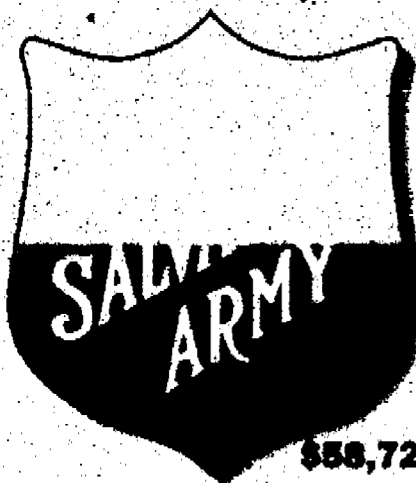




Goal: \$120,000



\$58,721

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY

Singing with joy: Students from Lutheran High School Westland will sing Christmas carols 1-3 p.m. at Art Van Furniture, 8300 Wayne Road, Westland.

FRIDAY

Yule look: Friday's the deadline for nominations (5 p.m.) in the city's 13th annual Christmas Decorating Contest. To nominate a house, write to the Westland City Clerk's Office, 36601 Ford, Westland 48185 or call Clerk Patricia Gibbons at (734) 467-3185 or (734) 467-3191. For details, see A3.

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Winners mostly big spenders



The top three spenders in the November Westland City Council race emerged as victors. Incumbent Councilman Glenn Anderson spent less money and was the top vote-getter, however.

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

Westland City Council candidates spent \$89,535 collectively on a 1999 election that some political observers say signals escalating costs for local races.

Council member-elect David James plunked down \$21,400 — the most

money among the eight candidates who competed for four seats.

Council posts pay \$11,452 per year. James was out of town and couldn't be reached for comment, but some of his competitors said the amount he spent is exorbitant.

"I think anything over a year's salary is ridiculous," said candidate Michael Kehrer, who lost his election bid.

Kehrer predicted he will spend \$10,000 when he runs for council again in 2001.

"If I'm going to do it and the people like me, I'm going to do it within \$10,000," he said. "If it took \$20,000, I'll never be able to compete with that. I will not spend that much."

According to the latest records at Wayne County elections offices, here's how spending levels stacked up:

■ James ranked first in spending at \$21,400 and came in third in votes with 3,164, earning a four-year term.

■ Incumbent Charles "Trav" Griffin placed second in spending (\$19,525) and second in the race (3,399). He won

CITY COUNCIL

a four-year term.

■ Council member-elect David Cox placed third in spending (\$17,633) and fourth in votes (3,160). His fourth-place finish garnered him a two-year term.

■ Newcomer James Godbout ranked fourth in spending (\$9,630) and seventh in votes (2,950). He lost.

■ New hopeful Michael Rintz came in fifth in spending (\$7,002) and last among eight candidates running for office (2,245). He lost.

Please see **WINNERS, A4**

Kettles assist needy

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER
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Lt. Chuck Yockey is a thankful man, not only for the blessings of family and friends, but also for gifts to The Salvation Army.

This year's local goal for the holiday season is \$120,000, and as of this past Thursday \$58,721, or 49 percent, had been raised. That's up about \$15,000 from last year at this time, not even counting extra days for bell ringing.

"So we are in good shape." The Red Kettle Campaign does better in its second half, the local corps commander said, as Christmas draws nearer.

The Salvation Army relies on paid and volunteer bell-ringers. A number of volunteer organizations — service clubs, police and firefighters, churches and others — have bell-ringers signed up for the coming days. "All these people are ringing." That helps with fund-raising. Yockey said, as unpaid volunteers raise more money than their paid counterparts.

"I really think The Salvation Army has a wonderful reputation in Westland." People know The Salvation Army can be relied on for help, he said.

"That's why they support us. We can stand on our record. And people trust The Salvation Army."

The organization is highly efficient, he said, and provides a variety of services for the needy of all ages. Money raised during the holidays isn't all spent now. "This money carries us throughout the year."

Local programs range from adult literacy help to food and rent assistance.

Margaret Harlow, who chairs the local Advisory Council for The Salvation Army, enjoys volunteering and hearing stories from donors of how the organization has helped them.

"That's always kind of heart-warming," said Harlow, of Harlow Tire in Westland. She said The Salvation Army is one of a few organizations with such low administrative costs. Money given aids the needy, making the holiday campaign essential.

"It's a big portion of their annual

Please see **KETTLES, A6**



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Giving spirit: Amanda Tokarski, 4, of Westland drops money into the Salvation Army kettle in front of the Sears store in Westland. The bell-ringer is Steven Hendrix Sr. This year's Wayne-Westland goal is \$120,000.

Event supports family center

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

A Wayne-Westland school program that helps families find help for problems ranging from truant children to physical abuse will receive a \$5,000 boost from the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

The Lincoln Elementary-based Family Resource Center, which depends on grants and donations for its survival, will benefit from the chamber's "Taste of the Arts" program.

The event included food from area eateries and an auction of student artwork from Wayne-Westland and Livonia schools.

Six hundred people attended the Nov. 30 event, paying \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door.

Chamber Executive Director Lori Brist said the Family Resource Center donation will be made during a Jan. 11 chamber luncheon that will feature Wayne-Westland Superintendent Greg Baracy's State of the Schools address.

'It could be for parenting problems. It could be for substance abuse problems. It could be for physical abuse problems — anything.'

—Greg Baracy
—Wayne-Westland superintendent

"We're very grateful, not only for the chamber's support but the community's support and the restaurateurs," Baracy said.

He said \$5,000 amounts to about 20 percent of the Family Resource Center's annual budget.

"The demand has gotten so great," Baracy said, adding that 1,000 families have sought help during the last year.

"It could be for parenting problems. It could be for substance abuse problems. It could be for physical abuse problems — anything," Baracy said. "We also provide referral services for families who can't afford to get the help they need."

"The center has played a real significant role in helping the families in our community improve their quality of life," he said.

Please see **CENTER, A4**

Midway mavens provide a gift from their hearts

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

Stuffed animals don't retrieve the newspaper, but they fetch a lot of money for charity.

Which is why once a year a John Rogin Buick-Isuzu salesman and his partner fill the showroom with the creatures. This year, Peter Magic and Dana Tidwell chucked 2,000 stuffed animals inside the Plymouth Road dealership, located between Merriman and Middlebelt next to the Terrace Theater.

By Monday afternoon, several hundred had already been landed for donations of \$10-50 each. Proceeds go to charities such as the Lions Club, Special Olympics, Toys for Tots and children's hospitals.

During the past 15 years, Magic

donated \$20,000 to charity.

How did the pair procure so many stuffed creatures? Forget safaris at FAO Schwartz or Toys R Us.

They won them the old-fashioned way — at midways from Sandusky, Ohio, to Las Vegas. Peter Magic touts himself as a champion carnival gamesman.

He can put the dart in the star, lasso the ring on the bottle and send milk containers astir with one heave of a softball.

"Every one of them is rigged," Magic said. "We just know how to un-rig them."

For 15 years, Magic has used his sideshow savvy to land prizes, which he stores in a garage and at home until the holidays. He's taught Tidwell the

Please see **MIDWAY, A4**



Loot: These stuffed dogs were the easiest to win for Peter Magic at Cedar Point. He cleared out the booth of all its prizes.

STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY



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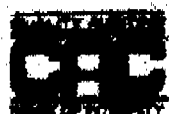
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Justice goal of vigil

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

Organizers of a prayer vigil in front of a Livonia Wal-Mart Thursday say what they are doing is not a boycott.

Rather, members of the Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance want to bring awareness about exploited workers whose wares appear in stores like Wal-Mart.

A spokeswoman for the retailer denies the practice.

Some 20 or so members chanted and passed out leaflets at the retail outlet on Middlebelt and Schoolcraft. Shoppers were puzzled but largely went about their way to seek holiday bargains.

Demonstrators found a sympathetic ear in Darryl Bartlett of Westland.

"It breaks my heart," said Bartlett, sitting on a bench while reading how workers in Bangladesh make 9 cents an hour while those in Honduras earn 43 cents.

"With the holidays coming up, what's there to be joyful about when you see something like this?"

Sue and Mike Bellaire of Plymouth carried small flashlight candles and chanted with the rest of 20 or members.

The alliance is made up of parishioners from 10 Catholic churches in Detroit and one in Farmington Hills.

The couple, which attend St. Edith Catholic Church, read about the alliance in the parish bulletin. Their son heads an Amnesty International chapter at the University of Dallas and has told them about the plight of abused workers worldwide.

The Plymouth couple decided



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Seeking justice: Darryl Bartlett of Westland signs the group's petition outside Wal-Mart. Below, the vigil continues.

to investigate by attending the prayer vigil.

"It does bother me," Sue Bellaire said. "It makes me wonder if I'm wearing clothes made in places where subhuman conditions exist."

Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance members visited five area Wal-Mart stores Thursday, which is the nation's largest retailer. The prayer vigil coincided with the 51st anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights.

Through a megaphone, organizer Eric Blount read aloud Article 23 dealing with worker's rights during the vigil.

The alliance chose Wal-Mart, "not because they are the only offender," said Sister Cathie DeSantis, "but because they're the biggest one."

A Wal-Mart spokesman said the company has subcontractors sign contracts, which includes guidelines that require healthy working conditions.

However, Wal-Mart does not

disclose where factories are "for competitive reasons," said Jessica Moser, company spokeswoman.

"Wal-Mart does many things to make sure the factories where the products are made and sold in our stores are run properly," Moser said. "We make a clear understanding of what we expect."

"We don't stop there and expect that's all we have to do."

Wal-Mart representatives make unannounced inspections to "thousands of factories" abroad annually. If they don't adhere to Wal-Mart's guidelines, the company discontinues business.

"We have closed down factories," Moser said. "If we go in and find they are out of compliance with our requirements, those products are pulled."

Countries in Central America, Mexico, Philippines and China are home to many sweatshops, Sisters DeSantis said. In China, factories are particularly hard to find.

"It's a hidden economy in

China," Sister DeSantis said.

They're urging people to contact Wal-Mart CEO David Glass to disclose where their subcontractor's factories are located and pay employees that work in them a living wage.

Also, alliance members want the company to use an independent auditor to monitor work conditions and wages in those factories.

Such awareness campaigns have been largely successful in curtailing use of child labor in Pakistan soccer ball factories, Sister DeSantis said.

Cheap labor doesn't translate into bargains for shoppers, either, Sister DeSantis said.

Last March, the alliance tracked down and compared clothes made in the U.S. and abroad. Though manufactured in different countries, brands, model numbers and quality were the same.

So, too were the prices, Sister DeSantis said.

"So somebody is making a lot of money," she said. "But it's not the workers."

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Exchange students bring yule customs

BY RENÉE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER
rskoglund@oe.homecomm.net

For hundreds of area foreign exchange students, this holiday season will be their first away from home. They will think about family and friends back home, but, thanks to host families, few will be homesick. They look forward to participating in American holiday customs and sharing a few of their own.

Ha uskaa joulua!

If Satu Rehumaki, 17, a foreign exchange student at Plymouth Canton High School, were spending the holidays at home in Oulu, Finland, she would head to the sauna on Christmas Eve morning. It's a Finnish tradition. "It's to get clean for the new year," she said.

She would attend church with her family in the late afternoon and sit down around 6 p.m. to a feast of ham and several vegetable casseroles. Afterward, there would be a visit from Santa Claus, or *Joulupukki*, who, according to Rehumaki, comes from Finland.

"Ya, he lives there, in Lapland."



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURKEMANN

Music: Exchange student Satu Rehumaki plays the piano. She is from Finland.

This year, Rehumaki may play a few Finnish Christmas carols for her host parents, Ken and Mary Beardsley. She has studied classical music for 10 years, and the Canton Rotary, which sponsored her visit, rented a piano for her. Or she may attempt once again to make Finnish meatballs with her host dad. Their initial effort for a school project was less than successful.

"It was like meatballs with dill relish in

the middle," said Ken Beardsley. "After we stiffened it up to make it stick, I wasn't sure it was Finnish."

Mutlu Yillar!

Melis Mani, 18, a senior at Churchill High School in Livonia, comes from Ankara, Turkey. She has settled into the home of Ron and Deanna Gaffne, compliments of the Livonia Rotary's foreign exchange student program. She will be with the Gaffnes through the holidays before moving on to two more host families.

Although Mani is a veteran traveler - Luxembourg, France, Italy, Spain, Greece and Bulgaria - this is her first stay in the United States and her first time away from home for New Year's Eve.

Turkey is predominantly a Muslim country, so the holiday emphasis is on Dec. 31 rather than Dec. 25, said Mani. On New Year's Eve, after exchanging gifts and eating a big dinner of stuffed grape leaves, rice and spiced chicken, she and her sister, Beris, 21, go out with friends.

"We don't sleep that night," she said, smiling. Sounds like a typically American way to celebrate, except for one unusual tradition:

"In Turkey, five minutes before the new year, people change their underwear for new ones, like new red ones. They think it will bring good luck to them and it will bring them money in the new year."

When told by the Gaffnes that she had to make a Christmas list, Mani at first drew a blank. However, she's a fast learner, and certain CDs soon came to mind by groups such as Scorpions, Cranberries, Shania Twain and Smash Mouth.

"We sat down and came up with about 30 things," said Deanna Gaffne.

Frohliche Weihnachten! Glaedelig Jul! Feliz Natal!

That's "Merry Christmas" in German, Danish and Brazilian Portuguese.

Anne-Katrin Grosse, 16, of Germany, Soeren Roepstorff, 15, of Denmark, and Anna Oliveira Camara, 17, of Brazil are foreign exchange students at Garden City High School. It's the first time they have been away from home for the holidays.

In the Grosse household, Christmas-Eve celebrations began early in the day with a birthday party for a cousin. Afterward, the family visits the graves of their grandparents. By 5 p.m., they're in church, where Grosse plays the flute and takes part in a Christmas play. Her oldest brother remains at home to prepare dinner and trim the tree.



STAFF PHOTO BY BETAN MITCHELL

Talking turkey: Melis Mani, 18, a senior at Churchill High School in Livonia, comes from Ankara, Turkey. She has settled into the home of Ron and Deanna Gaffne, courtesy of the Livonia Rotary. She'll be with the Gaffnes through the holidays.

Upon returning home, Grosse and her other brother wait outside until her parents ring a bell announcing that all preparations have been completed. Only then can the younger children enter and see the Christmas tree for the first time.

The evening is filled with games, story telling, singing and music, with Grosse playing the flute and her brother the guitar. Celebrations continue for a few days. The family dines at a special restaurant on Christmas Day, and on Dec. 26, Grosse's mother roasts the traditional goose and serves it with red cabbage and chestnuts.

Christmas is always festive, since it's the only time Grosse's oldest brother is home. "That is the most important thing I'll miss on the holidays: playing games with my big brothers."

Roepstorff lives in Valloe, an old, small town south of Copenhagen that has a castle and an ancient church. Uncles, aunts and cousins come over to share Christmas-Eve celebrations.

"We pretty much cook all day," he said. "We have duck with potatoes and a special salad. As a dessert, we eat ris a la mande. That's rice and cream with cherry sauce. We put an almond or two in it. We always say, 'Whose got the almond?' When you have it, you try to hide it."

After dinner, the family lights the candles on the Christmas tree. "It has to be a real tree and real candles," said Roepstorff. "And then we just sit and have fun and open the presents. It takes pretty

much all night."

In Brazil, it is not the custom to have a big Christmas tree or lots of decorations. "We don't have Santas in all the places," said Camara. The emphasis is on the Christmas Eve meal, which is eaten quite late. Camara, Grosse and Roepstorff are amazed at how early Americans eat their main meal.

"You can only eat at 11:30 p.m. or midnight because that's Christmas," said Camara. "Before we eat, we have champagne and wine." Her father usually supplies the wine, "because he doesn't know how to cook."

Every family contributes to the meal, which includes turkey, ham, rice - "We need to have rice!" - and a special Brazilian fowl known as "chester." The bird is eaten only at Christmas. "For me, it's the best," said Camara.

Guests finally head home around 2 a.m. Christmas day is quiet and spent with family. "I sleep until noon," said Camara.

These foreign exchange students are not so different from our own. They've learned to love Oreo cookies, doughnuts, turkey dressing and anything from Taco Bell. And although they are far away from home, they all are certain Santa will remember them.

"I'm sure he will find me, but I don't know if I was so nice," said Grosse.

Teach your children well



Giving: Christi Smith (right) buys food certificates from Helen Verselas, manager of Kroger in Garden City, for the needy at Christmas. Smith says people need to help the poor all year, not only at Christmas. She and brother Jeff save bottles and cans all year for this effort. They are the children of Gloria Smith of Dearborn and grandchildren of Thomas Cousin of Westland.

Deadline near for yule contest

The 13th annual Christmas Decorating Contest will take place this year under the sponsorship of the Westland City Council. Council President Sandra Cicirelli will chair the event. Members of the city council will judge residential displays and plaques will be awarded to

the winners at a regular meeting Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2000. There will be first, second, and third place winners.

The council will look at all nominations Wednesday, Dec. 22.

Anyone wishing to nominate a local residential house for this award may either write to the

Westland City Clerk's Office, 36601 Ford Road, Westland 48185, or call Patricia Gibbons at (734) 467-4185 or (313) 467-4191.

Deadline for nominations will be 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17. The city clerk will notify those selected for the awards.

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Y2K focus of call-in program

At 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, Westland Mayor Robert Thomas will host a live call-in show on W.L.N.D, the city's government access channel.

Viewers of MediaOne Channel 12 and Americast Channel

10 can call (734) 427-9004 with questions regarding the city's Y2K preparations. Joining the mayor will be Charles Nalbandian, management information systems director for the city of Westland, and additional city directors.

■ **Joining the mayor will be Charles Nalbandian, management information systems director.**

St. Nick plans visit

From 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, Santa Claus will visit North Bros. Ford. The auto dealership is located on Ford Road (north side) east of Wayne Road in Westland. St. Nick will have coloring books, crayons and treats for the youngsters.

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Published: December 12, 1999

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

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

President Timmons convened the meeting at 7:05 p.m., in the Board Room, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia. Present: Kirsten Galka, Frank Kokenakes, Daniel Lessard, Joanne Morgan, Patrick Nalley, Kenneth Timmons. Absent: Dianne Nay.

American Education Week Resolution: Motion by Lessard and Kokenakes that the Board designate and honor November 14-20, 1999 as the 78th annual observance of American Education Week. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Timmons. Nays: None.

Teachers of the Year: Motion by Kokenakes and Galka that the Board adopt resolutions for the 1999-2000 Teachers of the Year: **Kathleen Frame**, elementary; and **Jennifer Dallacqua**, secondary. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Timmons. Nays: None.

Representative DeHart and Representative Law, along with **Deb Pace**, aide to Senator McCotter, presented the Teachers of the Year resolutions of congratulations.

Recess: President Timmons recessed the meeting at 7:52 p.m. and reconvened at 8:03 p.m.

Audience Communications: Paul Terek, 31374 Minton, addressed the Board regarding the Web site policy asking that Web site design be part of the curriculum.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Morgan and Lessard that the Board approve the following consent agenda items as recommended by the superintendent: IVA Minutes and Synopsis of the Regular Meeting of November 1, 1999. IVB Minutes of the Closed Session of November 8, 1999. VA Bills for Payment-November 16, 1999. VB Approval to Purchase Computers for Hull School. VC Approval to Purchase Computers for McKinley School. VD Approval to Purchase Computers for Buchanan School. VE Approval to Purchase Computers for Nankin Mills School. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Timmons. Nays: None.

Millage Election Resolution: Motion by Galka and Morgan that the Board appoint **Gordon Draper**, Republican; **Tim Bica**, Democrat; and **Eileen DeHart**, Democrat (replaces Democrat Marjorie Gartz, who passed away in October; Ms. DeHart will complete Ms. Gartz's term of two years) be appointed to the Board of Election Canvassers of the Livonia Public Schools School District for four-year terms of office, with said terms commencing on January 1, 2000. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Timmons. Nays: None.

Leave: Motion by Kokenakes and Morgan that the Board accept the recommendation of the superintendent and approve the request for a leave of absence to: **Christine Bonk**, effect 11/23/99. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Timmons. Nays: None.

30-Year Recognition: The Board unanimously accepted the proposed resolution of appreciation for 30 years of full-time service with the district for: **Judith Halvary**.

Ratification of SEALS Contract: Motion by Lessard and Galka that the Board enter into a four-year contract with the SEALS union which was ratified on November 3, 1999 by SEALS' members. Said contract is to commence July 1, 1999 and expires June 30, 2003. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Timmons. Nays: None.

Reports from the Superintendent: Dr. Watson received a letter from **Marc Hage**, stating that the CHS Boys' Cross Country team qualified for the MHSAA state competition; reported that the art work on display in the lobby of the Board Room are examples of 2-dimensional art created by **Kristin Walters'** 22 8th grade art students from Frost; congratulated **Helene Luss**, principal at Randolph, for receiving the MEMSPA Regional Honors Award for Region 1; received a letter from **Mary Holmbacker** who thanked the Livonia Alternative High School students for raking her leaves which came to 18 bags full; and received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Zerod in which they thanked bus driver **George Burmeister** and paraprofessional **Margo Pyte** for assisting their son during a seizure.

Second Reading of Board Policy-IFA: Motion by Kokenakes and Lessard that the Board accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and adopt Board policy language for Board Policy: **IFA-DISTRICT WEB SITE**. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Timmons. Nays: None.

First Reading of Board Policy-JD: The Policy Committee has reviewed new language for the following Board Policy: **JD-STUDENT DISCIPLINE**. Mr. Nalley read the language.

Board Meeting Calendar Changes: Motion by Galka and Lessard that the Board cancel its meeting date of **December 20, 1999** and reschedule Regular Board Meeting of **March 20 to March 21, 2000**. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Timmons. Nays: None.

Hearing from Board Members: The Board congratulated the Teachers of the Year and **Helene Luss**, principal at Randolph, for her MEMSPA award, attended the CAPA performance of **Funny Girl**, visited Cooper school and their HOST program; commended the Alternative Education students who raked 18 bags of leaves for a Livonia resident; informed the audience that there are two very good Web sites for homework help for students and parents: **lightspan.com** and **familyeducation.com**; attended the FHS play **Is There a Comic in the House**; and thanked the administrative assistants **Jan Clark** and **Suzanne Steffes** for hosting the reception for the Teachers of the Year.

Adjournment: Motion by Morgan and Lessard that the regular meeting of November 15, 1999 be adjourned. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Nalley, Timmons. Nays: None. President Timmons adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Published: December 12, 1999

Winners from page A1

Incumbent Glenn Anderson proved that money didn't mean everything. He ranked sixth in spending (\$6,962) but earned a four-year term after becoming the top vote-getter (4,206).

Kehrer placed seventh in spending (\$5,863) and sixth in votes (2,992).

Nine-time candidate Dorothy Smith ranked far

behind all other candidates in spending (\$1,520), but placed fifth in the race (3,077) and lost a seat by only 84 votes.

The latest campaign expense reports came from candidate statements that the county elections office has made available on a public computer.

Running mates James, Griffin and Cox far outpaced their competitors in spending. Cox said he had to combat negative publicity.

"The reason I felt it was necessary to spend that kind of money was to fight the negative reports that the newspaper was putting out," he said Thursday.

Cox's campaign survived allegations that he forged a Wayne-Westland school district political committee's financial statements in 1995.

Cox also said he believed it was necessary to spend a sizable amount of money to get his ideas to the public.

"I think the lack of forums for all candidates made it necessary for a lot of written and printed material to be distributed," he said.

All eight candidates appeared together at only one public forum, sponsored by the Westland Jaycees.



Winnings: Dana Tidwell (left) and Peter Magic stand among the many stuffed animals they have won at Cedar Point and Las Vegas this past year.

Midway from page A1

secrets and the tandem has sent carnival barkers into conniptions since.

Places like Cedar Point have caught on to Magic and Tidwell.

When the pair arrive, the amusement park offers a wagon and someone to help carry the stuffed creatures. However, they're limited to two to four animals each per game.

"They let all the games (people) know we're coming so the manager can watch us and make sure we don't go over the limit," said Tidwell, a sales manager. "They've been real good to us."

By comparison, Las Vegas is not too keen on gamers liberating their stuffed animals. Tidwell said.

"They treat these animals like one of their jackpots on the slot machines: They don't want you winning one of them," Tidwell said.

Because of the pair's involvement in Toys for Tots, Northwest Airlines shipped its massive stuffed animal catch back from Las Vegas to Detroit free of charge.

When the haul becomes too heavy, they'll enlist a volunteer who receives a stuffed animal as payment.

"Try holding six of these in your arms," said Tidwell, pointing to the Winnie the Pooh bears.

Magic attributes the deft hand-eye coordination skills he honed as a magician for giving him an edge. He also plays all the angles. For instance, he makes sure all the glass vessels are lined up properly before plunking down his quarters on the bottle toss.

"It's just like a business," Magic said.

Like any good entrepreneur, or in this case a philanthropist, Magic has goals. He plans to double the number of stuffed animals to 4,000 next year.

This batch includes amplexed Scooby Doo dogs and Winnie the Pooh bears as well as Looney Tunes characters Bugs Bunny, Taz and Tweety Bird. Safari animals like snow white tigers and leopards are popular as well, Tidwell said.

Such items can run up to \$200 retail.

On Monday, a woman was looking around the legion of stuffed fare, especially things with a Pokemon theme. Magic had nine to 10 figures, including Pikachu, hidden near his desk. Those will be put up for bid, he said.

"We're keeping an eye on them until then," Tidwell said.

Stuffed animals were available through Friday. What's left over will be donated to Toys for Tots. So far, 5,000 stuffed animals have been donated throughout the years.

Magic has put a benevolent spin on P.T. Barnum's claim of a sucker being born every minute. "I'm a sucker for any charity," he said.

Center from page A1

Brist said she expected that "Taste of the Arts" proceeds would result in about \$1,000 for the Family Resource Center. The chamber kept some proceeds, too.

The event fueled talk around town about how classy it was.

"Our goal was to make it a classy night," Brist said. "It was very elegant, and it was a relaxed atmosphere."

Brist also commended "a huge mix of people" who made the event a success. She said a similar program will be planned for next year.

STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF WAYNE

THE CITY OF WESTLAND, a Michigan Municipal Corporation, Plaintiff, vs. UNION INVESTMENT COMPANY, a/k/a NORTHWEST ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION, an Oregon Corporation, qualified in Michigan; RICHARD LEE PETERSON, JEAN GAUTZ and unknown heirs, devisees or assignees, Defendants. ANGELO A. PLAKAS AND ASSOCIATES, P.C. Angelo A. Plakas (P18834); Mark A. McConnell (P49634); Address for Plaintiff: 3530 Nankin Boulevard, Suite 702, Westland, MI 48185; 734-421-5510.

