

Westland Observer

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Thursday
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SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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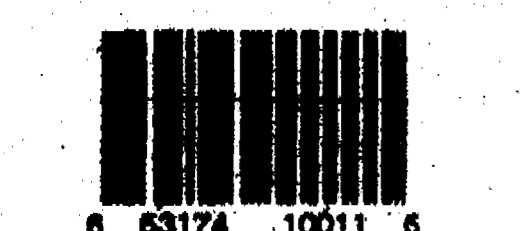
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Thinking about a new car or a good second car? You'll find a huge selection of auto ads in today's HomeTown Classifieds



Griffin's new council president



Charles "Trav" Griffin, former mayor and longtime Westland City Council member, is the new council president. David Cox is the council's pro tem, second in command.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
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Charles "Trav" Griffin, starting his 17th year on the Westland City Council by winning the presidency, vowed Monday to boost recreation programs, safeguard city services and maintain a healthy budget.

Griffin, responding to questions after

the council's first meeting of 2000, said he will imprint his own style on the two-year post without steering the city in drastic new directions.

Griffin clinched the elected body's top spot in a unanimous vote of his colleagues as his political ally, David Cox, won the second-in-command position of council president pro tem.

Griffin, replacing Sandra Cicirelli as

council president said, "I will have some different ideas. I think I'll want to make things happen a little quicker."

One of Griffin's top priorities will be urging movement on Mayor Robert Thomas' proposal for a new recreation complex and a new City Hall.

Griffin, also a former mayor, hinted that he wants to know by spring whether the city will be able to negotiate a price to buy land along Central City Parkway, between the Westland library and a Kroger-anchored strip mall.

City officials hope to use the site for a multimillion-dollar recreation center

that would be built without a tax increase, using revenues already in place in a special taxing district.

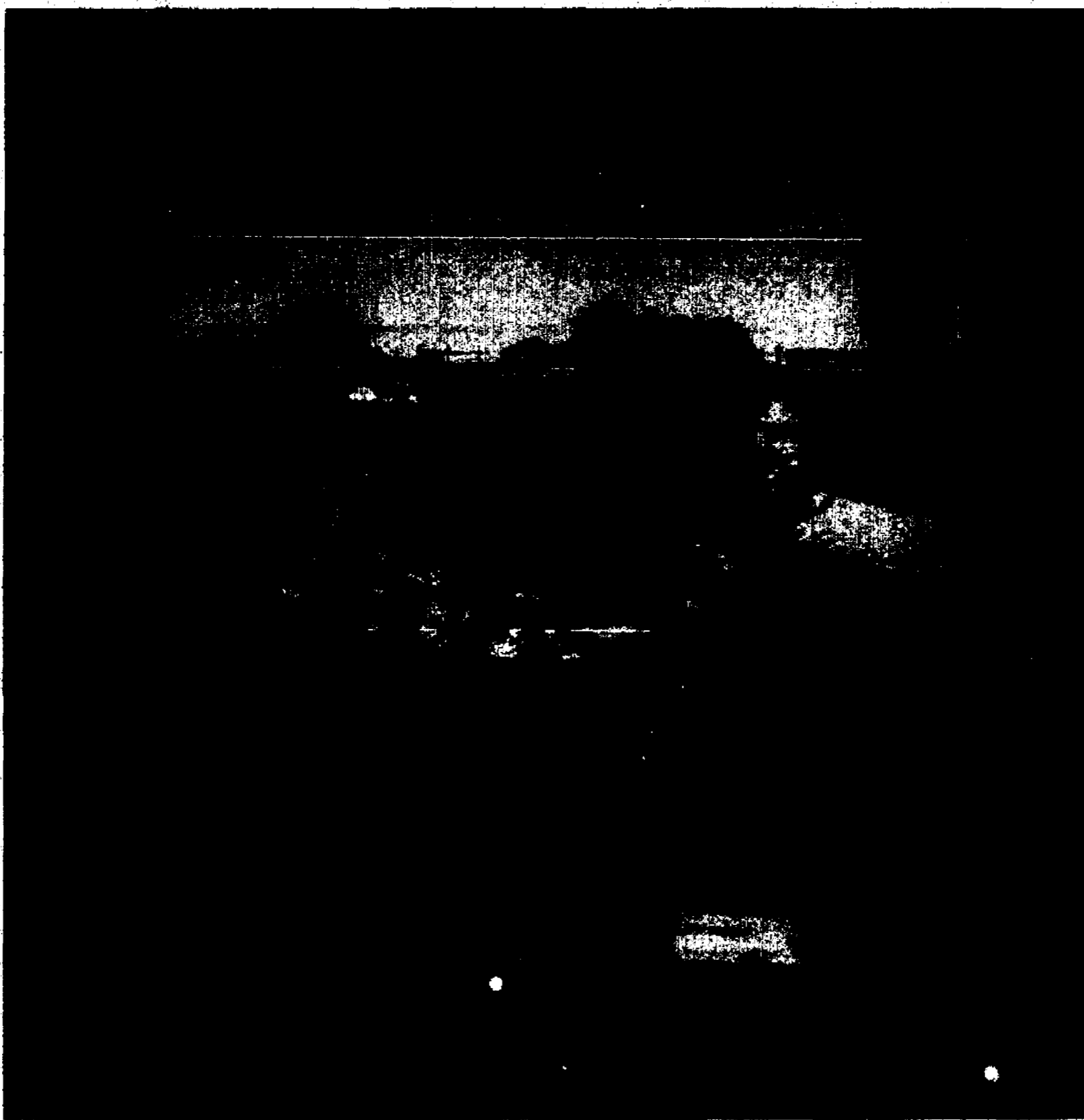
"I'd like to be able to find out about the land within the next three months," Griffin said.

City officials and property owners have failed to reach a price agreement, and Griffin didn't rule out a council move to condemn the vacant land and possibly have its cost decided in court.

"I don't want to condemn it," Griffin said, "but I won't say I wouldn't do it. It would be up to the council."

Please see **COUNCIL, A4**

Fun 'fore' all



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Sometimes in winter: Golf professional Brian Gabbart at Westland Municipal Golf Course plays a round of golf at Troon North golf course in Arizona, simulated on the screen. For more on the golf simulation, please see Page A3.

Two sites struck by robberies

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Two masked robbers - one flaunting a rifle - robbed a gas station on the city's northwest side Monday night and escaped with several hundred dollars, police said.

No shots were fired and no one was injured during the holdup that occurred at 9:42 p.m. at the Marathon station on the southwest corner of Joy and Newburgh roads.

The holdup came three days after a man claiming to have a gun robbed 7-Eleven at 126 S. John Hix and escaped with an undisclosed amount of money.

The bandit was nearly caught after crossing paths with an off-duty Westland police officer who happened to stop at the store.

That incident happened at 7:06 a.m. Friday. The lone bandit fled with an undisclosed amount of money.

Westland police Lt. Marc Stobbe described the two robberies as unrelated. No arrests had been made early this week.

In the Marathon incident, a man working behind the counter told police that two robbers came into the gas station - one toting a rifle and one carrying a brown duffel bag.

The gunman ordered the worker to empty the cash register into the duffel bag, a police report said. The employee complied after initially fumbling in fear and hitting the wrong keys on the register.

The two robbers then fled the station.

The gunman was described as a 5-foot-8 black male, medium build, wearing a black leather trench coat, jeans, gloves and a ski mask. His accomplice fit the same description except that he

Please see **ROBBERIES, A4**

Teacher contract gets the nod from school board

BY JULIE BROWN
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The Wayne-Westland Board of Education unanimously approved a four-year contract extension for teachers Tuesday night.

District teachers had ratified the contract extension Dec. 15 by a 500-308 vote. The new agreement will cover the period Sept. 2, 2000, through Sept. 1, 2004.

It includes a provision for a \$35,000 buyout, or resignation bonus, for teachers with 10 or more years experience in the district who retire by June 2001.

Dan Slee, assistant superintendent of employee services, said the district anticipates 100 teachers will take early retirement. Those educators will be replaced with less-expensive younger teachers.

Board Secretary Martha Pitsenbarger asked when teachers would need to

give notice on the retirement bonus. Slee said it probably would be in February or March next year.

The contract extension with the Wayne-Westland Education Association also provides for the instructional day to be lengthened by 20 minutes starting the next school year to comply with changing state rules. Two additional days of instruction will be added for each of the next two years; one more day will be added in the third and

fourth years.

Also approved unanimously at Tuesday's special meeting was a three-year contract extension with the Central Office Administrators Association, to run July 1, 2001, through June 30, 2004. It had also been ratified by membership, with about 90 percent in favor. The union covers about 30 employees.

"Both agreements are very fair, they're very reasonable," said Greg

Please see **NOB, A4**

Gibson, Geiger shouldering new responsibilities

Troy Gibson has been named circulation manager of the Observer Newspapers. Formerly the area manager for the Canton Observer, Gibson succeeds Larry Geiger of Livonia, who has been named manager of consumer sales and marketing for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Gibson's new position was announced recently by Susan Rosiek, publisher of the Observer Newspapers.

"Troy's knowledge of the Observer circulation area along with his emphasis on customer service and his ability to organize and motivate employees and our youth and adult carrier forces make him an excellent choice for the position," said Rosiek.

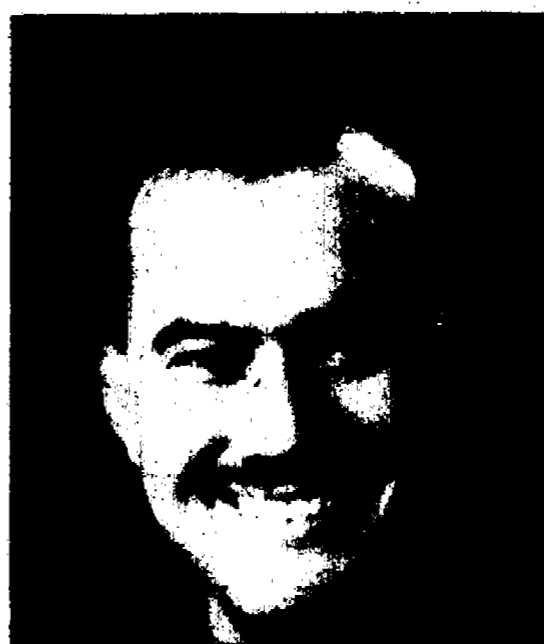
Gibson has worked at the Observer for the last six years as an area manager in Canton, Plymouth and Farming-

ton/Farmington Hills. Before joining the Observer, he worked as the circulation manager at the Associated Newspapers in Wayne and at the Dearborn Press & Guide Newspapers in Dearborn.

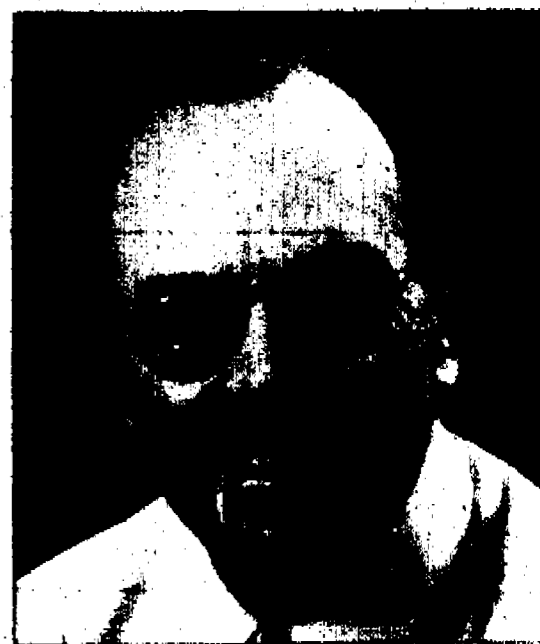
As circulation manager, Gibson oversees a workforce of 11 full-time and part-time employees, more than 1,400 youth carriers and 75 adult drivers and adult newspaper carriers.

A graduate of Roosevelt High School in Wyandotte, Gibson holds a certificate in business management from Walsh College. He lives in Dearborn with his son, Troy Jr., a senior at Fordson High School.

"My focus is service - working with area managers to satisfy all customers and to make sure they receive a com-



Troy Gibson



Larry Geiger

Please see **NEW, A4**

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Westland Observer

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Naming site for Abbott mulled

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Diane Abbott, who was buried Tuesday as friends and city leaders continued to laud her job as Westland cable TV director, could have a building named in her honor.

Councilwoman Sharon Scott, one of Abbott's close friends, has suggested attaching Abbott's name to the city cable office she ran for nearly nine years on Warren Road west of Venoy.

"I think we should look at naming the cable office after her," Scott said Monday during a council meeting.

She asked Mayor Robert Thomas to look into the matter.

Scott's proposal came on the eve of a Tues-

day morning funeral attended by hundreds of friends who packed Uht Funeral Home in Westland.

Abbott died Dec. 28 at University of Michigan Medical Center after battling leukemia and a fungal infection in her lungs. She had become suddenly ill, and her death shocked friends and family members.

Abbott, who earned national awards for her city cable programming, would've been 52 next Wednesday.

Mayor Robert Thomas has suggested that city leaders honor Abbott by trying to maintain top-notch programming and by winning more awards.

During a swearing-in ceremony for council members Monday, the Rev. Neil Cowling of Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church

asked a crowd of about 75 people to keep Abbott and her family in their thoughts and prayers.

At a post-ceremony council meeting, one of Sandra Cicirelli's last actions as outgoing council president was to call for a moment of silence to honor Abbott.

"She will be greatly missed," Cicirelli said.

Even council members who are sometimes at odds on issues agreed — unanimously — that Abbott did a good job as Westland cable director.

"She's going to be very difficult to ever replace," Councilman Glenn Andersong said.

One of Abbott's staff members is serving as interim director. The city hasn't announced how it plans to choose Abbott's full-time successor.

Firefighters warn of gasoline dangers

BY DARRELL CLEM
 STAFF WRITER
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A Westland man who tried to light a cigarette too close to an open gasoline can touched off a Monday afternoon house fire, an official said.

The blaze only worsened when the man accidentally knocked over the gasoline can, leading to fire damage estimated at \$15,000 to \$20,000.

The fire occurred at 2:35 p.m. Monday in the kitchen of a ranch home in the 34700 area of Donnelly, near Wildwood and Ford. No one was seriously injured.

"The resident had loaned a neighbor gasoline, and when it was returned the gasoline can

was placed on the kitchen floor without a lid on it," Deputy Fire Chief David Carignan said. "The resident attempted to light his cigarette, breaking off the tip to a wooden match stick."

"Due to no lid on the can, the vapors began collecting near the floor, and the lighted match tip ignited the gasoline vapors," Carignan said. "In his attempt to take some action, he accidentally kicked over the can, which fed the fire."

The fire has been attributed to carelessness, but firefighters quickly doused the flames and confined most of the damage to the home's contents rather than structure.

The fire prompted Carignan to

warn others about the dangers of gasoline:

- It will produce vapors sufficient for ignition at temperatures as low as minus 45 degrees.
- It is heavier than air and will collect in low spots.
- Gasoline's "continuous vaporization" makes it a highly volatile product.

"While most people realize the dangers of gasoline, complacency and carelessness can come together to create a perfect mixture for disaster," Carignan said. "Gasoline should never be used or stored in a confined space. Any ignition source that comes into contact with the right mixture of gas to air will cause igni-

tion."

Another accidental fire occurred at 11:10 p.m. Jan. 3 while new renters were moving into an apartment in the 35300 block of Bakewell.

The fire started when a box was placed on top of an electric stove burner, which was accidentally turned on when someone pushed against it, Carignan said.

The fire escalated when someone else tried to turn the burner off and, instead, turned the heat even higher, Carignan said.

Firefighters extinguished the fire quickly, and the fire caused mostly smoke damage, he said.

No one was injured.

OBITUARIES

JOHN RITZ
 Services for John Ritz, 89, of Westland were Jan. 3 at St. Raphael Catholic Church in Garden City. The Rev. Thomas Kirwan officiated.

Mr. Ritz was born May 10, 1910, in Simpson, Pa., and died Dec. 29 in Wayne. He was a retired welder who spent 40 years with Chrysler Corp.

Survivors include wife, Pauline; sons, Jerome (Connie) Ritz, Jack (Theresa) Ritz and Frederick (Denise) Ritz; daughter, Rita Chester; 16 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and sister, Mary Niemiec. A son, Edward Ritz, died previously.

Memorials are suggested to aid in Alzheimer's disease.

Burial was at St. Hedwig Cemetery, Dearborn Heights. Arrangements were by John N. Santieu & Son Funeral Home.

LOYD E. MYERS
 Services for Lloyd E. Myers, 75, of Westland were Jan. 3 at Santieu Chapel in Garden City. The Rev. Mark Jenkins of St. David Episcopal Church officiated.

Mr. Myers was born July 11, 1924, in Grand Rapids and died Dec. 29 in Taylor. He was a machine technician.

Survivors include wife, Irene M.; sons, Lawrence (Rhonda) Myers, Terry (Piper) Myers,

David (Mary) Myers, Paul (Cathy) Myers and Bryan Myers; daughters, Deborah (Mike) Bain, Stephanie (Steve) Perrie and Pam (Mark) Kruso; 11 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; sisters, Virginia Foreman and Lillian King; and brother, Glenn Myers.

Memorials are suggested to the American Lung Association.

Burial was at Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock. Arrangements were by John N. Santieu & Son Funeral Home.

MICHAEL BELLES
 Services for Michael Belles, 91, of Westland were Jan. 5 at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church.

Mr. Belles was born Feb. 6, 1908, in Scranton, Pa., and died Jan. 1 at Plymouth Convalescent Home. He was a tile floor installer for a construction company.

Survivors include wife, Therese D.; son, Michael J.; daughter, Pamela K. (Gary) Pasant; and granddaughters, Michael A. and Theresa A. (Jeffrey) Johnson. Grandson Todd II died previously.

Burial was at Holy Sepulchre. Arrangements were by the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home.

WILMA C. MUNTYAN
 Services for Wilma Muntyan, 79, of Plymouth were Jan. 4 in Schrader-Howell Funeral Home

with burial at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens in Novi. Officiating was the Rev. Jerry Yarnell.

Mrs. Muntyan, born March 30, 1920, in Washington, Ind., died Dec. 31 in Livonia. She was a homemaker. She came to the Plymouth community in 1957 from Northville. She also lived in Whitmore Lake for a short time.

Mrs. Muntyan was a member of the Mayflower VFW Post No. 6696 Ladies Auxiliary. She loved watching TV, doing crossword puzzles, reading and knitting.

Surviving are her son, Donald McDurmon of Westland; daughter, Linda Drake of Commerce Township; and sister, Dorothy Biddle of Charleston, S.C.

Mrs. Muntyan was preceded in death by her husbands, Arnold McDurmon and Louis Muntyan.

Memorials may be made to Karmanos Cancer Institute.

DOMINICK B. CAVALETO
 Services for Dominick Cavaleto, 86, of Westland were Dec. 30 in St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens, West in Westland. Officiating was the Rev. Mario Dacechen.

Mr. Cavaleto, born Jan. 10, 1913, in Mark, Ill., died Dec. 28 in Garden City. He was a member of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church. He was a mechanic.

Surviving are his wife, Anna; sons, Anthony (Linda), Paul (Leslie), and Alexis; daughter, Joann (David) Fanslow of Ann Arbor; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Cavaleto was preceded in death by his son, Joseph.

Memorials may be made to American Heart Association, West Metro Region, P.O. Box 721129, Berkley, MI 48072-0129.

LEO J. MONIT
 Services for former Westland resident Leo Monit of South Lyon were Jan. 4, 2000, in Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne. Mr. Monit died Dec. 28.

Surviving are his wife, Lorna; sons, Lorne (Kitty) and Leo (Rose); daughters, Leann (Scott) Guenther, Laura (Tom) Kneissel and Lorna (Kevin) Wright; sisters, Florence Preston and Lottie

Murdza; and 13 grandchildren. Memorials may be made to American Diabetes Association.

BERNICE M. BAKER
 Memorial services for Bernice Baker, 71, of Westland will be held at a later date.

Mrs. Baker, born Sept. 22, 1928, died Dec. 30 in Westland. She was a cashier.

Surviving are her son, Michael Beck of Westland; daughters, Thomasine "Tommie" (Gary) Sgro of Westland and Justine (Thomas) Smith of Livonia; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Westland Convalescent Center or Angela Hospice.

Arrangements were made by Uht Funeral Home.

MARK J. RODLER
 A funeral Mass for Mark Rodler, 38, of Westland was Jan. 3 in St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne.

Mr. Rodler died Dec. 30. Surviving are his wife, Susan; son, Thomas; daughter, Emily; parents, Joseph and Julie Rodler; brother, Michael (Elizabeth); sister, Carolyn (Gerard) Wyswany; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorials to the family would be appreciated.

Arrangements were made by Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne.

FLOYD HEADLEY
 Services for Floyd Headley, 90, of Westland were Jan. 3 in First Baptist Church of Wayne with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, Westland. Officiating was the Rev. Larry Rowland.

Mr. Headley was born April 21, 1909, and died Dec. 29. He was employed in receiving and distribution.

Surviving are his wife, Thelma; daughters, Catherine (Robert) Reaume and Jean Boyd; eight grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Memorials may be made to the Missionaries of the First Baptist Church of Wayne.

Arrangements were made by Uht Funeral Home.

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36801 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48186, on or before **January 25, 2000, at 11:00 in the morning** (no exceptions) for the following:

Emergency Medical Care Vehicle/Rescue

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office. Questions regarding specifications should be directed to Battalion Chief Michael J. Reddy at 734-467-3201. All Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Bid Item No: 335-012500

JILL B. THOMAS
 Purchasing Agent

1/4/00

Publish: January 6, 2000

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Tuesday, January 11, 2000, the Westland Police Department will conduct a Public Auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 AM at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Road, Westland, MI County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
1990 GEO	TRACKER/2 DR.	BLACK	2CNEJ18U7L236443
1991 MERCURY	SABLE/4 DR.	GRAY	1MECM80U7M0415405
1991 FORD	ECORTE/2 DR.	BLACK	1FAPP110M1W364833
1999 FORD	TAURUS/4 DR.	BROWN	1FABF29U8GA159574
1998 CHEV.	BERETTA/2 DR.	DK GREEN	1G1LV1412KY118393

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from the list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

30 DAY NOTICE OF AUCTION

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicle(s) listed below will be auctioned after January 5, 2000, unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time.

YEAR MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
1997 CHEV.	VAN	BLUE	P8327F125199
1997 YAMAHA	RIVAMOPED	BLACK	JYA2HU007HA007733

1/4/00

GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

6000 MIDDLEBELT
 GARDEN CITY, MI 48135

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at Public Auction on Tuesday, January 11, 2000 at 9:00 A.M. The Auction is to be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Road, Westland, MI 48186.

Please Note: The bidding will start at the towing and storage charges.

YEAR	MAKE	STYLE	VIN #
1998	BUICK	2 DR. REGAL	204WB14WJ1M00051
1998	DODGE	RAM VAN	2B40B11H9K52212
1979	FORD	STATION WAGON	E14FHV43892
1996	CHEVROLET	2 DR. CAVALIER	1G1JLJ474R702725
1997	FORD	2 DR.	1FAPF110M1W364833
1996	CHEVROLET	3 DR. CAVALIER	101JF11W1712640
1990	DODGE	4 DR. SHADOW	1B3P9682N109762
1998	MERCUY	2 DR. COUGAR	1MECP982N109762
1994	DODGE	4 DR. ARTE	1B3P9682N109762
1999	FORD	4 DR.	1FAPP962KR159564
1992	FORD	COUPLINE VAN	1F09E14P4H00140
1988	BUICK	4 DR. CENTURY	104A4512A7C11864
UNKNOWN	GMC	HIGH RIBERA PICK U/P	1NNNN

1/4/00

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MPA

It's just like being there



So real: Jason Slocum putts on the simulated 14th hole of Troon North golf course in Arizona at the Westland course.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

On target: Mark Ward, superintendent of operations, out front of the 18th hole at Harbor Town in South Carolina golf course. He said the golf simulators are popular, especially in the winter.



Cheering section: Golf professional Brian Gabbart (left) and Mark Ward, superintendent of operations, watch the golf game of Jason Slocum.

Golf simulators show courses far away, help golfers cut those strokes

Forget winter's chill. Westland golfers can tee off for a summery game without leaving the city.

That is, if they don't mind playing indoors. The Westland Municipal Golf Course, 500 S. Merriman, offers increasingly popular simulated golf games.

"It's been very popular, but it seems to be something that's continuing to grow in the wintertime," said Mark Ward, superintendent of operations for the Municipal Service Bureau, which runs the golf course.

The fun starts with a golf course being projected onto a screen in a special room. Golfers hit the ball against the screen, touching off sensors.

The sensors detect the ball's direction and

Golfers can choose among 21 different courses.

speed as the screen gives the appearance of a real course.

"It shows the actual flight of the ball," Ward said.

Golfers can choose among 21 different courses. They can decide the weather, too, choosing to play on sunny or cloudy, windy or mild days.

Individual golfers can practice on their own or bring friends for a full-fledged golf outing.

"We're getting more and more leagues,"

Ward said.

Each golf simulator costs \$25 an hour — regardless of how many players are using it.

The Westland Municipal Golf Course has increased its number of simulators to three after starting with just one in 1994. Ward said.

More people and businesses are sponsoring golf parties and eating food cooked in the municipal golf course's grill room. Ward said.

The golf simulators also are a good way for beginning golfers to practice before they brave real golf courses next summer, he said.

Golf simulators can be reserved between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m., Ward said. Call 734-721-6660.

Salvation Army passes goal

The local Salvation Army's Red Kettle goal of \$120,000 has been surpassed.

More than \$122,000 had been given by the end of 1999, said Lt. Chuck Yockey, corps commander. "So we have successfully

reached our goal."

Last-minute contributions put the campaign over the top the final week of the year, he said. Money raised during the holidays will fund activities for the

Salvation Army during the next 12 months.

Yockey said he thanks all who gave and he looks forward to serving the community.

Baby rings in New Year 2000

A child born one second after midnight on New Year's is considered the second 2000 baby born in the metro Detroit area.

The Shah family of Westland now has a baby daughter, who weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces upon

birth at Providence Hospital in Southfield.

"It was very exciting," said Marie Baloga, director of marketing and community health services at Providence. Concerns for the health of mom and baby,

who went home Monday, were foremost.

"Then the excitement of a new baby sets in," Baloga said.

The parents declined to be interviewed by the Observer.

City man arrested on New Year's Day

A 19-year-old Westland man was arrested early New Year's Day following an altercation with his girlfriend in Canton.

According to township police reports, a 20-year-old Canton woman and the Westland man were attending a New Year's Eve party in the 41000 block of Old Michigan. Reports said the man got into several fights at the party and was "highly intoxicated."

The couple left the party shortly before 1 a.m. and got into a fight. Reports said the man punched and kicked the Canton woman in the face.

Police were then called to the scene. Reports said the man fled to a nearby home and locked himself in. While inside that home, he assaulted a 16-year-old girl, reports said.

He was finally taken into custody by Canton police minutes later. A third charge of malicious

CRIME WATCH

destruction of property resulted against him after he allegedly damaged a 50-year-old Canton woman's vehicle, reports said.

Hit and run

A 40-year-old Westland man was the victim of a hit and run accident Dec. 31.

Reports said the man, who was driving a 1997 Chevy S10 truck, was stopped for a red light at the intersection of Warren and Lilley roads at about 6:30 p.m. A woman driving what appeared to be a white Ford Expedition sports utility rear-ended him, reports said.

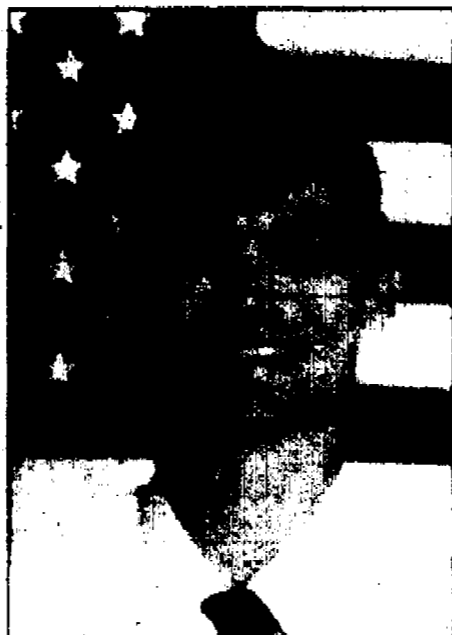
The man pulled into a nearby gas station, but the woman drove off. Reports gave no estimate of damage to the Westland man's vehicle.

ACHIEVERS

Air Force Airman Michael Novack has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, he studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs, and received special training in human relations. Airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

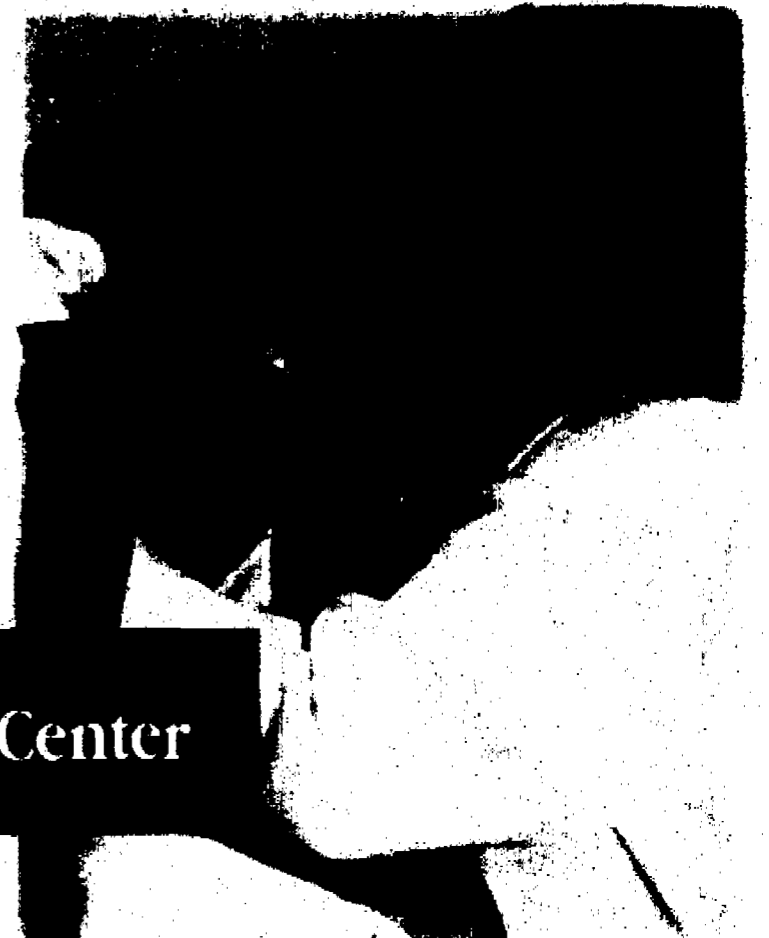
Novack is the son of Lauren Novack and stepson of Glen Pancoast of Westland. The airman is a 1999 graduate of Westland John Glenn High School.



