





Moving right along



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

**All the right moves:** The Westland Convalescent Center officially started the W.C.C. Strutters Club for residents this past Monday. Above, Rehabilitation Coordinator Kathleen Egan (left center) and Administrator Judith Caroselli (right) cut the ribbon for the residents to start walking. Egan, who put the exercise program together, said, "It is for the residents to maintain mobility." Left is John Sullivan, getting help from his daughter-in-law, Patricia Sullivan, assistant director of nursing, ready for the walk to begin. The walk is around a 500-foot track in the hallways, where the residents will keep track of their mileage. They will be walking three times a week. At left, Lois Walling walks with her husband, Larry Walling, resident of the Westland Convalescent Center, at the opening day of the club.



**GOP club will meet Monday**

The Western Wayne County Republican Club will meet 7 p.m. Monday, April 10, at the Golden Plate restaurant, 626 S. Wayne Road, south of Cherry Hill Road and across from the Wayne-Westland YMCA, Westland.

The program will be on the residency-home rule issue. Speakers will include Mayor Jack Kirksey of Livonia and Don Stypula of the Michigan Municipal League and campaign manager for "Let Local Votes Count."

Dinner may be ordered from the menu. For information, call Val Wolf, (734) 722-0467, or Ida Shelly, (734) 722-8838. All are welcome.

**Library closes**

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland will be closed Easter Sunday, April 23.

Collection returns will be open for those wishing to return library materials.

**YMCA has camp**

The Wayne-Westland YMCA summer camp offers fun for the young. Activities include swimming, arts and crafts, games, organized sports and field trips.

For more information, call the YMCA at (313) 721-5014.



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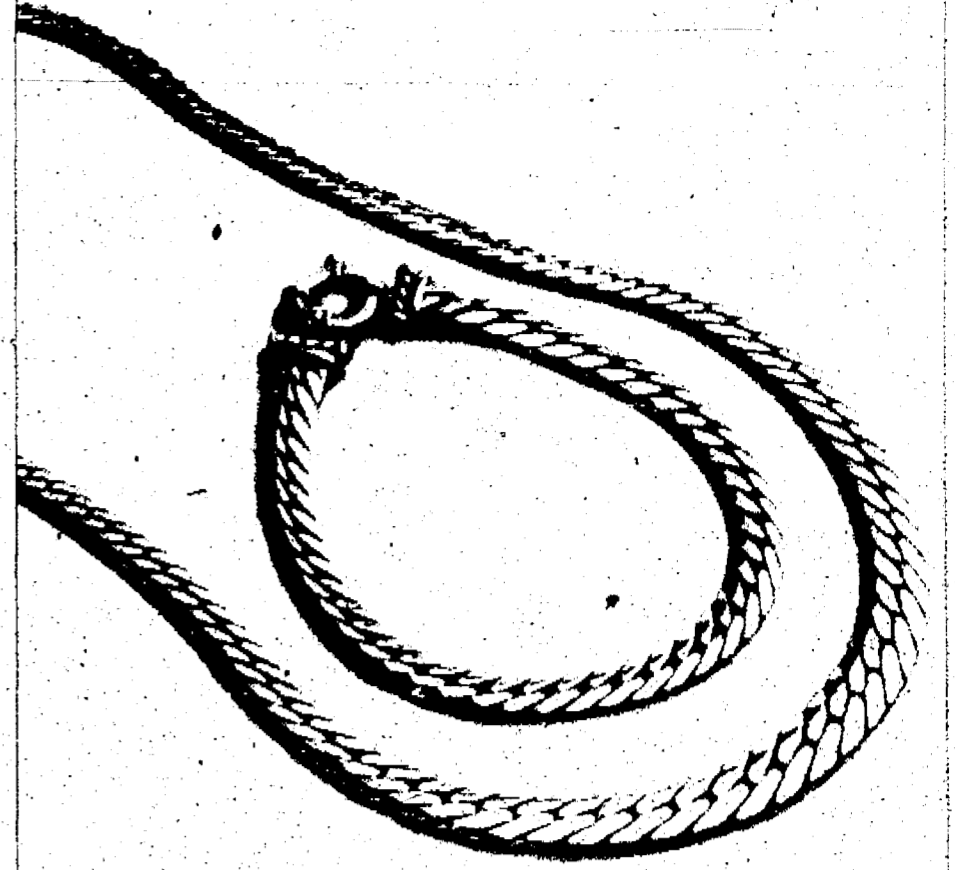
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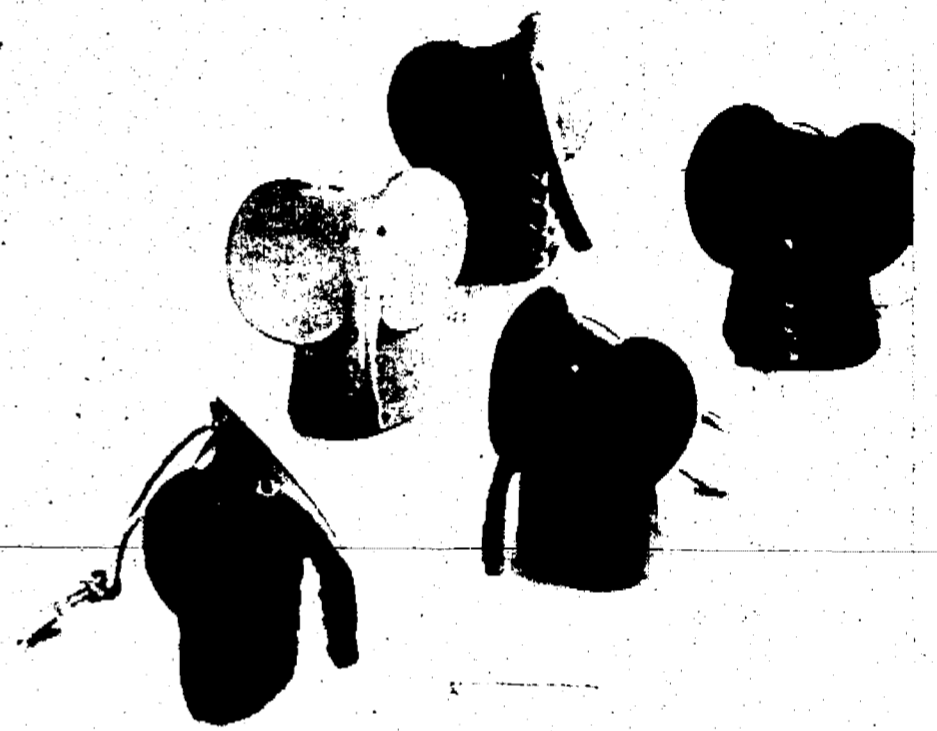
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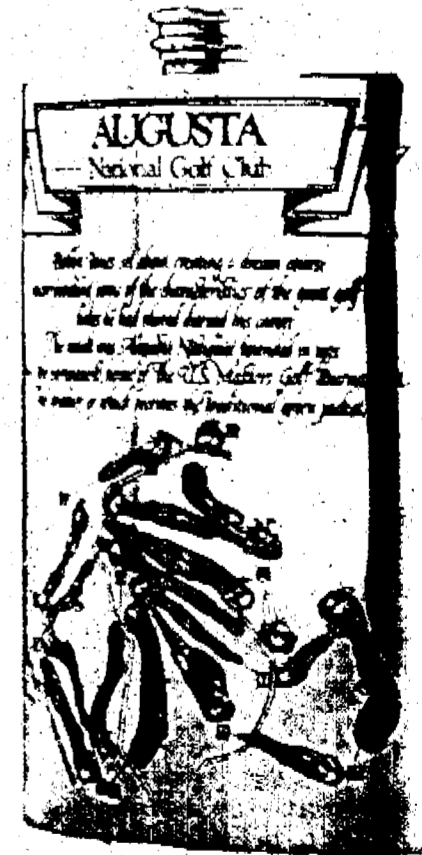
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Happy family: Norman and Patricia Richards are the proud parents of Wesley, 8, Julia, 2, and Olivia, 14 months. Norman Richards is Westland Father of the Year.

# Father

an interpreter. The family's involved in other activities at Ward Presbyterian, including the Tree Climbers father-son program for Gene and Wesley. "It gives me some one-on-one time with him." Gene and Patricia Richards believe in spending time with their children. They didn't want them in day care, so he chose a legal career after considering the ministry, to provide sufficient income. She's a homemaker who worked as a teacher and does some substituting in that field. He tries to give his kids as many opportunities as possible, to build them up and be a kid at heart. Richards spends time with the kids, so his wife can go out with friends. They try to center all they do

on biblical principles. "We believe that God has to be the center of the home for it to be balanced and smooth-running." His own dad, now living near New Orleans, was a great example. Years from now, when Wesley, Julia and Olivia are grown, Richards hopes they'll remember him as the "best dad there ever was, that you did everything you could to make their life a success." Law's an option for the Richards children, although their parents believe career choice comes from what God wants. He was stunned to learn he was chosen this year's Father of the Year. "I was overwhelmed. It was a

complete shock." Richards didn't know his wife had nominated him. On her nominating form, Patricia Richards said her husband "goes above and beyond the call of duty. His commitment to his children, his occupation and his community is exemplary. He always takes time to play with the kids each evening, and is the bathroom supervisor, even though his job as an attorney keeps him away from home until late each evening..." Gene Richards said the family tries to do shopping and other activities together. As a one-income family, they're rich only in what they have as a family, he said.

# Familiar

from page A1  
cis Ford Coppola, made it all happen. His movie credits are long, including "City of Angels," "Snake Eyes," "Face-Off," "Peggy Sue Got Married" and "Raising Arizona." Sahl's favorite Cage movies include "Guarding Miss Tess" and "The Rock." Sahl doesn't take the look-alike issue very seriously and he

didn't even plan to enter the Star contest. Now that the contest is over, life goes on. Actually, he said, the look-alike issue helps him at work. "It's a good ice-breaker," Sahl said. "They (inmates) get excited about it." "My wife thinks I'm a dead ringer for him," Sahl said. "I

said: 'I'll go just to show you you're all nuts and this will decide it.'" The night of the contest, Sahl said, he "felt like Nicolas Cage, because the flash bulbs kept going off." He added: "It would be cool if I could get into a movie as his double."

# Mayor

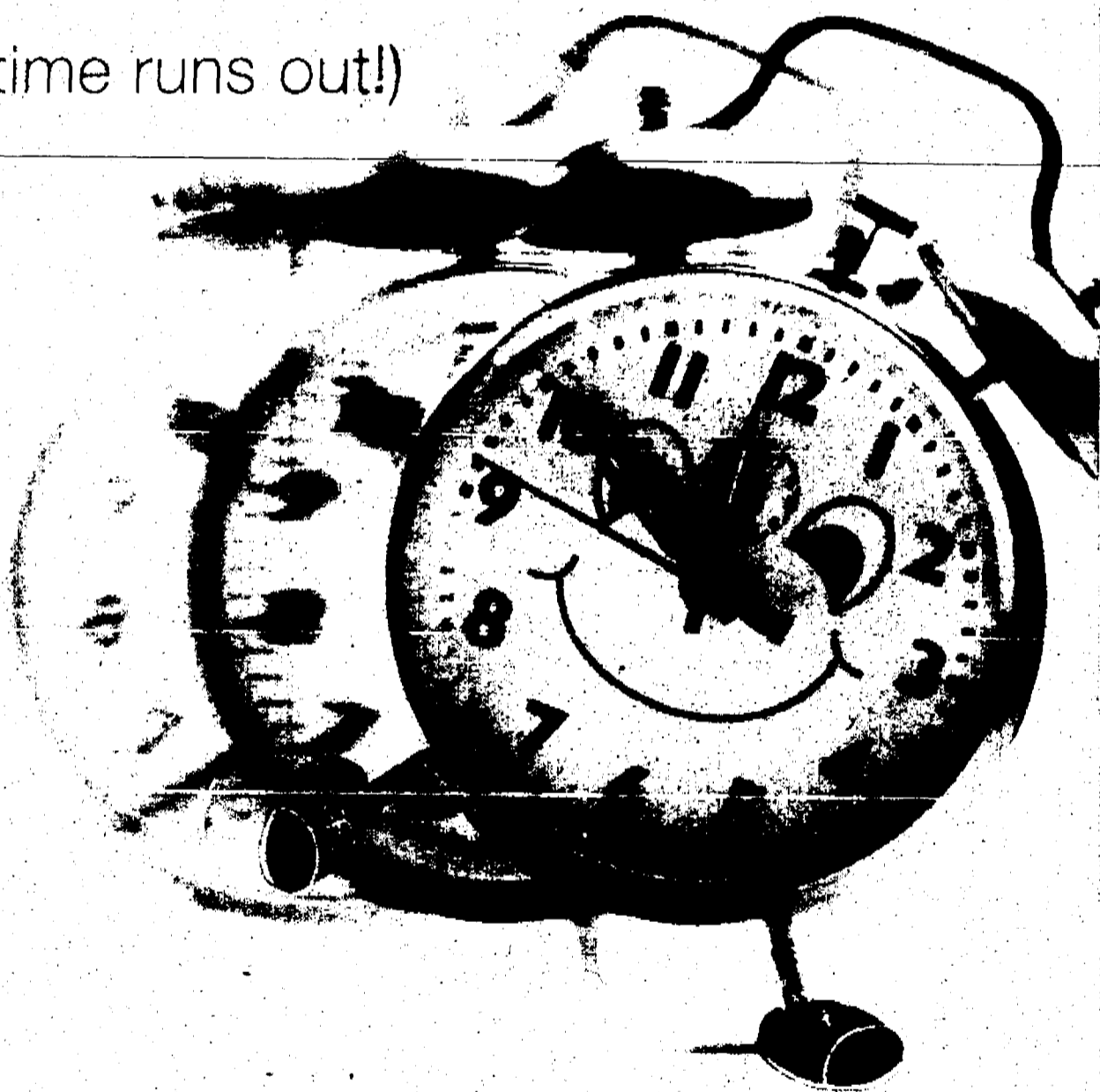
from page A1  
inquiry wasn't an attempt to shut down the recall group's meeting because it was made "after the fact." Meanwhile, recall leader Brenda Gracin said Tuesday she didn't believe Mayor Thomas was sincere when he called on his department heads to stop harassing recall supporters. "I totally don't believe him, and neither does anyone else," she said. Neal isn't the only department head who has come under intense fire. Personnel Director Keith Madden was sharply criticized after he circulated an e-mail message under Gracin's name, trying to thwart a Feb. 23 protest outside City Hall by claiming it had been canceled. Thomas didn't discipline Madden, fueling even more criticism of the administration.

that it's not to be tolerated," LeBlanc said. In another development, Thomas praised recall organizers for showing calmer emotions at recent meetings. He arose from his seat Monday and approached Gracin as she spoke at the podium, offering to give her a handshake or even a hug. "No thank you," she said to the hug, accepting the handshake instead. A promise Gracin, meanwhile, promised that recall organizers won't disrupt the mayor's April 12 State of the City address, when Thomas also will honor the city's mother, father, teacher and high school senior of the year. Gracin said anti-recall forces have wrongly portrayed her group as being hateful. "We, too, are your mothers, fathers, teachers and students," she said. "We work hard to make our community the place to be." Recall organizers already are trying to collect more than 5,000 signatures to seek a recall election against Scott, who has said she won't seek re-election anyway, when her four-year term expires Dec. 31, 2001. Recall supporters can't recall Griffin, Cox and James until July 1. The three started new terms Jan. 1 and are protected

during their first six months of office. In other developments: ■ Resident Normie Brazier asked about rumors that Wayne-Westland school board President Robin Moore would be appointed to a council seat if the recall campaign against Scott proves successful. "No," council President Pro Tem David Cox responded later. President Charles "Tray" Griffin called it premature to discuss a possible appointment. ■ Brazier also told elected officials that recall organizers aren't filled with "hatred" but with "total disgust and disillusionment" toward city leaders. ■ Thomas and Griffin publicly stated their opposition to the recall. One of Gibbons' council supporters, LeBlanc, had earlier stated he didn't support the recall, either. ■ Cox denied living outside of Westland during his 1999 council campaign when confronted with the issue by resident Deborah Hessler-Davis. Some of his critics have said he stayed in Wayne for a while. ■ Gracin said 110 people signed recall petitions against Scott during a protest outside City Hall prior to Monday's meeting. Some people also took petitions to circulate in the community.

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Easter Egg Hunt, Bonnet Parade, Donut Eating Contest, Magic, Clowns, Crafts, and Face Painting. 2pm - 6pm in the Food Court.

**APRIL 15** SWING THE NIGHT AWAY  
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# Legislators take up hammers to build ramps

BY MIKE MALOTT  
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE  
mmalott@homecom.net

The tools of choice for lawmakers are usually legislation and votes. But this summer, some will be picking up hammers and saws to build wheelchair ramps for 15 to 20 Michigan residents who need them.

Rep. Laura Toy, R-Livonia, along with Rep. Sandy Caul, R-Mt. Pleasant, and Joanne Voorhees, R-Grandville, kicked off a "Reps. for Ramps" program last week which will raise money for ramps for disabled Michigan residents who need them and actually construct them on-site.

"Many people in wheelchairs are virtually prisoners in their own homes," Toy said. "This effort reaches out to people who are permanently disabled and unable to get in and out because they don't have the means or extra funds for a wheelchair ramp. This is about state lawmakers giving back to their communities by not only raising funds, but working up a sweat to

**'This is about state lawmakers giving back to their communities by not only raising funds, but working up a sweat to build the ramps and get the job done.'**

*Rep. Laura Toy  
R-Livonia*

Toy said the Lions of Michigan

Service Foundation volunteers will work with the representatives to get the ramps built. Tools and supervisors will be supplied by Dykhouse Construction of Byron Center.

Wheelchair access is an issue near and dear to Toy's heart. Her brother was severely disabled. Her mother has had to use a wheelchair.

But there are also an estimated 1.7 million disabled people in the state, Toy pointed out.

"Quite frankly, they tend to be seniors and low income people who haven't the ability to exit or enter their homes," she said.

The Lions are now identifying those residents who will receive the ramps that the volunteers build during June, July and August. Construction of each is expected to take about a day. The cost of each ramp is estimated between \$400 and \$1,000.

Funds are still needed for materials, including lumber. Those interested in volunteering or donating money can contact Toy's office at (517) 373-3920.

The announcement of the program came as the state Senate approved a bill introduced by Toy applying penalties to those to block wheelchair access aisles

or ramps with their cars.

House Bill 4995, already approved by the House, makes it a civil infraction, with a fine of \$100, to block wheelchair access. An access aisle is the yellow- or blue-lined space next to a handicapped parking spot that allows room for the operation of a wheelchair lift.

Senators voted unanimously to adopt the bill last week and sent it off to the governor for approval. Gov. John Engler has indicated to Toy's office that he will sign the bill.

