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Thursday
December 17, 1998

VOLUME 24 NUMBER 46

CANTON, MICHIGAN • 78 PAGES • <http://observer-eccentric.com>

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Getting together: Two human services agencies merged this summer and the end result was ... well, a continuation of their services with no layoffs, an oddity in the '90s where mergers generally translate into job losses./B1

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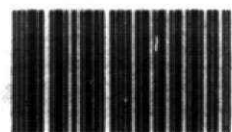
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Board OKs pay hike

■ Department heads and other nonunion township employees will receive a 4-percent pay increase next year. The raise is similar to what union employees received and in line with other communities, a township official said.

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
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Management and other nonunion township staff will receive a 4 percent across-the-board raise on Jan. 1.

Directors of Canton's public safety, municipal services, and budget/finance are among about 60 employees that will receive the hike. It matches last year's raise.

Township Supervisor Tom Yack, who holds an elected position, will receive an automatic raise when the employee pay increases take effect. Yack's annual pay, set by a 1997 township ordinance, is \$1,000 more than the public safety director's salary. Public Safety Director John Santomauro will earn \$82,418 as the township's highest paid employee.

"It's an increase that tries to keep up with the market place," Administrative and Community Services Director Dan Durack said, "and what other nonunion municipal employees are getting."

Canton's Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve the raises at its Tuesday meeting.

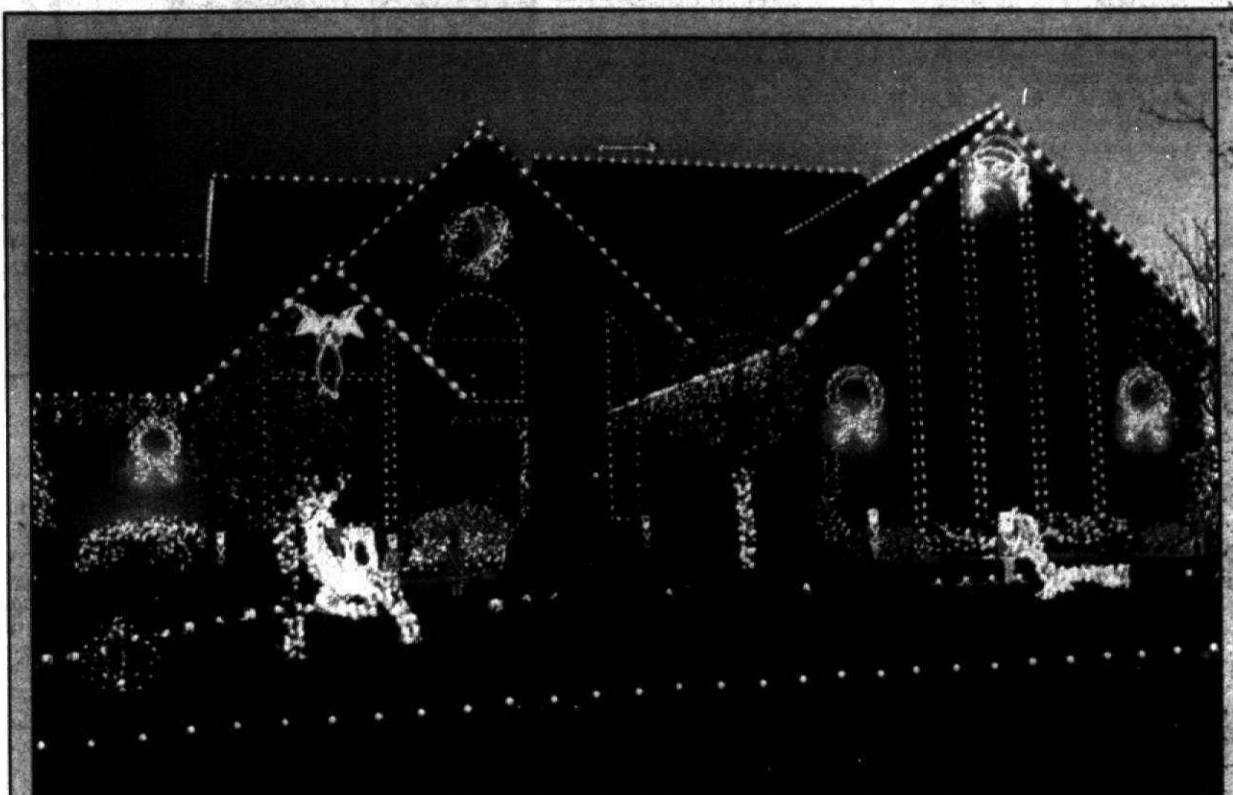
The township's three-member merit commission recommends compensation raises for nonunion employees. Durack said the board generally follows that recommendation.

The commission looks at other towns to determine a raise.

In 1998, for example, Public Works Superintendent Jake Dingeldey made \$60,840. A 4 percent raise would put the longtime township employee at \$63,274.

Communities such as Livonia (\$79,747), Farmington Hills (\$73,207) and Westland (\$70,383) paid more for the position in 1998. Waterford and Redford townships paid less, \$55,066 and \$51,000, respectively.

Please see RAISES, A2



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURBCHMANN
Celebrating the season: Michelle Waldecker's festive home on Northpointe Drive could double as a beacon for passing airplanes. Below, residents in Lyndon Village decorated again despite previous problems with Halloween and Christmas season vandalism.

Lighten up!

Neighborhoods turn on Christmas

BY LILLY A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

For a few thousand dollars, Michelle Waldecker of Canton hires a friend to hang thousands of lights on the outside of her house. For three 14-hour days she puts up hundreds of ornaments inside her house. It is her favorite time of year.

"I am a Christmas nut, I am 37 and I have been collecting stuff since I was 10," said Waldecker, who lives in North Pointe subdivision on Beck Road in between Joy and Warren roads.

When the large house was built, plans included accommodations for her collections. Extra storage was built in the garage for exterior lights and an extra room with double doors was built inside to store interior decorations.

"I have double doors so I don't have to take down my Christmas trees," Waldecker said.

Waldecker decorates two Christmas trees, an 8-foot white flock tree on the main floor and a 7-foot tree on the lower level. Her exterior lights were on seven timers last year. This year, she bought three larger timers to illuminate the innumerable amount of lights. The lights are plugged into countless outdoor outlets around the house.

And, if Waldecker is on your gift list, she wants more decorations.

"I don't want anything. I don't want jewelry or stuff like that, I just want Christmas decorations," she explained.

But not just any decorations. She

said she shops the Neiman Marcus catalog and her husband grants her wishes. Also, many of her friends get her Waterford and Precious Moments items.

Down the road, Tammy Zmuda of Canton has had her Christmas lights cut, but she said she isn't going to let The Grinch steal her Christmas at her Lyndon Village subdivision home on the northeast corner of Beck and Warren Roads.

"It doesn't matter, I am still putting my Christmas stuff up," she said, "They aren't going to wreck my Christmas spirit."

Matt Horvath, also in Lyndon Village, adds or replaces lights at the cost of \$100 a year, some years he goes up and down the ladder in the freezing rain and his electric bill doubles.

But he said he would not trade the work and expense for a dark house at

Please see LIGHTS, A3

Summit fitness expansion in the works

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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Expansion for the Summit, Canton's recreational showpiece, may be on the way.

An enlarged fitness room, locker rooms and support rooms are among the areas targeted for upgrade by the township. Summit Manager Debra Bilbrey-Honsowetz said talks are very preliminary, but a need does exist.

"Every fitness center bursts at the

seams in January because of all the New Year's resolutions," she said. "But we're just not big enough in those areas."

The idea for expansion was first presented to Canton's Board of Trustees in an early December study session. A steady increase in the number of users at the Summit since it opened in late 1995 may make expansion reasonable, according to residents.

"The exercise room is a little too small for this type of facility," said Ed

Kolster. "They need to expand the free weights and there's very little room for stretching. It could use a pretty good expansion."

He has been a Summit patron for more than a year. Kolster said he often has to wait to use equipment in the exercise room, which is adjacent to the pool area, during peak hours of 5 to 8 p.m.

"It's a well-used facility," agreed resident Mike Pisano.

A Summit regular for more than a

year, he said he agreed with expansion.

"I'd love it depending on how they're going to pay for it," Pisano said. "I don't want a tax raise."