Airman Michael Novack

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The couple left the party shortly before 1 a.m. and got into a fight. Reports said the man punched and kicked the Canton woman in the face. Police were then called to the scene.

Robberies from page A1

wore a waist-length leather coat. In the 7-Eleven robbery, the bandit fled Friday morning even as an off-duty Westland police officer pulled a gun and warned him to stop, according to police reports.

The robber - pursued on foot by the officer - ran to a white van, climbed inside the passenger door and fled south on John Hix with an unknown driver, police reports said.

A male store clerk told police the robber entered the 7-Eleven and threatened to shoot him unless he turned over money from the cash register, police reports said. The bandit never revealed a gun.

The clerk complied and gave the robber an unknown amount

of cash. The police officer happened to pull into the 7-Eleven parking lot just as the robber was leaving.

The officer noticed that the man had money in his left hand, and the robber spoke and kept walking, police reports said.

The officer then saw a store clerk near the front door and learned that he had been robbed, prompting the officer to pull a gun and order the fleeing suspect to stop, police reports said.

The robber continued running and, while being chased by the officer, yelled out that he didn't actually have a gun, the reports said.

The bandit then got into the waiting van, which began travel-

ing south on John Hix - initially without its lights on, police reports said.

The officer lost sight of the van as it approached Avondale.

The suspect was described as a 5-foot-10 black male with a medium build and a mustache. He wore a blue sweater, blue sweat pants and a blue knit cap.

Anyone who has information about either of the robberies is encouraged to call the Westland Police Department's detective bureau at (734) 721-6311 during daytime hours.

Anonymous tips may be made to Crime Stoppers of Michigan at (800) 831-3111. Tips helping to solve cases can result in cash rewards.

New from page A1

plete newspaper on time on Thursdays and Sundays," Gibson said.

"I plan to be active in the community, recruiting youth carriers and demonstrating that having an Observer Newspaper route is a learning experience in business and in life," he added.

Gibson can be reached at (734) 953-2118.

Geiger has worked at the Observer Newspapers for 23 years. A Livonia resident, he has been an assistant home delivery manager and from 1978 until 1993 he ran circulation operations in Farmington, North Livonia, Plymouth and Canton.

Geiger's new position will involve consumer sales and marketing of the HomeTown Savings

Card, a discount card for area businesses which is available free to paid subscribers. He will also be involved in establishing a Newspaper in Education Program for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

He can be reached at (734) 953-2234 or by e-mail at lgeiger@oe.homecomm.net.

Nod from page A1

Baracy, school superintendent. He said union leadership was sincere and cooperative.

Board members agreed, and thanked those responsible for reaching the accords. "This is a very fair contract," said Robin Moore, board president. "It shows that we're moving forward."

The agreement with administrators includes a resignation bonus of 40 percent for those leaving June 2000 and 30 percent for those leaving June 2001. It, too, requires 10 years experience in the district.

Both contracts include annual

raises below 3 percent.

Baracy also thanked those who worked to guarantee smooth Y2K efforts in the district, including those who worked New Year's Day. "As a matter of fact, it went flawlessly," he said. "We're very happy with that."

Council from page A1

Many goals

Griffin's other priorities as council president include:

- Producing a balanced budget with a healthy surplus. "I think we'll have to be real diligent with the budget," he said.
- Safeguarding the level of city services that residents have come to expect.
- Cleaning up neighborhood parks and increasing recreational programs, possibly including a teen-requested skateboarding site unless it proves too risky for liability purposes.

"I've always been a risk-taker," Griffin said.

Griffin's colleagues voiced strong confidence in his leadership. Councilwoman Sharon Scott predicted he "will do an excellent job."

Griffin served 10 years on the council, including two stints as president, before he became mayor in 1986-89.

Defeated by Thomas in his reelection bid, Griffin left city politics for four years and then was re-elected to the council. He won his latest four-year term in



Griffin

Cox

post.

New pro tem

Cox replaces Councilwoman Sharon Scott as council pro tem. He will preside over meetings if Griffin is absent.

Cox narrowly was chosen as pro tem in a 4-3 vote. He received support from himself, Griffin, Scott and newcomer David James but was opposed by Cicirelli and council members Glenn Anderson and Richard LeBlanc.

LeBlanc had nominated Anderson - the top vote-getter in the Nov. 2 election - for the pro tem post.

But when it became clear that Cox had the votes he needed, LeBlanc made a motion that Cox's selection be reflected as unanimous. No one objected.

The election of officers followed a swearing-in ceremony for council members who won in the November election: Anderson, Griffin, Cox and James.

Cicirelli, LeBlanc and Scott each have two more years on their current council terms.

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McNamara vetoes use of fund balance for juvenile justice

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

Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara has vetoed the county commission's use of \$5.8 million from the county's \$20 million fund balance to pay for part of the county's portion of \$68 million for juvenile justice programs.

With the veto on Dec. 23, McNamara's proposed budget cuts of \$10.2 million automatically became effective Tuesday, the first day of county business after the holiday break.

In December McNamara requested that county commissioners approve those cuts, but most commissioners agreed to trimming only \$4.6 million, choosing instead to use \$5.7 million from the county's fund balance to cover the shortfall.

On Dec. 20 commissioners had voted 9-5, with support coming from Chair Ricardo Solomon, D-Detroit; Vice Chair Kay Beard, D-Westland, and Commissioners Kathleen Husk, R-Redford, and Detroit Democrats Robert Blackwell, Edna Bell, Christopher Cavanagh, George Chushingberry, Iona Varga and Jewel Ware.

Commissioners opposing the general fund expenditure were Lynn Bankes, R-Livonia; John Sullivan, D-Wayne, who also represents Canton, and Edward Boike, D-Taylor; Joseph Palamara, D-Allen Park, and Bernard Parker, D-Detroit. Commissioner Susan Hubbard, D-Dearborn, abstained.

In his veto letter, McNamara called the commission decision to use \$5.7 million of the fund balance "expedient but imprudent."

"I do not believe the commission action to use fund balance is financially prudent and therefore I have no choice but to veto your action," McNamara said in his veto letter.

McNamara said the fund balance should not be used for ongoing budget problems, and using it would increase debt service costs on new bond projects, and delay or eliminate capital projects.

"For obvious reasons, recurring financial problems require permanent answers, not temporary raids on limited fund balance reserves," McNamara said. "Escalating child care costs are not a new problem in our county."

The cuts do not necessarily mean layoffs for any county employees, but it does mean public safety agencies will not be able to fill vacancies.

Sheriff Robert Ficano's department faces \$2.1 million in cuts from nearly \$70 million in general fund appropriations covering costs of jail operations and park patrol budgets. "At this point, 80 percent of these cuts are coming from law enforcement," Ficano said. "We've gone through the budget process, and suddenly, there is a \$10 million deficit."

County Prosecutor John O'Hair's budgeted \$24.3 million general fund appropriation was cut \$750,000. O'Hair believes public safety should be the "No. 1 concern" of county officials.

O'Hair said McNamara's budget cuts were "unsound" and that the budget process "lacked integrity" when department heads lobby the commission for appropriations only to have them cut by the administration.

"The ink isn't even dry on this budget, then these funds are taken out of the budget," O'Hair said. "Integrity is lacking. Departments should have a finalized budget that they can rely on."

Chief Financial Officer Tom Naughton said he wished he didn't have to adjust the budget. "It's an unfortunate fact of life that these budget adjustments are required," Naughton said.

Naughton said McNamara vetoed the action because the commission's plan to use the fund balance was "irresponsible." Naughton expects the commission will have further discussions later about the budget once the next quarterly financial report is released later this month.

"Every department for the most part has a lot of latitude in how to provide for the cuts," Naughton said. "If they have alternatives that work, that can be another option."

Naughton said county budget officials wanted to fund the child care program in an earlier proposed budget. At that time, Wayne County was negotiating with the state for a juvenile justice block grant and had not received contracts from service agencies to become care management organizations (CMOs) for the county.

'For obvious reasons, recurring financial problems require permanent answers, not temporary raids on limited fund balance reserves.'

Edward McNamara
Wayne County Executive

But commissioners were surprised at the news of the \$10 million budget shortfall.

The veto allows the county's general fund balance to remain at \$20 million. Another \$26 mil-

lion is in a separate rainy-day fund.

Naughton believes the new child care program will bring slower growth in costs of juvenile justice. "The contracts require performance reviews where we will be able to monitor those that are efficient and those that are inefficient," Naughton said.

For the short-term, the CMOs will need to be monitored. County officials won't know the long-term effects; those are only known when juveniles grow into

adults and whether or not they commit crimes.

McNamara also stated in his veto letter that the new plan of service for juvenile delinquents would be successful "on many levels," but the financial turnaround in this program would not be realized for many years. "The child care funding shortfall is not a one-time, one-year non-recurring problem," McNamara said. "This budgetary problem calls for a permanent solution."

McNamara said new personal property tax multipliers issued by the State Tax Commission also will cost Wayne County more than \$8 million and a revision of sentencing guidelines will result in the loss of another \$1 million.

"These and other budgetary concerns require that we act responsibly today to reduce expenditures," McNamara said. "We cannot wait or these problems will only compound."



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Gender not an issue for mall's security chief

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

Twenty years ago, Donna McQuaid took a job as a uniformed security officer to help make ends meet while raising four children.

Today, the Livonia resident is head of it all as director of the 18-person security force at Livonia Mall.

When she began working at the mall in December of 1979, female security officers were an uncommon sight.

"There is no comparison," McQuaid said of the changes between then and now. "There are many, many females" in mall security now. Seven females work in security at the Livonia Mall compared to two females 20 years ago.

Taking the job was a natural step for McQuaid, who was armed only with a few college credits from Schoolcraft and a willingness to work.

"I've been basically surrounded by law enforcement my entire life," McQuaid said, referring to her father, a former Detroit

police officer, and her ex-husband, a Livonia police officer.

The primary functions of mall security include patrolling the building and parking lots.

"We are here to deter crime," McQuaid said. "That's why we are so blatant with our uniforms."

Large anchor stores tend to have their own security forces, leaving mall security to patrol common areas of the mall and smaller stores.

When she became director of security in 1982, her promotion was considered "probationary."

A former Livonia police officer had previously held the director's job on a part-time basis. But mall management decided the job demanded full-time hours.

"It was not working well to have a part-time person in charge of the department," McQuaid said. "The mall manager called me in and asked me if I'd be interested in the job."

Gender isn't as much of an issue anymore — even in the traditionally male-dominated world of law enforcement.

"We don't look at gender anymore, whereas many years ago, we did."

Nabbing shoplifters and breaking up fights offer hefty surges of adrenaline, but it's the life-and-death situations that really get McQuaid's blood going. Security officers are required to provide first response in emergencies, which could involve performing CPR.

"I think it's the medical-type emergencies that give me the adrenaline rush above and beyond the criminal aspects," McQuaid said.

She recalled an incident several years ago when a small child tumbled off a carousel and was unconscious on the floor.

"You need to do just as a parent would do in an emergency situation," McQuaid said. "You can't afford to give in to emotional feelings that would normally accompany (the situation)."

When she's not at work, McQuaid enjoys playing with her German shepherds, Alex and Heidi, and training guide dogs. A 9-month old shepherd pup named Maya is in her charge



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Big job: Donna McQuaid of Livonia is responsible for security at Livonia Mall. Her family has a law enforcement background.

now. "I'm known as the German shepherd lady," McQuaid said. In 1996, she and three other

trainer/dog teams won a Shepherd Dog Obedience Training Club competition in Kentucky.

"We took first place and we were ecstatic," she said, pointing to the plaque on her office wall.

City's surplus food distribution planned

The City of Westland will distribute surplus federal food 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Jan. 20-21, at the Dorsey Community Center.

Residents in the area bounded by Palmer, Stieber, Merriman and Wildwood roads, which is known as Norwayne and Oak Village, will pick up their commodities 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20.

All other residents north of Michigan Avenue will pick up their commodities 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21.

Westland residents south of Michigan Avenue should pick up

their commodities on the third Monday of each month at St. James United Methodist Church, 30055 Annapolis, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt roads.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers will pick up their food at Taylor Towers and must call their building manager for the day of distribution.

For January, there will be corn, oatmeal, rice cereal or vegetable oil.

Any further questions may be answered by calling the Dorsey Center's surplus food hot line at (734) 595-0366.

Bug sends sufferers in search of relief

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

This flu makes people both hack and hurt, and has St. Mary Hospital stretched past its last stretcher.

"Oh, my gosh, it is just epidemic proportions," said Dr. Patricia Paz-Arabo, St. Mary Hospital emergency room physician.

"Right now we don't have any stretchers to put anybody on. It is that severe."

At least 60 percent of St. Mary patients are being treated with flu-related illness, said Paz-Arabo, who had worked 10 straight days in the ER.

This virulent batch comes in two forms: One involves nausea, vomiting and diarrhea; the other is concentrated in the upper respiratory area and includes coughing and fever.

Stomach flu has been prevalent since Thanksgiving, Paz-Arabo said. Those who received flu shots are not immune.

"The flu shot only covers a couple of strains; there are several strains of flu," Paz-Arabo said.

"Unfortunately we have people coming in saying, 'I know it can't be the flu because I'm covered with the flu shot.' That's a misconception."

A pharmacist at Livonia

Drugs on Farmington and Five Mile noticed an increase in people complaining about the flu around Christmas.

Since then, the pharmacy has received phone calls from physicians to fill prescriptions for antibiotics and antiviral medications. Others are seeking over-the-counter remedies.

"You have to find out what the symptoms are and try to differentiate between the two (types of flu), and prescribe accordingly," said Sam Salah, Livonia Drugs pharmacist.

A pharmacist at Rite Aid said many sufferers are bypassing store shelves for doctor's offices.

"It's coming hard and hitting

quickly," said Laura Shaw, Rite Aid pharmacist. "Their first attempt is usually going to their doctor."

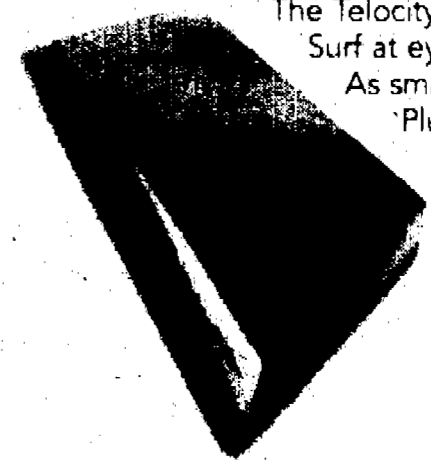
For vomiting or diarrhea, adults should drink Gatorade to replace needed fluids and electrolytes. Children can use Pedialyte. Fever can be treated with Motrin or Tylenol.

"If you have a bad cough, you really need to get a (prescribed) cough medicine," Shaw said.

If unable to keep liquids down or with a fever lasting up to 48 hours, seek help.

"If you have a (persistent) high fever, you need to be evaluated because we're seeing a lot of pneumonia," Paz-Arabo said.

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Schoolcraft offers new continuing ed classes

Schoolcraft College Continuing Education Services winter schedule will offer almost 20 new classes during the winter semester.

The classes include Pet First Aid: Cats and Dogs to help you respond to pet emergencies; The Craft of Magazine Writing, an online course; the Culture of India, for those wishing to know about the subcontinent or prepare for the Art of India conference May 12 and 13; The In-Home Caregiver, for those caring for loved ones at home; Cardio-Kickboxing for a great workout; and Kindermusik classes for ages newborn through 18 months and for children 18 months to 3 years to enhance children's love of music.

The more than 200 remaining classes range from a wide variety of computer classes, through language study, an extensive equine program, Yoga, landscaping, academic test preparation and physical fitness.

Persons may register by mail through Jan. 14; by visiting the registration office in the McDowell Center Jan. 24-28; or they may register the first week of classes, Jan. 31 through Feb. 2 at the registration office.

Faxed registrations are accepted any time during this period.

Schoolcraft registers for on-line classes

Persons who believe they are too busy with job, family or other time constraints to get a college degree can earn college credits through Schoolcraft College distance learning classes.

The college offers 44 distance learning classes during the winter semester, including 24 telecourses and 20 online courses.

New online courses include Introduction to Literature: Shakespeare, 19th Century America, Microsoft Word '97, State and Local Government and Principles of Sociology. Distance learning classes range from art appreciation to economics, philosophy, astronomy, psychology and business. Classes include both freshman and sophomore levels, and it is possible to earn an associate degree in general studies and arts via distance learning.

Classes begin Friday, Jan. 7 and phone-in and walk-in registration continue through Jan. 8.

For information, call (734) 462-4532.

Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile roads, just west of I-275.

Registration forms are available in the winter class schedule.

Students age 60 or older may enroll in classes at reduced rates, with proof of age. For registration information or gift certificates, call (734) 462-4448. To fax registrations, dial (734) 462-4572.

Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile Roads, just west of I-275.

Metro population grows 4.6% in 1990s

The seven-county region of Southeast Michigan closes the 20th century with an estimated population of 4,802,071, according to figures released by SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

This new estimate represents a 4.6 percent increase since the 1990 census. The region's fastest-growing county in the 1990s is Livingston County. During the decade, it grew 34.1 percent, from a population of 115,645 in 1990 to a current estimated population of

155,041. At the beginning of the 20th century, Livingston County had a population of 19,664.

Macomb Township grew the most in the 1990s, beginning the decade with a population of 22,714 and ending it with an estimated population of 50,398, an increase of 121.9 percent. Other fast-growing communities in Southeast Michigan include Iosco Township and Oceola Township (both in Livingston County), Washington Township (Macomb County), Oakland

Township (Oakland County) and Pittsfield Township (Washtenaw County), all with population increase of more than 80 percent.

The number of households in Southeast Michigan grew by 8.9 percent in the 1990s. There were 1,698,819 households counted in the 1990 census. The region closes the decade with an estimated 1,850,715 households.

Population and household figures for all counties and com-

munities in Southeast Michigan are updated monthly on SEMCOG's Website.

Website: www.semco.org/data/popoc/popc.html. A poster, visually describing the 1999 Southeast Michigan Population and Household Estimates, is available by calling SEMCOG Information Services at (313)961-2242.

SEMCOG is a regional planning partnership of governmental units serving 4.8 million people in the seven-county region of Southeast Michigan.

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10 cents a head

Sen. McCotter takes on rat bounties, other outdated state laws

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

If you turn in an empty beer bottle in Michigan you get 10 cents. Of course you know that. But did you know a severed rat's head is also worth a 10-cent bounty?

That's right. Act 50 of 1915 states: "Any person who kills a black, brown, gray, or Norway rat shall be entitled to receive ten cents for each head of a rat that is presented to the city, township, or village clerk."

State Sen. Thaddeus G. McCotter, R-Livonia, chairman of the recently formed Senate Law Revision Task Force, wants to ensure that no rat heads slide across the desk of any city official, election year or not. He's sure his mother, Livonia City Clerk Joan McCotter, appreciates his efforts.

"My mother has decidedly expressed her disinterest in accepting or disposing of dead rats' heads. I assured her a repeal would be my first bill of the new millennium."

Task force members are on a search and destroy mission, scouring the list of state statutes to determine how many archaic

'My mother has decidedly expressed her disinterest in accepting or disposing of dead rats' heads. I assured her a repeal would be my first bill of the new millennium.'

State Sen. Thaddeus McCotter
R-Livonia

laws still exist. McCotter plans to begin repealing the archaic laws identified in the task force's report when the Senate returns in January.

"Senate Majority Leader Dan DeGrow has assured me that he is committed to acting upon our recommendations early next year," he said.

Here's a partial list of other old laws about to get the ax:

■ **Immoral advertising.** Act 328 or 1931 forbids ads offering cures or treatments for venereal diseases, the restoration of "lost manhood," and products producing abortions or miscarriages. If enforced, the law would subject Viagra spokesman and former presidential candidate Bob Dole to a misdemeanor charge. So what would it be, Bob, a year in jail or a \$500 fine?

■ **Images of dead ex-presidents.** Act 328 of 1931 makes it a misdemeanor to use or reference a deceased ex-president of the United States in the advertising of liquor or spirits.

■ **Sleigh bells.** Act 328 of 1931 applies to the use of sleigh bells in the Upper Peninsula. At least one animal pulling a cutter or sleigh that is moving faster than a walk must wear sleigh bells.

■ **Dueling.** Act 328 of 1931 states that a person who engages "in or challenges another to a duel is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for 10 years or fined \$5,000. A person who accepts a challenge or promotes a duel is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be imprisoned for one year and fined \$500. Both par-

ties are barred from being elected or appointed to any public office.

■ **Horseshoer's lien.** Act 160 of 1897 provides for the placement of a lien on a horse or mule by a blacksmith to cover unpaid shoeing bills.

■ **Official cream tester.** This statute defines the duties of a county's official cream tester. It allows the county to spend up to \$150 to provide the official cream tester with the necessary equipment to carry out his or her duties.

McCotter expressed hope that the report will "remind Michigan legislatures that, especially in the era of term limits, not all laws, however popular for a time, stand the test of time."

Jan VanRaemdonck, a secretary in the Livonia City Clerk's office, knew nothing about any of the archaic laws. Nobody has ever turned in a rat's head or applied for a job as an official cream tester.

That doesn't mean it hasn't happened, she said. "I'm new here."



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Kurt Heise will chair Rouge River advisory council

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

In 1992, Kurt Heise wanted to become more active in his community, so he served on the board of directors of Friends of the Rouge, a volunteer group that promoted annual cleanups of the Rouge River and educational programs in schools.

In 1994, he was appointed assistant corporation counsel for the city of Dearborn Heights, representing the community in federal court to discuss water quality issues concerning the Rouge.

Now, in 2000, Heise will chair the Rouge River Advisory Council, an advisory group to the state Department of Environmental Quality. RRAC is comprised of community leaders and county officials, business and industry representatives, citizens and environmentalists from the Rouge River watershed's 48 communities in Wayne, Oakland



Kurt Heise

and Washtenaw counties.

Bill Craig, a Livonia resident who helped establish the Holiday Nature Preserve and organizes cleanups there of the Rouge, was selected as RRAC's

vice chair.

Heise, 33, of Dearborn Heights, who is also executive assistant to Dearborn Heights Mayor Ruth Canfield, believes the council's most important task this year will be the update of the remedial action plan to clean the Rouge. "That will be the blueprint for the Rouge for the next 15 years," Heise said. "It's a massive undertaking and a huge responsibility."

The council will update the RAP, a plan first completed in 1989 in response to the Rouge being named one of 42 "areas of concern" in the Great Lakes basin and a lawsuit filed by the Environmental Protection Agency against Rouge River communities. That plan was needed to restore water quality consistent with the Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Water Quality agreements.

Since then, many Rouge communities have completed sewer separation projects or construct-

ed retention basins to halt the flow of raw sewage into the Rouge. DEQ, EPA and environmental officials from Wayne, Washtenaw and Oakland counties also periodically discuss the river's progress with U.S. District Judge John Feikens.

This year, Heise expects RRAC not only will discuss the plan's update, but also inform DEQ officials on the issues of the financial impact of the cleanup to communities and what local residents would like to see in improving the Rouge.

"I think RRAC needs to confront that we all want clean water, but we have to realize it will not happen overnight and it will be at a tremendous cost to the public," Heise said.

Heise points to a recent state Court of Appeals ruling that found communities liable for basement flooding. With awards paid to residents by communities, "We're not going to have money to pay for water quality,"

Heise said.

Sanitary sewer overflows from improper and illegal drain connections create another problem. "If you plug that up, where will it go?" Heise asked. "Probably in someone's basement. We would rather have it go into the river before basements."

RRAC and communities also face the possibility of changing EPA standards for pollutant levels in rivers, Heise said.

But Heise added that the federal court has moved away from litigation and toward cooperation between local communities and county, state and federal environmental agencies.

"Most communities were opposed to creating a new layer of government," Heise said, referring to Feikens' urging that an authority should oversee activities of communities and counties. Communities responded by voluntarily applying for stormwater permits with hopes of meeting EPA standards.

"Our attitude was 'look, we know we have to do this, like it or not,'" Heise said.

Citizen input also will be important to RRAC, Heise said. Public education programs in communities also serve important roles in cleaning up the Rouge, Heise said.

Heise helped encourage citizen awareness of the Rouge while on the Friends of the Rouge board of directors. He participated and organized annual Rouge Rescue events and created a "Best Friends of the Rouge" awards program.

Heise graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in political science in 1988. He also has a juris doctorate and a specialized law degree in labor and employment law from Wayne State University Law School.

Heise is married to Catherine West Heise. The couple has two daughters.

Madonna professor invited to Japan as 'opinion maker'

Dr. Jonathan Swift, director of the Center for International Studies at Madonna University in Livonia, recently visited Japan as a guest of the Japanese government.

"I was invited as an 'opinion maker' to absorb the culture and then return to Michigan to share my cultural experiences with others," Swift said.

During his travel, Swift visited two universities to establish new agreements, as well as strengthen existing ties, between Madonna University and the institutions. Madonna currently has a study abroad agreement with Nagoya Gakuin University, located in Nagoya, Japan.

Swift toured Nagoya Gakuin's campus and spoke with administrators about instituting a summer study program for students and faculty.

"It would be a reciprocated program. Madonna students and faculty would focus on Japanese and Asian studies over one month in the summer at Nagoya Gakuin and their students would come to our campus for up to one year," said Swift.

Currently, a Nagoya Gakuin University student is taking courses at Madonna and is

among the students from 40 different countries who pursue studies on the Livonia campus.

At Kansai Gaidai University near Osaka, Japan, Swift discussed instituting an agreement to facilitate student and faculty exchange. Kansai Gaidai is a well-known language school in Japan and enroll 250 students.

Madonna University offers a major and minor in Japanese that includes study of Japanese language, history and culture.

During his visit, Swift learned about two study abroad programs in Japan which are available to American students. The Michigan Program offers students an opportunity to work for one year on a paddle steamer, called *The Michigan*, thereby gaining Japanese language and cultural skills.

The Jet Program, available to students with a bachelor's degree, provides opportunities to work in various fields in Japan for an academic year.

Students interested in the Michigan Program, Jet Program or other overseas study opportunities at Madonna University may contact Dr. Swift at the Center for International Studies by calling (734) 432-5836.

Prisoners lose protections under new law

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Prisoners in Michigan correctional facilities no longer enjoy the protection of the state's primary civil rights acts, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act and the Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act.

According to Rep. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, they never should have.

Gov. John Engler has signed into law two bills aimed at clarifying whether prisoners enjoy the protections of those civil rights acts by stating that they do not apply to persons incarcerated in state, county or federal correctional facilities.

Further, the new laws say that prisoners can't be considered as "public services" when it comes to lawsuits over alleged rights violations.

Initially drafted by Bishop, the bills were "intended to clarify the construction of the Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act" and to express the original intent of the legislature. The changes are "curative and intended to correct any misinter-

pretation of legislative intent."

According to Bishop, it was never the intent of the legislature that the state's two civil rights bills should apply to prisoners. There is simply no evidence that such an application was envisioned, he said.

But in recent decisions, the Michigan Court of Appeals has said the laws do apply. In *Neal vs. Department of Correction*, female prisoners were allowed to bring a class action suit alleging a pattern of sexual harassment against inmates by male guards. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination under Elliott-Larsen.

In *Doe vs. Department of Corrections*, the court allowed prisoners to bring a class action suit on behalf of inmates denied placement in community residential programs because they were HIV positive, a form of disability.

At first the courts were reluctant to agree with prisoners. In the *Neal* case, the appeals court said: "The narrow issue before us is whether the MDOC correctional facilities are places of 'public service' in which discrimination against inmates, based on sex, is

prohibited." Judges at first concluded that prisons were "not established to provide 'service to the public' in the same sense as hospitals, courts, or the Secretary of State's office do."

Eventually, Michigan courts reversed themselves based on federal rulings that prisons are public services. And since state laws did not preclude prisons or prisoners, they agreed to let the cases stand.

Bishop's bills were intended to correct that problem.

The law won the support of Michigan Attorney General Jennifer Granholm, who said that prisoner rights are already protected in federal law, and making the change here would protect taxpayers from spending money on frivolous lawsuits.

But other Democrats opposed the change.

Sen. Alma Wheeler Smith, D-South Lyon, said that making the change in law retroactive would make it unconstitutional.

"We eliminate a right of individuals that, I believe, the Legislature in 1976 fully intended. ... What we are essentially saying with this law is that people in

prisons are not persons under the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act. That language is not specifically in the bill, but the intent, the result, is," she argued.

"Do (prisoners) have other recourse? Oh, yes," Smith said.

"If you can find a number of attorneys who are willing to take these lawsuits without compensation, pursue the hundreds of hours it takes to do the depositions, to do the extra labor that is involved in building cases where you have an entity, the Department of Corrections, that offers no help, no assistance and limited access to the clients, I don't think we have real access to the courts. We don't have real access to jurisprudence."

Rep. Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, opposed the new law. "These bills will take away the rights of a certain class of innocent persons under the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act and the Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act - those persons who are falsely convicted of a crime but who are later found to be innocent and who have their sentences overturned in court," he said.

Gerontology classes offered

Madonna University in Livonia will offer two gerontology courses during the winter term.

"Introduction to Case Management Practice" will be held 4-7 p.m. Jan. 10-31.

The workshop "Developing and

Monitoring Care in Case Management Practice" will be held 4-7 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 7-28, and again on Monday, March 13.

