill-fated affair.

Antoinette Doherty turned in her strongest performance of the season as Irina, the youngest sister, who quixotic quest for true love is doomed. Doherty's moving performance exposed the pain of unbound love, and the heart-breaking acceptance of fate's cruel hand.

Other stand-outs in the cast include the brooding brother Andrey, played by Bret Tuomi, and Natasha, the crude but street smart sister-in-law, whose rise to power was skillfully crafted and cleverly timed by Judith Anzozine. David Engelman captured the charismatic and seductive nature of Lt. Col. Alexander Vershinin, the object of Masha's desire.

The set was awkward at best; the different levels and entrances did not lend themselves to the play's blocking. The set was also overwhelmed with chairs, which were clumsily shoved together during one scene to form two beds; the cast would have done better without the ridiculous contrivance.

Sound engineer Mark DeLorenzo's music intensified the play's deliberate contrasts. The upbeat sounds of a march floated gaily in the air while the sisters mourn the exodus of the army garrison, whose officers were their only link to their past life. In a like manner, Brian Boyer's lighting captured emotional turning points with dramatically intense spots.

Sound engineer Mark DeLorenzo's music intensified the play's deliberate contrasts. The upbeat sounds of a march floated gaily in the air while the sisters mourn the exodus of the army garrison, whose officers were their only link to their past life. In a like manner, Brian Boyer's lighting captured emotional turning points with dramatically intense spots.

The talented Peggy Johns, whose past performances include a kaleidoscope of characters, cap-



Drama: Mary Vignette (left to right), Peggy Johns and Antoinette Doherty in 'Three Sisters,' at Wayne State University's Hilberry Theatre.

Advertisement for the play 'Delirium' at the Palace Theatre. It features a large black and white portrait of a woman with the word 'Delirium' written in a cursive font over it. Text includes 'SPECIAL GUEST ANDRE PHILIPPE GAGNON', 'SEPTEMBER 22', and 'ON SALE THIS MON., APRIL 20 • 10 AM'. The Ericsson logo is at the bottom.

Large advertisement for 'The Phantom of the Opera' at AT&T Centre. It features the title 'PASSION BLOODS IN TORONTO!' in large letters. Text includes 'OFFER ENDS TOMORROW!', 'Top-Priced TICKETS for only \$50!', and 'THE PHANTOM of the OPERA'. It also mentions 'PHANTOM'S SPRING BREAK BONUS OFFER!' and provides ticket information and contact details.

Advertisement for 'GIBRALTAR GUN AND KNIFE SHOW'. It features the text 'MICHIGAN'S FINEST GUN AND KNIFE SHOW' and 'APRIL 17-18-19'. It lists 'SUPER DEALS ON AMMO' including handguns, rifles, shotguns, knives, and fishing supplies. It also mentions 'FREE FRIDAY ADMISSION TO THE TRADE CENTER' and provides the address '1-75 & EUREKA RD. (EXIT 36) TAYLOR • 734-287-2000'.

MOVIES

Burns' 'No Looking Back' 1 step up, 2 steps back

TICKETS PLEASE



JOHN MONAGHAN

When "The Brothers McMullen" came out of Sundance in 1995, it was a breath of fresh air. Where other young directors scrambled to become the next Tarantino, Ed Burns wrote, directed and starred in an old-fashioned tale of Irish-American brotherly love set in the working-class neighborhoods of New Jersey.

"No Looking Back" is better than his sophomore effort, "She's the One," but it's barely a step forward. Set in an unnamed New York coastal town, this grainy, low-budget story's only innovation is surrounding Burns with a more recognizable cast.

His Charlie left town three years ago and has now come back to reclaim his old girlfriend, Claudia (Lauren Holly), a waitress at the local diner. The only problem: she lives with Charlie's best friend Michael (Jon Bon Jovi), a genuinely nice working stiff who can't convince her to tie the knot.

The message behind "No Looking Back" is essentially the same as Burns' other movies: "Guys are jerks, and sometimes they have to wander, but we love them just the same." Claudia is first put off, but then starts to come around, driving her Camaro past the gas station where Charlie works and buying into his plans of traveling anywhere as long as it's far away.

