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Thursday
February 26, 1998

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 66

CANTON, MICHIGAN • 76 PAGES • <http://observer-eccentric.com>

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IN THE PAPER TODAY

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Accountability: Allowing cameras into the courtroom helps to guarantee the integrity of the judicial process. /A14

COMMUNITY LIFE

Different way: It was Italy's first woman doctor, Maria Montessori, who came up with the educational philosophy of teaching the child, not the subject, that is being celebrated during National Montessori Education Week this week. /B1

AT HOME

Harmonious arrangement: Keep positive energy flowing in your home and office through the ancient art of feng shui. /D6

ENTERTAINMENT

Theater: One-act plays take center stage at the Theater Guild of Livonia / Redford's Festival of One-Act Plays, and Heartland Theatre Company's One-Act Play Slam. /E1

Comedy: "Down Riverdance" is the name of The Second City-Detroit's 12th revue, which opens tonight. /E1

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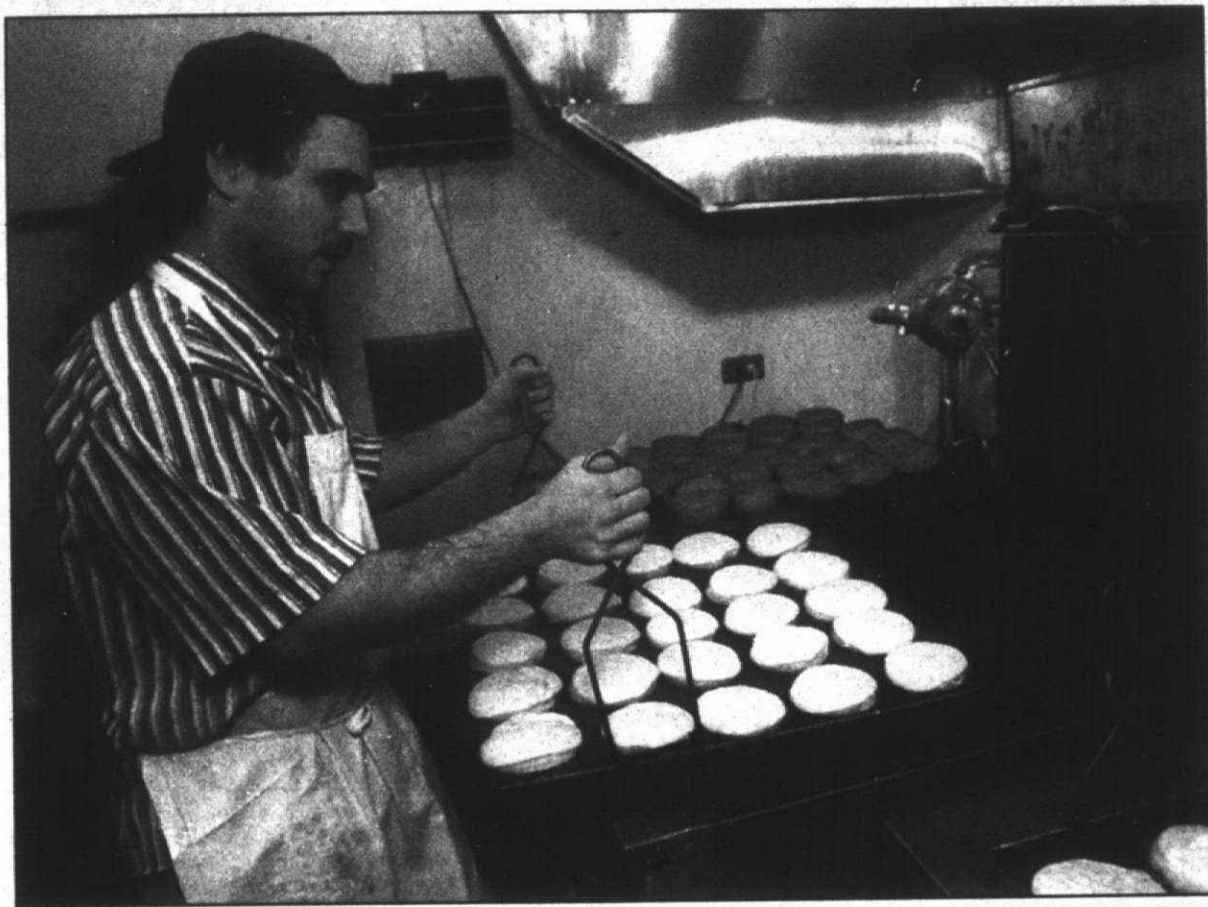
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It's time to make the paczkis: Rick Gau lifts a screen of paczkis into the fryer at the Ford Road Dunkin' Donuts store.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

What diet?

Paczki Day rakes in the dough

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Exactly how many calories were in the paczki you ate on Fat Tuesday?

Apparently, it depends on where you ate that special jelly preserve-filled doughnut, which has been called the "Cadillac of all doughnuts."

According to Laura Mertz, manager of Dunkin' Donuts on Ford Road in Canton, it had 1,300 calories.

Matthew Dunnigan, co-owner of Joe's Italian Bakery & Deli in Plymouth, claimed his paczki had "at least 450 calories." "Have you picked up a box? That should tell you. They weigh a ton," he added.

Kathy Szelazek, a Polish immigrant who lives in Canton Township, had a different caloric estimate. She made her own batch of 60 "original paczkis" Sunday night in preparation for the American Fat Tuesday tradi-

tion. The original paczkis has plum marmalade filling, not pudding, jelly and custard.

"I'd say about 500 calories, but who cares?"

In fact, in Poland there's no such thing as Paczki Day or Fat Tuesday. "There's paczkis everywhere not only that Tuesday (before Ash Wednesday.) It's part of the carnival season."

Please see PACZKIS, A2

'Semi-retired' principal is district's fixer

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

He declines when you ask him his age. But he will reveal that he's been teaching for 37 years.

He'll use his Oklahoma drawl to get a point across, and sounds like your grandfather when talking with kids.

Teachers and parents alike adore him, enough to name a school library after him.

And, despite being semi-retired, George Dodson has once again been called in to help the Plymouth-Canton school district weather another storm.

Dodson took over as interim principal at Fiegel Elementary School in Plymouth at the beginning of the year.

There were troubles with Barbara Young at the helm. No one ... not teachers, parents, the administration or the administrator's union ... wants to discuss why. But, all admit to serious problems which called for a change. Bring in George Dodson.

He did the same thing last year at Gallimore Elementary. Trouble was brewing. A change had to be made. Call in Dodson, whose last duty as principal was 1990 at Smith Elementary.

"Last year at Gallimore was just like magic," said Dodson, who had been principal there for nine years in the 1970s. "It's like a girlfriend. You're away from her a while, then you go back and find out she's much prettier than you remembered."

Feeling is mutual

Parents and teachers loved him so much they named the renovated school library after him.

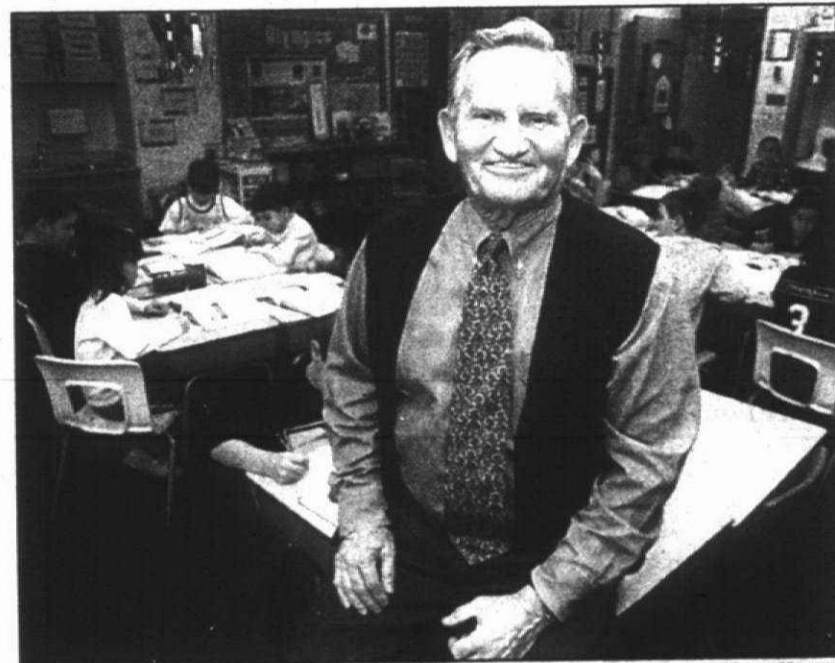
"George is a people person, and very positive when it comes to kids," said Phil Radant, a Gallimore second grade teacher who worked with Dodson during his first stint as Gallimore principal and his return last year. "He's always looking for the best in kids."

Dodson is the type of administrator that also likes to take care of his staff.

"He always makes sure he sees everyone in the morning, making the rounds to find out how families are doing," added Radant. "He always took an interest in newer teachers, talking to them about their goals and interests."

Former school board member, E.J. McClendon, had Dodson in one of the

Please see DODSON, A4



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Back at the helm: George Dodson has returned to Plymouth-Canton schools, this time as interim principal at Fiegel Elementary.

Out of business: Three Ford Road stores close

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Three businesses closed their doors during the last month along the Ford Road corridor, although other tenants have expressed interest in the Canton market.

■ The Donut Scene, a landmark at the northeast corner of Ford and Lilley, closed one week ago after 20 years in business. Stiff competition from numerous national chain doughnut shops forced it out, according to a manager of the Northville store.

■ Jumbo Sports, east of I-275 across from Auto Nation, is having a liquidation sale after changing its name last



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

Shuttered: The Canton Jumbo Sports is closing as part of a restructuring by the Florida-based company.

Please see BUSINESS CLOSINGS, A4

Board gives go-ahead on private arena deal

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

A development agreement has been authorized by the Canton Board of Trustees for a privately-operated ice arena expected to be ready for play by next year.

The authorization was given at Tuesday's regular board meeting.

The two-rink ice arena is part of a \$20-\$25 million sports and recreation complex proposed by Southfield-based Griffin Properties. Plans for the park also include other indoor facilities, including basketball, soccer and golf range.

Griffin Properties will build the facility on 20 acres it buys from

Canton Township on the east side of Haggerty Road between Michigan and Palmer roads.

The development agreement outlines the terms of the sale, which will take place in about three months.

"The only facility they will be committed to (according to the agreement) is the ice arena," said Supervisor Tom Yack.

Griffin will buy the property for \$2.1 million. The township will give the developer credit towards the sale price for property used to build the long-awaited ice arena. (Approx-

Please see ARENA, A4

Treated water taps concern

■ The white particles coming from the faucets in some Canton homes are harmless and result from federally-mandated treatment to reduce lead, officials say.



BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Canton residents can rest assured that the white particles found in their drinking water are safe, although not aesthetically pleasing to look at.

The particles called "pipe scale" have created a nuisance in some homes by clogging faucets. "Pipe scale" is from the carbonate layer found on the inside of most household plumbing, possibly the hot water tanks, said Carl Gorham, special services foreman for Canton Public Works.

Canton's Public Works Department has gotten about 10 complaints in widespread areas of the township, said Gorham.

One report to the Observer came from the Sunflower subdivision between Canton Center and Beck, north of Warren.

"It's in limited areas. We can't explain why... Canton is one of them," said Steve Gorden, executive director of Detroit Water and Sewerage.

"We've not seen it in Detroit, possibly because there's low flow in the commu-

Please see WATER, A2

A2(C)

Water from page A1

nities outside of Detroit." The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department is attempting to reduce the amount of aluminum phosphorous and calcium phosphorous showing up in Canton's drinking water, which apparently is creating the pipe scale.

"We're looking into a process to see what we can do. We're working with the consultants that designed the system. It could be more of a balance of chemicals, but it also could be a function of temperature as in climate."

The phosphorous is a breakdown of chemicals put into the water treatment process in Detroit prior to the filtration for drinking water, Gordon said. The chemicals are mandated by federal and state regulations to minimize the amount of lead and copper in the drinking water.

"It has been determined to be a non toxic substance that's more of a nuisance than anything else because it clogs the aerators," said Gorham.

Homeowners who find the white particles in their drinking water should flush their faucets for several minutes to prevent clogging.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRUELL
Safe to drink: Officials say residue found by some residents in tap water is harmless "pipe scale."



Ready to roll: Laura Mertz, manager of the Ford Road Dunkin' Donuts, displays a tray of finished paczkis, ready for Fat Tuesday.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRUELL

Paczkis from page A1

And just how long does the carnival season last in Poland? "From Christmas on, usually

on Saturdays and Sundays," said Szelazek. It ends on "Ostatki" or the Saturday - not Tuesday - before Ash Wednesday. It would have been on Feb. 21 this year.

For those counting, that's 58 days of paczkis! (Or 17 days if you're just celebrating on week-ends.)

"We never celebrated anything like this until my kids started school," she said. "But I've customized to the tradition here."

Szelazek said she used to send her homemade paczkis to school with her two boys, now adults. "They brought so many friends home," she added with a laugh.

"We use a different recipe than the regular jelly doughnut. It has a lot more calories. It's a heavy doughnut," she said. "With three times the amount of jelly."

Cooks worked 36 hours straight from 5 a.m. Monday to 2 p.m. Tuesday making 1,200 pounds of paczkis, or 975 dozen.

Joe's Italian Bakery made 800 dozen paczkis, many of which were special pickup orders, said Dunnigan. One Flint business ordered 200 dozen, he said.

