

Westland Observer

Thursday
November 25, 1999

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SEVENTY FIVE CENTS

Robbery reported

A man is all right after being robbed of \$55,000 and attacked around 2 p.m. Tuesday.

The store owner of Mitch's Party Store, at Michigan and Newburgh, had gone banking to get cash for cashing checks, said Lt. Marc Stobbe of the Westland Police Department.

"He had a large amount of money," Stobbe said.

The man got a flat tire at Palmer and Newburgh. At that time, two men approached, smashed out his window, sprayed him with Mace and took the money, Stobbe said.

"We're investigating right now," Mace in the eyes was the man's only injury, the lieutenant said.

The man had just left the bank where he got cash to accommodate the early payday crowd at his store. He didn't require hospitalization, Stobbe said.

IN THE PAPER
TODAY

Millennium: Be a part of a very special first edition of Jan. 1, 2000, by placing your photo and message in your hometown Observer. See page A12 for details.

ENTERTAINMENT

Theater: Erin Dilly's coming home as *Bertrande*, the female lead of the U.S. premiere of "Martin Guerre" at the Fisher Theatre. /E1

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HOW TO REACH US

Newsroom: 734-953-2104
Newsroom Fax: 734-591-7279
E-mail: jbrown@oe.homecomm.net
Nightline/Sports: 734-953-2104
Reader Comment Line: 734-953-2042
Classified Advertising: 734-591-0900
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Jolly old elf



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Here's Santa: Santa Claus arrived this past Saturday morning by horse and carriage at Westland Center, eager to greet all the good girls and boys. Among the waiting youngsters were twins Maxwell (left) and Vincent Murray, 9 months, of Garden City. Santa is holding court near Hudson's from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Santa and Westley Holiday Bear were accompanied Saturday by the John Glenn High School Marching Band.

Police dog solves odd mystery

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

A Westland man accused in the attempted strangling death of an upstairs neighbor was arrested Monday after a police dog found him hiding inside a mattress.

Police dog Zeke chewed and clawed his way through the bedroom mattress until he uncovered the 38-year-old suspect, who had slit open the mattress to hide in it.

"The dog chewed right through the mattress until he got hold of the guy's arm," police Lt. Marc Stobbe said.

Officers went to Scotsdale Apartments, 8131 N. Newburgh, following reports of a woman and a young child screaming from a second-floor apartment at 2:20 a.m., Stobbe said.

Police found a 27-year-old woman dressed in a blood-spattered shirt, gasping for breath with an electrical cord wrapped around her neck, police reports said.

The victim, whose 2-year-old daughter was visibly upset, accused a downstairs suspect of trying to kill her, after accusing her of cashing one of his welfare checks, the reports said.

The victim said the suspect, accompanied by his live-in girlfriend, pounded on the door, made the allegations, punched her and put the cord around her neck, police reports said.

"She added that at one point (the suspect) dragged her by the cord around her neck over to the living room floor near the couch," the reports said.

Police saw rug burns and cuts on the victim's body, and her eyes were swollen and red.

"They found her near death," Stobbe said.

After learning that the suspect had fled the apartment, officers called in police dog Zeke and his owner, Officer Grant Allen. They went to the first-floor apartment where the suspect lives.

"Zeke went directly to the rear bedroom," a police report said, and the dog stood atop a bed and started barking loudly.

"Looking inside the bedroom," Allen wrote in his report, "I noticed canine Zeke was on top of the bed scratching and biting at the mattress. I noticed there to be a slight hump in the mattress."

"Canine Zeke had by this time reached inside a hole in the mattress, caused by the scratching and biting, and apprehended the subject by the arm," Allen wrote.

Police believe that the suspect's girlfriend may have tried to help conceal him by throwing a comforter over the mattress where he was hiding.

Even after Zeke found him, the suspect refused to get out of the mattress, forcing officers to cut him out and place him under arrest, police reports said.

Stobbe said the suspect may face charges as serious as assault with intent to murder. He also said the girlfriend may face similar charges because she allegedly accompanied the suspect to the victim's apartment.

Mayor has plans on ice

■ Plans for a new ice rink in Westland took an unexpected turn Monday when Mayor Robert Thomas proposed tearing the current facility down and building two rinks in a new rec center near the library.

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

Mayor Robert Thomas dropped a bombshell Monday evening by proposing to tear down Westland Sports Arena and add two new ice surfaces to his plans for a new recreation complex.

"I'd like us to look in that direction now and see if it's feasible," he said.

Thomas startled some council members, recreation employees and architects by unveiling his latest proposal during a study session on ice arena needs.

He later estimated it would cost \$15 million to \$18 million to build a new recreation center which would include two indoor ice surfaces.

Ideally, Thomas wants to build the state-of-the-art complex near the Westland public library on Central City

Please see PLANS, A2

City man charged

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER
loconnor@oe.homecomm.net

Authorities are crediting the father of a 14-year-old Livonia boy for helping them arrest a Westland man who is charged with assaulting the Livonia man's son.

Jeffery Clay Lacey, 26, is charged with two counts of rape and one count of using the Internet to solicit sex from a minor.

He was arraigned in 34th District Court in Romulus Sunday. The judge set cash bail at \$150,000.

Wayne County Sheriff and Livonia police arrested Lacey Saturday as part

Please see CHARGED, A6

Junior Miss event lauds youthful achievement

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER
jbrown@oe.homecomm.net

Brooke Robertson of Wayne Memorial High School was named 2000



Jumpin' Night: Brooke Robertson performs for the Junior Miss judges Saturday night. She is the new Wayne-Westland Junior Miss.

Wayne-Westland Junior Miss Saturday night. All 20 participants, however, were winners.

"Most of all, they've had six weeks of just fun," said Pat Hermatz, co-chairwoman of Wayne-Westland Junior Miss. The high school seniors have developed friendships, too, she said.

Saturday night at the Norman O. Stockmeyer Auditorium at Wayne Memorial featured plenty of song and dance. The theme was Swingin' 2000.

Robertson will go on to the state level March 25 in Alpena, Mich. That winner will go on to nationals in June 2000 in Mobile, Ala.

Saturday's event included Courtney Cagnon, 1999 Michigan Junior Miss and a Wayne Memorial graduate, and Kristen Fidh, 1999 Wayne-Westland Junior Miss. Fidh talked about how the participants this year were energetic, fun to work with and willing to learn.

"I went home and I cried" after the dress rehearsal, Fidh said. The University of Michigan student saw how much she'd grown in the last year.

"You always change, you always learn and you always grow," Fidh said. "In such a short time, I learned so much."

The Wayne-Westland scholarship program started in 1967. Hermatz thanked the program's many supporters for making it possible.

Charlotta Sherman, assistant superintendent for general administration, Wayne-Westland schools, said 19 John Glenn students and eight Wayne



STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LENTZ

Winners all: Above is Brooke Robertson, the 2000 Wayne-Westland Junior Miss. She is a senior at Wayne Memorial High School. At right is the 1999 representative, Kristen Fidh, with Junior Prince and Junior Princess representatives Aaron Kentala, Destiny Davis and Gabrielle Lynn.



Please see ACHIEVEMENT, A6

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Westland Observer

HOW TO REACH US

Susan Rosiek, Publisher
(734) 953-2100
srosiek@oe.homecomm.net

Hugh Gallagher, Managing Editor
(734) 953-2149
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

Julie Brown, Editor
(734) 953-2126
jbrown@oe.homecomm.net

Darrell Clem, Reporter
(734) 953-2110
dclem@oe.homecomm.net

Brad Emons, Sports Editor
(734) 953-2123
bemons@oe.homecomm.net

Tom Hawley, Photographer
(734) 953-2129
thawley@oe.homecomm.net

Bryan Mitchell, Photographer
(734) 953-2125
bmitchell@oe.homecomm.net

Shirley Benson, Representative
(734) 953-2174
sbenson@oe.homecomm.net

Sue Mason, Community Life Editor
(734) 953-2133
smason@oe.homecomm.net

Jim Herford, Circulation Manager
(734) 953-2238

HOW TO REACH US

Circulation Nightline	734-953-2008
Classified Advertising	734-591-0900
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Plans from page A1

Parway north of Ford Road. He touted his plan by saying it would:

- Give the city two new ice sheets rather than adding one new surface to the existing sports arena, 6210 N. Wildwood.
- Be paid off with revenues already being collected in a special Tax Increment Finance Authority district north of Ford Road.
- Allow for multiple-use recreation facilities where families could use ice surfaces, weight rooms, indoor swimming areas and other attractions.
- Provide better parking areas than the current arena has.
- Allow city officials to replace Westland Sports Arena with more ball fields. The facility was built in 1969; a roof was added in 1973.

"I would just as soon tear it down if we build two new (ice) sheets at the new facility," Thomas said.

Land needed

His proposal could hinge on whether the city succeeds in acquiring land between the library and the Kroger store on Ford Road. Administration officials earlier halted negotiations with property owners, but Thomas said Monday he now remains hopeful of reaching an agreement.

If the city builds a new recreation complex, Thomas has suggested possibly tearing down the current Bailey Center and City Hall to accommodate a new municipal building south of Ford.

City Hall is 35 years old, the Bailey Center 20. Thomas has labeled both buildings inadequate.

Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski said the city might qualify next year for state grants to help build new recreation facilities.

The mayor's sudden proposal surprised architect Scott Sherman, who came to Monday's meeting toting several drawings of possible Westland Sports Arena renovations.

The city will now ask for alternate drawings of ice surfaces at a new recreation complex, Thomas said after the meeting.

Councilman Charles "Trav" Griffin also asked for a comparison of projected revenues that would come from a new ice arena and a renovated facility.

Sherman pointed out some inherent problems in expanding Westland Sports Arena. That plan, he said, could:

- Encroach on a Michigan Department of Natural Resources creek.
- Force the city to cut down some trees.
- Reduce space available for ball fields.
- Force the city to relocate oil lines at a cost of \$140 per foot.

■ Increase traffic in a residential neighborhood.

■ Require an architectural design that, due to land restrictions, might not have the most appealing layout.

"There are problems all the way around," Sherman said.

Councilman David Cox voiced concerns about increased traffic in the neighborhood, saying he'd be upset if he lived nearby.

Cost concerns

Budget Director Tim McCurley said renovating the existing sports arena would likely cost \$3 million or more. He said the city would likely have to bond the project for 20 years and pay about \$250,000 a year to retire the debt.

Councilwoman Justine Barns said after the meeting she already supports building new ice surfaces onto a new recreation center in the TIFA district. "Let's go do it," she said.

Recreation employees say a new sheet of ice would allow them to host more competitions and would give them the space they need to accommodate demands from hockey and figure skating clubs.

Thomas said the city will now ask architects to come back with a comparison of the old and new sites.

Sherman already has documented the need for extra ice space — wherever it is built — following meetings with communi-



Mayor Robert Thomas

■ His proposal could hinge on whether the city succeeds in acquiring land between the library and the Kroger store on Ford Road ... Thomas said Monday he now remains hopeful of reaching an agreement.

ty residents who said the city's one surface isn't enough.

"The response regarding that second sheet of ice was overwhelming," he said.

OBITUARIES

EDITH W. GRESEHOVER
Services for Edith Gresehover, 85, of Farmington Hills were held Nov. 22 in Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington with burial at Grand Lawn Cemetery in Detroit. Officiating was the Rev. Douglas D. Carter from Redford Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Gresehover was born Dec. 28, 1913, in Detroit and died Nov. 19 in Livonia. She lived in Farmington Hills 50 years. She was a teacher's aide for Farmington Public Schools, retiring in 1986. She attended Redford High School.

Surviving are her son, John (Shirley) Gresehover of West Bloomfield; daughters, Nancy (Graden) Deel of Redford Town-

ship and Judy (Thomas) Brown of Westland; brother, Dexter (Lynn) Ware of Bradenton, Fla.; sister, Marjorie Crossett of Livonia; 11 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Gresehover was preceded in death by her husband, John.

Memorials may be made to Henry Ford Hospice, 6020 W. Maple Road, Suite 500, West Bloomfield, MI 48322.

JOSEPH J. BUCHKOWSKI
Services for Joseph Buchkowski of Westland were held Nov. 20 in St. Theodore Catholic Church in Westland with burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

Mr. Buchkowski died Nov. 18, 1999. He lived in Westland one

year and was a past resident of Plymouth for 30 years. He retired from Adistra and Kmart Corp.

Surviving are his wife, Pauline; stepchildren, Romeo Bazinet, Denise Pank, Paul Bazinet, Annette Sullivan, Thomas Bazinet and Bernadette Corcoran; sisters, Gertrude Messing, Emma Fisher, Bernice Ignash, Theresa Glaza, Marie Krozek and Mathilda Particka; and 12 stepgrandchildren.

Arrangements were made by Ziomek Funeral Home.

JOSEPH MRACNA
Services for Joseph Mracna, 78, of Westland took place Nov. 19 in Vermeulen Funeral Home with burial at United Memorial

Gardens near Plymouth. Officiating was the Rev. Leonard Partensky.

Mr. Mracna was born Oct. 18, 1921, in Detroit and died Nov. 19 in Ann Arbor. He was a physical education teacher and a swimming and diving coach for Thurston High School, retiring after 30 years of service. He served with the U.S. Navy during World War II for 3½ years.

Surviving are his wife of 54 years, Bernice; daughters, Jamie (David) Epperson of Westland and Phyllis Lister of Ann Arbor; sisters, Alice Walker of Westland and Anna Zink of Dearborn; and four grandchildren.

It's Thanksgiving time again, the weather is getting colder, what to do?

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CITY OF WESTLAND

SURPLUS VEHICLE AUCTION AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The City of Westland will be holding a public auction to dispose of surplus vehicles on Saturday, December 4, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. Vehicles will be available for inspection beginning at 9:00 a.m. The auction will be held at the Department of Public Service yard, located at 37137 Marquette Road, Westland, Michigan 48185. These vehicles are offered "AS IS" only. The City of Westland makes NO WARRANTY OF ANY KIND with respect to these vehicles or items being purchased.

Items To Be Auctioned Include:

41-45 Cars and Trucks of various makes and models, bicycles, miscellaneous office equipment and furniture.

Terms of Sale:

The City of Westland will accept cash or certified check only, with no exceptions. No personal or company checks will be accepted. Purchasers can pay for their purchase in full or they may leave a 15 percent minimum deposit for each purchase. Purchasers must remove their purchases from the Public Service yard by Friday, December 10, 1999, at 4:00 p.m. Any item not claimed and paid for by this date and time will revert back to the City of Westland. No refunds after purchase!

For a listing of vehicles available for bidding, please contact the Motorpool Division for the City of Westland at (313) 728-1770. The City of Westland reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

JILL B. THOMAS
Purchasing Agent, City of Westland

Published: November 25 and 26, 1999

CITY OF WESTLAND

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hall, 38281 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 7, 1999.

01902A, Public Hearing Proposed Reverting from CB-3 to CB-4 (General Commercial Business to Vehicle Service), 15605 Ford Road, Parcel 0002-00-0001-000, North Side of Ford Road, East of Wayne Road, Ford St. Holman (William L. Distributor for NED Bank)

Written comments may be sent to the Westland Planning Department at 37085 Marquette Avenue, Westland, Michigan 48185.

ROBERT C. BOWERS, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Published: November 25, 1999

Restoration project a gift from the heart

BY LEONARD FOGER
STAFF WRITER
lfogers@eccehomm.com.net

A 70-year-old Ford Lincoln auto was restored to its original bright red color and sparkling condition.

So? What makes this bump shop job different is that the "vehicle" is a kiddie car meant for small children who want to pedal around the neighborhood. Westland's Tony Sahl had tried for years to gain possession of the car - first bought by a grandfather for Sahl's father - and have it restored.

The restoration was recently completed at a Garden City collision business for the right price - free.

In the meantime, Sahl is delighted about the restoration of the 1929 kiddie car and appreciative of Morrison's contributions.

Larry Morrison, owner and manager of the Collex Collision Exports business on Middlebelt just north of Cherry Hill, said he accepted the kiddie car for restoration because "I am a car nut."

But he admitted that he had several employees work on the vehicle when they had the time as a low-priority project over the past year and a half.

Morrison estimated the work over that time was 80 to 100 hours.

Why did he do the work for nothing?

BUSINESS

"I must have been drunk," he joked. But seriously, Morrison said he has restored cars for himself and others.

"I just enjoy cars." Morrison said he waived the usual \$28-per-hour labor charge as a favor for a friend.

In talking about the history of the car, Sahl said that it was bought by his grandparents for his father, who died nearly two years ago.

The car was then handed down to Sahl and his two brothers while they were growing up on Detroit's west side.

"It became a rusted piece of junk," Sahl said, adding that his father wouldn't get rid of it. "It took me 20 years to get it. It's been my dream to have it restored."

Sahl said he learned a neighbor's father is Morrison.

"If I had a million dollars, I'd give it to him - and it wouldn't be enough," he said.

The car will be kept as it is and never be driven again, he said.

"I won't let it deteriorate." Meanwhile, he has the shiniest car on the block, in the Joy-Merriman neighborhood.



Car buffs: Tony Sahl (left) is happy about the restoration of a 1929 kiddie car by the Collex Collision owner and staff. On hand to inspect the finished product are employees Jim Welker (second from left), Randy Nickell, owner-manager Larry Morrison and Pat Brownfield.

He's down to business in secretary of state quest

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
sdaniel@eccehomm.com.net

Loren Bennett figures it will cost \$1 million to become Michigan's next secretary of state in 2002.

That's why the state senator (R-Canton) is hitting the fund-raising trail now. A \$250 per person reception will be held for him Dec. 6 in Grosse Pointe Farms.

"I'm not a wealthy person," said Bennett, "and there's no way I can afford an expensive campaign by myself. But I can put my sweat equity in as an alternative to raising a certain amount of money."

Next month's event isn't a formal kickoff for his campaign. He announced his intentions to run last spring.

"This is something I've thought about for some time," Bennett said. "I feel I have the background. I'm the only person in the Senate who has been on the front line of managing voter registration and elections."

The former township clerk will be term-limited out of the senate in 2002. Current Secretary of State Candice Miller, a possible Republican candidate for governor, faces the same fate.

"She has built a foundation of excellence I feel I can build on," said Bennett. "I feel Candice Miller has done an outstanding job of improving the system since taking office."

Bennett served as Canton's clerk for six years before moving on to Michigan's senate in 1994. He said there are some similarities between the position and secretary of state.

Elections and voter registration is one. Bennett wants to make registering as easy and painless as possible.

"I understand the discouraging factor it can be on election day with people," he said. "I passionately believe in making it as perfect as possible."

Other responsibilities include drivers licenses and being the state's head historian. Bennett would be in charge of keeping state records.

"It needs to be a high-profile position," he said of the historical aspect. "I think the secretary of state needs to use the position as a bully pulpit for historical preservation."

Bennett thinks he can hit the ground running as secretary of state.

"I come with practical experience," he said. "It's not theory."

First things first, however. He must win the election.

Bennett realizes that he has opened himself up to criticism for announcing his bid so early. But he maintains vigorously that the race won't take away from his duties in the Senate.

"It's something I go from morning to night seven days a week," Bennett said. "I'm always up on the issues."

He points out that he has a 100 percent attendance and voting record in the senate. Bennett says he'd be shooting himself in the foot if he slacked now in Lansing.

"If my performance slips for any reason," he said, "it will be a negative for my campaign. It would be crazy to let that happen."

Bennett thinks he won't be the last politician to announce a bid for a different seat early. Term limits make it necessary, he said.

The amount of money needed to run a winning campaign also predicate an early start.

Miller spent about \$270,000 to take the secretary of state job in 1994. She spent \$870,000 just four years later. Bennett estimates \$1 million is needed for the 2002 campaign.

"I'm confident I can raise that amount of money," he commented.

He'd like December's fund-raiser to be a rarity, though.

"I prefer to meet people one-on-one," Bennett said. "My game plan is to get out and meet a lot of people."

Hopeful: State Sen. Loren Bennett (R-Canton) hopes to be Michigan's next secretary of state.



Firefighters Ball enjoys a revival in late January

BY DARELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
dclem@eccehomm.com.net

The Westland Firefighters Ball - a formal-attire tradition that died two decades ago - will be revived in January.

"We're excited," said Sgt. Ed Hosmer, Westland Firefighters Association president. "We feel this is an excellent way for the community to meet firefighters."

Tickets are \$35 per person for the ball, scheduled for 6 p.m. Jan. 29 at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road.

Fire Capt. Colleen Fedel said tickets will go on sale Dec. 2. Call fire administration offices at 467-3201.

Missing will be the old Miss Flame beauty pageant, featured in the 1970s balls. Fedel said a live band named Joyride will be performing an eclectic range of music.

The Westland Firefighters Ball was started by the late firefighters Joseph Benyo and Whitey Robinson, Councilwoman Sharon Scott said.

"The firefighters were a very close-knit group, and the wives used to work on decorations for the ball," she said.

"It was a big event in the city at that time, and it was very well attended," Scott, the wife of former Fire Chief Ted Scott, said.

Hosmer said the ball will give the community a chance to meet firefighters.

"I think it's a great idea," Scott said. "We're lucky that we have a new, young fire department that's willing to take this on again. We have some good community leaders coming up in the fire department. They're very community-minded."

Hosmer recently unveiled plans for the ball during a city council meeting, urging city officials and residents to join the fun.

"We're hoping you'll come and meet us and have some fun with us," he said.

Library staffers gain praise

Two Westland public library workers - among the first hired when the facility opened three years ago - have been named employees of the year.

Jane Zemba and Mike Gazzarari received their honors, and praise for the jobs they're doing, during a Nov. 17 library board meeting.

Zemba is a supervisor who is

the head of circulation and technical services. Gazzarari is a business manager whose duties include paying the bills.

Library Director Sandra Wilson commended Zemba and Gazzarari as helping to keep the library running smoothly.

Because of their efforts, she said, "they're getting most books shelved in one day."

Zemba said she likes her job. "Sandra has taught me a lot. She's been a wonderful mentor," she said.

"It's been fun to be here since the beginning," she said. Gazzarari complimented the library, too.

"This is a really great place to work," he said. "I am glad to be here. We are a family."

Community Foundation all set to deck the halls at yule event

The Westland Community Foundation will hold a holiday event Wednesday, Dec. 15, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, on Joy between Wayne and Newburgh roads in Westland.

Admission is by donation of an unwrapped toy for the children of the Salvation Army and/or canned or boxed food.

At 6:30 p.m., there will be holiday classes by pianist Stefan Kukarugva. Hors d'oeuvres and other refreshments will be served.

At 7:30 p.m., there will be a show and sing along

by the Northwest Vicariate Handbell Choir and Singers. The event is for the entire family.

For reservations, call (734) 595-7727 by Dec. 8.

The foundation's yearly budget for holiday cards is being donated to the children of P.D. Graham Elementary, Hayes Elementary and Johnson Elementary, who have created more than 600 artistic, unique cards. Each school will designate its own charity to sponsor.

Grand Opening

PLAY IT AGAIN SPORTS Sale

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<p>Win Air Exalt Jr. Hockey Skates \$99.99 Reg. 6200</p>	<p>Win Air Excel Sr. Hockey Skates \$129.99 Reg. 6300</p>	<p>Mission Proto V Sr. Roller Hockey Skates \$129.99 Reg. 6210</p>	<p>Mission Proto V Jr. Roller Hockey Skates \$99.99 Reg. 6200</p>
<p>Technica C71 Inline Skates Mens & Womens \$99.99 Reg. 6300</p>	<p>Rock HC-6 Helmet (non approved) \$19.99 Reg. 630</p>	<p>Goalie Equipment Pads Catcher Blocker 20-50% OFF</p>	<p>Hockey Replacement Blades Assorted- Eastern-Louisville-Franklin 3 for \$15.99</p>
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Teacher: Career change good

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER
loconnor@oes.homeschool.net

Kathy Frame's boss paid her teacher of the year the ultimate compliment.

"Teaching is both an art and a science," said Marjorie Coxford, Washington Elementary School principal. "Some can teach the science but not the art. She knows the art of it."

Those are cherished words for a person whose interests are rooted in the creative arts.

Frame worked in advertising prior to becoming an educator, designing and creating ads for clients.

She transferred her innovative methods from the hectic corporate world into the classroom. Which is part of the reason Frame has been named Livonia Public Schools Elementary Teacher of the Year.

Frame and Secondary Teacher of the Year, Churchill's Jennifer Dalacqua, will be entered for consideration in the Wayne County RESA/WDIV Teacher of the Year awards program.

She's made an impact

With only 211 years on the job, Frame has made the mark.

The third-grade teacher at Washington Elementary handles team teaching and oversees a computer lab/problemsolving class.

Third grade is also final passage-way to education's larger measuring stick. In the fourth grade, students start to receive letter grades and take the Michigan Educational Assessment Program test.

"It's a real pivotal year," Coxford said.

While there is pressure ahead, Frame's easygoing nature helps alleviate that, the principal said.

Frame's teaching philosophy is simple: Make learning relevant.

On a recent day in class, Frame gave an overview on the three branches of government: judiciary, executive and legislative.

She broke up students into three groups to come up with a good written description of each.

She talks to them

"You need to cement these ideas

so you understand them," Frame said to them. "I don't think the book does enough of that."

Frame gives firm directions, but doesn't talk down to them.

"That's not my style," Frame said. "I like to build a community where everyone has respect for each other."

When she needs to get children's attention, Frame gathers them and claps her hands three times. Students do the same and listen to what she says.

While tackling the three branches of government might be seen as heavy stuff for third-graders, Frame believes introduction to such topics lays a solid base.

"I think of it as a layering of learning," she said.

As a carpenter would say, a house will topple without a solid foundation.

Frame keeps building her knowledge. She regularly attends educational conferences on such topics as "How the Brain Learns" and multi-age grouping, Coxford said.

Frame always shares information with colleagues, "but not to show off," Coxford said. "She doesn't come back and say, 'Oh I know it all.'"

Like the young minds she teaches, Frame's enthusiasm to learn is evident.

Career switch

Education offered a whole new world to Frame, who at 29 became disenchanted with advertising.

While still working in the field, Frame started to teach an adult education class in the subject at Redford Union.

Frame returned to Wayne State University where she earned a master's degree. She received her teaching certification in elementary education.

Her college classes were filled with others who, like her, were looking to make career changes, Frame said.

"I just felt I needed more fulfillment, something where I felt I was going to give something back," she said. "Let's face it, advertising is about dollars. I wanted to do something more altruistic."

In 1992, Frame started at Grant Elementary where she taught for three years. She then transferred to Washington Elementary.

Corporate culture prepared her for teaching in many ways, especially in terms of time management as advertising is filled with deadlines.

"Being out in the real world, you see how to make learning relative to kids," Frame said. "I tend to look at the end result: How will this be relative to them in their lives?"

For instance, when teaching parameters, she explains how they would use to buy carpeting. Kids immediately bought into it.

"I think if they know you believe in them, you get the best results from them," Frame said.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Teaching with pride: Washington Elementary School teacher Kathy Frame gives instructions to fourth-graders about their social studies assignment. Frame was announced as the Elementary Teacher of the Year for the Livonia district.

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS 15125 FARMINGTON ROAD NOVEMBER 1, 1999 *SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES BOARD OF EDUCATION

*The following is a summary, in synopsis form, of the Board of Education's regular meeting of November 1, 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 Timmons convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m., in the Board Room, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia. Present: Kirsten Galka, Frank Kokenakes, Daniel Lessard, Joanne Morgan, Patrick Nalley, Dianne Nay, Kenneth Timmons. Absent: None.

Special Olympics Award: Terry Jobbitt, a member of the Board of Directors and Competition Director for Special Olympics Area 23, presented to the Board and school district a plaque recognizing Franklin High School's hosting the Special Olympics field days for the past 12 years.

Golden Apple Award: Trustee Galka presented the Golden Apple Award to Gene Simons, head custodian at Tyler Elementary School, for his leadership, high work ethic, initiative, and ability to work with all the clients of the school.

Recess: President Timmons recessed the meeting at 7:10 p.m., and reconvened the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Audience Communications: Steve Pearson, 35538 Vargo, addressed the Board to thank them for taking action on the issue of changing the field trip permission slip language expeditiously.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Lessard and Nay that the Board approved the following consent agenda items as recommended by the superintendent: IV Minutes and Synopsis of the Regular Meeting of October 18, 1999 VIA Move that general fund check nos. 324861 through 324866 in the amount of \$3,563,278.31 be approved for payment. Also move that general fund wire transfers in the amount of \$1,006,349.96 be approved. VLB Move that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District authorize the purchase of replacement vehicles from the low bidder from Blackwell Ford for three #E250 systems @ \$54,884.94 and one #E250 panel for \$18,294.95; from Jorgenson Ford one F250 Pickup w/snow plow @ \$23,183; and from Ed Schmid Ford one E350 DRW van for \$23,705. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons. Nays: None.

Gift - Dr. Lynn Babcock: Dr. Babcock, principal of Grant Elementary and president of NAESP, addressed the Board on the gift from NAESP and invited all Board members to the national convention in March 2000.

Motion by Nay and Morgan that the Board accept the gracious gift of a new Compaq Pentium II 400MZ computer system from Dr. Lynn Babcock, principal of Grant Elementary School valued at \$1,630. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons. Nays: None.

Gift - Tyler PTA: Motion by Lessard and Morgan that the Board accept the generous gift of \$9,000 from the Tyler PTA for the purchase of a GBC Ultima 65-27 laminator and to support the school's year-long celebration of literature that will feature Michigan authors and illustrators in an assembly format. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons. Nays: None.

Gift - Cass PTA: Motion by Nalley and Nay that the Board accept the generous gift of \$8,415 from the Cass PTA for the purchase of a new laminator, field trips, enrichment assemblies, Math/Science Nights, classroom enrichment materials and supplementary library books. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons. Nays: None.

Presentation - District Annual Report: Marlene Bihlmeyer, director of curriculum, and Al Edwards, research and evaluation specialist, presented the annual report which included student test results and a review of staff development and core curriculum progress.

Teachers for Approval: Motion by Nalley and Galka that the Board accept the recommendation of the superintendent and offer employment for the 1999-2000 school year to: Isolina Carlini and Nicholas O'Connell. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons. Nays: None.

Teacher Recall: Motion by Galka and Lessard that the Board accept the recommendation of the superintendent and recall to district employment as a teacher for the 1999-2000 school to Colleen O'Connell. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons. Nays: None.

Teacher Tenure: Motion by Nalley and Galka that the Board accept the recommendation of the superintendent and grant tenure status to: Jameson Bickham, effective 1/19/2000; Traci Giam, effective 5/22/2000; Matthew Otto, effective 1/24/2000; Eric Stromburg, effective 1/24/2000; and Ronald Zapalski, effective 1/19/2000. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons. Nays: None.

Retirements: The Board unanimously adopted resolutions of appreciation for: Edwina Lenczak and Ronald Majewski.

Reports from the Superintendent: Dr. Watson expressed appreciation to Marlene Bihlmeyer and Dr. Allen Edwards for their presentation of the District Annual Report; stated that the Special Olympics field days at Franklin High School and moved to Franklin High School where the principal and it has been hosted there for the last 12 years; thanked Johnson Make a Difference Day event on October 17, 1999, which collected toys to fill 90 boxes which was the largest collection ever; Operation Toy Box; introduced the video presentation on construction and paving of cement that took place at the site of the new building; and commended the Transportation Department for their new sign that they constructed using old parts of a bus which actually looks like a bus.

Second Reading - Policy JD: Motion by Nalley and Nay that the Board accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee to revise the Student/Student Discipline. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons. Nays: None.

First Reading - Policy IFA: The Policy Committee recommended the language for Board Policy: IFA - District With Staff.

