



ELECTION RESULTS

WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

✓ Cindy Schofield.....901
 ✓ Richard Eisiminger.....781
 Marshall Wright.....487
 LeeAnna Deniston.....272

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

✓ Larry Neer.....3,124
 ✓ Kevin Whitehead.....2,820
 Alicia Douglas.....2,151
 Clifford Thompson.....649

✓ Check mark indicates winners.

Standoff is over

BY DARRELL CLEM
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A Westland man tried to run over his wife with his pickup truck and then held their two children hostage inside a house during a two-hour standoff that ended Wednesday morning when police officers forced their way in and arrested the suspect, Chief Emery Price said.

The 39-year-old man's wife suffered cuts on her leg from a knife or razor, and Price said the suspect also "mutilated himself." The chief dismissed rumors the incident involved guns.

The domestic dispute started about 4:30 a.m. at 32131 Glen, near Kettering Elementary, and neighbors called police when the family terror spilled outside about 9:15 a.m.

The suspect then held his two elementary school-age children hostage for two hours in a basement. "Obviously, they were emotionally upset," Price said.

The children - a boy and a girl - escaped harm, but the wife was treated for cuts and the suspect has been placed in a hospital psychiatric ward.

The incident came two weeks after the suspect threatened his wife with a loaded gun, but Lt. Marc Stobbe said the woman had since removed firearms from the house.

The suspect left home following that incident but returned at 4:30 a.m. Wednesday, and a domestic dispute escalated until he cut her and eventually chased her from the house about 9:15 a.m., police officials said.

It is believed she wants a divorce, Stobbe said.

"She ran out of the house, and he chased after her in his pickup truck trying to run her over," Stobbe said.

Police arrived to find that the suspect had taken the two children hostage. The man is believed to have been drinking, Price said.

"He said he had a gun, but we found no evidence of a firearm," Price said.

A police Tactical Response Unit tried to end the hostage situation, and Price tried to talk the suspect into giving up.

"He refused to open the door," Stobbe said, "and the mother was worried that he was in the basement with the kids. He wouldn't answer the phone or respond to a bullhorn."

Fearing for the children's safety, officers burst into the house about 11:15 a.m. and arrested the suspect.

Also helping out was the Westland Fire Department's Tactical Emergency Medical Support team.

The incident occurred near Kettering.

"We did a lockdown at Kettering and canceled (afternoon) kindergarten so the children wouldn't be walking through the neighborhood," Wayne-Westland Assistant Superintendent Charlotte Sherman said.

The suspect faces criminal charges.

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Nice going: School board winner Cindy Schofield gets congratulated by Superintendent Greg Baracy after winning the election. At left is Cindy's husband, David Schofield.

STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Schofield, Eisiminger win

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Livonia race coverage, A9

Newly elected Wayne-Westland school board trustees Cindy Schofield and Richard Eisiminger say they want to boost the image of a district that suffered a budget crisis and massive program cuts in the last decade.

"I'd like to see us work on marketing the district," said Schofield, the top vote-getter in Monday's school board election.

"We need to change the image that's out there in the general public," said Eisiminger, appointed incumbent and second-place finisher.

But the two winners and their five board colleagues will face new money problems as the district's budget surplus plummets from \$10.9 million to

\$5.4 million during the next year. "We'll be in deficit after that," Superintendent Greg Baracy said. "Some kind of legislative relief from Lansing is absolutely necessary for us to be even partially whole in the future."

With that gloomy outlook, Schofield, 41, and Eisiminger, 40, won handily in Monday's four-way school board race, claiming victory in their first election bids and defeating third-time candidate Marshall Wright and newcomer LeeAnna Deniston.

The victors will receive four-year terms.

Schofield garnered 901 votes com-



Please see WIN, A5 Richard Eisiminger and wife Kerl

Black driver exonerated following traffic stop

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Texas resident Willie Slater, who accused Westland police of stopping him in his 1994 BMW because he is black, was cleared Tuesday of all traffic offenses.

Slater also was refunded his \$500 bail and half of the money, or \$45, that he spent to get his car from the city towing yard, court and police officials said.

His losses: \$45 for a June 3 traffic stop that he attributed to racial profiling and racism by two Westland police officers who, he said, stopped him for having an air freshener hanging from his rearview mirror.

Slater received a warning for the air freshener and for an improper turn, but he was arrested and jailed for two hours for an unpaid, suspended-license ticket

from 1999 that he proved Tuesday has been dismissed in Hamtramck.

Slater also showed other documents, such as proof of insurance and registration, that cleared him of all local tickets, Westland District Court Administrator David Wiacek said.

Slater's case was resolved Tuesday - 10 days after police officers stopped him at 8:10 p.m. at Wildwood and Warren.

Slater, a former Detroit resident who works for Exxon-Mobil Corp. near Houston, was arrested while his passenger, Lynn Thomas, was left to walk home.

Slater and Thomas had been visiting Thomas' brother in Wayne and were going to buy a telephone at Best Buy in Westland when the traffic stop occurred. Slater was vacationing in the area.

Slater accused police of stopping him because he is a black man who was driving a \$40,000 car, and he

said they asked him stereotypical questions such as whether he was a drug dealer or had any guns.

Police Chief Emery Price has denied that his department engages in racial profiling.

Slater had claimed all along that he wasn't in Hamtramck when the 1999 ticket was issued in his name - and that someone else used his identity. Until his recent vacation, he said he hadn't been in Michigan since 1996.

Price said he is glad that the case appears to be resolved.

"We don't want those hard feelings and those perceptions (of racism) out there," he said. "We want everybody to feel welcome coming into this community."

However, he added that police officers need to be allowed to stop motorists for traffic infractions.

"The guys have a job to do," he said.

Court groundbreaking generates miles of smiles

BY JULIE BROWN
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Related Community Voice, A14

It's been several years in coming, but the smiles at the 18th District Court Monday afternoon showed the wait was worth it.

"We're excited about it," Judge C. Charles Bokos said of renovation/expansion at the Westland court. The groundbreaking was held Monday.

Court officials have been working with the mayor, city council and others on the effort for about four years, said Bokos, chief judge. A jury assembly room will be included, along with a substantial increase in the clerk's area.

The new probation department will have a waiting area, and there'll be a spot for paying those ever-popular tickets.

"It'll reduce traffic in the hallways," said Bokos, beaming with pride. He estimated the work will be done in 11 months.

No courtrooms will be added; there are currently two for the judges plus a magistrate's. Square footage for the new facility will include an expanded 10,500 feet, bringing the total to about 25,000.

Bokos was quick to note the construction will be paid for through court revenue. Current estimated cost is \$3.3 million.

"It's a very important endeavor for this court," he told those gathered at the court Monday. A safe, comfortable environment is needed for staff and court visitors.

Bokos thanked city officials, the council, architects and others for their cooperation. "I think you are really going to be proud of this expansion when it occurs."

The court staff, including David Wiacek, administrator, Karen Jones, deputy administrator, and Donald Vandersloot, magistrate, has also helped a great deal, he said.

Colleague Judge Gail McKnight noted the current building, which will remain in use, was dedicated in 1978. She was a city councilwoman then, Bokos city attorney.

"This place seemed so big and it was so big." The workload has expanded, McKnight noted. Victims, lawyers, defendants, staff and others all need safe facilities, she said.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Dig in! The 18th District Court groundbreaking was a team effort this past Monday. Work is expected to take 11 months.

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OBITUARIES

KATELIN MARIAH GLASEL

A service for Katelyn Mariah Glasel, 2 years, 7 months, is 2 p.m. today, June 15, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy, Canton. The Rev. John Shinn and the Rev. Roland DeRenzo are officiating. Burial is at Parkview Memorial Cemetery.

Katelyn Mariah was born Nov. 7, 1997, in Detroit and died June 12 in Westland. She had lived in Westland.

Survivors are parents David and Linda Glasel of Westland and grandparents Jack and Carole Glasel of Canton and Mary Mallinger. Grandfather Joseph Mallinger preceded her in death.

Local funeral arrangements were handled by McCabe Funeral Home Canton Chapel, Canton.

DORSEY O. PERKINS

A memorial service for Dorsey Perkins, 74, of Westland will be 2 p.m. Saturday, June 17, in Faith Baptist Church of Garden City, 30268 Marquette, Garden City, with burial at Mt. Pisgah Cemetery, Riverside, Ky. Officiating is the Rev. Luther Stanley.

Mrs. Perkins was born Nov. 9, 1925, in Riverside, Ky., and died June 5 in Garden City. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her sons, Bobbie (Kay) Perkins and Shelby (Kelly) Perkins; daughters, Patricia (Neel) Kibe, and Jearline Duffer; brother, Wesley Ray Morgan; 25 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Perkins was preceded in death by her

husband, Wesley "Bob" and daughter, Brenda (Howard) Kilmartin of Garden City.

ARTHUR M. FRUSHER

Services for Arthur Frusher, 80, of Wayne were June 6 in First United Methodist Church with burial at Glen Eden Cemetery in Livonia. Officiating was the Rev. Fred Cooley.

Mr. Frusher was born Feb. 7, 1920, and died June 1 at his home. He was a senior specification writer.

Surviving are his sons, Edward (Janet) Frusher, Carlton Frusher and Kevin (Nancy) Frusher; daughters, Pamela Ann (John) Failer and Alicia Pulley of Westland; and seven grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice.

Arrangements were made by Uht Funeral Home.

ADA A. MARSHALL

Services for Ada Marshall, 82, of Westland were June 13 in L.J. Griffin Funeral Home. Burial was private committal.

Mrs. Marshall was born March 12, 1918, in Morris, Okla., and died June 12 in Livonia.

Surviving are her husband, Russell; sons, William (Anita) Higgins, James (Nancy) Higgins and Kenneth (Debra) Higgins; daughters, Gloria (Richard) Anthony and Betty (Samuel) Stein.

OPAL A. TANNER

Services for Opal Tanner, 98, of Wayne were June 12 in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, Westland. Officiating was the Rev. Dan Broddus.

Mrs. Tanner was born Nov. 7, 1901, and died June 8. She was a homemaker. She was a clerk and buyer for Mulholland's Dry Goods for 42 years.

Surviving are her daughters, Dorothy Morris and Mary (Woodrow) Jones; 14 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. Several of the grandchildren live in Livonia and Westland.

Mrs. Tanner was preceded in death by her son, Robert Tanner.

DARRELL D. REDICK

Services for Darrell Redick, 68, of Westland were June 14 in John N. Santeiu & Son Memorial Home with burial at Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens, Livonia. Officiating was the Rev. Dale A. Redick from Cornerstone Baptist Church.

Mr. Redick was born July 25, 1931, in Faulkner, Ark., and died June 10 in Wayne. He was a truck driver.

Surviving are his wife, Joyce; sons, Darrell Jr. (Susan) Redick and Dale (Mimi) Redick; brothers, Clarence, Cecil and Harrell Redick (his twin); sisters, Minnie O'Quinn, Mamie Allen, Emma Gilbert and Martha Walters; and four grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Karmanos Cancer Research.

Westland man charged following police chase last Sunday

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER
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A 21-year-old Westland man was arraigned on three charges stemming from a chase with Canton police that extended into Romulus and Westland and involved officers from three police agencies.

Daman Lavern Palmer was arraigned Monday, June 12, at 35th District Court in Plymouth on two counts of fleeing and eluding police and three counts of malicious destruction to police vehicles, all felonies. Bond was set at \$5,000 or 10 percent. He

pleaded not guilty. Palmer's preliminary examination was set for 9 a.m. Monday, June 19.

Canton Police Capt. Laura Golles said Palmer couldn't have been caught without the cooperation of the three departments.

Palmer "went everywhere," Trooper Todd Etue of the Michigan State Police post in Taylor said.

The incident began around 1:20 a.m. Sunday, June 11, when Canton police responded to a call from Palmer's ex-girlfriend in the 1500 block of Manton, near Ford and Sheldon. She told police that Palmer had threat-

ened to kill himself at her residence.

Shortly after police arrived, they spotted Palmer's 1992 Chevy and attempted to make a traffic stop. Instead of stopping, however, Palmer reportedly accelerated rapidly and fled onto southbound I-275. The chase was halted as Palmer approached Eureka Road in Romulus.

Canton police returned to the Manton residence to finish the report when Palmer's vehicle was spotted again, prompting another police pursuit, which was terminated then restarted

as Canton officers assisted Michigan State Police. That chase extended into Westland via Ford Road.

Palmer reportedly called Westland police on his cellular phone. He asked that the Westland police cars back off in exchange for his turning himself in. He then turned himself in.

During this pursuit, Palmer allegedly ran a Canton patrol car off the road, struck another patrol car at Gordon and Morrison and struck an MSP vehicle in the Westland Police Department parking lot. No officers were injured.

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Grads savor their success

Thanks! Graduate Danielle Johnson of Westland gets help from husband Michael with her gown at commencement. Commencement was held Friday, June 9, at the Norman O. Stockmeyer Auditorium at Wayne Memorial High School in Wayne.

Adult/Community Education graduates for Wayne-Westland are: April Atkinson, Jonathon M. Blanton, Ron Boggess, Robert A. Brincat, Charles Matthew Burkhard, Raquel Anntoinette Calhoun, Craig A. Command, Candace J. Conrad, Krystal Coon, Ediola Dushku, Lindsay Ellis, Michelle Margaret Eminger, Danny Alan Grudzinskas, Pennylee B. Habicht, Jeffery D. Howton, Nicholas T. Meier, Jason Michael Merchant, Maxie D. Mitchell, Cassie Anastacia Monroe, Kenneth Scott Mosier, Jacob Michael Moss, Michael P. Nadolski, Eric James Ostrander, Chris

Overmyer, Sarah Marie Piskowski, Regina Tyree Poellnitz, Ernest P. Schiffer, Tracy Lynnett Takach, Matt VanOoyen, Robert Elesworth Wilson.

Graduates from other schools are: Dan Ryan Denomme, Lewis E. Mamari and Victoria Ann Pringle, John Glenn High School; Brandon Charles Jamieson, Shatina Marie Lavender, Ronnie James Slaughter II, Lindsey Star Roberts and Christopher Michael Saylor, Wayne Memorial; Bekim Gocaj, Robert James Kelly, Catherine Anne Mijal, Jennifer A. Nykanen, Jennifer Lynn Potter, Lucas James Roberts, James N. Thomas and Darren Michael Young, Tinkham Alternative.

GED recipients are Scott Edward Ackman, Sherrie Ann Bacheller, Larry Fernando Bazan, Geoffrey Michael Beckler, Nicole Marie Bialo, Trinity Keith Blackburn, Erin Michella Blair, Kenneth Ray Boyd, Ane Bozinovich, Tiffany Verneika Bryant, Anthony Robert Bullock, Jeffrey Lloyd Burden, Brandi Lynn Burklow, Gregory Vincent Carr, Brian Ashley Carter, Angela Marr Caufield, Christina Mae Coak, Douglas Daniel Coleman, Lisa Marie Colter, Gerri N. Cook, Nathan A. Corrado, Miranda Jean Cronenwett, Nicole Lynn Crum, Ronald Lee Culp, Theresa Mary Daly, Joshua Anthony Day, Marian Louise Dimitrievski, Deana Marie Dingman, Rebecca Elaine Dinse, Jeremy Michael Duncan.

Lamar Antoine Ealy, Rebecca Ann Evans, Michael Jennings Finney, Angela Lynn Flatt, Angela Rachelle Gardynik, Tayo Ajibola Gbadebo, Ian R. Groff, Craig Ira Hall, Richard Sanford Hanchett, James Carle Hanlon, Nathanael Adam Hannah, Elizabeth A. Hart, Darren Nathan Harvey, Carrie Ann Hathorne, Harold Havro, Candice Ann Hendershot, Benjamin Richard Hibbard, Kimberly Nicole Holt,



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

I did it! It's all smiles for graduate Edith Powers of Westland. The 80-year-old quit school back in 1937, two credits hours short of graduating. "Kind of thrilling," she said after earning her GED and graduating at the Wayne-Westland Community Schools commencement exercise for adult/community education. Her enthusiasm was shared by classmates and their loved ones.

John Paul Hooper, Toni Marie Huber, Eric D. Irwin, Marisa Clare Jacques, William L. Jarvis, Danielle Lynn Johnson, Kimberly M. Johnson, Timothy Lee Johnson, Eric Albert Jones, Kevin Lee Jones, Martin John Kalbarczyk, Bill Kircos, Melissa Lynn Kirkpatrick, Jessica Ray Kjellin, Jennifer Kate Kondratowicz, Rebecca Lynn Kowalsky.

Scott Martin Lemon, Matthew Joseph Leonard, Aaron S. Lewis, Susan Jane Lietz, John D. Lilley, Tiffany Danielle Love, Herman Shawn Martin, Lisa A. McClester, Jason Robert McKeehan, Kevin Lee McLaughlin, Steven James McNally, Daniel John Meshriy, David Lenn Miller, Scott Allen Miller, Chris D. Moore, Kenneth C. Moore, Rodrick Patton Mullins, Jereny James Nadolski, Michael Donovan Norum, Bradford Thomas Nugent, Judith Ann Nykanen, Shannon Nicole Ostrosky, Larry M. Parson, Justin Marc Petty, Donna Louise Pierce, Robert Lance Pilch, Brandon Lee Ponder, Edith E. Powers, Sarah Elizabeth Powers, Daniel Edward Pullam.

Kristy Renee Reagan,

ELMuhammad Rhodes, Tiffany Elaine Rickett, Jerry Lee Riewe, Ernest Randall Rodabaugh, Cynthia Ann Roussey, Stephen Paul Ryan, Kimberly Lynn Schafer, Stephanie Marie Schultz, Amanda Sue Sergent, Stephen M. Sheridan, Beth Ann Sizeland, Shaun Jason Slesinski, Justin W. Smith, Roy Eddie Spearman, Gabrielle Renee Swank, Michael H. Taulbee, Earl Eugene Taylor, Dale Stewart Thoms, Marcia Elizabeth Turner, Augustus Tyler, Joseph C. Vendlends, Bridgette Nicole Walsh, Tiffany Kay Welch, Michael Robert Wieckowski, Megan Elizabeth Williams, Tonya Marie Williams, Denise M. Wilson, Melissa Susanna Winnie, Stephaniea Joyce Wood and Kristin Renee Young.

Scholarship recipients for 2000 are: Timothy Lee Johnson and Justin Marc Petty, Adult/Community Education; Regina Tyree Poellnitz, Wayne-Westland Education Association; Marcia Elizabeth Turner, Wayne Kiwanis Club P.D. Graham Memorial Scholarship; Catherine Anne Mijal, Wayne-Westland Central Office Administrator's Associa-

tion; Tiffany Danielle Love, Adult Education Staff.



Here we come: Brandi Burklow (left) and Jessica Kjellin, both of Westland, walk to line up for commencement.



Good example: Austin Blair, 2 1/2, walks with his mother, Erin Blair of Westland, prior to commencement.

FATHER'S DAY JUNE 18TH

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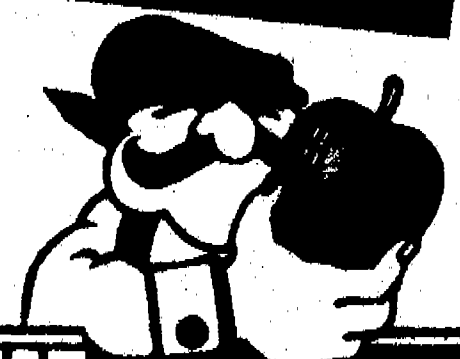
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Win

from page A1

pared with Eisiminger's 751, Wright's 487 and Deniston's 272. Just 1,351 of the district's 70,000 registered voters bothered to cast ballots in one of the quietest Wayne-Westland school board races in memory, according to election officials.

That's a 1.9-percent turnout. "I had hoped for a better turnout," Eisiminger said.

Schofield, a Wayne resident and office manager for a family-run property management business, attributed her first-place finish to support from parents who identified with her pro-edu-

cation activities.

She has served on numerous district committees, including a citizen panel that supported a voter-approved, \$108.3 million bond issue in 1998 that led to long-delayed school building improvements.

"I think I have a good handle on what's going on in the district," Schofield said Monday, amid a small group of people awaiting election results at school district offices on Marquette.

Schofield, who has three children in Wayne-Westland schools, cited curriculum improvements and marketing the district's strengths as her top priorities.

"I'm excited, and I appreciate the support the community has shown for me," she said. "I hope

the decisions I make justify that support."

Eisiminger, a Westland resident and real estate associate broker, won the election 11 months after he was chosen as a school board appointee. He replaced former President David Cox, who stepped down and accepted a Westland City Council appointment.

Eisiminger, who also has three children in local schools, celebrated Monday with about 50 supporters at Fire Academy Brewery & Grill on Wayne Road. He attributed his win to "a lot of friends and family and people that truly know me."

Eisiminger said his top priority will be to continue improving the Wayne-Westland district's image.

Schofield carried 13 of the district's 17 voting precincts and tied with Eisiminger in one. Eisiminger captured the most votes in two precincts, Wright in one. One precinct, Jefferson-Barns Elementary School, had only nine voters all day.

Schofield led in votes cast by absentee ballot.

District election officials had predicted that 1,700-1,800 voters would cast ballots in Monday's school board race, but unofficial totals showed that just 1,351 people voted.

Absentee ballots accounted for 303 voters, meaning that just 1,048 of the district's 70,000 registered voters actually went to the polls.

Some of those voters included Michigan Education Association-

affiliated employees who favored union-endorsed Schofield and Eisiminger.

Robert Kowalczyk, executive director of the Wayne-Westland Education Association, said Schofield's involvement in the school bond construction committee made her a standout candidate.

Kowalczyk commended the job Eisiminger has done as a board appointee.

"He has shown he's willing to listen to the teachers and the other union employees," Kowalczyk said.

Schofield and Eisiminger will join board holdovers Mathew McCusker, Lorne "Skip" Monit, Martha Pitsenbarger, Teresa Robbins and Ed Turner. Each board member earns little more

than \$1,800 a year.

Board President Robin Moore didn't seek re-election and will step down June 30.

Baracy, the superintendent, said the board will face money problems that could result in a budget deficit within two years.

The district's new \$105.7 million spending plan, approved Tuesday, trims the budget surplus from \$10.9 million to \$5.4 million. A similar trend the following year could leave the district with no money.

Baracy blamed budget woes on money that he said the district has lost since voters passed 1994's tax-slashing Proposal A. Baracy said Wayne-Westland has lost \$70 million in revenue since 1994.

Case

from page A1

of embezzlement over \$1,000 by an agent or trustee; and one misdemeanor charge of embezzlement over \$200 by an agent or trustee. She could face 10 years in prison if convicted.

The latest development came three weeks after Sanders resigned her \$88,000-a-year job and agreed to repay \$8,000.

Defense attorney Elbert Hatchett has described Sanders as innocent of criminal charges that shocked pupils, parents and educators at a school that far surpassed three other Wayne-Westland middle schools on new student scores on Michigan Educational Assessment Program, or MEAP, tests.

Sanders has declined to comment under advice from her attorney, but one local NAACP activist came to her defense Tuesday during a telephone call to the Observer.

Jim Netter commended Sanders for devoting her time and money to help him in 1997 when he chaired the first Freedom Fund Dinner for the Western Wayne County Branch of the NAACP.

Netter said Sanders sold event tickets and also used her own money to buy flowers for certain dignitaries, although she was later repaid.

"She handled money for me, and all I can say is she did it as good as a banker," Netter said. "She was excellent."

Netter also praised Sanders for leading innovative programs at Adams, a 900-student school.

"I don't know anything about her except that she's a fine human being," he said. "As a principal, she has helped save the lives of young children of all colors - most of them white."

Referring to criminal charges against Sanders, Netter said, "I'm sure it's just a misunderstanding."

Sanders, a 30-year district employee and seven-year principal, remains free on a \$5,000 personal bond. A not-guilty plea has been placed in her court file.

Police Chief Emery Price has said the investigation spanned hundreds of hours and delved into embezzling allegations as far back as 18 months. The police file submitted to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office was about 200 pages thick.

Sanders was a highly decorated principal and has appeared on a city of Westland cable television program, "People Worth Watching," that features some of the community's most respected citizens.