Funding options aren't clear at this point, said Bilbrey-Honsowetz. She mentioned grant money from the recently voter-approved state recreation proposition as a possibility.

The first step on the road to expansion will be the establishment of a committee, which will be charged with

Please see EXPANSION, A4

Warehouse gutted in fire



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURBCHMANN
Mutual aid: Firefighters from five area departments, including Canton, responded to Sunday's document storage warehouse fire in Plymouth Township. The blaze tied up I-275 traffic well south of Ford Road. For a story on the fire, please turn to Page A4 in today's Observer.

Rivers expects to vote against impeachment

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER
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Congresswoman Lynn Rivers, D-Ann Arbor, said she's spent the past three months looking at history to decide if President Bill Clinton should be impeached.

Speaking at the Tonquish Economic Club luncheon Monday at the Plymouth Manor, Rivers said it took her own probe of the facts to reach a conclusion because "both parties put out arguments that were pretty much self-serving, and they weren't always reliable. Neither side is giving the full story."

And after looking at the facts, Rivers said she is expecting to vote against impeachment.

"Unless something extraordinary happens, I expect I will vote against impeachment," said Rivers. "I think his actions fall within behavior any citizen

could engage in. Therefore, it should be prosecuted in a way any citizen would, as opposed to impeachment."

"The charges against him are the type any citizen could commit, so he should find himself in the same legal jeopardy as any other citizen," added Rivers. "You or I would find ourselves in front of a court because of this type of alleged behavior. I think that would be the appropriate response here, but after he leaves office."

Political agenda

Rivers admitted the process of impeachment isn't legal, it's political.

"I spent a lot of time trying to find a position I feel comfortable with, that conforms with my view of the constitution and my constituency. My people have been ringing off the hook. People are very emotional about this issue."

Please see IMPEACHMENT, A2

Impeachment from page A1

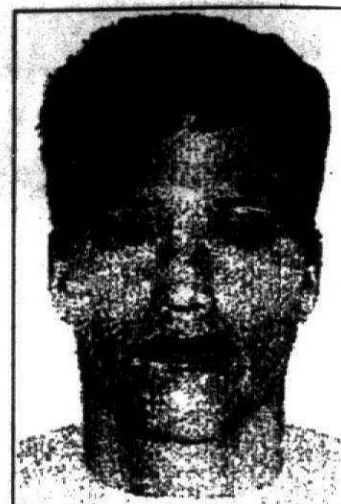
Rivers, whose district includes Canton, also knows that impeachment, in reality, is a political issue. "People who I have respected on both sides have behaved in a very inconsistent manner, based on the outcome they're working for," she added.



Speaking out: U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D-Ann Arbor, at the Tonquish Economic Club Monday. Rivers expects to support President Clinton in today's scheduled impeachment vote on the House floor.

Police seek rape suspect

BY SCOTT DANIEL STAFF WRITER sdaniel@ee.homecomm.net



Composite: A police sketch of the alleged rapist

A 23-year-old Wayne woman was the victim of an alleged rape Dec. 9 near Belleville and Yost roads in Canton, Canton police said Tuesday.

According to police reports, the woman was walking along Michigan Avenue between midnight and 1 a.m. when a man driving a 1980s light blue Chrysler K car or Buick approached.

The suspect, whom police describe as 6 feet tall, about 200 pounds and having short brown hair, asked the woman if she wanted a ride. She then got in the car.

It's unclear whether the man forced the 23-year-old to get in the car, Canton Officer Leonard Schemanske said. The man then drove to a remote part of the township and forced the woman at knifepoint into having intercourse, police reported.

Afterward, Schemanske said the man dropped the woman back off on Michigan Avenue in Wayne. The woman reported no other injuries.

Michigan State Police are investigating three similar cases.

The most recent of those happened earlier this month, Schemanske said. A similar vehicle description was given by the victim in that case, he added.

The other incidents occurred last summer. All three were in Washtenaw County. Canton police are currently investigating the Dec. 9 incident. Anyone with information can contact the department at (734) 397-5344.



More stuff: Students from Bird Elementary School trooped to the Observer office last week to drop off toys and food for the Cheer Club.

Thanks! Cheer Club donations fill Observer office, local hearts

The Plymouth-Canton Observer Cheer Club wrapped up last week. A big thank you goes out to everyone who participated! Your generosity amounted to a room of toys, food and other goodies, which overflowed into our reception area. All the items were donated to the Plymouth Salvation Army on Monday afternoon.



Holiday glow: Neighborhood light displays run from the bright and spectacular variety on Harsdale (above) to the muted, elegant look on Lyndon (right). Residents in the Sunflower subdivision have a contest every Christmas to find the house with the best lights

Lights from page A1

Christmas. "I do it because it is fun. When I see cars going down the street looking and hear comments at work about Lyndon Village it makes it all worth it," Horvath said.

Advertisement for Walker/Buzenberg fine furniture, featuring images of dressers and a chair. Text: "The Gift as Traditional as Christmas Itself!"

Raises from page A1

"It's not an exact science," Durack said of the merit commission's work. "They try to go by what the labor market is receiving."

The raises generally follow what Canton's 200 union employees are receiving, he added.

The township has six unions with the largest being the Police Officers Association of Michigan. About 70 officers and dispatchers will receive 5 percent jumps in 1999.

AFSCME members, which include department of public works and grounds employees, among others, will get 3 percent.

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Advertisement for Boulders Restaurant & Lounge, featuring Randy Cole and The Jim Prescott Combo.

CANTON CONNECTION

Grand opening: The Canton Bread Co. will host a grand opening 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at its new bakery, 7676 Canton Center Road. Explorers host competition: The Canton Police Explorers last weekend hosted one of the seven competitions for the statewide Explorers Governors Cup.

Say "YES" to Wine & Cheese!

Advertisement for Holiday Market, featuring fine wines and cheeses. Includes a map of the market location and a list of wine prices.

The Big Wrap Up

Advertisement for Saks Fifth Avenue, featuring a photograph of a woman in a dress and promotional text: "Take 33 1/3% off*"

Cause of document company blaze still unknown

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER
tbruscato@homecomm.net

Plymouth Community fire officials, along with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, continue to sift through the rubble from Sunday's fire at Document Processing, searching for what started a blaze that caused an estimated \$5 million in damage to an industrial complex along Eckles Road.

It wasn't until Tuesday before a crane was brought to the site, allowing debris from a collapsed roof to be taken away so firefighters could completely put out the smoldering fire.

Plymouth Community firefighters were at the scene for more than two full days, pouring water on the debris to keep the fire from restarting. Some crews were still at the site Wednesday as debris was being moved and inspected by arson investigators.

It took nearly 70 firefighters, including help from Canton Township, Livonia, Northville and Northville Township, to assist Plymouth Community firefighters in putting out the blaze.

Billowing smoke could be seen as far away as Novi, and I-275 had to be closed with traffic rerouted. Motorists stopped along the freeway to watch the spectacular blaze, causing several minor accidents.

It didn't take long for Document Processing, which shreds confidential paper documents, to go up in flames.

"Document did not have a sprinkler system," said Plymouth Community Fire Chief

Larry Groth. "It was grandfathered when new rules concerning sprinklers in buildings went into effect.

"Because of that, and the fact the company deals in paper products, it was a rapidly spreading fire," said Groth. "When the crews left Fire Station 2 at Wilcox and Schoolcraft, they could see the smoke before they even arrived. The roof collapsed in about an hour."

Groth said there was a two-hour period where departments were challenged with low water pressure.

"We had four water towers shooting water down into the fire, numerous hand lines on the ground, plus water feeding the sprinkler system. So, there was a big demand for water," added Groth. "I was told the problem was at the Detroit pumping station. We had to stretch two lines about a half-mile each down Eckles Road to overcome the problem."

Groth said the ATF is lending their expertise in the investigation.

"The ATF had a lot of agents in Michigan for other cases, and they offered to help and we accepted," said Groth. "They're experts in arson investigation, so we thought it would be beneficial to help find the cause."

Groth indicates there was an overhead door that was open on one side of the building, and they are trying to come up with an explanation as to why it was open on a day the company was closed.

That door is on the opposite end of the building from where a production manager reportedly entered the company about 4 p.m. Sunday, discovering the fire.

