



THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY

City Hall: There will be three Westland City Council study sessions Feb. 14 in council chambers: 6 p.m., site plan for proposed Auto Glass Specialists; 6:30 p.m., review of annual Summer Festival; 7:15 p.m., closed session.

TUESDAY/THURSDAY

Dads: The annual Parks and Recreation Daddy/Daughter Dance will be held 7-8:30 p.m. Feb. 15 and Feb. 17 at the Bailey Center, Ford near Carlson, Westland. Mike Brennan will be the square dance caller. For reservations, call (734) 722-7620. Reservations are required.

WEDNESDAY

Moms: The annual Parks and Recreation Mommy/Son Dance will be held 7-8:30 p.m. Feb. 16 at the Bailey Center. Mike Brennan will be the square dance caller. For reservations, call (734) 722-7620. Reservations are required.

SPECIAL SECTION

Holy matrimony, Batman: How do you marry three daughters in four months? Find out in the Observer's "Wedding Magic" supplement inside this issue.

INDEX

Apartments/E7	Movies/C4
Arts/C1	New Homes/E1
Automotive/H6	Obituaries/A2
Classified/E, G, H	Real Estate/E1
Classified Index/E4	Service Guide/H4
Crossword/E6	Sports/B1
Jobs/G1	Taste/D1
Malls/C6	Travel/C8

LeBlanc: Resurrect King tribute



The Salvation Army had its annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration in January, but things were quiet at City Hall. Councilman Richard LeBlanc is proposing a larger-scale city celebration to honor King.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
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Disappointed that the city had no celebration this year honoring the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., a Westland council member has proposed reviving the program.

"I believe it's deserved," Councilman Richard LeBlanc said. "I think we

should get back on track."

The city had no celebration after negotiating with employee unions to observe King's birthday by declaring a holiday and giving workers the day off.

The decision was supported by a committee, which included African Americans, that studied the issue. Mayor Robert Thomas said.

But LeBlanc said the city can have

an official holiday but still lead a celebration honoring King, the slain civil rights leader whose birthday is observed the third Monday in January.

The Salvation Army in Westland sponsored another successful celebration this year, but LeBlanc said Monday during a council meeting that the city also should offer a program.

For the first time ever, the city in 1998 organized a march from City Hall to the Westland public library, where the crowd enjoyed singing, skits and speeches honoring King. An estimated 425 people participated in the event.

Last year, a similar march and celebration at the senior citizen Friendship

Center drew about 60 people, Thomas said, adding that his staff accounted for half of the participants.

"In other words, nobody came, and it was embarrassing to say the least," Thomas said during Monday's council meeting.

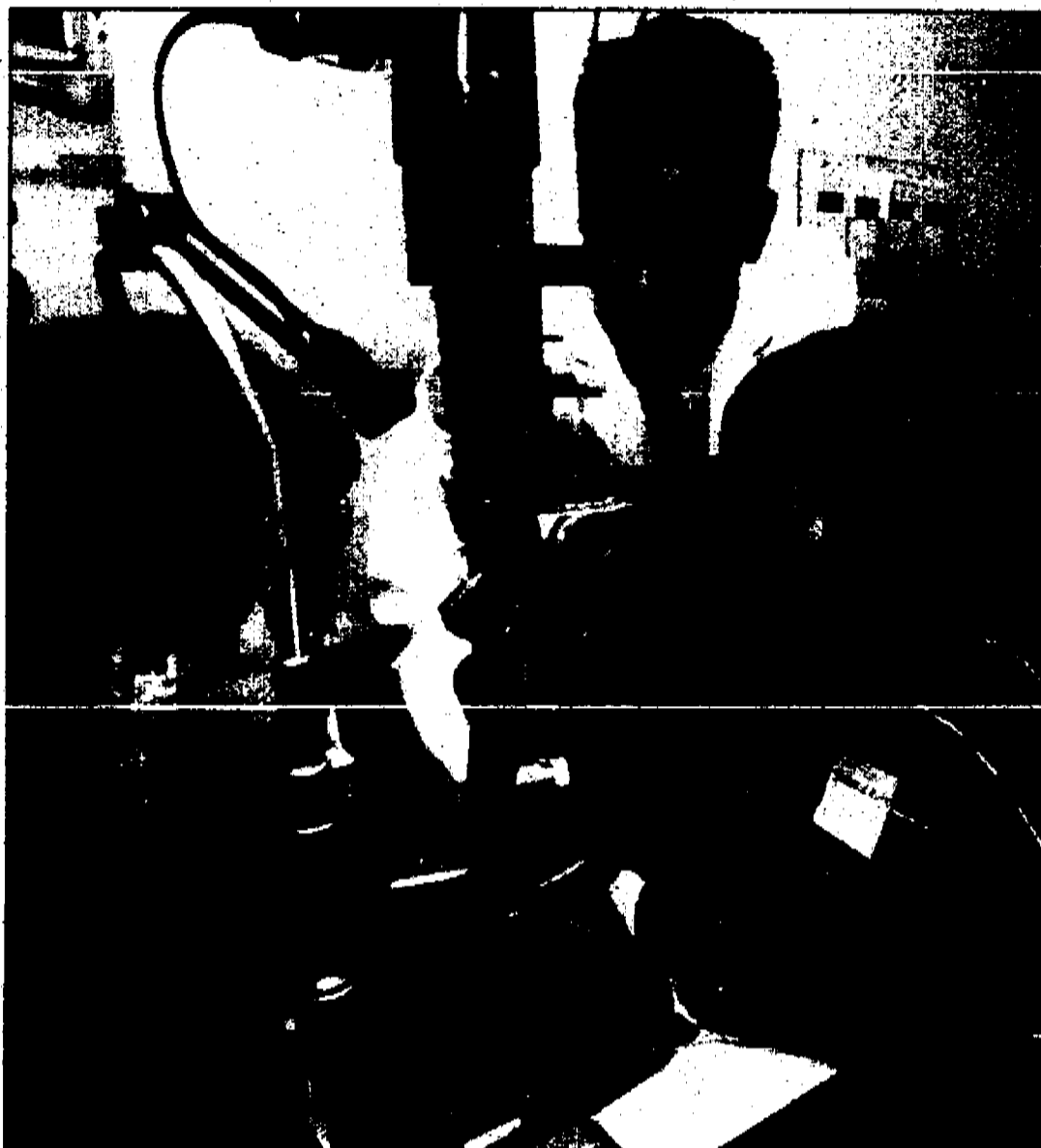
"I have no problem having a celebration for Martin Luther King ... but by God we need people to show up," the mayor said.

Thomas said he believed the city had reached the ultimate goal of declaring King's birthday observance an official holiday.

Please see KING, A2



Watchful eye: Chef Kathy Johnson at Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe watches John Glenn High School ninth-grader Nicole Black place white chocolate onto raspberry muffins.



Learning: Ninth-grader Danielle Rivers (right) from Wayne Memorial High School had the chance to take a look at the structure of Shirley Crummey's eye (left). Rivers was part of a job shadow program by the Westland Chamber of Commerce, spending time with Dr. Ayaz Khan of Henry Ford OptimEyes, located in Westland.

STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Students explore world of work

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

Danielle Rivers, a ninth-grader at Wayne Memorial High School, got a taste Wednesday of the day-to-day routine of her life-time goal to be a doctor.

Rivers was attentive as she watched Dr. Ayaz Khan of OptimEyes give Shirley Crummey of Inkster an annual eye exam.

"I think it's very educational and a great idea," said Crummey, adding that she wished her high school had this kind of program when she was

going to school.

Down the hall, Julie Barber, a 10th-grader at Wayne Memorial, said she also wanted to be a doctor. In fact, this was her first chance to see such professionals at work.

"We thought it would be a great opportunity for students to get a glimpse of the health care aspect, as well as retail," explained Nicole Knight, OptimEyes marketing coordinator, referring to the eye and ear examinations as well as the glasses and contact lens sales done all in the same building.

"And it's an opportunity for those of

us to share what we know," Knight said. "And it's nice to have the kids around and see the wonder of our profession through their fresh eyes."

Rivers and Barber were among some 56 students who visited more than 20 businesses in the job shadowing program sponsored by the Westland Chamber of Commerce with the Wayne-Westland School District.

The idea was spearheaded by Mary Denning of Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland after she learned

Please see WORK, A4

Local voters have chance to make views known

BY DARRELL CLEM
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With Democrats holding their presidential caucus March 11, turnout is expected to be low for a Feb. 22 primary.

"I think it's going to be a very small turnout," interim City Clerk Diane Fritz said Friday.

Still, polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The names of Democratic candidates Al Gore and Bill Bradley will not appear on the ballot.

"The Michigan Democratic Party does not recognize the results of the Feb. 22 Republican primary, and therefore Bill Bradley and Al Gore removed their names from the Feb. ballot," the

MDP announced in a prepared statement.

Here's how the Feb. 22 ballot stacks up:

■ The names of Republican candidates on the ballot include Gary Bauer, George W. Bush, Steve Forbes, Orrin Hatch, Alan Keyes and John McCain.

However, Bauer, Forbes and Hatch have pulled out of the running.

■ The only Democrat listed on the ballot will be Lyndon LaRouche Jr., who, according to the state party, "is not recognized as a Democrat by either the national or the state Democratic party."

In its statement, the party accused LaRouche of racism, anti-Semitism and misleading voters.

Please see VOTERS, A6

Youth shot

A 16-year-old boy was shot in the chest Friday night during a family argument. Westland police received a 911 call shortly after 7 p.m. from the city's northeast area. The caller said a boy had been shot.

The youth was discovered to have been shot in the chest and taken to a local hospital for treatment. Preliminary investigation by police indicates he had fought with his father, and the youth's mother intervened with a shotgun and unintentionally fired.

The 48-year-old mother was in police custody Saturday pending further investigation.

Bush to visit

Laura Welch Bush, the wife of Texas Gov. George W. Bush, will make a stop in Westland Monday. Bush will visit students at Jefferson-Barns Ele-

PLACES & FACES

mentary School, 32150 Dorsey, Westland. Her visit is scheduled for 12:45 p.m. Jefferson-Barns has a volunteer program that pairs senior citizens with students. One of the activities they concentrate on is reading.

Literacy is a primary interest which Bush promotes as first lady of Texas. Reading is part of an early childhood development program she launched in 1998 to help parents and caregivers prepare young children for reading.

The initiative has four components: Ready To Read, Reach Out and Read, Take Time for Kids and Family Literacy.

Volunteer Training

Spring Volunteer Training for Community Hospice & Home Care Services begins Monday, March 20, and runs through Friday, March 31. Classes will run 5-9 p.m. for six sessions: March 20, 22, 24, 27, 29 and 31 at the CHCS office, northwest corner of Warren and Venoy in Westland.

For information or to register, call (734) 522-4244. Volunteers are needed in many areas, ranging from hair stylists/barbers, masseuse, musicians/singers, craftsmen and office help.

The training program is offered free of charge. Participants will learn about the hospice care concept, communication skills, family dynamics, grief, bereavement and spirituality. Guest speakers will be included who are professionals in health care. Interaction among attendees is encouraged.

It's time to find a bargain in today's HomeTown Classifieds!



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Judge: Get children to school

BY DARRELL CLEM
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A Westland mother whose 8-year-old son missed 183 days of school in 2½ years has been ordered to get all three of her children to class.

Westland 18th District Judge Gail McKnight issued the order Wednesday after the 36-year-old mother pleaded guilty amid allegations that she has neglected her child.

The boy, who is repeating second grade at Wildwood Elementary School, has accumulated enough absences to amount to an entire school year.

Westland police Youth Officer Deanna Slezak said the mother also has children ages 15 and 16, and the older teen has dropped out of school.

Slezak commended McKnight for ordering the mother to get all of her children in

school.

The 8-year-old boy's situation, first reported in the Observer on Jan. 13, has gained widespread attention amid growing concern for addressing truancy problems.

On Wednesday, McKnight agreed to keep the case off the mother's record if she obeys orders to get her children to school.

Otherwise, the woman could face a jail term as long as 90 days.

Police have said it's possible she could lose her children if she faces repeated neglect allegations and refuses to address the problem.

McKnight gave the mother 30 days to show that her children will be attending classes regularly; otherwise, the woman could face a possible jail term.

Even if the situation improves, local authorities have indicated they will keep tabs on whether the children are in school.

The 8-year-old boy's case marked what Slezak called "the most extreme" truancy problem she has seen for a child that young.

Westland police have initiated a concerted effort to address truancy problems, and Slezak said five more investigations have been started since the 8-year-old boy's situation surfaced.

"We're starting to get some contacts with John Glenn (High School) students who haven't been to school for the whole year," Slezak said.

Police try to address the problem with parents before resorting to taking them to court.

"We give them a verbal warning and send them a certified letter," Slezak said.

The mother of the 8-year-old boy was brought into court only after she ignored repeated warnings to get him to school.

Westland Observer

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Honorees do the community proud

"Salute to Excellence" 2000 Award Presentation honorees have been named by Westland Mayor Robert Thomas.

Nancy Deschaine is 2000 Mother of the Year. She was nominated by Thomas Deschaine.

Norman Richards is 2000

Father of the Year. He was nominated by Patricia Richards.

Chuck Gordon is 2000 Teacher of the Year.

He was nominated by Todd Cobb.

The 2000 High School Senior of the Year is Corey Collins of John Glenn High School. He was

nominated by David Christiansen.

Special Achievement Award winner is Greg Baracy, superintendent of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

"Salute to Excellence" Awards will be presented at the State of the City Address, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 12, at the Helene Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, between Newburgh and Wayne roads in Westland.

There will be a social hour beginning 6 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres and live entertainment.

There is no charge.

Career center plans Feb. 16 open house

The William D. Ford Career/Technical Center will host "2000: A Career Odyssey" 8:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 16. The center is at 36455 Marquette, Westland.

There will be technical demonstrations and tours of programs, including accounting, automated manufacturing/machining, automotive technology, child care, computer aided design, cosmetol-

ogy, culinary arts, data processing, desktop publishing, health occupations, heating/air conditioning/refrigeration, media production, office/word processing, printing technology and welding

technology. At the same time, Project TEAM (Technical Education Academic Manufacturing) will hold an open house in Room 150 at John Glenn High School.

OBITUARIES

EVELYN C. LLOYD

Services for Evelyn Lloyd, 65, of Westland were held Feb. 8 in Vermeulen Funeral Home with burial at Lafayette Memorial Gardens in Lafayette, Ga.

Mrs. Lloyd, born Oct. 22, 1934, in Lafayette, Ga., died Feb. 5 in Wayne. She lived 45 years in Georgia before moving to Michigan. She worked as a telephone operator for three years, a billing clerk for 10 years, at Taco Bell for 17 years and was a teacher assistant in the Wayne-Westland Schools for three years.

Surviving are her husband, Robert; son, Joel (Melissa) of Wayne; daughter, Cynthia (Michael) Schaeffer of White Pigeon, Mich.; two brothers; one sister; and seven grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Evelyn Lloyd Memorial Fund for Underprivileged Children.

ANGELINE MIRELES

Services for Angeline Mireles, 80, of Westland were held Feb. 9 in St. Mary Catholic Church with burial at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights. Officiating was the Rev. Jack H. Baker.

Mrs. Mireles, born Oct. 2, 1919, in Austin, Texas, died Feb. 5 in Livonia. She was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church. She was a manager/sales for home products.

Surviving are her husband, Fernando; sons, Frederico of Flat Rock, Raymond (Margaret) of Dearborn and Lawrence (Rouchelle) of Gales Ferry, Conn.; daughters, Rosemary (Dale) Edwards of Oscoda, Judith (Thomas) Christoff of Plymouth, Patricia (Richard) Ketelhut of West Bloomfield, Angelita (Gary Malady) Lefrancois of Ypsilanti, Ann Marie (Eric) Gullekson of Westland and Margie (Patrick) Carney of Westland; brothers, Peter (Charlotte) Alcala of Plymouth and

Frank (Chena) Alcala of Detroit; sister, Phyllis Arango of Chicago, Ill.; 22 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to American Heart Association West Metro Region, P.O. Box 721129, Berkeley, MI 48072-0129 or the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan.

Arrangements were handled by Vermeulen Funeral Home, Westland.

FREDERICK V. ZBIKOWSKI

Services for Frederick Zbikowski, 78, of Westland were recently arranged by Vermeulen Funeral Home, Westland.

Mr. Zbikowski, born Feb. 14, 1921, in Detroit, died Feb. 7 in Westland. He was a tool and die maker.

Surviving Mr. Zbikowski is his daughter, Laura (James) Zebiey of Brighton.

King from page A1

During a telephone interview Thursday, LeBlanc said he will try to organize a celebration on his own unless his council colleagues and the city administration join him in planning a program next year.

"I will publicly initiate a call to the residents who wish to be involved, and we will form a committee and, if we have to, rent a facility to make it happen," LeBlanc said.

"I'm going under the assumption that there are other people who wish to be involved," he added.

The celebration wouldn't have to occur on the Monday when King's birthday is observed, LeBlanc said. Instead, he suggested more people might be able to attend if the ceremony were held one day earlier, on Sunday.

"I believe that more people

would have an opportunity to participate," he said. "A lot of people would have fewer obligations on Sunday than on Monday."

Moreover, LeBlanc said, a Sunday celebration would allow people to spend King's birthday as they choose, whether it's volunteering to help others or observing the holiday quietly.

"It would still allow for Westland employees to have their day

off," he said. LeBlanc said his proposal shouldn't be interpreted as an effort to infringe on the efforts of the committee that earlier studied the issue.

He noted that other cities, such as Livonia, have successful events honoring King.

"I believe there are enough people in our town that it could be made a successful event," he said.

Water from page A1

Wayne charges its customers \$1.34 per 1,000 gallons of water and \$2.66 per 1,000 gallons for sewer — for a combined \$4 rate that is 46 cents less than Westland's.

Van Buren Township rates are substantially cheaper than Westland's, according to township offices.

Van Buren charges customers

\$12 for the first 10,000 gallons of water (\$1.20 per 1,000 gallons) and \$13.20 for the first 10,000 gallons for sewer (\$1.32 per 1,000 gallons).

Van Buren rates drop even more after the first 10,000 gallons used — to \$1.05 per 1,000 gallons for water and \$1.26 for sewer, according to township offices.

"I'd like to know why we're paying abominably higher rates," Beals said.

Westland's last water-sewer rate hike of 27 cents became effective last July 1, pushing the combined rate to \$4.46.

Mayor Robert Thomas and other city officials have attributed the rate hike to federally mandated clean-water measures and to cost increases coming from Detroit, which provides the service throughout the metro area.

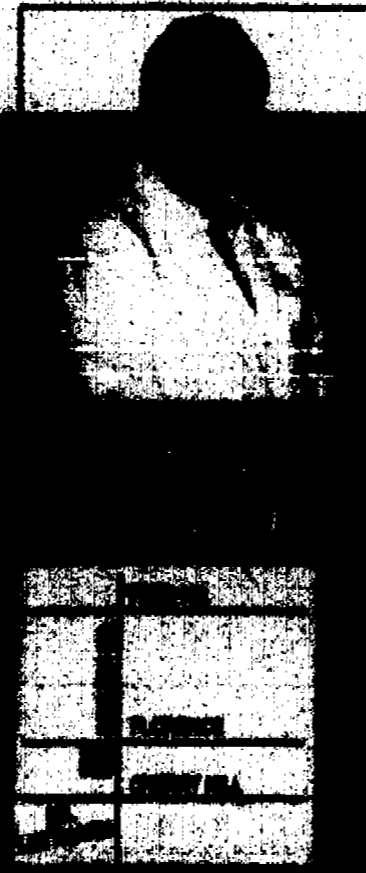
The 27-cent rate hike followed

a 38-cent increase the previous year.

City officials have conceded that Westland's rates are higher than those of some communities, and lower than others.

Beals said she has gone into debt just to keep her property looking good. She said she doesn't know how she will continue to pay her water-sewer bills if rates keep increasing.

"It's just not right," she said.



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Names: With eyes closed, director Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek pulls out the names of the winning couple.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Royalty: Dolores and George Sinkovich were announced as the King and Queen of Hearts at the Westland Friendship Center Valentine celebration Friday afternoon. Above, they march to the song "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" being sung by choir director Robert Cassidy. Behind are past years' kings and queens.

Seniors cherish Valentine's bash

Valentine's Day was celebrated in style Friday afternoon at the Friendship Center.

"This is the largest Valentine's Day party we have had," said Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek, Senior Resources Department director. The afternoon featured lunch and the Art Wyse band, with many seniors dancing.

The King and Queen of Hearts for 2000 were crowned, adding to the merriment. There was a grand march featuring previous honorees.

"We try to show love," said Kozorosky-Wiacek. "This is a great time to do it."

Seniors dressed in their best Friday, with many women in red

and men sporting red ties. "It's just unbelievable how good they look," she said.

The Bumblebee from Old Country Buffet visited, giving out free meals. There were door prizes as well.

Thrifty Florist donated the flowers for the King and Queen, with Corey's Jewel Box donating the Queen's crown, which she was able to keep.

The late Bernice Fradette had made capes for the royalty. "We made two new ones," said Kozorosky-Wiacek, noting the new ones were by Lottie Pruszyński. The extra capes allowed more royalty to be adorned.



Magic of music: Friendship Center choir director Robert Cassidy sang "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" for the King and Queen of Hearts at the Friendship Center. He was accompanied by the Art Wyse Band. Cassidy also sang the "Tennessee Waltz" for dancing.

■ 'This is the largest Valentine's Day party we have had.'

Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek
—director

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Work from page A1

Busy: Wayne Memorial ninth-grader Kara Makino helps pass out items for Livonia Co-op preschoolers to use to decorate their cakes at Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe.



■ **'There are other things in life besides being a doctor or a teacher. There are so many other opportunities to be successful. You don't have to go to college to be successful.'**

Mary Denning
—Westland businesswoman

about a national job shadowing program that takes place on Groundhog Day.

Complete with a floppy white baker's hat, Denning stood in her specialty bake shop and coffeehouse as she explained: "There are other things in life besides being a doctor or a teacher. There are so many other opportunities to be successful. You don't have to go to college to be successful. There's so much talent in the Westland area alone."

As the high school students worked at the front counter and in the kitchen of her store, Denning said: "It's a win-win situation. Businesses get to show students what's available and the students get to see what's around the world besides working at Burger King or McDonald's - that's not bad, but there are other things available."

A couple of feet away, Nicole Black, a ninth-grader at John Glenn, and Kris Warmolts, a ninth-grader at Wayne Memorial, were mixing batter and sprin-

gling white chocolate on muffins in the kitchen.

"I'm learning about all the different fruits you can mix with muffins and I'm learning how to mix things just right," explained Warmolts, as Charlie Denning, Mary's husband, watched the student add cake mix to a large scale.

Wayne Memorial student Amber Samples and John Glenn students Shannon Cain and Cathi Bishop were getting a taste of how a lot of different businesses run as they followed Lori Brist, chamber executive director, as she visited different companies observing how the program was running.

"I thought it would be interesting to see what it was like to have a job," Samples said. "I never knew what a chamber was."

The job shadowing program is the most comprehensive program done in cooperation with the chamber and school district, Brist said.

"One of the big concerns of businesses is that they can't get employees and once they do get them they have a horrible work ethic," Brist said. "It's all part of educating the up and coming work force."

"We're working with businesses to help mold the minds with a good work ethic. Really, it starts at home. It's a great opportunity for ninth-graders to walk into a business and see what it's all about."

Other businesses involved in the program include Coast to Coast Travel, Detroit Marriott



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Oh, I see: OptimEyes optometric technician Kimberly Smith (left) of Henry Ford Health System shows Wayne Memorial High School 10th-grader Julie Barber how glasses are neutralized.

Hotel, Detroit Newspapers, Family Resource Center, Fantastic Sam's, Harlow Tire, Harold Allen, CPA, International Minute Press, Joy Manor, Modern Insurance Agency, Nicole's Revival Inc., Personalized Hearing Care, Sam's Club, Sharon's Heating & Air Conditioning, Standard Federal Bank, Westland 18th District Court, Westland Convalescent Center, Westland Car Care, Westland Center Security, Westland police and the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

"This will continue to grow and we will build off this program next year," Brist added.



Kris Warmolts

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*Annual Percentage Rate. Prime Rate is the rate announced in the latest issue of the Wall Street Journal. This variable rate loan is adjusted January 1 and July 1. See your tax advisor to determine tax deductibility. APR quoted is effective 2-19-00 and is subject to change.

CLARIFICATION

A letter to the editor in Thursday's edition of the Observer accidentally omitted a slash in a Web site address for a recall effort against four Westland City Council

members. It should have read <http://recall-now2000.homestead.com/RecallNow2000.html> (The above address contains no

hyphens. Any hyphen included is caused during production due to the address jumping from one line to the next.)

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
February 28, 2000**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and Council will hold a Public Hearing on February 28, 2000, at 7:13 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on the following proposed ordinance:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY PROVIDING THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY, TITLE XIII, CHAPTER 132 BE AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO BE NUMBERED 132.24 PROHIBITING THE MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION OF TREES, SHRUBS, GRASS, TURF, PLANTS, CROPS OR SOIL; PENALTIES.

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY ORDAINS:

THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY, TITLE XIII, CHAPTER 132 BE AND THE SAME HEREBY IS AMENDED ADDING A SECTION TO BE NUMBERED 132.24 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Section 132.24. Maliciously destroying or injuring trees, shrubs, grass, turf, plants, crops or soil.

(a) A person who willfully and maliciously, or wantonly and without cause, cuts down, destroys, or injures any tree, shrub, grass, turf, plants, crops, or soil of another that is standing, growing, or located on the land of another is guilty of a misdemeanor as follows:

(i) If the value of the trees, shrubs, grass, turf, plants, crops, or soil cut down, destroyed, or injured is less than \$200.00 the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than \$500.00 or 3 times the value of the trees, shrubs, grass, turf, plants, crops or soil, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine.

(b) The secretary of state shall suspend the operator's or chauffeur's license of a person convicted of a violation or attempted violation of subsection (a) who committed the offense with a vehicle, as provided in section 319 of the Michigan Vehicle Code, 1949 PA 300, Michigan Compiled Laws 257.319. As used in this subsection, "vehicle" means that term as defined in section 79 of the Michigan Vehicle Code, 1949 PA 300, Michigan Compiled Laws 257.79.

(c) The values of the trees, shrubs, grass, turf, plants, crops or soil cut down, destroyed, or injured in separate incidents pursuant to a scheme or course of conduct within any 12-month period may be aggregated to determine the total value of the trees, shrubs, grass, turf, plants, crops or soil cut down, destroyed, or injured.

REPEAL. This Ordinance is in addition to the Ordinances codified at Title XIII, Chapter 132 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Garden City, and its amendments, and this Ordinance only hereby repeals any and all ordinances or parts thereof which conflict or are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, and which are repealed only to the extent of any conflict. Except as herein modified, said Code shall remain in full force and effect.

SEVERABILITY. This ordinance and various parts, sections, and clauses thereof are hereby declared severable. If any part, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, paragraph, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portions shall be deemed separate, distinct and independent provisions and such holdings shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SAVINGS CLAUSE. All proceedings pending and all rights and liabilities existing, acquired or incurred, at the time this Ordinance takes effect, are hereby saved and such proceedings may be consummated under and according to the ordinance in effect at the time such proceedings are or were commenced. This Ordinance shall not be construed to alter, affect, or evade any pending prosecution, or prevent prosecution hereafter instituted under any ordinance specifically or impliedly repealed by this Ordinance adopting this penal regulation code for offenses committed prior to the effective date of this Ordinance for offenses committed prior to the effective date of this Ordinance may be continued or instituted under or in accordance with the provisions of any ordinance in force at the time of the commission of such offense.

DATE OF EFFECT. This Ordinance shall be effective after legal publication and in accordance with the provisions of the Act governing same.

INCLUSION INTO CODE OF ORDINANCES. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be included and incorporated in the Code of Ordinances for the City of Garden City, as an addition and amendment thereto, and shall be appropriately renumbered to conform to the uniform numbering system of the Code if necessary.

RONALD D. SHOWALTER
Mayor

ALLYSON M. BETTIS
Treasurer/City Clerk

Adopted: _____

Published February 13, 2000

L952043

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
February 28, 2000**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and Council will hold a Public Hearing on February 28, 2000, at 7:12 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on the following proposed ordinance:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY PROVIDING THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY, TITLE XIII, CHAPTER 132, BE AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO BE NUMBERED 132.23, PROHIBITING THE MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION OF TOMBS AND MEMORIALS TO DEAD; PENALTIES.

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY ORDAINS:

THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY, TITLE XIII, CHAPTER 132 BE AND THE SAME HEREBY IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO BE NUMBERED 132.23 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Section 132.23. Malicious destruction of tombs and memorials to dead; penalties.

Section 1. A person, other than a burial right owner or his or her representative, heir at law, or a person having care, custody, or control of a cemetery pursuant to law, a contract, or other legal right, shall not willfully destroy, mutilate, deface, injure, or remove a tomb, monument, gravestone, or other structure or thing placed or designed for a memorial of protection or for the ornament of any tomb, monument, gravestone, or other structure described in this Ordinance or any other enclosure for the burial of the dead and shall not willfully destroy, mutilate, remove, cut, break, or injure any tree, shrub, or plant, placed or being within such an enclosure.

Section 2. Prosecution under subsection (1) may commence upon complaint by the burial right owner or his or her representative, heir at law, or person having care, custody, or control of a cemetery, tomb, monument, gravestone, or other structure or thing described in subsection (1).

Section 3. If the total amount of damage is less than \$200.00, a person who violates subsection (1) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than \$500.00 or 3 times the amount of damage, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine.

Section 4. The amounts of damage in separate incidents pursuant to a scheme or course of conduct within any 12-month period may be aggregated in determining the total amount of damage.

REPEAL. This Ordinance is in addition to the Ordinances codified at Title XIII, Chapter 132, of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Garden City, and its amendments, and this Ordinance only hereby repeals any and all ordinances or parts thereof which conflict or are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, and which are repealed only to the extent of any conflict. Except as herein modified, said Code shall remain in full force and effect.

SEVERABILITY. This ordinance and various parts, sections, and clauses thereof are hereby declared severable. If any part, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, paragraph, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portions shall be deemed separate, distinct and independent provisions and such holdings shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SAVINGS CLAUSE. All proceedings pending and all rights and liabilities existing, acquired or incurred, at the time this Ordinance takes effect, are hereby saved and such proceedings may be consummated under and according to the ordinance in effect at the time such proceedings are or were commenced. This Ordinance shall not be construed to alter, affect, or evade any pending prosecution, or prevent prosecution hereafter instituted under any ordinance specifically or impliedly repealed by this Ordinance adopting this penal regulation code for offenses committed prior to the effective date of this Ordinance for offenses committed prior to the effective date of this Ordinance may be continued or instituted under or in accordance with the provisions of any ordinance in force at the time of the commission of such offense.

DATE OF EFFECT. This Ordinance shall be effective after legal publication and in accordance with the provisions of the Act governing same.

INCLUSION INTO CODE OF ORDINANCES. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be included and incorporated in the Code of Ordinances for the City of Garden City, as an addition and amendment thereto, and shall be appropriately renumbered, if necessary, to conform to the uniform numbering system of the Code.

RONALD D. SHOWALTER
Mayor

ALLYSON M. BETTIS
Treasurer/City Clerk

Adopted: _____

Published February 13, 2000

L952042

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
February 28, 2000**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and Council will hold a Public Hearing on February 28, 2000, at 7:22 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on the following proposed ordinance:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY PROVIDING THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY, TITLE XIII, CHAPTER 132 BE AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO BE NUMBERED 132.25, PROHIBITING THE USE OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTION DEVICE TO WITHDRAW OR TRANSFER FUNDS IN VIOLATION OF CONTRACTUAL LIMITS OR IN EXCESS OF FUNDS, INTENT TO DEFRAUD, PENALTIES, DEFINITIONS.

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY ORDAINS:

THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY, TITLE XIII, CHAPTER 132 BE AND THE SAME HEREBY IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO BE NUMBERED 132.25, TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Section 132.25. Use of financial transaction device to withdraw or transfer funds in violation of contractual limits or in excess of funds, intent to defraud; penalties.

Section 1. A person who knowingly and with intent to defraud uses a financial transaction device to withdraw or transfer funds from a deposit account in violation of the contractual limitations imposed on the amount or frequency of withdrawals or transfers or in an amount exceeding the funds then on deposit in the account is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than \$500.00 or 3 times the amount of funds withdrawn or transferred, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine, if the amount of the funds withdrawn or transferred is less than \$200.00.

Section 2. The amounts of funds withdrawn or transferred in separate incidents pursuant to a scheme or course of conduct within any 12-month period may be aggregated to determine the total amount of the funds withdrawn or transferred.

Section 3. As used in this Ordinance "financial transaction device" means any of the following:

(a) A credit card, meaning any instrument or device which is sold, issued, or otherwise distributed by a business organization or financial institution for the use of the person or organization identified on the instrument or device for obtaining goods, property, services, or anything of value on credit.

(b) A debit card.

(c) A point-of-sale card.

(d) Any instrument, device, card, plate, code, account number, personal identification number, or a record or copy of a code, account number, or personal identification number or other means of access to a credit account or deposit account, or a driver's license or state identification card used to access a proprietary account, other than access originated solely by a paper instrument, that can be used alone or in conjunction with another access device, for any of the following purposes:

(i) Obtaining money, cash refund or credit account; credit, goods,

services, or any other thing of value.

(ii) Certifying or guaranteeing to a person or business the availability to the device holder of funds on deposit to honor a draft or check payable to the order of that person or business.

(iii) Providing the device holder access to a deposit account for the purpose of making deposits, withdrawing funds, transferring funds between deposit accounts, obtaining information pertaining to a deposit account, or making an electronic funds transfer as defined in section 3(4) of Act No. 322 of the Public Acts of 1978, being section 488.3 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Section 4. A "financial institution" means a bank, savings and loan association, or credit union, and includes a corporation wholly owned by a financial institution or by the holding company parent of a financial institution.