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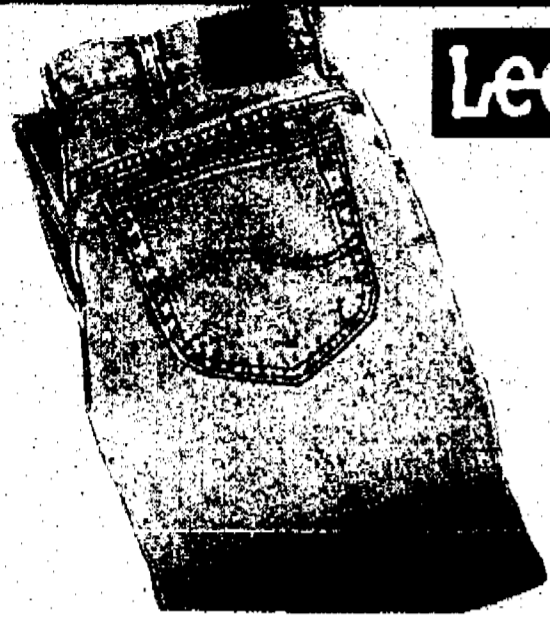
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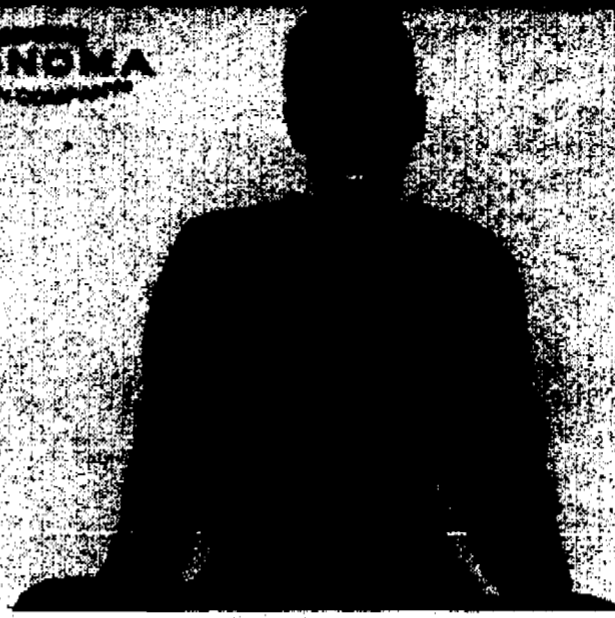


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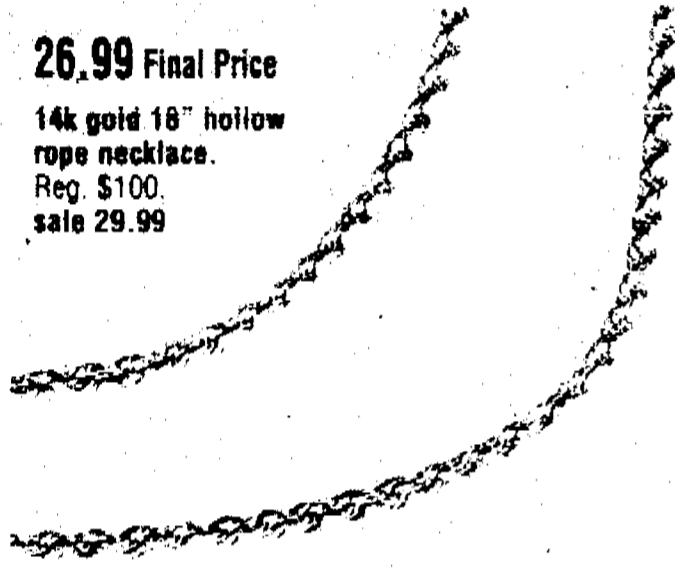
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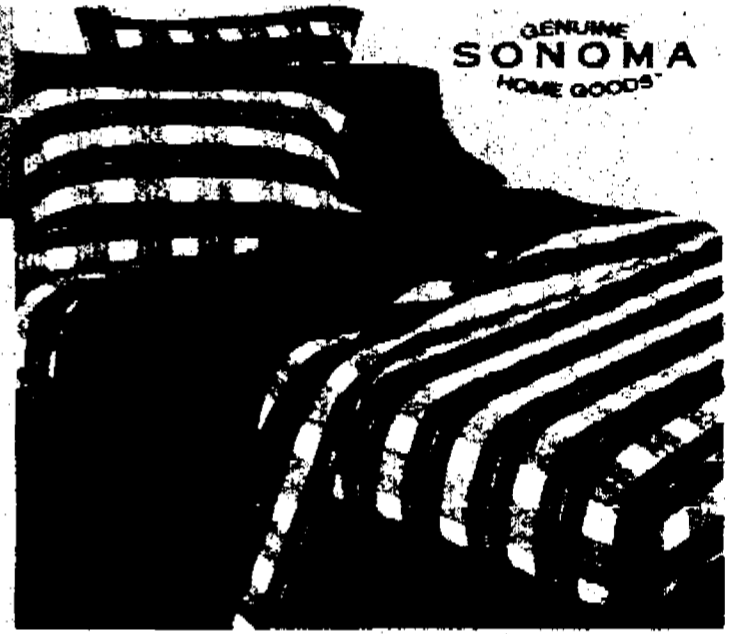
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Westland Observer OPINION

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2000

Great loss Cable consultant was special

Diane Abbott, who would have celebrated her 52nd birthday on Jan. 12, certainly should have lived to see the year 2000, and many beyond.

Abbott, Westland's cable TV/community relations consultant since March 1991, was a dynamo, producing excellent cable TV programming. She died Dec. 28 at the University of Michigan Medical Center, where she had been fighting leukemia and a lung fungus.

The illness was sudden. Until recently, the energetic Abbott could be seen around the community, including at Westland Rotary meetings. City cable station WLND certainly benefited from her efforts and those of colleagues, and we hope those efforts are to continue in the future.

Lorrie Reddy, mayor's office secretary, had been a longtime friend of Abbott's. "She has been a great friend - later in life a great mother and a great lady. I will miss her terribly."

Reddy speaks for many others who knew Abbott, but perhaps not quite as well. Her death leaves a void in our community, not only in terms of cable TV programming and

community relations (such as the great 2000 municipal calendar she produced), but more generally.

Abbott didn't have the easiest of jobs, balancing the programming wishes of the mayor and seven council members, some with different views on what should air.

She handled those differences with aplomb. "She always was willing to work with everybody," said City Clerk Patricia Gibbons. "She tried to be as fair as possible and I thought she did a great job of (taping and airing) the city council meeting."

Gibbons went on to say Abbott had excellent ideas and was a great planner. "This will be a great loss to the city," Gibbons said, speaking for many.

Our sympathies go out to Abbott's children, Douglas Abbott, Susan Grady and Sarah Abbott, to the two grandchildren and all other loved ones.

The national awards Abbott won for cable programming certainly speak well of her professionally. So many also have spoken well of her in other areas of life. She will be missed.

Roads, schools top wish list

As the new year begins, we wondered what our communities might ask for if they were to compile a wish list of their wants and needs from Gov. John Engler and the Michigan House and Senate.

It seems to us such a list would surely include:

■ A new road funding formula.

Public Act 51 - the state law that determines how state gas tax money as well as other transportation revenues are to be divided between the state government, counties and municipalities - is set to expire in the fall of 2000. Lawmakers put that sunset on the formula specifically to force a review and revision of the distribution. And, of course, a nine-member study committee has already been working on a rewrite.

But as things stand, the process appears heavily weighted in favor of the Michigan Department of Transportation. If the MDOT, as a road agency, benefits from the revision, it will come at the expense of county road commissions, cities and townships.

Controversy over the way Act 51 distributes the money has been one of the major obstacles to Michigan's road improvement and upkeep. Out of anger that the formula unfairly redistributes road funding to outstate communities and turns the vast majority over to the MDOT, suburban municipalities have blocked attempts at increased gas taxes. As a state, we've been unable to get to the issue of whether road funding is adequate, whether taxes to support roads are set at appropriate levels, because it makes little sense for suburbs to support any increase. Even at an increased level, Act 51 would send the money elsewhere.

No one argues that MDOT should get a lion's share of the money, because it is responsible for maintaining some of the state's most heavily traveled roads, expressways included. But when county road commissions are chronically underfunded and municipalities repeatedly have to take over upkeep of their own county and state roads, it is clear the formula is lopsided.

One idea proposed in Lansing would clearly help - splitting the MDOT. A state road agency responsible for its own projects and

maintenance programs should not be responsible for distributing the cash to municipalities and reviewing road funding requests. Obviously, when there is a conflict, MDOT will favor its own projects. Separate the "pass through" function of the MDOT from the road improvement and maintenance function. Then let the MDOT compete on an equal footing with counties and municipalities when it seeks additional road bucks.

■ A coherent policy on education.

Gov. Engler and the Michigan Republicans have been working on education over the past year. Unfortunately, many of the policies enacted run counter to the state Constitution. That document clearly gives the authority for K-12 education in Michigan to the State Board of Education, but Engler and the GOP have moved as much responsibility away from the board as they can.

Republicans have also pushed for new schools known as "charter schools," or "public school academies." Although the claim is that they are simply independent public schools, they've been allowed to operate just as private schools do, with little reporting about their finances and little accountability.

If the Republicans intend to revamp Michigan's education system, a constitutional amendment is in order, outlining what that new system should be. Then voters can make the determination.

■ A new urban sprawl policy.

State lawmakers have been working to devise ways to address the issue of urban sprawl, using incentives rather than mandates to gain cooperation from local units of government to participate in regional planning.

The idea, lawmakers say, is to coordinate the state budget to support development that is directed back toward central cities and preserves greenfields in the outlying areas.

It's a tall order. But if indeed the budget can be arranged to make it worthwhile for both inner city areas and fringe suburbs to work hand in hand to avoid further sprawl, it makes sense to do so. If the state can set up its policies to support Main Street redevelopment while avoiding further expansions of the urban ring, it should be done.

GEORGE BROOKS



LETTERS

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

A Y2K wish

My generation had wanted so badly to make a difference in the world when we were back in high school, but we graduated, were merged into the mainstream of society and our dream of changing the world for the better was long forgotten.

Our mottoes of "Save the Earth," "Peace" and "Make love, not war" were all forgotten or set aside indefinitely so we could chase that elusive "American Dream" our parents' generation bought into hook line and sinker.

We were brainwashed by a generation that had been parented by, or was part of, the Great Depression when most had very little. The booming economy of World War II produced a "more is better attitude" that has now evolved into "greed gone wild."

So few recall those days when our main objective in life was to make the world a better place for generations to come, through ecology, not technology and progress driven by pure greed and "gimme" attitudes.

My prayer for the new millennium is that we (people as a whole) can remember, or at least come to realize, if we don't take care of our planet we won't have a home! Animals (that includes the human species) and plants have a partnership. Our existence forms a cycle. Without one, the other will cease to exist.

Trees give off such an enormous percentage of our breathable air in their natural process of respiration. Our existence truly depends on trees' existence. Nature depends on us, but also we depend on nature. We need to work together to save natural habitats, the rain forest and other forest lands throughout not just our own country, but the world as well.

So everyone, please take a moment each and every day to notice and appreciate the beauty that surrounds us. Notice the way sunset paints the sky with a blaze of color while you're stuck in rush hour on your way home from work. Or how bright the moon and stars are in a black velvet sky after you've hauled the garbage out to the curb. Or even the way the new fallen snow sparkles like stars in the moonlight, or streetlights at night.

There is beauty all around us every day, if we'll just take a moment to look we will see it. If we see it more, maybe we'll start appreciating it, then one day our new awareness will awaken our hearts, teach us to care again and

something will at last be done to reverse some of the damage our apathy has caused.

Janet Hansen
Redford

Rename schools after women

As a former resident of Livonia, I wonder if you could give me some information. Although I did not attend Livonia public schools after kindergarten (I only wish I had gone to Franklin instead of Ladywood!), I did attend Jefferson - in about 1968! My mom still lives in the Devon Aire subdivision, and I visit frequently.

As a woman and a feminist, I am interested in more information about the names of the schools in the Livonia system. Are all the school buildings in the city named after men? For example, I am not familiar with whom Hull might be named after. Still, it is apparent that the majority of schools in the city of Livonia are named after men. I did notice that all the building names have been relieved of their first names and initials, at least on the system's Web site. This may be the case on the school buildings, as well. Is this an attempt to anesthetize the group's political incorrectness?

In many ways, Livonia is a wonderful place to grow up. One way it could be improved is to change the names of its public schools. Of course, names should not be meaningless, particularly the names of schools. If the names of the city's school represent important people, without a doubt at the turn of the 21st century, they should reflect the other half of the world's people, women as well as men!

I realize that Livonia is a Midwestern city, but why not lead, instead of following outdated traditions? In New York City the schools are numbered; on the East Coast they are named after places. What are little girls growing up in Livonia supposed to think? That the only thing they are good for is to grow up and have babies? Or leave Livonia?

Gina Fournier
Acton, Mass.

COMMUNITY VOICE

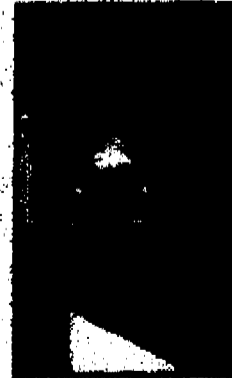
QUESTION:

Did you make any New Year's resolutions?



"To eat healthier."

Page Maccarone



"To watch my mouth and my attitude."

Tangle Harris



"To deliver Meals on Wheels."

Charles Love



"To stop smoking."

Kimberly Griggs

We asked this question at the Westland public library.

Westland Observer

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Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

New attitude

Relatively smooth start bodes well for 2000 and beyond

The clerk at Kohl's got me to thinking.

It was Saturday morning and we were at the store at Westland Center, to walk off those holiday pounds and to return a sweater my husband had received. The dire predictions of Y2K disaster hadn't come true, but I heard the clerk's comment and took it to heart: Namely, that writing 2000 was going to take some getting used to.

That Friday, my husband and I had listened to the BBC reports on the shortwave. We heard that all was

pretty much well in New Zealand, Australia and high-tech Japan. As the stroke of midnight moved toward the U.S., it was evident the predictions of doom and gloom weren't going to come true.

New Year's Eve was a fun one. Too much pizza, but I'll recover. A friend brought the video "Scrooged," which we got through just in time to watch the perpetually youthful Dick Clark on ABC. The ball fell in Times Square, we toasted the New Year, watched a little Three Stooges and called it a night.



JULIE BROWN

Later came the news that the Shah family of Westland now included the metro area's second New Year's baby.

born just one second after midnight at Providence Hospital in Southfield. That was happy news, which was predominant. There were a few problems, of course, but all in all no more than what you'd expect.

Whether you think the new millennium has begun or doesn't start until 2001 isn't really the point. It's time for a fresh start, a new attitude, much as it is every New Year, but especially so in 2000. The Kohl's clerk is right, and it will take time to get used to writing 2000. We'll manage, however, and life will go on, hopefully in posi-

It's time for a fresh start, a new attitude, much as it is every New Year, but especially so in 2000.

Happy New Year 2000 to you and your loved ones!

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

Metro Airport director's promises: They're not a snow job

(First of two columns on the future of Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport.)

It's nearly a year since the snow fell and fell ... when hundreds of Northwest Airlines passengers stranded on snowy runways waited and waited ... when Detroit Metro Airport was chastised and ridiculed and embarrassed for its apparent inability to respond.

So I must say I was a bit surprised when airport director Dave Katz told me last week: "I'm praying for 15 inches of snow."

Katz is one competitive guy. "We need a big storm to show the world that we can keep this airport going," he said. At the same time, he acknowledges: "Those three days were the worst experience of my life."

He is quick to defend the people behind the snowplows. "They got to work when no one else could. Then they worked for three days straight and all they heard about was what they didn't do. How demoralizing." He showed me the snow scraper sou-

venirs he gave each of them, inscribed with "The Blizzard of '99." Right now, he said: "They're pumped. They're begging for 16 inches - one more than fell a year ago."

Katz is one funny guy. He happily plays himself in the recent tongue-in-cheek airport advertising campaign. Actors take the parts of his mother (Mary Ann, who lives in the U.P.), Aunt Marge (his wife's aunt who owns Marge's Bar on the east side), and his brother-in-law, Mel (sales rep Mel Lenhart who flies in and out of Metro several times a week). In one segment, his mother is heard complaining about having to drive around the parking deck for so long to find a space that Aunt Marge falls asleep - "and she's driving."

That gives Katz the opportunity to unfurl the new hotline, (800) 642-1978, that you can call to find out the parking situation at Metro. A new airport entrance sign also announces which lots are open.

Katz is one believable guy. More than a year ago, he talked to me about computerizing the parking sys-



JUDITH DONER BERNE

tem. That also was when we discussed the impriety of charging people deplaning from international flights for luggage carts. Most land sleep-deprived, many have language and currency difficulties.

It took him more than a year, but he finally got those free carts. When the luggage cart supplier wouldn't give up the fee, Katz rebid the entire franchise. The new company began supplying free carts in the international terminal in October.

Other of his visions have become realities. Metro now has a full-fledged information center manned by green-vested customer service agents, who

also are deployed throughout the airport.

Two-thirds of Metro's 65 restrooms have been renovated - if you have used them, you know they are a big improvement - and family restrooms have been installed.

If you've flown Spirit Airlines you know that flights are often delayed, both in taking off and landing. The airline has been dependent on the loan of a gate by another airline. But recently, Metro added a new, rather plush, six-gate Mecca at the end of Concourse A. It allows airlines such as Spirit and Southwest to have homes of their own.

Katz is one annoyed guy, saying that there hasn't been much press on it. "It's allowing 40 new flights a day from less expensive carriers," he says. As a result, "competing airlines' rates go down."

He also promised to improve the quality, variety and prices of airport restaurants. I haven't sampled them, but a number of new eateries have opened since he and I first met. The most promising of these are a sush-

bar, Tequileria. Jody Maronis Sausage Kingdom and several Starbucks.

Katz is one realistic guy. He knows that proving the airport is moving in the right direction depends on each of our experiences. So, routinely, he and his 20 Disney-trained managers converge on defined airport areas to analyze their safety, friendliness, cleanliness and convenience.

It's working in front of the Smith Terminal. Just last week, a security guard named Hudson kindly allowed me to sit in my car at the arrivals curbside, while I waited for my son who was coming in on the red-eye from L.A.

It's hard to change an image. But, little by little, Metro Airport is getting better. Katz is one determined guy, certain that the good facts will emerge out of the next big snowstorm.

Judith Doner Berne is a West Bloomfield resident, is a former managing editor of the Eccentric Newspapers. You can contact her by calling (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1997, faxing (734) 591-7279, or e-mailing jberne@aatt.net.

Bartlett Hess, Ward pastor: He was a man for all time

By now, you're probably fed up with stories and TV programs packed with millennium musings. Totally subjective "lists" of the top this or that.

Compile those very lists in another 10 years, and chances are they will read dramatically different. Except, of course, for Michael Jordan's placement as ESPN's top athlete of the just-concluded century.

But why do so many care about such capsules of easy-to-swallow information in the first place? It seems as though Americans are way too obsessed with pop culture, either being part of the coffee house cutting edge or the mainstream. They rush to get in line to buy the latest Beanie Baby or Pokémon or make decisions about what to like based solely on what critics and marketing gurus tell them to.

Not too many seem to be rushing to their church, temple or synagogue, however, as we begin the 21st century. At the risk of sounding preachy, maybe more should consider going to their respective place of worship, because this society is getting increasingly warped, all at the expense of common human decency.

Consider that the National Football League and National Basketball Association scheduled games on Christmas Day. Sadly, it's all about big bucks, even on the holiest of days. And that's only a sliver of the holiday's crass commercialization.

Moreover - and I'm as guilty of this as you - the fact that people are wearing out a path to their movie multiplex, sporting event or shopping mall, but not to places where "The Word" is preached must have troubled Dr. Bartlett L. Hess during the last part of his life.

Pastor Hess, a little man with a towering presence, who founded Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Livonia (since relocated to Northville Township), passed away on Dec. 21 just six days short of his 89th birthday.

Under his leadership, which concluded with his 1992 retirement, Ward's membership grew to more than 5,000 strong. In 1981, he co-founded the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, a denomination now with over 190 churches and 60,000 members around the world.

There's no denying that Ward today is in good shape, probably better off than many churches, temples and synagogues. Current pastor Dr. James McGuire is continuing Hess' legacy, and Ward prides itself on offering a large number of youth ministries - geared at helping raise tomorrow's spiritual leaders and



TIM SMITH

Hess also was described as a young-minded 'progressive' even as he approached age 90. He cared to not live in the past, always with an eye toward the future. That future now carries on without him and his leadership.

congregations.

The bedrock foundation was largely put there by the work of Pastor Hess, remembered as "a lovely and loving man" who didn't worry if he sometimes displayed human tendencies such as stubbornness, anger and a penchant for buying collectibles.

"He'd occasionally lose his temper, those who were the recipients of such won't forget it," said Dr. L. Edward Davis during funeral services held at Ward on Hess' birthday.

"But given a good night's rest and maybe a chat with Hess' wife Margaret, well, he prattled the art of the apology. He could be grumpy, but he'd get over it."

Hess also was described as a young-minded "progressive" even as he approached age 90. He cared to not live in the past, always with an eye toward the future.

That future now carries on without him and his leadership.

Time will tell whether our society will ever rise out of the immoral muck it seems to be mired in. But one thing is for sure: It's too bad Bart Hess didn't live to see the 21st century. We sure could have used him.

Livonia resident Tim Smith is a regular contributor to the Farmington Observer and attends Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church. He can be reached at (248) 477-5450.

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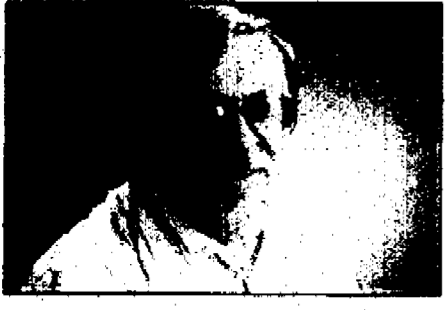
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JACK GLADDEN

Let's deal with a real problem

We made it. Airplanes didn't fall out of the sky. The toilets still flush. The world economy is as intact as it usually is. And those computers that were expected to be confused about the date displayed "January 1, 2000" just as normally as they displayed "December 31, 1999."

Now that we've survived the hype and hysteria of the "Y2K bug," we can get back to dealing with a real problem: disintegrating dip tubes.

When Observer & Eccentric columnist Joe Gagnon — better known to his fans as "The Appliance Doctor" — first wrote about the problem of dip tubes disintegrating inside hot water tanks manufactured between July 1993 and December 1996, most people shrugged. Just another one of Joe's crusades, they probably thought.

The day he walked into the newsroom carrying a long, white plastic dip tube to demonstrate what he was talking about, some people snickered quietly. Don Quixote Joe with a dip tube sword.

But those of us who were having problems with the flow of hot water in the shower, who were digging white plastic particles out of the aerator in the kitchen sink — we knew he was on to something.

Meanwhile, other people started listening. The Michigan Attorney General listened and started an investigation into "the dip tube problem." Class action lawsuits were filed across the country. Water tank makers acknowledged the problem on a case-by-case basis and agreed to pay for replacement of the defective parts.

Call the plumber

So we called the plumber, described the problem, he called the people who made the water heater and got authorization to replace the dip tube at their expense. Problem solved. Or so we thought. But a large piece of the old tube was still floating around inside the heater.

A few months passed and the issue faded from the news, as the potential Y2K bug grabbed bigger and bigger headlines. Were our computers going to work on Jan. 1? Would there be a run on the banks? Would we have water for a shower when we woke up on New Year's Day?

The answer to the latter question was "Yes, but not much." Oh, it wasn't a Y2K problem. The water department was OK, but that disintegrating dip tube was still spewing pieces of plastic into the faucets and the shower heads. The hot water in the shower was ebbling rather than flowing and the plugged-up aerator in the kitchen sink was spewing water all over the countertop.

We called the plumber again. There was good news and bad news. The good news was that one of those class action suits had been settled and a half-dozen hot water heater manufacturers had agreed to reimburse consumers for expenses incurred in replacing the dip tubes or, in some cases, the heaters themselves.

Bad news

The bad news was that since the suit had been settled, the manufacturers were no longer dealing directly with plumbers or consumers. The matter was in the hands of the court and our only option now was to spend the money to have the tank completely taken apart, drained and flushed, then file a claim with the court and hope we could get reimbursed.

Or we could replace the water heater and file a claim for that. But, since the manufacturer had already paid to have the dip tube replaced, our claim might not be honored. Never mind that replacing the dip tube didn't solve the problem.

Meanwhile, we're on our third aerator in the kitchen sink, the shower head is clogged up and who knows what is building up inside the dishwasher and washing machine?

We survived the Y2K bug just fine. But our hot water heaters are going down the (dip) tubes.

Jack Gladden is a copy editor for the Observer Newspapers. He lives in Canton and can be e-mailed at jgladden@oe.homecomm.net

Breaking the circle of violence

Oakwood and partners keep women 'posted'

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

A thousand restrooms in the Oakwood Healthcare System have more than the standard selection of personal hygiene products and paper towel dispensers.

Oakwood, in partnership with First Step, Western Wayne County Project on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, has put 1,000 posters in its restrooms to help its employees and visitors "break the cycle of violence."

"The posters are designed to have an effect on people, so that they think, if Oakwood cares enough to put this here, this must be a problem in the community," said Lisa Rutledge, system facilitator for Outreach Initiatives at Oakwood. "More than half of women's visits to the emergency room are related to domestic violence. Oakwood recognizes that this is an issue, and the posters are the very beginning of where we want to go with it."

Three different posters have been created for the campaign. Each depicts some aspect of domestic violence — the most dramatic, an X-ray of a fractured skull — and contain "take-with" cards with the telephone number for First Step's 24-hour Help Line and those for the Michigan Family Violence Helpline, Sexual Assault Hotline, Adult and Child Protective Services and Oakwood Employee Assistance.

Employees have recruited to make sure the posters are stocked with cards, and a list has been made of the poster's locations to track where cards have been taken.

"We can track it on the phone line," said Judy Ellis, First Step's executive director. "We don't expect everyone who takes a card to call; some may take a card for a friend. People who need to do something about the violence need to know they can call First Step."

Beyond the system

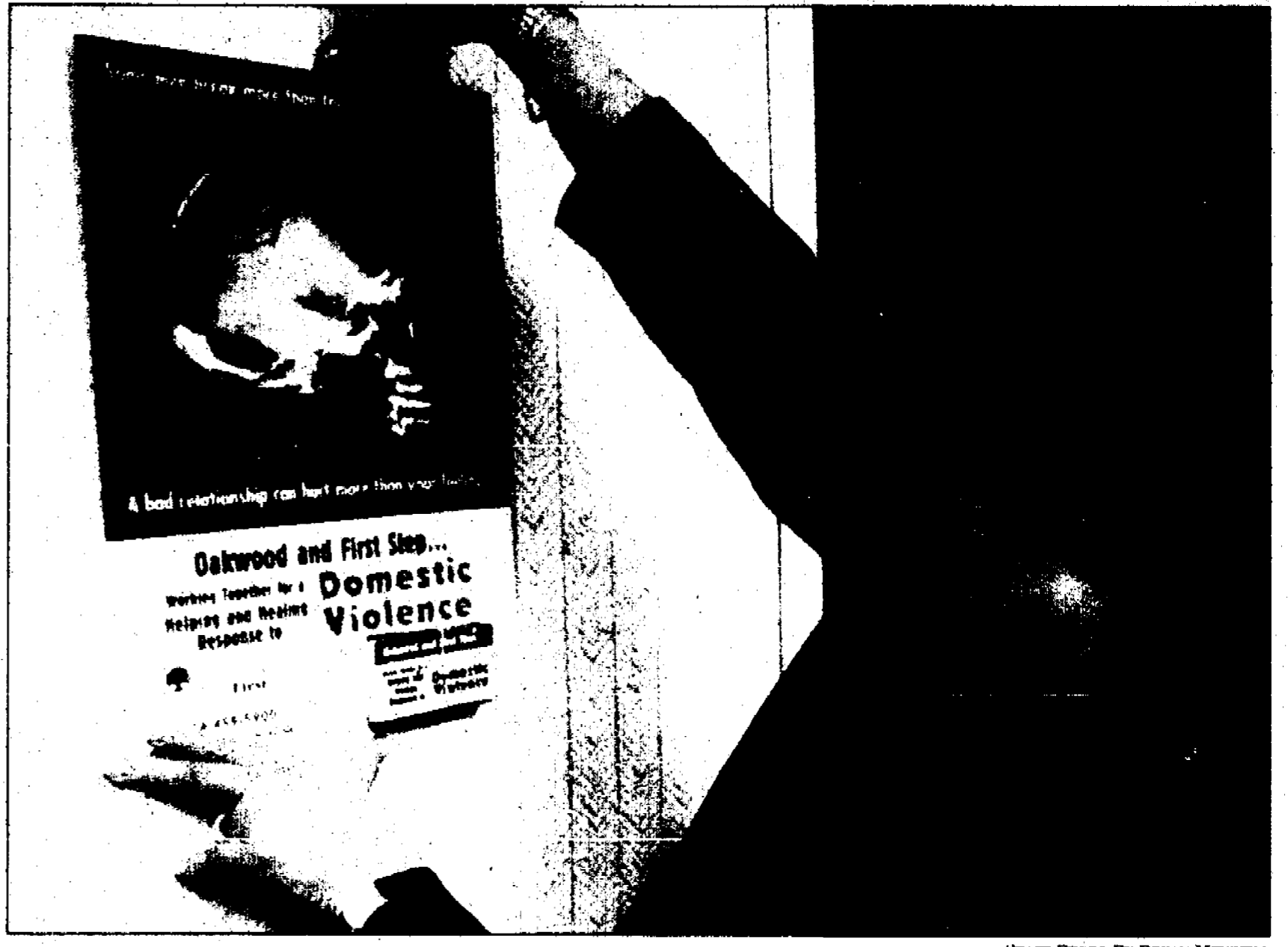
In all, 3,000 posters have been printed, and plans are "to take them beyond the Oakwood system" to area police departments and the like.

"We want to recruit volunteers to take them out into the community to put them where women would gather," she said. "I'd like to see them everywhere people look, so they know about domestic violence."

"We've offered them our volunteers to take to their faith communities," added Ellis. "We have high school students sending out postcards and filling orders. My staff and I could fill the orders, but this way it makes First Step, Oakwood and the community work together on ending the violence."