Police and school officials have declined to cite a possible motive for the alleged embezzling activity. Price has said he doesn't want to try the case in the press.



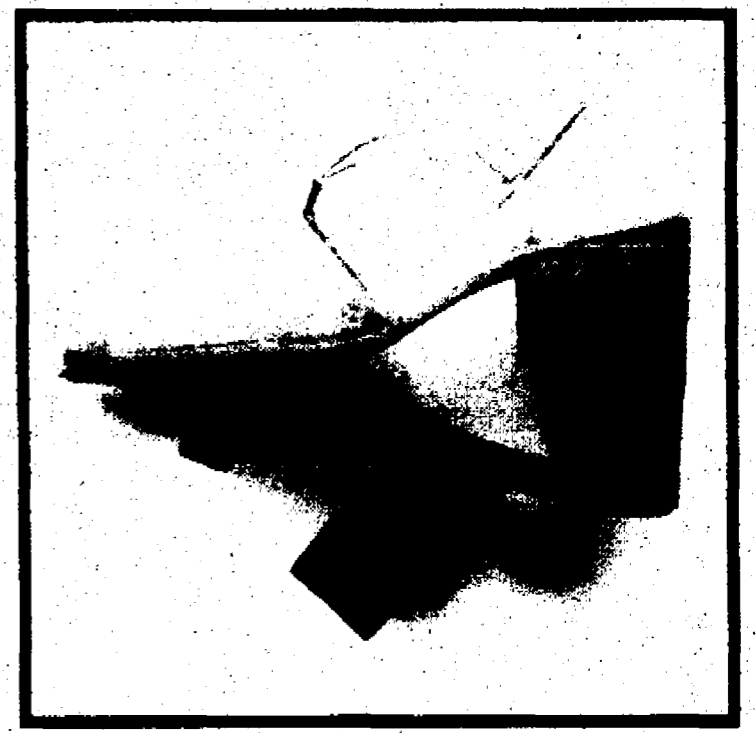
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Gas prices making area officials nervous

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
rpearl@oe.hometown.com

Frustrated about the price of petrol these days? You're not alone.

The rapid rise in gasoline prices is making government officials across Wayne County nervous, too.

While some tax exemptions keep government fleets from paying quite as much for unleaded gas as do average consumers, they are still affected by the increases.

On Tuesday, one called the price run-up "frightening."

Brian Wilson, assistant superintendent for public services for the city of Livonia, said if the city had purchased fuel the day before, "our price would have increased 88 percent since last month."

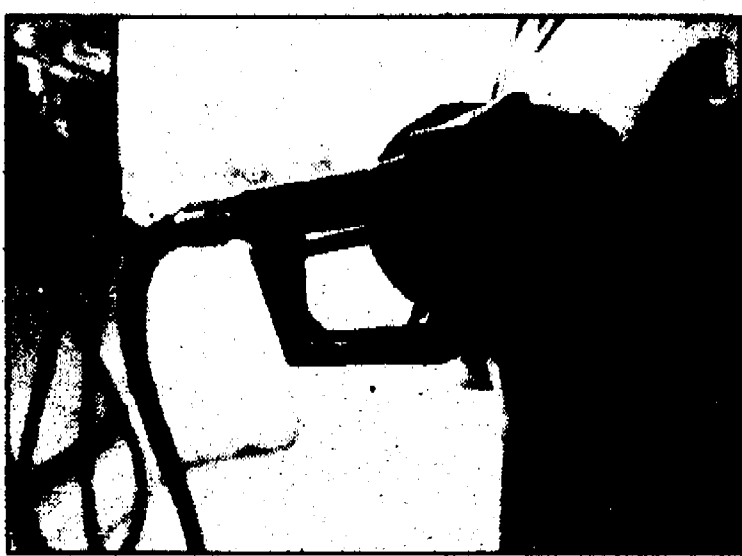
"It's frightening, really," he said of the seemingly unending run-up, which AAA Michigan said Monday broke two records — one for the largest weekly jump (27.1 cents) since 1973, when AAA began tracking prices, and the other for highest statewide gas average: \$2.011 for self-serve unleaded.

None of the public officials contacted by the Observer anticipate any immediate cutbacks in services, but they were concerned about the financial impact.

Livonia has \$120,000 budgeted for fuel for public services such as maintenance of facilities, streets and traffic signs; grass-cutting at golf courses and parks and forestry service, as well as for the water and sewer department, said Wilson.

The city purchases fuel

At the pump: Gas prices soared up to \$2.19 a gallon at some stations in western Wayne County by mid-week.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

through the Tri-County Public Purchasing Cooperative, which includes Southfield, West Bloomfield, Novi, Troy and Sterling Heights, he said. It has to fill its two 10,000-gallon underground tanks every three weeks, but has had no problem with deliveries and doesn't foresee any.

But "if we have sustained (higher) prices for unleaded

See related story page A10

fuel, said Wilson, "we may have to look into moving some money and scramble around a bit."

Leo Snage, director of public services for Redford Township, said, "We're hoping and praying that the prices go back down."

"But if they don't go back down, we may have to deal with the finance department for a budget adjustment," he said.

Garden City Fire Chief Mike Todd said the current price increase won't affect emergency services. The city has a contract with a private vendor.

However, he said, Garden City started looking at "alternative

ways of fueling (equipment), such as natural gas, propane" long before the present situation.

"The federal government mandates that a certain amount of a city's fleet be alternative fuel vehicles," he explained. Todd acknowledged continued price increases could push the city to review the budget.

Cameron "Kim" Priebe, Wayne County public services director, said road work plans aren't being changed.

"If necessary, we'll have to eat into our fund balance" to get it done, he said. "All the work we do is relatively seasonal, so we want to continue and get it done. And there's plenty of work to be done."

All those contacted said their respective departments are telling staffers to cut back on fuel usage wherever possible.

"We're telling people not to let engines idle," said Redford's Snage. "If you're not using it, turn it off."

Engler: We'll not seek emission waiver

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
rpearl@oe.hometown.com

There's a way Gov. John Engler could ease the gas-price run-up, but he's not going to, a spokesman said Tuesday.

Not so much because the fuel that could be sold would increase pollution in the short run, but because it would significantly hurt economic development in the long run, said John Truscott, Engler's communications director.

Engler could petition the federal Environmental Protection Agency for a waiver permitting Michigan service stations to sell higher-emissions unleaded gas, the spokesman said.

But the EPA will use the resulting higher emissions data when it considers approving new projects such as the proposed General Motors plant for Lansing and the rebuilding of the Ford Rouge facility, Truscott said.

"We can request a waiver. However, it would be held against the state," he said.

"If our emissions are too high (in total), we can't expand."

The EPA "looks at all the emissions in the air and (considers) how much emissions a plant is likely to produce. And if it we're over the limit, we don't get new plants," Truscott said.

"Ironically," he said, Ford plans to make the huge Rouge plant "environmentally friendly."

But they could be restricted" by the EPA.

Among fuel-oil distributors talking to Engler is Sam Simon, owner of Atlas Oil Co. of Taylor, southeast Michigan's largest distributor of petroleum products.

Simon, whose customers include the City of Garden City, the Taylor school district and the Meijer and Costco discount stores, said he told Engler the problem is a shortage of the specific fuel mandated by the EPA to control ozone emissions.

He said the gas required during the June 1 to Sept. 15 summer ozone season carries a Reid Vapor Pressure rating of 7.8 pounds, but that "The refineries didn't do a good enough job" of producing it.

However, there's plenty of gas rated at 9.4 pounds — which would produce more fumes, he said, but not as much as the 13-pound RVP-rated gas sold the rest of the year. It also would be a lot cheaper.

Since the refineries can't come back and produce more 7.8 gas, said Simon, they are putting their dealers on allocation, limiting monthly quantities.

To keep from running out of gas and having no business, said Simon, dealers are raising prices to reduce demand.

When the pipeline near Jackson burst, things got worse.

"This (situation) is going to stay for a little bit," Simon said.

Truscott said the EPA slowed the pipeline repair by mandating the state check each of the stople valves like the one that failed.

"These have never failed before," Truscott said, "so it's not like it has a history of failure."

State Sen. George Z. Hart, D-Deerborn, has joined fellow Democratic Sens. Burton Leland and Ray Murphy, both Detroit; Dianne Byrum, Onondaga, and Don Koivisto, Ironwood, on a partisan task force to investigate the price increases.

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State colleges highly rated, but voters worry about cost

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

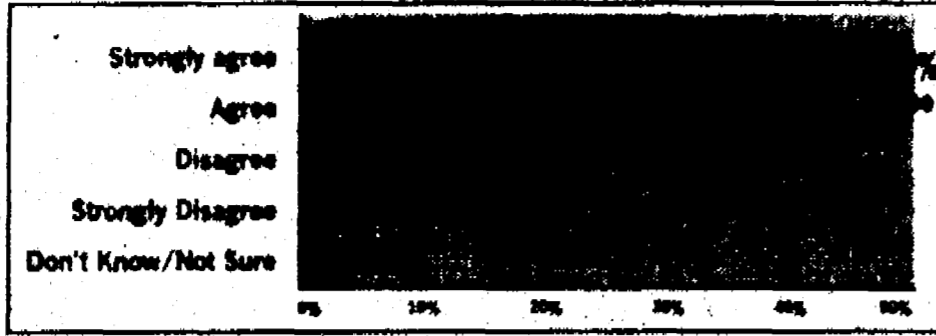
Michigan residents are happy with their state universities but concerned about increasing tuition costs. They would like the state to increase its support in relation to tuition.

These are the findings of a survey conducted by Rossman Martin & Associates for the Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan. The poll of 600 Michigan voters was conducted April 24 to May 1 of this year.

"We're pleased to see that our universities are viewed positively by the public, more than 90 percent saying so for value and quality of education," said Dr. Glenn R. Stevens, executive director of the Presidents Council, during a wide-ranging conversation with Observer editors Friday. "And it's also important for the other things universities are doing that there is an awareness and appreciation that universities do research and that has an impact on quality of life issues."

The survey finds that 92.1 percent of voters rate Michigan's 15 public universities as good or better, 44.5 percent rating them very good. University research was rated as important by 25.3 percent.

The survey also found that 30.7 percent of those polled



Costly: Most surveyed feel Michigan colleges are getting too expensive.

believe the state's storied sports programs are probably the best known feature of state schools nationwide, but medicine and academic research also rated highly. The state's negative image as a place of drinking and party schools was only cited by 3.1 percent.

But residents are clearly concerned about rising costs, with 85.3 percent saying they agree or strongly agree that Michigan public universities are too expensive. The majority of those polled, 76.5 percent, believe students should pay some of their education costs, but 85.4 percent say the state should increase funding to state universities.

The Presidents Council says that, nationally, states pay for about two-thirds of public college funding, while in Michigan, the state pays only about a half.

While emphasizing that state funding has improved in recent

years and that relations are good between the universities, Gov. John Engler and the Legislature, Stevens said the organization wants to promote consistency in state funding.

"We are challenged by the uncertainty about what the state would provide," Stevens said. "We need to increase state support and have continued restraint on tuition."

Stevens outlined three challenges faced by the state university system, which is the sixth largest public university system in the nation with about 260,000 students. First is tuition restraint. Second is attracting "the best possible faculty to compete in the national marketplace." Third is working with the private sector in economic development of the state.

Stevens said he is happy with the relationship the universities have built with the state's Eco-

nomie Development Corporation. He said partnerships with industry have helped them with research and development while drawing their support for the universities and attracting federal research money.

He said research is important but it is also important not to burden students with the cost of the research.

"The question is how do you do these things objectively and independently. This is also an important issue for corpora-

tions," Stevens said.

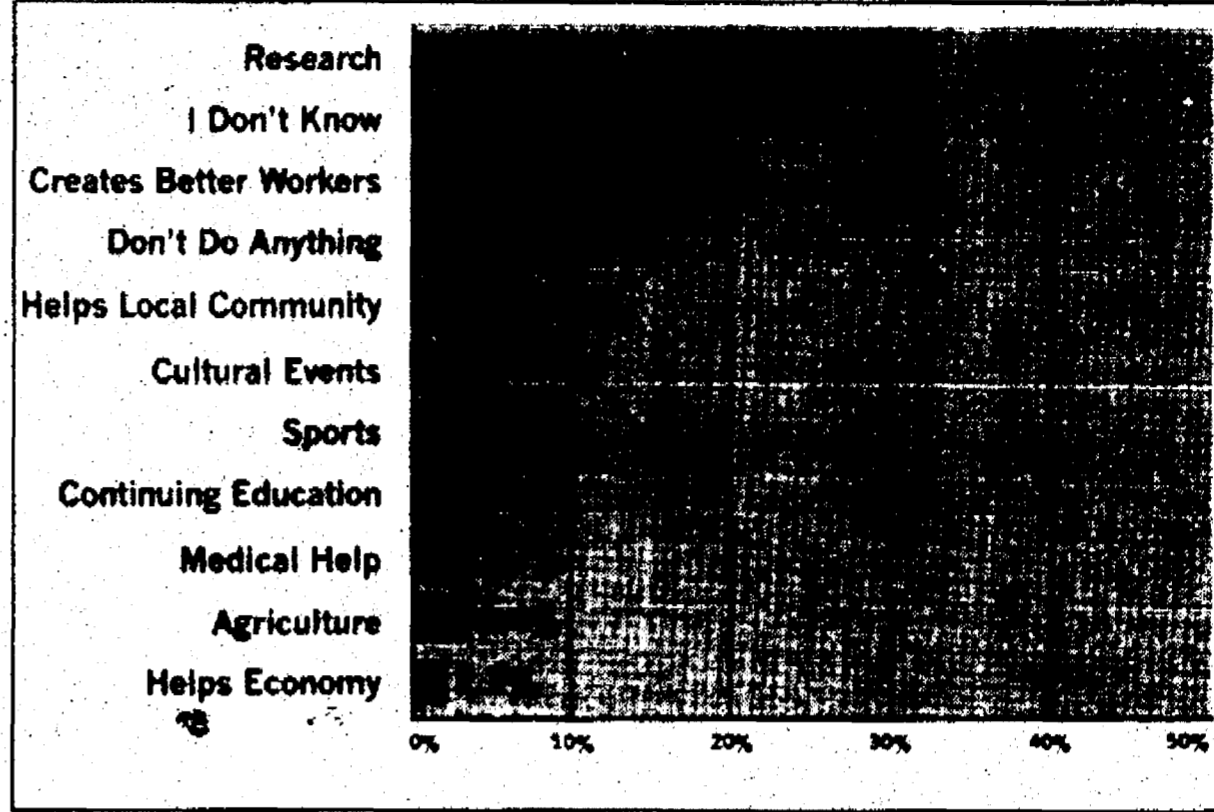
Ed Bagale, vice chancellor for government relations for the University of Michigan-Dearborn, said it was important to provide continuing education in a number of disciplines, including engineering and education, strong majors at his school.

"In our school of engineering, when we graduate a student what they learned at the beginning of their studies becomes obsolete by the time they graduate, so there is a need for ongo-

ing education."

Stevens and Bagale said the question of who should profit from patents developed at a university is important but that few universities, outside of Michigan and Michigan State, will be involved in the kind of research that will result in large profits.

Stevens said the universities are still trying to determine how the MEAP Merit Awards will fit into funding and how they will count toward a student's financial package.



Details: Anyone who could name three state universities was also asked what else the institutions did that benefited the people of Michigan. Research was the number one answer.

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We know: Lifeguard Kristen Stone asks the kindergartners if they know what a life jacket is. The answer? Yes.



Listen up: Bailey Center pool lifeguard Kristen Stone of Westland talks to kindergartners from Kettering Elementary School about water safety as part of their field day at the pool.

STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Rules of the pool get a kiddie review

Youngsters from Kettering Elementary School got lessons in water safety during a recent visit to the Bailey Center pool in Westland.

Lifeguard Kristen Stone talked about the buddy system, look before you leap, pool and lake safety, life jackets, when it is safe to go into the water and general rules at the pool. The 38 kindergartners were from teacher Glenna Erickson Horvath's classroom.

"It's been a great program," said Debbie Lindquist, pool supervisor. Lifeguards look forward to it.

"It's a fun day for them," Lindquist said. Kids learn a lot.

The water safety program is through the Red Cross and called Longfellow Whale's Tales. It's for children in kindergarten through sixth grade.

"We teach them backyard water safety," Lindquist said. Children learn basic first aid.

The program is offered at the end of each school year and is popular. "We're booked every day. The kids love it."

Children swim as part of the field trip and go to the nearby park. They usually bring a bag lunch.

She agreed it's important for youngsters, especially in lake-filled Michigan, to learn water safety. Some children come back to the pool during the summer and mention their water safety program.

For all swimmers, the extended hours start Saturday at the pool: noon to 3:30 p.m. and 4:30-7:30 p.m. daily. Teen Night is 7-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays.



Carefree: Kindergartners from Kettering Elementary enjoy a morning field trip at the Bailey Center pool in Westland recently. The children also listened to a water safety program before swimming.

■ 'We're booked every day. The kids love it.'

Debbie Lindquist
—pool supervisor

Naser, Whitehead win in Livonia

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

A second helping of electoral politics proved fulfilling for Larry Naser and Kevin Whitehead.

Naser and Whitehead, who ran unsuccessfully last year, rebounded to take two open seats on the Livonia school board in Monday's annual school election.

Naser, 40, took first overall with 3,124 votes. Whitehead collected 2,820 ballots.

Alicia Douglas finished third with 2,151 votes in her first campaign. Retired teacher Clifford Thompson — who also unsuccessfully sought a board seat in 1993 — ran a distant fourth with 649 votes.

As expected, few voters took part. Just 4,923 — or 6 percent — of 80,050 registered voters cast ballots.

The crowd at Naser's victory party doubled that number in enthusiasm. More than 200 people worked on his highly visible campaign, which included 45 of those people phoning voters during the weekend.

"What can I say? I'm overwhelmed and I'm humbled," said Naser, who finished third in last year's election.

At St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church, a woman greeted a visitor by thrusting her index finger indicating Naser's first-place finish. The Rev. George Shalhoub and others snapped photos of the celebrants.

His being the first Arab-American elected to office in Livonia wasn't lost on those at the church, many of whose members are Palestinian-American.

"They have always been supportive of me," Naser said. "They said 'just run. You won't have to pay a penny to run your campaign.'"

His support extended beyond the St. Mary's Church community. Several Livonia elected officials joined Naser near the podium as he thanked those who backed him.

State Rep. Laura Toy, R-Livonia; Councilman Joe Laura; and school board members Frank Kokenakes, Patrick Nalley and Dianne Nay flanked the victorious candidate.

"I love these people," said Naser, who was also joined by his wife, Carmen, and his parents. "They never attached any strings on what they did for me."

Whitehead was buoyed by similar support from the school community. Former Trustee Pat Tancill and Carol Strom were among those who worked on his campaign.

In June 1999, Whitehead finished last in a five-candidate field.

"Last year, we had three or four folks trying to do the whole thing," said Whitehead as his post-election reception at his Minton Street home was winding down around 10:30 p.m. "This year, we had a committee."

Whitehead, 39, plans to visit schools and learn more about board procedures. Naser and Whitehead will be sworn in Monday, July 10.

"We want to make decisions for the right reasons," Whitehead said. "It's really neat to go onto a board that has worked well together and has already done some positive things for the district."

Douglas, 31, who finished 669 votes behind Whitehead, was encouraged by her showing. She was the first candidate to file in January and mounted a vigorous grassroots campaign.

Douglas plans to run next year.

"I knew it would be close," said Douglas. "I thought people would want to keep an overall balance on the board with three women (Kirsten Galka and Joanne Morgan remain. Dianne Nay didn't seek re-election).

"Now there's not — there's two women and five men."

Thompson's 649 votes is 265 more than he received in 1999. He ran on a plea for teaching the fundamentals and more technology.

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Airport 'very near' to turning over financial records

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

A Wayne County airports official said the county's executive branch was "very near to completing discussions" with the county commission's attorney about turning over Detroit Metropolitan Airport records on the APCOA parking lot operations when "this subcommittee thing popped up."

Michael Conway, airports pub-

lic information officer, spoke in response to a Detroit daily newspaper's story Wednesday that the commission's ways and means committee had voted Tuesday to subpoena County Executive Edward H. McNamara to provide the records.

The story said McNamara's staff and airport officials have refused to provide the information to the commission, which is looking into airport operations, as is a state Senate committee. But Conway said the county

"executive branch was in discussion with" commission counsel Ben Washburn, "negotiating a manner in which to deliver these documents that doesn't damage the county's position in pending lawsuits."

The county is suing APCOA to recover about \$1 million in alleged overcharges for leased vehicles used to take passengers to parking lots, based on a 1998 parking audit by commission Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy.

Commissioner Lyn Bankes, Rivonia, a member of the ways and means committee, disputed that any subpoena came out of the committee meeting.

"We were in closed session a couple of hours and there was no strong consensus as to whether to subpoena McNamara, she said.

"I don't think there was a majority to subpoena, but" Ricardo Solomon, chair of both ways and means and the county commission, "was going ahead as if

there were."

Furthermore, she said, the power-outage Tuesday in downtown Detroit made it unlikely any formal notification to McNamara would be ready by today (Thursday), when the story said Solomon would deliver it.

And, she said, "Some people (on the committee) are tired of appearing to be feuding with" McNamara.

June West, McNamara's spokeswoman, noted the motion was not passed by the entire

commission, which meets this morning. West thought it was "very unlikely" the full commission would take such an action.

In explaining the negotiations with Washburn, Conway said, "It's a long-standing county policy to very carefully manage documents that could turn out to be discovery in pending lawsuits, so that they couldn't be disseminated to other parties to the litigation and therefore damage the county's case."

"We were in the process of doing this and very near to completing the discussions" when the subpoena vote was taken, "and there was nobody there from the county executive branch" to explain the situation, Conway said.

He also took exception to claims that many high-ranking county airports department employees lack previous experience in airport operations.

Conway cited Hassen Makled, assistant division director of operations, whom he said has been with airport 26 years, working his way through different duties and responsibilities to get to his present position.

Conway said Barbara Hogan, appointed as Conway's deputy last year and who handles his division's budget, has more than a high school diploma: "She has some college. She studied marketing and communications at Madonna" in Livonia.

Conway said his staff tallied up the years of experience of the 18 Metro Airport managers and got 193 total years.

Besides, he said, "Anybody older than 40 is not going to have aviation management degrees" because the degrees are relatively new.

Conway himself had outside public relations experience before coming to the airports department and now serves as a vice-chair of a committee with the Airports Council International, a lobbying group for North American airports.

"You don't get to that position by being a nitwit," he said.

Van pool avoids gas crunch

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

Car- or van-pooling and telecommunicating are getting new looks these days as ways of saving money and fuel.

"It's hard to get people to pay attention" to such transportation alternatives "when (gasoline is) 99 cents a gallon, but now it's getting into people's pocket-books," said Paul Tait, executive director of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

"Given the inadequate funding for mass transit that we have, this (gas price spiraling) should be a wake-up call for us," he said.

At 20 miles per gallon per vehicle, traveling 8,000 miles per year to and from work, a person pooling or telecommunicating can save an estimated \$1,200 per year at today's \$2-a-gallon prices, Tait said.

By telecommunicating - using computers, faxes and telephones to work from home - a person can perhaps avoid driving a couple days a week, he said.

SEMCOG already has its (313) 963-RIDE program in place. It matches - free of charge - riders with drivers of automobiles (door-to-door transportation) or vans, which pick up and drop off people at collection points.

Anita Blasius, SEMCOG outreach program manager, said the agency has 2,500 poolers in its seven-county database. The main restriction is that riders work within the region.

While carpools involve personal vehicle use and sharing of either fuel costs or driving duties, the vans, which hold seven to 15 people, are leased by SEMCOG and require a monthly commitment by passengers, who pay a fee.

"If you carpool, you automatically cut the cost of commuting by 50 percent," said Blasius, who did it for three years.

For more information, call Blasius at (313) 961-4266, ext. 235. A Web site at www.semco.org/rideshare has an online application.

