

IN THE PAPER
TODAY

More local news: Readers will find more stories about Canton on Pages A3, A6, A8, A10 and C7.

Fund-raising: Merian's Friends, the group advocating a Physician Aid in Dying law, has won one victory in the Michigan Legislature and is petitioning to put the issue on the Nov. 3 ballot. /A9

OPINION

Public Information: Why some salaries are everybody's business. /A14

In the mailbox: Readers write about the supermarket glut and other Canton issues. /A14

COMMUNITY LIFE

Caring for baby: The staff of Y-MAP has a very specific mission: to help teen parents increase their parenting skills and make sure teen mothers get back to school. /B1

AT HOME

On the edge: Go to the border to show style by selecting just the right frames for art and objects. /D6

ENTERTAINMENT

Motown memories: Hit songwriter Barrett Strong fondly recalls his days with Motown. /E1

Classics: Meet Alexander Kerr, co-concertmaster of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam. /E1

REAL ESTATE

Winter opportunity: Now is the time to get to work if you are planning to move in the summer. /F1

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HOW TO REACH US

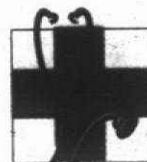
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Horses recovering with local help



Concerned: Carrie Blamer, Plymouth-Canton school board member, looks after one of the horses at a stable in South Lyon. Two of the 57 horses rescued in December have died.

■ A Plymouth-Canton school board member and teacher are among the volunteers who have been nursing mistreated horses back to health. The horse owners pleaded guilty Tuesday to animal cruelty charges.



BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Disbelief is the typical reaction when hearing about the 57 neglected horses that were quartered in an unkempt stable in Davison Township.

The conditions were so inhumane two of the horses have since died and many others still bear the scars of being stalled in manure several feet deep and having unclipped hooves.

Action has been another response. A number of volunteers from Horses' Haven have donated their time and money to help in the animals' rescue and care.

Plymouth-Canton School board member Carrie Blamer and Tonda Elementary School teacher Dan Carr pitched in to help. Students at Tonda also have raised \$500 to help with expenses.

On Tuesday, horse owners Susan and James Knotts signed a plea agreement in Flint's 67th District Court to one count each of felony animal cruelty punishable up to four years in jail. They will be sentenced Feb. 17 in Genesee Circuit Court.

The only count was in response to an autopsy on one of the horses that revealed there was no fat in its bone marrow. The horse starved to death.

The horses are expected to be given to Horses' Haven permanently and given up for adoption, said the group's vice president, Holly Williams, a resident of Farmington.

The nonprofit group has temporarily housed the animals at a South Lyon stable since their

Please see HORSE RESCUE, A5

Teacher switch angers Tonda parents

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Parents of some third-graders at Tonda Elementary School in Canton are angry at school officials for a teaching change in the middle of the school year — a change which they say could have been avoided if administration officials had been thinking about children, instead of the district.

The problem began when parents received a notice Jan. 9 explaining third-grade teacher Elizabeth Vartani-

an-Gibbs would be leaving her teaching job to take part in an administrative intern program, which would prepare her for future administrative positions.

"I told my daughter and she was extremely upset, crying and wanting to know why her teacher was leaving," said Mary Jo Potter, a mother who addressed the board at its Jan. 27 meeting, which ironically was held at Tonda. "This was planned at the beginning of the school year, and all we got was a letter stating she was leaving

in a week."

Potter said she addressed her concerns with Verna Anible, the district's director of instruction, but wasn't satisfied with the answers she received.

"The needs of the administration shouldn't be put first," added Potter. "They were so sure they needed this program they didn't even think of the kids."

Addressing concerns

Superintendent Charles Little tried

to address the concerns of parents.

"Obviously there's a disruption, but we do need to do this for several years because we need to have a pool to serve as administrators," said Little. "We'll probably do something like this again, but if anyone has ideas I'd be glad to hear what those different twists on the story are."

Potter said this is the third year her child has had to deal with multiple teachers.

Please see SWITCH, A2

Confusion, accidents mar Haggerty reopening

MICHIGAN AVENUE CORRIDOR

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Motorists driving in the area of Haggerty and Palmer should be wary of a new traffic signal at the intersection.

Not only does the four-way flashing red light no longer flash, but it also features two new colors: green and yellow.

Four car accidents were reported last Thursday, the first day the traffic light was activated. Several people were taken to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital by ambulance for injuries, although none were critical.

"I saw it was red and I stopped to see whose turn it was to go ... I didn't see anyone going, so I went — but it wasn't my turn," said Sarah Colby, 20, of Canton.

Colby's 1991 Dodge was struck by a 1990 Oldsmobile heading north on Haggerty on a green light. Colby was issued a ticket by Canton police for running a red light. The 5:15 p.m. accident was the third of the day.

"It used to be a red blinking light," she said in her defense.

An hour earlier, a 43-year-old Canton woman and her two daughters were injured and taken to St. Joe's by Canton fire rescue when she also assumed the light was still a flashing red signal, according to the accident report.

The Canton woman's car was hit by a 1997 Ford heading north on a green light. No ticket was issued.

According to Colby, the man from that injury accident was still at the intersection waiting for a tow truck for his '97 Ford when her accident occurred, she said. "The man there was furious (about all the accidents)," she said.

The traffic signal was installed due to the widening and bridge construction on Haggerty Road between Michigan and Palmer, said Canton police Officer Leonard Shemanske.

Please see HAGGERTY, A5

Hotel projects win OK from planning commission

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Planning commissioners gave the first go ahead Monday for two new 80-room hotels to be constructed on the site of the current Willow Acres Motel on Michigan Avenue, between Lotz and Hannan.

Marriott Courtyard has tentative plans to locate on the seven-acre lot, said Bill Jarratt of South Lyon-based Jarratt Associates, which develops hospitality centers. The other hotel could

be a Comfort Inn.

The applicants need a special land use approval from Canton officials to develop the hotels in the light industrial area. It would allow for buildings four stories tall.

Planning commissioners gave tentative approval at the commission's regular meeting. The township board will have final consideration.

According to township ordinance, all new hotels and motels must include a conference or banquet facility, attached

dining room and standard restaurant.

The hotels are two of five expected to be built in Canton over the next several years.

A Holiday Inn Express also is being planned for Michigan Avenue, between Lotz and I-275 and a large development on Ford Road, east of I-275, by developer Burton Katzman is expected to include at least one and possibly two hotels.

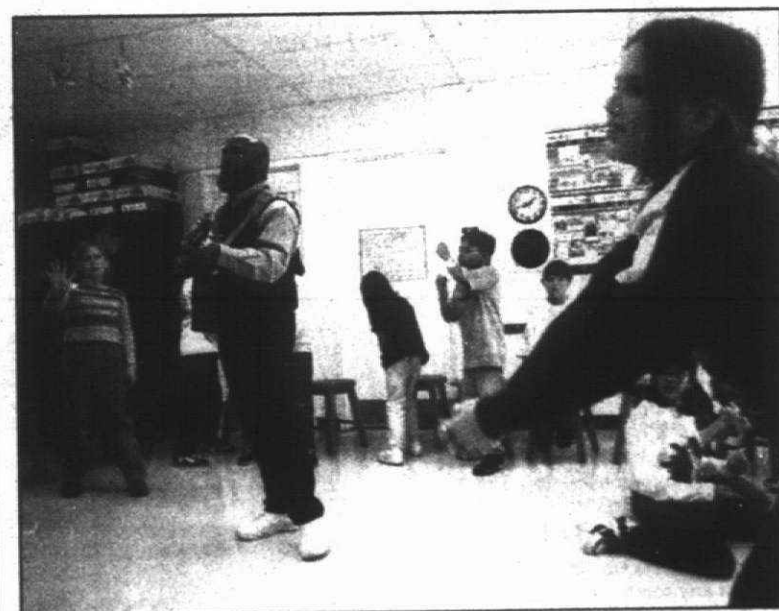
Business and elected leaders claimed Canton was in need of new upscale

hotels following last summer's national archery tournament that drew 530 competitors from 17 different countries to Heritage Park. Many of the guests had to stay at hotels out of the area.

Several research parks also are in the building stages, which will draw business people to the area.

Willow Acres owner J.B. Patel also owns the Royal Inn in Ferndale and a Best Western in Ohio. Jarratt said if all approvals are granted the project could break ground by summer.

Out in the 'fields'



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

Role-playing: Eriksson School student Val Miller takes on the role of chopping cotton as Josh White Jr. sings a work song during a Detroit Historical Museum presentation Tuesday commemorating African American History Month. For additional photos from the program, please turn to Page A2 in today's Observer.

Switch from page A1

"My daughter has adjusted, and we did find a good substitute," said Potter. "However, they didn't have to do it this way."

Kim Smith is a room mother for the third-grade class.

"I got quite a few calls from concerned parents," said Smith. "It was a shock to all of us. It happened with such short notice."

Smith said she also talked with Anible.

"We wanted to hear logic, but we were told it was just bad timing," said Smith. "We told them there was a lot of anxiety, but she said the kids would adjust."

The principal had only a few days to conduct interviews. I was concerned if he would be able to find someone of quality, not just a warm body. They certainly didn't have the kids' best interests at heart."

Tonda principal George Belvitch said he received notice on Jan. 7 of the impending move, and let parents know two days later. He had approximately one week to interview and fill the position.

"My daughter is reserved and quiet, and this turned into an emotional issue," said Smith. "Luckily, I turned it around into a positive situation and she seems to be doing well."

'My daughter is reserved and quiet, and this turned into an emotional issue. I turned it into a positive situation and she seems to be doing well'

Kim Smith

Similar situation

The same type of situation occurred at Canton High School when mathematics teacher Marsha Hoff was given a leave of absence to attend the administrative intern program at semester's end.

While her math connections classes were given a full-time substitute, her calculus classes were given to another instructor, which called for some changes in schedules and class size.

"I was upset because parents weren't notified, and my daughter had to go and change her own schedule because the counselors weren't even aware of the switch," said Kathy Lash of Plymouth Township. "And, her class size went up from 22 to 32 students."

"I'm in favor of the program for teachers, but not the process in which it's done," said Lash.

Lash's daughter, 17-year-old Angela Frost, wasn't sure until a few days before the change if she would need to rearrange her entire schedule because of the calculus class switch.

"If you would have asked me when it happened, I would have told you I was angry," said Frost. "It's hard having to adjust to a new teacher for calculus, a college prep course, and a larger class size."

School board President Mark Horvath reminded parents the district is always evaluating.

"As an elementary parent, I'm not going to insult your emotional concerns with a lot of things about being best for the business," said Horvath. "At the completion of this year, whatever goods come out of this we'll try to reproduce, and whatever bads come out of it we'll try to fix."

Potter said she left the meeting "feeling I got it off my chest, but with the impression they would do it again."

Another mother put it more bluntly.

"The district thought it would be business as usual, however they severely miscalculated."

Help for event

Volunteers are needed to help staff Project Health-O-Rama Saturday, April 25 at Summit on the Park in Canton.

Opportunities include shuttle drivers, registration workers and others. Call Kathleen Salla, 397-6450.



History unfolds: A touring troupe from the Detroit Historical Museum brought the Underground Railroad to life Tuesday for students from Erikson Elementary School in Canton. The Detroit Storytelling program uses music and role playing to help students understand the situations faced by slaves seeking to flee Southern plantations. Folk singer Josh White Jr. (above) urges the make-believe slaves to line up and be quiet. At right, Gillian Eaton asks students to guess the emotions of the kids in the boxcars. Danielle Minnick waits in the imaginary boxcar.



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL BRISLER

(Hint: He's the one next to the marketing director.)

Today, more accountants, marketing directors and construction workers are serving in uniform than ever before. In fact, more than 50 percent of today's military is made up of members of the Guard and Reserve. Which means people from all walks of life are even more relied upon to make up our armed forces. So if you employ members of the Guard and Reserve, please give them the freedom to protect ours.

(And, by the way, the marketing director is next to the schoolteacher.)

Can you find the accountant?

ECR
A1
GEO

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Notice of Public Hearing
Special Assessment Roll #97-2
Principal Shopping District
Promotion Project
Tuesday, February 17, 1998 at 7:00 P.M.

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 1998, at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers at City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, to consider the confirmation of Special Assessment Roll #97-2 to be used as means of funding the Principal Shopping District Promotion Project. Proceeds of the Special Assessment will be used for the following purposes:

- Carrying out activities which market downtown Plymouth as a whole, but not for specific businesses nor specific events or activities.
- Development and administration of the program by the Downtown Development Authority pursuant to the City Commission resolution which established the Principal Shopping District.
- Review for effectiveness by a group of property owners and business operators within the Principal Shopping District in the third year of the program with a recommendation for or against years four and five presented to the City Commission three months prior to the completion of year three.

The project reports and Special Assessment Roll #97-2 are on file and may be reviewed in the City Clerk's Office during regular business hours.

A property owner, or his or her agent may protest the special assessment by appearing in person at the hearing or by filing a letter of protest with the City Clerk prior to the date and time of the hearing. Appearance and protest at the confirmation hearing for Special Assessment District #97-2 is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. If a protest of the special assessment has been made in person or by writing to the City Commission a further appeal may be made in writing to the Michigan Tax Tribunal, P.O. Box 30232, Lansing MI 48909. Appeals to the Michigan Tax Tribunal must be made within 30 days of the date of the confirmation of Special Assessment Roll #97-2.

LINDA J. LANGMESSER, CMC
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REAL ESTATE UPDATE
by John Goodman
Coldwell Banker Preferred

WHAT FIXTURES MUST STAY WITH THE HOUSE?
When a dispute between a buyer and seller about whether a fixture is included in the sale of a house goes to court, several rules are used in deciding the case.

The most critical test is whether the item is permanently attached to a structure or land by means of nails, bolts, screws, cement, glue or other permanent attachment. If it is attached, it has become a fixture and has been converted into real property. Wall-to-wall carpets, for example, are attached, but not oriental rugs.

If there is nothing specific in the sales contract about a fixture, it is automatically included in the sale. Sellers may sometimes think they can substitute a cheap replacement for an item they want to remove. In that case, the intent of the sellers might be determined by consulting the multiple listing service descriptions and the information sheets given to buyers.

To avoid misunderstandings, home sales contracts should specify what is included or excluded. For example, the contract might include electric garage door openers, floor coverings, window treatments, combination doors, awnings, light fixtures, TV antennas, out-door plants and trees.

For professional advice on all aspects of buying or selling real estate, contact John Goodman, one of the top 9 sales agents internationally out of \$6,000. Coldwell Banker agents for 1994, 1995, and 1996. Call 810-008-2799.

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Learn more about the Henry Ford Academy for students entering the ninth grade.

The Henry Ford Academy of Manufacturing Arts & Sciences, an innovative four-year public high school that emphasizes the application of math, science and humanities, is sponsoring community forums. These forums will provide applications and information about this unique educational opportunity for Wayne County students entering ninth grade this fall.

February 10 - Schoolcraft College
Tuesday
Waterman Campus Building
18000 Haggerty Rd.
Livonia
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

February 11 - Fox: HOPE
Wednesday
C47 Center
4000 Oakman
Detroit
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

For more information, please call (313) 982-6100 ext. 2512.
<http://www.hfacademy.org>

The Henry Ford Academy is a partnership between Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, Ford Motor Company, and is chartered by Wayne County REBA.

Horse rescue from page A1

rescue began Dec. 29.

"They probably have never been touched by humans. Some have never gotten out to get exercise," said Carr, who has spent five to seven days a week feeding, brushing and exercising the horses. The horses' stalls also need to be swept and cleaned.

"Once I saw how needy they were, I couldn't turn my back on them. I was committed until the end," he said.

Carr has two horses of his own



at his Superior Township home. Blamer began horseback riding two years ago.

A number of the horses have been named by the volunteers. There is "Tu-Tone," named because one side of the horse was all black with manure and the other all white, and "Jingles," a baby who had 50 to 60 pounds of manure caked on him.

"He laid down for the entire first day because he couldn't stand at all. We called him Jingles because you could hear the clumps of manure clanging together when we took him out to get exercise," said Williams.

"St. Peter" was a black stallion that wasn't expected to live. His hooves were so long they curled and cut into his legs. He couldn't stand up.

"He was in such bad condition we named him St. Peter because we figured he needed a good name to get

through the Pearly Gates," she said.

On Friday, St. Peter died at Michigan State University where the horse was getting medical attention.

"There is no logical reason why someone would do this. I guess it would be for the same reason people murder and rape," said Carr.

"There are some horses that are two to three years old that look like they have never stepped out of their stalls."

Blamer said the horses are in much better condition than when she first saw them. Most were spooked by human touch.

"They're a creature of habit they don't take well to change," she said as she cleaned out a mare's stall Monday evening at the temporary stable.

The horses will be nursed by Horses Haven volunteers until they are ready to be adopted, said Williams.

Those interested in becoming volunteers or interested in making contributions call (248) 486-3312 or mail checks to: Horses Haven, P.O. Box 519, South Lyon 48178.



Helping hands: Tonda teacher Dan Carr works with one of the horses. Students have donated \$500 to the rescue effort. At left, Carr prepares to clean out a stall.

the Canton Public Library

Did you know:

■ That Feb. 8-14 is National Boy Scouts of America Week?
■ Our sun looks redder when seen near the horizon than overhead because its light passes through more particles when near the horizon?
■ When women dieted, they scored poorly on memory and reaction-time tests, according to a recent study? The stress of dieting, it seems, kept them from focusing on the task at hand.

New fiction

Here are some new books for dog lovers available from the library:

■ "Bloodlines" by Susan Conant
■ "Dog Tales: Classic Stories About Smart Dogs" by Myron Beck
■ "Lives of the Monster Dogs" by Kirsten Bakis
■ "A Tail of Two Murders" by Melissa Cleary
■ "To Dance With the White Dog" by Terry Kay

Web Watch

Check out these new Web sites:

■ <http://www.thirdage.com>
■ <http://www.seattletimes.com/premier>
■ <http://www.worth.com>
■ <http://www.jcpenney.com>
■ <http://www.exploratorium.edu>

Q & A

Q: Why is New York City called the "Big Apple"?

A: The term originated in the

Haggerty from page A1

The reopening of the road two weeks ago was long overdue for residents who waited nearly 15 months for the north-south route to the Michigan Avenue corridor and adjacent I-275 entrance ramp.

"For a few weeks the traffic signals were hung up, but we left it a flashing red to give people a heads up on what was coming," said John Roach, spokesperson for the Wayne County Road Department.

The county was only aware of one accident at the intersection, he said.

"Apparently folks are not adjusting yet. They're going through an intersection they've been going through for years.

People really need to be cautious," he said.

A warning sign announcing the new signal would have been posted if there had been no light at all at the intersection. However, if a number of accidents continue, the county will post a warning sign for motorists, he said.

Colby plans to appear in 35th District Court within 20 days to fight her ticket. She will admit responsibility for her accident, but with explanation.

"This will be three points on my driving record. I've had no points in the four years I've been driving. Being that there were so many accidents that day I don't think it's fair."

Skaters compete Feb. 6-8

The Plymouth Figure Skating Club will host the 1998 USFSA Midwestern Precision Team Sectional Championship at the Computare sports arena Feb. 6-8.

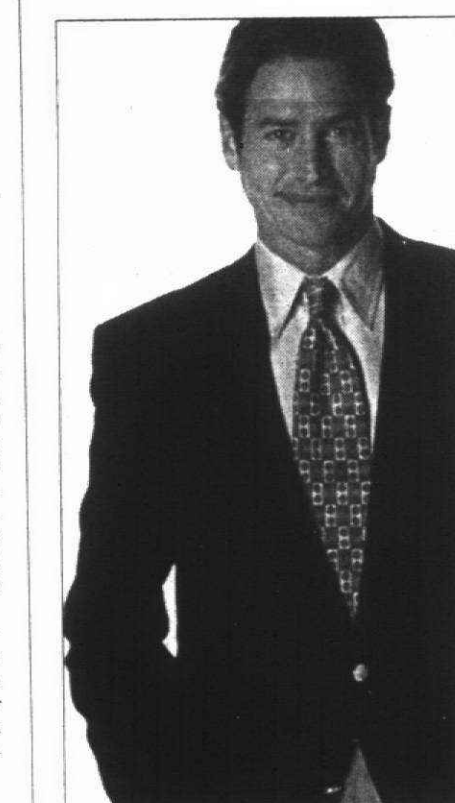
This is a qualifying event for every USFSA precision team in the midwestern section. The highest placing teams at this event go directly to the USFSA National Precision Champi-

onships, which will take place in March in San Diego.

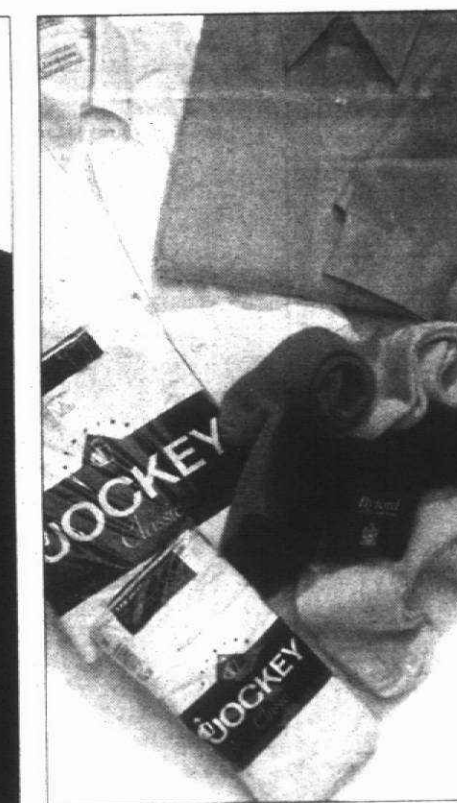
The Midwestern Sectional Championships are the largest, in terms of numbers of teams that enter, of the three geographical sections that the USFSA divides the U.S. into. More than 145 teams and approximately 3,000 skaters are expected to enter.

basics sale 25% off

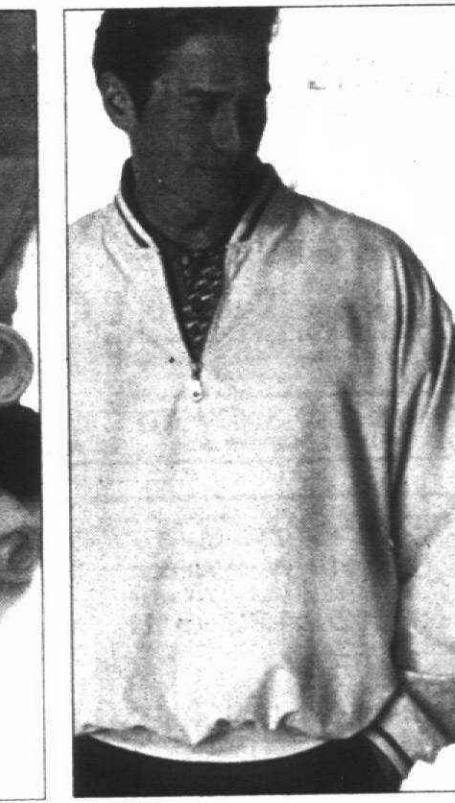
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

9 a.m. WinterFest 5 Mile Fun Run/3 Mile Walk
Sponsored by Westland Parks and Recreation, \$14 fee, \$18 after 1/30/98

9 a.m. Free Throw Contest
Sponsored by Westland Youth Athletic Association

9:30-11 a.m. Pancake Breakfast
\$3 - Adult, \$1 - Child, 12 & under
Sponsored by Westland Fire Fighters at the Bailey Center

10 a.m. Polar Bear Golf Outing
2 Person Scramble - \$8 per person - Weather Permitting
Call Matt at 721-6660 to sign up
Sponsored by and at the Westland Municipal Golf Course

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Westland Villagers Exhibit
Sponsored by Otto "Papa" Stout

Noon - 6 p.m. Art Activities for Kids
(Ages 4-12) \$1 - 1 Project \$3 - 5 Projects
Sponsored by Westland Therapeutic Recreation at Bailey Center

Noon-7 p.m. Children's Midway
(Ages 10 and Under) Nominal Fee

1-5 p.m. WinterFest Bowling Outing
Westland Bowl, \$150 Team (4), \$100 Lane Sponsor,
\$225 Team and Lane Sponsor
Door Prizes, Buffet Dinner (after), 2 Drinks
Call 326-7222 for more information
Sponsored by Westland Chamber of Commerce

1-5 p.m. Sleight/Carriage Rides
Sponsored by Westland Historical Commission

1 p.m. Children's Show - "Max the Moose"
Sponsored by Westland Parks and Recreation

1 p.m. Tours Perrinsville School-Warren/Cowan

2 p.m. Story Hour
FREE Sponsored by Friends of the Library at the Bailey Center

2:30 - 3 p.m. Snowball Toss Contest
FREE, Prizes!
Sponsored by Westland Youth Assistance Program in Central City Park

2:30 - 3 p.m. Snowman Building Contest
FREE, Prizes!
Sponsored by Westland Youth Assistance Program in Central City Park

3 p.m. SnowBowl
Central City Park Sponsored by Westland Youth Athletic Association

3-7:30 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner
\$3.50/adult, \$2.50 child, 12 & under, \$5 All-You-Can Eat
Sponsored by Westland Cultural Society

3:30-4:30 p.m. Westland All Stars-Songs from "The Music Man"
FREE, Bailey Gym

4 p.m. Story Hour
FREE Sponsored by Friends of the Library at the Bailey Center

6-7 p.m. Figure Skating Exhibition
FREE Sponsored by and at Westland Sports Arena

7-9 p.m. Open Skating
\$1 50/60's Theme with DJ
Sponsored by and at Westland Sports Arena

7-11 p.m. WinterFest High School Dance
\$3-Bailey Gym D.J. - 7-8 p.m. & 9-11 p.m. Josh Gracin 8-9 p.m.

WINTERFEST SWEATSHIRTS

Adult Sizes
\$20

Child Sizes
\$15

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

1-4 p.m. Children's Midway
(Ages 10 & under) Nominal Fee

1-4 p.m. Art Activities for Kids
(Ages 4-12) \$1 - 1 Project \$3 - 5 Projects
Sponsored by Westland Therapeutic Recreation at Bailey Center

1-4 p.m. Mayor Thomas' Chili Dinner
\$2 All proceeds donated to WinterFest
Sponsored by Mayor Robert J. Thomas

1-4 p.m. Westland Villagers Exhibit
FREE Sponsored by Otto "Papa" Stout

2 p.m. Story Hour
FREE Sponsored by Friends of the Library at the Bailey Center

1-5 p.m. Classic Rock Band Music
2-3 p.m. "Magic by Randy Shaw"
3-4 p.m. "Just For Kicks Dancers"-Line Dancers
4-5 p.m. Local Singing Personality-Josh Gracin

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Regular Soft Drink
#4 - Coney, Small Greek Salad,
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#2 - Pancakes, Choice of Bacon, Sausage or Ham
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Sundays 7 am-11 am \$2.75
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Township, farmer settle suit over development

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER

A settlement agreement releasing Canton Township from a lawsuit filed against it by farmer Dennis Wilkin has been approved by the township board of trustees.

Under terms of the agreement reached between the township, Wilkin and Proctor Road Holding Limited Partnership, the township is removed from the lawsuit without making any compensation to Wilkin.

Wilkin also is precluded from taking any future action against the township in the matter.

The township board approved the settlement at its Jan. 27 meeting.

