

Canton Observer

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IN THE PAPER TODAY

Jail millage: *Western Wayne County officials continue to oppose the county jail millage.* /A6

COMMUNITY LIFE

Who's to blame? *Some of the reactions to the alleged rape of a 15-year-old student in Plymouth Canton High School don't surprise sexual assault awareness specialist Ilene Zisk at First Step. They're indicative of the clash between reality and long-held beliefs about the crime.* /B1

ENTERTAINMENT

Theater: *Jeffrey Seller, one of "Rent's" producers, returns to metro Detroit April 8 when a touring company of "Rent" opens at the Fisher Theatre.* /E1

Music: *Rick Monroe loves playing music. After the concerts, people will remember the lyrics. They touch them, people know them from first listen.* /E1

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Just-in-time delivery no labor for cop

BY TEDD SCHNEIDER AND VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITERS

Oh, the stories Nathan Craig Hill will be able to tell some day. Nathan doesn't realize it yet, of course, but his dramatic, March 17 entrance into the world gave his parents - and Canton public safety officers - quite a start.

Carolyn Hill, 22, gave birth to Nathan in her car, parked at the police station on Canton Center Road. Performing obstetrician's duties in the four-wheeled delivery room was Canton police Officer Michael Kowalski.

He was ably assisted by Canton firefighter/EMTs Steve Opostal and Chris Stocklein.

Please see DELIVERY, A2

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District may go to voters again



Plymouth-Canton school officials may seek another bond issue - this one for construction of a new middle school in Canton. The proposed fall vote could come before an appeals court ruling on last year's bond election.

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools voters may be asked later this year to approve a bond issue to build a new middle school in Canton.

The district will lose its lease at Lowell Middle School in Westland by Aug. 1, 2000, as the Livonia Public Schools district plans to take back the building after leasing it to Plymouth-Canton for nearly 20 years.

Superintendent Chuck Little told school board members Tuesday night he wants to build the new middle

school on 21 acres of land at Hanford and Canton Center roads in Canton.

There is no cost estimate for a new middle school, which is needed to house the 730 students who are now enrolled at Lowell. The district's housing committee will study the issue, and decide on an architect to move forward with the project.

Little told the board there are election openings in October and December, and he's hoping to have the project solidified and a bond committee ready to tackle the issue of gaining support for the new school soon.

The election could come before resolution of the \$79.7 million 1997 bond issue, which was narrowly approved by voters but is tied up in court.

Former state Rep. Jerry Vorva has sued the school district because 716 ballots cast on touch-screen voting machines didn't count. The measure to build two new schools and make other improvements passed by 96 votes.

A state appeals court panel has assigned expedited status to the suit.

Target date

If all goes according to the plan unveiled Tuesday, a completion date of the new school will come during the 2000-2001 school year. Little said since Livonia wants Lowell back at the beginning of that school year, there is the probability students will be housed

in other middle schools for at least six months as they await the completion of the new school.

In his report, Little says "current and projected enrollment coupled with the need for a middle school in Canton are very strong reasons for immediate undertaking of this project."

No determination has yet been made whether the current Lowell students would be the first in the new building, or if there would be a reorganization of students from all the middle schools. However, a majority of the Lowell students currently live in the area where the new middle school is proposed.

During discussions, there were concerns that none of the current five middle schools are located in Canton, where the majority of the district's

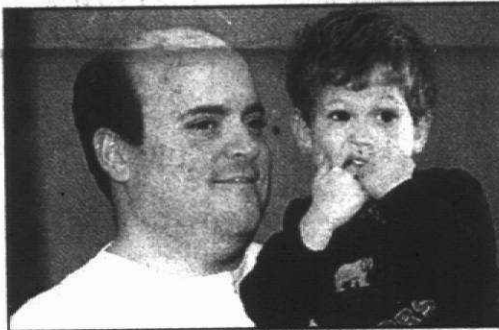
Please see SCHOOL BOND, A3

First ladies stop in for a visit



PHOTOS BY JERRY MENDOZA

Historical vignette: *Susan Berg portrays former first lady Frances Cleveland during Saturday's Youth Variety Series program at the Summit. Berg also played first ladies Grace Coolidge and Jacqueline Kennedy.*



Watching: *Greg Ford of Canton enjoys the program with his son, Mitchell, 3.*

Paramedic training to begin this spring

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Canton residents are about one year away from dialing 911 and getting a licensed paramedic to respond to their call.

Currently, the Canton Fire Department rescue squads are manned by EMTs, who aren't licensed to administer drugs, begin IVs or perform EKGs. The lifesaving techniques don't begin until a patient is brought to a hospital emergency room.

However, all that is about to change. Training for Advanced Life Support (ALS) is set to begin in the next 30-45 days, said fire Chief Mike Rorabacher.

On Tuesday, the township board agreed to spend \$26,250 for 15 firefighters to undergo 600 hours of paramedic training. They will be required to take a state board exam upon completion of the class.

Life Support Training Institute of Southfield (LSTI), an educational division of Community EMS, was awarded the contract as the low bidder. Others submitting a bid included Huron Valley Ambulance EMS Education and Emergency Education Inc. (EEI).

Five existing firefighters are already licensed as paramedics, although won't be able to provide advanced medical care until Canton becomes licensed as an ALS provider by the Wayne County Medical Board.

LSTI has trained firefighters in Redford, Farmington Hills and Trenton. They are currently training firefighters in Livonia and Allen Park, said Donna Pardonet of LSTI.

Firefighters will have an eight-hour weekly class for 10 months.

Included in the 600 hours of medical training is 250 hours of on the job experience.

Please see PARAMEDICS, A4

Local students will pay fee for driver's training

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Driver's education is a rite of passage for most teenagers. However, the rite of getting behind the wheel is now going to cost Plymouth-Canton Community Schools students.

As of April 1, Michigan school districts no longer will have to offer driver's education programs for free, mainly because the state has cut some of its funding.

While many districts plan to scrap

Please see DRIVER'S ED, A16

Area school supporters blast Proposal A

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Proposal A took a beating from most of the nearly 600 people who attended Monday night's Michigan Summit on School Funding Equity, hosted by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools at the Summit in Canton.

The school funding reform, designed to narrow the gap in spending among school districts while at the same time lowering property taxes and capping future property tax increases, was the main focus of discussion. Residents from all over the tri-county area were joined by nearly a dozen state lawmakers and three gubernatorial candidates.

Most all agreed Proposal A helped stop escalating property taxes, and narrowed some of the spending gaps among school districts when it was approved nearly four years ago.

However, many lawmakers, educators and parents are now concerned about decreased local control, budgets which are frozen below the inflation

rate, and the continuing gaps in funding for many school districts.

"I want the legislature to keep its promise to get rid of the gap, and they haven't done it," said Mark Slavens, who organized the event. "If they aren't going to keep that promise, then they have to give back the right of local control and allow us to have enhancement millages."

And that appeared to be the theme of the night from those who attended.

"I have a passion for public education," said Paula Bowman of Plymouth Township. "I'd like to see Proposal A rescinded. A lot of people voted for it with their wallets."

"I don't think it's fair that some districts get more money than others, but they don't have to be equal," said Tyler Walker of Plymouth, a sophomore at Plymouth Salem High School. "Some districts need more money to get equal opportunity."

Please see SCHOOL FUNDING, A10



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

Lashing out: *Canton resident Susan Kopinski takes legislators to task during Monday's session on state inequities in per-pupil spending. Kopinski chaired the citizens' committee supporting the Plymouth-Canton bond issue last March.*

Board move paves way for corporate park expansion

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Canton officials will allow for a \$1.3-million special assessment district to build a road and drag water and sewer to a planned corporate park that neighbors the Holliday Park Nature Preserve.

Burton Katzman Development Company and other property owners will pay back the \$1.3 million through an assessment on tax bills over the next 10 years.

The township board unanimously

agreed to the SAD Tuesday despite opposition from residents of Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, and Westland and representatives from the Holliday Nature Preserve Association and Friends of the Rouge River.

"If Canton agrees to bankroll this, then we lose most of it, if not all," said Jack Smiley of Westland, who sits on the board of directors for the Friends of the Rouge River.

Canton resident Dave Thomas told board members, "Nothing will replace what took nature hundreds of years to make. I think it's time to save the few

Related editorial, Page A14

natural areas we have left."

A group of preservationists has been attempting to get Wayne County Parks and Recreation to extend the 530-acre Holliday Nature Preserve by buying a portion of the Koppernick property.

"Once (Koppernick Corporate Park) goes through it will be totally enclosed by 'progress,' if you will," said Doug DiMeglio of Canton.

The Koppernick Corporate Park is planned for an area that extends between I-275 and the C&O railroad

tracks, between Koppernick and Warren. The Holliday Park is to the east of the railroad tracks in the city of Westland.

The Tonquish Creek, which feeds into the Rouge River, also runs at the southern edge of the property.

Chuck DiMaggio of Burton Katzman said current plans are to build two office/warehouse buildings approximately 66,000 and 91,000 square-feet in size on property nearest I-275.

They don't have plans for the proper-

Please see CORPORATE PARK, A16

School bond from page A1

school population lives. The Plymouth-Canton district pays \$90,000 to lease Lowell from Livonia Public Schools, and spends about \$300,000 on costs related to the upkeep of the building.

The lease on Lowell was due to expire in 1999, however Livonia extended the lease for another year.

"The need for us to have Lowell is based mostly on our growth and other configurations in the district," said Dave Watson, director of operations for Livonia schools. "If you look at the southwest corner of the school district, it's an area of significant growth."

Watson would not rule out the possibility of extending the lease to accommodate completion of a new middle school in Canton. However, he does note that the more concrete his district's plans get, the harder it will be to rearrange plans.

Other plans

Plans for a new middle school may not be limited to replacing Lowell.

In his Facility and Property



Superintendent Chuck Little
Plan. Little calls for a study of Central Middle School, to determine if the school should be shut down, replaced, or renovated. Little says something needs to be done about Central, which was constructed in 1919.

In his plan, Little calls for determining the costs of renovation, appraising the property for sale, and figuring enrollment projections to determine the number of middle schools needed in the district.

In the report, Little suggests another bond may be needed to cover some of the costs of whatever is decided.

The report indicates "part of the funding source for this alternative, upon study, could be the sale of the Central property itself."

Sweeping changes in the way the school district may conduct business don't stop there.

Little is also recommending building a district service center at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. The service center would put "transportation, maintenance, warehousing, special services and preschool special education in the center of the school district." Also included would be a print shop, which Little described as a facility similar to Kinko's for the district.

To consider the proposal, the board would be looking at such plans as selling the current E.J. McClendon Educational Center in Plymouth, selling the bus garage and maintenance facility on Lilley Road in Plymouth, and the warehouse operation on the Central site.

Delivery from page A1

"Things kind of happened faster than we expected but everything worked out OK," said new dad Craig Hill, 21. "I really want to thank Officer Kowalski and the two EMS guys."

The Canton resident explained how he and his wife found themselves in need of roadside assistance shortly after 4 a.m.

They had already returned from an earlier trip, on March 16, to University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor when Carolyn, who was 36 weeks pregnant, went into false labor. Another doctor's appointment was scheduled for March 17, Craig Hill said.

But Carolyn woke up at 3:30 a.m. and began having contractions again. So off the couple went.

"We got to Sheldon Road and she started pushing, so I knew at that point we weren't going to make it," he said.

Hill pulled into the new fire headquarters at Canton Center and Proctor but soon realized the building wasn't yet open. So he restarted the car and drove a few hundred yards to the police station to summon help.

Kowalski, who had just returned from picking up a prisoner at Oakland County Jail, was the first one to the car.

"The contractions were less than 10 seconds apart... It happened quickly," said Kowalski, a



Nice work: Officer Michael Kowalski holds newborn Nathan Hill. Also pictured are parents Carolyn and Craig Hill.

four-year veteran of Canton police.

"The head was already coming out, basically I just caught it," he said modestly.

The couple's first child checked in at 4:12 a.m., weighing 5 pounds 13 ounces. He was 19 inches long at birth.

This is Kowalski's third delivery, but his first Canton newborn. He previously worked for the Taylor Fire Department.

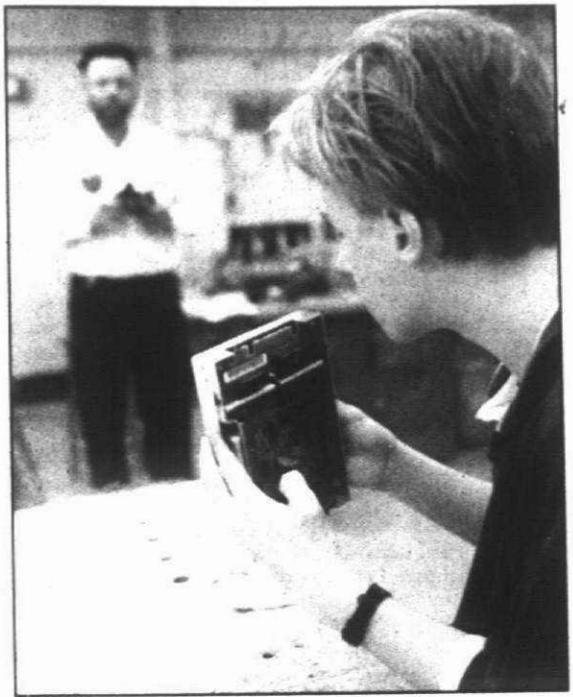
After Nathan was born, Opostal and Stocklein were on hand to cut the umbilical cord. Baby and mom then rode to the hospital in the ambulance.

"It was so neat, just seeing the expression on everyone's face," said Carolyn Hill.

"They hung around for awhile at the hospital. It was so nice," said Carolyn.

Craig Hill, supplied the police officers and firefighters with cigars. Last Friday, the new parents arranged for Kowalski to stop by their home at Canterbury Mews for photographs.

"On the birth certificate, it says, 'Canton Police Department delivered by Officer Mike Kowalski,'" Carolyn Hill said.



High-tech: Jonathan Teagan examines the motherboard of a computer that is on board an automobile. Mechanic Denny Wheeler brought the board to help the students understand that today's autos require computer knowledge as well as mechanical skills.



Looking to the future: Brent Dreaver peers through virtual reality goggles used by Cyberworks.

Career Day

Students see working models

So, what do you want to be when you grow up? From a nurse to a truck driver - and even a magician - Central Middle School students got a first-hand look last week at what kinds of jobs will be available to them in as they finish school in the early years of the 21st Century.

While computers and other high-tech industries were well represented at the school's annual Career Day, so were more traditional professions like law and law enforcement, the armed forces, dentistry and banking.

This being Michigan, the auto industry was on hand with a contingent from GM, including Kevin Park of GM Delta Quality Control, and Susan Samuel and Maria Simons from the Tech Center's engineering staff.

Central students chose three, 45-minute sessions to attend based on careers that interested them. Speakers gave brief presentations and fielded questions, which ranged from the obvious (training, salary) to the unusual. "What's the strangest place you've ever gone to do a story?" one journalism student asked a newspaper editor.

The magician was Jason Abbott, son of school secretary Christine Abbott. Jason even provided a few moments of light-hearted entertainment for other presenters as they gathered in the Central cafeteria before school started.

Central science and math teacher Richard Johnson gave a presentation on a career in teaching. Surprisingly, Johnson's session is always one of the more popular among students, said English teacher Debra Rosenblum.

"He does a good job and the kids get to see things from a teacher's perspective."

Careers in medicine: Kris Campbell, RN-BSN, tells students (from left) Francine Jackson, Carrie Campau and Joey Frayer about an experience with a badly injured man in the emergency room.



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Plymouth Observer

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District expels student accused in campus rape

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education Tuesday night expelled the teen accused in the alleged sexual assault of a girl at Canton High School.

The board approved the expulsion of Christian Gerrard Armstead, 17, who is charged with one count of third-degree criminal sexual conduct for allegedly assaulting a 15-year-old student under a stairwell March 5.

Armstead had been suspended from classes since the incident.

The board held a pre-expulsion hearing March 17, and gave final action at the meeting.

Armstead waived his preliminary exam March 20, and faces his next court date April 3 in Wayne County Circuit Court. He currently is free on \$10,000 personal bond pending trial.

Police officials say Armstead could plead guilty to a lesser charge, thereby increasing his chances for a reduced sentence.

The alleged victim is currently attending school in another district.

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REAL ESTATE UPDATE

by John Goodman
Goldwell Banker Preferred

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Health screenings and more set for St. Joseph Mercy event

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

Who can turn down a free Beanie Baby?

The famed palm-sized bean bag toys, known for creating long lines around the country, will be among the free items given out at the St. Joseph Mercy Health building 1-4 p.m. Sunday.

After visiting with the Easter Bunny, children will receive plastic eggs. Lucky children's eggs will contain a Beanie Baby, said Sally Bailey, site administrator.

The 83,000-square-foot building opened at the corner of Summit Parkway and Canton Center Road last month.

In addition, the open house will feature health screenings, entertainment, refreshments, prize drawings and more.

The Canton Seniors Kitchen Band will perform 3-4 p.m. Participants will also be able to get their favorite designs painted on their faces.

Prizes include bike helmets, T-shirts, first-aid kits and of course, Beanie Babies.

But the main purpose of the open house is to showcase the variety of health services available, Bailey said.

"There's all sorts of health screenings," she said. Open house visitors will be able to test

OPEN HOUSE

the Canton Public Library

Did you know:

- The one who moves mountains, begins by carrying away small stones?
- Today is "Make Up Your Own Holiday Day"? This do-it-yourself holiday is ready for you to let your imagination run wild. Make the most of it!
- What really matters is what you do with what you have?

New non-fiction

Here are some new non-fiction books available from the library:

- "Fatal Justice" - Poher and Bost
- "Halfway Heaven" - Thernstrom
- "Prisoner 1167" - Tully
- "The Union Station Massacre" - Unger
- "Tears of Rage" - Walsh and Schliederhette

New fiction

No foolin' around - here are some new books in the library's fiction section.

- "Fool Me Twice" - Levine
- "Nobody's Fool" - Russo
- "To Play the Fool" - King
- "Fool's Gold" - Wood
- "Fool's Puzzle" - Fowler

For your listening pleasure

Here are some new talking books available from the library:

- "Last Act in Palmyra" - Davis

Web Watch

Check out these new Web sites:

- <http://www.last-word.com>

Q & A

Q: Paper or plastic?
A: One type of bag isn't necessarily better than the other. Paper uses up trees, reducing forest biodiversity, and produces pollutants during the manufacturing process. Plastic consumes petroleum, which creates pollution and increases the risk of oil spills. It's what you do with the bag that matters most. Simply using it twice reduces its impact on the environment by half. Better still, try using canvas or other durable, reusable bags when you shop.

The source for this information is "Ask the Expert" from Good Housekeeping Magazine.

Hot topic of the week

Author luncheon. This year's author luncheon is hosted jointly by the Friends of the Plymouth, Novi, Northville and the Canton Libraries, along with the Observer Newspapers and Hometown Newspapers. Mort Crim, former WDIV-TV anchor and author of the newly published "Second Thoughts with Mort Crim" will be the featured speaker. The luncheon will be noon Wednesday, April 22, at Fox Hills Country Club. Tickets are now on sale at each of the libraries until April 10, or are available by mail, using the coupon in the Observer newspaper. Tickets cost \$20 and will not be sold at the door. As in the past, the luncheon is sure to be very popular, so buy your tickets early.

The Canton Library is compiled by Laura Dorogi of the library staff. The library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center Road. For more information about library programs and services call 397-0999.

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STATE CAPITOL CAPSULES

Road grants
The State Transportation Commission has announced 42 Economic Development Fund road grants. The EDF grants will provide \$24.7 million, a bit more than half of projects totaling \$47 million.
Among area communities, the projects and state shares are:
■ Canton Township, Wayne County - widen Haggerty Road from two lanes to five to reduce congestion and allow truck and employee access to Yazaki North America Inc., adding 295 jobs - \$972,800 state grant toward \$1.52 million total project.
■ Novi, Oakland County - widen and resurface the Nine Mile-Novi Road intersection, for trucks accessing local firms, including Ingersoll-Rand Co., which is adding 75 jobs - \$500,500 state grant toward \$1.32 million project.
■ Westland, Wayne County - widen Newburgh Road from two lanes to five to improve traffic flow to developments supporting 426 new jobs at various firms - \$570,825 state grant to support \$1.14 million project.

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Millage showdown
Local officials want county to cut jail costs, increase prisoner space

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER
Conference of Western Wayne officials will oppose the county jail millage - expected on a ballot this year - unless Wayne County increases prisoner space and cuts the cost of prisoner housing.
Meanwhile, Deputy County Executive Mike Duggan expects to go full steam ahead with the millage campaign - with or without CWW support.
Two police chiefs have represented the CWW, a legislative consortium of 18 communities, in ongoing discussions with Wayne County.
The CWW passed a resolution last year opposing this year's 1-mill renewal of the countywide jail millage.
Garden City Police Chief Dave Kocsis, Westland Police Chief Emery Price and Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack sit on a CWW subcommittee studying the millage.
The chiefs want Wayne County Sheriff Robert Ficano and the county sheriffs to act as a "central depository" for ordinance violators and misdemeanants.
"The sheriffs could contract out for that," Price said. "The sheriffs are supportive of this."
What they want
The chiefs have pushed for more than a year to obtain increased jail housing for their communities with ordinance violators and misdemeanants and a lower charge to communities for prisoners before they would support the 1-mill levy slated to be on the ballot.
A letter was mailed to County Executive Edward McNamara in February from the CWW, stating the following points of issue:
■ The CWW believes that the Wayne County Jail should be the central depository for all

Jail millage
In 1996 these Wayne County communities generated the following revenue for Wayne County jail operations under the one mill approved by voters in 1988 (figures are rounded off).

TOWNSHIPS:
■ Canton • \$1.4 million
■ Huron • \$223,000
■ Northville • \$630,000
■ Plymouth • \$1 million
■ Redford \$933,000

CITIES:
■ Allen Park • \$716,000
■ Dearborn • \$3.4 million
■ Dearborn Heights • \$1 million
■ Garden City • \$447,000
■ Livonia • \$3.3 million
■ Northville • \$101,000
■ Plymouth • \$272,000

County would receive a "significant economies of scale" in representing the largest county in Michigan.
"With a standardized, lower daily fee for bed space, the Conference could realize a reduction in the additional funding its communities currently spend on securing out-of-county bed space," stated a letter to McNamara.
In 1996, CWW communities alone spent approximately \$2 million to house prisoners in out-of-county facilities - above and beyond the millage collected by Wayne County.
"If Wayne County would assume the responsibility of arranging for alternative prisoner space in out-of-county facilities, the CWW would have no need for additional bed space in the Dickerson facility nor would it be necessary to eliminate the per diem charge with an administrative charge," the letter states.
"The CWW wants communities reimbursed revenue equal to 2/10ths of a mill levied on residents."
"While retaining 2/10ths (of a) mill would not totally alleviate the ever-increasing costs borne by local units, it would provide communities with the flexibility to employ best management and fiscal practices," the CWW letter states.
6,000 inmates housed
Duggan reiterated that Wayne County's Dickerson Facility in Hamtramck housed 6,000 felons and misdemeanants from the suburbs.
"They would rather advocate that these people be released to the streets," Duggan said. "If you look at our report, you will see that 500 people from Westland, 200 from Livonia and 200 from Plymouth, Canton and Northville were held in our jail."
Duggan called the CWW position "irrational." "Crime is down 12 percent in Wayne County since 1991, when the (Dickerson) jail first opened," Duggan said. "We had 20,000 fewer crimes committed than in 1991."
"We've done everything that we've promised," Duggan said having Wayne County act as a central depository was an issue that could be discussed with the communities.
The charge per prisoner to communities and revenue for communities appear to be less negotiable items.
Both the CWW and the Wayne County Department of Community Justice agree that the county has inadequate jail space.
The millage issue is a complicated issue, Price said.
"They're saying they can't release the felons early," Price said. "We're not saying that they do that at all."
Price said out-of-county jail use to house criminals has worked for municipalities.
"If we're using these facilities as municipalities and are making these deals, why can't they?" Price asked.
The county also was spending on the jail \$16 million of county general fund money with the \$26 million generated by the millage, Duggan said. "McNamara has made it his No. 1 issue," Duggan said.
Duggan said communities receive funds through their district courts in their fines of misdemeanants and that county charges for those inmates housed up in court.
"The law says if you get the fines, you must pay for their incarcerations," Duggan said.
County commissioners have not yet approved the millage proposal to be placed on any 1998 ballot. The millage expired in December.

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Tree seedlings on sale
The Wayne County Soil Conservation District will accept orders through Monday, April 6 for its annual spring tree seedling sale.
Planting stock available this spring includes Austrian pine, white pine, Colorado blue spruce, white spruce, black alder, mountain ash, white oak, dogwood, silky dogwood and lilac wildlife packets.
Order forms containing information on trees and bulbs available, site preference, uses and prices can be obtained from the Wayne County Soil Conservation District, 5454 Venoy, Wayne, MI 48184.
Call (734) 326-7787 for more information.

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Madonna will offer health care master's program on Internet

Health care professionals and the general business community may now take advantage of an online master's degree program offered by Madonna University's School of Business in Livonia.
Courses in the Cohort Online Program (COP) will be delivered by the Internet, e-mail, audio and videotapes over a 23-month period beginning Fall 1998. At the end of the 36-semester hour program, students will earn a master of science degree in business administration, specializing in health care practice management or leadership studies.
"This program is designed for working adults who are managers in the general business community and health care professionals such as optometrists, physician assistants, dental hygienists or physical therapists," said Dr. Charlotte Neuhauser, coordinator of the program and professor of management and marketing at Madonna.
Because the program is delivered by technology, COP offers several amenities for working adults. Students visit campus only two times during the program - one weekend for orientation and introduction to the program and the final weekend for presentation of students' research projects.
Each semester, students' registrations are completed automatically. Books, video and audiotapes and other instructional materials are provided for each student. A faculty advisor will assist students with any concerns that may arise during the course of study. Students move as a group together through COP and learning is enhanced by frequent e-mail communication with fellow students and faculty.
"The program is integrated, so it not only provides theory, but also practical application to the workplace," added Neuhauser.
Applications are now being accepted for COP for a limited number of students. For more information contact Madonna University's School of Business at (734) 432-5354, e-mail neuhauser@smtp.munet.edu or visit the School of Business web page at www.munet.edu/main/mad-study.htm.
Madonna University offers more than 50 career-oriented majors for men and women and graduate studies in business, education, health services, hospice and nursing.

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Madonna registers for new term

Madonna University's open registration for spring/summer '98 term will continue through Friday, May 1, for new and returning students.
Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with the exception of Friday, April 10 when the office will be closed, and until 7 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, with the exception of Thursday, April 9 when the office will close at 5 p.m. Classes begin the week of May 4.
Fax registration for all students is available and will be accepted until April 20, prior to the start of classes.
There is no application fee.
For more information, call the

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Patterson seeks review of weapons permit board

County Commissioner Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, wants to hold a number of public hearings on Wayne County's Concealed Weapons Permit process. Patterson, who introduced a resolution last month calling for a plenary investigation of the permit process, expected the resolution to be discussed Wednesday (yesterday) at a scheduled meeting of the Committee on Public Safety and Judiciary.

Patterson's resolution asks the committee to proceed in collecting data, assembling witnesses, holding public hearings and obtaining research materials as they relate to concealed weapons permitting in other states and counties. The resolution also calls for the Public Safety and Judiciary Committee to make recommendations. The county commissioner said yesterday's meeting was the first

in many public hearings he expected to be conducted regarding this issue. Patterson has received numerous phone calls and letters from constituents interested in supplying information and giving testimony. Patterson said anyone interested in contributing information on the Concealed Weapons

Permitting process and laws can contact his office at (313) 224-0944. **Counsel questioned** Patterson also has requested an investigation into the process used in court-appointed attorneys for defendants who are unable to afford representation.

The county commissioner's request follows a recent newspaper story that indicated the major contributors and family members of judges have received a disproportionate amount of cases and fees. Patterson wants the Public Safety and Judiciary Committee conduct an investigation into

this issue by assembling date, calling witnesses and hold public hearings. The committee should make recommendations following this process, Patterson said. "The courts and the judges must be above reproach," Patterson said. "We cannot permit even the appearance of impropriety. I take this matter very seriously."

Schoolcraft to host speaker on Hong Kong

Schoolcraft College's Export Resource Center presents an international dinner seminar "Doing Business in Hong Kong: The Gateway to China" 5-8:30 p.m., Thursday, April 16.

Featured speaker Jacqueline M. Stavros will talk about opportunities for profit in China and Hong Kong.

U.S. exports to Hong Kong are up 41 percent between 1993 and 1996. Hong Kong presents a potential lucrative market for U.S. businesses and serves as the gateway to China.

Stavros is a professor of international studies at Madonna University. She serves on the board of governors of the National Association of Small Business International Trade Educators and is a member of the Michigan District Export Council and the American Marketing Association.

Following the speech, participants can talk about their personal business concerns in roundtable discussions with representatives from the Detroit Regional Chamber, the U.S. Export Assistance Center in Detroit, the Pontiac Export Assistance Center, the Michigan Jobs Commission and successful regional exporters.

A dinner featuring cuisine from Hong Kong prepared by Schoolcraft's Culinary Arts Department will be served. Tickets are \$60 and are available through the Export Resource Center (734) 462-4438.

Schoolcraft College is at 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile roads, just west of I-275.

Beekeepers will meet at S'craft

Novice and experienced beekeepers will find much to buzz about at the 60th annual Bee School sponsored by the Southeastern Michigan Beekeepers Association.

The school, held in cooperation with the Schoolcraft College Beekeepers Club and the Cranbrook Beekeepers Club, is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 4, in the Waterman Center on Schoolcraft's campus.

Featured speakers are Gard Otis, professor of entomology at the University of Guelph in Ontario, a honeybee researcher, and Roger Hoopingarner, an agricultural specialist recently retired from Michigan State University.

Breakout sessions include a series of beginner workshops dealing with different aspects of beekeeping aimed at helping the new beekeeper get started. Additional sessions will examine honey bee diseases, hive management, queen rearing, bee sting allergy, wax working and urban beekeeping. Other attractions include a display of beekeeping equipment and crafts, a wax-weight guessing contest, a honey show, a silent auction and a package bee hive raffle.

Nonmembers must pay a registration fee at the door, and attendees should bring a dish to pass and table service for the noon potluck lunch. For information, call Roger Sutherland at (734) 668-8568 or Jim Goodrich at (248) 828-0321.

Schoolcraft College is on Haggerty Road, between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads.