First Step and Oakwood also are working with ACCESS (Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services) to translate one of the posters and the information card into Arabic. They also have information about what the Bible and the Koran say about domestic violence.

The posters are being paid for by the Oakwood Foundation and represent an expansion of a relationship between First Step and the health care provider



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Informing women: Sandy Quaine, a member of the First Step Board of Directors, hangs a poster depicting an X-ray of a fractured skull in a public restroom. The poster is one of three designed to inform women of some aspect of domestic violence.

Taking the First Step

First Step offers community-based, non-residential and shelter-based services to the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in 34 western Wayne and Downriver communities, as well as training and development for volunteers and professionals who work with the victims.

It has offices at 44567 Pinetree Drive, Plymouth; 26650 Eureka Road, Taylor; and in the convent of St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church in Redford, and also has community-based sites at the Dearborn, Romulus, Westland, Inkster, Taylor and Lincoln Park police departments, 33rd District Court in Woodhaven and in Dearborn Heights.

In addition to its shelter, First Step also maintains 24-hour on-call teams to meet with the survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and a 24-hour Help Line — (888) 453-5900.

For more information about First Step, call the Plymouth office at (734) 416-1111.

that began with the former's 24-hour emergency room response team some 10 years ago.

Two years ago, the informal partnership was formalized when Oakwood set up a small clinic at First Step's shelter. Money raised by employees at Oakwood's Annapolis Center in Wayne helped purchase medical supplies and Rutledge combed the Oakwood system to find furniture for the two-room clinic.

"It came about in examining the needs of the families at the shelter," said Rutledge. "We recognized that because these families are in crisis for so long, they need medical attention."

The first year, 113 clients visited the

clinic; as of June 1999, it was 126.

Doctors staff the clinic three half days a week as part of their rotation for family medicine and internal medicine residencies. The goal is to teach the doctors about domestic violence and what questions to ask, Rutledge said.

And money raised by the Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center Guild and through the Women's Healthcare Classic golf outing helps provide prescription coverage for the clinic's patients.

"The women at the shelter are so good; they show the doctors what they missed and what questions they were asked," Rutledge said. "The docs call it Third World medicine. They work with

almost nothing to deal with some complex problems."

Working together

Working together, First Step and Oakwood also have landed a grant from the Department of Community Health to replicate First Step's highly successful peer counseling program at Churchill High School in Livonia at teen clinics in Inkster, Romulus and Taylor.

"The attitude of the teens who went through the program significantly improved," said Ellis. "Their attitudes and beliefs changed and they were more alert to date rape and sexual assault. Peer education has proven to work well with teens."

While Oakwood has chosen to make a "big financial commitment" to First Step, Ellis is hoping that other corporations and the retail community do likewise, thereby adding to and enhancing the partnership.

One thing Ellis would like to do is take the message about domestic violence to roadsides, using billboards for "social marketing."

"The violence won't stop unless we're all involved," said Ellis. "Violence is so pervasive that people are desensitized. We have to sensitize them."

"We're trying to tailor the message as best we can to get the message out consistently."

WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

Ya-Ya Sisterhood's cyber friends plan to meet in 2000

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

Women from all over the world, who have talked to each other in cyberspace in some cases for years, will recognize each other by their boas and tiaras when they meet for the first time in February.

Outrageous and extravagant, sure. That's what the Ya-Ya Sisterhood is about.

The women's support group based on Rebecca Wells' book, "Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood," published by Harper Collins, shows how four women embraced taking everything to the extreme — even when it hurts.

The story follows the lives of three generations of women, their struggles and triumphs. One of the Ya-Ya's, for instance, was fond of saying: "It's life, you climb on the beast and ride."

Women all over the world, who may have always felt ostracized because of their over-the-edge lifestyles, are coming together on a Web site called "On the Front Porch," at www.ya-ya.com

A meeting is planned during President's Day weekend in February to see

■ 'Everyone is welcome with open arms — just post and introduce yourself and the welcoming is unbelievable.'

Maria Lampinen
Ya-Ya Sisterhood

cyberspace friends with whom they've shared intimate thoughts and silly ramblings.

"It's the most incredible support system for women that I've ever been involved with and very, very nonjudgmental," according to Maria Lampinen, a Waterford resident formerly of West Bloomfield.

In fact, Lampinen hopes to find other people from Michigan, especially the metro-Detroit area, who are drawn to the Ya-Ya Sisterhood. However, a request on the Web site didn't attract much attention. She did learn about a fellow Ya-Ya in Kalamazoo.

"It allows you to have faults and failures just like real people and not always trying to be what society expects us to be instead of who we are," said Lampinen, who describes her fel-

low Ya-Ya's as "outrageous, vivacious, extravagant, loud and fun."

In the book, four eccentric bayou debutantes struggle through life and always rely on the comfort of having each other. And that's the essence of what attracts women from all over the world to the Ya-Ya Sisterhood Web site.

The cyberspace subjects are as varied as the members ranging in age from 13 to 80. Members of the younger crowd are called Petite Ya-Ya's.

One woman recently posted a note about difficulties with her mother-in-law during the holidays. She received more than 27 replies supporting her and offering ideas.

"Sometimes we talk about which characters we identify with and why," said Lampinen, a 40-year-old Realtor

"Everyone is welcome with open arms — just post and introduce yourself and the welcoming is unbelievable," she said. "It's for women who are fun, crazy and very much into red fingernail polish — 'rich girl red,' she adds citing the book. "The people who are attracted to this are high spirited and high eyed."

They have to be at least a little spunky to don their on-line names, like Lampinen's "Queen Bette." In fact, every Ya-Ya's name is quern something or princess something, and this follows suit with a chapter in the book detailing a tribal ritual among the main characters in the forest. For Lampinen, "Bette" comes from Lampinen's circle of best girlfriends who call each other Bette. Apparently, she had early signs of becoming a Ya-Ya.

In fact, it was one of her Bette friends who told her about the book. "I immediately ran out and got it," Lampinen said. "I've always been real interested in women's issues."

Lampinen has been posting mes-

Ya-Ya from page B1

ages with the new Gumbo Ya-Ya bulletin board, inviting members to "dig deep, laugh hard and share secrets" for six months, checking the comments twice daily.

"Sometimes we talk about which character we identify with and why," she added. "It's a place to share with other Ya-Ya's around the globe — to laugh and cry."

The group isn't all off the wall comments and excesses. There's a real sensitive, caring and loving angle, too.

"One of the women is suffering from cancer and we're all involved in her progress and treatment," Lampinen said. "She's 19 and the love and support she receives from the Web site is incredible. She can have her laptop on her bed while she's getting treatments. Another Ya-Ya was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and received cards from a ton of Ya-Ya's."

There's even a Ya-Ya calendar available.

"It's real women, real life," said Lampinen adding that Ya-Ya's are trying to get a spot on the "Rosie O'Donnell Show" and "Oprah." "It's about the most heart-warming, honest,

'Sometimes we talk about which character we identify with and why. It's a place to share with other Ya-Ya's around the globe — to laugh and cry.'

*Maria Lampinen
Ya-Ya sister*

loving and encouraging place to go."

During a recent ornament exchange, Lampinen received a package of generous gifts, including an angel in a Hawaiian dress, and plain and chocolate macadamia nuts, from a woman in Honolulu. Lampinen's secret pal received, among other items, a leopard skin finger nail file, which is oh, too Ya-Ya.

"I've heard people say: 'My grandmother was a Ya-Ya, but she didn't know it,'" Lampinen added.

Anyone interested in reaching Lampinen should send an e-mail message at Maria1207@aol.com.

WRC sponsors divorce support group

The Women's Resource Center of Schoolcraft College is sponsoring a divorce support group that meets Tuesdays in Room 225 of the McDowell Center.

The group provides a forum for discussion and the receiving and sharing of information for those contemplating, in the process of or having difficulty adjusting to divorce.

The discussion group meets the second Tuesday of the month and is run by Cynthia Koppin, a professional counselor. The speaker sessions take place the fourth Tuesday and address the legal, financial and emotional concerns that arise during the

The group provides a forum for discussion and the receiving and sharing of information for those contemplating, in the process of or having difficulty adjusting to divorce.

divorce process.

On Jan. 25, participants will learn about the legal aspects of divorce — the process of filing and what to expect, etc. — from attorney Theodore Johnson.

Certified financial planner Elizabeth Allen will provide a guide to handling finances and planning a future following divorce or separation on Feb. 22.

port, visitation and alimony.

There is no fee to attend the divorce support group and registration isn't required.

The Women's Resource Center also is sponsoring "Ask an Attorney" 5-7 p.m. the third Monday of the month. A lawyer from the firm of Woll and Woll will be available to answer questions about divorce and family law.

For more information, call the Women's Resource Center at (734) 462-4443. Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerly Road, north of Six Mile Road, Livonia.

REUNIONS

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please include the date of the reunion and the first and last name of at least one contact person, and a telephone number.

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Class of 1965
Aug. 12 at The Community House in Birmingham.
(248) 433-2362 or by e-mail at JCRich47@aol.com

BIRMINGHAM MARIAN/BROTHER RICE
Class of 1970

A reunion is planned for July 29.
(248) 540-2917 or (248) 358-4490

BIRMINGHAM SEAHOLM
Class of 1970
A reunion is planned for July 1.
(510) 523-0906 or by e-mail at HubSpauld@aol.com

BLOOMFIELD HILLS LANSEY
Class of 1979
March 4 at the Somerset Inn in Troy.
(248) 366-9493, press #2 or by e-mail at reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

BRIGHTON
Class of 1980
Aug. 26 at the Novi Hilton Hotel in Novi.
(248) 360-7004, press #5 or by e-mail at reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

CLARKSTON
Class of 1960
A reunion is tentatively planned for August.
(248) 627-4549, (248) 933-1670 or dlmiller@flash.net

CLINTONDALE
Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for July.
(810) 465-2388

CRESTWOOD
Class of 1970
Is planning a reunion.
(313) 277-1316 or (248) 426-6888

DETROIT CENTRAL
Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for April.
(734) 464-1692

DETROIT COOLEY
Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for April.
(734) 464-1692

DETROIT DENBY
Class of 1950
A reunion is planned for June.
(810) 773-4253, (248) 585-2083 or (810) 773-3286

DETROIT FINNEY
Classes of 1970-72
A reunion is planned for April 1.
(313) 837-5880

DETROIT IVES ELEMENTARY
Classes of 1953-55
A reunion is tentatively planned for May.
(810) 644-4106, (810) 791-6998, (906) 847-3535 or (810) 728-4875 after 6 p.m.

DETROIT MACKENZIE
Class of 1949-51
July 29 at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland.
(734) 453-7561

DETROIT PERSHING
Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for Sept. 9.
(313) 835-9642, (810) 773-3952, (248) 547-0664 or (734) 595-7508 or at the Web site, www.jmctech.com/~bjustice/index.htm

DETROIT REDFORD
Class of 1965
A reunion is planned for July 8.
(313) 937-3077 OR (734) 427-6047

DETROIT WESTERN
Class of 1966
Is planning a reunion.
(248) 280-0053 or (517) 546-8874

FARMINGTON
Class of 1960
Sept. 15-17, with a dinner at Vladimir's on Sept. 16.
(248) 474-7822

FERRISDALE
Classes of 1929-1958
Oct. 14 at Ferrisdale High School, 726 Pinecrest, Ferrisdale.
(248) 589-2609 or (248) 541-2476

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Oct. 14 at Ferrisdale High School, 726 Pinecrest, Ferrisdale.
(248) 589-2609 or (248) 541-2476

(248) 618-9865
HIGHLAND PARK
January-June classes of 1950-51

Are planning a reunion. Send name, address and telephone number to Fred Kashouty, 21528 Raymond, St. Clair Shores 48082 or call (810) 294-7512 or (313) 881-2023

January Class of 1950
June 4 at the San Marino Clubhouse.
(313) 345-9104 or (810) 263-8179

LINCOLN PARK
June Class of 1965
A reunion is planned for August.
(734) 676-9178 or (734) 763-5988

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Class of 1990
Is planning a reunion. Send name, address, telephone number and e-mail address to CHC Class of '90 Reunion, 6609 Salem Road, Plymouth 48170 or by e-mail to hallen72@hotmail.com

MERCY
Class of 1950
Is planning a reunion for June.
(248) 851-7620

NOVI
Class of 1980
June 24 at the Holiday Inn West-Livonia.
(248) 366-9493, press #1

PLYMOUTH CANTON
Class of 1980
Aug. 12 at the Double Tree Guest Suites in Southfield.
(248) 366-9493, press #6 or by e-mail at reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

PONTIAC
January and June classes of 1940
Sept. 8-9 at the Holiday Inn in Auburn Hills.
(248) 842-3719

ST. MEDIUM
Class of 1955
A reunion is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 16.
(734) 675-8244 or (313) 295-2373

ST. JUDE ELEMENTARY
Class of 1965
Is planning a reunion.
(810) 254-3498

TAYLOR CENTER
Class of 1990
Sept. 20 at the Grecian Center in Southgate.
(248) 360-7004, press #2 or by e-mail at reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

TRENTON
Class of 1990
Sept. 9 at the Grecian Center in Southgate.
(248) 366-9493, press #3

WATERFORD
Class of 1975
July 8 at the Holiday Inn Select in Auburn Hills.
(248) 634-0773, (248) 391-3703 or (248) 969-2755

WAYNE
Class of 1950
Is looking for classmates for its 50th class reunion.
(734) 428-9379 or (734) 721-8036

WEST BLOOMFIELD
Class of 1980
Aug. 19 at the Double Tree Guest Suites in Southfield.
(248) 360-7004, press #1 or by e-mail at reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

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Is planning a reunion.

Figures of speech have roots in beliefs, superstitions

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

Want to know how many children you'll have? Then the bride should count the seeds in an orange on her wedding day.

Want curly hair? Then eat some carrots, which, according to folklore, are good for the eyes, too.

Those are just a couple of the examples of folklore Jim Callow, professor emeritus at the University of Detroit Mercy, provided to guests at the second Livonia Town Hall lecture recently.

Callow is a contributor to a University of California-Los Angeles-produced encyclopedia of popular beliefs and superstitions and has developed a computer database to make researching folklore tidbits easier.

Callow, a Clawson resident, also taught folklore at UD-Mercy.

Figures of speech have become so commonplace that people don't even think about their underlying meanings anymore, Callow said. People who tell grouch people they woke up on the wrong side of the bed are one example.

"(That expression) is based on the belief that everyone has two angels," Callow said. People who wake up on the wrong side of the bed stepped on their bad angel, he added.

The *siesta*, a traditional activity in Spain and Latin American countries, also stems from an ancient belief.

"They believed they shouldn't go out at noon because they might see the gods in dalliance," Callow said. The sight of the gods would be too overwhelming for mortals and should therefore be avoided, people thought.

The popular hangover expression, "hair of the dog," has its roots in Ireland. The belief is that those who put hair from the dog that bit them on their wound won't get an infection.

However, the expression's modern day meaning dictates that people with hangovers should take a swig of the very thing that gave them the hangover.

Some beliefs are aimed at changing people's behaviors, particularly children's, Callow said. One belief claims children shouldn't raise their hands or talk back to adults, lest their hand wither or come out of the ground after death and be stepped on.

Another belief claims children who play with matches will wet the bed, and another claims that those who turn around in church will have their names taken by Satan.

Parents with children who are slow to walk are supposed to stand them behind any door in

the house and sweep at their feet with a broom. A Southern woman who told Callow of this tradition said her child was walking within three days.

Other beliefs seemingly seem to promote good table manners.

"Singing at the dinner table causes deafness," Callow said, referring to folklore. "If a girl sings (at the table), she will marry a crazy man."

Likewise, people who eat standing up will get fat knees, he added.

Some of the beliefs passed down over time actually make some sense, like putting mud on a bee sting. If wet mud isn't available, someone is supposed to urinate on the dirt to moisten it, Callow said.

When he was stung by a bee, he purchased a "mud pack" at a pharmacy, and learned that the concoction contained urea, an ingredient in urine. He used the product anyway.

"I put that on and my pain was gone in no time," Callow said.

Other tidbits from Callow are:

- A citrus fruit seed, if swallowed, will grow in your stomach.

- To calm nerves, mix two jiggers of brandy per half gallon of cinnamon tea

- Three bay leaves under your pillow on Valentine's Day will make you dream of your future spouse.

As for legends, weather beliefs, taboos and the occult:

- In the 17th century, French explorer LaSalle saw how the red berry bushes caused a red or rouge glow in the river and he named it River Rouge.

- Hawaii has so many thorn bushes because missionaries planted them to prick the natives into wearing clothes.

- It will be a long, hard winter, if acorns are abundant, sycamores shed their bark in the summer or onion skins are tough.

- It will rain when maple leaves turn over or when you kick a toadstool.

- Never cut or dig up a thorn bush. They are a favorite of the evils (devils). You would die a tragic death.

- "Plant" a piece of umbilical cord around the house, so the child will never leave home.

- On New Year's Eve hang an olive or laurel branch on your door for a year's good luck.

- If an expectant mother craves strawberries and doesn't get them, the child will be born with strawberry marks.

- A person wearing a four-leaf clover can understand barking dogs.

The Michigan Opera Theatre will present "The Best of Broadway" at the next Livonia Town Hall, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19, at St. Mary's Cultural



So superstitious: Jim Callow, professor emeritus at the University of Detroit Mercy, spoke of folklore at the Livonia Town Hall lecture recently.

Center, 18100 Merriman Road, Livonia.

The cabaret-style revue will feature sopranos Maria Cimarelli and Betsy Bronson, tenor Karl Schmidt and baritone Mark Von-

drak performing a variety of Broadway tunes. Tickets are \$20 each and can be ordered by calling Emily Stankus at 734-420-0383.

E-mail doesn't have the permanence — or magic — of letters

HOOKED ON HISTORY



VIRGINIA PARKER

I made a mistake. I wanted to check an historical detail, so I pulled a book I had read years ago, "Letters of a Woman Home-steader," off the shelf for a quick look. Before I knew it, I was drawn back into Elinor Pruitt Stewart's incredible story.

Elinor a young widow, set off with her daughter for the wilds of Wyoming in 1909, hoping for a better life. She chronicled her progress through correspondence with her former employer, Mrs. Coney. At one point, Elinor admitted with some embarrassment that she had concealed mentioning a hasty marriage to her new employer.

While Clyde Stewart, a rancher, proved to be a loving husband, his bride was determined to have her own land. She bought the

adjoining property, and, with the aid of government publications and supplies of free seed, set about running her quarter-section spread. Elinor made it clear to Clyde that she would accept his advice, but she wanted the "fun and the experience" of solving her own land-related challenges.

One fascinating aspect of the account, as Elinor penned it, is that she had no formal schooling. Yet, she left an eloquent, often poetic depiction of her world. Elinor described the beauties of nature in abundant detail and colored her stories with adept mimicry of her husband's Scottish burr and neighbors' dialects.

In four years' worth of letters, she vividly portrayed a life filled with an array of adventure, foibles, and high drama worthy of a compelling novel. She camped out with her two-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Jerrine, in the mountains, relying on fish, game, and her own quick wits to survive an unexpected snowstorm.

She wrote with delightful

■ I am captivated by reading old letters like these, whether collections published in books, or — if I am really lucky — originals awash with faded ink or pencil.

humor about twins named Sedalia and Regalia. When pretentious, spiteful Sedalia lost a suitor to her sweet-tempered younger sister, the ensuing marriage tickled Elinor's sense of justice and fair play.

On the other hand, she wrote poignantly about how, with broken hearts, she and Clyde gently laid to rest Jamie, their first baby. Elinor also tugs at your heart with the story of twelve-year-old Cora Belle, who ran a nearby ranch and cared for her rheumatic grandparents.

Taking pity on the poverty-stricken family, neighbors gathered at the Stewarts' for a sewing bee. They spread new, dainty dresses and undergarments out on a bed. When poor, barefoot Cora Belle realized they were for

her, she burst into tears.

I am captivated by reading old letters like these, whether collections published in books, or — if I am really lucky — originals awash with faded ink or pencil. I had the pleasure holding a letter from 1833, in which Joseph and Sarah Suggit encouraged their relatives, the Padgetts, to settle in Michigan. The letter is important because, at that time, the territory was considered an unhealthy swamp.

Butter is now worth 15 cents per lb but the Bares as this spring been very troublesome to the hogs them and racoons are about all the animals that trouble us but we have missquites — if you comes here you must expect a little of the fever & ague I and Sarah have both had it but since

we have had as good health as ever we had in our lives the land in most parts is low and a rich soil that occasions the ague but I consider Michigan a healthful Country.

My mind jumped — as it is often wont to do — from one thing to another. I recalled a bundle of letters my grandparents had written to me in the 1960s, which I recently discovered tucked away in a desk. It warmed my heart to see their distinctive penmanship and to hold pages their hands had rested on as they wrote.

My mind jumped again, this time to e-mail. Although the medium is criticized for stunting skills required for polished letter writing, most of us depend upon e-mail. The technology offers faster communication for business and keeps us more easily in touch with friends and relatives through notes hurriedly jotted down, as if in conversation.

I remember, for example, the difficulty of corresponding with Don when he was in Viet Nam.

Answers to questions took ten days. Pity even more our forebearers, who depended upon ships for haphazard delivery. Some letters brought news that was months or years old, many others were lost forever on vessels that went down at sea.

So I give e-mail its deserved nod. At the same time, I bemoan the passing of letters because, typically after reading our e-mails — even those that capture the nuances and drama of daily life — we delete them. Alas, our descendants may miss out on a lot this way.

After all, we all would be the poster if Mrs. Coney and the Padgetts could have hit a delete key after reading their mail.

And I'd have lost my grandmother's cheerful words penned 35 years ago — just 10 days before she died — if she could have fired them off by e-mail.

Historian and author Virginia Bailey Parker has a bachelor's degree in history and a master's degree in historic preservation. She lives in Canton Township.

Book looks at wedding's complex issues in real world

Ben is Jewish and Lyn is Episcopalian. Sallie is Korean and Jason is American. Carolyn and Matthew signed a prenuptial agreement. Shirley wed both husband Matthew and new stepson Evan.

These are a few of the couples profiled in a new book, "The Knot's Complete Guide to Weddings In the Real World" (Broadway Books, \$18), published in January.

According to author Carley Roney, the book highlights these weddings to show that not every boy-marries-girl story today fits the traditional matrimonial mold.

"Real weddings involve much more than beautiful decorations, and there are few existing resources out there to help couples deal with more complex issues, such as second marriages

where children are involved, integrating divorced parents and stepfamilies or blending religious faiths and cultural backgrounds," Roney said.

To help address these issues, Roney and the editors at The Knot, the online wedding resource and gift registry at www.theknot.com, aol keyword: knot, have created a comprehensive wedding planning guide that offers practical advice on everything from where to seat divorced parents to how to include children from previous marriages in the wedding vows.

"For everyone, marriage should mean reveling in your differences, not letting them create conflict between you," Roney writes in a chapter called "Combining Cultures." "It's important that you come up with good problem-solving solutions now —

both for your wedding and for your life after the party."

Filled with calendars, checklists and worksheets, the book is a hold-in-your-hand, take-anywhere version of The Knot's Web site. Addressing all the traditional aspects of wedding planning, the book's chapters also are supplemented with stories of real-world couples (and Knot Web site users) who have been there before.

"Ask Carley" boxes appear with some of The Knot's most frequently asked questions and Roney's helpful, insightful responses.

Additional sidebars offer invaluable nuggets of information, such as suggested price ranges for flowers, meaningful music for your reception, what to include in your wedding day makeup bag and leads on some

of the hottest honeymoon getaways.

On the Web, The Knot offers a comprehensive portfolio of essential information, innovative services and a thriving online community for today's to-be-weds.

Covering all facets of wedding

planning, trends and budgeting, The Knot boasts more than 5,000 original articles, 32 ongoing editorial features, hosted chats and message boards and a wide range of free, useful tools.

Features include a full-service online registry. The Knot Wed-

ding Gift Registry - Diamonds and Engagement Channel, Ask Carley Daily Etiquette Q & A, an 8000-image bridal gown database, free personal wedding Web pages, Wedding Photographer's Network and more. The Knot is based in New York City.

CONFERENCE OF WESTERN WAYNE FIREFIGHTER TESTING PROGRAM
SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
NOTICE

The Fire Training Institute at Schoolcraft College is accepting registrations for the CWW Firefighter Testing Program. Successful completion of this test certifies a candidate's ability to perform tasks required of an entry-level firefighter. Registration forms are available at municipal personnel offices, the Fire Training Institute at Schoolcraft College-Radcliff, or may be obtained by calling the Schoolcraft College Assessment Center at 734/462-4806.

For further information, please call 734/462-4806.

It is the policy of Schoolcraft College that no person shall be discriminated on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, marital status, or handicap. If you are a person with a disability and need special accommodations to participate in the program, please contact the Assessment Center at 734/462-4806.

2000 Test Dates
Saturdays between 10:00 AM and 4:30 PM

Written test	Physical Agility test
January 15 (R)	January 22
February 5 (R)	February 19
March 18 (R)	March 11
April 9 (R)	April 1
May 20 (R)	May 13
June 17 (R)	June 24
July 15 (L)	July 22
August 5 (L)	August 19
September 9 (R)	September 16
October 7 (R)	October 14
November 18 (R)	November 11

Written tests take place at either location: Livonia campus (L) 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, MI OR Radcliff campus (R) 1751 Radcliff Street, Garden City, MI

All physical agility tests take place at Schoolcraft College Radcliff Center.

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Custom Draperies
Custom Laminated Boards
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Specialty Home Decorative Products

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CALENDAR

AT THE LIBRARY

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

WESTLAND CENTER

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

RECREATION

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

FIGURE SKATING
Figure skaters interested in USFSA synchronized (precision) skating are needed to build Novi FSC and Westland FSC joint-venture teams. Prior team experience is not necessary. This is an opportunity to build skating and team skills while having fun. For information, call Cheryl Gutowski at (734) 427-0305.

VOLUNTEERS

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

KNIT CARE
Knit Care is looking for volunteers to sew, crochet or knit blankets and burial gowns to donate to local hospitals for infants who die. Contact Mary Piontek for patterns and information, (313) 534-6495.

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

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

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

4392, 3 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month.

SCHOOLS

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

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

LIVONIA COOPERATIVE
The Livonia Cooperative Nursery, a preschool for children ages 3-4, is at 9601 W. Chicago. Parents learn with their children. Enrollment is limited. For information, call Karin at (734) 522-3714.

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

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

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

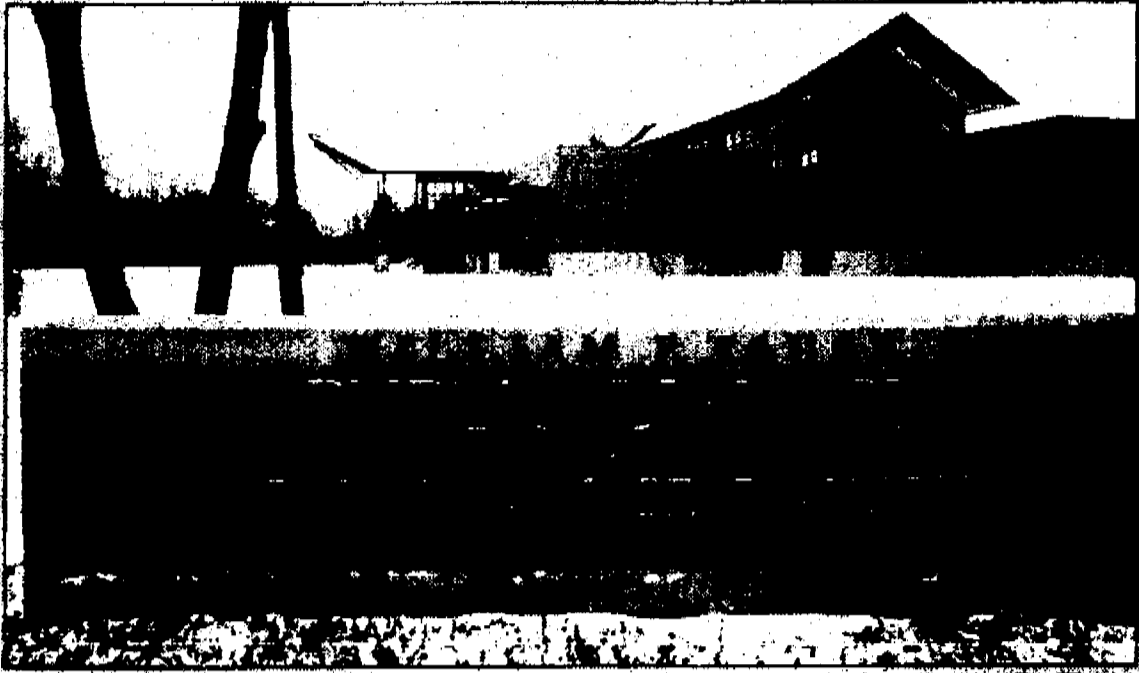
YWCA READINESS
The YWCA of Western Wayne County Early Childhood School Readiness Program is available to 4- and 5-year-old children. The YWCA is at 26279 Michigan in Inkster. Call (313) 661-4110.

CHARTER SCHOOL
The Academy of Detroit-Westland, an entrepreneurial and business charter school, serves children in kindergarten through sixth grade. The school emphasizes basic education with business and entrepreneurial skills. The school offers a foreign language class, music and art, a dress code and a computer lab with access to the Internet. Call (734) 722-1465 or (248) 568-7787.

LITTLE PEOPLES
Livonia Little Peoples Co-op Preschool is enrolling in programs for 3- and 4-year-olds. For more information, call (734) 425-1176.

LITTLE LAMBS
Little Lambs Preschool, on Farmington Road south of West Chicago in Livonia, is

Books and more



Place to be: If you're looking for a good read, stop by the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, on Central City Parkway between Warren and Ford. Current library hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For information, call (734) 326-6123.

holding registration. Classes meet Monday-Wednesday-Friday afternoons and Tuesday-Thursday mornings for 3- to 5-year-olds. Little Lambs is a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory preschool. Call (248) 471-2077.

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

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

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

TUTORIAL PROGRAM
A free tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy in Westland. The program, 4:53 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, is for students ages 9 and older in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. For information on participating or volunteering, call Leau'Rette Douglas, (734) 722-3660.

