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SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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Term limits: U.S. District Judge Patrick Duggan, a Livonia resident, has at least one precedent to follow when he decides the validity of Michigan's state term limits./A11

OPINION

No parking: Officials search for the best use for soon-to-be former fire station site./A12

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A new look: Retail associates, plumbers, auto executives and business and professional women have helped make the First Step Shelter a nicer place for the women and children who need a safe place away from domestic violence./B1

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Name game: Developers used to name residential streets for their children. Now naming streets has become a marketing exercise./F1

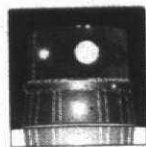
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Police seek hit-and-run driver



A 28-year-old Ypsilanti man was killed on his way to work in Canton late Saturday when an unidentified driver struck the victim's bicycle on Michigan Avenue near Beck Road. Police are seeking the driver of a 1989 Ford Aerostar.

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

A 28-year-old Ypsilanti man was riding his bike to work late Saturday night when a hit-and-run driver struck and killed him on eastbound Michigan Avenue, east of Beck.

Ronald Glenn Cowans was only a mile from the Belleville Road business where he worked the midnight shift as a security guard. He had ridden his bike all the way from the Anderson Russell Apartments in Ypsilanti.

"His car just became disabled and he

used his bike to go back and forth," said his aunt Neatreal Alexander, also of Ypsilanti. "He was determined to get to work. Glenn was one for doing it on his own, even though his grandfather said if he needed a ride to call him."

The Cowans family was devastated by the loss, but more so by the fact that his body wasn't found until 9:30 a.m. Sunday. A Belleville man reported it to police after seeing the twisted bike and Cowans' body in a ditch along eastbound Michigan Avenue near the Can-

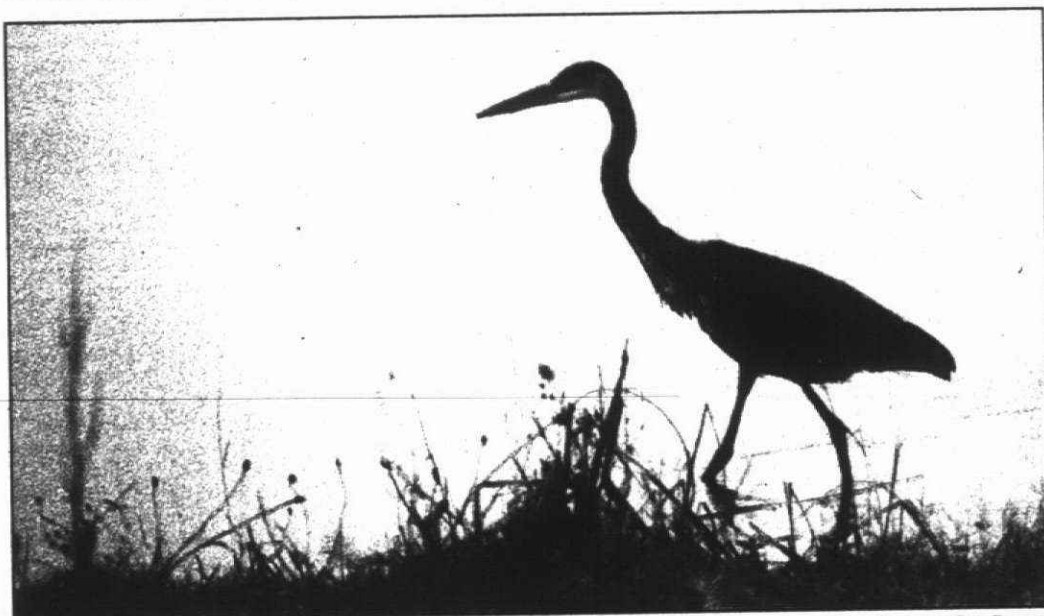
ton Softball Center.

"I just don't understand how someone can hit someone and then leave them to die. It's just devastating," said Alexander.

Cowans, a graduate of Eastern Michigan University, was described as "a happy-go-lucky guy who touched many lives."

Police are looking for a 1989 Ford Aerostar van based on remnants of car parts found at the accident scene. The

Please see FATAL CRASH, A6



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER



Winter break

Moderate temperatures make for fowl weather

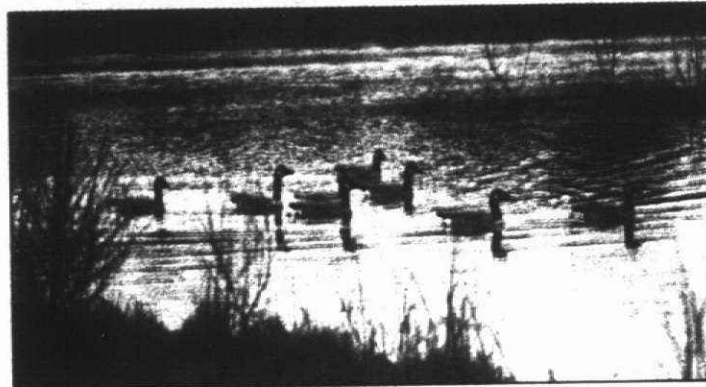
The unseasonable January warm-up was good news this week for area nature lovers and for water fowl that makes the wetland area at Sheldon and Warren Roads its home.

On Monday, a Great Blue Heron and some Canada Geese found the near spring-like temperatures the perfect opportunity for a mid-day outing. The Great Blue Heron (above) stalks

the shallows of the pond before being startled by a newspaper photographer.

The geese, perhaps emboldened by their numbers, show no fear as they cruise the pond's perimeter.

With weekend weather forecasts calling for more typical fare - temperatures falling through the teens and some snow - it's doubtful the wetlands will see this much action anytime soon.



Residents' concerns lead to supermarket denial

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Plans for a strip mall and 54,200-square-foot Farmer Jack at Canton Center and Cherry Hill were foiled - at least temporarily - by a group of residents unnerved with the existing traffic concerns.

Residents have been waiting three years for the \$3 million widening of

Canton Center Road from Ford to Cherry Hill.

The grocery store and separate 8,950-square-foot retail center would be located next to the Amoco gas station fronting Canton Center with a second driveway onto Cherry Hill, behind the Amoco.

"Canton Center has yet to happen. Every time I hear of a start date I lis-

ten in disbelief," said Rose Lahiff of Pheasant Glen Condominiums. "This project should be held in abeyance until the road is completed."

The 50 or so residents from Pheasant Glen and Kingston Estates subdivision made their complaints clear Monday night at the first planning commission meeting of the year.

Commissioners agreed with the resi-

dents' concerns, voting 6-1 to recommend denial of a rezoning that would have been the first step in allowing the project. Commissioner Tom Sullivan was the lone dissenter.

Commissioner Melissa McLaughlin said the roads can't take on any more traffic and the project should be

Please see SUPERMARKET, A6

Henry Ford medical center to get contemporary look

NEW CONSTRUCTION

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Henry Ford Health Systems' new medical offices in Canton and Plymouth will be more contemporary in style than its existing facilities.

The artist rendering presented to the Canton planning commission on Monday depicted a one-story brick and glass building with suspended canopy. The rendering was of the 19,000-square-foot building planned for Plymouth. Canton's office facility will be slightly smaller at 17,070 square feet.

The planning commission unanimously recommended special land use approval Monday for the six-acre industrial site. The new \$3.4 million facility will be built in the I-275 Commerce Park Condominium complex, east of Haggerty and north of Ford Road. The township board will have final approval.

The medical center will offer primary care, internal medicine, pediatrics, and dermatology.

"We own our existing building in

Canton so Henry Ford is looking at other options, such as Home Health Care and Behavioral Services," said Gwen Green administrative manager for Henry Ford-Canton.

The Henry Ford facility on Ford Road, between Sheldon and Lilley, is 5,000 square feet in size and logs 26,000 visits annually. "We outgrew the facility five years ago," said Green. It has been located in Canton for 11 years.

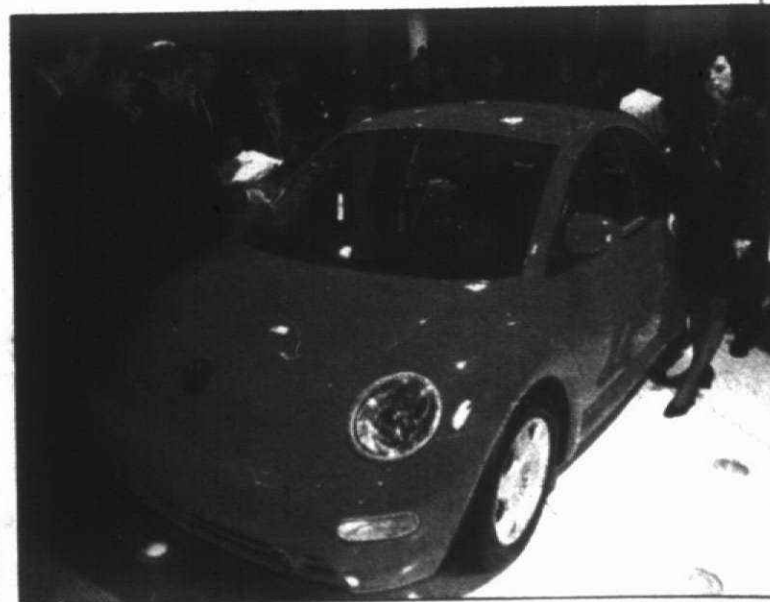
The design of the new medical centers strays from its traditional style in Dearborn, Redford, Westland, Livonia and Ann Arbor, most of which were built more than 10 years ago.

Community Planner Jeff Goulet said the contemporary design will complement American Yazaki's four-story research and development office currently being built on the west side of Haggerty.

"The first phase is 17,000 square feet, but it allows for growth. We can

Please see MEDICAL CENTER, A6

Bugging out again



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Debut: Volkswagen's new 1999 Beetle was a hit with journalists at Monday's press preview of the North American International Auto Show. The new "bug" is expected to cost \$15,200. The show, at Cobo Center in downtown Detroit, opens to the public on Saturday. For more information, see the special auto show section in today's Observer.

Supermarket from page A1

delayed "until we see orange trucks and concrete mixers out there."

Claims from the developer's attorney, Bryan Amann, that "some of the features of the project would actually alleviate traffic concerns" were greeted with laughter from the audience.