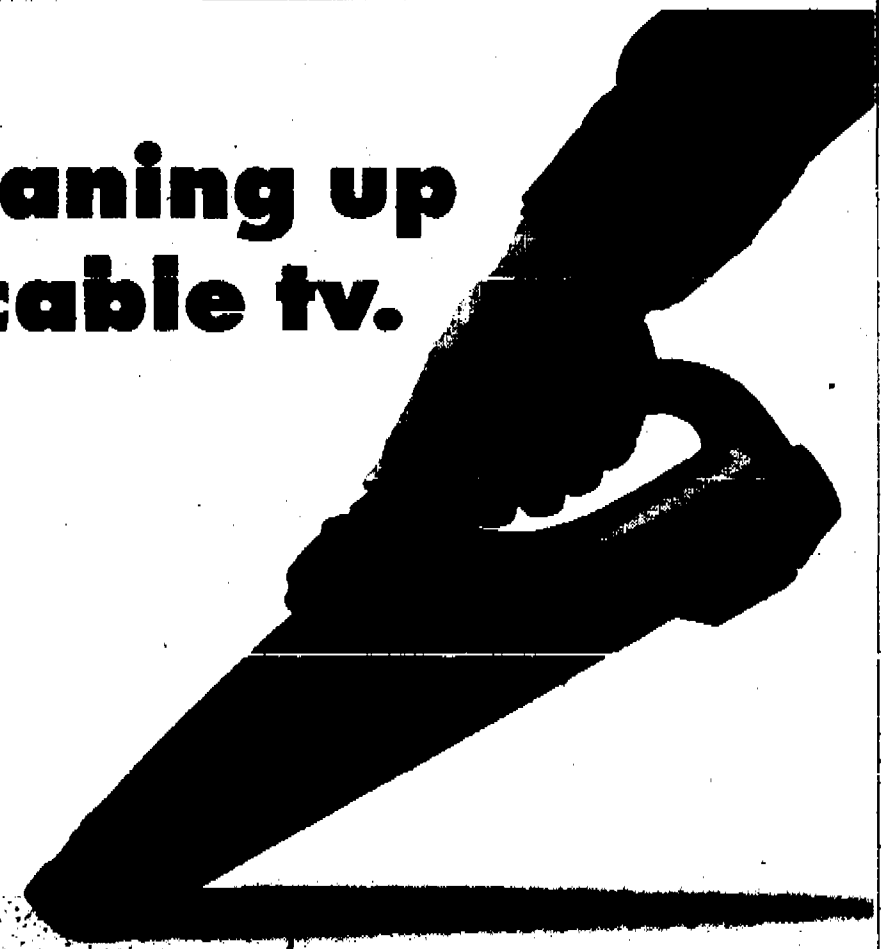
Meeting from Board Members: The Board discussed the meeting at the Conference; thanked Dr. Babcock for his leadership; discussed the PEP (Partnerships Empowerment Program) meeting at Franklin High School; the Justice League; discussed the former Board Treasurer, Jim Starnes; discussed the last Board Committee meeting to answer questions; discussed the member elected to the position of Treasurer; discussed the member elected to the position of Secretary; discussed the member elected to the position of Treasurer; discussed the member elected to the position of Secretary; discussed the member elected to the position of Treasurer; discussed the member elected to the position of Secretary.

Adjournment: Motion by Morgan and Lessard that the meeting adjourn at 10:00 p.m. on November 1, 1999. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Nay, Timmons. Nays: None.

President Timmons adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

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(This can't be all there is.)



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CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY

Charged from page A1

of a sting set up by the victim's dad. The father posed as his son in an online chat room and set up a meeting at their Livonia home, which allowed authorities to make an arrest.

While the Wayne County Sheriff Internet Crimes Task Force has made 10 arrests, this is the first involving an actual child victim, authorities said.

Task force undercover officers have posed as children online to arrest those soliciting sex from minors.

"I think what's important is the father got involved in his youngster's life," Wayne County Sheriff Robert Ficano said. "He went ahead and looked at what his son was doing online, and that led us to work together, which resulted in us making an arrest."

In January, a man made contact with the boy in an America Online chatroom, authorities said.

After exchanging e-mail, a man picked up the boy and took him to his Westland apartment where the sexual assault took place. Afterward, he continued to exchange e-mail with the child,

police said.

The father, acting on advice from Wayne County Sheriff Internet Crimes Task Force, became suspicious of his son's online activity and found the computer correspondence.

Using his son's e-mail identity, the dad sent a note to others warning that his son was only 14 and not to have contact with him.

The suspect replied that, although he knew it's illegal, he still wanted to meet the boy again, authorities said.

Investigators searched Lacey's apartment and seized his computer. Internet Crimes Task Force investigators will analyze data on the computer's hard drive.

Ficano declined to speculate if more victims may be found. "Our investigation continues," he said.

In this case, a father's diligence was crucial, the sheriff said.

"I think as any parent you'd be devastated," Ficano said. "Yet at the same time he's concerned about other youngsters who could fall into similar circumstances."

Achievement from page A1

Memorial students were participating. Their goal: \$12,000 in scholarships, the highest in the program's history.

Students spent much time and effort in preparation, Sherman said, and maintained good academic standing.

Judging categories included scholastics, judges' evaluation, creative/performing arts, presence/composure and physical fitness. One of this year's judges, Wayne County MADD administrator Jenny Lozano, was Wayne-Westland Junior Miss for 1969.

Robertson did a monologue for her performance. Performances ranged from tae kwon do to poetry, with plenty of music and dance in between.

Many young women received scholarships Saturday. The runners-up were: Erin Scott, third; Nicole Hernandez, second; and Melissa Jennings, first.

Mistresses of ceremonies were Stephanie Mead, 1998 Wayne-Westland Junior Miss and Michigan Junior Miss, and Jill Dobson, 1995 Michigan Junior Miss and current Miss Michigan USA.



Participants: Left to right are Kelly Ann Leverenz, Brooke Robertson and Rachel Patillo. Brooke Robertson is in her "Saturday Night Live" character, Mary Catherine, a neurotic and unpredictable Catholic girls' school teenager.

STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LAMIEUX

CLARIFICATION

A story in Sunday's Westland Observer incorrectly identified a Westland public library board

member. The board member's name should have been reported as Marty Wagner.

Read Sports today

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Tuesday, November 30, 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:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.I.N.
1990	PLYMOUTH	VOYAGER/VAN	WHITE	1P4GH54R9LX150338
1991	FORD	ESCORT/2 DR	BLACK	1FAPP10J3MW335867
1989	JEEP	CHEROKEE/WGN	GRAY	1J4FT27L4KL594505

The second auction will begin promptly at 11:00 AM at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Road, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.I.N.
1991	NISSAN	STANZA/4 DR	SILVER	JN1FU21P5MT307161
1993	FORD	ESCORT/4 DR	SILVER	3FAPP13J8PR100206
1988	CHEVY	SPECTRUM/4 DR	SILVER	J81RG5170J7524166
1994	FORD	TAURUS/4 DR	WHITE	1FACPS2U5LA100640
1987	FORD	E-150/VAN	WHITE	1FTTE24YCHHC22652
1986	FORD	AEROSTAR	BLUE	1FTCA14A5GZAS2922
1985	OLDSMOBILE	TORONADO/2 DR	BLACK	1G3EZ57Y5FE303212
1984	GMC	VANDURA/VAN	WHITE	2GDG25C1E4525901
1991	CHRYSLER	LEBARON/2 DR	GOLD	1C3CJ41R2HG153293
1986	PONTIAC	6000/4 DR	BLACK	2G2AH19W7G9284547
1984	MERCURY	TOPAZ/2 DR	GRAY	2MEBP72R5EB652206
1983	DODGE	RAM/VAN	BROWN	2B6HB23T1DK379761

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 December 24, 1999, unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.I.N.
1986	FORD	F-150/PICKUP TK	RED	2FTDF15H5GCA19859

Publish: November 26, 1999

WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG NO 22-11/15/99

Presiding: Council President Cicirelli
 Present: Anderson, Barnes, Griffin, LeBlanc, Scott
 Absent: Cox

246: Approved: minutes of regular mtg held 11/1/99
 - Request from Westland Breakfast Lions Club & Westland Host Lions Club to conduct their annual candy cane fund-raising at intersections of Wayne & Ford Rd & Wayne & Warren Rd from 11/28/99 - 12/23/99
 - Adopted budget amendment 2000-07: Police capital outlay & Motor Pool capital outlay-vehicles, amt \$225,000
 - Adopted budget amendment 2000-08: Salaries of Equalizer personnel, amt \$20,000
 - Extension of deadline for winter taxes without penalty, to 2/29/2000
 - Placing 1999 Board-Up Fees on 1999 winter tax bill
 - Bid for bulk road salt to Morton Salt for total bid price \$22.97 per ton
 - Bid for Dorsey Center modifications of the counseling offices to Leyman Construction, amt \$46,999
 - Purchase for computer modems from Ameritech, amt \$41,925 & purchase & installation of mobile computer equipment from Reighard Enterprises, amt \$31,692.65 for Police Dept
 - Request from Department of Public Service to conduct a public auction to dispose of surplus vehicles & other miscellaneous items on 12/4/99
 - Adopted resolution to obtain permit for construction of a storm sewer connection, 1678 S Wayne Road
 - Approved to make application to U S Environmental Protection Agency for an Education Grant for the Fire Dept
 - Request to go into closed study session following Council Meeting to discuss pending litigation

247: Granted request of R Nelson to split Lot Nos 1-4 of Hambleton's Wayne Gardens Subdivision, E of Wayne Rd, N of Palmer

248: Granted request of T Divina to split Lots Nos 73-75 of Warren Rouge Park Subdivision, E of Floral Ave, N of Warren, W of Inkster

249: Granted site plan approval for Supreme Air Systems, 806 N Wayne Road

250: Granted site plan approval for proposed addition to the 18th District Court, 38675 Ford Rd

251: Granted revised site plan approval for Greenview Condominiums, Lots #181-188 Steiber Park Subdivision #3

252: Accepted bid by B Tharp for parcel #084-01-0122-000, amt \$1,000 & upon payment of bid amount & \$250 processing fee

253: Withdrawal of approval of bid of original bidder due to failure to fulfill requirements of contract & accepted bids made by persons for purchase of the parcel of property & upon payment to City of the bid amount & the \$250 processing fee

254: Approved Check List - \$773,990.57 & Prepaid - \$3,092,046.15
 Mtg adjourned at 8:30 pm
 Minutes available in City Clerk's Office

SANDRA A. CICIRELLI
 Council President
 Public: November 24, 1999

PATRICIA A. GIBBONS
 City Clerk



Hello: Participants sing an opening number.



Sounds: Talent Award winner Samantha MacKenzie performs a musical number for the judges.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1830B, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Expansion of St. Matthew Lutheran Church and School, 5885 Venoy Road, Lots #5, #8 & #9, Folker's Venoy Road Woods Subdivision, North of Ford Road, West of Venoy Road Woods Subdivision, North of Ford Road, West of Venoy, SW-10, Gary R. Carter.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 7, 1999.

Written comments may be sent to the Westland Planning Department at 37095 Marquette Avenue, Westland, Michigan - 48185.

ROBERT C. BOWERS, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: November 25, 1999

DDA honors business

The Westland Downtown Development Authority has created a monthly business/service award to recognize those businesses within the DDA area which have met or exceeded at least one of the criteria established by the DDA.

The first award recipient is The Souper Sandwich Carver, located at 888 S. Wayne Road in Westland. The business has been in existence for a year and a half, but its owners bring more than 50 years of experience in the Detroit restaurant business

to their venture. The DDA is giving the award based on positive response from customers.

They will receive the award at the Dec. 2 meeting of the Westland Downtown Development Authority Board.

"There are many businesses in the Westland Downtown Development area who have gone above and beyond when it comes to their dedication to the community and their customers," said Steve Guile, DDA executive director. "We created the business/service award to show our appreciation for the hard work and community spirit that these individuals display."

In addition to being located within the DDA area, the business or service must meet at least one of the following criteria: outstanding renovations to the establishment; exceptional customer service (as indicated by customers); a record of outstanding contributions to the community and/or charity; or recognition for professional achievement by the respective trade/professional association.

Businesses are nominated by the public, and individuals can make their nomination suggestions by calling the DDA offices at (734) 641-6572; by fax to (734) 641-8512; or by e-mail to westlandddal@excite.com.

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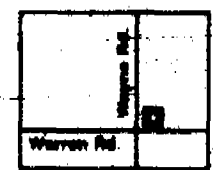


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State warns: 'Don't panic about the Y2K bug'

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabracyk@oe.homecom.net

If "paranoia strikes deep" because of your Y2K concerns, then you may be creating additional hazards, according to the State of Michigan Year 2000 Readiness Report.

Completed by the Michigan Department of State Police's emergency management division, the Michigan Department of Management and Budget and the Year 2000 Project Office, the report concluded that Michigan's critical infrastructure — electric, gas and telecommunications — is not expected to experience any system failures that would "significantly interrupt" essential services for residents.

Water supply and sewage services are at "low risk," as are emergency services and the health care industry.

"All indications are that the majority of critical infrastructure providers are progressing successfully in their mitigation efforts and that widespread disruptions will be no more likely than they are on any other typical day," the report concluded.

"There probably will be interruptions of some systems related to Y2K failures that may cause



Look for a special report on Y2K in Sunday's Observer

inconveniences well into the year 2000, but their scope and severity should not be of a magnitude to threaten public health and safety."

But public fear and misinformation may create additional hazards. Communities at low risk from Y2K may face a greater threat from inappropriate preparedness activities.

Examples include improperly or illegally stored fuel that creates a fire hazard for homes and neighbors, or the increased use of generators, alternative heating and cooking devices that increased the danger from misuse of those devices.

Large cash withdrawals due to banking concerns may lead to increased robbery, swindle and theft, the report states.

The Michigan Emergency Management Division concludes:

■ The large electric utilities responsible for the bulk-power system are "progressing well."

■ There is "less assurance for the small electric utilities, but the risk they present to the bulk-power system is small, as is their risk of service disruptions."

■ There is relatively less risk for the natural gas industry, and utilities are progressing well.

■ In telecommunications, the public switched network has a relatively low risk of Y2K failure.

■ 100 percent compliance cannot be assured, but built-in

redundancy and contingency planning will help avoid service disruptions.

Telecommunications systems may have problems but not with Y2K; instead, customers may find difficulties from the holiday and the resulting increased phone usage or customers checking their phones for Y2K service interruptions.

Water supply and sewage services are at low risk. "These are largely electromechanical, gravity systems that have manual workarounds available and face little impact from Y2K problems," the report said.

County is ready

Wayne County also is Y2K-ready, according to Wayne County officials.

Sue Hansen, deputy director of Wayne County's Year 2000 Program Office, said the county's central communications system, providing radio communications for roads, public works, airports and the sheriff's staff will be operational.

"It has been tested and is ready to go," Hansen said.

Hansen said Wayne County spent \$26 million for Y2K programs over two years. Hansen said the Y2K tests followed U.S.

General Accounting Office standards.

Test results received independent verification through county vendors, who also supplied information, Hansen said.

But just in case, Wayne County will declare "a Y2K alert period" from 10 p.m. Dec. 31 through 5 a.m. Jan. 1.

A command center will be set up near Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport with emergency offices set up for the following county departments: airports, environment, health, public services, sheriff, central communications and emergency management.

Mark Sparks, director of the county's Emergency Management Division, said state police will be providing updates to the news media.

Sparks doesn't expect Wayne County to conduct press conferences or updates.

"It would have to be of significant impact on a community for us to declare a state of emergency," Sparks said.

State police expect to activate an emergency plan center at 7 p.m. on Dec. 31 at a Southeast Michigan regional office in Northville, said Mark Wesley, public information officer for the Michigan State Police.

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Gas prices up 5.4 cents for Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving holiday travelers will find no-lead gas prices in Michigan up 5.4 cents per gallon this week, according to AAA Michigan's weekly Fuel Gauge survey, reaching a nine-year high at \$1.339. The last time prices reached this level was

during the Persian Gulf War, the week of Dec. 10, 1990 (\$1.354).

Self-serve no-lead fuel in Michigan averages ranged between \$1.229 and \$1.389. The average is 33.4 cents higher than last year at this time.

In metro Detroit, no-lead sells

for an average \$1.32 per gallon, up 7.3 cents from last week. Prices run from \$1.219 to \$1.39. The average is 33.3 cents higher than a year ago.

During the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, 91 percent of stations surveyed plan to remain

open statewide; 70 percent plan to remain open after 9 p.m.

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SALE 7.99-9.99 Entire stock of Parisian Works turtlenecks and mock-necks. In ladies', petites' and Parisian Woman sizes. Reg. 24.00-26.00. AVAILABLE AT SELECTED STORES.

SALE 17.99 Large selection of Designers Originals® sweaters. Reg. 26.00-36.00.

SALE 28.80-36.00 Entire stock of Christmas sweaters from Designers Originals®, Tiara International and Parisian Works. In ladies', petites' and Parisian Woman sizes. Reg. 48.00-60.00. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.

40% OFF Hot Cotton holiday motif fleece sweatshirts and pull-on pants. Reg. 38.00-48.00, sale 22.80-28.80.

SALE 59.99 Famous-maker Peluche sweaters. Reg. 94.00. STYLES VARY BY STORE.

40% OFF Famous-maker casual and denim collections. Reg. 24.00-120.00, sale 14.40-72.00. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.

40% OFF Entire stock of Karen Lessly knit sets. In ladies', petites' and Parisian Woman sizes. Reg. 88.00, sale 52.80.

50% OFF "Millennium" sweaters from Parisian Signature, August Silk and more. Reg. 49.00-108.00, sale 24.50-54.00.

SALE 34.99-49.99 August Silk/cashmere picot crew-neck and twin set sweaters. Reg. 68.00-88.00.

SALE 19.99 Famous-maker stretch shirts, tops and pants. Reg. 40.00-54.00.

60% OFF Parisian Signature merino wool sweaters. In ladies', petites' and Parisian Woman sizes. Reg. 78.00-148.00, sale 39.00-74.00.

SALE 39.99 Finity silk/cashmere sweaters. Reg. 58.00-88.00.

50% OFF Finity indiescent stretch shirts. Reg. 78.00, sale 39.00.

SALE 139.99 Choose from a large selection of leather coats. Reg. 250.00.

50% OFF Selected dresses and social occasion dresses and separates in ladies', petites' and Parisian Woman sizes. Reg. 88.00-400.00, sale 34.00-200.00. STYLES VARY BY STORE.

SALE 99.99 Large selection of famous-maker suits. Reg. 189.00-290.00. STYLES VARY BY STORE.

JUNIORS

50% OFF Selected juniors' sweaters. Reg. 28.00-38.00, sale 14.00-19.00.

50% OFF Juniors' separates. Choose from stretch tops, skirts and pants. Reg. 20.00-32.00, sale 9.99-15.99.

50% OFF Juniors' dresses in club, knit and social styles. Reg. 39.00-69.00, sale 19.50-34.50.

SALE 19.99 Selected juniors' denim jeans from Mudd, I.e.i. and Hydraulic. Reg. 38.00.

ACCESSORIES

40% OFF Large selection of designer leather handbags. Reg. 75.00-288.00, sale 45.00-172.80.

EXTRA 40% OFF Entire stock of red-lined handbags. Reg. 32.00-150.00, sale 24.00-112.50. now 14.40-87.50.

50% OFF Parisian Signature leather handbags. Reg. 94.00-134.00, sale 47.00-67.00.

SALE 39.99 Genuine stone bracelets. Reg. 120.00.

40% OFF Selected boxed jewelry. Reg. 15.00-36.00, sale 9.00-21.60.

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50% OFF Entire stock of Olga® bras, panties, daywear and shapewear. Reg. 8.00-27.00, sale 4.00-13.50.

40% OFF Cotton knit pajamas from Earth Angels, Karen Neuberger, Carole Hochman and more. Reg. 40.00-56.00, sale 24.00-33.60.

SALE 24.99 Entire stock of Parisian Intimates flannel pajamas. Reg. 40.00-44.00.

40% OFF Entire stock of Parisian Intimates terry velour robes. Reg. 72.00, sale 43.20.

SALE 34.99 Parisian's exclusive "Comfort Robe" from Cypress. Reg. 54.00.

40% OFF Entire stock of Cuddl Duds® warmwear. Reg. 17.00-25.00, sale 10.20-15.00.

40% OFF Entire stock of Parisian Intimates satin pajamas. Reg. 28.00-58.00, sale 16.80-34.80.

SALE 19.99-29.99 Special purchase of Wacoal bras. Reg. 48.00-52.00.

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50% OFF Woods & Gray long-sleeve knit shirts. Reg. 48.00, sale 24.00.

50% OFF Selected styles of golf windshirts and fleece wear. Reg. 68.00-75.00, sale 34.00-37.50.

50% OFF Selected Preswick & Moore woven sportshirts. Reg. 34.00, sale 16.99.

SALE 24.99 Polartec® vests from Common Man by Rustic River. Reg. 42.00.

SALE 29.99 Polyurethane jackets from Whispering Smith. Reg. 60.00.

SALE 29.99 Woods & Gray cotton/ramie sweaters. Reg. 65.00.

50% OFF Famous-maker solid-color gabardine pants. Reg. 65.00, sale 32.50.

EXTRA 40% OFF Entire stock of red-lined better collections. Orig. 24.00-125.00, sale 18.00-93.75, now 10.80-56.25.

40% OFF Entire stock of leather outerwear from our men's outerwear department. Reg. 350.00-425.00, sale 210.00-255.00. DOES NOT INCLUDE DESIGNER COLLECTIONS. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.

40% OFF Preswick & Moore mock-necks, turtlenecks, henleys, fine-gauge solid-color cotton and merino wool sweaters. Reg. 20.00-115.00, sale 12.00-69.00.

SALE 29.99 Savane® corduroy pants. Reg. 48.00.

40% OFF Entire stock of men's cold weather mufflers, gloves and slippers. Reg. 16.00-70.00, sale 9.60-42.00. ASSORTMENT VARIES BY STORE.

50% OFF Large selection of famous-maker suits. Reg. 425.00-595.00, sale 212.50-297.50. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.

BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE Entire stock of Max Deco/Intimo flannel sleepwear. Reg. 12.00-37.00. MERCHANDISE MUST BE OF EQUAL OR LESSER PRICE. ASSORTMENT VARIES BY STORE.

EXTRA 40% OFF Entire stock of red-lined dress shirts, neckwear, fall sport coats and fall dress trousers. Reg. 32.50-425.00, sale 24.99-319.99, now 17.50-191.99. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.

EXTRA 40% OFF Entire stock of red-lined golf collections. Orig. 45.00-95.00, sale 20.25-42.75, now 12.15-25.65. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.

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50% OFF Selected fashion denim for boys' sizes 2-20. Reg. 20.00-28.00, sale 10.00-14.00.

50% OFF Selected fashion twill bottoms for boys' sizes 2-20. Reg. 22.00-28.00, sale 11.00-14.00.

40% OFF Selected nylon and brushed fleece vests for girls' sizes 4-16. Reg. 26.00, sale 15.60.

50% OFF Sweaters for girls' sizes 4-16. Reg. 26.00-36.00, sale 13.00-18.00.

40% OFF Best Friends holiday plush toys. Reg. 6.00-36.00, sale 3.60-21.60.

EXTRA 40% OFF Entire stock of children's designer red-lined merchandise. Reg. 16.00-65.00, sale 11.99-47.99, now 7.19-28.79.

BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE Boys' henleys from PK Clothing Co. and Parisian Kids. Reg. 14.00-20.00 each.

40% OFF Selected holiday dresswear for infants, toddlers and girls. Reg. 36.00-120.00, sale 21.60-72.00.

50% OFF Duck Head® corduroy pants. Reg. 28.00, sale 14.00.

BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE Selected flannels and denim shirts for boys' sizes 2-20. Reg. 16.00-24.00 each.

50% OFF Nike® and Adidas® activewear tops and bottoms. Reg. 16.00-45.00, sale 8.00-22.50.

50% OFF Selected fashion twill bottoms for girls' sizes 2-16. Reg. 24.00-32.00, sale 12.00-16.00.

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50% OFF Large selection of Timberland® shoes and boots. Reg. 100.00-130.00, sale 50.00-65.00.

60% OFF Large selection of women's shoes and boots from Jones New York®, Timberland and Unisa. Reg. 58.00-90.00, sale 23.20-36.00.

50% OFF Large selection of women's shoes from Nine West®, Enzo, Jones New York®, Esprit® and more. Reg. 39.00-145.00, sale 19.50-72.50.

EXTRA 40% OFF Large selection of women's, men's and children's red-lined shoes. Reg. 38.00-138.00, sale 22.99-81.99, now 13.79-49.19.

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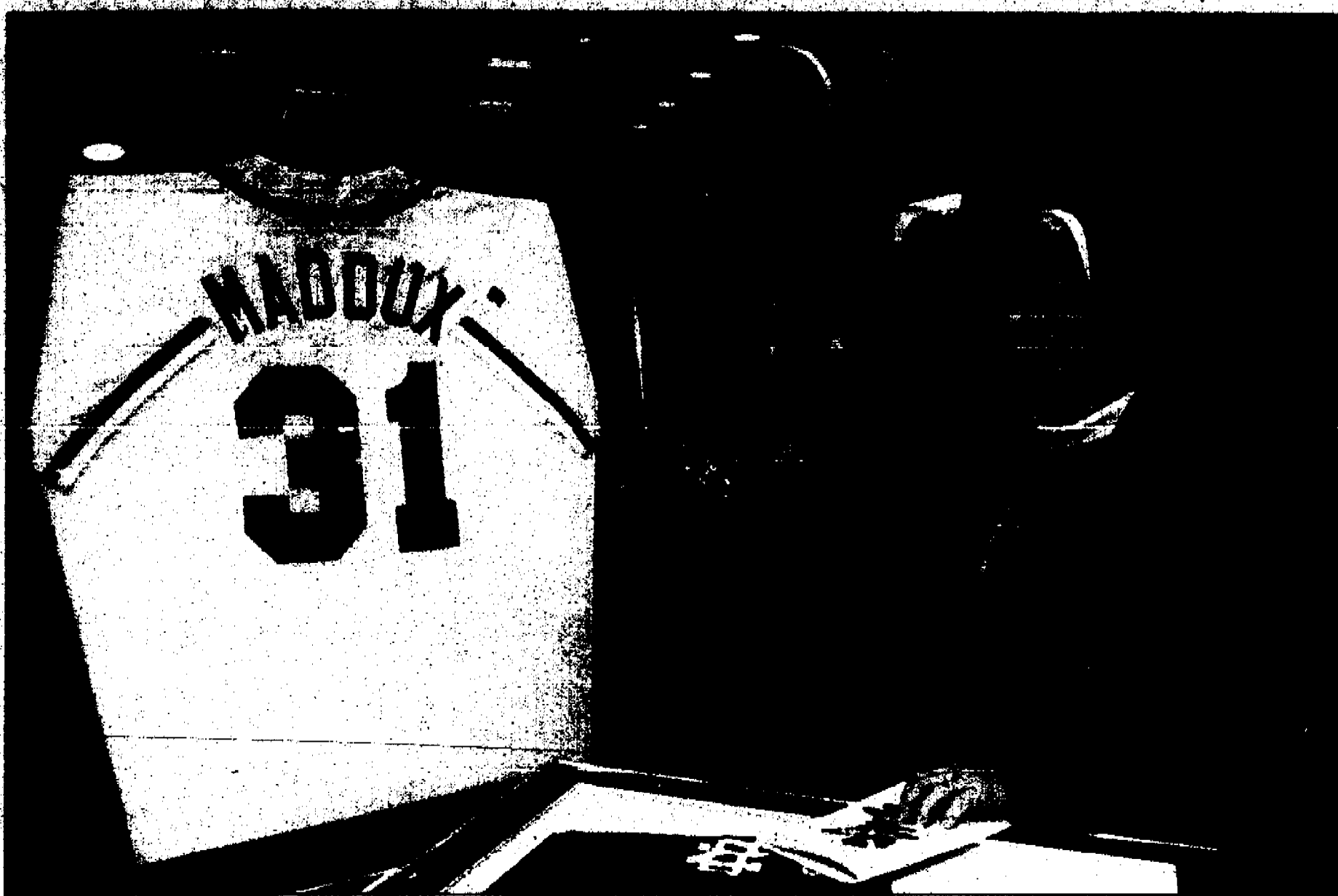
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12th ANNUAL LIGHT UP A LIFE BENEFIT

TOP GUNS

battle to support Angela Hospice



Big names: Sister Mary Ann Smith, left, and Sister Angela Marie of Ladywood High School check out the jersey of Atlanta Braves' star pitcher Greg Maddux, one of many sports related auction items.

PHOTOS BY BILL HANNEY



Fresh treats: Rosemary Mintz of Westland, a hospice volunteer, samples a strawberry from Joe's Produce of Livonia.

It was a dogfight.

Two bidders took their best shots to be Top Gun Sunday at the 12th Annual Light Up a Life benefit for Angela Hospice.

One of the 25 items up for live auction was a chance to be fighter pilot for a day. The winner would have a chance to fly a state of the art military aircraft after attending flight school and engage in an aerial dogfight using lasers.

One shot followed another until the final bidder cried out \$3,000. At the urging of auctioneer Dan Stall, the losing bidder decided he wanted to go flying at \$3,000 as well.

Angela Hospice in Livonia was the beneficiary of this and other spirited bidding wars at Jacobson's Laurel Park store. This year's event drew a crowd of 800 and raised \$130,000, up from last year's record \$100,000.

The proceeds will go toward supporting many Angela Hospice programs including their "My Nest is Best" pediatric program, home care and others.

Top auction bids in addition to the fighter pilot contest were \$2,000 for a trip to Chicago to see the Oprah Winfrey Show, \$2,000 for a trip to New York to see "Law and Order" being shot, \$1,900 for a trip to Hilton Head and \$1,550 for an autographed Red Wing hockey stick.

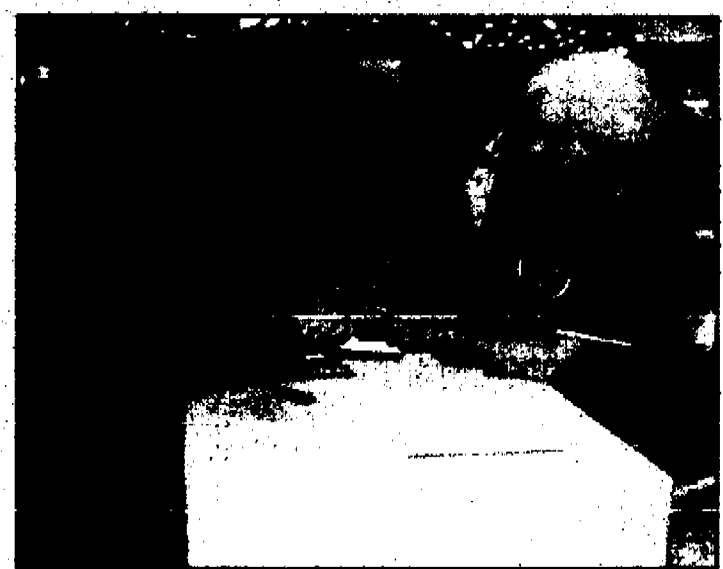
In addition to the live auction and a silent auction, the evening also included gourmet food offerings from 28 area restaurants and food companies.

Attendees were able to shop at Jacobson's and for every sales receipt \$100 and more. Jacobson's donated \$20 to Angela Hospice.

Honorary chairs for this year's event are David Brandon and wife Jan with Angela Hospice President Sister Mary Giovanni, Carolyn DiComo and Georgia Scappaticci, the benefit chairs.

The event was sponsored by the Jacobson's and the Italian American Club of Livonia.

Media celebrities attended to give the evening a special festive air.



Raffle hopefuls: Monica Cahill, left, of Novi and Sue Slavin, of Novi, sign up for the dollar raffle with Giovanni Manzo and Mary Campagna.

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ON JANUARY 1, 2000 BE PART OF YOUR HOMETOWN HISTORY

Our first editions of the new millennium will serve as an exciting "time capsule" featuring messages like the ones you see here.

Here is your opportunity to mark the turn of the century with a message about the future or a last loving look at the the past!

