

# Canton Observer

Serving the Canton Community for 23 years

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Today's late delivery is not the fault of your Observer carrier. Due to technical difficulties, we were unable to get the newspapers out on time.

Thursday  
April 23, 1998

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 82

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SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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## Message to Mom

Why is your mother special? Tell us in 50 words or less and you may win lunch or dinner for your mom (and three other people) at Max & Erma's. Mail, fax or e-mail entries by noon Friday, May 1.

**MAIL:**  
Community Editor Tedd Schneider  
794 South Main Street  
Plymouth, MI 48170

**FAX:**  
(734) 459-4224

**E-MAIL:**  
tschneider@oe.homecomm.net

Be sure to include your name, your mother's name, your address and telephone number. You may send a photo, however, judging will be based on your message.

We will print as many entries as possible on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10. The contest is open to readers of all ages.

IN THE PAPER  
**TODAY**

COMMUNITY LIFE

**Worth watching:** This week, area schools are celebrating Earth Day and Arbor Day. But for students at Tonda and Field elementary schools in Canton Township, the environment should be honored daily. The cable channel Nickelodeon paid special attention to Field students last night. /B1

## ENTERTAINMENT

**Folk:** Noel Paul Stookey, and his trio, Peter, Paul & Mary, will perform May 3 in Detroit with singer Chava Alberstein in a salute to the state of Israel. /E1

**Music Awards:** The 16th annual Detroit Music Awards recognize club bands and recording excellence in an assortment of musical styles. /E1

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## HOW TO REACH US

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## Clues sought in crash

■ The NTSB investigation of Saturday's plane crash in a Canton subdivision is under way as a student pilot and his flight instructor recover at University of Michigan Hospital.

Little is known about why a Cessna 150 sputtered out of control and crashed early Saturday evening.

According to a pilot at Canton-Plymouth Mettetal Airport, flight instructor Philip Kahler, 26, and his student pilot Malcom Stinson, 41, were practicing takeoffs and landings for about 30 minutes prior to the crash about one mile south of the airport.

### Residents unnerved, A3

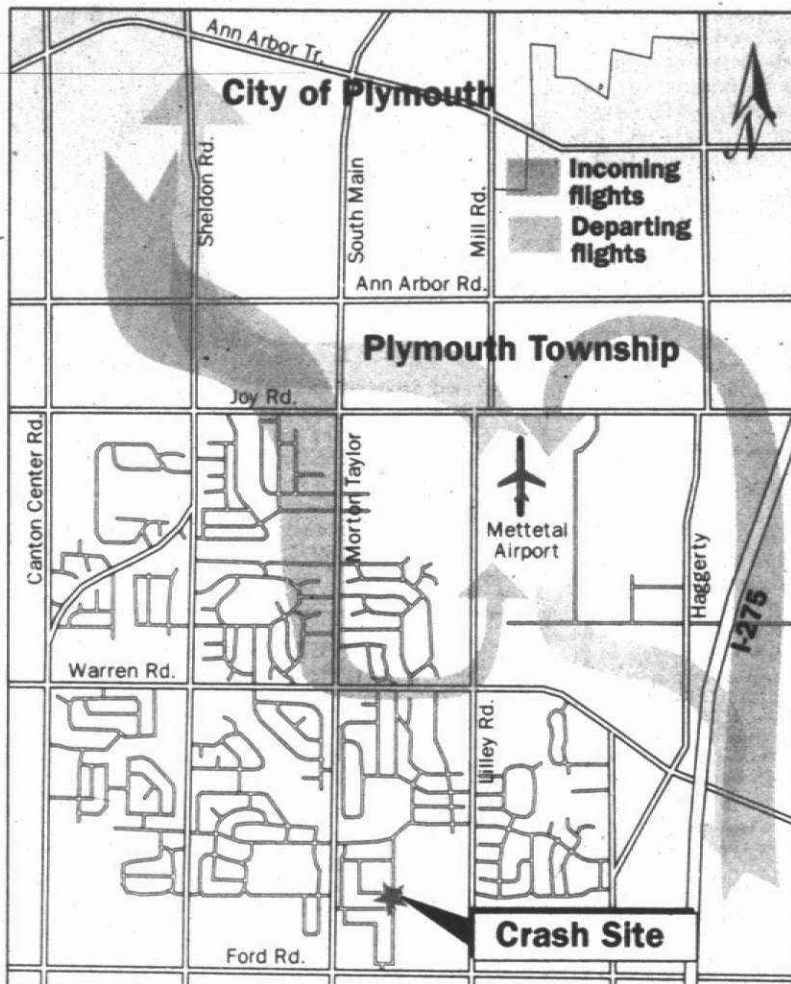
"Eyewitnesses said it was going north to south, but I don't know why it would be," said one Mettetal pilot, who declined to be named. "I assume it was headed back to Willow Run, then had engine trouble and decided to come back here."

Kahler, of Belleville, was listed in good condition Wednesday at the University of Michigan Hospital after being trapped in the passenger seat of the Cessna's cockpit. He suffered from various burns, a severe leg injury and head injury.

The student pilot, Stinson, was listed in serious condition after suffering from burns and internal injuries. It is believed Stinson did have prior flying experience as a helicopter pilot in the military, said Steve Wilson of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB).

A spokesman at A Different Approach Flight School at Willow Run Airport said Stinson was a private helicopter pilot. Kahler has

Please see **PLANE CRASH, A3**



### Flight patterns at Mettetal Airport

The neighborhood where the Cessna 150 crashed Saturday evening is nearly one mile south of where the airplane was to turn east to line up with the runway at Canton-Plymouth Mettetal Airport. The troubled Cessna reportedly was heading north to south. Speculation is that the Cessna was returning to its home base at Willow Run Airport, experienced engine trouble and doubled back toward Mettetal. Mettetal is a "left hand traffic" airport with one runway. Flight patterns are recommended, but not regulated by the FAA because the airport doesn't have a control tower. Suggested flight patterns avoid most residential areas, including the entire city of Plymouth due to a noise abatement.

HELEN FURCIEAN / STAFF ARTIST

## Whyman posts sex offenders on Web

Canton's state Rep. Deborah Whyman has made available the western Wayne County sex offenders list for those visiting her Web site at [www.whyman.org](http://www.whyman.org).

The sex offender list includes names of 36 Canton residents convicted of charges ranging from first-degree criminal sexual conduct to indecent exposure. One of the 36 was convicted of assaulting a child under the age of 15.

The information is catalogued by zip code and includes the name and address of sex offenders living in Canton (48187 and 48188), the Plymouths, Northville, Redford, Sumpster, Belleville, Livonia and Westland.

The names were made available at local police agencies under a 1996 state law. The law was based on a national movement, known as Megan's law, named after a New Jersey girl assaulted and killed by a convicted sex offender.

"As we enter spring and kids are riding their bikes and playing outside, I think moms and dads would want to know if a sex offender is living in their neighborhood," said Whyman.

"Also as a single woman, I would want to know if a sex predator lives in my neighborhood."

At least one other state legislator, Sen. David Jaye, has made the information available on the Internet for his constituents. A council member from the city of Warren also has made the

Please see **SEX OFFENDERS, A6**

## Roads tax hike likely for ballot

Canton residents likely will be asked at the polls once again whether they want to pay more in local taxes to improve roads.

A consensus of township board members at a Tuesday study session was to put a 2-mill tax request on the August primary ballot. An official vote will be needed before May 12 to put the issue on the ballot.

For an average homeowner with a \$150,000 house that would be approximately \$150 more per year in taxes.

The original recommendation was to levy the 2 mills from Canton's general operating tax by township board action — without asking for a vote of the people.

Canton's charter allows elected officials to levy up to 5 mills for general operating purposes. Canton levies just 1.1 mills. Police and Fire have dedicated millage.

Township Supervisor Tom Yaek, Treasurer Elaine Kirchgatter and trustee John Burdziak were in favor of taking the board action route.

"Each of you will have to weigh, 'Why

Please see **TAX HIKE, A3**

## Springtime comes to Sheldon Center Road



**Home and garden show:** Every April, drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians along the Sheldon Center / Canton Center connector get a springtime treat as dogwood trees reach full bloom along the easements east and west of the road. The trees are heavily concentrated in a one-mile stretch between Joy and Warren roads. Observer readers will find a list of springtime safety tips for bicyclists on today's Editorial Page, A14.

## Providers come together for Project Health-O-Rama

BY TEDD SCHNEIDER  
STAFF WRITER

A number of Canton-area health providers will supply time, tools and expertise to Saturday's Project Health-O-Rama at the Summit.

In addition to the major hospitals — St. Joseph Mercy and Oakwood — local specialists making a commitment to the day of free and low-cost health screening include a dentist, optometrist and audiologist. A mental health professional will even be on hand to help clear your state of mind.

"I think it's a great idea. Our office does nursery school visits to help educate kids about proper dental care and this is another excellent way to reach out into the community," said Dr. Bonnie Misiak.

Misiak, who works out of dentist

Janice Hayward's offices on Sheldon Road, will perform an oral cancer screening for Health-O-Rama participants. She will use a dental mirror to examine the mouth and throat for lesions in a painless procedure that will only last a minute or two.

Barb Douglas of Personalized Hearing Care in Westland will be on hand with her audiometer. The machine checks an individual's hearing against a range present to "the lower level of normal," Douglas said.

Douglas said only about 16 percent of family physicians regularly make hearing screenings part of a routine check-up. "I don't think the general population understands the kinds of common problems that result from (partial) hearing loss," she said.

"It can interfere with people's rela-

tionships or how they do their jobs."

Like Misiak, Douglas said she will refer Health-O-Rama participants with potential problems to a specialist for further treatment.

Both the oral cancer and hearing screenings are free.

Douglas has participated in other area Health-O-Rama projects but this marks her first effort in Canton, which began its local site last year.

The statewide project is run by the United Health Organization, part of the United Way. Local sponsors are Canton Township, the Canton Chamber of Commerce, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System and the Observer Newspapers.

Also coming to Canton for the first time will be Lin Fox of Northwestern

Please see **HEALTH-O-RAMA, A2**

### FOR YOUR HEALTH

- What: Project Health-O-Rama, a day of free and low-cost health screening services
- When: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, April 25
- Where: Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton
- Transportation: Walk-in or take shuttle van from area senior housing and mobile home parks
- Needed: Driver's license or other identification (participants must be 18 or older)
- Information: Health-O-Rama Hotline (248) 424-8600 weekdays or Summit (734) 397-5110 Saturday



OBITUARIES

STANLEY "POPS" WORRELL
Services for Stanley "Pops" Worrell, 82, of North Vernon, Ind. were April 17 at First Christian Church with the Rev. Harold Barnett and Rev. Bill Worrell officiating.

Vernon; four sons, Stanley Worrell Jr. of Milford, Glen Worrell of Plymouth, Braden Worrell of North Vernon, Chuck Worrell of North Vernon; two daughters, Janet Lee Scicluna of Farmington Hills, Lori Ann Earl of Trenton; six brothers, Allen Worrell of Estel County, Ky., Claude Ray Worrell of Detroit, Kenton Worrell of Versailles, Ky., Johnny Worrell of Madison, Ky., Douglas Worrell of Estel County, Ky., Harold Worrell of Estel County, Ky.; three sisters, Naomi Ruttenberger of Owensboro, Ky., Virginia Henderson of Dayton, Ohio, Spicie Witt of Louisville, Ky.; 17 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

mouth community in the mid-1930s. She was a volunteer at the Plymouth Historical Society. She graduated from Plymouth High School in 1946. She loved to play bridge and bicycling. Survivors include her husband, Glenn H. of Plymouth; one daughter, Cathryn (Louis) Jakowatz of Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland; two sons, Mark (Donna) Schroeder of Spring Lake, Mich., David (Carol) Schroeder of Midland, Mich.; five grandchildren, Corinne Schroeder, Julia Schroeder, Jack Schroeder, Noel Schroeder, Glenn Schroeder, and one brother, Richard (Joyce) Jackson of Astoria, Ore.

also worked part time as a cook at Kreage's in Plymouth and at Mike's Grill in Livonia on Plymouth Road. She came to the Plymouth community in 1953 from Samburg, Tenn. She was a member of the Spring Street Church of God in Old Village in Plymouth. She was preceded in death by her husband, Elzie Wallace; two daughters, Margaret McBride, Sylvia Clark; and one son, Edward Wallace. Survivors include her three daughters, Lorraine Williams of Ypsilanti, Marriette (George) Cronkrite of Plymouth, Bernice Cruse of Union City, Tenn.; two sons, James (Pat) Wallace of Lima, Ohio, Daniel (Ola) Wallace of Hornbeak, Tenn.; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

den City. She loved to travel and do crafts (wedding arrangements, and silk flower arrangements). She was an active supporter of her children and a devoted family person. Survivors include her husband, David E. Socal of Canton; two daughters, Dana (Jerry) Salame, Andrea Socal; her brother, Omer Ammons; one brother, Robert Sowa; and one sister, Christine Robertson. Memorials may be made to the Red Cross or the Salvation Army.

throughout Michigan. He was also a member of Northwestern Michigan Artists and Craftsmen. He was preceded in death by two sisters. Survivors include his wife of nearly 55 years, Alberta Jane Sweet of Old Mission; two daughters, Beverly Milligan of West Bloomfield, Barbara (Harry) Greanya of Plymouth; one sister, Faye Gerber of Vero Beach, Fla.; six grandchildren, Darrell Stokes of Chicago, Ill., Deborah (Jeff) Hardman of Clarkston, Jason Greanya of East Lansing, Benjamin Greanya of Ann Arbor, Katie Milligan of Mount Pleasant, Mich., Danna Milligan of West Bloomfield, and one great-granddaughter, Samatha Hardman.

