

Westland Observer

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Thursday
April 29, 1999

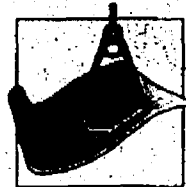
Serving the Westland Community for 34 years

VOLUME 34 NUMBER 94

WESTLAND, MICHIGAN • 70 PAGES • <http://observer.eccentric.com>

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Teens: Include us in rec plans



Residents attended a public hearing Tuesday evening at John Glenn High School to express their opinions on a proposed \$12-million-plus recreation center for Westland. The forum was sponsored by the mayor's administration.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
dclem@oe.homecomm.net

Westland teenagers Tuesday implored city officials to accommodate skateboarding and outdoor swimming in any long-term recreation plan.

Neither activity appears on a preliminary list of features for a proposed \$12 million-plus recreation center, even

though a survey of Westland residents indicated strong support for a building designed with teens in mind.

"We feel very unwanted," 15-year-old skateboarder Justin Coleman said during a public hearing in John Glenn High School's auditorium.

Mayor Robert Thomas' administration sponsored the 2½-hour hearing —

Please see RECREATION, A4



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Young people's concerns: Justin Coleman, 15, and Jamie Manning, 16, urge city officials to consider the needs of teenagers in planning a new city recreation center.

A-MAY-ZING MOM

Moms ... they're amazing people. Granted, they can't leap buildings in a single bound or stop a speeding train like Superman, but when it comes to juggling the demands of work, home and their children ... Well, they're just amazing.

In recognition of their amazing status, the Observer Newspapers is looking for the most "A-May-Zing Mom," living in Livonia, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton, Redford, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Westland or Garden City.

In 50 words or less, tell us why your Mom is so amazing. Be sure to include her name, address, telephone number and a photograph as well as your name, address and telephone number.

Entries should be sent to Sue Mason, The winner "An A-May-Zing Mom" contest, announced in 36251 Schoolcraft, the Sunday, May Livonia 46150, by 9, edition of the no later than 5 p.m. Observer. She Friday, April 30, will receive a complete makeover at Gerald's Salon in Northville Township, a \$200 ensemble from Bon-Loot in Northville and dinner for two (a \$50 value) at Fonte d'Amore Ristorante in Livonia.

And all eligible "A-May-Zing Mom" nominees will be recognized in the May 9 edition.

IN THE PAPER TODAY

COMMUNITY LIFE

A trend: Pokemon, a Japanese cartoon show with an American makeover, is becoming the latest craze among kids who watch it on the WB, play its card games and collect its stuffed toys. /B1

ENTERTAINMENT

Theater: "Fame" is what University of Michigan graduate Gavin Creel prepared for. Now he's learning what's it's really like. /E1

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Wow a wallaby



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Jumpy: A wallaby called "Radar" visited Madison Elementary for SPARK Day last week. Students were able to touch the Australian animal brought in by the Living Science Foundation.

Day SPARKs science interests

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

It's one thing to read about wallabies hopping around the Australian Outback — it's another to watch one hop around a classroom.

Madison Elementary students in Westland got a close-up look at a wallaby, an alligator, an exotic tropical bird, a six-foot-long snake and the power of electricity Friday at Madison's "SPARK Day," which stands for Science

Please see SPARK, A3 For the bird: Merlin the cockatoo shows off.



City hears call of wild — coyotes

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Wild coyotes, possibly uprooted from their natural habitat by a construction boom, are seeking refuge in Westland, police say.

Residents have reported seeing as many as four coyotes at once near homes and nature areas along Hix Road, from Joy as far south as Cherry Hill.

Police are advising residents not to panic. These clever coyotes apparently aren't as aggressive as the Wile E. Coyote that chased cartoon land's Road-runner.

"Nobody has been bitten as far as I know," Police Chief Emery Price said.

Please see COYOTES, A2

Plan looks to market DDA area

BY DARRELL CLEM
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A vision is emerging for transforming Westland's aging commercial corridors into bustling, pedestrian-friendly areas where people can shop, dine and live, officials say.

One proposal centers on trying to market several properties to one major developer amid hopes of spawning Nankin Town Center — touted as a potential rebirth for the southwest corner of Ford and Wayne roads.

The plan could fuel even more redevelopment along Wayne Road from

Please see DDA, A6

Your own Web site? It's free and easy



If you've ever been surfing the World Wide Web and decided that everyone in the world has a Web site except you, here's your chance.

A new service being offered by the Observer Newspapers allows non-profit community organizations to set up their own Web sites. And the best part is: It's easy and it's free.

"Mihometown.com is a new community Web site service designed to serve and promote community organizations in the state of Michigan," said Brion Roberto, manager of the Observer & Eccentric Enhanced Media Department. "We want mihometown.com to be a local hub for community information."

Using software developed by KOZ.com, the site allows organizations to set up sophisticated Web sites with just a few clicks of a mouse. You don't need to write code or know HTML. You simply connect to mihometown.com, click on "Create a New Site Now," and follow the on-screen instructions.

Training sessions are scheduled for 6:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 12, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 15, and 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, May 19, at CompUSA in the Novi Town Center. Each session will last two and a half hours, after which, Roberto said, you will be ready to set up your site.

The \$15 fee includes training, materials

and refreshments. You can fill out the attached coupon and send a check payable to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers or register online with a credit card at this secure site <http://oeonline.com/mihometown> or call Jennifer Murray at (734) 953-2038 for more information. Space is limited.

After the brief training session, you can create a Web site complete with an online newsletter, a calendar of events, discussion groups and a live chat room. The site also includes a built-in search engine. The sites can be customized by following on-screen instructions and can include graphics or pictures that you upload, feedback forms, and one-click e-mail to participants.

You can open your site to the public or password protect it so that only members or participants can access it. Or you can keep some areas public and make others private. It's all up to you.

Roberto said that while other services offer free Web sites, the mihometown.com site is able to serve community organizations and bring them all together on the main page. He compared that to the community news provided by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

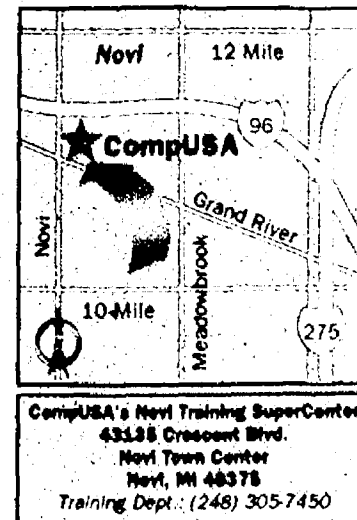
"We offer community news in our newspapers and our online services. Mihometown.com completes the service by offering groups the ability to promote themselves and by serving as a community resource for these groups."

The service is available for schools, PTAs, school clubs, libraries and government agencies, as well as such diverse organizations as churches, arts and culture groups, sports and recreation clubs and teams, alumni associations and so on.

Roberto said that groups that already have a Web site might want to set up another one through mihometown.com simply because of the sense of community of having many local sites accessible through one source.

"There's strength in numbers by combining many organizations in one place," he said. And he plans to promote the service through newspaper advertising and through the oeonline.com and observer-eccentric.com Web sites.

"The notion of 'Build your own Web site and they will come' is not working for many people," he said. "There are millions of sites out there and they aren't always easy to find."



Register for training

■ Name: _____

■ Organization(s) you represent: _____

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■ Telephone: (work and home) _____

■ Current e-mail address: _____

■ Type of computer you have: _____

■ First choice for training session: _____

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■ Check No.: _____

Coyotes from page A1

But he did suggest that residents take precautions.

"Warn children not to try to pet them, and keep small dogs, cats and other pets indoors or fenced in," Price said.

Animal Control Officer Dewey Frady Jr. also advised residents to store garbage in containers.

"Don't leave garbage out," he said. "Coyotes are a big consumer of garbage. They're smart enough that they'll visit your neighborhood on garbage night."

Price warned residents not to try to capture coyotes but, rather, call police at (734) 722-9600 and ask for help.

"Like any other wild animal, they will attack if they're backed into a corner," he said.

Frady himself confirmed seeing coyotes, and the most recent sighting was Sunday night in the city's northwest side. Some of the wily animals have been seen around the Holliday Park Nature Preserve and Hix Park.

"I imagine they plan to stay awhile," Frady said, "but we're trying to deter them."

Police have set traps at undisclosed locations - not to hurt the coyotes but to catch them and move them to less-populated areas.

They're not easy to capture, though. Animal control officers

hit one coyote with a tranquilizer gun in one back yard, but it still managed to escape by scurrying into a wooded area.

Price said it appears the coyotes are coming to Westland from the west - possibly after being uprooted by a construction boom that has encroached on their environment.

Smaller than their relative, the wolf, coyotes are typically 3 feet to 4 feet long, including their tails, and they usually weigh 40 to 55 pounds, police said.

Frady said coyotes also have been spotted in other communities such as Livonia and Canton Township.

Various articles on the Internet describe coyotes as being adaptable to changing environments. They once roamed prairies and deserts, but encroaching settlers pushed them into mountains, wooded areas and, now, urban areas.

Coyotes' common prey include deer, elk, sheep, rabbits, rodents, ground-nesting birds, amphibians, lizards, snails, fish and insects - but small domestic pets may be at risk.

"We don't want people to panic," Price said. "We just want them to know they're out there."



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

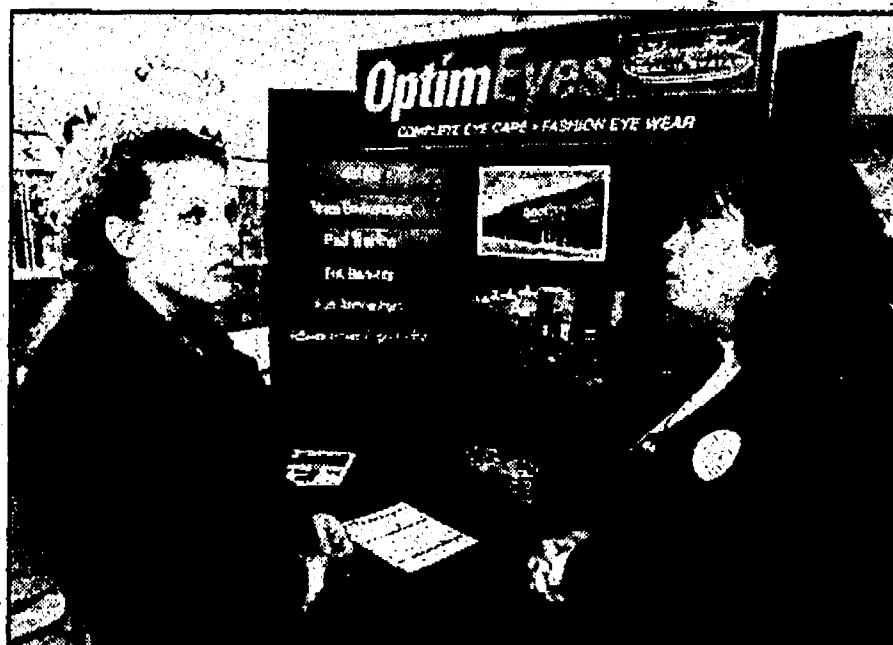
Westland Observer
 (USPS 663-530)
 Published every Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric® Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Periodical postage paid at Livonia, MI 48151. Address all mail (subscription, change of address, Form 3500) to P.O. Box 3004, Livonia, MI 48151. Telephone 591-0500.

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Fair day: At top, Sarah and Josh Frank use laptop computers at the Westland Chamber of Commerce Jobs and Careers Fair at Westland Shopping Center Saturday. Wayne RESA (Regional Education Services Agency) and MOIS (Michigan Occupational Information System) were showing students and adults software for students to be able to find information about different careers options. Above, Elizabeth Dyer (left) of Westland talks with Judy Lyons of Henry Ford OptimEyes at the job fair.

Fair aims to get people on the job

More than 2,000 attendees and 68 employers made the Westland Chamber of Commerce annual job fair a success Saturday, according to Linda Shapona, chamber executive director.

"We had a really good turnout," Shapona said. Held at Westland Shopping Center, the mall reported a 4 percent increase in traffic over last year, Shapona said.

"It really went well. We had a lot of people turn out," she said.

The chamber is considering a request to have two job fairs a year, she said.

The fair was praised by several of the employers present. Yulanda Chapman Harris, regional recruiter for Blinds to Go, said the fair provided better leads than any other she

has participated in.

Kathy Allesandro of Wayne County RESA saw a "steady flow at the fair."

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SPARK from page A1

Plus Activities Reaching Kids.
Students traded a half-day of their regular classes for a half-day of SPARK classes — geared toward giving them hands-on lessons in a variety of scientific activities.

The purpose of SPARK Day is twofold, according to Madison principal Mary Goedert. One, to bring in people who use science in their work so that they can do hands-on activities with children, and two, to show children careers in science. Police officers with a K-9 unit dog, meteorologists, cancer researchers, utility workers and others showed the scientific parts of their jobs to students.

Student volunteers called SPARK kids helped issue the press releases to the media and helped field media questions.

Spark kid Todd Bruhnsen, 10, said the day's activities show children what kind of career opportunities are available.

"I just think SPARK Day is fun because we get to go to different classes and learn different things," Bruhnsen said.

Many of the classes revolved around the animal kingdom, but physics, meteorology, ecology and electricity also came to the front.

In the Australian Outback class, students got to pet a wallaby, hold a tree frog and a skink lizard and wear a python like a necklace. The six-foot-long Queensland carpet python can grow to 12 feet and enjoys snacking on koalas.

But Carey Chapel, from the Living Science Foundation, assured the squeamish children that "Melbourne" (the python) had no interest in snacking on them. The snake is named for Australia's second-largest city.

"He's very friendly," she said. "He's very used to being around people."

The students were asked to use a "thumbs-up" signal to show whether they wanted to hold an animal or just touch it. All the children signaled that

■ In the Australian Outback class, students got to pet a wallaby, hold a tree frog and a skink lizard and wear a python like a necklace.

they wanted to hold the snake, which kills its prey by constriction, or wrapping itself around its prey.

The highlight came when she brought in a wallaby, a small kangaroo. The active creature, named "Radar," obviously wanted to hop around the room, but Chapel reined him in by grasping his tail. She told the students that wallabies' tails are so strong they can balance all their weight on them — and attack predators with their powerful back claws.

Chapel finally let Radar hop around the room, but the tables and chairs made it difficult for him to get around. Wallabies can hop at speeds up to 25 miles per hour, according to Chapel.

For the electrical lesson, Detroit Edison workers burned branches, zapped metal fences and scorched hot dogs to show students how dangerous electricity is.

Edison worker Mike Van Damme told students that all electrical line workers must wear protective rubber sleeves and gloves when handling electricity, because rubber is an insulator.

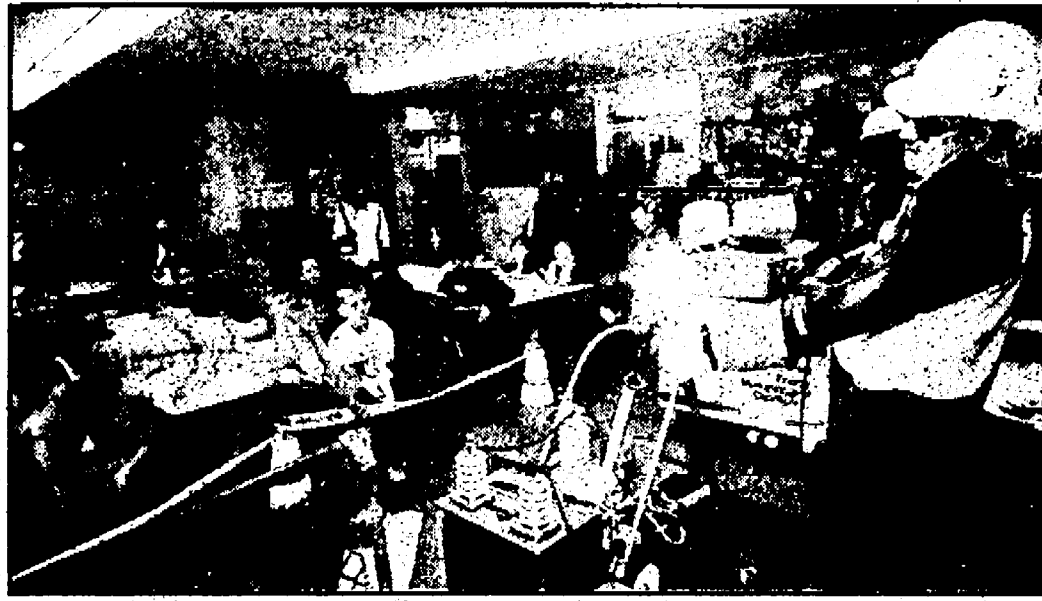
One of the students poked a tiny hole in Van Damme's glove. He then inserted a hot dog, skewered on a wooden stick, into one of the glove's fingers and placed the glove on a live wire.

The result? The pinhole turned into a scorched hole about the size of a raisin and



Looking at life: Amanda Gushen (left) and ReAnna Hessoun, fourth-graders at Madison, look through a microscopic animal, a "rotifer," in the "Life Under a Microscope" session.

STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY



Burn this: Corporate safety worker Mike Van-Damme of Detroit Edison shows students what can burn from an electrical arc at SPARK Day at Madison Elementary School on Friday.

the smell of a weenie roast quickly wafted through the air. Van Damme said he used the

hot dog to simulate what can happen to human flesh when it is exposed to electricity.

"That hot dog stinks," one student blurted out. Josh Brist, 9, said he learned

a lot about electricity. "I didn't know that if just one little line comes down and hits one fence, all the fences could be electrified," Brist said.

Students peered at flat worms and microorganisms for "Life Under a Microscope." Students peered at the slides with awe and disgust as they realized something was alive on it.

Amber Daily, 8, said SPARK Day was a lot of fun.

"I like this because you get to see new things that you never saw before," she said.

Her lab partner, Tabetha McCauley, 9, said the SPARK classes beat regular school classes any day.

"It's more fun than doing regular work in school," she said.

City looks at Y2K consultant

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
dclem@oe.homecomm.net

Westland city leaders don't expect massive problems when Year 2000 arrives, but they're still preparing for possible Y2K bugs.

"I don't see the world ending," Mayor Robert Thomas said. "I think we'll all get through it pretty good."

City employees are checking computers and software to prepare for most snags, but officials and Y2K consultants say possible problems could arise from tiny, embedded computer chips.

■ Possible snags?
Firefighters and paramedics might not be able to start fire trucks and medical rescue vehicles to respond to emergencies.

■ Public services employees could encounter stalled vehicles if they need to plow snow from city streets.

■ Heating systems could fail in public buildings, forcing the use of generators when practical.

■ Security alarm systems could fail.

"I don't think it's going to be the catastrophe that some people are trying to cash in on," Councilman Glenn Anderson said.

Still, administration officials have proposed hiring an engineering/computer services firm to complete a thorough analysis for potential problems that the city can avoid by planning now.

Charles Nalbandian, the city's top computer official, suggested during a study session Monday that council members consider hiring a firm such as Pioneer Technology Services, a Howell-based business specializing in Y2K problems.

Officials have delayed a decision to consider other companies, although the Howell firm already has been hired by the city of Detroit and the Conference of Western Wayne — a legislative consortium of 18 communities.

Although costs would depend on the scope of testing and possible corrective measures to combat Y2K problems, Councilman Charles "Trav" Griffin said it would be more prudent to spend money now than face potentially "tremendous" expenses and liability for any Y2K snags that surface.

In other Y2K developments,

MILLENNIUM

Thomas said that he and as many as 12 of his department heads plan to be at Westland City Hall when Year 2000 falls, so they can respond to any problems.

Thomas also said public services workers, police officers and firefighters will be on the job.

Thomas predicted that most problems won't be the city's fault.

He said it's possible that electrical power and gas could shut down in isolated areas, leaving residents with no heat. He said the city could provide temporary shelter unless the problem is

citywide. "I don't think we're going to have those major power outages," he said.

Thomas said ham radio operators will be prepared to help out if other communications systems fail due to Y2K problems.

Tony Robinson of Pioneer Technology Services predicted the city will suffer "bee stings" rather than widespread Y2K complications.

Most officials seemed confident that the city will survive Year 2000 with few problems unless citizens overreact.

Said Councilwoman Sharon Scott: "I just hope people don't panic."

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STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Rec center plans: Consultant Ken Ballard predicted that user fees at a new recreation center would cover 91 percent of first-year expenses - and possibly a larger share in the future.



Opinions: At left, Todd Kangas, president of the Westland Youth Athletic Association, and above, lifeguard Robert Ritter express their views on a rec center proposal.

Recreation from page A1

attended by 60 people - in a continuing effort to gauge public opinion on an upscale recreation center that Thomas wants to build.

Coleman, a Glenn sophomore, and Jamie Manning, a 16-year-old junior, said skateboarders get kicked out of public places where they practice their sport, and they said Ann Arbor and Roseville offer the closest facilities.

Manning said "tons" of teenagers enjoy a sport that is increasing in popularity. Coleman echoed that "kids want to do this, but they can't because there's nowhere to do it."

The mayor didn't seem encouraging, saying that attorneys and

insurance carriers have advised the city against providing skateboarding facilities because of possible injuries and lawsuits.

Otherwise, Thomas said, "I'd love to do it."

However, he did promise to survey cities that, according to Manning and Coleman, provide skateboarding parks.

Other teens pleaded with city officials not to abandon outdoor swimming, now provided at the existing Bailey Recreation Center. Only an indoor aquatics area has been mentioned for a new center.

"The people who come to the (Bailey) pool like being outside," 19-year-old lifeguard Robert Ritter said, adding that some people

spend an entire day "using the facility that we have."

"I think we should at least have an outdoor pool," Ritter said.

Thomas indicated Tuesday that a new recreation center could result in Bailey's closing - not only to trim costs, but also due to the building's inefficiency.

Tuesday's hearing began with a 45-minute presentation by city-hired consultants who touted the benefits of a new, 76,000-square-foot recreation center.

By contrast, they described the Bailey Center - built more than 20 years ago - as a bleak, inefficient building where renovations would cost nearly as much as a new center.

Westland resident Paul Valovick voiced strong support for a new recreation center and noted that neighboring communities such as Wayne have built their own.

"We have to keep up with Wayne," he said, adding that "if it comes down to paying more taxes, I'm all for it."

Others, such as longtime government watcher Dorothy Smith, said residents already are burdened by too many taxes.

Thomas said the city could build a new recreation center without a tax increase by using revenues from a special Tax Increment Finance Authority district north of Ford Road. The city collects \$3 million a year in TIFA dollars, but the money has to be spent north of Ford.

Consultant Ken Ballard predicted that user fees at a new recreation center would cover 91 percent of first-year expenses - and possibly a larger share in the future.

But Thomas conceded that "the city may have to subsidize that (facility) to some degree."

Resident Oliver Rose said the city should build a new recre-

ation center in the Norwayne subdivision, "where the people need it."

"Everything seems to be built north of Ford Road," he said, adding later, "The only thing the city has ever done for me, because I live south of Ford Road, is raise the valuation of my property so that I pay more taxes."

But representatives of the Westland Youth Athletics Association said they strongly support a new recreation center. Keith DeMolay, operations vice president, called the Bailey Center inadequate to host several events at once.

"Our basketball players mingle with the bridal parties that come in," he said.

WYAA President Todd Kangas said the 1,000 families involved in the youth group "want better facilities for their kids."

Resident James Godbout, however, pointed to this year's survey of 600 households, which revealed that 67 percent of residents who use the Bailey Center say it meets their needs.

Mayor Thomas said the city could pay for a new recreation

center in a few short years using TIFA dollars, but pursuing other financing would result in a nearly 20-year tab.

Resident Patricia Sawyer said she has crossed into Livonia for 40 years for her recreation needs.

"Where recreation is concerned," she said, "I think Westland is wasteland."


Resident James Chuck called a new center "a great opportunity" but said the city also should consider an indoor soccer area.

Some residents criticized Thomas for saying he would support condemning and seizing land northwest of Ford Road and Central City Parkway to build a recreation center behind a Kroger-anchored strip center.

Earlier this year, the city halted negotiations with property owners who wanted nearly \$4 million for the land - more than twice what city officials say it's worth.

No alternate site has been chosen, and Thomas said recreation center plans are, for now, uncertain.

"Nothing is set in stone or cast in stone at this point," he said.



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County sues gun makers, dealers

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabranczyk@oe.homedomain.net

Wayne County filed a lawsuit Monday seeking \$400 million in damages from 35 gun manufacturers, distributors and dealers.

Six county officials believe that gun manufacturers, distributors and dealers are liable for damages because they have acted with negligence by failing to supervise gun sales by dealers named in the complaint.

To support the county's argument, officials showed surveillance videos of investigators conducting stings on gun dealers allegedly selling to people identified to the dealers as minors or felons.

The city of Detroit and Mayor Dennis Archer also filed a similar complaint. The county's complaint includes Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara, Prosecutor John D. O'Hair, County Commission Chairman Ricardo Solomon, and Commissioners Edna Bell, Robert Blackwell and Kathleen Husk. As a commissioner, Husk represents Redford and part of Livonia.

Investigation

County officials decided to sue after a four-month investigation. Several months ago, gang members told Wayne County and Detroit police investigators that straw purchases - that is a purchase of a gun by a felon or an underage person buying a gun

through a partner who is a qualified purchaser - were common throughout Wayne County.

The county said a recent study by the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms also showed that up to half of guns used in the commission of crimes are obtained through straw purchases.

Under Michigan law, rifles and shotguns may not be sold to persons under 18. Selling and delivering handguns or handgun ammunition to anyone under 18 also is prohibited.

Between March 31 and April 9, 1999, undercover teams from the Wayne County Sheriff's Office, Wayne County Prosecutor's Office and Wayne County Airport police teamed in undercover sting operations to buy weapons at 10 different gun dealers.

County officials said in each case the person trying to buy the weapon advised the dealer early in the transaction he was either a convicted felon or underage, and that his friend, the straw purchaser, would have his name on the legal paperwork.

Illegal purchase

Of the 10 dealers, eight sold the guns in an illegal straw purchase. The eight gun dealers are located in Inkster, Taylor and Detroit. Reporters were shown video of the sales where the dealers were told that the purchaser was a felon, another a juvenile.

One dealer said: "This is highly illegal" - not once, but twice. A dealer in Detroit joked about how a parent may cry about guns and a murdered son, all while that dealer was selling to county investigators.

McNamara called that video "sickening."

"I've seen it five times, and every time I see it, I can't believe someone feels that way," McNamara said.

"It gives you a sense of what a joke this all is to them," said Mike Duggan, deputy county executive.

Duggan said the lawsuit sought damages for Wayne County taxpayers, who must pick up the tab for crimes committed with guns, including the jail, the criminal courts, the prosecutor's office and the morgue. County officials estimate they have spent \$440 million in the last 10 years.

County officials believe the gun manufacturers sell thousands of guns to local dealers who they "should have known" allow straw purchases. "The manufacturers of handguns are 'willfully blind' to what the dealers are doing," Duggan said.

In the complaint, the county has cited a sworn statement made by Robert Hass, a former vice president of marketing and sales for Smith & Wesson, who the complaint attributes a statement that the company and the industry "are fully aware of the

extent of criminal misuse of handguns."

The black market in handguns "is not simply the result of stolen guns but is due to the seepage of guns into the illicit market from multiple thousands of unsupervised federal handgun licensees," Hass said, according to the complaint.

Duggan emphasized that the lawsuits weren't aimed at stopping the sales of guns to qualified purchasers, only to ensure that manufacturers make certain that their products were sold properly.

The county believes the failure to supervise those dealers has led to criminal activity, violence and death, which makes the manufacturers liable for damages caused. From 1990-98, 5,264 children ages 16 and under were arrested and charged with carrying a concealed weapon in Wayne County. Detroit police are confiscating 4,000 guns a year from the street, double of that rate just four years ago.

In 1997 and 1998, more than 100 youths 18 and under were killed by gunfire in Wayne County, an average of one a week.

Lobbyist calls lawsuit 'attempt to get money'

Robert O'Donnell, a legislative vice president for the Michigan Rifle and Pistol Association and a member of the board of directors for the Michigan Coalition of Responsible Gun Owners, believes the gun sales industry probably is the most regulated industry in the United States and that the alleged actions of a few dealers shouldn't ruin reputation of the law-abiding ones.

O'Donnell calls lawsuits against gun manufacturers a "pretty poorly veiled attempt to get money."

"Most federally licensed firearms dealers are very honest, family-oriented people," O'Donnell said. "To demonize the industry because of the criminal use of firearms is intellectually lazy."

O'Donnell cites statistics from the National Rifle Association.

Please see LAWSUIT, A7

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Dyna Dukes...4:30-8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY EVENTS:
Tent: Polish Muslims...12:30-3:30 p.m.; The Coachmen...4:30-9:30 p.m.
Lower Church: Chris & Music...noon to 4:00 p.m.
Misty Blues...4:30-8:30 p.m.

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LENDER

Man arrested in kidnapping

A 17-year-old Canton woman was the victim of kidnapping Sunday. According to township police reports, the woman was taken from her home in the 40000 block of Holmes by a 20-year-old former boyfriend from Westland. The man stopped by her home to talk, reports said. At his urging, the 17-year-old got into his car. Reports said that she kept both legs outside of the car, but at some point the man pulled her in, locked the door and drove off. He then drove the car to Plymouth with the Canton woman trying to escape the entire time. Finally, after about 20 minutes, the man dropped her off at a party store at the corner of Warren and Canton Center roads. Township police later arrested the man on charges of kidnapping.

Honor roll listed

The honor roll for Tinkham Alternative school includes:

THEODORE GAUSHAS, JAYE HAYWOOD, LATONYA HENSLEY, MELISSA HIGHLAND, SCOTT KOWALSKY, LORINDALEE LOUK, CATHERINE MIJAL, TRACIE MORGAN, JENNIFER NYKANEN, MIRACLE ROGERS, PATRICIA SMITH, ANTHONY THOMASON, EVONNE TODD, SARAH VINCENT, JAMES WOOD

DDA from page A1

Ford south to Marquette, transforming a decaying strip into a lively area of shops, restaurants, loft residences and possibly even a hotel, officials say.

That's the vision unveiled Monday by Downtown Development Authority officials who shared their hopes with Westland City Council members during a study session.

DDA officials hope to spawn redevelopment similar to what has occurred along a stretch of Michigan Avenue in the western section of downtown Dearborn.

DDA Director Steve Guile suggested talking with regional developers to determine what would lure them to Westland.

"Then we'll see if we can do it," he said.

City officials formed the DDA about three years ago to try to spur redevelopment along the entire stretch of Ford Road in Westland and along the south leg of Wayne Road, from Ford to Glenwood.

Certain tax revenues in the special district are captured and used to jump-start improvements. Guile said the DDA has received \$230,000 — an amount that stands to grow as redevelopment occurs.

By focusing intense efforts near Wayne and Ford, DDA board Chairman Kim Shunkwiler said officials hope to spur a revitalization effort that will result in "people walking the whole area."

DDA officials also hope to see redevelopment spread outward, creating a vital economic climate all along Ford and Wayne — the city's busiest roads.

Guile predicted that significant progress could be seen in as little as two years, although some existing businesses already have spruced up their appearances.

City officials appear to favor efforts to create buildings near Ford and Wayne that can house shops, restaurants and loft residences.

"People like to live in lofts now," Councilwoman Sharon Scott said.

DDA leaders — including local business owners who have an obvious interest in a successful project — appeared Monday to win strong emotional support from Westland City Council members.

Following are highlights of DDA plans:

■ Provide DDA loans up to \$5,000 to encourage existing businesses to spruce up their facades, signs and landscaping.

"We're looking at implementing this as soon as possible," Guile said.

■ Steer business owners to local banks for loans to pay for potentially massive building improvements.

■ Try to assemble various properties into single large parcels that can be marketed to potential developers.

■ Launch business training programs to teach local businesses the benefits of programs such as direct-mail advertising. A kickoff session this week drew at least 25 participants.

■ Try to attract major new developers by offering loans or grants, by reducing or eliminating building permit fees and by providing infrastructure needs such as parking and landscaping.

■ Consider hiring a public relations firm to help market the city and to help combat perceptions that Westland is a city on the decline.

DDA leaders Monday put council members on notice that financial help may be sought from them, although the DDA would repay any assistance.

"I'm very supportive of providing some assistance to the DDA," Councilman Glenn Anderson said.

Anderson stressed that he wants to see the DDA's efforts succeed so that dilapidated buildings — longtime eyesores along Wayne and Ford roads — can be torn down or revitalized.

Guile indicated that the DDA likely wouldn't borrow more than \$50,000 a year from the council.

Moreover, officials say, such loans would become unnecessary as the DDA begins to generate more of its own revenues as revitalization efforts take root.

OBITUARIES

ANGELA RET.
Services for Angela Ret, 86, of Westland were April 27 in L.J. Griffin Funeral Home with burial at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Officiating was the Rev. Leonard Partensky.

Mrs. Ret, who died April 24 in Ypsilanti, was born July 7, 1912, in Italy. She was a homemaker. Surviving are her son; Louis (Patricia); and four grandchildren.

ALICE E. STUTSMAN
Services for Alice Stutsman, 82, of Westland were April 25 in L.J. Griffin Funeral Home with burial at Acacia Park Cemetery in Berkley. Officiating was the Rev. Larry Bartlett.

Mrs. Stutsman, who died April 23 in Garden City, was born Dec. 5, 1916, in Herrin, Ind. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her husband, Harold; daughter, Carol (Clyde) LeFevre; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

JUDY L. POMATHY
Services for Judy Pomathy, 40, of Detroit were April 26 in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, Westland.

Miss Pomathy, who died April 23 in Garden City, was born April 6, 1959, in Wayne. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her father, Arlie; brothers, Lonnie and Ronald of Westland; sister, Donna Allen. Miss Pomathy was preceded in death by her mother, Minnie and brother, Larry.

ANNE E. GAIDA
A memorial service for Anne Gaida, 84, of Westland will be at a later date with arrangements from Vermeulen Funeral Home in Westland.

Mrs. Gaida, who died April 22 in Westland, was born May 7, 1914, in Cameron, Texas. She was a homemaker. She was a resident of Detroit before moving to Westland.

Surviving are her sons, John of Westland and Robert (Ann) of Alexandria, Va.; daughter, AnneBeth Gajda of Ypsilanti; and three grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Cancer Care Program Advancement Office, P.O. Box 995 c/o St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

DAVID G. BONELLO
Services for David Bonello, 55, of Westland were April 26 in Thy-

er-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington with burial at Glen Eden Memorial Cemetery in Livonia. Officiating was the Rev. Leonard Partensky.

Mr. Bonello, who died April 23 in Livonia, was born March 16, 1944, in Detroit. He lived in Westland 26 years and previously in Detroit. He was a salesman for Holiday Chevrolet 16 years in Farmington Hills. He was a 1962 graduate of Holy Redeemer. He served with the Marines.

Surviving is his brother, Gerald Bonello of Bloomfield Hills. Memorials may be made to Karmanos Cancer Institute, 41935 W. 12 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48377.

BEATRICE A. FRENCH
Services for Beatrice French, 83, of New Port Richey, Fla. were April 21 in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia.

Mrs. French, who died April 18 in New Port Richey, Fla., was born March 13, 1916, in DeKalb, Ill. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her son, Larry (Sue) French; daughter, Jacqueline (Chris) Christopher of Westland; sister, Mae Brown; five grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. French was preceded in death by her husband, Perry. Memorials may be made to St. John's Ladies Aid Society.

JEANETTE B. HOOLIHAN
Services for Jeanette Hoolihan, 89, of Westland were April 16 in St. Theodore Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit. Officiating was the Rev. Daniel Zalewski. Arrangements were from Vermeulen Funeral Home.

Mrs. Hoolihan, who died April 14 in Westland, was born April 5, 1910, in Ottawa, Canada. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her sisters, Lucille Harvey of Westland and Genevieve McLogan of Brighton; several nieces and nephews.

WALTER MICHALOWSKI
Services for Walter Michalowski, 82, of Westland were arranged through Vermeulen Funeral Home in Westland. Mr. Michalowski, who died April 16 in Ann Arbor, was born May 13, 1916, in Detroit. He was self-employed. He was a veteran. Surviving are his son, Leonard (Linda) Michalowski of Westland; two sisters; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

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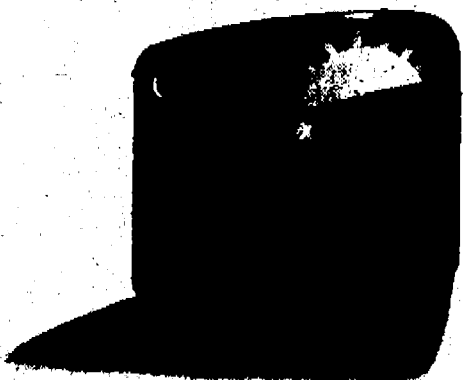
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A1414
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CARRIER OF THE MONTH: WESTLAND

Andrew Garbutt, 14, of Westland has been named the Westland Observer's Carrier of the Month for April.

He is a ninth-grader at Franklin High School and is the son of Daniel and Laurie and brother of Josh, 15, Brad, 12, Lindsay, 11, and Kelsey, 9.

His favorite subjects are math and gym and his hobbies include playing hockey.

His achievements include being chosen by Midwest Talent Search and taking the ACT in seventh grade.

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High court backs Engler on state board issue

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER
trichard@oe.homecomm.net

The Michigan Supreme Court has upheld Gov. John Engler's effort to strip the State Board of Education of much of its power, particularly its regulation of so-called "charter schools."

The high court's 5-2 party-line decision was a rebuff to Democratic board members who had challenged the constitutionality of Engler's two December 1996 executive orders. The board members, led by Kathleen Straus of Detroit, argued that their constitutional powers had been trod on by Engler.

The five Republican justices — Elizabeth Weaver, James Brickley, Clifford Taylor, Maura Corrigan and Robert Young Jr. — didn't write an opinion. Instead, they adopted the entire text of a Court of

Appeals opinion upholding Engler.

That opinion concluded: "We do not believe that either executive order ... f a c i a l l y infringes any of the board's constitutional powers or prerogatives ..."