Section 5. "Proprietary account" means the account which is maintained by a business organization in the name of an individual person or organization and through which the business organization allows the person or organization to obtain goods, property, services, or any other thing of value on credit.

REPEAL. This Ordinance is in addition to the ordinances in the of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Garden City, and its amendments, and this Ordinance only hereby repeals any and all ordinances or parts thereof which conflict or are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, and which are repealed only to the extent of any conflict. Except as herein modified, said Code shall remain in full force and effect.

SEVERABILITY. This ordinance and various parts, sections, and clauses thereof are hereby declared severable. If any part, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, paragraph, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portions shall be deemed separate, distinct and independent provisions and such holdings shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SAVINGS CLAUSE. All proceedings pending and all rights and liabilities existing, acquired or incurred, at the time this Ordinance takes effect, are hereby saved and such proceedings may be consummated under and according to the ordinance in effect at the time such proceedings are or were commenced. This Ordinance shall not be construed to alter, affect, or evade any pending prosecution, or prevent prosecution hereafter instituted under any ordinance specifically or impliedly repealed by this Ordinance adopting this penal regulation code for offenses committed prior to the effective date of this Ordinance for offenses committed prior to the effective date of this Ordinance may be continued or instituted under or in accordance with the provisions of any ordinance in force at the time of the commission of such offense.

DATE OF EFFECT. This Ordinance shall be effective after legal publication and in accordance with the provisions of the Act governing same.

INCLUSION INTO CODE OF ORDINANCES. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be included and incorporated in the Code of Ordinances for the City of Garden City as an addition and amendment thereto, and shall be appropriately renumbered to conform to the uniform numbering system of the Code if necessary.

RONALD D. SHOWALTER
Mayor

ALLYSON M. BETTIS
Treasurer/City Clerk

Adopted: _____

Published February 13, 2000

L952044

Toy Show scheduled

The next Westland Rotary Toy Show will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 5, at Joy Manor, on Joy east of Middlebelt in Westland. Admission is \$3, free for kids under age 12.

Some 400-500 people are expected to attend. There will be 50-60 tables of antique and col-

lectible toys. An ongoing raffle for Drug Abuse Resistance Education will be included. The event is a buy/sell/trade one. Questions should be directed to Ken Belanger at (734) 721-1810 or John Toye at (734) 729-8693.

Voters from page A1

For the Reform Party, Donald Trump's name will appear on the ballot.

Westland Democrats who want to cast their ballots for Gore or Bradley will have to participate in a March 11 caucus at Marshall Middle School, 35100 Bayview.

The caucus is scheduled to start at 11 a.m., but the Democratic Party said registration will begin at 10 a.m. The caucus is expected to conclude by 1 p.m.

Michigan is holding an low-style caucus. More than 100 caucuses will convene at the same time on the same day across the state.

Westland caucus site chair John Franklin said residents will be eligible to participate if they are registered voters or if they say they plan to register by Oct. 18 for the Nov. 7 general election.

"Each participant in the caucus will be required to sign a statement declaring (that they

are) participating in the 2000 Michigan Democratic presidential caucus as a Democrat," he said in a statement issued Friday.

Democrats may vote by mail if they are 60 or older, will not be in their caucus zone on March 11, are physically unable to attend without assistance from another or don't want to attend because of religious beliefs.

Democrats who plan to vote by mail must have their application turned in by 5 p.m. Friday, March 3. All ballots are due to be returned by 5 p.m. Friday, March 10.

To get an application, either write the Democratic Party at 606 Townsend, Lansing, MI; 48933; e-mail at midemparty@aol.com; fax at (517) 371-2056; download from a Web site at www.midemocrats.com; or call (517) 371-5410.

However, fax or e-mail delivery of ballots won't be accepted.

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 31, 2000**

REGULAR MEETING

Present were Mayor Showalter, Councilmembers Kaledas, Wiacek, Dodge, Lynch, Briscoe, and Gora. Absent none.

Also present were Acting City Manager Hines, Treasurer/City Clerk Bettis, City Attorney Cummings, and Police Chief Harvey.

The Mayor announced it was time for Public Discussion for items not on the agenda.

Herman Bersano, of Garden City, announced that Garden City Presbyterian Church is holding a chili cook-off and snowman building contest on Friday, February 4, 2000.

Item 01-00-021

Moved by Kaledas, supported by Gora: RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 17, 2000. AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None

Item 01-00-022

Moved by Lynch, supported by Gora: Council was informed the check to Turf Pro is for city-wide lawn maintenance spray applications. RESOLVED: To accept the Accounts Payable for January 31, 2000, as listed. AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None

The Mayor announced it was time to receive communications from Boards and/or Commissions.

No communications from Boards and/or Commissions were received.

Item 01-00-023

Moved by Lynch, supported by Kaledas: RESOLVED: To approve Dr. Francis M. Schmitt to the Historical Commission, with a term to expire on March 31, 2003. AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None

The Council as a Whole discussed the following items:

1. Supplemental Appropriation.
2. Special Workshop.
3. Police Department - C.L.E.M.I.S. Purchases.
 - a. Installation of Cable
 - b. Workstation and Network Installation
 - c. Server Purchase
 - d. Project Printers
4. Housing Rehab.
 - a. Case #7376
 - b. Case #7355

Item 01-00-024

Moved by Dodge, supported by Wiacek: RESOLVED: To approve

**SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION
Ordinance No. A99-021**

WHEREAS, the City Manager has certified that there is available for appropriation, monies in excess of those in the current budget, and WHEREAS, additional monies are needed in various accounts, and WHEREAS, Section 5.03 of the City Charter exempts ordinances dealing with the budget, appropriations, and the levy of taxes from the requirements of other legislative enactments, and

WHEREAS, these specific enactments under Section 6.09(A) are not permanent in nature and need not be compiled in the City Code:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that the City Council of the City of Garden City hereby adopts the following form for this supplemental appropriation and also for the passage of those ordinances exempt from the requirements of Section 5.03 of the City Charter:

THE CITY COUNCIL OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY ORDAINS:

The 1999/2000 fiscal year budget is hereby supplemented by appropriating the amount of \$316,648.00 and authorizing the expenditure of that money in the following departments, office, and agencies listed:

ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT
Revenue:		
233-233-1960.000	Fund Balance	\$316,648.00
Expenditure:		
233-233-337.000	Expenditures (011)	\$316,648.00

AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None

Item 01-00-025

Moved by Dodge, supported by Lynch: RESOLVED: To approve Consent Agenda "1".

a. To approve the payment for the installation of cable for the C.L.E.M.I.S. Project to Butler Telecom, in the amount of \$10,500.00. This item has been purchased under the Oakland County Purchasing System.

b. To approve the purchase of the C.L.E.M.I.S. workstation and network installation to Analytical Systems Incorporated (ASI), in the amount of \$25,128.00.

c. To approve the purchase of the C.L.E.M.I.S. Server from Compaq Government Sales (Analytical Systems, Inc.), in the amount of \$19,816.00.

d. To approve the purchase of the C.L.E.M.I.S. Project Printers to CATS CO., in the amount of \$8,708.00. This item has been purchased under the Oakland County Purchasing System.

AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None

Item 01-00-026

Moved by Dodge, supported by Briscoe: RESOLVED: To award Housing Rehab Case #7355 to Reconstruction, in the amount of \$3,700.00. AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None

The meeting was then adjourned.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS
Treasurer/City Clerk

Published February 13, 2000

Cause has heart

BY SUK BUCK
STAFF WRITER
sbuck@oe.homecomm.net

Like the odds of lightning striking twice, a rare heart defect chanced upon Megan and Jackson Lytle of Plymouth.

Both Megan, 11, a sixth-grader, and Jackson, 5, a kindergartner, were born with total anomalous pulmonary venous return, a rare heart condition. Their brother, Patrick, 8, a second-grader, is considered heart-healthy. The children attend St. Damian School in Westland.

"Megan came very close to dying a couple of times," said Michele Lytle, their mother.

After years of trying to understand why the defects happened and trying to help others understand why the subject is important, Michele Lytle, together with members of other Michigan families, went to Lansing Jan. 27 to have Feb. 14, 2000, in Michigan declared as "A Day for Hearts: Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day." The state proclamation needs to be renewed yearly, Michele said.

An effort was initiated to get all 50 states to declare this day as a national observance, but it fell about 14 votes short, Michele said.

"It's important because it might help others," Megan said. Children's Hospital in Detroit and Mott Hospital in Ann Arbor

expected to observe the day, Michele said.

For the most part, the Lytle children can do what any other child can do.

Jackson's defect was repaired the day after he was born, Michele said. Finding Megan's defect took longer. Megan developed scar tissue on her airway because of being on the ventilator so long, making her airway a little narrower.

Five years before Megan was born, the technology to repair the defect didn't exist. "There aren't that many children older than Megan that have had this particular problem and had it repaired as infants," Michele said.

Megan's operation was performed at Children's Hospital in St. Louis when the family lived in Missouri. Jackson's operation was at University of Michigan Hospital.

Congenital heart disease is less affected by diet than acquired heart disease, Michele said.

The anniversary of Megan's surgery is still an emotional time for Michele because Megan was so close to death several times. "We were praying that they did find something wrong with her heart because it was obvious that she wouldn't live much longer if they didn't," Michele said.



One big happy family: Megan, 11, Patrick, 8, and Jackson, 5, cuddle up with mom in the living room of their Plymouth home recently. The children attend St. Damian School in Westland.

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBBARD

Doctors don't expect problems, but can't say for certain, according to Michele. Though doctors told the Lytle family there was no genetic link to the defect and that the odds were slim that it would happen again if the Lytles had more children after Megan, Jackson's defect proved them wrong, Michele said.

"I don't get it," Megan said. "Sometimes, I want to know if it will affect my kids at all. But I don't know if I can know that."

Congenital heart defects are the No. 1 birth defect in the United States, according to the Children's Health Information Network. More than 23,000 babies are born each year with a

congenital heart defect, the group says. The largest portion of birth-related infant deaths are due to heart abnormalities. At least 35 types of heart defects are recognized.

Setting aside a day of remembrance and celebration of the great medical advances that keep people alive will honor the

unseen battle that children and adults with these diseases fight daily, Michele said.

"Personally, I'm not an activist, but somebody has to do it," Lytle said.

Two Web sites dedicated to the support effort are <http://www.tchin.org> and <http://www.tchin.org/aware.htm>.

CARRIER OF THE MONTH: WESTLAND

Nathan Renard of Westland has been named Westland Observer Carrier of the Month for February.

Renard, 12, is a seventh-grader at St. Michael's Lutheran, where he maintains a B average. His parents are Alfred and Bonnie.

His favorite subjects in school are spelling, history, English and art. Hobbies include playing video games and drawing.

Renard's future plans include making video games and doing animation. He likes earning money and learning responsibility on the route. Renard has delivered the Observer since July 1998.



Nathan Renard

If you want to be a Westland Observer carrier, please call 921-0500.

Davis visiting local post

The Cpl. Edward Bova No. 246 Engineers VFW Post will welcome Kathy Davis, auxiliary president of the fourth district in the state of Michigan, at 1 p.m.

Sunday.

Auxiliary members are encouraged to attend. Post 246 is located at 6440 Hix Road in Westland.

Dems to meet Feb. 22

The Westland Democratic Club will meet 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, at the Dorsey Community Center, 37215 Dorsey Road, Westland.

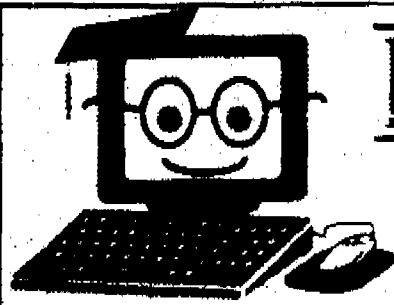
The agenda will include voting on proposed bylaw changes, election of officers and discussion of the March 11 Democratic caucus.

cus.

For directions or more information, call (734) 729-6248.

Feb 13th 02-13-00
Due to a printer's error in the automotive section of the Wards Sunday circular effective 2/13-2/17, the \$20 instant discount on any set of 4 passenger tires does not apply to Michelin brand product. In addition the \$25 Wards gift certificate rebate offer on any set of 4 Michelin X-One or Michelin LTX M/S. We apologize for any inconvenience that this advertising inaccuracy may cause.

Read Taste



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In Celebration of our First Anniversary

Tuesday, February the fifteenth,

tour the facility and talk to our staff

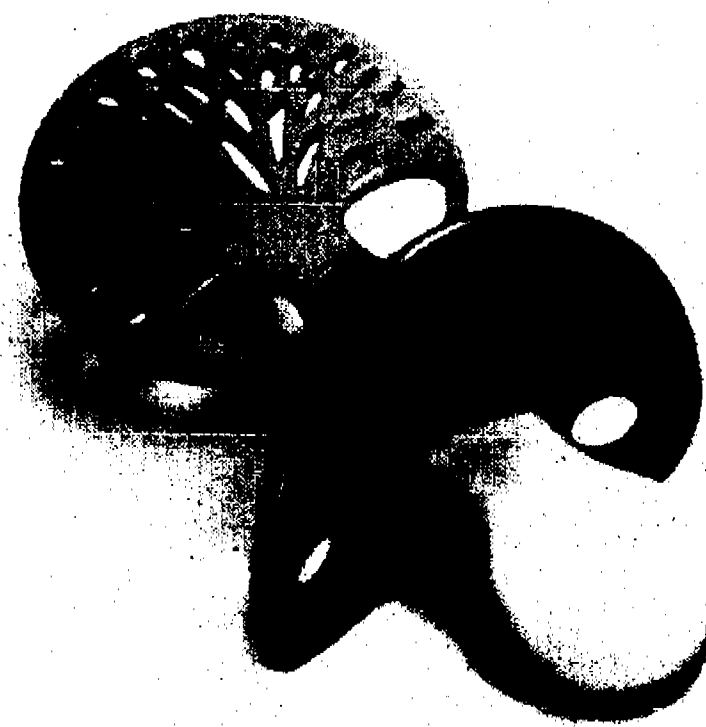
about the variety of training options available.

Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments served.

3649 Metro Place Mall, Wayne

(Between East & West Michigan Ave. & W. of Wayne Rd.)

(734) 729-0459

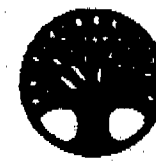


At a time like this, we could all use some comforting.

Babies need a lot of care and comforting, but so do expectant parents. That's what Oakwood does. We soothe, comfort and help you with doctor selection, prenatal care, nutrition, age and other health concerns. We also have a top neonatal intensive care unit.

So call 800.543.WELL to learn more and arrange your tour of our birthing centers.

This way, the most stress you'll have is picking a name.



Oakwood

Head Start management change may take program out of schools

BY LAURIE HUMPHREY
STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of Wayne County Head Start parents are wondering where their children will attend school next year.

At the same time, local school board members will be asked to lay off everyone who works in Head Start programs in area schools. As of July 1, all Head Start employees will be receiving their pay check from Starfish Family Services of Inkster.

These are just three effects of a fund-management transfer between the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) and Wayne County. As of Aug. 31, 1999, Wayne County RESA was "no longer involved" with the \$17 million federal grant awarded to Head Start children for Wayne County communities other than Detroit.

"We determined that Wayne County had more resources available," said Michelle Gaynier, communications manager for Wayne County RESA.

Head Start is a federally-funded preschool program for at-risk children 3-5 years old. To be eligible for the program, children must come from a low-income family or have impairments which would affect their readiness for K-12 public education.

"Head Start to me is the best federally-funded program that has been developed," said Kay Beard, Wayne County Commissioner for Westland, Garden City and Inkster.

"Most kids when they enter kindergarten know their ABCs, have been read to and some even have the beginnings of reading. But there are so many children in disadvantaged areas that don't have that nurturing. Head Start provides that nurturing."

It was never a question of canceling the Head Start program according to Gaynier, it was just a matter of finding another organization to be the grantee.

"Our target is K-12 public education. But Head Start is not just education, they also deal with health, family and other issues. Wayne County is just a better match," she said.

'Our target is K-12 public education. But Head Start is not just education, they also deal with health, family and other issues. Wayne County is just a better match.'

Kay Beard

Wayne County Commissioner

Once Wayne County became the grantee, they contracted with Starfish Family Services to operate the program in western Wayne County. Currently, most of the programs of western Wayne County are run in school districts: Redford Union, Livonia, Wayne-Westland, Plymouth-Canton, Inkster, Crestwood and Westwood. Only a few of the programs are being run out of local YWCAs in Garden City, Dearborn and Taylor.

While little will change for children attending Head Start programs in the Ys, children who attend the sites run out of schools could see a huge change.

First, the programs will no longer be run in the schools unless the various boards of education allow them to use the facilities, transportation and support staff free of charge.

Second, since school districts no longer have any control or accountability for Head Start, they will have to pink-slip the current Head Start staff. These employees can then reapply for their jobs with Starfish, but the job responsibilities, rate of pay and locations are not guaranteed to be the same.

Third, every teacher hired for Head Start will have to have a degree by 2003 or face dismissal.

Fourth, if students are uprooted from their current sites, they may have to find transportation to and from school, or to and from speech and hearing therapy if they need the assistance (at least 10 percent of the students at every site do need that help).

"I know this is frightening to the parents, the staff and the children," Ouida Cash, chief executive officer for Starfish Family Services, told a Livonia parent group Wednesday morn-

ing. "We are trying to help the transition be as smooth as possible."

According to Carolyn Gray, executive director of Children and Family Services for Wayne County, representatives from all the sites were invited to discuss the changes at a meeting about one year ago.

"At this meeting, they all signed letters of support indicating they would continue the operations in their sites," she said.

However, there was no mention of who would pay for operations and that is one of the sticking points. Gray would like to continue operating where the students are familiar with the staff and the building, but it will be up to the individual school districts.

She suggested that school districts routinely offer the space, busing and support staff free of charge, "because these will be their kids in a couple years." Detroit and many downriver schools have offered their facilities to maintain the program.

She admitted, however, that because resources are limited, "across the country, more and more school districts are getting out of Head Start." Plymouth-Canton schools have already informed Starfish that they will need to find a new, licensed facility for next year.

Gray said finding a new place for those students will not affect the start-up date. School will start in September as planned.

Her goal is to keep things running "as smooth as possible for the children and their families."

"Sometimes these children are used as pawns, but we are trying to avoid that," she said.

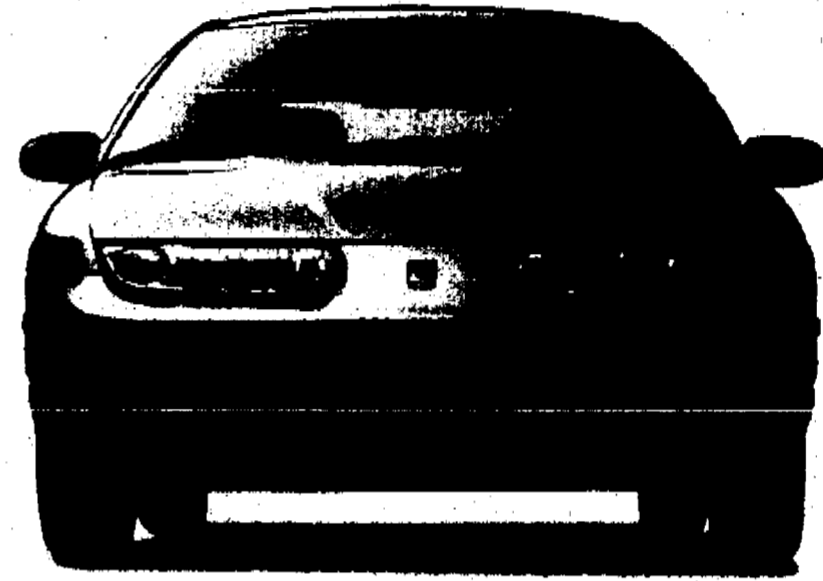
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Dr. Lanore Najor joins our Canton health care team!

For the convenience of our new and existing patients Dr. Najor will be practicing in both our AIIIM Canton office as well as in our Eastside Ann Arbor AIIIM office. We warmly welcome her to Canton!



Lanore Najor, DO

Formerly a senior physician of the Henry Ford Medical Group and a registered nurse at Harper Hospital, Dr. Najor brings ten years of experience

and a track record of exceptional patient care to our practice. With IHA since 1998, a warm and caring approach characterize all her interactions. Dr. Najor is currently accepting new patients beginning at age fourteen.



Robert Stankewitz, MD

Robert Stankewitz MD resides in Plymouth with his family and joins our practice with fresh ideas and state-of-the-art techniques supported by his

firm beliefs in long-term relationships with patients and the proven benefits of preventive medicine.



Darcey Owings, MS, RN, NP

As a nurse practitioner, Darcey Owings is committed to high quality patient care through education

Working with our physicians, her experience and specialized training create the relaxed, knowledgeable approach that gives her patients confidence.



Gary Peppin, MD

In private practice since 1994, Dr. Peppin has relocated care for his Belleville patients to our new Canton office. He demonstrates to patients and staff his commitment to personalized, high quality health care

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Melson's 37 lifts Raiders

Schoolcraft Community College product Kevin Melson poured in a game and career-high 37 points to lead the Wright State men's basketball team to a 91-88 victory Thursday at home against Midwestern Collegiate Conference leader Cleveland State.

Melson made 12 of 16 shots from the floor and 13 of 16 free throws for the Raiders, who improved to 8-13 overall and 3-6 in the MCC.

Melson had 16 points and nine rebounds in Wright State's 53-49 upset win over Michigan State on Dec. 29.

Franklin A.D. recognized

Livonia Franklin High School's Dan Freeman was recently recognized by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) as a Certified Athletic Administrator.

To earn this distinction, Freeman demonstrated the highest level of knowledge and expertise in the field of interscholastic athletic administration.

The voluntary certification process included a thorough evaluation of the candidate's educational background, experience and professional contributions, as well as a rigorous, comprehensive written examination.

He is one of 1,700 interscholastic athletic administrators nationwide to attain this professionalism.

The NIAAA is national professional organization consisting of all 50 state athletic administrators association and has more than 5,600 individual members.

It is dedicated to promoting the professional growth of high school athletic administrators and preserving the educational nature of interscholastic athletics and the place of these programs in the secondary school curriculum.

WYAA registration

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association baseball and softball will be from Saturday, Feb. 12 through Saturday, April 29.

Baseball age divisions include T-Ball (4-6), Coach-Pitch (7-8), Mustang (9-10), Bronco (11-12), Pony (13-14) and Colt (15-16).

Softball is for ages 8-18.

For more information, call (734) 421-0640 or visit the website at www.wyaa.org.

Final LAL sign-up

Final registration for Livonia Junior Athletic League baseball and softball 2000 season will be from 10 a.m. until noon Saturday, Feb. 19 at the Bentley Center, located at Hubbard and Five Mile roads.

Westland summer softball

Registration for returning teams in the City of Westland Department of Parks and Recreation summer softball leagues will be from Sunday, April 2 through Monday, May 1.

Registration for new teams begins Saturday, April 22 and ends Monday, May 1.

For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

North Redford sign-up

The North Redford Central Little League has two more registration dates for its new season for boys and girls ages 5-16.

League boundaries are Six Mile to Seven Mile between Telegraph and Middlebelt roads.

The last two sign-up dates are from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tues., Feb. 22, at B. Beck Elementary and Thurs., March 9, at Kaehler Elementary.

Birth certificate and proof of address are required at sign-up. Costs are \$40 for T-ball, \$50 for Little League and \$90 for Jr./Sr. level. Additional family members are \$10 each.

T-ball and Little League encompass ages 5-12; the junior and senior leagues are for youngsters 13-16.

For more information, call Ed Holton at (734) 464-9297.

To submit items for the Observer Sports Scene, write to: Brad Emmons, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150; or send via fax to (734) 591-7278.

Chargers fall in OT

Slippery object: Livonia Churchill's Ryan Cousino (front, white jersey) tries to hold onto the ball during Friday's Western Lakes Activities Association game against Plymouth Canton. The Chargers fell into overtime to the Chiefs, 71-63. For a complete roundup of area games, see page B2.



STAFF PHOTO BY MATTHEW TAFLINGER

Catholic Central flattened by Trenton in rematch, 4-1

Round Two went to Trenton. Trenton knocked off Redford Catholic Central, 4-1, Wednesday night to make the seemingly invincible defending state hockey champions seem suddenly mortal.

That evened the season's series at a game apiece, with each winning on its home ice. A third meeting could take place in the state tournament.

The Shamrocks defeated the Trojans, 4-2, at Redford Ice Arena in late January.

"They just played better than we did," Gordie St. John said. "They were really up for the game. They just played a really good game."

"They were well prepared. They had a lot of jump in their step. They just did a good job."

Dave Moss scored CC's only goal, but it came in the third period and after the score was already 4-0.

Trenton took a 1-0 lead in the first period and added three goals in a span of 3:10 in the second as it outmuscled CC.

"We were just ineffective in our defensive zone," St. John said. "We gave them the breaks they needed and they took advantage of them."

"They played really well. You can't take it away from them. They're a well-disciplined, hard-working team. We were in their rink and they came to play."

The loss left the Shamrocks 17-2. Top-rated CC had handed No. 3 Trenton its second loss of the season in their first meeting.

St. John wasn't sure whether the defeat would help his team in the long run or not.

PREP HOCKEY

"I know it wasn't good for me," he said. "You always try to learn something out of it. You try to make it into a positive if you can. But it's a hard thing to do."

"I hope they learned something out of it. We (coaches) learned something. We identified some areas we have to work on."

NOVI 5, FRANKLIN 1: In a non-leaguer Wednesday at the Novi Ice Arena, the host Wildcats (14-2-6) exploded for four unanswered goals in the final period to beat Livonia Franklin (10-7-2), ending the Patriots' six-game unbeaten streak.

"We took too many penalties in the third (period) and you just can't do that against a good hockey team," Franklin coach Terry Jobbitt said. "We also had several breakaways that cost us goals. Novi is one of the best teams we've played all year."

Brad Zarem scored a pair of third-period goals to spark Novi, including the game-winner on a short-handed effort at 1:54.

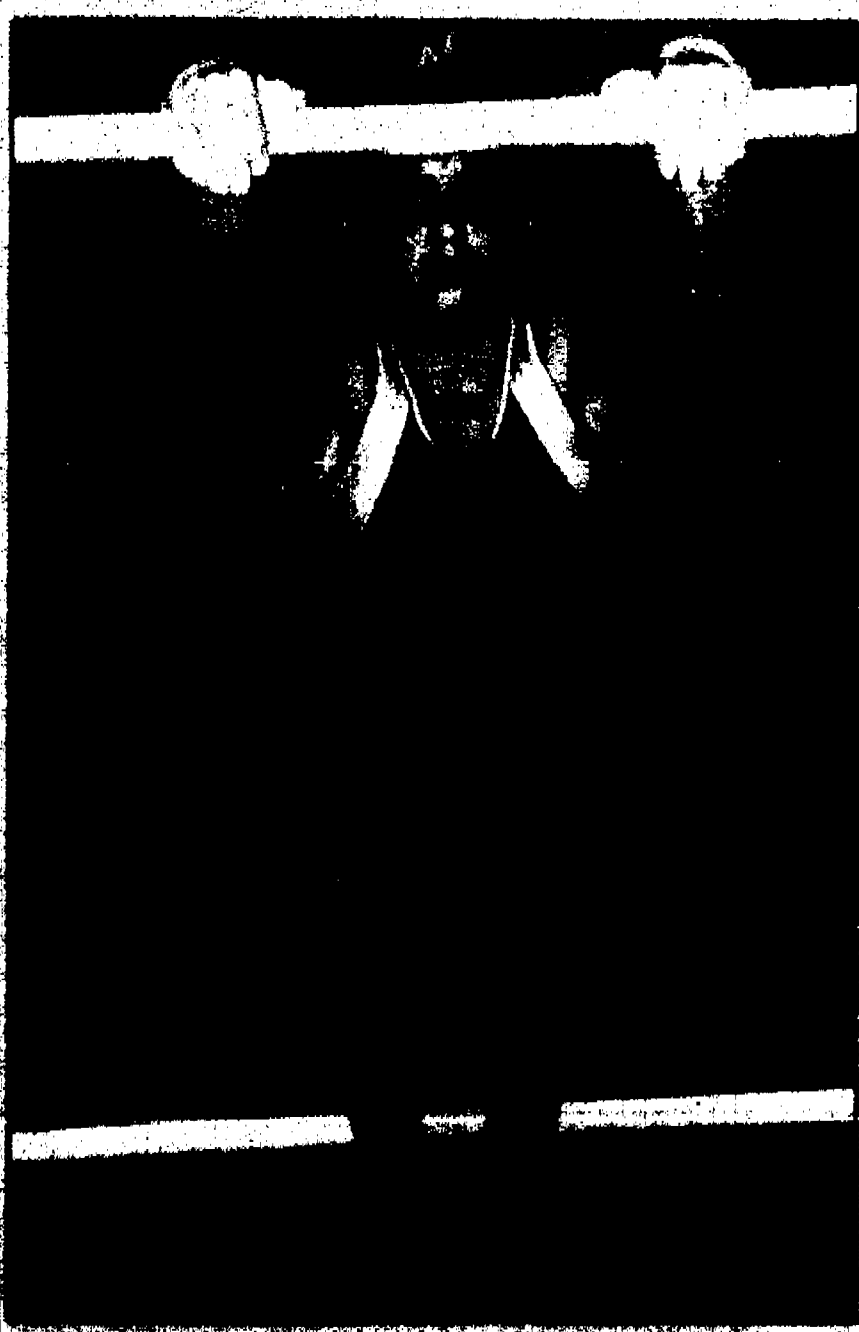
Kyle Major (power-play), Angelo Barduca and Jared Genso also tallied goals for Wildcats, ranked No. 6 in Division II.

Frank Geluso gave Franklin a 1-0 first-period lead at 13:05 on assists from Josh Garbutt and Gordie Statham.

Novi netminder Beau Brandau made 25 saves, while Franklin goalie Rob Williams stopped 26 shots.

"We played very good hockey the first two periods with both goalies making big saves," Franklin coach Terry Jobbitt said. "Rob (Williams) stoned Novi twice on breakaways and Brandau was excellent. Otherwise Franklin could have easily scored several more goals."

Uneven parallel bars



STAFF PHOTO BY MATTHEW TAFLINGER

Wrestling heroine: Kristen Costantino of the Wayne-Westland John Glenn squad competed Wednesday in a tri-meet against Brighton and Plymouth Canton. See the meet summary on B3.

Stampede

Mustangs run over Stevenson in final for dual-meet title

PREP WRESTLING

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemon@oc.homecomm.net

It wasn't pretty from the Livonia Stevenson's side of the mat.

On Thursday, the host Spartans engaged defending Western Lakes Activities Association champion Northville in a battle of divisional winners and came out on the wrong end of a 50-12 score.

Northville, ranked No. 8 in Division I, won all but two matches to repeat as dual-meet champs of the WLAA. The Mustangs, Western Division champs, improved their record to 17-8 overall.

Stevenson, the Lakes Division champs, fell to 13-5-1 on the season.

"They (Northville) came out ready to wrestle," Stevenson first-year coach Joel Smith said. "They beat us wrestling with their hearts. They're a good squad."

"We were flat all the way around."

Defending 103-pound state champ Josh Gunterman, who wrestled at 112 pounds, and Observerland Invitational champ Imad Kharbush, who wrestled at 160, scored Stevenson's only points — both by pin.

Northville captured six of the meet's first seven matches, most by convincing margins.

But trailing 26-6, Stevenson had hoped to turn things around when sophomore Chris Cooperider posted a 10-2 lead on Josh Pettijohn at 145 pounds.

Seemingly out of the match, Pettijohn rallied with

Please see WLAA MAT FINAL, B2

BOYS BASKETBALL

Falcons

swoop by

Rockets

Glenn battles,

but falls, 56-52

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemon@oc.homecomm.net

Farmington High dug itself an early hole, but the Falcons showed their way out of trouble Friday by rallying in the second half to beat host Westland John Glenn, 56-52.

The win keeps Farmington, now 12-3 on the boys basketball season, in second place overall in the Western Lakes Activities Association with a 7-2 mark. (North Farmington and Walled Lake Western are tied for first at 8-1 each.)

The Falcons are also tied for the Lakes Division lead with North Farmington and Plymouth Salem. All three teams are 3-1 with one division game left.

"It was a big win for us," Farmington coach Denny Mikel said. "And even though Glenn's record probably isn't what it should be (3-11, 2-8), they have good athletes and we knew we had to play well to beat them, especially on the road. Give our kids credit for coming back like they did."

Matt Mikel, junior guard and son of the Farmington head coach, proved to be the catalyst in the victory.

Mikel, who finished with a team-high 15 points, knocked down four consecutive free throws in final 30 seconds to help clinch the victory. Junior Curtis Tillman split a pair of free throws with just four seconds left to seal the win.

Senior center Justin Milus added 14 points for the winners, while Brian Davies and Chad Seaborn contributed nine and eight, respectively.

Glenn jumped out to an 18-4 first-quarter advantage and led, 22-12, early in the second quarter when Mikel made a courageous play, sacrificing his body for the team.

The 5-foot-11 Mikel took a charge against Glenn's 6-8 Yaku Moton, who grabbed a rebound and barreled down the floor dribbling the ball with his 260-pound frame. Mikel stood his ground inside the lane and the Rockets' center picked up his third foul, forcing him to the bench the rest of the second quarter.

"He (Moton) was really coming and I think it gave the whole team a lift to see Matt do that," the senior Mikel said.

By halftime, the Falcons had cut the deficit to 27-22.

"Glenn kind of caught us off-guard," Mikel said. "We wanted to play zone (defense) and pack it inside and not let Yaku get it in there."

"But the second quarter we went man-to-man and it changed the tempo for us. It got us more aggressive on offense and we also played harder."

Glenn got off to a hot first-half start behind the three-point shooting of lefty Brent Bogle (15 points) and Michael Franks (nine points) as the two combined for five 3-pointers.

The Falcons, however, drew a little closer after three quarters, 42-39, despite Moton's inside basket with nine seconds to go.

Farmington finally pulled even, 44-44, on Mikel's three-pointer with 6:32 remaining in the game. The Falcons then took the lead for keeps on Tillman's hoop with 4:21 to go.

