

Westland Observer

Thursday
December 2, 1999

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VOLUME 35 NUMBER 52

WESTLAND, MICHIGAN • 66 PAGES • <http://observer-eccentric.com>

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On Ice



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Graceful: Jessica Wasczenski, 11, shows off a spin for the camera as younger children she helps teach to skate watch at Westland Sports Arena.

Skaters, parents share views on mayor's two-rink plans

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
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Westland hockey and figure skating enthusiasts are embracing Mayor Robert Thomas' proposal for new ice surfaces, but not everyone is convinced the rinks should be tied to a new recreation center.

Some favor two new ice surfaces if the city builds a multi-million-dollar recreation complex, but others indicated they'd prefer a second rink added to Westland Sports Arena, 6210 N. Wildwood.

All agree on one point. The city desperately needs more ice space to accommodate popular sports that leave some youngsters stranded on a waiting list.

Thomas has proposed two new ice surfaces for a recreation center that he hopes to build between the Westland library on Central City Parkway and the Kroger store on Ford. He said the current sports arena could be torn down, with the site used for ball fields.

The new center's estimated price tag: \$15 million to \$18 million.

"I love the idea," Westland Hockey

Association President Paul Bajis said. "But I'm not sure how realistic the idea is. I guess I'm a pessimist."

Bajis' biggest fear is that city officials will decide against a new recreation center and "nothing will get done" even at Westland Sports Arena.

"I want something to happen," he said.

Figure skaters and coaches Rachael Watkins, 19, and Kristy Gienert, 20, took time off from their skating inside the sports arena on

Please see **SKATERS, A2**

Holiday season jobs abundant

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON
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Amid the holiday rush, local stores and businesses are trying to meet the influx of shoppers by hiring seasonal help to handle everything from Christmas tree sales and party trays to wrapping gifts and making home deliveries.

But some business owners say a booming economy and a plentiful job market are making it more difficult for them to hire the employees they need.

Shopping malls are no strangers to the seasonal work. Rose Mufarreh, owner of The Sundries Shop at the Westland Shopping Center, knows all about needing helping hand during the holidays.

Mufarreh and her staff operate the Holiday Gift Wrap shop located near Coney Island in the mall.

"I have my regular staff from the shop work there, and I do hire about seven people who work until Christmas Eve," she said. "They have to commit themselves to working the 24th or what would be the point in me hiring them? That's a busy time."

Suzy Callan of P.S. Imaging & Events supplies the digital photography service during Christmas and Easter at Westland Shopping Center. Callan said she's lucky to have return employees who faithfully help every year, but she has experienced difficulties in the past finding seasonal help.

"Knowing that, I've always paid more — usually \$1 to \$2 an hour more, and I'm very flexible with hours," she said.

Callan employs a staff of managers and photographers who take digital photos of Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny with mall customers.

'Strictly seasonal'

"This situation is strictly seasonal," Callan said. "My staff knows they can work for five straight weeks and make decent money. I'm a firm believer in treating my employees very well."

But Alan Kaplan, owner of A Tisket A Tasket of Farmington Hills, said he has had some difficulty finding workers.

"This will be the first year we've had a real surge in business," he said. "We're hiring people to assemble baskets but it's been hard because the unemployment rate is so low."

Kaplan's sentiments echo throughout the retail industry as a booming economy has the temporary and full-time work force moving from job to job to find the best hourly wage.

Michigan Made, a specialty gift store stocked entirely of products from the state of Michigan, typically employs seasonal help for evening store hours, but owner Jane Kuhns said she's had to "make do" in the past by working extra hours herself due to a lack of applicants.

"It's very difficult to hire anyone right now. There's just

Please see **JOBS, A2**

Lowe's picks date to open

■ Lowe's has set a date of June 14 for opening its doors. The home improvement company has demolished the former Source Club at Newburgh and Warren.

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Lowe's, a major home improvement company, has demolished the former Source Club and plans for opening a new Westland store next June on the southwest corner of Newburgh and Warren.

Lowe's is expected to bring 150 to 200 new jobs to Westland, including 70 to 80 full-time positions ranging from stock people to managers.

The company has torn down the old Source Club, vacant for five years, in hopes of starting new construction soon.

"We are anticipating an open-for-business day of June 14, and that's based on six months of construction," Lowe's site development manager Joseph Hilton said Nov. 24 from his North Wilkesboro, N.C., office.

City officials have hailed Lowe's for choosing Westland as the company

Please see **LOWE'S, A4**

Drive's a success

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Westland Goodfellows — an organization that raises money to buy Christmas toys for needy children — collected \$17,000 last weekend from newspaper sales.

That easily topped past President Jerry Smith's projection of \$13,500.

"It went great," he said. "We were elated. This year we had a lot of people who were really gracious. We had no

GOODFELLOWS

glitches or negative remarks."

Goodfellows members sold their organization's newspapers at city intersections Friday and Saturday, capitalizing on the post-Thanksgiving shopping frenzy.

"People were stopping and they were just dumping money," Smith said. "Some people gave checks for \$100 or \$50. It was better than last year."

The \$17,000 raised was believed to be a possible record.

Please see **SUCCESS, A4**

'Taste of the Arts' combines arts and fine cuisine

BY JULIE BROWN
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LaVerne Dudley of Inkster was among the proud parents at Tuesday's "Taste of the Arts" at the Hellenic Cultural Center. Her daughter, Raymisha, had created a piece of artwork for the benefit.

"I'm excited, I'm very proud of her," said Dudley of her daughter, a 9-year-old fourth-grader at Elliott Elementary. "She's really done well."

The family recently moved to Michigan. The Westland Chamber of Commerce benefit provided a chance for them to get to know their community.

The evening included tastes of good food from area eateries. Student artwork from Livonia and Wayne Westland schools was up for auction.

Nancy Barrons, chamber president, was admiring the artwork. "I think it is just fabulous," said Barrons, a manager with Standard Federal Bank. "All

■ 'Everything has been donated, which shows you the generosity. That really shows you the community spirit.'

Jacque-Martin Downs
Family Resource Center

the art teachers did a fabulous job getting the students to donate their art work. The students did a fabulous job."

The event drew some 600 people. Proceeds support the chamber and the Family Resource Center.

"This is awesome," said Jacque Martin-Downs, director of the Family Resource Center. "We built it and they are coming. I am thrilled."

"Everything has been donated, which shows you the generosity," she added. "That really shows you the community spirit."



Looks good: LaVerne Dudley and daughter Raymisha, 9, sample the food at the Joy Manor dessert table. This was the first year for the event, a fund-raiser for the Westland Chamber of Commerce and the Family Resource Center.

STAFF PHOTO BY JIM HAYES

Jobs from page A1

not enough people around," Kuhns said.

The Plymouth business owner said she has a steady staff of approximately three adult women who work the daytime shift and high school students who work after school.

"The high school students come and go, and they should because things change in their lives, but with fast food restaurants offering higher wages ... I've also raised my salaries."

Grocery stores and produce markets commonly employ temporary help between the Thanksgiving and New Year holidays to fill fruit baskets and party tray orders.

Advertising edge

According to Carol Harter, manager of Joe's Produce of Livonia, the market uses both advertising and word of mouth to attract approximately eight additional staffers who work until Dec. 24.

"Unfortunately it has been a little more difficult to find part-time help," Harter said. "We have a couple of college students that work during their break.

We're willing to train people so they don't need experience."

Harter said baggers and individuals who fill and wrap fruit baskets and party trays are still needed if someone is looking for a temporary job for the next four weeks.

Keller and Stein Florist & Greenhouse of Canton Township maintains the same staff during the holiday season as they do throughout the year, said Office Manager Terri Jason.

Jason said increased holiday demand is met by having some part-time staff members increase their hours to full time during November and December.

"It's just for a short period of time. We may hire people to do some extra driving but that's about it," Jason said.

Many area retailers said the key to finding quality seasonal workers is to create an enjoyable working environment, offer competitive or above-average wages and be flexible.

"It's all about when they can work for us," said Holly Smolinski, vice president of district managers of Kohl's Department Stores throughout Michigan.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

At work: Vicki Cafini (front) and Nancy Dwan wrap gifts as seasonal employees for Rose Mufarreh at Westland Center.

"The availability of our staff varies. We employ some moms who can only work a few hours a week," said Smolinski. "We start calling our associates in September to see if they're interested in coming back to work for us in addition to in-store advertising. After all, our shoppers are our

best employees." An average Kohl's hires 50-60 seasonal workers to complement their full-time staff during the holiday season. "Many of the associates choose to stay on with us because our inventory is in January and they're welcome to do that."

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STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Just starting out: Alicia Dean, 5, gets some help from the side boards along the ice during skating class at the Westland Sports Arena.

Skaters from page A1

Monday to discuss the issue.

'We need one'

"I think we need one," Watkins said of a second sheet of ice. "Right now it's cramped between us and the hockey association. But I think just adding onto this building would be fine."

Goen said a second ice surface could usher in high school hockey teams and give them a place in town to play.

"But I think they could build a little more difficult to find part-time help," Harter said. "We have a couple of college students that work during their break.

Her father, Bill, president of the Westland Figure Skating Association, said having two ice surfaces would allow the city to host competitions and events that it can't currently accommodate.

"I'm highly in favor of a dual-surface facility," he said. "As far as where it's located, I don't have a strong preference."

Still, Goen cited several reasons why two new ice surfaces at a new recreation center might be a better proposal:

■ Two rinks in a new center would be advantageous to regional competitions.

■ Figure skating and hockey clubs would have meeting rooms. "Sometimes now we end up turning a locker room into a meeting room."

■ Figure skaters would have access to off-ice activities such as dance aerobics and strength training.

Bajis, meanwhile, revealed some statistics that point out the need for more ice.

The Westland Hockey Association has 14 teams with 250 to 270 members ages 5 to 18.

"We could easily go to 28 teams," Bajis said.

The hockey group already has a list of 120 to 130 children who can't get on a team because there's no room, he said.

"I just want to see that all the kids who want to play have an

opportunity to play," Bajis said.

Tournament time

Westland's ice rink was among five that participated in a 105-team tournament that ended Sunday.

"It was packed," Bajis said. Westland could have hosted a greater share of games if the city had more ice space, he said.

A new surface also would allow more time for beginner ice skating programs.

"I know the need is there (for a second surface), and I know it would be used," Bajis said.

Thomas and others such as architect Scott Sherman have said it would be difficult to add a second rink onto Westland Sports Arena without disrupting the neighborhood.

Thomas also has said parents who bring their children to a new recreation center to skate could use other portions of the facility for their own enjoyment, making the outing a family affair.

A new recreation center would come without a new tax. It would be paid from the existing Tax Increment Finance Authority, which already collects money in a district north of Ford.

Architects plan to compare proposals for renovating Westland Sports Arena and for adding two new ice rinks to a new recreation center.

"I don't care either way," Jenny Walker, sports arena skating director, said. "I'm not opposed to either proposal. But we do have a great building here."

It isn't clear when Westland City Council members will decide the issue.

Indecision is what many fear, because it will take time to complete either project. "It's two years away, whatever happens," Bajis said.

WAYNE/WESTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
Westland, Michigan 48338

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TMP Project #98021 - Hamilton Elementary School
TMP Project #98022 - Hicks Elementary School
TMP Project #98033 - Vandenberg Elementary School

Wayne-Westland Community Schools will be received until 1:00 P.M. local time on Tuesday, December 16, 1999 at which time they will be opened and read publicly at Wayne-Westland Community School Board of Education, 96745 Marquette, Westland, Michigan 48185. Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened. Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

This Bid Package will consist of a separate sealed bid for the following Bid Divisions:

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103	Selective Demolition
108	General Trades
109	Roofing & Sheet Metal
114	Aluminum Windows, Glass & Glazing
115	Metal Stud/Drywall/E.I.F.S.
117	Acoustical Treatment
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121	Visual Display Boards
122	Signage
125	Toilet Partitions
128	Plastic Laminated Casework
130	Window Treatment
140	Plumbing
142	HVAC
143	Electrical

Bidding documents prepared by TMP Associates, Inc. will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, McSEV, 25950 West Five Mile Rd., Redford, MI 48339; the FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; the Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; and the Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit.

Bidders may obtain a set of bidding documents by contacting the Construction Manager, McSEV, at (313) 536-6213. Additional plans may be ordered and purchased directly from Dunn Blue Reprographics Technology, (313) 383-3960. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, McSEV. The bid division(s) being bid is (are) to be identified on the outside of the envelope. There will be a Pre-Bid Meeting held on Monday, November 8, 1999 @ 11:00 A.M. at the Wayne-Westland Community School Board of Education Building. All bidders are encouraged to attend.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond in the amount of at least five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Wayne-Westland Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds with ten (10) days after notice of award of contract.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material payment Bond. Wayne-Westland Community Schools reserve the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding.

This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.

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Teacher shares love of learning

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

For Plymouth Children's Nursery preschool teacher Marlene Lloyd, the key to connecting with children is in not losing touch with her own inner child.

"I have more fun than they do," Lloyd said of her 3- and 4-year-old students. She teaches an average of 42 a day and has taught - and influenced - hundreds throughout her tenure.

"She is just a wonderful teacher," parent Theresa Pawczuk of Canton said. "The kids really connect with her. I think Marlene makes the school."

Pawczuk said she was particularly impressed with Lloyd's rapport with shy children, particularly her 4-year-old daughter, Emily. She cried on her first day of preschool when mom left.

"I called as soon as I got home to see how she was doing," Pawczuk said. Lloyd reassured her that her daughter was doing fine.

"She really works with (shy children)," Pawczuk said.

Another way Lloyd makes children feel special is by calling them "pumpkin."

"Every child is called 'pumpkin,'" Pawczuk said.

"They all think they're the only one who's called pumpkin," Lloyd added.

A recent visit with a 13-year-old former student let Lloyd know how powerful the nickname is.

"She told her mother, 'I must be getting old. Mrs. Lloyd didn't call me 'pumpkin,'" Lloyd said of the girl's remarks. From that point on, she called her "pumpkin."

Lloyd said she can tell she makes a difference by the invitations she receives. Many former students have invited her to graduation parties, and she doesn't turn any of them down.

"If I get invited to go, I go, she said. Plymouth Children's Nursery

Inc. opened in 1961 and is a cooperative, which means parents play active roles by serving on the school's advisory board, assisting with classroom activities and attending field trips. There are 106 families involved.

"I interact with parents as much as the children," Lloyd said. "To be a parent in the cop, the parent also has to put in time."

The involvement isn't always easy.

"For a lot of these parents, it's really difficult to be involved," Lloyd said. "People really do put themselves out to be involved."

It's worth the effort, she added.

"This school is extremely well-organized," Lloyd said. "Everyone has their own bulletin boards and mail boxes."

Each class has 21 students, one teacher and four parent assistants.

When she's not teaching preschool, she works part time

at Northville Downs as a cashier. In her own playtime, she plays golf, tends her herb garden or competes in race walking events. She's even tried her hand at runway modeling.

"I like to be busy," she said. "I really fill up my days."

Visiting her grandchildren is another favorite activity. All three were born within one year.

The rewards of Lloyd's job are countless, she said.

"I honestly know I can be an influence in this really important stage of life," Lloyd said. "(Children) are like little sponges ready to absorb everything."

Lloyd is not only a teacher at Plymouth Children's Nursery, but also a former school parent. Her three children - Julie, Melissa and Mark - all attended the preschool.

Lloyd earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Eastern Michigan University. She formerly taught in the Ypsilanti and Wayne-West-



Together: Marlene Lloyd laughs during show and tell with Lynn Chou on her lap at the Plymouth Children's Nursery in Canton.

land school districts. She lived in Plymouth Township 35 years before moving to Pittsfield Township four years ago.

Teaching preschool is not a job Lloyd said she would ever get

tired of.

"I guess I stay here because I absolutely love it. I feel I need to see this school continue to run well."

Arson suspected in Sportway fire

Arson is suspected of causing a fire early Tuesday that damaged Sportway recreation center, 38520 Ford Road, Deputy Fire Chief David Carignan said. No one was injured.

Firefighters rushed to the scene at 12:10 a.m. and found flames coming from a vandalized garage area that housed go-carts, gasoline and other equipment, Carignan said.

"The investigation revealed extensive graffiti on the affected building, as well as to other buildings and structures within the area," he said. "The fire was determined to be intentionally set, and all available evidence was removed from the scene."

Damage was estimated at \$100,000, including \$40,000 to the structure and \$60,000 to its contents, Carignan said. Some of the damage had been caused by vandalism.

Firefighters and fire officials from three stations went to the scene, responding with three engines and three rescue vehicles.

The fire was controlled within 40 minutes. The investigation is continuing.

"We believe it was juveniles," Westland police Lt. Marc Stobbe said.

Police are asking anyone with information about the arson incident to contact them at one of two numbers:

■ (800) 831-3111 This is the Crime Stoppers of Michigan phone number and may lead to cash rewards for information leading to the arrest of suspects.

■ (734) 721-6311 This is the number for the Westland Police Department's detective bureau and should be called, if possible, during daytime working hours.

Livonia board mulls going to voters

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
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In the coming weeks, Livonia Board of Education trustees will have to wrestle with whether to take a three-part proposal to voters in April.

The benefit: If approved, one part would add an annual 0.4-mill tax for 25 years to generate a \$30 million bond to pay for expanded and renovated athletic facilities.

The risk: Possibly losing one or both renewals that raise nearly \$35 million annually, which district officials say is crucial for operations.

Renewals include 0.75 mill on homes and private property, which generates \$1.9 million a year; and 18 mills on business property that raises \$29 million for operations annually.

The district will be asking voters to approve a second renewal of a 1-mill sinking fund tax that is used for building renovation and repairs. That

tax generates \$4 million annually. A mill is \$1 of taxation for \$1,000 of state taxable value, usually about half of the property's value.

Superintendent Ken Watson advised board members that he backs putting all three on the ballot April 10. Board members have until Jan. 17 to finalize ballot language.

In mulling over the decision, board members won't be sailing without a compass. On Dec. 13, they will hear results of an in-house community survey.

Some 380 registered voters will be asked 25 questions regarding the three ballot proposals in a telephone survey, said Jay Young, community services director.

"We understand there is some risk involved," Watson said. "If the survey comes back and says it's a lousy idea, we'll have to come back and rethink it."

If one or both renewals fail, they'll be put back on the June ballot. The bond proposal - at

least in its present form - is a one-time only deal.

"In my mind, they (the voters) would be sending us a message," Watson said.

District officials are already honing their sales pitches, though.

One appeals directly to taxpayers' pocket books. The 0.4 mill is the difference between the voter authorized 1.15 hold-harmless mills five years ago and the 0.75 mill currently up for renewal, Watson said.

If all three are approved, businesses will see a 0.4-mill increase. However, Watson pointed out the 18 mills is a far cry from the 31 mills businesses paid prior to adoption of Proposal A in 1994.

Competition is another factor, Watson said.

Enrollment is on a slight decline and no large housing developments are planned. The district will need modern facilities to lure new families - at

SCHOOLS

"Like it or not, we're in competition with everybody around us," Watson said. "Do they look at MEAP scores? We know they do."

The other becomes, "Do you want to move here in terms of your family being involved in athletics and those types of programs?" We think the answer is yes."

District high schools and middle schools were built 30 to 40 years ago, prior to Title IV and the explosion of girls athletics.

Bond money would pay for auxiliary gyms at Stevenson Franklin and Churchill. Gym additions would be built at Emerson, Frost and Riley middle schools. Emerson and Holmes would see new outdoor running tracks. Estimated cost is \$29.2 million, with a \$750,000 contingency

CRIME WATCH

Bad money

The manager of McDonald's at 31350 Michigan Ave. reported finding six counterfeit \$20 bills at 10 p.m. Nov. 22. The bills came from two different cash registers. The manager reported that employees are supposed to check all bills that are \$20 or greater, but one employee said he had been too busy to check every bill.

Break-in

A Westland woman told police someone broke into her house between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m. Nov. 22 and stole a jewelry box containing miscellaneous items; a lock box containing sports collector cards; personal papers; a GM credit card, and a \$400 bicycle. Two sliding doors had been tampered with

during the break-in.

Car theft

A Westland woman told police her car was stolen between 7 a.m. Nov. 22 and 12:35 a.m. Nov. 23 at 1347 S. Carlson.

Detroit police later found the car, described as a 1987 Chevrolet Celebrity.

Phone theft

A Garden City man who had been shopping at the Westland Meijer reported that someone sliced open the back window of his soft-top Geo Tracker and took his cellular phone, valued at \$150. He told police he believes the incident occurred late Nov. 21.

All-Stars planning to perform

The Westland All-Stars Drama Club is busy preparing for performances of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever." Performances will be 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12.

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" will be presented at the Bailey Recreation Center, on

Ford near Carlson in Westland.

Tickets, at \$5 each, will be available at the center or at the door.

The story concerns the efforts of a woman and her husband to put on the annual church Christmas pageant - despite having to cast probably the meanest, nastiest, most inventively awful kids in the world

■ "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" will be presented at the Bailey Recreation Center on Ford near Carlson.

The Christmas comedy is designed for all ages

Marshall students recognized

A special ceremony will be held Dec. 9 to induct students into Marshall Middle School's National Junior Honor Society.

Members were selected by a faculty council for meeting high standards of scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship and character.

"National Junior Honor Society members are chosen for and then expected to continue their

exemplary contributions to the school and community," said Linda Evanko, chapter adviser.

The 1999-2000 executive board is made up of Justine Mullet, president; Jackie Vermette, vice president; Amanda Kalis, secretary; and Melissa Siepierski, historian.

The National Junior Honor Society ranks as one of the oldest and most prestigious national

organizations for middle level students. Chapters exist in more than 80 percent of the nation's middle level schools. Since 1929, millions of students have been selected for membership.

NJHS is sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals, which also sponsors the National Honor Society

ACHIEVERS

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

He 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 317 high schools throughout Michigan on 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.

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1.08	Emerald	VS	G	7,300	4,800
0.92	Pear	SI	E	8,800	5,000
1.13	Princess	VVS	G	7,800	4,700
2.00	Round	I	L-N	11,800	7,000
1.88	Round	IF	H	18,500	10,300
0.77	Round	VVS	G	5,800	3,600
0.50	Round	VS	F	4,000	2,400

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Success Murder victim's kids get community support

from page A1

"To the best of my knowledge it sounds like a record," Smith said.

The two-day fund drive will help Goodfellows buy toys for children in 450 families.

"I'd say we'll have at least that many this year," Smith said.

The group's motto: "No child without a Christmas."

Needy families seeking help may get applications from the Dorsey Community Center (467-3257) or the Westland Chamber of Commerce (326-7222).

Applications must be returned by 3 p.m. Dec. 10.

The program is available to Westland residents only, although Goodfellows members can make referrals for people who live in other communities, Smith said.

Smith commended new President Jimmy Rachwal's leadership during the 1999 fund-raiser. "It was his first year out, and he did a great job," Smith said.

Goodfellows members will meet at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 17 at the senior citizen Friendship Center to pack toys to be delivered.

Anyone interested in helping is welcome at the center, 1119 N. Newburgh.

The organization will deliver gifts from the center starting at 8 a.m. Dec. 18. Anyone willing to volunteer is urged to show up that morning.

BY LEANNE ROGERS
STAFF WRITER
lrogers@a1.homecom.net

For about 10 days after Veronica Kuclio-Raub was murdered, her four children stayed away from Garden City.

"We stayed in hotels out of town. Safety was an issue until we knew where Pete was," said Kuclio-Raub's sister, Madilynne Mulleague.

Peter Raub, 41, was arrested in Los Angeles and is being extradited to face a charge of stabbing his 34-year-old wife to death in their home. A warrant has been issued charging him with open murder.

The couple's children - Krystal, 15, Ashley, 14, Rya, 8, and Peter Jr., 5, - have been staying

with Mulleague in Westland. The children have returned to school - the older girls attend Garden City High School and the younger kids go to Henry Ruff Elementary School.

"The kids and I talked and we talked with counselors about staying (in Garden City). I'd have taken them out so they didn't have to deal with all the questions, but the kids wanted to stay," said Mulleague. "The schools have been very nice, and the kids need their friends. They are adjusting better than I thought they would."

Keeping the children together has been a benefit, said Mulleague, a supervisor with the Ann Arbor Post Office. Protective Services told the family that if the agency took custody of the

children, the older girls would be placed in a youth group home and there was also no guarantee the younger ones would be kept together.

"I think it would be a lot harder on the younger kids if they were without their older sisters," said Mulleague, who plans to buy a home in Garden City. "There is going to be a messy trial to go through, I'm afraid. We're taking it one day at a time right now."

The murder of Kuclio-Raub received a lot of media attention due to her self-proclaimed activities as a witch. She operated Gundella's Witches Ways and Wares on Middlebelt for several years - the name referring to her late mother, Marion Kuclio, a writer and lecturer known as

Gundella the Good Witch.

"We resented Mom's name being on the shop. What was in the shop was nothing that Mom believed in," said Mulleague, who assisted her mother for several years. "It was Pete's idea. He rewrote her columns and put them on the Web."

Although some of the shop's clientele carried over from a group associated with Gundella, Mulleague said many others weren't the sort her mother would have encouraged.

The family began selling merchandise in the store in preparation for closing the doors. "We'll have the sale until it's depleted. We want to get the store out of there," Mulleague said. "It's not going to reopen. The landlord is having a problem."

There'll be a court hearing next month about the guardianship of the children. Mulleague doesn't expect any objection to her continuing to care for her nieces and nephews.

"The Raubs have been great. This is their tragedy, too. They've had a very hard time dealing with it. This is their family, too," said Mulleague. "My sister and her husband ... were not close to either family."

Community support for the family has been strong and has included contributions to a fund to aid the children. Donations can be sent to the Raub Children Fund, P.O. Box 434, Garden City MI 48135.

OBITUARIES

HELEN FEHLNER

A funeral Mass for Helen Fehlnr, 69, of Westland will be held 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 3, in St. Bernardine Church, Ann Arbor Trail west of Merriman, Westland. Visitation is 2-9 p.m. today, Thursday, in McFarland Foss Funeral Home, 5401 Schaefer Road, Dearborn.

Mrs. Fehlnr died Nov. 28. Surviving are her husband, Ed; sons, Eddie (Judy) and Jack (Beth); daughters, Denise (Larry) Swopes and Terri; brother, Chuck (Marcie) Borso; sisters, Erma (Vince) Bonacci and Mary Ann (Mike) Shock; and 10

grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Garden City Osteopathic Hospital ICU.

BONNIE HONEYCUTT

Services for Bonnie Honeycutt, 73, of Wayne were held today, Dec. 2, in R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Garden City Chapel, with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, Westland. Officiating was the Rev. Jonathan Allen from Community Baptist Church.

Mrs. Honeycutt was born Aug. 7, 1926, in Knox, Ky., and died Nov. 28 in Detroit. She was a former resident of Westland and

Garden City. She was a machine operator for Frametone Connector in Westland. She loved to dance and had a booth at the Gibraltar Trade Center.

Surviving are her sons, Henry and Norman; daughters, Bonnie Luzader, Ester Chapman, Blanche Richards, Bernice Honeycutt, Lois Barton, Earleen Florka, Lorene VanBuhler, Lucy and June; sister, Gertie; 44 grandchildren; and 33 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Honeycutt was preceded in death by her husband, Earl, and son, Michael.

EVEDON W. WYATT

Services for Evedon Wyatt, 38, of

Westland took place Nov. 29 in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Glenwood Cemetery in Wayne. Officiating was the Rev. Robert McDonald.

Mrs. Wyatt was born July 13, 1961, and died Nov. 23 in Wayne. She was a teller.

Surviving are her husband, Oston; son, Clifford Wrenn; sisters, Carol Gimson and Marcia Olechoweki; and seven grandchildren.

JAMES D. PIMPEDLY SR.


Services for James Pimpedly Sr., 83, of Livonia were held Nov. 29 in Vermeulen Funeral Home in Westland with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, West-

land. Officiating was the Rev. Steven K. Bieghler.

Mr. Pimpedly was born Nov. 5, 1916, in Fairfield, Ohio, and died Nov. 24 in Ann Arbor. He was an iron worker.

Surviving are his son, Patrick (Linda) Pimpedly of Ecorse; daughters, Janet (Joseph Sr.) Wollschlager of Westland, Gail (Paul) Wollschlager of Westland and Colleen (Joey) Davis of Inkster; 19 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Pimpedly was preceded in death by his son, James Pimpedly Jr.



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**CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**

On Tuesday, December 7, 1999 the Westland Police Dept. will conduct Public Auctions of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The first auction will begin promptly at 10:00 A.M. at Westland Service Towing, 37501 Cherry Hill, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.L.N.
1984	TOYOTA	COROLLA/2 DR	GRAY	JT2AE86S0E065153
1990	BUICK	SKYLARK/4 DR	GRAY	1G4NV54U1LM052781
1990	PONTIAC	SUNBIRD/2 DR	BLACK	1G2JB14K3L7613181
1984	CHEVROLET	S 10/PICK UP	BLUE	1GCB514B5E2204855
1987	BUICK	CENTURY/4 DR	BLUE	1G4AL51W7HT415026

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

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.L.N.
1977	HONDA	750/MTR CYCLE	BLACK	CB5501208565
1989	OLDS	98/4 DR	BLUE	3X69K7E152541
1989	DODGE	SHADOW/4 DR	BLUE	1B3BP48D3KN610078
1999	PLYMOUTH	VOYAGER/VAN	PURPLE	2P4FP2532XR473723
1991	GEO	STORM/2 DR	WHITE	J81RF4367M755128
1988	FORD	ESCORT/2 DR	GRAY	1FAPP2198JW118756
1984	OLDS	CUTLASS/2 DR	BURG	1G3AM47A1EM338814
1993	FORD	RANGER/PU	BLACK	1FTCR10A5PPB80384
1988	FORD	EXPLORER/2 DR	BLUE	1FABP1791JW194072
1988	ISUZU	PICK-UP TRUCK	BLUE	JAABL14AXG0751939
1985	FORD	LTD/4 DR	GRAY	1FABP3938FG176142
1991	FORD	ESCORT/2 DR	BLUE	1FAPP10J1MW391600
1998	CHEVY	PICK-UP TRUCK	RED	1GCCS1941W8231924
1987	CHRYSLER	LEBARON/2 DR	RED	1C3CJ41E7HG202207
1986	BUICK	CENTURY/4 DR	GRAY	1G4AH19R4GT489267
1989	TOYOTA	MR2/2 DR	BLUE	JT2AW15C7K0156205
1980	FORD	MUSTANG/2 DR	MAROON	0F03A275900

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

Lowe's from page A1

moves to penetrate the western Wayne County market.

"Our next major expansion effort is in Michigan," Hilton said.

Mayor Robert Thomas has said Lowe's will be "a real nice addition to the community" and give homeowners a place to shop without leaving town.

Thomas himself has conceded he had to go to The Home Depot in Canton Township when he was building his house.

Lowe's hasn't received its Westland building permit, but it has permission to start the store's foundation.

"As quickly as we can get that (Source Club) rubble out of the way, we'll start our foundation," Hilton said.

The store will have 115,000 square feet of sales

floor, but the overall project will be 163,268 square feet when including a garden center, a receiving area and office space, Hilton said.

Westland City Council members already have approved the Lowe's site plan.

Hilton said many of the 150 to 200 new jobs will be well-paying and will come with stock options, retirement benefits, an employee savings investment plan and other advantages.

He has said Lowe's plans to spend \$3.5 million on its Westland building, although other costs such as buying the property pushed the total price tag to about \$7 million.

City officials have portrayed Lowe's as an established company that should succeed at its Westland site. The company has annual sales that top \$10 billion.

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Livonia nurse appointed to Occupational Health Commission

Margaret A. Vissman of Livonia was appointed to the Occupational Health Standards Commission, which develops occupational health standards.

Vissman is an associate health nurse for the Dearborn Inn and the Marriott and also represents the Michigan Association of Occupational Health Nurses Inc. She is appointed to replace Mark Gaffney of South Lyon and to represent employees. Her term runs until Aug. 5, 2002.

■ Tara Wall has been named deputy director of the Governor's Southeastern Michigan Office in Detroit, in charge of maintaining relationships with the leaders of the city of Detroit.

Formerly a resident of Pleasant Ridge and Southfield, Wall will work with city leaders on political, educational, economic and religious matters; act as a liaison between the governor's office and community groups; represent the governor at city events; and work with the mayor

and city council on state issues.

Now living in Grand Rapids, Wall has been the education reporter for WOOD-TV 8 in Grand Rapids since October 1996. Previously, she served as a general assignment/education reporter for WILX-TV 10 in Lansing, and co-anchor and reporter for WBKB-TV 11 in Alpena. Wall was also a production assistant/writer and associate producer for WXYZ-TV 7 in Detroit and a radio news reporter for WEMU-FM in Ypsi-

lanti.

■ Gov. John Engler also named Dr. Teresa Staten of Lansing to the State Child Abuse Neglect and Prevention Board, which is responsible for promoting the use of Children's Trust Fund monies for child abuse and neglect prevention programs.

Staten is a former chief deputy superintendent of public instruction for Michigan. Staten's term will begin on Dec. 19.

■ Vivian Pickard of Bloomfield Hills has been named to the Michigan Community Service Commission, which supports service programs across Michigan.

Pickard is director of community and philanthropic events for General Motors Corp.

■ Harley Krapohl of East Lansing was reappointed to the Collection Practices Advisory Board, which prohibits certain collection practices, provides for licensing and regulation of collection agencies and imposes

penalties for violations.


Krapohl is retired from the state as a member of the Workers Compensation Appeal Board. He is reappointed to represent the general public for a term expiring June 30, 2003.

■ Mary Ellen Sheets of Okemos was appointed to the Michigan Truck Safety Commission, which controls the expenditures of the Truck Safety Fund, receives donations and establishes truck driver safety education classes.



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Bills target sexual predators on the Internet

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Law enforcement officials are turning the tables on sex offend-

ers who use the Internet to target children: they are beginning to hunt the predators.

State Sen. Mike Rogers (R-Howell) is introducing three bills

this week to assist in that pursuit.