"Given that the governor has protected the board's ultimate authority over our educational system, we hold that the governor has made no improper transfer of its powers or responsibilities. We further hold that the executive orders at issue are within the scope of the governor's authority..."

'Given that the governor has protected the board's ultimate authority over our educational system, we hold that the governor has made no improper transfer of its powers or responsibilities.'

Michigan Supreme Court

The majority reasoned that the Department of Education is part of the executive branch and therefore subject to the governor's powers

Dissenting were Democratic Justices Michael Cavanagh and Marilyn Kelly. "Article 8, sec. 3 explicitly vests the Board of Education with '(l)eadership and general supervision' over public education," Cavanagh wrote. "It also subordinates the superintendent to the authority of the board, making him responsible for the execution of the board's mandates."

Cavanagh called Engler's arguments "superficial," saying they "fail to give weight to the constitutional authority vested in the Board of Education. The governor cannot reorganize the Department of Education in such a way that infringes the board's constitutional role, regardless of whether the executive order purports merely to shift 'statutory' functions."

of reorganization. Engler transferred many board powers to its top hired hand, Superintendent of Public Instruction Art Ellis.

"Because members of the board are neither appointed nor directly overseen by the Legislature or the judiciary, the board must be part of the executive branch. There is no fourth branch of government."

Lawsuit from page A5

ciation:
■ 99.8 percent of all firearms in the U.S. are used lawfully.

■ On about 2.5 million occasions, handguns have been used annually to prevent a crime or injury, according to a survey completed by criminologist Gary Kleck;

■ A U.S. Department of Justice survey found that 40 percent of felons chose not to commit at least some crimes for fear their victims were armed and 34 percent admitted being scared or shot at by armed victims;

■ Approximately 85 percent of Americans believe people should have the right to use firearms to defend themselves in the home, while 72 percent favor stiffer sentences for criminals who use a gun in crime rather than more gun laws;

■ Accidental firearms deaths are at their lowest rates in 74 years, which O'Donnell attributes to the industry's efforts at promoting gun safety. The NRA said it has spent \$100 million on firearm safety and education programs over the past eight years.

Accidental deaths of children at 138 annually are far exceeded by the 9,700 killed in traffic. "More children die of drowning in bathtubs, ingesting poisons, falls and accidental injuries," said O'Donnell.

O'Donnell doesn't believe lawsuits and more laws are the answer.

"They are learning to attack an industry for financial gain and advancing a political gain," O'Donnell said.

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Award-winning journalist takes over state beat

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net

A 22-year veteran community journalist who has won numerous awards for his work will succeed Tim Richard as the news service regional editor for HomeTown Communications Network.

Mike Malott, 43, of Commerce Township served as managing editor of The Northville News and The Novi News, both part of the HomeTown Communications Network. That network also includes Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, the Mirror News-

papers, HomeTown Newspapers and Lansing Community Newspapers, totaling 39 newspapers with a circulation of 420,000.

Malott will be covering state government, ranging from the Legislature, regional agencies and the courts.

Malott said he had his eye on his new position even when he covered state government for another newspaper in the late 1980s. "I've always wanted to get back," Malott said.

"I think the state is a critical part of our coverage," Malott said. "The state sets all the rules

for school districts, cities, townships and counties. A lot of the policy begins at the state level."

For Malott, the challenge is to decipher policy decisions and craft it for readers to understand. "It's important to find out why the policy is being set, and why this is important in their daily lives," Malott said.

Malott was honored as HomeTown Newspapers Journalist of the Year in 1992. He has won numerous awards from the Michigan Press Association, the National Newspaper Association and Suburban Newspapers of

America.

Richard praised Malott. "He has a very inquiring mind," Richard said. "He's an extremely sharp person."

Richard, who worked with Malott, remembers watching Malott plan his coverage, instructing a Novi reporter to look for certain crimes, particularly drunken driving. The police chief gave a quarterly report to the city council, in which he reported 14 drunken driving arrests, when the reporter found three, all non-residents of that community, Richard said.

"That made Mr. Malott extremely suspicious that certain kinds of important misdeeds were not being reported by the police," Richard said. "This is the kind of person who will be doing this job."

As a managing editor for The Novi News and The Northville Record, Malott was responsible for managing a staff of 11, assigning stories, editing copy, writing editorials and laying out the newspaper. In 1990, Malott served as a managing editor at



Mike Malott

Please see MALOTT, A10



Tim Richard, veteran newsman, ends 32-year career at O&E

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net

Anyone who files a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act probably has veteran newspaperman Tim Richard to thank.

Though Richard downplays his role in the passage of that law and the Open Meetings Act, his advocacy on that issue helped get the news service regional editor for HomeTown Communications Network elected to the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame last year.

And this week, Richard, 63, has decided to retire and relocate from Livonia with his wife, Nancy, to Bear Lake in Manistee County, where he plans to

pursue hobbies of fishing and training his Australian shepherd, Sheila, for agility competition.

"The lake is near the shore of Lake Michigan, in a great fruit and vegetable growing area, where there are a lot of pine trees and lakes teeming with fish," Richard said.

Career history

Richard ends a 32-year career with the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, where he worked after stints at the St. Joseph Herald-Press and Kalamazoo Gazette. After graduating from Redford High School in 1953, Richard attended the University of Michigan where he received a bachelor's degree in economics in 1957 and a master's degree in

business administration in 1959.

Richard is credited for his work toward the eventual passage in 1976 of the Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act.

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

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

"Tim's journalistic output is

Retiring Tim Richard plans to spend more time training his dog, Sheila.

Please see RICHARD, A10

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Although it is helpful to be genetically programmed to age slowly, optimal aging with minimal health decline can be achieved by adhering to some healthy strategies. Intellectual stimulation, dietary modification and exercise (including resistance training) are beneficial. Old age should not prevent people from making meaningful contributions to society. Physicians can help by encouraging older adults to enjoy an active and creative life. Finally, do not let your age decide how old you are. Dwight Eisenhower once said, "I'm saving that rocker for the day I feel as old as I really am."

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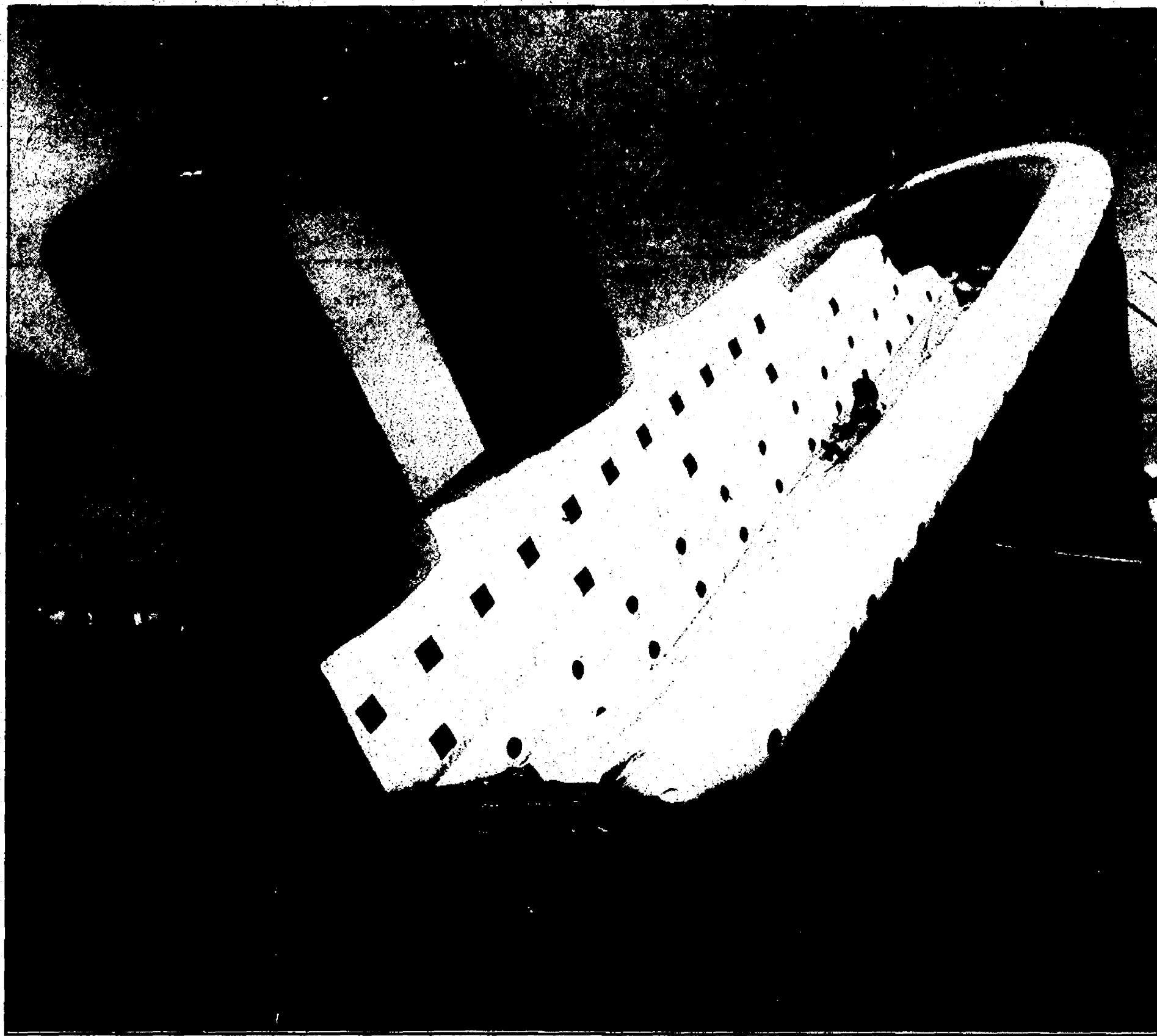
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Titanic 'floats' into Hines Park for family fun

The Titanic is coming to Hines Park, but this one isn't going to sink.

It's actually a 100-foot inflatable replica of the ship. Residents of all ages can climb on it Saturday during Wayne County's Family Fun and Fitness Day scheduled 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Nankin Mills Area in Hines Park in Westland.

Residents also can grab their blades and bikes to celebrate National Fitness Month and "Saturday in the Park." Families from across the county can participate in activities to promote physical fitness and good health.

Visitors can enjoy fitness walking, in-line skating lessons, bicycle inspections and new safety gear, disc golf, kite kits sponsored by North Brothers Ford and golf demonstrations. Exhibits feature health, fitness and safety-related organizations, and learn more about parks and recreation departments in Wayne County. In addition, there will be free T-shirts to the first 1,000 people.

Residents also can enjoy two children's entertainers — Renee and Company, and Mary Ellen Clark, a strolling clown with balloons, the Detroit Pistons Auto-mation Dance Team, local saxophonist Marty Montgomery and

the Next Generation Big Band. "It's important for families to emphasize good health and physical fitness," said Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara. "May is National Fitness Month and this event was designed to offer an opportunity for our residents to learn more about the importance of how physical fitness, health and recreation can positively impact their families."

This event, sponsored by Wayne County Parks and Recreation, Detroit Inline Skate School, The Sports Authority, Westland Parks and Recreation, Get Active Detroit and Rollerblade, also highlights the return of Saturday in the Park. This program closes six miles of Hines Drive 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday beginning the first Saturday in May through the last Saturday in September for the public of all ages to run, walk, skate or cycle safely.

Hines Park-Nankin Mills Area is located on Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. Parking is available off of Hines Drive, and can be reached even if the road is barricaded for flooding.

For more information on this or any other parks event, call (734) 261-1990.

STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY


That sinking feeling: Karen Blankeslee, 8, and an unidentified county worker slides down the 100-foot inflatable float of the Titanic. The inflatable slide will be part of the family fun and fitness day 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Nankin Mills Picnic Area on Hines Drives at Ann Arbor Trail. The inflatable Titanic is sponsored by Detroit Inline Skating School and Interactive Inflatables.

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Richard from page A8

truly prodigious," Power said. "He regularly writes core stories on significant events with local-ization possibilities scattered throughout."

Richard praised

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

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

But today Richard downplays

his role. "I was given the lion's share of credit, but I was part of a movement for open government."

In 1966, Richard, who was a reporter with the Kalamazoo Gazette, was excluded from secret meetings of the board of Western Michigan University. Richard asked for minutes of past meetings and the board secretary accidentally gave him the minutes of the secret meetings, during what they had made policy decisions.

Richard wrote the story and the editor killed it, which gave Richard "a fire in my belly about the issue of open government."

The unpublished WMU expose in 1966 led directly to his advocacy of the Open Meetings Act,

and activity in the Society of Professional Journalists and Michigan FOI Committee Inc. to defend the "sunshine" laws and teach people how to use them through seminars and newsletters.

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

"People are physically maturing younger by two or three years than they were in the 19th century," Richard said. Richard reasoned that 18-year-olds were fighting in wars. "Let's give them a chance to vote," Richard said.

Richard admires

Richard's most admired politicians are former Gov. William Milliken and Lt. Gov. James Brickley. "They were moderates. They solved problems without adherence to ideology."

Richard also admired former Gov. James Blanchard's knowledge of facts and his "feel for history."

Richard says the press and the public should continue to watch government with attorneys now chipping away at the FOI and Open Meetings acts. Richard also sees politicians "using the tools of government to promote themselves."

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

For now, though, Richard looks forward to relaxation with his wife and his dog, and casting into Bear Lake and other waterways in northern Michigan.

"I've been married to the same woman for 37 years, and she's a better fisherman than I am."

County parks to expand seasonal offerings for '99

This season will be one of the busiest ever for Wayne County Parks.

New for '99 are interactive programs offered through the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center and Holliday Nature Preserve. The programs are geared for naturalists of all ages.

A Floral Fantasy Hike is scheduled Saturday, May 8, at the Cowan section of the Holliday Nature Preserve so people can observe various woodland wildflowers. Kids age 3-5 can explore colors in nature and create colorful crafts at the Colors of the Rainbow program at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center on Saturday, May 15, while Watercolors in the Wild is scheduled for Saturday, May 22.

Crosswinds Marsh Wetland Interpretive Preserve in Sumpter Township also offers interactive opportunities for ani-

mal lovers to learn more about creatures which inhabit wetlands.

The Summer Family Entertainment Series has expanded, offering more than 15 concerts, more than 15 children's events and seven movies at various park locations. Movies in the Park begins with a showing of "A Bug's Life" Friday, June 11, at the Nankin Mills area.

Other events include a Fishing Derby Saturday, May 15, at the Waterford Bend Area in Northville; a Backyard Birder program, Saturday, May 8, at Crosswinds Marsh; and rentals of canoes and paddleboats at Newburgh Lake, which begin after Memorial Day.

For more information, view Wayne County's Web site at www.waynecounty.com or call (734) 261-1990.

Malott from page A8

The Milford Times and The South Lyon Herald in South Lyon.

Malott also worked as news editor for six years at the Spinal Column Newsweekly and Oakland Business Monthly, and prior to that, as a staff writer, covering the state, county and

regional issues. In 1977, Malott received a bachelor's degree in applied arts and sciences from Central Michigan University with majors in journalism, psychology and sociology.



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Festival kicks off 4-day national town meeting

Wayne County, General Motors, the city of Detroit and Metropolitan Organizing Strategy Enabling Groups (MOSES) have joined together to host "A Festival Celebrating Sustainability" on Saturday, May 1, on the campus of Wayne State University and throughout the Detroit Cultural Center.

This local festival is a pre-emptive activity for the scheduled National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America. The festival is free and open to the general public.

The kickoff festival will highlight local development that maintains or enhances economic opportunity and community well-being while protecting and restoring the natural environment upon which people and economies depend. The planning committee includes dozens of representatives from business, community organizations and cultural institutions.

The festival begins at noon with a naturalization ceremony of 500 new citizens sworn in by U.S. District Judge Denise Page Hood on Cass Avenue behind the Detroit Public Library.

Exhibits and workshops will be scheduled with organizations and groups including Wildlife Habitat Council, DTE Energy, General Motors, state universities and Friends of the Detroit

River. Entertainment includes magicians, dancers, singers and performance groups.

Workshops and presentations will focus on sustainable initiatives from local groups throughout the festival site. Workshops will include a student-faculty-business roundtable discussion on international sustainability, a "Meet your Congressman" session, geographical information systems demonstrations and a talk on sustainable design in architecture and construction.

The Fannie Mae Foundation is sponsoring a fair on home ownership.

The National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America will take place on May 2-5 at the Cobo Conference and Exhibition Center in Detroit.

The NTM will highlight the work of communities, businesses and individuals that offer solutions to help America continue to prosper without environmental and social impacts.

The festival will be centered on Cass Avenue behind the main branch of the Detroit Public Library. Free parking is available on Wayne State's campus in a parking structure at the northwest corner of Palmer and Cass Avenue. For directions, call (313) 577-2246.

The festival will be centered on Cass Avenue behind the main branch of the Detroit Public Library. Free parking is available on Wayne State's campus in a parking structure at the northwest corner of Palmer and Cass Avenue. For directions, call (313) 577-2246.

Death penalty vote shut down

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER
trichard@oe.homecomm.net

State House lawmakers publicly criticized their leaders for rushing a vote on the death penalty and then cutting short an April 21 roll-call vote before the measure could be openly defeated.

Rep. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, pushed the measure through his Constitutional Law and Ethics Committee in two meetings and three working days after it was introduced.

"There was a surprise vote in committee. There was not enough input from the public, from Corrections officials, from law enforcement, from the judiciary," said Rep. Keith Stallworth, D-Detroit.

"The Senate Judiciary Committee gave several weeks notice of its public hearing, and 400 people showed up in Pontiac," said Rep. Liz Brater, D-Ann Arbor.

Bishop brushed aside the criticism. "This debate has been open hundreds of years," the freshman lawmaker said. "The Senate (hearing March 23) did an educational job."

It takes a two-thirds vote of both chambers to put a proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot, but it was clear the proposal was going

down about 3-2 in a sea of red (no) lights on the House tally board. There is no official record of the vote other than reporters' hastily written notes.

But in a procedure often used to save leaders from the embarrassment of defeat, House Majority Floor Leader Andrew Raczowski, R-Farmington Hills, shouted, "Clear the board," before the roll call could be completed. Raczowski then wore a voice vote to refer the measure back to Bishop's committee.

"Parliamentary shenanigans," Sen. David Jaye, R-Macomb County, said of Raczowski's move. Jaye supports a similar measure in the Senate.

Bishop said the maneuver means House Joint Resolution H, as it's formally known, is still alive and can be brought out of his committee any time before Dec. 31, 2000. But House Speaker Chuck Perricone, R-Kalamazoo, said there aren't enough votes to warrant another attempt.

Michigan abolished the death penalty in the mid-19th century after the wrong man was hanged for a murder. The ban

STATE HOUSE NEWS

was part of the Michigan Constitutions of 1908 and 1963. A majority of voters would have to approve a constitutional amendment to reinstate it for first-degree murder, and the Legislature would have to write a follow-up statute implementing it.

The State Judiciary Committee intends to study the issue through summer, said chairman William VanRegenmorter, R-Jenison. But after the House's negative vote, the idea is effectively dead in the Legislature.

Voters could petition for a death penalty amendment. Past efforts, however, have foundered.

Here is what area representatives said about HJR H.

Bishop: "There is substantial proof that executions deter future murders... an undisputed fact. There have been 821 murders by persons convicted of murder. Prisoners on Death Row are 250 percent more likely to kill other prisoners and guards."

Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, voted no because "My core belief is that the death penalty is wrong."

Laura Toy, R-Livonia: "I believe in the right of the people to vote on this. It's time to give the people a chance." Toy put up a green light.

Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, didn't speak but put up a green light.

Paul DeWeese, R-Williamston, put up a red light. "Our criminal justice system fails the test. Wealthy defendants can hire the F. Lee Baileys and Johnny Cochran (top defense lawyers) of the world," but others run a greater risk of conviction and execution. Nationally, there have been 500 convictions since the death penalty was allowed by the U.S. Supreme Court in the late 1970s, but 75 convicts on Death Row have been exonerated. Illinois has executed 11 and exonerated nine, he said.

Lynne Martinez, D-Lansing, voted no, arguing the death penalty "is not a deterrent" and is applied with "race bias and economic bias. A person of color is more likely to be questioned, detained, arrested, tried and sentenced to death." She, too, complained that the measure was rushed through Bishop's committee and to a floor vote less than a week after it was introduced.

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Westland Observer OPINION

A12(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1999

Service awards Police, firefighters honored

The people who serve us in the Westland Fire and Police departments too often tend to go unnoticed, while at times they risk their lives in the line of duty.

But recently the departments honored their best and brightest at an annual awards ceremony, and we would like to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate them as well.

Honored were Officer John Hoak of the Westland Police Department as Police Officer of the Year, Kyle Soyko as Firefighter of the Year and Capt. John Valensky as Fire Officer of the Year. Fire Capt. Scott Lucas received a special award for his work in teaching cardiopulmonary resuscitation to high school students.

The ceremony took place Saturday, April 17, at the Harris Kehrner VFW post.

Hoak, who has been on the force since October 1987, was recognized for his dedication to his job.

He works as a field trainer for the department, responsible for training all new employees. Those people who want to become a Westland police officer must deal with Hoak, who decides whether the trainees will stay beyond

their probationary periods.

Soyko of Westland joined the department in January 1995. Soyko's community involvement and dedication to his job made him stand out.

Soyko, a paramedic, volunteers with the Goodfellows, helps with fire education for both children and adults and is active with the department's bike patrol.

Valensky, a Livonia resident, stood out for many of the same reasons Soyko did. After being hired as a firefighter in 1989, he rose through the ranks and became a captain within eight years.

Lucas was recognized at the request of John Glenn science teacher Thomas Deschaine. At the beginning of the school year, Lucas' 500th student was certified in CPR. As a show of the support he receives from the students he teaches, John Glenn students chipped in to buy the plaque.

The Westland Police and Fire departments offer us public safety and other services. It's important to take the time to recognize those who go above and beyond the call of duty in the performance of their jobs. Congratulations to these award winners.

Hands off school calendars

When it comes to paying bills, the state Senate is strongly for local control, home rule, grassroots government. Area schools had to sue the state for 17 years to get their special education money.

Too bad the Senate didn't apply the local control principle when it voted April 22 for a bill to restrict the school calendar by discouraging classes prior to Labor Day. Senate Bill 53 doesn't actually dictate the calendar, but it would shut down schools on the Friday prior to Labor Day and set up a commission, heavily loaded with tourism interests, to study the calendar question.

State government is quite within its limits in saying there should be 182 or more days of school. It's doing the right thing when it requires certification of teachers, inspection of buildings, a list of academic outcomes.

But tinkering with the calendar? Hands off, please.

School boards should have maximum flexibility to set their calendars. They need flexibility in collective bargaining. They need flexibility to allow for snow days or fires that may force a building to be closed.

Teachers want the K-12 calendar to match universities' calendars. Why? So they can attend summer college and earn advanced degrees. The Legislature should be encouraging teachers to upgrade.

We applaud Sens. Bill Bullard Jr., R-Milford, John Cherry, D-Clio, George Hart, D-Dearborn, and Shirley Johnson, R-Royal Oak, for opposing Senate Bill 53.

We ask Sens. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, Mat Dunaskiss, R-Lake Orion, and Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, to reconsider their positions in the future. This battle isn't over.

SB 53 is in the House. Write to your state representative, State Capitol, Lansing 48909-7514, and ask him or her to vote no.

Firms hung up on oligopoly

Hollywood in 1967 produced a satirical movie called "The President's Analyst," with James Coburn in the title role. The villain was TPC, The Phone Company, which took control of the U.S. government. It was supposed to be funny.

In 1984, a federal court ordered the breakup of our then-giant phone company, the Bell system, into AT&T, a long-distance carrier, and a bunch of "baby Bells," including Ameritech.

Unable to take "no" for an answer to monopoly, the companies are busily trying to reconstruct the pre-1984 Bell system.

Item: Ameritech is merging with SBC, the Texas outfit with a bad reputation for treating customers - as if Ameritech needed any instruction in axing thousands of employees and gouging on intraLATA rates.

Item: AT&T is bidding for control of MediaOne, a cable company. AT&T's reported goal is to get into local telephone, cable TV,

Internet and other telecommunications enterprises. It would supposedly be competitive with Ameritech.

Item: MediaOne was starting to offer phone service in competition with Ameritech.

Item: MediaOne took over an earlier company called Omnicom. Lately, MediaOne has made a merger agreement with Comcast Corp. of Philadelphia.

Item: MetroVision, a cable TV company, several years ago was swallowed up by Time Warner, which produces movies and magazines with movie reviews.

What we may wind up with is an oligopoly (a handful of companies) in a multiplicity of industries. In time, will the oligopoly want to merge into the TPC?

In part it's up to President Clinton's Justice Department and the Anti-Trust Division.

Forgive our cynicism, but as customers, we smell a telecommunications rat.

ARKIE HUDKINS



LETTERS

Tower opposed

An open letter to Robert C. Bowers, chairman of the Westland Planning Commission:

I spoke by phone to Mr. (City Planner Bruce) Thompson regarding the proposed wireless communications facility at the municipal golf course. He asked me to take a drive by the tower on Newburgh, which I did. It was explained to me that this facility is to be put on city land. Does this also mean it's a done deal? Is the city to receive rent? I certainly hope the answer to both questions is no. I am not in favor of this facility at the proposed location. What little country atmosphere we have left in the area would be gone, not to mention what an eyesore it is, not just to me but to the condos in the village.

I certainly don't want to sit outside and have to look at that. Would you? Would the mayor? Are you planning one in your neighborhoods? I think not.

This type of tower belongs in an industrial park setting, not a family neighborhood. It's not and would not be an asset to homeowners in my area. I was told two others sites were refused. I can only hope that happens in this case. I for one will be fighting this proposal. Our city seems to have become a city that decides what they feel the people need, not what the people want or would prefer. I have lived here since 1973 and have really watched this city go from Westland to Wasteland. For this I am truly sad.

Kathy A. Bey
Westland

Lessons of 1944

It now seems that NATO is about to relearn the lessons that Hitler learned in 1944. Namely, that an offensive war is different than a defensive war.

A defensive war is fought to protect home, family and nation. Just ask anyone in England, France, Poland or Russia who remembers World War II. Until recently, NATO's traditional strength has always been its defensive posture.

An offensive war, on the other hand, is fought, by necessity, for some abstract grand ideal, for example, to unite the German race, to stop communism in Vietnam, to promote ethnic equality in Kosovo.

So, here's NATO's problem: To defeat a country's army is not to defeat a country's people. When Hitler beat the French army he still had an overwhelming problem - the French people.

Does NATO intend to fight a war of annihilation against the Serbian people who have vowed to fight to the last man to defend their country? Will NATO unleash total war on Ser-

bia the way the allies did on Germany and Japan in the last days of World War II? I think not.

And, what of Russia? NATO has seriously misread Russian interests, treating the Russians as messenger boys for NATO. A dangerous hubris is in the air at NATO.

But, one has to almost pity NATO because they foolishly staked their future, and the world's future, on a war they do not have the will to win, and a war that may, in truth, be unwinnable.

Walter Warren
Westland

Let's vote on weapons

It is time for those of us who are concerned about the passage of the proposed "concealed weapons" bill to let our legislators know that we agree with Father Patrick Halfpenny who wrote in the April 16 Michigan Catholic that "Hidden weapons bring hidden woes!" In so writing, Father Halfpenny joins the Detroit Free Press whose editorial on April 11 pointed out that "the proposal (concealed weapons measure) invites mayhem."

The concerns of these two articles illustrate that people can make a difference in the decision of whether they want to become a nation armed to the teeth to defend themselves against crime, or whether they can insist that authorities fulfill the obligation to all to get crime under control.

In the final analysis, it will be the people who will have to live with the results of the passage of this proposed concealed weapons bill. If the legislature decides we must live with a new right-to-carry law, let them know we can insist on a ballot initiative for the vote of all the people in Michigan. The choice is theirs.

Hillary McLeod
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:
What, if anything, can be done to make schools safer?



"Maybe they should have education and awareness about issues, and metal detectors would help at every school."

Melissa Murdock
Age 20



"There should be a lower tolerance for violence in schools. There should be more awareness, and people should learn to act on it."

Amanda Tash
Age 18



"The issue starts at home and has to do with parental awareness of what kids are doing in their spare time and at school."

Jason Choo
Age 35



"I really feel it still goes back to the parents. That's where all the values start. Everything has to start at home."

Joanne Smith
Age 63

We asked this question at the Westland public library.

Westland Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Ark quiz reveals if you sink or swim as a parent

In an effort to protect the innocent children of America from the violent sociopath children of America, let's build another Ark. To find out if there's a seat reserved for you or your kid, merely take the following "sink or swim" quiz.

a) If you only see your children a couple times a day, usually in coming and going, grab a lawn chair. You missed the boat, so to speak. (To clarify, if your kid could build and amass enough ordinance to blow up a small country in your garage without you knowing about it, please tear up your parent card.)

b) If you don't think it matters what your kids watch on TV or at the movies, you're on shore leave. Please feel free to wave a lot and throw confetti. (Look, if the TV has no real effect on us, why in the world do companies spend so much money to advertise on it? Do you think they don't research this stuff?)

c) If you think that whoever is on shift at the day care center can give a child the same kind of upbringing that a loving, caring parent can, grab

your swim fins.

d) Do you think that music company executives and radio station producers should profit from the unending stream of sex and violence that their product encourages, all under the guise of some inherent "Freedom of Speech" birthright? (What about my freedom of speech to NOT have my kids exposed to it?)

e) Would regulating the Internet to protect children from pornography, hatred, bigotry, predators and all that other garbage somehow infringe upon YOUR civil rights? Two words for those of you who answered "yes," surfs up! The boat leaves without ya.

f) Should it be the responsibility of churches and schools to give your child the moral fiber, character strength, and self-esteem that he or she will need to become a balanced and responsible adult some day? If you think so, then you might want to take out some extra flood insurance and practice your backstroke.

g) If you think that "quality time" with your child is something that can be scheduled into an evening or a

GUEST COLUMNIST



FRANK COTE

weekend every once in a while, you're in the drink. Let us know if the water's cold. (Any real parent knows that you don't schedule magic moments in your family's life, they just happen.)

h) If you treat parenting like some kind of hobby, like stamp collecting, yachting or gardening, then you're officially on the water polo team. Parenting is not a mode that one slips in and out of at the drop of a hat. Parenting is a way of life. It must become an entire way of being to anybody with children. It is not a hat that you put on once in a while, but an invi-

ble energy field that must engulf your entire existence. It means that, when you want to watch some violence-ridden, sex-filled, senseless TV program (like wrestling), you first need to stop and think, "Gee whiz, should my first-grader be watching this crap with me?" If you've half a brain, you change the channel. If you're selfish and irresponsible, you think, "But I want to watch it ... so ... I'm watching it ... dangit! I had a hard day." You call that a hard day? Ha! Wait till you've been treading water for about six hours.

When the rain starts, will anybody really have to wonder what went wrong? Will the useless fingerpointing and misguided overreaction finally stop? In the past, it was easy to point at the social climate as the root cause in juvenile crime. After all, wasn't the high crime rate in poverty-stricken inner city areas largely due to the widespread instance of no-parent and one-parent homes? If we look around today, the epidemic has spread across all economic and social groups. Most homes in America today

feature one or no parents at all most of the time. It seems the money doesn't matter at all, unless it just makes it easier for the kids to buy guns and ammo.

The good, responsible, compassionate children of America deserve a safe place to live, to go to school, to work, to play. They, and their parents, did what they had to do. They paid their dues when they didn't always put themselves first. They earned their place on the Ark when they did what they were supposed to do, instead of what they wanted to do. Every time they put money, ego and self-gratification aside for the sake of family and society, they made a down payment on their tickets.

I realize that God promised not to do the whole flood thing again, but you've got to admit that times change. Desperate times call for desperate measures. I think that this might be a promise He could justify breaking. And besides, we Americans seem to just love a good big boat drama, don't we?

Frank Cote is a Westland resident.

Electing judges? Look beyond obvious to their philosophy

For the umpteenth time, folks, it's important whom you elect to judgeships. Don't just look for Irish names or women, though they clearly have an electioneering advantage. It's insufficient, from your own point of view, even to pick ethnic groups.

Judicial philosophy makes a difference. I've pointed it out several times that even the political party that nominates a candidate isn't all-important.

A recent decision of the Michigan Supreme Court is a case in point. In the majority camp are members of the Federalist Society - Clifford Taylor, Elizabeth Weaver, Maura Corrigan and Robert Young Jr. They stick to the literal wording of the law. They like prosecutors. They bear Republi-

can labels, but that is less important than the Federalist stamp.

In the opposite camp, after decades in the majority, are Michael Cavanagh and Marilyn Kelly. They ran as Democrats. They like labor's viewpoint.

Sort of in the middle is James Brickley, an appointee of moderate Republican Gov. Bill Milliken. His companion, until he quit the high court last Dec. 31, was Conrad Mallett Jr., a Democrat.

Case 1: People v. Brownridge, out of St. Joseph County. Glen Brownridge was convicted of conspiracy to commit arson on his own house. The prosecutor said Brownridge had hired a man named Turner to do the actual torching. Turner died in the fire.



TIM RICHARD

In charge of the investigation was Sgt. Earl Stark of the Three Rivers police. He obtained statements from two of Turner's relatives implicating Brownridge in the arson.

Brownridge's defense lawyer said Sgt. Stark had a personal dislike for

Brownridge and threatened to implicate one of Turner's relatives to get the statement. The defense challenged Stark's credibility, offering testimony from another police officer. Judge Meyer Warshawsky excluded the challenge.

Chief Justice Elizabeth Weaver said Warshawsky's decision "demonstrates a careful balancing of the harmful consequences of admitting the evidence against its probative value ..." In short, Warshawsky was right to dump the officer's testimony. Taylor, Corrigan and Young concurred.

Justice Brickley, a former FBI man and U.S. attorney and no softie on crime, dissented. He said Warshawsky made only a "vague refer-

ence" to how he struck the balance. Brickley would have allowed the second officer to testify against Sgt. Stark's credibility. Cavanagh and Kelly agreed.

No new trial for the arsonist. Pettifogging? Narrow? Not if you're a criminal defendant or a working stiff. Not if you're a prosecutor or an employer.

Footnote: The Supreme Court has agreed to rehear the case against the Jackson landlord who refused to rent to unmarried couples. Kelly wrote the majority opinion in 1998. Don't be surprised if the Federalists reverse it.

Tim Richard's voice mail number is (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1881.

Michigan's economy needs entrepreneurs and investors

Here's a capsule economic history of Michigan in just five paragraphs.

Our first industry was fur trading in the 17th and 18th centuries. Furs were so scarce in Europe and yet so plentiful in the Great Lakes that the business turned out to be very profitable, forming the fortunes of many families back East, such as the Astors in New York.

Mineral extraction was next. The great copper deposits in the Upper Peninsula were known to the Indians but not exploited commercially until the end of the 18th century. Profits from copper helped fund the iron ore mining that continues in the UP to this day.

Much of the capital from copper mining also financed the lumbering boom that clear-cut the white pine across most of the northern Lower Peninsula in the 19th century. More money came out of Michigan's white pine forests than out of the California gold fields during the famous gold rush.

Profits from lumbering formed much of the capital for the emerging automobile industry that began developing in Michigan at the start of the 20th century. After the industry consolidated in the 1920s, automobile manufacturing turned out to be an enormous worldwide industry with extraordinarily high profit margins.

Since the automobile industry matured in the last half of this century, business folks, investors and public policy-makers have been casting around some new thing that might form the basis for the next great industry to drive our state's economy - something like the computer industry in Silicon Valley or the software industry in Seattle.

That's not as easy as it looks. First, you don't just decide you're going to create some giant new industry out of whole cloth and expect that intention alone will get the job done.

Lots of governors tried, going all the way back to Bill Milliken, who in the early 1980s helped create publicly funded institutions like the Industrial Technology Institute in Ann Arbor and the Molecular Biology Institute in East Lansing. These never worked very well, nor did Jim Blanchard's attempts to use the Michigan Strategic Fund as a sort of governmental venture capital firm.

After a while, it became clear - even to governors - that new industries were not going to be created as a result of government policy. The best government could do was to level the playing field.



PHILIP POWER

Dominant industries - in Michigan's case, auto manufacturing - always tend to use their political muscle to set public policy in their own interests.

The Michigan Single Business Tax is a classic example. Written in the 1970s by lobbyists from General Motors who finalized their work at 2 a.m. and rushed the complex bill through an exhausted Michigan Legislature that had little idea what it was voting on, the SBT benefits manufacturing companies with high margins and hurts small business start-ups.

Give credit to Gov. John Engler and Doug Rothwell, CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corp., for at last recognizing this problem and leveling the playing field.

Last week, Rothwell announced a "Gold Collar Jobs Tax Package" that will give high-tech companies the same sales tax exemptions and tax breaks on buildings and equipment now given to manufacturing firms. Rothwell estimates the tax changes will save \$5-10 million per year for Michigan high-tech companies. More and more, people are recognizing that the main barrier to finding and nourishing the next great industry in Michigan's economic history is cultural.

We can't afford to think like giant manufacturing companies; we've got to cherish entrepreneurs and risk-takers. We can't just complain about lack of venture capital; we've got to create an environment that is attractive to investors. We can't depend on state government to do much more than level the playing field.

Changing culture is a long, slow process. But there are signs that that process has started at last.

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@eoonline.com

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JACK GLADDEN

Weather here, weather there, they've got it

Ever been driving along the freeway, listening to the traffic and weather report on the radio, and heard something like "Well, Joe and Roberta, we're gonna have lots of sunshine today with just a gentle breeze out of the west. Temperatures will climb into the low 70s and it's gonna be a great day just to be outside."

As you flick the wipers on to get that liquid sunshine off your windshield, you look up and around, trying to find the sun. Nothing but clouds. And light rain. The clock/thermometer at the bank you're passing flashes its message: 45 degrees.

And you wonder aloud: Where is this guy? He's not seeing what I'm seeing.

Well, of course he's not. He's not even here. He's in a studio in New York or somewhere, looking at radar screens and computer images.