As a writer, Burns is still better with guys. It was hard to tell in his first two movies because he cast his real-life girlfriend, who could barely act. With Holly, who really can when given the chance, it's obvious that she longs for a script as insightful as

it is earnest. This one supplies only the latter. As her patient boyfriend, rocker Bon Jovi continues to surprise everyone with his low-key, likable screen persona. He's far better than Burns, who has this quality — at once charming and irritating — where he can never answer a question without a wry look or an affected stammer.

In one of the movie's better moments, a friendly poker game turns nasty as Charlie keeps upping the ante. When the others protest ("You know we don't play for those kinds of stakes"), he goads Michael into borrowing money from another player just to see the cards. The game ends with angers flaring and Michael demanding he stay away from Claudia.

Invariably, when the conversation turns to her, the tension is almost palpable as the guys try to maintain their precarious friendship. Charlie vows not to

see her, but keeps reminding Michael that, with no ring on her finger, she's legally fair game.

While the tiny moments sometimes save the movie, it all adds up to very little. I like the bit where Claudia files her nails in a slow moment at the diner and looks over to see an older colleague doing the same. But I never believe that Holly is an actual waitress the way I did in, say, "Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore," the kind of movie Burns tries to emulate.

Bruce Springsteen has been featured on countless soundtracks, but this is the first since John Sayles' "Baby, It's You" to use his work — all older material — in such quantity. His working class anthems fit the movie well — maybe too well.

As Springsteen croons "One Step Up and Two Steps Back," you realize that he's not just singing about Burns' character Charlie. It's about the path Burns the filmmaker continues to take with movies like "No Looking Back."

John Monaghan welcomes your calls and comments. To leave John a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1866.

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COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, April 17

"BUTCHER BOY"

Exclusively at the Main Art Theatre, an ironic look back at the time and place in recent Irish history, as well as a funny, startling and compassionate explanation of the forces, both social and emotional, that send a child spinning extravagantly out of control.

"NIGHTWATCH"

Suspense thriller about a law student who takes a part time job as a night watchman in a hospital morgue just as a serial killer has begun to terrorize the city, and the clues left make him the prime suspect. Stars Nick Nolte, Patricia Arquette.

"MAJOR LEAGUE: BACK TO THE MINORS"

The baseball comedy series continues when a former minor-league pitcher accepts an offer to manage a misfit Triple-A team. Stars Scott Bakula.

"THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION"

Romantic comedy about a woman who leases a room in her apartment to a gay man and then finds herself falling in love with him. Stars Jennifer Aniston, Paul Rudd, Alan Alda.

"PAULIE"

Family drama told through the eyes of a parrot who can speak and understand English. Stars Gena Rowlands.

"SUICIDE KINGS"

Dark comedic thriller centers around five Long Island prep students who kidnap a former Mafia capo to exchange for the kidnapped sister of one of the boys. Stars Christopher Walken, Denis Leary.

"I LOVE YOU DON'T TOUCH ME"

Exclusively at United Artists — Oakland. Romantic comedy centers around a 25-year-old virgin's journey through the L.A. dating scene looking for the perfect guy. Stars Maria Schaffel.

Scheduled to open Friday, April 21

"THE BIG ONE"

Exclusively at the Main Art Theatre, Michael Moore has returned to America's Heartland to try to figure out why our corporations post ever higher profits, yet continue to downsize. Stars Michael Moore, who also directed, Garrison Keillor, Studs Terkel.

"THE BIG HIT"

Action thriller about a quartet of freelance guns-for-hire who may have gotten involved in one job too many and find that a hit is now out on them. Stars Mark Wahlberg.

"SLIDING DOORS"

What if one split second had the potential of sending your life in two different directions? "Sliding Doors" is a contemporary love story that follows one woman's life beyond that deciding moment — down two different paths. Stars Gwyneth Paltrow.

"THE SPANISH PRISONER"

Exclusively at the Main Art Theatre. The story of a young business executive who develops a dangerous relationship with a mysterious tycoon. Stars Steve Martin.

"TARZAN AND THE LOST CITY"

Based on the original character created by Edgar Rice Burroughs, Tarzan returns to Africa from Greystoke in order to save his homeland from fortune-hunting European mercenaries searching for the wealthy lost city of Opar.

"TWO GIRLS AND A GUY"

Exclusively at the AMC Maple Theatre. An examination of the love triangle from a revealing new angle. Shot almost entirely in real time, the film captures the intensity, complexity and ambiguity of modern relationships in an era when fidelity and sexuality and honesty aren't always a happy trio.