Staff writer Richard Pearl contributed to this story.



State Rep. Laura Toy

## OMNIBUS takes fall applications

OMNIBUS, the online program that enables students to earn three degrees in four years, is accepting applications for its fall 2000 cohort. A collaboration between Schoolcraft College and Madonna University, the Online Multi-degrees in National and International Business program grants an associate, bachelor and master's degree with one application process and for a set fee.

OMNIBUS is designed for working adults without college degrees who have achieved a measure of success and made the decision to move forward in their careers. Students accepted for the associate degree at Schoolcraft automatically are accepted for the advanced degrees at Madonna. Students complete 152 credit hours, studying in three 12-week terms per year, with one four-week intercession and no classes in August and December.

Tuition remains \$190 per credit hour, including all fees, books and course materials, and is guaranteed for the entire four-year program, totaling \$29,000 for the three degrees.

OMNIBUS students do their work, their team projects and communication online. The program stresses core business skills, information retrieval from electronic as well as traditional sources, skills in managing work using information technology, teamwork skills, and global management and leadership skills.

The first OMNIBUS students, who began their studies in 1997, will receive their master's degree in July 2001. Of the 16 students studying now at Madonna, 11 placed on the dean's list for the fall semester.

"The program clearly reflects the revolution in education," said Jeanne Bonner, Schoolcraft associate dean for liberal arts, independent and distance learning. "We see record enrollments for Web-based courses. Even law and nursing courses have gone online. There is no significant difference in the quality of instruction a student receives on campus or at a distance."

The OMNIBUS program places emphasis on four areas, developing one during each of the four years of study. They are: effective communication and decision making; global citizenship and diversity for international development; paradigms for organizational change; and tomorrow's leadership for world organization.

Orientation for new OMNIBUS students is scheduled for Sept. 9 and 10.

There is a non-refundable application of \$120, which is applied toward tuition. Applicants must furnish transcripts, achievement test results, a letter of intent and a letter of recommendation. There are computer and software requirements students must fulfill.

For more information, contact the Schoolcraft College Distance Learning Office, (734) 462-4599. Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty Road in Livonia, between Six and Seven Mile roads, just west of I-275.

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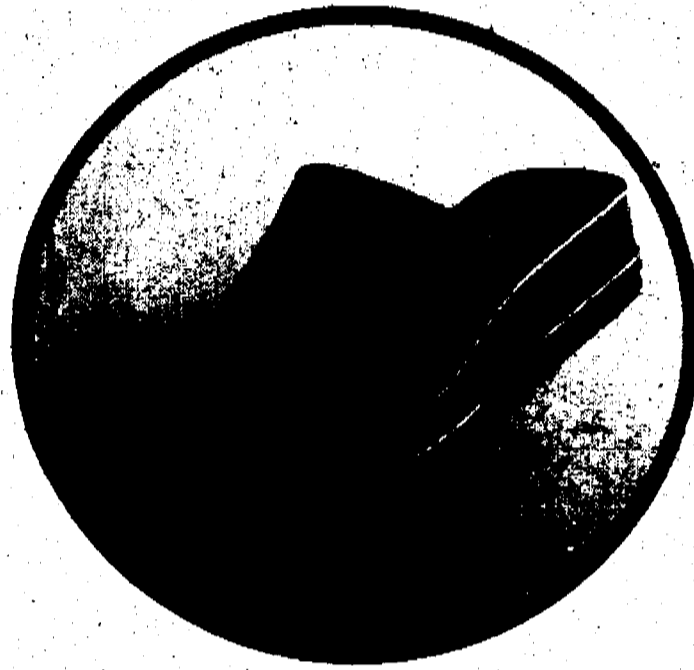
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<b>sale 29.99</b> Famous-maker cap sleeve boat neck tops	<b>50% off</b> Warner's Body Power bras <b>sale 12.00</b>	<b>60% off</b> Famous-maker bras <b>sale 12.00</b>	<b>50% off</b> Ladies' J. J. Moore Parisian <b>sale 24.00</b>	<b>buy one, get one free</b> Wonders & Graces shirts <b>sale 24.00</b>	<b>sale 2 for 12.00</b> Famous-maker pantsuits
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# Police and fire plaudits given

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

They helped protect citizens — and even pets — in 1999. Their work was so remarkable that they stood out among their peers.

For that, four Westland public safety employees received special awards Saturday during a ceremony sponsored by Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323 on Wayne Road.

The winners:

■ Ronald Kroll, police officer of the year.

■ Joseph Bobby, whose rescue of a family dog earned him a special award.

■ Gary Leirstein, fire officer of the year.

■ David Kapelanski, firefighter of the year.

Kroll received his award just one day after he was promoted Friday from police officer to sergeant. He has worked as a patrol officer, a field-training officer for new recruits and in the department's community police program.

Kroll now works as a patrol sergeant on the night shift's B Platoon. He has received numerous citations for his dedication. He also has served as president of the Westland Police Officers Association and represents police employees on a pension board.

Every year, Kroll participates in a post-Thanksgiving Day Goodfellows effort to raise money to buy Christmas gifts for needy children.

Bobby gained attention in February when, during a fire on Redman, he scrambled to save a family Dalmatian found lying apparently lifeless near a back door.

The dog had suffered smoke inhalation, but an oxygen mask was placed over its snout after Bobby partially restored its breathing with mouth-to-snout resuscitation.

Bobby had learned that the dog was inside the house from a

4-year-old girl who stood crying on a sidewalk. The girl was one of three children who had escaped the fire with their mother.

Bobby's efforts earned him a special award presented Saturday.

Leirstein, fire officer of the year, performs a service that extends beyond the Westland Fire Department. He participates in the city's summer and winter festivals and serves as a mentor in the Youth Assistance Program.

Leirstein also is involved in helping community athletic programs for youths and has served as union secretary for the Westland Firefighters Local 1279.

As a fire inspector, Leirstein has created "a strong working relationship with the business community," according to a written statement from Deputy Chief David Carignan and Fire Marshal Patrick Harder.

Leirstein also is regarded by his peers as "an honest and reputable person ... well-deserving of the honor of officer of the year," they wrote.

Kapelanski was named firefighter of the year partly for a work ethic that was described by Battalion Chief Kevin Riley as "second to none."

"When something is broken, whether it's a piece of firefighting equipment, a vehicle or a station appliance, Dave's first thought is to fix it," Riley wrote.

"Dave's performance at an emergency is nothing less than exemplary," Riley wrote. "Never one to get overly excited, he carries out his duties with a calmness that exudes confidence."

Kapelanski also has earned a level of respect from his peers that "is uncommon in any work force," Riley said.

Kroll, Bobby, Leirstein and Kapelanski received their awards during an annual dinner and ceremony sponsored by the VFW post. Winners were nominated and selected by their peers.

■ Leirstein, fire officer of the year, performs a service that extends beyond the Westland Fire Department. He participates in the city's summer and winter festivals and serves as a mentor in the Youth Assistance Program.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY  
**Back in time:** A Medieval Day will be held noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 21, at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, 6123 Central City Parkway. The Society for Creative Anachronism, a medieval recreationist group, will display aspects of medieval life, from armed combat to calligraphy and heraldry. Admission is free, and all ages are welcome. For information, call (734) 326-6123. Above, Jason Frederick of Redford and Jane Lowry of Taylor, a reference librarian in Westland, get into the spirit of things.

## ACHIEVERS

Barbara Wrenn of Westland has been named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Concordia College in Ann Arbor. She is enrolled in the Accelerated Degree Program. To be honored, a student must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or better.

Krystal Marie Wilhelmi has been named an All-American Scholar by the United States Achievement Academy. She is the daughter of Daniel and Virginia Wilhelmi of Westland.

The program honors students who excel in the academic disciplines. The All-American Schol-

ars must earn a 3.3 or higher grade point average. Wilhelmi, who attends John Glenn High School, was nominated by Thomas Deschaine.

She will appear in the All-American Scholar Yearbook, published nationally.

Huron Valley Lutheran High School of Westland has been recognized for "Its Exemplary Ministry to Young People" by Aid Association for Lutherans and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod Association of Lutheran High Schools.

This award, presented annually to WELS high schools across the nation, recognizes the school for the efforts of its faculty, students and supporters. Huron Valley Lutheran High received a plaque and a cash award of \$2,500 at a banquet recently.

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# It's official: McNamara picks Robinson to head airports

BY RICHARD PEARL  
STAFF WRITER  
rpearl@oe.homecomm.net

County Executive Ed McNamara went for a slam-dunk Wednesday in announcing his new county airports director.

Confirming reports by officially naming Lester Robinson, a former Wayne County airports finance chief, to the airports' top spot, Democrat McNamara drove hard to the proverbial basket by lashing out at Lansing Republicans critical of his selection methods.

"They're the same ones who thought (Tony) Lizzo should not be appointed Michigan State basketball coach," jibed McNamara, referring to the Spartans' national collegiate basketball championship Monday night.

"I haven't heard anything so silly," said McNamara, noting no one would want the job because it might be for only a couple of years.

"Chances are I will not" run for election to a fifth term as county exec, he said, so why would an out-of-state candidate "come here for two years," given that the county exec makes the

appointment and that his term has only about three years left.

Robinson, whose appointment must be confirmed by the county commission, will succeed David Katz, who had been McNamara's former chief of staff. Katz's resignation is effective May 1.

"We're on schedule and on budget and moving ahead" on the construction of the new \$1.2-billion midfield terminal project at Metro, said McNamara in defending his choice of Robinson, and "I want to open it on time."

"We want to stay on top" of things at the airport and "I can't think of a better guy."

### 'Hit the deck'

Noting Robinson's previous service as county commission auditor general, airport deputy director of finance and county chief financial officer, McNamara said, "We are fortunate to have found an airport director that has the experience, the integrity, the knowledge to hit the deck running without losing time that might put" the expansion projects "in jeopardy."

The county CEO angrily described as "baloney" a report

Wednesday morning in a Detroit newspaper that a state audit of Metro finances revealed millions of dollars in cost over-runs and that contracts have lacked approval by the county commission.

"There has never been an illegal contract at the airport," McNamara stated, and those that have been extended were done so "with approval of the county commission."

"Every contract got county commission approval," he said.

"All this baloney is a rehash of all" that the commission's own current auditor general, Brendan Dunleavy, has already reported, McNamara said.

Citing the example of an \$11.1-million runway lights contract in 1994 that grew to \$19.8 million, McNamara said the Federal Aviation Administration ordered it be completed within one year and Northwest Airlines said it would pay to have it completed.

"I really resent all of" the implications, McNamara said. "Not one indictment has been made of anyone. All of it (allegations) is false."

Robinson, a certified public accountant, returns to the county as president of Capital Financial Advisors International LLC of Detroit.

The firm has been a consultant to Metro Airport and Robinson said Wednesday he will put his income from the firm into a blind trust "so there will be no conflict of interest."

As for his having been a part of bidding on airport contracts, Robinson said, "We won zero."

Robinson said his job is "turning" facilities that are old and

cramped" into "the safest, friendliest, cleanest and most convenient airport in the world."

"We are here to serve business and leisure travelers and the people who drop off and greet their families, friends and business associates," he said.

### 'No problem'

Robinson told the Observer that cooperating with state auditors will be "no problem."

McNamara told the Observer the state audit is a "witch hunt" that is in part looking into

things "passed by the Roads Commission 40 years ago."

"David Katz pleaded with them to let him come to Lansing," but was turned down, McNamara said.

The county CEO said Robinson's "greatest challenge will be in continuing what David started" - Katz's efforts to make "more positive" the attitudes of Metro Airport employees, upgrading the existing facilities and completing the new Northwest terminal, scheduled to open in December 2001.

# Husk calls choice 'cronyism'

BY RICHARD PEARL  
STAFF WRITER  
rpearl@oe.homecomm.net

At least one county commissioner wasn't impressed Wednesday with County Executive Ed McNamara's reasons for not conducting a national search for a new airports director.

Pointing to McNamara's naming of former chiefs of staff to the position - Lester Robinson to succeed David Katz - Husk responded, "That's the whole problem."

"They want to appoint somebody as a political favor rather than use good business sense," said Husk, calling it "cronyism."

"This guy comes in, Katz goes," she chided Wednesday afternoon after McNamara announced his choice. "How convenient for them."

Husk, R-Redford Township, earlier on Wednesday proposed a charter amendment that would require a national search by the county executive to fill the positions of airports director, environment director and the directors of the juvenile detention center, mental health and infor-

mation technology and also the chief medical examiner.

Once a "qualified" person were found, she said, "There's no reason why a new county exec would want to take that person out."

"We don't fire people here," she said.

Husk's resolution, if approved by the commission, would be placed on the ballot for the countywide primary election Aug. 8.

Husk's fellow Republican, Lyn Bankes of Livonia, called the proposal "micro-managing" and said commissioners "already do have the right to decide" directors "by consent vote."

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## Beard to receive Eleanor Roosevelt award

Vice Chair Kay Beard, the longest-serving member of the Wayne County Commission, will receive the highest women's honor bestowed by the Michigan Democratic Women's Caucus.

A longtime Westland resident who's served 22 years on the commission, Beard will be presented the biennial Eleanor Roosevelt Award during the group's annual luncheon, 11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 15, at Cobo Center in Detroit.

The event, which brings together Democratic Party women from across the state, is part of Jefferson Jackson Day 2000.

Named for President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's wife, who supported numerous causes and humanitarian concerns, the award was first presented in 1990 to then-Lt. Gov. Martha Griffiths.

Other past recipients are Erma Henderson, former Detroit City Council president, 1992; Juanita Webstone, veteran chief of staff of the Michigan Democratic Party, '94; Patricia J. Boyle, Michigan Supreme Court justice, '96; and Liz Baker, retired former regional director of the Michigan Education Asso-



Commissioner Kay Beard

ciation, '98.

"This is for her (Beard's) outstanding leadership," said Virgie Rollins of Detroit.

Rollins, luncheon chairwoman and president-elect of the National Federation of Democratic Women, called Beard "a role model for Democratic women."

"She's served, she's organized and she's mobilized women,"

Rollins stated.

Beard, now in her fourth term as commission vice chair, has also been active in state and national as well as civic and communal organizations.

She called the award "an awesome honor given the remarkable political and humanitarian legacy of its namesake."

### 'Very humble'

"I feel very humble that the Michigan Democratic Women's Caucus is recognizing my public service and my efforts to make government effective for all citizens," Beard said.

First appointed to the county's legislative body in April 1978, Beard in 1998 was elected to her 11th consecutive term, making her the commission's longest-serving member.

In January 1999, Beard's 14 colleagues voted her to a fourth term as commission vice chair. She represents Westland, Garden City and Inkster.

Now chairwoman of both the county's audit committee and its permanent subcommittee on veterans services, Beard also is vice chair of the committee of the whole, vice chair of the task force on Emergency 911 and a mem-

ber of the public safety and judiciary committee.

In 1995, Beard was appointed to the National Advisory Council for the School-to-Work Opportunities Act, serving as advisor to both Secretary of Education Richard Riley and then-Secretary of Labor Robert Reich as well as President Clinton.

### MAC honoree

She also has served on the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) and the National Association of Counties (NACo). In 1989, she was named MAC "Commissioner of the Year" and was elected to the NACo board in 1997.

That same year, D Building on the grounds of the former Eloise Complex was renamed the Kay Beard Building. It now houses county offices.

Beard is vice chair of the United Way board of directors, a member of the Blue Cross/Blue Shield senior advisory council, a founding member of Hospices of Michigan and a lector at the S.S. Kevin and Norbert Church in Inkster.

A widow with five adult children and five grandchildren, Beard has lived in Westland 45 years.

Tickets for the luncheon in Room W2-62 at Cobo are \$50 each. Call (313) 892-6199.

## Madonna workshops focus on dementia for caregivers

Madonna University's Gerontology Department and the Greater Detroit Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association are presenting two dementia care workshops.

The workshops will be held on Friday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Kresge Hall on Madonna University's Livonia campus. The fee is \$45 per person for each workshop and includes refreshments. The student rate is \$20 per person.

The workshop, "Spirituality and Dementia," is directed to clergy and pastoral care workers and will be held Friday, May 5. The workshop will explore issues for those who provide spiritual care to older adults with dementia in a variety of settings - at home, in hospitals, in long-term care facilities, and in hospice centers. A panel of professionals from different settings will dis-

uss approaches to spiritual assessment with people who have dementia. Participants will also explore their own spiritual journeys and how that impacts their work in the area.

The second workshop, scheduled for Friday, June 23, is for those individuals who work with dementia families. Using many care examples, "Helping Families Accept Help," will explore a wide range of family issues including families who are independent, in denial, in conflict, those who resist using services of any kind and families who abusive and/or neglectful. Practical strategies for working with each group will be offered.

To register for the workshops or for more information, contact Madonna University's Gerontology Department at (734)432-5530.

## McCotter leads Senate action to repeal outdated legislation

BY MIKE MALOTT  
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE  
mmalott@homecomm.net

Spartan fans could have gotten in big trouble with the law over the past month as they rooted Michigan State University's basketball team on to victory in the NCAA championships, according to state Sen. Thaddeus McCotter.

It's illegal in Michigan to wear the logo of a sports team or to display that team's emblem, as on a bumper sticker, unless you are actually a member of that team, says McCotter, R-Livonia.

That's just one of a long list of archaic, out-of-date, no longer enforced laws the Michigan senator is hoping to get rid of.

Also on the chopping block are:

- Prohibitions against walkathons.
- A ban on using the image of a deceased president to promote alcoholic beverages.
- Requirements for the use of bells on sleighs in the Upper Peninsula.
- Requirements that every county government have an official dairy cream tester.
- Requirements that "weather modifications services" be licensed. That's right, rainmakers have been licensed in the state of Michigan.

Senators voted, nearly unanimously, for a series of dozens of repealer bills, aimed at cleaning up Michigan's code books.

"We only had a couple of dissenting votes. One was (Sen. Phil) Hoffman," McCotter said. "He liked the rat bounty."

Nonetheless, that law - providing residents with a 10 cent bounty when they present the head of a rat to the local municipal clerk - also bit the dust. So did the Sparrow bounty, a 2 cent reward for turning in a dead English sparrow.

McCotter headed up the State Law Revision Task Force, assigned to the job of reviewing old laws still on the books in Michigan. Also on the panel were Sens. Abna Wheeler Smith, D-Salem Township, and Mike Goshka, R-Brant. The task force was formed and appointed by Senate Majority Leader Dan DeGrow, R-Port Huron, last June.

According to McCotter, senators took care of about 50 repealer bills last week, sending them to the House for approval. And he said he has many more repealers to go, sponsored by a variety of lawmakers.

How seriously the House will take the job of cleaning up the law books is not clear, the senator said. But action on these bills should take little time and fit in easily among the House's other priorities, McCotter argued.