ADULT LITERACY
An adult literacy program is being offered free Wednesdays at the Salvation Army Wayne-West-

land Corps Community Center. Volunteers are being sought who are interested in tutoring children and adults 4:53 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays. For Adult Literacy enrollment or additional information, call Leau'Rette Douglas, (734) 722-3660.

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

HISTORIC

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

FRIENDS MEET
Friends of the Westland Historical Museum meet at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Westland Meeting House, 37091 Franklin at (734) 721-0136. Everyone is welcome.

FOR SENIORS

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

SENIOR CHOR
The Friendship Senior Choir, under the direction

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

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

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

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

WORK REFERRAL
Information Center Inc. refers workers to elderly people who need help. The program is for people interested in providing transportation, yard work, housework, etc. Workers

can specify the type of work they are willing to perform and the communities they want to work in. Call (734) 422-1052.

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

CLUBS IN ACTION

JAYCEES CELEBRATE
The Westland Jaycees 41st President Party Celebration will be held 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, at Joy Manor, on Joy east of Middlebelt in Westland. Dinner, beverages and dancing will be included. Participants are looking for past Westland Jaycee members to attend. Price is \$20. For information, call (734) 480-4984.

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

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

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

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

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

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

BINGO

DEMOS' BINGO
The 13th Congressional District Democratic Party sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays in the

M.J. Hall, 35412 Michigan next to the Farmer Jack Supermarket in Wayne. Call (734) 421-1517.

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

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

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

MORE BINGO
The Metro Wayne Democratic Club sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Joy Manor Bingo Hall, on the south side of Joy east of Middlebelt in Westland. Proceeds are used by the club to sponsor Little League baseball teams, the Salvation Army and School for the Blind. Call (734) 422-5025 or (734) 729-8681.

SHAMROCK BINGO
Bingo is played at 11 a.m. Wednesdays at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 35100 Van Born, east of Wayne Road in Wayne. Doors open at 9 a.m. Food is available. Proceeds go to charity. Call (734) 728-3020.

SMOKELESS BINGO
"Smokeless" bingo meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Sts. Simon and Jude Parish Hall, 32500 Palmer east of Venoy in Westland. Offered are three jackpots of \$400, \$300 and \$200.

K OF C BINGO
Pope John XXIII Assembly of the Knights of Columbus Council 1536 hosts bingo games at 6:45 p.m. Thursdays. The games take place in the Livonia Elks Lodge, 31117 Plymouth Road, one block east of Merriman in Livonia. Call (734) 425-2248.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

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

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

CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION
Classes for childbirth preparation are offered at several Wayne County locations. Morning and evening classes are available. Registering new classes every month. Call (734) 459-7477.

The Observer Newspapers welcome Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48156, or by fax to 734-892-7278. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 953-2104 if you have any questions.

Event:
Date and Time:
Location:
Telephone:
Additional Info.:

Use additional sheet if necessary

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Mann-Hamilton

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mann of Dayton, Ohio, and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Nordmark of Lake Worth, Fla., announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Michelle Mann, to William Keith Hamilton, the son of Keith Hamilton of Romeo and Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Filauo of Canton.

The bride-to-be is pursuing a degree in elementary education at Eastern Michigan University.

Her fiancé served in the U.S. Marine Corps for four years. He also is a student at Eastern Michigan University. He is employed by the Coca-Cola Corp. A February wedding is



planned in Palm Beach, Fla.

Craven-Parks

Eileen Meredith Parks and Adam James Craven were married Dec. 31 at Messiah Church in Detroit by the Rev. Edward McRary.

The bride is the daughter of John and Janet Parks of Livonia. The groom is the son of Tino and Deborah Barrera of Westland.

The bride attended Livonia Churchill High School and graduated from Crosswell-Lexington High School. She is employed as a nanny.

The groom is a graduate of John Glenn High School. He is employed by Plymouth Mitsubishi.

The bride asked Erin Parks, Valerie Clark, Shannon Misiak and Nimozza Favazza to serve as attendants with Lauren Favazza as flower girl.

The groom asked John Craven, Todd Clark, Scott Whitish and Doug Isaacs to serve as his



attendants with Tyler Craven as ring bearer.

The couple received guests at a reception at Joy Manor before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Florida. They are making their home in Northville.

Trost-Teran

Charles and Irene Trost of Garden City announce the engagement of their daughter, Karen, to Roberto Teran Jr., the son of Roberto Teran Sr. of Lincoln Park and the late Cecilia Teran.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Garden City High School, the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and Eastern Michigan University with a master's degree in elementary education. She is employed by the Garden City Public Schools at Henry Ruff Elementary School.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Lincoln Park High School and Wayne State University with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. He is employed by the Ford Motor



Company's Powertrain Operations in Dearborn.

A June wedding is planned at St. Damian's Catholic Church in Westland.

Fiorance-Trumpy

Frank and Linda Fiorance of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Sharon Kay, to David Paul Trumpy, the son of David and Jeanne Trumpy of Farmington Hills.

The bride-to-be is a 1994 graduate of Ladywood High School and a 1998 graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of science degree in cellular and molecular biology. She is pursuing a master of science degree in medical genetics at the University of Cincinnati.

Her fiancé is a 1995 graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School and a 1999 graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering.

He is employed as an electrical engineer with Entek IRD of



Cincinnati.

A July wedding is planned at St. Colette Catholic Church in Livonia.

Birk-Kain

Leroy and Judy Dewstow of Plymouth and Randall Birk of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Rachel Joy, to Michael Bernard Kain, the son of William and Shirley White of Clawson.

The bride-to-be is a 1992 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and is a senior, majoring in English, at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. She is employed as a student worker in the CASL Office of Advising and Records at the university.

Her fiancé is a 1991 graduate of Berkley High School and is attending Oakland Community College. He is employed as a sales representative at Milliken Millwork in Sterling Heights.



A June wedding is planned at Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia.

Browne-Dunn

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Browne of Sao Paulo, Brazil, formerly of Redford Township, announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly Ann, to James Patrick Dunn, the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Dunn of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Western Michigan University with a bachelor of arts degree in English literature and De Paul University with a master of business administration degree in international finance. She is employed as a management consultant in the Chicago area.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Wayne State University with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. He is



employed as an electrical engineer.

A May wedding is planned at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Detroit.

NEW VOICES

■ **Matthew and Theresa Pyle** of Livonia announce the birth of **Jacob Clark** April 25 at Huron Valley Hospital in Commerce Township. Grandparents are Jay and Emily Hallams of Livonia, Patricia Pyle of Livonia and Fred Pyle of Las Vegas. Great-grandmother is Lorraine Pyle of Waterford.

■ **Paul and Karen Cutay** of Westland announce the birth of **Adam Michael** June 12 at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. He has a sister, Angela, 18, and a brother, Alex, 3. Grandparents are Donald and Suzanne Smith of Westland and Ann Cutay of Livonia. Great-grandmother is Margaret Heller of Westland.

■ **Frederick and Lee Clifford** of Wixom announce the birth of **Cacie Rae** Aug. 6 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne.

She has a sister, Jennifer, 15. Grandparents are Fred and Doreen Clifford of Garden City and Joyce Angell of Wixom.

■ **Alan (Pete) and Andrea Polka** of Westland announce the birth of **Joshua Andrew** Aug. 30 at the Birthing Center of Providence Hospital in Southfield. Grandparents are Eleanor and Andrew Polka of Romulus and Jerry and JoAnne Mercier of Westland. Great-grandparents are Tom and Florence Carravallah of Garden City.

■ **Tim and Nicole O'Dea** of Livonia announce the birth of **Nicholas Patrick** Sept. 1 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. Grandparents are Jim and Mary Anne Bono and Terry and Cathie O'Dea, all of Livonia. Great-grandparents are Rose Guerriero of Farmington Hills and James V.

Bono of Grand Rapids.

■ **William and Erica Rose** of Livonia announce the birth of **William Christopher** Sept. 8 at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. Grandparents are Fred and Doreen Clifford of Garden City and Patricia Rose of Livonia.

■ **Ric Tittle** of Detroit and **Nancy Peek** of Westland announce the birth of **Jordan Eric Tittle** Sept. 17 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are John and Cristi Cook of Detroit and Darrell and Cheryl Ruth of Westland.

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JAN 8 One mini performance on Stage at 7:00pm in the Food Court.

CARD, COIN, STAMP & SPORTS COLLECTIBLES SHOW
JAN 14-16 Come meet former Red Wing Great Alex Delvecchio in the Food Court, Saturday 1:00 - 3:00pm.

2000 THE MILLENNIUM SIDEWALK SALE
JAN 14-17 Save Throughout The Mall.

COUNTRY LINE DANCING LESSONS
JAN 22 Dine and Dance 5:00 - 9:00pm in the Food Court.

LIVONIA FAMILY YMCA PRESENTS THE ANNUAL PINWOOD DERBY
JAN 29 8:00am - 4:00pm in the Food Court.

WONDERLAND
The Who What Why When Where Mall
Hours Monday - Saturday 10 - 9 Sunday 11 - 6
Plymouth & Middlebelt Roads, Livonia 734-577-4100
www.new.wonderlandmall.com

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Genoa Woods Conference Center
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
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Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.
Wed. Family Hour 7:15 P.M.

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YOUTH AWANA CLUBS
DR. RICHARD FREEMAN
PASTOR

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Virgil Humes, Pastor

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

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and Grandmont Rosedale Park Christian Day School**
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The Place Where "The Word of God
is Taught" With Clarity for Practical
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SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

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

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St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
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Mass Schedule:
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First Sat. 9:30 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
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Rev. John J. Sullivan

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5:00 P.M. Life Teen Mass

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

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29015 Jamieson Ave. • Livonia
East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Schodora Rds

MASS: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 8:00 a.m.
Tues. 7:00 p.m. • Sat. 5 p.m.
Sun. 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. & 12:00 noon
734-457-8250

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Reading Room: 445 S. Harvey, Plymouth
Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Thursday 7-9 p.m.

453-1676

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Sunday 7:45 & 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist
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Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:45 am
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Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Pastor David Martin
Hugh McMartin, Lay Minister

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Thursday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
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3003 Hasden Rd. Wayne (Corner of Glenwood & Hasden)
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Contemporary Service 9:30 am
Sunday School (Children & Adults) 9:30 & 11 am
Wednesday Night Service 7 pm

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Pastor James Hill
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RELIGIOUS NEWS

Mail religious information to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

RELIEF EFFORT The Archdiocese of Detroit, in partnership with Catholic Relief Services, is collecting monetary donations for the people of Venezuela, devastated by flooding that has left thousands dead or homeless.

TAI CHI CLASSES The Taoist Tai Chi Society, a nonprofit organization, is forming new, beginner Tai Chi classes, at 38121 Ann Arbor Road, Livonia, St. Paul United Methodist Church in Bloomfield and Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills.

NEW BEGINNINGS The topic for the Thursday, Jan. 6, meeting of New Beginnings, a grief support group, will be "Moving On." The group will meet at 7 p.m. at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, east of Merriman, Livonia.

HEALING SERVICE The Church of the Risen Lord presents a healing service at 7:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month at the church, 821 N. Newburgh Road, south of Ford Road, Westland. The service, led by the Rev. Gary Seymour, is part of the series of healing services, "Rise and Come Forward."

6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7903, or Rosemary Kline at (734) 462-3770.

NEW SERIES Canton Friendship Church is now offering "What's the Difference," a series on World Religions in the light of Christianity, 10:30 a.m. Sundays in January. Topics are as follows: "Islam in the Light of Christianity" Jan. 9, "Hinduism and Latter Day Saints in the Light of Christianity" Jan. 16, "Unity and New Age in the Light of Christianity" Jan. 23 and "Secular Humanism in the Light of Christianity" Jan. 30. Call (734) 451-2100.

WOMEN'S RETREAT Calvary Baptist Church will have a women's retreat, "Choosing to Be God's Woman," Friday-Saturday, Feb. 4-5, at the church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. Sessions include "Choosing to Be God's Woman," "Choosing to Trust," "Choosing to Be What God Wants Me to Be" and "Sharing Christ in Familiar Places."

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other. The cost is \$25 for six weeks and there is a limit of 20 people per session. To sign up, call (734) 421-5406.

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ACCEPTANCE CLASS Family Impact Ministries of Tri-City Christian Center in Canton is offering a new class designed to help students learn how to give and receive approval. The Blessing meets 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sundays Jan. 9-March 30. Pre-registration is required. The class costs \$25, but scholarships are available. Call (734) 326-7780.

ANDY GRIFFITH NIGHT Plymouth Church of the Nazarene will screen favorite episodes of the "Andy Griffith Show" Sunday, Jan. 16. Brush up on your Andy trivia to win a prize. Refreshments will be served.

AVE MARIA BREAKFAST Catholics can come together to celebrate the First Friday Devotion to the Sacred Heart on Jan. 7 at Domine Farms in Ann Arbor. Mass begins at 7 a.m. and is followed by breakfast at 7:40 a.m. Ralph Martin, a leader in the Catholic Renewal Movement, will speak on the subject of the Great Jubilee at 8:10 a.m. The event is open to the public and breakfast costs \$3. Call (734) 930-3492.

SINGLE ADULT MINISTRIES Talk It Over meets from 7:30-9:30 p.m. on the second Friday of the month in Knox Hall in Ward Church. On Jan. 14, Pastor Paul Clough will be the speaker. Coffee and cookies will be served. Ministries Showcase 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 4, Sanctuary at Church. Hear Phillips, Craig and Dean, a free concert. Offerings accepted; Single Parenting Ministry meets 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month in the parlor, room C317/C319, at the church. A free meal is served before the meeting at 6:15 p.m. Speakers or open discussion in a friendly, supportive and encouraging atmosphere. Free child care provided; Light-house Cafe, a coffeehouse setting, is offered 7-10 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month in Knox Hall. The cost is \$5; all events provided by Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

Thomson honored as Woman of Year. Plymouth resident Susan Thomson will be among women honored at a Council of Lutheran Women luncheon at Burton Manor in Livonia in January. Thomson is a charter member of Christ Our Savior Church which began in 1977. She coordinated the mid-week education program from 1978-1979 and served the church on the Board of Education from 1980-1988 and as its chairwoman from 1982-1986.



When she isn't volunteering her time and talent at church, Thomson enjoys antiquing, quilting, gardening and going to garage sales. Suann Dibble, director of Women's Ministry at the church, describes Thomson as a "humble servant in God's kingdom who wants God to receive the glory for her work rather than herself." "Any task that Susan takes on is carried out with great attention to detail," Dibble added. "Christ Our Savior Church is truly blessed by Susan's ministry."

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Observer Sports

The Observer

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Nowicki column, C5

L/W Page 1, Section C

Brad Emmons Editor 734 953 2123 bemonns@oe.homecomm.net

on the web: http://observer.econline.com

Thursday, January 5, 2000

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Madonna lands Thomas

Lisa Thomas, a member of Livonia Stevenson's 1990 state championship girls soccer team and All-Stater in 1991, will try and prove you're never too old.

Thomas, who originally signed but never played for the University of Wisconsin, will play soccer next fall for Madonna University.

She will complete her Secondary Education degree requirements.

Thomas was a member of the Olympic Development Program state team for eight years and was a six-year Midwest and Regional ODP player.

She also played for the U.S. Junior National team in (1990-91) which toured Europe and defeated national teams from France, Denmark and Holland.

Thomas later enrolled at Western Michigan University where she studied Criminal Psychology and Spanish for two years before leaving school for a teaching opportunity at a Montessori school where she spent five years.

While working at the school, Thomas played for Kalamazoo, a new semi-pro franchise of the W-League for two seasons (1998-99) where she served as sweeper and captain.

Beydoun wins tourney

Westland's Jason Beydoun, an eighth-grade honor student at Emerson Middle School of Livonia, captured the Boys 14 singles division Dec. 28 at the Christmas Junior Open 1999 tennis tournament at Orchard Hills Swim and Sports Club in Grand Rapids.

The unseeded Beydoun defeated John Pelton of Midland in the finals, 6-4, 6-1.

Beydoun also defeated Ryan McKnight (6-1, 6-0) and Jason Slenk (6-2, 6-4), both of Holland; and Daniel Buikema of Battle Creek (6-1, 6-1).

Meanwhile, Jeffery Beydoun reached the Boys 16 consolation final Dec. 29 in Grand Rapids.

The Livonia Franklin High School sophomore, who played No. 2 singles last fall, finished fourth.

The Beydouns are coached by Phyllis Nelson.

CC mat tourney Saturday

The 2000 Redford Catholic Central Wrestling Invitational, featuring some of the state's top teams, will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at CC, located at 14200 Breakfast Drive.

Tickets are \$5 per person.

The 14-team field includes CC, Livonia Stevenson, Westland John Glenn, Birmingham Brother Rice, Anchor Bay, Clarkston, Davison, Fowlerville, Fruitport, Holt, Howell, Oxford, Romeo Warren Lincoln.

Defending champion Temperance Bedford is not entered.

Youth hockey champions

The Livonia Pee Wee Leafs overcame a slow start to capture the Little Caesars Thanksgiving Tournament with a 7-4 victory over the Troy Stars at Novi Arena.

Captain Nick Dahlstrom, who led the Leafs with 15 tournament goals, had one of his four hat tricks in the win. The Leafs overcame a 4-1 deficit as Matt Sgriccia added two goals and one assist. Matt Burk and Steven Roberts also had one goal apiece.

Matt Moulard and Josh Yono also recorded hat tricks in the tournament quest.

Goaltender Tom Pugmire had a 2.2 goals against average in the tournament.

After an opening round 4-1 loss to the Stars, the Leafs scored wins over St. Clair Shores (10-1), Southfield Huron (9-1) and Westland (6-1).

Other members of the Leafs include: Chris Bridge, Brett Humphlett, Leo Caza, Dan Furca, Shawn Martin, Richard Bass, Jeremy Risher, Andrew Jaworski and Pete Schrader, the latter whom suffered a broken leg in the finals.

Ralph Humphlett is the head coach. He is assisted by Jeff Jones, Mark Martin and John Sgriccia.

Team sponsors include Concord Dental, Break Away Inc. and Prime Industries.

To submit items for the Observer Sports Scene, write to: Brad Emmons, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mi. 48150, or send me fax to (734) 951-7279.

Trojans Y2K-compliant in victory

BY BRAD EMMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemonns@oe.homecomm.net

Y2K also started without a hitch for the Livonia Clarenceville boys basketball.

With a 1-4 record during the 1999 portion of their schedule, the Trojans apparently worked out some bugs over the holidays with a 60-49 victory Tuesday at home against non-league foe Dearborn Heights Crestwood.

A 22-6 third-quarter spurt by Clarenceville proved to be the difference.

"We picked up our defense," Clarenceville second-year coach Bill Dyer said. "We stopped getting beat off the dribble and we were able to get our big guys the ball.

"And I think Crestwood got a little tired in the second half."

Senior forward Rick Burack, working the baseline, scored 10 of his 12 points during the Clarenceville run.

Crestwood, leading 26-24 at intermission, got burned with its half-court trap in the third period.

"They (Clarenceville) were able to break it down for too many easy baskets," said Crestwood coach Jim Novicka, whose team fell to 2-3 overall. "We dug too deep a hole. They dictated the pace too much and our game tailed off."

Three other Clarenceville players scored in double figures including 6-foot-2 sophomore forward Tim Shaw, who led all scorers with 19 points.

"Tim is physical, the kid gives us energy," Dyer said. "He has good hands and good feet. He can pass and jump. He's a gifted player. He also understands the game."

Meanwhile, junior center Scott Wion chipped in with 12 and Scott Carr added 11.

"I watched them against Walled Lake Western and I knew something about them," Novicka said. "Their three big guys — No. 21 (Shaw), No. 23



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Passing eye: Clarenceville's Joe Keough (left) comes up with the assist on this play against Dearborn Heights Crestwood.

(Burack) and No. 33 (Wion) — hurt us on the boards. They were too much for us."

Against Crestwood's 1-3-1 zone trap, the 6-5 Wion was the man distributing the ball from just outside the top of the

Ex-Ocelot had Wright stuff vs. MSU



BRAD EMMONS

Sounds crazy, drive 3 1/2 hours to see a college basketball game.

I was debating in my mind if it was worth the trip, but that's what I did last Thursday when I headed by myself to see Wright State's 53-49 upset of No. 8 Michigan State.

And boy, I'm glad I jumped in my car because you don't see the improbable happen in person very often.

Former Schoolcraft College standout Kevin Melson, a 6-foot-6 forward for Wright State, was the main reason for my excursion.

But it was also a chance to see MSU in action.

And the most important thing — I had the day off.

I left home about 2:30 p.m. and pulled into the spacious 10,000-seat Nutter Center around 6 p.m.

And what a novelty — free parking

and free programs. Maybe the powers-to-be in Ann Arbor could take a cue.

It was warm outside, 50-plus degrees, and the place was alive inside for sure.

I ventured downstairs to a practice gym where I met Wright State assistant coach "Rocket Rod" Foster, the former UCLA guard and Phoenix Sun.

I talked briefly with Melson.

The team seemed loose, even though they had to wait an extra 20 minutes because the women's game had gone into overtime.

One of the Wright State players commented that Melson was going to get his first dunk of the season.

"I'm going to get three dunks," Melson bravely proclaimed.

I also ducked into head coach Ed Schilling's office prior to game time.

My only words of wisdom: "Just treat this game like it's Western Boone vs. Lebanon."

Schilling, a native of Lebanon, Ind. (the home of Rick Mount) and I go a ways back. His dad "Big Ed" used to

coach at Marian College in Indianapolis when I was at Franklin College.

"Young Ed" played with Ron Harper at Miami of Ohio, then spent time as an assistant under John Calipari at UMass and the New Jersey Nets before coming to Wright State three years ago.

Schilling is young and energetic for sure, but in reality, he had to be prying his Raiders could simply keep the score close against mighty MSU.

Wright State, of course, was 4-8 and a 23-point underdog.

But in the game of college basketball, strange things occasionally happen.

What unfolded that night certainly boggled the mind.

The Raiders had size, but maybe not the athleticism to match up with MSU. Melson is by far the Raiders' most athletic player.

His assignment — guard Morris Peterson and provide some offense. No easy task.

To make a long story short, Wright State thrilled its 9,000 faithful. They

key.

"We need to get those guys the ball and we're a better team when we do that," Dyer said. "Scott (Wion) wasn't getting enough touches. He had to touch the ball or take it to the basket."

Although Wion picked up his fourth personal foul late in the third quarter, Clarenceville was able to withstand a Crestwood fourth-period run.

After Clarenceville built a 51-34 lead with 5:54 left on a free throw by Shaw, the Chargers pulled to within seven, 51-44, with just under three minutes left on a free throw by James Fitzgerald.

Clarenceville then went into its layup-only offense and Carr responded with a pair of free throws. Corey McKendry added another free throw and Carr put it away with a layup (coming out of a timeout) with 1:34 remaining to put the Trojans back up by nine.

"We chipped away, but we were not able to overcome that third quarter," Novicka said.

Clarenceville won despite hitting just 12 of 29 free throws (41.3 percent) and 22 of 64 shots from the floor (34.3 percent).

"We haven't shot free throws well as a team this year," Dyer said. "Teams will foul us because we'll get to the line. We'll work on that and we'll get better."

Jesse Steigerwald was the only Crestwood player in double figures with 16 points.

The Chargers, a member of the Michigan Mega Conference's Gold Division, were 21 of 54 from the field (38.8 percent) and nine of 17 from the foul stripe (52.9 percent).

Clarenceville returns to action Friday at Grosse Pointe Woods Liggitt.

See more boys basketball on C2.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM BAUMER

Mat action: Salem's Steve Dendinos (left, in left photo) tangles with Westland John Glenn's Alan Waddell in a 135-pound first-round match in last Thursday's Plymouth Salem Invitational wrestling tourney. Livonia Churchhill's Steve Lenhardt (left, top photo) tries to take down Salem's Nick Nonidios in a 112-pound match. See story and statistics on page C3.

Rockets fall flat in non-leaguer against Ypsi

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

Westland John Glenn needs to find a different date to play Ypsilanti if it wants to avoid blizzards. A year ago the Rockets got buried by snow. This season it was points.

John Glenn (2-2) was buried by an early avalanche of baskets Tuesday night and Ypsilanti rode the storm to a 59-36 victory.

The Rockets have scheduled the Braves for their post-holiday opener two years in a row now and haven't had much luck either time.

Last year a post-New Year's Day snowstorm wiped out the slate of games on the first Tuesday of 1999.

The first game of 2000 was over about three minutes after it started.

Jason Bird wired a three from the left baseline to give Ypsilanti (3-2) a 3-0 lead and 20 seconds later Yaku Moton banked in a layup to make it 3-2.

The Braves scored the next eight points of the game to take an 11-2 lead with 4:41 left in the first quarter and rolled out to a 16-6 margin after one period.

"I didn't prepare the team well enough over the holidays," a grim Coach Mike Schuette said afterward. "Looking back, based on my experience, I should have done things differently."

BOYS BASKETBALL

"We had a lot of practices, I just didn't push them hard enough. We'll be ready to play Friday night."

John Glenn hosts Northville in the start of its West-ern Lakes Activities Association season Friday night.

The Rockets had trouble getting the ball in to the 6-foot-8 Moton in the post in the early going. The Braves were double- and triple-teaming the Westland center or dropping a man off in zone coverage, but Moton still had a distinct height advantage that wasn't exploited.

John Glenn had trouble on the boards, too. It didn't get its first offensive rebound until Moton grabbed one and put it back up for a basket that made it 29-8 with 5:16 left in the half.

"Sometimes it seems we want to win without going after it hard," Schuette said. "This was a good wake-up call for us. This should make them realize they have to play hard all the time."

Ypsilanti appeared to have used its holiday practice time well in adapting to its new coach.

"We're getting better," Coach Matt Seidl of Ypsilanti said. "It's taken awhile."

"We were embarrassed in our second game and we've

worked hard since then.

"I respect that (John Glenn) team. Any team that can beat Adrian has got to be good. I realize that this was not their best game."

Seidl shunted players in and out of the game like it was a relay race in the outdoor track season.

Junior guard Jason Bird led the Braves with 16 points and forward Darrell Smith added 12. Jacob Stewart, a junior forward, scored nine points.

"They're quick," Schuette said. "And they can shoot." Moton led John Glenn with 19 points while junior Brent Bogle scored eight.

"That big kid is a handful," Seidl said. "And Eric Jones is a player, too. We did an adequate job on both those guys."

Ypsilanti held a 37-15 halftime lead but any dreams Westland had of catching up went to the bench when Moton drew his fourth foul with 6:32 to play in the third period.

The Braves wound up outscoring the Rockets, 22-21, in the second half.

Schuette held a brief heart-to-heart talk with his team after the game and reiterated "we'll be ready to play Friday."

GC center burns Churchill for 30; Spartans prevail

Justin Ockerman is a handful for anybody. And some nights the 6-foot-9 Garden City center is two handfuls.

Ockerman was more than Livonia Churchill could handle Tuesday night when the junior center scored 30 points, hauled down 16 rebounds and blocked three shots to lead Garden City to a 76-71 non-league boys basketball victory.

Garden City has won all five games it has played this season while Churchill is now 3-2.

"It was a great night for Justin," coach Greg Williamson said. "He played inspired basketball and he played a lot of minutes."

Ockerman was accurate, making 12 out of the 14 field goals.

GC also got 11 points from junior forward Colin Sizemore plus 10 each from forward Jess Webb and sophomore guard Brandon Audette.

It was a game of triples as Churchill sank 12.

The Chargers got three each from forward John Bennett, who totaled 20 points, and guard Randall Bohne, who scored 14.

Josh Odom contributed 10 for the Chargers. Brandon Dzikilinski also hit a pair of three-pointers.

"Churchill played hard," Williamson said. "They've got a good team. They'll win their share of games this season."

Garden City jumped out to a 24-15 lead on Churchill and maintained the point margin through halftime.

The Cougars took the third quarter, 16-13 but the Chargers outscored them in the final eight minutes, 30-21.

Churchill made 21-of-31 free throws while Garden City sank only 11-of-26.

PREP HOOP ROUNDUP

STEVENSON 62, REDFORD UNION 60: A pair of Keshay McChristian free throws with seven seconds to play Tuesday night capped a 35-point fourth quarter that brought visiting Livonia Stevenson the victory.

Redford Union (0-4) had used a 25-9 third quarter to take a 38-27 lead into the final period but Stevenson (2-3) started hitting three-pointers in the final four minutes to pull the game out.

Harland Beverly made four of the Spartans' six triples and held a 60-59 lead when McChristian hit his free throws.

Beverly scored 16 points to lead the Spartans while Bob Zapalski and Chris Severson scored 12 apiece.

Dave Brown scored 18 points and had 18 rebounds for the Panthers. Mike Hayes added 14 points.

Stevenson held an 8-3 lead after one quarter and was up, 18-13, at halftime. The Spartans won despite making just 5-of-14 free throws. RU was 22-for-37.

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 68, CRANBROOK 52: Guard Charlie Hoelt scored 22 points Tuesday night to lead the host Warriors to the Metro Conference win.

Hoelt had five of his points in the first quarter to help Lutheran High Westland overcome an early 10-4 Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook lead and take a 23-16 lead after the first quarter.

It was 37-30 at halftime and the Warriors (3-1) tacked five points onto the margin in the third quarter.

Junior forward Nate Meckes added 14 points, nine in the first half, and junior guard Luke Kasten contributed 13.

The Granes got 15 points from junior guard Chris Taylor, 13 from guard Vince Fulton and 11 from forward Anthony Sharpe.

The Warriors maintained a 6.8 point margin until pulling away in the final four minutes.

RIVERVIEW 57, WAYNE 44: A slow start in each half hurt the

Zebraws. Riverview, coached by Westland John Glenn product Steve Hawley, outscored Wayne Memorial, 14-9, in the first quarter and 14-7 in the third to win its fourth game in six tries this season.

Wayne is now 2-3. The Zebraws got nine points apiece from guards Shane Nowak and Gary Johnson.

Kyle Stiff paced Riverview with 23 points and Casey Watson scored 11.

U-D JESUIT 72, REDFORD CC 61: Redford Catholic Central couldn't hold a nine-point halftime lead on Tuesday and lost its Catholic League Central Division opener to host U-D Jesuit.

The Shamrocks led 37-28 at halftime but U-D, aided by foul trouble to several CC players, made a rousing third-quarter comeback.