The bills will:

- Clarify the definition of a minor as it pertains to attempts by sex offenders to make arrangements over the Internet to meet a youngster.

It is, of course, already illegal for an adult to molest a young person, and another of Rogers' initiatives went into effect this past June establishing it as a felony when a perpetrator uses the Internet to arrange a sexual encounter with a child.

"But judges and the courts have been nervous about it when undercover officers pose as 14-year-olds," Rogers' press secretary, Sylvia Warner, said. That's how police trap "cyber-predators," by posing as juveniles and letting predators suggest meetings for the purpose of sex. When the predators show up, police make the arrests.

"We want to make it very clear in the law that this is no different than any other undercover operation, like when a police officer poses as a prostitute," Warner said.

- Require forfeiture of computers, computer equipment and cars used in the commission of the crimes.

Predators who risk jail to have sex with children aren't likely to be dissuaded by such a law, Warner admitted. "This is not an issue of prevention," she added. Rather, it is a matter of confiscating the "tools" of the crime,

allowing police to take those tools just as they would take a burglar's tools, confiscate a gun used by a bank robber, or take a car driven by a drunk.

- Making the cyber-predator liable for the costs of the law enforcement and prosecution efforts spent on him.

According to Warner, Wayne County Sheriff Robert Ficano - who has worked with Rogers on the proposals - said the cost of tracking predators down, apprehending them and prosecuting them can run to as much as \$20,000 per case.

Ficano's department, with four officers dedicated to the task of patrolling cyberspace for predators, typically tracks 350 to 450 individuals who are suspected of targeting kids. Warner explained the officers pose as young girls, using a profile likely to attract sex offenders, entering online chat rooms and simply participating in the ongoing conversation. If solicited to meet for sex, officers set a time and place. The perpetrators are only arrested when they show up, Warner said.

Additionally, the Oakland County Sheriff's Department is currently setting up a division to chase cyber-predators. Two officers are presently working on that project.

The state police department has one officer who works part time tracking predators. And the state attorney general's office has several working on the job. Warner said she expects Rogers to push for more funding in coming budget talks to hire additional officers for full-time assignment to the state police cyber-predator office.

"The Internet has been a safe,

anonymous place for criminals to hunt for potential child victims," Rogers said as he announced his proposals.

"On the information super-highway," Ficano said, "there is no distinct red-light district - instead the red-light district is potentially everywhere and nowhere ... The best defense against the predators working out there is for parents to monitor actively their children's Internet activity. At the same time, law enforcement has to do the best we can to make it too risky for these criminals to go online in the first place."



Sheriff Robert Ficano

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Tips for parents

Michigan Sen. Mike Rogers and Wayne County Sheriff Robert Ficano are urging parents to monitor their children's use of the Internet to prevent being targeted by sexual predators. They recommend parents teach children to:

- Understand that adults may pose as children online.
- Never share personal information online.
- Notify an adult if they receive a message that makes them uncomfortable.
- Never arrange a meeting with someone they've met on the Internet.
- Tell a parent immediately if someone attempts to arrange a meeting with them.

Parents should also:

- Monitor children's computer use and set time limits.
- Keep the computer in a room where parents can watch how it is being used.
- Learn how to track where your children are going online.
- Install software that filters Internet access.

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Senator proposes tax credit for community college

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

"We have priced 44 percent or more of our residents out of higher education unless they are willing to incur huge debts," state Sen. Alma Wheeler Smith says.

Free, on the other hand, should be quite affordable for all students.

That's why Smith, D-Salem Township, is proposing to create a tax credit for students enrolled in two-year community college programs. Keying on the federal HOPE program, which allows students to deduct \$1,500 worth of tuition from their federal income taxes for their first two years of college, Smith's Higher Education Learning Promotion (HELP) program would allow community college students to take the remainder of their tuition costs from Michigan income taxes.

Typically, tuition comes to \$1,900 at community colleges and \$4,000 in two-year community college programs operated by four-year institutions, Smith said.

Only students who earn \$50,000 per year (\$100,000 if they file jointly) are not eligible for the HOPE and HELP credits. For students counted as dependents on their parents' returns, those income caps apply to the parents' income as well. Still, that covers 90 percent of current students, she said.

Smith's proposal, Senate Bill 575, failed to get enough support from her colleagues in the spring, but she said she believes several factors may improve its chances of passage.

For one, the state can afford it. The state has a budget surplus of \$200 million to \$350 million. The actual size of that surplus depends on whether several

Proposal would limit outsourcing

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

A Wayne County commissioner wants county departments to justify contracting with private companies any services provided by county union employees.

Commissioner Bernard Parker, D-Detroit, introduced an ordinance Nov. 23 calling for county departments to explain to the county executive why services currently rendered by county union employees are needed from an outside firm.

Parker's resolution was referred to the commission's Committee on Health and Human Services for study.

The ordinance would prohibit contracting with outside vendors until commissioners authorize such an action.

The resolution also called for the following:

- The county's chief financial officer will submit to the commission an analysis of fiscal effects of outsourcing on employees and residents, and any intent to permanently outsource a county function.

- The commission will conduct a public hearing to ascertain the number of county employees affected by the outsourcing, along with fiscal and legal effects.

- The fiscal adviser's office and the union representing employees will submit reports to commissioners of the fiscal benefits or negative impacts.

Gymnast at fund-raiser

Dominique Dawes, the first African-American to win an individual gymnastic event at the 1996 Olympic Games will deliver the keynote address at the 34th annual Detroit Urban League Guild Gala luncheon.

The luncheon, a fund-raising event to support the youth development programs provided by the Detroit Urban League begins at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Marriott Hotel, Renaissance Center Columbus Ballroom.

Tickets are \$35 each and may be purchased by calling the Detroit Urban League at (313)832-4800, ext. 128.

other pending bills pass.

She admits the program, however, doesn't come cheap. Overall, the credit would cost the state \$56 million - as much as a quarter of the surplus.

Still, Smith argues it's an effective way to use the money.

"Let me run through the numbers on the HELP credit. Currently enrolled in two-year programs, full-time and part-time, there are 125,000 students in Michigan. It would cost \$56 million to help them with this program. Compare that to the 20,000 students who are eligible to receive Merit Scholarships at

a cost \$50 million. I'll let you do the math. Which is more effective?"

Her comparison refers to the scholarship program available for the first time this year awarding college money to high school student who perform well on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test. Merit scholarships were proposed by Gov. John Engler and supported by the Republican caucus.

Another factor that may win more votes for Smith's plan is that it has earned some bipartisan support. Sen. Harry Gast, R-

St. Joseph, has signed on as a primary co-sponsor. Gast has also introduced a companion bill, SB 576, that would create a tax credit for books, up to 10 percent of the total cost of tuition.

But Smith fears her plan could still fall victim to political maneuvering. She said Gov. Engler wants to attach verbiage to the bill repealing the existing "tuition tax credit."

The existing credit allows up to \$375 to be taken off taxes when a student's college has held tuition increases under the rate of inflation. An originally instituted, the credit was

designed to pressure colleges to keep tuition rates down so students would be able to claim the credit.

But now, with the cost of living rising just 1.6 percent this year and expected to climb just 1.4 percent next year, it is anticipated that no universities in Michigan will be able to hold tuition increases down to that level. If no students can claim it, Engler wants to repeal it, Smith said.

"Some Republicans see that it is the right thing to do," Smith said. "If you ask me, getting rid of a \$375 credit to get a credit that would be worth \$1,900

should be a no-brainer. But some are getting caught up in the emotionalism of it, falling in with the I-don't-want-to-repeal-a-tax-credit-we-created crowd."

Smith said she hopes to keep the tuition tax credit repeal separated from her HELP proposal. She said she may introduce legislation that would effectively repeal the credit - using legislative appropriations as the "trigger" rather than college tuition increases - as a compromise with the GOP.

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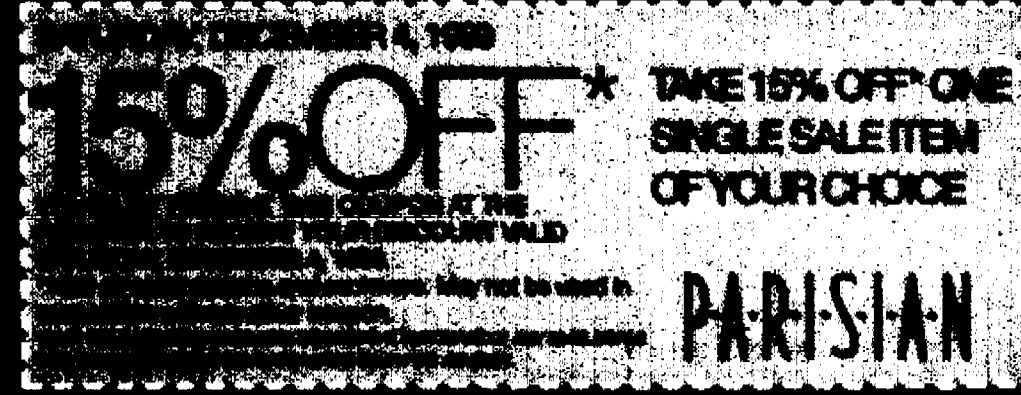
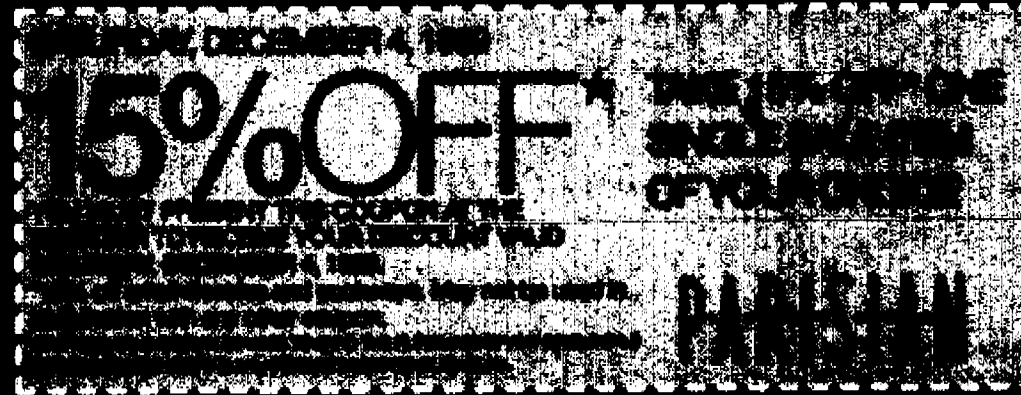
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Ford Museum celebrates holidays with classic toys

What do Tiddley Winks, Lincoln Logs, Mr. Potato Head and the Six Million Dollar Man have in common? All topped Santa's list at one time, forever catapulting them into the realm of classic American toys. All will be featured in a special exhibit, Classic Toys of the 20th Century, during Traditions of the Season at Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village through Jan. 2, 2000.

The annual Traditions of the Season event transforms Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village and its 100 acres of historic buildings, homes and exhibits into a magical holiday place where visitors are immersed in the sights, sounds and scents of the season.

"Traditions of the Season is America at its best," says Jim

Johnson, program planner, special events team. "Here the simple joys of the holiday season are celebrated and remembered. Families can experience a holiday filled with shared moments, away from the distractions of malls, Web sites and mail-order madness."

This year, visitors to the museum will have a chance to journey through the century's classic toys and experience how America played, from the innocence of Color Cubes (1920) and Tiddley Winks (1940) to Evel Knievel's Toy Sky Cycle (1976) and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Telecopter (1990). Along the way, the exhibit explores categories of toys - including Fads, Educational, Media, Cars and Trucks and Playing Grown-Up.

"Play is an important part of life," says curator Donna Braden. "The toys children played with throughout the 20th century tell us a great deal about parents, children and the role of play things in child rearing. Toys are also a barometer for popular culture - the fads and media crazes that captivated both children and their parents during this century."

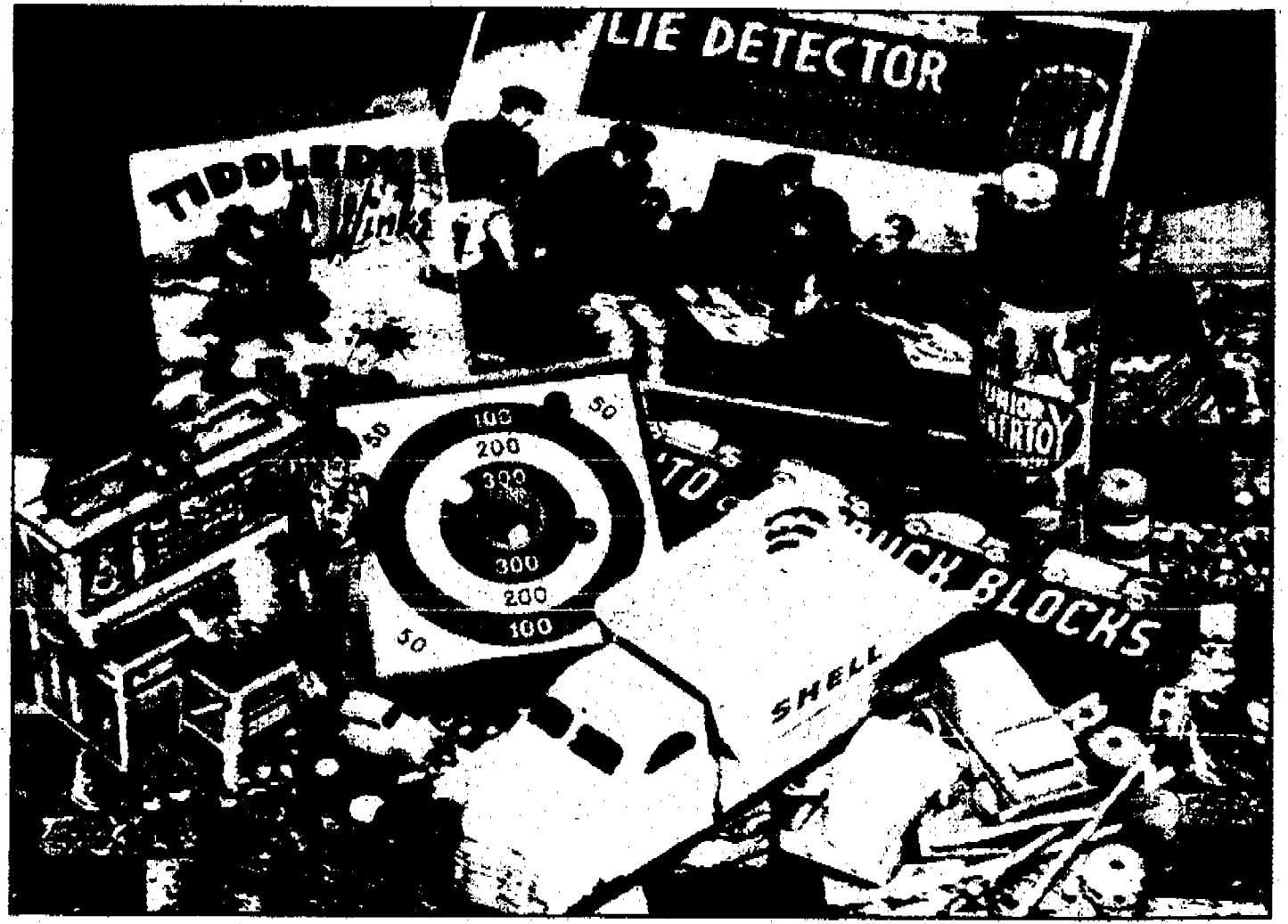
"Some toys have become so pervasive in our culture, that children today, their parents and grandparents all played with versions of them - these are classic toys."

Also on display in the museum: a three-story holiday tree with more than 2,000 ornaments; a gingerbread town with 32 gingerbread buildings; and six toy trains with 75 cars winding through 500 feet of track, lollipop trees and gumdrop gardens.

The museum's new Michigan Cafe will serve seasonal dishes to give visitors a taste of Michigan's culinary contributions. Since its debut in April, the new cafe, featuring the people, places and products of Michigan, has included items such as Vernor's pound cake and Pinconning cheese soup on its eclectic menu.

The IMAX theater, which opened Nov. 19, is the newest attraction at Henry Ford Museum this holiday season. The theater's inaugural film, "The Magic of Flight," is narrated by Tom Selleck and combines the thrill of flight and jet aircraft with the science and history of flying.

Located adjacent to the museum's clock tower entrance, the six-story, large format theater has a 60-by-84-foot flat screen and powerful, wrap-around IMAX digital sound. With seating for 400, the theater has capabilities to show both two-dimensional and three-dimensional



Tiddley winks: Classic toys from times past are the focus of a new holiday exhibit at Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village.

Warm memories: Mr. Potato Head, the Six Million Dollar Man and a pop-up Snoopy all had their day as favorite toys.



films.

In Greenfield Village, ambient period music will fill the air this holiday season. Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village pulled from sheet music in its collections to record a repertoire of authentic musical selections from America's past. Guests at Eagle Tavern, an 1850s stage coach stop, will enjoy The Cally Polka and Annie Laurie, among other musical selections, this holiday season.

The Traditions of the Season experience includes period decorations. Visitors can explore an authentic Victorian Christmas at the Ann Arbor House and see the influence of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert on mainstream America in the 1850s. Based on curatorial research, this year's period decorations for the Ann Arbor House include a tabletop Christmas tree inspired by Queen Victoria that appeared in an 1851 Godey's Magazine. Decorating with similar Christmas trees - primarily a novelty

up to that point - hit mainstream America.

Henry Ford Museum & Green-

field Village, on Oakwood Boulevard in Dearborn is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

From fad to classic

Some fads, brief fancies pursued for a time with irrational zeal, have become toy classics. Take the Yo-Yo, for instance, which even earned its own listing in the Oxford. Some classics in the Henry Ford Museum exhibit:

- Duncan Yo-Yo, about 1940 - kids were "walking the dog" and "rounding the world" as the Yo-Yo gripped popular culture in the '40s.
- Lincoln Logs Set, about 1960 - colorful, versatile toys inspiring imaginative play in generations of builders.
- Easy-Bake Oven, 1964 - fulfilling every child's dream - warm, delicious cakes in minutes.
- Magic 8 Ball Fortune Teller, about 1965 - divination '60s style with all-knowing oracle to answer questions.
- Mr. Potato Head Set, 1972 - this simple spud and his pieces and parts was first introduced in 1952 as the first toy advertised on TV.
- Slinky, 1975 - The ultimate fad, this toy's popularity spans age groups and generations.
- Cabbage Patch Kids, 1982-1985 - the popularity of these soft, huggable dolls (unlike the stiff plastic dolls that dominated the '80s) sprouted overnight and sold by the millions.
- Day-to-Night Barbie and Barbie Travel Agent Set, 1986-1989 - Barbie got a career and a wardrobe of outfits to take her from work to play.

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Engler pushes hard to raise charter cap



Gov. John Engler

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecom.net

A handful of Republican House members - four to 10, depending on who is counting - were all that stood between Gov. John Engler and his goal of getting the cap on charter schools raised as of Monday, Nov. 29.

Rep. Patricia Godchaux (R-Birmingham) was one of the holdouts. She said she was the target of intense lobbying by the governor in the days leading up

to the current short, two-week legislative session before lawmakers call it quits for the year.

"I thought we were done negotiating," Godchaux said late Monday. "But I have a message on my answer machine that he wants another meeting. I'm expected to call in the morning."

Raising the cap on charter schools from the present 150 to 200 is the governor's top policy making priority before the end of the year, his spokesman John Truscott confirmed. With 140 such schools operating in Michigan, "we have about 100 new schools in the pipeline now," he explained.

If there is any hope that any of the new schools can open next fall, the bill has to pass before

lawmakers head out for holiday break at the end of the day Dec. 9, so it can go into effect on April 1, according to Rep. Paul DeWeese (R-Williamston), a primary sponsor of the proposal.

It's tough enough to push any legislation through in just two weeks worth of session time, much less one this controversial. A constitutionally required five-day layover, requiring the Senate to wait that long before it can act on a bill passed by the House, makes such a deadline even tighter.

"Never underestimate John Engler," Sen. Shirley Johnson (R-Royal Oak) said, assuring it can be done. "I've seen him pull it off too many times."

Engler unveiled a new version of his plan Tuesday, Nov. 23. Republicans say it counts as a compromise, aimed at attracting votes from critics of public school academies and opponents of lifting the cap.

But it also contains several "innovative features," such as charter child care, opening charter schools specifically for "at risk youth," allowing businesses to open on-site charter schools for the children of employees and creating a new board to oversee charter schools.

Further "sweetening the pot," Engler is expected to use House Bill 4706, sponsored by Rep. LaMar Lemmons (D-Detroit), as the vehicle for his new proposals, DeWeese explained. That bill was originally part of a three-bill package DeWeese, Lemmons and Rep. Joanne Voorhees (R-Grandville) put together back in the spring.

"While children with histories of discipline problems - even

including violence and criminal behavior - may not belong in regular classrooms, they still need an education if they are to survive in the 21st century," Engler said Tuesday as he announced his plan. "Additionally, I am also going to ask for legislative approval of a new strategy for some of our youngest students at a time when child care is a serious concern for many parents."

"I propose that we allow the creation of new, young-child charter schools. The proposal would allow co-location of charter schools with childcare centers. I am hopeful employers will see the benefit of providing both on-site childcare and early childhood education."

Using charter schools as a way to deal with at risk youngsters is especially popular with lawmakers, as the recent trail of 13-year-old Nathaniel Abraham for murder is weighing heavily on their minds. Tried as an adult, Abraham was convicted of second degree murder for a shooting he committed when he was only 11.

"If we, collectively, want to prevent future Nathaniels, this is the only answer. We need to get these youngsters where they will get some discipline and still have the opportunity to learn," Johnson said. "They run wild at a young age, and if we are going to have an opportunity to help them, it has to start at an early age. Early is the key. If there is disruptiveness, if there are outbursts, they need to be in a special setting."

"I hope that charter schools can provide an alternative for troubled students. That would be

a great alternative to public schools," Rep. Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) said. "We've seen in our lifetimes the need for special schools. Nathaniel Abraham is a perfect example. That's a child that needed help early on and never got it."

But Engler's compromises won't be enough to win over all opponents.

"I don't support that because it takes too much money away from public schools and it damages schools," Rep. Lynne Martinez (D-Lansing) said. Charter schools get \$5,962 per student from the state school aid fund, money that otherwise would be reserved for public schools.

"For every 10 students that leave the public schools, they lose \$56,000. That's the salary of a teacher that we lose," Sen. Alma Wheeler Smith (D-Salem Township) added. She also argues that, rather than create a new board, the State Board of Education should oversee the operation of academies.

For House Minority Leader Mike Hanley (D-Saginaw) it's a question of accountability. Oversight of those schools has been lax, purposely he believes, and the governor's proposal doesn't do enough to address the concern.

Godchaux would agree, but her main concern is with the majority of students who remain in public schools that are not providing a good education.

"In my district, Birmingham, people have always had the wherewithal to make a choice and the resources to follow through," she said. "Charter schools expand that choice to

See CHARTER, A11

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Airport studies how to keep birds away from air traffic

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

On Sept. 23, 1995, an AWACS Air Force surveillance plane lifted off from Elmendorf Air Force Base near Anchorage, Alaska, then moments later crashed in a fireball just two miles from the end of the runway.

All 24 crewmen died. Crash investigators found the cause of the crash - about a dozen dead Canada geese at the end of the runway at a time when the migration season was beginning for the birds.

While plane crashes caused by birds resulting in the loss of human life are rare, collisions with birds happen frequently enough that the Federal Aviation Administration now requires airports to conduct wildlife hazard assessments. Recently, Wayne County commissioners approved a \$20,000 study for Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport to be conducted by U.S. Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services' Wildlife Services of Okemos.

According to the FAA, civil pilots reported 16,283 collisions with birds from 1990 to 1998, but since reporting is voluntary, the FAA suspects the number is higher. The collisions resulted in 1,268 aircraft with "substantial" damage, and 19 planes were destroyed. There were no reported fatalities, but the statistics did not include military incidents.

USDA wildlife officials will visit Metro twice a month over the next year, surveying the airport at night and again in the morning during each visit to note the wildlife and habitat, according to Pete Butchko, state director of USDA's Wildlife Services.

"They (airport officials) can try to manage the habitat to make it less attractive, looking at managing the wildlife itself, or look at barriers, such as fences, to keep deer out," Butchko said.

Native species with habitats at the airport could include deer or geese. Butchko expects he and other surveyors will break Metro down into smaller pieces to study, which he calls a challenge

due to the size of the airport.

"Sometimes it can be trash bins that attract seagulls or pigeons, so we will be looking at all kinds of these things," Butchko said. "It's anything to change the airport habitation to make it less attractive."

Metro has a wildlife control plan, but has not done an assessment, said airport spokesman Mike Conway.

"We feel we have pretty good control practices, but there may be something new," Conway said. One seagull interfering with a jet engine's operation doesn't cause the plane to crash, Conway said, but a flock of seagulls can cause problems. Metro never has had a plane crash because of animal interference.

The USDA report will be presented to airport management and the FAA. Airport officials will be talking with the USDA as they complete the study, Conway said.

Charter from page A10

people who otherwise would not have the resources.

"What we leave behind in the public schools are a hard core of kids, kids who have no advocates, and charters make it even tougher to support them because the money is being drawn away."

Charter schools were created in 1993 as a part of Michigan's overhaul of school financing. Set up as independent, non-profit organizations, they are funded by the state and cannot charge tuition.

Although there is no overall limit on the number of charter schools that may operate in the state, there is a cap of 150 on the number that can be authorized through state universities, and universities have contracted for the vast majority of such schools since they were first allowed. In fact, of the 140 operating in the state, a full third have been set up through just one university, Central Michigan.

It's this issue of oversight that has been a primary concern of opponents. DeWeese explained that there is concern over how closely universities can oversee the operation of charter schools since they have their own institutions to run. And there have been disputes over how open the

finances of charter schools are.

Engler's proposal would create a new board to oversee all charter schools and clarify the role of authorizing universities. Specifically, it would require that the officials who operate charter schools be treated as public officials who would therefore be accountable in the same ways public officials are.

The plan would also allow oversight agencies to remove charter school officials for malfeasance, permit audits of charter school finances, and even close charter schools that fail to perform.

DeWeese explained that one of the key aspects is the new board. Residents of urban areas like Detroit have been concerned that authorizing universities like Central are not located in their communities, and therefore have no particular ties to it. Universities in urban areas have been reluctant to approve charters, he said. The hope is that the new board will create authorizing agencies within urban areas to oversee more charter schools in the central cities, he explained.

DeWeese said he believes charter schools have been successful.

"We have 50,000 students in charter schools. That's the most important indicator that shows this has been a dramatically successful concept. It's what I call the 'gate test.' We have 50,000 families who have chosen to be there, who have voluntarily left the public school monopoly to be there."

"Number two, when you look at the kind of students that are going to charter schools, there is 'creaming' going on, and it is an underside creaming. They are taking the poor, the dispossessed, the single family kids, the people of color. That's predominantly who is going to charter schools."

That means charter schools are providing alternatives for the disadvantaged, who might otherwise be trapped in poor performing public schools, DeWeese contends. Before charter schools, only the relatively well-off had the option to leave for private schools.

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Westland Observer

OPINION

A12(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1999

Seeking the green

Shopping abounds in our city

The shopping season in Westland began full force Friday, the day after Thanksgiving. Westland Center and environs were full of determined shoppers, all ready to shop and spend.

Norma Schefski of Westland, shopping with her daughters, said she was just about done with her Christmas shopping. Other shoppers had longer lists of items to buy.

Friday's frenzy kept local cash registers humming, good news for the local economy. Lori Brist, executive director of the Westland Chamber of Commerce, said the city's a popular shopping destination for many.

Letting shoppers know about new and existing stores is part of the chamber's role. Smaller businesses benefit from such attention as well, said Brist.

Westland Center is certainly the hub of the city's shopping district, along with its ring of surrounding stores. The city also has many small businesses not close to the mall. It's important to support the local economy by shopping close to home.

It's not realistic to expect Westland shoppers to get all their gifts from Westland stores, but certainly our city has enough to offer that a good share of shopping can be done here.

It's fine to pick up that great gift in a distant city while traveling, but don't forget the hometown stores. They, too, offer a great deal in terms of merchandise and service.

Dollars spent here support the local econo-



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Team effort: Carrie Bilek (left) and Diane Bilek clothing shop for Diane's granddaughter. The two women were out shopping last Friday at Westland Center.

my, an effort we all can applaud.

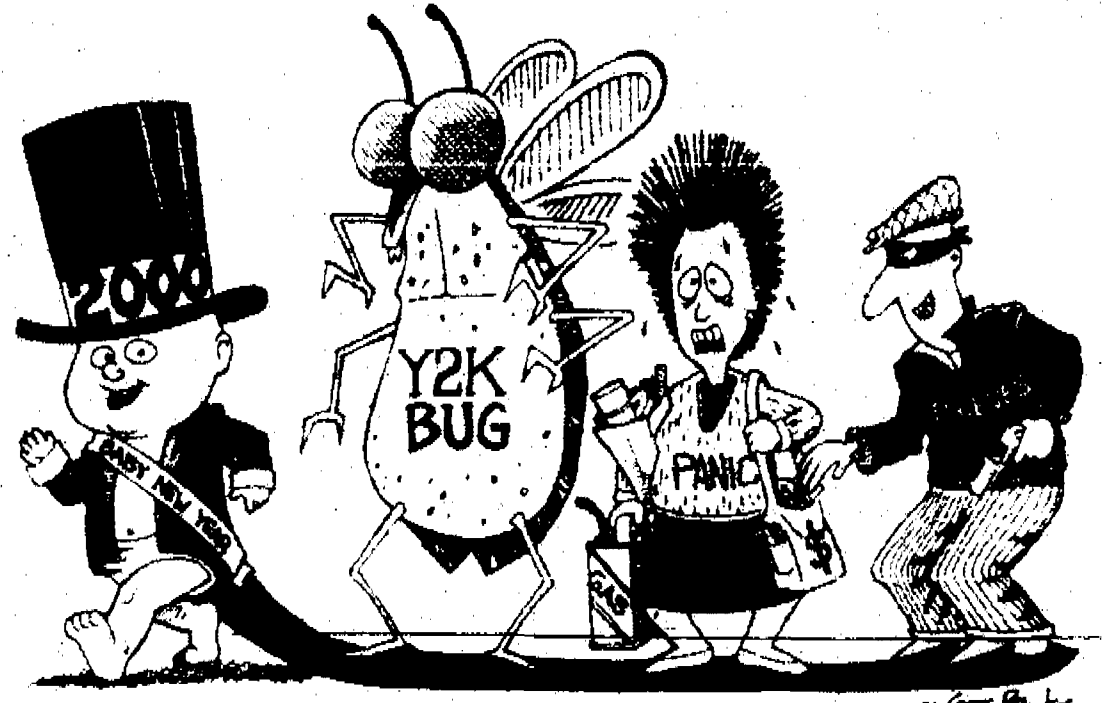
Speaking of the economy, although things generally are going well for most, there are those in need. Don't forget the efforts of the Salvation Army and others who strive to help the less fortunate.

The Salvation Army has its familiar red kettles out. The change from your pocket or purse can do so much to help. Of course, folding money is much appreciated, too.

Let's make the season a prosperous one by shopping close to home. Let's make it prosperous for all by remembering those who have less.

GEORGE BROOKS

RIDING HIS COATTAILS



COMIC BY GEOFF BROOKS

LETTERS

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

Wrong project

After reading about two ice arenas to be built with "TIFA" (Tax Increment Finance Authority) money and tearing down of the old ice arena - and the Center without a tax increase - I'm wondering what happened to the need for a new City Hall?

I happen to live and pay a city and school tax in the "TIFA" area and resent the fact that my money will be used to build these two ice arenas, which would only increase traffic problems to a uncontrollable condition.

This administration has still not addressed the traffic problems at the new library during the city of Westland festival week and this administration wants to increase traffic flow more.

As a former traffic and safety commissioner for six years in a local township, I say that it would be a wrong move to build these arenas at the site of the new library complex, and any politician who votes for this project will not get re-elected in his or her next term.

Let's put our efforts into solving one project at a time - and not jump all over without doing something constructive.

Garbage into a project - garbage out of a project.

N.A. Wayne
Westland

Think, voters

The past few weeks, our local papers have had letters from people who do not seem to understand how politics works, or maybe, I should say, how politicians work. This may also be the reason so many people do not desire to vote in our elections.

A question was raised as to why a Realtor (top spender) would spend so much money to get elected to an office that pays only a small fraction of what he spent on the election. I would like to ask a bigger question. Why would people elect a person who for four years sat on the Wayne Westland school board and did almost nothing, except agree with everyone without saying much in comments, except when his position on the planning commission was questioned?

I keep seeing people run for the school board with very little interest in the welfare of the students, only to run for the next higher office. It's almost like they run for name recognition, or to keep their name before the people. For this I applaud the "Bud" Winters and Mathew McCuskers who had/have the true interest of the schools in mind when they run for office.

Back to the original question. Realtors and

those who invest in property have for a long time prospered while on city boards. They have "firsthand knowledge" of areas or homes being condemned or rezoned. They find out what areas are planned to be "upgraded" by city services or other city policies. In other words, they will know the areas to invest in order to make the fastest and best return on their investments. They have firsthand knowledge of any grants that become available to the city and their position can help them in other financial ways.

Now, by this I am not saying this type of person is crooked or anything like that. They just have the ability to use the system to their advantage if they wish to.

There were statements as to the outcome of the elections, especially with the mail-in votes. Mayor Thomas ensures the elderly are well cared for, as he should. He also takes care of the employees who work for the city during every contract period. With this in mind, it shouldn't be any surprise that these people voted for everyone the mayor recommended.

Maybe this will give the voter something to think about when the next elections come around.

As a side note, we keep hearing about the proposed recreation complex and the famous questionnaire. Do you remember any mention on that questionnaire that asks if you want a new City Hall built? Mayor Thomas has sort of joined the two issues together as if the people have asked for both of these. I wonder why this hasn't been an issue by this paper as well as our city council.