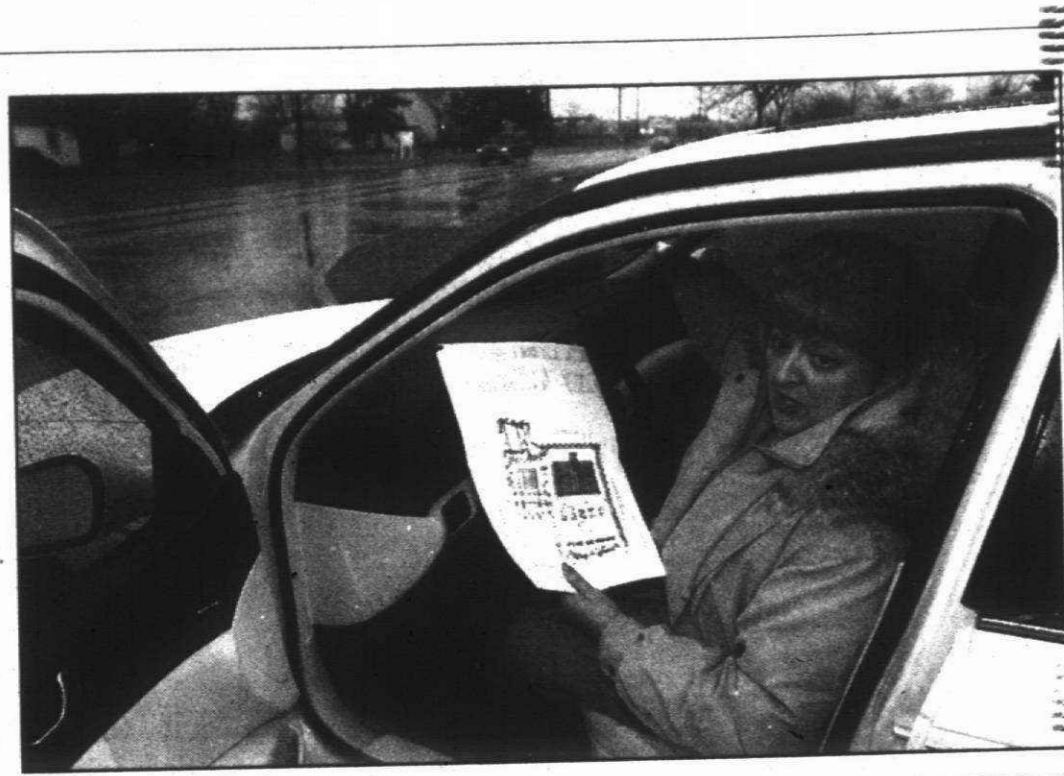
"Some of the features of the project would actually alleviate traffic concerns... People from Glengarry and the golf course community would not go through the intersection at Cherry Hill if they can go to a Farmer Jack south of Cherry Hill."

Bryan Amann - Attorney representing developer

The two-acre parcel would have allowed for a driveway on Cherry Hill, and apparently is needed to meet parking requirements. The property owners can appeal to the township board for approval since the planning commission is only a recommending body.

According to Alan Richardson, deputy director of engineering for the Wayne County Road Department, the project is set to begin this summer since all right of way acquisitions have been made by the county.

To comment via e-mail: newsletter@coonline.com. If your comments are intended for publication, please include your name and telephone number.



Opposes project: Rose Lahiff is concerned about heavy traffic on Cherry Hill. During rush hours it is nearly impossible to make a left turn out of her condominium complex driveway, she says, and a strip mall could add to the congestion.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BECKER

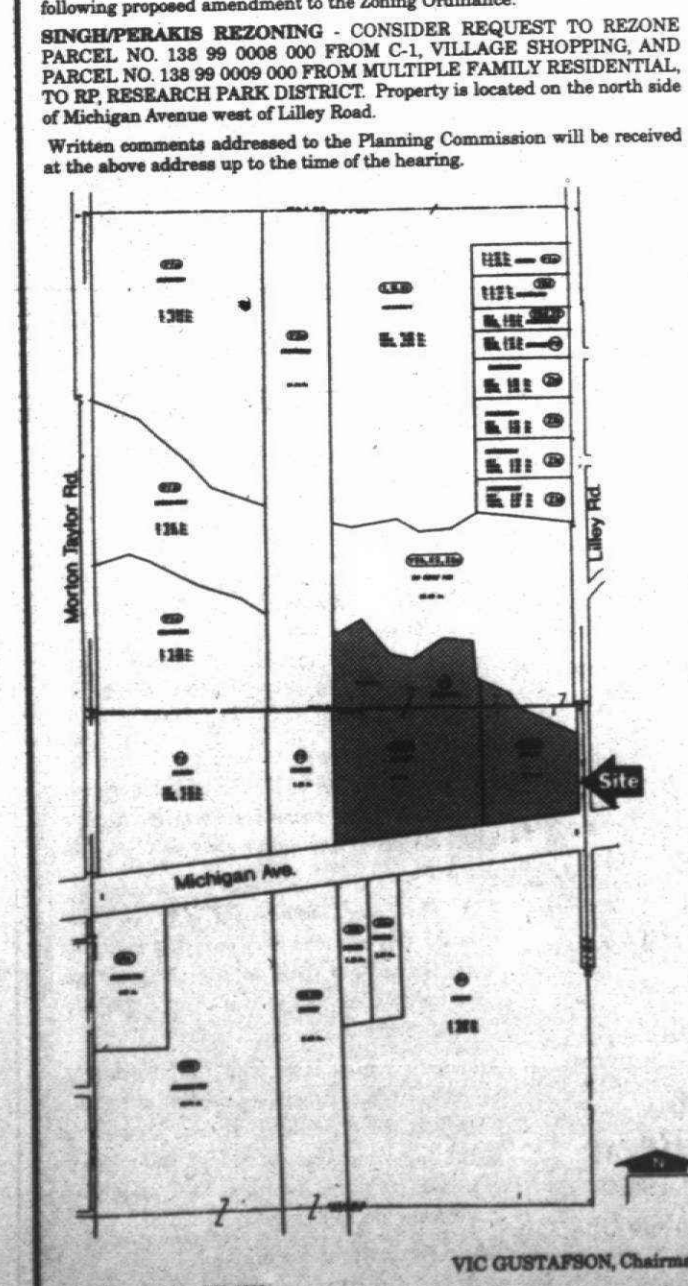
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR USE SUBJECT TO SPECIAL CONDITIONS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission has received a request from Nabiel W. Paris, Applicant, to Approve the Use Subject to Special Conditions for a Day Care Center pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 83.

The Planning Commission seeks input to determine if approval of the Use Subject to Special Conditions should be issued under Section 6.2 of Zoning Ordinance No. 83. The land is currently zoned R-1-E, Single Family Residential District.

CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, February 2, 1998, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.



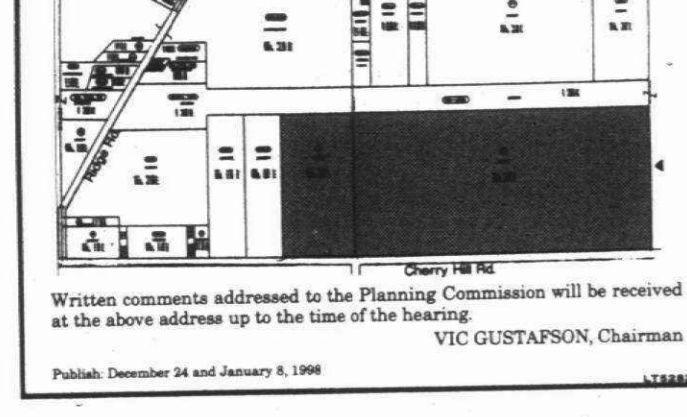
VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

CANTON TOWNSHIP ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton.

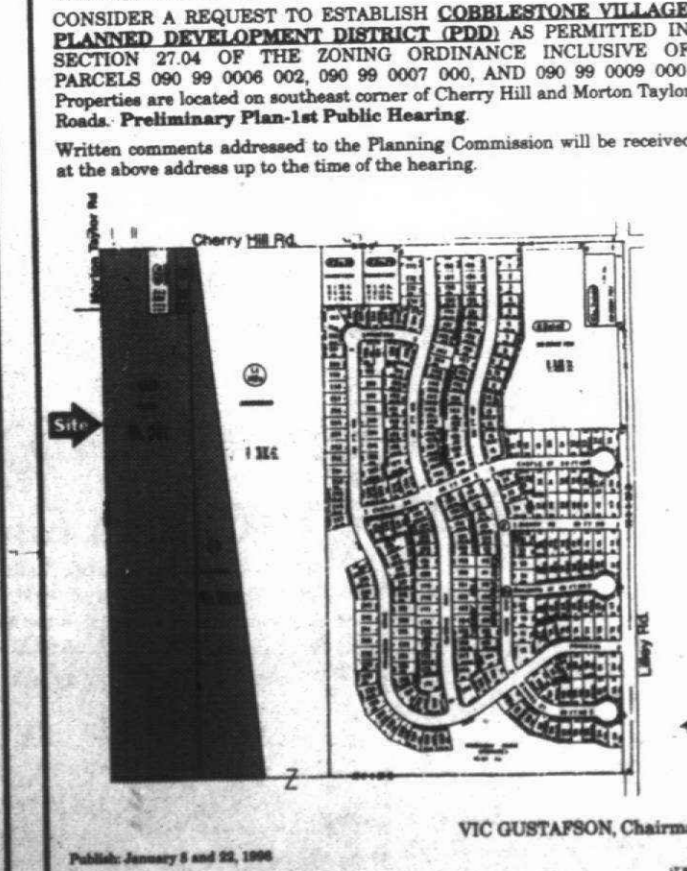
CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 19, 1998, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.



CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, February 2, 1998, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.



VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Medical center from A1

double to the south," said Bert Koseck of Neumann/Smith & Associates. Commissioners agreed to allow the development with 57 fewer parking spaces than Canton ordinance requires. Plans call for 93 parking spots.

Fatal crash from page A1

Aerostar would have damage to the grill area, windshield, passenger side outside mirror and windshield wiper, said Canton police officer Leonard She-manke. It is possible the accident occurred sometime between 10:30-11 p.m. Saturday.

Student exchange seeks hosts

The American Intercultural Student Exchange, a non-profit educational foundation, is seeking local host families for high school foreign exchange students for the 1998-99 school year.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission has received a request from Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Applicant, to Approve the Use Subject to Special Conditions for a Church pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 83.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township Meetings.