Scheduled to open Friday, April 24

"ALMOST HEROES"

Rolling comedy about two explorers who lead a band of hopeless and clueless misadventurers in a race to beat Lewis & Clark across the uncharted American West. Stars Chris Farley and Matthew Guest.

"DANCER, TEXAS POP. 81"

Four guys, best friends, who have grown up together in a tiny west Texas town, make a vow to leave town together when they graduate. Now the time has come to "put up" or "shut up." Stars Ethan Embry.

"DEJA VU"

Exclusively at the AMC Maple Theatre. A film about the powerful pull strangers can feel toward one another and how plans can be disrupted by mysterious feelings of connection and belonging that seem to defy logic. Stars Vanessa Redgrave.

"LES MISERABLES"

Victor Hugo's epic tale of love, honor and obsession. Stars Liam Neeson, Geoffrey Rush, Uma Thurman, Claire Danes.

"THE QUEST FOR CAMELOT"

Thrilling adventure set in a magical world. Timeless legends and contemporary humor are intertwined with images created by some of the world's most distinguished animation artists.

"HOPE FLOATS"

When a woman's picture perfect life comes crashing down around her, she returns home to start over. There her life becomes even more complicated, but she finds the strength to reclaim her life and rediscovers something she had almost given up on, hope. Stars Sandra Bullock, Harry Connick, Jr.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

A large multi-column table listing movie titles, ratings (e.g., PG, R, NC-17), and theater names with contact information. Columns include: General Cinemas, Mercury Rising, Adventure, Odd Couple II, Spice World, etc.

SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan. Detroit Film Theatre - Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313) 833-2323 for information (\$5.50; \$4.50 students/seniors) "Nights of Cabiria" (Italy-1957). Friday-Sunday, April 17-19 (call for showtimes). Giulietta Masina plays a prostitute whose grasp on the value of life is tested to the breaking point in this early classic by director (and Masina's husband) Federico Fellini. The story was later used for the Bob Fosse musical "Sweet Charity."

STREET SCENE

Timing right for Gandharvas

Timing is everything, according to singer Paul Jago of The Gandharvas. And now was the time for his London, Ontario-based band to get a worldwide record deal.

"With the first album, we had an indie deal with a label out of Chicago that went nowhere. Then the second album didn't have very much notoriety. It was hard to sell. This one just seemed to work," Jago explained via telephone from his London home.

The "one" Jago is speaking of is "Sold for a Smile." The Gandharvas' debut effort for MCA Records. Released in the fall 1997 in Canada, "Sold for a Smile" has sold more than 25,000 copies, halfway to a gold record in that country.

Fans in the United States will get the chance to hear it for themselves when "Sold for a Smile" is released here Tuesday, April 28. Those who are really anxious can see The Gandharvas play a free, all-ages show with fellow Canucks Pure on Friday, April 17, at The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall in Detroit.

As with most border cities, Detroiters have had a jump start with the music of The Gandharvas, named after the Hindu term for "celestial musicians to the gods." Radio station CIMX (88.7) has played the band's first single "Downtime" from "Sold for a Smile" for months.

The moody, ethereal song "The First Day of Spring," off an earlier album, has inundated the radio station's airwaves for weeks. Fans of that song will be



Gandharvas: Time is right for a major label deal. The band plays St. Andrew's Hall on Friday.

surprised when they pick up "Sold for a Smile." Shortly after Jago's quiet vocal introduction in "The First Day of Spring," The Gandharvas injected a metal/hip-hop guitar feel leading up to the second verse.

"We had originally recorded this album without 'The First Day of Spring.' We were doing it live that way; the heavy version. When we signed on with MCA in the States, they came to see our show a few times and they heard the heavy version. We decided we might as well put it on the U.S. album and re-release it in Canada as well," Jago said.

He added that he likes both versions for different reasons.

"I like the subtly of the first one. It's a little more dramatic. The first one is not very exciting to me live. It takes too long to develop. The second one is much more fun all around. It has bite."

But like the first one, Jago's vocals resemble Jane's Addiction's frontman Perry Farrell. When CIMX plays the original version of the song, it fields several calls from Jane's fans asking on what album that song can be found.

All the material on "Sold for a Smile" has a "bite" to it. "Downtime," the first single and opening track, along with "Watching The Girl" and "Hammer in a Shell" are out-and-out rockers. "Waiting for Something to Happen/Reprise" whips through in record time compared to The Gandharvas' previous work. "Sold for a Smile" hits a melancholy note with "Shells."