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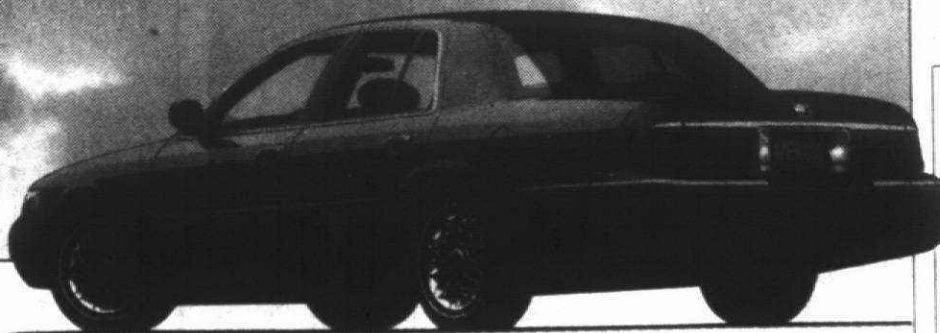
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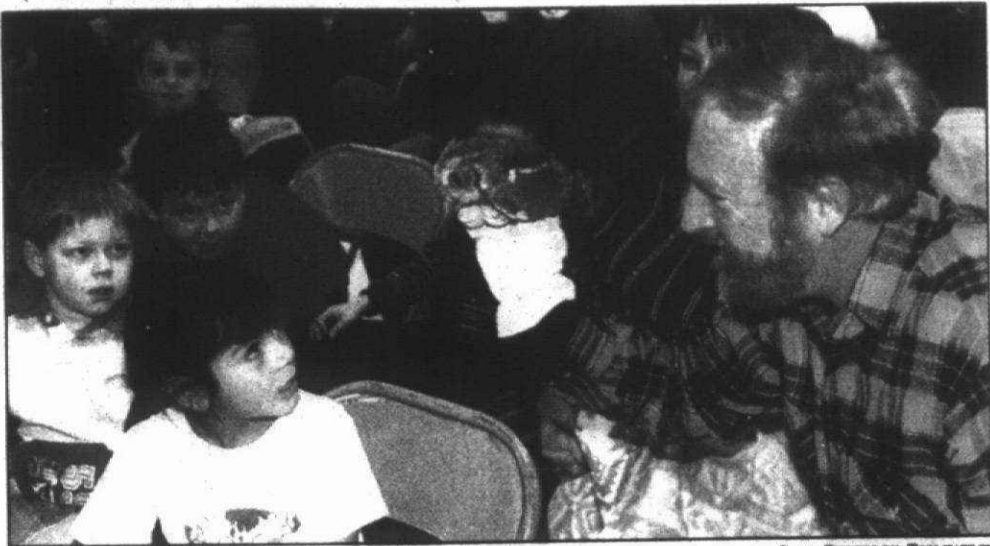
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STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Close-up: Alexa Zion, 5, a kindergartner at Schoolcraft College's Children's Center, gets a close look at the screech owl that Joe Rogers is holding.

SC students get close-up look at some colorful birds of prey

Children and students at Schoolcraft College enjoyed birds from screech owls to redtail hawks at a "Birds of Prey" presentation at Schoolcraft College's Waterman Center earlier this month.

Joe Rogers, a Mt. Pleasant resident, demonstrated and discussed the birds of prey with the students, who had a chance to closely examine birds. The event was sponsored by Schoolcraft's Student Activities Board and the

fraternity of Phi Theta Kappa. Todd Stowell, the college's assistant director of student activities, said the educational program was to "tune people into the environment."

Awesome: Schoolcraft college students Mike Ioanou, a freshman from Livonia and Fabiola Albert, a freshman from Brazil now living in Farmington, examine a great horned owl held by Joe Rogers.



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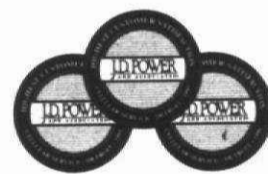
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A10(C)

School funding from page A1

The host district, Plymouth-Canton, currently receives \$6,986 per-pupil from state funding and local taxes. Other area school districts include Livonia, \$7,067; South Redford, \$6,588; Garden City, \$6,145; Wayne-Westland, \$5,883; and Redford Union, \$5,677.

Plymouth-Canton school officials like to benchmark their district with Bloomfield Hills (\$10,839) and Ann Arbor (\$8,196).

While many voters may have looked at their wallets in 1994 when approving Proposal A, several in the crowd declared they now want quality put back into their schools. Many even spoke in favor of enhancement millages to raise additional funds.

"I've gone on record that if a bill comes in the Senate allowing a local enhancement millage of three mills I would vote yes on that bill," Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, told the mostly local gathering. "I do have some trouble with that decision... because if every district avails itself to that opportunity, the gap

(among districts) would widen. I am concerned about that."

Bennett said a 3-mill enhancement would bring an additional \$567 per student in the Plymouth-Canton district. That same 3 mills would generate \$778 in Ann Arbor. In Bloomfield Hills, 3 mills equates to \$1,299 more per student.

Much of the problem for many districts is directly related to state funding that is less than the cost of doing business.

In the Plymouth-Canton schools, Superintendent Chuck Little told the Observer his district received a 2.7 percent increase in state funding. He also pointed out the Consumer Price Index was over 3 percent. According to Little, it's the fifth consecutive year the district has operated with state funding increases less than the cost of doing business.

"What happened, especially with Plymouth-Canton and Wayne-Westland, is that they were at their lowest level of mills as both had just lost a big millage renewal," said Democratic

Rep. Eileen DeHart, D-Westland. "When Proposal A kicked in, they were at their low point. They got deeper and deeper into a hole. They will never get whole again because they're being punished for that one time when voters voted no on the millage renewal."

Rep. Lyn Bankes, R-Redford, who also serves Livonia, says Plymouth-Canton and Wayne-Westland had a chance to have millage votes to catch up with other districts before Proposal A went into effect.

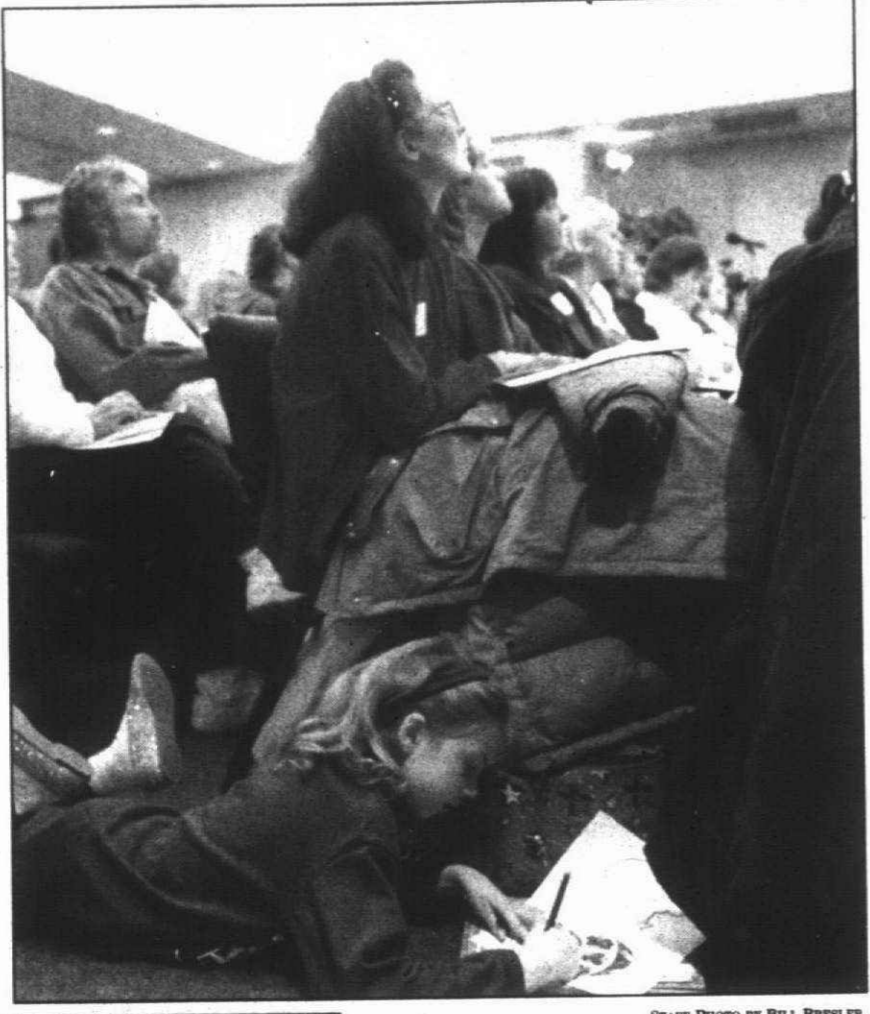
"Plymouth-Canton had a chance to be up with Livonia, but they chose not to go to voters with another millage," said Bankes. "I'm not sure why they didn't, unless they didn't think they could pass another millage."

Bankes said it's up to constituents to elect legislators and board members who will support changes to Proposal A.

According to some legislators, the state is actually \$500-million short in funding Proposal A. And, if every district were to get the same amount of per-pupil funding, the state would need to raise a billion dollars.

Bennett doesn't see that ever happening.

"Taxpayers couldn't afford it," said Bennett. "We would have raised property taxes by 42 mills to gain equity."



Diversionsary tactic: Field Elementary student Elizabeth Ickes works on her coloring books as her mom, Arlene, listens to the discussion.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BERLIN

Anonymous campaign flier takes swipe at candidate

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

This year's primary and general elections are months away, but the season of scurrilous campaign literature kicked off last week when someone took a swipe at a state Senate candidate for accepting a legal campaign contribution.

An anonymous person mailed a campaign flier taking to task candidate Thaddeus McCotter for accepting a \$10,000 campaign contribution, but an official at state Bureau of Elections said Tuesday that such a contribution is legal if it is made through a Political Action Committee registered with the state.

In fact, the literature itself may be in violation of state law if it originated from another candidate or a campaign worker, the state official said.

Mailed on or about March 17, the literature claims that \$10,000 was "laundered" into McCotter's campaign for state Senate. The author also calls it a "campaign finance scheme."

McCotter wasn't surprised by the literature.

"I expect this in this race, and I will ignore it and focus on a positive campaign. People can expect this kind of literature — without the disclaimers — throughout the spring."

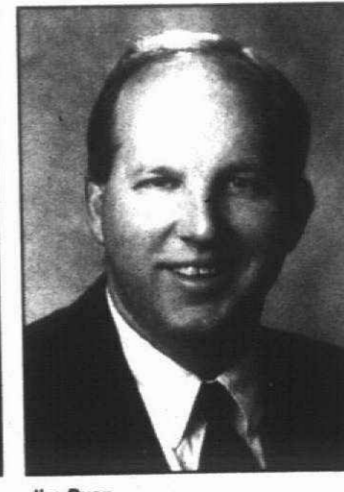
A check with the state found that the donation was proper, and that no one has filed a complaint with the state about that donation.

Two contributions — \$9,900 and \$100 — were made in September 1997 by Detroit-based Wulfmeier and Ottenwess PAC, according to McCotter's campaign finance reports filed with the Wayne County clerk on Feb. 2, 1998. The contributions were reported as PAC receipts.

Anne Corgan, director of the Michigan Department of State's compliance and rules division, said the contribution is legal for PACs. "An independent committee can contribute \$10,000 to a candidate," Corgan said. The



Thaddeus McCotter



Jim Ryan



Debbie Whyman

contributions are used for candidates' campaigns and spent on campaign signs, literature and political ads.

PACs must register as a committee with the state at least six months before the election, which the Wulfmeier and Ottenwess PAC has done.

In fact, McCotter, a county commissioner representing the cities of Livonia, Plymouth and Northville and the townships of Plymouth and Northville, released his annual campaign finance report to the Observer in early February. "I released it to the papers because I'm responsible, open and accountable to the public," McCotter said.

McCotter is running for the 9th District Senate seat. The district contains the cities of Livonia, Northville and Plymouth, and the townships of Northville and Plymouth and a portion of Canton. It is currently held by Republican Bob Geake.

The accuracy literature did not list a committee name from a candidate. If it was mailed by a campaign worker or a candidate, its publication and distribution without attribution to an election committee may constitute a violation of state campaign laws.

The piece also was mailed with stamps and not a postal permit. Postal permits are generally used by candidates.

Two other Republican candidates denied any participation or role in the literature.

State Rep. Debbie Whyman, R-Canton, said she received a copy of the flier on Monday from a newspaper. Whyman denied that she had anything to do with the literature, calling the piece

"stupid."

"No, I have the courage to put my name on my literature," Whyman said. And if any literature put out by her campaign workers, "they would sign it," Whyman added.

"I will have no problem talking about my opponent's record, but I will sign my name to it," Whyman said.

"It wasn't a particularly good

piece. It's a stupid flier."

Whyman has not officially filed for the race, but expects to by the deadline of May 12.

Jim Ryan, a former state representative from Redford, also has announced that he is running for the state Senate seat.

Ryan said he was not responsible for the piece, nor were any of his campaign supporters. Ryan said he was just made aware of the literature.

"I've always run a positive and clean campaign, and I don't believe you bring yourself up by tearing someone else down," Ryan said.

The literature itself railing against McCotter could be illegal if it was distributed by a candidate or a campaign worker, Corgan said.

"If it is a candidate, it must say 'paid for by the committee to elect' then list the candidate's name," Corgan said. "The statute requires you to list who is paying for it."

Violators can be charged with a misdemeanor and possible fines up to \$1,000 and/or 90 days

in jail.

McCotter would not comment on where the literature may have originated, but speculated the literature was anonymous so the author could not be sued for libel.

In his report of Feb. 2, 1998, McCotter collected \$68,465 in contributions and spent \$12,110.

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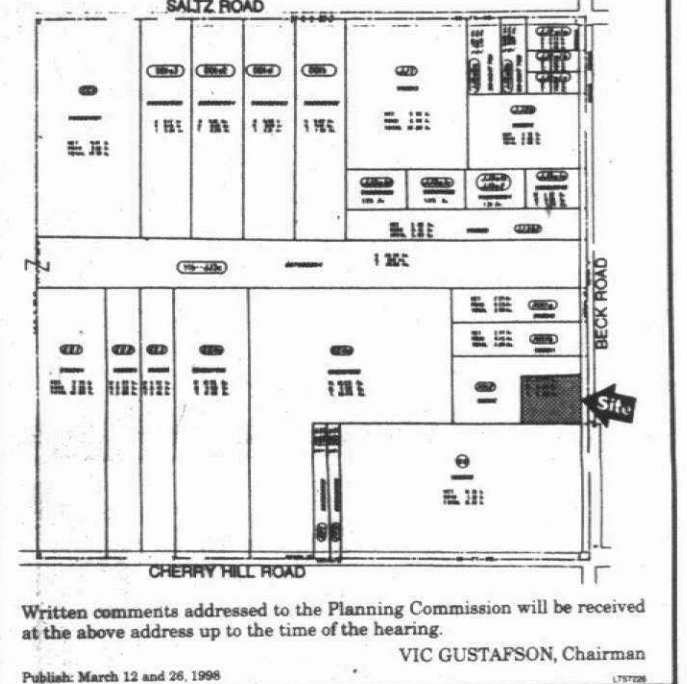
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**CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

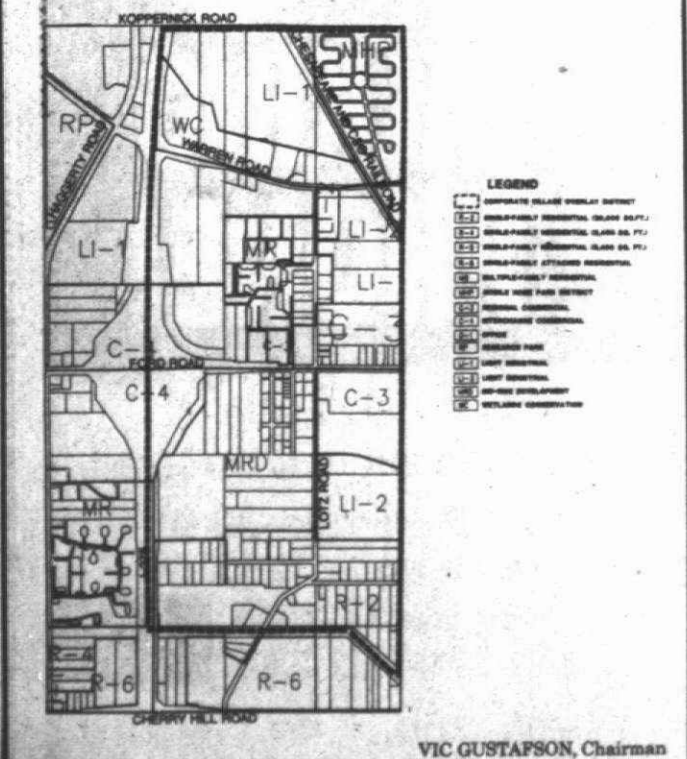
*PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 6, 1998 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:
REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PART OF PARCEL NO. 068 99 012 000 FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL, TO R-2, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located on the west side of Beck Road between Cherry Hill and Salts Roads. Rescheduled from March 2, 1998.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.
VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman
Publish: March 12 and 20, 1998

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

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 20, 1998 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:
TOWNSHIP-INITIATED TEXT AMENDMENT (98-2) - CONSIDER AMENDING ARTICLE 6, SITE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO SPECIFIC USES, BY CREATING SUBSECTION 6.08, SITE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR THE CORPORATE PARK OVERLAY DISTRICT TO IMPLEMENT THE PORTLOTZ CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT PLAN. The district is located within Sections 12, 13, and the south quarter of Section 1, bounded by Koppersnick Road on the north, eastern Township border on the east, Detroit Edison power lines north of Cherry Hill Road on the south, and I-75 on the west.
Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.

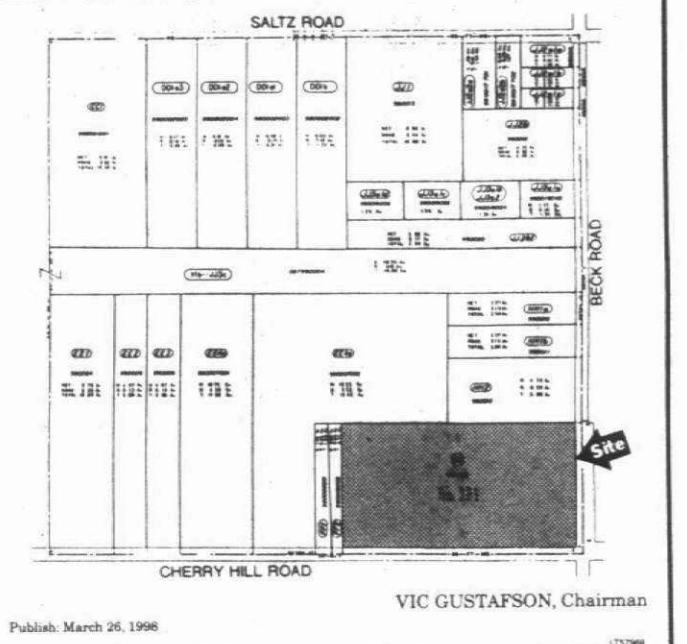


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VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman
Publish: March 26 and April 9, 1998

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Monday, April 6, 1998 at 7:00 P.M. in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road to consider a request for the following special land use as provided in Section 27.03 of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance:
PLYMOUTH CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR A PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 11.02B.4 FOR PARCEL NO. 068 99 009 000. Property is located on the northwest corner of Cherry Hill and Beck Roads.

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.

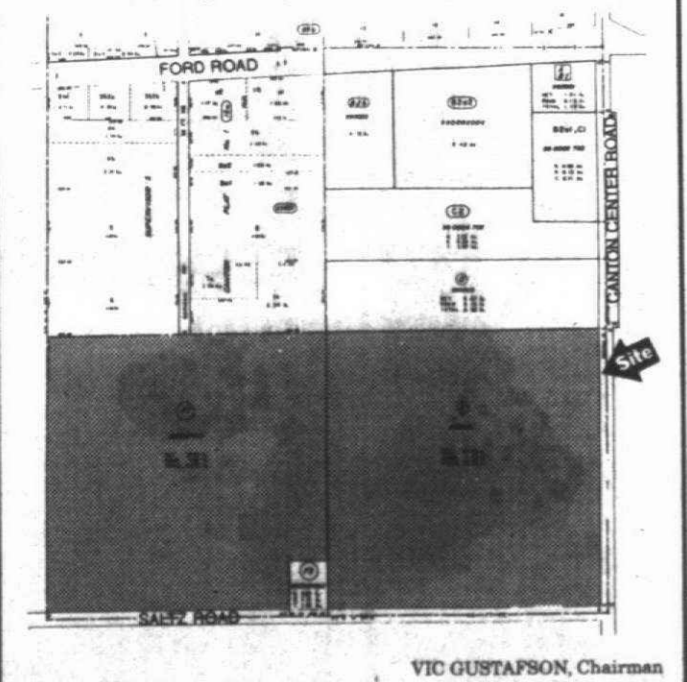


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CONSIDER A REQUEST TO ESTABLISH CAMBRIDGE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCELS 061 99 0006 701 AND 061 99 0007 001. Property is located west of Canton Center Road and north of Salts Road. Preliminary Plan-1st Public Hearing.

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.

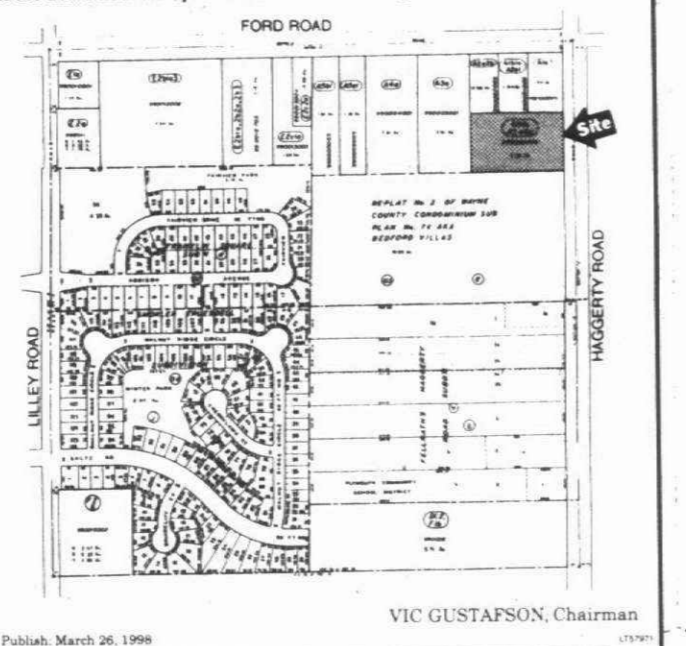


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SHURGARD OF CANTON (HAGGERTY ROAD) SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR MINI-WAREHOUSES AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 17.02B.12 FOR PARCEL NO. 053 99 0001 006. Property is located on the west side of Haggerty Road south of Ford Road.

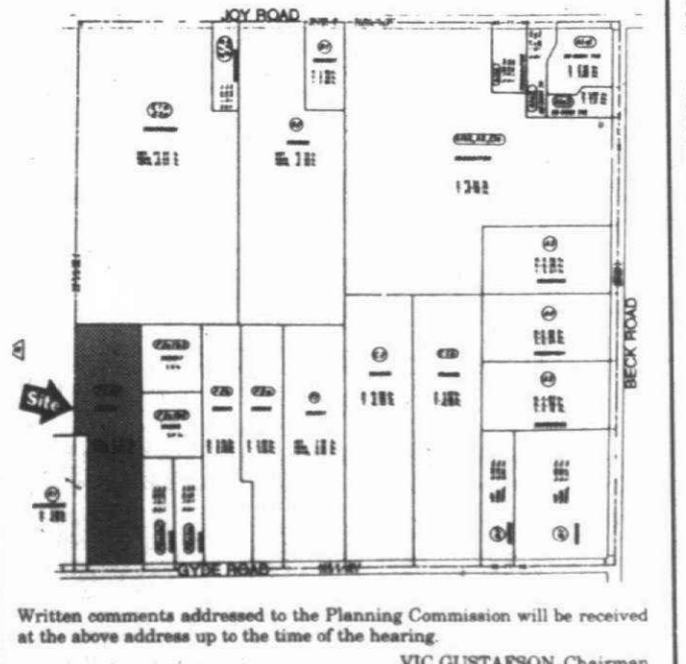
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LOCKRADAJABARA REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 017 99 0018 000 FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL, TO R-1, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located on the north side of Gyle Road between Beck and Ridge Roads. Rescheduled from March 2, 1998.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.
VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman
Publish: March 12 and 20, 1998

'Spring Sky' presented at Nankin Mills

Guest astronomy lecturer Mike Best, the principal planetarium demonstrator of the Vollbrecht Planetarium in Southfield, will present "Spring Sky" at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 3, at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center.

Best has been an astronomy enthusiast for 50 years and has lectured throughout Michigan on many topics. County officials expect Best to share his enthusiasm, knowledge and humor as he teaches about the celestial skies of spring.

The entire family is invited to this star-gazing program, beginning with an indoor slide presentation and discussion followed by outdoor star view-

ing, weather permitting. Pre-registration is limited. Program fee is \$1 per person.

Hot cocoa will be available after the event. Please bring appropriate outdoor clothing, binoculars and a blanket or outdoor chairs.

Meet at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center on Hines Trail in Westland. Parking is available off of Hines Drive, and can be reached even if the road is barricaded for flooding.

For more information, contact the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center at (734) 261-1850.

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Proposal may ask voters whether county millage hikes need more support

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Wayne County voters may decide this year whether it should be more difficult to raise taxes.

A county ballot proposal calling for a two-thirds support on the commission — 10 out of 15 votes — and 60 percent from voters before Wayne County could increase a millage is being considered.

County commissioners may discuss the proposal re-introduced by Commissioner Ed Boike, D-Taylor, next week. A similar proposal was introduced last year by Commissioners Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, and Bruce Patterson, R-Canton.

In its present form, the resolution asks voters to amend the county charter requiring a 2/3 vote of commissioners serving to place on the ballot any proposal for a tax increase, and a vote of more than 60 percent of qualified Wayne County voters to adopt such an increase.

"We've often attempted to return the county's surplus to everybody in Wayne County, but we're told we can't do that because we need the surplus," Boike said.

"I don't think we should make it easy to raise taxes. If a millage is to be passed by the voters, it should be a sounding majority, and I think we should make (the supermajority proposal) up to the voters."

The proposal didn't make it past the commission's committee on general government because commissioners were deadlocked 2-2, with one commissioner absent. Boike is confident it will be approved by the committee at its next meeting to be placed on the full commission's agenda for action next Thursday.

Vice Chair Kay Beard, D-Westland, supports placing the proposal on the ballot, but doesn't like the idea.

"I told my mayors, I would vote to put it on the ballot," Beard said. "I have great faith in the wisdom of the voters. But I am opposed to it philosophically. It is supposed to be the majority that rules."

"I have a problem to carry that particular issue."

McCotter and Patterson support the supermajority concept, but as the two lone Republicans, they probably would have difficulty getting 12 Democrats to support the idea, so Boike has reintroduced the proposal.

McCotter, Patterson and Commissioners William O'Neil, D-Allen Park, had submitted to the commission in February 1997 a proposal to require a 12-vote backing of county commissioners to place a countywide tax issue on the ballot, and a 60 percent support from voters before the tax is considered approved.

The Conference of Western Wayne passed resolutions last spring supporting the 10-vote minimum and 60 percent voter support. At the time, Westland Mayor Bob Thomas, who chairs the CWW, backed the two resolutions because he believed they had a better chance at passage with the commissioners.

Zebra mussels plague inland lakes

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

It's up to boaters to halt the spread of zebra mussels into inland lakes.

Last year seven inland lakes in Oakland County and one in Livingston were infested with zebra mussels, according to Michigan Sea Grant.

The area lakes are among 19 new names on the 1997 list of lakes found to be contaminated by the mussels, which have spread through the Great Lakes.

New to the list are Lakeville, Maceday, Pine, Union, Upper Straits and White lakes in Oakland County and Strawberry in Livingston County.

Large inland lakes with a high level of transient boats are likely carriers. Boats, trailers and fishing equipment pick up clinging veligers (larvae) from infested waters, said Sea Grant manager Mike Klepinger.

"It was originally a European freshwater resident," Klepinger said. "It crossed the Atlantic in the ballast of ocean-going ships. It was found in Lake St. Clair in 1986, and by 1988 it was exploding."

STATE NEWS

The shellfish's most immediate damage was to encrust the city water intake pipes in Monroe, which had to shut down the system. Klepinger outlined how the zebra mussel upsets the ecosystem:

■ By filtering one liter a day, each mussel clarifies the water of plankton, the lowest creature in the food chain. Thus, the mussel competes for food with native fish and disrupts the food chain.

■ The clear water admits more sunlight, stimulating the growth of lake weeds. The weeds die, decay and smelt.

■ Mussel shells encrust water intakes, piers and boats. In the Great Lakes, they encrust shipwrecks and are a physical danger to scuba divers.

Most at risk, said Klepinger, are large ones with a high level of transient activity.

By identifying infested lakes, Sea Grant hopes lake managers and citizen groups will erect signs at boat launches and develop volunteer programs for boat inspections and cleanings.

Klepinger advised boaters to "be a good neighbor. Keep your boat and trailer clean. Scrub them off, remove the weeds, and dry them off."

On many inland lakes, riparian owners use lake water on their lawns. When the intake pipes become clogged, they'll find it necessary to scrape off mussel shells.

Michigan Sea Grant is a cooperative program of Michigan State University and the University of Michigan. Volunteers have done much of the sampling work. The project has produced an award-winning instructional video with illustrated handbook.

Sea Grant recruited volunteer monitors beginning in the spring of 1993. The 19 new lakes on their infested list bring the total of confirmed infestations to 65.

Volunteers are given kits with which they take samples in more than 18 feet of water. The procedure takes an hour and is repeated twice during the summer. Plankton samples are sent to a laboratory, where biologists determine whether the water contains microscopic mussel spawners.

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ABA from page A12

Cote's Madonna's Legal Assistant program has been approved by the American Bar Association for over 10 years.

While the nurse paralegal program will officially begin in the fall 1998 term, two of the required courses, Legal Assistant Orientation, and Medical Legal Concepts and Medical Records, will be offered during

the spring/summer which starts May 4.

Mary Urisko, assistant director of Madonna University's Legal Assistant Program, will teach the orientation class.

Medical Legal Concepts and Medical Records will be taught by Detroit attorney Richard Dimann.

Both classes will be held from 6:30-10 p.m. Monday, beginning

May 4 through July 20.

Other legal assistant classes and workshops offered during the spring/summer term include M.C.L.A. on CD-ROM, Environmental Law: Clean Air Act, Case Preparation and Trial, Probate Estates and Will and Trust Drafting.

For information, call Jennifer Cote at (734) 432-5549 or Mary Urisko at (734) 432-5548.

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Please see ABA, A13

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A14(C)

Slow response County inaction hurts Canton

There are times when the deliberate pace of Wayne County government is detrimental to constituents. The likely failed effort to protect a piece of rapidly-developing Canton by adding it to Westland's William P. Holliday Nature Preserve is one example.

