

Westland Observer

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THE WEEK AHEAD

History in the making: Be part of a special edition on Jan. 1, 2000, by placing your photo and message in your hometown Observer. Please see page B7 of today's newspaper for details.

TUESDAY

Tasteful: The Westland Chamber of Commerce will host "Taste of the Arts" at 6 p.m. at the Hellenic Cultural Center, Westland. The evening will combine tastes of good food with enjoyment of the arts. For information, call the chamber, (734) 326-7222. Please see story, Page A3.

SATURDAY

Yule magic: Bill Schuler of Absolutely Baffling Magic will bring Rudolph the Rednosed Reindeer along for 35 minutes of magic tricks, zany antics and audience participation 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. at Westland Center. The Christmas Magic Show will be in the West Court.

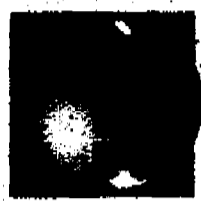
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Kosovo work's an eye-opener



BY JULIE BROWN
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Ask Skender Gocaj what brought him to Westland from Kosovo this past week, and he jokes a bit. "Turkey. A little homesickness."

The talk turns serious, however, when it comes to his work with the United Nations civilian police in Kosovo.

Gocaj, 28, who went to Kosovo in August, works throughout Kosovo, screening new candidates for law enforcement jobs.

"There is still a lot of violence going on, but it's mainly retaliation," Gocaj said during a Wednesday interview at the Westland police station, where he works as an officer. Violence comes from both sides of the conflict.

A personal victory has come about for Gocaj, who was able to locate his mother's family. Gocaj's parents and siblings live in Westland, but the extended family remained in Kosovo. Skender Gocaj, who speaks Albanian, grew up in Kosovo, leaving at age 7 for the U.S.

Some family members died in the conflict, but most are well. Gocaj, a 1990 John Glenn High School graduate, has a cousin living with him in Pristina who attends law school. Two other cousins are taking English courses. In the U.S., a brother who had worked in Kosovo with the U.S. Department of Defense is home for good.

Gocaj's language skills have come in handy in his law enforcement work. He started on patrol, then moved into his current assignment, which he describes as "somewhat political."

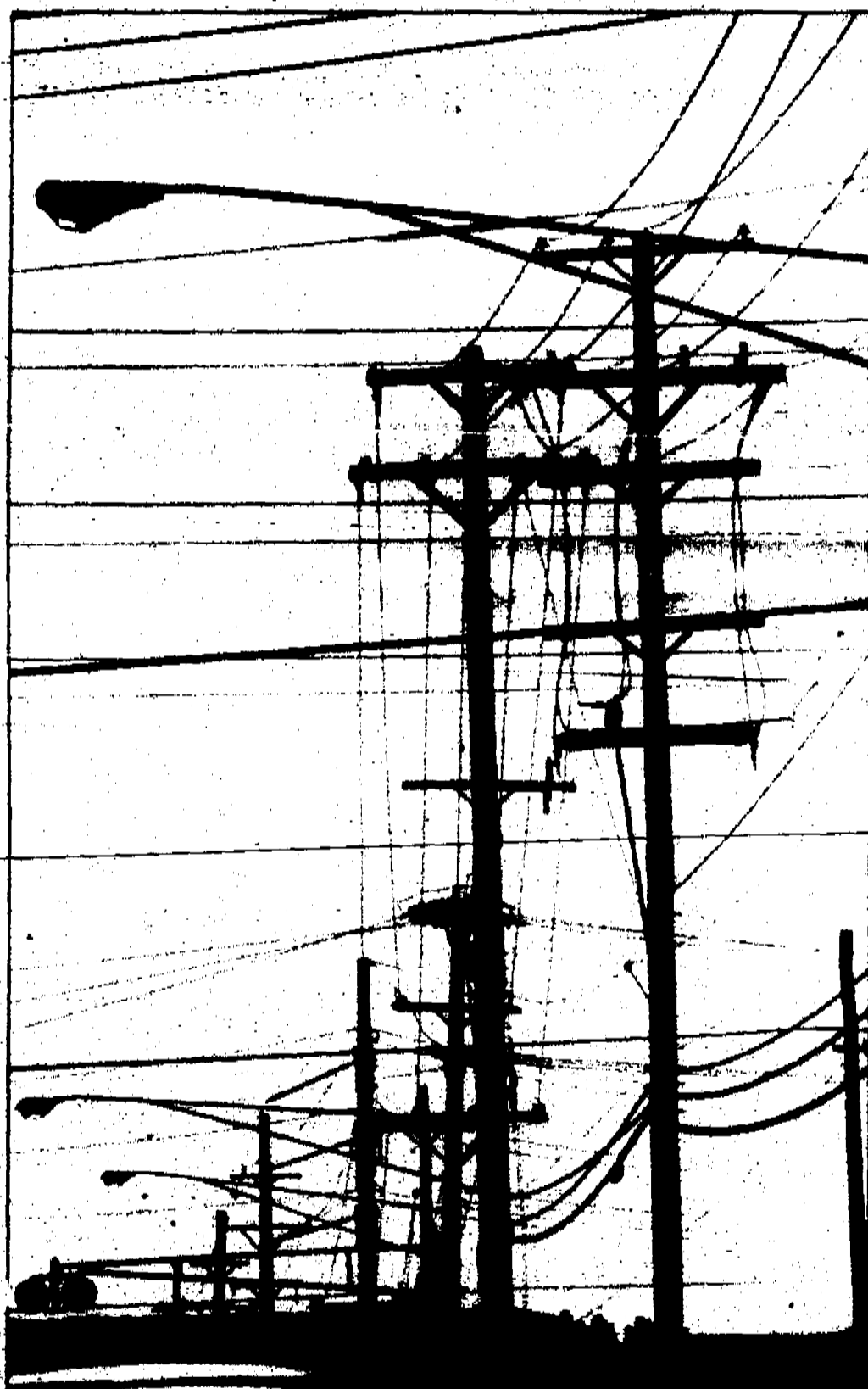
He hasn't witnessed much violence, but has seen its effects. Pristina, where he lives, is relatively modern, but the elevator of his building doesn't work. There are means to cook and wash clothes - when water and power are on.

Gocaj said he got lucky, getting time off for Thanksgiving. He'll return this week for another nine months of work. His family and friends were pleased to

Please see KOSOVO, A4



Editor's note: It's called the Year 2000, the Y2K, the end of the millennium (which it isn't). Much has been written about what could happen about a month from now. However in advance of New Year's Day, the Observer decided to get some local viewpoints on what's planned and happening in our towns, and what you should do to prepare.



Power play: Keeping the electricity on, and other utilities operating, will ease any Y2K impact, local officials say.



Meals by the box: Ready-to-eat food is a big seller for Brian Wais, manager of Metropolitan Army and Navy store.

Cash registers jingling for Y2K

A sign on the window of a store that says "Don't be scared. Be Prepared. We carry Y2K supplies," is getting a lot of attention.

Brian Wais, manager of Metropolitan Army and Navy in Westland, an outdoor outfitter and uniform shop, said he decided to post the warning after reading stories about potential Y2K problems earlier in the year.

He reports a 25 to 30 percent increase in business from customers preparing for potential chaos from computers getting confused about whether "00" means the year 2000 or 1900.

Wais says: Don't worry
■ What about that loose computer?

Sales in camping items, water purification tablets, sleeping bags, thermal-underwear, blankets, freeze-dried foods and extended life candles are adding a boost to an otherwise slow time of year.

"What I've found to be the biggest sellers are the meals ready to eat," Wais said. "The scary thing is that people are buying a lot of ammo cans (metal boxes to store ammunition). For what I have no idea. You

Please see JINGLING, A8

Cheap ways to survive it

BY BARRY JENSEN
STAFF WRITER
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Want to do something about a possible Y2K problem without spending a lot of money? Here are some steps you can take while spending very little money.

Store water in glass or plastic bottles. Or buy water from the store. To store tap water indefinitely, put a drop of 5-percent hypochlorite bleach into a gallon of clean water

and then pour the water mixture into a clean gallon bottle. Goal: half a gallon of water per person per day. Don't throw away the filled bottles - they are very cheap insurance.

Don't forget about the 40 gallons of potable water in your water heater. You might want to drain it now so that there will be no gunk in the water, should you need to use it for drinking, said Scott Wilson of Livonia Trophy, who is interested in

Please see CHEAP, A8

In Westland, it's the shopping season

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
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Norma Schefski didn't wait for the post-Thanksgiving Day rush to start her Christmas shopping.

"I'm just about done," she said Friday outside Westland Shopping Center.

But that didn't deter this Westland mother from joining the holiday rush with daughters Rachel and Jessie, both 11, and Nikki, 15.

"We just came here to officially kick off the season," Schefski said. "We don't know what we're here for. We're wandering aimlessly."

Nikki didn't seem as prepared as her mother.

"I haven't even started my shopping yet," she said. "I probably won't start for another couple of weeks."

But she relished the holiday rush.

"I like it," she said. "It's the best part."

Near another mall entrance, 36-year-old Vicki Pipok of Redford said her shopping had just begun for children Brad, 11, and Julie, 13.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Dedicated: Chris Barber (left) takes a rest from shopping, leaning on Julie Bardelli as Mary Bilek looks on. The three women were shopping at Westland Center with seven other women, all related. It's a 15-year, day-after-Thanksgiving tradition with the group. Last year, they decided to wear matching sweat shirts and reindeer antlers to help find each other in the stores.

Please see SHOPPING, A8

Charges follow melee

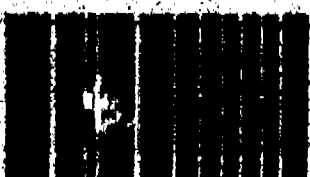
BY DARRELL CLEM
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A Westland couple face a court hearing on attempted murder and home invasion charges after their upstairs neighbor was nearly strangled to death with an electrical cord. Michael Wayne Steeple, 38, and girlfriend Michelle Daneen Davis, 30, are accused in the Nov. 22 attempted killing of a 27-year-old woman at Scotsdale Apartments, 8131 N. Newburgh.

Police said the victim was attacked after she was accused of cashing Steeple's welfare check. She received medical treatment and was released.

Please see CHARGES, A4

The first place to visit when you're looking for a new place to live? The Real Estate ads in today's HomeTown Classified!



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FE NPA 803



Duo: Carrie Bilek (left) and Diane Bilek shop for clothing for Diane's granddaughter. The two women were shopping at Westland Center with eight other women, all related. It's a day-after-Thanksgiving tradition among the women in this family where the younger girls are allowed to join when they turn 13.

Shopping from page A1

"It's my first day," she said. "I'm early this year. I love Christmas shopping. It's really not that bad here today considering it's the first day after Thanksgiving."

Pipok and her husband arrived at Westland Center at 8 a.m.

"I like this mall," she said. "I come here a lot."

Despite drizzling rain, shoppers turned out in droves Friday to shop, shop and shop some more.

Long lines of cars formed to wait for parking spaces at Westland's new and bigger Best Buy, on the northwest corner of Wayne and Central City Parkway.

Parents flocked into Toys R Us near the northeast corner of Wayne and Warren, scrambling to find the perfect Christmas toy.

Shoppers apparently worked up an appetite, too. At 9:30 a.m., cars wrapped around McDon-

■ If Friday's shopping frenzy holds up, Westland seems certain to have a busy holiday season, which is welcome news to people like Lori Brist, executive director of the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

ald's at Wayne and Warren.

If Friday's shopping frenzy holds up, Westland seems certain to have a busy holiday season, which is welcome news to people like Lori Brist, executive director of the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

Boosting Westland as the place to shop is part of her job.

"We try to keep the business within the city," she said, partly by letting people know about new stores and established businesses.

Local businesses need the attention, she said, "especially the small business owners. They

need it the most."

Westland Center was already crowded when Brist went to do some of her Christmas shopping on Nov. 20.

"It was packed," she said. "There's just so much. We're very fortunate that we do have a town that can offer everything we need."

Kellie Heppner, Westland Center marketing coordinator, said the shopping season looks encouraging.

"So far it looks good," she said Monday. "I know that our sales are up."

Santa's arrival at the mall on Nov. 20 helped to boost traffic and sales — as does the presence of new stores, Heppner said.

Westland Center reaches out to shoppers in a 20-mile range with direct mail and other efforts designed to attract customers.

Advertising and "getting your name out early" helps the mall remain competitive, Heppner said.

The center also has done radio and print advertising, and the push is on for mall gift certificates, too.

But people like Norma Schefski may not need those. She knew what her three daughters wanted, and she bought early.

"They were really easy to buy for," she said. "They didn't want anything that wasn't easy to get."

Staff writer Julie Brown contributed to this story.

Crash victim gets help from others

BY LEANNE ROGERS
 STAFF WRITER
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Friends and neighbors have been coming to the aid of a Garden City man seriously injured after his motorcycle was struck by a car.

Under treatment at the University of Michigan Medical Center since the Nov. 7 accident at a Westland intersection, John Suveg, 38, had his right leg amputated four inches below the knee. A steel plate has been installed in his thigh.

Although his leg is healing, Suveg is now undergoing kidney dialysis — part of complications from the accident.

A divorced father of two, Suveg works as a die-setter. Although insurance is paying his medical bills, next-door neighbor Mary Landers organized an

effort to help out the family, since disability payments haven't started.

"The insurance doesn't pay the everyday bills. I was concerned about it — I didn't want them to get in too far over their heads," said Landers. "They needed something to hold them over during the holidays."

About \$500 was donated, along with items including a Thanksgiving basket provided by St. Raphael Church. Suveg's younger daughter, Kristina, is a student at St. Raphael School.

"There has been tremendous help from his friends at work and neighbors," said John Suveg Sr. "It's hard for me to cope with that many good-hearted people still being out there. Mary was nice enough to ask if she could do this. It's been a big help. She's a wonderful person."

An Irish Hills resident, Suveg Sr. has been staying with his granddaughters since his son was injured. In anticipation of her father coming home to recuperate, possibly in January, 16-year old Angela Suveg will be home schooled instead of attending Garden City High School. She also has taken a job at Meijer.

"Angela is a big help to me also — helping with calls and around the house," said Suveg Sr., a 67-year-old retiree.

The younger Suveg has been a longtime motorcycle enthusiast, his father said. But his son only had the 1999 Harley Davidson he was riding at the time of the accident since February.

The driver of the car that hit Suveg at Newburgh and Avondale was ticketed for failing to yield the right of way.

"He always wanted the Harley. He even had it in his bedroom before he built the garage," said Suveg Sr. "The accident was just one of those things. A second here or there, it could have been a lot worse. I thank God he's still here."

It's hard to express thanks for the support his family has received, Suveg Sr. said.

"No words can really express our thanks. It's deeply appreciated by all of us," he said. "I thank everybody from the bottom of my heart. The words come from my heart."

Donations can be sent to Landers, 33211 Florence, Garden City MI 48135. For information, Landers can be reached at 427-8678.

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
 GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT**
 8000 MIDDLEBELT
 GARDEN CITY, MI 48135

The following vehicles have been donated and will be sold at public auction on **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1999** at 9:00 a.m. The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Center, 4875 E. Rd., Westland.

Vehicle Make **Year** **Color** **VIN**

1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114740
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114741
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114742
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114743
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114744
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114745
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114746
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114747
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114748
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114749
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114750
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114751
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114752
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114753
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114754
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114755
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114756
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114757
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114758
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114759
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114760
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114761
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114762
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114763
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114764
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114765
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114766
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114767
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114768
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114769
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114770
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114771
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114772
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114773
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114774
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114775
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114776
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114777
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114778
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1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114780
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114781
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114782
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114783
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114784
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114785
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1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114788
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114789
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114790
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114791
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114792
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114793
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114794
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114795
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114796
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114797
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114798
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114799
1998 BUICK	1998	Black	1F379077114800

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Good food: Timothy Elliot, 2, enjoys some Thanksgiving pizza. First-graders at Hicks Elementary put on a program and then feasted.

Pilgrims: First-graders at Hicks Elementary tell family members and teachers what they are thankful for. A Thanksgiving feast followed, with all the fixings. The principal at the school, Sharon Thomas-Brown, said the day was a success.

STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Thanksgiving at Hicks includes gratitude

Kids had to sing for their supper Wednesday afternoon at Hicks Elementary, but no one minded. The occasion was the school's "Let's Give Thanks" program, which included first-graders, their parents and other family members. About 60 students participated. It all began in social studies with talk of how the Thanksgiving celebration started, said Sharon Thomas-Brown, Hicks principal. At first, students were going to bring in their favorite dish

The program expanded beyond that. "They actually told the story of how Thanksgiving started," Thomas-Brown said Wednesday after the celebration. "It turned out really nicely," she said. Some 35-40 family members participated in the program, which featured a turkey dinner with all the fixings. Children took turns telling the history; some said what they were thankful for, and Thanksgiving songs were performed. This was the first time for "Let's Give

Thanks." "A lot of parents were saying how nice it was," Parents helped to serve and clean up, the principal said. Some aunts, uncles, grandparents and others attended, in addition to parents. Thomas-Brown said the Hicks families wouldn't have to skip Thanksgiving dinner Thursday. "They get a chance to have Thanksgiving twice." Teachers working on "Let's Give Thanks" were Molly Hester, Molly LaPorte and Julie Piasecki.

WAYNE-WESTLAND SCHOOLS

■ Some 35-40 family members participated in the program, which featured a turkey dinner with all the fixings. Children took turns telling the history; some said what they were thankful for, and Thanksgiving songs were performed.

Westland chamber will host tasteful gala Tuesday evening

BY JULE BROWN
STAFF WRITER
jbrown@ae.homecomm.net

You may not win a trip to Las Vegas, but organizers are counting on those attending "Taste of the Arts" to have fun. The Vegas trip for two is the grand prize in the fun-filled event, set for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 38315 Joy, between Wayne and Newburgh roads in Westland. The Westland Chamber of Commerce is presenting "Taste of the Arts," which will benefit the chamber and the Family Resource Center. "We were looking to do another fund-raiser in the fall," said Lori Brist, chamber executive director. "Mary Denning had suggested that we do a taste fest." The idea won approval, and organizers decided also to aid the Family Resource Center, "which is a very worthwhile organization in our town," Brist said. Some 20 food and beverage vendors will provide tastes of good treats. Music and artwork will be provided courtesy of Wayne-Westland and Livonia students. Ticket price is \$20 in advance, \$25 at the

door. "I think everybody will have a wonderful time," Brist said Tuesday, adding that ticket sales were going well. Sponsors include the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, International Minute Press, Maui Travel, North Bros. Ford, the Hellenic Cultural Center and the chamber. There will be some 45 pieces of artwork from student and professional artists for auction, along with some 90 pieces by students for sale, said Brist. The preceding cocktail hour for those who worked on the event will feature a string quartet performing under the direction of Linda Ignagni. It'll be OK to come straight from work Tuesday, Brist said, as good food will be plentiful. "They'll be sampling foods." There will be raffle prizes throughout the evening, along with some 165 "mystery" prizes. The drawing for the grand prize will take place about 8:30 p.m. For information, call the chamber, (734) 326-7222.

Benefit planned for ailing boy

What would you do if a doctor told you that your 14-year-old son had an inoperable brain tumor? Gloria had to face this question just 18 months ago when her oldest son was diagnosed. She turned to the doctors and said: "Do everything within your power to save his life." Since that day, Jerry Ball has been through months of radiation and chemotherapy. He made it to see his 15th birthday. What would you do if yet another doctor told you that after 18 months of treatment for this same brain tumor there was an experimental surgery that could save your son's life? Gloria asked for the details. Jerry is not just a 15-year-old son, he is also a big brother, a good friend to all and a boy with much life left to live. Jerry has a

■ Jerry has a chance with the experimental surgery the doctors have offered, but there is one big problem. The surgery costs \$100,000.

chance with the experimental surgery the doctors have offered, but there is one big problem. The surgery costs \$100,000. So where does the money come from? That is where the Brown Family Ladies and the Wayne Youth Hockey Association come into play. There have been benefit hockey games, silent auctions and raffles but there is still a long way to go in raising \$100,000.

On Sunday, Dec. 12, the Brown Family Ladies are sponsoring a bowlathon in hopes of raising a portion of the \$100,000. The event will be held at Westland Bowl. The entry fee is \$15 for bowling and any donations participants can collect. There will be a raffle for prizes, including Red Wings and Pistons tickets and many other items. There will also be an arts and crafts sale. Organizers are asking you to come out and bowl or just stop by and support them in this cause. Information is available by e-mailing jmpship27@aol.com, rduprie@provide.net, lbrown@visionmetals.com, calling Barb Duprie at (734) 721-3404 or logging into www.friendshelpingfriends.net.

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CLARIFICATION

Brooke Robertson, 2000 Wayne Westland Junior Miss, attends Westland John Glenn High School. She was incorrectly identified in the Observer as a Wayne Memorial High School student.

Kosovo from page A1

see him, as were his police colleagues.

His mother, who had called him a lot in the beginning, is feeling better about her son's work.

In the remainder of his time in Kosovo, Gocaj anticipates moving into an emergency services coordinator post, which involves coordinating police, fire, other emergency services and jailing, "trying to coordinate it all together."

His two roommates are colleagues from New York. Gocaj speaks with pride of the law enforcement campaign, mainly American and British, of "Cops for Kids." The efforts, which include selling fund-raising T-

shirts in the U.S., aid orphans in Kosovo.

Gocaj used to be more nervous in Kosovo, but adopted an attitude of "If I die, I die." He's found communicating on the job to be a challenge, and must speak English slowly.

"It's amazing how resilient the people are." Many still live in tents, and winter will present a challenge for them and for humanitarian agencies, Gocaj said.

"We're going to be the first-line of response," he said of his law enforcement colleagues. One day, he and others helped villagers put on a roof for a house.

When he came home, Gocaj noticed "that crisp Michigan air.

It's just a different feeling." He liked driving down Middlebelt, stopping at McDonald's for a Coke. He planned to double up on Thanksgiving desserts, to accommodate Christmas.

Even though Kosovo is heavily Muslim, Christmas is celebrated there, he said.

Gocaj gets some time off from his Kosovo job, and recently visited Sarajevo, noting the devastation there. In Kosovo, Pristina has businesses, but that's less true in more remote areas.

"I've experienced a lot." He's made good friends. Gocaj points with pride to identifying seven war criminals in background checks, and turning those files over to the war crimes tribunal

for investigation. "It can only get better," he said of the land of his childhood. "It's a matter of how we influence them." Poor leadership will harm the country, he said.

Gocaj has found that he's less materialistic now, and that he appreciates his U.S. freedoms. "Oh, absolutely. We take them for granted," he insists.

Gocaj's chief of police at home, Westland's Emery Price, was glad to see the officer home in Westland briefly, although he hadn't really talked to him as of Wednesday midday.

"It certainly is good for him," Price said. "It's a unique situation."



Helper: Skender Gocaj is shown with Police Chief Emery Price just before Gocaj's summer departure.

Charges from page A1

Westland 18th District Judge Gail McKnight on Tuesday arraigned Steeple and Davis on attempted murder and home invasion charges and ordered them to return to court next Thursday for a preliminary hearing to determine whether they should stand trial.

The pair could face life in prison if convicted as charged.

McKnight ordered Steeple jailed in lieu of a \$250,000 cash bond. The judge set a \$50,000/10 percent bond for Davis, meaning she'd have to pay \$5,000 for her release.

Police said the incident occurred at 2:20 a.m. Nov. 22 after the victim was attacked in her apartment and strangled with an electrical cord.

Neighbors reported hearing the victim and her 2-year-old child screaming, and officers found the woman bloodied and gasping for breath.

A police dog trailed a suspect from the victim's apartment to a downstairs residence, where police said Steeple was found hiding inside a mattress he had slit open.

Officers didn't believe he was

in the apartment until police dog Zeke chewed and clawed his way through a bedroom mattress and uncovered the suspect, police Lt. Marc Stobbe said.

Steeple is accused in the actual attack on the victim, but the girlfriend was also charged amid allegations she accompanied him to the apartment and then tried to hide him from investigators.

ACHIEVERS

Robert Bollman of Westland earned a bachelor's degree in management of health services from Spring Arbor College. A total of 189 students graduated during fall commencement at the Christian liberal arts college near Jackson.

Jason W. Bragsalla, the son of William A. and Dolores Bragsalla of Livonia, is one of more than 170,000 active duty Marines celebrating the Marine Corps' 224th birthday this month. Bragsalla is currently on a six-month deployment to Okinawa. He is a 1995 graduate of Lutheran Westland High School.

Walsh College students were named to the honor roll for spring/summer. Westland residents are Donna Allsteadt, Weiping Huang, Stacy Johnson, Thomas Lesnock, Marcell Marcolina (Dean's Honor Roll) and Jane Domzalski (President's Honor Roll). Students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.75 to 4.0 are placed on the President's Honor Roll. Students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 to 3.749 make the Dean's Honor Roll.

Nikolai Reimers, a John Glenn

High School student, has qualified as a finalist in the 43rd Annual Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition. He was described by his calculus teacher as "a self-motivated individual who enjoys the pursuit of mathematics and the solving of problems in technical areas."

Reimers is among the top 1,028 students from among 13,827 in Part I of the Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition. Part I was given at 387 high schools throughout Michigan Sept. 15. Finalists will compete in Part II Dec. 8.

The top 50 students will be presented with scholarships worth up to \$2,500 and invited to participate in the American Regions Mathematics League Competition.

Students have been named to the dean's list at Detroit College of Business. Michael Carrel and Donnie Joe Clark of Westland have been named to the list for full-time students for the summer quarter.

Students named to the part-time list for the summer quarter are Frank Lawrence Jastrabek, Leslie Jean Mato, Tracey Nickole Shaw, Madeleine Tindill and Carrie Michelle Kolliba of Westland.

Students explore their world

Two classes of fourth-graders from Adams Elementary School in Livonia attended an interactive presentation on geographic information systems (GIS) hosted by Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment Inc. (OHM) on GIS Day, Nov. 19, the first day of Geogra-

phy Awareness Week. GIS Day was recognized as an international global event with goal of educating one million students and adults worldwide about GIS and geography and how it makes a difference in their everyday lives.

GIS is a computer-based tool for mapping and analyzing objects and events. It combines the power of a data base with the visualization capabilities offered by maps.

Jim Miller, OHM's geographic and information services division manager, narrated a slide show presentation and was assisted by his staff in involving students from Adams Elementary in hands-on computer demonstrations. Miller's slide show began by displaying a map of the world. Gradually, the scale of the map was narrowed until each student was able to see where his home and school were located on a city map.

"The students are studying the regions of the United States right now, so the presentation fit perfectly with the fourth-grade curriculum," said Lori Delany, fourth-grade teacher at Adams. "But the best part was when they got to find their own houses on the map."

GIS Day was sponsored by the National Geographic Society, the American Association of Geographers, and the Environmental Systems Research Institute Inc.

OBITUARY

VIOLA E. HOY
Services for Viola E. Hoy, 79, of Westland were Nov. 23 from the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Officiating was the Rev. Leonard Partensky.

Mrs. Hoy was born Oct. 2, 1920, in Marysville and died Nov. 19 in Garden City. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include son John (Daphne) Hoy of Westland; daughters Christina (Vincent) Besich and Brenda (Fred) Durling, both of Westland; brother Earl Gaitan; sister Virginia DeBink; and six grandchildren. Preceding in death was her husband, Robert.

Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Association.

Bake sale will combat vandalism at library

Several months ago, vandals slashed couches and chairs at the Public Library of Westland with the resulting damage costing approximately \$3,000. This concerned one young patron who came up with a solution - holding a bake sale.

"My daughter, Autumn, was so upset by the thought that someone could do something like this to the library," said Elwonna Bowling, volunteer chairwoman for the bake sale. "She wanted to know what she could do to help so we decided to have a bake sale."

"We're hoping that this will raise awareness and that other people will come out to support the sale with their donations and their assistance at the sale," said Bowling.

"I wanted to help the library

because they help so many people," said 9-year-old Autumn. "I think it was bad that someone cut the furniture like that."

Joe Burchill, assistant to the library director, said officials were pleased to have Autumn and her mother come forward to help. "This bake sale shows real grassroots support of our library and its mission."

The Volunteer Bake Sale will take place from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, in Community Meeting Room AB at the library, on Central City Parkway between Warren and Ford. Volunteers are needed to help provide homemade baked goods and to assist at the sale.

Those interested can call and leave a message for Elwonna Bowling at (734) 595-6581.

Read Taste

CITY OF GARDEN CITY DECEMBER 14, 1999 - BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO all property owners of the City of Garden City that the Board of Review will meet in session on Tuesday, December 14, 1999 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to correct mutual mistakes of fact and clerical errors. PA74 of 1995 authorizes the December Board of Review to hear appeals for poverty exemptions, but not for poverty exemptions denied by the March or July Boards of Review. This applies to current year only.

ALLYSON BETTIS
City Clerk-Treasurer

Published November 28, December 2 and 9, 1999

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734-427-9020 | Bob McClellan
6211 N. Wayne Rd.
Westland
734-326-6604 |
| Teleese Nobles
1011 Merriman Rd.
Westland
734-728-3000 | Len Norway
8623 N. Wayne Rd., Suite 108
Westland
734-261-0520 | Mike Simons
2012 S. Wayne Rd.
Westland
734-722-1670 |

- Garden City -

- | | |
|---|--|
| Harold Cannell
27532 Ford Rd.
Garden City
734-425-4100 | Lisa Lindbloom
6215 Middlebelt Rd.
Garden City
734-261-3111 |
|---|--|



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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 28, 1999

Garden City's Best Kept Secret...

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BREAKFAST SPECIAL
Includes 2 XL eggs, your choice of sausage, bacon or ham, hash browns, toast and jelly only... **\$1.99**

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Bacon, Sausage, Hashbrowns & Cheese topped with Sausage Gravy & 2 Eggs

GREEK SKILLET
Cytos Meat, Onion, Tomato, Green Pepper, Hashbrowns, topped with Feta Cheese & 2 Eggs

CORNED BEEF SKILLET
Fresh Corned Beef, Onion, Green Pepper, Hashbrowns & Cheese, topped with 2 eggs

"Soooo Good!"

BREAKFAST SPECIAL
Includes 2 XL eggs, your choice of sausage, bacon or ham, hash browns, toast and jelly only... **\$1.99**

LUNCH SPECIAL
Any sandwich on our menu... **\$3.50**

Vie's Diner
37137 Marquette Road, Westland, MI 48185
734-595-0300

Read Taste

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DECEMBER 14, 1999 - BOARD OF REVIEW**

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ALLYSON BETTIS
City Clerk-Treasurer

Published November 28, December 2 and 9, 1999

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Teleese Nobles 1011 Merriman Rd. Westland 734-728-3000	Len Norway 8623 N. Wayne Rd., Suite 108 Westland 734-261-0520	Mike Simons 2012 S. Wayne Rd. Westland 734-722-1670

- Garden City -

Harold Cannell 27532 Ford Rd. Garden City 734-425-4100	Lisa Lindbloom 6215 Middlebelt Rd. Garden City 734-261-3111
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MADD, Michigan announces 1999 Life Saver awards

EAST LANSING, Mich. (PRNewswire) — Some road patrol officers just have an eye for detecting drunk drivers and make a point of stopping them.

That was obvious Nov. 22 as Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), Michigan announced the recipients of its annual awards presented to the state's top road patrol officers being honored for their efforts to combat drunk driving.

Each year MADD selects nine

road patrol officers for their outstanding work in stopping drunk driving, three officers from each area of law enforcement — sheriff, municipal and public safety, and state police.

While the award recipients show they're extremely effective in apprehending drunk drivers, they also have shown real concern about preventing those offenses in the first place, often being involved in community education and prevention pro-

grams and other related activities.

All of these qualities came together to set apart this year's award recipients. Both on the road and in their communities these law enforcement officers have proven their commitment to ending drunk driving.

The 1999 MADD, Michigan Life Saver Award recipients are: Trooper Donald DeSnyder, MSP, Detroit Post; Deputy Brian Fer-

ris, Wayne County Sheriff's Dept.; Officer Scott Hayes, Southgate Police Dept.; Trooper Jody Huggins, MSP, Richmond Post; Trooper Jory Huggins, MSP, Metro North Post, Oak Park; Deputy Kyle Knight, Clinton County Sheriff's Dept.; Deputy Lewis Tyler, Oakland County Sheriff's Dept.; Officer Jim Watson, Allegan City Police Dept.; Officer Paul Whelan, Keego Harbor Police.

"MADD believes these award recipients have saved lives by

their diligence. They give pause to potential drunk drivers who may reconsider getting behind the wheel if they face the deterring reality of being detected, apprehended, and arrested by one of these perseverant officers," said Kenneth La Salle, Ph.D., executive director, MADD, Michigan.