Lyrical, the underlying theme of "Sold for a Smile" is the "write-record-tour cycle" in which musicians work. Money ("Downtime"), greed and commercialism ("Sarsaparilla"), and

alienation ("Waiting for Something to Happen") are addressed on the record.

"Every album we do is different," explained the soft-spoken Jago who sounds as if it's almost painful to answer questions about the album.

"We decided that for this record we would do a straight-up rock 'n' roll record, which is more like our live shows. We were just really concentrating on doing an album that was true to form to what you see when you see the band. There used to be a bit of a discrepancy between what we do on the live shows and what you get on the CD."

Not with "Sold for a Smile," he added. Finally after releasing earlier albums "A Soap Bubble and Inertia," and "Kicking in the Water" on indie labels, The Gandharvas can show U.S. fans what it's all about.

"It makes it much easier when we do come to towns like Detroit or Buffalo or whatever. It's always hard telling people, when they ask, that they have to go over the bridge to get our CDs. It's kind of a nuisance."

"It's all timing. You know you have to keep making an effort to get a deal anywhere to extend your audience. It took us a little while."

The Gandharvas along with Pure and Plain perform a free show Friday, April 17, at The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Doors open at 6 p.m. for the all-ages show. For more information, call (313) 961-MELT or visit <http://www.961melt.com>.

Eric Clapton fans come from all ages

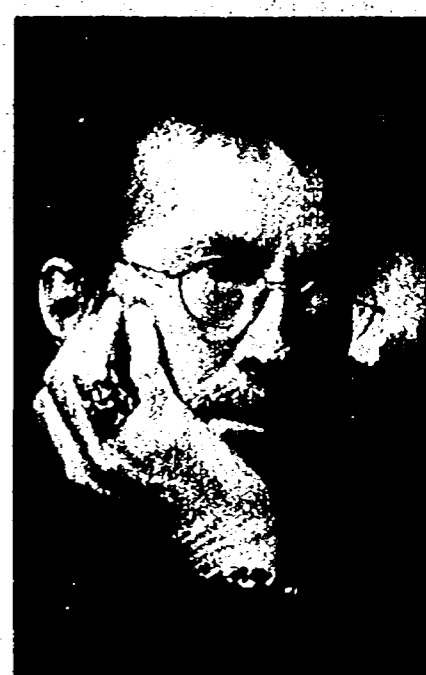
The audience for last week's Eric Clapton concert at the Palace of Auburn Hills included boomers who probably started listening to the guitar legend as teenagers, their kids and at least one lady who appeared to be in her 80s.

Being around as long as Clapton has in his various incarnations, it's probably natural that his audience covers a lot of different age groups. It also doesn't hurt that several Clapton songs have become mainstays of light rock radio, in addition seventies oldies stations.

There's nothing wrong with appealing to a wider audience, but the most recent Clapton concert at times had an unsatisfying and almost watered down quality. It wasn't that Clapton wasn't musically strong - he was in fine voice and his guitar work was as strong as ever. The problem was more the crowd on the stage with him and a lack of emotional depth in some of his more recent songs.

A 20-piece orchestra backed Clapton and his band which included three back-up singers. With the exception of "Tears in Heaven," the strings were mostly an annoyance that muddled the overall sound. At worst it was like having a slight buzz in your stereo speakers, at best superfluous. Also, in fairness, it might have been the sound at the Palace also sounded a little fuzzy at times.

To his credit, Clapton has been known for performing new arrangements of his songs over the years. That was one of



Eric Clapton

the fine aspects of his "Unplugged" performances that featured a shuffling version of "Layla," which was performed last week.

Clapton was at his strongest when he sat down and performed with an acoustic guitar or powered through harder driving blues numbers like "Old Love" and "Have You Ever Loved a Woman." Seemed like old times again.

The capacity crowd seemed to enjoy the two-hour concert but there wasn't the enthusiasm shown at, for instance, a concert in support of "From the Cradle." That strongly blues based set had an energy and emotion that are lacking from some other Clapton work including songs from his current release "Pilgrim" which opened the show.

Stratford director makes pitch for the arts

BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

this entity, "the arts," equal parts soap bubble and tank.