The county's parks division has had a request for action on the property - 90 acres surrounding the Tonquish creek, east of I-275 between Koppernick and Warren roads - on the back burner since last summer. Members of the Holliday Nature Preserve Association, the volunteer group that helps maintain the preserve, want the parks division to seek state funds to purchase at least part of the land. The property is a natural buffer between the adjacent preserve and industrial development closer to the freeway, they argue.

Now the property owners, Burton Katzman Development Company, plan to expand an existing corporate park by putting in a road, water and sewer lines on the site. A sewer detention basin would also be built. The Canton Township Board of Trustees Tuesday declared a Special Assessment District on the western portion of the property. That means the township would pay for the improvements and then assess the cost to property owners over a 10-year period.

The designation all but starts the bulldozers rolling. And that's too bad.

There is a real value in creating such a buffer zone, not just for naturalists. Residents and the business community also benefit from

master planning that proceeds in progressive steps from land use that is less dense to fully-developed.

As Canton continues to mushroom, so does the pressure to add tax base through light-to-medium industrial projects. Township officials are striving to add some balance to a mix that currently favors residential development by a nearly 3-to-1 margin. Recent efforts along Michigan Avenue are helping in that area. But there have to be some checks on how much land is targeted for industrial use.

Legitimate wetlands and other natural areas deserve government protection. Buying property is one way to accomplish that. Bill Craig from the Holliday Nature Preserve Association says inaction on the Canton property is part of a larger problem, namely that the county isn't doing much on its end to further the environment with the preserve. In fact, the group charges that failure to close off the Koppernick Road entrance has led to illegal use by off-road vehicles and dumping that has obliterated some of the nature trails.

Parks officials say the issue is more complex. It could take a year or more before the right steps are in place in order to seek land grant trust funds from the state, according to Hurley Coleman, Wayne County parks director. The parks division has other priorities and even if the county wanted the land, it ultimately might not be for sale, Coleman says.

Meanwhile, developers are marching forward.

Spring debut no big surprise

"The first day of spring doesn't mean a whole lot to Mother Nature."

That observation came from Jeff Boyne, a meteorologist for the National Weather Service, in an Associated Press story about the winter storm (Oops! Make that *spring storm*) that dumped from 2 to 4 inches of snow and sleet on southeast Michigan last Friday and Saturday - the first official days of spring.

The storm shouldn't have come as any surprise to Michiganders. Snow storms are not unusual in March and April. As Boyne pointed out, on the first day of spring in 1983 the area received 6 to 8 inches of snow. And 1983, coincidentally or not, was another year when El Niño was around.

The phenomenon known as El Niño - a complicated process that involves weakening trade winds, the eastward drift of warm Pacific water from Australia to South America, the jet stream and chain reactions in weather patterns - has received so much press in recent months that it has become almost fashionable to blame El Niño for whatever weather comes along.

If El Niño brought us snow on the first day of spring, it also brought the springlike weather that resulted in a snowless February. If El Niño was responsible for the remarkably mild winter that just (officially) ended, it may also be to blame if we are served up a cold and wet spring.

Meteorologists seem to refer to El Niño on just about every TV weather show we watch and even the editors of the Old Farmer's Almanac admit that yes, they considered the effects of El Niño when writing the forecasts for the 1998 edition of that classic work.

Frankly, we don't know what to make of it all. We don't dispute the prognostications of the professional meteorologists, but we also know that it's spring and it's Michigan and the weather is going to be unpredictable. Which brings us

to our point.

Gov. John Engler has declared the week of March 29 through April 4 as "Severe Weather Awareness Week in Michigan," citing statistics that last year Michigan experienced 19 tornadoes, 72 episodes of flooding and many thunderstorms, resulting in seven deaths, 108 injuries and property damage of more than \$150 million. Western Wayne County seemed to get more than its share of this weather, with damage from tornadoes and flooding. The 35th District Courthouse in Plymouth burned to the ground after a lightning strike during one of those storms.

The Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness is conducting a campaign to alert residents about the importance of being prepared for severe weather and to educate people as to how to react should dangerous weather conditions develop. All schools in the state are being asked to conduct tornado drills on March 31 so students can practice safety procedures.

We urge all of you to do the same. Develop a plan of action both at work and at home as to what to do should severe thunderstorms, flooding or tornadoes strike your area. Discuss the plan with your family and maybe conduct a drill or two in your own home.

You may not be able to predict the weather, but you can prepare for it when it turns bad. And if you aren't prepared, you can't blame that on El Niño.

Under construction



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRADLEY

Mixing it up: Canton building official John Weyer shows off one of the buildings going up in Ashley Capital's mega project in the Michigan Avenue corridor. The project includes light industrial and warehouse-type facilities. Township officials are trying to balance development that currently leans heavily toward residential.

LETTERS

Teach abstinence

On Wednesday, March 11, I had a 15-minute phone conversation with (Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Superintendent Charles) Little asking why an Oakwood Hospital doctor who presents sex education, health, and abstinence issues to high school students (in an open forum, non-religious manner) was not permitted to be considered for a presentation at Salem High.

We find it especially disturbing as information about the publicized "sexual incident" at Salem came out the same day we were debating this issue with the man who oversees the education of our children.

While we totally agree, the size of PCEP is out of control. I don't think that is the main reason why these kinds of incidents occur. We believe no one is too young or too old to be presented with options that have moral and common sense implications.

When we approached our son's "health ed" teacher at last year's open house about looking into having an infectious disease specialist come to make a presentation to the classes she seemed enthusiastic and asked for his name and number. She later refused, saying: "We decided not to have any special speakers."

At a later date, interestingly enough, our son and his Salem Close Up class were made to sit in, (without prior notice), on a live teleconference with a Colorado school whose agenda was to promote homosexuality and the right for students to consider all forms of sexual experimentation. When we asked for a copy of this broadcast we were told by teachers and administration that no copy was available. The principal, Mr. (Gerald) Ostoin, indicated he was not aware that this particular class had taken place.

It especially outraged us because this class occurred after we had a letter on file requesting our son's exclusion from these types of programs. (We had even received a letter from Mr. Ostoin verifying that this request would be honored by the school and the teachers.) When we went in to ask the teachers and Mr. Ostoin why this happened, we received no apology and were told: "We have to teach students about their civil rights."

What about our civil rights and our son's? Since that time, our son has been permitted to exclude himself from those types of sessions.

Basically, we wonder why school officials

act surprised when "rapes" or any kind of inappropriate sexual conduct occurs at school. After all, many classrooms promote it in their instruction. Yes, Dr. Little, we did first appeal to the classroom teacher to at least give the abstinence side of the story some equal time, but we came to a dead end!

Knowing the principal's apparent slant on the subject of responsible and moral sexual conduct, we next appealed to you. In light of the publicized and non-publicized sexual incidents that occur at the high school, will you, too, ignore the request of concerned parents? Will you still refuse to give character and abstinence instruction a try?

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Carlisle Canton

More to story

I suggest that you get a little more information on this story. ("Student charged in campus rape," Canton Observer, March 15). There's more going on than is being made public. My daughter is a student at Canton High School and the story is that it was not rape. The girl had passed notes saying she and this boy were going to have sex, etc., and that she was willing and pursuing him to have sex.

Also, apparently other students are having sex during the lunch hour in the bathroom across from the stairwell where this happened and the school is aware that this is going on. They are trying to cover this up. I feel that this boy is being mistreated.

Name withheld upon request

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, as do your neighbors. That's why we offer this space on a weekly basis for opinions in your own words. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity, we ask that you sign your letter and provide a contact telephone number.

Letters should be mailed to: Editor, The Canton Observer, 794 South Main Street, Plymouth, 48170 or e-mailed to: tschneider@oe.homecomm.net

Canton Observer

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- Philip Power

Time to move on

At the risk of being foolhardy by joining the debate in the Vorva vs. Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, I offer the following observations.

Even though Jerry Vorva and I differ on many topics politically, I often recall his steadfastness when I needed his support a few years ago. Loyal to a person or cause can be a virtue or stubborn streak depending on one's viewpoint.

Vorva's persistence in challenging the recent school board bond election has long ago passed from a possible voter rights issue to "Let's get even with the educational community" for their perceived anti-Vorva voting record.

While Vorva clearly seems to be winning on the "getting even" level, our schools get more and more crowded. He should find a way to make his point without putting the education of our children in jeopardy.

Further, I protest Vorva's do-gooder attitude that suggests that as I enter the realm of the senior citizen (56 years) I now need assistance in order to perform my civic responsibility of voting.

Frankly, I am sick to death of those who want to give me assistance or a handout just because I've aged. Should the day arrive when I am unable to travel to the voting booth, I still expect to be capable of requesting my own absentee ballot, thank you. Self-reliance is also a virtue for the aged.

The election was held and the votes counted. Vorva would be more credible in his protest if he volunteered his expertise and energy for the next election. Both for voter education and assistance in the voting process and on the issues.

Dennis Bila Plymouth

Vorva responds

I am very pleased that Mayor Dennis Bila has decided to jump into the

fray. By doing so, he has given us one of the best examples of the problem of election manipulation. First, I'm sorry that Bila's recent maturation has caused him some memory loss. Whether it is actual or selective, I will leave to the readers.

Next, I must point out to Bila and others that while he was mayor and commissioner of Plymouth, he voted for numerous budgets and contained moneys for the policy of automatically sending out to seniors absentee ballot request forms. Further, as a candidate, he used the automatic mailing list of seniors for his personal campaign, which was supplied by the city. So, the important question for all of us, it was a great policy for Bila then, why not now?

Well, I'm afraid the answer lies in the fact that Bila has been a lifelong member of the education industry. He and other education people believe that seniors, who are usually on fixed income, will disproportionately vote "No" on issues that concern money.

Therefore, they devise schemes to limit the senior vote turnout. This is called voter suppression by politicians. Now, I must point out, that if candidate Bila were to engage in voter suppression it would be perfectly legal to do so. After all he is a private citizen. However, if a government (a school district is a government) were to engage in voter suppression it would not only be called illegal but unconstitutional!

Now, we can see this for what it really is - illegal, unconstitutional vote manipulation to get our money. Our forefathers called it taxation without representation. I call it stealing! Also we can see what Bila and his cohorts are, hypocrites, and hypocrites of the worst kind, because they always hide behind their mantra "It's for the kids." It's stealing to satisfy their unbridled avarice.

Jerry Vorva Plymouth

Vorva wrong

I am a sophomore at Plymouth Canton High School. I am quite aware

POINTS OF VIEW

of Jerry Vorva's actions, partly because my father was on the school board and my mom is active in the community.

What Vorva is doing is not right. I do not think it is reasonable for one man to go on a crusade that keeps nearly 5,000 kids from getting the space they need to get the best education they can. At my school, I observe fights, people skipping class, and people smoking. Even though the faculty may try hard to keep these everyday occurrences from happening, it is a fact that it is a challenge to monitor a little over 4,700 kids on a campus meant for less than 4,000. But the problems of overcrowding do not stop here. There are teachers who have to go from room to room to teach because there are not enough classrooms for them to have their own room. There are classrooms that are set in rooms that were not even built or a teacher and 30 students.

It seems almost as if a traffic light would be useful in this situation. The fact is that Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem are two schools with more kids than they are meant to hold. This problem was to be assisted by the building of another school on Beck and Joy. This school would provide space to spread out the student population, therefore making a better learning environment. The building of this new school was passed by the people who voted. Now Mr. Vorva seemed to think that the election was fraudulent because some people did not know how to vote on the machines that were present. Well I think that it is not only a person's duty to vote, but it is a person's duty to vote carefully.

If someone was unable to work the voting machine, he or she should have asked someone for help.

This vote was in favor of building the new school. The people made the choice to build a new school. The majority chose to give our communities students a better learning environment. All this, and then one man decides it's fraud. One man decides to take it all the way to the Supreme Court if he has to. Mr. Vorva plans to appeal and appeal, until he gets his

standards for others to follow, not question.

We should all be concerned for the "boss" when his/her actions may not be in the best interests of the company. If the "boss" does not care about his conduct, should other employees be concerned about theirs?

You speak as if integrity is unimportant in running a business. I suggest that when the "boss" stops caring about the integrity of the company, he will have certainly stopped caring about his, or their, future.

That is, unless you just don't care about anyone other than yourself.

Wesley Farrow Plymouth

A different opinion

My wife and I receive the Observer and enjoy the interesting sections on health, real estate, and community issues. In the Sunday issue March 8, I happened to scan the Job & Careers section where George Hayes has a front-page column about jobs, interviewing, resumes and the like. I have a very different opinion about this subject, and Mr. Hayes' views as a consultant, boss and columnist.

The last question in his column referenced the feelings or behavior that one should have about his/her supervisor/manager/boss and their conduct.

The response was, in my opinion, unacceptable.

"Since we are all flawed, nobody has the right to criticize or demand that leaders act with honor." Geez, Mr. Hayes, straighten up and set high

standards for others to follow, not question.

We should all be concerned for the "boss" when his/her actions may not be in the best interests of the company. If the "boss" does not care about his conduct, should other employees be concerned about theirs?

You speak as if integrity is unimportant in running a business. I suggest that when the "boss" stops caring about the integrity of the company, he will have certainly stopped caring about his, or their, future.

That is, unless you just don't care about anyone other than yourself.

M.J. Parkinson Livonia

Don't credit Clinton

For a great many years, neither the Democrats nor the Republicans tried to do anything to put a rein on Medicare spending. Neither dared to try, fearing political suicide.

No serious attempt to reform welfare was made either. In recent months, the Republican-sponsored legislation reforming several of the liberal misadventures has been accomplished.

Too many have given Bill Clinton the credit for the march toward a balanced budget and the push to get people off welfare and put them to work.

Speaking smoothly and also with a forked tongue, one may have trouble guessing the direction the president will take when spurred to action. His moorings still seem to be liberal, big government, restricted enterprise, and suggest, at times, a decided anti-free market inclination. His seeming middle-of-the-road and New Democrat posture has confused many in the populace. How else could one explain his poll popularity during the airing of suggested bathroom, bedroom, and dining room carpet escapades?

Neil Goodbred Livonia

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COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION: What should be done to help the schools out of their financial crunch?

We asked this question at Monday's Summit on School Fund Equit in Canton.

 Peggy Schneider Plymouth	 Debbie Madonna Plymouth	 Barry Mullinx Plymouth	 Matt Heles Canton
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"I think business and industry should get involved in education."

"We need lawmakers to become more pro kids. They need to put kids on the front burner."

"There has to be an increase in funding. I don't mind paying more property taxes."

"I think there needs to be more equality among school districts. We need more state funding."

Driver's ed from page A1

their programs, the Plymouth-Canton schools will continue to offer driver's education, but with a fee.

"We feel it is a public service to our district to continue the program," said Ken Jacobs, assistant principal at Plymouth Canton High School. "We also have studies that show public schools offer a much better program than private firms."

This Saturday, March 28, is registration for students who want to enroll in the district's driver's education program. The

cost will be \$163 at the time of registration.

Jacobs says the state is funding approximately \$70 per student, and the district is kicking in another \$70 per student to keep the enrollment cost down. Last year, more than 700 students participated.

The students will be divided into two sessions. The first is June 15 through July 8, with the second July 13 through Aug. 5. The class consists of 24 hours of classroom work, and six hours behind the wheel.

Successful completion gets the student a learner's permit. After three months of successful driving with a parent, the student will get an additional six hours in the classroom.

Registration is in the Canton High School cafeteria for students who are at least 14 years and 8 months old prior to the first day of class. Any Plymouth-Canton school district resident is eligible for the class by showing proof of residency.

School board petition deadline is April 6

People seeking election to two available seats on the Plymouth-Canton school board in June have until 4 p.m. April 6 to file nominating petitions with the district.

Nominating petitions are now available for any resident of the school district who is registered

to vote. Petition forms are available at the E. J. McClendon Educational Center (administration building) at 454 South Harvey Street in Plymouth.

The petitions must contain a minimum of 20 valid signatures of those who are registered to vote in the Plymouth-Canton

Community School District. The petitions are to be returned to the E.J. McClendon Center. For further information, call the school election office at 416-3095.

Corporate park from page A1

ty. closest to the nature preserve, he said.

"We initiated discussion with the county to buy the property before we were even made aware of the (Holliday Nature Preserve) group," said DiMaggio.

Burton-Katzman last met with Wayne County Parks and Recreation March 13, he said. DiMaggio said a price has yet to be mentioned, although Canton Supervisor Tom Yack estimated 50 acres to cost about \$6 million.

Thomas suggested Burton Katzman donate the property. "Just think of the tax deduction," he said.

The planned boulevard will extend one-third of a mile south from Koppernick almost splitting the property in half. The road ends in a cul-de-sac before reaching Warren and the Tonquish

'We initiated discussion with the county to buy the property before we were even made aware of the (preserve) group.'

Chuck DiMaggio
-Burton Katzman Development

Creek floodplain.

A storm water line will run on the east side of the road skirting along the property the Holliday Nature Preserve Association is attempting to save as parkland. Some of the tree will have to be removed, DiMaggio said.

The water and sanitary sewer

lines will run on the west side of the property. The water line tunnels underneath the Tonquish Creek. A 4.5-acre detention basin will be built to service the entire site.

Canton officials said they would act on a proposal by resident Dave Thomas to develop a task force of township board members, environmental groups and residents to inventory remaining natural areas in Canton.

Trustee Melissa McLaughlin also encouraged residents to call the county parks and recreation department to dedicate a portion of the parks millage for local efforts such as preserving the Koppernick area.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BUILDING/FIRE BOARD OF APPEALS APRIL 2, 1998

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there will be a meeting of the Building/Fire Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Canton on Thursday, April 2, 1998 at 2:00 P.M. The meeting will be held in the lower level #1 Conference Room of the Township Administration Building located at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. The following agenda will be discussed:

Roll Call: Korchak, Pacioeco, Pennington, Scramstad, Acceptance of Agenda

1. Consider request from Pastor Jeff Ledbetter of Cornerstone Baptist Church, 1545 Ridge Road, for a variance to the fire prevention code, Section F500.7, and 500.8, fire hydrant requirements. (Tabled from Feb. 5, 1998, tabled from March 12, 1998)
2. Consider request from Tom Gaines and Randy Czajka of Reliable Landscaping, 8285 Lilley Road, for a variance to the fire prevention code, Section F500.8, fire hydrant requirements.

Approval of March 12, 1998 minutes

Publish: March 26, 1998

LT57965

CANTON TOWNSHIP ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

David Medley
ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton
1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188
(734) 397-5435

Publish: March 12, 19 and 26, 1998

LT57964

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD PROCEEDINGS

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held on Tuesday, March 17, 1998 at 1150 South Canton Center Road. Motion By Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to move from an open session to a closed session at 7:07 P.M., to discuss employee negotiations. Motion carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL - CLOSED SESSION

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Durack, Machnik, Minghine, Santomauro

Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order. Discussion occurred regarding employee negotiations.

Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to return to open session and adjourn the meeting at 9:32 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

The above is a synopsis of actions taken at the Regular Board meeting held on March 17, 1998. The full text of the approved minutes will be available following the next regular meeting of the Board on March 24, 1998.

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

Publish: March 26, 1998

LT57963

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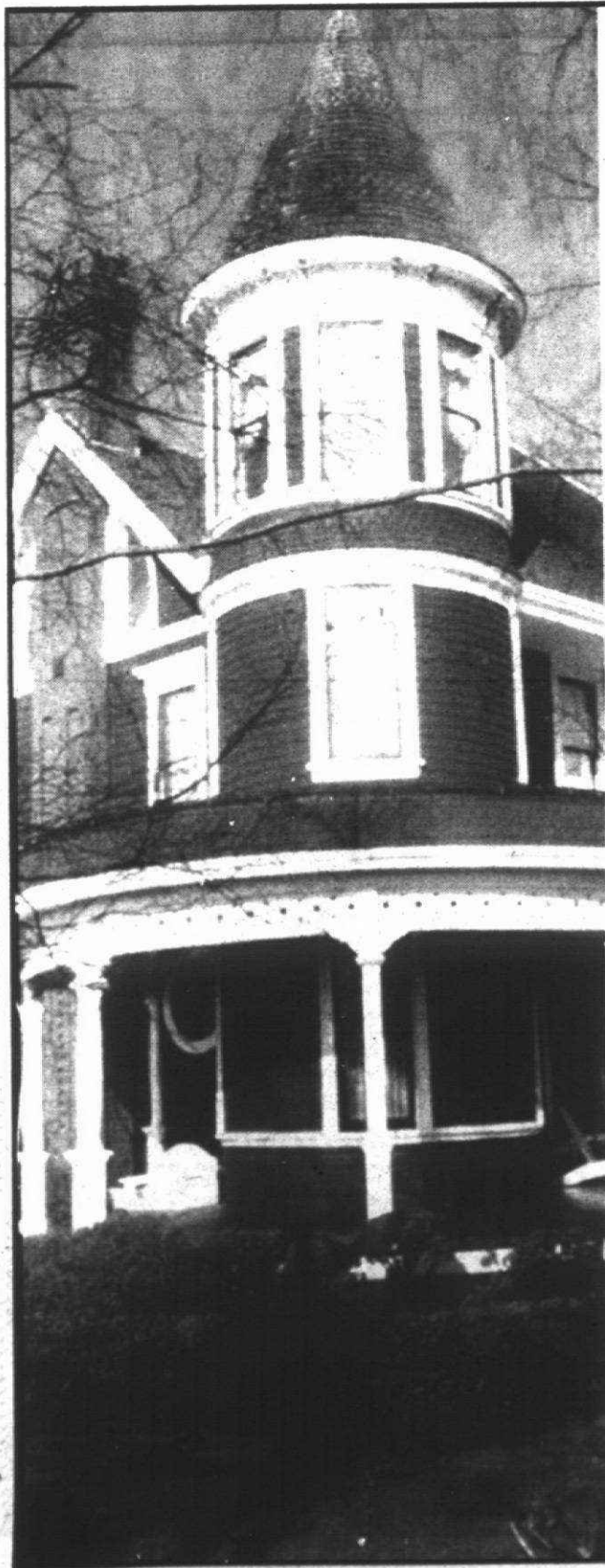
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PARENTING AWARENESS MONTH



LINDA CONNOLLY

What to do about teens, technology

Every family with teenagers has issues with technology. Maybe your 13-year-old son plays Sega for hours after school each day, or your 15-year-old daughter ties up the phone every night after dinner, or your 17-year-old daughter listens to "grunge" tapes on her Walkman headset, which appears to be permanently affixed to her skull when you're anywhere nearby.

How do we, as parents, deal with the challenges of teens and technology? Here are some of the common problems parents face and some helpful suggestions on how best to handle them.

Spending too much time: Instead of cutting off your teen's access to the television, radio, Internet or phone, try negotiating with your teen about how much time each day is rational for both of you. Listen to your teen's reasoning, explain your own, and then reach a compromise.

You may think two 10-minute phone calls are enough, but your teen may have three good friends and lots to share with each of them. A compromised agreement could mean three 15-minute calls a night after homework is completed.

Your family might also set up a "tech-out" day or weekend. Everyone stays clear of the television, computers, radios, stereo and phone for a designated amount of days and, if the entire family is successful, the entire family goes out to dinner or on a trip to Cedar Point.

Have teens come up with the incentives, so they'll be motivated to participate. A "tech-out" weekend reminds all family members about fun, alternative ways to entertain themselves.

Avoiding other activities and/or responsibilities: Most of us are excited about our children's interest in technology and the door technology opens for them. But too much time chatting on the Internet or watching TV can end up being a distraction from homework, household chores, mental and physical exercise, or group socializing.

All technology is addictive in some way, and it's important for you to talk to your teens about resisting their reliance on technology. Let them know that too much of anything, including browsing the Web or gossiping on the phone, can be harmful.

Show teenage children that roaming a museum, mowing the lawn, walking the dog or going out for ice cream with a friend is a healthy break from hours of computer games or afternoon soap operas.

Make sure teens understand that watching television or listening to the radio is an idle activity - one that doesn't promote two-way interaction and often doesn't stimulate their minds or bodies.

Exploring inappropriate content: Parents have a tremendous fear about their children discovering inappropriate material on the Internet or on cable television. Whether or not you choose to install "blocks" on your TV or computer, you still need to talk with teens about what is appropriate for them to view or access and what isn't, and most importantly, why.

Curiosity is normal for teens, but with boundaries established, you can protect teens from repeated exposure to content you feel is inappropriate.

All technology offers benefits, but to what extreme your teenagers get involved is the question. At the core of this issue is developing a level of respect between you and your children. You may not be home after school each day, but if your children have "bought into" and respect your reasoning about technology limitations, you can trust that they'll abide by your guidelines.

Try holding a family meeting when the TV listing arrives to decide together which programs are options to watch for the week. If you are unsure about a television program,

Please see PARENTING, B3

Something simple

American Girls' teas hark back to the basics

Little girls have a penchant for having tea with their dolls and often invite their parents to join them. But it's not make-believe anymore as area businesses invite girls to bring their dolls and their parents to a series of American Girls' teas.

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Kids as young as preschool are learning to use computers. Students in junior high and high schools are communicating via e-mail and playing with Sony PlayStations and Nintendo systems.

Some girls and their parents, however, are looking for something a little more simple.

Mary Denning and Joan Adis, as well as Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, are acknowledging that by hosting events based on the American Girls series of books, dolls and merchandise.

Denning and Adis, who own Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe and Paperbacks 'n' Things, respectively, in Westland, are holding American Girls teas on Sundays during April at the bakery.

"I think a lot of parents and children want to go back to the basics," Denning explained. "The tea is also coming back. People are returning to comfort foods. And they got all these dolls that tickle and laugh. People want to return to the basics."

The teas will be held 2-4 p.m. Sunday, April 5 and 19, and at a time to be determined on Sunday, April 26, at the bakery, 8036 N. Wayne Road (next to Wendy's restaurant) in Westland. Tickets are \$12 for children and \$6 for adults. For more information, call (734) 261-3680 or (734) 522-8018.

The Westland business owners are encouraging girls who attend the tea bring along their favorite doll and even dress up like her.

Upon entering the cake shop, the girls will be photographed with their dolls and take part in craft projects. Fran Chause of Canton is going to help the girls make necklaces.

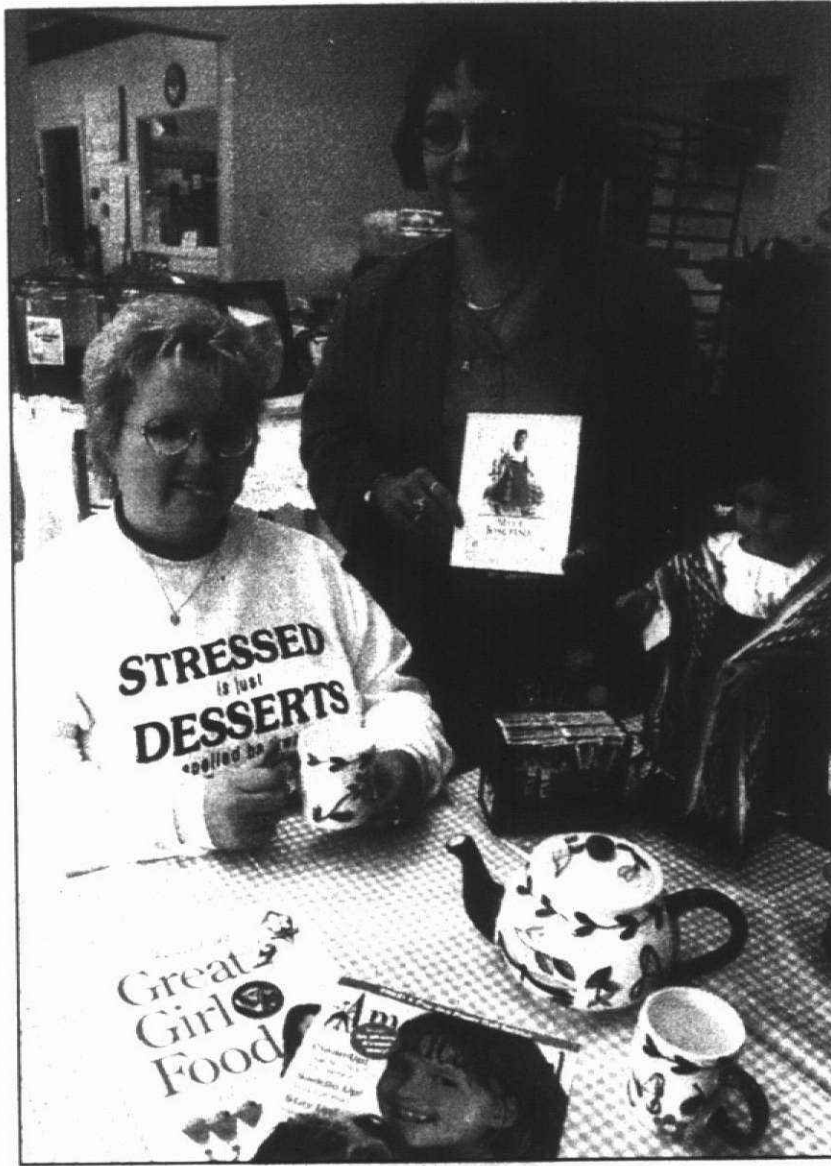
"We're going to have them string beads, and make a Victorian frame to put their pictures in," Denning said. "We're going to serve tea sandwiches, fancy cookies and we'll probably give the girls pink lemonade. They probably won't want tea. We'll save that for the adults."

A Josephina doll, valued at \$125, will be given away as well as many other prizes.

Popular with kids

Adis came up with the idea for the teas after attending one last year.

"American Girls are so popular with the kids. I went to an American Girls'



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGFIELD

Tea time: Mary Denning, owner of Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, and Joan Adis, owner of Paperbacks 'n' Things, are inviting parents and their daughters to bring their American Girls dolls to teas of the same name they will be having at the Westland bakery during April.

tea and I knew I could do one even better. I just love the dolls. The girls dress up like their favorite dolls," Adis said. "We're encouraging girls to bring their dolls. At the tea I went to, some of them brought all their dolls."

The duo is also working on a future event to "keep boys corralled for awhile."

The American Girls Collection was created as part of the Pleasant Company's mission to provide girls with "beautiful books, dolls and pastimes that celebrate the experience of growing up as an American girl," according to the American Girls Web page, <http://www.americangirl.com>.

Besides books and dolls, the Pleasant

Company also offers clothing for children and CD-ROMs. According to The Learning Company, which released the CD-ROMs in conjunction with the Pleasant Company, more than 45 million books and 4 million dolls from the "American Girls: Collection have been sold.

Sales at the privately held company topped more than \$255 million in 1996.

More elaborate events

The events at Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum are a little more elaborate - and expensive. The Dearborn complex is one of six licensed museums to offer an American Girls Museum Program. "Samantha at

Greenfield Village - An American Girls Museum Program" runs April through November.