Be part of this very special edition of your hometown Observer with a picture and message about your family, your service organization, your place of worship...the list is endless. Perhaps you had a significant anniversary, a special event, or another important milestone in your lives during the past century. Here's your opportunity to record it for your friends, family, neighbors and business associates!

These special messages will appear on the pages of the January 1st edition of your hometown Observer on January 1, 2000 and you can

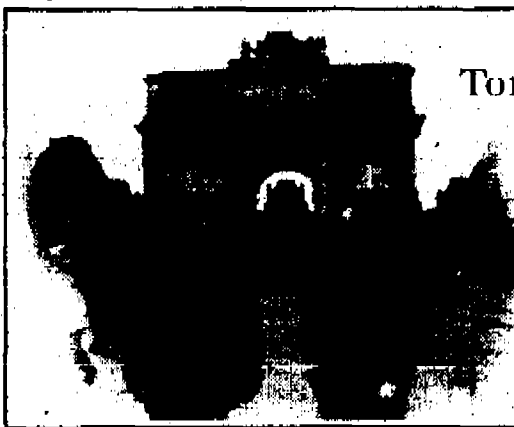
deposit the entire issue in your own time capsule, so that when you look at it again in the years to come, you'll enjoy remembering or telling your grandchildren what was going on in your hometown!

Here's all you do to be part of our Hometown History pages:

1. Fill in the information requested on the form below.
2. Clip one of the sample ads below and send it with your message and photo
3. Enclose one photo, no larger than 8"x10" per message. (If you wish photo returned please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope)
4. Compose your message of 25 words or less.
5. Tell us in which Observer newspaper you would like your message to appear.
6. Include your check for \$30, \$60, or \$90 for your message, made payable to: "The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers"
7. Mail to: 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150—Attention: Hometown History
8. Questions? Call Jane Garner (734) 953-2235

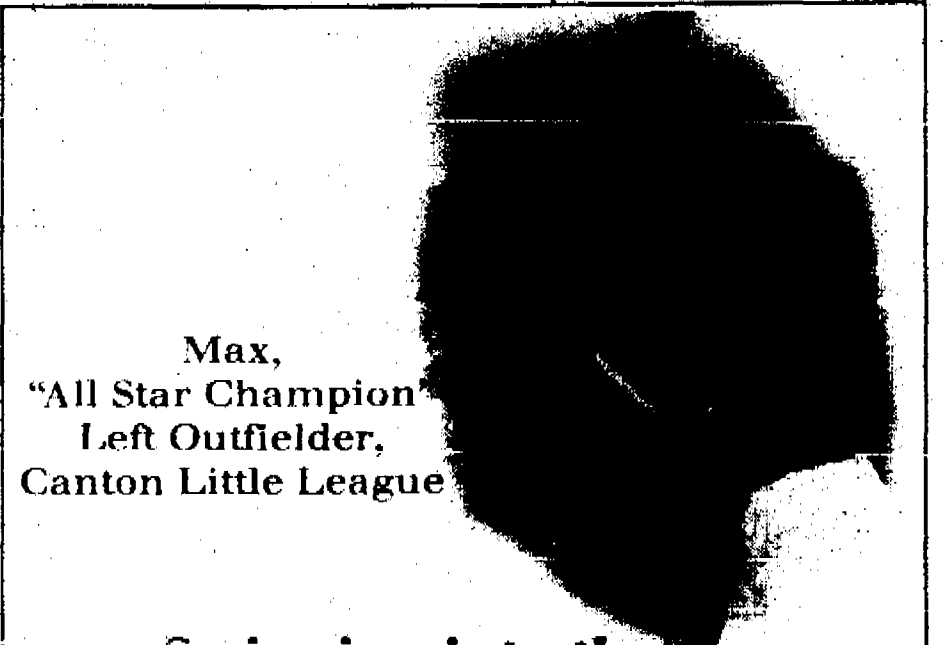


The Hammerheads hail the new millennium and remember March 16, 1999.



Tom and Ken in Paris

May your dreams come true in the new millennium!



Max, "All Star Champion" Left Outfielder, Canton Little League

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or NAMES OF PEOPLE IN PHOTO: _____

I would like my message to appear in: (check one)

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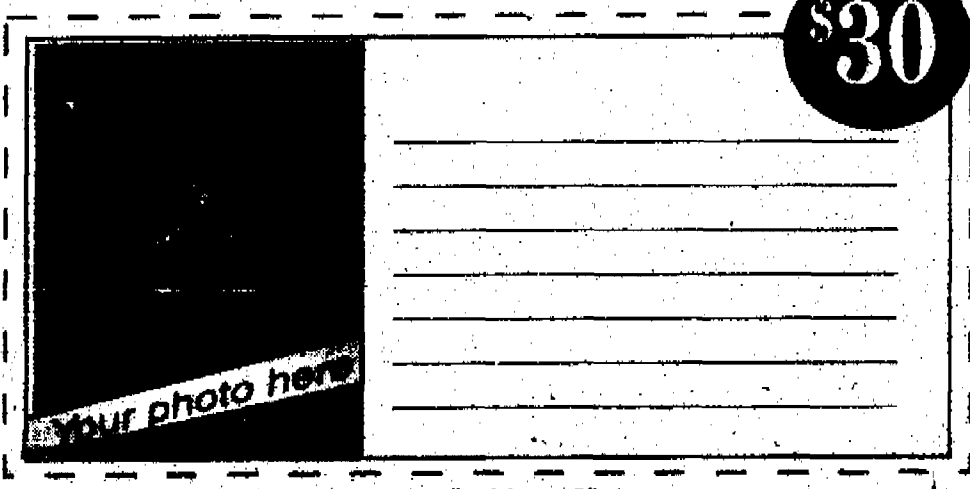
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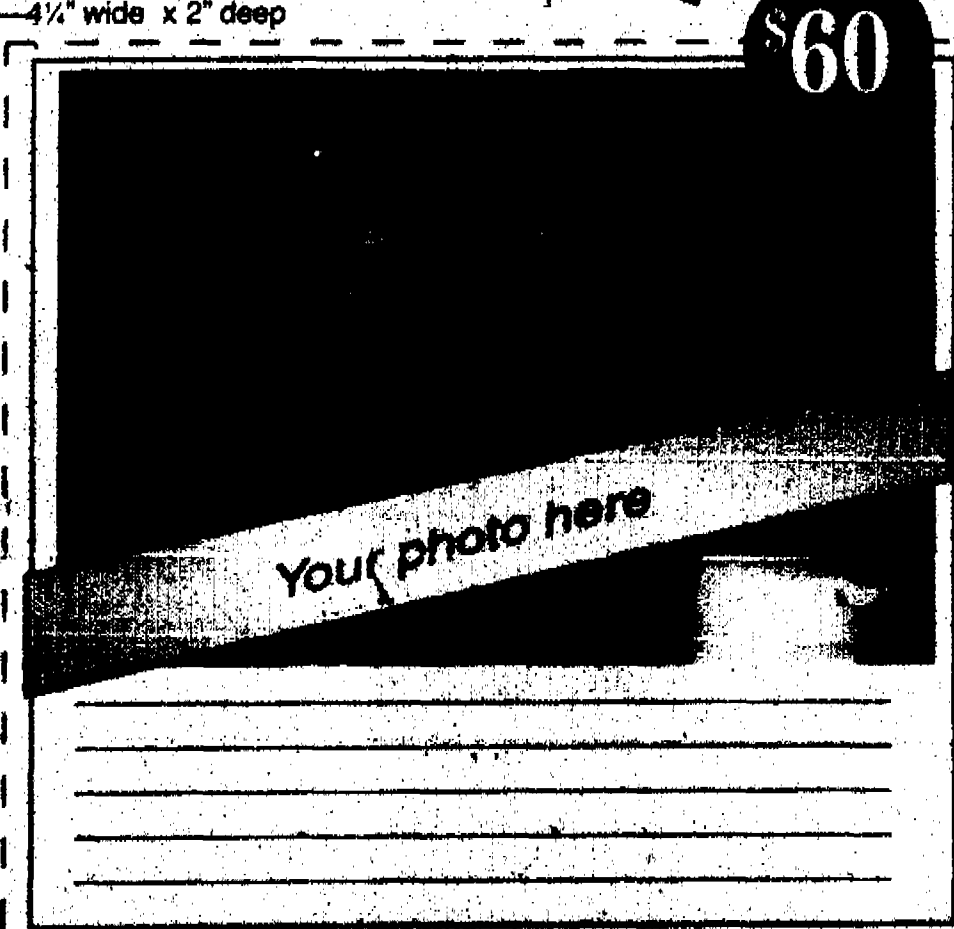
Garden City Observer _____

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MY HOMETOWN HISTORY MESSAGE:



SAMPLE #1—Actual Size—4 1/2" wide x 2" deep



SAMPLE #2—Actual Size—4 1/2" wide x 4" deep



SAMPLE #3—Actual Size—4 1/2" wide x 6" deep

Police launch campaign to ensure kids are buckled up

LANSING, Mich., Nov. 18 /PRNewswire/ — Armed with new information that Michigan children are buckled up at rates substantially below that of adults, hundreds of Michigan law enforcement agencies are ready to take action by strictly enforcing child safety belt laws.

More than 400 Michigan law enforcement agencies are joining the national effort, Operation ABC Mobilization: America Buckles Up Children. Starting Monday through the Thanksgiving weekend, police departments, county sheriffs and Michigan State Police will patrol city streets, county roads and expressways looking for adults who neglect to buckle up children.

According to the National Air Bag and Safety Belt Campaign, Michigan has among the highest number of participating police agencies in the nation.

A just-released Michigan survey reveals that "forgotten children," ages 4 through 15, are buckled up only 58 percent of the

time, according to the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI). This special survey, conducted earlier this year, examined safety belt use for children ages 0 to 15. Researchers found that overall restraint use for this group is 66 percent (59 percent for Wayne County) and 93 percent for children ages 0 to four.

Each year, UMTRI conducts a survey for the state to determine safety belt use by front seat vehicle occupants. Belt use for this group, mainly adults, is about 70 percent, the 1998 study found.

"It's appalling that adults are not taking this responsibility seriously," said Col. Michael D. Robinson, director of the Michigan Department of State Police. "We can do something about this by taking aggressive enforcement action."

Traffic crashes remain the leading cause of death for children of all races. Nationally, nearly six out of 10 children who die in crashes are unbuckled. Of those, nearly half would be alive today if an adult had made sure

they were buckled up.

"This kind of law enforcement participation and support is nearly unprecedented," Colonel Robinson said. "There is overwhelming support to protect our state's children by seeing to it that they're buckled up. These children are being forgotten after they grow out of their toddler seats. Parents need to be aware that safety restraints are needed at all ages."

The UMTRI study also found that child safety restraint use is closely related to driver belt use, with child restraint use at more than 81 percent when the driver is buckled and only 33 percent when the driver is unbuckled.

"It's a parent's responsibility to see to it that they do everything within their power to keep them safe," said Lt. Gov. Dick Posthumus. According to Posthumus, seat belts and safety seats do just that. "They provide important protection if there is ever a crash," Posthumus added.

Current Michigan law requires children up to age one to be in a

child safety seat in the front or back seat of a vehicle. Children ages 1 to 4 must be in a child safety seat in the front seat. That same age group must be in a child safety seat or safety belt in the back seat. Passengers up to age 16 must be wearing a safety belt in the front or back seat.

Beginning Spring 2000, Michigan's standard safety belt law will take effect. Children up to

age four will be required to ride in a child safety seat in the front and rear seating positions.

In addition, the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning is funding special overtime enforcement to further support the program in the state's 15 highest crash counties. These counties are: Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, Genesee, Ottawa, Ingham, Kalamazoo, Saginaw, Bay, Barry, Berrien,

Eaton, Mason and Newaygo.

Michigan began building statewide support for the ABC campaign in May 1999, when more than 300 law enforcement agencies took part in a national Memorial Day mobilization to buckle up children. The next enforcement wave will take place Feb. 13-19, 2000, in conjunction with National Child Passenger Safety Week.

Bennett bill would bar students who riot from campus for 2 years

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@hometown.com

Rioting on campus at a university in Michigan will get you barred from college all across the state for as much as two years under a bill proposed by state Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton.

The bill is a response to disturbances at Michigan universities, most recently Michigan State. But Bennett's legislative aide Bill Sullivan said there have also been incidents at the University of Michigan, Central Michigan and Western in recent years. The MSU disturbances "just brought it to a head" for the senator, Sullivan explained.

Under Senate Bill 525, students convicted of a misdemeanor related to a riot within 2,500 feet of a college campus can be barred from college property for up to a year, at the discretion of the judge. For those convicted of a riot-related felony, a judge could order them to stay away from college property for up to two years.

And the bill applies to all campuses in Michigan. Students from Western were recorded at the MSU disturbance saying they thought "it was great" being able to participate in the disturbance at MSU without getting in trouble at their own school, Sullivan explained.

For anyone caught participating in a campus riot who is not a student, the bill also allows a judge to order restitution to

cover the cost of damage done.

Bennett's bill won approval in the Senate in the spring. It was reported from the Criminal Law and Corrections Committee in the House earlier this month.

The bill will be on the House calendar when it returns to session Nov. 30, but Bennett believes "high priorities" will keep it from being taken up until the start of the new year.

Rep. Rivers holds coffees in December

U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D-Ann Arbor, will conduct "coffee hours" in Canton and Livonia over the next several weeks.

Rivers will visit with constituents at Tim Horton's, 41276 Ford Road, in Canton, 8:30-10 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 14, and again during the same hours on Wednesday, Dec. 15, at Silverman's Restaurant, 36480 Plymouth, in Livonia.

All constituents of the 13th Congressional District are encouraged to drop by, have a cup of coffee and discuss concerns with her.

Rivers also will hold a town hall meeting 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, at South Middle School, 45201 Owen, in Belleville. Constituents are encouraged to attend and discuss concerns they have about the federal government.


For directions or further information, call Deborah Johnson in Rivers' district office at (734) 466-3741.

Planning a feast?
See Sunday's Taste

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Westland Observer

OPINION

A14(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1999

Nepotism

Don't shelve library's policy

Oh, what a tangled web we weave ... Sandra Wilson, director of the Westland library, needed to fill a 30-hour-a-week job. Wilson hired Cheryl Chuck, wife of current library board President Jim Chuck. That violation of the library's nepotism policy led board member Jo Johnson to resign. Last week's library board meeting included a discussion of the policy and controversy, but no action.

Wilson cited the need to fill the position and difficulty finding a qualified outside applicant. She admits the library policy was violated.

Several residents at last week's library board meeting voiced concerns over the library's image being tarnished by the hiring. "You've got to set an example for the community," Jim Cook, a former library volunteer, told the board.

Of the hiring, Cook said "It's an embarrass-

ment. Honest to God, folks, it's an embarrassment."

Residents voiced concerns about the perception developing that it would take an "in" to get hired at the library. They urged the board to keep the policy in place to avoid favoritism or the appearance of favoritism.

Certainly, Wilson and others must struggle these days with an economy that favors job-seekers. The Observer's not unsympathetic to the library's woes, but urges that qualified outside candidates get the nod - even if it means a more intensive search.

The library's nepotism policy was put in place for a good reason, and should remain on the books. The library board will next consider the policy at its Dec. 15 meeting. We again urge that the policy stay in place.

The library's image is at stake.



Thanksgiving has meaning

Every year on the fourth Thursday of November, we sit down to a feast with our families to give thanks for all that we have and for bringing us through yet another year.

We do this in commemoration of a hearty band of English subjects who came to this country on a small sailing ship they called The Mayflower. About half of those who left Plymouth, England, were religious non-conformists who had previously escaped to Holland; the others were people just anxious to leave their old lives behind.

Before disembarking, these two often-contentious groups came together to sign The Mayflower Compact. This document gave validity to the group, which was about to settle in an area north of the official Virginia colony.

As the group settled, they established a

more detailed organizational charter, a precursor of our Constitution. They also made peace with the Indian Massasoit, outlining a just relationship between the two peoples whose ways were alien to each other.

Of course, we know, that relations between white settlers and Indians did not remain hospitable.

But for one brief moment, probably sometime in late October 1621, the white settlers from England who had survived the terrible previous winter and their new-found Indian friends would come together to share athletic games, a harvest feast and the strange friendship of people at the end of the earth.

It is that glorious moment of tolerance, sharing and humble supplication that we honor and hope to recreate in our own lives.

May your Thanksgiving be in that spirit.

Linking wheels, schools good

State Sen. Gary Peters (D-Bloomfield Hills) has the right idea. Simply stated: No school, no wheels. It's just that simple, boys and girls - and parents, too. Michigan's teenagers attend classes on a regular basis, or they just don't drive.

So says Peters, who recently introduced legislation that would give school officials new ways to enforce attendance requirements. A key part of the package, Senate Bill 759, would allow a court to delay issuance of a driver's license, or suspend an existing license, for a student who is not regularly attending school.

Peters' package, Senate Bills 758-761, would also:

- Require parents to be notified if a student is absent without an excuse twice in 30 days.
- Require an "agreement for attendance" if a student is absent without an excuse five times in a month, and allow court intervention if a child is absent seven times in a month.
- Increase penalties for parents who fail to send their children to school. Sentences for parents could include fines from \$50 to \$500, or jail terms from two to 90 days.

While we can't endorse the entire package without additional information, we think the basic idea of linking a driver's license to atten-

dance in school has merit, and we hope the Legislature takes favorable action.

What a wonderful attention-getter for chronic truants and also for parents who won't make their kids go to school!

Finally obtaining that driver's license is a huge event in the lives of most American teenagers. And parents would be unhappy at the prospect of losing their designated drivers.

Peters told reporter Mike Malott of our HomeTown News Service that the package is a way to intervene early in the lives of youngsters headed for trouble. Truancy is often an early sign a youth is on the way to delinquency, the senator said. Seen by many as a "status crime," truancy often is not taken seriously. Some school districts punish truants by suspending the offending students from classes. That makes no sense at all.

It would be up to the Family Court and Protective Services to determine which parents are making the effort and which should be subjected to the sanctions.

However the details finally are worked out, it appears Peters has come up with a good strategy to cope with a problem that affects school districts across the state. We hope the idea eventually gets a chance.

GEORGE BROOKS

LETTERS

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas; that's why we offer this space for your opinions. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity, we ask that you provide a contact telephone number and if mailing or faxing a letter, please sign it. Letters can be mailed to: Julie Brown, Westland editor, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, faxed to her at (734) 591-7279 or e-mailed to jbrown@oe.homecomm.net.

Appalling production

I was appalled by the recent production of "The Merchant of Venice" at Schoolcraft College. The play is already anti-Semitic enough without piling on the racism. In James Hartman's eyes, it is perfectly all right to make fun of the Jewish people by having Shylock speak with a ludicrous accent, as if he had just recently come over on the boat from the old country.

Shylock is an Italian and therefore should speak the same as everyone else in the play. Instead, he spoke as if he were Mel Brooks portraying one of his many comically irreverent characters. This was not only an insult to the Jewish people, who have worked so hard to make a place for themselves in society, it was an insult to Shakespeare as well. Shakespeare wrote for Elizabethan, not vaudevilian, audiences.

I once saw Laurence Olivier play the role at the National Theatre of Great Britain and I can assure you that he did not stoop so low; neither did Dustin Hoffman in his portrayal. Instead, they showed the dignity in Shylock's villainy, which was distinctly lacking in this production. It was infuriatingly inept simply because it was directed by an amateur who supposes himself to be a professional. Mr. Hartman may consider himself to be a modern-day Orson Welles, but if he is, then he is Welles without the genius or the talent.

The only saving grace was the performance of Jerri Doll, who played the part of Portia with intelligence, wit and passion. If it were not for her, the production would have been a total loss.

Joseph Tura
Ypsilanti

introduced the "Panama Canal Treaty Nullification Act," a joint resolution which would declare the Panama Canal Treaties null and void! May I suggest that we, the citizens of America, support her efforts and urge our representatives in Congress (House and Senate) to nullify this takeover! It must be done NOW before the holiday recess takes place.

How can we afford to give China access to this VITAL and STRATEGIC waterway? Are we all NUTS?

Anthony B. Brehler
Livonia

Community college concerns

This is in reply to the article that was published in Sunday's paper on page A2.

In last November's election, the citizens of Westland voted against a millage election for Wayne County Community College. I gave Darrell Clem the information and told him to check the Wayne County Election Commission for the accurate vote. The millage passed due to other cities like Detroit voting yes.

The Western campus of WCCC offers truck driving school and several telecourses and very few real courses compared to those offered at Schoolcraft College at the Radcliff Center.

The majority of computer-related classes at WCCC are offered at their downtown campus, 35 miles away.

Mr. Ted Scott did mail me information on computer classes, but they were for continuing education credits, not college credits. There were no classes that I could take at the Western facility. The only other course schedule I received was for the fall class schedule, but it was received after the late registration date.

The reason I did not enroll in any college classes is that I recently married.

Ted Scott is right, I do have the option to attend any college, but my attacks on WCCC are warranted. I'm tired of taxation without representation. WCCC refuses to send catalogs and schedules to Westland residents who pay their operating millages. Schoolcraft sends catalogs to all homes without having to ask for them. I challenge Ted Scott to take his WCCC Western Campus Schedule and compare it what Schoolcraft Radcliff Center offers. Radcliff is a smaller campus than that of WCCC Western, yet they offer more classes.

Judi Cornfoot-Musolf

Why give China the canal?

Can anyone tell me why, on Jan. 1, 2000, we, the United States, are giving away the Panama Canal to Panama who in turn is ready to turn it over to Communist China?

Records indicate that President Jimmy Carter signed away our rights to the Panama Canal in September 1977. Is or is not Congress supposed to be the representation of all citizens of the United States? Where were they?

It is my understanding that currently, U.S. Rep. Helen Chenoweth-Hage of Idaho has

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION: What are your plans for Thanksgiving?

We asked this question at the Westland post office.

"I'm going to spend it with family." Deborah Collier Garden City	"My family is still living in Anchorage, Alaska. We'll go there after I get all the mail delivered." Mike Berfield Westland postmaster	"I'm going over with my family." Fay Thomas Westland	"My wife's parents' house." David Blanchard Detroit

Westland Observer

JULIE BROWN, COMMUNITY EDITOR, 734-953-2126, jbrown@oe.homecomm.net
 HUGH GALLAGHER, MANAGING EDITOR, 734-953-2149, hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net
 PEB KROENDEL, ADVERTISING MANAGER, 734-953-2177, pkroendel@oe.homecomm.net
 SUSAN ROSE, PUBLISHER, 734-953-2100, srose@oe.homecomm.net
 BAWLS DIBBON, VICE PRESIDENT/GENERAL MANAGER, 734-953-2252, bdibbon@oe.homecomm.net
 MARK WARREN, CIRCULATION DIRECTOR, 734-953-2117, mwarren@oe.homecomm.net
 RICK FIORELLI, MARKETING DIRECTOR, 734-953-2150, rickf@oe.homecomm.net

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Guns and kids a lethal combination in U.S.

America very quickly is becoming one of the more barbaric nations in the civilized world. The test of how low we are stooping is our indifference toward the needless killing of our children.

American children are more at risk from firearms than the children of any other industrialized nation. The Center to Prevent Handgun Violence points out that in 1996 firearms killed no children in Japan, 19 in Great Britain, 57 in Germany, 109 in France, 153 in Canada, and 5,285 in the U.S.

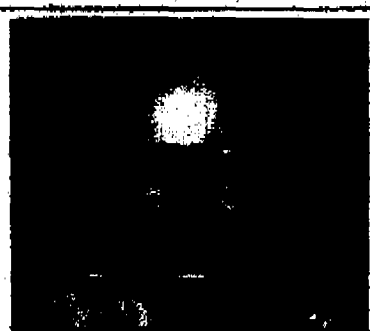
The Centers for Disease Control point out that the rate of firearm death of children age 0-14 in the U.S. is almost 12 times higher than in 25 other industrialized nations combined. The firearms injury epidemic is 10 times larger than the polio epidemic in the early 1900s.

More than 800 Americans, young

and old, die each year from guns shot by children younger than 18. More than 6,000 students were expelled for bringing guns to school in 1996-97. Are we supposed to take comfort in this fact?

The Centers for Disease Control just issued its most recent report, showing 32,436 gun-related deaths 1997 and 84,207 injuries caused by guns in 1997. The most recent report notes there has been a 20 percent decline in gun deaths and 40 percent decline in injuries for the period 1993-96. Are we also supposed to take comfort in this fact? (For the latest center report on the Web, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/expo/mmwr/prev-view/mmwrhtml/mm4845.htm>.)

In 1996, more than 1,300 children age 10-19 committed suicide with firearms, according to the Journal for the American Medical Association. Further, two-thirds of all completed



EMORY DANIELS

teen suicides involve a firearm. Unlike other methods, suicide attempts with guns are almost always fatal so that a temporarily depressed teen never gets a second chance.

Cars kill children, swimming pools kill children and so do poorly made toys and common household products. But the Consumer Product Safety Commission does have some influence over these child killers. However, when the commission

was created in 1972, the National Rifle Association lobbied to make sure that guns were exempt from consumer protection regulations.

The government recalls or bans many products each year when just a few children are killed or injured. This year, car manufacturers installed inside-trunk latches on new cars because 11 children suffocated in locked trunks. But what about guns?

"Most handguns have so little trigger resistance that they can be fired by a 3-year-old," says Sarah Bride of the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. "Many semi-automatic handguns lack magazine safety disconnects or load indicators, so that kids have no way of knowing if the weapon is loaded."

The gun industry refuses to invest its profits to come up with a child-proof gun, and the industry is virtually immune from government interven-

tion. The NRA and gun industry have fought efforts to make gun owners responsible when children access their guns and hurt themselves or others. They fight laws that mandate the sale of trigger locks, and lobby against raising the age for handgun possession to 21.

And while our children are getting killed all around us, the American people are saying little. Congress did react after Columbine but now has settled back to indifference, afraid to offend the NRA and its PAC money.

About the only course that makes sense is for citizens to write their congressmen and senators. If we remain silent, America's descent into barbarism will snowball and it will be too late to react.

Emory Daniels is the Observer & Eccentric on-line editor.

Schoolcraft College's program in nursing full of shortcomings

BY ANN GRESKOWIAK

In April, I was dismissed from the Schoolcraft Community College Nursing Program 10 weeks before I was to graduate, after spending 7 1/2 years preparing for and having been admitted to the program.

The reason for this, I was told, was that I had not met the clinical objectives. I have this to say to any student contemplating the nursing program at Schoolcraft: Think twice before entering Schoolcraft's Nursing Program; wait until such time as the college can offer a fair and competent program.

There is a critical shortage of qualified nurses. An institution that drives away such promising candidates should be required to explain its actions.

In September of 1992, I decided to return to school, 28 years after graduating from high school, to pursue a degree in nursing. I had already been working in the health care policy

arena for 10 years in an organization committed to ensuring quality of care for Medicare patients.

I was admitted to the nursing program in 1997 after fulfilling all the prerequisites at Schoolcraft, none of which included any previous clinical nursing experience. I was consistently on the dean's list, a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society and earned a 3.5 average throughout my pre-nursing career at Schoolcraft.

The nursing program at Schoolcraft, like others, has theoretical and clinical components. Most students opt to seek employment in clinical settings while pursuing their studies. In fact, many already have a substantial amount of clinical experience in hospital and other clinical settings.

I kept the policy job that I had; therefore, I had no clinical experience when I started the nursing program.

Knowing that clinical experience was not a prerequisite and knowing

QUEST COLUMN

myself to be a serious, conscientious student, I anticipated no problems. I was in for a horrible surprise.

The clinical component of the nursing program was a constant struggle. I felt that I was not given the tools I needed to succeed, e.g. adequate time to complete tasks, sufficient instruction to learn the required skills.

I utilized every single tool available to me through lab practice and computer assignments to enhance my skills. I continually asked for more direction, such as the opportunity to accompany an aide or nurse just to observe procedures and behaviors. I truly feel that quality of care was never of primary concern to some of the instructors in the Schoolcraft College nursing program.

Even the theoretical component of the program became unreasonably challenging; evaluation criteria were

changed in the middle of the semester during my second year. The theoretical aspect of the program was basically self-taught. I maintained my 3.5 average throughout the theory portion of the program, all while keeping my job and raising my family.

The Schoolcraft Student Handbook states that "the teaching-learning process is a faculty-student partnership which is outcome oriented." In reality, nothing could be further from the truth. The majority of students felt that the relationship between faculty and students was an adversarial one rather than a partnership.

These criticisms are in no way a reflection on past graduates. This is the first year the program has been administered in this manner and past students have deservedly had rave reviews from employers. How sad that this year has brought nothing but heartache to so many people! Students have had to quit their jobs, take

out loans, some to no avail.

I am 52 years old. The disappointment, embarrassment and feelings of failure still overwhelm me. Yet, other colleges have embraced me with open arms, some commenting that "Schoolcraft's loss is our gain." Fortunately, I have enrolled in a college that not only embraces my efforts and promotes my desire to succeed, but also has acknowledged what a compassionate, knowledgeable and successful nurse I will be.

I am one of many students in my position, many of whom will make excellent nurses. We are older, wiser and dedicated to the sick as well as advocates. Which nurse would you rather have caring for your family member?

Ann Greskowiak works in the health care field and is a nursing student at Washtenaw County Community College.

State economy has strengths

Under the effective leadership of CEO Doug Rothwell, The Michigan Economic Development Corporation has just issued a provocative report, "Strategic Directions for Michigan's Future."

Among other things, the report argues that Michigan's economy needs to go way beyond automotive metal bending. It identifies three areas where Michigan has a real competitive advantage against other states:

■ Advanced manufacturing, which means highly flexible, short run, nearly customized manufacturing capability, an extension of our existing base in regular manufacturing.

■ Information technology. Headquarters for Internet 2, the effort to produce the next version of the Internet, is in Ann Arbor. Everybody knows how fast the Internet is changing the entire world, and it only makes sense for Michigan to take fullest advantage of the IT capability now emerging right here.

■ An enormous chunk of life sciences research is now going on in our universities where, for example, the University of Michigan leads the nation in sponsored research, much of which is in things medical and biological. State government has pledged to plow \$50 million per year into life sciences initiatives now emerging at U-M, MSU and at the Van Andel Institute in Grand Rapids. The potential here is awesome.

What MEDC wants to do get people focusing on how best to get there.

The report recognizes, for example, that the skills and intelligence of our work force are vital. But the perception of many of Michigan's brightest young people is that there are "hotter economies to work in and cooler places to be."

The report suggests some good ideas such as tax reductions and tuition support for college and technical school students and promotion of careers in technology at high schools. Using money from the tobacco lawsuit settlement, Gov. Engler has funded college scholarships at Michigan schools for kids who score well on every section of the 11th-grade MEAP test. This alone should encourage many bright kids to stay home for college and, hopefully, thereafter.

One idea, not mentioned in the MEDC report, has been kicking around for years: Establish a Michigan Math and Science Academy, where the brightest kids in the state would go to get really serious math and science training from the best teachers in the state. It could start as a summer program modeled on the music curriculum of Interlochen, but there's no reason it could not be year-round and residential. Certainly a state that proposes to spend billions on prisons could afford to spend a few millions on an institution that might keep our science and



PHILIP POWER

math whizzes here in Michigan.

Another area highlighted by the report is infrastructure. This begins with adequate roads and effective airports and ends with high bandwidth fiber optic connections into every home and business. Around a third of the Michigan business leaders surveyed in the MEDC report consider Michigan "in the dark ages" when it comes to technology.

A couple of years ago, I served as a member of the Michigan Information Technology Commission. Supported by a generous grant from the Kellogg Foundation, the Commission chewed on how best Michigan could become a world leader in IT.

One of the ideas that came out of our discussions was to create the equivalent of the Baldrige Award - a rigorous and much sought-after award given to companies that absolutely excel in their sector - for local communities that get their information technology infrastructure in order. Towns that, for instance, require developers to put fiber optic connections in all new homes and offered incentives for phone and cable companies to retrofit existing structures with fiber could be certified as "technologically friendly."