On Backstage Pass, we try to promote and nurture the arts, and happily we're not alone. Recently, Wayne State Theatre Department faculty member and Backstage host Blair Anderson was able to sit down with Richard Monette, the artistic director of the Stratford Festival, a cherished annual summer theater event that has championed Shakespeare and other great work for years.

Mr. Monette was in town to address the Economic Club of Detroit with a speech he called, "Lunatics, Lovers and People of Business: Why We Need Artists." Blair commented to me on the uniqueness of the address. "Often when artistic leaders make appeals to the business community, it's for corporate sponsorship, donations, and phi-

lanthropic hand-outs. Monette's appeal was much more essential in describing the need of a society to actively interact with the arts.

"Monette gained immediate credibility when he was introduced as an artistic executive who had taken his company from a deficit only a few years ago to a company 'in the black' even while making extensive outlays for improved facilities." Smart man. In addressing business people, he spoke the language of the bottom line.

Blair said he built other bridges, too. "Monette pointed out essential qualities in an artist: you need to generate ideas, bring something new to the table. You need to turn the ideas into viable realities, so you need the skills, motivation, and energy to follow through. You need to micro- and macro-manage, giving attention to details while keeping the big picture in mind. Theatre artists need to work independently and as part of a team, and need analytical and critical skills to assess your own performance and work. The audience chuckled in growing awareness of the similarities between good artists and successful business people. His point was that art doesn't happen in one's sleep or on the spur of the moment. It demands hard work.

"Monette stressed that art was

'good for you,' but shouldn't be seen as some sort of cultural medicine but rather as a fine wine: 'complex, rich and intoxicating; it inspires conversation; it aids in love; and we consume it for pleasure.'

What an eloquent voice for the arts! Blair also asked Richard about the upcoming season. "It's an exciting one: 'Man of La Mancha,' and 'Miracle Worker' for popular fare; Tennessee Williams' 'The Night of the Iguana' and Beckett's 'Waiting for Godot' are piquing my interest. Richard is directing two shows: Shakespeare's 'Much Ado About Nothing' and Moliere's 'The Miser,' which will move to the City Center in New York for Broadway runs in the fall." All that just a beautiful 2 1/2 hour drive away.

Also on the Big Show, we'll visit the studio of Detroit artist Robert Martin. I had a chance to ask Robert to describe what he does. "I'm an interactive artist - when most people work with art, it's more pacified; you're not involved with the work. I make installations that people can walk into, and they're actually creating images, projected or on monitors, as they walk in. It's

like by walking into a theatre, you're creating the graphics that you see and the music you hear as you're walking around. In a regular movie, you're sitting and watching, and it's the same every time. This is more like jazz: it can be different every time. And your entire body is part of the interface, you're not limited by having to use a mouse.

About two summers ago I had an installation at the DIA called 'The Virtual Palladium,' a reference to a club in New York well-known for showing music videos made by musicians and artists. People could walk into the room and create the interaction between the music and the graphics. Not surprisingly, kids knew how to have fun with it. A lot of adults were a little intimidated by it. But the adults who never grew up, they knew how to have fun with it, too."

Also on the show, Mammoth Records recording artists Pure will rock the studio, and 83-year-old Russell Green will show why he's called Detroit's Dean of the Trumpet. That's all on Backstage Pass, tonight at midnight on Detroit Public Television, repeated tomorrow at 7:30 p.m.

Walk the Walk and Talk the Talk.

PG www.freezone.com/paulie

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AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY	AMC SOUTHLAND
AMC STERLING CTR. 10	AMC WONDERLAND	BIRMINGHAM 8
SHOWCASE ALABAMA	SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE PONTIAC
SHOWCASE MICHIGAN	SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE
STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR WINCHESTER
COMMERCIAL TWP. 14	UNION TWP. 12 OAKS	UNION TWP. WEST RIVER

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AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY	AMC STERLING CTR. 10	BEACON EAST
BIRMINGHAM 8	GENERAL CANTON	OLD ORCHARD
RENAISSANCE 4	SHOWCASE ALABAMA	SHOWCASE DEARBORN
SHOWCASE ALABAMA	SHOWCASE ALABAMA	SHOWCASE WESTLAND
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8
STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR
UNION TWP. COMMERCIAL TWP. 14	UNION TWP. 12 OAKS	UNION TWP. WEST RIVER

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BACK TO THE MAJORS

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BEACON EAST	GCC CANTON/CINEMA	GCC NOVI TOWN CTR.
QUO VADIS	SHOWCASE ALABAMA	SHOWCASE ALABAMA
SHOWCASE ALABAMA	SHOWCASE ALABAMA	STAR GRATIOT
STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR ROCHESTER	UNION TWP. COMMERCIAL TWP. 14	UNION TWP. WEST RIVER

DINING

Retired firefighters open their own 'Academy'

EATING OUT IN THE SUBURBS

Mike Reddy and George Riley jumped from fires to frying pans, when they opened Fire Academy Brewery & Grill in Westland.