As the fire came to light, employees were leaving a Christmas party at the Knights of Columbus hall on Schoolcraft road, according to reports.

The building which housed Document Processing also had several smaller businesses located inside, according to Dennis Walker, general manager of Plymouth Industrial Center, Inc., which owns the property. In all, there were 10 businesses affected by the fire.

Two major companies, Atlas Tube and Copco Steel, sustained smoke and water damage to their adjacent buildings. Groth said the fire walls and sprinkler system saved those businesses from also being completely destroyed.

Representatives of the affected businesses were still trying to assess damage, mainly because they weren't allowed to enter their companies.

"It will be next week before we will be able to turn on the electricity and natural gas for those businesses," said Walker. "They want to get started, but safety is our first concern. Until I can make sure there is no danger, no one can go back there."

Walker noted ATF agents had interviewed 80 people in their investigation.

Ironically, it was three weeks to the day that Plymouth Community firefighters were called to Document Processing, answering another fire alarm.

Expansion from page A1

finding and interviewing an architectural firm.

That firm would then draw up plans for the expansion. Bilibrey-Honsowetz said the committee would finally determine an exact cost.

No timetable for finalizing plans or financing exists. If expansion does come, however, Bilibrey-Honsowetz said she'd like the bulk of construction done during summer months when facility usage is down.

"We have to make sure we avoid disrupting patrons," she added.

Preliminary plans call for doubling the size of the 2,800-square-foot exercise room. Bilibrey-Honsowetz said it would allow for more equipment and area for patrons to stretch and warm up.

"I think it would probably be adequate," Kolster said of the size increase.

The room would be expanded by knocking out the north wall. Bilibrey-Honsowetz said the room was designed with the idea of expanding.

"There's plenty of space that could easily accommodate expansion," she added.

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County, Northwest reach utility pact for new terminal

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER
kabranczyk@oe.homecomm.net

Wayne County and Northwest Airlines have reached a \$30 million, 30-year agreement with MichCon and DQE Energy Services of Pittsburgh to provide electricity, heating and cooling at the new midfield terminal at Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport.

MichCon and DQE will design, construct, own and operate an on-site energy center, which will

supply 100 percent of the energy load for the 1.7-million-square-foot terminal. The one-story, 16,000-square-foot facility will be located just east of the control tower and power up to 50 megawatts and 200 million kilowatt-hours annually.

The center also will bring more than 8,000 tons of cooling capacity and 80 million Btus of heating capacity. Airport officials said the contract will be financed through the \$1 billion in bonds sold last summer.

MichCon and DQE plan to begin operating the energy center by the end of 2000. The airport's 74-gate midfield terminal, which features a one-mile-long concourse, is scheduled to open for domestic and international flights by late 2001.

The agreement is the second largest contract awarded for the new terminal.

The MichCon-DQE partnership was chosen from 22 pre-qualified local and national energy companies.

DQE is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Pittsburgh-based IQE Inc., providing energy solutions for customers in domestic and international markets. MichCon serves as a natural gas distributor to 1.2 million Michigan households and businesses.

"For us and Michigan Consolidated, it's a nice partnership," said Lex Tsagaris, president of DQE Energy Services. "We've put in a strategy to focus on end use for industrial and commercial sites, and we find a solution

for them.

"With this facility and Pittsburgh's, we start to develop a strong position in the airport energy field."

Cheryl Conway, media relations manager with MichCon, called the partnership unique in that it is MichCon's first partnership in developing an energy center for an airport. "DQE has experience in other parts of the country (Pittsburgh's airport), but it is a way for us to target customers in our own back

yard," Conway said.

The center's design will complement the design of the new \$1 billion terminal, Conway said.

The center will incorporate new technology in the co-generation of energy sources. "That's when you use gas to create enough power to create another energy product," Conway said. In this case, the natural gas will be co-generated to provide gas and electricity as its final energy products.



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'98 STATE LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

New bills await Engler's signature

BY TIM RICHARD STAFF WRITER trichard@ee.homecomm.net

It wasn't prom night, but the Michigan Legislature was up until 3 a.m. Dec. 11, cleaning up work that many members said should have been done last June.

These bills made it through both chambers and are being signed by Gov. John Engler.

Assessment cut - Township residents who pay special assessments will get a break under bill sponsored by Sen. Bill Bullard Jr., R-Milford. It requires that such bills be based on the "taxable value" of property, which tends to be lower than the "state equalized value."

Townships and villages use special assessments to pay for specific purposes such as water, sewers, lighting and street paving. Under the 1994 Proposal A package, increases in property valuations were limited to 5 percent of the rate of consumer price inflation. Thus, "taxable value" is capped, but the old "state equalized value" is not.

But Attorney General Frank Kelley ruled that the law applied only to taxes, not special assessments. Bullard's Senate Bill 428 applies taxable value to assessments, too.

The Senate passed it 37-0 on May 28, but the House waited until Dec. 11 to pass it on an 89-1 vote.

Billboard ban - Tobacco ads would be banned from roadside billboards beginning Jan. 1 of 2000, under House Bill 4343. The Senate approved it 28-9 after a sharp debate.

"It is foolish - stupid - idiotic to smoke," said opponent John J.H. Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, "but it's a legal product made by legal companies. I suggest we state the First Amendment (to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing free speech)." Schwarz and George Hart, D-Dearborn, were the only area senators opposing the bill.

The House passed it 76-10 in September.

The American Cancer Society supported the bill. Opposed were the Michigan Chamber of Com-

munity and the American Civil Liberties Union.

\$5,000 reward - The Senate gave 37-0 approval to a House-passed bill that would require the Department of Natural Resources to offer \$5,000 rewards for information leading to the arrest and prosecution of anti-hunters who interfere with lawful hunting and fishing.

The person who was interfered with would be ineligible for the reward. Money would come from the Wildlife Resource Protection Fund. Currently, only poisoning is subject to reward money.

State costs would be increased "a minimal amount, depending on the number and type of rewards for reporting harassment," according to the Senate Fiscal Agency. All area senators voted yes except John Cherry, D-Clio, who missed the vote.

Snowmobile safety - The Senate voted to establish civil and criminal penalties for the reckless operation of snowmobiles, whether operated on a highway, trail, frozen lake or parking lot.

Reckless operation would be punishable by a misdemeanor fine of up to \$250. A snowmobiler who recklessly caused death or serious injury could be imprisoned for two years and fined up to \$2,000.

The House passed the bill earlier.

Official wildflower - Maverick Sen. Dave Jaye, R-Macomb County, was the only member to vote against House Bill 4923 making the dwarf lake iris the official state wildflower. Sponsor was Rep. Liz Brater, D-Ann Arbor.

Michigan has a state flag, seal, coat of arms and eight official symbols: stone (petoskey), flower (apple blossom), fish (brook trout), reptile (painted turtle), gem (Isle Royale green-stone), soil (Kalkaska), bird (robin) and tree (white pine).

No fees - No elected official in Michigan would be permitted to charge a speaking fee under

Please see BILLS, A11

Some major issues fail in 1997-98 session

They often get a lot of publicity, but not every legislative bill makes it through both chambers. Here are some of the major losers of 1997-98:

Electric deregulation - Sen. Max Danuckis, R-Lake Orion, didn't introduce SB 1340 to deregulate electric utilities until mid-November, and many lawmakers were unhappy that Gov. John Engler tried to ram it through in just a few days.

The Senate on Dec. 3 passed a token, watered-down measure that would have given statutory status to a Public Service Commission order. The House let it die without a vote.

Supermajority - Sen. Mike Bouchard, R-Birmingham, sponsored a constitutional amendment to require that all tax increases have a 60 percent

majority, instead of 60 percent plus one, to take effect. It never got a Senate or House vote, though Gov. Engler drew applause when he mentioned it in his State of the State address in February.

Gay bashing - Senate Republicans refused to act on a House-passed bill enhancing penalties for assaulting homosexuals and lesbians. It would have added "sexual orientation" to the Ethnic Intimidation Act, which currently covers race, color, religion, gender and national origin.

The Senate voted 20-18 to delay action until Dec. 30 and then adjourned for the year.

Gov. no were all 16 Democrats and two Republicans, Loren Bennett of Canton and Bob Geake of Northville.