Glenn pulled within one on two separate occasions during the final minute on a free-thrower by Franks and two free throws by Darnell Dorris.

But each time Glenn inched closer, the Rockets found themselves playing catch up by trying to pick up quick fouls.

"With about 2:08 left I kind of panicked because we had six fouls

Please see GLENN EDITION, B3

Wayne shaves Inkster; CC falters

Wayne Memorial hasn't gotten all the good bounces this basketball season but the Zebras got a nice one Friday night.

The score was tied, 39-39, with seven seconds left when a Wayne player put up a potential game-winner against visiting Inkster.

The shot missed, but you might say it turned into the winning shot anyway because another Zebra tipped the ball in an effort to keep it alive.

It went right into the hands of senior guard Shane Nowak, who put up about an 8-foot shot in the lane that settled nicely through the net at the buzzer to give host Wayne the 41-39 victory and keep Inkster winless.

Nowak ended as the game's high scorer with 17 points. Wayne Memorial (7-8) improved to 5-6 in the tough Red Division of the Michigan Mega Conference. Inkster (0-12) hasn't won in 10 Mega Red tries.

Senior guard Alonzo Clark and center James Swanigen paced Vikings with 12.

The Zebras started out with an 8-1 lead as they held the Vikings without a field goal and to just one free throw in four tries.

Nowak hit a pair of three-point shots in the period.

Inkster outscored Wayne, 9-8, in the second period and 16-11 in the third.

Wayne made 8-of-12 free throws and Inkster 9-of-15.

***NOTRE DAME 81, REDFORD CC 73:** Harper Woods Notre Dame outscored host Redford Catholic Central in the fourth quarter Friday, 38-16, made up a 14-point deficit at the start of it, 57-43, and won by eight points.

"We got lulled into a false sense of confidence," CC assistant coach John Mulroy said. "We never got far enough ahead to make them quit."

"We let them hang around and they chipped away. Now the (missed) baskets that didn't have a big meaning for three quarters do, and we didn't do a good job of finishing."

The Fighting Irish made 18 of 27 free throws in the final period and 25 of 37 overall. The Shamrocks were 17-of-24 at the line for the game.

BOYS HOOP ROUNDUP

"They didn't make a great percentage, but they made up for it on volume," Mulroy said.

Junior Marcuz Young scored a game-high 20 points for Notre Dame (3-7, 3-12). Senior Juan Caldwell had 17 and sophomore Ryan Biggs 14.

CC (5-5, 7-9) had four players in double figures. Senior Rob Sparks had 19 points, senior Matt Loras 15, junior Ryan Celeskey 13 and junior Mark Willoughby 11.

***CANTON 71, CHURCHILL 63 (OT):** Plymouth Canton (7-8, 6-3) withstood a late charge Friday by host Livonia Churchill (8-7, 4-5), then converted the shots it had to in overtime to get a Western Lakes Activities Association victory.

An 18-11 surge in the third quarter had carried Canton to a 50-43 lead going into the fourth. But the Chargers roared back behind the play of John Bennett, who scored 14 points in the period -- two three-pointers and 8-for-8 at the free-throw line -- to knot it.

Indeed, Churchill had the ball with 2.1 seconds left in regulation. An inbound play got the ball to Bennett, but his shot was off-target, thanks to some solid defense supplied by Kenny Nether.

The OT belonged to the Chiefs, who outscored Churchill 9-1.

The one-two punch of Jason Waidmann and Nether wrecked Churchill. Waidmann finished with 24 points, Nether with 22. Dan McLean added 11.

"Our inability to rebound really hurt us," said Churchill coach Rick Austin. "Those two players (Waidmann and Nether) are great for Canton. They just had their way on the boards tonight."

"We ran multiple defenses, kept Canton pretty much in check. But we lost the battle of the boards. There were a lot of putbacks for Canton."

Bennett led all scorers, getting 31 for Churchill. Brandon Dzikinski scored 11 and Randall Boboige had nine.

Canton led 21-15 after one quarter, but the Chargers fought back to tie it at 32-all at the half.

***W.L. WESTERN 65, FRANKLIN 41:** The first quarter set the standard for Livonia Franklin Friday at Walled Lake Western, and it proved too high.

The Warriors remained in a tie for first place in the WLAA with an 8-1 overall record by pouncing the Patriots, who fell to 2-7 in the conference. Western is 12-3 overall; Franklin is 4-11.

The Warriors used a 15-6 first-quarter burst that

left the Patriots behind, a deficit they would never overcome. It was 30-18 at the half and 50-33 after three quarters.

Junior Dawood's 19 points paced Western. Brandon Routhier had 16 and Jason Peterson nine (all on three-pointers).

Derek Schema's 16 points topped Franklin. Joe Ruggiero was limited to two baskets and four points.

***W.L. CENTRAL 78, STEVENSON 52:** Kevin Olson lit up Livonia Stevenson for 17 points in the first half in leading Walled Lake Central to a lopsided win at Stevenson Friday.

Central improved to 5-10 overall, 4-5 in the WLAA. Stevenson is 3-12 overall, 1-8 in the WLAA.

The Vikings led 40-22 by halftime and 57-37 after three quarters. Olson finished with 20 points, including four three-pointers; Steve Horn scored 13.

Harland Beverly netted 15 for the Spartans, with Ryan Curl getting 14 and Chris Severson eight.

***LUTHERAN N'WEST 70, LUTH. WESTLAND 59:** Lutheran Northwest outscored host Lutheran Westland in the second half, 53-33, to overcome a 26-17 halftime deficit Friday night.

The Crusaders pulled even after three quarters, 42-42, outscoring the Warriors in that period, 25-16. Northwest stayed on a roll in the fourth with a 28-17 advantage.

"They were on fire and we didn't play very good defense," Lutheran Westland coach Dan Ramthun said.

Senior Nate Loewe scored 25 points, junior Justin Brown 12 and senior Jason McKenzie 10 for the Crusaders (3-4, 8-7), who made 16 of 32 free throws.

Senior Charlie Hoef's 17 points made him high scorer for the Warriors (4-3, 8-5); junior Luke Kasten tossed in 12.

***FRANKLIN ROAD 66, HURON VALLEY 45:** A big third quarter helped host Southfield Franklin Road Christian take the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference victory Friday night.

The Warriors outscored Westland Huron Valley Lutheran, 28-11, in the third quarter and coasted home in the fourth despite being outscored, 17-12.

"They're a good ballclub; they outplayed us in the third quarter and put the game out of reach," Huron Valley coach Tod Bartholomew said.

Dave Damesworth scored 18 points and Josh Molnar 16 for Franklin Road (5-2, 8-6). Alan Kleinke netted a game-high 22 points for the Hawks (1-6, 2-12); Rene Arnal added 11.

The Hawks made 15 of 23 free throws; the Warriors, who led at halftime 27-17, made four of five.

Glenn edged from page B1

to give," Glenn coach Mike Schuette said.

Moton, the only Glenn senior in the lineup, finished with 12 points and 13 rebounds.

"Yaku wasn't with us last year and Michael Goree (a junior) is really the only player with varsity experience," Schuette said.

The kids have been playing so much better the past two games.

It's like night and day.

"The kids have nothing to sal-

vage (as far as the season) because they've been playing hard all year. Our goal the rest of the year is to get better."

The two teams did not shoot the ball particularly well.

Farmington was 20 of 54 (37 percent) from the floor, while Glenn was 20 of 48 (41 percent).

Glenn turned the ball over 15 times, while Farmington made just six turnovers.

"The second quarter they

(Farmington) came with a full-court pressure and our inexperience got the best of us," Schuette said. "But we came back pretty well."

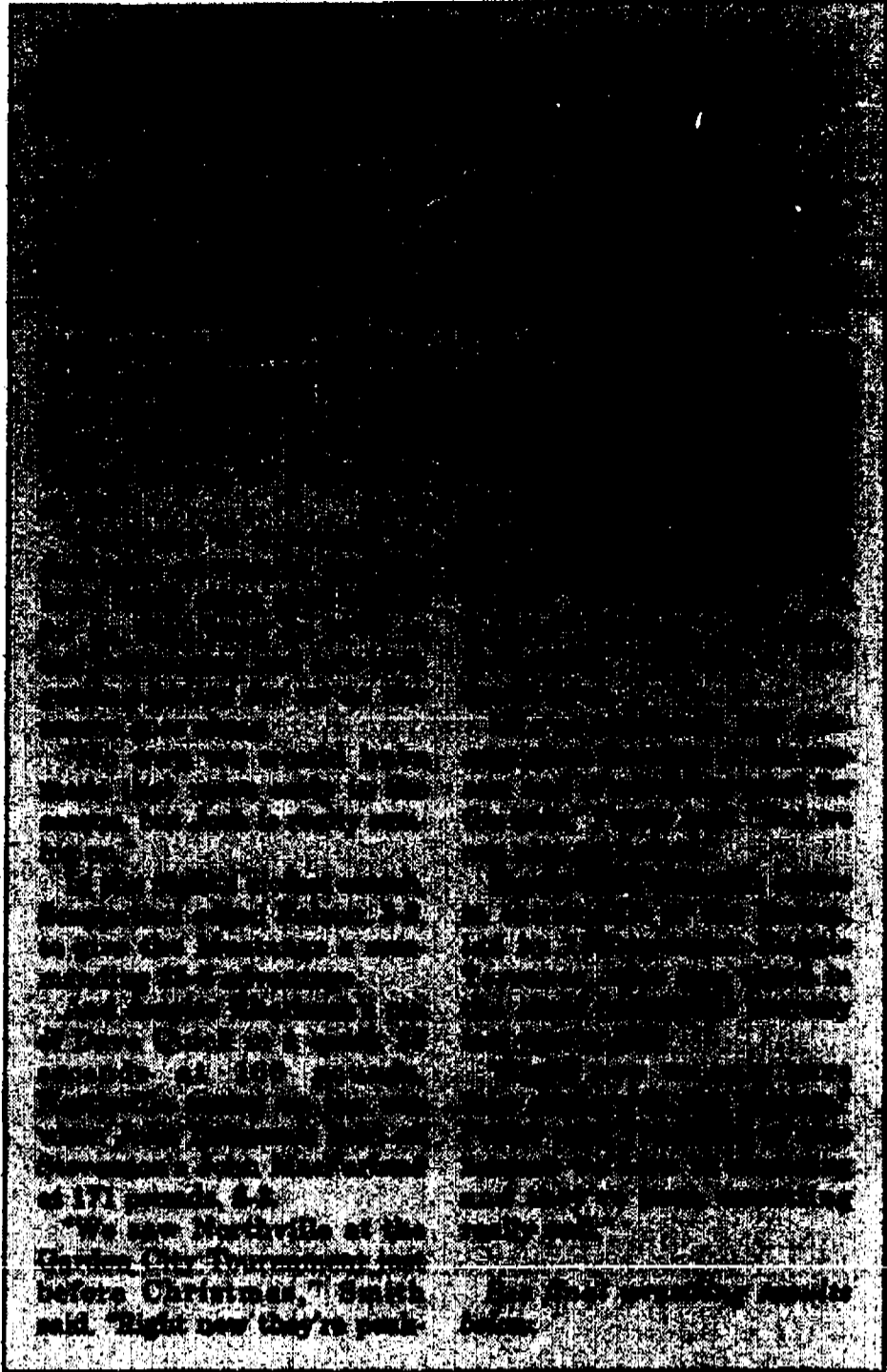
The difference may have come at the free throw line.

Glenn was just five of nine, while Farmington was 13 of 20, including six for six by Mikel.

"I just figured it out just the other day that Matt is shooting 80.2 percent from the line,"

Denny Mikel said. "It's automatic. When a team has to foul us, Justin (Milus), who inbounds the ball for us, knows he has to get the ball to him (Matt). And that's probably the only perk for being the coach's son."

But on this night, it proved to be a pretty good perk.



PREP WRESTLING RESULTS

WLAA CROSSOVER FINAL
NORTHVILLE 50
LIVONIA STEVENSON 12
Feb. 10 at Stevenson

- 103 pounds: Ravi Saran (N) p. Jason Fischer, 4:59; 112: Josh Gunterman (LS) p. Jermi Carter, 1:24; 119: Jason D Anna (N) p. Michael Billy Bullock, 11:1; 125: Matt Doyle (N) p. Ben White, 13:7; 130: Brian Ashby (N) p. Sean O'Halloran, 4:0; 135: Reggie Torrence (N) p. Griffin Schager, 4:47; 140: Chad Neumann (N) p. Matt Radley, 10:0; 145: Josh Pettigorn (N) p. Chris Cooper, 2:37; 152: Dan Scappaticci (N) p. Mike Falzon, 3:2; 160: Imad Kharbush (LS) p. Dave Quick, 0:26; 171: John Rekouris (N) p. John MacFarland, 5:3; 189: Joe Rumbley (N) p. Eric Punnske, 5:3; 215: Val Paljusevic (N) p. Tim McCarthy, 11:5; **heavyweight:** Brian Tran (N) p. Mark Costella, 1:31
- Dual meet records: Northville, 17-8 overall; Stevenson, 13-5-1

REDFORD CATHOLIC CENTRAL 86 CLARKSTON 9
Feb. 9 at Redford CC

- 103 pounds: Adam Stacey (CC) p. Billy Williams, 0:47; 112: Chris O'Hara (CC) p. Bean Dzaleo, 1:35; 119: Tim Mulroy (CC) p. Kevin Vordeburg, 0:50; 125: Ben Kreucher (CC) p. Nate May, 16:10; 130: Nate Rodriguez (CC) p. Nate Parker, 4:25; 135: Chris Petersen (CC) p. Dave Fudrezel, 13:6; 140: Brian Chisholm (Clarkston) p. Jay Abehra, 11:10 (OT); 145: Mike Werner (CC) p. Kyle Hester, 1:07; 152: Chris Cracchio (CC) p. Corey Henneman, 3:14; 160: Mitch Hancock (CC) p. Derek Sheets, 2:32; 171: Ryan Rogowski (CC) p. Tim Ellsworth, 0:17; 189: Matt Markowicz (CC) p. Joe Wood, 0:42; 215: Chris Jaronski (Clarkston) p. Matt Williams, 0:59; **heavyweight:** Aaron Parr (CC) p. Aaron Karns, 0:37
- CC's dual meet record: 12-6 overall.

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LIVONIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP 1999
PARKWAY/STURGEON 22
Feb. 10 at North Farmington

200-yard medley relay: Stevenson (Rob Campbell, Brandon Trestcott, Mike Hopper, Justin Ketterer), 1:45.98; 200 freestyle: Daron Hopper (F/H), 1:24.11; 200 IM: Joe Gubitz (LS), 2:01.18; 50 freestyle: Brad Buckler (LS), 23.49; diving: Andrew Brisette (LS), 139.28; 100 butterfly: Brandon Truscott (LS), 58.28; 100 freestyle: Gubitz (LS), 46.75; 500 freestyle: Pat Rodemeyer (LS), 5:26.28; 200 freestyle relay: Stevenson (Buckler, Kevin VanTiem, George Earhart, Hopper), 1:36.39; 100 backstroke: Hopper (F/H), 56.70; 100 breaststroke: Geoff Lewis (LS), 1:08.77; 400 freestyle relay: Stevenson (Nemer, Ketterer, Buckler, Jeff Darby), 3:31.68.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Simonian 3rd overall for Wayne-Westland

The Wayne-Westland John Glenn girls gymnastics team ran into some stiff competition on Wednesday.

Brighton captured the tri-meet with 140.34 points followed by Plymouth Canton, 133.80 and host Wayne-Westland, 131.57.

Glenn junior Nicole Simonian was third in the all-around with a score of 34.95. She posted scores of 9.2 on floor exercise; 8.4 on balance beam; 8.7 on uneven bars and 8.65 on vault.

Simonian was third in Division II at the prestigious Canton Invitational (Feb. 5).

Junior Kristen Costantino finished sixth all-around (34.37) with scores of 9.05 on floor; 8.05 on beam; 8.7 on uneven bars;

and 8.575 on vault.

"Nicole has been our most consistent performer all year," said Glenn first-year coach Katie Boogren, whose team is 3-6 overall. "And Kristen is making great strides. She scored her first nine on floor."

Junior Julie Costillo, who was a member of the Glenn squad as a freshman, finished with an all-around score of 31.20. She had an 8.15 on vault; 8.05 on bars; 7.0 on beam and 8.0 on floor.

Freshman Sarah Verhines finished with an all-around count of 30.50 after going 8.45 on floor; 7.25 on beam; 7.2 on bars; and 7.6 on vault.

"Sarah has never missed a practice and has improved

tremendously as she's getting more experience and gains more confidence," Boogren said. "And Julie's scores have jumped dramatically from the beginning of the season."

Liz Fitzgerald of Canton was fifth in the all-around (34.45) after going 8.8 on floor; 8.2 on beam; 9.25 on bars; and 8.2 on vault.

Amy Driscoll was next for the Chiefs (33.80) as she finished with a 9.3 on floor; 8.15 on beam;

8.9 on bars; and 7.45 on vault.

Other Canton all-around scorers included Kristen Schilk (32.85), Maggie Batt (32.15), Jill Raikanitis (30.55) and Jessica Krueger (30.25).

Schilk's best score was 8.65 on floor exercise, while Batt recorded an 8.1 on both floor and bars.

Raikanitis logged an 8.15 on floor, while Krueger finished with an 8.0 on floor for her best score.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL ROUNDUP

Chargers zap Westland Glenn

Cori Mack had nine kills and Beth Bushey provided solid defense Wednesday as host Livonia Churchill defeated Westland John Glenn in a girls volleyball match, 15-8, 15-8.

Churchill, which snapped a four-match losing streak, is 19-9-2 overall and 5-4 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Glenn's Sarah Paek had 11 digs and 10 assist-kills in the loss, while teammate Noelle Swartz added four kills and seven digs.

The loss dropped the Rockets to 11-12-4 overall and 3-5 in the Western Lakes.

of Lutheran Westland said. "We won a tournament during the weekend and we continued our run of good play."

The Warriors (9-13-3) are now 1-4 in Metro Conference play while the Trojans are 3-3 in the league.

Sarah Marody served eight aces and made two 2 kills in the match and Ollinger noted "she blocked more than 11 shots and did a really good job at the net."

Amanda Sales had seven aces plus a pair of kills while Jen Dash served six aces and had four kills.

Kelly Pruchnik made four blocks and put down one kill while setter Heather Haller did a great job," Ollinger said. She also praised Anna Rolf and Emily Reinke "for doing a very good in the back row, covering very well."

Zahn, Whitaker spur Huron Valley

Rachel Zahn and Jessica Whitaker combined to lead Westland Huron Valley Lutheran to a 15-4, 15-11 victory Thursday over Macomb Christian in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference match.

The victory left Huron Valley (7-3) at 6-2 in the MIAC while Macomb Christian is winless in six conference matches.

Zahn recorded 11 service points in the match with a run of seven straight in the second game. Whitaker had four kills in the match.

Walled Lake Central downs Stevenson

Visiting Walled Lake Central came forward to take an 11-15, 15-6, 15-8 victory Thursday night from Livonia Stevenson.

The Spartans are now 24-11-2 this season, including a 4-4 WIAA record.

Kate LeBlanc led the way on offense for Stevenson with 15 kills.

Carly Wadsworth contributed 10, while Katie Drews had five and Cassie Ehlerdt three.

Kelley Hutchins made 23 assists setting while in the digs department, Julie Pfeifer and Christine Matheson had 10 apiece while Megan Urbats had 16.

Warriors topple Clarenceville

Host Lutheran Westland won a three-game thriller Thursday from Livonia Clarenceville, 15-5, 14-16, 15-7, its first Metro Conference victory of the girls volleyball season.

"We played a good match," coach Joan Ollinger

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Observer & Eccentric

Local lad has top turkey call



BILL PARKER

Cody Rize knows the difference between a putt and a purr and a cluck and a cut. He has spent hours-upon hours perfecting his technique and mastering the art of calling turkeys.

You see, Cody's brother, Tim, won the junior state championship in 1994.

Look for the loon With the dreaded tax time upon us, it's also time for an annual reminder to "Look for the Loon" when filling out your state tax return.

If you have a refund coming consider making a small donation to the Non-game Fish and Wildlife Fund, by filling in the box next to the loon.

Some of the projects already funded by the fish and wildlife fund include an ongoing study to determine natural and artificial variables, including recreational use, on the current and potential loon occupation of lakes in the Upper Peninsula.

Send your name and address to: Natural Heritage Program, Box 30180, Lansing, MI 48909-7680 or check out the Department of Natural Resources web site at www.dnr.state.mi.us

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Then plan a little trip today to the Lansing Center and take in the 2000 Michigan Deer & Turkey Spectacular.

The show's trophy deer, elk, bear and turkey events attracts some of the biggest trophies taken in the state each year.

In addition, the show features over 300 exhibitors, seminars, a Family Outdoor Center, live animal displays, free archery and laser firearms shooting, winners of the Outdoor Writers of America Association's national photo contest and much more.

Admission is \$8 for adults and \$3 for kids ages 11-16. Children 10 and under will be admitted free.

Show hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday.

(Bill Parker writes a weekly outdoor column for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Hunters and anglers are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to: Bill Parker, c/o Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009.)

QUILT WATER SYMPOSIUM A quilt water symposium will be held 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at the Michigan State Department of Agriculture...

Money donated to Non-game Fund well spent



TIM NOWICKI

People who have contributed part of their Michigan Income Tax refund to the Non-game Wildlife Fund should be pleased with how that money is being spent.

Several studies of non-game animals have been conducted, like surveys of the Karner's blue butterfly, wolf investigations, frog surveys, Kirtland's warbler surveys and more.

Non-game animals, animals that are not hunted, had little money allocated for research toward an understanding of their biology. The Non-game Fund provides money to help with this research.

One of the longer lasting studies supported by this fund is the reintroduction of the peregrine falcon in downtown Detroit.

Back in the late 1960s and early '70s, DDT, an insecticide, was used extensively. As DDT accumulated, animals were preyed upon by falcons, osprey and eagles.

It accumulated in high enough concentrations in these birds of prey, that they laid thin shelled eggs. When adults sat on the eggs, the thin shells cracked - killing the embryo inside.

Over the years the population of these birds declined dramatically. Peregrine falcons were extirpated from the eastern U.S.

But back in 1987, five young peregrine falcons started the introduction program here in Detroit.

While in their cage they became imprinted with a highrise skyline, which frequently causes them to nest in a similar area after they mature.

In 1988, an adult peregrine falcon came to Detroit from Grand Rapids. In subsequent years adults from Montreal, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Gary, Ind. came to Detroit to visit or mate and raise a family.

Only a couple peregrines have come to Detroit that did not have leg bands, which allow identification. These must have been birds raised in the wild.

When listening to Yerkey speak about the lives of the peregrines nesting in Detroit, and more recently at the Edison power plant in Monroe, it's like a summary of the last year of TV soap operas.

She has collected data that has made the Detroit population of peregrines the best studied group in the nation. Yet listening to her discuss their activities like a soap opera makes it easy to understand the life of these birds.

Yerkey receives some money from the Non-Game Fund for equipment and other essentials.

It would be well worth the money if every species studied had a Judy Yerkey to watch them and let the world know how interesting they can be.

Redford women lands Hall of Fame honors; Seniors defeat Youths



AL HARRISON

Congratulations go to Cheryl Stipcak of Redford on her selection to the Michigan Women's Bowling Hall of Fame.

Cheryl has been one of the real competitive bowlers in the All-Stars and has averaged as high as 218.

She also has many titles to her credit, including the Michigan State Association Queens Tournament.

Cheryl is the daughter of Bob and Gloria Mertz and wife of All-Star bowler Tony Stipcak. She is sidelined while a bad wrist heals, but she will be back in time for next season.

Some of the more talented area bowlers have been able to cash in on some big money tournaments.

Kerry Kreft of Hazel Park is a good example. He took home a \$50,000 payoff for finishing second in the High Rollers at the Showboat Hotel, Lanes and Casino in Las Vegas.

The High Rollers is an all-match play format in which the starting field of more than 1,900 bowlers from around the nation have to keep beating their opponents until the survivors take home the major prizes.

Kerry took 10 straight, which put him in the finals. With the other jackpots along the way, his total take was \$74,000.

"It takes a lot of luck in the draw, as some opponents are easier to beat than others," he said.

offer the opportunity to win money without having the big travel expenses such as the upcoming Bacardi, Brunswick and Blue Ribbon Group 217 and under monthly event, which will take place Saturday, Feb. 19, at Cherry Hill Lanes.

First and second place are guaranteed at \$1,000 and \$500, with remaining payouts determined by number of entries. Prize fees are 100 percent returned; half the entrants will cash a check.

For further information, call (313) 278-0400.

The final results have been tabulated from the Senior-Youth Challenge last week at Mayflower Lanes in Redford.

This time the seniors did it, beating the youth bowlers for the first time in five attempts. The seniors averaged 201.7 to the kids' 200.2 (including 90 percent handicap from 210).

Top scores in senior singles included Howard Davis 215-223-278/716 (plus-27), 743; yours truly (Al Harrison) second with 222-267-170/659 (plus-81), 740; and Bob Slayden third with 237-226 204/667 (plus-36), 702.

Venerable Jarv Woehlike (age 86) came in fourth with 203-223-202 (plus-54), 682.

Youth scholarship winners were: doubles — Marland Gibson (\$500) with partner Cliff Taylor, 1,392; David Irwin (\$350) with Lou Lavignino, 1,348; James Hohnak (\$250) with Norm Bochenik, 1,336; singles (handicap included) — Jesse Hohnak (\$500), 710; Tim Storer (\$400), 703; Nick Hidalgo (\$300), 700; Anthony Jenkins (\$250), 686; Anthony Padula (\$250), 668; and Latosha Green (\$250), 667.

A total of \$3,050 in scholarship money was awarded.

The money is to be kept in the Frank Verbanec Memorial Scholarship Fund, which is held by the American Bowling Congress.

Additional door prize contributors were The Pro Shoppe at Drakeshire Lanes, Big Block Pizza, Kelly Koin, Napoli Pizza, Comerica Bank and Linda's Family Hair Shop.

BOWLING HONOR ROLL Table with multiple columns listing bowling scores and names under various league categories.

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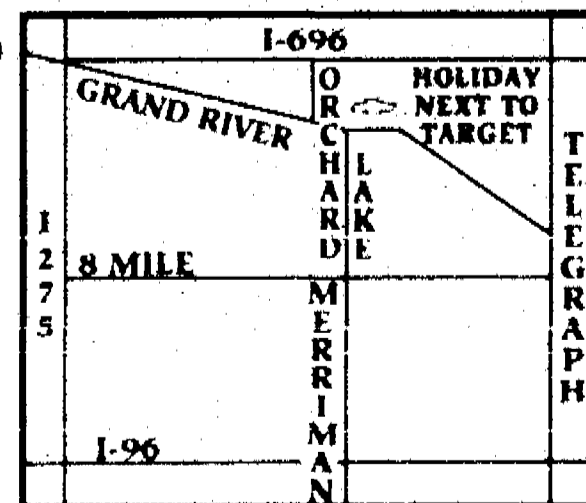


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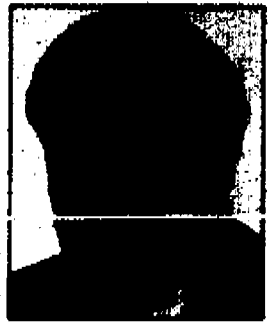
LINDA ANN CHOMIN

Musical couple celebrate the arts together

This Valentine's Day Fern and Paul Barber will not only celebrate their love for each other, but also their passion for the arts. In the last 33 years, this husband and wife duo have helped raise the awareness of music, dance, theater and the visual arts in the communities of Farmington and Farmington Hills,



Fern Barber



Paul Barber

and they have no intention of stopping. Fern, who chairs the Farmington Area Arts Commission, and Paul, music coordinator for Farmington Public Schools, continue to add color to the local scene. One of their projects is the annual Fine Arts Festival Sunday-Sunday, April 30-May 7, in Farmington. A gala on Saturday, April 29, kicks off the arts extravaganza.

"Take art, theater and dance out of the world and it would be a pretty drab place," said Paul Barber. "Art touches all of our lives."

Whirlwind romance

It seems only natural that the arts would be instrumental in bringing the Barbers together. Fern and Paul met in Elizabeth Green's violin class at the University of Michigan, and wasted no time joining forces to instill a love of music in young and old alike. They graduated in May of 1966, married in August, and by September were teaching music in the Farmington Public Schools.

Somewhere in the midst of this whirlwind, they founded the Farmington Community Band. Since that time, they've been supporting not only music, but all forms of art in the Farmington area.

Fern, a former president of the Farmington Musicale, has served on the Farmington Area Arts Commission for 19 years. The commission, with funding from the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills, is able to carry out a number of programs, including bestowing an annual artist-in-residence award since 1976. An Art to the Schools program allows teachers to choose an artist to visit students in the classroom. The arts commission also funds all of the awards for Farmington Artists Club exhibits, student art awards, and an award given by the Farmington Historical Society for the best writing of historical information about Farmington. They also help support the Farmington Musicale scholarship awards.

"It's a wonderful experience to be involved with the arts," said Fern. "Either you're meeting some new musicians or teachers. I'm always learning something new."

Paul, in his position with the Farmington Public Schools, "has to keep 38 music teachers happy." But in addition to overseeing the installation of a new keyboard MIDI lab for music teachers, he was involved with building a state-of-the-art TV studio at North Farmington High School, and instituting a dance program, the first of three at Farmington high schools.

Paul also supports visual art and theater, and has worked as a partner with the Detroit Dance Collective for the last three years. He also initiated a fine arts camp for elementary and middle school students. The camp, which will be held July 10-21, will allow students to take five classes in art, dance, music or theater.

"Our music program's grown dramatically," said Paul. "Thirty percent of our students are involved with the arts. That's nearly three times higher than the 9 to 10 percent nationally. Dance will add another component. Students have another way of self-expression. If we provide a wealth of

Please see EXPRESSIONS, C4



Students inspired by dance legend

Studying at the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance made quite an impression on Melissa Poli — one she wanted to share with her students at North Farmington High School.

So when the opportunity arose to bring the Martha Graham Dance Ensemble to her school, Poli leaped at the chance. She wanted her students to experience first hand how the legendary choreographer transformed dance in America. Graham began her journey as a dancer and choreographer in 1916.

"It was a spiritual experience almost," said Poli. "I felt like we paid homage to Martha Graham at the school. You could just feel the history."

Rachel Zuckeman loved "The Lament," the second work on the program. "I thought it was really powerful and cool," said Zuckeman, a junior. "They showed a lot of expression," added sophomore Kathleen Bendick.

The contemporary dance performance was a first for students in the dance program at North Farmington High School. Since most were trained in classical ballet and tap, modern dance is a world filled with mys-

Please see INSPIRED, C2



Energetic ensemble gives students a charge

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

Dressed in body-hugging gold unitards, their hugging glinted under the spotlights — the Martha Graham Dance Ensemble dashes around the stage ceremoniously paying tribute to the sun and to the woman who founded the company in 1926.

The darkened auditorium soon erupts into thunderous applause as the electrically-charged performance sends surges of energy through the audience of students at North Farmington High School. The presentation was one of 13 outreach programs offered at area schools, including West Bloomfield High School and Abbott Middle School in Birmingham.

The programs are part of a two-week residency, which precedes four performances by the Martha

Graham Dance Company, Thursday-Sunday, Feb. 17-20, at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts in Detroit.

"We've been getting great responses," said ensemble artistic director Kenneth Topping. "For the younger student, it's an art form we're trying to impart to them. This is a disciplined approach. This is an all-encompassing technique."

Early morning

The dancers arrived at 7:20 a.m. to warm up before demonstrating the Graham technique to students, and performing three of the 181 works she choreographed. Topping began the program by explaining the rigorous training dancers go through to become a member of the ensemble or company. Graham used the principles of contraction and release as the foundation for her technique.

Topping learned them from Graham during the six years he worked with her while dancing

Please see ENSEMBLE, C2



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER

Modern dance: (Top photo) Students in Melissa Poli's dance classes at North Farmington express their excitement over seeing the Martha Graham Dance Ensemble perform. (Middle photo) Sebastien Sabatier-Curial and Penny Diamantopoulou cool down after a performance at North Farmington High School. (Photo above) Members of the Martha Graham Dance Ensemble demonstrate the legendary choreographer's techniques.

CONCERT

"All That Jazz"

WHAT: The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra blends classical with the sounds and rhythms of jazz.

WHEN: 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 19; 7 p.m. preconcert chat with director Nan Washburn and composer Harold Farberman. Afterglow hosted by the Outback Steak House, 42871 Ford Road, Canton.

WHERE: Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 1160 Penniman, Plymouth.

ADMISSION: \$12 adults, \$10 seniors/college students, free for students through grade 12. Call (734) 451-2112 for more information.

Plymouth Symphony brings jazz to church

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

Pete Siers rarely plays with an orchestra and never in church. But he'll do both when the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra presents its "All That Jazz" concert at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church on Saturday, Feb. 19.

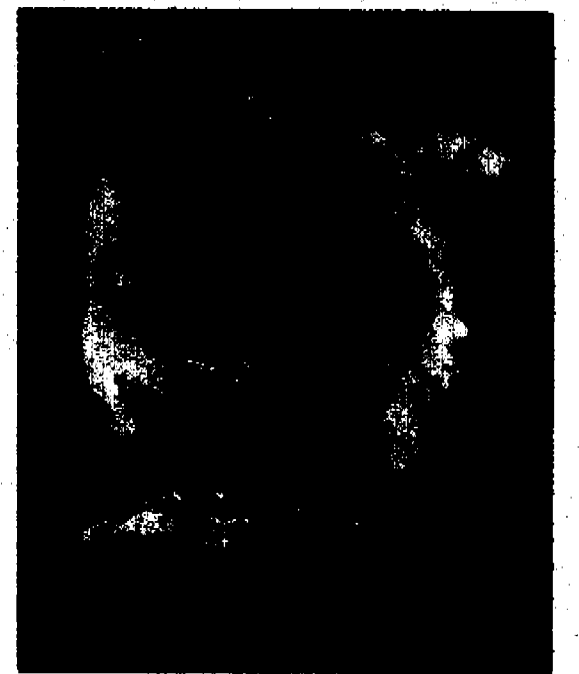
An instructor at Washtenaw Community College and the Ann Arbor Academy for the Performing Arts, Siers will shine on Harold Farberman's "Concerto for Jazz Drummer." Siers, who plays regularly with the Bird of Paradise Orchestra, emerged on the jazz scene during his undergraduate years at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids. A native of Saginaw, he moved to Ann Arbor in 1986 to join the Eddie Russ Trio. Throughout the years, he's played with jazz legends such as Mulgrew Miller and Mose Allison. In addition to his

own trio, Siers has become a vital member of the Ron Brooks Trio and the Bess Bonnier Quartet. His first CD "Those Who Choose to Swing," released last April, is a hard hitting jazz record in the style of Oscar Peterson.