We reasoned that once folks understood what such designation could do for local jobs and economic development, natural competition between communities could spur improvements in infrastructure through the entire state without having to rely on the heavy hand of government regulation.

Reading the MEDC report is encouraging. It suggests the time has passed for hand-wringing about our economy, and it provides focus for what needs to be done to grow a diversified and healthy economy into the coming millennium.

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@homecomm.net.



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JACK GLADDEN

Have 'berry' good dinner

Forty years ago this month – on Nov. 9, 1959 – Arthur Fleming, the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, made an ominous announcement: A shipment of cranberries from Oregon had been found by FDA investigators to be contaminated with aminotriazole, a weed killer that had been approved for use in cranberry bogs, but only after the harvest.

He said other berries from Oregon and Washington "might be" contaminated. And, while he said that berries from Massachusetts, Wisconsin and New Jersey showed no evidence of contamination, he was asked by a reporter if a housewife could be sure the cranberries she was buying were safe.

Fleming's response: "To be on the safe side, she doesn't buy."

The announcement and Fleming's offhand remark set off a national panic that later came to be known as "The Great Cranberry Scare of 1959." In Chicago and San Francisco – and in the entire state of Ohio – cranberry sales were banned. Other states – Kentucky, Michigan and Washington – called for voluntary suspensions.

Stores pulled cranberry products off the shelves, restaurants took cranberry dishes off the menus and schools dumped anything containing cranberries.

Agreed to help

Cranberry producers agreed to help the government look for contaminated berries, but, facing potential losses of millions of dollars in cranberry sales, they demanded an apology from Fleming.

As far as aminotriazole was concerned, it had been tested on laboratory rats and, indeed, shown to produce cancer in the rodents. But, according to the American Council on Science and Health, the risk to humans, if there ever was one, was infinitesimal at best. The lab rats were given a dosage that would have been equivalent to a human consuming 15,000 POUNDS of berries every day for several years.

Other government officials, worried that the scare was getting out of hand, tried to smooth things out a bit. Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson announced that he was having cranberries for Thanksgiving. And presidential candidates Richard Nixon and John F. Kennedy consumed cranberry sauce and cranberry juice at campaign stops. Even Fleming announced that he was having cranberry sauce for Thanksgiving dinner.

By the time Thanksgiving actually arrived, canned cranberry sauce was back on supermarket shelves, with labels telling buyers that the fruit had been inspected and was safe. But the damage had been done and millions of nervous Americans had cranberryless Thanksgiving dinners.

Back to normal, but ...

By the next year people had forgotten about contaminated cranberries and Thanksgiving dinners were back to normal. But the cranberry panic was just the beginning. It was the first of the modern food "scares."

Dr. Elizabeth Whelan, president of the American Council on Science and Health, summed it up:

"The cranberry scare of 1959 set the stage for decades of unfounded anxiety about trace levels of agricultural chemicals and additives in food. Many other food scares based solely on high-dose animal studies would follow, involving nitrite in bacon, the artificial sweetener saccharin, and most notably, the chemical Alar, which was used in regulating the growth of apples."

So if you have bacon and eggs for breakfast, then a Thanksgiving dinner including apple pie, cranberry sauce and coffee sweetened with saccharin, don't pig out (moderation is always best), but don't panic either. It's all perfectly safe (unless you're a laboratory rat).

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

Something to be thankful for



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSHMANN

In sickness and in health: This Thanksgiving Day John and Stacey Blackport of Canton Township have plenty to be thankful for. For John, it's the gift of life his wife gave him. For Stacey, it's being a match so she could give her husband one of her kidneys.

Husband, wife share gift of life

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

Stacey Blackport came up with the best anniversary gift ever – a kidney that saved her husband's life.

On Oct. 20 they both underwent surgery at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor to transplant Stacey's kidney to John's body. They were married Dec. 5, 1998.

"From the beginning she thought she would be a match," John said. "She saved my life."

It turned out that her hunch was right despite what statisticians would have predicted. Since they aren't blood relatives the chances that she would be a compatible donor are rare, however, medical advances are making it more and more common for people who aren't related to donate kidneys, according to a hospital spokesperson.

Stacey, 30, returned to their Canton Township apartment two days after the operation and John, 36, joined her one day later.

John, who has a small incision where the doctors dropped in Stacey's kidney, is recovering much quicker than his wife. Stacey has a 9-inch scar reaching from her front to her back.

"She's having trouble getting up and down and I'm here bopping around," John said.

Laughing and then pausing, Stacey added: "Now you look healthy and I don't."

"I'm waiting on her hand and foot for a change," John said. "I can't do enough for her now. It's great. I love her so much that it's fun."

A 4-year wait

For nearly four years before he received Stacey's

kidney, John remained on two kidney transplant waiting lists – one at the U-M Hospital and another at the University of Wisconsin Hospital.

"No one in these two states could help me, whether they were dead or living," Blackport said. "Stacey did something that no one in the world could do for me."

John's medical problems began when he was 12 and was diagnosed with diabetes. His regimen included daily insulin shots and a restricted diet, but over the years, the stress of the disease weakened his kidneys.

Finally, in February 1994 his name was chosen to receive a kidney and pancreas from someone who had died. His organs weren't removed during either transplant.

"It's like a lottery and you wait for your name to be picked," John said.

If his stomach seems to protrude a bit, it's not from eating too much fast food or drinking beer, he said, but because he has three extra organs. He has four kidneys and two pancreas. Most people have two kidneys and one pancreas.

Meanwhile the operation forever changed his life, because the new pancreas worked properly and that meant he was no longer diabetic.

"That was a blessing," John said.

But, the operation wasn't all good news. His new kidney began to fail two years later and his body began to weaken.

"The kidney was rejected, but the transplant was a blessing, because it worked for nearly two years," he added.

John was on dialysis for four years, which meant his diet was highly restricted again, with no dairy products or dark pops to name a couple of the limi-

tations. He also ingested piles of pills everyday.

"It's hard to watch your diet all the time and take all the pills, including 16 for breakfast, when I didn't even feel like a piece of toast," John said.

Suitable match

The Blackports learned Stacey was a suitable match about two years ago, but the operation was delayed, because she had high blood pressure and he had an infection from his dialysis treatments.

His new kidney has given him another chance at a healthy life, except for a recuperation period. When the Blackports returned from the hospital, they were told not to drive for two weeks and not to lift anything heavier than a telephone for six weeks.

Their ordeal has been lightened by friends at the Church of the Savior in Livonia, the church Stacey has attended since her childhood.

Families there took turns bringing dinners, grocery shopping, doing laundry and house cleaning, taking them to doctor visits, running other errands and even providing financial aid.

"John and Stacey are a wonderful couple," said the Rev. Tom Daubenspeck, Church of the Savior pastor.

Likewise, the couple are bowled over by the kindness and generosity they've received.

"I think (the organ donation has) done some things at several levels," Daubenspeck said. "It's brought John and Stacey closer in a short period of time than most couples ever are. In terms of their own faith, it's been a great experience putting their trust in God and seeing God at work in their lives."

Please see **TRANSPLANT**, B2



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Santa's helper: Kristy Even of Garden City has "a lot of fun" writing personalized letters to children on behalf of Santa Claus.

Letter-writing 'elf' handles Santa mail

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

Kristy Even tells her children she's one of Santa's elves, but her children – Micaela, 5, and Connor, 2 – don't believe her. When she dressed the part for a craft show last year, they thought she was silly.

But they do help her stuff envelopes with very special letters and magic keys and snowflakes for other boys and girls around the country. Even is a member of the Professional Association of Santa's Elves.

"I've been doing it four years, and each year it's grown," said the Garden City resident. "I started doing it for the kids and my nephews and nieces for their scrapbooks. And when I went through AOL looking for a home-based business, I found PASE."

Founded in 1997, PASE ensures that its members have the resources necessary to write quality letters for Santa. PASE letter-writing elves "are dedicated to putting a smile on the face of a child and also offer Santa's encouragement in areas that need improvement." For \$5, Even writes a personalized

letter from Santa Claus to a child, an adult, even a family pet. She has written letters encouraging a 3-year-old to go to bed on his own or another to become potty trained and letting a boy know his girlfriend knew he had cheated on her. For that, he received a naughty letter with a bag of coal.

She has helped children who are dealing with divorce or the death of a grandparent ("those are not good letters to write") and sent some magic snowflakes to a child who lacked courage.

"I used the Wizard of Oz idea and told him to put the magic snowflakes in his pocket," said Even. "His father wrote back to say that that little trick helped him keep his courage up."

"I sent one to my nephew who was 8 and at that age where they don't quite believe in Santa Claus. I included the names of his teacher and his friends. His mom said his mouth just dropped. He knew only Santa would know his teacher's name."

Getting the word out

Even uses fliers that she leaves on doorsteps. Please see **LETTERS**, B2

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Sploth-Kneip

Dennis Sploth and Cindia Sploth of Napoleon, Ohio, announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Kelly Ann, to Kevin Kenneth Kneip, the son of Kenneth and Jayne Kneip of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a 1994 graduate of Napoleon High School and is attending Eastern Michigan University. She works as a customer service agent for Northwest Airlines at Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

Her fiancé is a 1993 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School. He is employed as an equipment service employee by Northwest Airlines at Detroit Metropolitan Airport.



A November wedding is planned at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Napoleon.

Yaquinto-Armstrong

Maureen Armstrong and Todd Yaquinto were married Aug. 6 at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Farmington. The Rev. Scott Thibodeau officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Robert and Barbara Armstrong of Farmington Hills. The groom is the son of Donald and Charlene Yaquinto of Northville, formerly of Livonia.

The bride is a graduate of the University of Detroit Mercy. She is employed as a registered nurse at Children's Hospital in Detroit.

The groom is a graduate of Wayne State University and Michigan State University. He is employed as a district sales executive by Expeditors International.

The bride asked Andrea Kosiba to serve as maid of honor, with bridesmaids Maria Huhn, Kim Kregoski and Gina Yaquinto helping. Shelby Armstrong was the flower girl.

The groom asked Tony



Yaquinto to serve as best man, with groomsmen Blaise Krol, T.J. Armstrong and Andrew Karlo. Spencer Dunn was the ring bearer.

The couple received guests at a reception at the Shenandoah Country club before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Jamaica. They are making their home in Northville.

Bohrer-Fleszar

Anne Kristen Fleszar and Matthew Russell Bohrer were married June 12 at St. Edith Catholic Church in Livonia by the Rev. Denis Theroux.

The bride is the daughter of Eugene and Joan Fleszar of Livonia. The groom is the son of Raymond and Stephanie Bohrer of Traverse City.

The bride is a 1992 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 1996 graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor of arts degree in marketing. She is employed by Abbott Laboratories.

The groom is a 1993 graduate of Traverse City Central High School and a 1997 graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor of arts degree in finance. He is employed by Financial Investment Management Group in Suttons Bay.

The bride asked Denise Truesdell to serve as maid of honor with Megan Bohrer, Jean Butrico-Cooper, Michelle Kopek, Kelly Pizzuti and Melaney Truesdell as bridesmaids. Jennifer and Jessica Fleszar were the flower



girls.

The groom asked Chris Willbur to serve as best man with Aaron Bohrer, David Bohrer, Jake Brehmer, Pat Erwy and Justin Fleszar as groomsmen. Josh Bohrer was the ring bearer.

The couple received guests at a reception at Laurel Manor in Livonia before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla. They are making their home in Traverse City.

Hale-Meyers

Donald and Janice Hais of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Ellen, to Dean Arthur Meyers, the son of Don Meyers and Carol Meyers of St. Clair Shores.

The bride-to-be is a 1998 grad-

uate of Livonia Churchill High School. She is employed as a shipping and receiving clerk with Air Gage Co. in Livonia.

Her fiancé is a 1988 graduate of St. Clair High School. He is employed as a service engineer at Air Gage Co.

A May wedding is planned at El Dorado Country Club.



Cheal-Clapham

Robert Cheal and Sharon Barbara of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Christina Barbara, to Matthew Aaron Clapham, the son of Edwin and Patricia Clapham of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a senior in the elementary teacher education program at Eastern Michigan University. She works in the chemistry department at the university.

Her fiancé is a 1999 graduate of the University of Michigan where he majored in engineering and music. He is employed by Microsoft in Redmond, Wash.



A May 2001 wedding is planned.

Daniels-Smukal

Michael and Kathy Daniels of Hartland announce the engagement of their daughter, Inga Britt, to Garrett Smukal, the son of Garrett Smukal of Livonia and Kim McKay of Lincoln, Neb.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Lutheran High School Westland. She is employed as a secretary in the family business.

Her fiancé also is a graduate of Lutheran High School Westland. He is studying to become an electrician.

A September wedding is being planned.



Sports - Where the hoops are

Announcement forms available

Have an announcement to make? Forms are available to announce an engagement, wedding, anniversary and birth at our offices at 36251

Schoolcraft, Livonia; or 794 S. Main St., Plymouth. For more information, call Sue Mason at (734) 953-2131 or Tiffanie Lacey at (734) 459-2700.

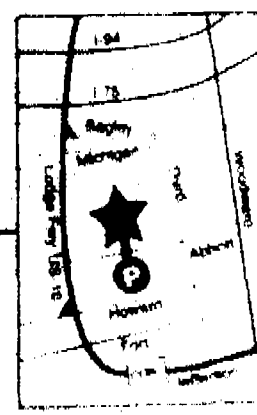
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CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

BLOOD DRIVE

Schweitzer Girl Scout Troop No. 378 is coordinating a Red Cross blood drive 3-9 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, in the Schweitzer Elementary gym, Glenwood and Treadwell in Westland. For an appointment or information, call Kendolyn Goodchild, (734) 721-0827.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

The Wayne County chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers will hold its annual candlelight vigil at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, at St. John's Lutheran Church, 13115 Telegraph at Northline, in Taylor.

The event is an opportunity for people who've lost loved ones or who've been seriously injured in a drunken driving crash to join together. Call the MADD office at (734) 721-8181 to have names put into the program. A bell will be rung as each name is remembered at the vigil.

MADD organizers ask that participants have a slide made of a favorite photo of the loved one so that it can be shown at the vigil. Mail them to MADD, P.O. Box 85570, Westland, MI 48185.

The Wayne County chapter also has extended an invitation to its new victim support groups.

The groups will meet 7 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month at the Michigan State Police post located at 12111 N. Telegraph in Taylor. For more information call the above-listed MADD number.

AT THE LIBRARY

FRIENDS OF LIBRARY
The Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library group meets 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. Friends also hold a book sale during regular library hours at the library.

WESTLAND CENTER

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

RECREATION

RECREATION AND FUN
A recreational get-together for teens and adults who are disabled is held the second Friday of each month at the Westland Bailey Center. Call (734) 722-7630.

FIGURE SKATING
Figure skaters interested in USFSA synchronized (precision) skating are needed to build Novi FSC and Westland FSC joint-venture teams. Prior team experience is not necessary. This is an opportunity to build skating and team skills while having fun. For information, call Cheryl Gutowski at (734) 487-0305.

VOLUNTEERS

ASSISTING 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.

ANGEL CARE
Angel Care is looking for volunteers to sew, crochet, knit, etc., blankets and burial gowns to donate to local hospitals for infants who die. Contact Mary Piontek for patterns and information, (313) 534-6496.

VETERAN'S HAVEN
Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. For information, call (734) 728-0527.

CAMELOT MALL
Camelot Hall Convalescent Center seeks volunteers to spend time with residents, providing an activity or a one-on-one pursuit such as reading to blind people or just talking. The facility is at 35100 Ann Arbor Trail in Livonia. For information, call Esther or Diana in the Activity Department, (734) 522-1444, Ext. 27.

PET-A-PET
The Pet-A-Pet animal visitation program provides pet therapy with the help of volunteers. Pets should be friendly, well-behaved, and must have current vaccinations. There is a \$5 membership fee. Volunteer opportunities exist at Hope Nursing Care Center, Margaret Martin, (734) 721-2821, 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month, and Marquette House, Lerna Johnson, (734) 425-1681, 10:30 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month. There are also openings at Garden City Hospital, Stacy Suida, (734) 456-4392, 3 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month.

SCHOOLS

FRUIT DRIVE
The Wayne Memorial High School Instrumental Music fund-raiser continues through Nov. 29. Fruit is being sold, with delivery date approximately Dec. 16. For information, call Cathy at (734) 725-8737 or Pam at (734) 729-7520.

SUBURBAN CHILDREN'S NURSERY
Suburban Children's Co-op Nursery has openings in its 2-year-old toddler-parent class on Friday mornings; 3-year-old class Monday and Wednesday mornings; and 4-year-old 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 April at (734) 307-7889.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM
The Wayne-Westland Community School District is ongoing registration for the preschool program. The program is for children ages 3-5. Registration is 4:30 p.m. Call (734) 722-2660.

LIVONIA COMMUNITY NURSERY
The Livonia Community Nursery, a program for children ages 3-5, is located at 9601 W. Chicago. Parents learn with their children. Enrollment information, call (734) 433-3711.

CHURCH PRESCHOOL
The Westland United Methodist Church has openings for preschoolers in its



Young and fun: Guy Louis of Chauvin Express goes back in time to the music of Christopher Columbus when the string instrument used. Wildwood Elementary School students heard Louis perform last week.

preschool 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 age 4. Tots class meets on Wednesday mornings, and 3- and 4-year-olds meet Mondays and Thursdays. Parental involvement is required. Call Kelli at (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 26779 Michigan in Inkster. Call (313) 561-4110.

CHARTER SCHOOL
The Academy of Detroit-Westland, an entrepreneurial and business charter school, serves kindergarten through sixth grade. The school emphasizes a basic education with business and entrepreneurial skills. The school offers a foreign language class, music and art, a dress code and a computer lab with access to the Internet. Call (734) 722-1468 or (248) 569-7787.

LITTLE PEOPLES
Little Peoples Co-op Preschool is now enrolling in programs for 3- and 4-year-olds. For more information, call (734) 422-3378.

LITTLE LAMBS
Little Lambs Preschool, on

Farmington Road south of West Chicago in Livonia, is holding registration. 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.

GARFIELD CO-OP
Garfield Cooperative Preschool offers programs for children 18 months to 5 years. It is at Cass Elementary, 34633 Munger, south of Six Mile and west of Farmington Road in Livonia. Call (734) 462-0135.

BUILDING BLOCKS
Building Blocks Preschool in Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia, has morning and afternoon classes for 3- and 4-year-olds. A pre-kindergarten readiness class for 5 year olds and a parent/child toddler class for 2 year olds are offered. Call (734) 421-7359 for registration information for the 1999-2000 school year.

FRANKLIN PTSA
The Franklin High School PTSA is seeking members. Membership is open to those who care about the schools and the 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, 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. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 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.

ADULT LITERACY

An adult literacy program is being offered free Wednesdays at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center. Volunteers are being sought who are interested in tutoring children and adults 4-5:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays. For Adult Literacy enrollment or additional information, 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. The program is an optional co-op, with parents working once each month. Call (734) 422-0149.

HISTORIC

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 at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday 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

CASINO TRIP
A MGM Grand Detroit Casino trip is being presented by Bianco Tours in cooperation with the Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center). It will leave the Friendship Center at approximately 8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, and return approximately 4 p.m. For information, call (734) 722-7632. Tour price is \$16.

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

SENIOR CHOIR
The Friendship Senior Choir, under the direction of Robert Cassidy, meets 9 a.m. Thursdays at the Westland Senior Resources Department Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland. Anyone who enjoys singing may join.

EXERCISE
Musical Chairs is a new program from Jazzercise designed for exercisers older than 40. The program provides a low-to-moderate workout for the older adult. The exercise improves strength, flexibility, bal-

ance, posture, coordination and cardiovascular endurance. It incorporates resistance exercises using rubber tubing and light weights with walking and jogging patterns. Wear loose-fitting clothing and comfortable shoes. Light weights and an exercise mat are suggested. Robert Cassidy is the certified Jazzercise instructor. Sign up at the front desk at the Westland Friendship Center or call (734) 722-7632.

TRAVEL GROUP

The Travel Group meets 1 p.m. two Fridays a month in the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, unless a trip or program is planned. Programs include speakers, films, celebrations of birthdays and weekly door prizes. There is an \$8 membership fee for Westland residents. Call (734) 722-7632.

MONTHLY MEAL/DANCE

The Wayne-Ford Civic League schedules its senior meal for people 50 and older 11:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month at the league hall, on Wayne Road two blocks south of Ford. Cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. The meal includes beer, beverages, dancing to big-band music and door prizes. Call (734) 728-5010.

WORK REFERRAL

Information Center Inc. refers workers to elderly people who need help. The program is for people interested in providing transportation, yard work, housework, etc. Workers can specify the type of work they are willing to perform and the communities they want to work in. Call (734) 422-1052.

DYER CENTER

The Wayne-Westland School District's Dyer Senior Adult Center has activities Monday through Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts, crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, Kitchen Band, 10 a.m., bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.; a Hawaiian dance exercise class will be held at 1 p.m. every Wednesday in Hall A of the Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 Newburgh. The instructor is Kammo Oris. Sign up at the front desk or call (734) 722-7632.

CLUBS IN ACTION

WESTLAND ROTARY
The Westland Rotary Club meets 12:15 p.m. Thursdays at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, east of Middlebelt in Westland.

SWEET ADELINES
The County Connection Chorus of Sweet Adelines International is looking for women who love to sing. The group sings a cappella music in barbershop style. Rehearsals are 7 p.m. Tuesdays at UAW Local 898 at 8975 Textile, Ypsilanti. For more information, call Paula at (734) 995-4110.

CHADD

CHADD of Northwest Wayne County meets the first Thursday of the month throughout the school year at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile. CHADD is a nonprofit, parent-based, volunteer organization whose aim is to better the lives of individuals with attention difficulties. Call (313) 438-3099.

T.O.P.S.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly No. M128, a support group for sensible weight loss,

meets 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland. Call Jackie at (734) 722-7225.

T.O.P.S.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly No. M153 meets at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays at Opti-MEyes, Westland Super Vision Center, 35184 Central City Parkway, Westland. Call (734) 427-5200. Leader, Michele, (734) 422-1726; secretary, Karen, (734) 729-6368.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club No. 6694 (formerly Holy Smokemasters) teaches public speaking at the club's weekly meetings 6:30 p.m. Thursdays at Denny's Restaurant, 7725 N. Wayne Road next to Westland Shopping Center. Call John Elbe at (734) 326-5419.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

HEARING IMPAIRED

Self-Help for Hard of Hearing People Inc. (SHHH) for Western Wayne County is an international nonprofit education organization of hard-of-hearing people, their relatives and friends, devoted to the welfare and interests of those who cannot hear well. SHHH meets at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month in the Allan L. Breakie Medical Building next to Garden City Hospital, Inkster Road between Warren and Ford. For information, call Robin Leitner at (734) 595-0194 or Ginny Schroeder at the Garden City Hospital Audiology Department, (734) 458-3408.

SCREENINGS

Free breast and Pap screenings are available at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center, on Annapolis west of Venoy in Wayne. Appointments are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. Call (734) 467-5555 for early registration.

AIM

Anxiety or panic attacks? AIM (Agoraphobics In Motion) meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia. AIM is a support group for those working on recovery from anxiety disorder or phobias. Call (248) 547-0400.

RATIONAL RECOVERY

Rational Recovery is a nonprofit, self-help organization for people experiencing problems caused by alcohol and/or substance abuse or other self-defeating behaviors. The group meets at 12:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Garden City Hospital Community Health Center, on Harrison north of Maplewood in Garden City. Call (248) 476-2657.

CHILD BIRTH CLASSES

Garden City Hospital, on Inkster Road at Maplewood, is sponsoring classes for parents of newborns, weekend childbirth instruction, a "refresher" childbirth education course and a new support group for expectant teens. For information on programs, call (734) 458-4330.

CHILD BIRTH ASSOCIATION

Classes for childbirth preparation are offered at several Wayne County locations. Morning and evening classes are available. Registering new classes every month. Newborn care classes and Cesarean preparation are also offered. Call (734) 459-7477.

The Observer & Eccentric! welcomes 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 734-881-7278. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday of the following Thursday's paper. Call 953-2104 if you have any questions.

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Use additional sheet if necessary

Helping each other

Group brings adoptive families together

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

When Maria Galloway's kidney problems made having children an impossibility, she and husband Jeff turned to foreign adoption.

For the Allen Park couple, there was no question about the country.

"Jeff is a Korean adoptee," said Maria. "His mom and dad had three girls and adopted four more children from Korea. He was adopted in 1958."

The Galloways adopted their first child - Jason, who's now 8 years old - in 1991. During the process, the agency they were working with told them about a support group and suggested they see if they liked it.

Nine years and the addition of daughter Emily, 5, later, they are the coordinators of Families for Children, a support group for families who have adopted children from foreign countries. Most members have adopted children from Korea, but there also are youngsters from China, Japan and India.

"I knew a little about it (the support group) from when my parents were adopting," said Jeff. "I'm 42 and I have a friend

who lives in Muskegon whom I met as a child through a support group."

FFC has about 150 member families living in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw counties. It has an elected board that meets monthly at each other's homes. The four counties are split into six areas with leaders who hold monthly meetings at area restaurants or members' homes.

The support group meets September through May and holds group activities around the four-county area, activities such as a fall hayride at Middleton Berry Farms in Lake Orion and the upcoming Dec. 11 Christmas party at Joy Manor in Westland.

"We're involved with the Korean (Methodist) Church in Ann Arbor," said Maria. "We share information and celebrate the Korean New Year's Day. The Korean Presbyterian Church in Southfield sponsors a Korean cultural camp where the children learn about the culture, the songs and draw pictures."

"We also have an adoption seminar in the spring and bring in the different adoption agencies, and Dr. Linda Yellin does programs on adoption issues."

Get the word out

With November being National Adoption Month, The Galloways want to get the word out about support groups like FFC. Yes, they say, there is a lot of information out there, but it's important for families with foreign adoptees to have one-on-one contact with a similar family.

"It's so vital and important to meet other families no matter where the children are from," said Maria. "The parents share a common goal of the kids and the kids meet other kids their age from their birth country."

"I can identify with what the children go through," said Jeff who also belongs to an adult adoptee support group. "I grew up in Lincoln Park and at that time there were no other racial groups. I was called names like 'gook' and 'slant eyes.' It was a different time, a different culture when my parents adopted."

"Adoption is not a big deal now. There's a lot more networking and information out there."

The Galloways have found that most families join when their children are small and tend to drop out by the time the kids are teenagers.

They speak from experience. They took over the job of coordinating the group from a man

who had done it for three or four years and whose sons had gotten older.

"We're going on our seventh year as coordinators," said Jeff. "It's more or less a labor of love."

"Jason really looks forward to seeing his buddies," Maria added. "But I know there'll come a time when he doesn't want to do it. By age 8 or 9, they want to be like other kids."

With that in mind, the Galloways are looking to start a pre-teen group with activities geared for older children, things like pizza parties and roller skating.

Going home

An Amer-Asian (part Korean and part American), Jeff has been back to his homeland twice - once with Maria to get Jason and the second time by himself to pick up Emily.

"It was very emotional going back to Korea in 1991," he said. "My mom and dad went in 1963 and had home movies; I had an image of Korea from that, but it was so different."

"When I went back the second time, I felt more comfortable. I fell in love with the country, the people and the customs. Now, I feel proud to be Korean."

The Galloways know Jason will want to go back some day, and when he's ready they will take him.

"Emily and Jason know they are adopted and Jason has been asking questions," Maria said.

"We tell the kids they've been Americanized," said Jeff. "We tell them we can't change the color of their skin. We tell them we can't change their heritage but they can be proud of it."

People interested in more information about Families for Children can call the Galloways at 313-359-1846 or Area 4 leaders Jim and Lisa Nelson at 248-229-2677.

Area 4 includes the communities of Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Redford, Garden City, Westland, Ann Arbor, Northville, Dearborn Heights, Inkster, Brighton, Novi and South Lyon.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

How about it?: Sister Elizabeth Ann (left) and Evelyn Mundy practice their sales technique for Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County's annual Koeze nuts and candy sale going on now.

Zonta club feels 'like a nut' sale

Evelyn Mundy has sold a lot of nuts and candies. A charter member of the Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County, which started in 1979, she's been active in the club's annual major fundraiser.

Sister Elizabeth Ann, the newest club member, is getting her first taste, so to speak, of the process.

Mundy is a founder and owner/operator of Mundy Sports Medicine, established in 1946. She retired two years ago and was recently honored by the National Trainers Association. Sister Elizabeth Ann is the administrator of Marywood Nursing Care Center and Marybrook Manor in Livonia.

And for the two women and other members of the Zonta club, it's Koeze Nuts time.

Members are selling a selection of nuts and candies, some in glass canisters, at prices ranging from \$10 to \$26 and packaged for gift giving.

Money raised by the club from the Koeze sale and fashion show goes to both local and international projects like the Amelia Earhart Scholarship supports women graduate students in the fields of aerospace-related sciences and engineering.

Locally, the club supports Seedlings Braille Books for Children, the Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College and Greenmead Historical Village in Livonia.

For Koeze nuts and candy orders, call 734-459-5374 or order by e-mail at kdiggs4700@aol.com. Delivery is available.

Weather didn't stop running of America's 1st auto race

HOOKED ON HISTORY



VIRGINIA PARKER

Macy's Department Store and J. L. Hudson began delighting crowds with Thanksgiving Day parades around 75 years ago. That makes the tradition old enough to have captured the hearts of generations, but too young to provide a glimpse of how folks entertained themselves on the holiday at the turn of the last century.

There was, however, a single event in 1895 that excited Victorian crowds lining the streets of Chicago. Many did not yet believe the event that particular snowy Thanksgiving Day signaled the advent of dramatic changes, but it did. This was America's first auto race.

It was nothing like today's races with sleek cars pushing speedometers to incredible heights. These early automotive inventions were simply carriages rendered horseless by elemen-

tary engines. At best, they averaged 12 to 15 miles an hour.

Ironically, Chicago, which hosted the race, had just that year banned autos from public streets to protect bicyclists and pedestrians. A photo exists of bicycle cops there purportedly pulling over an inventor for breaking this law.

Nervous Nellies in cities everywhere passed restrictive laws. Some regulated speed limits to two or three miles per hour. Others required that red flags (following railroad tradition) or lanterns precede cars into town, or that Roman candles be fired off to warn approaching horse-drawn vehicles.

A ragged start

The Chicago competition got off to a ragged start. It was originally scheduled for Nov. 2, but only two of the 83 prospective gasoline, steam, and electric machines managed to show up.

The race's sponsor, the Chicago Times-Herald, turned the 92-mile course into an exhibition and scheduled a revised, 55-mile Chicago-to-Evanston roundtrip

race for Nov. 28 - Thanksgiving Day.

The exhibition run pitted the Illinois-based Mueller Manufacturing Company's entry - equipped with an award-winning, European Benz engine - against the American-made Duryea car.

Frank Duryea, driving the lighter-weight auto, was in the lead when a passing sleigh cut

Please see HISTORY, B7

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734-525-3664

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.

October 31st
11:00 a.m. Dr. Richard Freeman
6:00 p.m. Dr. Richard Freeman

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



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(West of Canton Center)
Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:45 am
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10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
5 Miles W. of Shakeron Rd.
From M-14 take Gottschalk Rd. South
734-459-9550
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8:00 Prayer & Praise Service
9:30 Lifeline Contemporary Service
11:00 Traditional Service

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6:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages

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Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Worship Services,
Sunday School
8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M.
Contemporary Service
8:50-9:45 A.M.
Evening Service
6:00 P.M. In the Chapel
Nursery Provided
Now On The Radio 8:30 a.m.
Sunday - WYUR 1310 AM

Brightmoor Tabernacle
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10:00 AM - Pastor Calvin C. Ratz
The Door to God's Plans
6:30 PM - Pastor Calvin C. Ratz

24-Hour Prayer Line 248-352-6205

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20805 Middlebelt
Farmington Hills, Mich.