ORDER TO ANSWER BY PUBLICATION WITH MAILING REQUIREMENT EXCLUDED

At a session of said Court held in the City-County Building, City of Detroit, County of Wayne, State of Michigan on November 23, 1999.

On August 25, 1999, an action was filed by the Plaintiff, the City of Westland, against Defendants, UNION INVESTMENT COMPANY, a/k/a NORTHWEST ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION, RICHARD LEE PETERSON and JEAN GAUTZ, in this Court to quiet title on a parcel of real property located in the City of Westland described as The North 72.9 feet of Lot 550, Supervisor's Nankin Plat No. 14, as recorded in Liber 70, Page 1 of Plats, Wayne County Records.

The Plaintiff acquired title to this property via a tax deed and/or quit claim deed from the State of Michigan on February 14, 1988.

Upon information and belief the Plaintiff believes that the Defendants, UNION INVESTMENT COMPANY, a/k/a NORTHWEST ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION, RICHARD LEE PETERSON and JEAN GAUTZ, at one time claimed or may have claimed an interest in this property which by virtue of the tax deed and/or quit claim deed from the State of Michigan to the City of Westland has expired. The purpose of this action is to declare that the Plaintiff, the City of Westland, is the fee simple owner of said property and that any interest the Defendants may have had in said property has expired.

Upon consideration of the Verified Motion of Plaintiff, and the Affidavit in Support thereof, attesting to the fact that the Defendants, UNION INVESTMENT COMPANY, a/k/a NORTHWEST ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION, RICHARD LEE PETERSON and JEAN GAUTZ, at one time claimed or may have claimed an interest in this property which by virtue of the tax deed and/or quit claim deed from the State of Michigan to the City of Westland has expired. The purpose of this action is to declare that the Plaintiff, the City of Westland, is the fee simple owner of said property and that any interest the Defendants may have had in said property has expired.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Defendants, UNION INVESTMENT COMPANY, a/k/a NORTHWEST ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION, RICHARD LEE PETERSON and JEAN GAUTZ, shall answer or file a motion to quash this action on or before the 24th day of February, 2000, serve an answer on Mark A. McConnell, attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 3530 Nankin Blvd., Suite 702, Westland, Michigan 48185, or take such other action as may be permitted by law. Failure to comply with this Order may result in a judgment by default against the Defendant for the relief demanded in the Complaint filed in this Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order be published once a week for three consecutive weeks, commencing December 5, 1999, December 12, 1999, and December 19, 1999 in the Westland Observer and Eccentric Newspaper, a newspaper of general circulation hereby designated as most likely to give notice to the Defendants named above. Publication shall occur within the County of Wayne, State of Michigan.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the first publication of this Order be made within five (5) days from the date of entry of this Order, and that mailing a copy of this Order be dispensed with because Plaintiff cannot, with reasonable diligence, ascertain a place where the Defendants would probably receive this matter transmitted by mail.

per:RSD
KATHLEEN MACDONALD
Circuit Court Judge

Published: December 5, 12 and 19, 1999

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Principals can join unions, but not in Detroit

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Principals and supervisory personnel in local school districts dodged a legislative bullet Wednesday, Dec. 8. They'll retain the right to form unions and engage in collective bargaining ... but not those in the city of Detroit.

Republican lawmakers voted to narrow a proposed ban on unionization of school district administrators to Detroit

STATE

only. That drew a furious response from Democrats.

"This bill is both racist and union busting, and the people of this state will not forget," Rep. Lynne Martinez (D-Lansing) said in anger during the debate on the House floor.

"There is no excuse for this political

body to pass bill after bill after bill damaging the people of one city in the state, a city about which you know nothing and wish to have no responsibility."

Verbiage from Detroit Democrats was even harsher.

Rep. Irma Clark (D-Detroit) called the proposal "disgusting" and labeled the House of Representatives a "prostitution ring" for considering it.

"Maybe we should pass some legislation for the rest of the state," Rep. Bob

Brown (D-Dearborn Heights) said.

Republicans bristled at the charge of racism. Sen. Leon Stille (R-Spring Lake) said he had listened to the House debate and found it "embarrassing."

"This is about improving education in the city of Detroit," Rep. Gene DeRossett (R-Manchester) said. "If we were racist, why would we care?"

As initially proposed, Senate Bill 663, sponsored by Sen. Loren Bennett (R-Canton) would have banned unions for all school principals and supervisors

across the state. He said he had been spurred to introduce the bill by last fall's teacher strike in Detroit. Some principals, he said, joined teachers on the picket lines.

"When the bill left this chamber, it was good public policy," Bennett said.

There ought to be a definite distinction between labor and management. But the House pared it down to a number of distressed schools districts. This

See UNIONS, A9

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AAA Michigan urges motorists to use caution

(PRNewswire) - In Michigan, the first snow of the season often catches some drivers off guard. By early Monday after the first snowfall, AAA Michigan has served 400 motorists, with battery trouble, flat tires and spin-outs among the most common problems. Numbers are normal for a Monday morning. Drivers find out the hard way that slick driving conditions can affect a vehicle's handling and braking ability. In fact, says AAA Michigan, the leading

cause of traffic crashes on ice-slicked, snow-clogged roads is following the car in front too closely. The driver in front stops; you can't. AAA Michigan recommends increasing your following distance on slippery roads from the good-road gap of 3 seconds to 6 seconds. A good way to measure the six-second time gap is to pick out a distinct road marking or sign, and then begin counting when the car ahead passes that spot - "one-thousand-one, one-thousand-two

Use extra caution on shaded areas and bridges, overpasses and intersections - areas where ice is likely to form first or be slipperiest because the shiny ice surface has either been polished by previous traffic, a thin layer of water covers melting ice below or a temperature difference exists. Improve visibility by clearing all snow and ice from the entire car - hood, roof, trunk, turn signals, lights, windows, mirrors, even fender wells. Also, driving

with headlights on low-beam provides better road illumination in snow and fog than using high-beams. Remember, posted speed limits are set for ideal road and weather conditions. Avoid sudden starts, stops and turns. Accelerate carefully so car wheels don't spin. Don't brake hard. In a skid, ease off the accelerator and don't lock up the brakes. Carefully steer in the direction you want the car to go

and straighten the wheel as soon as the car begins to go in the desired direction. Anticipate potential danger such as ice on bridges, snow-covered lane markings, stalled cars and poor visibility. Adjust speed, increase distance between other cars or change lanes to avoid trouble. Watch for other drivers who may be unprepared for changing road conditions. Motorists should carry shovel, boots and other winter items in their trunks.

Northwest adds flights to Rome from Metro

Northwest Airlines will begin nonstop flights from Detroit to Rome starting April 2, 2000.

The U.S. Department of Transportation issued Northwest a permit Tuesday to operate that flight and a Detroit-Milan, Italy, route. The daily flights will be operated in cooperation with Alitalia Italian Airlines and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines as part of the airlines' proposed tripartite agreement.

The DOT granted anti-trust immunity for a Northwest/Alitalia/KLM alliance on Dec. 3 to allow the three carriers to closely align their routes in the weeks ahead. In addition, the DOT announced Monday that an "Open Skies" agreement had been reached between the United States and Italy.

Effective April 2, Northwest flight 66 will depart Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport daily at 5:30 p.m. and arrive at Rome's Fiumicino International Airport at 8:25 a.m. the following day. Return flight 65 will depart Rome daily at 11 a.m. and arrive in Detroit at 3:10 p.m.

In the Milan market, Northwest flight 64 will depart Metro at 5:25 p.m. and arrive at Milan's Malpensa International Airport at 7:45 p.m. the following day. Return flight 63 will depart Milan at 9:50 a.m. and arrive in Detroit at 1:30 p.m. The Rome and Milan services will operate with Northwest DC-10 aircraft.

Northwest will operate convenient connecting service to and from the Italy flights at Detroit from major markets throughout the Midwest, southwest and western regions of the United States. Northwest operates more than 500 daily departures at Detroit, its largest hub.

Rome and Milan are Alitalia's two primary hubs.

Northwest officials plan to offer service beyond Rome and Milan to major cities in Italy, southern Europe and the Mediterranean, according to Ray Vecchi, Northwest's president of Michigan operations.

Forum scheduled for GOP hopefuls

The Western Wayne County Republican Club, formerly the Westland Republican Club, will hold a Candidates' Forum 7 p.m. Monday, at Amantea's Restaurant, 32777 W. Warren, Garden City. Participating will be announced Republican candidates for the 20th State House of Representatives district.

The district includes the city and township of Plymouth, Northville Township and the Wayne County portion of the city of Northville, along with the northwest area of Livonia.

There are currently four Republican candidates who have announced their intentions to run for the seat. All have indicated they will participate in the forum. They are: David McDonald, Plymouth councilman recently selected as that city's mayor; Eric Colthurst, a Plymouth attorney from Northville who was formerly a magistrate at the 35th District Court; Theresa Falino of Northville, vice chair of the Republican 13th Congressional District Committee and party activist; and Matthew Cowles of Northville, a former legislative assistant to then-State Sen. R. Robert Geake.

The current representative, Gerald Law, is unable to run again due to term limits.

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Husband arraigned on murder charges

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

A Garden City man accused of stabbing his wife to death just before Halloween has been arraigned on first-degree murder charges.

Peter Raub, 41, was charged Thursday morning by 21st District Judge Richard Hammer Jr. A plea of not-guilty was entered for him and he requested a court-appointed attorney.

His next court date is Monday, Dec. 20, also at 21st District Court on Middlebelt in Garden City for a preliminary hearing. He is being jailed without bond.

He was extradited from Los Angeles, where he had fled following his wife's death.

Frank Bernacky, assistant Wayne County prosecutor and head of the extradition unit, said Raub was transported via van by Transcor America, a prisoner

transport service. The road trip from Los Angeles took about two weeks.

Raub was initially jailed in Garden City, then transferred to the Wayne County Jail, said Sgt. Kevin Nowak, a Garden City police detective.

Raub's wife, Veronica Kuclo-Raub, 34, was found dead by her children Halloween morning. An autopsy by the Wayne County Medical Examiner showed she had been stabbed three times.

"Just the mere fact (Raub) wasn't there when (the murder) was discovered" made him suspicious, Nowak said. "We knew he'd left the state."

He was tracked to Los Angeles through activities on his credit card.

Raub was arrested by Los Angeles police Nov. 16. An extradition hearing was held Nov. 17 and Raub's extradition to Michigan began Nov. 28.

The Metro Street Enforcement Team, consisting of police from Garden City, Inkster, Wayne, Westland and the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, helped in the initial investigation, Nowak said.

The Raubs' four children have been staying with an aunt since the incident and are reportedly doing "as well as they can be," Nowak said.

Kuclo-Raub was a self-proclaimed witch and owned Gundella's Witches Ways and Wares shop, named for her late mother, on Middlebelt south of Maplewood. She was a follower of the Wicca religion and insisted repeatedly that her religion had nothing to do with Satanism.

Raub's wife, Veronica Kuclo-Raub, 34, was found dead by her children Halloween morning. An autopsy by the Wayne County Medical Examiner showed she had been stabbed three times.



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Priced Membership or package</p> <p>Berkeley Beach Tanning Salon Berkley 3 month had \$80/3, month had \$100</p> <p>Better Health Store Walled Lake 10% Off On All Supplements</p> <p>Checker Drugs 190 S. Wayne Road Westland Barbeco 11 oz. • Assorted Types 89c</p> <p>Dr. Daniel V. Tomlinello Royal Oak Free Initial Consultation & Exam</p> <p>Dr. Lefkowitz Ferndale Free Initial Consultation</p> <p>Delee Hair Fashions Farmington Hills 10% Off Reg. Price Cuts & Rusk Products</p> <p>Ferrari Hair Birmingham \$5 Off Any Hair Service</p> <p>Family Dental Center 734-427-6906 Livonia 10% Off First Visit & Free consultation</p> <p>Great Hair Berkley 10% Off Any Service</p> <p>Holice of Optics Royal Oak 15% Off Complete Pair of Eyeglasses</p> <p>Medical Center Pediatrics, P.C. W. Bloom./Ing. Farms Special Offer for New Patients. 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Prestige Cleaners on 5 Mile Livonia 20% Off Dry Cleaning (No Other Coupons)</p> <p>Mal Kai Cleaners All Locations Free Seater or Pant W/\$9.95 Incoming Cleaning</p> <p>Park Ave \$1.75 Cleaners 644-5091 Canton \$1.50 Per Item for Dry Cleaning</p> <p>Rego to Riches Cleaners Clawson 15% Off Dry Cleaning Only (Min. \$25 Order)</p> <p>Touch of Class Plymouth 15% Off All Dry Cleaned Garments</p> <p>White Cleaners & Coin Laundry Berkley 30% Off Incoming Dry Cleaning Orders</p> <h4>S Entertainment</h4> <p>Ambassador Roller Rink Clawson Buy One Admission - Get One Free (Sat. 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Charter school cap will not be raised this year

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Unable to find the necessary votes among representatives, Gov. John Engler and the House Republican leadership gave up hopes of raising the cap on charter schools by the end of this year.

Despite approval by the Senate Wednesday, Dec. 8, of House Bill 4959 - a bill already voted out by the House but amended in the Senate to contain language raising the limit on university-authorized "public school academies" from the current 150 to 200 in the coming year - House leadership didn't even take a vote before adjourning for the year early Thursday morning.

A handful of House Republicans could not be convinced of the need to raise the cap. The primary concern of opponents, on both sides of the aisle, was accountability of charter schools to the public and the state legislature.

Locally, two lawmakers were among the holdouts who defeated the bill - Rep. Patricia Godchaux, R-Birmingham, and Rep. Gerald Law, R-Plymouth.

Rep. Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, wanted provisions added making charter schools as accountable for spending as public schools.

Law explained that charter schools have been allowed to operate like private schools, but get taxpayer money to pay for operations. He wanted provisions added making charter schools as accountable for their spending as public schools.

Godchaux said the charters draw money away from public schools. That makes it more difficult for failing school districts to improve their performance. In the meantime, the state is doing little to support those students left behind in the distressed school districts.

Engler had wanted the limit increased by the end of this year so that new charter schools could open next fall. According to his spokesman, John Truscott, some 140 schools are already in operation in the state and another

100 are ready to seek approval.

With the failure of the bill, new charter schools will have to (a) wait a year, (b) seek authorization through an agency other than a state university, such as a school district or community college, or (c) count on lawmakers passing the bill early next year with enough additional votes to give it immediate effect.

When the House could not move the bill the previous week, Republican senators took the initiative. Starting with House Bill 4959 - a non-controversial bill allowing gifts made to school districts to be moved to foundations, already approved by representatives and awaiting action in the Senate - lawmakers in the upper chamber added the wording to raise the cap on charter schools. The amendment would have raised the limit by 50 in the first year, then by 25 more in following years.

On the floor, Sen. Dianne Byrum, D-Onodaga, sought to amend the bill to increase accountability. Her proposal would have required charter schools to release audits to the state, obtain criminal records of employees, require credentials for teachers, provide special education services, adopt conflict of

'Let's not be afraid of a little competition. We ought not just put up barriers, pulling in the reins on kids who need our help. Public schools cannot be all things to all people.'

Mike Rogers,
—state senator

interest policies, comply with state procurement policies and review complaints made by parents.

"This is straightforward. It's reasonable ... I'm not against charter schools. These will help them to be successful," she said.

Sen. Mike Rogers, R-Howell, said all those requirements were in the bill already since it required that charters follow existing state laws.

"Let's not be afraid of a little competition," Rogers countered. "We ought not just put up barriers, pulling in the reins on kids who need our help. Public schools cannot be all things to all peo-

ple." Sen. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township, proposed an amendment which would require charter schools to report publicly what they pay to management companies when such firms are contracted to run those schools.

"Disclosure is needed to safeguard public monies," he argued. "Once it is in the hands of the management company, it becomes private."

Rogers disagreed again. "I wish the minority had taken the time to read this bill because it is already in there," he said.

Both amendments failed in 15-22 party line votes. On final passage, senators approved the bill 22-15, only to have the bill stall again in the House.

Among the Observer & Eccentric! Newspaper coverage area, here's how the legislators in the Senate voted:

Yes - Sens. Loren Bennett, R-Canton; Bill Buitard, R-Highland; Mat Dunaskiss, R-Lake Orion; Shirley Johnson, R-Royal Oak; and Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia.

No - Sens. John D. Cherry Jr., D-Clio; George Z. Hart, D-Dearborn; and Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township.

Unions from page A5

amendment further narrows it down to just the city of Detroit.

Let's meet, Stille argued, with only the one city where it is a problem.

On the Detroit-only version of the bill, senators voted 22-15 to approve. Locally, senators voting

yes included: Loren Bennett (R-Canton), Bill Bullard (R-Highland), Mat Dunaskiss (R-Lake Orion), Shirley Johnson (R-Royal Oak) and Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia).

John D. Cherry Jr. (D-Clio), George Z. Hart (D-Dearborn)

and Gary Peters (D-Bloomfield) voted no.

In the House, representatives voted 56-53 for the Detroit-only revision. Voting yes were Bruce Patterson (R-Canton), Andrew Raczkowski (R-Farmington Hills) and Laura Toy (R-Livonia).

Bob Brown (D-Dearborn Heights), Eileen DeHart (D-Westland) and Gerald Law, R-Plymouth voted no.

Rep. Tom Kelly (D-Wayne) did not vote.

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WCCC receives accreditation

PRNewswire - Evaluators from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools will recommend a 10-year accreditation for the Wayne County Community College District, the highest ranking accreditation. The association is the principal accrediting body for Postsecondary and secondary schools in the Midwest.

Over a 2 1/2 day period, members of the team met with college officials, faculty, staff, students and representatives from the corporate, religious and civic communities to determine the quality

and integrity of programs and services offered at community college.

This included visits to all five campuses, local extension centers and an exhaustive review of materials and documents relating to the organization, staffing and delivery of instructional services to more than 18,000 students enrolled at the institution each year.

As a result of their fact-finding visit, Dr. Vernon Crawley, president of Moraine Valley Community College in Palo Hills, Ill., and chair of the 10-member on-

site team, reported to the college that the team will forward to NCA a recommendation for a 10-year period of accreditation with no focus visits.

Since 1976, Wayne County Community College has had continued accreditation with an increasing length of time awarded by NCA between on-site visits. In 1987, a five-year accreditation was awarded to the college. In 1992, WCCCD received a seven-year accreditation as a comprehensive community college.

This recommendation by the

on-site evaluators marks the first time the 32-year old institution has earned the highest level of continued accreditation the agency offers. Dr. Curtis L. Ivery, Chancellor of the five-campus district is pleased with the team recommendation. "This is an historic moment for WCCCD and an opportunity to build upon the success we've worked so hard to achieve," Dr. Ivery said. "The efforts of all members of the college community have finally been recognized and certified by their peers."

Directory available

(PRNewswire) - The Detroit Regional Chamber has recently released the third edition of its Manufacturing Directory to Regional Detroit.

Produced by the Chamber's Research and Information Center, this comprehensive guide lists more than 3,400 manufacturers throughout the 10-county region. Companies in the directory are listed alphabetically and by SIC code.

Also included in the directory is the Regional Detroit Guide to Business Parks. Produced in conjunction with the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, business park listings include park name, location, acres available, zones, road and rail access, contacts and more.

Cost for the directory is \$35 for chamber members, \$50 for nonmembers, or on disk at \$175 for chamber members, \$200 for nonmembers. For more information or to purchase a directory, call (313) 596-0333 or email: ccarterdetroitchamber.com.

Group honors McNamaras for support to organization

DETROIT/PRNewswire/ - Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara and his wife, Lucille, will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from Life Directions Inc., a young adult mentoring and guidance organization in Detroit.

The McNamaras were honored for their longtime support to Life Directions at the organization's annual Tribute Dinner Thursday at the Hotel Pontchartrain.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton was the recipient of Life Directions' Lifetime Achievement Award last year, the 25th Anniversary of Life Directions. The McNamaras have supported the organization both personally and professionally during his political and civic career. They were presented with the award by Ron Reed, vice president, Ameritech.

Life Directions recognized several other Detroiters who have contributed to the organization in past years. It has created the Mary Ball Award, named for the recently deceased civic activist. The Mary Ball Award is dedicated to an activist or journalist who has made the community more aware of the challenges facing young people. WDIV Channel 4 news anchorman Emery King is the 1999 recipient of the Mary Ball Award, which will be presented to King by Michigan Attorney General Jennifer Granholm.

Life Directions has also created its Symbol of Service Award, which will be presented posthumously to Joan Petitpren, another longtime supporter of the organization, by Cameron Priebe of the Wayne County Executive's Office. Petitpren passed away two months ago.

Life Directions works with and for the benefit of young people, particularly those who are economically poor, ages 13 through 35, to foster the attitudes needed for growth into responsible adults. The core values of the mission are the fostering of a mission-driven attitude, partnership in diversity, balance in relationships and self-responsibility for one's own future.

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OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Lasers, Lightning join

The Livonia Lasers and the Livonia Lightning are combining basketball programs to create a premier girls AAU club.

The Laser/Lightning AAU basketball teams will be holding tryouts for girls ages 10-13 at the Bentley Center on Five Mile and Hubbard, December 11 and 18.

Girls ages 14-16 will try out Dec. 18 at St. Edith's gym, on Newburgh near Five Mile.

Tryouts are as follows: 10-U, 3-4:30 p.m., Dec. 11, Bentley Center; 11-U, 4:30-6 p.m., Dec. 11, Bentley Center; 12-U, 6-7:30 p.m., Dec. 11, Bentley Center; 13-U, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Bentley Center; 14-U, 9-10:30 a.m., Dec. 18, St. Edith gym; 15-U, 10:30-12 noon, Dec. 18, St. Edith gym; 16-U, 12-1:30 p.m., Dec. 18, St. Edith gym.

Tryout fee is \$10. For more information call Patrick Cannon (734) 953-0854, or check out the web site at www.eteamz.com/livonialighting.

Gymnasts fare well

Gymnasts from Livonia and Plymouth on the Splitz Gymnastics Academy team from Canton both proved superior at the Dec. 4 USAG Level 5 State Meet in Bay City.

Christa Smutek of Livonia was unbeatable in the eight-year-old division. Smutek won all four individual events, making her the all-around champion as well with a score of 36.375. Smutek won the beam (9.1), the vault (8.975), the bars (8.95) and the floor (9.35).

Alyssa Kelly of Plymouth won the vault in the 10-year-old division with a score of 9.275. Kelly also placed second in the all-around with a 36.175; she was second on the balance beam (9.20), fourth in floor exercise (8.975) and seventh on the uneven parallel bars (8.725).

Over-50 hockey

The Silver Sticks Hockey League for players over age 50 is being formed to play Tuesday mornings at Plymouth's Arctic Pond Ice Arena.

Game times are 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Cost is \$165 per player for the fun recreational league, with free coffee and donuts following games.

The season lasts 10 games plus playoffs and begins Jan. 18.

To register, call John Wilson at (248) 471-0658 or e-mail him at john@rspi.net.

Rowdies take third

The U-13 Rowdies, a 3v3 team made up of four Livonia Youth Soccer Club Wings and trained by Adam Pichler, finished third during a Thanksgiving weekend tournament at Total Soccer in Wixom.

The team's only loss was a 4-2 setback at the hands of eventual champion Varder III Soccer Club.

Team members included John Happ, Brad Jackson, David Kroll and Matt Moryc.

Hitting camp

Madonna University baseball coach Greg Haeger will conduct a Winter Hitting Camp for baseball at Madonna Sunday, Dec. 19 and Monday, Dec. 20.

Class times are 1-4 p.m. for 13-18 year-olds and 5-8 p.m. for 8-13 year-olds. Cost is \$90 per person.

For further information, call Haeger at (734) 432-5609.

Pom pon is second

The Farmington Hills Mercy pom pon squad placed second in dance competition held recently at Saginaw Valley State, a half-point from first.

Scores came from creativity of original choreography and execution.

Squad members were Ashley Armbruster, Lauren Burniac, Beth Lamborne and Emily Sharpe from Plymouth and Canton; Angela and Cristina Corsi, Amy Firluk, Kalli and Lindsay Fortune, Katie Landsberg, Antoinette Mazzoni and Jessica Stoller from Farmington; Shauna Barcewicz and Alexis Thebolt from West Bloomfield; Elisa Brunetto of Westland; Emily Butler of Redford; Christa Davis of Dearborn; Tayna Giroux of Clarkston; Katie Kenny from Novi; Maribeth Phillips of Brighton; Amber Young of Rochester Hills; and Beth LaCroix and Linda Karbo of Livonia.

The team is coached by Heather Carney.

Jobbitt nears milestone win

The difference between 199 and 200 might be one in math class but it's a whole lot more than one in a coach's log book.

Terry Jobbitt is currently able to offer testimony on that point.

Jobbitt earned his 199th career victory as a high school hockey coach Friday night when his Livonia Franklin team scored three times in less than three minutes of the third period to earn a 4-2 victory over Livonia Churchill.

Win No. 200 could come as early as Wednesday night when Walled Lake Central plays Franklin at 8 p.m. at Edgar Arena.

"Very few coaches get 200 wins in high school sports," Jobbitt gushed. "I'm trying to put it behind me. I want the team to be first."

"I'm ecstatic and higher than a kite. I don't think I've ever been prouder of a Franklin team. We were down 2-1, and didn't give up."

"We kept working. Every player believed in the word 'team.'"

Both teams were whistled for five penalties but the difference was that Franklin was able to keep Churchill from scoring during the two occasions the Chargers had a two-man advantage.

And on the one time the Patriots had a two-man advantage, they worked two goals out of it.

Churchill held a 2-1 lead at the start of the third period and midway through took two consecutive penalties to give Franklin a 5-one-3.

Brandon McCullough scored at 7:20 on an assists by Sam Dismuke and Jesse Wright to tie the score and bring one of Churchill's penalized players back on the ice.

But Josh Garbutt scored at 8:11 with assists from Adam Bierley and Corey Garbutt.

HOCKEY

"So now we're down, 3-2, after being up 2-1," Coach Jeff Hatley of Churchill said after his Chargers lost their second in a row. "But the Franklin kids capitalized on their chances, and that's the moral of that story. I congratulate them on their victory."

Franklin (2-2-1) capitalized on Churchill (3-3) defensemen pinching in and getting caught to score its first and fourth goals, cashing in on the odd-man rush it created.

The other two goals, of course, were power play scores.