Jack Stange
Westland

New ways to discredit us

The nuclear test ban treaty was defeated in Congress. The majority of the citizens in the United States believe the country should remain strong, and better prepared than any other to defend, and if necessary, to attack with our sustained and developing power.

But Clinton says the Washington crowd will not have the last word about the treaty, and he has instructed his mouthpiece in the United Nations to inform several countries in the world that the United States will adhere to and obey the treaty sanctions.

I had thought the White House miscreant had accomplished every kind of misfeasance, malfeasance, and indiscretion that could be committed, but the president has found still another way to discredit and defame our country.

Neil Goodbred
Livonia

Y2K: Prepare, but don't panic

With our dependence on computers, it's difficult to imagine that nothing will go wrong when the century number changes from 99 to 00 the first week in January. (Some of the computers that use just two digits to specify the year will choke on the two digits 00.)

The question is how much is going to go wrong and how serious will the problems be. Major problems are unlikely in profit-making businesses for just that reason: They are profit-making businesses.

If a profit-making business is forced out of operation, the head of the computer department is going to be in trouble with the CEO. And every computer department head knows this.

People who supervise the computer departments of not-for-profit and nonprofit organizations do not face pressures to keep the profits flowing. But the head of every computer department we have spoken with - nonprofit organizations as well as profit-making companies - has assured us their computer systems will be able to handle the date change.

In less-developed countries, governments and businesses have a lot less to spend, so the Year 2000 computer glitch might be rough on them. And their problems will spill over into our lives. But the extent of that spill-over is anyone's guess - and a lot of people are guessing.

The vast majority of informed prognosticators are predicting nothing worse than what we survived this past January. They advise setting aside food, water, clothing and other essentials. This is always a good idea. For years, the Seventh-Day Adventist Church has urged its members to set aside a year's worth of food. Man-made disasters such as unemployment or a transportation strike would make such preparations meaningful and wise.

Some people have espoused buying ammunition and military ready-to-eat packages and heading for the hills. Well, if you want to, you are free to take a rural vacation.

That is not a viable option for most people. Too much of our lives is tied up in driving to work everyday, living in a suburban home, attending a local school and church and depending on local medical, police and fire services. However, even though we depend on a fire department if our home catches fire, we should still have an extinguisher at home.

People can set aside those things they will use anyway. Cans of corned beef hash and soup can be recycled back into your everyday life if little happens the first week or two in January. Likewise, if you store some clean bottled water, you'll be ready to deal with a broken water main or some other mundane problem.

If you live in Michigan, you've sat in a darkened basement and listened to a battery-operated radio during tornado season. So extra batteries will be used up anyway.

Keeping your gasoline tank full in the winter is only sensible. And if you don't need the gasoline to keep your car running to provide emergency transportation or heat, you'll use that gasoline driving to work or to the store.

For people who have a connection to the Internet, there are lots of Web sites out there that will happily give you all the information you want - and more. A few will assure you that the world is about to end or an economic crash is just around the corner.

Perhaps they are right, but setting aside some peanut butter and battery-operated lanterns worked well during the snows of January 1999. They probably will do the same for the problems of January 2000.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

Do you think you'll spend more or less money than you did last holiday season?

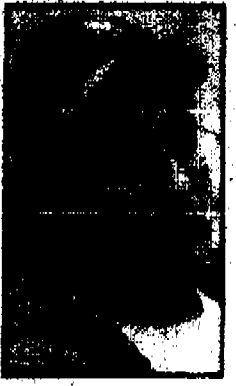
We asked this question at Kroger on Ford Road.



"Less. I bought a new truck."
Kevin Bolk



"More. I've got more people to buy for."
Mike Stiefel



"Probably more because of newer and more expensive toys. And I got a raise in pay."
Greg Anthony



"Hopefully less. My husband retired four years ago, so I should spend less."
Magtalen Redford

Westland Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

We missed loved one, but enjoyed holiday

I'd dreaded the day, but it turned out to be a blessing. Thanksgiving has always been one of my favorite days, but this year would be different. My father died in June, after a long battle with cancer and emphysema. My mother would be joining us for the Thursday celebration, but I worried it wouldn't be quite the same.

It wasn't, but in its own way it was good. My husband and I started by watching the parade on Channel 4. The weather was great, the TV production excellent and time passed quickly.

Before I knew it, my mom called and said she was on the way. She arrived while my husband was on the phone, talking to his sister. Mom brought her special green bean casserole, a perfect complement to the turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and

other goodies.

We watched a little Lions-Bears football, but mostly talked as the bird roasted in the oven. I shared the story of Officer Skender Gocaj, a Westland policeman now serving in a civilian peacekeeping role in Kosovo, the land of his childhood. I had interviewed him the Wednesday before, when he came home for Thanksgiving - another reminder of all we in this land have to be thankful for.

My mom talked about her mentoring a student at Ferndale High School and how well that is going. Her student has been accepted into Central Michigan University next year and hopes for a career in advertising.

Before we knew it, the turkey was ready and we sat down to give thanks and eat. A second helping didn't seem out of line, what with all the walking I've been doing lately. Besides, break-



JULIE BROWN

fast had been small and the turkey and trimmings were so tempting.

Mom left around 6:30, in time to catch the calls from my siblings. We promised to get her holiday decorations down from her attic in the next couple of weeks. For Christmas, she wants a fiberglass ladder, a departure from the daintier gifts of earlier Christmases.

She's doing fine and so are we. I

■ We watched a little Lions-Bears football, but mostly talked as the bird roasted in the oven. I shared the story of Officer Skender Gocaj, a Westland policeman now serving in a civilian peacekeeping role in Kosovo, the land of his childhood. I had interviewed him the Wednesday before, when he came home for Thanksgiving - another reminder of all we in this land have to be thankful for.

out a loved one this year, but life does go on. For some, hospices offer comfort with their support groups. Even funeral homes offer such support.

My husband and I are in good shape for Christmas, although we still need to buy that ladder and a few smaller gifts. We saw some good choices when we went to Westland Center Nov. 20 to welcome Santa Claus.

This season can have a certain sadness to it, but there's also great joy. I intend to look for the joy in the coming weeks. I hope the season will bring good cheer and happiness to you and your loved ones.

Julie Brown is editor of the Westland Observer. She may be reached at (734) 953-2126, by e-mail at jbrown@oe.homecomm.net or by mail at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

understand the pain of anyone who's facing that first holiday season with-

Senate campus rioter measure deserves support

I feel compelled to write in response to your editorial "Campus rioter ban goes too far" (Nov. 18). Your editorial demonstrated an amazing lack of understanding of our criminal justice system and a poor memory.

The main reason stated by the Observer in opposition to Senate Bill 525 (SB 525), which I sponsored, is that it would be unenforceable. This statement is wrong.

Let me take a moment and explain the substance of SB 525. This bill provides that anyone convicted of a crime directly related to rioting that occurs on or within 2,500 feet of a state college or university campus could be prohibited from entering on to the property of any state college or university for one year for a misdemeanor conviction and two years for a felony conviction. In addition, the bill gives judges the authority to order that rioters pay restitution to local

governments or schools for any damage or police and fire service caused by their actions.

The penalty would be imposed similar to any other type of probationary sentence. The court order banning an individual would be entered on the person's record and if they were ever caught for some other offense, the offender's record would be checked and the court order would be found. For example, if someone was sentenced under this bill and subsequently arrested for another offense on a campus, the police would check the person's record and find the court order. The person could then be punished for violating the court order.

The enforcement of this bill would be similar to other types of penalties already on the books in our state. For example, any term of probation or license revocations and suspensions are only enforceable if the person is

GUEST COLUMNIST



LOREN BENNETT

caught again in some other violation. Personal protection orders work the same way as well. Does the Observer object to probation, license revocations/suspensions and personal protection orders because they are unenforceable? I would hope not!

A lesser reason stated by the Observer in opposition to SB 525 is that there are few instances of riots of

■ The enforcement of this bill would be similar to other types of penalties already on the books in our state. For example, any term of probation or license revocations and suspensions are only enforceable if the person is caught again in some other violation. Personal protection orders work the same way as well. Does the Observer object to probation, license revocations/suspensions and personal protection orders because they are unenforceable?

this nature occurring in the state. The collective memory of the Observer is not very good because at one of our state universities there were three riots within a period of one year.

The overall tone of your editorial was troubling as well. The Observer seems to dismiss this type of behavior. I, however, believe it's time people start to realize that their actions can have serious consequences and if

someone is going to destroy property or put other persons' lives in danger then there will be a heavy price to pay.

In closing, I know this bill will not solve the problem of rioting, but I do not see the harm in providing the courts with tools to try and prevent this type of behavior.

State Sen. Loren N. Bennett (R-Canton) represents the 8th District.

Authenticity matters to voters

The first time I ever heard the word "authentic" in connection with politics was about three years ago when I was talking with former U.S. Sen. Don Riegle.

I didn't take notes during our conversation, but as I remember it Riegle said something to the effect that candidates these days would have to be "authentic in order to be effective."

What he meant, of course, was that people couldn't run as a blow-dried, spin-doctored, consultant-manipulated, poll-reliant candidates, but as real people comfortable in their own skin. "Authentic" has been rattling around inside my head ever since, but never more than now, when our politics are so infested with non-authentic candidacies of all sorts. Usefully, my dictionary defines authentic as, "Conforming to fact and therefore worthy of trust, reliance, or belief."

The most recent outbreak of authenticity in Michigan politics occurred last week, when Sen. John Schwarz (R-Battle Creek) endorsed U.S. Sen. John McCain for president and shortly thereafter was named chairman of the McCain presidential campaign in the state. Evidently, birds of an authentic feather flock together, as both Schwarz and McCain are conspicuous practitioners of the politics of authenticity.

Schwarz is an eye, ear and nose surgeon who served in naval intelligence during the Vietnam War, became mayor of Battle Creek and then was elected to the Michigan Senate in 1986. Smart, blunt and well-informed, Schwarz is hardly one to back away from a fight or suffer fools gladly. McCain, a Navy pilot who endured five years of torture in a Viet Cong prison before being elected to the U.S. Senate, gives the impression of being a whole lot like Schwarz.

"No, I don't think all the emphasis on authenticity is just because of Bill Clinton, although his career has been an object lesson," Schwarz told me. "Authentic people running as who they are have been increasingly rare in politics over the last 25 years. More and more, candidates are being controlled by non-office holding consultants, pollsters, spin doctors. The result is a bunch of finger-in-the-wind imagoes who make me, at least, into a doubting Thomas whenever they say something because I always wonder who told them to do it."

The political attractiveness of authenticity seems to have national appeal. A recent poll conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People found overwhelming majorities rank honesty and the ability to connect as priorities well ahead of a candidate's stand on particular issues.

Voters traditionally have been attracted to candidates who share their values, empathize with their problems, address their concerns. But



PHILIP POWER

these days I sense a real hunger for candidates who are what they seem, unscripted and unrehearsed, men and women who are comfortable enough with themselves and where they stand not to have a compulsion to try to be all things to all people.

I asked Schwarz who he would be supporting for president if he were a Democrat. "Bill Bradley," he answered at once. "Although I've never met him, he seems secure in who he is - far more than Al Gore, who seems to need consultants for that purpose."

Schwarz's comment hit a nerve. In the past month or so, I have talked with a lot of politically informed people in Michigan. Many are in office while others have political obligations, for public consumption they favor either Texas Gov. George W. Bush or Vice President Gore, depending on their partisan affiliation.

But when I ask them, off the record and for private discourse only, who they really like in their heart of hearts, overwhelmingly it's John McCain and Bill Bradley.

Why? Some cite a diversity of life experiences. Some point to candor and honesty, while others are attracted by a "natural" style, unaffected by consultants and pollsters. In other words, because both McCain and Bradley come across as authentic, whether by nature or by design.

I've seen a lot of elections over the years, and I've never seen such a big disconnect between the candidates who the odds makers say will win the nominations - Bush and Gore - and those who are provoking deeper, more genuine responses. Something interesting and important may be stirring here.

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@homecomm.net.

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GOP takes on Democrat 'bingo'

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Democrats say the real issues in campaign finance reform revolve around the largest contributors and the lack of controls on so-called "soft money."

Republicans, however, are hung up on bingo, Democrats say.

In fact, political bingo fund-raising parties - used more often by Democrats than Republicans - are indeed a target of proposed GOP reforms. House bill 5059, sponsored by Rep. Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) would eliminate a \$20 "threshold" for recording contributions on campaign finance statements filed with the secretary of state. If passed, candidates for office would have to report each contribution on those statements, no matter how small.

"I know that really looks chicken," Sen. Shirley Johnson (R-Royal Oak) said. "But in some of the larger games, people throw in \$20s and \$20s and \$20s one at a time. People put in large amounts of revenue without having to report it. Some people are really abusing the system."

In addition, reviews of some bingo parties by the secretary of state have turned up checks written to winners under apparently bogus names, like "Marilyn Monroe" or "M.R. Magoo."

'Full disclosure, what could be a better campaign finance reform than that?'

State Rep. Mike Bishop
R-Rochester

"The point is they are issuing these checks to winners with the intent that they will never be cashed," Bishop explained. "So that money stays in the political coffers."

Republicans may be aiming at bingo games but it will likely be candidates for local political office - city councils, township boards and school boards - who get caught in the crossfire, according to some Democrats.

Gary Garbarino, deputy chief of staff for House Minority Leader Rep. Mike Hanley (D-Saginaw), said the paper work burden of having to report all donations under \$20 will fall heaviest on local candidates who raise far less than state candidates. A few big local races, like the contest for mayor of Detroit, may rival the campaign war chests of state senators and representatives, but most will be significantly lower. And they rely on many smaller contributions, he said.

Besides, the issue of bingo parties has already been decided, Garbarino said. The GOP tried to outlaw them a few years back, a move which was eventually

rejected by voters at the ballot box.

"Full disclosure, what could be a better campaign finance reform than that?" Bishop said in defense of his plan. "And what is so onerous about it?"

He argued that much of the debate over his plan is rhetoric.

"A lot of what I'm hearing is hot air. Someone made the point that they would have to report \$1 or 25-cent sales of campaign buttons. Well, to the best of my knowledge buttons aren't sold, they are given away. And even if you do sell them for 25 cents or \$1, we should be paying attention to those people, especially to those people because they are giving what they can afford and they are making an investment in you," he said.

Bishop's bill is the linchpin in a five-bill reform package. Rep. Bruce Patterson (R-Canton) is a primary co-sponsor of the package. The bills have already won approval from the House and face Senate scrutiny in the short, two-week session before Christmas break.

Considering the bills are

unlikely to win any significant Democratic support, giving them immediate effect is unlikely. As a result, the bills have to pass by the end of this year if Republicans want them to go into effect before the next election.

Additionally, the package would:

- Double fees for campaign finance reports filed late.

- Require candidates to pay late fees out of their own pockets rather than from their campaign funds.

- Add deadlines for reviews of campaign finance complaints by the secretary of state, and require notification of the results.

- Add criminal penalties for any false statements made on those reports.

Bishop agrees that "soft money" is indeed a problem, and he said he would like to address that issue in a reform bill. But the Supreme Court has said soft money is protected on First Amendment grounds.

Funding used for issue advertising is referred to as "soft money." Such advertising usually criticizes one candidate for being on the wrong side of an issue. Because the money is not being spent by the other candidate, the contributors' names do not have to be disclosed.

POLITICAL FUND-RAISERS

Supporters of Chief Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor George Ward will present two concerts at the Ward Conference Center on the campus of the University of Detroit-Mercy at W. Outer Drive and the Southfield Expressway in Detroit on Sunday.

Ward, who has been chief assistant prosecutor under Prosecutor John O'Hair for 14 years, is seeking the Democratic nomination for prosecutor in the primary election on Aug. 3, 2000.

Guest artists are Phil Marcus Esser, Barbara Bredius and Charles Latimer, who made Detroit musical theater history

in the 1970s with the long-running "Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris" on the same campus, then known as Mercy College.

One concert is scheduled for 2 p.m. and ticket prices are \$50 per person or \$100 for a couple and their family. A second concert and reception will follow, with the reception at 5 p.m. and the concert at 6 p.m. Tickets for the concert and reception are \$100 per person.

Advance ticket purchases may be made for both concerts by contacting the George Ward for Prosecutor campaign office at (734) 451-9968.

County to collect delinquent taxes

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

Wayne County commissioners have decided to let County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz continue to collect delinquent property taxes.

Under a new state law, county treasurers can request county commissioners to ask the state to execute foreclosure procedures.

Wojtowicz told commissioners Tuesday he chose to continue those duties.

"The new law shortens by three years the process whereby

our home, farm and business owners may lose their property," Wojtowicz stated in a letter to county commissioners. "To avoid any chance that these properties will be lost by our county residents, I intend to handle the entire foreclosure process."

Wojtowicz said he wants to retain authority to withhold a property from court proceedings in hardship cases. "Otherwise, the taxpayer is at the mercy of Lansing bureaucrats who will end up with the property," Wojtowicz said. "The hearing will be in my office, not in Lansing."

Commissioners passed a resolution of support.

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WARREN
Diamond
1000 E. 10th St.
313-475-4400

WESTLAND
Star
1000 E. 10th St.
313-475-4400

WESTLAND
Stu Evans
1000 E. 10th St.
313-475-4400

WESTLAND
Crest
1000 E. 10th St.
313-475-4400

WESTLAND
Bob Elms
1000 E. 10th St.
313-475-4400

WESTLAND
Met Farn
1000 E. 10th St.
313-475-4400

COMMON SENSORS



JACQUE MARTIN-DOWNS

Do thinkin' before doin'

Lately I either read about or hear about a lot of kids getting away with a lot of "stuff," and I'm more and more alarmed by it. Either we protect them from the punishment, or we don't bother to follow through. It's much easier to do nothing than to think up something rather clever.

This is unfortunate because the younger the child learns that his behavior or action is OK, the more likely he is to continue to push the limits as he gets older. If they learn as youngsters that their behaviors cause consequences, they will be more likely to think before acting as they mature.

A client of mine gave me permission to tell the following story. It exemplifies nipping a problem in the bud and shows how there can be a domino effect as a result of inappropriate actions.

Mom tells it this way: It seems as though her 6-year-old Cassie and a little friend thought it would be fun to play on the living room furniture at the friend's house.

Together they jumped on the couch and spun around kicking and trashing as children are prone to do. But their frolicking ended when an unfortunate mishap took place.

They knocked a beautiful porcelain wreath off the wall. Each of the little ornaments were quite expensive and,

Cassie's mother immediately sat her down and told her about how she was sure Cassie knew the rule about playing on the furniture in their own home and expected Cassie to be respectful in other people's homes.

as luck would have it, each broke. The mother was not happy with the girls and told Cassie she would have to call her mother.

Cassie's mother immediately sat her down and told her about how she was sure Cassie knew the rule about playing on the furniture in their own home and expected Cassie to be respectful in other people's homes.

Then she told her that her consequence

would be to not only write a letter of apology to the mother, but to take money from her bank account to pay for the broken pieces.

Cassie didn't grasp the full meaning of the situation until she realized that the money she had saved up all year for a "Cabbage Patch" doll (which they were going to go pick out directly from the factory), was the very same money that would be forfeited. At that moment Cassie broke down in tears.

Mom kept her cool and let her vent, but did not water down the consequences.

By the time Cassie and I met, she had accepted her punishment, listening quietly as mom described it to me. A few minutes later, as she and I were sitting on the floor in my office talking and playing, she said, "Ya know, I think I know how to not have something like this happen again."

"Yeah?" I asked, "So what can you do next time?"

Her response, to become her new slogan, came out in a sing-song fashion: "Before you do the doin', ya gotta do the thinkin'."

Smart little girl, don't ya think? If only we adults could operate that way.

Jacquie Martin-Downs is the coordinator of the Family Resource Center in Westland and has a private counseling practice. If you have a question or comment, write her at the Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schonlercraft, Livonia 48150 or at her e-mail address: downs@mail.resa.net.

Choir tunes up for 'world tour'



BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

A youth choir at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth next summer will get what supporters and choir members say is the opportunity of a lifetime — the chance to sing in the International Children's Choir Festival in London and Paris.

The Counsellor's Youth Chorale members, whose ages range from 12 to 16, say they're excited about the trip. The group was formed in 1992, and members in grades six through 10 hail from seven communities — Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton Township, Northville, Ann Arbor, Livonia and Westland. Members are not required to be members of the church.

"I think it will be real neat to go to another country," said Caroline Reinhart, 16, a Plymouth Canton High School junior and choir member. "I've never been to another country before."

Reinhart also said she can't wait for the chance to sing in such sanctified places as Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris and Westminster Abbey in London.

"I'm looking forward to being able to sing in such awesome places," she said. "It's a once-in-a-lifetime chance."

Reinhart enjoys the choir experience — the performing and the teamwork.

"I like the gospel songs," Reinhart said. "Those are my favorite."

Rachel Jeffery, an 11-year-old Our Lady of Good Counsel School student, echoed Reinhart's sentiments.

"I can't wait to sing and see everything in Europe," Jeffery said. "I like singing and I like the songs. It just puts me in a good mood."

While on the European tour, the choir will perform at St. Augustine in Canterbury, Westminster in London and at Notre Dame and La Madeleine in Paris.

Offer of a lifetime

Choir director and Our Lady of Good Counsel music teacher Susan Lindquist said she didn't need time to think when the 48-member choir received the invitation in April.

"We began (preparing) almost immediately," Lindquist said. "People are just all eyes and ears and wanting this to happen."

Inviting the Counsellor Youth Chorale to the festival was Henry Leck, a nationally recognized children's choir director who directed the choir at a performance in New York last year.

"Only a handful of youth choirs were invited," said Maureen Karby, who heads the fund-raising committee. Her daughter, Amanda, is member of the chorale. "It's really a remarkable achievement."

Chorale members are not strangers to traveling. In March 1998, they performed at the Chor Fest in New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral. They also have performed in New York's Carnegie Hall and Walt Disney World's EPCOT Center in Orlando, Fla.

Our Lady of Good Counsel's pastor and music fan, the Rev. John J. Sullivan, said he shares the kids' excitement about the trip.

"I really think that for a lot of kids, music is an expression of what's within them," he said. "I

Please see CHORALE, B2



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSKEMANN

Do, Re, Mi: Choir director Susan Lindquist puts the members of the Counsellor's Youth Chorale through their musical paces during a practice at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth.

Under 'wraps'

Scouts give gifts special touch

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

Wrapping a football so it doesn't look like a football isn't fun, says Sheree Campbell. Same goes for a floor lamp and a fur coat, says Danielle Scott.

Then there was the man who showed up with his own paper and bows and wanted his presents wrapped.

"How do you price something like that?" queried Scott.

Those just a few of the oddities the two teens encountered working the Girl Scout gift wrapping booth at Wonderland Mall in Livonia last year.

This is the sixth year that Cadette and Senior Scouts and adults are working at the gift-wrapping booth at Wonderland and the eighth year that they've used it as a way of raising money for their troops.

Fourteen troops in the Michigan Metro Girl Scout Council — 61 scouts and 50 adults from Livonia, Westland, Redford, Novi, Farmington Hills, Inkster, Southfield and Detroit — have signed on to work three-hour shifts at two booths — one in the mall's food court and the other near the entrance to Montgomery Ward.

"Even parents who help their daughters, their money goes to the troop's fund," said Diane Bergendahl whose daughter, Julie, was working the food court booth with Cheryl Vomastek,

leader of the "rookie troop" last year.

"We were nervous," Vomastek said. "For 11 year olds, this was their first job and first chance to make money. It was a big thing for them. They had a good time after they got through the first year. Now they're not rookies anymore."

While Vomastek's troop made a lot of money to spend on activities, the troop's saving it for a trip to Savannah, Ga., next summer to visit the birthplace of Girl Scouts founder Juliette Lowe.

For Scout activities

The idea behind the project is to raise money for Scout activities and end-of-year trips. In the past, troops have gone to Chicago, Washington, D.C., Boston, Toronto, Kings Island in Ohio and Walt Disney World in Florida.

Of the troops participating this year, one is planning a trip to Hawaii and another a Walt Disney cruise.

"The Disney cruise costs \$1,500 (per Scout), so they'll be working a lot of shifts," said Bergendahl who, along with Sue Roy, Carolyn Feathers and Jeanette Bray, are coordinating and running the booths.

The Scouts and adults can work as many shifts as they want. Records are kept of who worked and for how long. In January, the proceeds are divided up accordingly.

Please see WRAPPING, B2



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEKIS

Sticky finger: Senior Girl Scout Julie Bergendahl, 15, of Livonia is in her fifth year of working at the Scouts' gift wrapping booth at Wonderland Mall.

3 T's - techniques, technology, training - benefit blind

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@ea-home.com.net

Jack didn't mind if he was skipped when lunch was served. It was the same for dessert, a Black Forest cake. But when the speech started, Jack found something to gnaw on - his leash.

"Jack, I know you've heard this speech before," said Carroll Jackson, reigning in his "right hand mobility tool."

The executive director of the Upshaw Institute for the Blind, Jackson, his guide dog Jack and his "wheels," George Bingham, were his guests for the second of the Women's Resource Center's fall luncheon series at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Jackson, who shared the podium with Jack, was there to talk about services to the blind, made even better by today's ever-changing technology.

"It's Moore's Law," said Jackson. "He was a doctor who charted technology and found that every 18 months, the technology was twice as good and half as expensive."

"That's why I'm so excited. Not

only do we have the tools to deliver the material (to blind people) in a customized format, we can do it faster."

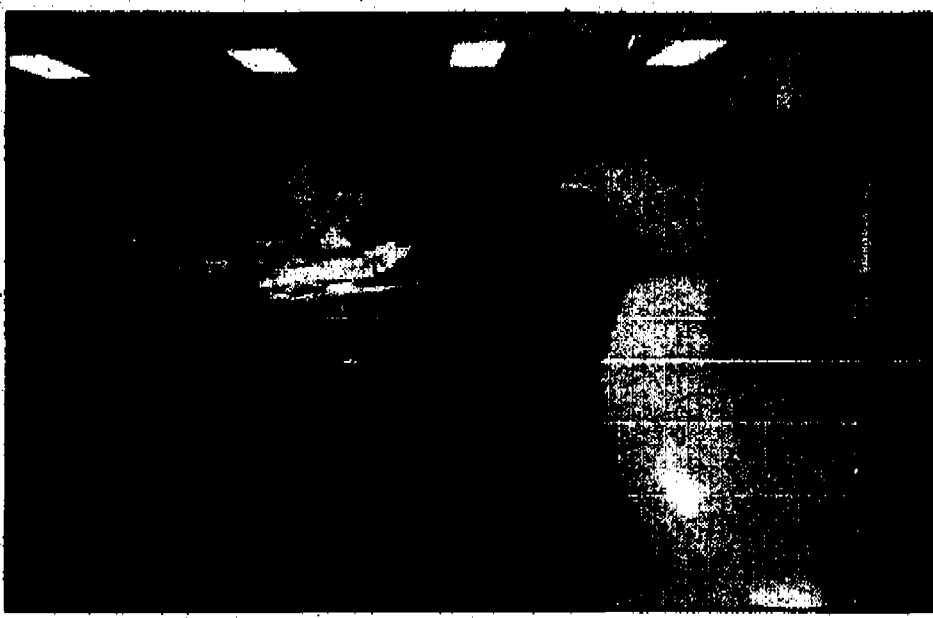
Becoming blind

According to Jackson, two things happen when people become legally blind - they lose mobility and the ability to communicate in a printed form.

There are white canes and guide dogs to restore mobility and the "3 T's - techniques, technology and teaching skills" to help blind people communicate and get back into their lives.

"Detroit is notorious for wide streets, which are wonderful for cars, but if you can't drive in Detroit you're in big trouble," said Jackson, who has been at the helm of the Upshaw Institute for more than 17 years. "If you read print and I read Braille, we can't communicate."

Jackson knows very well the difficulties of blindness. He lost one eye in an accident in third grade and became legally blind in sixth grade as the result of a massive retinal detachment in a horse riding accident.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRIAN MITCHELL

My buddy: Where Carroll Jackson goes, so does Jack. The executive director of the Upshaw Institute for the Blind and his guide dog were at Schoolcraft College recently to talk about services to the blind.

Vision of 20/200 is considered legally blind. A person with that acuity sees at 20 feet what a person with normal vision sees at 200 feet. Macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy are the leading causes of blindness in 60

percent of the cases seen at the institute.

Technology has played a big part in increasing what the blind can do. Once computers showed up in the workplace it was only a matter of time before some "very

clever people" ran the information through a synthesizer and created synthetic language.

"My computer can read a sentence or a paragraph at a time," Jackson said. "It knows when to change the inflection for punctuation."

The Internet also has opened doors for the blind. Where it used to take years to get textbooks translated into Braille, many publishers are providing an electronic format so the information can be translated to Braille, Jackson said.

In fact, the institute was able to help a young woman in need of Braille copies of the first three chapters of "Beowulf."

"We found it on the Internet and it was downloadable, so we asked if she had e-mail, a Braille translator and printer," he said. "We downloaded it and sent it to her. We called an hour later and she was printing the first chapter."

Voice recognition technology has helped one individual run CAD-CAM so he could continue his career after a terrible accident, and organizations with

shopping services on the Internet are letting the blind reach out even further.

"With training, blind people do a lot of different things," Jackson said. "They may be simple things, but they become hurdles when you lose your vision."

It takes training for blind people to learn to navigate with a white cane and regain their mobility. That serves as a stepping stone to guide dogs like Jack who are specially trained to recognize various commands.

German shepherds, golden retrievers and Labrador retrievers are the dogs of choice, and trained guide dogs have a service expectancy of about 8-10 years.

For 4-year-old Jack, it means no table treats, a very measured diet and timed feedings to avoid "accidents." Jack, though, has become a connoisseur of crumbs and flavorful spots on the floor, Jackson said.

"He's extremely intelligent," Jackson said, giving his dog a pat on his side. "And isn't he the most handsome guy you've ever seen ... just like me. All of us depend heavily on these guys."

Chorale from page B1

think that brings out the very, very best in some of them. I enjoy seeing some of the more timid (children) just blossoming.

"Music and art has been a vehicle for transporting Western culture for centuries. If we start to forget that, we're in real trouble."

The choir's cheerleaders - parents and fund-raisers - share that enthusiasm. But they are bracing themselves for a daunting task - raising \$100,800 to pay for the trip.

Karby estimates they've reached 5 percent of that goal.

"We're full of hope, and we really believe we're going to be able to do this," she said.

To raise the money, the choir has planned benefit concerts and door-to-door sales of products such as pizza kits and cookbooks.

"The benefit concerts have been a real success," Karby said. For "Make a Difference Day" on Oct. 23, the choir performed with the group Gemini at the Penn Theater.

Another benefit concert is planned Monday, Feb. 14, also at the Penn. There, the chorale will

perform along with the Michigan Opera Theatre. The Penn offered the choir free use of the facility for both events.

Karby hopes the Penn Theatre donation paves the way for corporate donations. Corporate sponsorships could generate a significant portion of revenue for the July 31-Aug. 11 trip, Karby said.

Other upcoming events include Christmas concerts:

- Dec. 16 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 1062 W. Church St., Plymouth.
- Dec. 21 at Detroit Metropolitan

Airport in Romulus; a March 18 performance with Our Lady's adult choir and the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and at Plymouth's "Art in the Park" in July.

"We are doing a great deal of fund-raising," Karby said. "I'm just absolutely amazed at how this group came together."

Those interested in making a donation for the trip should contact Maureen Karby at (734) 459-9893 or Our Lady of Good Counsel Church at (734) 453-0326.

Wrapping from page B1

"Normally it's about \$4 to \$5 an hour," said Julie Bergendahl, who's in her fifth year of wrapping presents.

The booths have a selection of 16 patterns of wrapping paper, bows, gift tags and boxes. And organizers are hoping a re-order of Hanukkah wrapping paper will arrive in time for the eight-day Jewish holiday, which starts at sundown Friday. However, the booths do have a silver print paper and blue ribbon to accommodate Hanukkah, birthday and wedding gifts.

Prices range from \$1.50 to \$8-10, if using Scout-supplied boxes. A medium shirt box is \$3.25, while a large pants box is \$4.50. The price is less if the customer provides the boxes. All profits go to the Scouts.

Learning the how to's

The girls and adults attended a three-hour training class to learn how to measure, price and wrap gifts. Roy made all of the bows and while the workers wait for the wrapping rush, they're been making 4,000 name tags.

The booths are open during mall hours through Christmas Eve. The gift wrapping isn't limited to purchases made at the mall. Gifts can be brought in from other stores.

And in mid-December, the Scouts will be at Barnes and Noble, Wal-Mart and Media Play.

"At Wal-Mart, we'll be wrapping for donations only," said Bergendahl. "Sometimes, people give more when it's by donation."

Scott, in her third year of wrapping, has signed up for seven shifts. Campbell plans to work five.

As a coordinator, Bergendahl has signed up for 28 shifts and is already scheduling more.

"You have to enjoy gift wrapping," said Bergendahl.

"You have to be a people person," Campbell added. "There's times when I you don't enjoy it, but I enjoy being around people. It's a lot of fun."

"The funniest thing to me last year was a man telling me to 'Wrap the present, so it looks like I did it. It's for my wife.'"

CITY OF GARDEN CITY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING DIMENSIONAL VARIANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of Act Number 207, Public Acts of 1921, as amended, that a public hearing will be held by the City of Garden City Zoning Board of Appeals at 7:30 p.m., December 8, 1999 at City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt, Garden City, Michigan 48135.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the purpose of the public hearing is to hear and consider public comments on the proposed Dimensional Variance from Section 161.023.D.1 of the Zoning Ordinance, location of accessory structures, to erect an above ground watering system in the front yard. The property is located at 317 Henry Ruff.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the variance application may be examined at the City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135 during regular office hours until the date of the Public Hearing. Written comments may be sent to the above address.