St. Michael's Catholic School in Livonia ordered 80 dozen paczkis from Joe's Bakery. Paczki Day has become an annual celebration in the classroom for the 781 students at St. Mike's, said secretary Karen Diamond.

"We got the raspberry jelly-filled - without the powder sugar because of the obvious mess," she said.

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Tax review dates set

Dates have been set for the March Tax Board of Review during which residents who wish to do so can appeal their property tax assessment. The hearing dates for the Board of Review sessions are as follows:

- Monday, March 9: 1-5 p.m. and 6-9 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 10: 9 a.m. noon and 1-5 p.m.
- Saturday, March 14: 9 a.m. noon.

Appointments must be made for the above dates except March 14, which is set aside for walk-ins. To make an appointment residents should call the Canton assessor's office at 397-6831 between 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., through March 2.

All of the review hearings will all be held in the lower level of the Canton administration building at 1150 Canton Center South.

Residents can appeal an assessment for one of two reasons: hardship or market value. Residents who claim hardship must fill out a hardship form. Those who appeal on market value should bring any documents showing recent sales in their neighborhood. The assessor works off a two-year sales study to make the assessments but that study ended in March of 1997. Any sales after that may or may not be applicable to the 1997.

The Board of Review can either deny an appeal or change it. A resident can appeal further to the Michigan Tax Tribunal as long as they do so prior to June 30.

Smart companions star in PETelethon

BY KEVIN BROWN STAFF WRITER

Is your pet Mensa material? The second annual "Smartest Pet in Detroit" contest raises money for the tri-county Michigan Humane Society. It also offers a \$500 first prize and other prizes.

Contest promoter Joe Fucini said the contest helps promote the Humane Society PETelethon from noon-5 p.m. Sunday, March 15 on Channel 50.

While the pet telethon idea isn't new, Fucini said the Detroit area holds the record nationwide for money raised as \$302,000 was raised last year in this area's first PETelethon.

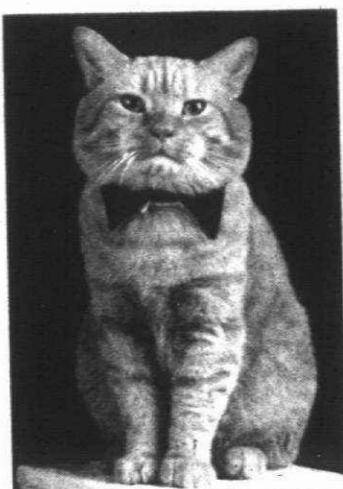
"The closest was Houston last year with \$200,000," Fucini said. To enter the Smartest Pet contest, make a 2 minute or less VHS tape that demonstrates your animal's smarts. The tapes can be dropped off at any Pet Supplies Plus store - including one on Ford Road in Canton - by 5 p.m. Sunday, March 8.

Second place prize is \$200, third place \$100, and there are prizes of a year's supply of Nature's Recipe dog food or Nine Lives cat food.

Last year's winner was a border collie named Cody, from Grosse Pointe Woods.

"He'd be sitting on a couch. His owner would say, 'Do you want to go for a ride?' and he'd run across couch to the kitchen, open a cabinet and take out the car keys and go to the front door," Fucini said. When told to put his toys away, Cody would drop several toys one by one into a toy chest.

Another winner was a cat named Hydrex, who on command would roll over, shake hands and do other dog-like tricks.



Celebrity guest: Morris the Cat will appear at local Pet Supplies Plus stores in conjunction with the March 15 PETelethon to be televised on UPN Channel 50.

The contest is sponsored by the tri-county Michigan Humane Society, Heinz Pet Products and Pet Supplies Plus.

Money raised in the telethon helps the Humane Society pay for veterinary services and costs to shelter 53,000 animals brought to their shelters each year. The nearest shelter is in Westland.

Fucini said classes for pet owners in dog training are also provided.

"Most people turn them in because of behavioral problems," Fucini said. "If a dog didn't get house broken, wouldn't stop barking, chews the couch, these are all correctable behaviors," he said.

the Canton Public Library

Did you know:
 Tuesday, March 3 is Bonanza Botler Day? The "holiday" celebrates when the number of the day is the same as the number of the month - or an excuse to have a party at least once a month.
 The Friends of the Canton Public Library raise community awareness and appreciation of the library, as well as support the library's goals and services?
 March 8-14 is National Girl Scouts of America Week?
 March is National Youth Art Month? The month is set aside to emphasize the value and importance of participation in art for all children and youth.

New fiction
 Here are some new books available from the library.
 "Miracle Cure" by Michael Palmer
 "Return Journey" by Maeve Binchy
 "The Upstart" by Catherine Cookson
 "Brunswick Gardens" by Anne Perry
 "Irish Whiskey" by Andrew Greeley

Web Watch
 Check out these new Web sites:
 http://www.movietunes.com
 http://www.kingfeatures.com
 http://www.dogfancy.com
 http://www.moscowtimes.ru
 http://www.rdatome.com

Q & A
 Q: Does Michigan have a pledge of allegiance?
 A: In 1972, Public Act 165 defined a pledge of allegiance to the state flag: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of Michigan, and to the state for which it stands, two beautiful peninsulas united by a bridge of steel, where equal opportunity and justice to all is our ideal."
 The source for this information is Michigan History Magazine.

Multi-media
 Here are some new CD-ROMs for kids available from the library:
 "My Make Believe Treasure Isle" (ages 6-9)
 "Thinkin' Science" (first and second grades)
 "Nightmare Ned" (ages 6 and up)
 "The Cat in the Hat" (ages 3-7)
 "Jump Start First-Grade Reading"

For your listening pleasure
 Here are some new talking books available from the library:
 "Madeline's Ghost" - Girardi
 "Snow in August" - Hamill
 "A Thin Dark Line" - Hoag
 "The Matarese Countdown" - Ludlum
 "Martin Dressler" - Millhauser

Sen. Geake recognized by health association

The Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards (MACMHB) has recognized state Senator Bob Geake (R-Northville) for hard work on mental health issues.

The 1997 "Go to Bat for Mental Health Award" was given to Geake at the organization's annual winter conference held this week in Lansing.

The awards luncheon was attended by more than 400 representatives of the mental health community from throughout Michigan. The goal of the MACMHB is to provide quality care within the community to an at-risk population of Michigan citizens.

Last year Geake was recognized by the American Psychological Association at a conference in Washington D.C.

Church to break ground in spring

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Plans are moving ahead for a spring groundbreaking for Our Lady of Good Counsel's new church in Plymouth Township.

By moving the three trees, the new church will sit in the middle of the wooded portion of the property.



Moving ahead: Our Lady of Good Counsel hopes to find someone willing to move this custom-built home from the site of its planned church in Plymouth Township.

"We want the church to enhance the area," noted Sullivan. "The architects have been careful not to get rid of the trees on the property."

One thing the church does want to get rid of is a house which currently sits on a portion of the 36 acres.

"It's a custom home built in the 1940s by Paul Wiedman, who owned one of the early Ford dealerships in Plymouth," said Sullivan. "We'll give it to anyone who will move the house and basement to another lot, and restore the land for us to build on."

Sullivan says he would hate to demolish the three-bedroom ranch with 2 1/2 baths, which also has a new furnace, plumbing, plaster and roof. Not only because he'd be demolishing a solid structure, but also because it will cost the church nearly \$40,000 to tear it down.

Sullivan is hoping to hold services in the new church by mid-1999, if construction plans continue on time.

Phase two of the OLGCC project will include recreational facilities with an indoor gymnasium, a soccer/football field, two ball fields and a concession building.

The third phase will consist of a 100,000-square-foot school for kindergarten through eighth grade.

Church officials estimate it will take 10-20 years to complete the entire project.

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THE **Observer** NEWSPAPERS

MEDIA AWARDS

1996 General Excellence Award

Dodson from page A1

classes he taught at the University of Michigan. Later, he got to know Dodson well during his 17-year stint on the Plymouth-Canton school board. "George is a person with high character," said McClendon. "He does good things, and for the right reasons. He is thoughtful and concerned when it comes to children, staff and parents.

Good job for a man

Dodson would like to see more men teaching in the elementary schools, especially since there are so many one-parent homes without fathers these days.

Arena from page A1

imately, five acres at \$109,856 per acre.) A citizens group and members of the Plymouth Canton Hockey Association has been pushing for a public ice arena for several years due to the number of kids turned away annually. A public arena has been estimated to cost \$7 million.

Inventory Reduction Sale 50% off. Select merchandise: Comforters, Deck & Sleep Pillows, Window Toppers, Bath Accessories, Baby Accessories, Blankets, Duvet Covers and Much More!

an important strength." That strength has left a lasting impression on Gallimore media specialist Marsha Payne, who worked with Dodson last year. "He brought the staff together by knowing how to help people heal," said Payne. "Children are first to him. They like him so much. He's almost like a pied piper."

Dodson says he'll continue in the Plymouth-Canton schools as long as he can. "As long as I'm healthy and I feel good, I will help them because I like the challenge," said Dodson. "My mother used to tell me I want you to amount to something. I'm still trying, and I might make it yet."

Business closings

Competition: Donut Scene manager Vera Alverson said national chains forced the sale of the longtime Canton store.

Business closings

year from Detroit Sports and Rec. The Florida-based sporting goods company closed all of its Michigan stores during a restructuring that is part of plan to reduce the company's long-term debt. Carousels Crafts, across from the Super K, closed Jan. 20 after less than a year in business.



Competition: Donut Scene manager Vera Alverson said national chains forced the sale of the longtime Canton store.

Business closings

The two-story 29,000-square-foot Carousels Crafts retail space will be a bit trickier to lease. "It's a huge facility. It faces challenges because of the location and signage isn't Ford Road frontage," said Flaharty. Bruce Goodwin of Friedman Real Estate Inc. said the former crafts mall, previously a fitness and racquetball club, is being marketed for medical, office and retail.

Taking credit Income tax breaks expected to quadruple for some families with college students

BY TIM RICHARD STAFF WRITER

One key senator is taking a very hard look at Michigan's income tax credit for college tuitions, hinting it should go. "It looks like it's robbing Peter to pay Paul," said Sen. John J.H. Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, chair of the Appropriations subcommittee on higher education budgets.

per student - 8 percent of tuition and fees - to a larger group of families, those with adjusted gross income below \$200,000. "Big winners this year will be students' families at private colleges. Most will get tax credits of \$250 per student. Credits for public community college students will be around \$70 apiece, and for public universities, \$150 or less (except for the University of Michigan and Michigan State)."

Competition

Competition: Donut Scene manager Vera Alverson said national chains forced the sale of the longtime Canton store.

County, U.S. Customs officials open expanded international terminal

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER

Contrary to popular belief, Detroit Metro Airport is "alive, well and functioning." With that introduction Tuesday afternoon, Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara - along with other county, U.S. Customs and Northwest Airlines officials - officially dedicated an expansion of Metro's Berry International Terminal.

METRO AIRPORT

improve the facilities and ease the congestion at Detroit Metro Airport," McNamara said. "We are in the process of building a world-class airport together, and this is just one of the interim steps on the way there."

gation than pre-expansion era. The bus shuttle and transfer corridor has been expanded, including additional counter space for checking and transferring luggage and an additional security screening area. Federal inspection areas for U.S. Customs, Immigration and Department of Agriculture have been redesigned and expanded, allowing for improved traffic flow.

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Credit from page A5

A similar 5 percent tuition hike was predicted by U-M Flint Chancellor Charlie Nelms. For fiscal 1998 (beginning Oct. 1, 1997), tuition tax credits cost the state \$19.2 million.

Public universities Michigan State - \$207 per student for 23,677 students for total

Community colleges Oakland CC - \$60 per student for 16,197 students, total of \$1 million.

Private colleges Cleary - \$250 per student for

874 students, total of \$218,000. Detroit College of Business - \$250 per student for 3,979 students, total of \$995,000.

The Senate Appropriations subcommittee on higher education will meet at 10 a.m. Monday, March 2, in Oakland University's Meadowbrook Hall.

Airport from page A5

The expansion is the latest phase in the \$1.6 billion airport expansion. In November, a new international departure facility next to the Davey Terminal was dedicated.

The new baggage carousel is 100 feet long, and it can carry baggage from a filled 747 - or about 420 passengers - and then room for more, said Rod Blanchard, a U.S. Immigration official.

"We have a goal that 95 percent of passengers will exit the Customs hall within five minutes of entering," Blanchard said. "Our time will be checked periodically and randomly by Customs officials who do not work at the airport."

Northwest Airlines International Manager Bill Lewis likes the expansion and what it does for baggage processing. "We will do 1,200 bags twice a day," Lewis said. "Before that, it was about half of that."

Wayne County Commission Chairman Ricardo Solomon, D-Detroit, also attended the dedication, as did Commission Vice Chair Kay Beard, D-Westland.

Solomon believed passengers will travel internationally in a "faster, more efficient" way. "It will mean more international travel," Solomon said.

"It will make Wayne County more accessible to the rest of the world, and the rest of the world more accessible to businesses here," Beard said.