The Cubs outscored the Shamrocks 24-9 in the third quarter to take the lead for good, 52-46, and improved the lead by five in the final eight minutes.

Three CC players fouled out and the Shamrocks also had to play the game without a starter, out indefinitely with mononucleosis.

Junior guard Anthony Coratti had a team-high 15 points, including three three-point baskets for CC.

Sophomore Tom Jakacki had a career-high 12 points off the bench before fouling out and senior guard Rod Hunt, who also fouled out, added 11 points.

Three U-D players scored in double figures.

"We played a great first half, then ran out of gas," CC coach Rick Coratti said. "Anthony had a heckuva of a game and Jakacki played a great second quarter. We just missed some shots that we should have made and had a terrible third quarter."

The Shamrocks finished play at the Roundball Classic, hosted by U-D Jesuit, on a winning note Thursday with a 79-45 win over Detroit Frederick Douglass. It was the third game in three days for CC, which lost the first two afternoons. Junior guard Ryan Cieslesky had 15 points, followed by senior forward Matt Londas and Coratti with 12 each, and Jakacki with 11. The Shamrocks are 2-4 overall.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

LADY TROJANS SPIKE LATHRUP

Livonia Clarenceville rode the arm of Faye Croteau to win its volleyball opener Monday at Southfield-Lathrup, 15-1, 15-6.

The 5-foot-7 sophomore had 10 aces, including eight in the opening game to lead the Lady Trojans. Senior outside-hitter Rachael Koernke contributed four aces and five kills in 11 attempts. Junior Felicia Hernandez also had four aces.

Coach Alisha Love also got sterling efforts from Nicole Kasparian, Jessica Kennedy, Vera Skrela and Leah Shapardanis.

"PMA — positive, mental, attitude, along with hard work and heart will be the key ingredients

for us this season," Love said.

SUPER BOWL 5K RUN JAN. 30

The Super Bowl 5-kilometer run will be at 11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 30 at the Running Fit Store, located in the Novi Town Center (Novi Road just south of I-96).

The entry fee (before Jan. 25) is \$16. Race day registration is \$20 per person. Entry forms are available on the web site: run-michigan.com.

Runners will receive a T-shirt, refreshments and age-group awards. Proceeds will go to the Michigan Running Foundation's scholarship fund.

For more information, call (248) 478-3596.

YOUTH SOCCER CHAMPIONS

The Livonia Youth Soccer Club Wings, an under-13 Little Caesars boys soccer team recently captured its division in the six-versus-six Holiday Challenge sponsored by Total Soccer in Wixom.

The Wings, trained by Adam Pichler, outscored their opponents 45-23 en route to a 4-0 record.

Members of the Wings include Shawn Bush, Jon Happ, Brad Jackson, Danny Karas, David Kroll, Jamie Luoma, Matt Moryc, Justin Nalley, Greg Ostrosky, Brennan Pearson, Ryan Raickovich, Steve Sudekum and Patrick Treppa, all of Livonia; also Brendan Diehl of Plymouth.

Livonia United, an under-14 girls premier soccer team, won its division at the 11-vs.-11 Christmas Holiday Challenge Dec. 29 at Total Soccer in Wixom.

United defeated the USL

twice, including 1-0 in the championship game. They also defeated the SC Gators and Centurians from Fraser.

Members of United, coached by Steve Strauch and Nick Nitchoy, include Laura Boles, Lisa Checcobelli, Susan Christenson, Kristin Dolmetsch, Erin DeRo, Kelly Goris, Sunny Grezlik, Jordan McDonald, Megan McConnell, Jaclyn Morawa, Christina Thom, Tammy Unsworth, Christine Williams, Lia Williamson, Danielle Winiesdorffer and Diana Fredrico.

YOUTH BASEBALL TRYOUTS

Tryouts for the WaCo Wolves 14- and 12-and-under travel baseball teams will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 at Upper Deck in Northville.

The 14-and-under team will travel to West Virginia for a tournament, while the 12-and-under squad will play at the Disney Baseball 2000 Tournament in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

For more information, call Bill Hardin at (313) 562-4667.

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Walsh topples Crusaders in consolation matchup

Madonna University's women's basketball team proved very gracious at its own Madonna Hoops Classic last week. Twice the Lady Crusaders found themselves embroiled in tight, down-to-the-wire games, both times, they came out on the losing end.

Thursday's 80-76 loss to Walsh University in the consolation final dropped Madonna to 6-6 overall. Walsh improved to 5-4.

In the tournament final, Kalamazoo College — which defeated Madonna 68-63 in the tournament's opening round — topped Indiana-South Bend 66-58 to improve to 8-2. The Hornets are coached by Plymouth Canton graduate Michelle Fortier.

Kristi Fiorenzi, another Canton grad, was named to the six-member all-tournament team; the junior forward led Madonna in rebounding, reaching double-figures in both games (21 total) while scoring 37 points.

In Thursday's consolation game against Walsh, the Crusaders led 41-33 at the half but, with three of their best inside players sidelined with injuries (Kathy Panganis, Lori Enfield, Stephanie Uballe), wore down in the second half.

After converting just 13-of-33 first-half shots

WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

(39.4 percent), the Cavaliers hit 17-of-34 in the second half (50 percent), including 5-of-14 three-pointers (35.7 percent). Walsh was 1-of-9 from three-point range in the first half.

Madonna, led by Chris Dietrich's 23 points (including 5-of-7 on three-pointers), took a 76-75 lead with 1:23 left after Dietrich's fifth triple of the game.

But a basket by Theresa Pridemore with 48 seconds to play regained the lead for Walsh, and two free throws by Melanie Scheetz and another by Tiffany Arendas down the stretch insured it.

Dietrich also had six rebounds and two steals. Jennifer Jacek added 22 points, and Fiorenzi totaled 17 points, 10 boards and two steals.

Scheetz's 25 points paced the Cavaliers; she also had four assists. Arendas collected 13 points, nine rebounds and four steals, and Pridemore had 12 points.

Scheetz was also named to the all-tournament team. The tourney Most Valuable Player was Kalamazoo's Amanda Weishuhn; Farmington Hills Mercy graduate MaryJane Valade led the Hornets in the final with 18 points.

Ocelot men roll, 108-41

Offensively there were no complaints, but defensively the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team drew rave reviews.

The Ocelots opened Eastern Conference play in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association with a 108-41 victory Monday at Macomb CC.

"It's the best defense we've played all year intensity-wise," said SC coach Carlos Briggs, whose team is 8-4 overall. "If we can play defense like that all year, we'll have some success."

Ironically, the Ocelots did not use full-court pressure. Briggs had SC in a straight man-to-man, switching to a half-court zone trap.

"We played hard the entire 40 minutes and got contributions from all five spots," Briggs said.

SC led 60-19 at intermission. Robert Brown led the way for the Ocelots with 24 points. The Central Michigan University transfer also had 18 rebounds.

SC outrebounded Macomb 53-27 and shot 73 percent from the field (49 of 67) including seven of 10 from three-point range.

Lamar Bigby and Quentin Mitchell each added 17 points, while Nick Evola and Chris Colley had 14 and 11, respectively. The 6-foot-7 Evola also had eight rebounds.

Point-guard Brian Williams (Wayne Memorial) came up with his best all-around outing of the season with eight points, 10 rebounds and only two turnovers. The Ocelots had just 13 turnovers for the game to Macomb's 20.

SC made 17 of 23 free throws (73 percent), while Macomb was 2-for-2.

Joe Kohl led Macomb (3-6, 0-1) with 12 points. Reno Thompson added 11.

Ennis column from C1

My guess was not hopeless. I wanted to jump around on the hardwood myself, not because MSU lost, but because Kevin Melson and Wright State did the impossible.

It was a game where I kept waiting for the roof to cave in for underdog Wright State, but it didn't happen.

The last time I remember such a game was my birthday — Feb. 28, 1986 when Catholic Central's Greg Wendt led the University of Detroit to a stunning 71-66 victory at Calihan Hall over then No. 2 ranked Memphis State (led by Keith Lee and ex-Piston William Bedford).

As I walked back into the coaches office that night, I could see the devastating effect it had on the MSU players and coaches.

Stan Heath, an MSU assistant who played as a prep at CC, acknowledged that Melson was "a player," but could say little else.

Ironically, I feel I played a small role in the win.

Three years ago I met Schilling at the bus after his team had been whipped by U-D and told him there was a "sleeper prospect" at Schoolcraft College.

At the time Melson was not highly recruited, but he was averaging close to 30 points per game.

Schilling did the rest of the work, followed up immediately and signed the Detroit Communication & Media Arts graduate.

Another guy who believed in Melson was Glen Donahue, the former SC coach. He recruited Kevin to Schoolcraft, but left for Central Michigan to be an assistant and never got to coach him.

Carlos Briggs coached Melson in his only season, earning NJCAA honorable mention All-America honors.

Melson is now averaging 15 points and seems back on track after his early season setback. Wright State would probably be 8-5 instead of 5-8 had Melson been there the first five games.

Maybe Wright State isn't NCAA material just yet, but last Thursday's win over MSU certainly put the school on the map.

Schilling, of course, couldn't have orchestrated a better script.

"By tomorrow everybody will forget about this game," he said.

MSU coach Tom Izzo then popped into Schilling's office and congratulated Schilling and his staff.

He was gracious in defeat.

"You deserved it, you played hard, we have no excuses and good luck the rest of the season," Izzo implored.

Of course, Wright State will have to return to East Lansing next year.

But at least on this night, Cinderella was alive and well.

On Monday, Wright State had no letdown, beating Tennessee State, 61-53, as Melson had 18 points and seven rebounds.

What a way to end the Millennium and start the new one.

Lady Ocelots extend winning ways in Eastern Conference vs. Macomb

One streak ended, another was prolonged. Schoolcraft College's women's basketball team lost six-straight to finish 1999, but the Lady Ocelots started 2000 out well enough, beating Macomb CC 75-59 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Eastern Conference opener for both schools Monday at SC.

The win makes SC 2-6 overall. The Lady Ocelots' winning streak in conference play is now at 17; they were unbeaten in the league last season.

Three players combined to wreak havoc upon

the Lady Monarchs Monday. Carla Saxton totaled 21 points, 10 rebounds and five assists to lead the Ocelots, who were up 41-26 at the half.

Janelle Olson added 19 points, seven assists and seven steals, and Angelica Blakely had 15 points, eight boards, four assists, three blocked shots and three steals for SC.

Macomb, which slipped to 1-7 overall, got 17 points from Breean England, 11 from Shannon Barnes and 10 from Mary Pitruzello.

The Ocelots play Saturday at St. Clair CC.

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Animals share sense of time with humans



TIM NOWICKI

NATURE NOTES
As I watched the ball in Times Square fall second by second to mark the beginning of the year 2000 in the U.S., I was reminded how dependent we have become on time and timing devices.

Man has come a long way from the days when he began to recognize the cycle of day versus night, the reoccurrence of the full moon and the return of migrating animal herds.

Timing devices are essential in modern society so that people can coordinate their activities.

Animals need to coordinate their activities, too. They use the same kinds of sequences that early man used before the development of small units of time.

Scientists have determined that animals time their activities based on the lunar cycle, the rotation of the earth on its axis — day and night, and the revolution of the earth around the sun — a yearly cycle.

They may not have a Timex, but they have developed internal ways to determine time.

Lunar cycles are most influential along the ocean shore. Since ocean tides are regulated by the moon, animals living on the shoreline are subject to a regular cycle of wet and dry.

What intrigues scientists is that the shoreline animals are not responding to the movement of the tides, but to an internal clock that changes their behavior.

Small crabs that live on the shoreline were taken to a laboratory and placed in a constantly dark enclosure with no tidal movement of water. Despite these constant conditions, the crabs maintained an activity cycle that was the same as if

they were on the shoreline.

Experiments have shown that young animals born in constant conditions of a laboratory, and were never exposed to the natural cycle, showed a cycle of activity that was like their wild cousins on the shoreline.

Animals, including people, have a daily rhythm based on a 24-hour cycle.

We often notice our cycle when society changes from standard time to daylight savings time.

It may take a couple days for us to adjust our active/rest cycle. Those who fly to distant time zones notice this cycle disruption even more. After a couple days of exposure to the ambient day and night cycle, our bodies adjust.

Migratory birds exhibit an annual clock based on a 365-day cycle.

Birds placed in constant conditions of a laboratory will molt feathers and exhibit migratory activity at the same time as their wild relatives. This occurs twice

a year, once for the northern migration, and then again for the fall flight.

Each migratory activity period continues for a prescribed amount of time and in a specific direction. By flying in a specific direction for a given amount of time, birds of that species population will all end up at the same place.

Because their internal clock was activated at the same time, they will also arrive at the same time. This is necessary if all the birds are to mate and raise their young before the change of weather in fall.

Timing in animals, other than man, is also critical. Migrating, molting, hibernating and mating at the proper time are essential for their survival.

They may not have to be in a particular place at the stroke of midnight, but animals that hesitate too long, loose

Whalers triumph

It took the team just one game to get the last conference game of the season, at least for the Whalers.

The Whalers' 6-4 victory over the Kitchener Rangers Thursday at Compuware Arena pushed their record to 20-14-3; their 44 points were sixth-best in the 20-team AHL, entering this week's play. Through last weekend, Kitchener was 12-10-4 (31 points).

Damian Surma collected two goals, giving him 17 for the season, and two assists. Justin Williams had two goals and an assist, and Randy Fitzgerald had a goal and three assists to lead Plymouth.

Kitchener started quickly, getting a goal from Alan Bourke — the first of two for him in the game, giving him 30 for the season — with the game just 23 seconds old. John Dunphy, who also had two goals for the Rangers, made it 2-0 with his first goal at the 6:16 mark of the first period.

But the Whalers were pressing, evidenced by their 26-4 shot advantage in the opening period alone. Surma's first

goal, a 10-minute power play goal, came in the second period. Williams' second goal, a 10-minute power play goal, came in the second period.

Surma and Williams' goals gave Plymouth a 4-2 lead after 14:20 of the second period, but Kitchener scored its only goal in the period.

Williams got what proved to be the game-winner, his 18th goal of the season, with 1:51 elapsed in the third period. Fitzgerald's ninth goal, with 6:38 remaining in the game, led the win for the Whalers.

Rob Zepp stopped 19 of 23 shots on goal for Plymouth. Reg Bourcier faced 50 shots in net for Kitchener, turning away 44.

Ambassadors stalled

The final North American Hockey League game of 1999 wasn't exactly a memorable one for the Compuware Ambassadors. A goal and two assists from Nick Prush and three assists by Jon Jepson boosted the Grand Rapids BearCats to a 4-2 triumph in Grand Rapids last Thursday.

Compuware still leads the NAHL's East Division with a 21-0-1 record (43 points). The Ambassadors play back-to-back games, on Friday and Saturday, at the Chicago Friars this weekend.

BOWLING HONOR ROLL

- Mayflower Lanes (Redford)**
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Good Neighbors: Annette Trader, 224; Gloria Mertz, 201.
Friday Seniors: Jack Kassaban, 267/716; Walt Arsenault, 254/248/714; Stan Wisner, 244/662; Bud Kraemer, 258/650; Cass Pogoda, 247/644.
Men's Senior House: Dave Tonic, 290; 269/248/807; Pat Agius, 300/247/726; Craig Senkowsky, 233/300/756; Jim Jeson, 300/719.
Cloverlanes (Livonia)
All-Star Bowlerettes: Tina Barber Judy, 268/299/222/789; Petessy Wray, 238/258/279/775; Julie Wright, 217/280/277/774; Lisa McClanahan, 300/666; Lisa McCurdy, 288/727.
FoMoCo Thursday Nite: Chuck O'Rourke, 279/781; John Teetzel, 279/674; Brian Chubb, 267/687; Larry Hawkins, 267; Ernest Humphrey, 255/724.
Wonderland Lanes (Livonia)
Budweiser All-Stars Travelling (bowling on pro gold pins): Vern Peterson, 748; Todd Kurowski, 300; Chris Sand, 720; Ken Kossick, 277/711; Rick Goyeau, 718.
Wonderland Classic: Jim Burton, 278/745; Doug Elison, 267/742; Tim Detheradge, 300/736; Stan Mardeusz, 300.
Senior Mens Invitational: Ed Dudek, 269/683; Charley Groecky, 248/678; B.C. Nunnery, 670.
Woodland Lanes (Livonia)
Morning Glories: Marge Kelley, 245.
S&S Auto: Terry Chase, 684.
Local 182: Frank Bestam, 232/201/266/699; Emil Heimann, 203; Diane Schafer, 201.
Livonia Elks: Jim Cooper, 278/247/288/803.
Senior House: Mike Norris, Jr., 300/761; Ed Richardson, 288/737; Mark Howes, 290/757; Gary Duanard, 277/733; Ken McMillan, 259/730.
Woodland Men's Trio: Ken M. Muto, 300/805; Dave Graham, 274/780; Vern Flowers, 268/694; Steve Hubble, 268/689; John Wodarski, Jr., 267/734.
Ford Parts: Tony Gideman, 279/718; Brad Strange, 288/687; Jimmy Cooper, 278/707; Paul McMurry, 255/709; Mitch Grogan, 712.
Plaza Lanes (Plymouth)
St. Collette's Men: Chuck Crespi, 266/269/695; J. Sadler, 269; Richard Klimkiewicz, 279.
Town 'n Country (Westland)
W.B. Memorial: Jason D'Alaba, 300.
Tuesday Junior House: Matt Wisniewski, 299 (second in as many weeks); Jerry Struppa, 299; Jeff Matties, 269/698; Bob Rose, 267; Charley Staley, 267.
Our Gang Mixed: Joe Staley, 243; Jesse Culpit, 236/622; Art Bellingham, 232; Laura Tristman, 214; Sue O'Hare, 230.
Westland Bowl
St. Mel's Men: Mark Groves, 277/247; John Kosowski, 257/714; Mar Bernini, 267/735; Rob McAlister, 258/691; Jay Morris, 258/644; Dick Zeman, 268/647.
Monday 6:30 p.m. Men: Rob McAlister, 287/600; Tom Lakatos, 248/698; Frank Perks, 247/610; Bill Randal, 240/645; Bulson II, 248/644.
Monday Morning Men: James McDougall, 249/677; Randy Kemp, 226/637; Jim Busch II, 240/576; Jason Carter, 215/635; Mike Savoy, 210/595.
Sunday Sleepers: John Hurley, Jr., 280/729; Gary Meyers, 279/701; Mack Ivory, Jr., 278; Bill Gallagher, Jr., 268/736; Walter Dietz, 268/694.
Thursday Nite Mixed: Dan Harrison, 258/740; Brian Bailey, 249/626; Candy Bailey, 233/635; Doug Bruggeman, 245/650; Genevieve Forbes, 228/586.
Westland Champs: Mary Marvaso, 226/607; Sunday Gains, 213/607; Gerni Smith, 202/509; Tina VanDyke, 198/514; Mary Ann Burke, 196/504.
NASCAR Trio: Dan Doodle, 238/614; Lou Swindell, 212/605; Augusta Bell, Jr., 211/610; Mike Boucher, 205/525.
A.M. Ladies Trio: Phyllis Hammberg, 225/563; Veda Zetter, 190/547.
Super Bowl (Canton)
Double Nickel Plus: Ed Zdanowski, 211/191/210/612; Wally Alberty, 212/558; Corine Walsh, 180; June Karker, 180; Ed Kufg, 523.
Youth leagues (Thursday Juniors/Majors): Wilder Christofferson, 162; Jacob Saylor, 126.
Friday Preps: Aaron Bonsai, 134.
Juniors: Matt Horvath, 204; Brad Porenba, 207; Eric Pawlus, 213/582.
Majors: Jon Robison, 237/575; Brian Peczynski, 267/676; Bill Morgan, 245/554; Brent Moore, 233/604; Tim Moncreff, 221/562.
Saturday 9 a.m. Bantams/Preps: Ryan Hoeman, 202; Jennifer, Dunn, 162.
9 a.m. Majors: Ken Barman, 244/597; Andy Baldoni, 228/543; Pat Brown, 210/580; Brian Stack, 221/565.
11 a.m. Preps: Danielle Korstjens, 138; James Richards, 165.
11 a.m. Juniors: Robert Manikowski, 200; Mike McDermott, 163; Nick Jahn, 183.
11 a.m. Majors: Matt McCaffrey, 225/643.
Country Lanes (Farmington)
Wednesday Nite Ladies: Becky Sockolow, 218; Erna Dursey, 217.
Sports Club: Wisam Muxhtar, 247; Sam Yone, 221/573; Linda Alcamello, 188/510.
Loon Lake: Mike Claranah, 247; Scott Tutus, 240/638; Jim Wisniewski, 655.
Wednesday Knights: Steve Lingertot, 258/748; Neil Beckman, 254; Scott Wright, 253; Dave Makower, 672.
University Men's: Gary Lyson, 289/772; Dennis Cunningham, 276.
Country Keglers: Dan Shea, Jr., 247/691; Kris Doudt, 245/682; Pat Furma, 245/662; Steve Hughes, 244/671; Dean Johnson, 244/658.
EVER 7: Robert Roy, Jr., 269/688; Jeff Taylor, 267; Ron Lemieux, 255; Tony Elias, 247/695; Bob Stewart, 246.
Monday Midnight Men: Mike Kaska, 279/725; Sam Mensor, 278; Lada Gamba, 278; Rasmus Jabor, 744.
Monday Night Men: Chris Brughan, 269/700; Doug Moore, 269; The Bugman, 267; Ronnie Ekelman, 269.
Sunday Goodfithers: Larry Lipson, 223; Keith Oswald, 220/213/618; Al Harrison, 242; Ron Steenhagen, 212; Art, 200; Kater, Mike Kovak, 219.
B'Nai B'rith Leadership Network: Wynn Schwartzman, 209/604; Joanne Kian, 199/500; Michelle Kaczander, 190.
Temple Israel: Howard Marsh, 254/666; Harvey Kahn, 247; Sid Beck, 247/649.
Novi Bowl
West Side Lutheran: Iggy Krieger, 249/728; Stu Levy, 674; Tom Coyle, 669; Steve Fehr, 257/752; Mike Meyer, 619.

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Lack of snow puts area prep ski teams on hold

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

Instead of Y2K, all Tom Gable could think, looking at the sky for snow in recent weeks, was "Why not today?"

The start of the high school ski season may be delayed at least a week, thanks to the lack of snow on the slopes. Gable, the coach at both Redford Catholic Central and Farmington Hills Mercy, has to think of other ways to keep his skiers busy.

If it was cold enough, snow could be manufactured by local slopes. But the threat of rain earlier this week kept the hills green and both teams idle.

"If I couldn't adapt, this would be the most miserable thing in the world," Gable said. "I just keep the boys in the weight room and the girls go on dry land, working on polometrics or aerobics."

Once the season gets under way, Gable expects CC to challenge for a state meet berth and Mercy to show improvement in what could be a rebuilding phase.

Redford CC preview

The Shamrocks finished second in the Mt. Brighton Division of the Southeastern Michigan Ski Association and fourth in the regional, just missing a state berth last year.

The Shamrocks' top skier the last two seasons, junior Matt Gable, returns at 100 percent.

He won the slalom at the league championship and was the giant slalom champion at the regional despite wearing a cast over a broken hand all of last year.

He hit a gate and was disqualified in the giant slalom at the state meet. That's the same reason he was disqualified in the slalom at the regional.

His father and coach expects Gable to attain a state berth in each event. The extra year of experience could make him a state title contender in either race, the elder Gable predicted.

Not only is he one of the state's top high school skiers, he is ranked 24th for age 16 nationally. He is an automatic qualifier for the Mid-American Series, held in conjunction with the high school season throughout the Midwest on weekends.

"I think he'll be right there knocking at the door," coach Gable said. "I think the Traverse City and Marquette guys who beat him last year graduated. He's squatting 410 pounds this year, compared to the middle 300s last year. He's a lot stronger and skiing very well."

"There's no way his cast didn't restrict his movement last year and there's no question he's skiing better without it. His goal is to sweep the GS and slalom at the regional and as every year goes by his confidence grows stronger."

The Shamrocks also return senior Scott Zaleski, a consistent top five finisher in both the slalom and giant slalom in the division races.

The Shamrocks lost three to graduation: Geo Madias, Matt Demmer and Miguel Martinez. "Talent wise, this team looks as strong or stronger than the one we had three years ago that qualified for the state meet and took second at regional," Gable said.

Among his finishes were two second-places in the slalom and one in giant slalom.

He placed third in the SEMSL championships in the slalom and will be a regular on the United States Skiing Association tour this winter, too.

"No question Scott will ski top five in the state regionale," Tom Gable said. "He's been in the weight room, he's real focused. It's his senior year."

Junior Eric Sullivan, a top 10 placer in the varsity division a year ago, may be the Shamrocks' third-highest scorer. Because they're both juniors, Matt Gable and Sullivan have a bond that makes them a good combination, Tom Gable said.

Also expected to fill a spot in the lineup is senior Mark Gursky, a captain who was the top junior varsity racer last year.

Gursky was the CC football team's punter.

The remaining starting spots on the varsity may be contested by senior Aaron McCabe and juniors John Goebel, Joe Murray and Ryan Boudreau.

Mercy ski preview

The last remaining members of the Mercy teams which won regional titles in 1998 and '97, have graduated: Renee Burek

and Krysten Salla.

The pair led the Marlips to a second-place finish in the division, a third at the league meet and a fourth in the regional, where they were one point away from qualifying for the state meet.

Burek and Salla qualified for the state meet in the slalom with Salla taking 26th at the state.

Gable is left with a young, but enthusiastic team.

"We're definitely in the middle

of a rebuilding program here," Gable said. "It gives us a chance to surprise everybody."

The Marlips return a senior letterwinner, Amy McDuffee, who has given up figure skating competitively to concentrate on skiing.

She consistently finished among the top 15 in the Mt. Brighton standings and Gable predicts she'll improve dramatically. Her figure skating took her from some of the ski meets,

including the regional.

"She's extremely talented and Mercy's success is real pivotal on how she skis because we need a leader," Gable said.

The next top returnee is junior Nikki Anderson, who as a sophomore placed among the top 15 in the division five times.

Burek's younger sister, Laura, returns for her junior year after lettering on the varsity last year.

Like McDuffee, Burek has decided to concentrate on skiing,

giving up competitive swimming.

"She's a good, strong skier," Gable said. "Proving she can ski as well as her sister is a great motivator for her."

Junior Marcy Godlew returns after making six varsity starts last year, earning a mid-season promotion from the JV.

"She learned the ropes, gained experience," Gable said.

Juniors Dana Lyons and Melissa Desautel and senior Carolyn Stroud, JV members

last year, will compete for the last couple varsity lineup berths, Gable said.

Gable said it's back to the basics for some of the Mercy skiers.

"You have to coach hard and try to teach the technical-type moves," Gable said. "If they all concentrate, they'll surprise you and come up with their own success story. Maybe we'll have the beginning of another championship team."

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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Columbia Pictures' "The End of the Affair," Oscar winner Neil Jordan's story of love betrayal and jealousy, opens today exclusively at the Main Art Theatre, 118 N. Main St., Royal Oak. The film stars Julianne Moore and Ralph Fiennes.

SATURDAY

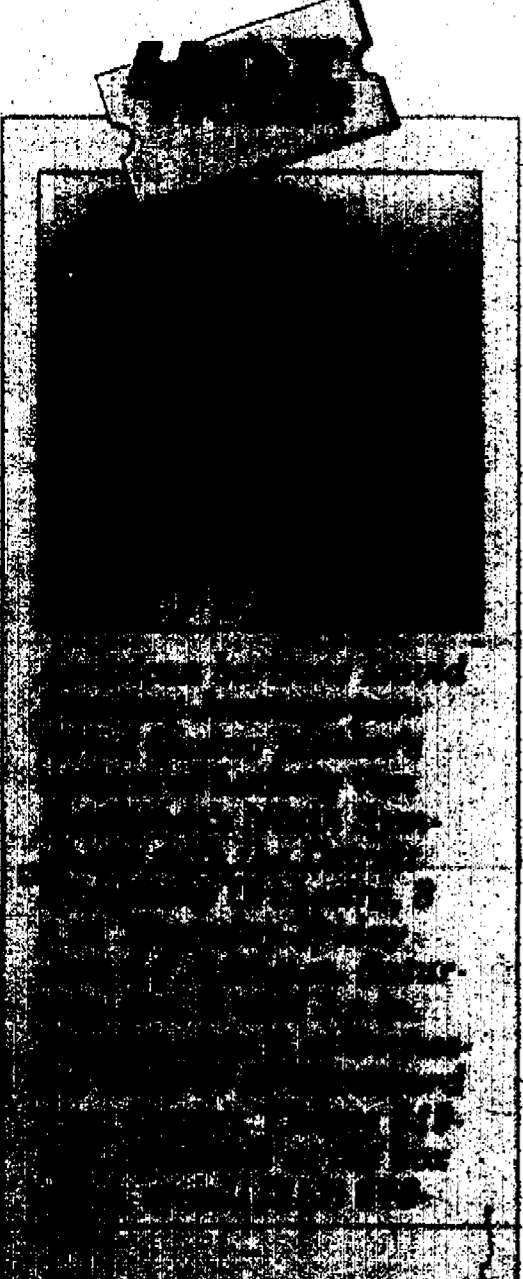


The Antifreeze Blues Festival, 8 p.m. at the Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale features Pinetop Perkins, (pictured), Robert Noll's Mission, Madcat and Kane, and The Hastings Street Grease Revue with Harmonica Shah. Tickets \$20, call (248) 544-3030.

SUNDAY



Jewish Ensemble Theatre presents "Prisoner of Second Avenue" 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Aaron DeRoy Theatre, lower level of the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road at Drake, West Bloomfield. Tickets \$16-\$21, call (248) 788-2900.



Testing her 'metal'

LOCAL CARVER CONQUERS THE ICE AND THE MEN



Gold medal winner: Tjana Raukar took first place in the college individual category at the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular in 1999.

Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular

What: The 18th annual winter festival features ice carving competitions for professionals, amateurs, and high school and college students, an "Icy Toyland" which includes Pokemon and other cartoon characters, and celebrity charity carving competition.

Where: Kellogg Park, The Gathering and Central Parking Structure in downtown Plymouth.