Sean Smith started Churchill out with a lead at 7:44 of the opening period, assisted by Adam Krug and Tom Sherman. That's how the first period ended.

Josh Garbutt got his hat trick started a bare 1:24 into the second period. Dismuke and Chad VanHulle drawing the assists, but Kevin Gessler dissolved the tie at 8:36 with assists going to Smith and Krug.

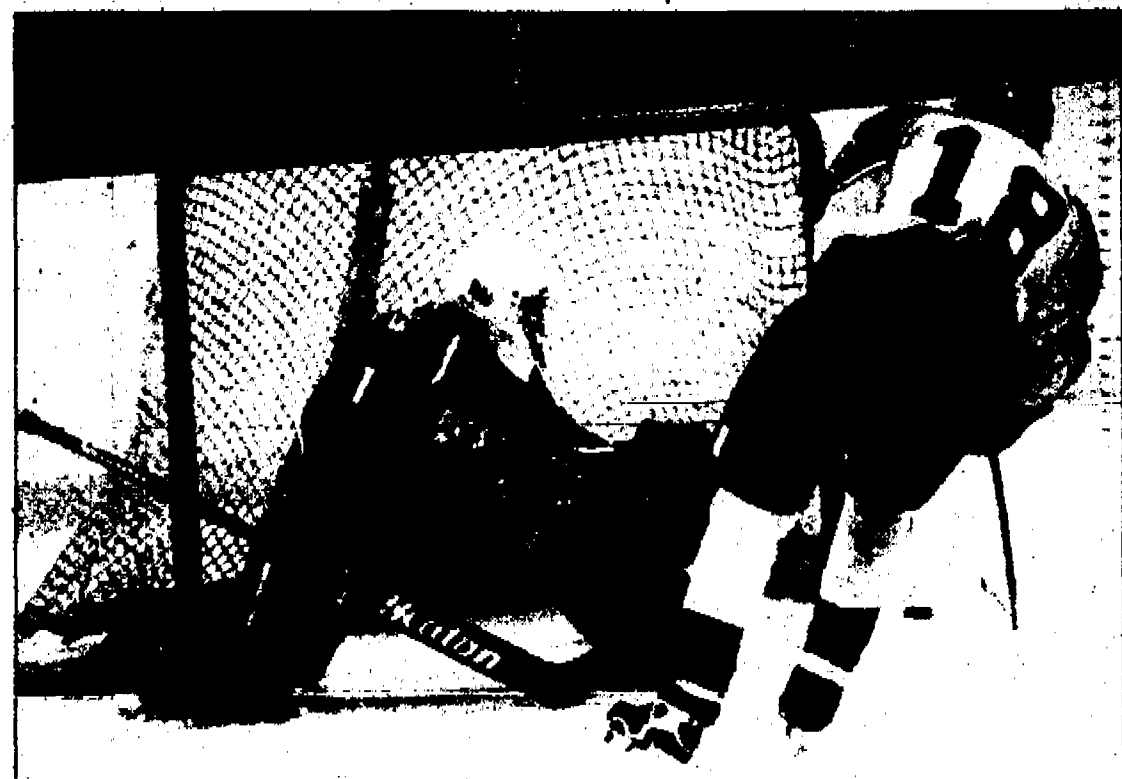
Josh Garbutt put the game away at 9:12 of the final period, completing his hat trick with help from brother Andy Garbutt and Gordie Statham. The winning goalie was Chris Garbutt.

The outcome was Churchill's first loss in four Western Lakes Activities Association outings while Franklin improved to 1-1-1 in league play.

Churchill held a 39-20 edge in shots on goal.

"A lot of their shots came in the second period when we were two men short twice," Jobbitt said. "We never gave up on ourselves even when we were short-handed."

"Then when we got the two-man advantage we called timeout and set



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Just this once: Kevin Gessler gives Livonia Churchill a 2-1 lead midway through the first period Friday night but Franklin goalie Chris Garbutt didn't let anything else through and the Patriots came back to take a 4-2 victory at Eddie Edgar Arena.

up a couple of plays. We went in and did the things we wanted and scored three goals in less than a couple of minutes.

"It was a very big win. We talked to the boys ahead of time. We set up some systems, changed some things."

"The boys came out and believed in themselves and believed in the system. They gave 150 percent. The players were coming off gassed."

"Churchill's an excellent hockey team. Their goaltending, defensemen and forwards are all excellent."

Cranes trip Chargers

Churchill journeyed to Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook on Wednesday night to get shutout, 3-0.

"We got to the rink at the last moment," Hatley said. "We got dressed on the bus — and things went downhill from there."

The Cranes held a 24-16 edge in shots on goal to improve to 3-0.

"We played like we weren't prepared," Hatley said.

Please see **HOCKEY, B3**

Harakas twins work well together

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER
skowalski@oe.homecomm.net

Their first names are Michelle and Melissa — an M&M that's a handful for opponents and sure to make college coaches melt over their talents next year.

The Harakas sisters, fraternal twins and juniors at Livonia Ladywood, made their mark on Observerland basketball this fall.

Michelle, a 6-foot-1 center, earned first-team honors and Melissa, a 5-8 guard, was named to the second team.

The Redford Township tandem has been scoring points and winning games on the basketball court since the days they attended St. Valentine.

The pair helped the Blazers to one of their better records in years before they were upset in the Class A district final by Southfield, 45-44. Ladywood was the Catholic League runner-up.

"They were 'peanuts' when they were

FEATURE

born," said their mother, who thought she was having a boy and a girl up until the arrival date.

With most of its players returning, Ladywood hopes to make it back to next year's Catholic League championship game and a long run in the state tournament.

The two also excel academically with Melissa carrying a 3.42 grade point average and Michelle a 3.28.

Michelle is known for her quickness, not only in basketball, but on the soccer field where she has started on the varsity since her freshman year.

Actually, the label stuck the day she was born, arriving in the delivery room five minutes before her sister.

Each was five pounds, 12 ounces, and parents Greg and Corinne never guessed they'd turn out as tall as they are.

"They were 'peanuts' when they were

freshman year on the varsity was cut short by a foot stress fracture that caused her to miss all but two games."

Michelle also decided to quit soccer and concentrate only on basketball because of the injury, but she's thinking about trying out again for soccer this year because it's another sport she loves.

The Harakas girls have different personalities but one thing's for sure: they hate to lose.

"Both are super competitive," Ladywood coach Andrea Gorski said. "They're always the hardest working in practices and games. Either one would give up points and honors just to win."

They think alike on the court and sometimes off the court, too.

"They'll sometimes say the same thing at the same time and people say 'It must be because they're twins.'"

Please see **TWINS, B2**

Zebras in zone to ease past Rockets

Maybe it was the shock.

Coach Chuck Henry reached into his vault of Golden Oldies on Friday night and pulled out a zone defense.

It was a little dusty, rusty and musty — but it worked.

Wayne Memorial staved off all the comeback attempts by visiting Westland John Glenn and posted a 59-55 non-league victory.

"Any time you play your crosstown rival and win the game it's great," Henry said. "We're 2-0 after two very close games that could have gone either way."

Rockets' 6-foot-8 center Yaku Moton nearly destroyed the Zebras, scoring 28 points and drawing fouls like kids draw pictures.

"We could not control Yaku," Henry said. "He got all our post players in foul trouble. So we went to a zone all the second half."

"I can't remember in over a decade when we've played two straight quarters of zone. This might be the first time."

Wayne stepped out to an 18-12 lead after the first period and clung to a 33-27 lead at the half.

John Glenn shrank the margin to a pair, 46-44, after three quarters but the closest it could come in the final period was a point, 56-55.

Junior guard Gary Johnson made two free throws to expand the margin to three and senior guard Shane Nowak added another for the final score.

Johnson paced Wayne with 20 points and senior Taron Smith scored 17

BASKETBALL

John Glenn (1-1) got 10 points from senior guard Eric Jones in addition to Moton's 28.

"We're 2-0," Henry said, "and last year at this point we were 0-2 after playing the same two teams — losing in overtime to Canton and by two points to John Glenn."

"There's not much change from last year except we're finishing on the right side of the total."

"There's certainly not much difference between us, John Glenn and Canton. You're talking about three pretty decent basketball teams."

Chargers rip RU

Livonia Churchill put just one player in double figures, John Bennett and his 17 points, Friday night but a dozen players scored in a 66-46 romp over host Redford Union.

A zone worked for the Chargers, too.

The Panthers stayed with the Chargers through one quarter, trailing, 19-17, when the buzzer sounded, but Coach Rick Austin went to a zone in the second period and stayed with it the rest of the game.

"Give Redford Union a lot of credit," Austin said. "They worked real hard. It was a question of us having a few more bodies than they did."

The Panthers were unable to shot over the zone or pass around it and the Chargers opened up a 33-27 lead by

Please see **BASKETBALL, B2**



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBER/BLAZERS

On the loose: John Glenn's Yaku Moton scarfs up another loose ball Friday but Wayne got a tasty victory over the Rockets, 59-55.



Gotcha: Ladywood's Michelle Harakas getting a shot off.

Twins from page B1

Gorski said. The two almost did the unthinkable three years ago, nearly leading tiny St. Valentine to the Catholic Youth Organization championship before losing in the final to mighty St. Joan of Arc from St. Clair Shores in the final.

Being twins actually hurt them in the finals, they recall. Because of the resemblance Melissa accidentally was given a foul, her fifth, that should have been given to Michelle, who had only three fouls.

The referees' mistake cost the team half of their prized pair with Melissa fouling out in the second half.

The Harakas girls have a younger sister, Stephanie, a freshman at Ladywood. Her athletic career ended before she got to Ladywood and she has other interests.

"She goes to games to socialize," said Greg, sounding very believable because as he's saying it Stephanie walks into the living room holding a portable phone in her hand.

The three drive to school together, taking a car the twins share. Michelle usually doing the driving in the morning.

"I'm more of a morning person," said Michelle, who worked in the restaurant

last summer at Western Golf & Country Club.

Michelle and Melissa also still share a bedroom, which they say is neatly kept on both sides. It's just that Melissa has a lot more to organize.

"Melissa just keeps so much stuff," their mother said.

Much of their summers are spent playing at basketball camps and traveling with their AAU basketball teams, which have qualified for the national tournament four straight years.

They're roommates then, too.

"It's just easier to deal with each other than some-

one else," Melissa said. "We're used to each other."

The two have the same interest in boys, preferring athletic/intelligent types, though they hardly have time for boyfriends.

Corinne doesn't take credit for the girls' athletic ability but their good looks must have come from her.

Greg played football at Grand Valley State, but he said they learned basketball mostly from their coaches and playing with their brother Mike, 18.

"I just listen to what everyone says about them and put it all together," Greg said.

Selling anyone on these kids is easier than any car.



Gimme: Ladywood's Melissa Harakas always wants the ball.

Basketball from page B1



Up and in: Wayne Shannon Jeffries gets a shot off Friday night against Westland's Darnell Dorris.

halftime and expanded it to 49-33 after three quarters.

Dave Brown scored 20 points to lead Redford Union. Phil Garrett was second high with eight.

Will Pendergrass and Avery Jessup each scored eight points for Churchill while Brandon Dziklinski, Josh Odom and Brad Bescoe contributed six apiece.

Churchill (1-1) made 10-of-15 free throws and Redford Union (0-2) was 7-for-12.

"The kids continue to work hard and continue to improve," Austin said. "There's still much work to be done in our half-court offensive execution. But we're beginning to see the ball and cover passing lanes much better."

Patriots stumble

Livonia Franklin tried Friday night but just was not able to overcome a stumbling start, falling, 62-52, to visiting Dearborn.

Dearborn jumped out to a 20-13 lead in the first quarter and was ahead, 33-20, halfway through the game.

"That first half did us in," Coach Dan Robinson of Franklin said. "We made 13 turnovers in the first half."

"We outscored them by three in the second half. We eliminat-

ed our turnovers. The kids hung in there and played much better in the second half."

Joe Ruggiero sparked the second-half surge by the Patriots (0-2), scoring 15 of his 17 total points. Derek Schema contributed 16.

Dearborn (2-0) got 20 points from senior guard Sean Turner and 18 from junior center Scott Golem.

Dearborn went 12-for-17 from the line in the fourth quarter and made 14-of-20 in the game. Franklin was 8-for-18.

"That was the difference," Robinson said. "We missed the front end of three 1-and-1s, and that really hurt us. We had a chance to get back in it."

"Our offensive execution wasn't very good again. But the kids did play much harder and never gave up. They fought to the end. We took more good things from this game than from Tuesday night's."

Spartans downed

Livonia Stevenson went to Dearborn Fordson on Friday night and came back with a good thumping, dropping a 70-58 decision.

Fordson got 17 points from Saed Nimer, 12 from Mo Bazzi and 10 from Eric Moslimani in winning its season opener.

Stevenson lost for the first time in two games despite a 14-

point game by Keshay McChristian plus Harland Beverly's 12 and Chris Severson's 10.

Stevenson outscored Fordson, 24-16, in the third period but couldn't sustain it in the fourth and didn't get anything approaching that in the first half.

"We just couldn't handle their size," Coach Tim Newman of Stevenson said. "We had a real good third quarter but in the second quarter we didn't execute. We had a lot of breakdowns."

"We shot the ball better than we did Tuesday, actually. We made six threes — and we tried to shoot more of them, too."

There was a slight difference at the free throw line, Fordson going to the line 36 times and making 23 while visiting Stevenson sank half its 22 free throws.

Warriors debut successful

Lutheran High School Westland looked in its first quarter of the season like it had played a game or two already.

And the 19-8 result enabled Lutheran Westland to roll to a 63-36 victory at Dearborn Heights Annapolis in its season opener.

Senior guard Charlie Hoeft scored 15 points, junior forward Nate Meckes had 10 points plus 10 rebounds and sophomore forward Brent Habitz scored nine points. In all, 10 players scored

for the Warriors.

They led, 30-18, at halftime and 51-33 after the third quarter.

Junior guard Scott Fadiga scored 11 points for Annapolis (0-2).

Overtime costs Trojans

Sophomore Chris Mayers scored 14 points Friday night for Redford St. Agatha but it was his defense in overtime that clinched the Aggies' 67-63 victory over visiting Livonia Clarenceville.

Mayers made a steal with four seconds left in overtime as Clarenceville (0-2) was trying to set up for a three-point shot to tie the game.

Mayers gave the ball to senior center Greg Russell, who was fouled and made one of two free throws for the final margin.

Russell led the Aggies (1-1) with 22 points, six coming in the overtime, plus 15 rebounds. Sophomore Dan Boulter added 19 points and 12 rebounds.

Corey McKendry, whose two free throws with two seconds left in regulation sent the game into overtime tied at 57, led Clarenceville with 18 points. Junior Scott Wion added 13.

Clarenceville led 11-9 after one quarter and 29-26 at halftime. The Trojans increased the lead to 43-38 after three before the Aggies rallied in the fourth.

Ever Wonder Who Starts The Wave?



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Shamrocks under new management

Redford Catholic Central's new swim coach is Jeff Baker, who is just as impressed with the Shamrocks' swimmers as the CC administration is with him.

Baker has a bachelor's and masters degree from Miami (Ohio) University. He has previously coached in Ohio and Illinois and he just finished his second season coaching the girls swim team at Pontiac Notre Dame Prep. He teaches science at Notre Dame Prep.

"Jeff Baker is a very organized individual with a background in swimming and will be a great asset to our swimming and diving program," CC athletic director Bob Santello said.

The 32-year-old likes the Shamrocks' chances to finish among the top 20 teams at the Class A state meet and to close the gap between them and state power Birmingham Brother Rice in the Catholic League.

Senior captains include diver

SWIMMING

Greg Brazianus, Nick Markou and Chris LaFond.

LaFond swims the 100 yard breastroke and 50 freestyle. Markou is a 200 freestyle and 100 breastrocker.

"It's been very enjoyable," Baker said. "This is a group of highly competitive, motivated and extremely dedicated athletes. They do everything high class around here."

Three of the four swimmers on last year's state qualifying 400 freestyle relay team return: junior Ed Lesnau and sophomores Bryant Steele and Brett Meconis.

Lesnau is a distance freestyle swimmer while Steele is a sprint freestyler and backstroker and Meconis participates in the 100 butterfly and 200 IM. Baker sees the 400 freestyle relay going to the state meet again.

"I'm expecting them to improve on their time," Baker said.

Individual state qualifiers included Meconis in the 100 yard butterfly and Brazianus in diving.

Brazianus was 25th at the state meet with 148.7 points. Meconis' best time in the fly was 54.38, which didn't place at the state meet.

Meconis has a shot at placing in the top six at the state meet in the butterfly, Baker said.

"We've got some pretty high goals set for him," Baker said. "I'd like him to go top six and give our (school) record a run for the money."

Freshman Andrew Carlin has been impressive in the individual medley and distance freestyles, Baker said.

Sophomores Mike Kruszewski and Tim Ryan should be contributors in the individual medley and breaststrokes.

Junior Dan Eziekan also will contribute in the breaststroke.

Baker said his practice routine is different than most coaches. His swimmers might not swim as many yards each practice but they swim them faster.

"I like to throw in shorter practices with higher intensity two to three times a week," he said. "With sprint workouts I expect them to swim faster than they ever imagine."

The Shamrocks' depth at diving suffered when No. 2 diver Mike Mattis was ruled out for the season with a shoulder injury.

The Shamrocks will have home meets at RU and practice at Farmington Hills Mercy.

CC faces a brutal schedule in February when it faces Ann Arbor Huron and Pioneer, Livonia Stevenson, U-D Jesuit and Rice in dual meets.

"We're not shying away from the competition," Baker said.

Hockey from page B1

Spartans get four

Four unanswered goals in the third period Friday night lifted Livonia Stevenson over Walled Lake Central, 7-3, in a WLAA game at Lakeland Ice Arena.

"We did some soul-searching after two periods," Coach Mike Harris of Stevenson said. "We determined we wanted to go home with a victory."

Dave Bonello scored 54 seconds into the final period, assisted by Mark Blazok and John Katulski, breaking a 3-3 deadlock. Mike Perrino, assisted by Matt Calus and Katulski, scored with 9:14 left and some three minutes, with 6:44 showing on the clock, he scored again assisted this time by Chris Wrigley and Alex Piotrowski.

Bonello, assisted by Perrino, scored his second goal of the game with 7:15 seconds left.

The victory improved Stevenson (4-1) to 3-1 in the WLAA and left Western (1-3-1) winless in its only two league contests.

Kevin Marlowe stood in goal for Livonia over the first two periods plus 5:46 of the second. He was replaced at that point by

sophomore Rob Grisius, who just joined the team Thursday and blanked the Warriors over the final 9:14 in his first prep appearance.

Katulski scored 43 seconds into the game, assisted by Josh Lutzman and Mark Nebus before Todd Hoffman scored for Western with 6:48 left, drawing the first of Chris Pyzik's three assists. Hoffman played for Stevenson last season but his family moved to Walled Lake prior to the school year.

A power play goal by Mike Majkowski from Nebus with 3:30 left in the period gave Stevenson a 2-1 lead but Nick Borg tied it again with 24 seconds left, Jason Howell assisting with Pyzik.

Walled Lake Western grabbed a 3-2 lead in the second period on a goal by Joe Chagnon, assisted by Pyzik and Joe Tordisjan, but Stevenson retaliated on a goal by Mike Ventimiglia, assisted by Nebus.

Stevenson tops Northville

Mike Perrino scored twice Wednesday night to lead Livonia Stevenson to a 4-2 victory over Northville at Edgar Arena.

The game-winner came with 12:45 showing on the clock in the second period and was scored by Dave Bonello, assisted by Matt Calus. It gave the Spartans a 3-1 lead.

Northville outshot Stevenson, 10-5, in the third period and scored the only goal of the final 15 minutes. Aaron Selwood scored for the Mustangs with 8:34 to play but his team could not get any closer.

The Spartans outshot the Mustangs by a 27-24 margin in the game with Kevin Marlowe going the distance in the nets for Stevenson. Both teams were called for three penalties.

All the scoring in the first period came in the final 5:06.

Perrino started Stevenson out with the lead, assisted by Jon Katulski. Sai Perrino expanded the margin to 2-0 with 4:39 left, assisted by Mark Blazok and Bonello.

Tim Hillebrand narrowed the margin to 2-1 for Northville just 36 seconds later with the Mustangs on a power play. Bonello's goal made it 3-1 and

Perrino scored with 26 seconds left in the second period, assisted by Mark Nebus and Alex Piotrowski.

Franklin, Western draw

A third-period goal by Nate Aubuchon with 8:05 to play Wednesday night gave Walled Lake Western a 2-2 tie with Livonia Franklin in a WLAA hockey game at Edgar Arena.

Franklin scored both its goals in the middle period sandwiched around Western's first tally. The Patriots held a 19-14 edge in shots on goal.

Josh Garbutt got Franklin off to a 1-0 start with a power play marker at 2:23 of the period. Andy Garbutt and Gordie Statham assisted.

Brad Mandeville tied it for the Warriors with a power play goal at the 5:50 mark.

Trevor Skoocen scored on a breakaway for the Patriots at 14:27 of the period to crack the tie. Adam Bierly and Frank Geluso assisted.

Rob Williams played goal for Livonia Franklin. John Petros was in the nets for Western.

Canton deals Farmington first defeat in hockey, 4-3

Plymouth Canton hockey coach Dan Abraham says a problem he hopes doesn't get solved until around late March, if ever.

"I have two bad games right now, which is a problem I think all coaches would like to have," Abraham said following his team's 4-3 win over Farmington Friday night at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena. "Both of my goalies — Ryan Zielinski and Brad Anderson — are playing outstanding, so they're both going to get playing time."

The victory improved the Chiefs' record to 4-3 in their inaugural season. Farmington

dropped its first game of the season after winning its opening five contests.

Friday night, it was Zielinski's turn to wield a sizzling blocker. He turned away 27 shots, three of which came during a furious last-minute Flyer rally.

Abraham was especially pleased with the play of forward Brad Wells and defenseman Matt Ringer, both of whom shined on opposite ends of the rink Friday night.

Wells was the Chiefs' offensive catalyst, scoring the eventual winning goal late in the second period after dish-ing out two assists earlier.

Over the Edge MEN'S NIGHT OUT

WHAT? A special evening event for men...
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CORRECTION NOTICE

In our December 12 insert, we advertised the CD *Still I Rise* by 2Pac + Outlawz as available Tuesday, December 14. Due to manufacturing delays, this title is not currently available. However, we will be offering rainchecks on this title.

We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.

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Teachman resigns as Harrison hoop coach

By Dan O'Hara
STAFF WRITER
dohara@homecomm.net

Farmington Harrison will start a new season in boys basketball with a new coach for the first time in 22 years Friday night.

Mike Teachman, who had coached the Hawks since 1977-78, made a stunning decision Monday to step down from his longtime role as varsity head coach.

Teachman, 54, also teaches math at the school and is the building athletic coordinator. He said he felt physically and mentally drained and didn't think he could devote the same energy to coaching the varsity.

Instead, he will coach the Harrison JV team for this season with the intention of retiring from coaching basketball at its conclusion. Dave Turnquist, who has been the JV coach for the last 11 years, is now the varsity coach.

"I hit a wall, physically and intensity wise," Teachman said. "I didn't think it was fair to this varsity team that has put in all the freshman, JV and summer time to have a guy was really, really weary."

"I figured the best thing is for them to have someone who has the adrenaline going and that's Dave. My job this year is to turn out players for next year's varsity team. It's really no different at practice, but I won't be scouting, preparing scouting reports, preparing practices for special teams, stats and that kind of stuff."

"If this is my last year and I'm already tired, then I don't think I'd be doing a good job. I've always been critical of people who stayed too long. Willie Mays was one of my favorite players and watching him play for the Mets at the end was depressing. He wasn't the same Willie Mays, and it was obvious he wasn't enjoying himself. In the case

of being a high school coach, players know if you're not enjoying yourself."

Teachman said the timing of his decision, coming just days before the season opener, was right.

"This way neither the JV nor varsity teams as of Monday had been together due to injuries and illnesses from football," he said. "Neither team had sought its own identity and was taking on a personality. So it's a good time to make the switch."

Teachman, who has coached for 33 years, also wants to spend more time with his wife, Pat.

"This is my 33rd year of being married to the same lady, and she deserves more than somebody who just comes home at night and falls asleep in the chair and wakes up and looks at videotape," he said.

Teachman will remain the Harrison athletic coordinator and continue as the girls varsity softball coach.

"If I don't recover my zest, I might think a little differently (about softball)," he said.

Teachman also said he was under no pressure from players or parents.

"I had some tight relationships with people on that team," he said. "I have to say 'Am I going to be selfish, because I do get a lot out of being with the players? They might not get a whole lot from being under the guidance of someone who's not full-bore for them."

"I can still support the guys on a different level, not being the boss, so to speak, but the guy who's there to give them a pat on the back and a suggestion once in a while."

There's a chance Teachman might remain JV coach after this season, and he said Turnquist has asked him to leave the door open on that subject.

(To submit items for consideration in the Observer & Eccentric's Outdoor Calendar send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; fax information to (248) 644-1314 or send E-mail to bparker@homecomm.net)

SEASON/DATES

DEER

The late archery season runs through Jan. 2 statewide. A late, antlerless-only firearms season will be held Dec. 18-Jan. 2 on private and public land in Deer Management Unit 452. A late antlerless-only firearms season will also be held Dec. 18-Jan. 2 on most private land in the Lower Peninsula. Muzzleloading season runs through Dec. 12 in the Upper Peninsula and Dec. 19 in the Lower Peninsula.

ELK

Late elk season runs through Dec. 14 by special permit in limited areas of the northern Lower Peninsula.

GROUSE

A special late grouse season runs through Jan. 1 in the Lower Peninsula.

PHEASANT

A special late pheasant season runs through Dec. 15 in much of the southeastern part of the state.

RABBIT

Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

SQUIRREL

Squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

CLASS/CLINIC

FLY TYING

Hook Line & Sinker bait shop in Lake Orion will hold fly tying classes every Wednesday and Thursday until the beginning of ice fishing season. Call (248) 814-9216 for more information.

ROD BUILDING

Hook Line & Sinker bait shop in Lake Orion will hold fishing rod building classes every Wednesday and Thursday until the beginning of ice fishing season. Call (248) 814-9216 for more information.

FLY TYING

Paint Creek Outfitters in

Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tyers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

MORE FLY TYING

River Bend Sport Shop in Southfield offers fly tying classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced tyers. Classes will be held at various times. For more information and to register call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474.

ACTIVITIES

WATERLOO WANDERING

Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a hike at the Waterloo Recreation area beginning at 10:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12. Call (313) 562-1873 for directions and more information.

