

Canton Observer

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IN THE PAPER

TODAY

Pilot injured: A pilot was injured in a plane crash in Plymouth Township Saturday. He was on his way to Mettetal Airport. /2A

Merry voices: Hoben Elementary students provide Carriage Park seniors with holiday cheer. /2A

Newly hired: Plymouth-Canton school officials hired a new athletic coordinator who will start his duties in January. /7C

Making rank: Canton teens achieve their Eagle Scout rank. /7C

OPINION

Plans: It's time for a developer who plans to build a supermarket at Cherry Hill and Lilley to listen to his new neighbors. /10A

COMMUNITY LIFE

Good deed: Christmas will be a special one for the Thomas Kessler family and their dog, Muffy. Thanks to a Good Samaritan, Muffy will be home to see her ornament hung on the family tree. /13A

BUSINESS

Diabetes care: A new specialty provider is finding a niche in the medical field by enhancing service to clients. /5AA

On the Web: Internet offers access to information on Bosnia. /5AA

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Movies: Find out what's premiering on local screens between Dec. 21 and 25. /1B

SPORTS

A Canton surprise: Plymouth Salem was, and still will be, the team to beat in swimming during the WLAA season, but Plymouth Canton had its moment of glory last Saturday when the Chiefs collected the title at the WLAA Relays. /1C

Best of the bunch: Salem's Eric Coburn was named the MVP of last Saturday's Salem 8-Team Tournament after he beat a pair of high-ranked wrestlers en route to his weight division championship. /2C

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MEAP leap pleases educators



Michigan Educational Assessment Program scores have generally improved this year, and it's not surprising that educators are pleased. Even so, Superintendent Charles Little and others are pushing for further improvement.

By M.B. DILLON
STAFF WRITER

MEAP scores took a leap in Plymouth-Canton Community Schools this year, and that has administrators, teachers and school board members smiling.

Fourth- and seventh-graders took

the Michigan Educational Assessment Program test in math and reading in October. The percentage of fourth-graders who scored in the top "satisfactory" category rose from 47.7 to 58.2 percent in reading. In math, the percentage increased from 65.3 percent to 72.7 percent.

Among seventh-graders, the percentage of students in the satisfactory category rose from 52.3 percent to 54.2 percent. In math, the number dropped slightly, from 71.8 percent to 70.6 percent.

The other two categories are moderate and low.

"Our satisfactory percentages seem to be going up, and our low percentages going down," said Dave Rodwell, the district's director of research and technology. "It speaks to the idea of continuous improvement."

At all 14 of the district's elementary schools, fourth-grade reading

scores improved. At 10 of the 14 buildings, math scores went up.

At the middle school level, seventh-graders improved in reading at three of five schools. In math, seventh-graders improved their scores at two of the five buildings.

While fewer seventh-graders scored in the satisfactory range than did fourth-graders, the seventh-graders are improving as a class, said Superintendent Charles Little.

"If you look back to where they were in fourth grade, there are big

See MEAP, 3A



Service: Pat Strauch of Canton operates "At Your Service," from which she offers custom-made gift baskets, her choice as a personal gift.

Baskets perfect for gifts

By LEANNE ROGERS
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to gift giving, Pat Strauch is "At Your Service" — literally.

That's the name of her company which can provide custom-made gourmet gift baskets for any occasion.

"I've always been interested in this. Baskets are my choice for personal gifts," said Strauch of Canton, who retired in 1992 from Garden City Schools where she spent 30 of her 32 years as a teacher.

Before retiring, Strauch happened to see a newspaper advertisement for a part-time job putting together gift baskets for a local business and got hired.

"After two weeks I decided I didn't ever want to own a retail

See BASKETS, 4A

Cut in staffer's hours irks local seniors

By RALPH R. ECHTINAW
STAFF WRITER

Canton seniors are agitating because township officials have cut the hours of the senior program's assistant coordinator, Patricia Tanski.

In fact, 178 individuals, virtually every senior associated with the center, have signed a petition to maintain Tanski's hours. The petition was delivered by Flo Lorimer and Juanita Gurley to Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack Nov. 8.

The seniors wouldn't do this for just anyone, said Katherine Schultz. "I think it's the way (Tanski) handles us. She doesn't treat us like we're children. She knows you're a person, and she'll help you. She never turns you down. She is a terrific lady. We really need her."

Canton Township Administrative

■ 'Pat is very well-liked, and she is very good to people. We all felt that Pat was needed.'

Judy Bond
senior

Services Director Dan Durack said the petition changes nothing. Tanski's hours will remain part-time.

Township officials believe that much of the work Tanski performed as a full-timer was clerical in nature and can be handled by others once the Senior Center moves from its office on Sheldon and Michigan Avenue to the Summit. Therefore, they concluded, Tanski's services would no longer be needed for 40 hours per week.

The job that Tanski fills has always been designated part time, but

Tanski has worked 40 hours a week since she was hired in 1989.

Summit on the Park Manager Debra Bilbrey-Honsowetz said that cutting Tanski's hours "was an administrative decision" not attributable to any one person. "Pat was always technically a part-time employee."

"(Tanski) is a very valued, good employee," Durack said. "We're happy to have her, and we hope she continues. (But) as a part-time employee she's not supposed to be working full-time hours."

Schultz believes the township offi-

cial should have cut elsewhere. "There are a lot of things they could take away without hitting somebody's job," she said.

Lorimer said the petition was taken up not just for Tanski, but for Senior Coordinator Dianne Neihengen, too. "We felt these two are busy ladies and are really needed full time," she said.

Senior Judy Bond said, "Pat is very well liked, and she is very good to people. We all felt that Pat was needed."

Schultz figures that Yack is to blame. "I don't know about Mr. Yack," she said. "If the weather wasn't so bad, I'd go picket his house."

Senior Jim Bradley, Schultz said, suggested putting a "for sale by senior citizens" sign on Yack's lawn.

Former Canton treasurer touched many lives

By JOANNE MALISZEWSKI
AND RALPH R. ECHTINAW
STAFF WRITERS

Former Canton Treasurer Gerald Brown was remembered by colleagues Monday for his heart-felt interest in the community.

"He was a very nice human being," said former Supervisor Jim Poole, with whom Brown worked. "He never ruffled the water, he was easygoing. He wouldn't rock the boat."

Brown, 64, who served as township treasurer for almost two terms, died Dec. 16 of cancer. He left office on a health disability in September 1991. He followed Maria Sterlino in the treasurer's office.

Brown was retired from General Motors where he worked as a financial analyst when he ran for office in Canton. His former colleagues recalled that he cared deeply about Canton and would do what he felt was right for his community.

"He had the best interest of the community at heart," said Canton Supervisor Tom Yack. "That doesn't mean we always agreed with Gerry."

Treasurer Elaine Kirchgatter, who served as trustee when Brown was treasurer, said her department has now suffered two losses. In January, 1995, Sandy Setlock, deputy treasurer, died of cancer. Setlock assumed the treasurer's administrative duties

■ 'I think he was really a caring person. He always did what he thought was the right thing to do.'

Elaine Kirchgatter

when Brown left in 1991-92.

"I think he was really a caring person. He always did what he thought was the right thing to do," Kirchgatter said. "At board meetings he brought a different perspective."

Don Rigato, newly appointed as deputy treasurer, served as Brown's secretary. "He was a nice man, a pleasant man. I know he had health problems when he was in office," Rigato said. "He was quite a family man. His grandchildren were the light of his life."

Brown and his wife, Joan, have two children and six grandchildren. His son Gary lives in Canton and daughter Carol in Northville.

Canton Chief Financial Officer John Spencer recalled Brown with fondness. "I valued his advice and opinions," said Spencer, adding that he considered Brown his mentor. "He was an astute follower of investment opportunities, particularly government securities, in which the township invests."

On a personal note, Spencer added: "Gerry had a great sense of humor

about life and himself. He had interesting experiences to relate from his work days at General Motors, Kelsey-Hayes and as a used car salesman. I enjoyed talking with him. He will be missed by those of us who were his friends."

Added Yack: "Gerry was a real compassionate individual and quietly contributed to some charities and took care of needs in the community that people never read about."

Poole said that he and Brown occasionally spoke after both left office. "He called me once in awhile. He would stop by and tell me when he didn't think things were going right in Canton."

Brown would have turned 65 on New Year's Day. In addition to working at General Motors, Brown retired in 1966 as a captain in the U.S. Air Force. He served in the Korean War. He earned a bachelor of science degree from Wayne State University and a master's in education from Eastern Michigan University.

Funeral services for Brown were Tuesday at the Schrader-Howell Fu-



Gerald Brown

neral Home in Plymouth. In addition to his wife, children and grandchildren, Brown is survived by a brother, Harry Brown of Nebraska.

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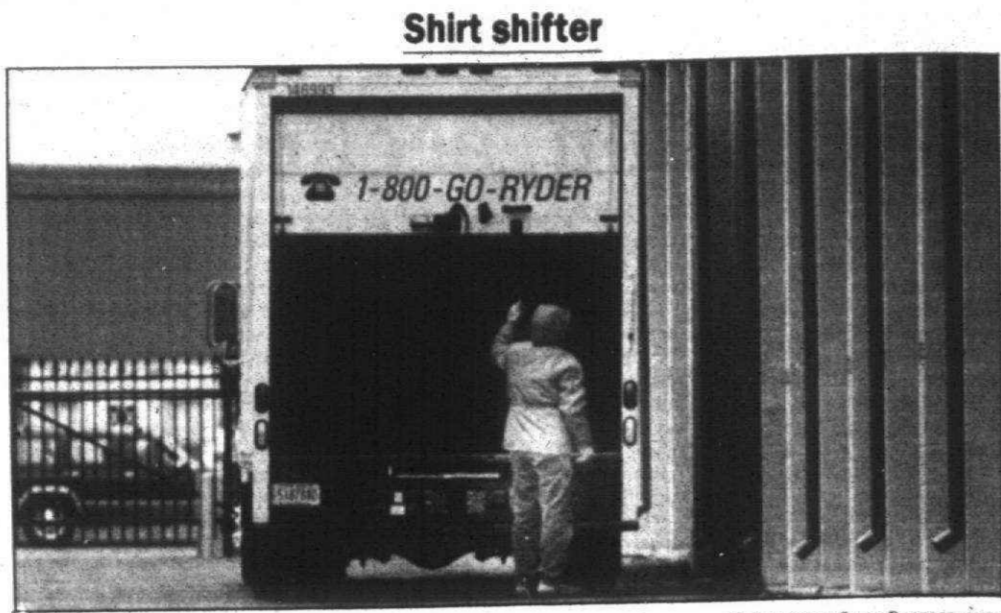
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Shirt shifter

BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

No comment: FBI Agent Matthew Iskrzycki worked Tuesday at Shurgard Storage to load counterfeit Ralph Lauren Polo shirts into a truck so they could be taken to the Ford Rouge Plant to be burned. Iskrzycki declined to comment, saying that FBI policy forbids it. Shurgard Manager Jamie Burke, who believes the shirts should be donated to charity, said, "Their policy sucks. I told him that when he came in here. That's a bunch of crap."

Baskets from page 1A

store," she said. "I worked there three years. The schedule wasn't as flexible as I wanted in retirement years."
Now with the assistance of her husband Larry, Strauch runs At Your Service Gift Baskets from her home.
Much of her business comes by word of mouth, said Strauch, along with work for a Realtor association and a display booth at Craquelique Mall in Farmington. She has a portfolio showing different baskets that start at about

\$25 and small gift bags in the \$15-30 range.
"A lot of people want to know exactly what goes into the basket but it's best if they order like they would from a florist," Strauch said. "Give me the dollar amount and let me pick. Doing the baskets, you need nice products and you need skills placing them in the space like a floral designer."
Strauch took design classes at Schoolcraft College as well as a small business class with her husband at Wayne State University.

The contents in the basket can include fruits, gourmet cookies, coffees, teas, chocolates and other candies and sparkling waters. For get well baskets, Strauch might include some magazines or puzzles.
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Health officials deny clinic-closing talk

By BETH SUNDRLA JACHMAN
STAFF WRITER
Some local residents have heard that Wayne County's pediatric health centers are going to close, but county officials say that isn't true.
The two clinics, located in Inkster and Taylor, serve about 1,800 pediatric patients a year, according to Gary Sirotti, acting deputy of the Department of Health and Community Services.
The parents of those patients are being surveyed, Sirotti said. He said he has received calls from people concerned about the clinics closing.
"We're surveying where we are at. We're not closing any clinics," he said.
"We're not going to cut off children from services. That's not our policy," Sirotti said. He said the surveys will continue for the next five or six months.

Rose Allen, a Westland resident who has heard rumors from her friends that the clinics will close, takes her three children to the Inkster clinic. She says she's been going there for about two years.
She has been planning to write a letter to the county expressing her concern.
Since her husband is self-employed and she doesn't work, she said, "We really can't afford to buy outside insurance."
One of her daughters has asthma and she's constantly at the doctor, Allen said.
"We've considered ourselves blessed to have something like this," she said.
Celia Demeter of Garden City also had heard the rumors. She no longer uses the clinic, but had taken her children to the Inkster clinic for about five years when she didn't have insurance. She also recently recommended it to a friend who needs help for her sick child.
"It was a godsend to me," Demeter said.
Allen said she received a survey form from the county asking for her children's Social Security numbers, her total source of income, and asking if she wants assistance in getting pediatric care for her children.
Sirotti said the surveys will help the county determine if some children are eligible for Medicaid and if others are eligible for programs such as Children Caring offered by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.
Also, Medicaid regulations change often, and the county is checking to see if those regulations are being followed, Sirotti said.
Donald Lawrencuk, medical director for the Wayne County Health Department, said he's

been hearing rumors about closings for the 13 1/2 years he's worked for the county.
The rumors will get started when the surveys go out, he said.
"There are no plans to eliminate services," he said. If anything, the results may show the county needs to offer more not less, he said.
He said the county often conducts surveys. It's the main way to talk to clients, he said.
He called the services the county offers "one of the best-kept secrets in Wayne County."
Immunizations costing \$95 at a private physicians office are offered free by the health department, he said as an example of services offered.
He thinks the rumors may also be fueled by the opening of a new clinic in Taylor at Telegraph and Eureka roads. "People are wondering what's next."

Weapons bill dies in House committee

Capitol capsules:
State representatives voted 74-31 to close what abortion foes call "a loophole in Michigan's voter-approved ban on Medicaid-funded abortions."
They approved House Bill 5458 to block clinics from sidestepping the ban by billing most of the cost of abortions to "family planning."
"This bill prevents doctors from seeking or accepting reimbursement for an abortion knowing that public funds will be used," said sponsor Michelle McManus, R-Lake Leelanau.
McManus said clinics deceive the state by charging Medicaid recipients only \$50 for the abortion and loading part of the cost as related services, such as family planning.
Opponent David Gubow, D-Huntington Woods, called the bill

"totally unnecessary" because, "It is already a crime in this state for a health care professional to request reimbursement from Medicaid for a medical procedure for which Medicaid is prohibited by law from paying."
"To do so, in violation of Michigan law, a health care professional may be charged and convicted of Medicaid fraud, which is a felony that carries a penalty of four years in prison, a \$50,000 fine or both," said Gubow.
Here is how area representatives voted on the Dec. 13 roll call:
YES — Republicans Gerald Law of Plymouth, James Ryan of Canton and Deborah Whyman of Westland.
NO — Lyn Bankes, R-Redford.
ABSENT — Tom Kelly, D-Wayne.