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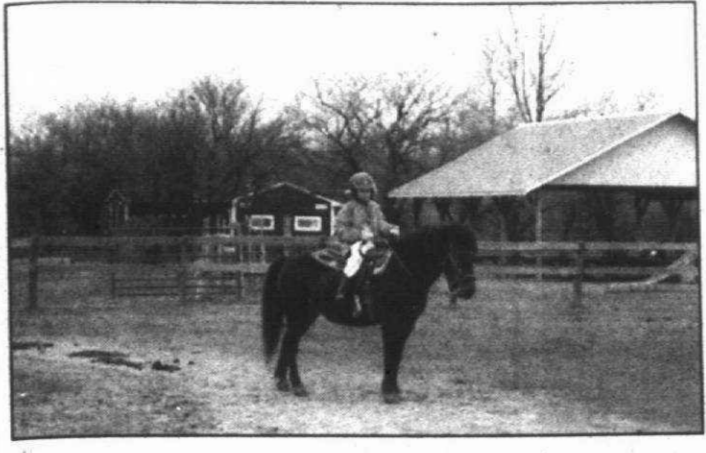
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Camp is a 'life-changing experience' for Livonia woman and her family

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Sue Schafer of Livonia went to Camp Tamarack, for Jewish young people, for three summers as a girl. Camp must have held some appeal, because it's now a way of life for her family.

"We go to camp every year," said the third-grade teacher at Tyler Elementary in Livonia. They have gone to family camp annually since 1982, with both daughters having grown up going. The younger, 13, is a Riley Middle School student and the older, 18, is a University of Michigan freshman.

Schafer, who is married to Steve, also attended day camp as a child. The family now goes to Cedar Campus, run by Inter-varsity Christian Fellowship, in the Upper Peninsula's Cedarville, Mich.

"It's the best thing we could have done for our children," she said. It helped them to develop friendships and gave them a sense of belonging and a Christian perspective. They meet people from all denominations.

Schafer's older daughter will work at the camp this summer, probably in child care. Schafer, who was raised as a Jew and

came to know Jesus in college, now considers herself part of both faiths. "Camp can be wonderful for both children and adults," Schafer said. "It can be a life-changing experience for children, teens and adults."

"Thinking of summer camp for your kids or yourself? Information on summer camp opportunities will be found 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at the eighth annual Super Summers for Kids: A Camp and Activities Fair at Wayne State University's Oakland Center, 33737 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

The event is presented by The Merrill-Palmer Institute, Wayne State University, with co-sponsors the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and MetroParent magazine. A total of 94 U.S. and Canadian camps will be represented.

"It came to our attention a long time ago that parents were in great need of finding opportu-

nities for their children," said Elaine Sturman of Bloomfield Hills, development coordinator for The Merrill-Palmer Institute. Having one place allows parents "to find just that right program. We were just the right venue to put on such a fair."

There is no admission charge, and advance reservations aren't required for those attending. At the camp fair, a directory with information on each program will be provided. The research institute, which has existed since 1920, is devoted to helping children and families. The camp fair was seen as a beneficial offering.

"We encourage them to bring their children," Sturman said. The event is designed for young people age 2 through college. Day programs from the metropolitan area will be represented.

"We have a lot of programs for teens. There's also an opportunity to find summer employment"

for older kids and adults, she said. Some camps are designed for children with special needs. Some are focused on computer literacy, sports, drama or other areas. Some offer scholarships.

Sturman attended Camp Tamarack as a youngster, where her father served as assistant director about 10 years. "So it's in my blood. Every year of my life, and I still go to family camp. I was a camper, I was a counselor."

She has found that attending camp helps young people to become independent, make new friends and try new activities that might not be available in an urban setting.

"It's a chance to really learn new things in an independent setting," Sturman said. "It's just so special."

For more information on the Super Summers for Kids: A Camp and Activities Fair, call (313) 872-1790.

Outdoor fun: Horseback riding is offered by some camps. The Eighth Annual Super Summers for Kids: A Camp and Activities Fair will be offered 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at Wayne State University's Oakland Center, 33737 W. 12 Mile in Farmington Hills.

Swap meet held March 7

The 14th Annual Detroit-Area Police & Fire Collectors Swap Meet and Exhibit will be held at Madonna University in Livonia Saturday, March 7. The university is located on the northwest corner of I-96 and Levan Road.

Show opens to the public at 9 a.m. Admission is \$2. Exhibitor set-up begins at 7 a.m. with 120 8-foot tables available at \$15 each. Refreshments are available on premises; also display

awards, a patch-drop box, and hourly door prizes. Proceeds will benefit the Lt. Richard Koch (Wayne County Sheriff Department) Memorial Scholarship fund of Madonna University.

For table reservations contact Chuck Chandler: (313) 522-0920. For general information contact Thomas L. Herring, (313) 591-6252, Jack Watkins, (313) 591-5911, or Warren Waterman, (313) 295-2171.

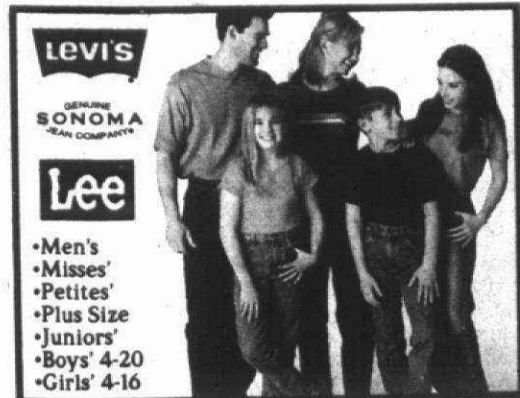
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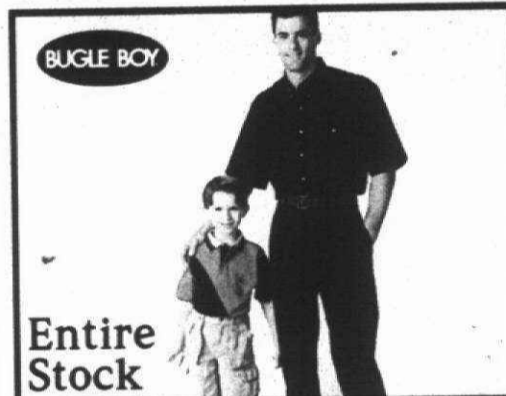
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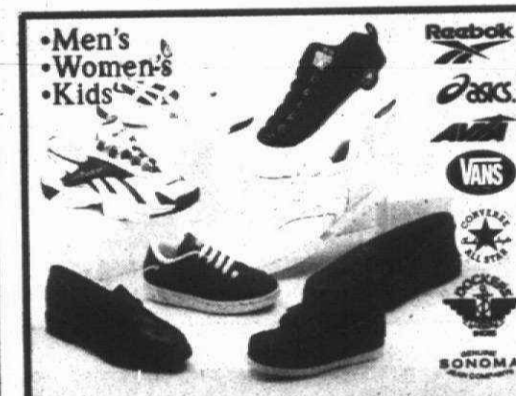
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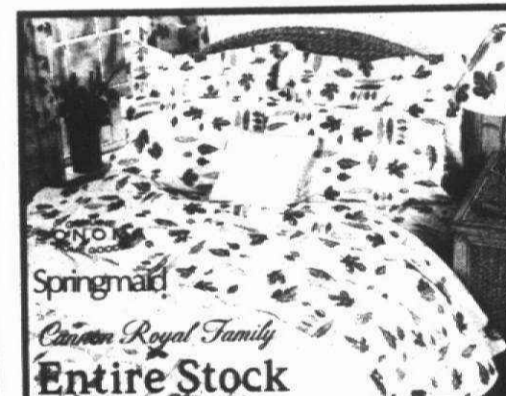
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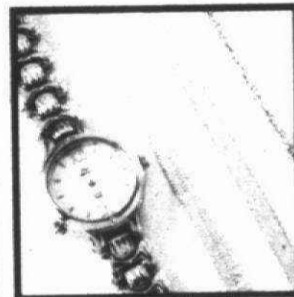
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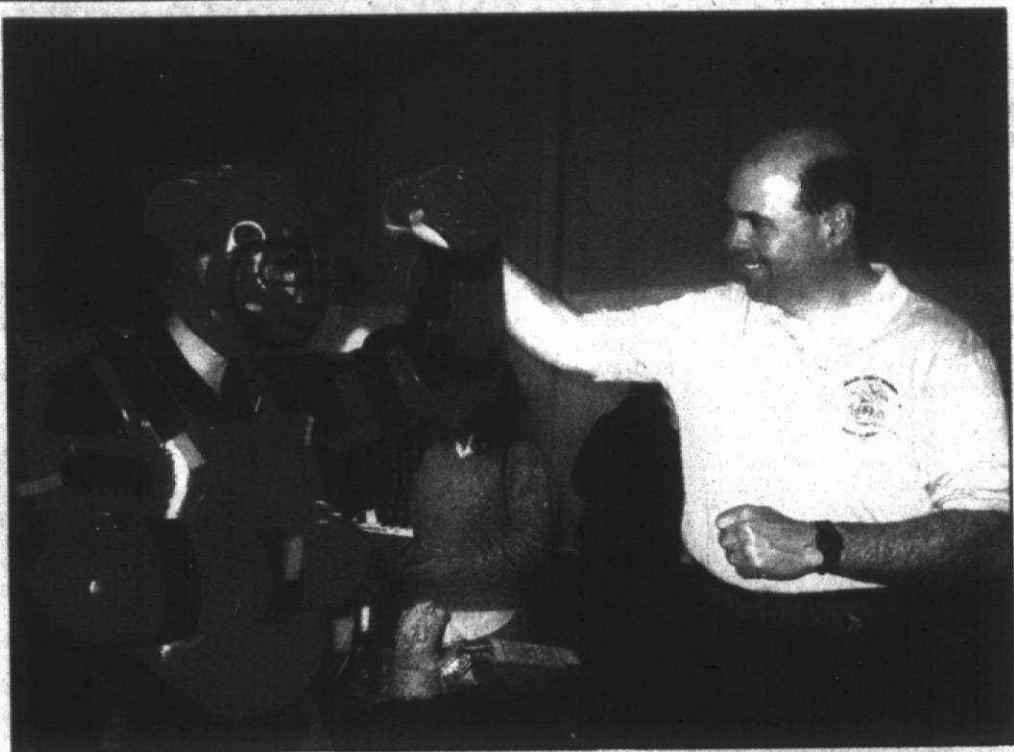
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Learning tactics: A recruit at the police academy at Schoolcraft College's Radcliff Center learns defensive tactics while wearing the "Redman" suit from instructor Fred Stanton, who is also a sergeant with the Dearborn Police Department.

Recruiting talent

Police academy changes with times

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

RADCLIFF CENTER

Being a police officer isn't about chasing down the bad guys and slapping the cuffs on them as television and Hollywood generally depict officers these days.

At least not at the police academy at Schoolcraft College's Radcliff Center in Garden City.

Today, the 19-hour academy course features instruction on human relations, sexual harassment, civil rights and criminal law along with the physical training and militaristic disciplines, including

marching in the Radcliff hallway.

You might say the academy has changed with the times.

"I think it's evolved and come into its own," said Dan Antieau, the academy's deputy director. "Training institutions are addressing these things in a big way."

"We are dealing with more academically. A few years ago, somebody (hired as a police officer) with a degree was unheard of. The education level of the officers has

increased, and so have the sensitivity classes.

"You are dealing with a more educated person. The days of the image of an officer wrestling a suspect in an alley are passé."

Robert Pearce, associate dean of the college, said less than one half of one percent of officers' time is spent fighting crime, so the class also deals with firearms, defensive tactics, precision driving and

Please see **ACADEMY, A10**

Public safety agencies featured at fair

Nearly 52 public safety and law enforcement agencies will visit Schoolcraft College's Radcliff Center in Garden City on Wednesday, March 25, to participate in the center's annual public safety career fair.

The fair will feature agencies ranging from the FBI to local fire and police departments. Equipment will be demonstrated for visitors.

An inter-active firefighting/emergency medical technician

training system will combine "hands-on" firefighting training with computers that are designed to help firefighters and EMTs learn needed equipment during the decision-making process, said Schoolcraft's Elaine Gerage.

Another piece of equipment is the Firearms Training System (FATS), which is an interactive tool used to help police academy recruits learn how to react in a critical situation.

"This interactive computer

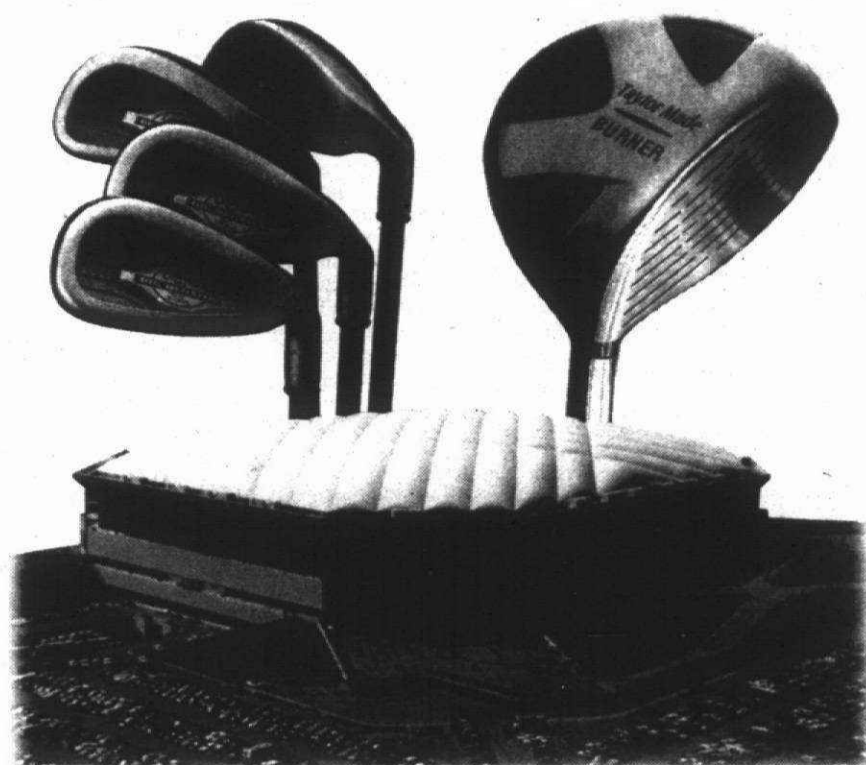
program gives the student a specific real-life situation in which there are only seconds to react," said Gerage.