"Neglect of the law is just as dangerous as outright defiance of the law," McCotter said. "You can't take the attitude that those are just old laws, just words on paper. We are supposed to enforce all the laws equally. For one, what if, torpid, one were enforced against you, a law you have no reason to know exists. Secondly, getting rid of these old laws is less for out law enforcement to pay attention to. Third-

ly, it should serve as a warning to lawmakers today that actions you take may make you look stupid 100 years from now."

Like the 1931 law banning "immoral advertising," ads that refer to "the restoration of 'lost manhood,'" Viagra promotions would be illegal under it, McCotter said.

Or old Michigan laws regulating conduct in a duel or being a second in a duel.

Gov. John Engler is supportive of the effort to clean out the old laws, McCotter said.

"This would be a small but important part of the governor's legacy," he said.

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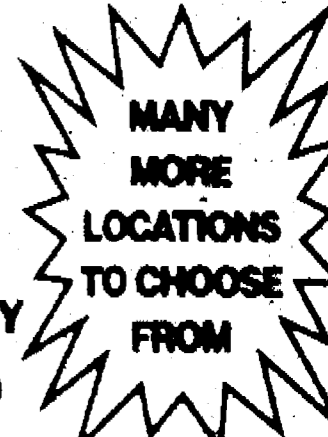
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# Westland Observer OPINION

A12(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2000

## Let us govern Council prayer inappropriate

The Bible tells us to everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven.

That wisdom can certainly be applied to organized prayer and the question of its place at Westland City Council meetings. Council members are mulling a proposal to start all meetings with prayer.

Some officials and residents are concerned, however, that Satanists and others could demand their turn at prayer. The March 20 council session opened with a prayer from Bishop Jack Wallace of Detroit World Outreach, who had discussed the idea with Councilman David James.

This past Monday's meeting featured a prayer from a local senior citizen, Cecilia Elbanowski.

Fringe groups are certainly a concern, as they could raise questions about their constitutional right to be heard in a public forum. There are greater concerns, however, about the three-member council committee studying whether to start council meetings with prayer, possibly rotating among members of the clergy.

The separation of church and state must be respected, as must the rights of Jews, Hindus, Muslims and others who worship and pray outside the Christian mainstream. This is their community, too, and they have the right to be included.

It's common for service clubs in the Westland area and elsewhere to begin their meetings with a prayer. Those groups are private and free to conduct their business as they see

**■ Congress has chaplains who open sessions with prayers, but there's no evidence that congressional debate is any less contentious. We must ask whether prayer in Westland would help to heal the divisions that have developed in recent months.**

fit. Governmental bodies must hold themselves to a different standard.

Congress has chaplains who open sessions with prayers, but there's no evidence that congressional debate is any less contentious. We must ask whether prayer in Westland would help to heal the divisions that have developed in recent months.

Prayer has been shown to have great power, to heal the sick and injured, for example. Its place in a governmental body's meeting must be questioned, however, as it raises serious questions about separation of church and state, as well as efforts to include all citizens.

Controversies involving prayers at public school graduations have often started with a well-intentioned student striving to include all classmates. That effort rarely succeeds, and in fact dilutes the impact of the original thought that went into the prayer.

Let's leave prayer, however well-intentioned, out of our city council meetings and concentrate on the business of government.

## Ballpark provides new sights

(Editor's note: We asked Observer sports editor C.J. Risak to comment on the new home of the Detroit Tigers.)

Well, what the heck. It is a new millennium, after all. This new den for the Tigers is proof enough.

Comerica Park is everything Tiger Stadium wasn't. And it can never be what the park at The Corner was.

For anyone who's been a Tiger fan their entire life - as I have been - there will be a period of adjustment.

I can still remember coming out of the bright sunshine on a warm summer day and going into this dark, damp, dungeon-like structure. It took a few minutes for my eyes to adjust, and once they did my dad was hauling me up this ramp back toward the sunshine.

But coming out of that ramp into the upper deck and seeing the field for the first time - the bright green grass, the brown basepaths, the little men in white uniforms and blue hats hitting grounders and fielding them while others tossed balls around in the outfield - is a memory of Tiger Stadium that can never be forgotten.

For the most part, the seats were atrocious. I sat in the lower deck center field bleachers at Tiger Stadium during arguably the most memorable game in team history: Game Five of the '68 World Series, when Lou Brock was thrown out at the plate.

Couldn't see a thing, but I was there. I did love that ol' stadium. Had to park quite a distance, but didn't you just savor telling the guy sitting next to you in the stands you paid \$5 less to park just a few steps farther away.

But that was then - past history. Time to move ahead.

**■ ... but for my children, who someday soon will walk through a wide concourse to see a wide expanse of bright green, with dirt basepaths that have little men in white uniforms and blue hats fielding grounders, awaiting the start of a new game.**

Credit the folks at Comerica Park (CoPa for short) with trying to sustain some of that sense of history. Statues of Tiger greats in the outfield, pillars featuring great moments and players through the concourse ... and they still have those hot dogs, although it's doubtful the new park can retain that delicious odor that lingered in Tiger Stadium's cramped, enclosed aisles.

More than any other sport, baseball is history. How many guys 40 to 45 years old can tell you last year's starting lineup for the Detroit Lions? And how many can tell you the starting lineup for those '68 Tigers?

How often did you stay through the ninth inning of a game the Tigers were losing by eight because Cecil (Fielder, that is) was going to bat and, well, what the heck, you just never knew when he might pop one over that left-field roof.

That kind of history CoPa can't recreate. But it might be able to spawn some new memories - not for me, but for my children, who someday soon will walk through a wide concourse to see a wide expanse of bright green, with dirt basepaths that have little men in white uniforms and blue hats fielding grounders, awaiting the start of a new game.

GEOFF BROOKS



### LETTERS

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

#### Ford concerns

A letter to William Clay Ford and Jac Nass-Aer:

Could you please tell me how Ford Motor Co. is making over a billion dollars a quarter, much more than General Motors and DaimlerChrysler, and Ford stock is selling in the 40s? General Motors and DaimlerChrysler stocks are selling in the 70s and 80s. Is it a case of poor management or stupidity or both? Why aren't the shareholders sharing in these most profitable quarters? Ever!

If the Ford Motor Co. really wanted to be fair with their hourly and salary retired employees, they would say the computer program we are offering the hourly and salary working employees is worth about \$800 for computer and copier and \$5 a month to get online. If you retirees would be interested in paying that discounted rate of \$800, we would be more than happy to make you that offer. Plus \$5 a month to go online. Thanks, Ford and UAW. What are you doing for the retirees that helped you get where you are today? I am going to urge all retirees to get online and say "remember us."

W. Mirth

#### Against recall

Wake up, Westland taxpayers! Upon calling the city clerk's office, a recall election would cost approximately \$25,000 to \$30,000. I asked what costs these included and was informed that it includes postage for mailing absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots; overtime salaries for clerical staff; application forms and envelopes; election day workers at the polls; publication costs, etc., etc., etc. The time to make our choices on whether or not we want someone to be our council representative is at the polls during the regular council elections which are budgeted.

Special elections for recalls are not normally budgeted. To recall Mrs. Scott because you didn't agree with her vote on reappointment of a city clerk is absolutely ridiculous. Just because we don't agree with a vote doesn't give cause for a recall election at the taxpayers' expense. Disagree many times with each and every person on the council, but that doesn't get me riled up to recall someone. At least Mrs. Scott did not cut city services nor

did she cut services in our public safety departments. I applaud you for that.  
**RECALLS ARE A WASTE OF MY MONEY AND MONEY OF RESIDENTS IN WESTLAND.**

Carol Gillentine

#### Responsible for actions

I don't know who wrote the editorial on March 30. What were they possibly thinking? God is the only one who has 20/20 hindsight. I don't think he works at the Observer. To say Sharon Scott's recall is unjustified brings the question: Just what would justify it? What, pray tell, is the correct remedy for a gross injustice to the former city clerk when all she did was do her job very well? Sharon's only reason to vote the way she did was "I owe it to Trav."

To say that all the recall energy should have been used at the last election is ludicrous. I am not clairvoyant. Had I had a premonition about this injustice, I am very certain I would have voted as would others. Because the voter turnout was low, does that give them license to violate the law of human decency?

Your analogy is like a criminal who is released from prison and goes out and commits another crime. Do we say "If they had kept him in prison, this new crime would not have occurred?" Do we not punish him because we didn't keep him in prison? You are responsible for your actions when they occur, not when it's convenient.

Chuck Papineau

### COMMUNITY VOICE

#### QUESTION:

Why are you involved in "Fame?"



"Because it's fun. I really enjoy what I'm doing."

**Dan Fowler**  
senior, stage manager



"It's a lot of fun and it's a good experience."

**Latoya Seattle**  
senior, playing Coco



"I love the theater. I love to entertain people."

**Bradford Clark**  
senior, assistant director and Ralph Gracy



"A lot of my friends said it was a great opportunity. It's a lot of fun, nice people."

**Kristina Revols**  
senior, dance company

We asked this question at a rehearsal prior to 7 p.m. April 6-8 performances at John Glenn.

## Westland Observer

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Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

# SC remains vital part of area's economic, cultural life

**G**ood things have been happening at Schoolcraft College, and that's good news for all of us. Work is expected to begin next spring on a \$20-million expansion of the college's Waterman Center that will enhance the culinary arts and business and industrial training programs. The project has been approved by the college board of trustees and now must wait for approval of construction plans by the state legislature.

In addition, the Thompson-McCully Foundation, created by Robert and Ellen Thompson of Plymouth, has given \$500,000 for student scholarships. The grant by the extremely generous Thompsons is specifically intended to provide money now for those who have trouble paying for tuition and books.

A recent feature story told about the continuing education of Stan Kovacheff, a 74-year-old retired General Motors engineer who has used

his retirement wisely by taking 99 classes at Schoolcraft. These three stories out of Schoolcraft remind us how central the college on Haggerty has become to our area. It's a focal point for learning, for training to fit the new economy and for expanding the horizons of everyone from 18-year-olds fresh from high school to retirees with active minds in search of new challenges.

As a young high school graduate who was totally clueless about his future plans, I took advantage of a year at Henry Ford Community College before making my way downtown to Wayne State University. That year introduced me to the looser structure and greater demands of college, which made possible a much smoother transition to the university.

At one time that was considered the primary function of community or junior colleges, a sort of halfway house to a four-year school. The colleges also provided some technical

training toward entry into a skilled trade.

Those are still important functions of community colleges but only a small part of their importance to the educational and economic health of the community.

For many years, the best community colleges, and Schoolcraft is at the top of that list, have been on the cutting edge in offering course work that is relevant to job opportunities. They've taken a leadership role in working with the business community to the benefit of students and business.

A quick glance through the Schoolcraft catalogue shows the rich diversity and obvious relevance of the



HUGH GALLAGHER

Schoolcraft curricula. That relevance was emphasized by Schoolcraft President Dick McDowell when discussing the Waterman addition which will help expand the culinary and computer technology programs.

"People in the food service industry can't find enough qualified people to hire and people in business and industry can't find people with computer skills," McDowell said.

In addition to the vital liberal arts program that helps students prepare for a four-year degree, the school has programs in computer technology, engineering, broadcasting, computer aided design, correctional services, cosmetology, criminal justice, nursing, metallurgy, laser technology, electronics, emergency medical technology and much, much more.

The culinary arts program has proven especially popular and its graduates have won the respect of everyone in the food industry.

But the school is also a place to grow in other ways.

My talented niece, Colleen Greenwell, has taken the opportunity to pursue her love for theater at Schoolcraft and found a supportive, challenging environment.

Stanley Kovacheff is an inspiration to all adults, not just retirees, who want to continue learning and growing. At Schoolcraft he's had a chance to study tap dancing (a continuing passion), Spanish, Russian, guitar and piano, Tai Chi and typing. The school's continuing education program makes it possible for all of us to keep our brains well exercised.

Relatively low cost, abundant scholarships like those provided by the Thompsons and a great location make Schoolcraft a vital asset.

Hugh Gallagher is managing editor of The Observer Newspapers. He can be reached at (734) 953-2149, by e-mail at hgallagher@og.homemom.net or by fax at (734) 591-7279.

LETTERS

Prayer supporter

**A**fter considering the comments regarding whether or not to allow prayer at the start of a city council meeting, I am led to wonder why? Why do some profess a "faith" in a God, then suggest that praying to that God for guidance is improper when mixed with politics, or that it may cause problems? It's interesting to me that the only meeting that started with prayer was also the meeting that had the least problems. I don't know if prayer had anything to do with this, but it is certainly interesting.

Perhaps the crux of the prayer matter lies more in what prayer represents than whether prayer is proper in that setting or not. A person that professes a Christian or God-centered faith knows that the act of praying is an act of communicating, a request for God's intervention in human matters. To invoke God is to ask for change, primarily a change of heart, but also

that order may be formed out of chaos. This is a good thing if order is what we seek. The golden rule of treating others as we would like to be treated is widely accepted as a truth as far as it regards human interaction. The difficulty is in making the transition from the words to a real way of living. The chance that we take when we let God or prayer into our daily lives is that we risk shedding light on areas that we may prefer to leave in the shadows. To sincerely reflect on our conduct and personal motivations can often produce unwelcome discoveries.

City council meetings traditionally begin by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Our hand is held over our heart signifying that we speak these words with a sense of conviction and truth. In the pledge we state that we are "one nation under God." Why is it that we can be one nation under God, but not one council or one city or one people? Asking God to help us to discern wisely is probably the most

important part of the whole process. Those that state that prayer is personal are right, it is for that reason that prayer should be included at council meetings, study sessions and all other areas where important decisions are being made. It is written that where two or more are gathered in his name, there too is God.

David A. Carignan

Invest in future

**R**esidents in the Livonia Public School District have an opportunity to ensure the continuation of quality public education. Voters will be asked to consider three millage proposals on Monday, April 10. Proposals A and B for renewal millage appear to have broad-based public support. Proposal C, a request for four-tenths of a mill, is deserving of your support,

especially if we consider the following:

The proposed needed improvements to our middle and high schools will update school buildings - the newest building is 32 years old.

Today's LPS secondary athletic opportunities are restricted due to inadequate facilities.

Quality schools attract young families to our city. Young families are essential to the continued economic success of other age groups living in the school district.

Quality schools maintain high property values.

The passage of Proposal C will be an additional \$30 a year for the owners of a house with a market value of \$150,000. An increase of approximately 58 cents a week is a modest investment to guarantee your increased home values, which will easily exceed \$30 a year.

With the passage of Proposals A, B and C, Livonia will still have the lowest tax rate of any community in

Wayne County.

Although I no longer have school-age children, I endorse the April 10 Proposals A, B and C. I hope all citizens residing in the LPS district will find time to vote and support these very worthwhile opportunities to invest in our youth and our future.

**■ The passage of Proposal C will be an additional \$30 a year for the owners of a house with a market value of \$150,000. An increase of approximately 58 cents a week is a modest investment to guarantee your increased home values, which will easily exceed \$30 a year.**

Jack E. Kirksey  
Livonia

## Bills to suppress MEAP results would wipe out recent gains

**F**ew readers around here know state Rep. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, but he's the man sitting on a ton of 18th century school legislation. Allen chairs the House Education Committee in Lansing.

His wife is Suzanne K. Miller, a high-energy, engaging former legislative staffer and a Farmington-raised lass, or should I now say matron? They have a daughter, Meredith, thank you.

Sitting undisturbed, thank goodness, in Allen's committee are two bills by this area's own Rep. Andy Raczkowski, R-Farmington Hills. House Bills 4104-5 would allow a parent to order a school district not to show the student's MEAP test scores on his or her transcript.

Now, the whole idea of the Michigan Educational Assessment Program and High School Proficiency Tests is to make sure a local diploma means something. Twenty years ago, employers were complaining that a kid with a diploma didn't always know enough to do a job. So Michigan wrote state standards.

Unfortunately, the state didn't make its standards mandatory. A kid still can collect a local diploma without a state endorsement simply by occupying a desk for enough semesters.

Raczkowski's bills would actually move Michigan backwards from assuring the value of a diploma. Examples:

■ Alabama requires passing grades in the English and language sections of its state exams, though not yet in science and math.

■ Indiana gives a state achievement exam to all students seeking a diploma unless they meet certain waiver requirements.

Obviously, allowing a parent to omit the state test scores from a student's transcript would defeat the entire purpose of state tests. It would put us back into the 18th Century when a parent decided whether a kid should go to school at all, or even if there would be free public schools.

See Pap Finn's remarks about reading in chapter 5 of Mark Twain's "Huckleberry Finn." Raczkowski's bills will be popular in affluent areas where parents who can give their kids jobs in their own companies have objected to state tests and had their kids opt out.

In the past I've written about Dixie cases where fundamentalists have tried to take control of the school curriculum in the name of "parents' rights." They argue that parents, guided, of course, by the pastor and his Bible, should be able to tell teachers, principals, superintendents and the state to teach "creationism" and to dump "Book Fint," "Anne Frank" and



TIM RICHARD

"Wizard of Oz." The courts steadfastly have rejected their rantings and supported public schools.

Lately, it seems the Mason-Dixon line has drifted north to Macomb County. Rep. Janet Kukuk, R-Macomb Township, has a bill in Allen's committee requiring that a parent would have to actively enroll a student in any class covering dangerous communicable diseases (including AIDS), sex education and even "the emotional, physical, psychological, hygienic, economic and social aspects of family life."

It would be a foot in the door, the camel's nose under the tent, for fundamentalist approval of the literature and science curricula, too.

Rep. Alan Sanborn, R-Richmond, has a bill that would require a school board to recognize a parent's "fundamental right to request a particular school or teacher" and to hold a biennial public hearing "to discuss parental involvement in activities and policies."

Strangely, the Sanborn bill doesn't require the board to grant the parent's request, so it's hard to decipher what real impact it would have, other than to tack the code words "parent's rights" into the School Code.

And if parents want to be involved in school activities and policies, what's wrong with using the public comment section of the Open Meetings Act (sec. 350)? What's wrong with the parent joining the PTA? What's wrong with the parent asking questions at a candidates' night?

There are other kooky bills attempting to establish a particular religion in government, but you get the point.

The fewer bills Allen's committee reports out, the better.

Tim Richard is retired from this newspaper to the land of Kalamazoo, the north wind. His e-mail address is tri\_hard@msd.net.com

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*Write a Letter to the Editor to your Observer*





JACK GLADDEN

## Tracing your great-greats can be tricky

"You're starting to talk funny," The Feminist said. "You sound like you're reading from the Bible."

"What?"  
"My mother's mother's father... what kind of talk is that? It sounds like 'Abraham begat Isaac and Isaac begat Jacob' and all the 'begats.' Why don't you just say 'my great-grandfather?'"

"Well... I was trying to be specific. I mean, when you get that far back, I've got four great-grandfathers. I was trying to tell you exactly which one I was talking about."