"The concerto is very different texturally," said Siers. "It was originally written as a collaborative with Louie Bellson. Although I've never performed the piece, I was excited after hearing it. I'm a huge fan of Louie Bellson."

Farberman's four movements run the gamut of musical styles from classical to jazz. "The third movement is cow bells, wood block and toy drum," said Siers. The fourth movement has lots of cadenzas and a big drum solo at the end. It's a major piece. The concept for writing it is to have interaction with the orchestra with definite room for the drummer

Please see JAZZ, C4



Celebration of dance: "Appalachian Spring" is one of the classic works that will be presented by the Martha Graham Dance Company.

Martha Graham dancers perform at Music Hall

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
SPECIAL EDITOR
nstafford@oe.homecomm.net

Choreographer and dancer Martha Graham may not have the name recognition of, say, Martha Stewart, but she probably should.

Graham's dance technique, based on body contraction and release, transformed modern dance. More importantly, her artistic approach and sensibility helped shape 20th century expression; in the larger realm of modern art, Graham, who died in 1991, sits beside the likes of Picasso, Stravinsky, Frank Lloyd Wright and other artistic forces of the time.

"Her work is almost a self-contained history of modern art," said Christine Dakin, associate artistic director and principal dancer with the Martha Graham Dance Company, which is scheduled to perform several of the Pennsylvania-born choreographer's classic pieces Feb. 17-20 at Detroit's Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts.

"Martha's work spanned 50 years, during which time she was in the forefront of modern art," says Dakin, who grew up in Ann Arbor and studied dance at the University of Michigan.

Not only did Graham create 181 ballets in her lifetime, she also collaborated with a wide range of artists, including musical composers Aaron Copeland and Samuel Barber, sculptor Isamu Noguchi and actor and director John Houseman.

That's one of the reasons why anyone with an interest in modern art ought to experience Graham's choreography firsthand, says Music Hall President Peggy Tallet. "If you enjoy newer music, if you enjoy modern art — what Graham really does is like mobile sculpture — you'll definitely enjoy this."

True to form, the company's Detroit performances will showcase mostly Graham pieces. Among them: her well-known *Appalachian Spring*, which is set to a Pulitzer Prize-winning score by Copeland, and *Errand Into the Maze*, which takes the Greek myth of Ariadne

Please see PERFORM, C4

WHAT: Martha Graham Dance Company's American Graham Tour 2000, featuring classic Graham pieces such as "Appalachian Spring," set to a Pulitzer Prize-winning score by Aaron Copeland.
WHEN: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 17-19, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 20.
WHERE: Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit.
TICKETS: \$30-40, available at the box office, (313) 963-2366 or Ticketmaster outlets, 248-645-6666.



All that jazz: Pete Siers plays Harold Farberman's drum concerto with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra.

Ensemble from page C1

with the company. He admired her disciplinarian approach to dance and the fact that Graham "was very poetic even in her speech, her images."

"The ensemble started out as an outreach group and evolved since then," said Topping, artistic director of the ensemble since 1988. "The ensemble comes first to the community to introduce them to Martha Graham, who was a pioneer in modern American dance. For Martha Graham, dance class was not for exercise but to train the mind, body and spirit. The entire technique class is choreographed from beginning to end to prepare dancers for the stage."

Today, Topping was the disciplinarian as he led dancers through a series of bouncing exercises. From the third row of seats, the audience could see every muscle of the dancers' bodies contracting and releasing. Silence prevailed throughout most of the program as students sat in awe of the movements the dancers were able to perform.

"All movement in Graham is initiated from the hips. One of Graham's most inspiring images was the Pieta," Topping told the students as the dancers arched and stretched their bodies in imitation of Christ coming down

from the cross.

"Martha Graham also developed a series of falls. There's a death and a resurrection to each fall. Martha Graham believed that out of emotion came form."

Topping and the dancers continued to demonstrate the basis for the technique through a series of exercises and falls before performing three dances. Based on the story of Adam and Eve, "Dancer's World Duet" was choreographed for a film in 1937. Its tenderness and sensuality left the audience reeling emotionally.

"The Lament," choreographed in 1980, expresses grief. The lead dancer is dressed in a sheet of white fabric that stretches into geometric shapes as she moves her arms and legs into different positions.

"Graham was interested in ritual, and 'Ritual to the Sun,' the next work, has costumes that fit close to the body," said Topping. "Graham and Halston designed the costumes representing golden rays of sunlight. They're close to the body so you see every expression the dancer is making. Martha Graham believed dance revealed the inner landscape of the body and the dancer's body was the celebrant of life."

After changing into street

clothes, Martha Graham dancers Sebastian Sabatier-Curial and Penny Diamantopoulou took a minute to cool down after the performance.

The power of a Martha Graham performance in prompted Sabatier-Curial to leave a career as musician/singer/actor in France to study dance in America. He became a member of the ensemble in January 1997.

"The first time I saw the Martha Graham technique I said this is more than dancing," said Sabatier-Curial. "It is living."

Sabatier-Curial and the rest of the ensemble spend much of the year on the road. The metro Detroit residency is lengthy compared to other cities. The dancers have given presentations at two schools a day for the last two weeks in the outreach program sponsored by Music Hall and Hudson's Project Imagine.

"It's physically easier," said Sabatier-Curial. "We're leaning toward longer residencies rather than traveling one day and performing the next then moving on to the next city."

Diamantopoulou takes the grueling schedule in stride. She left Greece to study at the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance in New York

after learning the Graham technique in Greece. Diamantopoulou's ballet training from the age of 3 provided a foundation for further studies. She went on to earn the equivalent of

a bachelor of fine arts degree in dance before leaving Greece. She joined the Graham ensemble in 1996.

"It's a huge responsibility to expose people to modern dance,"

said Diamantopoulou. "We feel we're contributing. You can give the audience something they might not otherwise had. If we can touch just one person."

Inspired from page C1

tery and excitement.

"We all had done ballet and tap in lessons at dance studios for years," said Roshawnda Derrick a sophomore. "This exposed us to a dance we'd never seen. I could feel the emotion by the way they expressed themselves."

Victoria Holley-Foster is making sure students all over the state have the opportunity to see the Martha Graham Dancers. They will featured 10-11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 17 on a Wayne RESA program broadcast live on the educational access channel.

An arts education consultant for Wayne RESA, Holley-Foster is tying the session into the Michigan Curriculum Framework to help teachers focus on language arts. Dance is a topic close to Holley-Foster's heart. Before taking the job at Wayne RESA, she taught dance for 23 years, the last 10 at Cass Tech in Detroit. That's where she met Poli who was a dance instructor under her supervision.

"Martha Graham is a legend in modern dance," said Holley-Foster. "Students rarely have the chance to be exposed to the art."

This is first year North Farmington High School has offered a dance program, and Poli isn't wasting any time introducing her students to contemporary dance. A master class with a member of the Detroit Dance Collective followed the Martha Graham program.

"As we build the dance program, students will have lots of studio experience so at least everybody gets a chance to take a dance class," she said. "We also plan to have students perform in the community, and also hope to take the group to elementary and middle schools to expose students to dance. We want to put Farmington on the map in terms of dance education."

Dance programs will be introduced at Farmington High School and Harrison High School

over the next few years. Farmington Public Schools music coordinator Paul Barber and North Farmington principal Ron Jones believe dance is a necessary component of a strong arts program.

"It was a vision several years ago," said Jones. "North Farmington was the first to complete a dance studio and we expect next year to have a full program in place."

A member of the Farmington Fine Arts Council, Poli is a graduate of the Wayne State University dance program. She's danced with Detroit City Dance, Dance Nonce and the Detroit Dance Collective and is currently a member of Onyx.

Leah Bruanstein, Kristen Wolff and Elise Liadis, who are all juniors and sophomores, look forward to continuing to dance in the program next year. They've made a new group of friends through the dance classes at North Farmington.



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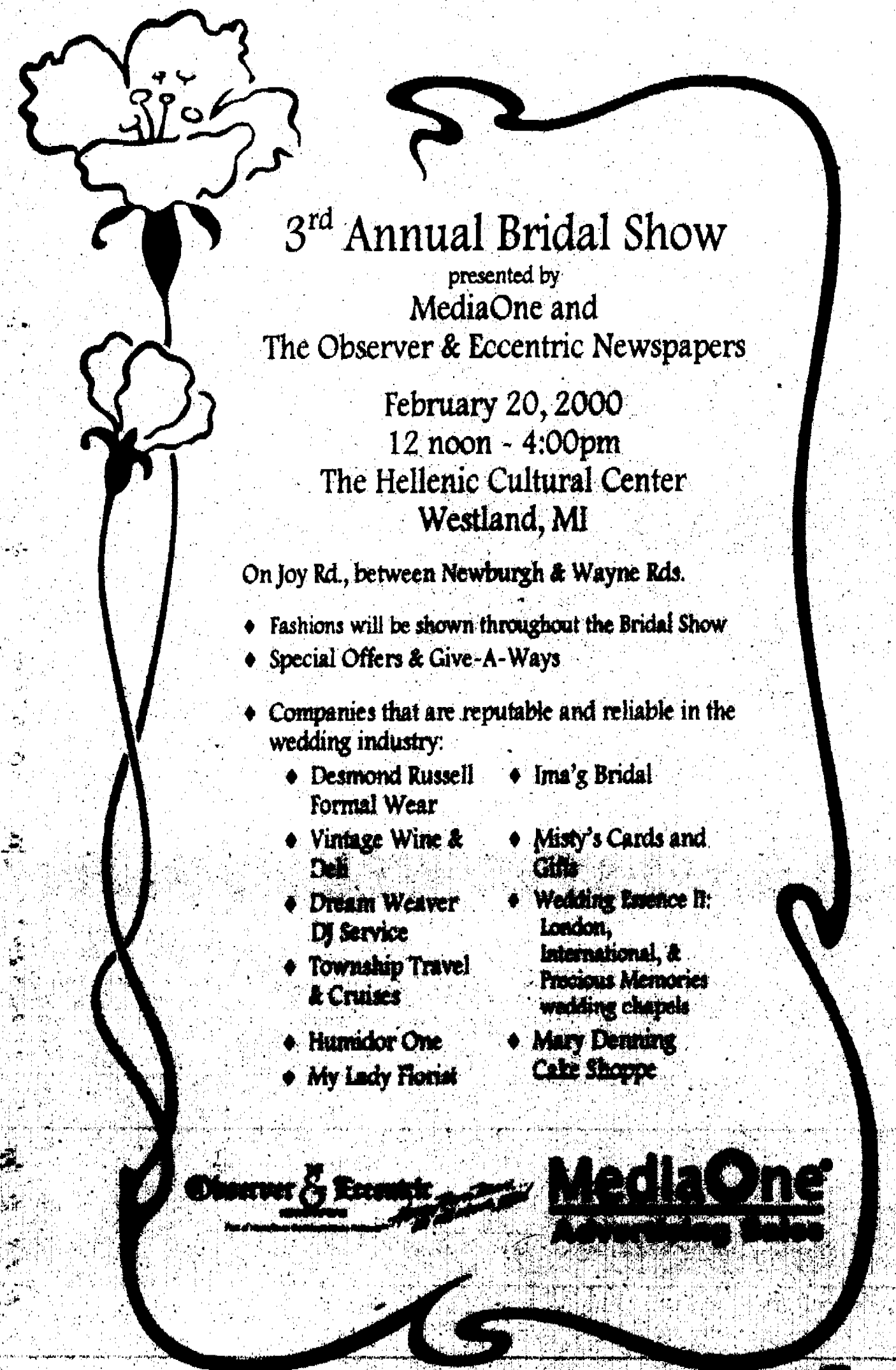
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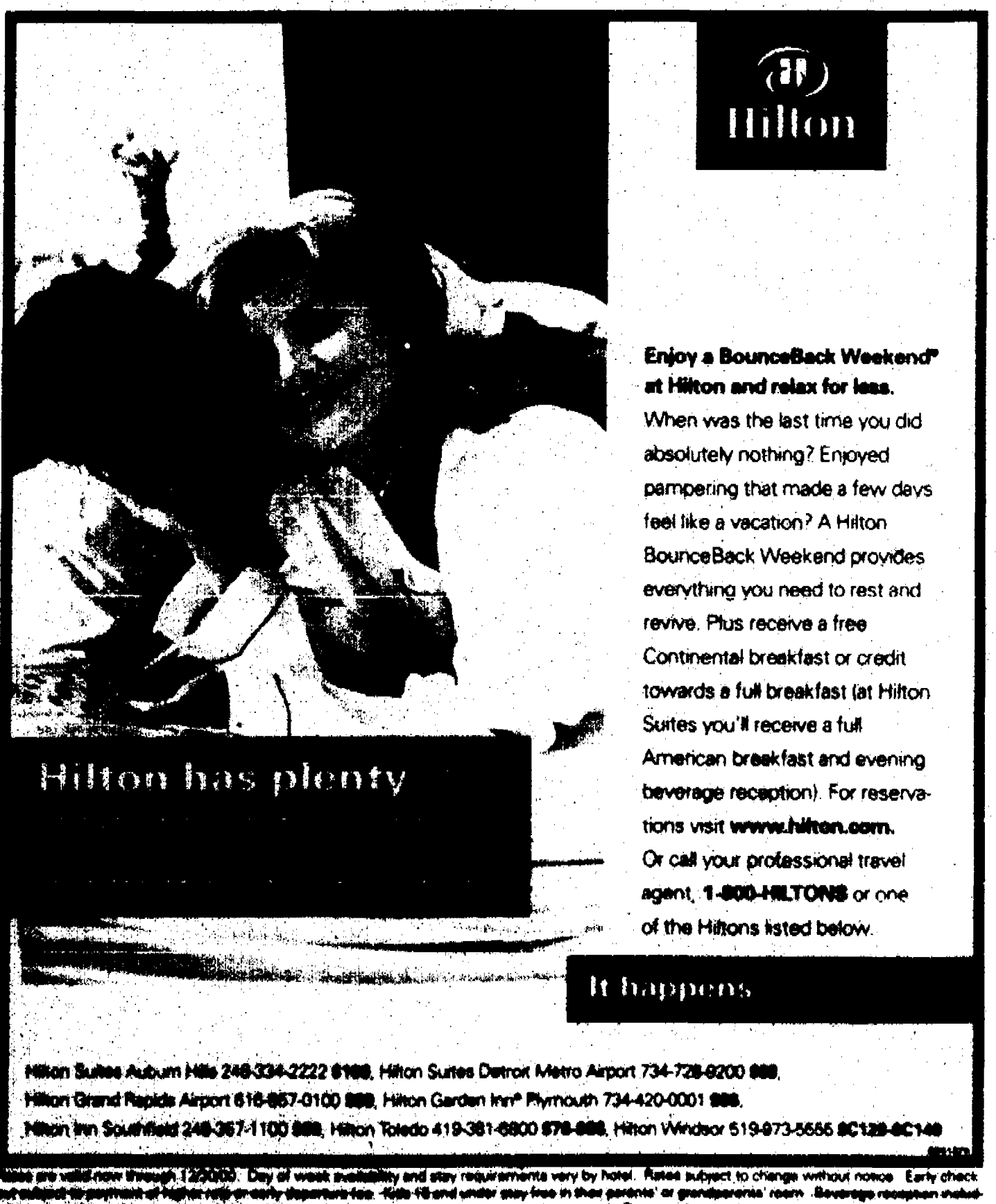
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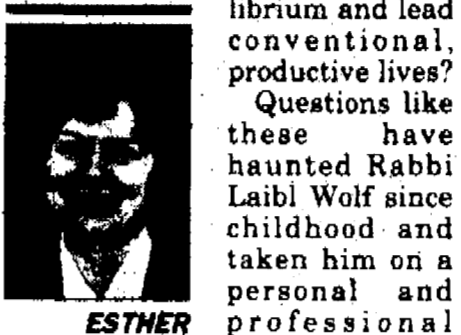
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Spiritual journey has down-to-earth destination

"Practical Kabbalah" By Rabbi Laibl Wolf, Three Rivers Press, 1999, \$14

Why do some people continue to cherish life despite first-hand experience with terror, violence, and pain? How do they maintain their equilibrium and lead conventional, productive lives?



ESTHER LITTMANN

Questions like these have haunted Rabbi Laibl Wolf since childhood and taken him on a personal and professional quest that includes the study of law, psychology, and traditional Judaism.

Wolf now understands how his parents and in-laws (Holocaust survivors) could not only patch their broken lives together but also affirm the goodness of life with family, work, and faith.

The answer, maintains the author of "Practical Kabbalah," lies in the profound teachings of Jewish mysticism.

"Kabbalah," writes Wolf, the father of seven children and a resident of Australia, "is an ancient Jewish wisdom that explains the eternal laws of how spiritual energy moves through the Cosmos." Its message can be traced to pre-literate times but finds its fullest expression in the "Zohar" or "Book of Splendor," a repository of mystical writings compiled by Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai in the second century, A.D.

Traditionally, Kabbalah attempted to find hidden and

apocalyptic truths in the Bible through analyzing its text and deciphering the significance of individual Hebrew letters and their numerical value. Wolf downplays its more esoteric aspects, however, to demonstrate Kabbalah's practical role in meeting the challenges of daily life. Its practice, he writes, can achieve for us the universal goals of love, fulfillment, inner peace, and confident expression.

In the first section of "Practical Kabbalah," the author explains the principles of kabbalistic thought. Our creation is not yet complete, writes Wolf, so "what we think, say, and do leaves a mark on the universe." In other words, we have the power to perfect our world if we learn how to cultivate the ten "Sefirot," the spiritual energies of Mind and Emotion that flow from the Cosmos into our hearts.

The second section describes the "Sefirot" in detail and provides meditation and visualization exercises to develop and maximize their power.

"Hessed," for example, is the emotion of giving and sharing. Since each of us is a microcosm of the whole, we contribute to the improvement of the world whenever we give of ourselves to another. Yet incessant giving can produce burnout. Thus, to balance our "Hessed," we must also practice "Gevurat," an attitude that focuses our energies and encourages self-restraint and containment.

Interestingly, modern science confirms much of what mysticism has always known. Our mind is divided into two experiences, teaches the Kabbalah. One is "Chochma," the domain of inspiration and creativity.

Today, it is acknowledged as the province of the right side of the brain.

The other is "Bina," which represents rational and analytic activities, associated in modern parlance with the brain's left hemisphere. To achieve our goals, we need to harness the "spark of Chochma" to the discipline of Bina.

"Practical Kabbalah" builds a bridge between the teachings of ancient mysticism and those of modern psychology. But in its pursuit of relevance, the author never abandons Kabbalah's spiritual roots and dimensions. Written simply but without oversimplification, replete with aphorisms, charts, a glossary of terms, and numerous introspective exercises, Rabbi Laibl Wolf's text is, in his own words, a "spiritual adventure with a down-to-earth destination." This 226-page soft-cover book is an insightful and inspirational guide for those interested in Jewish mysticism or in a self-help book written within a religious framework.

Rabbi Wolf will be visiting metro Detroit bookstores on Monday, Feb. 14. He will sign his book at Borders on Woodward Avenue in Birmingham 4-5 p.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Barnes and Noble on Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield. He will also appear at The Community House in Birmingham for a lecture beginning at 7:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$10 per person or \$18 per couple. Call (248) 423-4633 for more information.

Esther Littmann is a resident of Bloomfield Township and a tutor in English.

WRITING WORKSHOPS

Poet, storyteller and fiddler Ken Waldman will conduct a writers' workshop 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 16 in room MC110 of the McDowell Center on campus, 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile Road just west of I-275. There is no charge for either of these events.

man, who is visiting from Alaska, will read and perform at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 16 in room MC110 of the McDowell Center on campus, 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile Road just west of I-275. There is no charge for either of these events.

The Sixth annual Writers' Conference "OCC Writers at Work" is Friday-Saturday, March 17-18 at the Hilton Suites of Auburn Hills. Conference registration fee is \$85, or \$55 for currently enrolled OCC students. Call (248) 360-3186 for more information.

Perform from page C1

and the Minotaur as its story. The company also will perform *But Not For Me*, a Broadway-style dance set to music by George Gershwin.

While Graham is considered one of the founders of modern dance, her effect on physical movement in performance is more pervasive.

She helped set the groundwork for Broadway-style dance and, in time, impacted movement in popular culture.

Not only do actors study Graham technique, but well-known

entertainers like pop icon Madonna embrace her movements in performance.

"She revolutionized not just dance but theatrical movement," says Tallet. "She introduced movements that you see everywhere, even in exercise - yoga or Pilates - for example."

Beyond Graham's impact on 20th century art and present-day culture is her ability to stimulate the senses and provoke the imagination.

Graham's dancers aren't alone on the stage; they're part of a

larger composition that uses costume, lighting, set design, music and movement to create vital drama.

"A smorgasbord for the senses" is how Tallet describes Graham's choreography. "It's very athletic. It is very theatrical. And, really, it is very dramatic. Many people are put off by classical dance, but this is not formal. It's much more open. It becomes something for you to understand and to interpret."

Jazz from page C1

to improvise." Siers fell in love with jazz while playing drums in fifth grade in Saginaw. In high school and at Aquinas College, Siers tried to read and listen to as much jazz as possible.

"That first experience was a huge event in my life," said Siers. "The band director marched us down to the civic center and I heard the U.S. Army Big Band play and I was totally blown away."

Plymouth Symphony conductor Nan Washburn is hoping the experience of hearing the orchestra play jazz will instill a love for the American art form in the audience at Our Lady of Good

Counsel.

"The concert is a crossover or fusion, blending the styles of classical and jazz," said Washburn. "For an orchestra, it's the opportunity to work on rhythm in a big way. For the audience hearing this program, they realize jazz is such a big part of American music. Just about any style of music has elements of jazz."

The jazz concerto, in addition to being one of Washburn's favorite works, brings back fond memories of Farberman, her former instructor at the Conducting Institute. A former percussionist with the Boston Symphony, Farberman founded the

institute now based in New York.

"Farberman's concerto is a fun piece that pays tribute to different kinds of jazz," said Washburn. "Overall, I think people who aren't necessarily jazz lovers will enjoy this program. The Shostakovich is a fairly unusual piece. Not many people know about it because they're so used to hearing his big symphonic works. Ellington's 'The River' is a staple work of the Dance Theatre of Harlem and Alvin Ailey. The program ends 'upbeat' with Ellington's 'It Don't Mean a Thing.'"

Expressions from page C1

opportunity for students to grow, I'd like to think we're enriching the arts."

Setting an example

The Barbers started their own children in musical training early just as their parents had done. Paul first picked up trombone, and Fern clarinet, in the fourth grade. Nurtured by Harold Arnold, his teacher at Redford High School, Paul went on to study music at the University of Michigan where he played in the Rose Bowl with the marching band. He recently

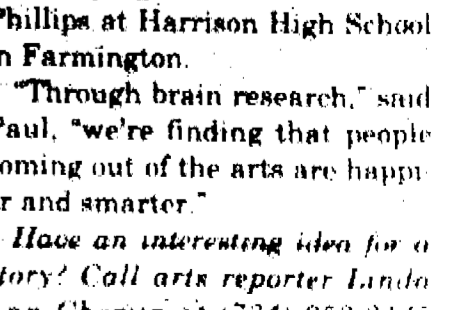
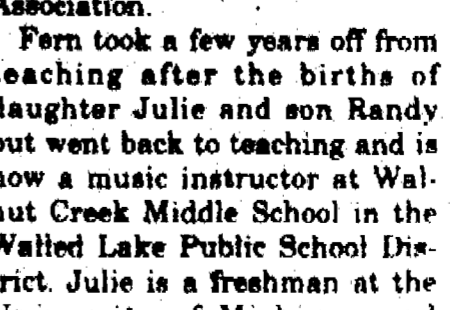
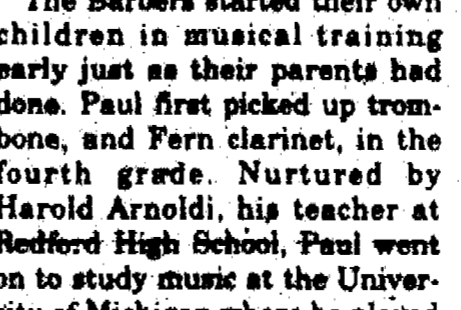
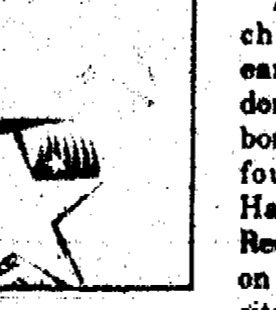
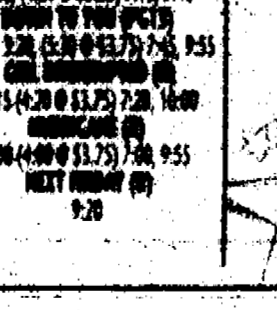
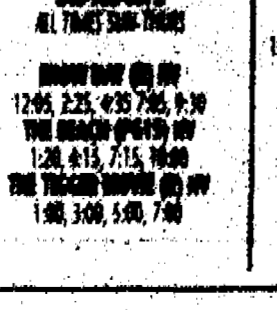
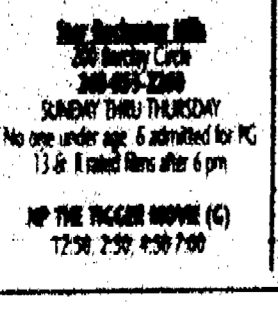
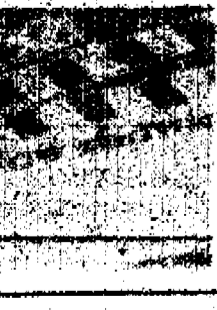
received the administrator of the year award for Michigan from the American String Teachers Association in conjunction with the National School Orchestra Association.

Fern took a few years off from teaching after the births of daughter Julie and son Randy but went back to teaching and is now a music instructor at Walnut Creek Middle School in the Walled Lake Public School District. Julie is a freshman at the University of Michigan and plays trombone in the orchestra. Randy earned a degree in music

education at Central Michigan University. He is currently working with the brass sections at Orchard Lake Middle School and helping band director Mark Phillips at Harrison High School in Farmington.

"Through brain research," said Paul, "we're finding that people coming out of the arts are happier and smarter."

Have an interesting idea for a story? Call arts reporter Linda Ann Chamin at (734) 963-2145 or send e-mail to lchamin@home.com.net



ART BEAT

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

VAAL MEETING

The Visual Arts Association of Livonia meets 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17 at the Jefferson Center, 9501 Henry Ruff, room 16, in Livonia. Guest speaker Peter Gillian will show slides and discuss his work.

For more information, call Marge Masek (734) 464-6772.

ONE-WOMAN SHOW

Redford artist Cheryl Conlin opens a one-woman show of more than 60 paintings, wall sculptures, and animal painted furniture with a reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 18 at the Biddle Gallery, 2840 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte.

The show continues through Saturday, March 11. For more information, call (734) 281-4779.

In her paintings, Conlin uses vibrant colors and a surrealistic style to convey emotion. Her leopard, tiger and zebra print furniture was one of the reasons she was voted one of eight best young artists by Orbit Magazine and C-Pop Gallery in 1998. She has works at Studio Sixteen in Ann Arbor; the Art Loft, Birmingham; Atrium Gallery, Northville; Gallery FunctionArt, Pontiac, and Village Framing and Art Gallery, Dearborn.

Prices for works in the show range from \$150 to \$1300.

"My newer paintings are looser, a freer flowing style," said Conlin. "I use a lot more texture - sands, gels and crumpled paper."

EMERALD SINFONIETTA CONCERT

Peter Suave will perform as a soloist with the Emerald Sinfonietta Orchestra, under the direction of Felix Resnick, 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 13 at the Grosse Pointe-War Memorial. Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Venezuelan Disaster Relief Fund.

Suave will perform works by Aldemaro Romero, a Venezuela native, and Astor Piazzolo, a renowned Argentinean composer known for his beautiful tango music.

For tickets and more information, call (313) 438-0780. An afterglow follows the concert at



Adrift at sea: Cheryl Conlin's "Ocean of Emotion" is one of the paintings on exhibit at the Biddle Gallery in Wyandotte.

the Ambleside Gallery.

OPERA ENCORE!

Canton Project Arts presents the Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27 at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.

Tickets are \$15. For more information or to reserve tickets, call (734) 397-6450.

A special presentation of the history of opera in America precedes the concert at 2:30 p.m. An artists reception follows the concert.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Oakland Community College's Womencenter is looking for entries for its 14th annual art exhibit, "Our Visions: Women in Art." The exhibit is scheduled for May 8-19 in the Wallace Smith

Theatre Gallery at the college's Orchard Ridge campus in Farmington Hills.

Deadline for entry is April 1. For more information or an entry form, call (248) 471-7602 or write the Womencenter at Oakland Community College, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, MI, 48334.

Visual art (excluding jewelry, performance and video) and poetry are being sought for the exhibit for which cash prizes will be awarded. Jurors for "Our Visions" are Gail mally-mack and Jenny Schmid (visual art), and Carla Harryman (poetry).

OUT OF AFRICA

"Piecing Memories," a quilt show, continues through Friday, March 3 at the University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical

Gardens in Ann Arbor

Stunning designs and vibrant colors mark the dozen quilts crafted by African American women. Each quilt tells a story and during selected times, interpreters will be available to unleash the secrets in the threads.

Related events:

■ "An African Adventure" for community groups and Scouts takes place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19. Admission is \$5. The event features a scavenger hunt in the Conservatory, stamp art with African Adinkra stamps, samplings of delicious treats at the Taste of Africa station, and a lesson about the plants of the African American heritage, then take a peanut plant home and watch it grow!

CHILDREN'S CONCERT

The Phoenix Ensemble join the Gemini brothers for a magical, musical concert for children and the whole family 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 20 at the Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor.

The festivities begin at 2 p.m. with an instrument petting zoo in the lobby.

Tickets are \$15 adults, \$10 students/children, and available by calling (734) 763-8587 or (248) 645-6666.

COLLAGE CONCERT

Henry Ford Community College's fifth annual President's "Collage" Concert 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 20 at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit, will feature performances by HFCC's award-winning instrumental and vocal groups. Tickets are \$15, call (313) 845-6470.

The 250 musicians who are performing represent some of the college's best musical talent. "Our past and present audiences can expect near perfection by the musicians and a variety of tunes familiar to everyone," said Rick L. Goward, director of instrumental music at HFCC. In keeping with the definition of the word "collage," the musical performances will include favorites from classical to rock to pop. The instrumental music groups that will perform include the Big Band, Studio 110 Jazz Orchestra and Symphonic Wind Ensemble. Vocal music group performances will feature the Renaissance

Voices, Vanguard Voices, Evergreen Blues, Blue Fusion and the HFCC Concert Choir.

RUSSIAN ART

Modernism and Post Modernism: Russian Art of the Ending Millennium, an exhibit curated by Alexandre Gertsman at the Elaine L. Jacob Gallery, 480 W. Hancock on the Wayne State University campus in Detroit, opens Friday, Feb. 18.

Reception 5-7:30 p.m. followed by a panel discussion with Alexandre Gertsman, Irina Nakhova, Michael Odnorajov and Anatole Senkevitch in the Music Recital Hall (adjacent to the gallery). The exhibit continues through Thursday, March 30. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call (313) 993-7813.

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Online Staff: Editor 248-901-2567, circulation@observer.com, on the web: http://www.observer.com

Sunday, February 13, 2000

Bring spring inside and beat the winter blues

REAL DEAL



CARI WALDMAN

While you can't hurry along spring's warm sunshine and dewy rains, you can rid yourself of the winter doldrums with a few decorative touches inside your home.

There are an abundance of simple and affordable ways to add zip to the familiar gray spaces in your home.

So, instead of burying your head under the covers and waiting for the birds to chirp, enhance your surroundings and lift your spirits!

Pay Attention To the Light

"Washing away the winter blues can be as simple as changing shades on a chandelier or lamp," says Gail Crawmer, interior designer at La Belle Provence in downtown Birmingham. "For \$28, you can instantly add warmth to a room and change the light in your life," says Crawmer, referring to La Belle Provence's eclectic collection of decor elements.

And, how about a dose of bright light in addition to a few decorative pieces to recharge your spirits? Try placing a few natural spectrum light bulbs in strategic places in your home. Like sunshine inside glass, they'll do the trick at \$12.99 at Linens 'N Things.

Let Your Bedroom Bloom

Give your bedroom a summer-cottage feeling with the new Shabby Chic home furnishings and accessories line at Mervyn's California stores. The retailer's tea-stained, floral cotton sheets were among my favorites in the collection, which was designed for easy mixing and matching throughout the home.

For a romantic bed-and-breakfast look, try twisting burgundy or spring rose garlands around your bed frame. The lively garlands can be found at Bed, Bath & Beyond for \$5.99.

For another unexpected change, experiment with them on the around in your living room or around the shower rod in your bathroom.

Look underfoot

It's often the last place you look, but sometimes what's beneath you needs more help than any other area of your home.