The fair also features the following units: canine, bicycle patrol and motorcycle, and the red-man suit, which is used to instruct defensive tactics to recruits.

The demonstrations, along with presentations by public safety organization represen-

Please see **FAIR, A10**

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NETW01



Academy from page A9

criminal law.

"There's a greater emphasis on cultural diversity and interpersonal relations. We'd like to think that students who graduate from here are capable of dealing with everyone on the street," Pearce said.

A record number

This semester, Antieau, who is also a police officer in Canton Township, is administering the academy's largest class - 60 recruits. Before they enter the academy, potential recruits are screened for drugs and tested for physical agility and face an oral board exam from two police chiefs.

Antieau credits the academy's placement rate, "sound" reputation and support from local police chiefs for the program's success.

"We have a 95 percent placement rate for preservice kids," Antieau said.

Preservice students are those

'We'd like to think that students who graduate from here are capable of dealing with everyone on the street.'

Robert Pearce
—associate dean

who are not employed by a law enforcement agency and must complete 41 credit-hours of course work for the associate degree before attending the police academy.

The police academy prepares police recruits in the following areas: investigation, crime scene process, patrol procedures, operations and techniques, conflict mediation, report writing, detention and prosecution of prisoners, first aid, investigations, evidence collection, disaster control, civil disorders and tactical operations.

By the end of those classes, students will have accumulated 60 credit hours.

Candidates for employment as law enforcement officers must be certified by the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Training Council at an approved academy training site. A student who successfully completes the police academy will be MLEOTC-certified.

the physical reality of the officer's beat.

They even get a feel for the action on the streets with a simulated scene of retail fraud, a family dispute or a loud party.

"We set up a suspicious person scene, and people walk around outside (Radcliff), Antieau said.

The academy has an interactive firearms simulator, which allows a person to walk into a potential crime scene, and using a laser, protect a partner. The next move depends on the action of the so-called assailant, who could appear harmless as a quiet homeless man, on a bench, reaching into his coat for a license to give to the other officer.

Or the simulator could show he is reaching for a knife to kill

the officer.

It is an instantaneous decision in a mock scene, but a crucial one: a recruit must be correct about, or someone gets hurt or killed.

A new recruit

Al Cox is in the academy's inservice program through the city of Plymouth's Police Department and a Canton Township resident. He grew up in Canton and graduated in 1987 from Plymouth Christian Academy.

Cox received a bachelor's degree in political science and criminal justice from Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Ind. Cox also is working on a thesis for his master's in public administration from Central Michigan University.

Cox spent six years working in

Fair from page A9

tatives, will be from 4-7 p.m. that day in Radcliff Center, on Radcliff, between Venoy and Wildwood, and just south of Ford, on the Garden City-Westland border.

The fair is aimed at persons interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical services or corrections. There is no charge for the fair, which is open to the public.

For information, call 462-4421.

Lawmakers puzzled over CMU's refusal to give auditors academy documents

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

After listening to two hours to Central Michigan University's explanations, state lawmakers still were puzzled why CMU refused to give the state auditor general 34 documents concerning public school academies.

"I'm just a dumb plumber from Kalamazoo," said Rep. Ed LaForge, a Democrat on the House Education Committee, "but I'm totally baffled how a state institution (CMU) with public dollars can hire lawyers to deny the auditor general documents on how the money is spent."

stretch," said Agee, a former public school superintendent.

Center of the grilling was Jim Goenner, new director of CMU's charter school office. The House Education Committee in January publicly reviewed the audit and asked to have CMU officials explain what corrections they made - and why they were hiding 34 records under "attorney-client privilege."

Goenner said he had held the job two weeks, replacing Dr. Blanche Fraser, that CMU had acknowledged the findings, agreed to all the recommendations, and instituted the reforms; but he was unable to answer many of the specific questions.

Agee said CMU needs more tools to police PSA charter schools. "You can't withhold law citations, classified the 'death penalty' - to pull their charter," he said.

McLellan and CMU officials declined to give copies of their response to the press until the meeting ended. That response, signed by CMU counsel Eileen Jennings and containing 12 case citations, classified the 34 withheld documents into four groups:

1. Three records ... a series of questions for use in an investigation of concerns about a school ... If these are disclosed to the auditor general, the chartered school may be able to obtain access ...
2. Three records ... an agenda and notes at meetings between the CSO staff and its attorneys. If the privilege is waived for these records, then the privilege is likely also waived for all the conversations that took place ...
3. Eight records ... legal advice about finalizing the contract with an applicant for a charter.
4. Eleven records (concerning a chartered school with which the university has had problems ... classic attorney work product.) The name of the PSA was not revealed.
5. Nine records ... legal advice about decisions to be made by the CSO ... requests from the CSO for legal advice ... One is a draft letter to a charter school from outside counsel ... providing legal advice."

Rep. James Agee, D-Muskegon, noted CMU said it couldn't release some documents without releasing all. "This is a real stretch - an enormous

Korean Chamber donates to county's Crime Stoppers program

The Korean Chamber of Commerce has donated \$4,400 to the Wayne County Crime Stoppers program.

Chamber spokesman David Chang said the members of the Korean business community share Sheriff Robert Ficano's vision of building a crime-free community.

important community program that helps to bring criminals to justice," Chang said.

Ficano founded Wayne County Crime Stoppers in 1996. The program pays rewards to anonymous tipsters when an arrest is made. The program has resulted in the arrest of over 20 criminals in its brief history. Most recently one of Michigan's Most Wanted criminals was caught as a direct result of the program.

Motors will be used to begin a strategic planning effort. That planning is expected to begin a major buildup of volunteer and corporate involvement in the program in the next two years.

The hotline phone number is 1-888-743-7433. Tips are assigned a number and are kept anonymous.

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RICHARD G. WISNIEWSKI
Services for Richard G. Wisniewski, 79, of Plymouth were held on Feb. 21 at Divine Savior Catholic Church...

MERRY C. NOWRY
Services for Merry C. Nowry, 73, of Westland were held on Feb. 23 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home...

MARY H. SHESTAK
Services for Mary H. Shestak, 80, of Ann Arbor will be held on Saturday, March 7, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church...

VELMA L. MCMANN
Services for Velma L. McMann, 81, of South Lyon, formerly of Plymouth, will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 27, at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home...

CANTON CONNECTION

Canton hosts forum
Some 350 legislators, educators and concerned citizens are expected to attend the state's first "Michigan Summit on School Equity" event 7-9 p.m. Monday, March 23...



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Kudos: Mary Gottert has worked in the Madison Elementary cafeteria for 26 years. She was honored along with other cafeteria employees on Feb. 13.

Keeping things in line: District honors school cafeteria workers

BY RENEE SKOGLUND
STAFF REPORTER
Welcome to your friendly Wayne-Westland school cafeteria kitchen, where laughs are plenty and mistakes are few...

1998 CITY OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARINGS ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW
The Board of Review for the City of Plymouth will convene in the City commission chambers, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, for an Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, March 3, 1998 at 12:00 Noon.

REAL ESTATE UPDATE
by John Goodman
Goldwell Banker Preferred
THE BUYER INTERVIEW
The first step to matching you with the perfect home usually involves an in-depth interview with the Realtor who will help you to establish a price range and determine the features that you need in a home.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS to provide ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES for the design of Parking lot improvements and water main improvements at Canton Township maintenance building and Heritage Park in Canton Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

Find out what you're missing.
A large graphic of a puzzle with one piece missing, set against a background of a house and trees.

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NEA chief to speak at Salem
BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER
The president of the 2.3 million-member National Education Association will make a stop next month at Plymouth Salem High School.

SAINT JOSEPH MERCY CANTON HEALTH BUILDING
The doctors you have come to trust at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor are taking care of patients right here in Canton.

SAINT JOSEPH MERCY CANTON HEALTH BUILDING
EVERYTHING I WANT. EVERYTHING I NEED.
Urgent Care, Lab and Radiology Open February 17
Physician Offices Open February 23

MILITARY NEWS

To submit your military announcement, send the material printed or typewritten to: Plymouth-Canton Observer, 794 S. Main St., Plymouth, Mich. 48170.

DEPLOYED

Marine Sgt. Steven C. Sullivan recently departed on a six-month deployment to Okinawa, Japan, with 2nd Battalion, 6th Marines. He departed from his home base of Camp Lejeune, N.C., in December as part of the Unit Deployment Program (UDP). He is a 1991 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and joined

the Marine Corps in June 1991.

BASIC TRAINING

Marine Pvt. Jamarr D. Riley, son of Billy K. Riley of Canton, recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego. Riley successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new recruits physically and mentally. He also received instruction on first aid, combat water survival, marksmanship, and many other skills and values. He is a 1997 graduate of Flint Northern High School.

Navy Airman Apprentice Ryan S. Dahlman, son of Robert D.

and Robin A. Dahlman of Canton, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training and was meritoriously promoted to his present rank at recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. During the eight weeks, Dahlman studied naval customs, first aid, fire fighting and many aspects of water and aircraft safety. He is a 1997 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School.

REPORTED FOR DUTY

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Bobby Asher recently reported for duty with the aircraft carrier Precommissioning Unit Harry S. Truman, based at Newport

News, Va. Asher's new assignment is an example of how Navy and Marine Corps men and women are assigned to ships, squadrons and shore commands around the world. He is a 1990 graduate of Belleville and joined the Navy in October 1990.

OVERSEAS TRAINING

Marine Capt. Kerry J. Block, son-in-law of Harold B. and Dorothy Palmer of Plymouth, was recently in Guam for training with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), homebased in Okinawa, Japan. Block's unit was participating in urban train-

ing when Super Typhoon Paka hit the region. Training was called off and the unit provided humanitarian assistance. He is a 1982 graduate of Livonia Stephenson High School and joined the Marine Corps in 1988. He is also a graduate of Eastern Michigan University.

DEPLOYMENT

Marine 1st Lt. Douglas W. Smith, son of Nicholas and Joan E. Smith of Plymouth recently participated in Exercise Invitex while on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), embarked aboard

the ships of the USS Guam Amphibious Ready Group. Smith's unit helped naval units from France, Italy, Turkey and the United States by conducting training on surface and undersea warfare, fire support, maritime interdiction, ordnance and mine disposal drills. Sailors and Marines from the USS Guam Amphibious Ready Group and 24th MEU also conducted mock noncombatant evacuation operations and amphibious raids.

Smith is a 1993 graduate of Indiana University Alumni Association, with a B.A. degree.

Board meets 2nd, 4th Tuesdays

The Canton Township Board of Trustees holds regular voting meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month.

Meetings begin at 7 p.m. on the first floor of the township administration building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road.

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., March 12, 1998 for the following:

PURCHASE OF COLD WATER METERS

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 26, 1998

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., March 12, 1998 for the following:

TO PROVIDE SUMMER/WINTER TAX MAILER FORMS FOR CANTON TOWNSHIP TREASURER

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 26, 1998



CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN MEETING NOTICE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

A regular meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals will be held on Thursday, March 5, 1998 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following items:

- Z-98-03 310 Park Ave. Non-Use Variance Requested
- Front Yard Setback
- Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential
- Applicant: Charlie Poat

In compliance 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, (313) 453-1234, Ext. 206

All interested persons are invited to attend.
Publish: February 26, 1998

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD PROCEEDINGS

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, February 17, 1998 at 1150 South Canton Center Road. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:06 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bennett, Burdziak, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Shefferly, Yack

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Durack, Minghine, Gouin, Dates, Weyer, Abbott, Zevalkink

Also Present: Neighborhood Improvement Committee Members: Jim Cisek, Michelle Hall, Bob Detting, Sue Glebe, Paul Gackenback
Griffin Property Representatives: Scott Griffin, Bob Turner, Connie Griffin

ITEM 1 NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT STUDY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

After self introductions, the Neighborhood Improvement Committee reviewed their recommendations to the Board. Mr. Cisek said that the charge of the committee was to see what could be done to keep the community up scale and housing values up. He said that you accomplished this by keeping you neighborhoods up. The committee's recommendations included the following:

- Roads** - Develop a data base containing the condition of every neighborhood street
- Sidewalks** - Create an ordinance that addresses the condition of neighborhood sidewalks
- Home Maintenance** - Create an ordinance that establishes a "time of sale" home inspection
- Street Cleaning** - Implement a program of street cleaning
- Street Signs** - Implement a street sign maintenance and replacement program
- Subdivision Entry Signs** - Implement a street sign maintenance and replacement program
- Incentive Programs** - Initiate a neighborhood clean-up day
- Fencing** - Implement a replacement program

Trustee McLaughlin noted that the Board may give some recommendations to the specific Home Owner's Associations. She pointed out that the service levels vary greatly from city to city and from city to township. Ms. McLaughlin initiated a discussion on self determination by subdivisions versus involving taxpayer dollars and local mandates. She said that a Community Information Expo was being planned for Saturday, May 2, 1998 that could help get some of these messages and ideas to residents. Supervisor Yack said that the Board would consider the recommendations and keep the Neighborhood Improvement Committee informed of any actions or happenings.