1 DAY SALE Saturday January 10 Shop 8am to 9:30pm • One Day Only!



25% Off Twill Pants Misses' • Petites' • Plus Size From Dockers', Lee® and Gloria Vanderbilt®. Reg. \$32-\$42, sale 24.00-31.50

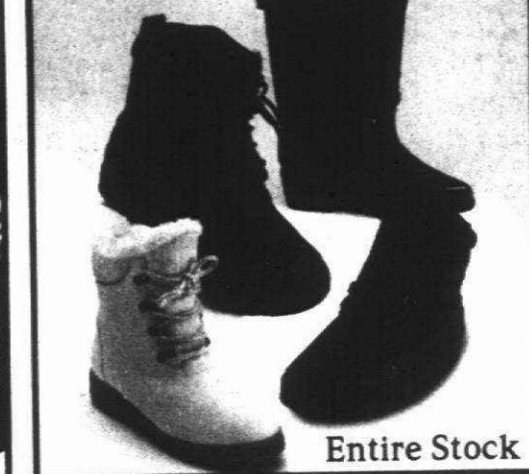
40-50% Off Winter Outerwear for Her Clearance: Styles for misses and plus size. Great looks at outstanding savings. Styles vary. Orig. 69.99-199.99, now \$41-\$119

25-40% Off Women's Cold-Weather Knitwear Styles & colors vary. Reg. 4.99-38.00, sale 2.99-22.80

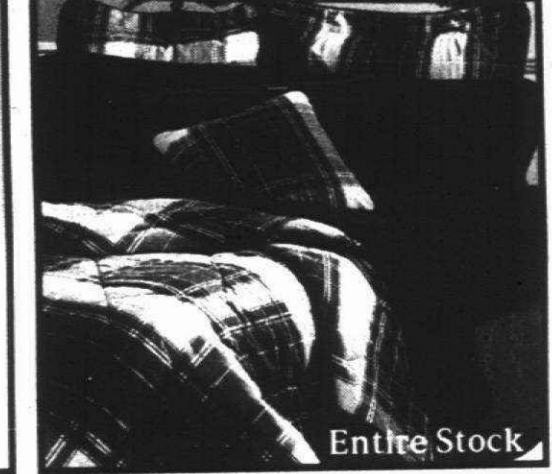
19.99 Men's Levi's® Prewashed Jeans 505*, 517* & 550* Relaxed Fit, Indigo Finish. Men's Lee® jeans, sale 18.99-36.99



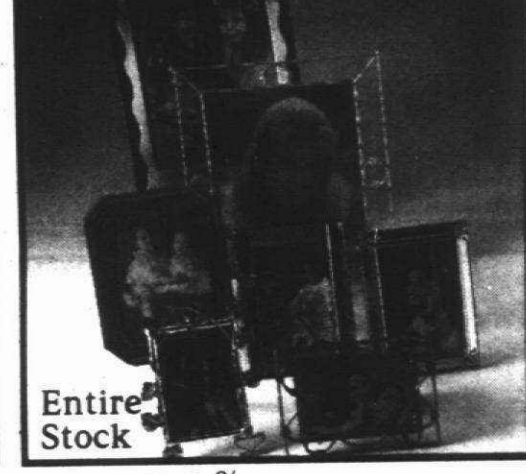
33-50% Off Newborns' • Girls' 4-16 Playwear Selection varies by store. Playwear not intended as sleepwear. Reg. 5.99-51.99, sale 2.99-25.99



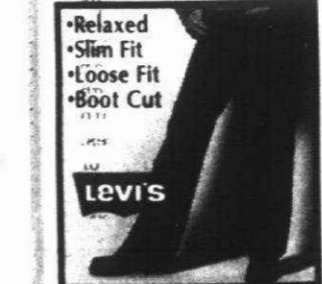
50% Off Cold-Weather Boots Men's • Women's • Kids' Great styles to keep your family's feet warm and dry all winter. Reg. 26.99-89.99, sale 13.49-44.99



25-50% Off Sheets, Comforters & Accessories Choose from a wide selection of prints and solids from Cannon Royal Family®, Springmad® and other popular name brands. 6.99-199.99, sale 3.50-133.99



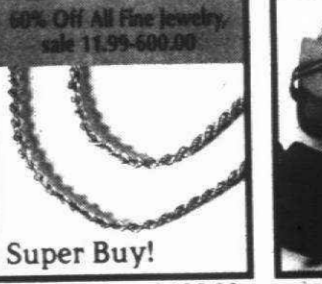
40-50% Off Picture Frames Reg. 79-59.99, sale 47-35.99



28.99 Juniors' Levi's® jeans, Reg. 39.99



33% Off Juniors' Sweaters, knit & woven tops & character & tie-dyed tees, 8.04-23.44



19.99 or 2/29.99 14k gold 7" rope bracelet. 33% off all Time® watches, sale 14.03-43.51



50% Off Leather Handbags, 10.00-34.50



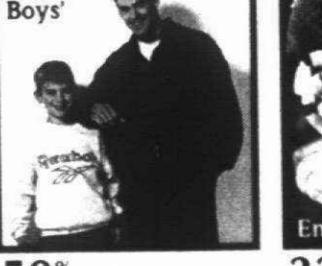
25% Off Dockers' Sportswear, 24.00-37.50



25-50% Off Accessories, basics, knifewear, layette and sleepers, sale .66-44.99



30-50% Off Selected shoes. Athletic dress and casual styles, sale 10.49-59.49



50% Off Selected name-brand & team-licensed apparel. Teams vary. 8.49-64.99

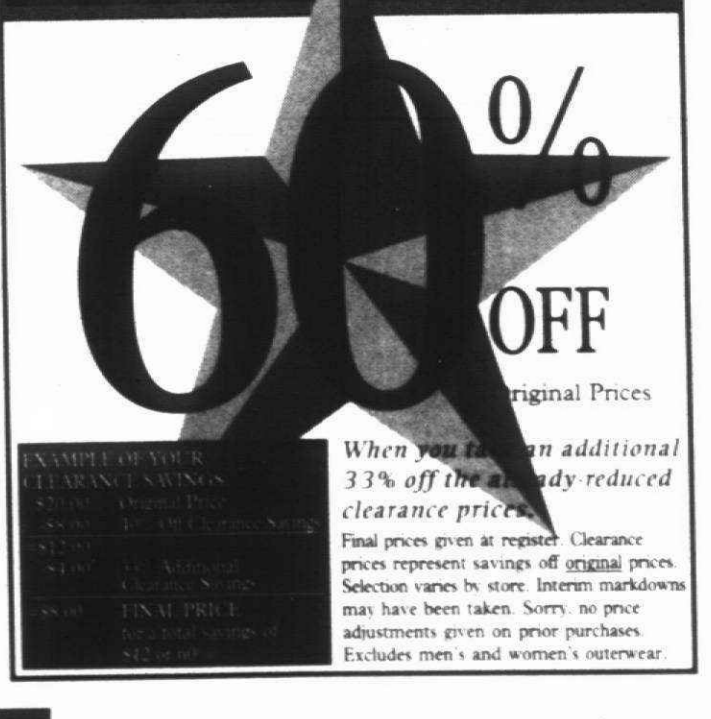


33-50% Off Bath towels, rugs and accessories. Includes fingertip & hand towels, 1.33-46.89



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Building trades council backs McNamara's re-election

Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara's record of supporting the objectives of construction union workers has won him the early endorsement of The Greater Detroit Building Trades Council as he seeks re-election in 1998.

"Ed McNamara has always been a friend of organized labor, and we feel it's important to let our members and the general public know early on that we're supporting him in 1998," said

Mike Diamond, the council's secretary-treasurer.

The Greater Detroit Building Trades Council is an umbrella group representing the interests of 38,000 unionized construction workers and 14 different building trade unions in Southeast Michigan.

Diamond said the \$1.6 billion project that's underway to expand Wayne County's Metro Airport will be part of McNamara's legacy — as will what trade

officials call his enthusiastic support of a union-only labor agreement to make the project a reality.

Thousands of trade union workers who work on the airport will earn collectively bargained wages and benefits, which will in turn put more money back into the economy of southeast Michigan.

McNamara has supported the use of unionized trade workers on other projects that used

Wayne County dollars, including the Juvenile Detention Facility and Wayne County morgue, to name a few.

"Another reason why we're backing Ed McNamara is that we don't see a need to change the course of a ship that's headed in the right direction," Diamond said.

McNamara has served as Wayne County executive since January 1987. As the chief executive officer of Michigan's

largest county, he oversees a \$1.9 billion annual budget and a work force of more than 5,000. With a population of 2.1 million, Wayne County is larger than 17 states.

Trade officials also cite McNamara's performance in office as another reason for the endorsement. When McNamara took office, Wayne County was saddled with a \$135 million deficit, poor services and payless paydays. Since then, the county has

enjoyed nine straight balanced budgets, restored the county's bond rating to investment grade and attracted \$1.2 billion in private sector investments.

"Ed McNamara has a proven record as an excellent administrator," said Greg Hicks, president of the Greater Detroit Building Trades Council. "We're proud to be the first in line to endorse him for another four years."

5 to run for county commission

Five candidates have filed to run for the 9th District seat on the Wayne County Commission to represent Dearborn Heights, Redford Township and part of Livonia.

Candidates needed to declare their candidacy by 4 p.m. Tuesday with the Wayne County elections division. They have a deadline of 4 p.m. Friday to withdraw if they choose not to run.

The field includes Republicans William Bates and Kathleen Husk. Both are from Redford. Democratic candidates, all from Dearborn Heights, are Shaun McLachlan, Edward Plawewski Sr. and Peter Zajac.

All the candidates paid \$100 filing fees, except Zajac, who turned in nominating petitions.

A primary election will be held Feb. 10 in Redford, Dearborn Heights and a portion of Livonia east of Middlebelt to narrow the field of five down to two candidates. The winning Democrat and Republican face each other in a general election on March 10.

The commission seat is currently held by Plawewski, who was appointed by county commissioners Nov. 20, after Michelle Plawewski, his granddaughter, resigned from the commission that day.

Nature center plans family program

Have you ever wondered which animal made those tracks you see in the mud or snow?

The entire family is invited Saturday to Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland to learn how to identify those mysterious animal tracks. The two-hour program begins at 1 p.m.

Participants should dress for the weather with raingear and winter boots as the group will venture outdoors on a short hike to search for tracks along Tonquish Creek. They should also wear old clothes for the painting portion of the program in which they will create a "tracked up" t-shirt to take home. They should bring a light-colored cotton t-shirt for each family member wishing to participate. Paint and "tracks" will be provided.

These activities are most appropriate for children ages 5 and up, but the whole family is welcome.

Fee is \$1 per person. Participants will meet at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, in Westland. Parking is available off of Hines Drive.

For information call the center at (313) 261-1850.

New state license plate debuts at auto show

Michigan Secretary of State Candice Miller is expected to unveil the new Michigan driver license today at the North American International Auto Show at 10 a.m.

Miller will showcase the new features of the driver license and offer a demonstration of how the new license will be produced in branch offices.

The new license is being produced under contract by the Polaroid Corp. and a Polaroid representative will attend the unveiling.

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Remote Keyless Entry System • Overhead console • High-series floor console
• 6-way power driver's seat

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Capitalized Cost	28,037
Down Payment	1,575
Refundable Security Deposit	1,375
First Month's Payment	1,350
Cash Due At Signing	12,309
\$15/mile over 24,000 miles (excess mileage charge)	



Hurry! Offer ends January 9th!