Sen. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township, protested the Senate action, saying "hate crimes against gays and lesbians have increased 12 percent."

Drain Code - After years of discussion, the House never voted on HB 4337, the first revision of the state Drain Code in 40 years.

Michigan United Conservation Clubs objected that the sixth and last version failed to mandate that drain commissioners consider watershed protection and alternatives to engineered drains. MUCC also said the bill didn't allow landowners to register opposition or provide procedure to stop a petition.

The Michigan Environmental Council objected that natural flood control should get greater emphasis.

Michigan Taxpayers United's Bill McMaster said the bill would have given "unconstitutional tax-and-spend authority to county drain commissioners to increase drain maintenance assessments by 100 percent while disenfranchising voters."

Blind hunters - The Senate passed a bill allowing blind persons to hunt with crossbows with a laser sighting device when assisted by a person with eyesight. But it got to the House too late in the year for action by the Conservation Committee.

The Senate vote was 21-16. Among opponents were Bob Geake, R-Northville, Alma Smith, D-Salem, Mike Rogers, R-Brighton, and Mike Bouchard, R-Birmingham.

County may back off smoking ban

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER kabramczyk@ee.homecomm.net

Wayne County commissioners are expected to back off altogether from an ordinance banning smoking from most county businesses and restricting that activity in bars and restaurants.

Instead they may support a resolution today calling for state lawmakers to research state laws governing smoking bans and possibly enact legislation on the issue.

Commissioners supported a resolution Tuesday, 7-4, that was introduced by Commissioner George Cushingberry, D-Detroit, and supported by Commissioner Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia. It was forwarded to the full commission for a vote at today's meeting at 10 a.m. at the Wayne County Building.

Local commissioners supporting the resolution were McCotter and Kay Beard, D-Westland. Opposed was Commissioner Kathleen Husk, R-Redford. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, was out of the room when the vote was taken.

Commissioners are expected to act on a restricted smoking ordinance today as well.

The ordinance's author, Commissioner Bernard Parker, D-Detroit, said the item still will be on Thursday's agenda and he expects to discuss the ordinance and proposed amendments with

years ago, because that policy governed public property. But Parker's ordinance infringed on rights of private property owners, McCotter said.

"Do we have a study of what effect this ordinance will have on Wayne County? No," McCotter said, answering his own question.

Health issues raised

Earlier, Parker amended his ordinance allowing for a larger area for smokers in bowling alleys, to exempt hotels from the ordinance and call for a 75 percent area in casinos. He urged commissioners to support it.

"It is a serious life-threatening situation we are dealing with," Parker said, telling the commissioners they had a responsibility to help protect the health of residents.

If commissioners looked at the issue strictly about business, then commissioners "are failing," Parker said. "We are not a chamber of commerce."

Vice Chair Kay Beard led Tuesday's meeting in the absence of Commissioner Chairman Ricardo Solomon. Beard indicated she wanted an attorney general's opinion on the ordinance, but backed the Cushingberry resolution.

"We don't want to hurt businesses, but we don't want people hurt from second-hand smoke," Beard said. "I really don't think we have authorization that goes beyond state law."

Afterward, a reporter asked McCotter what he thought about seconding a resolution from someone he generally is at odds with, namely Cushingberry.

"He (Cushingberry) heard a lot of testimony from people like Harry Klingeman and Bob Gifford," McCotter said. (Klingeman appeared before commissioners Tuesday, representing the Michigan Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Association, while Gifford, as executive director of the Michigan Restaurant Association, also appeared. Both opposed the ordinance.)

"Obviously he got the other side of the story."

On Monday, Husk said she was going to support the ordinance.

"It's a health issue. I'm a little disappointed it's not 100 percent. It helps asthmatics who can't get out and go to restaurants. What's good is we had nothing before in bars (with smoking restrictions), and now we would have something."

Beard hoped that Parker would withdraw his ordinance by Thursday, but that probably won't happen.

"We're going to pass the buck to Lansing. That shows poor leadership," Parker said.

Mural donated to LightFest

Each year during the holiday season, Bill Campbell brings his grandchildren to see the lights at the Wayne County LightFest.

This year, Campbell donated a mural to help decorate Santa's Shelter at the end of the Wayne County LightFest. Campbell, a retired auto worker and owner of Campbell Sign Studio of Ypsilanti,

first picked up his first paint brush in the early '60s and has been painting ever since. The mural depicts towering evergreens, snow hills and a red ribbon with gold lettering that reads "Santa's Shelter."

Wayne County is open nightly from 7-10 p.m. through Jan. 1 except on Christmas Day.

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Churchill carolers to entertain Metro travelers

Carolers from Livonia Church Hill School will be entertaining air travelers this holiday season as part of Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport's seventh annual holiday music program.

Twenty-one choral groups and musicians from area high schools, churches and community organizations will be spreading holiday cheer at the airport through Dec. 22.

Two Salvation Army bands

will be performing, along with Eastern Michigan University's Gospel Choir, and several community-based musical groups.

Airport employees dressed as Santa Claus will be distributing candy canes to airport visitors through Christmas Day.

Churchill will perform in the Davey Terminal 7-9 a.m. Monday, while the Salvation Army band entertains there 6-8 p.m. Tuesday.

ATTENTION: PARISIAN SHOPPERS

Please check the sale dates carefully on your "Making Sprit's Bright" Holiday Gift Guides which appeared in The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers on Sunday, December 13 and Thursday, December 17. Due to a production error, you may have received your sale catalog early. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused Parisian, its sales staff, or their customers.

- The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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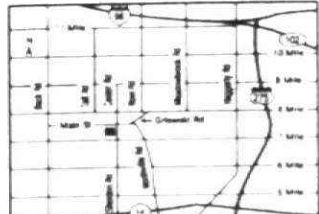
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Dr. Kennedy earned her medical degree at Wayne State University and completed her residency at Providence Hospital, where she was honored with the Resident of the Year Teaching Award in 1996. She is a member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American Medical Association.



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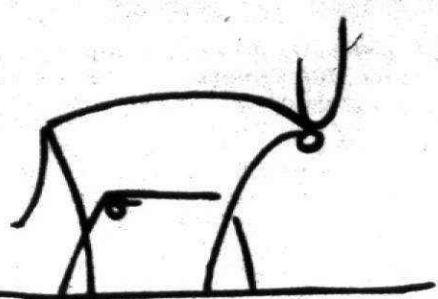
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES for the design of Parking lot improvements at the Canton Township Administration Building in Canton Township Wayne County, Michigan

Canton Township is soliciting proposals for engineering design services and construction administration/inspections services for paving and drainage improvements for a new parking lot at Canton Township's Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road.

The "Request for Proposals" describes the project and the format for the Scope of Services. A "Request for Proposal" can be obtained from Canton Township Engineering Services at the address below. If you have any questions call Engineering Services at (734) 397-5405.

If you firm is interested in providing these services, please submit your proposal to Canton Township Engineering Services, by 5 p.m., Friday, January 22, 1999.

The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

The Township reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Address all proposals to: CANTON TOWNSHIP ENGINEERING SERVICES Attn.: Susan Folsom 1150 S. Canton Center Road Canton, MI 48188

Publish: December 17, 1998

OBITUARIES

RICHARD V. ZUROWICK Services for Richard V. Zurowick, 62, of Canton were Dec. 7 in Santeiu Chapel with the Rev. Terence Treppa of St. Richard Catholic Church officiating. Burial was in St. Hedwig Cemetery, Dearborn Heights. He was born June 24, 1936, in Detroit. He died Dec. 4 in Superior Township. He was a salesman.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Zurowick of Canton; four daughters, Cynthia, Jane (Carl) Kaspari, Rebecca (Dan) Urkainic, Michelle (Dan) Gutowski; one son, Kenneth (Michelle) Zurowick; one brother, Leonard; and one sister, Jean Sezech.

PHYLIS B. RUSH Private services were held for Phyllis B. Rush, 82, of Canton. Local arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home, Westland.

She was born June 25, 1916, in Boston, Mass. She died on Dec. 4 in Livonia. She was a homemaker. Survivors include her son, Gary (Barbara) R. Rush of Canton; and one daughter, Elizabeth Carver of Falmouth, Mass.