Cropsey outgunned
The House refused to force a concealed weapons bill out of the Judiciary Committee, dealing a defeat to sponsor Alan Cropsey, R-DeWitt, and pro-gun groups.
The House voted 45 yes and 53 no on Cropsey's motion to discharge House Bill 4718 and bring it to the House floor for a vote. The committee had opposed the bill on a 7-9 vote.
"By discharging the bill, House members would have had a chance to debate it and go on record as a supporter or opponent of self-protection," said Cropsey.
"I firmly believe in the committee process," said opponent Kirk Profit, D-Ypsilanti. "This attempt to discharge the committee is premature. In the long term, the continuing work of the committee will provide this state with a better concealed weapons law."

Cropsey's bill would have (1) placed concealed weapons licenses under state control, instead of county boards controlled by law enforcement agencies, and (2) made Michigan a "shall issue" state, requiring that a CW permit be issued to people with clean criminal and mental health records.
It was fiercely opposed by law enforcement agencies.
Here is how local representatives voted on discharge, with a yes vote signifying a pro-gun position and a no vote an anti-gun position:
YES — Deborah Whyman, R-Canton, Eileen DeHart, D-Westland.
NO — Republicans James Ryan of Redford and Gerald Law of Plymouth; Democrat Tom Kelly of Wayne.
ABSENT — Lyn Bankes, R-Redford.

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Shopping center Plan begs homeowners' input

Another strip mall. Another group of angry homeowners who don't want to look out their back windows into the rear of a supermarket. You can't blame them. That's what homeowners in the Cherry Hill Orchards subdivision will face when Market Development builds its planned supermarket and retail shops in the Cherry Hill Court shopping center at Lilley and Cherry Hill.

Despite homeowners' well-founded complaints, township officials say they had little choice Dec. 12 but to approve the site plan for Cherry Hill Court that will feature a 24-hour supermarket. Their hands were tied by a planned unit development agreement dating back to the 1970s. The agreement designates the acreage as commercial.

Holiday spirit alive and well

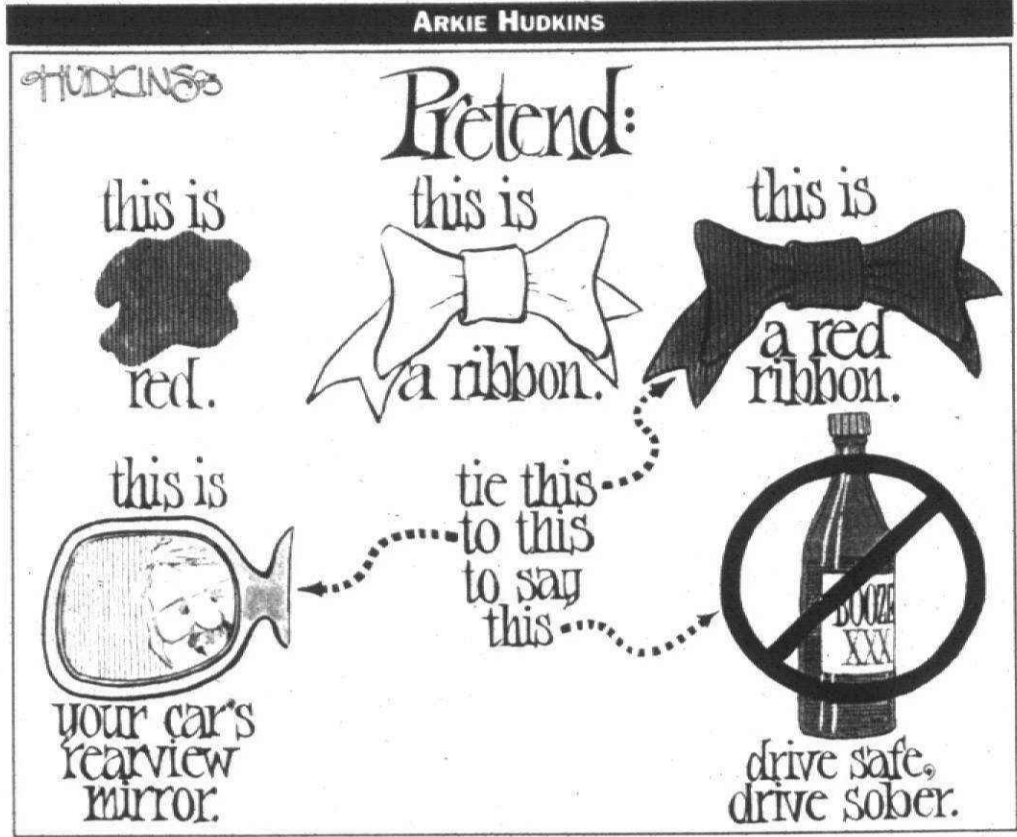
The spirit of the holiday season is alive and well in Observerland. To those of us here at the Observer Newspapers that means Canton Township, Plymouth Township, Plymouth, Redford Township, Garden City, Livonia and Westland.

At this time of year we say thanks and applaud all of you who have taken the time to help make things better for others. That's a lot of people and we've only room to mention a few. But here's a sampling from throughout Observerland of the many good people at work this season.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION: What do you like best about Christmas?

Everybody seems to be in a more giving and conciliatory mood to each other.	I'd probably say snowboarding season.	Getting together with family.	Getting together with family.
Denise Gitter Canton	Jeff Williams Canton	Luka Brancheau Canton	Bill Jose Canton



LETTERS

Christmas belief
Last week I found the meaning of Christmas, but it started out as one of the worst weeks of my life. All month I have been preoccupied with completing my master's degree at University of Michigan and looking for employment. I have been worried about my future and the holidays have not evoked the same kind of excitement to my life as they did when I was a child.

Never had a chance
That exactly is a township board? For instance, did you know seven people can decide who your neighbors can be? After personally attending a meeting regarding a proposed strip mall at Cherry Hill and Lilley, I applaud and respect two of our board members, Melissa McLaughlin and Phil LaJoy. It became very apparent of their concern for the people and future of our community.

When I left for work one day last week, I did a very absentminded thing. I left my briefcase on the top of my car and drove away. Twenty miles later I realized my mistake and I began my two hours search in vain. I was frantic about my lost credit cards, check book, cash and driver's license; not to mention my irreplaceable pictures. I began to realize how vital the belongings in my briefcase were and how much damage could be done to my finances and to me. I started canceling my credit cards and I put a hold on my bank account. I gave up hope of ever having my valuables returned. I made plans to get a new driver's license and as I walked out the door to file a report at the police station, my phone rang. I picked up the phone and a man told me that he found my briefcase while he was working and he would bring it over within the hour. I was elated, but I was also surprised that a random act of kindness could happen to me. However, I was in for an even bigger surprise when I opened my door, and standing before me was Santa Claus. He was dressed in red and he had beautiful white hair, with a beard to match. He also had rosy cheeks and the brightest smile and eyes I have ever seen. I was in shock. He handed me my briefcase, and I asked him to accept a reward for its return. He shook his head and said "No ma'am, I can't accept a reward, it's Christmas!"

I am convinced that this man was Santa Claus and I called the place where he said he worked, to thank him. The place I called knew exactly who I was talking about. They said Santa Claus volunteers during the holidays for their Christmas festivities and they were not at all surprised that he had helped me. This special man not only returned my belongings, but he also returned something much more important, something I lost a long time ago — belief. There is still a Santa Claus, and he lives within each of us. When I lost my belongings, the first question that came to my mind was how long it would take for someone

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Childhood yule memories stir imagination

Cease and desist, furry wretches. I was cheerily fighting a losing battle with my cats for possession of ribbons and wrap. Only after some silly swashbuckling with a yardstick did I finally frizz up their tails and fend them off. I returned to the pleasant task of fumbling with holiday parcel post packages.

As if in some fantastic fairy tale I observed the lake freezing right before my eyes while tending to tokens of affection. I chortle, imagining a Christmas tree decorated with all the weird little gifts I've even given or received.

GUEST COLUMNIST

DOROTHY MATSUI
Scrooge. It did seem that childhood Christmas dramas helped us see a certain comfort and nobility in poverty. Clay, crayons and coloring books of TV shows like "Mr. Ed," "Peterson Junction" or detective shows such as "Hawaiian Eye" and "77 Sunset Strip"

were cheap fun. Paper dolls were a huge obsession back then. Connie Francis, Jackie Kennedy and Twiggy all accessorized with the cervical collar of tape necessary when poor perforations and clumsy childish fingers inevitably gave the doll whiplash causing her head to fold over if not be completely decapitated.

There would be merry banter comparing the thespian talents of Alastair Sims, Reginald Owen and Jim Backus as Mr. Magoo in their interpretations of Scrooge.

County government had a productive year in '95

Ed McNamara and our administration have just finished our ninth year in office. Have we slowed down? In the spirit of the Christmas season here are the presents the employees of Wayne County have worked hard on all year to deliver to the people who put us in office.

My homes in high risk neighborhoods. "R" is for "Recreation," and Wayne County Parks had quite a year: canoe on the Rouge River (first time since 1954); restoration of Newburgh Pointe as ice skating warming center on Newburgh Lake (first time since 1962); renovation of Nankin Mills center in Westland (first built in 1863); and construction bids let for new golf course in Inkster/Westland (first new course built by county since 1945). And how about that Light Fest?

GUEST COLUMNIST

MIKE DUGGAN
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ly be resolved. "M" is for "Morgue" where the chronic problems have been resolved. With the opening of the new morgue in April, the Medical Examiner moved out of a decaying 1922 facility into one of the finest and most modern forensic facilities in the United States. For those who suffer the grief of having to identify a family member, the treatment received at the Wayne County Morgue is now professional and humane.

Judge for yourself. In the spirit of the Christmas season here are the presents the employees of Wayne County have worked hard on all year to deliver to the people who put us in office.

Charter schools make news

Sensational! Scoop! Zowie! Stop the presses! The astounding, incredible news is that a public school district is seeking to convert all five of its buildings to public school academies, alias "charter schools."

TIM RICHARD
written approval for operating the school," the paper reported.

In a paper called "Charter Schools Laws across the United States" and published by Michigan State University's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, Sandra Vergari and Dr. Michael Mintrom assign credit to Ray Budde, a professor of school administration, with bringing forth the charter idea in 1988 in (of all things) an educators' journal. They add: "The charter schools idea was advanced by Albert Shanker, president of the American Federation of Teachers, in a 1988 appearance before the National Press Club. Shanker argued that charter schools would increase choice within the public schools system without undermining it." (Italics added.)

Amazing, isn't it? A union president's idea being picked up by Michigan's religious right and its gofers, Gov. John Engler, Senate majority leader Dick Posthumus and State Board of Education president Clark Durant!

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SCHOSTAK

Water park from page 7A

accessible, high-quality wetlands on Lake St. Clair," said spokesman Mike Mencotti.

Some 275 species of birds — including the peregrine falcon, least bittern and bald eagle — have been spotted there, said Mencotti. The common loon, a threatened species, stops overnight during migrations.

"In the prime boating season, only 3 percent of park use is for boating; 3 percent is for fishing;

37 percent, walking; and 12 percent bird-watching," Mencotti said. He urged the HCMA board to make Metro Beach a bird-watcher's equivalent to Ontario's Point Pelee.

HCMA's chief planner Dan Duncan called "not accurate" the charge that marshes would be destroyed. "The authority is very

conscious of wetlands and marshes."

Duncan said HCMA's proposal is under review by the state departments of Natural Resources and Environmental Quality and may be modified at their request.

HCMA's chief naturalist, Tom Smith, said the present upstream boat launch has been there 40

years next to a wetland, but degradation has occurred only in the last 15 years — "not by boats but by mute swans forcing other (waterfowl species) out."

"As chief naturalist," Smith told the protestors, "I'm more concerned about this wetland more than all of you put together."

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FAA cites Metro tower for error-free operation

The Detroit Metro Air Traffic Control Tower has received the 1994 "Facility of the Year" honors in the Great Lakes Region and for operating error-free during the past year.

Federal Aviation Administration officials from the Great Lakes Regional Office in Des Plaines, Ill., presented the awards this week.

The tower is a split facility, consisting of a Level IV Tower Cab and a Level V Terminal Radar Approach Control. In 1994, the radar approach control worked 693,383 operations, and the Tower Cab served 485,306 operations.

This reflects 6.8 percent increase in radar approach control traffic and a 4.9 percent increase in airport traffic over the previous year.

Despite this increase, the Tower Cab controllers completed operations in 1995 with no operational errors.

The Air Traffic Control Tower received regional facility of the year in 1994.

Evaluation items identified as commendable included operational supervision, operational teamwork, traffic management, training program initiatives, hub quality assurance support, management involvement in the operation, labor management relationship, personnel involvement and automation initiatives.

Scholarship applications available at Madonna

Madonna University is accepting scholarship applications through Friday, March 1, from admitted students for the 1996-97 academic year.

Scholarship applications may be obtained at the University Financial Aid Office or by calling (313) 432-5663.

The majority of awards stipulate that the recipient be an admitted full-time student who possesses a minimum grade point average of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale; however, there are some exceptions as well as additional requirements.

Madonna University scholarships available for the 1996-97 year include: Viola R. and Thomas G. Bosco Scholarship, awarded to an African-American student pursuing a bachelor of science in nursing degree; John J. Carlo Scholarship, awarded to a nursing major; Knights Foundation Inc. Scholarship, awarded to a hearing-impaired student; Richard Koch Scholarship, awarded to a criminal justice major; Sister Mary Hugoline Konkel Scholarship, awarded to a 1996 graduate of a Catholic high school; Dr. Leo A. and Dr. Bernice Obloy Scholarship; and the Sage Scholarship.

Madonna University awards associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees. It is at I-96 and Levan Road in Livonia.

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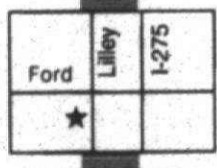
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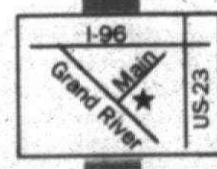


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FAMILY ROOM



KAREN MEIER

True love lives in war, peace

Christmas time 1945. The world was at peace. It had been just a little more than three months since World War II ended. Even so, in that December 50 years ago thousands of American soldiers were still performing their military duties, still wearing their uniforms, and still taking furloughs. And on this day, Dec. 21, 1945, many soldiers, still in uniform, went home for the holidays.

And there were two soldiers among them, both having been stationed stateside throughout the war, who boarded separate trains and headed north from their post, to begin their furloughs. For those two soldiers it would be a furlough neither would forget, the one to change their lives forever.

The two soldiers, one a woman and the other a man, left their posts at the Army hospital in Swannanoa, N.C., took separate trains north to their destinations, then met up again. And on this very day, 50 years ago, in front of a close circle of family and friends and before a judge, they were married.

The hope of the future, the promise of goodness, the notion of unity, which had just months before played out jubilantly in city streets across America when the war ended, was now being cel-

See FAMILY ROOM, 14A

His good deed saves dog in need

Christmas will be a special one for the Thomas-Kessler family and their dog Muffy. Thanks to a good Samaritan, Muffy will be home to see her ornament hung on the family tree.