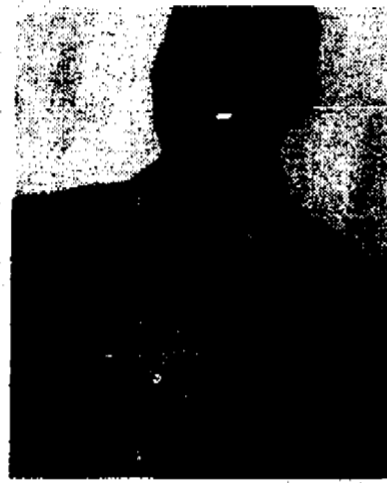
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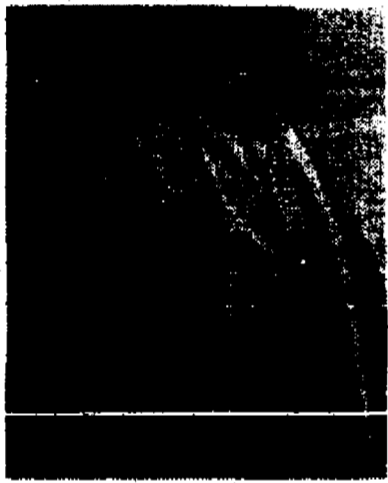
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Sewer overflows topic of regional meeting June 21

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

Sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) - a hot topic, considering the recent \$3.25-million judgment against Dearborn Heights for flooded basements resulting from one - will be examined at this month's Rouge Remedial Action Plan Advisory Council (RRAC) meeting.

The meeting will be 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, at the Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road, about a half-block south of Goddard Road.

Scheduled to participate are state Rep. Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights; Tom Rohrer, chief of water quality enforcement for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; and possibly state Sen. Shirley Johnson, R-Royal Oak. The program will

consist of presentations followed by questions and answers.

Sanitary sewer overflows recently garnered more public attention when federal Judge John Feikens proposed that MDEQ permit SSOs into the Rouge River during extreme weather conditions - a move which would ease sanctions against communities in which SSOs occur.

Feikens is overseeing cleanup of the Rouge.

Sanitary sewer overflows are discharges of raw or inadequately treated sewage from municipal sanitary sewer systems, which are designed to carry domestic sewage, but not storm water. SSOs are different from combined sewer overflows (CSOs), which are from sewer systems designed to carry both domestic and stormwater loads.

When an SSO occurs, raw sewage may be released into basements, city streets, properties, rivers and streams. They are illegal and often threaten the environment and public health.

The MDEQ aims to identify the separate sanitary sewer overflow discharges in the state and take appropriate regulatory actions to eliminate them.

Royal Oak's Johnson has introduced legislation that would increase notification requirements for SSO reporting by local governments.

Her Senate Bill 1201 is opposed by RRAC, which said the bill "seems to add more burdensome and costly state mandates for communities who already have to comply with numerous and expensive federal Clean Water Act requirements."

College offers workshop for English teachers

Madonna University in Livonia is offering an English workshop in June.

"Approaches to Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*," a workshop for teachers, will be held on Friday, June 23, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday, June 24, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Students will read, discuss and

write about Morrison's first novel, *The Bluest Eye*. The book will be placed in its socio-historical context and in the canon of African-American literature. Ways to teach the book will be explored.

Spring/summer registration is in progress. Call (734) 432-5339.

Wetlands effort wins national honor

(PRNewswire) - The U.S. Department of Transportation recently announced that Wayne County's Crosswinds Marsh Wetland Interpretive Preserve was honored with a Merit Award as part of the Design for Transportation National Awards 2000.

The awards, distributed every five years, recognize those facilities that have made an outstanding contribution to the nation's transportation systems and the people they serve. This is the third national award won by Crosswinds Marsh.

"We are deeply honored to receive this national recognition," said Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara.

One of the largest built wetlands in the country, the 950-acre preserve was designed and constructed to compensate for unavoidable wetlands impacts resulting from expansion of the Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport.

"In a process that took over a year, drains were redirected, enormous basins were excavat-

COUNTY NEWS

ed; and thousands of tons of dirt were moved to create 367 acres of wetland," said Airport Director Lester Robinson. "The wetland was designed to provide a variety of ecological functions, including wildlife and fish habitat, storm water management, and water quality improvement."

Crosswinds Marsh also serves as the focus of a variety of interpretive, educational and passive recreational activities with hiking trails, boardwalks, canoe trails and equestrian trails. Fishing platforms, wetland gardens and a screen house are provided to allow visitors to experience the wetland environment while protecting the ecological integrity of the Marsh.

SmithGroup JJR, a nationally recognized landscape architect, urban planning, civil engineering and environmental services firm, led a multidisciplinary team of environmental special-

ists throughout the design and implementation of the project.

Wayne County's Detroit Metro Airport manages the maintenance of Crosswinds Marsh and the Wayne County Division of Parks manages public access.

Crosswinds Marsh is located in the southwest corner of Wayne County, off Haggerty Road west of I-275 in Sumpter Township. Visitors are encouraged to experience a unique wetland habitat that is home to over 172 species of plants, 25 species of birds, 11 species of fish and 28 species of mammals, as well as a pair of bald eagles which have been observed building a nest in the marsh.

In addition to the merit award presented by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Crosswinds Marsh also received the President's Award of Excellence from the American Society of Landscape Architects and an Environmental Achievement Award from Airports Council International-North America in 1999.



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Former police chief: Watch neighborhood

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@oe.hometown.com

His impersonations of Ronald Reagan and Jimmy Carter weren't the best, but Isaiah McKinnon's message to members of the Garden City and Westland chambers of commerce was.

"You can make a difference," said McKinnon. "Some of us have to show we're concerned. As police chief, each and every time a child was killed or injured, I would go and talk to the family. It was important to be there to show concern and that I cared."

has spent his "golden years" teaching at the University of Detroit Mercy, doing his Emmy Award-winning "Stay Safe with Ike" series for WDIV-TV and traveling around the country talking to people.

And for his June 6 speech in Westland, he talked about the 35 years of education he received as a Detroit police officer and what needs to be done to thwart crime and keep young people out of trouble.

McKinnon peppered his speech anecdotes about meeting five U.S. presidents - Dwight Eisenhower, Reagan, George Bush,

Carter and Bill Clinton - and with reasons why people need to become the "nosy neighbor."

"I was most impressed with Ronald Reagan; he was everybody's grandfather," he said. "We talked for five minutes and he talked about police work."

McKinnon referred back to his upbringing - he was raised on the lower east side of Detroit "where many young men didn't make it" - and to his late father who sat on his porch and became the consummate nosy neighbor to show what can be done.

After his father retired, he took to sitting on his front porch and became the neighbor who knew the residents, knew the kids and knew what was going on.

According to McKinnon, that kind of person sends a message to the criminal element.

"Crooks know there's those who don't care, but they should know that there are those people out there who do care," he said. "I'm concerned because in 35 years as a police officer I saw a lack of concern. We have to think about taking on some responsibility to become that neighbor."

Recalling the black eye Detroit endured because of Devil's Night fires and the army of people

mobilized to stop, he questioned why "we can't we get 30,000 people to work with young people."

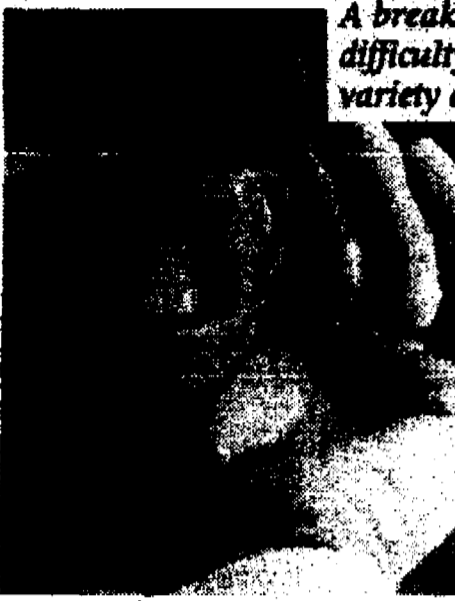
"We have so many people who, regardless of their ethnic background, don't have leadership," he said. "We can continue to build prisons and let them become hotels for our young people, but the young person going to prison only comes out a better crook."

McKinnon also expressed concern about his audience, especially their elderly parents, becoming victims of crime. He encouraged them to talk to seniors "because there are people out there who will take advantage of them," pointing to the home improvement scams that crop up in the spring and summer months.

"Come this time of year, these people come up from Georgia and South Carolina," said McKinnon. "I know one woman they took for \$30,000. If one goes away, another will take his place."

McKinnon recalled one of his episodes of "Stay Safe" in which a staffer went to a house and claimed to be a utility repairman. The homeowner didn't recall calling for repairs, but invited the man inside anyway.

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THE VERTICAL FILE
Before the internet and before the age of electronic information retrieval, each library kept a collection of pamphlets, maps, brochures and other information in a Vertical File.

Sometimes known as a Pamphlet File, these Vertical Files house bits and pieces of information that predates computers and are filed alphabetically by subject heading. The Public Library of Westland has a Vertical File that is constantly added to and updated. All the information contained in the file can be checked out for one week on your library card.

Researchers always include checking the Vertical File for information as well as books and electronic information. Make sure you check out Westland's Vertical File on your next visit. If you need help, ask at the Reference Desk.

WEB SITES OF THE WEEK
Below are more of the great Web sites taken from "50 Great Web Sites for Kids and Parents" from the American Library Association. They are recommended for preschool-elementary-age children and their parents by librarians who work with children and the Web every day.

www.childrenpartnership.org/p/parentguide/parentguide.html

The Parent's Guide to the Information Superhighway. Rules and tools for families online from the Children's Partnership. Comprehensive look at the Information Superhighway and what parents should know to help their children use it safely and wisely.

www.KIDdiddles.com/

Lullabies and Songs for Children. Find the words to "Polly Wolly Doodle" and other songs collected by a mom in Vancouver.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

American Red Cross Blood Drive
2-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 27 The library hosts the American Red Cross Blood Drive for the summer. Give the gift of life. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are being taken. No fee. For an appointment, call Joe Burchill, (734) 326-6123.

Internet 201: Advanced Search Tools
7 p.m. Wednesday, June 28 The class teaches more advanced use of search tools. Learn how to make your Internet searches more effective. One-hour class. Computers are reserved for student practice for one hour following the class. No fee. No registration required, but class size is limited.

Adult Reading Club
7 p.m. Tuesday, July 18 "Having Our Say: The Delaney Sisters' First 100 Years" by Sarah Louise and Annie Elizabeth Delaney Sadie and Bessie Delaney (101 and 103 years old, respectively) recount their lives as daughters of a slave who became America's first elected Black Episcopal bishop and as among the first African American professional women in New York City. Available in paperback, hardcover and audiobook. Call today to reserve your copy! These are informal, open forum discussions on noteworthy books. All are invited to participate. No fee. No registration.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Summer Reading Program continues
Register for the Children's or Young Adult Program at the Children's Service Desk. Creative Writing and Poetry Contests Sponsored by the Friends of the Library Monday, June 26 Children through fifth grade will participate in a Creative Writing Contest. Young adults in sixth grade and up will try their hand at Poetry Writing. This contest sponsored by the Friends of the Library helps to keep the creative juices flowing while providing the young people of Westland with a chance to express their artistic side through prose and poetry. Friends will judge all entries and prizes will be awarded. No fee. Registration information available at the Children's Service Desk.

Science Alive
Monday, June 26 (shows at 1, 2 and 3 p.m.) This fun and informative live animal show returns to the library for three performances. See, touch and learn about the amazing animals who will visit the library. No fee. Registration required, seating is limited. Register at the Children's Service Desk.

Family Time Storytime
7 p.m. Monday, June 26 Everyone is invited to come to this fun-filled story hour. No fee. No registration required. Junior Book Club 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 27 Children in grades three-five will meet and talk about books by chosen authors. What did you like? What do you not like? No fee. Registration required. Register at the Children's Service Desk.

Summertime Storytime
10:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 28 Stories and fun for all ages. No fee. No registration required.

Virginia Bailey Parker
7 p.m. Wednesday, June 28 Young adults are invited to a performing performance as Virginia Bailey Parker tells her tales of terror. Ghost stories, spooky tales and more to excite and delight. No fee. Registration required. Register at the Children's Service Desk.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
Big BOOK Sale 4-6 p.m. Thursday, June 22 - Friends Preview Sale Must be a member of the Friends of the Public Library of Westland. You may join that evening if you wish to attend the sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 23-24 - Book Sale open to the public

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Pursuant to State Law, a sale will be held at secured Self-Storage, 6855 Yale, Westland, 734-721-1920, on July 24, at 9:00 am

#212 Jason Kelly
#330 Daphne Flucker
#444 Brian McDonald
#664 Brent Sheldon II

All units contain household items with the exception of #212 which has a cap for a pick up truck.
Publish: June 15 and 22, 2000

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1769A, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Addition to Wayne Amvets Post 171, 1217 Merriman, Parcel #070-01-0010-001, East Side of Merriman, North of Palmer, SW-23, Robert Cook

Case #2036, Proposed Split of Lots #21-#23, Carver Subdivision, Parcels #-083-02-0021-000, -0022-00 and -0023-000, south Side of Annapolis, East of Middlebelt, SW-36, Sam L. Brown

Case #2037, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Addition to the Police Department, 36701 Ford Road, Parcel #046-01-0001-001, South Side of Ford Road, West of Carlson, NW-17, Scott Sherman (Mayor Robert J. Thomas)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hill, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 5, 2000.

Written comments may be sent to the Westland Planning Department 37095 Marquette Avenue, Westland, Michigan 48185.

ROBERT C. BOWERS, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: June 15, 2000

Wine debate bubbles over in Senate

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@hometown.net

Legislation intended to keep alcohol out of the hands of minors, who might otherwise be able to order such beverages over the Internet, is sparking controversy because it will also keep some brands of alcohol out of the hands of adults.

"Not all the population, you know, is under 21 years old; there's a few of us who are over 21, and we do have a right or two and don't particularly like to have that taken away," said Sen. George McManus, R-Traverse City.

McManus, along with Sens. Arthur Miller, D-Warren, and John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, argued that the bill will block adults too from being able to order fine wines from small, out-of-state wineries.

They also contend it will have an effect on the sales of Michigan's 24 small wineries.

"Well, wine is not CDs or books; rather, it's a substance with which we need to be very careful," Sen. Bill Schuette, R-Midland, argued. "The problem with the status quo is that language was drafted 20 years ago before the freshness and newness of the Internet, and by maintaining the status quo, we have a potential problem and, frankly, a real problem, bypassing the three-tier system, and we have flooded the gates with wines from out of state that, frankly, could hurt Michigan wines."

House Bill 4752, sponsored by Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, would block Internet sales of alcohol to minors. It requires sellers to label packages of alcohol and requires shippers, such as Federal Express and United Parcel Service, to check the identification and age of

Pro: Kids shouldn't be able to buy wine over the Internet; the state needs the sales tax revenue.

the recipient.

But the bill also funnels such shipments through Michigan's existing distribution system for alcohol, known as the "three-tier" system.

And that's the problem. Wine consumers say many small, out-of-state wineries can't afford to get licensed in Michigan. And wholesalers aren't likely to be interested in carrying small amounts of product from those vintners.

If out-of-state wineries can't ship here, they point out, Michigan wineries won't be able to ship to other states either, because such arrangements are set up on a reciprocal basis.

Already passed in the House, the bill was amended by Schuette in committee to allow for the "personal importation" of up to a case of wine at a time. But that would require the person to transport the wine himself and would not extend to Internet sales for adults.

Cassis said the Schuette amendment was an improvement, although she doubted it would make all fans of fine wines in the state happy.

"The health, safety and welfare of our children must be the overriding consideration as the Internet continues to rapidly change our way of life," she said. "The anonymity of the Web leaves open the possibility of abuse regarding alcohol sales. We can protect our children by creating stop-gaps in the delivery process."

Con: Adults, small wineries are unfairly restrained by bill; precedent could lead to blocking sales of other items.

Some senators were not convinced.

"We're cutting people of the state of Michigan out of being able to participate. In this case, for one commodity only, but certainly, others will follow in the commerce system that we're going to have in the 21st Century," Schwarz said. "When you go home this summer and bump into your constituents who wanted to buy that case of wine or wanted to buy a bottle of wine, and you said this year they could do it, but starting next year when this bill takes effect they cannot do it, I hope you respond and tell them that you wanted to make sure that you protected the three-tier system," Miller said.

"I regret that we did not today give Michigan consumers the right to purchase a bottle of wine, and I hope that everyone here makes it to that wine department in north-west Michigan this weekend because it's going to be your last opportunity to buy a bottle or a case of wine from a Michigan winery without going to Meijer next year."

Opponents of the bill argue it is an attempt by beer and wine wholesalers to maintain their control over the state's distribution system.

Opponents also argue wholesalers fear a loss of business if out-of-state wineries are allowed to bypass the three-tier system.

The bill is expected to return to the House June 20 to face a vote on concurrence with the Senate-added amendments.

Feds give snow removal agency \$4.8 million for high-tech project

The partners in the Southeastern Michigan Snow and Ice Management (SEMSIM) project, a first-of-its-kind partnership of the four largest road agencies in southeast Michigan, learned recently the Federal Highway Administration has approved the final \$4.8 million in federal aid needed to complete the project over the next several years.

The SEMSIM partners are the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC), the Wayne County Department of Public Services, the city of Detroit Department of Public Works and the Road Commission of Macomb County.

The partnership was formed to improve winter road maintenance in southeast Michigan by uniting the four agencies in the introduction of state-of-the-art automated vehicle location (AVL) and global positioning system (GPS) technology to the agencies' fleets.

These technologies will improve the efficiency of winter

REGIONAL

road maintenance in the region and allow the partner agencies to best respond to adverse winter weather.

The Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) is also a partner in SEMSIM and provides the modern radio system that will transfer data between vehicles and base stations.

The Federal Highway Administration, on April 28, approved spending \$4.8 million in federal Congestion and Air Quality Mitigation (CMAQ) money for the SEMSIM project. This approval of the spending by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) Executive Committee. This money, coupled with \$5.3 million in previously designated federal funds plus \$2.5 million in local match provided by the partners, pro-

vides the \$12.6 million budget for the project.

Phase 1 of SEMSIM, which involves 10 vehicles from each of the four road agencies and focuses on the area around Dequindre Road and Eight Mile (where the four road agency jurisdictions meet) was implemented this past winter.

Full implementation will include all of the four agencies' 500 winter maintenance vehicles.

"We appreciate the action taken by the FHWA and SEMCOG Executive Committee," said RCOC Managing Director Brent Bair. "Clearly, both recognize the regional value and importance of this project and the long-term benefits SEMSIM will have for motorists across southeast Michigan."

Bair added that SEMSIM is the first multi-jurisdictional effort of its kind in the nation and is being monitored by road agencies nationwide.

CLARIFICATIONS

Schoolcraft story

The story in last Thursday's (June 8) newspaper on Ameritech Corp. matching employee contributions to Schoolcraft College Foundation endowments contained an error.

The college's Business and Industry Training Center addition to Waterman center will cost \$20 million, not \$320 million.

U of M Funding

A story published in this newspaper regarding a move by state lawmakers to slash funding for the University of Michigan by 10 percent unless it gave up plans to offer a course entitled "How to be Gay" incorrectly listed the vote of State Rep. Judith Scranton, R-Brighton.

Scranton voted "no" on the amendment, in opposition to the cut in funding.

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Westland Observer OPINION

A14(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2000

Fairness Show all motorists courtesy

Police officers don't have the luxury of doing much of their work with an abundance of time. They don't, for instance, get the same amount of time an editorial writer does to write when it comes to, say, deciding to pull over a motorist.

In recent months, there have been complaints from black motorists that they are being stopped by police in Westland simply for being black. The latest case - involving a young man pulled over initially for having a hanging air freshener in the window, and for a turn - follows one earlier this year. That latest motorist has been cleared of citations.

The local branch of the NAACP said Westland is particularly bad among suburban communities when it comes to harassing black drivers. Westland Police Chief Emery Price vigorously denies that, saying the traffic stops, left to officers' individual judgment, are part of legitimate law enforcement.

The fact is that minorities are few and far between on Westland's police force. Perhaps training to sensitize officers to the needs of the black community is in order, along with

Black motorists, while they must obey the same traffic laws as other drivers, shouldn't feel afraid to come to Westland to shop, work or live.

some hiring of qualified minorities.

Black motorists, while they must obey the same traffic laws as other drivers, shouldn't feel afraid to come to Westland to shop, work or live. They are entitled to the same common courtesy any other motorist would receive - just as they must obey the same laws.

Let's find that balance that allows legitimate and fair enforcement of traffic laws. Another consideration is the installation of video cameras in police cars, recently advocated by city police with Price estimating the cost at \$160,000.

The cameras would record police interactions with the public, and cut down on the questions of what exactly happened and who said what to whom. It's a good idea, and one we advocate.

Wine measure restricts trade

"No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State. No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another: nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another ..."

U.S. Constitution

Ever notice that when lawmakers conspire to take away one of your constitutional rights they always have some really noble cause in mind?

So it is with House Bill 4752. It's intended to crack down on the sale of alcohol over the Internet to youngsters. A noble cause indeed.

Unfortunately, it will also have the effect of making it difficult, if not impossible, for Michigan consumers to get access to more than a thousand small wineries across the country.

These aren't foreign wines. They aren't being imported from exotic locales. They're U.S. wines.

Not your issue? You don't drink fine wines from out of state, so you don't care?

OK. But when lawmakers find some noble cause for restricting access to a product you do use from out of state - electronics, lumber, clothing, movies, software, computers, furniture, etc. - perhaps you will realize it started here.

HB 4752, sponsored by Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, and approved last week by the state Senate, not only blocks sales to minors but funnels purchases of out-of-state wines through the state's current "three-tier" system of wholesalers and retailers. In doing so, it gives preference to the largest producers, the ones which make enough product to keep wholesalers interested in stocking supplies.

The bill was amended by Sen. Bill Schuette,

HB 4752, sponsored by Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, and approved last week by the state Senate, not only blocks sales to minors but funnels purchases of out-of-state wines through the state's current 'three-tier' system of wholesalers and retailers. In doing so, it gives preference to the largest producers, the ones which make enough product to keep wholesalers interested in stocking supplies.

R-Midland, last week to allow for personal importation of those wines for personal use, but in order to do that, consumers will have to travel out of state to make the purchases.

It's supposed to be an improvement, but it's not. Imagine if you had to fly to various states to buy each product you wanted - electronics, lumber, clothing - in order to ship it or carry it home.

Simply put, the effect of the bill, however noble the cause of restricting sales to minors, is an attempt by wholesalers to retain their monopoly in Michigan over the distribution of alcoholic beverages here.

And the state is happy to do it in order to insure the collection of taxes on those sales.

The bill goes back before the House June 20 for a concurrence vote.

We would urge the proponents of this bill to reconsider whether they really want to violate the Constitution by enacting a restraint of trade.

And we would urge others in the House of Representatives to withdraw their support for this flawed legislation.

CLARIFICATION

An editorial urging donors to check out charities and their spending records before turning over their money incorrectly referred to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan as spending most of its income soliciting dona-

tions. Actually, a 1998 income tax form shows the organization spent about 75 percent of its income on program services, which means granting wishes. We regret any inconvenience caused by the error.

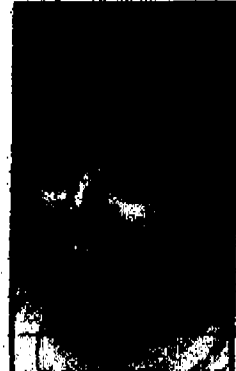
COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:
What does the court project mean to you?



"It means better service to the community and a safe environment for litigants and our staff."

Judge C. Charles Bokos



"It's the road map where we do our job. It's kind of the parameter in which we live and do our job."

Judge Gail McKnight



"This is long overdue. This court has a tremendous case load."

Councilwoman Sandra Ciofrelli, attorney



"It probably means less of a logjam over here."

Police Lt. Marc Stobbe

We asked this at Monday's 18th District Court ground-breaking for renovation/expansion.