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DETROIT
Bob Maxey

16901 Mack Ave.
Dearborn, MI 48124
(313) 885-4000

DETROIT
Park Motor

18100 Woodward Ave.
Dearborn, MI 48124
(313) 869-5000

FARMINGTON
Bob Dusseau

31625 Grand River Ave.
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 474-3170

GARDEN CITY
Stu Evans

32000 Ford Rd.
Garden City, MI 48135
(313) 425-4300

NOVI
Varsity

49251 Grand River
Novi, MI 48165
1-800-850-NOVI (6664)

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Plymouth, MI 48178
1-800-550-MERC

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Crisman

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ROSEVILLE
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Diamond

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Star

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Southfield, MI 48034
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SOUTHGATE
Stu Evans

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Southgate, MI 48088
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STERLING HEIGHTS
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TROY
Bob Borst

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WATERFORD
Mel Farr

475 Highland Rd., M 59
Waterford, MI 48098
(248) 681-9500

YPSILANTI
Sesli

950 East Michigan
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(313) 482-7133

Appeals court backs Kmart in age discrimination lawsuit

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Eleven former Kmart advertising employees lost their age discrimination case against Kmart Corp. in the state Court of Appeals.

But they did win an undisclosed settlement from Meridian Retail Inc., the company to which Kmart farmed out its advertising work in 1993.

"We conclude that plaintiffs failed to establish that age was a determining factor in Kmart's

decision to outsource the CAD (creative advertising department) to Meridian," the appeals court said.

It added the plaintiffs "also failed to establish a conspiracy between Kmart and Meridian to discriminate against them on the basis of age."

"Plaintiffs failed to rebut Kmart's articulate legitimate reasons for outsourcing the CAD department. We therefore conclude that plaintiff's age discrimination claim against Kmart was property dismissed" by Oakland

Circuit Judge Steven N. Andrews.

The 3-0 appellate decision was signed by Judges Jane E. Markey of Saginaw, Kathleen Jansen of Macomb County and Helene N. White of Detroit.

Robert Sosin, the Franklin attorney who represented the ex-employees, said the settlement with Meridian was "satisfactory under the circumstances," but that the employees weren't "made whole."

His clients included Martha Crofcheck, Joan Pace, Dino

Linaras, James Bierbusse, Frank Stachurski, Bonnie Meier, Nancy Reynolds, David Pierce, Kevin Kerin, Mircea Muntean and Patrice Chapman.

Kmart, at its world headquarters in Troy, decided in December of 1993 to eliminate the CAD and outsource the work to Meridian. Kmart eliminated 73 of the 83 jobs, including the plaintiffs.

The appeal charged that: ■ Kmart "organized Meridian exclusively for the purpose of Meridian doing business for and

with Kmart, and that Meridian was the mere alter ego of Kmart."

■ "None of the plaintiffs were offered comparable jobs with Meridian" despite their experience and qualifications.

■ Meridian agree to "use its best efforts" to hire as many CAD employees as possible. Meridian interviewed 69, offered jobs to 80 of those under age 45 and to 35.7 percent who were 45 or older.

Six of the 11 plaintiffs said Kmart's agents "created implied

contracts of employment, and that Kmart's policy statements and employment application created legitimate expectations that plaintiffs could be terminated only for cause."

But the appeals court said Kmart's statements "were either not clear and unequivocal or did not demonstrate a clear intention to create a contract to terminate only for cause."

Sosin said his clients had made no decision on whether to appeal to the state Supreme Court.

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A8*(A10-PC)

Read Observer Sports

Plymouth couple funds college scholarship

As a young man, Robert K. Barbour knew he wanted a college scholarship.

Both my husband and I value education and it is my wish, as was always Bob's, that through this scholarship fund, students will be able to overcome any obstacles they might have in obtaining a college degree."



Endowed: The late Robert K. Barbour and his wife, Betty, established an endowed scholarship at Madonna University.

Franciene, president. "We are grateful for their generosity, and will move on to the 21st Century knowing that it is because of such caring benefactors that"

Royal Caribbean International Cruise Specials. Includes Bahamas Cruise, Southern Caribbean, and Alaska cruise packages with prices.

LOWEST PRICES IN THE DETROIT AREA. WE WILL BEAT ANY PRICE! Includes advertisement for Life Uniforms.

State shifts programs for blind to local schools

Michigan's efforts to aid the blind - also known as "visually impaired," or VI to educators - are shifting from a residential school in Lansing to local schools.

Because programs are so varied, Brown was unable to give numbers of children served. "We need to see the numbers in order to see the program in its entirety," he said.

Ala., designed for VI children. Sport camp - elementary students are on campus for four days for a variety of athletic events; in collaboration with Western Michigan University.

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Federal court sets precedent on constitutionality of term limits

U.S. District Judge Patrick Duggan has at least one precedent to follow when he decides the validity of Michigan's state term limits.

Both contain lifetime bans on further service in the Legislature. Duggan, a federal judge for 11 years and Livonia resident, on Oct. 29 denied the plaintiffs' request for a preliminary injunction to block term limits until the court case is finally settled.

Bates said he will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. He contends voters didn't understand that California Proposition 140 of 1990 contained lifetime bans.

The case has political overtones. Term limits generally have been favored by conservatives. They contend a turnover in office is necessary to keep a fresh, citizen-oriented outlook among lawmakers.

Cases similar California's and Michigan's term limit rules rank Nos. 1 and 2, respectively, in harshness, says Bill Ballenger, proprietor of Inside Michigan Politics newsletter. The differences:

California allows an eligible to serve three Assembly terms of two years (total six years) or two Senate terms of four years each. Michigan's rule is three House terms and two Senate

have been submitted to Duggan by Dec. 29. Court clerk Marilyn Oren said it's up to Duggan to decide if there will be oral arguments.

Arguing for the state is assistant attorney general Gary Gordon. The case has political overtones. Term limits generally have been favored by conservatives.

Who's affected So term limits will affect 29 Democrats and 36 Republicans in the state House.

Unaffected: Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, who is in his second term after serving from 1983-91; Eileen deHart, D-Westland, second term; Tom Kelly, D-Wayne, second term; Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, first term.

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Rivers to host meetings for 13th District residents. U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D-13th District, invites residents of that Congressional district to join her for a cup of coffee and conversation in Inkster and Wayne.

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WOODWARD HUNTER SIGN AUCTION WINNING BIDDERS. List of 43 items including Richard and Diana Aginian, Birmingham, and others.

For information on registration, certification and compliance regulations call or write: Ronald G. Miller, deputy director Wayne County Human Relations Division 600 Randolph, 5th floor • Detroit, MI 48226 • 313-224-5021

Plymouth Ice Spectacular temperature highlights

Date	Temperature
Feb. 12, 1983	30 degrees
Jan. 12-15, 1984	40 degrees
Jan. 15-25, 1985	43 degrees
Jan. 10-20, 1986	32 degrees
Jan. 13-18, 1993	29 degrees
Jan. 12-17, 1994	5 degrees
Jan. 11-15, 1995	69 degrees
Jan. 10-15, 1996	33 degrees
Jan. 15-20, 1997	9 degrees

What's the Temperature CONTEST

It's anybody's guess what the temperature will be during the 16th Annual Plymouth Ice Sculpture Spectacular Jan. 14-19 in downtown Plymouth. We want your guess at what the temperature will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14 - during the heart of the ice festival. Mike Watts, executive director of the Plymouth Ice Sculpture Spectacular, and an undisclosed celebrity will determine the temperature in Kellogg Park at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14. Please fill out the accompanying coupon and mail to the Plymouth Observer.

Four winners will be drawn from a box containing all coupons with the correct temperature.

The first coupon pulled will be the grand prize winner and walk away with Water's Gators and dinner at Olmsted in the Conference Sports Arena.

Station 885, Vasebe and John Cleveland's Water Club Grill have contributed gift certificates for the remaining three winners.

The contest is sponsored by the Plymouth Observer and the Plymouth Ice Sculpture Spectacular.

Name: _____ Age: _____
 Address: _____
 The temperature at 1 p.m. Sat., Jan. 17 in Kellogg Park will be: _____

Mail to: Plymouth Observer, 794 S. Main, Plymouth MI 48170
 Deadline: Thurs., Jan. 15, 1998 at 5:30 p.m.

ORVILLE MELVIN BRITZ

Services for Orville Melvin Britz, 73, of Romulus were held on Jan. 5 at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Westland, with the Rev. Keith Schreiner officiating. Local arrangements were made by the Uht Funeral Home. Burial was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

Mr. Britz was born on Jan. 18, 1924, and died Jan. 2 in Garden City Hospital. He was a groundskeeper at University of Michigan-Dearborn. Mr. Britz also worked as a die setter for the Spring Co. in Plymouth for 10 years.

His survivors include his wife, Flora M. Britz of Romulus; one daughter, Priscilla Bolt; three sons, Kenneth Sirdan Sr., Thomas Britz, David Britz; one sister, Virginia Giese; 10 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Westland.

ROBERT J. ANTHONY

Services for Robert J. Anthony, 88, of Northville were held on Jan. 6 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, with the Rev. Jack Dunn officiating. Burial was at Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia.

Mr. Anthony was born on May, 4, 1909, in Petersburg, Va., and died on Jan. 3 in Livonia. He retired in 1969 from the Ford Rouge Plant where he was a machine operator for 44 years. He came to the Plymouth community in the 1930s. He was a member of the Riverside Park Church of God. Mr. Anthony also loved to travel.

Mr. Anthony was preceded in death by his two sons, Robert Anthony and Raymond Anthony.

He is survived by his wife, Alberta of Northville; two stepdaughters, Bertha (William) Whitely of Plymouth, Stella (Donald) Beaver of Livonia; one stepson, William (Carol) Brown of Plymouth; two grandsons, Timothy Anthony of Galesburg, Mark Anthony of North Carolina; one great-grandson; five step great-grandchildren; three step granddaughters, Kim Baker of Westland, Laurie Kowalski of Canton, Pamela Sudz of Plymouth; and one step great-grandson, Clyde Beaver of Livonia.

Memorials may be made to Riverside Park Church of God.

IRENE H. TURK

Services for Irene H. Turk, 82, of Plymouth were held on Jan. 7

at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, with the Rev. Stanley Tokarski officiating. Burial was at Detroit Memorial Park in Redford Township.

Mrs. Turk was born on May, 8, 1915, in Detroit, and died on Jan. 4 in Plymouth Township. She was a clerical worker at Unitax Service in Plymouth. She came to the Plymouth community in 1955 from Wyandotte. She was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth. She was a member of the Plymouth Elks and the Vivians Auxiliary of the Elks. She was a member of the National Farm and Garden Club of Plymouth. She loved doing crafts and artwork. She also enjoyed gardening, cooking, and being with her grandchildren.