ITEM 2 GRIFFIN PROPERTIES

Tony Minghine, Director of Finance and Budget gave a summary of the proposal for the sale of 19.48-acres of property to Griffin Properties for \$2,140,000.00. The property is located on Haggerty Road near I-275. Mr. Minghine said that the agreement required two (2) sheets of ice be incorporated and that Canton residents get first rights to usage of the facility. Economically, benefits to the community are that the private owner will assume the existing SAD for the paving of Haggerty Road and the property will revert to the tax rolls. He said that in his opinion, a public and private participation for the sports complex was the best scenario for an otherwise cost-prohibitive project.

Scott Griffin, President Griffin Properties, said that the project was three-phased. Proposed are two regulation-sized ice rinks, indoor and outdoor soccer fields, indoor and outdoor basketball courts, two sand volleyball pits, a two-tiered indoor golf range designed with turf to double as soccer and Lacrosse fields, an in-line roller hockey area, and a mountain climbing area. Mr. Griffin said that the mountain climbing wall would be hydraulically operated so the surface can change elevation. The climbing wall may include an ice component for ice climbing. Sport theme restaurants are also being proposed.

Mr. Griffin said that phase two would expand to add a pro shop, and possibly a Sony IMAX theater. He added that the indoor and outdoor recreational entertainment complex would be on approximate 5 to 6 acres with room for expansions. Mr. Griffin said that they were still working out many details, including phase three, and administrative operations. He stated that a common management would handle maintenance of parking lots, landscaping and other shared elements. Due to on going negotiations, Mr. Griffin declined to reveal partners or facility operators. He anticipated more than two (2) million visits per year. Mr. Griffin said that he expected that the operator's prices to be comparable to other facilities at \$110 to \$180 an hour for ice time.

Supervisor Yack said that expected the agreement to come before the Board of Trustees in the future. Mr. Griffin anticipated things going well and closing the deal within the next three or four months.

In response to the seemingly overwhelming positive reaction from Plymouth Canton Hockey Association members present, Supervisor Yack advised the community to be "cautiously optimistic."

Supervisor Yack adjourned the meeting at 9:20 P.M. The above is a synopsis of actions taken at the Regular Board meeting held on February 17, 1998. The full text of the approved minutes will be available following the next regular meeting of the Board on March 10, 1998.

THOMAS J. YACK, Supervisor
TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

Publish: February 26, 1998

At Smith Furniture

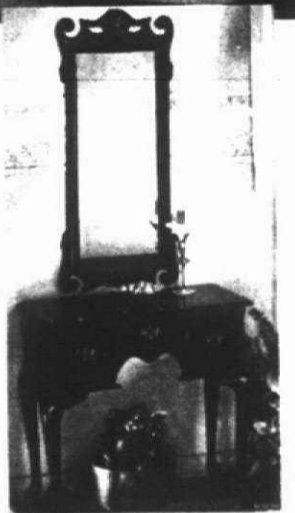
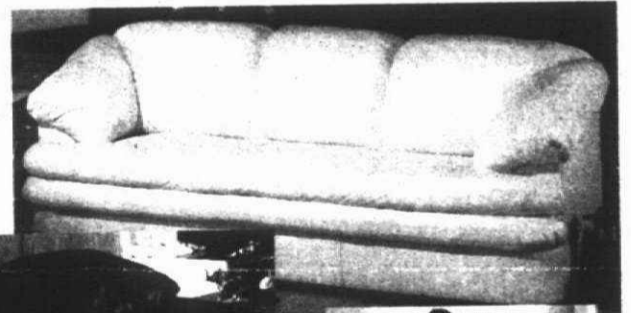
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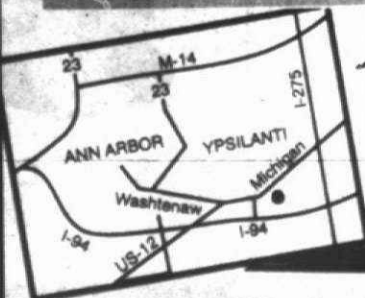
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JACK GLADDEN

And Wookie makes 5 ...

“We're not taking the dog! Not on a driving trip to Florida!”

“He'll be fine. He sleeps most of the day anyway.”

“He's a nut case. He'll be all over everything. And that's a small car.”

“He's a small dog. There's plenty of room. He'll ride in the back seat with your daughter.”

“I say we put him in the trunk.”

“No, we won't!”

“Sure. Those seat backs fold down. We fold one down and stick him in the trunk. We can keep an eye on him.”

“He's riding in the back seat.”

“Oh, all right. But what about the cats? And the goldfish? And the hamsters? Are they coming, too?”

“Don't be silly. Can you imagine taking the cats on a trip to Florida? They'd yowl all the way.”

“Yeah, and shed. Scooter's fur would be flying like porcupine quills.”

“Well, it doesn't matter. Amy's coming over to feed them. And the fish. And the hamsters.”

“So why can't she feed the dog, too?”

“We're not leaving him alone for a week. He'd think we deserted him.”

“What about the cats?”

“They don't care. As long as they're fed, they'll be perfectly happy.”

“I suppose so. Who was that on the phone?”

A slight problem

“Uh, we have a problem. Amy's going out of town. She won't be able to feed the animals.”

“Oh, great. What about your sister?”

“She can come over on weekends but not during the week. She's working two jobs.”

“So now what?”

“I'll go to the pet supply store tomorrow and check out those self-feeders and self-waterers. Maybe they'll work.”

“Yeah, right. The water will be OK. And the feeder will be fine for Wookie. But can you picture Scooter in front of a perpetual feeding machine? He'll just keep eating and eating and ...”

“That's all we can do. I'm sure they'll be fine. Did you check out that pet travel cage my mother left here? Can Jasper stand up in it? He'll just need it to sleep in the two nights we're at a motel.”

“He won't fit.”

“You mean he can't stand up?”

“No, he won't fit. He's too big. I tried to get him inside and he wouldn't even fit through the door. He acted like I was trying to stuff him into a torture chamber.”

And another one

“Guess I'll have to pick up another one of them, too.”

“This is starting to sound expensive. Why don't we just get him his own motel room? Or hire a live-in nanny for a week?”

“Stop complaining. I'll take care of it.”

“So, how much did all this stuff cost?”

“Not that much. The travel cage was on sale. But you'd better see if it will fit in your car.”

“It fits. Just barely, but it fits. Takes up half the space in the trunk.”

“Oh, it's not that big.”

“Seems like it. And how's this automatic feeder supposed to work, anyway?”

“You just fill it with food, put the base on and turn it upside down. It works on gravity. See.”

“I can see Scooter lying on his back with his mouth under the spout. He won't even have to eat. Just let it flow in. So what about the fish?”

“The man at the pet supply store said the fish would be fine for a week. Just feed him before we leave. And we can put an extra dish of food in the hamster's cage. Everything's taken care of.”

“So are we ready to go?”

“I think so. The dog's cage is in the trunk. We have a bottle of water, bag of dog food and his food and water dishes. Blankets and leash in the back seat. The other animals have

Please see GLADDEN, B2



Let's dance: Brendan Wu (center) enthusiastically joins with his classmates at the Plymouth-Canton Montessori School in dancing to the music of "Ball and the Jack."

STAFF PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

Montessori way

Philosophy is to 'teach the child, not the subject'

■ It was Italy's first woman doctor, Maria Montessori, who came up with the educational philosophy of teaching the child, not the subject, that's being celebrated during National Montessori Education Week this week.

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Japanese-inspired artwork lines the hallways. French is spoken in a classroom down the way.

Showing the utmost respect for adults, the students patiently wait for their teachers to finish speaking before asking a question.

These polite students who speak French and create impressive art are all between the ages of 2 1/2 and 6.

The Livonia Montessori Center and Plymouth-Canton Montessori School are molding the youngsters into Renaissance children.

“I try to do a lot of art and music lessons and culture the students. I think it's important for them to round out their world view,” said Annie Dopkins, a “head directress,” the traditional Montessori term for a teacher, at the Livonia school. “Today I talked with them about Georgia O'Keeffe and for music, George Gershwin is the man of the hour.”

The atmosphere at the schools is a quiet one. Students remove their shoes as they enter the building and replace them with slippers.

“It keeps the noise level down, plus it keeps their clothing clean. The children do a lot of floor work,” said Barbara Nader, the assistant administra-



What's for lunch?: A curious Michael Lentz (center) checks out what classmates Katrina Stevanovich and Evan Melvan are eating at the Plymouth-Canton Montessori School.

tor of the Livonia school.

Upon sitting, the children place their own rug on the ground.

“We employ social graces as well as their own personal space,” Nader said. “We want the children to feel good about themselves. That's the main objective.”

This week, Montessori schools around the United States are celebrating National Montessori Education Week. To honor the event, the Livonia school held a “Dad's Night” on Monday and Tuesday, and planted bulbs on Wednesday. Today, the students begin

Finding a Montessori school

All of the Montessori schools in the area have long waiting lists, so school administrators suggest that parents look into the schools before their child is born.

Livonia Montessori Center is in St. Maurice School, 32765 Lyndon, between Merriman and Farmington roads, Livonia. For half-day classes, the cost is \$3,075 per school year. Full-day tuition, which includes Montessori class and unlimited day care, is \$5,490. The school is having an open house from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, March 15. Call (734) 427-8255 for more information.

Plymouth-Canton Montessori School, 45245 Joy Road, between Canton Center and Sheldon roads, Canton, can be reached at (734) 459-1550. Half-day tuition is \$2,925 and the full-day tuition is \$5,240.

Northville Montessori Center, 15709 Haggerty Road, Northville Township, offers full-day classes for \$4,600, and half-day classes for \$2,300. Unlike the other area schools, children up to age 11 are accepted. Call (734) 420-0924 for more information.

Montessori Center of Our Lady is at 36800 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. Half-day sessions cost \$1,500 and full-day sessions are \$3,100 for the school year. For more information, call (734) 591-1599.

For a free brochure about Montessori schools, write to Department A, American Montessori Society, 281 Park Ave. South, New York, N.Y. 10010, or call 888-872-9574. Information also is available on its Web site, <http://www.amshq.com>.

Certain philosophy

The philosophy of Montessori was developed by Dr. Maria Montessori, the first female doctor in Italy, through her work with disadvantaged children, said Kay Neff, owner of the Livonia and Plymouth schools. She also owns the Dearborn Heights Montessori Center, which is open to elementary and middle school students.

Montessori believed that children have sensitive periods in which they are particularly able and interested in

acquiring a certain knowledge or skill, Neff explained.

She also felt that children absorb knowledge by interacting with their environment and responding to it, and they are motivated from within. Adults must “teach the child, not the subject” which offers opportunities for experimentation and growth that are consistent with the needs each child demonstrates.

“Our teaching should foster the development of the whole child – social, emotional, intellectual, physical and

Please see MONTESSORI, B2

Attorney finds time for civil rights work

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Ameritech attorney Al Calille has a full docket.

Named in January to the Michigan Civil Rights Commission by Gov. John Engler, the Plymouth resident fills his schedule with appointments as a hearing panel member for the State of Michigan Attorney Disciplinary Board and as a mediator for the Wayne County Circuit Court and to do pro bono work for the Plymouth Community YMCA.

Despite all that, Calille's family – wife Stephanie, daughter Kate, and son Dave – comes first. For example, he makes time to coach his son's Plymouth-Canton recreation league basketball team.

“The team's doing OK; they're 3-5, but my son has a 14-point average,” he said of Dave, a student at Smith Elementary School in Plymouth.

Calille also is actively involved in Dave's Cub Scout troop.

“I attend meetings with him,” he said. “I do most of the activities with him. I never was a Boy Scout, but I'm living vicariously through him.”

Glancing at Calille's resume, it seems appropriate that he was appointed to the Civil Rights Commission. A 19-year Plymouth resident, Calille grew up in Lansing and earned his undergraduate degree from Michigan State University's James Madison College with a concentration on social and political issues. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Michigan with a degree in law.

“Ever since college, I've dealt with issues about how society manages itself,” he said, adding that he's not sure what spurred his interest in those issues.

An attorney with Ameritech since 1979, Calille



STAFF PHOTO BY SHARON LEMIEUX

recently served as vice chairman of the Michigan Employment Security Commission which oversees the unemployment compensation agency. A year ago, the commission was abolished as a result of an executive order.

As a member of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission,

Calille has two primary roles – to investigate alleged discrimination against any person because of religion, race, color, national origin, sex, age, marital status, height, weight, arrest record and physical and

New duties: Al Calille may have plenty of time with his family, his job at Ameritech and Plymouth-Canton Family YMCA, but still has time to serve on the Michigan Civil Rights Commission.

Please see CALILLE, B2

Religion from page B7

cussed. For more information, call (734) 464-2027.

LOSS SEMINAR

The First Baptist Church of Wayne will sponsor a Responding to Loss seminar 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19 and 26, at the church 36125 Glenwood, Wayne.

The seminar is for people who are dealing with the loss of loved ones. Topics include how grief impacts us, what can be done ahead of time to lessen the impact and what can be learned from scripture to help us travel the road to grief recovery.

Ruth Sisson, a registered nurse and the author of two books, "Instantly a Widow" and "Moving Beyond Grief," will present the seminar. To register or for more information, call the church office at (734) 721-7410.