"It's all too confusing for me."  
She thinks she's confused. I'm the one trying to sort through family trees, census records, birth and death notices, military service records and GEDCOM files. (I'm still not sure what that means.)

It started out with the discovery of a family scrapbook and some notes on my parents' and grandparents' lineage. According to family legend, my mother's side of the family was mostly Scottish and Irish; my father's side was a bit more multiracial, with Scottish, Irish, English and German bloodlines.

That was the legend, but I wanted to find some documentation. With the scrapbook beside me, I logged on to an Internet genealogy site and started my quest. And then I got hooked.

But it wasn't as easy as I thought it would be. By the time I got to the great-grandparent level, I found myself saying things like "my father's mother's mother" and "my mother's father's mother." And that was only going back three generations.

Forget about things like multiple marriages (couple marries and has children, one spouse dies, surviving spouse marries again and produces more children, spouse dies, another marriage, more children), which were quite common going back just 150 years or so.

Forget about convoluted relationships such as I found when two brothers (my grandfather and my grand-uncle) married two sisters (my grandmother and my grand-aunt) thus producing offspring who were double-cousins. And their children were related... how? I gave up on that one.

Forget about variant spellings of family names down through the years, not quite accurate entries in family Bibles, misspelled names on census records or tax rolls.

Never mind that if you are researching ancestors who lived in Newton County or others who lived in Boone County you have to know that both Newton and Boone were created at different times by carving sections out of Carroll County, leaving researchers using such terms as "mother counties" and "daughter counties."

Never mind any of that. Just assume a perfectly "normal," straightforward line of succession. Just three generations back results in eight great-grandparents. Go back four generations and you have 16 great-great-grandparents. That's geometric progression.

By the time you get back 10 generations (somewhere around the 1700s by my calculation), you would be a direct descendent of 1,024 ancestors. By the time you get back to the 1600s or late 1500s, you're looking at 16,384 ancestors and one more generation back takes it to 32,768.

If you trace your lineage back far enough, you'd have more ancestors than there were people on earth at the time. There's something wrong with the math here, unless we're dealing with census undercounts or overcounts.

Meanwhile, I finally documented that my great-grandfather, my mother's mother's father, served in the 14th Alabama Infantry and surrendered at Appomattox Courthouse. But that Gladden who served in the 8th Arkansas, I'm still trying to determine whether he was my father's father's father or my father's father's father's brother.

What's so confusing about that?  
Jack Gladden is a copy editor at the Observer Newspapers. His e-mail address is jgladden@oe.homecomm.net.



Loving and giving: Kelly Verellen (left) and Ali Cichon with some of the 400 books they collected and donated.

## STAR LIGHT, STAR BRIGHT

### Practicing the 'heart' of giving

STORY BY KIMBERLY A. MORISON • PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

This is the first profile in a series titled "Friday's Child." The staff of the Community Life section will present a story the first Thursday of every month that features a local young person who fits the childhood verse "Friday's child is loving and giving." We hope to recognize unique and special students who oftentimes act unselfishly for the benefit of others.

If you ask 14-year-old Kelly Verellen why she likes to help people, the answer is a long time in coming. "I don't know... I just do."

Kelly's mom, Laurie, says her daughter's humility has always prevailed over a need to be recognized for her kindhearted actions.

"She has a perspective on life that most kids her age don't. She has always talked about other people needing things and ways she can help," said Laurie Verellen. "It's the little things here and there that she's been able to do that have given her the most satisfaction."

Kelly, a ninth grader at Churchill High School in Livonia, started a crusade of sorts in 1997 with her best friend Ali Cichon. The pair have sponsored a picnic for Kelly's twin sisters girl scout troop whose proceeds benefit the charity of the girls' choice. They call themselves H.O.P.E.

"It means Helping Out People Everywhere," said Kelly. "We do it because we like helping people... it makes us feel good."

#### FRIDAY'S

said Ali.

The donations she and Ali have collected over the past three summers have come to benefit young patients at Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor and Catholic Social Services foster care program in Detroit.

Kelly said she and Ali just decided one day to organize a picnic for her sister's girl scout troop. Invitations, created by the pair, were sent out to all troop members asking them to come and enjoy snacks, games and prizes in exchange for a new toy. Due to the success of the event, the following summer they hosted a teddy bear picnic and gathered more than 50 new stuffed animals for the Ann Arbor children's hospital.

"We wanted to make the kids more comfortable while they were in the hospital," said Kelly.

Entirely organized and paid for by Kelly and Ali with money earned from their allowance and snow shoveling around their neighborhood — the girls still found time for hobbies, extra curricular activities and baby-sitting.

This past summer they held another picnic and collected books — 400 to be exact — that were recently donated to the Catholic Social Services office in Detroit.

According to Victoria Tyler, director of Child Welfare - Catholic Social Services, the donation was something the facility really needed for the visitation area of the office.

"The Boy Scouts recently came in and remodeled our whole visitation area. We were actually looking for books for the new shelves," said Tyler. "This donation is amazing."

She thinks the efforts by the two Livonia teenagers is very impressive. "To have the (insight) to think about collecting the books, that's amazing and the donation from Kelly and Ali is truly appreciated."

#### Future endeavors

With summer right around the corner Kelly said she and Ali haven't decided what kind of charity work they'll do this time around. Kelly would like to further her connection with Mott Children's Hospital by working in a volunteer program they have for students 14 and up.

"I want to keep helping people. I want to go to college and be a physical trainer or a radiologist," said Kelly.

The Livonia teenager is truly modest about her efforts but says her inspiration comes from a favorite short story called "The Starfish" (See related story).

"If I can be like that and just help one person at a time then that's what I'll do," said Kelly.

#### The Starfish

Once upon a time there was a wise man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing.

He had a habit of walking on the beach before he began his work.

One day he was walking along the shore. As he looked down the beach, he saw a human figure moving like a dancer. He smiled to himself to think of someone who would dance to the day.

So he began to walk faster to catch up. As he got closer, he saw that it was a young man and the young man wasn't dancing, but instead he was reaching down to the shore, picking up something and very gently throwing it into the ocean.

As he got closer he called out, "Good morning! What are you doing?" The young man paused, looked up and replied, "Throwing starfish in the ocean."

"I guess I should have asked, why are you throwing starfish in the ocean?"

"The sun is up and the tide is going out. And if I don't throw them in they'll die." "But, young man, don't you realize that there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it. You can't possibly make a difference."

The young man listened patiently. Then he bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea, past the breaking waves and said, "It made a difference for that one."

— author unknown

## Leave a Legacy offers opportunity for area charities

By STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER  
scasola@oe.homecomm.net

John Landis may not work as a teacher, but he's teaching people the importance of giving.

As co-chair of the Leave A Legacy campaign in southeast Michigan, the Livonia resident believes strongly in the act of giving, no matter who benefits. "This is one of the only campaigns that isn't asking for a specific donation for a specific cause."

Leave A Legacy-Southeast Michigan is a seven-county-wide educational effort benefiting all charities in southeast Michigan which encourages individuals to name a charity in their will. Program organizers consider it to be vital to the future financial status of arts organizations, religious groups,

educational institutions, health organizations and nonprofit agencies in the southeast Michigan area. As vice president of Investment Services for The Bank of Bloomfield Hills, Landis has been afforded the opportunity to spread the word about Leave A Legacy to individuals establishing trusts.

He doesn't tell people which charities or organizations to donate to; all decisions are their own. It's "getting people in the giving mode" that matters.

"There is no restriction on the charity you'd like to give to," said Landis. "This is free choice."

Overall people don't always think of including those charitable organizations in a trust or will. "I don't think they know how much money it costs to run a charitable organization," said Landis.

Some, he said, don't realize they can make a difference. But those who do give may leave all of their estate or a certain dollar amount. Leave A Legacy is not restricted to the affluent sectors of society.

David Barcus, executive director of development at Livonia's Schoolcraft College, said the program is aimed at "very normal people with very normal incomes who wish to make a legacy-type gift." "It's not just the wealthy," he said. "People should still think about family first."

"A gift always costs money, but leaving money in your will costs far less than the value of the gift."

Leave A Legacy-Southeast Michigan is sponsored by the Planned Giving Roundtable of Southeast Michigan, of which Barcus works as chapter treasurer.

■ "It's 'getting people in the giving mode' that matters."

John Landis

The Bank of Bloomfield Hills

sure. The Planned Giving Roundtable is made up of gift planners from area charities, and the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. It has been in existence for about 20 years and has chapters across the country. Leave A Legacy is its most visible program.

The campaign is meant to boost funding for nonprofit organizations that are forced to rely more and more

Please see LEGACY, B2

CRAFTS CALENDAR

If you would like to announce an upcoming craft show, bazaar, or arts boutique — items can be sent to: Crafts Calendar, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI, 48150 or e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net

TRUNK SHOW Prizewinning quilt artist Meena Schaldenbrand of Plymouth will be guest speaker for the Needlework and Textile Guild of Michigan at 9:30 a.m. April 11. The program will be a trunk show reflecting 20 years of work including personal story quilts, computer-generated quilts, group quilts, three-dimensional landscapes, portraits and quilted clothing. Even will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple Road in Birmingham. \$5 fee. Call (734) 475-5851.

SPRING SPECTACULAR Livonia Stevenson High School 93500 W. Six Mile Rd./1 block west of Farmington Rd. 2 miles north of I-96 will be the host site of the "Spring Spectacular Craft Show" from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sat. April 8. For information call: 248-478-2395 or 248-476-0315.

CREATIVE MEMORIES Join us from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 8 for a day of cropping, scrapbooking, and fun at the Bailey Center in Westland

(36651 Ford Road). Cost is \$20 per person and includes lunch, snacks, beverages and lots of other special goodies. Pre-register by March 28 and receive the exclusive, 96-page book "How to take great photo's with any camera." Limited space is available. Call to reserve a spot, Terry Saenz (734) 981-6577.

HANDCRAFTERS SHOW Handcrafters will be sponsoring its 18th annual Spring Arts and Craft Show on April 14-16 in Northville at the Northville Recreation Center, 303 W. Main St. Over 70 juried artists will display their talents with such works as florals, stained glass, baskets, wood items and clothing. Show hours are Friday, April 14, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, April 15, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, April 16 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lunch will be available. Admission is \$2. No baby strollers. For information call (734) 459-0050.

GARDEN GALA CRAFT SHOW Crafters are needed who specialize in yard and garden related crafts for the first "Garden Gala," May 20, at Memorial Elementary School in Garden City. If you are interested in participating call Rhonda, (734) 762-0183.

Listings for the Singles Calendar should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2131 or e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net

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

METROPOLITAN SINGLES PROFESSIONALS THE MSP invite you to meet new friends, dance and socialize from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. There will be a Top 40 D.J., cash bar and

hors d'oeuvres (8-9 p.m.) The ballrooms are non-smoking. Dance will be held Friday, April 14 at the Marriott Hotel in Livonia (6 Mile east of I-275 at Laurel Park Mall). Call (248) 851-9909.

FARMINGTON SINGLES The train ride is back. Join us for a train ride Saturday, April 22 between Dearborn and Ann Arbor with a stop over for dinner in one of Ann Arbor's most famous restaurants - the Gandy Dancer. Call for details (248) 851-9909.

SINGLES WELCOME Bethany Suburban West is a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance to divorced or separated Christians. Call (734) 981-4553 about the divorce recovery workshop. Monthly meetings are held the third Saturday of every month at 8 p.m. at St. Kenneth's Church, Haggerty Road (south of 5 Mile Road).

Tuesday's BSW goes to Thomas's Family Dining on Plymouth Road (east of Stark) at 7 p.m. on the first, third and fourth week of the month. The second Tuesday of the month the group meets at Vic's Family Diner at 7 p.m. for Birthday Night. (Vic's is one-half block north of Ford Road on Middlebelt). For information call (734)

981-4553. Every Sunday, the singles organization offers breakfast at 10 a.m. at the Redford Inn on the northwest corner of 5 Mile and Beech Daly roads in Redford, followed by mass at 11:15 a.m. at St. Aidan's Catholic Church on Farmington Road in Livonia. Call (734) 729-1974. Divorce Recovery Workshop (eight consecutive weeks) to begin soon. For information call Diane at (734) 981-4553. Coffee & Conversation every Tuesday at 7 p.m. Contact Diane at (734) 981-4553 for location. Pinochle every other Friday, contact Diane for location.

CHRISTIAN SINGLES Attention singles - Christian Singles Today Interactive Saturday Fellowship is held from 7-11 p.m. at the Church of the Savior (Five Mile Road at Newburgh) in Livonia. Call (248) 478-1410 for information.

YOUNG SINGLES Attention young singles ages 17-29. Join us at the Christian Singles Music Cafe every Saturday from 7-11 p.m. at The Jesus Center, 20911 Inkster Road in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 478-1410 for information.

WESTSIDE SINGLES DANCE Every Friday WestSide Singles hosts a dance at Burton Manor in Livonia (Schoolcraft west of Inkster Road) from 8 p.m. to 1

a.m. Must be over 21, and dressy attire (no jeans). Open to the public. A deejay will be playing Top 40 music and current hits. Appetizers will be served. Early admission special \$4 before 8:30 p.m. and \$6 after. For information please call (734) 981-0909.

WEDNESDAY SUBURBAN SINGLES Wednesday Suburban Singles Dance Parties Inc., meet every Wednesday at The Warren Chateau Banquet Center (10 Mile Road one block east of Mound) in Warren from 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Open to the public - ages 21 and up. Proper attire is recommended (no jeans). The Single Mingle Dance costs \$5; \$4 before 8:30 p.m. For information call the hotline at (313) 842-0443.

SUNDAY SUBURBAN SINGLES Sunday Suburban Singles Dance Parties Inc. meets every Sunday at The Warren Chateau Banquet Center (10 Mile road one block east of Mound) in Warren from 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Event is open to the public for ages 21 and up. Proper attire is recommended (no jeans). Cost is \$5; \$4 before 8:30 p.m. For information call (313) 842-0443.

SINGLE POINT MINISTRIES Single (30 years and older) and feeling alone? Single Point Ministries of Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church (40000 Six Mile Rd., Northville) (248) 374-5920.

Legacy from page B1

on public support. "Michigan is a very giving state," assured Landis. While 81.5 percent of people in southeast Michigan do give annually, according to Leave A Legacy literature, only 2.8 percent bequest at death. "Today there is a tax benefit for people

making a gift to their estate," said Landis. "My fear is if we ever take that tax benefit away, will people still give?" Barcus believes "people would rather control (where the money goes) than let the public do it." For Landis, it's a matter of

community involvement. Those involved in schools, churches or charitable organizations understand where funds are needed and may be more likely to bequest. The Leave A Legacy program, established in 1995 by the

Franklin County Planned Giving Roundtable in Ohio, was meant to do what individual charities could not do alone - reach all citizens with a message to leave something to charity in a will or estate plan. The program was adopted in

southeast Michigan more than two years ago, but its focus remains on raising awareness. "The goal for the future is certainly looking at expanding it," said Barcus. "We want to have more support from lawyers, C.P.A.'s and attorneys who think

supporting Leave A Legacy is a good idea." For more information about the program, call Leave A Legacy at (888) 826-7900 or (248) 569-9702.

HomeTown SAVINGS CARD advertisement featuring various discounts for automotive, beauty, home improvement, and other services. Includes a 'Great Discounts when you present your HomeTown Savings Card to these area businesses!' headline and a 'LOOK FOR OUR DECAL IN THE WINDOW!' instruction. Lists numerous businesses and their respective discounts.



ENGAGEMENTS AND WEDDINGS

Peters-Toth

Robert and Nancy Peters of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Melanie Jill, to Gilbert Roland Toth of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1990 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School, a 1994 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in history and human resources. She works as a human resources specialist for Sterling Bank and Trust.

Her fiancé, son of John Toth of Florida and Helen Toth of Lincoln Park, is a 1987 graduate of Lincoln Park High School, a 1992 graduate of Wayne State University with a bachelor's degree in finance and business economics. He works at Capital



Investment Group as a general sales manager. An August wedding is planned on Mackinac Island.

Beaver-Weaver

Mitch and Molly Beaver of Illinois announce the engagement of their daughter, Kathryn Elizabeth, to Christopher John Weaver.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Northwestern High School in Indiana and a senior at DePauw University. She will graduate in May.

Her fiancé, son of Kirk and Ginny Weaver of Canton, is a graduate of Springfield High School in Illinois and attends DePauw University. He too will graduate in May.



A June wedding is planned at First United Methodist Church in Springfield, Illinois.

Beale-Roeske

Megan Carrie Beale, daughter of Eileen M. Beale and the late Jon P. Beale of Livonia, is engaged to Peter Walter Roeske of Ann Arbor.

The bride-to-be is a 1992 Stevenson High School graduate, a 1996 graduate of Madonna University, and achieved her master's degree from Central Michigan University in 1998. She works as a technical recruiter.

Her fiancé, son of Paul and Joan Roeske of Ann Arbor, is a 1985 University of Michigan graduate and achieved his master's degree in business administration in 1998 from Loyola University in Chicago. He works for ABN AMRO Mortgage Group.



A June wedding is planned at Mill Race Historic Village with a reception to follow at Northville Manor.

Hidey-Flick

Melvin and Kathleen Hidey of Dearborn Heights announce the engagement of their daughter, Christine, to Joseph Flick of Garden City.

The bride-to-be is a 1997 Crestwood High School graduate and attends Eastern Michigan University studying social work. She works in Belleville.

Her fiancé, son of Orval and Sharon Flick of Garden City, is a 1996 graduate of Garden City High School and attends Schoolcraft College studying to become a firefighter. He works at Panther-Crankshaft in Wixom.



A June wedding is planned at Whitmore Lake.

Wood-Geisler

Former resident of the Plymouth-Canton area, Kimberly Sheree Wood wed Stephen Robert Geisler of Mooresville, North Carolina Dec. 18, 1999, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Tuscaloosa, Ala. The Rev. Timothy Killion presided.

The bride, daughter of Kenneth L. Wood and Debra Taylor of Pensacola, Fla., was attended by maid of honor Lara McCauley and bridesmaids Monica Grave-line and Stephanie Woodard.

Her husband, son of Allan A. Geisler of Dearborn and Sylvia Wells of North Carolina, was attended by best man David Van Dyke of Kalamazoo and groomsmen Richard Frankowski and William Lunsford.



Following the wedding trip to Cancun, Mexico, the couple will reside in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Noone-Gonter

Michael and Kathleen Noone of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Maureen, to Kevin Gonter of California.

The bride-to-be is a 1991 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School, a 1994 graduate of University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She has a bachelor of arts degree in linguistics and psychology. She received her masters degree in communicative disorders from University of Wisconsin in Madison in 1997. She works as a speech-language pathologist in southern California.