Her survivors include her husband, Stephan "Steve" of Plymouth; one son, Stephan (Lynn) of Milford; one daughter, Deborah (James) Brennan of Northville; and five grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Washtenaw.

JUNE M. HAMMOND

Services for June M. Ham-

mond, 72, of Plymouth were held on Jan. 6 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, with the Rev. Andrew J. Forish officiating.

Mrs. Hammond was born on June 28, 1925, in Superior, Wyo., and died on Jan. 4 in Plymouth. She was a homemaker most of her life. In the 1960s, she worked as a nurse at Garden City Hospital. She came to the Plymouth community 28 years ago. She was a member of the Hampton, Ill., Historical Society. She also loved genealogy.

Mrs. Hammond was preceded in death by her husbands, Dr. Walter Hammond and David Nairn; her two daughters, Judy Nairn and Sue Fields.

She is survived by her two daughters, Sandra Nairn of Windsor, Ontario, Jill Kelly of Lafayette, Calif.; three grandchildren, Lisa Gibb of Harrow, Ontario, Carson Fields of Eugene, Ore., Elliott Fields of Eugene, Ore.; two great-grandchildren, Allison Gibb of Harrow, Ontario, and Joshua Gibb of Harrow, Ontario.

Memorials may be made to the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

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WESTERN TOWNSHIPS UTILITIES AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS

4:00 P.M., MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1997

Regular meeting called to order at 4:18 p.m.
 Present: Thomas Yack, Kathleen Keen-McCarthy
 Agenda - adopted as amended.
 Minutes - regular meeting of November 24, 1997 - approved.
 Schedule of operating expenses totaling \$611,615.40 - approved.
 Operations and Maintenance Monthly report - received and filed.
 Operations Managers Report - received and filed.
 Budget Amendment - Short Term/Long Term Disability (FY 97/98) - approved.
 Amendment to Resolution #97-11-3; Voiding of Requisitions #213, 214 & 215 - approved.
 Budget Amendment - Capitalized Assets; New Construction Line Items (FY 97/98) - approved.
 Agreement; Plante & Moran Investment Advisors - Postponed until next regular meeting.
 Holiday Schedule - approved.
 The regular meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Chairman, Thomas J. Yack

This is a synopsis. A complete copy of the minutes may be reviewed at the WTUA offices located at 40905 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187.
 Publish: January 8, 1998

PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

7:00 P.M.
 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1998

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall to consider the following:

SITE PLAN REVIEW - USED CAR SALES OFFICE ADDITION
 684 W. ANN ARBOR ROAD
 ZONED: B-3, GENERAL BUSINESS
 APPLICANT: DICK SCOTT DODGE

SITE PLAN REVIEW - DENTAL OFFICE ADDITION
 690 S. MAIN STREET
 ZONED: B-3, GENERAL BUSINESS
 APPLICANT: GEORGE ATSAIIS

SITE PLAN REVIEW - CHANGE OF USE - OFFICE
 125 S. HARVEY
 ZONED: B-2, CENTRAL BUSINESS
 APPLICANT: CRAIG DONOVAN BUILDER

PUBLIC HEARING FOR:
SITE PLAN REVIEW - SPECIAL USE
 112 N. HARVEY
 ZONED: RM-1, MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL
 APPLICANT: FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In accordance with the Americans with disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:
 Carol Stone, ADA Coordinator
 201 S. Main Street
 Plymouth, MI 48170
 (734) 451-1234, Ext. 206

All interested persons are invited to attend.
 Publish: January 6, 1998

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COMMON SENSORS



JACQUE MARTIN DOWNS

Resolutions teach us art of self-control

Let's face it. Some New Year's resolutions that we resolve to do are painful.

From our initial conscious thought that says "I need to change this," which occurs after another troubling consequence, to the end result when we give up on it and conclude, "I just cannot do this for another second," for most people the discipline and patience it takes to hold to a difficult resolution is too much.

The value of some New Year's resolutions is that they train us in the art of self-control. They also help children realize that certain habits can take on a life of their own and we may need to rein them back in.

Talking about and developing one resolution per person in your family is an opportunity for everyone to sit together and talk about areas of their life they could improve upon. Further, if a person feels that they have nothing to look at, it's a good time to enlist the help of another person to help them see a deficiency that needs correcting.

Dad may talk about junior's lack of responsibility in keeping the bedroom picked up and junior may bring up the fact that mom is always in a bad mood when junior comes home from school. Mom may bring up how dad

Please see **SENSORS**, B7

Volunteers help spruce up shelter

■ Retail associates, plumbers, auto executives and business and professional women have helped make the First Step Shelter a nicer place for the women and children who need a safe place to away from domestic violence.

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Greatly appreciated is an expression Virginia Williams uses often in talking about the donations and volunteer efforts.

As the facilities coordinator for the First Step Shelter, she knows how important such things are to the non-profit.

The shelter, a former nursing home, provides temporary housing for up to 38-42 women and children who because of domestic violence are forced to leave their homes for a safer environment.

"These are things that as an agency we can't afford to do, but make a very big difference for the women here," said Williams.

Her thank you list for 1997 includes executives from the Ford Motor Company who spent a day painting and fixing up the shelter and some 100 Hudson's, Target and Mervyn's employees who as part of Dayton-Hudson's "Weekend of Giving" did more painting and landscaping.

The Western Wayne County Plumbers Association also donated more than \$10,000 worth of sinks, faucets, showers and toilets and handled the installation.

"It was greatly appreciated," Williams said. "This is an old building with old plumbing, so it was greatly needed and greatly appreciated."

And thanks to volunteers and donations, the women and children at the shelter had a Merry Christmas.

The Holiday Inn in Southgate donated money and all of the food for their Christmas dinner, which was prepared by members of the Jewish Federation of Women.



Before and after: With yellow enamel paint and the carpet gone, volunteers Denise Allen (front, row, from left), Courtney Wilmering, Manhoush St. Clair, Roya St. Clair, Karen Wilmering, Brad Turowski (second row, from left) Jarret Rogin, Veronica Bilicki, Sherri Rogin, Lana Hollway, Ryan Wilmering (back row, from left), Richard Wilmering, Bob St. Clair, Mark Bilicki and Barbara Lewellyn struck a pose before the rest of dresses and crib were moved into the finished room.

With the help of donations, staffers set up a Christmas store so mothers could "shop" for what they wanted for their children and children could shop for their mothers. The staff also shopped for the mothers, so "everyone got something," Williams said.

"Just to see their faces makes it so fulfilling," she added. "Many times they break into tears because they don't expect anything."

12-hour transformation

Also on the list is the Suburban West

Business and Professional Women's Club. Members scraped, scrubbed, they even slid across the floor on their behinds. They ripped up carpet tiles and put down new vinyl flooring. They

Please see **REMODELING**, B2

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Sale is not in addition to any other sale and does not include previously marked down merchandise. Normal exclusions apply. Please ask a salesperson for details.

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(On corner of Five Mile and Merriman)
Novi, Novi Town Center • (248) 349-8090
Rochester, Meadowbrook Village Mall
(248) 375-0823

Sterling Heights, Eastlake Commons • (810) 247-8111
(On corner of Hall Rd. and Hayes Rd.)
Troy, Oakland Mall • (248) 589-1433
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RELIGION CALENDAR

Lists for the Religion Calendar should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue.

NEW OFFICERS St. Paul's Presbyterian Church of Livonia has installed and ordained several members into the offices of elder and deacon.

The new deacons are Cathie Cheslak, a travel consultant at Randolph Travel, Sharon Dean, school teacher at the Crestwood School District.

NEW BEGINNINGS New Beginnings, a grief support group held year-round at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church.

PARENTING TODAY Having trouble communicating with your kids? Find out how to really talk to your children by attending the Active Parenting Today classes offered at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church.



In concert: Darla McFadden, a Christian music artist from Indianapolis, Ind., will perform at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 11, at Riverside Park Church of God.

church is at 30900 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia.

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES Membership classes for those wishing to join St. Matthew's United Methodist Church will begin at 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11.

MIRACLES COURSE Miracles of Livonia continues its "A Course in Miracles" 1-3 p.m. Mondays throughout January and February at the church.

TEAMKID, a unique club which blends activity with interactive learning, discipleship and Bible memory.

AGLOW INTERNATIONAL The Farmington Chapter of Aglow International will host an evening of praise with Gloria Wyatt and Vi Rawlings at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 12.

(800) 844-5208 about other sessions in the area. There are more than 180 groups meeting in churches in the Detroit area.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE Men Who Make a Difference, a small group of Christian men dedicated to the biblical principles of building a "Godly Man."

TAI CHI CLASSES The Taoist Tai Chi Society of Michigan is offering beginning and continuing Tai Chi classes at 7:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Newburg United Methodist Church.

ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER The Parent Teacher League of St. Paul's Lutheran School is hosting an educational program offered by William Beaumont Hospital and Dr. Irma Kline at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13.

Kline is the head of the Center for Human Development Program at Beaumont. She has more than 25 years of experience in the special education area and is responsible for the development and clinical diagnosis of attention deficit disorders.

NEWBURG NIGHT OUT Newburg United Methodist Church will present its eight-week Newburg Night Out program 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, beginning Jan. 16, at the church.

SEARCH FOR MEANING The Search for Meaning, an educational series and discussion group to learn essential skills to guide your teen successfully into adulthood.

CONFIDENTIAL HELP Life Care Ministries of Livonia offers a free, confidential Christian telephone listening service 10 a.m.-10 p.m. by calling (734) 427-1172 Monday through Saturday.

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ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School 5885 Veno 1 Blk. N. of Ford Rd., Westland 425-0260

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UNITED METHODIST CLARENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 20000 Middlebelt Rd., Livonia

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 21887 West Eleven Mile Road

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 36500 Ann Arbor Trail

Birmingham Temple sponsors workshop Birmingham Temple will again sponsor an intermarriage workshop 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17.

Children's '98 Directory Children have many special needs... and because parents don't always have a lot of time, the Observer & Eccentric has created this unique directory to make life just a little easier.

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Children's '98 Directory. A directory listing various children's services and programs in the area.

Children's '98 Directory. A directory listing various children's services and programs in the area.

Children's '98 Directory. A directory listing various children's services and programs in the area.

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

College report

A glance at the basketball leaders in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference reveals several local names.

In the men's standings, Madonna University's Narvin Russaw is best in rebounding, averaging 8.77 per game. The Crusaders' Mark Hayes is third in scoring with an 18.6 points-per-game average.

Also among the WHAC leaders is Dan McKian, a Plymouth Salem HS graduate now attending Siena Heights College. McKian, who is averaging 10.2 points per game for the 13-3 Saints, is fourth among rebounders (6.94).