RANDY TEMPLETON, Chair
Zoning Board of Appeals
ALLYSON M. BETTIS
Treasurer/City Clerk

Posted: November 24, 1999
Publish: December 2, 1999

CITY OF GARDEN CITY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING DIMENSIONAL VARIANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of Act Number 207, Public Acts of 1921, as amended, that a public hearing will be held by the City of Garden City Zoning Board of Appeals at 7:30 p.m., December 8, 1999 at City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt, Garden City, Michigan 48135.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the purpose of the public hearing is to hear and consider public comments on the proposed Dimensional Variance from Section 161.212, schedule of the zoning Ordinance, to erect a home which encroaches into the required front yard setback. The property is located at 32320 Kathryn.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the variance application may be examined at the City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135 during regular office hours until the date of the Public Hearing. Written comments may be sent to the above address.

RANDY TEMPLETON, Chair
Zoning Board of Appeals
ALLYSON M. BETTIS
Treasurer/City Clerk

Posted: November 24, 1999
Publish: December 2, 1999

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

Publish: November 28, December 2 and 5, 1999

Why are they laughing?

Maybe it's because they've just discovered a funny web site. Or maybe he's just found one that's filled with great toys.

When you go online, the entire world opens up for you and your family.

Internet access through Observer & Eccentric's On-Line! won't break the household budget, either—it's just \$18.95 per month.

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You'll hear from us with your account information within 48 hours.

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248-644-1100.

You'll be laughing in no time!

CITY OF GARDEN CITY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING DIMENSIONAL VARIANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of Act Number 207, Public Acts of 1921, as amended, that a public hearing will be held by the City of Garden City Zoning Board of Appeals at 7:30 p.m., December 8, 1999 at City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt, Garden City, Michigan 48135.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the purpose of the public hearing is to hear and consider public comments on the proposed Dimensional Variance from Section 161.212, schedule of regulations of the Zoning Ordinance, to erect a home which encroaches into the required rear yard setback. The property is located at 32351 Lespedeza Lane.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the variance application may be examined at the City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135 during regular office hours until the date of the Public Hearing. Written comments may be sent to the above address.

RANDY TEMPLETON, Chair
Zoning Board of Appeals
ALLYSON M. BETTIS
Treasurer/City Clerk

Posted: November 24, 1999
Publish: December 2, 1999

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS 15125 Farmington Road Livonia, MI 48154

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the purchase of: (Equipment only)

- 9 - Lochinvar CHN2077 Copperfin II Boiler
- 4 - Lochinvar CHN2081 Copperfin II Boiler
- 3 - Lochinvar CHN1200 Copperfin II Boiler
- 6 - Lochinvar CHN1440 Copperfin II Boiler
- 3 - Lochinvar MSF2023 Stack Stands

Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m. on the 17th day of December, 1999 at the Board of Education Maintenance Department, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan. At this time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read. Vendors are encouraged to attend.

Specifications and bid forms are available in the Purchasing Department.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part in the interests of uniformity, design, equipment, delivery time or preference, to waive any informalities and to award to other than low bidder, with rationale to support such a decision.

Any bid submitted will be binding until April 28, 2000. The award of this order is dependent on voter approval of a millage which will be held on April 10, 2000.

Any questions regarding this bid to be directed to Tim Kobut, Maintenance Supervisor at 734-620-9100

Publish: December 2 and 5, 1999

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Jarmusevich-Shippe

Sharon Houston of Garden City and Greg Jarmusevich of South Lyon announce the engagement of their daughter, Sara Marie Jarmusevich, to Mark Alan Shippe, the son of Linda Shippe of Westland and Gerald Shippe of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a 1996 graduate of Garden City High School and is attending Schoolcraft College. She is employed as a receptionist at Link Testing Laboratories in Detroit.

Her fiancé also is a 1995 graduate of Garden City High School and is attending the University of Michigan-Dearborn where he is majoring in business administration. He is employed as an office manager at Vision Restoration and Building Co. in



Dearborn Heights.

An April wedding is planned at First Congregational Church of Wayne.

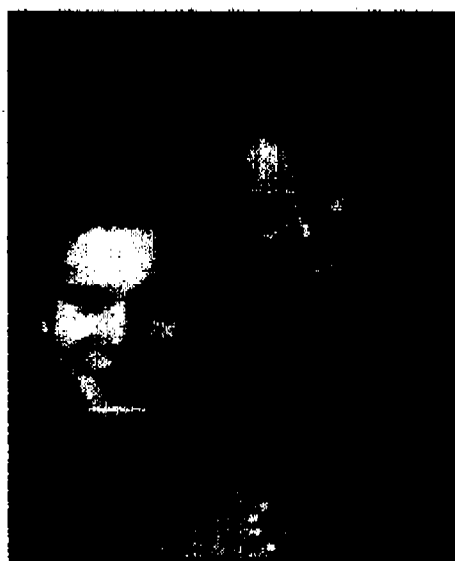
Dukes-Pinkosky

William and Marilyn Dukes of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimmi Lynn, to Stephen Lawrence Pinkosky, the son of Paul and Sandra Pinkosky, also of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1997 graduate of Albion College. She is employed as an English and art teacher at Harrison High School in Farmington Hills.

Her fiancé is a 1997 graduate of Michigan State University. He is employed as a research assistant at the University of Michigan Cancer Research Institute.

A December wedding is



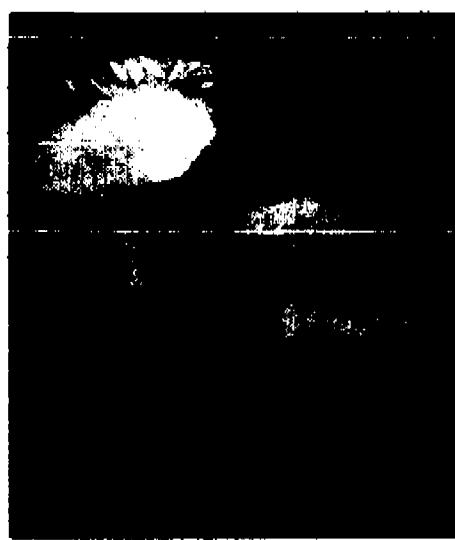
planned at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church.

Godlove-Harnish

Lindsey R. Godlove and Edward J. Harnish II are planning a December wedding in Grove City College's Harbison Chapel in Grove City, Pa.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of John and Cindy Godlove of Mercer, Pa. She is pursuing a career as an author and illustrator and attended Grove City College.

Her fiancé is the son of Edward and Lawanda Harnish of Alliance, Ohio. He attended the Cincinnati Bible College and Cincinnati State and Technical College. He is the senior CAD designer at MTI-Johnson Stamp-



ing in Plymouth and MTI-Crescive in Saline.

Knoll-Yack

Daniel Edwin Knoll and Elizabeth Anne Yack were married Sept. 18 at St. Michael Lutheran Church by the Rev. Jerry Yarnell.

The bride is the daughter of Thomas and Barbara Yack of Canton. The groom is the son of Edwin and Susan Knoll of Vassar.

The bride is a 1992 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and a 1996 graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a business administration degree. She is employed as a consultant for Triad Performance Technologies in Farmington Hills.

The groom is a 1991 graduate of Frankenmuth High School and a 1996 graduate of Michigan Technological University. He is employed as an engineer at Toyota Technical Center in Ann Arbor.

The bride asked Kathryn Yack to serve as maid of honor with Brenda Hoffman, Debbie Yack, Erica Stowe, Delynn D'Angelo, Stacey Pános and Jennifer Jaskolski as bridesmaids.

Ryan Stowe served as best



man with Jeff Hoffman, David Yack, Cody Kramer, James Yack, Eric Conzelmann and Andy Hoffman as groomsmen. Mitchell Hoffman was the ring bearer.

The couple received guests at the Italian-American Banquet and Conference Center in Livonia before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Hawaii. They are making their home in Novi.

Wood-Geisler

Debra Taylor and Kenneth L. Wood Jr. of Pensacola, Fla., announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberlee Sheree Wood, to Stephen Robert Geisler, the son of Allan A. Geisler of Dearborn and Sylvia H. Wells of Mooresville, N.C., both formerly of Plymouth.

The bride-to-be is a cum laude graduate of the University of Alabama with a bachelor of arts degree. She is a senior at the University of Alabama School of Law pursuing a juris doctor degree.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Henry Ford Community College and a summa cum laude graduate of George Washington University with a bachelor of arts degree. He will be a senior pursuing a juris doctor degree from



the University of Alabama School of Law.

A December wedding is planned at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

ANNIVERSARIES

Koss

Frank and Felicia Koss of Redford are celebrating their 50th anniversary with a Mass at St. Sabina Catholic Church in Dearborn Heights and a party with close family members and friends at the American Legion Stitt Post.

The couple exchanged vows on Nov. 5, 1949, at St. Albertus Church in Detroit. She is the former Felicia Blocki.

They have five married children - Michael and wife Peggy of Sterling Heights, Patrick and wife Mary Kay of Redford, David and wife Mary of Grand Rapids, Kathryn Topolewski and husband Richard of Plymouth Township, Joseph and wife Lisa of Dearborn Heights. They also have four grandchildren - Jennifer, Christopher, Christina and Kendra.

He retired from Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of Detroit in 1989. Prior



to that he was employed at Pfeiffer Brewing Co. She volunteered to perform administrative services at St. Albertus Church.

They currently are active as volunteers at Holy Cross Hospital and at St. Sabina Church. His hobbies include gardening and woodworking. She enjoys needlework and baking. Their primary interest is spending time with their grandchildren.

Caskey

Kenneth and Joanne Caskey of Livonia were the guests of honor at a surprise 45th wedding anniversary party Nov. 20 at Ernesto's in Plymouth.

The couple exchanged vows on Nov. 20, 1954, in Detroit. She is the former Joanne Valente.

The couple has five children - Joan Marie Morano and husband John, Kenny, Lisa Albers and husband Ralph, Pam, and Natalie Hasson and husband Don - eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

He retired from Douglas & Lomax three years ago. She has worked at Ethan Allen Furniture in Livonia for more than 20 years.



Among their interests are their grandchildren.

Announcement forms available

Have an engagement or wedding announcement to make?

Want to let people know your celebrating your anniversary or the arrival of a new baby?

The Observer has forms available to announce those

special occasions in life at our offices at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, or 794 S. Main St., Plymouth.

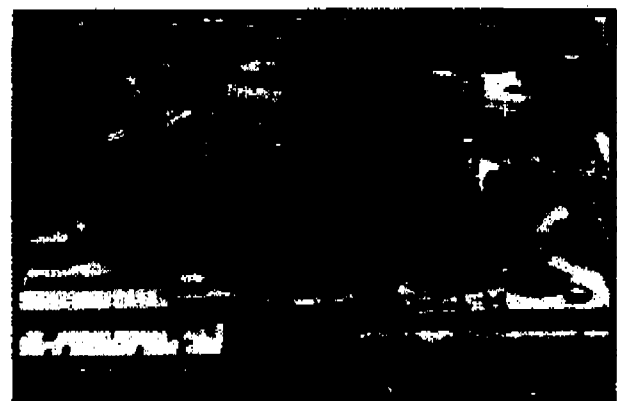
For more information, call Sue Mason at (734) 963-2131 or Tiffanie Lacey at (734) 459-2700.

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Now is your chance to guarantee your seat at the historic "Opening Day at Comerica Park." It's as easy as calling us at (313) 471-BALL. Comerica Park's inaugural season will be like none other in Tigers baseball history and here's why:



Comerica Park will be the Crown Jewel of Major League Baseball.

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WORLD SERIES PLANS

A great new ballpark, great new 20-game plans. We have loaded each plan with the best games, the best teams, the best promotions, great giveaways, and a mixture of days of the week to fit your complicated schedule.

GREAT BENEFITS

We are holding great seat locations for you that come with some of the best benefits around. Like the opportunity to purchase "Opening Day at Comerica Park" (while supplies last). You'll get the same great seats for every game in your package (Opening Day may differ). Plus, an exclusive Detroit Tigers VIP merchandise gift.

Our World Series Plans are so strong, we are willing to back them up.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

We are so sure you will like Comerica Park, you have our "Fans First" guarantee. If you don't like your first experience at Comerica Park, we'll refund your money in full.

YOUR SEATS ARE WAITING

Great seats for the 20-game plans are still available for Comerica Park. So pick up the phone and call (313) 471-BALL today. A Sales and Service Manager is here to answer your call. But you have to act fast.

MAKE THE CALL

What is there to think about? Great seats, new ballpark, Opening Day, Fans First Guarantee. Plus, an exclusive Detroit Tigers VIP merchandise gift. Give us a call at (313) 471-BALL to secure your seats today.

Don't miss out on your chance to get the best seats at Comerica Park.

FOR TICKET PACKAGES, CALL THE DETROIT TIGERS TICKET SALES DEPARTMENT AT **(313) 471-BALL**. www.detroittigers.com



Ticket Packages As Low As \$252.

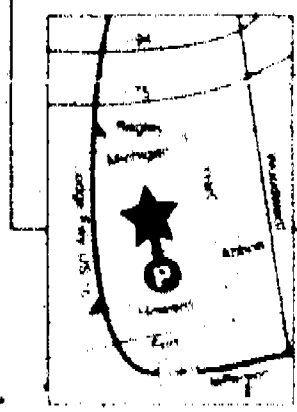
NOW OPEN!

Remember when parking was fun and easy?

It is again. Only this time you'll be pulling into a well-lit deck with 2,200 additional free parking spaces, and a climate controlled walkway connecting you to the casino. With easy access right off the Lodge, there's nothing getting in the way of you, and the action.



MGM GRAND
DETROIT CASINO
Step into the spotlight.



The directions to parking info call toll free 1-877-888-7171. For visit our website at www.mgmgrand.com/detroit.
Parking at MGM Grand Detroit Casino is complimentary for all guests staying at MGM Grand Detroit Casino. For more information call 1-877-888-7171.

Check the new MGM Grand Detroit Casino for more information. **MGM**

CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

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

The event is an opportunity for people who've lost loved ones or who've been seriously injured in a drunken driving accident to join together.

Call the MADD office at (734) 721-8181 to have names put into the program. A bell will be rung as each name is remembered at the vigil.

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

The Wayne County chapter also has extended an invitation to its new victim support groups. The groups will meet 7 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month at the Michigan State Police post located at 12111 N. Telegraph in Taylor. For more information call the number above.

DRAMA CLUB

The Westland All-Stars Drama Club will present "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, in the Bailey Recreation Center, 35561 Ford, Westland. Tickets, \$5 each, are available at the Bailey Center or at the door. The story tells of a woman and her husband trying to put on a Christmas pageant, despite having to cast the nastiest kids known.

AT THE LIBRARY

FRIENDS OF LIBRARY

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

WESTLAND CENTER

WALKERS

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

RECREATION

RECREATION AND FUN

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

FIGURE SKATING

Figure skaters interested in USFSA synchronized (precision) skating are needed to build Novi FSC and Westland FSC joint-venture teams. Prior team experience is not necessary. This is an opportunity to build skating and team skills while having fun. For information, call Cheryl Gutowski at (734) 427-0806.

VOLUNTEERS

ASSISTED LIVING

Marquette House assisted living facility, 36000 Campus Drive, Westland, seeks volunteers to spend time with residents to provide an activity or a one-on-one visit. Call Peggy in the activities department, (734) 326-6537.

ANGEL CARE

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

VETERAN'S HAVEN

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

CAMELOT HALL

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

PET-A-PET

The Pet-A-Pet animal visitation program provides pet therapy with the help of volunteers. Pets should be friendly, well-behaved, and must have current vaccinations. There is a \$5 membership fee. Volunteer opportunities are available at Hope Nursing Care Center, Margaret Martin, (734) 721-2821, 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month, and Marquette House, Lorna Johnson, (734) 425-1681, 10:30 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month. There are also openings at Garden City Hospital, Stacy Suida, (734) 458-4392, 3 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month.

SCHOOLS

SUBURBAN CHILDREN'S

Suburban Children's Co-op Nursery has openings in its 2-year-old toddler-parent class on Friday mornings; 3-year-old class Monday and Wednesday mornings; and 4-year-old class on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Classes run from September to May. Parents are required to help out at the school. All classes are in the Newburg United Methodist Church on Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne and Newburgh. For more information, call April at (734) 207-7889.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

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

LIVONIA COOPERATIVE

The Livonia Cooperative Nursery, a preschool for children ages 3-4, is located at 9001 W. Chicago. Parents learn with their children. Enrollment is limited. For information, call Karin at (734) 522-3714.

COMMON PRESCHOOLS

The Westland Free Methodist Preschool has openings for 3- and 4-year-olds in morning and afternoon sessions. The younger pupils attend Tuesdays



Making a difference: Karen Wilson (right), president of Central Distributors of Beer, presents a "We All Make a Difference" award to Donna Strang of Lutheran Westland High School. The Anheuser-Busch responsible-drinking campaign reinforces the good practices of drinkers who exercise personal responsibility. Honorees who fight alcohol abuse and underage drinking were lauded Nov. 19 at the Holiday Inn-Crowne Plaza in Romulus.

and Thursdays, other pupils on Mondays and Wednesdays. A Friday enrichment class is also available. The preschool is located at 1421 S. Venoy, Westland. Call (734) 728-3559.

GARDEN CITY CO-OP

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

ST. MEL PRESCHOOL

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

YWCA READINESS

The YWCA of Western Wayne County Early Childhood School Readiness Program is available to 4- and 5-year-old children. The YWCA is located at 28279 Michigan in Inkster. Call (313) 561-4110.

CHARTER SCHOOL

The Academy of Detroit-Westland, an entrepreneurial and business charter school, serves children in kindergarten through sixth grade. The school emphasizes a basic education with business and entrepreneurial skills. The school offers a foreign language class, music and art, a dress code and a computer lab with access to the Internet. Call (734) 722-1465 or (248) 569-7787.

LITTLE PEOPLES

Livonia Little Peoples Co-op Preschool is now enrolling in programs for 3- and 4-year-olds. For more

information, call (734) 422-1176.

LITTLE LAMBS

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

GARFIELD CO-OP

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

BUILDING BLOCKS

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

FRANKLIN PTSA

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

TUTORIAL PROGRAM

A free tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy in Westland. The program, 4-

5:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, is for students ages 9 and older in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. For information on participating or volunteering, call Leau'Rette Douglas, (734) 722-3660.

ADULT LITERACY

An adult literacy program is being offered free Wednesdays at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center. Volunteers are being sought who are interested in tutoring children and adults 4-5:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays. For Adult Literacy enrollment or additional information, call Leau'Rette Douglas, (734) 722-3660.

MOM'S MORNING OUT

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

HISTORIC

WESTLAND MUSEUM

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

FRIENDS MEET

Friends of the Westland Historical Museum meet at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Westland Meeting House, 37091 Marquette, between New-

burgh and Wayne roads. Call President Jim Franklin at (734) 721-0136. Everyone is welcome.

FOR SENIORS

CASINO TRIP

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

HEARING CHECKS

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

SENIOR CHOIR

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

EXERCISE

Musical Chairs is a new program from Jazzercise designed for exercisers older than 40. The program provides a low-to-moderate workout for the older adult. The exercise improves strength, flexibility, balance, posture, coordination and cardiovascular endurance. It incorporates resistance exercises using rubber tubing and light weights with walking and jogging patterns. Wear loose-fitting clothing and comfortable shoes. Light weights and an exercise mat are suggested. Robert Cassidy is the certified Jazzercise instructor. Sign up at the front desk at the Westland Friendship Center or call (734) 722-7632.

TRAVEL GROUP

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

MONTHLY MEAL/DANCE

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

WORK REFERRAL

Information Center Inc. refers workers to elderly people who need help. The program is for people interested in providing transportation, yard work, housework, etc. Workers can specify the type of work they are willing to perform and the communities they want to work in. Call (734) 422-1062.

DYER CENTER

The Wayne-Westland School District's Dyer Senior Adult Center offers activities Monday through Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts, crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, Kitchen Band, 10 a.m.; bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.; a Hawaiian dance exercise

class will be held at 1 p.m. every Wednesday in Hall A of the Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 Newburgh. The instructor is Kammo Oris. Sign up at the front desk or call (734) 722-7632.

CLUBS IN ACTION

WESTLAND ROTARY

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

SWEET ADELINES

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

CHADD

CHADD of Northwest Wayne County meets the first Thursday of the month throughout the school year at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 39777 Five Mile. CHADD is a nonprofit, parent-based, volunteer organization whose aim is to better the lives of individuals with attention difficulties. Call (313) 438-3099 for information.

T.O.P.S.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly No. M128, a support group for sensible weight loss, meets 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland. Call Jackie at (734) 722-7225 for more information.

T.O.P.S.

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

PUBLIC SPEAKING

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

BINGO

DEM'S BINGO

The 13th Congressional District Democratic Party sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays in the M.J. Hall, 35412 Michigan next to the Farmer Jack Supermarket in Wayne. Call (734) 421-1517.

MORE DEM'S BINGO

The 13th Congressional District Democratic Party holds bingo games at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Cherry Hill Hall, on the southwest corner of Cherry Hill and Venoy. Call (734) 421-1517 for information.

ST. MEL CHURCH

Bingo games are held 6:45 p.m. Fridays in St. Mel Church's activities building, on Inkster Road north of Warren Road. Doors open at 4 p.m. Food is available.

WPCL BINGO

The Finesse Girls Travel Softball Boosters hold bingo games at 6:30-9:45 p.m. every Monday to raise money for girls' softball programs. The bingo games take place at the Wayne-Ford Civic League hall on Wayne Road two blocks south of Ford. Westland

The Observer Newspapers welcome Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or by fax to 734-892-7278. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 953-2104 if you have any questions.

Event:

Date and Time:

Location:

Telephone:

Additional Info.:

Use additional sheet if necessary



BETHEL BAPTIST TEMPLE
29475 W. Six Mile, Livonia
734-525-3664

Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.
Wed. Family Hour 7:15 P.M.

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST
YOUTH AWANA CLUBS

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

DR. RICHARD FREEMAN
PASTOR
"A Church That's Concerned About People"



NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
5403 S. Wayne Rd. • Wayne, MI
(Between Michigan Ave. & Van Horn Rd.)
(734) 728-2180
Virgil Humes, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
"1998" Trinity's Year of Prayer Countdown to "2000"

10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
5 Miles W. of Sheldon Rd.
From M-14 take Gottfredson Rd. South

734-459-9550
Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor
8:00 Prayer & Praise Service
9:30
Lifetime Contemporary Service
11:00 Traditional Service
SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages

WARD
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
4000 Six Mile Road
"Just west of I-275"
Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

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

Brightmoor Tabernacle
Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, Pastor
26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI I-696 & Telegraph • West of Holiday Inn • 248/352-6200
8:45 Family Sunday School Hour • Wednesday 7:00 pm "Family Night"

10:00 AM - Pastor Calvin C. Ratz
The Door to Friends and Strangers
6:30 PM - Pastor Calvin C. Ratz

24-Hour Prayer Line 248-352-6205

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Luther A. Werth, Sr. Pastor
Rev. Robert Bayer, Assist. Pastor
— Two locations to serve you —

LIVONIA
14175 Farmington Rd.
(N. of I-96)
Sunday Worship 8:30 am & 11:00 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
(734) 522-6830

CANTON
46001 Warren Road
(1 Mile West of Sheldon)
Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:45 am
(734) 414-7422

Visit our Web Site at <http://www.ccsa.edu/~lcm005>

ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH, USA
16700 Newburgh Road
Livonia • 734-464-8844
Sunday School for All Ages: 9:30 a.m.
Family Worship 11:00 a.m.
"Good Tidings!"
Rev. Dr. Janet Noble-Richardson, Pastor
<http://www.undsl.com/~sttimothy>

GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
5835 Sheldon Rd., Canton
(734) 499-0013
Sunday Worship & Sunday School
9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Education For All Ages
Childcare Provided • Handicapped Accessible
Resources for Hearing and Sight Impaired

New St. Paul Tabernacle Church of God in Christ and Grandmont Rosedale Park Christian Day School
Bishop P.A. Brooks, Pastor & Founder
15340 Southfield Drive at Fenick & Grand River

313-835-5329
SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

March of Faith Telecast
38 - WADL Broadcast Times
Saturday 9:30 P.M.
Sunday 4:30 P.M.
RADIO BROADCAST:
1:30 AM - WEXL
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
8:45 A.M. TO 9:00 A.M.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: <http://www.nspct.com>

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
28205 Middlebelt, Canton & Westland
Farmington Hills, Mich.

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

Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

Risen Christ Lutheran
46250 Ann Arbor Road
(1 Mile West of Sheldon)
Plymouth • 453-5252
Worship Service 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Pastor David Martin
Hugh McMarrin, Lay Minister

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

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

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

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

Nursery Care Provided
We Welcome You To A Full Program Church
Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor
Rev. Ruth Bunting, Associate Pastor
Visit our Website at <http://www.rosegardenspres.org>

There Are No "Cookie Cutter" People
And we know it. It's not the goal of our church to create just alike. It is our goal to help individuals find you discover a richer and more meaningful spiritual life. Join us this Sunday. Because We Care.

Tri-City Christian Center
Michigan Ave. & Harrison Rd.
326-0330
Sunday 9 am, 11 am, 6 pm

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Traditional Latin Mass
St. Anne's Academy - Grades E-8
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121
Mass Schedule:

First Fri. 7:00 p.m.
First Sat. 9:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:00 & 8:30 a.m.
Columbus Memorial Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
8915 Harrison • Livonia
Sunday Worship Service
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class
9:15 a.m.

Special Order - "Prayerbook" - 8
Chapel & School office:
(734) 422-8930

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School
1 Bk. N. of Ford Rd., Westland
5885 Venoy
425-0260

Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.
Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
Monday Evening Service 7:00 P.M.
Gary D. Headzopni, Administrative Pastor
Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor
Jeff Burke, Principal/D.C.E.

Cross Winds
"Serving the needs of the family in a caring & contemporary style"
Sunday Worship Celebrations: 10:30 a.m.
"Reverent teaching & uplifting music"
45791 Ford Rd. • Canton 734.391.5400

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
48801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 489-1288
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 456-3188

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
1160 Penniman Ave.
Plymouth • 453-0326
Rev. John J. Sullivan

Masses: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 A.M., Sat. 7:00 P.M.
Sunday 8:00, 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M.
9:00 P.M. Life Teen Mass

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121
Mass Schedule:

First Fri. 7:00 p.m.
First Sat. 9:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:00 & 8:30 a.m.
Columbus Memorial Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
17810 Farmington Road • Livonia • (734) 281-1390
May thru October • Sunday Night Service • 7:00 p.m.
Sunday School & Bible Classes For All Ages 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Worship Services
8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Pastor James Hoff
Pastor Eric Steinhilber

NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9436 Henry Huff at West Chicago
Livonia 48188 • 421-6468
Rev. Donald Lindstrom, Pastor
9:15 Adult Class
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
and Youth Classes
Nursery Care Available
-WELCOMED-

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
30800 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)
Chuck Sonzogni, Pastor

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

Clarenceville United Methodist
20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
474-3444
Rev. Jean Love

Worship Services 10:15 AM, 6:00 PM
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 AM
Office Hrs. 9-5

Mt. Hope Congregational Church
3289 Schroeder Lane • 734-429-7282
(Between Middlebelt & Harrison)
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

"The Church You've Always Longed For."

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
48785 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187
481-8444
REV. WICHARD A. PERFETTO
Worship Masses
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Sunday • 8:30 a.m.
Sunday • 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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

Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Midweek Adult Services Dec. 1, 8 & 15
18:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.
School Grade K thru 8
Phone for Enrollment Info
WLVQ 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

Timothy Lutheran Church
5620 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 457-2280
Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Sunday School (all ages)
10:30 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Avail.)
<http://www.timothylivonia.com>

Building Healthy Families...
9:00 & 11:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship
4:30 p.m. - "Connections" - Contemporary Worship
Dynamic Youth & Children's Programs
Adult Education
Child-Care Provided

Pastors: Dr. Dean Klump, Rev. Torje Arnesen

First Presbyterian Church of Livonia
734-453-5280

Castles Same as Abbeville
United Methodist Church
10000 Beach Daly, Redford
Between Plymouth and W. Chicago
Bob & Diana Gaudin, Co-Pastors
313-837-3170

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
19815 Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Evening Service 7:30 p.m.
First Church, 19815 Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
Phone: 481-1676

St. Genevieve Roman Catholic Church & School
38918 Junction Ave. • Livonia
800 of Middlebelt, between I 96 & Schroeder Rd.
SUNDAY: 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 a.m.
Wed. 7:30 a.m. • Sat. 8 p.m.
Sat. 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. & 10:00 noon
734-487-9889

Agapé Family Worship Center
"A FRANCHISE CHURCH ON THE MOVE"
45081 Geddes Road, Canton, MI 48188
(734) 394-0357

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

Agapé Christian Academy - K through 12

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Stephen Ministry Congregation
36800 Wayne Arbor Trail
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds
422-0149

Worship Services & Sunday School
9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Advent Series:
"Bethlehem Bound"

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Rev. Melonie Lee Corry, preaching

Rev. Thomas G. Bailey
Rev. Melonie Lee Corry
Rev. Edward C. Conroy
Call our youth group: 422-0149

December 5
Scripture/Matthew 1
Topic/Who Jesus is/Messiah
Rev. Bob Gaudin, preaching

Faith Covenant Church
11100 Westland and Union, Westland, MI
(248) 461-9191

Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m. Contemporary
11:00 a.m. Traditional

Sunday School for all ages
Wednesday Supper (6:00 p.m.)
& Programs for All Ages
Youth Group • 428-3343

St. Anthony's Episcopal Church
10000 Westland Blvd
Livonia, Michigan 48150
481-8481

Mon-Fri. 8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
Worshiping Daily PM. Holy Eucharist
Worshiping 8:00 PM. Holy Eucharist
Sunday 7:00 & 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist
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Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available
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Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Bible Class 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Peter Howard • 426-4000

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Stephen Ministry Congregation
36800 Wayne Arbor Trail
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds
422-0149

Worship Services & Sunday School
9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Advent Series:
"Bethlehem Bound"

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Rev. Melonie Lee Corry, preaching

Rev. Thomas G. Bailey
Rev. Melonie Lee Corry
Rev. Edward C. Conroy
Call our youth group: 422-0149



Religion from page B5

The cost is \$5 per family plus one canned food item. For reservations, call Peggy Kalis at (734) 464-0211.

LIVING THE DREAM

Ann and Morris Taber, founders of the "Books Are Like Gold" Project and the Taber Library in Zimbabwe, will speak on "Living the Dream in Zimbabwe" at 9:45 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile Road, Livonia. The Tabers traveled to Zimbabwe this year with the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission Program and as a result started the "Books Are Like Gold" project. For more information, call the church at (734) 422-1470.

HOLIDAY CONCERTS

The First United Methodist Church of Plymouth will present a Holiday Concert Extravaganza at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at the church, 45201 North Territorial Road, Plymouth.

The Detroit Handbell Ensemble, under the direction of Susan M. Berry, will perform selections ranging from simple folk tunes to celebrated hymns or transcriptions of orchestral classics, such as music from "The Nutcracker." The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band will accompany some selections.

Advanced tickets cost \$6 for adults and \$15 for a family through Handbell Services Inc. at (313) 278-7387. Tickets also are available at the door at \$7 and \$16 respectively. For more information, call Fran Loiselle, director of handbells at First United at (734) 453-5280 or (734) 459-4263.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church will present a Christmas Collage Concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at the church, 39020 Five Mile Road, between Newburgh and Haggerty roads, Livonia. The continuous musical event will feature handbells, choirs, voice choirs, soloists and instrumental music. For more information, call the church at (734) 464-0211.

HANGING THE GREENS

St. Matthew's United Methodist Church will hold its annual Hanging of the Greens during the 10 a.m. worship service Sunday, Dec. 5, at the church, 30900 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Child care will be available.

After the service, there will be a "Focus on the Family" program and luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. The program will include making devotional Christmas trees. Reservations are necessary and can be made by calling the church office at (734) 422-6038.

SERVICE OF LESSONS

Faith Lutheran Church will have a service of lessons and carols at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at the church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia. All musical ensembles of Faith Lutheran will participate in the service, which will feature music and scripture readings for Advent. The readings and music will outline Christ's coming into the world, starting in the Book of Genesis and continuing through to His birth.

Light refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall following the service. For more information, call the church at (734) 421-7249.

ADVENT SERVICES

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church offers Advent Bible study at 7 p.m. Monday, now through Dec. 20, and 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, following Advent vespers at 6:30 p.m., now through Dec. 21, at the church, 39020 Five Mile Road, Livonia. For more information, call the church at (734) 464-0211.

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church invites the public to remember "One Night in Bethlehem" during Advent services 7:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8 and 15, at the church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Drama, music and a brief message will help worshippers focus on the history-changing events of Bethlehem 2000 years ago. Each of the three weeks will focus on a different scene in Bethlehem.

There will be a fellowship dinner 5-6 p.m. prior to the services. The cost of the meals will be \$3.50 for adults, \$2 for children age 3-12 and free for those age 2 and under. Reservations can be made by calling the church office at (734) 522-6830.

Trinity Lutheran Church will have Advent supper and services Wednesday, Dec. 8 and 15, at the church, 8820 Wayne Road, between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. There will be a simple supper at 7 p.m. and worship service at 7:30 p.m.

which will center around remembering the hungry and needy of the world. Midweek offerings will go to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. For more information, call the church at (734) 427-2290.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Newburg United Methodist Church will have its ASP Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Auction at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, in Gutherie Hall of the Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. All proceeds will sup-

port a summer work trip to Appalachia. For ticket information, call the church office at (734) 422-0149.

FAMILY MUSICAL

The Creative Arts Ministry of Northville Christian Assembly will present a family musical, "A Time for Christmas," at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, and 4 and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 11-12, at the church, 41355 Six Mile Road. Packed with drama and music, "A Time for Christmas" follows the life of a workaholic account-

ant who sorely needs Christmas cheer. A mysterious visitor, Bartholomew, challenges the accountant to learn the true meaning of Christmas and, like Clarence in "It's a Wonderful Life," takes the accountant on a trip covering 2,000 years.