WORSHIP SERVICES
Saturday Evening 6:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning 9:15 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

Risen Christ Lutheran
46250 Ann Arbor Road
(1/2 Mile West of Shakeron)
Plymouth • 453-5252

Worship Service 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Pastor David Martin
Hugh McMartin, Lay Minister

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH, USA
16700 Newburgh Road
Livonia • 734-464-8844
Sunday School for All Ages 9:30 a.m.
Family Worship 11:00 a.m.
"Why 2K?"

Rev. Dr. Janet Noble-Richardson, Pastor
<http://www.uncol.com/~sttimothy>

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5825 Shakeron Rd., Canton
(734) 459-0013

Sunday Worship & Sunday School
9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Education For All Ages

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New St. Paul Tabernacle Church of God in Christ and Grandmont Rosedale Park Christian Day School
Bishop P.A. Brooks, Pastor & Founder
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313-835-5329
SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

JOIN US IN OUR WEEKLY WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY. WE ARE CURRENTLY TAKING A JOURNEY THROUGH THE BOOK OF HEBREWS!

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Rev. Lawrence Witto / Rev. Steve Eggers

Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11 a.m.
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Thursday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Christian School: Kindergarten-8th Grade
313-937-2233

St. Michael Lutheran Church & School
2000 Shakeron Rd., Wayne Center
Livonia • 734-728-1950

Sunday Morning Worship Services
Traditional Services 8 & 11 am
Contemporary Service 9:30 am
Sunday School (Children & Adults) 9:30 & 11 am
Wednesday Night Service 7 pm
Rev. Dr. Robert J. Seiberts Rev. Merle Walbourn

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Main & Church • (734) 453-6464
PLYMOUTH

8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Nursery 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Dr. James Skrimins Tamara J. Sedel
Senior Minister Associate Minister
Carole Mackay
Director of Christian Education

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(Between Michigan & Farmington Rds.)
(734) 422-0494

Worship Service & Sunday School
10:30 a.m.

Nursery Care Provided
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Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor
Rev. Ruth Billington, Associate Pastor
Ministry Office: <http://www.rosegardens.org>

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Sunday 9 am, 11 am, 8 pm

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23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121
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First Sat. 9:30 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:00 & 9:30 a.m.
Confession Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mentor of Perpetual Holy Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

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915 Harmon • Livonia

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Sunday School & Bible Class
9:45 a.m.
School Grades - Pre-School - 8
Church & School office:
(734) 422-8800

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532-2285 REDFORD TWP.

Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
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Rev. Timothy Halboff, Assoc. Pastor

CHRISTADELPHIANS
Sunday Memorial Service 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School 11:30 A.M.
Bible Class - Wednesdays 7:30 P.M.
36516 Parkdale, Livonia
425-7610

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
48601 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 483-1528
Livonia, MI 48150

Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 P.M.
Sunday Evening - 8:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 455-3196

Mt. Hope Congregational Church
3080 Schoolcraft (Units • 734-426-7287
(Between Middlebelt & Hartman))

8:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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1:00 P.M. Life Teen Mass

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
17810 Farmington Road • Livonia • (734) 261-1360
May thru October • Monday Night Service • 7:00 p.m.
Sunday School & Bible Classes For All Ages 9:00 a.m.

Rev. James Hoff
Pastor Eric Balthasar

NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9435 Henry Huff at West Chicago
Livonia 48150 • 421-6400

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9:15 Adult Class
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
and Youth Classes
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UNITED METHODIST

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)
Cruck Bonquist, Pastor

10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School
11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes
Nursery Provided • 422-0038

Clarenceville United Methodist
20100 Middlebelt Rd • Livonia
Rev. Jean Love

Worship Services 10:15 A.M. 6:00 P.M.
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 A.M.
Office Hrs. 9-5

REBURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
48195 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187
481-9444

Rev. RICHARD A. PERFETTO

Worship Masses
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church & School
14750 Kinloch • Redford Twp.
313-532-8655

Worship Services 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Thursday 7:30 p.m.
Grade K thru 8
Phone for Enrollment Info

WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

Timothy Lutheran Church
5820 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290

Rev. Curtis Thompson Powell, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Sunday School (all ages)
10:30 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Avail.)
<http://www.timothyvonia.com>

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9:00 & 11:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship
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Faith Covenant Church
14500 Middlebelt Road, Farmington Hills
(248) 661-9191

Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m. Contemporary
11:30 a.m. Traditional

Sunday School for all ages
Wednesday Supper (6:00 p.m.)
& Programs for All Ages
Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups

St. Genevieve Roman Catholic Church & School
28915 Jamieson Ave. • Livonia
East of Middlebelt, between I-480 & Schoolcraft Rd.

8:00 a.m. Wed. Thur. Fri. & Sat. 8:00 a.m.
Sun. 7:30 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.
Sun. 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. & 12:00 noon
734-487-9889

Agapé Family Worship Center
"A PRACTICAL CHURCH ON THE MOVE"

45081 Goddard Road, Canton, MI 48188
(734) 394-0357

New Service Times
Sunday Worship Services - 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday - Family Night - 7:00 p.m.

Agapé Christian Academy - K through 12

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
422-0140

Worship Services & Sunday School
9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Advent Series:
"Bethlehem Bound"
"Repair & Prepare For The Journey"

Rev. Thomas G. Bradley, preaching

Rev. Thomas G. Bradley
Rev. Marlene Lee Carry
Rev. Edward C. Colby
<http://www.newburgumc.org>

November 28
Biblical Storytelling
Stories of Jesus

ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
46000 Middlebelt Road
Livonia, Michigan 48154
481-8881

8:00-9:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday 8:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist
Sunday 9:45 & 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist
10:30 A.M. Children's Eucharist for all ages
Sunday Morning & Wednesday Holy Communion
The Rev. Richard Slapp, Rector

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH
201 E. Spring St.
2 Blocks E. of Main • 2 Blocks E. of M8

11:00 A.M. Sunday School
9:00 A.M. Sunday School (all ages)
Nursery Provided in A.M.

WEDNESDAY
Holy Eucharist 7:30 P.M.
(Phone for all ages)

Pastor Frank Howard • Oh 463-0323



RELIGIOUS NEWS

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.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The First Church of Christ, Scientist, will have a special service on Thanksgiving Day for people to feel more of God's beneficence, to express their heartfelt thanks for the good God has for all, whether or not it is presently felt.

The service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 25, at the church, 1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, north of Harvey Street, Plymouth. For more information, call the church at (734) 453-0970.

Families dressed in Pilgrim attire will greet the congregation and guests for the annual Thanksgiving Eve services 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth.

The service recreates the worship services attended by the Pilgrims who met at Old South Church in Boston. For more information, call (734) 459-9550.

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church will present a Thanksgiving Eve service at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24, at the church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia.

The service will feature music by the Christ Our Savior Choir, the Cherub and Chorister Choirs, Sunday School Singers, instrumentalists and the Jubilation Handbell Choir. The Rev. Robert Bayer will deliver the Thanksgiving message.

There also will be a Thanksgiving service at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 25, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, Canton Campus, 46001 Warren Road, Canton. The service will feature a blend of traditional and contemporary music and Bayer's Thanksgiving message.

For more information on the services, call the church office at (734) 522-6830.

Residents are invited to join the members of Trinity Lutheran Church in giving thanks to the Lord for all the blessings they've received at a Thanksgiving Eve service with communion at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24, at the church 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia. For more information, call the church at (734) 427-2290 or visit its Web site at www.timothy-livonia.com.

Garden City Presbyterian Church will have a Thanksgiving service at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24, at the church, 1841 Middlebelt Road, Garden City. For more information, call the church at (734) 421-7620.

BLANKET DAYS

Garden City Presbyterian Church and the Church of Christ in Livonia are serving as drop-off sites for the American Red Cross's Blanket Days.

People are asked to bring slightly used or new blankets to Garden City Presbyterian, 1841 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, between 9:30 a.m. and noon Sundays through Jan. 2. Blankets also can be dropped off at Garden-City Park, Merriman and Cherry Hill roads, after the Santa parade Saturday, Nov. 27. Look for the Blanket Days sign.

The church hopes to collect 8,000 blankets for the Red Cross, which will distribute them to homeless, domestic violence and teen runaway shelters in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. People can drop off blankets 2-4 p.m. daily Saturday, Nov. 27, through Sunday, Dec. 19, at the Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman Road at Five Mile Road, Livonia. For more information, call the church at (734) 427-8743.

IN CONCERT

David Weaver and the Trio will bring their Gospel music to the Plymouth Church of the Nazarene, 4580 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Sunday, Nov. 28. The group will perform at 6 p.m.

Proclaim, with soloist Jim Kitchen will be in concert at 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, at St. Gemma Catholic Church, 23450 W. Davison. Advance tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under age 12. Cost is \$12 at the door. For more information or to order tickets, call (313) 255-3666.

ST. ANDREW'S DAY

St. James' Presbyterian Church will celebrate St. Andrew's Day at a 10 a.m. worship service and 11:30 a.m. dinner on Sunday, Nov. 28. The St. Andrew's Society Band bagpipers will perform during the service and at the dinner.

The dinner costs \$9 for those 12 years and older, \$4 for those 4-11 years and free for those 3 years and younger. St. James is at 25350 W. Six Mile Road, Redford. For more information, call (313) 534-7730.

FREE SEMINAR

Ward Evangelical Presbyter-

Christmas giving is theme of retreat

Madonna University will hold an Advent retreat, "Christmas: A Time for Giving," 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, in the Founder's Room and University Chapel in the Residence Hall on the campus at Schoolcraft and Levan in Livonia.

The Rev. Edward Prus of St. Raphael Catholic Church in Garden City will lead the activities.

The day-long retreat will include prayer, quiet reflection, conferences, a reconciliation service and liturgy.

The public is invited. The cost of the retreat is \$12, including lunch and refreshments.

For reservations or more information, call Deacon Gene Desjarlais in the campus ministry office at (734) 432-5419. Reservations must be made by Dec. 1.



Rev. Edward Prus

istry office at (734) 432-5419. Reservations must be made by Dec. 1.

an Church will have a free seminar, "Is Mormonism Christian?," presented by the Rev. Luke Wilson, executive director of the Institute for Religious Research, at 6-7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, in the sanctuary of the church, 40000 W. Six Mile Road, Northville. Child care will be available for children through age 4. For more information, call the church at (248) 374-7400.

The son of a United Methodist minister, his special interests include providing ministries where the church can enable its members to grow in their ability to exercise their faith by engaging and becoming involved in the

pastor of the Detroit Metropolitan United Methodist Church will be the guest speaker at 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, at The Gathering at Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt Road, Livonia.

The son of a United Methodist minister, his special interests include providing ministries where the church can enable its members to grow in their ability to exercise their faith by engaging and becoming involved in the

lives of those less fortunate, less educated, less hopeful and less knowledgeable of the gospel of Christ.

For more information, call Sonja Styles at (248) 474-3444

BLOOD DRIVE

Aldergate United Methodist Church will have a Red Cross blood drive 2-8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 29, in the Fellowship Hall of the church, 10000 Beech Daly Road, Redford. Call (313) 937-3170 for a blood donation appointment.

WOMEN'S SERVICE

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church will have its annual women's Advent service and creche display at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1, at the church, 27475 Five Mile Road, Livonia. There will be a tea reception following the service. For more information, call the church at (734) 422-1470.

ADVENT SERVICES

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church invites the public to remember "One Night in Bethlehem" during Advent services 7:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1 and 15, at the church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia.

Drama, music and a brief message will help worshippers focus on the history-changing events of Bethlehem 2000 years ago. Each of the three weeks will focus on a different scene in Bethlehem - "At the Inn" on Dec. 1, "In the Fields" on Dec. 8 and "Near the Stable" on Dec. 15.

There will be a fellowship dinner 5-6 p.m. prior to the services and mid-week classes and confirmation classes 6-7:20 p.m. The cost of the meals will be \$3.50 for adults, \$2 for children age 3-12 and free for those age 2 and

under. A package deal of three meals for \$9 is available, if ordered by Nov. 28. Reservations can be made by calling the church office at (734) 522-6830.

Trinity Lutheran Church will have Advent supper and services Wednesday, Dec. 1, 8 and 15, at the church, 8820 Wayne Road, between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. There will be a simple supper at 7 p.m. and worship service at 7:30 p.m. which will center around remembering the hungry and needy of the world. Midweek offerings will go to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. For more information, call (734) 427-2290.

NEW MILLENNIUM

"Can the new millennium change your life?" will be addressed by David Degler of Nashville, Tenn., at a public lecture at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, at the First Church of Christ, Scientist, 1100 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth.

Degler has a master's degree in journalism from Ohio University. He is in the full-time practice of Christian Science healing.

NEW BEGINNINGS

The topic for the Thursday, Dec. 2, meeting of New Beginnings, a grief support group, will be "Making It through the Holiday." The group will meet at 7 p.m. 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. For more information, call the church at (734) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7903, or Rosemary Kline at (734) 462-5770.

History from page B5

him off. Not unlike accidents on streets and expressways today, his quadricycle skidded into a ditch, damaging the differential housing and putting an end to that day's driving.

The night before the rescheduled race, a blizzard descended on the city. Rising and falling temperatures left wires and train and trolley tracks encased in ice. A hard crust and ruts of packed snow hampered travel.

Even with horse-drawn scrapers clearing the way, road conditions eliminated all but six of the 100 entrants. Among those competing for the astounding top prize of \$2,000 were the Duryea and the Mueller.

A carnival atmosphere accompanied the spectacle. Crowds cheered and jeered along the way. Sleigh bells jingled. Engines rumbled and backfired. It's reported that 200 kids threw snowballs at policemen near the finished line. Twenty people participated as drivers, ride-along umpires and observers and judges.

From the start

Mishaps abounded from the start. The two electrics dropped out when their batteries wore down, but they proved their machines could handle short distances.

Mechanical repairs, deep snow, wrong turns, a passing train blocking an intersection, and an overturned sleigh in the road delayed the contestants. Two more dropped out.

No road aid or roadside garages were around. The drivers had to seek help at a blacksmith shop and, with some persuasion, induced a tinsmith to open on the holiday.

The race was down to two. The Duryea, the only American-made gas-powered car, finished the course in just 10 hours and 23 minutes! This was long after dark, however, and weary onlookers had all gone home.

Mueller brought up the rear 24 minutes later. However, that

car's driver, debilitated by exhaustion and cold, had to be replaced, and his unconscious observer had to be carried off in a cutter. Charles King, later noteworthy in Detroit automotive history, took the controls and finished the course.

Since all entrants broke one rule or another, the judges took a week to decide the victors. In the end, everyone was a winner. The Duryea won first prize, and the Mueller second. Awards were also handed out for design, workmanship and technical excellence, noise, odor, vibration control and safety.

Not the earliest

You may be surprised to find that these primitive, turn-of-the-century autos were not the earliest self-propelled carriages. Inventors had been working on the idea for 125 years! The first, a French design in 1770, was a rogue contraption remembered for knocking down a wall.

Successful horseless carriage motors were actually produced at the opening of the 1800s, nearly a century before the Chicago auto race. They were a long way from being perfected, though, since, by 1863, the record run was six hours to travel three miles.

A century after the race, we're still trying to improve technology, pollution control and safety. One hundred years from now - at the dawn of the next century - these will probably still be issues, although the vehicles will have undergone incredible transformations. Perhaps airbodies will routinely glide above the highways.

Given weather and traffic damage to roads in this state - which, no doubt, will still be a problem - that is one advancement that would make Michigan drivers rejoice.

Historian and author Virginia Bailey Parker has a bachelor's degree in history and a master's degree in historic preservation. She lives in Canton Township.

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Teens want to hear more from parents about sex, values

In Chapter 4 of "Healthy Teen: Facing the Challenges of Young Lives," Alice McCarthy presents an overview of issues parents and caregivers need to consider as they discuss sexuality with their teen.

Teens want to hear more from their parents about sex, values and relationships, according to James Jaccard, distinguished professor at the State University of New York in Albany, who has studied information from 20,000 students in grades 7 through 12.

Contrary to popular expectations, kids care about what adults think, even though parents and other adults often say they feel awkward discussing sex and relationships with teens, and that they are not sure what to say, or that teens do not listen anyway.

"Don't nag or lecture," says Jaccard, a researcher with the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health. "Listen to what your adolescent has to say with an open mind. Express your feelings and expectations."

Dr. Jaccard outlines central facts in communicating with teens about sexual activity. These are:

- Parents and caregivers tend to underestimate the sexual activity of their children. They may talk to their children about sexual issues at around 12 years of age, but statistics show that a number of children are sexually active at this age. It is important to talk about sexuality before your child becomes sexually active.

- Adults talking to their children about sexual activity will do so using their own value system. If parents and caregivers talk about a broad range of reasons for not engaging in sexual-risk behavior, they will be more successful than dwelling on just pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases.

- Another consideration is to talk about what positive benefits your teen sees in engaging in risky behavior. If a boyfriend or girlfriend is pushing for sexual activity, what does this say about a relationship?

- Too often, adults turn discussions into one-way lectures. This will not work with adolescents. Communication, in this area as in every other area with your adolescent, should be hon-

est, open and respectful. Each side needs to listen to the other.

- Parents and caregivers need to be sure that discussions about sexuality and sexual activity are held in a quiet place, free of interruption and stress. It is not a good idea to combine tasks with this kind of discussion.

- Adolescents who say they know all there is to know about sexual issues do not know any more than other teens. Statements such as "I know everything" should be disregarded; parents and caregivers must take responsibility for providing helpful information.

- For adults who know that their child is sexually active, who discover that their daughter is pregnant, that their unmarried son is a father, or that their teen has HIV, the issues are complex.

- At such a time it is important to remain as cool as possible and to use these problem-solving strategies: define the problem, carefully discuss options, seek community resources and evaluate your direction. It is a time to do away with ranting and anger and to be supportive about a difficult life experience for a son or daughter.

- Practical suggestions include further serious discussions about the value of abstinence and family values. Providing contraceptive information, seeking medical services and treatment are important.

Dangers of ignorance

There are numerous myths about sex, sexuality and sexually transmitted diseases. Be sure to address each of these issues with your child. Ask them to explain to you their views and beliefs about each of these areas and encourage them to be specific and detailed.

Create an environment in which they feel emotionally secure to share with you. There will be no effective communication with them unless you have their trust and respect. When listening to them, it is important that you do not appear to be judgmental or aghast at their responses.

If these topics of discussion are very difficult for you, then perhaps there is a friend or family member whom you trust and who has a good rapport with

Remember, each child eventually seeks answers to their own questions; it is best if those answers come from you or a trusted relative or friend.

your child. Remember, each child eventually seeks answers to their own questions; it is best if those answers come from you or a trusted relative or friend.

All too often, peers and television become the source of reference. Parents and caregivers who make sex education an ongoing process - something normal to discuss - can save themselves and their teens from the awkward, one-time, big deal conversation about sex. They might even save their teen's life.

The following guidelines come from the American Academy of Pediatrics regarding what to tell teens about sex. Well before they reach their early teens, both boys and girls should already know:

- The basics of sexual "plumbing," that is, the names and functions of male and female sex organs.
- The purpose and meaning of puberty (moving into young womanhood or young manhood).
- The function of the menstrual cycle (period).
- What sexual intercourse is and how women become pregnant.

Once your child becomes a teenager, the focus of your talks about sex should shift. You should begin to talk to your teen about the social and emotional aspects of sex and about your values.

Try to communicate

Everywhere the researchers for the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy went, the teens told them they want to hear more from their parents about sex, values and relationships. Contrary to popular opinion, kids care about what adults think.

Even though you might be uneasy about your conversation, you should not stop trying to communicate. You can always say, "I am uncomfortable with this discussion, but please know how important I believe it is." Be very clear about your values. The more you listen to what your teen is saying, the greater chance of keeping lines of communication open.

Become aware of the world your teen lives in. Talk to a friend, buy some teen magazines, and visit your public library. Read as much as you can about teen sexuality and be prepared to be open and honest in your conversations.

Go to school and read the health lessons offered to middle school and high school students. Follow up with your student's teacher, if you have any questions about the lessons. Join with your school in seeing to it that positive, constructive, thorough information is taught.

Help your teen understand the internal and external pressures

to express their sexuality and to make responsible decisions. In other words, your teen needs to know where you stand. Bear in mind that you do not own your child, nor control his or her thinking. You can influence your teen's decisions but cannot make decisions for him or her.

Make sure that your teen knows the facts about pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases including HIV and AIDS. If you cannot provide information yourself, find someone who can and ask him or her to talk with your teen.

Most importantly, find out when, how and how much information about HIV your student is learning at school. In many states, HIV education is mandated by law; the quantity and quality of the education varies.

Try to be available to your teen, no matter what. Teens tend to live for today. Discussions you and your teens have and decisions you make together

will be tested by time and events in your teen's life. It is a good idea to be realistic about the fears and pressures your teens face on a daily basis.

The environment today is faster paced and perhaps more dangerous than when you were a teen. Sometimes, teens are more capable intellectually than they are emotionally. Let them know you will always be there. Listen to them when they need help without judging or criticizing them for getting stuck in their thinking. Your help in an emotional crisis could lead to lasting awareness.

"Healthy Teens: Facing the Challenges of Young Lives" by Alice McCarthy costs \$14.95 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling, and is available through Bridge Communications Inc., 1450 Pilgrim Road, Birmingham 48009. For more information or to order the book, call (248) 646-1329 or order by e-mail at bridgecomm@aol.com

ANNIVERSARIES

Geppert

Henry and Lorraine Geppert of Livonia recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a dinner at The Whitney for family and friends, given by their children.

They are 48-year residents of Livonia and have four married daughters.

He worked as an engineer at Detroit Edison.

They are active in their church and enjoy spending time with their five grandchildren.



Oakwood Cardiology Center

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Observer Sports

The Observer

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L/W Page 1, Section C

Brad Emons, Editor 734-953-2123, bemon@oe.homecomm.net

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

Thursday, November 25, 1999

Spartans gain 8th in state Class A meet

Grosse Pointe North edges Mercy for title

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemon@oe.homecomm.net

■ GIRLS SWIMMING

Grosse Pointe North and Farmington Hills Mercy put on quite a show in Saturday's state Class A girls swim finals held at Oakland University.

North edged Mercy by winning the meet's final event, the 400-yard freestyle relay, to claim the coveted team title, 188-182.

Not to be outdone was the effort of the Livonia Stevenson girls, who wound up a top 10 finish, taking eighth with 66 points.

"I thought we finished where I thought we would," Stevenson coach Greg Phill said. "I said before the season we'd be around the top eight and we did. With the exception of maybe one event, and that was not a guarantee, I don't think we could have scored any more points."

For lanky Stevenson freshman Andrea Hurn, it was a coming-out party.

She placed second behind North's Kammy Miller in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:06.1. Miller's time was 1:04.71.

In the 200 IM, Hurn took sixth in 2:10.6 after going 2:08.87 in Friday's preliminary heat.

Hurn also teamed up with junior Lindsay Dolin, senior Katie Clark and senior Jessica Makowski for a third-place clocking of 1:49.28, just missing the school-record of 1:48.8 set in 1997.

The foursome of Hurn, Clark, Makowski and freshman

Michelle Aristeo finished 12th in the 400 freestyle relay (3:44.03).

Other outstanding individual performances were turned in by Clark, who took fifth in the 100 butterfly (58.51); Katy Ballantine, eighth in diving (349.60 points); and senior Meghan Mocer, ninth in the 500 freestyle (5:08.37).

Another noteworthy performance was turned in by Livonia Churchill senior Angela Simekosky, who finished eighth in the 500 freestyle (5:07.65).

The 6-foot-2 Hurn, who came to the Spartans from the Bulldog Aquatic Club, could be zeroing in next season on Mary Schoenle's Stevenson school record of 1:04 in the 100 breaststroke.

"Being a freshman, I didn't know that Andrea could go that fast," Phill said. "She handled the pressure of the state meet very well."

"She could be dangerous the next three years. She never ceases to amaze. She did very well for her first state meet."

Hurn has a happy-go-lucky attitude around the pool, but she knows when to buckle down.

"She's a pretty serious year-round swimmer," Phill said. "She can go at it pretty hard in practice. But she's a very nice kid, friendly and smiles all the time."

Clark, beset by injuries her first three years at Stevenson, also came through with her best



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHEMANN

Spartan senior: Livonia Stevenson's Katie Clark took fifth place in the 100-yard butterfly at the state Class A meet held Saturday at Oakland University. She was also a member of the third-place 200 medley relay team.

effort. "It was a great swim for Katie and it was nice to see because this is the first year in four she's really been healthy," Phill said. "She's a nice kid and a hard worker. She earns whatever she gets."

Ballantine's 12-dive total of 369.60 was also a personal best. "To be among the top eight divers — you're having a very good year," Phill said. "I'd say it was her best showing of the year, no doubt."

There were several subplots to

the meet, although Grosse Pointe North and Mercy duked it out for the team crown.

"Our league, the Western Lakes, did very well," Phill said. "They had three of the top six finishers in the 200 IM."

"We swam Grosse Pointe

North the first meet of the year and I knew how good they were. They deserved it. They've got some good swimmers."

"It was a very exciting place to be."

See complete state meet results on page C3.

Miss Soccer going to MSU

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemon@oe.homecomm.net

If the Michigan State University women's soccer program was looking for a boost, the Spartans apparently got it by getting a verbal commitment last weekend from a fellow Spartan — Livonia Stevenson's Andrea Sied.

Selected Michigan's Miss Soccer last spring as a junior, Sied will sign an NCAA letter-of-intent Feb. 2 with MSU.

Sied, courted by schools around the country, chose MSU over Michigan, Tennessee and Connecticut.

"After awhile I decided I wanted to stay in-state so I could be closer to my family — it was going to be either Michigan or Michigan State," said Sied, who has helped Stevenson to two state championships (1997-98) and one runner-up finish (1999) in three seasons. "I liked the coaches at Michigan State and I liked the atmosphere and the team a lot."

"Plus, I know Tammy Anderson (MSU's assistant coach). She was my ODP (Olympic Development Program) coach for two years."

Sied, who had 10 goals and nine assists last year as a sweeper, hopes to elevate head coach Tom Saxon's program.

MSU finished 6-12-3 overall and 3-6-1 in the Big Ten this fall, losing to No. 18-ranked and NCAA qualifier Michigan, 2-1, in overtime in the confer-

ence tournament.

This week Sied is one of three Michigan players on the Midwest Region ('82 age group) vying this week (in Tucson, Ariz. for a spot on the U.S. Youth Soccer Association's under-18 team.

The Midwest team, coached by former Livonia Churchill and Schoolcraft College women's coach Nick O'Shea (now at Oakland University), will open with an exhibition game against the under-16 national team before playing teams from the West, South and East regions.

The other two Michigan players on the Midwest Region team are Plymouth Canton's Anne Morrell and Madison Heights Bishop Foley's Nicole Breger.

"I'm just going to go out and play my best," said Sied, who is an outside halfback. "It will be great if I make it, but if I don't, it will be fine, too. I'm not going to worry about it."

Sied, a three-time All-Observer first-team selection, was an outstanding runner in middle school and comes from an athletic family.

Her younger brother Marshall is a member of the Stevenson junior varsity football team. Another brother, Keith, a seventh-grader at Holmes Middle School, plays soccer and basketball.

Three of her uncles, twins Terry and Pat McClowry, along with Bob McClowry, all played football at Michigan State.

But Sied admits her dad, Marshall, is a U-M football fan.

"My parents left it up to me, they didn't try to persuade me one way or another," Andrea said. "I look at Michigan State as an opportunity to play right away in a program that is on the rise."

MSU will not only be getting an outstanding player, but also a top-notch student. Sied, who has an interest in majoring in psychology, carries a 3.9 grade-point average.



Andrea Sied
Michigan State bound

Foul trouble costs SC in Idaho

Schoolcraft College's trip to the Southern Idaho Tournament last weekend didn't reap much in terms of victories — the Ocelots lost two-of-three games. But it provided some valuable insight into what SC must do to get its game on line.

On Saturday against Mount San Antonio (Calif.), the Ocelots surrendered more free-throw attempts (52) than field-goal shots (50). With San Antonio converting 34 of those foul shots (a 65.4 percentage), it's no wonder SC lost, 68-73.

The Ocelots are now 3-2.

"It would have been a real good tournament for us if we had finished 2-1 instead of 1-2," said SC coach Carlos Briggs.

Three players fouled out for SC and two others had four fouls. Four more had three fouls each as the Ocelots were whittled for 35 fouls. Mount San Antonio also lost three players to fouls, but was called for only 24 fouls.

SC trailed 37-35 at the half, thanks in great part to its 14-of-31 shooting from the floor (45.2 percent). San Antonio was 12-of-26 (46.2 percent) in the first half.

The second half was a different story. San Antonio was 10-of-24 from the field (41.7 percent), including 5-of-10 from three-point range (50 percent). SC was 11-of-32 (34.4 percent) and missed all seven of its three-pointers.

Still, SC managed to stay within four points until the final two minutes.

Robert Brown provided the Ocelots with the bulk of their offense, hitting 10-of-11 from the field to score 20 points; he also had three steals. His performance helped earn him a berth on the all-tournament team.

Lamar Bigby added 15 points, but was 3-of-18 from the floor. He also grabbed a game-high 11 rebounds. Next best was Quentin Mitchell with eight.

Keith Holmes led four San Antonio players to reach double figures in scoring with 17 points. Sean Stokes and Shawn Frederick each scored 14, and Kasih Thomas had 11.

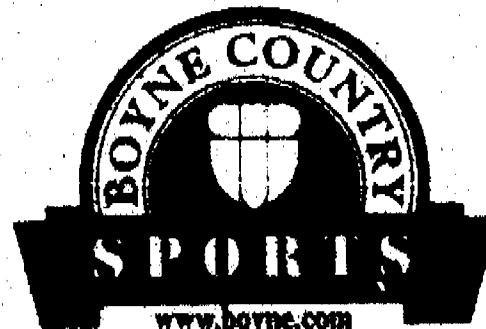
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STATE CLASS A GIRLS SWIM MEET RESULTS

LOWER PENINSULA CLASS A GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 26 at Oakland University

Team scores: 1. Grosse Pointe North, 188; 2. Farmington Hills Mercy, 182; 3. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 146; 4. Zeeland, 109; 5. Ann Arbor Huron, 84; 6. Grand Haven, 83; 7. Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 76; 8. Livonia Stevenson, 66; 9. Grosse Pointe South, 41; 10. Bloomfield Hills Marian, 40; 11. (tie) Novi and Birmingham Seaholm, 38; 13. East Kentwood, 32; 14. Southfield Lathrup, 24; 15. (tie) Farmington Harrison and Portage Central, 21; 17. (tie) North Farmington and Grand Blanc, 20; 19. Jenison, 18; 20. Ypsilanti, 16; 21. Howell, 14; 22. (tie) Brighton and Okeemos, 13; 24. Walled Lake Western, 13; 25. Harper Woods Regina, 11; 26. Forest Hills Central, 10; 27. (tie) Rockford and Hoyt, 8; 29. Macomb Dakota, 7; 30. Portage Northern, 6; 31. (tie) Battle Creek Lakeview, Livonia Churchill and Monroe, 5; 34. (tie) Utica Eisenhower and Mason, 4; 36. (tie) Traverse City Central, Troy and Dearborn, 2.

200-yard medley relay: 1. Farmington Hills Mercy (Erin Downs, Amy McCullough, Elizabeth Garlow, Elizabeth Posvar), 1:46.85, new Class A and all-class finals meet record, old record, 1:47.23; Birmingham Seaholm, 199.2; 2. Grosse Pointe North, 1:48.78; 3. Zeeland, 1:49.28; 3. (tie) Livonia Stevenson, 1:49.28; 5. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 1:50.00; 6. Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 1:50.36; 7. Portage Central, 1:51.28; 8. Ann Arbor Huron, 1:51.97; 9. Rockford, 1:52.19; 10. Novi, 1:52.28; 11. Hoyt, 1:52.49; 12. Forest Hills Central, 1:53.53.