Maybe I'm naive - and maybe it doesn't matter, anyway - but I just figured that out the other day when I was poking around on the Internet. I got on to the Web site for my local traffic and weather station and started looking at the bios of the on-air "personalities."

So that's what Joe and Roberta look like. And there's John Bailey, the traffic reporter. And here's the weather people Joe and Bob and Heather and ... wait a minute!

These guys don't work for the radio station. They work for AccuWeather. Somewhere else. And listen to what it says about Lisa Moldovan

At a distance

"Now a Senior Forecaster, Moldovan speaks to nearly 35 stations a day, from Portland, Maine, to Albuquerque, N.M., to Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. Moldovan does a good deal of driving, looking firsthand at the sites she forecasts for, and is a real geography buff."

Well, that's just dandy. Thirty-five stations a day. No wonder they talk about sunny days when the windshield wipers are going, or forecast gloom and drizzle when there isn't a cloud in the sky. They're not here.

Now I'm not trying to pick a fight with the radio station or with AccuWeather or with the forecasters. They're usually pretty accurate. They're certainly as accurate as those television meteorologists, and they are here. And with all the high-tech stuff around today, I can get on the Internet from home and check out the weather in San Francisco or Orlando. So I don't suppose you have to be here in order to forecast for here.

But it's just the way it's packaged. Here's Joe and Roberta talking about the latest local news, then along comes Tracy Gary in Chopper 950 looking down on the Lodge and talking about a major accident on the I-94 interchange. She's there. She can see it.

Then along comes Heather or Lisa or Bob, saying something like: "We're gonna have a beautiful day today. A balmy breeze, just a few high clouds, temps in the 70s. A great day to get out on the links and just enjoy."

Next they throw in something like "Current temperature at Metro is 69, 71 at City Airport and in Mount Clemens it's 72."

Too far for personal

What's this "we" stuff? You aren't going to enjoy that balmy Detroit day, if you're in New York with thunder, lightning and major downpours. You're gonna get wet.

It's that first-person pronoun approach that makes them seem local, along with those references to "Metro," "City Airport," etc. Like they're sitting in a Southfield studio, looking out the window at the same sunny or drab skies that you're seeing.

But it's all being done by remote control. I guess it kind of reminds me of an old radio promotion spot produced by Stan Freberg, "The Cherry in Lake Michigan."

The point of the promo was to show

Please see GLADDEN, B2

POKEMON



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Pokemon party: The Pokemon craze has made its way into Matt and Cindy Johnson's Canton Township home. Their son, Nick, and his friends buy anything Pokemon. Showing off their toys are Travis Pelto, 9, Dave Isakson, 12, Tyler Pelto, 11, Nathan Gardner, 11, Brad Law, 12, Paul Isakson, 12, and Nick Johnson, 12.

Kids turn cartoon into latest fad

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net

Excitement erupts in the living room of Matt and Cindy Johnson's Canton Township home. The collective of eight boys, affectionately known as the Keystone Gang, freaks at the mere mention of Pokemon.

When the topic comes up, they talk over each other, try to outdo each other with trivia, and even get wacky when one of them sings the cartoon's theme song.

"I think the beginning theme song is pretty weird when they go, 'I wanna be the very best,'" 9-year-old Travis Pelto of Canton Township sings faux dramatically.

Pokemon is the latest fad among children roughly age 8-14. The Pokemon phenomenon began three years ago as a Game Boy game in Japan, where the Pokemon characters are known as Pocket Monsters.

It has since exploded in a myriad of collectibles. Anything Pokemon is a must-have for the Keystone Gang, ranging from the Nintendo game to the stuff animals.

Pikachu, a cuddly little yellow guy whose name is pronounced Peek-a-Chew, is the most popular Pokemon, according to the boys.

The "Pokemon" Kids WB television series and the related games are centered around its hero Ash Ketchum, who tries to catch as many Pokemon as possible. It's an ongoing effort because each of the Pokemon possesses special powers and abilities.

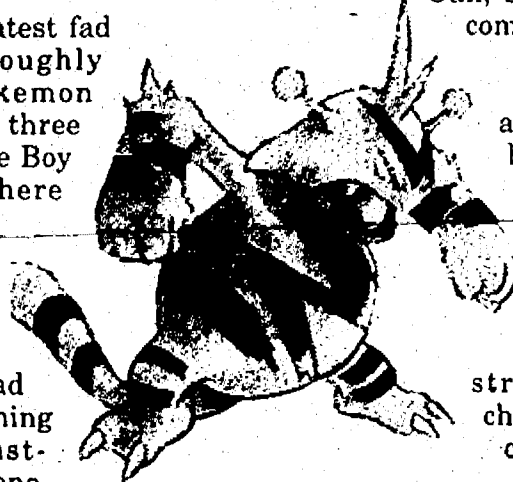
"He (Ash) goes around, and there's trainers and boss trainer people that you fight at Pokemon gyms," said Nathan Gardner, an 11-year-old student at East Middle School. "They're the leaders of it. You fight them and you get a badge when you beat them. After you get all eight badges, you get to the Pokemon league."

"If you beat them and then you beat your rival, in the show it's Gary Oak, both Gary and Ash are competing to get all eight badges and go beat the Pokemon league and each other to become the Pokemon masters."

Got all that? Nick Johnson, a 12-year-old student at Lowell Middle School in Westland, stressed that Pokemon characters are politically correct.

"In Pokemon, Pokemon don't die, they faint. They never die," Nick said.

The cartoon series "Pokemon" was originally produced by Shogakukan Productions in Japan where it is the No. 1-rated children's show. 4Kids Pro-



Playing for keeps

For Pokemon enthusiasts, a Pokemon CCG and a sanctioned Pokemon tournament will be held during The Motor City Comic Con Friday-Sunday, May 14-16, at the Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Drive, Novi.

Admission is \$12 per day or \$28 for a three-day pass. Parking is \$4 per car per day. For more information, call (248) 426-8059 or visit <http://www.ticketmaster.com>

There are several Pokemon-related Web sites including: <http://www.pokemon.com> and <http://www.nintendo.com> or <http://www.wizards.com/pokemon>



ductions adopted the series for the United States incorporating all new music, voices and scripting. "Pokemon" earned its best numbers in mid-March making it the top-rated children's show.

Nathan attributes the cartoon's popularity to its creativity.

"It's (American cartoons) not as creative. In these kinds of shows, they have special powers and stuff," Nathan said.

"It's more real life because in American cartoons they just run around and hit each other; run around with mallets and go, 'Aaaaaah,'" added Dave Isakson, 12, who also goes to Lowell.

But if they do get sick of the television show, there are plenty of other Pokemon activities to keep them busy.

There's the Pokemon collectible card games, Nintendo games, television show, stuffed animals, you name it.

Game Boy player

Brad Law, a 12-year-old student at Roosevelt Elementary School in Livonia, is already bored with the television show. So he imbibes in Pokemon Game Boy.

"The game doesn't get boring. The TV show is good, but I've seen most of them, except the new ones," Brad said. "I think people like the game, though, because you can actually catch your own little animals and control them and use them in battles," Nathan added. "They have special moves that they learn as they grow and you can

Please see POKEMON, B2

Build a Web site for your club, organization



Trying to set up a class reunion? Want to notify members of your church group about a change in meeting times? Looking for people to exhibit work in the local art fair?

You need a site on the World Wide Web. And thanks to a new service being offered by the Observer Newspapers, you can have one with just a few clicks of a mouse. It's easy to set up and there is no charge to nonprofit groups for the service. (See related story on Page A1.)

"Mihometown.com is a new community Web site service designed to serve and promote community organizations in the state of Michigan," said Brion Roberto, manager of the Observer & Eccentric Enhanced Media Department.

You don't need to write code or know HTML. All you need is a computer, a modem and an Internet connection. Connect to mihometown.com and follow the on-screen instructions.

The sites allow community groups to post their newsletters and calendars of events online, to post messages in discussion areas or to engage in live chat with other participants. You can also send e-mail to all members of the organization with just one click of the mouse.

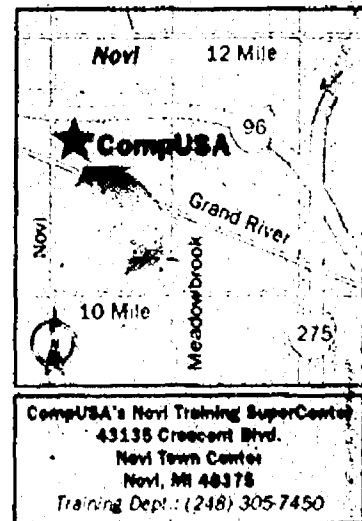
You can even stack pages within pages, Roberto said. "An alumni organization might have a site set up for general

members," he said. "Within that, you could create another site for board members, to which only they have access. Or you might create a link to another site for the reunion committee."

Bringing many local groups' Web sites together in one location creates a sense of community, Roberto said. And it makes the sites easier to find.

Training sessions are scheduled for 6:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 12, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 15, and 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, May 19, at CompUSA in the Novi Town Center. Each session will last two and a half hours, after which, Roberto said, you will be ready to set up your site.

The \$15 fee includes training, materials and refreshments. You can fill out the attached coupon and send a check payable to the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper or register online with a credit card at this secure site <http://oeonline.com/mihometown> or call Jennifer Murray at (734) 953-2038 for more information. Space is limited.



Register for training

■ Name: _____

■ Organization(s) you represent: _____

■ Address: (include city and zip code) _____

■ Telephone: (work and home) _____

■ Current e-mail address: _____

■ Type of computer you have: _____

■ First choice for training session: _____

■ Second choice for training session: _____

■ Check No.: _____

Sorority fashion show benefits women and children

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

Livonia teachers spend their work days devoted to the children of the community. And in their spare time, a Livonia teachers' sorority is raising money for women's and children's organizations.

The Livonia branch of Alpha Kappa Tau chapter, an professional teachers' sorority, is planning its second annual fashion show 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, at the Holiday Inn Livonia West at Laurel Park, according to Sandra Naasko, who is chairing the event with Holly Fehlig and Lynne Waskin.

Tickets are \$30 each. For more information and for tickets, call Charlotte Worthen at (248) 473-8129. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Guests will dine as they watch a parade of models, mostly teachers and students, show off fashions from Talbots and Talbots Kids of Laurel Park Place. Desmond of Laurel Park is providing the tuxedos for the fashion show.

"What the fashion show does for the community is that it gives us the funds to help organizations and groups that need funding, particularly for First Step and Mott Children's Hospital," said Worthen, chapter president. "It's women's and children's issues that we support. We're also involved in Race for the Cure and we are making a donation to International Methodist Children's Home Society."

Helping students

Last year, the organization

raised \$3,000 from the fashion show. Three students, one from each of Livonia's high schools, are chosen annually to receive a \$500 scholarship from the organization.

"Anyone can apply for it, but we look for students who have done service projects," Naasko said.

This year's scholarship winners are seniors Bethany LaOnde from Churchill High School, Melissa Sobier from Stevenson High School and Kristi Kalousek from Franklin High School.

Sobier's extensive involvement included visiting Appalachia in Pennsylvania while she was a sophomore, teaching first-grade catechism at St. Colette Catholic Church in Livonia, working at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen on numerous occasions with her church youth group, helping out

at a church silent auction that benefits Angela Hospice and the church, as well as other church activities.

"I'm very honored and surprised to get the scholarship," said Sobier, who is considering an elementary education program at Michigan State University. "It means a lot knowing the hard work I've done I have something to show for it other than something personal and that satisfaction."

The scholarships are an annual award presented by the 50 member retired and currently working teachers' group. They also donate to Safe House for battered women, Mott Children's Hospital, First Step and try to meet the needs of groups on an individual request basis.

"One year, my daughter was in the Peace Corps and the village she was in didn't have a library

and they donated money to help support their village library," Naasko explained.

Aiming for success

Keeping these worthy causes in mind, members of the teachers' organization is making sure that this year's event is a success. Special gratitude goes to prize committee chair Bette Grainger and Madonna Bailey who donated all the table prizes, Naasko said.

Fashion show guests will have a chance to win 50 door prizes, donated by local businesses, as well as raffles with gift and cash prizes.

Some of the prizes include a pair of earrings from Tapper's Jewelry in West Bloomfield, a video cassette recorder from Paul James of VCR Presentations and Solutions Inc., a day at the salon from Vision 6 Salon in

Novi and an evening out co-sponsored by Livonia Marriott and J. Alexander's.

More than 30 other businesses made donations for the raffle, including Fonte D'Amore Ristorante in Livonia, AMC Theater, Joe's Produce, Frames Unlimited, Holiday Inn Livonia West, Wing Yee's, Ground Round, Kurl 'n' Cut, Mountain Jack's, Kacee's Hallmark, Boston Market, Mesquite Creek Steakhouse, Outback Steakhouse, Cooker's Bar and Grille, Max & Erma's, International House of Pancakes, Pick-a-Bone Rib House, Champ's Americana, Witch Craft Gift and Craft Shop, AP Impressions, Merri-Craft Florist and Rick Dionian Photography.

"The community is behind us," Worthen said. "We're altruistic. Helping other people, that's what we're all about."

*SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES BOARD OF EDUCATION Livonia Public Schools 15125 Farmington Road March 15, 1999

The following is a summary, in synopsis form, of the Board of Education's regular meeting of March 15, 1999; the full text of the minutes is on file in the Office of the Superintendent, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, and in the principal's office of each school, and is available on request.

President Nay convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia. Present: Frank Kokenakes, Daniel Lessard, Joanne Morgan, Patrick Nalley, Dianne Nay, Kenneth Timmons, James Watters. Absent: None.

Golden Apple Award: Secretary Dan Lessard presented the Golden Apple Award to Judy Boyd, art teacher at Riley Middle School.

Recognition of Music and Arts Month: Fred Price introduced Margaret Babineau and Sally Diskin who spoke about art and music programs in our schools.

Written Communications: Mr. Lessard shared a letter he received that was sent to Redford Union schools regarding zoning changes.

Audience Communications: Franklin students Karen Koleczko, Alaina Whitefoot, and Abby Wojtowicz addressed the Board regarding "The Purple Hands Project" that they would like to initiate in schools throughout the district.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Kokenakes and Timmons that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the following consent agenda items as recommended by the superintendent: I.V.A Minutes and Synopsis of the Regular Meeting of March 1, 1999. I.V.B Minutes of the Closed Session of March 1, 1999. I.V.C Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 8, 1999. V.A Move that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase of math manipulatives from the low bidder, ETA, for a total price of \$20,230. V.I.A. Move that general fund check nos. 312718 through 313549 in the amount of \$2,616,434.46 be approved for payment. Also, move that general fund wire transfers in the amount of \$1,629,095.08 be approved. Also, move that Building Improvement and Technology Fund check nos. 1958 through 1961 in the amount of \$171,557.26 be approved for payment. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons, Watters. Nays: None.

Kennedy PTA: Motion by Morgan and Lessard that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the most generous gift of the Kennedy School PTA to purchase educational materials and donate funds for field trips and assemblies with a total value of approximately \$8,000. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons, Watters. Nays: None.

Holmes PTA: Motion by Nalley and Watters that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the generous gift of \$20,850 from the Holmes Middle School PTSA for enhancements and student enrichment programs related to school climate. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons, Watters. Nays: None.

Recess: President Nay recessed the meeting at 7:42 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Presentation - Webster School Improvement Plan: Lorna Durand, principal at Webster Elementary School, introduced the Webster Elementary School Improvement Plan. Students participated in the presentation showing the collaborative efforts of staff, students, and parents to cooperatively and successfully provide a unique learning environment for the two programs at Webster.

Recess: President Nay recessed the meeting at 8:30 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Galileo Academy Adopted: Motion by Lessard and Watters that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the superintendent to enter into a letter of commitment with the Galileo Consortium to become part of the Galileo Leadership Development Project. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Watters. Nays: Timmons.

Approval of Auditorium Seats: Motion by Mr. Timmons and Morgan that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District authorize the purchase of 963 replacement auditorium chairs from Superior School Equipment Co., Inc. for \$125,150. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons, Watters. Nays: None.

Teachers for Approval: Motion by Morgan and Watters that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and offer employment for the 1998-99 school year to: Danielle Merchant and Maureen Nelson. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons, Watters. Nays: None.

30-Year Recognition: The Board of Education of the Livonia Public School District unanimously accepted the proposed resolution of appreciation for 30 years of full-time service with the district for Sara Sampson.

Retirements: Motion by Nalley and Lessard that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopted resolutions of appreciation for the services rendered by Gary Boyd, Janice Fleisner, and Margaret Meloche. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons, Watters. Nays: None.

Leaves of Absence: Motion by Kokenakes and Lessard that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and approve the requests for leaves of absence for: Suzanne Quenon, Shelley Stockwell, and E. Ranae Woods, effective 1999-2000 school year. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons, Watters. Nays: None.

Resignation: The Board of Education accepted the resignation of Elizabeth Mohar, effective 6/12/99.

Sympathy Resolution: The Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District unanimously adopted sympathy resolutions for the families of Murray Lyke and Shirley Spozia.

Reports from the Superintendent: Dr. Watson received a memo regarding a \$600 contribution from Mr. Scott LaMieux, manager of the Mobil Station at 33430 Schoolcraft, Livonia. This check and anticipated future contributions are part of the Mobil Oil Corporation's Educational Alliance Grant; congratulated Emily Chase, fourth grader at Cooper on being selected to attend Space Camp at the Kennedy Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida; congratulated Churchill students for their success in the 1998 Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition: Qian Zhang (first place-\$2500 scholarship), Bob Lillibridge (bronze award-\$450 scholarship), and John E. Ross (bronze award-\$450 scholarship); introduced the video for the evening which was a portion of "Music Man" performed by Stevenson drama students and a performance by the second graders at Tyler Elementary School; and announced that the next Board meeting will be April 19, 1999 with study sessions taking place on March 23, 1999, March 29, 1999, and April 12, 1999.

Hearing from Board Members: The Board discussed Fine Arts Month, the Fine Arts Festival, Kennedy and Holmes PTA gifts, the presentation from Webster, the Galileo Consortium, the foreign language program open house, the open house at the Livonia Career Technical Center for parents of middle school students, the celebration of Dr. Bues' birthday throughout the district M&S Legislative Day in Lansing, Perrinville on becoming the 51st school in Livonia to have a PTA, the Board/Student Advisory dinner, the District School Improvement meeting, the announcement that Mr. Watters would not be seeking reelection and the highlights of his eight year tenure on the Board, thanked the students who were part of the camera crew.

Adjournment: Motion by Timmons and Morgan that the Regular meeting of March 15 be adjourned. Ayes: Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons, Watters. Nays: None.

President Nay adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Published April 29, 1999

Pokemon from page B1

name them. It's like a role-playing game."

Paul Isakson, a 12-year-old Lowell student, thinks differently.

"It's a good game, if you have nothing else better to do," he said.

The newest Pokemon game is a trading card game which sold 400,000 copies less than six weeks after its Jan. 9 release, according to its manufacturer, Wizards of the Coast in Renton, Wash.

"It's the hottest card game or trading card game going right now," said John Kirchoff, manager of Rider's Hobby in Livonia. Rider's, which also has locations locally in Canton, Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, sells the trading cards and videos.

"We haven't been able to keep inventory in stock; we've probably been fielding 50 calls a day whether or not Pokemon's in stock," he said. "What's really interesting, too, is these kids



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMAN

have a really fantastic underground network available. If we do get a shipment, it's incredible how word spreads in the neighborhood."

Electronics Boutique, located at 12 Oaks Mall in Novi, has seen the same response.

"Consumers are flocking to our

Gladden from page B1

radio as a more powerful medium than television. Using voice-overs and sound effects, Freberg proceeds to "drain" Lake Michigan, then turn it into a giant hot fudge sundae, complete with a cherry on top. His tag line was something like "Try that on your television!" The reality, of course, was all in the mind of the listener.

Maybe that's why I'm bothered by those remote meteorolo-

gists, who sound like they're here but who really aren't. It's sort of like the Stan Freberg school of forecasting. But then twice a day, we do get a real live and local report from Sonny Eliot, who's been here forever. And with Sonny around, who needs Stan Freberg?

Jack Gladden is a copy editor for the Observer Newspapers. He lives in Canton Township.

WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MEETING NO. 8 APRIL 19, 1999

- Presiding: Council President Cicirelli
- Present: Anderson, Barns, Griffin, LeBlanc, Pickering, Scott
- 79: Approved: minutes of regular meeting held 4/5/99
- Adopted resolution proclaiming week of 4/22/99 - 4/28/99 as National TV-Turnoff Week in City
- Approved to terminate contract with Dycon, Incorporated
- Approved Bid for Hix Road Resurfacing & Carlson & Marquette Intersection Improvement to Thompson-McCully Co, amount \$718,112.63
- Approved Bid for Warren-Cavell Sewer Lining Project to Insituform Technologies, amount \$141,067
- Introduced Ordinance #248-A-10 by rezoning from commercial business to vehicle service, SW corner of Beechwood & Farmington, N of Ford
- Introduced Ordinance #248-A-11 by rezoning from garden apartment residence to single family residential, S of Annapolis, E of Irene
- Set public hearing 6/7/99 at 7 pm to vacate and abandon the westerly 116' of Currier Ave right-of-way & westerly 116' of the Hanover right-of-way, E of Middlebelt Rd, N of Van Born
- 80: Introduced Ordinance #248-A-9, rezoning from shopping center commercial business to general commercial business, S side of Nankin Blvd, W of Wayne
- 81, 82 & 83: Reappointed M Rintz, M Ward & M Gibbons to the Westland Zoning Board of Appeals for 3 yr terms, expires 5/3/2002
- 84: Confirmed appointment of S Harris to Westland Cable Commission for a 4 yr term, expires 4/19/2003
- 85: Accepted bids for purchase of listed parcels of property & payment to City of bid amount & \$320 processing fee
- 86: Closed public hearing on Review of One-Year Action Plan for Fiscal 1999/2000 including Proposed Housing & Community Development Goals, Strategies & Proposed Use for Program XXV
- 87: Closed public hearing on request to submit a Section 108 loan application, amount \$700,000 to construct Carver Subdivision Fire/Police Substation
- 88: Adopted resolution to authorize the Administration submit Section 108 loan application to US Department of Housing & Urban Development for Carver Subdivision Fire/Police Substation
- 89: Granted request from B Sandu transfer ownership of 1998 SDM licensed business, 8296 Merriman
- 90: Granted request Choo-Choo's transfer ownership of 1997 Class C licensed business with dance permit located in escrow, 36980 Ford Rd from Tropical, Inc
- 91: Granted request from Southland Corporation for new SDM License, 5791 N Wayne Rd
- 92: Granted request from Knockouts Sports Cafe, Inc transfer ownership of 1997 Class C licensed business with Dance Permit, located in escrow, 36980 Ford Rd from Choo-Choo's, Inc
- 93: Granted request from Mayor R. Thomas split lots #278-376 of Carver-Badivision #4, E of Middlebelt Rd, N of Van Born with contingency
- 94: Granted request for S&P Plan approval for Phase II Development, NE corner of Michigan Ave and Merriman Rd
- 97: Approved bargaining unit contract between City and Westland Police LSA and S&P Association from 1/1/99 - 12/31/2003
- 98: Approved Check List - \$918,837.85 and Prepaid - \$1,644,240.97

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm

Minutes available in City Clerk's Office

SANDRA A. CICIRELLI
President
PATRICIA A. GIBBONS
City Clerk

Published: April 29, 1999

stores for the Pokemon trading card game," said Dena Dicandilo, buyer for Electronics Boutique. "Anticipation for the trading card game had been so great that we pre-sold 50,000 booster packs before the first decks were even shipped."

These kids may be overwhelmed with Pokemon paraphernalia, but they are savvy enough to know that businesses just want to make money.

"You can tell that some of the little keychains they make are

just for making money. The card game, it didn't seem like they put (a lot of thought to it). It's real boring, you just do the same thing over and over. They just did it to make money," said Tyler Pelto, an 11-year-old Miller Elementary School student.

Nick even contends that the Pokemon craze is getting out of hand.

"Pokemon is such a big deal, it's like advertised all over the Internet. It's on everything," he said.

Day One teens honor Columbine students

More than 73,000 teens from all 50 states and throughout the world gathered last weekend at the Silverdome to declare their faith in Christ and to proclaim their intention to lead their generation into the new millennium.

They also took time to specifically pray for and send a message of hope to their peers in Littleton, Colo.

"We are here to fight for the soul of a generation and for the hearts of your peers," said Ron Luce, founder and president of Teen Mania. "These school shootings are a wake-up call for our country. When you leave, burn a path all the way home and start a revolution of righteousness, love and forgiveness."

During the opening session Luce was joined by fellow Christian leaders the Rev. Jack Hay-

ford and Dr. E.V. Hill, to lead the gathering in prayer for those affected by the tragedy at Columbine High School. More than 400 teens from Colorado stood while the other attendees prayed for them and their state.

Cassie Bernal, a Columbine High School victim shot when she told the gunman she believed in God, was remembered as an active member of her church youth group. She had attended the Teen Mania Acquire the Fire meeting in Denver last spring.

Paper lined the walls of the Silverdome concourse and teenagers stood in lines to write personal messages and prayers of encouragement that is being assembled into a massive card to send to students at Columbine High School.

On Saturday, a collection was taken and a portion will be used to buy Bibles for each of the Columbine students as a gift from the Day One teenagers at the Silverdome gathering.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Tuesday, May 4, 1999, the Westland Police Dept. will conduct Public Auctions of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The first auction will begin promptly at 10:00 AM at Westland Service Towing, 37501 Cherry Hill, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

73	FORD	MUSTANG	BLUE	3F05Q154308
75	DODGE	4DR OMNI	RED	1B3Z218C6HD375223
84	CHEV	VAN	GRAY	2GCDG16H8E4146951

The second auction will begin promptly at 10:00 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:

86	NISSAN	PU	BLACK	JN6ND11S5GW007983
88	FORD	TAURUS	RED	1FABP60U1JG262029
85	FORD	F150 PU	BLUE	1FTXB15H4FKB6177
87	FORD	4DR CROWN VIC	RED	2FABP748HX173411
85	OLDS	4DR CUTLASS	WHITE	1G3AJ19R1FG308139
86	OLDS	4DR FIRENZA	BROWN	1G3JD69P9GK399899
90	MERC	4DR TOPAZ	BLACK	1MEPM38S9LK015163
81	CHEV	2DR M. CARLO	GRAY	2G1AZ37J4B1440667
87	CHEV	2DR SPRINT	BLUE	JG1JR2150HK770365
85	FORD	VAN	BLUE	1FDDE14FHA08255
87	FORD	T-BIRD	RED	1FABP6231HH153312
88	CHEV	4DR CORSICA	BLACK	1G1LT161JY661454

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.

30 DAY NOTICE OF AUCTION

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicle(s) listed below will be auctioned after May 29, 1999, unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time:

86	MERC	4DR MARQUIS	RED	1M3BP8932GG610465
??	TRAILER	TRAILER	BROWN	NONE

Published: April 29, 1999

ENGAGEMENTS

Clark-Liske

Mr. and Mrs. James Clark of Livonia announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Candace, to Steven R. Liske, the son of Kay Liske of Garden City and Gerald Liske of Leonard, Mich.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School. She is employed as the leasing acquisition representative by the Detroit Medical Center.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Garden City High School. He is owner of Contrast Building in Southfield.

A May wedding is planned at the Grosse pointe Academy Chapel in Grosse Pointe Farms.



Ferko-Sourbeck

Thomas and Judith Ferko of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Susan Lynn, to Wayne Fredrick Sourbeck III, the son of Wayne and Linda Sourbeck of Lincoln Park.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Miami University. She is employed with the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools as a teacher.

Her fiancé attended Liberty University. He is employed at Southwest Airlines.

A June wedding is planned at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Canton.



Wissman-Devereaux

Robert and Judy Wissman of Northville announce the engagement of their daughter, Sheryl Ann of Plymouth, to Scott Douglas Devereaux, the son of Bill and Vicki Devereaux of Oakley, Mich.

The bride-to-be is a 1979 graduate of Northville High School graduate, 1983 graduate of Michigan State University and a 1987 graduate of the Wayne State University School of Medicine. She is employed as a physician with Glennan Medical Group in Detroit.

Her fiancé is a 1986 Chesaning High School graduate, and a 1991 General Motors Institute graduate. He is employed as an electrical engineer at TRW in



Washington, Mich.

A May wedding is planned at Links at Pinewood in Walled Lake.

Smith-Mozina

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Smith of New London, Ohio, announce the engagement of their daughter, Traci, to Eric James Mozina, the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Mozina of Port Clinton, Ohio, formerly of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Defiance College in Defiance, Ohio. She is employed as a teacher in Sidney, Ohio.

Her fiancé will graduate from Defiance College in May. He is currently employed by General Motors in Defiance, Ohio.

A June wedding in Sidney is being planned.



Egloff-Schafer

Mel and Geri Egloff of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Sara Ellen, to John Clayton Schafer, the son of Ryszarda (Ricky) Schafer and Earl Schafer, both of Allen Park.

The bride-to-be is a 1991 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School. She is attending Wayne State University, where she is pursuing a degree in physical therapy. She is employed as a physical therapy technician at S.K.Y.L. Sports Medicine and Physical Rehabilitation in Dearborn.

Her fiancé is a 1989 graduate of Melvindale High School and a 1994 graduate of Wayne State University with a bachelor of science degree in psychology. He also received his bachelor of science degree in allied health sciences in 1996 and a master's degree in physical therapy in



1998 from WSU. He is employed at Oakwood Hospital's Heritage Center in Taylor.

A June wedding is planned at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Canton.

Wolfe-Skonieczny

Frederick and Christina Wolfe of Royal Oak announce the engagement of their daughter, Sonja Maria, to Paul Anthony Skonieczny, the son of Muriel Skonieczny of Plymouth and Paul and Celine Skonieczny of Berkeley.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Shrine High School. She is attending Oakland Community College where she is studying education. She is employed at Northpointe Internal Medicine in Berkeley.

Her fiancé also is a graduate of Shrine High School. He is attending Oakland Community College and Wayne State University. He is employed at Bayview Electric in Redford Township.

A May wedding is planned at



the National Shrine of the Little Flower Church in Royal Oak.

Wade-Bowen

Lee and Melba Wade of Canton and Marie Wade of Detroit announce the engagement of their daughter, LaKeisha, to Damon Bowen, the son of Paul and Sandra Bowen of Detroit.

The bride-to-be expects to graduate from the University of Michigan in May with a degree in industrial operations engineering. She plans to pursue a master's degree in business administration or management in the fall.

Her fiancé is an assets protection team leader, a part of the executive team for Mervyn's California Corp. He plans to complete work on a dual degree in architecture and criminal justice.



A July wedding is planned in Detroit.

Steinhebel-Wressell

John and Betty Steinhebel of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Rebecca Ann, to Matthew Michael Wressell, the son of Michael and Vivian Wressell of Bay City.

The bride-to-be is a 1994 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and the University of Michigan College of Engineering.

Her fiancé is a 1992 graduate of John Glenn High School in Bay City and the University of Michigan College of Engineering.



Reed-Miller

John and Cathy Reed of Ypsilanti announce the engagement of their daughter, Jamie Lynn, to Terry Michael Miller II, the son of Terry and Elayne Miller of Garden City.

The bride-to-be is a 1997 graduate of Ypsilanti High School.

Her fiancé is a 1993 graduate of Garden City High School. He is employed in the security field.

A May wedding is planned at the Little Wedding Chapel in Farmington Hills.

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CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

SKATING PROGRAM

"Signs of the Seasons" will be presented by the Westland Figure Skating Club 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, April 29-30, 6 p.m. Saturday, May 1, and 1 p.m. Sunday, May 2, at Westland Sports Arena, 6210 N. Wildwood, between Hunter and Ford. Guest skaters are Danielle and Steve Hartsell, national pairs champions. (Danielle Hartsell won't skate during the Thursday performance.) Admission is \$6, \$4 for seniors and children 12 and under. Tickets may be bought in advance at the arena concession stand.

BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS

The city of Westland mayor's office will be accepting nominations for the residential and nonresidential beautification awards beginning Monday, May 10. The last day that nominations will be accepted is 5 p.m. Friday, July 30. Judging for the residential nominees will be based on the overall appearance of the front and back yards. This includes flowers, color combinations, trees and greenery. Judging for the nonresidential nominees will be based on the overall appearance of the grounds surrounding the business. This includes flowers, color combinations, trees and greenery as well as the cleanliness of the business and its property. Condominiums and apartments will be judged under the nonresidential award category. To submit a nomination, call (734) 467-3200 between the business hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or send nominations to: Mayor Robert J. Thomas, Beautification Awards, city of Westland, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185. The residential prizes are: first place, plaque, dinner for two with Thomas via limousine and a yard sign; second place, certificate of recognition, \$30 dinner certificate for two at Alexander the Great restaurant and a yard sign; third

place, certificate of registration, \$25 gift certificate to Westland Shopping Center and a yard sign. The nonresidential prizes are: first place, plaque and yard sign; second place, certificate of recognition and a yard sign; third place, certificate of recognition and a yard sign. All winners will receive their awards at a special ceremony to be announced at a later date. They will also be highlighted on television.

TOWN HALL

The next city of Westland town hall meeting is set for 7 p.m. Thursday, May 13, at Holliday Park, 34850 Fountain Blvd., off of Wayne Road between Warren and Joy roads. Mayor Robert Thomas and his staff will be available to answer questions and concerns.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan will hold its May meeting at the William P. Faust Library, 6123 Central City Parkway in Westland 2-4 p.m. Saturday, May 15. Speaker Dorothy Skiba will give a presentation titled "Strategies for Dating Old Photographs." Free. Call (810) 247-7891 for more information.

FUN RUN/WALK

The North Brothers Ford and the city of Westland 5K Fun Run/Walk is set for 9 a.m. Saturday, June 12. Race starts at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford Road. Registration is at 8 a.m. Cost is \$10 for 18 and under, \$12 for prereg-

istration fee for adults and \$15 late registration after June 4. Preregister at North Brothers Ford customer care department. Registration includes prizes for the top five male and female race winners, T-shirts for all participants, race refreshments, water and snacks. All proceeds benefit Race for the Cure and go locally to the Barbara Karmanos Cancer Institute.

AT THE LIBRARY

FRIENDS OF LIBRARY

The Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library meet at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Call (734) 326-6123. Meetings last about one hour and are open to the public. The Friends also hold a book sale during regular library hours at the library.

WESTLAND CENTER

WALKERS MEET

The Westland Walkers meet the second Wednesday of each month, except during the summer. Westland Center opens its doors to walkers beginning at 7 a.m. at Arcade 2 by Olga's Kitchen. Mall walking ends at 10 a.m.

AT THE CHAMBER

AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations are being taken for the chamber's spring awards - the Athena Award and the Business Person of the Year Award. The Athena Award recognizes an individual who exemplifies excellence in a business or profession, serves the community in a meaningful way and assists women in developing their leadership potential. The Business Person of the Year recognizes a Westland business person or manager who works to improve the business climate and overcome adversity in some way. The awards will be presented at a murder mystery dinner, "Pasta, Passion and Pistols," beginning 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 5, at Joy Manor in Westland. Tickets are \$30 a person. For nomination forms, contact the chamber at (734) 326-7222.

GOLF CLASSIC

The 19th annual Westland Chamber Golf Classic at Pheasant Run Golf Club is planned for Tuesday, June 22. Reservations for four-somes are being taken now at the chamber office, (734) 326-7222.

RECREATION

RECREATION AND FUN

A recreational get-together for teens and adults who are disabled is the second Friday of each month at the Westland Bailey Center. Call (734) 722-7620.

FIGURE SKATING

The Westland Figure Skating Club has formed an adult introductory precision team. The team is for those who want to have fun with other skating adults and get exercise. Practices are 6-8:50 a.m. Saturdays. All levels are welcome. Call (734) 722-1091.

VOLUNTEERS

ASSISTED LIVING

Marquette House assisted living facility, 36000 Campus Drive, Westland, seeks

volunteers to spend time with residents to provide an activity or a one-on-one visit. Call Peggy in the activities department, (734) 326-6537.

SCHOOLS

SUBURBAN CHILDREN'S

Suburban Children's Co-op Nursery has openings in its 2-year toddler-parent class on Friday mornings; 3-year class Monday and Wednesday mornings; and the 4-year class on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Classes run from September to May. Parents are required to help out at the school. All classes are in the Newburg United Methodist Church on Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne and Newburgh. For more information, call Susan at (734) 416-9543.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

The Wayne-Westland Community School District has ongoing registration for the preschool programs at Stottemyer Early Childhood and Family Development Center, on Marquette between Wayne and Wildwood. Programs include an early intervention program, Head Start, Kids/Plus Preschool, a pre-primary impaired program and Sparkey Preschool. Registration is 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call (734) 595-2660.

CHURCH PRESCHOOL

The Westland Free Methodist Preschool has openings for 3- and 4-year-olds in the morning and afternoon sessions. The younger pupils attend Tuesdays and Thursdays, other pupils on Mondays and Wednesdays. A Friday enrichment class is also available. The preschool is at 1421 S. Venoy, Westland. Call (734) 728-3559.

GARDEN CITY CO-OP

The Garden City Co-op nursery has openings for preschool classes for ages 18 months through 4 years. Tots class meets on Wednesday mornings, and 3- and 4-year-olds meet Mondays and Thursdays. Parental involvement is required. Call Kellrat (734) 513-7708.

ST. MEL PRESCHOOL

St. Mel Preschool, 7506 Inkster Road, north of Warren Avenue in Dearborn Heights, has morning and afternoon classes for both 3- and 4-year-olds. Registration has begun. Call (313) 274-6270.

YWCA READINESS

The YWCA of Western Wayne County Early Childhood School Readiness Program is available to 4- and 5-year-old children. The YWCA is at 26279 Michigan in Inkster. Call (313) 561-4110.