Utility forum
Consumers urged to study options on deregulation

A community forum Monday night on Michigan's proposed electric utility deregulation drew far fewer people than expected, but one of the organizers said she understood why. The topic and the confusion surrounding it were key factors in holding down attendance to 150, half the anticipated crowd, said program moderator Faith Offman. She is pastoral associate at St. Robert Bellarmine Church in Redford Township, where the forum was held. "I'm a little disappointed" in the turnout, "but maybe it's okay," she said philosophically. The nearly three-hour program featured speakers from state government, a union, a ratepayers' coalition and Detroit Edison. The program dealt with a subject that many in Michigan are only vaguely aware of: Lansing's likely move to deregulate the state's electric power industry, thus letting residents and businesses choose their electricity supplier. The forum was sponsored by the West Detroit and Northwest Wayne Vicariates in conjunction with The Catholic Caucus of Southeast Michigan.

State high school proficiency test to get new rating names

Those hated labels on statewide student tests are due to get new names today. The State Board of Education is studying Superintendent Art Ellis' suggestions to drop the "proficient," "novice" and "not yet novice" ratings given students on the Michigan Educational Proficiency high school tests. Option B also provides four levels: 1. Does not meet Michigan expectations. 2. Meets Michigan expectations. 3. Exceeds Michigan expectations. 4. Indicates distinguished performance. Variations on Option B call for reversing the order of numbers and slightly different descriptions. Option A provides four levels of ratings: 1. Distinguished. 2. Exceeds Michigan standards. 3. Meets Michigan standards. 4. Does not meet Michigan standards. Ellis called it "straightforward" but said it will be difficult to establish "cut" scores between categories. That is, "there may be only a one or two raw score point difference between each level, particularly in writing where there are only 12 points in total." Option B also provides four levels: 1. Does not meet Michigan expectations. 2. Meets Michigan expectations. 3. Exceeds Michigan expectations. 4. Indicates distinguished performance. Variations on Option B call for reversing the order of numbers and slightly different descriptions. Option A provides four levels of ratings: 1. Distinguished. 2. Exceeds Michigan standards. 3. Meets Michigan standards. 4. Does not meet Michigan standards. Ellis commented that "Option B may provide an opportunity for more students to earn endorsements while assuring the State Board of Education maintains rigorous standards..." "Establishing two reporting categories that meet or exceed the Michigan standards will be an easier task with the elimination of an additional reporting category that describes distinguished performance." Ellis said he found either option acceptable, leaving the decision solely to the eight-member board. The Legislature mandated changing the scoring labels after public hearings last year showed much student and parental dissatisfaction. But the concept of statewide testing is here to stay, lawmakers said, because of local variations in standards in granting high school diplomas. Eleventh-graders in public schools will find their standard state tests have a new name this year - "MEAP High School Tests."

SPRING OPEN HOUSE

Advertisement for Home Garden Showplace featuring Dwarf Alberta Spruce (20% off), Flowering Hydrangea, Lawn Starter Kit, and Garden Expert Seminars. Includes contact info for Plymouth Nursery and Garden Center.

Advertisement for Central Air Conditioning, featuring a van image and contact number 453-2230.

Advertisement for Charter Township of Canton, Notice of CDBG Program Amendment, including details about the program and contact information for Terry Bennett.

Advertisement for Manna Clothing & Tailoring, featuring a large flower graphic and the text 'Welcome back, sunshine.'

Advertisement for Community Federal Credit Union, offering a 7.95% APR Home Equity Lines of Credit with various features and contact information.

Advertisement for Laurel Park Place, a shopping center, featuring a large flower graphic and details about the location and hours.

Advertisement for Manna Clothing & Tailoring, celebrating a 25th Anniversary Sale with details on inventory, pricing, and contact information.

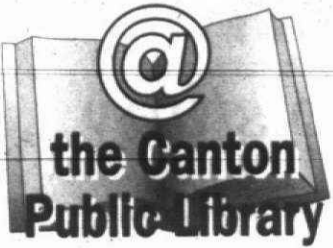
Advertisement for Inches-A-Weigh Weight Loss Centers for Women, featuring a woman's image and details about the program, including a 'First 50 Callers Only' offer.

Advertisement for Cornwell Pool & Patio, featuring images of pools and patios, and details about the company's services and contact information.

Sex offenders from page A1

sex offender list available. The Canton Public Safety web site (www.Canton-MI.org/public-safety.html) doesn't include the names of sex offenders. However, in accordance with the 1996 law, the list is available to residents in its records department on the second floor of police headquarters.

address and type of crime act convicted sets up the offender for harassment. "They don't have evidence that that has happened," said Whyman. "It hasn't happened in other states."



Did you know: During the months of March and April, 832 first-graders from Canton and Plymouth visited the library and many received their first library cards?

- Multi-media Here are some new CD-ROMs for kids available from the library.
New talking books Here are some new books on tape available from the library.

Court to hear motion on open primary lawsuit

A hearing on a motion in a lawsuit challenging the way Wayne County election officials count primary election ballots is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29 before Circuit Court Chief Judge Michael Sapala.

Tests from page A5

In Math, Science, Reading, Writing and Social Studies. Testing time will be two hours long.

"Our expectation was that everyone would be eager to take the high school tests," said Dorothy Beardmore, vice president of the State Board of Education.

Local students in Quiz Bowl

High school quiz teams from across Michigan are brushing up on their facts and figures in preparation for the 11th Annual McDonald's State Championship High School Quiz Bowl on April 24-25.

- New fiction Here are some new selections available from the library: 'Forever My Love' by Linda LaBee

Hot topic of the week The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence provides education, information, help and hope in the fight against the chronic, often fatal disease of alcoholism and other drug addictions.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

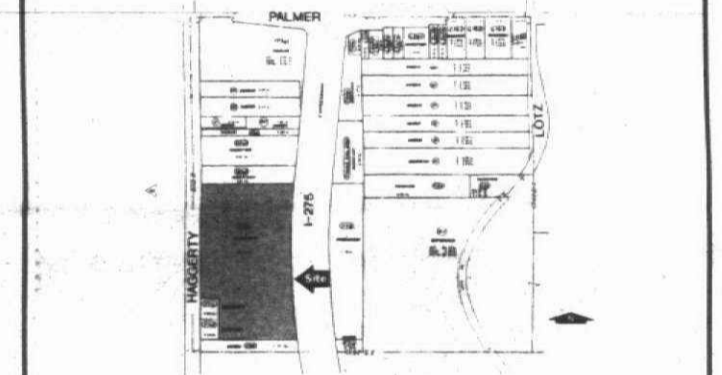
Sealed proposals will be received by Charter Township of Canton Parks & Recreation Department, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, MI 48188 until 5:00 PM, May 7, 1998 for HERITAGE PARK PARKING LOT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING AND DESIGN SERVICES.

Published: April 23, 1998

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 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, May 4, 1998 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.

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



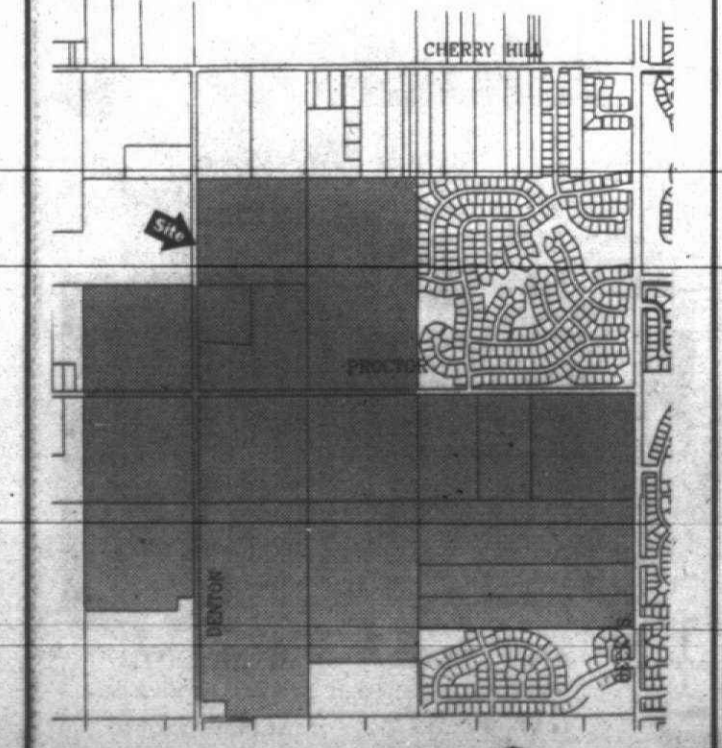
Published: April 9 & 23, 1998

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 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, May 18, 1998 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.

CONSIDER A REQUEST TO AMEND CENTRAL PARK PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) AGREEMENT AND EXHIBITS AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.041.3 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE

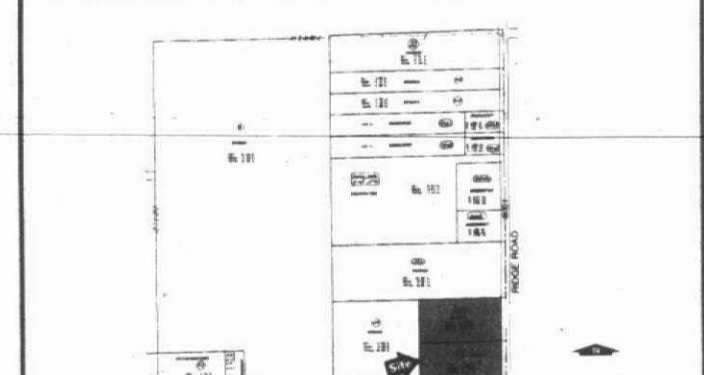
Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.



Published: April 23, May 7, 1998

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

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Published: April 9 & 23, 1998

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON 1998-99 ACTION PLAN 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FY 1998 CDBG PROGRAM

On April 23, 1998 and for 30 days thereafter, public comment will be accepted on the 1998-99 Canton Center Township Action Plan. The Action Plan is part of the Consolidated Plan, (mandated in 24 CFR Parts 91, 92, 570, 574 and 968 (August 5, 1994/Proposed Rules), which replaces the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS).

On April 16, 1998 The Canton CDBG Advisory Council adopted the following projects and funding levels for the FY 1998 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for recommendation to the Canton Board of Trustees for approval at the regularly scheduled Board meeting of April 28, 1998.

Published: April 23 and 30, 1998

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 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, May 4, 1998 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.

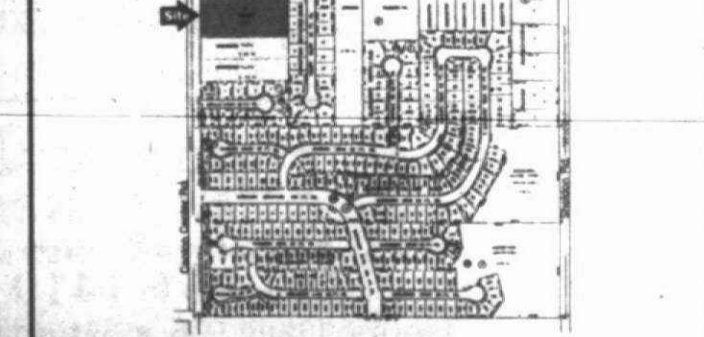


Published: April 9 & 23, 1998

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, May 18, 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.

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



Published: April 23, 1998

Utility from page A5

programs for the disadvantaged and against slamming and other such practices. After deregulation, Detroit Edison will be the local power distributor for re-sellers and will be the one maintaining equipment and power lines, Connolly said.

issues involved, she said "It's a pretty sad state of affairs for the little of consumer, who can't understand any of this."

Unions are supporting it cautiously from a worker/ jobs standpoint, he said. Government action However, Shane Muchmore, representative of State Rep. Dennis Oshove of the 29th District said his office believes the PSC has not done enough for residential customers.

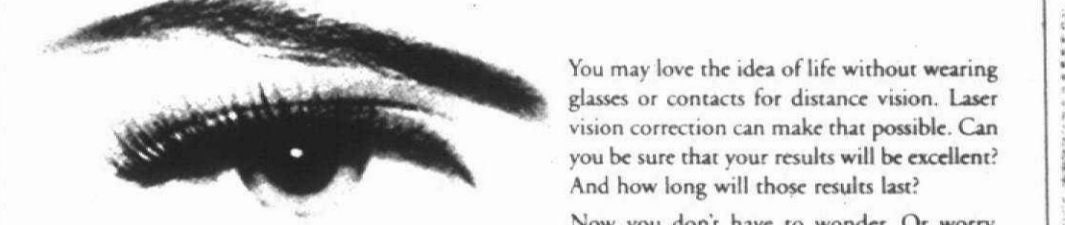
"The legislature needs to be doing more and the PSC less," said Muchmore. Another question needing to be resolved is who will build new power plants to cover future needs - a hot topic already

Russell Mayotte of Livonia, retired after 40 years as a cost of service analyst for Edison, said a key question raised for him is, "Who has the responsibility for meeting customer needs if an out-of-state electric supplier fails?"

THE PETITX Men's Fashions ANNIVERSARY SALE. You're cordially invited to shop our Anniversary Sale. Buy two of any item and take 50% off the second item of equal or lesser value. Take advantage of savings of 50% on everything from shirts to suits, shoes and more.

Only One Company Can Improve Your Vision In Minutes, And Stands Behind Its Results For Life.

INTRODUCING THE TLC LIFETIME COMMITMENT FOR LASER VISION CORRECTION



You may love the idea of life without wearing glasses or contacts for distance vision. Laser vision correction can make that possible.

TLC Detroit Laser Center 34405 W. 12 Mile Road, Suite 154 Farmington Hills Center Director Michael Wallace, OD Medical Directors Anthony Sensoli, MD and Jay Novetsky, MD (248) 489-0400

TIED OF CANCER? An Eye-Opening Look at Cancer Fatigue. If you're fighting cancer, chances are you're also fighting fatigue—and you may continue to fight it even after treatment has ended.