The two-hundred member audience at the awards ceremony also heard from one of the state's leading traffic safety

experts who talked about the way to a long-lasting reduction in drunk driving.

In 1998 in Michigan 625 people died in alcohol-involved traffic crashes (38 percent of the total 1,367 traffic fatalities), with another 12,758 injured in alcohol-involved collisions.

MADD's mission is to stop drunk driving, support victims of this violent crime, and prevent underage drinking

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THE YEAR 2000

Utilities: It's A-OK for Y2K

By Kim Armstrong

Staff Writer
kimarm@observer.com

Just another day. That's what utility companies are expecting on Jan. 1, 2000.

The most critical service is electricity. Detroit Edison has spent \$90 million to ensure electricity is supplied to its 2 million customers and expects 3,000 employees to be available from Dec. 27 to Jan. 7.

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey believes an Edison outage would only occur if something "unexpected were to fail." Kirksey chairs the Conference of Western Wayne, a legislative consortium of 18 communities. That group has heard from several utility companies this year, including Edison, on Y2K compliance.

"They have grids, technicalities, switching equipment, safeguards and everything they do on computers," Kirksey said. "I know it's redundant, but they've done all they can do."

Edison officials said they have inventoried, assessed, repaired and tested about 140,000 critical software programs and devices that generate and distribute electricity. On June 30, Edison notified the North American Electric Reliability Council and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that it has all systems "critical" to generating and distributing power ready for the year 2000 rollover.

New Year's Day will be "like any other day" that Edison provides customers with electric service, said Paul Childs, Edison's Y2K program manager. One difference: All substations will be manned.

"We expect there will be a greater likelihood of a service interruption resulting from bad weather or a vehicle hitting a utility pole and bringing a power line down than something related to Y2K," Childs said.

Edison also rehearsed the Dec. 31-Jan. 1 rollover in early September with 70 employees simulating the operation of its electrical system under Y2K-imposed scenarios.

The drill was completed on Sept. 9 to check for "9/9/99" glitches and involved deploying Edison employees and using backup voice communication systems. Personnel tended to substations and other locations to read and monitor equipment.

More than 30 million lines of computer code have been involved in the testing, Edison officials said.

"We feel we are ready for Y2K," said Scott Simons, Edison spokesman. "We are finishing up contingency plans for the rest of the year and basically, we're ready."

Kirksey believes there won't be any disruptions when the year 2000 strikes.

"I'm not overly concerned with electrical and gas energy, but I am still somewhat with Detroit Water and Sewerage (Department)," said Kirksey, adding that his concerns stemmed mainly from receiving "mixed signals" from the DWSD on generators.

Water

Much of the water delivery in western Wayne County depends on electricity delivered to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

The DWSD system pumps about 200 million gallons during a typical day in January. The DWSD purchased an additional 100 megawatts of electricity, which cost \$55 million.

The systems are older and do not use a lot of computer technology to run the plant or the distribution system. It still can run through manual switches, if necessary.

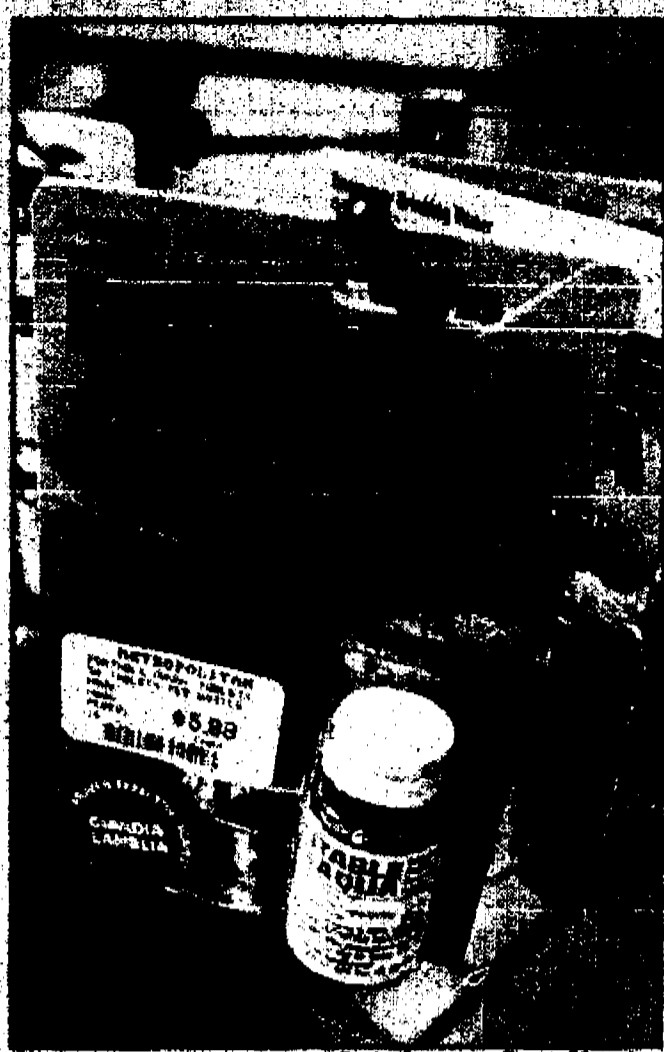
The DWSD is also buying backup generators for their critical pumping stations for both water and sewer systems, to ensure water delivery, water treatment and the removal of wastes.

Natural gas

Michigan Consolidated and Diverse Energy provides all the natural gas in Wayne County.

MichCon has tested all of its substations, said Cheryl Conway, MichCon spokeswoman. "We're confident that Y2K will be a non-event for our customers," Conway said.

MichCon has natural gas



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MERRILL

For sale: Tablets to make sure your water is drinkable, shown above, are among the products ready to help make people feel sure they're ready for Y2K.

Check computer service shops, Web sites to rescue your PC

By Barry Jensen

Staff Writer
bjensen@observer.com

Before you start worrying about your computer dying on Jan. 1, what kind of personal computer do you have? If you have an Apple product, such as a Macintosh, you don't need to worry too much about your computer - the Y2K problem is pretty much a disease of Windows/Intel-based computers.

But since almost all home computers are Windows/Intel-based computers, a lot of people should be concerned. The newest models of Windows-based computers have already been prepared for Y2K. But how about those of us who have older models?

The Web, a child that grew with the explosion of the home computer, may be able to come to your rescue. Or at least it will tell you whether you will have a working computer come New Year's morning.

One Web site for checking Y2K compliance is the Web site run by Ziff-Davis, the company that publishes PC Magazine. Not only does the Web site have a test available for you to download, it has a list of many other sites that provide test programs or fixes or both. Some of these other Web sites will want to sell you software. It's your deci-

sion whether you want to buy.

The address of the Ziff-Davis site is www.zdnet.com/vlabs/y2k/testy2k.html

The address of the list of other Internet test sites is www.zdnet.com/pcmag/special/y2k/testing.html

Another way to check out your computer is to call your favorite computer-repair place. If they offer the service, they will be happy to check out your computer - and perhaps "repair" it so that the Y2K bug won't bite your computer.

If your computer flunks the "I-can-handle-Y2K" test, you will need to spend money. If your computer is old enough, you might be better to buy a newer and faster and more powerful computer that was built to be Y2K compliant.

If your personal computer is of more recent vintage, you may be able to buy software or hardware to make your personal computer Y2K compliant.

Now, if every Web site on the Internet is Y2K compliant, you'll be able to surf the Net with confidence. More likely, even if your computer is Y2K compliant (or cares nothing about Y2K), some other Web sites won't be there until their Webmasters have their problems fixed.

Canton Y2K Q & A

Q. What specific plans have been made for Dec. 31/Jan. 1, or the potential Y2K situation in your town?

A. "We've really put a lot of work and effort into this Y2K issue," said Mike Ager, Resource Development manager for Canton Township. The township has disseminated info about preparing for Y2K issues in a special edition of its Focus newsletter, and is dedicating all its cable shows in December to Y2K. Township hall will be staffed for the midnight hour shift, and police and fire departments will be working double shifts.

Q. How much has the city spent on its preparations?

A. Excluding computer replacement, which is considered a routine expense, about \$40-\$50,000, said Tony Minghine, finance director. That figure includes costs for producing and mailing the special edition newsletter for residents, miscellaneous equipment and supplies and costs for additional staffing for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

Q. Are there shelters ready to set up in the city?

A. Yes, said Don Adams, Canton's emergency management coordinator. If needed, the township will contact the American Red Cross, which has a pre-arranged agreement to use public buildings such as schools for emergency shelter and to provide cots and food. The Summit on the Park community center could also be used for emergency shelter.

Q. Give us a quote on how prepared the city is.

A. "It looks good," Adams said. But, "I'm not naive enough to think we won't have some small disruptions. It's not Armageddon."

Farmington Y2K Q & A

Q. What specific plans have been made for Dec. 31/Jan. 1, or the potential Y2K situation in your town?

A. "All the department heads are going to be working," said Gary Goss, public safety director for Farmington. The city hall will be set up as an emergency command center, or a base of operations if anything goes haywire. An amateur or ham radio operator will be on hand as well.

Q. How much has the city spent on its preparations?

A. This question is impossible to answer accurately, according to Bill Richards, assistant city manager. The city has upgraded all software and when necessary, hardware to make systems Y2K compliant. Separating the Y2K-specific expenses from the routine computer upgrading expenses wasn't possible to do.

Q. Are there shelters ready to set up in the city?

A. "Each city has an emergency operations plan in the event of a disaster," Goss said. If needed, the city of Farmington would work with Oakland County in setting up emergency shelters, but larger cities would work on their own in setting up emergency shelters.

Q. Give us a quote on how prepared the city is.

A. "Basically we have gone through all our critical systems throughout the city and have validated that they are Y2K ready," Goss said. "The bottom line is it's a continuous process."

Farmington Hills Y2K Q & A

Q. What specific plans have been made for Dec. 31/Jan. 1, or the potential Y2K situation in your town?

A. "We will have key staff members on site and available," said Michael Lasley, central services director for Farmington Hills. A call-in plan will be implemented if necessary, bringing in additional staff, Lasley added. The 911 system has been fully upgraded, and the telephone system has been replaced with Y2K compliant equipment. "We've retired a number of systems," he said.

Q. How much has the city spent on its preparations?

A. About \$100,000, said Lasley. That includes software upgrades and \$4,000 to replace the phone system.

Q. Are there shelters ready to set up in the city?

A. School buildings would be used if needed. The American Red Cross would be responsible for setting up emergency provisions in shelters if needed, Lasley said.

Q. Give us a quote on how prepared the city is.

A. "We've been working on this project close to two years now," Lasley said. "We feel very confident and comfortable with where we stand. I would say we're very ready."

Garden City Y2K Q & A

Q. What specific plans have been made for Dec. 31/Jan. 1, or the potential Y2K situation in your town?

A. "All city employees will be working," said David Harvey, Garden City police chief, adding that full staff will be in force Dec. 30 to Jan. 3, 2000. "We will be working regardless of the holiday." He said he predicted all areas under the city's control will run smoothly, but an increased number of party goers and severe weather might cause some problems. The police department will be working 12-hour shifts.

Q. How much has the city spent on its preparations?

A. City Clerk Allyson Bettis said the city, as of early November, planned to buy several emergency generators at about \$900 each, and replace roughly 10 personal computers for Y2K compliance. Miscellaneous expenses such as flashlights and other emergency provisions are also planned.

Q. Are there shelters ready to set up in the city?

A. Yes. Exact shelter sites have not yet been finalized, but likely spots could be Maplewood Community Center and possibly the junior high and high school. Arrangements for shelters would be made through the American Red Cross if necessary.

Q. Give us a quote on how prepared the city is.

A. "I think we're one of the better prepared cities anywhere," Harvey said. "All traffic lights have been tested. Detroit Edison, MichCon, the Wayne County Road Commission and Detroit Water and Sewer have all advised us that they are Y2K compliant."

Livonia Y2K Q & A

Q. What specific plans have been made for Dec. 31/Jan. 1, or the potential Y2K situation in your town?

A. Since January, Livonia has held monthly meetings of department heads, elected officials, police and fire officials, utilities, hospital representatives, etc. They've held two exercises. They have a police department generator running on natural gas and 11 portable generators that will run "priority traffic signals" to keep police on the beat; they have more than 100 school buses arranged for transportation needs; police will use new portable radios and use various amateur/CB radio groups or clubs; and there's a police training room in the basement of police station set to be the command center. "We're going to man the fire stations. That's going to be our communications link for certain neighborhoods," said Aiden Sawyer, emergency and information coordinator.

Q. How much has the city spent on its preparations?

A. \$345,000, said Dan Putman, information systems manager for the city of Livonia. That figure includes \$170,000 for public safety communications upgrades and about \$175,000 for computer/software upgrades.

Q. Are there shelters ready to set up in the city?

A. Livonia: The city is set to operate two shelters (Stevenson and Franklin high schools), courtesy of Livonia Public Schools.

Q. Give us a quote on how prepared the city is.

A. Livonia: "It feels like there has been so much done by so many people and such huge sums of money spent, I just can't feel that there will be any major interruptions to our critical systems," Sawyer said.

Plymouth Y2K Q & A

Q. What specific plans have been made for Dec. 31/Jan. 1, or the potential Y2K situation in your town?

A. The city has evaluated its information systems and made necessary replacements or upgrades, according to Tom Alexandris, information systems manager for the city of Plymouth. Hard copies have been made of all vital files just in case. "We're going to have a couple of people on staff, but not necessarily in city hall," Alexandris said of New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Extra police officers will be on patrol to handle usual New Year's problems, such as drunken driving. Other staff members will be on call if needed.

Q. How much has the city spent on its preparations?

A. An estimated \$50,000, which includes \$23,000 for new personal computers, \$15,000 for a new phone system and other miscellaneous expenses, Alexandris said.

Q. Are there shelters ready to set up in the city?

A. Yes. Plymouth would work with Wayne County Emergency Management Division and with the Plymouth Community Fire Department in setting up emergency shelters within the community. "There would be buildings available," he said. "Which ones will be determined on a case-by-case basis."

Q. Give us a quote on how prepared the city is.

A. "I would say that regarding the systems and equipment that the city has direct control over, the city has done a good job in identifying, analyzing and making sure it is Y2K ready," he said. "For the systems that the city does not have direct control over, we've got assurances from those companies that we'll have service."

Plymouth Twp. Y2K Q & A

Q. What specific plans have been made for Dec. 31/Jan. 1, or the potential Y2K situation in your town?

A. "Our intent is to have our emergency operations center up and running from 9 p.m. Dec. 31 to 3 a.m. Jan. 1, 2000," said Chuck VanVleck, Plymouth Township's emergency management coordinator. Key people are expected to be on hand at the center, located in the police station. A "rumor control" committee will also be working the phones. Residents with non-emergency questions about Y2K are being urged to call that number at (734) 453-3800, not 911, VanVleck said.

Q. How much has the city spent on its preparations?

A. Not available.

Q. Are there shelters ready to set up in the city?

A. Yes, if necessary, the township would use Salvation Army temporary shelters, VanVleck said.

Q. Give us a quote on how prepared the city is.

A. "The township is prepared to help our citizens if needed," VanVleck said. "Our attitude is it's just another emergency in the winter."

Redford Y2K Q & A

Q. What specific plans have been made for Dec. 31/Jan. 1, or the potential Y2K situation in your town?

A. Township Supervisor Kevin Kelley has met with all his department heads, said Leo Snaga, director of Redford Township's Department of Public Services. In addition to regular meetings, the township has also purchased emergency supplies, such as generators and stop signs. Township hall will be staffed at midnight Jan. 1 to ensure any problems are handled quickly. "All the key personnel will be on hand," Snaga said.

Q. How much has the city spent on its preparations?

A. Roughly \$100,000, according to Finance Director John Cubbe. That includes \$24,000 for software upgrades, \$65,000 for hardware, \$2,500 for new fingerprinting equipment and \$3,000 for Dictaphone equipment.

Q. Are there shelters ready to set up in the city?

A. "Any municipal building could be used," Snaga said. In addition, school gymnasiums also could be used.

Q. Give us a quote on how prepared the city is.

A. "For knowing the uncertainty and not knowing what's going to happen, the township has done a good job" preparing, Snaga said. "The nice thing about living in the United States is we'll have a six-hour lead time," he said, referring to the time zone difference between the U.S. and New Zealand, the first country to experience Y2K.

Westland Y2K Q & A

Q. What specific plans have been made for Dec. 31/Jan. 1, or the potential Y2K situation in your town?

A. "All directors and extra staff will be on hand at city hall," said Charles Naibandian, Westland information management director. In addition, outdated personal computers and some police communications equipment have been replaced. "The computers have all been checked out" for Y2K compliance, he said.

Q. How much has the city spent on its preparations?

A. "We don't really have one account that we could say is a Y2K account," said Naibandian, who was unable to provide a figure for the Observer. Many of the expenses, such as computer replacement, were routine and not directly Y2K related.

Q. Are there shelters ready to set up in the city?

A. Bailey Recreation Center, the Friendship Center and other city buildings could be used. "There's a room for us to accommodate 85,000 people," he said.

Q. Give us a quote on how prepared the city is.

A. "I think we're prepared," he said. "I think in terms of city functions there shouldn't be any problems. The message really is for people to prepare as much as they can. Something can happen at any time during the year."

County OKs contracts with 6 care management agencies

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabrascyk@ee.homedomain.net

Wayne County will spend \$288 million over the next three years to six agencies to assist juveniles under court supervision along with their families.

Wayne County commissioners approved six contracts Tuesday — five contracts went to care management organizations and one to a juvenile assessment center.

Growth Works of Plymouth received approval of its \$37.5 million contract, and Central Care Management Organization of Westland received a \$63.2 million contract.

Other agencies were Black Family Development of Detroit, \$64.4 million; Starr-Vista, Detroit, \$63 million; Bridgeway Services, Detroit, \$51.8 million and the JAC Partnership, Detroit, \$7.9 million.

The CMOs are part of the county's new approach to providing juvenile services through community-based agencies known as CMOs. In western Wayne County, Growth Works will oversee programs by providers for community-based and residential services, substance abuse treatment, mental health services, case management, and educational and employment options.

Some commissioners wanted to earmark money in the CMO contracts for drug prevention

programs for youths who were considered at risk but not in trouble with the law.

Commissioners added provisions that require quarterly reports from the agencies to the Health and Community Services Committee and Youth-At-Risk Task Force and permit financial audits. The agencies must comply with a "rigorous evaluation schedule."

Commissioners also added a provision that each CMO must "cooperate with and support a rigorous and independent evaluation of program outcomes" and require compliance by the juvenile assessment center (JAC Partnership).

Commissioners approved the contract even though they did not obtain a comprehensive plan they requested from the Department of Community Justice. Commissioners added a provision calling for a plan no later than Feb. 1, 2000 on delinquency intervention "to prevent recidivism on the one hand and to avoid widening the intake net on the other hand."

Commission Chair Ricardo Solomon reviewed the contract changes with commissioners and reminded them the contract was for 2.9 years with a renewal option. "It doesn't call for a rebid, it calls for renewal," Solomon said. A financial penalty against the CMO — used to

presumably encourage the rehabilitation of the juvenile — should not be included in the contract, Solomon said, as he read from a report from the county commission staff.

That report suggested the contracts should remove references to "bonus" and "penalty" and use "incentive payments" instead. The report pointed out the lack of an audit provision in the contract, which commissioners corrected. The report also noted that no court agreement had been proposed between Wayne County Third Judicial Circuit Court and the Department of Community Justice.

Last week commissioners discussed that relationship and requested an agreement from court administrators and the Department of Community Justice. A draft agreement was distributed at Tuesday's meeting that called for the following:

■ The County will agree to contract with juvenile assessment center contractors to provide assessments in mental health, alcohol and drug abuse, employability, educational competency, family functioning and other areas to develop "the most effective plan of care" for juvenile delinquents referred to the Department of Community Justice by the Third Judicial Circuit Court.

■ The county agrees to monitor and evaluate programs, while the court will administer juvenile probation, intensive probation, status offender programs and the Clinic for Child Study.

■ The Court and county agree to coordinate delinquency case-work services to avoid duplication to the same family.

■ Both will coordinate the development of a juvenile justice case management information system for use by the court and county.

The agreement also called for "de-escalation" of delinquent

youths from out-of-home residential placement and refer them to the county. The court agreed to assign all commitment review hearings or "change of placement" hearings to one referee's docket.

County officials told commissioners they should not revise a third-party reimbursement formula to earmark 20 percent of funds for prevention programs because Wayne County would have to split that money with the state, according to Tom Naughton, Wayne County's chief financial officer. Other county

officials said Medicaid reimbursements, presumably made for CMOs, must be separated from the county's child care fund.

Eventually commissioners approved the six contracts, 14-1, with Commissioner Bernard Parker, D-Detroit, opposing them because he wanted more prevention dollars directed by commissioners into these contracts.

Parker introduced a resolution calling for \$1.5 million for prevention programs, which was referred to the commission's Committee on Ways and Means.

Madonna director wins 3 TV awards

Dr. Jonathan Swift, director of the Center for International Studies at Madonna University in Livonia, has won awards for the three television shows he hosts and produces.

Swift received the Philo Farnsworth Award from the Alliance for Community Media for "Global Connections," "Time Out for Opera" and "Dining Out." The Farnsworth Award recognizes excellence in community programming. All three shows are produced by Swift and Bloomfield Community Television.

"Global Connections" is a weekly, half-hour series which

focuses on international connections between people in Michigan and the rest of the world. Swift has interviewed guests from the arts, religion, education, science and politics such as TV personality Casey Kasem, author Elmore Leonard, actor Jon Voight and Cardinal Adam Maida.

Interviews with Midwest opera stars, by Swift and co-host Karen DiChiera, are featured in "Time Out for Opera."

"Global Connections" and "Time Out for Opera" are aired on Bloomfield Channel 11 and Flint-public-television station

WFUM Channel 28.

Segments are shot on location at local restaurants in "Dining Out," the half-hour show which informs viewers about dining opportunities throughout the metropolitan Detroit area.

As director of Madonna University's Center for International Studies, Swift oversees affiliations with programs in England, Japan, Poland, Taiwan and the Peoples Republic of China. He also supervises an International Studies Certificate, which provides Madonna students the opportunity to add a global perspective to their field of study.

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in the 90s
by Herbert M. Gardner, D.D.S.

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Sports & Recreation

The Observer

ISSUE:
Bowling news, B5
College hoops, B6

P/C L/W Page 1, Section 1

Sunday, November 28, 1999

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Ladywood ices Lakers

Katie O'Dea continued her scoring surge Tuesday with a hat trick, leading Livonia Ladywood to a 6-1 victory over West Bloomfield in a Women's Michigan Metro High School Hockey League game at Arctic Pond in Plymouth Township.

O'Dea, a senior, now has 14 goals on the year.

Sophomore Mickie Fallon and senior Andrea Schimmel each added goal and two assists. Junior Tiffany McFaddin also scored for the victorious Blazers, now 3-0 overall and 2-0 in league play.

WHAC honors Malewski

Brandy Malewski, the junior middle hitter for Madonna University's volleyball team from Redford Thurston, didn't just land a spot on the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference all-league team.

She was named player of the year. Malewski led Madonna — which tied Cornerstone University for first place in the regular season — in kills with 603, kill percentage at .496, solo blocks at 158 and total blocks at 575. She was third among the Lady Crusaders in digs with 566 and had 35 service aces.

Madonna finished 29-14 overall, 11-2 in the WHAC.

Stephanie Ubalde, a senior middle hitter, and Kelly Artymovich, a junior outside hitter, were also selected to the all-WHAC team.

Sarkesian leads Irish

Talk about big goals. Mia Sarkesian, a sophomore midfielder for Notre Dame's women's soccer team, scored her third goal of the season at the most opportune of times — with nine minutes left in regulation in a scoreless deadlock.

Playing Stanford in a third-round match in the NCAA Tournament, Sarkesian fielded a rebound just outside the left side of the penalty area, settled it and rifled a shot into the upper right corner for the game-winning goal.

The 1-0 victory put the fifth-ranked Fighting Irish (20-3 overall) into today's NCAA quarterfinal against Nebraska (22-1-1 overall).

Youth soccer champions

The Livonia Bobcats recently captured the boys under-9½ Michigan Division of the Great Lakes Youth Soccer League with an 8-0-2 record.

The Bobcats, coached by Chuck Cole and John Dzwonkowski, outscored their opponents 60-13.

Members of the Bobcats include: Kyle Caparella, Patrick Cole, Michael DeLuca, Andrew Dzwonkowski, Matt Greenman, Mark Johnson, Brian Klemczak, Chris Long, Sean Samaan, Max Schwartz, Austin Schwartzberger, Colin Soltis, Alan Stackpoole and Zach Tigani.

Ambassador honored

Michael Smith of the Compuware Ambassadors has been named North American Hockey League player of the week for the second-straight week.

Smith scored five goals in two wins over the Grand Rapids BearCats last weekend, including four (two on power plays) in a 7-4 victory at Compuware Arena last Saturday (Nov. 20). Smith has scored 11 goals in his last five games.

He leads the Ambassadors with 16 goals and seven assists, 23 points.

Collegiate swim note

Kalamazoo College's Steve Domin (Livonia Stevenson) won both the 50- and 100-meter freestyles, along with being a member of the victorious 200 freestyle relay team as the Hornets recently defeated previously unbeaten Calvia College in men's swimming.

PCIBA hoop signup

Registration for the Plymouth Canton Junior Basketball Association will be from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 4 at East Middle School.

The cost for boys and girls in grades 6-12 is \$100 per person.

To submit items to the Observer Sports Scene, write to: 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mi. 48150; or send via fax to (734) 591-7279.

Cagers ready for tip-off

2 transfers could bolster Glenn cause



Sharpshooter: 6-foot-6 Andrew McLaughlin and his Lutheran High Westland teammates hope rise above the competition this season.

BOYS SEASON PREVIEW

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

The good news at Westland John Glenn is that the Rockets have a lot of talent on their boys basketball team.

It's also the bad news.

Coach Mike Schuette of John Glenn is challenging his players to remember that five players have to share one basketball and that the object of the game is to win.

"If everybody does what their role is," Schuette said, "we could have a pretty good season."

"But if everybody wants to be the star, we're going to have a mediocre season."

The return of 6-foot-8 Yaku Moton gives Westland John Glenn what few other teams in the Western Lakes Activities Association have — a bona fide Sequoia in the middle.

North Farmington's 6-6 Emir Medunjanin and 6-5 Adrian Bridges are the only one-two post tandem who can match up with Moton's size and strength in the post.

Moton left John Glenn after his sophomore season for Mt. Zion Christian Academy in North Carolina. Things didn't work out, so he's back.

The Rockets also have 6-4 forward Ben Harris, a strong rebounder, plus guard Eric Jones, a four-year varsity player, to give other teams severe matchup problems.

And in the second semester, 6-5 junior forward Aaron Marshall, a transfer from Buffalo, N.Y. becomes eligible to play and the word is that he is, indeed, a player.

This means that right after Schuette's team has gone through December figuring out which players it can rely on in each situation, it will have to go through the process all over again with Marshall factored in.

Schuette wants this influx of talent this year to bring the team closer together, not break it apart.

How well the talented Rockets adjust will determine just how successful a season they have.

The Western Lakes should be stronger than it was a year ago. The league was short on tall players last year.

In fact, the whole Livonia-Westland area has more experienced decent players coming back.

Livonia Churchill brings back 6-4 forward John Bennett (17 points per game), a prolific outside shooter, 6-2 forward Avery Jessup and 5-11 guard Randall Boboige.

Livonia Franklin has a core of 6-3 forward Derek Schema, 6-4 junior center Mike Copeland and 6-2 junior Joe Ruggiero to build around.

Livonia Stevenson brings back 6-foot guard Keshay McChristian, 5-11 guard Mike Lenardon, 6-3 forward Harland Beverly and 6-foot forward John Van Buren.

Rick Coratti of Redford Catholic Central lost a Division I player, guard Nick Moore, to Toledo along with multi-sport stars Dave Lusky, Dan Jess, Chuck Cash and Anthony Tomy.

But he returns outside shooting in 6-4 guard Rob Sparks and 6-5 forward Matt Loras. Sparks won't be able to play until at least January due to back surgery.

Coratti is also counting on quality minutes from 6-3 sophomore Tom Jackaki.

Schuette sees "North Farmington, Farmington, Walled Lake Western, Northville" as WLAAs powers. "And Salem and Canton are always good. Then, too, Farmington Harrison has a lot of people back again."

"Canton will be much improved," Churchill's Rick Austin said. "They have a bunch back. Everybody in our division will be much improved."

"Northville has great size coming back, as well. It's going to be a tough division this year. I don't see anybody standing out."

"The league is very good every year," coach Dan Robinson of Franklin said. "This year is not any different. It would be

Please see HOOP SCOOP, B4

RU freezes Stevenson, 2-1

PREP HOCKEY

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemons@oc.homes.com.net

This hockey score sheet resembled more of a rap sheet — two pages to be exact.

Not a lot of scoring, but a lot of penalties — 36 all told — as Redford Unified defeated Livonia Stevenson for the first time in school history, 2-1, Wednesday night at Edgar Arena.

For Redford Unified second-year coach Pete Mazzoni, it was his first victory over his alma mater.

Two goals by junior Cody Bartlett and solid goaltending by sophomore Ian Hannan proved to be the difference as RU, made up of players from both Redford Union and Thurston high schools, ran its overall record to 3-0. Stevenson is 1-1.

"It was an emotional game and sometimes the heat of the moment gets the best of the kids," Mazzoni said. "The ice surface made it not the best of conditions. It negated our speed so we had to play a little more physical."

Many of the penalties were coincidental roughing calls, extracurricular stuff after the whistle. During one stretch in the second period there were as many as eight players in the penalty box at one time.

Eighteen penalties were called on each side.

"It was a hard-fought battle," Stevenson coach Mike Harris said. "RU is a



Checkmates: Stevenson's Mike Perraino (left) and Redford Unified's Kyle Robertson battle for the puck in Wednesday's game.

nic club and I wish them well.

"For us it's time to get back to work."

The two teams were partners last year in the Suburban High School Hockey League, but now have gone their separate ways.

Stevenson belongs to the new Western Lakes Activities Association, while

RU is a member of the Michigan Mega Conference.

"There was not a lot of flow, both teams played hard, physical, close-checking hockey — a great effort by both teams," Stevenson assistant coach John Fenech said. "Both times we came

Please see ICERS, B4



Kelly Travis takes shots and medication for asthma, but that didn't stop her from breathing down the necks of some of the nation's elite collegiate cross-country runners.

Fast crowd: Charlotte's Travis runs among elite

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemons@oc.homes.com.net

Kelly Travis takes shots and medication for asthma, but that didn't stop her from breathing down the necks of some of the nation's elite collegiate cross-country runners.

The 1998 Livonia Stevenson High graduate came into her own during her sophomore year at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, earning NCAA All-America honors with a 30th place finish at the nationals held Nov. 22 in Bloomington, Ind.

"It's amazing how she later found out that she had asthma," UNC-Charlotte coach Steve Hays said.

"I had asthma, but I had a fast pace. She's the kind of athlete who was always motivated to get better."

Travis, who ran 17:22.7 on the hilly 5,000-meter course at the NCAAs, became only the second UNC-Charlotte woman to earn All-America recognition.

In the Conference USA Championships held last month in Charlotte, Travis finished second and broke Molly Kerin's 5K school record with a time of 17:07.5. She then qualified for the NCAAs with a sixth-place finish at the Southeast Regional (17:24) in Greenville, S.C.

"I just took things more seriously, I knew what I wanted to accomplish and I increased my mileage from last year," said Travis, who often put in 90-mile weeks. "I felt stronger every week, and from there I set new goals."

But Travis never dreamed about going to the NCAAs until she broke through at the Conference USA meet.

"I readjusted my focus in the middle of the year," Travis said. "It was scary, but it was also exciting."

"Sometimes my coach can be a little intimidating and sometimes he's hard to understand, but once you know each other's goals, it can work out well. He's great at getting you to focus on the challenge at hand."

As a freshman, Travis not only had to adjust to asthma and allergies, but also to a warmer climate and a new environment.

"She had some nice performances, but she also had to deal with the normal aches and pains of a first-year runner," Hays said. "Over the winter she treated her asthma and you could see she really began to improve and mature."

Hays began to see Travis' talent emerge at the end of the spring track season.

In the Conference USA spring meet, Travis ran 17:24 in the 5K and came back to run 17:24 again in the 5K at the NCAAs.

"There were some tough races," Hays said. "She was the only one who ran a 17:24 in the 5K. She was a real competitor at the time. She was a real competitor at the time. She was a real competitor at the time."

Over the summer, Travis worked two jobs, one as a tutor and the other as a student leader, while handling a number of other responsibilities.