CARL E. SPACE Services for Carl E. Space, 62, of Canton were Dec. 8 in the Vermeulen Funeral Home, Plymouth Township, with the Rev.

George Charnley officiating. He was born March 6, 1946, in Detroit. He died Dec. 5 in Canton. He was a designer. He was preceded in death by his sister, Evelyn Beckwith; and his mother, Martha Space. Survivors include his wife, Nancy E. Space of Canton; his father, William Space of West Branch, Mich.; two sons, Carl Space of Canton, Paul Space of Livonia; two daughters, Angela Space of Canton, Carolyn Space of Ann Arbor; one brother, William (Gwen) Space of Milford; and one sister, Deanna (Dan) Kealy of Detroit.

Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

ALEXANDER 'ALEX' MICHALAK Services for Alexander "Alex" Michalak, 88, of Canton were Dec. 8 in the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth, with the Rev. John Sullivan officiating.

He was born March 29, 1910, in Depew, N.Y. He died Dec. 3 in Westland. He retired from Awrey Bakery after 33 years of service and then worked part time with the Canton Township Recreation Department for another 10 years. He came to the Canton community from California in 1976 and has been at the Westland Convalescent Center for the past five years. He was a former member of St. Monica

Catholic Church in Detroit. He served in World War II. Survivors include his wife, Alma M. Michalak of Canton; two sisters-in-law; and one brother-in-law.

MERLE LEO SCHULTZ Services for Merle Leo Schultz, 67, of Northville Township were Dec. 12 in the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Bridal Area in Rural Hill Cemetery, Northville. He was born Dec. 29, 1930, in Peru, Ill. He died Dec. 9 in Northville Township. He was the owner of Small Business Network, an accounting service located in Plymouth. He retired earlier this year. He previously had worked for several firms in the accounting departments. He came to Canton Township 4 1/2 years ago from Macomb County and in May 1998, he moved to Northville. He served in the Korean Conflict in the U.S. Marine Corps and remained in the Reserves until 1959.

Survivors include his wife, Frances of Northville; one son, Thomas (Lori) Schultz of Greensboro, N.C.; two daughters, Mary Susan Smore of Concord, N.H., Tracey Schultz of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; two stepdaughters, Lisa Moody of Holland, Mich., Andrea (Jason) Hall of Shelby Township; five grandchildren; and three sisters.

Memorials may be made to the

National Kidney Foundation. Services for Donna Geanne Letasi, 36, of Canton Township, were Dec. 12 in the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. G. Forsyth officiating. She was born March 7, 1962, in Detroit. She died Dec. 8 in Canton Township.

Survivors include her mother, Carol Letasi of Dearborn; her father, Edward Letasi of Texas; three brothers, Edward T. (Chelly) Letasi Jr., of California, Raymond M. Letasi of New York, Richard J. (Tammy) Letasi of New Jersey; and two nephews, James and David of California.

Memorials may be made to the Friends of the Wayne Community Living Services.

RALPH W. UFFER Services for Ralph W. Uppelger, 85, of Canton were Dec. 15 in L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Canton, with the Rev. Jerry A. Yarnell of St. Michael Lutheran Church. Burial was in Cadillac Memorial West Cemetery.

He was born July 25, 1913, in Detroit. He died Dec. 12 in Westland Convalescent Center. He was a tool and die maker.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley B.; one brother, George (Ruth) Ethier; and several nieces and nephews.

Santa's at LightFest until Christmas Eve

Children of all ages can visit with Santa Claus, who will appear at Wayne County LightFest nightly through Dec. 24. Santa's temporary residence is the Warrendale Picnic Area at the end of Wayne County LightFest, the Midwest's longest drive-through holiday light show. Photos with Santa, food concessions and a gift shop are available at the Warrendale site.

This year marks the second season that Santa has returned to Wayne County LightFest. A \$5 donation is suggested with proceeds going to benefit the Dearborn Rotary Club's outreach efforts on a local and international level.

Wayne County LightFest is open 7-10 p.m. nightly through Jan. 1 except on Christmas Day. LightFest begins on Hines Drive and Merriman Road in Westland.

A donation of \$5 per car helps to maintain Wayne County parks and recreation facilities throughout the year and helps keep LightFest operating. There is an additional charge for commercial vehicles and buses, which are encouraged to preregister. For information, call (734) 261-1990.

A donation of \$5 per car helps to maintain Wayne County parks and recreation facilities throughout the year and helps keep LightFest operating. There is an additional charge for commercial vehicles and buses, which are encouraged to preregister. For information, call (734) 261-1990.

MET tuition program accepts new applicants

The Michigan Education Trust (MET) will accept new applicants now through Feb. 1, 1999.

The MET program provides an opportunity to pre-purchase future college tuition costs for a Michigan child.

MET contracts have certain tax advantages not offered by other college savings options. The total contract price is exempt from state income tax and the increase in value of the original contract price is tax deferred. The increased value is then taxed at the student's tax rate over the time he or she attends college. MET is not guaranteed by the state of Michigan. It is secured by the assets of the trust.

Applications are available at banks and other financial institutions, as well as most grocery stores, day care facilities, hospitals, Rite Aid stores, Secretary of State branch offices, libraries and Treasury offices.

A nonrefundable \$25 fee is required when submitting an application. It does not commit the applicant to completing a contract.

Michigan residents interested in receiving an application or additional information about MET may call 1-800-MET-4-KID (1-800-638-4543). Information also is available from the Michigan Education Trust at P.O. Box 30198, Lansing, Mich. 48909 and on the Department of Treasury's Web site at: www.treas.state.mi.us

Bills from page A7

House Bill 4160 which the Senate passed 37-0.

Currently, the ban on fees applies only to the 148 members of the Legislature. The bill by Rep. Sue Rocca, R-Sterling Heights, would apply to more than 15,000 state and local elected officials.

"Accepting speaking fees could be viewed as double compensation," said Rocca, "because public speaking is already part of an elected official's duties." Her bill is viewed as a campaign reform law because well-pled interest groups sometimes give an official a major gift by calling it a speaking honorarium.

Court building - The House approved 67-27 Senate Bill 906 to construct a new Hall of Justice for the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals west of the Capitol Building in Lansing.

Many lawmakers balked at the \$88 million cost, including \$15 million for a parking deck and restaurants that would be closed to the public. Here is how area lawmakers voted:

The House approved 67-27 Senate Bill 906 to construct a new Hall of Justice for the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals west of the Capitol Building in Lansing. Many lawmakers balked at the \$88 million cost, including \$15 million for a parking deck and restaurants that would be closed to the public. Area lawmakers supporting it were Lyn Bankes, R-Redford, Eileen DeHart, D-Westland and Gerald Law, R-Plymouth. Opposed were Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, Tom Kelly, D-Wayne and Deborah Whyman, R-Canton.

YES - Lyn Bankes, R-Redford, Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, Andrew Raczkowski, R-Farmington Hills.

NO - Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, Tom Kelly, D-Wayne, Deborah Whyman, R-Canton.

Internet access - The Senate unanimously approved a bill by Rep. Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, to require the Legislature to put House and Senate journals online on the Internet.

The law would take effect as soon as the governor signs it. The Senate Journals for Dec. 10-11 were still unavailable Dec. 14, although the House Journals were posted.

Journals contain a record of all roll call votes on bills and amendments, formal protests to passage of bills, the governor's veto messages and the texts of commemorative resolutions.

Clerks empowered - County clerks would be enabled to solemnize marriages under a House bill that got 30-7 Senate

approval. Currently, the only clerk who may solemnize marriages is the clerk of a charter county.

House Bill 5613, sponsored by Rep. Liz Brater, D-Ann Arbor, also empowers judges of the state's new family courts to solemnize marriages.

All area senators supported the measure.

Lump sum - Lottery winners would have the option of receiving their winnings in a lump sum or in installments under House Bill 5127, passed 35-1 by the Senate.

Sen. William Van Regenmorter, R-Jenison, objected that the bill is unnecessary. "Everything the bill requires is already being done. What problem does this solve?"

Replied Sen. Dave Jaye, R-Macomb County: "It sets the Lottery's practice into state law. Jaye had the unusual distinction of voting twice for the bill. He introduced it in the House in 1997 while serving there and voted again as a senator in 1998 after being elected to fill a vacancy.