When: Open 24 hours a day, Wednesday, Jan. 12, through Monday, Jan. 17. For more information or directions, call (734) 459-9157 or visit the Web site at www.iceonline.com/plymouthice.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
lchomin@aol.com

Tjana Raukar looks nothing like a typical ice carver. At 5-foot, 2-inches tall, she more than likely will be dwarfed by the rest of the competitors at the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular.

But don't underestimate this Plymouth woman. Underneath all that heavy clothing beats the heart of a carver that can wield a chainsaw with the best of them. In the two years she's been carving ice, Raukar's taken gold nine times and recently placed third in the National Ice Carvers Association national competition in Pennsylvania.

"All those guys tell me it's unusual to compete against a woman carver because I'm so small and all those guys are so big," said Raukar. "It is physically exhausting. I have to think about that when I'm drawing. I have to make smaller pieces and fuse more because the ice is so heavy."

Raukar plans to enter not only the individual category but also the 20-hour team competition beginning 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14 in Kellogg Park. She and her husband Paul will work together during the grueling event in which carvers create large scale sculptures from 10 blocks of ice that weigh 800 pounds each.

Not just a competition

"It's not just to compete or winning the prize," said Raukar. "It's 'do you like your sculpture?' I like that the sculpture expresses certain feelings so they're not just blocks of ice but come alive. Ice sculpture is here and then it's gone but that's the beauty to catch that moment. If you miss it, you miss it."

Even though Raukar received

her culinary training in Croatia, it wasn't until after moving to America four years ago that she began carving. As a food artist for the Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn, Raukar displayed a natural talent for carving vegetables. Her supervisor encouraged Raukar's sculpting abilities by giving her a set of Japanese carving tools.

At the Ritz-Carlton, Raukar uses the mediums of butter, chocolate, taro root, napa cabbage and other vegetables to create colorful displays for tables. A visit to the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Festival two years ago triggered her interest in ice. To learn the basics, she took classes at Schoolcraft College in Livonia with Chef Dan Hugelier.

After carving hundreds of ice sculptures, from a 14-foot Eiffel Tower to horses and corporate logos for Jaguar and Audi, she opened a commercial carving business, Ice Dreams, in Plymouth. "Practicing makes you do better," said Raukar. This is the first time, Raukar

will compete with professionals at the Plymouth competition. Last year, she won two gold medals as part of the Schoolcraft College team. Students spend four hours carving while professionals must endure 20-hours of cold to complete their creations in the team event. Raukar and

Paul, who've been working side-by-side in the culinary industry for 10 years, will dress warmly in ski suits and several layers of clothing. In years past, wind chills have sent temperatures dipping to 20 degrees below zero. In that cold, exposed skin can freeze in a matter of minutes. Raukar isn't worried though. Carving will keep her warm.

"Carving is non-stop exercising," said Raukar. "You're doing many push-ups placing the ice and moving it into position. How you hold the chain saw is impor-

tant to get your cuts, so you have to dance around it."

Outdoor museum

Watching the carvers create their sculptures is part of the fun of the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular. Sandra Watts, who organizes the festival with her husband Mike, said that "it's like an outdoor museum experience" because visitors can walk around and see all of the sculptures. More than 100 of them will be displayed in front of businesses and throughout the downtown area.

A skating party with the Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena, celebrity charity carving competition, a "Celebrate the Centuries" exhibit at the Plymouth Historical Museum, and an appearance by artist William Moss at Creative Framing & Gallery on Ann Arbor Trail adds to the festivities.

From 1-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 15-16, hammer dulcimer music by Betsy Beckerman, and free hot cider at the Saint Joseph Mercy Arbor Health Building on the corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Harvey provide a respite from the cold. There will also be a warming center in the Flagstar Bank at Ann Arbor Trail and Harvey.

Winter event

"It's America's No. 1 free family winter event which speaks

Please see CARVING, E2

THEATER

Edgy mystery opens Meadow Brook's 2000 season

What: "Dangerous Obsession," a psychological thriller
When: Through Sunday, Jan. 30
Where: Meadow Brook Theatre, Oakland University campus, Rochester Hills
Cast:
Performance times vary this week: Mondays 8 p.m., Thursday-Friday, Jan. 6-7; opening night 6 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 8; 2 p.m., and 8 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 9; 2 p.m., and 8 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 12. **Tickets:** \$19.50-\$35, call (248) 327-8900, or Ticketmaster (248) 660-0660.

Talk about a Y2K bug that won't go away.

In "Dangerous Obsession," the psychological thriller at Meadow Brook Theatre, audiences will find a winding trail of clues leading to the answer of why a mere acquaintance is terrorizing a happily married couple living in Grosse Pointe Park.

Smooth sailing into the millennium horizon? Not exactly. This bug provides plenty of jitters.

The yuppie couple is unexpectedly tossed into a stormy sea of uncertainty when a man whom they met months earlier during their vacation shows up unannounced at their door.

The uninvited guest is partly a stalker who envies the couple, and partly in shock since his wife was

killed in a car accident. How are his obsessions with the Grosse Pointers and the circumstances of his wife's death related?

Well, therein lies the mystery.

Written by novelist N.J. Crisp, "Dangerous Obsession" was initially performed in England in 1987. And the play was last performed at the American Hartland Theatre in Kansas City in 1999.

The three-character play is directed by Debra Wicks, interim artistic director, who directed last fall's "Tintypes," an American musical set in the 1890s. She also directed last season's award-winning, "Gift of Glory," a story about the relationship



Thriller: Robert Morgan (left), John Biedenbach and Tracey Copeland in a scene from Meadow Brook Theatre's presentation of "Dangerous Obsession."

Please see MYSTERY, E2

Carving from page E1

well of our sponsors and the community," said Mike Watts. "The children love it, grandparents love it. It's an educational experience for the students

involved. It happens every year, but it's totally new every year because they're always carving something new." The Wattses expect 700,000

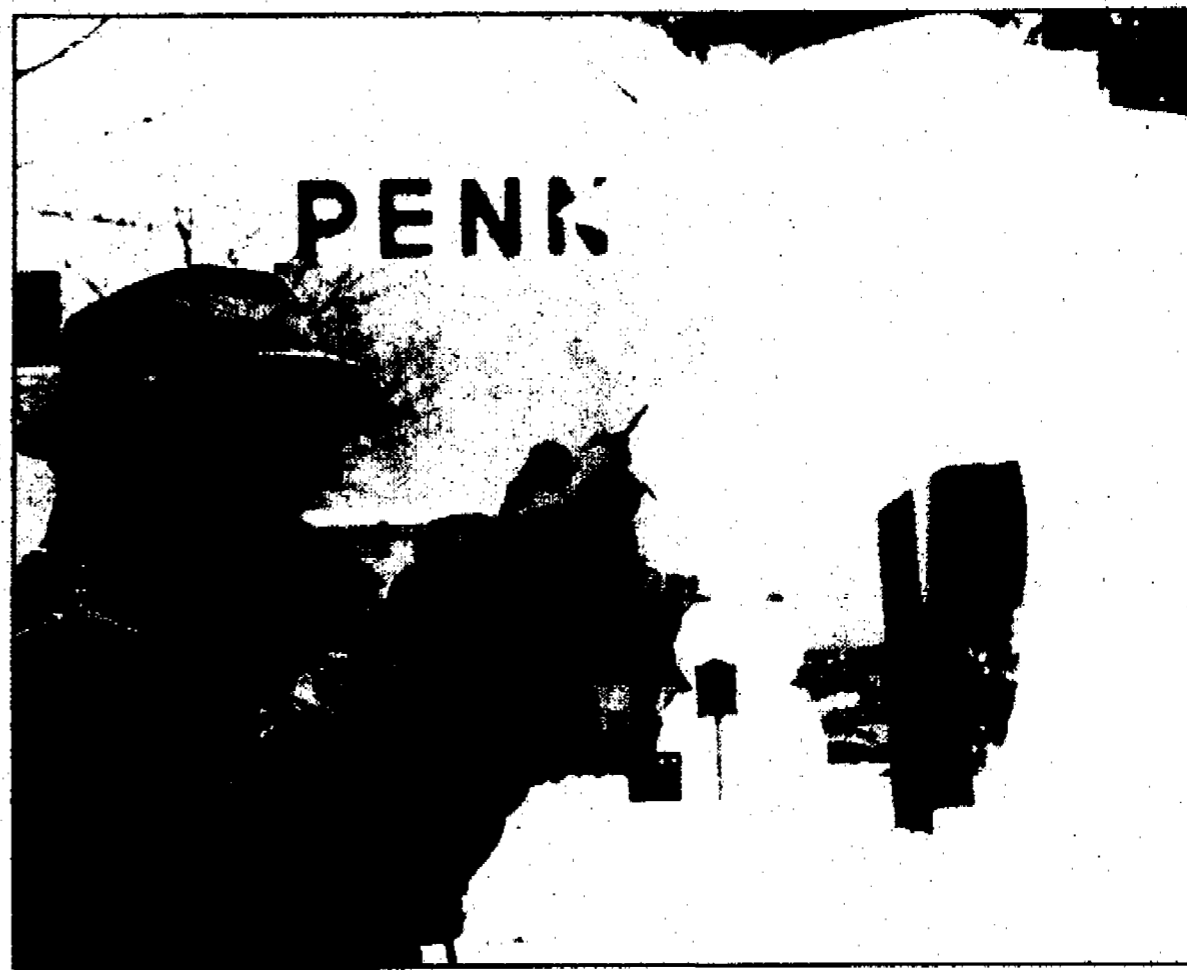
Ever since French chefs began creating bowls and sculptures to keep foods cold 200 years ago, ice carving has grown in popularity



Award winners: Ted Wakar, a Canton resident, and J.R. Lorentz of Garden City won second place in the 1999 Professional Team Competition.

visitors this year so they're hoping the weather cooperates. Last year's 23-inch snow storm clogged streets and Kellogg Park. The icy, white stuff had to be cleared from the areas surrounding the fountain before carvers could begin stacking their ice. Between the park, Central Parking Structure and The Gathering, where an "Icy Toyland" will be on exhibit, carvers will use 400,000 pounds of ice.

Prizes totalling \$10,000 will draw the best of professional carvers from the U.S. and Japan. Judges for the American Culinary Federation sanctioned event are Noble Masi, Bill Franklin, Chris Northmore (a former Farmington resident, now a chef at the Cherokee Town and Country Club in Atlanta, Ga.)



and Milos Cihelka, a Bloomfield Hills chef. Dean Carlson (ACF Chef of the Year) will lead the committee in awarding points based on artistic achievement and strength of design, craftsmanship, degree of difficulty, and originality.

"We consider ice carving an art form," said Mike Watts.

Ever since French chefs began creating bowls and sculptures to keep foods cold 200 years ago, ice carving has grown in popularity.

For the last two years it has been included in the Olympics as a spectator sport and looks like it might finally become part of the competition. A representa-

College teams: Chef Dan Hugelier will lead Schoolcraft College ice carving students in competitions against teams from Henry Ford Community College and Oakland Community College, among others.

tive of the Winter Olympics Committee for 2002 in Salt Lake City will visit Plymouth during the festival to gather information.

"We're real excited about it and hope to tie the Plymouth event in as a qualifier," said Mike Watts.

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Mystery from page E1

between Edsel Ford and Diego Rivera.

The cast includes John Biedenbach, who last performed on the Meadow Brook stage in "Three Tall Women" and "A Christmas Carol." Tracey Copland and Robert Morgan.

Morgan last appeared on the Meadow Brook stage as one of the Costazuela brothers in "The Odd Couple (Female Version)."

"Dangerous Obsession" will be followed by several familiar works, including Arthur Miller's classic, "All My Sons," Feb. 9-

March 5; "Chagall's Arabian Nights," a world premiere by Karim Alrawi, March 15-April 9; and Beth Henley's "Crimes of the Heart," April 19-May 14.

- Frank Provenzano, Staff Writer

We all resolve to ... as the new year begins

The best thing about hitting the year 2000 is that you have one thousand years to honor your new millennium resolutions. But why procrastinate? The producers of Detroit Public TV's BACKSTAGE PASS series have come up with some artistic approaches for keeping some



ANN DELUSI

WE WILL GET ORGANIZED. As his first assignment of the year 2000, we sent Madonna University music guru and classical music host Dave Wagner on the road for a celebration of theater organs. First he visited the Senate Theatre at Michigan Avenue and Livernois in Detroit. There he works his magic with a contemporary electronic organ that can deftly accommodate the compositions of everyone from Gershwin to Bach.

Then, Dave makes a trip to St. Paul's Church in Grosse Pointe Farms to play an organ that has keys and pedals that function as they have for centuries. The segment, which airs at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 9, will give you a good idea as to why the organ is such a timeless music maker.

We were reminded again at last year's Academy Awards ceremony that some of the best films are not major theatrical releases. By now, we've all had an opportunity to be deeply moved and charmed by "Life is Beautiful."

WE WILL MAKE NEW FRIENDS. Some of local radio's most innovative music programming in the 1990s came from Liz Copeland's overnight show on WDET-FM. Her fans (and those who aren't awake when her program is broadcast) will be happy to know that Liz has joined BACKSTAGE PASS as a segment host for in-studio performances by some bands that you may have heard about, but have never seen. The first is Outrageous Cherry, a Detroit band that is getting raves for its fourth album, "Out There in the Dark."

Led by songwriter/vocalist Matthew Smith, Outrageous Cherry has perfected a unique sound that modernizes some of the irresistible musical styles of the 1960s. Resist no longer. Welcome, Liz... from the show that never sleeps.

WE WILL TRY NEW THINGS. We were reminded again at last year's Academy Awards ceremony that some of the best films are not major theatrical releases.

By now, we've all had an opportunity to be deeply moved and charmed by "Life is Beautiful." The picture, expected to capture the Oscar for best foreign film this year, is Pedro Almodovar's "All About My Mother."

Elliot Wilhelm, curator of the Detroit Film Theatre at the Detroit Institute of Arts, presents some scenes from the film on the Jan. 9 edition of BACKSTAGE PASS, and offers a preview of the DFT's winter season. "All About My Mother" opens the season with showings Friday-Sunday, Jan. 14 - 16.

WE WILL LOOK TO THE FUTURE WITH HOPE. The bell tolls for the people who will continue to make the Detroit area a better place to live. An inspiring look at the Millennium Bell created by metal sculptors Chris Turner and Matt Blaze rounds out the Jan. 9 edition of BACKSTAGE PASS.

If you are resolved to participating in the arts, I guess we'll be seeing each other soon.

AT THE GALLERIES

CREATIVE ARTS CENTER
Candace Compton-Pappas and Stephen Coyle through Feb. 14, 47 Williams Street, Pontiac. (248) 333-7849.

HABIBAT GALLERIES
Works by various artists through Jan. 29, 7 North Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 333-2060.

LIVONIA ARTS COMMISSION
Mixed media of Norma McQueen through Jan. 28, Watercolor portraits of Toni Stevens through Jan. 31, Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia. (734) 466-2490. In the Livonia City Hall Lobby, Schoolcraft College student artwork through Jan. 31, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia. (734) 466-2540.

JEAN PAUL SLUBBER GALLERY
Opens Thursday, Jan. 6 - Richard

Mock: Mock of the Times through Jan. 28, University of Michigan School of Art & Design, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd., Ann Arbor. (734) 764-0397.

SOUTHFIELD CENTRE FOR THE ARTS
Images of Lost Spirituality with Southfield artist Charlene Jeter through Jan. 28, 24350 Southfield Road, Southfield. (248) 424-9022.

JEFFREY CLAY GALLERY
The lectures of Paul Katrich, 404 East 4th Street, Royal Oak. (248) 584-2223.

COMMUNITY ARTS GALLERY
Graduate Works in Progress exhibition, 28 5400 Gulien Mall, Wayne State University, Detroit. (313) 577-2423.

DETROIT CONTEMPORARY
Through Jan. 9 - "994 Days" fea-

turing Paul Snyder, James Stephens and Robert Berry, 5141 Ross Park Blvd., Detroit. (313) 898-4278.

JANICE CHARACH EPSTEIN GALLERY
Through Jan. 27 - The Mountain of the Lord: Scale Models of Jerusalem Temples, 6600 West Maple, West Bloomfield. (248) 661-7641.

G.R. WYNARD GALLERY
Through Jan. 12 - Herbert Gentry: Different Wants, Different Wishes, 161 Townsend, Birmingham. (248) 642-2700.

SUBANNE MILBERRY GALLERY
Through Jan. 8 - New paintings by Robert Wilbert and jewelry by Darcy Miro, 555 S. Woodward, Birmingham. (248) 642-8250.

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No purchase necessary, need not be present to win, void where prohibited, must be 18 yrs old to win. Official rules posted at the Plymouth Ice Spectacular, and Farmer Jack stores. Contest ends January 30, 2000.

Warm up to the blues at annual Anti-Freeze Festival

STEPHANIE A. CASOLA
Last January, the weather managed to put the freeze on the Detroit Blues Society's annual fund-raiser, the Anti-Freeze Blues Festival. On the second and final day of the festival, 14 inches of snow caused a cancellation. So this year, the Magic Bag and DBS have turned up the heat.

What was once referred to as the Deep Freeze Blues Festival brings together the best of national and local blues entertainers. The Magic Bag's Jeremy Haberman, DBS chairman R.J. Spangler and Howling Diablos' Jeff Grant worked as co-artistic directors in organizing this year's event.

Singing the blues

"It's probably the single biggest fund-raising event for the Detroit Blues Society," said Spangler, who promised the shows will feature something for everyone. Headlining this year's festival are Roomful of Blues — a band that played jump-swing blues 20 years before the trend took hold — and Pinetop Perkins — a legendary blues pianist who helped establish Chess Records as "The Blues Label" in the 1960s.

Not convinced? Just ask local bluesman Al Hill, he'll tell you

the festival includes "some of the best blues bands in the area."

His own Ann Arbor-based band, Al Hill and the Love Butlers, is just one of the groups sure to stir up the Ferndale club with a mixture of blues, boogie and soul.

"I play a lot of New Orleans-style in that genre," added Hill. The Love Butlers have been together for six years. Hill, who cites Ray Charles among his musical influences, said the blues is simply what he does.

"It's what I've always done." Al Hill and the Love Butlers will make their first appearance at the festival. Spangler asked Hill to join. The two are bandmates with Johnnie Bassett and the Blues Insurgents.

Johnnie Bassett, who will also take the stage at the Magic Bag, is a 64-year-old bluesman who moved from Florida to Detroit in his youth. By age 18 he was playing with John Lee Hooker and can be heard playing on some of the first Motown recordings. Along with his band, Bassett has performed for audiences in 40 states, nine provinces and 15 European countries. "I'm very proud of work my with Johnnie," said Spangler.

Yesterday and today

Bassett, along with Joe Weaver and Alberta Adams (another former Chess Recording artist) bring a bit of Detroit Blues history to the mix this year, while other performers like Robert

Noll's Blues Mission and Nikki James and The Flamethrowers represent a more contemporary style. And Hill, according to Spangler, is a heck of a blues singer and a great guy.

The Detroit Blues Society is a non-profit organization supporting blues music in the city and surrounding area. It was originally established as the Detroit Country and Classic Blues Society in March 1985. The society uses money raised at these events to fund a series of blues performances at Detroit's Scarab Club. The shows remain free to the public.

"It's the promotion of blues, keeping blues alive and keeping people aware of it," said Hill, who considers now to be a good time for blues in the Metro area. "I think there's a lot of variety in the Metro Detroit area. There's always been an element of the Detroit sound."

He describes that "Detroit sound" as having an intensity, being a bit over-the-top (in a good way) and having a heavy guitar-oriented sound. "I suppose you would say it's very guitar-oriented. People in this area, working class people, like to hear that grinding guitar."

Hill made a personal invitation: "Come on out for Antifreeze."

Spangler said: "It's a worthy cause. We need your support, blues lovers."

The Sixth Annual Anti-Freeze Blues Festival features Roomful



Jumpin' blues: Headlining the first night of the Anti-Freeze Blues Festival is Roomful of Blues, (left to right front) Chris Vachon and Steve Kostakes, (left to right rear) John Wolf, Bob Enos, Rich Lataille, Mac Odom, Mike Warner and Greg Silva.

of Blues, Johnnie Bassett with Joe Weaver and Alberta Adams, Al Hill and The Love Butlers, and Nikki James and The Flamethrowers 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7, followed by performances from Pinetop Perkins, Robert Noll's Mission, Madcat and Kane

and The Hastings Street Grease Revue with Harmonica Shah. 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, all at the Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. \$20 a night or \$35 for a 2-day pass. Call (248) 544-3030.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola writes about popular music for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2130 or e-mail at scasola@homecomm.net. To send a fax, dial (734) 591-7275.

Get surfing: Where to look for local and national music on the Web

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
scasola@homecomm.net

Haven't you heard? There's a revolution on the horizon.

The Internet is stepping into the big shoes once filled by record company executives, and it's making some people very nervous. Anyone now can mass market new music with a computer and a dream — all right, you have to have a few connections and a good dose of know-how.

Here are a few sites for music maker and music lovers to check out

Detroitmusic.com

Detroit area artists are either listed on this site or don't know about it yet. More than 500 local bands and performers can be found at detroitmusic.com, but that's not all. Visit the musicboard to share thoughts on the current music scene in the metro area or get in touch with other musicians. Membership is free.

Musicians will find it useful to be listed and can submit MP3s of their work. There is a media list, which gives musicians a way to reach local journalists and let them know what's going on with

the music, when they are performing and how the public can get in on the scene. Look for all this and more at www.detroitmusic.com.

MP3.com

With 16 music and spoken-word categories, MP3 offers a peek into the newest music, local and live events and Web casts. The site gives recommendations and a personalized site my.mp3.com. It was the most highly publicized place for artists to showcase their music this year. Local bands like the Howling Diablos released entire albums on MP3 only.

East Lansing's power pop celebrities Fat Amy know the power of MP3. Their song "Purple" from the album "Ice Cream Headache" was chosen to be the Number 19 song on the 1999 Alternative Top 20. Check it out at www.mp3.com

Atom-Bomb.com

This is a newly established

site that caters to independent musicians, filmmakers and artists who seek greater exposure, without having to compromise their work. By downloading its submission form, the site makes it easy to get started.

Musicians can include songs, photographs, biographies, and even offer a live Web cast of a performance on the site, which will instantly increase exposure

and promotion worldwide. For more information, check the site at www.atom-bomb.com.

Other music sites that only appeared in 1999 include Riffage.com, Cosmic Music Network, Jimmy and Doug's Furry Club, Loco Listening Room, program, RioPort and RollingStone.com. Plug in your head phone and get surfing.

Stay tuned...

Hey, listen up. Planet 96.3 has done it again. The local radio station raised \$51,000 in donations Dec. 23 to benefit the Rainbow Connection, a non-profit organization that grants wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses.

Members of the "Johnny in the Morning" show got together for the second year to raise money. And they thought of a clever way to do it. From 6 a.m. to midnight, the crew played requested songs — and

I do mean anything — in exchange for donations.

There was no format, no rhyme or reason to the radio madness, but it worked. Even Detroit's Kid Rock called in to donate money, and challenge fans to request music by local artists. For each donation of that kind, he vowed to match the pledge.

While some kids will get their wishes granted — thanks in part to our Kid — The Offspring still claims "The Kids

Aren't Alright." And their not too concerned about it. Thanks to that hit, and songs like "Pretty Fly (For a White Guy)," and "Why Don't You Get a Job" the band has received the honor of being named Modern Rock Artists of the Year at the 1999 Billboard Music Awards. Their multi-platinum album "Americana" has become an international success. These kids sure sound like their doing all right.

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Guays a week

A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

THEATER

CENTURY THEATRE
"Forbidden Broadway Strikes Back," through Sunday, Feb. 13, 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8:30 p.m. Fridays, 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturdays, and 5:30 p.m. Sundays, at the Century Theatre, 333 Madison Avenue, Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800/(248) 645-6666

GEM THEATRE
"Escanaba in da Moonlight," a comedy by Jeff Daniels, through March 26, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays, at the theater, 33 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800

JET THEATRE
"Prisoner of Second Avenue" show dates Jan. 6-9, Jan. 12-16, Jan. 19-23, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday and Sunday, 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday and Wednesday, in the Aaron DeRoy Theatre, lower level of Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road at Drake, West Bloomfield. \$15-\$25. (248) 788-2900

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE
"Dangerous Obsession," continues to Sunday, Jan. 30, at the theater on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester. \$24-\$35. (\$19.50-\$24 previews Wednesday-Friday, Jan. 5-7). (248) 377-3300

COLLEGE

WSU HILBERRY
No performances through Jan. 9. "Some Americans Abroad," through Saturday, Feb. 5, and "Our Town" through Saturday, Jan. 29, at the theater 4743 Cass, Detroit. \$11-\$18. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATER

AVON PLAYERS
"Made in the USA: Encore," a musical review showcasing the past century of American song and dance, Jan. 14-16, 21-23 and 27-29, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays, at the playhouse, 1185 Tienken Road, east of Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. \$15, student/senior/group rates available Thursday and Sunday performances. (248) 608-9077

CLARKSTON VILLAGE PLAYERS
"Weekend Comedy" by Jeanne and Sam Bobrick, 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, Jan. 7-8, 14-15 and 21-22, and 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20, at the Depot Theater, 4861 White Lake Road, Clarkston. \$11. (248) 625-8811

CONLEN PRODUCTIONS
"Amahl and the Night Visitors," 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium, Ann Arbor, and 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9, at Covenant Community Church, 25800 near Beech Daly and Five Mile, Redford. Admission is free but donations will be accepted after the performance. (248) 478-8932

DEARBORN FAMILY THEATRE
"Bye, Bye Birdie," 8 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Jan. 14-16, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, in Adray Auditorium at the MacKenzie Fine Arts Center, Henry Ford Community College, Evergreen Road, south of Ford Road, Dearborn. \$10, \$9 seniors. (313) 943-3099

PHOENIX PRODUCTIONS
Present two comedies "Lone Star" and "Private Wars," Thursdays-Sundays, Jan. 6-16, show time is 8 p.m., except for 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18 performance, at the Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. \$12, \$10 students/seniors/veterans. (313) 581-7544

RIDGEDALE PLAYERS
"Deathtrap," Jan. 14-16, 21-23 and 28-30, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sundays, at 205 W. Long Lake, between Livernois and Crooks, Troy. \$11, \$10 seniors/students. (248) 988-7048

STAGECRAFTERS
"Cinderella," Jan. 14 to Feb. 6, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays (except Thursday, Feb. 3), and 2 p.m. Sundays, at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. \$14-\$18. (248) 541-6430



Featured soloist: American baritone David Pittman-Jennings performs Gustav Mahler's version of Ludwig Van Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Neeme Jarvi, 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday Jan. 6-7, 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9 at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. The "Ode to Joy 2000" concert also features the University Michigan Society Choral Union; soprano, Camellia Johnson; alto, Eleni Matos; and tenor Frank Poretta III. Tickets \$19-\$66, available at the box office, or call (313) 576-5111. Visit the DSO online at www.detroitssymphony.com

DINNER THEATER

BACI THEATRE
"Flanagan's Wake," 8 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays. (\$25 Thursdays and Sundays, and \$30 Fridays-Saturdays), and "Tony n' Tina's Wedding," 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sundays, at 40 W. Pike, Pontiac. (248) 745-8668/(248) 645-6666

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

ANNIE JR.
Runs 2 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 16, 23, 30 and 8 p.m. Saturdays, Jan. 15, 22, 29, Scottish Rite Cathedral Theatre, Masonic Temple, 500 Temple, Detroit. (313) 535-8962

CLARKSTON VILLAGE PLAYERS
"Jack and the Beanstalk," a musical puppet show for children, 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 29-30, at the Depot Theater, 4861 White Lake Road, Clarkston. \$5. (248) 625-8811

MARQUIS THEATRE
"Jack in the Beanstalk," through Sunday, Jan. 16, at the theater, 135 E. Main, Northville. \$7. (248) 349-8110

PUPPETART
"Close the Window...or Chelm's Law," 2 p.m. Saturdays, Jan. 12, 22 and 29, at the Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River, Detroit. \$7, \$5 children. (313) 961-7777

SPECIAL EVENTS

DAVID COPPERFIELD
"Journey of a Lifetime" Tickets of sale now for five magical performances, March 24-28, Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$27.50-\$45. Call (248) 645-6666

KEN MEDEMA
The Christian recording artist is part of the Spirit Arising Celebration of Faith at the Dawn of a New Millennium, Friday-Sunday, Jan. 7-9, Medema performs 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9 (\$5), at First Baptist Church, 300 Wilkins at Bates, Birmingham. (248) 644-0550

PAPER BAG PRODUCTIONS
Mini performance of "Sleeping Beauty," Saturday, Jan. 8, in the Food Court at Wonderland Mall, Plymouth Road and Middlebelt, Livonia. (734) 922-5100

PLYMOUTH INTERNATIONAL ICE SCULPTURE SPECTACULAR

Open 24 hours a day from Wednesday-Monday, Jan. 12-17, the 18th annual winter festival features ice carving competitions for professionals, amateurs, and high school and college students, an "Icy Toyland" which includes Pokemon and other cartoon characters, and a celebrity charity carving competition, in Kellogg Park. The Gathering and Central Parking Structure in downtown Plymouth. (734) 459-9157 or visit the Web site at www.iceonline.com/plymouthice. Plymouth Whalers ice skating party 5:30-7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, at Compuware Arena, 14900 Beck, Plymouth. \$5 at the door.