# Champions

## Area teens reel in top honors at Ireland dance competition

Michael Belvitch was taken by it from the start.

As an 8-year-old, Belvitch and his family saw a performance by the Tim O'Hare School of Irish Dance at the Plymouth Fall Festival. Soon afterward, his mother, who is of Irish descent, enrolled Michael into the school.

"It only took the first day of class to get hooked. There's never been a day when I said I didn't want to go to dance class," Belvitch said.

Now, eight years later the Plymouth Salem High School sophomore is the world champion in the senior boys' division, and his friend, 17-year-old Paul Cusick, topped the junior men's division at the World Irish Dance Competition in Ennis, Ireland, Wednesday, April 8.

"There's nothing bigger or harder to win. It's my biggest accomplishment by far," Belvitch said.

His father, George Belvitch, the principal at Tonda Elementary School, is proud of Michael and Paul.

"He's been dancing since he was 8, and he's always wanted to

**'This year I was much more relaxed. I used to have a lot of problems with nerves. I was able to relax. When you're on edge, you can't do your best.'**

Michael Belvitch

win the world championships. This was his year," he said of his son.

"I guess both just kind of got it going in the right direction at the same time."

After competing in the world championships four times, Belvitch beat out 49 other dancers from Ireland, England, Scotland, Wales, the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand to earn a trophy, belt and a medal.

Since the world championships began in 1973, just six Americans have won. Now not only have two more Americans won, but they're from the same city — Plymouth.

"I'm sure that has never happened before," Belvitch said. "It was amazing ... unbelievable."

Belvitch and Cusick each won their first two rounds doing the treble jig and the round reel. They were called back to the third round where Belvitch and Cusick finished with the ace deuce and planxy drury, respectively.

"Everyone has to do the treble jig and the reel. It's the same music but what you're doing with your feet is different," Belvitch explained. "Then the top third gets called back for the final set."

He explained that the secret behind his success was relaxation.

"Some of the judges didn't like me," said the modest Belvitch. "This year I was much more relaxed. I used to have a lot of problems with nerves. I was able to relax. When you're on edge, you can't do your best. I tried to be as laid back as possible," he said.

Cusick, a junior at Catholic Central High School, returned recently after touring Ireland. Last February he also won the All-Ireland Championship.

From here, Belvitch hopes to win the Junior Cup in Chicago in June and compete in the Great Britain's in Birmingham, England, this summer.

"It's not as prestigious as the worlds, but it's one of the five major competitions," he said.

### Hard worker

The season for Irish dancing runs from spring to fall, but he doesn't get a break in the winter. He dives competitively for Salem High School.

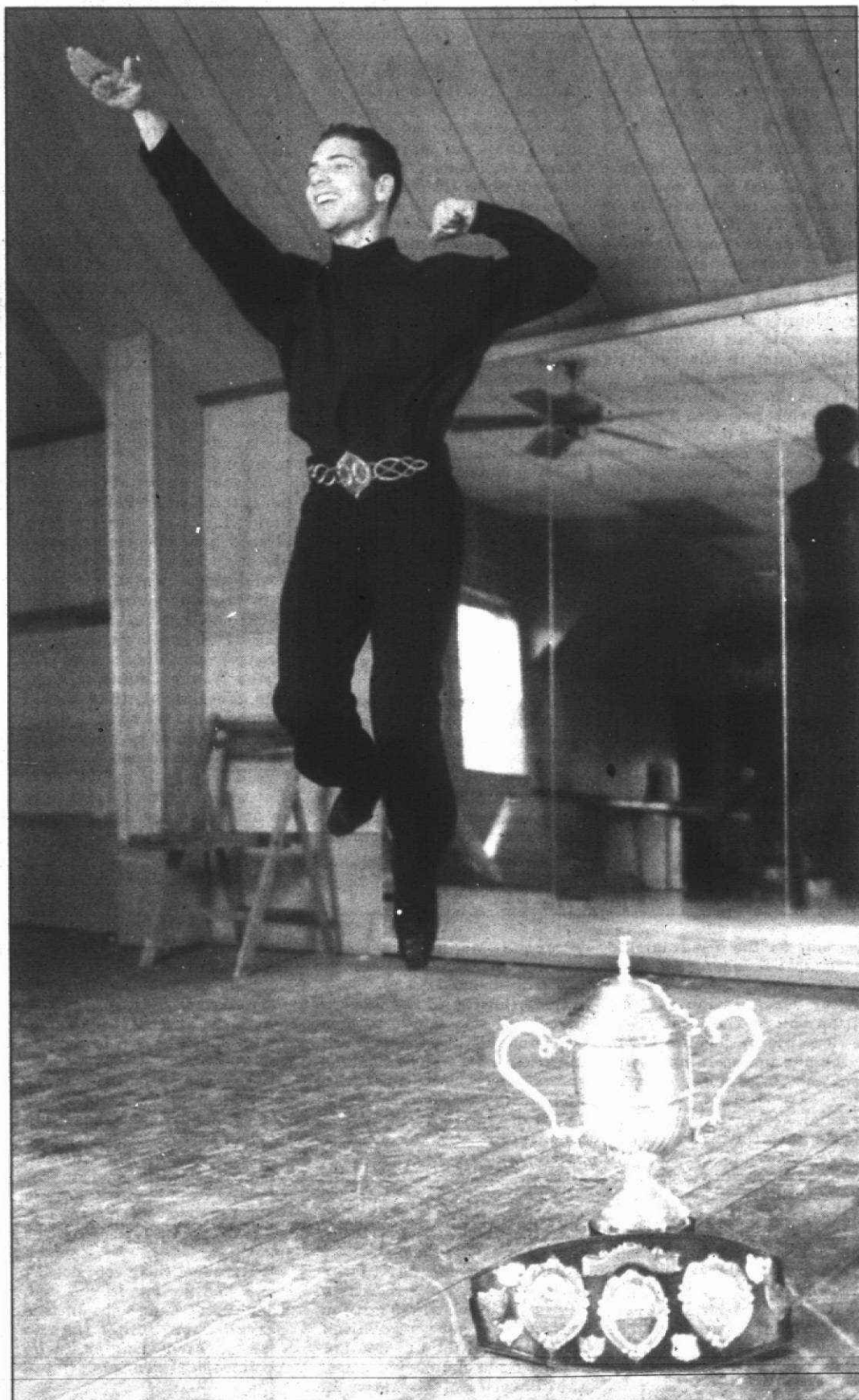
"The amount of hours that you put into that is a lot. I've never put in so many hours for something."

Diving, he said, influenced him to increase his dance practice time to an hour a day.

"There's been times when I'm not as diligent as I usually am," he said.

Belvitch hopes to be a dance teacher someday and is earning experience as a teacher by letting kids come over and practice with him on the stage his father built in their garage. Beth Hool of Livonia, whose daughter Caitlin, 13, and son Michael, 8, said that her children have learned "sharpness, detail and everything that it takes" from Belvitch.

Soon, however, he may be



First-place winner: Paul Cusick shows off his dance moves and his trophy for toping the junior men's division in this month's competition.

practicing on bigger stages.

"There's a lady from 'Riverdance' who is interested in Paul and I. They're holding try-outs in Orlando after the North American championships July 4, and she wants us to make sure we're there," he said.

"It would be a lot of fun to travel all around, but I want to finish high school first. That seems to be the best thing. I'd like to do it between high school and college. I know someone who quit high school to tour. But I don't think that would be a good choice."

In his immediate future, Belvitch hopes to reclaim the title next year.

"I'm going to try to defend it next year, but I wouldn't really be upset if I lost. I'm satisfied now."



No parking: Mike Belvitch practices an hour a day on a dance floor built by his father in the family garage.

## Bad Frog opponents hopping mad

**Editor's note:** An incomplete version of this story ran in some versions of Sunday's Canton Observer.

Two churches plan to protest to the state Liquor Control Commission over a Class C liquor license being extended to a proposed Bad Frog Tavern in Canton Township.

"I find the symbol of the f-word in their logo offensive," said Syd Paul of Agape Christian Academy.

The logo for Bad Frog Beer and the tavern is a frog with a lewd hand gesture. Patrons of the restaurant can order a beer by "flipping off" the wait staff. The menu also includes off-color items.

Paul and pastor Gordon Cook of Grace Baptist Church plan to write letters to the LCC in opposition to the controversial tavern.

Both said they don't condemn the selling of liquor, but object to a restaurant that "promotes the lewd and obscene."

"I understand the liquor license was in place before we came in as a church and a school, but I just want to be on record and make a moral statement," said Paul.

Under state guidelines, a liquor license can be denied if a business is within 500 feet of a

**'I understand the liquor license was in place before we came in as a church and a school, but I just want to be on record and make a moral statement.'**

Syd Paul

—Agape Christian Academy

church or school. Neither Agape or Grace Baptist are within 500 feet.

The Class C liquor license was issued to Happy Days Inc. in June of 1995 for a restaurant that was expected to open on Michigan Avenue, between Geddes and Canton Center.

However, the deal for Happy Days Restaurant fell through and now Southern Properties has retained the controversial Bad Frog Tavern to take its place.

For the past three years, the LCC granted Happy Days Inc. one-year extensions on the liquor license, which was ultimately to expire in June of 1998, said Rick Perkins of the LCC.

The latest request for an extension came in February when it was renewed until June of 1999, he added.

"If it's still a bar or restaurant and operating under the same name (Happy Days, Inc.) then

the license can continue," Perkins said.

Frank DiDario of Southern Properties is listed as the holder of the license under the corporation of Happy Days Inc. He was unavailable for comment.

Canton's township board was expected to vote on a site plan for Bad Frog Tavern on Tuesday, but pulled the item off the agenda due to the number of people who have expressed concern, said Clerk Terry Bennett.

"It came up so quickly to the board, I think we need to look at this. There's a lot of issues here like the quality of life in the community, in addition to the legal process," she said.

The Bad Frog issue first came up before the planning commission March 16, when commissioners unanimously recommended a variance from the required brick facade. The Louisiana Bayou theme of the Bad Frog Tavern features a

stained cedar building.

On April 6, the planning commission voted 4-3 on a recommended approval of a site plan for the 5,520 square-foot restaurant. The township board has final authority.

Supervisor Tom Yack said the township is determining whether it can have another public hearing regarding the liquor license. In 1995, the township board recommended the LCC approve the liquor license for Happy Days Inc.

"We've never been confronted with a situation where a liquor license is granted under one concept and then there's plans to do another," he said.

Birmingham is already home to one of six planned Bad Frog Taverns in Michigan.

Perkins said the LCC previously looked at the Bad Frog Beer issue when it came up several years ago.

The LCC allowed the product to be sold in Michigan, but without the slogan, "mean, green and obscene." Any advertisement must be approved by the LCC, he said.

The beer is manufactured in Minnesota, although the concept was founded by Jim Wauldron of Rose City.

## Blueprints get more study by committee

### COURTHOUSE

When members of the 35th District Court Authority meet this week to discuss construction of a new courthouse, they'll likely be looking at a sixth ... and hopefully final ... blueprint.

The Southfield architectural firm of Coquillard, Dundon, Peterson and Argenta Inc. (CDPA) is making daily changes on the design in order to further reduce costs.

"We're trying to shrink the building until everybody is confident we can get maximum efficiency with minimum cost," said Dennis Dundon, CDPA vice president. "Basically, we're refining what we've seen before, just trying to make it smaller and tighter."

Thus far, the four planned courtrooms appear to have survived with only minor cuts in floor space. However, in the latest plan four conference rooms and a law library have been eliminated to save money. And, Dundon notes office space is being rearranged and made smaller to accommodate the budget constraints.

Dundon said the latest option calls for a building that has 44,600 square feet. However, he declined to speculate on the cost. Last month, the authority

looked at the first scaled-down version of the originally proposed three-story structure, which encompassed 47,204 square feet at a cost of \$7.65 million.

While that was 6,000 square feet smaller and nearly \$1.3 million less than original plans, it was still too expensive for the five communities to approve.

"What we want to do is find out what changes everyone can live with, and then determine what the cost is for that," added Dundon. "Changes in size and cost are being made every day, and will probably continue right up until next week's meeting."

Each of the five communities the court serves will have to give up a portion of the unused operating funds it receives from tickets, court fees and other assessments to support the construction cost.

There has been discussion that each community would give up half its court revenue. For most of the 35th District Court municipalities, that can be a significant part of the community's budget.

# ROUGE RIVER: Alive, but not quite well

If a picture is worth a thousand words, the charts and graphs displayed at Rouge Remedial Action Plan Advisory Council meeting last week spoke volumes.

The Rouge River, although alive, is not quite well.

The meeting reviewed several years of water-quality data collected by the Rouge Program Office, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). Representatives said that few conditions — except aesthetics (water clarity, color and odor and the amount of debris and pollution) — have changed significantly over 10 years.

"Over the next two years, we're looking at having a new RAP (Rouge River Remedial Action Plan)," said Cathy Bean of the MDEQ about the meeting's focus. Bean is the RAP facilitator.

Topics discussed at Wednesday's meeting included toxins, bacteria, fisheries and aesthetics.

The message about swimming: Don't, even in dry weather, the optimum condition. E. coli levels at all stations and times sampled were well over those allowed more than half the time. Also, according to reports distributed at the meeting, construction work at Newburgh Lake in 1997 increased bacteria counts.

Ed Kluitenberg of the Rouge Program Office displayed several graphs illustrating the Rouge River's public use conditions. He said the bacteria problems are being corrected by the various Combined Sewer Overflow projects. However, he added that the graphs' general message is "very valid."

"We have good news in some

areas, but a long way to go in other areas in controlling color and debris," said Lou Regenmorte of the Rouge Program Office. (See chart.)

Regenmorte said the good news includes the ongoing efforts of The Friends of the Rouge School Program, which has grown from 16 schools and 400 students in 1987 to 100 schools and 9,000 students in 1998. He also said three fishing derbies and 600 canoeing trips took place in 1996.