Travis often trained with her

Please see TRACK, B4



Tom Eller Livonia Stevenson Jeff Sappala Garden City Pat Griffin Redford CC Brett Stiner Plymouth Salem Mike White Livonia Stevenson Tim Kaminski Livonia Churchhill Brian Horr North Farmington Josh Ray Redford Thurston Justin Garavito Farmington High

Salem, Stevenson secure 3 spots each on All-Area

Redford Thurston and Plymouth Salem have had very different traditions in boys soccer.

Salem is a perennial state champion contender while Thurston has never made a serious run at a post-season title.

Salem kept its rich tradition intact despite fielding an inexperienced varsity team, while Thurston may have started a winning tradition behind the play of a talented senior class.

Each advanced this season further than some may have expected, thus making their coaches, Jeff Neschich at Thurston and Ed McCarthy at Salem, co-coaches of the year in Observerland.

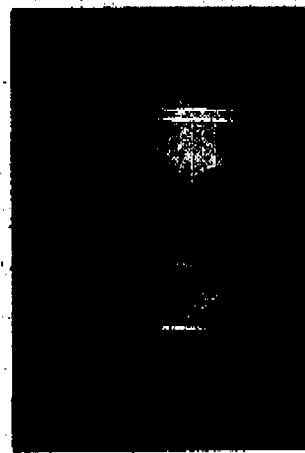
The Eagles had their best season in Neschich's three years at the helm, winning a Division II district championship and finishing 16-3-1 overall.

The Eagles' only two losses in the regular season came to Garden City, which won the Mega Conference White Division championship.

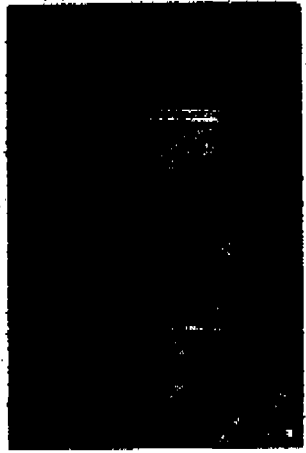
"It's been challenging, a lot of work," said Neschich, a former



Keith Schenkel Plymouth Salem



Joe Zawacki Livonia Stevenson



T.J. Tomaseo Plymouth Canton



Andy Gleason Lutheran Westland



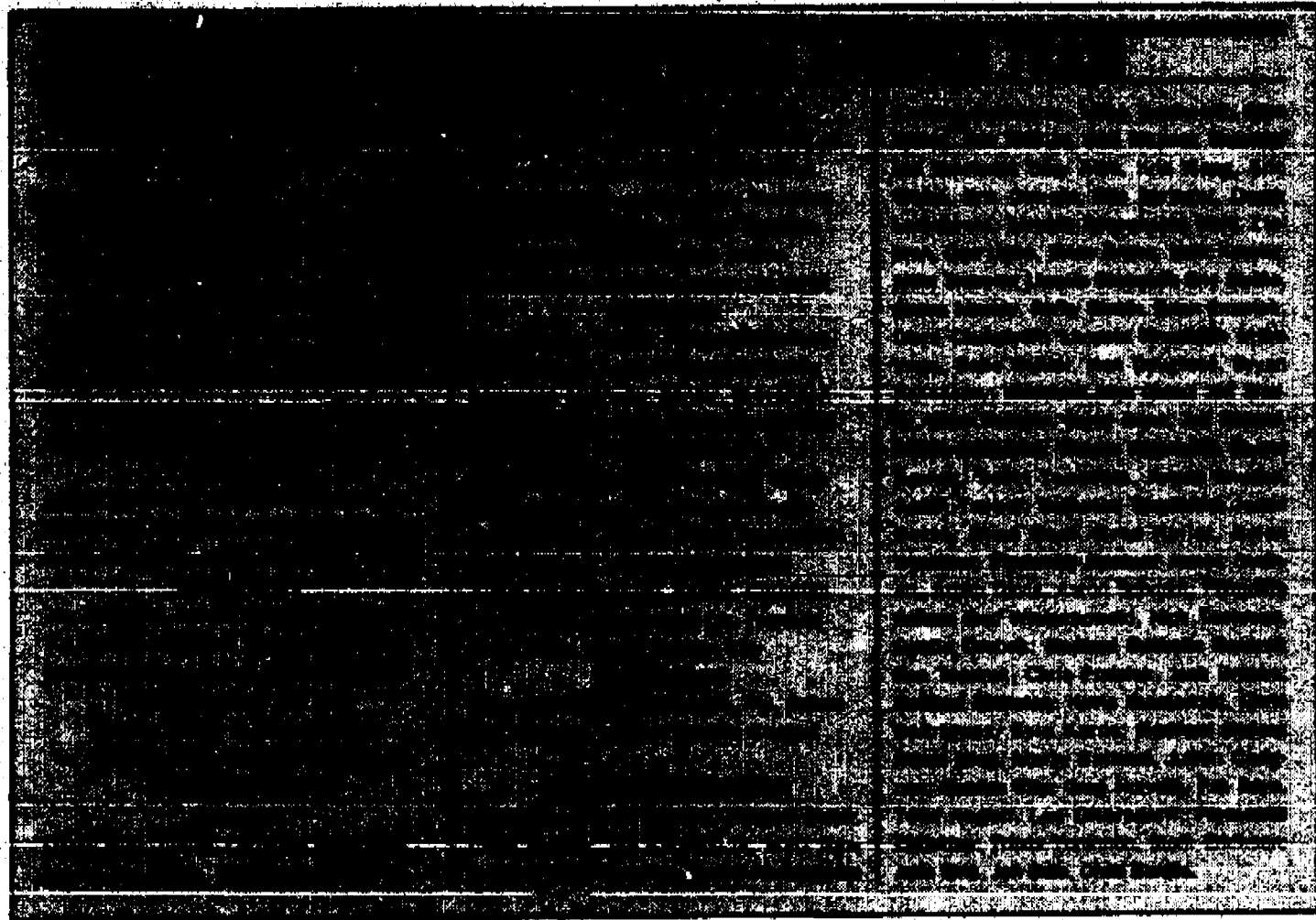
Ed McCarthy-Salem Co-Coach of the Year



Jeff Neschich-Thurston Co-Coach of the Year

working with these guys and we were all on the same page. They had a lot of pride in winning, a desire to be successful."

"For three years I've been... Please see page 13, 14, 15



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All-Observer Boys Soccer Team from page B2

Salem, meanwhile, finished runner-up in the Division I state tournament despite losing nine starters to graduation from the 1998 team.

Among the returnees were only two seniors but McCarthy insisted he was optimistic at the start of the season, that his team would still win its share of games.

He was right. Despite the player losses, the Rocks went 23-2-2, winning the Western Lakes Activities Association championship and district and regional crowns before finally losing in the finals.

It was their fifth trip to the finals this decade, and the second in McCarthy's four years at the helm. In that span, Salem has posted a 70-10-9 overall record.

FORWARDS

Scott Duhl, Sr., Ply. Salem: There were all sorts of qualities Duhl brought to Salem's game — speed, scoring ability, passing skills. But, perhaps the reason he was one of the three finalists for the state's Mr. Soccer award was best summed up by his coach, Ed McCarthy.

"He is the hardest working forward in the state," he said. "He comes back great for the ball, and he really created all of our scoring opportunities."

"All of his goals were really big goals."

Duhl, a member of the state's dream team and an all-WLAA selection, finished with 24 goals and 12 assists. He is currently considering signing with University of Michigan and Michigan State, with U-M his top choice.

Tom Eller, Sr., Liv. Stevenson: A three-time All-Observer selection, Eller made the All-State Dream team this season after scoring 25 goals and adding 23 assists.

For his career, Eller has 60 goals and a school-record 61 assists.

He was also an All-Western Lakes

selection.

"In my opinion with my limited experience, I'd say Tom will go down as one of the best ever to play at Stevenson," Stevenson coach Lars Richters said.

"As far as pure talent and skills, there's nobody better in the state of Michigan — he's scary," Salem coach Ed McCarthy said.

Jeff Kuyama, Jr., Garden City: Stuyvesant established a new school single-season record for goals with 27. He had a streak of 15 straight games with goals, scoring at least one in 16 of the team's 18 games.

A two-year member of the Cougars' varsity, he rarely came out of games.

He more than tripled the goal-scoring production of his sophomore year when he finished with seven goals.

"He's deceiving in that he doesn't look like the big, strong, tall striker that you're going to face a lot of the time," GC coach Bill Torri said. "But he knows what to do when he gets the ball. He has one goal in mind and that's the one between the posts."

MIDFIELDERS

Pat Griffin, Sr., Redford CC: Griffin scored eight goals with a team-high 14 assists.

A four-year varsity letterwinner, Griffin is drawing some interest from Division I colleges, coach Dana Orsucci said.

A two-year captain, Griffin was a first-team All-Catholic choice this year. He was a second team Catholic League and Observer selection as a junior.

"His accolades and awards speak for themselves — how other coaches, players and writers respect his game," Orsucci said. "He was our midfield general — his offense, creativity, everything from midfield to the opponents' net. His skills are excellent. He can flip the ball within an inch-of-room-between players. He has very intelligent runs and is extremely quick. He's an all-around solid player, among the top 10 or 15 in the state."

Brett Stinar, Sr., Ply. Salem: When Duhl was surrounded and engulfed by opposing defenders, the player who filled the scoring void for the Rocks was

Stinar.

The senior midfielder was second on the team in scoring with 18 goals and 16 assists. His two greatest assets were his uncanny ability handling a ball in the air and his durability. Stinar played every minute of every game for Salem.

As for his ability handling balls in the air, McCarthy summarized it with one example: "The goal he scored against Stevenson in the state semifinals, on a throw-in from the sideline, was just unbelievable." The throw-in, from Sean Loewe, and Stinar's header gave the Rocks an early lead; they eventually won the match, 3-1.

Stinar was an all-state first-team selection. He is considering several in-state NCAA Division I schools.

"He's a workhorse," said McCarthy. "And he always got back defensively."

Mike White, Sr., Liv. Stevenson: The midfielder, another All-State Dream Team selection, was Stevenson's second leading scorer with 23 goals and 16 assists.

He was also an All-Western Lakes pick.

"For somebody who wasn't a big number guy in the past, Mike came through with big numbers for us this season," Richters said. "He was our inspirational leader. I feel blessed to work with him."

Tim Kaminski, Sr., Liv. Churchill: The catalyst for Churchill's second-half season surge, the midfielder led Churchill in scoring with 13 goals and four assists.

Kaminski also made All-Western Lakes.

"Tim was a playmaker most of the year and he was central to our attack," Churchill coach Reid Friedrichs said. "Everything went through Tim offensively and defensively."

"Tim will definitely play somewhere at the next level."

Brian Horr, Sr., N. Farmington: Horr made the Division II all-state third team after leading the Raiders in scoring with 19 goals and 14 assists this year. In three years as a varsity starter, he scored 33 goals and assisted on 41 others.

Horr played center midfield and

earned all-Western Lakes honors, as well as district and regional recognition. He was the North team MVP.

Horr is a member of the National Honor Society (3.7 grade point). He's also a drummer in the school band, sings in the school choir and performs in school musicals.

"He does it all," North coach Ron Meteyer said. "He's just a great kid. He's the kind of kid you'd want your daughter to meet."

As a soccer player, "He's the whole package. He's an excellent playmaker and scoring threat, and he comes back to play defense, too. He's a leader on and off the field."

DEFENDERS

Josh Ray, Sr., Red. Thurston: Ray volunteered to play defense after playing midfield his junior year but it didn't keep him from contributing to the Eagles' offensive attack.

A first-team Division I all-state choice, Ray scored 10 goals and 11 assists, joining the Eagles' offense on most re-starts. A three-year starter, he was a solid presence on the Eagles' back line, deterring many opponents' opportunities to score.

His offensive production wasn't surprising since he scored 17 goals as a junior at midfield.

"We moved Josh up for a lot of free kicks, pushed him up on a lot of corner kicks, got him involved as much as we could in the attack," Thurston coach Jeff Neschich said. "He unselfishly moved back to defense and really made a huge difference in the overall performance. He has good reads and organizes matchups out there."

Justin Gerwatowski, Sr., Farmington: Gerwatowski was a four-year varsity player and an all-Western Lakes defender this year.

While his forte was stopping opposing forwards, he contributed two goals and two assists in the team scoring total.

"I think Justin is the best defender to play at Farmington in the last nine years," Farmington coach Luke Juncaj said. "He's just a very intense player, very competitive, very quick."

"He was very consistent all year.

Justin didn't have a bad game. He was able to shut out some of the best players in our league."

"Usually, his assignment was to guard the best offensive player on the opposing team, and he did well each game."

Gerwatowski, who played forward as a freshman, is an A student and plans to try out for the University of Michigan team next year.

Kath Schenkel, Jr., Plymouth Salem: How big a piece was Schenkel to the Salem puzzle? Put it this way — when he returned from a broken foot suffered in a pre-season exhibition, the junior sweeper enabled the Rocks' defense to jell.

They eventually shut out 11-straight opponents, including five in the state tournament. His talent was strong enough to earn him a spot on the all-Observer team, despite his missing eight games.

"He should be one of the top 10 or 15 players in the state next year, if he stays healthy," predicted McCarthy. "No question about it. He really is a true sweeper, it's his natural position. But next year, with all his speed and ability, we're just going to have to get him more touches on the ball."

That means opponents can expect to see Schenkel moving forward on the attack more often next season. He had three assists this year and was a WLAA all-division selection.

GOALKEEPERS

Joe Zawacki, Sr., Liv. Stevenson: In his first full year as a starter, Zawacki posted 12 shutouts with a 17-3-1 record. He allowed just 15 goals all season averaging less than one per game.

Zawacki was also first-team All-State Division I and All-WLAA selection.

"Joe waited patiently for his turn," Richters said. "He's a first-class keeper with first-class character."

This week Zawacki was in Florida competing for a spot on the U.S. National team for his age-group. He is an Olympic Developmental Program player.

"Michigan is very interested in Joe and he'll play college soccer and possibly beyond," Richters said. "He's recog-

nized as one of the top goalkeepers in the country for his age group."

T.J. Tomaseo, Jr., Ply. Canton: The WLAA alone had several top-notch keepers, but Tomaseo was one of the best.

An All-WLAA pick and third-team All-Stater, Tomaseo allowed 0.84 goals per game along with 10 shutouts.

On a team loaded with underclassmen in most of the key positions, his efforts were typical.

"He played some real solid games for us," Canton coach Don Smith said. "We had a tough time scoring, but when we did T.J. kept us in there."

His brother George, now a starter at Eastern Michigan University, was also an All-State keeper. George helped the Chiefs capture the state title in 1994.

"T.J. is an enthusiastic kid," Smith said. "He has already been selected team captain next year."

"He's a little bubbly than George was. T.J. is more of a leader out there. He gets you excited."

Andy Gieseman, Sr., Lutheran Westland: The 6-foot Gieseman shared Metro Conference Co-MVP honors with Grosse Pointe University-Liggett's Dan Ferrin, the Dream Team keeper who led his team to the Division IV state championship.

The first-team Division IV All-Stater posted 13 shutouts this season and allowed just seven goals in 19 games. The All-Region and All-Metro selection had four career shutouts.

He also carries a 3.9 grade-point average.

"Andy is very athletic and very knowledgeable of the game — he understands every position," Lutheran Westland coach Rich Block said. "He was like a coach on the field and he punts the ball extremely well. He can keep it down in a heavy wind by drop-kicking the ball, which you don't normally see."

"He redefined the position for us and nobody played the position like he did. He was very agile, good hands and a tireless worker. He will surely be missed."



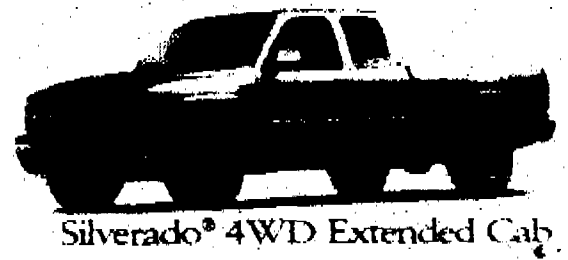
Gridder honored: Ryan Culloty of Beloit (Wis.) College, a 6-foot-4, 260-pound defensive end from Livonia Stevenson High School, recently won all-Midwest Conference recognition for his gridiron and academic achievements. The history major was one of five Buccaneers to earn All-Academic Midwest Conference. He was also all-Midwest honorable mention for the second straight year. Culloty finished his career as the fourth all-time Buccaneer defensive point leader as Beloit finished 7-3 overall and 6-3 in the Midwest. For his career, Culloty, who started 38 straight games, was credited with 412 defensive points, including 121 this fall. In 1998 he led the team lead in that category. Culloty also is second all-time in career sacks with 183. As a freshman, Culloty was Beloit's defensive ringleader of the year. "Ryan Culloty is my kind of football player," head coach Ed DeGroot said. "I don't know how many other players can play and be that consistent. Culloty has been a great player for our team during the past few years — and that's saying on a lot of things."

Treat yourself this holiday season.

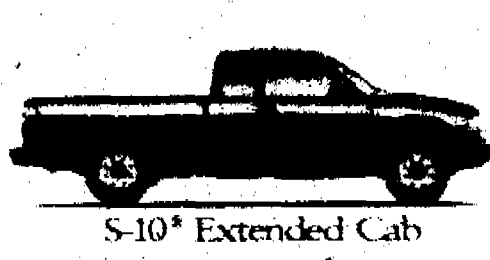
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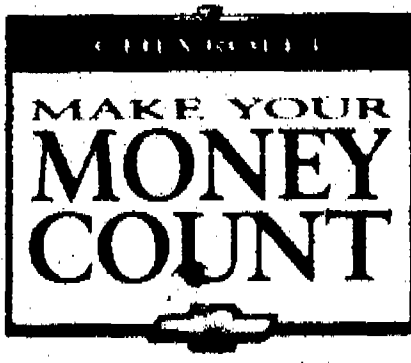


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CAPSULE OUTLOOK OF LIVONIA-WESTLAND BOYS BASKETBALL TEAMS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head coach: Rick Austin, fourth year.
Last year's overall record: 7-14.
Conference: Western Lakes Activities Association (Western Division).
Scheduled season opener: Tues., Dec. 7, vs. Dearborn, 7 p.m.
Notable losses to graduation: None.
Leading returnees: 6-2 Sr. F Avery Jessup; 6-3 Sr. F Josh Odum; 6-4 Sr. F John Bennett (All-Area honorable mention); 5-11 Sr. G Randall Bobo (All-Area honorable mention); 5-8 Sr. G Brandon Garcia; 6-1 Sr. G Brad Beece; 6-0 Sr. G Ryan Cousino; 6-0 Sr. G Kevin Kotzian.
Promising newcomers: Will Pendergrass, 5-7 Jr. PG; Brandon Dzikinski, 6-2 Jr. G; Dan Kuarakko, 6-1 Jr. G; James Buchan, 6-5 Jr. C; Dan McMahon, 6-3 Jr. F; Shane Ramin, 6-5 Sr. C.
Austin's 1999-2000 outlook: "Things look very promising. I'm proud of our players and our program.
"We're stronger, more athletic. We worked on our basketball fundamentals — each player in the program...we're much more fundamentally sound than we have been in the last three years.
"Our players believe they can compete with the other teams in our division."

(All-Area honorable mention).
Leading returnees: 6-3 Sr. F Derek Schae (All-Area honorable mention); 6-4 Jr. C Mike Copeland; 6-2 Jr. G Joe Ruggiero; 5-8 Jr. PG, Chris Patterson; 6-1 Jr. G Ian Reed; 6-0 Sr. F Mike Schultz; 6-0 Sr. F Jason Micallef.
Promising newcomers: 6-0 Jr. G Tim Borrie.
Newman's 1999-2000 outlook: "We've got one way to go and that's up, after last year.
"Our kids worked hard over the summer. The great majority did what we asked them to do.
"I think we'll be much improved. How that pays off in wins and losses remains to be seen.
"We will be improved. How much, that's the question."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head coach: Tim Newman, fourth season.
Last year's overall record: 6-15.
Conference: Western Lakes Activities Association (Lakes Division).
Scheduled season opener: Tues., Dec. 7, vs. Wyandotte, 7 p.m.
Notable losses to graduation: Marty Kerinsy (All-Area honorable mention); Brett Koch.
Leading returnees: 6-0 Sr. G Keshay McChristian (All-Area honorable mention); 5-11 Sr. G Mike Lenardon; 6-3 Sr. F Harland Beverly; 6-0 Sr. F John VanBuren.
Promising newcomers: 6-0 Sr. F Todd Clouse; 5-9 Jr. PG Pete Pinto; 5-10 Jr. G Ryan Cudi; 6-0 Jr. F Bob Zapalski.
Newman's 1999-2000 outlook: "We're looking to improve on that 6-15.
"We need to win more games in our league, that's what we're shooting for."

The Western Lakes is a very competitive basketball league. We're looking to make our own dent in the league.
"Yet we're going to be as small or the smallest team in the league, so we're going to have to rely on speed and pressing because of that.
"The nights we shoot well and rebound well, we'll be okay. But there's some big teams in our league."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Mike Schuette, eighth year.
Last year's overall record: 14-8.
Conference: Western Lakes Activities Association (Lakes Division).
Scheduled season opener: Tues., Dec. 7, at Ann Arbor Huron, 7 p.m.
Notable losses to graduation: Ty Haygood (All-Area first team); Bill Foder (All-Area honorable mention); Stephen Woods (All-Area honorable mention).
Leading returnees: 6-4 Sr. F Ben Harris (All-Area honorable mention); 6-0 Sr. PG-Eric Jones (All-Area fourth team); 6-8 Sr. C Yaku Moton (transferred back from Mt. Zion Christian Academy, N.C.).
Promising newcomers: 6-1 Jr. G Michael Franks; 6-0 Jr. G Brent Bogie; 6-3 Jr. F Darnell Dorris; 6-0 Jr. G Denario Adolphus; 6-1 Jr. G Chris Thauvette; 6-5 Jr. F Aaron Marshall (transfer from Buffalo, N.Y., not eligible until second semester); 6-1 Sr. G/F Jeremy Catalan.
Schuette's 1999-2000 outlook: "They work hard and they play well but they just have to try to stay within themselves. If they do that, they'll be okay.
"I think the Western Lakes is going to be a pretty balanced league again."

LUTHERAN WESTLAND
Head coach: Dan Ramthun, fourth year.
Last year's overall record: 14-8.
Conference: Metro Conference.
Scheduled season opener: Fri., Dec. 10, at Dearborn Heights Annapolis, 7 p.m.
Notable losses to graduation: Tom Habitz (All-Area honorable mention); Gordie Engel; Ryan Ollinger (All-Area honorable mention, track hurdler at Michigan State); Mike Randall.
Leading returnees: 6-1 Sr. G Charlie Hoen (All-Area honorable mention); 6-6 Sr. C Andrew McLaughlin; 6-2 Sr. F Brian Noel; 5-10 Sr. G Aaron Sant; 6-6 Jr. C Ernie Fackler; 6-2 Soph. F Brent Habitz; 5-10 Sr. G Mike Moser.
Promising newcomers: 6-6 Jr. C/F Nate Meckes (transfer from Saginaw Valley Lutheran); 5-10 Jr. G Luke Kasten (transfer from Wisconsin); 6-9 Jr. C Nate Reinholz; 6-1 Sr. F Burt Decker.
Ramthun's 1999-2000 outlook: "We've got a lot of height.
"We'll try to run. We should be able to get some rebounds and go with them.
"As for a team goal, we were second in the conference last year and would like to keep that standard or do better."

HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Head coach: Tod Bartholomew, fourth year (second stint).
Last year's overall record: 2-17.
Conference: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.
Scheduled season opener: Tues., Dec. 7, at Taylor Light & Life, 7:30 p.m.
Notable losses to graduation: Brian Johnson; Pat Hoepner.
Leading returnees: 5-11 Sr. G Rene Arnal (All-Area honorable mention); 6-1 Sr. F Alan Kleinke; 6-0 Sr. F Jeremy Husby; 6-1 Jr. F Tom Brisbey.
Promising newcomers: 5-8 Jr. G Steve MacDonald (transfer from Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary).
Bartholomew's 1999-2000 outlook: "If we're going to have the success that I think we're capable of having, three or four freshmen are going to have to play a good amount of time.
"It was just decided we're going to have a junior varsity team, so I haven't decided who's going to be where yet.
"Our three seniors give us a good nucleus. They're hard workers and pretty decent players. We'll do well, but how well depends on the (younger) kids."

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Head coach: Chuck Henry, 23rd year.
Last year's overall record: 7-14.
Conference: Michigan Mega Conference (Red Division).
Scheduled season opener: Tues., Dec. 7, vs. Plymouth Canton, 7 p.m.
Notable losses to graduation: Jamar Davis (All-Area fourth team); Nathan Wade (All-Area honorable mention).
Leading returnees: 5-8 Sr. G Shane Nowak (All-Area honorable mention); 6-4 Sr. F Justin Goins; 6-3 Sr. G Taron Smith; 6-3 Soph. F Jeff Logwood.
Promising newcomers: 5-11 Jr. G Gary Johnson; 6-4 Jr. F Shannon Jeffries.
Henry's 1999-2000 outlook: "We're hopeful that we're going to be better.
"I think we have certain amount of depth, especially at the perimeter positions.
"We're not very big. I just hope that Logwood can get over his bad back. He hasn't had a full practice yet."

REDFORD CATHOLIC CENTRAL
Head coach: Rick Coratti, sixth year.
Last year's overall record: 15-8.
Conference: Catholic League (Central Division).
Scheduled season opener: Sat., Dec. 11, vs. Belleville at Birmingham Detroit Country Day, 4 p.m.
Notable losses to graduation: Nick Moore (All-Area first team, basketball scholarship to Toledo); Dave Lusky (All-Area honorable mention, playing football at Eastern Michigan); Dan Jess (All-Area honorable mention, running cross country at Indiana); Chuck Cash, playing basketball at Albion; Anthony Tomp (playing baseball at Eastern Michigan).
Leading returnees: 6-5 Sr. F Matt Loidas (All-Area honorable mention); 6-4 Sr. G Rob Sparks (All-Area second team, out until January due to back surgery); 6-5 Sr. F Jeff Moore; 6-2 Sr. F Rod Hunt; 6-0 Sr. G Steve Jiv.
Promising newcomers: 6-0 Jr. G Anthony Coratti; 6-1 Jr. G Mark Wuloughby; 6-2 Jr. G Ryan Ciesky; 6-5 Jr. C Steve Larkin; 6-3 Soph. F/G Tom Jackaki.
Coratti's 1999-2000 outlook: "I think we're going to surprise some people. We're a little quicker defensively. We're going to be young. We're going to start three juniors and Jackaki is going to play a lot, too. It's always exciting when you're young, so we'll see what happens."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
Head coach: Bill Dyer, second year.
Last year's overall record: 8-14.
Conference: Metro Conference.
Scheduled season opener: Tues., Dec. 7, at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, 7 p.m.
Notable losses to graduation: None.
Leading returnees: 5-11 Sr. G Corey Mckendry; 6-0 Sr. G Scott Carr; 6-0 Sr. G Tim Riedl; 6-3 Sr. F Rick Burack (All-Area honorable mention); 6-4 Jr. C Scott Wilson (All-Area honorable mention); 6-0 Sr. F Joe Keough; 6-2 Soph. F Tim Shaw.
Promising newcomers: None.
Dyer's 1999-2000 outlook: "We're looking for improvement.
"We've got a lot of returning experience; plenty of guys who have played a lot.
"The kids expect to do better. They've put it on themselves to do better.
"We're going to play a little bit faster. We're looking for a solid season from these guys. We should be much improved over last year."

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I hereby certify the following: I) am physically fit and have received medical clearance to participate in the Jingle Bell Run. 2) In consideration of my application to participate in the Jingle Bell Run being accepted, I, on behalf of myself, my heirs and assigns, and my estate, hereby waive and forever discharge the Arthritis Foundation, the City of Birmingham, the Community House, the Motor City Striders, and any other sponsors, organizers, affiliates as well as agents and employees from any claim that may accrue as the result of my participation.
Participant's Signature _____ Date _____
Signature of Parent or Guardian if under 18 _____

BOWLING & RECREATION

Sill party celebrates \$1 million

Everyone in the room shouted, "Surprise" as Aleta Sill stepped through the doorway.

Many of her closest friends, teammates past and present had arranged a grand surprise party in honor of her achievement: first female bowler to top \$1 million in career earnings.

It was a well-kept secret.

She thought she was going to Merri Bowl Lanes in Livonia to give another routine lesson.

Her mother, Lori Michael, flew in from Florida for the occasion.

After giving everyone hugs and kisses, Aleta gave a short speech; short because she was still breathless. But she said, "This tops everything."

Sill lives in Dearborn now, but her roots were in Garden City and Westland where she grew up and started bowling as a skinny little kid.

The party was topped off by a fine buffet dinner and a cake decorated for the occasion. Cameras were clicking away and everyone signed her scrapbook for a memento of the occasion.

On Sunday, Nov. 21, Jackie Haner, 17, became the first girl in the Western Wayne Youth Travel Classic to roll a 300 game.

This took place at Cloverlanes in Livonia as she boomed out a three game set of 233-300-256 for a 789 series, including 17 strikes in a row.

Jackie is the daughter of Patrick and Sandy Haner and was carrying a nice 184 average in the WYTC. This series raised it to 192.

She throws the Columbia 'Boss' ball, which has been her favorite for some time. She is a senior at Wayne Memorial High School.

Haner's 300 was also the first ever by a female youth bowler at Cloverlanes.

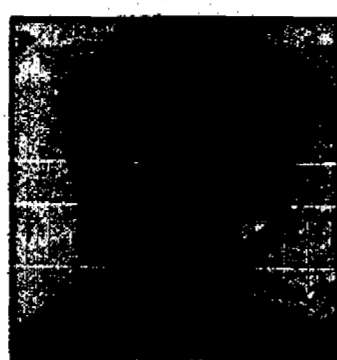
It beat the previous best WYTC girls score bowled in February of 1997, when Jamie Goins rolled a 289 game and 731 series at Town 'n' Country Lanes in Westland.

Winter is not yet here but the 'Snowman' has arrived.

The retirement of Ken Charrette brought in Lee Snow as the newly elected President of the Budweiser Michigan Majors Bowling Association.

Their 27th Annual banquet was held Nov. 20 at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club. The event included the induction of Chuck Berk of Bay City to the MMBA Hall of Fame.

Robert Eddy II was presented as the winner of the 28th MMBA championship, held at Cherry Hill



Aleta Sill
Pro eclipses \$1 million



Jackie Haner
Rolls 300 in youth league

Lanes.

Eddy came from the fifth position in the stepladder finals, first defeating his cousin, Ray Eddy, then Ed Rondot, Mark Applegate and finally Chris Jones by 241-192 for the victory.

The championship tournament was dedicated to Lew Ansara of Farmington Hills who has been a member of the association for eighteen years and has been generous in his sponsorship of leagues, tournaments and teams.

Ansara is also a very good bowler himself and has many awards for his many years of dedication to bowling. Mike Abbey received the Bob Garrett Sportsman Award.

The MMBA Hall of Fame is displayed in the concourse at Cherry Hill Lanes.

Marianne DiRupo of the Cloverlanes All Star Bowlerettes created some excitement last Monday night with a 300 game. For Marianne, it was the 19th perfect game of her career, including some which were rolled on the Ladies Pro Tour.

She was using the Ebonite Matrix, a pearlized ball that was perfectly suited for her game on that night.

In the Michigan High School Bowling Conference boys southwest region match last Thursday at Taylor Lanes, the Plymouth Salem Boys team led by Leon Walsh (207-221-225/653) defeated Plymouth Canton 19-11.

Other scores for Salem included Jeff Thomas (223/570); Justin Horvath (247/557) and Matt Bowden (136-137/273). Ken Bazman led Plymouth Canton with 206-157-213/578 followed by Alan Florka (209/564); Keith Moore (259/546); Keith Kingsbury (161/450); Jon Robison (178-169/347) and Brian Kaufman (180).

The next match will be held at 3:20 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 2, at Skore Lanes in Taylor. Salem will take on Truman High and Cañon will bowl against Gabriel Richard High School. Spectators are welcome.