GEORGE BROOKS



LETTERS

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

Thank you

We came to Franklin Middle School in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools District on Tuesday, May 30, wondering how we would make it through the day, much less the remainder of the week. The person who supplied Franklin with its energy, its soul and its compassion, our secretary, Debbie Bachus, had tragically died in a Memorial Day weekend accident.

We sat numb and disbelieving at a 7:30 a.m. staff meeting. The school district and our school emergency crisis team had already put a plan in motion, supplying us with a host of psychologists, social workers and counselors for both students and staff alike. The plan flexed to meet our needs as the long week passed and events, news and plans for Debbie's funeral were made.

Once we were informed that the funeral would be Friday afternoon, an enormous question had to be answered. We all wanted to go to the funeral, but how would we continue to conduct Friday afternoon classes?

The answer came and was in place on Thursday. From throughout the district, volunteers offered their services to come to Franklin for the afternoon.

Administration and Employee Services worked with our co-acting principal, Marcia Brown, to facilitate this monumental task. Dr. Greg Baracy, our district superintendent, on one of his busiest days of the year, found time to supervise our lunchroom and was seen kindly lending a dime to a student who had lost his milk money.

Also, Assistant Superintendent Char Sherman took charge of the students and guests in our building and even stayed to make sure the students got on the buses safely. Other assistant superintendents, teachers from other buildings, several special education staff and secretaries came to help. Even retired administrators Don and Bev Brooks left their retirement nest to come and give support so that students and staff could say goodbye to Debbie Bachus and begin to heal.

In a day when MEAP scores continue to get top billing, it is gratifying to recognize that there are other wonderful things of value that are being learned. It made us proud at Franklin Middle School to see over 100 students sitting respectfully at the funeral and looking so grown up. It was wonderful to see how administration, staff, students and par-

ents could come together during our moment of crisis - helping each other with great care and concern.

One thing Debbie Bachus taught us is that we are a family at Franklin Middle School and these past few days we have also been reminded that we are part of an even larger family - the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

A special thank you must go to Marcia Brown, our co-acting principal along with Mike Shelton during the absence of Darlene Scott, our principal currently out on a medical leave. Marcia took on the challenge of the Friday afternoon staffing and didn't quit until it was resolved.

Thank you to all who helped us through this most difficult of times. Your caring and compassion and support have been a great source of strength to us all. Our school district community has been diminished by Debbie's passing, but strengthened by your thoughtfulness.

John Morin and the Franklin Middle School staff

In error

In Thursday's edition of the Observer, my husband issued a statement about the school board elections. Originally, he and I were voting for Mrs. (Cindy) Schofield, but were told by a very reliable source that she was an employee of Mrs. (Kathy) Makino. I have spent time talking with Mrs. Schofield, and indeed she is not, nor ever has been her employee. I find her refreshing, bright, and I believe would be a wonderful asset to the Wayne-Westland school board. We will be supporting Marshall Wright and Cynthia Schofield ... Some would use it just to be part of a bigger picture, a council seat. Mrs. Schofield has assured me that she doesn't have any such goals, she wants to work for the children of this community!

Thank you.

Brenda Gracin

Westland Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Vacation provides chance to recharge batteries

When you read this, I will be on my way home from vacation.

There are some people who resist going on vacation. In this hurry-up, get-it-done-yesterday, fast-fast-fast world, vacations are seen as subversive.

Some people think they are so indispensable to their company that if they go on vacation, the whole house of cards will collapse. They are certain that if they slip away for just a day, they'll return to find the company has gone under and they'll be to blame.

I felt that way at one time and gave up several weeks of vacation. Then I noticed when I did take a vacation, the company got along without me just fine (well, for a little while anyway).

There are others who feel that if they take a vacation, someone else will take their job. Of course, this does happen. Disc jockeys are especially susceptible to losing out when their sub is found more attractive to

teenage girls. But, for most of us, this isn't even a remote possibility. Is it?

You need a vacation. You need time away, time to regroup. Most of the time there are a dozen voices in your ear all the time demanding, and probably deserving, your attention. There is no time to listen to that singular voice, your own. There is no time for quiet reflection, no time for self-evaluation, no time to get a handle on where you are.

Vacations take a variety of forms, but the essential thing is to be away from what you regularly do, to forget for awhile your work obligations and deal with your other obligations to yourself and your family.

This vacation is a cultural journey to Canada for some theater. It's a working vacation of sorts as I will be covering Ontario's two world-class theater festivals, Stratford and Shaw, for these papers, but it's still time away.

It's also time in two small towns that have capitalized on their settings. We can learn a lot about devel-



HUGH GALLAGHER

oping a downtown, creating restorative park settings and drawing on our cultural heritage from Stratford and Niagara-on-the-Lake. These towns seem almost pristine in comparison to American towns of similar size and location. Similarly, a bike ride along the Niagara River to the Falls, is another reminder of how much more sensitively Canada has treated this magnificent natural wonder than the anything-goes, for-a-profit American approach on the other side.

Vacations give you a chance to think about these things and wonder how we ever got so far off the track.

Later this summer, we'll be taking a different kind of trip, up to the Upper Peninsula. This annual trek "Up North" is a Michigan ritual that is peculiar and unique to this state. New York City residents go Up State, but Up State includes several big cities mingled with more natural areas. In Michigan, there has long been this divide north and south of the Pentwater line. South is cities, factories, working farms - work. North is fishing, hunting, boating, swimming, hiking, biking, relaxing - fun.

For years, Up North was the Sleeping Bear and the clear waters of Glen Lake and Lake Leland. But recently developers have started to move in - condo subdivisions, gaudy casinos, towns that vaguely resemble the towns people are trying to escape. Traverse City is a never-ending traffic jam. Yes, it's still a beautiful area and it will take at least another 20 years before developers totally destroy it, but it's not what it used to be.

The UP is rawer, less amenable to

development. It has too many flies in early summer. You can't swim in Lake Superior. The winters are too long, too cold and too snowy. But it is strikingly beautiful, with miles and miles of trails through rich forests and miles and miles of sandy beach and rocky shores on a lake that takes the breath away. There are also fine, twisty rivers and dozens of water falls. It'll take developers at least 100 years to destroy it. I figure I'll be gone by then.

As you see by the way this column has been rambling, I'm already in vacation mode. A co-worker always asks anyone about to go on vacation if they're already "winding down." And, yes, I'm winding down and ready to recharge a sputtering battery.

Hugh Gallagher is managing editor of The Observer Newspapers. He can be reached at (734)953-2149 or by e-mail at hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net (but only after his vacation).

LETTERS

Her plight

What I, The Fab Four Lady, would like to discuss is the plight of Lettie Thomas, who was recently stranded on Wayne Road by the police.

When Lettie's protégé, Willie Slater, was arrested, taken to jail, and the car was towed off with Lettie's purse in it, she was reported to have been told by the police to "Have a nice day."

Now, The Fab Four Lady wasn't there at the scene, to either confirm or deny what really happened; but I will say this: I have suffered the same plight as Lettie more than once in my lifetime ... as have many others, as well. And, it is a horrible thing for

anyone, especially a woman, to be left standing on a dark street, in a totally strange neighborhood, all alone, with no money - not even knowing in which direction to turn. Total disorientation.

This situation made Lettie as a sheep in a den of wolves - a vulnerable target for any sort of predator who might have seen her. A mugger, a butcher, a sadist, a rapist, anyone. And, those who turned her into a target should be doing some very serious thinking about how much more severe the situation could have been.

You know, once, when I resided in Hollywood, there was a police officer who helped me by asking me to sit in the front seat of his car, while he called in a "public assistance" call, fol-

lowed by a ride to a safer location. So, we all know that the police could have helped Lettie - even if this isn't California. And, if the police are here to "protect and serve," then why was Lettie forced to be left un-protected and not served with public assistance in any way? No lift, no purse, no phone call. Where was the compassion and love that she so desperately needed?

Not only was she made into a target, she was humiliated, degraded, debased and reduced into begging for change from a total stranger to make that one phone call to sanity ... to her brother for a ride. To force someone - against their will - to become a target is bad enough, but to also force them into panhandling is beyond compre-

hension.

When I listened to Lettie on the televised council meeting of Monday, June 5, and saw the tears rolling down her cheeks, I just wanted to reach out and give her a hug - and take away her hurt. I was so glad to see that others felt the same way.

This is not an anti-police article because I do realize that the police have a job to do. But, I do suggest that, in these situations where someone is left stranded, that, since the police were the ones who were responsible, that they should have resolved the situation by at least offering someone a lift or making a call, etc. I don't think the taxpayers would object too much to a pay phone call under these circumstances. I wouldn't.

And, Lettie, The Fab Four Lady still wishes to take away some of your hurt with a hug. And, I hope that Willie is OK, too.

The Fab Four Lady,
Angela
Frances Todd

Useful information

Thank you for interviewing and publishing the comments made in the school board interview. I now might vote in the Wayne-Westland school board election, as this seems to be a stepping stone to other appointments and elections.

Janet Marcaccini
Westland

Technology fuels changes in our society and politics

"You no longer have to be a Republican to be pro-business. You no longer have to be a Democrat to be pro-worker," state Attorney General Jennifer Granholm said recently on Mackinac Island. It was part of a speech given in a fund-raising reception for herself and Secretary of State Candice Miller during the Detroit Regional Chamber's Leadership Policy Conference.

The gist of the talk was that the interests of the two political parties are coming together. Workers don't do well when business is bad. Businesses don't do well when it's hard to find employees.

It's a bit of an oversimplification. Chamber President Richard Blouse would argue that his organization has been supporting Democratic candidates all along, but Granholm's comments served to point out some of the trends that have emerged in the conference. Changes in the social landscape are also changing politics. And the driving factor is often technology.

Among the biggest changes is Michigan's low unemployment rate. That's produced a worker shortage. Michigan is already an estimated 20,000 workers short in engineering and other high-tech fields. Attracting employees has become such a major issue that government officials at the state and county level have begun recruitment efforts to bring new employees to the state. Finding and attracting new employees, in fact, was the subject of the session on the island. Obviously that leads to better pay and benefits for employees.

Another issue affected by this change is the environment. A subject that used to pit businesses against activists has seen new interest from both sides. As Bill Rustem of Public Sector Consultants pointed out, it's a quality of life issue. Employees won't come to this state if they find it to be a polluted, dirty place to live. And that may count for the renewed level of interest on the part of businesses for addressing the environment and urban sprawl.

Those social changes also create a whole new set of issues, although the resulting divisions occur, not necessarily between the political parties, but sometimes in places rather unexpected. A case in point may be the issue of taxation on the Internet. Republicans at the state level want to begin applying sales taxes to items purchased across the Internet. They maintain the law has been on the books for years to tax out-of-state sales. Residents saw the first attempt to collect on tax forms this past April.

But the feds want to put a moratorium on



MIKE MALOTT

new taxes on the Internet. In fact, they just extended their old three-year moratorium to a new five-year moratorium. The reason, according to U.S. Rep. Sander Levin, D-Southfield, is that state and local governments collect such a wide variety of sales taxes, and some at different rates, that collecting it would be difficult at best. In the session on Mackinac regarding e-commerce, he urged states to use the time to consolidate and coordinate the way they collect sales tax.

Another new issue is where to get all those high-tech workers so much in demand. That, of course, is the issue that has U.S. Sen. Spencer Abraham embroiled in controversy with his challenger, U.S. Rep. Debbie Stabenow. He's proposed granting more visas to foreign workers who have high-tech skills. His critics argue that steals jobs away from Michigan workers. But Abraham maintains that if we tried to train that many workers from among our own population it would put the state behind in technological development.

It turns out there are several "digital divides," not just one, a contention supported by the work of Katherine Willis, president of Cyberstate.org. There is the divide between haves and have-nots, of course. But there is also a huge division between young and old. Interestingly, there are regional variations in access to computers and technology. Detroit and the Thumb lag behind the rest of the state.

How and what, if anything, the state should be doing about these discrepancies are issues that have Republicans and Democrats alike scratching their heads and searching for solutions. And it's no longer easy to predict where they may land.

Mike Malott reports on the local implications of state and regional events. He can be reached by phone at (248) 634-8219 or by e-mail at mmalott@homecomm.net.

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Write a letter to the editor

State's fastest growing county gets daily paper

Michigan's fastest growing county will have its first daily newspaper - and the nation's first new daily since 1997 - when *The Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* hits newsstands Sept. 6.

The new daily, published by HomeTown Newspapers, will merge the *Livingston County Press* and *Brighton Argus*, two of the oldest and most respected twice-weekly newspapers in the state.

The *County Press*, based in Howell, is 155 years old. Ten miles to the southeast is Brighton, where the *Argus* is 120 years old. Both papers currently are published twice weekly - on Wednesdays and Sundays. They will be combined into a single newspaper that will be published in the afternoon Monday through Friday. A weekend edition will be delivered Sunday mornings.

The *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* will maintain both editorial staffs as well as their offices. The company anticipates the creation of several new positions. Phil Jerome will retain his position as executive editor.

The dynamic growth of Livingston County has created the need for a daily newspaper, according to Rich Perlberg, vice president and general manager of HomeTown Newspapers. "This is an exciting announcement for both the company and the people of Livingston County," he said. "This newspaper will play an important role in unifying the county."

With approximately 150,000 residents, Livingston is the largest county in the state without a daily newspaper. Located west of Oakland and

■ **With approximately 150,000 residents, Livingston is the largest county in the state without a daily newspaper. Located west of Oakland and north of Washtenaw counties, the county is expected to grow by another 70,000 people in the next 20 years.**

north of Washtenaw counties, the county is expected to grow by another 70,000 people in the next 20 years, according to population projections by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

The county currently has the highest median household income (\$58,349) in the state. During a formal announcement to employees on June 8, company officials promised that the new daily would be guided by traditional HomeTown values.

"Our objective has always been to be the sole unsubstitutable source of information to people in this county," said Perlberg. "We will continue to provide the essential tools for living the good life in Livingston County. Those are the values that have brought us this far and they will drive us in the future."

The *County Press* was named the best weekly newspaper in the United States last year by the National Newspaper Association. The *Argus* has been named the best community weekly newspaper in the state

by the Michigan Press Association for the past two years.

The new paper is expected to debut with a paid circulation of more than 20,000. That would make its circulation larger than the combined circulation of all other newspapers in Livingston County. It would also make it one of the 20 largest of the state's 50 daily newspapers.

Press & Argus readers will continue to find the extensive local coverage they've come to expect in their HomeTown weekly newspapers. In addition, the new daily will carry state, national and world news as well as a complete sports line-up, nationally recognized syndicated columnists, stock reports and all the other features commonly associated with daily newspapers.

HomeTown Newspapers is a subsidiary of the Livonia-based HomeTown Communications Network, which publishes 70 weekly and twice-weekly newspapers in Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky, including all *Observer & Eccentric* editions.

This will be the corporation's first daily newspaper. HomeTown Communications also publishes phone directories, specialty publications and the *Insider Business Journal* of Livingston, West Oakland and Washtenaw counties.

Last month, the corporation announced the formation of HomeTownDigital.com, which will develop Internet solutions for local merchants and manage all Web activity for HomeTown Communications Network (www.hometownnews.com).

State environment agency launches Web site

The Department of Environmental Quality is launching its environmental education Internet Web site, which provides science-based information for all levels of interest, Director Russell Harding said.

The DEQ has offices throughout the state including one on Seven Mile in Livonia.

The Web site at www.deq.state.mi.us/enved was developed

by the DEQ's Office of Communications and Education with assistance from throughout the agency. It has information suited for casual and sophisticated users. The site features separate sections for students, educators and the general public. It also includes a Kids' Corner, which links to games and activities that will appeal to younger viewers.

Topics are listed under four main subject areas in each section: air, land, waste and water. In addition, the site offers sections on special events and dates, access to environmental publications, links to other environmental sites and initiatives, and ways that people can care for the environment.

The department's Web site is www.deq.state.mi.us

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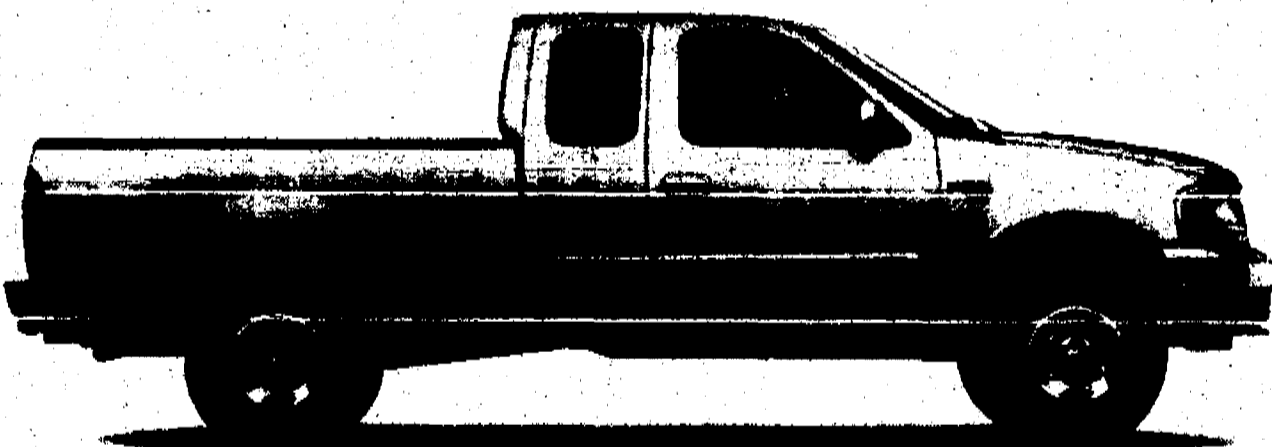
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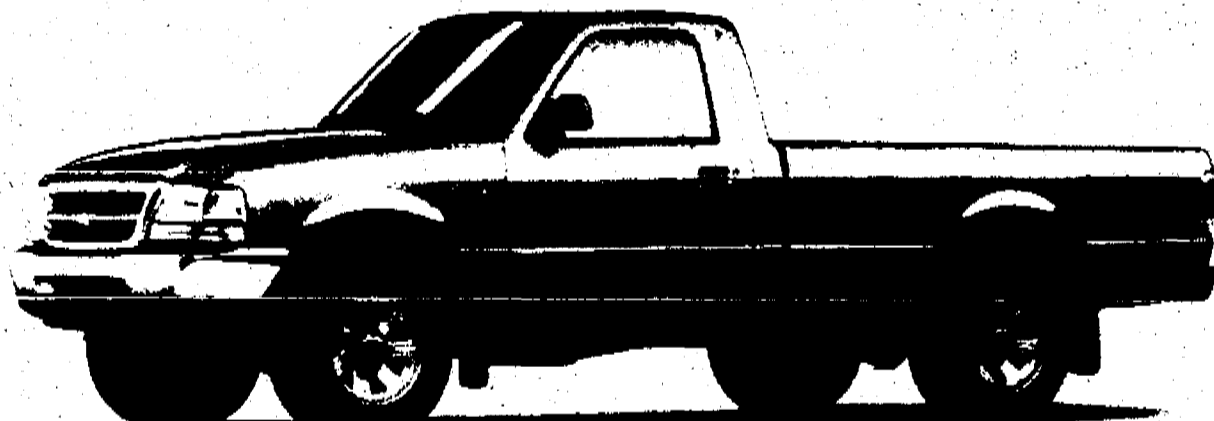
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JACK GLADDEN

Honor kids on dad's day

Mother's Day gets most of the attention. And this year a million moms (well, maybe 750,000) decided to celebrate by marching on Washington to demand more gun control laws. They were doing it "for the children."

When police departments use underage "decoys" to try to purchase tobacco products from party stores and service stations, they're doing it "for the children."

And when schools enact and enforce "zero tolerance" policies, they are, of course, doing it "for the children."

Yet there is no day set aside to honor children in the same way that Mother's Day honors mothers or Father's Day honors fathers. And with all of these groups intent on protecting children from themselves, the question arises: What are we doing to the children in the process?

As fathers, let's turn things around and use this Father's Day to honor some of the children who have become victims of mindless policies allegedly designed to "protect" them. Let's remember (and perhaps apologize to):

■ The 17-year-old Eagle Scout honors student and leader of a Christian youth group in Savannah, Ga., who was given a long-term suspension and transferred to an "alternative school" after school officials searched his locked car and found a broken ax in the trunk and a Boy Scout pocket knife and cell phone in the glove compartment. He had used the ax the previous night in a demonstration at a Scout meeting. The knife and cell phone were gifts from his father. But possession of the items violated the school's code of conduct and he was ousted.

■ The North Carolina high school student who was suspended for a full year and transferred to an "alternative school" after police, conducting a random search for drugs on school property, found a hunting rifle in its case inside his locked car. He had gone hunting before school that day and in his rush to get to school on time had left the rifle in the car. No charges were filed, no police action taken, the superintendent admitted the student had no ulterior motive. But rules are rules and he was out.

■ Also in that same North Carolina district, the fifth-grader who brought a decorative pocket knife to school for show-and-tell. He never got that far. After telling a friend that he had the knife, the friend told a teacher and, as the principal explained, "we followed proper procedure by calling the police." Since, according to the principal, "the knife was not considered to be a weapon, and it was not a firearm situation, he was suspended for three days."

■ The 9-year-old New Jersey student who said he was going to "shoot" a female classmate with a paper wad propelled from a rubber band. The girl told her parents about it that night, they called school officials, the officials called police and after midnight two uniformed police officers showed up at the kid's home, roused him out of bed and questioned him. The cops decided it wasn't a police matter. When the boy's parents met with school officials the next day, the officials said their son could return to class - but only after he had been "evaluated" by an outside psychologist.

■ "The Sayreville Four," four New Jersey kindergartners who were suspended for three days after pointing their fingers at each other and saying "Bang! Bang!" during a game of cops and robbers on the school playground. "We have to be extra careful in today's world," the principal explained. "It may be just a game or something said in jest, but it can be taken differently by other children."

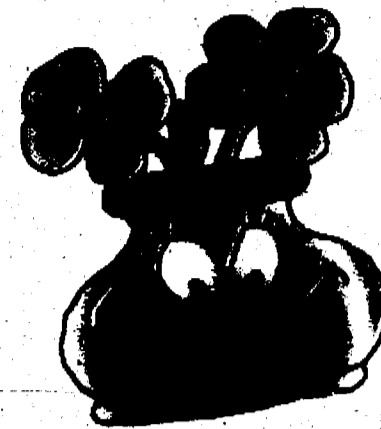
■ The Seattle sixth-grader who was expelled when a squirt gun fell out of his backpack in the school lunchroom. Three weeks later the expulsion was reduced to a suspension and he was allowed back in school - after his parents hired a lawyer.

■ Last, but not least, the 5-year-old kindergartner in Pittsburgh who was suspended for one day after the school principal had a "serious problem" with the child's Halloween costume. The costume, which the kid's mother had bought, was a firefighter's outfit: a yellow plastic jacket, a red helmet and - the problem - a five-inch plastic firefighter's ax!

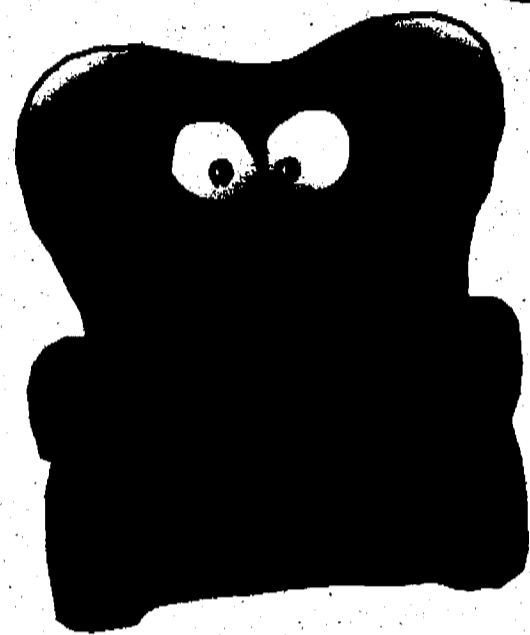
Jack Gladden is a copy editor for the Observer. He lives in Canton. You can e-mail him at jgladden@oe.homecomm.net.