NEW BEGINNINGS

New Beginnings, a grief support group held year-round at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile Road, east of Merriman Road, Livonia, continues with its monthly speaker series at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 5, with "Help for the Family in Grief/Depression and Grief," presented by the Rev. Kurt Stutz. The program is for people suffering as the result of the death of a loved one. There are no fees. Anyone may attend any or all sessions as they feel the need. For more information, call the church office at (734) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7903, or Rosemary Kline at (734) 462-3770.

MILLENNIUM PRESENTATION

St. Raphael Parish, 31530 Beechwood, Garden City, is hosting two millennium presenta-

tions. Rev. Dave West will discuss "What it Means to Church People" at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 5, while Sister Betty Flaherty will talk about "What the Millennium Means to the Church" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 24. Both talks will be held at the church. For more information, call (734) 427-1533.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Lola Valley United Methodist Church in Redford is celebrating "World Day of Prayer" with a program entitled "Who is My Neighbor?" at 12:45 p.m. Friday, March 6, at the church, 16175 Delaware, east of Inkster Road and north of Five Mile Road. Babysitting is available by reservation only. Call Dorothy Saksa at (313) 535-3247 by March 2 to reserve a spot. Those attending the program should bring hygiene products. For more

information about the program, call (313) 255-6330.

PRAYER SEMINAR

The Rev. Anthony M. Coniaris, noted theologian, author and publisher, will speak during a Lenten seminar on prayer and its role in helping us answer the following questions: "Why am I here?" "What is my purpose in life?" and "Where am I going?" from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14, Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 36375 Joy Road, West-

land. The cost is \$15 and includes the seminar, materials and lunch. The registration deadline is Saturday, March 7. An orientation will be held from 8-9:30 a.m. Friday, March 13. For more information, call (734) 525-6789.

OPEN HOUSES

St. Damian Catholic School will have an open house and registration noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 8, at the school, 29891 Joy Road, Westland. The school offers kindergarten through

eighth grade education. For more information, call (734) 427-1680.

The open house for Little Lambs Christian Preschool will be from 4-7 p.m. Thursday, March 12, at First Baptist Church of Plymouth, 45000 N. Territorial, west of Sheldon Road. Enrollment information for the 1998-1999 school year will be available. Open registration will take place 1-6 p.m. March 16. For more information, call Shari at (734) 414-7792.

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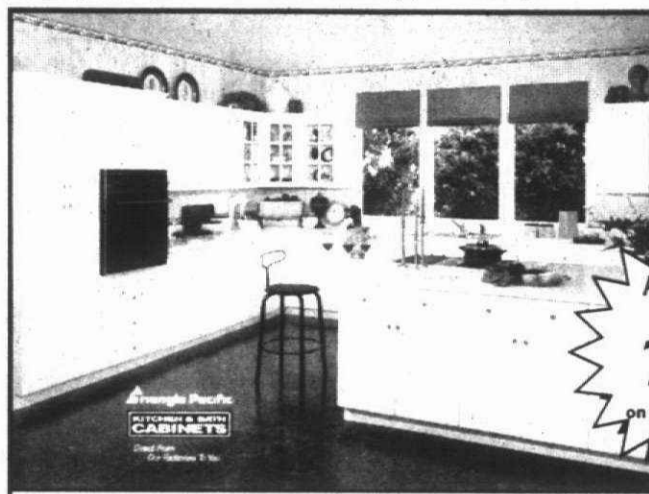
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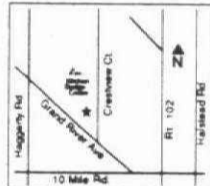
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COLLEGE SPORTS

Lady Raiders eliminate Schoolcraft

Oakland Community College rallied in the second half Monday to defeat visiting Schoolcraft College in the first round of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association women's basketball tournament, 71-65. The Lady Raiders trailed 40-28 at halftime but outscored the Ocelots in the second half, 43-25.

WOMEN'S HOOP

68) from the floor and the Ocelots 30 percent (25-of-83). Schoolcraft's shooting cooled off in the second half (from 15-of-37, almost 41 percent, to 10-of-46, 21.7 percent) while OCC's improved slightly from (37 percent on 13-of-35 shooting).

MEN'S HOOP

Hayes had six. Andres Lopez had a team-best three assists as a substitute.

Madonna can't keep pace with Aquinas

Aquinas College wore Madonna University's men's basketball team down and then wore it out. The host Saints held only a 33-27 lead at halftime Saturday but posted a 44-25 second half margin to wind up with a 77-52 victory.

BEST BOYS SWIM TIMES

Table listing swim times for boys in 200, 100, 50, 100, and 50 freestyle categories across various events.

United States District Court Eastern District of Michigan Southern Division

ROBERT JORDAN, et al., Plaintiff vs. MICHIGAN CONFERENCE TEAMSTERS WELFARE FUND, et al., Defendant.

This class action is pending on behalf of all participants and beneficiaries of the Michigan Conference of Teamsters Welfare Fund (MCTWF).

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL Thursday, Feb. 26 Wayne at Belleville, 7 p.m. Garden City at Southgate, 7 p.m. (Catholic League Semifinals)

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Rockers essay The Detroit Rockers are teaming with Chrysler Financial Corp. and Fox Sports Detroit to host an essay contest.

Baseball tryouts

Now's the time to start thinking about summer baseball. Tryouts for the Concealed Security 12-and-under Pee Wee Reese team are now being scheduled.

Whalers from page C1

Whalers peppered him with 17 shots in the period. After a five-hour bus ride to Plymouth's Compuware Arena, DeBoer knew his team could jump on the Platers early.

Madonna baseball from page C1

ial is there for it to be better." Haeger admits experience is lacking. "Our pitchers will have the most difficult job, there's so much inexperience. They'll pretty much have to learn on the fly."

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his team has played excellent hockey of late. "We've made up 11 points on London in three weeks," he commented. "We've put ourselves in a position to win the division." Druken powered Plymouth with three assists Sunday.

Whalers 8, Sault Ste. Marie: Plymouth played at home Saturday as well and took an easy victory over the Greyhounds. Taylor paced the offensive attack with a pair of goals. Legwand, Sergei Fedotov, Paul Mara, Babenko, Tselios and Kris Purdy also scored.

Whalers 6, Windsor 3: Plymouth again got out of the gate quickly Thursday at Windsor, building a 3-0 lead by the end of the opening period with Druken getting one goal and assisting on another.

Rocho's move to third base opens the catching position up for junior Delano Voletti (Westland), one of those all-sectional picks (.333, four homers, 28 RBI). Brandon Jaskolski (.264, nine RBI, nine errors) and Mike LaPointe (.333, two RBI, two errors, all-sectional), both seniors, are currently sharing the second base position.

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sneak preview

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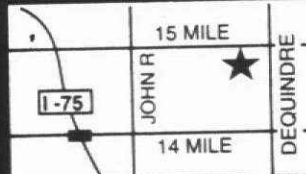
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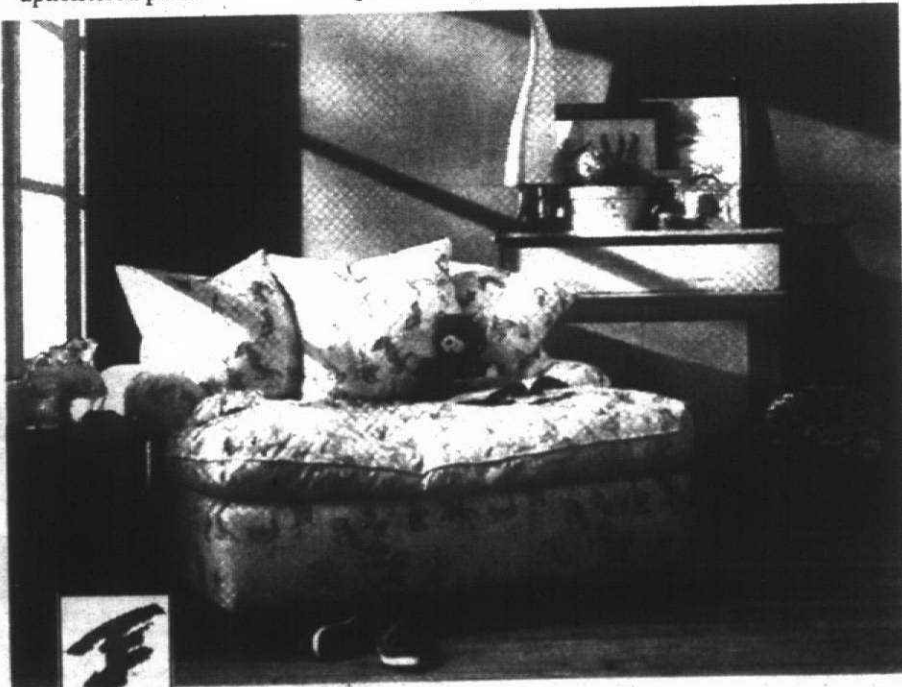
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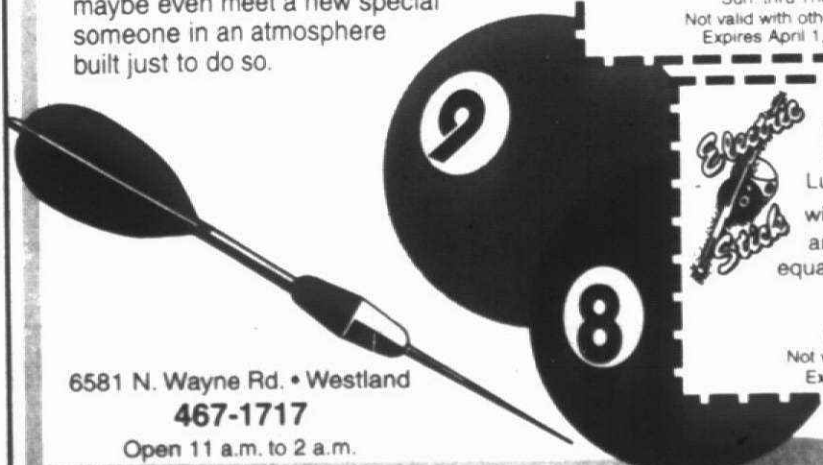
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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Avon Players presents "The Odd Couple," the female version 8 p.m. at the theater, 1185 Tienken Road, Rochester. Tickets \$11, (248) 608-9077.

SATURDAY



Meg (left to right, Maribeth Monroe), Lenny (Kristi Sorkin of West Bloomfield), and Babe (Kelly Komlen of Livonia) star in "Crimes of the Heart," 8 p.m. at Wayne State University's Studio Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$5-\$7, call (313) 577-2972.

SUNDAY



See the musical "Cats," at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Performances 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets \$17.50-\$42.50, call (248) 433-1515



Hot Tix: Discover Stars on Ice features Scott Hamilton, Kristi Yamaguchi, Katarina Witt, Ekaterina Gordeeva, Torvill and Dean, and others, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. Tickets \$42 and \$30, call (248) 377-0100.



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGFIELD

Artists at work: Playwright Paul Kittinger, 14 and director Matthew Ripper discuss Kittinger's one-act play, "A Funny Thing Happened on The Way to Africa."

Festivals bring original one-act plays to life

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Seeing what started out as little keys on his keyboard jumping up and down on stage is a thrill, and Paul Kittinger of Farmington Hills can't wait for opening night.

His one-act play, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Africa," is one of four original plays being presented during the Theatre Guild of Livonia/Redford's Festival of One-Act Plays opening Friday, March 6.

"I write a lot," said Kittinger, 14, a ninth grader at Harrison High School in Farmington Hills. "I started out writing short stories, and then started writing more."

He describes the storyline of his play as kind of an Odd Couple story about two college roommates getting ready to go to Africa on a study program.

Celebrations of one-act plays

■ **Heartland Theatre One-Act Play Slam** - 7-11 p.m. Monday, March 2, at The Cadieux Cafe, 4377 Cadieux (1.5 miles east of I-94 on Cadieux). General admission \$5 at the door. Writer's Admission and Entrance Fee \$10, limit one play per writer, call (248) 988-1094, Ext. 2 for information.

■ **A Festival of One-Act Plays** - presented by the Theatre Guild of Livonia/Redford, 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 6-7; March 13-14; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 8 and March 15, at the theater, 15138 Beech Daly (south of Five Mile Road), Redford. Tickets \$10, \$1 discount for students and seniors, call (313) 531-0554.

One of the characters was packed two weeks ago, the other is packing at the last minute. Kittinger envisioned the roles being filled by two guys, but the director Matthew Ripper of Redford picked one guy, and a girl.

"It could have worked both ways," said Ripper, who is making his directing debut at the Theatre Guild. "One woman, Trisha Ali, who auditioned was really good, and a man, Drew Parker, was really good. Actually it turns out funnier this way."

The conflict is between Cameron, who is ready to go, and Joel, who is not.

"Anyone who has traveled anywhere can relate to this," said Ripper. "Joel is in a panic, he keeps going back to the apartment because he forgot something."

Kittinger said the ending is a real show stopper. He submitted a play last year, but it was rejected. "Too short on substance," said Blanche Graham of Redford, Guild executive director explaining the reason.

"This one's a laughing good comedy."

"If you have an idea go for it," said Kittinger. "They wanted original one-act plays so I sat down and wrote one."

Working with a director is a new experience. "Matt's nice and easy to work with," said Kittinger.

"There have been minor edits for clarity. It's amazing. One rainy Saturday I was typing up this short play, and then I was watching people read and audition for parts I wrote."

Ripper is also enjoying working with Kittinger. "You don't give him credit for the amount of insight he has. Some of his plays on words were very intelligent. He's easy to work with because he learning. He gets my feedback, but you don't want to overstep him, because he wrote the play."