CHARTER SCHOOL

The Academy of Detroit-Westland, an entrepreneurial and business charter school, serves kindergarten through seventh grade. The school emphasizes a basic education with business and entrepreneurial skills. The



Fashionable: Spring fashions are presented in a fashion show by students of Students Against Drunk Driving. The fashion shows were presented at Westland Shopping Center recently with models from Students Against Drunk Driving members. Against Drunk Driving. On March 20, a fashion show was held at the Westland Shopping Center. The show was modeled by students from SADD chapters at Wayne, Lincoln and Churchill high schools. Costumes were modeled by 1999 Michigan Junior Miss, who is a member of SADD. The teens modeled cotton merchandise for SADD. Moms, dads, sons and daughters, all members of Wayne County MADD, modeled family fashion. Jenny Lozano, spokeswoman for Wayne County MADD, delivered a "don't drink and drive" message in time for spring break and the upcoming summer season.

school offers a foreign language class, music and art, a dress code and a computer lab with access to the Internet. Call (734) 722-1465 or (248) 569-7787.

LITTLE PEOPLES

Livonia Little Peoples Co-op Preschool is now enrolling for the fall in programs for 3- and 4-year-olds. For more information, call (734) 422-1176.

LITTLE LAMBS

Little Lambs Preschool, on Farmington Road south of West Chicago in Livonia, is accepting registration for the 1998-99 school year. Classes meet Monday-Wednesday-Friday afternoons and Tuesday-Thursday mornings for 3- to 5-year-olds. Little Lambs is a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory preschool. Call (248) 471-2077.

FRANKLIN PTSA

The Franklin High PTSA is seeking members. Membership is open to those who care about the schools and community. Members need not have a student in the school. Price is \$3 for students, \$5 for adults. Checks should be made payable to Franklin PTSA and sent to 31000 Joy in Livonia 48150.

TUTORIAL PROGRAM

A free tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy in Westland. The program, 4-5:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, is for students ages 9 and older in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. For information on participating or volunteering, call Leau'Rette Douglas, (734) 722-3660.

MOM'S MORNING OUT

Children, ages newborn to

6, and their mothers are invited to a Mom's Morning Out 9-11:30 a.m. every Thursday at Newburg United Methodist Church, on Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne and Newburgh, Livonia. Children are grouped together by ages in rooms with two caregivers per room. This program is an optional co-op, with parents working once each month. Call (734) 422-0149.

HISTORY

PERRINSVILLE

The historic Perrinsville one-room school will be opened to the public 1-4 p.m. on the last Sunday of each month from April through September. People are welcome to come and

visit the renovated 1856 schoolhouse at Warren and Cowan roads, west of Meriman in Westland.

WESTLAND MUSEUM

The Westland Historical Museum is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays at 857 N. Wayne Road, between Marquette and Cherry Hill. Call (734) 326-1110.

FRIENDS MEET

Friends of the Westland Historical Museum meet 7 p.m. on the second Tuesdays of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Westland Meeting House, 37091 Marquette, between Newburgh and Wayne roads. Call President Jim Franklin at (734) 721-0136. Everyone is welcome.

FOR SENIORS

SENIOR WALK

The Fourth Annual National Senior Health and Fitness Day Walk begins 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 26, at the Westland Senior Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh. The walking route will be about 1.9 miles. The luncheon and 1998 T-shirt are \$6. Luncheon only is \$3. No 1999 T-shirts will be ordered. An Oakwood Hospital exercise physiologist, Diane Hamilton, will present prewalk instruction and consultation. The fire department will do blood pressure screening, distribute orange juice and supply medical personnel along the route; the police department will be directing traffic. Registration is required. Senior of the Year for Leadership and Service will be announced. Pick up nomination forms at the Friendship Center.

HEARING CHECKS

Every third Tuesday of each month, a representative from Personalized Hearing Care of Westland will be checking and cleaning hearing aids free from 2-3 p.m. by appointment only. Call (734) 722-7632 for more information.

LAS VEGAS TRIP

The Westland Senior Resources Department is sponsoring a Las Vegas trip Monday through Friday, May 3-7. Trip includes four nights and five days at the Stardust Towers, roundtrip airfare, hotel accommodations, airport transfers, federal excise tax, passenger facility tax and baggage handling. Cost is \$460 a person. For information, call (734) 722-7632.

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Senior Resource Department of Westland (Friendship Center) is sponsoring a seminar, in cooperation with Michael Chappell, manager of the Dearborn Social Security Office, on the future of Social Security. The seminar is open to the public beginning at 1 p.m. Friday, May 14. Sign up at the desk or by calling (734) 722-7632. Refreshments will be served.

DEPRESSION SEMINAR

Learn to recognize the difference in the symptoms between sadness and depression at a seminar at the Westland Friendship Center 1:25 p.m. Friday, May 28. Light refresh-

ments will be served.

TIGER GAMES

The Senior Resources Department Friendship Center is offering three trips to Tiger games this year: Tigers vs. St. Louis Friday, June 4; Tigers vs. Yankees, Thursday, July 8; Tigers vs. Angels, Friday, Aug. 13. Cost is \$25 a person a game. Leave from the Friendship Center at 5 p.m. Games begin at 7:05 p.m. Return to the center between 11 and 11:30 p.m. Sign up at the front desk. First 23 seniors to register.

FRIENDSHIP PICNIC

A Friendship Center Summer Picnic will be held noon to 4 p.m. Friday, June 11, at Coburn Park behind the Westland Friendship Center. The picnic is open to Friendship Center members and Westland residents only. No tickets will be sold after Friday, June 4. Cost is \$6 for Friendship members and \$9 for non-member Westland senior citizens.

CASINO TRIP

A trip to Mt. Pleasant Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort starring Engelbert Humperdinck is planned for Thursday and Friday, June 17-18. Trip cost is \$130 with platinum tickets and \$127 with gold tickets (per person double occupancy two days and one night at the new hotels). Nonmembers must pay \$5 more. Arrive at the Friendship Center 8 a.m. Thursday, June 17, to depart at 8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast will be served at the center before leaving. Lunch will be included the first day at the Fire Fly Restaurant. Breakfast will be included the second day. Depart casino at 4 p.m. Friday, June 18, and return to center at about 6:30 or 7 p.m. Call (734) 722-7632. Final payment must be made by May 15.

WINDSOR RACEWAY TRIP

A trip to Windsor Raceway is set for Wednesday, Aug. 4. Cost is \$25. Leave Friendship Center at 5 p.m., dinner is served at 6:30 p.m., post time is 7:30 p.m. with races over at about 10:45 p.m. Return to center about midnight. Call (734) 722-7632.

DINNER AND SHOW

A trip to dinner and to "Titanic" is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 23. Cost is \$85. Arrive at the Friendship Center at 4 p.m., eat at Three Brothers Restaurant at 5 p.m., arrive at Detroit Opera House at 7:30 p.m. Play starts at 8 p.m. Return to center at 11:30 p.m. Call (734) 722-7632.

SENIOR CHOIR

A Friendship senior choir, under the direction of Robert Cassidy, has been started. The choir meets 9 a.m. Thursdays at the Westland Senior Resources Department Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland. Anyone who enjoys singing may join.

TRAVEL GROUP

The Travel Group meets 12:45 p.m. every Friday in the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, unless a trip or program is planned. Programs include speakers, films, celebration of birthdays and weekly door prizes. There is a \$3 membership fee for residents, \$12.50 for nonresidents. Call (734) 722-7632.

CARD GROUP

The Friday Variety Card Group at the Westland Friendship Center meets 2 p.m. People play euchre, pinochle, bridge, Uno, rummy and poker. Light refreshments are served. Call (734) 722-7632 for information or just show up to play cards. The Friendship Center is at 1119 N. Newburgh.

The Observer Newspapers welcome Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or by fax to 734-591-7279. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 953-2104 if you have any questions.

Event:

Date and Time:

Location:

Telephone:

Additional Info.:

Use additional sheet if necessary

ANNIVERSARIES

McLean

Donald and Catherine McLean of Livonia celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 9, 1998, with family and friends at the Livonia Elks Lodge.

The dinner-dance was given by their daughter, Dorothy, son-in-law Ron and son Donald. They have three grandchildren - Pam Malkiewicz and wife Jennifer, Damon Malkiewicz and Dawn Malkiewicz.

The McLeans renewed their wedding vows during a ceremony conducted by the Rev. Ruth Billington at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church in Livonia.

The couple exchanged vows on Oct. 9, 1948, in Fargo, Mich., while he was serving in the U.S. Air Force. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and retired from the Air Force in 1969.



She is an avid gardener and is interested in church activities and crafts.

They have been active in the community and the Disabled American Veterans since moving to Livonia in 1956.

Kietur

Alex and Mary Jane Kietur of Garden City will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on April 23.

The couple was married at St. Raphael Catholic Church in Garden City in 1949. She is the former Mary Jane Brossoit.

They have three married sons - Alex and wife Patrice, David

and wife Carol and Edward and wife Katie - and five grandchildren - Kevin, Matthew, Lucas, Nicole and Jessica.

He retired from General Motors in 1993. She was a long-time employee of Woolworth's. They enjoy gardening, camping in the Upper Peninsula and spending time with their grandchildren.

Rocholl

Harold "Rocky" and JoAnn Rocholl of Plymouth are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary by spending a weekend at the Valley Plaza Resort in Midland with their children.

The couple exchanged vows on May 11, 1949, in Florida. She is the former JoAnn Cole.

They have four children - Lynn Horne of Inkster, Rick of Dearborn Heights, Gordon of Jefferson City, Mo., and Mary of Grosse Ile. They also have seven grandchildren.

Retired for 12 years, the Rocholls enjoy monthlong driving trips out West, golfing, spending time at the casinos and



helping keep their condominium association running smoothly.

Read Taste on Sunday



IT'S A SPRINT PCS GRAND OPENING

Of course there are prizes...

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Get \$50 of free wireless airtime with any Sprint PCS Free & Clear Plan, good until May 9.

Enter for a chance to win a 27-inch Sony Color TV.

Also, enter for a chance to win the "Mommy Clearest" gift package which includes a one-night stay at AmeriSuites Hotel, dinner at Macaroni Grill in Livonia and a four-pack of AMC movie passes.

Meet Kevin O'Neil from Q95 from 3pm to 5pm.

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Sex's price tag

Teenagers to hear abstinence message

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@oe.homecomm.net

Pam Stenzel has a message for high school students: Sex has a price tag.

Stenzel will take her message to teens at 10 area high schools and present to parents and teens at a youth rally and dinner benefit during a three-day visit May 5-7.

"I firmly believe that young people are capable of making good, healthy decisions, if they are given the facts," said Stenzel, the founder and director of Straight Talk, an organization established for the purpose of educating teens about the issues of sexuality and the importance of chastity. "The problem with most 'sex education' is that teens are given half truths and are not made aware of all the consequences of their decisions."

This is the fourth year that the AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center in Livonia has brought Stenzel to the metropolitan area to speak to teens about abstinence.

The center tries to get Stenzel into nine-10 schools each year and broke new ground this year with five schools signing on for the first time, according to David West, the center's executive director.

"There are some schools we're still not able to get into, but most that have had her want her back," West said. "She talks about all the things that can happen with premarital sex and getting pregnant is not the worst. She encourages teens to abstain and tells them there's no such thing as 100 percent. Condoms don't work safe every time."

"She's not pushy, she gives consequence for actions," said counselor Claudia Turnquist of Stenzel's talk at Ladywood High School. "She was very positive. Kids waited after to talk to her and parents called later to thank the school."

"Pam is very sincere, very well-informed, an excellent com-

unicator, and has great rapport with the audience," said student activities director Ron Pote of her presentation at Livonia Franklin High School, "All eyes were on Pam for the entire hour."

Busy schedule
This year, Stenzel is scheduled to make one-hour presentations at Divine Child, Detroit Northwestern, Southfield Christian; Novi, Crestwood, Walled Lake Central, Western Fairlane Christian and Redford Union High schools and Henry Ford Academy.

She also will conduct an area-wide abstinence youth rally 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 5, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township.

Previous rallies have attracted up to 500 teens and West is hoping to do better this year. The church auditorium can seat up to 1,700 people.

She will close out her stay by being the keynote speaker at the AAA Crisis' ninth annual banquet 6 p.m. Thursday, May 6, at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, Livonia. Tickets for the banquet are \$25 each or sponsorships of tables of 10 for \$225. They can be ordered through Monday, May 3, by calling Ginger Bloomfield at (734) 425-8060.

The banquet is a major fundraiser for the center which relies heavily on donations to minister to the emotional, physical and spiritual needs of women with crisis pregnancies. It also holds a walkathon in September and an auction in November to meet the

needs of its clients.

The center also gets 5 percent of every Meijer, Farmer Jack and Kroger gift certificate it sells. But much of the financial support comes from businesses, individuals, 20-30 churches that help on a regular basis and one-time donations.

West admits it's getting harder and harder to meet the budget as the demand for its free services increases. The center currently is \$10,000 under budget.

Free services

The center provides pregnancy testing, counseling about abortion alternatives and sexually transmitted diseases, birth and parenting classes and material goods (infant clothing, diapers, infant care products and furniture and maternity clothing) to its clients.

"Each year, it's a struggle to make budget," West said. "People like to donate for the babies, but there's the bills for the rent

and the lights. We can't do the ministry without money. It's the only way to keep the doors open and keep responding to the needs of the clients."

West has a plan - a \$1 million trust fund that, once fully invested, would provide proceeds for two-thirds of the money needed to keep the center open. Started a year ago, the fund has \$11,000 in it and it has shown a \$1,200 return since being invested in a mutual fund. West estimates the return would be \$127,000, if the trust topped \$1 million, almost three-quarters of this year's \$160,000 budget.

West is open to any and all contributions, adding the 10,000 people want to give \$100 or 1 million people want to give \$1 to reach the goal it's OK with him. The Garden City Christian Center which supports the center year-round, contributed \$1,000 to the trust in monthly installments.

"Our only recourse is the trust fund; it keeps pumping out money," West said. "We would keep the fund-raisers, but they could be fun raisers, a fun time for people who support the ministry."

"It would be nicer if we could have fun and not have to worry about the money."

Area Alzheimer's chapter seeks respite volunteers

The Alzheimer's Association Detroit Area Chapter is recruiting volunteers to assist with its in-home respite program for residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

Trained volunteers provide respite for the caregivers of people afflicted by Alzheimer's disease or another memory impairment.

Volunteers donate four to 16

hours per month. They receive extensive training by skilled professionals prior to placement. They also are reimbursed for mileage during the training and travel to and from placement sites. Day, evening and Saturday hours are available.

People interested in becoming a volunteer and attend training in May can call (248) 557-8277 for more information.

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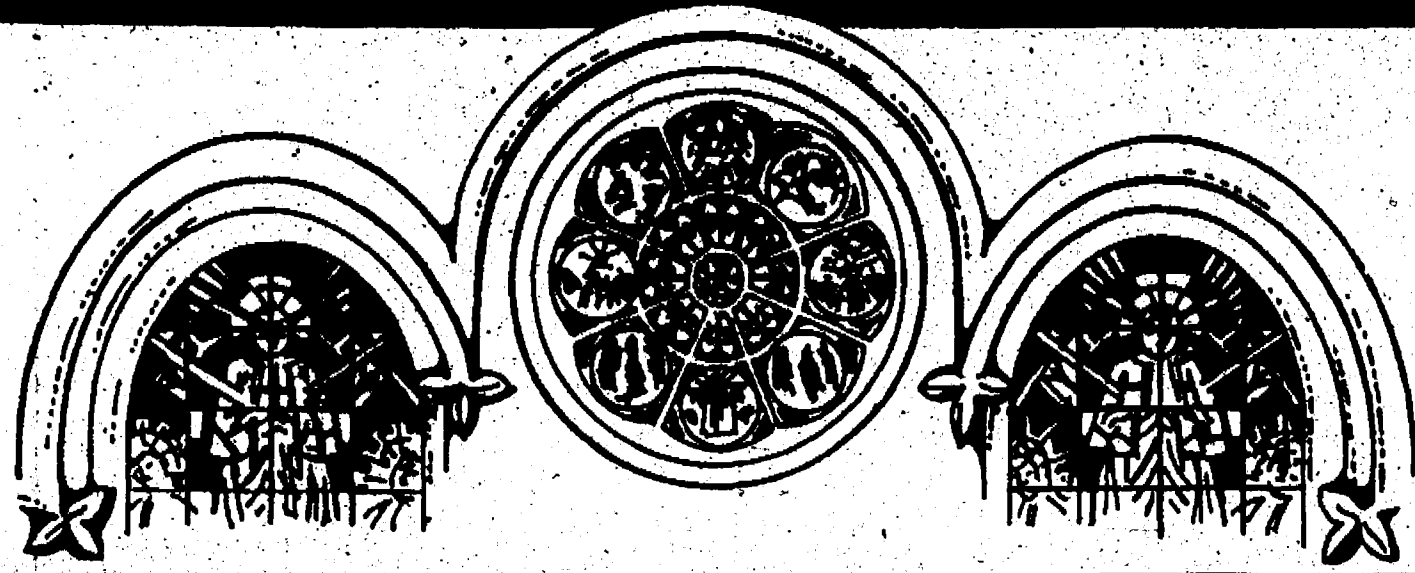
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FOR INFORMATION REGARDING ADVERTISING IN THIS DIRECTORY PLEASE CALL RICH VICULIN (734) 953-2069.

BETHEL BAPTIST TEMPLE
29475 W. Six Mile, Livonia
525-3664 or 261-9276

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.

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May 2nd
11:00 a.m. Guest Speaker
8:00 p.m. Guest Speaker

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Contemporary Service
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6:00 P.M. in the Chapel
Nursery Provided

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
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Virgil Humes, Pastor

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Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

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Sunday Morning 9:15 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30

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Risen Christ Lutheran
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(1 Mile West of Sheldon)
Plymouth • 453-5252

Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Family Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Pastor David Martin
Hugh McMartin, Lay Minister

Grand River Baptist Church
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Rev. Lawrence Witto

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313-937-2233

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3003 Hansen Rd., Wayne (corner of Glenwood & Hansen)
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Sunday Morning Worship Services
Traditional Services 8 & 11 am
Contemporary Service 9:30 am
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Wednesday Night Service 7 pm
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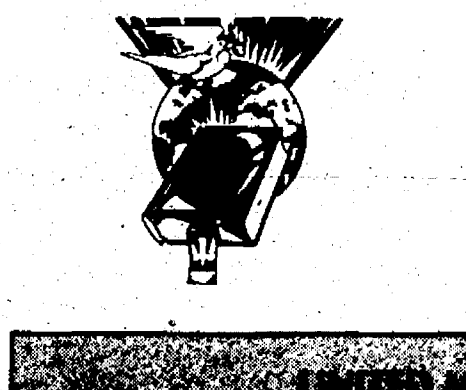
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Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.



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422-0149

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9:15 & 11:00 a.m.

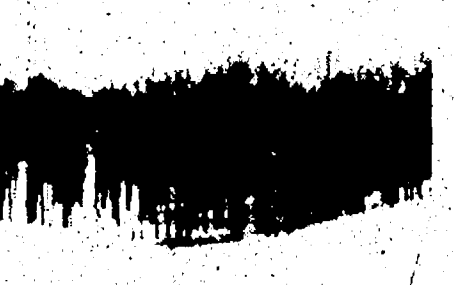
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9:30 a.m. - Contemporary, Family
11:00 a.m. - Traditional, Full Choir
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9:30-Adults; 11:00-Children-Adults

Scripture/John 21:1-19
Focus/Disciples and Peter
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RELIGIOUS NEWS

Trinity hosts speaker on church and family

Theologian and writer Rodney Clapp will be the featured speaker at a seminar, "The Church as First Family: The Challenge of Christian Community in a Consumer Society," 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, May 8, at Trinity Church in Livonia.

"The Church as First Family" is made up of three sessions, each followed by a question-and-answer period. This event is part of the ongoing mission of Trinity Church to address current issues of relevance to Christians.

Advance reservations are \$20 with a student rate of \$15 (at the door, the cost is \$25, if seats are available). Lunch is included. The church is at 14900 Middlebelt. To register or for more information, call the Rev. Michael A. Van Horn, pastor, at (734) 425-2800.

As a student of American religious culture, Clapp plans to

focus his attention on four primary concerns about the direction of the modern church.

In the first session, "Consumerism and the Lost Art of Christian Family," Clapp will discuss the destructive influence of a "consumer mentality" in religion. A far-too-prevalent trend in contemporary American Christianity is churches advertising themselves like products, he says.

Clapp argues that the message of the church isn't commodified and is seriously distorted when cast in the consumer or market model. When the church member is reduced to the role of a "religious consumer," then taste takes priority over truth and the disciple is less inclined to actively serve and more prone to passively consume.

In the second session, "The Church as First Family," Clapp will speak about the impor-

tance of the church family as the place of belonging and of true family identity for the Christian.

In somewhat surprising words, he writes, "The biological family is not the most important institution on earth. . . . Instead, Clapp suggests that for the Christian, church should be 'first family' with a new set of family values shaped by God as the loving Father.

The final session, "No Christian Home is a Haven," will challenge an overly sentimentalized view of the nuclear family prevalent in the contemporary church.

Churches often "idealize" nuclear family as the ultimate Christian value. So much so, Clapp suggests, that singles, divorcees, widows and childless couples often feel marginalized in the church setting.

A solution is to restore the Christian community as a peo-

ple of love and service to one another, permitting singles and childless couples to share in the blessings and responsibilities of child-rearing while giving over-wrought parents some much-needed assistance.

For those who are interested, the discussion will continue at 5 p.m. over dinner at local restaurant for an additional cost.

On Sunday, May 9, Clapp will be the guest preacher at the 10:45 a.m. service of Trinity Church. His sermon topic, based on the Scripture Ephesians 2:11-22 is "No Longer Patriots or Consumers: A Call to Christian Citizenship."

Clapp is the author of four books, including "Families at the Crossroads" and "A Peculiar People," a 1997 "Christianity Today" book of the year.

He has served as an editor of InterVarsity Press and "Christianity Today" and is a con-



Rodney Clapp

tributing editor of "The Consuming Passion: Christianity and the Consumer Culture."

Listings 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. For more information, call (734) 953-2131.

MOM'S SALE
Table space is available through Thursday, April 29, for St. Theodore Parish's annual Moms to Moms Market 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1. The resale fair will be held in the church social hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland, and will feature gently used baby and children's clothing, toys and miscellaneous equipment plus maternity items. For more information, call (734) 425-4421 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. 522-0138.

RUMMAGE SALES
Newburg United Methodist Church will have a spring rummage sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 30, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 1, at the church, 6500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Clothes, housewares, toys, furniture, craft items, Christmas store, jewelry and more will be featured.

Unity of Livonia will have a "Previously Owned Treasure Sale" 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 2, in the fellowship hall of the church, 28860 Five Mile, Livonia.

The First United Methodist Church of Wayne will have its Spring Rummage Sale and Plus Room 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, May 7, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 8, at the church, 3739 Newberry, across from the post office, Wayne. There will be a bake shop and refreshments and the Plus Room, featuring collectibles, antiques, designer clothes, glassware and better furniture. Saturday will be \$1.50 a bag day (excluding the Plus Room). For more information, call the church office at (734) 721-4801.

ART AUCTION
St. Edith Christian Service will host an art auction by Park West Galleries 7 p.m. Friday, April 30, at the church 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Admission will be \$5. There will be an hour-long preview, featuring hors d'oeuvres and champagne punch.

with auction starting at 8 p.m. The works of popular contemporary artists as well as lithographs of more prominent artists will be auctioned off. Proceeds will benefit St. Edith Christian Service and St. Edith Youth Ministry. For more information, call (734) 464-1222.

IN CONCERT
World-renowned composer-singer David Haas will be in concert 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 30, at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley Road, Canton.

Haas is highly regarded as one of the preeminent liturgical composers in the English-speaking world. He has produced more than 25 collections of liturgic music.

Haas will be joined by local musicians Stephen Petrunak and Zack Stachowski, both of Sterling Heights. Petrunak has distinguished himself as a guitarist and composer. At age 15, Stachowski is an accomplished violinist who performs with the

Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Concert tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children and \$20 for an entire family in advance and \$10, \$5 and \$25, respectively, at the door. Haas's recordings and related materials will be for sale the evening of the concert. Call (734) 844-8404 for tickets.

On Saturday, May 1, Haas will conduct a Day of Renewal for people involved in liturgical ministry - eucharistic ministers, lecturers, musicians and choir members, ministers of hospitality, liturgists and pastoral staff. Participants will gain a stronger understanding of their role in the church and come away with a renewed sense of purpose and spirituality. The workshop costs \$20.

'CHANGING WORLD'

The deadline for registering for St. Andrew's Episcopal Church program for women, "Coping in a Changing World," will be Saturday, May 1. The program will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, May 15, at the church, 16360 Hubbard, Livonia.

Registration is \$30 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Registration fees can be sent to Char Camfeld, 17235 Cove Drive, Northville 48167. For more information, call (248) 348-7549.

Featured will be Elise Arndt, director of Women's Ministries at Faith Lutheran Church in Troy and host of the radio program, "Common Sense Living."

FRIENDS DAY

The Church of Christ-West will have Friends Day Sunday, May 2, at the church, Six Mile and Farmington roads, Livonia. Bible study will be at 10 a.m., worship at 11 a.m. and a fellowship dinner at 12:30 p.m. For more information, call (734) 513-5056 or (248) 478-1499.

PEACE TALK

Ronald Stockton will present "Jerusalem and the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Talks" 9:45 a.m. Sunday, May 2, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church,

27475 Five Mile, Livonia.

Stockton is a professor of political science at the University of Michigan-Dearborn and a research associate at the University of Michigan Center for Middle East and North African Studies. He has a special interest in the role of religion in the political process, a topic which he has written several articles and co-authored a book, "A Time of Turmoil."

For more information, call the church at (734) 422-1470.

PARISH NURSING

A new program of parish nursing will begin at Nativity United Church of Christ in Livonia, following the 11:45 a.m. worship service in the library of the church, 9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago, Livonia.

The program will be directed by the Rev. Ida Reifanier, who has a degree from Bangor Seminary in Maine, attended Yale University as a public health nurse and completed training in certified pastoral education.

Please see RELIGION, B5

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Saturday, May 1

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As a special attraction, the new, limited edition collector's figurine "Peaceful Offering" will be available as part of an amazing offer. Purchase this festive glass and forest friends and you'll receive the "Friendship in Bloom" HummelScape®. HummelScape® is no additional charge.

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Religion from page B7

Parish nursing assists and empowers individuals to become more active partners in the management of their personal health resources and helps transform the faith community into a greater source of health and healing.

NEW BEGINNINGS
On Wednesday, May 5, the church also will begin its Women of the Bible series. Lead by Reifmeyer, the group will meet 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call the church at (734) 421-5406.

WIND AND FIRE
Life in the Holy Spirit Seminars will be presented 7 p.m. Mondays through May 17 at St. Bernadine of Sienna Church, 31463 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. For more information, call the church at (734) 522-0138.

RETIREMENT SEMINAR
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church will sponsor a "Money Matters at Retirement: What You Don't Know Could Hurt You" seminar Tuesday, May 4, at the church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. For more information and reservations, call the church, at (734) 458-7932.

The seminar is one of the requirements for the church's Aid Association for Lutherans Branch 5058 to receive a Gold Star rating by the fraternal benefit society in recognition of outstanding volunteer service to the community.

The branch has 540 members,

led by Charles Gray of Livonia as chairman, Kay Gray of Livonia as recorder and Mel Tornow of Garden City as treasurer.

NEW BEGINNINGS
The Rev. Kurt Stutz will speak about "Help for the Family in Grief" when New Beginnings, a grief support group, meets 7 p.m. Thursday, May 6, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, east of Merriman, Livonia. 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.

PRAYER AND PRAISE
As part of the National Day of Prayer, a prayer and praise service will be held 7 p.m. Thursday, May 6, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church-Canton campus, 46001 Warren Road. The service, sponsored by the Board of Women's Ministry, will focus on the greatness of the Lord and petitions for the nation and its leaders, churches, community and families.

The theme for the National Day of Prayer is "Light the Nation ... with Prayer." The observance was established by federal law in 1952 when the U.S. Congress signed a joint res-

olution, signed by President Harry Truman. The law was amended in 1988, designating the first Thursday in May as the official National Day of Prayer.

For more information, call Suann Dibble at (734) 522-6830.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
Church Women United Suburban West-Detroit will celebrate Fellowship Day, Friday, May 7, at the First United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River, Farmington. The program, "God's Sweet Surprises: Angels, Mentors and Friends," will be at 9:15 a.m. and includes a continental breakfast. The cost will be \$2. Participants should bring their Love pillows for the children's hospitals.

For reservations and baby-sitting, call Betty Haines at (313) 535-8355. The deadline for registering is May 2.

MYSTERY DINNER
St. Matthew's United Methodist Church will stage a mystery dinner, "The Mild, Mild West," at 6:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 7-8, at the church, 30900 W. Six Mile, Livonia.

An evil villain is trying to wrest control of the Bar-B-Q dude ranch from Sweet Sue Sobright. Her only hope rests with a clumsy and not-very-bright cowboy named Tex Toogood.

Can the hero save the ranch? Come and see if you can solve the mystery. Compete with other

tables to see if you can win the evening's prize.

Tickets, including dinner, are \$12 for adults and \$10 for youth 8-12 years old. The deadline for ordering tickets is Saturday, May 1. They are available from Nancy Wasson, St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 303900 Six Mile, Livonia 48162, or by calling (734) 426-2326.

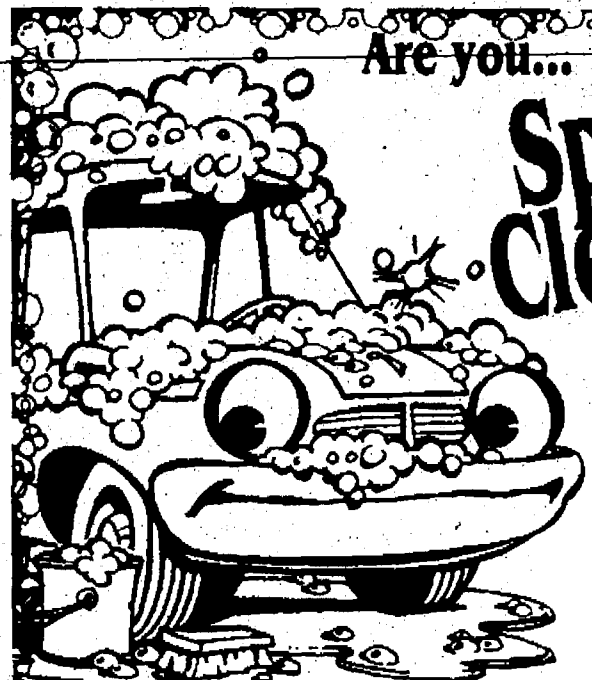
'DOLLS GALORE'
"Dolls Galore" will be the theme of a mother and daughter banquet Friday, May 7, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Isabel Stanton will talk about "The Joy of Loving and Making Dolls." Participants are invited to bring a favorite doll to share at the doll table (security will be provided).

Tickets are \$7 for mothers and daughters ages 13 and older, \$4 for daughters ages 4-12 and free for daughters age 3 and under. For tickets, call Bev Brest at (734) 459-9765.

SPRING CARD PARTY
St. Hilary Rosary Altar Society will have its annual spring card party 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 14, at the church, 23901 Elmira, Redford. There will be a dessert buffet table, table prizes, door prizes and raffle prizes. The cost will be \$6 and reservations can be made by calling Betty at (313) 533-8239 or Dorothy at (313) 533-5698.

Announcement forms available

Have an announcement to make? Forms are available to announce an engagement, wedding, anniversary and birth at our offices at 38251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, or 794 S. Main St., Plymouth. For more information, call Sus Mason at (734) 953-2131 or Tiffany Lacey at (734) 489-2700.



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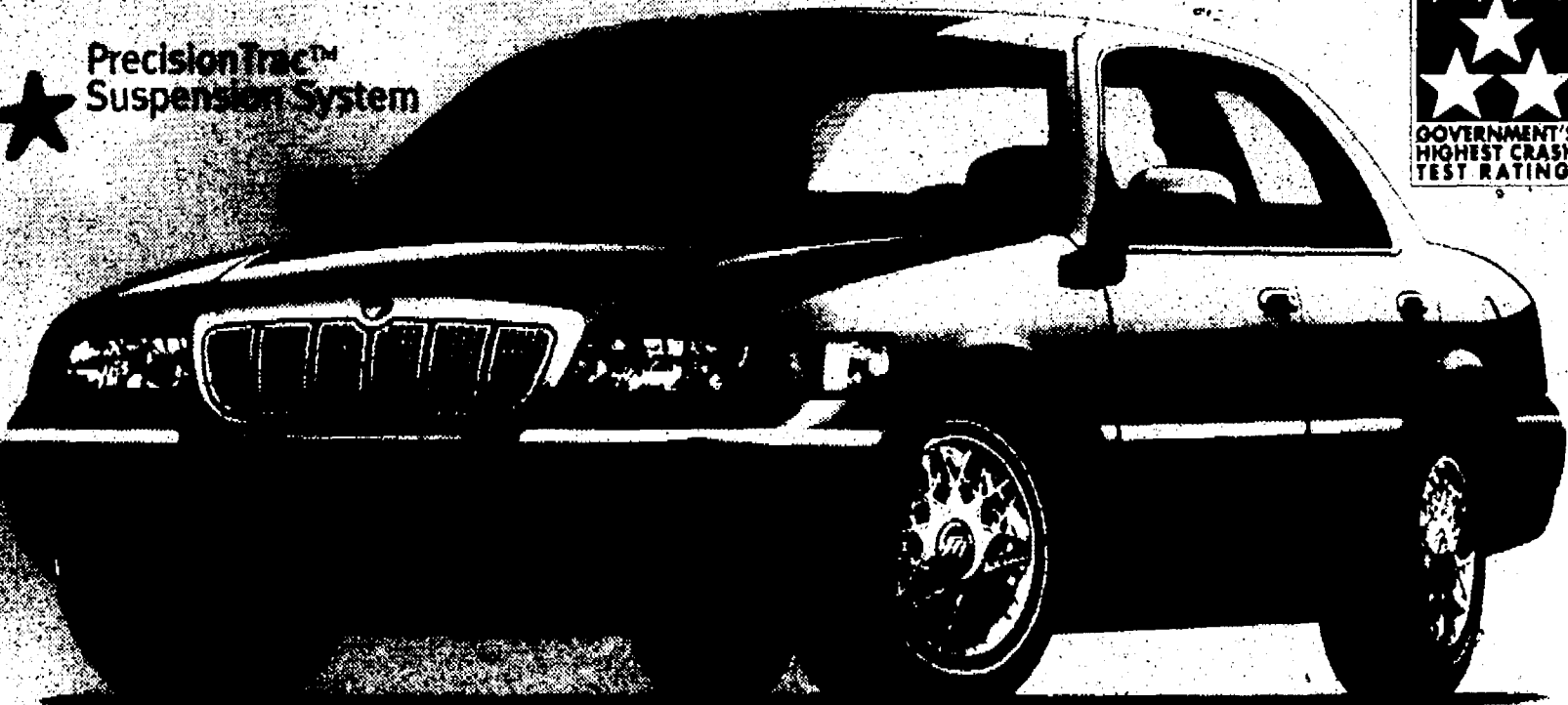


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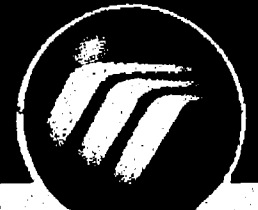
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Observer Sports

The Observer

INSIDE
Prep baseball, C2
Girls soccer, C5

L/W Page 1, Section C

Thursday, April 29, 1999

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Lasers rule regional

■ The Livonia Lasers, a girls 11 AAU basketball team, captured the regional title Sunday with a come-from-behind 26-24 win over the Downriver Ravens Red Team at Riverview High School.

The Lasers, who overcame an early 11-point second-half deficit, finished 3-0 in tourney play and advance to the state tourney May 7-9 in Grand Rapids.

Members of the Lasers, coached by Jim Rhodes and Mike Trosell, include: Katie Armbruster, Amy Bodnar, Marissa DiPonio, Dawn Drabicki, Emily Hipple, Wendy Hoots, Courtney Jekot, Robyn Johnson, Nicole Koterba, Jamie Rhodes, Meghan Robitaille, Megan Szczypka and Lauren Trosell.

■ The 10-and-under Lasers also qualified for the state tournament in Grand Rapids by defeating the Ravens, 16-13, and the Lady Saints, 24-18, last weekend in Riverview.

Members of the Lasers, coached by Bill Leaga, include: Trisha Morrill, Roya St. Clair, Robyn Whalen, Chelsea Nugent, Kerry Shipley, Amber Drabicki, Allie Dibella, Diann Ganas, Renee Farah, Amanda Allie, Haley Michalsen, Korrie Kelly, Ashley Wilbanks, Sara Skender, Jackie Dabkowski.

Assistant coaches include Charlie Shipley, Dale Drabicki and Jim Kelly.

Ladywood skater 2nd

Freshman Katie Haller of Livonia Ladywood took second in the intermediate freeskate at the inaugural Michigan High School Figure Skating Championships Saturday at the Plymouth Cultural Center Ice Arena.

Haller finished runner-up to Susan Rzeppa of Wyandotte Roosevelt.

Over 70 skaters from 10 school competed in the event hosted by the Plymouth Figure Skating Club and sanctioned by the U.S. Figure Skating Association.

Wyandotte Roosevelt took the overall team title followed by Dearborn Divine Child and Grosse Pointe.

Eller meets Pele

Tom Eller, a junior at Livonia Stevenson, recently competed for the U.S. Youth Soccer Association Region II Olympic Development Team which finished 2-2-1 against some of the top youth teams of professional club in the Sao Paulo, Brazil area.

Eller, a two-time All-Observer first-team selection, also got to meet former World Cup star Pele at the famed Santos Club in Brazil.

Youth soccer champions

The Vardar II under-11 boys soccer team finished 5-0 en route to the Countryside Easter Invitational Soccer Tournament title in Clearwater, Fla.

Vardar, coached by Les Neal, defeated the Palm Beach, Fla. Hornets in the finals, 4-0.

Vardar also took first during the Michigan Youth Soccer League fall season and the Ohio Forest Park Invitational Tournament in November.