"Both of us had numerous small companies in the community," said Riley who owns the recently opened restaurant with Reddy. "We were firefighters who rose up through the ranks. We were at the end of our career and wondered 'what are we going to do in our afterlife?' Neither of us had any restaurant business background, but we like people, and being involved in the community."

George, who retired as assistant fire chief after 26 years of service, is a homebrewer, and liked the idea of opening a brewpub. He and Mike, who have known each other for many years, sensed a need for a family restaurant in the area, and did their homework.

In 1995 they began laying the groundwork for what would become Fire Academy Brewery & Grill after retiring from the Westland Fire Department. They bought the building that houses their restaurant in May of 1997 and began renovating it.

"I have a great love for fire service and the community," said Reddy who is a retired Westland Fire Chief. "It's a nice way to be involved, you meet people, it's fun. We have a great atmosphere, something for everyone."

Fire Academy is like being at the station. You can even have dinner inside a former City of Birmingham fire truck. "The kids just love it," said Riley. "Their eyes light up."

Fire helmets and other memorabilia fill the walls, there's a colorful fire rescue mural painted by Scott Staples of Westland, and you can watch fire-related videos on TVs scattered throughout. "There's even one of my graduation from the fire academy," said Riley.

With an emphasis on quality, the menu offers everything from prime rib, New York Strip Steaks, barbecue shrimp, pasta dishes, and salads.

Wally Green of Canton, formerly chef at the Mackinaw Brewing Co. in Traverse City, put the menu together. A lot of the side dishes are prepared with beer brewed on the premises such as hand sliced onion

Fire Academy Brewery & Grill

Where: 6677 N. Wayne Road, Westland, (734) 595-1988.

Hours: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; 11 a.m. to midnight, Thursday-Saturday; noon to 11 p.m. Sunday.

Menu: Something for everyone including hand-crafted beers and root beer, sandwiches, soup, salads, steaks, baby back ribs, chicken, shrimp, whitefish, and pasta. Children's menu available.

Cost: Ranges from \$4.75 to \$5.95 for sandwiches, entrees \$7.95 to \$15.50.

Credit Cards: All majors accepted.

Reservations: Not accepted after 5 p.m. Very busy 5-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, expect to wait.

Banquets: Able to serve up to 50 buffet style, or 45 sit down, inside a vintage fire truck. Reservations recommended well in advance. Parties are not scheduled on Friday and Saturday evenings.



Beer, a hand-crafted root beer shoulders above them. He brews vice. **First Class:** George Riley (left) and Chef Wally Green are dedicated to providing the "finest handcrafted beer, highest quality food, and the friendliest service in the world, with a really neat atmosphere," at the Fire Academy Brewery and Grill.

rings dipped in homemade Amber Ale beer batter and deep fried. Mushrooms and onions served with steaks are also ale grilled.

Homemade soups are offered daily, a cheddar ale, and of course, Fire Academy Chili. If you can't make up your mind try the soup sampler.

Salads are served with Euro-grain bread, the Dispatcher's Salad - mixed greens, mandarin oranges, pecans, raspberry chicken, tossed in house raspberry vinaigrette dressing is popular with customers.

There are lots of burger combinations to choose from, all served with chips and a pickle spear. Entrees such as prime rib, baby back ribs and chicken are served with soup or salad, Euro-grain bread basket, and choice of baked potatoes, fries or seasoned rice. Pasta dishes are served with choice of soup or salad and bread basket.

"Rookies" can pick from chicken fingers, kid's ribs, kids fish and grilled cheese. They can even order a beer - Rookie Root

brewed at the Fire Academy.

Save room for a Root Beer Float or one of the other scrumptious desserts.