The two-hour, 45-minute program, based on the 10-year-old character Samantha Parkington, will be offered at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. April 6-10 and 13-17, May 30-31, June 6-7 and 12-16, July 10-21 and 24-28, Aug. 1-11 and 21-25, Sept. 5-6 and 19-20, Oct. 17-18 and Nov. 7-8 and 14-15.

Tickets cost \$40 each and include light refreshments. They can be purchased at the Greenfield Village entrance building or by calling (313) 982-6180. Girls are encouraged to dress up and bring their dolls for this event as well.

"In our program, three of the main characters come to life," said Faith Kerr, special events team leader, at the complex. "The girls get to meet them. We've been able to combine a lot of the good materials out of the Samantha materials and use our sites and our characters to bring our stories alive."

Designed for adults and children ages 7-12, the event has been in the works for about a year, she said.

During the program, girls will be able to experience the sights, sounds and scents of Samantha's time, 1904, and interact with characters from the books, including Uncle Gard and his fiancée, Cornelia. Samantha will not appear.

"When you're designing a program like this, the girls make believe that they are Samantha or one of Samantha's friends. That way the girls really aren't disappointed," Kerr explained.

A visit to Samantha's world begins with a walk through the village to the Foster House to make old-fashioned lemonade from real lemons. Then the girls will get to try on clothes from an old attic trunk with assistance from Cornelia.

The adventure continues with a horse-drawn carriage ride and a trip to Mrs. Cohen's Millinery Shop where they will help Mrs. Cohen design a new hat for Cornelia. The girls also will have the chance to ride in Uncle Gard's Model T.

The program will end with the girls participating in a Suffrage Rally. They will march through the village carrying banners, flags and banging tambourines, all in support of women's right to vote.

Kerr explained that the American Girls program is appealing because it offers a positive message.

"I think that they've managed to take all the good positive things about being a young girl and bring them to life," she said. "It teaches girls about self-esteem. It teaches them about history. They teach them manners. It's an incredible thing for young women."

"I think it's nice to have a positive program for young women and to have a program where adults and girls can do things together."

Sexual assault: Reality clashes with beliefs

"It seems like she did it without knowing what she got into, and that is her fault not his. He can't be blamed for her changing her mind."

"Has she considered the serious accusation she has made, because if she got into a situation she wasn't prepared for, she should be responsible."

"She physically made a choice to go to that location. Nobody held a gun to her head and forced her, did they?"

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

She is a 15-year-old student at Plymouth Canton High School. The he is her 17-year-old classmate and neighbor who has been charged with third-degree criminal sexual conduct in connection with an alleged rape that took place under a stairwell at Plymouth Canton High School.

The quotes are from a Plymouth Salem High School senior. The sentiments reflect old beliefs that people have about sexual assault... beliefs like the victim asked for it by the way she dressed or where she went, that she teased or led the man on, was under the influence of drugs or alcohol or drugs or went to a certain point that she had to finish.

"Attitudes are not easily changed," said Ilene Zisk, a sexual assault awareness specialist at First Step. "Blaming the victim helps keep people safe in their own minds. If they can point to the reason why it happened and find fault, it helps them keep their image of living in a safe world and that it can't happen to them."

Penetration OR Contact PLUS Circumstances EQUALS Degree of CSC ▶ Maximum sentences

- Sexual intercourse
- Anal intercourse
- Cunnilingus
- Fellatio
- Object (anal)
- Object (genital)

- Groin
- Genital area
- Inner thigh
- Buttock
- Breast

- 1) Victim under the age of 13.
- 2) Victim is 13, 14 or 15 and Assailant is a member of the household.
- 3) Victim is 13, 14 or 15 and Assailant is in a position of authority.
- 4) Victim is 13, 14 or 15 and Assailant is related by blood or affinity.
- 5) Another felony is committed.
- 6) Multiple assailants and victim is known to be incapacitated.
- 7) Multiple assailants and force is used.
- 8) Assailant is using a weapon.
- 9) Assailant causes personal injury and force is used.
- 10) Assailant causes personal injury and victim is incapacitated.
- 11) Victim is 13, 14 or 15.
- 12) Victim is incapacitated.
- 13) Force is used.

- 1st Degree (felony) Penetration plus any one of circumstances 1-10
- 2nd Degree (felony) Contact plus any one of circumstances 1-10
- 3rd Degree (felony) Penetration plus any one of circumstances 11, 12 or 13
- 4th Degree (high misdemeanor) Contact plus any one of circumstances 11, 12, 13

- 1st Degree = Up to life
- 2nd Degree = Up to 15 years
- 3rd Degree = Up to 15 years
- 4th Degree = 2 years or \$500 fine or both

In addition:

- If a person is convicted for a second offense of 1st, 2nd or 3rd degree CSC, there is a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years (this includes convictions in other states).
- Assault with intent to commit CSC involving penetration is a felony with a maximum of 10 years.
- Assault with intent to commit CSC involving contact is a felony with a maximum of 5 years.

Criminal Sexual Conduct (CSC) Act

Adapted by Mary Jane Hood for First Step, 3/97

The fact is sexual assault can happen to anyone, anywhere and nothing a person can do can make himself or herself 100 percent safe from the possibility of being raped.

According to National Coalition Against Sexual Assault, one in three women will be raped during her lifetime and one in seven rape victims will be male.

The victims ranging in age from 2 months to 97 years, and an estimated 60-80 percent of all rape is date or acquaintance rape. And a woman's risk

of being raped by someone she knows is four times greater than being raped by a stranger. Typically, a rapist is someone she knows and trusts.

"Sexual assaults aren't random; they're not like that image of a guy jumping out of the bushes," Zisk said. "Most are planned, most are in a familiar setting, and most victims know their attackers."

"Ninety-nine percent of the perpetrators are male. Most are heterosexual men with wives and girlfriends."

Zisk helps provide services to the

sexually assaulted and does community education on sexual assault, specifically with adults, but has a difficult time finding adults groups who want to hear about the trauma of acquaintance rape, reducing the risk or what to do when someone you know is raped.

A "huge mailing" sent to churches, schools, parent groups, business and women's organizations drew some response, but not as many as hoped for. But when events, such as the assault at the high school happen, people start

Please see ASSAULT, B3

Parenting from page B1

watch it with your teens first. "Always talk to your teen about the messages certain programs and commercials send. Many shows and ads display stereotyping, quick-fix solutions, or varying degrees of sexuality and violence; it's important that we teach children to observe those characteristics and their implications."

Encourage your children to realize that television is drama and doesn't always portray realistic situations.

Regarding the Internet, try setting up a contract with your teenagers about what sites and chat rooms can and can't be visited. Negotiate fairly with chil-

dren, and although they may not agree with all your decisions, explain your reasoning. Be sure to outline the consequences for breaking the contract - bypassing boundaries on the Web may mean no computer access for a month. Talking to your children about appropriate and inappropriate content also helps when you're not around to monitor them. At a friend's house, teens may be exposed to more than you would allow, but if you have discussed openly why certain content is unacceptable, teens will at least explore the content with a wiser perspective. **Finding private, unmoni-**

tored space: Teenagers want their privacy, and as parents, it's important that we understand and respect that need. At the same time, we should address our own need to monitor our teen's time and selection in regard to technology. Whenever possible, centrally locate technology, so that you can observe what your teen is watching or accessing. The family room is a great spot for the family computer, and the kitchen is a good spot for the television. Cellular phones and televisions in teen bedrooms may promote too much isolation. **Scattering throughout the**

house: As children grow older "scattering" is bound to take place, and technology just adds to the challenge. If your young son is always playing a video game on the family room TV, your teen daughter is always listening to the radio in her bedroom, and your teen son is always searching the Internet for information on his favorite band, your family unity can become frail. While children do "need their own space," scattering too often becomes the norm, especially in homes where technological knowledge and interest is high. Make a concerted effort to do activities together as a family.

This is a challenge when picky teens thumb their noses at your ideas, so get them involved in activity selection. Maybe the family has a board game night, eats meals together, or hikes weekly at a nature preserve. While it is up to you, the parent, to create guidelines for teens and technology, always ask teens to help contribute to decision-making and learn about your reasoning. Try to engage your children in selecting alternative activities, so that they don't always turn to the radio, television or computer games when bored. But most importantly, work every day to build respect between you and your teens. **Mutual respect leads to trust and faith that the family will hold true to agreed upon rules for technology.... and for all other aspects of family life!**

Assault from page B1

asking questions. "Their belief is that they are good people and they don't display such risky behavior, but whenever there's an event like this, it puts them off-balance and makes them more open to hear about sexual assault," Zisk said. "Sexual assault is the most underreported crime. One in 10 attacks go unreported. In many instances, the victims blame themselves. They wonder what they could have done dif-

ferently or what they did wrong, especially if the attacker is an acquaintance, according to Zisk. Often, they will tell someone about the crime who doesn't believe them. "Rape is a humiliating crime and the victim may have to tell what happened three-four times in a few hours, and in telling it and being asked questions, it's liked being raped all over again," said Karen Porter, First Step's associate director. "The key

thing is the response when it is disclosed. "I went out on my first assault intervention 18 years ago and I see a vast difference between the response then and now. Things are done in a caring way now. You hear the police officers, the doctors say, 'I know it was difficult for you to come forward.'" For victims, First Step offers a 24-hour telephone help line - (734) 459-5900 or 888-453-4900 - adult response advocates, trained staff and volunteers who accompany survivors to police stations, hospitals and other safe places 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, counseling and referrals. One issue Zisk focuses on is understanding "that no means no not yes." And for good reason. The State of Michigan has one of the strongest criminal sexual assault laws in the country which in part, states that any kind of unwanted contact not

agreed upon can be construed as criminal sexual conduct. The law's "mathematics" is penetration (the type of intercourse) or contact (areas of the body) plus the circumstances (victim's age, use of force, use of a weapon, etc.) equals criminal sexual conduct in either the first through fourth degree (first through third degrees are felonies, while fourth degree is a high misdemeanor). "If she's not said yes to something, it's sexual assault," said Zisk. "It's any unwanted contact, and kids don't know that. They don't have any idea. That's where education is so important. "Boys need to know that no means no not yes. Yes, we need to educate girls, but also the boys because they are the only ones that can stop this."

But saying no crashes head on into the high value teenage girls place on having boyfriends or having boys like them. "There's a belief that if they don't go along, no boys are going to like them," Zisk said. "Kids are making decisions that affect their lives with limited information. If they have sex with someone drunk, drugged or incapacitated - that is rape." And with the date rape drugs, the problem is even bigger. Rape involving a date rape drug can result in prosecution for sexual assault as well as on a felony drug charge, Zisk said. Those drugs include Rohypnol, known as Roofies, which medically is used as a sedative for surgical patients, Ketamine, or Special K, an animal tranquilizer, and GHB, the most dangerous of all because it attacks the central nervous system. It's "most alarming" because of the potential damage it can do in addition to the assault, Zisk

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Saturday, April 4 7:00 PM
Sunday, April 5 4:00 PM

CRAFTS CALENDAR

- LIVONIA STEVENSON**
The Livonia Stevenson High School Booster Club's Spring Spectacular craft show will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 28 at the school, 33500 W. Six Mile Road. For more information, call (734) 464-1041 or (248) 478-2395.
- CLARENCEVILLE**
The Athletic Booster Club of Clarenceville High School will have "A Touch of Spring" craft boutique 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 28 at the school, 20155 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. There will be more than 150 crafters, raffle, and snack bar. No strollers will be permitted, and babysitting will be available. Admission will be \$2.
- FINNWEAVERS**
The Finnweavers of the Finnish Center Association will have an arts and crafts fair 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 28 at the Finnish Cultural Center, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills. Free admission and food will be available. For more information, call (248) 546-6527.
- MADONNA UNIVERSITY**
Madonna University will have its 13th annual spring arts and crafts showcase 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 28 in the Activities Center on campus, Schoolcraft and Levan, Livonia. There will be a bake sale and raffle, and the Easter bunny will be there noon to 2 p.m. Admission will be \$2 for adults and children under age 12 free. For more information, call the university at (734) 432-5603.

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We'd like to take a moment to explain how all this is possible through the Broadband wire you may already have installed in your home. This wire is part of MediaOne's Interactive Broadband Network, a network that can connect you to the world. It will have the capacity to deliver any video, Internet and telephone service you may need now or in the future. So this way you can grocery shop online without having to wait in line. You can get a movie without trekking to the video store (or racking up late fees). You can attend a meeting in Budapest without a boarding pass. You can spend as much time navigating the world from your lounge chair as your little heart desires. It's good to be king. Or queen.

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This is Broadband. This is the way.

Powers-Lyon

R. Southwick Powers and Gillian E. Lyon were married Oct. 3 in Seattle, Wash., while on leave from Guinea on the east coast of Africa. The bride is the daughter of Ken and Lynn Lyon, formerly of Plymouth Township. The bride is a 1984 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and 1990 graduate of Western Washington University. She was a Peace Corps volunteer in Mauritania in northeast Africa for two years. She is employed as an administrative assistant for U.S. Aid in Conkry, Guinea. The groom is from Holidaysburg, Pa. He is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University with a bachelor of arts degree and Harvard University with a master's degree. He is director of the Peace Corps Education program for Guinea.



Wash., and the groom's sister Pamela Deis and husband Jeff of Boulder, Colo. The couple are moving to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in April.

Cyr-Bailey

Sheryl Ann Bailey and James Michael Cyr were married Dec. 27 at First United Methodist Church of Ann Arbor by the Rev. David Eardley. The bride is the daughter of Richard and Eleanor Bailey of Dexter. The groom is the son of James O. and Elaine Cyr of Livonia. The bride is a Michigan State University graduate. She is employed as a medical technologist at University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. The groom is a graduate of Schoolcraft College. He is employed as an administrative assistant at the University of Michigan College of Engineering.

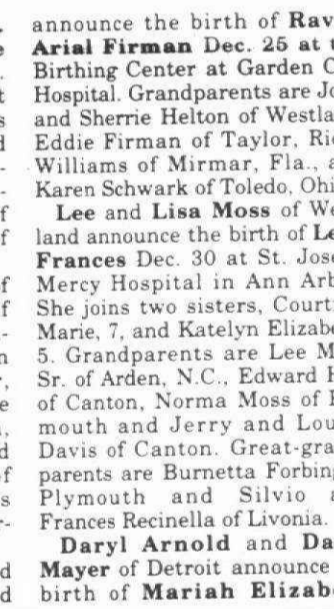


Laurea Giuffrida, Barbara Lind, Diana Bailey, Kati Bailey and Kristen Giuffrida served as the bride's attendants. John Mueckler, Mark Giuffrida, Allen Cyr, Michael Cyr Sr. and Michael Cyr Jr. were the groom's attendants.

Children's Directory '98

Children have many special needs...and because parents don't always have a lot of time, the Observer & Eccentric has created this unique directory to make life just a little easier. For more information about advertising call Nan at: 313-953-2099

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WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Zaborsky-Gulli

Robert and Carolyn Zaborsky of Ann Arbor, formerly of Plymouth, announce the engagement of their daughter, Lisa Ann, to Joseph R. Gulli, the son of Giuseppe and Beverly Gulli of Livonia. The bride-to-be is a 1992 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and a 1996 graduate of Miami University with a bachelor of science degree in business administration. She is employed by Masco Corp. Her fiancé is a 1989 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 1993 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor of business administration degree. He also is employed at Masco Corporation. A September wedding is



planned at First Baptist Church of Plymouth.

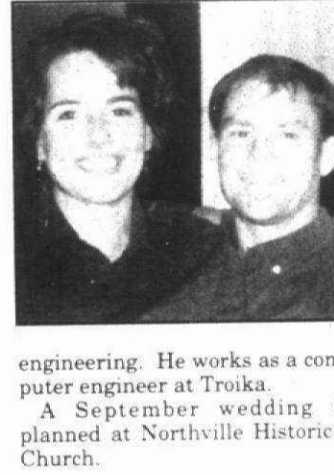
Gonzales-Sinnott

Marciano and Belen Gonzales of Plymouth of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Maria Sirkint, to Richard David Sinnott, the son of Mary Blessing of Brownstown. The bride-to-be is a 1989 Plymouth-Salem High School graduate. She is a registered nurse at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Her fiancé is a 1985 Taylor Center High School graduate. He is a real estate agent at Remerica Hometown in Plymouth. A May wedding is planned at St. Thomas a' Becket Church.



Marquard-Terrell

Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Marquard of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristine Elizabeth, to William C. Terrell of Thousand Oaks, Calif., the son of the late William Thomas and Sally Terrell. The bride-to-be is a graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor of science in biochemistry. She works in the biochemical research department for Amgen in Thousand Oaks, Calif. Her fiancé is a graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology with a degree in electrical



engineering. He works as a computer engineer at Troika. A September wedding is planned at Northville Historical Church.

Kravez-Doran

Bill and Chris Kravez announce the engagement of their daughter, Tracy Jeanette, to Philip Doran, the son of Mary Franklin. The bride-to-be will complete work on a bachelor of education degree in April at Eastern Michigan University. She is working as a substitute teacher in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools. Her fiancé is a student business at Eastern Michigan University. He is employed at the Society of Manufacturing Engineers in Dearborn. A May wedding is planned at St. Thomas a' Becket Church in Canton.



Matthews-Peal

Melissa Matthews of Ann Arbor and Wayne Peal of Bloomfield Hills have announced their engagement. The bride-to-be is the daughter of John Edward Matthews of Redford and the late Betty Jean Matthews. She is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University and is an advertising representative for the Ann Arbor Observer. Her fiancé is the son of Clayton and Patricia Peal of Fairfield, Tenn., and the late Jean Peal. He is a graduate of Michigan State University. He is the editor of the Southfield Eccentric.



York-Stelovich

Tom and MaryGrace York of Northville announce the engagement of their daughter, Molly, to Thomas Allan Stelovich, the son of Frank and Jean Stelovich of Everett, Wash. The bride-to-be is a 1989 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 1993 graduate of Arizona State University where she majored in finance. She is employed as a business development specialist with Eagle Insurance Group in Seattle, Wash. Her fiancé is a 1986 graduate of Everett High School and a 1995 graduate of Arizona State University where he majored in purchasing and logistics. He is



employed as a purchasing agent by Allied Signal in Redmond, Wash. A summer wedding is planned.

NEW VOICES

- Arnold Dec. 26** at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. She joins a sister, Jasmine, 3. Grandparents are Rex and Gail Bird of Westland, Gerry and Debbie Mayer of Redford and Joseph Arnold and Elizabeth Arnold of Detroit.
- Dominic Smith and Marcia Rockwood Smith** of Royal Oak announce the birth of **Abigail Christine** Feb. 15 at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. Grandparents are Les and Beverly Rockwood of Plymouth and Melvyn and Mary Smith of Hurriance, W.Va. Great-grandparents are Dennis and Ida Basinski of Marine City, Mich. Irene Wike of Ypsilanti, Ann Convey of Dowra, Ireland, and Anne Smith of Swansea, Wales.
- Christopher and Mary Kay DeBrito** of Canton announce the birth of **Marianne Christine** Jan. 28 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. She joins a sister, Renae Marie, 18 months. Grandparents are Mary and Syl Noetzel of Canton and Marcia and Joe DeBrito of Monroe. Great-grandparents are Sylvester A. Noetzel of Livonia.
- Christian and Laurine Mura** of Redford Township announce the birth of **Nicholas Giovanni** Dec. 27 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins a sister, Allison Catherine, 4. Grandparents are Dennis and Lorraine Daly of Royal Oak and Eduardo and Victoria Mura of Valparaiso, Chile. Jeffrey and Jean Troop of Garden City announce the birth of **Joshua Michael** Feb. 16 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. Grandparents are Roger and Susan Brittain of Lincoln Park, Janice Troop of Westland and Melvin Troop of Ocell, Fla. Great-grandparents are Helen Smedo of Santa Maria, Calif. Iona Brittain of Gaylord and William Barnett of Clearwater, Fla.

'98 Camp Corner Directory

New Morning School
Discovery Days
Science & Math Camps
July 6-August 7 • Ages 3-11
734/420-3331

Northville Montessori Center
Summer Day Camp
15709 Haggerty Road
(between 12 & 18th)
734-430-0924
248-348-8093 • Extended Hours Available

Computer Camp
Michigan-MIT-Stanford
American Computer Experience
Coed ages 7-16 • Day & overnight camps
Programming in Basic, C, C++
Beginners to advanced
Network games & Sports
Web Design-HTML, Java
Weekly sessions
1-800-FUN-4ACE
www.computercamp.com
ace@computercamp.com

Job Opportunities
Attention Book Lovers!
Start the New Year with your own home-based business. Doring Kinderley, award-winning publisher of educational books and CD-ROMs for children and adults has expanded. Part or full-time opportunity. Flexible hours. Be your own boss. Call Cindy @ 248/478-1760 or Email cindy@book.com

Introduce child to a new friend this summer.
NCCS Camp Newaygo
Ages 3-14
810-924-0611

ROCHESTER HILLS STABLES
Summer Day Camp
The English riding lessons don't stop on care of horses
Home show on the last day of camp
3 Two-Week Sessions
June-August 9:00-3:30 p.m.
For more information & brochures
(810) 752-9520 / (810) 752-6020
Ask about early registration discount.

Camp Henry
Kimball Lake
Newaygo, MI
over 60 years of Christian Camping
Art Camp
Backpacking
Christmas Week
Cub Scout
Counselor-in-Training
Ecology Camp
Foster Camp
Horse Camp
Rock Climbing Camp
Swimming Camp
Team Challenge Camp
Waterfall Camp

Livonia Family YMCA
Day Camp
10 Weeks
June 15 - August 21
Ages 3-14
(734) 261-2161 FUN! SAFE!

NORTH STAR ACADEMY
Summer Day Camp
For Students Entering 1st-8th Grades with Learning Disabilities and/or Attention Disorders
June 29, 1998 through July 24, 1998
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(248) 557-8393

CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND CANTON

WEEKEND

Steppingstone, an independent, nonprofit elementary and middle school for the gifted, will hold its **Fifth Annual Benefit Auction** from 7 p.m. to midnight Saturday, March 28, at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, Livonia. Proceeds from the fund-raiser enable the school to provide financial aid and technological development of its programs to students. This year's theme is "Carnival" and features a festive array of auction items and door prizes, live music and entertainment. In addition, special guest and honorary chairman is Mary Conway, WXYZ-TV news reporter. Tickets are \$20 and can be ordered from Steppingstone. Price includes continuous international hors d'oeuvres with cash bar and bottle of wine for reserved tables of 10. All are invited. For more information, call (248) 473-1808.

Keller & Stein presents a **"Let's Create an Herbal Vinegar"** workshop at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at 42158 Michigan Ave., Canton, with guest speaker Judy Laban of Herb Depot, Dundee, Mich. Come and learn how easy it is to make your own herbal vinegars and how to enjoy them in your cooking. There is a \$10 fee, which includes all materials and your finished product. For reservations, call (734) 397-0800.

Yankee Air Force Museum presents its 17th anniversary Spring Fest Dinner Dance at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at the UAW Local 725, 48055 Michigan Ave., Canton. Cost is \$30 per person. Doors open at 6 p.m. Proceeds go toward the new building fund. For tickets or for more information, call YAF Hangar at (313) 452-6880.

Vegas Night at The Plymouth-Canton Jaycees will host a Vegas Night 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, March 28, at 41700 E. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Admission is free. There will be a cash bar, craps, blackjack, roulette and much more fun. All proceeds go to the Plymouth-Canton Jaycees general fund. For more information, call (734) 761-8469.

The Iglesia Ni Cristo (Church of Christ) is extending an invitation at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at the chapel located at 41390 Fire Mile, Plymouth Township, for the grand evangelical mission. The event includes a video presentation, short program, and refreshment. For more information, call (313) 453-7096.

Dance Collection Dance Ensemble West of Plymouth will present "Dance Collection 1998" at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 4, at the Plymouth-Canton High School Little Theater. The concert is an annual presentation of ballet and modern dance works. Admission is \$9.

Polish National Alliance Centennial Dancers of Plymouth presents its 18th annual "Extravaganza "Dance Recital" at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at Clarenceville High School, on Middlebelt between Seven Mile and Eight Mile in Livonia, featuring the Polish Centennial Dancers and the Radomianie Polish Folk Dance Ensemble. The

Emil Zapalski Band will play for dancing and listening pleasure. An afterglow will follow in the school cafeteria. Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$7 at the door. For more information, call (734) 453-7161.

AROUND TOWN

Kindergarten registration for the 1998-99 school year will be held in all elementary schools the week of March 23. Children are eligible to attend kindergarten if they will be 5 years old on or before Dec. 1. While registration can be made anytime during the year, parents are urged to register their children during this period in order to permit adequate planning for fall kindergarten classes. For more information, call Ginny Murdoch at 416-4842.

FALL FESTIVAL BOARD The Plymouth Fall Festival Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, at the Plymouth Township Hall Annex (formerly Friendly's). All organizations who are considering participating in the 1998 Fall Festival should send a representative to this meeting. 1998 applications will be available at this time. For more information, call Curt Lamar at (734) 453-7820.

The VFV Post No. 6695 and the Auxiliary presents the fifth Tuesday town meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 31, at the VFV No. 6695 Hall, 1426 S. Mill St., Plymouth. Guest speaker will be Kathleen Keen McCarthy, supervisor of Plymouth Township. She will discuss taxes and township problems. This event is open to the public. For more information, call Ann Smith at 453-1529.

Red Wing Alumni Association Hockey Club presents its 10th annual benefit game against Law Auto Sales Senior Hockey team at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 27, at the Wayne Ice Arena located on Howe, at the corner of Annapolis Road, Wayne. Auction of Red Wing memorabilia and other merchandise will be held between periods. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan. All tickets are \$3. A family pass (two adults and up to four children) is available for \$10. Tickets are available at the Wayne Ice Arena or by calling (734) 722-5200.

Local Rotary Clubs are currently accepting applications from students in the community and surrounding areas who are interested in spending a year overseas with Rotary International's Youth Exchange Program during the 1999-2000 school year. Participants must be between the ages of 16 and 18 when they depart and at that time may be current students or immediate graduates of high school. If you would like more information on Rotary Youth Exchange, call Dawn Rossi at (734) 420-4171.

Canton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring its Annual Easter Marshmallow Drop at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 11, at Heritage Park. Canton youngsters ages 10 and under will be divided into age groups for the exciting helicopter marshmallow drop. Children will have the opportunity to retrieve marshmallows in exchange for good-

Lock 'em up



Cancer Society fund-raiser: The American Cancer Society is holding its 13th Annual Great American Lock Up event through Friday at nine local jail site locations throughout Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. For just \$25, you can have someone "arrested" by calling the Lock Up hotline at 1-800-543-JAIL. You can put someone behind bars until they collect enough pledge money to make "bail." The society will send uniformed police officers to pick up your requested prisoner. A "judge" will determine guilt or innocence and impose the pledge sentence.

School is having open enrollment for preschool through grade 12 at 24425 Hass, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call the school office at (313) 565-9800 or the preschool at (313) 565-9873.

Garfield Cooperative Preschool is having open enrollment for children 18 months to 5 years old. Registration is located at Cass Elementary School, 34633 Munger, south of Six Mile and east of Wayne. For more information, call (734) 462-0135.

The Livonia League of Women Voters is working to make this year's April book sale another successful fund-raising event. New batches of used books are always needed. Hardcover and paperback books in different categories of nonfiction and fiction for all ages are received. The public is encouraged to donate used books by calling (734) 421-4420 or (734) 427-0222. For more information, call Esther Friedrichs at 427-0222 or Marge Gade at 261-3191.

The Gamma Gamma Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is offering college scholarships to Canton or Salem graduating seniors majoring in education. The scholarships provide financial assistance, promoting the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. Funds are the result of community participation in the annual fall craft fair held at West Middle School. Applications are available at both high school counseling offices or at Hoben Elementary School, 44680 Saltz Road, Canton.

Fox Hills presents breakfast with the Easter Bunny 9-11 a.m. Saturday, April 4 and 11, at 8768 N. Territorial, Salem Township. There will be a beautiful breakfast buffet with fresh fruit, breakfast pastries, cold cereals, scrambled eggs, bacon and sausage, waffles, hot chocolate and fresh fruit juices. There will be crafts, games, story time and prizes, too. Then between 10 and 10:30 a.m., colorful eggs will be dropped from an airplane, and after landing, there'll be an Easter egg hunt. Price is \$10.50 per person. No charge for children under 2. Reservations are from 9-11 a.m. For more information, or for a reservation, call (734) 453-7272.

Summit on the Park Senior Center is offering task counseling for seniors. This service is offered every Tuesday through April 14 in the Parkview Room. Appointments are necessary for counseling, and will be taken for morning or afternoon times. Arrangements can be made for those who are home-

Summit on the Park Senior Center is offering task counseling for seniors. This service is offered every Tuesday through April 14 in the Parkview Room. Appointments are necessary for counseling, and will be taken for morning or afternoon times. Arrangements can be made for those who are home-

Learning Enhancement Program helps people of all ages with visual, hearing, fine and gross motor skills. Working on concentration, motivation, comprehension and memory, and simultaneous and sequential processing. Using all types of materials from basal readers to library books, speech machines, the tape recorder and computer.

Private counseling is provided. For more information, call Joel Marwil at (248) 476-8741.

One free hour for parents or families to empower, counsel, resources and support for crisis situations, medical needs or ongoing issues. Call for an appointment, 981-3039.

The Compassionate Friends support group meets at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month at St. Timothy's Presbyterian Church on Newburgh. Open to all parents whose children have died. Bereaved parents only. For more information, call (734) 462-2774.

The HIV/AIDS Resource Center (HARC) offers free walk-in testing at a variety of locations throughout Washtenaw, Livingston and other counties. Call (313) 572-8355.

Call Life Care Ministries at (313) 427-LIFE 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Confidential. No charge.

Joel's Group is a group for the learning disabled and the educable mentally impaired that is looking for members. The group meets for social and educational activities Saturday nights. Call Joel Marwil at (248) 476-8741.

MDDA (Manic Depressive-Depressive Association) holds its meeting 2-4 p.m. the second and fourth Sundays of the month at Oakwood-Canton Health Center Community meeting room. For more information, call Nancy at (734) 455-8598.