200 freestyle: 1. Carly Piper, Grosse Pointe North, 1:50.68; 2. Krissy Tinney, Ann Arbor Huron, 1:51.26; 3. Cinque Brundidge, Southfield Lathrup, 1:54.75; 4. Katie Ladewski, Ann Arbor Pioneer, 1:55.08; 5. Lindsay Rodin, Grosse Pointe South, 1:55.86; 6. Abby Johnson, Grand Haven, 1:56.40; 7. Kelly Carlin, Farmington Hills Mercy, 1:55.27; 8. Elizabeth MacDonald, Farmington Hills Mercy, 1:55.55; 9. Jenna Perry, Howell, 1:55.95; 10. Kristin Loidas, Farmington Hills Mercy, 1:56.54; 11. Kim Beals, Bloomfield Hills Marian, 1:57.09; 12. Kris Utley, 1:57.67.

200 individual medley: 1. Sara Johnson, Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 2:03.48; 2. Katie Winkelhaus, Ann Arbor Pioneer, 2:07.10; 3. Drue Orwig, Zeeland, 2:09.06; 4. Lindsay Rodin, Farmington Harrison, 2:09.54; 5. Lindsy McElean, North Farmington, 2:09.78; 6. Andrea Hum, Livonia Stevenson, 2:10.60; 7. Marcia Keat, Grosse Pointe North, 2:09.47; 8. Larisa Graham, Forest Hills Central, 2:11.37; 9. Andrea Yocum, Novi, 2:11.51; 10. Jennifer Merte, Ann Arbor Pioneer, 2:11.57; 11. Erin Spiro, Bloomfield Hills Marian, 2:12.99; 12. Amy Hartland, Novi, 2:12.29.

50 freestyle: 1. Abby Seskevics, Grand Haven, 23.64; 2. Amy McCullough, Farmington Hills Mercy, 24.01; 3. Melissa Jamerino, Grosse Pointe North, 24.09; 4. Jenna DeJonge, Zeeland, 24.22; 5. Elizabeth Posvar, Farmington Hills Mercy, 24.37; 6. Lindsey Bedolla, Ann Arbor Pioneer, 24.59; 7. Melissa Pietras, Jenison, 24.64; 8. Saree Hopdir, Monroe, 24.72; 9. Rebecca Godek, Ann Arbor Pioneer, 24.76; 10. Steph Buckner, Battle Creek Lakeview, 24.93; 11. Liz Hipp, Troy, 25.15; 12. Courtney Greening, Traverse City Central, 25.18.

One-meter diving: 1. Alison Riccobono, Ypsilanti, 431.95; 2. Emmy Miller, Okeemos, 387.40; 3. Tonya McCarty, Walled Lake Western, 364.50; 4. Kristen Lorentz, Harper Woods Regina, 362.25; 5. Ellen Van Cleve, Ann Arbor Pioneer, 361.70; 6. Cara Alcini, Grand Blanc, 354.15; 7. Megan Dankovich, Bloomfield Hills Marian, 351.50; 8. Katy Balleinter, Livonia Stevenson, 349.60; 9. Jan Allair, East Kentwood, 345.95; 10. Adrienne Ardis, East Kentwood, 343.90; 11. Rochelle Wells, Jenison, 325.75; 12. Dianna Anderson, Grosse Pointe North, 324.60.

100 butterfly: 1. Kammy Miller, Grosse Pointe North, 57.52; 2. Michelle Lane, East Kentwood, 58.19; 3. Amy Hartland, Novi, 58.35; 4. Erin Downs, Farmington Hills Mercy, 58.46; 5. Katie Clark, Livonia Stevenson, 58.51; 6. Katie Ladewski, Ann Arbor Pioneer, 59.00; 7. Amanda Johnson, Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 58.55; 8. Erin Spiro, Bloomfield Hills Marian, 59.54; 9. Amy Ingersoll, 59.64; 10. Larisa Graham, Forest Hills Central, 59.68; 11. Tori Throckmorton, Ann Arbor Huron, 1:00.22; 12. Jesse Levknecht, Forest Hills Central, 1:00.22.

100 freestyle: 1. Abby Seskevics, Grand Haven, 51.47; 2. Elizabeth Posvar, Farmington Hills Mercy, 52.82; 3. Cinque Brundidge, Southfield Lathrup, 52.96; 4. Jennifer Thompson, 53.11; 5. Kelly Carlin, Farmington Hills Mercy, 53.11; 6. Melissa Pietras, Jenison, 53.38; 7. Betsy Armstrong, Ann Arbor Huron, 53.97; 8. Julie Kramb, Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 54.05; 9. Karyn Schachinger, Utica Eisenhower, 54.07; 10. Erika Steele, Portage Northern, 54.13; 11. Casey Nicholson, Ann Arbor Huron, 54.26; 12. Rachel Ward, Brighton, 54.60.

500 freestyle: 1. Carly Piper, Grosse Pointe North, 4:55.56; 2. Krissy Tinney, Ann Arbor Huron, 4:58.56; 3. Amy McCullough, Farmington Hills Mercy, 5:04.55; 4. Elizabeth MacDonald, Farmington Hills Mercy, 5:07.24; 5. Jenna Perry, Howell, 5:07.31; 6. Lindsay Rodin, Grosse Pointe South, 5:08.48; 7. Rachel Curci, Dakota, 5:07.34; 8. Angela Simetkosky, Livonia Churchill, 5:07.65; 9. Meghan Mocer, Livonia Stevenson, 5:08.37; 10. Stephanie Leaman, Grosse Pointe North, 5:09.98; 11. Kristin Loidas, Farmington Hills Mercy, 5:15.43; 12. Kris Utley, 5:15.57.

Hills Mercy, 5:15.43; 12. Kris Utley, 5:15.57.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Grosse Pointe North (Kammy Miller, Melissa Jamerino, Mary Cornille, Carly Piper), 1:37.10; 2. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 1:38.43; 3. Grand Haven, 1:38.54; 4. Grosse Pointe South, 1:39.01; 5. Zeeland, 1:39.18; 6. Farmington Hills Mercy, 1:39.47; 7. Bloomfield Hills Marian, 1:39.30; 8. Ann Arbor Huron, 1:40.15; 9. Brighton, 1:40.89; 10. Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 1:40.91; 11. Portage Central, 1:41.29; 12. Battle Creek Lakeview, 1:41.85.

100 backstroke: 1. Sara Johnson, Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 56.58; 2. Drue Orwig, Zeeland, 58.42; 3. Katie Winkelhaus, Ann Arbor Pioneer, 58.57; 4. Marcia Keat, Grosse Pointe North, 59.16; 5. Lindsy McElean, North Farmington, 59.55; 6. Jennifer Thompson, 1:00.87; 7. Tori Throckmorton, Ann Arbor Huron, 1:00.45; 8. Jessica Gracón, Ann Arbor Pioneer, 1:00.45; 9. Abby Johnson, Grand Haven, 1:00.88; 10. Kathryn Garrison, Portage Northern, 1:00.94; 11. Renie Green, Dearborn, 1:01.28; 12. Amanda Huzenga, 1:01.59.

100 breaststroke: 1. Kammy Miller, Grosse Pointe North, 1:04.71; 2. Andrea Hurn, Livonia Stevenson, 1:06.10; 3. Michelle Lane, East Kentwood, 1:06.22; 4. Crystal Spaulding, Grand Blanc, 1:06.41; 5. Lindsy Fettes, Farmington Hills Marian, 1:06.75; 6. Elizabeth Garlow, Farmington Hills Mercy, 1:08.24; 7. Andrea Yocum, Novi, 1:07.84; 8. Stephanie Petty, Zeeland, 1:08.26; 9. Erin Hall, Hoyt, 1:08.30; 10. Chelsea Peterson, Portage Central, 1:08.46; 11. Hilary Slagh, Zeeland, 1:08.10; 12. Courtney Greening, Traverse City Central, 1:09.14.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Grosse Pointe North (Melissa Jamerino, Mary Cornille, Carly Piper, Kammy Miller), 3:29.37, new Class A and all-class finals meet record, old record, 3:31.25; Farmington Hills Mercy, 199.8; 2. Farmington Hills Mercy, 3:30.44; 3. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 3:34.95; 4. Zeeland, 3:37.00; 5. Ann Arbor Huron, 3:38.40; 6. Birmingham Seaholm, 3:40.25; 7. Grand Haven, 3:35.95; 8. Bloomfield Hills Marian, 3:38.50; 9. Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 3:39.77; 10. Novi, 3:40.26; 11. Brighton, 3:40.57; 12. Livonia Stevenson, 3:44.03.

WEEK AHEAD

WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 26-27 at Pontiac Sportsplex
11:30 a.m. Saturday
11:30 a.m. Sunday

WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 28-29 at Pontiac Sportsplex
11:30 a.m. Saturday
11:30 a.m. Sunday

WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 30-1 Dec. 1 at Pontiac Sportsplex
11:30 a.m. Saturday
11:30 a.m. Sunday

WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 31-1 Dec. 2 at Pontiac Sportsplex
11:30 a.m. Saturday
11:30 a.m. Sunday

WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 31-1 Dec. 3 at Pontiac Sportsplex
11:30 a.m. Saturday
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WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 31-1 Dec. 4 at Pontiac Sportsplex
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WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 31-1 Dec. 5 at Pontiac Sportsplex
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WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 31-1 Dec. 6 at Pontiac Sportsplex
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WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 31-1 Dec. 7 at Pontiac Sportsplex
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WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 31-1 Dec. 8 at Pontiac Sportsplex
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WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 31-1 Dec. 9 at Pontiac Sportsplex
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Nov. 31-1 Dec. 10 at Pontiac Sportsplex
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Nov. 31-1 Dec. 11 at Pontiac Sportsplex
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Nov. 31-1 Dec. 12 at Pontiac Sportsplex
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Nov. 31-1 Dec. 14 at Pontiac Sportsplex
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WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 31-1 Dec. 15 at Pontiac Sportsplex
11:30 a.m. Saturday
11:30 a.m. Sunday

WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 31-1 Dec. 16 at Pontiac Sportsplex
11:30 a.m. Saturday
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WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Nov. 31-1 Dec. 17 at Pontiac Sportsplex
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11:30 a.m. Sunday

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Creston obstacle in Hawks' drive

By Dan O'Hara
Staff Writer
dohara@home.com.net

Herrington Harrison's defense has to switch gears and start running instead of run for the lead — the last one is...

It's the last game of the season.

Herrington will try to win a regional title and state championship when they play Grand Rapids on Saturday in the Division III title at 6 p.m. Saturday in the Pontiac Silverdome.

It's the last game of the two-day, eight-game finals weekend sponsored by the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

Harrison (9-4) reached the final stage of the tournament by defeating a power running team in Monroe Jefferson last week, 24-20. Creston (12-1) presents an entirely different challenge with its penchant for passing.

"They're complete opposites; there couldn't be two teams that are more different," Harrison coach John Herrington said. "We're going from a team that runs one or two formations and pounds it out to 30 formations and a wide-open attack."

The booklet containing Harrison's scouting report on the Polar Bears was a record 34 pages thick.

Fourth-year coach Charles (Sparky) McEwen, a former quarterback for Creston, runs an offense similar to what you'd see in the Arena Football League.

Junior quarterback Carlton Brewer is the offensive catalyst for the blue-and-gold Polar Bears. His favorite receiver is Bret Haney, who wears No. 1, but Creston has a number of other players who are capable of providing fireworks.

"They have six people they throw to," Herrington said, adding the Hawks haven't seen a passing team as good as the Polar Bears since Ryan Huzjak (University of Toledo) played quarterback at Northville nearly a decade ago.

"They'll throw 40 times a game. The most times we've thrown it on their 1-yard line, and they'll throw it on your 1-yard line."

Ironically, the Hawks were hurt by Jefferson passes in the first half last week, partly due to the fact they were looking for the run so much.

"With this team, you know they're going to pass," Herrington said. "They don't throw off play action, so you don't have to commit as much to the run."

"In some ways, it's easier but it's harder, because they have great receivers. They have outstanding skill position players."

Herrington has said the strength of the Harrison defense is its secondary of seniors Nick Hall, Brian Nelson and Lou Hadley and junior Chris Roberson.

The Hawks have given up more passing yards than they would've liked in their last three games, but Herrington believes his secondary will rise to the occasion Saturday.

"I think we do have a good, solid secondary, even though the last two weeks we haven't shown it," he said. "They'll step it up for this game."

"It should be a fun game for people to watch. It will be an interesting matchup between our defensive backs and their receivers."

But all the talk of passing makes it easy to overlook Creston's running game, much as Jefferson's rushing attack had the opposite effect last week.

Though the Polar Bears sometimes line up with five receivers and no backs, they do have a good runner in senior tailback Andrew Terry.

"This team has the most skilled players since we played (Saginaw) Arthur Hill (in 1989) with Showe Peoples (Michigan) and Brian Pruitt (Central Michigan)," Herrington said.

The Hawks, led by all state quarterback Mill Coleman, won that game in Saginaw, 34-18.

"We have speed in the secondary. We have good cover people, but we can't forget they run the ball too," Herrington added. "And when they spread you out so much, they run the ball effectively."

Harrison has speedy backs in Kevin Woods and Chris Roberson and quarterback Lou Hadley is coming off his best game as a passer.

The game shapes up as a contest between two finesse teams. Could it be a high-scoring shootout?

"It could be, but you get to the Silverdome and the scores are not as high as you think," Herrington said. "If we get a few sacks or picks, it could slow things down."

The Polar Bears have good size on the offensive line, averaging 227 between the tackles.

"They pro pass block," Herrington said. "It's nothing real complicated. They have big bodies. They get side by side and use their hands to keep passing the defensive linemen off one to another."

Creston is led defensively by senior Maurice Carthen, whom Herrington considers the best defensive lineman he has seen this year.

The Polar Bears also have good size up front defensively and at linebacker.

"We have to move the ball and do a good job holding on to the ball," Herrington said. "We don't want to let their offense have it."

"The past couple weeks Lou has come on as a thrower, and we definitely have the receivers with people like Hall, Nelson, Agim (Shabaj) and (Tim) Doig."

Warriors sets sights on crown

Western's defense is looking for a way to stop the Warriors' offense...

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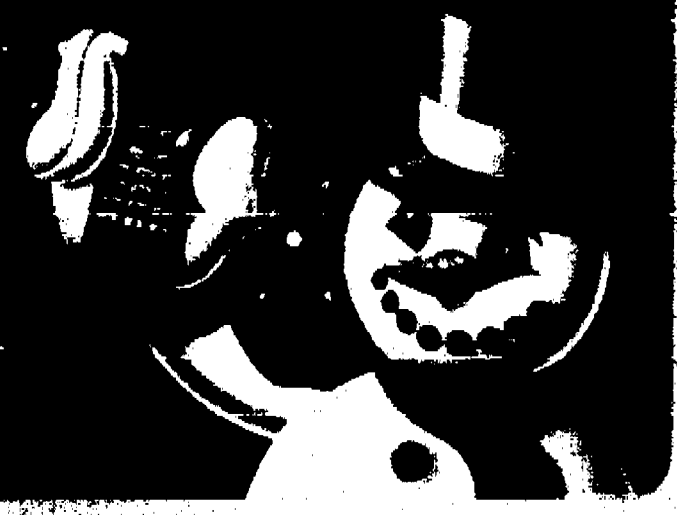
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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

Hadley holds off Jeff

DIVISION II

Hadley's passing arm was the key to the Hawks' victory over the Bears in the Division II state semifinals Saturday at Keyworth Stadium in Hamtramck. But Merchant's team hung around, capitalizing on red zone turnovers and a punt return for a touchdown, and were in position to win.

U-D stopped itself on a holding penalty in the red zone on its last drive, however, that could have put the Cubs ahead with under two minutes left in the game. Brother Rice eventually hung on for a 24-20 win, sending them to Friday's Division 2 state championship game.

Rice's opponent Friday will be Saginaw, a 16-9 semifinal winner over East Lansing. Kickoff is 1 p.m. at the Silverdome.

Saginaw (11-2) advanced to the state finals for the first time in school history with Saturday's 16-9 win over East Lansing. Coach Don Durrett's Trojans feature one of the state's most dynamic players in wide receiver Charles Rogers, who caught six passes for 148 yards and the winning touchdown in the semifinals despite drawing triple coverage.

The last time Brother Rice went to the state finals Fracassa had another Merchant on his side. Steve Merchant - Scott's brother - quarterbacked the Warriors in the 1991 Class A final, but the result was a 14-0 win for East Lansing. Steve Merchant, incidentally, had guided the Warriors to a 24-10 victory over Midland in the 1990 Class A state title game.

Saturday was another close game for the Warriors, but Fracassa got strong play from running backs Tony Gioutsos and captain Mark Goebel. Goebel ended Rice's first two drives with touchdown runs of 12 and 4 yards and successful extra points by Ross Ryan gave Rice a 14-0 lead with 3:29 left in the first quarter.

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Teacher bests pupil

BY DAVID SAUNDERS
STAFF WRITER

DIVISION II

The teacher - Brother Rice football coach Al Fracassa - was giving his student - former player and current U-D Jesuit coach Scott Merchant - a lesson in humility.

The Warriors scored on their first two drives in the Division 2 state semifinals Saturday at Keyworth Stadium in Hamtramck. But Merchant's team hung around, capitalizing on red zone turnovers and a punt return for a touchdown, and were in position to win.

U-D stopped itself on a holding penalty in the red zone on its last drive, however, that could have put the Cubs ahead with under two minutes left in the game. Brother Rice eventually hung on for a 24-20 win, sending them to Friday's Division 2 state championship game.

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Goebel's TD runs capped 73- and 50-yard drives, respectively. Goebel finished with 151 yards on 21 carries and Gioutsos had 117 yards on 14 carries.

The Warriors were ready to put the game away on their first possession of the second quarter, but Goebel was hit in the backfield at the Cubs 15 and turned the ball over. The Warriors held but fumbled the punt return at their own 32 and U-D's Robert Perkins took the ball in from 4 yards out five plays later.

Rice (11-2) responded with a 45-yard drive that ended with Ryan's 37-yard field goal and a 17-7 halftime lead.

U-D (10-3) marched 64 yards on its opening possession of the second half as Perkins scored on a 1-yard touchdown run. The kick failed and Rice still held a 17-13 lead.

Perkins gave the Cubs the lead at 10:57 of the fourth quarter on an 85-yard punt return for a touchdown. Joe Ward was good on the extra point as U-D forged ahead 20-17.

The lead didn't last long, though. Three minutes later, Baker found Matt Mueller from 8 yards out all alone in the end zone for the winning touchdown.

Baker, who suffered a concussion a week earlier during Rice's 21-20 win over Pontiac Northern, finished 9-of-15 passing for 115 yards.

"They didn't cover (Mueller) and my kids were smart enough to see that and they audibled, and hey, we scored a touchdown that was too easy, but that's all right," Fracassa said. "We've been having some very close games. There's no easy way. You have to earn a victory. I'm glad our kids won. We played a very good team."

Merchant said that he'll be rooting for the Warriors this Friday.

"I don't know if I have a lot of orange and black left, but we'll be there rooting for them. I said (to Fracassa) after the game, great game and you better make sure you win next week."

Fox Sports Net televises finals

Fox Sports Net viewers will receive live coverage for seven of the eight MHSAA football finals Friday and Saturday.

Ray Bentley, Larry Henry and Fred McLeod will provide play-by-play, while former Detroit Lion Rob Rubick, along with ex-Michigan players John Wangler and Stan Edwards will be guest analysts.

Action starts at 10 a.m. Friday with the Division VIII between Gaylord St. Mary's (13-0) and Medon; Division II, Saginaw (11-2) vs. Birmingham Brother Rice (11-2), 1 p.m.; Division VI, St.

Charles (13-0) vs. Hopkins (12-1), 5 p.m.; and Division IV, Grand Rapids South Christian (11-2) vs. Orchard Lake St. Mary's (12-1), 12:30 a.m. (tape delay).

At 10 a.m. Saturday, Traverse City St. Francis vs. Gobles (13-0), Division VII, 1 p.m.; Walled Lake Western (13-0) vs. Utica Eisenhower (11-2), Division I; 5 p.m., Muskegon Orchard View (13-0) vs. Detroit Country Day (10-3), Division V; and 8 p.m., Farmington Hills Harrison (9-4) vs. Grand Rapids Creston (12-1), Division III.

Harvest Happenings

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15 Locations

OUTDOOR CALENDAR

SEASON/DATES

ARCHERY
Archery season runs Dec. 1-Jan. 2 statewide. A late antlerless-only season will be held Dec. 18-Jan. 2 on private and public land in DMU 452. A late antlerless-only season will also be held Dec. 18-Jan. 2 on most private land in the Lower Peninsula. Muzzleloading season runs Dec. 3-12 in the Upper Peninsula and Dec. 10-19 in the Lower Peninsula.

DUCK
Duck season runs through Nov. 30 in the North and Middle zones and through Dec. 7 in the South Zone.

ELK
Late elk season runs Dec. 7-14 by special permit in limited areas of the northern Lower Peninsula.

GOOSE
A special late season runs Dec. 1-Jan. 1 in the Lower Peninsula.

PHEASANT
A special late season runs Dec. 1-15 in much of the southeastern part of the state.

RABBIT
Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

SQUIRREL
Squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

CLASSES/CLINICS

FLY TYING
Hook Line & Sinker bait shop in Lake Orion will hold fly tying classes every Wednesday and Thursday until the beginning of ice fishing season. Call (248) 814-9216 for more information.

BOAT BUILDING
Hook Line & Sinker bait shop in Lake Orion will hold fishing rod building classes every Wednesday and Thursday until the beginning of ice fishing season. Call (248) 814-9216 for more information.

FLY TYING
Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tyers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

MORE FLY TYING
River Bend Sport Shop in Southfield offers fly tying classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced tyers. Classes will be held at various times. For more information and to register call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474.

CLIMBING CLASS
An introductory climbing course for the novice and first-time climber is offered at various times at REI in Northville. The class covers basic indoor climbing safety, technique, equipment and terminology. The course is free and available to adults and children. Call (248) 347-2100 for current schedules and additional information.

ARCHERY

LIVONIA RANGE
The newly renovated Livonia Archery Range is open to the public. The range features seven field lanes and one broadhead lane and is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The range is also open Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment only through the end of November. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Livonia residents shoot free of charge. The range is located on Glendale Avenue, east of Farmington Road. Call (734) 466-2410 for more information.

ARCHER OLYMPICS
The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

JUNIOR ARCHERS
A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. the first Saturday in November at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

CLUBS

CLINTON VALLEY BASS
Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members. Boaters and non-boaters are welcome. The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominik Liparote at (248) 478-

5027 for more information.
MICHIGAN FLY FISHING
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Middle School, located on Middlebelt Road between Seven and Eight mile roads. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Visitors are invited and refreshments will be served. Visitors are invited and refreshments will be served. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843 for information.

FISHING BUDDIES
Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester Hills. Meetings are open to all anglers (boaters and non-boaters). Call (248) 656-0556 for more information.

HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS
The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Road, Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION
The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for more information.

SOLAR
The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR), a non-profit organiza-

tion interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

FLY TYING
The River Bend Sports Shop Fly Tying Club meets every other week in Southfield. Call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474 for more information.

SHOOTING RANGES

BALD MOUNTAIN
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Hours for archery and clay target shooting are noon to sunset Mondays and Tuesdays; 10 a.m. to sunset Wednesdays; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Rifle range hours are 3 p.m. to sunset Mondays and Tuesdays; 10 a.m. to sunset Wednesdays, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenshield Rd., which is three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills off M-24. Call (248) 814-9193 for more information.

PONTIAC LAKE
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (248) 666-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION
Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are noon-5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Road. Call (248) 693-6767 for more information.

METROPARKS

METROPARK REQUIREMENTS
Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7758; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178; Hudson Mills, 1-800-477-3191.

1999 PERMITS
The 1999 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 (\$8 for senior citizens). The annual boat launching permits are \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS

COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS
Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

The 2000 Oakland County parks motor vehicle permits are on sale at all county park offices and many parks and recreation and township offices. Cost is \$20 through April 30 and \$25 thereafter. Call (248) 858-0906 or TTY (248) 858-1684.

FRIENDS OF FEATHERS
Join the nature center's new club for ages 8-12. Each meeting includes indoor and outdoor

nature activities. Cost is \$4 and advanced registration is required. The next meetings will be held 10:30 a.m.-noon, Saturday Nov. 27, at Independence Oaks. (To submit items for consideration in the Observer & Eccentric's Outdoor Calendar send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; fax information to (248) 644-1314 or send E-mail to: bparker@oe.homecomm.net)

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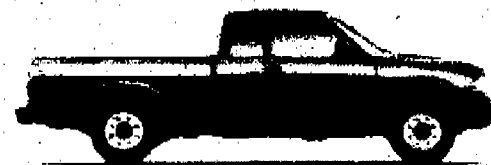
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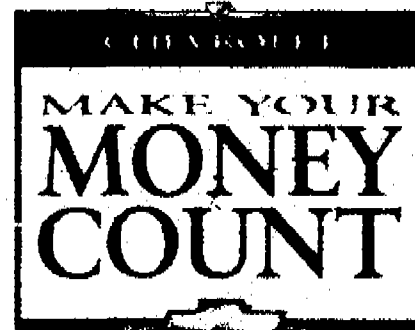
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Albright replaces Barnes as Bishop Borgess coach

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER
skowalski@oe.homecomm.net

Redford Bishop Borgess athletic director Dave Mann filled the boys basketball coaching position with Chuck Albright, a former assistant coach to Roosevelt Barnes, who resigned last month.

Albright is a 1985 graduate of Borgess, a former teammate and long-time friend of Spartans' all-stater Joe Gregory.

Albright was one of seven candidates Mann interviewed.

"He's a good person, a Borgess graduate, very loyal to Borgess - he bleeds green and gold," Mann said. "He was a strong candidate right from the beginning."

Albright had been one of Barnes' assistant coaches since the 1996-97 season, the year the Spartans won the Class C state championship. The state title remains the only one won by a Borgess boys basketball team in school history.

Barnes, who was the Spartans' head coach since 1995-96, resigned because of family considerations, Mann said.

Albright played one year at

BOYS HOOPS

Bowling Green State University after graduating from Borgess. Gregory, Albright's childhood friend from Precious Blood Grade School in Detroit, played four seasons at BGSU and later was also one of Barnes' assistant coaches.

Joe Gregory, a youth pastor at Word of Faith Church in Redford, was also on Barnes' staff in the past.

"I want to build on the foundation that coach Barnes already set, make sure there is student and community involvement and make Borgess the place to be on Tuesday and Friday nights," said Albright, an inspector at Chrysler. "I have a lot of fond memories being in school here. It's a dream come true for me."

Along with his coaching experience at Borgess, Albright has also coached AAU teams, ages 13 to 15, the last several years.

Albright will be assisted by Charles McRae, Carey Worsham and Michael Smith.

"We're going to play up-tempo,

a lot of full-court man-to-man defense," Albright said.

One of the Spartans' top players last year, Marcuz Young, has transferred to Harper Woods Notre Dame.

Borgess returns one of the better guards in the area, however, in senior Donald Didlake.

Albright also expects this to be a breakout season for 6-foot-6 sophomore Courtney Williams.

"We'll miss Marcuz' inside scoring but we have guys who give us more playing defense, rebounding and contesting shots," Albright said. "We're going to be in the running for the Catholic League title, not going to lay down for anybody and be competitive to the end."

Albright said he's honored to be on the same staff as Mann, whose girls basketball teams at Borgess have won three of the last six Class C state titles.

"It's a great pleasure to work with someone who has two Miss Basketball (award winners), three state titles..." Albright said. "I'm going to learn a lot from him. I've learned a lot from him so far."

Agatha reaches regional final

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER
skowalski@oe.homecomm.net

That Krystol Dennis earned a starting role in her first year at Redford St. Agatha's girls basketball team wasn't such a surprise.

That Dennis is still playing this late in the season, however, will raise some eyebrows.

Dennis, who transferred to St. Agatha last January after 2 1/2 years at Redford Bishop Borgess, scored a game-high 15 points as the Aggies continued their best season in years with a 40-39 win Monday over Adrian Lenawee Christian in the Class D regional semifinal in Potterville.

The win earned the Aggies, 23-1 overall, a spot in the regional finals at 7 p.m. Wednesday against Portland St. Patrick.

Krystol showed potential but rarely played in three seasons at Borgess. The irony is the Spartans, who made six straight trips to the Class C Final Four, were eliminated this season in the district championship game.

At St. Agatha she joined her sister, sophomore forward Kim Dennis, who also starts.

"I love it," said Krystol Dennis. "It's funner."

Holding her portable Compact Disc player after the game, Krystol Dennis also mumbled something about Jang-A-Lang, one of her favorite sayings on the big screen, while celebrating the victory with teammates.

"She's obviously our main low post threat and it's a great luxury to have," St. Agatha co-coach Tim Szakal said. "We're not deep at guard and she also helps when teams press us because she's a big target. Having her in the middle as a safety valve is great."

While Krystol Dennis and Kim Dennis, who added eight points, played key roles, the biggest points came from the smallest player on the court: senior guard Sonia Lousia.

Trailing 39-38 in the final minute, Lousia and Jessica James trapped a Lenawee Christian player near half-court, causing a turnover. Lousia, who hadn't scored in the previous 31 minutes, got the steal and coasted in for an uncontested layup with 42 seconds left for a 40-39 lead.

It was a little redemption for Lousia, who had turned the ball over on the previous two St. Agatha possessions.

"I thought it was my turn, that I've got to make this layup," Lousia said. "I was thinking 'There's no one behind me because the girl was stuck behind Jessica. Just concentrate on going slow.'" Lousia St. Agatha senior forward Kerry Shivers is grateful for her new teammate, but her body isn't sure it's worth it.

The Cougars still had a chance to win but a missed shot from inside the paint with 8.5 seconds left was rebounded by Krystol Dennis. The Aggies missed a free throw at the other end, which also was rebounded by Krystol Dennis, and the final seconds ticked off the clock without the Cougars getting another shot attempt.

GIRLS HOOPS

Lenawee Christian, led by senior forward Danielle Psante with 10 points, finished its season with a 19-5 record.

"The height factor we had to deal with - I think 22 (Krystol Dennis) had a soft touch - and more than anything she kept us from getting second looks (rebounds after missed shots)," Lenawee Christian coach Cheri Smith said. "When you're not shooting well, like we were tonight, that's what you count on."

The Aggies trailed 7-5 after one quarter but used a 10-9 sec-

ond-quarter advantage to lead at halftime, 20-16. Lenawee Christian cut its deficit to one, 29-28, after outscoring St. Agatha 12-9 in the third quarter.

Krystol Dennis, who made four of five free throw attempts, scored nine second-half points. She was the only one who shot well from the line, however, as the Aggies were 5-for-15 as a team.

Senior forward Kerry Shivers, who added six points, seems to be reminded each practice of Krystol Dennis' presence.

"Most of my bruises are from her, her and Jessica (James)," said Shivers, who added that rebounding is stressed by the new coaching staff.



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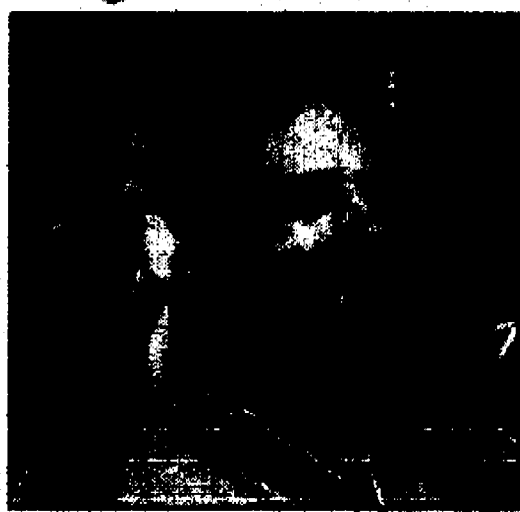
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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



WDET "Folks Like Us" host Matt Watroba joins Neil Woodward and Gary Weisenburg of Redford for an evening of folk music at the Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. Doors open 7:30 p.m., concert starts at 8 p.m. Tickets \$12, call (734) 761-1451.

SATURDAY



Classic American toys are the highlight this year at "Traditions of the Season" through Jan. 2 at Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village in Dearborn. The museum and village are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (313) 271-1620 for more information.