Her fiancé, son of Joan Gonter of Maryland, is a 1984 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Maryland, a 1988 graduate of the United States Naval Academy with a bachelor's degree in ocean engineering. He works as a business development manager



A May wedding is planned at Newburg Church at Greenmead Historical Village.

ANNIVERSARIES

Smith

Matthew Scott and Melissa Lee (Ballios) Smith of Livonia are celebrating their first anniversary this month. They wed on March 26, 1999 at Greenmead Historical Village.

The couple have lived in the area for three years, but have known each other since high school.

Matthew Smith is store manager of Shurgard Storage, Inc. and Melissa works as a service specialist for Citizens Insurance Corporation. Both attend Schoolcraft College.

The couple hopes to return to



the Caribbean, where they spent their honeymoon.

Saylor

The Rev. Melvin Saylor and his wife, Thelma Westfelt Saylor will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in May.

The couple wed on May 6, 1950 in Kitts, Kentucky and now live in Wayne. They have been residents of the area for 40 years and are the parents of Claudia Hensley, Buddy Saylor, Brenda McIntosh and Ken Saylor.

Melvin Saylor is retired from his position at Ford Motor Company's Livonia Transmission Plant and spends time with a ministry.

The Saylor's have 14 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. The family is planning an anniversary party.



Smith-Timmer

Al Smith of Ann Arbor and Dian Barnard of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Penelope Sue Smith, to Donald H. Timmer II of Ohio.

The bride-to-be is a 1994 graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School and will graduate in May from Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

Her fiancé, son of David and Sharon Timmer of Mansfield, Ohio, is a 1996 graduate of Clear Fork High School in Bellville, Ohio. He will also graduate in May from MSU with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

A May wedding is planned at Resurrection Parish in Lexington, Ohio.



at Village Marine Tech in southern California.

NEW ARRIVALS

Richann McKee and Daniel Farhat of Westland announce the birth of their son Anthony Michael Farhat born March 20 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center - Wayne. Anthony joins siblings Kevin, 11; Brandon, 8; Edina, 7; and Leanna, 5. Grandparents are Sam and Peggy Farhat of Garden City and Marion Kraatz of Fla.

Rhonda and Philip Hotz of Canton announce the birth of their son Devin Robert, born March 13 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Devin joins sister Alexis, 7. Grandmother is Shirley Barthold of Canton and great-grandmother Anna Barthold of Canton.

Patrick and Marybeth Butler of Westland announce the birth of their son, Sean Patrick, born Feb. 10 at Providence Hospital in Southfield. He joins sister Maureen Sinead, 2. Grandparents are Ruth Ann and Pierce Butler of Westland and Janet and John Dillon of Redford Township.

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# Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame honors Detroit Women Writers



**HOOKED ON HISTORY**  
**VIRGINIA PARKER**

This April, Detroit Women Writers has the honor of being inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame. That's no small feat since it took us 100 years to get there.

It was exactly one century ago, in 1900, that 13 Detroit-area women journalists and literary writers gathered for a leisurely boat ride along the Detroit River. They needed a rest, having just hosted the third annual Women's International Press Union Convention.

One of the convention's speakers had praised these local writers for their potential as leaders and challenged them to take that lead. No wonder. One tenth of the 1,000 women journalists in the U.S. at that time lived in Michigan! There was another reason. Men had formed press clubs in a number of American cities, but women were excluded from membership.

To partially fill the void, the New England Woman's Press

Association and the Woman's Press Club of New York had been formed in the 1880s. In the early 1890s, the Michigan Woman's Press Association and a Michigan Woman's Press Club for women editors and publishers statewide were established. However, the 13 illustrious writers wanted a press club in the city, so, in the middle of the Detroit River, they formed the Detroit Press Club.

They didn't keep the appellation long. When male journalists decided to create their own press club four years later, the ladies politely yielded the coveted name to them. Several name changes followed. Known since 1966 as Detroit Women Writers, it is now the oldest organization of professional writers in Michigan.

**Diverse membership**

Currently, our members live in 14 states and the province of Ontario. We run the gamut from poets to playwrights, fiction to nonfiction writers, and authors of both adult and children's literature. One of my great privileges was serving as president of this diverse organization in the mid-1990s.

It was not our writings alone

that earned DWW a place in the Journalism Hall of Fame. We also actively support established, and aspiring writers in the general public by sponsoring seminars, readings, and conferences. The most notable is our 40-year tradition of co-sponsoring with Oakland University an annual writers' conference of 400-500 attendees. We have, as well, celebrated our centennial anniversary by sharing our legacy of literary influence in the anthology, *A Century of Voices*.

If we look beneath the surface, we find that both DWW's history and wealth of literary offerings chronicle changes in society at large. As I mentioned, the Detroit Press Club's female founders — despite their professional credentials — were vulnerable to a social climate that

condoned letting male colleagues usurp the organization's identity.

Sixty years later — the next time a social stand was at stake — the members were ready. That was in 1966, at the height of the Civil Rights Movement. DWW was meeting at the Woman's City Club, home to one of the city's best restaurants. The facility had an unwritten but effective exclusionary rule. Only Whites were allowed above the first floor. DWW was anticipating admitting our first African-American member, so we revised our constitution to say, "There shall be no consideration of race, creed, or national origin." When DWW requested the City Club to change its policy and it refused, DWW refused to continue patronizing it. The dispute made the newspapers, which resulted in the governor's wife, Lenore Romney, resigning from the City Club over its policies.

By the 1990s, we broke new barriers when we admitted qualified male writers to DWW membership. This brought us somewhat full-circle. DWW started out because women, excluded from membership alongside male colleagues, had to form their own press club. Ninety years later — in keeping with strides to promote equality between the sexes — we felt that limiting our professional organization to women writers was exclusionary in its own right, so we opened membership to men.

Whenever significant changes need to occur or specific voids need to be filled, motivated peo-

ple take action. Sometimes their impact is as fleeting as a momentary breeze. Other times, they are powerful enough to change the way society does business. For the 13 women who made a decision on the Detroit River in 1900, only time would tell how well their efforts would endure.

As DWW enters its second century, we will undoubtedly continue to mirror society's transformations. One challenge comes from the mushrooming number of activities that compete for the time the public might devote to reading and writing. Fortunately, DWW's writers have a strong heritage. We are committed to producing valuable works that will compel the public to read.

## FUND-RAISING & BENEFITS

**Listings for the Funds & Benefits should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-7279. Call (734) 953-2131.**

**INDOOR OPEN**

United Cerebral Palsy Metropolitan Detroit is presenting the first ever INDOOR OPEN to benefit UCP from 12 to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 8. This unique fund-raising event is a nine-hole indoor miniature golf outing, where each hole is located in one of nine participating businesses located in Downtown Royal Oak. Golfers can pick up registration forms for the event at any one of the participating businesses or call UCP at (248) 557-5970 or (800) 827-4843. The cost is \$25 per golfer or \$100 per team. AirTouch Cellular and Papa John's Pizza are the co-sponsors with UCP.

**MONOPOLY GAME**

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (37775 Palmer Road) in Westland will offer life size monopoly from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 8 for \$5 per person for one-half hour of play. This is a fundraiser for a mission trip for the high school youth of Prince of Peace.

**A JOINT WALK**

The third annual A Joint Walk to benefit the Arthritis Foundation of Michigan will take place Saturday, April 8 in Royal Oak and Sunday, April 9 in Ann Arbor. Individual walkers or teams of four or more can register by calling (800) 968-3030. Walkers will receive prizes based on the amount of money they raise by collecting pledges from friends, family and co-workers.

**SPRING RUMMAGE**

Aldersgate United Methodist Women will have their Annual Spring Rummage Sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 8 at the church located at 10000 Beech Drive between Plymouth Road and West Chicago in Redford. White on plates, kitchen equipment, small appliances, toys and books will be sold from Wesley Hall. Clothing of all sizes will be in Fellowship Hall, with special women's garments in the boutique section. Proceeds will be used for church and district missionary projects.

**FUN FAIR**

St. John Bosco School located in Redford will host a fun fair, craft, bingo, games and coffee and evening raffle. Prizes include a vacation stay at the Island House on Mackinac Island, one night stay at the Bayview Inn, Frankenmuth, antique set of Red Wings park, dinner for two at Kona at Bayview in Livonia and more. Call (734) 484-5525 for reservations.

Children are needed in several spaces. St. John Bosco is located at 11110 Beech Dr., Redford.

**RUMMAGE BAKE SALE**

Church of the United Methodist Church, 5909 Midway, Livonia will host a rummage and bake sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 8 and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 9. Call (734) 953-2131.

**MOM TO MOM SALE**

Mom to Mom Sale at New Hope United Methodist Church from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 12. The day

drink, bake sale and clown with free face painting. Rent 8 foot tables (tables also available). Free childcare for table rents and free lunch ticket for table renters. Call the church at 422-0149 or Vicki at (734) 513-0167.

**RUMMAGE SALE**

The United Methodist Women of First United Methodist Church (6443 Merriman Road in Garden City) will hold their annual rummage sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 29 in the church Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call (734) 421-8628.

**SPRING RUMMAGE SALE**

Hosanna Tabor Lutheran Church in Redford will host a spring rummage sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 29 (9600 Leverne). Bag sale is from 1-2 p.m. including a snack bar.

**LONGEST DAY OF GOLF**

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society (Michigan Chapter, Inc.) will host the MS Longest Day of Golf event May 1-31 to raise awareness and funds to benefit the Michigan Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Golf courses waive green fees for participating golfers on the day of their choice in May. Play as many holes as you can while collecting pledges to support MS. Call (800) 243-5767 to register.

**GILDA'S BIG NIGHT OUT II**

Gilda's Club Metro Detroit invites you to Gilda's Big Night Out II featuring comedian Jeffrey Ross with host Gene Taylor of *Oldies 104.3*. A silent auction extraordinaire and strolling supper will be featured by Catering By Excellence Too as well as a cash bar. Even will be held Wednesday, May 3 at Temple Beth El (7490 Telegraph Road at 14 Mile) in Bloomfield Hills. For information call (248) 577-0898.

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# Gain peace knowing you put faith in God to take care of things

God would take care of everything. With that confidence, the parents of the McCaughey septuplets began a life that most of us cannot imagine. Through the media blitz and intense interest of the American public two years ago this new family has made it clear in interview after interview that they give God the credit for the health of their seven babies and their own sense of peace throughout this challenging time.

I remember I was impressed that every probing question, meant to illustrate how overwhelming their situation must be, was answered with complete assurance that God was in control; that this God would be

seen in ways to handle every problem. This included turning to God on two separate occasions when an infant's life was in danger.

The doctors felt there was nothing medically left to do, so a "prayer phone chain" was used to alert fellow church members of the need for support through turning to God. Both times the healing came - saving the life of these two babies.

In one interview, when talking about their faith, the father referred to the Bible where it says that whatever you ask in prayer, if you believe, you shall receive (Matthew 21:22). He was sure these children would be saved because they truly

believed that God would heal them.

For many, this kind of faith seems far-fetched and healings like this family experienced appear to be miracles. But to anyone who has ever found healing through prayer it is as natural as breathing and can be more reliable than anything on Earth.

The laws of God are not possessed by any one religious organization or faith but are fact that can be proven by anyone who reaches out to understand them, applies them, and is willing to trust God with the events of their life. In describing the glory of the septuplets birth, one of the head doctors, with tears of grati-

tude, stated that some people think God is an abstract thing, but he isn't.

**Personal account**

As a practicing Christian Scientist, I have experienced and witnessed innumerable physical healings, even in life-threatening situations. These healings have come from the genuine understanding that God is loving and powerful; that He is good, and that His ever-present and tender control can be seen and felt in everyone's life.

When I was pregnant with my first child, the doctor who assisted me became very concerned that my blood pressure was high

and other symptoms were indicating physical dangers such as toxemia, which could be life-threatening. Her earnest opinion was that I should take it easy, keep my feet up and relax.

Turning to God, I could feel that this baby and I were totally in His loving care. Since God is the one true creator and parent of both me and my baby, He would never let us be in danger. I reasoned that good activities (such as my teaching job) are impelled by God, so this divine spirit provides all the energy I needed. This gave me confidence to go about my job without fear.

The day of my next exam, even though I taught a full day of ele-

mentary school on a hot day and then rushed across town to my appointment, my blood pressure registered completely normal. The problems never returned and a happy, healthy daughter was born shortly thereafter.

All of us can be assured that we can turn to God's support and care in every situation!

*Meg Dendler teaches literature to 5-8th graders at The Japhet School in Madison Heights and is a member of the Plymouth-Canton Character Counts Organization. She is currently serving a three-year tenure as First Reader at the Christian Science church in Plymouth and can be reached at dendlers@aol.com*

## RELIGION CALENDAR

**FOR THIS CAUSE**

The Associated Bible Students of Metropolitan Detroit will present, free of charge, the film documentary "For This Cause: Talk a Walk with the Nazarene," at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 15 at Garden City High School (6500 Middlebelt Road). Take a trip back to biblical times and walk with the man from Galilee. "For This Cause" connects the bible with archeology and modern Israel. Trace bible prophecies down to our very day, marking the soon establishment of the kingdom for which Jesus taught us to pray. Program runs 60 minutes then there is a Q & A session and book sales. For information call (734) 762-8350.

**EVENING CLASSES**

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Westland (37775 Palmer) has several fun classes planned through the month of May on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. They include gardening, April 10 and 17; cake decorating, May 1, 8, and 15; and Saturday, May 20, candy making at 10 a.m.

**UCF SUNDAY SERVICES:** Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington Sunday Services for April 9: "What are we doing for our kids?" Rev. Bob Renjilian

will talk about the values and support that UU's offer to kids in a society of many pressures and mixed messages. After each service he will be available to talk with parents and other interested adults to continue discussion around the subject. Services and Sunday School at 9 and 11 a.m. 25301 Halsted Rd. (between Grand River and 11 mile). Call (248) 478-7272 or www.wwnet.net/~uucf/

**REDEEMED TREASURES**

(Sponsored by Detroit Teen Challenge) is open most Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. year-round. The shop is at 20740 Grand River (1.5 miles east of Telegraph). While browsing, you can have your car washed and detailed for a donation. Call (313) 531-0111 Monday through Friday or Saturday at (313) 535-1359.

**SUMMER CAMP**

Registration has begun at Christ Our Savior in Livonia for summer camp and fall classes. The church offers Christian programs for children ages 18 months to kindergarten during the school year and up through age 8 during the summer. For information, please call Wendy at (734) 513-8413.

**LENTEN SERIES**

Pastor Gregory Gibbons will present a series of Lenten services based on the theme "What Wondrous Love," at Lola Park Evangelical Lutheran Church in Redford (14750 Kinloch, south of Five Mile and west of Beech Daly). Services are each Wednesday at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. The series will culminate in Holy Week. Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion will begin at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Good Friday services will begin at 1 p.m. and a Tennebrae service at 7:30 p.m. The celebration of Easter will feature services at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Breakfast at 9:30 a.m.

**LENTEN BREAKFAST**

St. Maurice Women's Guild will host a "Lenten Breakfast" on Wednesday, April 12. The activity starts with Mass at 8:30 a.m. followed by a full buffet breakfast. Glenda Everett will speak about the "Yellow Ribbon" program to prevent youth suicide. St. Maurice Church is at 32765 Lyndon, east of Farmington Road, in Livonia. Ticket price is \$6.50 per person. Advanced ticket sales only. Call (734) 425-1701.

**LENTEN SERVICES**

Lenten services will be held at Good Hope Lutheran Church (28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City) each Wednesday before Holy Week at 7 p.m. preceded by a soup supper at 6 p.m. Other worship services include 7 p.m. Thursday, April 20; 7 p.m. Friday, April 21; vigil of Easter worship at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 22, and Easter Sunday worship at 8:20 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, April 23.

**MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES**

St. John's Lutheran Church of Redford will hold mid-week worship services on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and Thursdays at 7 p.m. during Lent. Wednesday dates are April 12. Services will be in the chapel. Thursday services will be preceded by light supper at 6 p.m., worship at 7 p.m. Dates are April 6 and 13. All services will include the sacrament of Holy Communion. St. John's Lutheran is at 13542 Mercedes, one block east of Inkster Road. Call (313) 538-2660.

**LENTEN SERVICES**

The Stations of the Cross will be observed every Friday night at 7 p.m. at St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church (23310 Joy, Redford; five blocks east of Telegraph). Call (313) 534-2121. A video tape of one of Bishop Fulton J. Sheen's retreats will be shown in the church hall after the Stations of the Cross each week of Lent. Anyone may attend.

**LENTEN DINNERS**

St. Agatha Church of Redford (19750 Beech Daly) will offer Lenten dinners every Friday during Lent, 3-8 p.m. Dine in and carry out. Senior discount from 3-5 p.m. Children's menu available. Call (313) 531-0371.

**LENTEN SERVICES**

St. James Presbyterian (25350 W. Six Mile, Redford Township) will hold Lenten services every Wednesday evening through April 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel. Maundy Thursday services, including communion, are at 7:30 p.m. April 20. For more

information, call (313) 534-7730.

**EASTER CAMTATA**

"Embrace the Cross" by Claire Cloninger and Greg Nelson will be presented as the Easter Cantata at 6 p.m. Sunday, April 16, at the Gathering (Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, Livonia). Choral work is presented by the Chancel Choir of Clarenceville United Methodist Church, under the direction of Kathy Gardinali and Brian Marr. Call (248) 474-3444.

**LENTEN SCHEDULE**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (39020 Five Mile, Livonia) will offer Lenten service at 6:45 p.m. every Wednesday through April 12. Palm Sunday service is April 16 at 8:30 and 11 a.m.; a prayer vigil service will be held during Holy Week at 7:30 p.m. April 18, April 19, healing service at 7:30 p.m.; April 20 is Maundy Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; Good Friday Interfaith service at noon April 21; Good Friday Tennebrae at 7:30 p.m. April 21; Easter vigil

Please see RELIGION, B8

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**Artists Wanted.**

**RESA**

# Religion from page B7

and baptism service at 7:30 p.m. April 22 and Easter Sunday services at 6 a.m. (sunrise communion); 8 a.m. communion service with choir; 9:45 a.m. instrumentalists and a joyful Eucharist; and 11:30 a.m.

**LENTEN MEAL**  
St. Genevieve Parish of Livonia will offer a Lenten meal April 7 and 14 from 5-7 p.m. Menu includes baked fish, potato salad, all-you-can-eat soup and salad. Macaroni and cheese offered as a children's meal. Cost is \$6 for adults; \$3.50 for children ages 6-12 and 5 and younger eat free. St. Genevieve is at 29015 Jamison.

**PASSOVER SEDER**  
Congregation Bet Chaverim will hold its fourth annual Passover potluck seder at the Hanford Clubhouse. The clubhouse is on Hanford between Ford and Warren roads. The seder will begin at 6:45 p.m. Thursday, April 20. The seder will be conducted by Rabbi Peter Gluck. Families are welcome. Call (734) 480-8880 to describe what dish you would like to bring.