Team members include: Gary Basin, Matthew Szczepanski, David Anderson, Pranav Lohita, Mike Rosenbergh, Jake Gordon, Zachary Reyes, B.J. Still, Jesse Henderson, Eric James, John Schaefer, Pete Leonhard, Philip Lawrence, Mike Palmieri, Scott Wlosek, Colby Cunningham and Chris Ohlgart.

The assistant coach is Rocco Mitkov.

McKelvey earns mention

Schoolcraft College guard Derek McKelvey (Adrian), who helped the Ocelots to their first-ever state men's basketball championship and a 26-5 overall record, recently received honorable mention All-America honors from the National Junior College Athletic Association (Division I).

The 6-foot-3 McKelvey, who has signed with Tennessee-Martin, averaged 16 points and had a total of 224 three-pointers during his two-year career at Schoolcraft.

He shot 70 percent from the free throw line and 43 percent from beyond the arc.

To submit items for the Observer Sports Scene, write to: Brad Emons, 36252 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150; or send via fax to (734) 591-7279.

Soccer's Godfather

Scicluna dies in tragic auto accident

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER
bemons@oe.homecomm.net

Nearly 1,000 turned out Wednesday to pay tribute to Paul Scicluna, the man who championed and nurtured the sport of soccer in this area.

Scicluna, the head women's soccer coach at Eastern Michigan University, was killed Saturday afternoon during a one-car rollover accident while traveling in his 1999 Chevy Blazer heading northbound on US-23 in Monroe County.

Scicluna, 57, was returning from a recruiting trip in Ohio.

Mourners packed the indoor field at Total Soccer of Wixom, one of four metro area facilities Scicluna co-operated with EMU men's coach Brian Tinnion.

Scicluna, a native of Malta who came

to the U.S. at age 14, was remembered as father figure who put soccer on the map in the Livonia community and branched out into other areas.

EMU assistant men's coach Walt Barrett, who played for Scicluna in the old Bonanza Express League (now Little Caesars) as a 13-year-old, may have summed up best Scicluna's influence on his beloved game.

"He got everything going 25 years ago, he's the Godfather of soccer, at least on the west side of town," said Barrett, who coached the Livonia Stevenson High team to two state titles. "No, he's the Godfather of soccer for the entire state of Michigan."

Tinnion, longtime business associate Total Soccer, called the Farmington Hills resident "an originator, a creator, an instigator, and a composer."

"He was like a father, big brother, business partner and co-coach — all

rolled into one," said the former Detroit Express player and Detroit Rockers coach. "I've probably had more debates and discussions with him over the years than anybody else — we always voiced our opinions and he had to be right 70 to 80 percent of the time, but when it was over there was never any animosity."

Scicluna, who came from a large family of multiple siblings, graduated from Detroit Western High School in 1958 and went on to play in the Detroit Soccer League from 1963-68.

His first job was sweeping floors in Detroit's Corktown.

Twenty years later, Scicluna would own a chain of flower shops in the metro area, including his anchor store, Livonia Florist.

Living in Livonia during the 1970s, Please see SCICLUNA, C5

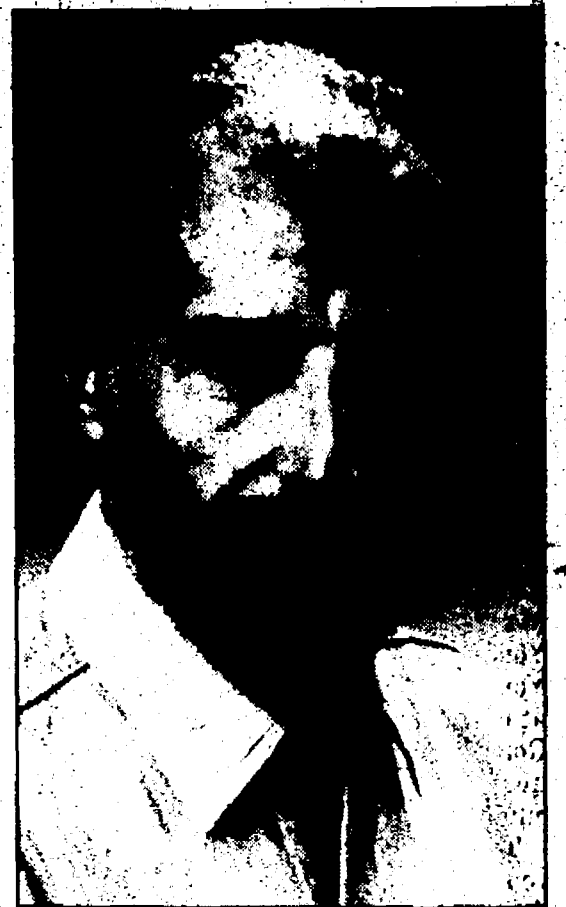


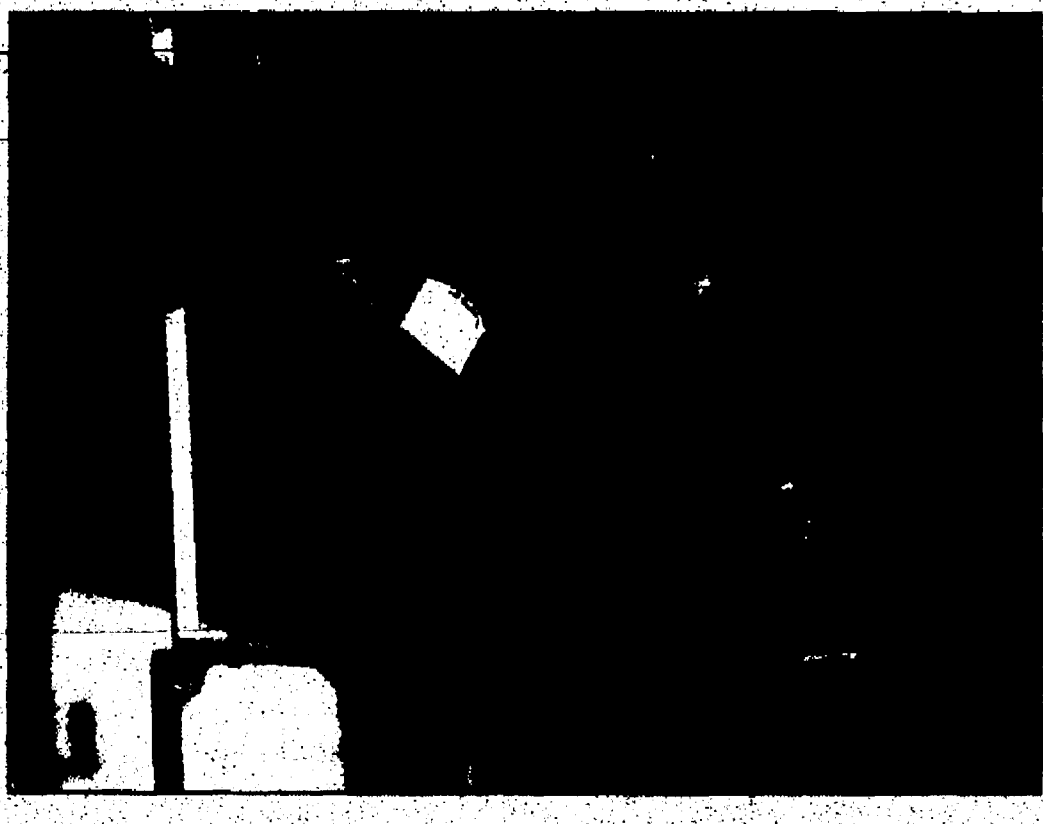
PHOTO COURTESY OF EMU SPORTS INFORMATION
Pioneer: Paul Scicluna was responsible for initiating the sport in western suburbs.

Rockets outduel Wayne



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM RAWLEY

Field level: Wayne Memorial's Kwame Hampton (left, top photo) hits the finish line ahead of Westland John Glenn's Rob Gentry in the 400-meter relay in the boys meet. In the girls meet, Glenn high jumper LaToya Chandler, clears the bar. See meet summary on Page C4.



Rocks, Churchill expect to duel at Observerland

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER
bemons@oe.homecomm.net

It's always on the same day as the Kentucky Derby, traditional on the first day in May — the 29th running of the Observerland Boys Track Relays.

And it looks like it should be a two-horse race Saturday at Redford Union's Kraft Alumni Track.

Defending champion Plymouth Salem, which ran away with the title last season with 112 points, could be pushed by upstart Livonia Churchill.

The Chargers, who scored 53.5 a year ago to edge North Farmington for second place, could be charging hard at the finish line this season.

Another team that could have been in the money, but will probably not contend for the title this year is Redford Catholic Central.

The Shamrocks will have a split squad this weekend.

CC, boasting a strong distance crew and potent throwing contingent led by Nick Brzezinski, will send some of its varsity athletes Friday to the Jackson Invitational, while some will compete Saturday at Observerland.

Brzezinski, however, will go to both meets.

The Duke-bound griddler has thrown an eye-popping 186-1 in the discus at Saturday's Monroe Invitational and 54-1 in the shot put.

Any dark horses in the field?

Unlikely at this stage. "We're hoping to repeat," Salem coach Geoff Baker said. "We always go into this to win. It's for bragging rights in our area. You have to perform at big meets, and this is a big meet."

What do the Rocks need to do in order to emerge victorious?

"We have to have all our people step up," Baker said. "We need to score everywhere, in every event. I think we can — that's what it takes to win."

Salem will certainly miss middle distance star Ian Searcy, who has graduated and gone on to Central Michigan. And the Rocks will be without top sprinter Mike Shull, who is out until next week with a pulled hamstring.

"I think we're more balanced, which makes us a little stronger," Baker said. "Our balance is really good this year,

BOYS TRACK

29th annual OBSERVERLAND BOYS TRACK RELAYS
When: Saturday, May 1
Where: Redford Union's Kraft Alumni Track, 26440 Puritan (at Kinloch between Five and Six Mile roads, Beech Daly and Inkster roads)
Teams invited: Redford Union, Redford, Thurston, Redford St. Agatha, Redford Catholic Central, Redford Bishop Borgess, Garden City, Plymouth Salem, Plymouth Canton, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson, Farmington, North Farmington, Farmington Hills Harrison, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Northville, Southfield-Lathrup.
Order of events: 9:30 p.m. field events (pole vault, high jump, discus, shot put, long jump); 6 p.m. preliminaries (110-meter hurdles, 100 dash); 6:30 p.m. final events (6,400 relay, 110 hurdles, distance medley, 800 relay, 1,600 run, 3,200 relay, 100 dash, sprint medley, shuttle hurdle relay, 400 relay, 1,600 relay).
Admission: \$3 adults; \$1 elementary students.
MEET OFFICIALS
Head referee: Dave Mattingly; head field judge: Art Opalach; head starters: Kermit Ambrose, Bob Kirkland; meet manager: Larry Freeman; course clerk: Brian McKenna; time judge: Marty Gallo; head timer: Ed Gabry; marshal-inspectors: Tarp London, Ron Buchanan; announcer: Pat Hansen; honorary meet manager: Dan O'Meara, Farmington sports editor.

but we lack in certain events. Still, all of our distance guys are around and running better than ever. We didn't lose any hurdlers, and our sprinters are running times as good as last year.

Salem's distance team is strong led by Nick Allen, Jon and Craig Little and Bobby Cushman.

"They are running real well, and we have kids to fill in behind them," Baker said. "I'm hoping to see a real good mile this year."

CC will ride the legs of one of the state's top hurdlers, senior Ryan Kearney, who is headed to Western Michigan.

Kearney ran 14.4 to win the Observerland 110-meter hurdles last year and could be a threat to break the 1995 mark of 14.1 set by Wayne Memorial's Ken Riley.

Last weekend, Churchill, the Livonia City champions, finished runner-up.

Please see OBSERVERLAND, C5

Register for training

■ Name: _____

■ Organization(s) you represent: _____

■ Address: (include city and zip code) _____

■ Telephone: (work and home) _____

■ Current e-mail address: _____

■ Type of computer you have: _____

■ First choice for training session:

■ Second choice for training session:

■ Check No.: _____

Build a Web site for your team on mihometown.com



Has Little League practice time changed? Do you want to know the score of Friday night's high school basketball games?

Want to sign up people for your soccer or hockey team, but you don't want to do a mass mailing or spend hours on the telephone? You need a site on the World Wide Web.

Now, thanks to a new service being offered by the Observer Newspapers, you can have one, free and easy. (See related story on Page A1.)

Mihometown.com makes creating a Web page as easy as clicking a mouse. And for community sports groups, such pages may offer an outlet not available anywhere else.

Brion Roberto, manager of the Observer & Eccentric Enhanced Media Department, said everyone from Little League teams to sports clubs to bowling leagues to school sports teams can have their own Web pages where they can post scores of games almost instantaneously, recruit new members, pass along team news, post calendars of events, provide links to other related Web pages, or just enter a chat room to talk with other participants.

"With this new service, not just the school, but each team for each sport could have its own Web site," he said.

Users can post comments on message boards and send e-mail

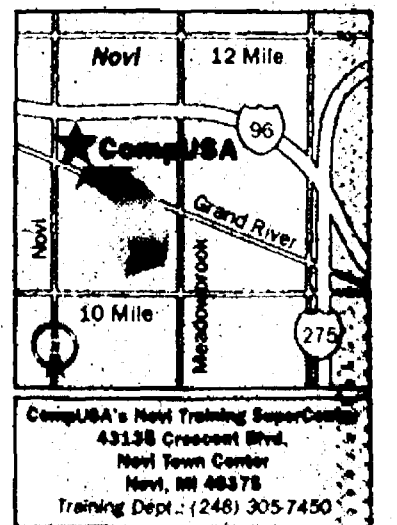
to other participants with just one mouse click.

Coaches or managers can have their own private areas on the site if they want to share information that they don't want the world to see.

And Roberto said that bringing many local groups' Web sites together in one place creates a sense of community, in addition to making the sites easier to find. Training sessions are scheduled for 6:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 12, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 15, and 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, May 19, at CompUSA in the Novi Town Center.

Each session will last two and a half hours, after which Roberto said, you will be ready to set up your site.

You can fill out the attached coupon and send a check payable to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers or register online with a credit card at this secure site <http://oeonline.com/mihometown> or call Jennifer Murray at (734) 953-2038 for more information. Space is limited.



Unbeaten Shamrocks hold off Irish

Unbeaten Redford Catholic Central passed a key phase in its Catholic League Central Division baseball schedule Saturday by sweeping a double-header from host Harper Woods Notre Dame, 14-1 and 3-2.

CC is now 10-0 overall and 8-0 in the Central.

In Game No. 1, Eastern Michigan University bound Anthony Tomey tossed his second no-hitter of the season in a five-inning mercy-rule shortened game. He struck out 11 and walked three.

CC scored eight times in the opening inning on a 2-run double by Chris Woodruff, an RBI sacrifice fly by Dave Lusky and a Tomey RBI single.

The Shamrocks added six in the fourth highlighted by Lusky's RBI double, a Tomey sacrifice fly and a Nick DiBella RBI single.

In Game No. 2, CC overcame just four hits and sloppy defense (five errors) for the one-run victory.

Notre Dame scored one in second inning, one in third.

CC countered with three three in fourth. Lusky and Tomey both reached base on errors, while Matt Lorigas walked.

John Hill, pinch hitting, walked to force in a run.

Mario D'Herrin then singled in a run and Bob Malek followed with an RBI walk.

CHURCHILL 15, EDSSEL FORD 1: John Bennett doled out two hits Tuesday in the mercy win, which left the Chargers with a 4-3 record.

Bennett worked five innings, walking three and striking out two. Mike Thoms was the losing pitcher.

Churchill, the visitor, got home runs from Eric Lightie and Josh Odom. Lightie went 3-for-3 with four RBI and four runs while Odom went 2-for-3 with a home run and two RBI. Andrew Blackmore had a 2-for-4 game.

REDFORD UNION 11, JOHN GLENN 1: Junior right-hander Brad Michael won the mercy shortened game Tuesday for the host Panthers, walking one and striking out six in his four-hitter.

Mike Macek smacked a three-run home run for Redford Union (10-0). Matt Rigley had a double and RBI. Mike Taylor went 2-for-2 with a double and solo home run and Clint Stroble hit a two-run home run.

Jeff Mitchell took the loss for John Glenn, 4-3. Redford Union now has hit 15 home runs. It had nine hits.

GARDEN CITY 8, FRANKLIN 7: The Cougars spotted the Patriots seven runs in the first Tuesday but rallied for five in the seventh win.

Ryan Krol reached on an error to open the rally, then Robbie Hudson, Angelo DiMichele, Justin Ockerman and Jeff Fietemier each singled in runs.

Brent Pelz was walked intentionally to load the bases and Dan Childs, singled to tie the score. Jerry Minch's grounder to third drew a wide throw to the plate and was dropped for an error which permitted the winning run to score.

Nathan Briscoe was touched for seven runs in the first but Joe Samborski sparked in relief to pick up the win. He struck out ten and gave up just three hits.

Hudson, DiMichele and Ockerman each had three hits for the Cougars (4-3).

Brad Tibus had two hits for Franklin (1-5) while Ryan Tracy and Tom Jones each doubled and singled.

PREP BASEBALL

Jones had a third hit, a single.

"We've just got to find a way to win the tough games," Coach Jim Karoub of Franklin said. Tony Sala started and went 4 1/3 innings for the Patriots, with Joe Ruggiero coming in next and David Word losing in relief.

NORTH FARMINGTON 5, STEVENSON 3: Garry Penta and Evan Feldman combined on a five-hitter Monday for the Raiders to turn back the Spartans.

Feldman doubled and scored a run, Ross Patterson drove in two runs, Jason Melvin had two sacrifices and an RBI, Penta singled in a run and Matt Kelmigian had two hits with an RBI.

Penta worked the first six innings for host North Farmington (2-2, 1-1 in the WAAA), with Feldman working a hitless seventh to save it.

Stevenson (4-4, 1-1 in the WAAA) got an RBI from Pete Pinto. Brad Buckler scored two runs while Dan Wilson had two RBI.

Roy Rabe worked all seven innings for the Spartans, giving up seven hits. He struck out six, walked two and hit a batter.

JOHN GLENN 16, W.L. CENTRAL 8: It was, Coach Todd Duffield allowed "a beer league softball game."

That's what you get when one team (John Glenn) commits five errors and the other (Central) makes six.

The visiting Rockets pounded out 16 hits Monday while Dale Hayes tossed a five-hitter at the Vikings. Hayes worked six innings and gave up all eight runs, striking out six and walking four.

Hayes also went 4-for-4 with a double, scoring four times. Chad Sansom went 3-for-4 with a double and scored three runs.

Dan Fedulchak had two runs, drove in two runs and scored three while Mike Swofford counted a double among his two hits, driving in three and scoring three. Ryan Rattray also had a double and a single, driving in three runs.

Mike Higgins took the loss for Walled Lake Central.

CHURCHILL 11, W.L. WESTERN 4: Rick Strain tripled twice and had four stolen bases Monday as host Livonia Churchill (3-3, 1-1) toppled Walled Lake Western (2-5, 0-2) in a WAAA-Western Division encounter.

Strain also scored three runs, while Brad Bescoe contributed two hits and scored twice.

Eric Lightie had two RBI, while Tim Greenleaf, Josh Odom and Dave Wasil contributed one RBI apiece.

Trevor Johnson led Western with three hits.

Paul Mercler, who worked the first four innings, giving up seven hits and three runs, got the victory. He needed relief help from Bescoe and Justin Draughn.

Western's Nate Aubuchon, who pitched 5 1/3 innings, suffered the loss.

Churchill broke it open with six runs in the bottom of the sixth inning.

TRENTON 6, WAYNE 5: The host Trojans remained undefeated by choking off a Zebra rally in the top of the seventh.

Two errors helped Trenton score four times in the fifth Monday, breaking a 2-2 tie. Losing pitcher Ryan Dzyak worked 4 1/3 innings and gave up six runs but only one was earned.

Jeremy Overton had two hits and scored two runs for Wayne, Jon Judd hit two doubles to drive in a run and Gary Stevens had an RBI with two hits. The Zebras (1-7) are 1-2 in the Mega White.

Dan Lezotte and Andy Greene each had two hits for

Trenton (9-0), now 3-0 in the Mega White. Starter Brett Tirpak worked 6 1/3 innings for the win.

NORTHVILLE 6, FRANKLIN 3: Rob Reel tossed a four-hitter and struck out 11 Monday, lifting the visiting Mustangs (6-0, 2-0) to the WAAA-Western Division triumph over Livonia Franklin (1-4, 0-2).

Franklin's David Word also went the distance, allowing seven hits and four walks.

Tom Jones went 3-for-3 with a pair of RBI for Franklin. John Nagle knocked in the other Patriot run. He also scored a run.

Northville's top offensive weapon was Andy Borda, who finished 4-for-4 with a double and two RBI.

CHURCHILL 11, JOHN GLENN 10: In a WAAA crossover on April 21, host Livonia Churchill got a homer and three RBI from Carl Prokopchak to post the win over Westland John Glenn.

Eric Lightie chipped in with two hits and three RBI. Justin Fendelet paced Glenn with three hits and scored two runs.

Churchill hurler Paul Mercler, who worked 4 1/3 innings, got the victory.

Glenn's Dave Mijal took the loss.

ST. AGATHA 6, CLARENCEVILLE 4: The more battle-tested Aggies prevailed with five runs Tuesday in the final three innings.

Joe Starasinich worked 5 1/3 innings, fanning five, to get the win with Dan Mackie finishing up.

St. Agatha (7-5) got two hits each from Dave Moran, who also had three RBI, Andrew and Matt Ouellette. Jason Petty drove in two runs.

Losing pitcher John Wallace worked 4 1/3 innings. Clarenceville (1-2) got two hits apiece from Rey Gutierrez, Brian Pankow and Joe Lucas, who also had three RBI. Pankow stole two bases and scored twice while Lemmon had an RBI.

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 8, LUTHERAN N'WEST 5: Gordie Engel went 3-for-4, including a double and three runs scored Monday, lifting Lutheran High Westland (4-1 overall) to the Metro Conference victory over host Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest.

Winning pitcher Tom Habitz (2-1) gave up four earned runs, walked one and struck out six in the victory.

He also helped his own cause by knocking with a double and three RBI.

Engel and Habitz also combined for three stolen bases.

CRANBROOK 9, CLARENCEVILLE 1: Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook pitcher Rick Thompson fanned 10, while scattering nine hits and three walks to propel the host Cranes to a Metro Conference victory over Livonia Clarenceville (1-1, 0-1).

Kevin Silye, the Clarenceville starter, took the loss. Rey Gutierrez went 2-for-2 in a losing cause, while Scott Carr had an RBI single for the Trojans in the seventh inning to break up Thompson's shutout bid.

Scott Milewicz paced Cranbrook with three hits and three RBI.

STEVENSON 4-11, KENNEDY 1-2: Three runs in the top of the sixth Saturday gave the Spartans the first-game victory.

Jon Ritzler worked all seven innings to get the win, striking out six, walking five and giving Taylor Kennedy three hits. Phil Szumianski drove in two runs with a pair of sacrifice flies.

In the second game, six runs in the second and a 14-hit attack gave Livonia Stevenson enough of a cushion.

Mike Byberg struck out five and walked one in seven innings of four-hit ball. Dan Wilson went 2-for-3 and Roy Rabe 2-for-4 with three RBI.

Madonna pushes past .500 barrier

Jeff Warholik did just what he needed to do to get Madonna University's baseball team over the hump.

Warholik bested Ted Gebauer of Spring Arbor, 2-1, Tuesday in the first game of a doubleheader and the Crusaders went on to smash the Cougars, 8-2, in the second game.

The sweep pushed Madonna past break-even with a 19-17-1 record this season. The Crusaders are 9-9 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Ryan Parrott doubled home Wayne Forman to give visiting Spring Arbor a 1-0 lead in the fifth inning of the first game. But Madonna tied the score in the bottom of the sixth and Derrick Wolfe opened the bottom of the seventh with a dramatic game-winning home run, his ninth of the season.

Warholik (4-3) was rewarded for his three-hit effort. He walked six, struck out three and drove home the tying run.

James O'Connor (3-1) spun a six-hitter in the second game. Jason Brooks, Wolfe and Neil Wildfong each had two hits. Nick-Dedeluk and Wildfong each had three RBI.

MADONNA 13-8, SIENA HTS. 2-14: Bob Mason (3-4) did his part, tossing a three-hitter in the opener Saturday, allowing one earned run and four walks, with six strikeouts, as he improved to 3-4.

Home runs by Aaron Shrewsbury (his 13th), Daryl Rocho (his 10th) and Wolfe propelled the Crusaders.

Both Rocho and Wolfe also had doubles, with Rocho driving in three runs and Wolfe one. Shrewsbury had two RBI. Delano Voletti added a double, a single and three RBI, and Bob Hamp had two singles and scored four runs.

Warholik paced a 15-hit Madonna attack, going 4-for-4 with three doubles, a homer (his second) and four RBI. Shrewsbury added two hits and scored three runs, while Hamp had two hits and an RBI.

Sienna rallied in the late innings to win the second game, 14-8.

E.J. Roman started and lasted 5 1/3 innings. Three other pitchers then combined to give up nine runs (two earned) in 1 1/3 innings; Rocho took the loss (0-2).

Kevin Barkholz (6-5) was the winner for the Saints (17-33, 10-10)

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Keyes, Wolocko lead Rockets to dual win

Westland John Glenn retained bragging rights Tuesday in its dual meet against rival Wayne Memorial, rolling to a 96.5-40.5 boys track victory.

Glenn won 13 of 17 events led by Josh Keyes and P.J. Wolocko, who figured in four first place finishes each.

Keyes swept the 110- and 300-meter hurdles in 15.9 and 40.9, respectively. He also teamed up with John Sterling, Brandon Trygg and Kevin Derwich to win the 800 relay in 1:37.4.

The Keyes brothers, Josh and Justin, also combined with Wolocko and Derwich to win the 1,600 relay in 3:42.28.

Wolocko captured the 800- and 1,600 individual races in 2:11.4 and 4:59.0, respectively. He also combined with Derwich, Kevin Durigon and Justin Keyes to finish first in the 3,200 relay (9:23.7).

Other Glenn winners included James Doherty, shot put (40-10); Nick Samples, discus (125-6); Joe Reilly, pole vault (9-6); Trygg, 200 (25.4); and Durigon, 400 (54.7).

Wayne's standout was junior Kwame Hampton, who took the 100 dash in 11.2 and the long jump with a leap of 19-4. He was also a member of the victorious 400 relay team (46.9) along with Danny Henderson, Antoine Austin and Randy Lee.

The other Wayne victory was garnered by freshman Steve Baxendale in the 3,200 (personal best 11:20.9). Glenn's dual meet record is 1-2 overall, while Wayne is 0-3.

REDFORD CATHOLIC CENTRAL 89
WARREN DeLASSALLE 39
April 26 at Mercy High School
Long jump: Brent Barrick (CC), 19 feet, 7 inches; discus: Nick Brzezinski (CC),

BOYS TRACK

176-3; shot put: Nick Brzezinski (CC), 54-1; high jump: Rod Hunt (CC) 5-9; 3,200-meter relay: CC (Robert Tymowski, Brian Kuszynski, Nick O'Keefe, Dan Jess), 8:31.9; 100 hurdles: Jason Woehlike (CC), 15.6; 100 dash: Roger White (DLS) 11.3; 800 relay: DeLaSalle, 1:36.3; 1,600: Dan Jess (CC) 4:39.3; 400 relay: CC (Jason Woehlike, Justin Cessante, Matt Markowicz, Derek Andersen), 46.3; 400: Mike Maddens (DLS) 54.8; 300 hurdles: Jason Woehlike (CC) 42.8; 800: Brian Kuszynski (CC) 2:07.8; 200: Derek Andersen (CC) 23.3; 3,200: Dan Jess (CC) 10:03; 1,600 relay: CC (Matt Markowicz, Justin Cessante, Nick O'Keefe, Brian Kuszynski) 3:42.4.

MONROE INVITATIONAL

April 24 at Monroe

Top CC placers
Discus: 1. Nick Brzezinski (186-1, new school record), 5. Lou Willoughby, 136-8; shot put: 2. Brzezinski, 54-1/2, 5. Lou Willoughby, 49-4; 110-meter hurdles: 2. Jason Woehlike, 15.4; 3,200 run: 2. Dan Jess, 9:33.9, 5. Jim Curtiss, 9:58.2; 200: 5. Derek Andersen, 23.4; 300 hurdles: 6. Jason Woehlike, 43.6; 800 run: 6. Brian Kuszynski, 2:07.3; 1,600 run: 5. Matt Daly, 4:42.5; 400 relay: Jason Woehlike, Matt Markowicz, Justin Cessante, Derek Andersen, 46.3; 3,200 relay: 6. Brian Kuszynski, Robert Tymowski, Nick O'Keefe, Dan Jess, 8:51.6; 800 relay: 5. Jason Woehlike, Matt Markowicz, Justin Cessante, Derek Andersen, 1:36.8.

MONROE JEFFERSON INVITATIONAL BOYS TRACK MEET

April 24 at Monroe-Jefferson

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Jefferson, 74; 2. Southgate Anderson, 70; 3. Woodhaven, 64; 4. Monroe Catholic Central, 60.5; 5. Grosse Ile, 56; 6. Ida, 46; 7. Lutheran Westland, 43.5.

Lutheran Westland Placers
110-meter hurdles: 1. Ryan Ollinger, 14.9 (school record); long jump: 1. Ollinger, 20 feet, 2 inches; 800 relay: 1. Richard Wilson, Mike Clark, Andy Moldenhauer, Ollinger, 1:36.5; 300 hurdles: 3. Ollinger, 43.4; high jump: 6. Brian Soos, 5-8; 400 relay: 6. Clint Gowen, Clark, Moldenhauer, Wilson, 47.3; 100 dash: 8. Clark, 11.6; 200: 8. Moldenhauer, 24.5.

GIRLS TRACK ROUNDUP

Churchill best at Belleville

Livonia Churchill came home Saturday with the Belleville Tiger Relays girls track championship.

Adrian and Saline finished two-three in the 10-team field.

Churchill took a pair of firsts — Ashley Fillion (6:38.2), Stephanie Skwiers (5:42.7), Alison Fillion (6:51.3) and Lindsey Cecil (6:06.2) captured the 6,400-meter relay, and the foursome of Gwen Ostrosky, Jessica Cichon, Mandy Hein and Jane Peterman took the shuttle hurdle relay (1:12.2).

Ashley Fillion contributed a second in the individual 1,600 (5:37.0).

The Chargers added three other relay seconds.

Cichon (14-11), Beth Kwapis (14-10 1/2) and Melissa Looken (14-2 3/4) were runner-up in the long jump, while Jenny Hefner, Marin Jacoby and Jessica Waskiewicz added a second in the discus. Kari Cezat (8-0) and Lihana Cippolone (7-0) tied for second in the pole vault.

The duo of Cecil (4-8) and Kristy Blazo (4-2) finished third in the high jump relay. The distance medley quartet of Jennie Ogg, Becky Rodriguez, Skwiers and Alison Fillion also placed third (14:14.4).

Hefner, Jacoby and Kristen Rader combined for a fourth in the shot put relay, 81-2. The 3,200-meter relay team of Katie Paulson, Cecil, Christy Smith and Ogg also finished fourth (11:29.1).

Individually, Ostrosky was fourth in the 100 hurdles (18.3) and Skwiers fourth in the 1,600 (5:51.5).

The 400 relay team of Lokken, Cichon, Kwapis and Stephanie Dean added a sixth in 55.6.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 88
WAYNE MEMORIAL 49
April 27 at John Glenn
Long jump: Nicolette Jarrett (WJG), 15-11; high jump: LaToya Chandler (WJG), 5-0; pole vault: Joselyn Bova (WJG), 7-6 (new school record); discus: Dawn Dishong (WJG), 63-6; shot put: Hill (WM), 25-9; 3,200 relay: Wayne, 11:05.2; 100-meter hurdles: Latacha Chandler, 16.0; 100: LaToya Chandler (WJG), 12.8; 800 relay: John Glenn (Angela Adams, Lisa Parent, Kaiya Hamilton, Bova), 2:03.2; 1,600: Kristi Wheble (WM), 6:09.3; 400: Jarrett (JG), 1:03.7; 300 hurdles: Lakesha Locust (WJG), 55.7; 800: Dawn Daniels (WM), 2:36.1; 200: Rachel Patillo (WM), 29.2; 3,200: Jessica Boarders (WM), 13:25.2; 1,600 relay: John Glenn (Kristen Fischer, Felecia Barnett, Latacha Chandler, LaToya Chandler), 4:35.5.

John Glenn's dual meet record: 1-2
LUTHERAN WESTLAND 116
HARPER WOODS LUTHERAN EAST 32
GROSSE POINTE LIQUETT 27
Shot put: C. Jaranowski (LE), 31-8; discus: Anna Schewecke (LW), 89-5; high jump: Amanda Sales (LW), 4-10; long jump: Ali (U-L), 14-10; pole vault: (tie) five tied at 5-0; 110-yard hurdles: Anna Rolf (LW), 17.8; 330

hurdles: Rolf (LW), 55.4; 100 dash: Edwards (LE), 12.4; 220: Chelsea Romero (LW), 30.3; 440: Karen Abramczyk (LW), 1:11.9; 880: Erin Jung (LW), 2:46.3; mile: Tess Kuehne (LW), 6:21.9; 2 mile: Kuehne (LW), 14:19.6; 440 relay: Lutheran Westland (Romero, Sarah Vetting, Krisley Rose, Rolf), 56.6; 800 relay: Lutheran Westland (Abramczyk, Jung, Vetting, Hoffmeier), 2:03.8; mile relay: Lutheran Westland (Romero, Hoffmeier, Jung, Rose), 4:45.0; 2 mile relay: Lutheran Westland (Jessica Montgomery, Jodi Rolf, Kelly Clark, Kuehne), 12:29.4.

Lutheran Westland's dual meet record: 9-0 overall, 2-0 Metro Conference.

WARREN DeLASSALLE GIRLS TRACK INVITATIONAL

April 24 at L'Anse Creuse

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Stevenson, 79 points; 2. Dearborn Edsel Ford, 60; 3. Ann Arbor Huron, 51; 4. Sterling Heights Stevenson, 48; 5. Southfield, 38; 6. Warren Mott, 37; 7. L'Anse Creuse, 19; 8. Clawson, 4.

RELAY RESULTS

Shuttle hurdle: 1. Stevenson (Cassie Ehlendt, Angela Alfonsi, Leyna Kasparek, Colleen Bosman), 1:08.9.

3,200 meters: 1. Stevenson (Christy Tzilos, Kim McNeilland, Heather Vandette, Andrea Parker), 10:18.6.

Distance 4,800 medley: 1. Stevenson (Marissa Montgomery, Parker, Vandette, Sarah Kearfott), 16:43.3.

Distance 4,000 medley: 1. Stevenson (Kearfott, Tzilos, Leslie Knapp, Parker), 13:54.3.

1,600: 2. Stevenson (Alfonsi, Katie Sheron, Parker, Tzilos), 4:21.4.

Shot put: 2. Stevenson (Emily Yabasky, Gina Griggs, Anna Strezempka), 86 feet, 9 inches.

High jump: 2. Stevenson (Andrea Polasky, Alfonsi), 9-5.

400 relay: 2. Stevenson (Theresa Cherenkoff, Kristen Kulczyk, Mikkelson, Dara Tompkins), 54.1.

Sprint medley: 4. Stevenson (Sherron, Mikkelson, Cherenkoff, Ehlendt), 3:08.4.

800: 5. Stevenson (Ehlendt, Tompkins, Tzilos, Kulczyk), 1:55.4.

Long jump: 5. Stevenson (Meredith Kinkead, Ashley Janaulis, Katie Plankuch), 38-6.

MONROE-JEFFERSON INVITATIONAL GIRLS TRACK MEET

April 24 at Monroe-Jefferson

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Grosse Ile, 99.3; 2. Woodhaven, 76; 3. Lutheran Westland, 69; 4. Monroe-Jefferson, 65.

LUTHERAN WESTLAND FINISHERS

Shot put: 6. Anna Schewecke, 28-8; discus: Jen Dash, 91-8; 8. Schewecke, 89-4; high jump: 2. Bekah Hoffmeier, 5-0; long jump: 3. Anna Rolf, 14-1; 6. Amanda Sales, 13-2; 100-meter hurdles: 5. Rolf, 17.4; 300 hurdles: 3. Hana Hughes, 51.8; 7. Rolf, 53.6; 100 dash: 7. Romero, 13.9; 800: 5. Tess Kuehne, 2:36.9; 8. Erin Jung, 2:39.6; 1,600: 4. Kuehne, 5:46.7; 400 relay: 5. Romero, Rolf, Karen Abramczyk, Krisley Rose, 55.9; 800 relay: 3. Romero, Hoffmeier, Hughes, Rose), 1:56.4; 1,600 relay: 4. Jung, Hoffmeier, Kuehne, Rose, 4:28.0; 3,200 relay: 4. Jung, Aimee Anthony, Jessica Montgomery, Kuehne, 10:55.8.

Patrol netters get 2nd at Monroe tournament

Patrol netters from Livonia Stevenson won their second consecutive title at the Monroe Invitational girls track tournament on Saturday.

The netters were led by standout setter Jennifer Hayward, who led a crucial match in the final set, 3-2. In singles, 7-5, 7-3, Adam Koppen, No. 4 singles, Gary Swanson and Grant Marquardt, No. 4 doubles.

Scott Gomez added a third-place at No. 3 singles. Jason Berry and Dave Maldovan also added a third at No. 1 doubles, as did the No. 2 tandem of Rob Schaffer and Mike Demonek.

Franklin's No. 1 singles player, Matt Clearman, got through a tough draw to win the consolation bracket. Chris Don and Chris Harris (No. 2 doubles) also won the consolation round.

Carleton-Airport, Monroe-Jefferson, Monroe Catholic Central and the host Trojans also participated in the tournament.