BOWLING HONOR ROLL

- Wonderland Lanes (Livonia)**
Motor City Men's Early: Al Mak, 252-257-737; Mike Harris, 711-711; Mike Gephart, 253-709; Steve Rose, 247-668.
Wonderland Classic: Garrett Nogie, 243-766-788; Ken Bashara, 707-600; Doug Ellison, 700; Brian Raf, 279; Bill Aschraf, 278.
Senior Men's Invitational: Don Martin, 257-253-686; Bob Wilson, 258-878; Bill Newbrough, 666; Jess Macdonald, 664; Al Messer, 653; John Berkamp, 207-254-733; Mike Belovich, 244-640; Roman Buchner, 264; Phil Horwitz, 653; B.C. Nummer, 244-640.
Westside Senior Men: Floyd Morris, 279; Chuck Ruel, 259-679; Cliff Lisher, 256-640.
Woodland Lanes (Livonia)
Ford Parts: Alan Wegala, 268-692; Mark Grogan, 258-717; Callie Cox, 296-713; Cliff Cavender, 279-717.
Men's Trio: Mike Travis, 278-772; Vern Flowers, 279-695; Dave Grubbs, 696.
Early Birds: Fred Carlson, 249-508; Debbie Ellsworth, 206-511; Gerry Bray, 209-507.
Senior House: Dick Shoup, 278-679; Paul Gadomski, 259-711; Pat Engstrom, 277-749; Dan Kopp, 265-691; Frank Hoff, 279-636.
Mighty Stars: Evans Brink, 258-844; Mike Zielinski, 231; Wally Zielinski, 222; Doug McMillan, 231; Frank Nickolas, 206.
Day 90's (seniors): Joe Bucher, 245; John Kilbourne, 212-556; Chuck Jensen, 203; Fred Alberts, 212; Harry Dunder, 203.
Sunflowers: John Schatz, 284.
Rosedale Gardens: Rick Eklot, 721.
Monday Seniors: Phil Bissola, 204; Glen Snyder, 213.
E & G Auto: John Chouard, 300-735; Randy Smith, 280-715; Ken Mayer, 246-709; Scooter Neaton, 267-702; George Stocks, 269-696.
Local 182 Retirees Mixed: Barb Deseau, 208; Frank Bertani, 227.
Lyndon Meadows: Maida Flynn, 200.
Cloverlanes (Livonia)
All-Star Bowlerettes: Marlene DiRupo, 300-748; Louise Johnson, 278-717; Robin White, 268-716; Angela Wall, 246-710; Sandy Schultz, 258-884; Lisa Bishop, 245-676.
Friday Night Men: Bruce Bell, 268-224; Tom Miner, 249-704; Brandon Healey, 269-707.
Poo Inter Plant Mixed: Steve Dondoschka, 235-614; Chris Barr, 216-611.
Ford Motor Men's Mix: Mike Kars, 284; Chuck O'Rourke, 278-761; Andy Murray, 243; Amley Hano, 226; Rayla Barkin, 247; Jennifer Sheridan, 221.
Friday Nite Mixed: Greg Smith, 300.
Friday Seniors: Steve Nancheroff, 247-214-653; Ted Sar, 214-595; Bob Golt, 247-214-211; Galt, Lou Galt, 226-546; Mike Gellon, 227-214-203; Ray.
Beachcombers: Frank Borkowski, 800.
Tuesday Seniors: Gary Sklar, 27-217-639; Andy Wiegman, 205-473; Ken McDaniels, 298-582; Mike Stank, 205-789; Sam, 274-582.
Monday Morning Foursome: Andy Johnson, 300; Callie Cox, 296.
Renascence Mixed: Jennifer Steg, 682.
Wednesday Profs & Bantams: Andy Jones, 234-487-10.
Wednesday Juniors & Majors: Andy Wiegman, 205-473; Sam, 274-582; Ken McDaniels, 298-582; Mike Stank, 205-789; Sam, 274-582.
Merri Bowl (Livonia)
K of C Monday Nite: ...

CLASSES/CLINICS
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Advanced Fly Tying
Advanced Fly Tying Club meets every other week in Southfield. Call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474 for more 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. 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) 492-2410 for more information.
ANNO 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.
ANNO 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) 651-9610 or (313) 635-2110 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 Dalg at (248) 666-8919 for more information.
METRO-WEST STEELHEADS
 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 Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.
ROCHESTER FLY FISHING
 The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of

Thankful for turkey as symbol for nation

As you relax today and eat your turkey leftovers, you might reflect on the fact that you could have been eating our national symbol.

Benjamin Franklin was a strong proponent of making the wild turkey our national symbol — the bald eagle was selected instead.

Europeans, before exploration to the New World, did not know of the wild turkey. Only two species of turkey exist in the world and both are found in the New World.

The North American wild turkey that we are familiar with today, and the species colonists found plentiful during their first Thanksgiving, ranges throughout the U.S., southern Canada, Hawaii and parts of Mexico.

It is not found in Alaska. Only one other species can be found in the world and that is the ocellated turkey, which is found on the Yucatan Peninsula.

Europeans became familiar with the wild turkey when it was brought from the New World as a domestic bird. Natives in Mexico and Central America domesticated a race of the wild turkey that is now extinct. Explorers took birds back to Europe and then the early colonists brought them back to the New World.

In colonial days, turkey habitat was extensive and turkey populations were high.

Turkey need nut trees like oak, hickory and beech. They also rely on flowering dogwood berries, blackberries and other soft mast. Poults or young turkey eat primarily insects.

Mature forests with grassy openings from recent fires were prime areas for wild turkey. When human populations grew and forests were cut down for fuel, lumber, and clearing for agriculture, the wild turkey population declined.

Loss of habitat, in combination with increasing hunting pressure due to increasing numbers of people, caused the wild turkey population in the U.S. to drop to an estimated 30,000 birds.

Michigan had a good population of wild turkey that were found in the southern half of the Lower Peninsula. In the 1830s, records show settlers hunting them in Dearborn and Clarkston. But by 1900 it was assumed that the wild turkey in Michigan had been extirpated.

Fortunately the wild turkey did not go the way of the passenger pigeon.

Several efforts were made between 1900 and 1954 to reintroduce turkey back into Michigan. These early efforts used domestic turkey which proved to be too vulnerable to predators.

About 1954, the Michigan DNR introduced turkey from Pennsylvania that were 7-eights wild. These birds and subsequent reintroductions were successful.

Today, 175,000 wild turkey are found in Michigan. They are found throughout the Lower Peninsula.

This past summer when driving along US-23 toward Oshtemo, I had to stop twice while hens and their poults crossed the road.

Watching males fan their tail fluff their body feathers to enlarge their appearance and his tating to gobbling calls takes me back to the days of the colonists when they found the wild turkey abundant and prolific.

Thanks to the efforts of state agencies and private organizations, the wild turkey has now become a common sight in many parts of the U.S.

It is indeed a success story that illustrates what can be done to improve and maintain our wildlife heritage.

NATURE NOTES



TIM NOWICKI

AREA COLLEGIATE BASKETBALL

Banker at buzzer beats Crusaders

It was a battle, start to finish. But in the end, this game turned out the same as too many of Madonna University's men's basketball games -- as a loss. Rudy Elliott, who had hit just

six of his previous 19 shots, banked in a layup at the buzzer to lift St. Mary's College to an 80-78 victory Tuesday at Madonna. The loss dropped the Fighting

ROUNDUP

Crusaders to 1-6. St. Mary's is 3-6.

The game was close throughout. Madonna led 28-24 with 7:28 left in the first half, but scored just four more points the rest of the half as the Eagles went on a 12-4 run to take a 36-32 lead into the intermission.

The biggest lead for either team came with 16:49 left in the game; a basket by Elliott put St. Mary's up 45-36. The Eagles were up 53-47 with 13:47 left when Madonna rallied, going on a 10-0 run to regain the lead, 57-53 with 11:27 to play.

The biggest lead for either side after that was five points.

A layup by Jason Skoczylas with 3:44 to go gave the Crusaders a 76-72 advantage; however, they scored just two more points, a pair of free throws by Aaron Cox with :23 remaining that knotted it at 78-all, setting up Elliott's game-winner.

Cox led Madonna with 19 points; he also had five rebounds and three steals. Skoczylas added 16 points (on 8-of-11 shooting from the field) and six boards. Chad Putnam (from Redford Thurston) had 14 points and 12 rebounds, and Mike Massey totaled 13 points, five boards and four assists.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Ballhawk: Schoolcraft College's Antonei Watson (front) picks off a pass against Lansing Community College.

St. Mary's was paced by Milius Jones with 20 points. Elliott had 18 and four steals, and Al Rogers and Chris Shepard had 13 points apiece; Rogers also grabbed eight rebounds and Shepard had five steals, while Isiah Carter scored six points and hauled in 13 boards.

St. Mary's forced 26 Crusader turnovers (the Eagles had 19), but Madonna hit 32-of-65 shots from the floor (49.2 percent) compared to St. Mary's 32 of 71 (45.1 percent).

Lady Ocelots stalled

A slow start to the second half proved costly for Schoolcraft College's women's team, which lost 65-61 to Lansing CC Tuesday at SC.

The loss dropped SC to 1-2; Lansing evened its record at 2-2.

The game was close through the first half, with Lansing taking a 30-28 advantage into the intermission.

But the Lady Ocelots stumbled through the first 17 minutes of the second half and trailed, 61-47.

SC came alive in the final minutes, closing to within four, but time ran out on its comeback.

Antonei Watson topped the Ocelots with 16 points; she also had six rebounds and nine assists.

Carla Saxton had 14 points, and Angelica Blakely and Janel Olson had 11 points apiece, with Blakely grabbing 12 boards and Olson seven.



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SPORTS SHORTS

GIRLS AAU HOOP TRYOUTS
Tryouts for the Michigan Spartans girls AAU basketball team (ages 13-17) will be Sunday, Dec. 5 at the Franklin Fitness & Racquet Club, located at 29350 Northwestern Highway in Southfield (one-quarter mile north of 12 Mile Road).
Tryouts will be at 4:30 p.m. (13-and-under), 5-6:30 p.m. (under-15 and -16), 6:30-8 p.m. (under-16 and -17).
For more information, call (248) 557-3784.

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Early entry fees are \$15 for the 5K and \$6 for the Kid's K. The cost increases to \$18 and \$7 after Dec. 1. All fees include reflective Safe-Tee shirt and Domino's pizza party.
Kid's K participants will receive glow sticks and finisher ribbons, along with a post-race show by T-Bone the clown.
Entries may be printed from the event web site at www.AthleticVentures.com or by calling (734) 332-3981.

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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!

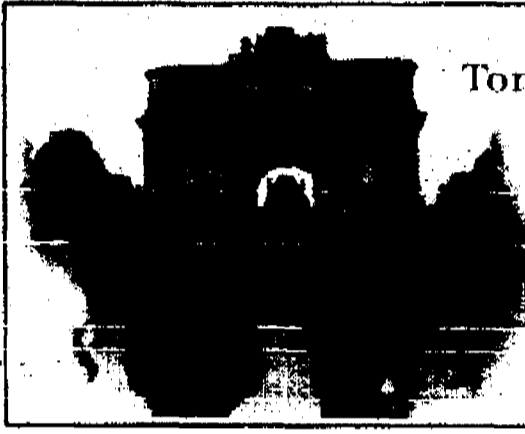
These special messages will appear on the pages of the January 1st edition of your hometown Observer on January 1, 2000 and you can deposit the entire issue in your own time capsule, so that when you look at it again in the years to come, you'll enjoy remembering or telling your grandchildren what was going on in your hometown!

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

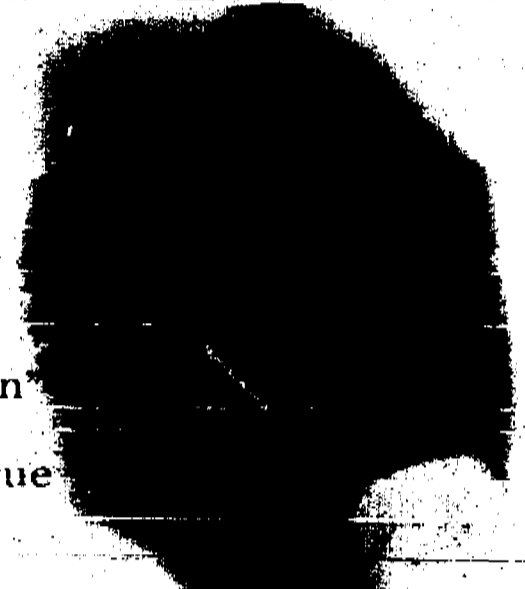
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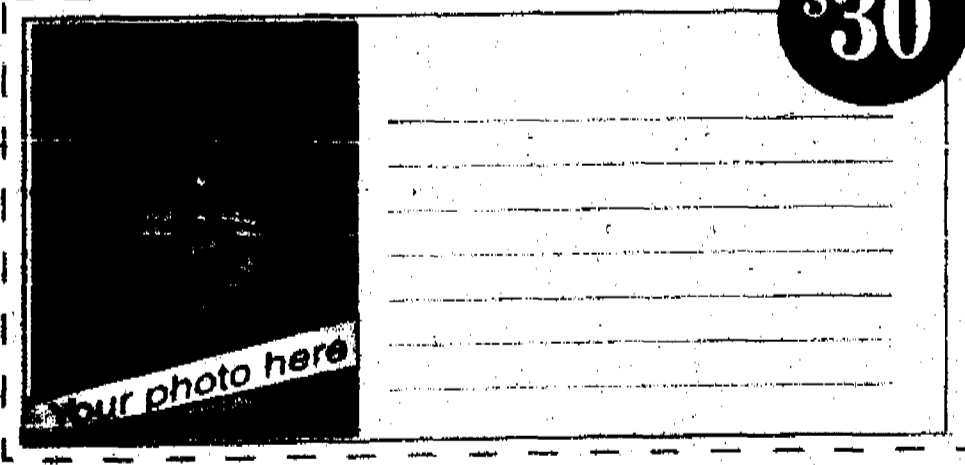
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SAMPLE #1—Actual Size—4 1/2" wide x 2" deep



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



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

...people if you want attach it to the message form along with your photograph and your payment

Travis from page B1

mer Stevenson teammate Jeanette Stojcevska, a DePaul (Ill.) University senior who finished 13th this fall in the Conference USA meet. Travis also completed weekly progress cards and send them back to her coach.

"We saw glimpses of Kelly's ability at the end of the spring, and then it was kind of unfortunate because then the season ran out," Hall said. "The reason she improved is the consistency of her training at a high level, day-in and day-out, every week.

The mileage and the pace got faster each day."

Hall also believes Travis has the will to succeed.

"It's hard to push every day, but Kelly wanted to do better," he said. "You have to make the commitment before you do it and she kind of bought into the training program. She bought into the whole package.

"You could see she did her work over the summer because when she came back to school, she was fit and ready to go."

The NCAA meet in Bloomington could have been overwhelming experience for the UNC-Charlotte sophomore, but she hung tough against a quality field of 250 runners.

"It was really scary when I got there, it was a big shock because there were so many fans and so many people," Travis said. "It was very competitive. I just tried to focus in on the people from my region. I got bumped around the first mile, so I just kept my hands out. Everybody

was fighting for position because it was so close."

Becoming an All-America is a big sacrifice, but Travis is willing to pay the price.

"You have a set schedule, you run twice a day, go to class, then you have to go home and do your homework, and then get to bed early," she said. "But I guess I'm never satisfied, that's what keeps me in the sport."

Travis plans to major in communications and obtain an minor in social work. She also

does volunteer work, coordinating a campus organization for advocating educational literacy.

Travis spent the Thanksgiving week at home before returning to school. She is under orders to take two weeks off.

For now, Travis is breathing easier. Then it's on to the indoor track season.

"Track season we do a lot more speed, so it affects my asthma a little more, but I'll just deal with that," Travis said.

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Whalers win

The Plymouth Whalers inched closer to the .500 mark in the Ontario Hockey League with a 2-1 victory Thanksgiving night over the host Brampton Battalion behind Tomas Kurka's game-winning goal in the final period.

Shaun Fisher and Randy Fitzgerald drew assists on Kurka's goal, his 11th of the season, as the Whalers improved to 11-12-3 in the OHL and earned their third straight road victory.

Goaltender Rob Zepp, who gave up a second-period goal to Lukas Havel (his 13th), made 19 saves to preserve the victory before 1,761 fans in Brampton.

The Battalion lead the Midwest Division of the OHL at 13-7-4.

On Wednesday, the Whalers turned back the host Owen Sound Platers at the Bayshore, 4-2, as Justin Williams had a goal and assist for the winners.

Kurka, Stephen Weiss and Eric Goady also scored for the winners.

The loss dropped Owen Sound to 8-12-1 in the OHL.

The Whalers also have to lose backup goaltender Aaron Melner, who has reportedly left the team for unspecified reasons.

The Whalers have replaced Melner on the roster with former London Knights goaltender Bill Suggs.

That brings the Whalers' roster to 11 Detroit-area players.

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Arts & Leisure

The Observer

INSIDE:
Travel

Page 1, Section C

Keely Wygonik, Editor 734-953-2105

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

Sunday, November 28, 1999

ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

Give thanks by helping others

Over nine years of covering the arts for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, I've had the opportunity to meet many giving artists and everyday people who've been an inspiration to me.

I'm grateful to have shared, for however brief a time, in their work to help homeless people, survivors of domestic violence, and people going through trying circumstances.

They shy away from recognition for their good deeds. If not for writing stories about various benefits, I probably never would have known of their contributions. Due to the lack space, I can only mention a few but maybe they'll inspire you as much as they have me.

Two "heroes" who give consistently to causes are watercolorist Louis Redstone and Redford sculptor Sergio DeGiusti, whose 9-foot bronze sculpture was recently installed in front of the new Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plaza in downtown Detroit. Grateful for accomplishments in their respective fields, they believe in giving back to the community. Whenever asked, Redstone donates his vibrant abstract paintings to auctions for nonprofits such as Very Special Arts, which provides programs in music, drama and the visual arts for persons with disabilities. The 96-year old Redstone, whose architectural firm was in Livonia for many years, and his wife Ruth, have set up scholarships at the University of Michigan's School of Art and Architecture. They leave a legacy that will last longer than the Michael A. Berry International Terminal, Louis designed at Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

DeGiusti donates his wall reliefs and a portion of the proceeds from sales of his work at an annual auction held in Oakland County. That auction assists the troubled children and families at the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in Farmington Hills. It's just one of the benefits DeGiusti gives to and in turn touches many people.

Filling empty bowls

Sandra Shemanske's enthusiasm for Pewabic Pottery's annual Empty Bowls effort to help feed hungry people is catchy. I met "Sandy" when I wrote about the annual effort by pottery artists to craft bowls for the benefit. Money from the sales of soup and bowls help stock the shelves at Gleaners Food Bank.

COTS

Then there are the artists, including Carlos Dias (chairman of the photography department at Center for Creative Studies and a former Livonia resident) and celebrities who painted masks for COTS (Coalition on Temporary Shelter) "MaskorAide" auction. The event raised nearly \$100,000 for homeless people in April. Birmingham residents Dr. Robert Higgins, who is surgical director of thoracic transplants at Henry Ford Hospital, and his wife, Molly, chaired the effort with Beth McKown. COTS helps homeless people help themselves by providing shelter, meals, clothing and comprehensive life-management services. The benefit auction will be Saturday, March 18, at the Detroit Trust Club. For tickets, call (412) 651-3777.

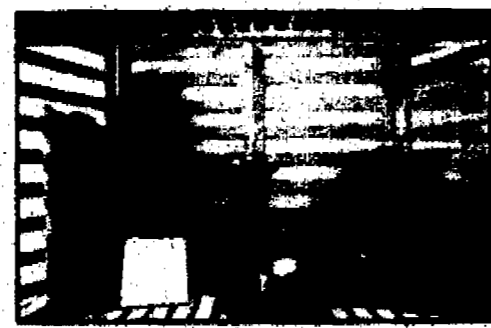
As with all nonprofits, COTS could use more help. It takes a lot of resources to provide more than 300 meals a day and \$8,000 emergency shelter every night a year. COTS has to turn away 25 people a day due to lack of space, said staffer Joyce Dallas.

Ask, of course, this time of year. Bring either needs. You can make someone else's holidays brighter by donating blankets, quilts and clothing for infants, toys for children, and coats, scarves and bedroom slippers for adults men and women. Through

Please see EXPRESSIONS, C1



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURBEMANN



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURBEMANN

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
lchomin@oe.homescomm.net

A blanket of clay dust covers the work surfaces and wheels at the Village Potters Guild in Plymouth, but not for long. Come Dec. 2-4 those same tables and several shelving units will be filled with bowls, vases, fountains, wall relief, ornaments, and an array of functional and decorative art.

If you're looking for a one-of-a-kind work that says the recipient is special, several galleries and nonprofit art organizations offer everything from jewelry to decorative objects for the home. Table top fountains remain popular with buyers, according to Annette Horn at Native

ART WORKS MAKE THOUGHTFUL GIFTS

West in Plymouth and Ruth Price, one of 20 Guild members creating reasonably priced ceramic works for holiday giving.

"Everybody's creativity is different," said Price, who's been working in clay for nine years. A charter member of the Guild, she studied ceramics at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. "There's quite an array in variation for gifts."

Price began hand building her works eight months ago after surgery on her hand for carpal tunnel syndrome left her unable to work on the wheel. Now after wedging, cutting and rolling clay, she forms bowls, platters and vases. An imprint of an evergreen bough adds texture to a large bowl she refers to

as art for dining room or coffee tables. Price likes to work big. Sprigs of holly accent a turkey platter.

"You can use any materials that are interesting," said Price.

The shelves in the kiln room are filled with works waiting to be fired. Shards of glass placed on the bottoms of Price's fluted bowls will soon melt into abstract patterns. This is just one of the techniques the Plymouth potter uses. Glazing then scraping surfaces allows the natural clay to show through sculptural floor vases. Access to chemicals means Price's colors are as varied as the forms. A square serving

Please see GIFTS, C1

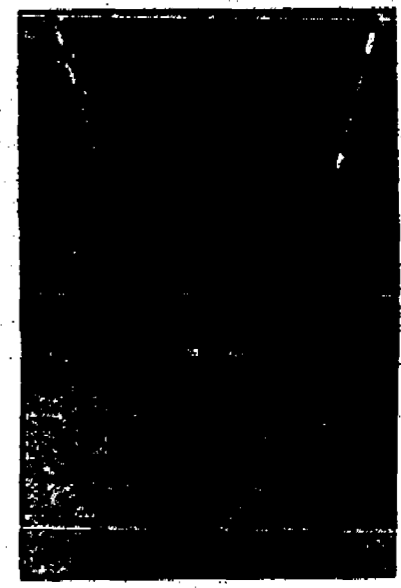


At left: Ruth Price hand-builds a fluted bowl for the Holiday Art Sale at Village Potters Guild in Plymouth.

Lower left: These works by Ruth Price are available for holiday gift giving.

Above: Don Schneider used his lamp-work skills to create these glass ornaments.

Below: Native West offers jewelry such as this inlay necklace at its Holiday Art & Jewelry Festival.



Holiday Art Shows

■ Village Potters Guild
6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, at 340 N. Main St., Suite G-4 behind Jack Dunleavy's Grill, Plymouth (734) 207-8807.

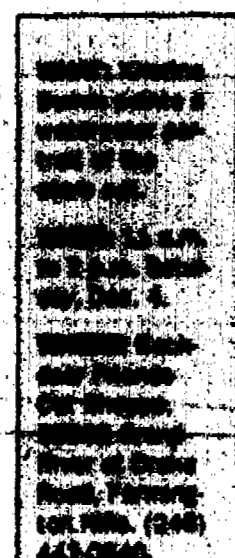
■ Native West
3-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, until 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, and until 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at 863 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, (734) 455-8838.

■ The Art Gallery/Studio
Noon to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, Dec. 6-10, and noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at 29948 Ford Road in Sheridan Square, Garden City, (734) 513-4044.

■ York Street Old works
Noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday-Friday through Friday, Dec. 24, at 675 York St., Plymouth, (734) 459-6419.

ANIMAL ART

Artist paints 'purrfect' portraits



BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
lchomin@oe.homescomm.net

Kristine Dumm admits it's unusual for a pet portrait artist not to have at least one dog or cat. After all, the Redford artist specializes in watercolor paintings and drawings of animals.

It's apparent by listening to Dumm speak about dogs, cats, horses, and iguanas, the love for them is there. She just hasn't had the opportunity to express it.

"Our only pet is a goldfish I won at a church festival," said Dumm. "We lived in apartment so we couldn't have an animal. But now



that we have a house and our son is past the tail-pulling age, we hope to get a puppy in spring."

Dumm's sensitive portrayals of animals include a horse and colt at Maybury State Park, a kitten lounging in a bowl at Upland Hills Farm, and her brother's beagle

puppy who didn't want to sit still to have its photograph taken. Dumm uses photographs as reference for the paintings and drawings.

"I'm always armed with my camera," said Dumm. "He was just a farm cat I tried to catch in different poses."

A black and white watercolor of a little girl and her dog was created after a vintage sepia-toned photograph Dumm searched for the photograph for several years before creating this dramatic portrait.

"People didn't seem to have

Please see PORTRAITS, C2



Pet portrait: Kristine Dumm's watercolor portraits "Oscar" (above) and "Taffy" (at left), are on display at Backdoor Friends Cat Shoppe in Farmington Hills.

Gift from page C1

dish features a spiral of clay to hold chopsticks.

"What I like about the Guild is the camaraderie," said Price. "You sort of pick their brains. You learn so much from other people. Each person does something fantastic and passes it on like the waterfalls and fountains. Paula Fulkerson came up with the idea to create water fountains and taught everyone else the process."

Water will soon drip from the maple leaves decorating Fulkerson's tall cylindrical fountain. It's hard to believe she's only been working in clay for five years.

"People love the soothing sound and the pleasure of watching the water fall," said Fulkerson.

Native West

"Art works for the wall, in addition to fountains, are selling like hotcakes at Native West," said co-owner Annette Horn. "People have a lot of wall to fill. I like to tell people when you're

'People have a lot of wall to fill. I like to tell people when you're buying something for your home, buy it because you love it, because that's what you need to surround yourself with.'

*Annette Horn
co-owner, Native West*

buying something for your home, buy it because you love it, because that's what you need to surround yourself with."

John Running does rubbings from the petroglyphs in caves in the Southwest then turns them into rock forms called "frags." A running buffalo triptych is one of the scenes depicted in the sand and resin work.

"The running buffalo has been very popular," said Horn. "This

is what you would see out West. John makes sketches from actual petroglyphs."

All of Native West's wall art, including Fred Baier's sun and roadrunner metal sculptures, will be available at the gallery's 10th annual Art & Jewelry Festival Dec. 2-5. Indian trader Jonathan Cox of Albuquerque will exhibit a variety of silver and gold, turquoise, lapis, amber, opal and other semi-precious stones in the jewelry trunk show.

"Jonathan brings such a huge selection of the Native American jewelry from a few dollars to a few thousand dollars," said Horn. "Opal has really skyrocketed as far as a stone people are wanting. People are absolutely wild about it. It has an iridescence. Some of the opals are laboratory grown so they're more durable and less expensive but we also have Australian opals."

Some of the more unusual artworks at Native West are Theresa Vail's black and white pots. Vail fires the pots with horse

hair. The surfaces look like rambling rivers.

"Yes, there is the traditional Native art but Native artists are trying to find new ways of expressing themselves," said Horn. "There's glass vases etched with Native American subjects and candles painted with the images."

The Art Gallery/Studio

The Garden City Fine Arts Association leaves tradition behind as well when its annual Holiday Art Show and Sale takes a walk on the wild side Dec. 6-11 at The Art Gallery/Studio in Garden City.

Show chairman Greg Lock promises "this event will be the last and the best of the millennium."

"It's a New York Pop Art theme," said Locke, a Westland resident. "I've encouraged people to step out and experiment with their art," said Locke, a Westland resident who will exhibit abstract and surreal paintings. "We'll have theatrical lighting

for the show and artists will dress in black and white for the opening reception (7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6)."

Wildlife artist Cal Kempainen will judge the show, awarding prizes in the categories of wet and dry painting, and three dimensional works.

Norma McQueen has painted an abstract work for the show. A tumultuous ocean of images relates the story of the Garden City resident's life. Her mother Eva's face, cotton balls symbolizing her birth in the South, and pet dogs highlight the tale.

"The waves of turmoil indicate that sometimes I feel like going around in circles," said McQueen. "Red is anger and disappointment but the uplifted waves show my positive attitude."

In addition to art works by club members, The Art Gallery/Studio exhibits paintings, ornaments, and clay by Plymouth potter Kathy Sandberg. Gary Wilson's vessels have a biblical theme. A professor at Monroe

Community College, Wilson also creates a vase with an abstract landscape. Bob Sheridan crafts a variety of ceramics and clay sculpture. Clay makes a great gift and adds a decorator's touch to an environment, whether it's at home or the office.

York Street Glassworks

Plymouth glass artist Don Schneider celebrates the 20th anniversary of York Street Glassworks Thanksgiving weekend through Dec. 24 by offering 10 percent off all vessels, paperweights, beads, earrings, ornaments, gazing globes, and glass objects in the gallery. His newest works include beads that take of a rust color after Schneider lamp works 24 karat gold onto cobalt blue glass.

Schneider is known internationally for his lamp-worked beads, many with millefiori designs. Currently, the beads are featured in an exhibit "Glas Pa Kruppen" in Denmark. His work travels to Tel Aviv and Helsinki early next year.

Expressions from page C1

the rest of the year, crayons and paint brushes for children, linens, clothing, and baby food keep the shelters running.

Please take time to think about how you could help, in whatever small way. Something as inexpensive as a blanket or plastic baby bottle could mean the difference between someone floundering in a sea of despair or swimming to shore. And you'll feel good doing it.

First Step

How do you choose who to

help? The number of organizations seems endless. One of my favorites is First Step, a nonprofit project on domestic and sexual violence that helps women, children and men rebuild their lives. They cannot accept used clothing because they don't have enough storage space at their offices in Plymouth and Taylor and their shelter in Westland. They prefer new sweatsuits and other wearables because such clothing increases the wearer's self esteem. First Step's wish list includes dishes, paper products

and linens as well as 10- to 12-inch cuddly teddy bears. Many of the children at the First Step shelter flee violence in their homes with only the clothes on their backs - the bears provide a sense of security in a strange setting.

Ja'Noah House

Audrey and Carl Mattson, two special people I met in 1996, need many of these same items to continue their work. Audrey gets tears in her eyes every time the Livonia couple's Ja'Noah

House receives a bear, blanket or socks for less-fortunate people.

Their rundown motor home is on its last legs, but three times a week they collect bread and bakery goods donated by the Kroger store at West Chicago and Telegraph and take it into the Cass Corridor, Brightmoor area, Brewster Projects, and Westland's Norwayne neighborhood, to name a few.

This Thanksgiving, the Mattsons fed 150 homeless and lower-income folks from their motor home. Audrey's already

started her Christmas shopping. During their trips to distribute bread and other food items, the Mattsons visit rundown hotels and projects in search of little boys and girls who will not have much of a holiday. They have more than 150 children to buy clothing, dolls and baseballs for. The Mattsons would like to have a building to sort the used clothing and other goods they collect but for now they make do.

"You make a commitment and you can't quit," said Audrey. "I'm so thankful for people who give

to us so we can give to them. We've seen lives change. We've had people say, 'we don't need a meal now. We're working.'"

And that's what all of these artists and everyday people are about - helping others to help themselves. Hopefully, they'll continue to inspire us all.

If you have an interesting idea for a story, call arts reporter Linda Ann Chomin at (734) 953-2115 or send e-mail to lchomin@com.homecomm.net

Portraits from page C1

their portraits taken with their pets back then," said Dumm.

As with any portrait, Dumm's goal is to paint a likeness of the pet.

"When I'm working with clients I let them supply photos," said Dumm. "I need clear photos, in focus and the pet is in a nice pose. The better the photograph, the better the painting."

Dumm will demonstrate the process of creating a pet portrait from sketch to finished work Saturday, Dec. 4, when she paints the store cat at Backdoor Friends Cat Shoppe in Farmington Hills.

Dumm came up with the idea to create pet portraits about five years ago. After receiving an associate's degree in graphic design from Henry Ford Community College, Dumm designed print ads for local newspapers and mail order catalogues, which included horse related items, for several years. Since deciding to do the portraits, she's exhibited at cat and dog shows. One of her cat paintings is also on display at Canterbury Tails, an animal-theme gift shop in Lake Orion.

"I was looking for something to use my artistic talents while staying at home to start raising

a family," said Dumm, who enjoys having her 3 1/2 year old son Austin watch her paint.

"What really draws me to painting animals is you get really honest portraits. They're not worried about their hair or how they look."

Prices for Dumm's watercolor portraits range from \$80 for a 12-by-16-inch to \$175 for an 18-by-24-inch. A 14-by-18-inch pencil drawing is \$100.

For more information about Dumm's pet portraits, call her at (313) 541-7425.

ART BEAT

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

FINAL DAYS

The weavings of Livonia resident Bob Owen will be displayed through Tuesday, Nov. 30, in the Michigan Weavers Guild exhibit in the Fine Arts Gallery at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile.