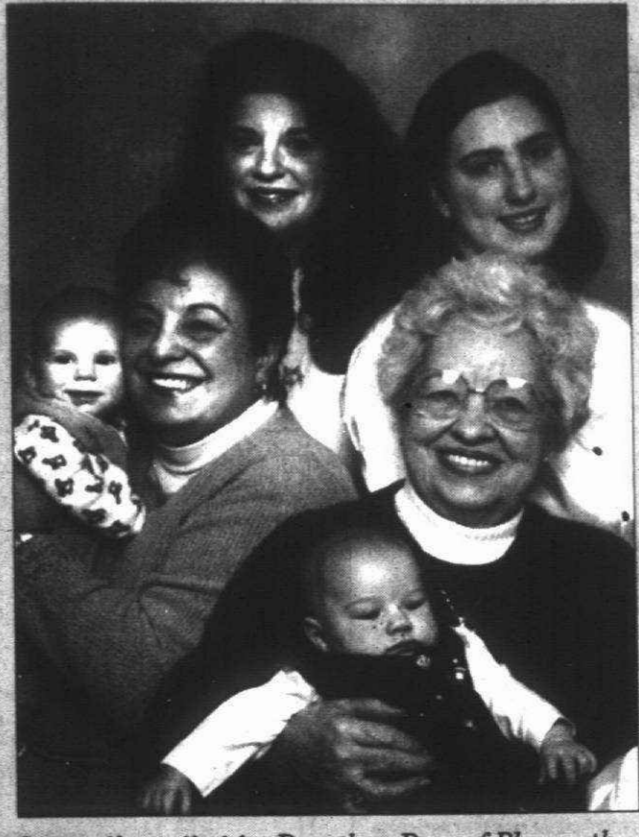
Suburban West presents a consumer-run drop-in center open to persons with psychiatric disabilities (18 years and older) who want to meet new people. The program is open from 4:30-8 p.m. Monday-Friday and 12:30-9 p.m. Saturdays. For information, call before 4:30 p.m. at (734) 425-3777. The club is located at 27595 Schoolcraft, Building Three, Livonia.

Community Hospice Community Hospice & Home Care Services, Inc. (CHCS) invites adults who have experienced the loss of someone significant in their lives to participate in the Adult Grief Support Group. The group meets the third Monday of every month from 6:30-8 p.m. at CHCS Westland office, 32932 Warren Road, Suite 100, northwest corner of Warren and Venoy. To register for the support group, contact Becky Rouse, bereavement coordinator, at (734) 522-4244.

A.I.M. A non-profit self-help support group for those suffering with anxiety, panic, fear, phobias and depression, meets at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, Livonia. For further information, call (248) 547-0400.

Volunteer Drivers Volunteer drivers are needed to transport area residents to meetings of the Western Wayne Parkinson's Disease Support Group. Meetings are 7-9 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Livonia Senior Center.

And then there were 5 ...



Generations, that is: Dorothea Ross of Plymouth (bottom, right) holds young Justine Cripps who represents a fifth generation of the Ross family. Joining in a family photo were Justine's mother, Karyn Cripps (top, right), her mother Jacqueline Ross (top, left) and grandmother Janet Newman (bottom, left), holding her newest grandson, Dennis Ross, born just three weeks before Justine.

Scout badge program set

St. Mary Hospital in collaboration with Madonna University will offer the "Be Your Best" merit badge program for Brownies and Girl Scouts Saturday, March 28. Participants will learn more about health and fitness and earn a merit badge during the program slated for 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the university, Schoolcraft and Levan, Livonia. Enrollment is limited, and pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, call (734) 655-8940 or 1-800-494-1650.

Award honors child, elder care providers

Gov. John Engler is seeking nominations for the first Governor's Quality Care Awards for excellence in care for Michigan's most vulnerable citizens - children, elderly and those with special needs.

The event is sponsored in conjunction with the Department of Consumer and Industry Services, which licenses child and adult day care facilities, nursing homes, long-term medical care facilities and statewide providers of these vital services.

The awards will recognize outstanding care facilities and caregivers whose standard of care is above and beyond the ordinary. "I am looking for those programs, people and places that go the extra mile to enhance the quality of life for our most vulnerable citizens," the governor said.

Criteria for the awards were developed in cooperation with leading Michigan child care and long-term care providers and advocates who have been active in efforts to promote and encourage the highest standards of professionalism in Michigan's child care centers, programs for individuals with special needs, nursing homes, adult foster care, homes for the aged and other care and service networks.

"We want to showcase those statewide facilities and caregivers that emphasize quality care - whether for kids in a day care center or our elderly par-

ents, relatives or friends in long-term care," said CIS Director Kathleen M. Wilbur. Nominations are sought from families, nursing home residents, parents or caregiver peers across the state who have experienced or witnessed the unique brand of care that enriches the spirit.

Arbor Hospice will offer a seven-week support and educational group for parents who have lost an adult child, beginning April 2.

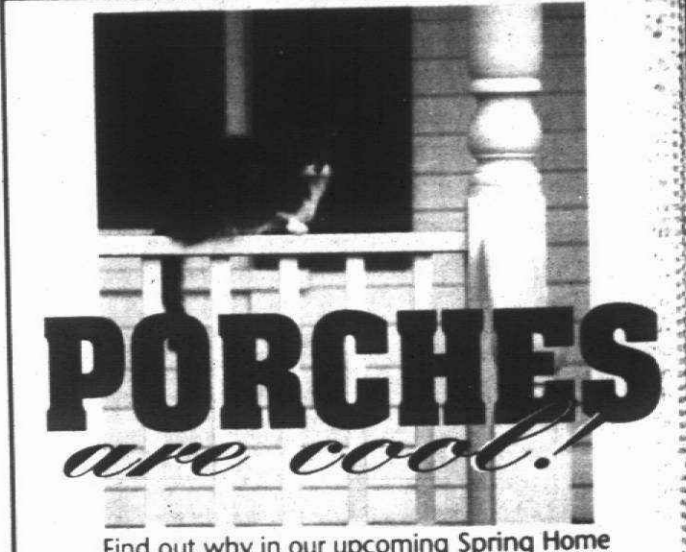
The group is open to any parent who has experienced the death of an adult child regardless of whether the loss occurred recently or many years ago. It will meet 4-5:30 p.m. Thursdays at Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Dr., Ann Arbor. A minimal donation is requested. For more information or to register, call Pat Bauer at (734) 662-5999.

In April, the Month of the Young Child, and the awards will be presented in May to coincide with nationwide senior citizen activities. Nomination forms are available from the Department of Consumer and Industry Services by contacting award coordinator Nancy Dixon at (517) 241-9219 or at nancy.dixon@state.mi.us.

Hospice offers support group

Arbor Hospice will offer a seven-week support and educational group for parents who have lost an adult child, beginning April 2.

The group is open to any parent who has experienced the death of an adult child regardless of whether the loss occurred recently or many years ago. It will meet 4-5:30 p.m. Thursdays at Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Dr., Ann Arbor. A minimal donation is requested. For more information or to register, call Pat Bauer at (734) 662-5999.



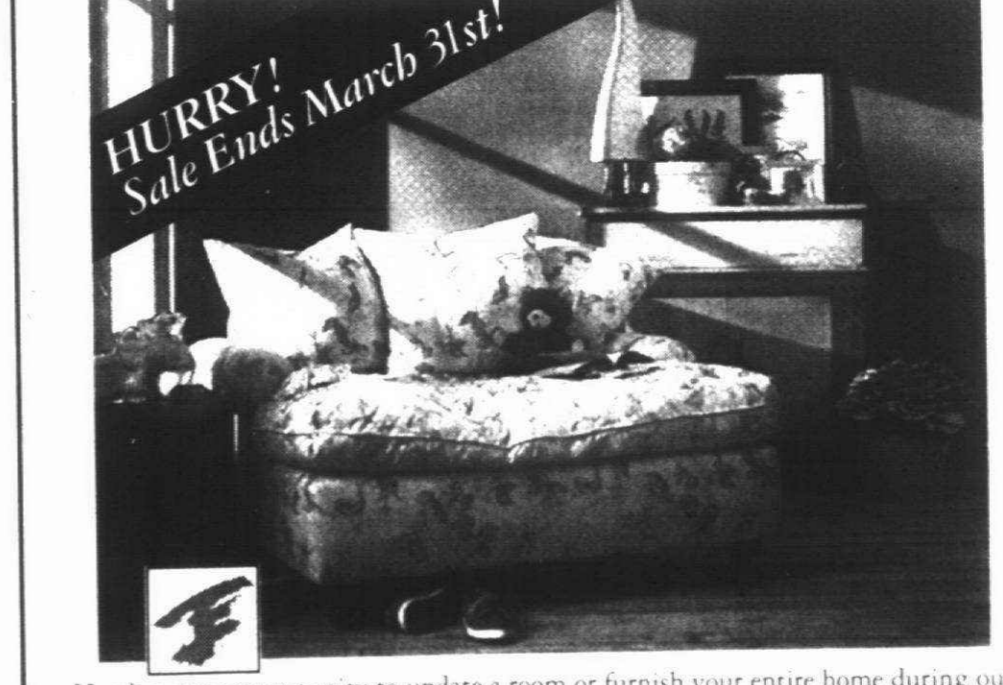
Find out why in our upcoming Spring Home Improvement section, which features an interesting story about the all-American porch. There also will be information about backyard gardens and fences, plus much more. Look for this colorful section in **AT HOME** on Thursday, April 23, in your hometown newspaper.

Observer & Eccentric
Part of HomeTown Communications Network™
Attention Advertisers: To advertise in Spring Home Improvement, call one of these numbers before April 7, 1998.
Wayne County: 734-591-2300 • FAX 734-953-2121
Oakland County: 248-901-2500 • FAX 248-901-2553
Lake Orion: 248-693-4900 • FAX 248-693-9716
Clarkston: 248-625-1900 • FAX 248-625-5712

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30% - 35% - 40%
off your first upholstered piece off your second upholstered piece off your third upholstered piece



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www.expressions-furniture.com

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What Snowmobiling's All About!

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99 ZRT 600/700
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\$300 Down Payment by March 31, 1998

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99 Panthers 340/440/550
99 Pantera 580/800
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FINAL CLEARANCE 98 JAGS \$2795⁰⁰

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Hours: Mon., Thurs. & Fri. 10-8 Tues., Wed. & Sat. 10-6 Closed Sun

CALENDAR FORM

The Canton Observer welcomes Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Canton Observer, 794 South Main Street, Plymouth, MI. 48170, or by fax to 734-453-4224. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 453-2700 if you have any questions.

Event: _____

Date and Time: _____

Location: _____

Telephone: _____

Additional Info.: _____

Use additional sheet if necessary

Your Invitation to Worship

Mail Copy To: OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150

FOR CHURCH PAGE CHANGES, PLEASE CALL MICHELLE ULFIG (734) 953-2160. THE FRIDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION FOR INFORMATION REGARDING ADVERTISING IN THIS DIRECTORY PLEASE CALL RICH VICULIN (734) 953-2069

BAPTIST

BETHEL BAPTIST TEMPLE 29475 W. Six Mile, Livonia. Youth Awana Clubs. Sunday School 10:00 A.M., Morning Worship 11:00 A.M., Evening Service 7:00 P.M., Wed. Family Hour 7:15 P.M.

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH 5403 S. Wayne Rd. Wayne, MI. Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:45 a.m., Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:00 p.m.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD The Facts of Life. Fact #1: We all need help. Fact #2: The help we need is available. Fact #3: That help is free. Fact #4: That help is found in the church. Fact #5: You can learn more this Sunday.

EVANGELICAL COVENANT FAITH COVENANT CHURCH 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills (810) 661-9191

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Society of St. Pius X Traditional Latin Mass 2310 Joy Road + Redford, Michigan

EPISCOPAL ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Livonia, Michigan 48154 421-8451

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL 1160 Pennington Ave. Plymouth • 453-0326 Rev. John J. Sullivan

ST. MARTIN EPISCOPAL CHURCH 24696 River Road, DETROIT, MI 313-533-3600

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH 48755 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48117

PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 915 Merriman, Livonia

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church 17810 Farmington Road + Livonia

Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church 14750 Kinloch + Redford Twp. 532-8655

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH Rev. Luther A. Werth, Sr. Pastor Rev. Robert Bayer, Assist. Pastor

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 29865 Middlebelt, Livonia

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School 5885 Venoy St. N. of Ford Rd., Westland

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD 29630 GRAND RIVER at BEECZ DAILY REDFORD TWP.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

NewLife Lutheran Church Sunday Worship 10 a.m. Youth & Adult Education: 9 a.m.

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Livonia, Michigan 48154 421-8451

CHRISTADELPHIANS Sunday 7:45 & 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist 10:00 A.M. Christian Education for all ages

CHRISTADELPHIANS Sunday Lecture Series March 29th at 2:15 "The Devil and Demons: Do They Really Exist?"

NON-DENOMINATIONAL FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH 291 E. SPRING ST.

ST. MARTIN EPISCOPAL CHURCH 24696 RIVER ROAD, DETROIT, MI 313-533-3600

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD 915 Merriman, Livonia

Agapé Family Worship Center "A PRACTICAL CHURCH ON THE MOVE" 45081 Geddes Road, Canton, MI 48188

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church 17810 Farmington Road + Livonia

Brightmoor Tabernacle Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, pastor 26155 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth

Risen Christ Lutheran 46250 Ann Arbor Road (1/2 Mile West of Sheldon)

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 9600 Levee + So. Redford + 937-2424

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 3301 BIBLE ST. + W. 10300 A.M. 9:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH 16700 Newburgh Road Livonia 48150 465-8844

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST PLYMOUTH SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Clarencville United Methodist 20100 Plymouth Rd., Livonia 474-3444

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST 30900 Six Mile Rd., Farmington Hills

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 29887 West Eleven Mile Road Just West of Middlebelt

United Methodist Church 10000 Beach Drive + Redford Between Plymouth and W. Chicago

NEWBURGH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 36500 Ann Arbor Trail 422-0149

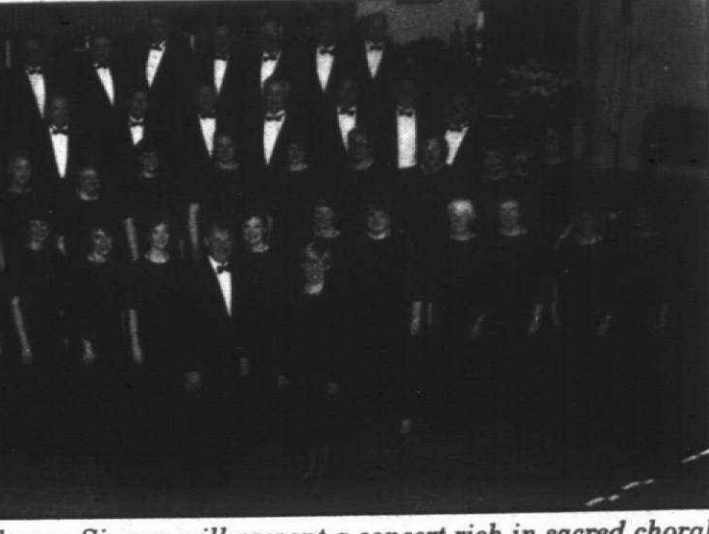
Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, pastor 26155 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI

Lists for the Religion Calendar should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-7279.

Ward welcomes Psalty to its Northville church Psalty the Singing Songbook is coming to Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Livonia on Sunday, April 4.

Canton "Experience Pays" will be the topic. For more information, call the church office at (734) 455-6022.

Free Concert The Youth and Music Ministries and Missions Committee of Trinity Presbyterian Church will present a free concert, featuring Matt Beckler, at 7 p.m. Friday, March 27, at the church, 10101 W. Ann Arbor Road.



In concert: The Detroit Lutheran Singers will present a concert rich in sacred choral music at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia.

High Priestly Prayers. A free offering will be accepted for dinner. For more information, call (313) 937-2424.

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The theme was Irish and the air was filled with the sounds of bagpiper Alistair Hill of Farmington Hills, for the annual St. Patrick's Party to benefit Community Hospice and Health Care Services.

Mercy mime Kristen Legg (top photo), a senior at Mercy High

School, silently entertained Charlie and Charline List of Brighton, while members of the Tim O'Hare Irish Stepdancers performed Irish dances during the evening.

Enjoying the benefit were Maureen and Norm Root (top photo at right, from left) and Tim and Pat Mul-

downey, all of Livonia, and Russ and Vicki Thomas of Clinton Township who had their eye on an autographed Steve Yzerman jersey.

Held at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia, proceeds are earmarked for the proposed Community Hospice Home.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

HAWTHORNE VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB
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 For Reservations Call (734) 422-3440

Breakfast Served from 11 am - 2 pm
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Dinner Served from 11 am - 8 pm
 Carved Roast Sirloin of Beef, Virginia Ham, Dilled Chicken, Italian Sausage, Veal Medallions, Marinated Potatoes, Macaroni, California Mixed Vegetables, Assorted Cold Salads, Dessert Platter, Sweets & Fresh Fruit Table

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OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Sarkesian All-American

Mia Sarkesian, a senior on Plymouth Salem's girls soccer team, has been named to the Parade All-American soccer team. She is one of 41 players nationwide selected by coaches, scouts, recruiters and several soccer organizations.

Sarkesian, a midfielder, led the Rocks in scoring last season with 17 goals and eight assists. She has already committed to attend and play at the University of Notre Dame in the fall.

Whalers: Round 2

The Plymouth Whalers, having disposed of the Sarnia Sting, were still waiting to see who was next on their agenda at press time. It seemed likely that they would play their next home game at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, probably against the Belleville Bulls.

To confirm this information, call the Whalers at (734)453-8400 during business hours, or call the Whaler hotline at (734) 480-3916.

Rockers still tumbling

The Detroit Rockers kept it tight for a half against the Edmonton Drillers Sunday at Joe Louis Arena, but the Drillers owned the second half, outscoring the Rockers 8-0 in claiming a 13-4 National Professional Soccer League victory.

Jeff Gold (from Plymouth) gave the Rockers the early lead, scoring a two-point goal at 7:30 of the opening period. Tim Ernst assisted.

The Drillers rallied to take a 3-2 advantage into the second period, before Travis Roy (Livonia Stevenson) netted a two-pointer to make it 4-3, in Detroit's favor. Joe Malachino assisted.

After that, however, it was all Edmonton as Detroit lost for the 10th time in 11 games, its record falling to 12-25.

Volleyball tour

Continental Teams is currently taking applications for this summer's European Girls Volleyball Tour.

The team will travel to England, Holland, Belgium, Germany, France and Switzerland to play local club teams and to compete in various tournaments, including the London International Tournament.

The 18-day tour leaves June 28 and returns July 15. The team is open to all high school-aged girls with average or above-average skills, including those graduating this year.

Continental Teams is a non-profit organization formed 14 years ago, dedicated to promoting sports in conjunction with education and travel. For more information, or for application, brochure, trip cost and fund-raising information, call (708) 848-0070, or write to Continental Teams, 804 S. Ridgeland, Oak Park, Ill., 60304.

Baseball clinic

The Plymouth Salem HS baseball team and coaching staff will sponsor a clinic on Saturday, March 28, in the Salem gymnasium.

Cost is \$20, which includes a T-shirt. The session for 11-15 year-olds will be from 9 a.m.-noon; the session for 7-10 year-olds will be from 1-4 p.m.

Checks should be mailed to: Plymouth Salem Dugout, 13900 High Ridge Ct., Plymouth, MI, 48170. For more information, call Salem coach Dale Rumberger at (734) 453-4003.

Men's golf league

A 20-week men's golf league will begin play April 22, with all rounds at Fellows Creek Golf Course in Canton.

Tee times for the league will be 5-6 p.m. each Wednesday, with a player limit of 36 golfers (Canton residents only, unless the league fails to fill up by March 27).

Cost is \$420 per golfer, which includes all league green fees, prize money, league outing and awards.

Open registration begins Monday and can be completed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Canton Parks and Recreation offices, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

There will be a league meeting at 6 p.m. April 8 at Fellows Creek to discuss league rules and regulations.

For further information, call (734) 397-5110.

Whalers eliminate Sting in 5

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth Whalers proved March Madness isn't limited to the hardwood Sunday at Compuware Arena.

Looking to close out their first round Ontario Hockey League playoff series with Sarnia, the Whalers' Randy Fitzgerald scored 30 seconds into overtime to give his team a 3-2 victory. Yuri Babenko and Julian Smith assisted on the left winger's first goal of the playoffs, which came on a scramble in front of the Sting's net.

"I give the credit to those three guys," coach Peter DeBoer said. "It was a great goal."

The Whalers took the best-of-seven series, four games to one. Plymouth will likely face London (Ont.) or Belleville (Ont.) Friday on the road in the second round.

"Whoever we play," DeBoer said, "it'll be a heck of a tough series."

Sunday's game with Sarnia wasn't a picnic, either. The Sting clearly had the jump in the first period. Whalers' goalie Robert Esche turned away 13 Sarnia shots to keep the game scoreless heading into the first intermission.

"He kept us in the game," DeBoer said. "He made some big saves. Robert's playing like he has to for us to be successful."

While the Whalers did manage 10 shots on net in the first period, the coach said his team wasn't sharp in the first period.

"It was a matter of being a little flat," DeBoer admitted. "We had an emotional win in Sarnia last night. It was the first time we had won there in two years. I think there was bound to be an emotional letdown."

Plymouth showed more energy from the opening face off in the second period. The Whalers applied solid pressure on Sarnia's net the first 1:30 of the period, but were unable to score.

It was the Sting who broke through first.

Greg Willers drilled a low, hard shot from the left point after a face off deep in Plymouth's zone. Jon Sim and Darryl Knight assisted on the goal, which came at the 15:25 mark.

The Whalers continued to play a strong period despite the tally. Finally, with just more than 10 minutes gone, Sergei Fedotov put Plymouth on the scoreboard, rifling a shot past stingy Sting goalie Greg Hewitt from about 30 feet directly in front of the net. Babenko and Steve Wasyko assisted on the power-play goal, Fedotov's second goal of the playoffs.

Plymouth continued to apply pressure. Harold Druken got a good backhand shot off moments after Fedotov's tally, but Hewitt was quick enough to kick it away.

It wasn't until the third period that the 1-1 tie was broken. Both squads played it conservatively, but



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Goal-saver: Goalie Robert Esche was superb in the four Whaler wins over the Sting. He allowed just five goals in the last three games, all victories, including just two in Saturday's 7-2 triumph, the Whalers' first win in Sarnia since early in the 1996-97 season.

Plymouth appeared to take things in hand with about 11 minutes gone by when Troy Smith scored unassisted on a soft shot from the right point.

The visitors fought back to re-tie it less than two minutes later. Jeff Heerema beat Esche on a high

shot to the stick side, a shot that Esche appeared to be screened on. That virtually ended all scoring chances. Both teams appeared content to play for overtime.

Please see WHALERS, C3

Spring is here — and soccer, too!

Salem should be more experienced — and improved

BY C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER

Doug Landefeld's second year as coach of Plymouth Salem's girls soccer team was nothing like his first.

The Rocks struggled early, turned it around in the middle, and were playing well in the state district tournament when they were beaten by Plymouth Canton in overtime. Salem finished with an 8-6-3 overall record.

In his first season as coach, the Rocks posted a 15-4 mark. But that didn't get them any further in the state tournament; they lost to Canton in the district finals that year, too, and the Chiefs went on to win the state championship.

So what should be expected this year? Well, as in Landefeld's first two seasons, something a bit different. "Last year, we lost some games early but we played well at the end," he said. "But we never quite found our rhythm. It was tough at times."

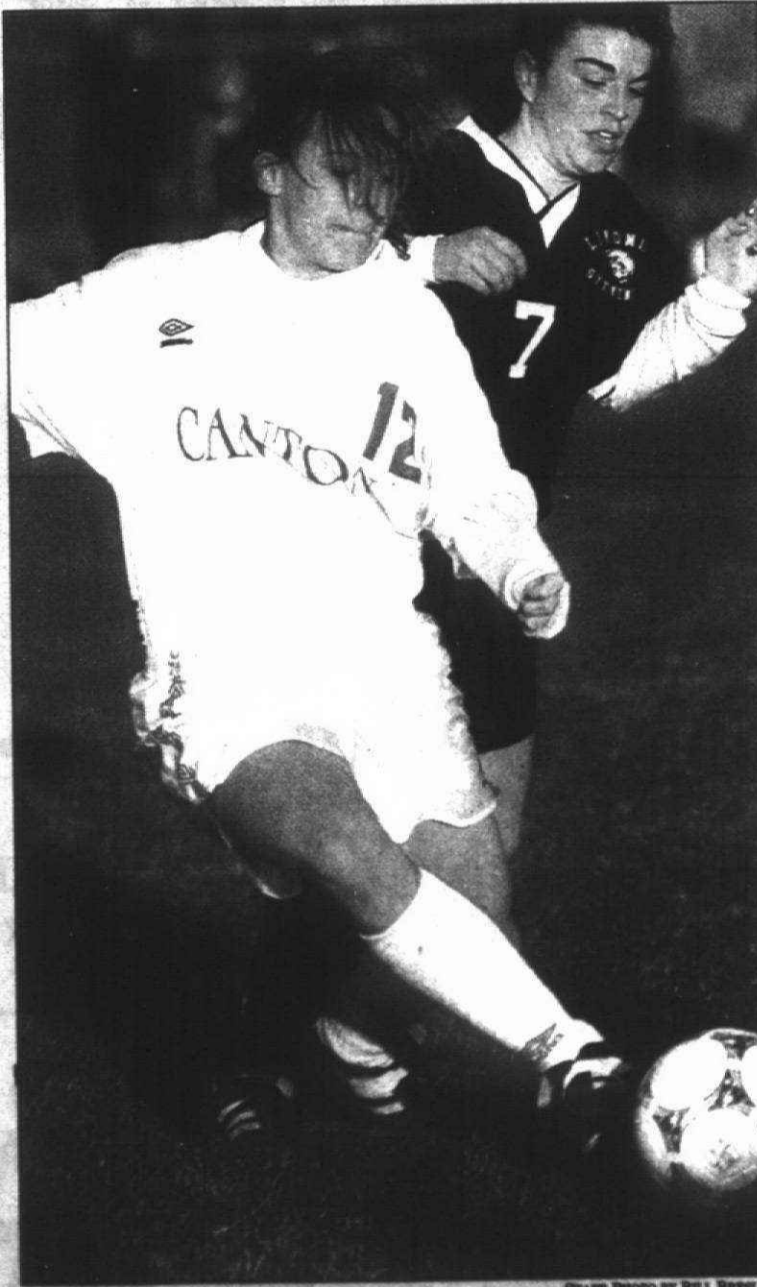
Four seniors have graduated from that team: Jodi Coyle, Lisa Bacyinski, Janell Davis and Jenny Storm. There's little doubt they'll be missed, but at the same time, six freshmen saw considerable playing time last season; as sophomores this year, they should be much improved.

"I think we're a better team than last year's, in terms of experience," Landefeld said. "We're in pretty good shape."

He can say that even though he knows he has just two seniors to call upon. But oh, what seniors: Mia Sarkesian, a senior midfielder who was recently named to the Parade All-American soccer team (one of 41 selected nationwide); and Missy Simons, a versatile and talented defender/midfielder.

"Mia is perhaps the best player in the state," said Landefeld. "The question for us is, are our people going to help her,

Please see SALEM SOCCER, C3



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRISLER

Strong senior group: Forward Lisa Reissenweber is one of six seniors on the Canton team, and is one of four of them with at least three years varsity experience.

Canton still has a strong nucleus to provide a lift

BY C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER

So: What's the biggest problem facing Plymouth Canton soccer coach Don Smith this year?

■ Finding adequate replacements for the six seniors he lost?

No.

■ Finding goal-scorers?

Probably not.

■ Finding enough players to scrimmage with during practice?

Definitely not.

■ Finding a way to beat Livonia Stevenson?

Uh, well, maybe.

In 1996, Canton stormed through the Class A playoffs to capture the state championship. Last year, the Chiefs could not duplicate their feat; two of their three losses came against Stevenson, which rolled to the state title.

Still, the Chiefs went 13-3-2. Missing from that team are Jenny Parviainen, Emilie Meier, Jill Rahnert, Emily Stachera, Beth Knight and back-up keeper Becky Haynert.

So how do you replace half your lineup without missing a beat?

In Don Smith's system, it's not a big problem. Because he uses loads of players, so most have some varsity experience already.

And those without experience who still make the varsity must be something special. And Smith has some of them, too.

"We should be in pretty good shape," Smith said. "We've got a nice group, with a lot of returnees, a lot of kids who can play."

So where, in particular, are the team's strengths? "We should be pretty strong defensively, up in front and in the midfield," he noted. "Actually, we've

Please see CANTON SOCCER, C3

Stevenson prepares state championship defense

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

Tough as it is to win a state championship in any high school sport, it's even more difficult to do again.

It's an experience Livonia Stevenson's girls soccer team will go through this season.

"We've never been in this position, with the girls," coach Jim Kimble said of the Class A champions. "We've never been in position to defend a state title. We've always fallen short, so there's that hunger to keep you going."

"We had a phenomenal year last year. The question is going to be, 'Do the kids want to repeat and advance on that season?'"

Stevenson played in the shadow of its more celebrated Plymouth neighbors in the Western Lakes Activities Association last season.

Until the regular season was over and the tournaments commenced.

"Last year we felt we were as good as we were," Kimble said, "but it wasn't until the middle of the season, the playoffs, that other people noticed."

No such luck this season.

Ever seen that Gary Larson (Far Side) cartoon where the two cows are standing next to one another? One has a big bulls-eye on its side. The other says, "Bummer of a birthmark, Hal."

That's sort of what the Spartans will go through this season. They've got the bulls-eye on their back.

"In '98, everybody knows we're as good as we are, so everybody's geared up to play us," said Kimble, whose team was 21-0-2 and allowed just one goal all season. "There's only one way to go when you're on top. The question is, 'Do we want to stay there?'"

"That's the question I'm going to pose to them every day at practice. If the

desire is there to repeat, yeah, we can do it."

Stevenson had three quality seniors doing the leading last year — first-team All-Area midfielder Anne Fedrigo, second-team All-Area defender Melissa Jacobs and state championship hero Nicole Tobin (who set numerous scoring records this year at Siena Heights College).

This year the Spartans come back at you with 10 quality seniors.

Three All-Observer first-team selections return led by Tennessee-bound Allison Campbell, who had 34 goals and 13 assists. Campbell, with 68 career goals, is a three-year starter.

Another top-flight returnee is sophomore defender Andrea Sied, who anchored a Stevenson defense which gave up just one goal.

Senior goalkeeper Jenny Baker posted 20 shutouts en route to a 19-0-2 record. She is 47-7-4 during her career

with 44 shutouts and a career goals-against average of .446.

Also returning are second-team picks Stacey Nastase, a senior defender, and Sarah Wittrock, a junior midfielder.

And if that isn't enough, Stevenson also has an outstanding freshman on the horizon — remember the name Lindsay Guzik.

"We'll throw the ball out there and see what happens," Kimble said.

If any team will challenge it, will be Livonia Churchill (13-4-4), under second-year coach Chad Campau.

The Chargers won their district and reached the regional championship before being thumped by the Spartans, 6-0.

Churchill lost All-Area first-teamers Lizz Szkybalo and Andrea Will, but return seven starters.

"Stevenson is the team to beat again, a team you shoot for," Campau said. "We play them early this year (Friday,

April 4 at Stevenson) and it's going to give us a good indication early where we're at and where we have to go."

"The girls are hungry and feel they have something to prove after last year's regional."

Meanwhile, another Western Division team in the WLA, Livonia Franklin (0-12-2) hopes to avoid another winless season.

But things are looking up for coach Jerry Poniatowski at Westland John Glenn, who will field a nice young team that's just starting to come into its own.