In the women's standings, Madonna's Katie Cushman is third in scoring with a 15.6 points-per-game average and Chris Dietrich is sixth at 12.6. Lori Enfield is the Lady Crusaders' top rebounder, averaging 6.82 boards a game, which puts her fifth in the WHAC. Madonna is 8-4.

Tiebreak heartbreak

The Canton Conquest, an under-11 girls select soccer team, tied for first in the first indoor session at Total Soccer in Southfield with a 7-0-1 record, but were made second in a tiebreaker.

At the Holiday Challenge Tournament at Fraser's Total Soccer, the Conquest won four-straight games before losing in the finals to a team from Macomb.

Conquest team members are Erica Arndt, Brittany Armstrong, Kristen Boylan, Jessica Cleary, Brittany Cervi, Lisa Ealy, Taylor Foley, Amy Gizicki, Alicia Hay, Andrea Johnson, Kelly Lepper, Megan McMullen, Katie Polera, Molly Priebe, Katie Raker and Ashley Smith. The team is coached by John Johnson and Rich Priebe.

AAU hoop tryouts

The Western Wayne County Wildcats, an AAU-affiliated organization, will host tryouts for its 12-and-under girls team from 7:30-9 p.m. Monday at Pioneer Middle School in Plymouth.

For more information, call Bob Blohm at (313) 416-2923 or Fred Thomann at (313) 459-7315.

Caesars travel tryouts

Tryouts are planned for the 1998 Little Caesars travel baseball teams in the 10-, 12-, 14- and 16-and-under age groups. Teams will play a 40- to 50-game schedule.

For tryout dates and times please call the Little Caesars baseball office at (313) 562-4667.

3-on-3 hoop tourney

The Michigan Youth 3-on-3 Youth Basketball Tournament will stage district qualifying at St. Raphael Grade School in Garden City.

Boys and girls age divisions include grades 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12.

The cost is \$80 per team (four players per team) with a three-game minimum.

You must be registered by Jan. 8. For more information, call (313) 513-7333.

Floor hockey

A youth floor hockey skills clinic will be held at Canton's Summit Park beginning Jan. 26.

The clinics will be 4-5:50 p.m. at the Community Center on Jan. 26, 27 and 28. Games will be played on Saturdays.

Boys and girls in grades one through five are eligible. There is a \$35 fee per child. Canton Parks and Recreation, in conjunction with the Wayne-Westland YMCA, is sponsoring the clinics and games.

There will be six skill clinics and five games. Emphasis is placed on participation and fun.

Registration is Jan. 8 from 6-8 p.m. at the Canton Parks and Recreation office, 46000 Summit Parkway. For more information, call (313) 397-5110.

Anyone interested in submitting items to Sports Scene or Sports Roundup may send them to sports editor C.J. Risak, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI, 48150, or may fax them to (313) 591-7279.

Chiefs falter down stretch

BY C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER

Everything was going so well. Not even Plymouth Canton basketball coach Dan Young could realistically have thought his team would be within striking distance of Ann Arbor Huron with under two minutes to play. Canton, after all, had won just one of its first five games, while Huron was unbeaten in its first four.

And yet there the Chiefs were: With 1:43 left, Dan McLean outfought a couple of River Rats to rebound a Joe Cortellini miss. McLean's putback rolled in and he was fouled, giving Canton a chance to go ahead by three.

McLean missed the free throw, however, and it was all downhill from there. The Chiefs missed their last four shots and committed three costly fouls when the game was still in doubt.

The result: Huron scored the game's final nine points to secure a 53-46 victory Tuesday at Canton.

The River Rats improved to 5-0. The Chiefs are 1-5.

"If you can come back after giving up the lead on the road and win, it shows some character," said Huron coach Harold Simons. "And this is our first road game."

Canton's Young would not disagree. "They made the plays down the stretch, when they had to, and we didn't," he said.

The most apparent flaw in the youthful Chiefs (just one senior) was their lack of maturity when the game was in doubt. In three of their five losses this season, they were within striking distance in the final minutes — and lost.

Against Huron, they survived some of their mistakes, but couldn't handle all of them. After McLean missed his free throw with 1:43 left, the Chiefs were whistled for a foul on the rebound. Rotolu Abeyiyi missed the first in his one-and-one, but Canton repeated its mistake by again fouling on the free throw rebound.

Kendall Tucker made one-of-two, pulling the River Rats to within 46-45. It didn't get any better for the Chiefs; Cortellini missed a rushed three-pointer, and with 50.3 seconds to go Ramal Hunter scored off an offensive rebound and was fouled.

He converted his free throw to put



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRISLER

Rundown: Several of Ann Arbor Huron's players were left chasing Canton's Joe Cortellini (with ball) Tuesday, with little success. The junior guard nailed four three-pointers en route to a 20-point performance. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough to prevent a Canton loss.

Huron up 48-46, a lead that proved insurmountable for Canton. Tucker's steal and breakaway basket with 29 seconds to go iced it for the Rats.

"I thought we played well enough to win the game," said Young. "We had a

chance. Our effort was solid."

So was the Chiefs' shooting, particularly Cortellini's. The 5-foot-11 junior guard nailed four three-pointers en route to scoring 20 points. For the game, Canton connected on 19-of-40

shots from the floor (47.5 percent); Huron was 18-of-43 (41.9 percent).

After a red-hot first quarter, during which they made 6-of-9 from the floor (including two triples) to take a 14-12

Please see BASKETBALL, C3

Rocks reach semis; Chiefs win silver



Last Saturday's trip to the Portage Northern Invitational proved a successful one for Plymouth Salem's volleyball team — even if the Rocks didn't reach the tournament finals.

After all, this is a team that's grown used to prosperity. But in a field like this one, featuring 27 of the state's best teams from all classes, tying for third in the upper division isn't so bad.

"We had a really good day," said Salem coach Brian Gilles, his team 7-4 after recording four wins in six matches Saturday. "We asked the kids afterward to step it up just one more notch and we'll be right where we want to be."

Which is among the state's elite. The Rocks

weren't far from it Saturday; both of their losses were very close.

The tournament opened with nine three-team pools. The Rocks won both their pool-play matches easily, beating St. Joseph's 15-4, 15-3 and Flint Powers 15-6, 15-2.

That put them in the best of the three divisions, the Gold, with eight other teams. The Gold Division was then divided into three three-team pools; Salem split its two matches, beating Concord 15-2, 15-3, then losing to Portage Central 16-14, 15-13.

The final round of competition was a 12-team, single-elimination tournament, with all nine Gold teams and the three best Silver Division teams. The Rocks were seeded fourth, giving them a first-round bye.

In the tournament quarterfinals, Salem topped

East Kentwood 15-10, 15-7 to advance to the semis against Stevensville Lakeshore, the top-ranked team in Class B. The Rocks gave the Lancers a fight before losing in three sets, 15-8, 6-15, 16-14.

There were several standouts for Salem. Jenny Trott collected 27 kills, 49 digs and seven service aces in the tournament; Amanda Abraham had 24 kills, nine solo blocks and eight block assists; Angie Sillmon totaled 23 kills, 10 solo blocks and four block assists; Kelly Street accumulated 25 kills; and Andrea Pruet had 15 kills.

Although their overall record may not reflect it, Gilles is happy with his team's progress. "We're where we want to be," he said. "If we get a break or two (in this tournament), we'd be right there."

Please see VOLLEYBALL, C2

Good, but not great

Salem takes 2nd at Invite, but loses ground to Holt

BY C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER

Considering the caliber and the number of teams that competed at last Saturday's Plymouth Salem Wrestling Invitational, the Rocks' finish — second in the 18-team field — was good.

And not so good. Placing second wasn't really so bad, considering the team that won the tournament was two-time Class A state champion Holt. The Rams totaled 212 points.

What wasn't especially pleasing to Salem coach Ron Krueger was the distance separating the two teams. The Rocks scored 170; third place went to Trenton with 157.5, with Belleville fourth (155) and Livonia Stevenson fifth (149).

Canton, still struggling with injuries and illness, was a disappointing 16th (26).

"For our part, I felt we did some things that we're OK and we did some things that weren't OK," said Krueger. "Don't get me wrong. I'm not unhappy at all, but some of our kids could have done better."

Changes in both Salem's and Holt's lineups made a difference, certainly. But clearly, Krueger was hoping for something closer to the Rocks' performance last month. In those two previous tournament meetings with the Rams, Salem beat them once and was narrowly beaten by them in the other.

"We just didn't wrestle well," he summarized. "It seems we always have some weekends (every year) where we just don't wrestle well, and this is one of those weekends."

Why? "Because we've been working hard over the vacation break," Krueger answered. "And they're coming in fresh."

Salem had seven wrestlers reach the final four, but just one titlist: Anwar Crutchfield at 160 pounds. Crutchfield pinned Brighton's Matt Stone in 3:29 in his opening match, then decisioned Greenville's Russel Hopkins 12-3 and Belleville's Steve Wolf 5-2 to advance to the final against Ann Arbor Pioneer's Chris Kirby.

Crutchfield beat Kirby, 7-3, to claim



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRISLER

A winning effort: Salem's James Greene (on top) gets Belleville's Derrick McCarter into position for a pin, which Greene eventually did in this 145-pound match. Greene eventually finished fifth.

Please see WRESTLING, C4

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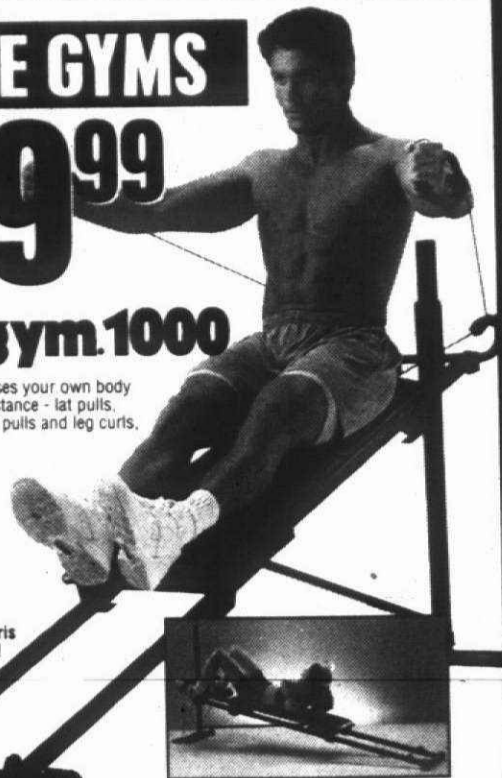
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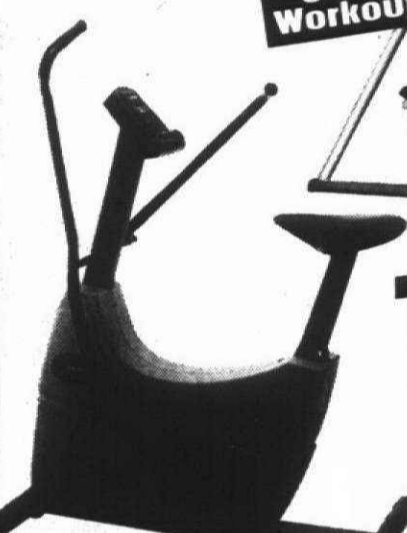
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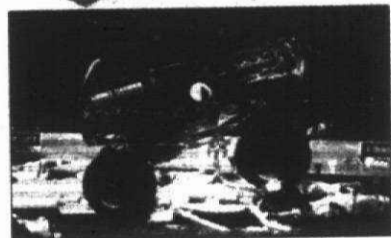
THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Twenty-two year old pianist Terrence Wilson performs with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra led by Neeme Jarvi, 8 p.m. at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. Tickets range from \$42 to \$17 (box seats \$60), (313) 833-3700.