STONY CREEK TRAIL

Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on the trails at Stony Creek Metropark during this program, which begins at noon Sunday, Dec. 19. Call (810) 294-7789 for directions and more information.

CLUBS

CLINTON VALLEY BASS

Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS

Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Middle School, located on Middlebelt Road between Seven and Eight mile roads. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the

Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Visitors are invited and refreshments will be served. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843 for information.

FISHING BUDDIES

Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester Hills. Meetings are open to all anglers (boaters and non-boaters). Call (248) 656 0556 for more information.

HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS

The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Rd., Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for more information.

SOLAR

The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR), a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

FLY TYING

The River Bend Sports Shop Fly Tying Club meets every other week in Southfield. Call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474 for more information.

METROPARKS

METROPARK REQUIREMENTS

Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178; Hudson Mills, 1-800-477-3191.

1999 PERMITS

The 1999 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching per-

mits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 (\$8 for senior citizens). The annual boat launching permits are \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Seven Metroparks as well as the HCMA Administrative Offices are serving as drop-off spots for the Toys for Tots program through Sunday Dec. 12. New, unwrapped toys that have no violent connotation can be dropped off at park offices for this program, conducted annually by the United States Marine Corps Reserve to serve needy people in local communities. Drop-off centers are located at Metro Beach near Mt. Clemens (800-477-3172), Stony Creek near Rochester (800-477-7756), Indian Springs near White Lake (800-477-3192), Kensington near Milford (800-477-3178), Hudson Mills near Dexter (800-477-3182), Lower Huron near New Boston (800-477-3182), Lake Erie near Brownstown (800-477-3189), and the Administrative Offices near Brighton (800-477-2757).

SNACKS WITH SANTA

Enjoy a visit and a snack with Santa; a sing-along and a hay ride, offered throughout Sunday, Dec. 12, at Kensington.

BIRD WATCHING

Bring a binocular for an introduction into the world of birding during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at Kensington.

WAYNE PARKS

COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS

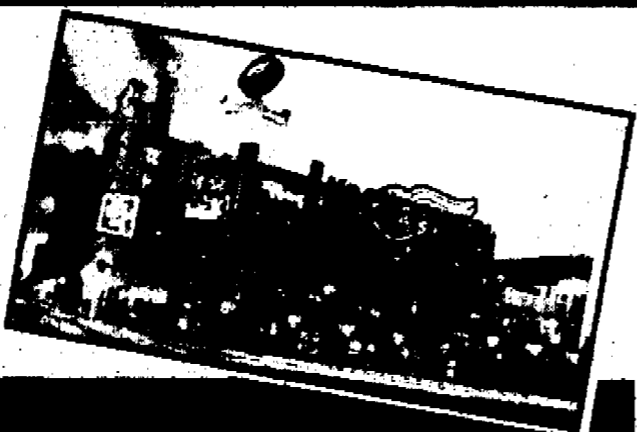
Wayne County Parks offers nature interpretive programs throughout the year. Advanced registration is requested. Call (734) 261-1990 to register and for more information.

OAKLAND PARKS

COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS

Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

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1. Send us up to one page of information about the athlete's involvement in sports, community, academic achievements and any awards he/she has received. Include the name of the high school and a picture of the athlete.
2. Include your name and daytime phone number.
3. Send your nomination to:

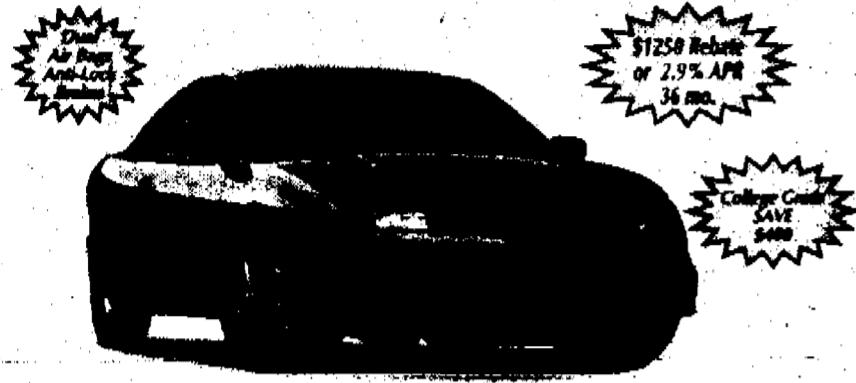
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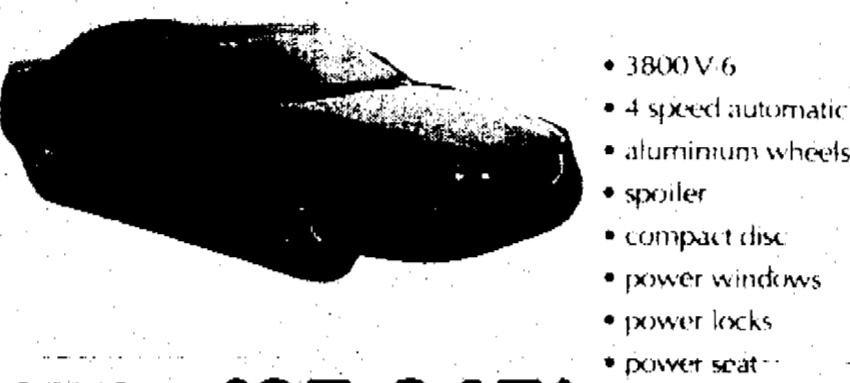
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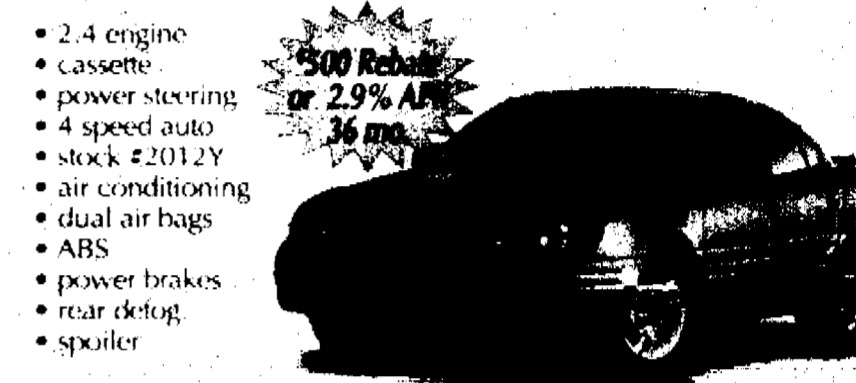
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2000 Safari Passenger Van

Power driver's seat, running boards, rear heat, front & rear air cond., V-6 auto, 7 pass. seating, SET trim, dutch doors, stereo, cassette, deep tint glass, overhead console, cast alum. wheels, luggage carrier. Stock #5286Y.

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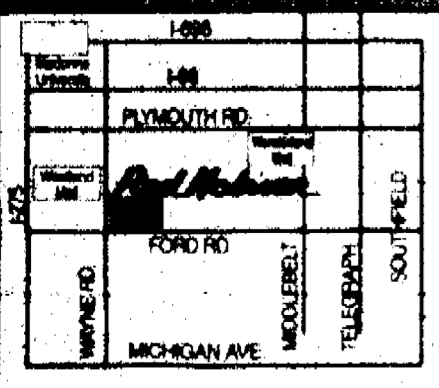
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ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

Painter plans to keep up fast pace

Audrey Harkins beamed with pride as she looked around the Fine Arts Gallery at the Livonia Civic Center Library. All 49 of the watercolors in her one-woman show were painted within the last 10 years. That's quite an accomplishment for the 69-year-old watercolorist who is constantly on the go.

A resident of Livonia for more than 35 years, she belongs to four art clubs, and regularly attends meetings, and exhibits paintings in their shows. She also makes time to visit with her four sons and seven grandchildren.

Harkins accomplished much of her art work while attending classes at the Visual Arts Association of Livonia. She took her first class nearly 20 years ago after her youngest son started high school.

On exhibit

"A lot of these were done in VAAL classes and with Edee Joppich up in Northport," said Harkins, whose watercolors of garden paths, still life, landscapes, and florals continue on exhibit through Thursday, Dec. 30.

A painting of red and white petunias greets visitors at the front of the gallery. The painting is not for sale. It was selected to be published in the book "Best of Watercolor Series: Painting Composition" in 1997. Placed side by side are Harkins' dramatic "Fruit and Flowers I" and "Just Geraniums." Red resonates through these two works.

"I always love painting flowers," said Harkins. "Most I paint from life because you can't get the detail and true color from photographs. I hold the flowers in my hands as I paint them."

Harkins loves gardening and has worked on hers as long as she's lived in Livonia, and it's still not finished. For painting purposes, she would like to have a flower in bloom every day from spring until fall.

"My downfall is living next to Frank's Nursery at Five Mile Road and Levan. My car automatically turns into the parking lot," said Harkins. "There's a balance between having enough time to paint and weeding the garden, and I'm still looking for it."

Paintings from a trip Harkins took to Arizona and New Mexico with Livonia artist Yvette Goldberg are found in the center of the gallery. Harkins said she was mesmerized by the beauty of the Painted Desert as she stood at its edge.

"I still haven't caught up with my vacation paintings from trips to Nova Scotia, the Caribbean, and the waterfalls in the upper peninsula this past year," said Harkins. "I'm just way behind."

Experimenting

It's apparent by looking at the works that Harkins likes experimenting with technique. Goldberg taught her the process of solar painting. These works are created by placing a pan of water outdoors then soaking paper in it along with natural materi-

Please see EXPRESSIONS, C5



STAFF PHOTO BY DEBRA BRYCEWALA

Fine art: Audrey Harkins presents some of the 49 paintings that are featured in her one-woman show in the Fine Arts Gallery at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

Days of Detroit

Paintings awaken Motown memories

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

Although Jim McConnell has lived in Livonia for many years, he's never forgotten the architecture he fell in love with on boyhood trips to downtown Detroit.

So when he saw artist William Moss' recreations of vintage Detroit buildings at an art fair several years ago, McConnell never forgot their magic. As the time drew near to select an artist for the Detroit Historical Society's 2000 calendar last December, McConnell thought Moss' scenes would stir memories in anyone who grew up in the area.

The old ballpark at the corner of Michigan and Trumbull especially reminds McConnell of his childhood, not to mention his lifelong passion for studying the past.

A former history teacher for Dearborn Public Schools, McConnell and his wife Annette developed the idea for "The Days of Detroit" calendar two years ago.

"Briggs Stadium puts it back in the 1950s when I went there as a boy, and then in college I remember going and sitting in the bleachers in Tiger Stadium," said McConnell, education coordinator for Detroit 300, the celebration planned for the city of Detroit's 300th birthday in 2001.

"Though I have fond memories of the Hudson's Parade, it's going to the store as a kid and taking



Briggs Stadium: The old ballpark at the corner of Michigan and Trumbull was named after Detroit industrialist and baseball club owner Walter O. Briggs between the years 1938 and 1960.

my kids that I remember best. One of my other favorites is old City Hall. Did you know in 1960 John Kennedy opened his campaign for president in front of the building?"

McConnell and Moss share their love of vintage Detroit buildings in the calendar that notes historic political, economic and social events day by day. The McConnells began acquiring information for the calendar about three years ago, and now have a database of 5,000 separate events in Detroit history. All the dates are new this year except for July 24, the founding of Detroit, and May 17, when Ralph Polk developed his first Detroit Business Directory in 1870.

For the second year, R. L. Polk & Co. of Southfield underwrote costs for the calendar. Sales benefit the Detroit Historical Society, the major source of private funding for the Detroit Historical Museum, Dossin Great Lakes Museum, Historic Fort Wayne, and Historic Moross House.

"It's been fun learning about the diversity of events from the first mile of pavement on Woodward to the founding of Kiwanis in 1914, and the great fire of Detroit in June 1805," said McConnell.

Memories of Detroit

Moss has spent as much time researching his artworks as the McConnells have the dates of historic events. Moss first fell in love with Detroit architecture while growing up on the east side. He used to

change buses in front of the old City Hall on the way to art classes at Cass Tech. Moss continued to note the characteristics of the city's buildings while studying for a bachelor of fine arts degree at Wayne State University.

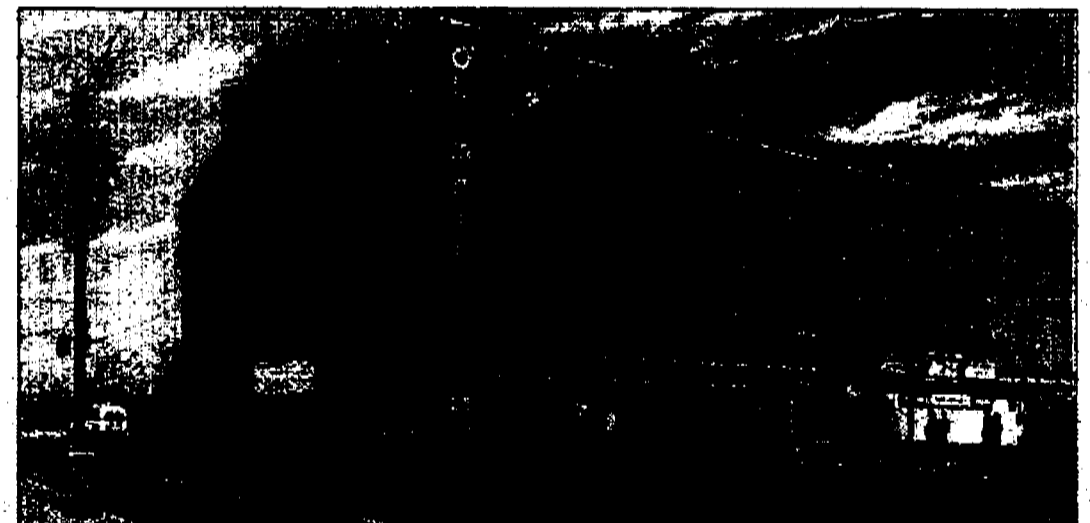
"I was always interested in architecture and art and wanted to show what it looked like then - the old movie palaces, theaters and other places from my youth," said Moss, an architectural delineator in Tennessee. "The Foot of Woodward painting with the Bob-Lo Boat took dozens and dozens of photographs to put together - to have the proper buses for the proper time."

Moss was elated to find the original blueprints for Detroit's old City Hall in the Burton Historical Collection. He used the plans as reference for the painting of the building that stood on the corner of Michigan and Woodward avenues from 1871 to 1962.

While going through the archives, including thousands of news photographs from the Civil War era to the 1960s, Moss found a memory that was especially precious - a photograph of his mother standing behind the mayor as he removed the cornerstone from the old City Hall before it was demolished.

"One of the wonderful things is it brought back what happened that day," said Moss who still paints part time on the Detroit's east side. "She'd walked

Please see DETROIT, C2



Big Red Barn: (Above) William Moss' painting of Olympia shows hockey fans lined up to purchase tickets for the 1955 game which brought the Red Wings their seventh Stanley Cup.

Fizzy memory: (Left) This painting (c. 1954) by William Moss depicts the old Vernor's factory at the foot of Woodward Avenue and the Bob-Lo Boat dock.

CONCERT

Vocal groups prepare to 'Jazz Up the Holidays'

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

Steve SeGraves, SCool JAZZ and SCool JAZZ PRIME have been working with hardly a break since returning from their two-week European tour in July.

The two vocal jazz groups played the prestigious Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland and the North Sea Jazz Festival in The Netherlands.

"Two days after our return we were in the Michigan Jazz Festival," said SeGraves, a Plymouth resident who has directed the Schoolcraft College-based groups for the past seven years. "The tour was pretty amazing. Who would have ever thought we'd do both of these festivals. That was pretty ambitious. We're really excited about all the kinds of things opening up for our groups as a result."

Shortly after coming home from Europe, the vocal jazz groups went into The Brookwood Studio in Ann Arbor to record the songs they sang on tour. "In a Mellow Tone" features standards ranging from "The Shadow of Your Smile" and "Fly Me to the Moon" to "When Doves Cry."



Mellow sounds: SCool JAZZ and SCool JAZZ PRIME sing selections from their new CD during a "Jazz Up the Holidays Concert."

SeGraves, a tenor with SCool JAZZ PRIME, believes the CD is a nice way for the groups to leave a legacy, and creates a benchmark by which to judge future

progress.

The CD will be available at the groups' annual "Jazz Up the Holidays Concert" Wednesday, Dec. 15 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

SCool JAZZ PRIME's six vocalists, pianist Eileene Standley and drummer Karen Tomalis were counting down the number of rehearsals left before the concert, which is programmed to spotlight several selections from the new CD, and seasonal favorites such as "Cool Yule" recorded by Louis Armstrong. It's just one of the upcoming performances for which the professional vocal jazz group was rehearsing Monday night at the Radcliff Center in Garden City. SCool JAZZ, which is comprised of students, rehearses separately during the day.

As they were about to warm up, PRIME's members reflected on their tour. The harmonious sounds of baritone Carl Rinne, lead soprano Cat Hadrian, Hazel Park; second soprano Ginny Lundquist, Orchard Lake; alto Gwen Jacques, Novi; and bass Mike Begian, Wyandotte would soon fill the Community Room.

"It was great," said Standley a Plymouth resident. "In Utrecht our hosts were a young group, DeKoor, and they were so good to us. My favorite was singing at the World Choral Symposium. But I enjoyed singing every where - old bridges, buildings and stages."

Rinne won't soon forget singing an impromptu con-

Please see JAZZ, C5

Detroit from page C1

down there to see that. The paintings bring back all my favorite memories of going back home to Tennessee from the Michigan Central Train Station, the Bob-Lo boats and the Vernors Plant."

Moss remembers seeing The Beatles at Olympia in 1965, and that's about all. "When The Beatles came out on stage, you couldn't hear anything," said Moss, who began painting ships and giant side-wheelers down on the river at 11 years old because the floating cities reminded him of architecture. "The screaming drowned them out."

Moss' painting of the "Big Red Barn," as it was affectionately known, shows hockey fans lined up to purchase tickets for the 1955 game which brought the Red Wings their seventh Stanley Cup. It's one of his best selling prints, along with a view of Tiger Stadium during the 1984 World Series, at galleries around town.

In addition to Barnes & Noble, B. Dalton, Borders Books, Waldenbooks and the Detroit Historical Museum gift shop, the "Days of Detroit" calendar is available at The Print Gallery in Southfield; Frame Art, Birmingham; Frames Plus More, Farm-

ington; Fabulous Gallery, Rochester; Frames Unlimited, Bloomfield Hills; American Business Concepts, Rochester Hills; Framery & Gallery and The Art Show Gallery, Troy; Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village shops, and Creative Framing & Gallery, Plymouth.

Moss will make a guest appearance Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 15-16, at Creative Framing & Gallery during the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular.

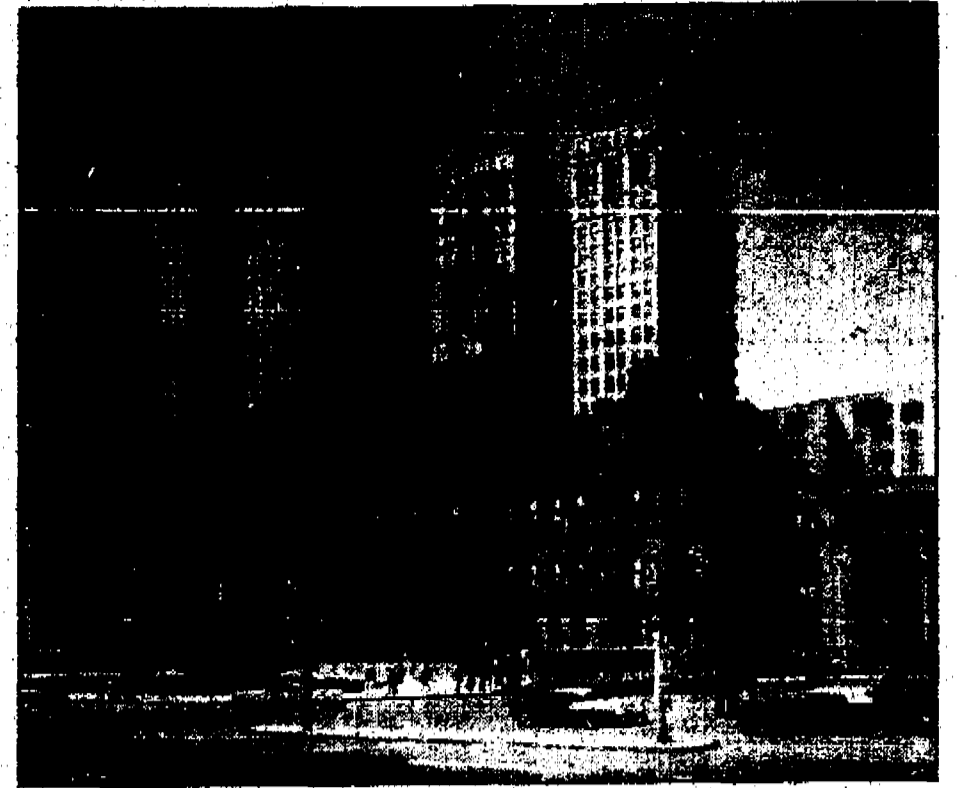
Best seller

Customers are ordering the

calendars in multiples at Creative Framing & Gallery in Plymouth. Co-owner Pat Korona said, people love Moss' limited-edition lithographs and meeting him during bi-annual visits to the shop. In addition to the prints which will be on exhibit, Korona is framing the sketches Moss created when he visited Creative Framing in July during Art in the Park.

"The calendars are selling very well," said Korona. "People love it. I gave a friend one for his 90th birthday and his wife came back and ordered seven more. What a great gift for \$11.95."

"We're looking forward to his visit in January. Bill is such a fun person to talk to and to listen to how he paints these."



Ornate landmark: Detroit's sandstone City Hall (c. 1960) is one of 12 William Moss paintings featured in the "Days of Detroit" calendar.

Expressions from page C1

als. Ink or watercolor paint is then sprayed on top of the water or dropped into it.

Maple tree seedlings turn into ethereal-looking doves in flight in the painting titled "Morning Flight." Cheesecloth and shells leave impressionistic imprints on an abstract nearby.

"I just had more fun doing these this summer," said Harkins. "I can't wait for winter to do crystal paintings. You use the same process but get sharp edges where the ice forms."

Harkins learned how to do string art from Al Weber, a Livonia artist. Her yellow and red marionette literally dances across the paper.

"You wet string or ribbon and then dip it in acrylic paint and then throw it on paper." Sounds simple enough, but putting down the line art is only the beginning.

"Then you have to see what you think it looks like. As soon as I saw it, I thought it looked like a dancer."

Future in art

Harkins has no plans to slow down. While she's no longer on the board at VAAL, Harkins has no plans to quit VAAL or for that matter the Farmington Artists



Zany Zinnias: Audrey Harkins loves to paint florals. Her one woman show continues at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

Club, Livonia Artists Club or Michigan Water Color Society. And as a member of the Detroit Founders Society, she's looking forward to seeing the Vincent van Gogh exhibit opening March 12 at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

"I think the reason artists live a long life is because they have something interesting to do when they get up in the morning. Many artists live into their 90s and I hope to be one of

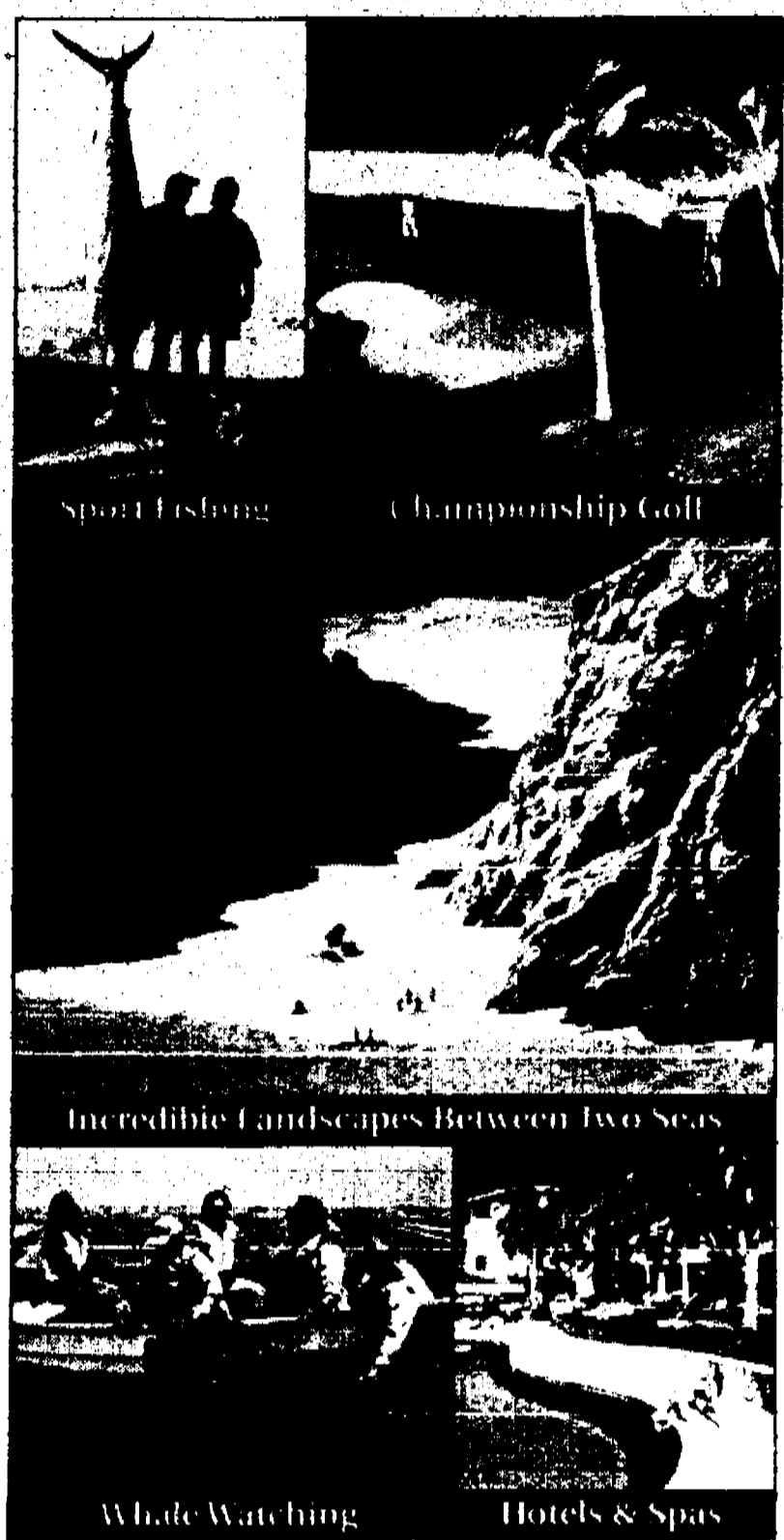
them." The Livonia Civic Center Library is at 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, until 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday. Closed Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 23-26.