Tye Owsley brews the six hand-crafted beers that are made and served at Fire Academy. They include Axe Ale - a blonde, light, smooth ale, Smoke-Eater Ale - a mild-bodied beer with a hint of clove & citrus, Maltese Cross Beer - a mild brown beer, Chief's Amber Ale - a medium-bodied beer, Indian Tank Ale - an intensely hopped ale, fruity Wildfire Berry Beer, and Sergeant's Stout, a rich dark beer. For \$5 you can try a beer sampler of all six. Fire Academy serves six beers, and always has a seasonal specialty beer brewing, too. They have the capacity to brew 10 different beers.

Before joining Fire Academy, Owsley worked at the Stoney Creek Brewery in Frankenmuth. "We interviewed 35 people from around the world for the job," said Riley. "He was heads and



Super shrimp: Barbecued jumbo shrimp broiled with Amber Ale BBQ sauce is a specialty at Fire Academy Brewery & Grill.

a quality product."

They'd like to host a microbrew contest at the Fire Academy in the future, and an antique fire equipment show.

Reddy and Riley are still actively involved in public ser-

Riley is a police/fire commissioner for the City of Westland, and a Civil Service Commissioner.

Mike serves on the YMCA Board, and Mayor's Drug Task Force.

Just in case you missed it, or lost the paper. Here are some of the restaurants we've recently visited:

■ **Arriba** - Where: 314 St. Fourth St., Ann Arbor. Menu: Mexican restaurant emphasizing authentic regional Mexican dishes. Open: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday; 4-11 p.m. Saturday; 4-9 p.m. Sunday. Credit: All major credit cards. Cost: Entrees, \$6.95-\$13.95; appetizers, \$4.95-\$5.75; salads, \$2.95-\$3.75. Reservations: For parties of six or more, call (734) 662-8485.

■ **Plymouth Landing** - Where: 340 N. Main St., Plymouth, (734) 455-3700. Open: 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday (bar stays open until 1 a.m., limited Casual Fare menu after 10:30 p.m.); 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, brunch served until 2 p.m. Menu: Creative cooking with Greek, Italian and French flare, American fare also. Cost: Lunch ranges from \$6.50 to \$12.95, dinner \$7.95 to \$21.95; brunch \$10.95 adults, \$5.95 children ages 5-10; no charge children age 4 and under. Reservations: Recommended. Credit cards: All majors accepted. Banquet Room: For up to 50 people.

■ **Flying Fish Tavern** - Where: 6480 Orchard Lake Road; (corner of Maple Road) West Bloomfield (248) 865-8888. Hours: 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday; 3 p.m. to midnight Sunday. Menu: Casual neighborhood family eatery serves comfort foods with special focus on fresh catches of the day. Cost: Appetizers and dinner salads \$4-8; sandwiches and burgers \$5.50-7; pastas \$7-9; big plates, specials and catch of the day \$9-15; desserts \$2-4. Reservations: For parties of six or more only. Credit cards: All majors accepted.

Flying Fish is about food; good food at modest prices. But it's more than that. It's a place families will enjoy. A game room in back makes children of all ages happy. Sports fans won't miss a down, face-off, slam dunk or homerun. TV monitors carry Fox Sports programming. Flying Fish is also a gathering spot, a place to kick back with friends.

RESTAURANT SPECIALS

Restaurant specials and renovations openings and features, menu specials, and anniversaries. Send announcements to: Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36261 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or fax (734) 591-7279. Y

■ **ON THE MENU**
 ■ **Chuck Muer Restaurants** - Are offering their guests the world's largest crab legs through April 26. The King Crab legs being offered at Chuck Muer Restaurants come from Bristol Bay where harvesting of the King Crab is only allowed for two months out of the year in

order to ensure their great size. This Alaskan delicacy is featured in a number of entrees during lunch and dinner. Chuck Muer Restaurants include Big Fish in Dearborn (313) 336-8350, Big Fish Too, Clawson (248) 585-9533, Gandy Dancer, Ann Arbor (734) 769-0592, Meriwether's, Southfield (248) 358-1310, Seafood Tavern, West Bloomfield (248) 851-2251 and Charley's Crab, Troy (248) 879-2060. Prices for King Crab Legs range from \$28.95 for 16 ounces at Big Fish to \$33.95 at Charley's Crab in Troy.

■ **Too Chez** - 27155 Sheraton Drive (northwest corner of Novi

Road and I-96), Novi. Executive Chef Greg Upshur presents a special dinner 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, a multi-course feast.

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