Tickets for the musical are free, but required. They are available by calling (248) 348-9030. The 7 p.m. Dec. 11 performance will include creative translation for the hearing impaired.



Guiding light: People will gather at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, at Covenant House Michigan Campus, 2959 Martin Luther King Blvd. at I-96, for a candle-light vigil for homeless kids. The guest speaker will be Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer. Donations of toiletries, bedding, linen and personal care items will be accepted at the vigil. For more information, call (313) 825-7005.

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Sweet treats greet shoppers at churches' cookie walks

Caught up in the holiday rush and no time to make Christmas cookies?

Don't fret. Area churches are having cookie walks this month the stock your shelves in time for Christmas.

Aldersgate United Methodist Church wants people to o their Christmas baking in one easy walk at its "Sweet Walk" 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at the church, 10000 Beech Daly Road, south of Plymouth Road, Redford.

Cookies, candies, brownies and

sweets of all kinds will be sold at \$6 a pound. For more information, call the church at (313) 937-3170.

At Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W. Seven Mile Road, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia, shoppers will have an assortment of 40 different cookies to buy at its cookie walk on Saturday, Dec. 11.

Doors will open at 9 a.m. and stay open until everything is sold. The price will be \$8 per pound.

There will be more than 1,500 Ukrainian nut and apricot kiefle, made under the direction of Anne Hyrila and her daughter, Ariene Sudia, of Plymouth, while Evelyn Olszewski, a Czechoslovakian grandmother, has provided the recipe for kolichy, pin-wheel-shaped cookies filled with fruit and ground nuts. Packaged gift boxes of cookies also will be available.

Olszewski also provide her mother's recipe for the traditional nut, apricot and poppy seed rolls that will be available.

The cookie selection also includes Polish prune pillows, painted sugar cookies, shortbread and rum balls.

There also will be a selection of sweet breads, candies, nuts and frozen foods (pierogi and stuffed cabbage), priced individually or by the package. Elaine Petouhoff and Helen Hall of Livonia have had the job of getting the church women together to make the stuffed cabbage and pierogi.

"With more people working nowadays and not having time to bake, it is a wonderful community service," said the Rev. Michael Matsko, pastor of Holy Transfiguration Church. "It is a tremendous way for people to come together and express themselves and use their talents."

For more information, call the church at (248) 476-3432.

Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia, is reviving its tradition of a cookie walk Dec. 11. Church members are providing the cookie selection for the walk which starts at 9:30 a.m. and ends when the last cookie is sold.

For more information, call the church at (734) 421-7249.

Garden City United Methodist Church will have its cookie walk 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 11 at the church, 6443 Merriman Road at Maplewood, Garden City.

Sponsored by the United Methodist Women, cookies will be sold at \$8 for a large tin and \$6 for a small tin. For more information, call the church at (734) 421-8628.

The First United Methodist Church, 3739 Newberry, across from the Wayne Post Office, Wayne, will have a different kind of cookie walk 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 11.

There will be homemade specialty cookies, candies (fudge, pralines, peanut brittle and more) and specialty dog treats. Prices will be \$4 for small tins, \$6 for medium tins and \$12 for large tins.

Specialty tins at various prices will be available, and the candies will be sold by the pound. Special orders for whole or half pumpkin rolls also will be taken.

To place an order or for more information, call the church office at (734) 721-4801.



Yum, yum: Shoppers found a wide variety of cookies to chose from at last year's cookie walk at Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church in Livonia.

Museum hosts holiday workshops

The Detroit Historical Museum is offering families and children the opportunity to learn and have at two workshops taking place Saturdays, Dec. 11 and 18.

The Toy Train Family Workshop will be offered at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Dec. 11. The cost is \$5 per child, in addition to regular museum admission.

Participants will listen to a brief talk on trains and model train history, tour The Glancy

Trains and the Frontiers to Factories exhibits and build a train to take home.

The Christmas in Other Lands Family Workshop will be 1-3 p.m. Dec. 18. It also will cost \$5 per child in addition to museum admission.

Participants will learn how other cultures and countries celebrate at this special time of the year.

Traditions from Mexico and Germany will be featured, and

the workshop will include Christmas stories and music, the chance to make holiday crafts to take home, food and other surprises.

Advance registration is required, and regular museum admission - \$4.50 for adults, \$2.25 for senior citizens and children ages 12-18 and free for children under age 12 - apply. For more information or reservations, call Amy DeWys-Van-Hecke at (313) 833-9720.

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Only) Detroit Zoological Society.....Royal Oak 10% Off All Membership Packages Electric Stick.....Westland Pay for One Hour of Pool - Get One Hour Free Hartfield Lanes.....Berkley Free Shoe Rental for Cardholder</p> <p>S Florists & Gifts</p> <p>Horne.....Royal Oak 10% Off Purchase (not to be combined w/other offers) Kevin's Floral Expressions.....Farmdale 10% Off - Excluding Wire Orders Mary Jane Flowers.....Royal Oak \$2.00 Off Frequent Flower Power Program Steve Codans Flowers.....Southfield Free Delivery in Metro Detroit Area The Green Bee.....Royal Oak 10% Off Purchase over \$10</p> <p>S Home Improvement</p> <p>ABC Plumbing.....Clawson \$20 Off Service or \$25 Off SNR American Blind and Wallpaper Factory.....Plymouth 10% Off Order \$50 Min. Mention Code HE10 Bergstrom's Inc. 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Sanders Cakes Hot Trick Pub/Deli.....Berkley 10% Off Any Food Purchase Max & Erma's.....Birmingham 10% Off Purchase, excluding alcohol & gratuities Mitch House's School/Arts/Middle 734-425-5520.....Livonia 10% Off Your Bill - Lunch or Dinner New King Lime 248-474-2781.....Farmington Hills 10% Off Total Bill Plymex.....Berkley 10% Off Total Food Bill With \$10 Purchase or More Samuel Hoffman's New York Deli.....Clawson 10% Off Total Food Bill Steve's Deli.....Bloomfield Hills \$10.00 Off Any Catering Order Subway.....Berkley/Farmdale \$1.00 Off Any Footlong Sub Supreme Deli.....Clawson \$1.00 Off Any Sandwich Woody's Diner.....Royal Oak 10% Off Total Food Bill With \$10 Purchase or More</p> <p>S Retail</p> <p>A Shady Business.....Walled Lake 10% Off Any Lamp Purchase Alcove Hobby Shop.....Royal Oak 10% Off Any Purchase Alexanders Framing.....Royal Oak 15% Off Any Purchase Alta's Greenfield Market.....Southfield 5% Off Any Meat or Produce Purchase</p>	<p>America's Vitamin & Nutrition.....Berkley 10% Off Any Purchase Every Day Beads S.R.O.....Royal Oak 10% Off Purchase of \$10 or More Border Outlet 3500 Lilley 734-397-6326.....Canton 10% Off In-Stock Only Bourlier's BBQ & Fireplace.....Farmdale 10% Off Replacement Parts Chat's Rent-All.....Berkley 10% Off Any Rental Champion's Cellular Warehouse.....Southfield 10% Discount Chris Furniture Farmington/Plymouth Rd.....Livonia 40% Off All End Tables Circa.....Berkley 10% Off on All Circa Antiques & Collectibles Contract Design Group.....Royal Oak 10% Off New Orders Carpeting/Linoleum Crossing Bridges.....Berkley 10% Off Candles, Insects & More (Books/Sales excluded) Daley Carpet & Tile, W. of Meridian.....Livonia 10% Off Any Reg. 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L/W Page 1, Section C

Brad Emons, Editor 734-951-2122 bemon@oe.homecomm.net

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

Thursday, December 2, 1999

PRESEASON RANKINGS

OSSEVERLAND PRESEASON

1999-2000 WRESTLING RANKINGS

TEAM: 1. Redford Catholic Central; 2. Plymouth Salem; 3. Livonia Stevenson; 4. Garden City; 5. Plymouth Canton.

INDIVIDUAL WEIGHT CLASSES

103 pounds: 1. Josh Gunterman (Livonia Stevenson); 2. Scott Massey (Garden City); 3. Kyle Miel (Livonia Churchill).

112: 1. John Mervyn (Plymouth Salem); 2. Marty Bartram (Redford Union); 3. Kyle Pitt (Plymouth Canton).

119: 1. Ron Thompson (Plymouth Salem); 2. Pat Seyn (Garden City); 3. Chris O'Hara (Redford CC).

125: 1. Jon Gregg (Wayne Memorial); 2. Rob Ash (Plymouth Salem); 3. Vinnie Zoccolli (Garden City).

130: 1. Greg Musser (Plymouth Canton); 2. Brian Reed (Garden City); 3. Dave Teets (Westland John Glenn).

138: 1. Steve Dandinos (Plymouth Salem); 2. Jon Pocock (Plymouth Canton); 3. Jesse Stevens (Redford Union).

140: 1. Josh Henderson (Plymouth Salem); 2. Josh Fee (Garden City); 3. Jay Wheeler (Redford CC).

148: 1. Jeff Usher (Redford Thurston); 2. Mike Falzon (Livonia Stevenson); 3. Jay Abshire (Redford CC).

152: 1. Mike Carter (Livonia Churchill); 2. Imad Kharbush (Livonia Stevenson); 3. Sean Bell (Redford CC).

160: 1. Mitch Hancock (Redford CC); 2. Mark Ostach (Farmington); 3. Eric Kelley (Redford Union).

171: 1. Eric Toska (Livonia Franklin); 2. Jason Hilliker (Redford CC); 3. John MacFarland (Livonia Stevenson).

189: 1. Eric Puninske (Livonia Stevenson); 2. Ben Lukas (Farmington); 3. Ian Cole (Farmington Hills Harrison).

215: 1. Katen McPherson (Livonia Clarenceville); 2. Kyle Domagalski (Farmington); 3. Nick Smith (Wayne Memorial).

Heavyweight: 1. Brian Brinsden (Farmington); 2. Ollie Muscarella (Redford Union); 3. Brad Timney (Garden City).

Note: The weekly Observerland wrestling rankings are compiled by a panel of four coaches including Bob Moreau (Livonia Stevenson), Marty Altounian (Livonia Churchill), Jim Carlin (Redford Union) and Dave Cholek.

For questions, call Carlin at (248) 478-7808.

Grapplers ready to hit the mats

Spartans, CC could top list

PREVIEW

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemon@oe.homecomm.net

The decade of the '90s has been good to the Livonia Stevenson High wrestling team, and first-year coach Joel Smith hopes the Spartans will continue their excellence into the next millennium.

Smith inherits the program from Don Berg, who coached the Spartans the past 19 years.

During Berg's tenure in the '90s, Stevenson went 134-11-4 in dual meets; captured seven team-dual districts; four Western Lakes Activities Association crowns; three Observerland Invitational titles; and two regional team dual championships.

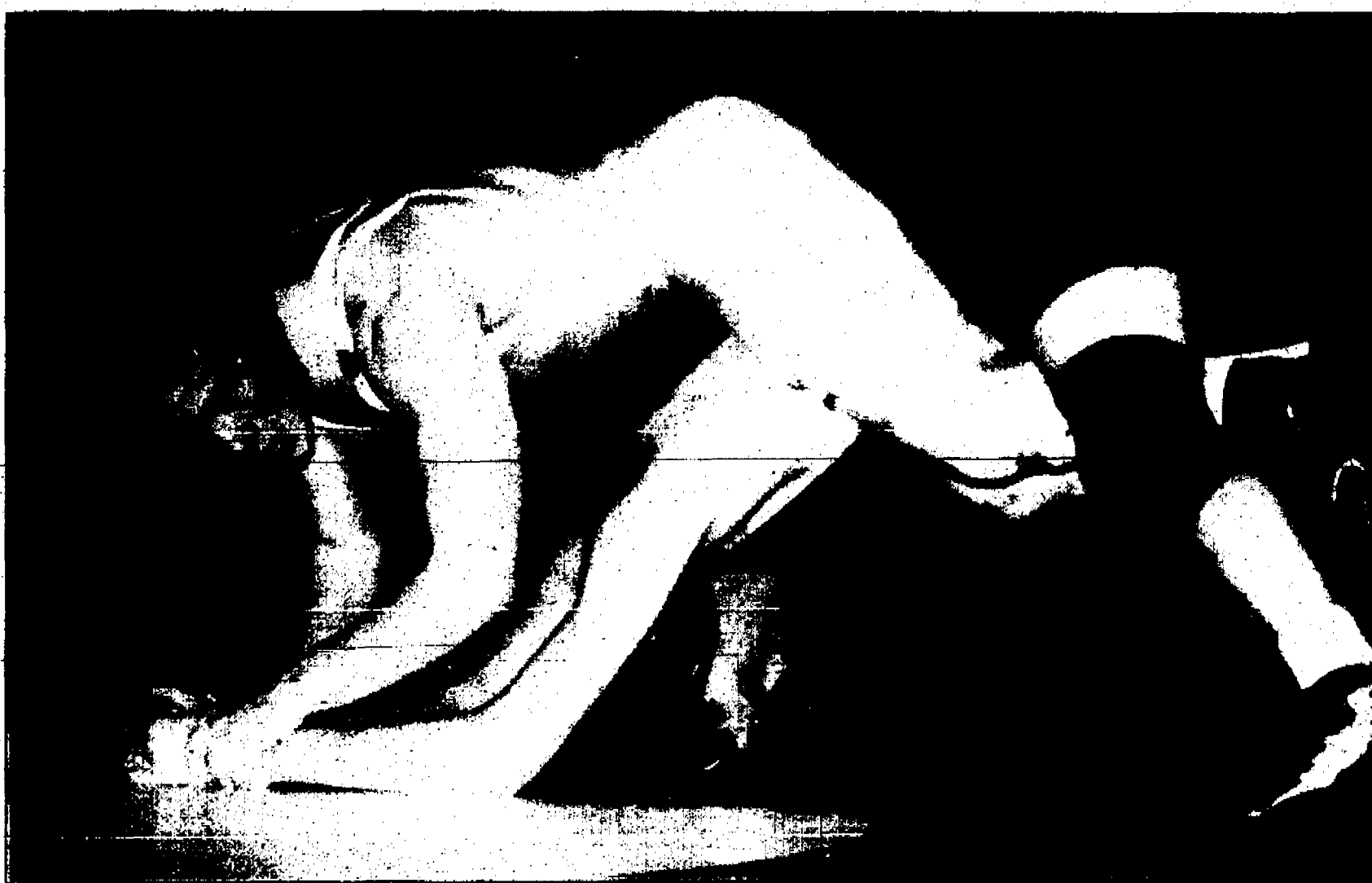
"With five seniors, I can't say we're young," Smith said. "But it's a rebuilding year in comparison to last. On a scale of one to ten — comparing this team to past teams — I'd say we're a seven."

Nobody will be more fun to watch than senior Josh Gunterman, the defending state champion at 103 pounds.

Gunterman, who flip-flopped back-and-forth between 103 and 112 with teammate Joe Moreau (47-7 record), finished 39-10 with district, regional and individual state titles to his credit.

"Josh is one of our captains and he's doing a good job at being a leader," Smith said. "He looks real good so far and is working hard. He's put in a lot of time and he's excited about this year."

Besides losing Moreau to graduation, Stevenson also will miss first-team All-



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Zebra returnee: Jon Gregg (top) of Wayne Memorial, is one of the area's top wrestlers at 119 or 125 pounds. He finished first in the Observerland meet at 119 a year ago.

Area pick Brian Barker, a 160-pounder with a 100-44 career mark.

But several talented returnees are waiting in the wings to carry on Stevenson's winning tradition.

Junior Imad Kharbush (152-160) qualified for the state meet last year going 38-16. He was first at Observerland, second at the Redford Catholic Central Invitational and fourth at the WLAA meet.

Senior Mike Falzon (145) also returns after going 31-15 with runner-up finishes at the WLAA and Observerland.

Other key returnees include senior John MacFarland (171), a regional qualifier; senior Eric Puninske (189), 18-12 a year ago; senior Mark Costello (heavyweight), sophomore Matt Radley (140), junior Chris Coopridge (145) and junior Tim McCarthy (125).

Promising newcomers include a pair of freshmen at 130 and 135 pounds, Griffin Schaefer and Doug Novacek.

"We have a great group of freshmen," Smith said. "We have about 60 kids out, so there is a lot of competition."

"It's been a lot of fun. They're energetic and want to learn. We look to the

leadership of our upperclassmen to pave the road for the next few years."

Redford Catholic Central

Casey Rogowski is gone, but Aaron Parr is around to make sure no one forgets Redford Catholic Central's state champion heavyweight.

Parr spent his freshman and sophomore seasons with the Shamrocks as Rogowski's designated sparring partner.

"He went 19-3 on the junior varsity last year," CC coach Mike Rodriguez

Please see MAT PREVIEW, C3

John Glenn grad Dugas earns All-GLIAC honors

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemon@oe.homecomm.net

Marc Dugas could be called the ultimate warrior.

The 6-foot-3, 325-pound right tackle for Northern Michigan University takes a no-nonsense, business-like approach to the game of football.

"Marc's not going to win any popularity contests," NMU coach Eric Holm said. "And I don't mean that in a negative way. He's not a blind follower. He's his own guy and has a certain way of going about his business."

"Sometimes he speaks his own mind and marches to a different drummer. But I know one thing, if somebody backs you into a corner, I want him on my side."

Despite a painful turf toe, suffered in the second game of the season, and a chipped bone in his foot, the Westland John Glenn High product managed to maneuver his size-16 feet en route to All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic League honors during his senior season.

The Wildcats finished 6-4 overall and 6-3 in the GLIAC.

"I'd say we played real well, everybody played pretty much up played to the best of their ability this season," said Dugas. "We were in every game the entire year and things look good for us next year. We have just about our entire offense back with the exception of one lineman."

Dugas is not one to toot his own horn. He puts his football decals (for good plays) in his locker, not on his helmet.

"I just like to play the game and work hard," he said. "I'm not huge into awards. I'm not trying to make the paper. I just figure if you work hard, then something good will come out of it."

It's the same approach Dugas used when he was at John Glenn.

During his senior year



"When we saw him (Marc Dugas) in high school he didn't have the perfect technique. But when we evaluated him we saw that he was very competitive and that he would battle."

Eric Holm
NMU football coach

(1996), the Rockets finished 11-1 before being ousted in the state Class AA semifinals.

"For coach (Chuck) Gordon (at Glenn) the only thing that matters is that you come and play hard every day," Dugas said. "And if you make that a priority, something good will happen."

"And you just have to treat people the way you want people to treat you."

Dugas is majoring in physics with an eye on an electrical engineering career.

"Marc is a very good student," Holm said. "The teachers really respect him for the work he does."

Adds Marc: "I'm not really playing to be a pro. It would be fun to get a chance, but I'm going to school to go to school."

Playing Division II football in Marquette wasn't a tough sell for Dugas.

"I really enjoyed my (recruiting) visit, they had a record snowfall amount that weekend," he recalled. "I like the snow. I've done some snowboarding and snow-shoeing. It's been great and I've enjoyed meeting all the new people."

Dugas, who was often limited in practice to one or two

days a week because of his foot problems, enjoyed his best game of the season Oct. 23 against Grand Valley State in a 52-14 victory. That's when he more than held his own against GLIAC Defensive Line-man of the Year Dan Gibbons, an All-Stater who played at Birmingham Brother Rice and Ohio State.

"Marc has ugly feet and it's no surprise he has foot problems," Holm said. "He would limp on and off the field, but when the whistle blew he managed to play very well."

"He brings some toughness whether he's hurt or not. He's just a tough, physical player. He's a brawler-type of offensive tackle."

Dugas didn't exactly knock the socks off the NMU coaches coming out of high school, but they liked some of his intangible qualities.

"When we saw him in high school he didn't have the perfect technique," Holm said. "But when we evaluated him we saw that he was very competitive and that he would battle."

Dugas is blue collar for sure with a warrior-like mentality

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Mat preview from page C1

said. "He went down to Ohio last year when Casey had a bad knee and did fairly well."

"I'm really happy we've got him for two more years. He's going to have to lose a couple of pounds to get down to 275, though."

In addition to Rogowski, the Shamrocks lost four other talented members of last year's 12-4 team which won the districts but lost in the regionals.

Brocc Naysmith, third in the state at 215 pounds, is gone along with John Abshire (171), Ryan Mathison (161) and Ryan Zajdel (145).

"This is going to be an exciting year," Rodriguez said. "We've got four seniors, three juniors, four sophomores and three freshmen."

"This is a relatively young team. They're fighters. I've been waiting for this to come along for some time. We have an excellent nucleus."

Catholic Central will be without junior Matt Williams for a week or two. The 215-pounder suffered an ankle injury in practice Nov. 29 and will be replaced temporarily by Andy Conlin, who moves up from 189 pounds.

Success is a relative thing for the Shamrocks as several of Rodriguez's competitors are brothers — or sons — of CC grapplers.

Rodriguez's pride is freshman Nathan Rodriguez — his grandson — who will wrestle at 135 pounds.

"He's from Grand Rapids," Mike Rodriguez said. "His father moved back so he could go to school here."

David Rodriguez, now assisting his father and helping coach his son, was a state championship wrestler in his time at CC.

Brocc Naysmith's sophomore brother Blake will be wrestling at 189 pounds for the Shamrocks. Junior Jason Hilliker is at 171.

Captain of the team is senior Mitch Hancock, at 160 pounds and who was second in the state a year ago with a 47-4 record and 31 pins. Hancock is 139-12 during his career.

"There's some strength there," Rodriguez said. "And at 152 is Sean Bell, a state qualifier."

Bell was third in the Observerland meet and second in the

Catholic League

Jason Abshire (yes, John's brother) is a 146-pound sophomore on the team, while freshman Mike Siwicki will wrestle at 130.

Sophomore Paul Hagan is at 125 and freshman Tim Mulroy at 119.

Junior Chris O'Hara, a Catholic League champion and regional qualifier, wrestles at 112, while Adam Stacey is at 103.

CC's first meet is today, an assembly match at state power Davison.

"I can't wait," Rodriguez said. "There will be 2,000 people there expecting to beat us pretty bad. They were one of the top four in the state last year and have just about everybody back."

The outcome should give a good early line on the strength of Rodriguez's squad.

Livonia Churchill

Livonia Churchill lost a terrific wrestler in Brandon LaPointe, who was seventh in the state at 152 pounds. LaPointe finished 41-8 a year ago and 92-26 for his career.

Fortunately, the Chargers have a more than capable replacement in Mike Carter, who moves up from 145 pounds where he was undefeated during the regular season.

He won 33 straight matches last season and is 75-25 for his career.

Carter will compete at 152 pounds after winning the districts at 145 last year. He was second of the regionals when he suffered a knee injury and was unable to continue.

The senior will be coach Marty Altounian's captain.

"We're going to be a young team," said Altounian, whose squad was 6-9 a year ago. "How good we are will depend on how quickly they learn together and start working together."

"The senior leadership is there."

Another of the key Chargers is Steve Abar, who will wrestle at 145 pounds.

It's too early to tell about the Charger wrestlers at the other weight classifications, Altounian said.

Livonia Franklin

The Patriots are under new management as Tony Venturini takes over for Gary Glashauser as head varsity coach.

Venturini brings with him impressive credentials.

He was a state champion at Romulus and went on to qualify for the NCAA meet three times at Eastern Michigan University.

Venturini was a two-time Mid-American Conference champion.

He was an assistant at Livonia Clarenceville, Belleville, Jackson and Romulus.

Venturini is working with 42 wrestlers, led by senior Eric Toska (171), who could be one of the area's best at his weight class.

Other returnees include senior Donald Hughes (152), senior Brian Walker (145), junior Lee Warren (135) and sophomore Steve Doig (130).

Both Walker and Warren, however, are out six to eight weeks with broken hands.

Freshman Chad Bennett (103) is a promising newcomer.

"We have some good guys on the team who are well disciplined," said Venturini, whose Patriots open the season Saturday with a four-way meet at White Lake-Lakeland.

Westland John Glenn

Second-year coach Keith Zimmerman calls this a rebuilding year, but notes that "through the middle weights, we'll be tough."

"We have a junior at 112 pounds, Chris Smith, who should be real good. But we're rebuilding. We have a young team."

At 119, John Glenn will have Jesse Purdon, while David Teets will wrestle at 125. Captain Jeff Albrecht is at 130 pounds, while Alan Waddell will wrestle at 135. Brother Evan Waddell will compete at 119 or 125.

Other wrestlers and their weight classifications include Ernie Guerrra (140), Matt Barker (145-152), Chris Wolfgang (160) plus Davin Hall (160-171) and sophomore Jack Seres (189).

Promising freshman candidates include Nick Naber at 103 and Enrique Garcia, who will compete someplace around 135 pounds.

"If we can get some bigger guys out," Zimmerman said, "that will help. We've got couple out but they're young."

Wayne Memorial

Coach Dave Davis is building for the future as the Zebras had a low turnout this season.

"We've got some young guys and we're going to watch them develop," Davis said. "We have a lot of promising kids in our junior high program, so you're going to see some good wrestlers in three or four years."

Wayne lost four grapplers to graduation including 135-pounder Nate Wenks, who was a regional qualifier and runner-up in the Mega Conference-White Division. Also gone is Kurt Spann (160), Ken Raupp (145) and Mike Kassabji (112).

The top returnee is senior Jon Gregg, a 125-pounder who will also see time at 119. Gregg was a regional qualifier who finished third in the Garden City Christmas Tournament.

"Jon looks solid and he's going to be tough to beat if he's at 119," Davis said.

Davis also likes what he sees in sophomore Bryan Marsh (130), junior Paul Goyt (119-125), sophomore Nick Smith (215) and freshman newcomer (Steve Wallace (160).

Meanwhile, sophomore Clinton Fry (152) won't be back until after the holidays because of a broken thumb.

Wayne opens its season tonight at rival Westland John Glenn.

"Once everybody gets healthy, I hope we can show good improvement," Davis said.

Livonia Clarenceville

Livonia Clarenceville has a new coach, but he's expecting the same old winning results from the Trojans.

Clint Kraft succeeds Todd Skinner as coach at Clarenceville and is looking to duplicate last year's 18-8 record.

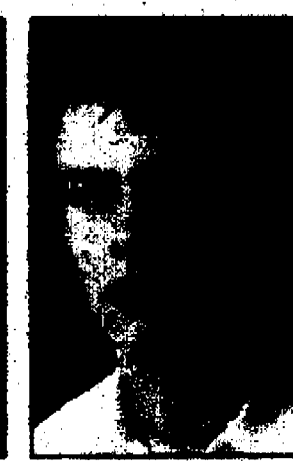
It won't be easy, what with state qualifiers David Lemmon



Josh Guterman
Livonia Stevenson



Mitch Hancock
Redford CC



Mike Carter
Livonia Churchill

(130) and Walter Ragland (189) graduated along with Tony Rachoza (160) and Adam Marcum (171).

"We do have those holes to fill," Kraft said. "We've lost four big seniors."

He thinks it will be possible to replace them with the experienced wrestlers he has returning.

"Basically," he said, "we're trying to build on what we did last year — win the Metro Conference, win team districts. Last year we came up short at team regionals, so that's a goal this year."

Kraft will have three year varsity wrestler Dan Tondreau at 112 pounds, with Nick Elam and Matt Combs battling for the 119 spot.

Returnees Dan LeClerc and Jeff Potter will battle at 145 while the 152-pound class belongs to George Gostias. Rob Simpson and Ryan Smith will wrestle off for the 160 berth.

The 171-pound spot is tentatively going to Redford Union transfer Tom O'Rourke while the returnee at 189 pounds is regional qualifier Kalen McPherson.

Steve Rotenheber returns at 215 while heavyweight Josh Rose is also back.

The Trojans are welcoming Ernest Reddie, a transfer from Pontiac Northern, at 130 pounds.

"He's a first-year wrestler," Kraft said, "but he's a heckuva

Lutheran Westland

This is "an unknown kind of season" at Lutheran High School Westland, according to veteran head coach Dennis Tuomi.

The Warriors have a smattering of returning wrestlers who competed for a 5-12 team.

Lutheran Westland has a fair amount of younger wrestlers and how well they can contribute will go a long way toward determining how the Warriors finish.

"I don't think we have anyone we can see in any tournament," Tuomi said.

One of Tuomi's interesting unknowns is Josh Franschke, a transfer from Fort Wayne (Ind.) who will compete at 130 or 135 pounds. "We'll see how good he is," Tuomi said.

The Warriors will have Josh Meyer at 215 and James Molnar at 171, provided he can be effective at that weight.

Other veterans on the Lutheran Westland squad include Matt Shumard (119), Brian Richard (112), Adam Haller (125), T. J. Murphy (130), Dan Unger (152), Jon Burker (189) and Kevin Packard at 275.

"We'll be missing only a couple of weights," Tuomi said, "but they're young prospective wrestlers."

Rick Shook also contributed to this week's high school wrestling report.

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Farmington Unified rolls, 7-2

Matt Lee scored three goals and assisted on one Tuesday as unbeaten Farmington defeated host Plymouth Salem in prep hockey, 7-2.

Brad Heraghty put two goals in the net for the Flyers, who are 4-0 overall and 2-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

At the Plymouth Cultural Center, Farmington had single goals from Brian Marion, who scored on a penalty shot after a Salem player covered the puck in the crease, Chris Hone and Preston Picard.

Ross Patterson had two assists, Heraghty, Mike Frayne, Scott Salomonson and Kirk Laird recorded one assist apiece.

"We're on a roll right now and playing well," Farmington coach Glenn Breuhan said. "This wasn't one of our best outings. The Matt Lee and Brad Heraghty line played well."

"The puck took some funny bounces. It came off the boards in some strange ways. They have fiber glass boards. If it hits low, it comes off quickly; if it hits higher, it just seems to fall down.

"Overall, we're pleased. We played well, all things considered."

Dan Valentine and Mark Nagel scored the Salem goals. Andrew Peters and Brad Proodian assisted. Farmington led 2-1 after one period and 5-1 after two.

The Flyers outshot the Rocks 19-7, 14-9 and 22-5 by periods. Chris Tobe played the first two periods in goal for the Flyers and Greg Diven the third.

Farmington has a big WLAA game Friday with Livonia Franklin at Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia. Faceoff is at 6 p.m.

Shutout by Dumbo spurs OC

Redford Central's senior goaltender Dan Dumbo recorded his first shutout on Saturday in a 3-0 victory over Blyth, N.Y. St. Joseph at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook.

The game was scoreless through two periods before senior forward Joe Moreau scored, assisted by Mike Ratigan, 48 seconds into the third period.

Rick Buttery made the score 2-0 with a goal assisted by Ryan Lasecki and Andrew Eggert less than two minutes later.

The Shamrocks completed the scoring with an empty-net goal by Dave Moss, assisted by Jim Spiewak and Brian Williams, with 50 seconds remaining.

The Shamrocks are 2-1 overall, the only loss coming to the Red Wings' Alumni in the season opener, heading into Saturday's game against Livonia Churchill at Redford Ice Arena.

Game time is 8 p.m.

CC coach Gordie St. John said St. Joseph was a good early-season test.

"They tired out a little bit (in the third period)," St. John said. "They're a very good team. We're still moving lines around, mixing and matching."

Windsor Spitfires gain win against Plymouth Whalers

OHL REPORT

A third-period rally was too little and too late for the Plymouth Whalers, who lost 5-3 to the Windsor Spitfires Sunday in an Ontario Hockey League game in Windsor.

The loss snapped the Whalers' four-game winning streak and dropped them below .500, at 12-13-3; they have played a league-leading 28 games. Windsor is 16-6-1 and is second in the OHL's West Division with 34 points, one behind the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds. Plymouth is third with 28 points.

The Whalers had the early lead when Shaun Fisher scored the first of his two power-play goals at the 11:40 mark of the opening period, with assists from Justin Williams and Stephen Weiss.

However, it took Windsor just 19 seconds to tie it at 1-1, with Blair Stayzer getting the goal.

Craig Mahon's first goal of the season 5:57 into the second period put the Spits up 2-1. A pair of power-play goals in the first 10:19 of the final period, scored by Steve Ott and Patrick Finnegan, increased their advantage to 4-1.

Plymouth made it interesting by scoring twice in a three-minute span, narrowing Windsor's lead to 4-3. Fisher got the first (his seventh of the season) at the 15:07 juncture; Tomas Kurka assisted.

Randy Fitzgerald got the second at the 17:58 mark; again, Weiss and Williams received assists.

But the Spits put the game away with Ott's empty-net goal, assisted by Mahon, scored with 16 seconds left.

Rob Zepp made 16 saves in goal for Plymouth. Ryan Aschaber had 21 stops for Windsor.

On Saturday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena, the Whalers

got the game-winning goal from Eric Goody with 1:34 remaining in the second period, then rode Zepp's goal-tending and some fine defense to a 2-1 victory over the Peterborough Petes.

All the scoring came in the second period.

Fisher put Plymouth on top, scoring at the 2:41 mark with assists from Goody and Kris Vernarsky. The Petes tied it at 1-1 when Jason Williams scored on the power play with 7:11 elapsed in the period.

Goody's game-winner came 10:15 later, with Steve Morris and Damian Surma assisting.

Mike Pickard made 32 saves in goal for Peterborough. Zepp faced 19 shots for Plymouth, stopping 18 of them.

Whalers chosen

Members of the Plymouth Whalers will have quite a prominent position in the upcoming World Hockey Challenge Tournament, which features under-17 teams from five regions in Canada, the U.S., Slovakia, Russia, the Czech Republic, Russia and Finland.

Steve Sprott, the assistant coach and assistant general manager for the Whalers, was chosen as the head coach of Team Ontario. He will be assisted by Kitchener Rangers assistant coach Jeff Snyder.

Named to the team is current Whaler Steve Weiss. Weiss leads Plymouth in scoring with eight goals and 19 assists for 27 points.

The tournament runs Dec. 28-Jan. 3, with Team Ontario opening against Slovakia Dec. 28 in New Liskeard, Ont.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

YOUTH HOCKEY CHAMPIONS

The Livonia Knights, a Bantam AA travel team, defeated 1999 state champion Darien, Ill., 3-2, to capture the Chicago Thanksgiving Classic Sunday at Edge Ice Arena.