Although Newburgh Lake is being dredged and restored, Joe Rathbun of the Rouge Program Office said all stations tested had toxic sediments. "I don't want to say there is a giant problem, but it is widespread."

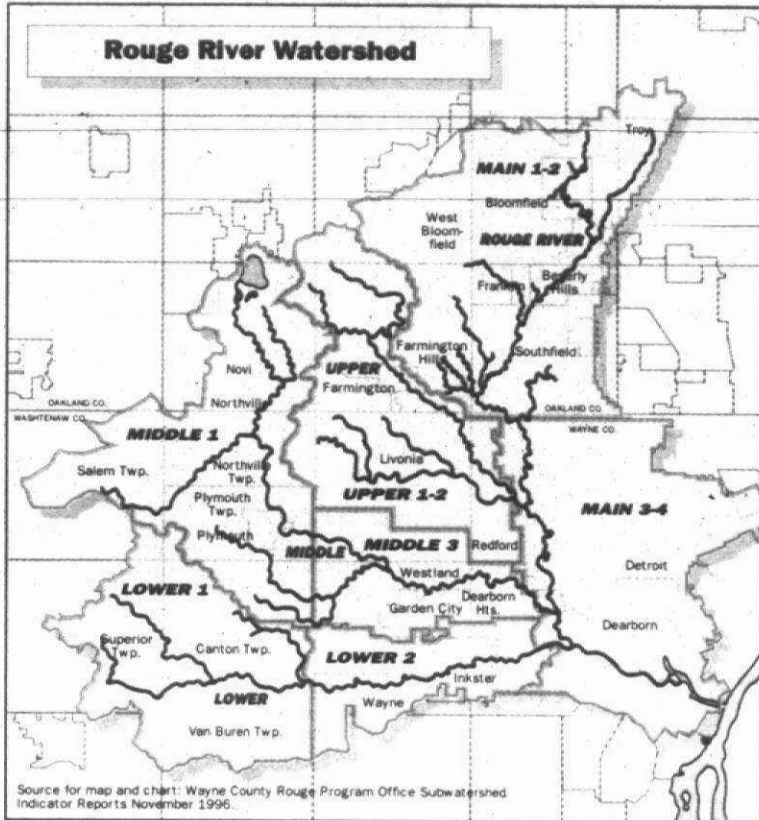
Most of the toxic contaminants — PCBs, PAHs, metals, oils — exist in the Lower Branch. Rathbun did not cite a single contaminant source, but said gasoline from the 2,000 road crossings is a contributor.

Rathbun also spoke of abandoned dumps, some municipal, as contaminant sources. Sixty-eight have been identified to date, and many are close to stream channels.

"Some seem to be decades old. They're buried beneath the topsoil. A lot are just household stuff, bottles and cans. Some are so old the contaminants that would leave have done so."

Rathbun and other presenters emphasized that abandoned dumps do not mean abandoned property. Many sites have been built upon.

Jeff Braunsheidl of the DNR said the Rouge River fish population has remained fairly static over the last 10 years. Game fish exists



### Summary of impaired uses for the Rouge River

Based on information prior to Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Controls

SUBBASIN	WATER CONTACT		WARM WATER FISHERY		CANOEING NAVIGATION		AESTHETIC	
	1987	1996	1987	1996	1987	1996	1987	1996
Main 1 & 2a	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Main 2b & 3	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Main 4	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Upper 1	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Upper 2	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Middle 1	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Middle 2	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Middle 3	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Lower 1	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Lower 2	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

KEY: ○ Full use ● Limited use ● Restricted use ● Insufficient data

only in the impoundments.

Braunsheidl said factors contributing to the low fish population include removal of overhead cover; excessive flow variations; low dissolved oxygen levels; sedimentation from development; and lack of erosion control.

Roy Schramek of the DEQ stressed that the Rouge River Remedial Action Plan must be cohesive. "If we attack just one problem at a time, we're not going to get results." He added: "We need to look at the Rouge River as something that can be fixed."

## Local input needed on action plan

Cathy Bean, facilitator of the Rouge River Remedial Action Plan Advisory Council, said a new RAP is necessary within two years, this time with more input from the 48 local governments in the watershed.

It's the local folks who will determine the river's profile.

"Do you want it to be a fish stream or a more passive thing, less active," said Bean.

The advisory council has made recommendations for intensive community-based education that includes local government; universities; the Environmental Protection Agency; SEMCOG; Wayne, Washtenaw and Oakland Counties; and the Michigan Department of Environmental Control.

Presently, local governments can sign up for a voluntary storm water permit. The permit's qualifications include monitoring and correcting illicit sewer system connections and conducting public education programs.

Bean cited as a past problem a Canton Township farm discharging the waste from 2,000 head of cattle directly into the river's lower stream. The problem was corrected and the farmer has since sold off the cattle.

However, industry is not the lone offender. The average resident must take responsibility for the river's pollution. "If you over-fertilize your lawn and it rains, it goes into a storm sewer to the Rouge River."

Leaking oil from cars and improperly disposed household cleaners also contribute to the pollution. Bean said communities could establish "household waste days" and make special collections of hazardous materials.

The advisory council drafted "Timeline 2000," an agenda for creating the new RAP through the year 2000, which includes conducting community "road shows" beginning in 1999. Participants meet again in June to prioritize issues and set a target end date for a revised RAP.

For information on how the public can help restore the Rouge River, contact the Friends of the Rouge at (313) 961-4050.

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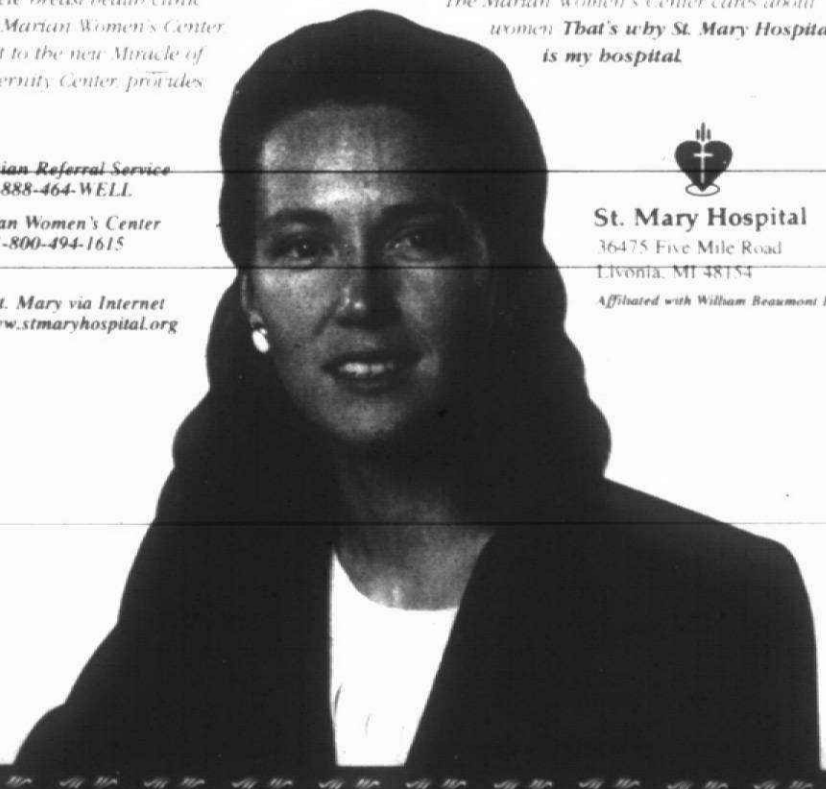
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# Exchange programs need local host families

A Plymouth Township couple is again seeking families in the area with which to place foreign exchange students for the coming academic year.

Although the placement deadline is Aug. 1, a target date of June 15 has been set to smooth the transition for all parties.

Three students - David, a 17-year-old boy from Spain; Jana, a 16-year-old girl from Russia and Nara, also 16, from Brazil - are scheduled to come to the metro-Detroit area, according to Gideon and Lynne Levenbach.

"Ninety percent of these youngsters go either to farms or small towns, so (a chance to come to) Detroit would be prime for these kids, I would think," said Gideon Levenbach.

Since the 1989-90 school year, the Levenbachs, who work with three exchange organizations, have placed almost 170 teens in families in western Wayne and southern Oakland Counties.

Host families have been from Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Garden City, Redford, Farmington, Northville and Novi.

The foreign teens arrive in mid-August and stay until mid-June. Each has health insurance and personal spending money. Host families provide meals, a place to sleep and study and "a supportive environment," said Lynne Levenbach.

The students attend the host-family's local public high school. "The earlier we place the kids,

the better the transition for both them and their host families," said Gideon Levenbach. Families and their students get acquainted by exchanging letters and "the kids don't have to sit there and worry 'Why haven't I been chosen?'"

The Levenbachs said there is no typical host family. Some have teenage children, but many don't, including empty-nesters and couples who've never had children.

Empty-nesters "make great host families because they are experienced families with time to enjoy having a child in their home again," said Lynne Levenbach, but childless couples "also can enjoy the experience of being parents."

Additionally, she said, families with small children "usually find exchange students to be good role models for their children and good company for the parents."

The trio of teens were personally selected by the Levenbachs, who work in behalf of three organizations: the Program for Academic Exchange (PAX), The International Education Form (IEF) and the Council on International Education Exchange.

David, from Madrid, is athletic, having played tennis since age 5. He also enjoys playing soccer. He is active in his Catholic church and went to Paris with his youth group to see the Pope.

An excellent student, he con-

siders himself "very lucky" to have been chosen to come to America and wrote in his application that he hopes to be "great friends" with his American host family.

Jana, from Estonia, is described as sociable and a good friend who enjoys playing tennis and volleyball and also likes to skate and draw. She likes to play with small children, values neatness and organization and promises her room will "always be tidy."

Nara, from Recife in Brazil, plans on becoming a doctor, as are both her parents and her two older brothers. Her favorite school subjects are chemistry and world history.

Described as "calm, responsi-

ble and trustworthy," she is a member of her school's soccer team and also participates in drama and folk-dancing clubs. On Friday afternoons, she works with a youth club that helps poor people.

The Levenbachs got involved in placing foreign students after their son, Stuart, said he wanted to become one.

It was recommended they host a student first, which they did - a Spanish teen in 1988-89. Stuart then spent a year in Israel, and now is with the Peace Corps in Ghana, where he recently met President Bill Clinton.

For more information, call the Levenbachs at 734-453-8562 or 734-453-6851.

## S'craft offers lifeguard training class

Take the plunge and prepare for a summer job as a lifeguard. Schoolcraft College is offering an intensive, 30-hour American Red Cross Lifeguard Training class May 8-17.

This concentrated weekend training program prepares lifeguard candidates to recognize and respond quickly and effectively to emergencies. The course includes lifeguarding, CPR for professional rescuers and standard first aid.

Students must be 15 years old and able to swim continuously for 500 yards, retrieve a 10-pound object from a depth of 7 feet, and tread water for two minutes.

Classes are scheduled 6-10 p.m. Friday, May 8; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 9; 6-10 p.m. Friday, May 15; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 16; and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 17.

The course fee is \$110, including book costs. For additional information, call (734) 462-4413. Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile (just west of I-275) in Livonia.

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**Thousand words:** As a way of keeping the young cancer patients occupied, the hospital gave them cameras and a week to take photographs like this one of Jamie Cartwright that were mounted and hung in the corridors.

## Benefits show support for Cartwrights

The congregation of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is putting out the placemats in hopes of a large crowd for dinner Friday night.

The entree for the 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 24, benefit is spaghetti and dessert, so to speak, is an auction at 7:30 p.m. and a talent show at 8 p.m., all for a mere \$5 per person or \$20 per family.

The evening is a benefit for Jamie Cartwright and his family, who are members of the Westland church. The 12-year-old is undergoing cancer treatment at University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor.

"He's a fighter," said his grandmother, Mary Rose Cartwright, also a member of Prince of Peace. "He doesn't look like he's sick other than he doesn't have any hair."

The son of Michael and Sherry Cartwright, Jamie has been battling cancer since age 2 1/2 when he was with neuroblastoma. A malignant hemorrhagic tumor, the childhood cancer is normally found in the chest of abdomen, but turned up on Jamie's neck.

Surgery, chemotherapy and radiation treatment affected his shoulder, but put the cancer in remission until last September, when he began complaining of pain in his arm.

"When he had radiation at 3, the family was told the shoulder would be affected, and it looked a little weird," Cartwright said. "But it looked even more weird."

The oncologist decided it was time to correct the problem and sent Jamie to see an orthopedic surgeon who ordered X-rays. That's when the osteosarcoma was discovered in his shoulder.

Because bone cancer is "notorious" for traveling to other areas of the body, more X-rays were ordered, turning up suspected cancer in his thyroid gland. In order to treat the bone cancer, Jamie underwent emergency thyroid surgery.

### Cancer found

"The doctor found that one lobe was completely involved and that the other looked like it was involved and had radiation damage, so he removed that one, too," his grandmother said. "The pathology came back with two different types of cancer, one in each lobe."