SATURDAY



Sixteen of the world's best monster trucks go head to head at the U.S. Hot Rod Monster Jam at Pontiac Silverdome. Gates open 5:30 p.m., show starts 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$12 in advance, \$14 day of the show, (248) 645-6666.

SUNDAY



University Musical Society presents Christopher Parkening in "A Celebration of Andres Segovia," 4 p.m. at Rackham Auditorium, Rackham Building, Ann Arbor. Tickets \$20-\$32, (734) 764-2538.



Hot Tix: See what's new on wheels at the 1998 International North American International Auto Show Saturday, Jan. 10, through Monday, Jan. 19, at Cobo Center, downtown Detroit. Tickets \$8 adults, \$4 seniors (65 and over), children (12 and under) free when accompanied by an adult, available at the door or call (248) 645-6666.

Bluesy: Marvell Thunder (Luray Cooper) is after the heart and guitar of Glory (Keesha Fleth) in Meadow Brook Theatre's production of "Thunder Knocking on the Door."



What: "Thunder Knocking on the Door," a musical written by Keith Glover and directed by Gary Anderson. Original music by Keb' Mo', Anderson Edwards and Keith Glover

When: Continues through Sunday, Feb. 1. Performances 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; 2 p.m. Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday; 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Opening night - 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10.

Where: Meadow Brook Theatre, Wilson Hall on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills.

Tickets: Range from \$18-\$26.50; (248) 377-3300; group sales, (248) 370-3316.

Cast: Marlon M. Bailey (Jaguar, Jr.), Charity Clark (Good Sister), Luray Cooper (Marvell Thunder), Herb Downer (Dregster), Keesha Fleth (Glory)

STORY BY FRANK PROVENZANO

Feelin' like you've been steamrolled by a tyrannical boss, cast aside by a vindictive lover or left by the side of the road like a tossed leather shoe on the Southfield Freeway?

And that's a good day. Maybe feelin' jinxed by a sadistic god who throws wild curves and builds unsurmountable slippery slopes?

That ain't merely bad luck or divine diplomacy gone wrong. Them's the blues.

Showing a resilient heart, toe-tappin' rhythm and plenty of grit, Meadow Brook Theatre elevates the plight of the blues to a mesmerizing parable in its latest production, "Thunder Knocking on the Door," which opens for previews this Wednesday.

"It's really a love story with blues music," said Geoffrey Sherman, artistic director of Meadow Brook Theatre.

Through allegory and bluesy melody, however, the lessons wrought from the parable are clearly based in the present.

The fantasy bluesical, written by Alabaman Keith Glover with songs by Grammy Award-winner Keb' Mo', was originally commissioned by the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in conjunction with the Center Stage in Baltimore and the Dallas Theatre Center.

To enhance the fable, Meadow Brook's scenic designer Peter Hicks has devised an abstract set to include four on-stage blues musicians, who sit, strum and pick as easily as rocking on

MEADOW BROOK'S bluesy parable resounds to the heavens

a front porch on a cool Alabama evening. With earth-tones and a roughhewn structure made from logs, Hicks has created a crossroads where the blues meets salvation.

While the play is still "in development" with songs and dialogue expected to be rewritten right up until opening night, Sherman and playwright Glover hope the musical will soon show signs of being on its way to a New York production.

A common myth

The circumstances in "Thunder" take on a mythic dimension. It's a familiar story found in various cultures. Basically, "Thunder" is a parable about challenging the devil incarnate through a competitive game of who's better, with the earth-bound mortal at risk of losing his soul.

But foremost, "Thunder" is an entertaining love story, said Director Gary Anderson. Without melodrama or over-the-top

rhetoric, Anderson has shaped the work into melodic appreciation of blues music. It's not, he said, a play strictly about the African-American experience.

"Thunder" begins with the legendary accomplishments of the tale's patron saint, blues guitarist Jaguar Dupree, who once "outlicked" the supernatural Marvel Thunder.

Time has gone by, but the bitterness over being outlicked has hardly diminished for Marvel Thunder.

So, Thunder challenges the next best thing to the late Dupree. He throws down the gauntlet to Dupree's son, Jaguar Dupree Jr., and daughter, Glory, a sightless slick-playing bluesmith who's part Blind Lemon Jefferson and part howling Sadie McKinney.

Junior, whose blues are more bravado than inspiring, is easy pickings for the cagey Thunder. In the dual of "my blues are badder than yours," Thunder easily wins the guitar that

Jaguar Dupree made for his son. But if it's easy, it ain't the blues.

So, Thunder aims for Glory. Perhaps a case where the metaphor is just a bit too obvious. But then, maybe, the banal doesn't matter if the blues ring true.

It's time to let their blues do the talkin'. And Glory's got some case.

But first, the wager with Thunder has to inspire the kind of anxiety needed to fuel any deep-seated blues. The deal: if Glory wins, she regains her sight and Thunder turns to stone. If she loses, well, having the blues is going to seem like a holiday.

Ultimately, Meadow Brook hopes the Thunder-Glory confrontation will inspire audiences to slap a knee, bite a dog, kick the devil and sing, "Now I'm gonna give you my blues."

And when the catharsis known as blues music has run its course another message may linger.

Other side of the street

"Thunder" shows our audience what happens on the other side of the street," said Sherman, who served as artistic director at the Hudson Guild Theatre, an Off Broadway playhouse in New York City before joining Meadow Brook last season.

The "other side" of the street isn't across the subdivision.

Please see **BLUESY, E2**

MUSIC

T-Bonist Bugs Beddow blows the blues

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Trombone players Glenn Miller and Tommy Dorsey made music history. Fellow t-bonist/flutist Doug "Bugs" Beddow wanted to make an impression as well when forming the Bugs Beddow Band.

"I saw Bob Webber, leader of the (Detroit blues band) Regular Boys and I think that's great, a trombone player leading a band. I wanted to leave a mark. Glenn Miller and Tommy Dorsey, they were leaders of their bands and they were trombone players," Beddow said.

The hard-working five-piece band is making its mark locally with the trombone-driven originals, cookin' covers, and the comedy interludes and party atmosphere of its live shows.

"Our style is trombone-driven party blues with plenty of vocals,

horns and dancing. Everybody in the band sings lead. I pass the spotlight around quite often," Beddow said.

Bugs Beddow Band shows revolve around humor. Executive producer and marketing director Gary Quill wears a Bugs Beddow T-shirt and strolls around shows selling the band's six CDs. When the burly Quill hits the floor, the band yells out "We're giving them away," pauses and says "for money."

The Bugs Beddow Band's shows include originals and covers such as "Leave Your Hat On" by Randy Newman, "Poontango" by Mojo Nixon, "One Way Out" by Allman Bros., "Cheap Sunglasses" by ZZ Top, and "Unchain My Heart" by Ray Charles, all of which are found on its latest CD "Bone Appetit Tour: Live at the 1997 Mid-Michigan Blues Festival." The album,

Beddow's sixth, was recorded in Fenton for the syndicated radio show "House of Blues."

"We didn't intend (for the recording) to be an album at the time. The band was playing with a lot of gusto, and that's the essence of the band. But you hear the band now, and we blow the album away. The band is so tight. That and the timing of the comedy interludes are a lot better now."

The "Bone Appetit Tour" CD is available through Bugs Beddow's website, <http://www.bugsbeddow.com>, Harmony House stores and Big Whale CDs, 2859 Orchard Lake Road (between Cass Elizabeth Lake and Middlebelt roads) in Keego Harbor. The Orchard Lake-based Bugs Beddow Band wrapped up its 1997

Who: Bugs Beddow Band
What: Performs in support of its "Gimme Five Tour"
When: 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 16-Saturday, Jan. 17
Where: Beale Street Blues, 8 N. Saginaw, Pontiac
How: There is a \$2 cover charge. Only those 21 and older will be admitted. Call (248) 334-7900 for more information.

OTHER BUGS SHOWS:

• 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 23-Saturday, Jan. 24, at the Blue Goose, 28911 Jefferson Ave., St. Clair Shores. (810) 296-0590.
• 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, during a Black Entertainment Television event at The Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren, Detroit. (313) 494-5800.
• 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 13-Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Fox and Hounds restaurant, 1560 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. (248) 644-4800.

For more information about upcoming Bugs Beddow Band gigs visit its website at <http://www.bugsbeddow.com> or call (248) 546-BUGS.

Please see **BUGS, E2**



"Gimme Five:" Doug "Bugs" Beddow, center, describes the sound of the Bugs Beddow Band as "trombone-driven party blues."

DINING

Il Posto in Southfield is the place for authentic Italian

BY ELEANOR & RAY HEALD
SPECIAL WRITERS

If you discovered Il Posto (translated "the place") on a trip to Italy, you'd be talking about it for months! Save the plane fare and head to Franklin Road at Northwestern Highway in Southfield for an Italian food feast, the kind you'd find in Italy's countryside outside Florence, Milan or Naples.

When you phone for reservations you'll think you're in Italy. "Buongiorno Il Posto," is what you'll hear before 3 p.m. and after that "Buonasera Il Posto." The voice on the other end will most likely be that of cordial owner Gianni Belsito or his welcoming wife and partner Christina.

Victor Saroki and Associates of Birmingham turned the former Mardi Gras into showplace Italian. Sunset coral walls accent the Roman-style arches. Rich woods give the note of elegance to the two-level dining room. And don't miss the antipasto side table with a prominent place on the main level, just as it would in the finest ristorante in Italy. This is not just another Italian restaurant!

Gianni hosts, greets, seats and serves tableside from the traditional cart, deftly circulated by professional, highly skilled waiters in tuxedo with white aprons, just like an Italian ristorante. Their language to each other is Italian, but they speak English to guests. They know the ambitious menu, can explain everything and get you the finest Italian wine to complement your selections.