If you have an interesting idea for a story, call arts reporter Linda Ann Choman at (734) 953-2145 or send e-mail to lchoman@eoh.com.net

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GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

Interurban's history provides clear glimpse of area's past

National Amusements Showcases Classics... Showcases America 1-14... Showcases America 1-8... Showcases America 1-12... Showcases America 6-12... Showcases America 6-12... Showcases America 6-12...

THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) SUN: 10:50, 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30... SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) 11:20, 12:45, 1:40, 4:45, 5:45... SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) 12:30, 2:55, 5:10, 7:50, 10:05...

Star Southfield 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern off I-96... Star Southfield... Star Southfield... Star Southfield...

United Artists-Commerce 14 3330 Springvale Line... United Artists-Commerce 14... United Artists-Commerce 14... United Artists-Commerce 14...

Main Art Theatre II 118 Main at 17 Mile... Main Art Theatre II... Main Art Theatre II... Main Art Theatre II...

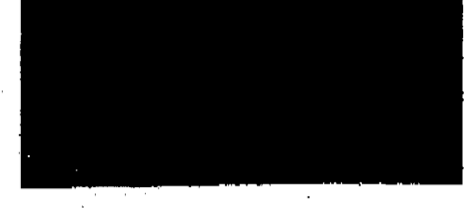
Farmington Junction: A Trolley History By Brian M. Golden 1999... The next time you drive down Grand River or Orchard Lake Road, imagine what these roads looked like 100 years ago...



ESTHER LITTMANN

pedestrians and horse-drawn carriages alone? If so, you're overlooking an important time in the history of southeast Michigan: the era of the interurban trolley.

consolidated into the Detroit United Railroad. Among the DUR's numerous rail lines, one served the towns along Woodward Avenue while another connected western communities such as Farmington, West Bloomfield, Sylvan Lake, and Pontiac.



ESTHER LITTMANN

the public to use their services," such as the building of "parks, hotels, and picnic grounds at the end of their lines," the author points out.

BOOK HAPPENINGS

Book Happenings features events at suburban bookstores, libraries and literary gatherings... Noble store to sign copies of their new book... GREAT BOOKS... MARY QUINLEY... LIFELONG DETROIT...

Farmington Hills publisher has literary Web sites for students

(PRNewswire) - On Dec. 10, 1999 author Gunter Grass will receive the Nobel Prize for literature from King Carl XVI Gustaf... The Swedish Academy notes that Grass' book "The Tin Drum" (1949) granted German literature...



Jazz from page C1

cert at a canal on the tour. "We ended up having people watch us from the railing above," said Rinne, a professor at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. "It was the same spot the Pilgrims departed from for their trip to Plymouth Rock. Let's face it; a European tour is pretty nice. It was a blast; one of the really fun things in Montreux was going to the casino to play in an open session. There were people from all over the world."

Lundquist's favorite stop was Montreux. "I loved Montreux because of the music, the big name stars," said Lundquist. "I loved the music and it was right on the lake."

This was second out-of-the-country tour for the groups in the last two years. In 1997, they spent 12 days singing their way across Russia. The highlight of that tour was singing before a crowd of 30,000

during a folk and dance festival in Cheboksary on the Volga River. SCool Jazz and SCool Jazz PRime were the first American college jazz choirs ever invited to tour Russia.

But no matter where they perform, SCool Jazz and SCool Jazz PRime continue singing because of their love for the music. Rinne, who proudly states he "came out of the Four Freshman era," searched for several years for a vocal jazz group to join before learning about the one Schoolcraft College music professor Brad Bloom founded in 1982. SeGraves split SCool Jazz into separate groups two years after he took over as director.

"The longer we go as PRime, the more talented people we get," said Rinne, a member of SCool Jazz since 1985.

Standley thinks PRime's polished performance is why the group was invited to play for the International Association of Jazz

Educators National Conference in New Orleans in January. More than 6,000 amateur and professional jazz musicians, students and educators will attend the week-long conference.

"We're fortunate to be selected because nationally not many vocal groups are," said SeGraves. "In a Mellow Tone" is available at select Detroit area Harmony House, Borders and Barnes & Nobles, through Primarily A Cappella (www.singers.com) and Mainly A Cappella (www.a-cappella.com) Web sites, the Schoolcraft College bookstore, and at upcoming concerts including the Mardi Gras Dinner Dance 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 4 and the Collage Concert Saturday, April 15 at Schoolcraft College. The cost for the CD is \$15, \$10 cassette.

For more information, call Lundquist, (248) 682-6562.



SCool Jazz PRime: Gwen Jacques, Carl Rinne, Ginny Lundquist, Mike Begian, Cat Hadrian and Steve SeGraves visited this Rotterdam canal while on their European singing tour.

Just two guys, and a refreshing view of a wacky world

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

The phone rings incessantly at Video Design in Troy. Perhaps it's a call regarding business. Who really knows for sure? Owner Rick Yarmy sits in the conference room with a contemplative expression. He wonders if anyone will pick it up.

Meanwhile, writer-actor-producer Tom Daldin, sitting across from Yarmy, has an immediate response. On cue, he picks up the entire phone unit on the conference-room table and places it in the fireplace.

"There," he said, rubbing his hands together.

Solutions, for Daldin of Birmingham, are everywhere. When long-time friends Yarmy of Royal Oak and Daldin are together, it's more than a meeting of the minds.

It's like hanging out with a contemporary cut-up version of

What: "Bob's Job," a 30-minute children's program, featuring Tom Daldin
When: 6:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29; 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 30; and 9 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 2
Where: WTVS-PBS, Channel 56
Availability: "Bob's Job" videos are available at the PBS Store of Knowledge, Smithsonian Gift Shops and Amazon.com
For information, call (800) 355-8433

Sheriff Andy Taylor and Deputy Barney Fife. And clearly, these guys are deeply serious about having fun.

In August of 1998, the two created "Bob's Job," a program that aired on WTVS for children, ages 7-11. Daldin's on-camera "Bob" is

part Pee Wee Herman, part Darren Stevens (yes, of "Bewitched" fame).

"Bob" is wacky, unpredictable and utterly lovable. Much like Daldin, who proudly recalled that he was the "class clown" along with a mate by the name of Tim Dick (a.k.a. Tim Allen) at Seaholm High School, class of '71.

Daldin was the drummer in the "Dick the Bruiser Band," and is the former radio promo exec who came up with the idea of "dropping your boss from an airplane" when he was at WCSX-FM.

Wearing a "silly businessman suit" and an unperturbed expression, Bob is sort of a tour guide in a "day in the life" motif.

The first show featured the job of an airline pilot. Show number two, which airs at the end of December, is a day with a home builder. They've got ideas for another two dozen shows.

Obviously, they're not driven by research or anything remotely programmatic.

"We just loved the name 'Bob,'" said Yarmy. "It's spelled the same front and backward."

No laugh track. No focus groups to test their idea. Just gut instincts and plenty of sweat equity.

Daldin didn't exactly take a method-acting approach to researching his character. "I just turned 'me' up a few notches."

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Malls & Mainstreets

The romance of diamonds is alive for New Year's

THE JEWELRY LADY



DENISE RODGERS

Where do you plan to be on the 31st? And what do you plan to wear?

Ring in the New Year has taken on more significance than the bicentennial moments we celebrated back in 1976.

Then again, we're not talking centuries. We're talking about a millennium, which does tend to put a little pressure on the celebration and on the idea of the New Year's Eve gift-giving.

After all, we won't have another chance for this kind of celebration for another 1,000 years. Even if you think you'll be around in the year 2999 for the next media overkill, that's a long wait.

That said, the gifts of choice to celebrate the millennium make perfect sense: diamonds and platinum. Could anything else be more beautiful, versatile and enduring?

While I intend to ring in the New Year by watching the Times Square ball drop from the comfort of my bed, I will be wearing diamonds!

Don't believe me? Read on. Romance is alive and well for the millennium.

One man who is taking romance seriously this New Year's Eve is Kevin Burke, of Birmingham. He purchased a diamond engagement ring from Frank Yanke of Yanke Designs in Franklin.

"He plans to spend New Year's Day with his girlfriend in Chicago, where they met," said Yanke. The prospective groom also has an elaborate day planned. He'll begin with brunch and a romantic walk to the Fourth Presbyterian Church. Once there, he'll light candles and propose to his girlfriend in the glow of the dawn of the new millennium. Now that sounds like a plan to me. Not to mention, it includes diamonds!

"We're expecting a lot of proposals for New Year's," said David Norman, executive vice president of ijewelry.com, a Troy-based Internet jewelry seller that debuted this fall. The site features 2,000 pieces of jewelry, including officially certified diamonds, and the company plans to double their web site offerings in their first months of operation.

Alexia Bongiorno, of Alexander J. Bongiorno Creative Jewelers in Troy, shared another romantic tale from his customers. It's about the lasting love and friendship of three couples, who have been celebrating New Year's Eve together for the past 42 years.

This year, they plan to do add some dazzle to the celebration; each of the three men in the group has commissioned Bongiorno to create a small, diamond-set platinum cross for their wives. Each piece will be presented, as these special friends ring in the new century and millennium together.

But perennial diamond favorites, like diamond stud earrings and diamond tennis bracelets, also are getting notice when it comes to celebrating the New Year.

At Skyline Diamond Setters in Troy both are being purchased as Christmas gifts for recipients to wear on New Year's Eve, said Skyline's Jennifer Cleveland.

Also, many customers are upgrading their stud earrings to impressive sizes. One in particular was sized up to an ear-dragging total weight of 3.18 carats, she said. Then again, the size of engagement ring diamonds seems to be getting larger, too, said Cleveland.

If you have news, comments or questions about jewelry, The Jewelry Lady may be reached by fax, (248) 582-9223, by e-mail, rogers@mich.com, or by writing to: c/o Observer/Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009.



Time piece: The millennium has more people buying diamonds this holiday season.

Parent's helpers

Retailers keep kids busy this holiday

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
SPECIAL EDITOR

nstafford@oe.homedcomm.net

Joshua Smith and his mother Catherine waited two hours in line at the Somerset Collection in Troy to visit with Santa.

Though Catherine felt the wait, two-year-old Joshua was too busy playing games and watching holiday performers.

"He was entertained all the way through," Smith said of Somerset's efforts to make the wait as easy as possible. "The parents will feel the wait, but the kids won't."

But anything local malls and retailers can do to keep kids busy and upbeat during the holiday shopping season is helpful, said Smith, who lives in Birmingham. "It's a tough time of year. You're trying to run errands and you want to spend time with your kids."

While time and patience have always been a part of parenting, most of today's mothers and fathers have less of both to spare. Holiday shopping and traditional activities, like taking the kids to see Santa, only makes parents' schedules more hectic. To keep families coming out, malls and retailers are finding ways to make visits less stressful and more enjoyable.

At the Somerset Collection, children waiting in line to visit Santa can play checkers, read books, explore Santa's castle, catch and throw oranges and interact with performers dressed in medieval garb.

After talking with Santa and having their pictures snapped, children receive a copy of the book "The Giving Season" and select three gold coins - they're worth 75 cents at a handful of mall stores



STAFF PHOTO BY DONNA McLAUGHLIN

St. Nick: Nicolas Rabah, 4, of Farmington Hills, sits and talks with Santa while his mother takes a break.



STAFF PHOTO BY DONNA McLAUGHLIN

Little extras: Jordan Hliebav, 1, of Sterling Heights, takes in all the fun at Santa's castle at the Somerset Collection in Troy. After visiting Santa, children select coins from a treasure trunk worth 75 cents at several nearby stores. Helpers and performers at the castle make the wait less stressful for kids, and thus, parents.

- from a massive treasure trunk.

"It's organized, they don't rush you with Santa, and it really sets up the tone and ambiance for the kids," said Smith. "And, it really gives us a break."

Several other area malls and retailers are helping parents cope with the rigors of the holiday season in other ways.

This year, Oakland Mall in Troy introduced Kid's Clubhouse, a supervised activity center where parents can leave children, age three and up, while they shop.

Conveniently located in the J.C. Penney corridor, the center is staffed by certified teachers and computer instructors, and offers storytelling, arts and crafts projects and educational computer games for a cost of \$8 an hour per child. Better yet, parents who spend \$150 or more while shopping receive an hour free at the Kid's Clubhouse.

"In today's time-starved society, we're all multitasking," said Shelley Darmetko, Oakland Mall's marketing manager. "It's one less thing that parents have to do - find a baby-sitter - in order to come out and shop."

While Darmetko admits the mall is trying to attract shoppers who have children, she said the result is a more meaningful, and less commercial, shopping experience. "You do something that includes kids and something that the whole family can do together, and it becomes an outing, a special trip, something more unique," she said.

Another offering aimed at helping busy parents get through the holiday shopping season is a pager and two-way radio service being offered by a private company at Great Lakes Crossing in Auburn Hills.

Inside Fairlane Towne Center's holiday shopping relaxation room, activities keep children busy while parents put up their feet.

At Wonderland Mall in Livonia, there's a new tree house on which kids can play and a full-sized carousel they can ride.

And, for a second year, Hudson's at the Somerset Collection in Troy has put up the Little Door Store, a colorful, kids-sized castle where children

can shop for holiday gifts on their own.

Located on the third floor near the store's youth departments, the shop is filled with inexpensive gifts for family and friends and manned by shopping helpers.

The service not only gives parents a break and makes children a part of the holiday shopping experience, but also resurrects a tradition, said Michelle Shulman, Hudson's regional public relations director.

Many of the parents and grandparents who today come to the Little Door Store recall when they were kids and visited the children's holiday shop Hudson's had at their old, downtown Detroit store.

"It's not only the children that have warm memories but also the parents," said Shulman of Hudson's take on making the holidays warm and fuzzy in the world of retail. "This is how memories and traditions start... and, hopefully, we're establishing some of those warm memories."



STAFF PHOTOS BY DONNA McLAUGHLIN

On their own: Tommy Royle, 5, of Birmingham, shops for holiday gifts for his friends at Hudson's Little Door Store.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Holiday Happenings will keep you informed about holiday shopping programs, services, events and boutiques during the busiest shopping time of the year. Send information to: Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, Mich. 48009. Fax: (248) 644-1314. Information must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for publication the following Sunday.

HOLIDAY MUSICAL PRESENTATION
The Livonia Civic Chorus comes to

Livonia Mall to make a holiday musical presentation at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, near Sears fountain. For additional information, call (734) 476-1160.

HOLIDAY PUPPET SHOW
Wonderland Mall in Livonia hosts Holiday Carnival of Stars, a presentation by the Heiken Puppets at noon, 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 18 and at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 19, on the Food Court stage. For more information, call (734) 522-4100.

NORTHEAST TROLLEY SERVICE
Northstar Express trolley service between Southfield's Northland Center and area businesses runs 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Dec. 13-16. Shoppers may access the trolley service, which includes a box lunch en route to the mall, from designated Southfield businesses. For details,

including pick-up and drop-off information, call (248) 443-5311.

SANTA BEAR APPEARANCE
The Hudson's Santa Bear visits with children in his millennium costume between Thursday, Dec. 16 and Sunday, Dec. 19 at the retailer's store at Summit Place Mall in Waterford. For details, call (248) 682-0123.

GALLOPING HOLIDAY HELPERS

Deputies and horses from the Oakland County Mounted Divisions assist with traffic direction and greet shoppers at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi every Saturday and Sunday through the end of December. Shoppers may pet horses and visit with their uniformed riders.

SANTA VISITS GREAT LAKES CROSSING

Jolly old St. Nick visits with children at Great Lakes Crossing in Auburn Hills every day during mall hours through Dec. 24. Santa has set up shop near the Star Theatre. Photograph and portrait packages are available. For schedule and price information, call (248) 454-5000.

RELAXATION ROOM FOR SHOPPERS

Fairlane Towne Center in Dearborn has new service for frenzied holiday shoppers, the Relaxation Room. Furnished with couches and children's videos and activities, the room is located on the second level near Lord & Taylor. The Relaxation Room opens one hour after the center does and shuts down one hour prior to the mall's closing through Dec. 24. For more information, call (313) 693-1370.

Retail, style and special store events are listed in this calendar. Please send information to: Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax: (248) 644-1314. Information must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for publication the following Sunday.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

STORYTELLING
Wonderland Mall in Livonia hosts Auntie Pooh's story time for children and families, 2-3 p.m., Food Court stage.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

MOVIE SHOW
Jacobson's in downtown Birmingham hosts a show of Movado pieces, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Fine Jewelry.
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

RADLEY MISCHKA SHOW
View Badgley Mischka's special order collection for spring at Saks Fifth Avenue, the Somerset Collection in Troy, through Dec. 16, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Designer Salon, second floor.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

ROBERT LEE MORRIS TRUNK SHOW
Neiman Marcus, the Somerset Collection in Troy, holds a trunk show of Robert Lee Morris jewelry, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Designer Jewelry, first floor.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

REBECCA COLLINS TRUNK SHOW
View minerals and stones from around the world in the jewelry collection of Rebecca Collins at Neiman Marcus, the Somerset Collection in Troy, through Dec. 18, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Designer Jewelry, first floor.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

TOY SHOW
Vendors sell model trains, dolls, beanies, Pokémon merchandise and other collectibles at a toy and hobby show at the Novi Expo Center through Dec. 19. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under age 12. Also, toys will be collected for Toys for Tots. For additional information and a schedule, call

(734) 455-2110.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

DESIGNER RESALE SHOW
Marian's Designer Resale, located in the Ramada Inn on Nine Mile Road in Southfield, presents a special collection of new and gently used designer apparel for women, including one-of-a-kind evening wear through Dec. 19, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday and noon-5 p.m. on Sunday. Call (248) 351-9064.

SWING DANCE LESSONS
Free swing dance lessons are given at Wonderland Mall in Livonia as part of Swing the Night Away, 5-9 p.m., Food Court.

CHOCOLATE TASTING
Saks Fifth Avenue, the Somerset Collection in Troy, hosts a Joseph Schmidt chocolate tasting, noon-4 p.m., Trim-A-Home department, first floor.

TASTE OF LAUREL PARK
Enjoy free food samples from Max & Erma's restaurant while you shop at Laurel Park Place in Livonia, noon-4 p.m., near Center Court.

WHERE CAN I FIND?

This interactive feature is dedicated to helping readers locate merchandise that's difficult to find through reader feedback. If you've seen or are looking for an item, call (248) 901-2555 and leave a message with your name and phone number. We publish readers' requests for merchandise twice. If you don't hear from us or see information about the item within a few weeks, we were unable to locate it. When we find an item owned by another reader, rather than for sale at a store, we will call you. But, please, be patient; we handle an overwhelming number of requests each week.

FIND & SEARCH NOTES

Linda is looking for a business that rents table space. She would like to have a garage sale but lives in an apartment.

We're doing our best to help readers locate items they want or need for Christmas. We hope we're helping and thank readers for paying special attention to the column during the holiday season. For those readers we were unable to help, we wish you luck in the next few weeks in finding your items.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

A 1999 Shaman calendar with paintings by Susan Seddon Boulet for Nancy.

A store where men's garters for socks are sold for Barbara.

A store where Germaine Montell lip moisturizer is sold for Maxine.

Lyrics and music for the song "Parade of the Wooden Soldiers" for Eileen.

A store where Prince Machiavelli's Golden Autumn cologne is sold for Kathy.

A 1955 Detroit Cooley High School yearbook for Robert.

A used Bone Shaker Penny Farthing, high-wheel bike for riding in parades for Tom.

A store where tie-dyed children's shirts (sizes 8/10 in purple or blue) are sold for Pat, who lives in Troy.

A fiesta ware sugar bowl lid in cobalt blue and a Mrs. Beasley Doll for Julie.

Hudson's 1999 millennium Santa Bears for three readers, Mary, Norma and Barbara. Hudson's has sold out.

Family Circus kids figurines, ornaments, plates and other pieces for Marzie.

A store where Maybelline cake mascara with a brush (in a red plastic case) is sold for Pat.

A Mrs. Beasley doll for Linda.

A commemorative plate for the Green Mead Church Historical Park at Eight Mile and Newburgh roads for Angela.

A store that sells Clinique Color Rub liquid rouge in "Pink Bronze" for Mattie.

A store where Coty 24-hour lipstick in "Pure Watermelon" is available for Doris.

A video tape of the film "Heidi with Shirley Temple" for Virginia

"Binky the Clown," which was sold in the 50s and '60s by the Redford Suburban League, for Pat.

A video tape of the film "Mr. Krueger's Christmas," which starred Jimmy Stewart and showed on television in the 80s for Connie.

The '60s children's album "Songs for a Rainy Day" with Rosemary Clooney for Denise.

The album "Happy Birthday Jesus" by Mike Douglas for Nancy.

A store where a cookie press can be purchased.

A business or person who does ribbonery, which is like embroidery, for Pamela.

Pope Gosser china dishes (#52) in the pattern "Silver Dawn" from the '50s for Donna.

Hudson's 1994 Santa Bears for two readers, Christie and Barbara.

A store where a Big Bend wind-up clock with two bells on the top can be purchased for Darlene.

A store or a catalog from which to purchase tan CoCo door mats (24-by-36-inch) for Sue. The Vermont Country Store catalog formerly sold them.

A yogurt maker with 6/8-ounce containers for Mary.

A silver "Nerolizer" toy from the movie "Men in Black," which had been available at Burger King restaurants for Teresa.

John Willard Bloody Mary seasoning and a 18-by-56-inch, non-standard, ironing board cover for Marlene.

A place-setting of Minton china in the pattern "Saturn" in black for Allison.

Milton Bradley's 1950s game "Pirate and Traveler" for Karen.

A recipe book with blank pages and index tabs for Janice.

A store where Crown Ducal Ironstone pottery by AG Richardson from Staffordshire, England may be purchased for Mary Jane. LB King in the Fisher Building formerly carried the pottery.

White Christmas china, which was sold through the Spiegel catalog, for Karen.

A store or catalog that sells Cheetah nylon wind-breakers for Candy.

A store that sells 12-by-12-inch gray or brown carpet tiles with a glue or self-adhesive backing for William

and Joanne.

A 1949 Barbour Hall Military School yearbook (school located in Nazareth, Mich.) for Margaret.

Two of each of the 1998 Barbie ornaments for Mary.

A store where Faberge's Straw Hat perfume is sold for Helen.

A store where a photo album for new, larger-sized pictures can be bought for Mary.

A store where a Regal bathroom rug (55-60 inches in length and 28-32 inches in width) can be bought for Mimi.

A store where furniture decals are sold for Grace.

A 1960s doll called "Little Miss No Name" (she wears a burlap dress) for Sue.

A 1960 Detroit Holy Redeemer High School yearbook and Norell #19 lipstick for Gary.

A business or company that repairs freezers for Ada.

Land Before Time dinosaurs for Travis and Trevor.

A 1994-95 Christopher Radko Third Day of Christmas ornament for Stacey.

A Rainbow Brite doll for Sally.

Sunshine Biscuit's iced gingerbread-men cookies for Diane.

Three hand rails for concrete steps for Kim.

A store where a Hair Ball with straight or curly hair in blue, orange, yellow, and purple is sold for Laura. The item is like a Kosh Ball.

The Santa bear with bag pipes that was sold this year at Jacobson's, for Margaret.

The Little Women doll Amy for Evelyn.

A rhubarb recipe from a Tupperware recipe book that was sold 15 years ago.

An electric potato peeler for Janet.

Milton Bradley's "Pizza Game" for Jeanine.

Two front parts for a He-man Castle for Marge.

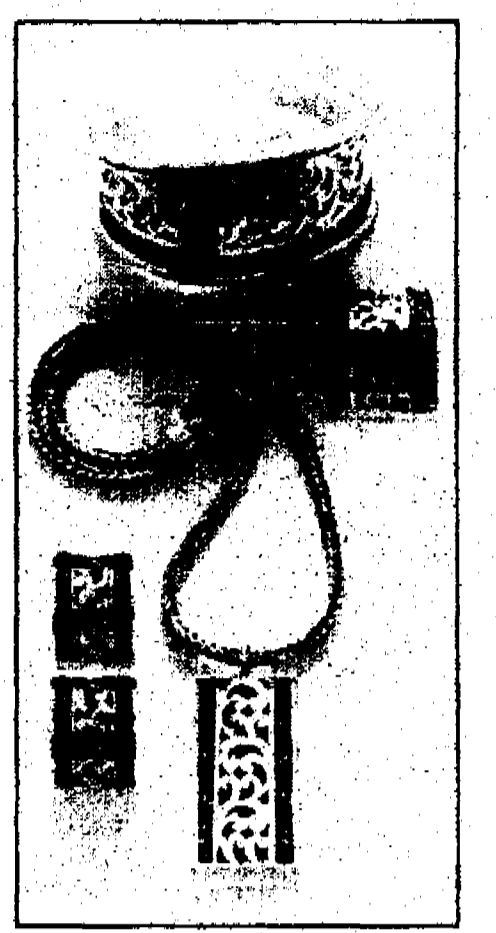
A business or person who will sew outfits for a Christmas Baby Jesus for Wanda, of Westland.

The Faithful Friends doll Ellic for Jo Anne.


A half-slip undergarment to wear beneath culottes for Cecelia.

Compiled by Sandi Jarackus


a la carte
STUFF WE CRAVE



Curves and angles: Lois Hill's sterling silver jewelry is hand-carved, classic and elegant, \$115-315 exclusively at Jacobson's stores.



Special scents: Bulgari Parfums has packaged fragrance collections in colorful boxes for the holidays, \$82-112 at area department stores.



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

NEW EXHIBIT

Canton artist Jim Isakson exhibits his pointillist paintings through Friday, Dec. 31 at the Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave.

Four of the paintings were completed within the last year. All together there are 11 works in the show.

AMAH! AND THE NIGHT VISITORS

The Friends of the Opera of Michigan and Conlen Productions present "Amahl and the Night Visitors," a tender, Christmas season musical-drama for the entire family 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19 at St. Martha's Church, 18200 Oakwood Blvd., across from Oakwood Hospital, Dearborn.

Tickets are \$10 and available by calling Friends of the Opera at (313) 582-0997.

VAN GOGH TICKETS

Tickets for the exhibition.

"Van Gogh: Face to Face," are now available for purchase. The show, featuring 70 paintings and drawings from public and private international collections, will be exhibited March 12 to June 12 at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave.

This is the first exhibit to focus on Vincent van Gogh's evolving approach to the portrait throughout his tragically brief life.