In other dual meet matches played this week:

LIVONIA CHAMPIONSHIP & LIVONIA FINISHERS 2

April 26 at Franklin

No. 1 singles: Matt Clearman (LF) defeated Tom Willis, 6-7, 7-6, 6-2; No. 2: Jeffrey Boynton (LF) def. Ben Luord, 3-6, 7-6, 6-2; No. 3: Tom Fitzpatrick (LC) def. Scott Gomez, 6-3, 6-2; No. 4: Ross Puchalski (LD) def. Adam Koppen, 6-4, 6-3.

No. 1 doubles: Bobby Koivunen-Ian Qian (LC) def. Jason Berry-Dave Maldovan, 6-4, 6-3; No. 2: Scott Hiner, Mike Horka (LC) def. Chris Don-Chris Harris, 6-1, 6-0; No. 3: Zac Tibbles-Adam Rourke (LC) def. Jason Rudy-Rob Schaffer, 6-0, 6-4; No. 4: Kenny Teong-Chris Singleton (LC) def. Grant Marquardt-Gary Swanson, 6-1, 6-0.

MONROE INVITATIONAL

April 24 at Monroe

No. 1 singles: Mike Frilling (CC) def. Adam Swanson, 7-6, 6-3; No. 2: Alan Conti (UL) def. Jeff Pinner, 6-2, 6-0; No. 3: J.D. Spira (UL) def. Ben Curtis, 6-4, 6-0; 6-2; No. 4: David Atallah (CC) def. Brady Katt, 6-3, 6-1; No. 5: Gabe J.D. Shabo-Rob Sparks (CC) def. Austin Watsenbach-Scott Voss, 6-0, 6-1; No. 6: Nick Gray-Mark Pinner (CC) def. Vince Peltzer-Nick Osborne, 6-4, 6-3; No. 7: Jess Canton-Owen Giffin (UL) def. Matt Ross-Nick Gonzalez, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

WARREN DeLASSALLE 39

April 26 at Mercy High School

No. 1 singles: Mike Frilling (CC) def. Dimitri Diakou, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Jeff Pinner (CC) def. Alan Pater, 6-2, 6-0; No. 3: Evan Curtis (CC) def. Andrew Dahless, 7-6, 6-1; No. 4: David Atallah (CC) def. Brian Kerbut, 6-4, 7-6; No. 5: doubles: Rob Sparks-J.D. Shabo (CC) def. Rob Gracovics-Chris Huff, 6-0, 6-1; No. 6: Nick Gray-Mark Pinner (CC) def. Andrew Giffin-Jess LaRosa, 6-3, 6-1; No. 7: Ryan Chor-Matt Rowe (CC) def. Ryan Navarro-Tim Snodgrass, 6-2, 6-3; No. 8: Eric Tomkiewicz-Nick Gonzalez (CC) def. Pat Corbin-Chris Sogel, 6-2, 2-6, 6-1.

MONROE-JEFFERSON INVITATIONAL

April 24 at Monroe-Jefferson

CC's dual meet record: 4-1 in dual meets, 3-0 in the Catholic League.

Editor's note: CC's meet against Birmingham Brother Rice has been rescheduled to 4 p.m. Monday, May 10 at Schoolcraft College.

Observerland from page C1

eight points behind Western Lakes Activities Association foe Walled Lake Central at last Saturday's Belleville Tiger Relays.

"This year I think we can get points in every event," Churchill coach Rick Austin said. "But we have to score in the top four in everything. If we do that, we have a nice shot at it."

"We'll try to play to our strengths. We have a nice throws team and our high jump and pole vault are more than adequate."

"Saline is still pretty strong and they've been there before. They've got bodies to cover most events and they're strong at the distances."

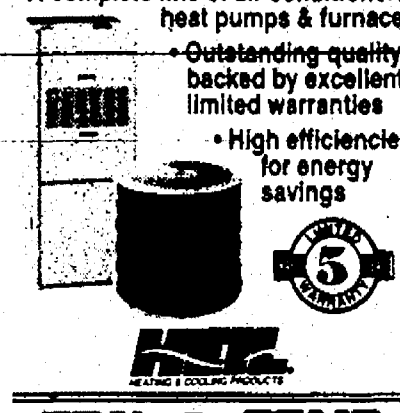
The meet will also feature some individual standouts including defending 1,600 champion Josh Burt (Livonia Franklin), pole vaulters Derek Laskowski (Farmington Hills Harrison) and Joe Frendo (Garden City); sprinter/long jumper Kevin Woods (Harrison); high jumper Chris Kalis (Plymouth Canton); 1,600 runner Dan Jess (CC); long jumper Devin White (Churchill); sprinters Kwame Hampton (Wayne) and Scott Genord (Redford Thurston).

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WAYNE CITY COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Wayne County Commission will hold a public hearing on a proposed ordinance to establish within the Sheriff's Department an Electronic Monitoring Program and to establish eligibility criteria and requirements for the use of the program. (98-69-016)

The hearing will be held:

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1999, 10:00 a.m.
Wayne County Building
600 Randolph, Commission Chambers
Detroit, Michigan

Copies of the above item may be obtained or reviewed at the Commission Clerk's Office, 406 Wayne County Building, 600 Randolph, Detroit, MI 48226. (313) 224-0903.

Publish April 29, 1999

WAYNE COUNTY NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

PAY YOUR 1996 AND PRIOR YEARS COUNTY TAXES NOW

Lands delinquent for 1996 and prior years taxes will be offered at the State Tax Sale on May 4, 1999.

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Stevenson golfers victorious at South Lyon event

Livonia Stevenson gained some measure of revenge Saturday by edging rival Livonia Churchill for first place in the 10-team South Lyon Invitational, 350-351. Churchill defeated Stevenson earlier this year in the Livonia City Tournament held at Whispering Willows.

Rounding out the field in the alternating scramble and stroke play event was Northville (355), South Lyon (369), Milford (370), Brighton (371), Farmington (394), Farmington (394), Livonia

Franklin (408), Novi (441) and White Lake-Lakeland (disqualified).

Members of the Stevenson eight-player contingent included Carli Heppner, Mara Mazzoni, Laura Haddock, Katie Carlson, Courtney Gilkey, Jessica Makowski, Megan McLeod and Leah Winesdorfer.

In other dual meet matches:

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 182
DEARBORN HIGH 232
 April 27 at Dearborn Hills
 Churchill scores: Heidi Attarna, 36 (medalist); Ashley Johnson, 37; Julia McLaughlin, 42; Jennie Lusa, 47; Gina Polc, 49; Kelly Polc, 62.
 Dearborn scores: Jenny Majowski, 54; Mary

Beth Brazell, 57; Jessica Romeo, 58; Val Steele, 63; Jenny Cravens, 65; Alana Curran, 66.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 196
PLYMOUTH CANTON 230
 April 27 at Whispering Willows
 Stevenson scores: Mara Mazzoni, 45 (medalist); Carli Heppner, 47; Katie Carlson, 48; Teresa Layman, 55; Jessica Makowski, 60; Laura Haddock, 62.
 Canton scores: Stephanie Koppe, Christina Slupsek, 53 each; Julie Dziedzic, 54; Katie Herbeck, 60; Erica Pironello, 96; Meghan Stewart, withdrew.
 Stevenson's dual meet record: 5-0 overall, 4-0 Western Lakes Activities Association.

FARMINGTON 198
LIVONIA FRANKLIN 290
 April 27 at Ivy Wld
 Farmington scores: Cassie Jamison, 40 (medalist); Karen Berger, 47; Carrie May, 53; Katie Perry,

55.
 Franklin scores: Katie Beasley, 58; Kristin Kmet, 65; Erin Gevie, 66; Amanda Szabolak, 69.
 Franklin's dual meet record: 1-2 Western Lakes.

GROSSE LEE 188
LIVONIA LADYWOOD 210
 April 27 at St. Johns
 Grosse Lee scores: Courtney Buhl, 41 (medalist); Kara McMaster, 45; Molly Reno, 49; Lisa Campbell, 50.
 Ladywood scores: Katy Zimmerman, 48; Rebecca Anderson, 51; Amy Etchen, 54; May Griffin, 57.
 Ladywood's dual meet record: 2-3.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 188
WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 203
 April 28 at Fox Creek
 Churchill scores: Ashley Johnson, 42 (medalist); Heidi Attarna, 44; Julia McLaughlin, 49; Jen-

nie Lusa, 50; Kelley Parzuchowski, 52; Stacy Loucks, 58.
 Central scores: Amy Emerine, 47; Jessica Traller, 49; Deanna Sowinski, 53; Erin Rishell, 54; Sarah Schreiber, 55; Emily Ballentine, 66.
 Churchill's dual meet record: 4-0 overall, 3-0 WLA.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 190
WALLED LAKE WESTERN 231
 April 28 at Links of Pinewood
 Stevenson scores: Carli Heppner, 42 (medalist); Mara Mazzoni, 44; Laura Haddock and Katie Carlson, 52 each; Andrea Greco, 66; Courtney Gilkey, 71.
 Western scores: Lindsay Bornhotter, 54; Emily Charette, 58; Kristy Daniels, 59; Kim Shay, 67; Erica Gorton, 63; Kelly Segal, 67.
 Stevenson's dual meet record: 4-0 overall, 3-0 WLA.

GIRLS SOFTBALL

Patriots win tournament; Blazers fall

Livonia Franklin emerged Saturday as the winner of the Plymouth Salem girls softball tournament.

The Patriots and host Rocks each finished with 3-1 records, but Franklin took the tiebreaker based on head-to-head competition in the round-robin format.

Franklin's only loss occurred in Game No. 4 against Northville, 6-3.

On Monday, host Northville also defeated Franklin, 4-3, in a Western Lakes Activities Association-Western Division game.

The Patriots are now 5-4 overall.

Franklin opened Salem Tourney play by defeating Farmington (5-1), Salem (9-2) and Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day (1-0).

Junior pitcher Tara Muchow went 3-1 on the day with 38 strikeouts, 15 walks, 11 hits and just six earned runs.

Junior Tera Morrill was the Patriots' top hitter on the day, going 8-for-13 (.615 average).

Other offensive standouts included Kelly Young, 7-for-14 (.500); Jeanette Bertrand, 6-for-14 (.429); Muchow, 5-for-12 (.417); Jamie Linden and Amy Sandrick, each 4-for-13 (.308).

Defensively, Franklin pulled off three double plays and made just two errors in four games.

Linden had two hits and two RBI, but it wasn't enough to get past Northville on Monday as Franklin falls to 0-2 in the division. Morrill added two hits, while Sandrick contributed an RBI single.

Northville scored three unearned runs in the third inning to break a 1-1 deadlock. Two Patriot errors proved costly.

Muchow, the losing pitcher, gave up five hits, one walk and fanned four.

Franklin left two runners stranded in both the fifth and seventh innings as Northville hurler Tracy Emaus, who struck out eight and allowed seven hits, earned the victory.

REGINA 4-10, LADYWOOD 0-5: The Blazers got a pair of well-pitched games from Rebecca Pawlet and Shelly Moros but little else Tuesday in dropping a Detroit Catholic League doubleheader.

Pawlet allowed only two hits, but her teammates could only match that and were unable to score a run.

Pawlet struck out five and didn't walk a batter but Livonia Ladywood errors contributed to three Regina runs. Harper Woods Regina is now 11-0.

Sara Thiesmeyer and Becky Mitchell each had one hit for Ladywood.

Moros pitched a six-hitter in the second game, walking three without a strikeout. Mitchell had two hits and Thiesmeyer a single plus a double.

Jen Dudas collected the only other hit the Blazers got, a single. Ladywood is now 5-6.

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 14, LUTHERAN N'WEST 2: Sharon Greer and Renee O'Brien each collected three hits Monday as visiting Lutheran High Westland (3-2, 1-0) routed Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (2-2, 0-1) in a Metro Conference game.

Emily Reinke and Liz Unger chipped in with two hits apiece for the Lady Warriors, who invoked the 10-run mercy rule in the sixth inning by scoring four runs.

Lutheran Westland out-hit the Crusaders, 11-4.

Heather Rose, who worked the first five innings before giving way to reliever Katie Heiden, got the victory. The two combined on a four-hitter.

Lutheran Westland won despite making five errors.

CHURCHILL 13, EDESEL FORD 0: Meghan Mislak pitched a five-hit shutout Tuesday in the mercy shortened game. She walked four but struck out eight.

An eighth-run outburst in the bottom of the fourth closed it off for the Chargers (5-4).

Christine Fones went 2-for-2 with three runs and three RBI, Adrienne Doyle drove in three runs with two doubles, Crystal Tomczyk had two hits good for three RBI and Reagan Tisher went 3-for-3 with a double. The Chargers had 14 hits.

WL WESTERN 7, CHURCHILL 2: The host Warriors scored all their runs in the first three innings Monday, then turned it over to their pitching and defense.

Christine Fones had a two-run double in the seventh for Livonia Churchill's only runs. Adrienne Doyle worked three innings and was the losing pitcher. Meghan Mislak also pitched three.

Left-hander Angie Balconi won it by walking only two and striking out five. The Chargers are now winless in two WLA games.

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WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Lady Crusaders squander opportunity to sweep Tech

This was a twinbill that should have belonged to Madonna University.

Janell Leschinger's strong pitching in the first game — she gave up three unearned runs on six hits and one walk, with three strikeouts — was the difference in the first game, a 5-3 Crusader win over visiting Indiana Tech Tuesday at Ladywood HS. Vicki Malkowski had two hits and two runs batted in to lead the Madonna attack; Jamie Cook added two hits and an RBI, and Kristy McDonald (from Redford Thurston) had a hit and two RBI.

But when you're trying to gain ground in a tough league like the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, splitting double-headers isn't good enough. But it's what Madonna had to settle for when it lost the nightcap, 6-3.

Madonna is 28-20 overall; 11-9 in the WHAC. Indiana Tech is 7-29 overall, 4-13 — and in last place — in the WHAC.

Janelle Schmidt pitched three strong innings to start the second game. Leschinger came in but was ineffective in the second game, allowing four runs (two earned) on two hits and three walks in 2/3 of an inning. She took the loss, making her 17-6.

The Crusaders actually outthit Tech in the second game, 8-4, but three errors paved the way to three unearned runs. McDonald was 3-for-3 at the plate, with an RBI, and Malkowski had a single and an RBI.

MADONNA 5-11, OLIVET 4-3: Game No. 1 set the stage for Game No. 2. And it all turned out well for Madonna University's softball team, which rallied from a two-run deficit with two out in the seventh inning to edge visiting Olivet College in Monday's first game of their non-league double-header played at Ladywood HS.

In the second game, Madonna took an early lead and never looked back in rolling to an easy victory. The two wins gave the Lady Crusaders five wins in their last six games. Olivet is 18-18.

Madonna trailed 4-2 with two out in the seventh in the opener, with Angela Litwin (from Plymouth Canton) and Jenny Kruzel on base and Vicki Malkowski (Westland) at the plate. Malkowski tossed a one-hitter, giving up only a double to Jenny Kruzel. Jen Walker had a single and two runs batted in for the Crusaders, and Jamie Cook had two hits.

Missy Bako (Garden City) started and worked the first four innings for Madonna, plowing two earned runs. Janelle Schmidt pitched the next two innings, giving up one unearned run; she was followed by Tanya Liske, who surrendered a run on three hits in her one inning on the mound. Liske was the winning pitcher (now 4-5).

The second game wasn't nearly as dramatic. Madonna scored seven times in the first inning en route to a five-inning, eight-run mercy victory. Schmidt went the distance, scattering five hits and a walk, allowing three runs (one earned) in five innings to improve to 6-3.

Walker paced the attack with two doubles and three RBI. Litwin and Kristy McDonald (Redford Thurston) added two hits and a pair of RBI apiece, and Kruzel had a double and two RBI. Malkowski also had two hits and an RBI.

MADONNA 4-0, AQUINAS 2-8: On Sunday, the Crusaders failed to close any ground on Aquinas College, the fourth-place team in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference. Madonna won the opener with a three-run seventh, highlighted by Kelly Zurawski's two-run double. Vicki Malkowski also had a double and a single, and Courtney Senger added a run-scoring single.

Janell Leschinger got the pitching win, improving to 16-5. She gave up one earned run on six hits and two walks, with three strikeouts. Crystal Lubbers was the loser for the Saints.

Aquinas improved to 23-19 overall and to 12-8 in the WHAC (Madonna fell to 10-8) with a shutout win in the nightcap, stopped after five innings by the eight-run mercy rule. Tandra Barcheski pitched a one-hitter, giving up only a double to Jenny Kruzel. She walked one in improving to 4-2. Janelle Schmidt started and lasted just one inning for Madonna, allowing two earned runs on three hits and a walk.

MADONNA 3-5, TRISTATE 1-1: Crusader pitching proved too tough for Tri-State University Saturday in a WHAC double-header played at Ladywood HS.

Janell Leschinger was the winner in the first game, allowing one run or three hits and two walks, with four strikeouts. Raeshelle Peters took the loss for the Thundering Herd, who fell to 4-28 overall with the two losses.

Jen Walker was 3-for-3 at the plate with an RBI to lead Madonna's seven-hit attack in the opener.

The second game was more dramatic, as the Crusaders entered the bottom of the seventh trailing 1-0. Kristy McDonald reached second base on two errors by the Tri-State third baseman to open Madonna's half of the inning; she was sacrificed to third and scored the game-tying run on a fielder's choice play, with Walker safe at first. Consecutive walks loaded the bases for Jenny Kruzel, who unloaded a grand-slam home run to end the contest.

Kruzel had two of Madonna's five hits in the game. Leschinger was credited with the win.

Churchill blanks Vikings, 5-0

Churchill blanked host from its home ice on Monday night in a 5-0 victory over the Vikings of West Waukegan.

Madonna improved Churchill's overall record to 11-10-1. The team is currently ranked 11th in the Western Lakes Activities Association crossover victory against host Livonia Franklin.

Megan Urbats led the way with one goal and three assists. Sarah Wittrock, Andrea Sied, Julie Murray and Deanna McGrath contributed a goal and one assist each. Michelle Vetraino, Dana White and Cheryl Fox also scored for the Spartans, who led 4-0 at halftime. Goalkeeper Katie Westfall posted the

second half, blanking the Vikings.

On Tuesday, Madonna improved its record to 12-10-1 with a 5-0 victory over visiting Ann Arbor.

Madonna is 28-20 overall; 11-9 in the WHAC. Indiana Tech is 7-29 overall, 4-13 — and in last place — in the WHAC. Janelle Schmidt pitched three strong innings to start the second game. Leschinger came in but was ineffective in the second game, allowing four runs (two earned) on two hits and three walks in 2/3 of an inning. She took the loss, making her 17-6.

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Scicluna from page C1

Scicluna helped launch, along with Larry Christoff and Paul Dugan, the highly successful Livonia YMCA youth soccer program.

He was also one of the architects of Livonia high school soccer, coaching the boys at Bentley, starting in 1978, and later on the girls team. He also served as head coach at Redford Catholic Central High.

During the mid-80s Scicluna also helped develop the Livonia Y Wolves (boys) and Hawks elite travel squads. From 1977 through 1995, Scicluna led his age-group squads to 10 state championships, two regional titles and two national runner-up finishes.

He also took CC to a Catholic League title, Bentley to two divisional crowns, and performed various duties coaching in the Olympic Development program (1980-93).

"I don't think there's many youth groups he hasn't been a part of," said Livonia native and Mid-Michigan Bucks co-owner Jim Dugan, a longtime friend who played and coached under Scicluna. "He was in the kid business."

"He was always teaching players life lessons, and his integrity and honesty were unparalleled. Paul was interested in helping us mature into responsible adults more than in winning. The things he did that drove us crazy while we were players are the same things that hundreds of us are doing now as coaches with our kids. He was the ultimate

role model and family man." Scicluna is survived by his wife Jan and four children, Eric, Lisa, Amy and Kim, along with eight brothers and one sister.

In 1989, Scicluna became majority owner of the indoor team, the Rockers, bringing pro soccer back to Detroit after a seven-year absence. Gus Moffat, Tinnion and Duggan were also partners in the venture.

The franchise won the NPSL championship at Cobo Arena in 1992 under the coaching direction of Tinnion.

Mike Ilitch of Little Caesars, the Red Wings and Tigers, then purchased the franchise following the 1992 season.

Known as a fiery competitor and a tireless promoter of the game, Scicluna became EMU's first women's soccer coach in 1995.

His 1997 Eagle squad made it to the championship final of the inaugural Mid-American Conference Tournament before bowing to Northern Illinois in the finals, 3-2, in overtime. His 1998 team also qualified for the MAC tourney and finished the year 13-7-1. In four seasons as EMU's coach, Scicluna was 38-32-3 overall.

"This is a devastating loss to the Eastern Michigan University athletics program," Interim EMU Athletic Director Carole Huston said. "Paul was a great coach and had a tremendous love of promoting soccer on all levels. He related well not only with our players, but also with the entire athletic

department staff. He will be greatly missed by everyone that knew him."

Tom Coyne, who coached with and helped turn the Livonia Y Hawks into a national club power in girls soccer, wonders if anyone can carry on Scicluna's legacy.

"I came from Pittsburgh 17 years ago and I was in awe of the new sport he introduced me to," Coyne said. "The first thing he did was recruit me as a coach. He helped me get in."

"But what I remember most was his passion and his unadulterated enthusiasm for the game."

Although Scicluna sometimes clashed with referees, on occasion he took a turn at blowing the whistle.

"I got my first red card (ejection) from Mr. Scicluna when I was 12 years-old," said Paul Tinnion, Brian's son.

Added Brian Tinnion from Wednesday's visitation at Wood Funeral Home in Livonia: "For a guy who supposedly never got along with referees, I've never seen so many in one place. What does that tell you?"

Burial was held Wednesday at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Paul's name to the EMU Foundation, care of Paul Scicluna, 2000 Huron River Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

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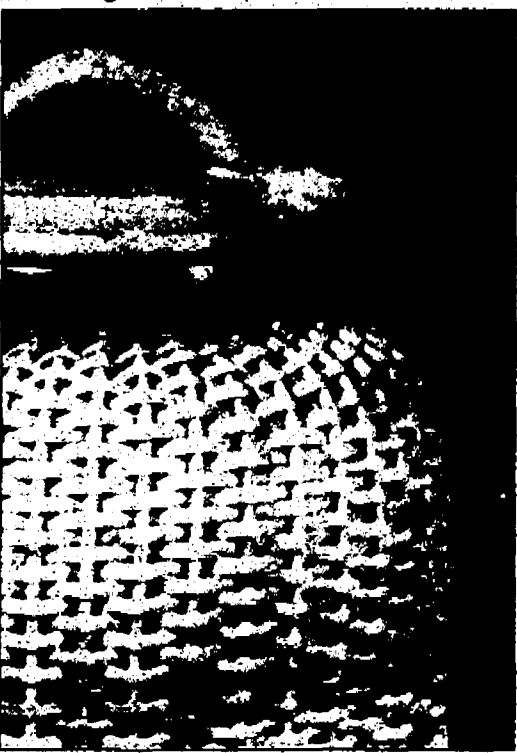
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SUNDAY



The Duttons bring their blend of country, folk, classical and toe-tapping bluegrass to the Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road. Admission to the 7 p.m. concert is \$10 per person. Call (248) 424-9022 for tickets and more information.



Amy Sonne, a North Farmington High School graduate, is featured in "Rugrats — A Live Adventure," Friday, April 30 through Sunday, May 9 at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. Tickets \$25, \$19.50, and \$12.50, call (313) 969-6611 for information, or (248) 433-1515 to charge tickets.



Musical: "Fame — the Musical" features an ensemble cast of 25 dynamic performers including Gavin Creel, a recent University of Michigan graduate.

'Fame' is fun, but sometimes lonely for actor

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER
kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

Being on the road with "Fame — The Musical" is fun, but lonely at times.

said Gavin Creel who plays Nick Piazza in the production now playing at Music Hall in Detroit.

"Fame" is what Creel prepared for when he went to the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. After graduating from the theater program in May 1998, he moved to New York City. He auditioned for the part of Nick in "Fame" in September, got it and started rehearsals Oct. 12. He's been on the road with the show since November traveling to Ottawa, Toronto and Montreal, Canada, and across the U.S.

David De Silva who created the show and is called "Father Fame" said Creel is one of the most popular characters in the show and gets more e-mail at the Web site www.famethemusical.com than anyone else.

Creel and I talked by phone from Montreal, where the production was playing on April 22.

"It's a lot of fun," he said. "The cast is mostly around my age, 22. It's a nice, good group of people."

Creel says he's lucky to be a working actor, a lot of people aren't.

"I'm learning a lot about the biz," he said. "In school you hone your craft and concentrate on scene techniques and acting. Now I'm learning about Equity rules and what my rights are, about the importance of having connections.

You have to have a business mind in addition to being a talented, good actor, it's invaluable."

"Fame" wasn't what Creel set out for when he moved to New York. In fact, he'd just signed with

mead him for the part of Nick. "I read about the audition in 'Back Stage.' They were looking for

"It's like big highs, deep lows."

— Gavin Creel, Nick Piazza in "Fame"

young, energetic, high school age looking actors," said Creel. "Everyone tells me I look young. I figured I had a good chance, so I went to open auditions and stood in line with everyone else. I got called back, and knew I was pretty much right for the part."

"Fame," set in the 1980s at New York's High School of Performing Arts, follows a group of students over four years.

Nick, the role Creel plays, is a serious actor who has done some commercials, TV and a movie. A child star, he wants to work hard and learn the classics.

"It's a journey to see where he fits in," said Creel. "He learns to loosen up."

"Fame" the 1980 MGM motion picture, inspired a TV series "Fame." The stage musical premiered 15 years after the movie was released.

Except for the title song, all of the music in the musical version of "Fame" is new.

"I didn't want to do a compilation of songs," said De Silva. "We

"Fame — The Musical"

WHEN: Continues through Sunday, May 2.

PERFORMANCES
■ 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 29
■ 8 p.m. Friday, April 30
■ 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, May 1
■ 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, May 2

WHERE: Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit.

TICKETS: \$27.50 to \$50, call (248) 645-6666. For more information, call (313) 983-6611.

recorded the new soundtrack in Toronto. I didn't want to just throw songs out there."

"Fame — the Musical" seems to have hit a nerve. It's popular around the world.

ing kids with a passion follow their dreams," said De Silva. "This music seems to inspire young people. Many kids are not exposed to the arts in public school. They don't cut back sports programs, but they cut arts. 'Fame' draws attention to the arts in education."

Arts in education

It also draws a young audience, in addition to the usual mature theater crowd. "A lot of kids don't know what they want to do. But the arts are important no matter what they decide to do. You'll be a better lawyer if you study acting, even if you don't become a professional musician, you'll go to concerts and buy recordings if you study music. The arts feed the spirit. We're bringing up a generation of children in some school districts that are not exposed to the arts. When I was in school we had music appreciation classes, I doubt if they do anymore."

Students from Abbott Middle School in West Bloomfield and Thurston High School in Redford, are among the thousands of students in southeast Michigan who will tune in via teleconference 10-11 a.m. Thursday, April 29 to watch a live education presentation with the cast of "Fame — The Musical." The program will show students how the work they do in

Please see FAME, E2

JET premieres 'The Caregiver'

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER
kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

It's unusual for the Jewish Ensemble Theatre to present a play that hasn't had a full production, but they're making an exception for "The Caregiver" by Ian Strasfogel, which opened Wednesday, April 28, for previews. It will be JET's third world premiere of an original work in 10 years.

It is the story of an aging, retired world class conductor who suffers from dementia, and the relationships he has with his only son, Eric, and caregiver Laura. Eric is beginning his career as a conductor and on tour as the play progresses.

"I loved it," said Evelyn Orbach, artistic director of JET Theatre.

She heard about the play from an old friend, Max Wright, an early graduate of the Hilberry Theatre program at Wayne State University.

Wright and Orbach appeared on stage together at the Theatre Company at the University of Detroit in 1976 and kept in touch.

A successful actor, Wright did a reading of Strasfogel's play, and invited a friend, Sol Frieder, who performs often at JET Theatre, to attend.

"They talked and realized both had worked with me," said Orbach. "Sol and Max said I should do this play. The playwright set up a reading at his apartment in New York. Sol read the part of the conductor. He was perfect for the part, and I decided to do it. This is Sol's fifth or sixth production at JET. Our audience is always pleased to see him. He's a fine actor with strength."

Partly autobiographical, Strasfogel was inspired by the experience of caring for his father, a renowned opera coach and conductor who developed Alzheimer's when he got older. "When his father got very ill he could still sit down at the piano and improvise," said Orbach. "He was still a very sophisticated musician."

He used other source material, which helped inspire the story.

"The leading man falls in love, it's a very charming role for Sol," said Orbach. "It's funny and, in some places, sad and poignant."

In the play, the conductor and his caregiver, portrayed by Kate Willinger, recently seen locally in "I Love You, You're Perfect — Now Change" at the Gem Theatre in Detroit, fall in love. She sparks his creative spirit, and he

Drama: Sol Frieder and Kate Willinger in a scene from "The Caregiver."

Please see CAREGIVER, E2

On Stage

WHAT: Jewish Ensemble Theatre presents "The Caregiver" by Ian Strasfogel
WHERE: Aaron DeRoy Theatre, lower level of the Jewish Community Center, 6800 W. Maple Road (corner of Maple and Drake Roads), West Bloomfield
WHEN: Previews continue through Sunday, May 2. Show opens 7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 2. Show dates May 5-9, May 12-16, May 19-23, and May 26-30. Performance times are 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday; 8 p.m. Saturday; and 2 p.m. Sunday.
TICKETS: \$15 to \$23, discounts for seniors and students. Call (248) 788-2900.

POPULAR MUSIC

Julian Lennon won't be manipulated by Yoko

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net

Surrounded by McDonald's wrappers in a Highland Park photo studio, Julian Lennon kicks back and takes a long drag off a cigarette. Funny and personable, Lennon chats up his new album "Photograph Smile," his seven-year hiatus from the music business and the days he spent relaxing in his home in northern Italy.

Upon the mention of his stepmother, Yoko Ono, Lennon's disposition changes.

He leans forward, puts his hands on his knees and peppers his conversation with the word "manipulative."

Lennon explained that it's more than a mere coincidence that "Photograph Smile" was released in the United Kingdom on May 18, 1998, the same day as his brother Sean Lennon's "Into the Sun."

"She indirectly had me taken off the priority list on some of the distribution labels we were with. Many other scenarios which are not nice at all will come

Please see JULIAN, E2



Visiting Detroit: Julian Lennon stopped in Detroit briefly to talk about his latest album "Photograph Smile," as well as his rocky relationship with Yoko Ono.

STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARROGIE

Fame from page E1

the classroom relates to musical theater. Inspiring students is one of the reasons De Silva, a former history teacher, believes "Fame" is so popular.

He said he always thought the story about New York's High School Performing Arts (now called the Fiorella La Guardia High School of Music and Art and Performing Art) was a good idea waiting to be born.

"We're not moon in June out of the blue," he said. "This story

is reality based."

"The dancers are the stars of the show," said Creel. "It's all about dance. They keep the energy up. We're all on stage all the time."

Creel is part of an ensemble cast of 25 people. "Each of us have our own responsibilities," he said. "We're each equally important. We all have the same responsibilities and everyone carries it. If even one person slacks off we all feel it."

For Creel the hardest part is

learning how to keep things fresh and keep his sanity off stage.

After Detroit the play moves to Kansas City. By then, Creel will have done it 200 times.

"I've never done anything 200 times," he said. "I'm signed up until Nov. 17, 1999. I'm living forever, baby."

On tour he's seen some beautiful cities, but with the exception of Toronto, where the group stayed six weeks, he hasn't seen much of them.

When his time for "Fame" is done, he wants to get an apartment in New York City.

The North American tour will continue into 2001.

De Silva said he's happy to let "Rent" be the 1990s and "Fame" the 1980s.

"We've become retro," he said. "But there aren't many shows that young people can audition for. There are a lot of talented kids, but there's only so much they can do. For many kids in

the show, this is their first job, it's a show they can get into. It's inspiring to so many people. It has a romantic vision that's important."

Roundtable discussion

We want to learn what you think about arts education.

You're invited to "Opening the Book," — a roundtable discussion about arts curriculum in our local school districts, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 18, at the Southfield Centre for the

Arts, 24350 Southfield Road, Southfield.

Panelists will answer questions from the audience, and address their concerns about arts education and curriculum in the school districts the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers cover. There is no charge to attend.

Call Frank Provenzano, (248) 901-2557, Keely Wygonik (734) 953-2105, or Linda Chomin (734) 953-2145 if you have any questions.

Caregiver from page E1

begins to play the piano again.

Eric, portrayed by David Wolber, recently featured in JET's production of "Never the Sinner," worries about taking care of his father, finding a proper caregiver and being able to measure up to his father.

JET commissioned original music by composer Allen Shawn

for this production. Shawn's credits include scores for the New York Shakespeare Festival, the La Jolla Playhouse and the Lincoln Center Theatre, and music for the film, "My Dinner With Andre."

In the play the conduct improvises at the piano, and Orbach believed the production had to

have music appropriate to a man of his talent.

"We couldn't just ask someone to plunk a few keys on the piano," said Orbach. "We were very lucky to get Allen. The playwright recommended him. He's done a quality job. Sol is quite musical. The music just

gurgles out of him."

Shawn also composed music to introduce the second act and for scene changes.

Strasfogel has directed all over the world. His productions of both classical and contemporary operas have been presented at the San Francisco Opera, the

New York City Opera, The Washington Opera at Kennedy Center, the Frankfurt Opera and Stuttgart Opera.

As a librettist he created the text for "Icarus" and "Talking Heads," performed in Austria, Germany, France and Boston. Other writings include dramatic

portraits of classical composers which have been performed by Tom Hulce and Roddy McDowall working with leading American symphony orchestras.

Strasfogel was in town for the opening week of rehearsals and will return for opening night on Sunday, May 2.

Julian from page E1

out in public at a later date," he explained.

Ono wasn't trying to pit the stepbrothers against each other, he added. She had another mission.

"It was a question of manipulation and how much Yoko was willing to spend as far as his promotion, as opposed to mine and how obviously she could afford that and overshadow my costs by great amounts," Lennon said.

"That's nothing against Sean. I used to baby-sit him. I think he's incredibly talented, but she's already, as far as I'm concerned, manipulated one Lennon too many."

The 36-year-old Lennon told of Ono's disrespect for him and how she puts Sean Lennon on a pedestal.

"She wanted Sean to be seen as the shining, genius Lennon son, and me to be the drunk, old, drugged, useless son, you know?"

I wasn't about to play that game. The work speaks for itself."

Seven-year itch

"Photograph Smile," released in the United States Feb. 23, marks Lennon's return to the music industry after taking seven years off to regroup after his last album, 1991's "Help Yourself," failed commercially. Lennon said he felt disenchanted with the industry after the single "Saltwater," which was in the top 10 worldwide, barely made a splash in the United States.

"In America, zilch. There's only one reason for that. The record company withdrew support. There was no play on the radio. Radio tried to play it but there's only so much you can do without the support of the label," Lennon explained.

"So I said, 'Enough.' I called it quits and it took me approximately five years to be released from the contracts, not only from

the record company but management as well."

He spent the time reflecting on life and trying "to figure out who in the hell I was outside of the music industry and to figure out what I wanted in life."

Lennon rediscovered his love of painting, photography, "the written word," sailing and cooking. Soon, the songwriting nipped at him.

"I just started writing again a couple years ago because I love to write music. It's as simple as that. I was actually writing to challenge myself to see how good a songwriter I could be and to prove my own sort of self worth as a songwriter."

After coming up with 20 or 30 song ideas, he ran into producer Bob Rose who persuaded Lennon to return to the studio — no pressure, just to lay down a few tracks.

"We were only supposed to be

there three or four days. By the end of the first week we had 11 tracks recorded."

Lennon and Rose, who had worked with Roy Orbison, concentrated on "Photograph Smile" for a year, producing enough material for three albums. The duo utilized vintage equipment to give the 14-track album a warm feel.

"The ideas that I took with Bob Rose were all about doing this natural, honest, as raw an album as possible using the natural ambiance of the room. I just wanted to use great-sounding instruments that were not samples, that were not keyboards."

When they wrapped up "Photograph Smile," Lennon's next hurdle was releasing the album which he had financed himself. He was skittish about returning to the major-label fold so he weighed his options.

"The last decision I had to make was, 'Do I want to sign to a

major label and sell my soul to the devil for another five to 10 years?'"

Instead, Lennon took the reins. He started his own label, Music From Another Room, distributed by Fuel 2000/Universal. Lennon is planning a world tour for this summer.

Lennon legacy

"Photograph Smile," dedicated to his late stepfather, Roberto Bassanini, is, at times, painfully autobiographical. In the acoustic-based ballad "Good to be Lonely," Lennon sings "And it's good to be lonely sometimes/It's better than nothing at all/It's good to be lonely sometimes/at least I'm prepared for the fall."

Manipulation is the subject of "Crucified," "I'm just one that sees the world with open eyes/the countless lies, the truth denied/whichever way the wind blows/and we're crucified."

On his earlier works, including

1984's "Valotte" which spawned the hit "Too Late for Good-byes," Lennon eschewed his father's musical influence. That has changed with the critically acclaimed "Photograph Smile."

"Day After Day," with its soaring instrumentation, and "I Don't Wanna Know" are replete with Beatles/John Lennon influences. On the closing track, "Way to Your Heart," he references "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds."

If there was anyone who should have those influences, he said, it's him. Lennon, donning a T-shirt that read "Lennon and proud of it," made his point clearly during a Feb. 17 appearance on the "Late Show with David Letterman."

"I thought that was the perfect opportunity to wear that T-shirt. A friend made it up for me a couple of years ago and I've never worn it, but I thought this is the time to wear it. Finally."

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'American Enterprise' closes Hilberry season

The Hilberry, Wayne State University's graduate theater company, presents Jeffrey Sweet's historical drama, "American Enterprise," in rotating repertory through May 15. Performances are 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, with selected Wednesday and Saturday 2 p.m. matinees. The Hilberry Theatre is at 4743 Cass, at Hancock, on the campus of Wayne State University in Detroit. For more information or to order tickets by phone, call (313) 57-2972.

BY SUE SUCHYTA
SPECIAL WRITER

The Detroit premiere of "American Enterprise" paints a brilliant picture of the challenging and complex contradictions of capitalism and philanthropy by taking a historic and colorful ride with George Pullman, the man made rich by the railway car that bears his name.