The Rockets (7-9-1) have the misfortune, however, of being placed in the same division of the WLA as powerhouses Stevenson and Salem, whose programs year in and year out are among the best in the state.

Meanwhile, Livonia Ladywood (2-9-3) is under new management with coach Jeff Shuk, who has led the Redford Union boys program.

Salem soccer from page C1

are they going to help take the attention away from her?"

With Simons, it's a matter of finding a home. "She's been all over the place: sweeper, stopper, midfielder. Every year she's moving further up the field," said her coach.

Landefeld knows what to expect from those two. Salem's fate will be decided by how much the rest of the team improves.

"We've got a whole lot of young players," he noted. "We just hope they can step up."

"It should be interesting."

Indeed it should. Landefeld also has four juniors with experience to call upon: Danelle Filips, Andrea Weisman, Brooke Schupra and Kristina Senich.

The six sophomores who

played on the varsity as freshmen last year should help considerably: Jessica Bucks, Jeanine Edwards, Jamie Coyle, Susie Towns, Jenny Fitchett and Christen Shull. Fitchett played goal for the Rocks last season.

Will this team be experienced enough to get off to a more positive start than last year, when Salem lost two early-season games? "I hope so," said Landefeld, adding that "we've only been outside to practice once."

"But the end of the season last year was pretty positive."

However much the Rocks have improved, it might not be enough to win their division, let alone their conference. That's because the defending Class A state champion and Western

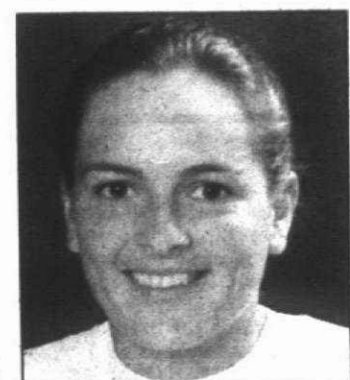
Lakes Activities Association champ is Livonia Stevenson.

And the Spartans have nearly everyone back.

"Frankly, I'll be very much surprised if anyone challenges Stevenson," Landefeld said. "I think they've gotten better than last year. Their starting 11 might be as good as anybody's ever had in the state."

Meanwhile Landefeld, whose experience in soccer is extensive, promises a more direct approach this season, hoping to make it easier for his young team to adapt.

A lack of time to prepare adequately hurts all soccer teams. Salem opened its season Wednesday against Walled Lake Central at the Wixom indoor



Missy Sarkesian Salem's standout midfielder arena; on Saturday, the Rocks play at Troy.

Whalers from page C1

But it didn't take long to settle the matter in OT. The puck squirted into Sarnia's zone from the opening face off. Thirty seconds later, Fitzgerald became the hero with his clutch goal.

Which didn't come as a huge surprise to DeBoer. "Randy Fitzgerald has been great all playoffs," the coach commented. "We call him the Claude Lemeux of the OHL because he gets under everybody's skin. But those character guys come to the forefront when you need them."

After 14 games in 24 days, DeBoer said the time off between playoff series would really help his club. "We're tired," he said. "We need this break. Not starting until Friday will be great for us."

The Whalers will have a different frame of mind, DeBoer added, going into their second series.

"We gained some confidence," he said. "We were mentally

fragile coming into the playoffs. Now, I think we're on a good high."

Plymouth 7 Sarnia 2: The two teams met Saturday night in Sarnia with the Whalers picking up where they left off Thursday (a 7-1 Whaler victory), claiming an easy win — their first in that rink since the start of the 1996-97 season.

Plymouth took a 3-1 lead after one period on goals by Eric Goody, Wasylko and Paul Mara, then increased their lead to 5-1 with two second-period goals by Druken.

Wasylko netted his second of the game and Andrew Taylor added another in the third.

DeBoer said his team capitalized on numerous power play opportunities. Avoiding unnecessary penalties was a key factor, he added.

"We stayed really disciplined throughout the series," the Whalers' coach said. "It won us a couple of games."

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head Coach: WLA (Western Division).
Head Coach: Chad Campau, second season.
Last year's overall record: 13-4-4.
Titles won last year: Class A district champions.
Scheduled season opener: 7 p.m. Friday, March 27, at home, vs. Rochester.
Notable losses to graduation: Andrea Will (first-team All-Area), Lizz Szkybalo (first-team All-Area), Lindsay Murley.
Promising newcomers: Kristin Corbin, junior forward (second-team All-Area), senior midfielder; Stacey Sapanich, junior forward; Brooke Cloma, senior midfielder; Tina Fischer, senior forward; Kristin Espinoza, senior midfielder; Tami Davis, senior midfielder; Karen Kramer, sophomore defender; Susan Hill, senior defender; Karie Sewardford, senior forward; Lisa Fabrickiewicz, senior defender; Kristen Laszczynski, sophomore midfielder; Marie LaPorte, junior goalkeeper; Jennine Lawson, senior defender; Nicole DeDominicis, senior defender.
Promising newcomers: Lisa Beck, sophomore midfielder; Natalie Pischkeburg, junior midfielder; Jennine Gibson, junior goalkeeper.
Coach's '98 outlook: "We'll be stronger defensively than last year. We didn't give up a lot of goals last year with the exception of the Stevenson game (a 6-0 regional final loss)."
"And offensively, I think we'll be even stronger. It's going to be hard to lose Stevenson and Will, but we have some good young players who will fill in nicely."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head Coach: Jim Kimble, fourth season.
Head Coach: Allison Campbell, fourth season.
Last year's overall record: 21-0-2.
Titles won last year: State Class A champs, regional and district champs, Western Lakes champions.
Scheduled season opener: 7 p.m. Monday, March 30, at Walled Lake Western.
Notable losses to graduation: Nicole Tobin, forward (first-team All-Area); Anne Fedrigo, midfielder (first-team All-Area); Melissa Jacobs, defender (second-team All-Area).
Leading returnees: Allison Campbell, senior forward (first-team All-Area); Leah McGrath,

senior midfielder; Stacey Nastase, senior defender (second-team All-Area); Andi Sied, sophomore defender (first-team All-Area); Sarah Wittrock, junior forward (second-team All-Area); Brianna Roy, junior midfielder; Melissa Bucks, senior midfielder.
Promising newcomers: Lindsay Guzik, freshman forward; Megan Urbas, sophomore forward.
Coach's '98 outlook: "I think Livonia Stevenson's success will come down to attitude, the desire to repeat as state champs and, obviously, health."
"If we can get the same senior leadership from the 10 seniors that we have as we did from the three who graduated, it will be a good year."
"We should be able to contend for the Western Lakes title and possibly state honors."
"If we think we can rest on our laurels, we'll be sadly surprised."
"We have all the components, it's just a matter of putting them together."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head Coach: Jerry Poniatowski, fourth season.
Head Coach: WLA (Lakes Division).
Last year's overall record: 7-9-1.
Scheduled season opener: 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, at Farmington Harrison.
Notable losses to graduation: Lesa Mahony, sweeper; Nicole Farrer, left wing.
Leading returnees: Kristen Krohn, junior midfielder; Katie Krause, junior forward; Katie Hoyer, junior fullback; Valerie Kurzynski, sophomore forward; Jessica Blanchard, sophomore fullback; Noelle Swartz, sophomore midfielder.
Promising newcomers: Jessica Sanchez, sophomore fullback.

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Head Coach: Larry Brenner, fourth season.
Head Coach: Michigan Mega Conference (Blue Division).
Last year's overall record: 6-7-2.
Scheduled season opener: 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, at Dearborn Heights Crestwood.
Notable losses to graduation: Pam Prych, defender; Sarah Raupp, midfielder; Missy Dumont, goalkeeper.
Leading returnees: Andrea McCallih, senior forward; Kristina McCallih, sophomore forward; Alana Tucker, senior forward; Leana Headland, senior midfielder; Christine Raupp, sophomore midfielder; Joseylin Nemeth, senior forward; April Smith, junior defender; Jenny Clark, sophomore defender; Natalie Garison, senior keeper.
Promising newcomers: Jenny Young, senior forward; Tina Bradley, sophomore midfielder; Amanda Bledsoe, sophomore defender; Lori

Canton soccer from page C1

got a lot of talented girls."

Actually, Canton has a lot of girls, period. Smith will carry 27 on his varsity; why? Because he has 26 on his junior varsity.

While the numbers are great, making it a bulky group to practice with, the Chiefs' coach is up front with his players: Those who work hard and are the best players will play the most.

Smith still has six seniors to call upon, and three of them are in their fourth varsity season: sweeper Elisa Esper, forward Melissa Marzolf, and stopper/midfielder Angela Lebbon. Forward Lisa Reissenweber is in her third year on varsity, and both keeper Kristin Lukasik and defender/stopper Kristin Mayer have spent two years on

the varsity. Lukasik started in goal last season.

In addition, all four juniors on the squad have three years varsity experience: outside midfielder Janelle Cobor, attacking midfielder Kelly Connell, defender Cheron Rice and outside midfielder Lisa Tomaso.

Christina Broda, Sarah Deben, Emily Kaatz, Kristin Lyman, Alison Morency, Vicki Palis, Theresa Radtke and Elise Thornell are juniors who played junior varsity last season. Broda, Deben, Kaatz, Lyman and Radtke are defenders (Broda will play midfield, too, and Deben has keeper experience), Palis is a midfielder, and Morency and Thornell are forwards.

Three of the Chiefs' six sophomores spent some time playing defense on the varsity last season: midfielders Abi Morrell and Pam West, and defender Heather Thompson. Keepers Amy Dorogi and Amy Jachym, and midfielder Jessica Palis, are sophomores who were on the JV last season.

Despite the abundance of skilled — and experienced — players, Smith has three freshmen (Anne Morrell, Amanda Lentz and Beth Zandusky) he plans to use extensively, and with good reason. "They're good," he said.

Particularly impressive is Anne Morrell, a forward. "She's a very good ballplayer, very

intense," said Smith. "She fits in nicely with our group. But we've got a lot of kids who can play."

Of course, so does defending state champ Livonia Stevenson, and Plymouth Salem, and Northville, and Livonia Churchill. All are Western Lakes Activities Association rivals.

"Whoever can keep the other team from scoring will do well," said Smith, stating the simplest of soccer facts. "We've just got to get a good, solid team effort. We've got good senior leadership this year. We've got quality kids, a good group of kids."

Canton's season was scheduled to open yesterday at Walled Lake Western, with a 1 p.m. home match against Novi Saturday.

Gordie Howe, the legend, celebrates his 70th birthday with THE DETROIT VIPERS!

Tuesday, March 31 Detroit Vipers vs. Fort Wayne Komets @ 7:30 PM

The first 10,000 fans will receive a mini commemorative Gordie Howe poster courtesy of Land O'Lakes/Salesmark.

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Championship

FRIDAY, MARCH 20 SEMIFINALS

5:00 PM

8:30 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 21 CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

7:30 PM

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East All-Stars

NAME	POS.	HT.	HOMETOWN	HIGH SCHOOL
Ronald Blackshear	PG	6'04"	Camilla, GA	Mitchell-Baker
Keyon Dooling	PG	6'03"	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Dillard
Dan Gadzuric	C	6'11"	Hague, Holland	Governor Dummer Academy
Adam Harrington	G	6'03"	Bernardston, MA	Pioneer Valley
Al Harrington	F	6'09"	Roselle, NJ	St. Patrick's
Cory Hightower	G	6'06"	Flint, MI	Mt. Zion
Kristoffer Lang	C	6'10"	Gastonia, NC	Hunter Huss
Paris London	F	6'08"	Memphis, TN	Hamilton
Kevin Lyde	C	6'09"	Forest Heights, MD	Oak Hill Academy
Lloyd Price	F	6'05"	Wilmington, DE	Oak Hill Academy

West All-Stars

NAME	POS.	HT.	HOMETOWN	HIGH SCHOOL
Antonio Gates	F	6'05"	Detroit, MI	Central
Clarence Gilbert	G	6'02"	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Dillard
Rashard Lewis	C/F	6'10"	Houston, TX	Alief Elisk
Michael Miller	G	6'08"	Mitchell, SD	Mitchell Senior
Joel Pryzbilla	C	7'00"	Monticello, MN	Monticello
Terrell Riggs	G	6'06"	Detroit, MI	Detroit Finney
Frank Williams	PG	6'04"	Peoria, IL	Peoria
Lance Williams	C	6'09"	Chicago, IL	Julian
Vincent Yarbrough	F	6'07"	Cleveland, TN	Cleveland
Ray Young	F	6'05"	Oakland, CA	St. Joseph Notre Dame

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OUTDOOR CALENDAR

ACTIVITIES LIFE LINKS Learn about some of the fascinating connections between plants and animals and their habitats during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at U-M Dearborn. Call (313) 593-5338 for more information.

CLASSES LAND NAVIGATION The School of Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR) presents a class on land navigation on Saturday, March 28, at the Waterloo Recreation Area. Call Linda Burke at (248) 471-9185 for more information.

ARCHERY JUNIOR OLYMPICS The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information.

CLUBS SOLAR The School of Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation, a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

CLASSES HUNTER EDUCATION Wayne County Sportsmen's Club will hold several hunter education classes in the upcoming months at its clubhouse and grounds in Romulus. These classes will be taught by certified instructors. Students must be present for both days of their respective class. All equipment will be provided. Classes will be offered March 28-29, Aug. 29-30, Oct. 3-4, Oct. 17-18 and Nov. 7-8. Cost is \$10.50 and includes lunch both days. To pre-register call (313) 532-0285.

CLASSES YOUTH FLY FISHING The Michigan Fly Fishing Club will hold a Youth Fly Fishing School, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, April 4, at the Walled Lake Outdoor Education Center. The school is open to youths age seven to 15 accompanied by a parent or adult guardian. Admission is \$5 and includes pizza, doughnuts, pop and hot chocolate. Call Dale Ross (734) 420-2233 or Tony Yuhas (248) 478-7461 to register and for more information.

CLASSES FOUR SEASONS The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Senior Citizen's Center in the Livonia Civic Center. Call Jim Kudej at (313) 691-0843 for more information.

CLASSES FISHING BUDDIES Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets monthly in Rochester Hills. The meetings are open to all anglers. Call (248) 656-0556 for more information.

CLASSES CLINTON VALLEY BASS Clinton Valley Bass Anglers is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome). The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

CLASSES BASS ASSOCIATION The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for more information.

CLASSES BANQUETS BIG GAME HUNTERS The Michigan Big Game Hunter's Association will hold its 10th annual fund raiser and banquet on Sunday, April 26, at the Laurel Manor Banquet Center in Livonia. The event includes dinner, awards, raffles, auctions and door prizes and much more. Tickets are \$40 and doors open at 4 p.m. Call (313) 513-7471 for more information.

CLASSES MEETINGS NRC The monthly meeting of the

for the largest fish in each of four categories - king salmon, steelhead, brown trout and coho salmon. Tickets are available at Charlie's Crab in Troy, Muer's Seafood Tavern in Southfield, Big Fish in Dearborn, Big Fish Too in Madison Heights, and Gandy Dancer in Ann Arbor or by calling the River Crab at 1-800-468-3727.

CLASSES OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

CLASSES SHOWS WILDLIFE ART FESTIVAL The 15th annual Michigan Wildlife Art Festival, sponsored by the Michigan Wildlife Habitat Foundation, will take place March 27-29 at the Southfield Pavilion. The show features the Midwest's largest juried show of wildlife and environmental art; 60 nationally acclaimed artists; thousands of affordable paintings, prints, photos, carvings, etchings, sculptures, stained glass pieces, batik, and scratchboards; exhibits by Michigan's leading conservation organizations; seminars on Michigan wildlife topics; a celebrity decoy painting contest and much more. Show hours are 9-5 p.m. March 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. March 28, and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. March 29. Admission is \$6 and children under 12 will be admitted free.

CLASSES STATE PARKS STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS Maybury State Park, Proud Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Highland Recreation Area and Inland Lake Recreation Area offer nature interpretive programs throughout the year. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and additional information on the programs at Maybury call (810) 349-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain call (810) 693-6767. For programs at Proud Lake and Highland call (810) 685-2433. For programs at Inland Lake call (810) 229-7067.

CLASSES BIRDING AT HAVEN HILL Take a stroll through the natural areas of Highland Lake Recreation Area during this program, which begins at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 4.

CLASSES FROGS AND TOADS Learn about frogs while taking a naturalist-led walk in search of wood and chorus frogs during this program, which begins at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 4, at Proud Lake.

CLASSES METROPARKS METROPARK REQUIREMENTS Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks, toll free: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178.

CLASSES SHOOTING RANGES BALD MOUNTAIN Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are 10 a.m. to dusk on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenfield Road (three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills). Call (810) 814-9193.

CLASSES PONTIAC LAKE Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Road. Call (810) 666-1020 for more information.

DePorres bounces Borgess

BY STEVE KOWALSKI STAFF WRITER

Redford Bishop Borgess senior guard Aaron Jessup didn't mind taking his jersey off, but giving it up was another story. Jessup played his final high school game Friday night as the Spartans lost to Catholic League rival Detroit St. Martin DePorres, 64-49, in a Class C boys basketball regional final at Dundee.

"I want to frame it," said Jessup, who surpassed 1,000 career points earlier in the year. "I don't even want it to be washed. I'm going to miss the whole program. We always stick together, on the court and on the street. That's important."

DePorres took advantage of foul trouble to Borgess senior center Sam Hoskin, outscoring the Spartans 19-2 at the end of the third quarter and the start of the fourth to turn a 41-40 deficit into a rout.

The Eagles improved to 20-4 overall and became the favorites to win the Class C state championship with the victory. Borgess, the defending Class C state champion, bows out with a 14-10 record.

CLASS C HOOP

Anagonye led DePorres with a game-high 23 points, surely impressing Michigan State coach Tom Izzo, who was in attendance. Izzo drove through a snowstorm to get home and probably thought it was worth it.

"He has all the potential in the world," Owens said. "He has size 17 shoes and he's still growing."

Anagonye finished with three fouls and Hoskin had that many with 3:15 left in the first half.

Kevin Jordan, who also played his final game in a Borgess uniform, scored 13 points. The other seniors on the Borgess roster, Marwan Williams, Jason Doss, James Williams, Wallace Turner and Walter Malone gave Barnes plenty of memories.

"We're going to miss them tremendously," he said. "Their sophomore year they won the league and the Aquinas Christmas Tournament, they won the state last year and the Catholic League this year. They're all winners."

Fans appreciated by Rockers in Saturday's season finale

It will be Fan Appreciation Night on Saturday when the Detroit Rockers host the Buffalo Blizzard in the National Professional Soccer League season finale at Joe Louis Arena.

The game will kick-off at 1 p.m. The Rockers, are in last place in the National Conference and out of playoff contention with a 12-26 record. Travis Roy, a Livonia Stevenson graduate, has been one of their bright spots, being named the NPSL's Rookie of the Year.

Fans attending the season finale will have an opportunity to win a trip for two to Cancun, Mexico, in a promotion offered by WNIC 100.3 FM, Kroger and MLT Vacations. All fans will receive a numbered WNIC keychain as they enter the arena and the winning keychain will be announced in the second quarter.

Autographed memorabilia from the Detroit Red Wings and promotional materials from the Detroit Tigers will be raffled off to lucky fans who enter their names into a ballot box near the main information table on the concourse level.

SOCCER

Rockers staff members will also distribute selected soccer memorabilia items throughout the game to fans seated in the lower bowl of Joe Louis.

Another highlight will be the announcement of the winning entry in the Chrysler Financial/Detroit Rockers/Fox Sports Detroit My Family Rocks essay contest. The contest asked an essay in 300 words or less that explains why their parent (s) are the best soccer parent (s) in Detroit. The Grand Prize winner will receive a one-year lease on a Dodge Caravan mini-van (courtesy of Chrysler Financial) and will be announced in a pre-game ceremony.

Tickets are available through TicketMaster and at the Joe Louis Arena Box Office at \$15 for reserved seats and \$9 for general admission. Groups of 20 or more can be discounted and obtained by calling the Rockers' office at (313) 396-7070.

Rouge ruins DCD chances

BY MARTY BUNDER STAFF WRITER

Kurt Keener and his Detroit Country Day basketball team stood in line waiting to shake hands with River Rouge shortly after losing their first state tournament basketball game in four years. They never made it.

Delirious River Rouge fans poured onto the gym floor to celebrate their team's emotional 76-65 quarterfinal triumph over Country Day in a Class B quarterfinal playoff game played before more than 6,000 fans Tuesday evening at the University of Detroit's Calihan Hall.

It turned out the Panther players and fans deflated Detroit Country's Days best intentions all evening.

CLASS B HOOP

The hot-shooting Rouge basketball team halted DCD's dream of a fourth-consecutive state championship just like its fans blocked the Yellowjackets' effort to shake hands with the victorious Panther players.

Country Day had high hopes of defending its state championship and the sting of defeat hit the Yellowjacket players hard. The loss snapped DCD's string of 28 consecutive state tournament victories dating back to March of 1995. The Jackets ended this year with a 21-5 overall record.

"We didn't do it. We didn't get it done tonight and we're disappointed," said Keener, whose team's last tournament loss (48-46) was in a district semifinal game to Oak Park during Shane Battier's freshman season.

"(Winning a fourth state title) was something that was real, real important to our seniors and we're disappointed for them that they couldn't end their great careers (with a championship). Mike (Manciel), Javin (Hunter) and David (Webber) had such a great run here.

"But that's part of life. I told the kids afterwards that we like to think in our program we teach lessons that go beyond basketball. And one of those lessons is sometimes no matter how hard you work, how dedicated you are and no matter how much you

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Observer & Eccentric



Keith Falk Livonia Stevenson Nick Sosnowski Catholic Central Steve Domin Livonia Stevenson Chris Totten Garden City Mark Sgriccia Livonia Stevenson Nick Corden Plymouth Salem Justin Barringer Farmington Harrison Dan Gabriel North Farmington Matt Walker Farmington Harrison

Top swimmers, top teams

BY C.J. RISAK STAFF WRITER Two boys swim team dominated Observerland this past season, but every team seemed to have at least one or two outstanding individuals. Which is why, of the 18 swimmers selected by coaches in the nine individual events, eight Observerland schools are represented.

Still, it wasn't difficult to figure which teams were best. Plymouth Salem won its sixth-straight Western Lakes Activities Association championship, with Livonia Stevenson placing second.

At the Class A state finals, Stevenson edged Salem, placing eighth to the Rocks' ninth.

The relays are another indication of team strength. Stevenson/Salem, or Salem/Stevenson, placed one-two in all three in the Observerland best swim times listings.

There's been one change to the all-Observerland team for this year — an honorarium captain. That distinction goes to Salem's Mike Kilgore.

A junior, Kilgore — one of the team's up-and-coming distance freestylers — had his final race of the season March 3. The next day, he collapsed in his room at home and died, apparently of heart failure.

Kilgore scored in both distance freestyle events at the WLA championship meet, placing ninth (5:17.20) and 11th in the 200 free (1:54.89). He was voted Salem's most improved swimmer for 1997-98.

His abilities extended beyond the pool. He had a 3.9 grade-point average, and he had already been elected Salem's team captain for next season.

"Mike Kilgore was the type of boy every coach enjoys having as a member of the team," said Salem coach Chuck Olson. "An excellent student, a hard worker at every practice, a tough competitor at meets and a teammate who knew and respected his teammates, and had both their and their coaches' respect and admiration.

As for coach of the year, well, perhaps it's time to consider retiring the trophy. And that's not a reflection on the job other coaches in Observerland have done, it's just that, against such difficult competition, Salem's Chuck Olson always gets the job done.

The Rocks won their sixth-straight WLA championship and ranked among the state's best teams. Can anyone else measure up to those standards?

First team 200 medley relay (from left): Stevenson's Joe Bublitz, Steve Domin, Keith Falk and Mark Sgriccia.

Second team 200 medley relay (from left): Salem's Brent Mellis, Andrew Locke, Tim Buchanan, Dan Kelly.

First team 200 freestyle relay (from left): Stevenson's Mark Sgriccia, Steve Domin, Keith Falk, Jacob Varty.

Second team 200 freestyle relay (from left): Stevenson's Keith Falk, Steve Domin, Brad Buckler, Jacob Varty.

First team 400 free relay (from left): Salem's Nick Corden, Andrew Locke, Tim Buchanan, Dan Jones.

Second team 400 free relay (from left): Salem's Nick Corden, Andrew Locke, Tim Buchanan, Dan Jones.

Third team 200 medley relay (from left): Stevenson's Keith Falk, Steve Domin, Brad Buckler, Jacob Varty.

Fourth team 200 medley relay (from left): Salem's Brent Mellis, Andrew Locke, Tim Buchanan, Dan Kelly.

Fifth team 200 medley relay (from left): Stevenson's Keith Falk, Steve Domin, Brad Buckler, Jacob Varty.

Sixth team 200 medley relay (from left): Salem's Brent Mellis, Andrew Locke, Tim Buchanan, Dan Kelly.

Seventh team 200 medley relay (from left): Stevenson's Keith Falk, Steve Domin, Brad Buckler, Jacob Varty.

Eighth team 200 medley relay (from left): Salem's Brent Mellis, Andrew Locke, Tim Buchanan, Dan Kelly.

Ninth team 200 medley relay (from left): Stevenson's Keith Falk, Steve Domin, Brad Buckler, Jacob Varty.

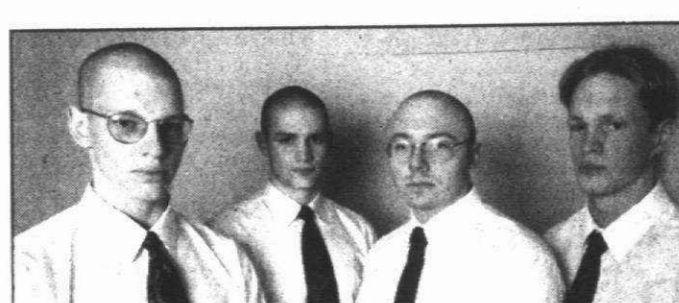
Tenth team 200 medley relay (from left): Salem's Brent Mellis, Andrew Locke, Tim Buchanan, Dan Kelly.

Eleventh team 200 medley relay (from left): Stevenson's Keith Falk, Steve Domin, Brad Buckler, Jacob Varty.

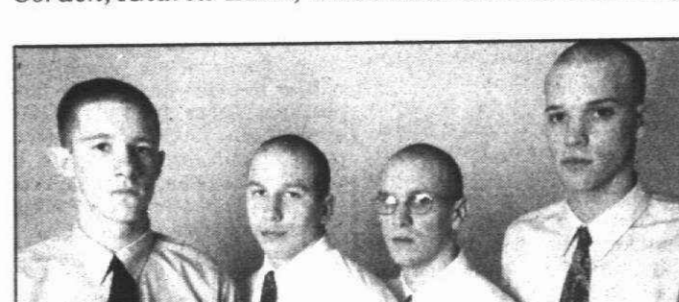
Twelfth team 200 medley relay (from left): Salem's Brent Mellis, Andrew Locke, Tim Buchanan, Dan Kelly.



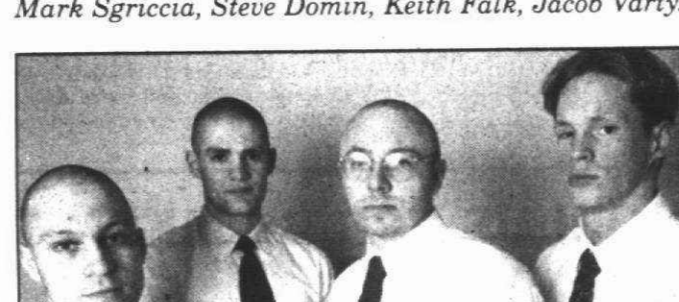
Justin Barringer Farmington Harrison Dan Gabriel North Farmington Matt Walker Farmington Harrison



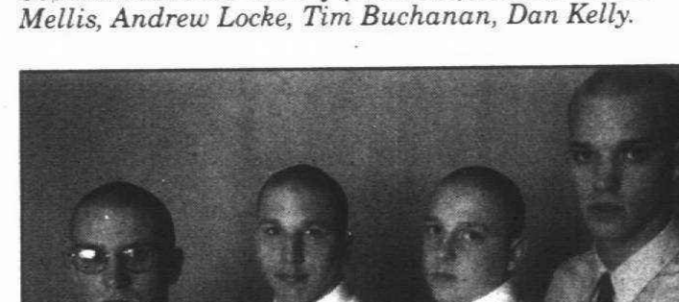
Steve Domin, Keith Falk and Mark Sgriccia.



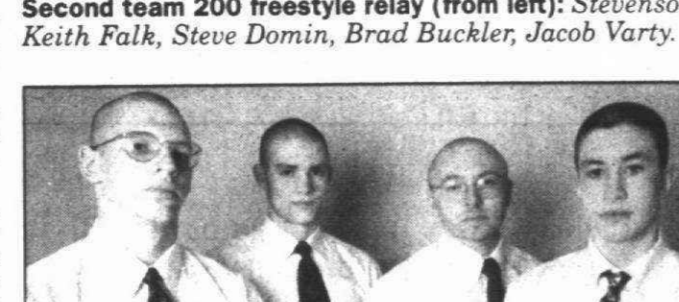
Salem's Nick Corden, Andrew Locke, Tim Buchanan and Dan Kelly.



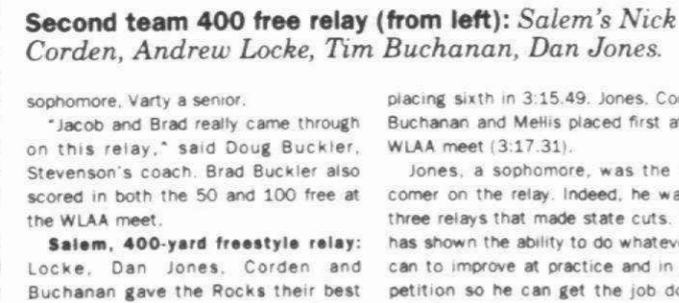
Stevenson's Mark Sgriccia, Steve Domin, Keith Falk, Jacob Varty.



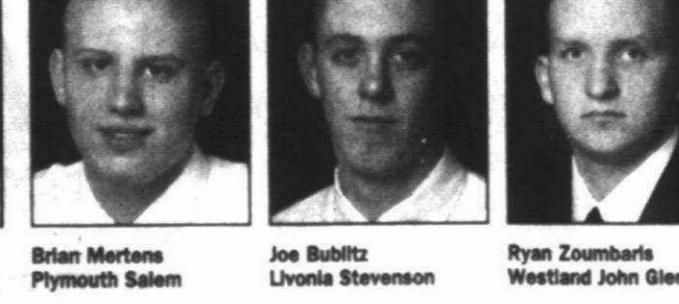
Salem's Brent Mellis, Andrew Locke, Tim Buchanan, Dan Kelly.



Stevenson's Keith Falk, Steve Domin, Brad Buckler, Jacob Varty.