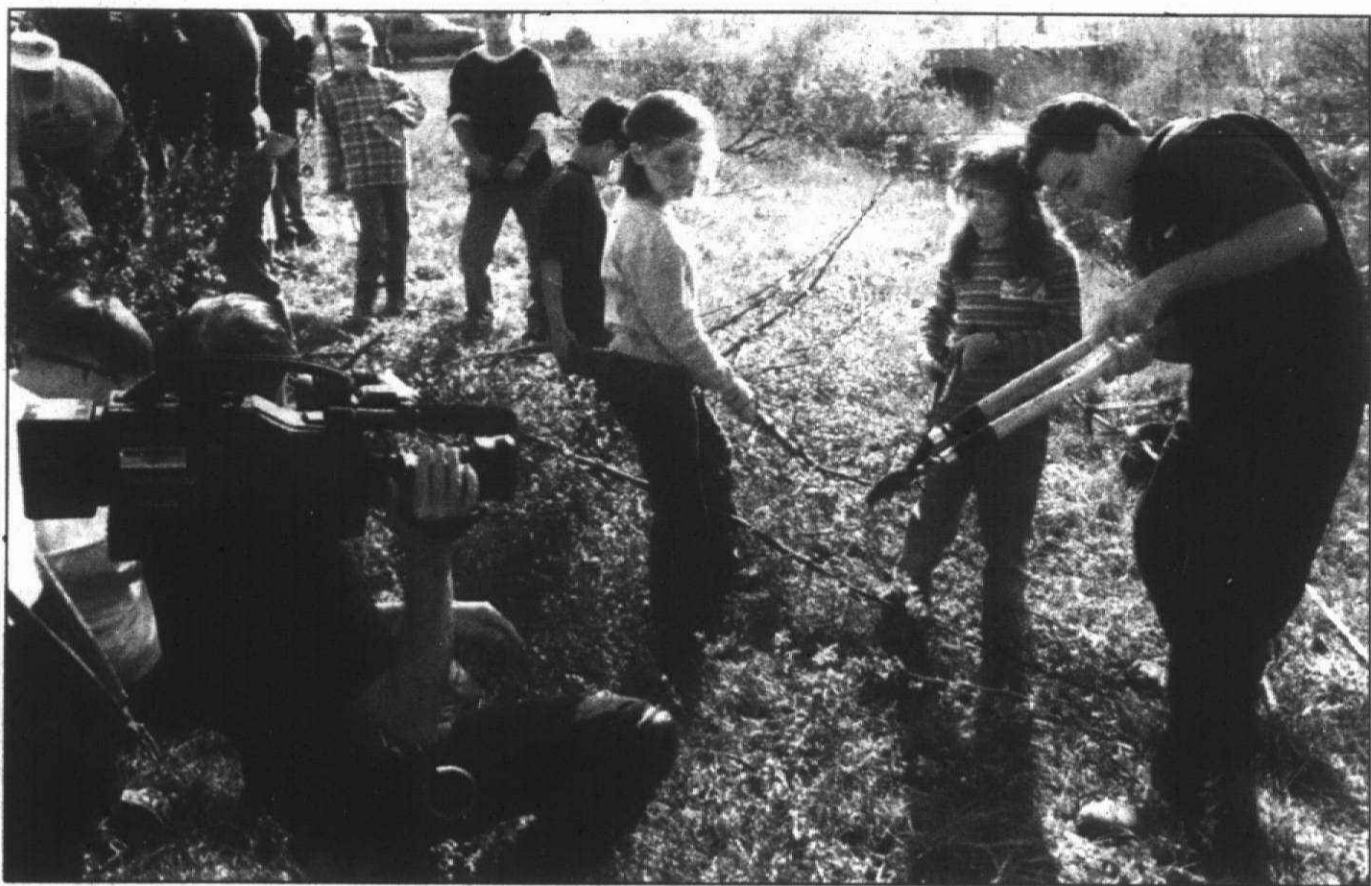
Four days after the surgery, Jamie started the first of 40 chemotherapy sessions. On March 12, after 10 sessions, he underwent surgery to remove his shoulder blade.

The illness has taken its toll on the family which includes his 8-year-old sister, Melissa, who wants her brother to be healthy and her family to be normal again, Cartwright said.

Michael works as a custodian in the South Redford School District, and his medical insurance is covering the cost of the treatment. The fund-raising is to offset costs over and above the treatment, such things as transportation, meals and telephone calls incurred during the many trips to the

Please see JAMIE, B2

## Lights, camera action!



**Getting involved:** The cameras were rolling when Racin' Jason of Nickelodeon's "The Big Helpmobile" stopped by a Field Elementary School Wednesday to help cut brush with students Jessica McFadden and Mar-ion O'Neil.

# Education takes students outdoors

Students at Filed and Tonda Elementary schools are learning to care about the environment by turning areas around their schools into outdoor environmental classrooms.

Field Elementary School students celebrated Earth Day by getting down and dirty with the cable television channel Nickelodeon.

The kids trudged through the wetlands of Truesdell Drain, which runs adjacent to the school, to clean it of debris and to plant grasses and vegetation to help Nickelodeon observe The Big Help-Week celebration.

Along the fence that surrounds the drain, children painted caution messages on signs to be placed near catch basins on residential streets to warn that they empty into the river. Students also hung tags on doors alerting the school's neighbors of how to dispose of pollutants.

The children's work was documented at 6:55 p.m. last night on Nickelodeon and on the channel's web site <http://www.nick.com>.

The Big Help was created five years ago as a way to provide opportunities, motivation and information to make volunteering easier for kids, said Maria Sinopoli, spokeswoman for Nickelodeon.

"This year we've expanded the campaign two ways. We created The Big Helpmobile, which is a traveling volunteer lab. And The Big Help Day turned into a week-long event."

Aside from Canton, The Big Helpmobile, a vibrantly colored 34-foot Airstream trailer, also visited Flagstaff, Ariz., where a fourth-grade class assisted in preserving Sunset



**Busy, busy:** Chester Marvin of Friends of the Rouge works with students to determine the velocity of the stream, while Molly Howard, Ana Nash and Christopher Emmert dig a hole to plant a tree on the bank of the stream.

Crater National Monument, Amarillo, Texas, St. Louis, Mo., Rockville, Ind., Butler, Pa., and Everett, Mass.

The locations of the visit were chosen from the 17,000 recommendations made by organizations that Nickelodeon has helped in the past, said Candace Riegelhaupt, director of The Big Help. From there, it was narrowed to 1,000.

"We tagged the ones that were

good and interesting, plus we were happy to work with our affiliate Media One, which organized the event," she said.

At The Big Help event, students toured The Big Helpmobile where a Nickelodeon representative gave the kids an overview on volunteering and taught them how to work the interactive machines. Township Supervisor Tom Yack stopped by to

proclaim April 18-24 The Big Help week in Canton.

### 5-year project

The cleanup at Truesdell Drain is part of a five-year project at Filed, paid for with a \$23,000 grant from Media One. Teachers Richard Plecha, Pattee Rupert and Sue Seelye are hoping to make the area an outdoor lab to study wetlands habitat.

"We're going to build a walkway, a 40-foot deck and observation platform where students can be outside and make plant and animal observations," Plecha said. "It's going to be set up right over the place that has the maximum amount of wetlands water life."

"We're going to take out all the invasive plants like predatory vines wrapped around trees and replace them with native species. We have a \$500 budget from Media One to buy plants."

The students will cut down Russian Olive trees, which are not indigenous to the area, and build butterfly houses, Rupert said. During the five years, the school will also "introduce amphibians into the creek that were there all along but aren't there now," he added.

Plecha is encouraging the board of health to help the school discover where the pollution is coming from and then clean it up. Afterward, he hopes the department will help monitor the water.

The idea of the project is to show the students "what they can do to become proper stewards of the earth," he said.

At a recent cleanup, students removed 32 bags of trash, which included bicycles, winter coats and

Please see EARTH DAY, B2

# RALY teens prepare to 'Speak No Evil'



**Rehearsing:** Dawn Low, 16, plays the middle daughter, Carol, in "Speak No Evil."

8, when the RALY Theatre Troupe presents the three-act play, "Speak No Evil."

Theater is a powerful tool that impacts on the performer," said Gumina, an accomplished actress and director of Trinity House Theatre's summer youth

Laura Gumina was looking for something to do when she answered an ad in the local newspaper. Redford Assisting Local Youth was looking for people to mentor at-risk youths.

Tom O'Connor, who had just finished an improvisational class at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle that he thought would be good for RALY kids, took one look at Gumina's resume and decided her theater skills were just what was needed.

The end result of their collaboration will be showcased Friday, May

drama program. "It takes the kids at-risk and gives them a platform, and if it has an impact on the community, that's a secondary point."

Set in the 1970s, "Speak No Evil" takes place in the living room and kitchen of the Smith family home where the adult children have gathered after the death of their alcoholic father.

The play was written by former Livonia resident Mary (Lewis) Koerchner, who used the alias of Susan Brown "because she didn't want people to know it was her family," Gumina said.

"It shows the roles the kids take on and how it impacts them as adults," Gumina said. "The kids fight all the time, and the father is verbally abusive. One of the cast members said, 'It's just like my house.'"

Gumina had hoped to fill all of the roles with at-risk youths, but the auditions ended up with a mix of youths from RALY and the community in general. The crew is made up of at-risk youth and those completing the work service component of RALY, but help is still needed for lighting and sound.

Playing the children are Shaun Libby as the oldest son Michael, Sahlana Tate as the oldest daughter Janet, Dawn Low as Carol and David Ross as Danny. My-Isha Brown is the mother, Sharon.

The hardest role to fill was that of the father, John.

That role is played by Michael Walterich of Trenton. Several cast members opted not to play the part because "he's an awful person," so Gumina turned to her former student who works at the Trinity House.

The troupe has been rehearsing four days a week at the Redford Community Center where the play will be presented at 7:30 p.m. May 8, 16, 23 and 30.

The center is at 12121 Hemmingway, west of Beech Daly. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. They're available by calling (313) 387-2775.

The money raised will help defray expenses, estimated at \$1,000, and go toward prevention efforts such as information and the purchase of videos.

The RALY program, which provides crisis intervention, tutoring, recreation and a 10-week juvenile transformation and development program for Redford teens, has done skits before but the three-act play is a first.

A large room will be turned into a theater with seating for 150. Since this is a "big event for the kids," opening night will have the atmosphere of a gala with sparkling cider being served.

And while O'Connor is the play's producer, he credits Gumina as being "the one to make it happen."

"She's done it 100 percent," he said. "I'm really excited about this. Theater is a way to communicate with people."







# Church's decision on deacons in line with teachings

Vatican officials recently reaffirmed the Catholic Church's position of not allowing women to be ordained who are allowed to preach at Mass and help celebrate liturgical services.

Deacons, who may be married, also work with the poor and assist priests in administering the sacraments to shut-ins.

Limiting the diaconate to the ordination of men "would be in line with the teachings of the Church because Jesus only chose men," explained the Rev. Thomas Belczak, pastor of St. Valentine Catholic Church in Redford.

Indeed, tradition indicates the diaconate was initiated when seven men were selected and ordained by the apostles to wait on tables, freeing the apostles for more priestly work. (Acts 6:1-7)

"Who knows what the future will bring," added Belczak. "God works in strange ways. Perhaps sometime in the future that may change."

Belczak added, however, that

a female diaconate is highly unlikely in the near future.

"There's been no indication the Holy See was going to change its position on the issue," said the Rev. Joseph Malia, pastor of St. Kenneth Parish in Plymouth Township. "For most people, expecting there to be a radical change under this particular pontificate is really an unrealistic hope."

Early Church history indicates there were female deacons, according to Scripture and historical documents, women deacons were primarily responsible for ministering to women and children and there was no real proof that they were actually ordained, the Rev. Malia said.

Because of the increase in the number of priests in the ensuing years of the Catholic Church history, the female diaconate faded.

Even now with the marked decrease in the number of priests in the United States, Malia doesn't expect a resurgence of the need for women deacons because "most of the work that was done by the women deacons of the Church is now being done by laity."

Malia added that most of the church staffs are women. "At the local level the Church is really influenced heavily by women," he said.

## Women's significant role

Belczak agreed, pointing out that "women play a very significant role in faith formation." About 95 percent of the religious education teachers in the Church are Catholic.

The problem, according to Malia, is that "most people are arguing this as an issue of equality and Rome doesn't see it that way."

"Rome argues ordination from the Scripture and tradition of the Church, not from a Western concept of equality," he said. "The equality in the Christian life comes from our baptism in Christ, not from our particular function and role within the

Church." Malia added that women were feeling offended by the Church's position or in any way like second-class citizens in the Church should read the Pope's letter, "On the Dignity and Vocation of Women."

While Kathy Scott, a parishioner at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton, believes women should not be ordained as priests, she said she doesn't entirely agree with the Church's position on women deacons.

"Women are allowed to do all the background behind-the-scenes work," said Scott. "If we are such an integral part of the Church, I don't understand why they wouldn't allow us to become deacons. We're capable. Obviously, that's been demonstrated."

"I think they're not using the resources at hand when they disallow women that opportunity."

Liz Horka, a parishioner at St. Theodore Catholic Church in Westland, isn't convinced that if Jesus lived today, He would not have chosen women.

"I think where I feel differently is I feel that Christ had all men because that's all that was acceptable in the time that Christ was on earth," she said. "I would favor women deacons because I feel they would do the same job as men."

Change does happen within the Church to meet different requirements at certain times, according to Sister Nancy Jamrose, vice president for student life at Madonna University, Livonia.

"The Church is a living Body of

Christ, and at different times in history there are different needs," she said.

While the decision at this time is to not allow women deacons, Jamrose added: "There is no telling what will happen when the Holy Spirit moves the Body of Christ once again. I am hopeful that we will see the value and the importance of having all people able to serve in different rolls in the Church."

While Belczak doesn't anticipate a change in the ordination of women to the Catholic diaconate in the foreseeable future, he has no doubt about God's providence.

"God has always taken care of His people from the dawn of creation," he said, "and He always will."

## Eagle Run from page B5

the group decided to give the net proceeds to the Detroit Rescue Mission.

"When all was said and done, the first year we didn't make anything, but we gave \$500 from the treasury," Clough said. "It's been increasing each year since, and last year we were able to raise \$1,000."

A group of 200 volunteers works on the race, handling everything from advertising to donations and lining up the medical crews.

Because the race is held at the state park, volunteers have to wait until the morning of the race to get into the park and do the setup, which translates in to later starting times for the races. Most races have an 8 a.m. start as opposed to the Eagle Run's 10 a.m. start, Clough said.