The 82-year-old Owen started weaving while recuperating from a heart attack. His throws and table runners have won awards in shows at Alma College, the Lansing Art Gallery, and Northwestern Michigan University. He uses three looms and a Commodore computer to work out his designs before transferring them to the loom. Handwoven and Weavers magazines have published articles on how to weave his towel, lace runner and weaver's tote designs.

TASTE OF THE ARTS

The Westland Chamber of Commerce presents an evening of food, fun and entertainment 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 38315 Joy, between Wayne and Newburgh, Westland.

Tickets are \$20 advance, \$25 at the door. Proceeds go the

Family Resource Center and the Westland Chamber of Commerce. Call (734) 326-7222.

There will be music and art provided by Wayne-Westland students. Pick up a work of art at the silent auction.

MINI CONCERTS

The Livonia Civic Chorus is practicing for its free program 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19, at Clarenceville High School's Schmidt Auditorium in Livonia. Send them beforehand at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at Greenmead Historical Village, Newburgh south of Eight Mile; 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, at Wonderland Mall, Plymouth Road and Middlebelt; 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, at the tree-lighting ceremony at Livonia City Hall, Five Mile east of Farmington Road, and the Livonia Mall 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, at Livonia Mall, Seven Mile and Middlebelt.

COMPETITION DEADLINE NEAR

The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra is looking for contestants for its Youth Competition to be held in December at Evola Music of Canton.

Deadline for entry is Friday, Dec. 10. In addition to orchestral instruments, piano contestants are also being sought. Winners will perform at the youth concerts in February 2000. For more information, call (734) 451-2112.

ARTTRAIN

The nation's only traveling art museum on train returns with the "Artistry of Space" 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 4-5, and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 1100 N. Main, Ann Arbor.

Admission is free, but donations are encouraged. Call (734) 747-8300.

The exhibition features artworks from NASA and the National Air and Space Museum. Peter Max, Robert Rauschenberg, Norman Rockwell and Andy Warhol are represented.

Children may make their own artwork 1-5 p.m. in the Creation Station art center in the NEW Center. Co-sponsored by the Ann Arbor Art Center, the Creation Station offers children the chance to paint ceramic tiles and create sandpaper prints for \$1.

DANCE VIGNETTES


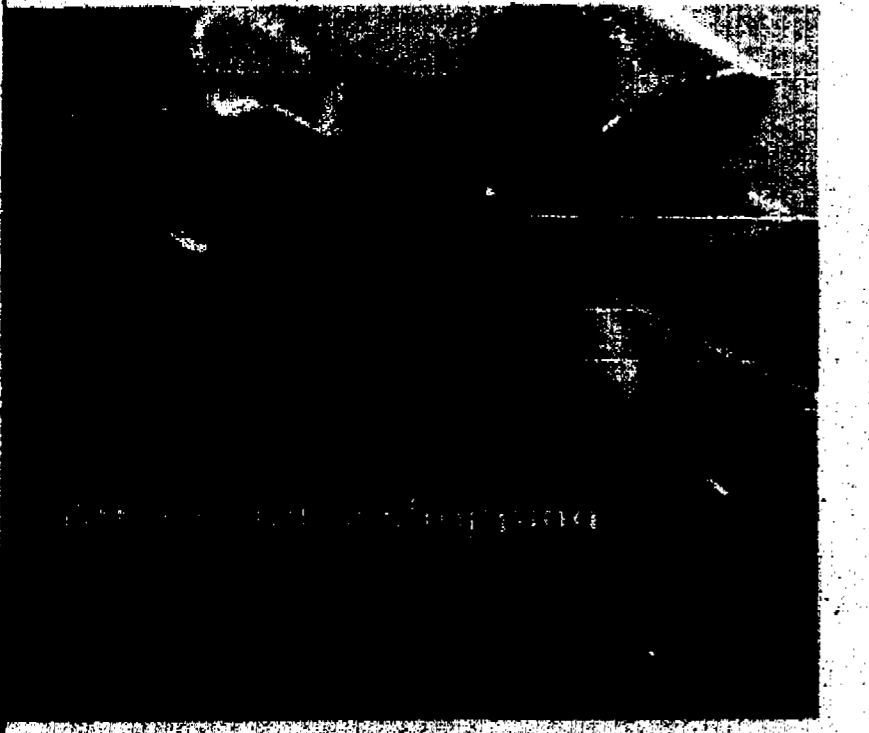
The Dearborn Ballet Theatre dances two mini-performances of "The Nutcracker" 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Wonderland Mall.

The ballet company performs with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh.

Tickets are \$15, \$10 students and children. Call (734) 421-1111 or (734) 464-2741.

For more information, call (734) 522-4100.

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Irish Christmas Bazaar

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10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday, December 5, 1999
12 Noon - 5 p.m.

at the AOH Hall
24342 Grand River
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Call (313) 885-3618

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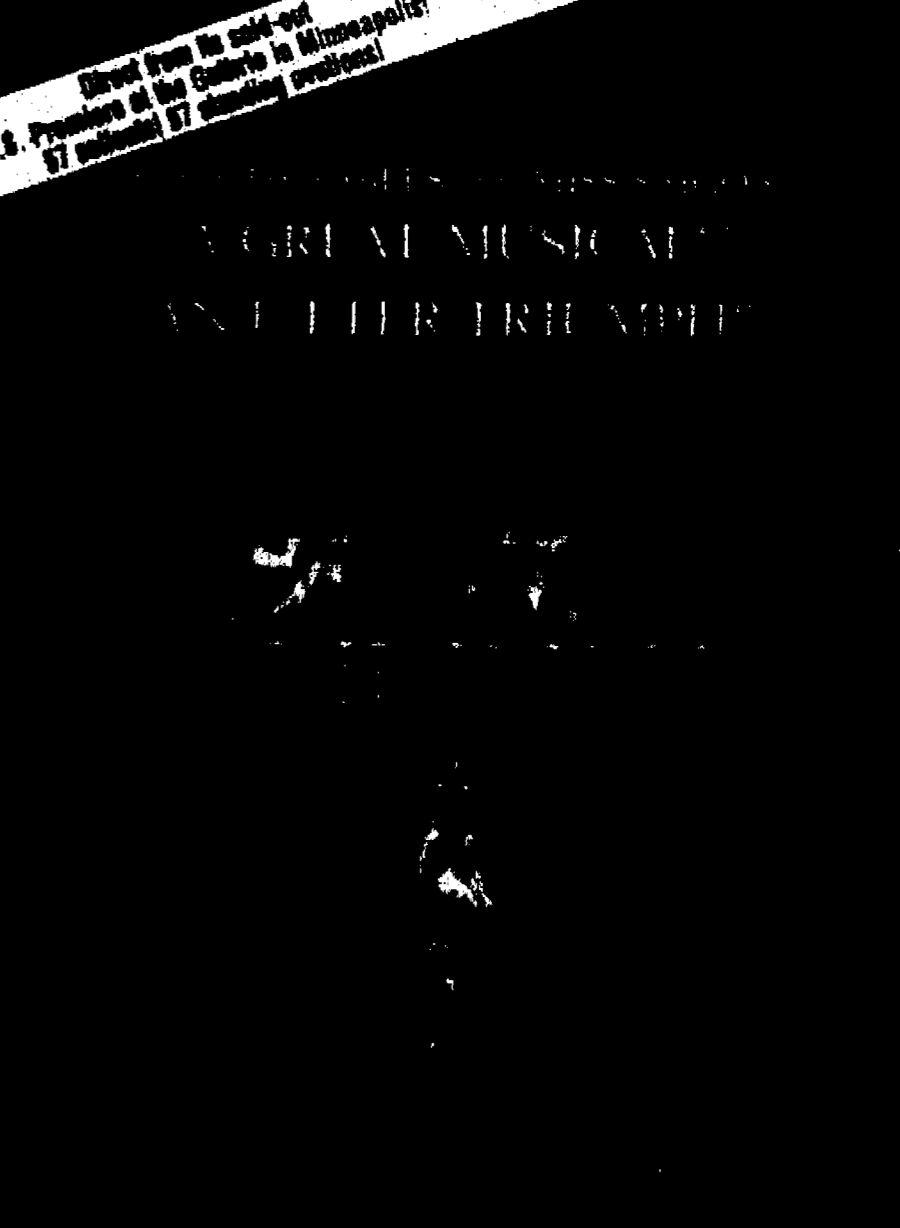
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Student work: The Michigan Student Furniture/Functional Art Design Competition opens Friday, Dec. 3, in conjunction with the Pontiac Gallery Crawl at Gallery: Functionart, 21 N. Saginaw Street, Pontiac.

ART SHOWS & FESTIVALS

ANN ARBOR ARTISANS MARKET

Features fine arts and handmade crafts by 50 Michigan artists. Regular market hours Sundays through December at Farmers' Market at Kerrytown, 315 Detroit, Ann Arbor.

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD ART CENTER

Weekends of special holiday sales: the "Small Works" fine art sale runs through Thursday, December 30 in the DeSoto Community Gallery. The jewelry sale and glass sale is Sunday, Nov. 28. The fiber sale is Thursday to Saturday, Dec. 2 to 4 and the pottery sale is Thursday to Saturday, Dec. 9 to 11. Hours are Monday to Thursday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays noon to 4 p.m. in December, 1516 South Vanhook Road, Birmingham. (248) 644-0866

GALERIE DE BOICOURT

Scandinavian holiday decorations and crafts on sale until Dec. 25, 251 E. Merrill, Birmingham. (248) 723-5680.

GALLERY CRAWL

Visit 35 galleries in Detroit featuring entertainment and food, 5:30-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3. Order ticket in advance at (313) 224-9500.

HUDSON'S FIRST FRIDAYS

Programs and entertainment for all ages including a performance of Indonesian music by Gamelan Ensemble at the Detroit Institute of Arts 6-9 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 833-7900.

MEADOW BROOK HALL HOLIDAY WALK

View "The French Collection" at the hall's 29th annual walk through Sunday, Dec. 5 at Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester. (248) 370-3140.

NATIVE WEST

The 10th annual art & jewelry festival is Dec. 2-6 at 963 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth. (734) 455-8838

NOEL NIGHT

The annual Detroit Cultural Center event features coloring, gallery viewing, entertainment and food, 5-10 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4 in Detroit's Cultural Center, Woodward at Warren.

SOUTHFIELD-LATHROP HOLIDAY SHOW

Student and faculty holiday art show and sale at the Karen Anne Knight Gallery, Southfield-Lathrop High School Arts Academy, Begins 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1 through Dec. 17. Gallery hours during sale are 7-7:30 p.m. and 2:10-2:30 p.m. weekdays or by appointment, 19301 W. 12 Mile, Lathrop Village. (248) 746-7291

AUDITIONS & CALL FOR ARTISTS

The Creative Arts Center is seeking artists in all media for its January 2000 show whose theme is "Visions of Peace and Evolution for the next Millennium." Slides or photos and resume should be submitted by Dec. 1. Selections made by December 15. Send materials to: Exhibit Coordinator, Creative Arts Center, 47 Williams Street, Pontiac. (248) 333-7849.

CRRAFTERS WANTED

"Seasonal Sensations," The annual Senior Fair and Craft Show at Southfield Christian School is seeking crafters for its Dec. 4 show, 28650 Lahser Road, Southfield. (248) 357-3680, ext. 270.

LIVONIA YOUTH PHILHARMONIC

Livonia Youth Philharmonic of Michigan is holding auditions for the 1999-2000 season. Call Wendy Bernard at (734) 591-7649 for an appointment.

METROPOLITAN SINGERS

The adult choir of mixed voices is looking for new singers, especially men, to sing blues, pop, hit tunes and folk tunes. Choir meets 7:30 p.m., Mondays at Rivney Middle School vocal room, 27000 Evergreen Road, Southfield.

MICHIGAN FINE ARTS COMPETITION

A juried exhibit presented by the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center. Slide deadline is January 3. Cash prizes totaling \$9,000 will be awarded. 1516 S. Cranbrook, Birmingham. (248) 644-0866

CLASSES

ART CLASSES

D & M studios offers fine art classes for preschool through adult. Classes held at three locations: 8691 N. Lundy Road, Canton, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, 525 Farmer, Plymouth. (734) 453-7710.

CREATIVE ARTS CENTER OF PONTIAC

Winter 2000 classes for children through adults in fine arts, computer design and music begin Jan. 15, 47 Williams Street. Fees vary per class and a limited number of scholarships are available based on financial need. (248) 333-7849

DETROIT BALLET

Classes in child and adult classical ballet, tap, and jazz. Adult beginners welcome. Classes offered at the Betty Johnson Dance Studio in Farmington Hills at Folsom and Nine Mile Road. (248) 474-3174

EISENHOWER DANCE ENSEMBLE

All levels of classes for recreational and professional students, including modern ballet, pointe, tap and jazz for children, ages 3 and older, 1541 W. Warren Road between Crooks and Lathrop, Southfield. (248) 642-0866

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

Adult art classes every Monday, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 1516 S. Cranbrook, Birmingham. (248) 644-0866

CLASSES TAKE PLACE MON-FRI, 9 A.M. TO 11:10 P.M. SUNDAY, DEC. 5 AT 15110 WEST TEN MILE ROAD, OAK PARK. (248) 967-4030.

KAMMUELLER DANCE CLASSES

Advanced and professional classical ballet program, 9:30 a.m., Monday-Friday, intermediate level, 11:30 a.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 5526 W. Drake, West Bloomfield. (248) 932-8999

NAVEL ACADEMY

Introduction to Belly Dance for all ages and skill level. Classes meet weekly, 32832 Merrill Drive, Westland. (734) 422-1246.

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Classes and workshops for all ages at the center, 704 N. Sheldon Road. Live model session 9:30 a.m. to noon, every third Tuesday of the month, 7:34-416-4278.

VISUAL ART ASSOCIATION OF LIVONIA

Classes in watercolor, figurative drawing and painting, workshops in batik and watercolor monotypes, at the Jefferson Center, Room 16, 9501 Henry Road, Livonia. (734) 455-9517

CONCERTS

AMAHL & THE NIGHT VISITORS

The holiday treasure is 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30 at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield, Clinton Twp. (810) 286-2222.

BRUNCH WITH BACH

The Don Walden Ensemble performs at 11:30 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 5 at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 833-7900.

JUDY COLLINS

Performs a Christmas concert at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3 at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield, Clinton Twp. (810) 286-2222.

CHRISTMAS WITH MANTOVANI

Conducts a Christmas show at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2 at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield, Clinton Twp. (810) 286-2222.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

The classic play is 3 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield, Clinton Twp. (810) 286-2222.

DANCE CONCERT

Rant and Raze: New Dance from Irish Paintings 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, Dec. 3 & 4 at M Dance Dept., 1310 University Ct., Ann Arbor. (734) 763-5460.

DETROIT CHAMBER WINDS & STRINGS

Holiday Brass, 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5 at Grasse Pointe Memorial Church. (248) 362-3000.

DETROIT LUTHERAN SINGERS

"Hallelujah" chorus 3:30 and 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5 at the Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, 1345 Grotel Ave., Detroit. (248) 988-0604.

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Benefit concert for the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development, 7 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 28. Musical jewels from the Baroque era, 8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 2 and 10:45 a.m. & 8 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3. Messiah, 3 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 4-5. Orchestra Hall, Detroit. (313) 576-4111.

FORT STREET CHORALE

Performance of the Messiah, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 and 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5 at Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort St., Detroit. (313) 961-4533.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

The UMS Choral Union performs 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 and 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5 at Hill Auditorium, 825 North University Ave., Ann Arbor. (734) 764-2544.

MARLEM NUTCRACKER

December performances 8 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 2, 8 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3 & 4 & 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4 and 8 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5 at the Detroit Opera House, 200 Pine St., Detroit. (313) 733-7343.

HOLIDAY FLUTES WITH ERVIN MONROE

3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5 at First United Methodist Church, 22331 Woodward, Ferndale. (248) 546-2503.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

The heartwarming play is a 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 29 at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield, Clinton Twp. (810) 286-2222.

NUTCRACKER

Michigan Classic Ballet of Bloomfield Hills performs this holiday classic at 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., on Saturday, Dec. 4 at Mercy Auditorium, Farmington Hills. (248) 334-6964.

MADISON CHORALE

Two holiday cabaret concerts 7:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3 and 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 7 at Wilkinson Middle School, 26524 John R., Madison Heights. (248) 879-7444.

MUSIC AT KIRK IN THE HILLS

Annual Advent choral concert 8 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5, 1340 West Long Lake, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 626-2515.

NAVIDAD FLAMENCA

A Gypsy Christmas holiday is at 12:30 and 7:30 p.m., on Wednesday, Dec. 1 at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield, Clinton Twp. (810) 286-2222.

THE NUTCRACKER

3:30 p.m., Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 11-12 featuring local dancers from the county area, and New York City ballet soloist Arch Higgins. Presented by the Contemporary Civic Ballet at Kimball High School Auditorium, east of Crooks, north of 13 Mile Road, Royal Oak. Tickets: \$12/adults; \$8 seniors & students. (248) 641-9063.

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE CHOIR

Performance of a traditional holiday program 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4 at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Detroit, 4800 Woodward between Warren and Hancock. (248) 349-8175.

SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

"An Afternoon of Music" featuring harpist Brita Sanders from 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5, 26000 Evergreen Road, Southfield. (248) 948-0470.

TIS THE SEASON

A holiday concert at 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5 at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple, Birmingham. (248) 471-1997.

PETER YARROW AND DAUGHTER

Peter Yarrow of Peter Paul and Mary and Bathany Yarrow in a Cranbrook concert 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4 at Temple Emanuel. For information call the Jewish Community Center at (248) 661-1000.

YIDDLE WITH A FIDDLE

A Yiddish musical by 1910 American composer Abraham Elstein at 2 and 8 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5 at Morris Adler Hall at Shaarey Tefel in Southfield.

UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

The Harlem Nutcracker, 3 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 28 at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. 1-800-221-1229.

VIENNA BOYS CHOIR

Performs at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 28 at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield, Clinton Twp. (810) 286-2222.

NIGHT AT THE OPERA

Enjoy arias from popular operas performed by Aaron Caruso, accompanied by Tony Dannon, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 1 at La Bistrac Italian Grill, 39405 Plymouth Road at Eckles between Newburgh and Haggerty. (734) 294-0400.

DANCE

OAKLAND DANCE THEATRE

Dancecases, a concert of modern dance at 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 2-4, Vanner Studio Theatre, Rochester. (248) 320-2032.

EVENTS

GREENMEAD CHRISTMAS WALK

Sever homes and the Hill House at Greenmead will be decorated for the holidays and open for viewing from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Saturday, Dec. 4 at Greenmead, located at Newburgh and Eight Mile Roads. (734) 425-4855.

HOLIDAY GALA DINNERS

A holiday celebration to benefit Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Saturday, Dec. 2-4. (248) 370-3140.

FOR KIDS

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Special Planetarium Programs Sunday, Nov. 28 including Young Stargazers Sky Journey, Michigan Sky Show, Holiday Lasers and Laser Skating. Call for times at 1-877-60-CRANBROOK, 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills.

FLINT YOUTH THEATRE

"The Chicago Gypsies" 7:30 p.m., Dec. 2-11 at Bowler Theater, Flint. 1-800-80-CENTER.

WHISTLE STOP PLAYERS

The Plymouth Community Arts Council presents a children's theater production, "The Christmas Carol" 7 p.m., Dec. 3 & 7:30 p.m., Dec. 4 and 2 p.m., Dec. 5 at 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth. (734) 416-44RT.

LECTURES

CRANBROOK ART MUSEUM

Elaine Heumann-Gordon, former acting director of Cranbrook Institute of Science will present a lecture 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 1 at Cranbrook Art Museum, 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 645-3301.

MUSEUMS

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Through Jan. 2, "Student Landscapes: The Natural Forces that Shape Our World," 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. 1-877-60-CRANBROOK.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Through Jan. 9, "What's an Art Book?" A glimpse into the Research Library's rare book collection at 5230 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 833-7900.

TROY MUSEUM

Through March 30, "Living with Michigan Landscapes: From a Walk in the Woods," 2481, (248) 524-3570.

CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

Through Jan. 2, "Made in This: The Life and Work of the Black and African American Printers," 1016 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 244-6820.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MUSEUM OF ART

Through Dec. 1, "Walt: The Legend of the Artist," 1000 Tappan Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 763-1000.

State, Ann Arbor. (734) 764-0395.

GALLERY EXHIBITS (OPENING)

ARIANA GALLERY

Opens Saturday, Dec. 4 - "Fanz Navidood" featuring doodads for holidays through Jan. 1, 119 South Main, Royal Oak. (248) 546-8810.

JANICE CHARACH EPSTEIN GALLERY

Opens Thursday, Dec. 2 - "The Mountain of the Lord: Scale Models of Jerusalem Temples" through Jan. 27, 6500 West Maple, West Bloomfield. (248) 661-7641.

CREATIVE ARTS CENTER

Opens Friday, Dec. 3 - An exhibit by the Chaldean American Association of Fine Arts through Dec. 30, 47 Williams Street. (248) 333-7649.

ELAINE JACOB GALLERY

Opens Thursday, Dec. 2 - "Misbehaving" Works from the studio of Sandy Skoglund through Feb. 4, 480 W. Hancock, Detroit. (313) 993-7813.

GALLERY: FUNCTIONART

Opens Friday, Dec. 3 in conjunction with the Pontiac Gallery Crawl - Michigan Student Furniture/Functional Art Design Competition. More than 30 works by area students will be on display through Saturday, Dec. 18, 21 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac.

GALERIE BLU

Opens Friday, Dec. 3 - Works by Lenore Gimpert through Jan. 4. Opening reception 7:10 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3, 7 North Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 454-7797.

HABATAT GALLERIES

Opens Friday, Dec. 3 - new work by Kreg Kallenberger through Dec. 31, North Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 333-2060.

LIVONIA ARTS COMMISSION

Opens Friday, Dec. 3 - Audrey Harris watercolors through Dec. 30 in the Fine Arts Gallery, Opens Saturday, Dec. 4 - Bob Radnick, GB Prints through Dec. 29 in the extension cases, Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia. (734) 466-2490.

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Opens Wednesday, Dec. 1 - "Spirit Earth" recent watercolors of Todd Marsee through Jan. 26, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth. (734) 416-44RT.

SISSON GALLERY

Through Jan. 14 - "Unconformity" Artwork by Jeanne Bien and Teresa Petersen, Henry Ford Community College, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn. (313) 945-6490.

SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Opens Wednesday, Dec. 1 - Boys Hope of a Hope in Detroit: A Traveling Photographic exhibit through Dec. 16, 26000 Evergreen Road, Southfield. (248) 948-0470.

UZELAC GALLERY

Opens Friday, Dec. 3 in conjunction with the Pontiac Gallery Crawl - "Painting by M. Uzelac, Rooms from his 'Towers' series" presented by Gallery: Functionart at Uzelac Gallery, Art and Arts Building, 21 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac. (248) 307-2357.

WASHINGTON STREET GALLERY

Opens Tuesday, Nov. 30 - "Small Works" through Jan. 4, 24 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5, 215 N. Washington, Ann Arbor. (734) 761-2267.

WOODS GALLERY

Opens Saturday, Dec. 4 - "The Best of Society Artists" through Jan. 1. Opening reception 10 a.m., 201 S. Saturday, Dec. 4, 26415 Scenic Heritage Blvd., Woods. (248) 644-9720.

GALLERY EXHIBITS (ON-GOING)

ARIANA GALLERY

Through Jan. 1, "I'll Get There by Light" 119 S. Main St., Royal Oak. (248) 546-8810.

ALFRED BERKOWITZ GALLERY

Through Dec. 22 - "The Michigan Friends of Photography Annual: Michigan Exhibition" Margaret Jones University of Michigan Dearborn campus, 4911 Evergreen, Dearborn. (248) 695-4400.

CARY GALLERY

Through Dec. 24 - "Paintings by the Artist" 1200 W. Woodward, Detroit. (248) 661-4876.

GALERIA CASA DE UNIDAD

Through Dec. 27 - "Caja de las Ideas" through Dec. 27, 1327 S. Grand, Detroit. (313) 843-9588.

GALERIA BIEGAS

Through Jan. 10 - "Surreal Landscapes" through Jan. 10, 25 Grand Ave., Detroit. (313) 461-6343.

GALERIE BLU

Through Nov. 30 - "The Art of the Artist" through Nov. 30, 7 North Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 454-7797.

GALLERY 212

Through Dec. 1, "The Mountain of the Lord: Scale Models of Jerusalem Temples" through Dec. 27, 6500 West Maple, West Bloomfield. (248) 661-7641.

GALLERY AT MARYGROVE COLLEGE

Through Dec. 17 - "The Works of Sandy Skoglund" through Dec. 17, 201 S. Saturday, Dec. 4

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

Collection of mystery stories makes an ideal holiday gift

"Irreconcilable Differences: 20 Mystery Stories," edited by Lia Matera (HarperCollins, \$24).

BY VICTORIA DIAZ SPECIAL WRITER

Not long ago, editor and writer Lia Matera approached a number of award-winning writers with an idea for a new anthology...

In addition to her work as an editor and writer, Matera is a veteran attorney, and when she made her request to the writers, she expected them to define the term in the same legalistic way that she did.

"I was... delighted to see how much more broadly they interpreted it," she writes in her introduction. "My years as a lawyer had... limited the words for me, narrowing them to diminished potency."

The stories in this collection are not just about irreparable marital relationships (although those are here); they also focus on myriad types of personal relationships that have reached a kind of impasse...

After all, adds Matera, "judging from crime statistics, a great

many conflicts continue to cry out for vengeance, either in blood or money or tears."

Come along on this diverse and spine-tingling journey that opens with "Tusk," Joyce Carol Oates' dark account of adolescent anguish, and closes with Matera's own eerie tale, "It Can't Be True," which also deals with childhood's indelible brand of emotional pain.

In between, mystery mavens can delve into this collection as if it were Gump's box of chocolates. Some surprises can be found along the way, and some may really hit the spot.

If sepulchral humor is to your taste, Eileen Dreyer's "Fun With Forensics" will tickle your funny bone. In it, "the new Forensic Sciences Association... struggling to claim its place in the pantheon of professional organizations" finds, to its horror, that it is "saddled with a member who (is) not only completely unqualified, but a full-fledged psycho to boot."

Extremes of temperatures play a role in a number of other stories. Edna Buchanan's "Miami Heat" shows us a man on a sultry night in the crime-ridden Florida city, losing his family and perhaps his life because he insists that his dreamy past has not evolved into the violent present.

Bill Pronzini's "Wishful Thinking" also takes place during a relentless heat wave. In it, we meet Jerry, an odd bird who lets off steam by pretending that he has murdered his nagging wife, Verna, in various ways.

As part of his pretense, he announces his "crime" to his next-door neighbor. In the colorful and inventive "Paleta Man," by Laurie R. King, an ice-cream vendor who commits a deadly deed possesses just the right stuff for disposing of his victim's remains.

Former Michigan author Marcia Muller, in "Up at the Riverside," writes of an aging, gay couple who, on inheriting a decrepit hotel, come up against irreconcilable differences regarding its fate.

Also looking at the interconnectedness of past, present, and future is Jeremiah Healy's well-wrought story, "Legacy," in which his popular private eye, John Francis Cuddy, encounters a dying woman who feels she must break the law in order to preserve her beloved family.

"The Perfect Revenge" (Amanda Cross), "Buried Treasure" (Sarah Lovett), "Just Desserts" (Judith Kelman), "Heart Break" (Gillian Roberts), and Jan Burke's "An Unsuspected Condition of the Heart" (the only story not set in the present) are some of the additional tales examining the common theme.

Naming the strongest story in "Irreconcilable Differences" is a little like picking apples over oranges. Though some pack more punch than others, there's not a really bad one in the bunch.

If you're seeking out the ideal holiday gift for those on your list who love a mystery, you've found it with "Irreconcilable Differences."

Victoria Diaz is a Livonia resident who writes book, movie and theater reviews for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Here's a holiday sampler of books that deserve a place under the tree

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

You know what is even before you tear off the rectangular wrapping, but a book still is one of the most rewarding gifts to receive, and to give:

For grown-up minds

Photographer Fred Maroon had no inkling of its dramatic end when he began a project to photograph the Nixon presidency. "The Nixon Years: 1969-1974" (Abbeville Press, \$29.95 hardcover) portrays the period, from Richard M. Nixon's election to the end of his presidency with the Watergate scandal...

Norman Rockwell used to be dismissed by critics as a mere illustrator. Nobody liked him except, it seems, the millions of readers who enjoyed his Saturday Evening Post covers. In "Norman Rockwell: Pictures for the American People" (Abrams, \$35 hardcover), curators Maureen

Hart Hennessey and Anne Knutson compile new critical acclaim from modern critics, who appreciate Rockwell's contribution to American 20th-century culture.

Aerial photography reveals the earth in fascinating patterns and perspectives. "Earth from Above" (Abrams, \$65 hardcover), by Yann Arthus-Bertrand, distills his five years of airborne photography across five continents and 60 countries.

For the young in age, outlook

"Stormy Night" (Kids Can Press, \$18.95 hardcover), by Michele Lemieux, is a serious, philosophical book for children, approaching their fears and questions about God, life, death, abandonment, chance, happiness, sadness, and what happens if. Lemieux, with simple text and drawings, enables youngsters to grasp these abstracts. The book, first published in Germany and subsequently translated into nine languages, is winner of the Ragazzi Prize awarded at the Bologna Book Fair.

BOOK HAPPENINGS

Book Happenings features events at suburban bookstores, libraries and literary gatherings. Send news leads to Keely Wygonik, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (734) 591-7279 or e-mail to kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

LOCAL INTEREST

Northville resident James E. Person Jr. will discuss and sign copies of his book, "Russell Kirk, A Critical Biography of a Conservative Mind," noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at the Little Book Shoppes on the Park in Plymouth. Person is a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and his book is an account of the noted thinker Russell Kirk, who also lived in Plymouth as a youth.

Author David Carson, who wrote "Rockin' Down the Dial: The Detroit Sound of Radio from Jack the Selloff," will sign copies of his book at the Detroit Historical Museum. The signing is scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, in the Louise C. Booth auditorium of the museum. Carson, whose book was recently published by Troy-based Momentum Books, will be joined by a few of the radio personalities featured, including current

WOMC-FM morning man and Detroit radio institution Dick Purtan, former WXYZ and WJLB radio personality Jack Surrel and veteran WJR and WJBK radio personality Clark Reid. The program is presented in conjunction with the Museum's new "On the Air" exhibit, which allows museum-goers to take a walk through time and the area's radio and television broadcast history. The program is free with regular museum admission. The "On the Air" exhibit continues at the Detroit Historical Museum through April 30. The museum, located at Woodward and Kirby in Detroit's Cultural Center, is open 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is \$4.50 for adults, \$2.25 for seniors and children ages 12-18 and free for children 12 and younger. Call (313) 833-1805 for more information.

Author Sandi Brewer will read from and sign copies of her novel, "Murder for Beltene," 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, at Borders Ann Arbor, 612 E. Liberty. The book is set in Brennan County, Mich., and tells the story of the Beltenes, a family like none you've ever encountered before. Considering that Rhiannon Beltene is a vampire novelist and loves going out for ice cream late at night, it's no surprise that someone leaves a bloodless, embalmed body in her path one evening, especially for her to find.

OTHER BOOK SIGNINGS TV talk show host Mike Douglas will sign copies of his new book, "I'll Be Right Back," at the Barnes and Noble store in Northville, 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4. In "I'll Be Right Back," Douglas writes about his more than 50 years of involvement in television, including his popular late afternoon programs from the 1970s. For more information, call (248) 348-0696. The store is located off Haggerty and Six

Mile. Farmington Observer reporter and Livonia resident Tim Smith will sign copies of his new book "Miracle Birth Stories of Very Premature Babies - Little Thumbs Up!" Saturday, Dec. 11, 1 p.m., Waidenbooks, Lakeside Mall, Hall Road, Sterling Heights. (810) 247-0420. and Thursday, Jan. 6, 7 p.m., Borders Books and Music, Oakland Mall, 14 Mile Road, Troy. Smith can be contacted directly at (248) 477-5450.

Author Sandi Brewer will read from and sign copies of her novel, "Murder for Beltene," 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, at Borders Ann Arbor, 612 E. Liberty. The book is set in Brennan County, Mich., and tells the story of the Beltenes, a family like none you've ever encountered before. Considering that Rhiannon Beltene is a vampire novelist and loves going out for ice cream late at night, it's no surprise that someone leaves a bloodless, embalmed body in her path one evening, especially for her to find.

BORDERS ROCHESTER HILLS ■ Four Seasons: A Romance Reading Group will discuss "Bayou Magic" by Elizabeth Turner. The discussion will be led by romance authors Marie Allen and Jeanne Severy, both members of the Greater Detroit Romance Writers Association. The session starts at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 29. Call (734) 652-0558 for information.