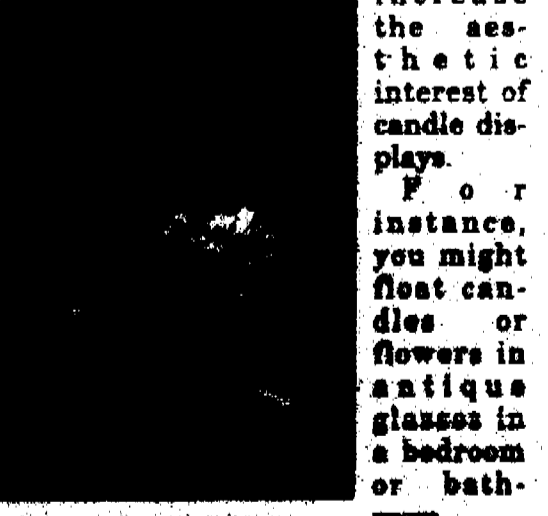
Oriental rugs are in abundance right now at Marshall's stores. They're a classic choice and will bring color and warmth to any room.

I also found great style and affordable prices in rugs at TJ Maxx, Pier One and Home Depot. Look for plush cabbage rose designs, garden vegetable motifs and asymmetrical patterns in luscious pinks or warm caramel tones.

Candlelight Magic

Candles not only bring light, a warm glow and uplifting scents into the home but also act as interesting decorative details for the eye.

When setting out your candles, mix and match shapes, colors and heights. Consider using unusual containers, too. All of these techniques will increase the aesthetic interest of candle displays.



For instance, you might float candles or flowers in antique glasses in a bedroom or bathroom.

Also, look for aromatherapy candles. Their invigorating scents and stress-relieving properties will do you good. Besides, they're cheaper than a vacation!

Cari Waldman is free-lance writer and stylist who lives in West Bloomfield. Please send your shopping and style questions to Cari at OERead@aol.com



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGFIELD

Helping out: Connie Koss, manager of the Women's Health Boutique in Lathrup Village, is coordinating local efforts to raise funds for the Dream Fulfillment Fund, which gives victims of breast cancer a chance to fulfill life-long dreams. Old bridal gowns may be donated to the store for the Oregon-based program during the entire month of February. The gowns will be sold on the resale market to fund the program, which has so far granted the wishes of 11 women with breast cancer.

Something old and a dream

Dress donation program helps cancer victims

BY KEN VAN STEENKISTE
STAFF WRITER

For Connie Koss, manager of the Women's Health Boutique in Lathrup Village, the idea of improving the lives of breast cancer victims has special significance.

Like many of us, Koss saw both a friend and a family member struggle with the disease.

Thanks to a special project known as the Dream Fulfillment Fund, Koss, along with many women from the metropolitan Detroit area, will get a chance to help victims of breast cancer lead a better quality of life while they are here.

Much like the popular Make-A-Wish Foundation for children with terminal illness, the Dream Fulfillment Fund lets women with breast cancer, a particularly deadly form of the disease, embark on adventures and satisfy life-long dreams.

All this month, the foundation is sponsoring a special event to raise money for the program. The foundation is asking women to donate their wedding gowns — dresses that may just be gathering dust in attics and closets — for resale throughout the country later this year. Sales of the dresses will benefit the Dream Fulfillment Fund.

Koss and the Women's Health Boutique, which sells prosthetics and other products for women who have undergone mastectomy surgery to treat breast cancer, is coordinating local efforts and putting out a call for support.

The store, located at 28612 Southfield Road, is a local drop-off point for the gowns. Employees at the store will collect the gowns, as well as, veils throughout February before wrapping them and shipping them off to Portland.

At the Women's Health Boutique more than 30 gowns have already been donated.

However, Koss and other employees at the store are eager to bring in more. "This a way to make one final happy memory" for breast cancer victims, said

Koss.

The project is run by the Portland, Oregon-based non-profit group Making Memories Breast Cancer Foundation. It was founded in 1998. The organization's first wish fulfillment project came last summer when it organized a family reunion for a Georgia woman. So far the group, which is staffed entirely by volunteers, has fulfilled 11 wishes.

The gowns that Koss takes in should fetch between \$150 and \$300 on the resale market after being cleaned and repaired as necessary. Sales will be held in major cities throughout the United States in late spring, although one in the Detroit area has not been scheduled, Koss said.

Making Memories founder Fran Hansen said she first got the idea for the Dream Fulfillment Fund after a bout with breast cancer three years ago.

In trying to find other breast cancer victims for support, Hansen became aware of the disease's devastating effects on the lives of its victims and their families.

"I found that most of the women were financially needy because the cancer had drained all their resources and their ability to work. It just broke my heart, I thought 'there's got to be a way to help these ladies,'" said Hansen, who owned a chain of bridal boutiques at the time.

The answer came to her in a late-night revelation. "It just came to me in the middle of the night. I thought it was a good idea because it also helps women who can't afford a new gown," she said, adding the organization is still looking for more sponsors, particularly corporations who will underwrite the Dream Fulfillment Fund.

For more information on Making Memories and the Dream Fulfillment Fund, call (503) 252-3955. To contact the Women's Health Boutique, call (248) 552-0606. Gowns may be dropped off at the store 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Extended hours can be arranged by contacting the store ahead of time.

Retail, style and special store events are listed in this calendar. Please send information to: Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 806 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax: (248) 644-1314. Information must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for publication the following Sunday.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

VALENTINE JEWELRY SHOW
Netman Marsch, the Somerset Collection in Troy, hosts a special showing of jewelry by David Yurman in celebration of Valentine's Day through Feb. 14, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Designer Jewelry, first floor. For more information, call (248) 643-3300.

PUPPET SHOW
Woodland Mall in Livonia presents Father Millenium's Zoo Show, produced by the Heiken Puppets, Food Court. Shows start at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. For more information, call (734) 622-4100.

DINOSAUR SHOW
Livonia Mall, at Seven Mile and Middlebelt roads, presents "Mystery of the Lost Dinosaur" for children and their families, throughout the mall. For additional information, call (248) 476-1160.

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

KAREN NEWMAN APPEARANCE
Local talent and celebrity Karen Newman visits Hudson's Lakeside location in Sterling Heights to sign autographs and talk with shoppers, 2:30 p.m., Men's Department.

WARM AND FUZZY STORIES
Borders Books & Music, 30995 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills, hosts a special story-telling session for kids, age 4 through 8, 2 p.m. For more information, call (248) 737-0004.

DOLL FASHION SHOW
The "We Love Barbie" doll fashion show returns to the Plymouth Cultural Center, 625 Farmer Road in Plymouth. The show features vintage, collectible and custom-designed Barbies and accessories, 11 p.m.-4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for kids age 4 through 12. For information call, (734) 465-2110.

MEN'S AND HOME FASHION SHOW
Hudson's will show off its new Men's and Home store at Lakeside Mall in Sterling Heights with a fashion show. See the latest looks, from blazers to bedding. The event will be hosted by Karen Newman, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW
Westland Shopping Center, 3500 W. Warren, is offering a wide variety of arts and crafts with the theme "made in America." The show will run during regular mall hours and feature professional artisans' wares, including paintings, stained glass, wood crafts, jewelry and needlepoint, through Feb. 20. For information, call (734) 425-5001.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

PRETZEL-ROLLING CONTEST
Auntie Anne's pretzel shop at Great Lakes Crossing mall in Auburn Hills holds a pretzel-rolling contest for kids. Participants will receive prizes and favors, 4:30-6:15 p.m. For more information, call the mall at (248) 454-5010.

WHERE CAN I FIND?

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

WHAT WE FOUND:

- Christopher Ranch** chopped garlic can be purchased at Farmer Jack stores or through Garlic World, (800) 537-6122. Also, Tom Mocerri and Sons, a food distributor, will be able to tell you which area stores carry the product, (313) 568-0555.
- A "You Are Special" plate can be purchased at Lawler's Hallmark on E. Long Lake in Troy.
- Aquamarine body lotion can be purchased at the F&M store in Ferndale and other F&M stores.
- Kodak Camcorder batteries are available to purchase at Complete Battery Source, 24731 West 8 Mile Road, (313) 632-3462.
- Ahava lotion can be purchased at the Woodward & Maple Store on W. Maple in Birmingham.
- Kitchen Aid mixing bowls and accessories can be purchased at Kitchen Glamour stores and Kohl's stores and through Kitchen-Aid of Michigan, (800) 422-1230.
- Baby bibs that may be embroidered can be purchased at Hancock Fabrics, Joanne

- Fabrics and Wal-Mart stores or through the Herrschner's catalog, 2800 Hoover Road, Stevens Point, Wis. 54492-0001.
- For needlepoint classes, try calling the Livonia Recreation Department. They might which schools in the area offer needlepoint classes. Also, Hancock Fabrics and Joanne Fabrics stores might give classes.
- Coty L'Amont perfume can be purchased through Fragrances Unlimited in Ann Arbor, (734) 434-0692.
- Sander's candy can be purchased at: Farmer Jack stores; the Hard Edge Cream Shop, 10930 Farmington Road in Livonia, (734) 421-3523; and Holiday Market at Cherry Hills and Lilly roads in Canton, (734) 844-2200.
- Lagerfeld's "Photo" cologne can be purchased at Meijer and Wal-Mart stores.
- The Doll Hospital on 12 Mile Road in Berkley may repair a Bozo, the Clown voice box.

- Mrs. Beasley dolls and other toys are available through The Chatty Cathy Haven, 19528 Ventura Boulevard #495, Tarzana, Calif. 91356, (818) 881-3878.
- Beverly Jenkins, author of the book "Indigo" lives in Belleville. You might try contacting the Fred. C. Fisher Library in Belleville, (734) 699-3291, about obtaining a copy. Hey, they might be able to put you in touch with the author!

FIND & SEARCH NOTES

- We found the following items: the pattern for making a skeleton from milk cartons and Red Wing memorabilia.
- Tabs from canned soda pop can be donated to the following organizations: Ronald McDonald's House on Beaubien in Detroit, (313) 745-5909; Mott Children's Hospital in Ann

- Arbor, (734) 936-4000; St. Aidan Catholic Church on Farmington Road in Livonia, (734) 425-5950; Elk's Lodge on University in Rochester, (248) 651-4840; American Legion on Newburgh, south of Ann Arbor Trail, (313) 427-5630; and the VFW Post on Schoolcraft, (313) 538-6294.
- We need the address and telephone number of the Bryant Center in Livonia for readers who are seeking to donate used Christmas cards.

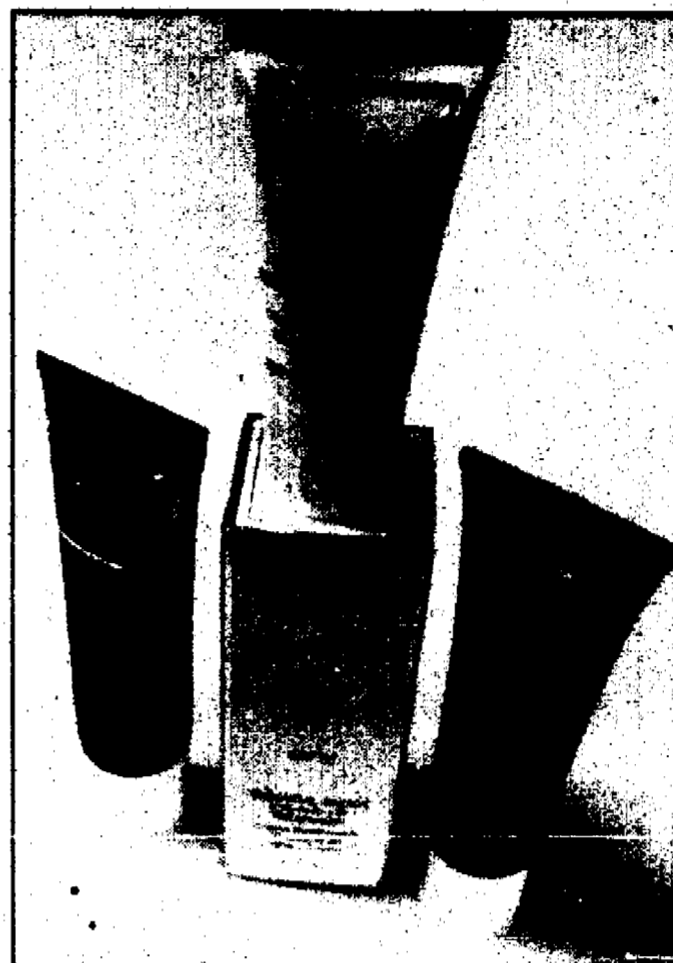
WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

- A shop or individual who can replace a frame with a handle of an old needlepoint purse for Gail.
- A 1987 Boyd Santa Bear for Brenda.
- A store that sells 16-inch round seat cushions for Sherry.
- A store where an ear alarm (for use while driving a car) can be purchased for Michael of Troy.
- A small, inexpensive starter piano for a 6-year-old child for Diane.
- The Millennium Princess Barbie doll for Carina, who lives in Livonia.
- The August 8, 1955 issue of Life magazine for Bill, a resident of Clarkston.
- A manual for a Thomas organ (Jester 132) for Diane, a Livonia resident.
- A store where Jessica Roberts women's clothing can be purchased for Lee of Lake Orion.
- A store that sells Allercreme hypo-allergenic facial makeup for Mary, who lives in Redford.
- Hudson's second "12 Days of Christmas" ornament (doves) for Dave of Lake Orion.

— Compiled by Sandi Jarackas

a la carte

STUFF WE CRAVE

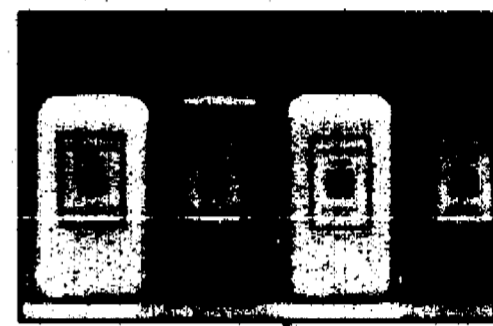


PHOTOGRAPHED EXCLUSIVELY FOR SAKS FIFTH AVENUE BY JAMES MURRAY

Versatility: Designer style and practicality come together in Louis Vuitton's adjustable purse in monogram canvas. Wear it around the waist or over the shoulder, or detach the strap and carry it as a clutch, \$220 at Saks Fifth Avenue.



Botanical boost: Natura Bisse's new eye care treatments target the effects of stress and fatigue on the delicate skin around the eye. Lightweight and unscented, they also feel very refreshing. Their Stimul-Eye Complex, a gel containing marine extracts, is especially effective on tired, morning eyes, \$62. Essential Shock Lip & Eye cream does double-duty anti-wrinkle work on both the lips and eyes, \$48. Use their Stimul-Eye Mask, \$38, to soften your skin when you're at home but wish you were at the spa. Available exclusively at Neiman Marcus, the Somerset Collection in Troy.



British vigor: Look to England's Jo Malone for invigorating skin care products to get you through the winter, including (above) Day Moisturizer Camphor Cleansing Gel, Cleansing Milk and Juniper Skin Tonic, \$9.50-35 at Saks Fifth Avenue's Jo Malone Boutique, the Somerset Collection in Troy.

Great Discounts when you present your HomeTown Savings Card to these area businesses!

LOOK FOR OUR DECAL IN THE WINDOW!





<p>S Automotive</p> <p>11 Mile/Henley Marathon Oil Change only \$15.95 (with full-up) Berkley</p> <p>Augers Auto Body Collision Free Exterior Wax/Polish With Any Repair Clawson</p> <p>Done Done-Rite Auto Wash \$1 Off Our #3 "Best Wash and Dry" Berkley</p> <p>Eclipse Window Tint, 9206 Telegraph 10% Off Purchase Over \$200 Redford</p> <p>Huntington Woods Mobile Free 20 oz. Pop with purchase of min. 8 gallons super Huntington Woods</p> <p>Jim Freaard Pontiac Buick 10% Off Parts and Service Royal Oak</p> <p>Stop and Go Auto Repair \$60 Brakes, Front or Rear, Inclusive plus Tax Ferndale</p> <p>Tom Halbeson Goodyear 10% Off All Services Birmingham/Royal Oak</p> <p>Westmore Free Oil Change With Two Tire Purchase Ferndale</p> <p>S Beauty & Health Care Professionals</p> <p>Affordable Optics 15% Off Any Frames Royal Oak</p> <p>Allison Tanning Salon 10% Off Any Reg. Priced Membership or package Clawson</p> <p>Berley Beach Tanning Salon 3 month bed \$80/3, month bed \$100 Berkley</p> <p>Best Health Store 10% Off On All Supplements Walled Lake</p> <p>Checker Drugs 180 S. Wayne Road All Vitamins \$1.00 Off Westland</p> <p>Dr. Daniel V. Tomlinello Free Initial Consultation & Exam Royal Oak</p> <p>Dr. Lefkowitz Free Initial Consultation Ferndale</p> <p>Dallas Hair Fashions 10% Off Reg. Price Cuts & Hush Products Farmington Hills</p> <p>Fairfax Hair \$5 Off Any Hair Service Birmingham</p> <p>Family Dental Center 734-427-9300 10% Off First Visit & Free consultation Livonia</p> <p>Great Nails 10% Off Any Service Berkley</p> <p>House of Optical 15% Off Complete Pair of Eyeglasses Royal Oak</p> <p>Medical Center Pediatrics DMAC Special Offer for New Patients. Call for Details W Bloom/Bing Farms</p> <p>Milano Barber & Styler \$1 Off Haircuts - \$5 Off Highlights & Colors Berkley</p> <p>Parsons Salon 478-2948 10% Off Color Services, 10% Off Massage, Haircut Farmington Hills</p> <p>Peash Salon 20% Off All Services Southfield</p> <p>Shear Radiance Sheridan Square 10% Off First Service Garden City</p> <p>Sir Davids Hair Salon 20% Off of Hair & Tanning Products Westland</p> <p>Spentys Westerns Gym 15% Off Any Membership Clawson</p> <p>The Gallery of Hair 10% Off All Services Royal Oak</p> <p>Vision Electrolysis 10% Off Second Treatment Ferndale</p> <p>S Coffee, Bagels & Bakeries</p> <p>Berry Donuttes 10% Off Special Order Cakes Westland</p> <p>New York Bagel \$1 Off Any Food Purchase of \$5 or More Ferndale</p> <p>S Day Care</p> <p>Hands & Hearts Around the World 10% Off 1st Months Tuition Garden City</p> <p>S Dry Cleaners & Laundry</p> <p>Huntington Woods 10% Off Incoming Orders for New Customers Huntington Woods</p>	<p>J.S. Prestige Cleaners on 5 Mile 20% Off Dry Cleaning (No Other Coupons) Livonia</p> <p>Mel Kai Cleaners Free Sealer or Paint W/39.95 Incoming Cleaning All Locations</p> <p>Park Ave \$1.75 Cleaners 844-5091 \$1.50 Per Item for Dry cleaning Canton</p> <p>Rage to Riches Cleaners 15% Off Dry Cleaning Only (Min. \$25 Order) Clawson</p> <p>Touch of Clean 15% Off All Dry Cleaned Garments Plymouth</p> <p>White Cleaners & Coin Laundry 30% Off Incoming Dry Cleaning Orders Berkley</p> <p>S Entertainment</p> <p>Ambassador Roller Rink Buy One Admission - Get One Free (Sat. Only) Clawson</p> <p>Detroit Zoological Society 10% Off All Membership Packages Royal Oak</p> <p>Electric Bikes Pay for One Hour of Pool - Get One Hour Free Westland</p> <p>Hayfield Lanes Free Shoe Rental for Cardholder Berkley</p> <p>S Florists & Gifts</p> <p>Home 10% Off Purchase (not to be combined w/other offers) Royal Oak</p> <p>Keivins Floral Expressions 10% Off - Excluding Wire Orders Ferndale</p> <p>Mary Jane Flowers \$5.00 Off Any Purchase Over \$10.00 Royal Oak</p> <p>Steve Codens Flowers Free Delivery in Metro Detroit Area Southfield</p> <p>The Green Bee 10% Off Purchase over \$10 Royal Oak</p> <p>S Home Improvement</p> <p>A&C Plumbing \$20 Off Service or \$25 Off SNR Clawson</p> <p>American Blind and Wallpaper Factory 10% Off Order \$50 Min. Mention Code HE10 Plymouth</p> <p>Bergstroms Inc Plumbing & Heating \$15 Off Service Calls 734-822-1350 Livonia</p> <p>Berkley Plumbing \$15 Off Plumbing Repair Sewer Drain Service Berkley</p> <p>Boyer Heating & Cooling Inc 10% Off Air Conditioning Special Ferndale</p> <p>Burton & Sons \$15.00 Off Service Call 734-427-3070 Garden City</p> <p>Burton Plumbing & Heating 10% Off ALL in Stock Merchandise Wayne</p> <p>Casmore Electric Inc \$25.00 Off Any Electrical Work Over \$200.00 Royal Oak</p> <p>Coachs Carpet Care 10% Reg. Scheduling Services, Carpet, UPH Ypsilanti</p> <p>Colby's Decorating Center 908 Newburgh 10% Off ALL in Stock Merchandise Westland</p> <p>Horton Plumbing Free 1/2 Hour Tub & Faucet with Repair Plymouth</p> <p>I Do Windows 313-927-8988 First Clean Free with Pre-Paid Service Redford</p> <p>KTP Designs Inc 2-1/2 Hour Free Interior Design Consultation Berkley</p> <p>New Beginnings LLC 734-413-9785 10% Off Painting Two or More Rooms Livonia</p> <p>Sumner Plumbing & Sewer \$15 Off Service or \$95 \$20 Off Livonia</p> <p>United Temperature Furnace Cleaning & Inspection \$67.00 Livonia</p> <p>S Jewelers</p> <p>Bright Jewelers 44344 Cherry Hill 734-844-3994 50% Off 14K Gold Chain Canton</p> <p>Cherry Jewelry We Will Pay Your Sales Tax Excluding Loose Diamonds Royal Oak</p> <p>Debe Jewelers Berk/Bhm/Fun/Cas/Met/Wood/Pi/Roys/Oak 1/2 Off Ring Sizing (excluding platinum) Royal Oak</p> <p>S Landscaping & Maintenance</p> <p>Wood's 1/2 Off Ring Sizing (excluding Platinum) Pleasant Ridge/Royal Oak</p> <p>S Pizza</p> <p>Cottage Inn Pizza 2 Large Pizzas W/One Item \$12.99 Birmingham</p> <p>Marisa Deli & Pizzeria 734-981-1200 \$5.00 Off a \$50.00 Purchase (excluding tobacco & alcohol) Canton</p> <p>Papa Romano's \$1.00 Off Romano Bread with any purchase Ferndale</p> <p>Pizza One 2 Small Pizzas for \$8.99 + tax Ferndale</p> <p>Rainco Pizza \$1.50 Off Large Square Pizza Royal Oak</p> <p>S Restaurants</p> <p>Alexander The Great 10% Off Entrées - Not Valid on Specials Westland</p> <p>Berbs Pasties 10% Off When You Buy 4 Pasties Livonia</p> <p>Beehive Family Dining 20% Off Any Order Wayne</p> <p>Christians Cuisine 10% Off Any Dinner Entree (Carry Out Only) Ferndale</p> <p>Clubhouse BBQ Free 2 Liter of Foygo with Any Purchase (\$7 Min.) Ferndale</p> <p>Code 50 Coffee Cafe Inc. \$1.00 Off Any Flavored Latte Redford</p> <p>Dairy Queen of Royal Oak 10% Off Total Bill Royal Oak</p> <p>Deli Deltis 15% Off Purchase of \$10 or More Royal Oak</p> <p>Don Pedro's 10% Off Food Over \$10 (No Other Offer) Redford</p> <p>Duggans Irish Pub 10% Off Total Food Bill w/\$10 Purchase or more Royal Oak</p> <p>Farm-us Chicken & Ribs Buy One Dinner and get \$1 Off Second Dinner Clawson</p> <p>Hard Ice Cream Cafe on Farmington St of Plymouth Livonia</p> <p>Hot Trick Pub/Deli 10% Off Any Food Purchase Berkley</p> <p>Max & Ernie's 10% Off Purchase, excluding alcohol & gratuities Birmingham</p> <p>Mich Houseys Schoolcraft/Middlebelt 10% Off Your Bill - Lunch or Dinner 734-426-6330 Livonia</p> <p>New King Line 248-474-3781 10% Off Total Bill Farmington Hills</p> <p>O'Malley's Bar & Grill 15231 Farmington & Five 15% Discount after 8 p.m. except Holidays Livonia</p> <p>Phymes 10% Off Total Food Bill with \$10 Purchase or More Berkley</p> <p>Samuel Hoffmanns New York Deli 10% Off Total Food Bill Clawson</p> <p>Steves Deli \$10.00 Off Any Catering Order Bloomfield Hills</p> <p>Subway \$1.00 Off Any Footlong Sub Berkley/Ferndale</p> <p>Souperno Deli \$1.00 Off Any Sandwich Clawson</p> <p>Woody's Diner 10% Off Total Food Bill with \$10 Purchase or More Royal Oak</p> <p>S Retail</p> <p>A Biddy Business 10% Off Any Lamp Purchase Walled Lake</p>	<p>Above Hobby Shop 10% Off Any Purchase Royal Oak</p> <p>Alexanders Framing 15% Off Any Purchase Royal Oak</p> <p>Atlas Greenfield Market 5% Off Any Meat or Produce Purchase Southfield</p> <p>America's Vitamin & Nutrition 10% Off Any Purchase Every Day Berkley</p> <p>Beede's S.I.L.D. 10% Off Purchase of \$10 or More Royal Oak</p> <p>Border Outlet 3500 Lacey 734-397-8326 10% Off In-Stock Only Canton</p> <p>Boonies BBQ & Fireplace 10% Off Replacement Parts Ferndale</p> <p>Cher's Home-All 10% Off Any Rental Berkley</p> <p>Chromatex Cellular Warehouse 10% Discount Southfield</p> <p>Chris Furniture Farmington/Plymouth Rd 40% Off All End Tables Livonia</p> <p>Circa 10% Off on All Circa Antiques & Collectibles Berkley</p> <p>Contract Design Group 10% Off New Orders/Carpeting/Linoleum Royal Oak</p> <p>Crossing Bridges 10% Off Candles, Incense & More (Books/Sales excluded) Berkley</p> <p>Dalley Carpet & Mill W of Meridian 10% Off Any Reg. Priced Merchandise: Excludes Labor Livonia</p> <p>Dimitris Upholstering 10% Off Complete Order Royal Oak</p> <p>Dolls and Trains 10% on Selected Items Lathrup Village</p> <p>Express Photo & More 20% Off Processing 25% Off Entanglements Livonia</p> <p>Four Seasons Garden Center 10% Off Reg. 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Traveling side roads of the Mountain State almost heaven

Almost heaven...
Country roads take me home
To the place I belong
West Virginia...
- lyrics from a John Denver
hit song of 1971

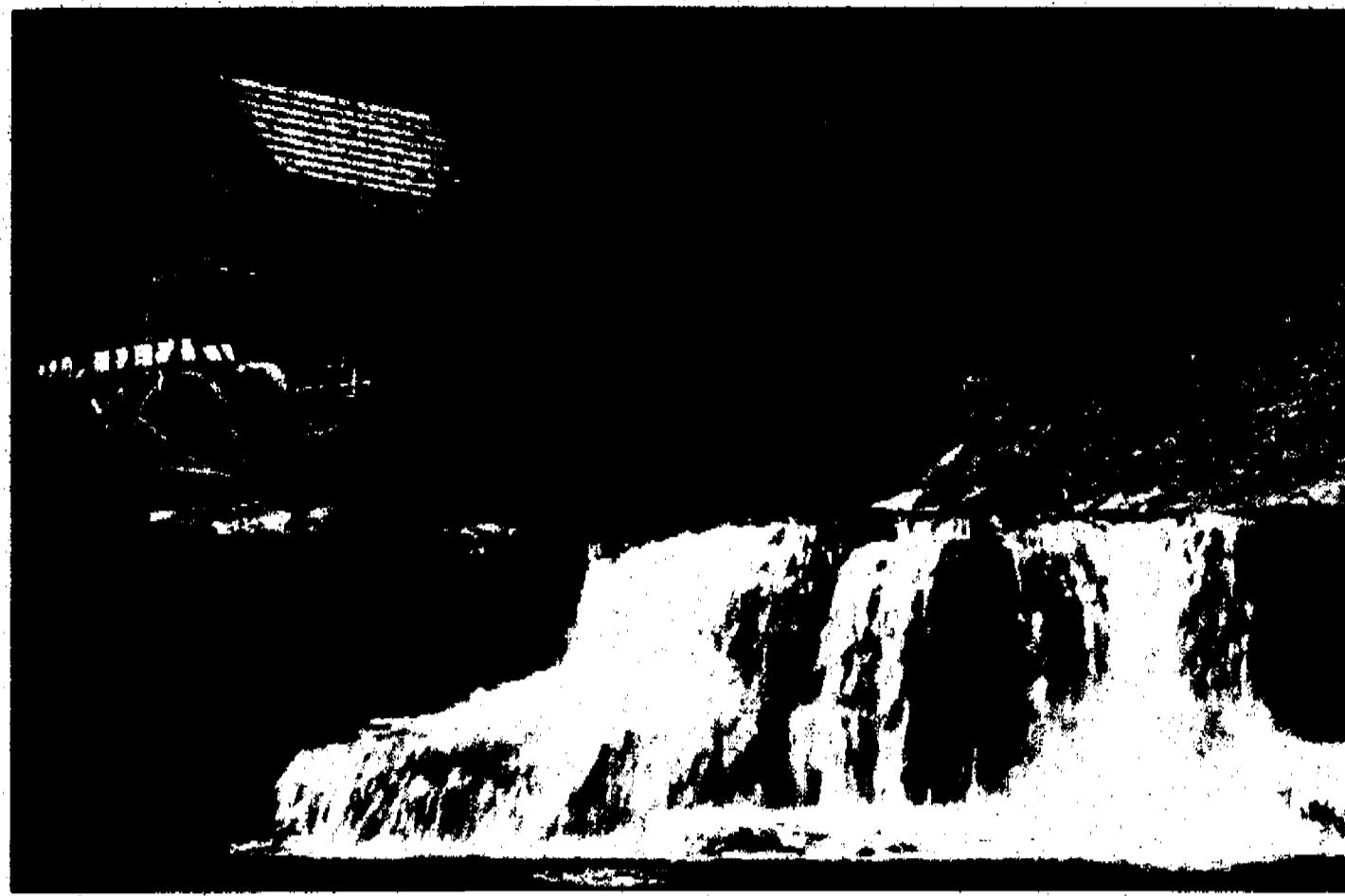
BY DOUG JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

Take mountainous State Highway 20 south and east of Beckley, West Virginia, to the railroad/river town of Hinton, cross the New River and follow the narrow half-paved, half-dirt National Park Service Road up to Sandstone Falls.

Here you are at one of the few waterfalls in the world where you can walk out to the middle of the river to get a better look. The falls only tumble about 30 feet but at this point the river is five football fields wide. Anglers stand in the deep pools at the fall's base. Youngsters brave the cool waters to perch on the fall's edge.

It's just one of many spectacular views in the Mountain State. As you crisscross the state you are struck by West Virginia's rugged beauty, its well-maintained roads, and the wondrous state parks, but most off all it's the state's rural nature that highlights the sharpest contrast for those of us who live in south-eastern Michigan.

Two of the state's biggest cities: the capital, Charleston,



PHOTOS BY DOUG JOHNSON

Most photographed: A grist mill and waterfalls make a picture-perfect scene at Babcock State Park.

and nearby Huntington are each less than half the population of Livonia.

And the state's violent history echoes down through the years: the raid at Harpers Ferry; the split with Virginia that led to the

creation of the non-slave state at the height of the Civil War; the bloody Hatfield and McCoy feud; the coal field wars recently depicted in the film "Matewan," the coming to prominence of such labor figures as John L. Lewis and "Mother" Jones, the angel of the coal fields; the horrible mine and flood disasters.

Back at Beckley you can get a feel for what it was - and is - like to work the coal mines if you stop at the Beckley Exhibition Coal Mine.

The hourlong tour takes you on a ride inside an authentic coal mine on "man trip" cars. Real miners take you through the history of coal mines and you see the rich seams of coal.

The mine is open April 1 to Nov. 1; tours run from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Also at the site are a gift shop, small museum, campground, coal company house, and

superintendent's house.

North from Beckley near Fayetteville you cross the famous New River Gorge bridge. Once a year (in October) B.A.S.E. jumpers leap off the span and drop the 900 feet to the river below.

B.A.S.E. stands for building, antenna, span, earth, fixed objects from which jumpers leap or rappel.

If you're not interested in extreme sports chose any other day. Stop by the Park Service's visitor center and pick up the official map for the New River Gorge National River. Many side roads are clearly marked and with some care you can take a narrow, dirt one-way road to the bottom of the gorge.

Above looms the impressive 3,000-foot steel span. At your feet is a tranquil spot in the river. A brief but tricky hike across a boulder field upstream

leads you to a patch of whitewater. In early April wetsuits are worn by river runners despite 80 degree air temperatures.

Other roads wind down into the river gorge; at one point you cross the New River on a one-way bridge that also contains a set of railroad tracks. It's river-running the New, the Gauley and the Cheat rivers that has helped boost tourism in West Virginia.

If you want you can take jet-boats in the summer on a portion of the New River near Hawks Nest State Park (304 469-2525).

A swing up from the big bridge on U.S. 19 to U.S. 60 then south to Babcock State Park brings you to another scenic gem. With some hyperbole they say the Glade Creek Mill and water falls in the park are the "most photographed mill (and water falls) in the United States." True or not, the mill and falls are a photographer's delight and are easily accessible.

Another surprise is the impressive waterfalls at Blackwater Falls State Park on the eastern edge of the state. Numerous stairs lead to the falls on the west side of the river, but an easy walk gives you a high view from the east side. A quick run over to the eerie Seneca Rocks monoliths yields yet another facet of the state.

Here are some other routes or destinations to consider:

The drive down State Highway 55 from Elkins south to Interstate 64; beautiful valleys, rivers and mountains can only be matched in the American west.

A stop at Tamarack near Beckley where the "Best of West Virginia" is showcased is highly recommended. Fine arts and crafts are featured, but the best part is a superb food service operation run by the folks from The Greenbrier, a noted five-star resort at White Sulphur Springs.