The wait also brings one group of volunteers to the park at 7 a.m. race day to cook breakfast for the crew that's marking the course.

"It's still run largely with the

energies of a few individuals," Clough said. "Some of the leaders aren't even runners; they do it because they want to have a successful program."

With Ward Church recently moving to its new home at Six Mile and Haggerty roads in Northville Township, Clough

hopes some day to move the races from the park to the church property to boost attendance.

"One of my dreams is to run it off this property, to have the start and finish here," Clough said. "I'd like to see the kind of attendance see elsewhere."

## Modern Woman hosts plus-size trunk show

Modern Woman is celebrating the plus-size woman with a trunk show, featuring dresses and pantsuits in sizes 14 to 28, Friday-Saturday, April 24-25, at Westland Shopping Center.

Besides the fashions, Modern Woman will be showcasing Westland Center's commitment to quality and service. Two fit specialists who understand the needs of the plus-size woman will be assisting throughout the two-

day event.

In addition, attendees who try on a dress will receive a gift and may register to win a \$500 Modern Woman shopping spree. Refreshments will be served while guests preview the season's best looks and silhouettes.

For more information, call Modern Woman at (734) 421-6590. Westland Center is at 35000 W. Warren Road, at Wayne Road, Westland.

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## THE WEEKEND

### FRIDAY



Mark Flanders (left to right), Elizabeth Ladd Bradford and Elizabeth Ladd star in "Love All" by Dorothy Sayers, 8 p.m. at Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia. Tickets \$8, call (734) 464-6302.

### SATURDAY



The Detroit Tamburitzna Orchestra presents their annual spring concert 6:30 p.m. at Troy High School, 4777 Northfield Park-way, Troy. Tickets \$10, call (810) 739-3359, (810) 776-8496 or (810) 775-4899.

### SUNDAY



Plan to do some wool-gathering at Greenfield Village in Dearborn, just west of the Southfield Freeway and south of Michigan Ave., during Spring Farm Days. Learn

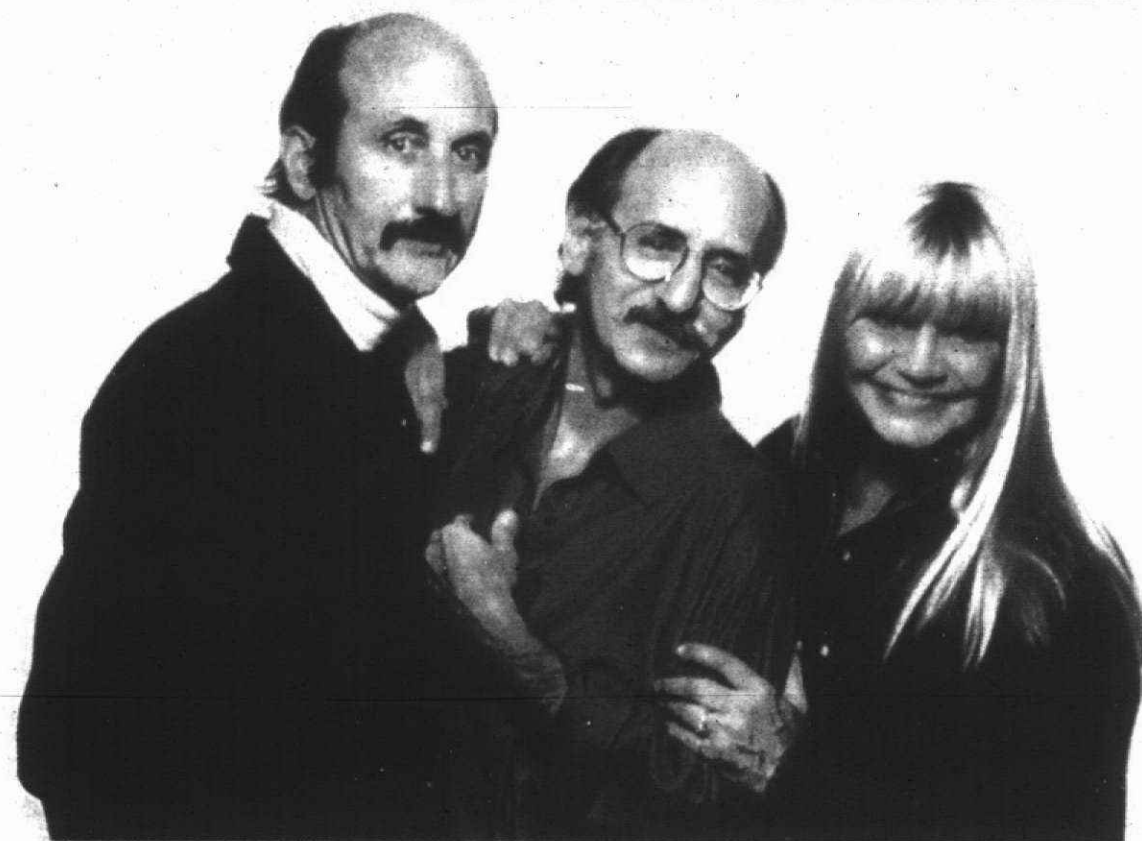
how wool is processed from sheep to shirt, help clear a cornfield of rocks, and do some spring cleaning. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., call (313) 271-1620 for information.

## HOT TICKET



Enjoy a Day of Puppetry workshops and performances, featuring The Amazing Clark, and other puppeteers, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 25 at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road. Call Nancy Henk, (810) 463-0480 or Rick Morse, (810) 230-0105 for more information.

# THE Music goes on FOR 'AGING ROCKER'



Peter, Paul & Mary: From left, Noel Paul Stookey, Peter Yarrow and Mary Travers will salute Israel's 50th anniversary at the Detroit Opera House.

## BIRMINGHAM HIGH GRAD REMEMBERS

Well I remember I was seventeen I was a Birmingham High School rock and roll king The paper talked about how I'd strut my stuff I'd like to read it, but my arms aren't long enough

Noel Paul Stookey Old Enough (Ode to an Aging Rocker)

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

Noel Paul Stookey's wife, Betty, is the chaplain at Northfield Mount Herman Prep School in northwest Massachusetts.

And when Stookey, 60, isn't traveling around the country with his friends Peter Yarrow and Mary Travers as Peter, Paul & Mary, he and his wife live on campus.

"My exposure to their circumstances has been reminding me of my high school years," Stookey said in a telephone interview.

Stookey, Birmingham High School class of '55, credits his parents for his optimistic outlook on life but he credits Birmingham High School (now Seaholm) for the unusual directions his life has taken.

"We moved

into a new facility in 1952 and there was a teacher, Monzelle Clark, who created this radio workshop, and when we moved to the new high school he was the instructor for the theater group, anything to do with theatrics, production, multi-media. It was mind-boggling and it led me into everything from computers to singing in a folk trio. It was an amazing school," Stookey said.

Stookey and his internationally famous folk trio will be coming to Detroit Sunday, May 3, to perform with Israeli folk singer Chava Alberstein in a salute to Israel on its 50th anniversary.

The trio made its debut at the Bitter End in 1961. Stookey had attended Michigan State University briefly before moving with his parents to Pennsylvania. That eventually led him to Greenwich Village where he met Peter Yarrow and Mary Travers.

The trio became the most successful of the many folk groups launched in that period with such chart-topping hits as "If I Had A Hammer," "Puff the Magic Dragon" and "Blowing in the Wind," which introduced Bob Dylan's music to the wider world.

Shortly after reaching No. 1 on the Billboard Top 40 with "Leaving on a Jet Plane," in 1970 the group disbanded for what Stookey calls "time off for good behavior." They reunited in 1978 agreeing they would limit their engagements to only about 40 a year.

Since then they have continued to be outspoken advocates for social and political causes and, through exposure on several PBS specials, have won new audiences.

Stookey is often singled out as the funny one in the group.

"I think it's a mistake to call me a stand-up comic," he said. "I'm more a laidback master of ceremonies. The amazing thing about Peter, Mary and myself is that we're each articulate spokesmen in our own right. Mary is no shrinking violet and Peter is politically outspoken."

Stookey said his humorous approach to life is a vehicle for "managing fears and discovering how you connect with the audience. Laughter happens at that point."

Stookey is also outspoken about his strong Christian beliefs.

"It wasn't always a focus," Stookey said. "I really reached a turning point in 1969. I rediscovered a dialogue with our Creator was possible and you didn't have to be crazy. It was a real demonstrative return to some worthwhile values for me."

The religious renewal came about the same time the group decided to break up because they didn't feel they were giving enough to the music.

"I was able to reclaim my relationship with my children and become a gentleman farmer in Maine," Stookey said.

Stookey and his wife have three daughters.

The oldest daughter, Liz, is directing the Public Domain Foundation which administers charitable money made from royalties on Stookey's most famous song, "The Wedding Song." Kate is a partner in a Maine ad agency. They are both married. The other twin, Anna, is, according to her father, on the West Coast at the "learning to be an actress university." But he adds proudly that she is quite talented.

Stookey said the secret to Peter,

Please see **STOOKEY, E2**



Diverse season: Country star Bryan White is among the variety of acts coming to Pine Knob Music Theatre and Meadow Brook Music Festival this summer.

## Take your pick of concerts at Pine Knob, Meadow Brook

This summer Pine Knob Music Theatre and Meadow Brook Music Festival are going a la carte.

Palace Sports and Entertainment - Palace and The Palace - and managers and operators of Oakland University's Meadow Brook Music Festival - is allowing summer concert fans the chance to create their own series.

In past years the organization created series from which ticket buyers could choose. Inevitably, of the three or four groups offered, there was one act that the purchaser didn't care to see.

Beginning at 9 a.m. Friday, April 24, fans can pick from more than 50 shows which range from Ani DiFranco to Ozzfest to Loverboy to The Temptations to create a series. The Page and Plant concert with special guest Lili Haydn Friday-Saturday, June 26-27, at The Palace is also included. When Pine Knob patrons purchase tickets for three concerts, they will receive free lawn tickets to selected shows.

"Purchasing tickets in series packages has been a Pine Knob tradition,

Please see **CONCERTS, E2**

## Meadow Brook Music Festival

is located on the campus of Oakland University, Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, Rochester. For more information, call (248) 377-0100 or visit <http://www.palacenet.com>.

- Teen Idols featuring Davy Jones, Bobby Sherman and Peter Noone, Friday, June 19. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn.
- Phil Collins Big Band, Monday, June 22. \$40 pavilion, \$20 lawn.
- Wynton Marsalis and The Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, Thursday, June 25. \$32.50 pavilion, \$15 lawn.
- Ani DiFranco, Monday, June 29. \$26 pavilion, \$22 lawn.
- Chumbawamba, Saturday, July 4. \$15 pavilion, \$10 lawn.

Please see **MEADOW BROOK, E2**

## Pine Knob schedule

Pine Knob Music Theatre is located at 1-75 and Sashabaw Road in Independence Township. For more information, call (248) 377-0100 or visit <http://www.palacenet.com>.

- Eddie Money, Friday, May 22. \$12.50 pavilion, \$7.50 lawn.
- Stevie Nicks and Boz Scaggs, Friday, May 29. \$45.25 and \$35.25 pavilion, \$22.75 lawn.
- Clint Black, Trace Atkins and The Kinleys, Saturday, May 30. \$22.50 pavilion, \$15.50 lawn.
- Beck, Ben Folds Five and Sean Lennon, 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 2. \$20 pavilion, \$15 lawn.

Please see **PINE KNOB, E2**

## MUSIC AWARDS

# Honoring the Detroit Sound - past, present and future

The lineup of honorees for distinguished achievement in this year's 16th annual Detroit Music Awards on Friday sounds like an inevitable trivia question:

Name the acoustic master of the smooth jazz groove, a cat-scratchin' mad man and a building where the walls still resound from the contagious music made within its sanctuary 30 years ago?

The answers - Earl Klugh, Ted Nugent and the Motown Historical Museum - are as diverse as the music being made for the last four decades.

Only in the eclectic 1990s could all be honored for building what is arguably undefinable - the Detroit Sound.

Since the Metro Times and the Motor City Music Foundation merged their respective award programs last year into the Detroit Music Awards, the annual showcase has broadened its appeal.

In tone and purpose, the combined show

Who: Ted Nugent, Jazzhead, Dietrick Haddon, The Rev. Right Time and the First Cousins of Funk, Mr. B, Jill Jack and the Wild Bunch

What: Perform

When: 7 p.m. Friday, April 24

Where: State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

Why: As part of the Detroit Music Awards ceremony. Tickets are \$25 for reserved cabaret tickets, and \$7 in advance and \$10 day of show for general admission balcony. Imperial Swing Orchestra and Robb Roy perform during the after-show party, 9:30 p.m. Friday, April 24, at the State. Tickets are \$10. For more information, call (313) 961-5451.

Related events:

The 1998 Detroit Music Awards will be featured in a WDIV-TV special airing at 1 a.m. Sunday, May 17. Comcast Cable will also rebroadcast the awards. Check your local listings for dates and times.

achieves what the two separate shows set out to do.

The Detroit Music Awards recognizes up-and-coming club bands and recording excellence in an assortment of musical styles.

And it also wears the crown as the ultimate networking party.

"It's the biggest 'schmooze in' around," said Mike Watts, spokesman for the awards ceremony.

With the participation of 25 local radio stations and involvement of nearly every other type of media, the awards show "throws down the gauntlet for anyone who wants to do something great for Detroit," said Watts.

But ultimately, the music stands on its own.

The diverse lineup features music artists performing rock, jazz, gospel, funk, alternative and

Please see **MUSIC AWARDS, E2**



Making appearances: The Rev. Right Time and the 1st Cousins of Funk and will perform Friday, April 24, while Ted Nugent will be honored.