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Local lawmakers split on revenue sharing compromise

By TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER
trichard@oe.homecomm.net

If everyone is a little unhappy, it must be a fair compromise.

A much-amended revenue-sharing bill was passed by the state House of Representatives late in the Dec. 10 session by a 75-28 vote that belied the number of amendments and arm-twisting.

Here are key provisions, according to Sen. Glenn Steil, R-Grand Rapids, who worked for three years to cut Detroit's 26 percent share of the \$1.1 billion pot:

- The formula is rewritten to aid growth areas, so townships will tend to show greater percentage increases than cities.

- The final version allowed aid to rural townships with no full-time fire departments and levying less than four mills.

- Detroit's money is capped at \$334 million for eight years instead of the 10 years sought by the House and Gov. John Engler.

- Detroit's money can be cut if an economic recession reduces state revenues. Earlier versions "held harmless" Detroit, meaning it would have received its full amount regardless of what cuts had to be made elsewhere.

The Senate vote on Dec. 9 was 32-6. Voting no were Democrats Gary Peters of Bloomfield Township and Alma Smith of Salem. All other areas senators voted yes.

One vocal opponent was Democrat Jim Berryman of Adrian who objected: "In the year 2006, revenue sharing statutorily does not exist."

Here is how local lawmakers voted on HB 5989:

YES - Bob Brown, D-Deerborn Heights, Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, Tom Kelly, D-Wayne.

NO - Lyn Bankes, R-Redford, Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, Deborah Whyman, R-Canton, Andrew Raczkowski, R-Farmington Hills.

Here, according to the House Fiscal Agency, is how area communities would fare under the Senate amendments to HB 5989. The first number is the current fiscal year (which began Oct. 1); the last number is the estimate for FY 2006, the eighth and last year.

Wayne County government - \$50.8 million; \$61.3 million.

Detroit - flat \$333.9 million.

Canton Township - \$5.2 million; \$6.8 million.

Northville Township - \$1.3 million; \$1.7 million.

Plymouth Township - \$2.1 million; \$2.6 million.

Redford Township - \$6.7 million; \$8.2 million.

Garden City - \$3.6 million; \$5.4 million.

Livonia - \$10.3 million; \$12.6 million.

Northville city - \$342,000; \$363,000.

Plymouth city - \$1.1 million; \$1.2 million.

Westland - \$9 million; \$13.3 million.

Michigan has two revenue sharing pieces of legislation:

- The constitution, which distributes \$558 million per year on a per-capita basis. The money comes from a portion of the sales tax. Only the voters can change it.

- A 1971 law, which spreads \$792 million on the basis of a complicated formula that takes account of "relative tax effort." Steil calls that a "perverse incentive of giving more revenue sharing dollars to communities that increase taxes."

HB 5989 amends only statutory revenue sharing.

The 1971 law was passed when the Legislature repealed eight different business taxes and replaced them with the single business tax. One of the repealed measures was local property taxes on business "personal property" such as equipment and inventory. To replace the local units' lost revenue, the state shared its own revenue.

Vision 2000 campaign

Goodwill to expand training for disabled

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit has announced its \$5 million Vision 2000 Campaign to fund renovations and expansion of its training facilities that will provide people with disabilities in Detroit the best chance possible for successful long-term employment.

Goodwill Industries is a tier one supplier to the automotive industry, achieving Ford Q1 Supplier status, the Chrysler Gold Pentastar Award and GM Supplier of the Year honors, proving that people with disabilities are capable of excellence and providing high quality services essential to the economy.

In 1997, Goodwill provided training and assistance to 1,518 people with disabilities and placed 532 people in competitive jobs in the communi-

ty, an increase of 33 percent over 1996.

"Through expanded efforts supported by the Vision 2000 Campaign, we can continue to significantly increase the number of people with disabilities in this area who are able to support themselves and their families," said Paul Tobias, chairman of the Vision 2000 Campaign, and managing partner and CEO of Munder Capital Management in Birmingham.

Renovation

The campaign will renovate and expand Goodwill's employment and training center, classrooms, counseling areas, rehabilitation centers and cafeteria, update telecommunication systems, complete all standard safety requirements and unify the facades

of all buildings at the Detroit headquarters.

"The Vision 2000 campaign will allow Goodwill Industries to expand its capacity and programming to better meet the needs of the community for years to come through a state of the art facility," said Delois Whitaker Caldwell, president and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit.

Leaders in the community who have already made gifts or pledged their support to Vision 2000 include: the McGregor Fund for \$600,000, the Junior Group of Goodwill for \$300,000, General Motors Foundation for \$225,000, NBD Bank for \$175,000, Comerica Foundation for \$100,000.

How to donate

The Angelo and Margaret DiPonio Foundation has also made a major gift to Vision 2000.

Anyone wishing to make a contribution to the campaign can call (313) 964-3900, Ext. 315. Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit's headquarters is located at 3111 Grand River Ave., Detroit 48208-2962. Nine additional Goodwill service sites and six retail stores are located throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw counties.

The mission of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit is to provide people with disabilities and other barriers to employment with the opportunity to become independent self-supporting citizens through training, work experience and employment in the community.

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OBSERVERLAND NEWS ROUNDUP

CANTON

LASHISH COMING

Canton's dining lineup will soon take on a Middle Eastern flair. And Livonia may be next. LaShish Restaurant is shooting for a mid-January opening at the corner of Canton Center and Ford. It will be the seventh LaShish in the metropolitan area.

The Canton Township Board of Trustees unanimously granted LaShish a Class C liquor license in late November. Supervisor Tom Yack said the board's subcommittee came away favorably impressed with the restaurant on a recent visit.

Dearborn, Warren and Farmington Hills are among the communities where LaShish currently operates. President Talal Chahine said he plans to expand to Livonia as well as Canton.

GARDEN CITY

WOMEN GMS MAKE THE GRADE

The industry doesn't keep any figures but there probably aren't that many women serving as general managers at auto dealerships.

By a coincidence, two dealerships sitting side by side on Ford Road in Garden City both have female general managers. Susan Ianni has been general manager at Gordon Chevrolet since 1991, while Val Jansen was promoted to general manager about two months ago at neighboring Stu Evans Lincoln-Mercury.

A mother of four, Ianni had her youngest child five years ago. "I'm sure I was the only pregnant general manager," said Ianni. "There have been a lot of firsts for (owner) Gordon Stewart. Female general managers are usually wives or daughters of the owners."

Both Ianni and Jansen started working at the dealership in new car sales - the first time either had worked in an automotive business.

Jansen's prior experience included work as a store manager and director of operations for Folland's and several years as

operations manager for Bulk International.

LIVONIA

HEARTS MAKES DONATIONS

Livonia's best-known philanthropic group doled out more than \$100,000 last week from the year's fund-raising efforts. The Hearts of Livonia gave away \$43,000 in college scholarships and \$25,000 to the trauma center at St. Mary Hospital, the biggest beneficiary of the Heart Fund.

Another \$10,000 went toward the Heart Fund's scholarship reserves, \$5,000 to pediatrics at Angela Hospice and \$4,000 toward a tutorial fund at Stevenson High School.

The remaining money, divided into amounts ranging from \$3,000 to \$500, went to 24 different groups and funds, including the Livonia Lions Club, the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, the Livonia Family YMCA's invest in Youth program and scholarship funds at local high schools.

PLYMOUTH

IMPEACHMENT VOTE HEARS

Congresswoman Lynn Rivers, D-Ann Arbor, said she's spent the past three months looking at history to decide if President Bill Clinton should be impeached.

Speaking at the Tonquish Economic Club luncheon Monday at the Plymouth Manor, Rivers said it took her own probe of the facts to reach a conclusion because "both parties put out arguments that were pretty much self-serving, and they weren't always reliable. Neither side is giving the full story."

And after looking at the facts, Rivers said she is expecting to vote against impeachment.

"Unless something extraordinary happens, I expect I will vote against impeachment," said Rivers. Rivers admitted the process of impeachment isn't legal, it's political. "I spent a lot of time trying to find a position I feel comfortable with, that conforms with my

view of the constitution and my constituency. My phones have been ringing off the hook. People are very emotional about this issue."

REDFORD

LIBRARY LOOKS FOR LAND

A citizens committee to find a site for a new library is being formed by the Redford Township District Library board.