SUNDAY



Robert Urich and the Merry Murderesses appear in a scene from the Broadway musical "Chicago," 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Masonic Temple Theatre in Detroit. Tickets run \$20 to \$59.50. Call (313) 832-5900.

HOT TICKET



ERIN DILLY



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL LE POER TRENCH
New musical: Erin Dilly as Bertrande (left to right), John Herrera as Father Dominic and Hugh Panaro as Martin Guerre in a scene from "Martin Guerre."

'GUERRE'S' LEADING LADY WILL BE COMING HOME

BY JULIE YOLLES
SPECIAL WRITER

When Erin Dilly was 16, she and her best friend, Danny Gurwin, went downtown to the Fisher Theatre to see "Les Miserables" for the first time.

"The lights went down, and when Eponine came on stage, I just cried. I want to be her. I want to do this." That was the first moment in my life when I realized that I wanted to be a professional actor," said Dilly, who grew up in Southfield.

Eleven years later, when Dilly heads downtown again to the Fisher Theatre on Dec. 1, she'll have the best seat in the house. Center stage, in fact. Dilly's coming back home as Bertrande, the female lead of the U.S.

premiere of "Martin Guerre," is a little mind-blowing for Dilly, she said.

As a high schooler at Birmingham Groves, Dilly was like the Energizer Bunny; she just kept on going, and going and going. The self-professed study bug was on the varsity tennis team, the forensics team and an actor.

"I did all the roles that I could

never do professionally," said the 27-year-old actress, who's been performing since graduating from the musical theater program at the University of Michigan.

"I was Dolly in 'Hello Dolly' when I was 17, which still makes me giggle. I also played Maria in 'West Side Story.' Here I am blonde and blue-eyed. I was so far away from this Spanish woman but, you know, someone's got to play those parts."

Millionaire theatrical producer Cameron Mackintosh chose Dilly to play the plum part in the pre-Broadway run of "Martin Guerre" after an eight-month search. Knighted "The Wizard of Ahhs" by *Entertainment Weekly*, Mackintosh has produced more than 300 shows and is best known

for "Cats," "The Phantom of the Opera," "Les Miserables" and "Miss Saigon."

Mackintosh reunites with "Les Miz" and "Saigon" French composing team Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schonberg for "Guerre."

The "Martin Guerre" casting team

"Martin Guerre"

WHEN: Opens Wednesday, Dec. 1, and continues through Sunday, Dec. 19. Performances 8 p.m. Tuesday, Saturday, 2 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Sunday.

WHERE: The Fisher Theatre, Detroit

TICKETS: \$15 to \$60.50, available at the box office, or call (248) 645-6666.

Please see **GUERRE**, E2

HOLIDAY TRADITION

Subtle changes keep 'A Christmas Carol' fresh and fun

BY SUSAN E. TAUBER
STAFF WRITER
stauber@oa.homes.com.net

Just as families in southeast Michigan carry on the tradition of seeing "A Christmas Carol" at Meadow Brook Theatre every year, the tradition of the play is just as strong for many of the actors.

Take Paul Hopper, for instance. A familiar face in the annual production, he repeats his roles as Bob Cratchit and Fezziwig this season. He once played the role of Young Scrooge.

"Not since I lost my hair," quipped Hopper.

This year, he's giving up a trip to Hawaii with his wife, Barbara Ellis (Coven) and daughter, Nicole Coven, to return to the theater for multiple performances of the holiday play.

"I don't know what I'd do at Christmastime if I weren't in 'A Christmas Carol,'" said Hopper, who lives in Milford. He has 16 years with the play under his belt.

But how do Hopper, the others actors

on stage and those involved backstage keep the production fresh when it has opened to audiences more than 800 times?

Charles Nolte is the author and director of the beloved "A Christmas Carol" script adapted from the original story written by Charles Dickens. The 1999 production is the 16th using Nolte's script. There were two years when other scripts were used but the theater returned to Nolte's version three seasons ago.

Nolte flies in from his home in Minneapolis for rehearsals and stays through the first week or two of performances, returning throughout the run to look things over. He works hard at keeping the play fresh but tries to do it in subtle ways that don't attract attention.

"I always change the blocking and other things a little according to who is in the cast," said Nolte, who created the title role in the original production of "Billy Bud."

"A Christmas Carol"

WHEN: Friday, Nov. 26, through Sunday, Dec. 26. Performances 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 2 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday. Exceptions are 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 21, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 22, and 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 24.

WHERE: Meadow Brook Theatre, Oakland University, Rochester Hills

TICKETS: \$26 to \$37, available at the Meadow Brook box office (248) 377-3300, and all Ticketmaster locations. (248) 645-6666.



STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN STORBERLAND

Holiday spectacular: Paul Hopper, (left) as Bob Cratchit and Booth Colman, as Ebenezer Scrooge, in a scene from "A Christmas Carol."

"Many of our actors return to us year after year, but we also get new ones, particularly in the children's roles."

In this year's production, for instance, the actors in the umbrella scene are moving differently from in years past.

Booth Colman, the epitome of Ebenezer Scrooge, has played the role every year but one since 1981.

"This isn't a difficult role to keep fresh because the play isn't a straight run," said the actor, who lives in Los Angeles. "We have almost a year off

from the time it ends in December until we open the next November."

He said much of what keeps the play fresh is the interaction with the other actors on the stage.

"Different actors facilitate a different response," Hopper added.

For Mary Benson, who plays Mrs. Cratchit and Mrs. Fezziwig, performing in "A Christmas Carol" is like coming home from her West Virginia residence. She's done the holiday play at

Please see **TRADITION**, E2

Show highlights local talent

The Players Guild of Dearborn presents the adult comedy "Don't Dress for Dinner," written by Marc Camoletti, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, and 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 26-27, at the Guild playhouse, 21730 Madison, near Monroe and Outer Drive in Dearborn. Tickets are \$11, all seats are reserved. Senior and student rates are available. To purchase tickets, call (313) 561-TKTS. Visa and MasterCard accepted.

BY SUE SUCHYTA
SPECIAL WRITER

When a husband uses his best friend as an alibi for a weekend with his mistress, trouble ensues when his wife decides to stay at home and renew her affair with the best friend. The best friend, who is hiding both infidelities, then mistakes the caterer for the mistress, setting the stage for subterfuge and silliness.

Kirk Haas, who directed the Guild's comic delight "Moon Over Buffalo" last year, has assembled a talented ensemble worthy of the clever script and capable of delivering it with a crucial combination of talent and breakneck speed.

Joe Donovan of Farmington Hills is clever and acerbic as Bernard, the philandering husband whose plans for a relaxing weekend turn into a chaotic yet hysterically funny romp. Donovan is the master of understatement, and can bring down the house with laughter with a well-aimed look or his physical comedy. He not only caught the seltzer in the pants, he wore the main course of the intended dinner party. Kudos to the costume committee for supplying numer-

Cindy Gonko of Canton ... brings her own flair and energy to the equation, and is an enthusiastic and self-assured addition to the ensemble.

ous changes of clothing.

To intensify the comic treat, Joe is paired with his real life wife Kim Donovan, who plays his stage wife Jacqueline. The two make a dynamic duo from a comedy standpoint, and have delighted Guild audiences in the past as the couple in "Move Over Mrs. Markham" and in numerous other roles.

Kim Donovan exudes class and stage presence while keeping a light enough touch to keep the show funny and moving along at a brisk pace. She was able to switch from passionate to sisterly with the bat of an eye.

Ron Williams of Redford shows he can play the debonair bachelor Robert as well as the troubled teen he portrayed so well in last season's "Blood Brothers." He has the right blend of teddy bear cuddliness and sophisticated conniving to be both convincing and likable.

As he must concoct more lies and convince more people to go along with them, he invokes gales of laughter from the appreciative house. He also deserves a commendation for memorizing an extremely long, funny and complicated speech that attempts to finally catalog every lie, subterfuge and mistaken

identity. Cindy Gonko of Canton, who plays the cook, is mistaken by Robert as the mistress. She brings her own flair and energy to the equation, and is an enthusiastic and self-assured addition to the ensemble.

Gonko has fun with the role, and is probably the only cast member who eventually understands the entire equation. Her ability to wear a waitress skirt like a strapless designer original gown is a very funny part of the comic romp. Her composure in the face of chaos gives the character the ability to inspire even more laughter.

Maria Kovac of Royal Oak is the perfect mistress, oozing the glamour and sophisticated wit to which a man like Bernard would be attracted. She makes her character likable and sympathetic, avoiding the stereotypical flakiness associated with the mistress role and bringing the right mixture of coy charm and naughty poise to the role.

Hank Bennett of Farmington Hills completes the ensemble as George, the cook's understandably confused and indignant husband who stumbles into the mess at the height of the action.

Haas designed a set as worthy of praise as the cast he assembled. Ceiling beams lend a permanence to the nicely decorated farmhouse, which is well-appointed. Costumer Marsha Barnett-Krause dressed the cast with an elegant sophistication and deserves combat pay for the constant costume clean-ups demanded by Bernard's ongoing encounters with spray bottles and errant food.

Story of 'Truth' told at EMU

Eastern Michigan University's Theatre of the Young presents "A Woman Called Truth," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3 and 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 at Quirk Theatre, on EMU's Ypsilanti campus. Tickets are \$13. Call the box office at (734) 487-1221 for tickets and information.

"A Woman Called Truth," written by Sandra Fenichel Asher, is a celebration of the life, courage and wit of Sojourner Truth, a woman who was sold as a slave and taken away from her family as a young girl.

The story follows her historic fight for freedom and emergence

as a respected speaker on the abolition of slavery and importance of women's rights. Truth continued fighting for those causes until her death in 1883 in her Battle Creek home.

Directed by Patricia Moore Zimmer, the play is appropriate for ages 11 and older.

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"Forbidden Hollywood," through Dec. 31, 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8:30 p.m. Fridays, 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturdays, and 5:30 p.m. Sundays, at the Century Theatre, 333 Madison Avenue, Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800

FISHER THEATRE
"Martin Guerre," opens Wednesday, Dec. 1 through Sunday, Dec. 19, at the theater, Detroit. (248) 645-6666

MASONIC TEMPLE THEATRE
"Chicago," the Drop-Dead Broadway Musical continues through Nov. 28, 8 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, no performance Thursday, Nov. 25, at the theater, 500 Temple, Detroit. (313) 832-6900

DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE
"Revival at Possum Kingdom Community Church," through Dec. 31, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. \$15. (313) 868-1347

GEM THEATRE
"Escanaba in da Moonlight," a comedy by Jeff Daniels, through Feb. 13, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays, at the theater, 33 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-9800

COLLEGE

EMU THEATRE
"A Woman Called Truth," 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20 and Friday, Dec. 3, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 20-21 and Saturday, Dec. 4, Quirk Theatre, on the Ypsilanti campus. \$8 Thursdays, \$13 Fridays-Saturdays. \$11 Sunday matinee. (734) 487-1221

UD-MERCY
"Skylarks," 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through Dec. 5. (313) 993-1130

WSU HILLBERRY
"Some Americans Abroad," through Feb. 5, 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27; "Merchant of Venice," 10 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, at the theater 4743 Cass, Detroit. \$11-\$18. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATER

FARMINGTON PLAYERS
"The Women," a comedy by Clare Booth Luce, 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, Nov. 26-27, at the theater 32332 W. 12 Mile, west of Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. \$12. (248) 563-2955

PLANET ANT THEATRE
"Sexual Perversity in Chicago," Friday, Nov. 26 to Sunday, Dec. 19, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 7 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. \$10. \$35 season tickets available until Dec. 19. (313) 365-4948

PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD
"It's a Wonderful Life," 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, Nov. 26-27 and Dec. 3-4, and 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, Water Tower Theatre, on the campus of the Northville Psychiatric Hospital, 41001 W. Seven Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. \$10, \$7 students ages 18 and under. (248) 349-7110

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE
"To Forgive, Divine," a comedy by Jack Neary, 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, Nov. 26-27, at the theater, 38840 W. Six Mile, between Haggerty and I-275, Livonia. \$10, \$5 Sundays. (734) 464-6302

VILLAGE PLAYERS OF BIRMINGHAM
"The Man Who Came to Dinner," 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, Nov. 26-27, at the theater, Chestnut Street and Woodward. \$12. \$10 students. (248) 644-2075

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BACI THEATRE
"Finnegan's Wake," 8 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays (\$25 Thursdays and Sundays, and \$30 Fridays-Saturdays), and "Tony n' Tina's Wedding," 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sundays, at 40 W. Pike, Pontiac. (248) 745-8868/(248) 643-8868



Get your kicks: See the world famous Rockettes, accompanied by dozens of teddy bears dancing in Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite," a parade of live animals journeying to the manger in a "Living Nativity," and an appearance by Santa Claus, himself in the holiday extravaganza "The Radio City Christmas Spectacular" Friday, Nov. 26, through Thursday, Dec. 30, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. Tickets on sale now at the Fox Theatre and Joe Louis Arena box offices and all Ticketmaster Outlets. Charge by phone at (248) 433-1515 or (248) 645-6666. For groups of 20 or more, call (313) 471-3099. For more information, call (313) 983-6611 or visit the Olympia Entertainment Web site at www.olympiaentertainment.com.

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

DETROIT PUPPET THEATRE
The classic Russian tale "The Firebird," 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays, Nov. 27-28, at the theater, 25 E. Grand River, Detroit. \$7. \$5 children. (313) 961-7777

GEMINI
1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, instrument-petting zoo one-half hour before the shows, at The Ark, at 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. \$7. (734) 761-1800

MARQUIS THEATRE
"Jack in the Beanstalk," through Sunday, Jan. 16, at the theater, 135 E. Main, Northville. \$7. (248) 349-8110

SPECIAL EVENTS

AMERICA'S THANKSGIVING PARADE
9 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 25, from Woodward and Mack.

ART TRAIN USA
"Artistry of Space" features works from NASA and the National Air and Space Museum, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 4-5 and 11-12, at 1100 N. Main Street, Ann Arbor. Free. (734) 747-8300

COBO CARNIVAL
Through Dec. 5, in Oakland Hall at Cobo Center, Detroit. Free. (313) 923-7400

HOLIDAY PARADE/SNOW CARNIVAL
11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 (parade), noon to 2 p.m. Snow Carnival, from Wisner Stadium on Oakland Avenue to the Phoenix Center on Saginaw Street, Pontiac. (248) 209-2621

HOLIDAY PIANO CONCERT
Ryan O'Neill performs 1-2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, at the JC Penney Store at Westland Mall, Wayne and Warren roads, Westland. (888) 966-3455

PROGRESSIVE DOG CLUB SHOW
All breed dog show and obedience trial 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, in the Michigan Mart, West Mall and Ag Buildings at the Michigan State Fairgrounds, Eight Mile and Woodward, Detroit. \$4, \$1 seniors/children under 12. (248) 477-8477/(734) 425-0857

RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR
Starring the Rockettes Friday, Nov. 26 to Friday, Dec. 30, at the Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$20-\$55. (248) 645-6668/(248) 433-1515

TEDDY BEAR BRUNCH
11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, at Cobo Center, Detroit. \$10, \$8 ages 2-12, includes admission to Festival of Trees. (313) 745-0178

"WILD LIGHTS"
Continues through Sunday, Jan. 2, 5:30-8 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, until 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, at the Detroit Zoo, Woodward and I-96, Royal Oak. \$3 members (\$2 ages 2-12), \$4 non-members (\$3 ages 2-12). (248) 541-6835

BENEFITS

EMPTY BOWL PROJECT
To benefit Haven, an Oakland County domestic violence shelter, decorate your own bowl symbolizing hunger around the world, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, hot soup by Zoup! \$20 per parent and one child for one hour, \$10 each additional child. (248) 350-3007

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE MADRIGAL DINNERS
7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 9-11, entertainment by Good Neighbors All and the college's Madrigal Singers, in the Waterman Center on campus, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile roads, Livonia. \$35, proceeds go to the student scholarship fund. (734) 462-4417

A TRIBUTE TO ROSA PARKS
The Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Aretha Franklin, 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. \$75-\$200, proceeds to Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Development. (313) 576-5111

TURKEY TROT
8 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 25, at the corner of Jefferson and Woodward. \$20, proceeds benefit America's Thanksgiving Parade. (248) 544-9099

CLASSICAL

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Bach and Handel, with soprano Christine Brandes and mezzo-soprano Marietta Simpson, 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 2-3, 10:45 a.m. Friday, Dec. 3 and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 576-5111

POPS/SWING

ARETHA FRANKLIN
With the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 26-27, at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. \$25-\$75. (313) 576-5111

MERIDIAN
7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1, at Andiamo Italia West, 6676 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 865-9300

JIM PARAVANTIS
With Meridian in a "Frank Sinatra Tribute," 8:30 p.m. to midnight, Fridays-Saturdays through Dec. 3, at Andiamo Italia West, 6676 Telegraph Road at Maple, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 865-9300

ALTRIO SHELTON
The musical impressionist sings "A Motown Tribute," voices include Stevie Wonder, Sammie Davis, Jr., Redd Fox and Nat King Cole, 9 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at the Ponchatrain Hotel, Washington Blvd. and Jefferson, Detroit. No cover. (313) 965-0200/(248) 354-1194

AUDITIONS

THEATRE GUILD OF REDFORD
Is searching for directors, choreographers, musical directors, and all others interested in musical comedy theater. Call (313) 531-0554 for information, or deliver resumes and letters of interest to the Theatre Guild, 15138 Beech Daly, across from the Township Hall in Redford.

YOUTH COMPETITION
The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra is looking for contestants for its Youth Competition to be held in December at Evola Music of Canton, in addition to orchestral instruments, piano contestants are also being sought, winners will perform on the youth concerts in February of 2000. (734) 451-2112

CHORAL

MADONNA UNIVERSITY CHORALE
Sing Benjamin Britten's "Ceremony of Carols" 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 in the Felician Sisters' Motherhouse Chapel at I-96 and Levan Road, Livonia; and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at historic St. Paul's Church in Grosse Pointe Farms. \$10, proceeds go towards the chorale's tour to Ireland in June. (734) 432-5708

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHORUS
Presents a "Holiday Greetings" concert, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4 and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at Plymouth Salem High School, 46181 Joy Road, Canton. (734) 455-4080

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR
Holiday concerts featuring Mozart's "Regina Coeli" and Rachmaninoff's "Ave Maria" as well as other season favorites, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward, between Warren and Hancock, Detroit. Free: 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, between Merriman and Middlebelt, Livonia. Donations will be accepted. (248) 349-8175/(734) 462-4435

UMS CHORAL UNION
Handel's "Messiah," 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor. \$10-\$18. (734) 764-2538

JAZZ

MR. B
8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, at The Ark, at 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. \$13.50. (734) 761-1800

GEM JAZZ TRIO
Performs 7-11 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at the Century Club Restaurant, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-9800

WENDELL HARRISON
8:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, at Edison's, 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

BILL HEID
8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at Edison's, 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

JOHNNY & AL
Tuesday, Dec. 7, at Sweet Lorraine's, 29101 Greenfield, Southfield. (248) 559-5985

RICH K. TRIO
8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at Big Fish, 700 Town Center Dr., Dearborn. (313) 336-6350

MATT MICHAELS TRIO
at Ron's Fireside Inn, 28937 Warren, east of Middlebelt Road, Garden City. \$5 cover. (734) 762-7766

GARY SCHUNK
9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, at Edison's, 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

STRAIGHT AHEAD
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Edison's, 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

JANET TENAJ TRIO
Featuring Sven Anderson, piano and Kurt Krahnke, bass, 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sundays, at Fishbone's Restaurant, 29244 Northwestern Highway, Southfield. (248) 351-2925

WARREN COMMISSION
Sunday, Nov. 28, at Andiamo Osteria-Royal Oak, Main Street. (248) 582-9300

ED WELLS
The pianist performs 5:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays, at the Century Club Restaurant, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-9800

PAMELA WISE & THE AFRO-CUBAN ALLSTARS
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, at Edison's, 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

WORLD MUSIC

WHO CARES
9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 26-27, at Cowley's Old Village Inn, Grand River and Farmington Road, Farmington. (248) 474-5941

FOLK/BLUEGRASS

KATIE GEDDES & THE USUAL SUSPECTS
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, also Dell and the Rough Cuts, at Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile, west of I-275, Livonia. \$12. \$10 members. (734) 464-6302

WATERSON: CARTHY
8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, **JOSH WHITE, JR.**
7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, at The Ark, at 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. \$15. (734) 761-1800

WATROBA, WOODWARD & WEISENBURG
8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, at The Ark, at 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. \$12. (734) 761-1800

JOSH WHITE, JR.
7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, at The Ark, at 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. \$13.50. (734) 761-1800

BETHANY YARROW
With Peter Yarrow 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Temple Emanuel, 14450 W. 10 Mile, Oak Park. \$10 Jewish Community Center members, \$15 non-members. (248) 661-1000

POETRY/ SPOKEN WORD

POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN
Workshop for poets looking for more members, 2-4 p.m. third Tuesday of month, in the Jenkins rooms on the third floor of the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road. (734) 762-7568

DANCE

ADVANCED CONTRA DANCE
8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, at the Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor Saline Road, south of I-94, Ann Arbor. \$8. (734) 665-8863

BALLROOM DANCING
9 p.m. Saturdays, at the Dance Scene, 25333 Van Dyke, Centerline. \$8. Also swing and Latin classes. (810) 757-8300

THE HARLEM NUTCRACKER
Presented by Donald/Byrd/The Group, Friday, Nov. 26 to Sunday, Dec. 5, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. \$12-\$50. (734) 764-2538

POLISH ALLIANCE DANCERS OF DEARBORN
Dance and language classes for ages 3 to adult have begun Saturday mornings at Prince of Peace Church, on Altar Road, Dearborn. (313) 581-3181

STARDUST BALLROOM
Dance parties 9 p.m. Fridays, lessons also available, at the dance studio, 28651 Northwestern Highway, Southfield. \$8. (248) 356-5678

WATERFORD-OAKS BALLROOM DANCE
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at 2800 Watkins Lake Road, Waterford. (248) 673-4764

COMEDY

ELDORADO COUNTRY CLUB
Norm Stulz with J.R. Remick & Dee Proffitt, 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday Nov. 26-27, at 2869 N. Pontiac Trail, Commerce Township. (248) 624-1050

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB
Kevin McPeck, also John Turnbull and Bam Bam 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 26-27 (\$12), at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia, 8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S
Bill Hildebrandt Friday-Sunday, Nov. 26-28; Bill Shannon, Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 2-5, at the club, 5070 Schnaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

MAINSTREET COMEDY SHOWCASE
314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734) 996-9080

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE
at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak, 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. (248) 542-9900 or <http://www.comedycastle.com>

SECOND CITY
"Phantom Menace to Society" Wednesday-Sunday, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Mainstage comedy acts: \$10 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, \$17.50 on Fridays, and \$19.50 on Saturdays. (313) 965-2222

MUSEUMS AND TOURS

ANN ARBOR HANDS-ON MUSEUM
Re-opened its door Oct. 19, the celebration continues with more than 250 interactive exhibits intended to make science fun at the museum, 220 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. \$6. \$4 children/seniors/students. (734) 995-5439

DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Film festival and family workshop based on the new On the Air exhibit 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, the exhibit allows visitors to walk through time and the area's radio and TV broadcast industry. \$3. (313) 833-9720; "Frontiers to Factories: Detroiters at Work 1701-1901," formerly known as "Furs to Factories," with a new Land Office, a "Wheel of Fortune" style land acquisition interactive, three new video screen interactives, a documentary video, a new Heavy Industry section and a display explaining Detroit's move from "Stove Capital of the World" to the Motor City, automobile capital of the world, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free admission Wednesdays; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1805 or <http://www.detroithistorical.org>

DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER
IMAX movies include "Tropical Rainforest" at 10 a.m. Mondays-Fridays, "Thrill Ride: The Science of Fun" at 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and "Everest" and "Whales" multiple showings seven days a week, at the center, noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 7 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sundays, at 5020 John R. (at Warren), Detroit. Admission to Exhibit Hall is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3-15 and adults ages 60 and older, free for children ages 2 and younger. IMAX films are additional.

Guays a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Stephanie Casola; 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
at \$4. (313) 577-8400

DETROIT ZOO
The exhibit, "Inside/Outside: The Art of Caring" continues through Jan. 2, in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery at the zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile, Royal Oak. \$7.50, \$5.50 seniors/students. \$4.50 ages 2-12. (248) 398-0903

DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM
Visit the newest exhibition "Folk Art of the Great Lakes" or "Racing on the Wind: Sailing on the Great Lakes," also a temporary exhibit on the construction and launch of the S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald, at 100 Strand Drive on Bella Isle, Detroit. Regular admission \$2. \$1 seniors/children ages 12-18 during the hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. (313) 852-4051

HENRY FORD ESTATE-FAIR LANE
Estate tours include the restored riverside powerhouse, Henry Ford's personal garage and cars, giant generators placed by Ford and Thomas Edison that still operate, and the tunnel to the 56-room mansion with elaborate carved woodwork and personal artifacts, at 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. (313) 593-5590

HENRY FORD MUSEUM/GREENFIELD VILLAGE
The village is celebrating its 70th season with a host of activities, and exhibits such as Abraham Lincoln's assassination chair and a life mask made 60 days before his assassination, at the museum, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. \$12.50, \$11.50 seniors, \$7.50 kids 5-12, members and children under 5 free. (313) 271-1620

MEADOW BROOK HALL
Holiday Walk features French treasures in the 110-room historic mansion built by Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of auto pioneer John Dodge, and her second husband Alfred G. Wilson, beginning Friday, Nov. 26 through Sunday, Dec. 5 the 110-room historic mansion built by Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of auto pioneer John Dodge, and her second husband Alfred G. Wilson, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, until 8 p.m. Tuesday Wednesday, Nov. 30-Dec. 1, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester. \$12. \$6 children ages 3-12. (248) 370-3140

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY
"I Made This Jar..." the life and works of the enslaved African American potter, Dave continues through Jan. 2, at the museum, 315 E. Warren, Detroit. (313) 494-5800

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM
"Celebrate the Century" exhibit continues at the museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth. \$2, \$5 kids, \$5 family. (734) 455-8940

SPIRIT OF FORD
Interactive automotive science, and technology experience with exhibits and theaters for all ages NASCAR Pit Stop Challenge, Turbo Tour full-motion simulator ride, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, at 1151 Village Drive, across from Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, Dearborn. \$6, \$5 seniors, \$4 ages 5-12. (313) 317-7474

POPULAR MUSIC

AGENTS OF GOOD ROOTS
9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$8 advance, \$10 day of show. 19 and older. (248) 645-6666

ALBERTA ADAMS
7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

THE ALLIGATORS
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty, Plymouth. Cover 21 and over. (734) 451-1213 (blues)

GREG ALLMAN
6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, State Theatre, Detroit. Tickets \$28.50, \$24.50. All ages. (248) 645-6666

THE BACK DOORS
8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. \$10 in advance. (248) 544-3030

BARENAKED LADIES
With Tai Bachman, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 1, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$50 and \$35 reserved. (248) 645-6666

THE BEACH BOYS
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, The Palace of Auburn Hills. \$25, \$15

for general admission. (248) 645-6666

BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Tickets \$17 on sale now. All ages. (248) 645-6666.

THE BLINKS
With Criminals, LES Stiches, Ducky Bbys, 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. Tickets \$8. (313) 961-MELT or www.961melt.com

BUCKCHERRY
8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$12. All ages. (313) 961-MELT.

COMMON GROUND CD RELEASE PARTY
With Scott Campbell, Jill Jack, Hope Orchestra, Miriam Shor, 10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$5, 18 and over. (248) 335-8100.

CHAIN REACTION
Friday, Nov. 26, Scallion's Lounge, Allen Park. (313) 438-0029; Thursday, Dec. 9, Token Lounge, Westland (313) 513-5030

CHISEL BROTHERS FEATURING CHEF CRIS
10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main Street, Royal Oak. (248) 543-4300 (blues)

THE COREVARS
With Mr. Tidy, A Planet for Texas, 10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, upstairs from Jacoby's, 624 Brush Street, Detroit. \$5 cover, 18 and over. (313) 962-7067 (punk)

CROSSBY, STILLS, NASH AND YOUNG
8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 24, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$76, \$51, and \$40.50 reserved. Eight ticket limit per person. (248) 645-6666 or (248) 377-0100

LACY J. DALTON
8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 29, at The Ark, at 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. \$15. (734) 761-1800 (country)

DEEP SPACE 6
9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, Karl's Cabin, 9779 Gottfredson Road, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450

DJ VADIM
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. Ticket price to be announced. (313) 961-MELT

DOMESTIC PROBLEMS
With The Lash, 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. \$6 cover, 21 and over. (248) 544-3030

FRED EAGLESMITH
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, The Ark, 316 S. Main Street, Ann Arbor. \$11. All ages. (734) 761-1451

GLEN EDDY BAND
Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, Aibi, Farmington Hills. (248) 478-2010

EKOOSTIC HOOKAH
8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 17-18, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. (248) 544-3030

ELECTRIC BOOGALOO
9:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26 (with Baked Potato), Thursday, Dec. 30, Karl's Cabin, 9779 Gottfredson Road, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450

EL VEZ
9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. (248) 645-6666

EMINEM
Friday, Nov. 26, Royal Oak Music Theatre, Royal Oak. Tickets \$20. (248) 645-6666 (hip hop star comes home)

ESHAM AND NATAS
With Workhorse Movement, Sunday, Dec. 19, Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron at Mill Street, Pontiac. Tickets \$12. (248) 645-6666

FAN MAIL TOUR
With ILO, Christina Aguilera, Destiny's Child, 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$39.50 and \$29.50 on sale. (248) 645-6666

FANTOMAS
With Kid 606, 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$15. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

FREESTYLERS SOUND SYSTEM
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$6, 18 and over. (313) 961-MELT

KATIE GEDDES AND THE USUAL SUSPECTS
With Deb and the Rough Cuts, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia. \$12, \$10 for members. (734) 464-6302 (folk)

GUTTER PUNK
With Unity, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$5. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

HARRINGTON BROTHERS
7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, Tuesday, Dec. 7, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

ROY HAMILTON JR. & THE GOLDEN BOYS
7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

J. GEL'S BAND
With The Romantics, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$99.50, \$79.50, \$59.50, \$19.99 includes parking cost. (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com

ALAN JACKSON
With Lonestar, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$32.50 and \$25.50. (248) 645-6666.

JARS OF CLAY
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. All ages. Tickets \$15 advance. (248) 645-6666

BB KING
With Bobby "Blue" Bland, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 12, Royal Oak Music Theatre, Royal Oak. Tickets on sale \$55. (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com

EARL KLUGH AND BOB JAMES
6:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, State Theatre, Detroit. Tickets on sale \$45, \$27.50, \$15. (248) 645-6666

WDRQ ELECTRIC KRINGLE JINGLE
Starring Sugar Ray, Blessed Union of Souls, Enrique Iglesias, Lou Bega, Jessica Simpson, LFO, Shaggy, Amber, Len, Mandy Moore, 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, Joe Louis Arena. Tickets \$39.91, \$29.31, \$19.31 on sale. (248) 645-6666

LADY SUNSHINE AND THE X BAND
10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main Street, Royal Oak. (248) 543-4300 (blues)

SHEILA LANDIS TRIO
8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, Borders Books and Music, 1122 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. (248) 652-0558 (holiday jazz)

EUGENE MANN
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Borders Books and Music, 1122 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. (248) 652-0558 (saxophone)

STONEY MAZAAR AND THE WESTSIDERS
7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 26-27, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and over. (734) 721-8609 (blues)

JIM MCCARTY AND MYSTERY TRAIN
9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and over. (734) 721-8609 (blues)

MEATLOAF
7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, State Theatre, Detroit. Tickets \$58.50, \$49.50. (248) 645-6666

JOHN MELLENCAMP
"Rural Electrification Tour 1999" 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28, The Palace of Auburn Hills. \$45, \$35. (248) 645-6666

DAVID MILES
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, all at Oxford Inn Tavern, 43317 E. Grand River, Novi. 21 and over. \$5 cover Saturday performance only. (248) 305-5856 (r&b)

JEFF MILLS
9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Tickets on sale \$25, 18 and over. (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com

STEVE WARDELLA
7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 17-18, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

MIKE NESS
With The Road Kings, 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, Clutch Cargo, Pontiac. Tickets \$17.50 advance. (248) 645-6666

THE NIGHT 900X STOLE CHRISTMAS
Featuring Bush, Oasis, blink-182, Ben Harper and the Innocent Criminals, 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, Cobo Arena, Detroit. Tickets on sale \$34.89, \$24.89, \$19.89. (248) 645-6666 (alternative bash)

THE NUMBERS
10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, 313.jac, upstairs from Jacoby's, 624 Brush Street, Detroit. \$5 cover, 18 and over. (313) 962-7067 (Britpop)

ORIGINAL HITS
7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

PHISH
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets on sale \$25 advance/\$27 day of show. Eight ticket limit per person. (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com

PILFERS
7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$7. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

PODUNK
8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. Tickets \$6. (313) 961-MELT or www.961melt.com

QUEENSRYCHE
With Caroline's Fire, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, State Theatre, Detroit. Tickets \$39.50, \$29.50. (313) 961-MELT or www.961melt.com

RACHEL AND KAPP
7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1, 8, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE
With Gang Starr, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$25. (248) 645-6666.