J.T. Katikos tallied the game-winning goal to break a 2-2 deadlock with 4:43 left in the final period.

Other members of the Knights include: Derrick Woodring, Tom Zagata, Tom Boloven, Chris Ryan, Keith Hay, Pat Col-dren, Bret Veasey, Mike McCray, Tony Peraino, Brandon Getchen, Rodger Moody, Adam Miller, Joe Canike, Scott Sparks, Ryan Vandette and Kyle Susewitz.

The coaching staff includes Jim Boloven, Ted Katikos, Greg Getchen and Dave Susewitz.

The Bantam B Canucks of the Livonia Hockey Association finished 4-0 to win the Great Lakes Sports City Thanksgiving Tournament of Champions at Belle Tire Arena in Fraser.

Goalie Gabe Villarruel posted two shutouts during the tournament run capped by an overtime win over the Belle Tire Ice Pirates.

Assistant captain Evan Hayes tallied the championship-game winning goal in OT on a breakaway clearing pass from defenseman Scott Witte. Center Matt Rose also assisted on the game-winner.

Other members of the Canucks include: Dennis Reetz, captain; Alex Villarruel, assistant captain; Mike Perri, Dave Patterson, Dan Richard, Mike Gardner, Reed Klaff, Nick Kasaba, Chris Coluccelli, Matt Petty, David Giandiletti and Mike Bialaski.

The coaching staff includes Bob Witte, Chris Hynes and Kevin Klaff. The team manager is Pat Hynes.

AAU GIRLS BASKETBALL TRYOUTS

The Livonia Lasers and Livonia Lightning Basketball Club are combining programs to create a premier girls AAU club.

Tryouts for ages 10-13 will be Saturday, Dec. 11 at the Bentley Center, located at Five Mile and Hubbard roads, at the following times: 3-4:30 p.m. (10-and-under); 4:30-6 p.m. (11-and-under); 6-7:30 p.m. (12-and-under); 7:30-9:30 p.m. (13-and-under).

Tryouts for ages 14-16 will be Saturday, Dec. 18 at the St. Edith Gym, located on Newburgh just south of Five Mile Road, at the following times: 9-10:30 a.m. (14-and-under); 10:30-noon (15-and-under); noon-1:30 p.m. (16-and-under).

There will be \$10 tryout fee. For more information, call Patrick Cannon at (734) 953-0854.

WYAA HOOP SIGNUP

Late registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association (all age groups) will be from 10 a.m. until noon at the Lange Compound, and from noon to 4 p.m. during tryouts Saturday, Dec. 4 at the Bailey Center.

Age groups included are Right Start (7-8), Freshman (9-10), Junior (11-12), Varsity (13-14) and Senior (15 and up).

For more information, call Jody Richardson at (734) 459-9975 or Keith DeMolay at (734) 722-1251.

LIVONIA YMCA BASKETBALL CAMP

The Livonia Family YMCA is accepting registrations for its basketball camp, noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18.

Parents can finish Christmas shopping while their children learn the fundamentals and rules of the game.

Children ages 5-7 and 8-9 will also participate in character development exercises.

Building member fee is \$30, while the non-member fee is \$50 (no program membership required).

For more information, call the sports department at (734) 261-2161, Ext. 3324 or 3309.

HURRICANE SWIMMING TEAM TRIALS

The Hurricane swim team, a competitive team for kids, is seeking boys and girls that can swim 25 yards of any stroke.

For a free trial week, call Monica at (734) 728-7558 or Melissa at (734) 422-3297.

SPORTS ACADEMY HOLIDAY CAMPS

The Sports Academy, 22515 Heslip Drive, Novi, will hold two separate holiday baseball/softball camps specializing in hitting, pitching and fielding.

The baseball camp (ages 9-17) will be from 9 a.m. until noon, Tuesday through Thursday, Dec. 28-30, at the SoccerZone, located at the corner of Grand River and Meadowbrook, in Novi.

Former Montreal Expo pitching farmand Aaron Knaeper, along with Tampa Bay Devil Rays scout Chris Newell will be in attendance.

The registration fee is \$85 or \$70 for each additional family member.

The softball camp (ages 10-17) will be from 1-4 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, Dec. 28-30, at the Sports Academy, the fee is \$75.

Space is limited. For more information, call (248) 380-0800, Ext. 112.

YOUTH BASEBALL PLAYERS WANTED

The WaCo Wolves 14- and 12-and-under travel baseball teams will be holding tryouts for qualified players for the 200 season.

The team will travel to at least two out-of-state tournaments.

For more information for ages 13-14, call Lou at (734) 592-2975; for 11-12, call Bill at (313) 562-4667.

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MU splits in Indiana

The Madonna University women's basketball team got off to a slow start at last weekend's Taylor University Tournament, but the Lady Crusaders managed to salvage a split in their two games in Upland, Ind.

Unfortunately, the off-court news was worse. Kathy Panganis, Madonna's leading scorer, suffered a torn anterior cruciate in her knee and is lost for the season.

On Friday, the aforementioned slow start was condensed into the opening half. Madonna fell behind Spring Arbor College 40-28 by halftime and never recovered, eventually bowing 71-63.

Poor shooting wrecked the Crusaders. They converted just 29-of-77 floor shots (37.7 percent); worse, they made just 3-of-14 three-point tries (21.4 percent) and were 2-of-7 from the free-throw line (28.6 percent).

The Cougars hit 28-of-67 shots from the field, and were 5-of-12 on threes (41.7 percent) and 10-of-14 on free throws (71.4 percent).

Madonna had the edge on the boards, outrebounding Spring Arbor 49-46.

Lori Enfield led Madonna with 20 points and 13 rebounds, eight of them offensive. Chris Dietrich added 12 points and four assists; Kristi Fiorenzi (from Plymouth Canton) had 10 points and eight rebounds; and Carissa Gizicki had six points, five assists and four steals.

Spring Arbor was paced by Kristin Denkert, who scored 22 points.

That win, combined with their 86-83 triumph over host Taylor in the tournament final on Saturday, boosted the Cougars' overall record to 5-2. Madonna's consolation victory Saturday over Olivet College, 74-61, left the Crusaders with a 4-3 record.

Shooting was again the key factor in Madonna's win over the Comets, but this time it favored the Crusaders. They made 27-of-62 from the floor (43.5 percent) and were 7-of-15 on three-pointers (46.7 percent). They made 13-of-21 free throws (61.9 percent).

Olivet was 18-of-61 from the floor (29.5 percent). Madonna led 35-28 at halftime. The Crusaders forced 17 turnovers in the game while committing 13 and had a slight edge in rebounding (43-41). They also had 20 assists to the Comets 10, led by Gizicki with seven and Dietrich with six.

Indeed, it was an impressive performance for Gizicki, a sophomore from Riverview, Gabriel Richard. She hit all seven of her floor shots (and her only three-pointer) and all four of her free throws, made two steals and had just two turnovers.

Dietrich added 15 points and Enfield had 14 points and 10 rebounds.

Olivet got 20 points and eight rebounds from Tascha Carr.

BEST DEALS OF THE YEAR!

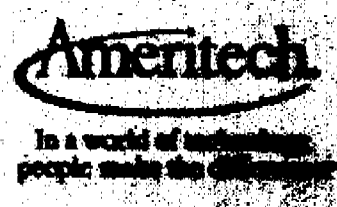
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Gate space at Metro Airport may double with renovations

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

Gate space for airlines competing with Northwest Airlines may double once renovations are completed some time after 2001 at existing terminals at Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport.

Northwest is expected to relocate its Detroit hub operations in 2001 to the new 74-gate, 2-million-square-foot midfield terminal under construction. Northwest's move will give other airlines a chance to occupy gate space in the Smith and Davey terminals.

On Nov. 23, Wayne County commissioners approved a \$2.3-million contract with Landrum & Brown of Cincinnati for planning and consultant services for the renovation of the existing terminal complex of the Davey, Berry and Smith terminals.

The consulting firm will examine Metro's existing terminal space for renovations, said airport spokesman Mike Conway. The study is expected to take a year.

"One question that will be looked at is what are we going to do with the Smith Terminal once Northwest moves," Conway said. That move won't occur until late in 2001, and any renovations would follow Northwest's move.

Northwest Airlines uses 60 gates in the existing terminals because Metro is one of Northwest's three hubs. County commissioners were recently told airlines competing with Northwest now use 20 gates, which could increase to as many as 40.

When the \$1.2 billion midfield terminal opens in late 2001, it will have 74 gates, 18 luggage carousels, an 11,000-space parking garage and an automated people-mover system. The terminal will contain a main ticketing hall, a customs area to handle 3,200 passengers per hour, east and west concourses, a connecting link and pedestrian tunnel.

Gates A, C, E and G at the Smith and Davey terminals will



Laptop Lane: Work stations such as this at Metro Airport will make it easier for travelers to do business.

be demolished, according to the project development agreement between Wayne County and Northwest calls.

Part of the Landrum & Brown study will examine the gate usage at the existing terminal complex and what gate space competing airlines want, Conway said. "They also will look at what we want to make this complex in terms of its amenities in relationship with the new terminal, and where to put concessions," Conway said.

Consultants are expected to propose to county officials 15 to 20 alternatives on terminal usage. Consultants also will report on the best methods to obtain public comment on the existing terminal usage, Conway said.

Other Metro carriers include Mesaba with 12 gates. Continental/America West, Delta and Southwest each have four gates. American, U.S. Airways and United each have three gates.

Spirit recently opened two new gates, while Southwest opened its four in a renovated concourse at the Smith Terminal.

Northwest says it flies 70 percent of the passengers at Metro if connecting traffic is included, but airport officials point out that out of originating and destination flights, other carriers control 55 percent of that market.

Laptop Lane opens

Business travelers can now use laptop computers in a special airport concession that opened

Tuesday at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport.

Laptop Lane Inc. features seven private offices with a connection for laptop computers, a desktop personal computer, laser printer, fax machine, modem jack, a multi-line telephone with free long distance anywhere in North America and T-1 access to the Internet. Seven-foot walls and doors that can lock allow passengers to leave their belongings and take a break.

Laptop Lane is in the L.C. Smith Terminal lobby across from the United Airlines ticket counter. It features seven private offices, each with 40-square-foot of high-tech workspace, one conference room and a cyber-concierge (a personal office assistant able to help with equipment operation, network assistance and general questions).

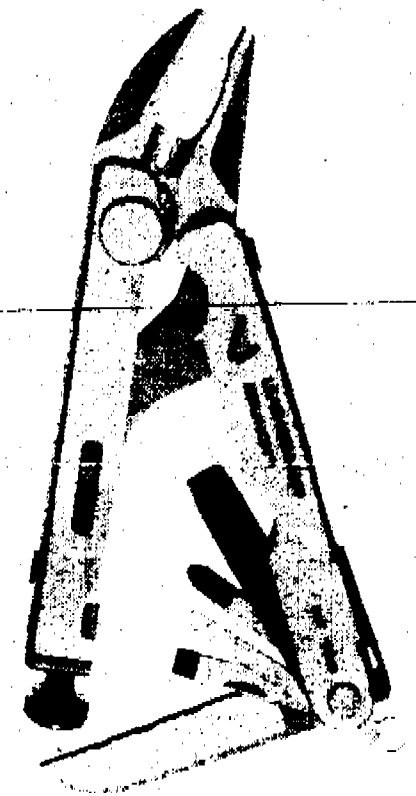
The offices rent for \$2 for the first five minutes, and 38 cents for each additional minute. An hour's worth of work costs users \$23. Users also have access to photocopying, a color printer, shipping services, conference room rentals and color scanning. Users can buy mobile communication products.

The airport will receive 12 percent of Laptop Lane's gross revenue.

Laptop Lane has other airport business centers in major airports in Atlanta, Chicago, Cincinnati, Denver, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Seattle and Tampa.

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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



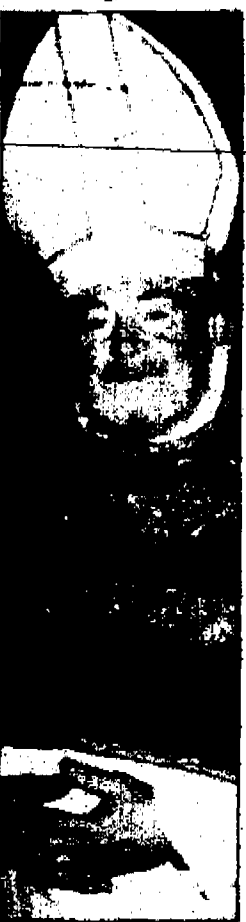
The Detroit Symphony Orchestra presents an all-Baroque music program "Bach and Handel" featuring Ramon Parcels, DSO principal trumpet, 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m. at Orchestra Hall in Detroit. Tickets \$14 to \$62, call (313) 576-5111.

SATURDAY



Bethany Yarrow joins her father Peter Yarrow, of Peter, Paul and Mary folk music fame, for a Hanukkah concert 8 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El, 14450 W. 10 Mile Road, Oak Park. Tickets \$10 for Jewish Community Center members, \$15 for non-members, call (248) 967-4030.

SUNDAY



St. Nicholas will hand out treats to children, and tell holiday stories, 2 p.m. in the Galeria of the Orchard Lake Schools, Orchard Lake Road at Commerce Road, during Polish Day. Polish American diners will be available for purchase in the campus dining hall (\$8 adults, \$4 children) after a 1 p.m. mass in Polish. Call (248) 682-1885 for information.



Not Miss The 1999 Holiday Walk at Meadow Brook Hall through Sunday, Dec. 5 puts a French accent on the celebration of the season. Titled "The French Collection," the walk features works of fine and decorative art by French artists and makers displayed among holiday decorations throughout the elegant mansion on the Oakland University campus. Admission \$12 adults, \$6 children ages 3 to 12, no charge for children age 2 and under, \$6 for OU students, staff and faculty with ID. Kids' Cottage admission \$1 for adults and children. Meadow Brook Hall is off Adams, south of Walton. Call (248) 370-3140 for information.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL LE POUER TRENCH

Starry Night: The Cantata Academy light up Detroit's University Cultural Center with song on Noel Night.

NOEL NIGHT

A holiday wonderland

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

Mark Perrine expects the Cathedral Church of St. Paul's stained glass windows and Gothic architecture to set an awe-inspiring mood as the Schoolcraft College Community Choir sings traditional seasonal favorites along with Mozart's "Regina Coeli" and Rachmaninoff's "Ave Maria" during Noel Night Saturday, Dec. 4.

But overall, Perrine is much too modest about the role the 50-voice group, now in its 35th season, plays in turning the University Cultural Center into a holiday wonderland.

"We're just part of the festivities," said Perrine, a Redford resident who directs the choir based at Schoolcraft in Livonia.

Outside the cathedral, it will begin to look a lot like Christmas as hundreds of handbell ringers, singers and actors share the spirit of the season through music and stories. Listen to the ringers from St. Paul Royal Oak Lutheran Bell Choir or a cappella groups. The Grunjons and Spartan Dischords, take a horse-drawn carriage ride, watch as Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer lights the trees then join in the community sing-along. The best part of this 27-year tradition is that nearly all of it is free.

The Festival Singers, led by Sharon Thomas, a Waterford voice teacher, bring to life Charles Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" 7:30 p.m. after the tree lighting ceremony at the city of Detroit Bandstand on Woodward Avenue. At the Detroit Institute of Arts, Michael Mitchell, director of Choral

Activities at Oakland University in Rochester, conducts the Cantata Academy in selections from its newly released Christmas recording "Born This Day." The group, which has sung with every major orchestra in the area including the Detroit Symphony recently returned from its 13th concert tour of Europe.

"There's so much to do to get you in the holiday spirit," said Connie Mullet, executive director of the University Cultural Center Association. "In keeping with our theme, 'Starry Night,' three planetariums will be open at the Children's Museum, Old Main (Wayne State University), and the Detroit Science Center. I think that will be fun. There will be Santas everywhere. Beforehand, you can enjoy the DSO's performance of Handel's 'Messiah' at Orchestra Hall then come over to Noel Night."

The Detroit Artists Market joins in Noel Night fun for the first time. Due to construction at their new space in the Cultural Center, the nonprofit gallery hosts a reception in Suite 107 of the Park Shelton Apartments, at the corner of Woodward and Kirby. A diverse selection of works by more than 100 artists will be available for those who'd like to shop for holiday gifts.

"Noel Night"

WHAT: The 27th annual event rings in the holidays with carolers, street theater, handbell ringers, choirs, a tree-lighting ceremony, sing-along, and horse-drawn carriage rides.

WHEN: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4.

WHERE: Detroit's Cultural Center (bounded by Ferry Street on the north, Forest on the east, and Cass Avenue on the west). For more information or a schedule of events, call (313) 577-5088.

■ Parking in the Cultural Center and Detroit Science Center lots on John R. and underground garage on Farnsworth east of Woodward. Free shuttles run continuously throughout the evening.

The littlest of Noel Night visitors will love taking part in a Matrix Theatre Company workshop/performance of "Woman Who Outshone the Sun" at 6 p.m. in the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Based on a Mexican folk tale, the play features a 10-foot puppet played by Cara Grammer who walks on stilts. For more information, call Shaun Nethercott at (313) 967-0999.

"It's interactive," said Mullett. "There are these huge puppets and the children can jump right in."

Some highlights

■ Schoolcraft College Community Choir, 7 p.m. at Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward Ave.

■ Tree Lighting Ceremony featuring the a cappella group the Spartan Dischords at 6 p.m. followed by Festival Singers performing "A Christmas Carol" at 7:30 p.m. and a Community Sing-Along, 8:30 p.m. at the city of Detroit Bandstand on Woodward Avenue.

■ Marygrove College Dance Detroit, 6:15 p.m. followed by the Cantata Academy at 7:45 p.m. in Prentiss Court at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward

■ Detroit Symphony Orchestra's performance of Handel's "Messiah" at Orchestra Hall, 3 p.m. at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward. Evening classical series features "Bach and Handel" at 8:30 p.m. For tickets, call (313) 576-5111.

■ Horse-drawn carriage and sleigh rides depart every 10 minutes, 5-9 p.m., from the front of the Park Shelton, 15 E. Kirby at Woodward. \$6, \$3 children.

■ Wayne State University's Bonstelle and Hilberly Theatres, "Romeo and Juliet" at the Bonstelle at 8 p.m. and Neil Simon's "Laughter on the 23rd Floor" 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Call (313) 577-2960.

■ Maggie Allosee Dance Studio performs excerpts from "A Detroit Nutcracker" 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in WSU's Old Main, 4841 Cass Avenue.

■ Old fashioned southern Christmas with Appalachian carols and spirituals as sung in the old south at Heritage Museum's Fine Arts Center, 110 E. Ferry.

■ 86th annual Gold Medal Exhibition at the Scarab Club, 217 E. Farnsworth. A cappella performances by The Grunjons, 7:30 p.m., and Spartan Dischords, 8:15 p.m. Jambalaya dinner by Union Street served 5-8:30 p.m.

■ Made an evening of it by having dinner at the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Detroit Women's Club (4605 Brush) or First Congregational Church (33 E. Forest). First Unitarian Universalist Church (4605 Cass) serves pizza by the slice beginning at 5 p.m.

'Forbidden Christmas' delivers lots of holiday hoo-ha

"Forbidden Christmas" continues through Friday, Dec. 31, at Detroit's Century Theatre, located in the same building as the Gem Theatre, 333 Madison Ave. at Brush, Detroit. Performances 1:30 p.m. Wednesday and Sunday; 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday; 8:30 p.m. Friday; 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday; and 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets \$24.50 to \$34.50, call (313) 963-9800 or Ticketmaster (248) 645-6666.

BY JULIE YOLLES
SPECIAL WRITER

The proof is still in the spoof. After eight blockbuster months at the Gem Theatre, the musical comedy satire "Forbidden Hollywood" closed on Nov. 14. Just three days later, its holiday sibling "Forbidden Christmas" took its place at the historic cabaret theater and promises some hilarious yuletide cheer through New Year's Eve.

The brainchildren of Ohio and

Drama Desk Award-winner Gerard Alessandrini, "Forbidden Hollywood," "Forbidden Broadway" and "Forbidden Christmas" have all been huge crowd-pleasers at the Gem Theatre.

While "Forbidden Hollywood" parodied summer movies, "Forbidden Christmas" now playing at the Century Theatre, takes fun jabs at the newest holiday movies such as "Music of the Heart," "Pokemon," and "Toy Story 2." Look forward to a Broadway Christmas Carol narrated by the original Christmas Carol Channing and some pun-dities from the "Little Drummer Boy," Barbra Streisand, Luciano Pavarotti, Nat King Cole, the "Lion King" and Ricky Martin, who's "Lavin' La Christmas Loca."

Oh, holy note: "This show skewers everything whether it's Hollywood or Broadway. It's a veritable hodge-podge of holiday hoo-ha," laughs Mark-David Kaplan,

who co-directed the production with John Freedson.

Though he was a name without a face for "Forbidden Christmas," he was several faces with celebrity names in "Forbidden Hollywood," including Roberto Benigni, Austin Powers and Gene Kelly.

"There's no brain surgery involved with these shows," adds Kaplan. "They're total irreverent fun."

That's what Kate Willinger thought six years ago when she was called in to audition for "Forbidden Christmas," a show she had never seen in all her years of living in New York.

"I didn't even know what the show was back then. I was hysterically laughing," said Willinger, who moved from New York to Auburn Hills a year and a half ago.

But she auditioned and got the role.

Please see MOO-HA, E2



Spooft: The cast of "Forbidden Christmas" bring hilarious yuletide cheer to the Century Theatre.

Local dancers step to annual 'Nutcracker' tradition

As common as holiday songs, shopping and anticipation of snow are the annual productions of the "Nutcracker" ballet, and performances of Handel's Messiah.

Professional, community and student dance companies all participate in the perennial tradition.

The following is a list of current and upcoming productions of "The Nutcracker."

■ "The Harlem Nutcracker," choreographed by Donald Byrd - 3 & 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, Detroit Opera House, Madison Avenue at Broadway, Detroit. (800) 221-1229

■ "Michigan Ballet Theatre with guests from American Ballet Theatre - 2 & 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, Lake Orion High School Center for the Performing Arts, 455 East Scripps Road, Lake Orion. (248) 652-3117

■ Michigan Classic Ballet - 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, Mercy Auditorium, Farmington Hills. (248) 334-6964

■ Detroit Symphony Orchestra

with Ballet Internationale Thursday, Dec. 9 to Sunday, Dec. 19, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway. (313) 576-5111/(313) 874-SING.

■ Contemporary Civic Ballet - 3:30 p.m. Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 11-12, featuring local dancers from tri-county area, and New York City ballet soloist Arch Higgins. Kimball High School Auditorium, east of Crooks, north of 13 Mile Road, Royal Oak. (248) 641-9063.

■ Livonia Civic Ballet, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Clarenceville High School Auditorium, 20165 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. \$13, \$10 students/students, \$8 ages 5-9. (734) 427-9103.

■ Livonia Symphony Orchestra with Dearborn Ballet Theatre, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh, north of Joy Road, Livonia. \$16, \$10 students/children. (734) 421-1111/(734) 464-2741.

■ Plymouth Symphony Orchestra with Plymouth Can-

ton Ballet Company, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road and Canton Center, Canton. \$17 adults/seniors, \$10 students K-12, and \$5 Sugar Plum Teas that follow Saturday-Sunday matinees. (734) 451-2112.

The following is a list of current performances of Handel's Messiah.

■ Fort Street Chorale - 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 at Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort St., Detroit. (313) 961-4533.

■ The UMS Choral Union performs 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 at Hill Auditorium, 825 North University Ave., Ann Arbor. (734) 764-2538.

■ The Detroit Symphony Orchestra with the University of Michigan Chamber Choir and select vocalists - 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 4-5, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$15 to \$68, call (313) 576-5111.



Variation: Choreographer Donald Byrd has transformed the holiday ballet classic into a celebration of African-American culture, featuring Duke Ellington's arrangement of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite.

Hoo-Ha from page E1

anyway and the chance to play Barbra Streisand and Tiny Annie, whom she recreates for this show; along with Doris Day, Mary Martin as Peter Pan, Judy Garland, Liza Minnelli, Kathie Lee and Pokemon - that round, huggable barrel of yellow felt and foam, Pikachu.

Got bless you everyone.

Favorite character

"Tiny Annie is my favorite character because she's so ridiculous. I'm shameless," said Willinger. "Usually as an actress, you have to be truthful, honest and in the moment, but here, I make it broad and over-the-top."

"Sometimes, when I come off stage after being Pokemon or

Tiny Annie, I joke to myself, 'I'm so glad I went to graduate school for this.' But it's truly a lot of fun. It's a great exercise in concentration."

Super-quick costume and character changes (more than 15) could cause deja vu for Willinger, who learned to appreciate the miracle of Velcro when she opened the Gem season in "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change" in its new location at 333 Madison Avenue.

When Willinger first performed in "Forbidden Broadway," it was at the original Gem location at 62 East Columbia. In October of 1997, the Gem Theatre embarked on a five-and-a-half-block move which resulted

in being entered in the Guinness Book of World Records as "the heaviest building moved on wheels."

Was it weird performing in the same theater but a different location? "At first it was bizarre," Willinger remembers. "I kept heading for the dressing room, but ended up at the wall. There was no door where there used to be doors."

Understudy

Performing at the Gem has opened new doors for Eric Gutman who, along with his parents, Howard and Karen Gutman, petitioned to bring back the dormant musical theater program

at Harrison High School in Farmington when Gutman was a student there. After graduating with a bachelor of fine arts degree in musical theater performance from Western Michigan University in April 1999, Gutman was all packed and ready to do summer stock in Indiana before relocating to Chicago. Then he got the call from a friend who had recommended Gutman for an understudy role in "Forbidden Hollywood."


"My whole life got flipped upside down in a matter of six days," recalls Gutman, who turned 22 on Nov. 23. "I graduated on April 24, 1999, saw 'Forbidden Hollywood' on the 28th and got hired on the 30th."

As the understudy in "Forbidden Hollywood" and "Forbidden Christmas," Gutman covers for both male roles (currently played by Lance Roberts of Los Angeles and Kevin McGlynn of New York) and gets to play Whoopi Goldberg, Frank Sinatra, Louie Armstrong and even Teyte from "Fiddler on the Roof," who longs to get into the Christmas act by singing "If I Were a Gentile" (a role that the nice Jewish Gutman is sure to have down pat).

Though he's already gone on 42 times, Gutman is required by contract to watch the show two times a week and be on call.

Have cell phone, pager and home phone, will travel. As should you, straight to "Forbidden Christmas." Bah humbug.

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Pablo Picasso Woman with Harlot September 1956

All works by Pablo Picasso ©1999 Estate of Pablo Picasso/Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

This exhibition has been organized by the Norton Simon Museum and the U.S. & R. Currier for Visual Arts at Stanford University. The exhibition has been made possible by a generous grant from JF and John Friederich.

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Sunday, Dec. 5, 4:00 p.m.	Sunday, Dec. 19, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 5, 8:00 p.m.	Sunday, Dec. 19, 8:00 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 6, 8:00 p.m.	Monday, Dec. 20, 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 7, 8:00 p.m.	Tuesday, Dec. 21, 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 8, 8:00 p.m.	Wednesday, Dec. 22, 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 9, 8:00 p.m.	Thursday, Dec. 23, 8:00 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 10, 8:00 p.m.	Friday, Dec. 24, 8:00 p.m.
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The 29th annual fair takes place 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at Oakland Community College, Building H, Farmington Hills. (734) 662-3382.

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD ART CENTER

Weekends of special holiday sales. The "Small Works" fine art sale runs through Thursday, December 30 in the DeSalle Community Gallery with more than 200 works priced under \$300. 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 Cranbrook Road, Birmingham. (248) 844-0886.

GALERIE DE BOICOURT

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

NATIVE WEST

The 10th annual art & jewelry festival is Sunday, Dec 5 at 863 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth. (734) 455-8838.

A Christmas classic takes George Bailey to the stage

Plymouth Theatre Guild presents a stage version of the holiday classic, "It's A Wonderful Life" 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 3-4, at the Watertown Theatre on the campus of the Northville Psychiatric Hospital, 41001 W. Seven Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. Tickets \$10, \$7 students ages 18 and under. Call (248) 349-7110 or visit their Web site at www.causeway.com/ptg.

BY SUE SUCHYTA
SPECIAL WRITER

The Plymouth Theatre Guild's production of James W. Rodgers' holiday classic, "It's A Wonderful Life" is an adaptation of the Frank Capra film, based on the story by Philip Van Doren Stern. It follows the film closely, with simpler sets but the immediacy of live theater.

It's Christmas Eve 1945, and George Bailey, the owner of a small-town savings and loan devastated by an impending financial disaster, is on the verge of taking his life. As he crouches on a bridge ready to jump, Clarence, an angel intent on earning his wings, reminds him, through a series of flashbacks, how different life would be if he had never lived.

First-time director Kristin Curle has assembled a large and enthusiastic cast. The chorus made the most of their roles, and in every crowd scene each person was in character, lending their own individual vignette to the overall mood of the production. The opening scene of carolers

lent a festive touch to the production, as did their closing song "Auld Lang Syne."

Dennis Hubel is a wonderful George Bailey. Jimmy Stewart is a hard act to follow, but Hubel captured the character's affability and down-home charm. He was likable without being slick, humble without being deprecating. Hubel's Bailey moved easily from being a young man to a father.

Hubel created a strong chemistry with Marlene Landry, who played Mary, his girlfriend, then wife. Landry made Mary her own, and filled the stage with her effervescent presence during her scenes. She gave her character grace and a loving, forgiving heart - characteristics which attracted George Bailey and established her as a woman of poise and compassion.

Delores Pearson is wonderful as Mother Bailey, a Midwest patriarch with common sense and homespun charm. Her quiet presence captured the character's essence and brought warmth to her words.

Dennis Brunzell as Clarence, George's guardian angel, captured the enthusiasm of the role but seemed impatient to get through some of his longer speeches, rattling them off as if they were difficult to endure. At times he was right on target with his characterization, but at times he lost his commanding presence and merely delivered his lines.

Chris Dorais is a very convincing Henry Potter, and one wouldn't know he wasn't as old as his



Holiday tradition: The Plymouth Theatre Guild rehearses a scene from "It's a Wonderful Life," the James W. Rodgers' story about a man who gets his wish to have never been born.

character until the stage makeup came off. Potter, the conniving and wealthy power broker in George's hometown, wheels and deals to either control or destroy Bailey Savings and Loan. Dorais played the unscrupulous business mogul with ruthlessness and finesse.

Mr. Potter's serious scenes with George Bailey, however,

were compromised by the mugging and fidgeting of his nurse, played by teenager Vanessa Hubel (whose father plays George Bailey). Hubel obviously inherited her father's acting talent, but - lacking a role to showcase it - overacted in her part, playing with her stethoscope,

snapping gum, reacting with exaggerated facial expressions. She'll be wonderful in a larger role, but as the nurse she should have quietly faded into the background during the intense scenes of conflict between Bailey and Potter. Director Curle made a bad call instructing the nurse to

provide distracting comic relief.

The children in the cast were enthusiastic and full of energy, especially George's and Mary's children, played by Paul and Erik Luoma, Sara Curle, and Katie Schremser.

Technically, the production staff needs to smooth out their routine. The lighting crew, which is unable to gradually dim the houselights, needs to flick the lights or warn the audience of the impending plunge into darkness.

The sound system was inconsistent and echoing. Suspended microphones picked up the character's voices intermittently and only some of the characters on stage, creating a weird echoing effect, especially during the first act. While George Bailey's voice was booming from the speakers, the voices of other characters came from the stage unamplified. The characters really didn't need amplification.

The costumes were well done and authentic to the era, right down to the seam in the ladies' stockings. The old-fashioned telephones were a nice touch, as was the wicker wheelchair. The "Bailey Savings and Loan" sign, though, appeared to be hastily painted, a sloppy afterthought to an otherwise well-executed set.

Sue Suchyta is a Dearborn resident who writes about community theater for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

New Web site shows off Detroit music

PRNewswire - You've experienced Motown jazz and rock 'n' roll, now try the sights and sounds of the most up-to-date music scene that Detroit has to offer without leaving home.

Matthew Martin, a University of Michigan School of Information graduate student, assembled the "Live 10" exhibit www.l10.org/exhibit/ about 10, a modern music venue in

downtown Detroit. Martin, a photographer and musician himself, was able to bring the sights, sounds, and people of 10 together into a vision as unique as the venue itself.

"Live 10" is a new type of documentary that exploits the robust, multimedia nature of the Web and lets the user decide how to experience it. The same information is displayed in several

ways, allowing users to navigate easily and to create their own path through the exhibit.

"Live 10" offers not only the music but the images and words of the artists, plus a history of 10. Web site visitors can easily hear songs of the bands, view images of the performers, and read what performers have to say about the music experience.