A trip south of Beckley to Twin Falls will take you deep into coal country; railroad cars loaded with the black rocks chug

For an interesting but brief history of the state try "West Virginia" by John Alexander Williams, W. W. Norton, publisher.

For a list of white water runners, go to www.whitewater.com. The main West Virginia site is www.wvonline.com. Also, wvparks.com. The main state site is www.state.wv.us/tourism. The National Park Service's Web site for the New River is www.nps.gov/neri. A very complete list of links to almost every Web site in the state can be found at www.dolsci.wvu.edu/wv/links

The state's toll free phone is (800) 847-4898.

You may find cheaper motel rates at places like Oak Hill and Fayetteville than at Beckley.

It takes less than one day to get to the Ohio/West Virginia border; most people take the Ohio Turnpike in Toledo over to southbound interstate 77.

alongside quiet rivers, roadways taking you through small towns filled with frame houses and the ever-present house trailer.

On the return trip home stop at Parkersburg along the Ohio River and check out the flood walls. Drop in for a meal at the restored Blennerhassett Hotel where they have been taking care of visitors for 102 years.

Nearby is Williamstown and the home of Fenton Glass where they offer tours and demonstrations. West Virginia is noted for glass. One of the more famous plants is in Milton west of Charleston on I-64. Blenko Glass and their artisans were featured on a recent PBS show.

A bloody history and a daunting terrain have combined to create West Virginia.

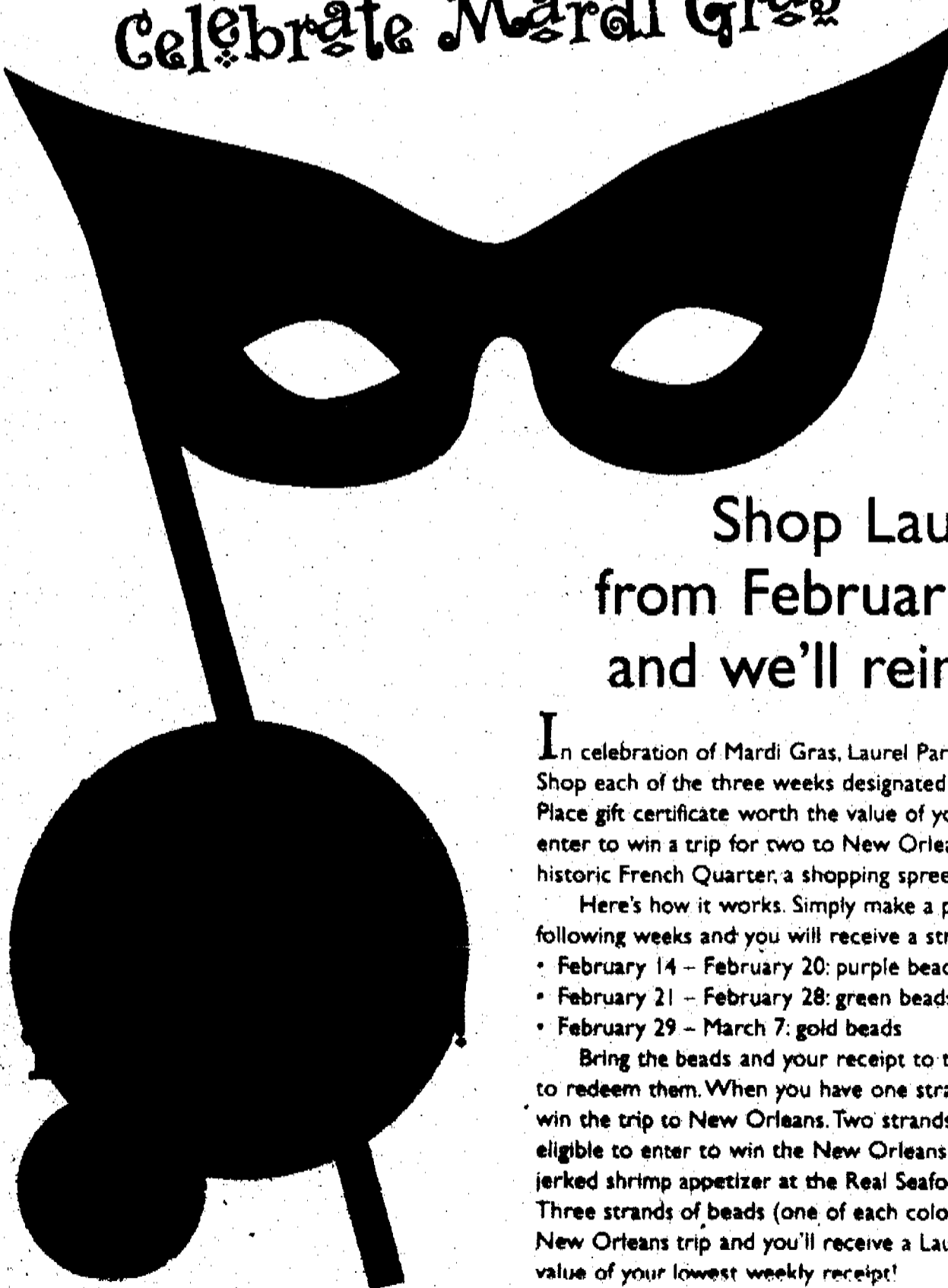
Mary Harris (Mother) Jones called the place "medieval." It wasn't "almost heaven" to her but it drew her back many times over a period of 40 years - much as it draws visitors today.

Doug Johnson is a retired Livonia teacher who lives with his wife in Plymouth.



Downstream: A raft full of boaters crashes through the whitewater near the New River Gorge bridge.

Celebrate Mardi Gras



Indulgence is... Shopping!

Shop Laurel Park Place once each week from February 14 through Mardi Gras (March 7) and we'll reimburse one of your shopping trips!

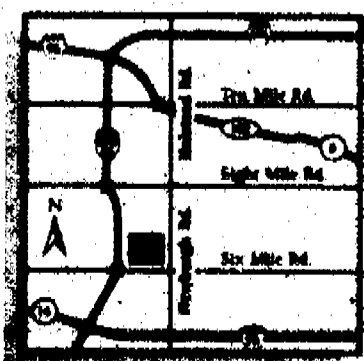
In celebration of Mardi Gras, Laurel Park Place is helping you indulge in shopping! Shop each of the three weeks designated below and you will receive a Laurel Park Place gift certificate worth the value of your lowest weekly receipt!* Plus, you can enter to win a trip for two to New Orleans including airfare, accommodations in the historic French Quarter, a shopping spree and more!

Here's how it works. Simply make a purchase of \$35.00 or more each of the following weeks and you will receive a strand of Mardi Gras beads:

- February 14 - February 20: purple beads
- February 21 - February 28: green beads
- February 29 - March 7: gold beads

Bring the beads and your receipt to the Mardi Gras cart near Center Court to redeem them. When you have one strand of beads, you'll be eligible to enter to win the trip to New Orleans. Two strands of different colored beads: you'll be eligible to enter to win the New Orleans trip and receive a coupon for a free jerked shrimp appetizer at the Real Seafood Grill with the purchase of an entree. Three strands of beads (one of each color): you'll be eligible to enter to win the New Orleans trip and you'll receive a Laurel Park Place gift certificate worth the value of your lowest weekly receipt!

*Theater, hotel purchases and Laurel Park gift certificate sales excluded. Only one receipt allowed from a department store. Receipts cannot be combined. All beads must be accompanied by a receipt. Additional rules and regulations also apply and are available at the Mardi Gras cart or the Management Office.



Laurel Park Place

Shop the difference.

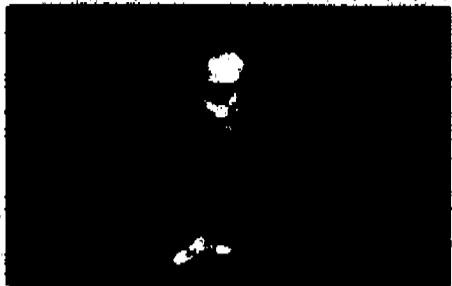
Over 70 exceptional stores, services and restaurants conveniently located in Livonia on Six Mile, just one-quarter mile east of I-275.

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2 Unique



KELLI LEWTON

Americans are having a love affair with food

America has been having a love affair with food for the last century. Meals were simple in the late 1800s, and 90 percent of Americans never traveled more than five to 10 miles from their homes. With the dawn of the 20th century, new technology emerged that made travel and food storage possible and affordable.

In the early 1900s people began traveling like never before, and experienced new things and foods. Lavish 12- to 18-course dinner parties were thrown. Hershey's milk chocolate was introduced, and hamburgers and ice cream cones made their debut at the St. Louis World's Fair. Mr. Kellogg came along and changed our whole idea of morning food.

During the Roaring '20s, speakeasies and cocktail parties were the rage, along with soft drinks and ice cream. Betty Crocker was born, the first Coney Island was served in New York, Stouffer's and White Castle restaurants opened. The 1920s also brought the most immigrants in our history, and we became a melting pot of food histories.

In 1929, Mr. Birdseye developed a technique to flash freeze vegetables. Refrigerators with freezer compartments were introduced, and refrigerator sales jumped from about 10,000 in 1920 to 800,000 by 1929. Self-serve grocery stores created competition for food sales.

One-pot meals were popular

Americans experienced hard times in the 1930s, but still found ways to love food, even when it was not plentiful.

One-pot meals were served, and casseroles — which still survive as "comfort food" today — evolved to nourish our families. Hostess Twinkies debuted along with Spam and Skippy peanut butter. During the 1930s standardization of recipes and food measures became a science.

The 1940s started with short ration cards but ended with people eating a lot of meat. Mom couldn't buy enough frozen and canned foodstuffs. Foreign food was the chic food to serve when entertaining or eating out. Bouillabaisse, crepes and Lobster Thermidor were also hot.

In the 1950s we loved "I Love Lucy" and the TV dinner was born. Food "revolutions" occurred in the 1960s. Vegetarianism was en vogue, and there was a rebirth of "natural" foods and whole grains.

Food was 'cool'

Food was cool in the 1970s. Chefs became celebrities, gourmet foods grew in popularity along with salad bars. Real men didn't eat quiche, but everyone else did.

Baby boomers became yuppies in the 1980s. Everyone had microwave ovens. Southwest cuisine and restaurants were popular.

The 1990s would prove to be the decade of health. We counted calories and fat grams, strayed from beef, ate soluble fiber and worried about antibiotics in milk, pesticides, nitrates and E. coli. We adored Mediterranean and Pacific Rim cooking, but didn't quite understand Fusion cooking.

As we enter the 21st century we are informed consumers who demand more from the food industry. We want foods that taste good but are also good for us.

Thinking about new food dishes for this century, I believe food, like fashion, comes in and out of style. I always smirk when I hear someone say "so and so invented this great dish. I don't know if we chefs are really inventors of food, I think we are more like managers of it. So many dishes you see today aren't really new, but are dishes from the past, revisited and dressed up a bit.

Chef Kelli L. Lewton is owner of 2 Unique Caterers and Event Planners in Bloomfield Hills. A graduate of Schoolcraft College's culinary arts program, Kelli is a part-time instructor at the college. Her column runs on the second Sunday of the month. See recipes inside.

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Taste next week:

- Focus on Wine
- Cooking with Chef Aldo Ottaviani

Are you a snack animal?

STORIES BY PEGGY MARTINELLI-EVERTS • SPECIAL WRITER

What kind of animal do your eating habits mimic?

Do you like to "graze" all day long like horses and cows or eat like a lion, enjoy a large meal and then a nice, long nap? Perhaps you're like my neighbor's dog, which is given a bowl of food each morning and eats only when he is hungry.

Mice are always in a feeding frenzy, and no human can top the shrew, which eats three times its body weight each day.

Even if your eating habits mimic these creatures, you still can learn how to be a smart snacker.

The time-honored tradition of "three square meals" a day is slowly giving way to a new trend — scattered mini-meals.

Snacking may contribute significantly to your daily calorie and nutrient intake. Potato chips, cookies and crackers are high in fat and calories. If you don't adjust the size of your regular meals to account for snacks, you could be eating more calories than you

need. If you substitute poor quality snacks for meals, you may miss out on some vital nutrients.

Smart snacks

Choose snacks that are high in vitamins, minerals and fiber such as fruits, vegetables and whole grains. Stock your refrigerator or pantry with plain popcorn, whole-grain crackers, fruit juice, low-fat yogurt, low-fat cheese, low-fat granola bars, dried fruits, bread sticks, baby carrots, vegetables, fruits and other healthy snacks. Researchers believe that eating smaller meals more frequently may help regulate blood sugar, cholesterol and body weight.

Since little tummies hold only small amounts of food, children need snacks to help them meet daily calorie and nutrient quotas — as long as the snacks are healthy. Teenagers also need afternoon snacks to meet their needs. If you don't plan, foraging kids may

Please see SNACKS, D2



TAMMIS GRAVERSTAFF ARTIST SNACK ANIMAL RABBIT

Do you eat like a horse, a lion or a mouse?

Are you curious about how others snack? We asked a few people to reveal their favorite snack, and the animal they most identify with:

LISA ASQUIN OF LYONIA

Snack animal: "I'm a lion. I don't snack much, love to eat meat and boy, a nap sounds good right now."

Favorite snack: Leftovers — meat, cheese, lunch meats. "I don't crave doughnuts or popcorn. Give me protein."

SUE ANN SCHELLIG OF BLOOMFIELD HILLS

Snack animal: "I'm an owl. I snack at night, when I'm reading."

Favorite snack: "Lay's Wavy Potato Chips in the red bag, with the dip I make from cream cheese and horseradish. But my secret passion (which all my students know at Upton Elementary School in Royal Oak) is chocolate covered raisins."

FLORNE MARK OF FARMINGTON HILLS

Snack animal: "I eat like the horse. Horses graze on grasses and hay during the day and then get most of their protein at meal time when they eat their oats. Like a horse, I love to graze on veggies and then enjoy my meals too."

Favorite snack: Vegetables — carrots, green peppers, asparagus, broccoli. "I wash them and throw them in a bag. Normally I start to get hungry at around 4 p.m. and that's when I pull out my veggies."

GENE TAYLOR OF LATHRUP VILLAGE

Snack animal: "I'm like the rabbit. I like to eat my vegetarian meals."

Favorite snack: I like baby carrots with hummus.

JOE SARAJA OF BLOOMFIELD HILLS

Snack animal: "I'm definitely the dog."

Favorite snack: "Potato chips, although I don't eat them often. I usually reach for the popcorn or pretzels instead."

REID ASHTON OF BEVERLY HILLS

Snack animal: "I guess I'm most like the dog, although because I don't snack much, perhaps the lion is more my eating style."

Favorite snack: "My favorite snack is Beluga caviar, although I don't eat it as often as I would like. If I do snack, it's a pastry and a glass of milk."

MICKY MACWILLIAMS OF CLARKSTON

Snack animal: "Oh, definitely the mouse. I'm always looking for food."

Favorite snack: "I love cheese and fresh baby spinach together. I'll take a piece of cheese and wrap spinach leaves around it. Right now, in the winter, Habanero cheese tastes great."

The highs and lows

You can judge snacks by their "nutrient-to-calorie" ratio. The following are some high and low nutrient-to-calorie foods.

HIGH

- Whole grain bread, bagels, muffins, crackers, cereal
- Nuts, seeds, peanut butter, hummus
- Fresh, dried, canned fruits
- Fruit and vegetable juices
- Fresh, canned, frozen vegetables
- Meat, fish, poultry, eggs
- Legumes
- Low-fat milk, yogurt, cheese
- Low fat pudding, ice milk, sherbet
- Bread sticks
- Salsa, chutney
- Homemade quick breads such as banana or zucchini

LOW

- Soda pop
- Alcoholic beverages
- Donuts, sweet rolls, high-fat baked goods
- Pie, cake, most cookies
- Commercially prepared baked goods
- Candy
- Chips, puffed snack food
- Unenriched crackers
- Fruit roll-ups, fruit wrinkles
- Ice cream
- Chip dip

Snack trivia to munch on

It's too early for last year's annual sales figures, but if all goes as expected, convenience stores will have pushed more than \$1.9 billion in salty snacks out the door in 1999.

The average American consumes 11.7 pounds of chocolate in various forms each year. That amounts to over 3.1 billion pounds consumed nationwide.

Here are the top eight snacks, according to Food Distributor magazine:

- Desserts/baked sweets
- Salty snacks
- Candy
- Fruit
- Ice cream
- Crackers/bread sticks
- Muffins/breakfast sweets
- Vegetables

Potato chips remain America's favorite savory snack with \$4.59 billion sold in 1998. Not too far behind was tortilla chips at \$3.57 billion.

Speaking of potato chips, do you know how they were invented? In the summer of 1853, a guest at the Moon Lake Lodge in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., ordered french fries and complained that they were too thick. The chef sliced up another batch of potatoes, somewhat thinner, and served them. The guest rejected those, too.

The patron's actions upset the chef, who then decided to slice the potatoes paper thin. The guest was delighted. The crispy potatoes, first called Saratoga Chips, became a hit and a trademark of the restaurant.

Onion Smothered Steak warm dish for cold days



MURIEL WAGNER

When the TV weatherman issues a "cuddle alert," I begin thinking of foods, that according to my mother, "warm the cockles of your heart." Of course, they must be heart healthy as well.

One such recipe is my Onion Smothered Steak, which is an "Eating Younger" makeover of Swiss Steak. It satisfies my meat loving taste buds, yet it can be a smart eating choice if the meat portion is small (3 ounces or less), and the cut and cooking method are lean.

Rump, flank and round are all lean cuts of beef, but they need to be slow cooked with liquid to be tender.

You'll find this dish full of flavor, particularly when you serve it with the Almost Instant Mashed Potatoes. If you serve the potatoes liberally doused with the steak recipe, gravy, your family may think that you've found a 1950s cookbook that will become a recipe resource for a lot of flavorful eating. They'll never realize that they're "eating younger."

Rump, flank and round are all lean cuts of beef, but they need to be slow cooked with liquid to be tender.

ONION SMOTHERED STEAK

- 1 1/2 pounds round steak (3/4-inch thick)
- 1/4 cup flour
- 4 medium onions, thinly sliced
- 1/2 pound fresh mushrooms, sliced
- 1 tablespoon canola or olive oil
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 cup fat free, sodium reduced beef bouillon

Trim any fat from meat and cut into 6 servings. Combine flour with fresh ground pepper in a plastic bag. Shake steak pieces in bag until well coated. Heat oil in nonstick skillet. Brown beef over low heat. Top with onion and mushroom slices. Stir in beef bouillon, bay leaf and thyme. Bring to a boil, and then reduce heat.

Simmer, covered 30 minutes or until meat is tender. Season with salt substitute if needed. Serve steak topped with gravy, mushrooms and onions. Serves 6.

Nutritional information, per serving:

- Calories: 178
- Total fat: 8.6 grams
- Saturated fat: 2.2 grams
- Cholesterol: 67 mg
- Sodium: 58 mg
- Food exchanges: 3 lean meat, 1 1/2 vegetables

EATING YOUNGER GARLIC MASHED POTATOES

- 2 1/2 cups fat-free, reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 2 teaspoons light margarine (squeeze bottle)
- 2 cups instant mashed potato flakes with skins
- 1 teaspoon minced fresh garlic
- Dash freshly ground pepper

Heat broth to boiling. Remove from heat. Pour into deep-sided serving bowl. Add remaining ingredients. Stir gently with fork to blend. Add seasoning if necessary. Let stand for 30 seconds. Fluff with fork before serving. Serves 6.

Nutritional information, per serving:

- Calories: 87
- Total fat: 2 g
- Saturated fat: 0 g
- Cholesterol: 0 mg
- Sodium: 302 mg
- Food exchanges: 1 starch

Look for Main Dish Miracle on the second Sunday of the month in Taste. Muriel G. Wagner is a registered dietitian and nutrition therapist with an office in Southfield. She publishes "Eating Younger," a quarterly newsletter with recipes and nutrition tips. To subscribe, send a check for \$13.50 to "Eating Younger," P.O. Box 69021, Pleasant Ridge, MI 48066.

COOKING CLASS CALENDAR

Send items for consideration in Cooking Class Calendar to Ken Abramczyk, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or e-mail kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net.

Kitchen Glamour features Signature Recipes of Michigan Five-Star Chefs at Kitchen Glamour, Orchard Mall, northeast corner of Maple and Orchard Lake in West Bloomfield. All celebrity chef sessions on Sundays begin at 12:30 p.m. The remaining one-day session in February features Chef Brian Polcyn, Five Lakes Grill of Milford, Sunday, Feb. 20. March sessions include Chef Derin Moore of the Golden Mushroom Restaurant and Jim Barnett, corporate chef of

Unique Restaurant, including Morels and Northern Lake Seafood Co. Polcyn will demonstrate the preparation of Maryland crab cakes on roasted red pepper and crispy potatoes, citrus marinated salmon with confit of oranges and pea jus, pan roasted breast of squab with foie gras, Swiss chard and oven dried figs and Indian pudding with butterscotch sauce. On Sunday, March 5, Moore will instruct how to prepare finnan haddie and potato brandade with zucchini and oven roasted tomato coulis, roast veal loin on fresh braised artichoke and wild mushroom confit, garlic dumplings and cardamom jus, warm pineapple rum cake and ginger cinnamon creme anglaise. On Sunday,

March 19, Barnett will feature tea-cured salmon gravlox, with potato galette, cucumber and sweet onion salad with dill creme fraiche, chanterelle and barley risotto with pan-roasted duck breast, huckleberries and red wide jus lie and bittersweet chocolate pot creme. The Celebrity Chef Series also features Joanne Weir, cookbook author, food writer and PBS television celebrity, at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 20, and Tuesday, March 21, in a one or two-day session. Weir will feature recipes between the two sessions, including white winter salad with a hint of green oven roasted beet soup, pizza with smoked trout and caviar, salmon with asparagus and blood oranges on March 20, and crostini with artichokes and olives, asparagus with lemon creme fraiche and linquine with goat cheese and argula on March 21.

Kitchen Glamour also conducts sessions with cooking instructors at the Novi and Redford stores. This week, Dolly Matoian will show how to prepare the perfect Spanish paella, Armenian pilaf and rice pudding. Class is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 15, at the Novi store in the Novi Town Center (southeast of the Novi Road exit at I-96) and Wednesday, Feb. 16, at the Redford store, 26770 Grand River. Next week, Linda Kay Drysdale will show techniques for creating a fresh lemon glazed cake, winter joy marmalade, orange pineapple bars and easy lemon squares. Sessions are scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 22, in Novi and Wednesday, Feb. 23, in Redford. Call 1-800-641-1252 for information.

Continuing Education Classes
Schoolcraft College: European Bread Making, 5-10 p.m., Monday, Feb. 14 and 21; Thai Cuisine at Home, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Monday, March 13 and 20; Also, Pasta Cookery, 6-9 p.m., Thursday, March 16 and 23, Quick Easy Meals, 6-10 p.m., Monday, April 3; Outdoor Grilling and Entertaining, 5-10 p.m., Monday, April 17 and 24; and Buffet and Hors D'oeuvres - Hands On!, 5:30-9:30 p.m., April 20 and 21.

Flavors never grow old in these timely favorites

See related story on Taste front. Recipes compliments of Kelli Lewton

DESIGNER PIZZA (1980s)

- 1 (approximately 12 ounces) fully baked pizza crust
- 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, roasted and ground into paste
- 3/4 grated mozzarella cheese
- 1/4 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup sliced artichoke hearts
- 1/2 cup diced plum tomatoes
- 1 cup thinly sliced cooked duck or chicken breast
- 1 onion, diced and sauteed until caramelized in color
- 1/4 cup reconstituted sun dried tomatoes, sliced thin
- 1/8 cup finely chopped herbs-basil, parsley, and oregano
- 1/8 cup Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven 450° F. Mix olive oil, roasted garlic and 1/2 of herbs, mix with pinch of salt and fresh pepper. Spread over baked pizza crust. Mix the mozzarella, feta and Parmesan cheeses. Sprinkle 3/4 of cheese mixture. Arrange artichoke hearts, tomatoes, duck or chicken, onion and sun-dried tomato toppings. Sprinkle remaining herbs on top. Sprinkle remaining cheese and additional Parmesan cheese.

Bake pizza approximately 15 minutes until edges brown and cheese is golden in color. Slice into desired slices. Yields 10-14 slices.

REALLY GOOD MEATLOAF (1930s)

- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 cup onion, diced celery
- 1 large onion, diced
- 1 green pepper, diced
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons fresh chopped parsley
- 1 pound lean ground beef

See related story on Taste front.

These snacks are a nice healthy alternative to potato chips or other salty snacks you or your children may consume during the day.

The Cereal Puffs recipe was created with kids in mind, and it received rave reviews from four who tried it. It's sweet, like a Rice Crispy Treat, but also has some extra vitamins and nutrients, and no fat.

CEREAL PUFFS

- 2 cups mini marshmallows
- 1/3 cup chocolate-flavored Carnation Instant Breakfast
- 4 cups unsweetened Rice Puffs cereal (Wheat Puffs are good, too)

Put marshmallows and Instant Breakfast into a large, microwavable bowl. Microwave on high for about 1 minute. The marshmallows will puff up. Add cereal and mix until cereal and marshmallow/instant breakfast mixture all sticks together. Form into balls, about the size of a golf ball. Makes approximately 28 puffs.

Nutritional information per serving: 24 calories; protein, less than 1 gram; fat, less than 1 gram; carb., 5.5 grams; sod., 5 mg.; calories from fat, 1.52 percent.

PARMESAN WALNUTS

- 1 1/2 cups walnut halves
- 1 tablespoon butter or margarine, melted
- 1/4 teaspoon seasoned salt
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese

Heat oven to 350 F. Spread walnuts in shallow baking pan; toast in oven for 10 minutes. Stir together butter and salt; toss lightly with walnuts. Sprinkle cheese over top; stir. Return to oven and heat three to four minutes or until cheese is melted. Makes 1 1/2 cups for six 1/4-cup servings.

Nutritional information per serving: 240 calories; protein, 8.7 grams; fat, 22 grams; sod., 211 mg.; carb., 5 grams; 83.4 calories from fat.

Snacks from page D1

choose the quickest and easiest snack they find, which often can be of poor nutritional quality.

Plan snacks

Plan for after-school snacks when you do your weekly shopping. Place portions in a serving dish and post daily selections on your kitchen message board.

Consider the following:

- Keep snacks small. You don't want to end up eating gigantic portions of food plus your "regular" meals.

- Serve snacks on a dish to control the amount you consume. It is hard to know how many crackers you've eaten when you just keep digging them out of the box.

- Consider saving food from your meal to eat as a snack later on.

- Snack only when you are truly hungry, not when you're

bored, angry or stressed.

- Keep high-fat, low-nutrient foods out of the house, or buy them in tiny quantities, and measure portions.

- Include some special treats with your meals on occasion. If you have a few chips with your sandwich at lunch you might be less likely to choose chips as a snack later on. Don't "deprive" yourself of special treats, just eat them sensibly.


- Understand your snacking urges. If you like crunchy stuff, try bread sticks, rice cakes or pretzels rather than potato chips. If you crave sweets, choose dried fruits, graham crackers, or fig bars rather than a candy bar. If you're looking for something smooth and creamy, try low-fat yogurt instead of processed cheese. If a frozen confection sounds good, choose fruit juice bars or sorbet rather than ice

cream.

So, snack animals - whether you like to graze all day like a horse or munch a little here, a little there - snacking can be a nutritious and healthy way to eat!

Peggy Martinelli-Everts, who describes herself as "a lion" whose favorite snack is Wheaties cereal with milk, is a resident of Clarkston, a registered dietitian and director of clinical operations for HDS Services, a 34-year-old Farmington-Hills based food service and hospitality management and consulting company, specializing in food service management for hospitals, long-term care facilities, businesses, private clubs and private schools.

*See recipes inside



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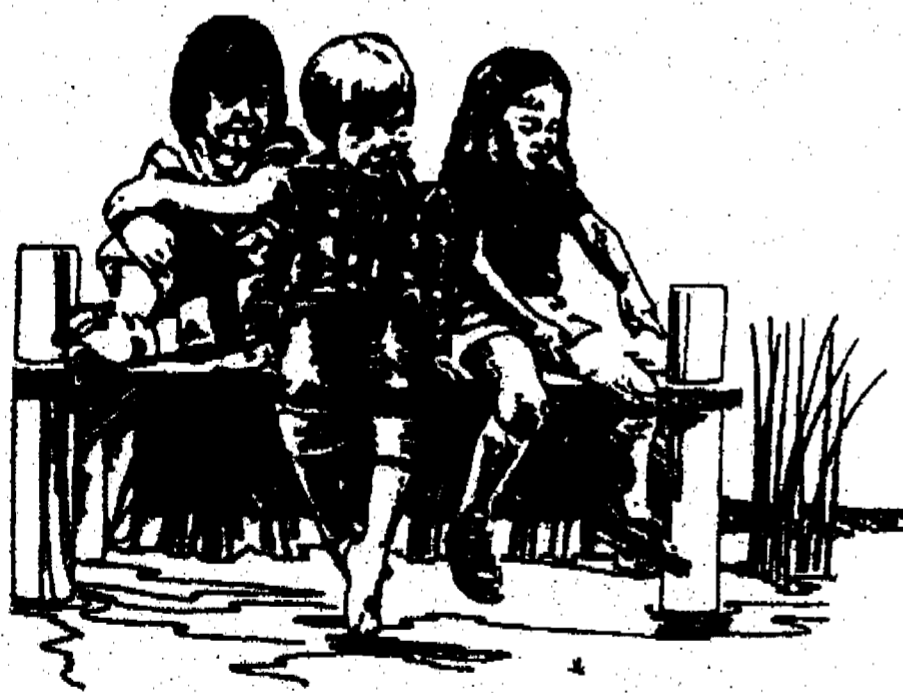
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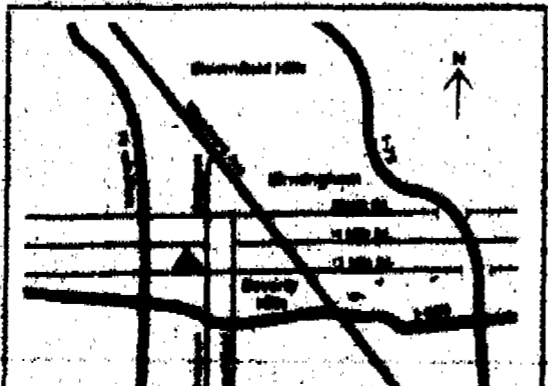
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Americans consume 2 billion pounds of chocolate annually



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This is for all the chocolate lovers. Chocolate is one of the world's most far-reaching passions.

The chocolate epidemic causes the typical American to consume approximately 12 pounds per year, putting the U.S. total consumption of chocolate at two billion pounds annually.

Not only does chocolate fuel an addiction-like desire, people talk about it endlessly and even dream about it.

Neuropharmacologists have found in studies marijuana-like properties in chocolate along with two related chemicals that have been linked to treating many ailments, including depression. And, dark chocolate contains two to three times as much of these substances per ounce as milk chocolate. Eating high-fat, chocolate foods can trigger the brain's production of natural opiates.

Adam Drewnowski, director of the University of Michigan's Human Nutrition Program, discovered that when binge eaters used a drug that blocked the brain's opiate receptors, their cravings for sweet, fatty foods diminished.

On the down side, chocolate can cause migraines, acne, obesity, dental cavities, and heartburn. Two chemicals in chocolate, theobromine and caffeine, are implicated in fibrocystic breast disease.

On the up side, stearic acid, one of the fatty acids in chocolate, can actually lower cholesterol. Chocolate also contains powerful antioxidants, similar to those found in fruits and vegeta-

bles. Chocolate also contains magnesium. It is thought that if you crave chocolate, your diet may be deficient in magnesium!

Chocolate contains a small amount of caffeine — about 15 milligrams per ounce, as compared with 137 milligrams found in a cup of coffee — but it doesn't take a lot of caffeine to cause an addiction.

Actually, one of the reasons people become hooked on chocolate is because it contains phenylethylamine, a chemical produced naturally by the brain, which makes you feel good. Your body in large amounts also produces phenylethylamine when you fall in love or have a "mad" crush on someone cute at the office. Well, guess what? Chocolate can help you reproduce that feeling so you don't have to do anything too irrational.

True chocoholics know that when they deeply crave chocolate, the inexpensive, low-quality stuff just won't do the trick. These connoisseurs want the finest in chocolate.

Lisa Smith of Farmington Hills feels that her need for chocolate is physical. "I can eat 100 other things, and nothing will satisfy me until I eat my chocolate." What is Lisa's favorite kind of chocolate? Suchard Rocher, a chocolate that she purchased last summer while visiting Paris.

Judy McGuire, owner of Sydney Bogg, divulged that Valentine's Day is her single busiest day of the year, with Turtles as her best-selling year-round item. "Chocolate is everyone's 'feel good' food," she says. And Sydney Bogg chocolate tastes so good because only the purest ingredients are used in the making. Pure ingredients make it taste finer.

Coming from a true chocoholic, tricks to satisfying your choco-

late affection can include chocolate syrup, which has 36 calories and 0.2 grams of fat per tablespoon as compared with chocolate fudge at 73 calories and 2.8 g fat per tablespoon.

Try a chocolate phosphate (or soda) at your favorite deli or if you are real adventurous, White Wave has Chocolate Silk, which is a chocolate soy milk. Prepare treats such as chocolate brownies and cookies with cocoa powder (10 calories and 0.5 grams of fat per tablespoon of powder) and Wonderslim Fat and Egg Substitute. (Wonderslim is actually pureed plums and prunes, which is a healthy, fat-free alternative to butter or shortening.)

Enjoy mocha at Caribou (90 calories and 1.5 grams of fat per shot) or at Starbucks (70 calories and 2 grams of fat per shot). Both of these popular coffeehouses even have soy milk to boot. For those of you who like that creamy comfort feeling, try chocolate pudding made with Mori nu tofu and Mori nu Mates. You'll never believe you are eating tofu once this mixture is combined, and the fiber keeps you full for quite awhile.