But to have the best experience at Il Posto, put yourself in Gianni's hands. Tell him the number of courses you'd like and let him make the decisions. That's what Franklin resident and radio station WJR's morning host Paul W. Smith, WJR President and General Manager Michael Fezzey who lives in Farmington Hills, and their lunch companion, Bloomfield Hills resident Steve Radom did. In addition to an antipasto, they had the pasta special, ravioli stuffed with eggplant and Stroz-

Il Posto
Where: 29110 Franklin Road (at Northwestern Highway), Southfield (248) 827-8070.
Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. lunch Monday-Friday; 5:30-10 p.m. dinner Monday-Saturday
Menu: Impeccably served, ambitious, authentic Italian dishes from many regions of Italy.
Cost: Hot and cold antipasti average \$11; homemade pasta \$17-\$22, main dishes \$19-\$25.
Reservations: Recommended
Credit cards: All majors accepted.

za Preti, a hand-formed noodle with sausage ragu, veal and saffron tossed with Parmesan cheese and veal jus. And how was this? "Outstanding," Smith said. "Really delicious," Radom added.

"This is my second time here," Fezzey noted. "Il Posto is ideal for a romantic dinner for two or a larger business dinner. It is unique in this area."

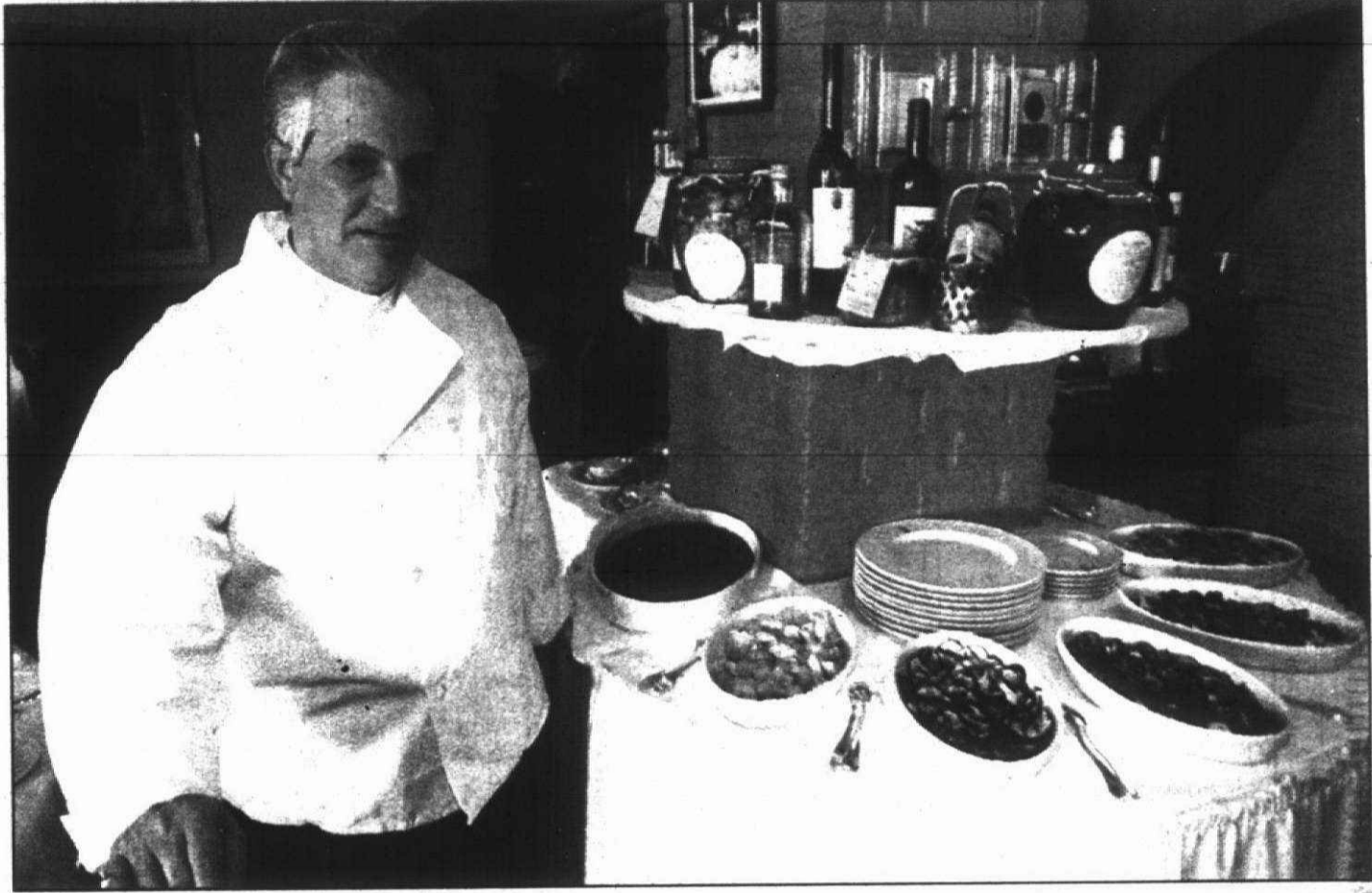
At dinner, Dr. Robert Levine of Bloomfield Hills, state director of the food and wine society Confreterie de la Chaine des Rotisseurs, and his wife Faye also put themselves in Gianni's hands.

"Each course got better and better," Dr. Levine said. Faye tagged it "a suburban gem" and "country Italian in Southfield."

Kamel Kassem, General Manager of Southfield's Skyline Club, and his wife Jehan were also under Gianni's care.

"You can tell a great Italian chef by the way he cooks risotto," Kamel said. "This was perfect." Jehan added, "It's the first good risotto I've had in Michigan. I lived in Italy, so I'm very particular. Pagello (red snapper) was very Mediterranean and delicious. I feel like I'm back in Italy."

Detroit's Renaissance Club General Manager John Guy and his wife Deborah also praised the snapper. "Il Posto entices you," John remarked. "Waiters are knowledgeable and make



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HOFFMEYER

Taste of Italy: Gianni Belsito invites customers to enjoy an Italian food feast, the kind you'd find in Italy's countryside outside Florence, Milan or Naples, at Il Posto.

excellent recommendations." Deborah summed up her experience by saying, "I liked everything."

All this wonderfulness comes from the hands of executive chef Daniele Del Aqua and his sous chef Masimo Convertini, brought by the Belsitos to the U.S. from Milan. Four waiters are also Milan natives. Gianni taught them there in culinary school.

Gianni's own background reads like a book. Italian born, German hotelier school trained, he credits his mother for initial inspiration because "she was such a great cook."

Gianni first came to the U.S. in

1984 to work for Disney in Orlando, Florida. He's operated restaurants in Englewood, New Jersey and most recently Naples, Florida. "I was looking for a busy restaurant 12 months of the year," Gianni admitted. "The Naples site gave me six. Many people from Michigan go to Naples in the winter. They encouraged me to come to Michigan. I sold the Naples Il Posto and came here last summer. By Nov. 10, we opened."

Those Michigan residents who know the Belsitos are spreading the word about the Southfield Il Posto. Gianni's card reads "La Cucina Creative Italiana." Even

if you don't know a word of Italian, you can guess the literal meaning to be the creative Italian kitchen.

"It's more than that," Gianni indicated. "It's the poor and simple kitchen, creative from fresh, natural, pure ingredients."

Only olive oil is used in cooking. Butter is in the risotto only. Fat is rendered from all meat. There's no butter on the table for the great bread baked for Il Posto by Contoro in Livonia. There's olive oil, with a touch of pepper and a splash of vinegar and sensational olive tapenade for the bread.

"We didn't feel stuffed after six

courses," Dr. Levine concluded as he pondered offerings on the dessert cart. Order Brachetto d'Aqui, a 5.5 percent alcohol red dessert wine to close your meal. You will be brought a container of biscotti and told to dip them in the wine. As you take your first sip, one of general manager Marcello Giuffrida's waiters will blow a kiss to a lady when he senses her delight!

Look for Eleanor & Ray Heald's column Focus on Wine on the first and third Sunday of the month in Taste. To leave a voice mail message for the Healds, dial (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1864.

RESTAURANT SPECIALS

Restaurant Specials features theme dinners, menu changes, and restaurant openings. Send news items to: Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.

Just opened

Nebojsa Brankovic of Westland Cafe Giverny Saturday, Dec. 20, in downtown Plymouth, 370 S. Main St., (313) 453-6998.

"I like entertaining and serving food to friends and family," he said. "For quite a long time people have told me and my wife, Celeste, that we should be in the restaurant business and share our goodies with others."

In a space formerly occupied by a gallery, Brankovic has cre-

ated an oasis, a cafe that's warm and welcoming. Brankovic is famous for crepes, and he's built his menu around them.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. Closed Monday. Menu features sweet and savory crepes, soups and salads, desserts, gourmet coffee and tea, pop, juices. Cost ranges from \$5.50 to \$6.70 for crepes served in combination with cup of soup or salad. Reservations not accepted.

Einstein Bros. Bagels opened its first store in Farmington Hills at 27841 Orchard Lake Road on Saturday, Dec. 20. The store will officially celebrate the grand opening with a neighbor-

hood party Saturday, Jan. 10 where customers will have a chance to win assorted prizes, including a year's supply of free bagels.

Store hours are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday; and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Einstein Bros. offers 18 varieties of

bagels, 12 choices of cream cheese spreads, and a variety of fresh brewed coffees, teas and espresso drinks. For lunch and

dinner, the bakery offers bagel sandwiches and salads. They recently introduced three kinds of Pizza Bagel Melts.

The new Farmington Hills store is the 19th in the greater Detroit area, Einstein Bros.



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Businessmen's Lunches
FROM \$5.95

DINNERS from \$6.95

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THE SHOWCASEMEN
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Buy 1 dinner and receive 1/2 off a 2nd dinner of equal or lesser value
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FRIDAY SPECIAL

Fish & Chips
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All you Can Eat
\$9.95

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AUTHENTIC MEXICAN CUISINE

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OPEN 7 DAYS (313) 537-1450

\$3.29 LUNCH SPECIALS
FAX YOUR ORDERS
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Sundays & Mondays
\$1.25

1/2 OFF DINNER
Buy 1 dinner,
2nd meal of equal or
lesser value 1/2 price.
Also excludes Alcoholic Beverages
Dine-in Only. With Coupon
Not Valid With Any Other Offer
Expires 1/22/98

MEXICAN SAMPLER
FOR TWO
Includes: Steak, Fajita, 2 Tacos, Cheese, Enchilada, Save \$4
El Padre, Burrito, Tostada, Beans and Rice.
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