Pullman, a self-made man with an equally strong ego and a myopic point of view, created his own version of a Utopian

town for the workers at his Pullman car factory. In an era of slums and sweatshops, his ideal town was met with suspicion by the rich and an early rush of euphoria by the workers.

However, the paternalistic dictatorship of his town began to crumble when Pullman slashed wages during an economic depression without lowering the rent workers paid for company-owned housing. Pullman had lowered wages to keep the company open during the depression by selling Pullman cars at a loss. However, after rents were deducted, workers had very little left to live on.

Quoting capitalism and free enterprise the way a preacher quotes Scripture, Pullman's ego and stubbornness prevented him from agreeing to any compromise that might have eased his workers' plight. The anger and desperation of the workers triggered the infamous railway strike that led to the formation of the American Railway Union.

The historical reality of the story is reinforced by a fascinating montage of historical photos projected above the stage onto different screens. Sepia images of George Pullman, his town, the workers are paired with poignant images of Chicago fires and starving children, lending a startling realism to the story.

Aaron Lake endows the larger-than-life role of George Pullman with a strong mix of confidence and angry stubbornness. He helps synthesize Pullman's puzzling contradictions: his benevolent idealism and his staunch, unbending worship of capitalism. Lake also captures the vulnerability of Pullman, who was emotionally unprepared for the labor violence that erupted or the government's pronouncement of the moral unsoundness of his choices.

Mike Schraeder as J. Patrick Hopkins is delightfully fresh faced and boyish as Pullman's protégé. Schraeder takes Hopkins from a naive youth to a shrewd politician and business-

man — and Pullman's bitter rival.

Sara Wolf creates a strong yet likable persona for Jennie Curtis, one of the worker representatives, by using a seamstress' simple stories to capture the poignancy of the workers' struggles.

Lucas Caleb Rooney as union organizer Eugene V. Debs exhorts the workers into a united front with a passion and strength of purpose that reverberates off the house. Rooney's strong stage presence creates an image for Debs that allowed him to believably and powerfully confront the iron will of George Pullman.

In a break from typical Hilberry tradition, the theater company delivers much of the play's emotion with voices raised in song. While the show is not billed as a musical, the songs it presents — strong, folk-like ballads — capture the mood of the play and create an emotional union rallying cry. And while the talented Hilberry ensemble was not chosen for their musical prowess, the actors held their own vocally and created a likable chorus.

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MAY 14 - MAY 17 7:30

'Rugrats — A Live Adventure' for actress

BY KEELY WYONIK
STAFF WRITER
kwyonik@oe.homecomm.net

It's easy to get discouraged when you're 24, living in New York, away from family and friends, and trying to break into show business.

"Wherever you go there will be someone better than you, but you'll be better than someone else," said Amy Sonne, a 1992 graduate of North Farmington High School who is appearing in the "Rugrats — A Live Adventure," opening April 30 at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. "As long as you love it, it will work out. You'll be happy that you did it."

Sonne started taking dance lessons when she was three years old.

"I wanted to be 5-foot-6 and have long legs," said Sonne who is 5-foot, 3-inches tall.

After graduating from Michigan State University, Sonne moved to New York City in 1997 after graduating from college. She got the part in "Rugrats" after answering a dance call for female dancers, 5-foot 3-inches and under last September. She's been touring with the show since October, and called from Knoxville, Tenn.

"It turned out pretty good," said Sonne who is doing something she never dreamed of, portraying Phil in the "Rugrats — A Live Adventure."

"I wanted to go on tour," she said. "Dressing up as a baby Rugrat has been a good adventure."

Sonne worked in children's theater for two years in college. One of the things she likes "Rugrats" is that it's for children.

"This show is often their first

"Rugrats — A Live Adventure"
When: 7 p.m. Friday, April 30; 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, May 1 and May 8; 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, May 2 and May 9; and 7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, May 4-7.
Where: Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit.
Tickets: \$25, \$19.50, and \$12.50, call (313) 983-6611 for information, or (248) 433-1515 to charge tickets.

exposure to live theater," she said. The show draws everyone from babies to adults, but especially children ages four to eight who regularly watch the popular Nickelodeon series show on TV.

"Rugrats — A Live Adventure" brings the show to life with music and colorful sets. It's the same show that came to Detroit last May with some changes.

"Some of the characters are different," said Sonne. "We have a new cast and crew."

As the curtain rises, it's a

rainy day, and the babies are left in Grandpa's care. Chuckie's afraid of thunder. Tommy invents a "People-Ator," an invention that makes toys come alive. As long as there are people around, Chuckie isn't afraid, but the bratty Angela steals it. With help from his friends, Chuckie tries to get the "People-Ator" back.

Imagination, sharing and friendship are some of the lessons children learn as they enjoy this fun-filled production.

Sonne describes her character as "crazy. His twin is Lil. They love to play in the dirt and eat worms."

Because her character is so playful, Sonne said she can be creative. "There aren't many restrictions for physical movements."

Detroit is the end of the road for Sonne who will be leaving the show to spend the summer at Michigan, a family camp for University of Michigan alumni in Boyne City.

She won't be dancing. "I've been director of the nature center for the past three summers, they offered me the job again," said Sonne. "I love camp, it's a great way to work with children. I'm interested in environmental education."

After the summer, Sonne plans to move back to New York City.

Her dream is to teach dance and dance history at the university level. In the meantime, she'd like to dance or perform in musical theater. "I'd really like to dance with a modern dance company, but there aren't many opportunities," she said.

Dancing is what's she doing now, but Sonne isn't sure if it will be her life's work. "Who says it's what you have to do forever," she said.

Having the support of her family has meant a lot. They go to all of her shows, big and small. Besides "Rugrats" Sonne's theater credits include productions of "West Side Story," "Hello Dolly!" "Anything Goes," and "Company."

"My family has supported me all the way," she said. "I've met people who don't have family support."

Immunity among top winners at Detroit Music Awards

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net

The diversity of the Detroit music scene flourished Friday night as the reggae band Immunity, the folk group The Luddites, the country act Forbes Brothers and pop singer/songwriter Stewart Francke came up the top winners at the Detroit Music Awards.

Immunity took home Outstanding Reggae Artist/Group, Outstanding World Artist/Group and Outstanding Artist/Group Deserving Wider Recognition, while its "Live" album won Outstanding World Music Recording at the ceremony held at the State Theatre. Immunity members Jonathan Pettus and Bill Koggenhop were named Outstanding World Music Vocalist and World Music Instrumentalist, respectively.

The Forbes Brothers swept the

country awards adding Outstanding Country Recording, Country Artist/Group, Country Vocalist, Country Instrumentalist and Country Songwriter to their resume.

Some of the winners

Ruling the pre-show award ceremony held in the mezzanine level of the State Theatre, The Luddites won Outstanding Acoustic Artist/Group, Outstanding Folk Artist/Group, and Outstanding Artist/Group Deserving Wider Recognition in the folk category. Its album "100 Years of Lunacy" was named Outstanding Acoustic/Folk Bluegrass Recording.

After a four-song set, Francke added Outstanding Local Rock Artist/Group, Outstanding Rock/Pop Songwriter, and Outstanding Local Rock/Pop Recording for "Sunflower Soul Serenade" to his mantle.

His organization, the Stewart Francke Leukemia Foundation, was given this year's Special Achievement award for community and charity work. Francke was diagnosed with the disease and had a bone marrow transplant last year.

"I just want to point out that as far as the Leukemia Foundation goes, a lot of people worked very hard on it. My sister Kit is somewhere out there. She worked very hard on it and also gave me bone marrow," he said.

Distinguished Achievement honors also went to Detroit radio DJ the Electrifyin' Mojo, jazz trumpeter Marcus Belgrave and rockers The Romantics. The ska/punk bands Telegraph and The Suicide Machines paid tribute to The Romantics through song. Romantics singer Wally Palmer played harmonica during The Suicide Machine's cover of "What I Like About You," which

will be included on "Before You Were Punk Vol. 2" due out in July on Vagrant Records.

Other multiple winners included Jill Jack, Johnny Basset and the Blues Insurgents, Thornetta Davis, Jazzhead, Howling Diablos, Sun Messengers, and Fred Hammond and Radical for Christ.

In a moment of pure brilliance, novelist Elmore Leonard gave the Immortal Winos of Soul the Outstanding Band Name prize.

Live energy

The live performances, however, injected energy into the event. The Miracles, without Smokey Robinson, took the stage for four songs — "The Tears of a Clown," "I Second That Emotion," "Ooh Baby Baby" and "Love Machine" — forcing the stagnant audience out of their seats. Punk rockers and oldies fans alike sang and danced in the aisles.

The four-and-a-half hour ceremony also featured performances by Esham, Derrick Starks and Today's Generation, Demolition Dollrods, Willie Max, Jeff Haas with Marcus Belgrave, Enemy Squad and the Rat Pack All-Star Rhythm and Blues Revue with a variety of Detroit blues performers.

Rap ruled the roost at the Detroit Music Awards. Kid Rock, who was playing in Grand Rapids Friday night, took Outstanding National Album for "Devil Without a Cause," National Single for "I Am the Bulldog" and Hip Hop Writer/Producer.

Eminem, whose major-label debut "The Slim Shady LP" isn't eligible until next year, was honored with Outstanding Hip Hop Recording for his "Slim Shady" EP, Hip Hop Artist/Group and Hip Hop MC.

Support your local artist

"We tried for so long just to get to this point. MTV showed us so much love. I'm sure he'd want to thank his mom, whatever, she's not here. You should start supporting your local artists. You didn't give him any love at first now he's blowin' up," said a man who accepted on Eminem's behalf who only identified himself as a producer.

The seven-and-a-half minute, much-touted trailer for "MC5 * A True Testimonial" lived up to its hype until director/co-producer David C. Thomas took the stage. He used the opportunity to shamelessly beg for money.

"If everybody contributed the price of a dinner we could finish our principal photography," he said.

For a complete list of winners, visit <http://www.detroitmusicawards.com>.

Farmington Players shine in madcap 'Don't Dress for Dinner'

The Farmington Players present "Don't Dress for Dinner" by Marc Camoletti, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1, 2 p.m. Sunday, May 2; and 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 7-8 and May 14-15 at the Players Barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile (1/2 mile west of Orchard Lake Road), Farmington Hills. Tickets \$12, call (248) 553-2955.

BY BOB WEIBEL
SPECIAL WRITER

The Farmington Players' string of excellent productions continues with "Don't Dress for Dinner," a madcap French farce by Marc Camoletti, (adapted by Robin Hawdon), that starts slowly, then swiftly catapults into one hilarious scene after another.

Under director Bill Salisbury, the cast appeared in great form

on opening night, no easy task when performing a fast-paced physical comedy before a audience for the first time.

Best of all, seldom did any of the outrageous situations appear "staged," they flowed naturally from the well-developed comic characters. For example, they had great fun with a repeated gag whereby cast members stamp out imaginary insects to hide what's really going on — adultery and deception.

The setting is a converted French farmhouse. Bernard has planned the perfect weekend. His wife (Jacqueline) will visit her mother (otherwise known as the "old buzzard"). His sleek Parisian mistress (Suzanne) will stop by to keep the home fires burning, so to speak. Unfortunately for Bernard, and happily

for the audience, the rendezvous doesn't go according to plan.

The scheme quickly unravels, when his wife learns a Cordon Bleu cook (Suzette) has been hired, and his best friend, Robert, is also coming over.

It turns out that Robert and his wife are also lovers. She decides to stay home for a little double adultery.

Bernard tries to cover up his intentions, but this only leads to misunderstandings, mistaken identities and clever double-entendres. Mix the movie "Clue" with Abbot and Costello's "Whose on First?" and you have some idea of the comic absurdity.

Nick Szczerba (Bernard) and Jan Salisbury (Jacqueline) are terrific as the dueling spouses. Mike Megerian (Robert) is suave and debonair and a per-

fect foil for Bernard. His smooth comic timing is first rate.

Julia Spina-Kilar (Suzette) creates one of the most definitive characters seen in some time. She brings energy, comic timing and a flair for farce that is a joy to behold. She enters as the cook, but if these folks want to play games, she's game, for a price — as she charges 200 francs for each role she's asked to play (niece, mistress, etc). Her line, "I've never been so many people or had so many affairs with so many different men in my life" sums up the show itself.

Georgina Schuetz (Suzanne) has that certain "je ne sais quoi" one expects of a seductress, which made her all the more funny as she impersonates the cook and practically destroys the kitchen and the meal.

Erick Carlson (George) caps the evening's fun when he appears near the end (looking

very French) and confused as to what his wife (Suzette) has gotten herself into.



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Guays a week

A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

THEATER

THE CENTURY THEATRE
"Forbidden Hollywood," through Sunday, June 27, at the newly restored 200-seat theater in the Gem/Century building, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays (\$29.50), 7:30 p.m. Thursdays (\$29.50), 8:30 p.m. Fridays (\$34.50), 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturdays (\$34.50), 1:30 p.m. Sundays (\$29.50), and 5:30 p.m. Sundays (\$24.50). (313) 962-2913

DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE
"Magda's Story," through May 23, 8:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. \$15. (313) 868-1347

FINE ARTS THEATER
"The Silent Cry—God is Watching You," the No. 1 gospel musical drama that tackles the issues of domestic violence in families, 7:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday, through May 2, 2952 Woodward, Detroit. \$20. (248) 645-6666/(313) 831-7835

GEM THEATRE
"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change," runs through June 27, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-9800 or (248) 645-6666

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE
"The Rocky Horror Show," Richard O'Brien's rock 'n' roll sci-fi spoof, through Sunday, May 9, Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Rochester. \$24-\$35. (248) 377-3300

NEW STUDIO COMPANY
"Master Class," a drama featuring veteran Detroit actress Susan Arnold about soprano Maria Callas as she teaches a master class of opera hopefuls, through Sunday, May 16, Varner Studio Theatre, Oakland University, Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, Rochester. 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 29-May 1, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, May 2, 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 5, 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, May 5-8, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, May 9, 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 12, 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, May 12-15, and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, May 16. New Studio Company is a new alliance between Meadow Brook Theatre and OU's Department of Music. \$18-\$25. (248) 377-3300/(248) 645-6666

PLOWSHARES THEATRE COMPANY
"Jitney," through May 9, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays, 6 p.m. Sundays, at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren at Brush, Detroit. \$15-\$18, \$10 previews. (313) 872-0279

OPERA

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE
"Madame Butterfly" featuring Bolshoi Opera (Moscow) star Marina Mescheriakova and Chinese star Sun Xiu West, 8 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Sunday, May 2, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. (313) 237-SING/(248) 645-6666

VERDI THEATRE OF MICHIGAN
Holds its fifth annual "Italian Songs and Arias Vocal Competition" for high school students 4 p.m. Sunday, May 2, 10 finalists will sing, at the Italian American Cultural Center, Warren. \$7, \$5 seniors/high school students, and available at the door. (734) 455-8895/(810) 751-2855

COLLEGE

HENRY FORD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
"Pippin," 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, April 29-May 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 2, in Adray Auditorium on campus, 5101 Evergreen, south of Ford Road, Dearborn. \$10, \$8 students/seniors. (313) 845-9900 or http://theatre.henryford.cc.mi.us/

WSU HILBERRY THEATRE
"American Enterprise," in rotating repertory to May 15; "The Playboy of the Western World," runs through May 8 in rotating repertory, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$17. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATER

AVON PLAYERS
"Children of Eden," a new musical based on the Biblical stories of Adam & Eve, Cain & Abel and Noah's Ark, April 30-May 2, 7-8, 14-16 and 20-22, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays; also 2 p.m. May 8, at the playhouse, 1185 Tienken Road, east of Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. \$15. (248) 608-9077

FARMINGTON PLAYERS
"Don't Dress for Dinner," a comedy by Marc Camoletti, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30 and May 1, May 7-8, and May 14-15; 2 p.m. Sunday, May 2, at 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, (1/2 mile west of Orchard Lake Road), Farmington Hills. \$12. (248) 553-2955

PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD
"Walk Until Dark," Frederic Knott's thriller about a blind woman, a doll, and a thief after the doll which is full of heroin, not recommended for children under age 12, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 7-8 and Thursday-Saturday, May 13-15, and 6 p.m. Sunday, May 9, at the Water Tower



Family show: See Angelica and all your friends at "Rugrats -- A Live Adventure," a musical stage show based on the popular Nickelodeon TV series, at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Performances 7 p.m. Friday, April 30; 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, May 1 and May 8; 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, May 2 and May 9; and 7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, May 4-7. Tickets are \$25, \$19.50, and \$12.50, call (313) 983-6611 for information, or (248) 433-1515 to charge tickets.

Theatre, 41001 W. Seven Mile, west of I-275 between Haggerty and Northville roads on the campus of the Northville Psychiatric Hospital. \$9, \$8 advance. (248) 349-7110

RIDGE DALE PLAYERS
"Into the Woods," a musical by Stephen Sondheim, April 30-May 2, 7-8, 14-16 and 21-23, 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays, at the playhouse, 206 W. Long Lake between Crooks and Livernois roads. \$13, \$12 seniors/students. (248) 988-7049

ROSEDALE COMMUNITY PLAYERS
"The Dining Room," April 30-May 1, and 7-8, 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 1, at the Upstage Theater, 21728 Grand River east of Lahser, Detroit. \$10. (313) 537-7716/(313) 532-4010

STAGECRAFTERS 2ND STAGE
"Assassins," a musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1 and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 2, at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. \$9. (248) 541-6430

THEATER GUILD OF LIVONIA-REDFORD
Students from Churchill High School's Creative and Performing Arts program present "The Diary of Anne Frank" 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, May 6-8, and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 9, at the Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford, Beech Daly, south of Five Mile. \$10, \$8 students/seniors. Tickets by reservation only. (313) 531-0554

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

PAPER BAG PRODUCTIONS
"Jack and the Beanstalk," runs Saturdays-Sundays to May 23, 1 p.m. Saturdays (lunch at noon) and 2 p.m. Sundays (lunch at 1 p.m.), at the Historic Players Club, 3321 E. Jefferson, between Mount Elliott and McDougall across from Harbortown, Detroit. \$7.50, includes lunch and show. (810) 682-8118

WILD SWAN THEATRE
World premiere of "Brothers of the Heart," for ages nine and older, May 5-16, gala opening 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 14 with old-fashioned ice cream social and afterglow in the Towsley Theater, (\$20, \$15), at the Towsley Theater, in the Morris Lawrence Building at Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor. \$8, \$6 children. (734) 763-TKTS.

SPECIAL EVENTS

BROADWAY CONCERT
Featuring baritone Mark Vondrak, soprano Maria Cimerelli and other artists from the Michigan Opera Theatre performing music from Rodgers and Hammerstein, Lerner and Loew, and a special tribute to the world of operetta (Romberg, Herbert and Friml), 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, room 332 of the Kahn Building, West Bloomfield. Free, but reservations a must. (248) 661-7649

NEL CARTER
Shares the story of her life and journey toward Jerusalem, 4 p.m. Sunday, May 2, Temple Israel, 5725 Walnut Lake Road, W. Bloomfield. Tickets \$25, call (248) 661-5700.

DSO "OVERTURES"
The singles group catered to those 20-to 40-something hosts a noon brunch at the Detroit Institute of Art's Prentiss Court, followed by a concert-guided tour of the DIA at 1:30 p.m., and a

DSO concert with pianist Awadagin Pratt, Sunday, May 2. \$40 includes brunch, shuttle service, and a mid-balcony concert seat with the group (DIA entrance donation for non-members is not included). (313) 576-5111 or http://www.detroitssymphony.com

DETROIT ZOO
Cynthia Moss renowned for her 30-year study of African elephants, talks about elephant families as well as her sometimes dangerous experiences on the African savanna, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 29, in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery at the zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile, Royal Oak. \$25. (248) 541-5717, ext. 1205

GUITAR SHOW
Featuring 150 vintage instrument dealers displaying thousands of rare guitars, amplifiers, basses, mandolins, banjos and other stringed instruments, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 1, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 2, Michigan State Fairgrounds, Detroit. \$8 in advance at Gordy's Music, Ferndale; \$10 at the door. Free for children ages 12 and younger. \$4 parking. (248) 546-7447/(248) 546-SHIP

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S SHOW
Fashion shows, health and fitness information, financial planning, career information, parenting resources, entertainment by "The Singing Handymen" Mike Carluccio among others, childcare provided, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 29-May 1, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, May 2, at the Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Drive. \$7, \$6 advance at Kroger's. \$3 ages 4-12. (800) 849-0248 or www.southernshows.com

JEWISH FOOD FAIR
Cooking competitions in five categories, tastings, Michigan's largest talking gefilte fish, children's entertainment and activities, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 2, at Congregation Shir Tikvah, 3900 Northfield Parkway, Troy. \$12, \$7 children ages 5-12; admission includes five tastings. (248) 547-6053

MICHIGAN STUDENT FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL
The 30th annual festival co-sponsored by the Detroit Institute of Arts and Detroit Area Film & Television, features films and videos by students, grades K-12, Saturday, May 1, at the Detroit Film Theatre. Free. (248) 547-0847

'99 COLLEGE ALL STARS VS. HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS
7 p.m. Saturday, May 1, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., (I-75 and Laper Road), Auburn Hills. \$35, \$35 and \$15 reserved. Special Superfan seating available. Kids 12 and younger and seniors older than 60 receive \$2 off tickets. Special rates for groups of 15 or more available. (248) 377-0100

BENEFITS

ART AUCTION
7 p.m. Friday, April 30, conducted by Park West Galleries, at St. Edith, 15069 Newburgh, Livonia. \$5, to benefit St. Edith's Christian Service and St. Edith Youth Ministry. (734) 464-1222

EARTH ANGELS SOCK HOP
Special performance by Earth Angels, pizza dinner with dessert, hula hoop contest, prizes for best 50's contest, 6-10 p.m. Saturday, May 15, at the William Coakley Activities Center, 28600 Eleven Mile, Farmington Hills. \$8, \$5 children under age 5. (248) 330-8410

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

The Ruach Group of the Greater Detroit Chapter of Hadassah is hosting its third annual progressive dinner, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1, at a members' homes. The Vineyards, Uptown Deli, The Shiek, LaShish, Sweet Lorraine's, Mai Thai, Mei Ling, Big Daddy's, E.G. Nicks, Marty's Cookies and Diamond Bakery have donated food. Benefits the Madassah Medical Organization, comprised of two hospitals, outpatient clinics, research facilities, and a community health center. (248) 960-3145/(248) 737-8999

SCARAB CLUB AUCTION
Noon Sunday, May 2, at the club, 217 Faragworth, behind the Detroit Institute of Arts. \$5, proceeds will go toward restoration of the historic Scarab Club built in 1928. (313) 831-1250

FAMILY EVENTS

BEANIE BABY SHOW
11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, May 2, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth. \$5, \$2 children ages 4-12. (734) 455-2110

DSO "YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT"
Featuring music inspired by the book "On the Day You Were Born," by Debra Frasier, and arranged for orchestra by Steve Heitzeg, 11 a.m. Saturday, May 1, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8-\$22 (\$30 box seats). (313) 576-5111 or http://www.detroitssymphony.com

MEET YOUR BEST FRIEND
At the Detroit Zoo, adopt a loveable pet, the Michigan Humane Society and 30 participating humane organizations are trying to find new homes for hundreds of homeless animals, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, May 1-2, at the zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile, Royal Oak. Free, parking not included. (313) 872-3400/(248) 398-0900

CLASSICAL

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With pianist Awadagin Pratt and conductor Eri Klas, Beethoven's "Piano Concerto No. 3," and Gershwin, 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, April 29-30, and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1, and 3 p.m. Sunday, May 3, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$13-\$48 (box seats \$40-\$63). (313) 576-5111 or http://www.detroitssymphony.com

CONCERT BANDS

BIRMINGHAM CONCERT BAND
"Fanfare for Spring" concert featuring a variety of music from across the ages, 3 p.m. Sunday, May 2, at Groves High School Auditorium, 20500 W. 13 Mile at Evergreen. Free, donations appreciated.

ORGAN

MOTOR CITY THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY
"Show Boat," starring Howard Keel, Kathryn Grayson and Ava Gardner, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1, and 2 p.m. Saturday, April 30, organ overture begins 30 minutes before performances with Tony O'Brien, at the Historic Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser Road at Grand River, Detroit. \$2.50. (313) 531-4407

POPS/SWING

H-VI ORCHESTRA
9-11:30 p.m. Thursdays, at the Soup Kitchen, 1585 Franklin, Detroit. (313) 259-1374; 7-9:30 p.m. Sundays, at

the Heidelberg, 215 N. Main, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 663-7758

AUDITIONS

BIRMINGHAM CONCERT BAND
Looking for adult musicians (woodwind, brass, and especially percussion players) of all ages, rehearsals are 7:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at Groves High School Birmingham. (248) 474-4997

"EXTREME GONG"
The Game Show Network show auditions for acts, 4-6 p.m. Thursday, May 6, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Variety acts must be three minutes or less and anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Accompaniment for any musical act must be acoustic, on cassette tape or compact disc. One act from each city will be flown to Los Angeles to appear live on "Extreme Gong" and get a chance to win a \$10,000 prize package. (312) 214-4520, ext. 26

NOVI THEATRES
Auditions for actors ages seven through college for "Jack & the Beanstalk" and "Beauty & the Beast," 4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, May 4 and 6, at the Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. 10 Mile. For performances July 9-11 and July 30-Aug. 1. All actors must pay a participation fee of \$125 once cast. (248) 347-0400

OPEN AUDITIONS
For girls ages 5-10 to sing "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" from the "Wizard of Oz" for a gala to raise funds for cancer research, noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 1, at 29555 Mullane Drive, west of Orchard Lake Road off 13 Mile, Farmington Hills. For performance Saturday, May 15. (248) 349-4466

RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL
Final call for experienced actors (background in dance, martial arts, swordplay or drill team/cheerleading helpful) to perform in the 20th annual Michigan Renaissance Festival, by appointment only Saturday, May 8, at Oakland University's Varner Hall, Rochester. For festival to run Aug. 14-Sept. 26. (800) 601-4848

RIDGE DALE PLAYERS JUNIOR ACTORS
Auditions for young people ages 12-18 for the musical "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," 1-3 p.m. Saturday, May 1, at the playhouse, 205 W. Long Lake between Livernois and Crooks, Troy. For performances June 25-27. (810) 677-2077

STAGECRAFTERS YOUTH THEATRE
Auditions for ages 8-18 for "Bye, Bye Birdie," 10 a.m. Saturday, May 1, registration begins at 9 a.m., at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. For performances July 23-25, 29-31 and Aug. 1. (248) 541-4832.

CHORAL

FORT STREET CHORALE
Performs "The Passion According to St. Matthew" by J.S. Bach with the Fort Street Chamber Orchestra with Thomas Sheets of the University Choral Union conducting, 3 p.m. Sunday, May 2, at Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 Fort St., Detroit. \$12. (313) 961-4533

FULL CIRCLE DANCE COMPANY AND SHOW CHOIR
From Henry Ford Community College, dance and choral works concert, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 7-8, in Adray Auditorium on campus, 5101 Evergreen, \$9, \$6 students/seniors/children. Dearborn. (313) 845-6314/(313) 845-6474

LIVONIA CIVIC CHORUS
"Jump 'n Time" concert of '30s and '40s swing music 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1, at Clarenceville High School, Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia. \$7, \$5 seniors/students. (248) 620-4807

MADRIGAL CHORALE OF SOUTHFIELD
Under conductor Robert A. Martin, with the Livingston County Chorale sing 4 p.m. Sunday, May 2, highlights include "The Gospel Mass" by Robert Ray and "Canticle of Praise" by John Ness Beck, at the Academy of the Sacred Heart, 1250 Kensington Road, Bloomfield Hills. \$15, \$12 seniors/students. (248) 546-5733

MEASURE FOR MEASURE
The men's choral society performs 4 p.m. Sunday, May 2, at Franklin Community Church, 26425 Wellington, Franklin. \$10, \$5 children ages 10 and younger. (248) 626-6606

JAZZ

AH LARocca
9 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, as part of Mood Indigo night at Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 21 and older. (734) 662-8310 (Friday jazz)

THE BLEND
9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday, April 30, at Copper Canyon Brewery, 27522 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield. (248) 223-1700

GERALD BLUMER
8 p.m. to midnight Thursday, April 29, at Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. (248) 645-2150 (piano/bass/drums)

SANDRA BOMAR
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, May 1, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham.

Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (vocal/piano/bass)

HEIDI HEPLER/MICHELE RAMO/TODD CURTIS
8-11 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, at the No. VI Chophouse and Lobster Bar in the Hotel Baronette, 27790 Novi Road, Novi. (248) 305-5210; 8-11 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at Northern Lakes Seafood Company in the Kingsley Inn, 1475 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 646-7900; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, at Vic's Market, 42875 Grand River Ave., Novi. Free. All ages. (248) 305-7333

WOODY HERMAN TRIBUTE
With the Johnny Trudell Big Band, music from all the Herds directed by Frank Tiberi, 3 p.m. Sunday, May 16 (2:45 p.m. warm-up band is the Orchard Lake Middle School Jazz Band), at Clarenceville High School Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road, between Seven and Eight Mile, Livonia. \$15, proceeds benefit the free Michigan Jazz Festival and the Alumni and Friends of Clarenceville Foundation. (248) 474-2720/(734) 459-2454

KIMMIE HORNE
8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1, D.L. Herrington's Roadhouse, 2086 Crooks Road, Rochester Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 852-0550

CHARLIE HUNTER AND ADAM CRUZ
7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, May 5-6, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$15 in advance. 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

LIQUID SOUL
8 p.m. Friday, April 30, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$12 in advance. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com (avant jazz)

LEE KONITZ TRIO
With Pete Siers, drums and Jeff Halsey, bass, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, May 8, at the Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$25, \$15, \$10. (734) 769-2999 or kch@ic.net

MATT MICHAELS TRIO
With Ron Kischuk, 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, April 29; with Tom Saunders and Jim Wyse (cornet and sax) Thursday, May 6, at the Botsford Inn, Farmington Hills. \$5 cover waived with dinner order. (248) 474-4800

MUTUAL ADMIRATION SOCIETY (MAS)
8 p.m. Wednesdays-Saturdays, Duet, 3663 Woodward Ave., at Martin Luther King Boulevard, Detroit. Free. All ages. (313) 831-3838

NORTHWOODS IMPROVISORS
8 p.m. Saturday, May 1, 1515 Broadway, 1515 Broadway, Detroit. \$10. All ages. (313) 965-1515

JIM PARAVANTES
With Meridian, 8:30 p.m. to midnight Fridays-Saturdays in April, Andiamo Italia West, 6676 Telegraph Road, at Maple Road, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 865-9300

POIGNANT PLEOCOSTUMUS
With Jazzhead, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555

GARY SCHUNK TRIO
8 p.m. to midnight Thursday, May 6, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (piano/bass/drums)

PETE SIERS TRIO
With Johnny O'Neal, drums and Jeff Halsey, bass, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday, April 30, at the Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$10, \$5 students. (734) 769-2999 or kch@ic.net

TOOTS THIELEMANS QUARTET
With Kenny Werner, 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 7-8, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

HARVEY THOMPSON AND FRIEND
9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

PAUL VORNHAGEN
8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Friday, April 30, at Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. (248) 645-2150 (saxophone, piano/bass/drums)

DONALD WALDEN QUARTET
8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Friday, May 7, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 594-7300

NEW AGE

JAAP BLONK
The dutch folk performer and sound poet appears with Swedish multireed experimentalist Mats Gustafsson and Chicago percussionist Michael Zerang in an evening of improvisational excursions exploring sound possibilities out past the edge, 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, at the Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$15, \$10. (734) 769-2999 or kch@ic.net

WORLD MUSIC

Please see next page

8 Guays a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Christina Fuoco; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279

Continued from previous page
BLACK MARKET

10 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Oxford Inn Tavern, 43317 E. Grand River Ave., Novi. \$5, 21 and older. (248) 305-5856 (reggae)

GREAT BIG SEA
8 p.m. Saturday, May 1, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$15, \$10 students with student ID at Michigan Union Ticket Office. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org (celtic)

IMMUNITY
9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday, April 30, Hamtramck Funtrain at Holbrook Cafe, 3201 Holbrook, Hamtramck. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 875-1115; 7-11 p.m. Wednesday, May 5, Rio Bravo, 2065 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 371-0333; 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday-Saturday, May 7-8, Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor. Free. 21 and older. (734) 769-2500 (reggae)

JO NAB
9 p.m. Thursday, April 29, Karl's Cabin, 9779 Old N. Territorial Road, Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (734) 455-8450 (reggae)

NATALIE MACMASTER
8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, May 5-6, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$15. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org

GEAROID O'HALLMURAIN
All-Ireland champion concertina player and uilleann piper, 8 p.m. Sunday, May 2, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$11, \$10 members, students and seniors. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org

JIM PERKINS DUO
9 p.m. Thursday, April 29, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-1135 (Irish/folk)

TOOTS AND THE MAYTALS
With Morgan Heritage, 9 p.m. Friday, May 7, Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$17.50 in advance. 18 and older. (313) 833-9700 or http://www.99music.com (reggae)

FOLK/BLUEGRASS

PATTY LARKIN
With Jennifer Kimball, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 29, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$15 in advance. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com

THE DUTTONS
Bring their blend of country, folk, classical and bluegrass to the Southfield Centre for the arts, 24350 Southfield Road, 3 p.m. Sunday, May 2. Admission \$10, call (248) 424-9022.

CHRIS PROCTOR
8 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$12, \$11 members, students and seniors. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org

RFD BOYS
The bluegrass band performs at Folk Vespers, a professional folk music concert, 6 p.m. Sunday, May 2, in the gothic sanctuary of First Baptist Church, 300 Willis at Bates, north of Maple, west of Old Woodward, Birmingham. Free will offering taken for musicians. (248) 644-0550

POETRY/SPOKEN WORD

OPEN MIC POETRY NIGHT
8 p.m. Thursdays in April, at Borders Books, Music, Video and Cafe, 1122 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. All poets must sign up in advance. (248) 652-0558

AUTHORS & POETS
An Afternoon of Short Story and Poetry Reading, 3-5 p.m. Sunday, May 2, The Community House, 380 S. Bates St., Birmingham. \$5, (248) 644-5832.

DANCE

CONTRA DANCE
To music by The Ethnic Connection, no partner needed, 8 p.m. Saturday, May 1, 4-6 p.m. open jam for string band musicians of all levels, 6 p.m. learn easy international dances, 7 p.m. Contra dance, at the Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor Saline Road, south of I-94, Ann Arbor. \$7. (734) 332-9024

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING
Workshop and dancing, 7:15-9:45 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, at Chapel Hill Condominium Clubhouse, 3350 Green Road, north of Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 662-5158

HEARING IMPAIRED LISTENERS FAMILY/COMMUNITY DANCE
For parents and children age 0 and up, program is designed to provide hearing impaired children and their families with a safe, fun way to practice listening and responding to music and verbal cues, non-hearing impaired children and their parents are also welcome, audiologist Marcie Brown hosts, 1-3 p.m. Saturday, May 1, at the Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor Saline Road, south of I-94, Ann Arbor. \$4, \$7 per family. Scholarships available. (734) 741-8998

FULL CIRCLE DANCE COMPANY AND SHOW CHOIR
From Henry Ford Community College. Dance and choral works concert, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 7-8, in

Adrey Auditorium on campus, 5101 Evergreen, \$9, \$6 students/seniors/children. Dearborn. (313) 845-6314/(313) 845-6474

TANGO CLASSES
8 p.m. Fridays (beginning), at the Troy Dance Studio, 4963 Rochester Road, at Long Lake Road (\$5-\$10), (248) 689-3393; 8 p.m. Saturdays at Dance Avenue, 1860 N. Telegraph, southeast of Ford Road, Dearborn (\$5-\$7), (313) 565-3329; also advanced Tango Sundays in Troy.