There is nothing wrong with enjoying a small amount of chocolate occasionally. Just save it for when you really want it — like on Valentine's Day!

Beverly Price is a registered dietician and exercise physiologist. She operates Living Better Sensibly, a private nutrition practice in Farmington Hills that offers programs for individuals and corporations. She is the co-author of "Nutrition Secrets for Optimal Health," Tall Tree Publishing Company. Visit her website at www.nutritionsecrets.com.

Look for her column on the first Sunday of each month in Taste.

Here are some lowfat chocolate recipes:

CINNAMATI CHILI

- 1 quart water
- 1 pounds ground meat substitute, such as Morningstar Farms Harvest Burger, broken into smaller pieces
- 2 medium onions, finely grated
- 2 cans (8 ounces each) tomato sauce
- 5 whole allspice
- 1/2 teaspoon red pepper
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- 4 tablespoons chili powder
- 1/2 ounce unsweetened chocolate
- 4 cloves garlic
- 2 tablespoons vinegar
- 1 large bay leaf
- 5 whole cloves
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

Add meat substitute to 4-quart pot containing one quart of water, stir. Boil slowly for 30 minutes. Add onion, tomato sauce, allspice, red pepper, cumin, chili powder, chocolate, garlic, vinegar, bay leaf, cloves, Worcestershire sauce, salt and cinnamon. Stir to blend, bringing to a boil, reduce heat simmer uncovered for about three hours. During last hour, the pot may be covered after desired consistency is reached. Makes 8 servings.

CREPES WITH HOT FUDGE SAUCE

- 1/2 cup whole wheat flour
- 1 cup soy milk or orange juice
- 5 eggs or equivalent egg substitute
- Non-stick cooking spray

In blender or food processor, combine all ingredients until smooth. Let rest for at least 15 minutes up to overnight. Coat a small non-stick coated skillet with non-stick cooking spray and heat over medium heat. Spoon batter into skillet. If the dough is too thick, add more liquid. If it is too thin, add more

flour. Cook until the top is not shiny. Serve folded over with jam or fresh fruit and hot fudge sauce.

HOT FUDGE SAUCE

- 5 tablespoon warm water
- 3 tablespoons cocoa powder
- 4 tablespoons brown rice syrup
- 1 tablespoon arrowroot powder mixed with 2 tablespoons water

Combine water, cocoa and syrup in a small saucepan over medium heat until dissolved. Remove and add rest of ingredients. Whisk until smooth.

CHOCOLATE SILK PIE

- Crust**
- 7 ounce chocolate wafer cookies or graham crackers
 - 2 tablespoons canola oil

- Filling**
- 8 ounces unsweetened chocolate
 - 2, 10 ounce package silken tofu
 - 10 ounce jar blackberry preserves
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 1 cup brown rice syrup

Crust: Preheat oven 350 degrees in blender or food processor, combine crackers and oil and pulse to make fine crumbs. Press into bottom of spring form pan or pie plate. Bake 10 minutes. Cool.

Filling: Melt chocolate in double boiler or over very low heat. Put remaining ingredients in bowl of food processor or blender, and add melted chocolate. Process until very smooth, stopping occasionally to scrape down sides.

Pour filling into crust, smooth tops and refrigerate until firm, at least four hours or overnight. Serves 12. Garnish with fresh strawberries or raspberries. Join Beverly Price for "Natural Treatment Options for Menopause," a workshop, at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 23, in West Bloomfield. Cost \$15 and includes food sampling. Call 248-539-9424 to register.

Reports and background on biotech foods available

SPRINGFIELD, Va. (AP) — The carrots, apples, corn and peppers in your refrigerator may look familiar.

But there may be foods that are genetically modified, says the National Technical Information Service.

The National Technical Information Service offers a variety of reports to help people understand bioengineered foods. Reports include "Enhancing the Safety of America's Food Supply — Food Safety Round Table."

Other reports deal with regu-

lations for mailing genetically modified microorganisms and the risks GMOs pose to ecosystems and human health.

The reports and information are available from NTIS at (800) 553-6847 or (703) 605-6000.

Read Observer Sports

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POLSKA • IMPORTED Polish Ham \$3.49 lb.	LOCAL'S • 8 OZ. COLBY LONG HORN CHEESE \$2.69 lb.	HOLLAND'S FINEST HARD SALAMI \$2.99 lb.
SHEPHERD'S • ROASTED Rotisserie Roast Beef \$4.89 lb.	Miller Light, GD & GD Light \$13.99	

MEDICAL BRIEFS

Alzheimer's support

You are invited to attend the monthly Alzheimer's Association Support Group meeting from 6-7:30 p.m. Feb. 15. Representatives from the University of Michigan Alzheimer's Association will be the featured speakers for the evening. Alterra Clare Bridge is located at 32500 Seven Mile Road in Livonia.

Mentally ill

The Alliance for the Mentally Ill - Wayne/Westland hosts a support group the first and third Thursday's of each month at 7 p.m. (except for July and August). The meetings are held at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran School (2602 S. Wayne Road in Westland). A.M.I. is a support group for the family and friends of the mentally ill. We have family members suffering from schizophrenia, bi-polar disorder, depression, panic/anxiety disorder, schizo-affective disorder and an assortment of others. The mission of the group is to provide support, advocacy, education and research. For information call 326-7933 or e-mail cdempx@aol.com. The next meeting is Thursday, February 17.

Smoking cessation

Providence Hospital and Medical Centers will hold a Wellness Seminar for smoking cessation at Providence Medical Center - Livonia (Mission Health Medical Center) from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 29 (37595 Seven Mile Road at Newburgh). To register call (877) 345-5500.

Dental Health month focuses on younger patients' needs

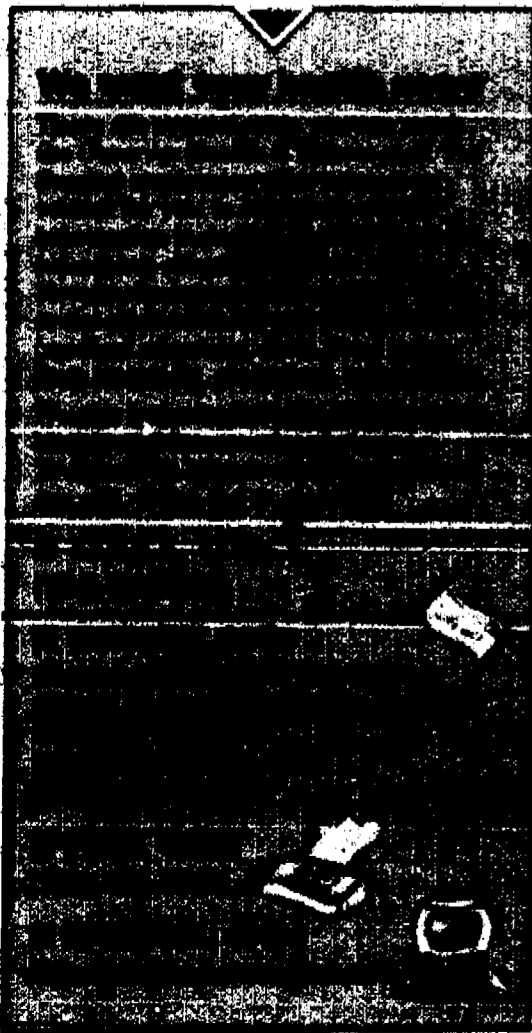
February is Children's Dental Health Month and the Wayne County Health Department is spotlighting their dental health services offered to Medicaid and low-income children 3 to 18 years old.

"The Health Department's dental unit offers a variety of preventive and restorative services for Medicaid and low-income children," says Dr. David Repasky, Wayne County Dental Director. "Dental services include cleanings, flourides, sealants, fillings, extractions and root canals."

Eighty percent of tooth decay occurs to 20 percent of all children nationwide. However, low-income and special needs children suffer the greater levels of disease and unnecessary pain, according to Repasky.

"It is important for parents to bring their children to the dentist between the ages of 3 to 6 to prevent problems with primary teeth (baby teeth)," said Repasky.

The Health Department will offer a dental clinic at the Wayne Health Center, 33030 Van Born in Wayne. By appointment Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. For information call 9734) 727-7100.



Eating disorders

The silent struggle to recover control

BY RENEE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER
rskoglund@o4.homecomm.net

Click to a Web site on eating disorders and read some of the personal accounts of people who have battled anorexia, literally self-starvation, or bulimia, a disorder characterized by bingeing then purging. They are stories in which there is no harmony between mind and body, no equilibrium of the soul.

"We believe we are fat, useless, unworthy, unlovable and weak. We honestly believe losing weight will on some level make things better," writes a young high school girl struggling with anorexia. "We punish ourselves when we feel guilt or shame. We use laxatives, exercise, sleep deprivation and self-mutilation to take away the pain."

Anorexia nervosa or bulimia nervosa cannot be dismissed as ploys for attention: they are serious, potentially life-threatening disorders. They can result in death.

"With treatment, only 1 percent die," said Dr. Alexander Sacheyflo, a psychiatrist associated with Beaumont Hospital's Weight Control Center who also has a private practice in Farmington Hills. "Without treatment, 18 percent die."

Most die from a heart attack due to an electrolyte imbalance. Deficiencies in potassium, chloride and sodium - electrolytes essential for metabolism and cell and nerve functioning - cause weakness, tiredness, constipation and depression. Extreme deficiencies can result in cardiac arrhythmias and sudden death.

Treatment for anorexia nervosa and bulimia is often extremely expensive, especially if repeated hospitalizations are needed. The cost of outpatient treatment, including therapy and medical monitoring, can reach \$100,000.

However, intervention is the only hope. And there is hope.

"Oh, gosh, absolutely. People recover and normalize their relationship with food every day. This is a very manageable problem," said Dr. Phil O'Dwyer, director of the Center for Counseling at Garden City Hospital.

Who's affected

Since doctors do not have to report eating disorders to a health agency, and because people are often secretive about the problem, statistics vary. However, Sacheyflo believes 1 percent

of the female population has some type of an eating disorder. Narrow that to school-age females and the number jumps to 18 percent.

The peak ages for anorexia are 16-18, while there's a broader age range for bulimia, said O'Dwyer. Gymnasts, dancers and jockeys - those people whose livelihood depends on maintaining low weight - are not the only people susceptible to eating disorders.

"I have a lot of bulimics who are enormously successful business women who maintain their appearance by overeating then purging," he said.

Causes of eating disorders are complex, with current studies indicating a genetic, or biochemical, component. Add the stress of a culture that equates love with looks, a bit of trauma, and eating disorders are ripe to present themselves.

Some experts believe eating disorders can occur at any age, from 6 to 70. Dieting, purging and bingeing become coping mechanisms that help people feel in control of their lives. "At any stage, any severe disruption of your security or sense of contentment can start off the process," said Sacheyflo. "Nineteen percent of kids fail the first year of college not because of academic inability, but because of eating disorders."

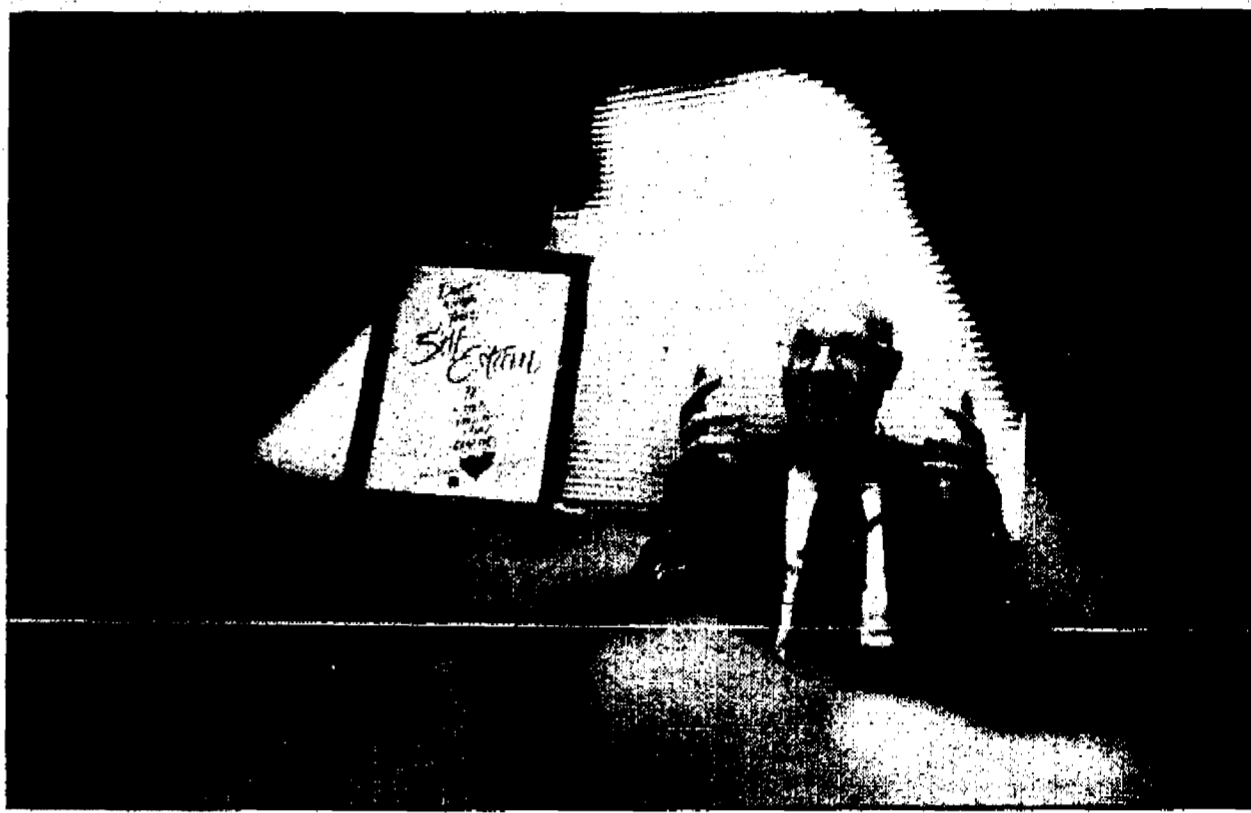
Eating disorders are more acute among 18- and 19-year-old women, a time when many leave home for college and experience their first loss of security, said Ann Bradley, a psychotherapist and certified addiction counselor with Plymouth Family Services in Plymouth.

In treating these disorders, secondary purposes must be explored, she said: Fear of growing up, becoming sexual or getting another job and even the inability to tolerate happy feelings. "There's no alliance between the mind and the emotions."

Eating disorders, including compulsive or "binge" eating, are not limited to adolescent or adult women. According to the Center for Eating Disorders, males make up 10 percent of anorexics, 10-15 percent of bulimics and 25 percent of binge eaters. Men are more likely to purge by compulsive exercise rather than vomiting or laxative abuse.

"You'd be surprised," Bradley said. "I have a lot of 70- and 80-year-olds who are anorexic and men into sports dealing with a lot of body image."

The elderly often develop bad eating habits or quit cooking because



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL
Consultation: Dr. Phil O'Dwyer, director of the Center for Counseling at Garden City Hospital, is pictured in his office.

they don't like eating alone. Bradley spoke about an older female client who felt abandoned by her children. "In her anger, she 'ate' at them," she said.

Consequences

Aside from possible death from cardiac arrest, the physical consequences of prolonged eating disorders are harsh:

Anorexia nervosa can result in reduction of bone density, muscle loss or weakness, and kidney failure due to severe dehydration. An anorexic may also grow a downy layer of hair, called lanugo, all over the body, including the face, in an effort to keep the body warm.

Bulimia nervosa can result in inflammation and possible rupture of the esophagus from frequent vomiting, chronic bowel problems from laxative abuse, tooth decay from stomach acids released during frequent vomiting, and peptic ulcers and pancreatitis.

Perhaps most serious with bulimia is the potential danger of rupture of the esophagus from vomiting and gastric rupture during periods of bingeing.

Compulsive or "binge" eating results in some of the risks associated with clinical obesity, such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart disease as the result of elevated triglycerides, secondary diabetes and gallbladder disease.

Eating disorders also have serious social/emotional implications, said Sacheyflo. "Because you spend so much time thinking about yourself, it stops you from developing appropriate intimate relationships."

Bradley noted that family and friends of someone with an eating disorder also suffer. "How lonely it would be to be in a relationship with somebody like that. If they're there, they're

Recognizing the disease

People with eating disorders are secretive. Anorexics wear baggy clothes and bulimics mask their purging in the bathroom by playing loud music, running water or flushing the toilet numerous times.

Anorexics may develop a facial tick of touching their tongue to their upper lip, said Bradley. Bulimics can develop "chipmunk cheeks" from swollen saliva glands (see accompanying article for additional symptoms).

A rapid diagnosis of an eating disorder is difficult, said Dr. Patricia Schmidt, an internist at Garden City Hospital. She recalled a patient, a diabetic woman in her 30s who was vomiting all the time.

"I thought at the time it was related to her diabetes. All she could tolerate was cigarettes and black coffee. If you can tolerate black coffee and cigarettes, it's a psychological thing."

Compounding the problem is the fact that bulimics appear normal. "It's only in the context of the patient-doctor relationship, or if a family member contacts the doctor, that eating disorders are diagnosed," said Schmidt. "I probably miss a fair amount after the first visit."

Schmidt has always had a special interest in eating disorders. She doesn't confront her patients with their weight. "I give people permission not to get on the scale or not to see their weight. I let them stand backwards on the scale."

It is an act of kindness people with eating disorders need. You can't weigh self-esteem.

Source: National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders, Eating Disorders Awareness and Prevention Inc., Center for Eating Disorders.

Warning signs can signal life-threatening problem

Anorexia nervosa

The relentless pursuit of thinness:

- Refusal to maintain minimally normal body weight for age and height.
- Weighs 85 percent or less than what is expected for age and height.
- In women, menstrual periods stop; in men, levels of hormones fall.
- Failure to begin menstruation at the appropriate age.
- Denying the dangers of low weight.
- Intense fear of weight gain or feeling "fat."

In addition, anorexia nervosa often includes depression, irritability, withdrawal, and peculiar behaviors such as compulsive rituals, strange eating habits, and division of foods into "good/safe" and "bad/dangerous" categories.

Bulimia nervosa

- Diet-binge-purge:
- Repeated episodes of bingeing and eating.
- Feeling out of control while eating; eating beyond the point of feeling comfortably full.
- Purging after a binge, typically

by self-induced vomiting, abuse of laxatives, diet pills and diuretics, excessive exercise or fasting.

- Diets when not bingeing, becomes hungry and binges again.
- May shoplift, be promiscuous, and abuse alcohol, drugs, and credit cards.
- Weighs normal or near normal amount unless anorexia is also present.
- Bulimics may appear cheerful and competent. However, depression, anxiety, shame, guilt and deeply buried anger are components of the disorder.

Binge eating disorder

- Compulsive eating:
 - Periods of uncontrolled, impulsive or continuous eating.
 - Eating rapidly and secretly, or snacking all day.
 - No purging but sporadic fasting or dieting after a binge.
 - History of diet failures.
 - Tend to be depressed and obese.
- Binge eaters do not regularly vomit, excessively exercise or abuse laxatives. They may be genetically predisposed to weigh more than the cultural ideal, causing them to diet then binge

RESOURCES

- ▲ A program titled "Eating Disorders in Adolescents" will be presented from 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 16 in Classroom 1 of the Administration Building West, William Beaumont Hospital, 3601 West Thirteen Mile Road, Royal Oak. For information call (248) 551-9790.
- ▲ The Center for Counseling at Garden City Hospital (6245 Inkster Road, Garden City) hosts an eating disorders support group for both males and females. The group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday, free of charge. For information call (734) 458-3395.
- ▲ Ann Bradley, psychotherapist and certified addiction counselor has a practice at Plymouth Family Services, 271 S. Main, Plymouth. Phone: (734) 453-0890.
- ▲ The Internet can be a valuable resource, however, information provided online should never be used in the place of a physician's consultation. Some suggested sites include: Eating Disorders Awareness and Prevention, Inc., 603 Stewart St., Suite 803, Seattle, WA 98101, (800) 931-2237 (help line), www.edap.org
Anorexia Nervosa and Related Eating Disorders, Inc., www.anred.com
Center for Eating Disorders, St. Joseph Medical Center, Towson, MD, www.eatingdisorder.org
National Association of Anorexia Nervosa & Associated Disorders, www.ANAD.org

in response to hunger. They may eat for emotional reasons; self-comfort, avoidance of threatening situations, and to numb emotional pain. Diets make the situa-

tion worse. Sources: Anorexia Nervosa and Related Eating Disorders, Inc. and Eating Disorders Awareness and Prevention, Inc.

Hack attacks threaten security, future of the Internet



MIKE WENDLAND

The world has never seen a form of communication as revolutionary as the Internet. But as we've seen this past week in the massive hack attacks that brought down some of the nation's most popular Web sites, the Internet's success is far from assured.

what this one-on-one form of personal communication would mean to society.

Alas, the CB radio craze self-destructed because some people simply couldn't behave themselves.

Not all the people, to be sure. Just a few who keyed down their microphones and shouted obscenities, whistled, cat-called, argued and used illegal amplifiers to boost their signals so powerfully they drowned out the vast majority of law-abiding users who really were trying to communicate.

The actions of a few destroyed the whole service. The Federal Communications Commission, which regulated CB, threw up its hands in disgust. It was powerless to control the situation.

Anybody else see a similarity with what's happening on the Internet today?

The technology behind the Internet is surely more advanced

and widespread than CB radios. And with 120 million users, the Internet is vastly more popular. But if billion dollar-plus Web sites can't prevent 15-year-old malcontents from shutting down their service at will, what ultimate good will the Internet be?

It took some time to convince people that the Internet was a reliable means of communication and commerce. But, we were finally assured: Security and privacy issues were handled. We could trust the Net. Rely on it. And so e-commerce and Internet technology took off, being largely responsible for the incredible economic boom we've been enjoying for two years now.

Now, that reliability is being severely tested.

From my calls and e-mail to hackers and Internet security experts this week, it appears that the attacks could easily be the work of a bunch of teenage nerds, dubbed "script kiddies" or

"packet monkeys" by the hacker community because of their immature behavior. So far, no one has come forward to claim responsibility for the attacks, which have taken down or seriously interrupted access to America's most popular financial and news portal Web sites.

The technology used for the attacks is easily available by the Internet in ready-to-go programs that overwhelm a Web server with bogus calls and slow service to the point that legitimate users can't get through. The mentality behind such attacks is the same as those who deface buildings with graffiti or shout obscenities into a CB microphone.

Plan of attack

The attacks employ a tactic called "denial of service" to overwhelm Web site servers. Investigators believe that about 50 different computers across the United States have been used to

simultaneously send falsified data to "routers" on the Internet that, in turn, are fooled into flooding the Web sites with electronic signals.

It's similar to phone lines being tied up by too many calls, allowing no callers through. The attacks just overwhelm the Web sites and, in effect, make them unreachable. Catching those responsible is not going to be easy, say experts. Last summer, a dozen government Web sites were similarly hit and, despite the FBI's bluster then, no one was ever caught.

It reminds me of the FCC's failure to control CB radio abusers a quarter of a century ago.

The problem few are admitting but everyone connected with the Net knows is that it's all but impossible to stop someone intent on taking down a Web site from so doing.

I'm not sure if there is a solu-

tion to this. Like our grandparents used to say, "one bad apple spoils the whole bunch." Living in an open society as we do where order and cooperation depends on human behavior, we will always be vulnerable to the few who have no morals, no common decency.

After this week's hack attacks, I'm worried about the future of the Internet.

There are rotten people just like rotten apples, and as we're now seeing with the Internet there's not much we can do to stop them from spoiling our lives.

Mike Wendland covers the Internet for NBC-TV Newschannel stations across the country. His "PC Talk" radio show airs Saturday and Sunday afternoons on Detroit's WXYT-Radio AM 1270. He is the author of a series of Internet books. You can reach him through his Web site at www.pcmike.com

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Items for Business Newsmakers are welcome from all companies and residents active in the Observer-area business community. Items should be typed or legibly written and sent to: Business Marketplace, c/o The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Fax, (734) 591-7279 or e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net

Promotion

Michelle Overby-Long has been appointed restaurant manager by McDonald's corporation at Ford Road, Westland. Her new responsibilities include Total Customer Satisfaction, Market Share and People Development.

Overby-Long joined McDonald's in 1994 as a crew person. In 1995 she joined the ranks of management and continued to grow with McDonald's until her recent promotion to restaurant manager.

CPA welcomed

Mark H. Wagner, C.P.A. has joined the firm of Grant, Millman & Johnson, P.D., Certified Public Accountants and Business Consultants of Farmington Hills.

New VP of FSI

Ron Goolsby was recently appointed to vice president of FSI (free-standing insert) and Internet/e-commerce operations at Valassis Communications, Inc. Most recently, Goolsby was the vice president of the Livonia Printing Division where he oversaw the integration of multiple products and services capabilities, during his seven years in this position.

He resides in Livonia with his wife, Ann, and their children Claire and Kenny.

AAL honors rep

Jim Ellis of Livonia was recently selected AAL's First-Year District Representative of the Month. Ellis was also recognized for his sales of investment products as a registered representative

of AAL Capital Management Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of AAL. He is a district representative with the Park Jarrett Agency of AAL in Livonia and serves AAL members in Farmington, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Northville and Plymouth.

Organizational changes

DENSO International America (DIAM) in Southfield recently announced Doug Patton of Farmington Hills was promoted to vice president, Business Development, with overall responsibility for distribution, sales planning, Ford business, heavy duty/off highway business and service center. Terry Helgesen of Farmington Hills was named director, DaimlerChrysler Business, Customer Support Division. He recently completed a two-year assignment at DENSO's headquarters in Japan as assistant general manager in international sales.

New account manager

FCI Automotive - North America of

Livonia has appointed Steven M. Bennett as account manager - tier. He will be responsible for pursuing strategic partnerships with automotive system suppliers to increase value, enhance quality and improve safety by integrating connector interfaces into electronics systems components.

He currently makes his home in Farmington Hills.

New business director

3M Automotive has announced the appointment of eighteen-year 3M veteran Francis Loftus as business director of the 3M Automotive Innovation Center in Livonia.

New officer

Farmington Hills resident Bruce Barrett has been named to the office of first vice president of the Boys and Girls Club's Board of Directors - a Farmington Hills, not-for-profit residential treatment center serving youth and families. Barrett is the associated superintendent for Administrative Ser-

vices for Wayne RESA.

Staffer welcomed

Marie DeLine of Garden City has joined the staff at Signs Now in Dearborn as its assistant production manager. DeLine brings years of graphic experience to the job, having formerly worked as a graphic designer. In her new role she will be responsible for meeting customer order deadlines, monitoring the point of sale system and improving customer service standards.

Professional welcomed

Dell Engineering, Inc., a member of the ERM Group, recently announced that Treva A. Formby has joined their Livonia office. Formby joins Dell/ERM as Project Manager for the Air Quality Practice and bring with her over seven years of environmental engineering experience including mobile source emissions control, air emission trading, and environmental compliance auditing.

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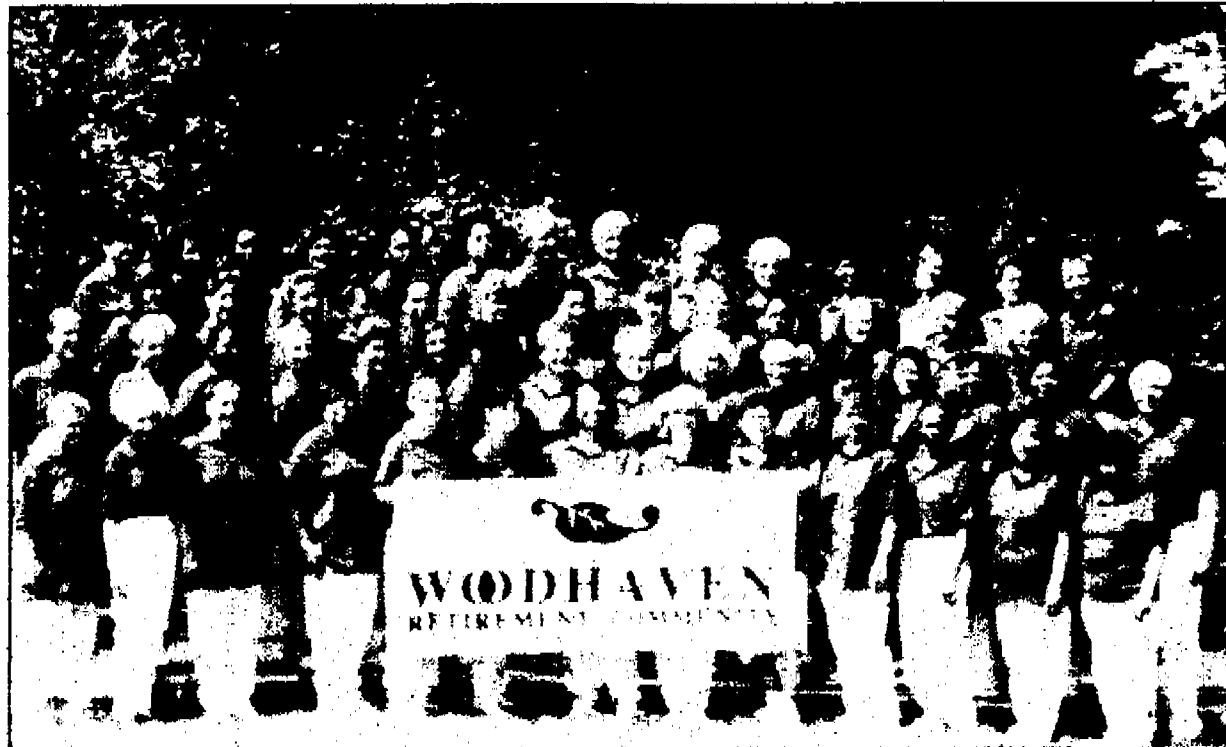
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"Words can't express my gratitude for the staff at Woodhaven. I know you Mother really love to see me there. Please know your love to your Residents does not go unnoticed." L.S. Farmington Hills

"Thank you for the loving care Mom received at your wonderful facility from your dedicated Staff!" D.R. Farmington Hills

"Please do not stop my appreciation for the wonderful

care you and Staff have provided when assisting my Mom's illness. These words do not adequately describe how much you and your people who have the positive, kind impressions. D.T. Northville

"There are no words that can tell you all what a wonderful job you do. Your Staff has always been so cheerful, careful and understanding." K & A.H. Livonia

"The staff and people at Woodhaven share by being themselves, it especially is their talents, love and their love!" J.W. and M & B.R. Brighton

"On keeping with the holistic values of your mission, you made Micky's return from the hospital both comfortable and reassuring. Thank you for the many smiling faces of your very hospitable Staff!" J.M. Redford

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Celiac Sprue screening in March

The Tri-County Celiac Sprue Support group will host serological screening in conjunction with the University of Maryland's Center for Celiac Research from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 18.

The blood drawing will be for relatives of celiacs, celiacs or other undiagnosed people at Southfield Presbyterian Church (21575 West 10 Mile Road), 1/4 mile east of Lahser.

Dr. Alessio Fasano, co-director of the University of Maryland's Research Center will give a presentation. Lectures and other

information will be available and on-going during the testing time. Patients who test positive will be notified directly from the Medical Center of the University of Maryland. The goal of the Center is to increase awareness of celiac disease. They are testing and gathering data throughout the U.S. Findings indicate many first and second degree relatives of celiacs test positive for the disease. Researchers believe celiac disease is under diagnosed in the U.S.

Also known as gluten intoler-

ance, Celiac disease is an autoimmune disorder of the intestinal tract often characterized by malabsorption problems. The immune system damages the small intestine when gluten (found in wheat, oats, rye, barley, spelt, buckwheat and millet) enters the digestive system.

The body produces immune cells that damage the villi in the small intestine. The villi aid in absorption of nutrients during the digestive process. Left untreated the disease can cause small bowel lymphoma. The only

treatment for CD is strict adherence to a gluten-free diet.

A single tube of blood will be drawn at the screening. If the blood test is positive a biopsy is done to confirm and determine the amount of damage. Further blood test and/or biopsies may be done to determine the healing progress and the success of the gluten free diet. \$10 donation requested. There will be supervised activities for children under 12 years old. For registration information call (313) 274-9232 or (248) 647-0076.

National condom day

FEBRUARY 14

Wayne County Health officials are reminding everyone to love safely on national Condom Day, being observed this Valentine's Day, Feb. 14.

The condom is one of the best protections against the spread of HIV, says Dr. Donald Lawrenchuk, Wayne County Medical Director. And we here at Wayne County continue to work on combating the AIDS epidemic by reminding people to avoid at-risk behaviors.

The number of deaths attributed to HIV and AIDS in Michigan has dropped 60 percent between 1995 and 2007 due to new treatment programs. However, the number of people contracting HIV has not decreased. Statewide, the estimated number of new infections continues to be 1,000 each year.

At-risk behaviors to avoid:
 ■ sharing needles and syringes with infected intravenous drug users
 ■ exposure to body fluids, especially blood
 ■ multiple sexual partners

According to the Michigan Department of Community Health, there are at least 12,500 HIV infected persons in Michigan. The Wayne County Health Department offers free HIV/AIDS anonymous and confidential testing services Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On Monday, Feb. 14 the Health Department will provide increased appointments and walk-in services during lunch and regular business hours.

For information on locations and times of clinics, contact the Disease Control Division at (734) 727-7124 or (734) 727-7125 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

Items from the Observerland area for the Business Calendar can be sent to: Observer Newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150 attention: Business Calendar.

MON, FEB. 14

CANTON BPW
 The Canton Business & Professional Women is part of a national organization promoting equity for all women in the workplace to achieve goals through advocacy, education and information. Locally we meet the second Monday of every month at the Roman Forum on Ford Road in Canton. Our business

meeting is from 5:30-6:10 p.m., speaker/dinner from 6:15-7:30 p.m. Call Clarice Killian at (734) 981-2572 for information. The guest speaker is Vicki Bonner, career technician at Plymouth-Salem High School, who will discuss mentoring and career shadowing of today's high school students.