According to the settlement, Wilkin is to receive \$5,000 from Proctor Road, the owner of the property with whom Wilkin said he had a farming agreement, and was to vacate the premises by Jan. 31.

Wilkin had sued the township for violating an earlier agreement to reimburse him \$12,000 for crops he claimed he lost last spring when contractors showed up to begin construction of 12 soccer fields on land he said he farms on the southwest corner of

■ Wilkin had sued the township for violating an earlier agreement to reimburse him \$12,000 for crops he claimed he lost last spring when contractors showed up to begin construction of 12 soccer fields on land he said he farms on the southwest corner of Denton and Proctor roads.

Denton and Proctor roads.

That agreement was entered into July 21 by Supervisor Tom Yack, who said he was called out to the property after Wilkin reportedly pointed a loaded weapon at the contractor.

"Things happened quickly," Yack recalled last week. "Wilkin would not allow the contractor on the site. The contractor was going to pack up and leave and that was going to mean extra cost to Canton."

When the township couldn't contact Proctor Road and seemed

headed for a contract default, Yack agreed, under a township emergency provision for purchases, to reimburse Wilkin \$12,000 for his lost soybean and corn crop.

However, when Timothy Cronin, township attorney, learned that Wilkin might not have an agreement with Proctor to farm the land, he advised Yack not to pay.

To comment via e-mail: tschneider@oe.homecomm.net. If your comments are intended for publication, please include your name and telephone number.

CANTON CONNECTION

Calling all gardeners

We know it's still the dead of winter. But the Canton Garden Club has us thinking spring.

The club wants to host its first Garden Walk this summer. If you enjoy gardening with a passion and have created a "masterpiece" in your yard — or have you done wonders in a specialty garden with herbs, roses, water features or shade — the club is looking for you.

This is not a contest, but a way of finding those wonderful gardens within the community. If you think you'd enjoy being a part of the Canton Garden Club's first walk or future garden walks, please send a photo of your garden (during a recent season) to Donna McDonald, 7530 Chichester, Canton 48187.

Details on the inaugural Garden Walk will be announced at a later date. For further information on the club call 455-8446.

Collection to expand

The bereavement collection at the Canton Public Library will have some new materials soon

thanks to the McCabe Funeral Home.

Kevin McCabe recently presented a \$500 donation to the library for expansion of the collection he helped establish in 1993.

"Many people in the community have used and obtained help from the materials over the past few years," said Jean Tabor, library director. "The books and videos assist people who are grieving the loss of near and dear ones."

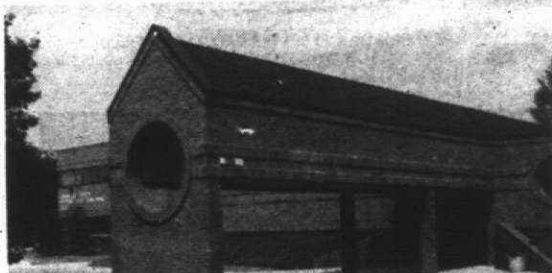
Tabor said this year's donation will be used to purchase bereavement books written especially for children and young adults.

Promoted

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan has named two Canton residents directors in its Information Services Division.

Tim Andrzejewski was named division director of support systems by the health insurance provider.

Susan J. Ross was named director of application development technology and quality assurance for the division.



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SC board to review bids on Waterman expansion

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Schoolcraft College trustees will take another step toward expanding the Waterman Campus Center when they examine proposed bids from architectural firms on Saturday, Feb. 28.

Schoolcraft officials believe the center needs to be expanded because the college needs more conference center space. College President Richard McDowell told trustees last Wednesday he wanted to bring three firms to the board for 40-minute interviews.

A plan from 1995 called for the college to construct a new building adjacent to Waterman for conference functions, McDowell said.

"The Business Development Center has need for larger facilities, to accommodate groups of approximately 500 persons," said Conway Jeffress, vice president of academic instruction.

Total enrollment now equals nearly 30,000 students, including 13,634 students in credit programs and 16,898 in continuing education.

"So much of what we do is tied to the Waterman Center," Jeffress said.

That building shows a 89.2-90.32 percent utilization over the normal operating hours of the center. "It is a heavily used building as far as the college is concerned," Jeffress said.

Jeffress said an expanded Waterman would permit:

■ Increased corporate training

■ Increased community use of the facility

■ A larger space for corporate functions, including meetings, fund-raising activities and hosting functions used in recruitment.

■ Expansion and improvement in the culinary arts program

■ The revitalization of cultural and public affairs

■ An improvement of building efficiency by matching new square footage with renovation of existing square footage

■ Improve physical accessibility to the building

"We want to do more corporate training," Jeffress said. "We need larger space for functions. There is no space for 400 to 500 people."

McDowell told trustees that to get state funding this year and start construction, the board needed to act on approval of an architectural or engineering firm.

A new plan could take three to four months for the architect or engineer to complete, McDowell said. The first plan was to obtain proposals for professional services.

Butch Raby, vice president for business services, contacted about 15 firms, the narrowed it to three firms, each with a food

service consultant. McDowell said trustees could visit some sites which the firms did some contractual work.

BEI Associates, DiClemente-Siegel Engineering Inc. and Ghafari Associates were the final three candidates recommended by McDowell and the college's administration.

These costs would equal about 1 to 1.5 percent of the \$10 million project to complete the drawings, or \$100,000 to \$150,000. College administrators want the drawings completed by the end of the summer and the project on its way.

"We want to do it before there's a lot of changes in Lansing, while the people we know are still there," said McDowell, referring to legislative term limits.

Trustee Richard DeVries supported the expenditure for the architect, but he wanted to see a schedule of deadlines in the college's attempt to obtain state funds.

Trustees approved, 6-0, a motion for the board to consider the selection of an architect to help develop a plan for the renovation and construction of the Waterman Campus. Trustee Steve Ragan was absent.

The trustees then scheduled a meeting for 8 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28.

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Michigan Department of Community Health

Family: Case taking a dog's age in district court

By VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

When Corky, a 28-pound Wheaton terrier, ran away from home, David and Carol Grimmer didn't know what a doggone mess they were in.

The first-time offense for having an outlaw dog cost the Canton residents \$375 and several days in court.

The Grimmers said they have a bone to pick with 35th District Court Judge Ron Lowe, whom they claim dragged out a matter that could have been resolved in minutes.

Carol Grimmer has circulated a petition and gathered over 100 signatures "from taxpayers who don't want their money wasted foolishly on the prosecution of cases like this." She plans to file a complaint against Lowe with the state Judicial Tenure Commission.

"Holding up the court system on a case like this is unwarranted. The guy has no common sense," she said.

"I just feel like someone has to do something. From what I heard attorneys cringe when they have to go in front of him

and of course they don't want to say anything."

"It's very nauseating to think our judicial system gets so backed up over such a stupid thing," Grimmer said.

In August, Corky escaped from the Grimmers' 10-acre home on Gyde Road, near Beck. Much to the family's relief, Corky was found and was taken to the Humane Society. It cost \$25 to bail him out of the pound.

About six weeks later, the Grimmers received a summons in the mail from Canton Township ordering them to appear in 35th District Court for violating the township's "dog at large" ordinance.

"My husband wanted to plead guilty and just pay the ticket," said Grimmer.

At the arraignment in October, Lowe told the Grimmers they would have to pay the maximum \$500 fine if they plead guilty.

The misdemeanor charge of having a dog at large is punishable up to \$500 fine and possible 90 days in jail.

"I forewarn them at the arraignment that there would be a high probability I'd assess the highest fine," said Lowe, who

also said he has yet to impose the maximum \$500 fine for a dog at large case.

"I don't know the specifics of the incident at that time. It could be the 10th or 11th time the dog was loose or just a dumb mistake where a kid opens the door and the dog runs out," he said.

The goal is for both sides to sit down and talk, Lowe said.

One pretrial date was delayed before the issue was finally resolved on Jan. 8 before District Judge John MacDonald. MacDonald dismissed the case and levied a \$50 fine for court costs.

It also cost the Grimmers \$300 in attorney fees. "It was because of Judge Lowe that it had to go that far. We were told we should hire an attorney by Lowe," she said.

MacDonald said he dismissed the case at the recommendation of the prosecutor.

MacDonald, speaking in general terms, called dog at large cases "noneventful types of things."

"Many times it is taken care of (at the arraignment) if they want to plead guilty," he said. "You can look at the police report to

see if there were any flagrant violations, like dog bites..."

MacDonald said he wasn't aware of any concerns when ruling on the Grimmer case.

According to Lowe, Canton has been aggressively issuing dog-at-large tickets since the summer. So he has been taking the cases seriously.

"These are the type of tickets we get two or three of in a year. It seemed we have been getting five or six a week," Lowe said.

In 1996 there were 47 dog at large cases on the 35th District Court docket, 40 of which were Canton cases. In 1997, the number of total cases increased to 64 with 58 of them being Canton cases. The district court covers five municipalities.

Lowe also said he saved the Grimmers from having a criminal record. In a plea bargain, there is a deferred sentence in which the criminal misdemeanor case is taken under advisement by the court.

To comment via e-mail: tschneider@oe.homecomm.net. If your comments are intended for publication, please include your name and telephone number.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRISLER

Dispute:
David Grimmer holds the notorious Corky. Daughters Angela, 8 years old, Michelle, 11, and Natalie, 4.

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NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE RESIDING IN THE PLYMOUTH/CANTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Plymouth/Canton School District has petitioned the Charter Township of Northville to collect the 1998 school year taxes on the 1998 summer tax bills.

If you reside in the Township of Northville and you are in the Plymouth/Canton School District, your summer tax bill, which is collected by the Township of Northville, will include the full year school taxes. If you have any questions on this change, please contact the Township Tax Department at (248) 348-5810.

RICHARD M. HENNINGSSEN,
TOWNSHIP TREASURER
(2-5-98 PC 818084)

ADVERTISEMENT POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES

Northville Township Water and Sewer Division, is seeking a qualified person to fill a full time Technician II position. Job responsibilities include various tasks related to field work such as sewer manhole rehabilitation, water line repair, etc. The position shall pay \$12.37/hour, with benefits. Interested applicants may obtain an application at Northville Township Civic Center, 41600 Six Mile Road. Return applications to Township Hall, c/o Debbie Wilhelm. Deadline for applications is 4:30 p.m. February 18, 1998. EOE.
(2-5-98 NR 818046)

INVITATION TO BIDDERS PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY

Notice is hereby given that the Plymouth District Library will accept sealed bids until 11:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time Wednesday, February 11, 1998 for the following:

OFFICE FURNISHINGS

Specifications, proposal forms and other Contract Documents are attached or may be obtained at the Plymouth District Library, 705 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, during regular business hours.

The Plymouth district Library reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities.

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Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary
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Merian's Friends continue ballot petition drive

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Merian's Friends, the group advocating a Physician Aid in Dying law, has won one victory in the Michigan Legislature but still is raising money for petition signatures to put the issue on the Nov. 3 ballot.

"This issue must ultimately be decided by Michigan voters," said Rep. Ted Wallace, D-Detroit, chair of the House Judiciary Committee. His panel on Jan. 27 reported out House Bill 5474 on an 11-6 vote.

"Ted Wallace is in tune with the wishes of the people of Michigan," said Dr. Ed Pierce, the Ann Arbor physician and former state senator who chairs

Merian's Friends.

Voting yes were 10 Democrats, including David Gubow of Huntington Woods and John Freeman of Madison Heights, plus one Republican, Frank Fitzgerald of Grand Ledge.

Opposed were six Republicans, including Alan Cropsey of DeWitt and Gerald Law of Plymouth.

Senate seeks ban

Opposing the bill was the Michigan Catholic Conference.

Paul A. Long, its spokesman, said 38 states ban assisted suicide; the U.S. government bans federal funding for assisted suicide, and the Drug Enforcement

Agency warned physicians against prescribing or dispensing medication for assisting a suicide.

"The time has come for Michigan to enact a statutory ban against assisted suicide," said Long.

The measure banning assisted suicide is Senate Bill 200. It was passed last year by the Senate and reported out by the House Judiciary Committee. The ban would be temporary until 10 days after the Nov. 3 election unless voters approve continuation of the ban.

Even if it passes the House, HB 5474 is dead on arrival in the Senate. The Senate Judiciary Committee rejected its con-

tents when Sen. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township, attempted to offer it as an amendment to SB 200.

The bill would allow physician aid in dying (PAD) for an adult who has been certified mentally competent, given advice on alternatives, and is certifiably within six months of death; it also requires a seven-day waiting period.

Loans sought

Merian's Friends is named for Merian Frederick, who had Lou Gehrig's disease and ended her life at 72. Treasurer is Carol Poenisch, her daughter and a Northville resident. It is a non-partisan, ballot issue group and isn't associated with Dr. Jack

Kevorkian.

Here is the status of its initiative petition drive to put its bill on the ballot:

■ 247,127 valid signatures are needed within a 180-day period.

■ 350,000 signatures are being sought, to allow for invalid signatures.

■ 55,000 have been collected by volunteers; 16,000 petition forms are in circulation.

■ The group is hiring National Voter Outreach of Carson City, Nev., to collect 275,000 signatures at \$1 apiece.

■ The group has \$80,000 cash and is asking for interest-free loans of \$5,000 or more. "These will not be donations but actual loans, to be paid back when our signature campaign is completed," said Pierce. "We know from

the California and Washington campaigns that donations flow is much faster once we're assured of being on the ballot. These donations will pay off the loans."

■ Donations are being solicited from people who gave to the successful Oregon campaign, which raised 70 percent of its money from non-residents. "We think these same people will support Merian's Friends," said Pierce.

Merian's Friends can be addressed at PO Box 272, Northville 48167; its toll-free number is 1-888-217-0700.

Refer to HB 5474 (pro) and SB 200 (ban) when you write to your state representative, State Capitol, PO Box 30014, Lansing 48909.

Stepping down SEMCOG director will retire

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

John Amberger will retire at the end of March as executive director of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, the seven-county planning organization.

"I was really born for this job," said Amberger, 67, of Livonia. "As the middle of five children, I was the mediator and collaborator. I couldn't imagine a better life."

Amberger has enjoyed nearly rave reviews by SEMCOG's elected officials as he walked the tightrope of city-suburban and built-up versus developing suburb tensions.

"My wife is retired, and she wants to travel. I'll work until March. I'm looking at opportunities to think, read and write ... the kinds of things that are done in universities," he told the Jan. 30 executive committee meeting.

The executive committee promptly set up a 20-member committee with only one item on its Feb. 13 agenda: whether to promote deputy director Paul Tait of Ypsilanti to the top post or engage in a statewide or national search.

Betting odds are that Tait will get the nod, in the same way Amberger's predecessor, Michael Glusac, groomed and nominated Amberger as his successor 16 years ago. The panel is due to report at the Feb. 20 SEMCOG executive committee meeting.

Among members of that special committee will be Andrew Wardach and John La



John Amberger

Belle of Livingston County; Nancy Dingeldey (county commissioner), Jeddy Hood (West Bloomfield supervisor), Dante Lanzetta (Birmingham commissioner), and William Roberts (Walled Lake mayor) of Oakland county; and Elaine Kirchgatter (Canton treasurer) and Milton Mack (probate judge) of Wayne county.

Amberger was one of the corps of young managers groomed by Roman S. Gribbs, mayor of Detroit from 1969-72 and now a Court of Appeals judge living in the Northville area. Amberger earned two degrees from Wayne State University.

Glusac was Detroit corporation counsel and Amberger the mayor's executive assistant (after three years as superintendent of the Detroit House of Correction, the city's prison in Plymouth Town-

ship), when the pair took SEMCOG's top administrative slots in the recession year of 1974.

"It was a touchy situation," Amberger recalled. "We drove to Lansing to pick up the payroll."

Mel Ravitz, retired Detroit councilman who chaired SEMCOG in 1970-72, added an anecdote. "The person who came to our rescue was Walker Cisler, the chairman of Detroit Edison. He put up a personal \$50,000 bond to help SEMCOG meet its payroll. Not a corporate loan but a personal one."

SEMCOG was the outgrowth of a 1964 Johnson-era federal highway law requiring metropolitan areas with a central city of 50,000 or more to engage in regional planning in order to receive highway aid.

In time, SEMCOG developed road, sewer, housing and other plans for the region of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston, Washtenaw, St. Clair and Monroe counties.

More often than not, there was a tug of war between 1) black Detroiters and conservative suburbanites who mutually feared regional thinking and 2) the more aggressive regionalists who wanted SEMCOG to become an operating government with a population-based legislative body.

The group between these two camps, with Amberger and Glusac walking the tightwire above them, prevailed.

Conflict law applies

Public school academies, alias "charter schools," are subject to the public servant conflict of interest law, Attorney General Frank Kelley has ruled.

The 1995 school code defines "public school" to include entities "operated by ... a public school academy corporation," he noted.

In an opinion requested by House floor leader Pat Gagliardi, D-Drummond, Kelley said the 1997 state Supreme Court ruling, declaring PSAs constitutional, said PSAs are public schools whose "board members are public officials and are subject to applicable law pertaining to public officials."

Branches closed

All 78 Secretary of State branch offices will be closed Monday, Feb. 16, in observance of Presidents' Day.

One tip from secretary Candice Miller: "Customers can expect fastest service mid-morning, mid-afternoon, mid-week and mid-month."

Environmental bill

The state House passed, 102-0, a bill to establish a set of environmental indicators to be used for an annual state environmental report.

If passed by the Senate, it would require the Department of Environmental Quality to develop indicators and objectives for toxic releases, air quality, surface water quality, drinking water, solid waste, hazardous waste and others.

It's time for Michigan to join the 37 other states who have undertaken environmental indicator projects and the 16 states that have state-of-the-environmental reports," said Rep. Barbara Dobb, R-Union Lake, a co-sponsor.

Refer to House bill 4558 when writing to your state senator, State Capitol, PO Box 30036, Lansing, 48909.

New bills

■ Rep. Bob Brown, D-Deerborn Heights, is sponsor of the Democrats' high-profile bill to require auto insurers to refund \$1 billion in "overcharges." The refunds would come from the \$2.5 billion surplus in the Michi-

gan Catastrophic Claims Association. Democrats contend the MCCA assessment is "a tax on every car in Michigan."

■ Rep. John Freeman, D-Madison Heights, has introduced a bill to eliminate surcharge fees imposed by banks and automatic teller machine (ATM) operators for electronic transactions. Freeman's bill will allow ATMs to continue charging "interchange fees," usually \$1 to \$2, that pays for the network.

Appointments

Gov. Engler has appointed:

■ **Albert Calille**, of Plymouth, to the state Civil Rights Commission. He is legal counsel for Ameritech and replaces Rev. Robert Sirico of Grand Rapids for a term expiring at the end of 2001.

■ Ten persons to the Workers' Compensation Board of Magistrates, which conducts hearings in disability disputes. Area residents include **Mary Brennan**, Plymouth, previously with the law firm of Schellcase, Auld and Johnston.

All terms expire Jan. 26, 2002.

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Alliance to host peace workshop here

County Executive Edward McNamara, County Prosecutor John O'Hair and Sheriff Robert Ficano have joined together with the Alliance for Peace to chair a workshop, "Best Practices: Finding Peaceful Solutions to Violence in our Community," for western Wayne County communities.

The workshop scheduled for Saturday, March 7, focuses on finding solutions to violence in our communities. The morning sessions identify emerging issues of violence prevention and the afternoon sessions focus on what is working in communities. Several renowned individuals from area agencies, law enforcement and the prosecutor's office are scheduled to speak.

The workshop is scheduled

from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency Annex, 5454 Venoy Road in Wayne.

Youths will have an opportunity to participate in a "hands on" violence prevention training.

A Peace Circle Program, a program which promotes positive alternatives to violence in communities, will be introduced at the end of the workshop. Area businesses will be asked to sponsor the circles in their places of business so that members of the public can make a pledge.

The circle represents a connected community, while purple ribbons representing peace will be attached to the circles. Pledge cards connected to the ribbons to allow participants to write down and commit to peaceful actions.

S'craft class tells how to have successful aquarium

Don't put your fish by your stereo.

No, that's not a new country western song. It's sage advice from Joe Derek, instructor of the Schoolcraft College course The Successful Home Aquarium.

Derek said most people set up an aquarium because watching fish is a peaceful, tranquil activity in this busy, bustling world.

"I find myself just looking at my 12 fish," said Derek, the city naturalist for Farmington Hills. "You often see aquariums in psychologists' or doctors' offices."

Water conducts sound and putting an aquarium near stereo or television speakers, in a room where children are noisy or boisterous, or near a banging door

will result in mighty unhappy fish.

"To have a successful aquarium, you must have some education," Derek said. "I began offering these classes because I would see people get fish, and sell off their equipment a few weeks later because something had gone wrong. If you learn the right way to do it, keeping an

aquarium is much easier than people think."

The aquarium class will be offered Saturday, Feb. 28, at 9 a.m. Derek will discuss types of fish, aquarium size, food, breeding, live plants and salt water. The fee is \$32.

For information, call (734) 462-4448.

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Numbers game Printing salaries serves public

We hear it all the time from elected officials and school administrators: Why is it necessary to print my salary in the newspaper?

The Observer — like most newspapers — gives prominent space to stories about salaries, pay increases, campaign finances and other financial issues involving municipal government or local schools. That includes salary information for full-fledged public figures (township supervisor and school superintendent) and anyone else whose check stub has a direct link to the taxpayer public (police officer or teacher).

We don't spend so much time collecting and disbursing this information because it makes good newsroom gossip. Nor do we seek to further erode the reputation of a merciless press digging into people's private lives for any personal embarrassment that can be found — if that's possible these days.

We do it simply because the public has a right to know, and the newspaper is often the first — and easiest — option for the public to obtain such information. In fact, navigating the labyrinth of policy hoops put in place by municipal government in order to get the numbers sometimes makes the newspaper the only practical option.

■ Canton residents have the right to know when the township merit commission decides the supervisor's salary should always be \$1,000 more than the public safety director's, as it did last spring — meaning an automatic

raise for the supervisor any time the public safety director gets one.

They have the right to know that the township clerk is one of the three appointees to the merit commission and personally benefits from any decisions the commission makes regarding compensation or benefits for elected officials.

■ Residents should be informed when the township board approves two sets of raises in a single year for non-union employees, as it did in mid-January, so that the salary for some will rise by nearly three times the rate of inflation. It may be, as Canton officials said, that township pay scales are lower than surrounding communities and need to be adjusted for competitive reasons. But the public should be able to have access to enough information to form its own conclusion.

■ Taxpayers living in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district should be made aware that the top administrators earn annual salaries of \$90,000-100,000 at the same time school officials plead, with some legitimacy, that Proposal A places unfair restrictions on per-pupil allocations within the district.

Most of the people who seek careers in Canton's public sector have a strong devotion to bettering the community through their work. Through those efforts, they produce tangible results on which the public can judge the success or failure of an administration. Financial compensation — and the particulars of how it is awarded — is part of that record too.

Life before Engler wasn't bad

A visitor from Mars, listening to Gov. John Engler's 1998 State of the State speech, could have thought the world was created on Jan. 1, 1991, and before that, all was chaos. Engler could say nothing good about the Milliken years (1969-82) or the Blanchard years (1983-90). His constant theme was "the failed policies of the '80s" or "the failed policies of the past." He measured all progress from the date he took office.

To Engler's credit, however, we note he finally has awakened to the urban sprawl issue. "Reusing old industrial sites... enables us to slow down the paving of green fields and thus conserve Michigan's beautiful countryside," he said. We welcome him to the club.

The historical truth is that Engler tried to obliterate his debts to Govs. Milliken and Blanchard, much like Winston Smith rewrote newspaper articles for the Ministry of Truth in Orwell's "1984." Consider:

■ Progress against crime didn't begin with the 300 bills Engler signed. The 650 law firm, which cruelly dooms drug "mules" to life without hope of parole, was passed in 1978, when William G. Milliken was governor. Voters in 1978 eliminated "good time" for inmates at the insistence of Oakland's then-Prosecutor Brooks Patterson; approved tighter bail rules the same year; and elevated the Crime Victims Rights Act to constitutional status in 1988.

■ Engler advocated construction of 5,400 new prison beds, conveniently forgetting that his predecessor, James J. Blanchard, presided over the biggest orgy of prison building (from 13,000 to 35,000) in Michigan history.

■ Engler didn't mention shutting down state mental hospitals, but he actually followed the lead of Milliken and Blanchard in "deinstitutionalizing" mental patients into community programs.

■ Blanchard opened the door to welfare reform by capping individual benefits for seven of his eight years in office — and taking heat from the furious welfare lobby. Engler's welfare reform touchdown was built on Blanchard's blocking.

■ John Engler will earn an honored place in the history books for his advocacy of 1994's Proposal A, which cut school property taxes and saved many non-industrial school districts from imminent disaster; his performance was heroic. But he shouldn't forget that he failed on his first try, in 1993.

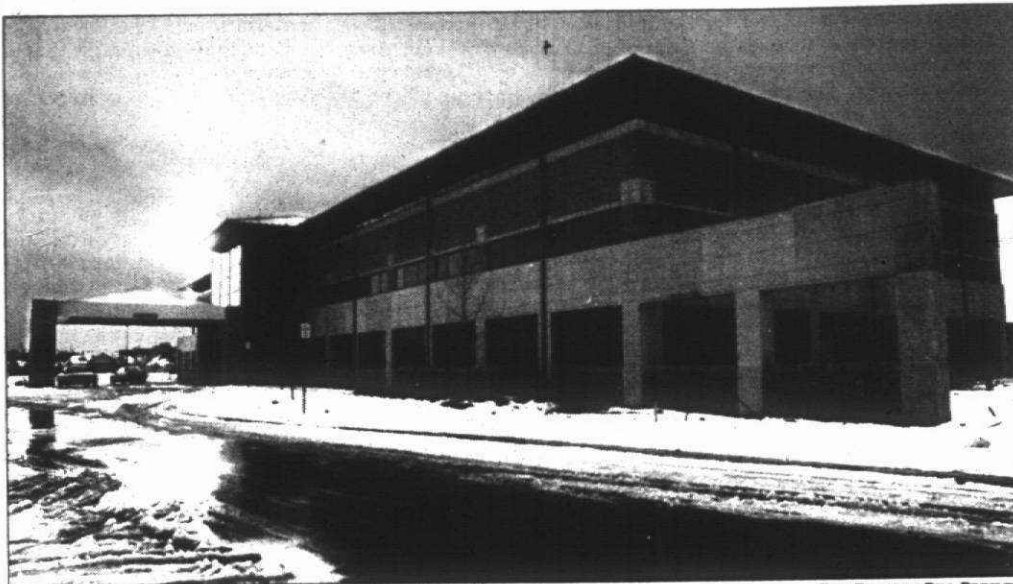
■ "Remember the 17-year-old court fight over special education funding? We fixed that problem," Engler said. Yes, and we remember he was the governor fighting the suburban school plaintiffs for seven of those 17 years? How does his administration propose to deal with the way special education pupil costs are outstripping the rate of revenue growth?

Long before Engler created his world in 1991, city officials were talking about "urban sprawl" — the abandoning of older cities, the paving over of meadows for malls, the subdividing of farms though there was meager population growth.

The governor proposed a \$500 million bond issue, with \$400 million for restoring polluted and abandoned sites; \$50 million for protecting drinking water; and \$50 million for upgrading facilities at our 96 state parks. "Great idea. The Legislature should polish it and put it on the November ballot."