Stokey from page E1

Paul & Mary's success is the music. "A lot of people applaud the messengers and overlook the message," he said. "The music we contribute to and are rejuvenated by, it was around a long time before we started singing and a long time after we've gone, people will be singing around the campfire... It didn't hurt that PBS had four of our specials on over the last 10 years. Given the vicissitudes of popular radio, we didn't have an audience when we came back. Our audience had all moved to NPR and public television."

Music awards from page E1

music that sounds like combinations of each. Featured artists include Nugent, the gospel music of Detrick Haddon and the Voices of Unity, the rhythm and blues of Reverend Right Time and the First Cousins of Funk, the funky jazz of Jazzhead, the roots rock of Jill Jack, and the Wild Bunch. "Motown was so successful that when they moved to L.A. people thought that was the end of the local music scene," said

Pine Knob from page E1

lawn. Lynrd Skynrd, The Freddy Jones Band and 38 Special, Thursday, June 11. \$25 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. Double Brothers, Friday, June 12. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. "Bugs Bunny on Broadway," Saturday, June 13. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. John Fogerty, Thursday, June 18. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. Moody Blues, Friday, June 19. \$29.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. Vince Gill and Restless Heart, Saturday, June 20. \$25.50 pavilion, \$15.50 lawn. Boys II Men, Dru Hill, Destiny's Child and Uncle Sam, Sunday, June 21. \$45 pavilion, \$25 lawn.

puter responded with a prompt. "That's when I realized there was an intelligence behind it. I wrote an accounting program for my wife's flower shop, working long into the night," he said. Stokey is the sysop (system operator) for Celestat, an on-line bulletin board "intended to be a comfortable spot for adolescents." "They're just as lost on line as they are in real life. It's my tendency to be tolerant but with a loving structure," he said. "I felt, and still am creating, a safe house for adolescents, safe in the sense that it just puts another spin on the adventure of life rather than the aerobic, suspicious spin on life. There is another point of view." The May 3 concert is an out-

growth of the trio's political concerns. Peter Yarrow's "Light One Candle" has been adapted by many in Israel and the United States as an anthem in support of the Middle East peace process. Stokey had praise for the young Israeli singer Chava Alberstein. "Chava came as complete surprise to me," he said. "I had never heard her before. I got a tape in the mail and haven't been so excited by a singer since the first time I looked into Jody Collins' blue eyes at Gerde's Folk City in the Village." He said they will perform some songs together. The Detroit concert will be the group's last until the begin their annual summer dates in July.

in past years, the awards program has recognized some familiar acts, including Sponge, Skeleton Crew, Straight Ahead, The Forbes Brothers and Anita Cochran of South Lyon, whose single recently topped the country charts. There might not be divas on stage, but this year's Detroit Music Awards certainly moved to a familiar rhythm. Cue Aretha. The beat sounds a lot like R-E-S-P-E-C-T.

Concerts from page E1

going back to its earlier days," said Tom Wilson, president of Palace Sports and Entertainment. "We have continued the series ticket program since we have been involved with the venue, but we have always been looking for a better way to organize the shows for multiple ticket purchasers. We feel this new system provides much greater flexibility and value for our series ticket buyers." Tickets can be purchased at The Palace box office, or by using a Discover, American Express, Visa or Mastercard by calling (248) 377-0100. There are no extra fees added to these tickets. The series schedule plus an

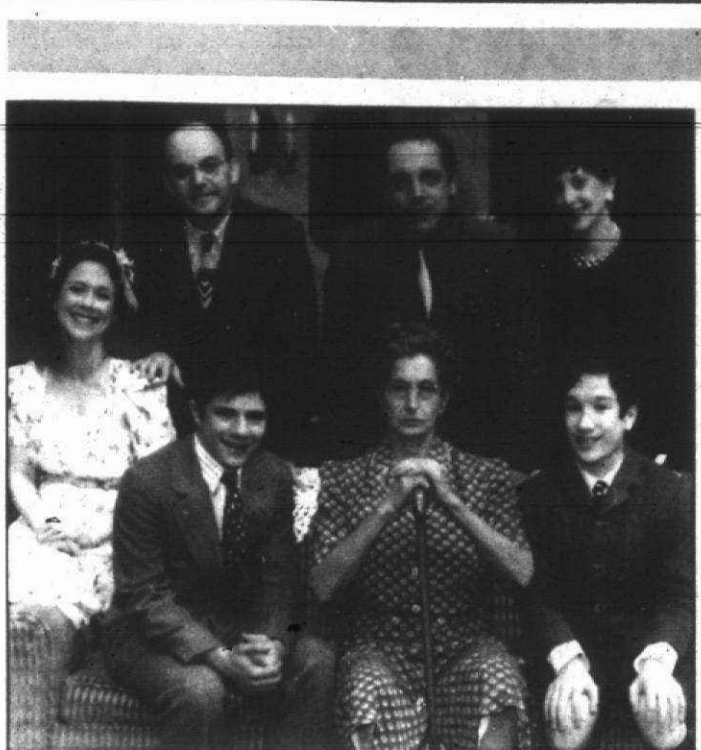
Meadow Brook from page E1

ion, \$10 lawn. The British Rock Symphony and Choir with Roger Daltrey playing the music of The Beatles, Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, The Who and The Rolling Stones, Wednesday, July 8. \$30 pavilion, \$15 lawn. Pat Metheny Group, Monday, July 13. \$29.50 pavilion, \$20 lawn. Air Supply, Thursday, July 16. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. Kansas with Symphony Orchestra, Saturday, July 18. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. Alison Krauss and Union Station with Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Sunday, July 19. \$26.50 pavilion, \$15.50 lawn. Art Garfunkel, Wednesday, July 23. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. The Mavericks with BR5-49, Friday, July 24. \$30 pavilion, \$15 lawn. Comedian Richard Jeni, Saturday, Aug. 15. \$20 pavilion, \$10 lawn.

23. \$45 pavilion and lawn. The Pointer Sisters, Friday, July 24. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. The Temptations and The Four Tops, Saturday, July 25. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. "Rock Never Stops" with Quiet Riot, Firehouse, Slaughter, L.A. Guns and Warrant, Monday, Aug. 17. \$25 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. Matchbox 20, Tuesday, Aug. 18. \$29.50 pavilion, \$20 lawn. Joan Rivers and Don Rickles, Friday, Aug. 21. \$25 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. Newport Folk Festival with Nanci Griffith, John Hiatt, Joan Baez, Marc Cohn, The Staples Singers and more, Saturday, Aug. 22. \$35 pavilion, \$18 lawn. Kenny Rogers, Sunday, Aug. 23. \$29.50 pavilion, \$15.50 lawn. Richard Marx, Tuesday, Aug. 25. \$25 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. Ted Nugent, Saturday, Aug. 29. \$27.50 pavilion, \$18.50 lawn. Blues Music Festival with B.B. King, The Neville Brothers, Dr. John and Storyville, Wednesday, Sept. 2. \$28.50 pavilion, \$15.50 lawn. Wayne Newton, Friday, Sept. 4. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. Clay Walker and Dixie Chicks, Thursday, Sept. 10. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn.

Whistle Stop Players present spring musical

The Whistle Stop Players, a children's theater troupe at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, performs a spring musical, "Character Counts," an original work by cast members, focuses on the six pillars of character embraced by the Character Counts Coalition. Also of note: The Plymouth Community Chorus presents "Broadway Magic," a spring concert featuring songs from "West Side Story," "Les Miserables," "Guys and Dolls," selections from Andrew Lloyd Webber and "Man of La Mancha." "Beauty and the Beast," "Fiddler on the Roof," and "Cabaret," 4 p.m. Sunday, April 26, at Plymouth-Salem High School, 46181 Joy, Canton. Tickets are \$6. For information, call (734) 455-4080.



Meet the family: The cast of Meadow Brook Theatre's production of "Lost in Yonkers" - John Seibert (top row, left to right), John Michael Manfredi, Julie Yolles. (Bottom row, left to right) Terry Heck, Adam Rockkind, Henrietta Hermelin and Parker Plague.

'Lost in Yonkers' emotional and funny

"Lost In Yonkers" continues through Sunday, May 10, at Meadow Brook Theatre on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester Hills. Tickets \$18 to \$32, call (248) 377-3300. Group, student and senior citizen discounts available. Performances Tuesday-Sunday, curtain time varies. Call for information.

By Jon Katz, Special Writer. Here's a little secret about Neil Simon's "Lost in Yonkers." You won't read it anywhere else. You won't see it in the ads. Maybe Simon himself wouldn't tell you.

Here it is: Despite all the shouting about the play winning the 1991 Pulitzer Prize, and how it's Simon's "deepest," "darkest," most "intense" work-despite all that "theater" stuff - "Lost in Yonkers" is plenty funny. "The Sun Biscuit-Belt funny like 'Not Borecht-Boys' not farcun-funny like 'Rumors.' Go back to 'Chapter Two,' or way back to Simon's very first Broadway show - 'Come Blow Your Horn' - and you'll find the same kind of funny: The funny that comes from pain, the funny that heals.

"Here" is the apartment above Kurnitz's Kandy Store in Yonkers, New York. It's the summer of 1942. Eddie (John Seibert), a recent widower, is deep in debt and when he goes south to make money to pay off loan sharks he leaves his teenage sons Jay (Adam Rockkind) and Artie (Parker Plague) with his mother (Henrietta Hermelin). Grandma Kurnitz strikes fear into the hearts of men, women and teenage boys. She carries a cane, and knows how to use it. As she says, "You don't survive in this world without being like steel." Or, as she puts it, "like shteeel."

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Widows take comfort in 'Cemetery Club'

Doris, Lucille and Ida meet regularly to play canasta, go to movies, have lunch and visit their husbands at the cemetery. They're not ordinary widows in their 50s, and "The Cemetery Club," to which they belong is more about life than death. You can see for yourself through Sunday, May 24, at the Jewish Ensemble Theatre. "I'm having a very good time playing," Lucille said JET Artistic Director Evelyn Orbach who stars in "The Cemetery Club" by Ivan Menchell with Mary F. Bremer (Doris), Arthur Beer (Sam), Lois Bender (Mildred) and Carolyn Younger (Ida).

Lucille's the crazy one, who says "can I help it if men find me attractive?" she says. Her husband cheated on her, and Lucille's looking for a new one. Doris can't get over her, and Ida isn't sure if she wants a man in her life. "It's very basic to Judaism so

enjoy it." Men cause these women heartache, and it's a man who threatens their closeness. Sam lost his wife, and meets the women at the cemetery. Lucille's smitten. "She's the most needy of the three women," said Orbach. "She's got to make a statement. We never hear about children. She's got a lot of unanswered questions." "The Cemetery Club," is also very funny. Danny Aiello and Olympia Dukakis starred in the 1992 film version now available on video. Sam is a catalyst for change. Submerged feelings bubble to the surface, and a crises ensues when Lucille announces - "As of today I officially resign from this...this...cemetery club!" I refuse to be in a club in which half the members are dead!" It's the first of many disagreements the women have. "We

Come to the 'Cabaret' at Bonstelle Theatre

The Bonstelle Theatre closes their season with "Cabaret." The Wayne State undergraduate theater company will perform the musical 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 24-25 and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 26. The Bonstelle Theatre is on Woodward Ave. at Eliot in Detroit on the Wayne State University campus. Tickets \$8 to \$13 with discounts available for students, senior citizens, WSU faculty, staff and alumni. Call (313) 577-2500, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Parental discretion advised.

By Sue Suchyta, Special Writer. The Bonstelle Theatre has chosen a fitting party with which to close their season - the decadent and colorful celebration known as "Cabaret."

Set in Berlin in 1929, the play chronicles love found and lost in an innocent age about to be engulfed by the horrors of the Third Reich. Clifford Bradshaw is a young aspiring American novelist wandering Europe in search of inspiration. He finds it in the unexpected form of Sally Bowles, a riqus, but endearing English nightclub singer. Together they become caught up in a whirlwind party of personal pleasure until the simmering political hatred of prewar Berlin awakens Cliff to its ugly implications.

Bonstelle's "Cabaret" is technically strong with well-cast leads, but is weak musically - it lacks a vocally strong chorus and supporting cast. And despite the erotic energy and sexually charged choreography of the nightclub scenes, the weak singing prevented the company numbers from becoming show-stoppers. The strong leads, however, captured and conveyed much of "Cabaret's" magic to an appreciative live house. The master of ceremonies was impeccably performed by Thom Mathis in a style mirroring the Oscar-win-



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MOVIES

Paltrow doubles up in thoughtful 'Sliding Doors'



Contemporary love story: Gwyneth Paltrow with John Monaghan in a scene from Peter Howitt's 'Sliding Doors.'

Talk about a bad day. Fired from her prestigious public relations job, Helen rushes home for consolation from her boyfriend. Flying down the stairs to catch the subway, the doors slide closed on her while a loud-speaker announces that rail work will delay the next train.

The other? That Gwyneth Paltrow isn't just a pretty face. It's been nearly three years since the waif-like actress surprised everyone as the wry-tongued "Emma." Since then she's been through a much-documented breakup with Brad Pitt and a string of bad films, climaxing with the recent "Great Expectations" and "Hush."

STREET SCENE

Ska bands join together to fight racism with music



Fighting racism: The Grand Rapids-based band Mustard Plug performs as part of the Ska Against Racism Tour which comes to the Palladium in Roseville on Thursday, April 30. Less Than Jake, who recently released a "Grease" cover album called "Greased," headlines the event.

When ska music was created, it was meant to attract a cross-section of races. Unfortunately, the ska/pop band Less Than Jake has seen the opposite. So when the Florida-based group was asked to headline the Ska Against Racism Tour, they were ready.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

Grid of movie listings for various theaters including General Cinemas, Showcase, and National Amusements. Lists titles like Titanic, Night Watch, and The Ood Couple with showtimes and ratings.