National Assessments

Michigan State University... 2150 N. Zeeb Rd. 48824-1114

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'Some Americans Abroad' falls short for audience

Wayne State University presents Richard Nelson's satiric comedy "Some Americans Abroad" through Feb. 5 at the Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass at Hancock on WSU campus, Detroit. Tickets \$11-\$18; Group discounts are available. For tickets or more information, call (313) 577-2972.

BY SUE SUCHYTA
SPECIAL WRITER

The Hilberry graduate theater company takes us to England with a group of American University professors in "Some Americans Abroad."

The comedy of manners shows how the worst comes out in some people when they are in a foreign environment and how they confront those flaws. Nelson, an American dramatist, was commissioned by the Royal Shake-

peare Company to write the play.

Joe Taylor, the new head of the English Department, is at the center of the story. He covers his nervousness and inexperience with his charm and uncompromising liberal politics.

Throughout the play Taylor must find a way to inform one of his staff that he will not receive tenure or a renewed contract, a decision he is uncomfortable with because it bypasses the teacher's talent and focuses on his lack of prestigious credentials.

Along the way he has to deal with an AWOL student and a professor accused of unwanted sexual advances by a student.

The play itself is dialogue intensive. Professors and students who have actually been on a college-sponsored trip abroad will experience a somewhat-

amusing sense of déjà vu, but most of the play is weighed down by ponderous dialogue.

The opening scene, set in a restaurant, is a prolonged discussion of 1989 cold war politics. Undoubtedly boring 10 years ago, the topic inspires even more yawns today. The mealtime banter merely serves to establish the intellectual snobbery and political shallowness of the professors on the tour, a premise that could have been accomplished in less time with a livelier conversation.

Taylor, the neophyte department head, is played with calm and plodding efficiency by Erik Gratton. The character is a nice snob - a pleasant fellow, but a snob none the less - and spineless, as demonstrated by the character's unwillingness to tell Henry McNeil of his impending unemployment. Gratton keeps the character unflaggingly cheer-

ful with a stiff smile, never allows a loss of temper, and rarely raises his voice. It's an interesting character study for a student actor but hardly a compelling protagonist for audiences to like.

Mike Schraeder plays Henry McNeil, the young professor all but groveling to keep his position - even willing to forego tenure and work on a yearly basis. Schraeder plays the part with unabashed brown-nose enthusiasm, with enough desperation to make the audience squirm in uncomfortable recognition.

As he clings to his threads of hope that he'll keep his job, his wife Betty, played by Emily Miller, chafes at the hypocrisy of the situation. She's already accepted the inevitable loss of her husband's job and can barely maintain her civility toward the group. One wishes for her to lose

her composure, if only to liven up one of the tedious scenes.

Gavin Lewis portrays Orson Baldwin, the retired English chairman who gives a voice to the outrageous thoughts that his successor, Joe Taylor, keeps tightly in check. His rude pronouncements add some life to the scenes, and occasionally jars his stuffy former colleagues out of their comfort zones. Even though his character is unpleasant, it's refreshing to hear his breaks with the arcane conversation and his irreverent pronouncements.

Sexual harassment is a side plot and dates the play. Today, a professor accused of inappropriate sexual conduct toward a student would be subject to extensive scrutiny at the very least. The play's willingness to sweep the whole incident quietly under the carpet emphasizes the characters' shallowness, but it also

dates them. The play is an interesting exercise for actors but not an interesting evening of theater.

The changing locations - usually restaurants or public places - were announced with an overhead slide at the start of the scene, a slight shifting of neutral backdrops' screens, and the arrival and departure of furniture and props. A Union Jack hung from the back of the set, partially hidden by the screens. The set was very neutral and bland - it did nothing to give the play a British flavor.

The rearrangement of the screens served little purpose beyond changing the entrance and exit locations; their rearrangement added work to the scene changes. Perhaps some scenes of London or Stratford might have added some color to an otherwise-dry show.

Controversy at the DIA reveals a shocking reality

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

Somewhere between the Warholian 15-minutes of fame and sociologist Neil Postman's premonition of a society amusing itself to death fits the absurd controversy at the Detroit Institute of Arts. But perhaps the controversy is no more absurd than the times in which we live.

The raging controversy between an installation artist crying censorship and a museum defending its right to the select work it exhibits is densely packed with allegations, presumptions, hurt feelings and plenty of misunderstandings.

It's a controversy that could have been avoided. Why wasn't it? Who has been hurt by the subsequent reactionary debate? And what can be learned?

Controversy revisited

The ping-pong incident began 10 days ago when DIA Director Graham Beal closed installation artist Jef Bourgeois's exhibit "Van Gogh's Ear," the first of the artist's 12 one-week exhibits. Bourgeois intended to document and offer a derivative interpretation of "shock art" of the 20th century.

Several pieces in Bourgeois's exhibit were deemed potentially offensive to museum visitors. While Bourgeois had been discussing the exhibit for the last two years with the DIA, apparently curator Maryanne Wilkinson was surprised by several elements when they showed up at the museum.

The DIA was concerned with Bourgeois's reference to a Brazilian nut using an inflammatory racial slur (the "n word"), a condom placed on a plastic doll called "Bathtub Jesus," a jar of urine (allegedly the same used by Andres Serrano without a submerged crucifix) and a video of a woman taking a shower in which the blood-tinged water simulated menstruation.

Bourgeois claims he was prepared to be in the gallery to respond to visitors as they were hit in the face with their own preconceptions and prejudices about race, religion, sex and gender.

Guerrilla campaign

The earnest and soft-spoken Bourgeois's work over the years has had an absurdist tone. Three years ago, he established his own museum in Pontiac.

The museum is an 8-by-10 space inside Galerie Blu. The "museum" has exhibited Bourgeois's pieces and other provocative work.

The "museum" is run by a fictitious director after the equally fictitious founder mysteriously drowned. Bourgeois's point: Museums are stodgy repositories and must be prodded to show contemporary art. Bourgeois is waging a guerrilla campaign to force a rethinking of the role and responsibilities of museums.

What is "art"?

Inevitably, the decision to exhibit his "art" must be based

on a qualitative judgment whether it is indeed "art." That judgment belongs to the DIA.

The DIA did not censor Bourgeois's work. He was free to create his own interpretations of "shock art," many of which are derivative. When the DIA got something they didn't expect, they had a change of heart. And, according to Beal, they still wanted to work with Bourgeois to find a compromise.

Bourgeois claims any modification to his exhibit is censorship. Yet he had already prepared an alternative description to the Brazilian nut piece. If he was willing to modify his work, why was it "censorship" when the DIA asked him if there was an alternative description?

Bourgeois's message, that prejudice is often mindlessly passed down from one generation to the next, dissipated into a discussion of semantics.

Sign of the times

Like past controversies involv-

ing depictions of homosexuals, displays of body fluids and dung-laden paintings, this dispute is another example of how our culture has become self-consumed, bizarre and reactionary.

Does what passes today as "shock art" foster a broader debate about art, race, religion, sex and gender? Who's fooling who? Did Jesse Helms' opposition to public funding of art museums broaden the debate about the role of art in a democracy?

There's no doubt that an art exhibit can evoke a powerful response. The question, however, is whether an art exhibit can be about more than an individual artist's bowel habits or notions of identity.

On the surface, the DIA and Bourgeois became locked in the ongoing First Amendment drama about whose right takes precedence.

Maybe both should have asked what was the point of Bourgeois's exhibit. The point, if there was one, has to do with how we've

become so numb by the onslaught of information and images that we can't even find the time to reflect. We simply await the next jolt of controversy.

What makes curators and artists think that "shock art" is a remedy for our collective attention deficit disorder? "Shock art" is an end in itself and a reflection of who we are, a society that thrives on spectacles.

Maybe there's a chance to figure out what's at stake and what's important. The DIA must become more accessible and relevant to the needs of a highly diverse population.

A serious discussion must ensue about the need for a legitimate contemporary arts museum to enhance the encyclopedic DIA.

As long as artists become instant media stars and misunderstandings keep artists, curators and museum directors fighting with each other rather than joining together for the sake of the arts, we'll continue to be distracted.

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November 26, 27 & 28 - Robinson Gallery

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Malls & Mainstreets

Don't buy into the madness of the holidays



Yes, the madness, holiday shopping, has begun. And, it is madness. Even if you, unlike myself, bubble over with the spirit and magic of the season every year and wouldn't think of giving up the holidays for anything, it still is madness.

That's because the joyful, giving and celebratory spirit of the holidays never fails to mutate into a wraith of "I ought, I should, I have to, I better, I need ..." and so forth.

I think you know what I'm talking about. That moment in December when gold-colored cocktail napkins won't do because you need cocktail napkins with gold wreathes. Otherwise, your holiday napkins won't match your holiday china.

You've also decided you ought to purchase a dozen or so holiday-scented candles. They, too, should be gold.

While you're out shopping, which you seem to be doing every day, you realize you ought to buy your boss' dog a Christmas present. Everybody else in the office does.

Hey, maybe you should buy the next-door neighbor's kid's dog, a pet toy, too.

Another should-do is the holiday newsletter. All your friends are keeping you up-to-date on their lives, thus you should, too. At the very least, you should write something more than "Season's Greetings" on the 150 cards you have to buy, address and send in the next few weeks.

Other common "ought-to's" include: baking and decorating cookies for Santa (even though the kids are grown and don't believe anymore); buying co-workers token holiday gifts; impulsively getting into the spirit by purchasing a red sweater to wear to the annual Christmas Eve party down the street; making jars of relish to give to each and every host at each and every party you attend; and endeavoring on projects inspired by Martha Stewart.

Before you know it, your to-do list is impossibly long, painful to consider, a constant reminder of your inadequacy as a cheerful, holiday giver.

And, as a proponent of having fun whenever you can, this saddens me.

There are many "ought-to's" in this world. That the holidays ought to be fun is one of the few I support.

However, unless you're willing give up your list of "ought-to's" in favor of a list of "I-can's" or "I'll-try's," you'll feel like you're on the clock during the next month, rather than doing nice, thoughtful things for family and friends on your own time.

I'm certainly not recommending you rebel against the holidays by refusing to buy gifts or decorate the house. Hey, you even can bake a few cookies and buy holiday candles, if you'd like. Go ahead, buy a ham for the boss' dog.

The point is: do whatever you want, but do what you can and want to do, as opposed to what you should and ought to do.

If you reasonably can and shrewdly want to spend an entire afternoon driving all over town to find colorful lampshades, gold wreathes, by all means, do it. Celebrate, buy a lot that will putte. Pick them up at the Mallmark store when you're buying cards and wrapping paper. It's called shopping.

Another thing there is such thing as the perfect gift. The perfect gift is a book. Besides, books are easy to find. Books are easy to buy. Books are easy to read. Books are easy to give. Books are easy to return. Books are easy to exchange. Books are easy to use. Books are easy to love. Books are easy to live with. Books are easy to live by.

One more thing: how is what you probably don't need any particular type of merchandise to make your holiday celebrations a good one. On the other hand, retailers measure the success of their holiday season based on how much you and I buy. They need, do you. Happy shopping.

It's a tradition Shoppers flock to malls after Thanksgiving feast



Always and forever: Sisters Tina and Jackie Lock, at left, with their aunt, Linda Innes from Indiana, have a tradition of coming to Oakland Mall in Troy after Thanksgiving dinner at grandma's house. The trio rose from bed at 4 a.m. Friday morning, so they could stop by a few other stores before heading to the mall for bargains, giveaways and people watching.

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
SPECIAL EDITOR

nstafford@oe.homecomm.net
Holiday giveaways. Merchandise discounts. An opportunity to finish holiday shopping early.

There's a plethora of reasons so many shoppers head to local malls and downtown retail districts to shop the day after Thanksgiving.

But abiding tradition is probably their strongest motivation.

In a day of rampant commercialism, a sea of merchandise to choose from and long waits at computer registers, shopping rituals and mere tradition help keep shopping enjoyable.

"It's the religious shopping day of the year," said Troy resident Debbie

Jakubowski, who, along with daughter Nicole, woke at 6 a.m. Friday morning to join hundreds of other shoppers at Oakland Mall in Troy.

"You take off work and just shop. It kind of sets the mood for the holidays," said Jakubowski.

But Jakubowski and other shoppers' post-Thanksgiving shopping traditions are more elaborate than just hopping in the car and heading to the mall.

The day before, Jakubowski scans newspaper ads for merchandise bargains and giveaways, makes a list of items she'd like to purchase and jots down a shopping itinerary and ranks her tasks by importance.

Disney's annual Christmas Winnie the Pooh stuffed animal, which Jakubowski purchases

every year, topped her list.

Like Jakubowski, Tina and Jackie Lock, of Utica and their aunt Linda Innes from Indiana, "cruise" newspaper ads on Thanksgiving Day in search of bargains, then develop a shopping plan of action.

The group dragged themselves out of bed at 4 a.m. Friday because, according to tradition, the need to stop by Target and Meijer before making their way to Oakland Mall.

Once there, they make a beeline to Hudson's where yet another ritual is enacted - a wait in line to purchase a Hudson's holiday Santa Bear.

"We have like a master plan," said

Jackie. In addition to getting a start on their holiday shopping, taking advantage of bargains and going home with a few freebies, the Lock sisters enjoy paying witness to the frenzy.

"We'll have stories to tell all year long," Tina said of shoppers' behavior, charging store entrances, fighting for merchandise and running down department store aisle ways.

"I think for me it's the tradition of coming and watching these crazy people, and knowing we're one of those crazy people, too," said Jackie, adding, "It's fun. ... Not shopping today would be weird. I don't know what I'd do."



Search: Diane and Mary Bilek search Westland Shopping Center.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

LANSINGE FESTIVE
Celebrate LANSINGE, "a little something extra" on Monday, Nov. 28 in downtown Rochester. Activities include horse-drawn carriage rides, tree-lighting ceremony, caroling and a visit from Santa and real reindeer. Also, merchants will give small gifts to their customers, 6-8:00 p.m. For more information, call (248) 644-5832.

EMERSON VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

Bates in downtown Birmingham, to visit with children over breakfast, 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4. Photos with Santa are available. For additional information, call (248) 644-5832.

HOLIDAY MAGIC
Absolutely Baffling Magic presents Rudolph the Reindeer and 35 minutes of magic tricks for children of all ages on Saturday, Dec. 4 at the Westland Shopping Center. Show starts at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., West Court near the J.C. Penny entrance.

ROCHESTER'S MOONLIGHT MADNESS
Merchants in downtown Rochester hold a moonlight madness sale for the holidays, 7-11 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, with a variety of sales and discounts from participating retailers. Charity gift wrapping services and downtown Rochester gift certificates will be available in the Third Street Atrium.

SANTA ARRIVES AT NORTHLAND CENTER
Santa sets up shop at Southfield's Northland Center to visit with children for photographs during the mall's extended holiday hours through Dec. 24. For a mall schedule, call (248) 569-5272.

SANTA COMES TO PLYMOUTH
Santa visits with children in downtown Plymouth every weekend through Christmas, 5-8 p.m. on Friday and noon-5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Kellogg Park band shell.

TREE OF LIFE
Volunteers from the Livonia Angela Hospice accept donations for their Tree of Life through Dec. 31 at Laurel Park Place in Livonia. Hang a paper ornament on the tree as a tribute to a loved one, in Jacobson's Court. For additional information, call (248) 464-7810.

HOLIDAY KINGDOM & BREAKFASTS
A majestic three-story castle comes to life for children waiting to visit Santa at the Somerset Collection through Dec. 24. The Children's Theatre of Michigan acts as the castle's royal family, jesters and jugglers and will continuously entertain Santa's guests in the North Grand Court area. Also, private breakfasts with the royal family and Santa Claus are scheduled at 8:30 a.m. on both December 4 and 11. Tickets are priced at \$10 per person. For information, call (248) 643-6360.

Detail, style and special store events are listed in this calendar. Please send information to: **Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Centric Newspapers, 505 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48202. Fax: (248) 644-1313. Information must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for publication the following Monday.**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20
SANTA VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21
EMERSON VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22
SANTA VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23
SANTA VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24
SANTA VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25
SANTA VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26
SANTA VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27
SANTA VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28
SANTA VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29
SANTA VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30
SANTA VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

MONDAY, JANUARY 1
SANTA VISITS SANTA
Santa comes to The Community House, 380 South

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

Latest pieces at Neiman Marcus, the Somerset Collection in Troy, 1-4 p.m., Designer Jewelry, first floor.

LARGE JEWELRY SHOW
View a collection of Lagos Jewelry at Jacobson's at Laurel Park Place in Livonia, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Fine Jewelry department.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

SPRING & HOLIDAY ATTIRE
View the spring collection of Joan Vass, USA or purchase pre-opening and holiday attire at Sally's Design women's clothing store, the Orchard Mall in West Bloomfield through Dec. 5. For store hours, call (248) 626-0896

ART & JEWELRY FESTIVAL

Native West, 363 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth, holds its 10th Annual Holiday Art and Jewelry Festival featuring pieces by some of the finest Native American artists in the nation through Dec. 5. For store hours, call (734) 455-8838

BIEDERMANN ORNAMENT SHOW
Jacobson's hosts Carl Biedermann and a show of his collectible, limited-edition ornaments at their Birmingham store. Biedermann and his ornament collection also visit Jacobson's Laurel Park Place store in Livonia on Dec. 3. Both events, 3-7 p.m., Stationary department.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

ANTIQUE JEWELRY SHOW
P.R. Haig Jewelers, 436 Main Street in downtown Rochester, hosts Bernard Cohen's collection of antique and period jewelry with a visit from Mr. Cohen through Dec. 5. Store hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and noon-5 p.m. on Sunday.

WHERE CAN I FIND?

This feature is dedicated to helping readers locate merchandise that's difficult to find. If you've seen or are looking for an item, call (248) 901-2555 and leave a message with your name and phone number. We publish readers' requests for merchandise twice. If you don't hear from us or see information about the item within a few weeks, we were unable to locate it. When we find an item from another reader, rather than a store, we will call you. But, please be patient; we handle an overwhelming number of requests each week.

- WHAT WE FOUND:**
- The game "Catch Phrase" is sold at Target and Kay-Bee Toy stores.
 - Buster Brown children's clothing is available at Parisian, Laurel Park Place in Livonia, and at the Kensington outlet mall in Howell.
 - Red Cross shoes can be bought at the Red Cross Shoe store on Ford Road, west of Lilly, in Canton.
 - Personalized children's books are sold at the Livonia Civic Center Library gift shop.
 - Personalized children's book are made at Genesis Books, a home-based business, (248) 360-8677.
 - Leather jackets repairs are done at Hands-on Leather, (734) 459-6560.
 - Dream Catchers can be found at the following locations: Woodland Indian Trading Company on Six Mile in Redford; Scott Coburn Western Wear on Farmington Road; Fred Rocks on Dixie Highway in Waterford; Southeastern Michigan Indians' Detroit American Indian Center, (313) 535-2966; Hands-on Leather, (734) 459-6560;

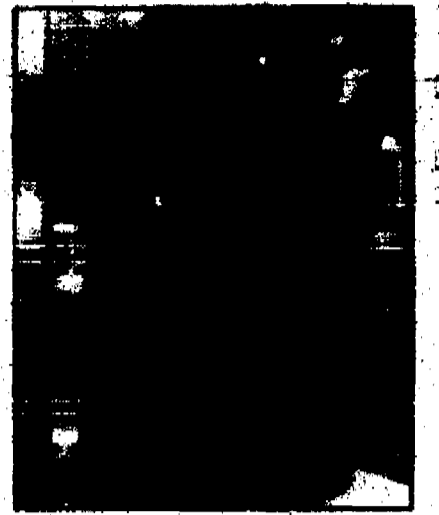
- Native West in downtown Plymouth; and Home Spun Gifts in Westland Mall.
- An under-the-cabinet knife holder can be bought through the Home Center catalog, (800) 303-5114, and at Kitchen Glamour stores.
- One six-inch Revere frying pan is available from a reader.
- Walled Lake Shoe Repair on Pontiac Trail repairs leather jackets, sells wall-hanging shoe shine kits, and plastic rain boots.
- Replacement parts for antique oil lamps can be purchased at Great Midwestern Antique Emporium on Dixie Highway in Drayton Plains.
- A pattern for making quilts from T-shirts can be found in the Clotilde catalog, (800) 772-2891 or www.clotilde.com
- Yardley lavender talc powder can be bought at F&M stores and through the Beauty Boutique catalog, (440) 826-3008.
- One 1948 Royal Copenhagen Christmas plate is available from a reader.
- Sander's products are available at The Chocolate Shop in Farmington. The original Sander's bumpy cake recipe is available at Hagelstein's Bakery stores, 800 S. Washington in Royal Oak, (248) 541-0566, and 14 Mile Road in Clawson.
- The game Mille Bourne can be found at Noodle Kidoodle stores in Rochester and Farmington.
- A female mannequin can be purchased through the Celebration Fantastic catalog, (800) 235-3272.
- A laptop desk with formica top and bean bag base is avail-

- able at Gail's Office Supply stores in Birmingham, (248) 642-6330, and Bloomfield Township, (248) 626-4700, and at Big Lots on Livernois in Troy and the Majer store in Westland.
 - White shelf paper is sold at Damman's Hardware in Farmington.
 - One Quiet Village album by Martin Denny and Roger Williams with the song "Yellow Bird" is available from a reader.
 - One American-Indian Barbie is available from a reader.
 - Used bridal dresses are sold at Melinda's Custom Dressmaking in Southfield, (248) 352-0993.
 - A reader called to say she knows the lyrics to "Little Buckaroo."
- FIND A SEARCH NOTES**
- We found Hudson's Santa Bears for our readers.
 - A reader has 200 Campbell's soup labels to donate to an organization.
 - A reader tells us Kathy's Cheesecakes went out of business three years ago.
 - Another reader tells us there was only one copy of the St. Agatha 1984 High School yearbook.
 - We need the Birch Run Vanity Fair store's telephone number.
 - A reader has St. Theresa High School yearbooks from 1925, 1927 and 1928, if anyone is interested in having them.
 - A video tape of the Gem Theatre being moved might be available through the Gem Theatre.
- WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:**
- A Mackintosh of New England jacket for Angie.
 - Dishes sold at A&P in 1977-78 in the pattern "Diane" for Dell.

- The "Jesse" doll from the Babysitter Club for Gloria.
- Farmington High School yearbooks from 1996 and 1990 for Melissa.
- A doll that moves its arms and head when you pull a string from its back (8-12-inches) for Sandy.
- A "Helix" plastic spinning spiral for Barb.
- A store where Arpege perfume is sold for Martha.
- A Waterford crystal 1980 Christmas ornament for Mike.
- The video movie "Uncle Remus and Brer Rabbit" for Delores.
- A 1984 Benedictine High School yearbook for Corinne.
- A "Little Tyke" Mountain Raceway for hot wheel cars for Olivia.
- A Roy Rodgers lunch box for Cleo.
- A Churchill High School varsity jacket for Anne.
- A Bentley High School varsity jacket for Ann.
- A 1954-55 University of Detroit High School yearbook for Linda.
- The Halloween game (in a poem form) "Once There Lived a Man Named Smith" for Ruth.
- A musical birthday cake plate for a child for Barbara.
- A 1969 Cooley High School yearbook for John.
- A full-size, female mannequin on a stand that is in good condition for Carol.
- A store where Coty dry lipstick or a similar product is sold for Lynn.
- A Big Ben wind-up clock with two bells (not battery-operated) for Charlene of Canton.
- Oneida's deluxe stainless silverware in "Village Pfaltz-graff" pattern for Pat.
- Compiled by Sandi Jarackas

Annual retail event raises over \$100,000

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
SPECIAL EDITOR
nstafford@oe.homecom.net



Holiday attire: Mary Jelinek, of West Bloomfield, considers purchasing a red dress.

They shopped. They dined and danced. They helped school children.

And they did it all prior to the actual madness of the holiday shopping season.

More than 700 people attended the 14th Annual Mistletoe Madness event, held Saturday, Nov. 20 for the first time at Nordstrom in Troy at the Somerset Collection.

The annual event serves the Junior League of Birmingham and the group's signature charity project, Families Involved Together.

The benefit, which weds fine dining, live music, a silent auction and dancing with shopping in an elegant atmosphere, not only is a pleasant way for local shoppers to make a dent in their holiday gift lists, but also enables the Junior League to make a significant contribution to Frost Elementary School. Located in Pontiac, the school is currently developing a parent resource center, said Jennifer Klintworth, the league's co-chair of the event, which this year raised over \$100,000.

Mistletoe Madness also helps local retailers drum up business and create an excitement in the community about their offerings, services and merchandise, said Klintworth. The Golden Mushroom, for example, provided food and beverages, and more than 65 Oakland County businesses donated merchandise

and services for the event's silent auction.

Nordstrom, which held their annual shopping night in conjunction with Mistletoe Madness, proved to be an excellent partner, added Klintworth.

"They (Nordstrom) were just a delight to work with. They were very accommodating to our needs and our focus," said Klintworth. "They helped us raise money and we helped them target the community."

In the past, the event has been held at Jacobson's in downtown Birmingham and the Somerset Collection's Neiman Marcus and Saks Fifth Avenue stores.

"We started this event, called the Holiday Benefit at Jacobson's, and we outgrew Birmingham," said Klintworth. "This just shows you that the event grows and grows each year."

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Spunky 'senior' doesn't miss much in New Mexico

BY BEVERLY A. LEN
SPECIAL WRITER

The group cheered as Mom declined help, then charged down the face of a 35-foot sand dune. I scrambled after her, gave her a pat on the back and wheezed, "Hot babe for 90." Twenty sets of eyes widened and 20 jaws dropped in unison.

Trafficking with my spunky "senior" Mom is never dull.

Scorching daytime temperatures at White Sands, N.M., convinced us that an early evening dunes tour would allow us to live to enjoy other parts of America's 47th state. During the day, temperatures often reach 115 degrees with a humidity of 4 percent. Under these conditions, a glass of ice water did not sweat.

Mom and I did. At night, however, temperatures can reach freezing.

So at 7:30 p.m., we stood at the base of a gleaming, white gypsum dune. A park ranger conducted a walk among some of the smaller dunes of this 146,535-acre National Monument. Most of the area appears barren, but a few tenacious plants, animals and insects have adapted to the harsh environment.

We watched a beetle-sized "stink bug" tiptoe across the sand. The bug is the equivalent of a skunk and nearly as potent. "Give the bug plenty of space," the ranger advised, as he led us to a tall dune to watch the sunset.

As the sun sank lower in the sky, winds whipped fine mists of sand farther up the dunes. By 8:30, the sun winked behind the San Andres mountains creating a 360-degree pink ring around White Sands' Tularosa Basin.

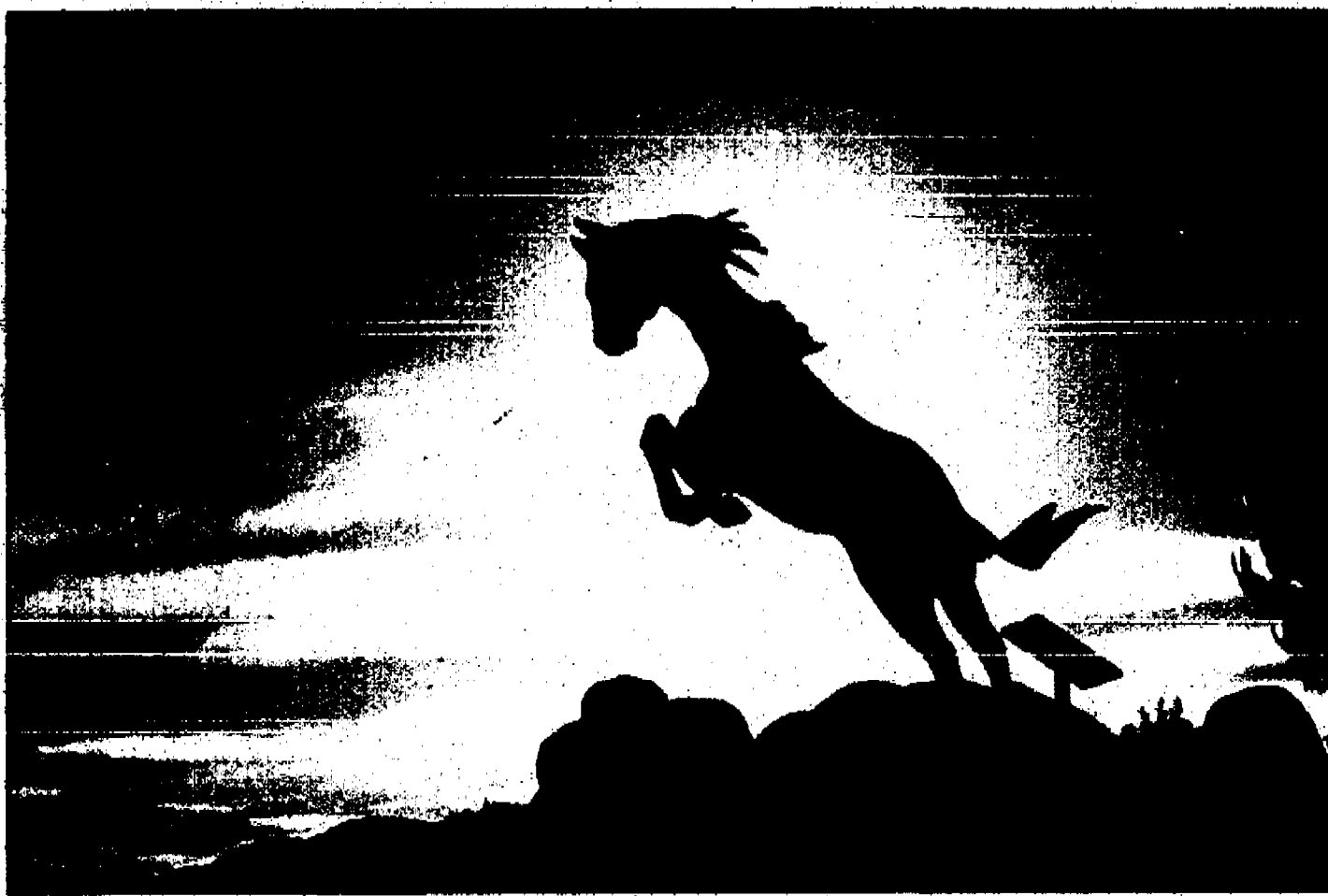
We put on sweaters and walked back to the car in respectful silence of nature's awesome performance.

Nature performed another spectacular feat at our next-day destination, Carlsbad Caverns.

This time, we beat the heat by taking an elevator to the "Big Room," 850 feet below ground. The temperature is a constant 56 degrees.

There is also a mile-long natural entrance, from which thousands of Mexican freetail bats fly at sunset. We opted for the ride down because we faced a 1.5-mile trail within the chamber.

The 60 million-year-old Big Room chamber is 1,800 feet by 1,100 feet. The ceiling rises to 255 feet in one area. Throughout



Bigger than life: More than one-and-a-half times life size, this bronze horse gallops outside the Museum of the Horse, Ruidoso.

the Big Room, huge stalagmites grow from the floor, reaching toward equally huge stalactites hanging from the ceiling. In the dimly lit chamber, we walked slowly along the path, holding on to a railing.

On our self-guided tour, we listened to descriptive commentary through headphones. The commentary was triggered by electronic signals at points of particular interest. There were long stretches of silence, allowing us to gawk at the ghostly displays.

Suddenly, two thin hands grabbed my arm; I heard a muffled scream. I yelped and turned. Mom was holding onto my arm for dear life. Seems the volume on her headphone had been bumped up. When the commentary was triggered, it scared the daylight out of her. Now, we held on to the railing, weak from laughter.

We had had a lot of laughs since leaving Livonia two weeks earlier. Mom had packed a "goodie box" of low-calorie snacks, utensils, plates and LYSOL spray. At each motel, Mom sprayed and wiped until the room was shrouded in a LYSOL mist. We left a trail of surgically sterile rooms through seven states.



Good business: Space aliens help sell, especially in the famous UFO town of Roswell.

Everything was so antiseptic, I had to get a spoonful of dirt just to keep my immune system going.

By the time we left Santa Fe, heading for Albuquerque, Mom needed a rest (all that cleaning, you know.) She didn't want to miss having dinner at Sandia Peak, so she stayed at the motel while I toured Old Town Albuquerque.