We give Engler credit where he has earned it. But he is no Pericles, leading us to a Golden Age. John Engler has never broken with the past. His "taxpayer's agenda" has given us tax cuts along with hefty increases in the sales, use and gasoline taxes. If he appears tall, it's because he stands on the shoulders of people like Milliken and Blanchard.

Building boom



Opening soon: St. Joseph Mercy Canton is scheduled to open to the public on Feb. 17. The three-story health center is at Canton Center Road and Summit Parkway.

LETTERS

Ameritech editorial erred

Your recent editorial published Jan. 22, is filled with errors we'd like to clarify for your readers.

Your assertion that Ameritech Michigan cross-subsidized Ameritech New Media's Americhoice program is absolutely false. Ameritech New Media offered a promotion that its cable TV customers loved but other cable companies hated.

Rather than take their case to customers and compete with better service, quality programming and attractive prices, our competitors took their case to regulators.

We believe the courts ultimately will decide in favor of the customer and the Americhoice promotion. In the meantime, we will continue to bring area residents innovative products and services at competitive prices.

You are wrong in describing the Ameritech calling card. The card gives customers the protection they want against price gouging at some pay phones. By using the Ameritech card, customers receive reasonable rates for local, long-distance and international calls.

You are wrong in describing Michigan's local phone market. Today, every single Michigan resident could have a choice of at least one additional local phone provider.

The long-distance companies have local-service licenses, they have access to the local phone network and they have rates filed with the Michigan Public Service Commission. Yet, they refuse to sell local service to residential consumers.

Are these the "local" phone companies the Observer & Eccentric would like to see providing service to consumers? If these companies are ignoring residential customers now, why does the Observer & Eccentric believe they'll suddenly be eager to serve customers in the future?

Customers in Michigan have an excellent local phone company in Ameritech. We spend more than \$1 million every single day in this state to build and maintain one of the nation's most technologically advanced communications networks.

The Ameritech companies are among Michigan's largest employers, with more than 16,500 total employees in the state. Ameritech hired more than 2,300 people in Michigan last year and we're still hiring!

We are attentive to customers' needs and provide communications service like cellular, paging, Internet, cable TV and local phone services that make their lives easier.

Upgrade Canton

The last thing Canton needs is another generic grocery store. Isn't there a plan in process for a Spartan chain store on Lilley and Cherry Hill? In response to your story suggesting a new Farmer Jack in Canton, with an overload of Kmart, Meijer, and Kroger's in Canton, planning officials need to do some real planning and make Canton an interesting place to live. I was embarrassed to read at the Liberty Fest last summer that the restaurants representing "A Taste of Canton" were Applebee's and other chain restaurants. Bring us some specialty markets, stores and restaurants. Make us proud of where we live!

Debby Ash
Canton

Four more years?

John Engler epitomizes a vacuum of moral leadership now endemic to Michigan. His administration has repeatedly shown lack of balance and civic concern for the good of all people of this state.

Engler's skillfully controlled face reveals his cold heart. Issues that come to mind where the public has been frozen out are: the quality of environment, crass indifference to the mentally ill, relentless consolidation of power and ouster of the public input, delayed or ineffective intervention for poor children's health and well-being, the whittling away of the authority and support needed by the public schools to excel, the lack of commitment to vital infrastructure needed to grow the economy and protect the public safety and welfare, as well as other areas where his leadership has failed the positive solution.

Especially egregious are Engler's characterizations of some children as punks and thugs; these youthful individuals, having survived their former fetal state, are now loathed, despised, and neglected by the very man who claims to champion their preborn sacred right to life.

The thought of another four years of Engler's callous indifference to the needs of others should haunt voters who, unless the Democrats rise above their divisive territorial squabbles, will have no choice but to allow, by default, Engler to continue into a lame duck final term in which the corrosive effects of his civic abuse will be impossible to gloss over and costly to rectify.

Thomas Houseman
Holland

Canton Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

What public service does bond appeal serve?

GUEST COLUMNIST



DARICE SCHUBATIS

their tickets in the partisan section of their ballots. The splitting of tickets is not allowed in primary elections, and split ticket ballots cannot be counted. This rule is included in the voting instructions of every primary election.

The bureau's report indicated that a limited number of voters claimed that they did not receive instruction in the operation of the voting equipment. The bureau investigated this claim and found that adequate written and total instructions were available in the precincts and that precinct workers were fully aware of their duties and conscientiously fulfilled them.

On May 14, Jerry Vorva of Plymouth filed a complaint in Wayne

County Circuit Court against the Plymouth-Canton School District and the School Board of Canvassers seeking to void the March 22 election and require the district to hold a new election on the bond proposal. Vorva claimed that the district failed to adequately train election workers, failed to inform voters in the use of voting equipment, failed to insure that 716 votes were recorded, failed to obtain required statutory authorization to the use of voting devices, and used voting devices in a manner that votes properly cast were not recorded.

Vorva also claimed that the district denied the voters equal protection under the law by conducting the election on a Saturday, reducing the likelihood of voter turnout, by scheduling the election in March when some voters are habitually out of state even though a regular school election was already scheduled for June, and failing to automatically send absentee ballot requests to senior voters.

It should be noted that the district will automatically send absentee requests to seniors if they have asked the district to do so. But like all districts in the state, Plymouth-Canton does not automatically send absentee requests to all seniors.

On Aug. 22, the court dismissed

the case stating that "there is no genuine issue to any material fact."

Vorva filed an appeal to the circuit court's decision, and that appeal is pending. Certainly, it is regrettable that 720 votes were not counted. And, I know there are people in this community who are unhappy about not only the undervotes, but the results of the challenges as well. My intent is not to discount their feelings but to make a practical observation. The school board is compelled to obey the law. If the courts ultimately order that the election stands, then the school board must proceed with the sale of bonds and construction of schools.

There is no reason to believe that the appeals court will find differently than the boards of canvassers, the Bureau of Elections, or the Wayne County Circuit Court. So then, what possible service is being done for this community by pursuing this case in an appeals process that will likely take years to complete and produce the same findings we were already given five months ago?

Darice M. Schubatis, a Plymouth resident, is an active parent in the Plymouth-Canton School District.

Engler appears to be suffering from third-termism



PHILIP POWER

The great thing about writing a weekly column is you get enough time and distance for reflection. God help those editorial writers and TV commentators who have to distill wisdom into sound bites just 30 seconds after a big speech ends!

I've now had the time to read and re-read Gov. John Engler's State of the State speech, delivered last Thursday. The more I reflect on it, the more troubling it becomes.

First, it's obviously a very political document, intended to get the best of both worlds in an election year but of virtually no use as a policy agenda.

To reassure his base of conservative voters, Engler wants to cut state income taxes by \$3 billion by 2005, require a 60 percent legislative vote to raise future taxes, lock up more felons in more new prisons for longer jail terms and require folks getting welfare checks to test free of drugs.

To reach out to moderates and independents, the governor wants to borrow \$500 million for environmental cleanup, test pupils at the end of third grade for reading proficiency, end social promotion from grade to grade in schools and offer state-subsidized health insurance for poor children.

Second, so characteristic of Engler the master schemer, it's very clever, especially on taxes.

Talking about tax cuts, even on a timetable so delayed that every current member of the Legislature will be term-limited out of office by the time the rates come down, guarantees good next-day headlines. And it forces challengers to play on Engler's time-tested battlefield of tax cuts.

Moreover, the salami tactic of cutting taxes year after year into the next century insures that less and less money will be available for government to spend for whatever purpose. Less money, less big government. And, as every conservative knows, less government is better government.

Third, the speech reeks of third-termism, the political malady that affects politicians when they decide to run for a third term in office.

Engler is already less than immune, having made it pretty clear some years ago that he would never run for a third term as governor and then reversing himself by means of a stealth announcement of candidacy issued by his wife, Michelle.

Third-termism is a subtle disease, the sort

that sneaks up on you when you aren't paying attention.

A first symptom is the increasing delusion that the real world is defined by what goes on its capitals, whether Lansing or Washington, and not by the daily lives of ordinary people. I remember urging senior members of Gov. Blanchard's administration to spend at least one day a week doing stuff outside Lansing. Well, Gov. Engler and his people have been around Lansing for a long time, and it's an open question in my mind whether they've lost their earlier perspective.

Another symptom — quite evident in Engler's speech — is the tendency to try to be all things to all people. Whether you agreed with him or not, what was gripping about Engler's first years in office was his willingness to set out his philosophy and his convictions, warts and all, without trying to pander to the middle. You can almost see the writers for this year's State of the State saying, "Well, we've got to say something to please the environmentalists, and we've got to throw a bone to the teachers unions," and so forth.

The last symptom is the worst. By diluting the focus, third-termism saps the will.

John Engler's speech was not a focused document. In offering something for everybody, it lost the sharpness and bite that have made the governor such a formidable political figure.

Eight years is a long time for any governor. You've used up most of the good ideas you came into office with, and your agenda keeps getting more and more diluted with each passing year. And year by year, you keep alienating folks until there are lots of people mad at you. Very often, the inevitable response is to try to be all things to all people.

I think John Engler is showing the symptoms

of third-termism. If that's true, he'd better watch out, because eventually his opponent will sniff the illness out and exploit it.

The Allegro mess

I feel obliged to follow up on the outpouring of response to my column on being detained for six hours inside an Allegro Airlines airplane sitting on the tarmac at Cincinnati International Airport.

Obviously, many, many people have suffered equally maddening experiences. If I were in the airline business, I'd start doing surveys of customer satisfaction.

There has been a concrete outcome to this whole mess. Chief Customs Officer John Shea has provoked a series of meetings among the various federal agencies with jurisdiction at airports. The new rule is that no airplane will be held for longer than two hours without allowing passengers to disembark, make phone calls and use the toilet. Thank you, Mr. Shea!

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@online.com.

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COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:
Should the United States bomb Iraq in order to get cooperation with United Nations?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



Shella Holland
Plymouth



Sybilie Vought
Plymouth



Nancy d'Holst
Morgan, Utah



John Mosakowski
Plymouth

"No, I think that's a little extreme."

"Yikes! If we could just narrow the bombing on Saddam."

"I'm not sure if we should do that or not. I think we could be opening up a can of worms for retaliation in this country."

"I don't have the information to make that decision. That's why we elect people."

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COMMON SENSORS



JACQUE MARTIN-DOWNS

Be a village, adopt a cause

The call came in to me around lunch time. It was from an elementary principal who had a woman and her little girl sitting with him in his office.

"I don't know what to do," he said. "This mom is homeless and in need of a place to stay. She's tried the local homeless shelters and found they were all full. Can you help?"

It's distressing for families when they find they must exit their current living situation because of eviction or violence. They often leave their last residence with only the clothes on their backs.

My current travels take me over to the Wayne County Family Shelter at Merriman and Michigan Avenue in Westland. The personnel at the shelter where a parent can get back on their feet while taking advantage of in-house preschool child care as well as enrolling their children in the local public schools while they are there. But one of the things I notice they lack is extra money for incidental but needed items that might get these families out of there more quickly.

One resident joked with me that she wanted to get bus tickets to the shelter to go into Detroit to look for permanent housing, but there was only one available, so she had no way to get back. We also worked to enroll her child in school, but needed the child's birth certificate. When asked why she didn't just apply for a new one, she said she didn't have the fee to get it.

All these Catch-22s make you just want to open your own pocketbook and throw money at these dilemmas.

A brainstorm

Since we have been inundated with the motto, "It takes a village ...," it would be super if the village would rally around causes such as this one and provide the shelter with just one thing, whether it be money for the transportation, birth certificates or quite literally offering rides to job interviews or housing complexes where the client might apply for housing; a group could "adopt a cause" and make it theirs for a year.

Wouldn't it be honorable if a civic group, church group or other organization used their money or their volunteers to support just one function at a place, such as the homeless shelter. That way, the shelter liaison could call upon the adoptive group for help when a situation comes up.

As I was rooting around the metropolitan area looking for a group or an institution to donate medication to a little boy whose parents had been recently laid off, I came upon a wonderful pharmacist named George who not only helped me out but also suggested that the family call him if they were in dire straits and he would enlist the help of his church group to support them.

George and all of the other people like them represent the village. We need more donors like that. There are needs right in our immediate communities - the Wayne County Family Shelter for one.

And the children

Last but not least, I must talk about how all of this impacts the children. As you well know, they are the greatest victims of all. They played no part in getting the family to this point and they're powerless to change it. The coolest thing about the kids is that they are so incredibly flexible and resilient. All they need to know is that they're loved and that someone is going to take care of them no matter what.

When I see shelter parents continue to think of their children first, they have incredible perseverance and commitment. Their lives are falling apart, on Maslow's hierarchy they're at rock bottom, and yet they care enormously about what happens to the kids.

One mom came into our tutoring room while we were there and asked if we could do some fun school games

Please see SENSORS, B2

Taking care of baby



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGGFIELD

How cute: Jan Yuergens (right), Hegira Prevention's administrative assistant, joins prevention specialist Sherri Fick (left) and Y-MAP Director Maureen Knighton in looking over some of the baby clothes and toys that they give to the parenting teens they work with their school-based support groups and monthly support meetings.

Y-MAP helps teen parents manage new life



The staff of Y-MAP has a very specific mission: to help teen parents increase their parenting skills, help pregnant teens get prenatal care and make sure teen mothers get back to school.

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

When Sherri Fick talks to pregnant and parenting teens about staying in school and getting an education, she's speaking from experience.

A prevention specialist with Hegira's Young Mother's Assistance Program, she was well into her senior year of high school when she discovered she was pregnant. With college and a career as a preschool teacher in her future, she hid her pregnancy from school officials, so she could graduate.

"I hope I serve as a good role model," she said. "I had my baby during midterms, and I went back to finish college. My mom and aunt helped out and I took a lot of night classes and worked on weekends."

Y-MAP has been around for about four years. It was the brainchild of Gail Jiskra, who was concerned about the pregnant teens she was seeing in the those schools, who were homeless or living on their own.

At the time a part of the Community Commission on Drug Abuse, she joined with fellow prevention specialist Jacquie Martin-Downs to apply for a grant through the then-Southeast Michigan Substance Abuse Services.

The group liked what it read and gave Jiskra the grant. Now called the Southeast Michigan Community Alliance, it has continued to increase the size of the grant every renewal period.

Fick and newly named Y-MAP director Maureen Knighton work with teens ages 13-21, helping to increase their parenting skills, get prenatal care and get back in school.

"We're here to teach them about good sexuality and relationships, not to promote sexuality," Fick said. "We make referrals for WIC, DSS, Medicaid, if they need a doctor or pediatrician. If they're not in school, we want them to get in school; if they're in school, we want them to stay in school."

Y-MAP provides in-school support programs at Garden City's Cambridge

Center, Redford Union, Wayne Memorial, John Glenn and Crestwood High schools and the District 7 Alternative Education Program at Madison School in Dearborn Heights.

It works with about 150 teens each year, and participation varies. In Redford Union, the in-school program has two teens while the Wayne-Westland programs attracts 20 teens.

"We discuss in-depth issues, hear more personal stories and make more referrals in the school groups," Fick said. "It's more one-on-one, and we can end up spending two-three weeks on a topic."

Teen's biggest issue

For parenting teens wanting to return to school, the biggest issue is child care, and the options are limited. Six alternative education programs offer child care - the Bentley Center in Livonia, Cambridge Center, Madison School, Pearson Center in Redford, Starkweather Community Education Center in Plymouth and Tinkham Center in Westland. The Bentley Center, however, won't accept out-of-district teens.

"The biggest issue for these teens is child care, so they try to find a school that provides it," Fick said. "Regular schools don't provide that kind of help

and the norm for schools is to send them somewhere else.

"We do have a couple of kids who've gone back and are doing it, but it's a little harder. The kids are in day care or their parents are watching them."

On the third Monday of the month, Y-MAP brings together pregnant and parenting teens from all over for a 6 p.m. support group meeting at Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia.

Child care is provided, and the teens are treated to dinner and a speaker, before breaking into smaller groups for pregnant teens, parenting teens with children up to age 1 1/2 and those with children older than 1 1/2.

Prevention specialist Ty Madge leads the fathers' group - currently six-seven come out to the monthly meetings while one has become involved in one of the in-school groups. Among the topics he covers are the importance of being a father, taking care of their children and their families.

"Whatever subject the girls are working on, I try to work in for the young fathers ... parenting skills, coping, the difficulty of being a good father," Madge added. "I really try to increase their awareness."

Please see Y-MAP, B2

Beanie Baby raffle benefits First Step

When Carol Strom and Pat Tancill, owners of the Apple Wreath Store in Livonia, landed a highly-sought-after TY Beanie Baby Princess Bear, they wanted to use to help a favorite charity.

The twosome decided to hold a raffle and have earmarked the proceeds further the work of First Step which serves victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in 35 western Wayne County and Downriver communities.

So for a cost of \$3 a ticket or \$5 for two tickets, people can buy chances to win the bear, which honors the late Diana, Princess of Wales.

The drawing will be held at noon Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Apple Wreath, 32626 W. Seven

Mile Road, Livonia. Ticket holders need not be present to win.

The tickets are available in the store, which specializes in "temptations for the home" and unusual gifts, or at First Step, 5820 Lilley Road, Suite 5, Canton.

A private, non-profit agency, First Step provides comprehensive programs for men, women and children, including a 24-hour help line, individual and group counseling, a non-residential children's program, Violence Intervention Project for people who batter and emergency shelter for the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

For more information, call the Apple Wreath at (248) 474-6090, or First Step at (734) 459-4900.



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGGFIELD

What's your bid?: First Step Executive Director Judy Ellis (left) and Carol Strom, co-owner of the Apple Wreath Store, show off the TY Beanie Baby Princess Bear that is being raffled off to help the agency.

Wanted: Ladywood grads to join alumnae association

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

The first year, there were 90 in attendance; the second year, it was up to 120. So organizers of the third annual Ladywood High School alumnae reunion are hoping for an even bigger turnout in April.

The luncheon is being planned by a group of women intent on building the ranks of a budding Ladywood Alumnae Association.

"We're still in the forming stages of the association," said Ellen Elliott of Plymouth and a 1966 Ladywood graduate. "If we get more interest and address updates, we should be OK."

The idea of an alumnae association is the brainchild of Karla Storrs, Pat Thomas, Lorraine Boore and Patty Soter, but don't look for a "class of" after their names. It's their daughters who attended the all-girl high school in Livonia.

Their idea is to start a group similar to the alumni association at Detroit Catholic Central High School in Redford that would offer business networking for members and help promote the high school.

Future goals include providing scholarship funds at the high school and college level and a mentoring program for Ladywood students, sponsoring a career day and "having fun," said Elliott.

'Most of the people we have are older, pretty much from the '60s and '70s. Because of the big mix of age groups, you don't think about what people you know have been doing, but about being back at school.'

Ellen Elliott
-Plymouth

said Elliott.

With the help of Candy Vanderhaven of the class of 1967 and Ladywood principal Sister Mary Ann Smith, a 1966 graduate, the group picked the third Saturday in April for its annual reunion luncheon.

This year's luncheon will be on April 25. It will start with a 10 a.m. Mass at the Felician Sisters' Motherhouse Chapel, followed by a catered lunch at the high school.

There also will be a guest speaker, music by current Ladywood students and a raffle (tickets cost \$1 each). The \$12 tickets will be available through April 11.

Members of the classes of 1958 and 1973 will be honored for

their 40- and 25-year reunions respectively.

The high school opened in the 1950s, and more than 3,000 young women call it their alma mater. But in spite of the number of grads, an alumnae association was never started.

According to Elliott, it has to do with the lifestyle of the 1950s. Women weren't in the workforce then, so there was no need for such an alumnae association.

The group has been working from old class lists in hopes of tracking down graduates, but many of its mailings have been returned because of outdated addresses.

Word-of-mouth has helped, but hopes are of landing one person from each class to help track down even more graduates.

"We need as many volunteers as possible," Elliott said. "Most of the people we have are older, pretty much from the '60s and '70s. Because of the big mix of age groups, you don't think about what people you knew have been doing, but about being back at school."

Mailing pertaining to the third annual luncheon will go out at the end of February and grads who have not received information about the previous luncheon are asked to send their address updates and class information to Vanderhaven at 17309 Victor Ct., Northville 48167.

If all goes well in finding missing graduates, the next step would be to track down former teachers.

"It doesn't matter if you were on the cheering squad or in the National Honor Society, everyone is welcome," Elliott said. "Because you might not have done anything in school doesn't mean you shouldn't come back, you should. Everyone is welcome."

"I'm in the class of '86 and was the only one there last year, but even though the others weren't from my class, it was nice to see people from other classes and meet older alumnae. It was a really nice day."

they both get gifts. They same goes for a mother and father who come.

"We want them to return, so we give them an incentive," Fick said.

On the average, 30 teens show up for the meetings although topics like teen sexuality, birth control, child support and parental rights have swelled participation to 45-50 people.

Like many organizations, Y-MAP relies on volunteer help and donations. The Mothers' Group at St. Thomas A' Becket Church in Canton has donated 20 copies of the "Complete Baby and Child Care" book, while other churches and individuals have provided "beautiful" crocheted baby afghans. Even a dentist's office pitched in, donating toothbrushes and dental floss.

"Baby clothes and equipment, we always take those things, but they have to be in good condition for safety purposes," Fick said. "We hardly ever purchase anything."

People "who'll mingle and listen" to the teens, help set up food and help pick out gifts or help teens and children get out of their cars at the monthly support group meetings are needed, as are experienced child care workers to give two hours of their time to work with the children.

At one time, Y-MAP tried a mentoring program, but phased it out. The teens didn't want to take responsibility for keeping the relationship going.

"We thought every young mom could use a mentor, but some of the girls said they didn't need another mother telling them what to do," Fick said.

"I'd like to resurrect a portion of it, so it's kind of on hold until March," added Knighton, who worked in child services before taking the helm of Y-MAP. "I feel this is an area where I can do prevention before it becomes a Protective Services problem."

Knighton and Fick want to expand Y-MAP into other places like churches and community centers in the next few months to reach even more teens. They are realistic about what they do and what can be done for future generations.

"We have to be realistic that we can't save everyone, but we have planted the seeds on how to behave with their children, so we don't have another generation of teen mothers," Fick said. "It's kind of a comment on society that if the mother is a teen mother, the child will be."

For more information about Y-MAP, call Fick or Knighton at (734) 513-7589. The program is based in the Hagira Prevention offices in the Bentley Center, 15100 Hubbard, Livonia.

TOPS chapter celebrates anniversary

TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter 28 will celebrate the organization's 50th anniversary with an open house and fashion show on Tuesday, Feb. 17.

The 6:30 p.m. celebration will be at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland. Fashions will be provided by Winkelman's.

For more information, call (734) 721-2787 or (734) 722-7225.

Y-MAP from page B1

First-time participants are given gifts like sleepers, bottles, diapers, portrait studio coupons,

toys and parenting books. If a participant brings a guest — a pregnant or parenting teen —

Sensors from page B1

with her 4-year-old. No problem... You're a mom who is still thinking about her children and I applaud you!

If you have a question or comment for Jacque Martin-Downs,

a special projects coordinator for the Wayne-Westland Community Schools and private therapist, write her at the Observer News-papers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

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WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Hebert-Beggs

Sandra Hebert of Westland and Donald Hebert of South Lyon announce the engagement of their daughter, Debra Elaine, to Larry Andrew Beggs Jr., the son of Jeanette and Larry Beggs Sr. of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of the Detroit College of Business with a bachelor of business administration degree. She is employed as a client service administrator at J.R. Thompson.

Her fiancé is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering. He is employed as a project engineer at Excel Industries.

A May wedding is planned at the Fair Haven Baptist Church in Westland.



Capen-Toye

Dennis and Penny Weese of Westland and Michael and Deborah Capen of Hemet, Calif., announce the engagement of their daughter, Mikale Maria Capen, to John Michael Toye, the son of Samuel and Gloria Toye of Westland.

The bride-to-be is pursuing a degree in nursing at Wayne County Community College.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in communications, marketing and political science.

An October wedding is planned at Plymouth Church of the Nazarene.



McLogan-Monroe

John and Laura McLogan of Ann Arbor announce the engagement of their daughter, Colleen, to Mark Monroe, the son of David and Kathy Monroe of Warren.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and Eastern Michigan University. She is currently employed by the Rochester Community Schools as a first-grade teacher.

Her fiancé is employed by Valiant International in Troy as a senior process engineer.

A July wedding is planned.



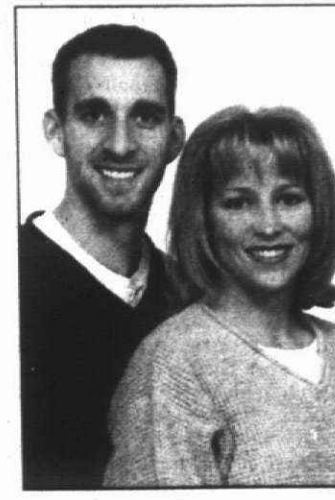
Capen-Brown

Dennis and Penny Weese of Westland and Michael and Deborah Capen of Hemet, Calif., announce the engagement of their daughter, Wendi Capen, to Charles Brown, the son of Keith and Peggy Carter of Northville and Tim Brown.

The bride-to-be is a registered nurse for IHS Home Care in Ann Arbor.

Her fiancé is a metal model maker for Troy Design, Redford.

A July wedding is planned at First Congregational Church of Wayne.



Sherwood-Whitford

Anne Loretta Whitford and Andrew Warner Sherwood were married Aug. 2 at the First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham.

The bride is the daughter of Richard and Helen Whitford of Port Huron and Allen and Loreto Drescher of Ashland, Ore. The groom is son of Lyle and Ellen Nustad of Beverly Hills and the late Lee Sherwood.

The bride is a graduate of Port Huron Northern High School, St. Clair Community College and Eastern Michigan University. She is employed as a second grade teacher at Washington Elementary School in Livonia.

The groom is a graduate of Birmingham Seaholm High School and Bowling Green State University. He is a CAD operator and traffic signal technician with Manstall Associates in Farmington.



Donaldson-Werblin

Mike and Virginia Donaldson of Canton announce the engagement of their son, Douglas Michael, to Wendy Leilani Werblin, the daughter of Jeff and Carol Werblin of Syosset, N.Y.

The bride-to-be is a 1988 graduate of Syosset High School, a 1992 graduate of Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., and a 1997 graduate of the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University in Durham, N.C. She is employed by APM Management Consultants in Chicago, Ill.

Her fiancé is a 1988 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School, a 1992 graduate of the University of Michigan and a 1997 graduate of the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University. He is employed by Arthur Andersen Business Consulting in Chicago, Ill.

A September wedding is planned in Chicago.

Buxton-Kerpet

Tracey Veronica Kerpet and Jeremy Arden Buxton were married Aug. 23 at Mother Mary Chapel in Farmington Hills.

The bride is the daughter of Ronald and Johanna Kerpet of Westland. The groom is the son of Roy Buxton of Royal Oak and Joan Buxton of California.

The bride is a graduate of Livonia Franklin High School and is attending Schoolcraft College.

The groom is a graduate of Ferris High School and Grand Rapids and also is attending Schoolcraft College.

The bride asked Kelly Gibbons, Amanda Kerpet, Kimberlee Kerpet and Marsha Kerpet to serve as her attendants.