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER



Paddock

Thomas Kessler isn't quite sure how Muffy got out of the house, or exactly when. But he is sure that the kindness of strangers has given him and his family another Christmas with the toy collie-poodle mixed-breed dog.

Muffy's brush with the fates began sometime in the early morning of Dec. 10 when experts were cautioning pet owners about leaving their animals out too long in the bone-chilling weather.

It ended happily the next day when she was reunited with Kessler at the Michigan Humane Society's Westland Shelter where employees Mike Dowe and Jeanne Burley had warmed her up after she was found, shivering and near-frozen in the snow just three doors from home, by good Samaritan Joe Paddock.

"When we let her out, she usually doesn't wander but two to three houses away, but she's at that age where she loses her bearings and with the snow probably couldn't smell to find her way back," said Kessler, holding Muffy who tips the scales at just 6 pounds.

The Westland resident believes



ART EMANUELE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lucky dog: In the lobby of the Michigan Humane Society's Westland Shelter, Jeff Kessler of Westland (from left) and his father Thomas got to meet Sue Barati of Canton, who, with her brother Joe Paddock, helped save the life of their 18-year-old dog, Muffy.

18-year-old Muffy slipped out of the house when company arrived. Prone to sleeping most of the day, the family didn't realize she was missing until that afternoon. They searched the house then took to the streets in hopes of finding her.

"We went looking for her, but we

knew there was a very slim chance of finding her alive in that weather," he said. "We figured if she was out there all night, she wouldn't survive."

The search came several hours after Paddock found her in the road about a foot from the curb at Somerset and Eliza streets. The

Kesslers live on Somerset just three houses from the intersection.

A dog in need

Paddock was leaving St. Richard's Church around 9 a.m.

See SAMARITAN, 16A

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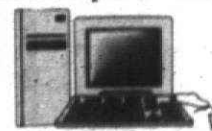
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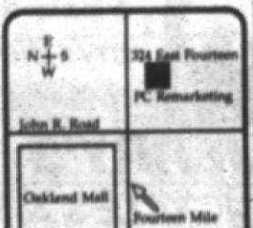


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Need some last minute gifts? Videos can fill the bill

BY LEANNE ROGERS
STAFF WRITER

The popularity of videotapes has had two positive side effects — lower prices to buy the videos and enough titles that just about everyone can find something they'll like.

Videotapes make good gifts for the holidays. A movie can be a

family gift or a more personal selection, assuming you have a good handle on the recipient's tastes. Don't be afraid to go for older titles and less obvious choices.

Shop around the bigger outlets like Best Buy, Suncoast or the new Media Play stores for good prices. One word of warning: if the price seems too cheap and the box

graphics are cheesy, look out for a substandard tape from an off-brand distributor. This a particular concern with older films which have an expired copyright.

Here are some video gift suggestions. All of the titles are available at major video retailers although selections do vary between stores.

Children and family films:

There are some obvious, excellent choices among the classic Disney cartoons. Two other excellent Disney choices available on video are the 1960 adaptation of "Pollyanna" and "The Parent Trap" from 1961. Both star Hayley Mills, who is cute, perky and very likeable. Kids will especially enjoy the pranks of "The Parent Trap" which has Mills as reunited twin sisters who scheme to get rid of their father's girlfriend and get their divorced parents back together. The cost is about \$16.99.

Another excellent gift for the whole family is the boxed set of "Anne of Green Gables," the charming CBC-PBS Wonderworks adaptation of Lucy Maud Montgomery's books. Megan Follows stars as the red-haired orphan who goes to live with a farmer and his sister on Prince Edward Island.

For younger kids who like the

animated stories better, look for "The Brave Little Toaster" which is a terrific film about abandoned appliances heading out to search for their young owner.

For adults: As with CDs, boxed sets are increasingly popular for videotapes. Sometimes the star is the connection for a collection while others are grouped by theme or an original and sequels. There is something for every taste.

For fans of the Duke, there's a John Wayne quartet featuring "El Dorado," "The Sons of Katie Elder," "The Shootist" and "True Grit" for \$44.97.

For horror fans there is a boxed set of the Francis Ford Coppola-directed "Bram Stoker's Dracula," the equally overblown "Mary Shelley's Frankenstein" directed by and starring Kenneth Branagh and "Wolf" the Mike Nichols film which is the best of the three. The price is \$36.99.

Star Wars fans can get their fix

with a boxed set of "Star Wars," "The Empire Strikes" and "The Return of the Jedi" for \$44.99. The boxed set features exclusive interviews with director George Lucas.

For real movie buffs: A nice thing about videos is getting a chance to see films that don't get screened many places. True movie fans will enjoy tapes of Charlie Chaplin's silent comedies or "Judith of Bethulia," a 1914 biblical melodrama directed by D.W. Griffith featuring supporting performances by Lillian and Dorothy Gish.

Another fascinating film available on video is Marcel Ophuis' 1987 Academy Award-winner "Hotel Terminus — the Life and Times of Klaus Barbie." This more than four hour documentary traces the 40-year search for escaped Nazi Barbie — called the "Butcher of Lyon" through contemporary interviews. The price is \$24.99.

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Safety from page 21A

of toys. However, due to a substantial lack of funding, the CPSC simply cannot do the job alone.

"More than 99 percent of the toys available for purchase in America, many of them imported from other countries, have not been tested for safety by the government," Franklin said. "Of the less than 1 percent tested by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, one in six is found to be unsafe."

Franklin and Norbert maintain that an existing piece of CPSC-sponsored legislation inadequately addresses the small parts issue. Toys with small parts must be labeled.

"Small fabric parts are not covered by the CPSC small parts regulation or the toy industry's own voluntary standards," they said. "There is no regulation that requires fabric buttons, eyes or other small fabric pieces to be securely attached, so that they cannot come off in the hands or mouths of an infant."

"Oddly, neither balloons, which contributed to the deaths of six children in 1992 and 1993, nor marbles carry any warning labels."

While consumer groups call for more explicit labeling, as the regulation now stands, toys may contain small parts as long as they are not marketed at children under age 3, an open invitation for tragedy, the lawyers contend.

Adding to the difficulties is the global trade in toys. According to Franklin and Leonard, 75 percent of the toys on the market are foreign made, where manufacturing practices are less controlled than in the U.S.

In the past, the CPSC has joined forces with U.S. Customs to prevent dangerous toys from coming into the country. Despite their best efforts, foreign-made crayons with a high level of lead recently entered this country and were sold by major national toy distributors. The problem was discovered relatively quickly and, with the assistance of the distrib-

utors, the crayons were pulled off the shelves.

"Labeling alone is not enough," they said. "Depending on consumer complaints to identify defective and dangerous toys is not enough. The manufacturing and design of toys must reflect a higher awareness of child safety attitudes."

However, they maintain that the recent political agenda to curtail victims' rights to challenge the design of toys and other products that cause serious injuries, threatens to eliminate the most effective tool to keep dangerous toys out of the marketplace and out of the hands of children.

"Without exposing these dangerous products through litigation, many of the proven unsafe products would still be available to consumers," they said. "Only by bringing cases of poorly designed and constructed toys to the attention of the public, with the implied threat of penalty for negligence, can we assure our children a safer play world."

Five Reasons for Kenneth Cole's Holiday Sale



5. We didn't want to put up all these decorations for nothing.

4. Imelda's not in town.

3. So nobody can accuse us of being Scrooge.

2. Just because Princess Di is so fabulous.

1. We're lonely.

Take an additional 30%-50% off shoes and accessories at our Semi-Annual Sale.

Somerset Collection (810) 816-8300

6.00

- A) The percentage of Americans who believe the earth is flat.
- B) The percentage of Americans who believe aliens are living among us.
- C) The Annual Percentage Yield of our Classic CD.**

9 Month Classic CD
6.00%
Annual Percentage Yield

In a world chock-full of meaningless numbers, at least there's still one that's of interest. Take the annual percentage yield on our Classic CD for example. With a minimum deposit of \$20,000 you get one of the best yields around. It's an investment that's 100% risk free. And 100% rewarding. Call 1-800-THE BANK (1-800-843-2265)



The annual percentage yield (APY) is subject to change. APY accurate as of 12/1/95. Interest penalty for early withdrawal. © 1995 1st Nationwide Bank, A Federal Savings Bank. Member FDIC.

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

KEELY WYGONIK, EDITOR • 313-953-2105

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1995 • PAGE 1 SECTION B

FRIDAY

Nicole Bobek plays the role of Clara in "The Nutcracker on Ice" at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Call (810) 645-6666 for tickets.

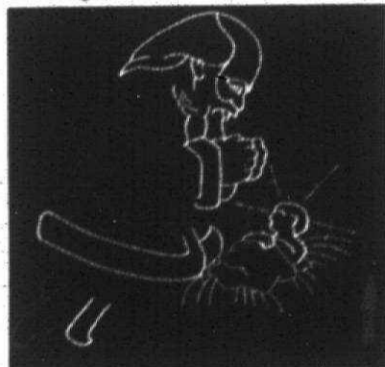


SATURDAY



Blood Sweat & Tears performs rock classics plus a few holiday tunes with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra at Orchestra Hall in Detroit. Call (313) 833-3700 or (810) 645-6666.

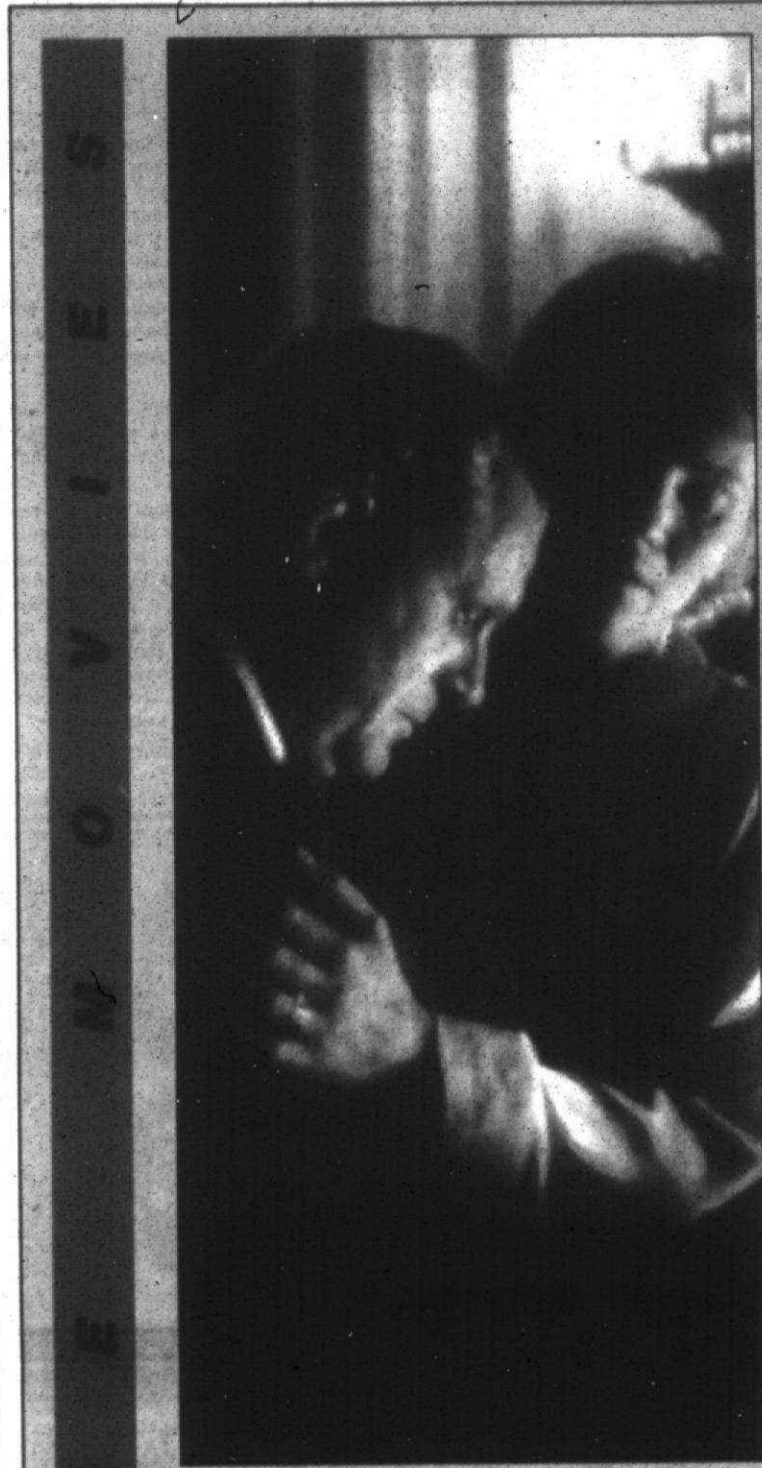
SUNDAY



You'll see over 800,000 lights, including "Kneeling Santa," at the Christmas Light Display at Domino Farms 6-10 p.m. on Earhart Road off Plymouth Road, about a half-mile east of U.S. 23. There is a \$5 donation per vehicle, call (313) 668-1800 for information.



Hot tip: "Rumpelstiltskin" spins holiday gold for the whole family at the Anderson Center Theater in Henry Ford Museum. Call (313) 271-1620, Ext. 383.



HERBERT BALOW/CHINESE PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT INC. AND CHINESE PRODUCTIONS N. Y. INC.

Drama: As his political career crumbles beneath the weight of allegations of an illegal cover-up of the Watergate scandal, President Richard M. Nixon (Anthony Hopkins) finds compassion from his wife Pat (Joan Allen) in "Nixon."

After exhuming "JFK," director Oliver Stone takes a cold, hard look at Richard Milhous Nixon.



FRANK MARU/BURNA VISTA PICTURES, INC.

Classic tale: Town mischief-makers Tom Sawyer (Jonathan Taylor Thomas, left) and Huck Finn (Brad Renfro, right) star in Walt Disney Pictures' live-action adventure "Tom and Huck."

Hollywood offers variety for holidays

BY JOHN MORAGHAN • SPECIAL WRITER

No chestnuts roasting on an open fire for me. More times than not, I spend Christmas night bathed in the glow of my local movie screen. Hollywood is more than happy to offer me variety with no less than ten films premiering on area screens between December 21 and 25.

I have yet to see any of the titles listed, but rest assured that the following capsules are laced with gossip, film magazine predictions, and, of course, plenty of personal prejudices.

"Nixon." After exhuming "JFK," director Oliver Stone takes a cold, hard look at Richard Milhous Nixon. Casting Anthony Hopkins as the fallen president is definitely risky business, but he's supported by the likes of James Woods, Ed Harris and Bob Hoskins as a very gay J. Edgar Hoover. Fail as they may, when have Stone's films ever been boring?

"Restoration." So glad this long-delayed period film is finally coming out, especially after watching previews of a wine-soaked Robert Downey Jr. breeding and belching more times than I care to remember. This reported turkey is also the year's last look at Hugh Grant, who has appeared in more movie credits and tabloid pages than any actor in recent memory.

"Waiting to Exhale." In what has been called the movies' answer to "Oprah," Angela Bassett and Whitney Houston lead a group of women who talk endlessly about themselves. One waits for a divorce to become final, another for the kids to grow up, another for all that weight to be lost, all the while trying to figure out what to do with the men in their lives.