Patricia Feldt is also a new playwright whose work "The Town Meeting" was selected for the festival.

"I can't wait to see the real thing," she said. Her story takes place at a town meeting. The town has inherited some money, and there are stipulations. They must decide how to spend it at a town meeting. Each person builds a case for their needs, the meeting doesn't end until midnight.

"The idea just sort of came to me," said Feldt, the mother of nine children ranging in age from 4 to 21. "From the time I was little I loved to tell stories. They were just in there."

Feldt started writing plays in 1995 when her parish Our Lady of Loretto in Redford decided to script their own mystery dinner theater. The next year she expanded on the characters, writing more about them.

"Once I got started, it got me thinking, I'd like to write, it awakened my creative writing talent."

Last year, she wrote most of the script for the Our Lady of Loretto mystery dinner theater. "Once the characters got more detailed, it was harder for people. I could write six or seven pages about them where others struggled."

In the fall she attended her first play "Mousetrap" at the Theatre Guild of Livonia/Redford playhouse. "I was amazed at the talent," she said. "As soon as I walked in the theater I said, 'I've got to get involved, this is great.'"

She submitted a one-act play for the festival, and truly expected one of those thanks, but no thanks letters.

"I got the news they were going to do my play on Christmas Eve," she said. "It was like a Christmas present."

At the theater, Feldt is content to stay in the background, observing and learning. "It was just amazing to me, I didn't have any preconceived ideas of what the characters would be like. It's very exciting to see characters come to life."

She applauds her director, Rob Papineau. "He's great at character development," she said. "Even if his ideas differ from my own, I'm having so much fun with this."

With nine children, Feldt either has to get up real

Please see ONE-ACT, E2

Down Riverdance has no dancing, isn't even Irish

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

"Down Riverdance," is the name of The Second City - Detroit's 12th revue, but the show, which opens tonight, has nothing to do with "Riverdance" and

Irish dancing.

"It's something clever that we came up with," said Rico Bruce Wade, Second City - Detroit's new executive producer. It's the tradition of Second City - Detroit to pick titles for shows that don't necessarily relate to content but to hot topics of the day.

Not wanting to give anything away, Wade said "Riverdance" takes many different looks at relationships in today's society, and provides "our take on corporate culture - what it's like to

be in a pressure cooker, and why we're gravitating toward cigar bars and the retro look, why we've become attracted to the rat pack generation."

Wade, well known to fans from his Mainstage acting days, April 1995 to February 1997, isn't the only newcomer.

Mary Jane Pories, formerly with the touring company, joins veterans Larry Campbell, Margaret Exner, Catherine Worth, Keegan-Michael Key, Eric Black, and Brandon Johnson, on the Mainstage. Marc Evan Jackson is the new musical director, and Michael Gellman the new resident director.

Wade is excited about his new role. "I have the sensibility of an actor, and the welfare of an actor in mind," he said. "I

want to provide a nurturing environment when ideas are exchanged freely. The majority of ideas never make it into our skits, that's why it's necessary that we hear all ideas, they are hidden gems."

Like everything else, Second City - Detroit builds their shows from scratch. "Someone says 'I have an idea' this is where it begins," said Wade. "Sometimes something will happen spontaneously on stage."

Wade also wants to educate his audience, especially those who are disappointed. "They come expecting to see

Improv Events

■ **The Second City - Detroit:** "Down Riverdance," premieres 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26. Performances 8 p.m. Wednesdays (\$10), Thursdays (\$10) and Sundays (\$10), and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays (\$17.50) and Saturdays (\$19.50), through spring, at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Call (313) 965-2222.

Improv classes start in April, call (313) 964-5821 for information.

■ **The 3rd Level Improv Troupe:** Performs at Joey's Comedy Club, 8 p.m. Sundays (free). The group will headline at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia, Thursday, March 12 (free), and Friday-Saturday, March 13-14 (\$10); Performances 8 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, call (734) 261-0555 for information, or (313) 438-1381 for information about The 3rd Level.

■ **Totally Unrehearsed Theatre** performs at Big Red's Comedy Club, Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, inside Mr. B's Roadhouse, 595 N. Lapeer Road (I-24), Oxford. Performances 9 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday. Admission \$10 per person, call (248) 628-6500.

Please see RIVERDANCE, E3

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

Disney on Ice - Hercules

■ **When:** Tuesday, March 3, through Sunday, March 8. Performances 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; 11 a.m. Thursday; 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday.

■ **Where:** Joe Louis Arena, 600 Civic Center Dr., Detroit.

■ **Tickets:** \$17.50, \$14.50, and \$11.50 with limited \$30 non-discounted rinkside seats. (248) 645-6666 or visit the Ticketmaster website www.ticketmaster.com

■ **Ticket discounts:** Save \$5 on tickets Tuesday, March 3; save \$3.50 on tickets Wednesday, March 4; kids under 12 save \$2 on tickets 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 5, and 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 7. For more information, call Olympia Entertainment customer information, (313) 983-6606.

Disney's 'Hercules' an ice show of heroic proportions

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Ten headed Hydra is a monster, but audiences love this 20-foot tall menacing beast who comes to life in Disney on Ice - Hercules.

"The kids really get into seeing Hydra up so close," said Mitch Matsunaga, assistant company manager of the show opening March 3 at Joe Louis Arena. Part inflatable balloon, part hydraulics, Hydra fights back each time Hercules cuts off one of his 10 heads, and grows another one.

"It's the most threatening and realistic monster that we've ever created," said Mark Freddes, scenic coordinator. "He's quick, and since he's always moving, the

Hydra never blocks the view of the audience."

Like the movie Hercules, Disney on Ice - Hercules, presented by Feld Entertainment, is a high energy, fast-paced show with upbeat music.

"We follow the movie as closely as we can," said Matsunaga. "Were trying to bring a story to life on ice."

Hades, a fast-talking hothead, isn't very happy with his underworld assignment, so he hatches a plan to unleash the Titans and rock Zeus off of Mount Olympus. Strongman Hercules stands in his way.

On the road to prove himself a hero worthy of the gods, Hercules hooks up with Phil, a feisty satyr who's a first-rate trainer, and Pegasus, the winged

wonder horse. Along the way he falls for a sassy lass named Meg.

An international cast of 19 male and 21 female skaters, representing 11 countries, including the United States, Canada, Sweden and Japan, tells the story of Hercules.

"They're fantastic skaters," said Matsunaga, "they can jump, spin and act."

Hercules focuses on Mount Olympus, celestial home of gods and goddesses. "It's a tremendous center set piece," said Matsunaga, "it's four scenes in one."

Self-propelled Mount Olympus rises 25 feet off the ice, and rotates to reveal other scenes including Hades' habitat, and the city of Thebes.

Please see HERCULES, E2



Ice spectacular: Strongman Hercules falls for the feisty Meg in Disney on Ice - Hercules.

Renaissance Chorus presents concert

The Renaissance Chorus presents "You Must Remember This" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7 at Mercy High School, 11 Mile and Middlebelt, Farmington.

Also of note: Male singers are invited to attend a guest night 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 24 at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, east of Newburgh, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 728-6865.

Also of note: Jazz Dance Theatre, under the direction of

One-act from page E1

early, or stay up late to write. "When I get on a creative streak I wake up at 3:30 or 4:30 and write."

each performance so the audience can comment on the plays. In addition to the original one acts, the Guild will be presenting one published work, "The Actor's Nightmare," by Christopher Duran.

"The festival is good," said Ripper. "We bring in new talent, writers, directors and actors." A randomly selected panel of judges will "score" the material using any criteria they like.

Proceeds from the evening will help support "Playscape '98" - Heartland's annual festival of original full-length plays.

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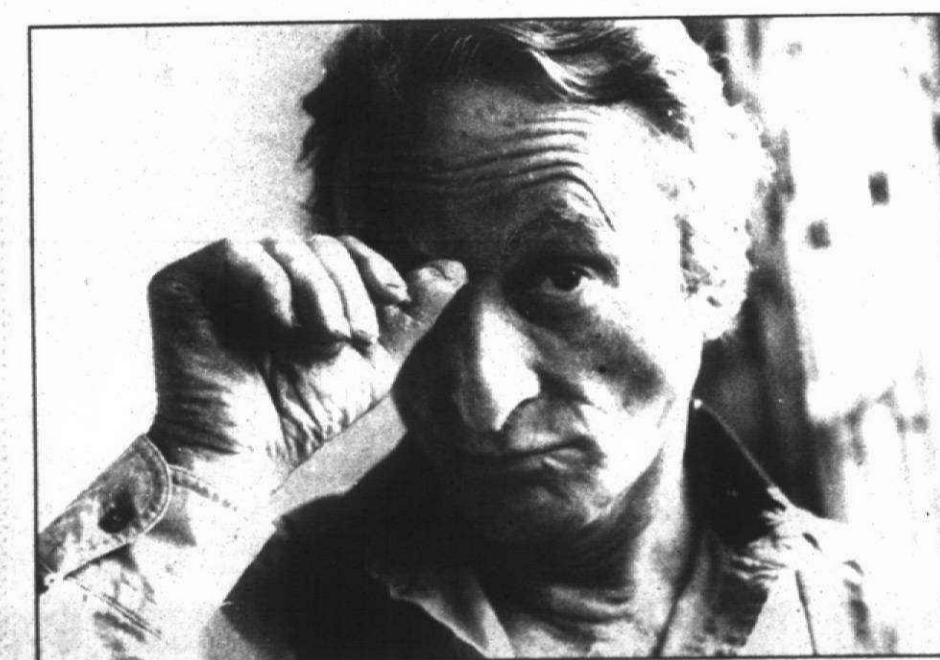
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Hercules from page E1

"It helps us move the choreography," explained Matsunaga. "We're able to switch scenes as the show continues so the flow is smooth and fluid."



Ice Show: Hercules and his pal Pegasus, a gift from his father Zeus, are flying high in the new Feld Entertainment production of Disney on Ice - Hercules.

You'll forget Hercules' pal Pegasus, the winged wonder horse, is a prop. "He moves and flaps his wings as Hercules rides him," said Matsunaga.

the story to audiences. Hercules and Meg's costumes were designed after extensive historical research and a perusal of Greek mythology.

"We've found that people forget they're at an ice show," said Matsunaga. "They're drawn into the story, and before they know it, the story is over, because the performers were doing their job."

Riverdance from page E2

A stand-up comedian. That's not what we're about," he said. "We're satirists, iconoclastic, irreverent. We do sketch comedy with an ensemble, and work in songs."

share with the audience and the people on stage," he said. "We ask you to come on stage and play. We spend all our lives not doing that."

"I personally like the spontaneity of improv, and the challenge of doing something different every night, and playing off the audience," said Warzecha.

The 3rd Level The 3rd Level Improv Troupe, performing Sundays, and headlining Thursday-Sunday, March 12-15, at Joey's Comedy Club in Livonia, is a different voice in the community.

Final details are being worked out, and Warzecha said classes are scheduled to start the end of March, and meet Sundays. You can call (313) 438-1381 for more information.



Comedy troupe: Bringing their own brand of improv to Joey's Comedy Club in Livonia is The 3rd Level, Billy Zakolski (clockwise from top), Michael Lomas, Jeff Fritz, Mary Lindsay, Angie Potvin, Joe Gillis, and Marc Warzecha.

Village Players serve superb 'Dining Room'

The Village Players production of A. R. Gurney's "The Dining Room," continues 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday at the Playhouse, 752 Chestnut St., Birmingham. Adult tickets are \$12, student \$10, available at the door or by calling (248) 644-2075.

four other women living through various stages in the lives of upper middle class WASPs. Hammel brings great energy, grace and a sense of comedy to her roles.

restraint about her, as though she had reserves to call on. She seems to be upholding WASP traditions quite on her own. Cook has a large gift.

The Village Players production of A. R. Gurney's "The Dining Room," directed by Jane Pfeifer and Joan Reddy, is superb. The talented cast of six lob Gurney's funny, poignant lines across the 1895 "Made in Virginia" table with an intense sense of theatre.

Maureen Cook exudes radiant intelligence as a rattled mother, the aunt who knows about fingerprints, china and glassware, a cook who can make butterballs and a woman who perpetually needs a drink. Cook has a

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Livonia Symphony Orchestra celebrates 25 Spectacular Years Volodymyr Schesiuk Music Director and Conductor Cabaret 25 Friday, March 6, 1998 7:00 pm Burton Manor 27777 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, Michigan Enjoy an evening filled with a variety of light musical favorites performed by the Livonia Symphony Orchestra with Vocalist/Soprano Liz Mihalo, Baritone/Bass Sachal Vasandani and special guest appearance by none other than "Elvis" ... Kelly Boesl. Doors Open 7:00 pm Concert 7:30 pm Hors d'oeuvres and Snacks Cash Bar Tickets: \$25.00 Table of 8: \$200.00 Table of 10: \$250.00 Call Lee 734-464-2741 or 24 Hour LSO line 734-421-1111 or purchase tickets at Livonia Civic Center Library Gift Shop Visa / Mastercard Accepted THE Observer & Eccentric All about you!

MOVIES

'Dark City' even darker than director's 'The Crow'

TICKETS PLEASE
In a scenario straight out of Kafka, a man wakes one morning in a hotel room to find his memory has completely disappeared.

"Dark City," the second film from "The Crow" director Alex Proyas, places us in an imaginary world where we're not sure of ourselves, where shadowy streets are shot from odd angles and the sun never bothers to rise.