Since 1706, Old Town's Plaza

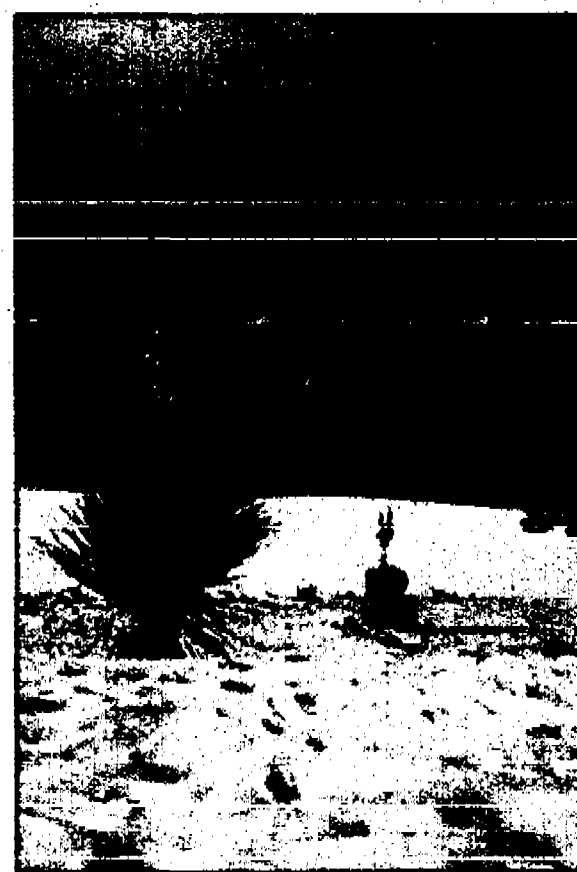
has been the focal point of the community. More than 100 shops offer everything from Indian jewelry to unique modern art. The 1700s adobe Church Street Café serves authentic New Mexi-

can fare, either inside or on the patio.

If New Mexican food is not to your palate, everything from American hamburgers to French crepes can be found. I think I walked every inch of Old Town. By the time I returned to the motel, I was exhausted; Mom was ready to tackle all 10,378 feet of Sandia Peak.

We took the 2.7-mile tramway. From the tram, we had an

incredible view of 11,000 square miles. At the peak, we had dinner, then shivered in the mountain air to watch the sunset. The performance, with heat-lightning flashes, was out of this world.



Tenacious: Tough but beautiful plants cling to life, defying the White Sands and New Mexico's harsh environment.

Even farther out of this world is Roswell; at least some of its visitors have been otherworldly. Although Roswell's economy is based on agriculture and oil production, it is best known for the purported 1947 crash landing of an alien spacecraft, with occupants. The International UFO Museum and Research Center on Main Street, houses tacky

displays, re-creations and "art" focusing on sightings. A tour to the crash site is also available. I had to drag Mom to the museum. The crash site wasn't even suggested.

Mom wanted to go to the new Tinnie Mercantile where, unlike Main Street stores, there are no references to space aliens. Then, she wanted to be on the road again.

Less than two hours west of Roswell is the late 1800s town of Lincoln. Here, Billy the Kid was to hang, but he killed his guards and escaped. Lincoln's sheriff, Pat Garrett, eventually tracked Billy down and shot him.

The courthouse, jail and other buildings are all open to the public. One home of special interest is that of Dr. Earl L. Woods, who reportedly graduated from the University of Michigan.

Twenty miles past Lincoln is Capitan, "Birthplace of Smokey the Bear." In 1950 the cub was found clinging to a burned tree after the Capitan Gap wildfire.

His fur was singed and his paws charred. He was nursed back to health, became the symbol of forest fire prevention and lived out his days at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.

Only 30 minutes from Capitan is Ruidoso Downs, home of the famous racetrack and the Museum of the Horse. Outside of the museum seven breeds of horses are represented in a painted bronze sculpture "Free Spirits at Noisy Water."

More than one and a half times life size, the band of horses appear to be caught in mid-gallop.

We had been galloping around New Mexico for almost a month. It was time to head for home. Mom had just enough LYSOL left to make the trip.



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COOKING CONQUESTS



CHEF CAROL HASKINS

Greet guests with Southern hospitality

The van is washed, oil changed, tires checked — we're off to the beautiful state of Kentucky. Our destination is Berea, a small college town on I-75 south of Lexington.

Berea is known as the Folk Art Capital of the state. Nestled among the Appalachian foothills is Berea College, a liberal arts college where students receive tuition-free education in return for working in one of their many departments.

Students produce exquisite furniture reproductions, woven items, rag rugs, brooms of all shapes and sizes, metal work, pottery, photographic essays of mountain people and much more. Berea is also the home of Boone Tavern Hotel a popular Southern inn built in 1908. Students from the college's hotel management and culinary arts programs operate the inn. The servers are enthusiastic and friendly. Crisp white table linens, sparkling glasses and fresh flowers on tables create an atmosphere of Southern hospitality at its best.

Regional flavor

The dinner menu is prix fixe, but you are sure to find new and different menu offerings with regional flavor. The real reason I keep going back to Boone Tavern is their southern spoon bread. For those of you who haven't tried — or even heard of — spoon bread, it is the most elegant preparation of cornmeal in all of Southern cooking. I find white stone-ground cornmeal makes the best spoon bread and the tastiest, but the white cornmeal found in supermarkets will also produce a fine product. Spoon bread should be moist and soufflé-like with the consistency of baked custard.

Spoon bread is best served throughout your meal in a simple stainless steel bowl straight from the oven — just scoop it out with a large spoon, top with butter and enjoy.

The following recipes can produce a delicious meal just in time for holiday entertaining that show Southern hospitality at its finest!

SPOON BREAD

- 1 1/4 cups cornmeal (white)
- 3 cups milk
- 1 teaspoon sugar (optional; the recipe the Tavern Hotel uses does not include sugar)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 eggs (well beaten)
- 2 tablespoons melted butter
- 1 3/4 teaspoons baking powder

Bring milk to a boil, add cornmeal gradually and stir constantly for 10 minutes until thick.

Remove from heat — allow to cool for 5 to 10 minutes. The mixture will be very stiff.

Combine eggs, salt, baking powder and melted butter in the bowl of a mixer. Use whip attachment and gradually add cornmeal until well combined. Beat for 15 minutes. Pour into a well-greased, large skillet or two well-greased baking dishes. Bake at 375°F in a pre-heated oven for 30-35 minutes until puffed and lightly browned. Serve immediately.

FRUIT PUNCH

- Juice of 3 lemons
- Juice of 3 oranges
- 1 1/2 to 2 cups of sugar
- 1 cup crushed pineapple
- 2 quart crushed fresh ice
- 1/2 cup maraschino cherries, chopped
- 1/2 cup maraschino cherry juice
- 1/2 pint grape juice
- 1 quart ginger ale
- 1 1/2 cups water

Boil the pineapple, water and sugar for 15 minutes. Cool. Add lemon.

Please see CONQUESTS, D2

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Taste next week:

- Focus on Wine
- Living Better Sensibly

AWREY Bakeries

A sweet wonderland

STORY BY RENEE SKOGLUND · PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Beautiful, big blocks of butter making their way up the conveyer belt toward a huge vat of sticky croissant dough:

Such was my introduction to Awrey Bakeries the day they were making croissants, biscuits, Danish and chocolate cake. Mmmmm, the aromas coming from those cavernous baking facilities ... like mom's kitchen on steroids!

"It's a precision mom's kitchen. We're trying to define what all those moms do instinctively," said John Curtin, Awrey's president.

The croissant dough — all 1,000 glorious pounds — soon would be layered with the butter, rolled to just the right thickness, cut and trimmed to just the right shape, and, finally, baked to perfection. Depending upon the customer's order, Awrey's uses either butter or margarine, but always the meticulous process is the same.

"We'll end up with 32 layers, and that's what make croissants flaky," said Larry Whitucki, director of quality assurance.

The bakery was founded in 1910 in the Detroit kitchen of Mrs. Fletcher Awrey. As her reputation grew, the company opened a succession of neighborhood baked goods stores, supplied from the family's first "volume baking" facility on Tireman. The three Awrey boys — Elton, Wilbur and Thomas — often made deliveries in a horse-drawn wagon and later in a Model-T truck.

The company moved to its present 25-acre site on Farmington Road in Livonia in 1967. It now has 477 employees with nine family members at the helm. A \$20 million renovation is planned over the next two years. According to Curtin, Awrey's is the largest family-owned bakery in Michigan, probably in the country.

The entire operation is based on blend of technology and taste buds. Every product is tested for height, diameter, weight, appearance and, of course, taste. Working at Awrey's requires self-discipline. I was amazed there weren't a ton of chubby employees. The bakery definitely wouldn't be a stop on a Weight Watcher's tour.

After cooling, the baked goods head to a freezer area the size of the North Pole, where they're held before being shipped out. "Once it's thawed, it tastes homemade," said Curtin, who seldom leaves the office without an armful of goodies.

If the intoxicating smells of almond and chocolate permeate the air at Awrey's, then it's a dusting of flour that covers the floor. It takes a lot of ingredients to produce the 25,000 cases of sweet stuff that's shipped across the nation and to Canada every week. Flour is shipped in by rail car.



Rolling in dough: (Top photo) Chuck Goldston keeps a watchful eye as a load of croissant dough gets poured into a trough. (Above) Kim Oatneal uses a deft stroke to smooth out the icing on an Awrey's Tropical Chocolate Cake. Care to lick the spoon? (Below) Reese Gordon loads trays of unbaked Danish.

Whitucki provided the statistics: 15 million pounds of flour a year, 8 million pounds of sugar a year, and 700 pounds of butter an hour. That's right, an hour!

From croissants, our entourage headed to the Danish department, where the dough is funneled into a cone-shaped twister, precision cut by a culinary guillotine and plopped into a well-greased pan. After they're baked, the Danish are plucked up, a dozen at a time, by a robotic arm and sent on their way to be iced.

Take your pick — raspberry, apple, strawberry or cheese. Whitucki prefers strawberry, while Curtin loves the cheese, but employee Darryl Junior, who loads and unloads trays of Danish all day, doesn't like Danish at all.

"I don't eat sweets. That's not

bad, is it?" he asked. "When I look at the fat calories in our Danish Grande, it stops me in my tracks," said Curtin, shaking his head.

As if anything could top croissants and Danish, our next stop was the cakes. A sillion layers of Awrey's Tropical Chocolate Cake passed before me on a winding conveyer belt. Employees in white suits and hair nets put the layers together, first slathering them with a coconut filling, then frosting the tops and sides with chocolate.

"It's supposed to taste like an Almond Joy candy bar. That's what we went after," said Rick Krolicki, director of research and development.

Our last stop was the taste-test room. Krolicki had formulated a new chocolate cake recipe, and two



Outlet store

For many metro Detroiters, the holidays wouldn't be the holidays without a stop at the Awrey Bakeries Outlet Store.

WHERE: 12301 Farmington Road, Livonia.

STORE HOURS: Open 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

CREDIT CARDS: All majors, except American Express.

The outlet store, which Awrey's has expanded four times, offers thrift in prices, not quality. There are no returns from supermarkets. Perhaps the icing on a Danish will be missing a squiggle or two, but all items are fresh.

"If we don't have enough runner-ups, it's front-line products," said John Curtin, Awrey's president.

Awrey's also supplies the outlet with products not available in supermarkets. When it comes to cakes, the outlet sells Peanut Fantasy, Raspberry and Cream, Cherry Cheesecake, Death by Chocolate, Raspberry Nut, and Cream Cheese Carrot.

"We're kind of the test market," said Betty Jean Awrey, vice president.

Awrey's doesn't bake pies, but the outlet carries Grand Traverse pies. They're delicious, said Awrey.

Best of all, said Awrey, everything sells at a reduced price. "We take off the rent we pay in a supermarket."

Would you like to see the face of a loved one on a cake? No problem. That's a piece of cake at Awrey's. Thanks to great-granddaughter Kelly Jean Awrey, the bakery now does "Photo Cakes." A quarter sheet cake sells for \$15, and a half sheet cake sells for \$25.

For more information about the outlet store and Photo Cakes, call (734) 522-1100 or fax (734) 522-1453.

recently baked layers awaited us. The suspense mounted as he inverted the layers onto the counter and sliced off small pieces.

The morsels received more scrutiny than a glass of Chablis at a wine-tasting festival: Good texture, fine but dense. Not too crumbly. Will stand up to frosting. Nice color. Great taste.

"I'd give it a 100 percent," said Betty Jean Awrey, vice president. "I love it."

"I'm the quality control guy. I'd give it a 99," said Whitucki. "Ninety-nine percent," said Curtin.

As for me? I knew I was participating in an Awrey's milestone: the birth of a new recipe. I gave it a 99.9. After all, I make a pretty good chocolate cake myself.

An Awrey's memory

Margaret Cartier, 81, of Redford Township remembers when the Awrey's delivery truck would come through her neighborhood twice a week in the late '50s and early '60s.

Her children were young, and she was a stay-at-home mom who didn't know how to drive a car. She counted on the milkman at her back door and the Awrey's men at her front door.

"There were two brothers, Ralph and Bob, I think. They'd come to the door with big baskets full of goodies. I'd buy the lunch sticks with white frosting, the cupcakes piled high with chocolate frosting and nuts, and I'd buy the Long John coffee cake."

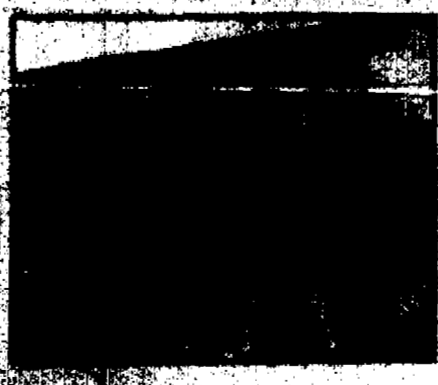
The two brothers often let Cartier come into their truck. "I remember that truck smelling so good. They'd pull out the shelves, and I'd say, 'I'll take this. I'll take that.'"

"Sometimes, if I didn't have enough money, they would charge it. They kept track in a little brown book. I'd pay them at the end of the week. They were so nice."

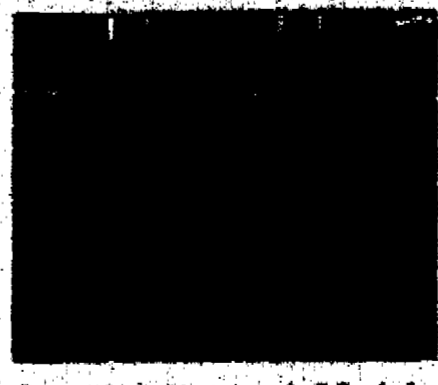
Cartier longs to stop inside that truck one more time. "I'd give anything to have a Long John coffee cake. I wish they still made deliveries."



These were the days: Two of the Awrey boys, Tom (left) and Wilbur, stand in front of one of the company's first delivery vehicles, a horse-drawn wagon.



Sweet delivery: A Model-T truck pulls out of Awrey's first "volume baking" facility on Tiremen Street in Detroit.



Sweet delivery: A Model-T truck pulls out of Awrey's first "volume baking" facility on Tiremen Street in Detroit.

Conquest from page D1

orange, cherry juice, cherries and tea. Just before serving, add the ginger ale and grape juice. Pour over ice in a punch bowl to serve or make a smaller quantity and serve as an appetizer.

ROAST LEG OF LAMB

- 6-7 pound leg of lamb (trimmed of all excess fat)
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 8 sprigs of fresh rosemary
- 2 cloves of garlic, thinly sliced
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon flour

Wipe meat well. Place in roasting pan and cut shallow slices across leg. Make small cuts with the point of a knife and insert garlic slices. Melt butter - tie the sprigs of rosemary together and dip it in the hot butter. Brush the meat thoroughly with it. Sprinkle the meat with salt and pepper and dredge lightly with flour. Roast in a slow oven (250°F) for about 3 hours, basting frequently with your rosemary bundle.

You will find that slow cooking is hard to resist. The result is tender, evenly cooked meat with an intense depth of flavor. Use a meat thermometer to reach your desired tempera-

ture. Cooking at 200-250°F is perfectly safe for almost any cut of meat.

CAPER GRavy

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1/2 cup drippings from lamb (skin off melted fat)
- Pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1/2 cup drained capers

Make a roux (a light sauce made of butter and flour) in roasting pan and cook for 2 minutes. Pour the drippings into the roux and stir to mix well and prevent lumps. Cook 5 minutes.

Add pepper and cream. Add capers. Cook for an additional 2 minutes.

Chef's note: The reason for making a butter roux and not using the lamb fat is to achieve a mild lamb flavor. The lamb fat is often too overpowering. If you don't have enough pan juices for the gravy, add warm water to the right quantity. Finally use a whisk in making sauces and gravies.

Chef Carol Haskins is the pastry and consulting chef at Big Rock Chop & Brew House in Birmingham. Haskins was the first certified female executive chef in Michigan.

Recipes inspired by Awrey Bakeries

See related story on Taste front.

AWREY STYLE STUFFING MIX

- 8 cups dry cubed bread (a 20 ounce loaf of Awrey Stuffing Bread, trimmed of crust)
- 1 tablespoon rubbed sage
- 1 teaspoon dry minced oregano leaf
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon dry minced parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon celery salt

Mix all ingredients together as listed, thoroughly coating cubes of dry bread in the seasoning ingredients. Store in an air-tight container at room temperature to use within 30 days.

To use mix - Melt 1/4 pound butter in Dutch oven over medium heat. Add 1 1/2 cups prepared chicken bouillon or canned chicken broth to the melted butter and stir in stuffing mix to moisten well, keeping the mixture on medium

heat until all dry pieces have been moistened in the butter-soup mixture.

Cool, cover and refrigerate until completely cold before applying to the cavities of a 10 to 16 pound turkey prior to oven roasting the bird. Remove stuffing from roasted bird before serving.

Recipe from Betty Jean Awrey, Awrey Bakeries, Inc.

Remember when the Fuzzy Navel cocktail was introduced? An Awrey Bakeries employee, who has since retired, invented a recipe for Fuzzy Navel Cake. The cake is no longer offered by Awrey Bakeries, but you can make it home. Betty Jean Awrey prepared this recipe for publication in "Traditions America's Thanksgiving Parade Cookbook" printed a couple of years ago by the Parade Company.

"It's delicious," said Awrey. And you'll discover it's easy to make too.

FUZZY NAVEL CAKE

- 1 box orange cake mix

- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 3/4 cup peach jam
- Peach Buttercream Frosting - recipe follows

Using an orange cake mix, prepare the cake according to directions for two 8-inch round cakes. After the cakes are baked and cooled, pour 1/4 cup orange juice over each layer.

Spread one cake layer with peach jam. Place the other cake on top of the jam layer. Finish the cake by frosting it with peach butter frosting. Serves 8-10.

PEACH BUTTERCREAM FROSTING

- 2 cups butter, softened
- 2 cups plus 1/2 cup, plus another 1/2 cup sifted confectioners (powdered) sugar
- 2/3 cup sweetened condensed milk (not evaporated milk)
- 2 large eggs - whites only
- 1/8 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 2 teaspoons water
- 1/2 cup peach jam

Place butter and 2 cups confectioners sugar in a large bowl. Mix at low speed until mixture is smooth. Mix at a higher speed while slowly adding the sweetened condensed milk. Continue to mix until fluffy. Set aside.

In a double boiler, stir together 2 egg whites, 1/2 cup confectioners sugar, 2 teaspoons water and 1/8 teaspoon cream of tartar. Cook over low heat, mixing with a portable mixer at low speed until egg whites reach 160°F. Whip the egg whites until stiff.

Add this meringue slowly into the butter mixture. Add the vanilla and remaining 1/2 cup confectioners sugar. If after frosting is desired, add another 1/2 cup of confectioners sugar. Slowly stir in the peach jam and spread over the entire cake.

Note: You can substitute your favorite buttercream frosting. Add a splash of vanilla and peach jam for flavor.

A RECIPE TO SHARE

Cookbook benefits children with arthritis

If you're shopping for a holiday gift for someone who likes to cook, consider "A Slice of Life Cookbook."

Published by the Arthritis Foundation Michigan Chapter, the cookbook is a delicious collection of kitchen- and family-test-

ed recipes. There are even some recipes by local chefs.

Cookbook proceeds benefit children with arthritis. "A Slice of Life Cookbook" is available for \$12.95 at many local bookstores, or by calling (248) 424-9001.

Cookbook co-chairwoman Lori

Lipshaw called to share one of the recipes from the cookbook, Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes submitted by Executive Chef Jeff Baldwin of Mac and Ray's Restaurant in Harrison Township.

Salt and white pepper to taste

Preheat oven to 400°F. Coat garlic cloves with olive oil and roast in oven until golden brown, about 10 minutes. Remove from oven and reserve. Boil red skin potatoes until fork-tender and thoroughly drain.

While red skins are cooking, heat cream in a pot on a stove top until simmering. Add roasted garlic cloves to cream. Continue to simmer on low heat to thoroughly combine flavors. Mashed cooked red skins with a fork or potato press. Add butter, roasted garlic, cream, salt, pepper and spinach. Keep warm until ready to serve. Serves 5.

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ROASTED GARLIC MASHED POTATOES

- 4 pounds red skin potatoes, washed well (unpeeled)
- 3 whole garlic bulbs, peeled into individual cloves
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 3 tablespoons whole butter, softened
- 1 cup julienne cut fresh spinach leaves

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Go to the Web for latke recipes

MAGGIE BOLEYN
SPECIAL WRITER

Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, celebrates the victory of the Maccabees against the ancient Greeks, and the rededication of the Jerusalem Temple. It honors the miracle of a small flask of oil, which lasted eight days.

The Hebrew word "Hanukkah" comes from the same root as the word for education, "chinuch." The first night of Hanukkah 5760 (1999) is Friday, Dec. 3, and the last night of candle lighting is Friday, Dec. 10. The candles are lit starting at nightfall, and they should burn for at least half an hour.

It is traditional to give Hanukkah gelt (chocolate coins, or other presents) to children after testing them on Jewish subjects.

Typical fare for the holiday includes dishes prepared in oil, such as latkes (potato pancakes), or sufganiot (doughnuts) to recall the miracle of the oil.

If you are looking for Hanukkah on the Net, you can find such things as a virtual dreidel, and a cantor to sing for you in real audio at www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=703.

There's even an on-line menorah, with daily candle lightings at www.torah.org/chanukah.html.

And, of course, there are recipes! So, fire up your comput-

It is traditional to give Hanukkah gelt (chocolate coins, or other presents) to children after testing them on Jewish subjects ... Typical fare for the holiday includes dishes prepared in oil, such as latkes (potato pancakes), or sufganiot (doughnuts) to recall the miracle of the oil.

er and visit any of these eight sites:

An easy recipe for perfect potato latkes can be found at the Hagshama Department of the World Zionist Organization Web site. The page is entitled, "A byte of Hanukkah." A recipe for sufganiot (doughnuts) is also available on the website at www.wzo.org.il/encount/recipes.htm.

Lots more latkes, as well as Italian or Parisian Hanukkah dinners for eight and more, can be found at http://food.epicurious.com/ba/b02_menus/hanukkah.html. The site includes wine recommendations, and offers different recipes for each night of Hanukkah. Visitors may post reviews and cooking tips for individual recipes on the site.

Suggestions for putting variety in the holiday, while deepening your understanding of the celebration, can be found at www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=1853.

Follow the link to the JCN

House of Latkes for some interesting twists, such as jalapeno latkes served with salsa. Note: This site may include far too much variety for some. One of these recipes was not kosher, as it called for crab meat. Perhaps you may want to try adding leeks, parsnips, zucchini, or carrots to a favorite recipe, instead.

While there are as many latke recipes as there are grandmothers who made them, "crispy" is the word from friends that identifies some of the best latke fare. But, since "crisp" and "fried in oil" generally mean "fattening," I went surfing for some lighter latkes.

If you're not supposed to have so much oil, www.jfood.com offers the following solution: Spray a cookie sheet with vegetable oil spray or Pam and put your latkes in a hot (450 degree F) oven for about 5-8 minutes on each side.

A holiday menu that is healthy yet traditional stars lightened sweet potato latkes topped with golden cinnamon applesauce, and a simmed-

down rice pudding. These recipes can be found at www.womensedge.com/holiday/recipes/hanukkah/

Healthy holiday recipes are showcased at www.maven.co.il/r.asp?ID=10431.

"Oil is for menorahs" says the site, which provides a collection of hearty, yet low-fat fare. Web site author, Rosalyn F. Manease, has published a cookbook, "Easy Kosher Cooking." You'll also find links to other Jewish holiday menus are at her Web site.

Links to seven different recipe sites can be found at www.4hanukkah.com/oil.shtml.

Following the link to Hanukkah recipes at www.our-daily-bread.com/recipes/category/hanukkah.htm yielded 11 holiday selections, with links to other recipes covering more than 30 categories, such as bagels and dairy-free fare.

The vegan section includes 45 vegetarian recipes. An easy five ingredient applesauce recipe and directions for a delicious sweet and sour brisket were taken from the site. The brisket can be cooked on top of the stove, or in a Crock pot.

Maggie Boleyn is a registered nurse at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak and enjoys surfing the Internet for food and nutrition information. See recipes inside.

COOKING CLASS CALENDAR

Send items for consideration in *Cooking Class Calendar to Keely Wygonik, Taste editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI, 48150, fax (734) 591-7279 or e-mail kwygonik@homecomm.net*

DECORATE A DELICIOUS HOLIDAY TREAT!

(GRADES K-8)
Learn basic cake decorating and create a delightful edible gift box, "toys" and ginger-

bread cookies. Learn how to use the basic tools of cake decorating to create delicious treats, 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Dec. 4, Seaholm High School, 2436 W. Lincoln, Birmingham, Room C103. The cost is \$13, call (248) 203-3800 to register.

CHOCOLATE CANDYMAKING

Learn to make delicious chocolates, create delectable assortments such as dips, molds and creams, and experiment with a variety of flavors. Great

ideas for parties and gifts, 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7 at Berkshire Middle School, 21707 W. 14 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, Room 108. The cost is \$16. Call (248) 203-3800 to register.

POLISH CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

Two-session workshop about the culture and culinary traditions of Poland's Christmas celebration includes visit to Hamtramck for traditional Polish Christmas dinner. First session 6:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30; second session 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4. Offered by

Henry Ford Community College's Center For Lifelong Learning, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. The cost is \$39, call (313) 317-1500

HOLIDAY BAKING

Learn how to make a variety of holiday cookies and elegant party foods in classes offered by Henry Ford Community College's Center for Lifelong Learning at the college's main campus in Dearborn and Dearborn Heights Center. Classes Start Wednesday, Dec. 1 call (877) 855-5252 for more information, or visit the Web site www.hfcc.net

Recipe from: www.our-daily-bread.com/recipes/hanukkah.htm

Yield: 8 servings

6 pound beef brisket
1/4 cup water
2 large yellow onions, cut in 1/2-inch slices
4 large celery stalks and leaves cut in 1/2-inch slices
8 ounces chili sauce or spicy ketchup
4 large cloves garlic, minced
2 bay leaves
1/2 cup dark brown sugar, firm pack
1/3 cup Dijon mustard
1/4 cup soy sauce
1/4 cup red wine vinegar
2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
12 ounces beer
1/2 teaspoon paprika
4 large baking potatoes, cut in 1/2-inch slices
Salt/pepper to taste

This dish may be simmered on top of the stove, or cooked in a

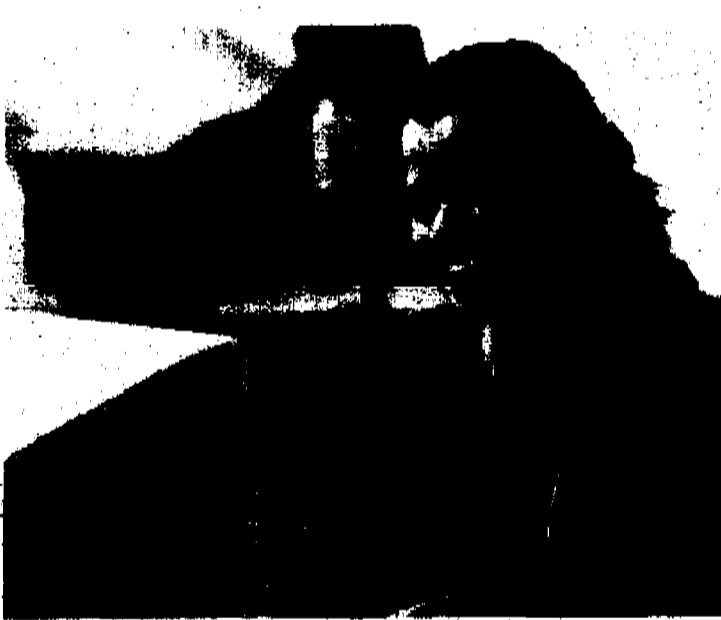
Checklist:
Beef must be shined, then place all ingredients except salt and pepper in a large crockpot set on high heat. Cover and cook for 6 to 8 hours or until tender. Let brisket cool in liquid for 30 minutes, then transfer to a container.

Pour the cooking liquid and potatoes in a bowl. Remove bay leaves. Let cool for at least 2 hours, then slice off fat. Return liquid and potatoes to pot with a lid. Cut meat across grain into 1/4-inch slices; add to the liquid. Cover and reheat over low heat in Crockpot or heat in the microwave. **Enjoy!**

Serve on warmed platter surrounded by potatoes and cooking liquid.

Recipe from: www.our-daily-bread.com/recipes/hanukkah.htm

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MEDICAL BRIEFS

Research patients

If you are depressed and are 18 years of age or older and you need treatment with antidepressant medication and you have had at least one previous episode of depression and your current depression is at least eight weeks long - you may be eligible to participate in a clinical study in major depression. Participants will receive free psychiatric evaluations by physicians specializing in the treatment of major depression; free study-related medical examination and laboratory evaluations and free study medications. Call the Psychopharmacology Research Corporation at (248) 932-1905 (28800 Orchard Lake Road, Suite 150), Farmington Hills.

Pre-marriage counsel

Providence Hospital and Medical Centers of Livonia will offer couples applying for a marriage license, counseling regarding the transmission and prevention of sexually transmitted disease and AIDS. \$25/couple/\$15 single. Program runs from 7-8 p.m. Dec. 1. To register call (877) 345-5500.

Chemical sensitive

Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Friends (MCSF) is a free support group for anyone who is hypersensitive to chemical and/or environmental irritants, such as smoke, fragrances, pesticides, cleaning supplies, new construction materials, etc. Informational meeting is from 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 at 14550 Stonehouse Street in Livonia. Call (248) 349-4972 for information or a newsletter.

Fit to ski

Get conditioned for skiing as Frank Kava, M.S., P.T. presents a seminar for all individuals interested in skiing. The objective will be to identify common musculoskeletal weaknesses in skiers; demonstrate proper exercises to strengthen key muscles used for skiing; demonstrate proper stretching techniques for muscles important in skiing. Comfortable exercise attire is recommended. Program begins at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16 through Oakland Physical Therapy P.C. at the Providence Park Medical Center (Physician Office Building), 47601 Grand River Ave., Suite B 124 in Novi (at Grand River and Beck Roads). There is no charge for this class, but class size is limited. RSVP by calling (248) 380-3550.

Thyroid support

The Michigan Thyroid Disorder Support Group will meet Jan. 10 with therapist Jacqui Magon Yoga, speaking. Members meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Library. For more information call Tracy Green (734) 453-7945. Or you can visit their Web site at <http://community.miive.com/ccthyroid>

The soy story

Learn more about the benefits of soy, different types of soy products and how to cook with soy. Cost is \$10. Program begins at 6 p.m. at the Providence Medical Office Center in Novi.

Putting a face on epilepsy

Livonia woman strives to diminish stereotypes about neurological disorder

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON
STAFF WRITER
kmortson@oe.homecomm.net

Keni Birch-Wanbaugh is one of an estimated 45,000 women in Michigan who suffer from epilepsy. After more than a decade of seizures, emotional pressure, depression and discrimination she's speaking out about her personal pain in collaboration with the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan during Epilepsy Awareness Month.

Birch-Wanbaugh, a resident of Livonia, looks back over the last 12 years and quietly breathes a sigh of relief. She's been seizure free since May 1998 after undergoing brain surgery under the care of Henry Ford Hospital neurologist Dr. David Burdette and neurosurgeon Dr. Kost Elisevich.

The 31-year-old was not born with epilepsy but began having seizures in 1987 after a serious auto collision from which she suffered a closed head injury and slipped into a six hour coma.

A common misconception about the neurological disorder is that people are born with epilepsy. On the contrary, 70 percent of cases have no known cause while the remaining 30 percent are frequently caused by head trauma, brain tumor, stroke, poisoning, infection or maternal injury.

"My life really changed after the car accident," said Birch-Wanbaugh. "I was 19-years old, trying to go to school, work and have a social life and I was having grand mal seizures that were really impacting the three things that were most important to me."

The trauma her head suffered led to disturbances in the electrical activity of the brain. These disturbances would take the form of seizures. Epilepsy is actually a generic term for a variety of seizure disorders differentiated by recurring seizures of varying degrees that affect the nervous system.