"Dracula: Dead and Loving It." He made a classic out of "Young Frankenstein," but can Mel Brooks do equal justice to Dracula? With Leslie Nielsen as the bloodsucker and 100 years of legend to lampoon, this might be good for a laugh. It can't be any worse than Eddie Murphy's "Vampire in Brooklyn."

"Grumpier Old Men." Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau, the original Odd Couple, team once again in this sequel to their surprise 1993 hit. Ann-Margret

and Sophia Loren are two logical choices to thaw out these old coots one more time.

"Tom and Huck." Encouraged by the success of "Huck Finn," Disney now throws Mark Twain's other enduring creation into the mix. After the kids have seen "Toy Story" for the tenth time, you might steer them towards this one, with "Home Improvement's" Jonathan Taylor Thomas and "The Client's" Brad Renfro enjoying life on the Mississippi.

"Four Rooms." The word is grim on this quirky concept comedy, four stories set in a Hollywood hotel on New Year's Eve and directed by four hot young directors. Quentin Tarantino leads the pack, though it's reportedly "Desperado's" Robert Rodriguez who checks out with his reputation intact. Bellboy Tim Roth links the stories, showing Bruce Willis, Madonna, Antonio Banderas, Marisa Tomei, and Tarantino to their rooms. On Christmas night you'll likely find me here, the only film to receive a December 25 release.

"Cutthroat Island." It sometimes seems like Captain Blood was the last movie pirate worth his sea legs at the box office, but Hollywood keeps on trying. Geena Davis and Matthew Modine provide the buckle and swash, but their only real hope for salvation lies in director Renny Harlin, who made the most out of "Cliffhanger" and "Die Hard 2."

"Balto." Another kid's movie. This time a heroic husky leads a team of sled dogs through ice and snow to deliver a life-saving anti-toxin to Alaska. Universal, not Disney, is behind this animated feature, so don't expect the level of polish — or thankfully the hype. "Pocahontas" had a ring to it. "Balto!" It sounds like an antacid.

"Sudden Death." Jean-Claude Van Damme and ice hockey. What better combination for a rainless action movie in which the kickboxing Belgian tries to save a stadium full of hockey fans from terrorists? Director Peter Hyams helmed "Time Cop," a better-than-usual Van Damme vehicle, but the plot is said to be skating on thin ice.

EXHIBITION

"They only come out at night"

Where: An installation of artworks including a giant cricket and a two-headed snake by artist Carl Kamulski. Sponsored by the Livonia Arts Commission. Admission is free.

When: Through Dec. 29. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, until 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

Where: Second floor Fine Arts Gallery inside the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road east of Farmington.

Cricket sounds happy note for viewers

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
SPECIAL WRITER

No, your eyes aren't deceiving you. That's a giant cricket greeting visitors to the Livonia Civic Center Library Fine Arts Gallery these days.

Carl Kamulski thought the six-foot-tall insect would bring good luck to — "they only come out at night" — his first one-man show.

Built from fiber board with the help of his basic design class at Wayne County Community College, the cricket is held together by gravity. No glue or fastening agents of any kind were used.

Hearts cast in a variety of materials and encased in wood boxes, snakes, and a human figure in bondage are a few of the images

encountered in this far-from-typical art show.

"I hope people will open up and realize that art isn't just pretty pictures. I want people to be provoked. I don't care if they hate it. I'd prefer they like it," said Kamulski, a former resident of Franklin now living in Grosse Pointe Farms.

"Everything (in the exhibit) just sort of blends together. The hearts are symbolic. They're about being genuine, about honesty and truth. The snakes, and particularly the two-headed one, symbolize deceit, lies, untruths, an entity not to be trusted.

"They're about people we've dealt with all of our lives."

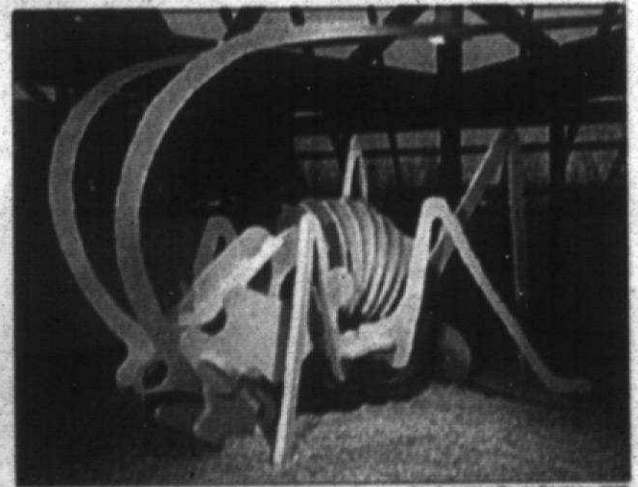
So why title the show, "they only come out at night?"

"It always seemed to me that whatever I was feeling was heightened after dark, that my happiness or sadness, my joy or pain was greater when I found myself alone or with someone after dark."

Completed within the last month, all of Kamulski's 21 pieces have a story behind them. Bondage is the theme of "The Death of Edna Jackson." The concept came to Kamulski in the midst of a faculty meeting. He felt bound to be there. One of the items on the agenda was the death of a long-time teacher at WCCC, Edna Jackson.

The drawing of the bound figure served a take-off point for two related works. A ceramic figure in a box

See CRICKET, inside



SIM JACOBSON/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Night Crawler: A 7-foot long cricket, installed as part of Carl Kamulski's one man show, was meant to be fun and break the ice for children viewing "they only come out at night."

FINE ARTS

Put 'Creative Sewing as a Business' on your gift list

Artbeat features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Arts editor, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150...

ARTBEAT 2535. Or write her Artistic Images studio, 30784 Grandview, Westland, MI 48185.

captured the romance of France's Lascaux cave art in acrylic paintings on canvas after the prehistoric drawings.

Sunday. Call (810) 349-4131. THE ANIMAL SHOW Jeanne Poulet of Livonia is one of the artists in a show opening Jan. 5 at the Swann Gallery, 1250 Library Street, Detroit.

Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, or by appointment.

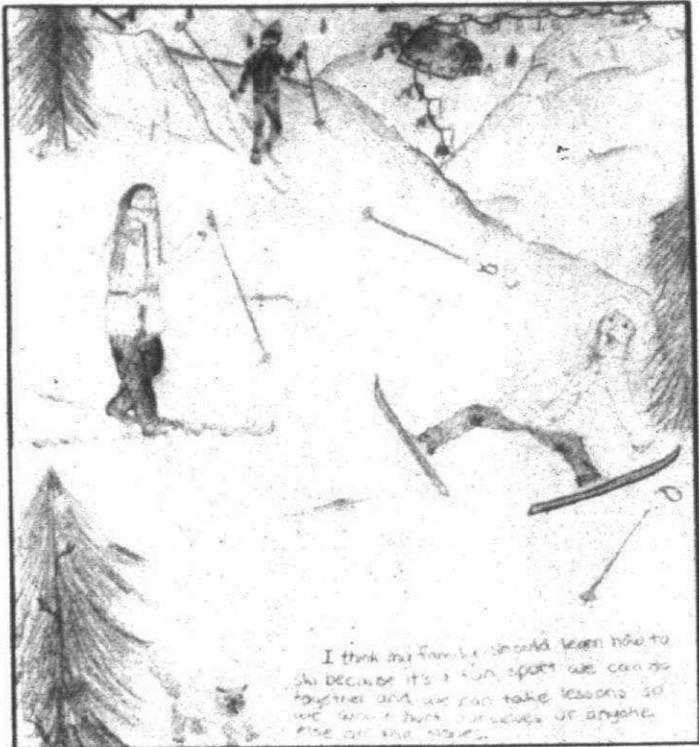
Cricket from page 1B

can only be viewed through the wood slats. Even the box is bound with jute. Circular saw blades on each of the sides serve as symbols of freedom.

summer, forever gone and forgotten. Dragon teeth cast from pennies adorn the exterior of the darkly colored urn.

What was that old saying? Good artists borrow. Great artists steal. I want them walking out of a basic design class thinking they can do anything they want."

Young readers win weekend at Sugar Loaf Resort



Winner: Spencer Franchi of Troy, a grand prize winner in our "Learn to Ski" contest, drew this picture of his family on skis.

Megan Newhouse, 11 of Plymouth, and Spencer Franchi, six of Troy, were the grand prize winners of our "Learn to Ski Contest."

sort lodging and lift tickets for a family of four. The runners-up were Jacob Agronov, 7 (West Bloomfield); Derrick Pass, 5 (Farmington Hills); Morgan Harding, 3 (Bloomfield); Nikki Bieber, 6 (Redford); Miles Levin, 7 (Bloomfield Hills); Jim Albertus, 11 (Livonia); Sarah Broder, 9 (Farmington Hills); Robert Lukofsky, 11 (Livonia) and Erin King, 8 (Redford).

how to ski because I love my family and I want to have time off to have fun with my family," wrote Spencer Franchi.

Michigan, Little Traverse Bay, and the Manitow Islands. Upcoming events include: Nordic Week - free cross country trail pass all week Jan. 15-21; "Just Kidding Weekends" Jan. 19-21 and Feb. 2-4 - weekend getaway with two nights resort lodging, lift tickets, two breakfasts, one dinner and one group lesson. Up to two children 18 and under sleep free (from \$209 per person, double occupancy), plus up to two kids ski free all weekend, free "just for kids" pizza parties, and activities.

Buddy's PIZZA happy holidays CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY

MITCH HOUSEY'S We've Got It Here On NEW YEAR'S EVE from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. DANCING to the Showcasesmen

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Nutcracker TOMORROW • 8 PM PALACE THEATRE

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TIME IS RUNNING OUT! TO QUALIFY FOR 1995 TAX DEDUCTIONS. Auto donations must be completed before December 31st.

\$299 per couple Start Your New Year With Deluxe Overnight Accommodations including Linn Check-Out

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GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

Table listing movie titles, genres, and showtimes across various theaters. Includes titles like 'A Pure Adrenalin Rush', 'Sudden Death', 'The Best Movie of the Year!', 'Nixon', 'Toy Story', and 'Sabrina'.

'A PURE ADRENALIN RUSH' full of surprise. Advertisement for the movie 'Sudden Death' featuring Van Damme, featuring a quote: "ACTION PACKED SUSPENSE LIKE YOU WON'T BELIEVE!"

STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22. Advertisement for various AMC theaters including AMC ABBEY 8, AMC BEL AIR 10, and AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY.

'It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This!' Advertisement for 'Father of the Bride Part II' featuring Steve Martin, Diane Keaton, and Martin Short.

NOW PLAYING. Advertisement for various AMC theaters including AMC ABBEY 8, AMC BEL AIR 10, and AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY.

LAUGH YOUR FACE OFF! Advertisement for 'Two Thumbs Up! Way Up!' featuring Skeet Ulrich and David Aronoff.

Disney's TOY STORY. Advertisement for the movie 'Toy Story' featuring the characters from the Pixar film.

Adventure: Bonnie Hunt stars as Sarah. Advertisement for the movie 'Jumanji' featuring Bonnie Hunt and Robin Williams.

MOVIES 'Jumanji' full of surprise

Attention, board game lovers: Beware of something called Jumanji. It is not one of those wimpy things like Monopoly or Clue. Jumanji the game can be injurious to your health.



Romantic: Elinor (Emma Thompson) finds herself drawn to the charming Edward Ferrars (Hugh Grant) in Columbia Pictures' 'Sense and Sensibility' now playing at the Main Art Theatre.

'THE BEST MOVIE OF THE YEAR!'

'Two Thumbs Up! Absolutely Riveting!' This is one of the best films of the year! Advertisement for 'Two Thumbs Up! Way Up!'.

'THE MOST IMPORTANT MOVIE OF THE YEAR!'

'SPECTACULAR! A MUST SEE - DON'T MISS IT!' Advertisement for the movie 'Nixon' featuring Anthony Hopkins.

SCREEN SCENE



Drama: Kellita Smith (left), Jack Nicholson (center) and Priscilla Barnes (right) in Sean Penn's 'The Crossing Guard,' now showing at the AMC Maple.

JONATHAN TAYLOR THOMAS BRID RENFRO. Advertisement for the movie 'Tom and Huck' featuring Jonathan Taylor Thomas and Bridget Renfro.

Disney's TIMON & PUMBA. Advertisement for the animated movie 'Timon & Pumbaa'.

'TWO THUMBS UP! ABSOLUTELY RIVETING!' Advertisement for 'Two Thumbs Up! Way Up!' featuring Skeet Ulrich.

'SABRINA IS THE REAL THING!' Advertisement for the movie 'Sabrina' featuring Harrison Ford and Julia Ormond.

STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22. Advertisement for various AMC theaters including AMC ABBEY 8, AMC BEL AIR 10, and AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY.

MOVIES

See the film adaptation of 'To Kill A Mockingbird'

BY LEANNE ROGERS STAFF WRITER
There was a newspaper article recently about a new edition of 'To Kill a Mockingbird' being published and author Harper Lee's refusal to write a forward. She apparently preferred to let the book speak for itself, explaining her position at some length to the publisher, who decided to use Lee's letter as the forward.

I had watched the wonderful 1962 adaptation of the book, directed by Robert Mulligan with a script by Horton Foote. I've seen the movie and read the book several times. The film captures the essence and flavor of the novel so well that I was surprised that one particular scene I remembered wasn't in the movie at all. That's how intertwined the two versions have become in my mind.

VIDEO
called by the now-adult narrator, known in childhood as Scout. The story is told from the viewpoint of 6-year-old Scout, her older brother Jem and visiting neighbor Dill. Mary Badham, Phillip Alford and John Megna are all superb as the children. Gregory Peck won an Academy Award for his performance as Atticus Finch — the widowed father of Scout and Jem, and the lawyer who defends a black man accused of raping a white woman. From his perspective, Atticus has no choice but to represent the accused man and represent him to the best of his ability. It's a matter of principle. The scenes with the children are often what come to mind most for me. Scout being chided for bad manners after expressing shock when a poor classmate who has joined the family for lunch pours syrup all over his food. Or the children's fascination and wild imaginings about the reclusive neighbors — in particular Boo Radley. The scene when Radley and his relationship to the children is finally revealed is memorable and touching. For anyone who hasn't seen 'To Kill a Mockingbird' it will be a memorable experience to watch.

Board votes 'Sense and Sensibility' best film

NEW YORK (AP) — 'Sense and Sensibility,' the Jane Austen adaptation starring Emma Thompson and directed by Ang Lee, was named the best film of 1995 by the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures. The 86-year-old organization also announced awards in several other categories Tuesday. They will be presented on Feb. 26 at a gala dinner at Tavern on the Green. The winners are: Best foreign film: 'Shanghai Triad.' Best supporting actress: Mira Sorvino, 'Mighty Aphrodite.' Best director, Ang Lee, 'Sense and Sensibility.' Best documentary, 'Crumb.' Best television miniseries, 'The Boys of St. Vincent.' Best breakthrough performer in 1995: Alicia Silverstone.