WOLVERINE SILVERSPUR DANCERS
7:30 p.m. to midnight Saturday, May 8, at the Italian-American Cultural Center, Warren. \$7, \$6 members. (810) 573-4993

COMEDY

GALLAGHER II: THE LIVING SEQUEL
7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, May 1-2, Farmington Civic Theatre, 33332 Grand River Ave., at Farmington Road, Farmington. \$20 and \$25. (248) 473-7777

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB
Allyn Ball, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 29 (\$5), and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1 (\$12); Billy Ray Bauer, 8 p.m. Thursday, May 6 (\$5), and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 7-8 (\$12), at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S

Diana Jordan, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 29, (\$8, \$20.95 dinner show package), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1 (\$12, \$24.95 dinner show package), 7 p.m. Sunday, May 2 (\$10, \$22.95 dinner show package), and ladies only night, 8 p.m. Monday, May 3 (\$12, \$24.95 dinner show package); Wendy Liebman, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 7-8 (\$12, \$24.95 dinner show package), and 7 p.m. Sunday, May 9 (\$10, \$22.95 dinner show package), at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

"KINGS OF COMEDY TOUR"
With Steve Harvey, Cedric "The Entertainer," Bernie Mac and D.L. Hughley, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1, Joe Louis Arena, 600 Civic Center Dr., Detroit. \$37.50 and \$47.50. All ages. (313) 983-6611

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE
at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays (\$5), 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays (\$6), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays (\$12), and 7:30 p.m. Sundays (\$6). Prices subject to change. (248) 542-9900 or http://www.comedycastle.com

SECOND CITY
"Extra Terrestrial Chicken" is an Alternative Mondays productions running 8 p.m. Mondays through May 10 (\$8); "Improv Jammers" every Tuesday (7:30 p.m.) beginning May 4 (\$5);

"Impeachment and Cream," through May, at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays, and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays. \$10 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, \$17.50 on Fridays, and \$19.50 on Saturdays; "Improv Jammers," featuring Level 5 training center class, National Touring Company recreating skits from The Second City's 40-year history, and an open improv jam moderated by National Touring Company, 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays beginning May 4. (313) 965-2222

JOHN VALBY "DR. DIRTY"
7 p.m. Friday, April 30, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$15 general admission seating. 18 and older. (313) 961-5451 or http://www.statetheater.com

SUZANNE WESTENHOEFER
8 p.m. Thursday, April 30, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org

POPULAR MUSIC

TROY ANASTASIO
Phish lead guitarist/singer performs acoustic and electric, with Tony Markellis and Russ Lawton, 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 3, Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Sold out. All ages. (734) 763-TKTS or http://www.99music.com (rock)

JOHNNIE BASSETT
With The Blues Insurgents, 9 p.m. Thursday, April 29, Music Menu, 511 Monroe St., Detroit's Greektown. With Joe Weaver, 9 p.m. Friday, April 30, at Music Menu. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 964-6368 (blues)

BIG SUGAR
With Keller Williams, 8 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$8 in advance. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com (blues)

BLACK BEAUTY
8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

"BLIND PIG SHOWCASE"
With Crazy Flying Giants, That's My Mama, Debasar and Michelle Peters, 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, Blind Pig,



Playing the Bag: Patty Larkin (above) and Jennifer Kimball perform Thursday, April 29, at the Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Doors open at 8 p.m. for the 18-and-older show. For ticket information, call (248) 544-3030 or visit www.themagicbag.com

206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Free. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (variety)

BLUECAT
7 p.m. Thursday, April 29, Gameworks inside Great Lakes Crossing, 4316 Baldwin Road, Auburn Hills. Free. 21 and older. (248) 745-9675; 8 p.m. Friday, May 7, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

BLUE ROSE
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1, Nancy Whiskey's, 2644 Harrison, Detroit. Free. 21 and older. (313) 962-4247 (blues)

BLUE SUIT
9 p.m. Friday, April 30, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (734) 721-8609 (blues)

BUMPIN' UGLIES
With The Unfriendly's and The Daggers, 9 p.m. Friday, April 30, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or http://golddollar.com (punk)

SCOTT CAMPBELL GROUP
3-5 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Borders Books and Music, 3527 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (734) 677-6948 (rock)

COMPANY OF STRANGERS
9 p.m. Friday, April 30, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-1135 (rock/Irish)

CRAZY FLYING GIANTS
With Chimax Devine and The Fringe, 9 p.m. Thursday, April 29, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5, 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 (rock)

THE CULT HEROES
With a CD release party for "Motors for Tricycles" by the Deterrants and special guest Colonel Sun, 9:30 p.m. Friday, May 7, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (rock)

THE DIAMOND DUKES
9 p.m. Friday, May 7, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (734) 721-4800 (blues)

DOMESTIC PROBLEMS
8 p.m. Friday, May 7, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Cover charge. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com (rock)

DOVETAIL JOINT
8 p.m. Thursday, May 6, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$7 in advance, \$8 day of show. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com (rock)

GLEN EDDY
9 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty St., Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 451-1213 (blues)

ELIZA
9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday, May 7, at Copper Canyon Brewery, 27522 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield. Free. 21 and older. (248) 223-1700 (pop)

ESHAM
With Natas, House of Crazees and DJ Assault, 8 p.m. Friday, May 7, Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron St., Pontiac. \$12 in advance. All ages. (248) 333-2362 or http://www.961melt.com (rap)

THE EX-HUSBANDS
6:30 p.m. Friday, April 30, Van Gogh's Starry Night Lounge, 27909 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 324-0400 (rock)

GRAVITY WELL
With Poignant Plecostomus and Prime Numbers, 9 p.m. Friday, April 30, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5, 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 (rock)

GRR
8:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 5, Oxford Inn Tavern, 43317 E. Grand River Ave. Novi. Free. 21 and older. (248) 305-5856 (blues/rock)

AL HILL AND THE LOVE BUTLERS
9 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 29-May 1, The Habitat inside Weber's, 3050 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor. 21 and older. (734) 665-3636; 9 p.m. Thursday, May 6, Arbor Brewing Company, 116 E. Washington St., Ann Arbor. Free. 21 and older. (734) 213-1393; 9 p.m. Friday, May 7, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty St., Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 451-1213 (blues)

THE HOPE ORCHESTRA
8 p.m. Friday, April 30, Borders Books and Music, 43075 Crescent Blvd., Novi. Free. All ages. (248) 347-0780; 7 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Borders Books and Music, 3527 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (734) 677-6948 (alternative rock)

HOUSE OF USHER
With Bon, 8 p.m. Saturday, May 1, JD's Macomb Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Cover charge. 18 and older. (810) 913-1921 (prog rock)

LISA HUNTER
8:10 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Espresso Royale, 214 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (734) 668-1838 or http://www.lib.com/oneclamplap/isa.htm (acoustic rock)

IMPACT 7
8:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, April 29-30, Oxford Inn Tavern, 43317 E. Grand River Ave., Novi. Free. 21 and older. (248) 305-5856 (blues)

JUVENILE
With Cash Money Millionaires, Hot Boys, B.G., Big Timers, Trick Daddy featuring Trina, Tre+6, and DH Sikes, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 29, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$45, \$30 and \$15 general admission seating. All ages. (313) 961-5451 or http://www.statetheater.com (R&B)

BILL KAHLER
8 p.m. to midnight Thursdays in April, Fire Academy Brewery and Grill, 6677 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (734) 595-1988 (singer/comedian)

LAGWAGON
With All, Clowns for Progress and Wretch Like Me, 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 30, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$10 in advance. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com (rock)

PATTY LARKIN
With Jennifer Kimball, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 29, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Cover charge. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com (singer/songwriters)

THE LAYABOUTS
With Immigrant Suns, 9 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5, 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 (rock/Eastern European)

MAJOR WOODY
10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 7-8, Boulders, 1020 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. \$3, 21 and older. (734) 459-4190 (top 40)

MISS BLISS
With The Arthur White Experience, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, April 29, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$4, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (rock)

MOTOR CITY BURGERS
Celebrate release of CD with party and performance, with special guests 500 Feet of Pipe and Broadzilla, 9 p.m. Friday, May 7, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5, 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 (rock)

MYSTERY TRAIN WITH JIM MCCARTY
9 p.m. Friday, April 30, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty St., Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 451-1213 (blues)

NAILING BETTY
With Bubaluba, 9 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw St.,

Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 334-9292 (rock)

NO MOTIV
With Moods for Moderns, 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 3, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$6. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com (rock)

NOBODY'S BUSINESS
10:30 p.m. Friday, April 30, Rochester Mills Beer Co., 400 Water St., Rochester. Free. 21 and older. (248) 650-5060 (rockabilly)

ROBERT NOLL BLUES MISSION
9 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (734) 721-8609 (blues)

SUGAR RAY NORCIA
8 p.m. Wednesday, May 5, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$10, 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com (blues)

THE ORIGINAL BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF LOVE
With The Scavenger Quartet featuring Frank Pahl, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, May 6, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$4, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (rock)

OUT IN WORSHIP
With Drumhead, 9 p.m. Thursday, April 29, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or http://golddollar.com (dub)

PHIFE
With Xhibit and Defari, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 29, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$15 in advance, \$18 day of show. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com (hip-hop)

Q
10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 29-May 1, Boulders, 1020 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (734) 459-4190 (top 40 dance)

GARY RASMUSSEN AND STEPHEN GRANT WOOD
6 p.m. Thursday, April 29, Van Gogh's Starry Night Lounge, 27909 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Free. 21 and older. (248) 324-0400 (rock)

MYK RISE
5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1, 5 Hole in The Second City, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Free before 10 p.m. 21 and older. (313) 471-3300 (rock)

ROYCE
8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 6, Oxford Inn Tavern, 43317 E. Grand River Ave., Novi. Free. 21 and older. (248) 305-5856 (blues)

SAFFIRE: THE UPPITY BLUES WOMEN
8 p.m. Friday, April 30, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org (blues)

SAGE
With Gene Yu, 8-9:30 p.m. Friday, April 30, Angel Caravan Coffeehouse, 1420 Hill St., Ann Arbor. Suggested donation, \$7, \$5 students ages 13 and older. \$3 kids. All ages. (734) 327-2041 (acoustic rock)

SAX APPEAL
8 p.m. Thursday, April 29, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

7 FT. POLITIC
8:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Mill Street Entry below Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. \$5, 21 and older. (248) 333-2362 or http://www.961melt.com (rock)

CHRIS SMITHER AND STEVE FORBERT
8 p.m. Friday, May 7, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$13.50. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org (singer/songwriters)

TAPROOT
With Forge and Factor, 9:30 p.m. Friday, April 30, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (rock)

TEEN IDOLS
With Lillingtons, Outsiders and Elephant Ear, 6 p.m. Sunday, May 2, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$7. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com (rock)

TONY, TONI, TONE
7 p.m. Thursday, May 6, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10 general admission seating. 21 and older. (313) 961-5451 or http://www.statetheater.com (R&B)

TRASH BRATS
With Kevin K and Freddy Lynex, 9 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873

TWO MAN ADVANTAGE
With Porn Flakes, 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$7 in advance. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

VERTICAL PILLOWS
Plays its first show since 1991, with special guests Motor Dolls, 9 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Lili's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. \$5, 21 and older. (313) 875-6555 (pop/rock)

RANDY VOLIN AND THE SONIC BLUES
9 p.m. Saturday, May 1, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (248) 543-4300 or http://www.rockindaddys.com (blues)

VUDU HIPPIES
9 p.m. Friday, May 7, Griff's Grill, 49

N. Saginaw St., Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 334-9292 (alternative rock)

JOHN WAITE
6:30 p.m. Friday, May 7, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$15, \$20 and \$24.50. All ages. (313) 961-5451 or http://www.statetheater.com (rock)

WILCO
With Joe Henry, 8 p.m. Thursday, May 6, Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$15 in advance, \$18 day of show. 18 and older. (313) 833-9700 or http://www.99music.com (roots rock)

CLUB NIGHTS

ALVIN'S
The Hush Party with resident DJs Melvin Hill and Cent, 10 p.m. Mondays; and Club Color, featuring funk and disco, 8 p.m. Wednesdays (free before 10 p.m.), at the club, 5758 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5, 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or http://www.alvins.tcom.com

BLIND PIG
"Swing-a-billy" night with dance lessons from 8-9 p.m. Sundays with DJ Del Villarreal, at the club, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor.

Don't expect smooth flight in 'Pushing Tin'

BY VICTORIA DIAZ
SPECIAL WRITER

"Pushing Tin" stars John Cusack, Billy Bob Thornton, Cate Blanchett, and Angelina Jolie, four of the most capable young screen actors around these days. It's directed by Mike Newell, who counts "Donnie Brasco" and "Four Weddings and a Funeral" among his stellar accomplishments.

Also, it's a film that takes a long-neglected subject that would seem to be utterly replete with excitement and dramatic potential — the world of the air traffic control room.

Maybe one of this movie's

problems is that it holds too much promise for its own good. It's not really an awful film, crashing and burning on take-off in one big, dreadful heap. Nevertheless, it does have some trouble getting off the ground.

In it, Cusack is Nick Falzone, a fast-talking controller who hums golden oldies as he works the radar scopes, "pushing tin" in the overcrowded skies above New York City. Nick is one cool guy. In fact, he's the coolest guy in the control room. He never messes up. He makes his nail-biting job look effortless. And though he knows he's one heckuva traffic controller, he's so friendly and down-to-earth that everyone

likes him anyway. He has a loving wife (played by Cate Blanchett), two cute kids, and a nice home in the suburbs.

And then, something happens to really gum up the works for Nick. Competition rides into town on a glittery motorcycle, in the form of a guy named Russell Bell (Billy Bob Thornton), to make a job in the same control room. Half-Irish and half-Choctaw, the taciturn Russell proceeds to take Nick down several pegs and, almost before we can say "Mayday," Nick is losing his wife, his kids, maybe his job, and most definitely his composure.

Despite some especially good



Drama: John Cusack (clockwise, left to right), Billy Bob Thornton and Jerry Grayson monitor the scopes in "Pushing Tin."

performances by Cusack and Blanchett, much of what happens in this movie about man-to-man competition seems vaguely silly instead of funny or amusing, and oddly fragmented instead of cohesive or fast-paced. At the film's conclusion, you may feel as if you've taken an over-long trip that's grown especially tiresome as it lumbers toward the finish line.

"Pushing Tin" is also hampered often by its own split personality. It's one of those movies that can't seem to decide quite what direction it wants to take. Does it want to be poignant? Does it want to be a "message film"? Because of its schizoid tendencies, often what it ends up being is implausible.

Some scenes seem especially nonsensical. Take, for instance, the boys-will-be-boys fight that breaks out in the control room between Nick and Russell, while all that tin is stacking up like

lethal sardines over LaGuardia, Kennedy, Newark, etc. Even as competitive as these two characters seem, and even as much as a moviegoer may yearn to suspend disbelief, as it's presented here, such a scenario is hard to swallow.

A few scenes feel as if they've wandered over from some other movie or TV show (Glen Charles & Les Charles of "Cheers" fame worked the screenplay). At one point, Nick leaves Long Island and the control room, and goes to Colorado in search of Russell and some answers to the mysteries of his life. Because this is the kind of movie that it is, he finds him right there in great outdoors, fishing in a cold, mountain stream.

This gives Russell the chance to say things like "He knows I caught him, and I know I caught him," referring to a trout he's just hooked and let go. It also gives him the chance to say things like "Jump into the

water!" and to deliver other brief sermonettes that sound as if they might have been intended for a segment of SNL's "Deep Thoughts." The two cohorts then conclude the day by standing in the turbulence wake of a 747 as it comes in for a landing. Maybe it's a guy thing.

Billy Bob Thornton's Russell Bell is often so wooden and remote that he's like somebody a slightly overdose on an anti-psychotic medication. The eccentricity may lie more with the character than with the actor, but it's hard to empathize with wooden and remote, and consequently, a challenge to care about such a character, which further disables this picture. The Screen play for "Pushing Tin" was adapted from Darcy Drey's "Something's Got to Give," an absorbing New York Times article about controllers at the New York Terminal Radar Approach Control on Long Island. Too bad this movie doesn't fly nearly as effectively as Frey's article.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

Showcase Aurora Hills 1-14
2150 N. O'Byrne Rd.
Between University & Walton Blvd
248-373-2660
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
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NP PUSHING TIN (R)
NP LIFE (R)
NP GOODBYE LOVER (R)
NP FOOLISH (R)
NP GO (R)
NEVER BEEN KISSED (PG13)
THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG13)
10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU (PG13)
MATRIX (R)
DOUG'S 1ST MOVIE (G)
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)
ANALYZE THIS (R)
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NP FOOLISH (R)
TWIN DRAGONS (PG13)
10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU (PG13)
MATRIX (R)
DOUG'S 1ST MOVIE (G)

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Telegraph
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Telegraph
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Bargain Matinees Daily
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NEVER BEEN KISSED (PG13)
MATRIX (R)
DOUG'S 1ST MOVIE (G)
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MATRIX (R)

10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU (PG13)
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NP LIFE (R)
NEVER BEEN KISSED (PG13)
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NP LOST AND FOUND (PG13)
NP LIFE (R)
NP GOODBYE LOVER (R)
NEVER BEEN KISSED (PG13)
GO (R)
TWIN DRAGONS (PG13)
FOOLISH (R)
THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG13)
10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU (PG13)
DOUG'S 1ST MOVIE (G)
MOO SQUAD (R)
ED TV (PG13)
FORCES OF NATURE (PG13)
ANALYZE THIS (R)
THE KING AND I (G)
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)
SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (R)
LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (PG13)
CRUEL INTENTIONS (R)
BABY GENIUSES (PG)

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Star John-1
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NP GOODBYE LOVER (R)
NEVER BEEN KISSED (PG13)
THE MATRIX (R)
THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG13)
MOO SQUAD (R)
ED TV (PG13)
FORCES OF NATURE (PG13)
ANALYZE THIS (R)
THE KING AND I (G)
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)
SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (R)
LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (PG13)
CRUEL INTENTIONS (R)
BABY GENIUSES (PG)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Star John-2
at 14 Mile
32285 John R. Road
248-583-2879

No one under 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP A WALK ON THE MOON (R)
NP GOODBYE LOVER (R)
NEVER BEEN KISSED (PG13)
THE MATRIX (R)
THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG13)
MOO SQUAD (R)
ED TV (PG13)
FORCES OF NATURE (PG13)
ANALYZE THIS (R)
THE KING AND I (G)
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)
SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (R)
LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (PG13)
CRUEL INTENTIONS (R)
BABY GENIUSES (PG)

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NP GOODBYE LOVER (R)
NP LIFE (R)
NEVER BEEN KISSED (PG13)
OUT OF TOWNERS (PG13)
MATRIX (R)
NP GO (R)
10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU

(PG13)

THE FORCES OF NATURE (PG13)
ANALYZE THIS (R)
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)

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Star Southfield
12 Mile between Telegraph and
Northwestern, Off I-696
248-353-5241
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FOR SHORT-TIME AND PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE CALL 248-372-2222 WWW.FAR-SOUTHFIELD.COM

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NP LOST AND FOUND (PG13)
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NP GOODBYE LOVER (R)
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GO (R)
TWIN DRAGONS (PG13)
THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG13)
THE MATRIX (R)
10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU (PG13)
ED TV (PG13)
THE KING AND I (G)
DOUG'S 1ST MOVIE (G)
BABY GENIUSES (PG)
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ANALYZE THIS (R)
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A WALK ON THE MOON (R)
NEVER BEEN KISSED (PG13)
NP GO (R)
ANALYZE THIS (R)
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)
NP GOODBYE LOVER (R)

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TWIN DRAGONS (PG13) NY
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PAYBACK (R)
DOUG'S FIRST MOVIE (G) NY

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United Artists 12 Oaks
12 Oaks
Inside Twelve Oaks Mall
248-349-4311

PUSHING TIN (R) NY
DOUG'S FIRST MOVIE (G)
GO (R)
THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG13) NY
10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU (PG13)
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)

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LIFE (R)

NEVER BEEN KISSED (PG13)
TWIN DRAGONS (PG13)
THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG13)
10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU (PG13)
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THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG13)
10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU (PG13)
THE MATRIX (R)
LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (PG13)
DOUG'S 1ST MOVIE (G)
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THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG13)
MATRIX (R)
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COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, April 30

"ENTRAPMENT"
An insurance investigator sets a trap to catch a legendary gentleman thief who's never been caught. But things take a turn and now both the hunter and the prey may have to pay a high price for freedom. Stars Sean Connery.

"OPEN YOUR EYES"
Exclusively at the Maple Art. Thriller about a young man who has everything going for himself until a fateful crash kills his ex-girlfriend and leaves him disfigured, only beginning a most bizarre nightmare. (In Spanish with English subtitles)

Scheduled to open Friday, May 7

"WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM"
New version of Shakespeare's most magical comedy. Stars Christian Bale, Rupert Everett, Calista Flockhart, Kevin Kline, Michelle Pfeiffer and Stanley Tucci.

"THE MUMMY"
Sci-fi epic about an expedition of treasure-seeking explorers in the Sahara Desert in 1925 who stumble upon an ancient tomb and unwittingly set loose a 3,000 legacy of terror. Stars Brendan Fraser.

Scheduled to open Friday, May 14

"THE CASTLE"
A warm hearted comedy about a working class man who takes enormous pride in his property and family must

Scheduled to open Wednesday, May 19

"STAR WARS — EPISODE 1 THE PHANTOM MENACE"
Story of a 9-year-old boy named Anakin

Scheduled to open Friday, May 14

"THE CASTLE"
A warm hearted comedy about a working class man who takes enormous pride in his property and family must

Scheduled to open Wednesday, May 19

"STAR WARS — EPISODE 1 THE PHANTOM MENACE"
Story of a 9-year-old boy named Anakin

Scheduled to open Friday, May 14

"THE CASTLE"
A warm hearted comedy about a working class man who takes enormous pride in his property and family must

Thriller:

Sean Connery and Catherine Zeta-Jones meticulously execute their plan in "Entrapment."



DAVID APPELEY

defend his home from being taken to make room for airport expansion.

Scheduled to open Wednesday, May 19

"STAR WARS — EPISODE 1 THE PHANTOM MENACE"
Story of a 9-year-old boy named Anakin

Scheduled to open Friday, May 14

"THE CASTLE"
A warm hearted comedy about a working class man who takes enormous pride in his property and family must

Scheduled to open Wednesday, May 19

"STAR WARS — EPISODE 1 THE PHANTOM MENACE"
Story of a 9-year-old boy named Anakin

Skywalker and Obi-Wan Kenobi, a brash young Jedi Knight. This first chapter in the Star Wars saga follows Anakin's journey as he pursues his dreams and confronts his deepest fears in the midst of a galaxy in turmoil. Stars Liam Neeson, Jake Lloyd.

'Sliding Doors' has interesting plot

BY LEANNE ROGERS
STAFF WRITER
lrogers@oe.homecomm.net

VIDEO

How someone's life turns out can be altered by some bits of good or bad luck — like whether you caught the subway train and got home sooner than if you had taken a taxi. That's the premise of a rather flat 1998 British film "Sliding Doors."

The plot device of the film is interesting enough — it shows parallel plot lines what happens if a woman, played Gwyneth Paltrow, arrives home early enough to find her boyfriend in bed with another woman or just after the other woman has left.

In the first instance, the woman breaks up with the boyfriend — a loser she has been supporting while he stays at home to work on his novel. Conveniently, she met a very nice man on the subway train and

even more conveniently runs into him again while trying to drown her sorrows about her domestic problems. The course of her new relationship seems too good to be true and naturally doesn't have a smooth course.

In the other scenario, the woman decides to take a taxi and gets mugged which delays her journey home. As a result, it takes her some

Big Sugar celebrates latest album release

Standing on a stage at Joe Louis Arena, Big Sugar players Gordie Johnson and Kelly Hoppe are at a ruck. Johnson and keyboardist Hoppe, both natives, glance around at the championship flags hanging from the rafters.

They're even thrilled when they see part of the ice sticking out from a makeshift wood floor. Fashionably stylish with his Hugo Boss red sweater, dark pants and bright red cowboy boots, Johnson is one band member who feels at home in the Joe.

"Some of the crew are die-hard Maple Leafs fans but they're gonna just have to bite the bullet today because me and Kelly are so (in awe), walking around the place going, 'Oh, look at the picture of Gordie Hoppe,'" singer/guitarist Johnson said while picking at his guitar.

Big Sugar was in town April 17 to play during the "Made in Hockeytown Rally" at the Joe. The group, which also includes bassist Garry Lowe, returns to the area Saturday, May 1, to celebrate the release of its latest album "Heated" at the Magic Bag in Ferndale.

"Heated" boils with rock and blues influences as well as '70s classic rock, reggae and psychedelia. Johnson, who produced "Heated," attributed the

variety to "hundreds of gigs a year and different personnel."

"Different people have come through the band over the years and they all leave their influence. They all leave their mark," said Johnson, who has also produced Govt. Mule and Chris Duarte.

Toronto, the city in which he has lived for 10 years, has also had a hand in Big Sugar's music.

"Since I've been living in Toronto for 10 years, I really got into reggae music 'cause it's a really strong community there. It's the largest concentration of West Indians outside of Jamaica. That was just a natural resource that was just there waiting for me in Toronto. That brought a lot of reggae music into our sound, like working with Garry."

Music has been a lifelong aspiration for Johnson, 35. Growing up in Windsor, his musical preferences were Jimi Hendrix, Led Zeppelin, Black Sabbath and Deep Purple. As he got older, he indulged in Miles Davis, Charlie Parker, John Lee Hooker, and acoustic blues.

"When I was 8 years old, I was telling my mom, 'Don't worry about that D on my report card. I know I'll never need mathematics 'cause I'm going to be a rock star.' Parents don't want to hear that when you're 8 years old," he said with a smile, stray hairs hanging over his right eye.

"They love it now. They see our videos on TV. They've got platinum records hanging on

their wall with their name on it. They're a little more understanding now. It's only taken them 30 years to convince them."

The real sign of success, he explained, appeared during a drive through Detroit.

"When I was a little kid I grew up listening to stations like the 'RIF (WRIF 101.1-FM), all the FM rock stations in Detroit, man, from the time I was 6, 7 years old. All of a sudden to hear our song on the rif driving through Detroit is like, it's making me crazy."

Big Sugar and Keller Williams perform Saturday, May 1, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., in Ferndale. Doors open at 8 p.m. for the 18 and older show. Tickets are \$8 in advance. For more information, call (248) 544-3030 or visit <http://www.themagicbag.com>.

Edge good-bye

DJs from WXDG-FM (The Edge) are saying good-bye to listeners on Saturday, May 1, with a live Internet broadcast from the attic of former morning show host Spike. The former Edge radio personalities will spin on the net, via Real Audio at <http://www.radioedge.com>, from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Spike said they may slip in a few previously unheard "Edge Sessions." SV3 Media Group of Rochester Hills is donating its services for the event. A chat room will be set up for listeners to chat live with the DJs and each other.

Cyber news



Celebrating release: The rock band Big Sugar — from left, Kelly Hoppe, keyboards and sax, Garry Lowe, bass, Gordie Johnson, guitars and vocals — is having a CD release party in support of its latest album "Heated" (Capricorn) on Saturday, May 1, at the Magic Bag in Ferndale.

Amazon.com is offering free digital downloads of two new recordings from Sarah McLachlan's upcoming live album "Mirrorball," due out on Arista/Network June 15. Live versions of "Building a Mystery" and "I Will Remember You" may be downloaded from <http://www.amazon.com/sarah-exclusive>. Coal Chamber is taking time out from mixing its upcoming

Roadrunner release "Chamber Music" to chat with fans at 11 p.m. Thursday, April 29, via <http://www.sonicnet.com/channels> or <http://chat.yahoo.com>. Coal Chamber is tentatively scheduled to play Detroit's State Theatre with ICP and Kool Keith on Friday, July 2.

Christina Fuoco is the pop music reporter for The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. If you have a question or comment for her, you can leave her a message at (734) 953-2047, mailbox No. 2130, or write to her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or you can send e-mail to cfuoco@e.homecomm.net

George Friend, Black Beauty live for the blues

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@e.homecomm.net

Happiness slowly creeps across the face of blues guitarist George Friend. During an impromptu soundcheck between sets by Harbinger's Mile and Jill Jack at the Magic Bag, Friend keeps his head down, engulfed in the blues.

When the crowd rises to their feet as he and Black Beauty hit the stage, Friend looks up pleasantly surprised. When special guest Thornetta Davis confidently struts on stage, they go crazy.

"It was scary," Friend said enthusiastically. "After we finished that first song by Booker T and the MGs, everybody just jumped out of their seats. It was great. It's a rush."

That's pretty much the reaction every time Black Beauty plays. At the Lower Town Grill in Plymouth, fans hit the dance floor when Black Beauty plays songs off its debut CD "Senior Smoke."

Friend began writing the material a year ago and of the eight songs he penned, five made it on the CD.

"I was just starting to get used to writing songs. I had never really written that much before. It was scary to say the least. I started to get the hang of it and I started writing material for Thornetta too. I started to feel more comfortable with it," Friend explained.

At first, Friend was focusing on writing rockabilly and jump blues songs. When he eased up on his self-imposed limitations, the music kept coming.

"They (the songs) were all right, they just felt like I was trying to do something instead of just writing a song and letting it be what it is. That's why the CD was a little more varied. My influences definitely came through once I just let it flow."

The opening track "Beaten Down" has all the swagger of Keith Richards while surf owns the seductive "Gonna Do It." The eight minute and 11 second

title track winds its way through rock, blues and soul.

Holding the reins

Friend has "played all sorts of different kinds of music" since he was a child growing up in Marquette. Upon graduation in 1983, he moved to San Francisco for four years with his band Pedxing, a "quirky kind of pop, new wave, like the Talking Heads and Devo. It was kind of a funny band."

In 1988 he returned to Michigan, this time settling in Detroit where he studied jazz at Wayne State University. Expanding his already vast musical resume, Friend hooked up with Alex Trajano and formed the avant jazz act Blue Dog in 1988. Friend then spent time in Spanking Bozo and the Sun Messengers before getting caught in the Twistin' Tarantulas' web.

For 1-1/2 years, Friend played with the Tarantulas. When he left the band, he looked to old friend Thornetta Davis, with

whom he had played in the Sun Messengers. Friend formed Black Beauty in early 1998.

"I formed this band to do a wider variety of music instead of just doing rockabilly or whatever we were doing, jump blues. I really had an interest in doing more Chicago blues and funk and different things," he said.

Davis plays select gigs with Black Beauty, which also includes bassist Jim Simonson of Detroit and drummer Todd Glass, formerly of the Twistin' Tarantulas, of Westland. In January, keyboardist Chris Codish, who won Outstanding Blues Instrumentalist and Outstanding R&B/Urban/Funk Instrumentalist at the Detroit Music Awards April 23, joined the band.

There's a mutual admiration thing going on between Black Beauty and Davis, who is working on her sophomore effort. When she's not performing with Black Beauty, the band is backing her.

"She loves us," Friend said.

Davis was also on board for the Scandinavian tour Black Beauty did with rockabilly singer Robert Gordon.

"They're just nuts about rockabilly over there. We played in Helsinki for 1,200 people, and another small town in Finland with another 1,200 kids. There were kids there just 16 years old with giant pompadours and leather jackets. Every single kid was dressed up."

No matter what he's playing, Friend knows the blues is in his heart.

"I had always been listening

to a lot more blues records. I never played it a lot. I really enjoy the music. I feel like everything that I've played comes pretty much from there."

Black Beauty performs at 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30-May 1, at Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. The free show is all ages, call (248) 644-4800; 9 p.m. Friday, May 7, at Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. The 21 and older show is free, call (248) 543-4300. Black Beauty's Web site is <http://www.blackbeauty.com>

SEAN CONNERY CATHERINE ZETA-JONES

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For casual or special dinners try Bonfire Bistro & Brewery

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

Bonfire Bistro & Brewery is an appropriate name for this newly opened restaurant in Northville.

The earthy smell of burning wood greets diners as they open the door to upscale, yet casual Bonfire Bistro & Brewery. It's the kind of restaurant you can go to for a quick pizza before a movie ... or anniversary dinner.

Wood fuels the ovens here, everything from the pizza oven to the rotisserie and char-grill.

"It gives the food great flavor," said manager Rob Bennett. "We have a great menu, not just beer and sandwiches. Our staff is very knowledgeable and friendly."

Three brightly colored murals decorate the restaurant, which is decidedly urban with rich wood tables and booths.

Wood is piled up along the open kitchen where you can see your meal being prepared.

Chef David Platzer studied at

Bonfire Bistro & Brewery
Where: 39550 Seven Mile (near Haggerty), Northville, (248) 735-4570
Hours: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday; 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday.
Reservations: Lunch only, parties of five or more. Call-ahead seating for dinner.
Menu: Fresh seafood, steaks, chops, chicken, pasta, hand-tossed pizza. Some vegetarian items. Handcrafted beers and rootbeer. Children's menu for ages 12 and under.
Cost: Salads and sandwiches \$3.95 to \$9.95; Pizza (6 pieces, served as an appetizer) \$7.95 to \$8.50; lunch entrees \$7.95 to \$12.95; dinner entrees including pasta \$12.95 to \$26.95. Children's menu items \$4.50 to \$5.95.
Carry-out: Available
Credit Cards: All majors
Seats: 240 people, additional seating (6 tables) on outdoor patio.

the Culinary Institute of America. Ron Jeffries is the Brewmaster, and tours of the brewery can be arranged if you call the restaurant in advance.

For lunch or dinner, Bonfire Bistro & Brewery offers a truly memorable dining experience. The lunch menu features more sandwiches than the dinner

menu. For starters, Bennett recommends the Gorgonzola Ale Dip or Beer-Steamed Mussels.

Pizzas are hand-tossed and cooked in a wood-burning oven. Choose from Chicken & Artichoke Pizza; Pizza Classico - Italian sausage, Roma tomatoes and wild mushrooms with wood-roasted tomato sauce and mozzarella; Wild Mushroom Pizza or Roasted Vegetable and Goat Cheese Pizza.

The Onion Porter Soup - sliced Spanish onions and shallots in a hearty beef and porter broth with crispy haystack onions and Swiss cheese - is a specialty.

For dinner, Bennett points to Planked Salmon, available for dinner or lunch - a fresh Atlantic filet, wood fired on a cedar plank with honey mustard glaze - served with wild rice pilaf and fresh vegetable.

Grilled Lamb Chops, and Herb Chicken Linguine - rotisserie chicken tossed with wild mushrooms, scallions, roasted garlic, sun-dried tomatoes and sage cream sauce over fresh linguine - are also often-requested dishes.

Vegetarians will enjoy Portobella Penne - Fire-roasted portobellas, onions, peppers and roast-



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HUBSCHMANN

Popular dish: Executive Chef David Platzer presents Mediterranean Seafood Farfalle, an often requested dish at the newly opened Bonfire Bistro & Brewery.

ed garlic with penne noodles in a tomato fennel broth, topped with grated Parmesan cheese.

From the rotisserie, choose from Herb Crusted Prime Rib, Spit Fire Duck or Chicken, all slow-cooked over a hickory fire and served with fresh vegetable.

If you're hungry for a sandwich for lunch or dinner, Bennett recommends Beef & Boursin - shaved prime rib with creamy boursin cheese, red onions, lettuce and tomato on a hoagie roll with horseradish mayo.

The lunch menu features the popular Cherry Chicken Salad, Honey Mustard Chicken Wrap Sandwich, Black Forest Ham & Cheddar Sandwich and Grilled Portobella & Vegetable Wrap.

There are six items on the children's menu - Bowtie Pasta with tomato sauce and cheese, Chicken Tenderloins, Grilled Cheese with fries, Cheeseburger and

fries, Fish and Chips, and Cheese Pizza.

Toast a special occasion with one of Bonfire's handcrafted beers. There's a wide variety - from the Firelight Lager, to Vulcan's Ale, Burning Brand Bitter-Extra Pale Ale, Promethean Porter, and a seasonal specialty.

For something really different, try one of Bonfire's two cask-conditioned beers - Smoldering Coals Imperial Stout or a Special Rotating Cask. These English-style ales are naturally carbonated and served at room temperature.

Wine by the glass, beer by the bottle, draft cider, martinis and other cocktails are available also.

Desserts are made in house. The Vanilla Malt & Porter Praline ice creams are made exclusively for Bonfire Bistro & Brewery using the sweet extract of malted barley, fresh cream and

sugar. Other delicious ways to satisfy your sweet tooth include Cappuccino Creme Brulee, S'More Cheesecake, Hot Fudge Brownie made with a white chocolate brownie, Apple Cherry Pie, Fresh Fruit Anglaise, and a Rootbeer Float.

Bennett said they plan to revise and change the menu to keep it fresh. Every attempt will be made to accommodate special requests.



Pizza: Michael Ollie gets ready to put a wild mushroom pizza into the wood fire pizza oven.

WHAT'S COOKING

Send items for consideration in What's Cooking to Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, fax (248) 591-7279, or e-mail kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

OLD MEXICO

Celebrates Cinco De Mayo, Mexico's independence from France, Wednesday, May 5 at their restaurants in Livonia, 28407 Five Mile Road (734) 421-3310 and West Bloomfield, 5566 Drake Road, (248) 661-8088. Piñata breaking 4 p.m. at the Livonia restaurant; 5:30 p.m. at the West Bloomfield Restaurant. Both locations will have menu specials. The West Bloomfield location will also have Latin music 7-11 p.m. including at Mariachi Band at 10:30 p.m.

GOLDEN MUSHROOM

French Wine dinner, Monday, May 3, 18100 W. 10 Mile Road, Southfield. Cost \$90 per person, plus tax and gratuity, call (248) 559-4230 for information and

reservations.

COMEDY DINNER THEATER

Tony & Maria's Wedding, Saturday, May 8, Livonia American Club, 39200 Five Mile Road. Cost \$44.95 per person, call (800) 817-6279 for information, reservations.

MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON

At the Italian American Club of Livonia, 39200 Five Mile Road Livonia, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 9. Family-style luncheon, music by the Eddie DeSantis Ensemble, adults \$25 per person, \$10 children (ages 6-12), \$3 children (ages 4-6), children age 3 and under, free. Call (734) 953-9724 for reservations/information. No tickets sold at the door.

CORSI'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT AND BANQUET CENTER

Mom's Day Buffet, noon, 2 p.m. or 4 p.m. Sunday, May 9, 27910 W. Seven Mile Road, Auburn Hills \$12.95, seniors \$12, children under age 10, \$6. Call (248) 777-4960 for reservations/information.

FOX HILLS

Mother's Day Brunch, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fox Hills Club House, 8768 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth, \$15.95 per person, call (734) 453-7272. Fox Hills serves brunch every Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. the cost is \$14.95 adults, and \$5.50 (children ages 3 to 12).

MCDONALD'S RESTAURANTS

Introduced a new line of breakfast bagel sandwiches - Steak, Egg & Cheese Bagel Sandwich, Ham, Egg & Cheese Bagel Sandwich, and Spanish Omelet Bagel Sandwich. The sandwiches are the first new breakfast item to be introduced at McDonald's in 10 years.

P.F. CHANG'S CHINA BISTRO

Popular P.F. Chang's China Bistro in Somerset Collection South, Troy, does not take reservations, but has adopted "call ahead seating." Just give the

restaurant a call (248) 816-8000 a half hour before you plan to arrive-and if there's a wait list (even there will be on weekend evenings), your name will be added. Upon arrival, notify the host staff that you called ahead. When your name reaches the top of the list, you'll be seated at the next available table.

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ner for two at any URC restaurant including the popular Duet, Fusion, Morels and No.1 Chop-house & Lobster Bar. Enroll at (248) 646-0370 Extension 216 or any URC restaurant or Deli Unique.

OUTDOOR DINING

Big Rock Chop & Brew House, 245 S. Eton, (south of Maple) Birmingham (248) 647-7774; Paint Creek Cider Mill & Restaurant, 4480 Orion Road, Rochester (248) 651-8361 and the three East Side Mario locations 2273 Crooks Road (north-east corner of M-59) Rochester Hills (248) 853-9622; 31630 Plymouth Road (west of Merriman) Livonia (734) 513-8803 and 29267 Southfield Road (between 12 and 13 Mile Roads) in the Southfield Commons Shopping Center (248) 569-9454 have officially opened their patios.

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