'Dem bones,
dem bones,
dem ...'



CRAZY BONES



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

Kids who play with Crazy Bones aren't aware of the "guerrilla marketing approach" the company credits to its growing success, they only know they like playing with, trading and collecting the plastic figures because - they're cool.

"Crazy Bones are a really cool thing at school," said Alex Turchan, 9, of Livonia who has been trading and playing with Crazy Bones for the past year.

Based on ancient Greco-Roman games known as *tabas* and *astragal*, children 2,000 years ago painted faces on clean, dried sheep knuckle bones and would throw them on the ground similar to the clear, metallic and brightly colored plastic figures of today. Each Crazy Bone is a unique character played to classic games like marbles, tidly winks, jacks and bowling.

How to

Playing the game "traditionally" calls for each player to take turns throwing Crazy Bones in the air at the same time. Your score depends on how your Crazy Bones land. Standing up five points; on their side two points; face up one point; and face down zero points.

Maybe that's what makes the game itself so popular - the simplicity of play. But when it comes to collecting and trading the plastic figures it's the names, faces and attitudes of the characters that really draw Crazy Bones fans.

"My favorites are Jaws, James Bond and Melon Head," said Alex, who attends Adams Elementary School in Livonia.

The third grader said Crazy Bones are now banned from being brought or played at his school because kids were having them stolen away.

That hasn't slowed the playing of the game any at home, according to Maria Turchan, mother of Alex, 9, Jacob, 7, and Tyler, 4.

"Now that the weather is nicer they're a little more busy with soccer and baseball but they love playing and collecting," said Maria. "I think they're cute ... all the faces and funny names. I never let them get into the Pokemon thing. All they could do was look at those. They can play games with Crazy Bones."

Currently there are eight character series (Series I/GoGo's, Series II/Things, Aliens, Buddies, Sports Bones, Glowies, Toy Story 2), the newest being Dragonball Z based on good and bad guys from FUNimation's "Dragon Ball Z," an animated television show on the Cartoon Network. Among the character series there are approximately 280 Crazy Bones personalities and countless games that can be played with the one-inch figurines, including Crazy Score, On the Line, Airbone.



Treasure: Jacob Liepshutz, 7, of West Bloomfield looks for a bone to trade.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY
Concentration: Kirsten Wood, 9, of Livonia shoots a Crazy Bone playing battle at the Gags & Gifts Crazy Bones Extravaganza in Livonia. Below, Alex Turchan (from left), Jonathon Holmes, Nicholas Najduk, Jacob Turchan, Richard Holmes (behind right) and - throwing a crazy bone - Tyler Turchan, all from Livonia, play bomber box.

Bowling, Battle, Bomber, Bone Roll and Baseball.

Eight-year-old Richard Holmes of Livonia says bowling is his favorite game to play with some of the more than 80 characters he has in his collection.

"I like playing the game Keeps, too," said Richard. "If you win, you get to keep the other person's Crazy Bone. Sometimes it's easy."

Humble beginnings

Illustrations discovered in a city called Resnia helped revive the ancient game of *tabas*. Drawings painted on marble showed children playing with the bone-like gamepieces dating back more than 2,000 years.

Realistically though, the Crazy Bones company knew kids in the 21st century wouldn't go for a game marketed on the fact that it was once played with the knuckle bones of animals, and with a less than plentiful advertising budget, marketing gurus initiated a region-by-region, grassroots marketing approach.

According to Dolly Hiller, Toy Craze public relations spokesperson, product samples were handed out and demonstrations performed in shopping centers, on street corners, at scouting meetings and YMCAs with the "pass it on" philosophy.

Toy maker Jose Maria Bella created the injection-molded plastic figures after a museum visit several years ago. Magic Box International introduced Crazy Bones in Europe in 1996 under the name GoGo's. Sales in the first 2½ years reached \$300 million.

On U.S. soil, David Gantner, a 30-year-old businessman and his brother, Peter, purchased the rights to sell Crazy Bones from Magic Box International in 1997. Gantner started the exhaustive "guerrilla marketing" approach that has generated significant enthusiasm throughout the country.

Toy Craze President Bill Flaherty said the "labor intensive" approach to product distribution is paying off.

"The key is getting them into the hands of kids," said Flaherty, a Washington, D.C., native who in

December 1997 became president of the Ohio-based toy company that licenses and distributes Crazy Bones.

"The game doesn't really play across on television. You have to hold them and play with them and then you're hooked. That's why the different strategies we have initiated to get the product on the market have been successful."

Jacob Turchan, 7, and his friend Jonathon Holmes, 6, both say getting a new Crazy Bones either by winning, trading or buying is the best thing about the toys.

Both first graders have favorites - Jacob's being Fly Boy and Jonathon's E.T. - but it's Nitro they're in hot pursuit of.

"I haven't been able to get him yet," said Jacob. "but he's the one I really want."

On the horizon

Flaherty said the company is looking forward to offering monster sized Crazy Bones this fall in

Please see CRAZY BONES, B3

ANNIVERSARY

Pinard

Ronald and Rachel (Mecteau) Pinard celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in May.

The couple wed on May 15, 1950 in Quebec, Canada and they have lived in Michigan since 1971. The Pinards have seven children, Diane, Jacques, Johanne, Mario, Marielle, Carol and David, who all live in Michigan. The couple also has 13 grandchildren.

Ronald retired in 1989 from A.M. General as a sheet metal supervisor and now spends his time in his wood shop, gardening and fish-



ing. His wife Rachel is a homemaker and also enjoys playing cards and bingo.

After renewing their vows for their anniversary, the Pinards enjoyed a family dinner and party at the Doherty Hotel in Clare.

Burnham-Bakowski

Pat Burnham and the late Kenneth W. Burnham Sr. of Minden, Louisiana announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Lisa Lynn, to Adam John Bakowski of Canton.

The bride-to-be is a 1992 graduate of Minden High School in Louisiana and a 1997 graduate of the University of Arizona in Tucson, where she earned a degree in psychology. She is currently employed as a veterinary receptionist and assistant at VCA Woodland Animal Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Her fiancé, son of Robert and Irene Bakowski of Canton, is a 1994 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and 1998 graduate of Michigan State University where he earned a degree in zoology. He is currently employed as an animal care supervisor at the Lab Animal Medicine Unit of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.



A June wedding is planned in Nassau, Bahamas. A reception will be held in Shreveport, Louisiana in June and in Dearborn in July to honor the couple.

Dick-Berres

Pam and John Janson of Walled Lake and Chris Dick of Milford announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Teresa Lynn to Scott Berres of White Lake.

The bride-to-be earned a business management degree from Oakland Community College.

Her fiancé, son of Donna DeGennaro of Sterling Heights and Ray and Pat Berres of Berkley, graduated from North Farmington High School. He is currently working as a facilities and machine technician at Cardell/Molex.

A June wedding is planned at St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Walled Lake.



Robertson-Valik

Wally and Lauri Robertson of Chelsea announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Lynn, to Ryan Karl Valik of Hartland.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 Plymouth-Salem High School graduate and a 1997 graduate of Michigan State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in medical technology. She works for Parke-Davis in Ann Arbor.

Her fiancé, son of Tommi Latoff of Frederic, Mich., and Tony Valik of Corunna, is a 1993 graduate of Hartland High School and a 1997 graduate of Michigan State University, where he obtained a bachelor's degree in crop and soil science.



He works for ConAgra in East Lansing. A June wedding is planned in Ann Arbor.

NEW ARRIVALS

■ **Bill and Teri Evans** of Centerline, formerly of Westland announce the birth of their daughter **Rachel Nicole** born Dec. 27 at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills. She joins twin brothers Joshua and Zachary, 4. Grandparents are John and Diane Macik of Plymouth Township and Bill and Sandy Evans of Brighton, formerly of Redford.

■ **Derek and Michel** of Garden City announce the birth of their daughter **Marissa Leigh** born April 29 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Darrell and Lynn Wolfum of Brighton and Chuck and Pam Clinton of Westland.

■ **Mr. and Mrs. Andre' Spears** of Westland announce the birth of their daughter **Clare Cherish** born April 6 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Siblings are Ronal, 6; Trevan, 4; and Julius, 2. Grandparents are Guy-mil and Somalia Sanders of Detroit and the Hall family.

■ **Stephanie and Jason Riling** of Garden City announce the birth of their son **Drake Andrew** born April 7 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Cindy Jacka, John Riling, Vickie Schmidt, and John Fultz.

■ **Steven and Rhonda Ferguson** of Redford announce the birth of **Nathanael Jacob** born April 8 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Paul and Sharon Shaw of Dearborn and George and Bonnie Ferguson of Ypsilanti.

■ **Todd Nabozny and Michelle Noll** of Garden City announce the birth of their son **Trevor Jay Nabozny** born April 10 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Katherine Nabozny of Garden City and Patrick and Joanne Noll of Garden City.

■ **Laina Burgan and Mark Sanderson** of Westland announce the birth of their son **Anthony James Allen Burgan** born April 17 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Toni Burgan of Westland and Robin Ashford of Westland. Great-grandmother is Marjorie Painter of Westland.

■ **Elliott Thorn and Lanise Farmer Thorn** of Wayne announce the birth of their daughter **Kaleeya Chantay Joelle Thorn** born April 17 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Darnell and Corrine of Detroit.

Please see NEW ARRIVALS, B7

Berger-Belcher

Stuart and Sheila Berger of Villanova, Penn., announce the engagement of their daughter, Michelle to Matthew Steven Belcher of Los Angeles, formerly of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is an elementary teacher in Los Angeles, Calif. She received her bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State College and her master's degree in education from St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia.

Her fiancé, son of Jeanne Belcher of Milford and Walter Belcher of Waterford, is a graduate of Clarenceville High School. He received his bachelor's degree from Albion College and attended Thomas Cooley Law School and Georgetown Law School in Washington D.C. He is a mem-



ber of the Michigan Bar Association and is employed as an attorney for KPMG in Los Angeles, specializing in tax law. A June wedding is planned in Villanova.

ONLINE ANNOUNCEMENT FORMS

Engagement and wedding forms for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers can be downloaded from our Web site at www.observereccentric.com.

Click on the HomeTown Life category and look for the highlighted link for announcement forms. Simply download the form, fill it out and mail it back with a color/black and white photograph to Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150. Announcements appear every Thursday in the HomeTown Life section — as space permits. Call (734) 953-2131 for a form.

CRAFTS CALENDAR

CRAFT FAYRE/ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Crafters are needed for the Saturday, June 24 "Craft Fayre and Ice Cream Social" at the Wayne Tower Senior Citizens Apartment Building. The event will run from noon to 3 p.m. at 35200 Sims, Wayne. For information or to participate as a crafter call Constance or leave a message at (734) 721-9254 — Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All donations for the ice cream social will be donated to

the Jacobetti Disabled Veterans Home in Marquette, Mi.
CHELSEA SUMMER FEST
Applications are currently being sought for arts and crafts vendors at the Chelsea Summer Fest, July 28 and 29. Booth hours are Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. If you are interested in obtaining a booth, contact Penny (734) 433-0354 or send a SASE P.O. Box 580, Chelsea, MI 48118.



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Son looks inside himself for answers to relationship

As another annual Father's Day approaches, one may wonder, for what purpose? Another Hallmark holiday? Is there any benefit to setting aside time to honor fathering?

Most of us would agree that a good father can greatly benefit the human race, and desire that kind of relationship. But what if we have a father who doesn't seem to deserve honoring? A cold, critical, harsh or unloving father? What then? Father's Day might seem a cruel hoax.

My relationship with my own father from an early age was fraught with anger, resentment and hurt. I saw him as intolerant, emotionally abusive, and unloving. I sought to distance myself from him. I vowed to be nothing like him: By the time I prepared to leave home for college, ugly verbal exchanges were common.

Then in my early twenties a new view of the Bible's teachings showed me I am actually the son of an all loving Father-God, a Father who can do nothing but love me because He is love itself. This true Father knows nothing of an unloved, unlovable son. I learned to know myself as God's image and likeness. And this image and likeness is not the victim of imperfect fathering.

But my spiritual understanding was initially limited. While I had begun to accept my own identity as a son of God, I was not so quick to accept it for others. A particular family function comes to mind. I approached my father with the haughty arrogance of moral superiority. I had decided it was my Christian duty to tolerate him. A predictable nasty exchange followed.

Later in prayer as I attempted to make sense of the situation it dawned on me. While I had been willing to see myself as being loved, I had not been willing to include my father in this same truth: I continued to see him as flawed.

As I continued in prayer I remembered the commandment, "Honor thy father" and the Lord's Prayer Jesus taught us, "forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." Mary Baker Eddy, the discoverer and founder of Christian Science, spiritually interprets this in her textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, as "And Love is reflected in love."

As I had accepted God's love for me, even so I needed to reflect this love toward my dad. I began to see my father as God sees

him, as God meant me to see him. I was able to appreciate his strengths of character. His steadfast commitment to the well-being of his family in good times and bad. His willingness to work excruciatingly long hours to see that we never did without. His unyielding stance in the face of whatever he thought threatened my education and opportunity. His impatience with character weakness.

I realized how much I really did love him and how much more he had given me than I had ever before stopped to appreciate. My own false sense of victimhood had blinded me to this love. And he had continued to love even in the face of this ingratitude.

Our relationship changed. It became characterized by friendly banter, humor, approbation, and solicitous concern - by love. I am now a father to two sons of my own. I am quite amused to hear them tell me that I am a lot like their grandfather. I take this as a compliment. As I came to honor my heavenly Father, so I was able to honor my human father.

Happy Father's Day.
Written by a member of First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth.



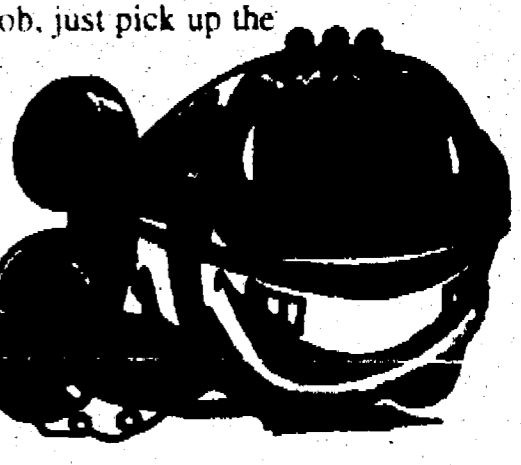
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New arrivals from page B3

■ Courtney Erdman and Ryan St. John of Westland announce the birth of their son **Kyle Sebastian St. John** born April 23 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Carole and Kerry Erdman of Redford, Marilyn Parker of Westland and Ron Brady of Dearborn Heights.

■ David and Melissa Oberstaedt of Dearborn Heights announce the birth of their son **Nicholas David** born April 24 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Nicholas joins sister Kara, 2. Grandparents are Carolyn and Richard Oberstaedt, Dennis and Susan Derouin of Livonia, William Oberstaedt of Garden City and Jackie Komperda of Shelby Township.

■ Michael and Roxanne Dowd of Garden City announce the birth of their daughter **Marina Jean** born April 25 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Marina joins siblings Travis, 8; Michael, 6; and Drew, 4. Grandparents are Ron and Gail Truesdell of Livonia and Michael and Marjorie Dowd of Livonia.

■ Andrea and Jeff Larmee of Westland announce the birth of their daughter **Jordan Elizabeth** born April 27 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Clarita and Robert Beslack of Livonia and Lynne and Larry Larmee of Livonia.

■ Kevin and Amy O'Beirne of Westland announce the birth of their daughter **Emma Rose** born April 27 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Emma joins brother Maxwell, 2 1/2. Grandparents are Bill and Sharon Neubecker of Plymouth.

■ Larry and Regina Bazan of Westland announce the birth of their son **Austin Lorenzo** born April 28 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Austin joins siblings Frank, 10; and Kayle, 4. Grandparents are Gary Borders of Westland, Shelby Borders of Westland, Frank Bazan of Westland and Mary Cobarrubia of Las Cruces, New Mexico.

■ Craig and Susan Cross of Garden City announce the birth of their daughter **Sarah Nicole** born April 29 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Sarah joins siblings Amanda, 11; Heather, 9; and Jeremiah Herrington, 6. Grandparents are Carol Napier of Garden City, Milford Wilson of New Tazwell, Tenn. and Craig and Patti Cross of Troy.

■ Jennifer Haines and Brad Knight of Westland announce the birth of their daughter **Kaleigh Marie** born May 2 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Lawrence R. Haines, Jr. and Sandra Haines of Orange Park, Florida and Linda Knight of Westland.

■ Stephanie Kidd and Kirk Pruden of Westland announce the birth of their son **Shane Michael Pruden** born May 5 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Shane joins brother Kyle Mark Pruden, 2 1/2. Grandparents are Al and Debra Denomme of Westland and Kevin and Sandy Pruden of Inkster.

■ Sheila and Jeffrey Lowrey of Flat Rock announce the birth of their daughter **Michelea Cathleen** born May 8 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Michelea joins brother Robbie, 4 1/2. Grandparents are Allen and Michele Benson of Garden City and Dean and Cathleen Lowrey of Taylor.

■ June Beer of Garden City announces the birth of her son **Jordan Scott Beer** born May 8 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Jordan joins siblings Janet, 17; and Jennifer, 15. Grandmother is Janet Dixon of Garden City.

■ Eric and Renee Selix of Garden City announce the birth of their daughter **Allison Rose** born May 11 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Allison joins brother Patrick Todd, 2. Grandparents are Pat and Joan Naughton of Westland and Beverly Tonna of Westland.

■ Lalia Nashash of Canton Township announces the birth of her daughter **Angel May Nashash** born May 12 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City.

Grandparents are Maysoun and Elias Nashash of Canton Township.

■ Christopher and Jennifer Johnston of Redford announce the birth of their daughter **Mackenzie Alicyn** born May 15 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Mackenzie joins brother Justin, 22-months-old. Grandparents are Emily and Tom Jobin of Kalamazoo and James and Sue Johnston of Plymouth.

■ Tim Moore and Jonelle Crosby of Westland announce the birth of their son **Cody Charles** born May 15 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Mark and Laura Crosby of Westland and Chuck and Judy Moore of Westland.

■ Robert and Darlene Cawood of Garden City announce the birth of their son **James Robert** born May 16 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. James joins sister Anna, 32. Grandparents are Byal and Shirley Cawood of Garden City and Jim and Carol Moore of Westland.

■ Dawn Doolin and Daniel Saenz of Milford announce the birth of their daughter **Selena Marie Saenz** born May 17 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Kim and Rodger Doolin of Westland and Barbara and Paul Saenz of Las Vegas, Nevada.

SINGLES MINGLE

Lettings 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@cc.homecomm.net.

a.m. Upcoming dances include June 16, June 23 and June 30. Must be over 21, and dressy attire (no jeans). Open to the public. A DJ will be playing Top 40 music and current hits. Appetizers will be served (hot/cold). Early admission special \$4 before 8:30 p.m. and \$6 after. For information please call (734) 981-0909.

bar, refreshments, 21 and over, dress attire please. Roma's Banquet Hall, 32550 Cherry Hill Road (east of Venoy) in Garden City. Call (313) 869-1900/(313) 438-6258.

DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP Schoolcraft College Women's Resource Center has a Divorce Support Group that meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month in the McDowell Center (Room 225) from 7-9 p.m. No fee is required. Call (734) 462-4443. A schedule from June to August follows:

June 27, Legal aspects of divorce. Learn about the legal proceeds of divorce, including information on property settlement, custody, child support, visitation, alimony and more from Attorney at Law, Laura Reyes Kopack.

July 11, group discussion. Facilitated by Cynthia Koppin. July 25, no meeting. Aug. 8, group discussion. Facilitated by Cynthia Koppin. Aug. 22, Coping with Divorce. Florine Bond will discuss strategies for coping with the stress.

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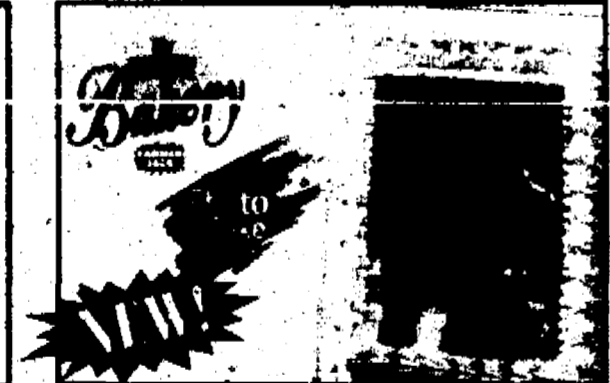
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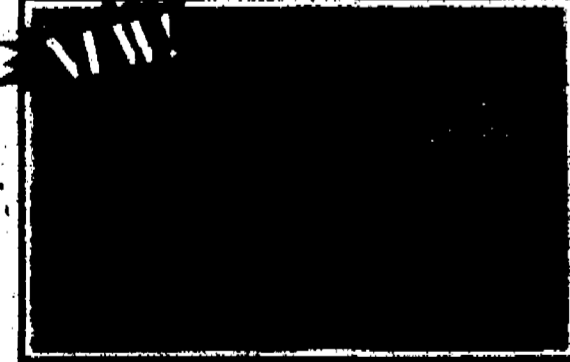
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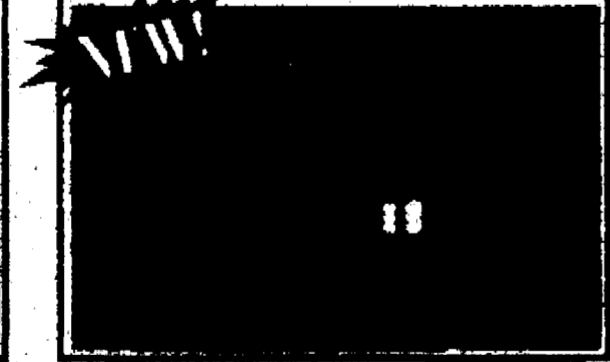
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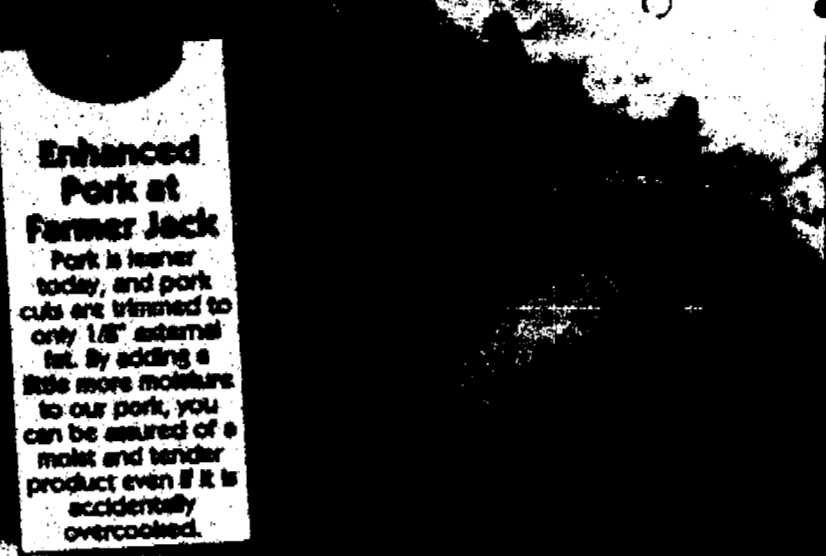
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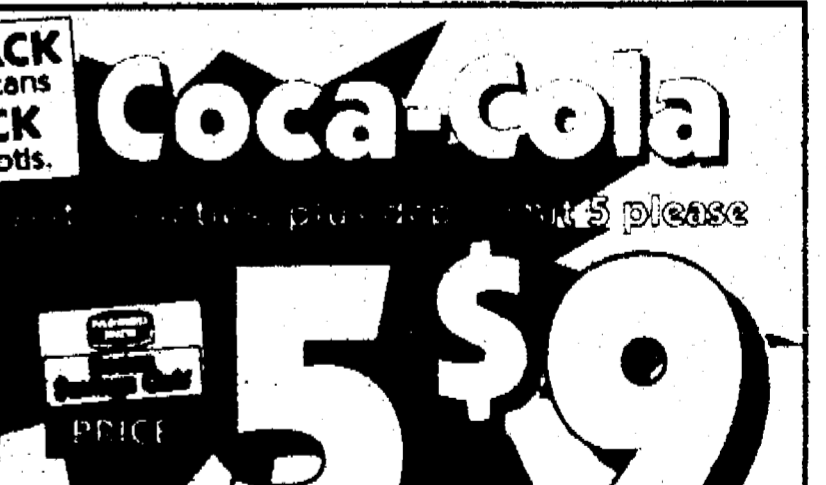
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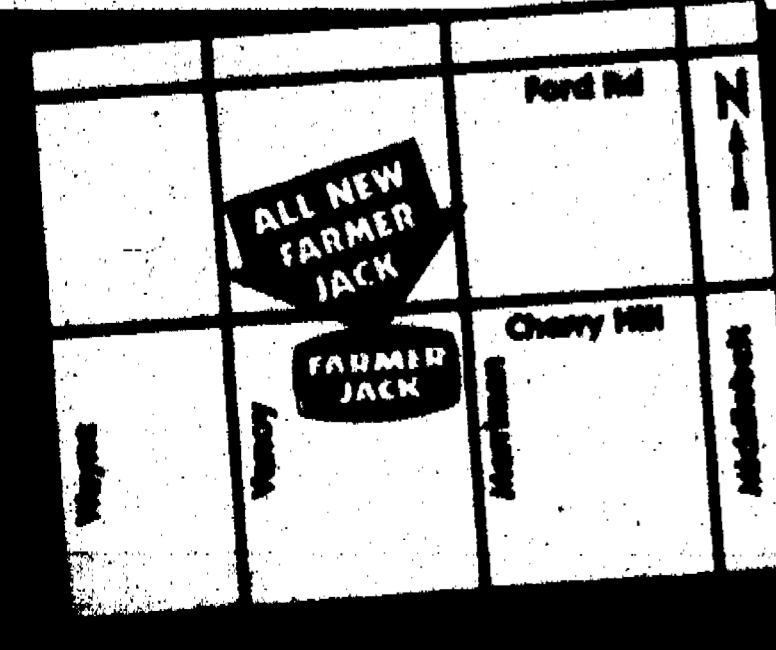
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Defending champ reaches semifinal 3rd straight year

PREP BASEBALL

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
STAFF WRITER
pbeaudry@oe.homecomm.net

After winning Saturday's Division I regional, Catholic Central baseball coach John Salter laughed and shook his head when asked if he thought his defending state champs could repeat this year.