Salem's Nick Corden, Andrew Locke, Tim Buchanan, Dan Jones.



Stevenson's Keith Falk, Steve Domin, Brad Buckler, Jacob Varty.

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Country Day from page C5

want it, the other person is better. "You've got to learn to accept it and move ahead," he said. Webber, who did all he could to erase a second-half deficit with a sensational 16-point fourth-quarter, had a tough time accepting the fact his prep career ended without a fourth state championship. "It's probably the most disap-

pointing thing in my life," said Webber. "But Rouge was a better team. They had great players and I tip my hat to them." Neither team came up short in a punch-counter-punch first half that ended with the teams tied 23-all at halftime. Country Day played a slow-down game and controlled the tempo en route to a 14-10 lead after the first quarter only to

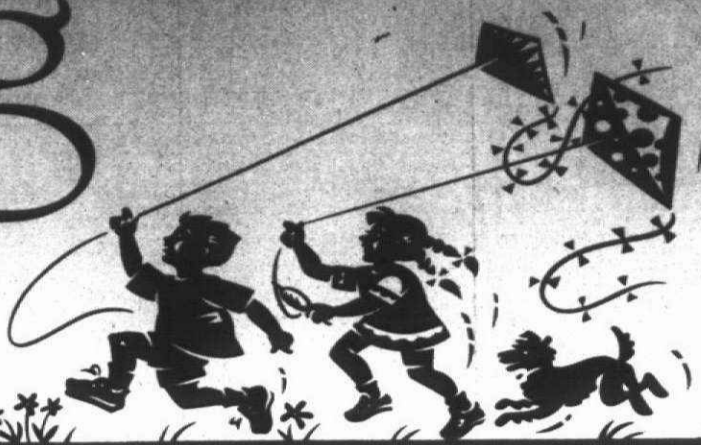
have Rouge, playing minus two team members because of a state-imposed suspension for transfer rule violations, rebound in the second quarter to force the halftime tie. The second half was a different story. River Rouge, which takes a 25-1 record into Friday's Class B state semifinal game, took control with a 24-14 third-quarter

scoring blitz. The Panthers were 10-10 from the field in that quarter and 3-4 from the line. Country Day never recovered. Despite Webber's individual fourth-quarter effort, River Rouge outscored DCD by a 29-28 margin to send its fans into a wild celebration. The Yellowjackets' normally tenacious defense was no match for the swift and talented Rouge

players. It was the most points Country Day allowed all year. Offensively, DCD never got untracked. "I thought they were tremendously well-prepared for us," said Keener. "They took us out of some of the things offensively that we are comfortable doing." Webber netted a game-high 27 points and Mancel finished with 24. Hunter never got into a

groove and finished with five points. Country Day made 25 of 32 free throws. River Rouge also had two double-digit scorers, including junior guard Brent Darby with 26 points and senior forward Duez Henderson with 18. Senior center Charles Kage and senior Arnold Boyd each had nine points. The Panthers were 20-32 from the line.

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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Sandy (Olivia Newton-John) and Danny (John Travolta) star in the 20th anniversary re-release of the blockbuster musical "Grease," opening today at metro Detroit movie theaters.

SATURDAY



Eisenhower Dance Ensemble presents "Power and Passion," 8 p.m. at Macomb Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets \$16, adults; \$14, students/seniors, call (810) 286-2222, or (248) 645-6666.

SUNDAY

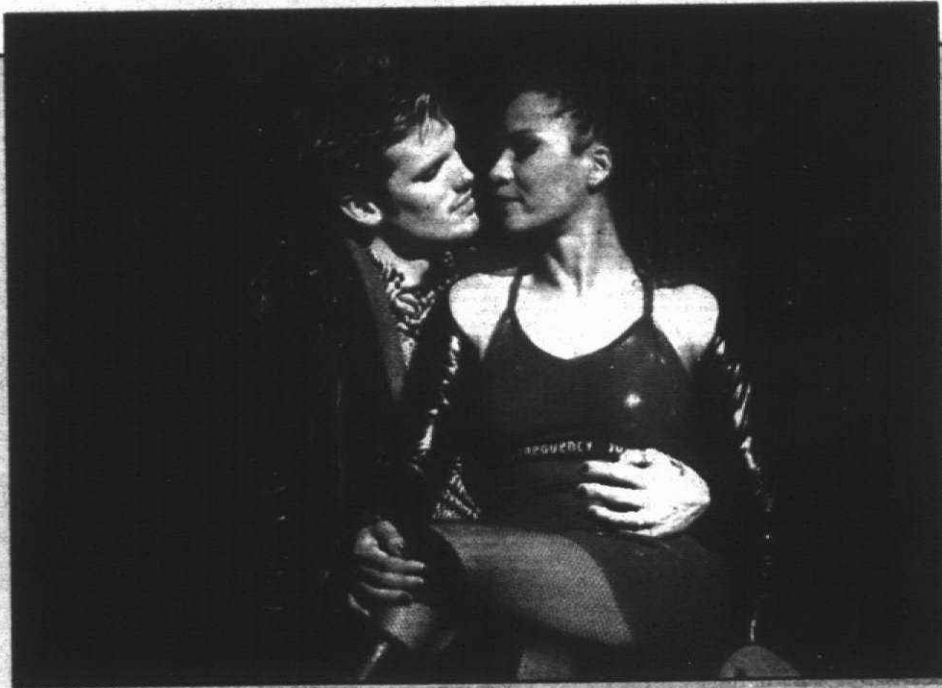


Guest conductor Robert Bernhardt leads the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in "Opera Pops," 3 p.m. at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. Tickets \$42 to \$17, call (313) 576-5111.

HOT



Hot Tix: Illusionist David Copperfield takes audiences on a journey through the history and wonder of the "Art of Magic," with "Dreams and Nightmares" Friday-Sunday, March 27-29, at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Eight performances, tickets \$29-\$46.50, call (248) 433-1515/(313) 983-6611 for show times and information.



On tour: Manley Pope and Simone in a scene from the national touring company of "Rent."

Musical helps producer pay the



BY HUGH GALLAGHER • STAFF WRITER



Jeffrey Seller

Jeffrey Seller was in the sixth grade when an inspiring teacher named Peggy Shivley introduced him to theater. He's never been the same since, despite the fact the teacher moved away over that summer and "deserted" him.

Ms. Shivley was performing with Stagecrafters (then in Clawson) at the time and the enterprising 11-year-old Seller called them up and asked if he could audition for a play. His role in the "adult" mystery, "Speak of Murder," was the first step toward a highly successful theater career.

Seller returns triumphant to metro Detroit April 8 when a touring company of "Rent" opens at the Fisher Theatre. Seller is one of "Rent's" producers. He has guided the hit musical from its inception by Johnathan Larson, through Larson's tragic death just before the off-Broadway opening to its surprising Broadway success.

The effusive producer has known what he wanted to do for a long time, even as far back as his days with the Stagecrafters' Ragamuffin youth theater group.

"I started being interested in who picks the play, who sells the tickets, who designs the posters. I was already starting to do the role of producer on a small scale," Seller said. "All of this has contributed to me becoming a Broadway producer."

Seller continued his interest in theater with the Ridgedale Players, at Oak Park High School and at the University of Michigan. But he didn't major in theater.

"I knew I would be in theater my whole life, but I wanted to study poli sci as an academic pursuit," Seller said. "Politics is my avocation. I'm a politics buff."

Politics plays a major role in being a producer. The producer picks the play, assembles the creative staff, raises the money, conceives and executes the advertising and, sometimes, even takes a hand in helping shape the production.

"The producer's job is promoting, selecting, P.T. Barnum, but it's also the nurturer. You nurture the artist to give the artist what he needs to develop his potential. To nurture the artist you create the circumstances the artist needs to survive and then hock what the artist makes," Seller said.

Seller graduated from U-M in 1986 and moved to New York City where he joined National Artists Management Co. and became a theatrical booker. In 1991 he started his own booking company with Kevin McCollum, The Booking Office. His first work as a producer was "The Real Live Brady Bunch," and touring companies of "West Side Story" and "Man of La Mancha."

Then came "Rent." "Rent" is a musical based on Puccini's opera "La Boheme," with the setting changed from the garrets of Paris to New York's Lower East Side.

"I went to see Jonathan Larson's rock monologue, 'Tick...Tick...Boom.' I didn't know Jonathan at the time, but I was interested in the idea of a rock monologue, the juxtaposition of those ideas," Seller said.

The monologue, said Seller, was an emotional review of Larson's life as a 30-year-old man in

RENT

What: Musical drama by Jonathan Larson based on Puccini's opera "La Boheme" but set in New York's Lower East Side.

Where: Detroit's Fisher Theatre.

When: April 8 to May 31. Performances are 8 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sunday and 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. A special 1 p.m. matinee Thursday, April 9, has been added.

Tickets: \$24-\$60. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

Please see RENT, E2

Singer/songwriter Rick Monroe will be performing at these Border Books:

■ 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 31 - 34300 Woodward, Ave., Birmingham. (248)203-0005.

■ 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 1 - 30995 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. (248)737-0110.

■ 8 p.m. Saturday, April 4, 1122 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. (248)652-0558.

On the web: <http://www.rickmonroe.com>

Songwriter shares 'Legends'

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Rick Monroe loves playing music, for the sake of music, and he'll be in metro Detroit next week playing cuts from his newly released debut CD "Legends Diner."

Visualize a diner late at night, the coffee's not fresh, but stale, it's been there awhile, sitting, like the people. "They're all human ghosts that no one cares to know. Convicted of a dream they're sentenced to keep doing time..."

His music has been described as "Blue Jean rock 'n' roll, hot Southern bluesy rock, and sometimes heart-touching soul." One critic said listening to Monroe is like "shaking hands with an old friend."

So what are you? I ask. He laughs, and says it happens all the time. People want to know what his demographics are; they want to describe a style. You can feel the shrug as he answers in a telephone interview from Minnesota, one stop on a national tour of radio stations that began in January.

"Little kids love it, I have a wide range of listeners, I speak from the heart, and people relate to that. I'm a big Jimmy Reed fan. I like blues, but some of my songs have a rock/country feeling. My music depends on my mood - happy, sad, blue, country, rock. It's not linear. I never thought it out."

He met at a recording studio for a three-day jam session with Matt Laug on drums, Lance Morrison on bass (both of whom worked on Alanis Morissette's "Jagged Little Pill") and Keith Howland (lead guitarist for Chicago). "The first day we knocked out four songs. The next day four more. It just happened. I literally would start playing a song, the guys would pick it up, we'd run through it twice and lay it down, then move on to the next one."

Monroe plays and speaks from his heart. He was born in Clearwater, Fla., and grew up listening to Jim Croce and James Taylor, but lived in a lot of places including England, Kansas and Connecticut. Hollywood, Calif., is his home, but "I have a gypsy soul," he says. "I've lived in my house four days this year."

A poet and musician, Monroe doesn't separate the two. He wants people to feel his music, and they do.

"After the concerts people will remember the lyrics. It touches them,

Please see LEGENDS, E2

COLLEGE THEATER

Students line up for 'A Chorus Line'

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

For Radio City Rockette Denise Caston of Clarkston, performing on "A Chorus Line," was the perfect next step.

"It's great," she said. "My goal is to work on voice training and acting to be more marketable. If I go to an audition, and they say 'can you stand on your head and sing Hallelujah Chorus, I'll be able to do it.'"

In "A Chorus Line," continuing through March 29 at Oakland University's Varner Recital Hall, Caston plays Mary a dance coach.

"It's overwhelming. There's so much talent," she said. "I'm honored to be surrounded by so many talented people."

Caston will audition for the Rockettes on April 8, and hopes to return to the Fox Theatre this year.

ON STAGE

"A Chorus Line"
8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 26-28; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 29, Varner Recital Hall stage, Oakland University, Rochester.
Tickets: \$12 general, \$10 seniors, \$6 students, (248) 370-3013.

"They must listen to Christmas music all year," she said about the people conducting auditions. While she dreams of a performing arts career, Caston has an alter ego - computer engineer, just in case things don't work out.

"A Chorus Line," part of OU's "Festival of Arts Saluting the Twentieth Century," celebrates the

1970s. This production by the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance features a cast of 26 students.

"We have a long, expansive stage that augments the kick line," said Kim Fletcher of the university. "We've got solid singing and dancing professionals. We're so lucky they chose this program."

Michael Gillespie, Oakland University's associate professor of theater, is directing with choreography by Gregory Patterson, associate professor of dance, and Meadow Brook Estate director Paul Moran as music director.

"It brings all our forces together for one event," said Gillespie. "Aside from being one of the most popular musicals ever written, it captures the 1970s, the 'Me Generation' and the attempt of indi-

Please see LINE, E2



Musical: The director Zach (Steven Price) coaches a chorus line hopeful, Cassie (Meaghan Hurler) in "A Chorus Line."

Juggling school, theater challenges producer

By KEELY WYGNIK
STAFF WRITER

Jennifer Rembiza of Livonia and her friends had so much fun performing in shows at Mercy High School that they decided to keep on doing it after they graduated.

"Let's just do one," she said in 1996 while talking to friends she met through Mercy High School in Farmington who said they regretted not having a show to work on.

Their theater company, Jack-In-The-Box Productions, presents Edward Albee's two-man show "The Zoo Story" Friday-Sunday, March 27-29, at the University of Michigan-Dearborn's ROC.

The cast features Christopher Cain of Redford as the "disturbed fanatic" permanent transient Jerry, and Bryon D. Harvey as the clean-cut suburban character, Peter.

Set in a peaceful park in New York, Jerry disturbs bookworm Peter about his recent "trip to the zoo."

Rembiza is producing, Karri Washington of Southfield is stage manager and Theresa Cisco of Livonia, lighting engineer.

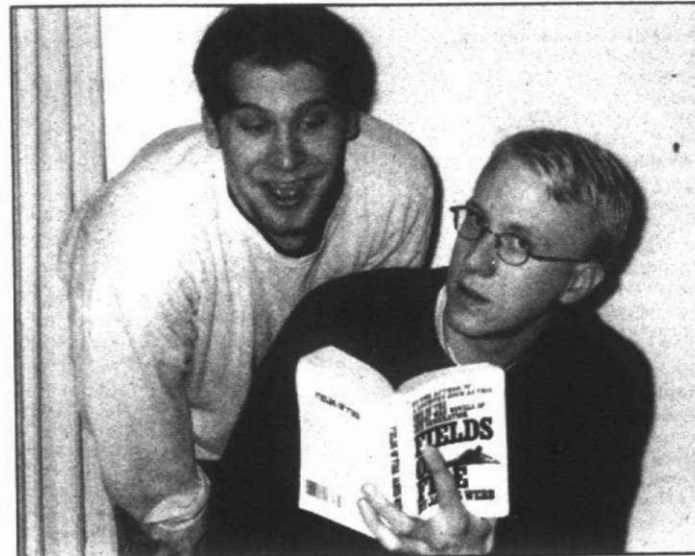
"I've always loved his (Albee's) work," said Rembiza explaining why she wanted to produce this show. "He's an absurdist who

attacks the moral values of society." Rembiza said she believes theater is a good outlet for young people because it's creative.

"We're hoping to keep going with this production," she said. "We're loving it, and committed to presenting high-quality theater at prices affordable to patrons. My show is \$5, cheaper than a movie. I went to the University of Michigan-Dearborn, and still have a lot of friends there. The ROC is centrally

located, easy for patrons to get to." The best part, if you buy two tickets, you can bring a friend for free.

At the Studio
"Speed the Plow," David Mamet's dark comedy, opens April 2 at Wayne State University's Studio Theatre. Mamet explores the savage underside of the American film industry as he looks at two friends (Gould and Fox) planning to pitch a new script to a major Hollywood film studio while destructively interacting with the office secretary (Karen). "Speed-the-Plow" contains adult language and situations. The technical staff includes Shatha Faraj of West Bloomfield (stage manager).



Drama: Christopher Cain (Jerry, left) and Bryon D. Harvey (Peter) in a scene from "The Zoo Story."

Murder adventure misfires

"Murder By Misadventure" runs through April 12 at Meadow Brook Theatre, Wilson Hall, Oakland University campus, Rochester Hills. Evening shows 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 6:30 p.m. Sundays; matinees 2 p.m. Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets: \$18-\$32; (248) 377-3300.

By FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

Waiting for the curtain to go up on Meadow Brook Theatre's current production is the first in a long line of misnomers.

A more appropriate metaphor would be "tuning in."

For its utterly checkerboard-like maneuvering and superficiality, "Murder By Misadventure" is the type of prime-time drama for the boob tube, fitting alongside formulaic TV hits like "Murder, She Wrote" and "Colombo."

As a theatrical whodunit, "Murder By Misadventure" is tirelessly clever, if not altogether loopy. (Happily, there are no insipid commercial breaks.)

Audiences who like to follow along with the well-timed clues, twists and turns and an all-too-apparent murder plot won't likely be disappointed.

Anyone who expects more — like authenticity and originality — might leave scratching their heads, wondering if they've just seen a rerun.

The bourgeois, luxurious London flat of Harry Kent is a place for a bevy of clues, apparent

poltergeist and a level of alcoholic imbibing not seen since the celebration of the end of Prohibition.

The misadventure involves Harry, a partner in an award-winning television writing team. Harry (Thomas Mahard) is the nuts-and-bolts pragmatist. Meanwhile, his partner, Paul (John Seibert), is flowing with creative ideas and a blood-alcohol level that would kill a moose.

When Harry wants to split up, Paul threatens blackmail. Harry's response: "I guess I'll have to kill him."

At nearly every turn, Edward Taylor's script doesn't miss a chance for an easy laugh. Harry's wife (Denise Dailey McCauley) responds, "There must be laws against murder."

Once it's clear that committing an undetectable murder is the game, the plot resembles the story Paul has recently conceived for a made-for-TV mystery.

As he showed in Meadow Brook's last production, "What the Butler Saw," Seibert not only has outstanding comedic timing, but an enduring appeal.

While Seibert displays a talent to shift gears, the rest of the cast, including inspector Egan (Paul Hopper) often times gets stuck in an exasperated, frantic tone. But as a piece of contemporary theater, "Murder By Misadventure" feels more like calisthenics than compelling live theater.

Rent from page E1

New York City dealing with relationships, work, creative desires and losing friends to AIDS. These are also the elements of "Rent," which focuses on a group of artistically creative young people, gay and straight, who deal with the many trials and tribulations of living in New York City and trying to find a break and also struggling with drug addiction and HIV/AIDS.

"Jonathan's work made me feel something," Seller said. "I was 25 and he was telling my story, and I didn't even know him. I love 'Rent' and I did it because I loved it. I hoped others would love it, too. And they have."

Legends from page E1

they know them from first lists. "Day by Day," the initial single from "Legends Diner," was a Top 40 track on the Gavin Adult Contemporary Charts. "Life Goes On In L.A." is climbing the charts.

With the music part figured out, Monroe is learning about the business "day by day." "Legends Diner" is the first release on Monroe's independent label, Divorce Records. "I got a realistic view of what it takes to get a record done this way," he said. "Not only writing it, but seeing it all the way through, from production to packaging, to getting it in stores and out to the public. It's great knowing that something that came from my head can get on the radio and that people take the time not only to buy it, but send letters, faxes and e-mails." "Divorce was a name he

Line from page E1

thought of while going through a divorce. "It's severing the old to make way for the new, because with every ending there's a beginning," he said.

At Borders, you'll just see "Me and my acoustic I," said Monroe. Michigan is the first stop on a bookstore tour that will take him to Texas and California. "It's a song showcase, and set up nicely," he said. "People are there to study, the audience will listen. It's real direct, not loud like a club."

"Rent" was originally produced at the nonprofit New York Theatre Workshop and then commercially off-Broadway. Originally Larson and Seller and his two co-producers saw the rock musical as strictly an off-Broadway production.

"When we saw it in performance, in front of an audience, I said it feels like a Broadway

musical. It was big — big in feelings, big in character, big in music," Seller said.

Seller's assessment proved right. The play moved to Broadway in April, 1996, to rave reviews and sold-out audiences and, along with "Bring in 'da Noise, Bring in 'da Funk," has helped bring young people back to theater.

"Rent" swept all major theater

awards, including the 1996 Tony for Best Musical and became the seventh musical drama to win the Pulitzer Prize.

Seller is currently overseeing four companies of "Rent" and planning London and Sydney productions. He is also importing an Argentine musical for Broadway opening in spring and beginning work on a new musical.

'With the music part figured out, Rick Monroe is learning about the business 'day by day.'

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Schoolcraft's 'Moon Over Buffalo' great fun

Schoolcraft College Theatre Department presents "Moon Over Buffalo," by Ken Ludwig, in a dinner-theater format, 6:30 p.m. dinner and 8 p.m. show, Friday-Saturday, March 27-28 (\$19), and as a show only, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 3-4 (\$8), at

the college, 18600 Haggerty Road (between Six and Seven Mile roads), Livonia. (313) 462-4409. BY BOB WEIBEL
SPECIAL WRITER

One could imagine staging playwright Ken Ludwig's riotous farce, "Moon Over Buffalo," many different ways.

Schoolcraft College's director, James Hartman, chose to emphasize physical comedy — and judging from the warm and sustained applause, the audience loved the comic mayhem to the max.

The time is the early 50's. The place is Buffalo. More specifically, the dressing room of a second-rate theater (marvelously created for us by Hartman's well-designed set). A third-rate acting company is presenting "Cyrano de Bergerac" and "Private Lives" in repertory.

Heading the pathetic troupe of actors are George and Charlotte Hays (Brian Taylor and Brenda Lane). They get along about as well as the Bickersons. Charlotte learns George has bedded the troupe's ingenue, Eileen (Lindsay Crain). Then, thing really get testy.

An old vaudevillian axiom guarantees laughs if you beat the tar out of somebody with a

rolled up newspaper. Which is just what Charlotte does to George — and for good measure, she gives Eileen a couple of whacks.

It makes for great fun, and typifies most scenes in the show. Physical comedy always looks so simple and easy when done well. Kudos to the cast for putting in the many hours of rehearsal required to make the timing and reactions appear so comically natural.

The few slow spots in the show appear to be caused more by the script than the performers.

Brian Taylor, as George, gives an outrageously campy performance as an over-the-hill actor still hoping of one last chance at the big time. His seemingly inexhaustible supply of energy serves him well, whether as a drunk, a beleaguered husband or a bewildered "deBergerac" in a scene where the rest of the characters are doing "Private Lives."

Larry Pelliconi is terrific as the company's suave, urbane attorney, Richard, who makes a play for Charlotte upon learning of the troubled marriage. Unfortunately for Richard, however, he's the only one who isn't happily coupled in the end.

But in all good farces, we know that everybody lives happily ever after — even in Buffalo.

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7:30 pm
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SEATS AS LOW AS \$5

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FREE AUTOGRAPHS!

 FORMER BASEBALL STAR WILLIE HORTON FRIDAY, MARCH 27TH 12:00PM - 7:00PM FREE AUTOGRAPHS	 HOCKEY HALL OF FAME ALEX DELVECCHIO SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH 11:00AM - 1:00PM FREE AUTOGRAPHS	 WOW HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP DIAMOND DALLAS PAIGE SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH 2:00PM - 4:00PM FREE AUTOGRAPHS	 FORMER BASEBALL STAR MICKY LOLICH SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH 12:00PM - 4:00PM FREE AUTOGRAPHS	 HOCKEY HALL OF FAME TED LINDSAY SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH 2:00PM - 4:00PM FREE AUTOGRAPHS
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FREE FRIDAY ADMISSION

THE 1998 HOME IMPROVEMENT SHOW

Better Than Ever!

NOVI EXPO CENTER

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2pm-10pm
FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2pm-10pm
SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 10am-10pm
SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 10am-7pm

The 1998 Home Improvement Show at the Novi Expo Center has more to offer this year than ever before. New exhibits, new products, new ideas, exciting new ways to make your home more special.

Spring is here, and here is where it's at. The 1998 Home Improvement Show. Better than ever!

Admission: Adults - \$4; Seniors and Children 6-12 - \$3; Children under 6 admitted FREE. Family tickets for two adults and accompanying children available at Farmer Jack - \$9.

HOME IMPROVEMENT SHOW

NOVI EXPO CENTER 1-96 AND NOVI ROAD APRIL 2-5, 1998

SOME EXCITING ATTRACTIONS AT THIS YEAR'S SHOW:

- Make money turning "Tinkles into Treasures." Tony Hyman shows you how. As seen on Oprah and Vicki.
- Joe Gagnon, WJZ's "The Appliance Doctor" broadcasts live from the show.
- Parade of Homes
- Home decorating demonstrations
- Home repair and remodeling demonstrations
- Treasure Chest contest with daily prizes.

HOME IMPROVEMENT SHOW

NOVI EXPO CENTER 1-96 AND NOVI ROAD APRIL 2-5, 1998

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8 days a week

A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

THEATER

CAPITOL THEATRE
Artistic License, the Windsor Feminist Theater's fifth annual Director's Project Play Festival, 8 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, March 26-29, at the theater, 221 University Ave. W., Windsor. Donations accepted. (519) 253-8065 or http://www.msnl.net/~capitol or capitolmnsi.net

READMAN BOOK THEATRE
"Murder By Misadventure," a mystery-writing duo plots the perfect murder, through April 12, at the theater at Oakland University, Walton and Squirrel boulevards, Rochester. 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays (\$22), 2 p.m. Wednesdays (\$22), 8 p.m. Fridays (\$26.50), 2 p.m. Saturdays (\$32), 8 p.m. Sundays (\$32). 9 p.m. Sundays (\$26.50). Students, seniors and group discounts available. (248) 377-3300

PLOWSHARES THEATRE CO.

"A Raisin in the Sun," 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays and 6 p.m. Sundays through April 5, Museum of African American History's Dr. Charles H. Wright Theatre, 315 E. Warren (at Brush), Detroit. \$15. \$10 with discounts available for seniors. Plowshares performs, MAAH members, students and ill, and seniors ages 60 and older. (313) 872-0279

PURPLE ROSE THEATRE COMPANY

"Book of Days," by Lewis Wilson, pre-Friday-Saturday, March 27-29, April 9 (815-\$20), and regular run Friday-Saturday, April 10-May 24 (\$20-\$25), at the theater, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Special benefits performance 8 p.m. Saturday, April 11 (\$500), (734) 475-7902

OPERA

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With conductor Robert Bernhardt, soprano Nancy Davis Booth, mezzo-soprano Hillary Nicholson, tenor Douglas Ahlstedt and baritone Nicholas Lorenz, performing a variety of songs from operas including "La Boheme," "The Barber of Seville," and "Rigoletto," 8 p.m. Thursday, March 27, 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 27-28, and 3 p.m. Sunday, March 29, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$17-\$60. (313) 576-5111 or http://www.detroitssymphony.com

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

"The Chamber Buffalo," by Ken Ludwig, in a dinner-theater format, 6:30 p.m. dinner and 8 p.m. show, Friday-Saturday, March 27-28 (\$19), and as a show only, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 3 (\$8), at the college, 18000 Hawthorn Road (between Six and Seven Mile roads), Livonia. (313) 462-4409

LA THEATRE COMPANY

"A Lie of the Mind," by Sam Shepard, through March 29, at the McCauley Theatre on the Outer Drive campus of University of Detroit-Mercy, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays. \$10, \$8 seniors and students. (313) 993-1130

U-M MUSKET

"The University of Michigan's student-run musical theatre group presents 'Pippin,' a 70s pop rock musical about the son of a king," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 27-28, at the center, 15600 J.L. Hudson Dr., Southfield. \$5, \$4 for students. (313) 764-0450

U-M SCHOOL OF MUSIC, OPERA THEATRE

"The Turn of the Screw," based on the ghost story by Henry James, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 2-4, and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 5, at the college, 18000 E. Huron Road, Livonia. Mendelssohn Theatre, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. \$14 and \$18, \$7 students. (734) 764-0450

WASHARTNAP

"Fiesta's Rainbow," directed by Tony Award-winner Judy Ruehlhahn, and a set by Broadway set designer Paul Kelly, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 2-4, and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 5, at the college, 18000 E. Huron Road, Livonia. \$12 and \$15, \$5 and \$7 for students. (313) 973-3623

WSU HILBERY THEATRE

"A Woman of No Importance," by Oscar Wilde, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 26, and Friday-Saturday, April 3-4; "Two Gentlemen of Verona," by William Shakespeare, 8 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, March 28, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 29, and the open house, 8 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at John Steinfeld, 10 a.m. student matinee Tuesday, March 31, at the theater, 4743 Cass Ave. on the Wayne State University, Detroit. (313) 577-2972

WSU STUDIO THEATRE

"Speed the Plow," by David Mamet, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 2-4, and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 5, at the theater below the Hibbard Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATRE

CHURCH OF THE DIVINE CHILD

"Anything But the Musical," 7:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, March 27-28, and April 3-4, and 3 p.m. Sundays, March 29, and April 5, at the church, 1001 N. Silver Lane (west of Telegraph Road) south of Ford Road, Dearborn. \$6, \$50 adults and students with ill, \$4.50 seniors and children. (313) 562-1990

JACK-IN-THE-BOX PRODUCTIONS

"The Zoo Story," by Edward Albee, 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 27-28, and 6 p.m. Sunday, March 29, University of Michigan-Dearborn's ROC, off Evergreen Road between Ford Road and Michigan Avenue, Dearborn. \$6, (734) 797-JACK

WILD THING

"The 15th annual Michigan Wildlife Art Festival features 80 nationally acclaimed wildlife and environmental artists, 4-9 p.m. Monday, March 30, Kerrytown

CLASSICAL

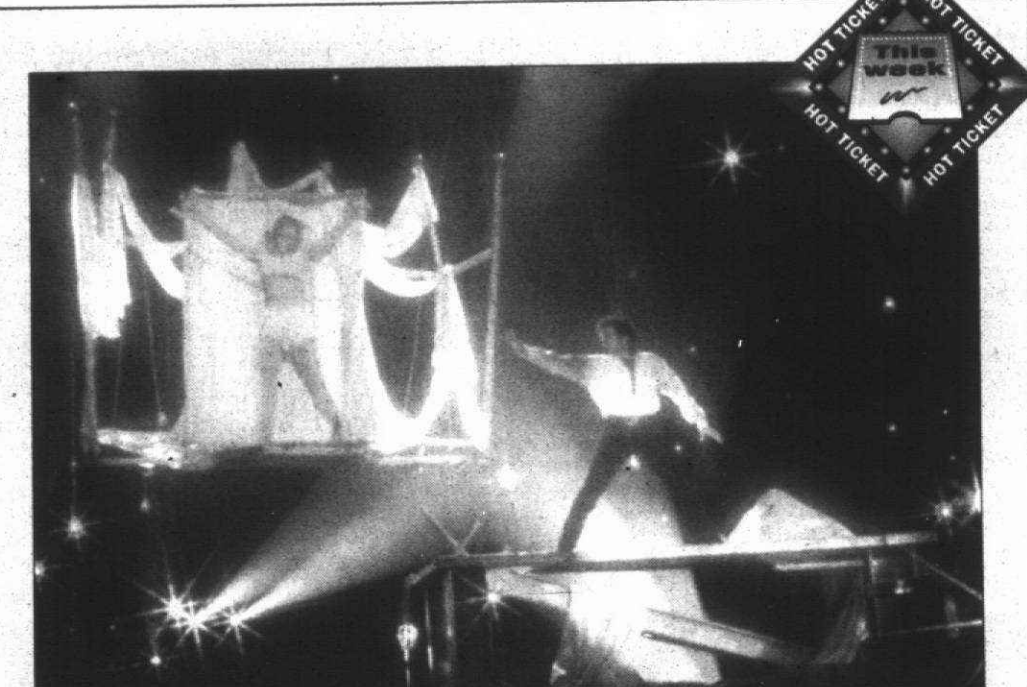
AMERICAN STRING QUARTET

Performs a "Beethoven to the Contemporary" program, 4 p.m. Sunday, March 29, Rackham Auditorium, 3200 Mack Center, Ann Arbor. \$10-\$25. Washington St., Ann Arbor. \$15-\$30. All ages. (800) 221-2229 or http://www.ams.org

ATLANTIS ENSEMBLE

8 p.m. Monday, March 30, Kerrytown

Please see next page



Magic show: Illusionist David Copperfield takes audiences on a journey through the history and wonder of the 'Art of Magic,' with 'Dreams and Nightmares' Friday-Sunday, March 27-29, at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Eight performances, tickets \$29-\$46.50, call (248) 433-1515/(313) 983-6611 for show times and information.