Tickets, which include Acoustiguide audio tour, are \$16 adults Monday-Friday, \$18, Saturday-Sunday, \$8 ages 6-17, and available by calling (248) 433-8444. Founders Society members and children age 5 and under are free.

To schedule an adult or student group visit, to book a private function, or for more information, call the Van Gogh Hot Line at (313) 833-8499. To join or renew membership in the Founders Society, call (313) 833-7971. For exhibit information, visit the Web site at www.dia.org

ROCK N' ROLL PHOTOGRAPHY

Garden City photographer Kathleen Wayt exhibits a collec-

tion of images featuring area rock n' roll bands through Thursday, Dec. 23, at Innisfree Irish Pub & Grill, Middlebelt and Maplewood, Garden City.

"It's Only Rock n' Roll" travels to the Magic Stick in downtown Detroit after leaving Innisfree.

FREE CONCERT

The Livonia Civic Chorus presents "Once Upon a December" 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19 at Clarenceville High School Auditorium on Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

The Livonia Arts Commission is looking for artists to exhibit in Fine Art in the Village June 10-11 at Greenmead Historical Village in Livonia. More than \$2,500 in prizes will be awarded with a grand prize of \$1,000. The exhibit is held in conjunction with the 24th annual Livonia Arts Festival.

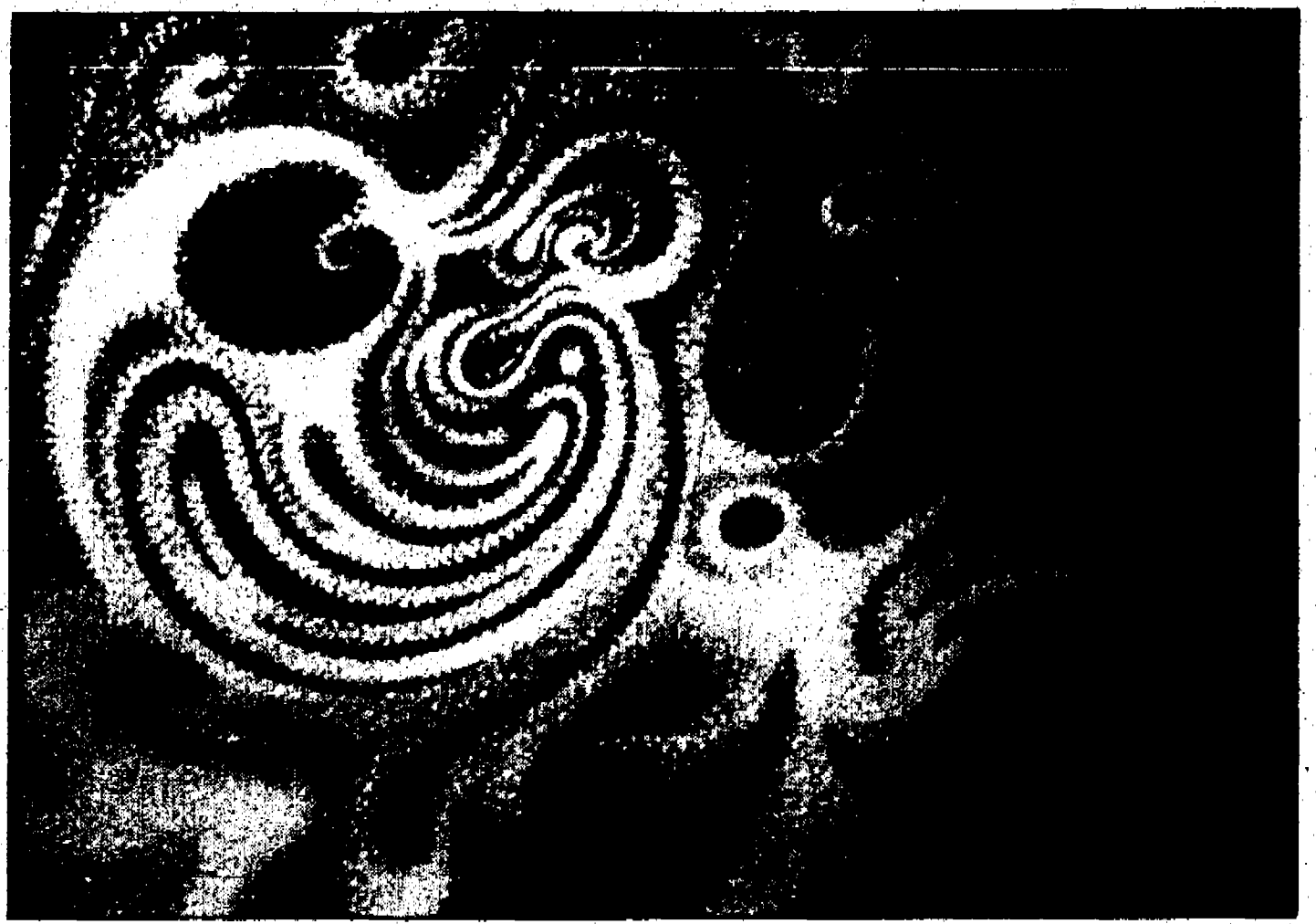
Artists interested in entering work should call Livonia Community Resources Department at (734) 466-2540.

PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED

On Feb. 5 Cranbrook Institute of Science opens a new traveling exhibit, "Take My Picture, Please. A Festival of Cultural Snapshots," and the most important part of the exhibit is you.

The Institute wants a photograph of you, a loved one, your pet, or a special moment or event in your life. Selected photos and descriptions will become part of the Snapshot Gallery in "Take My Picture, Please." The exhibit explores our reasons for taking pictures.

For a "Cranbrook Institute of Science Wants Your Face" photo form, call (248) 645-3224. To enter, send your photos to Cranbrook Institute of Science, 1221



Pointillism: Canton artist Jim Isakson painted this untitled acrylic.

N. Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills, MI, 48303-0801. When they receive your entry, you'll be eligible to win a Minox CD-70 35mm camera (child) or Konica Z-up 140 Super 35mm camera (adult).

MUSIC CLASSES

Evola Music is now taking registrations for the Winter/Spring session of classes in Kindermusik, piano, violin, and organ. Call (734) 455-4677 or visit the Web site at www.ismi.net/kindermusik/evola

DIA HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Tibetan Buddhist monks from the Drepung Loseling Monastery in India will construct a man-

dala sand painting Monday-Friday, Dec. 27-31 as part of the special holiday programming at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave.

Painting with colored sand is one of the most unique and exquisite of all the artistic traditions of Trantric Buddhism. Mandalas have outer, inner and secret meanings.

The opening ceremony begins noon to 3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 27, during which time the monks consecrate the site. This is done by means of chanting, music and mantra recitation. At 3 p.m., visitors will have the opportunity to ask the monks questions. They continue work daily from 11 a.m.

to 4 p.m. At 8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 30 the monks perform "Sacred Music, Sacred Dance" in the DIA Theatre. Tickets are \$10. \$8 Founders Society members, and available by calling (313) 833-4005.

Other programs during the holiday break week include puppet shows, storytelling, drop-in workshops, and drawing in the galleries. Other than the concert, programs are free with recommended museum admission of \$4, \$1 children. Holiday hours (Sunday-Friday, Dec. 26-31) are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For a schedule of programs, call (313) 833-4249.

Advertisement for Steiff, The World's Oldest Plush Company. Includes logo, text about classics and limited editions, address (3947 W. 12 Mile Rd.), phone (248) 543-3115, and a picture of a teddy bear.

Large advertisement for O&E On-Line! Internet Address Directory. Features a search bar, a grid of categories like ACCOUNTING, ADVERTISING AGENCIES, and many others, each with a website URL. Includes the text 'Find these sites on the World Wide Web - Brought to you by the services of O&E On-Line!' and a phone number at the bottom: 'To get your business On-Line!, call 734-953-2038'.

Behind the controversy of a sensational exhibit

JUDITH DONER BERNE
SPECIAL WRITER
NEW YORK - The "Sensation" exhibition of young British artists at the Brooklyn Museum of Art remains a hot topic.

And so it happened, that over the check-out counter at the new DKNY store on Madison Avenue, a rather hip, young salesman, the female cashier and I spent a few minutes discussing it. They particularly wanted to know how someone from the Midwest viewed the exhibition, which runs through Jan. 9.

They weren't aware that Detroit had just gone through an art museum controversy of its own when another exhibit designed to shock closed shortly after it opened at the Detroit Institute of Arts in mid-November.

Once upon a time, New Yorkers weren't interested in anyone from anywhere past Jersey, unless they were from the West Coast. That they expressed interest in a Midwesterner's opinion shows progress.

My reaction to "Sensation," I told them, was that over the years, particularly at the Whitney Museum of American Art, I have seen equally shocking art. That includes the current exhibit, "The American Century Art and Culture 1900-2000," part two.

"Sensation," of course, is the exhibit of 86 works by 41 young British artists that attracted a record number of visitors in its inaugural presentation at the Royal Academy of Arts in London and is doing the same in New York.

It's the exhibit that New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani attempted unsuccessfully to close down by threatening to cut city funding to the museum.

Basically "Sensation" is challenging because it concentrates on controversial works and themes. It's worth noting that neither the artists nor their works have stood the test of time.

One often unreported aspect of the controversy is that museums are venturing into the domain once reserved for galleries, namely showing new art.

But to think that all these

pieces by British artists of the 1990s are worthy of being shown in major museums is, at best, a stretch.

Still, "Sensation" has some potentially important pieces.

Particularly impressive works in "Sensation" are the paintings of Chris Ofili, Richard Patterson and Jenny Saville and the sculpture of Rachel Whiteread.

The pieces by Ofili, including the much-maligned and infamous "The Holy Virgin Mary," are magnificent. Ofili's paintings are intricate, delicate, and dazzling. The precise placement of clumps of elephant dung (the elephant is revered in Zimbabwe where he revamped his style of painting) is his method of grounding them in a cultural as well as a natural landscape.

His paintings are not "smeared" with elephant dung, as described in some media reports.

Jenny Saville's huge oil paintings depict Rubenesque nudes in an apparent statement about the discomfort of contemporary women with their body images. In "Plan," for instance, the amazingly tinted flesh shows markings like that of a plastic surgeon, defining what route to take to reconfigure a body.

Richard Patterson takes cheap, plastic toys, alters them to his taste, photographs them and paints them on a monumental scale. Two of his works, "Motorcrossed II" and "Blue Minotaur," bring to mind "Persistence of Memory" by surrealist artist Salvador Dali.

Meanwhile, Rachel Whiteread also turns to everyday objects, such as bathtubs and sinks, which she fashions out of stark white plaster or alabaster-colored polystyrene.

In "Untitled (100 Spaces)," she explores the concept of negative space in a roomful of 100 delicately tinted, translucent resin sculptures.

"Sensation" raises a lot of questions about what art is. For instance, what is the point of Damien Hurst's exhibit of a shark, a lamb, two pigs and the cross-sections of two cows suspended in formaldehyde? Do these belong in an art or a natural history museum?

After I had viewed one or two of these installations, I vote for the natural history museum.

Another startling piece is Ron Mueck's "Dead Dad," which is an exact replica of his father's naked corpse, perfectly detailed but reduced to the size of a child. Viewers are forced to confront the body (and the notion of death), as it lies on the floor of the exhibition room. The in-your-face immediacy recalls acclaimed photographer Cindy Sherman's mannequin images.

Two walls of photographs of Richard Billingham's dysfunctional family have been exhibited to great acclaim in galleries in New York, Milan, Paris and London. Yes, they, too, are difficult to look at.

"Sensation" isn't an easy exhibit to view or understand. But its place in art history may well rest on the money and control issues raised rather than its emphasis on shock art.

A front page story by David Barstow in Tuesday's New York Times reports that the artistic demands of Charles Saatchi, the British advertising executive who owns the works, drove up the cost of the exhibition, forcing a ticket price hike and less security, visitor services and educational programs.

The Times' piece also suggests that Christie's auction house pledged \$50,000 as a corporate sponsor of the exhibit.

Barstow writes: "... the documents provide a rare look at the ethical perils confronting American museums as they stage expensive, blockbuster exhibitions in an era of declining government support. For museum directors, the challenge is to maintain artistic independence and integrity while raising private money that may come from those with a financial stake in their exhibitions."

The issue may be particularly relevant to residents in Oakland and Wayne counties. This August, voters could consider a ballot issue on public funding for our regional arts institutions.

Judith Doner Berne, a West Bloomfield resident, is a former managing editor of the Eccentric Newspapers.

Guys from page C5

After their initial effort won two national Telly Awards for outstanding production and content in a children's program, Yarmy and Daldin were contacted about by a division of ABC/Disney about a full, 13-program series.

Suddenly, what they admitted was a project they did on the side moved front and center. Quickly, they became convinced that there was a future in inspiring kids about the value of "loving your work." (The creators of "Bob" both admit to having had jobs they hated — sandblaster and car salesman.)

"The message for kids is: Keep reading, do well in school and don't stop dreaming," said Daldin.

In time, "Bob's Job" will try to dispel stereotypes and help kids build a broader awareness of the world around them, said Yarmy.

For years, the cash cow at Video Design has been corporate videos. High-end stuff that makes looking at a car seem like a stroll through the Louvre.

But then came "Bob." In a few weeks, "Bob's Job" will air the second episode on WTWS. Doubters should be prepared to get on the Bob Train.

The program has the look and feel of an inevitable success.

Meanwhile, Yarmy and Daldin are seeking backers to finance an entire 13-program series.

Eventually, "Bob's Job" might be just the type of program suited for PBS, Disney or Nickelodeon's newly formed Noggin Network, which is referred to as "thinking television" in the tradition of "Sesame Street" and "The Electric Company."

Maybe when the phone rings in several months, Yarmy and Daldin might want to pick it up.

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Tuesday, December 21
2 p.m.
at Big Boy
6440 Dixie Hwy

Novi
Tuesday, December 14
10 a.m.
at BMC Novi
41935 W. 12 Mile

Farmington Hills
Thursday, December 16
10 a.m.
at Providence Center
30055 Northwestern Hwy.

Pontiac
Wednesday, December 15
11 a.m.
at Pontiac Library
60 East Pike

Madison Heights
Friday, December 17
2 p.m.
at Big Boy
31270 John R Rd.

Southfield
Monday, December 20
2 p.m.
at Big Boy
29700 Southfield Rd



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New York City: Visit again and again and again

"People come to New York because they're looking for something, only to find once they get here that the city raises more questions in one's soul than it answers."

Nancy Franklin
The New Yorker, Feb. 22, 1999

By JUDITH DONER BERNE
SPECIAL WRITER

On the shuttle bus ride in from Newark Airport to Manhattan, I overheard a mother recounting to her young son some of the sights they would see on his first trip to New York City: the Statue of Liberty, the top of the World Trade Center, South Street Seaport, Greenwich Village.

We dropped them off at their hotel in the heart of Times Square. I figured she wanted him to be as close as possible to the lights of Broadway. And they could easily walk to his first Broadway show.

It made me think about the first time my parents took me sightseeing in New York ... the sights my husband and I visited during the 10 years we lived in and around Manhattan ... the sights I showed my children.

It's been a number of trips to New York since I deliberately set out to see such "sights." And many of them have changed over the years. For instance, the twin towers of the World Trade Center, not the Empire State Building, are New York's tallest structure.

You don't merely ferry to the Statue of Liberty and back, but now can more fully understand the immigrants' experience through the museum that opened in 1990 on Ellis Island. The United Nations headquarters was once a definite must-see. I'm not sure how true that still is since its power and promise haven't been realized.

People now live on Roosevelt Island, which once only held jails, asylums and hospitals. The short aerial tram ride to this East River isle offers interesting views. You can board at Second Avenue and 60th.

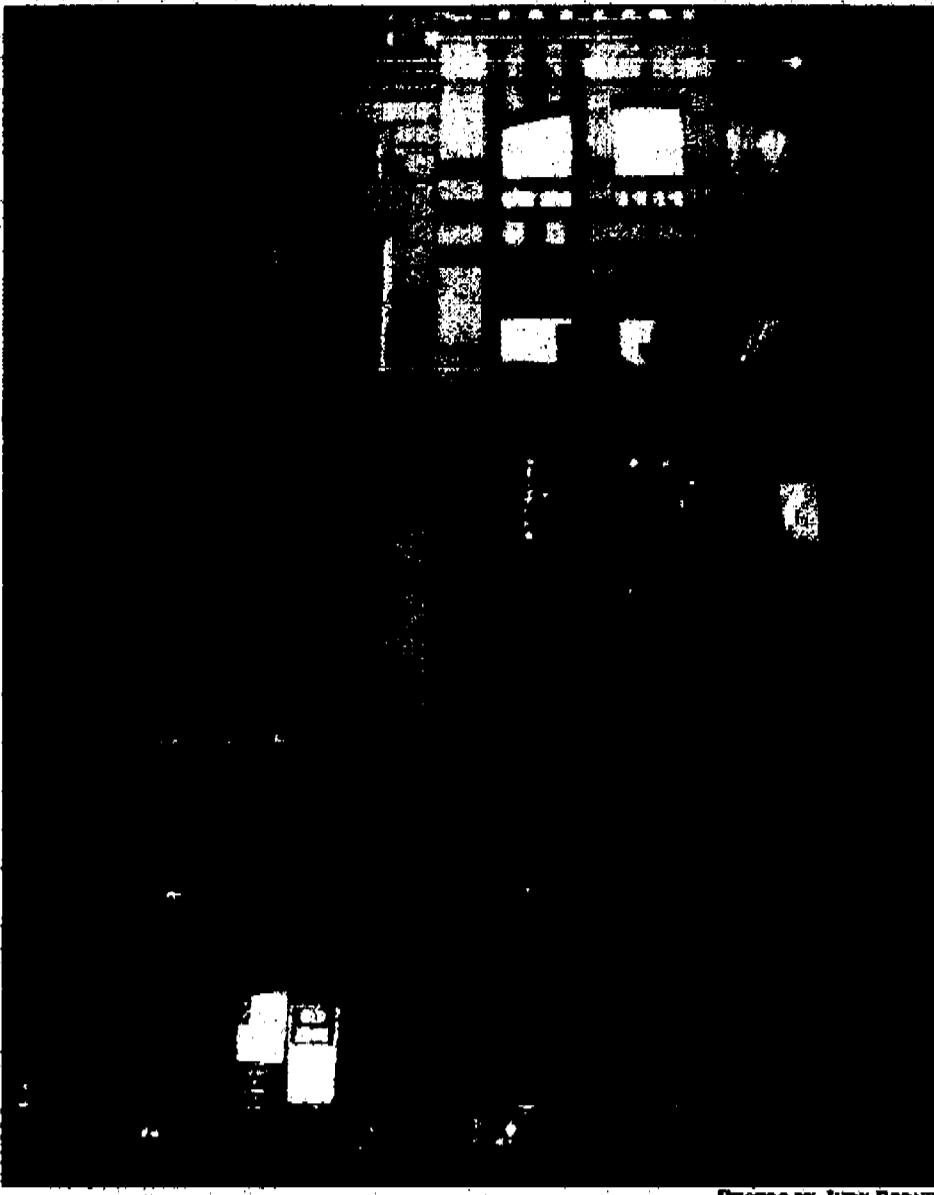
New York, arguably the world's premiere city, has in common with other world class cities that the more you see, the more there is to unravel. The joy of returning over and over is that you can become more than a tourist. The wonder of New York is that something extraordinary is around every corner.

So where you stay in New York is important. And I'm not talking about fancy versus not so fancy. It's that where you stay is your neighborhood for that particular trip. Moving around the city - west side, east side, midtown, downtown - provides a chance to get a true feel for the various sections.

Recently I'd been remiss. Since we usually go to New York during the winter months, it's tempting to stay in the 50s on the west side. That way you're less dependent on a taxi to get to Broadway or Lincoln Center if the weather is bad. Ready for new vistas, I opted for the east side and a hotel I hadn't stayed at on my most recent trip.

At the Regency Hotel, Park Avenue at 61st, I experienced a lovely hotel in the last stages of renovation, with a gracious lobby and courteous, accommodating service. Their concierge expediently called to find the hours and specific subway directions to PS 1 - the edgy art museum in Queens that recently associated with the Museum of Modern Art. In the hotel's wood-paneled, bookshelf-lined library, you can sink into comfy settees to have anything from breakfast to an after-theater supper. And their workout room is spacious and well-equipped, although on the basement level.

I also was delighted that just around the corner was my favorite delicatessen, the original Viand on Madison at 61st. Viand occupies a sliver of a storefront (the aisle between counter and the wall of single-file tables is significantly narrower than at Steve's Deli at



Looking Up: The Christmas windows of Burberry (right) and Escada, two high fashion stores on 57th Street.

Maple and Telegraph, for example). Still, New Yorkers are willing to wait "on line" for their incredible turkey sandwiches for as long as it takes.

A highlight for me is running in Central Park. Its 843-acres (the principality of Monaco would fit within its confines, according to Fodor's guidebook) present not only an oasis for New Yorkers but a microcosm of the city surrounding it. Around each bend is a new "neighborhood" whether it be the skating rink, the Carousel, the Sheep Meadow, Strawberry Fields (which John Lennon immortalized), Central Park and Tisch Children's zoos, and the various wetlands and waters.

Running the park from the east side rather than the west affords new sightings, such as the bronze mountain lion mounted on the rocky ledge above a major running route and the statue of a Polish hero off the beaten path.

I had never before run as far as the Reservoir, where I joined the herd of joggers circling its 1.6 mile perimeter. It affords a great view of the high-rise buildings that surround Central Park, including the renown Dakota, where Lennon lived and died.

On the return route, I caught up with a truly New York sight - a professional dog walker high stepping it with 10 (by actual count) leashed canines of assort-



Fairyland: Holiday lights adorn trees along Park Avenue near Grand Central Station.

ed breeds keeping stride.

Another advantage of the near east side is that the major art museums are within walking distance. Smartly, they have staggered the days each closes so visitors don't miss out: the Metropolitan on Monday, MOMA (Museum of Modern Art) on Wednesday, the Guggenheim on Thursday, the Whitney, Monday and Tuesday. I headed for the Guggenheim, with its glass-domed, innovative spiral rotunda design by Frank Lloyd Wright, which I have visited often since its opening in 1959.

Although some disparage its six-story, quarter-mile ramp as a poor space for viewing art, you don't wonder whether you're viewing an exhibition in the proper order, as can happen in more traditional museums.

This time it was Picasso's paintings, sculpture and sketches from the Spanish Civil War through the end of World War II that occupied the bulk of the ramp.

The remaining space was devoted to 10 years (1959-69) of work by pop artist Jim Dine. Picasso, of course, is a hard act to follow and Dine suffers as a result. Both exhibits run into May.

Generally, I've sacrificed food to theater. However, this trip I tried to work in more than soup before, pastry after. I picked a restaurant within walking distance of our hotel from the best

new restaurants of 1998, according to departing New York Times reviewer Ruth Reichl. The arepas at Bolivar, a South American restaurant at 206 East 60th, are sensational. On the regular menu, these Columbian griddle cakes are made with fresh corn and served with creme fraiche. This night, they also served them as an appetizer: three blini-sized pancakes, each topped with a different delicacy - caviar, crabmeat, creme fraiche. A 6:15 p.m. reservation and friendly, efficient service allowed us a relatively leisurely meal.

Since it was Monday night and most theaters were dark, it was easy to catch a cab to Lincoln Center for the Metropolitan Opera's performance of Il Trovatore. A few empty seats - unusual for the sold out Met - probably reflected the ho-hum review it received in that day's Times.

But whatever the production, attending the opera in that glittering house, arguably the best in the world, is a glorious experience.

Which brings me to the art of ticket getting. Unless it's a last-minute trip, calling the theater listing usually works. I had no trouble getting good seats to "Art" about six weeks before, but although it's a Tony Award-winning play it's been running a while.

For hot tickets, such as next season's premiere staging of the

new Great Gatsby opera, I rely on the brokerage firm of Global Tickets. They charge above the box office price. But throughout 10 years of using them I've yet to be disappointed by either their failure to book what I want to see or by poor seats.

Yes, Times Square recently has been cleaned up, free of prostitution and adult movie houses. But now it's criticized for looking more like Hollywood than New York - "Disneyfied" I believe is the description.

The same could be said for Fifth Avenue, where Saks Fifth Avenue and Bergdorf Goodman stand like book ends propping up more paperbacks (including a Disney store) than hard covers.

The posh shopping has moved over an avenue to Madison between 59th and 79th. Calvin Klein, Prada, Betsy Johnson and similar designer boutiques rule, giving way to art and antiques as you continue to the upper east side.

Over my three-day visit, you could say I was true to my east side neighborhood (although I didn't set foot in Bloomingdale's!). Maybe next trip I'll check out one of Soho's new hotels - the Soho Grand or the Mercer - and spend my time in Lower Manhattan.

Sure, I'll miss running in Central Park, but Manhattan becomes so narrow downtown that the East River and Battery Park are viable substitutes. And, of course, off-Broadway, off-off Broadway and a whole different art, fashion and restaurant scene are indigenous to Soho, the Village, Tribeca, the East Village, Little Italy and Chinatown.

I guess I'm actually a bit envious of that woman on the airport shuttle. Been there, done that is not something you can ever say about New York.

Judy Berne has more time for travel now than when she was managing editor for the Eccentric Newspapers. She continues as a regular columnist for the Eccentric's op-ed page and frequently writes on travel for the O&E's Sunday Arts and Leisure section.

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Friday	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:00	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00
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2 UNIQUE



KELLI LEWTON

Be of good cheer with festive holiday sips

Temperatures are dropping, festive outdoor lights are being hung, trees are twinkling and everyone is getting into the holiday spirit.

As a child, I knew Christmas was near when my favorite movie, "It's a Wonderful Life" was being featured on TV, and there was eggnog in our refrigerator. I still refer to eggnog as Christmas milk, and cherish the memory of sipping this thick, lightly fragrant, drink.

Most of our holiday food and drink traditions have come from around the world. There are rich in flavor, taste and often even richer in their history.

Holiday libations are the pre- and post celebration of the event itself. As a holiday buffet brings people together, its counterpart, the celebratory communal bowl, mug or glass of festive liquid spirits, is warming the way to holiday cheer.

Special gatherings brimming with holiday cheer, and the splendor of all that is familiar would seem to be met by a warm liquid libation this season.

Eggnog is an essential component of an American yuletide feast. Although people have been sipping eggnog for two centuries, the etymology of the word itself extends back even further.

The word "nog" is an old English term for strong beer or ale. Some folklorists believe the word eggnog was derived from "noggin," a small birch cup used to serve tavern patrons versus a large mug given to those who sat by the fire.