**LENTEN BREAKFAST**  
The United Methodist Women of First United Methodist Church (6443 Merriman, Garden City) will serve their annual Lenten breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, April 15, in the church Fellowship Hall. The Rev. Melanie Carey, associate pastor of Livonia Newburg United Methodist Church, will be the guest speaker. A donation will be taken at the breakfast. Reservations requested, Call (734) 421-8628.

**LENTEN WORSHIP**  
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church invites the public to reflect upon "Prayers of the Passion" during Wednesday evening Lenten services from 7:30-8 p.m. until April 12. Midweek classes and confirmation instruction will be 6-7:20 p.m. during Lent. The church is at 14175 Farmington Road next to Ford Field, just north of I-96.

**BROADWAY HITS**  
Two evening shows of Broadway favorites will be performed at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 7 and 8, at the Westland Stake Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (7575 N. Hix, Westland). Featuring hits from "Guys & Dolls," "Fiddler on the Roof," "West Side Story," "Annie," "Oklahoma,"

"The Secret Garden," "The Music Man," "Oliver," "My Fair Lady" and "Les Miserables." Public welcome. Free admission. No tickets required.

**BLOODMOBILE**  
The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at Orchard United Methodist Church (30450 Farmington Road between 13 and 14 Mile) from 2-7:45 p.m. Monday, April 10, in the Fellowship Hall. For further information, call (248) 626-3620.

**REFRESHMENT OCCASION**  
Geneva Presbyterian Church will host The Knox Fellowship Team, a group of inspiration Christians, led by the Rev. Scott Bohr. The group, along with the Rev. Bryan Smith, pastor of Geneva, will lead the congregation during a spiritual refreshment occasion beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the church April 8-9. The team will be sharing faith journey reports, music and a challenging "think-it-over" session. The program will continue on Sunday morning with worship, counseling, rousing music and inspirational preaching.

**SPIRITUAL ELDERING WORKSHOP**  
The Holy Trinity Lutheran Church workshop is meant for members of the church who want to use their life experience to nurture, heal or affect a younger generation and this world. It is intended for those who seek deeper meaning in later life and seek ways to enrich their elder years. Presenters provided by the Spiritual Eldering Institute. The workshop will be 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday April 11, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. The registration fee for the series is \$30. Call (734) 464-0211.

**HOMEcoming & REVIVAL**  
A "homecoming" service will begin at 11 a.m. Sunday, April 9, at the Community Free Will Baptist Church of Westland. The morning program will begin with Sunday school at 10 a.m. with classes for all ages. After the 11 a.m. service, the congregation will serve a dinner in the church gymnasium. After the meal, a time of fellowship and song will follow in the church sanctuary. A "revival" series of services will begin at 7 p.m. April 26-28 with Rev. Paul Ange of North Carolina as the evangelist. The church is at 33031 Cherry Hill just west of Venoy in Westland.

**ECUMENICAL LENTEN GATHERINGS**  
"Opening Our Hearts to Christ - Jubilee 2000" will begin with noon services on the Wednesdays of Lent followed by a luncheon of bread and soup. All services will be at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 710 Church in Plymouth. Worship leaders/lunch providers are: April 12, Salvation Army. Donations to cover the cost of lunch benefit the Greater Detroit Partnership for Training (a national initiative that addresses primary health care shortages).

**MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES**  
April 12 at 7 p.m. at Timothy Lutheran Church of Livonia (8820 Wayne Road). Weekly prayer and discussion about the five-session "God is Here" video series from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Each week allows for personal and group reflections on worship. Children may participate. Reservations are not necessary.

**NEW BEGINNINGS**  
St. Matthew's United Methodist Church in Livonia offers a year-round grief support group and this new Thursday speaker series, beginning with the Rev. Kurt Stutz of Botsford Hospital with "Healing Grief" April 6; the Rev. Phil Seymour on "Dreams, Visions and Images" May 4; and Warren Gilbert's "Managing Memories" June 1. The series is free and open to the public. Call (734) 422-6038.

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**  
Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other. The weekend experiences will be April 7-9 and May 5-7 at the St. John's Family Life Center, 44011 Five Mile, Plymouth Township. The registration fee is \$50. Call Bill and Carol at (248) 528-2512 or Dan and Debbie at (810) 286-5524 or visit this Web site: www.rc.net/detroit/wme. "The Marriage Journey" is broadcast 8:30-9 a.m. Sundays on WCAR 1090 AM.

**RESPONDING TO LOSS**  
If you are experiencing a loss due to a death, divorce, job termination, broken relationship, declining health or broken dreams, this workshop will address your concerns. Responding to Loss will be 10 a.m. to 4

p.m. Saturday, April 8. Cost is \$15, which includes lunch, coffee breaks and a folder of materials. Call to register: (734) 721-7410.

**CCW/AD ASSEMBLY**  
The Council of Catholic Women/Archdiocese of Detroit Assembly will be 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at Sacred Heart Seminar, corner of Chicago Boulevard and Linwood in Detroit. The theme is "Jubilee Women Open Your Heart: Time, Talent and Treasure." For information and to register, call (313) 237-5896. Cost is \$20 for registration/ luncheon.

**HOLY WEEK WORSHIP**  
The Great Three Days - Maundy Thursday worship at 7:30 p.m.; Good Friday Tennebrae at 7:30 p.m.; and Easter Vigil at 7:30 p.m.; The Day of Resurrection: Easter breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and Easter festival workshop at 10:30 a.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (26212 W. Six Mile) in Redford.

**EASTER EGG HUNT**  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (26212 W. Six Mile) in Redford will host an Easter egg hunt at 11 a.m. (arrive 15 minutes early) Saturday, April 22. Karaoke singing, Easter basket raffle and flower sale.

**HERALD AWARDS DINNER**  
The Herald Awards dinner will be Wednesday, April 26, at the Costick Center (29800 11 Mile, east of Middlebelt - behind Mercy High School). All winners will be notified in advance so they can invite family and friends. The cost for the evening is \$25 per person. Creative Catering of Flint. Reservations can be made through the council office at (313) 962-0340.

**HEALING SERVICES**  
The Rev. Gary Seymour offers healing services for the series titled "Rise and Come Forward" the third Wednesday evening of each month at the Church of the Risen Lord, 821 N. Newburgh in Westland. Call (734) 397-7132.

**THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY**  
Thursday Bible studies at Timothy Lutheran Church are available from 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The morning study is led by members of the congregation, and the evening study is led by the pastor. Timothy Lutheran Church is at 8820 Wayne Road in Livonia. Call (734) 427-2290 or visit www.timothyilivonia.com

**NEW LIFE LUTHERAN**  
New Life Lutheran Church worships at 10:15 a.m. Sunday at Bird School, 220 N. Sheldon. Sunday school is also offered. Please call (734) 459-8181 or e-mail the church at newlifelc@yahoo.com

**NEW BIBLE STUDY**  
Adults interested in a complete overview of the scriptures may attend a Bible study at 9:15 a.m. Sundays at New Life Lutheran Church at Bird School, 220 N. Sheldon. Call (734) 459-8181 or e-mail newlifelc@yahoo.com

**TAI CHI CLASSES**  
The Taoist Tai Chi Society, a nonprofit organization, is forming new, beginner tai chi classes, at 38121 Ann Arbor Road, Livonia, St. Paul United Methodist Church in Bloomfield and Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills. Observers welcome. For more information, call the Taoist Tai Chi Society at (248) 332-1281. Tai chi is an exercise that works all of the body's systems deeply and gently, making it an exercise suitable for persons of all ages and conditions of health.

**TAI CHI**  
Tai chi classes continue at 7:30 p.m. at Nativity United Church for the class every Monday evening. Tai chi is a holistic health method of self-healing. Instructor is registered nurse Ida Reifsnnyder.

**TLC STORY TIME**  
For children and their parents TLC Story time 3-4 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at Timothy Lutheran Church of Livonia (8820 Wayne Road). Crafts, Christian

stories and snacks offered. Children invited to bring parents. The books are chosen for ages 3-10 but children of all ages are welcome. Call (734) 427-2290 for information.

**HEALING SERVICE**  
The Church of the Risen Lord presents a healing service at 7:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month at the church, 821 N. Newburgh, south of Ford, Westland. The service, led by the Rev. Gary Seymour, is part of the series of healing services, "Rise and Come Forward." For more information, call the church office at (734) 397-7132.

**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP**  
Garden City Presbyterian Church offers a contemporary worship service at 9:15 a.m. the second and fourth Sundays of the month at the church, 1841 Middlebelt, between Ford and Cherry Hill roads, Garden City. The contemporary service offers upbeat music and an informal atmosphere.

**REARRIED GROUP**  
The Remarried Ministries of North Presbyterian Church in Northville offers an informal, drop-in support group for those struggling with the issues of a blended family. The group is hosted by the Rev. Paul Clough and meets 7-8:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month in Room C309 of the church, 40000 Six Mile at Haggerty. There is no cost, and registration isn't necessary. For more information, call Stacy Cole at (248) 374-5912.

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**Birch Run champions**



**Flying high:** Goaltender Matt Tuttle allowed just six goals in five games en route to MVP honors as the Livonia Flyers captured the Squirt B championship recently in the NHL Skate at the Birch Run End of the Year Tournament. Derek Bower and Scott Sergison scored goals for the Flyers in a 2-1 victory in the finals over the Livonia Coyotes. The Flyers also defeated the Troy Northstars (4-1), Gaylord Wildcats (6-0) and the Muskegon Chiefs (5-1). Their only loss was a 3-2 setback to the Birch Run Rangers. Bower led the Flyers with seven tournament goals, while Sergison and Ryan Baratano contributed four and three, respectively. Tom Shkrel, Nathan Dust, Erik Rebee, Bill Streicher and Jeremy Diamond added one each. Danny Dugan and Kevin Ruzylko chipped in with assists. The defense was led by Justin Okerstrom, Don Saska, Eric DeWulf, Bill Streicher and Ted Makoz. Defenseman Justin Rocheleau did not play due to a broken ankle. The Flyers are coached by Don Miller. His assistants include Bob Bower, Mark Tuttle and Jeff Sergison. The team manager is Tricia Bower. Sponsors include Okerstrom Roofing and Pioneer Mortgage.

# Whalers finish off Guelph

Started slow, but the finish was fast and decisive.

After losing the first two games of their best-of-seven opening series in the Ontario Hockey League playoffs, the Plymouth Whalers regrouped. An 8-0 trouncing of the Guelph Storm last Wednesday (March 29) got them righted; on Tuesday at Guelph, the Whalers ended the series by stopping the Storm, 5-1.

Justin Williams continued his red-hot play with a goal and an assist, but this game belonged to Stephen Weiss, who scored two goals and assisted on another.

Once again, the Whalers sent Guelph goalie Chris Madden — who was instrumental in their first two defeats — to the sidelines early by scoring three first-period goals.

Williams gave Plymouth an early lead, scoring at 5:09 of the first period with assists from

## OHL PLAYOFFS

Weiss and Chris Cava. Kris Vernarsky made it 2-0 with an unassisted goal at 14:19, and 1:44 later Weiss increased that lead to 3-0, assists going to Williams and Cava.

Weiss' second goal, scored before the second period was a minute old, pushed Plymouth's advantage to 4-0. Cole Jarrett assisted.

The Storm got their only goal of the game with three seconds left in the second period from Joe Gerbe.

Stephen Morris ended the Whalers' scoring, getting the only goal of the third period with 6:34 remaining. Andre Robichaud and Randy Fitzgerald assisted.

Rob Zepp was sharp in goal once again, stopping 31 of 32 shots. After allowing nine goals

in the first two games, Zepp surrendered just six in the last four.

Craig Andersson took over for Madden in the second period following Weiss' second goal, making 16 saves.

**• WHALERS 5, GUELPH 3:** Talk about stepping up your game.

That's just what Justin Williams has done for the Plymouth Whalers over the last three games. After failing to score a goal in the first two games — both losses — Williams has erupted, scoring seven times in the last three games (all wins).

Three of those came last Saturday as the Whalers held off the Storm to take a 3-2 lead in this best-of-seven series.

All three of his goals came in the opening period, the first with the game just 50 seconds old (Kris Vernarsky assisted), the second on a power play at 13:58 and the third at 18:00. Stephen Weiss and Shaun Fisher both

assisted on the last two.

Fisher, who had a goal and three assists in the game, scored at 4:21 of the second period to give Plymouth a 4-0 lead. Williams and Weiss assisted.

Brent Kelly then took command for Guelph, scoring twice in the second period to narrow the gap to 4-2. At the 9:54 mark of the third period, Kelly scored again to make it 4-3.

But the Storm could draw no closer. Eric Goody's empty-net score with 45 seconds left ensured the win for the Whalers (Fisher and Randy Fitzgerald assisted).

Rob Zepp made 23 saves in goal for Plymouth. Chris Madden, who performed so well in goal for Guelph in the first two games, was pulled after giving up Williams' three goals in the first period.

Craig Andersson played the last two periods, making 17 stops.

## Laramore from page C1

iversity of Michigan-Dearborn, where he is planning on trying out for the hockey team.

Sherman, a right wing who earned All-Observer honorable mention, will attend Ferris State University for one year and then transfer to Central Michigan University. He is planning on majoring in business management.

McCullough, another All-Observer honorable mention center, will attend Lawrence Tech University and study construction management with the intention of someday owning a construction company. He said he would also like to continue playing hockey at some level.

Williams, an All-Observer honorable mention goalie, is set to attend U of M-Dearborn and is hoping to make the hockey team. He will begin studying biochemistry before transferring to dental school.

"This scholarship means a lot," said Williams. "I'm looking at about seven to eight years of schooling, so any money I get helps. This one has special meaning though, because it is a hockey scholarship and it is from Livonia."

Majkowski, who once met Rick Laramore, is planning on attending Schoolcraft College in the fall, where he will pursue a degree in criminal justice.

"I may play in the juniors, but right now I'm just going to con-

centrate on school," he said.

Tired of the cold Michigan winters, Majkowski joked that he may someday become "a cop in Jamaica."

This year the fund also donated \$11,742 to Leukemia Research Life, an organization that fights cancer at Children's Hospital, and \$3,913 to Special Days Camp, a camp for cancer-stricken children and their siblings located in Jackson.

Because they originally committed for five years, the Laramores will not be sponsoring a golf outing this year, and the future of the memorial fund is up in the air.

"We've worked hard at this, and we're very pleased with what we have done for five years," Dick Laramore said. "We're at that part in the road where we have to decide what to do next. There is a very good possibility that we will continue on in some way."

No matter what the future holds, the Laramores feel the fund has let them achieve what they set out to do.

"We are very proud of what we have accomplished," Judy Laramore said. "Maybe one day there won't be leukemia and cancer for young people. Our ultimate goal is get to a day when we won't ever have to see another family go through what we did. You never know what dollar is going to do it."

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# Spartans down Rockets; Wayne stalls Tractors, 5-0

## PREP GIRLS SOCCER ROUNDUP

Livonia Stevenson opened its girls soccer season Monday by defeating visiting Westland John Glenn 4-1, behind two goals from Danielle Lewis.

The Spartans (1-0), Division I state runner-up a year ago and 1997-98 state champions, also got goals from Jamie Hartrick and Lindsay Gusick.

Although he was happy to get the win, Stevenson coach Jim Kimble felt his team was guilty of some first-game jitters.

"We were a bit rusty," he said. "We are capable of playing a lot better. We have a long way to go. It was the first game of the year and it looked like it."

"Glenn is much improved though. We have to give them credit." Deanna McGrath and Andrea Sied each had two assists, and Megan Urbats had one for Stevenson.

Jessica Hislop scored for the Rockets (1-1).

•**WAYNE 5, FORDSON 0:** Wayne Memorial won its second consecutive game Monday by defeating visiting Dearborn Fordson in a Mega Conference Blue Division opener.

The Zebras (2-1 overall) were led by Alana Green and Tish Tedders, who both chipped in two goals and two assists apiece. Tiffany-Mishoney got the other goal.

The Tractors dropped to 0-1 in the Mega Blue.

•**MARIAN 3, LADYWOOD 1:** Birmingham Marian scored three unanswered goals Tuesday to earn the Catholic League Central Division triumph at home against Livonia Ladywood (0-4, 0-2).

Sunny Grezlik scored from Jennie Bartkowiak in the second minute to give the Blazers a 1-0 lead.

The play was started by forward Stefanie Stachura.

On Friday, Ladywood lost at Woodhaven in a non-leaguer, 5-4, despite two goals from Stachura.

Lauren Hasano and Melissa Harakas had the other Ladywood goals. On Wednesday, Ladywood fell to host Dearborn Divine Child, 3-1, as Katie Rozum tallied the lone Blazer goal.

•**NORTHVILLE 10, FRANKLIN 0:** Livonia Franklin (0-1-1) dropped its Western Division opener in the Western Lakes Activities Association to the visiting Mustangs.

"The girls worked hard, they never quit," Franklin coach Mary Kay Hussey said. "It was a tough game. A lack of game experience shows in these for us."

"We got tough play from Alexis (Bowman) and Kara (Wisniewski)."

•**FRANKLIN 2, REDFORD UNION 2:** Livonia Franklin opened its 2000 season Friday by deadlocking host Redford Union.

Sophomore Kara Wisniewski scored Franklin's first goal on a header off a corner kick from senior Alexis Bowman.

Wisniewski added her second goal of the opening half off a free kick from Bowman, but the Patriots couldn't maintain hold 2-1 halftime lead.

Tiffany Bajis and Megan Farrell made their varsity debuts in goal for the Patriots.

•**WAYNE 1, THURSTON 0:** Alana Green broke the scoreless deadlock at the 33-minute mark of the first half as Wayne gained its first victory of the season Friday at Redford Thurston.

## PREP GIRLS GOLF RESULTS

**HARPER WOODS REGINA 128**  
**LIVONIA LADYWOOD 224**  
April 3 at Gowanus  
Medalist: Amanda Pettit (Regina), 41.  
Ladywood scorers: Amanda Graves, 54; Ashley Loyer and Amy Eischen, 56 each; Mary Griffin, 58.  
Dual meet records: Regina, 1-0; Ladywood, 0-1.

**WHITE LAKE LAKELAND 199**  
**LIVONIA FRANKLIN 229**  
April 3 at Fox Creek  
Lakehead scorers: Leslie Mathan and Julie Criss, 48 each (co-medalist).  
Franklin scorers: Amanda Szabelski, 50 (career low); Megan Houghton, 58; Correen Yorick, 60; Kristin Kmet, 61.  
Dual records: Franklin, 0-1; Lakeland, 1-0.