The groom asked Guy DuRubbio, Kevin Kerpet, Kyle Kerpet, Marj Kerpet and Ron Kerpet to serve as his attendants.



The couple received guests at St. John's Cultural Center in Southfield before leaving for a honeymoon trip to Colorado. They are making their home in Westland.

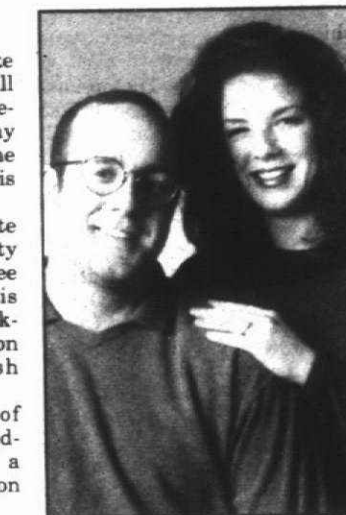
Veresh-Harris

Christopher and Marcia Drake and David and Janice Veresh, all of Canton, announce the engagement of their daughter, Bethany Joy, to David Randy Harris, the son of Yvonne and Dewey Harris III of Coldwater.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in secondary education. She is employed at the Outback Steakhouse, while seeking a position as a middle school English teacher.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Specs Howard School of Broadcast Arts. He is employed as a production manager for Canton Community Television.

An April wedding is planned at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Canton.



Read Health News

WINTER SPECIALS

WINTER SPECIALS

Have a Heart!



with Forgotten Harvest

This Valentine's Day -- a time when people show their love -- you can reach out with love and help hungry men, women and children in our community. Forgotten Harvest, metro Detroit's prepared and perishable food rescue program, announces its "Have a Heart" campaign. Give a "Valentine" to someone in need: your donation to Forgotten Harvest can make a difference in the life of a hungry person. With your support, Forgotten Harvest can continue to rescue nutritious food, that might otherwise be thrown away, and deliver it to the hands of hungry people.

Through a generous grant offered by a Rhode Island philanthropic foundation, **gifts received between February 4th and 14th may be eligible for a one-to-one match, doubling their value.** To qualify, the donations must be received between the 4th and 14th of February, 1998. For more information call the Forgotten Harvest Office at (248) 350-FOOD (3663).

So have a heart! Clip the attached coupon and send it to Forgotten Harvest with your heartfelt gift! Together, we can make a difference!

Have a Heart! Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Telephone Number _____
with Forgotten Harvest Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Send all donations to: Forgotten Harvest, 21711 W. Ten Mile, Suite 200, Southfield, MI 48075
Our hearts go out to all our partners in relieving hunger! Your gift is TAX DEDUCTIBLE.



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"Where Your U.S. Dollars Go Further"
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Financing Available OAC

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Lazare's
End of
Season
Sale
SECOND LOCATION
at the Plato Room
Athenum Hotel
in Greektown.
TWO DAYS ONLY
February 7th & 8th
10am to 6pm

ANNIVERSARIES

Parks

Conrad and Catherine Parks of Livonia celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on Dec. 26. Native Detroiters, they exchanged vows on Dec. 26, 1942, at St. Cecilia's Church in Detroit. She is the former Catherine Ebling.

The couple celebrated their anniversary with a Caribbean cruise on Holland America's MS Noordam. The trip ended early when the ship ran aground in the Gulf of Mexico near Cozumel. The passengers were evacuated and eventually flown back to Tampa.

The Parks have five children — Gary and wife Jan of Grand Rapids, James and wife Lori of Plymouth, Donald and wife Elaine of Sarasota, Fla., Jack of Livonia and Robert and wife Melinda. They also have six grandchildren.

He retired in 1990. Members

Thompson

Donald and Alma Thompson of Redford will celebrate their 50th anniversary with a small family dinner at the Botsford Inn in Farmington Hills.

The couple exchanged vows Feb. 14, 1948, in Detroit. She is the former Alma Patton.

The couple has five children — Michael of Athens, Ga., Donald Jr. of Kenosha, Wis., and Cheryl Jezirowski, Taryn Dickson and Eric, all of Redford.

He retired from Hydr-Matic of Ypsilanti after working there for 43 years.

The Thompsons are members of Bethel Baptist Church in



Michael and Mary Foley of Westland announce the birth of Kaitlin Marie Dec. 15 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. She has four brothers — Cody, Sean, Jacob and James. Grandparents are Tony Foley and Ruth Rayman of Livonia.



Michael and Jennifer Carter of Westland announce the birth of Nicholas James Nov. 12 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. He joins a brother, Ryan Cote, 2. Grandparents are James and Margaret Carter of Plymouth, Donna Whitlow of Westland and Timothy Pechette of California.

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Edward and Suzanne Hillard of Wayne announce the birth of Chelsi Rose Dec. 4 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. She has a brother, Edward Bruce II, and a sister, Britanni Nicole. Grandparents are Rose Montrose of Wayne and Cindy Kramer of Westland.

David and Heather Guzik of Garden City announce the birth of Kara Lynne Nov. 14 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Bob and Mary Guzik of Livonia and Leonard and Sharon Seeley of St. Helen.

Carmine and Rita Paterra of Westland announce the birth of Dante Carmine Dec. 17 at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. Grandparents are John and Viola Paterra of Livonia and Camillo and Angiolina Merlino of Australia.

City Hospital. He joins a brother, Sean Compele, 4. Grandparents are Kenneth Gorak and Karen Gorak of Garden City and Pat McIntosh of Westland.

Mark and Annie Bomia of Westland announce the birth of Brendan Paul Dec. 22 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. He joins a sister, Paige Marie. Grandparents are Paul and Nellie Himes of Taylor and Nancy Bomia of Panama City Beach, Fla.

Eric and Kelly Kovacs of Westland announce the birth of Spencer Dennis Kovacs Nov. 19 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Edward and Felecia Kovacs and Charles and Janice Wells, all of Garden City.

David and Lori Quinn of Garden City announce the birth of Sara Catherine Dec. 23 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. She joins brothers David and Ryan and sisters Erin and Tiffany. Grandparents are Roy and Laura Quinn and Joy Quinn, all of Garden City, and Bonnie and Charles Robertson of Harrison.

Rodney and Lisa Owens of Westland announce the birth of William James Jan. 1 at Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills.

Jack and Teresa Murray of Garden City announce the birth of Karmyn Renee Nov. 21 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. She joins siblings Krystal, 9, Kara, 6, and Kyle, 1. Grandparents are Doug and Mary Jo Gowen of Westland.

Larry and Lisa England of Westland announce the birth of Matthew Tyler Dec. 26 at Oak-

NEW VOICES

wood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. He joins two sisters, Kristin, 10, and Kaitlin, 4. Grandparents are Myrtle Wood of Bellefonte and Barbara England of Westland.

Brian Douglas and Tracy Ann Schenk of Garden City announce the birth of Alyssa Ann Nov. 21 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. She joins a sister, Kaitlyn Marie, 2 1/2. Grandparents are Doug and Anita Schenk and Karen Grimaldi, all of Garden City, and Ben and Nancy Grimaldi of Waterford.

Thomas and Cynthia Getz of Kentwood announce the birth of Thomas Eugene Jr. Jan. 1 at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids. He joins a sister, Samantha Marie. Grandparents are John and Sally Getz of Canton and Vivian McMahon of Woodhaven. Great-grandparents are James and Betty Getz of Renovo, Pa.

Jim and Karen Milican of Livonia announce the birth of David James Joseph Nov. 22 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. He joins three sisters, Allison, 8, Brittany, 5 1/2, and Caitlin, 2 1/2. Grandparents are Charles and Beverly Davis of Taylor.

Steven and Tammie Tackett of Detroit announce the birth of Steven Lee Jr. Nov. 23 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. He joins a sister, Kaitlyn Marie, 2 1/2. Grandparents are Charles and Beverly Davis of Taylor.

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Skating through history: It started with some bones

HOOKED ON HISTORY



VIRGINIA PARKER

It's time again for millions of spectators to join in that quadrennial ritual—gluing themselves to the TV for the Winter Olympics. My favorite evenings feature the ice skating competitions.

Unfortunately, I can claim only a nodding, personal acquaintance with that sport since it was inaccessible during most of my youth. At 31, I finally took skating lessons. By that age, however, my aversion to swan dives onto frozen surfaces was well-ingrained, so I mastered only the most elementary, forward and backward glides.

People's fascination with this particular winter fun is, of course, nothing new. Skating and sliding over the ice is a pastime that dates back hundreds and even thousands of years.

Historians argue—as they do over most issues—about the actual dates and places of origin, but some details are indisputable. Skating, or more accurately sliding, was first born of necessity. The earliest instruments were flat feet. Next came bones strapped on with leather thongs. It is probably this kind of skate that was mentioned in the Scandinavian sagas. One pair of ancient bone skates preserved in Switzerland is said to be 4,000 years old.

Eventually, iron runners were introduced, which elevated skating to an art form. Evidence of their early use can be traced through engravings. The oldest woodcut, from 1498, depicts an event in Holland a full century before. Understandably, most of the engravings are of the Dutch because they had to travel frozen canals every year.

Written records chronicle England's adoption of skating for leisure. The first mention was made by Thomas A'Becket's clerk in 1190. He noted young

men playing upon the ice, some with bones tied to their feet. No other account appears for almost 500 years when two diarists commented on the sport. Various gentlemen and the future King James II were seen skating for pleasure.

Coming to America

Skating took hold in America about the same time, despite Puritan contradictions on the subject. The Massachusetts Puritans frowned on sports and recreation. There was even one occasion when a teacher was charged with witchcraft for showing young girls how to skate. Yet, a diary from 1696 mentions many afternoon skaters taking to the frozen pond.

Young male scholars at Harvard, as well, presumably indulged in skating on nearby ponds for the pure fun of it. This seems logical, given that the Pilgrims (a Puritan faction) had lived in Holland for a time. It is also consistent with other forms

of mischief and merriment in which the college students, youths that they were, engaged.

During the 1700s and 1800s, skating became increasingly popular. Engravings and paintings from those eras document that women, too, took to the ice. Undaunted by their corsets and voluminous dresses, ladies strapped blades to their shoes and joined the gentlemen for winter frolics.

The sport captured the hearts of many, including famous figures such as Marie Antoinette, Napoleon, Czar Alexander II and Queen Victoria.

In mid-19th-century America, an awakening philosophy embraced the virtues of physical exercise. Enterprising people took advantage of that trend. Seventeen skate patents were registered during the 1850s and 149 during the 1860s. Clamp-on skates cost between 50 cents and \$25.

The opening of New York's Central Park in 1860 was a well-

timed boon to the sport. Fifty thousand skaters filled the park each day. Within that decade, skating clubs and indoor rinks opened in many of the country's major cities.

Season's lure

Today, people are still enticed by the frosty season's lure. That's partially why we thrill at the Olympians' displays of skill and grace. Yet, all skaters—regardless of ability—who gather at ice rinks each winter become part of the sport's history.

Perhaps it is in children's enjoyment of the sport that the most special thread of continuity exists. Around here, people tell stories of how, as kids in the 1920s and 1930s, they skated down branches of the Rouge River from Plymouth and Canton into Wayne.

In those days, Elsie McKinstry Fulford recalls, the clay pit at Lilley and Van Born roads was a wonderful place for ice skating. Some nights, it drew 200 people

from surrounding communities. Neighborhood men chopped a hole in the ice to test its depth and make sure there was no current. About halfway down the pit's 15- to 20-foot walls, there was a ledge where skaters built grand bonfires to warm themselves and toast marshmallows.

Many years ago, a husband and wife in their 80s reminisced about skating parties of long ago. The couple's faces brightened as they recalled their mothers serving hot chocolate to all the kids. For that moment, wrinkles melted away. In their hearts, the octogenarians were kids again, reliving the sweet pleasures of childhood—of gliding over the ice, laughing with friends, and taking hot chocolate from their mothers' hands on a wintery day.

Some things never change. Historian and author Virginia Bailey Parker has a bachelor's degree in history and a master's degree in historic preservation. She lives in Canton Township.

WRC serves up spaghetti dinner, luncheon series

Whether you're interested in good food and some friendship raising or good food and fundraising, Schoolcraft College's Women's Resource Center has your ticket.

On the fundraising side is the WRC's annual spaghetti dinner and wine glow Tuesday, March 24, at the college's Waterman Center.

Festivities will get underway with the wine glow at 6 p.m., followed by the spaghetti dinner at 7 p.m. Money raised is used for scholarships for displaced homemakers and single parents who utilize the center's services.

Patron tickets are available for \$60 each and include two dinners and a listing the program. (\$36 is a tax deductible donation to the WRC.) Individual tickets cost \$25 with \$13 as a tax deductible donation. Tables of eight are available.

On the friendship-raising side is the WRC's winter luncheon series. The luncheon features a salad, bread and rolls, gourmet entree, fresh garden vegetables, dessert and beverage, prepared by the Schoolcraft Food Service.

The luncheon is held in

the Waterman Center with doors opening at 11:30 p.m. and lunch at 11:45 a.m. Seating for the luncheon is limited, and prepaid reservations are required. Tickets cost \$14 each.

Kathleen Wider, author of "The Bodily Nature of Consciousness: Sartre and Contemporary Philosophy of Mind," will be the guest speaker on Friday, Feb. 20.

Wider will look at such things as what it means to be conscious and how does what's going on in our brains affect what's going on in our minds.

Minnie Adams will be the guest on Friday, April 17, and her topic will be Elderhostels, a non-profit educational organization which offers inexpensive short-term academic programs, hosted by educational institutions, for older adults.

Tickets for the spaghetti dinner or the luncheon series can be purchased by sending a check, payable to Schoolcraft College, to the Women's Resource Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia 48152.

For more information, call the Women's Resource Center at (734) 462-4443.

Looking for college? Begin in 8th grade

When should parents encourage their children to begin the college search? Experts suggest as early as 8th grade.

Armed with the right resources, such as "Peterson's Smart Parents Guide to College," parents can gently guide their children through the anxiety-ridden college selection and application maze.

Here are a few words of advice for college-bound students and some helpful book suggestions from the guide:

■ In eighth grade, consider what you'd like to study in college and develop a high school schedule to best prepare you.

■ In ninth grade, head over to area colleges, explore the campuses and visit dorm residents you know.

■ In 10th grade, create list of important college factors (location, size, etc.) and determine their value. Find and list colleges meeting those factors through such resources as "Peterson's Guide to Four-Year Colleges or Two-Year Colleges" Web. Review incoming college materials. Attend college fairs and speak to representatives at colleges of interest.

■ In the fall of 11th grade, register and/or take the PSAT. Review college list again, if necessary. Request information from remaining colleges. Continue visiting college fairs.

■ In the spring of 11th grade, decide whether to take the ACT, SAT I and SAT II, Subject Tests (and which Subject Tests to take) and register for the testing. Review the SAT or ACT Success and begin preparing. Review your college list and make any additional cuts. Schedule campus visits now or for fall.

■ In the fall of 12th grade, visit campuses missed in the spring. Narrow the field to three-six colleges to which you'll apply. You can register with Peterson's new free online service, <http://applyto.college.com>, to start or manage the college application process.

With the service, you easily and quickly complete multiple applications and communicate with your guidance counselor, college admissions officers, and other students through a private messaging feature.

Take SAT and/or ACT again, if desired. Pick a teacher and counselor to write letters of recommendation. Watch the deadlines for transcripts, recommendations, etc.

■ In December of 12th grade, finalize and submit applications. Pick up a copy of "The Ultimate College Survival Guide."

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Because there is limited space available, pre-registration is required. For more registration information, call Monday through Friday at least one week in advance of the session. Note: Individual dates and times may change in each community. Clinics begin in January (weather permitting). Non-resident fee or local parks and recreation policy in effect.

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Observer & Eccentric Ski School - January 17 and February 17 & 18, 10 a.m.-noon and 1:30-3:30 p.m. Ski a special event! Family & Friends Ski Nights - January 31 and February 7 and Winterfest - January 24

Independence Oaks County Park - c/o Oakland County Parks
9501 Sahabaw Road, Clarkston, MI 48348-2064 • 248-425-0877
Observer & Eccentric Ski School - January 18 & February 7 & 15, 10 a.m.-noon and 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Ski a special event! Learn to Ski Day - January 31 and February 7

Rochester Avon Recreation Authority -
104 East Second Street, Rochester, MI 48307 • 248-456-8308

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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.

For more information about advertising call Nan at: 313-953-2099

Children's '98 Directory

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Religion from page B7

at the church, 28660 Five Mile Road, Livonia. The course combines spiritual wisdom and psychological insight into a practical answer to mankind's deepest innermost need. The purpose of the course is to teach the process of "removing the blocks to the awareness of love's presence." For more information, call the church at (734) 421-1760.

MARRIAGE SEMINAR

Dr. Duane Cuthbertson will be the special guest speaker at a marriage enrichment seminar offered at 6 p.m. Sundays, Feb. 8, 15 and 22, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton.

The seminar topics will be "Why Marriages Fail" on Feb. 8, "How to Have a Conflict-Free Marriage" on Feb. 15 and "How to Correct Your Spouse and Get Away With it" on Feb. 22. For more information, call the church at (734) 455-0022.

EXERCISE FUN

The Merriman Road Baptist Church Fitness Bunch meets 6:15-7 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the church, 20555 Merriman Road, Garden City. The program consists of low-impact light aerobics, perfect for toning and shaping muscles. For more information, call the church office at (734) 421-0472.

"BUILDING HOPE"

"Expanding Mission: Building Hope" is the 1998 program for the United Methodist Women's Call to Prayer and Self-Denial service 10-11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10, at St. Matthew United Methodist Church's fellowship hall, 30900 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia.

On Wednesday, Feb. 11, the Detroit West District United Methodist Women's Local Leadership Training will be held at Trenton First United Methodist Church. For more information, call (734) 422-6038.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills and renew their love for each other Friday through Sunday, Feb. 13-15, at St. John's Family Life Center in Plymouth. For more information, call Bill and Carol at (248) 528-2512 or Dan and Debbie at (810) 286-5524.

VALENTINE CARD PARTY

A Valentine card party will be held 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, at St. Simon and Jude Church, 32500 Palmer Road, Westland. There will be door and table prizes, 50/50 drawing and cards and games of choice. Tickets cost \$6 and include a light meal and snacks. For more information or tickets, call (734) 728-2090 or (734) 729-2716.

BLOOD DRIVE

An Red Cross blood drive will be held 3-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11, at the Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty Road, Northville. For an appointment or more information, call Bill Heaton at (734) 591-2456.

The Red Cross also will have a blood drive 2-8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, in the church hall of St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh Road, Livonia. Walk-ins are welcome. For more information, call the church at (734) 464-1222.

Keeping the flame of your romance alive through forgiveness is the topic of a new 30-minute radio special for Valentine's Day.

"Love is For-Giving" will air Sunday, Feb. 8, as the Valentine's Day edition of "Woman to Woman," produced by Lutheran Hour Ministries. The nationally syndicated program, hosted by Phyllis Wallace, can be heard locally at 5:30 p.m. Sunday on Ann Arbor's WAAM-Am (1600).

The special features insightful interviews with three guests

who have learned how to fuel their marriages through forgiveness.

The guests include Tova Borgnine, wife of Academy Award-winning actor Ernest Borgnine and author of the book "Being Married Happily Forever," and Charles Moss Duke Jr., former lunar pilot on Apollo 16, who now leads marriage seminars with his wife, Dotty.

The program also includes an interview with Ken Hensley, musician formerly with the rock group Uriah Heep who will

share how his life on the road for 23 years affected his marriage to his wife, Darlene, and how they worked through it.

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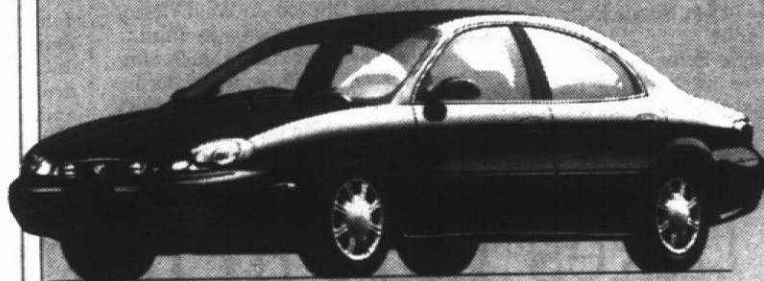
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OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Rockers roar

The biggest crowd ever to witness a Detroit Rockers game at home got everything they paid for Sunday.

A total of 12,254 fans showed up to see the Rockers edge the Cincinnati Silverbacks 16-14 at Joe Louis Arena. The previous Rockers' attendance record was 9,326 at Cobo Arena in 1993.

It was an important win for Detroit, improving its record to 10-15 with 15 games remaining, one game behind the Edmonton Drillers for the final playoff berth in the National Professional Soccer League.

Helping the Rockers get this all-important victory were Jeff Gold, a Plymouth Salem and University of Wisconsin graduate, with one two-point goal and an assist for three points. Also, Travis Roy collected three assists and Lars Richters had four blocked shots (both from Livonia Stevenson).

The Rockers host league-leader St. Louis in their fourth annual School Day matinee game at 10:30 a.m. Thursday. All tickets are discounted to \$6.

Bulls unbeatable

The Bulls completed their regular season in the Plymouth-Canton Junior Basketball League's National Division for seventh and eighth graders in perfection, posting a 12-0 record. They were no less perfect in the playoffs, winning the league title by going 4-0.

Team members are Scott Obsniuk, Ryan Obsniuk, Daniel Lyons, Matt Hurst, Billy Gazsi, Aaron Schmidt, Andy Olexsey, Michael Bonner, Eric Wedoe, Michael Lanier, Jonathan Gwizdak and Matt Coppiellie. The team was coached by Jay Obsniuk, Gerry Olexsey and Dick Schmidt.

College hoop stars

Stephanie Edgerton (formerly Gray), a Plymouth Canton graduate, turned in some key minutes in Northern Michigan's women's basketball win over Lake Superior State. Edgerton played just six minutes, but in that time she scored eight points and grabbed four rebounds in a 93-57 victory.

She also had a solid game against non-league rival University of Michigan-Dearborn, pouring in 12 points, with five boards and two steals as the Huskies won 102-25. She is averaging 4.3 points and 2.2 rebounds for NMU, now 17-1 overall and 11-1 in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, and ranked seventh in the NCAA Division II.

Oakland University ran its record to 15-5 last Saturday with a 79-50 triumph over Siena Heights in Rochester.

Cyndi Platter, a senior forward and a Plymouth Salem graduate, connected on 5-of-7 floor shots, scoring 10 points, grabbing 11 rebounds and dishing out five assists in 31 minutes.

Salem Football Club

The Plymouth Salem Linebackers Football Booster Club will have their monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18 in the Salem HS cafeteria.

Parents of any boy playing football, or wanting to play football, this fall are encouraged to attend. Upcoming events to be discussed are the golf outing, picnic and fund-raisers.

For further information, call club president Joe Mestrovich at (313) 459-1122.

Canton tennis meeting

An introductory meeting for all players and parents of players wishing to compete on Plymouth Canton's boys tennis team this spring will be conducted at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11 in Canton HS's Little Theater.

All player and parents of players are strongly urged to attend by coach Barb Hanosh.

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

Top skaters to compete

BY C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER

If you want to know what the heck is going on at Compuware Arena this weekend, then understand that what you see surrounding the place — lots of cars and lots of people — describes the event perfectly.

It's BIG. It's the biggest figure skating event that will be in the U.S. this year, and it is also the biggest skating event in terms of numbers on the ice for each event and popularity growth.

It's called precision team skating, and the Plymouth Figure Skating Club will be the host for the United States Figure Skating Association's Midwestern Precision Team Sectional Championships, which begins Friday morning and concludes Sunday morning.

"We're really very lucky to have it," said Bob Rzepecki of the Plymouth Skating Club. "You have to have the right size of arena and good parking. We pursued this even before (Compuware) was completed."

Approximately 145 teams and 3,000 skaters are expected to converge on the arena. Needless to say, the Midwestern Sectional — one of three in the country — is the biggest in the country, representing 21 states (17 will send teams).

Precision team skating is far different than any other figure skating event, mainly due to the numbers involved. Teams consist of 24 members, who do their costumed ice dancing routines together in musical programs

lasting (depending on their age division) from three-to-four minutes in length.

According to Rzepecki, the routines include "precision moves and ice dancing on skates to popular music," with age divisions from 9-and-under (preliminary) to seniors. Skaters competing over the weekend will range from six-to-60.

"As they get older, it gets harder," he said. The competition should be intense, simply because by 2002 precision skating is expected to be an Olympic sport — which may explain why it is "the fastest growing of the skating sports," according to Rzepecki.

There will be 17 teams competing in

Please see SKATING, C3

Midwestern Precision Team Sectional Skating Championships

■ **When:** From 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday; from 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday; and from 8-11 a.m. Sunday.

■ **Where:** Compuware Ice Arena in Plymouth.

■ **Admission:** Three-day passes for adults are \$15; for seniors and children under 12, three-day passes are \$7.50. Single-day tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children under 12.

■ **Who:** Teams from 21 states are included in the Midwestern Sectional; 17 will send teams, with a total of 145 teams and 3,000 skaters expected to compete, including those from the Plymouth Figure Skating Club, host of the event.

■ **At stake:** The top five finishers in each division will advance to the National Precision Team Championships, March 5-8 in San Diego.

At the pinnacle!

Rocks reach top form in winning Observerland

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Salem wrestlers treated spectators and opponents to a record-setting performance Saturday at the Seventh Annual Observerland Tournament.

The Rocks had a record six individual champions and scored a record 261 points en route to winning their first Observerland title at Westland John Glenn.

"We did about as well as we can do today," Salem coach Ron Krueger said. "We're getting to the end of the year where we have to get everything out of our team, and we were trying to do that today."

"We wanted to score as many points as we could, and we'll try to do it again in two weeks (at the Western Lakes Activities Association tournament)."

Salem's closest competition came from a pair of usual foes. The Rocks were followed by Redford Catholic Central (201 1/2) and defending champion Livonia Stevenson (180 1/2).

It marks the fourth time in the short history of the tournament those schools have comprised the top three teams.

Stevenson is a three-time Observerland champion. Catholic Central, which set the previous record of 250 points in 1996, has won twice and Farmington High School once.

"We knew Salem was just too strong to beat; they're an awesome team," CC coach Mike Rodriguez said, adding the real surprise was his team finishing second.

The Shamrocks had a double dual Friday, managing a narrow victory over Adrian and losing to Rochester Adams while winning only two matches.

"I thought we'd get into that thing and get ripped up," said Rodriguez of the Observerland tournament, "but I guess the competition is starting to show. I guess we're an outstanding 6-12 team."

The Rocks put seven wrestlers in the finals and took home nearly half of the 14 gold medals.