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Guays a Week

A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

THEATER

CENTURY THEATRE
"Forbidden Hollywood," through Dec. 31, 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8:30 p.m. Fridays, 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturdays, and 5:30 p.m. Sundays, at the Century Theatre, 333 Madison Avenue, Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800

DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE
"Revival at Reservoir Kingdom Community Church," through Dec. 31, at the theater, 13103 Woodward Wilson, Detroit. \$15. (313) 868-1347

FISHER THEATRE
"Martin Guerre," opens Wednesday, Dec. 1 through Sunday, Dec. 19, at the theater, Detroit. (248) 645-6666

GEM THEATRE
"Escanabi in da Moonlight," a comedy by Jeff Daniels, through Feb. 13, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays, at the theater, 33 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-9800

COLLEGE

EMU THEATRE
"A Woman Called Truth," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4. Quirk Theatre, on the Ypsilanti campus. \$8 Thursdays, \$13 Fridays-Saturdays, \$11 Sunday matinee. (734) 487-1221

UD-MERCY
"Skylarks," 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays and 9 p.m. Sundays through Dec. 5. (313) 993-1130

U-M THEATRE
"The Tempest," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 9-11, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Power Center for the Performing Arts, Huron and Fletcher streets, Ann Arbor. \$18, \$14, \$7 students. (734) 764-0450

WSU BONSTELLE
"Romeo and Juliet," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 2-4, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at the theater, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 577-2960

WSU HILBERRY
"Laughter on the 23rd Floor" 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 2-4, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4. "Some Americans Abroad," through Feb. 5, at the theater 4743 Cass, Detroit. \$11, \$18. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATRE

PLANET ANT THEATRE
"Sexual Perversity in Chicago," through Sunday, Dec. 19, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 7 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. \$10. \$35 season tickets available until Dec. 19. (313) 365-4948

PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD
"It's a Wonderful Life," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, Water Tower Theatre, on the campus of the Northville Psychiatric Hospital, 41001 W. Seven Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. \$10, \$7 students ages 18 and under. (248) 349-7110

PTD PRODUCTIONS
"Our Town," 8 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 9-12 and Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 16-18, at the Riverside, Ypsilanti. (734) 761-5202/(734) 482-8666

DINNER THEATRE

BACI THEATRE
"Flanagan's Wake," 8 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays (\$25 Thursdays and Sundays, and \$30 Fridays-Saturdays), and "Tony n' Tina's Wedding," 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sundays, at 40 W. Pike, Pontiac. (248) 745-8668/(248) 645-6666

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

"AESOP'S FABLES"
Starring Jim West who introduces the fables through classical music, puppets and storytelling, 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. \$10. (734) 763-7675

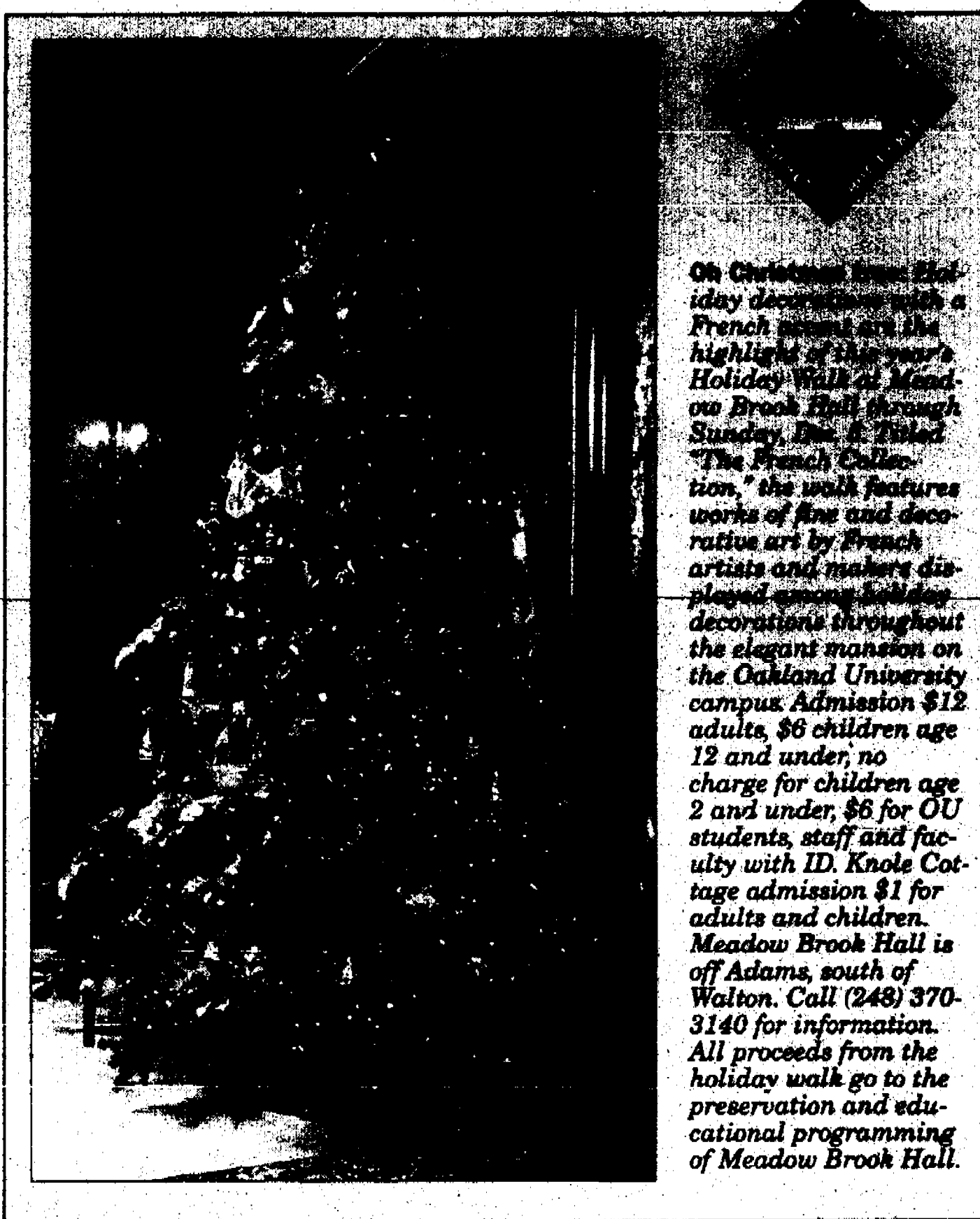
AVON PLAYERS YOUTH THEATRE
"Wind of a Thousand Tales," a magical, musical journey of folk tales from faraway places, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Avon Playhouse, 1185 Trienken Road, east of Rochester, Rochester Hills. \$7. (248) 908-9677

MANICUS THEATRE
"Not in the Binoculars," through Sunday, Jan. 16, at the theater, 135 E. Main, Northville. \$7. (248) 348-8110

METRO THEATRE COMPANY
"Women Who Outshine the Sun," based on a Mexican folk tale, the play features a 10-foot puppet played by Cara Strangier who walks on stilts, at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren, Detroit. (313) 967-0999

NOVA THEATRES
"A Christmas Carol," 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 10-12, at the Novi Civic Center, 22000 W. 14 Mile, Novi. \$20, \$8 advance. (248) 347-0488

RECREATING YOUTH THEATRE
"Jack & the Beanstalk," 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 9-10, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. \$7, \$6 ages 17 and under. (248) 541-8430



On Christmas Eve, Holiday decorations with a French twist are the highlight of the year's Holiday Walk at Meadow Brook Hall through Sunday, Dec. 5. Titled "The French Collection," the walk features works of fine and decorative arts by French artists and makers displayed among holiday decorations throughout the elegant mansion on the Oakland University campus. Admission \$12 adults, \$6 children age 12 and under, no charge for children age 2 and under, \$6 for OU students, staff and faculty with ID. Knole Cottage admission \$1 for adults and children. Meadow Brook Hall is off Adams, south of Walton. Call (248) 370-3140 for information. All proceeds from the holiday walk go to the preservation and educational programming of Meadow Brook Hall.

WHISTLE STOP PLAYERS

The Plymouth Community Arts Council's youth theater presents two holiday classics—"Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates" by Mary Maple Dodge and "The Bird's Christmas Carol" by Kate Douglas Wiggin 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 at the arts council, 774 N. Sheldon at Junction, Plymouth. \$5. The arts council is also hosting a luncheon with Santa noon Wednesday, Dec. 8. \$10 per person. Seating is limited so call early. (734) 416-4ART

SPECIAL EVENTS

ARTTRAIN USA
The nation's only traveling art museum on train, Arttrain USA, returns with the "Artsistry of Space" featuring artworks from NASA and the National Air and Space Museum art collections 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 4-5 and 11-2 at 1100 N. Main, Ann Arbor. (734) 747-8300. Admission free but donations encouraged. Children are invited to make their own artwork 1-5 p.m. in the Creation Station art center located in the NEW Center. \$1.

CANDLELIGHT HOME TOUR
4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, to gather at First United Methodist Church, 128 Park Street, Chelsea. \$15. (734) 475-2244/(800) 265-9045

COBO CENTER
Through Dec. 5, in Oakland Hall at Cobo Center, Detroit. Free. (313) 923-7400

HOLIDAY PARADE/SNOW CARNIVAL
11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 (parade), noon to 2 p.m. Snow Carnival, from Wisner Stadium on Oakland Avenue to the Phoenix Center on Saginaw Street, Pontiac. (248) 209-2821

LIVING NATIVITY
8:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, 11:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Drive, Novi. \$6, children under age 12 free. (800) 626-6257

"NOEL NIGHT"
The 27th annual event rings in the holidays with carolers, street theater, handbell singers, choirs, a tree-lighting ceremony, sing-along, and horse-drawn carriage rides, 5-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Detroit's Cultural Center (bounded by Ferry Street on the north, Forest on the south, Brush on the east, and Cass Avenue on the west). Parking in the Cultural Center and Detroit Science Center lots off John R. and underground garage on Farnsworth east of Woodward. Free shuttle run continuously throughout the evening. For information or a schedule of events most of which are free, call (313) 577-6000

NOVI CITY CHRISTMAS SPECIALS
Starting the Rehearses Friday, Nov. 26 to Friday, Dec. 30, at the Fox Theatre, Detroit. 920-9985 (248) 948-6886/(248) 433-1515.

"WILD LIGHTS"

Continues through Sunday, Jan. 2, 5:30-8 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, until 9 p.m. Friday Saturday, at the Detroit Zoo. Woodward and I-696, Royal Oak. \$3 members (\$2 ages 2-12), \$4 non-members (\$3 ages 2-12). (248) 541-5835

FAMILY

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
The holiday celebration for families features the breakfast, Hanukkah program by Orna Bradford, the Music Lady will do an interactive singing and puppets program, each child also receives a small favor bag and a list of kid-friendly paintings in the museum that are holiday or celebration centered so they can browse through the gallery after the event, 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, in Prentiss Court at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Avenue. \$25, \$15 children ages two and over. (313) 833-0247

KINDERMUSIK STORYTIME
Interactive program of seasonal storytelling, music and movement 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at the Little Book Shoppe, 380 S. Main, Plymouth. (734) 455-5220; 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7 at the Plymouth Coffee Bean, 884 Pennington, Plymouth. (734) 454-0178, and 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14 at (Baby) Babyl, 153 E. Main, Northville. (248) 347-2229

POLISH CHRISTMAS EVE
Wigilia features performance by the Radomian Polish Folk Dance Ensemble, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Stitt Post No. 232, 23850 Military Road, Dearborn Heights. \$19, \$13 children age 12 and under. (734) 427-8640

POLISH CHRISTMAS EVE
Wigilia features PRCUA Waleczka Dancers, 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Tom Dooley K of C Hall, 28945 Joy Road, between Middlebelt and Inkster. \$12, \$10 ages 7-12, \$6 ages 6 and under, deadline for tickets Dec. 7. (734) 591-2079/(313) 531-6986

WIGILIA
Christmas ritual supper features authentic ritual meal of pierogi and mushroom soup, traditional carols, 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, on the campus of Orchard Lake Schools, Orchard Lake and Commerce roads, Orchard Lake. \$25. (248) 683-1748

BENEFITS

CELSTO RHYTHMS CONCERT
An evening of music, poetry and dance 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at Christ Church Cranbrook, Lone Pine and Cranbrook roads, Bloomfield Hills. Free, but donation is asked to help the United Project of Metro Detroit build "Peace by Piece" in Northern Ireland. (248) 681-1287

RACING COLLECTIBLES SHOW
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Harris-Karver VW Post 3222, 1088 S. Wayne Road, Woodhaven. \$2, ages 12 and under free, proceeds for Michigan Youth Monuments. (817) 467-2376

"ROCK" AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE
An evening of dinner, a silent auction, dancing and live music by The Earth Angels, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Southfield Centre

for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road, south of 10 Mile. \$25, to benefit the annual Southfield Ice Company show. (248) 354-9357

ST. NICHOLAS WALK FOR CHARITY
2 p.m. (registration begins at noon) Sunday, Dec. 5, in the EBA Club, Lobby G, at Domino's Farms, 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Drive, Ann Arbor. (734) 930-3188

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE MADRIGAL SINGERS
7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 9-11, entertainment by Good Neighbors All and the college's Madrigal Singers, in the Waterman Center on Campus, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile roads, Livonia. \$35, proceeds go to the student scholarship fund. (734) 462-4417

WALK THROUGH VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS
Carolers, hot cider and homemade cookies 5-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 10-11, at the Irish Lace Bed and Breakfast, 1073 Pennington, Plymouth. \$5, to benefit AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center.

CLASSICAL

BIRMINGHAM MUSICALE
1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, at the Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Road at Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 335-7160

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Bach and Handel, with soprano Christine Brändes and mezzo-soprano Marietta Simpson, 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 2-3, 10:45 a.m. Friday, Dec. 3 and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 576-5111; "The Nutcracker" with Ballet Internationale Thursday, Dec. 9 to Sunday, Dec. 19, at the Detroit Opera House. (313) 576-5111/(313) 874-5100

LIVONIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
The Dearborn Ballet Theatre dances "The Nutcracker" with orchestra 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 at Church Hill High School, 6900 Newburgh, north of Joy Road, Livonia. \$15, \$10 students/children. (734) 421-1111/(734) 464-2741

PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company present "The Nutcracker" 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road and Canton Center, Canton. \$17 adults/seniors, \$10 students K-12, and \$6 Sugar Plum Teas that follow Saturday-Sunday matinees. (734) 451-2122

SCHOOLCRAFT WYO ENSEMBLE
Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 as well as seasonal music, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, in the Radliff Center Community Room, Garden City. Free. (734) 482-8400

POPS/SWING

THE PLYMOUTH 4000
"Pink Shells Blues," 8:30 p.m. to midnight, Friday-Saturday through December, at Amphitheatre West, 6075 Telegraph Road at Steiner, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 865-6300

ALTRURO SHELTON

The musical impressionist sings "A Motown Tribute," voices include Stevie Wonder, Sammie Davis, Jr., Redd Fox and Nat King Cole, 9 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at the Ponchartraine Hotel, Washington Blvd. and Jefferson, Detroit. No cover. (313) 965-0200/(248) 354-1194

BRASS

MOTOR CITY BRASS BAND
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at St. Mary's Church, Grosse Pointe. \$15. (248) 424-9022

TODAY'S BRASS QUINTET
"Y1.9K: Music from the Previous Turn of the Century," 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at the Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth, Ann Arbor. \$12. \$9. (734) 789-2999 or kch@ic.net

TUBA CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Tuba, sousaphone, baritone and euphonium players are invited to perform in the annual concert 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, on Maynard between William and Liberty, Ann Arbor. Preceded by an indoor rehearsal at 4 p.m. at the University of Michigan School of Music on North Campus. Wear colorful clothing that can be adjusted for the temperatures. (734) 763-0128

AUDITIONS

NOVI THEATRES
Auditions for "Fiddler on the Roof," 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, Dec. 15-16, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile. (248) 347-0400

STAGECRAFTERS 2ND STAGE
Auditions for "Forever Plaid," Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 13-14, at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. For performances Feb. 25-27, March 2-5 and 10-12. (248) 541-4832

THEATRE GUILD OF LIVONIA

REFORD
is searching for directors, choreographers, musical directors, and all others interested in musical comedy theater. Call (313) 531-0554 for information, or deliver resumes and letters of interest to the Theatre Guild, 15138 Beech Daly, across from the Township Hall in Reford.

YOUTH COMPETITION
The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra is looking for contestants for its Youth Competition to be held in December at Evola Music of Canton, in addition to orchestral instruments, piano contestants are also being sought, winners will perform on the youth concert in February of 2000. (734) 451-2122

CHORAL

ARBOR CONSORT
With the Oodworth Saxhorn Band in a Victorian Christmas: A Celebration in Brass and Voice, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, at Concordia College Chapel, 4090 Geddes Road, Ann Arbor. \$10. \$7 seniors/students. (734) 665-7823

FORT STREET CHORALE
"Messiah," 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort Street, Detroit. \$12. (313) 961-4533

MADONNA UNIVERSITY CHORALE
Sing Benjamin Britten's "Ceremony of Carols" 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 in the Felician Sisters' Motherhouse Chapel at I-96 and Levan Road, Livonia; and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at historic St. Paul's Church in Grosse Pointe Farms. \$10, proceeds go towards the chorale's tour to Ireland in June. (734) 432-5708

NORTHVILLE CONCERT CHORALE
Handel's "Messiah" parts I and III, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5; First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main, Northville. \$10 advance (\$12 at door), \$35 family in advance (\$40 at door).

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHORUS
Presents a "Holiday Greetings" concert, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4 and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at Plymouth Salem High School, 46181 Joy Road, Canton. (734) 455-4080

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR
Holiday concert featuring Mozart's "Regina Coeli" and Rachmaninoff's "Ave Maria" as well as other seasonal favorites, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward, between Warren and Hancock, Detroit. Free; 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, between Merriman and Middlebelt, Livonia. Donations will be accepted. (248) 349-8175/(734) 462-4435

UNION CHORAL UNION
Handel's "Messiah," 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at HR Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor. \$10-\$18. (734) 764-2538

WINDWARDS VOICES
Presents two Advent concerts 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 at Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church, 24110 Cherry Hill at Telegraph, Dearborn. \$10, \$7 students/seniors/groups of 10 or more. (313) 317-6566

JAZZ

ARBOR POPS/BLUES
And the Rockets, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at The Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. (734) 763-0687

GENE JAZZ TRIO
Performs 7-11 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at the Century Club Restaurant, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-9800

8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at Edson's 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

JOHNNY & AL
Tuesday, Dec. 7, at Sweet Lorraine's, 29101 Greenfield, Southfield. (248) 559-5985

RICH K. TRIO
8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at Big Fish, 700 Town Center Dr., Dearborn. (313) 336-6350

MATT MICHAELS TRIO
With saxophonist George Benson 8 p.m. Wednesday Dec. 8, with vocalist Judi Cocchilli 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, at Ron's Fireside Inn, 26937 Warren, east of Middlebelt Road, Garden City. \$5 cover. (734) 762-7756

SCHOOLCRAFT JAZZ BAND
7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, in the Waterman Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile, Livonia. (734) 462-4400

STRAIGHT AHEAD
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Edson's 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

JANET TENAY TRIO
Featuring Sven Anderson, piano and Kurt Krahnke, bass, 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sundays, at Fishbone's Restaurant, 29244 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield. (248) 351-2925

PAUL VENTIMIGLIA
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, at Edson's 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

ED WELLS
The pianist performs 5:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays, at the Century Club Restaurant, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-9800

PAMELA WISE & THE AFRO-CUBAN ALLSTARS
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, at Edson's 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

WORLD MUSIC

"NIGHT IN MOROCCO"
Featuring Hassan Hakmoun with guests Marcus Belgrave and Wendell Harrison, 7 p.m. Friday, 10 p.m. in the Anerson Theater at Henry Ford Museum, 10900 Oakwood, Dearborn. \$30, \$15. (313) 842-7010/(313) 660-200/(248) 645-6666

SHAARI KANE/RAY KAMALAY
1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at The Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. (734) 763-8587

FOLK/BLUEGRASS

KATIE GEDDES & THE USUAL SUSPECTS
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, also Dell and the Rough Cuts, at Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile, west of I-75, Livonia. \$12, \$10 members. (248) 464-6302

LITTLE DICKERS BAND
The Vespers's featured as part of Folk Vespers series 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, First Baptist Church, 300 Willis Street, north of Maple, Birmingham. Free. (248) 644-0550

DICK SIEGEL
Saturday, Dec. 11, at The Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. (734) 763-8587

BETHANY YARROW
With Peter Yarrow 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Temple Emanu-El, 14450 W. 10 Mile, Oak Park. \$10 Jewish Community Center members, \$15 non-members. (248) 661-1000

POETRY/ SPOKEN WORD

POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN
Workshop for poets looking for more members, 2-4 p.m. third Tuesday of month, in the Jenkins rooms on the third floor of the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road. (734) 762-7568

DANCE

BALLROOM DANCING
2933 Van Dyke, Centerline. \$6. Also swing and Latin classes. (810) 757-6300

EMERALD DANCE ENSEMBLE
Holiday Dance Spectacular, 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at Lake Orion High School Performing Arts Center, 495 E. Scripps, Lake Orion. \$12, \$10 seniors/students. (248) 693-5436

HARLEM NUTCRACKER
Through Sunday, Dec. 5, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway. \$12-\$50. (313) 237-SING/(734) 764-2538

LIVONIA CIVIC BALLET
7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Clarendonville High School Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. \$13 \$10 seniors/students, \$8 ages 5-9. (734) 427-9103

MICHIGAN BALLET THEATRE
With guest artists from the American Ballet Theatre dance "The Nutcracker" 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 4-5, at the Lake Orion High School's Center for the Performing Arts, 465 E. Scripps Road, Lake Orion. \$12, \$10 seniors/children under age 12. (248) 652-3117

MOORE AND MORE DANCES
3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at Wayne State University. \$10, \$5 advance and student. (313) 577-4273; and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 at Aziz's Rug Gallery. \$15, \$10 children. 670 S. Oak Woodward, Birmingham. (248) 828-4080

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Please see next page

Guays a Week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Stephanie Casola; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279

Continued from previous page POLISH ALLIANCE DANCERS OF DEARBORN

Dance and language classes for ages 3 to adult have begun Saturday mornings at Prince of Peace Church, on Altar Road, Dearborn, (313) 581-3181.

STARDUST BALLROOM
Dance parties 9-30 p.m. Fridays, lessons also available, at the dance studio, 28651 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, 58. (248) 356-5678

WATERFORD-OAKS BALLROOM
DANCE
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at 2800 Watkins Lane, Waterford. (248) 673-4764

COMEDY

ELDORADO COUNTRY CLUB
Ruebin Ruebin with Pauline, Navy and Dec Profitt. 9-30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, on Pontiac Trail, west of Haggerty Road. (248) 624-1050

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB
John Joseph through Saturday, Dec. 4, also Johnny B and Rich Higginbottom; Steve McGrew Wednesday-Saturday, Dec. 8-11, at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10-30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S
Blair Shedd, Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 2-5, Leo Dufour, Dec. 9-12, at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

MAIN STREET COMEDY SHOWCASE
314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734) 996-9080

MARK KIBBY'S COMEDY CASTLE
at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. (248) 542-9900 or http://www.comedycastle.com

SECOND CITY
"Phantom Menace to Society" Wednesday-Sunday, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Mainstage comedy acts. \$10 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, \$17.50 on Fridays, and \$19.50 on Saturdays (313) 965-2222

MUSEUMS AND TOURS

ANN ARBOR HANDS-ON MUSEUM
Re-opened its door Oct. 19, the celebration continues with more than 250 interactive exhibits intended to make science fun, at the museum, 220 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. \$6, \$4 children/seniors/students. (734) 995-5439

CANTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Open house and bake sale, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, on Canton Center Road and Heritage Drive. (734) 495-0811

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
Free interactive landscapes traveling exhibit "Turbulent Landscapes: The Natural Forces that Shape Our World," science demonstrations, Planetary and Laser shows (11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.), also long term exhibit featuring Michigan's only full-size Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. (877) 462-7262

DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Book signing by David Carson, author of "Rockin' Down the Dial: The Detroit Sound of Radio from Jack the New Boy 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, New On the Air! exhibit allows visitors to walk through time and the area's radio and TV broadcast industry; "Frontiers to Factories: Detroiters at Work 1701-1901," formerly known as "Furs to Factories," with a new Land Office, a "Wheel of Fortune" style land acquisition interactive, three new video screen interactives, a documentary video, a new Heavy Industry section and a display explaining Detroit's move from "Stove Capital of the World" to the Motor City, automobile capital of the world, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9-30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free admission Wednesdays. \$3 for adults \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1800 or http://www.detroithistorical.org

DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER
IMAX movies include "Tropical Rainforest" at 10 a.m. Mondays-Fridays, "Thrill Ride: The Science of Fun" at 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and "Everest" and "Whales" multiple showings seven days a week, at the center, noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 7 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sundays, at 5020 John R. at Warren, Detroit. Admission to Exhibit Hall is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children, ages 3-15 and adults ages 60 and older, free for children ages 2 and younger. IMAX films are additional \$4. (313) 577-8400

DETROIT ZOO
The exhibit, "Inside Outside: The Art of Caring," continues through Jan. 2, in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery at the zoo, 5650 Woodward, Royal Oak. \$7.50, \$5.50 seniors/students, \$4 for ages 2-12. (248) 398-0903

DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM
Visit the newest exhibition, "Fork in the Road: Saving the Great Lakes,"

also a temporary exhibit on the construction and launch of the U.S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald, at 100 Strand Drive on Belle Isle, Detroit. Regular admission \$2, \$1 seniors/children ages 12-18 during the hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday.

HENRY FORD ESTATE-FAIR LANE
"The Spirit of Christmas" continues through Dec. 31, enjoy guided historic tours of the estate festively decorated for the holidays, special events include Breakfast with Santa Saturday, Dec. 4, Tea, Tour and Treasure, Thursday, Friday, Dec. 9-10 and Monday, Dec. 20, Holiday Luncheon Concerts Dec. 9-10; Santa's Workshop Fridays, Dec. 10 and 17; Candles and Carols Dinners Thursdays, Dec. 5 and 12, and Candlelight Tours Sunday-Monday, Dec. 26-27, at 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. (313) 593-5590 or www.umd.umich.edu/fairlane

HENRY FORD MUSEUM/GREENFIELD VILLAGE
"The Magic of Flight" IMAX film continues through Friday, Dec. 31, on the hour 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday-Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday (\$7.50, \$6.50 seniors and children ages 5-12, \$6 members and children under age 4), (313) 271-1570; at the museum, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, \$12.50, \$11.50 seniors, \$7.50 kids 5-12, members and children under 5 free. (313) 271-1820

MEADOW BROOK HALL
Holiday Walk features French treasures in the 110-room historic mansion built by Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of auto pioneer John Dodge, and her second husband Alfred G. Wilson, beginning Friday, Nov. 26 through Sunday, Dec. 5, the 110-room historic mansion built by Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of auto pioneer John Dodge, and her second husband Alfred G. Wilson, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, until 8 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Nov. 30-Dec. 1, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester. \$12, \$6 children ages 3-12. (248) 370-3140

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY
"I Made This Jar," the life and works of the enslaved African American potter, Dave continues through Jan. 2, at the museum, 315 E. Warren, Detroit. (313) 494-5800

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM
"Celebrate the Century" exhibit continues at the museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth. \$2, \$5.00 kids, \$5 family. (734) 455-8940

SPIRIT OF FORD
interactive automotive science and technology experience with exhibits and theaters for all ages, NASCAR Pit Stop Challenge, Turbo Tour full-motion simulator ride, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, at 1151 Village Drive, across from Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, Dearborn. \$6, \$5 seniors, \$4 ages 5-12. (313) 317-7474

POPULAR MUSIC

ALBERTA ADAMS
7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

THE ALLIGATORS
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty, Plymouth. Cover, \$21 and over. (734) 451-1213 (blues)

GREG ALLMAN
6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, State Theatre, Detroit. Tickets \$28.50, \$24.50. All ages. (248) 645-6666

ANN ARBOR SCHOOL FOR THE PERFORMANCE ART SHOWCASE
7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 662-8310 (jazz)

BARENAKED LADIES
With Tal Bachman, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 1, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$50 and \$35 reserved. (248) 645-6666

BLUE HAWAIIANS
7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 17-18, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Tickets \$17 on sale now. All ages. (248) 645-6666

THE BLANKS
With Criminals, LES Stiches, Ducky Boys. 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. Tickets \$9. (313) 961-MELT or www.961melt.com

THE BOTTLE PROPHETS
With Meropix, 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$3. (734) 996-8555

CHISEL BROTHERS FEATURING CHEF CRIS
10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main Street, Royal Oak. (248) 543-3000 (blues)

CROSBY, STILLS, NASH AND YOUNG
8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 24, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$78, \$51 and \$40.50 reserved. Eight ticket limit per person. (248) 645-6666 or (248) 377-0100

DEATHGIRL.COM
With Sweet's Suedeheads, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. \$5. (313) 961-MELT

DEEP SPACE 6
9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, Karl's Cabin, 9779 Goffredson Drive, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450

DETROIT SOUNDS
Featuring Flow Noise in Nation, Self-Inflicted, Hellingrod, Rotation, Powertrip, Flomajo, Mind Circus, Hydro Heeltrip, Liquid Chicken, All Creations Wept and Wound, 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. \$10 advance, \$12 day of show. (313) 961-MELT

DISCIPLINE
10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, Lili 21, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. 21 and older. (313) 875-6555

DJ VADIM
With Mr. Thing, Blu Rum 13, Killer Kela, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. \$12 advance, \$15 day of show. (313) 961-MELT

DOMESTIC PROBLEMS
With The Velvet Beat, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 996-8555

FRED EAGLESMITH
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, The Ark, 316 S. Main Street, Ann Arbor. \$11. All ages. (734) 761-1451

GLEN EDDY BAND
Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-7, 17-18, Alibi, Farmington Hills. (248) 478-2010; Friday, Dec. 10, Music Menu, Detroit. (313) 964-6368; Saturday, Dec. 11, Lower Town Grill, Plymouth. (734) 451-1213 (blues)

EKOUSTIC HOOKAH
8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 17-18, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. \$12 advance. (248) 544-3030

ELECTRIC BOOGALOO
With Clovis Minor and Giant, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 996-8555

8:00W ELECTRIC KRINGLE HINGLE
Featuring Sugar Ray, Blessid Union of Souls, Enrique Iglesias, Lou Bega, Jessica Simpson, IFO Shaggy, Amber Len, 18, Joe Louis Arena, Detroit. Tickets \$39.31, \$29.31. Call. (248) 645-6666

EL VEZ
9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. (248) 645-6666

ESHAM AND NATAS
With Workhorse Movement, Friday, Dec. 19, Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron at Mill Street, Pontiac. Tickets \$12. (248) 645-6666

FACE
With Nailing Betty and 500 Feet of Pipe, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. \$6. (248) 544-3030

FAN MAIL TOUR
With TLC, Christina Aguilera, Destiny's Child, 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$36.50 and \$29.50 on sale. (248) 645-6666

FANTOMAS
Featuring Mike Patton, Buzz Osbourne, Trevor Dunn and Dave Lombardo, with Kid 606, 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$15. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

FREED
With I Hate Mars, Red Dye 9, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 23, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555

FREESTYLERS SOUND SYSTEM
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$6, 18 and over. (313) 961-MELT

FULLY LOADED
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford, Westland. Free 21 and over. (734) 721-8609 (blues)

FUNKINTELLIGENCE
9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$15. (734) 996-8555

THE GADGITS
With My Superhero, 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. \$6. (313) 961-MELT

KATIE GEDDES AND THE USUAL SUSPECTS
With Dell and the Rough Cuts, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia. \$12, \$10 for members. (734) 464-6302 (folk)

GUESTBOLLIES
With Colonel Sun perform for Owner Roy Goffett's Birthday Bash, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 996-8555

ED BOOCH QUARTET
9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 10-11, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. \$5 cover. (734) 662-8310 (jazz)

GUTTER PUNK
With Unity, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

J. GEL'S BAND
With The Romantics, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$99.50, \$19.50, \$59.50, \$19.99 includes parking cost. (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com

HARRINGTON BROTHERS
7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

ROY HAMILTON JR. & THE GOLDEN BOYS
7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, 9-16, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

JULIANA MATFIELD
With Six Clips, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$8/\$10 day of. (734) 996-8555

HELLO DAVE
With Smokestack, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555

HOWLING DIABLOS
With The Still, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 996-8555; With Face, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. \$20. 21 and over. (248) 544-3030

ICP BIG BALLER CHRISTMAS PARTY
With The Psychopathic Rydas, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. Sold Out.

ALAN JACKSON
With Lonestar, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$32.50 and \$25.50. (248) 645-6666.

JARS OF CLAY
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. All ages. Tickets \$15 advance. (248) 645-6666

BETTY JOPLIN AND FRIENDS
9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 17-18, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. \$5 cover. (734) 662-8310 (jazz)

BB KING
With Bobby "Blue" Bland, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 12, Royal Oak Music Theatre, Royal Oak. Tickets on sale \$55. (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com

KNEE DEEP SHAG
With Bambu, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555

KRESCENT 4
With Small Craft Sighting, 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 22, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$3. (734) 996-8555

Jan Krist
With Jim and Randy Bizer and Alan Finkbeiner & p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia. \$12, \$10 for members. (734) 464-6302

EUGENE MANN
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Borders Books and Music, 1122 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. (248) 652-0558 (saxophone)

MAZINGA
With Sublimation and 12 Angry Steps, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 30, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$3. (734) 996-8555

MEATLOAF
6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, State Theatre, Detroit. Tickets \$58.50, \$49.50. (248) 645-6666

JOHN MULLENBAMP
"Rural Electrification Tour 1999" 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28, The Palace of Auburn Hills. \$45, \$35. (248) 645-6666

MEMORIAL JAM SESSION FOR TED HARLEY
2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 662-8310 (jazz)

DAVID MILES
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, all at Oxford Inn Tavern, 43317 E. Grand River, Novi. 21 and over. \$5 cover Saturday performance only. (248) 305-5856 (r&b)

EDDIE MONEY
8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, The Palace of Auburn Hills. \$29 reserved, \$9.47 general admission. (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com

MUZZLE
9:30 p.m. First Street, Dec. 29, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$3. (734) 996-8555

M-80S
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. \$5. (248) 544-3030

STEVE NARDELLA
7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 10-11, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

THE NIGHT 898X STOLE CHRISTMAS
Featuring Bush, Oates, blink 182, Ben Harper and The Innocent Criminals, 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, Cobb Arena, Detroit. Sold out. (alternative bash)

ORIGINAL HITS
7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800

PHISH
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets on sale \$25 advance, \$27 day of show. Eight ticket limit per person. (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com

PILFERS
7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$7. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

PODUNK
8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. Tickets \$6. (313) 961-MELT or www.961melt.com

RACHEL AND KAPP
7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

RADAR MERCURY
7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. \$6. (313) 961-MELT

JAKE REICHART
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, Borders Books and Music, 1122 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. (248) 652-0558 (rock)

RACHEL AND KAPP
7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

LEON RUSSELL
With Todd Harold Band, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. \$20. (248) 544-3030

SATIN DOLLS
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, Borders Books and Music, 1122 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. (248) 652-0558

JO SERRAPERE
With her Red Hot Tapesec Cafe, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, Xnedos Cafe, Ferndale. \$6. (248)

TAJA SEVILLE
8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. 18 and older. \$15. (313) 961-MELT

SGT. ROCK
Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, Lake Point Yacht Club, Livonia. (734) 591-1868

SMOOTH JAZZ CHRISTMAS
Featuring Dave Koz, David Benoit, Brenda Russell, Peter White, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, State Theatre, Detroit. Tickets \$25, \$20. (248) 645-6666

SOULFUL CELEBRATION
Featuring Kirk Franklin, Hezekiah Walker, Kelly Price, Karen Clark Shepp, Crystal Lewis, Anobis, Marvin Sapp, Darwin Hobbs. Lead by musical director, Sheila E., 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, Joe Louis Arena, Detroit. Tickets on sale \$50, \$35. (248) 589-3344 or www.thegroove.com

STEREOLAB
With Jim O'Rourke, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Tickets \$12 advance, \$13 day of show. 18 and older. (248) 645-6666

STRANGEFOLK
With Smokestack, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$8/\$10 day of. (734) 996-8555

SUICIDE MACHINES
With Bottomedout and The Outsiders, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$9. All ages. (248) 645-6666. With PT's Revenge and Cold as Life, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 30, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$9. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

SUN MESSENGERS
9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, Karl's Cabin, 9779 Goffredson, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450

TELEGRAPH
With Mood for Moderns and Capture the Flag, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 26, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$5. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

U-GOD
With Shyheim 10, 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$6, 18 and older. (313) 961-MELT

'Sleepy Hollow' brings spooky tale to life

BY VICTORIA DIAZ
SPECIAL WRITER

Don't go to Tim Burton's "Sleepy Hollow" hoping to see a cinematic version of Washington Irving's short story, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow." If you do, you may be disappointed.