Over time eggnog developed into a potent egg- and spirit-based beverage with other added ingredients such as cream, sugar and spices, especially nutmeg.

In England people whisked red wine into their nog. In Colonial America, people added rum, brandy or whiskey. Although eggnog's birth was as an alcohol-based beverage many people drink alcohol-free varieties today.

A toast

"Hail Hail, Wassail" — was the toast the farmers would chant as they grabbed their weapons and headed to their apple orchard in Devonshire, England on Jan. 7. The farmers would circle the oldest apple tree in their orchard and sing songs or chant to praise the tree for its fruit.

Drinking cider and a feast of roast beef accompanied their praise to the orchards. "Ves heill," is Norse for "be in good health." It is an old toast as well as the origin of the word. Wassail is a warm winter drink consisting of ale or sweetened wine steeped with spices and apples, and even garnished with small, roasted apples.

French traditions

The French never to be forgotten in the culinary world, are famous for serving holiday wine as an aperitif. It is prepared by simply infusing red wine with orange and lemon peel, vanilla extract, and cloves. After a two-week rest in a dark place, French berry liqueur or brandy is added to the wine mixture.

Without a doubt the French are masters at making champagne, which is always a holiday favorite. Champagne is very versatile, and wonderful with a splash of most citrus juices and sweeter liqueurs. Perhaps a little Chambord and Champagne (Kier Royal) would get the sugar plum fairies dancing at your next holiday brunch.

Non-alcoholic drinks

Don't forget to serve non-alcoholic drinks at your party. Spices often play an important role in many of our warm winter drinks. Good quality mulling spices are a must for any

Please see 2 UNIQUE, D2

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Taste next week:

- Holiday roasts
- Focus on Wine

A STRESS-FREE HOLIDAY

It's the best gift to give yourself



Celebrate The Millennium

In many countries, windows and doors are opened at midnight, and homeowners bang pots and pans together to chase away the evil spirits.

In Spain, just before midnight, everyone is offered a handful of 12 grapes. Make a wish. As the clock strikes midnight everyone eats their grapes, one by one as the 12 bells toll. If you can do it your wish will come true.

Bishop's wine, a hot spiced beverage, is served in Holland on St. Nick's Eve and New Year's Eve. (See recipe inside.)

In Latin countries party hostesses invite certain special guests to put on a gift of a pair of red briefs or panties. It promises to bring a year of passion to the wearer. A rum-based punch, cafe de olla, tamales and bunuelos will probably be on the menu.

In South America, revelers trek around the house or pool carrying their suitcases. It promises you'll take plenty of trips throughout the year.

Brazilians may enjoy feijoada, their national dish. It's made with a variety of meats, black beans, kale, rice and orange slices. To prepare a simple version to suit U.S. tastes, serve smoked pork chops and chunks of sausage with black beans, white rice, sautéed kale and orange slices. You can find a good selection of feijoada recipes online at <http://soar.berkeley.edu/recipes/ethnic/brazil/>

Have a kids' party

Invite cousins, neighbor kids or your kid's friends. Their parents will think you are wonderful because they won't have to find a sitter. Serve punch, shrimp, meatballs and little sandwiches. Play party music that all ages enjoy, like the Hokey Pokey and the chicken song. Set out games and a jigsaw puzzle and wrap it all up with a movie. Bang those pots and pans at midnight and the kids will remember this night forever. And so will their parents.

Form a spirit circle

At midnight invite everyone to go

Please see CELEBRATE, D2

BY PEGGY MARTINELLI-EVERTS
SPECIAL WRITER

The holidays come but once a year ... and thank goodness for that. Added to our usual work schedules, deadlines, and children's activities is gift shopping, wrappings, baking and entertaining out-of-town guests.

It can turn December into a "bah humbug" kind of month.

That said, it is also the time we receive greetings from so many old friends, take some time to remember the less fortunate, party with those we usually work with, and pause to remember what it feels like to be a child.

Take some time to reflect on your life. Do you feel better today than you did at the beginning of the year? Are you ready to give yourself a holiday present? The best thing you can do for yourself and for your family is to stay healthy.

One important way to stay healthy is to eat healthy. Don't let holiday parties sabotage your efforts. Remember, the three most important points about healthy eating (and perhaps life in general) are balance, variety and moderation.

■ Balance: As the rhythm of the holiday season cranks up, it is important to eat smaller, more frequent meals to keep your energy up. This is surprisingly easy to adapt to during the holiday season since social events tend to be opportunities for "grazing," or eating a little here, a little there.

Try to avoid heavy, fatty meals because they can make you feel sluggish. Avoid skipping meals or you'll get too hungry and overeat with abandon later on. Drink plenty of water. It is the best gift for healthy kidneys. Help yourself to holiday treats, but be reasonable about portion sizes and the number of servings you take. (See sidebar on serving sizes - Size Savvy.)

■ Variety: Make time for exercise and activity. It can come in many forms. Activity and movement help relieve stress and will make you feel better. The holidays are a perfect time to try something new. Try different foods. See the recipe for caviar mousse inside: it's a wonderful dish for a special occasion.

■ Moderation: I believe dieting doesn't work. Dieting adds stress and guilt. Focus on habits that contribute to good health. Food and celebrations can be partners. Try to slow down your eating. This allows your body a chance to feel full but not overstuffed.

Listen to your body's internal cues. When you are doing your holiday cooking and baking, substitute lower-fat ingredients for high-fat ones whenever possible. Select recipes that contain whole grains, fruits and vegetables such as pumpkin pie, banana bread, oatmeal cookies, blueberry muffins and carrot cake.

It is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of the season. We shop too much, party too hard and eat without restraint or forget to eat at all. Try to stop and cherish the past, give yourself the gift of the present and look forward to the future.

Here are some ideas

- Cherish the past. Fill your house with the scent of grandma's sugar and spice cookies and grandfather's spiced wine
- Give yourself a gift. Slow down. When you are preparing food, cook in double batches. You can share with a friend or freeze the remainder for a busy day
- Look forward to the future: Sign up for a yoga class or calligraphy or something else you've been longing to learn. Find a walking partner. Plan a vacation. Buy a calendar and fill it with all the year's birthdays.

Remember, the best present is the gift of good health. Slow down, enjoy the holidays and have a wonderful, happy New Year!

Peggy Martinelli-Everts, R.D., a Clarkston resident, is a registered dietitian and director of clinical operations for HDS Services, a 32-year-old Farmington Hills-based food service and hospitality management and consulting company, specializing in food service, management for hospitals, long-term care facilities, businesses, private clubs and private schools. HDS Services has approximately 230 management accounts throughout the United States and Japan. See recipes inside.

Holiday Gift Suggestions

Here are some gift ideas that promote wellness:

- Healthy cookbook
- Flavored vinegars
- Pasta bowls
- Gourmet coffee
- Flavored popcorn
- Air popper and unpopped popcorn
- Vegetable steamer
- Olive oil spray bottle
- Gravy skimmer
- Garlic press
- Pot and seeds for an herbal garden
- Fruit basket
- Colorful or fun salt and pepper shakers
- Homemade trail mix with nuts, dried fruits, seeds and other ingredients
- Exercise gear such as socks, a helmet, cassette tapes with upbeat music
- Subscription to a health-oriented magazine

Size Savvy

We have become quite used to seeing enormous servings of foods. Even so-called healthy foods can pack in a lot of extra calories if the serving size is large. Here is a general guide to what is considered a "serving" on the Food Guide Pyramid.

- 1/2 cup cooked pasta = normal ice cream scoop
- 1/2 cup cooked rice or beans = a tennis ball
- 1 cup raw leafy vegetables = your fist
- 1/2 cup cooked vegetable or fruit = a tennis ball
- 1 medium apple = a tennis ball
- 3 ounces of cooked meat = a deck of cards
- 4 ounces of cooked meat = a cassette tape
- 2 tablespoons of peanut butter = a Ping-Pong ball
- 1 1/2 ounces of cheese = a pair of dominoes
- 1 teaspoon of margarine = the tip of your thumb from the knuckle up
- 1 ounce of potato chips = 2 palm fulls

Turkey Alfredo is a tasty, healthy dish



MAIN DISH MIRACLE

MURIEL WAGNER

One of my patients' favorite menu choices is Fettuccine Alfredo. Even my fat-loving taste buds tingle at the mention of this Italian classic with its heavy cream, unsalted butter and more than a goodly sprinkle of freshly grated Parmesan cheese

One of the goals of my nutrition counseling is to help patients learn to modify their favorite recipes so that they can continue "Eating Younger" and enjoy what they're eating.

You may remember an earlier recipe I shared with you for an Eating Younger Fettuccine Alfredo. This one, however, is slightly different and has several additional virtues. You can stock up and have the Fet-

tuccine Alfredo ingredients readily available on your pantry shelf and in the freezer. Use fresh or frozen veggies. You might try canned varieties. They cut prep time and are similar in nutritional value to fresh cooked or frozen. If carrots and broccoli aren't popular at your house, substitute asparagus, green beans or whole kernel corn.

The turkey might be some of your frozen stash from the Thanksgiving bird. Cooked and skinned chicken breast, ham, cooked shrimp or rinsed tuna fish are other stand-ins. The recipe has enough flavor to make it an interesting all-veggie option.

Do be sure to use freshly grated imported Parmesan or Romano cheese. Don't buy cheese that's already grated. It doesn't provide the necessary flavor spark to create the "Italian" aura.

As you probably know, the fiber can be increased by adding vegetables. But try substituting Chinese Lo Mein noodles for the pasta. There

are 8 grams of fiber in a half cup of Lo Mein noodles in contrast to only 1 1/2 to 2 grams in the same amount of pasta. Besides, I prefer the chewiness of the Chinese noodle. You can find them in the Oriental food section of most markets.

This is one of those recipes that takes longer to eat than it does to make. When your day isn't long enough for all you need to do, this is a recipe you can turn to for smart eating. You can probably have it ready to eat faster than you can "order in." Happy healthy holiday eating!

Look for Main Dish Miracle on the second Sunday of the month in Taste. Muriel G. Wagner is a registered dietitian and nutrition therapist with an office in Southfield. She publishes "Eating Younger," a quarterly newsletter with recipes and nutrition tips. To subscribe, send a check for \$12.50 to "Eating Younger," P.O. Box 69021, Pleasant Ridge, MI 48069.

TURKEY-VEGETABLE ALFREDO

- 1 (11.5 oz.) can "Healthy" Cream of Chicken Soup
- 1 (10.5 oz.) can "Healthy" Cream of Mushroom Soup
- 1/2 cup Evaporated Skim Milk
- 1 1/2 cups cooked turkey breast skinned and cut into strips
- 1 (8 1/4 oz.) can sliced carrots, drained
- 1 cup cooked broccoli flowerets
- 1 (4 oz.) jar whole mushrooms, drained
- 4 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan Cheese
- 6 ounces cooked pasta (your choice) or Chinese Lo Mein Noodles

Mix undiluted soups with milk in saucepan until smooth. Simmer (low heat) until serving temperature, stirring constantly. Add vegetables and cheese, stirring gently. Serve over hot cooked pasta or noodles. Sprinkle with additional cheese, if desired. Serves 4

■ Food values per serving: calories 362 fat 6.5 g, carb 44 g, fiber 2.2 g, sodium 48 mg, cholesterol 50 mg
■ Food exchanges: 1 1/2 meat, 2 vegetables, 1 veg, 1 starch

Toast the holidays with delicious sippers

See related 2 Unique column on Taste front. Recipes compliments of Chef Kelli Lewton, 2 Unique

WASSAIL

- 10 small apples
- 10 teaspoons brown sugar
- 2 bottles dry sherry or dry Madeira
- 1/2 teaspoon grated nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 3 cloves
- 3 allspice berries
- 1-inch stick cinnamon
- 2 cups superfine sugar
- 3/4 cup water
- 6 eggs, separated
- 1 cup brandy

Core the apples and fill each with a teaspoon of brown sugar. Place in a baking pan and cover the bottom with 1/8-inch of water. Bake in a 350°F degree oven for 30 minutes or until tender.

Combine the sherry or Madeira, nutmeg, ginger, cloves, allspice berries, cinnamon, sugar and water in a large, heavy saucepan and heat without letting the mixture come to a boil. Leave on very low heat. Beat the egg yolks until light and lemon-colored. Beat the whites until stiff and fold them into the yolks. Strain the wine mixture and add gradually to the eggs, stirring constantly. Add the brandy. Pour into a metal punch bowl, float the apples on top and serve in 8-ounce mugs. Makes about 10 servings.

ENCHANTED NOG

- 3 cups whole milk
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 8 tablespoons sugar

- 1 cup Dark rum
- 1 cup heavy cream (whipped until soft peaks form)
- 6 egg yolks
- 1 star anise
- 1 cinnamon stick

Bring 2 cups (out of 3) milk and spices to a boil in medium sauce pan

Mix egg yolks and sugar in bowl and whisk

Steam warm milk and whisk into egg-sugar mixture, whisking constantly.

Pour back into sauce pan, heat on low an additional 2-3 minutes.

Remove from heat and stir in remaining milk and cream. Chill down quickly in ice bath in an open vessel in fridge.

Add rum and fold in whip cream.

Pour in glass, garnish with sprinkle of nutmeg.

To make drink non-alcoholic, replace rum with 2 teaspoons of rum extract.

BUTTERY RUM

- 4 oz Dark Rum
- Twist lemon and orange peel
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 3 cloves
- 1 star anise
- 16 ounces cider
- 1 1/2 tablespoons whole sweet butter
- Nutmeg

Warm cider with spices, simmer for 5 minutes. Add rum, strain spices, add whole butter. Divide into four 4 ounce mugs. (Warm mugs with hot water) Garnish with sprinkle of nutmeg.

MULLED WINE

- 16 ounces claret or other dry red wine
- Dash Angostura bitters
- 4 cloves
- 1 cinnamon stick
- Twist lemon peel
- 1 teaspoon superfine sugar
- Pinch allspice

Combine all ingredients in a small, heavy saucepan and heat, but do not allow to boil. Strain into two 8 ounce mugs.

SCANDINAVIAN YULETIDE DRINK

There are a number of variations of this traditional Scandinavian Yuletide drink. Dry red wine, muscatel and sweet vermouth, with aquavit in place of the brandy, may be used. In another version, 2 bottles of dry red wine, preferably Bordeaux, are used with the quantity of aquavit increased to a whole bottle, which is poured over the flaming sugar.

GLOGG

- 1 bottle tawny port
- 1 bottle Madeira
- 1 bottle medium dry sherry
- 1/2 bottle dry red wine
- 15 cloves
- 15 cardamom seeds
- 1 stick cinnamon
- 1/2 pound sugar cubes
- 1/2 cup brandy
- 1 cup raisins
- 3/4 cup blanched almonds

Combine all ingredients except the sugar, brandy, raisins and nuts in a heavy saucepan and heat slowly. When the wine mixture is hot, place a rack on top of the saucepan so that it

covers half of it. Arrange the sugar cubes on the rack, warm the brandy, pour it over the sugar and set it aflame. Ladle the wine mixture over the flaming sugar until sugar is dissolved. Serve in 8-ounce mugs, garnished with the almonds and raisins. Makes about 10 servings.

CELEBRATION CIDER

- 1/2 gallon apple cider
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom
- 6 cloves

Place spices in a bundled cheese cloth or in a tea ball strainer. Put cider in water reservoir of coffee maker.

Put ball or cheese cloth bundle in coffee carafe, then brew.

GARNISHES FOR HOLIDAY DRINKS

- Whole cinnamon sticks
- Fresh whipped cream
- Grated cinnamon and nutmeg
- Frozen Grapes
- Rim glasses with colored sugars
- A dollop of ice cream in a hot cocoa or coffee
- Fresh raspberries or strawberries
- Put fresh cranberries into ice cube trays, add water, freeze
- Coffee cordials such as Irish Cream, Frangelico, Chambord, Kahlua
- Peppermint sticks
- Rock candy or chocolate stirrer sticks
- Fresh fruit slices

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IDA

Celebrate from page D1

outside with a lit candle. Within a circle of all guests the host or hostess says a special prayer for their friends and family, making special mention of the newest babes and the dearly departed.

Afterward, everyone in the circle adds a brief comment as they blow out their candle and toss it in a can.

Then everyone dashes in from the cold to dance until breakfast.

New Year's Day breakfast

Be an optimist. Have a breakfast or brunch on New Year's Day morning.

2 Unique from page D1

■ Celebrate a fresh millennium with your closest friends watching a parade and the football games.

Celebrate a fresh millennium with your closest friends watching a parade and the football games. Serve some strong cafe de olla, a Mexican coffee flavored with piloncillo.

This unrefined cone of brown sugar is available at specialty stores or a Latino grocery store.

See recipes on Page D3

respectable cider as well as to add spirit to a variety of juice punches.

Virgin strawberry margaritas or daiquiris served in a festive glass frosted with sugar lend spirit and color to your holiday drink selection. White grape juice and Sprite, is another popular non-alcoholic drink.

Serve coffee or cocoa with steamed milk, flavored syrup, chocolate shavings, vanilla or almond extract, or a peppermint stick. Add eggnog to coffee, top with a whip cream hat, and a sprinkle of nutmeg for a special holiday drink.

The new popular warming drink seems to be chai tea with soy, milk or cream.

"Skol," "L'Chaim," "salute," "prosit" or "cheers!"

Wishing you and your families a safe and happy holiday season and wishes for a bright millennium.

Chef Kelli L. Lewton is owner of 2 Unique Caterers and Event Planners in Bloomfield Hills. A graduate of Schoolcraft College's Culinary Arts program, Kelli is a part-time instructor at the college. Look for her column in Taste on the second Sunday of the month.

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Sunny, wholesome citrus fruits are a welcome gift

Few gifts are more welcome during the holidays than a basket filled with wholesome, sunny citrus fruits. Just coming into their peak of color, quality and nutrition, the oranges, tangerines and grapefruits of December can make an exciting addition to almost any meal.

Citrus fruit is rich in vitamin C and dietary fiber. Oranges, tangerines and red or pink grapefruit are also great sources of vitamin A, and provide calcium, iron and potassium. In addition, researchers are learning more about the significant disease-fighting potential of substances called phytochemicals. These substances are found in plant foods such as citrus and, according to the American Institute for Cancer Research, may help prevent various forms of cancer.

Introduced to the New World with the visits of Columbus and other early European explorers, today citrus fruits and juices are

found in virtually every American home. Yet most of us don't take full advantage of the potential of these flavorful fruits in our menus. Although Mediterranean and Asian cooks have used citrus in their cooking for centuries, Americans are just beginning to recognize how the fragrance and tartness of citrus can give distinction and appeal to even the plainest of ingredients.

Selecting citrus fruit that is heavy for its size, indicating sweetness and juiciness. It should have firm, puffy skins without any soft or puffy spots.

Green coloration is not an indicator of ripeness. It only shows that the fruit has been through cold nights before picking. Bright color does not ensure better flavor. Citrus can be stored in the refrigerator, removed from any plastic wrapping, for a month or more.

Grapefruit and oranges for breakfast are traditional, but

consider adding orange juice and zest to waffle batter and topping these moist, delicious treats with a pile of mixed fresh fruit. Or, make a warm fruit medley with pink grapefruit sections, pear and banana slices and raisins, heated in a saucepan with orange juice, honey and ground ginger.

Tangerine sections are delicious in a rice salad with snow peas, or as a nutritious alternative to marshmallows in a sweet potato casserole. Serve chicken breasts with red grapefruit sections and lemony rice that's

cooked in a mixture of chicken broth and lemon juice. Or, make an orange-fennel

salsa by peeling and removing the pith and membrane from three navel oranges, placing the

pulp and juice in a bowl. Add one coarsely chopped fennel bulb, a minced jalapeño chile, 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro leaves, half a thinly sliced red onion and a bit of salt. Use the salsa to add

color and zip to grilled fish or poultry.

Recipes and information provided by the American Institute for Cancer Research.



Simple dessert: Quick Citrus Crisp is a simple, yet flavorful warm dessert.

QUICK CITRUS CRISP

- 1 cup orange juice
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 4 cups assorted oranges, grapefruit and tangerine sections, seeded
- 1 cup frozen unsweetened, pitted dark sweet cherries, thawed and halved
- 1-1/2 cups low-fat granola (without raisins)

Preheat oven to 375° F.

In a small saucepan combine orange juice, cornstarch and cinnamon. Cook and stir over medium heat until mixture is thickened and bubbly. Stir in the honey.

Place citrus sections and cherries in a 2-quart square baking dish. Pour hot sauce over fruit. Sprinkle with granola. Bake for 10 minutes. Serve warm.

Nutrition information: Each of the six servings contains 214 calories and 2 grams of fat.

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Bareman's **MILK GALLONS** All Varieties \$1.89 gal.

Salens DELI HAM \$5.99 lb.	Michigan POTATOES 99¢ 10 lb. Bag	Mini CARROTS 99¢ 1 lb. Pkg.	Cooking ONIONS 69¢ 3 lb. PKG.
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3 oz. **LINDT BARS** 4/5.00

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WESTBORN MARKET

Prices good thru Dec. 18, 1999. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

Treat guests to something special

See related holiday presents story on Taste front.

CAVIAR MOUSSE

Approximately 8 servings

- 1 tablespoon unflavored gelatin
- 2 tablespoons cold water
- 1/2 cup boiling water
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1 pint fat-free sour cream
- 1 pinch dry mustard
- 4 1/2 ounces caviar

Soak gelatin in cold water until soft. Add boiling water; stir until dissolved. Add lemon juice and Worcestershire sauce. In another bowl combine mayonnaise and sour cream. Pour liquid mixture into this. Add dry mustard and caviar.

Mix gently but thoroughly and pour into a 3 or 4 cup mold.

Chill 6 hours. Unmold by dipping the mold in hot water and shaking the contents loose onto a serving plate. Decorate and serve as an hors d'oeuvre or mold in individual molds and serve as a first course. You may wish to "frost" with additional caviar. Serve on toast points, melba rounds or crackers.

Nutrition information per serving: Calories 57, protein 2 grams, fat 3 grams, sodium 164 mg, carbohydrates less than 1

gram, percent of calories from fat: 46.5

Recipe compliments of A recipe of HDS Services

BISHOP'S WINE

- 1 bottles red table wine
- 1/2 bottle water (use wine bottle to measure)
- 1 orange, sliced
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/8 teaspoon dried rosemary
- 1 bay leaf
- 30 cloves
- Sugar to taste

Let everything simmer, except sugar, without boiling for a few hours in a covered pot. Add sugar according to taste, pass through a sieve. Place a silver spoon in each wine glass and pour hot into wine glasses. The spoon prevents heat breakage.

CAFE DE OLLA MEXICAN SPICED COFFEE

- 1 cup water
- 3 Tablespoons dark roasted coffee, coarsely ground
- 1 stick cinnamon

Piloncillo (unrefined dark brown sugar) to taste

In an earthenware pot, bring water to a boil. Add the coffee, cinnamon, and unrefined dark brown sugar. Bring to a boil twice, then strain and serve.

Serves one.

Cook's note: To adapt this recipe to a coffee-maker, add piloncillo and cinnamon sticks to the pot. Prepare coffee according to instructions for the pot, although it should be stronger than regular coffee. This is typically served in little red clay cups.

COOKING CALENDAR

HELP FOR HOLIDAY HOSTS

AAA of Michigan will bring their popular "First a Friend, then a Host" program 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16 to Busch's Livonia, 37083 W. Six Mile Road in the Newburgh Plaza. AAA of Michigan representatives will mix and serve

two alcohol-free drinks - "Kirk Chocolate Maltby" and "Joe Louis Party Punch." Both drinks were awarded prizes in AAA of Michigan's annual Great Pretenders contest. Recipes of all the winning drink entries, and taste samples will be provided.

In my family, learning is everything.

Books don't just enlighten. They empower. Our children are growing up knowing this. A good education is one of the most important things we can give them. And we will, with the help of U.S. Savings Bonds.

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49471 Ann Arbor Rd. (W. of Roppel) 459-2227

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Bevenger white chardonnay 2/\$10.00

Stags Leap Hope Valley Chardonnay \$22.99

Louis Joidot Beaujolais Villages 2/\$17.00

MEDICAL BRIEFS

Book fair

The Henry Ford Medical Center in Livonia hosts a book fair 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, at the center, 29200 Schoolcraft near Middlebelt. New books will be sold for 30-70 percent discounts. Proceeds benefit the center's volunteer program. Call Janet Estes at (734) 523-2403.

Goal setting

Therapeutic Books & Wonders in Plymouth's Old Village will be the host of a goal setting discussion after the holidays to help people stay focused and maintain their upcoming New Year's resolutions. Owner and mental health counselor Steven Powers, will feature a local inventor who recently received a patent on a product called the "Seven Principles." It's a tool individuals can use to help them maintain focus and set goals based on Stephen Covey's "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People." The stained wood product features rods with inscribed values such as career, health, love and family. The rods can be rotated or ranked on a daily basis, based on what area of your life you're focusing. Two discussions will take place at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29 and Wednesday, Jan. 5 at Therapeutic Books & Wonders, 965 N. Mill St. Old Village. For information call (734) 453-4950.

Young mothers

The Young Mother's Assistance Program (Y-MAP) will host their December support group from 6-8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13 at Newburg United Methodist Church (36500 Ann Arbor Trail) in Livonia. For information call (734) 513-7598. Y-MAP provides moms an opportunity to meet with other young parents and share feelings and experiences with each other.

Laryngectomy support

For people who have had or are going to have surgical removal of their vocal cords (laryngectomy) and their family and friends. In coordination with the Michigan Cancer Foundation Support Services. Meets Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. free of charge. Call (734) 458-3381.

Stroke/aneurysm

For those who had or have a cerebral aneurysm or stroke. Family members/friends welcome. Group will meet at Tuesday, Dec. 21 at Garden City Hospital to promote a sharing interaction (free of charge). Call 458-4396 for the location and time.

Holiday blood drive

During the holiday times the Southeast Michigan Red Cross supply of blood is especially short. Garden City Hospital will host a blood drive at the Allan Breakey Medical Office Building Dec. 29 and 30 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Donors are asked to call (734) 458-4330 to make an appointment.

SUPERBUGS

Overuse of antibiotics endangers health of society

BY KURT KUBAN
SPECIAL WRITER

With the inevitable arrival of winter, the flu and cold season is about to rear its ugly head. With it will come the dreaded coughing, sore throats, sniffles and fevers. Looking for a quick fix to cure these ailments, many sick people will go to their doctor seeking a prescription for an antibiotic.

However, by doing so, the majority of these people will actually be doing harm to themselves, as well as the rest of society, by helping to create "superbug" strains of bacteria.