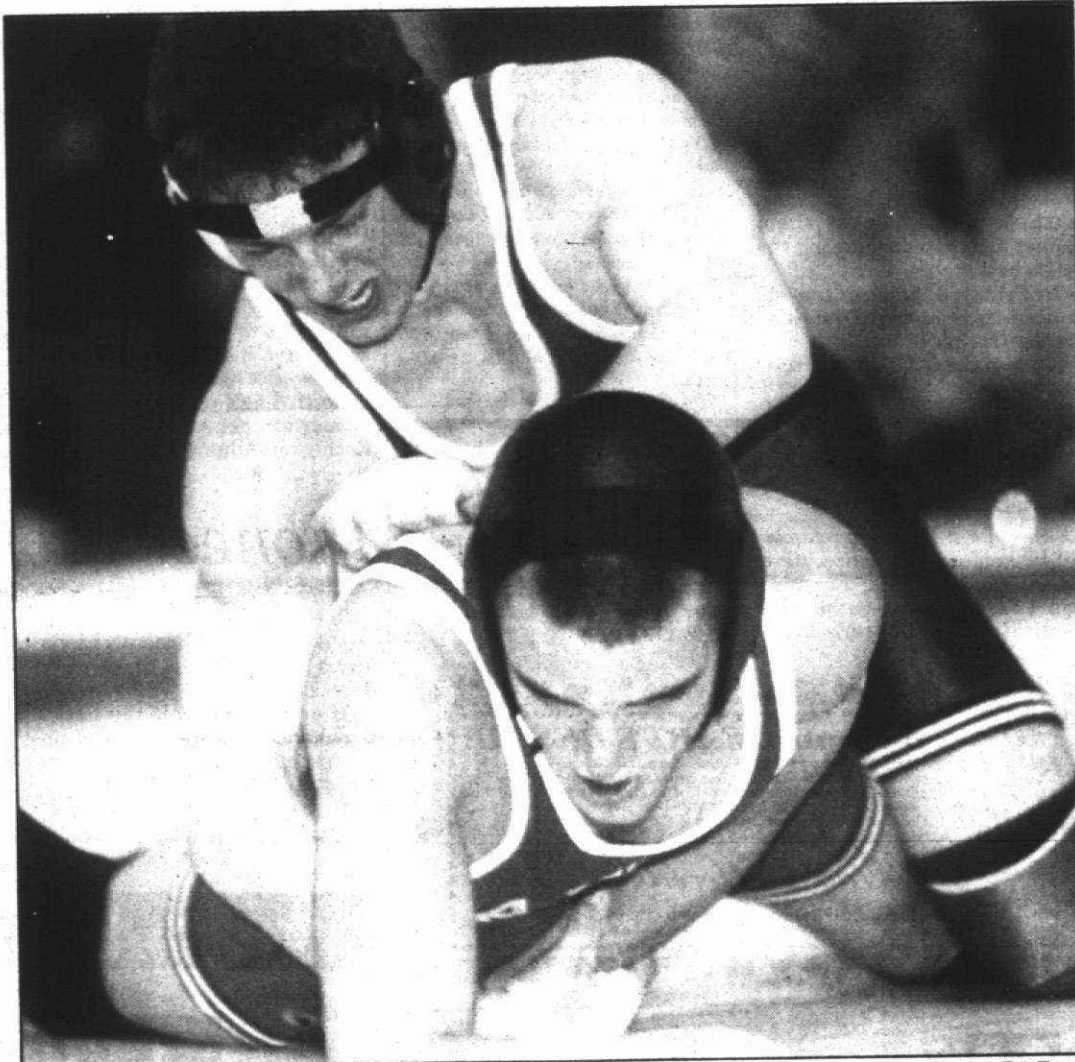
Sophomores John Mervyn (103) and Josh Henderson (125) and seniors Dan Hamblin (140), James Greene (145), Anwar Crutchfield (160) and Teono Wilson (189) were Salem's winners.

Salem junior Charlie Hamblin pinned defending champion William Laramie of Wayne in the heavy-weight semis but lost a 10-3 decision to CC junior Casey Rogowski in the finals.

"(Hamblin) and Laramie are cousins, so I'm sure there was a little extra rivalry there," Krueger said.

Three wrestlers won consecutive titles but not at the same weights. Greene won at 135 last year and Rogowski at 189; Glenn senior John Fedulchak moved up from 140 to win the 152 title.

Stevenson senior Dan Seder, the 135-pound



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Top notch: Salem's Dan Hamblin (on top) wasn't too bothered by an injured right hand. He reached the finals of the 140-pound division, where he pinned Canton's Brian Musser (bottom).

champion, and Fedulchak were voted the tournament's most outstanding wrestlers by the coaches — Seder in the lower weights (103-140) and Fedulchak in the upper weights (145-275).

Seder, who was named a tournament MVP for the third time this season, repeated an earlier victory over CC sophomore Mitch Hancock in the

finals, 8-2.

He also won the Shamrock Invitational 7-0 over Hancock, who was the Observerland champ at 112 pounds last year.

Seder had just a 4-2 lead after two periods, but

Please see OBSERVERLAND, C4

Salem survives challenge from Western for 51-48 win

BY NEAL ZIPSER
STAFF WRITER

BASKETBALL

The Plymouth Salem basketball team may have forgotten what it was like to actually be in a close game.

On Tuesday, Walled Lake Western reminded them.

After nine-straight convincing victories, including five in the Western Lakes Activities Association, the visiting Rocks passed their toughest test yet in the league by holding off Western, 51-48.

The Rocks improved to 6-0 in the league — two games better than Farmington Harrison, Livonia Churchill, Westland John Glenn, Walled Lake Central and now, Western.

But it wasn't easy for the Rocks, who built leads of eight and nine points in the second half only to see the Warriors battle back.

And a battle it was.

The game was very physical. The Rocks, who were already playing without Jeff McKian, who turned his knee in practice Monday, nearly lost Bhavin Patel in the second quarter when he was thrown to the ground by Western's Dave Harraf.

The Warriors lost their center, Jack Tensdale, after he caught an elbow to his head on the last play of the first half. He left to receive stitches and didn't return.

And later, Western lost its best three-point shooter, junior guard Ben Dewar, when he left the game with a knee injury with 56 remaining in the game. His loss proved to be huge as the Warriors got the ball back with 14 left and a chance to tie.

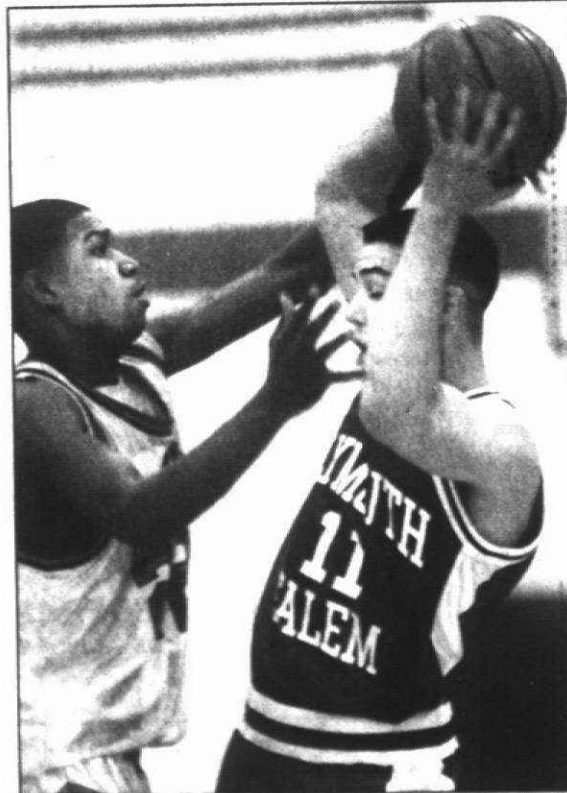
Western was forced to hustle down court and run its play because all of its timeouts had been used in its fourth-quarter comeback. Their rally fell short as three-point tries by Wes Hazel and Jeff Burgess clanged off the rim.

"I did kind of forget what it was like to play a close game, but this is fun — as long as we win," said Salem's Tony Jancevski. The 6-foot-9 junior scored 10 points, grabbed 13 rebounds and hit two free throws with 22 left that proved to be the breathing room Salem needed.

Junior forward Aaron Rypkowski came off the bench to lead Salem with 11 points.

Junior forward Jeff Mitchell scored a game-high 19 points for Western (15 in the second half). Dewar added 13 points.

Please see SALEM HOOP, C3



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BREKLER

Tough time: Matt Mair (with ball) holds on against Western's Wes Hazel.

Defense proves pivotal as Whalers win a pair

Multi-goal scorers like Andrew Taylor and Jesse Boulerice — they each had a two-goal game last weekend — will get their share of mention, but perhaps what should get the notice is the Plymouth Whalers' defense.

The Whalers, struggling at a 500 pace in the Ontario Hockey League for the last couple of weeks, got two much-needed victories at Compuware Arena last weekend, and they did it by surrendering just one goal.

On Saturday, it was Boulerice's two goals that ensured Plymouth's 4-1 triumph over the Sarnia Sting. On Sunday, Taylor scored twice in the first period to propel the Whalers to a 5-0 shutout over the Kitchener Rangers.

Robert Esche was in goal for win over Sarnia; he made 18 saves. Robert Holsinger got the shutout against Kitchener, making 15 saves.

Against Sarnia, David Legwand contributed a goal and an assist. Yuri Babenko scored a goal and both Sergei Fedotov and Taylor had two assists.

Taylor also had an assist to go with his two goals in the win over Kitchener. Paul Mara chipped in with a goal and an assist, and Eric Gooldy and Troy Smith each netted goals. Harold Drucken added two assists.

The two wins pushed Plymouth's record to 27-17-4 for 58 points in 48 games — seven behind the London Knights, who lead the OHL's West Division with a 31-16-3 mark in 50 games.

The Whalers face a tough weekend, too, with three games in three days, two of them against teams ranked among the OHL's best.

On Friday, Plymouth travels to play the Central Division-leading Guelph Storm, who currently own the OHL's best record.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS (Through Feb. 2)

Team	W	L	T	Pts.
West Division				
Ottawa 67's	29	12	7	65
Baltimore Bullets	31	19	2	64
Kitchener Frontenacs	27	17	3	57
Oshawa Generals	20	27	4	44
Peterborough Petes	17	27	5	39
Toronto St. M. Majors	12	28	8	32
East Division				
Quebec Storm	33	14	5	71
Barrie Colts	31	14	4	66
Kitchener Frontenacs	29	23	7	47
Owen Sound Platers	20	26	3	43
Sudbury Wolves	17	30	5	39
North Bay Centennials	13	33	8	32
West Division				
London Knights	31	16	3	65
Plymouth Whalers	27	18	4	58
Sarnia Sting	23	18	8	54
Erie Otters	22	26	3	47
Windsor Spitfires	17	31	3	37
St. John's Greyhounds	15	29	6	36

(33-14-5, 71 points). On Saturday, the Whalers play at Owen Sound (20-26-3, 43 points), then return home to host the Kingston Frontenacs — who are 27-17-3 for 57 points, third best in the East Division — at 6:30 p.m. Sunday.

WHLER NOTES: Ranked among the OHL scoring leaders is Whaler rookie David Legwand, who has 43 goals and 33 assists for 76 points, fourth in the league — even though he missed six games to compete in the World Junior Championships in December.

Legwand still has a commanding lead among rookie scorers, with Belleville's Jonathan Cheechoo second with 58 points. The Whalers' Yuri Babenko ranks fifth among rookie scorers (16 goals, 29 assists, 45 points).

Plymouth goalie Robert Esche is sixth in the OHL in goals-against average at 3.01. He has one shutout, an .895 saves percentage and a 21-10-2 record.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Soccer referees

A class for new soccer referees will be held on four consecutive Saturdays, beginning Feb. 21, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center's Card

Meeting Room.

Cost for the class, which runs through March 14 and is open to men and women 12 years old to adult, is \$45 per person. To register, call Brian LaMasse at (313) 397-8325.

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Salem revs up for Schoolcraft test

By C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER

Monday's match at Walled Lake Western was the final tune-up, if you will, for Plymouth Salem's vaunted volleyball team as it heads into a difficult four-day stretch.

The Rocks romped past Western, 15-2, 15-4, to remain unbeaten in Western Lakes Activities Association play. They improved to 6-0 in the league, 25-4 overall.

However, the exams began last night when Salem hosted Livonia Stevenson, also 6-0 in the WLAA. They continue Saturday when the Rocks compete at the 31-team Schoolcraft Invitational, with five teams ranked in the state's top-10 competing.

"It's time for us to step up and try to achieve some of the goals we set for ourselves," said Salem coach Allie Suffey. "I think this is the time for this team to be ready. I think all we have to do is believe in ourselves."

The Rocks have an old adversary in their pool in Livonia Ladywood, the team that Salem never seems to get past in the state tournament. Other teams in Salem's pool are Birmingham Seaholm and Westland John Glenn.

"This is a team we could see in the regional," said Suffey of Ladywood. "There's nothing wrong with seeing how we can play against them now."

Salem, ranked sixth in the state, and Ladywood, ranked eighth, both have other obstacles in this tournament. No. 1-ranked Temperance Bedford and No. 3 East Kentwood will also be on hand; so, too, will Stevenson, which has received some mention for statewide recognition.

The Schoolcraft Invitational will be at both Schoolcraft College and at Northville HS, beginning at 9 a.m.

It certainly will give Salem a bigger test

VOLLEYBALL

than any of its WLAA rivals have thus far, including Western on Monday. The Warriors scored the first two points of the match, then, as Suffey described it, "we got it going and never looked back after that."

The Rocks used a balanced attack to subdue Western. Kelly Street led it with five kills; she also had four digs. Jenny Trott and Andrea Pruett added four kills apiece, with Trott getting nine digs. Ellen Stemmer and Angie Sillmon contributed three kills each.

"We're getting great passing and really have a balanced attack," said Suffey. "We're playing really nice volleyball right now."

Hopes are high that will continue through the week.

Canton: 3 straight

Plymouth Canton held off Westland John Glenn Monday to post its third consecutive WLAA match triumph, 15-11, 16-14, at Canton.

The win gave the Chiefs a 4-2 league record. The improvement, according to Canton coach Cynthia Montgomery, is due to the team's mental maturity — and the return of December with a knee injury.

"I think they have more of the mental ability to win now," said Montgomery. "They always had the physical ability, but they're just now getting the mental edge."

As for Plagens' return: "I'm just very happy to have her back. She came back strong, and she's something we needed."

In the win over the Rockets Monday, Plagens led the team with seven kills. Angie Germain added seven assists to kills and seven digs. Stephanie Chafan had four kills

and six digs, and Liz Elsner contributed nine digs.

Last Saturday, Canton showed similar intensity at the University of Michigan-Dearborn Tournament. The Chiefs finished first in their pool before being eliminated in the tournament semifinals by Wyandotte Roosevelt, 15-10, 15-8.

"Before the semis, they played very, very well," said Montgomery.

Playing two games against each of its four pool-play foes, Canton won 7-1, beating Macomb Lutheran North 15-9, 15-13; Hazel Park 15-2, 15-6; and Garden City 15-12, 15-5. The Chiefs split against Troy Athens, 12-15, 15-12.

German, Canton's sophomore setter, was named to the all-tournament team. She collected 79 assists to kills and 39 digs.

"She has a good attitude and she's a great athlete," said Montgomery. "She deserved it, definitely."

Chafan collected 29 kills and 51 digs; Elsner had 25 kills and 52 digs; and Plagens, in her first competition since her injury lay-off, totaled 20 kills and 15 digs.

On Saturday, Canton will compete at the 16-team Ann Arbor Pioneer Invitational.

Agape stays perfect

Canton Agape Christian remained unbeaten and largely unchallenged with its 15-2, 15-8 triumph over Metro Christian Conference of Macomb Christian Monday at Agape.

The win improved the Wolverines' record to 12-0 overall, 5-0 in the MCC.

Melissa Pouget served nine points in the second game, with Caley Mullen collecting three kills in that game. Mullen had five for the match.

Agape hosts Pontiac Greater Life at 4:30 p.m. Friday in its homecoming match.

GYMNASTICS

finishing 10th in both the all-around (35.45) and the uneven parallel bars (9.1), and tying for 14th in the balance beam (8.85).

For Salem in Division I, Alison Bracht tied for 13th in vault (8.7).

In Division II, Canton's Amy Driscoll scored 32.15 in the all-around to finish 15th. Driscoll tied for 10th in the floor exercise (8.8).

Salem's Janine Schmedding tied for 15th in the bars (8.3).

Canton's Liz Fitzgerald performed ably,

SWIMMING

Livonia Stevenson, also on hand for last Saturday's double-dual meet at Salem.

The result looks discouraging: a Pioneer lashing, 128-58. But

coaches see things differently, and Chuck Olson could not be disappointed by his team's performance.

"It doesn't sound that good, does it?" he asked. "But actually, we swam pretty well."

"We didn't swim badly by any means. If we had swam almost anyone else in the state, the score would have been flip-flopped."

The Rocks had just one winner against Pioneer: Brent Mellis, who was first in the 200-yard individual medley (2:05.72).

But check this out — here are some of the Rocks' seconds: Nick Corden in the 200 freestyle in a season-best (and state-qualifying) 1:47.43; Andrew Locke in the 500 free in a state-cut 22:76; Tim Buchanan in the 100 butterfly in a state-cut 55:22; Mellis in the 100 backstroke (57.7); the 200 medley relay team of Mellis, Jason Rebachik, Paul Perez and Dan Kelly (1:46.3); the 200 free relay team of Locke, Buchanan,

Olson.

The Rocks did edge Stevenson, which also swam well but lost both duals. Salem won, 98-88.

The Rocks won just three events against the Spartans. Corden captured the 100 free, the 200 free relay was first, and Mike Belvitch was best in diving (170.35 points).

Salem hosts Farmington at 7 p.m. tonight, then has a rematch with Stevenson next Thursday (Feb. 12) at 7 p.m. at Salem, with the Western Lakes Activities Association Lakes Division title at stake.

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Cortellini helps Canton even WLAA mark

Joe Cortellini got on a roll and buried Livonia Stevenson.

The junior guard scored 30 points Tuesday night to help host Plymouth Canton trounce Stevenson, 60-40 in a Western Lakes Activities Association boys basketball game.

"He had three three-pointers in the first quarter," Coach Dan Young of Canton said. "Then he started driving and pulling up."

"He scored a couple of steals, too, so he got them in different ways. That was good."

Canton raised its record to 4-8 overall and 3-3 in the WLAA. Stevenson remains winless in 11 games, six of those in the WLAA.

Cortellini's triples boosted the Chiefs to an 18-8 lead after the first quarter and Canton extended it to 29-16 at the midway point. Cortellini ended up hitting five shots from beyond the three-point arc and was perfect in seven tries from the free throw line.

Eric Larsen and sophomore Dan McLean each added 11 points.

Stevenson was led by Mike Lenardon, who hit three triples for nine points, and Keshay MacChristian, who scored eight.

"We played well defensively," Young said. "We rebounded better than we have been. And of course Joe made a lot of shots. He was outstanding."

"But I thought our whole team gave a great effort. It was a great win for us."

Flat Rock 76, PCA 66: After winning nine of its first 11 games, Plymouth Christian Academy lost for the second straight time Tuesday at home against Flat Rock.

The loss left the Eagles at 9-4 overall. A poor first half doomed PCA. Flat Rock jumped out to a 16-9 lead after one

quarter and upped that to 40-19 by half-time. A 47-36 second-half rally by the Eagles narrowed the gap, but couldn't eliminate it.

Derric Isensee and Jordan Roose had 14 points apiece for PCA. Scott Cartt added 13 and Chris Brandon scored 11.

Flat Rock was paced by Joe Brodie, son of Plymouth Salem basketball coach Bob Brodie, with 21 points. Joel Morgan added 18 points.

Last Friday, PCA was beaten by Taylor Baptist Park 63-57 in Taylor. A 20-11 fourth-quarter surge and a big advantage at the free-throw line — Baptist Park was 21-of-33; PCA was 11-of-18 — aided the winners.

Isensee's 15 points topped the Eagles. Roose and Brandon chipped in with 12 each.

Brandon Hoffman's 20 points was best for Baptist Park. Rob Owen netted 14.

While Baptist Park was pulling away, the Eagles were missing six free throws

in the fourth quarter.

Agape 80, Macomb Christian 74: A strong third quarter — Canton Agape Christian outscored Warren Macomb Christian 24-12 in the period — was a key factor in the Wolverines' win Tuesday at Agape.

So was Julian Wetlan's triple-double. The sophomore guard collected 29 points, 12 rebounds and 10 steals, tying the school record for steals in a game. Paul Anleighter added 26 points.

Aaron Salter topped Macomb Christian with 30 points.

The win pushed Agape's record to 9-3 overall, 5-1 in the Metro Christian Conference.

Redford CC 86, U-D Jesuit 61: Redford Catholic Central senior center Chris Young couldn't dream of having better basketball games than the one he experienced Tuesday against visiting U-D

Jesuit.

The 6-foot-10 Young scored a season-high 32 points, grabbed 17 rebounds and blocked shots in the Shamrocks' victory over the Jesuits.

Young was joined in double figures by sophomore guard Rob Sparks with 15 points, junior guard Nick Moore with 14 and senior guard Joe Jonna with 12.

Jonna added 10 rebounds and Moore seven assists.

Junior Vince Alexander had a team-high 18 points for U-D. Teammate Jeremy Murray, also a junior, added 13.

The Shamrocks enjoyed a 38-29 half-time lead after outscoring the Cubs, 20-11, in the second quarter.

A 22-10 advantage in the third quarter gave the Shamrocks a commanding 60-39 lead.

CC, which improved to 9-2 overall, made 18 of 27 free throw attempts. U-D, 7-4 overall and 3-4 in the Central Division, was 9-14.

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Schoolcraft records No. 20; Madonna falls at Bluffton

A turning point in Schoolcraft College basketball history?

Hopefully so, because last Saturday the Ocelots' men's team knocked off a stubborn Oakland Community College squad 90-81 at OCC, and in doing so they posted their 20th victory of the season — the first time that's happened in 15 years.

"We played well in the first half," said SC coach Carlos Briggs. "We rebounded better than we have been. And of course Joe made a lot of shots. He was outstanding."

"But I thought our whole team gave a great effort. It was a great win for us."

Three other Ocelots reached double-figures in scoring as well. Pete Males (from Garden City) had 13 points and five assists; Emeka Okonkwo collected 21 points and eight rebounds; and Derek McKelvey scored 18 points.

Glenn Bray finished with 22 points and Brad Burlingame got 19 for OCC (2-8 in the conference, 3-17 overall).

In the women's game, the Lady Ocelots lost their fourth straight game, 70-54 Saturday at OCC. The loss left them at 5-5 in the conference, 9-11 overall.

Carrie May's 15 points paced OCC (8-12 overall, 4-6 in the conference).

SC led 52-32 at the intermission, but the Raiders kept chipping away at the lead, eventually trimming it to five with 1:30 left. That, however, was as close as it got.

Kevin Melson turned in what

Bluffton (Ohio) 82, Madonna 76

Skating from page C1

juvenile (11-and-under), 12 in preliminary (9-and-under), 12 in novice (14-and-under) and 25 in intermediate (19-and-under), all on Friday beginning at 8 a.m.

The top five finishers in each division will advance to the National Precision Skating Championships March 5-8 in San Diego. The Nationals will be televised by ESPN.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday, Feb. 6
Cranbrook at Clarencville, 7 p.m.
Luth. W. at Luth. East, 7:30 p.m.
Wayne at River Rouge, 7 p.m.
Allen Park at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Truman at Redford Union, 7 p.m.
Thruston at Thurston, 7 p.m.
Chancellor at Northville, 7 p.m.
Harrison at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Farmington, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at N. Farm, 7 p.m.
Canton at W. L. Western, 7:30 p.m.
W.L. Central at Salem, 7:30 p.m.
Notre Dame at Burgess, 7:30 p.m.
Redford CC at DeSalle, 7:30 p.m.
St. Agatha at St. Alphonsus, 7:30 p.m.
Huron Valley at Warren Zee, 7:30 p.m.
St. Field Christian at PCA, 7:30 p.m.
Greater Life at Agape, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 7
Luth. N. West at Cville, 6:30 p.m.
Redford CC at Bridgeport, 7:30 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Feb. 7
Schoolcraft at Alpena, 7:30 p.m.
Madonna at Tri-Sate, 7:30 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Thursday, Feb. 5
Madonna at Cornerstone, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 7
Tri-Sate at Madonna, 3 p.m.

Observerland from page C1

The suspense was lost when Hancock was penalized twice for false starts and was unable to break down Seder's defense. He's a tough kid, a good opponent," Seder said. "I guess I was confident, but I didn't take anything lightly. I just tried to wrestle hard, not let up and stay in control of the match."

Fedulchak pinned his first opponent and won his last two bouts by technical fall to push his season record to 25-3. "I didn't expect it at all," said Fedulchak of the MVP honor. "I thought Crutchfield of Salem might win it. He looked pretty strong."

"Today is the highlight of my high school career in wrestling. I'm going to build on this. I believe, if I work hard, I can go far."

Seder (31-1) and Fedulchak are looking forward to the upcoming tournaments and hoping to contend for state titles.

"I consider this one stop going toward the state championships; I'm focusing on one thing right now," Seder said.

"I'm at the top of my performance right now, I'm peaking at the right time," Fedulchak said. "I think I'm right where I want to be going into the conference and district."

Despite its dominating performance, Salem's team victory was not so easily achieved, according to Krueger.

"You don't know what we went through," he said, adding two of Salem's champions had to overcome injuries.

Dan Hamblin has a broken hand that was well padded, and Wilson suffered torn cartilage in his chest during a dual meet Thursday.

"We just went for the win with (Wilson), nothing spectacular," Krueger said. "We didn't want him to overextend himself."

"It hurt a lot when he got into his spiral ride, and that's what he uses to pin most kids. We told him to 'stay out of it and just wrestle. You don't have to pin everybody."

"Hamblin wrestled hurt and won the tournament. He's a great senior leader and he did what he had to do."

Stevenson was second with three champions, including seniors Katsuhiko Sueda (112) and Chris Goins (119). Sueda trailed Redford Thurston's Lawrence Haddad 3-2 after two periods in the finals but went ahead in the third with an escape and a takedown before pinning with four seconds left.

"We did as well as we could have done," Stevenson coach Don Berg said, adding the Spartans were pleased to have five in the finals. "We'd like to have been 5-for-5, but that's not going to happen. Our area is no slouch as far as wrestling."

"(The tournament) brings out the best in all of us. It's good competition to get us ready for February and the state tournament."

Also winning individual titles were Garden City's Ryan Atwood (130), Livonia Churchill's Vinnie Asione (171) and Catholic Central's Brocc Naysmith (215).

Atwood was nearly pinned in the first period by Lutheran Westland's Andy Ebendick and

trailing 5-0, but he rallied over the next two periods to win a 13-11 decision.

Asione won his championship when he escaped from Garden City's Brian Hinzman 18 seconds into the second overtime.

Hinzman was on the verge of an injury default after he hurt his left shoulder driving Asione out of bounds in the first overtime and then avoided a potential takedown situation.

Naysmith wore a mask to cover a broken nose that caused him to miss a week. Rodriguez was worried about his stamina, but Naysmith managed to pin all three opponents with the final bout lasting the longest.

Rogowski, who is undefeated at 34-0, only started wrestling two years ago as a C freshman.

"He's a powerful young man and just an outstanding athlete," Rodriguez said. "He didn't have any previous experience. That's what makes him so unique — that he can pick it up in such a short time."