'Just Do It': Nike C.E.O. Phil Knight (left) with director Michael Moore who urges Knight to open a shoe factory in Flint in 'The Big One.'

Moore takes on corporate greed

Michael Moore's shtick should be exhausted by now. The image of the Flint native and corporate crimefighter storming the lobbies of big business, only to be ushered onto the street, was a staple event in his documentary, "Roger and Me," as well as Moore's on-again-off-again TV magazine show, "TV Nation."

Opera

Lush music, superb singing drive romantic 'Manon'

Jules Massenet's "Manon" continues 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 24-25 and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 26, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. For tickets at \$18-\$75, call (313)874-SING (7464) or Ticketmaster at (248)645-6666.

Eastern Market blossoms as art center

Remember the old commercials for Reese's Peanut Butter Cups? You know, two people would somehow run into each other, and one would yell, "You got chocolate in my peanut butter!"

SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan. Detroit Film Theatre - Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Call (313) 833-2323 for information.

Advertisement for the Moody Blues 1998 Tour. Features the text 'THE VERY BEST OF THE MOODY BLUES 1998 TOUR' and 'FRIDAY, JUNE 19 7:30 pm'. Includes a photo of the band and a list of theaters.

DINING

Satisfy your hunger for fun at Champps Americana

EATING OUT IN THE SUBURBS

Newly opened Champps Americana in Livonia will satisfy your appetite and hunger for something new.

They present only the "highest quality food, and plenty of it," in a casual, fun atmosphere.

"There's a different feel depending on where you sit," said general manager Mark L. Moylan.

If it's privacy, and a quiet laid-back evening you crave, sit on the patio near the fireplace. "It reminds me of Maine," said Moylan looking toward the vaulted painted ceiling.

"If you're feeling upbeat, sit near the bar," recommends manager Brad Weis. Families like the upper level. An open kitchen offers the opportunity to watch the chefs at work preparing your meal.

Finding one word to describe Champps Americana is difficult. "It's a bunch of ordinary people trying to have a good time," said Weis. "It's a great place to dine. I like the fact that our restaurant appeals to people age eight to 80."

The background music's an eclectic mix of soft listening favorites, and sports nuts will love the wall of videos.

Champps Americana offers the latest technology in large screen TVs, and there are lots of them including a video wall. During lunch the screens are tuned to the Bloomberg channel for businessmen, the rest of the time its sports.

With 129 menu items deciding what to order can be a delightful chore.

Moylan recommends the Chicken Piccata Angel Hair Pasta - breast of chicken lightly sautéed with mushrooms and artichoke hearts in a lemon-caper broth, tossed with angel hair pasta, \$9.95, or Ravioli Florentine, spinach and ricotta

Champps Americana

Where: 19470 Haggerty Road, (between Seven and Eight Mile Roads) Livonia, (734) 591-3334.

Hours: 11 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. Monday-Saturday; 10 a.m. to midnight Sunday. Sunday brunch menu 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

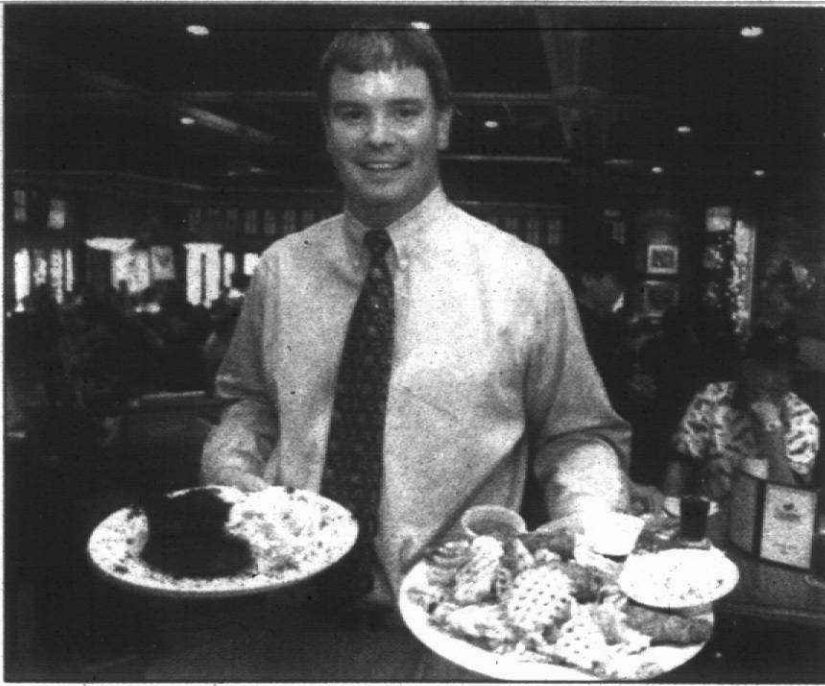
Menu: Classic American dining including salads, sandwiches, pasta, chicken, steaks, seafood, pizza and hamburgers. Children's and late night menus available.

Cost: Entrees \$9.95 to \$14.50; sandwiches \$4.75 to \$10.50; pizza \$6.50 to \$8.25. Sunday brunch items range from \$6.95 to \$8.95.

Reservations: Not accepted. Credit cards: All majors accepted.

Seats: 300 people. Expansion plans: Scheduled to open a Troy location in July.

Highlights:
- Magician performs 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays during brunch.
- Bloody Mary Bar 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, noon to 3 p.m. Sundays.
- Specialty martini menu.



Entertaining dining: Mark L. Moylan, general manager, presents two of Champps Americana's specialty dishes - Cajun Pork Chops and Fish & Chips.

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

Fire Academy Brewery & Grill - 6677 N. Wayne Road, Westland, (734) 595-1988. Open: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; 11 a.m. to midnight, Thursday-Saturday; noon to 11 p.m. Sunday. Menu: Something for everyone including hand-crafted beers and root beer, sandwiches, soup, salads, steaks, baby back ribs, chicken, shrimp, whitefish, and pasta. Children's menu available. Cost: Ranges from \$4.75 to \$5.95 for sandwiches, entrees \$7.95 to \$15.50. Credit Cards: All majors accepted. Reservations: Not accepted after 5 p.m. Very busy 5-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, expect to wait.

Arriba - 314 St. Fourth St., Ann Arbor. Open: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday; 4-11 p.m. Saturday; 4-9 p.m. Sunday. Menu: Mexican restaurant emphasizing authentic regional Mexican dishes. Cost: Entrees, \$6.95-\$13.95; appetizers, \$4.95-\$5.75; salads, \$2.95-\$8.75. Reservations: For parties of six or more, call (734) 662-8485. Credit: All major credit cards.

Plymouth Landing - Where: 340 N. Main St., Plymouth, (734) 455-3700. Open: 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday (bar stays open until 1 a.m., limited Casual Fare menu after 10:30 p.m.); 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, brunch served until 2 p.m. Menu: Creative cooking with Greek, Italian and French flare, American fare also. Cost: Lunch \$6.50 to \$12.95, dinner \$7.95 to \$21.95; brunch \$10.95 adults, \$5.95 children ages 5-10; no charge children age 4 and under. Reservations: Recommended. Credit cards: All majors accepted.

Mountain King Chinese Restaurant - 469 Old Woodward, Birmingham (248) 644-2913. Open: 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday; until 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday; noon to 9 p.m. Sunday. Menu: Mandarin, Szechuan and Cantonese specialties served at lunch and dinner. Cost: Lunch specials \$5-\$6. Dinner \$5.50-\$11. Multi-course family dinners for 2-6 people \$21-\$60. Reservations: Accepted. Credit cards: All majors accepted.

tered and fried golden brown, served with fries and cole slaw. Main Courses are served with your choice of cup of soup or dinner salad.

The pizzas, prepared with a honey wheat crust, are cooked in a wood-fired oven. There are six to choose from - Margherita, Barbecue Chicken, Grilled Garden Vegetable, Greek, Newlin's Cajun Pizza Salad, and New Jersey Calzone. You can even build your own New York Style Cheese Pizza.

For lunch or light dinners choose from one of the many salads - Alex's Greek Salad, Oriental Chicken, Grilled Cob, Fajita or Italian Bruschetta. Sandwich fans will like the smorgasbord of innovative options everything from bacon, lettuce and tomato, Hawaiian Chicken, and burgers to Grilled Portabella Melt, Greek Chicken, Veggie and Southwest

French Dip Wrap.

For dessert save room for Champps Messy Sundae - a long stemmed glass smothered with hot fudge and chopped nuts, filled with vanilla ice cream and caramel, topped with whipped cream or Enough to Die For - flourless chocolate mousse cake served with chocolate ice cream and topped with hot fudge.

The 65 seat full service bar offers eight beers on tap, a variety of bottled beers, premium wines and liquors, and specialty martini menu. On Saturdays and Sundays you can build your own Bloody Mary.

"It's wonderful," said Weis. "There are like 50 different hot sauces, and vegetables on skewers."

There's something to celebrate nearly every night after 9 p.m. Monday is Full Court Bingo. Relax with dinner and drinks,

then play Full Court Bingo and shoot hoops to win prizes. Ask your server for details.

Tuesday is Night at the Races. Wednesday's Super Karaoke, why sing in the shower when you can win \$300 in karaoke cash prizes at Champps 9 p.m. to midnight.

Thursday is the Big Bike Give-away. "We give away a mountain bike every week," said Moylan. One lucky diner will win a key to ride away with the bike.

Sunday's brunch menu includes pancakes, waffles, eggs benedict, omelets and a special menu for children under 12.

"We have balloons for the kids too," said Weis.

Champps Americana is a division of Unique Casual Restaurants, Inc., which also operates Fuddrucker's restaurants.

Star Southfield enters partnership with Ark Restaurants

Star Theatre Southfield will soon be able to offer its patrons dinner - and a movie.

Star Theatres in partnership with Ark Restaurants of New York will open four restaurants at the theater this year. Construction is scheduled to begin August with a tentative December opening.

Krys Bylund, vice president advertising and promotions for Star Theatres said restaurant concepts under consideration include a Mexican theme, brew pub, Italian, and appetizer eatery.

"It's been a struggle for Star Theatres to get a restaurant at

the building," said Bylund. "There's been a lot of talk, but nothing's come to actuality until now. We've gotten very close many times, but wanted to make sure it was the right partnership and restaurant blend. We're really excited."

Ark Restaurants owns and manages "chic" restaurants in Florida, Massachusetts, Nevada, New York and Washington, D.C.

including Lutece in New York, Marketplace Brewskeller in Boston's Faneuil Hall, and the restaurants in the New York New York Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas.

"The restaurants will be very upscale and offer fine, sit down dining with a wide range of pricing," said Bylund.

"We've anticipated having

restaurants since we opened on June 20, 1997," said Phil Urrutia, vice president Star Southfield Theatre. "Our theater staff is excited. We're waiting for the right people to bring the right restaurants. Star Theatres was careful in choosing the right person to come in with the right concepts for our guests. They were careful to add something

new and fresh to the area."

To compensate for the lack of restaurants, Star Southfield has an extensive concession menu, which includes popcorn, hot dogs, ice cream, stuffed jalapeno peppers, nachos, and chicken strips. "We've just added popcorn shrimp and buffalo wings," said Urrutia. Star Southfield Theatre is at 25333 W. 12 Mile Road in Southfield, (248) 372-2222.

Family Weekends. Enjoy our indoor heated swimming pool, video games, Putt Putt Golf, and much more in one of Michigan's largest Holidomes. Ideal location for church meetings and family reunions.

\$69/\$49. Call Now for Reservations 248-477-4000.

Advertisement for Danny Doyle Rebels. Saturday April 25th The Gaelic League/Irish American Club presents DIRECT FROM DUBLIN DANNY DOYLE REBELS. A tribute in song and story to the 1798 uprising. Tickets: \$15.00. Show starts at 9:00 PM. 2068 MICHIGAN AVE • DETROIT 313-964-8700.

Advertisement for Mitch Housey's. PRIME RIB DINNER includes Salad, Potato, Vegetable and Hot Bread \$12.95. EARLY BIRD DINNERS - \$5.95 MON-FRI 3-6PM ONLY. 23500 Schoolcraft Livonia 252-5520.

Advertisement for Don Pedro's. AUTHENTIC MEXICAN CUISINE. 24366 Grand River (3 blocks W. of Telegraph) CARRY OUT (313) 537-1450. MARGARITA MADNESS Wednesday \$1.25. BANQUET FACILITIES. MEXICAN SAMPLER FOR TWO \$10.95.

Advertisement for Clint Black. MGD MUSIC. pine knob music theatre. CLINT BLACK. WITH SPECIAL GUEST TRACE ADKINS. AND THE KINLEYS. SAT., MAY 30 • 7:30 PM. Tickets Available at The Palace Box Office and all movie theaters. Charge (248) 645-6666. Presented by ACDelco.

Advertisement for DePalma's 10th Anniversary Specials! Your Choice of: Baked Swiss Steak with Pasta, Veal Parmigiana with Pasta, Veal Spazzatini over Fettucine, Chicken Scallopini with Pasta, Broiled Boston Scrod & Fresh Vegetables, Broiled White Fish & Fresh Vegetables, Baked Lasagne with Meat Sauce, Fettucine Alfredo, Spaghetti with Meat Ball & Meat Sauce, Caesar Salad with Grilled Chicken Breast. Includes choice of soup or salad (except Caesar Salad) and choice of coffee, tea or soft drink! \$5.95 (tax and gratuity not included) Valid Mon.-Thurs. 3-6 p.m. and Fri. 3-5 p.m. 31735 Plymouth Rd. Livonia • (734) 261-2430

Advertisement for The Second City. NEW SHOW. "Down Riverdance". "The Second City Cast". Tix (313) 965-2222. SHOWS WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY Wed., Thur. & Sun. ONLY \$10. LIVE COMEDY THEATRE. OPEN FOR LUNCH & DINNER (313) 965-9500. Next to the Fox Theatre.

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