For years, people have viewed antibiotics as a kind of cure-all drug. While they are extremely effective in the fight against illnesses caused by bacterial infections, such as meningitis and some kinds of sexually transmitted diseases, they are nearly useless against those caused by viral infections.

Historically, doctors have prescribed antibiotics to help patients fight coughs, fevers and other symptoms brought on by influenza or a cold. The trouble with this is both of these ailments are caused by viruses.

As a result of these needless prescriptions, a whole host of antibiotic-resistant bacteria are evolving and spreading throughout the community.

"It is a huge problem," said Nicholas Lekas, chief of Infectious Disease at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. "Doctors are partially to blame, because we want to do good and help our patients. So we error on the side of giving treatment for something that might not necessarily require treatment."

Recent medical evidence suggests that at least a third of the time family doctors are needlessly prescribing antibiotics to treat conditions brought on by viral conditions. Considering there were over 150 million antibiotic prescriptions written by office-based doctors last year, you can begin to realize how the problem of antibiotic-resistant bacteria strains has escalated.

"Antibiotic therapy is a huge part of the healthcare cost. In hospitals

we spend millions of dollars on antibiotics every year. In pharmacies it is one of the most commonly requested medications," Lekas said.

Nearly every surface of our bodies is covered with various types of bacteria.

Most are harmless, and some are even beneficial. Unfortunately, when someone needlessly takes an antibiotic to fight the flu, it will kill some of the normal bacteria, creating a vacuum or a void that will be inevitably filled by other bacteria. Sometimes these new bacteria can cause disease, which must then be fought with another antibiotic.

In most cases, the right antibiotic will effectively kill the vast majority of a bacteria strain. However, sometimes a very small percentage will survive and multiply, and in the process create a whole new clone. In other words, these "superbugs" will still resemble the original organisms, but now they all will be able to resist the same antibiotic.

"This is what we learned about in school when we discussed genetics and the process of natural selection. This is natural selection in action," Lekas said.

The presence of bacterial "super-

bugs" in a community can be problematic.

They, like all bacteria, can be spread in several ways, such as through the air when a person coughs (tuberculosis is a classic example), or by a contaminated stool. Places like daycare centers are virtual breeding grounds for bacteria. In that type of environment, all it takes is one child who has an antibiotic-resistant bacteria for it to spread. The domino effect continues when the children go home.

The medical community, especially the drug companies, has not had an easy time keeping up with antibiotic-resistant bacteria strains.

"The concern is that once these 'superbugs' become common, we will not have anything to treat people with infections, and we might go back to a pre-antibiotic era situation where a very common organism can cause very serious diseases," said Daniel Nafziger, Medical Director of Epidemiology at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. "Recent experience suggests that the bugs seem to be outsmarting us faster than we can outsmart them." Area resident Paul Schrader pro-

vides a good example of what can happen when these "superbugs" run amok in a person's body. Schrader was recently diagnosed with leukemia and went to Henry Ford Hospital to receive chemotherapy. Doctors realized he was running a fever caused by a bacteria infection, which prevented them from beginning the chemotherapy. So they began a series of antibiotic treatments to fight the fever.

"The bacteria in my body were resisting the antibiotics and the fever persisted. Finally, after about six weeks, the doctors had to try an experimental antibiotic called Linezolid. Fortunately it worked and I was able to start chemo," said Schrader, 51, who is now in full remission.

Lekas believes three precautions will help end the spread of the "superbugs."

First, he said that a leftover antibiotic prescription should be discarded and never given to a family member.

Secondly, people should get themselves and especially their children vaccinated, which will prevent them from getting sick in the future. Getting a flu shot falls into this category.

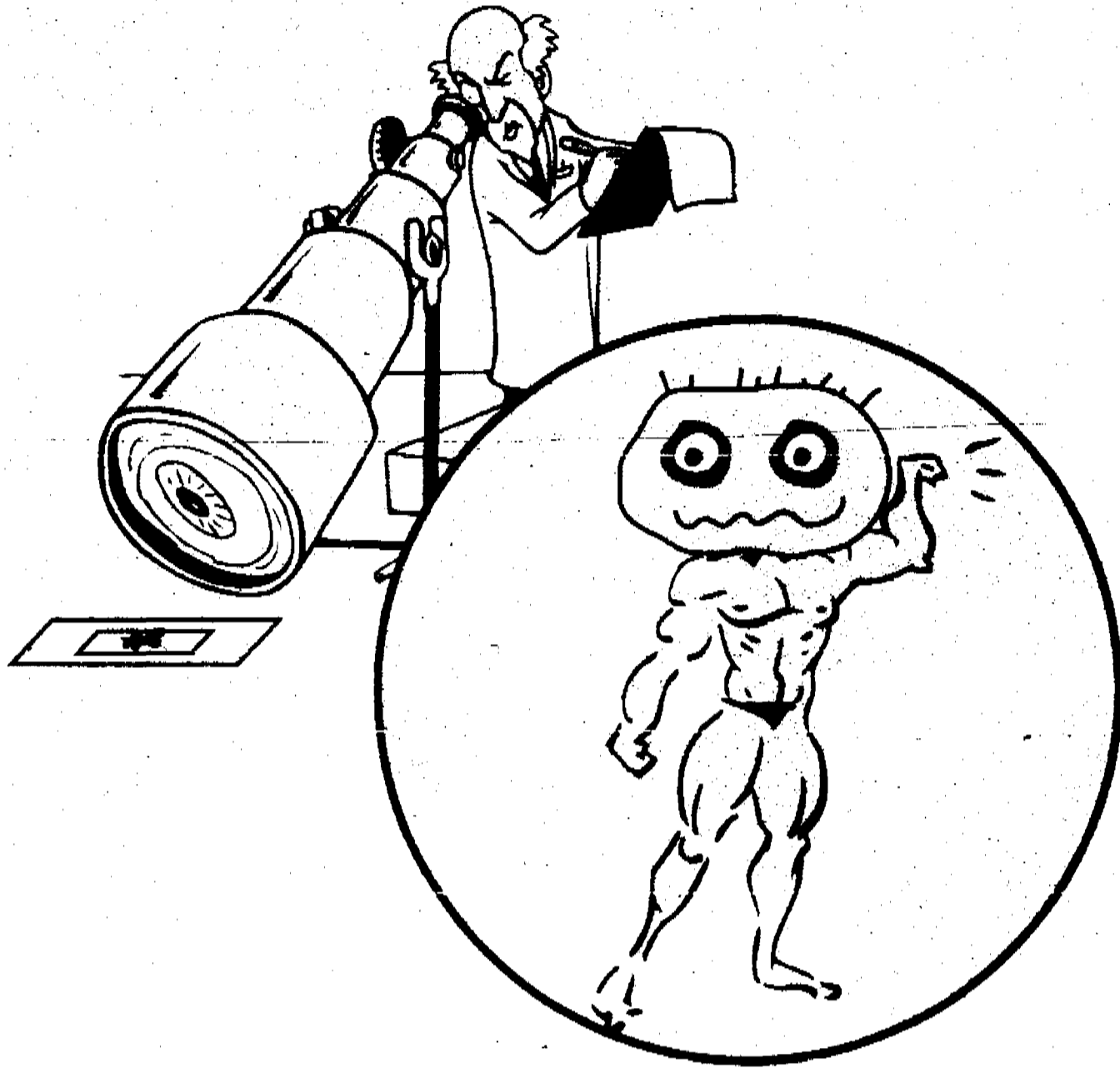
Finally, and most importantly, Lekas believes people should not pressure their doctor into prescribing an antibiotic when they are not convinced the patient will benefit from one.

Alternatives to asking a doctor for an antibiotic to fight a miserable cough or fever include taking cough drops and decongestants, getting enough rest, making sure you eat nutritionally, and taking in enough fluids.

"Often times it is simply letting your own body take care of itself and let the illness run its course," Nafziger said.

Still, the problem of the "superbugs" does not look as if it is going to subside in the near future.

"More publicity, as well as discussion in the medical community will help, but this is not a situation that will be simple to fix because of a past physician practices and past patient expectations, and the fact that everybody wants to feel safer," Nafziger said.



Michigan cigarette use is 4th highest in nation, according to Centers for Disease Control study

(PRNewswire) - Michigan ranks fourth (up from ninth) place in a recent Centers for Disease Control national listing of states with the highest smoking rates.

These recent findings come as no surprise to the volunteer agencies working on smoking cessation and prevention programs, according to the Michigan Coalition on Smoking OR Health.

Michigan has shown an incremental increase in smoking rates since 1994.

"We are very disappointed in these results, but not surprised," said Karen Hudson, assistant director for business and public information (Michigan State University) and national lay division delegate for the American Cancer Society.

"Since 1994, local communities have found it difficult to use proven, successful means of reducing youth access to tobacco. The law which was passed by the Michigan legislature places the entire responsibility for providing leadership on tobacco issues on the state elected officials and the Michigan Department of Community Health."

States that have been successful in reducing tobacco prevalence rates have shown aggressive state and local leadership in several areas.

These include: smoke-free environments for school, work and play; smart media messages which children respond to; cessation programs, comprehensive programs in schools and communities, tough laws and strict enforcement of youth access laws. These states took advantage of tobacco settlement

dollars to enhance their programs.

"Michigan leaders did not take advantage of tobacco settlement dollars to enhance any tobacco related programs," said Harry Perlstadt, Ph.D., of the American Lung Association.

The Michigan Department of Community Health

testified at public hearings that Michigan had already spent enough on tobacco programs.

However, advocates and volunteers around the state who work on tobacco issues differ in that opinion.

According to Al Sparrow, M.D., "Our kids' health doesn't come cheaply but it's worth the effort and the money spent on it. The CDC statistics show that we have no reason to be complacent. Michigan has more work to do, and we must work harder and smarter."

"For example, our media messages must be better," said Lorenzo Lopez, chair of Tobacco Free Michigan Action Coalition.

"There are plenty of very creative media messages that have proven to get kids' attention in other states. Michigan should take advantage of these powerful media messages that persuaded youth not to smoke."

The Michigan Coalition on Smoking OR Health points out that despite the repeated urging of volunteer organizations and the health community, the Michigan legislature fails to consider effective methods such as proven clean indoor air legislation and tough youth access bills, even though bills have been introduced every year since 1994.

The Michigan Coalition on Smoking OR Health consists of the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society and the American Lung Association. The organization is dedicated to creating public policy to keep Michigan children from becoming addicted to tobacco.



We want your health news

There are several ways you can reach the Observer Health & Fitness staff. The best way is to call us at 734-458-3381. We'll be glad to help you with any health-related questions you may have.

Call us at: 734-458-3381

Write us at: Health & Fitness, The Observer, 29200 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150

E-mail us at: health@observer.com

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Computer virus outlaws make hay off Y2K



MIKE WENDLAND

As if the general confusion and chaos over the so-called Y2K computer glitch isn't enough, experts now say they have detected two potentially devastating computer viruses in circulation that are set to activate on or shortly after Jan. 1, 2000.

I'm not a big one on virus warnings. Most such reports are hoaxes or, at best, great exaggerations.

But a lot of industry and government people are sounding some major alarms.

"We think of this as the kickoff," MSNBC quoted one expert as saying last week as the reports began to surface. "Y2K is the Super Bowl for virus writers."

Virus creators seemingly want to take advantage of Y2K and fool as many people as possible into thinking their computer problems are Y2K related, rather

than virus-caused.

Even the FBI has issued warnings about computer viruses and cyber-terrorism in the early days of the new millennium.

"Many extremist individuals and groups place some significance on the next millennium, and as such it will present challenges to law enforcement at many levels," says an FBI report called "Project Megiddo" available through the bureau's Web site (www.fbi.gov). Think this is overblown? The FBI says cyber-terrorism, which certainly includes the malicious spreading of computer viruses, can hardly be taken too seriously.

"Perhaps the greatest potential threat to our national security is the prospect of information warfare by foreign militaries against our critical infrastructures," said Michael A. Vatis, the director of the FBI's National Infrastructure Protection Center. "We know that several foreign nations are already developing information warfare doctrine, programs and capabilities for use against

■ Virus creators seemingly want to take advantage of Y2K and fool as many people as possible into thinking their computer problems are Y2K related, rather than virus-caused.

each other and the United States or other nations."

It's frightening to think what a dedicated spy agency from a hostile country could do with computer viruses.

But we do know of two serious Y2K viruses now in circulation. And while there is no indication they are linked to any governmental or political plots, their potential for harm is still plenty serious.

Here's what's out there:

■ The Mypics worm -- This one affects users of Microsoft's popular Outlook e-mail and scheduling program. It comes

as an e-mail and can be recognized because the subject line is blank. The message part says: "Here's some pictures for you!" If you open up the attachment, the virus acts like last summer's infamous Melissa virus, immediately sending itself to as many as 50 listings in your Outlook address book.

But the virus isn't done. Besides the mass e-mailings, it also overwrites part of your hard drive. If you reboot after Jan. 1, the experts say this has the potential to completely reformat the hard drive, erasing all your data and files. But if that doesn't happen, it changes the home page on your Web browser to a pornographic site.

■ Babylonia -- This virus is spread through chat rooms and is disguised as an offer to fix the Y2K bug. When you open the attached Y2K fix program, the virus is activated. It then waits for you to open an Internet connection. Once online, it goes to a Web server in Japan and automatically downloads files that can cause hard drive damage. Network

Associates (<http://vil.nai.com/villib/alpha.asp>), makers of anti-virus software, warned last week the Babylonia "is spreading through more than 20 locations on several continents, and can deliver varied destructive payloads."

What do you do to protect yourself?

Make sure you have the latest virus protection software installed on your computer. Check out SARC Anti Virus Research Center at (<http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/hoax.html>) and the McAfee Virus Information Center (<http://vil.nai.com/villib/alpha.asp>) for the latest virus alerts.

And never, ever... ever!... open an attached file or program sent to you by e-mail from someone you don't know.

Mike Wendland reports about computers and the Internet for NBC-television stations coast-to-coast. His radio show is heard every weekend on TalkRadio 1270, WXYT. You can reach Mike through his Web site at www.pemike.com.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Items for Medical Datebook are welcome from all hospitals, physicians, companies and residents active in the Observer-area medical community. Items should be sent to: Medical Datebook, c/o The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net or faxed to (734) 591-7279.

MON, DEC. 13

YOUNG MOTHER'S SUPPORT
The Young Mother's Assistance Program (Y-MAP) will host their December support group from 6-8 p.m. at Newburg United Methodist Church (36500 Ann Arbor Trail) in Livonia. For information call (734) 513-7598. Meetings are always held on the second Monday of each month. Y-MAP provides moms an opportunity to meet with other young parents and share feelings and experiences with each other. Speakers are invited to share topics of interest including positive parenting, substance abuse, job search, education and more. Child care is provided by licensed care givers at no charge. A light dinner and refreshments will also be available.

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT

This course is intended for those 12 years and older interested in learning basic knowledge of the heart and lungs, signs and symptoms of a heart attack and stroke, adult CPR and choking rescue skills. Does not meet the requirements for daycare providers. \$25 course fee includes manual. Class runs from 6-9 p.m. at the Providence Medical Center—Providence Park (Assarian Cancer Center)

47601 Grand River Ave., Novi. Call (877) 345-5500 to register.

TUE, DEC. 14

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT
The St. Mary Hospital breast cancer support group will meet from 7-8:30 p.m. Call (734) 655-1100.

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CPR

This course is designed for healthcare professionals who hold a current Healthcare Provider Card issued by the American Heart Association or Red Cross. Adult, child and infant CPR and choking rescue techniques are covered. \$25. Class runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mission Health Medical Center in Livonia (37595 Seven Mile Road at Newburgh). Call (877) 345-5500 to register.

WED, DEC. 15

LARYNGECTOMY SUPPORT
For people who have had or are going to have surgical removal of their vocal cords (laryngectomy) and their family and friends. In coordination with the Michigan Cancer Foundation Support Services. Meets at 2 p.m. free of charge. Call (734) 458-3291.

ADULT CPR

Three hour evening class conducted at 6 p.m. at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road (between Ford and Warren Roads) teaching one person rescue through a film, lecture, demonstration and return demonstration. Call (734) 458-4330.

BEAT GOES ON...

"And the Beat Goes On..." Free cardiovascular

education classes that provide helpful information for people with or without heart disease. This week's topic will be "Integrating Exercise Into Your Lifestyle." Location: Michigan Heart & Vascular Institute, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor from 6-7:30 p.m.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT

The St. Mary Hospital caregiver support group will meet from 7 to 8:30 p.m. No Fee. Call (734) 655-8940.

MALL WALKING

Botsford's Livonia Mall Walking Club: Free December blood pressure screening. Enjoyable, low-impact, climate-controlled exercise. Blood pressure screenings available the third Wednesday of every month, 8-10 a.m. Livonia Mall is open to walkers 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday-Saturday; 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday. Located at 29514 Seven Mile Road (at the corner of Seven Mile and Middlebelt roads). For more information, call (248) 477-6100.

THUR, DEC. 16

THE SOY STORY

Learn more about the benefits of soy, different types of soy products and how to cook with soy. \$10 fee. Program begins at 6 p.m. at the Providence Medical Office Center in Novi. Call (877) 345-5500 to register.

BREASTFEEDING CLASS

St. Mary Hospital will host a breastfeeding class from 7-9 p.m. Call (734) 655-1100 to register.

BASIC CPR COURSE

A Life is in Your Hands. Basic First Aid Classes. Both day and evening classes available. \$35 fee. Community EMS, 25400 Eight Mile Road, Southfield. For more information and to register, call (248) 356-3900, ext. 255.

SAT, DEC. 18

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT

A Life is in Your Hands. BLS/Airway Obstruction Classes. Includes instruction on adult, infant and child CPR. Both day and evening classes available. \$25 fee. Community EMS, 25400 Eight Mile Road, Southfield. For more information and to register, call (248) 356-3900, ext. 255.

PEDIATRIC LIFE SUPPORT

A Life is in Your Hands. Pediatric Life Support with Basic First Aid Classes. Both day and evening classes available. \$55 fee. Community EMS, 25400 Eight Mile Road, Southfield. For more information and to register, call (248) 356-3900, ext. 255.

TUE, DEC. 21

STROKE/ANEURYSM SUPPORT

For those who had or have a cerebral aneurysm or stroke. Family members, friends welcome. Group will meet at Garden City Hospital to promote a sharing interaction, free of charge. Call 458-4396 for information.

DENTISTRY

For The 21st Century

by Herbert M. Gardner, D.D.S. & Martha P. Zinderman, R.N., D.D.S.

BRIDGING THE GAP

Fixed bridges usually replace one or two missing teeth, and are preferred for their natural look and feel. They consist of crowns on either side of missing teeth that are cemented to natural teeth (called abutments), as well as pontics (artificial teeth) that span between the crowns. The dentist reshapes the abutment teeth to better accept the artificial crowns that hold the bridge in place. If three or more teeth are to be replaced, the abutments must have long and strong roots. Long-span bridges sometimes require double abutments at one or both ends to bear the load, particularly when the abutment teeth are short. If the crowns and roots are short, a removable bridge may be preferable.

Could your smile benefit from a fixed or removable bridge? Let us help you decide what would be right for your particular situation. At LIVONIA VILLAGE DENTAL ASSOCIATES, we utilize all available resources and procedures to provide the dental health care our patients deserve and expect. A periodic dental checkup is vital for everyone. When was the last time you had a comprehensive dental examination? We're located at 19171 Merriman Road, where we're currently accepting new patients. Please call 478-2110 to schedule an appointment. We're here to help. Smiles are our business.

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P.S. A Maryland bridge, which is an alternative to a small fixed bridge, has the distinct advantage of requiring only minor modification of the abutment teeth.

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860

DIET THERAPY AND ARTHRITIS

Physicians have not found any diet that provides protection against arthritis or reverses the course of common arthritis conditions such as rheumatoid or osteoarthritis.

Investigations into fasting find that it provides some relief from pain and stiffness if you have rheumatoid arthritis. However, the benefits are short term, and fasting is possible for only a brief period. Furthermore, when you return to a normal and necessary diet, the arthritis pain returns.

Fish fatty acids, the omega 3 fatty acids, do reduce swelling and fatigue in rheumatoid arthritis. However, the gain is small and the amount of fish oil you need is great. Furthermore, the doses required to reduce inflammation, can cause you increased risk for a brain hemorrhage.

No scientific data exists to support the idea that tomatoes, potatoes, eggplant or peppers aggravate arthritis. Nor has any scientific study confirmed that brewer's yeast, apple cider, honey, wheat germ or garlic benefit inflamed joints.

If you have rheumatoid arthritis, you may have slightly lower than normal levels of zinc, copper or magnesium. These mild deficiencies are the result of inflammation, not the cause. Wearing copper bracelets or taking zinc supplements are not helpful.

Being overweight can worsen osteoarthritis, and consuming vitamin C and D at recommended daily allowances (60 milligrams/day for Vitamin C and 5 milligrams/day for Vitamin D) may slow down the condition.

The best dietary supplement is common sense in your eating habits.

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Phone: (734) 478-1100
Saturday 10-5

Closing December 13 for inventory
Re-opening Saturday 4 at 10 a.m.

The Girl Scout Shop at New Center Place
The Enterprise Center
1211 W. Center Rd., Ste. 100
Livonia, MI 48150
Phone: (734) 478-1100
Saturday 10-5

Closing December 13 for inventory
Re-opening Saturday 4 at 10 a.m.

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Don't Ignore Your Headaches... They May Be Migraines

TAKE CHARGE!

NATIONAL HEADACHE FOUNDATION

Guest Speaker:
Vijay Samuel, MD

In this free educational seminar you'll learn how to work with your doctor to use valuable migraine management tools to find the most effective treatment program for you.

YOU SHOULD ATTEND IF:

- You have severe pain usually on one side of the head
- Your headaches last 4 to 72 hours and/or are accompanied by nausea and vomiting
- Your headaches cause sensitivity to light and sound
- Your headaches cause you to change your everyday activities

TO ATTEND, CALL:
1-800-373-4503

WHERE: New Hillco 21111 Haggerty Road Novi, Michigan	WHEN: Tuesday December 14, 1999	TIME: Registration: 1:00pm-1:45pm Meeting: 2:00pm-3:45pm Registration: 4:00pm-4:45pm Meeting: 5:00pm-6:45pm
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For more information call (248) 478-2110

JOE'S PRODUCE

Michigan's Finest

Quality Produce

Fresh Fruit

Domestic & Imported

Cheeses

Dried Fruits & Nuts

Salad Bar

Gift Baskets

Party Trays

Flowers From Joe's

33152 W. Seven Mile
Livonia, Michigan 48152
(248) 477-4333

Ahhhh...just in time.

1/2 PRICE SALE*

1/2 Off All Pepperidge Farm Cookies, Crackers, Goldfish, Layer Cakes, Turnovers, And Bread Items. No Coupon Necessary. May Not Be Combined With Other Offers. *1/2 Off Suggested Manufacturer's Retail Price.

4 DAYS ONLY — DEC. 16-19

BAKERY THRIFT STORES
"WHERE SAVING MONEY IS ALWAYS IN GOOD TASTE"

LIVONIA 29115 Eight Mile Rd (248) 477-2048	WIXOM 29758 S. Wixom Rd. (248) 869-5097	STERLING HEIGHTS 2183 17 Mile Rd. at Dequindre (810) 284-3096
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ON JANUARY 1, 2000 BE PART OF YOUR HOMETOWN HISTORY

Hurry!—Deadline December 15, 1999

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

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

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

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

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

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

Deadline: December 15

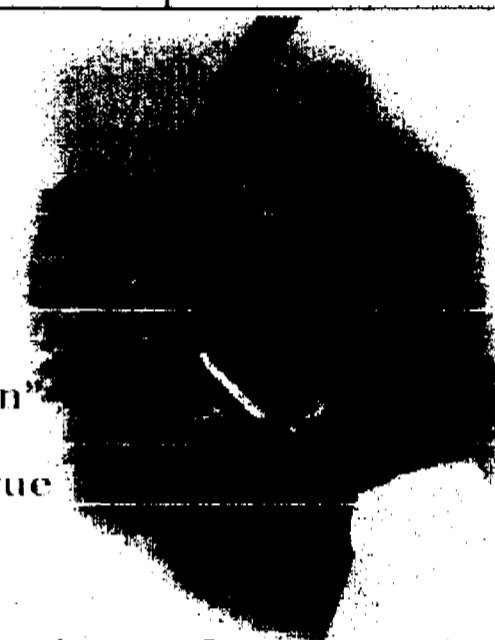


The Hammerheads hail the new millennium and remember March 16, 1999.



Tom and Ken in Paris

May your dreams come true in the new millennium!



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

Swinging into the new millennium and batting 2000!

Please include the enclosed message and photo on **The Observer HomeTown History** pages!

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

DAYTIME PHONE WITH AREA CODE _____

NAME OF GROUP _____

or NAMES OF PEOPLE IN PHOTO _____

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

Livonia Observer

Plymouth Observer

Redford Observer

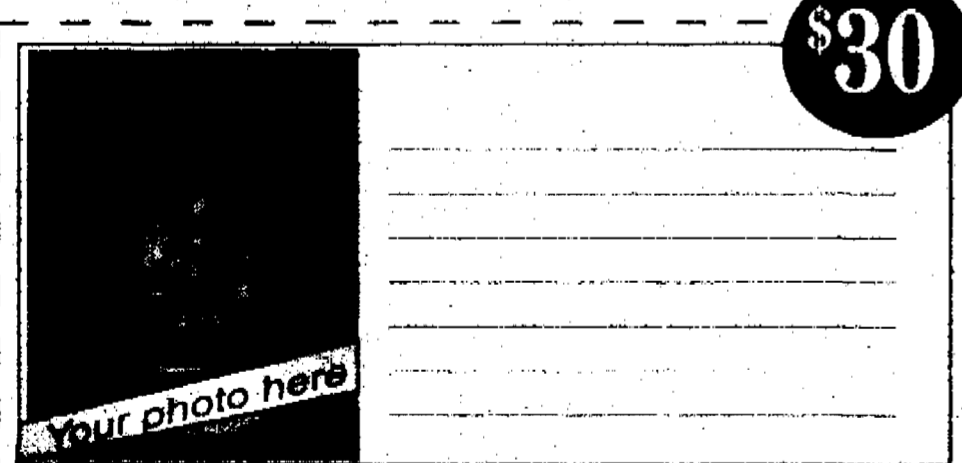
Canton Observer

Westland Observer

Garden City Observer

Farmington Observer

MY HOMETOWN HISTORY MESSAGE:



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



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



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

Send your message and photo to the address below with your check and your payment.