After beating third-ranked Novi, 12-1, and earning a trip to the semifinals for the third-straight year, Salter is beginning to laugh a little less and believe a lot more.

The Shamrocks didn't just beat the Wildcats (30-5), they shut them down, using a well-tested combination of pitching, hitting and defense.

"Pitching and defense gave us the chances we needed," said Salter after his team improved to 23-11 and earned a date in Friday's 5:30 p.m. semifinal against Hartland. "And we hit the ball pretty well, too."

The Shamrocks did everything the Wildcats didn't do.

■ Charlie Haeger, who's pitched more in the last week than he had all season, shut down Novi on a one-hitter.

Please see CC ADVANCES, C4



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Home plate gathering: Redford Catholic Central's Mike Wadowski (No. 21) is congratulated by teammates after hitting a homer in Tuesday's 12-1 quarterfinal victory over Novi.

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Ocelots' Colley signs

Schoolcraft College's 6-foot-7 center Chris Colley (Hazel Park) recently signed a letter-of-intent to play basketball at Minnesota State University-Moorhead, an NCAA Division II school.

Colley, a two-year player at Schoolcraft, scored a total of 369 points in two seasons and helped the Ocelots to a 50-12 record.

He averaged 6.9 points and 2.3 rebounds last season, while shooting 54.7 percent (75 of 137) from the field as Schoolcraft finished 24-7 and captured the Eastern Conference championship in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

As a freshman at Schoolcraft, Colley averaged 5.5 points and 2.4 rebounds, while shooting 60 percent from the floor and 73 percent from the free throw line.

Moorhead, coached by Mike Olson, finished 9-17 last year and 7-11 in the 10-team Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (seventh place).

Colley becomes the fourth SC player to sign a letter-of-intent. Guards Gilbert Mitchell and Brian Williams (Wayne Memorial), are headed to Western Illinois, while 6-4 forward Robert Brown recently signed with the University of Buffalo.

St. Michael's track 6-0

The Livonia St. Michael's girls took first, while the boys team finished runner-up in the 20-school Metro Division Catholic Youth Organization meet for grades 7-8 held on June 6 at Grosse Pointe South.

Top girls finishers include Kathy Carey, who took a second in the 100-meter dash and Amber Willoughby, who finished fifth in the 100.

The St. Michael's girls also took fourth in the 400 relay and sixth in the 800 relay.

Top boys finishers included Tom Burger, second, long jump, and third, 800; Andrew Hinkle, second, shot put, and fifth, 400; Jim Grau, second, 1,600; David Herberholz, third, high jump; Gig Goodlew, third, 200; Rob Lawrence, fourth, 50; Michael Hoenner, sixth, 800.

The St. Michael's boys took runner-up finishes in both the 400 and 1,600 relays.

During the regular season, St. Michael's combined girls and boys track teams finished 6-0 in the Metro Division of the CYO.

Highlights included firsts in the West Side Invitational Relay meet (boys) and dual meet wins over University of Detroit, Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Mary's of Redford, Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Robert Belarmine and Dearborn Divine Child.

Eleven boys school records were broken during the season, while Carey set three new girls marks.

The St. Michael's coaching staff includes Dennis Murray, Jim Grau, Mike Vecchioni, Tim Muldowney and Dennis Burklow.

Power Bilt champion

Livonia Stevenson High freshman Kristen Polanski captured the first Power Bilt event of the season when she carded a 10-over 84 to win the Girls 14-15 age division by eight strokes Saturday at Duck Lake Country Club.

The win enables Polanski to compete in the Power Bilt Tournament of Champions Aug. 11-12 in East Lansing.

WaZa places 1st

The WaZa Futbol Club recently took first place in the Lakes Area Youth Soccer League.

Members of the team, coached by Dave Cervenak, include: Pat Beier, Jay Beier, Josh Clark, Blake Dimond, Ryan Dinco, Ryan Dolan, Jesse Forrester, Brent Gornall, Nathan Miller, Chris Pepper and Shane Whitehead.

Meteors finish 8-1-1

The Livonia Meteors, an under-14 boys team coached by Nick Augustine, recently finished 8-1-1 in Little Caesars Premier Soccer League play.

Team members include: Travis Augustine, Jared Averbach, Kyle Brierley, Dan Curmi, Greg Ekmeian, Ed Gallagher, Jerry Hall, Jason Kloman, Phil Kozlowski, Brian Kutnick, Ryan Mack, Eric Megular, Jason Ross, Brandon Ross, Brandon Sieg and Gastan Taylor.

Chris Ross is the assistant coach. The team manager is Elaine Augustine.

Kid runner thrills area track fans

Don't be mistaken, Dathan Ritzenheim looks more like your local paperboy than somebody trying to make the Olympic Trials cut in the 5,000-meter run.



BRAD EMONS

And make no mistake about it, the Rockford High junior tried to steal the show Saturday at Plymouth Canton High School in the Michigan International, a track and field meet, which piqued enough curiosity to bring out over 1,000 spectators on a warm and gusty night.

The headliners were Canadian miler Kevin Sullivan, and Cadillac native Paul McMullen, the man who

represented the U.S. in the 1,500 at the Atlanta Olympic Games.

But Ritzenheim, a scrawny lad trying to go where very few high school runners have dared to go, had the crowd buzzing with anticipation.

And he didn't disappoint the fans. Ritzenheim, the Foot Locker national cross country champion, the state record holder in the 1,600 and the national indoor record holder in the 3,200, pressed the envelope against a field of well-seasoned men.

On the second lap, Ritzenheim heard some chirping from one of the older competitors.

"That guy told me, 'If you're so good, why not take the lead,'" Ritzenheim recalled. "He was kind of mocking me."

Nobody likes to be shown up by a

kid, just ask Karl Malone, who once got irritated in an NBA All-Star game by an up-and-coming Kobe Bryant.

Ritzenheim didn't win Saturday night, that honor went to former Michigan State standout Jim Jurcevic, a 24-year-old who has already made the Olympic Trials cut (13:47.0) in the 5,000.

But Ritzenheim certainly gained a lot of respect, collapsing at the finish line in 14:13.8.

Jurcevic, who rallied to win the race on the final two laps after Ritzenheim had pulled along the field, won the event in 14:07.83.

"He's certainly one of the up-and-comers, that's for sure," said Jurcevic of his young sidkicker. "I'm sure he's going to step up to the 10K some day."

Ritzenheim may give his dream of going to the Trials, which starts July 15 in Sacramento, Calif., one more crack at the Foot Locker outdoor meet later this month in Raleigh, N.C.

But he didn't go away empty-footed. His times at 3,000 (8:18.5) and 5,000 (16:52.5) are both state schoolboy bests. His 5,000 finish time ranks him among the top 10 ever run nationally by a prep.

And by his senior year, the legend of Ritzenheim should grow even more.

And just for your information, no high schooler in this country has qualified for any track and field event in the Olympics since 1976.

"I felt good going in tonight, but during the race I was wobbly, queasy and the wind was pushing me

Please see RITZENHEIM, C3

Brandon ousts Blazers

GIRLS SOFTBALL

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER
domeara@oe.homecomm.net

Ortonville-Brandon's softball uniforms feature the appropriate colors: black and blue.

That's how opposing teams must feel after getting in the way of its efficient machine.

The Eagles showed how it works Saturday when they derailed Livonia Ladywood's tournament run in the final game of the Division 2 regional at Birmingham Seaholm, 6-1.

There was no late-inning rally for the Blazers, who overcame a 5-1 deficit earlier that day to defeat Farmington Harrison in eight innings, 7-6, and reach the championship round.

Brandon executes the bunt-and-run game to near perfection and can attack a defense any way it chooses.

"That's our trademark," Brandon coach Don Peters said. "We call it run and gun. We're fast. We get on base and force other teams to make a mistake or put us in position to score."

Ladywood found itself at a disadvantage right away when Brandon's Toni Salo started the game with bunt that resulted in an overthrow at first base.

The ball got past the right fielder for another error, allowing Salo to circle the bases and give the Eagles a quick, 1-0 lead.

"My catcher hurt her hand in the first game, and the hand had swollen up," Ladywood coach Bob Lulek said. "But she wanted to play; she's a gamer."

Brandon is very good, too. We knew we had to play a perfect game. Brandon is the best slapping and bunting team in high school ball. They put it right where you aren't."

That scenario repeated itself when Salo came to bat in the second inning, enabling Brandon's Jessica McCullough to score a second run.

Jennifer Little, who was 3-for-4 and scored two runs, hit a leadoff double in the third inning and scored on Candace Fenton's single. The score remained 3-0 until the sixth.

"We have some girls who can drive the

ball, too," Peters said. "Salo and No. 2 hitter Stephanie Dura are our table-setters. They set the table for the line-drive hitters."

Ladywood's Shelly Moros pitched the first four innings and took the loss, allowing six hits and one walk, but the Blazers (14-22) kept the score close until the seventh as Shawn Fallon followed with two scoreless innings.

"I could see Livonia was a battler," Peters said. "I have a lot of respect for them after seeing that first game."

"I told the girls to put their hearts on the line and play hard. Ladywood isn't out of it until it's over."

Brandon added to its lead with three runs off reliever Pam Smart in the seventh.

Dura and Little started the inning with bunt singles. A fielder's choice/error scored one run, and Rachel Carey hit a two-run single.

The Blazers got their run in the seventh on a leadoff walk to Carrie Friel, a ground-out, a wild pitch and an error. Those were the only mistakes the Eagles (23-13) made in an otherwise perfect game.

Brandon sophomore Sarah Gallow pitched a complete game, allowing just three hits. She struck out two and walked three (none until the fifth inning).

"She throws a few different pitches and has more composure (this year)," Peters said. "The maturing process is happening."

Despite the season-ending loss, Lulek already is looking forward to next year.

"I'll have my whole team back, and we'll be real good," he said. "I'll have all my pitchers, catchers and infielders back. I'm losing my outfielders, my seniors."

The Harrison game was a great game. We beat each other up, and we knew (the final) would be a tough game. It took a little wind out of us."

LADYWOOD 7, HARRISON 6. If no one uttered the

Please see LADYWOOD, C3



STAFF PHOTO BY BRITAIN MITCHELL

Game-winner: Livonia Ladywood's Dawn Rini delivered a two-run single in the bottom of the eighth inning to beat Farmington Hills Harrison in the Division II regional semifinal at Seaholm.

Truman's late run nips Chargers, 1-0

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemons@cc.homecom.net

This is one that got away. Actually, Livonia Churchill had more chances to advance in the Division I girls softball regional Saturday at Monroe.

But the Chargers bowed out in the semifinals against Taylor Truman, 1-0, as the Cougars scored the game-winning run in the bottom of the sixth inning after sophomore pitcher Meghan Misiak had held them hitless through the first five.

With one-out in the sixth, shortstop Erin Parrish broke up Misiak's no-hitter with sharp hit to center field.

Parrish wound up on second base when the ball eluded a Churchill outfielder, who accidentally slipped when she got her feet tangled up in the wet grass trying to stop the line drive.

The next batter, catcher Shawn Clevenger, then smacked a single to score Parrish with the eventual game-winning run.

Churchill, which out-hit Truman 4-2, got a single from Christine Fones to start the top of the seventh, but Cougars' pitcher Jessica Sobie retired the next three in order to earn a spot in the regional finals.

Host Monroe went on to win the regional title with an 11-0 win over Detroit Redford in the semifinals followed by a 2-0 victory over Truman in the championship game.

"They played tough all year and they played tough today," said Churchill coach Dana Hardwidge of her team, who bowed out with a 20-9 record. "This year we won a lot of close, extra-inning games. We hung in there. Today Fones got a hit in the seventh inning, but we couldn't advance her.

"We ran ourselves out of an inning a few



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Hung up: Churchill runner Sallie Kuratko gets tagged out going from second to third base in the opening inning against Taylor Truman.

times with runners in the scoring position and we didn't get the hit when we needed it."

Second baseman Sallie Kuratko had two of Churchill's four hits, while first baseman Sarah Hennessey had the other. Hennessey led off the fifth with a single and advanced to third, but was left stranded.

Meanwhile, Misiak struck out 10 and did not walk a batter.

"We had only two hits and they happened to be back-to-back," said Truman coach Lisa Schillinger, whose team bowed out at 23-14 after the loss to Monroe. "We were able to hang in there and make something happen."

Early in the game we were swinging at her (Misiak's) high pitch, which was her out-pitch. We had to get our hands out quicker on the ball. To their credit, their pitcher pitched a great game."

Truman also got a strong performance on the mound from Sobie. The right-hander fanned just one, but had the Chargers popping out and beating the ball into the dirt.

"Our graduation was today and we had some kids in different positions," said Schillinger, whose team finished fourth in the Mega Conference's Red Division. "It was a great ballgame. In the state tourney you need some breaks and we got them today."

Hardwidge has a lot of look forward to next season as six of nine starters return.

However, steady infielders Hennessey (first base), Kelly Stahley (third base) and Fones (shortstop) all graduate.

"Our infield was pretty much intact from last year and you could tell the way they played this year," Hardwidge said. "We'll have to juggle our lineup next year.

"I've never had a team that enjoyed so much together and supported each other.

"We had good team chemistry."

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Lutheran North beats C'ville for 3rd time

Macomb Lutheran North earned its first-ever trip to the state quarterfinals in girls softball by winning the Division III regional Saturday at Lake Fenton with victories over Livonia

DIVISION III
Clarenceville (12-2) and Byron (3-2).

Clarenceville ended the season with an 11-11 record, while North, 23-12 overall, moved on to Tuesday's quarterfinal at Davison against 32-2 Unionville-Sebewaing.

"Errors killed us and we just

didn't hit the ball like we needed," Clarenceville coach Kristen Hynek said.

North, which had beaten Metro Conference rival Clarenceville 3-2 and 8-0 during the regular season, scored four times in the sixth inning to halt the game under the 10-run mercy rule.

Ginina Russo, Allison Rzeppa, Shannon Russo and freshman Katie Anger each had two hits for the victorious Mustangs.

Winning pitcher Emily Davidson had eight strikeouts and walked four.

Clarenceville starter Amy Schiffman, a junior, took the loss.

Senior Rachael Koernke, moved to third base, led the Trojans with two hits, one RBI and one run scored.

Clarenceville junior left fielder Jenny Swider made first-team All-Metro, while Koernke and Schiffman made the second-team. Junior third baseman Melanie Rudd and senior second baseman Meghan Schiffman took third-team All-Metro honors.

All-District picks included Koernke, Amy and Meghan Schiffman, sophomore first baseman Nicole Martin and three outfielders — juniors Jessica and Jenny Kennedy, along with Swider.

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- U-12 boys select coached by Steve Schirmscher

Tryouts will be held at Stevenson Middle School in Westland from 6-8 p.m. For more information on U-10 please call 734-981-9234. For U-12 please call 734-416-8696 or 734-459-5410.

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Shepler selected coach for Livonia Stevenson

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemons@oe.homecomm.net

PREP HOCKEY

Ed Shepler is no stranger to Livonia hockey, and that is why he is returning to his roots.

The former two-time All-Stater from Livonia Churchill High School has been selected to take the reins at rival Stevenson High.

Shepler, who coached Southfield Travel Midget AA the past four years, replaces Mike Harris, who resigned shortly after last season.

Harris posted an impressive 96-34-9 record, including a 76-6-5 league mark, winning four Suburban High School Hockey League crowns and one Lakes Division crown in the first year (1999-2000) of the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Incoming Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman, who is replacing the retiring Roger Frayer on Aug. 1, interviewed Shepler for the job along with incoming Stevenson principal Steve Archibald.

"Ed has a tremendous background and was an excellent candidate," Hyman said. "At his first meeting about 40 (players) showed up and it went really well."

"He has coached at various levels. He'll bring tremendous team unity and discipline, but he'll also be a disciplinarian in a fair and flexible way."

Shepler, a 1986 Churchill grad, was a prolific goal scorer during his sophomore and junior years. As a junior, he helped the Chargers win their first-ever regional championship in a thrilling 4-3 four-overtime victory over Ann Arbor Huron.

Shepler then played for the Junior A Hennessey Engineers during his senior year at Churchill before going to Kent State University on a hockey

scholarship. The winger played one season with the Golden Flashes and then tried his hand at the professional ranks, receiving a tryout with the Pittsburgh Penguins of the National Hockey League.

"I played high school hockey and I want to give back what I've learned from that experience," Shepler said. "I get to go back and coach in the city I love best, and there's nothing like Livonia hockey."

Shepler owns Complete Assembly Technology located in Livonia. He resides in Livonia with his wife Sandy and five daughters.

He has also coached the AAA Nationals, the Junior A Dearborn Magic and the Junior B Metro Jets.

"I'm very familiar with the Livonia kids, the ones who play for teams like the Knights and Spawn, and out of the Arctic Pond," Shepler said. "My expectations are to make sure they take pride in the Stevenson jersey and play not for just themselves, but for the whole team."

Shepler would also like to take a run some day at a state title.

"It's just not worrying about beating the Livonia teams, even though the rivalry is important, or even winning the league," the new coach said. "A Livonia school has never won a state title and my goal is to reach the level of the Trentons, Catholic Central and Ann Arbor Pioneer."

"Stevenson has one of the strongest programs in the state, but they haven't got over that next hurdle."



Tournament champs Motor City Mold of Livonia came away with the Super D National Softball Association World Series NIT title last weekend in Hartland.

Motor City Mold takes 5 straight, earns tournament championship

Motor City Mold of Livonia captured five straight games last weekend to win the National Softball Association Super D World Series National Invitational Tournament in Hartland.

Mold posted wins over Great Lakes Electric (16-6), Thumb Softball (39-13), Burkett Excavating (20-6) and Hallmark Tool & Gauge (20-13 and 15-10).

The slow-pitch team now receives entry into the Super D World Series Tournament Oct. 14-15 in Rock Hill, S.C. Motor City, owned by Ron Vaaganas and managed by Pete Chonacas, is currently ranked first in the region, first in the state and fourth nationally, but is expected to move up the rankings this week.

Members of the Mold, now 15-3 on the year,

MEN'S SOFTBALL

include: Dave Flora, Todd Florn, Tom Coutts, Mike Heard, Sean Heard, Marty Smith, John Nadratowski, Mike Stachowski, Troy Isaacson, Leo Trayner, Jerry Schornack, Kurt Alexander, Craig Brevik, Ken Drowiewski, Paul Woodard, Marv Liberty and Tim Chonacas.

The Mold, featuring players from Livonia, Westland, Canton and Novi, also finished first with a 5-1 record in the first leg of the Grand Slam Tournament Series to earn a spot in the NSA Super D World Series Sept. 15-17 in Indianapolis, Ind.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

CRUSADER SPIKERS BUMMER-UP

The Madonna University Junior Crusaders 15-and-under girls volleyball team finished second in the Michigan Junior Volleyball Association state tournament in Grand Rapids last weekend.

The Junior Crusaders defeated Frankenmuth, 25-15, 25-12; Grand Rapids Juniors, 25-19, 25-14; 4u2Fear (Lansing), 25-10, 25-13; Maple City 25-14, 25-10; Grosse Pointe, 25-16, 22-25, 27-26; and the Dead Frogs, 25-11, 25-16.

The Junior Crusaders lost in the finals to Inside Out (Muskegon) 25-15, 25-19.

The team won four of the five tournaments it played in this season.

Coached by Debby Karabees-Betts, team members are Anne Roosevelt (Farmington Mercy), Erica Alemdar (Madison Heights Bishop Foley), Sarah Bergmooser and Caitline O'Hara (Monroe St. Mary's), Kathleen Knutson and Kari McLeod (Westland John Glenn), Kristin Kummer, Katie McDonald and Amy Szymanski (Redford St. Robert's), Gina Seefeld and Christine Jury (Livonia Ladywood), and Jordan Falcusan (Plymouth Salem).

The Junior Crusaders will travel this weekend to the Nationals in Chicago.

VOLLEYBALL BRONZE MEDALISTS

The Motor City Volleyball Club's 17 Elite team brought home the bronze medal this weekend in the Open Level Gold Division at the State AAU Tournament in Grand Rapids.

Motor City team, coached by Karen Chase and Anne Poglits, lost in a close three-game match to Inside Out Volleyball of Muskegon in its final match. Motor City will complete its season next weekend at the National AAU tournament in Chicago.

Team members of the Livonia-based club are from all over suburban Detroit and include: Erin Bartee (Livonia), Leslie Dzingle (Dearborn), Brittany Henson (Brighton), Lyndsay Howard (Farmington), Meghan Mitchell (Dearborn), Dayna Niemi (Canton), Jamie Pikus (Troy) and Becky Thoreau (Troy).

LAMBERT CARDS ACE

Playing in the R.M. Golf League, Mark Lambert, 36, of Wixom, recorded an ace on the 135-yard, par-3 June 8 at Idyl Wyld Golf Course in Livonia.

He used a pitching wedge.

WAYNE BASKETBALL CAMP

The Summer Challenge Basketball Camp, conducted by coach Chuck Henry, will be from 1-3 p.m. Monday, June 19 through Friday, June 23 at the Wayne Memorial High School Alumni Arena.

The camp, limited to the first 48 registrants, is for boys and girls entering grades 5-10 (as of September).

The \$50 cost includes instruction, skill development, competition trophies, shirt and three-color basketball to the first 36 paid campers in each session.

For more information, call (734) 398-5975.

LIVONIA DRIVER 6TH

Livonian Tom Adis finished a career-best sixth in the Paperbacks 'N Things Legends Series 30-lap Great Lakes National race June 10 in Springport.

Adis' previous best finishes were a pair of 11ths.

He now ranks in the top 10 in the overall point standings.

He will travel Saturday to Auburn for a race at Tri-Cities Speedy and run again Sunday in Mason at Spartan Speedway.