WED, FEB. 16

BUSINESS NETWORK INT'L
 Business Network International's regular meeting from 7-8:30 a.m. of the Laurel park Chapter is at Archie's Restaurant, 30471 Plymouth Road in Livonia. Call BNI at (810) 323-3800 for infor-

mation.

THUR, FEB. 17

JOB FAIR
 MediaOne will host a job fair from 3-7 p.m. at its Livonia office (35155 Industrial) to help find qualified candidates to serve as cable, service technicians and high-speed data (Internet) technicians in the Wayne County area. The position is full-time, hourly - featuring a comprehensive benefits package as well as complete training for qualified candidates.

Anyone interested in filling these immediate openings is invited to attend. Please bring an up-to-date resume and be prepared for an on-the-spot interview.

FRI, FEB. 18

BUSINESS NETWORK INT'L
 Business Network International's regular meeting from 7-8:30 a.m. of the Livonia Chapter is at Senate Koney Island on Plymouth Road near Stark in Livonia. Call BNI at (810) 323-3800.


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PARKING LOT STRATEGY IF YOU HAVE ARTHRITIS
 The first response of people is to tell you to get a parking permit. Therefore, when you have to go to a grocery store or a major building, you can park close to the store or building entrance. Obtaining a handicap parking permit may be necessary, but it is sufficient.

There are times when the minimal handicap parking spaces are occupied, so you must use what space is available, no matter where it is. There are instances you must park in parking structures. These structures are rarely level, and as anyone who has parked at Detroit Metropolitan Airport, will verify, you can't steer a car into it if it is not level as you wish.

If you have arthritis, and must use an outdoor parking lot, be prepared. Throughout the winter, expect the hazards of sudden snow and an icy walk from your car to the building entrance at the start of your journey and for the same conditions when you prepare to return to your car. Carry boots in your car sufficient to wear over your largest, most comfortable shoes. Always keep a bag of salt or ice melter in your back seat. The bag should be small enough that you can handle it despite the limits of your hands to grip, and large enough to sprinkle salt liberally around your car, and even in front of you as you blaze a trail to your destination. Include sufficient kiddy litter or wood chips to place under your car wheels if ice in the parking lot causes your car wheels to spin. Remember you have limits as to how hard you can grip a steering wheel and turn it against an opposing force.

If you are in a parking structure, look for a level parking spot. Take whatever time you need to map your exact location. You only waste limited stamina when you wander in a cold and windy structure.


MHNI


Teens with Headache

Michigan Head•Pain & Neurological Institute is conducting a research study evaluating a potential treatment for migraines in adolescents. Participants must be 12 to 17 years old and suffer two to ten headaches per month. Participants receive study-related medical care at no cost and will be compensated for time and travel. Please call our Research Staff for more information.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. I feel tired and have little energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. I have trouble sleeping or eating (either too much or too little)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. I don't enjoy activities that I used to
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. I feel uneasy, restless, irritable or guilty
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. I have trouble concentrating, remembering things or making decisions

If you answered "yes" to 3 or more statements, you may be suffering from depression, a serious condition affecting millions of Americans. The Institute for Health Studies is currently looking for individuals experiencing the above symptoms to participate in a research study of investigational medication for depression. If you are selected, all research related care and study medication are provided at no cost. Get answers and information about depression.

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Then sit back and wait for the phone to ring.

There are a few exclusions to this offer: Dealers, collectibles, pets and garage sales. Other than those four your home **FREE**.

There are only three ways you can submit your **FREE** ad: You can **FAX** us at **734-953-2232**, or you can **e-mail** it to **mulfig@oe.homecomm.net**, or you can fill in the thing there at the right, and mail it to us.

So, go for it!

I know a good deal when I see one.

Run my three-line ad in the next two issues of my hometown newspaper's classified section under Merchandise For Sale (#700—#799 with the exception of Garage Sales).

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Wedding Magic



Successful marriages celebrated

The Observer celebrates successful marriages with pictures and testimonials throughout this supplement, beginning with Bill and Blanche Collins of Redford.

"When he first asked me for a dance at Naughton's Swing Bowl, I was elated as he was one of Detroit's top jitterbugs, and I had admired him for some time," wrote Blanche.

"After our first date I was hooked for life. We danced together and had occasional dates for the next three years. But that's all there was - until he went into the Army and we bumped into each other on a moonlight cruise to Fort In Day. That really opened his eyes. We married in Atlanta, Ga., on Sept. 19, 1943, right after I turned 19 and were together for three months before his two-year European duty. Over the years we had five children, 10 grandchildren and three great-grandsons. We squabbled over everything from A to Z but managed to stay together because of our faith in God, total commitment to our family and being too stubborn to leave whenever the other one said to go. We realize now that we were truly meant to be and thank God for each cherished day together."



56 good years: *Bill Collins was an Army medic when he married the 19-year-old Blanche on Sept. 19, 1943, in Atlanta, Ga. After 56 years, five children, 10 grandchildren and three great-grandsons, Bill and Blanche Collins are still together.*



On the cover

On the cover of this bridal supplement is Westland resident Kathleen Benson.

Benson's makeup and hair were done by Joanna Whitt of Saranda Salon of Westland.

Her \$6,000 necklace and \$5,000 earrings were provided by Ross's Jewelry Creations of Canton.

The flowers were provided by Flowers from Joe's by Carolyn of Livonia.

Laura Moore of Livonia provided the setting.

And the dress, a \$1,000 traditional two-piece set gown, by Margie Suttons was provided by The Bridal of God in Canton.

CREDITS

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He hid ring, forgot to pop question

BY RALPH R. ECHTINAW
STAFF WRITER
rechtinaw@oc.homecomm.net

Before you can get married, you have to get engaged. And the engagement begins with the marriage proposal.

We asked several western Wayne County residents to tell us the story of the proposals that led to their successful marriages.

Dianne and Bill Niehengen of Canton

Dianne DeConinck and Bill Niehengen met at the University of Dayton in the '60s. Bill intended to propose to Dianne after the senior farewell dance in 1969 but lacked a pocket in his tux to stow the ring. So he hid it behind the curtains at the house Dianne rented with five other coeds.

They went to the dance and had such a great time that Bill forgot about the ring. He just dropped Dianne off and went home. The next day, Dianne's roommates found the ring. "They were all dancing around the house and trying it on," Dianne said. She phoned Bill and asked, "Did you leave something over here yesterday?" Only then did he remember that he intended to propose to Dianne. He returned to Dianne's house that day and did so.

Then at the wedding he left the ring in his car, which was parked at the place where the reception would be. He had to borrow a car and drive to the reception place to retrieve the ring before the wedding. Dianne never knew.

Tim and Margaret DeConinck of Canton

Tim was an Army 2nd Lt. stationed at Fort Sill, Okla., in the fall of 1942 when he decided to propose to his girlfriend, Margaret McDermott. But his unit was scheduled to ship out for Europe, and he wouldn't



You go, girl: If Linnea Jones hadn't said - "Do you want to marry me or what?" - to boyfriend Keith Garvey back in 1976, Lindsey (left) and Jim (right) might not be here.

make it home in time to propose in person. So he spent about \$50 on a ring at a little jewelry shop out side-the-base and figured, "I'll just mail it to her and see if she wants it." She accepted his proposal, but they didn't get married until 1946.

Jim and Marianne Garber of Plymouth

Jim Garber and Marianne Johansson dated while they attended Albion College in the 1950s. After graduation, Jim went to law school and proposed to Marianne in his freshman year. They were at a movie theater, and Jim's right leg had stiffened up due to an old football injury. "When I stood up my right leg gave out, and she said, 'I will,'" Jim said. "But that's an apocryphal story," he added. However, he's been telling it to friends for 40 years.

Jim Garber, whom you may remember was a Plymouth judge for many years, has another story about a man he had just sentenced to 30 days in jail. Indicating that his fiancée was with him, the man said, "As long as you sentenced me to 30 days, why don't you sentence me to life?" The couple had the right paperwork, so Garber married them just before the groom was carted off to jail.

Denis and Nancy Reaume of Livonia

Denis Reaume proposed to Nancy Cozol on the last day of 1983 on a ski lift chair on Schuss Mountain. "I excitedly said 'Yes!' remembered Nancy. "Then he pulled a ring box from his pocket and started to open it. Immediately I panicked. Dangling above all that snow with ski poles and gloves was not a good way to try to put a ring on your finger. I quickly said 'no' and told him to put the ring away. He acted disappointed, and as he fumbled to put the ring in his pocket the box dropped into the snow. I screamed and was ready to jump off the chair lift to retrieve it. He was laughing as he grabbed me to prevent me from jumping. The ring was not in the box. He was planning to give it to me later.

Keith and Linnea Garvey of Livonia

Linnea Jones thought Keith Garvey would propose to her when he took her to see a James Taylor concert on her birthday, July 21, 1976. But he didn't. So the brash Linnea popped the question instead. "Do you want to marry me or what?" she asked. Keith agreed but put the brakes on when Linnea wanted to get married three months hence.

"That sounds fishy," he said. "They'll think you're pregnant."

So they waited a little longer and were married March 26, 1977.

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Tying Knot

Rules have crumbled for wedding cakes

Tradition has taken a beating in the field of wedding cakes, and the only rule is... there ain't no rules.

White cake is being supplanted by carrot, chocolate, marble and banana cake, said Diane Hoffman, owner of Confectionately Yours Bakery of Livonia. Often, brides will have the layers of their cakes made from three or four kinds of cake.

"They're getting kind of risky," Hoffman said. "They're trying to please everybody's taste at the reception."

Years ago, wedding cakes were expected to look good, but no one was surprised if they didn't taste good, said Mary Denning, owner of Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe of Westland.

Nowadays, "It's actually the desert, whereas before they'd wrap it up and box it because it didn't taste good," Denning said.

Wedding cakes of today frequently don't even look like they're "supposed" to. Denning does theme wedding cakes that include Halloween cakes and Vegas cakes. Some people want cakes that resemble wrapped gifts. One Italian couple wanted a cake that aped the

leaning tower of Pisa.

About a fourth of the brides give Hoffman "free reign" to make the kind of cake she wants. The remaining are specific about what they want.

Few want a little bride and groom atop the cake anymore, Hoffman said, choosing instead flowers or pastillage.

Denning has six consultants who work with customers to design a cake to meet their needs. The brides make most of the decisions. "Usually the grooms are with them," Denning said, "but they're not always a lot of help. Most of the time they say, 'As long as it's chocolate I don't care.'"

Denning's advice to folks planning a wedding is to book the date early with the baker. If your wedding is in May, you should reserve a date with the baker in March. Know the number of guests you intend to feed. And know what the theme of your wedding is.

Cake makers can design cakes to match the decorations at your wedding or the clothes you wear. "We can design a cake to match the dress," Denning said. But you've got to tell her what to match the cake with.

Ron and Joan Dugas



46 good years: "It all started when Ron accidentally pushed me down the stairs in St. Mary High School," wrote Livonia resident Joan Dugas. They were married July 4, 1953, when Ron was in the Army and Joan had just graduated from high school. "The reasons why we stayed together are varied. We are from strong, loving families. We are both of the same faith and still are active at St. Theodore Church. We raised five children together, so much of our fun activity was based around the home because we didn't have the money to do otherwise. We have lived in the same Livonia home for 39 years with the friendship of good neighbors. For the last 30 years we have run a family remodeling business, so we had that interest in common. We are a very straightforward couple, which means it can get pretty loud when we disagree. We always put the cards on the table. No surprises. It is necessary to give each other some space and do a few things separately. He has his bowling, and I love the choir. Most of all we love each other through the worst and best of times."

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Tying Knot

If you've got the money they'll free up your time

If planning the perfect wedding is becoming a perfect nightmare, maybe you need a wedding planner.

Although planning a wedding isn't difficult, it is time-consuming and some people would rather pay to have it done.

Anytime you visit the annual Stone Show, you'll see the Wedding Coordinator, Lisa Stawicki. But many people with more money than time turn to her for help. She says she's been in the business since 1980.

Stawicki says she's been in the business since 1980. She says she's been in the business since 1980. She says she's been in the business since 1980.

she said. "Most brides don't know what they want."

If you hire a wedding planner, he or she will go through the list with you and see what you want and how much of it you want. Planners arrange everything from the flowers to the photography, music, the cake and the reception. Or if you just want them to handle part of the arrangements, they can do that, too.

A wedding planner is called to the attention of the bride and groom by a friend or family member, Stawicki said.

Many couples find that hiring a planner is worth the cost. They say it saves them a lot of time and stress. They say it saves them a lot of time and stress.

PLANNERS

Donald and Doris Allen

53 good years: Livonia residents Donald and Doris Allen were married on Oct. 19, 1946, and have since produced seven children and 14 grandchildren. "I find it hard to explain why our marriage has succeeded all these years," wrote Doris. "I know we both have been very proud of our work ethics. Hopefully we have stressed this to our children. All of them worked while attending high school and college. They did all types of jobs including working for Bates Hardware, teaching, sales, insurance during the summers. My son has just started his own business."



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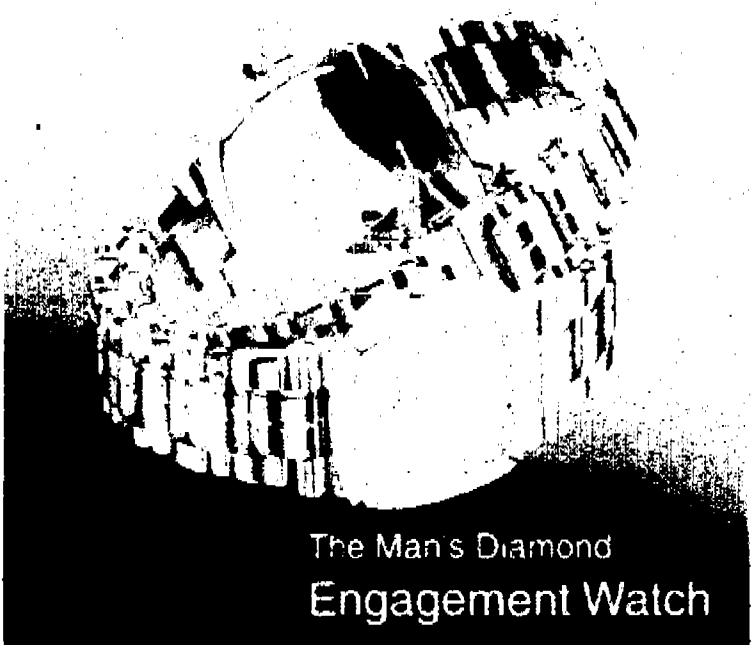
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How to marry 3 daughters in 4 months

BY RALPH R. ECHTINAW
STAFF WRITER
rechtinaw@oe.homecomm.net

Marilyn and Preston Crofts of Westland knew their daughters would get married someday but never thought three of the four would take husbands to the altar within four months of each other.

It all happened last year as Elizabeth Crofts became Mrs. Patrick Black on April 24, and Heather and Mary Crofts became Mrs. Dan Nuffer and Mrs. Mark Johnson, respectively, at a double wedding July 31.

And now two of the three married Crofts' siblings, Elizabeth and Mary, have buns in the oven and expect to make grandparents of Marilyn and Preston before Labor Day.

All three of the elder Crofts sisters met their husbands at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

Mary was the most impetuous. She entered BYU as a freshman in the fall of 1998 and called her mother in January 1999 to say she was engaged to the brother of her roommate. "She called and said, 'Mark and I want to get married,' and I said, 'No, you're not. You're too young,'" Marilyn Crofts said (to no avail).

Then Elizabeth, who had been dating Patrick for a year, got engaged in February and set a date to be married in April. The Mormon church recommends long courtships and short engagements. Elizabeth



Cake me: Elizabeth and Patrick Black pushed Mary Denning's cake into each other's faces at the reception in Livonia. "We had been married for a week and felt more comfortable and wanted to have fun," Elizabeth said.

said, and it's a common enough practice in Utah.

Heather and Dan got engaged in March, which led to discussions with Mary about a double wedding. But little planning could occur while both carried full loads of classes at BYU in the winter term. Besides, Elizabeth was getting married two days after the end of the winter term.

Mormon weddings are simple affairs, Marilyn Crofts said, which lessened the difficulty of planning. "You just kind of make an appointment and show up," she said.

Elizabeth already had a wedding dress that she bought at the J.C. Penny in Orem, Utah, for \$100 before she even got engaged. "I bought it thinking I'd use it whenever I got married, whether to Patrick or



Something's on your nose: Mary and Mark Johnson caked each other just enough to say they did it.



Cake-free faces: Heather and Dan Nuffer were the only one of the three couples who didn't push cake in each other's faces at the reception.

Please see **SISTERS**, 7



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Tying Knot

Sisters *from page 6*

not," she said. Besides, the dress fit her perfectly and it was marked down from \$1,200.

"She figured, 'If I don't use the dress I could sell it and make a profit,'" her mother said.

Only members in good standing of the Mormon Church may enter a Mormon temple, Marilyn Crofts said, so wedding parties are small. Just 23 people attended Elizabeth's wedding at the Mount Timpanogos Temple in American Fork, Utah, while 40 saw the double wedding of Heather and Mary three months later in Vernal, Utah.

"Planning Elizabeth's hometown reception was more work than the wedding. They held it at the Mormon Church in Livonia five days after the nuptials. The Crofts served an hors-d'oeuvres dinner, hired a disk jockey and bought a cake from Mary Deming's Cake Shoppe of Westland. Elizabeth made her own flower arrangements with raw material from Costco.

Meanwhile, work continued as Heather and Mary, not to mention their mother, father, fiancés and future in-laws, planned their double wedding, which was only 90-some days off. "As soon as we got home from school it was plan, plan, plan," Mary said. The hard-

est part was that the wedding was in Utah, but the planners were in Michigan.

Picking the date was more a matter of what day was convenient for three families than anything else.

The temple they chose was the Mormon Temple in Vernal, Utah, which happened to be next door to the church mother Marilyn Crofts attended as a child.

There was some anxiety leading up to the ceremony as Heather's dress had to be ordered and didn't arrive until July 9. Mary got her dress off the rack from a Livonia bridal shop.

Everyone arrived in Utah just four or five days before the wedding, so they had to work out the details quickly.

The Mormon wedding was thankfully simple, and the reception took place in the church adjacent to the temple. They got their wedding cakes from the Vernal IGA. Three additional receptions were held to accommodate all the parents: one in Texas, one in Oregon and one in Michigan.

The only remaining single Crofts is Martina, a junior at John Green High School who doesn't plan to get married anytime soon.

Say it with seeds

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON
STAFF WRITER
kmortson@oe.homecomm.net

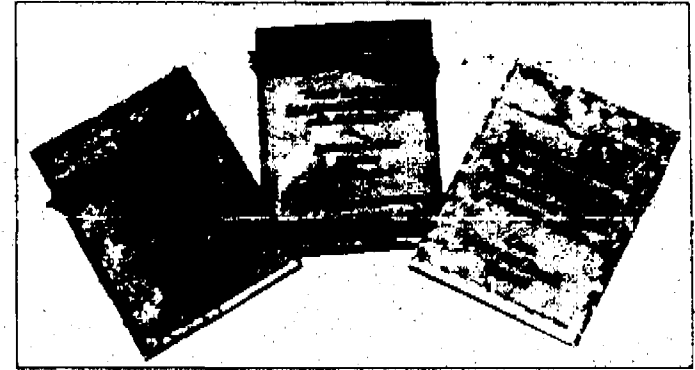
Wedding favors have traditionally been a popular way for couples to thank guests for participating in their special day by leaving a memento or keepsake on the table at the reception.

The gifts can range from the simple to the extravagant and often reflect the newlyweds' personalities or wedding theme.

Noreen Owens of Livonia, the owner of Nature's Occasions, says personalized flower seed packets are a treasured token that guests can enjoy long after the nuptials.

Nature's Occasions markets personalized seed packets that are perfect for shower or wedding favors featuring a beautifully wrapped package of daisy, larkspur or wildflower seeds adorned with a personal message and printed on vellum or transparent paper and tied to the front of the packet with a raw

"The packets are so beautiful, they



Gone to seed: A Livonia woman is making personalized seed packets for weddings and other occasions.

special occasion. It has occurred and it will be guests to remember the couple and how important they are in their lives," said Owens.

Each packet includes dozens of flower seeds in a decorative envelope. The seeds can be planted and enjoyed for years to come.

Owens, 25, said brides and grooms choose to put on the message in various ways, from a formal poem to their names and wedding date.

Please see **SEEDS**, 10

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Tying the Knot

Take a honeymoon while you can still afford to

Are you planning to get married soon but pass up the honeymoon to save money?

Don't, says Denise Nawrocki of AAA Travel of Livonia.

Couples should take advantage of the opportunity to take a nice vacation before the responsibilities of marriage become a factor, she said. "Once you get married and all the bills and the babies start coming you can't afford it."

Nawrocki said the most popular honeymoon destinations are Hawaii, cruises and Sand & Resorts.

Steve Kuhlman, owner of The Travel Desk of Garden City, said the most popular U.S. destinations are Niagara Falls in New York and the Poconos Mountains in Pennsylvania. "Most of the U.S. destinations have honeymoon packages," Kuhlman said.

Florida was a top choice for it. Honeymooners tend to stay away from Europe and Alaska, Kuhlman said.

"Now couples tend to want to honeymoon with their honeymoon destination," Kuhlman said. "They don't want to go to a different place than where they got married."

Honeymooners shy away from Europe because they're uncertain about being in a foreign country, Kuhlman said. Hawaii is too far away. "If it's going to take 11 hours to get there, they're really reluctant to go."

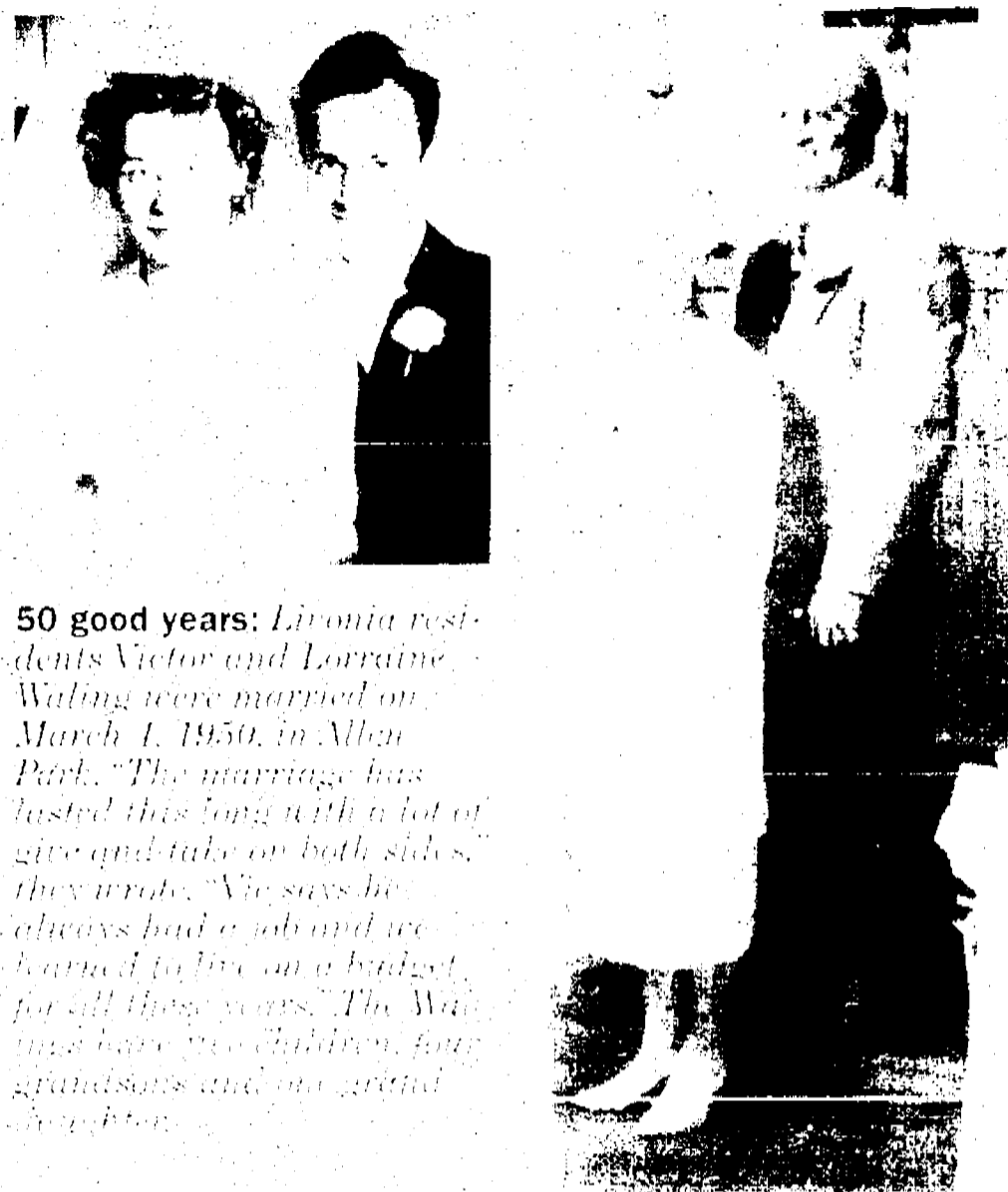
Kuhlman's advice for couples planning a honeymoon or any trip at all is to research the location before you make a decision. In that way, inexperience, preconceived notions are disintegrated, and honeymooners find the point where they want to go and what they want to see, Kuhlman said.

George Broquet, owner of Your Travel Planner of Garden City, once booked a honeymoon for a couple who wanted to study the rain forest in Costa Rica. "They spent eight to 10 hours a day in the canopy for the trees," he said.

Although a honeymoon is thought of as the expensive province of the bride and groom, some of them are taking their travels down "low budget" routes.

One couple planned a trip to Italy that was a second and a half of the cost of a honeymoon. "You can still get a great honeymoon if you're smart about it," Broquet said. "It's all about the destination."

Victor and Lorraine Waling



50 good years: Livonia residents Victor and Lorraine Waling were married on March 1, 1950, in Allen Park. "The marriage has lasted this long with a lot of give and take on both sides," they wrote. "Vic says he always had a job and we learned to live on a budget for all these years. The Walings have five children, four grandsons and one grand daughter."



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Tying Knot

Aw shoot

You want pictures, don't you?

Photographers are as much a part of weddings as the bridal gown and the rings, and often they cost as much or more than those items.

Quality varies, however, and it's best to have an idea of how much money you want to spend and how elaborate a package you want in your hands when it's all over.

Professional wedding photographers are generally very good at what they do and will usually produce a stylish, elegant package. But they may not give you as many photos as you want. And reorders will cost extra.

"We live off of reorders," said Ronald L. Reck, owner of Ultimate Image of Livonia.

Professional wedding photographers will generally not sell you the negatives from your wedding shoot, or will sell them for such a high price that you'd never buy them.

Reck keeps them for three years, then offers them to the couple for a token fee.

However, you'll have a hard time finding someone to make prints from the medium format film most professional wedding photographers use.

Freelance photographers are harder to find, and they're less likely to produce ultra-slick packages, but you'll probably get more pictures for your money.

Troy Eccentric photographer John Stormzand used to freelance weddings before he hired on with the Eccentric.

His fee depended started at \$800 for at least 300 4-by-6 prints in an inexpensive album.

Double his price, and you could get the negatives, too. Many freelancers shoot 35mm film and don't copyright their pictures, so you can legally make as many prints as you like.

Whatever you do, be sure you get along with the photographer you hire, said wedding planner Steve Stawicki. "If you don't like the person it's going to show in the pictures," he said.

Little stars twinkle, but little diamonds dazzle

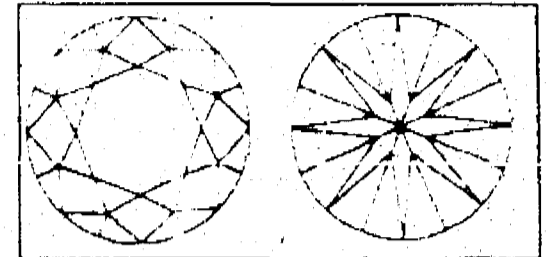
When it comes to diamonds, less may be more.

According to the American Gem Society, 50 percent of a rough cut diamond's weight is lost in the cutting process. Because size is important to many customers, cutters may try to maximize the size of the finished diamond by sacrificing beauty for weight.

Cut, color and clarity are *quality or rarity* factors. They may have a major impact on value. Carat weight is a *value* factor. When making a purchase, a consumer must balance the three quality factors with size to obtain the best value. The choice is between higher quality and smaller size or lesser quality and larger size.

Contrary to what most consumers believe, cut and shape are different. "Cut" refers to symmetry or proportion — deep or shallow, for instance — in relation to shape, which includes round brilliant, pear, oval, marquise, emerald, rectangular, heart and triangle.

The most popular cut is the "princess" cut, said Matt Tatro of Orin Jewelers in Garden City. It's a squarer cut but faceted on the bottom more like



Round brilliant cut

a round. "You get the appearance of an old-fashioned emerald cut but with the brilliance of the round." The princess is followed in popularity by the "round brilliant" and "marquise" cuts.

Round brilliant diamonds retain less weight from the rough diamond crystal and are generally more valuable than fancy-shaped diamonds, according to the American Gem Society. Since fancy-shaped diamonds are elongated, carat for carat, they appear larger than round diamonds.

While men often suffer sticker shock when they learn the prices of diamonds, women seem to be shock resistant. "Women have magic numbers in mind," said Rosy Yereimian, owner of

Please see RINGS, 12



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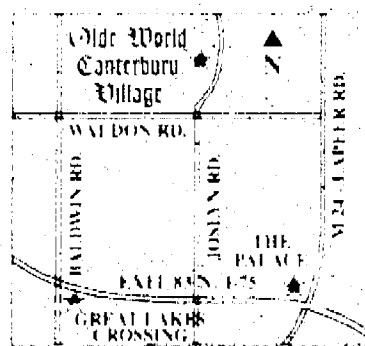


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August and Dorothy Cogliandro



39 good years: August and Dorothy Cogliandro were married Aug. 20, 1960, moved to Redford in 1961 and had three children by 1965. Dorothy quit her job to be a full-time mother while August taught in the Detroit schools. "We credit our faith for getting us through these past years, despite the fact that there were problems along the way," Dorothy wrote. "Now we are able to see how our children have succeeded in their own lives and realize all the years of hard work and sacrifice have brought us many blessings."

Al and Lenore Buttery



50 good years: Al and Lenore Buttery were married Feb. 11, 1950, at All Saints Church in Detroit. "Our longevity is attributed to the commitment we made to each other and to God in our vows. We have a strong faith, the ability to communicate and a good sense of humor to get us through the tough times. We are best friends and enjoy being together."

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Seeds from page 7

"We can accommodate whatever saying or poem whether it's 'Today I'll Marry My Best Friend...' to something they've written themselves," added Owens.

Owens and her sister-in-law, Renee Kincer, operate the St. Clair Shores-based business together.

Also popular are bird seed favors wrapped in a cloth sack and tied with a small ribbon featuring the couples' names and wedding date.

"The popularity of both are neck-and-

neck," said Owens. Couples who want a more lengthy message choose the seed packets because the tags on the bird seed sacks are smaller, "but both make special keepsakes that are significant of such an important event."

The Livonia entrepreneur suggests orders placed for spring weddings be placed at least four weeks in advance while fall and winter purchases can be completed in approximately two weeks.

To receive a brochure or place an order call (800) 259-1558.

Tying 'Knot



Tom and Delores Dubiel



45 good years: Westland residents Tom and Delores Dubiel were married June 22, 1955. "We promised to love, cherish, obey, and support each other and intend to keep that same promise," wrote Delores. "Every month Tom goes into a nursing home, so even if I'm ill, he'll be like I promised to do him, forever and ever."

Lynda and Ray Pietryka



35 good years: Livonia residents Lynda and Ray Pietryka were married March 13, 1965. "Our marriage has lasted because we made a commitment to make it work," Lynda wrote. "We work on solving our problems instead of just giving up. It's day by day. Anyone can just give up and leave. Anything worthwhile is worth working for. Every couple should consider their marriage important. Even the wedding vows state 'for better or worse' and 'till death do us part.'"

Planners from page 5

the whole shebang.

Although hiring a planner will add to the cost of your wedding, the planners are familiar with photographers, florists, reception halls, etc., and are in a good position to know where the quality is.

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Reno and Josephine Capra



60 good years: Westland residents Reno and Josephine Capra had a long-distance courtship in the 1930s as she lived in Ohio and he lived in Michigan. They saw each other just eight times but exchanged hundreds of letters in the four years leading up to their wedding on July 27, 1940. Josephine said: "When we were married we only had \$7, and we didn't go on a honeymoon until our 25th anniversary. All I can say about our 60 years of marriage is we love and respect each other, family and friends."



Rings from page 9

Rosy's Jewelry Creations in Canton. "They want at least a carat."

"There's been a definite trend towards larger diamonds," said Matt Tatro of Orin Jewelers in Garden City. A one-carat diamond ring of "decent quality, free of visible inclusions and not too yellow" will cost about \$5,500.

Don Bush, owner of O. and D. Bush Jewelers of Plymouth, said people are spending more on rings because they're getting married later in life. Years ago he might sell a quarter-carat diamond engagement ring, whereas now he sells three-quarter carat to one-carat stones.

Once upon a time, all engagement rings were set in yellow gold. Not any more. In many stores, platinum and white gold dominate. Platinum, more expensive than gold or white gold, may be the best choice for the long term, experts say. It's a pure metal, dense and highly durable.

Yellow gold is still the biggest seller at Redford Jewelry in Redford Township. "It's the younger people who are going for the platinum and white gold," said co-owner Cathy Scabassi.

Some 85 percent of engagement ring sales are to men buying without their intended's help, Bush said. Yet they're more knowledgeable than their nuptial predecessors. "A lot of them already know the difference in grades," said Bush, who suspects many of his customers research on the Web before shopping.

Jeremian issues a warning for those men shopping on their own: "To know what his budget is. If you have only \$10,000 to spend on a car you're not going to go to a Mercedes dealership." Engagement rings can be had for as little as \$500, she added, but "people looking for nicer rings are spending between \$2,500 and \$6,000."

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