JAKE REICHBART
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, Borders Books and Music, 1122 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. (248) 652-0558 (holiday guitar)

RARE EARTH
Friday-Saturday, Nov. 26-27, Oxford Inn Tavern, 43317 E. Grand River, Novi. (248) 305-5856

SATIN DOLLS
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, Borders Books and Music, 1122 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. (248) 652-0558 (vocal quartet)

STEPHANIE SCHINDLER
8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, Borders Books and Music, 3924 Baldwin Road, Auburn Hills. Free. (248) 335-5013 (jazz)

SGT. ROCK
Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, Lake Point Yacht Club, Livonia. (734) 591-1868.

Q95.5 JINGLE BALL FEATURING SMASH MOUTH
With Tai Bachman, Monday, Dec. 6, Royal Oak Music Theatre, Royal Oak. Tickets on sale \$19.55. Proceeds benefit Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute. Observer and Eccentric Newspapers are sponsors of the event. (248) 645-6666

SMOOTH JAZZ CHRISTMAS
Featuring Dave Koz, David Benoit, Brenda Russell, Peter White, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, State Theatre, Detroit. Tickets \$25, \$20. (248) 645-6666

SOULFUL CELEBRATION
Featuring Kirk Franklin, Hezekiah Walker, Kelly Price, Karen Clark Sheard, Crystal Lewis, Anointed, Marvin Sapp, Darwin Hobbs. Lead by musical director, Sheila E. 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, Joe Louis Arena, Detroit. Tickets on sale \$50, \$35, \$25, \$15. (248) 645-6666

STEREOLAB
With Jim O'Rourke, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Tickets \$12 advance, \$13 day of show. 18 and over. (248) 645-6666

STING
With M. Sheel Ndeggeocoo, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. All ages. Tickets \$110, \$85. (248) 645-6666

SUICIDE MACHINES
With Bottomedout and The Outsiders, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$4. All ages. (248) 645-6666. With P.I.'s, Rounge and Coast as the 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 30, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$9. All ages. (313) 961-

MELT
SUN MESSENGERS
9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, Karl's Cabin, 9779 Gottfredson Road, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450

KOKO TAYLOR
10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main Street, Royal Oak. Tickets \$10. (248) 543-4300 (blues)

TELEGRAPH
With Moods for Moderns and Capture the Flag, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 26, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$5. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

TWISTING TARANTULAS
9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, 23, Karl's Cabin, 9779 Gottfredson Road, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450

U-GOD
With Shyheim, 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$6, 18 and older. (313) 961-MELT

RANDY VOLIN AND SONIC BLUES
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and over. (734) 721-8609 (blues)

MATT WATROBA, GARY WEISENBURG AND NEIL WOODWARD
8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, The Ark, Ann Arbor. (734) 761-1800 (folk)

WINDHAM HILL WINTER SOLSTICE CONCERT
Featuring Liz Story, David Arkenstone, Lisa Lynne, Sean Harkness, 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Tickets \$15, \$25, \$35. (734) 668-8397

WORKHORSE MOVEMENT
With Forge and Fringe, Thursday, Dec. 16, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 996-8555

WU-TANG CLAN'S U-GOD AND FRIEND SHYHEIM
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Tickets \$6, 18 and over. (313) 961-MELT or www.961melt.com

YOUNG COUNTRY CHRISTMAS WITH STEVE WARINER
6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, State Theatre, Detroit. Tickets \$27.50, \$22.50. (248) 645-6666

CLUBS

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, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5, 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or http://www.alvinsxt.com

ARBOR BREWING COMPANY
Latin dance night, 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Tuesdays, 114 E. Washington St., Ann Arbor. Free. 21 and older. (734) 213-1393 or http://www.arborbrewing.com

BIRD OF PARADISE
The Bird of Paradise Orchestra performs Mondays, cover \$5. Ron Brooks Trio performs Wednesdays and Thursdays, cover \$3. Paul Klinger's Easy Street Swingtet plays Dixieland 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. every Friday. Cover \$2. Paul Kinkbeiner's Jazz Jam can be seen 9 p.m. Sundays, cover \$2. All at the club, 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 662-8310 (jazz)

BLIND PIG
"Swing a Billy" night with dance lessons, dancing, 7 p.m. Sundays at the club, 208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$3 in advance, \$5 at the door. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 or http://www.blindpigmusic.com

BULLFROG BAR AND GRILL
Acoustic night with Pack stand Tambourine Mondays; Karaoke with DJ Eric Tuesdays; Bridge performs Thursday-Sunday. After work party with Joint Venture 10 p.m. Fridays. All at the club, 15414 Telegraph Road, Redford. (313) 533-4477

CLUTCH CARGO'S/MILL STREET
Flashback night with "The Planet" WPLT on level two (Clutch Cargo's) old school funk on level three, and techno and house on level four. 8:30 p.m. Saturdays at the club, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Free before 9 p.m. 21 and older. Alternative dance night, 8 p.m. Wednesdays at Clutch Cargo's. 18 and older. (248) 333-2362 or http://www.961melt.com

FLYING FISH TAVERN
See Larry Arbour live 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, at the Tavern, 17600 W. 13 Mile Road, Beverly Hills. (248) 647-7747 (acoustic folk)

GOLD DOLLAR
Hip-hop and dancehall reggae dance night with DJ Chino, 8 p.m. Wednesdays at the club, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge, 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or http://www.golddollar.com

THE GROOVE ROOM
Goth and industrial with DJ Paul Wednesdays. Free admission with Goth attire; Funk, hip-hop and top 40 with DJ Mac D, Thursdays. Women admitted free. "Love Factory" alternative mix of 80s and 90s with DJ Matt Fridays. Alternative dance with DJ Matt Saturdays, at the club, 1815 N. Main St. (at 12 Mile Road), Royal Oak. Free before 10 p.m. nightly. 21 and older. (248) 589-3344 or http://www.thegroove-room.com

JD'S KEY CLUB
Working Wednesdays with free food buffet, \$1 off drinks, featuring Matt Safranek, Jimmy Sullivan, Marc Doiran and WIZ, doors at 4:45 p.m. Wednesdays; Ladies Night featuring Rod Norman, Jimmy Sullivan, Gary Mumford and WIZ, doors at 7 p.m. Thursdays; Matt Safranek, WIZ, Rod Norman, Gary Mumford, Marc Doiran and Jimmy Sullivan perform, \$5 cover and doors at 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, all at the club, 1 North Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 338-7337, dueling pianos

LA BOOM TEEN NIGHTCLUB
Dance night for teens ages 15-19, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays at the club, 1172 N. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake. Ages 15-19. (248) 926-9960

MAJESTIC THEATRE CENTER
"Good Sounds" with music by The Tonehead Collective and images by Thomas Video, 9 p.m. Fridays at Magic Stick, 18 and older. Free. "Work Release." Pack n' Bow happy hour with bowling, music and complimentary food from the Majestic Cafe, 5-8 p.m. Fridays at Garden Bowl. \$6, 18 and older. "Rock n' Bow" with DJ De Villareal, 9 p.m. Fridays and DJ Gutterball, 9 p.m. Saturdays at Garden Bowl. Free, 18 and older. "The Bird's Nest," punk rock night with live performances, 9 p.m. Mondays at Magic Stick, Free, 18 and older. "Soup Shakedown" with DJ Big Andy, 9 p.m. Tuesdays at Magic Stick. Free, 21 and older. (313) 833-9700

MOTOR LOUNGE
"Back Room Mondays" service industries employee appreciation night, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Mondays. Free. 21 and older. "Family" with DJ's Derek Plasiano, Echo and Deep, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tuesdays, 18 and older. "Maximum Overload" on Fridays, 10 p.m. \$6, 18 and older. "Big House" 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturdays, \$6, 21 and older, all at the club, 3515 Canfield, Hamtramck. (313) 396-0080 or http://www.motorlounge.com

ST. ANDREW'S, THE SHELTER
"Three Floors of Fun" 9 p.m. Fridays, \$3 before 11 p.m., \$5 after ward, 18 and older. "XK" dance night, 10 p.m. Saturdays, "Inconerator" 9 p.m. Wednesdays in The Shelter. \$6, 21 and older. St. Andrews and The Shelter are at 431 E. Congress, Detroit. (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com

STATE THEATRE
"Ignition

'Dogma' takes cynical, comic look at religion

BY JON KATZ
SPECIAL WRITER

Carl Reiner's "Oh God" (1977) gave us George Burns and a Borscht Belt take on the Old Testament. In Kevin Smith's profound and profane comedy-fantasy "Dogma," the Lord is angst singer Alanis Morissette. If you can accept that, the rest of the often clever, quite pro-faith plot may make perfect sense.

Loki (Matt Damon) and Bartley (Ben Affleck) are fallen angels of death. Expelled from Heaven, they've been commanded to live in Wisconsin for the length of human existence. This is some cruel God we're talking about here.

The two discover a loophole that will allow them back into Paradise if they can pass through the archway of a newly rededicated church in New Jersey. But for two fallen angels, to return home would prove an infallible God to be fallible; this would negate everything and everyone — starting, we assume, with New Jersey.

To prevent Armageddon, the Voice of God (Alan Rickman) is dispatched to enlist the aid of a human to save all humankind. They choose an abortion clinic volunteer, Bethany (Linda Fiorentino). No random choice, Bethany is — stand back, now — the great, great, great (repeat a few dozen times) ... niece of

Jesus. It seems that Mary and Joseph did a bit of begetting of their own.

And there's more, lots more. The 13th apostle, for example. He's an angry young man named Rufus (Chris Rock), who literally falls from the sky to help out. Did he really know Jesus, asks Bethany. "Knew him? He owes me 12 bucks." Apparently they listen to "2000 Year Old Man" albums up there, as Rufus rips off old Mel Brooks punchlines with no remorse. And why haven't we heard of him? "I was left out because I'm black." Just what we need, an apostle with an attitude.

"Dogma" takes on a lot, and spends a lot of screen time



DARREN MICHAELS/LIONS GATE FILMS

Comedy-Fantasy: Matt Damon and Ben Affleck in a scene from director Kevin Smith's latest effort "Dogma."

explaining Catholic doctrines such as plenary indulgence, which is an eternal amnesty of sorts. At the heart of the film, however, is writer/director Smith's assertions that an idea is better than a belief and it doesn't matter what you have faith in as long as you have faith.

For all its controversy, planned or not, "Dogma" is as pro-Bible as it is anti-organized religion. There is a real "Wizard of Oz" sweetness there if you dig far

enough below the sophomore language and "Lost in Space" effects (a demon from the bowels of the earth is a poop-monster that emerges from a toilet).

Affleck and Damon do the Butch and Sundance routine as well as any contemporary duo could; Rickman and Rock are each hilarious in delivering their very different types of humor. George Carlin is a cardinal is great casting, as it was Carlin's original comedy monologues on his parochial school upbringing

that inspired Smith.

Fiorentino as the modern-day Dorothy brings nothing special to the role. And Smith, himself, teams up with Jason Mewes for the fourth time in his films ("Mall Rats," "Clerks" and "Chasing Amy") as hipsters Jay and Silent Bob.

Many of those who flock to this film may find Jay's unceasing foul mouth funny.

It may or may not be a sin, but it has long ago stopped being funny.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

- Scheduled to open Wednesday, Nov. 24**
- "FLAWLESS"**
Comedic drama of a retired security guard who suffers a stroke and is assigned to a rehab program which includes singing lessons with his neighbor, a drag queen. Stars Robert De Niro and Philip Seymour Hoffman.
 - "THE GREEN MILE"**
Remarkable story of a guard in a Southern prison's death row in 1935 and one of the inmates over which he has charge. Based on the 1996 serialized novel by Stephen King. Stars Tom Hanks.
 - "ANNA AND THE KING"**
Set in 19th century Thailand, the true story of the relationship between a British schoolteacher and the King of Siam. Based on historical information. Stars Jodie Foster and Chow Yun-Fat.
 - "CIDER HOUSE RULES"**
Classic story of a young man's extraordinary journey: leaving home, finding love and finding his place in the world. Based on the best-selling novel by John Irving. Stars Tobey Maguire.
 - "END OF DAYS"**
Set at the dawn of the new millennium, this thriller follows Satan's visit to New York City in search of a bride with whom he hopes to rule the next thousand years. Stars Arnold Schwarzenegger.
- Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 10**
- "THE GREEN MILE"**
Remarkable story of a guard in a Southern prison's death row in 1935 and one of the inmates over which he has charge. Based on the 1996 serialized novel by Stephen King. Stars Tom Hanks.
 - "LIBERTY HEIGHTS"**
A dramatic look at the life and times of a Baltimore family in the mid 1950s which focuses on issues of religion, race and class distinction written and directed by Barry Levinson. Stars Adrien Brody, Bebe Neuwirth and Joe Mantegna.
 - "MANSFIELD PARK"**
Based on the book by Jane Austen, the story of a young woman from a poor family, sent to live with her wealthy cousins at their estate. The plan is to arrange a marriage that will assure her place in society, but her high spirited nature and ideas about love will make it a difficult proposition. Stars Frances O'Connor and Jonny Lee Miller.
- Scheduled to open Saturday, Dec. 25**
- "THE GREEN MILE"**
Remarkable story of a guard in a Southern prison's death row in 1935 and one of the inmates over which he has charge. Based on the 1996 serialized novel by Stephen King. Stars Tom Hanks.

Film lacks believability, focus

BY JON KATZ
SPECIAL WRITER

Some husbands put their wives on a pedestal. French filmmaker Luc Besson put his (model/actress Milla Jovovich) on the big screen with thousands of extras. A few husbands may think of their wives as a saint, Besson's was cast as one. And then, to believe the tabloids, she left him.

Frankly, their off-screen lives may prove more exciting than this latest retelling of Joan of Arc.



In battle: Milla Jovovich is Joan of Arc in "The Messenger: The Story of Joan of Arc" in theaters now.

Before the details, one warning is in order. "The Messenger" is not the film to take your catechism student to. He or she will learn about Joan, all right, but also about the language the English used to describe her. It is very plain English, not how we thought they talked in the pristine 15th century. A groaning audience seemed to agree.

If you're still interested, "The Messenger" is an ambitious effort that is visually attractive and graphically detailed. Young peasant girl Joan witnesses her tiny French village overrun and her elder sister raped and murdered during the bloody Hundred Years' War. A deciding factor in the war was who would control the city of Orleans. Only one thing could save France ... a miracle.

Soon after, Joan hears voices from the sky and has strange visions. She is, she is told, the chosen one who will restore France and give aid to the Dauphin Charles so that he might be crowned king. To do

so, she must wear men's clothing, bear arms and lead an army.

Joan convinces Charles (a prison John Malkovich) and his mother-in-law (Faye Dunaway) of her divinely blessed mission, and indeed wins a series of battles before being betrayed by her own people and burned at the stake as a heretic in 1431.

Besson ("The Fifth Element") presents Joan as a petrified kid, shivering and stammering things like, "I am the drum on which God is beating out his message." She is quick to lose her temper, foolish in battle and lacks confidence. Now all this might well have been true, but something told those soldiers to follow her; the viewer is just not as convinced as they were.

Jovovich in armor is out of her element. As an actress, she's a terrific model. And what's the deal with her hair color? She's a sunny blond to begin with. Somewhere in the middle, after cutting her long

locks, she's a redhead. She tells the English troops lined up against her outnumbered forces, "I have a message for your King Henry from God - go home!" Well sorry, but she looks like Opie telling the school bully that his father's the sheriff. Finally, at the burning, she's plainly a brunette.

The battle scenes are well staged, albeit quite graphic (a head is severed, limbs are scattered about), but the troops and their uniforms all look alike. At least you could tell Spartacus from the Romans.

Where "The Messenger" is magnificent is in Joan's prison scenes, where she is confronted by her conscience (a hooded and bearded Dustin Hoffman). Only here is Joan's uncertainty believable, and the fact that her conscience is so much smarter than she is becomes confusing. At one point she says "Get thee behind me, Satan," which only adds to the muddle that is "The Messenger."

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

<p>National Amusements Showcase Cinemas</p> <p>Showcase Ambury Hills 1-14 2150 N. Opdyke Rd. Between University & Walton Blvd 248-373-2660 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat. NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP SLEEPY HOLLOW NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP DOGMA (R) NP THE MESSENGER: JOAN OF ARC (R) NP LIGHT IT UP (R) NP POKEMON (G) NP THE BACHELOR (PG13) NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NP THE INSIDER (R) NP HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R) NP BEST MAN (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Showcase Downtown 1-8 Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3449 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri. & Sat. & Sun.</p> <p>NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP LIGHT IT UP (R) NP POKEMON (G) NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NP THE INSIDER (R) NP HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R) NP BEST MAN (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Showcase Pontiac 1-5 Telegraph Sq. Lake Rd. W. Side of Telegraph 810-332-0241 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP THE MESSENGER: JOAN OF ARC (R) NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NP THE INSIDER (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Showcase Pontiac 6-12 2495 Telegraph Rd. East side of Telegraph 810-334-6777 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri. & Sat. NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP DOGMA (R) NP POKEMON (G) NP THE BACHELOR (PG13) NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NP THE INSIDER (R) NP LIGHT IT UP (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Star Walk Warren & Wayne Rd. 313-428-7700 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.</p> <p>NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP THE MESSENGER: JOAN OF ARC (R) NP LIGHT IT UP (R) NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NP HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R)</p>	<p>ELMO IN CROUCHLAND (G)</p> <p>ALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Showcase Westland 1-8 6800 Wayne Rd. One blk. S. of Warren Rd. 313-729-1060 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat. NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP DOGMA (R) NP POKEMON (G) NP THE BACHELOR (PG13) NP THE INSIDER (R) NP MUSIC OF THE HEART (PG) NP THE SIXTH SENSE (PG13) NP DOUBLE JEOPARDY (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Star Theatres The World's Best Theatres Bargain Matinees Daily 13:00 All Shows Starting before 6:00 pm Now accepting Visa & MasterCard NP Denotes No Pass Engagement</p> <p>Star Grand Lakes Crossing Great Lakes Shopping Center 248-454-8366</p> <p>NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP POKEMON (G) NP THE MESSENGER (R) NP ANYWHERE BUT HERE (PG13) NP BEING JOHN MALKOVICH (R) NP DOGMA (R) NP LIGHT IT UP (R) NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NP THE BACHELOR (PG13) NP HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R) NP MUSIC OF THE HEART (PG) NP STORY OF US (R) NP THE BEST MAN (R) NP DOUBLE JEOPARDY (R) NP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Star Winchester 1136 S. Rochester Rd. Winchester Mail 248-656-1160 No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>Star Westfield 12 Mile Between Telegraph and Woodward, Off I-76 248-353-STAR No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>FOR MONTHLY AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE CALL 248-327-2222 WWW.STAR-CINEMAS.COM</p> <p>NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP DOGMA (R) NP THE MESSENGER: JOAN OF ARC (R) NP ANYWHERE BUT HERE (R) NP BEING JOHN MALKOVICH (R) NP POKEMON (G) NP LIGHT IT UP (R) NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NP THE INSIDER (R) NP THE BACHELOR (PG13) NP HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R) NP MUSIC OF THE HEART (PG) NP STORY OF US (R) NP THE BEST MAN (R) NP DOUBLE JEOPARDY (R) NP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Star Westchester 211 S. Woodward Downtown Birmingham 248-444-3456 NP Denotes No Pass Engagements</p> <p>Order Movie tickets by phone! Call 644-3456 and have your Visa or MasterCard ready! (A \$1.50 surcharge per transaction will apply to all telephone sales)</p> <p>Birmingham Theatre 211 S. Woodward Downtown Birmingham 248-444-3456 NP Denotes No Pass Engagements</p> <p>Star Westfield 12 Mile Between Telegraph and Woodward, Off I-76 248-353-STAR No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP POKEMON (G) NP SIXTH SENSE (PG13) NP BEING JOHN MALKOVICH (R) NP DOUBLE JEOPARDY (R) NP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R) NP STRAIGHT STORY (G) NP LIGHT IT UP (R) NP MUSIC OF THE HEART (PG) NP HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>United Artists Theatres Bargain Matinees Daily; for all shows starting before 6:00 PM Same day advance tickets available NW - No V.I.P. tickets accepted</p> <p>United Artists Oakland Inside Oakland Mall 248-988-6796</p> <p>ANYWHERE BUT HERE (PG13) NP THE MESSENGER (R) NP THE STRAIGHT STORY (G) NP THE BACHELOR (PG13) NP HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R) NP</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>United Artists 12 Mile Inside Twelve Oaks Mall 248-348-4311</p> <p>SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP THE MESSENGER (R) NP THE INSIDER (R) NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NP HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>United Artists Black River 9 Mile 2 Black Wagon of Middlebelt 248-748-6572</p> <p>SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP DOGMA (R) NP THE MESSENGER (R) NP</p>	<p>POKEMON (G) NP LIGHT IT UP (R) NP THE BACHELOR (PG13) NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NP THE INSIDER (R) NP THE BEST MAN (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>United Artists Commerce Township 14 Located Adjacent to Home Depot Just North of the Intersection of 14 Mile & Haggerty Rd. 248-968-5801 All Stadium Seating High-Back Reclining Chair Seats Two-Day Advance Ticketing</p> <p>SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP ANYWHERE BUT HERE (PG13) NP BEING JOHN MALKOVICH (R) NP DOGMA (R) NP THE MESSENGER (R) NP POKEMON (G) NP THE BACHELOR (PG13) NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NP THE INSIDER (R) NP MUSIC OF THE HEART (PG13) NP</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Birmingham Theatre 211 S. Woodward Downtown Birmingham 248-444-3456 NP Denotes No Pass Engagements</p> <p>Order Movie tickets by phone! Call 644-3456 and have your Visa or MasterCard ready! (A \$1.50 surcharge per transaction will apply to all telephone sales)</p> <p>Maple Art Cinema III 4135 W. Maple, West of Telegraph Birmingham Hills 248-855-9090 DISCOUNTED SHOWS!</p> <p>THE STRAIGHT STORY (G) PRINCESS MONONOKE (PG13) FELICIA'S JOURNEY (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Oxford 3 Cinemas, L.L.C. Downtown Oxford Lapeer Rd. (M-24) (248) 628-7100 Fax (248) 628-1300 DETROIT'S LOWEST FIRST RUN PRICES INCLUDING THURSDAY PRICING \$3.00 4-5 PM.</p> <p>CLOSED FOR RENOVATION</p> <p>AMC Livonia 20 Haggerty & 7 Mile 734-542-9909</p> <p>CALL THEATER FOR FEATURES AND TIMES</p> <p>MP THEATRES</p> <p>\$1.00 Early Tel \$1.50 313-561-7200 \$1.00 12-6 pm After 6 pm, \$1.50 Ample Parking - Telford Center Free Refill on Drinks & Popcorn Please Call Theatre for Showtimes</p> <p>DUDLEY DO RIGHT (PG) HUNTERY HOUND (PG) AMERICAN PIE (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Waterford Cinema II 7501 Highland Rd. S.E. corner M-59 & Williams Lake Rd. 24 Hour Movie Line (248) 666-7900 CALL 77 FILMS 6551 Stadium Seating and Digital Sound System for the Best Movie Experience in Oakland County \$3.25 (THRU) SHOWS DAILY</p> <p>NP BOY: THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP ANYWHERE BUT HERE (PG13) NP DOGMA (R) NP THE MESSENGER: JOAN OF ARC (R) NP THE STRAIGHT STORY (G) NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NP HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R)</p>	<p>SIXTH SENSE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Visa & Mastercard Accepted</p> <p>Terrace Cinema 30400 Plymouth Rd. 313-261-3330 All shows \$1 except shows after 6 p.m. All shows \$1.50 7se every Tuesday</p> <p>Would you like to see Free Movies? Then become a TERRACE MEMBER! COME IN AND FIND OUT HOW Box Office opens at 4:00 pm Monday - Friday only</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Main Art Theatre III Main - 11 Mile Royal Oak (248) 542-0180</p> <p>DOGMA (R) BOYS DON'T CRY (R) BEING JOHN MALKOVICH (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES Children Under 6 Not Admitted</p> <p>Maple Art Cinema III 4135 W. Maple, West of Telegraph Birmingham Hills 248-855-9090 DISCOUNTED SHOWS!</p> <p>THE STRAIGHT STORY (G) PRINCESS MONONOKE (PG13) FELICIA'S JOURNEY (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Oxford 3 Cinemas, L.L.C. Downtown Oxford Lapeer Rd. 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If you're too busy to cook, try The Intelligent Chicken

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

Pressured for time to eat well? The holidays bring this on! Take-out often becomes a high-fat, high-calorie, high cholesterol solution. Unless you discover The Intelligent Chicken in Farmington Hills.

Perhaps you remember the name. A 1992 graduate of Michigan State University with a degree in Hotel & Restaurant Management, owner Todd Rones first opened The Intelligent Chicken in 1993 at Crosswinds Mall, West Bloomfield. When the mall underwent a multi-million dollar renovation, his lease was bought out by the management and he moved on to other entrepreneurial ventures outside the world of restaurants.

Relocation to Northwestern Highway last month allowed Rones to double the size of his eatery and thereby expand dine-in and catering capabilities.

While take-out is the specialty, dine-in seating for about 40 is available in comfortable, light, simple surroundings, reflecting the essence of The Intelligent Chicken's food items. Eat-in service is cafeteria style with plastic plates and flatware, in an area well away from the carry-out counter.

Rotisserie chicken is marinated in house-made barbecue sauce, then slow roasted. Its sumptuous natural flavors don't need a sauce, but you can have your choice from among honey mustard, garlic and herb, or Dijon mustard.

Orders of rotisserie chicken serving two or more with side dishes and rolls are intelligently named for the three oldest Detroit high schools, Mumford, Cass Tech, and Central. The Mumford is the most popular.

The Intelligent Chicken
Where: 32431 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills, between Middlebelt and 14 Mile Road (248)855-4455.
Open: Monday-Friday 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday until 3 p.m., Sunday 4-8:30 p.m.
Menu: Carry-out or deliver and dine-in restaurant featuring natural ingredient marinated, low-fat char-broiled or rotisserie chicken plus fresh salads, sandwiches, side dishes, and soups.
Cost: Average \$5-6 per person without soft drink.
Credit cards: All majors accepted.
Details: All items carry-out. Two-item kid's menu. Catering and corporate lunches.

"only because it serves two to three, a popular size," Rones explains.

The Intelligent Chicken specializes in low-fat, great-tasting canola oil based marinated boneless, skinless char-broiled chicken breasts, served with the same three sauces mentioned above. This time, portions for two or more are named for the three largest suburban high schools, not named after their city: Andover, Lahser, and Harrison. For the same reason as The Mumford, The Andover is the favorite.

Chef Andy Brenner also offers salads, sandwiches, side dishes, and two homemade soups, Mom's Chicken Noodle and Grandma's Minestrone. "Mom" is Todd Rones mother Rona and it is her recipe with broad noodles, carrots, celery, parsley, and generous chunks of chicken.

"If you're chickened out, there's minestrone," Rones quipped.

Not on the regular menu, but running as a special some days is Chicken Chili without beans. With chunky tomatoes, onions, and plenty of pulled chicken, it's a twist on the standard with a light level of spicing. Brenner sometimes makes a batch with beans, so ask.

If you crave a burger, the

ostrich is the intelligent chicken's other feathered friend. Marinated in a beef marinade, then grilled to sear in great taste, the Big Bird Burger, served on a Kaiser roll, is a way to eat flavorful red meat with less fat and cholesterol.

For chickadees (the kids!), two items including a kiddie side, soft drink or milk, and a surprise are available. Chicken Little Special is a char-broiled half chicken breast. Baked Chicken Nuggets come with honey mustard dipping sauce. Booster chairs are available.

The Intelligent Chicken has Michigan restaurant exclusivity to carry and sell the popular Mucky Duck Mustard, which could, up to now, be found only in specialty grocery stores.

Intelligent Lunch in a Box is a brainy idea for busy executives needing tasty corporate lunches. The Intelligent Chicken is computer savvy and ready for E-commerce on line at www.food.com. Once logged on, go to Detroit, then the Intelligent Chicken to place an order.

Eleanor Heald is a Troy resident who writes about dining, food and wine for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. To leave her a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1864.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRENNER

Smart choice: Todd Rones presents The Intelligent Chicken's specialty, low-fat, marinated boneless, skinless char-broiled chicken breasts, served with a flavorful sauce, and your choice of side dishes.

WHAT'S COOKING

Send items for consideration in What's Cooking to Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. To fax, (734) 591-7279 or e-mail kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

What's Cooking includes listings of new restaurants, special dinners, menu changes, restaurant anniversaries and renovations.

Taste of the Arts — An evening of food, art and classical music 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 30 at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 38315 Joy Road, between Wayne and Newburgh, Westland. Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Call (734) 326-7222 for information. "Taste of the Arts" will feature samplings of food and beverages from more than 20 local businesses including Chimento's Italian Market, Max & Erma's and the Fire Academy Brewery and Grill. Art works by students from Wayne-Westland Schools will be exhibited and will be for sale. During a silent auction, you can even place a bid on works by a number of local artists, including Norma McQueen and Mary Brittain. A string quartet will provide entertainment for the evening. Event benefits the Family Resource Center and the Westland Chamber of Commerce. Sponsored by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Maui Travel, International Minute Press, the Hellenic Cultural Center, North Bros Ford, and other local businesses.

Millennium white wine — If you read about the special millennium white wine Galilee 2000, hailing from the Galilee in Israel, in O&E's AT HOME holiday section on Oct. 21, and have not been able to find it, it's available for about \$10 at Cloverleaf Fine Wines, Applegate Square; Spitzer's Books & Gifts, Eleven Mile Road at Lahser; Borenstein Books & Gifts, 10 Mile Road at Greenfield; and Big Ten Party Store, Ann Arbor. However, any retail wine shop can order the wine for you from the distributor Regal Wines in Dearborn.

Red Robin — Restaurants in Madison Heights, Novi, and Westland, will be selling mini versions of its mascot "Red" the robin for \$1.99 with kid's meals through Dec. 31, or until supplies last. The restaurant is selling the "Mini Reds" in honor of its redesigned mascot, making its debut in the restaurants this month. Red Robin will donate \$1 of each Mini Red toy sale to Canine Companions for Independence. For more information,

visit www.redrobin.com

Ristorante Ciaro — Newly opened; cozy 80-seat Italian restaurant, 1024 Monroe St.,

south of Michigan Ave., Dearborn. House specialty is wood-fired, thin crust pizzas baked in a wood burning oven. Homemade

pastas, veal and seafood dishes also available. Open 5-11 p.m. Monday-Saturday for dinner. Call (313) 274-2426.

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