THE WAIT IS OVER
Waiting to Exhale
STARTS FRIDAY DECEMBER 22
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A STUNNING CRIME DRAMA MENNA SPRAWLING SAGA HAS THE MOST IMPRESSIVE COLLECTION OF ACTORS IN ONE MOVIE THIS YEAR PACINO AND DE NIRO ARE GREAT THIS ONE STICKS TO YOUR GUT
DAVID ANSEN
PACINO DE NIRO KILMER HEAT
STAR TAYLOR, STAR LINCOLN PARK, STAR GRATIOT, STAR WINCHESTER, STAR ROCHESTER, FORD WYOMING

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'A TIMELESS MASTERPIECE! SENSATIONAL! YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!'
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'THE BLOCKBUSTER OF THE YEAR!'
Cuthbert Island
STARTS FRIDAY DEC 22
AMC AMERICANA WEST, AMC BEL AIR TO, AMC EASTLAND, AMC LAUREL PARK, AMC SOUTHWEST CITY, QUO VADIS, RENAISSANCE 4, SHOWCASE, STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILLS, STAR LINCOLN PARK, STAR WINCHESTER R, STAR TAYLOR, STAR WEST RIVER, FORD WYOMING

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OPEN THURS-SAT 8AM-11PM, SUN: 8AM-6PM
List of discounted items including books, CDs, and video games.

WRESTLING

Salem's Coburn is named MVP

Finishing fifth out of eight teams is rarely anything to get excited about...

by Brighton (157 1/4). Ann Arbor Huron (130) and Plymouth Canton (98)...

record to 11-0. Teono Wilson, a sophomore wrestling at 171, reached the final but lost 10-1 to Holt's Tom Welsh...

103, with a 15-8 triumph over Holt's R.J. Eding in the finals. Finishing second for CC were Mike Zelenock at 112, an 8-6 loser to Holt's Greg Parrott in the title match...

Chiefs can't quite escape pool play

The end results were hardly glittering, but all things considered, Plymouth Volleyball Invitational Saturday was a success.

VOLLEYBALL

But then a pair of questionable calls went against them, and Roosevelt capitalized to escape with the win.

Madonna from page 1C

Powers, Negri had a streak of her own going into Saturday's game against Kalamazoo. In the two previous games, she had converted seven-straight floor shots and eight-consecutive free throws.

In the victory over Wesleyan Friday, six Crusaders reached double figures in scoring, led by Lamphere's 18 points.

Relays from page 1C

thrids and finished in the top six in all but one of the 10 events.

'Canton did quite well placing people (in events). They're pretty excited. This should move them up in the eyes of rest of league, that's for sure.'

Chuck Olson Salem coach

The Rocks won two events and took second in another. Pat Morgan, Nick Corden, Tim Buchanan and Brent Mellis teamed for a first in the 400 free relay (3:28.87).

Stevenson was the only team with more than two firsts. The Spartans won the 400 medley (Brian Burister, Ted Burmeister, Steve Domino and Keith Falk).

But what cost Salem the title was getting disqualified in the 200 backstroke relay for jumping a start.

What Lott wants is confidence, to a degree. "We do have a lot of confidence now," he said.

Basketball from page 1C

assists and five steals. Stephen Allen and Toby Powell each scored 10 for Ypsi (now 3-2).

paced Agape with 18 points while senior point guard Paul Salah contributed 16 and senior center Josh Thompson cleaned the boards of 13 rebounds.

SANTA'S LITTLE HELPER ...And he's back just in time for Christmas... Great seats are still available for DEC. 23 7:30 pm DETROIT PISTONS vs. SHAQUILLE O'NEAL and the ORLANDO MAGIC

CHRISTMAS SUPER SALE OPEN Sunday 11AM-5PM UNTIL CHRISTMAS... FIGHT CRIME! AUTO ALARM... FREE CELLULAR FLIP PHONE... 532-9200

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WINTER SPECIALS... American Entries 30612 Ford Road, GARDEN CITY • 522-2288

Seats so Close... IT HURTS! DEC. 23rd 12:30 pm vs. Minnesota Moose

Happy Holidays from SUPER BOWL... 45100 Ford Road • Canton

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THE SPORTS AUTHORITY

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SKI HEADQUARTERS!

Advertisement for ski clothing featuring items like Edelweiss Ladies Zurich Parka (\$99.96), Polartec Fleece Vest (\$59.96), and Alpine Designs Men's Gore-Tex Pants (\$159.96).

HUGE SELECTION OF NAME BRAND SKI EQUIPMENT

Advertisement for ski equipment including skis (Dynastar, K2, Salomon), boots (Salomon, Lange), and snowboards (Liquid Mercury, K2 HC).

Quality Ski Equipment, Clothing & Accessories at The Sports Authority

Table listing various ski equipment categories such as Ski Packages, Skis & Boots, More Accessories, and Ski Clothing with their respective prices.

Advertisement for The Sports Authority locations in Waterford, Madison Heights, Livonia, and Dearborn, including a 'Now Open' section for a car wash.

Name Brand Ski Equipment at Everyday Low Prices... Guaranteed.

Scouts become Eagles

Canton Township residents Steve Black, Kevin Constantino, D.T. Donaldson and Karl Thorpe have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.



Scout's honor(ed): Canton Township residents (from left) Steve Black, Kevin Constantino, D.T. Donaldson and Karl Thorpe take their oaths.

Each scout performed a community service project as the final hurdle in gaining the necessary qualifications for Eagle Scout.

Black and Donaldson cleared overgrown brush, fallen trees, twigs, leaves from campgrounds and cleaned a large cabin, contributing more than 30 hours each to the project.

Constantino, 17, son of Ernest and Lee Constantino, organized a clothing drive for the Salvation Army.

Suspected overdose handled in Canton

Listed below are some of the Canton police and emergency incidents reported recently.

OVERDOSE

Canton firefighters took an incoherent Westland woman to Ann Arbor Hospital the morning of Dec. 15 on suspicion of a drug overdose.

Police found the woman lying on the grass at the Budget Inn on Ford Road at 9:32 a.m., according to the police report.

The woman got up, stumbled, and said, "They're chasing me" and ran toward Ford Road, according to the police report.

She fell down again and the officer handcuffed her, according to the police report, but she "continued to yell and try to pull away."

A medical identification card was found in the woman's pocket and she was determined to have been staying at the Budget Inn, according to the police report.

Police found "narcotics paraphernalia" in the room where the woman had been staying. The room was registered in the name of a 21-year-old Westland man, whom police could not find.

Police were unsuccessful in interviewing the woman. "All she remembers is running down the hall," according to the police report.

ORNAMENTS DAMAGED

A 40-year-old Cornell Street resident told police that two men who were asked to leave a party at his house returned and damaged Christmas ornaments, lights and a basketball hoop, according to the police report.

The 18-year-old suspects were stopped by police on Cherry Hill and agreed to pay restitution.

About \$180 in damage was caused to Christmas lights, a snowman and a basketball backboard and rim, according to the police report.

BREAK-IN

A 53-year-old township resident told police that someone entered his house and stole a pair of boots and a roll of wrapping paper.

The man, who does not lock his front door, said he woke up at 3:09 a.m. Dec. 9 when he heard someone enter through the front door and the dog bark, according to the police report.

The man suspected that one of his daughters had just come in, so he returned to sleep.

In the morning he found the boots (worth \$50) and wrapping paper (worth \$2) missing, according to the police report.

The man suspects the intruder used the wrapping paper to fend off the attack of his small dog, according to the police report.

CAR WASH HIT

An employee of Classy Chassis car wash on Canton Center Road told police that vandals struck the business the night of Dec. 14-15.

About \$600 in damage was done to five vacuums, three car wash wands and one light, according to the police report.

School athletic coordinator to start his duties Jan. 8

By M.B. DILLON STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton school board members have hired a new administrator and are discussing hiring a new executive secretary.

John Robinson of Chelsea was unanimously approved as the district's new faculty athletic coordinator, effective Jan. 8.

Robinson is coordinator of athletic training services at Botaford Hospital's Total Rehabilitation and Conditioning Center in Novi and works as district athletic trainer for Farmington Public Schools.

He'll make \$45,370 in his new position. Robinson earned a master of science in physical education and sports medicine from Ohio University in 1983. He holds a bachelor of science degree in biology with minors in physical science and secondary education from Michigan State University. He also earned credits for continuing teacher certification and toward a minor in sports medicine from Central Michigan in 1982.

Robinson served as head athletic trainer at Ypsilanti High School and worked as director of athletic training services for the Center for Sports Medicine and Fitness in Ypsilanti.

Robinson worked as head clinical athletic trainer for the Garden City Family Physicians Center and as head athletic trainer for Morgan High School in McConnelville, Ohio. He taught biology and coached at Lakeview Community Schools in Lakeview, Mich. from 1974-1980.

His hiring was recommended by a committee consisting of athletic director Brian Wolcott, Salem High School principal Gerry Ostion, two teachers, two parents, one support staff member and two students. Five of nine qualified applicants were interviewed, said Errol Goldman, assistant superintendent for employee relations and personnel.

Trustees Carrie Blamer and Jack Farrow support the secretarial hiring. "I don't think it's wise for us to have an executive typing his own reports," said Blamer. "It makes little sense to pay a Ph.D. to type," said Farrow.

Board president Dave Artley directed administration to "bring us the person you want to hire when it's appropriate."

Superintendent Charles Little told the board he'd like authorization to create a budget line item so a secretary to the executive director of instruction can be hired.

The position hasn't been filled since Patrick O'Donnell's former secretary retired.

School board treasurer Mike Maloney said, "I think this is a legitimate position, but I would like to see us absorb a position somewhere else. I'd like to see us try to live within our budget. Every person we hire is going to mean one less teacher."

Little said absorbing a position "would be pretty difficult, but we will look at it."

Board vice president Mark Horvath said, "I agree there is a need for this position, but we need to be very careful about just adding, especially central office staff."

Maloney asked Goldman to rank the hirings and the substitute calling system in terms of priority.

Goldman said the faculty athletic coordinator and the secretarial position are "both important. If we want to maintain a certain level of service to the community and the board, we have to fill positions when necessary."

"I have watched Pat O'Donnell working here until 10 or 11 at night, doing his own work," added Goldman. "I know if we don't have a substitute calling system, I will hear from everyone."

OBITUARIES

CONSTANTINE APOSTAL

Services for Constantine Apostal, 80, of Stuart, Fla., were Tuesday, Dec. 19, at Vermuelen Trust 100 Funeral Home with the Rev. Romey Roco officiating. Burial was in Arbor Crest Cemetery in Ann Arbor.

He was born in Zehner, Saskatchewan, Canada, and died Saturday, Dec. 16, in Plymouth. He worked at Chrysler as a gear cutter and retired in 1980. He was a former member of the Lions Club in Algonac, Mich.

He is survived by his wife, Mary; sons, Peter of Plymouth

and Paul of Dexter; sisters, Mary Campbell, Helen Kosteniuk and Evan Morse; brothers, John Apostal; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, Mich. 48154-5010.

GEORGE BARTEL

Services for George Bartel, 88, of Livonia were Tuesday, Dec. 19, at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, in Plymouth. The Rev.

Paul E. Schaefer officiated with burial in Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth.

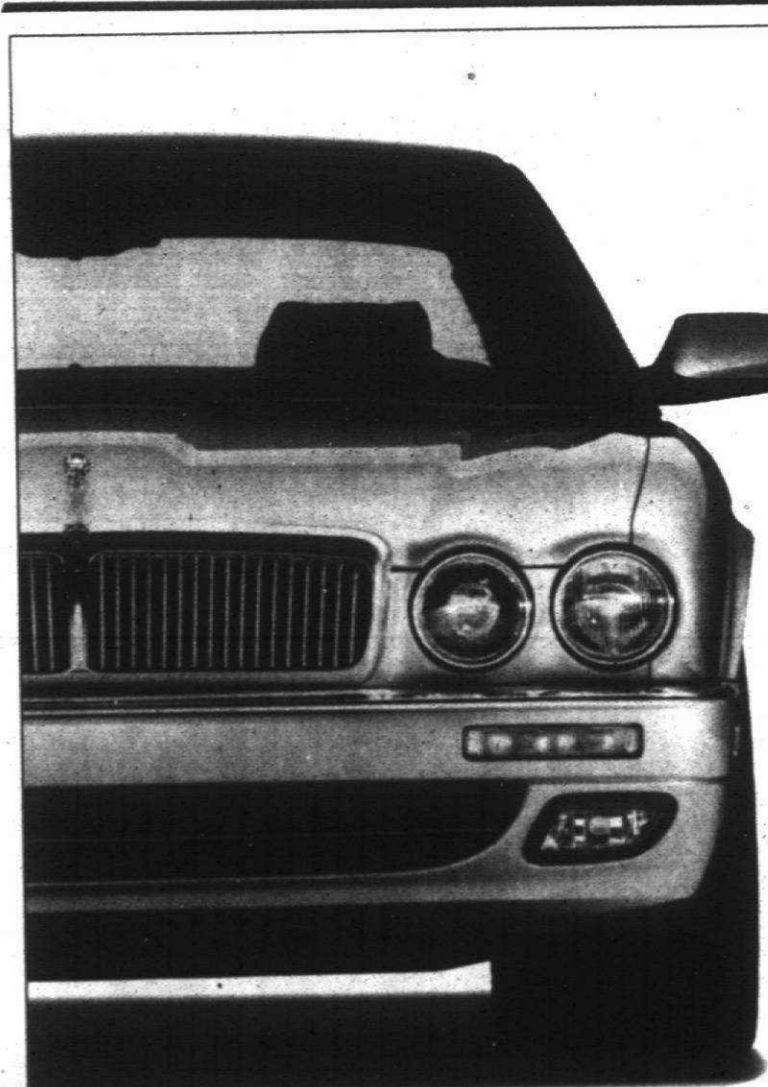
He was born in Detroit, and died Saturday, Dec. 19, in Plymouth. He was former owner of Bartel Flowers for 45 years, retir-

ing in 1976. He was a member of St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church in Plymouth.

He is survived by his daughter, Beverly A. Lamerland of Livonia; four children; and eight great-grandchildren.

Last Minute Christmas Special

Advertisement for Bueters' Outdoors featuring Polar Fleece Pullovers with 30% OFF. Includes contact information for 120 E. Main Downtown Northville.



Advertisement for Jaguar XJ6 lease offer: '699' per month for 24 months with \$3,400 down payment. Contact Jaguar of Troy.

Advertisement for AVIS HOLIDAY SPECIAL featuring 'UNLIMITED MILEAGE' and contact information for (313) 207-0113.

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STABILITE \$59.99
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DRY-TECH \$99.99
Cortax Lined

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Pleasant Shoe

Reebok

LAUNCH PUMP \$69.99
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WILLOWBEND LADY \$69.99
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BROOKLAWN \$89.99
Waterproof, leather saddle

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Lazy-Bones

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MISSIE \$69.99
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GOLF SETS
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NICKLAUS N1 Mid 3-PW Steel... \$299.99
DynaLite Graphite... \$299.99

Tonyou 845 Command Graphite 3-PW \$599

SPALDING EZX Steel 3 Woods & 8 Irons. Retail \$350... \$249.99

First Flight SD 901 Oversized Graphite 3-PW... \$349.99

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Features your choice of 3 1/2 x 5 or 4x6 prints, professional overnight or rush 1 hr. service.

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN
IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN TV?
I'm a 32-year-old female who is looking for a male who is a professional, educated, successful, and has a good sense of humor.

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I'm a 32-year-old female who is looking for a male who is a professional, educated, successful, and has a good sense of humor. I'm looking for a long-term relationship.

IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN TV? (continued)
I'm a 32-year-old female who is looking for a male who is a professional, educated, successful, and has a good sense of humor. I'm looking for a long-term relationship.

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IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN TV? (continued)
I'm a 32-year-old female who is looking for a male who is a professional, educated, successful, and has a good sense of humor. I'm looking for a long-term relationship.

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THERE'S NOTHING QUITE LIKE THE SOUND OF HOLIDAY BELLS. The holiday season is a time to be merry and bright. Find your perfect match now. Place your FREE Personal Scene ad. Call 1-800-518-5445.

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FREE HEADLINE: The following information is kept strictly confidential and is necessary to send out instructions you will need. NAME: ADDRESS: CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: PHONE (DAY & EVENING): MAIL TO: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Classified/PERSONAL SCENE 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150

Free 30 word ad: I'd like my ad to appear in the following category: 1. CHASE 2. CHANGES 3. SPORTS & INTERESTS

CHRISTMAS

NUT SALE Community Hospice Services is holding the sixth annual holiday nut sale. It includes 16-ounce cashews, deluxe mixed, German almond, 15-ounce variety packs, and 14-ounce pistachios.

WOOLLY TREES In light of the credit union's philosophy of "people helping people," Community Federal Credit Union members and non-members alike are being asked to donate warm, woolly goods for both adults and children.

CLUBS NICKELODEON TRIP The Salvation Army is offering a free day trip to the all new Nickelodeon Mega Mess-A-Mania Live show at Joe Louis Arena 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28.

YOUTH EXCHANGE The Plymouth Community Center is seeking interested students ages 16-18 looking for an opportunity to spend a year abroad learning the culture and language of another country.

ARTS COUNCIL The Plymouth Community Arts Council is offering its new facility at 774 N. Sheldon Road for rent for seminars, recitals and lectures.

READING ASSISTANCE Free adult tutoring and confidential skills assessment. Community Literacy Council, 451-6555.

Count me in Canton Goodfellow!

Here's my donation to the 1995 Christmas program. Name: Address: Amount:

Please mail to: Canton Goodfellow 1150 S. Canton Center Canton, MI 48108 Attn: N. Spencer

There are limited openings for students in second, third, and fifth through eighth grade at New Morning School. Information, 420-3351.

BOOKS FOR SALE

PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY LEAGUE The Plymouth Symphony League is raising funds by selling the Entertainment Review book.

OPEN SKATE The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation open skate will be held at the Plymouth Cultural Center Ice Arena.

YOUTH EXCHANGE The Plymouth Community Center is seeking interested students ages 16-18 looking for an opportunity to spend a year abroad.

ARTS COUNCIL The Plymouth Community Arts Council is offering its new facility at 774 N. Sheldon Road for rent for seminars, recitals and lectures.

READING ASSISTANCE Free adult tutoring and confidential skills assessment. Community Literacy Council, 451-6555.

AROUND THE TOWN

PLYMOUTH OPTIMISTS Friends of Youth will deliver 1996 Entertainment books to your home. All proceeds go to children's charities.

FISH FRY The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6695 will have a fish fry 5:30-8:30 p.m. Fridays at 1426 S. Mill in Plymouth.

YOUTH EXCHANGE The Plymouth Community Center is seeking interested students ages 16-18 looking for an opportunity to spend a year abroad.

ARTS COUNCIL The Plymouth Community Arts Council is offering its new facility at 774 N. Sheldon Road for rent for seminars, recitals and lectures.

READING ASSISTANCE Free adult tutoring and confidential skills assessment. Community Literacy Council, 451-6555.

SPECIAL EVENTS SWEET ADELINES Adelines, a women's chorus devoted to the singing of four-part harmony, barbershop style.

SPORTS MALL WALKERS Twelve Oaks Mall is open for walkers 8 a.m. Monday through Saturday.

CAMPUS NOTES Submit your academic honor or graduation announcement to Campus Notes. Send the material printed or typewritten to: Bridget Moran, Plymouth-Canton Observer, 744 Wing St., Plymouth, Mich. 48170.

CHILDREN'S SUPPORT Community Hospice Services is offering a free children's grief support service. To register, call Vicki Desjardins or Joan Johnson at 422-4224.

CABLE WORKSHOPS Omnicon welcomes all interested people to take workshop classes. Production classes, from beginning to advanced. Dates and times, call 459-7335.

IRISH DANCE Adults interested in "Celi" dancing (Irish folk dancing) meet 8-10 p.m. Tuesdays at the Odellwood Hall.

REUNIONS PLYMOUTH SALEM/CANTON CLASS OF 1986 10-year reunion Saturday, Oct. 5, 1996, at Burton Manor.

SPORTS MALL WALKERS Twelve Oaks Mall is open for walkers 8 a.m. Monday through Saturday at 10 a.m. Sunday.

EDUCATION PLUS Preschool is taking registrations for the 1995-96 school year. This free program for 4-year-olds and their parents is open

LYONIA LIBRARY The Lyonia Public Library is offering a variety of programs and services. For more information, call 420-3351.



HOLIDAY HOT BUY!

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\$7⁹⁷

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Fretter

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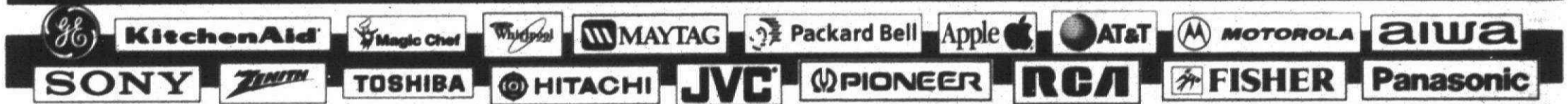
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
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SUNDAY...CHRISTMAS EVE
 8am 'til 5pm

We're offering the lowest **CRISIS PRICING** in our 45-year history!
EVERY TV! EVERY APPLIANCE! EVERY ITEM IN EVERY STORE!

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YOU GET OUR LOWEST PRICES EVER ON THE TOP BRAND NAMES!



ALL PENTIUM 75MHZ COMPUTERS BELOW COST!

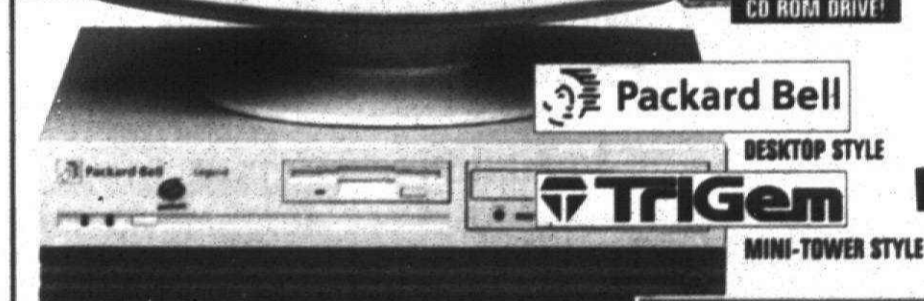
75MHZ PENTIUM COMPUTER WITH 850 MB HARD DRIVE AND 8 MB RAM!

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 ZENITH 19" COLOR TV & RCA 4-HEAD VCR!

ZENITH 19" TV WITH ON-SCREEN MENU DISPLAYS!



\$1327

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THRU SUNDAY ONLY!

THRU SUNDAY ONLY!

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 • 850 MB Hard Drive, 2-Button Mouse, 14,400 bps Fax/Modem Included
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RCA
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2 GREAT BRANDS...ONE LOW PRICE!

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\$299 minimum purchase. Credit approval required through designated finance company. Finance charges will be waived if principal amount is paid in full within 12 months from date of purchase. If not paid in full within 12 months, finance charges will be assessed from the date of purchase. APR as low as 18.0%. Minimum finance charge 50¢. Product and pricing offer ends 12-24-95. NOTICE: Some products in this ad may differ slightly from illustrations. Some quantities are limited and subject to prior sale. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Home speakers only sold in pairs. Any typographic, photographic or production errors in product pricing or offers are subject to correction in pricing and description.



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- 2: SOUTHGATE
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(313) 288-4811
- 3: DEARBORN
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(313) 888-6000
- 4: WESTLAND
38808 W. Warren Rd.
(313) 778-1100
- 5: SOUTHFIELD
28825 Telegraph Rd.
(914) 266-2888
- 6: NOVI
27785 Novi Rd.
(914) 248-4444
- 7: PORTIAC
28 Telegraph Rd.
(914) 882-2212
- 8: TROY
411 W. 14 Mile Rd.
(914) 885-5300
- 9: CENTERLINE
8900 E. 10 Mile Rd.
(914) 798-2888
- 10: STERLING HTS.
13900 Lakeland Dr.
(914) 247-1410
- 11: MT. CLEMENS
34813 Gratiot Ave.
(914) 791-5440
- 12: ANN ARBOR
22001 Washtenaw
(313) 671-1200

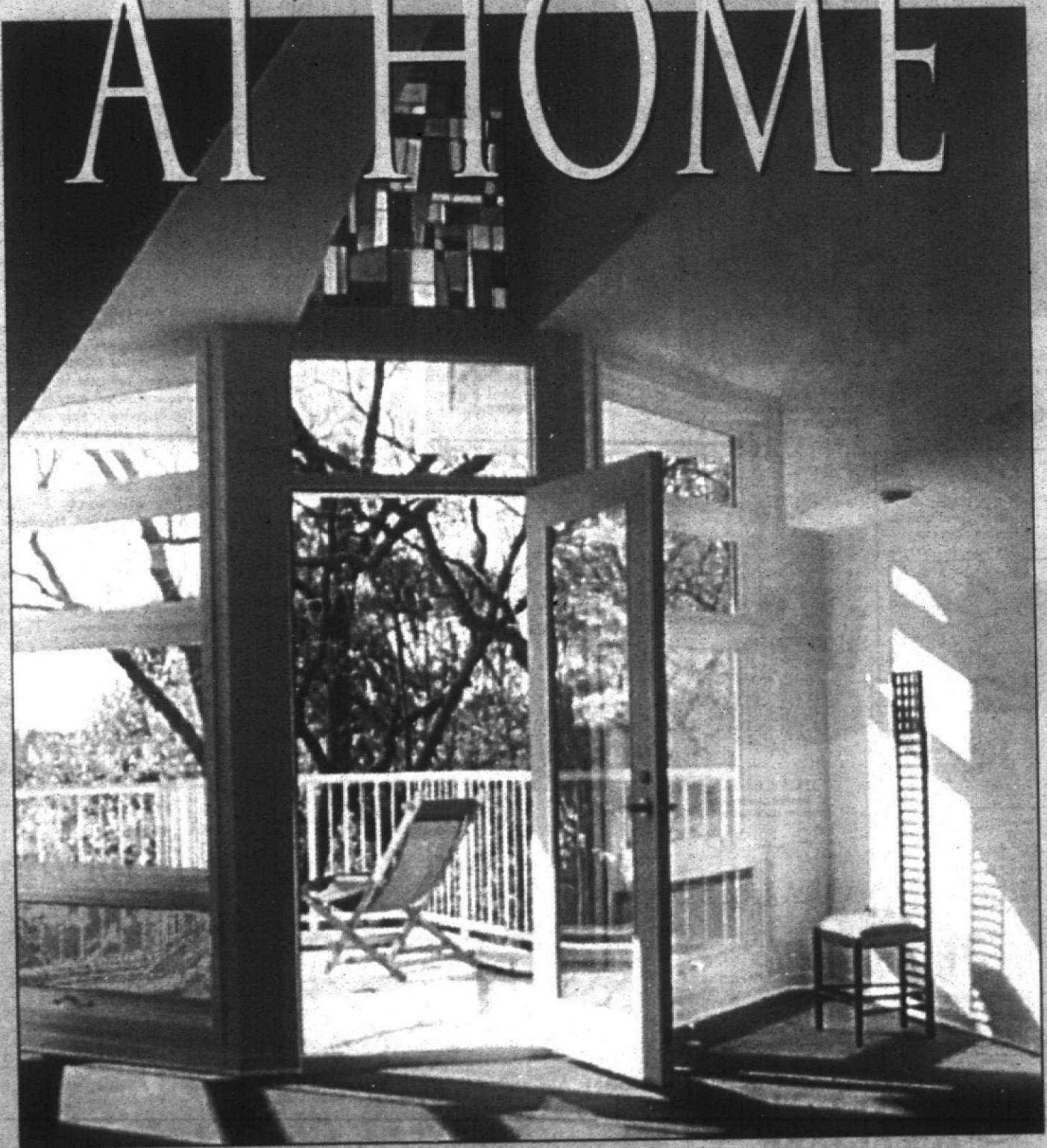
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 • BUILDER SALES
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Fretter
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Make Shopping More Convenient. Apply For a Fretter Credit Card Today!

Observer & Eccentric

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1995

AT HOME



Cover story, page 6

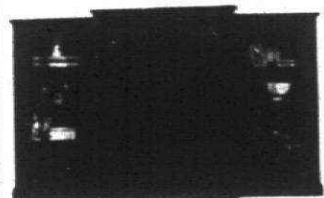
Stu-pane-dous

And...

Appliance Doctor, page 5 • Book Break, page 10 • Garden Spot, page 11 • Focus on Photography, page 9

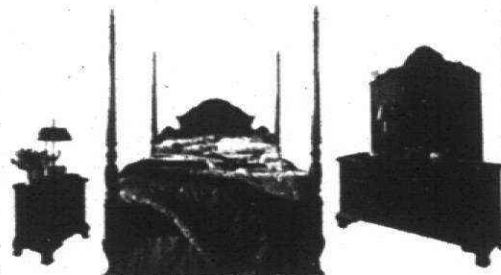
CLASSIC INTERIORS FURNITURE

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Winston Court home theater, crafted in maple with a cherry finish. Also available in oak.

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Fisher Park bedroom, designed from pecan with an English manor finish.

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SOFA
starting from
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CHAIR
starting from
\$579



TERRACE GARDEN DINING ROOM
Terrace Garden dining room, sculpted in warm white oak with unique iron features.

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Thomasville believes in saving the best for last. That's why we've marked down prices on specially selected furniture for every room in your home. So hurry in - The Thomasville Year End Clearance Sale ends January 2nd!

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INTERIOR MOTIVES

Entertaining requires rearranging some rooms



NAOMI STONE LEVY

A group of friends has been invited to your home to celebrate the holidays. Your normal placement of furniture will impede the traffic flow, and the fun; thus a rearrangement of your rooms becomes essential.

A huge punch bowl with cups (these can be rented) and the bar will be central to the convivial atmosphere and must accommodate the guests without crowding. If you or a friend tend the bar it is so helpful to stand behind the bar, with glasses, ice and bottles at hand. A long aluminum folding (draped) table is an excellent choice to hold everything. Wine bottles and glasses can be set out separately; use a small round table with a pleasing cloth to catch the drip, even though you wrap the wine bottles (red and white) in a napkin.

As much as I love a multitude of lighted candles, I urge caution in the placing of same. Atop a mantel is safest.

The new assemblage of the furniture to accomplish all of this is significant. You still want groups of seating, as everyone doesn't appreciate having to stand around for hours. It is also prudent to have a small table very close to set down a glass, or even a cup of coffee. Said table might favor small dishes of nuts and/or candy.