"Complex and uncompromising," "Dark City" is a visionary film that is both mind-boggling and mind-blowing. And while not all



GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

General Cinemas, SPHERE (PG-13), REPLACEMENT KILLERS (R), THE BORROWERS (PG), THE WEDDING SINGER (PG-13), etc.

The rest of the cast employs an odd mix of styles and non-styles. As the police detective who tries to break Murdoch down, William Hurt injects his dry sense of humor but not much enthusiasm.



Thriller: William Hurt stars in New Line Cinema's sci-fi thriller, 'Dark City.'
ly while offering characters we can really care about. Until then, we'll have to be satisfied with movies as ambitious and interesting as 'Dark City.'

SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan.
Baldwin Theatre 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, Call (248) 541-6430 for information. (310)



Drama: Ralph Fiennes (Oscar) and Cate Blanchett (Lucinda) confer with director Gillian Armstrong on the set of 'Oscar and Lucinda.'

"Oscar and Lucinda" (USA-1998). From Jake Kasdan, son of writer/director/former...
"Zero Effect" (USA-1998). From Jake Kasdan, son of writer/director/former...
"Fire" (India/Canada-1996). Thursday, Feb. 27 to Sunday, March 1 (call for showtimes).

COMING ATTRACTIONS
Scheduled to open Friday, Feb. 27
'ARTERLOW' Exclusively at the Main Art Theatre. A tale of two couples one in their 20s the other in their 40s whose troubled marriages become entwined.

Clutch shakes things up with support from Dan K

Based in West Virginia, the rock band Clutch considers Detroit its second home. Sweat drips off the walls at St. Andrew's Hall and Harpo's, both in Detroit, because Clutch shows are so packed. The antagonistic rock band's merchandise goes over the countertop like a waterfall.

Clutch, Seventh and headliners Limp Bizkit perform Thursday, March 5, at the State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. for the all-ages show.



It's a war out there: Clutch - from left, drummer Jean Paul Gaster, vocalist Neil Fallon (sitting), guitarist Tim Sult and bassist Dan Maines - hopes to bring the troops into the State Theatre in Detroit Thursday.

Venerable music traditions get spotlight

I have a morning coffee habit. In its own small way my coffee consumption strengthens the American tradition of scarfing down scads of coffee at the beginning of every day.

the concert every year since. Widely known for his WDET program, "Blues from the Lowlands," Robert also works with kids with his "Blues in the School" program and makes frequent concert appearances both playing and preaching "the true facts" about the history of the blues.

ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE BEST ACTOR - ROBERT DUVALL



'TWO THUMBS UP!'
Last, Obsession, Revenge... Redemption. ROBERT DUVALL THE APOSTLE

RICHARD DREYFUSS JENNA ELFMAN

'WILD HILARIOUS!'
'FRESH AND FUNNY, A ROLLING GOOD TIME!'
'THE RIB-TICKLING FILM OF THE YEAR!'

'A FASCINATING, BIZARRE AND BRILLIANTLY CONCEIVED THRILLER!'

'DARK CITY'
From the director of 'The Crow'
rulus sewell kiefer sutherland jennifer connelly william hurr

'TWO THUMBS UP!'

'IT'S GOT EVERYTHING!'
'INTOXICATINGLY SEXY!'
'UNABASHEDLY DECADENT.'

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DINING

Comedian's daughter takes food seriously

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Like her father, comedian Marvin Welch, Susan Anastasiou, who named her restaurant Marvin's Bistro in his honor, enjoys entertaining, but she's a food person.

"When we're busy I feel like we're entertaining you - we're entertaining you with our food, drinks, and clean restaurant," she said. "You get that same satisfaction. It's almost an art when you do it right. We really try hard."

Marvin Welch has been an entertainer all his life. "When he's here on weekends, usually 5:30-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, he goes to all the tables and tells his jokes and signs autographs" said Anastasiou. "They come in because they remember him."

Fate played a role in Anastasiou's staging of Marvin's Bistro. After her mother's death, Anastasiou and her father went into the attic and started going through things.

"We found an old, mildewed box, and nearly tossed it out, but something caused me to stop and look inside," she said. "She saved everything from his career. I found little newsclippings, photographs, tons of stuff. They were night life people, and that's what we want to bring to this side of town."

Inspired by her discovery, Anastasiou decorated the restaurant with her father's memorabilia, and bought a piano bar. She also hired two new chefs, Remy Berdy and Mark Benenati, and the former American Inn, run by her husband, Angelo, took on a new persona. Angelo helps out as an adviser, but Susan runs the show.

"We just put it all together," said Anastasiou. "It fell into place. We hung a few new curtains, and the lampshades are different."

Wixie

Well known to Detroit TV audiences, Welch is a comedian and wonderful singer. He was a disc jockey on WRRB but is best known for Wixie, a role he played on WXYZ-TV in the early 1960s. His Wixie costume hangs in the restaurant.

"My father got Soupy Sales started in the business," said Anastasiou. "He was a character, still is."

Welch and his wife, Dolores, owned their own supper club on

Marvin's Bistro
Where: 15800 Middlebelt, (between Five Mile and Six Mile roads) Livonia, (734) 522-5600
Hours: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Friday; 4-11 p.m. Saturday, Bar stays open to 2 a.m.; closed to the public Sundays, open for banquets.
Menu: American regional cuisine with an Italian/French influence
Cost: Lunch ranges from \$4.95-\$6.95; dinner \$6.95 to \$13.95
Credit Cards: All majors accepted
Reservations: Not necessary, but advised on Fridays and Saturdays.
Carryout: Available
Seats: 145 comfortably, handicap accessible.
Specials: Friday Lenten specials range from \$10.95-\$13.95. Two or more seafood specials will be offered every Friday, and may include: Marinated Salmon, Maryland Crab Cakes, Lemon Sole Rebecca, Broiled Whitefish, Grilled Tuna with Citrus Sauce. Served with soup - homemade Manhattan Chowder or New England Chowder, or salad, potato and vegetable medley.
Entertainment: Carl Larson and Ernie Horvath at the piano bar, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; 7-10 p.m. Monday-Tuesday; 7 p.m. to midnight Wednesday-Saturday.

Gratiot in Roseville in the late 1950s. "He would entertain at his own club," remembered Anastasiou.

Exposed to both the food business and show business as a child, Anastasiou chose the food business for her career. "You don't want to hear me sing or see me dance," she laughed.

Chefs

Chef Remy Berdy, who worked at the Kingsley Inn, and opened the Whitney and the original Hard Rock Cafe in London, is executive chef. Mark Benenati left Disney World to work at Marvin's Bistro with Berdy.

"I was looking for the right kind of place," said Berdy explaining how he came to Marvin's Bistro. "I was looking for a free-standing restaurant and Susan was looking for a chef. We kind of fell in love. Angelo and Susan are wonderful people. They backed us, and gave us an excellent kitchen. They bought us the equipment we wanted."

Berdy is a classically trained chef and studied in Europe. He learned from master chefs, and met his wife, who is from Detroit, in Israel in 1967 during the Six Day War. He moved to the metro Detroit area with her in 1968, and never looked back.

"There's a revolution in food. People are a lot more conscious about ingredients," he said. "We create our style of cuisine, with the accent on freshness. Michigan is very much a treasure trove."

Everything is fresh and home-

made at Marvin's Bistro. "We add a little cilantro to the mushroom barley soup to give it a different zing, almost a whole different atmosphere," said Benenati.

The chefs are committed to keeping the enthusiasm going, and are always challenging each other. Berdy has at least 1,000 cookbooks he looks to for inspiration.

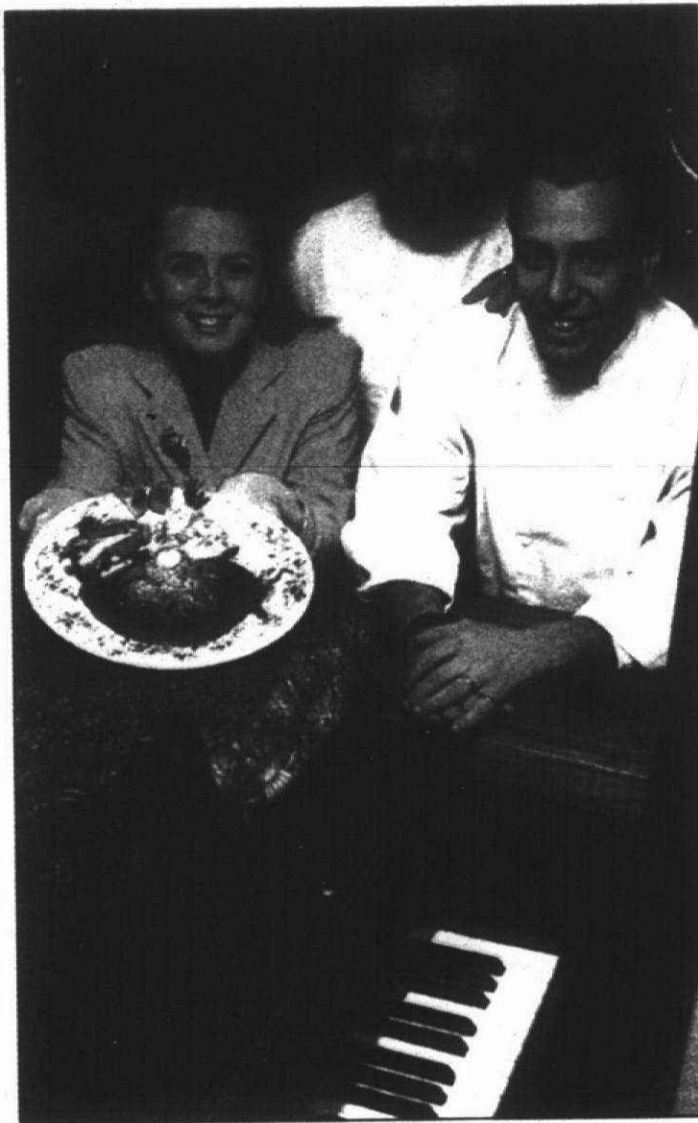
"People eat with their eyes, it's a challenge for us every day," he said. "I always look for something new and exciting. We believe in giving good portions, and explain dishes to the wait-staff so they can talk to customers."

Lunch is served 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. followed by dinner. Berdy and Benenati would also like to offer a late night menu.

Appetizing choices

The chefs aim to please, and offer something for everyone's tastes. Calamari, escargot and steamed mussels are best selling appetizers, and their wild mushroom fettuccine is an often requested dish.

For lunch there are appetizers, soups including French onion and chili con carne served with tortilla strips, shredded jack cheese, diced tomatoes and onion; salads such as caesar, grilled poached Norwegian salmon, and warm grilled chicken breast salad, and a variety of sandwiches. In addition to the usual hamburger, club sandwich, and grilled ham and cheese,



STAFF PHOTO BY SHARON LEMIEUX

At your service: Susan Anastasiou at the piano bar in Marvin's Bistro with Chef Remy Berdy(center) and Chef Mark Benenati.

you'll find a veggie pita, and the Remy Marvin Sandwich, a grilled chicken burger with pine nuts, shallots and carrots served on an onion roll.

Dinner also offers soups, sandwiches and salads for lighter appetites, along with a number of fish and seafood items such as marinated salmon, broiled whitefish, shrimp tempura and grilled tuna with citrus sauce, chicken entrees such as Breast of Chicken Nouvelle - breast of chicken stuffed with a mushroom and spinach duxelle wrapped in puffed pastry with a glaze, grilled chicken, and Breast

of Chicken Roulade; medallions of veal morel, scallops of provimi veal marsala, steaks grilled to your specifications, pasta primavera, and seafood fettuccine

Save room for dessert, white chocolate Chambard cheesecake and creme brule are among the choices, and be sure to ask about the daily specials.

EATING OUT IN THE SUBURBS

Just in case you missed it, or lost the paper. Here are couple of the restaurants we've recently visited:

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

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

■ **Beans & Cornbread**, 29508 Northwestern Highway (east side between 12 Mile Road & Inkster in the Sunset Strip), Southfield, (248) 208-1680. **Hours:** Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday until 11 p.m.; Saturday 4-11 p.m. and Sunday until 10 p.m. **Menu:** In a totally non-smoking environment, Soul Food is taken into the next century. **Cost:** At lunch, soups, starters and sandwiches \$3-7; entrees \$6-7. **Dinner** starters, soups and salads \$3-10; sides \$2-4; main plates served with chef's choice of accompaniments \$8-15. **Reservations:** recommended at dinner. **Credit cards:** all majors accepted.

Gulf shrimp, fritters, down home, soul, collard greens, black-eyed peas, catfish, hoppin' John, mama's and country are eye catching menu clues. Beans and Cornbread is a way cool happening, struttin' soulful Southern!

'Dine Out Detroit' to help fight AIDS

"Dine Out Detroit" will give metro Detroit area residents the opportunity to fight AIDS by doing something they frequently do: going out to eat.

Over 100 metro Detroit area restaurants from nearly 40 cities will participate in the third annual "Dine Out Detroit" benefit Friday, March 13. Local restaurants will donate 10 percent of that day's lunch and dinner sales to the Midwest AIDS Prevention Project, Michigan's largest non-profit AIDS educa-

tion organization.

Participating restaurants include Fonte D'Amore in Livonia and Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland.

Later that evening, the Atwater Block Brewery will host a

complimentary afterglow party for "Dine Out Detroit" patrons. Guests will be entertained by the sounds of the Simone Vitale Band and will have an opportunity to meet The River's Ann

Delisi.

For more information about "Dine Out Detroit," or a complete list of participating restaurants, call (248) 545-1435, or (800) 627-7769.

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