OBSERVERLAND WRESTLING RESULTS

SEVENTH ANNUAL OBSERVERLAND WRESTLING TOURNAMENT
Jan. 31 at Westland John Glenn

TEAM STANDINGS
1. Plymouth Salem, 261; 2. Redford Catholic Central, 201; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 180; 4. Redford Thurston, 144; 5. Lutheran Westland, 112; 6. Farmington, 110; 7. Garden City, 109; 8. Wayne Memorial, 100; 9. Plymouth Canton, 91; 10. Westland John Glenn, 89; 11. Livonia Churchill, 88; 12. Livonia Clarencville, 69; 13. Livonia Franklin, 53; 14. Farmington Harrison, 50; 15. North Farmington, 25.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS
275 pounds: Casey Rogowski (CC) dec. Charlie Hamblin (PS), 10-3; Head West Meyer (LS) dec. William Laramie (WM), 3-2; **180:** John Mervyn (PS) dec. Joe Moreau (LS), 9-0; **150:** Pat Say (CC) dec. Paul Goyt (WM), 12-5; **120:** Ben Brown (LW) dec. Dan Tondreau (CL), 17-7; **90:** Chris O'Hara (CC) dec. Kyle Pitt (CC), 13-0.
112: Katsuhiko Sueda (LS) pinned Lawrence Haddad (RT), 5:56; **100:** Vinnie Zoccoli (CC) won by injury default over Rob

Ash (PS); **88:** John Gregg (WM) pinned Mike Pardy (F), 4:38; **70:** Jason Farnsworth (CC) dec. Brian Kramer (LW), 11-2; **60:** John Fedulchak (JG) won by technical fall over Brandon LaPointe (CL), 18-3; **50:** Sean Bell (CC) pinned Tony Pikur (RT), 0:34; **40:** Rob Theisen (WM) pinned Jason Hempe (LW), 1:39; **30:** Eric Greene (PS) pinned Mark Ostach (F), 1:56.
180: Josh Henderson (PS) pinned Trevor Clarke (NF), 0:55; **150:** Andy Lendrum (CC) pinned Justin Beseler (WM), 2:43; **120:** Eric Tondreau (CL) dec. Eric McMichael (JG), 8-3; **90:** Bear Mich (LW) pinned Dave Pancharan (F), 1:30.
130: Ryan Atwood (GC) dec. Andy Ebendick (LW), 13-11; **110:** Tony Lema (F) dec. Dave Lemmon (CL), 7-2; **90:** John Pocock (CC) dec. Chris Funke (RT), 3-2; **70:** Jeff Wheeler (CC) dec. Greg Petrovich (PS), 11-3.
150: Dan Seder (LS) dec. Mitch Hancock (CC), 8-2; **120:** Jerry Lema (F) pinned Jeff Usher (RT), 0:48; **100:** Aaron Haddad (F) dec. Sam Boyd (PS), 4-1; **80:** Jason Sienko (WM) dec. Chris Wolfgang (JG), 8-4.
140: Dan Hamblin (PS) pinned Brian Muss (CC), 3:26; **120:** Martin Spinks (F) dec. Imad Kharrub (LS), 3-1; **100:** Jake Taylor (FH) pinned Steve Abat (CL), 3:21; **80:** Nick Powell (CC) dec. Justin Hazen (RT), 4-2.
145: James Greene (PS) dec. Jeff Brach (LS), 8-3; **120:** Alex Agius (RT) dec. Ryan

Shippert (F), 5-0; **100:** Mike Carter (LW) dec. Sean Sahner (F), 3-2; **80:** Ryan Zepke (CC) pinned Eddie Traynor (CC), 0:44.
150: John Fedulchak (JG) won by technical fall over Brandon LaPointe (CL), 18-3; **120:** Sean Bell (CC) pinned Tony Pikur (RT), 0:34; **100:** Rob Theisen (WM) pinned Jason Hempe (LW), 1:39; **80:** Eric Greene (PS) pinned Mark Ostach (F), 1:56.
180: Josh Henderson (PS) dec. Matt Bidinger (JG), 3-0; **150:** Robert Demick (CC) dec. Brian Barker (LS), 8-1; **120:** Brian Panczyk (LW) pinned Jeff Pascoe (CC), 3:45; **100:** Eric Toska (F) dec. Hazen Longhorne (RT), 9-4.
170: Vinnie Asione (LW) dec. Brian Hinzman (CC), 2-1 in double overtime; **150:** Steve Mysinski (F) dec. Mike Poppeny (PS), 4-0; **120:** Pete Langer (JG) pinned Scott Archer (LW), 1:17.
150: Teono Wilson (PS) dec. Tim Baron (RT), 8-6; **120:** John Ashmore (CC) pinned Waleed Haddad (LS), 2:16; **100:** Walter Ragland (CL) pinned Kyle Domagalski (F), 4:20; **80:** Mike Garfke (LW) dec. Josh Meyer, 3-0.
215: Brocc Naysmith (CC) pinned Chris Gadev (FH), 2:47; **170:** Jason Chapman (CC) dec. Scott Genrod (RT), 7-2; **150:** Josh Rose (CL) pinned Jeff Snoring (LW), 0:43; **120:** Kevin Vahlton (PS) dec. George Tsoukalas (LS), 6-4.

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Don't just tell her how much you love her — show her — with a gift of fine quality diamond or gemstone jewelry from Redford Jewelry. We know she's a 'one of kind' so our unique and varied selection gives you an opportunity to select the right piece for your perfect mate.

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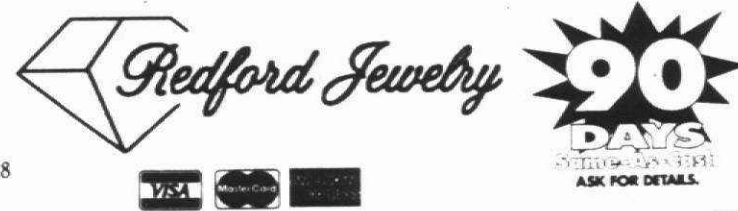
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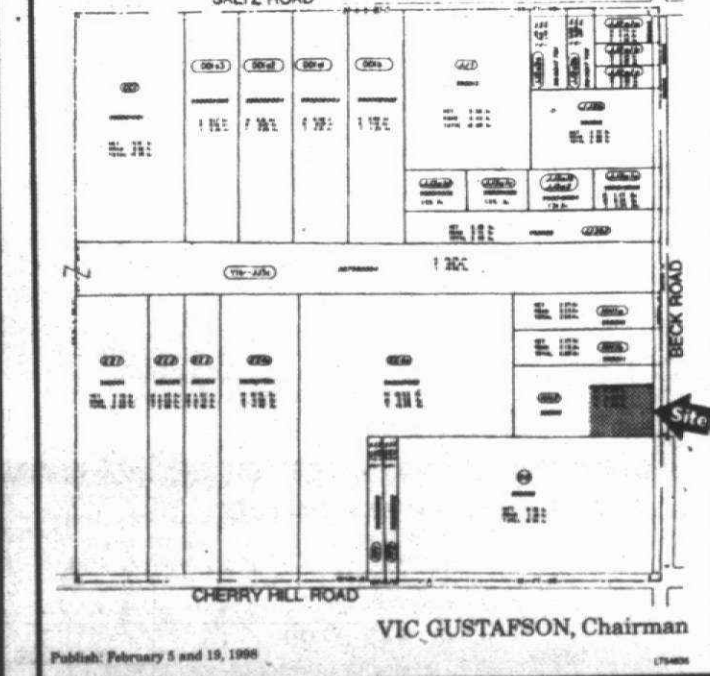
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Equal Housing Opportunity

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S. Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids up to 10:00 a.m., February 19, 1998 for the following:
PURCHASE OF TWO (2) - 20 TON, TAG-A-LONG, TILT TRAILERS
Bid specifications are available in the Finance and Budget Dept. Canton Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.
TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk
Publish: February 5, 1998

NOTICE OF SPECIAL JOINT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
CHARTER TOWNSHIPS OF CANTON, PLYMOUTH, SALEM, SUPERIOR, VAN BUREN, AND YPSILANTI
A cooperative Board of Trustees meeting between Canton, Plymouth, Salem, Superior, Van Buren, and Ypsilanti Townships will be held Thursday, February 12, 1998 at Summit on the Park at 7:30 p.m. in the Walnut Room. Representatives from these communities formed the Lower 1 Rouge River Subwatershed Management Group in November. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss working collectively to improve the environment of the Rouge River.
Speakers will include Canton's Supervisor, Thomas Yack, Wayne County's Director of Environment, Jim Murray, and Wayne County's Director of Watershed Management, Kelly Cave. They will be discussing storm water management in the Rouge River Watershed, involvement with the Federal Court case, and the voluntary General Storm Water Permit.
The meeting is open to the public.
TERRY BENNETT, Township Clerk
Publish: February 5, 1998

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 154 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, March 2, 1998, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:
REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PART OF PARCEL NO. 068 99 012 000 FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL TO R-2, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located on the west side of Beck Road between Cherry Hill and Saltz Roads.
Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.



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 all meetings/hearings upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:
David Medley
ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton
1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188
(734) 397-5435
Publish: February 5 and February 19, 1998

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE TO BIDDERS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S. Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids up to 10:00 a.m., February 26, 1998 for the following:
PURCHASE OF TOWNSHIP ENTRANCE SIGNS
Specifications are available in the Finance and Budget Dept. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.
TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk
Publish: February 5, 1998

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
Sealed bids will be received by the Charter Township of Canton Clerk's Office, 1st Floor, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188 until 2:00 p.m. Local Time, February 26, 1998, at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud for the following described project:
Canton Center/Proctor Road Intersection Improvement Project. The project consists of work necessary to construct to Wayne County Standards, a deceleration lane for southbound Canton Center Road and a passing lane for northbound Canton Center Road through the Proctor Road intersection. The scope includes, but is not limited to, the following approximate items:
9" REINFC CONCRETE W/6" I.S.C. 972 S.Y.
8" PLAIN CONCRETE W/6" I.S.C. 283 S.Y.
PAVEMENT REMOVAL 520 S.Y.
SIDEWALK 430 S.Y.
The Drawings and Specifications under which the work is to be done are on file and may be examined on February 9, 1998, or thereafter at the offices of the Charter Township of Canton and the office of the Engineer, Michael L. Priest & Associates, Inc., 37611 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. (Phone 313/953-8560). Bid documents may be obtained on February 9, 1998, or thereafter from the office of the Engineer (Michael L. Priest & Associates, Inc.), by purchase for the sum of \$35.00 per set. Shipping is an additional \$7.00 per set. There will be no return or refund of documents. The purchaser must supply the telephone number and street address of the individual or firm to whom addenda (if any) can be directed.
A certified check or bidder's bond for a sum of not less than five (5%) of the amount of the proposal will be required with each proposal.
The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.
The Township reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals, and to waive any irregularities in any proposal made may not be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the date of receiving bids.
TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk
Canton Township
Publish: February 5, 1998

PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 7:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1998
A regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be held on Wednesday, February 11, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall to consider the following:
PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED ZONING ADJUSTMENTS FOR OLD VILLAGE DISCUSSION ON NOISE ORDINANCE
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) 453-1234, Ext. 206
All interested persons are invited to attend.
Publish: February 5, 1998

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 1998, at Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 San Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan, commencing at 7:00 p.m., for the purpose of considering the Residential Unit Development Option for Portsmouth Crossing, Application No. 1500. The property is located on the north side of North Territorial Road, south of M-14, east of Beck Road and west of Eaton Drive, containing 39.33 acres, more or less.
Legal description of said parcel is:

PART OF THE SOUTH 1/4 OF SECTION 21 AND PART OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 23, T1S, R8E, PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT THE SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 21, ALSO BEING THE NORTH 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 28, T1S, R8E, AND PROCEEDING THENCE ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SECTION 21, ALSO BEING THE NORTH LINE OF SECTION 28, S.85°46'45" W., 157.07' THENCE ALONG THE BOUNDARY LINE OF "MARRION HILLS SUBDIVISION" AS RECORDED IN LIBER 88 OF PLATS ON PAGE 79, N. 04°13'15" W., 171.85'; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID SUBDIVISION LINE, N.85°46'45" E., 21.64'; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID SUBDIVISION LINE, N. 04°13'15" W., 60.00'; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID SUBDIVISION LINE, ON A CURVE CONCAVE TO THE NORTHEAST, RADIUS 25.00', CENTRAL ANGLE 81°44'54", CHORD BEARS N.53°20'45" W., 32.72', AN ARC DISTANCE OF 35.67'; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID SUBDIVISION LINE, N. 12°28'15" W., 28.36'; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID SUBDIVISION LINE S. 73°21'45" W., 60.00'; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID SUBDIVISION LINE AND ITS NORTHERLY EXTENSION, N.12°28'15" W., 234.15' TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF M-14 EXPRESSWAY, THENCE ALONG THE SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF M-14 EXPRESSWAY, N.85°20'09" E., 2847.17'; THENCE ALONG THE WEST LINE OF "BEACON MEADOWS SUB. NO. 2" (RECORDED IN LIBER 102, PLATS, PAGES 35 THROUGH 40, WAYNE COUNTY RECORDS), S. 04°21'21" E., 525.47' (RECORDED AS S.02°10'00" E., 529.30') TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 21 THENCE ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SECTION 21, ALSO BEING THE NORTH LINE OF SECTION 28, S.85°46'45" W., 241.58'; THENCE S.09°15'20" E., 1079.06' TO A POINT ON THE CENTERLINE OF NORTH TERRITORIAL ROAD, THENCE ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF NORTH TERRITORIAL ROAD, S.89°32'17" W., 503.80'; THENCE ALONG THE NORTH AND SOUTH 1/4 LINE OF SECTION 28, N.06°26'20" W., 1047.11' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 39.2146 ACRES, SUBJECT TO THE RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC IN THE SOUTHERLY 33.00' (NORTH TERRITORIAL ROAD) AND EASEMENTS, RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD, AND ALL GOVERNMENTAL LIMITATIONS.
NOTE: BEARINGS ARE EXPRESSED IN RELATION TO THE BEARING OF THE SOUTH LINE OF SECTION 21 AS ESTABLISHED IN MARRION HILLS SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN LIBER 88, PLATS, PAGE 79, WAYNE COUNTY RECORDS.
Tax I.D. Nos. 011-99-0004-0003; 012-99-0003-003; 033-99-0006.
Public Hearing is required by Ordinance No. 82 and/or Subdivision Ordinance No. 32, of the Charter Township of Plymouth, (Application No. 1500).
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the application may be examined at the Division of Public Services, Community Development Department, during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting. The application review and address for written comment is: Plymouth Charter Township, Division of Public Services, Community Development Department, 46555 Port Street, Plymouth, MI 48170. The public hearing will be held in the Meeting Room at Township Hall located at 42350 San Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Telephone Number 734-453-4372.
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, to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's office, 42350 San Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone number: (313) 453-3840, TDD users: 1-800-64-3777 (Michigan Relay Service).
Publish: February 5, 1998

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All Are Welcome
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Please Join Us
Wednesday, February 11, 1998
6:30 - 9:00 PM
— at —

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36455 Marquette
Westland, MI
(734) 595-2135
(Call us for directions or more information)

CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND CANTON

WEEKEND

SKATING CHAMPIONSHIP

The Midwest Precision Skating Championship will be 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday through Sunday, Feb. 6-8, at the Plymouth Community Center, 19319 Ford Road in Dearborn. Admission is \$3 and skaters' tables are \$5 each. "Radio Rescue" will be a free service to anyone who needs a radio repaired, sold or evaluated. Call (734) 207-2346.

ANTIQUE RADIO SWAP

The Michigan Antique Radio Club is hosting the only swap meet in the metro area 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Ann Arbor Community Center, 19319 Ford Road in Dearborn. Admission is \$3 and sellers' tables are \$5 each. "Radio Rescue" will be a free service to anyone who needs a radio repaired, sold or evaluated. Call (734) 207-2346.

SIBLING CLASS

The Marian Women's Center, next to St. Mary Hospital, will offer this class 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 7, in the West Addition Conference Room A. Children are invited to attend and learn how much fun it can be to be a brother or sister. Registration is required and the cost is \$10 per family. Call the center at (734) 655-1591.

MARDI GRAS

The Plymouth Newcomers are celebrating at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Water Club Grill. Join the fun in a costume or masks at this Mardi Gras Masquerade Dinner Party. The Water Club Grill is located at 39500 E. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Township. Call 416-0300 for information.

THE GAYLORDS

After enjoying the seven-course Italian dinner at Genetti's, enter the theater on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 6-7, to be entertained by The Gaylords, a singing comedy duo. Tickets are \$45 per person. Genetti's is located at 108 E. Main St. in Northville. Call for reservations, (248) 349-0522.

SWING SINGERS

Join the Swing Singers as they celebrate the music of Cole Porter and Nat King Cole at their winter concert, "Hot & Cole," at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, at the Sluison Middle School, 1019 W. Washington. The Swing Singers is a program with the Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Education & Recreation. This concert is free and can be enjoyed by the entire family. For more information, call 994-2300, Ext. 228.

GERMAN CLUB

Fesching, Germany's version on France's Mardi Gras, will be celebrated from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. The festivities will be sponsored by the German-American Club of Plymouth. Authentic German food, wine and beer (for those of the appropriate age) will be served. Admission is \$6.50 per person. Music for dancing, singing-along and entertainment will be provided by the Enzians, a German band well-known throughout the Detroit metropolitan area and beyond. Door prizes and prizes for the best and most imaginative costumes will be awarded. For more information on this local Fasching celebration and for tickets, call Fritz Sanders in Livonia at (313) 425-0044, or Phyllis Urban in Plymouth at (734) 459-4261.

AROUND TOWN

HEALTH FAIR

Health Fair 98 is taking place 3-6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile in Livonia. This is an opportunity for seniors to receive free health screenings and a variety of health information. Visitors are asked to use the south entrance. Call (313) 427-8270.

VALENTINE'S DAY EVENTS

The Westside Singles present a Valentine's Day dance from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, Feb. 13, at Burton Manor, on Schoolcraft west of Inkster Road. Admission is \$6. Dressy attire (no jeans), 21 and older. Hot and cold hors d'oeuvres will be available at no charge, and a cash bar is available. Free roses for women at the door. For more information, call (734) 981-0909.

ST. JOHN NEUMANN SINGLES

Singles is hosting the annual Valentine's Dance from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, at St. Kenneth's Catholic Church, on Haggerty south of Five Mile in Plymouth Township. Doors open at 8 p.m., and tickets are available at the door. The dance includes pizza, pop, and a top 40 DJ to spin the latest tunes. No blue jeans. For more information, call Patrick at (313) 277-6083 or the St. John Neumann hotline number at (313) 480-7830.

THE LEARNING INSTITUTE OF FAMILY EDUCATION (LIFE)

LIFE hosts a Valentine's Dance from 7 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 14, at the YMCA-Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, Redford. There will be spinning of records by dance music specialist Dorian Price, refreshments, 50/50 raffle, dating game, and matches for the loveless wanting to take a chance on finding a friend. A non-alcoholic cash bar will be available. Tickets are \$15 per person and \$20 at the door. Tickets are available at the YMCA-Northwest and all TicketMaster outlets. Men's tickets are discounted to one-half off door price until 8 p.m. For more information, call (313) 342-0006.

BRING YOUR TRUE LOVE TO FOX HILLS ON VALENTINE'S DAY

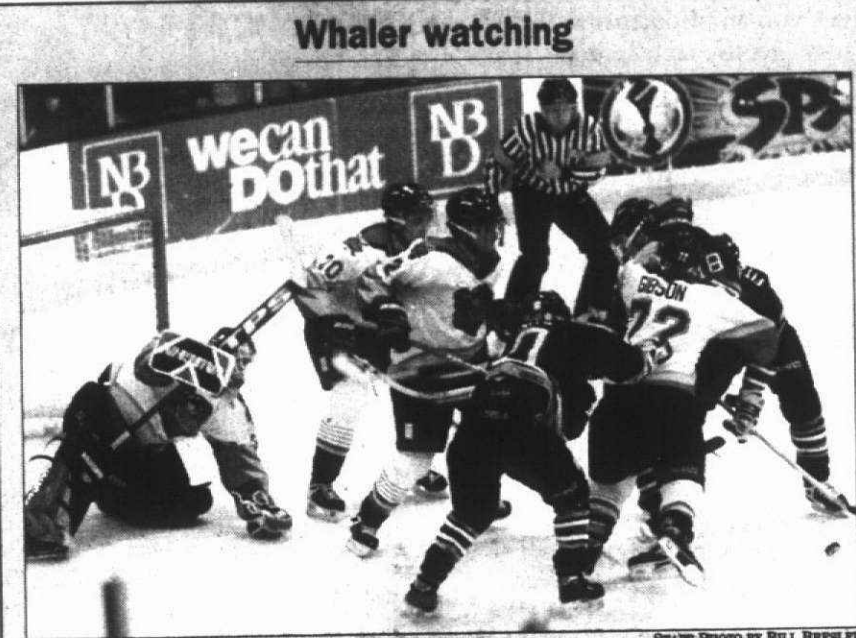
From 7 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 14, and dance the night away to the musical strains of Silver Bells Sound. Enjoy a delicious dinner along with a tantalizing dessert; receive a flower for your sweetheart. Dinner reservations begin at 7 p.m. with dancing following at 9 p.m. to midnight. Pictures will be offered for a minimal charge to ensure a memorable evening. A cash bar will be available. Tickets are \$85 a couple. For more information, or for reservations, call (313) 453-7272.

THE CANTON KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

will be sponsoring the Daddy-Daughter Valentine's Dance from 7-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13. The dance will be held at St. Thomas A. Becket's Family Life Center, 555 Lilley in Canton. A special night featuring dance music, flower corsages, pictures with dad and date, and refreshments will be available. Girls ages 3-13 years are welcome.

BOWLING

The Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post No. 6695 will be hosting its support group bowling at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Plaza Lanes, 42001 E. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Township.



Family Value Night: The Plymouth Whalers host the Kingston Frontenacs 6:30 p.m. Sunday at Compuware Arena, Beck Road, north of M-14. Family Value Packs, including tickets, refreshments and programs for four at a special price, are available by calling the box office, (734) 453-8400, during business hours.

Proceeds will be donated to Northwest Association for the mentally retarded citizens. Pledges and all bowlers welcome. For more information, call Alice Fisher at (313) 728-7619.

ICE SKATING PARTIES

The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department is offering several different ice skating party packages. Celebrate a child's birthday or a special occasion during any open skating session for as little as \$8 per child. All packages include the following: skating admission, skate rental, a party host, fresh Meijer Bakery birthday or special occasion cake, fruit punch, party paper supplies & balloons, individual goodie bags, invitations for party giver to mail out, and an open skating pass per child for use at a future open skating session. For an additional \$1.50 per child hot dogs, chips, and pop are served, and for an additional \$2 per child pizza and pop are served. All parties require a minimum of 10 people. For further information, contact the Recreation Department at (734) 455-6620.

GARDEN WALK

The Canton Garden Club wants to host its first garden walk this summer. Do you enjoy gardening with a passion and have created a "masterpiece" in your yard or have you done wonders in a specialty garden with herbs, roses, water features or shade? This is not a contest, but a way of finding those wonderful gardens within our community. If you think you'd enjoy being a part of the Canton Garden Club's first walk or future garden walks, send photos of your garden to: Donna McDonald, 7530 Chichester, Canton, Mich. 48187. Further information on the date and time of the Garden Walk will be

featured at a later date. For more information, call (313) 455-8446.

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

The City of Plymouth Parks & Recreation Department is looking for crafters for its annual Spring Arts & Crafts Show. The show will be a one-day event and take place on 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 4. The cost of an 8-foot table space is \$50. Admission and parking are both free. Interested crafters should call the City of Plymouth Recreation Department at (734) 455-6620.

ST. MARY HOSPITAL

St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will offer the class, "Just for Dads... Childhood and Beyond," 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, in the West Addition Conference Room B. Open discussion, instruction, and demonstration are included. The cost is \$15 per person and registration is required. Call (734) 655-1100.

HAVING YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE AND CHOLESTEROL CHECKED ON A REGULAR BASIS

is one of the most important steps you can take in caring for your health. St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will hold a blood pressure and cholesterol screening from 5:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12, in the Pavilion Conference Room A, near the south entrance. The cost of the cholesterol screening is \$15 and it includes both the total and HDL cholesterol. The blood pressure measurement is free. Fasting is not necessary for the cholesterol screening. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call (734) 655-2922.

ST. MARY HOSPITAL IN LIVONIA

is presenting a two-part workshop discussing the challenges of Alzheimer's disease from 7-9 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 10 and 17, in the St. Mary Hospital Auditorium. The

BUILD BOOK COLLECTION

Join the Plymouth District Library and help build the collection. Choose to donate to the adult or youth collection with \$25. The staff will help select a title and a bookplate will identify your donation to honor a friend or family member. Call 453-0750, Ext. 213.

BLUE LAKE FINE ARTS

Auditions for music, art

and theater students to earn a scholarship to attend Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp next summer will be held in public schools in Ann Arbor and the Detroit area during February and March. Scholarship auditions will be held in Dearborn Feb. 5; Ann Arbor, Feb. 23-26; and Detroit March 3-4. Application forms and other information on Blue Lake Scholarship auditions may be obtained by calling the Blue Lake Scholarship Office at 1-800-221-3796 or (616) 894-1966.

BLOOD DRIVE

Schoolcraft College is sponsoring an American Red Cross Bloodmobile visit from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, in the Waterman Campus Center. Donors will receive a free bowl of soup, courtesy of Schoolcraft's College Food Service. Appointments may be scheduled by calling (734) 462-4400, Ext. 5050. Walk-in donors are welcome. Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty Road, just west of I-275, between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads in Livonia.

SENIOR CITIZENS OF ALL AGES

get your exercise and have a good time, too, in the Senior Volleyball Program. The program meets 10 a.m. to noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. There is an annual fee of \$10. For more information, call the Salvation Army (313) 453-5464 and ask for Martha.

THE SALVATION ARMY OFFERS OPEN GYM TIME

1-4 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. There is a \$1 per person fee. For more information, call (313) 453-5464.

SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Dance Masters of Michigan is holding the annual Solo Title Scholarship Competitions Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 14-15, at Clareville High School in Livonia. Talented male and female dancers will be selected to represent Michigan at the national competition held in New York City. Selections are based on Talent, Audition classes, and Personal Interview. \$5 tickets are available at the door. Times are: Petite Miss & Master, 11 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 15; Junior Miss & Mr., 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15; Teen Miss & Mr., 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14; and Miss & Mr. (Ages 16-25), 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Join in the discussion on Social Security at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10, at American House Westland II. Sarah Talley from the Social Security Administration will be there to answer questions. It is free. American House Westland II is at 39201 Joy Road, near Hix. Call (313) 454-9838.

PRESCHOOL OPENINGS

Livonia Little People's Co-op Preschool has openings for the 1997-98 school year in the 3- and 4-year-old classes. The preschool is located at 8820 Wayne Road, just north of Joy. For more information, call (313) 454-4964.

SUBURBAN CHILDREN'S CO-OP NURSERY

has openings now in all classes 18 months through 5 years old. Located in Livonia bordering Canton, Plymouth and Westland. Quality education offered with parental involvement. Low tuition. For more information, contact Michelle at (313) 421-6196.

NEW MORNING SCHOOL IN PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP

is looking for a child care aide from 7-9 a.m. Monday-Friday. This could be a volunteer or a paid position. For more information, call (734) 420-3331.

KARATE REGISTRATION

American Okinawan Karate Academy of Canton

Whaler watching

will hold winter registration for ages 6 years and up, through April 23, Mondays and Thursdays at the gymnasium at Summit on the Park. Registration fee is \$52 per annual pass holder (10-week session), \$58 per Canton resident (10-week session), and \$63 per non-resident (10-week session). A \$5 late fee is charged.