Birch-Wanbaugh's grand mal seizures continued for two years beyond her car accident with no relief from medication. They would most often occur during her menstrual cycle due to changes in her hormones, over the holidays and at final exam time when her stress and anxiety level was up. Usually a temporal lobe seizure would precede the grand mal. These are "red flags" so-to-speak, an individual experiences prior to the grand mal. Temporal lobe seizures do not result in unconsciousness or convulsions but in "auras" or brief periods of time when the person appears to be staring off in a trance for nearly one minute.

Asking for help

Living in Lansing at the time, Birch-Wanbaugh was forced to rely on the kindness of friends, college acquaintances and the public transportation

system to go to school, shopping, the grocery store, or out socially.

"Not being able to drive wasn't easy. Especially being in my 20s. It was really hard to have to rely on people to take me places and I was too stubborn to ask my parents for help," recalled Birch-Wanbaugh. "Some of my friends just stopped calling me."

A person with epilepsy isn't eligible for a driver's license unless they are seizure free for at least six months.

The stress from the seizures and depression took their toll and she eventually dropped out of college. "I went for a good part of the semester without telling my family. I would just go and sit in the lobby. The only person that knew was my best friend at the time."

Then in the spring of 1989, Birch-Wanbaugh met her future husband, Jeff, a Redford Township police officer. The Livonia woman says it was Wanbaugh who put her at ease about her disorder by coming right out on their first date and asking questions. "He drilled me with questions. He never had a problem with it and has been amazingly supportive."

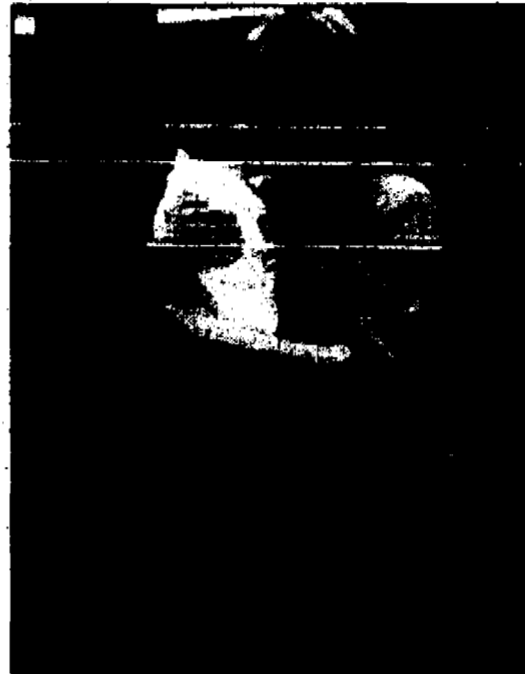
The pair were married in 1994 and she continued on what she calls a "roller coaster" of mood swings and weight gain from her constantly changing medications. Eight months into their marriage the Livonia couple learned they were expecting a child. Hers was considered a high-risk pregnancy because it was necessary for her to remain on epilepsy medication because a grand mal seizure could easily harm the baby.

Although Nicholas Wanbaugh weighed less than 5 pounds at birth he was healthy and proved to be the turning point in his mother's life.

"I was still having seizures after he was born and I worried I would have one when I was holding him. I didn't want to have my son grow up watching me have seizures."

After reading about a surgical procedure in a newsletter from the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan, she met at length with a neurologist from Henry Ford Hospital who initially prescribed two different medications before considering surgery. Neither worked.

She then underwent six months of testing according to Dr. Kost Elisevich, senior staff member of the department of neurosurgery and surgical director of the epilepsy program at Henry Ford Hospital. One of the last procedures Birch-Wanbaugh went through during the phase I series of tests involved her



Best friend: Keni Birch-Wanbaugh gets a hug from her son, Nicholas. After his 1996 birth, the Livonia mother decided to undergo brain surgery to improve her seizure situation.

admittance to the hospital so that Elisevich could exam her brain activity by way of 24-hour video and EEG monitoring.

"Epilepsy is not caused by the brain but by something going quite wrong in the brain substance. It's not the damaged tissue or a tumor that's making the brain spontaneously generate abnormal electrical activity but the area immediately around or in the neighborhood of the tissue or tumor," said Elisevich. "The scalp recordings we take help us to define where the focus is in the brain."

Elisevich said patients' epileptic medication is gradually tapered down and leveled off so they can gain as much information as possible about the process that occurs in their brain during these episodes. If the neurosurgeon fails to confirm the area of the focus, more intensive testing during phase II is performed that involves electrodes being implanted under the scalp.

In Birch-Wanbaugh's case her area of focus was determined without phase II testing and she was discharged. Elisevich said upon discharge patients return for a clinic appointment to discuss the findings, ask any questions of the neurosurgeon, learn the risks of the procedure, then a surgery date is scheduled if they wish to move forward.

"I wasn't scared. What did I have to lose? If the surgery didn't work and I had to continue living with epilepsy then that was something I was going to have to deal with," said Birch-Wanbaugh, "but I had to try."

Under the knife

According to Elisevich the procedure involves gaining access to the head by making an incision behind the hairline. Entry is then made through the bone and the dura (the outermost membrane covering the brain). Electrodes are attached to the surface of the brain for approximately 30 minutes to confirm they are dealing with an epileptogenic area and the extent to which they are required to resect (cut). A computer grid system helps the surgeon measure the tissue they will remove by referring to a "library of the patient's brain." This is created through a series of MRI impressions, that stacked together, create a three-dimensional image of the brain.

"My surgery was May 1, 1998. It lasted about six hours and a 1-inch by 1-inch area of my brain tissue was removed." She was in the hospital from Friday through Monday and then discharged to the care of her husband and family who were required to stay with

her on a 24-hour basis for at least two weeks.

"I don't ask that the person be eyeballed 24 hours a day but that someone is there to help them look after things for a couple of weeks," said Elisevich.

An assessment is taken six weeks out from surgery, then again at three and six months. Elisevich said patients can remain on their anti-seizure medication for more than two years after the surgery but are lessened with each check up if their progress warrants a change.

It's not uncommon for patients have seizures after the surgery but they're significantly reduced in number and intensity. Elisevich estimates that 70-80 percent of patients who undergo surgery come away seizure free.

"From a psychological standpoint brain surgery is quite a thing to go through. I have a lot of respect and awe for patients when you realize what they go through and how debilitating a seizure disorder can be."

In November 1998, Birch-Wanbaugh, six months seizure-free, received her driver's license after 11 years without one. "It was incredible to be able to go places without having to rely on someone else to take me there."

Today, 18 months after the surgery, Birch-Wanbaugh is fully recovered from brain surgery with only a memory of her epilepsy. "I want people to understand that there is no stereotypical epileptic. Epilepsy has been a closet disease too long. There are more than twice as many people with epilepsy than there are of people with muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy and cystic fibrosis combined."

Epilepsy resources

If you would like more information about the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan call (800) 377-6226 or visit their Web site at www.epilepsy-michigan.org

Additional resources include:

Henry Ford Hospital has a support group for persons considering surgery to improve their seizure situation or for individuals who have already undergone the procedure. For meeting times and dates call (313) 916-7414.

Epilepsy Foundation
www.epilepsyfoundation.org
www.efa.org

Epilepsy International
www.epilepsy-international.com

American Epilepsy Society
www.aesnet.org

The Epilepsy Network
www.capecod.net/~ssimon/epilep1.html

MEDICAL NEWSMAKERS

Items for Health Newsmakers are welcome from all physicians, medical groups, hospitals and individuals active in the Observer-area medical community. Items should be typed or legibly written and sent to: Health Newsmakers, c/o The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoeller, Livonia 48150; e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net or faxed to (734) 591-7279.

Meeting a need

Magic Medical of Canton, a local supplier of adult diapers over the Internet, carries all major brands of adult diapers. Visit their Web site at www.edadidiapermag.com

According to owners Craig and

Kathleen Van Vliet, more than 250 customers are visiting their Web site every day. For more information or to place an order call toll free (877) 265-7148. Magic Medical ships UPS and parcel post.

Surgeon appointed

Vascular surgeon Dr. Gerald B. Zelenock was appointed chairman of the department of Surgery and chief of Surgical Services at William Beaumont Hospital.

As chairman, Zelenock oversees the state's highest-volume surgical services. More than 40,000 inpatient and outpatient surgical procedures were performed at Beaumont in 1998. The Royal Oak physician is certified by the American Board of

Surgery (ABS), and holds additional certification of special competence in general vascular surgery and certification of added qualifications in surgical critical care, both from the ABS.

Deaths welcomed

Dr. Nancy Highland recently joined the staff of Dr. Richard Stec of Canton. Stec will see patients on Wednesdays and Thursdays and practices general dentistry, root canals, extractions, children's den-

tistry and cosmetic dentistry.

With the addition of Highland, Stec will now be offering more extended hours to patients including evening appointments Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays until 8 p.m.

For more information call (734) 961-1800.

Elected position

Judith Caroselli, director of Operations at Westland Convalescent Center, was elected to the board of directors of the Health Care Association of Michigan at the Health Care Association of Michigan's annual convention. Her term as a director runs through 2000.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Items for Medical Datebook are welcome from all hospitals, physicians, companies and residents active in the Observer-area medical community. Items should be sent to: Medical Datebook, c/o The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net or faxed to (734) 591-7279.

week's topic will be "Understanding Your Medication" from 6-7:30 p.m. at Michigan Heart & Vascular Institute, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor.

THUR, DEC. 2

HEALTHQUEST SEMINAR
Free Healthquest seminars will continue at the Canton Summit on the Park in the Art II Room every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. through Dec. 16. There will not be a meeting on Thanksgiving Day. Seminars are sponsored by the Canton Seventh-day Adventist Church and are presented by health professionals: Dr. Jason Goliatch; Aroldo Aragonés, Ph.D., clinical psychology; Dr. Rudy Gomez; Brenda Schaik, registered dietitian and Michael Doucoumes, director of Breathe Free Plan to Stop Smoking. The topics include exercise/weight control, diet/nutrition, stress control, cancer prevention, heart disease, and diabetes. For more information, call (734) 844-8660.

SAT, DEC. 4

VIBRATIONAL MEDICINE
Learn why our present views of health and disease will radically change in the new millennium, and how the use and acceptance of alternative therapies will accelerate over the next decade. This course, "Principles of Vibrational Medicine," will present how medicine is beginning to evolve away from the body as a machine and toward the bioenergetic perspectives of health and disease. Course is transferable into the Holistic Health Practitioner Diploma program - leading to Board Certification in Holistic Health. To register call the Serenity School of Holistic Health in Livonia at (248) 474-0368 or (734) 513-0868.

SUN, DEC. 5

PUBERTY/GROWING UP
"A Heart to Heart Conversation for Mothers and Daughters on Puberty and Growing Up." This class provides mothers with daughters ages 9-12 with accurate information about the normal physical and emotional changes that girls will experience as they enter puberty. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, Ann Arbor from 1-5 p.m.

rate information about the normal physical and emotional changes that girls will experience as they enter puberty. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, Ann Arbor from 1-5 p.m.

MON, DEC. 6

HEART PALS
Support for cardiac patients and/or their significant other will meet at 7 p.m. Dec. 6. Discussion, education and camaraderie are the focus. Call 458-3242 for information.

TUE, DEC. 7

EATING DISORDERS
A new support group for persons recovering from an eating disorder or for person who are in need of peer group support at 7 p.m. Dec. 7, 14, 21 and 28. Open to both men and women. Call (734) 458-3395 for additional information.

BREASTFEEDING

A one-session class providing information to expectant parents on the many aspects of breastfeeding. Class meets at 6 p.m. Call 458-4330 to register.

WED, DEC. 8

ESTATE PLANNING
St. Mary Hospital will be presenting a Carelink Lecture on Estate Planning from 1-3 p.m. in the St. Mary Hospital Auditorium. Paul Lubinski, J.D., will discuss what a will, trust and power of attorney is as well as the advantages and differences. There is no charge for this lecture but registration is required. Call (734) 655-8940 or (800) 494-1650.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT

A support group for family members, friends and caregivers of person afflicted with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders. Free, sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association. Group meets at 7 p.m. in Classroom #3 of the Garden City Hospital Medical Office Building. Call 458-4330.

BREATHERS CLUB

A support group for persons

and/or families with respiratory problems. Meets at 7:30 p.m. in Classroom #3 of the Garden City Hospital Medical Office Building and is free. Call 458-3481 for information.

RELATIONSHIPS

"Valuing Ourselves in Relationships." This presentation will focus on relationship dilemmas that are particular to women and show how you can enrich relationships for yourself and others. From 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor.

BEAT GOES ON...

"And the Beat Goes On..." Free cardiovascular education classes that provide helpful information for people with or without heart disease. This week's topic will be "Managing Your Stress." From 6-7:30 p.m. at Michigan Heart and Vascular Institute, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor.

THUR, DEC. 9

LOW BACK PAIN
Oakland Physical Therapy, P.C. will present a lecture for all individuals interested in preventing low back pain, especially those with pain that interferes with daily living, sports or occupation. Objectives will be to identify positions and postures to avoid and prevent low back pain; demonstrate the most stable position of spinal alignment for exercise and functional activity; and describe the most appropriate strengthening and stretching exercises to achieve spinal stability. Program begins at 7 p.m. at the Providence Park Medical Center (Physician Office Building), 47601 Grand River Ave., Suite B 124 in Novi (at Grand River and Deck Roads). There is no charge for this class, but class size is limited. RSVP by calling (248) 380-3550.

HEALTHQUEST SEMINAR

Free Healthquest seminars will continue at the Canton Summit on the Park in the Art II Room every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. through Dec. 16. There will not be a meeting on Thanksgiving Day. Seminars are sponsored by the Canton Seventh Day Adventist Church and are presented by health professionals: Jason Goliatch, M.D.; Aroldo Aragonés, Ph.D., clinical psychology; Rudy Gomez, M.D.; Brenda Schaik, registered dietitian and Michael Doucoumes, director of Breathe Free Plan to Stop Smoking. The topics include exercise/weight control, diet/nutrition, stress control, cancer prevention, heart disease, and diabetes. For more information call (734) 844-8660.

WONDER WALKERS
St. Mary Hospital is offering a health talk at Wonderland Mall as part of their sponsorship of Wonder Walkers, a walking club at the mall. Participants will learn ways to make better eating choices and about the role cholesterol plays in our diet on from 9-10 a.m. in the Wonderland Mall Community Room. There is a no fee. Call the Community Outreach Department at (734) 655-8940 or (800) 494-1650.

WED, DEC. 11

LYMPHATIC/DETOX WORKSHOP
Attend the Ultimate Lymphatic and Blood Detox Workshop with a raw food dinner buffet from 1-7 p.m. The Tree House for Earth's Children, 22906 Mooney St. Farmington, Ca. (248) 473-0624. Learn the basic principles of anatomy physiology and fluid dynamics of the human lymphatic system; recount indications and contra-indications, therapeutic intervention with Manual Lymphatic Drainage; learn how to detox the body; and discuss deep cellular supplements. 6.5 CEUs available for nurses and for massage therapists. Cost is \$50. single; \$90 couple.

SAT, DEC. 11

STROKE/ANEURYSM SUPPORT
For those who had or have a cerebral aneurysm or stroke. Family members/ friends welcome. Group will meet at Garden City Hospital to promote a sharing interaction (free of charge). Call 458-4396 for information.

WED, DEC. 15

LARYNGECTOMY SUPPORT

For people who have had or are going to have surgical removal of their vocal cords (laryngectomy) and their family and friends. In coordination with the Michigan Cancer Foundation Support Services. Meets at 2 p.m. free of charge. Call (734) 458-3381.

ADULT CPR

Three hour evening class conducted at 6 p.m. at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkstar Road (between Ford and Warren Roads) teaching one person rescue through a film, lecture, demonstration and return demonstration. Call (734) 458-4330.

BEAT GOES ON...

"And the Beat Goes On..." Free cardiovascular education classes that provide helpful information for people with or without heart disease. This week's topic will be "Integrating Exercise Into Your Lifestyle." Location: Michigan Heart & Vascular Institute, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor from 6-7:30 p.m.

TUE, DEC. 21

STROKE/ANEURYSM SUPPORT
For those who had or have a cerebral aneurysm or stroke. Family members/ friends welcome. Group will meet at Garden City Hospital to promote a sharing interaction (free of charge). Call 458-4396 for information.

DEC. 29, 30

BLOOD DRIVE
During the holiday times the Southeast Michigan Red Cross supply of blood is especially short. Garden City Hospital will host a blood drive at the Allan Breake Medical Office Building from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Donors are asked to call (734) 458-4330 to make an appointment.

Arthritis Today
JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGIST
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860

NERVE AND NECK PAIN
Little neck pain results from a pinched nerve in the neck. The majority of neck pain results from tension, spasm, and strain on the neck muscles. The most common cause is shoulder strain. The reason is that the trapezius muscle originates on the wingbone (the scapula) and anchors in the middle of the posterior aspect of the skull. Strain on the trapezius occurs when you stand or sit with your shoulders hunched forward. This posture represents a resistance to tension. However, in individuals with arthritis of the shoulder, the trapezius contracts in an effort to give you a few additional degrees of rotation and elevation. You feel neck pain but the cause of the strain is the shoulder. If you have a pinched nerve in your neck, you are likely to feel numbness over the back of the skull. If the pinched nerve is at the side of the neck, then you will have numbness, weakness, or both in your shoulders or hands. If you have rheumatoid arthritis, you can have neck pain because the cervical vertebrae attempt to rotate a rare complication of upper spinal cord compression. In most cases, the treatment for neck pain centers on either relieving the tension state that brings you to strain your neck muscles or attending to the shoulder problem that forces the trapezius to undue exertion. Heat often helps relieve spasm, and counter traction using a weight of 25 lbs. or more is helpful as you can setup cervical traction in the home and have it available whenever a flare of neck pain occurs.

LEGAL SENSE
By Mark Slavens, P.C.
Attorney at Law

OUT ON A LIMB?
Lawyers are advised to regularly review the status of their own personal health. It is important to know the status of your health, especially if you are a professional or a business owner. It is important to know the status of your health, especially if you are a professional or a business owner. It is important to know the status of your health, especially if you are a professional or a business owner.

MARK SLAVENS, P.C.
10811 Farmington Rd. • Livonia • (734) 421-5210

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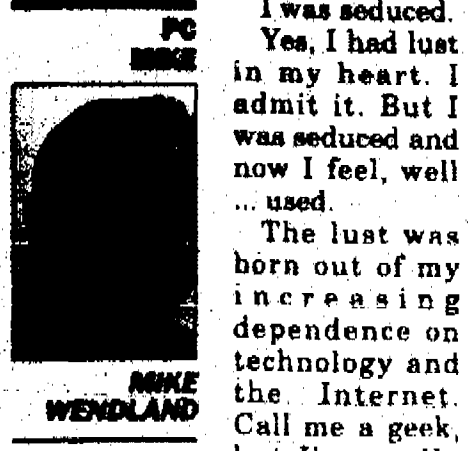
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Handheld Internet not ready for prime time



PC
MIKE WENDLAND

I was seduced. Yes, I had lust in my heart. I admit it. But I was seduced and now I feel, well ... used.

The lust was born out of my increasing dependence on technology and the Internet. Call me a geek, but I've really dreamed of what I could do with reliable wireless handheld connectivity - how much more productive and efficient I'd be.

So when the hype came promising just that, I was a pushover.

What I'm talking about is all the advertisements, promotions and online buzz about the new Palm VII handheld organizer. The promises were bold: Just pull up the little antenna and you'd be able to receive and send

e-mail, get live Web site information on traffic conditions, weather reports, news and sports information.

It was supposed to be so easy. So, as soon as the connectivity service became available in southeastern Michigan last month, I rushed to my local computer store and shelled out \$500 for the Palm VII. I gave my old Palm V to my son and signed up for the \$39-a-month access charge for the Palm VII.

I know, that's steep. I could have gone for the \$9.95 a month basic charge. But I'm a power Internet user and wanted maximum connectivity.

Now, I regret it all.

In all fairness to Palm, the unit does make wireless connections.

But it connects slowly. Very, very slowly. Yes, you can get e-mail and surf certain Web sites. Most of the time. If you have a lot of patience.

I've tried out my Palm VII

across the country, in Las Vegas, Tampa, New York City and all over metropolitan Detroit.

In fact, as I write this, I'm waiting to catch a flight at LaGuardia Airport in New York back to Detroit. The plane has been delayed because of fog, and I have appointments that I will be missing. Ah ha! I thought. I'll use the Palm VII to alert my associates that I'll be late.

Well, I just tried to access e-mail on my Palm VII. And for the fourth time today, even though the signal strength indicator says I'm making a solid wireless connection, both e-mail applications I have on the Palm VII stalled. They just hung up, something they seem to do about every third or fourth time I try them.

That's bad enough.

Later, I found out that one of the e-mail programs had crashed for the better part of the day. There was no explanation why the second application didn't

work.

But even when they run correctly, the process is frustrating. You have to enter your password and log on. That takes a good minute. Then your e-mail messages come in a list. All you get is the sender's name and a few characters of the subject line.

Too slow

To actually read a message, you must select it and then go back and retrieve it. That takes another minute. If it's a message that's more than several hundred characters long, you only get part of the message. Often, you'll find yourself having to do repeated downloads to get an entire message.

To reply, you just write on the screen with the stylus, a character at a time using the Palm's Graffiti character-recognition program.

Once that process is finished, you then hit the send button. And there goes yet another

minute as the Palm goes out and remakes the connection, logs on and sends the data.

I've found it sometimes takes as long as five minutes to handle a single e-mail - if you can get through.

But that's not my only source of disappointment with the newest Palm organizer.

The screen on the Palm VII is nowhere near as clean and crisp on the Palm V. The whole unit is more cumbersome, too, about a third bigger than the Palm V.

So here I sit, my pocket stretching from the extra bulk of the VII, frustrated by not being able to read my e-mail and realizing all the other things I could have done with \$500.

On the plus side, my son is delighted with the Palm V he inherited. Unfortunately for me, he's too smart to consider a trade "up" to the Palm VII.

Over the long haul, this technology surely will work some

day. Nokia, the huge wireless communications company, has announced plans to incorporate the Palm operating system into its handheld phones.

That will be sometime in mid-2000.

Meantime for me, it's been expensive but valuable lessons about the need to control my impulsive lust for connectivity.

If you have been considering wireless handheld Internet and the Palm VII, my best advice is to wait for Nokia to get it right. Because as it now exists, the Palm VII is just a very expensive gizmo, not nearly as neat as the Palm V.

Mike Wendland reports about computers and the Internet for NBC television stations coast-to-coast. His radio show is heard every weekend on TalkRadio 1270, WXYT. You can reach Mike through his Web site at www.pcmike.com.

Ameritech, United Way collaborate on directory

United Way Community Services and Ameritech have collaborated on a new venture to reach out to area youth.

As a result, the Ameritech Youth Yellow Pages was produced. The pocket-sized directory is a compilation of 185 area agencies that provide services to youth. It also serves as a resource to help youth face every day issues, providing places to turn to for help and 24-hour emergency phone numbers.

The new directory was unveiled at a recent press confer-

ence by Detroit's Mayor Dennis Archer, Robert Cooper, president of Ameritech Michigan, and Virgil H. Carr, president and CEO of United Way Community Services. More than 40,000 directories will be distributed to Detroit-area middle school and high school students. Detroit is one of six cities that will receive the customized directory for youth, thanks to a \$300,000 Ameritech grant. Approximately 184,000 directories will be distributed among the school districts in the six cities, which in

addition to Detroit include Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus, Milwaukee and Indianapolis.

"We're so pleased to provide Detroit teens with this unique reference guide, which can help make a difference in their lives and communities," said Cooper. "The Ameritech Youth Yellow Pages is a portable resource guide that fits into backpacks or purses. It gives kids easy access to a list of 24-emergency services phone numbers, an alphabetical agency index and taped messages that deal with a variety of

topics."

The directory covers a variety of topics including job hunting, prevention services, positive leisure activities and volunteer opportunities, diversity programs and mentorship programs, just to name a few.

For more information or to receive a free copy of the Ameritech Youth Yellow Pages, please call the George W. Romney Volunteer Center at United Way Community Services at (313) 926-9420.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Items for Business Newsmakers are welcome from all companies and residents active in the Observer-area business community. Items should be typed or legibly written and sent to: Business Marketplace, c/o The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Fax, (734) 591-7279 or e-mail kmortson@oe.hmcocomm.net

Promotion

Caribiner International, a global business communication and training services company, recently appointed Dennis

O'Connor to the position of Group Director of its newly formed Industrial Education Group in Dearborn.

O'Connor, a resident of Novi, joined Caribiner last year as the director of Account Management. He has been in the business communications and automotive training industry for more than 14 years - serving clients as a writer, project manager and account executive. Prior to that he was a sports editor for 10 years for a suburban-Detroit newspaper group.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

Items from the Observerland area for the Business Calendar can be sent to: Observer Newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150 attention: Business Calendar.

AAI INVESTOR MEETING

The AAI Eastern Michigan Chapter will host J. Michael Lipper who will give an overview on mutual fund analysis. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the program starts at 7 p.m. at the Bloomfield Township Library (Lone Pine Road and Telegraph). Cost is \$15 for members; \$20, non-members. Contact Cookie

Corej at (248) 646-9509.

JAN. 10, 2000

CANTON BPW

The Canton Business & Professional Women is part of a national organization promoting equity for all women in the workplace to achieve goals through advoca-

BUSINESS MARKETPLACE

New clients

Western Creative, Inc. of Redford, a full service advertising and multimedia agency in Redford, has been selected as the advertising agency for Dynamic Computers and the Byrd Eye Clinic, both based in Livonia.

Dynamic Computer is a reseller and servicer of comput-

ers and networks. In addition to creating sales literature and a direct marketing campaign, Western will be producing a multimedia CD-ROM presentation for Dynamic Computers.

The Byrd Eye Clinic specializes in diseases of the eye. Western will be creating commercials and an informational video about LASIK eye surgery.

WED, DEC. 15

Where will you be...

Millennium Eve

\$350.00

The Millennium Package

- Champagne toast on the night of December 31, 1999 with 1 p.m. check in
- Flight Cocktail tickets per package
- Six-course dinner featuring Filet Mignon and Lobster Tail served in the New Michigan Ballroom
- Dancing to the sounds of Southern Nights from the Fabulous 50's to the Rocking 90's from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m.
- Champagne toast at Midnight to bring in the New Year
- Late Night Italian Buffet served at 12:30 a.m.
- Party favors to make the evening more festive!
- **SPECIAL!** Remember the evening with a Pair of Commemorative Champagne Flutes and your personal Party Portrait!
- Breakfast Buffet on January 1, 2000 served from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Late check-out extended until 12 p.m. on January 1, 2000.

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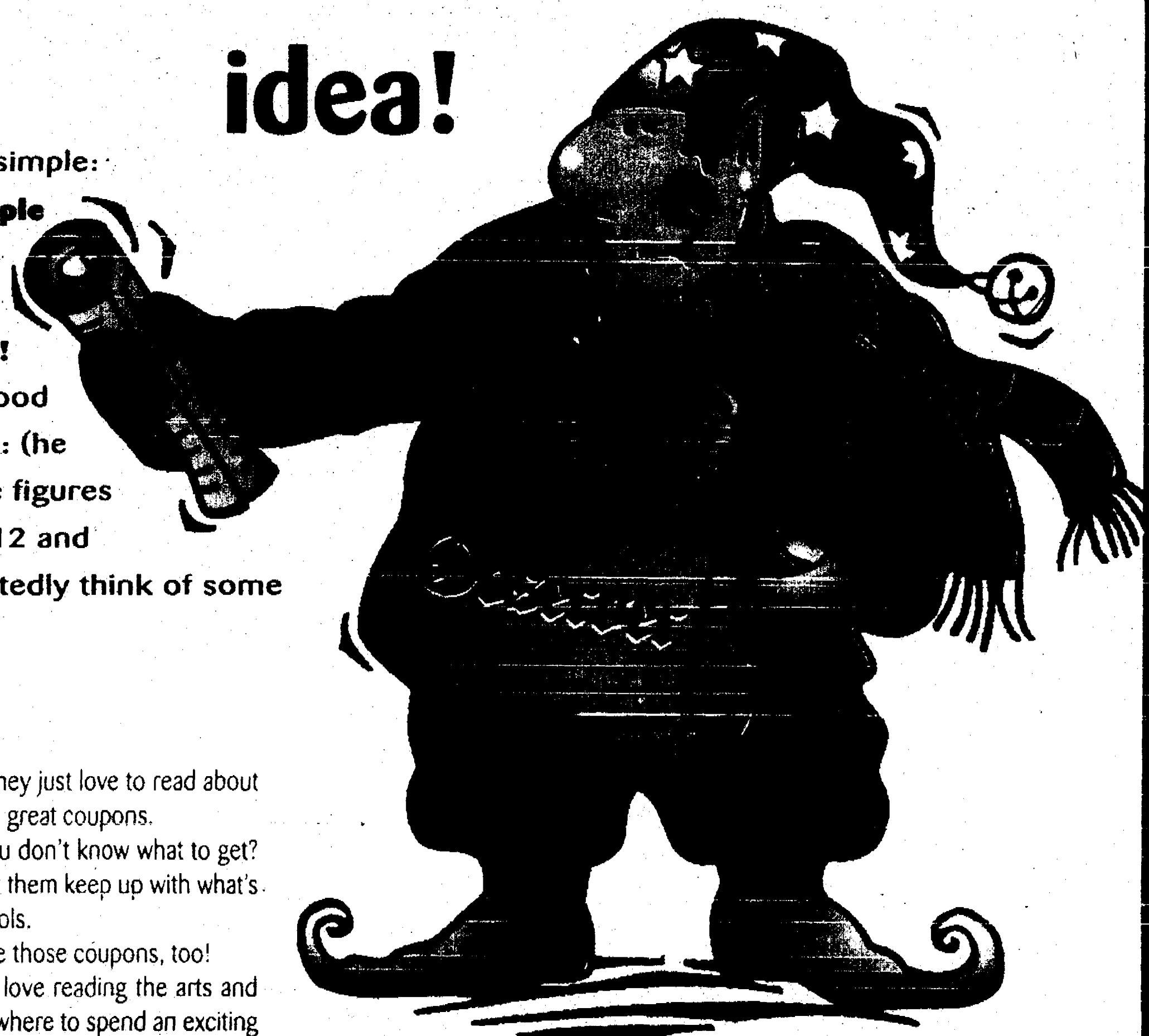
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Meet Mortimer, our Holiday elf with an awesome idea!

It's really cool and very simple:

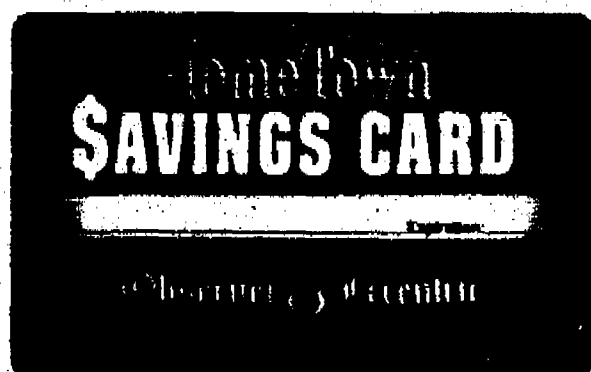
Give those special people on your gift list a subscription to their hometown newspaper!

Mortimer has a dozen good reasons why you should: (he actually has more but he figures you'll get the idea after 12 and besides you can undoubtedly think of some of your own!)



So here they are:

1. Got some "seniors" on your list? They just love to read about what's happening and use all those great coupons.
2. Is there a Grandma or Grandpa you don't know what to get? Their hometown newspaper will let them keep up with what's happening in their grandkid's schools.
3. Got some young families?—they like those coupons, too!
4. How about the single set? They'll love reading the arts and entertainment pages and learning where to spend an exciting Saturday night.
5. Your hometown newspaper has lots of local sports information—a perfect gift for a coach, teacher, or scout master.
6. Someone in the family away at college? What better way to keep them from getting homesick and let them know what's happening back home?
7. New homeowners? An easy one. They'll learn all about their new community, from its schools, local government, upcoming events and our new **HOMETOWN SAVINGS CARD** program.
8. For that friend who loves the Observer, but buys it at the newsstand. Put an end to running out in the rain with their very own subscription!
9. A favorite aunt? She'll love the garage sales, craft shows, delicious recipes and church news.
10. How about the people on your list who spend half the year in the sunny southern climes? Help them keep track of what's going on "up north."
11. Don't forget your friends in business. Their hometown paper will keep them up to date on the local business scene.
12. Hunters. Know someone who always seems to be hunting for a job, a house, a car, they're going to love our huge Classified section!



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