CONCERTS

Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$25 rows 1-5, \$15 rows 3-5. \$10 general seating. (734) 769-2999 or http://www.concathome.com/kch
DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With Conductor Robert Bernhardt, soprano Nancy Davis Booth and tenor Douglas Ahlstedt, as part of "Opera Pops" feature Flute, Verdi's "Un di se ben rammentu" and Puccini's "Nessun dorma," 8 p.m. Thursday, March 26, 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2 p.m. Saturday, March 28, 8:30 p.m. Sunday, March 29, Orchestra Hall, Detroit. With Conductor Donald Runnicles and pianist Eldar Nevoisin, 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, April 3, and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, April 4, \$17-\$60. (313) 576-5111 or http://www.detroitssymphony.com
FARMINGTON COMMUNITY BAND
Spring Symphony concert originally scheduled for March 22 will be held 3 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at Harrison High School, 29995 W. 12 Mile Road (between Middlebelt and Orchard Lake roads), Farmington Hills. \$3, \$2 students and adults, \$5 for the donor/senior citizens fee. (734) 261-2202/(248) 489-3412 or http://www.mystery.org/fcb
MARINERS' CHURCH OF DETROIT
A series of organ concerts with Kenneth Sweetman and Kevin Bylmas playing the music of Bach, Brahms, Franck, and Pachelbel during Lent, 12:35 p.m. Thursdays, March 26 and April 2, following 12:00 p.m. service, 170 E. Jefferson, Detroit. Free parking in Ford Auditorium Underground Garage at the median of Jefferson Avenue at the foot of Woodward Avenue. (313) 259-2206

PIANIST OPPENS

Pianist performs a "Beethoven to the Contemporary" program, 8 p.m. Friday, March 27, Rackham Auditorium, 3200 Mack Center, Ann Arbor. \$15-\$30. (800) 221-2229 or http://www.ams.org
OWAIN PHYFE
As part of "garb night," 9 p.m. to midnight Thursday, March 26, O'Mara's Bar, 2555 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley. Free. 21 and older. (248) 399-6750

PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

"Double 'You Pleasure" concert featuring father and son pianists Joseph and Michael Krieger performing Polenc's "Concerto for Two Pianos in D Major," 8 p.m. Saturday, April 4, at the North High School Auditorium, 24064 Tart Road, Southfield. \$2, \$10 general seating, \$10. \$2 children K-12th grade. (734) 451-2112. Afterglow at Botsford Inn, 28000 Grand River, Farmington Hills.

UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR'S BAND ENSEMBLE AND CONCERT BAND

Registration for the Windsor Music by Stravinsky, Barnes and Vaughan Williams, Capitol Theatre's Pentastar Playhouse, 121 University Ave., West Windsor, Ontario, Canada. \$10, \$6 seniors and students (Canadian) (519) 253-7729 or http://www.msnl.net/~capitol

WARREN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

With soprano Ellen Chockering, Jan Abrams and Barbara Wiltse, 7 p.m. Sunday, March 29, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$17, \$15 seniors, \$5 children ages 12 and younger. \$23 groups of five or more. (810) 754-2950

POPS/WING

BIG SANDY AND HIS FLY RITE BOYS
With Wynton Marsalis and Starlight Drifters, 8 p.m. Friday, April 3, Clutch King's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. \$8 in advance, 18 and older. (576) 448-1512
IMPERIAL SWING ORCHESTRA
9 p.m. Friday, March 27, and Friday, April 3, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge, 21 and older; 9 p.m. Saturday, March 28, 8 p.m. Sunday, March 29, First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555

PINO MARELLI

International pop standards and originals in English, Italian and Spanish, 6 p.m. Tuesdays through March, Ardor's Grill N' Chill, 27900 Hoover Road, Warren. Free. All ages. (810) 582-0080

STRAIGHT AHEAD

"Dance Collection-1998" with performers by the company's senior and junior divisions, 3 p.m. Saturday, April 4, at the Plymouth Canton High School's Little Theater, 84 S. Canton Center Road (at Plymouth Court), Canton. \$9. (734) 426-4430

MICHAEL FLATLEY'S LORD OF THE DANCE

8 p.m. Tuesday, Friday, March 31-April 5, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway Theatre. (313) 874-7850

ANN ARBOR COUNCIL FOR ADDITIONAL MUSIC AND DANCE'S INTERNATIONAL DANCE AND DINNER

An afternoon of international dancing, and live music and dance instruction by Galatia (2-30 p.m.), and a homemade community dinner of Eastern European food (4:30-6 p.m.). Sunday, March 29, Pittsfield Garage, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Road (1/4 mile south of Ingham), Ann Arbor. \$12. Reservations by Friday, March 28, Edison. (248) 969-927 or maridance@bisc.com

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WORLD MUSIC

THE ARTICLES
New releases, April 1, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (Jamaican jazz/ska) (248) 543-4000
PACO DE LUCIA AND HIS FLAMENCO SEXTET
8 p.m. Saturday, March 28, Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor. \$20-\$30. (800) 221-2229 or http://www.ams.org

IMMUNITY

10 p.m. Friday, March 27, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River Ave., Novi. Free. 21 and older. (reggae) (248) 349-9110

FOLK/BLUEGRASS

LISA HUNTER
9 p.m. to midnight Friday, March 27, Lonestar Coffee, 207 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. Hosts open mic night, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 29, Gargoyles Coffeehouse, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Free. All ages. (acoustic folk/pop) (248) 642-2233/(248) 745-9750

JAMES KEELHANG

With Vance Gilbert, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 2, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$12-\$50. All ages. (734) 761-1451

MICHAEL KRIEGER

8 p.m. Friday, March 27, Universalist Union Church of Farmington, 23501 Halsted Road (between Grand River Avenue and 11 Mile Road), Farmington. \$8, \$4 seniors and students. (248) 542-5712

D.L. HARRINGTON'S ROADHOUSE

2086 Crooks road, at M-59, Rochester Hills. Cover charge, 21 and older. (248) 399-6750

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Continued from previous page

29887 W. 11 Mile Road (west of Middlebelt Road), Farmington Hills. Free. (248) 476-8600

WORLD MUSIC

THE ARTICLES
New releases, April 1, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (Jamaican jazz/ska) (248) 543-4000
PACO DE LUCIA AND HIS FLAMENCO SEXTET
8 p.m. Saturday, March 28, Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor. \$20-\$30. (800) 221-2229 or http://www.ams.org

IMMUNITY

10 p.m. Friday, March 27, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River Ave., Novi. Free. 21 and older. (reggae) (248) 349-9110

FOLK/BLUEGRASS

LISA HUNTER
9 p.m. to midnight Friday, March 27, Lonestar Coffee, 207 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. Hosts open mic night, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 29, Gargoyles Coffeehouse, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Free. All ages. (acoustic folk/pop) (248) 642-2233/(248) 745-9750

JAMES KEELHANG

With Vance Gilbert, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 2, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$12-\$50. All ages. (734) 761-1451

MICHAEL KRIEGER

8 p.m. Friday, March 27, Universalist Union Church of Farmington, 23501 Halsted Road (between Grand River Avenue and 11 Mile Road), Farmington. \$8, \$4 seniors and students. (248) 542-5712

D.L. HARRINGTON'S ROADHOUSE

2086 Crooks road, at M-59, Rochester Hills. Cover charge, 21 and older. (248) 399-6750

PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

"Double 'You Pleasure" concert featuring father and son pianists Joseph and Michael Krieger performing Polenc's "Concerto for Two Pianos in D Major," 8 p.m. Saturday, April 4, at the North High School Auditorium, 24064 Tart Road, Southfield. \$2, \$10 general seating, \$10. \$2 children K-12th grade. (734) 451-2112. Afterglow at Botsford Inn, 28000 Grand River, Farmington Hills.

UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR'S BAND ENSEMBLE AND CONCERT BAND

Registration for the Windsor Music by Stravinsky, Barnes and Vaughan Williams, Capitol Theatre's Pentastar Playhouse, 121 University Ave., West Windsor, Ontario, Canada. \$10, \$6 seniors and students (Canadian) (519) 253-7729 or http://www.msnl.net/~capitol

MOVIES

Trashy 'Wild Things' is reviewer's guilty pleasure

In the opening credits of "Wild Things" a swooping camera peers down on alligators wallowing in the everglades, over the aluminum roofs of trailer parks, past modest bungalows, and finally to the mansions of the rich and famous, which is where we really want to be, where we've evolved to. Or have we? "Wild Things" compares the animal-like ferocity that leads to murder and deceit in a wealthy Florida yachting community. Directed by John McNaughton, this way-bip mix of sex, violence and bizarre plot twists is the year's first true guilty pleasure. For the uninitiated, a guilty pleasure is the kind of movie that you love even when common sense tells you otherwise. "Wild Things" treats its one-dimensional characters and hokey plot so sincerely that you can't help but get swept into it. Blue Bay, Florida, is a modern-day Peyton Place where you fall into one of two categories: country club or trailer trash. Whenever these worlds collide, you know murder will result. Here two high school girls from opposite sides of the tracks join to accuse Sam (Matt Dillon), their high school guidance counselor, of rape. The movie leaves it unclear whether he did it or not, setting in motion a chain of deception so complex that even the most die-hard mystery fan will have trouble unraveling it. The girls are Neve Campbell (from "Scream") 1 and 2) and Denise Richards (formerly in the ensembles of both "Melrose Place" and "Starship Troopers.")

They are a clever study in contrasts, from the former's raccoon-eyed makeup and arm-length tattoos to Richards' sexy turn as a bad little rich girl who throws herself at Sam. To give away more would spoil what some viewers will find the most visceral film experience since "Pulp Fiction" and "Seven." Guilty pleasures? You bet. While the young actresses have only worked in this kind of schmaltz, Dillon and Kevin Bacon (as the crusading police detective intent on busting Sam) should probably know better. Yet they play it straight, as if they're reciting James M. Cain instead of McNaughton's copy of a copy of a copy of "Double Indemnity." You know you're getting old when Dillon and Bacon serve as elder statesmen, but there are representatives from other generations as well. Even in her 50s, Theresa Rus-



JOHN FARMER

Unlikely Conspirators: Waiting outside the Glades Motel, Blue Bay High guidance counselor Sam Lombardo (Matt Dillon) and Blue Bay outsider Suzie Toller (Neve Campbell) make unlikely conspirators in "Wild Things."

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

A large grid of movie listings for various theaters in Detroit, including titles like 'Wild Things', 'The Godfather', 'The Untouchables', and 'The Iron Mask'. Each listing includes the movie title, rating, and theater name.

SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan. Detroit Film Theatre: Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313) 833-2323 for information (\$5.50; \$4.50 students/seniors). "Mrs. Dalloway" (Britain-1997). Friday-Sunday, March 27-29 (call for showtimes). When a woman (Vanessa Redgrave) encounters a man she has known since 30 years earlier, it causes her to reevaluate the path her life has taken. Based on a novel by Virginia Woolf. "Z" (France-1969). 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 30. Costa-Gavras' thriller is based on the real-life investigation that followed the assassination of a liberal Greek politician (Yves Montand) in 1963. "Magic Bag" 22918 Woodward, Ferndale. Call (248) 544-3030 for information. (S2) "The Rainmaker" (USA-1997). 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 26. Another John Grisham novel hits the screen, but this time it's a pretty good one. Francis Coppola directs the story of a young lawyer ("Goodwill Hunting's" Matt Damon) who goes up against a big-time insurance company. "The Full Monty" (Britain-1997). 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 1. A group of unemployed blue-collar workers decide there's money to be made in stripping at the local pub. The only problem: their non-Chippendales' psyches. Main Art Theatre 118 N. 1972). 9 p.m. Sunday, March 29. Francis Coppola's classic account of a Mafia family still looks good 25 years later, with Marlon Brando in his signature role as Don Corleone and introducing Al Pacino as son Michael, who reluctantly takes the helm. "South East Michigan Pride" (USA-1997). 7:45 p.m. Saturday, March 28. From Canadian director John Greyson ("Zero Patience"), a gay-themed story set in two different time periods: a 1952 prison and a lakeside French-Canadian village 40 years previous. The movie explores universal themes of tolerance, love, remorse, and revenge. "Afterglow" (USA-1997). 7 p.m. through Sunday, March 29. A tale of magic, passion, and the power of women by first-time director Kasi Lemmons. "Heaven's Burning" (Australia-1997). 9:15 p.m. through Sunday, March 29. A shaggy dog story about a Japanese bride in Sidney who fakes her own kidnapping and then gets wrapped up in a bank robbery. "Eve's Bayou" (USA-1997). 7 p.m. through Sunday, March 29. A tale of magic, passion, and the power of women by first-time director Kasi Lemmons. "Heaven's Burning" (Australia-1997). 9:15 p.m. through Sunday, March 29. A shaggy dog story about a Japanese bride in Sidney who fakes her own kidnapping and then gets wrapped up in a bank robbery. "Eve's Bayou" (USA-1997). 7 p.m. through Sunday, March 29. A tale of magic, passion, and the power of women by first-time director Kasi Lemmons. "Heaven's Burning" (Australia-1997). 9:15 p.m. through Sunday, March 29. A shaggy dog story about a Japanese bride in Sidney who fakes her own kidnapping and then gets wrapped up in a bank robbery.

Advertisement for Grand Opening Friday, March 27th at United Artists Theatres Commerce Township 14. Features a calendar of events for March 26th and 27th, including movie listings and showtimes.

Fastball takes the fast track on release of new album

Fastball's sophomore album "All the Pain Money Can Buy" (Hollywood Records) debuted on the Billboard charts at No. 111 and singer/guitarist Miles Zuniga has already indulged. "I actually immediately booked a plane. We played in Phoenix yesterday and we were going to drive to Austin right after," Zuniga explained during a phone conversation March 19. "We have a full day of radio and promotion tomorrow and if we drove we'd be getting in at 11 or 12 tonight and just have to go to bed and give up on sleep. But when I saw we were at No. 111, I said 'I'm flying.' We were going to pay for it but Hollywood offered." Sales of the album have been bolstered by the hit single "The Way," a snappy low-fi number that opens with the crackling and snapping of an old 45. The song, Zuniga explains, speculates on what happened to an elderly couple from Texas who were reported missing when they didn't show up for a family reunion. The woman had Alzheimer's and the husband was partially paralyzed from a stroke. "It's just Tony's (bassist/vocalist) idea of what might have happened. They may have just gotten tired of their jobs and decided to go in an RV and drove away. Maybe they went to renew their romance," Zuniga said of his songwriting partner's idea. After Fastball finished recording the song, the Texas-based band found out that the couple's

car had been found at the bottom of a canyon near an old family vacation spot. Dark lyrics are commonplace on "All the Pain Money Can Buy." "Fire Escape" explores the desire to have a casual relationship. "I don't wanna make you mad/I don't wanna meet your dad/I don't wanna be your dream come true," Zuniga sings. An a more upbeat note, the Scalzo-penned "Warm Fuzzy Feeling" is an ode to Ben Kewler, the teenage lead singer of the fellow Texas band Radish who wore a Fastball T-shirt in his band's latest video. The pop noir of "All the Pain Money Can Buy," however, offers undeniable hooks with the help of vintage-sounding keyboardist, time changes, horns and cellos. "It's all about taking risks. This time out we were going for something a little more expansive and a bit more mysterious. We didn't worry about what other people were going to think, we just wanted to make a personal statement with our music," Zuniga said. That recording process was completely different than the one for "Make My Mama Proud," its 1996 debut on Hollywood. "We just tried to mess around with things and really use the studio and experiment. The first record we pretty much just went in and recorded it the way they were." "This time we let the songs organically grow in the studio. That helped a lot. A song could go in any direction." Zuniga cites that experimentation and his band's influences as reasons for the success of "All the Pain Money Can Buy." "We try to write from our heart

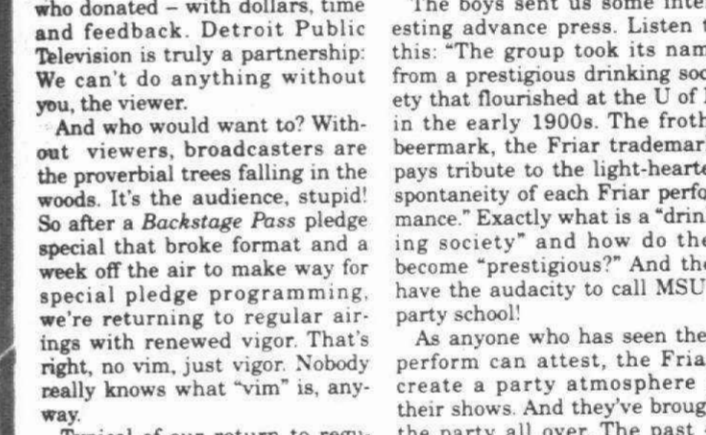
and sometimes people can really relate. We're pretty 'old school.' We like rock 'n' roll. I don't mean alternative rock. I mean rock 'n' roll, like Elvis and Chuck Berry," he said. "I love Chuck Berry. I try to emulate Chuck Berry and people influenced by him like Angus Young from AC/DC. I have a lot of respect for rock 'n' roll and where it comes from. We also listen to blues and country music and that really filters into the music." Fastball is Zuniga and drummer Joey Shuffield's second foray into the major leagues. The duo formerly played in Big Car and Zuniga calls their experience with record companies "a nightmare." "Everything that could go wrong did go wrong. I thought about maybe not playing music professionally anymore and just playing for fun." All that changed when Zuniga traveled to Europe and played in the subway in Paris and at a bridge in Italy. "That probably factored me into continuing to play music. I went to Europe and played on the street there, played in bars, anywhere I could play. I just realized that I really loved playing music so much that I should keep doing it and not worry about it if it was going anywhere." Fastball is going somewhere. "The Way" went to No. 7 on Billboard's Modern Rock charts last week and the band is planning on touring through Christmas. After opening for Whiskeytown at the 7th House, Fastball will return to the area in June with Everclear and Marcy Playground. Fastball opens for Whiskeytown at 8 p.m. Friday, March 27, at the 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Tickets are \$10 in advance for the 18 and older show. For more information, call (248) 335-8100 or visit http://www.961melt.com. Fastball's website is http://www.hollywoodrec.com/fastball. Just a reminder that tickets for Janet Jackson and Usher, Friday, July 17, at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit go on sale Saturday, April 4, at all Ticketmaster outlets. Tickets are \$45, \$62.50 and \$75. For more information, call (313) 596-3200 or (248) 645-6666. If you have a question or comment for Christina Fucoco write her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 30251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or via e-mail at cfucoco@aol.com.

Backstage Pass returns with the Friars

Whew! Pledge is over, and viewers of and employees at Detroit Public Television can breathe a sigh of relief. The nasty business of the bottom line is done, and now we can go back to enjoying the fruits of our labor - and your generosity. Thanks to everyone who donated - with dollars, time and feedback. Detroit Public Television is truly a partnership. We can't do anything without you, the viewer. And who would want to? Without viewers, broadcasters are the proverbial trees falling in the woods. It's the audience, stupid! So after a Backstage Pass pledge special that broke format and a week off the air to make way for a special pledge programming, we're returning to regular airings with renewed vigor. That's right, no vim, just vigor. Nobody really knows what "vim" is, anyway. Typical of our return to regularity (if not normalcy) our own Gerry Craig will take a Backstage Pass camera crew to Robert Kidd Gallery in Birmingham to see "The Master's Eye," an exhibition of work by contemporary artist Larry Rivers. Rivers' art often speaks to the absurdity of the very concept of art. Assessing his vocation, Rivers says, "I continually picture the artist as a minister without a parish or as some ludicrous opera singer, serious, with hand on breast, believing to an empty theater." He may attempt to diminish the grandiosity that is too often part and parcel of the art world, but he's the real deal. As Princeton University Professor Sam Hunter writes, "In his career, Rivers has had, on occasion, to play many roles - realist, traditionalist, rebel, iconoclast, and even buffoon. His art grew out of his life, to a degree unusual in contemporary art, and his own

immense personal vitality has sustained it." The Master's Eye runs through April 18 at the Robert Kidd Gallery. Back home in the Detroit Public Television studio, we're hosting the unbridled fun of The Friars. The Friars is a vocal octet made up of members of the University of Michigan Men's Glee Club. The group is currently comprised of students Dante Mastri, Todd Claybaugh, Ryan Clarkson, Patrick Evoe, Jeff Hogg, Nate Pierantoni, Andrew Watchorn and Chris Jardi. The boys sent us some interesting advance press. Listen to this: "The group took its name from a prestigious drinking society that flourished at the U of M in the early 1900s. The frothy beermark, the Friar trademark, pays tribute to the light-hearted spontaneity of each Friar performance." Exactly what is a "drinking society" and how do they become "prestigious" and they have the audacity to call MSU a party school. As anyone who has seen them perform can attest, the Friars create a party atmosphere at their shows. And they've brought the party all over. The past 40 years have seen the group at the White House, the Rose Bowl, the Miss Hawaii USA contest, the Pirates of the Caribbean, the Islands of the Caribbean, the Islands of the Caribbean, the Islands of the Caribbean, the Islands of the Caribbean. Closer to home, they also stay busy planning activities and singing for various campus organizations. Weekends are often spent performing for alumni or campus groups, with an occasional local business or social gathering thrown in. And, of course, they perform at Michigan football games. Over Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend, the Friars traveled to New York City to perform for an alumni club there, which marked the first off-campus alumni performance engage independently of the Men's Glee Club. The Friars sing all types of music including barbershop, rock, pop, soul and country. Members of the group write and

arrange all of the music that the group performs. Many academic interests are reflected in this year's group, including engineering, archeology, communications and political science. The group rehearses twice a week for two hours - I guess that's whenever they're not busy maintaining their status as a venerable drinking society! The Friars have a concert 8 p.m. Saturday, March 28 at Rackham Auditorium on the UM campus. They also have a CD available for sale called, "Nice."



ANN DELISI

Advertisement for Jackie Chan: The Stunt Man. Features a large image of Jackie Chan and promotional text including "AN ENTERTAINING, ACTION-FILLED THRILLER THAT IS PURE PLEASURE!" and "Fight first. Apologize later."

Advertisement for "All for Fun, Fun for All!" featuring a collage of movie posters including "The Iron Mask", "The Untouchables", "The Godfather", and "The Untouchables".

Advertisement for Grease 20th Anniversary. Features a large image of John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John and promotional text including "Grease is still the word" and "First time in digitally re-mastered 6-track stereo sound."

Advertisement for Walt Disney Pictures Presents "The Iron Mask". Features a large image of the movie's main characters and promotional text including "You'll Crave Their Wave!" and "To Protect and Surf."

Advertisement for a movie theater ride. Features a large image of a person on a ride and promotional text including "Ride" and "Starts Friday at these theatres!"

DINING

Reel in great eats at Flying Fish Tavern

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

Area restaurant trend setter Matt Prentice and his Unique Restaurant Corp. couldn't sit on the number 13 very long. He opened Flying Fish Tavern in West Bloomfield, restaurant number 14, last week. Area foodies can reel in some great eats on Orchard Lake Road, most affectionately dubbed "restaurant row."

Architectural and design talents of Birmingham-based Marc Therrian removed any trappings of former eateries at this location. Capital infusion allowed conversion from well water, formerly serving the site, to city water that now tastes good. Bright colors from floor to ceiling give Flying Fish an up-tempo feeling. Well-placed sound breakers reduce noise when the place is going full tilt. Those clouds on the ceiling - they're acoustical tiles.

Flying Fish is about food; good food at modest prices. But it's more than that. It's a place families will enjoy. Kid Stuff has its own menu spot. Little Tavern Burger with Fries, Grilled Cheese with Fries, Chicken Tenders or Pasta Marinara are served with a bottle of root beer for kids 12 and under. A game room in back makes children of all ages happy. Sports fans won't miss a down, face-off, slam dunk or homerun. TV monitors carry Fox Sports programming.

Flying Fish is also a gathering spot, a place to kick back with friends, after work or later in the evening. There are 40 brews, eight on draft served in 16-ounce mugs, 1/2 yard or yard. Atwater Brewery has made a suds special, exclusively for Flying Fish. American-style pilsners, international lagers and ales are available by the bottle. Woodchuck Hard Cider (sparkling cherry) and non-alcoholic brews are among the broad selections.

URC's wine director Madeline Triffon has made her imprint with modest, but savvy, value-oriented wine selections.

Frequenters to Tavern on 13 in Beverly Hills may see some similarities in the menu, but Flying Fish has its unique items. Two appetizers make their debut: Lobster & Shrimp Spring Roll

Flying Fish Tavern

Where: 6480 Orchard Lake Road, (corner of Maple Road) West Bloomfield (248) 865-8888.

Hours: 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday; 3 p.m. to midnight Sunday.

Menu: Casual neighborhood family eatery serves comfort foods with special focus on fresh catches of the day.

Cost: Appetizers and dinner salads \$4-8; sandwiches and burgers \$5.50-7; pastas \$7-9; big plates, specials and catch of the day \$9-15; desserts \$2-4.

Reservations: For parties of six or more only.

Credit cards: All majors accepted.

are addictive.

Having been trained by Matt Prentice, Detroit native Executive Chef John Arnold is a 12-year veteran of Unique Restaurant Corp. kitchens. He'll be busy because he doubles as executive chef and managing partner at Flying Fish and Tavern on 13.

"I like the tavern concept," he said. "For people on the go, we offer fast service, but not fast-food taste. The kitchen challenge is creating something inexpensive that tastes good."

Big Plates are guaranteed to be "everything larger than life - except the check." Chef John has added to his very popular Tavern on 13 Southwestern Torte, Sizzling Steak or Chicken Fajitas \$11. Also good bets are the portion-sized pastas, all served with warm sourdough bread. A cup of soup, tavern or Caesar salad can be added for \$2.

served with ginger-garlic aioli and honey mustard sauces \$8 and Veggie Chili, billed as a chili carnivores will love. It comes topped with sour cream, scallions, Jack and cheddar cheeses \$4.50.

New on the burger scene is Whitefish Burger made with Fresh Lake Superior Whitefish served with lettuce, tomato and horseradish dill cream \$6.50. To eat light, try it instead of a turkey burger. Two sandwiches are flavorful newcomers: Grilled Garden Vegetable Wrap \$7 and Ahi Tuna Melt, prepared from fresh-grilled Ahi tuna, thick sliced tomato and melted cheddar, served open faced on grilled country bread \$7. All sandwiches are served with dills and housemade potato chips. Chips from fresh roasted thinly sliced potatoes fried in canola oil are made on-premise daily. Tossed with Chef John's seasoning, they

Each day, a "Flight Arrivals" board, easily noticed upon entering the tavern, announces the day's fresh catches. The "flying and flight" theme underscores the fact that the kitchen daily receives fresh seafood, flown in from the best seaports across the United States.

In the model of URC's Northern Lakes Seafood Company in Bloomfield Hills, all seafood is served with vegetable, fried rice and choice from three sauces: tropical fruit salsa, Bearnaise or roasted garlic Provencal and can be prepared broiled, grilled, sautéed, blackened or poached. But portions are downsized from those at Northern Lakes.

Special menu recognition has been given to URC's largest seafood purveyor, Foley's in Boston. So, when you see Foley's Boston Sole on the menu, you know the meaning.



STAFF PHOTO BY DAN DEAN

Fresh fish: Executive Chef/Managing Partner, John Arnold (left) and General Manager/Managing Partner, Marc Forrest present Broiled Sole inside the new Flying Fish Tavern.

"The reputation of Foley's for seafood compares to a Cadillac in the auto industry," URC's corporate chef Jim Barnett remarked. Man-up-front at Flying Fish Tavern is general manager Marc Forrest. Over the last three years, he has worked his way up from a server at Relish to a management position.

"Working tavern-style is fun because it's different every day," he noted. If you leave room, Marc will convince you that Oreo Cheesecake is the best dessert! Flying Fish Tavern's mark on the

area dining scene will be made with the freshest ingredients. Prices compete with national chains, but Flying Fish has personality on the floor, with competent and friendly wait staff, and in the food, made from scratch by Chef John and his kitchen crew.

No time to eat in? All items are available as take-outs.

WHAT'S COOKING

■ **Plymouth Landing** - 340 N. Main St., Plymouth, (734) 455-3700, All You Can Eat Fish Fry, every Wednesday and Friday during Lent, Deep Fried Alaskan Cod, French Fries or Macaroni & Cheese, Coleslaw, Breadbasket, available lunch and dinner, \$7.95. Make reservations now for the Easter buffet, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 12, cost \$12.95 adults, \$6.95 children ages 5-10, no charge children age 4 and under. Ham and turkey, pasta with tomato sauce, mixed vegetables, roast pork with gravy, Polish sausage, rice pilaf, mashed potatoes, stuffing, sweet & sour cabbage, sweet potatoes, variety of salads and desserts. Look for feature introducing the Plymouth Landing's new executive chef Chaz West, on April 2.

■ **Hospitality Banquet** Henry Ford Community College - "Yesterday's Memories and Tomorrow's Dreams," begins 5 p.m. Saturday, April 4 in the Student Center. Fund-raiser for the hospitality studies student scholarship program features appetizers, beer and wine tasting, art auction of works by HFCC students and music by the HFCC Trio. For dinner entree choices are Beef Tenderloin Wellington Bordelaise or Salmon en Croute with Dill Beurre Blanc Sauce. Entrees will be served with roasted Yukon Gold potatoes and mixed vegetables. Tickets are \$35 per person, call (313) 845-9651. The college is at 5101 Evergreen.

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