Of course there will be decorative bowls of greens or flowers, perhaps several of these are indicated. At one end of the ever-present coffee table you can

place a festive arrangement, leaving space for a tray of canapes. Naturally there has to be adequate room for guests to gather around for these nibbles. Space is ever the key word.

I generally advise artful free-standing groupings; but for "occasions" it becomes expedient to diversify. Push the very largest furniture against the walls, or even relegate it to the garage. Judicious removal may be very important to the success of this venture. Now an additional assemblage of small chairs!

If your accessories and lamps are going to cause problems, be discerning. Sweep them up and out of the way. They will surely be knocked about when the crowd thickens. A potential disaster that can be avoided lurks in the background.

Most of all everyone wants to have fun, including you. The merrymaking will be commensurate with your preparatory endeavors. The final outcome of the revelry will be a party worthy of all your labors.

Naomi Stone Levy, a Franklin resident, is an interior designer and a former secretary of the American Society of Interior Designers. You can leave her a message by dialing (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1897. Her fax number is (810) 644-1314.

Ford Estate ready for tours

The Henry Ford Estate announces newly acquired historic appointments and artifacts for the 1995 holiday season, themed "The Spirit of Christmas."

"The needlepointed chairs, new Gathering Room layout and the communion set will add greatly to the visitor experience," said Mark Braden, manager of business operations of the Henry Ford Estate on the campus of the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

"Return visitors will appreciate the significant work we have done since they were here last. Christmas is a very special time at Fair Lane, and we hope everyone comes to visit for a tour, a meal or both."

The new acquisitions are:

■ Original handcarved wooden Nativity figures (1837-38). The ox, donkey, shepherd and lamb were bought by Henry and Clara Ford during their trip to Oberammergau, Germany, in the 1930s. They are four of 10 handcarved wooden figures that the Fords bought in

Germany after attending the Passion Play of Oberammergau.

■ Communion set. This traveling communion set consists of a silver engraved footed paten, a silver chalice with knob stem and a glass jar with a silver screw top. Used by a minister in a mountain region to administer last sacraments, Henry Ford bought this set for Clara Ford.

■ Historic furnishings. Recently acquired antique needlepoint highback chairs and loveseat are displayed in the Gathering Room.

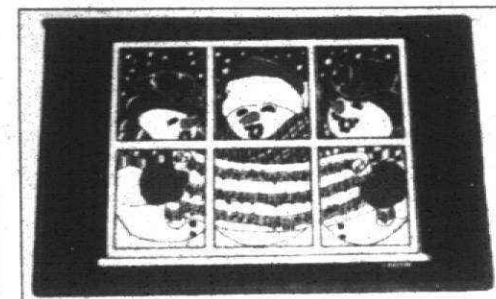
Local area florists joined the festivities by decorating the estate with elaborate floral designs. Many of the items will be available for sale during a silent auction the week after Christmas.

Special programs for all ages are planned at the estate, including candlelight tours Tuesday-Thursday, Dec. 26-28. Call (313) 593-5590 for information.

MARKET PLACE

Take a bow

Foiled again: A quick and easy way to decorate your home during the holidays may be as simple as tying a ribbon. English Gardens' Bow-tique Centers in each store carry a wide assortment of fabric and foil ribbons in various colors, styles and patterns. In addition to creating custom-made bows, English Gardens features ribbon by the yard and bolt.



Welcome sight

Merry mats: Colorful accent mats extend a hearty seasonal greeting to all who come to your door. Made of rugged Olefin, these practical mats are suitable for indoor and outdoor use and clean easily with soap and water. Available at English Gardens.

Gift themes

Holiday ideas: Having trouble figuring out what to get your 6-year-old grandchild, or your uncle who's an avid fisherman, for the holidays? Consider a gift basket. Giving several "themed" items as a gift is a popular way to personalize your selections, says Deb Fritz, Target's home decor consultant. First, stop and think about the person. What are his or her hobbies and personality type? Second, make a list of several smaller items that would fit within your "theme," rather than one large gift.



AT HOME

Mary Klemic, editor
(810) 901-2569

We are looking for your ideas for At Home and for the Market Place roundup of new ideas. Send your comments to Mary Klemic, At Home, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009.

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INVITING IDEAS

If it's New Year's Day — it's brunch



RUTH MOSSOK JOHNSTON

It better be brunch if I'm entertaining on New Year's Day — I don't do mornings well on any given day, let alone the "morning after" — and all of my friends and family know it!! I'm a perpetual late-niter and sometimes an all niter. My internal clock, not my biological one, is set for "high noon." My eyes may be open at 8:30 a.m., but my brain clicks in as the mid-day news hits the airwaves.

Planning ahead is the key to a successful New Years Brunch — that way morning isn't an issue, and of course my holiday decorations are still in full force, leaving just the well-planned menu to contend with.

Brunches are the best, you can do almost any type of food — pure breakfast food, carbs galore, salads, entrees, sophisticated teas sandwiches, even appetizer-type finger foods. Drinks can be freshly squeezed juices, exotic coffees, interesting and flavorful teas, hot chocolate, champagne or a tall glass of mineral water splashed with citrus. I always say: "Brunches are like hemlines in the

'90s anything goes!!" It's all *fare game*.

Different years I do different things — sometimes with a theme, sometimes just favorite foods. For overnight guests, you can do a bed and breakfast-type meal minus the eggs fried in bacon grease or deep fried bread. Start with fresh squeezed orange juice (preferably the ones your in-laws sent from Florida), grits or an Irish oatmeal, home-baked muffins, jams and marmalades, smoked fish, crispy bacon or sausage, fruit compote and a delicious fluffy omelet.

Cheese platters are fun and easy to do — choose some familiar cheeses add some unusual ones or make some easy cheese dips — add some fresh fruit as a garnish. Another garnish that goes well with cheeses are sun-dried tomato cut-outs. To make sun-dried tomato cut outs — buy sun-dried tomatoes packed in oil. Open up the tomato, place the cut side on a cutting board, blot with a paper towel to remove some of the excess oil. If there are any seeds, discard. Using your fingers, spread open the tomato half — press down to get as flat a surface as possible — use tiny aspic cutters, miniature cookie cutters or cut shapes with small scissors to make shapes out of the tomato. Place the tomato shapes on top of the cheeses. Cream cheese or Neufchatel processed with fresh herbs, smoked salmon or interesting spices (curry is an interesting one) makes a nice spread for bread, bagels and rolls. The same idea can be done with butter or margarine — cinnamon butter is delicious on a piping hot bagel!

POTATO CAKES WITH CHEVRE CHEESE AND CHIVE

Yield: 8 potato cakes.
A deliciously different twist on the old potato pancake — a perfect addition with a smoked meat.

- 4 1/2 pounds baking potatoes (russets are fine), peeled and cut into 1-inch dice
- 2 cups shallots, thinly sliced (approximately 12)
- 4 garlic cloves, peeled and sliced
- 2 cups dry bread crumbs (not Italian flavored), processed fine
- 7 ounces Chevre cheese (soft goats milk cheese), room temp.
- 1/2 cup fresh chives, finely chopped salt
- Cayenne pepper
- 1 stick unsalted butter or margarine
- Optional — Laban (heavy strained yogurt) or Sour Cream

Directions:
In a saucepan place the potatoes, shallots, and garlic — cover with enough water to go one inch over the mixture. Place over medium heat and simmer for 15 minutes, or until the potatoes are ten-

der.
Drain the potatoes, shallots, and garlic — return to the pan, steam it over medium heat, shake the pan until all the excess liquid is evaporated (this should only take a minute).

Remove the mixture and force through a ricer or process in a food processor on pulse — add 1 cup of the bread crumbs, the chevre (goat cheese), and the chives. Add salt and cayenne pepper to taste.

Divide the mixture into 8 equal sections — form into 3 1/2 inch cake shapes — coat the finished potato cakes with the remaining cup of bread crumbs — giving them a nice even finish. Heat the butter or margarine in a heavy saucepan over moderately high heat. When the butter foam subsides, gently saute the cakes, four at a time (unless you have a large skillet) — if doing in two batches only use 1/2 the butter or margarine for each group of potato cakes. Saute for approximately 5 minutes on each side — making sure they are nicely brown and crisp — Serve warm.

CHEDDAR CHEESE STRATA WITH BACON

YIELD: 8 SERVINGS

- Bacon (use as much as desired), cooked until crisp
- 1 1/2 pound loaf white bread (homemade or purchased), crust removed
- 2 pounds cheddar cheese, grated
- 10 large eggs beaten
- 4 cups milk (you can use a little half and half if you want it extra rich)
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 1 teaspoon white pepper
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce

Directions:
Preheat the oven to 3500.
Drain the cooked bacon and crumble. Set aside momentarily.
Dice the bread and mix with the cheese. Set aside momentarily. In a large bowl, mix together the eggs, milk and seasonings. Add the bread-cheese mixture — mix well. Let stand at room temperature for 1/2 hour. Add the crisp cooked bacon crumbles. Spray a 9-by-13 inch baking pan with no-stick cooking spray. Pour in the mixture.
Set the 9-by 13-inch baker in a larger pan of hot water. Do not fill with water too high so that it will over flow into your egg mixture. Bake approximately 40-50 minutes or until golden brown and fluffy in appearance.

Adopt-a-pet



Kyra: *Kyra is a 6-month-old female Husky mix dog. She is very friendly and loves adults and children. Kyra is very willing to please and needs someone who can spend some time with her. Kyra and other pets are available at the Michigan Humane Society Rochester Hills shelter, 3600 Auburn Road. Call (810) 852-7420 between noon and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.*

APPLIANCE DOCTOR

Fix your dryer vent line for health's sake



JOE GAGNON

Throughout the years of owning my own business I've had the privilege of having my three sons work with me.

There were times when it was not easy trying to be a boss and a father all at the same time. One would say he's constantly late because he couldn't hear the alarm clock because he's sleeping, the other would say he makes mistakes because he's only human, and the other would practice two words (I'm sorry) 12 times before he left the house. All in all, my three sons turned out pretty well and are making a living working in the appliance repair industry. As tough as I was on them in their training, I was always more critical of myself whenever I made a mistake.

This column you are reading today is an apology to a customer of the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers. Her name is Mrs. Marie Cullen of Birmingham who wrote me a letter on Oct. 1 of this year. She asked me to reply to her letter through the Eccentric newspaper, which I am doing today, almost three months too late. I'm sorry Marie, because I'm only human and I did hear the alarm clock when I saw your envelope in my desk with my own handwriting saying, answer in your next column. Marie's beautifully handwritten letter is being put into this column because it is very important to the good health of many homeowners.

Dear Mr. Gagnon,
I visited a friend in one of those high-rise apartments on Woodward yesterday, and I noticed the vent line was vented right into the room which was in a little hallway across from the kitchen. The vent line was plastic, and the lint filter was like a little open bowl at the end of the vent line, to collect lint. Mr. Gagnon, don't you think this is very unhealthy, I am very worried about this,

See GAGNON, 8D

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COVER STORY

Windows

Technology offers dramatic outlook

BY RENEZ SKOGLUND
SPECIAL WRITER

"With technology, glass can transpose what a house should be," said Art Smith, an award-winning architect who heads his own firm in Southfield.

Judging by one of his designs, a coldly modernistic rectangle in Birmingham known as "The Steel House," Smith has transposed glass technology into art.

The three-story house can best be described as angles geometrically wrapped and punctuated with glass. If gender can be used to describe a house, this one is thoroughly masculine.

Intentionally so. The owner, a steel company executive and bachelor at the time the house was built in 1993, wanted a house that reflected not only his profession but also his love of the martial arts.

"He wanted everything cold and hard," Smith said.

Glass action

Smith complied, even using industrial rubber flooring and industrial plate steel as part of the house's interior design components. The overall stark statement, however, was softened by one element: the imaginative use of colored glass.

Because the house's proportionately small lot was so constrictive to traditional landscaping, Smith interpreted landscaping through colored glass. The house became his palette.

"The greens were used at the low areas like grass, the reds and yellows represented flowers, and the blues, oranges and purples were the

different times of sunset. And the black, which actually was a dark gray, was rooted to the ground."

The result is best appreciated at night, when the house is lit up in a "subtle explosion" of harmonious color. Indeed, when it comes to glass windows, color can be beautiful.

"It all depends on the orientation, what's behind it," Smith said of the choice to use tinted glass in a house's design. "Add some animation to a space through the introduction of color. You can use as little or as much as you want."

Birmingham architect Robert Ziegelman, a principal with Luckenbach, Ziegelman & Partners, said another trend in window design is vertically curving glass used on top of the roof.

"With the technology of glass allowing more direct sunlight coming through and less UV rays, it's becoming more popular than skylights."

Ziegelman said glass technology has lessened a homeowner's concern about faded furnishings.

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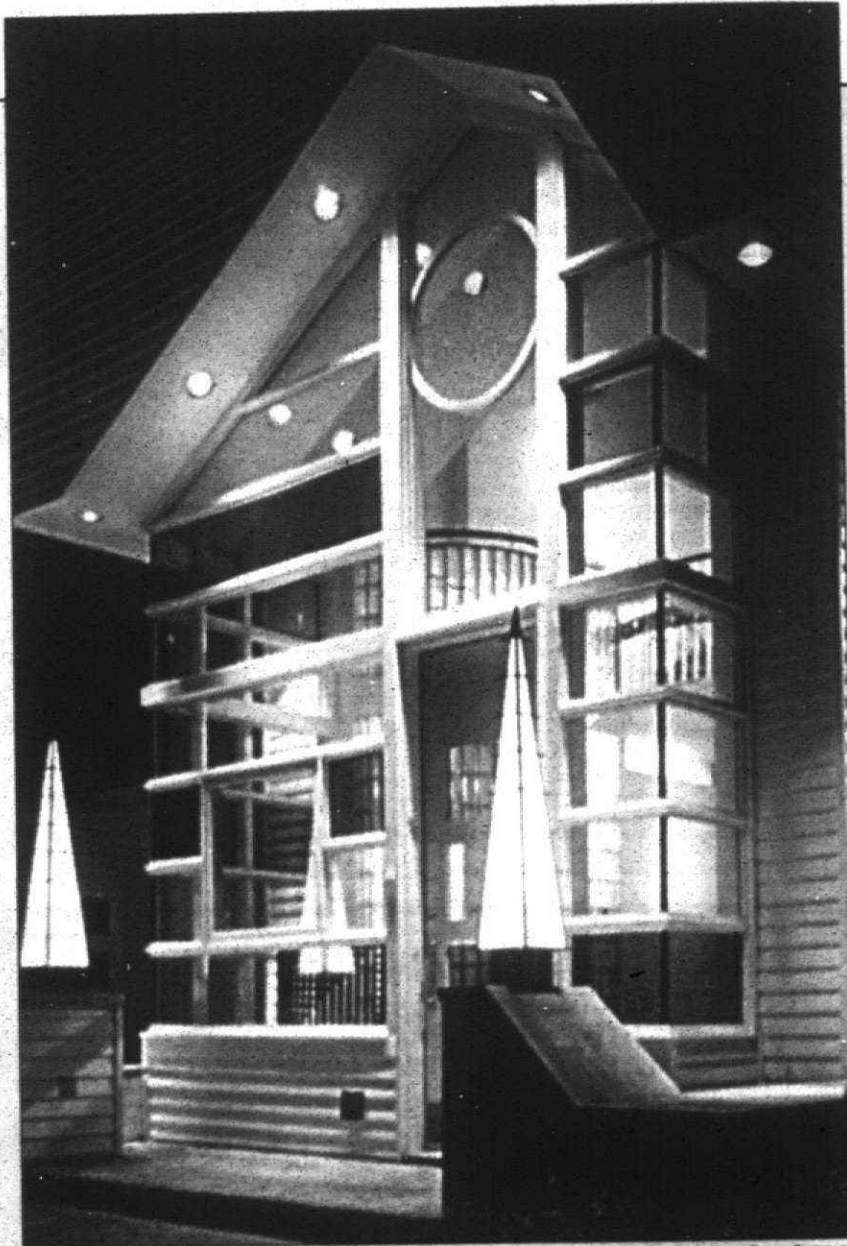
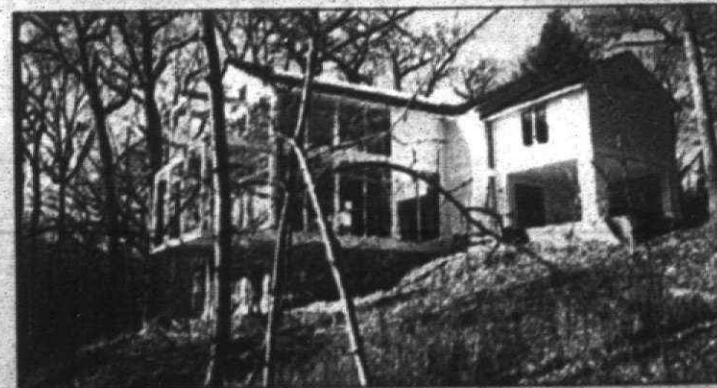


PHOTO BY GARY QUESADA

Stu-pane-dous: "With technology, glass can transpose what a house should be," says architect Art Smith of Southfield. His designs, including "The Steel House" in Birmingham, are examples of this.