BENEFITS

FARMINGTON PLAYERS
Perform John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men" to benefit Capuchin Soup Kitchen 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 4. \$50, includes a theme dinner after the show. (248) 553-2955

CLASSICAL

BIRMINGHAM MUSICALE
A salute to the National Federation of Music Clubs, 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, at the Birmingham Community House, 380 S. Bates. Free. (248) 335-7160

BRUNCH WITH BACH
Pianist Anna Sorokhtei performs the music of Mozart, Debussy and Schumann 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 9, seating begins 20 minutes before concert, in Kresge Court at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward. \$22, \$11 children under age 12, \$5 concert only (stairwell seating). Museum admission is included. (313) 833-4005

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" with the University Musical Society Choral Union, 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Jan. 6-7, 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9, at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. \$14-\$66. (313) 576-5111

POPS/SWING

MIMI PARAMANTES & COMPANY
"Frank Sinatra Tribute," 8:30 p.m. to midnight, Fridays

Saturdays through November, at Andiamo Italia West, 6676 Telegraph Road at Maple, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 865-9300

ALTURO SHELTON
The musical impressionist sings "A Motown Tribute," voices include Stevie Wonder, Sammie Davis, Jr., Redd Fox and Nat King Cole, 9 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at the Ponchartrain Hotel, Washington Blvd. and Jefferson, Detroit. No cover. (313) 965-0200/(248) 354-1194

AUDITIONS

BLUE LAKE BALLET
Auditions for middle and high school students who want to attend Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp's dance program in summer of 2000, noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, at Wayne State University, 3226 Old Main, Detroit. Students unable to audition may send a video. (800) 221-3796

CLARKSTON VILLAGE PLAYERS
Auditions for "A Case of Libel" by Henry Denker 7:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Jan. 17-18 at the Depot, 4861 White Lake Road, Clarkston. (248) 625-8811

LIVONIA YOUTH PHILHARMONIC
Auditions for the youth orchestra will be held Saturday, Jan. 22. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (734) 591-7649

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHORUS
Auditions will be held 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 11, 18 and 25, and Feb. 1 by appointment, tenors and basses are especially needed by there are some openings for sopranos and altos, at First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, west of Sheldon, Plymouth. (734) 455-4080

PLYMOUTH ORATORIO SOCIETY
Rehearsals begin 7:15 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10, selected works to be performed are "Te Deum" by A. Bruckner, "Magnificat" by J. Rutter and "Coronation Anthems No. 1 and 4 by G. F. Handel. Scores may be purchased at the first rehearsal. No auditions are required, at First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, west of Sheldon, Plymouth. (734) 455-8353

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR
Auditions for all voice parts, in room 530 of the Forum Building, at the college, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile, Livonia. (313) 937-0975

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE JAZZ BAND
Auditions Monday, Jan. 10, possible openings for drums, piano, guitar and other sections, in Room 310 of the Forum Building on campus, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile roads, Livonia. (734) 420-8984

SOLO CONCERTO COMPETITION
The Bohemians Club (also known as The Musicians Club of Greater Detroit), hosts its competition for orchestral instruments (high school and college students ages 16-22), must submit performance tape by April 1. For application, e-mail CoufLinks@aol.com

STAGECRAFTERS
Auditions for "Barefoot in the Park," 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Jan. 17-18 (registration begins 6:30 p.m.), in the Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. For performances March 24-26 and 29-31, and April 1-2 and 6-9. (248) 541-4832

SWEET ADELINES
Guest night for women interested in singing, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, at the UAW Local 898, 8975 Textile Road, Ypsilanti. (734) 480-8843 or www.sweetadelines.org

THEATRE GUILD OF LIVONIA REDFORD

Is searching for directors, choreographers, musical directors, and all others interested in musical comedy theater. Call (313) 531-0554 for information, or deliver resumes and letters of interest to the Theatre Guild, 15138 Beech Daly, across from the Township Hall in Redford.

WHISTLE STOP PLAYERS
Auditions for "The Adventures of Beatrix Potter and her Friends," 6:30-8 p.m. Sunday-Monday, Jan. 9-10, select one day, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, at Junction. Participation fee due upon casting: \$100 members. Scholarships available for those in need. For performances April 30 to May 19 at the arts council and local schools. (734) 416-4278

JAZZ

AMIGO
8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, at Edison's, 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

GEORGE BENSON QUARTET
8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, at the Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$25, \$15, \$10. (734) 769-2999 or e-mail to kch@ic.net

TODD CURTIS
Thursdays, at Elie's, 263 Pierce Street, Birmingham. (248) 647-2420

DEUTSCH/FLOOD AND SIEGEL
8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7, at the Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth, Ann Arbor, \$8, \$5 students. (734) 769-2999 or kch@ic.net

BILL GAFF
8:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14, at Edison's, 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

GEM JAZZ TRIO
Performs 7-11 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at the Century Club Restaurant, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-9800

RICH K. TRIO
8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at Big Fish, 700 Town Center Dr., Dearborn. (313) 336-6350

MATT MICHAELS TRIO
With Johnny Trudell, trumpet and flugelhorn, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12, with vocalist April Tini 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19, at Ron's Fireside Inn, 28937 Warren, east of Middlebelt Road, Garden City. \$5 cover. Reservations recommended for the Jazz Room. (734) 762-7756

CLIFF MONEAR TRIO
With Stephanie, 9:30 p.m. 11 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 8-9, at the Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. \$7. (734) 662-8310

TONY POPE'S N'ORLEANS SIX
3-6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22, at Steak and Ale, 32750 Concord, across from Oakland Mall, Madison Hts. \$4 cover. (248) 588-4450

JANET TENAJ TRIO
Featuring Sven Anderson, piano and Kurt Krahmke, bass, 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sundays, at

Fishbone's Restaurant, 29244 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield. (248) 351-2925

THE BROTHERS GROOVE
9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, at Edison's, 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

PAUL VENTIMIGLIA
8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 6, at Edison's, 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

ED WELLS
The pianist performs 5:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays, at the Century Club Restaurant, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-9800

WORLD MUSIC

THE CASSIDYS
A Dublin group with champion step-dancer, 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, at Athens High School, John R and Wattles, Troy. \$15. (248) 435-5307/(810) 979-8406

POETRY/ SPOKEN WORD

POETRY SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN
Workshop for poets looking for more members, 2-4 p.m. third Tuesday of month, in the Jenkins rooms on the third floor of the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road. (734) 762-7586

DANCE

BALLROOM DANCING
9 p.m. Saturdays, at the Dance Scene, 25333 Van Dyke, Centerline. \$6. Also swing and Latin classes. (810) 757-6300

GROSSE POINTE THEATRE
Hosts West Side Story Dance Workshops, learn actual choreography to be taught from the dance numbers in the theater companies spring production, 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 11, 18, 25 and Feb. 1 and 8, at the theater, 315 Fisher Road, Grosse Pointe. (248) 594-9673/(313) 884-0196 or www.gpt.org

HUNGARIAN FOLK DANCE
Language and zither lessons. (248) 352-0927/(734) 946-6261

POLISH ALLIANCE DANCERS OF DEARBORN
Dance and language classes for ages 3 to adult have begun Saturday mornings at Prince of Peace Church, on Altar Road, Dearborn. (313) 581-3181

STARDUST BALLROOM
Dance parties 9 p.m. Fridays, lessons also available, at the dance studio, 28651 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield. \$8. (248) 356-5678

WATERFORD-OAKS BALLROOM DANCING
8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7, at 2800 Watkins Lake Road, Waterford. (248) 673-4764

COMEDY

DOWN HOME COMEDY SUPERSTAR TOUR
Featuring D.C. Curry, Joe Torry, Sheryl Underwood, hosted by Bobo Lamb 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14, at the Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$37.50, \$29.50. (248) 433-1515

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB
at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia, 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S
John Di Crosta, Wednesday-Sunday, Jan. 6-9, at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

SECOND CITY
"Phantom Menace to Society" Wednesday-Sunday, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Mainstage comedy acts \$10 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, \$17.50 on Fridays, and \$19.50 on Saturdays. (313) 965-2222

MUSEUMS AND TOURS

ANN ARBOR HANDS-ON MUSEUM
Offers more than 250 interactive exhibits intended to make science fun, at the museum, 220 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. \$5, \$4 children/seniors/students. (734) 995-5439

Please see next page

'Snow Falling on Cedars' a disappointment

BY BOB THOMAS
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

The 1996 novel by David Guterson, "Snow Falling on Cedars," proved an immediate hit with readers and critics. It was an engaging story of young lovers — one white, the other Japanese-American — on a fishing and farming island in Puget Sound.

The love story was played against the backdrop of World War II, when the islanders of Japanese descent were sent to detention camps. Tensions between the two ethnic groups remained after the war, especially after a white fisherman was found dead at sea. A young Japanese farmer was accused of murder.

The film version of "Snow Falling on Cedars" held great promise. Australian Scott Hicks, who directed Geoffrey Rush to an Academy Award in "Shine," was chosen to direct his first American film. He shares the writing credit with Ron Bass, an Oscar winner for "Rainman." A distinguished cast was assembled, and stunning locations were found in the state of Washington and British Columbia.

The end result, however, is a disappointment.

The filmmakers apparently mistrusted the straightforward nature of Guterson's novel. The narrative flow has been chopped up, the time element leaping from one decade to another then back again, flashbacks appearing within flashbacks.

The photography lapses into moody sepia as though the Northwest was totally lacking in color. The portentous musical score resonates with pounding drums, swirling strings, smashing crescendos and a chorus reminiscent of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Hicks' direction calls for mood-setting close-ups of raindrops falling from leaves, the inner workings of a newspaper type machine, dead fish, etc.

The film begins in total darkness. Amid the creaking sounds of a boat at sea, a faintly visible scene emerges. It is a fishing boat in a dense fog. Something violent has happened.

Thereafter the plot is told in

shifting time frames. The most moving aspect of the story concerns the relationship of the two young lovers: Hataue, daughter of a Japanese strawberry farmer, and Ishmael, the son of a local white newspaper editor. They must play and love in secret because of the pressures of society.

The most tragic sequence comes when the Japanese are sent to the Manzanar internment center in California after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. The underlying tensions between the two elements of the island population become

intensified. Hataue's romance with Ishmael is discovered, and she must vow never to see or write him again. She marries another childhood friend, also an internee.

The murder trial, replete with flashbacks, provides the climax of "Snow Falling on Cedars." Ishmael (Ethan Hawke), badly wounded in the war and editor of the newspaper since his father's death, is still haunted by his love for Hataue (Youki Kudoh). He struggles over whether he should help save the accused man, who is Hataue's hus-

band. The casting is flawless. Among the standouts: Max Von Sydow, the gentle defense attorney; James Cromwell, the resolutely fair judge; Rick Yune, the murder suspect; Ethan Hawke and Youki Kudoh, the thwarted lovers; Sam Shepard, the fair-minded newspaper editor.

"Snow Falling on Cedars" is a Universal Pictures release produced by Harry J. Uffand, Ron Bass, Kathleen Kennedy and Frank Marshall. Running time: 128 minutes.



DAVID JAMES/UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

Haunting: Ishmael Chambers (Ethan Hawke) and Hataue Miyamoto (Youki Kudoh) embrace, years after their childhood love has been undone by societal pressures and familial customs in "Snow Falling on Cedars."

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

<p>National Amusements Showcase Cinemas</p> <p>Shewcreek Amherst Hills 1-14 2150 N. Opdyke Rd. Between University & Walton Blvd 248-373-2660 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed-Thurs, Fri, Sat NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R) NP GALAXY QUEST (PG) NP THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY (R) NP ANY GIVEN SUNDAY (R) NP MAN ON THE MOON (R) NP BICENTENNIAL MAN (PG) NP STUART LITTLE (PG) NP DEUCE BIGALOW: MALE GIGOLO (R) NP THE GREEN MILE (R) NP END OF DAYS (R) NP TOY STORY 2 (G) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) POKEMON (G) THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Southfield 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off I-696 248-353-STAR No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>FOR SHOWTIMES AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE CALL 248-373-2222 WWW.STAR.SOUTHFIELD.COM</p> <p>NP THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY (R) NP GALAXY QUEST (PG) NP ANY GIVEN SUNDAY (R) NP MAN ON THE MOON (R) NP STUART LITTLE (PG) NP ANNA AND THE KING (PG13) NP BICENTENNIAL MAN NP DEUCE BIGALOW: MALE GIGOLO (R) NP THE GREEN MILE (R) NP TOY STORY 2 (G) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH: 007 (PG13) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Westland 1-8 6800 Wayne Rd., One blk S. of Warren Rd. 313-729-1060 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed-Thurs, Fri, Sat NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY (R) NP MAN ON THE MOON (R) NP BICENTENNIAL MAN (PG) NP THE GREEN MILE (R) NP TOY STORY 2 (G) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Winchester 1136 S. Rochester Rd, Winchester Mall 248-656-1100 No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP STUART LITTLE (G) NP BICENTENNIAL MAN (PG) NP TOY STORY (G) POKEMON (G)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Main Art Theatre III Main - 11 Mile Royal Oak (248) 542-0100</p> <p>THE CEDAR HOUSE RULES (PG13) BOYS DON'T CRY (R) BEING JOHN MALLOVICH (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES Children Under 6 Not Admitted</p> <p>Maple Art Cinema III 4135 W. Maple, West of Telegraph Bloomfield Hills 248-855-9090 DISCOUNTED SHOWS!!</p> <p>MANSFIELD PARK (PG13) THE STRAIGHT STORY (G) LIBERTY HEIGHTS</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>
<p>Shewcreek Dearborn 1-8 Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3449 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri, Sat, & Sun NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP ANY GIVEN SUNDAY (R) NP MAN ON THE MOON (R) NP BICENTENNIAL MAN (PG) NP STUART LITTLE (PG) NP DEUCE BIGALOW: MALE GIGOLO (R) NP THE GREEN MILE (R) NP END OF DAYS (R) NP TOY STORY 2 (G)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Theatres The World's Best Theatres Bargain Matinees Daily \$5.00 All Shows Starting before 6:00 pm Now accepting Visa & MasterCard *NP Denotes No Pass Engagement</p> <p>Star Great Lakes Crossing Great Lakes Shopping Center 248-454-8366</p> <p>NP GALAXY QUEST (PG) NP THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY (R) NP CEDAR HOUSE RULES (R) NP ANY GIVEN SUNDAY (R) NP MAN ON THE MOON (R) NP BICENTENNIAL MAN (PG) NP STUART LITTLE (PG) NP ANNA AND THE KING (PG13) NP THE GREEN MILE (R) NP DEUCE BIGALOW (R) NP TOY STORY 2 (G) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>United Artists Theatres Bargain Matinees Daily, for all shows starting before 6:00 PM Same day advance tickets available NP - No V.I.P. tickets accepted</p> <p>United Artists Oakland Inside Oakland Mall 248-908-0706</p> <p>DEUCE BIGALOW (R) NV THE INSIDER (R) THE SIXTH SENSE (PG13) AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>MPR THEATRES</p> <p>Brighton - Cinema 9 196 East Grand River 810-227-4700 Call 77-Film Ext. 548</p> <p>NP THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY (R) NP GALAXY QUEST (PG) NP ANY GIVEN SUNDAY (R) NP MAN ON THE MOON (R) NP STUART LITTLE (PG) NP BICENTENNIAL MAN (PG) NP THE GREEN MILE (R) NP DEUCE BIGALOW: MALE GIGOLO (R) NP TOY STORY 2 (G)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Oxford 3 Cinema, L.L.C. Downtown Oakland Laper Rd. (M-24) (248) 628-7100 Fax (248) 628-1300 DETROIT'S LOWEST FIRST RUN PRICES INCLUDING TWILIGHT PRICING \$3.00 4-5 PM</p> <p>CLOSED FOR RENOVATION</p> <p>AMC Uptown 20 Haggerty & 7 Mile 734-542-9909</p> <p>CALL THEATRE FOR FEATURES AND TIMES</p> <p>\$1.00 Ford Top \$1.50 313-561-7200 \$1.00 10-6 pm After 6 pm, \$1.50 Ample Parking - Telford Center Free Refill on Drinks & Popcorn Please Call Theatre for Showtimes</p> <p>TARZAN (G) THREE KINGS (R) RANDOM HEARTS (R)</p>
<p>Shewcreek Pontiac 1-5 Telegraph St, Lake Rd, W Side of Telegraph 810-352-8241 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP ANY GIVEN SUNDAY (R) NP BICENTENNIAL MAN (PG) NP TOY STORY 2 (G) THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star John & 34 Mile 32289 John R. Road 248-585-3070</p> <p>No one under 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP GALAXY QUEST (PG) NP THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY (R) NP THE CEDAR HOUSE RULES (PG13) NP ANNA AND THE KING (PG) NP STUART LITTLE (PG) NP THE GREEN MILE (R) NP TOY STORY 2 (G) NP END OF DAYS (R) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>United Artists West River 9 Mile, 2 Blocks West of Middlebelt 248-708-6572</p> <p>GALAXY QUEST (R) NV THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY (R) NP ANNA AND THE KING (PG13) NP BICENTENNIAL MAN (PG) NV NP STUART LITTLE (PG) NV</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Westland Cinema 16 7501 Highland Rd. S.E. corner M-59 & Williams Lake Rd. 24 Hour Movie Line (248) 666-7900 CALL 77 FILMS ASSIST</p> <p>WE'VE TRIPLED OUR LOGGY AND ADDED FIVE NEW SCREENS. THE ONLY THEATRE IN OAKLAND COUNTY WITH THE NEW DOLBY DIGITAL EX SOUND SYSTEM AND MORE... CHECK US OUT!</p> <p>OUR EXPANDED PARKING LOT IS NOW OPEN FREE REFILL ON POPCORN AND POP</p> <p>NP THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY (R) NP GALAXY QUEST (PG) NP ANY GIVEN SUNDAY (R) NP MAN ON THE MOON (R) NP ANNA AND THE KING (PG13) NP STUART LITTLE (PG) NP BICENTENNIAL MAN (PG) NP THE GREEN MILE (R) NP DEUCE BIGALOW: MALE GIGOLO (R) NP TOY STORY 2 (G)</p> <p>007: THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) SLEEPY HOLLOW (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Visa & Mastercard Accepted</p>	<p>Shewcreek Pontiac 6-12 2405 Telegraph Rd, East side of Telegraph 810-354-6777 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows Until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri, Sat, Sun NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP GALAXY QUEST (PG) NP THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY (R) NP MAN ON THE MOON (R) NP STUART LITTLE (PG) NP THE GREEN MILE (R) NP DEUCE BIGALOW: MALE GIGOLO (R) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>

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COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, Jan. 7

MAGNOLIA
Six lives are interwoven in this ensemble drama. Stars Tom Cruise, William H. Macy and Julianne Moore.

SNOW FALLING ON CEDARS
Based on David Guterson's best-selling novel, and directed by Scott Hicks ("Shine"), this is the haunting tale of love, truth, justice and the vagaries of the heart. Stars Ethan Hawke and James Cromwell.

Scheduled to open Friday, Jan. 14

EYE OF THE BEHOLDER
In this psychological thriller, a high-tech operative nicknamed "The Eye" tracks the life of a beautiful woman. After he follows her to the scene of a murder, his role becomes something of a guardian angel. Stars Ewan McGregor and Ashley Judd.

HOLY SMOKE
A young woman is rescued from an Indian Guru by her concerned family, only to turn her follow-up encounters with a deprogrammer into an all-out battle of the sexes. Stars Harvey Keitel and Pam Grier.

THE HURRICANE
The story of Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, middleweight boxing champion who is accused of a crime he didn't commit. After 20 years in jail, he is released.

TUNNELWEEDS
Contemporary drama of a single mother and her 12-year-old daughter who embark on a journey of self-discovery. Stars Janet McTeer and Kimberly Brown.

Scheduled to open Friday, Jan. 21

DOWN TO YOU
A romantic comedy set among college students in New York City. Directed by Kris Isaacson. Stars Freddie Prinze Jr., Selma Blair and Henry Winkler.

Scheduled to open Friday, Feb. 4

THE BOB YEASH
Kevin Allen directs a comedy film about the world of celebrity hairdressing. When a gay, Scottish hairdresser travels to Los Angeles for the Super Bowl of hair styling competition, he finds that luck, charm, guts and a really good hairdryer are the keys to success. Stars Craig Ferguson, Frances Fisher and David Rasche.

SCREAM 3
The final chapter of the "Scream" trilogy brings back the original cast of characters from the films that changed the way viewers thought about modern horror flicks. Stars Neve Campbell, Courtney Cox Arquette, David Arquette, Jenny McCarthy and Parker Posey.

Scheduled to open Friday, Feb. 11

THE BEACH
A young American sets off on an exotic adventure in Thailand, only to discover that the modern-day paradise hides some disturbing secrets. Stars Leonardo DiCaprio and Robert Carlyle.

THE WHOLE NINE YARDS
Nicholas "Oz" Oseransky is a nice dentist living in suburban Montreal. His new neighbor Jimmy "The Tulip" Tudeski is a hit man in hiding. Oz and Jimmy find themselves with something in common, someone's trying to kill them. Stars Matthew Perry, Bruce Willis and Rosanna Arquette.

Scheduled to open Friday, Feb. 18

DIAMONDS
A retired prize fighter embarks on a journey with his son and grandson to search for 13 long-lost diamonds. Stars Kirk Douglas, Lauren Bacall and Dan Aykroyd.

ROMEO MUST DIE
Kung Fu meets hip hop on the seedy waterfront of Oakland, California, when a snaky truce between Asian and African American crime gangs disintegrates. Stars Jet Li and Delroy Lindo.

5 GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS

BEST PICTURE

THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY

MIRAMAX R

AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC EASTLAND 5	AMC FORUM 30
AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	MJR SOUTHGATE 20
SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE
SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING
STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS
STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	STAR COMMERCE TWP 14
STAR 12 OAKS	STAR WEST RIVER	CHECK NEWSPAPER DIRECTORIES FOR SHOWTIMES

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SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE
SHOWCASE	STAR GRATIOT	STAR
STAR LINCOLN PARK	STAR ROCHESTER	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	STAR COMMERCE TWP 14	STAR WEST RIVER

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STAR SOUTHFIELD 20	STAR TAYLOR	STAR WEST RIVER
SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE
STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS
STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	STAR COMMERCE TWP 14

4 GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS

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THE END OF THE AFFAIR

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Giovanni's offers central-Italy spin on its dishes

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

Abruzzi is the mountainous province in east-central Italy. Both the Italian Apennine mountains and Adriatic Sea are major food influences for the region.

These and the cuisine of San Marino create the culinary twist at Giovanni's, a landmark Detroit family restaurant since 1968.

Proprietor Frances (Fran) Cannarsa Truant and her son Randy cherish their family restaurant traditions begun by Fran's brothers Vince and Tony. They opened the location, 50 yards from the family's home, as Giovanni's Pizza Parlor (a name honoring their father) in a former Detroit Italian neighborhood. Their mother Rosa Cannarsa, who died in 1995 at age 87, remained active at Giovanni's until she was 83 years old.

In 1978, Fran teamed up with Paulina Tarducci, a chef from San Marino, Italy, and changed the name to Giovanni's Ristorante. It was Tarducci's creative cooking that brought metro-Detroit attention to Giovanni's. In December 1996, a fire destroyed the original Giovanni's, but not Fran's spirit. She rebuilt the restaurant with its private home dining ambiance and reopened in July 1997. "Detroit is my city," she said. "This is why I stayed here."

On most days Fran greets her loyal clientele at lunch and dinner and introduces newcomers to the fabulous flavors of Giovanni's dishes.

Tarducci's recipes are re-created at lunch by Chef Joe Bushnell, who has worked at Giovanni's since 1984. At dinner, Schoolcraft College culinary grad Tony Polito heads the kitchen. He has worked at Giovanni's since 1990.

Their pasta dishes are enhanced by 74-year-old Irma

Giovanni's Ristorante

Where: 330 S. Oakwood Blvd., Detroit (313) 841-0122.
Open: Tuesday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; until 10 p.m. on Friday; Saturday 4-10 p.m.
Menu: Classic dishes of central Italy.
Cost: Pastas and main dishes \$16-24.
Reservations: Recommended.
Credit cards: All majors.
Details: Full liquor license. Three small banquet rooms seating 15 to 30 for private parties. Audio Italian lessons in the restrooms - what a kick!

Giovanni's Uncorked

Proprietor Randy Truant knows his Italian wines. He recommends:
■ Olindo's Special (named after Randy's late father) with 1995 Ceretto Chardonnay "La Bernardina."
■ Manzo Braciola with 1994 Badia a Coltibuono Chianti Classico Riserva
■ Veal Giovanni with 1994 Poggio Scalette "Il Carbonaione" (100 percent sangiovese)

Morri, who each morning, makes all the fresh pasta for that day as she has for the past 20 years. Several waitstaff, including Tracie Alpert, Noleen Baker, and Shirley Magryta, have served diners for a collective 57 years. This has to be a record!

Randy Truant earned a mechanical engineering degree from Lawrence Technological University in 1992. He never worked using this education.

"I'm cut out for pasta not corporate America," he said. What Randy has brought to Giovanni's is a passion for Italian wine. His all-Italian list recently won a coveted "Wine Spectator" magazine Award of Excellence.

Among antipasti, several are favorites. Bistecca Calamari Frita, fried calamari strips with the best caper, tomato and red onions in buerre blanc sauce, this side of San Marino. Then there's the central Italy tradition Pizza Bianco, thin white pizza with fresh sliced tomatoes, olive oil, oregano and four

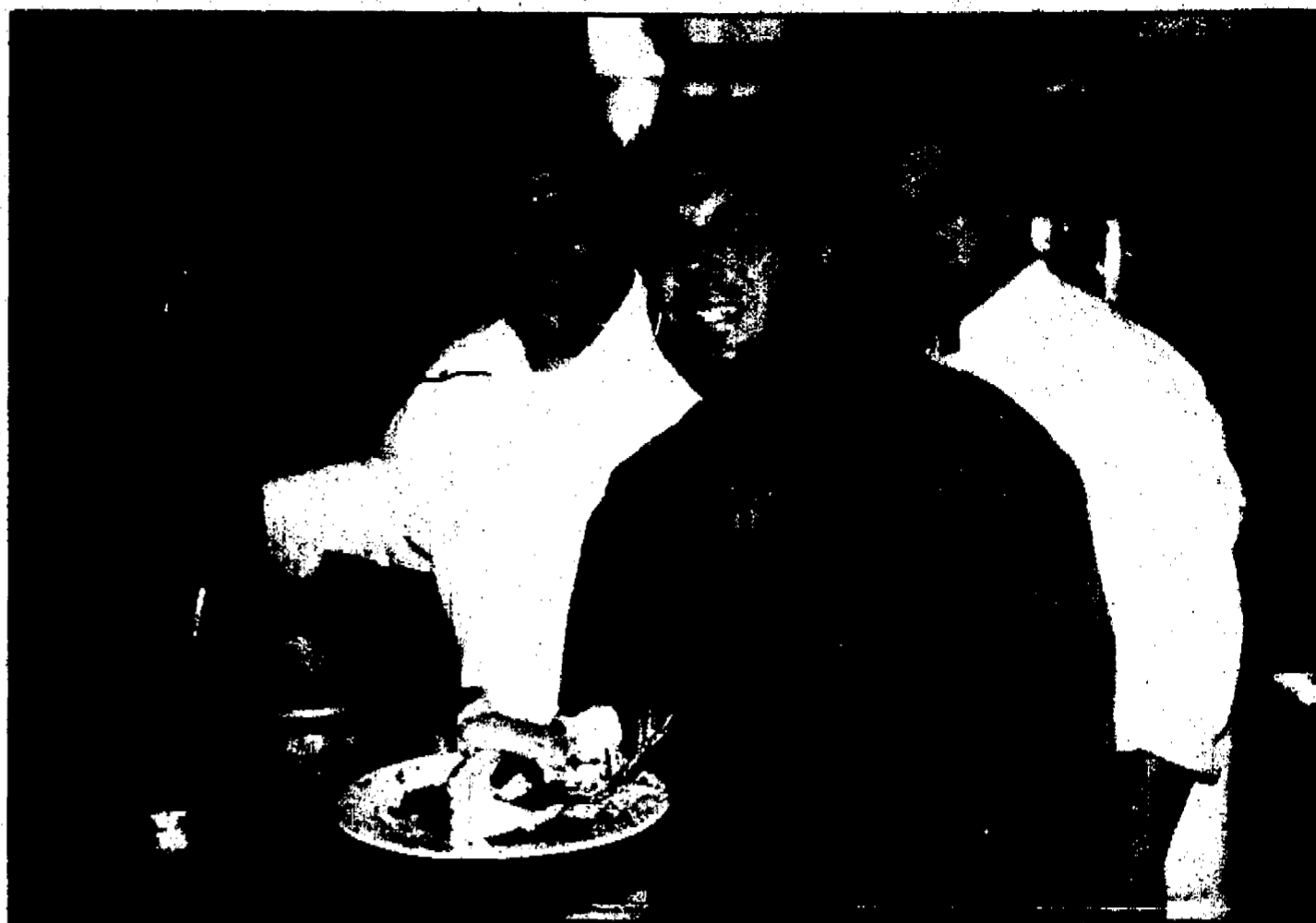
cheeses. Raviolo di Abruzzi are dual colored raviolis filled with four cheeses and topped with lobster, red and yellow sun-dried tomatoes in a white wine cream sauce. It's a knockout.

While the Minestrone is excellent, for something different in an Italian soup, order Pasta Fazole.

Choices of pastas are angel hair, linguine, tagliatelle or fettuccine with four typical sauces. Where the pasta bar gets raised is the house specialty pasta dishes, all served with garlic bread, pepperonata and soup or salad.

Cappelletti Verde Pesto is meat and cheese filled round spinach ravioli topped with pesto sauce. Gnocchi di Patate Verde is homemade spinach potato dumplings topped with creamy Alfredo sauce.

My favorite is Manicotti Verde Pomodoro, thin sheets of spinach pasta filled with ricotta, mozzarella and Parmesan cheese, topped with pomodoro.



Appetizing: Dinner Chef Tony Polito (left), proprietor Randy Truant and Lunch Chef Joe Bushnell prepare Polenta Napoleon, a Giovanni's appetizer special.

Simple, delicate, al dente pasta and the great flavors of cheese and tomato make this dish elegant.

Piatti della Casa are served with garlic bread, pepperonata, soup or salad and a side of linguine. Favorites are Manzo Braciola, thinly sliced beef tenderloin rolled around prosciutto, garlic and parsley, braised in a tomato mushroom sauce; Veal alla Giovanni, medallions of veal sauteed with artichokes and white wine; and Pollo alla Francesca, boneless breast of chicken sauteed in a mild lemon caper sauce.

My favorite over the years is Saltimbocca Romano, medallion of veal topped with a thin slice of imported prosciutto, sage and

fontina cheese sauteed in a white wine sauce. This slightly salty dish, a specialty of Rome, is simply delicious.

If you leave room, dessert selections change daily. If available, order Tiramisu, made with Kahlua and brandy or the house-made cannolis.

There are a lot of Italian restaurants in greater Detroit,

but none matching culinary wizardry, atmosphere, service, cordiality, and heritage as well.

Eleanor Heald is a Troy resident who writes about dining, food and wine for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. To leave her a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1864.

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