FUNNIEST VIDEOS

Enter "Michigan's Funniest Videos" at East Lansing's first annual Film Festival on March 29. Tapes should be acceptable for family viewing and no longer than 10 minutes. Deadline is Feb. 10. Send them to: Michigan's Funniest Videos, P.O. Box 025035, Lansing, Mich. 48909-5035. Call (517) 336-5802.

SALVATION ARMY

Senior citizens of all ages, get your exercise and have a good time, too, in the Senior Volleyball Program. The program meets 10 a.m. to noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. There is an annual fee of \$10. For more information, call the Salvation Army (313) 453-5464 and ask for Martha.

THE SALVATION ARMY OFFERS OPEN GYM TIME

1-4 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. There is a \$1 per person fee. For more information, call (313) 453-5464.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Schoolcraft College students are encouraged to apply for scholarships offered by Datatel Scholars Foundation. Awards range from \$700 to \$2,000 and applications are due in the Office of Marketing and Development no later than Friday, Feb. 6. For more information, call (313) 462-4463.

THE GAMMA GAMMA CHAPTER OF DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY

International is once again offering college scholarships to Canton or Salem graduating seniors majoring in education. The scholarships provide financial assistance, promoting the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. Funds are the result of community participation in the annual fall craft fair held at West Middle School. Applications are available at both high school counseling offices or at Hoben Elementary School, 44680 Saltz Road, Canton.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Soundings is a Center for Women and offers a variety of career programs, professional development and personal growth classes and workshops. The center is in Ann Arbor on 4090 Packer Road. There is a job resource room, financial counseling, job hunters and numerous support groups. Call (313) 973-7223 for further information.

EMPOWER

One free hour for parents or families to empower: counseling, resources and support for crisis situations, medical needs, or ongoing issues. Call for an appointment, 961-3039.

COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

The Compassionate Friends support group meets at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month at St. Timothy's Presbyterian Church on Newburgh. Open to all parents whose children have died. Bereaved parents only. For more information, please call (734) 462-2774.

PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE

CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

7:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1998

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be held on Wednesday, February 11, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall to consider the following:

PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED ZONING ADJUSTMENTS FOR OLD VILLAGE DISCUSSION ON NOISE ORDINANCE

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 Main Street

Plymouth, MI 48170

(313) 453-1234, Ext. 206

All interested persons are invited to attend.

Published February 5, 1998

BARBARA MAUDE SMITH

Services for Barbara Maude Smith, 71, of Canton were held on Feb. 2 at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home in Canton with Lt. Mark R. Bender from the Salvation Army officiating. Burial was at Parkview Memorial Cemetery.

Mrs. Smith was born on Aug. 20, 1926, in Detroit. She died on Jan. 29 at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her son, Walter G. Eggenberger Jr.

Her survivors include her husband, Robert J., four daughters,

Susan K. Martin, Rosemary F. (Les) Hope, Deborah L. Hicks and Sandra S. Michaud; three sons, Lawrence F. (Janette) Hegwood, Ricky A. Hegwood, Charles J. Hegwood; two brothers, one sister; 14 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

GERALDINE A. PRYJMAK Services for Geraldine A. Prymak, 80, of Plymouth were held on Jan. 31 at Divine Savior Catholic Church with the Rev. Alexander A. Kuras officiating. Burial was at Parkview Memorial Cemetery.

Mrs. Prymak was born on Nov. 11, 1917, in Poland. She

died on Jan. 25 in Westland. She worked as a stenographer with the Allstate Insurance Co. in Detroit until 1950. She then stayed home to raise her family. She was born in Poland, and she lived in Detroit. She came to the Plymouth community in 1987. She was a member of Divine Savior Catholic Church. She was a member of the Senior Citizens Club of Tonquish Creek, and was a life member of the Auxiliary of the DAV No. 107.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Marjorie. Her survivors include her husband, Paul P. of Plymouth; one daughter, Pauline Slezak of Northville; one son, Michael (Beth) Prymak of Huntsville, Ala.; four grandchildren, Stephanie and Paula Slezak, Scott and Jane Prymak; and three sisters, Stella Betz of Farmington Hills, Julie Syms of Roseville, and Stasia Bartolomew of Hazel Park.

Memorials may be made to Divine Savior Catholic Church Missionary Project.

NONA E. EDDINGTON

Services for Nona E. Eddington, 80, of Fenton will be held on Feb. 6 at the Yermolen Funeral Home with the Rev. Paul White officiating. Burial will be at

lanti Townships officially formed the Lower 1 Subwatershed Management Group to address water quality issues in the Rouge River. The goal of the group is to work toward cooperative arrangements for watershed management.

Canton is one of many communities receiving federal grant funds through Wayne County in

what is commonly referred to as the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project Grant.

Speakers will include Canton's supervisor, Tom Yack, as well as the director of Wayne County's Department of Environment, Jim Murray and the director of Wayne County's Watershed Management Division, Kelly

Cave. They will be discussing storm water management in the Rouge River Watershed, involvement with the Federal Court case and the voluntary Great Lakes III. He is a 1997 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School.

BASIC TRAINING

Navy Fireman Jeffrey A. Hunsaker, son Deborah G. Hunsaker of Plymouth recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. He is a 1997 graduate of Lutheran High Westland High School in Westland.

HEADMASTER'S LIST

Captain Munson an 11th grader at Howe, the son of Michael Munson of Canton received his name on the headmaster's list. This special award is received by attaining at least a 3.0 B average in his studies in a college prep curriculum.

Substance abuse program set

St. Mary Hospital in Livonia's Center for Counseling Services has expanded its outpatient services to include an Intensive Outpatient Substance Abuse Program. The program meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon in the center. The new outpatient program provides a continuum of care to the alcohol or chemically dependent

patient. The program is designed for those who do not require inpatient hospitalization but still have a need for more extensive outpatient counseling.

Referrals can be made by contacting the St. Mary Hospital Center for Counseling Services at (734) 655-2936 or 1-800-494-1654.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission has received a request from Artic Ponds, Inc. to approve the Use Subject to Special Conditions to allow an Indoor Recreational Facility for a Hockey Skill Development Center located at 40475 Plymouth Road. The property is located on the south side of Plymouth Road, west of I-275 and east of Haggerty Road. Application No. 1504 Tax ID No. 027-99-0037-000.

The Planning Commission seeks input to determine if approval of the Use Subject to Special Conditions should be used under Section 12.2 of the Zoning Ordinance No. 83. The land is zoned C-2, General Commercial.

Questions regarding the request may be directed to the Community Development Department during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Planning Commission will consider the request at its regular meeting on February 18, 1998 commencing at 7:00 p.m. Written comments concerning the request will be received prior to the meeting. The application review and address for written comment is Plymouth Charter Township Division of Public Services, Community Development Department, 46555 Port Street, Plymouth, MI 48170. The public hearing will be held in the Meeting Room at Township Hall located at 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Telephone Number: 734-453-4372.

MARCIA SAYLES, Secretary

Planning Commission

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE 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, to individuals with disabilities at all meetings/hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's office, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone number: (313) 453-3540, TDD users: 1-800-649-3777, Michigan Relay Service.

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UPER WEEKEND SALE

**2-day 25% off
storewide
coupon sale
saturday & sunday**

redeem this coupon february 7 & 8
for savings throughout the store

25% off

regular-priced merchandise
saturday & sunday, feb. 7 & 8, 1998

Limit one coupon per purchase. Discount applies to regular-priced merchandise and is limited to JCPenney stock on hand. This discount does not apply to the following: Cosmetics Department, Catalog (Catalog Dept., Catalog Phone Orders, Catalog Outlet Stores), Sale Merchandise, Red Ticketed Clearance Merchandise, Value Right Merchandise, Collectibles, Housewares, Dinnerware, All Services, Aerosoles®, Easy Spirit®, Hanes®, No Fear® Sportswear, Royal Velvet® by Fieldcrest®, JNCO®, or in combination with any other JCPenney certificate. As always, credit purchases are subject to available credit limit. Cash value: 1/20th of one cent. Cannot be used for payment on account or on any prior purchases.

JCPenney®

also look for these other great sales starting saturday, feb. 7!
25% off all small leather goods, belts, straw hats & selected slippers
plus, 20-33% off sleepwear, robes, loungewear & delicates bras, panties & daywear

JCPenney®

I LOVE YOUR STYLE™

THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Eisenhower Dance Ensemble presents "Dances for Lovers," 8 p.m. at the Smith Theatre on the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College, (1-696 at Orchard Lake Road) Farmington Hills. Tickets \$16, (248) 471-7667.

SATURDAY

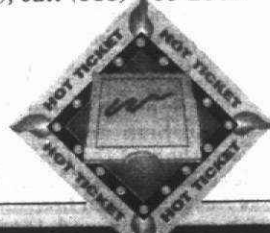


Suzanne Rogers and Craig Forhan star in The Farmington Players production of "The Heiress." Curtain 8 p.m., 32332 W. 12 Mile Road. Tickets \$8, (248) 553-2955.

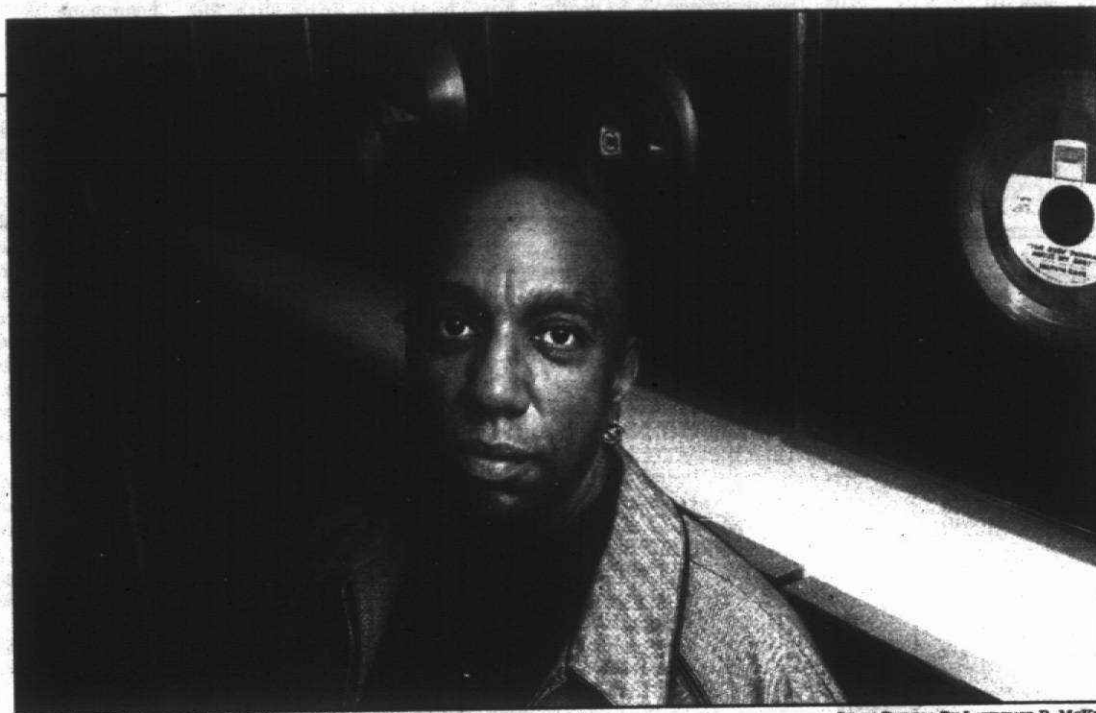
SUNDAY



Youtheatre at Music Hall presents "The Color of Justice," a stirring Black History Month drama for family audiences, 2 p.m., 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$7 (advance) \$8 (at the door), call (313) 963-2366.



Hot Tix: American Ballet Theatre presents "Giselle" Thursday, Feb. 5, through Sunday, Feb. 8, at Detroit Opera House, (Madison Avenue at Broadway, one block east of Woodward Avenue), Detroit. Tickets range from \$15 - \$62, (313) 874-SING, or (248) 645-6666.



STAFF PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE R. MCKEE

Golden career: (Above) The hallway of Barrett Strong's Grapevine Co. in Southfield is lined with gold records he received for writing several Motown hits including "Ball of Confusion" by The Temptations, and "Too Busy Thinking About My Baby" by Marvin Gaye. (Below) Southfield resident Liz Thomas, who performs under the name "Eliza," will perform her single "I Said You'd Be My Only Lover" on the "Jenny Jones Show" Tuesday, Feb. 10.

Motown music maker looks ahead



STORIES BY CHRISTINA FUOCO • STAFF WRITER

MOTOWN MEMORIES

Who: The Motown Museum and radio station WMXD-FM (92.3)
What: Host a party
When: 8-11 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15
Where: The Roostertail, the foot of Marquette Drive off Jefferson Avenue, Detroit.
Why: It's a party for Motown Records' 40th anniversary in conjunction with the ABC-TV special "Motown 40: The Music is Forever" airing Sunday Feb. 15, and Thursday, Feb. 19.
How: The \$40 tickets include the party, a membership to the Motown Museum, and light hors d'oeuvres. For more information, call (313) 875-2264. For directions to the Roostertail, call (313) 822-1234.

Other events include:

- The Motown Museum's 2648 Celebration, which will pay tribute to the late Ewart Abner, former president of Motown Records and the owner of Vee-Jay Records, 7 p.m. Saturday, April 4, at the Roostertail. The Miracles are scheduled to perform. Tickets are \$150 and there are sponsorship levels for corporations. For more information, call (313) 875-2264.
- Motown Records has numerous items on its site. It will release "Motown 40 Forever," a 2-CD set on Tuesday, Feb. 17; a special edition of Motown's multi-platinum soundtrack to "The Big Chill," and air a network docudrama about the career of The Temptations. Motown Records can be reached at <http://www.motown40.com>
- The Miracles, The Temptations and The Four Tops are tentatively scheduled to perform Thursday-Friday, June 11-12, at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Ticket information soon.

With his bald head and gold earring dangling from his left ear, Barrett Strong makes an impression wherever he goes.

He and his writing partner Liz "Eliza" Thomas walk into a sparsely seated Berkley diner and generate a few looks. The ironic thing is that the glances are for his style not for his notoriety.

Nobody in the restaurant seems to know that Strong, a Grammy Award winner, penned many Motown hits including "I Heard It Through the Grapevine," "Papa Was a Rolling Stone" and "Ball of Confusion."

Down 12 Mile Road, their Southfield office is modest but shines from the gold records lining the hallway. Asked about the gold records, and the Grammy Award for "Papa Was a Rolling Stone" that sits between stacks of papers, Strong fondly recalls his days with Motown.

"You look at it, and then you say, 'I wish those days can come back again.' Wow that was great. It was a beautiful time. Detroit was really jumping. I guess in any profession, when you achieve certain goals that you set for yourself, it brings a smile to your face."

This year, Motown Records and its founder Berry Gordy are celebrating its 40th year in business. The festivities began with the Super Bowl half-time show that included performances by The Temptations, Queen Latifah, Martha and the Vandellas, Smokey Robinson and Boyz II

Please see MOTOWN, E2



Dream comes true for Eliza

Working in a health-food store was never a dream of Southfield singer/songwriter Liz "Eliza" Thomas. But a chance meeting in her workplace may help her accomplish her dream to succeed as a musician.

Thomas, a 1984 graduate of Southfield High School, was working in the store and singing to herself when a customer told her he, too, writes songs. The patron was Barrett Strong, writer of "I Heard It Through the Grapevine" and "Papa Was a

Please see ELIZA, E2

U.S. violinist honeymoons in Amsterdam

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Alexander Kerr was hoping he could find a bar on SuperBowl Sunday where he could watch the game. He's in Amsterdam and hasn't been able to see a football game all season.

Not that he's complaining. Kerr, 27, is the co-concertmaster of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, considered one of the world's premiere ensembles. The Orchestra comes to Ann Arbor's Hill Auditorium Feb. 11 as part of the University Musical Society series.

In 1996 Kerr, a native of Alexandria, Va., was a violinist with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and about to become married when his life took a turn.

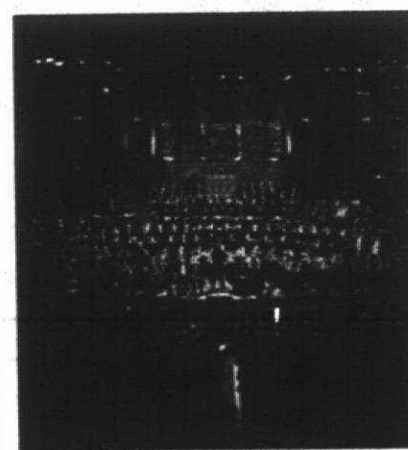
"I got this call from an orchestra that said it was the Royal Netherlands Opera Orchestra. I thought it was a joke. I thought it was my friend Richie, who plays clarinet for the Cincinnati; he's always playing jokes, and I thought he was doing something stupid again," Kerr said, in a telephone conversation from his home in Amsterdam.

Kerr auditioned and won his position as co-concertmaster. He splits performances with another violinist while also performing in chamber groups and teaching at the Utrecht School of the Arts.

The young, enthusiastic violinist has been juggling life in a strange country, performing with a major orchestra and adjusting to a new marriage.

"Everybody in the states asks, how does everybody like you," Kerr said. "Amsterdam is such a multicultural city and there are so many nationalities in the orchestra, it was easy to fit in. The person that had my position

Please see VIOLINIST, E3



Concertgebouw: The acoustically acclaimed Concertgebouw is home to the orchestra that bears its name in Amsterdam.

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

Symphony in White: Riders perform an intricate, equine ballet, exhibiting maneuvers through the highest level of dressage in The Wonderful World of Horses featuring the Royal Lipizzaner Stallions.



'The Wonderful World of Horses' showcases noble breed

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Saved from almost certain extinction by General George Patton and his men during World War II, the Lipizzaner Stallions are a rare and noble breed imported from Austria.

They will be galloping into The Palace of Auburn Hills for two shows on Sunday, Feb. 15.

"It's a very entertaining show," said Gary Lashinsky who has been producer of "The Wonderful World of Horses" starring the "World Famous Royal Lipizzaner Stallions" for over 29 years. This tour features 14 stallions.

"Millions of people around the world have seen the show," he said. "This is a very special horse. There are only 2,500

to 2,600 registered purebred Lipizzans."

Besides entertaining audiences, Lashinsky said the show increases their understanding of this Austrian treasure. It visits metro Detroit every two to three years. They were last at The Palace in February, 1996.

This year's "A Symphony in White," salutes the Spanish Riding School of Vienna, a centuries-old training center in Austria, considered the "Harvard" of the equestrian world.

"We give you the opportunity to see something you can only see in Vienna," said Lashinsky.

"The Wonderful World of Horses" is an authentic presentation of the Spanish Riding School style, but is not affiliated with the school.

The show features all new music, choreography and routines with major emphasis on the historical background and foundation of the Lipizzaner breed, from its original breeding and use as a horse of war to a horse of nobility and aristocracy to a living form of equestrian art.

"Seeing these horses perform is like stepping back 425 years in time," said Lashinsky. "The costumes are traditional, very European and a throw back to the 16th or 17th century."

You'll see the spectacular leaps and maneuvers, once used by riders in saddle to protect and defend themselves on the battlefield, which are now preserved as

Please see HORSES, E2

The Wonderful World of Horses Starring the "World Famous Royal Lipizzaner Stallions"

When: 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15

Where: The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills.

Tickets: \$18.50 and \$14.50 reserved. Seniors 62 and over, and children 12 and under receive \$2 off all tickets, call (248) 645-6666. Special Superfan seating also available. Groups of 15 or more receive \$3 off reserved tickets, call (248) 377-0100.

Motown from page E1

Men. Bobby Rogers of The Miracles said he wouldn't have missed watching the show "for the world. It reminded me of a miniature Motown revue."

Strong, however, had mixed feelings.

"It's OK. It's great. I enjoy watching my friends and everything. But I'm a person like this: The music business is a youth-oriented business. At some point you have to stand back and look at yourself and figure out what

you got to do."

The yearlong celebration will also include a four-hour, prime-time special "Motown 40: The Music is Forever," hosted by Diana Ross, on ABC Sunday, Feb. 15, and Thursday, Feb. 19.

In conjunction with the special, the Motown Museum and radio station WXXD-FM (92.3) are having a party 8-11 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15, at the Rooster-tail.

The parties continue at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 4, when the

museum will pay tribute to the late Ewart Abner, the former president of Motown Records, at its annual 26th Celebration at the Rooster-tail, which is also celebrating its 40th anniversary.

"We encourage people to really recognize the impact of Motown and this culture," said Kristina King, who works in development at the Motown Museum. "When you really learn about the history of Motown and its extraordinary achievements, you'll see that it has uplifted people for 40 years and I'm sure it will go on forever. It was a remarkable thing to happen."

Strong isn't planning on celebrating the anniversary.

"I haven't made plans except to congratulate them and talk to them about how great it was, how good it was that we made a sound and how good it feels to be part of such a successful story."

Motown was founded in 1958 by Gordy, who referred to Motown as "the sound of young America," with \$800 he borrowed from his family.

One of the first groups he worked with was Smokey Robinson and the Matadors, later known as the Miracles, whom he discovered in 1958. He recorded their songs as an independent producer and leased the first Miracles record "Got a Job/My Mama Done Told Me" to the New York label End.

Rogers and Bill Baran, his Dearborn-based manager, contend that 1998 is actually the 40th anniversary of the Miracles not necessarily Motown.

"We released 'Got a Job' Feb. 19, 1958. Motown wasn't really in existence at that time. I guess the plan was in motion," said Rogers who lives in Southfield.

"That was our first recording but since it was recorded by Berry Gordy who is like Motown, I guess that's why we say it's Motown's 40th anniversary."

For Rogers, the 40 years have flown by.

"No, I can't believe it's been 40 years. I still think I'm about 25,"

he said with a laugh.

Rogers along with fellow Miracles David Finley, who joined the group in 1978, and Sidney Justin, the former lead singer of Shalamar, will perform at the Fox Theatre in June with The Temptations and the Four Tops.

The Miracles were the first band signed to Motown but the label's first hit came courtesy of Strong and his single "Money (That's What I Want)" in 1959.

Strong, who met Gordy in a Detroit nightclub, is modest about his years at Motown.

"I was just a writer there. As an artist I recorded the song 'Money.' That was pretty much it."

It doesn't end there. Strong worked with Gordy for 10 years before leaving to work for Jay Records in Chicago, the company which was the first to have masters of music by the Beatles.

"While I was there I wrote a song called 'Stay in My Corner' for The Dells. Then I came back to Motown where I became partners with Norman Whitfield. We wrote songs for The Temptations and I heard it through the Grapevine."

For two years Strong has been running the appropriately named Grapevine Co. in Southfield, of which Blarri Records and Studio B are a part. He started the label as a way of releasing his and Eliza's music.

"The music business today is so strange you never know what's going to happen. No matter what philosophy you have you have to believe in yourself and go for it. It's basically the same thing that Mr. Gordy did. He put the records out and he made it happen for him."

Strong recently released his single "Cold Hearted Woman/I Can't Love Again," and Eliza's album "I Want More." They are available at all Harmony House stores.

The Detroit music scene, Strong said, lacks the camaraderie between acts it had in the '60s.

Eliza from page E1

Rolling Stone.

"I never thought I'd meet someone like that in the store," said Eliza, pronounced Eleza.

The two hit it off and have since become writing partners. "The result is her debut album 'I Want More,' on which she covers Strong's hit single 'Money (That's What I Want)'. The album, which couples acoustic-based music with hip-hop beats, was released on Strong's Blarri Records last year. It is available in Harmony House stores.

She will perform the first single, the upbeat dance song "I Said You'd Be My Only Love," on the "Jenny Jones Show" at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10, on WDIV.

"That is such a big thing. It was fun. I did a warm up and then Jenny Jones came in and said hi. She said she really loved the song."

Strong was just as impressed.

"She did a heck of a job. She's a very talented lady. I think she's going to prove to be a real

force in the industry if she gets a chance. We're going to do everything we can to make that happen."

A songwriter since she was in her mid-teens, Eliza grew up in a musical family. She and her sisters, Valerie and Michelle, frequently performed in their Armenian church. At home their father played the guitar and harmonica.

Although her parents discouraged a career in music, describing it as an "unstable lifestyle," Eliza entered Wayne State University to study opera and piano. When her pop music ambitions took a toll on her vocal chords, she was forced to choose between rock and opera. She concentrated on pop and earned a bachelor's degree in music from Wayne State University in 1992.

She now works as a full-time musician performing her music acoustically in coffeehouses, and singing top 40 songs with the "corporate-type wedding band" Royce.

"It was a great experience that I'll always remember," he said of his Motown days. "We were just one big old family. There were a lot of laughs, a lot of fun. The music business today is so strange you never know what's going to happen. No matter what philosophy you have you have to believe in yourself and go for it. It's basically the same thing that Mr. Gordy did. He put the records out and he made it happen for him."

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Horses from page E1

an equine ballet. Their routines are accompanied by classical and classic pop music.

"Every horse is working together, which is very rare for stallions," said Lashinsky. "These

horses mirror one another so they have the same look, like the Rockettes."

The riders are all dressage trained, and come from all over the world including the United States.

Dressage is a French word for "schooling of the horse," and means harmony between horse and rider. Riders guide their mount through a set of maneuvers, without the perceptible use of hands or reins. Dressage can also be thought of as an equestrian ballet or aerobics where horse and rider work together.

"They're very dedicated, and in their 20s and 30s," said Lashinsky. "We have the only outlet for exhibiting these horses. We're only competing for applause and the enjoyment of the audience."

With increased understanding and appreciation of the Lipizzan breed have come renewed efforts to save it.

The Spanish Andalusian and the Arabian are the ancestral forefathers of the Lipizzan. Archduke Maximilian, later Emperor of Austria, began breeding Spanish horses around 1662. Eighteen years later, Archduke Karl, ruler of four Austrian provinces, established a royal stud farm in Lipizza. The horses became the property of nobility and the military aristocracy. The stallions were trained for battle, and the gentle white mares became the coach horses of the elite.

After the break up of the old Austrian Empire, Lipizza became a part of Italy. The Italian and Austrian governments divided the Lipizzan herd equally. The Republic of Austria took their horses to Piber in Steiermark. Piber, a privately owned stud farm, was founded in 1798 to breed cavalry mounts for the army. In 1858 it became a government breeding farm. The Lipizzan is usually born black and changes slowly over a period of six to 10 years to final, pure white color.

Pianist shares 'Pages from a Russian Album'

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER



Bonomici

When Anthony Bonamici went to study at the Moscow Conservatory 3 1/2 years ago, he barely understood Russian, now he speaks the language fluently. Bonamici returns home to Livonia, Feb. 7 to share an evening of romantic Russian piano music at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft (1-96) and Levan.

This is the first of two free concerts, Bonamici will give this year at Kresge Hall, A 1993

Violinist from page E1

before me was Russian."

Kerr joked that his contract requires him "to make an effort to speak Dutch." He said he's picked up some of the language and has all the musical terms down so he can get through rehearsals.

And the marriage?

"I'm apologizing to my wife every day, our lives are in such hectic chaos," he said.

Kerr was invited to audition for the orchestra three weeks before the wedding and his new bride had to adjust to starting married life in Holland.