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## PREP BOYS TENNIS RESULTS

**LIVONIA FRANKLIN 7**  
**REDFORD UNION 1**  
April 3 at Franklin

No. 1 singles: Matt Clearman (LF) def. Russ Sieg, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Jeff Beydoun (LF) def. Matt Gabbert, 6-1, 6-0; No. 3: Vimesh Shukla (LF) def. Jason Thomas, 6-0, 6-3; No. 4: Corey Clearman (LF) def. Marc Hanson 6-3, 7-5.

No. 1 doubles: Scott Gomez-Stan Anway (LF) def. Adam Koppin-Nick Ostrowski, 6-2, 6-1; No. 2: Chris Don-Garrett Middleton (LF) def. Chris Harris-Matt Forbes, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Jason Rudy-Jon Dmytro (RU) def. Matt Nelson-Dennison Sowder, 6-3, 0-6, 6-4; No. 4: Rob Shaffer-Jeff Luptowski (LF) def. Mike DuMouchelle-Wesley Burk, 6-1, 6-0.

**REDFORD CATHOLIC CENTRAL 8**  
**DEARBORN DIVINE CHILD 0**  
April 3 at Livonia's Sheldon Park

No. 1 singles: Mike Findling (CC) defeated Anish Patel, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Evan Currie (CC) def. Tim Sitkauskas, 6-3, 6-0; No. 3: David Atallah (CC) def. Steve Donabenter, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Billy Walsh (CC) def. Juan Howlett, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 1 doubles: Jeff Fieszar-Rob Sparks (CC) def. Mike Grezlik-Jack Marchewka, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Mark Fieszar-Eric Tomkiewicz (CC) def. Garo Jillian-Mike Maitese, 6-3, 6-4; No. 3: Lodewijk VanHolsbeck-Ian McHenry (CC) def. Brian Kosowski-Jim Porely, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Matt Roe-Nick Gonzales (CC) def. Dave Neitzer-Kris Kopinski, 6-1, 6-1.

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## THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Meet artist Richard Ritter and view his "Suspended Expressions: Visions in Glass" at the Alfred Berkowitz Gallery, University of Michigan-Dearborn. Opening reception 5-8 p.m., discussion with Ritter at 6:30 p.m. Call (313) 593-5400 or (313) 593-5087 for information. Exhibit continues through Sunday, April 30.

SATURDAY

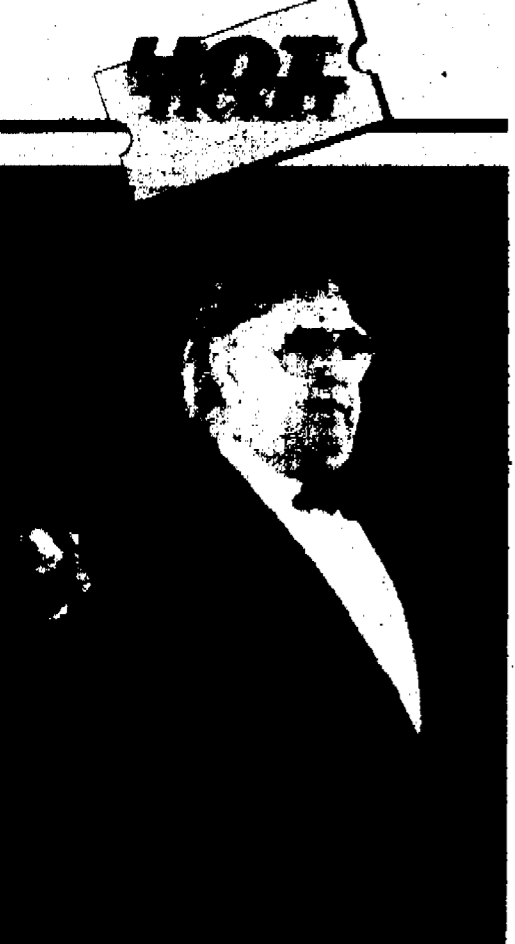


Join Suzie Gouine (left to right), Patrick O'Reilly of Farmington and Jason Smith of Garden City as they sing, dance, romp and play their way through the teachings of the Gospel of Matthew in "Godspell," 8 p.m. at the Bonstelle Theatre, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$10-\$13, call (313) 577-2960.

SUNDAY



Estonian conductor Eri Klas conducts the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in a program of two tone-poems "Don Juan" and "Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks," by Richard Strauss, 3 p.m. at Orchestra Hall in Detroit. Tickets \$19-\$50, call (313) 576-6111.



**Hot Ticket:** The Royal Hanford Circus, featuring ringmaster Billy Martin, comes to The Palace of Auburn Hills for eight performances, Thursday-Sunday, April 6-9. Tickets \$12, \$8, and \$5. All seats opening night are \$4. Call (248) 645-6666 for show times and ticket information.

## TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

# Taking God's silence to task

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

Elie Wiesel's only play is one Thomas Malcolm Olson has been wanting to direct for some time. Written by the Nobel Peace Prize winner in 1979, "The Trial of God" opens in a village where nearly all the Jews have been exterminated.

Wiesel speaks from experience in the play, and three dozen books he's written about the horrors Holocaust victims suffered during World War II. Deported with his family from Transylvania (Romania) at age 15, Wiesel survived Auschwitz and Buchenwald. His mother, father and youngest sister did not. A persistent literary witness to the Holocaust, Wiesel recalls his own struggle with God in the play and several of the books including his memoirs.

"It questions the silence of God when human beings are suffering," said Olson. "Wiesel originally set the play in a village in 1649. We're not doing it in period but more in the French bohemian era of the 1950s because these are timeless questions."

Mark Hammell of Lathrup Village plays Berish, the innkeeper. He and his daughter are the only Jews to survive the brutal raid on Shamgorod, a village in Ukraine.

"It's based on a real life event," said Olson. "When Elie was 15 he was a prisoner in Auschwitz when a rabbi took him under his wing. They met everyday to study and then with three other rabbis they put God on trial. Elie was the only witness to this."

In real life, God was found guilty

**On Trial:** Mark Hammell (Berish) and Guy Snyder (the priest) look for answers from God after nearly all the Jews of a village are exterminated.



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL

**Questioning God:** Guy Snyder (left back), Mark Hammell, Hannah Riddell, Art Collings (left front), P.W. Henry, and Anessa and Scot Martin put God on trial in the Elie Wiesel play based on a true story.

### "The Trial of God"

- **What:** Trinity House Theatre presents the play by Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel.
- **When:** Opens Friday, April 7 and runs weekends to Sunday, April 30 (except for Easter, April 23). Performances 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday.
- **Where:** 38840 W. Six Mile Road, between I-275 and Haggerty, Livonia.
- **Tickets:** \$8-10 Friday-Saturday, \$5 Sunday, call (734) 464-6302.

of crimes against humanity. In the play no verdict is ever reached. Wiesel's own works consistently pose the question, how is it possible not to believe in God after these atrocities?

"You don't have to be religious to enjoy this play," said Olson. "Anyone who's struggled with evil will find resonance with these words. Elie describes it as a tragic farce. This is the biggest challenge to find out the humor in these lines and to find out what he means."

### Soul searching

Olson's found himself doing a lot of soul searching in the eight weeks since rehearsals began for the play produced by Tim Dunham. More than ever, he believes theater makes a significant contribution in a variety of ways ranging from entertainment to social commentary.

"I'm realizing what an important art this is to be asking these questions," said Olson. "For me personally, the reward is to be participating in the asking of these questions. Trinity House's mission has always been to present brave, truthful and necessary works of art. It's not a play that can be easily dismissed. This is a play that's going to haunt."

Hammell finds himself examining his own beliefs as does his character. Berish is a man without answers after indicting God for his silence in the face of evil.

"It's been a test of Berish's will," said Hammell, a big, burly man who began acting in 1976. "The play doesn't answer any questions but inspires a lot of thought."

P.W. Henry, a Westland resident, plays one of the wandering minstrels who come to town hoping to perform a Purim play. Instead, Berish challenges them to put God on trial. The innkeeper is all too willing to serve as prosecutor but first they must find a defense attorney. That's when Sam, a mysterious stranger, arrives in town.

"We want to perform and get free drinks and food when sudden-

Please see **SILENCE**, E2

## Wiggles give kids the giggles

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON  
STAFF WRITER  
kmortson@oe.homecomm.net

Barney will have a quartet of special guests wriggling, squiggling, and wagging their way onto the stage of his Musical Castle as the Australian children's group "The Wiggles," comes to Detroit, Thursday-Sunday, April 6-9.

During the April 2000 tour of "Barney's Musical Castle," The Wiggles will perform during intermission at all of the Barney shows at Cobo Arena.

The Wiggles will also appear locally at FAO Schwarz in Troy on April 6, at Noodle Kidoodle in Northville on April 7, and Noodle Kidoodle in Rochester Hills on April 8. There is no charge for these performances.

### Group

The Wiggles are the most successful children's entertainment group in the history of Australia, performing more than 500 shows a year to sold-out crowds. The group of four Australians and four whimsical, costumed characters combines lives action with audience participation for a wiggling good time!

The Wiggles have captured the attention and hearts of children of all ages as they sing and dance to such favorites as "Wake Up Jeff!," "Romp Bomp A Stomp," "Can You Point Your Fingers and Do the Twist?," and "D.O.R.O.T.H.Y. (My Favorite Dinosaur)." The sing-a-longs are performed by Anthony Field, Murray Cook, Greg Page and Jeff Fatt, four men from the Sydney area who are accompanied by costumed characters Dorothy the Dinosaur™, Wags the Dog™, Henry the Octopus™, and Captain Feathersword™.

Formed in 1991 by three "mates," Field, Cook and Page, who were studying Early Childhood Education at Macquarie University in Sydney, the group became a foursome after Fatt joined following graduation.

Please see **WIGGLES**, E2

**What:** Barney's Musical Castle and The Wiggles will appear at Cobo Arena in Detroit.

**When:** 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday, April 6; 7 p.m. Friday, April 7; 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 8; 1:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, April 9.

**Tickets:** \$9-25, available at all Ticketmaster outlets, or call (248) 645-6666.

**Free public appearances by The Wiggles include:** FAO Schwarz at noon Thursday, April 6 (2800 West Big Beaver Road, Troy); 3:30 p.m. Friday, April 7 at Noodle Kidoodle (17783 Haggerty Road, Northville); and 5 p.m. Saturday, April 8 at Noodle Kidoodle (1336 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills).



**Meet the Wiggles:** Australian performers Anthony Field, Murray Cook, Greg Page and Jeff Fatt.

## BENEFIT

# A PERFECT MATCH: Old rocker pitches in to help new cause

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

Rock 'n roll star Marshall Crenshaw grew up in Berkley within walking distance from the old Berkley Theatre, a landmark that's still selling candy and soft drinks but no longer showing movies.

Or making popcorn, for that matter. The Berkley name remains on the marquee for city recognition but the building is now a drug store.

"It's disgusting," said Crenshaw, interviewed over the phone from his home in Brooklyn, N.Y. "It was a real nice theater with a natural echo and comfortable. They used to have two drug stores a



MARSHALL CRENSHAW

half mile apart on 12 Mile Road. Now there's one right in the middle." It's no wonder Crenshaw has a great appreciation for historic sites that remain as they were intended, like the Royal Oak Theatre, his next stop in hopes

that others can go on.

Crenshaw's band is the headliner of a second annual benefit concert for the Stewart Francke Leukemia Foundation, on Thursday, April 13, sponsored by General Motors Corp. and aided by the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Crenshaw, who counts "Television Light," "Somebody Someway" and "Whentever You're On My



STEWART FRANCKE

Mind" among his hit songs, was eager to play.

"They explained to me what it was about, what their foundation does and I was impressed with it," Crenshaw, 46, said. "Their intentions are honorable and what I know about it is it's extremely well organized. I said 'that sounds cool and benefited it.'"

Francke is a local musician who was diagnosed with Leukemia in June 1998. He received a successful stem cell bone marrow transplant from his sister, Kit Reese, months later.

Francke started the foundation to raise money for research and awareness on the importance of bone marrow donors, especially among African

Please see **CAUSE**, E2

## Cause from page E1

Americans and Hispanics who have a smaller chance of finding matches.

Francke and Commissioned, an award-winning Gospel group from Detroit, are also scheduled to perform.

"It's a tremendous gift on the part of Marshall and 'Commissioned' to donate their time," said Francke, whose fifth CD, "Swimming In Mercury," includes some songs about his diagnosis and recovery.

Crenshaw has lived in New York for the better part of 20 years, including quite a long stint in Woodstock, the site of some legendary outdoor concerts.

He said he enjoys playing in theaters the size of Royal Oak's. More importantly, he enjoys its cleanliness.

"The dressing rooms are clean, there's no 'BS' on the walls," said Crenshaw, who co-wrote the Gin Blossoms recent hit song "Till I Hear It From You."

"I don't like to play in 'Rock toilets.' A lot of places I used to play prided themselves on being 'grungy.' Royal Oak Theatre is classy, cool. I used to go to

movies there when I was a kid. There's a lot of nice theaters in Detroit."

Ironically, it was a concert by Crenshaw back in 1981 at the Royal Oak Theatre that convinced Francke to quit his first job after college and go into music full time.

"Marshall's a terrific guy, one of the great rock 'n' rollers, a big favorite of mine," said Francke, who has two children with his wife Julia. "If I could have a wish list of people to play he'd be at the top of it."

Francke considers himself fortunate to have found a bone marrow match in his family. There is a one in four chance of a family member being a match.

A search outside an immediate family costs Leukemia patients \$10,000 and Francke's organization wants to defray the costs.

"I woke up one morning and absolutely knew I was going to match, had a ton of faith going in," his sister said. "We realized how lucky we were that I was a match, then heard horror stories about people who don't have a match, couldn't find matching

**What:** Benefit concert for The Stewart Francke Leukemia Foundation

**When:** Thursday, April 13, beginning at 6 p.m. with sample complimentary tastings from Royal Oak's D'Amato's Restaurant. A concert, featuring gospel group Commissioned, hometown favorite Stewart Francke and native Berkley rocker Marshall Crenshaw starts at 7 p.m.

**Where:** Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth between Washington and Lincoln.

**Why:** To raise money for research and awareness of the importance of blood marrow donors.

**Tickets:** \$75, includes food and entertainment and silent auction. Call (248) 828-2865 or TicketMaster at (248) 645-6666 or log on to [www.sflf.com](http://www.sflf.com) for tickets. Cash bar.

donors."

Francke said the foundation has raised more than \$100,000 since its inception. General



Motors Vice Chairman Harry Pearce, the recipient of a successful stem cell transplant in 1998, has worked closely with Francke for the cause.

About 800 attended the inaugural event, according to Francke, and he anticipates 1,000 this year. He's hoping for a higher minority turnout.

"We're trying to change the face of the audience," Francke said. "Our mandate is to try to help people who need it the most. The chances of white people finding a match are twice as great as minorities."

"I'm lucky I had a match and lived. I depend on people. It's how I feel about the world, about life."

**Fund-raiser:** Stewart Francke founded The Stewart Francke Leukemia Foundation in hopes of helping others receive successful bone marrow transplants.

Crenshaw recently released a new CD, titled "Number 447," a name he said he picked for no particular reason.

"It's a watershed record for me," said Crenshaw, who has two small children with his wife Ione. "I couldn't think of a snappy name to give it."

## Silence from page E1

ly we're in the midst of this," said Henry. "A year before they had a massacre and only two Jews are left. My lines set me up to be preachy. I'm dealing with the attitude that I'm supposed to be wiser than I am. This play is pertinent to what's going on in the world even today. You look around at what's happened in Sarajevo."

Art Collings, a member of the minstrel troupe, plays Avremel.

"He was a jester and is the professional actor of the band," said Collings, a Livonia resident. "He's seen it all so it's old to him. Being in the play has been a learning experience. It's made me think about things. How I would answer some of the questions - where is God when tragedy happens?"

Anessa Martin provides comic relief with her role as the barmaid who's somewhat of a gruff mother-figure. Her lines prevent the characters from sounding like they are in a debate.

### Learning process

"It's been a learning process,"

**■ 'It's been a learning process. The play is very wordy. Our challenge as a cast is to make it interesting.'**

Anessa Martin

Actress

said Martin of Redford. "The play is very wordy. Our challenge as a cast is to make it interesting."

Guy Snyder's character symbolically portrays the Catholic church. As the priest he asks, "what is the true nature of God?"

"Another massacre is on the horizon," said Snyder, a Livonia resident. "He wants Beresh to get out or to pretend to convert to Christianity. Every time we rehearse we discover something new about what Weisel is trying to say. There's a lot of substance to the play."

## Wiggles from page E1

"We never ever thought of touring the world with what we do," said Page who dons a bright yellow shirt in all the Wiggles videos. "It is certainly very satisfying to think that what we do has been so well received by people in Australia, and is now starting to gain some recognition in other parts of the world."

Page said in 1991 the group took a leap of faith by giving up their regular jobs to become entertainers - nearly 10 years later they're the hottest children's group down under and have been gaining momentum in the U.S. since their first appearance in Sept. 1998.

"We first came to the U.S. to perform ... at Disneyland in California and then Sea World in Florida. It was a very brief stay, only about six days, but we still played to over 18,000 people while we were there," said Page.

### Stage show

The live stage show of "Barney's Musical Castle" will feature Barney and his friends Baby Bop™ and BJ®. Barney's Musical Castle is a "whimsical

journey born of a child's imagination." Through Barney's guidance a day of fun building sand-castles turns into an adventure that ends up at a real castle. Barney, BJ and Baby Bop, along with several new friends, begin an excursion through an enchanted forest where sunflowers dance and a bunny, fox and bear are on hand to pave a path to a castle on the horizon.

Approximately 30 songs and dances will be played during the show.

### Popular format

Wiggles members Page says their success can be attributed to several things including their training as early childhood teachers.

"This gave us an incredible insight into the world of children, what they think about, how they think, what makes them act certain ways and of course, how to plan appropriate learning for them. Also, the songs seem to be quite popular with the children as well as the parents, so I think that if the parents can listen to the music it helps them tolerate, and then understand what it is the children are watching."

Coinciding with their April 2000 live performances will be



**The Wiggles & Friends:** Captain Feather-sword (left to right), Dorothy the Dinosaur, Jeff Fatt, Henry the Octopus, Anthony Field, Murray Cook, Greg Page, and Wags the Dog.

the Lyrick® Studios release of both audio and video versions of "Wake Up Jeff!" Wiggles merchandise is available nationwide at Noodle Kidoodle stores, Blockbuster Video stores, Amazon.com, etoys.com and FAO Schwarz stores.

"Small venues and those performances for us are always more rewarding," added Page. "It is a more personal way to see our audience and to ensure that we are connecting with the children."

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COMEDY

# Second City-Detroit shoots, scores with show

BY KEELY WYGONIK  
STAFF WRITER

kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

"The Puck Stops Here" at Second City Detroit through Sunday, April 16, where you can see the touring company in action.