The committee is a direct result of the closing earlier Monday on the sale of the former Danny's Foods supermarket by Ganvasser Investment Co. of Southfield to George Yono, owner of Select Supermarket, which has succeeded Danny's.

The Ganvasser firm had told the library two years ago it was not interested in selling the building and parking lot.

The property on Five Mile just north of the library would have been ideal for a larger facility, which board members say is needed to meet the community's needs.

Co-chairpersons of the committee are trustees Robert Tripp and Charlotte Wirth.

WESTLAND

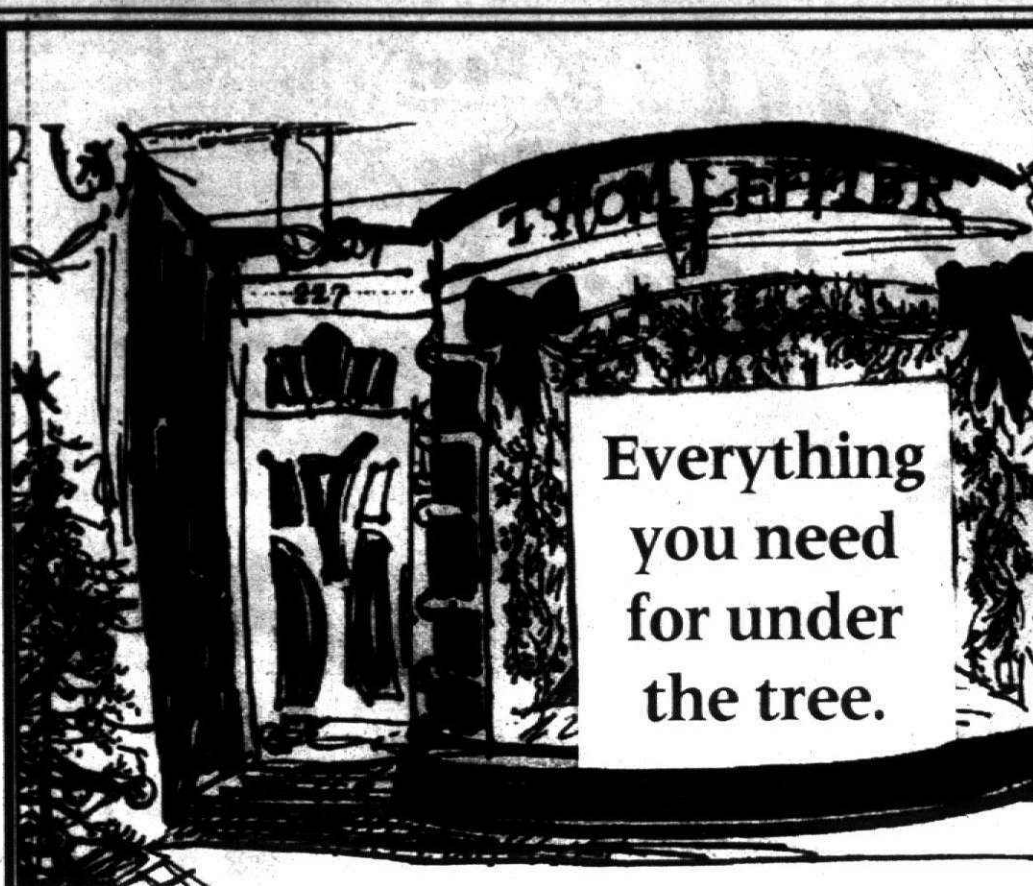
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State board search for new school chief will take months

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER
trichard@oe.homecomm.net

It will take months, but the State Board of Education is actively looking for a new superintendent of public instruction, the person who runs the Department of Education.

"Art Ellis' contract expires Dec. 31, but he told us he will stay on until we find a replacement," said Dorothy Beardmore, R-Rochester, one of the senior members of the State Board.

"In August we sent a letter to all interested parties, inviting them to tell us what qualities they considered important in a superintendent," said Beardmore.

That occurred at a meeting attended by only the five women members. The board's letter went out to school superintendents, board of education presidents, educational organizations and university deans.

The appointment will be made by a board evenly divided between four Republicans and four Democrats.

of 1999 to complete the search. She said previous boards had preferred people with a lifetime in education, but when Ellis was hired the board said it would look at people with other kinds of experience, such as business with vision, integrity and good communication skills.

Ellis was hired in 1995 when Clark Durant, R-Grosse Pointe, as the new board president, led a movement to force out Robert Schiller.

Ellis has been popular in his nearly four years at the helm. "Art knows higher education, government and politics. He learned K-12 education," Beardmore said.

A couple of other members would like Ellis, 68, to stay on, but he already has retired twice — as president of Central Michigan University and as Gov. John Engler's director of the Commerce Department.

The appointment will be made by a board evenly divided between four Republicans and four Democrats. Beardmore expects it will take until August

Mallett: New building is step forward for state courts

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER
trichard@oe.homecomm.net

To outgoing Chief Justice Confad Mallett Jr., it's a giant step forward in operating the appellate courts.

To many legislators, it will be a palatial Taj Mahal costing taxpayers \$2 million per judge who uses it.

The Senate Dec. 1 approved a capital outlay that provides \$88 million for a new Hall of Justice building west of the Capitol in Lansing to house the Supreme Court (seven justices) and Court of Appeals (28 judges). The House approved the money last week.

"It gives us a physical presence, said Mallett, of West Bloomfield, who personally lobbied senators for passage of the

bill.

"The bureaucrats can resist change of emphasis and procedure (by physical isolation). I can't get them to solve their problems without physical proximity. But I can set the tone in terms of where people sit."

Mallett likened the single new building to General Motors Chairman Jack Smith's decision to move his office to the

GM Tech Center so he could be closer to the company's action.

When the State Capitol was built in 1879, the Supreme Court had a third-floor chamber. Tourists still see an engraved sign proclaiming "Supreme Court." It's now used for Senate Appropriations Committee meetings.

In recent years, the highest court has several floors in what

to be called the Law Building, about two blocks west of the Capitol. This year, it was renamed the G. Mennen Williams Building, for the man who served 12 years as governor and 16 years as a justice. The Williams Building also houses the state law library, Attorney General's office and regulatory departments of state government.

The Court of Appeals' headquarters, however, is in a building a block east of the Capitol on several upper floors.

Mallett and Gov. John Engler say the appellate courts will work better if they and the court administrator are closer to each other. Court of Appeals judges say they can coordinate

Please see COURTS, A36

Law: Wolf-dog breeding needs state regulation

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER
trichard@oe.homecomm.net

Made violations misdemeanors punishable by fines of \$1,000 to \$5,000, costs of prosecution, 90 days in jail and 1,000 hours of community service.

A bill to regulate the exotic "wolf-dog" hybrid appears dead for the year in the Michigan Legislature.

"I'll just have to reintroduce it next year," said Rep. Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, sponsor of the bill that sailed through the House 96-9 but got stuck on the Senate calendar.

Law's House Bill 4793 was intended to prohibit the future breeding of wolf-dogs. It was supported by the Department of Natural Resources, Michigan Humane Society and animal rights groups. Breeders oppose it.

As amended by Senate committee chair Dave Jaye, R-Macomb County, the bill strictly regulates their care, housing, signage and licensing. It would run up the cost of owning a wolf-dog but not prohibit their breeding.

"There's no use in a wolf-dog," Law said. Their appearance varies wildly, and they have no particular skills that made dogs valuable after 5,000 or more years of selective breeding.

Wolf-dog hybrids are dangerous, Law's supporters say, because they have all the hunting and killing abilities of a wolf but lack the wolf's fear of humans.

Two other bills would prohibit private ownership of other exotic animals such as big cats, bears and apes. Those measures (HB 4791-2) also are dead for this session.

"These bills are needed because most people who have them do not provide them with proper care and housing, and this has resulted in many Michiganders being seriously injured or killed," said Eileen Liska, an Oakland County lobbyist for Humanitarians for Environment and Animal Laws PAC.

Domestic dogs are descended from wolves but have been bred selectively by humans. Dogs are used to children and look to humans — not the pack's alpha wolf — as their leaders.

Wolves are an endangered species under federal law and may not be owned and kept as pets. But wolf-dog hybrids aren't federally regulated. That's up to state and local governments, according to a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis of Law's bill.