METEOR BOYS SOCCER TRYOUTS

Corrected boys tryouts for the Livonia Y Meteors will be at Bicentennial Park, located on Seven Mile between Farmington and Newburgh roads (field nos. 3-6 in the back of the park) for the following age groups:

•Under-9 — 6-8 p.m. Friday, June 16 and Tuesday, June 20; call David Burton at (248) 476-4720;

•Under-12 — 6-8 p.m. Thursday, June 15 and Monday, June 19; call David Burton at (248) 476-4720;

•Under-13 — 6-8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, June 15-16; call Steve Barnas at (734) 782-7091.

All players should register 30 minutes prior to tryouts. Players should bring water and a soccer ball.

METEORS GIRLS SOCCER TRYOUTS

Corrected girls tryouts for the Livonia Y Meteors will be at Bicentennial Park, located on Seven Mile between Farmington and Newburgh roads (field nos. 3-6 in the back of the park) for the following age group:

•Under-14 — 6:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday, June 17; and 6-8 p.m. Sunday, June 18 and Wednesday, June 21; call either Frank

Baker at (734) 464-2037 or Jeff Bobo at (734) 981-0173.

All players should register 30 minutes prior to tryouts. Players should bring water and a soccer ball.

WAZA SOCCER TRYOUTS

Tryouts for WaZa FC's under-11 boys team will be from noon-2 p.m. Saturday, June 17 and 24; also 3-5 p.m. Sunday, June 18 at Schoolcraft Community College, located on Haggerty between Six and Seven Mile roads (located on the south side of the school closest to Six Mile).

Players will receive personal training from Dominic and Mario Scicluna.

For more information, call (313) 937-9292.

FALL BASEBALL 2000

Total Baseball, located at 30990 Wixom Road, Wixom, will be sponsoring a fall baseball league from Aug. 12 through Oct. 15 for the follow age divisions: 11-2, 13-14, junior varsity and varsity.

The registration deadline is Saturday, Aug. 5.

Games will be played on week-

ends and all high school rosters will be made available to Michigan colleges and pro teams.

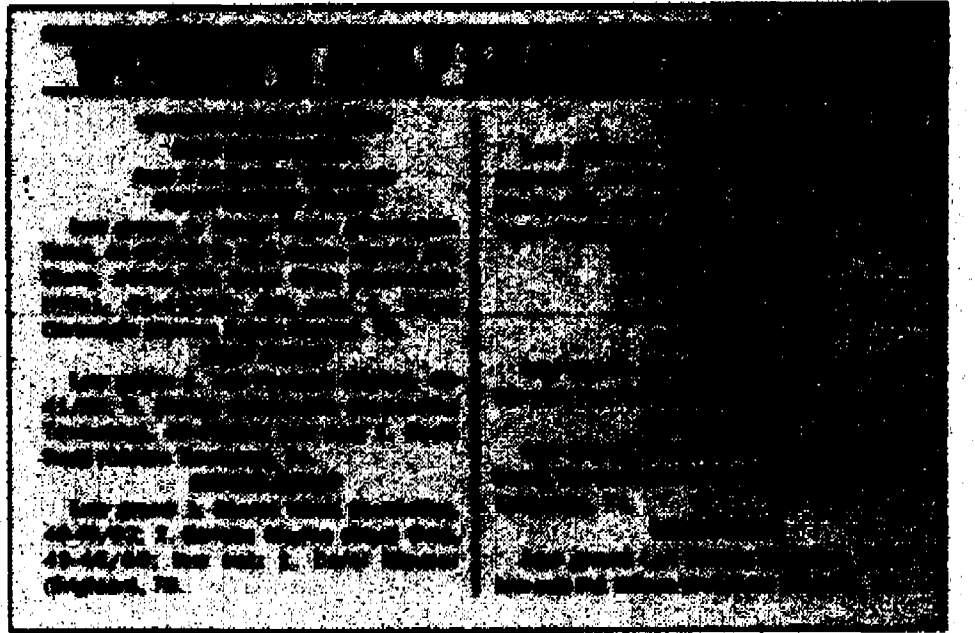
The registration fee is \$210 per individual or \$1,350 per team (\$75 forfeit fee returned). Playoffs and trophies are included for those who qualify.

For more information, call (248) 668-0166.

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Salem Hills plays host to Public Links qualifier

BY MONICA PUGNO
STAFF WRITER

A lot of changes are expected for this year's National Public Links Qualifying Tournament, scheduled for today and Friday at the Salem Hills Golf Club.

In the past years, more than 200 amateur golfers competed in the tournament. This year, there are 109 entries.

Pete Owens, a representative of the United States Golf Association who is in charge of the two-day tournament, said one of the reasons for the lower turnout is because the U.S.G.A. no longer pays for those who win the tournament to fly to the national championships in Portland.

"Last year, we had 220 entries," Owens said. "The U.S.G.A. changed the rules this year. It used to be the only U.S.G.A. tournament where we would pay for the winners to play at the national champi-

onship. They stopped doing that this year."

Owens said another reason less people signed up for the tournament is because the U.S.G.A. lowered the handicap requirement.

"It used to be wide open," he said. "They used to let people who had a 20 handicap play. They lowered it to 8.4 this year."

The tournament still draws some of the best amateurs from around the world. The top four finishers will qualify for the national championships in Portland. The winner of the event in Portland qualifies for the Masters.

The tournament began at 6:30 this morning. The top 51 golfers will play again on Friday from 7 a.m. to noon.

The cost to enter the tournament is \$30. For more information, call the Salem Hills Golf Club at 248-437-2152.

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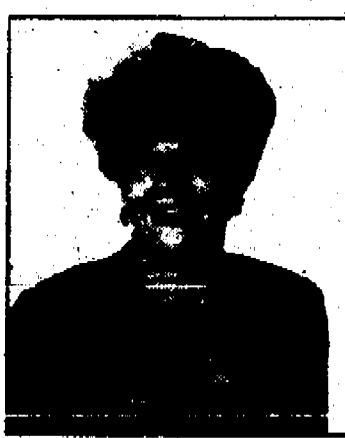
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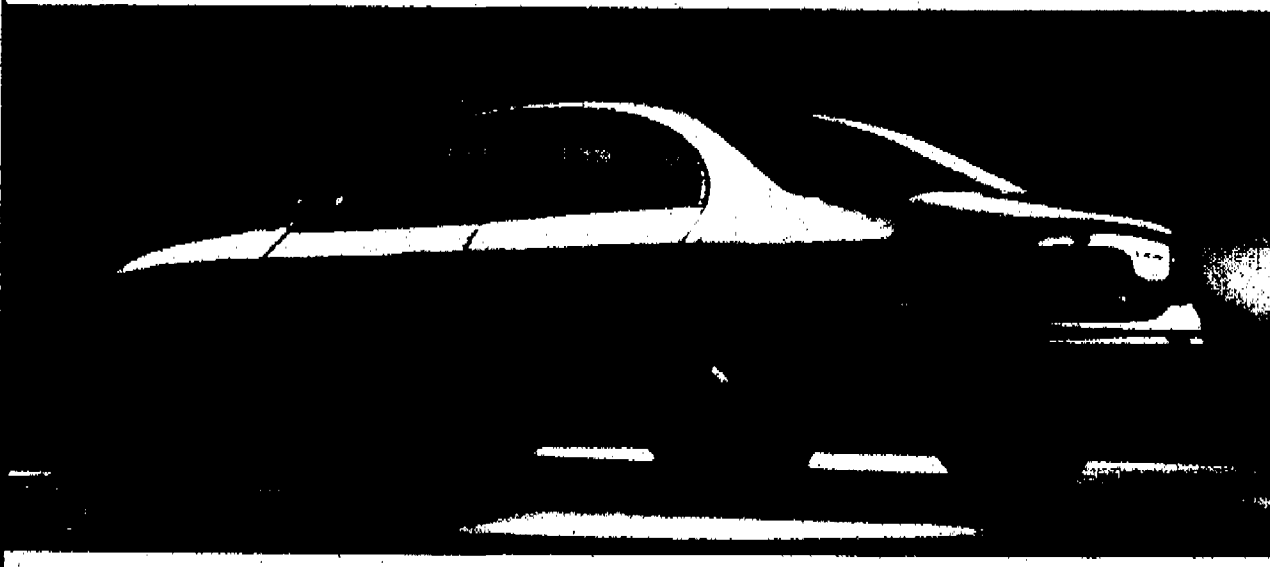
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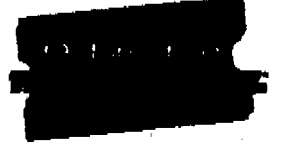
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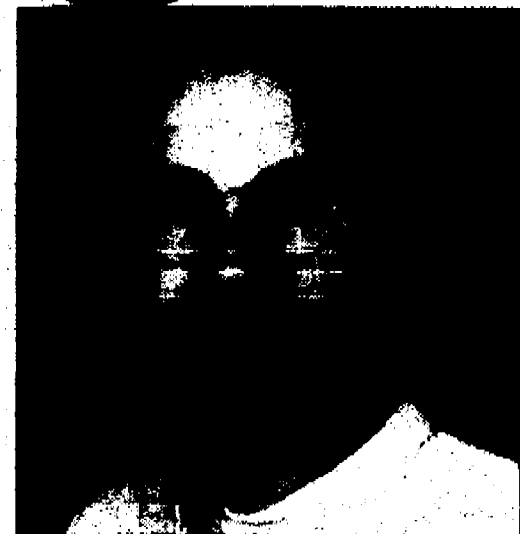


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F★

FRIDAY



Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia, 36071 Plymouth Road, presents Billy Ray Bauer 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Tickets \$10 per person, dinner/show package \$24.50 per person, call (734) 261-0555.

SATURDAY



The Swedish Club presents its annual Midsummer Festival at the club, 22398 Ruth Street at Freedom Road in Farmington Hills. The event begins 9:30 a.m. with a pancake breakfast. Maypole raising at noon followed by Scandia (pictured) and Arpi Chorus performances, folk dancing and children's games. Baked goods and Swedish imports offered for sale. Dinner served 1:30 p.m. Call (248) 646-4073 for information.

SUNDAY



Over 120 artists, including Katherine Wickersham, will gather 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Northville for "Art in the Sun." The juried fine art show also offers live entertainment. For more information, call (248) 349-7640.

ART



New media: The Peter Sparling Dance Company presents a trio of dances including the multi-media performance spectacle "The Ariel Web."

VIRTUAL DANCERS



Sparling Company ventures into new arena

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

Through all the years of dancing with Martha Graham's company, Peter Sparling partnered with dozens of lithe and lovely females. Technology changes that when Sparling steps onto the stage of the Power Center Friday, June 30.

In an adventure in new media, Sparling whirls across the boards in a dust with cameraman Jonathan Tyman. The Ariel Web is one of a trio of dances the Peter Sparling Dance Company will perform during the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, which opens Friday, June 16.

A collaboration with Sparling's colleagues at the University of Michigan, the performance spectacle layers poetry, music and dance in a celebration and exploration of arts and technology. Sparling, Richard Tillinghast, Jim Cogswell, Andrew Mead and Fred Bookstein, assisted by the technical wizardry of Tom Bray, first produced the work in March at Rackham Auditorium.

"You've got to see it to believe it," said Sparling who danced with Martha Graham from 1973 to 1980 before founding his own company in New York in the early 80s. "It pushes the boundaries. Each time we do it, the boundaries shift between the text, visual and movement. It's like a series of overlaid metaphors that take on meaning as they align themselves."

Sparling, who spent his teen years in Plymouth, choreographed the work on two separate stages. As Sparling takes the angular movements across the Power Center stage, his company will dance at the Media Union across campus. The virtual dancers' video projected sequences will appear all together on the Power Center stage.

"It's going to be fun to do and tricky," said Tim Smola, a Canton resident and one of the company members dancing in the remote location. "There will be 20-foot video monitors allowing

Adventures in New Media

What: The Peter Sparling Dance Company presents a trio of modern dances during the Ann Arbor Summer Festival.

When: 8 p.m. Friday, June 30. An informal performance preview begins at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby.

Where: Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor

Tickets: \$26, \$20, \$14. Call (734) 764-2538. See Ann Arbor Summer Festival schedule inside.

all of us to appear simultaneously on stage. A van will be waiting to speed us to the Power Center to complete the dance."

World premiere

The second work on the program, *Possible Dances*, returns to reality with a vignette of recollections written by Sparling. Set to a score by New York composer Paul Epstein who uses electronic music and Sparling's recorded voice to create a soundscape, the six poems run the gamut of emotions from mourning the loss of a friend to the wonder of being alive. In the choreographer's own words, it "explores relationship of movement imagery with text imagery, how words signal images in our mind and how movement imagery can create words."

"It's very surreal," said Smola. "It

Please see **DANCERS, E3**

COMMUNITY THEATER

Vengeful ghost haunts audiences at Trinity House Theatre

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

P.W. Henry warns theatergoers to step sprightly to their cars after seeing *The Woman in Black*. The ghost in the Parlour Theatre production could be lurking in the graveyard behind Trinity House Theatre in Livonia.

"She's not a friendly ghost," said Henry, a Westland resident who plays one of the two roles in this British story. "The graveyard out back adds to the eeriness and mystery and they'll probably want to do a double take."

A play within a play, *The Woman in Black* is a thriller about a man (Henry) haunted by

a vengeful ghost. Fearing he's going mad, the character turns to an actor for help. Arthur Kipps believes if he can just get his story told, the curse will be reversed.

"He wants to exorcise this vision," said Henry. "We put on this play where I'm doing the part of five or six characters, most with British accents and one with a Scottish accent. It's a challenge to remember which character is next and which one I'm using."



British thriller: P.W. Henry (left) and Brian Catton try to rid themselves of a vengeful ghost in "The Woman in Black."

"Our theater group usually does comedy but we were fascinated with it," said Ed Meade, who founded Parlour

Theatre Productions with his wife Jeannine. The couple lived for many years in Livonia, Plymouth and Farmington Hills before moving to Northville. "We saw it in London three times. It's a good story. It's not entirely gothic. It takes place in post Victorian times with horses and buggies traveling alongside automobiles in the streets. The sound effects create the mood. As the story evolves it becomes an integral part."

Mystery ghost

Jeannine will reveal little about the ghost she plays. Dressed in a floor-length black cape, her actions tell the story. "I have no lines so it's pretty easy," said Jeannine. "But as everyone knows, actions speak louder than words." "Her movements really are quite terrifying especially when they're seen through all the fog coming up from the ground," said Brian Catton who plays

Please see **THEATRE, E2**

Ghost from page E1

The Actor. Catton's experience in the film *Vampire's Kiss* was good training for *The Woman in Black*. So were the years he spent off Broadway in plays such as *Fool for Love*, *Out of the Frying Pan* and *Song for Singapore*. "It's like we're out in the moors."

Traveling troupe

The Woman in Black is one of six shows that ParLOUR rotates at dinner theaters, retirement centers, and bus tours which stop at hotels in resorts such as Frankenmuth.

"We're really on the road a lot," said Meade, who taught voice and theater at public and parochial schools in Dearborn Heights and Dearborn until retiring nine years ago. "We pack up all of the scenery, costumes and props. It's a little bit of work but it's fun."

"We take theater to people who

"We take theater to people who might not otherwise be able to see it. It's a traveling troupe. That's why Ed called it ParLOUR Theatre. We bring it to your parlor."

Jeannine Meade
Actress

might not otherwise be able to see it," added Jeannine. "It's a traveling troupe. That's why Ed called it ParLOUR Theatre. We bring it to your parlor."

If you miss *The Woman in Black* at Trinity House Theatre, they'll play it again Sunday, July 23, at *The Ark* in Ann Arbor, call (734) 763-TKTS.

Dancers from page E1

takes you to another place. The composer did a neat job. That's what makes the dance really exciting. They're very human, just real people. We're asked to be real people in real life not fairies. It's about human experience. The only exception is in the piece about bees on a country road where I dance as the windshield wipers."

Whitley Setrakian concludes

the program with choreography inspired by the real life drama of Polish sculptor Magdalena Abakanowicz. Setrakian created the compelling work after seeing Abakanowicz's installation at the University of Michigan Museum of Art where she is public relations director. *This Flock* was originally performed as part of a program Setrakian coordinated to bring new insight to Abakanowicz's installation at the

Ann Arbor museum in March 1999. Set to a score by English composer Geoff Smith, the work recalls a scarring memory in the sculptor's childhood. During World War II, Nazi's burst into the Abakanowicz home on the outskirts of Warsaw. Their guns blazing they shot off the arm of her mother. Setrakian, who's teaching dance this summer at Michigan State University, never forgot the story after viewing the

installation. She revived the work earlier this year on the East Lansing campus of Michigan State.

"I loved her piece very much," said Setrakian, a dance instructor at the Milligan School of Ballet in Dearborn Heights. "It was very compelling. It has enormous power with 30 some standing figures without heads. It speaks to individuality and conformity."

ANN ARBOR SUMMER FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

The 17th annual Ann Arbor Summer Festival, Friday, June 16, to Sunday, July 9, features an eclectic mix of events that showcase nationally-acclaimed artists and companies in dance, theater, music and comedy and outstanding local groups.

Activities are presented inside at the Power Center, 121 Fletcher Street, and outside at Top of the Park, the top level of a parking structure next to the Power Center.

There is no charge for Top of the Park events. Tickets for Power Center events are \$26, \$20, and \$14, with the exception of Michael Feinstein and Jose Feliciano's performance, for which tickets are \$30, \$25, and \$20.

Tickets are available at the Power Center Box Office and Ticketmaster outlets. For more information, call (734) 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229. For information online, visit www.mlive.com/aasf

At the Power Center

Saturday, June 17 - 8 p.m. Michael Feinstein sings *The Classic American Songbook*

Sunday, June 18 - 8 p.m. David Grisman, John Hartford and Mike Seeger

Tuesday, June 20 - 8 p.m. Streb in *ActionHeroes*

Wednesday, June 21 - 8 p.m. Nicholas Payton and Ensemble A *Louis Armstrong Centennial Celebration*

Thursday, June 22 - 8 p.m. Natalie MacMaster and Mark O'Connor

Friday, June 23 - 8 p.m. Spalding Gray in *Morning, Noon and Night*

Saturday, June 24 - 8 p.m. Jazz Tap Ensemble

Sunday, June 25 - 8 p.m. Trinity Academy Irish Dancers

Tuesday, June 27 - 8 p.m. Kate Clinton in *Y2K8.comedy*

Wednesday, June 28 - 8 p.m. The Reduced Shakespeare Company in *The Complete Millennium Musical*

Thursday, June 29 - 8 p.m. Rockapella

Friday, June 30 - 8 p.m. Peter Sparling Dance Company

Saturday, July 1 - 8 p.m. The Ahn Trio

Tuesday, July 4 - 8 p.m. The Capitol Steps

Wednesday, July 5 - 8 p.m. Jose Feliciano in Concert

Thursday, July 6 - 8 p.m. Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir and The Paris Children's Choir

Friday, July 7 - 8 p.m. Peter Schickele Meets P.D.Q. Bach with The Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra

Saturday, July 8 - 8 p.m. Anthony Zerbe & Roscoe Lee Browne in *Behind the Broken Words*

Top of the Park

Friday, June 16 - 7-8:30 p.m. Folkin' in A-Squared - Ann Arbor-based folk artists Chris Buhalis, Lisa Hunter, Kevin Meisel, Jim Roll, Jo Serrapere and Rollie Tussing III; 8:45 p.m. Cadillac Cowboys - country, rock

Saturday, June 17 - 7-8:30 p.m. RFD Boys - Ann Arbor Bluegrass Favorites; 9-11 p.m. The Ambassadors - Classic 1940s big-band/swing

Sunday, June 18 - 7-7:45 p.m. Binn Na Mara - Traditional Irish jigs, reels, and polkas; 7:45

- 9:45 p.m. Al Hill & The Love Butlers; 10 p.m. movie: *Toy Story 2*

Monday, June 19 - 7-7:45 p.m. Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts Jazz Combos; 8-10 p.m. Bird of Paradise Orchestra; 10 p.m. movie: *Little Shop of Horrors*

Tuesday, June 20 - 7-7:45 p.m. Brain Mute; 8-10 p.m. Corndaddy; 10 p.m. movie: *Beetlejuice*

Wednesday, June 21 - 7-7:45 p.m. Saline Fiddlers' Philharmonic; 8-10 p.m. The Raisin Pickers; 10 p.m. movie: *The Marx Brothers in A Night at the Opera*

Thursday, June 22, Elvis Night! - 7-7:45 p.m. Musical Moments A Cappella Quartet; 8-10 p.m. Starlight Drifters; 10 p.m. movie: *Jailhouse Rock*

Friday, June 23 - 7-8:30 p.m. "Tap" of the Park - Tap Dance Extravaganza; 8:45-11 p.m. Los Gatos

Saturday, June 24 - 7-8:30 p.m. Rollie Tussing III - Delta Blues Slide Guitar; 9-11 p.m. Madcat & Kane

Sunday, June 25 - 7-7:45 p.m. The Trinkets with Whit Hill, K.C. Groves, and Sue Gillis; 8-9:30 North-Acoustic Folk Rock; 10 p.m. movie: *Superman*

Monday, June 26 - 7:30-10 p.m. Geno Delafosse & French Rockin' Boogie - Louisiana Zydeco; 10 p.m. movie: *The Nutty Professor*

Tuesday, June 27 - 7-9:30 p.m. Mid Life Crisis Blues Band - Rockin' blues, and debut CD release party; 10 p.m. movie: *Selena*

Wednesday, June 28 - 7-9:30 p.m. Witch Doctors; 10 p.m. movie: *A League of Their Own*

Thursday, June 29 - 7-7:45

p.m. Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts Jazz Combos; 8-9:45 p.m. Brian Lillie and the Squirrel Mountain Orchestra; 10 p.m. movie: *The Bride of Frankenstein*

Friday, June 30 - 7-8:30 p.m. Coup de Grass - Straight Ahead Bluegrass; 9-11 p.m. Wild Sheep Riders (aka Steve Newhouse & The Nuke-A-Billies)

Saturday, July 1 - 7-8:30 p.m. Repercussions - percussion ensemble; 8:45-11 p.m. The Couriers - big-band

Sunday, July 2 - 7-7:45 p.m. Old #7 - Folk from America and British Isles; 8-9:45 p.m. Cave Catt Sammy; 10 p.m. movie: *Stuart Little*

Monday, July 3 - 7-7:45 p.m. Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts Jazz Combos; 8-9:45 p.m. Charged Particles; 10 p.m. movie: *The Addams Family*

Tuesday, July 4 - 7:30-9:45 p.m. The Red Elvies; 10 p.m. movie: *Little Mermaid*

Wednesday, July 5 - 7-9:45 p.m. Jim Cummings Band; 10 p.m. movie: *October Sky*

Thursday, July 6 Teen Night - 7-9:45 p.m. Showcase of Teen Bands from Ann Arbor; 10 p.m. movie: *3-D! It Came From Outer Space*

Friday, July 7 - 7-7:45 p.m. The Original Brothers and Sisters of Love; 8-9:45 p.m. Cigar Store Indians; 10 p.m. movie: *Happy Gilmore*

Saturday, July 8 - 7-8:30 p.m. Blue Dahlia; 8:45-11 p.m. Nite Flight - calypso, reggae

Sunday, July 9 - 7-9:30 p.m. George Bedard & the Kingpins - Rock-A-Billy Hepcats; 10 p.m. movie: *Galaxy Quest*

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Enjoy 'Art in the Sun'

Over 120 artists from Michigan and nearby states will be participating in Art in the Sun, Saturday-Sunday, June 17-18, in downtown Northville.

Now in its 12th year, this fair has become a Father's Day tradition. During the weekend, the streets of Northville will be closed to traffic but open to a brilliant display of fine art.

Stores and restaurants will be open, and there will be entertainment in the vintage bandshell.

Sponsored by the Northville Chamber of Commerce, the juried fine art show will feature a number of local artists, including Becky Buxton of Farmington Hills; Tom LeGault of Plymouth; Russell Cobane of Clarkston; Debra Metler and Kathy Boltz of West Bloomfield; Susanne Lawrence of Waterford; Gail Hiller of Beverly Hills, and Susan Fowler of Bloomfield Hills.