"We tried to make it a hockey show, but we put together scenes anyone would enjoy," said Kirk Hanley of Farmington, one of the players. "We think the show will please both camps — diehard hockey fans who don't go to the theater much, and those who do."

The show, which opened Tuesday, is a mix of madcap skits, some of them musical, that are sure to score with fans.

"We've been working on it for about two months," said Hanley who described the show as a mix of original skits, and material from Second City archives.

During a preview performance on Tuesday, the company tried out some of their skits on a small, but enthusiastic audience. There's the wife who argues with her husband, the referee, about the calls he makes, and an old hockey coach who tries to teach intellectuals at the University of Detroit how to play football.

"A health club is a paradise where every man is free ... and look at all these towels" — is an entertaining musical number. You'll get a kick out of their dance — imagine an Esther Williams-style synchronized swimming routine, on stage.

There's the husband who wants to "commit" to season Red

**"This is the finest ensemble that any of us have worked with. They're the most giving, cooperative, and talented people. It's always a joy to work together."**

Kirk Hanley  
Comedian

Wings tickets, and his wife who isn't sure she wants to. A young boy wonders what it's like to watch a baseball game with the crowd, instead of sheltered with his wealthy parents in their sky box. The butler, played by Hanley, to the horror of his parents, prepares a hot dog for the boy.

The cast also includes Carey Crim who has performed in shows at Meadow Brook Theatre and the Jewish Ensemble Theatre.

"I heard a song on the radio, and the lyrics were 'do something every day that scares you.' I was thinking about that when I called the Actor's Equity Audition hotline," said Crim explaining how she landed at Second City-Detroit. "There was an audition for the Second City-Detroit, and I was hired for the touring company."

She describes "The Puck Stops Here" as definitely hockey heavy, but also a lot of fun.

"Hockey is a metaphor," she said. "We try to build on themes of life. It's a marriage of the two. It's for the player and someone who doesn't get it. Hockey's not

her thing, but it's part of her world."

Hanley, Crim and the other members of the group — Jeff Fritz, Cheri Johnson, Topher Owen and Kiff Vanden Heuvel — have been working together for a year.

"This is the finest ensemble that any of us have worked with," said Hanley. "They're the most giving, cooperative, and talented people. It's always a joy to work together."

Hanley and the other touring company cast members are delighted to be performing on the mainstage in their first two-week show.

While the touring company is onstage, the mainstage cast will start working on their next show.

"Second City is always a work in progress," said Hanley. "Toward the end of the run, they'll start putting in new scenes to try them out for the new show."

Former mainstage cast member Margaret Exner is directing "The Puck Stops Here."

"Paradigm Lost" will return to the Second City-Detroit main-



Touring company: Members of the Second City Touring Company, including Kirk Hanley (center bottom row) and Carey Crim (back row, middle) take a break from rehearsal.

stage on Wednesday, April 19. Sunday, April 6-9; and Tuesday, April 11-16. Additional shows 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday. Tickets for Tuesday-Thursday and Sunday shows \$10; \$17.50 on Friday, and \$19.50 on Saturdays. Call (313) 965-2222.

SCREEN SCENE

## Trio earns stage career after acting on whim

When most of us think back to a silly moment in our lives, we usually — ~~don't~~ recall it as a life-altering event.

With time, you may realize some significant things were happening when life was at its most crazy and comical. Silliness has been known to create deep, lasting friendships, reduce stress and provide free entertainment.

In the case of Arthur J. Beer, it even gave him a career.

A half-century ago, Beer and a pair of buddies from Warren High School formed the King Korn Trio, figuring their pantomimes of tunes from the immortal Spike Jones was a

great way to impress girls.

To their surprise, the act won the school's talent show, and the good fortune began to snowball.

"The King Korn Trio's timing couldn't have been better. Ted Mack's Original Amateur Hour was in town for a Boysville U.S.A. benefit, and the local competition at Olympia (stadium) earned us a trip to New York to appear on the show," says Beer.

Next came the group's selection to join the USO Tour of Europe.

The unlikely chain of events triggered a lifetime of stage work for Beer, who serves as associate director of the Theatre Company at the University of Detroit Mercy.

Now, those madcap moments from the early 1950s are being recaptured for audiences in The Theatre Company's production of "The King Korn Trio," which runs through Sunday, April 16 at

UDM's McAuley Theatre.

"My wife convinced me that the story is so ridiculous and unbelievable that it would be perfect for the stage," says Beer, who wrote and directs the play that features Mary F. Bremer and David Jeffrey in key roles.

Committed to the belief that silliness is always good for the soul and occasionally an artistic discipline, The King Korn Trio production will be featured on Detroit Public TV's BACKSTAGE PASS series, in an edition that airs 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 9.

Even though my silly moments wouldn't be worthy of Ted Mack's "Original Amateur Hour" or even the recent "Star Search" showcases, I value them.

Life isn't all high drama. Sometimes it is at its best when it's like a "Gong Show" revue.

BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

FAMILY FUN

## Museum salutes environment

PRNewswire — "Junk, Juice & Jive," a fresh, lively and edgy look at environmental action, takes over Spirit of Ford throughout the month of April. Test drive an electric Ranger, dive into a towering recycle pile, and find out what all the buzz is about as Ford Motor Company's (NYSE: F) pioneering spirit focuses on the areas of alternative fuel, electric vehicles and materials recycling.

Spirit of Ford, an automotive learning attraction, is open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Spirit of Ford is located at 1151 Village Road in Dearborn across from Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village. For more details call (313) 431-SPRIT or check Spirit of Ford out on the web at www.spiritofford.com

"At Spirit of Ford, guests have the chance to feel, smell, see, drive and literally immerse themselves in experiences which mirror the initiatives of Ford Motor Company. This month we are the site for a fun, active celebration of the company's many and diverse environmental activities and programs," says Jo Haas, director of Spirit of Ford.

Following is a rundown of the activities going on in April at Spirit of Ford salutes environ-

mental progress:

Activities

■ **Un-Plugged** — Be the first on your block to test drive an electric Ranger, the quieter vehicle you simply plug in to get its engine revvin'! These "juicy" test drives happen on Saturday and Sunday afternoons in April. Call for specific times. Drivers must be 18 and over and have a valid driver's license.

■ **Restoration Station** — For a different spin on "junk," kids can "dive" into a towering recycle pile and create something new out of something old. Take your new creation home with you or leave it behind to be transformed into something else.

■ **Fueling Your Dreams** — Turn your brain "green" through this dynamic interactive demonstration that makes fuel, energy and recycling come to life for big and little dreamers alike. Explore a junk pile and find out why some trash really isn't so "trashy." You'll be surprised to learn that Ford Motor Company actually uses pop bottles and old jeans to build vehicles.

■ **It's Natural** — Preview Ford's full line of natural gas cars, trucks and sport utility

vehicles (SUVs). Get behind the wheel of a Ford Crown Victoria police car powered by natural gas; a natural gas Ford Expedition used by the U.S. Park Service; a propane Excursion; and a bi-fuel Ford Contour.

■ **Environmentally Responsible Vehicles** — Explore the interior of a DIATA (Direct Injection Aluminum Throughbolt Assembly) engine and see how it gets "turned on." Take a look at the SUV fuel cell powertrain of the future — it's lightweight and efficient!

■ **Lightweight Parts** — Be amazed at what Ford is doing to lighten the load on vehicles and increase fuel efficiency. Compare brake rotors and brake drums made of either cast iron or steel or aluminum composite. You can actually "feel" how these lightweight parts make driving a breeze.

■ **Environmentally Responsible Shopping** — Buy cool, environmentally responsible gifts at Exit Ramp, Spirit of Ford's gift shop.

■ **Junk, Juice & Jive** — the event! Bring your family to celebrate Junk, Juice & Jive with Spirit of Ford on Saturday night, 6-9 p.m. Saturday, April 29.

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# Red carpets ready to roll for Detroit Music Awards

**STEPHANIE A. CASOLA**

Just when you started to recuperate from the rock spectacle of the Grammy Awards and the plunging necklines worn at the Oscars, another pat-on-the-back award show shifts into high gear. In the metro area, the 2000 Detroit Music Awards isn't just any awards show - it's a chance to support promising new local musicians and those who've impacted the scene for some time.

With Kid Rock and Twisted Brown Trucker scheduled to host the big event April 15 at Detroit's State Theatre, the show has veered into a high-profile position - one that's expected to sell out.

"It's gonna be a good time," said Joe C., who just found out he'll be hosting along with Kid and the rest of the band. "It's good to get back to Detroit because Detroit's been nothing but good to us."

Kid Rock, Joe C. and crew have been nothing but true to their roots. They're a raucous, in-your-face example of the aspirations of this year's nominees share. "It's great for people playing the local Detroit music scene to go out there and let people know," advised Joe C., who credits the Detroit Music Awards for putting them on the map. "We'd do anything for Detroit."

His enthusiasm shows a few days before Joe C. headed out to Los Angeles for a video shoot. Yet he's fully focused on the local scene. "In Detroit right now, the music scene is just so hot," he said.

Other artists steaming up the metro area streets - like Livonia's Paradime, the Howling Diablos and Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise - will also heat up the Detroit Music Awards stage. "There is so much talent in Detroit," assured Joe C. "For bands... that haven't sold 7 million records, this could be a breakthrough event."

Sue Barnowski, executive director of the Motor City Music Foundation which organizes the show, expressed her enthusiasm for this year's show and its hosts. "People are coming from all over," she said.

Inside that national spotlight, Howling Diablos will be a permanent fixture as house band this year. Lead vocalist Tino promised: "We're gonna provide the lowdown, funkified action for the event. As house band we're gonna be dropping the grooves between all kinds of other scheduled acts and announcements. We're just gonna have our own party on stage. The Diablos section will be out of hand."

He echoed Joe C.'s sentiments about the awards show's role in bringing local talent to light. "Detroit's what's happening right now," said Tino. "It's good to see this city coming together to celebrate their own, being proud of what's going on here... All eyes are on Detroit with my boy Kid Rock hosting. He's the hottest thing going and will continue to be so."

Tino said the Diablos, nominated for four awards in the Urban/Funk/Hip Hop category, are just "happy to be in the mix."

In the mix and behind the scenes is Terri Koggenhop, who serves on the advisory board, several MCMF committees and manages local reggae favorite Immunity. She's proud to be



Your gracious host: Kid Rock and Twisted Brown Trucker welcome the listening public to the 2000 Detroit Music Awards.

involved with a show that honors local music. "The crux of the awards are given to local musicians," said Koggenhop, adding that the main focus of this year's DMA's was credibility.

With the ballots counted and the nominees notified, the show has undergone changes. Just two years since two separate organizations merged to collaborate as the Motor City Music Foundation's Detroit Music Awards, the process continues to evolve. Each genre of music on the DMA ballots expanded its list of nominees from five to between six and eight this year, offering more recognition for musicians. Categories have been added, including Christian Contemporary and Live Sound Technician.

The MCMF has established a database of 2,600 DMA voters in the music industry. They range from club owners and booking agents to previously nominated musicians. Rochester Hills resident Rick Matle, nominated for an award with Sheila Landis for Jazz, noted that the balloting system makes the show more credible. But he also believes the public should have a say in nominees and winners. "It's not always necessarily the best musicians that get nominated," he said, but the "most visible" musicians. "Part of it is how you promote yourself."

Another nominee agreed. Liz Larin, owner of Bona Dea Music in Bloomfield Hills, said the caliber of nominated acts this year confirms that Detroit music is gaining attention. "It's really about everybody getting together," she said. "It's about confirming we have a lot of talent (in the metro area)."

The acts performing at the



Howling Diablos

show range from Motown's The Contours, to rappers like Paradime and, a new addition this year, Latin sparks from Johnny Rodriguez and the Fiery Latin Jazz Band.

"Our goal is to put on a well-rounded show," said Koggenhop. To do so, the MCMF pools resources to get the most eclectic mix of talent, all of whom perform for free. The Metro Times Hamtramck Blowout, held last month, helped fund the event. "We could not do this without the Metro Times," noted Koggenhop.

Proceeds from the show will be used for music seminars and showcases meant to promote the scene. Take it from Joe C. "It'll be off the wall. I know if I get up to the mike, it'll be off the wall."

Stephanie Angelyn Casola writes about popular music for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Call her at (734) 953-2130 or e-mail at scasola@ec.homecomm.net.

### REVVING UP FOR DETROIT MUSIC AWARDS 2000

**What to wear:** Anything goes at the Detroit Music Awards. Nominees and audience members alike are bound to come dressed in anything from Versace to jeans, tuxedos to glitter. Whether you like it wild or mild, the crowd will supply interesting people-watching opportunities for all. Keep an eye out for Bob Seger and Ted Nugent, regular attendees at the show, as well as the unforgettable host, Kid Rock.

**Early warning:** While it may be tempting to come fashionably late to such high-profile events, this year's show coincides with a Detroit Tigers game at the new Comerica Park, just across the street. Come early if you plan on parking somewhere near the State Theatre.

**Add a little Latin fire:** A highlight this year includes the stage spectacle of the 15-piece latin band Johnny Rodriguez & The Fiery Latin Jazz Band.

**What to know:** The Detroit Music Awards begin 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 14, State Theatre, Detroit 18 and older. Tickets \$15, call (248) 645-6666 or log on to www.ticketmaster.com.

### STAY TUNED...

Boston trio **The Push Stars** pushed more than the limits when they performed at Pontiac's 7th House Wednesday, March 29. The band - known for their singles "Everything Shines" featured in the film "There's Something About Mary" and "Drunk is Better Than Dead" featured in the film "Gun Shy" - performed before an intimate crowd at candlelit tables, practically inviting fans onstage.

One friendly Push Star fanatic, John Zauterke, talked them into letting him sing "Me" from their debut album "Meet Me at the Fair." He bounced up on stage, belted out the tune, com-

plete with high-pitched harmonies and a jiggling dance, while the band rocked out behind him. Get this, it wasn't even John's first time singing karaoke-style with the up-and-coming band.

Leave it to singer-songwriter and "Uncle" Chris Trapper to be so welcoming. After all, he politely interrupted the show to make a public cell phone call to his niece on her birthday. She got a warm response from the entire crowd. Bands like this don't come around often, which is probably how they've earned such a loyal following.

-Stephanie Angelyn Casola

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AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	MJR SOUTHGATE 20	NORWEST	
AMC WONDERLAND	RENAISSANCE 4	SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE STEWING HEIGHTS	SHOWCASE WESTLAND
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHFIELD
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AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY
AMC WONDERLAND	MJR SOUTHGATE 20	NORWEST
RENAISSANCE 4	SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE DEARBORN
SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE STEWING HEIGHTS	SHOWCASE WESTLAND
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE
STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE STAD	UNITED ARTISTS 12 OAKS
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SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE STEWING HEIGHTS	SHOWCASE
SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE STEWING HEIGHTS	STAR GRATIOT
STAR TAYLOR	STAR TAYLOR	STAR TAYLOR
	WEST RIVER	WEST RIVER

**DINING**

# Crunchy fish & chips, perfect for Fridays

BY RENEE SKOGLUND  
STAFF WRITER

rskoglund@oe.homecomm.net

Lent is winding down, but there's still lots of time to go fishing ... for fish and chips. Eaten with fork or fingers, there's nothing like a crunchy, succulent piece of fish fresh from the deep fryer.

Bless their hearts, our friends, family and co-workers shared some their favorite fish and chip

places with us. Here are their suggestions:

■ **Hope's Fish & Chips** - 28370 Joy Road (between Middlebelt and Inkster), Livonia, (734) 427-2130. Hours: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday; 2-9 p.m. Saturday; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday; closed Monday. Menu: Fish, homemade pasties, chicken and burgers.

Since 1958, Hope's Fish & Chips has operated under the slogan "The better batter people."

"Our customers are as faithful as they come, and they come every week," says owner Byrum McBride, who bought the restaurant from his aunt, Hope Hebert, 15 years ago. "Our motto is 'In Cod We Trust.'" His mother, Shirley, still works there as a waitress, making sure her customers have plenty of hot coffee and fresh rolls.

Hope's specializes in fresh cod. A typical dinner includes three to four pieces of fish, French fries or a baked potato, coleslaw, a roll and tarter sauce for \$7.15. They also offer lake perch, pickerel, smelt and halibut. Some fish is available baked or broiled.

Hope's goes through 2,200 pounds of fish a week during Lent, and about 30 gallons of clam chowder. "We make the best clam chowder," says McBride. Everything at Hope's is good, he adds. Homemade and just plain delicious.

■ **Page's Food & Spirits** - 23621 Farmington (one block south of Grand River), downtown Farmington. Hours: 11 a.m. to midnight Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Friday-Saturday; noon to midnight Sunday. Menu: New menu includes everything from burgers and pizza to steak and seafood with a dash of Mexican.

When it comes to fish and chips, owner Dennis Page claims bragging rights. "Because we use only choice Icelandic cod. It's lightly beer-battered. We take great pride in that fish." Want proof? Just show up on Friday night and get in line.

Customers can order the "all-you-can-eat" fish dinner for \$10.95, which comes with fries and cole slaw. The regular dinner for the same price includes a "big portion" of fish (cooked the way you want it), choice of potato and dessert, like homemade ice-cream pie with Sander's hot fudge.

Page and chef Richie Ferna say new customers quickly become regulars. Like the motto on their menu says: "You're only a stranger once at Page's."



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

**Dinner destination:** Behind every great fish and chips dinner at Hope's Fish & Chips are people like (left to right) Carolyn Jones, owner Byrum McBride, Jack Tabone and Shirley McBride.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

**Fabulous fish:** Richie Serna, a chef at Page's, shows off his all-you-can-eat fish and chips platter.

**WHAT'S COOKING**

Send dinner specials, menu changes, restaurant renovations, and other items to Keely Wygonik, Assistant Managing Editor Features Group, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. To fax, (734) 591-7279 or e-mail [kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net). We'd love to hear about your favorite seafood and fish restaurants.

■ **La Bistecca Italian Grille** - offers live jazz featuring Larry Nozero and Friends, starting at 7:30 p.m. on the first Monday of every month. The restaurant, which specializes in Piedmontese Beef, is at 39405 Plymouth Road, Plymouth. Call (734) 254-0400 for reservations/information.

■ **Golden Mushroom:** The new head toque is Randy Emert,

formerly executive chef at Paint Creek Cider Mill & Restaurant in Rochester.

Former executive chef and member of the U.S. Culinary Team Derin Moore resigned this position at the Golden Mushroom to head the kitchen at a Charlotte, N.C. country club.

"Chef Randy will continue the quality reputation that Chef Milos Cibelka first brought to the Golden Mushroom," owner Reid Ashton said. "It's also important that the Golden Mushroom continues as a training facility for area chefs. With his approach and management skills, Chef Randy has this leadership ability."

The Golden Mushroom is at 18100 W. 10 Mile Road in Southfield. Call (248) 599-4230 for reservations/information.

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