On the other hand, if you yearn to experience Burton's visual virtuosity, perhaps you should drop everything and head out now for this off-kilter rendition of the classic American tale.

As you will remember, Irving's horror story, written in 1819, centers around that ultimate villain, the Headless Horseman. Said Horseman had a nasty habit of terrorizing Sleepy Hol-

low, his reputation no doubt bolstered by the villagers' practice of telling fireside ghost stories on long winter nights.

Though you might think village schoolmaster, Ichabod Crane, would try to impose some reason on the little community, he was as superstitious as the next guy.

One night, after suffering rejection at the hands of his only love, Katrina Van Tassel, he apparently encounters the dreaded Horseman as he winds his way home through the woods. Does Ichabod's imagination run away with him as he takes flight? We don't really know. Though his broken-down horse is found the next morning,

the schoolmaster is never seen again in the little community on the Hudson.

Irving leaves him, instead, to haunt our imagination.

In this screenplay by Andrew Kevin Walker, Ichabod (played by Johnny Depp) is a ruled-by-reason constable, dispatched by his New York City superiors to solve a string of murders that have recently occurred at Sleepy Hollow.

The villagers insist that the killings (all decapitations) are the work of the legendary horseman.

No way, proclaims Constable Crane, emphasizing that he believes "in sense and reason." With his handy-dandy detective

kit in tow, he sets out for Sleepy Hollow, determined to find the flesh-and-blood criminal and bring him to justice.

As the film progresses, we witness a hodgepodge of witchery, some peculiar dream sequences that seem slightly out of place here, and, eventually, enough fiery special effects to do the likes of Bruce Willis, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Mel Gibson proud. We also witness enough gore and carnage to paint the screen, the theater and the town. Finally, there's a Hollywood-ish ending that veers away completely from Washington Irving's memorable conclusion.

Still, this "Sleepy Hollow" makes up in high visual style some of what it is lacking in depth and subtlety.

This comes as no real surprise, of course, in a picture directed by Burton, whose movies so often feature foreboding architecture, moody lighting, bizarre colors, and characters whose physical appearance is, to say the least, arresting ("Beetlejuice," "Batman," "Edward Scissorhands").

In "Sleepy Hollow," Burton digs into a ragbag of grotesqueries. We meet a crooked little man with a clouded eye. We encounter scarecrows, grinning madly in the moonlight. There's a windswept, spectral hayfield and a looming Dutch windmill, its batwing sails fluttering like ghosts.

The haunted woods are filled with twisted trees that seem shrouded in perpetual mist. The village seems awash in eerie light, and aren't its houses and buildings just a little cockeyed? And the caped Horseman, himself, always riding by night and always huge and monstrous,



CLIVE COOTE

Here comes Ichabod: Johnny Depp stars as Ichabod Crane in "Sleepy Hollow." The film, directed by Tim Burton, was inspired by Washington Irving's classic tale of The Headless Horseman.

brandishes his mighty sword, lopping off heads as if he were reaping so many ripe pumpkins. Photographer/director Emmanuel Lubezki has made the film appear almost as if it has been shot in "Bible-black" and white, infused with cyanotic blues and moldering greens, and, of course, the aforementioned glistening scarlet.

"Sleepy Hollow" is bolstered considerably by supporting players Miranda Richardson, Michael Gambon, Casper Van Dien, Jeffrey Jones, Ian McElarnid, Michael Gough, and Marc Pickering. All play inhabitants of the haunted village, and though we don't get to know any of them as well as we'd like, they are

nevertheless fascinating to watch as they fill their own rather shadowy niches in the drama. Christopher Walken is the Horseman, although his stunt doubles Ray Park and Rob Ince actually stir up more delicious terror than does the actor himself.

Christina Ricci's Katrina looks like a heavenly apparition, and her golden good looks make an engaging foil for Johnny Depp's dark intensity. Unfortunately, though, if you've read the short story, you may have difficulty accepting the handsome Depp as Irving's gangly, snipe-nosed "hero," especially when it comes to this picture's comedic moments.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Tuesday, Dec. 7

"THE LEGEND OF 1900"

Drama recounts the life of a gifted piano player who is abandoned at birth on a Trans-Atlantic ship. His talent culminates in a rivalry of mythic proportions with jazz legend Jelly Roll Morton. Stars Tim Roth, Pruitt Taylor Vince and Clarence Williams III.

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 10

"THE GREEN MILE"

Remarkable story of a guard in a Southern prison's death row in 1935 and one of the inmates over which he has charge. Based on the 1996 serialized novel by Stephen King. Stars Tom Hanks.

"ANNA AND THE KING"

Set in 19th century Thailand, the true story of the relationship between a British schoolteacher and the King of Siam. Based on historical information. Stars Jodie Foster and Chow Yun-Fat.

"CIDER HOUSE RULES"

Classic story of a young man's extraordinary journey: leaving home, finding love and finding his place in the world. Based on the best-selling novel by John Irving. Stars Tobey Maguire.

Scheduled to open Wednesday, Dec. 22

"AMY GIVEN BURDAY"

Drama about an aging star quarterback who is induced to play hurt because a gifted and unprincipled young talent is seeking to replace him. The coach who struggles to remain true to the ideals that drew him to his career, and the ambitious young owner of the team. Stars Al Pacino, Dennis Quaid.



ANDREW COOPER

In Slam: Jodie Foster stars as Anna and the King, the Fox 2000 Pictures release.

Scheduled to open Saturday, Dec. 25

"LIBERTY HEIGHTS"

A dramatic look at the life and times of a Baltimore family in the mid 1950s which focuses on issues of religion, race and class distinction written and directed by Barry Levinson. Stars Adrien Brody, Bebe Neuwirth and Joe Mantegna.

"MANSFIELD PARK"

Based on the book by Jane Austen, the story of a young woman from a poor family, sent to live with her wealthy cousins at their estate. The plan is to arrange a marriage that will assure her place in society, but her high spirited nature and ideas about love will make it a difficult proposition. Stars Frances O'Connor and Jonny Lee Miller.

Movie has its own Y2K ideas

CARRIE COOPER
SPECIAL WRITER

5...4...3...2...1...Happy New Year! Or so you think. If you are one of those people who thinks that Y2K isn't going to be a problem you're probably focusing on your celebration, what you should wear, where you will go, and what you will do to ring in the New Year.

If you are one of those people who thinks when the clock strikes midnight mass chaos will erupt and the world may end, then you're probably preparing for the worst. What will really happen? Will it be the "End of Days?"

Universal Pictures and Beacon Pictures thriller "End of Days," starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, Gabriel Byrne, Kevin Pollak ("A Few Good Men"), Robin Tunney ("The Craft"), and Rod Steiger, addresses the present day topic that the world is consumed with...the end of the millennium.

Director Peter Hyams, producer Arnyon Bernstein, Bill Borden, and writer Andrew W. Marlowe, explore the idea that evil will be free to walk the earth and bring about the end of the world.

The setting is New York City, 1979: In a hospital where a newborn baby, Christine York (Tunney) is born, Christine's birth has been feared for all time because she bears the mark of the anti-Christ. Now the countdown to

doomsday has begun.

Twenty years later, four days before the new millennium, Satan is unleashed upon the world in search of Christine. He uses the body of a man (Byrne), so he can walk among the people of New York. He must find Christine and join with her in an unholy union before midnight on Dec. 31. Once the union takes place, Christine will bear Satan's child and will be doomed to reign with him for all eternity, bringing about the end of the world.

The only man who can stop this evil is ex-cop Jericho Cane (Schwarzenegger). Jericho, whose wife and daughter were brutally murdered, feels alone and betrayed by God. He lost his faith and feels his life is meaningless. His job as a security specialist, alongside his partner Chicago (Pollak), throws him into this bizarre prophecy that has come true.

Meanwhile, there are several religious people who feel they need to sacrifice Christine for the world in order for the evil not to prevail. Jericho rescues Christine from these people who want to kill her before Satan can get to her. The chase is on.

Christine has had visions and dreams of a man coming for her and is afraid she won't be able to resist him. She asks Jericho to help her. But how do you stop someone of pure, concentrated evil, someone with uncontrollable

power, someone who is not of this earth?

Now with the end of the millennium approaching fast, Jericho must do some soul searching. He must learn to have faith again if he is going to protect Christine and all of mankind from suffering the "end of days."

For Schwarzenegger, this film gives him a chance to fight something bigger than he has ever had to fight on screen. He plays a "real" person who has to struggle with his inner demons, as well as the supernatural.

Many people have similar ideas of what Satan is or how he should look. But, Byrne plays the part in an unbiased and non-stereotypical manner. Tunney has a very challenging role to play because she represents the "fate of humanity." She struggles with the urge to fulfill her chosen role and the need to change the prophecy by preserving her innocence.

As the world stands on the brink of the millennium, many are questioning what will happen. Could the world really end? Will it be just a small blackout?

Or will anything happen at all? One thing is for sure, you may want to reaffirm your faith and be prepared for whatever does happen when that clock strikes midnight. Don't expect Arnold to save us. Although the special effects are great, it is — after all — just a movie.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

<p>National Amusements Showcase Cinemas</p> <p>Showcase Western 1-8 6800 Wayne Rd. 313-729-1060 Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat. NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>Showcase Antenna 1-14 2150 N. Opdyke Rd. Between University & Walton Blvd 248-373-2660 Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat. NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP END OF DAYS (R) NP TOY STORY 2 (G) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG-13) DOGMA (R) THE MESSENGER: JOAN OF ARC (R) POKEBON (G) THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R) BEST MAN (R) THE SIXTH SENSE (PG-13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Showcase Frontier 1-8 Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3449 Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri. & Sat. & Sun. 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Thurs. Fri. & Sat.</p> <p>NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP THE MESSENGER: JOAN OF ARC (R) HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R) THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) BEST MAN (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Star Antenna 1-8 12 Mile between Woodward and Hawthorne, 471-4466 248-383-8800 No one under age 6 admitted to PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP TOY STORY 2 (G)</p>	<p>NP END OF DAYS (R) NP FLAWLESS (R) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG-13) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP DOGMA (R) NP THE MESSENGER: JOAN OF ARC (R) ANYWHERE BUT HERE (R) POKEBON (G) LIGHT IT UP (R) THE BACHELOR (PG-13) THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) THE INSIDER (R) DOUBLE JEOPARDY (R) THE BEST MAN (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Star Winchester 1136 S. Rochester Rd., Winchester Mail 248-656-1160 No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP TOY STORY (G) NP POKEBON (G) STRAIGHT STORY (G) THE INSIDER (R) SIXTH SENSE (PG-13) BEING JOHN MALLOVICH (R) MUSIC OF THE HEART (PG) THE BACHELOR (PG-13) THE MESSENGER: THE STORY OF JOAN OF ARC (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>United Artists Theatres Bargain Matinee Daily for all shows starting before 6:00 PM Same day advance tickets available. NW - No V.I.P. tickets accepted</p> <p>United Artists Oakland Inside Oakland Mall 248-988-8706</p> <p>ANYWHERE BUT HERE (PG-13) NP THE MESSENGER (R) NV THE STRAIGHT STORY (G) THE BACHELOR (PG-13) NV AMERICAN BEAUTY (R) DOUBLE JEOPARDY (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>United Artists 12 Oaks Inside Twelve Oaks Mall 248-348-8311</p> <p>SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NV THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG-13) NV THE MESSENGER (R) NV THE INSIDER (R) NV THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NV THE BACHELOR (PG-13) NV DOUBLE JEOPARDY (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>United Artists 3 Mile 2 Blocks West of Midfield 248-788-6572</p> <p>NP TOY STORY 2 (G) NV NP END OF DAYS (R) NV NP FLAWLESS (R) NV NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NV NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG-13) NV NP THE MESSENGER (R) NV NP THE INSIDER (R) NV NP THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) NV NP THE BACHELOR (PG-13) NV NP DOUBLE JEOPARDY (R) NV</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>United Artists Crestwood 12000 Crestwood Blvd 248-348-8311 No one under age 6 admitted to PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP TOY STORY 2 (G)</p>	<p>Main Art Theatre II Main - 11 Mile Royal Oak (248) 542-8100</p> <p>DOGMA (R) BOYS DON'T CRY (R) BEING JOHN MALLOVICH (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES Children Under 6 Not Admitted</p> <p>Main Art Cinema II 4135 W. Maple, West of Telegraph Bloomfield Hills 248-855-9990 DISCOUNTED SHOWS!</p> <p>THE STRAIGHT STORY (G) PRINCESS MONONOCHE (PG-13) FELICIA'S JOURNEY (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Oxford 3 Cinemas, L.L.C. Downtown Oxford Lapeer Rd. (M-24) (248) 628-7100 Fax (248) 628-1300 DETROIT'S LOWEST FIRST RUN PRICES INCLUDING TWILIGHT PRICING \$1.00 4-5 PM</p> <p>CLOSED FOR RENOVATION</p> <p>AMC Theatre 20 Happerty 6 Mile 734-542-9909</p> <p>CALL THEATRE FOR FEATURES AND TIMES</p> <p>MPR THEATRES</p> <p>\$1.00 Ford Tel \$1.50 313-561-7200 \$1.00 4-6 pm After 6 p.m. \$1.50 Ample Parking - Telford Center Free Refill on Drinks & Popcorn Please Call Theatre for Showtimes</p> <p>DUDLEY DO RIGHT (PG) BUNNYMAN RIDGE (PG) AMERICAN PIE (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Waterford Cinema II 7501 Highland Rd. S.E. corner M-59 & Williams Lake Rd. 24 Hour Movie Line (248) 666-7900 CALL 77 FILMS 6551 Standard Seating and Digital Sound Mixes for the Best Movie Experience in Oakland County \$3.25 (TWO LITE) SHOWS DAILY</p> <p>NP TOY STORY 2 (G) NP END OF DAYS (R) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG-13) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP ANYWHERE BUT HERE (PG-13) DOGMA (R) THE MESSENGER: THE JOAN OF ARC STORY (R) POKEBON: THE FIRST MOVIE (G) THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) THE INSIDER (R) SIXTH SENSE (PG-13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES This is Entertainment Accepted</p> <p>United Artists 2400 Parkwood Rd. 978-381-8800</p> <p>All shows 21 except films after 6 pm. All shows \$1.50 7x4 every body</p> <p>Would you like to see the first feature film to be shown in this area? Come in and see this special screening of this feature film only showing - 6:00pm only</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>
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Stereolab's subtle sounds to fill Clutch Cargo

BY STEPHANIE ANGELEN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
scasola@oe.hometeam.net

When it comes to atmospheric music, Stereolab certainly knows how to bank in obscurity.

In its own almost indefinable way, the London-based band blends experimental electronic techniques with a stylish, ever-so-mellow element to produce the scatty bleeps and chimes that's come to be called Stereolab.

In its latest Elektra release, "Cobra and Phases Group Play Voltage in the Milky Night," Stereolab takes listeners back to that subdued, sub-surface place, creating something like the musical score for a futuristic silent film. The first track, "Fusesa," gives off a dizzying array of chimes and horns that concoct a sort of modern Christmas Carol when accompanied by the jazzy "do dee doo dah" vocals.

With "Infinity Girl" Laetitia Sadier's ethereal voice floats atop rich streams of music, as if she's got a secret message to tell. In "Velvet Water" Stereolab takes it down a notch, testing whether listeners are paying attention. Smooth French lyrics slide into the mix, creating a dreamy, otherworldly air. Pick any of the 15 tracks on "Cobra" and try not to fall into the subtle sweetness.

Tim Gane teamed with Laetitia Sadier in 1991 and the founding pair put out Stereolab's first album. Rounding out the spacey sounds are guitarist Mary Hansen, keyboardist Morgan Lhote and newcomer Simon Johns on bass. Toss in guests to play the marimbas, vibes and coronets and listeners hear that "back to

basics" strategy on this latest musical effort.

On Wednesday, Nov. 24, Laetitia Sadier phoned in from San Francisco, Calif., to chat with the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers about the new album and tour, which began in Europe and hit the U.S. less than a month ago. Here's her story:

O&E: After almost 10 years together, what drives you to continue making music and how has the music changed over time?

LS: "There is no shortage of ideas. The more you do it, the more ideas come to you. It's not like a pocket of petrol that runs out. It gets re-filled as you take it out."

"(The new material) is a continuation. You can feel the thread that was there right in the beginning. We're more mature, more comfortable, focused on what we want to do. We have found our sound."

O&E: How do you describe that sound?

LS: "I couldn't really describe it in words. You express feelings through music because you can't express them through words."

O&E: Who are some of your musical influences?

LS: "We have plenty of musical influences... The Beach Boys are very melodic with weird chords, but it still gets to people. It proves you don't have to play in E's and B's. There's a long list of wonderful musicians making music from Brazil, which was sophisticated, very melodic and exclusive... very open, very rich. Jazz, we like jazz."

O&E: Tell me about record-

ing "Cobra and Phases Group Play Voltage in the Milky Night." How do you go about creating music?

LS: "Recording, with two people: John McEntire (co-producer of the band's last two albums) who we've worked with in the past, and Jim O'Rourke - from Chicago - also a musician and a very funny man. We'd never worked with him before."

O&E: Tell me about the album title.

LS: "It doesn't mean anything. Surrealistic groups of the '20s. (It's meant) to give a certain flavor to the record, to condition you to listen in such a way. It's up to you to come up with. Free interpretation."

O&E: How is touring in the states different from touring in the U.K.?

LS: "Every state varies so much. From the Texans completely buzzing away, to last night in San Francisco (the crowd looked) like (they were) watching television. It can be so different. Overall we've had very good audiences. I believe they enjoy music, like music. They're coming to listen to the music. Dancing is an option. We're spoiled."

O&E: Where are the most energetic audiences?

LS: "In London are our best audiences. They're really effervescent, really great. It's our hometown."

O&E: Describe a live Stereolab show.

LS: (Sighing) "We can't recreate the album the way it was on the record. To be honest, there's no point. It's more raw, the new



DAVID CORLIAD

Stirring and Surreal: Tim Gane, Mary Hansen, Laetitia Sadier, Simon Johns and Morgan Lhote are Stereolab, who brings its unusual atmospheric sounds to Clutch Cargo Dec. 9.

songs - I think - because it's not weird pieces of music. It's much more song-like, more live-friendly. They lend themselves to being played live much better (than previous material)."

O&E: Anything else you'd

like to add?

LS: "We're looking forward to Detroit, to Pontiac. It's been such a good city to us from the start. We sold the most T-shirts ever in Detroit. Sixty T-shirts. Champagne! Celebrate!"

It's time to celebrate once again. See Stereolab Thursday, Dec. 9, at Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Tickets are \$12 now and \$13 on the day of the show. 18 and older are welcome. Call (248) 645-6666

Local man's story a step away from silver screen



STEPHANIE A. CASOLA

It's a classic coming of age story, really. You can't help but become attached to the idea: An inner-city, blue collar boy, age 14, grows into a golf phenom with the help of his coach and despite all odds. What starts

out as a recreational sport to keep him off the streets becomes a talent, a true passion.

Imagine the Bad News Bears carrying golf clubs.

"The Mark Harris Story," set in Detroit and Redford, is based on one young man's ambition and drive, and his constant battle to follow his dreams. Mark Harris saw the message and humor in his story and decided to share it Hollywood-style.

Now a 31-year-old Livonia resident and the father of three, Harris still shows the same ambition he had as a young golfer as he attempts to take his story to the silver screen. When talking about the would-be film, he shuffles through a briefcase full of notes, some scrawled on tattered paper. He's saved everything from old golf photographs to a journal of the very steps he's taken to realize this dream thus far. More than anything he believes in himself, which is one reason he's gotten this far.

His story

Harris admits everyone has a story. What sets his heartfelt tale apart from others, one might ask? The main characters of the story are an unlikely pair, a small-for-his-age golf hopeful from the city and a soft-spoken 350-pound African American golfer professional who share a passion for the game. Harris fondly

remembers his mentor, former Detroit-Denver Williams, as instrumental during his early years in the game.

Harris never wanted to be in movies. He and his wife Jaqueline are raising their children, Avery, 5, Austin, 4 and Abigail, 1. He works in the landscaping business. In 1993, when he saw an "Entertainment Tonight" profile of Rudy Ruettiger - a boy from Indiana who wanted nothing more than to play football for Notre Dame - he noticed parallels to his own story.

He saw the film "Rudy" as similar to his own vision. Harris embarked on the journey.

Making things happen

It began with a phone call to South Bend, Ind., where he spoke to Ruettiger himself about his life experiences and making the film. Harris' idea then gained momentum. He was convinced if a regular guy from Indiana could make this happen, he could too. Harris began seeking out writers who would set his story out on paper.

"It just began snowballing," said Harris. "I started from ground zero. I'm trying to make it into a finished product."

Several writers expressed an interest in his idea, but it was a boost from Jim Burnstein, a Plymouth resident and the head of the screenwriting program at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, that set the gears in motion. Burnstein is known for his work on "The Mighty Ducks 3" and "Renaissance Man." Burnstein connected Harris with Garrett Schiff, a writer in Encino, Calif.

"It's a fascinating story about golf and kids," said Burnstein. "I liked the idea of the African-American professional who share a passion for the game. Harris fondly

touch with a writer who had just sold a script involving an ex-Negro League baseball player and a young white girl called "The Finest in the Field."

Pen to paper

After speaking with Harris on the telephone, Schiff showed immediate interest in the project and flew to Livonia to meet with him, interview the people his characters were based on, and see the places where the story actually unraveled. By late February 1995, Harris' story began to take shape. Even Oprah Winfrey took a few minutes to listen to Harris' idea in person.

Schiff wrote a film treatment for "The Mark Harris Story" or "A Diamond in the Rough." After more than six years, Harris finds himself at something of a standstill.



His story: Livonia's Mark Harris is trying to get a movie made about his start in golf.

"The goal is to find a producer and director to take the film treatment to a major motion picture level," said Harris. "With the proper commitment and dedication, it can be

done."

His statement reflects the message of the film, which is one of hope geared toward a young adult audience.

Burnstein commended Harris' efforts. "If you're not a writer yourself, you can't do it unless you learn. It's a very difficult art to learn. He did the wise thing in finding someone who could write."

Taking time

Persistence is key when trying to get a film made. "It's never easy to get a movie made," said Burnstein. "Shakespeare in Love" took something like nine years to get made. That's normal. You have to go into it with your eyes wide open."

Harris intends to have the movie filmed in the Metro area. He is seeking local contacts who will assist him in making that happen.

Burnstein, speaking as someone whose film "Renaissance Man" opened in Detroit, said when films are made locally, it may make local residents "feel good about themselves." Familiar scenes have meaning to metro Detroiters, even if the overall impact doesn't alter the way viewers on a national scale look at the city and its surrounding areas.

The best advice Burnstein can give to Harris or anyone working on a film is to keep looking ahead. For those who've surpassed the production process, the next hurdle may involve distribution. "You can make a great movie, but can you get the movie distributed?" he asks. "You have a shot, but it's a very risky step."

Harris is ready and willing to make it happen.

Stephanie Angelen Casola can be reached at scasola@oe.hometeam.net

STAY TUNED

Searching for the perfect holiday gift for the Blues fan in the family? Dearborn's Venture Records is releasing "Uncut Detroit II" featuring six of best local blues artists: Albert Adams, The Alligators, Al Hill and the Love Butlers and Mystery Train featuring Jim McCarty, just to name a few.

It's like Ben Folds Five once said, the "mixed tape" is a masterpiece. England's electronic export, the Lo-Fidelity All Stars have completed a second volume in a series of mix albums for Skint's Rag Beat Boutique in the U.K. Following in the footsteps of Fatboy Slim, the Lo-Fi will release "On The Floor At The Boutique" January 4. For a Lo-Fi fix in the meantime, check out "How To Operate

With A Blown Mind," on Columbia Records.

Can you say "collection"? The holiday season seems to spark a demand for "Best of" CDs and chart-topping collections. Here's a few sure bets to spur a family sing-a-long after dinner. "The Best of Simon and Garfunkel" features favorites like "A Hazy Shade of Winter" and "Bridge Over Troubled Water," reggae master Jimmy Cliff's "Ultimate Collection," spotlights "I Can See Clearly Now," and "The Harder They Come," and "The Neil Diamond Collection" has hits like "Sweet Caroline." Steely Dan, Steppenwolf, The Commodores and The Four Tops also have "best of" compilations.

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AMC WOODLAND	BIRMINGHAM 8	CANTON LINEMAN
MJR SOUTHWEST 20	QUO VADIS	RENAISSANCE 4
SHOWCASE 10	SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE 10
SHOWCASE 10	STAR GRANT AT 15 MILE	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING
STAR JOHN R AT 13 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS
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MJR SOUTHWEST 20	SCORWEST	SHOWCASE 10
RENAISSANCE 4	SHOWCASE 10	SHOWCASE 10
SHOWCASE 10	SHOWCASE 10	SHOWCASE 10
STAR GRANT AT 15 MILE	STAR GRANT AT 15 MILE	STAR JOHN R AT 13 MILE
STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR
STAR WILSONVILLE	STAR WILSONVILLE	STAR WILSONVILLE

NO PASSES OR COUPONS ACCEPTED

Nankin Mill Tavern serves Danish specialties

BY MARY QUINLEY
SPECIAL WRITER

Finn Sorensen plans to celebrate the holidays in Danish style. That's great news for patrons of Nankin Mill Tavern where he is chef.

"I won't be going home to Denmark," said Sorensen, who learned his culinary skills in Copenhagen. "So, I make a typical Danish Christmas dinner of roast pork."

The pork special, made with prunes, apples and red cabbage, is served with candied-brown potatoes and Swedish lingonberries.

Beginning Dec. 10 until New Years Eve, the Westland eatery will offer the pork entree seven days a week. Monday-Friday the dish will be available for dinner only. On Saturday and Sunday, order this special anytime of the day.

Chilled to the bone from the wintry wind? Sorensen suggests a Scandinavian glögg to complement the pork. "It's a hot toddy made with red wine, rum, akvavit (a Danish liquor similar to vodka), a stick of cinnamon, raisins and a sliver of almond," he says.

Other food choices? "Our pork dinners and frikadeller are popular," said Sorensen. Frikadeller, Danish meatballs made with ground beef and veal, "The meatballs (that I make) are the same recipe that our mothers made," said Sorensen, who moved to the United States with two buddies in 1964.

"In Denmark it's a home-cooked meal - not something you go to a restaurant and order. In America (people) like to go out and order meatballs."

When customers enter the one-room dining area, there's an

Nankin Mill Tavern
Where: 33700 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland, (734) 427-0622
Open: 10 a.m. to midnight, Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. Friday; noon to 1 a.m. Saturday; noon to 10 p.m. Sunday. The kitchen closes 10 p.m. Monday-Saturday, and at 9 p.m. on Sunday.
Menu: Danish specialties, appetizers, salads, soups, sandwiches, pasta, seafood and desserts; daily specials; prime rib on Friday and Saturday.
Non-smoking area: One-third of the restaurant; if you want to try to avoid the smoke (sometimes the air circulation isn't the best), request a table in the corner of the "no smoking" section.
Bar area: Seating for 19 people
Cost: Entrees range in price from \$3.75 to \$16.95; the Christmas roast pork dinner is \$9.95
Credit cards: VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Diners Club

immediate sense of home. Green-and-white-checked plastic cloths cover the tables, Red Wing memorabilia, modern art and antlers adorn the walls, and Elvis and Sinatra favorites play on the jukebox.

On a recent evening, Ernestina Belyeu dined with several of her friends.

"I ordered Frikadeller," said Belyeu of Livonia, who said she thoroughly enjoyed her meal of meat, red cabbage, potatoes and corn.

"The red skins, flavored with bacon and scallions, were tasty," she said. "The food is very unpretentious and the helpings were hearty. My meal was certainly filling and the price was right."

In addition to the Danish specialties, the eatery features a wide range of other food selections.

Order an appetizer of ramaque (say: ra-MA-key), marinated chicken livers and water chestnuts wrapped in bacon, and then baked in a soy, honey and brown sugar sauce. Or taste the fried Camembert cheese topped with lingonberries.

Poultry entrees, including a hearty chicken pot pie, fish and chips, pasta choices and beef plates are featured daily. You'll also find burgers, sandwiches and salads.

"I make all the sauces, soups, meatballs and roasts," said Sorensen. "The kitchen is so small that I work at night. It's nice for me."

Got a craving for steamy soups? Nankin Mill serves a different one everyday. Sometimes it's mushroom, lentil, chicken noodle or beer cheese. On Fridays, try the clam chowder or a seafood gumbo. Of course, they're all made from scratch by chef Sorensen - the previous evening.

The tavern, one of the oldest businesses in the area, has existed since at least 1917. The structure was rebuilt in 1947 after a fire. During Prohibition, it was a speakeasy.

"We found a trophy dated 1919 with the name of a gun club on it," said Jerry Lockhart, who owns the restaurant with Bob

Moore of Dearborn. "We think the building has always been a bar that served burgers. In 1978 it switched to a restaurant."



At your service: Chef Rory Gill (left) and restaurant owner Jerry Lockhart present Frikadeller, Danish meatballs made with ground beef and veal, served on red cabbage with Danish potatoes at Nankin Mill Tavern.

DEAF PHOTO BY TOM LEWIS

Lockhart comments that Nankin Mill is a family-friendly eatery. They feature a kids menu with fish, grilled cheese, chicken strips and meatballs.

If you're in the mood for some music and dancing, there's entertainment on Saturday nights. "Usually we have a live band," said Lockhart of Livonia. "Some-

times it's oldies, light rock, pop or a little bit of blues. By 9 p.m. it's mostly adults, not that kids aren't welcome then."

WHAT'S COOKING

Send items for consideration in What's Cooking to Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. To fax, (734) 591-7279 or e-mail

kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net
What's Cooking includes listings of new restaurants, special dinners, menu changes, restaurant anniversaries and renovations.

■ **Holiday Tea** - At the Townsend Hotel in downtown Birmingham, 3-5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10. Cost is \$25 per person, benefits the Women's Survival Center of Oakland County. Call (248) 335-2685.

■ **La Bistecca Italian Grille** - Live jazz featuring Larry Nozero and friends, starting at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13. Michael James and Debbie Jimmerson piano and vocals perform

all your favorites 7-11 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday. The restaurant is at 39405 Plymouth Road, at Eckles Road (between Newburgh and Haggerty) Plymouth. Call (734) 254-0400 for information.

■ **Golden Mushroom** - Is offering two New Year's Eve celebration menus and seatings in two dining rooms on Friday, Dec. 31. New Year's Eve celebration, first seating begins at 5 p.m. in the main dining room, cost \$95 per person; second seating begins 6:30 p.m. in the Mushroom Cellar, cost \$90 per person. Millennium Celebration, first seating in the main dining room 10 p.m., cost \$150 per person; Mushroom Cellar first seating begins 9:15 p.m., cost \$145 per person. Call (248) 559-4230 for more information.

■ **Red Robin** - Restaurant

in Westland, will be selling mini versions of its mascot "Red" the robin for \$1.99 with kid's meals through Dec. 31, or until supplies last. The restaurant is selling the "Mini Reds" in honor of its redesigned mascot, making its debut in the restaurants this month. Red Robin will donate \$1 of each Mini Red toy sale to Canine Companions for Independence. For more information, visit www.redrobin.com

■ **Ristorante Ciaro** - Newly opened, cozy 80-seat Italian restaurant, 1024 Monroe St., south of Michigan Ave., Dearborn. House specialty is wood-fired, thin crust pizzas baked in a wood burning oven. Homemade pastas, veal and seafood dishes

also available. Open 5-11 p.m. Monday-Saturday for dinner. Call (313) 274-2426 for information.

■ **Millennium white wine** - If you read about the special millennium white wine Galilee 2000, hailing from the Galilee in Israel, in O&E's AT HOME holiday section on Oct. 21, and have not been able to find it, it's available for about \$10 at Cloverleaf Fine Wines, Applegate Square; Spitzer's Books & Gifts, 11 Mile Road at Lahser; Borenstein Books & Gifts, 10 Mile Road at Greenfield; and Big Ten Party Store, Ann Arbor. However, any retail wine shop can order the wine for you from the distributor Regal Wines in Dearborn.

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