Fair hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 17-18.

Here's the entertainment schedule:

Saturday-Sunday - 12:30-2 p.m. Straw Hat Band; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Russell Dannelon (Main & Center); 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Roy Scoutz (Center & Dunlap).

For more information, contact the Northville Chamber of Commerce (248) 349-7640 or

www.northville.org

Canton Liberty Fest Fine Arts and Fine Craft Show

Local artists will showcase their works 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, June 24 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 25 during Canton Liberty Fest Fine Arts and Fine Craft Show at Heritage Park, Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill in Canton.

This juried show features over 100 artists in a variety of categories including painting, prints, ceramics and jewelry.

Call (734) 453-3710 for information.

Ann Arbor Art Fair

The Ann Arbor Art Fair - Wednesday, July 19 through Saturday, July 22. The Ann Arbor Art Fairs combine the talents of the artists with a host of merchant displays lining the streets, food galore, art demonstrations, an array of music, street performances, children's activity centers, and much more!

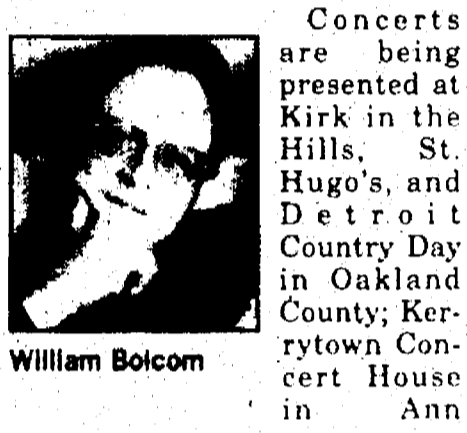
Fair hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday. For information, please call the Ann Arbor Area Convention and Visitors Bureau at 800-888-9487 or visit their website at www.annarbor.org.



Featured artist: Marjorie Rawson-Johnson of Chelsea will be showing her work at Art in the Sun in downtown Northville.

Chamber Music Festival features William Bolcom

The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival continues this week with a program that features the music of Bach, Chopin and Brahms and works by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer-in-residence, William Bolcom.



William Bolcom

Concerts are being presented at Kirk in the Hills, St. Hugo's, and Detroit Country Day in Oakland County; Kerrytown Concert House in Ann

Arbor, and the Detroit Institute of Arts. For information, call (248) 362-6171.

Concert Schedule

■ 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, June 15-16 - Bolcom's Sonata No. 2 for violin and piano, Bach's Sonata No. 2 for solo violin in A minor, Bolcom's Donald Hall Songs, Brahms' Trio in C minor for violin, cello and piano. *St. Hugo's Chapel, Opdyke Road and Hickory Grove.*

■ 8 p.m. Friday, June 16 - Mozart's Sonata in B-flat Major for violin and piano, Webern's 5 Movements for String Quartet, Stravinsky's 3 Pieces for String Quartet, Brahms' Trio in C Major for violin, cello and piano.

Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor.

■ 8 p.m. Saturday, June 17 - Conversation with William Bolcom, performance by the Gotham String Quartet, Schumann's Variations for 2 pianos, 2 cellos and horn, Webern's 5 Movements for String Quartet, Stravinsky's 3 pieces for String Quartet. *Detroit Country Day School, 13 Mile and Lahser Road.*

■ 11:30 a.m. Sunday, June 18 - Brunch with Bach. *Detroit Institute of Arts.*

■ 3 & 4:30 p.m. Sunday, June 18 - Plog's Aesop's Fables, Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf. *Detroit Zoo.*

■ 8 p.m. Tuesday & Wednesday, June 20 & 21 - Persichetti's Serenade No. 6 for viola, cello and trombone, Schubert's song cycle for voice and piano from "Winterreise," Dvorak's Trio in F minor for violin, cello and piano. *Temple Beth El at Telegraph and 14 Mile Road.*

■ 8 p.m. Thursday, June 22 - Barber's Dover Beach for baritone and string quartet, Cop-

land's Sextet for clarinet, piano and strings, Schubert's Trio in B-flat Major for violin, cello and piano. *Kirk in the Hills Refectory.*

■ 8 p.m. Friday, June 23 - Mozart's Piano Trio in B-flat Major for violin, piano and cello, Saint-Saens' Sonata No. 1 in D minor for violin and piano, Schumann's Quintet in E-flat Major

for piano and strings. *Kirk in the Hills Refectory.*

■ 7 p.m. Sunday, June 24 - Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 in F Major, Poulenc's Le bal masqué for baritone and chamber ensemble, Gershwin's *An American in Paris*, Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* for narrator and orchestra. *Temple Beth El Sanctuary.*

Success, part inspiration, luck

BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

Why do things happen the way they do? Well, in the performing and visual arts - as in life - positive things happen because of inspiration, dedication, and a variety of circumstances, such as luck, generosity and personality.

Why did RCA recording artist Dave Matthews, along with his business manager, tour manager, and a band associate, recently launch an independent label? The idea was fueled by Matthews' desire to get more exposure for some of his favorite artists.

The first signing by the new label, according to Our (ATO) Records, was Welsh-raised singer David Gray, and an enhanced-CD version of Gray's most recent album, *White Ladder*, released in March.

"David Gray is such a perfect

example of someone who is so phenomenal and beautiful - but someone who has been more or less overlooked in the U.S.," Matthews told Billboard magazine.

The consolidation of major labels also is enough of a concern to Matthews to make "indies" necessary. "There are a lot of interesting artists who won't get a chance to get heard because of the often-blindness of an industry that ignores something that's maybe not in fashion or doesn't seem viable."

Many of the performers who have appeared over the years on Detroit Public TV's BACKSTAGE PASS have also found it difficult to obtain the exposure that they have earned. Mergers by media companies tend to work to the advantage of established artists or those fortunate, but few emerging artists that have a look, sound, or style that adapts well to the broadest audience and marketing strategies.

BACKSTAGE PASS was conceived as a showcase for performance and visual artists whose

work is worthy of a broader audience. That's why there's a place for a distinctive folk/rock talent like David Gray, who performs in the studio on an edition that airs 7:30 p.m. Sunday, June 18.

There's also room for performers who are highlighting two of the season's most noteworthy arts events, the Ann Arbor Summer Festival and the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival. To put you in the mood to string and dance, the June 18 program previews the festivals and offers performance by the Artemis Quartet and The Peter Sparling Dance Company.

Few of us have the clout that Dave Matthews has to advance the music or art that we consider deserving of more popular appeal.

But when we do decide to stray from a music collection that's growing tired, or any art form we enjoyed but discovered only because it was readily available, we're having much more impact than we even imagined.

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STREET SCENE

For Small Craft Sighting hearing is believing

Small Craft Sighting don't really aspire for fame or fortune in the rock world - the band hopes to reach beyond all that.

STEPHANIE A. CASOLA

"We want to be the first band to play on Mars, if that's possible," quips bassist and frontman Joe Kirkland of Farmington. "We don't want to be signed to a record label, we want to sign to NASA."

The Wayne County-based modern rock trio that also includes drummer Courtney Cahill and guitarist Chris Nagarah, both Livonia residents, obviously share a sci-fi sense of humor about what they do. Make no mistake, the band takes its music seriously. Surrounding a large wooden table at Dick O'Dow's in downtown Birmingham, bandmembers set their sights on the future.

Schoolyard chums

Small Craft Sighting has a long history, despite the fact that the bandmates are all in their early 20s. They met in grade school and have been friends ever since. "We've known each other all our lives," said Cahill. And he means it. He and Nagarah were actually born one day apart at Southfield's Providence Hospital. Instant friends, they met Kirkland while attending second grade at Our Lady of Sorrows School in Farmington.

The friendship wove its way into a shared interest in music by the time the boys entered junior high school. They first performed on stage at a talent



Waiting for his ship: Small Craft Sighting's Joe Kirkland is the voice and words behind this Wayne County-based band.

show in February 1990. A decade later, Small Craft Sighting is writing and performing personal songs with an edgy feel. "They come from the heart," said Kirkland, who writes mostly about relationships. The music plays in stark contrast with crunching guitars and fearless drumming. Naming influences such as Smashing Pumpkins and The Who, bandmembers understand how their tight friendship plays into the music.

"We feel really fortunate to have found each other so young," said Kirkland. "We had a long time to earn our stripes."

Playing bars before they were legally old enough to get in the door and headlining shows at St. Andrews Hall by age 18, the band has experience surpassing many of their local counterparts. But Small Craft Sighting is just

breaking into the Detroit scene. Since both Cahill and Nagarah attended Western Michigan University and Kirkland attended Loyola University in Chicago, the band spent the past several years making a name for itself along the western side of the state. "It's been quite a trip," reflected Kirkland, who is now attending law school at University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

Tim Pak of Woodshed Studio in Oak Park engineered the band's latest CD and said their history shows in the music. "There's a vibe they pick up off each other," he said. "A band like that, you know they had a plan. They're true believers."

The Web to success

Small Craft Sighting (whose moniker comes from a Tennessee Williams play) has gone from

humble beginnings to electronic - sort of. The modern rock trio recently entered an unsigned band competition on the Internet. Of thousands of entries on garageband.com, their single 93 has advance into the top 75. This final "virtual battle" will elicit for the a winner a \$250,000 recording contract. Two such contracts have already been granted. Small Craft Sighting is the first Michigan band to make it to the finals on this internationally known site.

The music is ranked based on reviews made by music fans who are listening to songs without knowing what artist or genre it will be. Kirkland was most impressed by the system, which he calls credible and completely based on trust. He remembered when the band's song was first uploaded, he would check on it occasionally. "Our song would be 4,713 and I'd think 'We're up a spot,'" he recalled. Now included in the prestigious "Final Countdown," bandmembers are thrilled to have a shot at the contract. The song was at number 35 on the chart at press time.

For Small Craft Sighting, a chance to work with industry icons such as The Beatles' famed producer George Martin or former Talking Heads member Jerry Harrison could become a reality when the winner is chosen next week. Harrison helped found the site in 1999.

While hearing the band on the Internet or on CD offers a taste of the melodies that make Small Craft Sighting so appealing, it is very much a live band. Cahill describes what sets the band apart: "When I go to a concert, it's hard to get into a band when you don't know the words. Our hooks are so good, by the second

chorus you're singing along with the band."

Nagarah said the band likes to have fun with its audience, engaging them in the show the whole time. "There's no barrier between the crowd and the

band," he said.

See *Small Craft Sighting for yourself, with guests The Recital*, Saturday, July 1, at Jacoby's, Detroit. (313) 962-7067.

Check out www.smallercraft-sighting.com

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Indigo Girls return with Summer Shed Tour

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

scasola@oe.homecomm.net

After 20 years of performing together, Emily Saliers and Amy Ray - best known as the folk-rock duo the Indigo Girls - prove their still going strong. They've come a long way since the early days of recording in Ray's basement.

In September 1999, the Girls released *Come On Now: Social to rave reviews*. Saliers called Thursday, June 8, from Washington, D.C., to talk about their upcoming area show.

Observer & Eccentric: Hi Emily, how is the tour going?

Emily Saliers: "It's going great; we just started the first few shows."

O&E: What's new about the Summer Shed Tour?

ES: "There's a backdrop based on a Monet, that's different. On the Summer Shed Tour, a lot of our fans will get a chance to see a new band playing with us. We've added a few more songs to the roster. As always, we'll play earlier songs, we'll mix it up."

O&E: "What are some earlier songs that still make the Indigo Girls' set list?"

ES: "Closer to Fine. We play *Galleo* every night."

O&E: Tell me about the new album. How long did it take to

record?
ES: "It took about five months total. (We went) to London and jammed with (producer-drummer) John Reynolds, who we met on Liliith Fair. Thank God for Sinead O'Connor (who introduced the girls to him). We had a lot of great guests on it, Sheryl Crow and Joan Osborne."

O&E: How does the album differ from your previous work?

ES: "I personally think it has a broader scope. It has a lot more rock songs, pop songs, ballads. It's a good mix of organic and produced. A lot of samples were used, but not in a heavy-handed way."

O&E: What have you learned

about one another through this 20-year history of making music together?

ES: "I've learned we temper each other often. We're very different people, different in a positive way. Musically, it's great. It's like having two musical lives."

O&E: Is there anything you'd like to add?

ES: "I'm looking forward to coming back to Pine Knob. I remember getting really good crowds (there). It's sort of that home away from home."

Welcome the Indigo Girls with guests Kelly Hogan and the Pine Valley Cosmonauts, 7 p.m. Saturday, June 17, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$15-\$27.50. Call (248) 645-6666.

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Treat dad royally on Father's Day

BY RENÉE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER

Attention, dads. Do you really want to sweat over a hot grill this Father's Day only to hear complaints that hot dogs are burnt and the hamburgers underdone? Of course not. Let someone else do the sweating. The following restaurants serve some of the best chops, seafood and pasta in town, food fit for a king - you! Happy Father's Day.

Laffrey's Steaks on the Hearth - 24201 W. Seven Mile Road (off Telegraph), Detroit (313) 538-4688; open 5-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 5-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 4-9 p.m. Sunday. Atmosphere: Comfortably close quarters, dark, perfect for cocktails and serious dining. Menu: Chops, steaks, seafood. Great appetizers. Price: Entrées \$13.95-\$27.95; appetizers \$7.95-\$9.95. All credit cards accepted.

Reservations a must on weekends. There's nothing trendy about Laffrey's, and that's good. It's probably why this family-owned restaurant has endured for 40 years while other restaurants have come and gone.

Laffrey's is a place for people - like dear old Dad - who appreciate

an order of Laffrey's hand-cut onion rings. They're big and beautiful.

"We're world famous for our onion rings," he said. "They're lightly breaded. You can't beat a hand-breaded onion ring."

Carvers - 24275 Sinacola Court, 10 Mile Road and Grand River, Farmington Hills, (810) 476-5333; open 5-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 5-11 p.m. for dinner Friday and Saturday (band plays to midnight); 4-9 p.m. Sunday. Atmosphere: Dark with warm lighting and nice art. Fine dining. Menu: Prime rib, steaks and chops, fish and seafood, chicken and ribs. Prices: Entrées \$17-\$24.50; Appetizers \$7-\$8.

Extras: Entertainment on the weekends; cigar smoking in the lounge. All major credit cards accepted; reservations recommended.

"It's like this little hidden gem," said general manager Donna Neumann about Carvers. "People think it is new. The lighting is beautiful. It's clean and it sparkles. The dining room is open and there's lots of glass."

Sound inviting? Just wait until you try the food, placed Neumann. Carvers is place where the steaks are bold and the sauces are robust. The kitchen

In the mood for fish? No problem. Neumann suggests trying the "fabulous" Norwegian salmon, baked with a light crust of mustard and basil, or the parmesan-encrusted whitefish.

If Dad doesn't like fish, Father's Day, he should try the Tenderloin Blue Cheese Pasta, made with tenderloin tips, penne and heavy cream. Maybe not heart-smart but the stomach doesn't care. Besides, Father's Day comes once a year.

"It is so rich. It's just wonderful. It's instantaneous gratification just to see their mouths water," said Neumann.

And if Dad wants to wet his whistle with something stronger than white wine, he can select from the bar's 15 single malt scotches. Mmmm, mmm. Prime rib, a good scotch and a great atmosphere ... is there a better way to celebrate Father's Day?

Cleveland's Gill & Grill, 311 S. Main Street (between Liberty and Williams, across from The Ark), Ann Arbor, (734) 213-2505; open 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday; 4-11 p.m. Saturday; and 3-9 p.m. Sunday. Entrées: \$10-\$15. A 20-ounce prime porterhouse will be the Father's Day special. "It's beautiful," said

"Oh, it's really good, highly touted by all," said Cleveland.

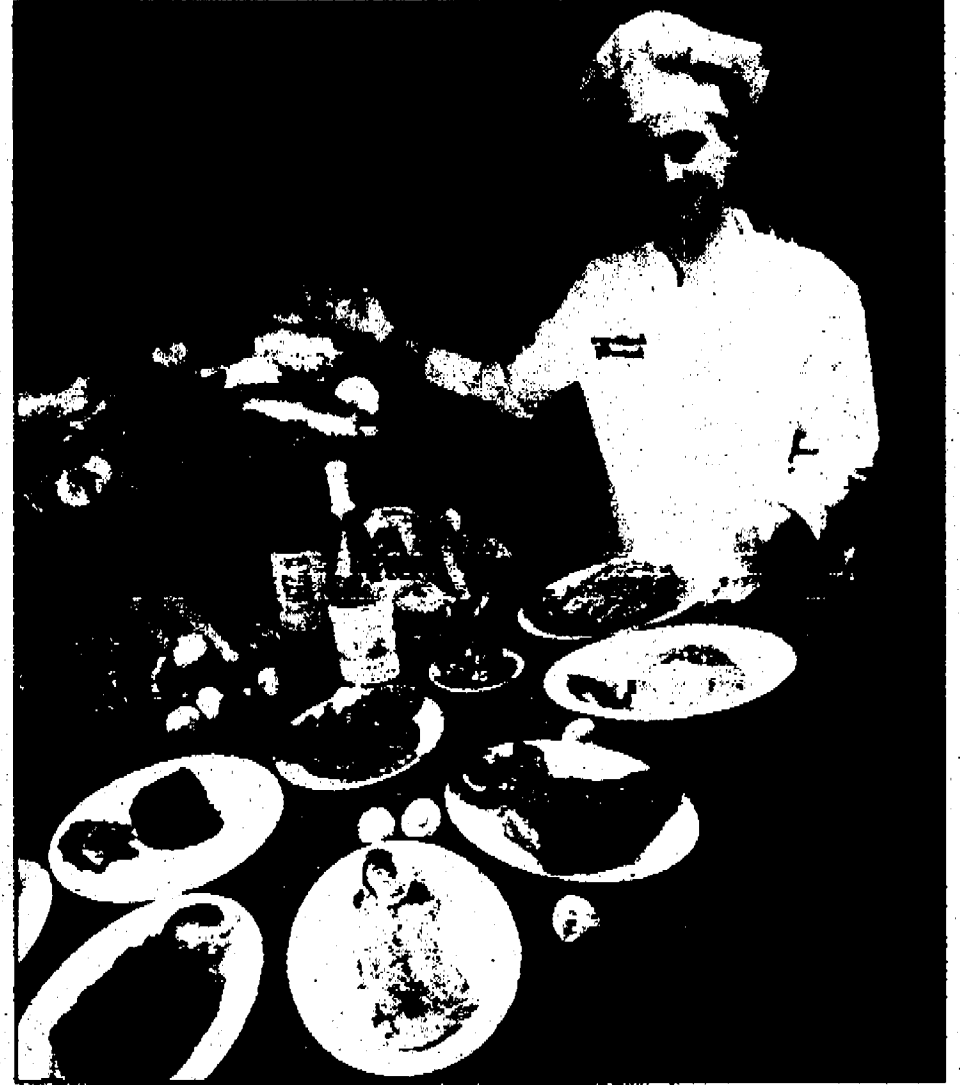
Ernesto's, 41661 Plymouth Road, Plymouth, (734) 453-2002; open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. lunch and 5-10 p.m. dinner Monday-Friday; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. lunch and 5-11 p.m. dinner Saturday; noon to 9 p.m. Sunday. Entrées: \$10.95 lunch and \$15.95 dinner. Father's Day specials include prime rib for \$18.95 and - for the really macho man - a 24-ounce porterhouse steak with Italian herbs and a baked parmesan cheese topping.

Ginopoli's, 27815 Middlebelt (at 12 Mile Road), Farmington Hills, (248) 851-8222; open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday; 2-9 p.m. Sunday. Entrées \$15-\$18. Big, friendly restaurant with lots of pasta, seafood, fish, steaks, chicken and ribs. Their Montgomery Inn barbecued ribs are rated No. 1 by the famous and infamous alike.

Rose's, 201 N. Canton Center Road (near Cherry Hill), Canton, (734) 981-9904; open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday; noon to 9 p.m. Sunday. Entrées: \$7.45-\$17.95. Family-owned Italian restaurant where everything is homemade, including the loaf of bread that arrives at each table in a white paper bag. Steaks, chicken, seafood and plenty of pasta. "Our Alfredo sauce is the best in the world," said Richard of three brother-owners.

Alexander the Great, 34733 Warren, Westland, (734) 326-5410; open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Saturday; noon to 10 p.m. Sunday. Entrées: \$7-\$10. Alexander's has been serving their famous rotisserie-cooked barbecued ribs, the house specialty, for 23 years. Menu also includes steaks, seafood and chicken. Cocktails available.

Lone Star Steakhouse & Saloon, 19333 Victor Parkway, Livonia, (734) 432-1700; open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Entrées: \$12.99-\$19.99. Known for their prime rib and Cajun rib-eye steak, Lone Star has a special seasoning recipe and serves Texas-size portions. Menu also includes chicken, shrimp, salmon.



A royal feast: Executive chef Darin Thompson shows off some of the prime rib, steak and seafood dishes that have made Laffrey's a popular dining destination.

Lone Star also is located at 36600 Ford Road in Westland (734) 721-2200 and 30005 Orchard Lake in Farmington Hills (248) 626-2882.

Damon's Club House, 43750 Ford Road, Canton, (734) 207-7427; open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday; 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday. Entrées: \$12.99 average. Their meaty St. Louis-style babyback ribs are the house specialty. People come to Damon's after they've tried ribs elsewhere, said manager Jennifer Taylor. The menu also includes steak, seafood, chicken and pasta.

Beaver Creek, 1609 Wayne Road, Westland, (734) 462-6442; open 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday-Saturday; noon to 2 a.m. Sunday. Entrées: \$7-\$15. Why not treat Dad to the "Wild Thing," a manly appetizer plate filled with venison, whitefish paté, barbecued buffalo balls, wild boar ravioli and duck tenders? If Dad is on the tame side, menu also includes great steaks, burritos and shepherd's pie. And for dessert, try a plate of homemade

chocolate chip cookies, hot from the oven. Full bar and outside patio dining.

Outback Steak House, 42871 Ford Road, Canton, (734) 981-4144. Hours: 4-10:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 4-11 p.m. Friday; 3-11:30 p.m. Saturday; 2-10:30 p.m. Sunday. Entrées: \$8-\$14. Dad can have his pick: the 16-ounce prime rib or a "fabulous" porterhouse, rib eye of New York strip. Menu includes lamb, pork and seafood.

Cooker's Bar & Grill, 41980 Ford Road, Canton, (734) 981-6595. Hours: 11 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday. Entrées: \$5.95-\$16.95. Want to bring tears to Dad's eyes? How about old-fashioned meatloaf, mashed potatoes, and green beans. Or the Father's Day special: Barbecued babyback ribs and an assortment of draft beers. And if you've never tried Cooker's homemade biscuits, now's the time. Cooker's is also located at 38703 Seven Mile, Livonia, (734) 462-3650.

Prime time:
Chef David Reed presents a preview of a Carvers Father's Day special, a 20-ounce slice of prime rib - served rare, of course. Donna Neumann, general manager, says the beef is hand-cut fresh every day.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BREZLER

ate well-aged and perfectly grilled steaks and chops. Executive chef Darin Thompson, son of owner Sandy Thompson, credits the char-grill, seasonings and a special meat-aging process with producing great-tasting beef, pork, veal and lamb.

But Laffrey's is not just a vintage steak place. They've developed a reputation for innovative seafood as well, like White Fish Oscar, served with asparagus and king crabmeat with béarnaise sauce. When it comes to fish, Thompson is a fussy chef.

"I buy if from the Seafood Company in Boston and have it flown in by Northwest Airlines overnight," he said.

Thompson has a few specials planned for Father's Day, including a 20-ounce ribeye steak, veal chops, and crab legs. Whatever Dad orders, Thompson suggests

hand-cuts the steaks every day, and the prime rib comes in 10-ounce and 20-ounce portions and is served with a homemade horseradish sauce.

"I get no complaints," she said.

owner John Cleveland. "I'm not a red-meat eating guy, but, gosh, it's tasty."

The Key Lime Pie, made from key lime juice shipped from Florida, ain't so bad either, guys.

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