"It's a big strain. But it's exciting for a new couple to go on a journey, move to a new country, experience Europe," Kerr said.

Still, the music has been worth the inconveniences. The Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra under the direction of Claudio Chailly has been receiving rave reviews for its concerts and its recordings.

Founded in 1888, the orchestra takes its name from the acoustically acclaimed concert hall in which it regularly performs "God's instrument," says Kerr. The orchestra has won renown for its performances of late 19th century and post-Romantic works including the music of Brahms, Mahler, Bruckner and Richard Strauss. Many famous composers have been guest conductors for the orchestra or have written explicitly for it.

The orchestra will perform Bruckner's unfinished Symphony No. 9 in D minor and a Mahler tone poem, "Totenfeier," in Ann Arbor. At other venues on the monthlong tour, the orchestra will perform Mahler's Symphony No. 5 in D-sharp minor, which has just been released as a CD on Decca/London. The orchestra has a long association with Mahler and the Fifth Symphony, which Mahler premiered with the orchestra in 1906.

Chailly, an Italian and the orchestra's first non-Dutch conductor, has performed many 20th century works with the symphony.

"He's brought a lot of contemporary music into their repertoire," Kerr said. "It's incredible what he's done with this orchestra in the last 10 years."

But, Kerr said, the orchestra itself carries on a rich tradition. He said the spirit of Mahler and Bruckner actually seem to be present when the orchestra rehearses and performs.

ART BEAT

OPENING RECEPTION

The Livonia Arts Commission hosts a reception for Birmingham watercolorist Nancy Hopper 2-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8 in the Livonia Civic Center Fine Arts Gallery, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington.

Hopper's exhibition, "Sharing My Heart" runs Feb. 3 to March 1.

Next to the gallery in the exhibition cases, an arts commission show of pottery by James Castiglione of Milford runs Feb. 2-26.

CONCERT PROGRAM

Music Critic John Guinn will present a lecture 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12 at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia. The program highlights the evening's concert by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra at Orchestra Hall. The non-credit fee of \$20 includes one ticket to the performance.

To register, call (734) 432-5731.

graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School, the 22-year-old pianist formerly studied with Donald Morelock at Schoolcraft College. He attended the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in Houston for one year prior to transferring to the Moscow Conservatory of Music where he still has 2 1/2 years of studies remaining before he receives a diploma. It's evident, Bonamici picked up the language as he went along. How else, could he have learned the Russian technique so well to bring the music of the masters to life in "Pages From a Russian Album."

The concert spotlights Tchaikovsky's "Dumka, Op. 59 (a Russian rustic scene)," Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition," and Rachmaninov's "Nine Etudes-Tableaux, Op. 39."

"It gives me a chance to show what I'm learning and it's a

great opportunity to perform new repertoire," said Bonamici. "It's a great goal to work up to."

Bonomici, who returned home Jan. 20, will leave Feb. 20 for the small apartment he shares in Moscow with a roommate. After the concert, he will spend a week in San Francisco relaxing with his parents Carol and David before returning to the Conservatory.

"It's a different environment than the universities here, not much socializing among students," said Bonamici. "There's a difference in the living standards in Moscow. When I first began my studies, it was difficult to find certain foods that I liked. But now, you can find anything you want if you have the money."

Bonomici started taking piano lessons at age five, studied at Hammell Music a few years then moved on to advanced lessons

with Donald Morelock. In the summer of 1994, after completing an intensive three-week study performance tour in Russia sponsored by the International Fine Arts Institute with Morelock, Bonamici was accepted as a full-time piano student at the Moscow Conservatory where he has received perfect scores from a panel of faculty judges.

After completing studies at the conservatory, Bonamici plans to concertize and teach. Whether he remains in Moscow, depends on the opportunities available.

"I feel something for music," said Bonamici. "It's one of the loves of my life. People in Russia have a deep respect for classical music. In Moscow, music is not an elitist thing. When I go to concerts I see policemen and people from the army in the audience.

People are able to afford tickets to concerts."

The other love in Bonamici's life is cooking and fine wines. He enjoys entertaining friends and sometimes cooks for his roommate's catering service thereby earning extra money for side-trips to Paris.

A former winner of the Livonia Symphony Orchestra's Young Artist Competition, Bonamici has performed with the orchestra twice, the last time in 1993. He has also played with the Lyric Chamber Ensemble.

Bonomici has a long list of achievements including being the first student to perform on the prestigious Cranbrook Guild Recital Series in Bloomfield Hills. He was also chosen to perform concert with the Michigan Youth Festival Orchestra on three separate occasions. He was a national award winner in two

competitions sponsored by the Music Teachers National Association, one of the top three junior high school winners in 1990, and the first place high school student in 1991.

In 1992, as a 16-year-old composer, Bonamici wrote a piano concerto that won first place in the BMI student competition for youth up to age 26 in the Western Hemisphere. He received the William Schuman Award at the Plaza Hotel in New York City with composers Milton Babbitt and George Crumb in attendance. Later that year at the Aspen Festival of Music, he wrote and participated in a performance premier of his first Piano Quartet.

Bonomici recorded his first CD and is currently recording a second for which orders will be taken at the Feb. 7 concert.

kind of orchestra. I wouldn't give it up."

Kerr said he wants to continue with the orchestra, teach and develop his chamber performance career.

He tries to spend at least three months in the United States. Meanwhile, he scans the World Wide Web for news from home and searches for someplace where football doesn't mean soccer.

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MOVIES

'Deep Rising' wallows in a shallow blood bath

BY JOHN MONAGHAN
SPECIAL WRITER

When "Jaws" premiered over 20 years ago, I came to a conclusion that the moviegoing public falls into one of two categories: those who liked the movie for the interaction between the shark hunters and those who craved gross-out shots of disemboweled bodies sinking to the bottom of the ocean.

Only the latter group will get anything at all out of "Deep Rising," a sea monster movie which spends all its energy on gory special effects while leaving its story out to dry.

According to writer/director Stephen Sommers, "Deep Rising" (what does that title mean anyway?) mines the last true frontier, the endless and still-uncharted depths of the China Seas. Here lurks a gargantuan, squid-like monster whose million hungry arms will devour you, suck all the fluid from your

screaming body, and then excrete your steaming bones.

I offer such a vivid description because the movie is filled with this kind of literally gut-wrenching detail. One of the victims appears with half his flesh eaten away, begging those still standing for help. Others are dispatched more mercifully, sucked underwater and replaced on screen by a gushing fountain of blood.

The plot, such as it is, involves a cynical charter boat captain (Treat Williams) whose "cash on the table means no questions asked" policy gets him in hot water. His latest passengers include an arsenal of torpedoes whose destination we soon discover is a luxury ship called the Argonautica.

But the terrorists don't count on a sea monster besting them to the punch. We get the usual creatures-eye-view of the ship's bottom as it quickly surfaces and strikes. Screaming passengers

crash through plate glass windows and are stomped on by stampeding masses with the kind of gusto unseen since the days of "Jaws" Allen.

I'm still not sure if it's just one creature with a lot of arms or a whole slew of them, but the toothy tentacles invade the ship, devouring everything in their path. The filmmakers offer a kind of class-conscious satisfaction in seeing the rich slaughtered, sparing only a spunky pickpocket (Famke Janssen) from the well-heeled passenger list.

Williams' charter captain owes plenty to Humphrey Bogart and John Garfield, who played essentially the same part in movie versions of "To Have and Have Not." He has the requisite world-weary, but the dialogue will never get mistaken for Hemingway.

Janssen, who played a sexy Russian agent opposite James Bond in "Goldeneye," can still

handle a gun and looks great doing it. Comic relief comes from Kevin O'Connor, who will win over underestimating audiences with his Bobcat Goldsworthy-style interpretation of Williams' loyal mechanic. The real stars of "Deep Rising" are, of course, the special effects. Watching Williams and company dispatch marauding Medusa heads often rivals the exhilaration of playing a good video game. But the creatures, though formidable, have none of the dimension that made even the worst "Alien" movie so creepy.

I guess at this point in the monster movie genre, we expect something more than just carnage. You won't get it from "Deep Rising," a typically shallow monster movie that should sink fast in theaters.

John Monaghan welcomes your calls and comments. To leave John a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1866.



Action thriller: Terrified of horrifying sea creatures swarming all around them aboard the cruise ship Argonautica, Trillian (Famke Janssen, left) and Finnegan (Treat Williams) face these bone-crushing serpents at every turn in "Deep Rising."

Scorsese brings spirit, passion to 'Kundun'

BY JOHN MONAGHAN
SPECIAL WRITER

Martin Scorsese is no stranger to spirituality. From his debut in "Mean Streets" to the ultra-controversial "Last Temptation of Christ," he has consistently returned to the plight of individuals trying to keep their faith during violent times.

In "Kundun," Scorsese focuses on the Dalai Lama, Tibet's spiritual and political leader, who was wrested from power by China in the 1950s. For decades a powerful symbol of Chinese brutality, the Dalai Lama continues to tour the world looking for his support.

And some people have listened, especially in Hollywood. Actor Richard Gere looked like Tinseltown's biggest fake when he trumpeted the Tibetan call during the Oscars a few years back, yet in the past four months there have been two high-profile movies on the subject.

"Seven Years in Tibet" was a noble effort, but the focus was on mountain climber Heinrich Harrer, whose Nazi affiliations made more than a few viewers uncomfortable. The movie serves as a worthwhile primer for "Kundun" but ultimately pales next to Scorsese's haunting version of the same events.

Scorsese and screenwriter Melissa Mathison tell the story completely from the point of view of the Dalai Lama, from his discovery at age 2 to his guiding, at 18, of Tibet during its most tumultuous time.

"I am just a boy. What can I do?" he says matter of factly as the Chinese march in and start to claim Tibetan land as their own. The quandary has to do with the Buddhist pledge of non-violence, which the Chinese consider a great weakness and use, ironically enough, as a weapon.

In one of the film's best moments, the Dalai Lama speaks with Chinese leader Mao



Drama: At age 5, and destined to lead his country of Tibet during one of the most challenging times in history, the young Dalai Lama (Tulku Jamyang Kunga Tenzin, left) is guided by the enlightened Master of the Kitchen (Lobsang Samten) in "Kundun."

Zedong in his private chambers. The conversation is strangely cordial, yet insulting, as Mao advises him to abandon an obsolete faith, failing to realize that this is the essence of the man.

Yet Scorsese and Mathison refuse, unlike the previous "Tibet," to paint the picture in entirely blacks and whites. There are hints that the system this 14th Dalai Lama inherits has its own brand of subtle corruption and favoritism. His advisers constantly keep information from him, even as an adult. Moreover, the Dalai Lama sees some wisdom in the New China but can't make himself heard over the clatter of Communist propaganda.

No less than four actors, all non-professionals, play the Dalai Lama at various stages of his life. Especially impressive is 18-year-old Tenzin Thutob Tsarong, who successfully shows how a person

can carry the weight of an entire country on thin shoulders. The cinematography, by Roger Deakins, is properly epic while the Philip Glass score, though intrusive at first, ultimately has a mesmerizing effect. Though Scorsese could have chosen other directions to go with the music, the Minimalist composer of "Koyaanisqatsi" is a longtime supporter of the Dalai Lama and his cause.

Plenty of comparisons have been made to 1988's "Last Temptation of Christ," a similar labor of love for America's most inspired director. While that movie had controversy to fuel ticket sales, word of mouth will hopefully help "Kundun" message be heard.

John Monaghan welcomes your calls and comments. To leave John a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1866.

SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan.

Detroit Film Theatre Detroit
Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Call (313) 833-2323 for information. (\$5.50; \$4.50 students/seniors)

"Hansun" (Denmark/Norway-1996). 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6; 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 7-8. Swedish director Jon Trolle focuses on author Knut Hamsun, who many called the father of modern literature and who also sided with the Nazis during World War II. Max von Sydow stars.

"Bandwagon" (USA-1995). 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9. A hit at Sundance, this independent film charts the ups and downs of a North Carolina garage band that dreams of artistic integrity and a full recording contract.

"In and Out" (USA-1997). 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5. Kevin Kline plays a high school teacher who questions his sexuality

when one of his former students names him as a positive gay influence.

Main Art Theatre 118 N. Main Street at 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak. Films play through at least Thursday, unless noted otherwise. Call (248) 542-0180 for information. (\$6.50; \$4 students, seniors and matinee; \$3 twilight)

"The Sweet Hereafter" (Canada-1997). A study in collective mourning from Canadian director Atom Egoyan in which an entire town feels the pain when most of its children are killed in a schoolbus accident.

"The Apostle" (USA-1998). Robert Duvall wrote, directed, and starred in this story of a preacher who finds his personal rode to salvation, helped in part by his wife (played by Farrah Fawcett), starts Friday.

"Oscar and Lucinda" (USA-1997). Ralph Fiennes plays a controversially warring priest who finds his soulmate in heiress Kate Blanchett. Directed by Gillian Armstrong. Starts Friday.

Redford Theatre 17360

Holly Cole finds new ways to interpret old songs



CHRISTINA FUOCO

For pop singer Holly Cole, the grassroots campaign has paid off. For five albums the Toronto resident has tirelessly played clubs hoping that her interpretations of other singer/songwriters' pop songs would catch on.

Her sixth effort, last year's "Dark Dear Heart" (Metro Blue/Capitol), proved to be a charm.

"It's been an incredible tour. We've played all kinds of places we've never played before with well-out crowds no less," said Cole, who plays the Royal Oak Music Theatre on Saturday, Feb. 7, with Jeb Loy Nichols.

"I think it's partly because we've toured a bunch in the U.S. It's kind of a grassroots thing or by word of mouth; we being out there and in people's faces. Also this record has gotten much more airplay than any of my records in the past. That's certainly helped us."

"Dark Dear Heart" is a bit more in the pop music direction when I was a kid and when I rediscovered them a couple years

ago I decided to do 'I've Just Seen a Face.' I thought I'd slow it down and add cool vocals. It told me that's what it needed for me to do it."

For her live shows, Cole even reinterprets her interpretations. "I went back and listened to earlier albums. I was saying, 'I can't believe I did that.' In the set we do songs from early records. The songs sound so different now than they did on the record. Even the songs on 'Dark Dear Heart' sound different in concert," Cole explained.

"I'm actually happy about that. I don't try in concert to recreate the record or anything. I think it's better for me, the band and the audience. When I go to shows and people are just doing their record, I think I would have heard this at home with a better sound system. It keeps it fresher for us too."

Now that her career is on the upswing, Cole keeps in mind the cities that have adored her from the start.

"Detroit's always been a real highlight of my touring. The audiences are very passionate and so am I. It works out very well."

Holly Cole and Jeb Loy Nichols

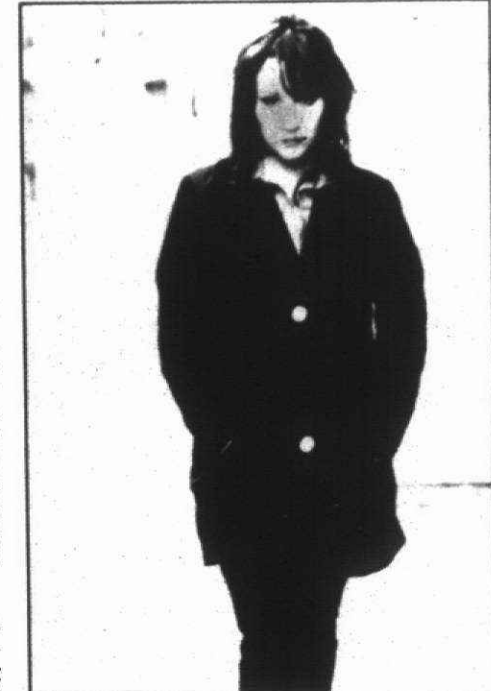
perform Saturday, Feb. 7, Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$17.50 for the 21 and older show. For more information, call (248) 546-7610 or (248) 645-6666.

■ Diesel Nightclub and the Sports Rock Cafe, 22509 Ecorse Road in Taylor, are hosting the first annual Downriver Classic Rock Challenge in conjunction with radio station WCSX every Wednesday from Feb. 18 to April 8. Each night five local classic rock bands will compete for \$5,000 in cash and prizes. The winners will be invited back for the finals on Wednesday, April 15. The winning band wins the chance for a one-year contract with the Gemini Entertainment Corp. For more information, call (313) 274-7000.

■ Mammoth Records has entered into a 50/50 joint venture agreement with Nickelbag Records, headed by The Dust Brothers and Spacehead founder Mitchell Frank. Artists on the 4-year-old label include Sukia, 10 cent and the Dust Brothers, while Mammoth is the home of Squirrel Nut Zippers, Seven Mary Three, Fu Manchu and Joe

Henry. The first release for Nickelbag/Mammoth is the soundtrack to "Orgazmo," a new film by South Park creators Matt Stone and Trey Parker, in May.

for Christina Fuoco write her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150, or via e-mail at cfuoco@aol.com, or leave a message at (734) 953-2045, ext. 2130.



Singer Holly Cole brings her unique interpretations to songs including a new version of 'I've Just Seen a Face.' She'll perform at the Royal Oak Music Theatre Feb. 7.

If you have a question or com-

ment for Christina Fuoco write her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150, or via e-mail at cfuoco@aol.com, or leave a message at (734) 953-2045, ext. 2130.

Detroit Repertory celebrates 40 years with dramatic 'Fences'



ANN DELISI

Remember that time of youthful joy when you mind was uncluttered and free? At some point, all that unrefined bliss was corrupted by the introduction of elemental, unanswerable questions on whose answer the fledgling worldview would forever hinge. For me, the introduction occurred during a children's song that asked, "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?"

Happily, the process of maturation builds immunities toward these paralyzing questions. So it's with some effort that we adults have to address certain questions. And here's the biggie: does art imitate life or does life imitate art?

Before you get a headache, there's no answer. But tonight on *Backstage Pass* on Detroit Public Television, we'll see the work of artists who force the question by bringing their personal experiences into the creative process.

Blair Anderson will host a performance from August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Fences," currently running at the Detroit Repertory Theatre. Blair explained the significance

of this staging. "97-'98 is the Detroit Repertory's 40th anniversary season. Subscribers selected their all-time favorite shows in various categories, and 'Fences' came out the top all-time serious piece."

Blair explained a bit about August Wilson's oeuvre. "Wilson's writing a play for each generation - 'Joe Turner's Come and Gone' in the teens; 'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom' in the '20s; 'Piano Lesson' in the '30s. Some people have talked about his grand scheme being the odyssey. What is the African American experience in the 20th century?"

"Fences" is a very dense piece set in the '50s. The central character is Troy Maxson, the son of a share cropper who spends time in a penitentiary for killing a man during a robbery. Now he's working on a garbage man and raising a family. In a sense it's about the sins of the father visited on the son - in the same way

that Troy was abused by his father, he finds himself in a similar situation with his son.

"Troy philosophizes about life. There's a whole lot of storytelling on the porch. The same way that Troy struggles to break a pattern of cultural and social oppression, he speaks to a larger community. Everyone can identify with his struggle. Troy is very reminiscent of Willy Loman in 'Death of a Salesman,' in that the play addresses issues of individualism, culture and society all at the same time."

We should celebrate this special 40th anniversary season at the Detroit Repertory. Blair summed up his thoughts. "The Detroit Rep has so completely integrated itself with the community. They are so strongly committed with the neighborhood and the city of Detroit and everyone working together, and the fact that they have been around for 40 years speaks to

their excellence."

Next, I spoke with crack *Backstage Pass* feature producer Katherine Weider about composer Michael Daugherty, whom she's bringing to the Detroit Public Television studio. "The reason he's getting attention is because he bridges so much of that gap between American pop culture and classical music. There's a sort of estrangement with the classical world being distant and removed from the popular culture, and he's bringing it back to reality, often by using humor. You have to laugh when you hear the titles - 'Elvis Everywhere,' 'Le Tombeau de Libera,' 'Jackie O' - there's a sort of light-heartedness that's needed, or at least is missing when we think of classical."

"But they're still serious, carefully constructed compositional structures, very complex works. You still would consider them classical, and he's very well

regarded as a classical composer. He's definitely using the idioms of jazz and rock and funk, but it's not used personally. These are things from his experience growing up, like memories of sitting

in a hardware store reading a Superman comic book. That's all on *Backstage Pass* tonight at midnight, repeated Friday at 7:30 p.m. on Detroit Public Television.

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NP DEEP RISING (R)
NP GREAT EXPECTATIONS (R)
NP DECEIVER (R)
NP DESPERATE MEASURES (R)
NP SPICE WORLD (PG)
NP GOOD WILL HUNTING (R)
NP WAG THE DOG (R)
NP PHANTOMS (R)
NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Star Southfield
12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off I-496
248-353-STAR
No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 p.m.

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NP DEEP RISING (R)
NP DECEIVER (R)
NP DESPERATE MEASURES (R)
NP SPICE WORLD (PG)
NP TITANIC (PG13)
NP AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG13)
NP MOUSEHUNT (PG)
NP GOOD WILL HUNTING (R)
NP HAIR BAKED (R)
NP AMSTAD (R)
NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Star Winchester
11365 S. Rochester Rd. Winchester
248-656-1160
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NP PHANTOMS (R)
NP KUNDUN (PG13)
NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
NP HAIR BAKED (R)
NP MOUSEHUNT (PG)
NP AMSTAD (R)
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DINING

Get full-course kisses and hugs on Valentine's Day

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

Romance Italian style on Valentine's Day and include Kisses and Hugs. In Italian, that translates Baci Abbracci, the name of Pontiac's newest Italian restaurant with well-fused American flare.

Nino Cutraro, owner of Intermezzo in the Harmonie Park area of Detroit, opened Baci Abbracci last November. Cutraro, a native of Sicily, grew up in Rome and now makes Bloomfield Township his home.

"I like weather with four seasons," he said. "People in this area are hip and avant-garde. The metro-Detroit area is as 'in' as L.A. or New York. It's a melting pot in the heartland of America. When it comes to dining, area residents are experienced and know good food."

Cutraro owns the building housing Baci Abbracci. Longtime area residents may recall it as a bank, turned Pontiac car dealership, then Vis-a-Vis, and until last year, the Ultimate Sports Bar. All trappings of any former lives are gone, except the large deck that will be appealing in warmer weather to those who like to eat outdoors.

A culinary fusion concept usually has an Asian-influenced ring, but Baci Abbracci's menu is a representative fusion of Italian and American that clicks.

And what's on the menu is similar to Intermezzo in entree offerings. Like Intermezzo, it appeals to adult diners, but the Pontiac setting is distinctly warehouse, perked up with full carpeting, well-spaced tables with white and gold cloths and glass dividers with Xs and Os accenting kisses and hugs. Gothic accents have a perversely sophisticated appeal, particularly in the large bar, with glass sound breakers separating it from the dining area.

Jazz and top-40 live music on Friday and Saturdays inspires patrons to dance on the terrazzo bar floor. The Ventemiglia Quartet plays now through March.

On Valentine's Evening, Saturday, Feb. 14, the large second floor banquet facility will serve as the venue for a co-sponsored WNIC buffet dinner dance beginning at 9 p.m. for \$55 per couple, cash bar. The menu includes farfale with chicken and broccoli; rigatoni with caramelized onions, olives and marinara sauce; house salad; carved beef tenderloin with wild mushrooms and cognac sauce; salmon medallion with artichokes, capers and lemon; potatoes Anna; vegetable garnishes; and dessert.

Baci Abbracci

Where: 40 W. Pike St., Pontiac (248) 253-1300.

Hours: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 5-10 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; until midnight Friday; 5 p.m. to midnight Saturday; 3-9 p.m. Sunday.

Menu: Popular fusion of Italian foods with American flavors in a warehouse setting designed and decorated as a modern interpretation of Italian Gothic.

Cost: Lunch average \$4-10 for appetizers, sandwiches, salads and pastas. All dinner entrees available at lunch. At dinner appetizers range \$3-13; entrees \$13-19; and pastas \$10-18.

Reservations: recommended
Credit cards: All majors accepted.

That evening, diners can also choose from the regular menu in the main dining room, prepared by Executive Chef Brian DeMeyer. After graduating from Oakland Community College's culinary department, he spent 10 years training under Master Chef Milos Cihelka and Executive Chef Steve Allen at Southfield's Golden Mushroom.

Now, at age 30, he's on his own and enjoys the mix of flavors, vinegar and oil interplay and fresh ingredients required for tasty Italian dishes.

"There's a simplicity to good Italian cooking, but the flavors must be solid," he emphasized. "And texture is everything."

At lunch recently, Jeffrey Heyn owner of Planet Neon Sign and Lighting Systems in Novi tried out Baci Abbracci for the first time with his sales rep Kevin Blake, who had been there before. Heyn liked the mine-strone.

"It had great flavors and was not too spicy," he noted. He thought the Ziti con Carciofi (pasta tossed with artichokes, onions, tomatoes, fresh basil, garlic, olive oil and sprinkled with grated Romano cheese) was "garlic accented, but had good harmony with a lot of other flavors. It was light and a good choice for lunch."

Blake praised the "awesome flavors" of the Chicken Tortellini soup. "You can't pull this out of a can," he added. "The lasagna was firm and made a good layered presentation. A broccoli vegetable garnish was cooked perfectly crisp/tender."

Blake likes the warehouse concept decor. "It's the kind of place where you feel comfortable in jeans or a business suit," he added.

Both Heyn and Blake noted the service skills of their waiter Casey, and said he was friendly and knowledgeable about menu offerings, steering both of them to good choices. Checking on Casey, I learned he has been waiting tables for 12 years. When it comes to dining room servers, experience shows.

Other recommendations for Valentine's Day dining**Romantic:**

■ Cafe Bon Homme, 844 Pennington, Plymouth (734) 453-6260

■ Cafe Cortina, 30715 W. 10 Mile Road, Farmington Hills (248) 474-3033

■ Emily's, 505 N. Center, Northville (248) 349-0505

■ Fleetwood on Sixth, 209 W. 6th St., Royal Oak (248) 541-8050

■ Golden Mushroom, 18100 W. 10 Mile Road, Southfield (248) 559-4230

■ Il Posto, 29110 Franklin Road, Southfield (248) 827-8070

■ Marco's 32758 Grand River, downtown Farmington (248) 477-7777

■ Morels: A Michigan Bistro, 30100 Telegraph, Bingham Farms (248) 642-1094

■ Ocean Grille, 280 Old Woodward, Birmingham (248) 646-7001



STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN STORMZANO

Romance Italian style: Nino Cutraro, owner of Baci Abbracci, presents some specialty dishes including Osso Buco Milanese with garlic mashed potatoes, baked butter-nut squash with lemon glaze; broiled jumbo shrimp stuffed with saffron shrimp mousse, sea scallop saute on a bed of braised red Swiss chard risotto, and Tiramisu with Espresso Creme-Anglaise.

■ Rugby Grille at The Townsend Hotel, 100 Townsend Street, Birmingham (248) 642-5999

Up tempo romantic:

■ Forté, 201 Old Woodward, Birmingham (248) 594-7300

■ Fox & Hounds, 1560 North Woodward, Bloomfield Hills (248) 644-4800

■ No. VI Chophouse & Lobster Bar, 27790 Novi Road (in Hotel Baronette), Novi (248) 304-5210

■ Oakland Grill, 32832 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak (248) 549-7700

■ Rochester Chop House, 306 Main St., Rochester (248) 651-2266

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Free World Class Wine Tasting

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