By nature: For his own home, which overlooks a large, wooded lot, Birmingham architect Robert Ziegelman is creating rooms with windows on three sides for "peripheral vision." The rooms seem to project into nature.

See WINDOWS, 7D

Windows from page 6D

out 74 percent of the sun's fading rays and reduces heating and cooling bills by 24 percent.

With technology enabling glass to remain clear and still be energy efficient, tinted glass (not the colored glass used as a deliberate design element) isn't as popular as it once was.

"Everyone is striving to have the windows be as clear as possible," Ziegelman said.

One thing, however, has remained constant since the days of the visionary American architect Frank Lloyd Wright: Everyone wants a room with a view.

Point of view

Ziegelman currently is working on two projects designed around magnificent views. One is his own home in Birmingham, which overlooks a large, wooded lot. He is adding on, creating rooms with windows on three sides for "peripheral vision." The rooms seem to project into nature.

"We have 180-degree rooms. It's like being in a big bay window."

His other project is a home in Mountain Star, Colo., that he is designing for a Bloomfield client.

"The home has incredible views of the mountains."

Those views are made possible by

great expanses of energy-saving low-E glass.

Both Smith and Ziegelman said the most dynamic window designs result from the integration of the client's desires, the house site and the architect's expertise. Of course, all this is fueled by a budget.

"I believe we can design any kind of window you want. If you're willing to pay, you can have anything," Ziegelman said.

Budgeting

Distinctive window designs don't necessarily mean a big budget.

Tom Masson, vice president of sales and marketing for Pella Window and Door Co., whose main office is in Bloomfield Hills, said his company often translates an architect's plans into a more affordable reality. Using fixed windows in place of vents is one example of cutting the budget while retaining the design.

"We do a lot of that with bow windows."

All Pella representatives are trained in product technology and window design, Masson said.

Styles

"We use the phrase 'window-scaping.' We work with the customer who

just wants to replace the patio door to somebody who comes in with the design for their home."

Arch-top, transom and trapezoidal windows are popular design features today, Masson said. So are Pella's new "options under glass," blinds or pleated fabric shades encased between two panes of glass. Not only are the blinds and shades (which come in a variety of colors) protected from dust, but "they don't cover up the window's beautiful lines."

Perhaps the most dramatic innovation in window design has been the seamless corner window. The "Pella CornerView" window was named "Product of the Year" at the 1995 National American Home Builders Show in Houston, Texas.

"It's mitered glass. The seam is virtually undetectable," Masson said. "It gives you an unobstructed view that is quite dramatic."

Technology and imagination are combined to widen the horizons of Frank Lloyd Wright's concept of barri-

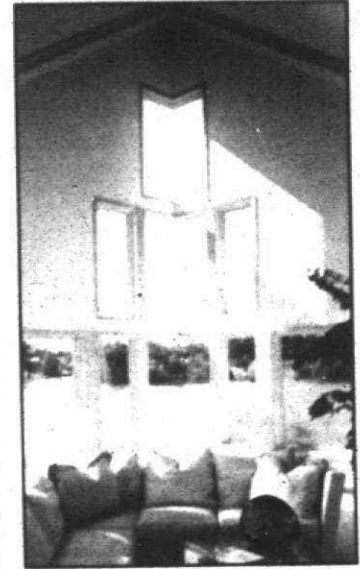


PHOTO COURTESY PELLA CORPORATION

In the corner: Pella's "CornerView" window gives an unobstructed, dramatic view.

er-free views. With nature's cooperation, almost any room can be "a room with a view."

"One way we have marked ourselves as a culture is through our architecture," Smith said.

Window design is very much a dynamic element of today's architecture. It is an art form.

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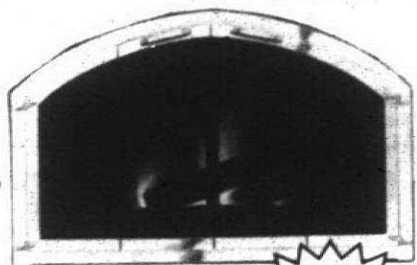
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SALE PRICE \$12,195* GM OPT II Deduct \$640.45

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Enclave converts to luxury

The Enclave next to Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi isn't your typical apartment to condominium conversion.

The units are large — about 2,200 square feet — with an open, flowing, contemporary floor plan.

Amenities include club room, indoor pool with hot tub and sauna and exercise room. There's covered parking under the buildings and single-story parking structures. Lawns, ponds and trees are pleasing to the eye.

"There is nothing like this in the marketplace . . . if you compare to other mid-rise and high-rise units and amenities," said Jeffrey Spoon, president of Farbman Equities of Southfield, the developer/builder for the conversion.

Prices start at \$189,900.

The former Glen Oaks Apartments opened in 1984. Monthly rents have ranged recently from \$1,400 to \$1,750. Occupancy reportedly has been outstanding.

"Novi has changed," Spoon said. "Population is coming out this way. Now, the market is ready for these units to be condos."

Ninety units, thirty each in three buildings, are available at the Enclave. Each building has six units on five floors and units are clustered in twos with their own foyers.

Premiums over base price range from \$2,000 to \$16,000 depending on the view and what floor the unit is located. Eighteen of the 90 units have no premium.

Buyers can upgrade floor coverings, cabinetry and appliances. They can move walls.

"I think we'll see everyone go to a marble foyer, ceramic tile and some upgrades in the kitchen, maybe ceramic in the sunroom to get a different feel," said Ted Guarnero, sales director.

"A lot of residents (tenants) in the past have put in upgraded carpeting and cabinetry from the day they moved in," he said.

"You'll see granite counter tops, marble tops, oak flooring," Spoon added.

The units come with carpeting and all appliances — refrigerator, oven, dishwasher and washer and dryer.

'The market we're selling to is 45 and above. This unit is for someone coming from an existing home whose children have grown up. They don't want the maintenance of a house but want the space of an existing home. The key to the whole thing is when you walk inside these units, they're so spacious, so huge . . . you have the feeling you're not giving up what you came from.'

Jeffrey Spoon
Farbman Equities

Each unit has its own furnace, air conditioning, hot water heater and laundry.

The two basic floor plans — the Legacy and Heritage — are identical except for a different kitchen treatment. The Heritage is slightly smaller.

The great room has a pan ceiling and a sliding door that leads to a sunroom.

The unit also has a dining area, kitchen/eating nook and a study.

There are two bedrooms and two full baths. The master has a walk-in closet and wall closet and a combination tub/shower.

Spoon projects that 15 to 20 percent of current tenants will buy.

"The market we're selling to is 45 and above," he said. "This unit is for someone coming from an existing home whose children have grown up. They don't want the maintenance of a house but want the space of an existing home."

The Enclave is serviced by city water and sewers and the Walled Lake schools.

The property tax is \$31.33 per \$1,000 of state equalized valuation, half of market value. That means the owners of a \$190,000



condo at the Enclave would pay about \$2,975 the first year.

The association fee for insurance and maintenance is \$284 per month.

Donna and Leslie Kutinsky, who have lived in Glen Oaks as tenants for six years, decided to buy at the Enclave.

"Actually, we like the space," Donna said. "We rented because it was the largest space in the area. We like the mid-rise aspect."

"Each unit has its own laundry room and a nice kitchen," Donna added. "It's a very open space. If you came out of a home like us, I could put all my furniture in."

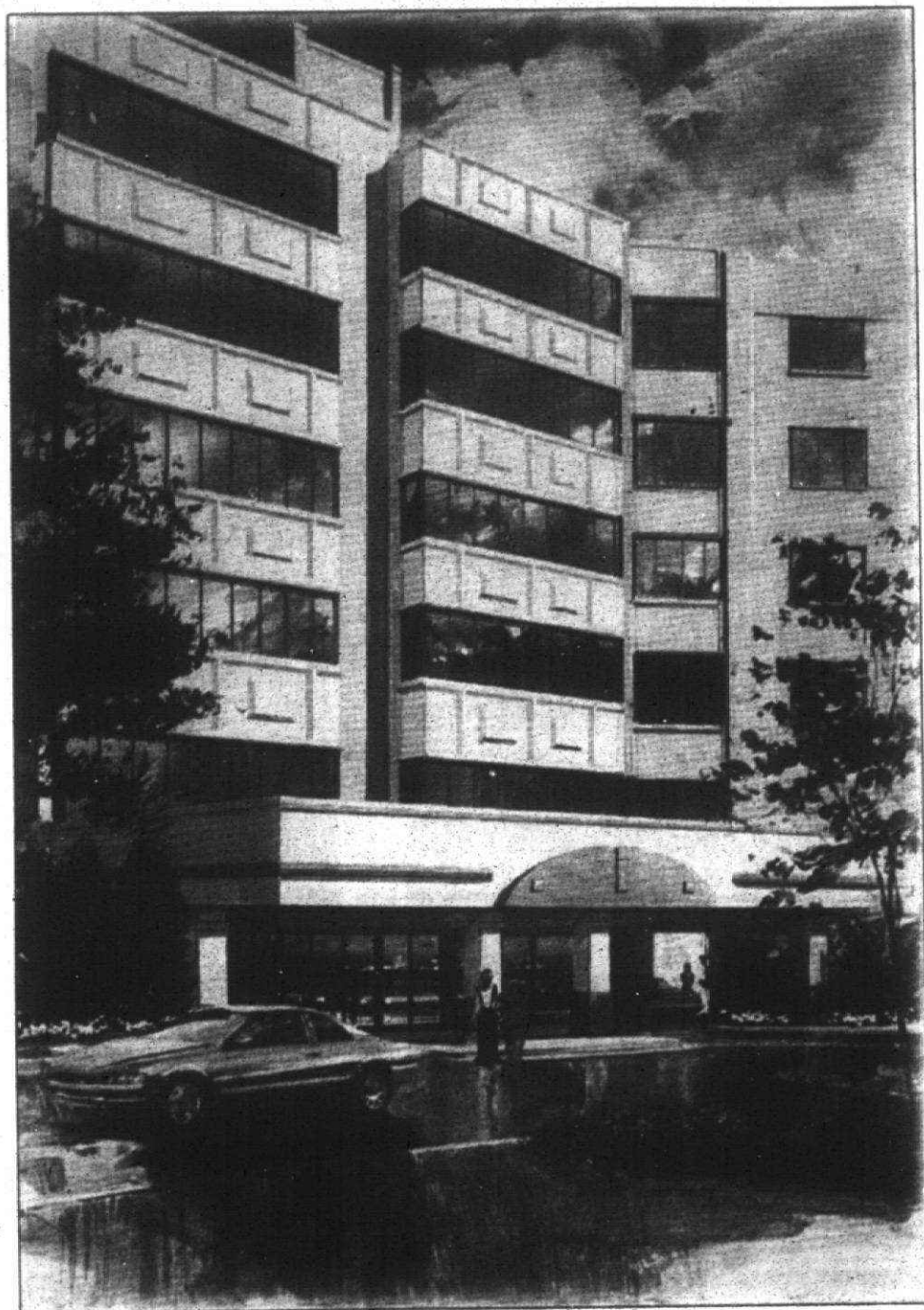
"This place fits a particular lifestyle," she said. "It's not for children. There's no place for them to be."

Tenants George and Diane Tunis also have decided to buy.

"It's luxurious," George said. "I love the lakes, trees. The indoor swimming pool is great. They just built a beautiful deck out there. They're doing a fabulous job reconditioning the place."

"I've had 15 houses," Tunis added. "I find it (Enclave) is better than home living. It's great for semi-retired people. They take care of everything. I just don't want to move now so I decided to buy."

The sales office at the Enclave, (810) 348-8866, is open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



The Enclave: This offers units with 2,200 square feet of living space.

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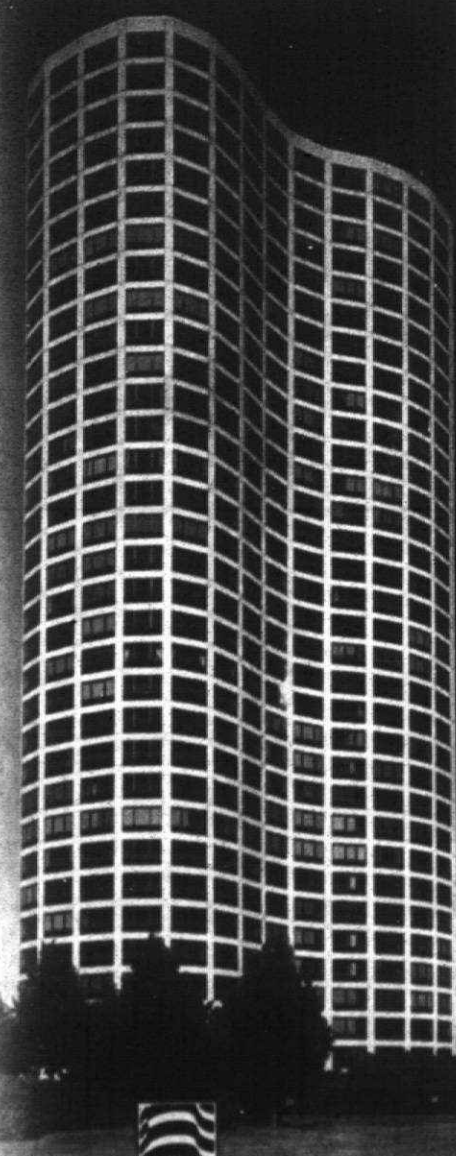
Sales Center is open daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday Noon-5 p.m. and by appointment.

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