The market is strong for the hybrids, which many consider "status" pets that bring up to \$1,000 per pup.

DNR favors prohibiting hybrids. It argued that if they get exposed to wolves in the wild, they will interbreed and dilute the wolves' genetic stock.

The bills' opponents say there's no good evidence hybrids are any worse than other canines, that there are no satisfactory genetic tests to differentiate wolves and dogs, and that the regulations are too costly — meaning many existing hybrids would be euthanized.

The Senate version of HB 4793 would have:

- Required that hybrids be kept in pens with concrete floors extending 3 feet below ground, at least 900 square feet in area, chain link fencing 8 feet high with a 3-foot inward overhang, and double gated — no outdoor tethering.

- Mandated that signs be posted saying a wolf-dog is kept and is "potentially a dangerous animal."
- Regulated temperature, ventilation, humidity, drainage, sanitation, diet and exercise.
- Required notification of public health authorities if the hybrid even scratched a human.
- Required vaccinations and licenses.
- Required the owner of an escaped hybrid to notify local law enforcement and pay for recapture as well as damages.

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Unique
Canton puts its stamp on season

The holidays are what you make of them. Nowhere is that more true than Canton, where dozens of municipal employees and volunteers help put together an agenda of family events throughout December that



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMANN

with an annual Elves Workshop, a kind of one-day day camp for kids featuring holiday games, craft activities and swimming and last Sunday's Brunch with Santa.

The Summit will extend the holiday spirit this year with a gala New Year's Eve Party featuring a complete dinner and all the extras. Reservations are required and may be made by calling 397-6800, Ext. 228, by Dec. 21.

promoted Christmas/Hanukkah/Kwanzaa spirit throughout the township. Their efforts are more than matched by local residents — as a nighttime drive through any number of subdivisions will show. Let's be honest, Canton isn't your typical Christmas postcard town. There's no town square swathed in wreaths and ribbons; no traditional downtown shopping district; and no holiday parade. Indoor shopping malls — the outposts where Santa can set up shop and draw critical mass — are all in neighboring suburbs. But the sense of community is strong. And local leaders have tapped into that to help foster holiday traditions that are unique to Canton. Take the Dec. 7 Christmas tree lighting ceremony, held for the first time at the new fire headquarters on Canton Center Road. In addition to the usual trappings, there were mini-train rides, hayrides and an ice carving demonstration. The Summit gets in on festivities as well

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools District contributes to the atmosphere as well. Holiday concerts were staged this week at the three middle schools and in the Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium. By-and-large, the activities are family-oriented and most (with the exception of the New Year's Eve dinner) are free or available for a nominal charge. As we said, Canton residents do their part to heighten the holidays as well. In particular, residents in the Lyndon Village subdivision (see story in today's Observer) go all out in decking out their neighborhood for Christmas. In fact, some Lyndon Village residents were thinking about leaving their lights off this year after several incidents of larceny and vandalism at Halloween. The Observer is glad that the Christmas spirit apparently won out.

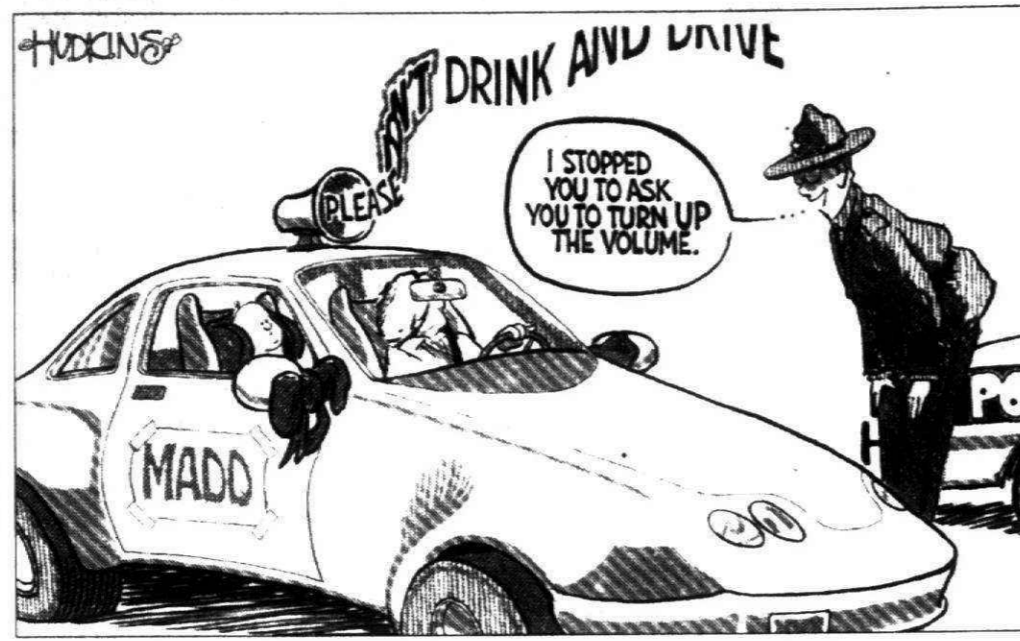
Tips for a stress-free holiday

Readers don't have to be reminded what time of year it is. There are traffic jams on the roads leading to the malls. Retail clerks seem a tad unfriendly. Shoppers in front and behind you in line are more impatient. Part of the negative emotional health experienced during the Christmas shopping season is that TV commercials raise our expectations to unrealistic levels. Those TV images show everyone in a perfectly happy mood. There are long lines at the malls with everyone — shoppers and clerks — smiling. That's certainly a far cry from the reality of the season. But shoppers can do a lot of things to reduce, if not eliminate, the stress of last-minute holiday shopping. First, focus on things you can control, not things you have no influence over. Second, gift buying is only a holiday activity, something less crucial to people's lives than brain surgery. There are several tips you can use to not only reduce potential stress this week and next but also make the holiday more enjoyable. First, realize that you are in control of what you do, not the malls or retail centers. Second, create a positive mental image of what you want to do. That positive attitude will probably rub off on the clerks you will be dealing with. Third, do your shopping as early as possible. Most retailers open at 8 or 9 a.m. At that time, there are no crowds and close-to-the-

■ 'Christmas is only one day of the year. There are 364 other days of the year. Not everything has to revolve around that one day.' —A former counselor's advice

entrance parking spots. Another advantage is that the clerks are fresher in the morning than after a long 10- to 12-hour day. Fourth, have a good idea of what you want to buy. Fifth, not every gift has to be the "perfect" item. A former counselor offered our readers some advice. "Christmas is only one day of the year," she said. "There are 364 other days of the year. Not everything has to revolve around that one day." If you expect Christmas Day to be a perfect day, you would have failed, she said. She suggested people ask themselves, "What do I want from the Christmas season?" For many, it is really a warm family atmosphere at the dinner table, she said. That's certainly a sharp contrast with the TV images of people with happy faces hugging family members. So with only one week left to buy gifts, enjoy the holiday and look at it as a possible, enjoyable activity, not a chore to be dreaded.

ARKIE HUDKINS



LETTERS

Freedom, fairness are issues
Something's been bothering me about the contested bond issue that I haven't been able to get a handle on, until just recently. I want the bond to pass, but it's been troubling. A bad feeling has been nagging at me and I now know what it is, and it doesn't make me feel any better. It came to me when a picture of Arlington National Cemetery was shown in TV and my son asked me what all the white things were for. And I told him quickly that they were grave markers, but immediately continued on and explained why they were there and why they're important to us. I said that they represented people who sacrificed their own lives so, and families just like ours, didn't have to be afraid of anyone who ran our country or state or city. They died so we could be heard, so everyone could be heard, through speech and print and the vote, even when we didn't like the messages. And then I thought of my uncle who came back from Germany one of the very few survivors of the Arden Forest massacre. Someone once whispered that he was discovered under a pile of corpses, a shield that allowed him to live at the cost of others. I thought of my neighbor's father and the terrible atrocities he endured in the South Pacific. And I remembered a co-worker I had who was kept in captivity in Vietnam, and the painful expression that he had recollecting those days that I dared not question further. Each of these men, and the hundreds of thousands of survivors like them, have two things in common. One is the indelible scars that run deep within them, both psychologically and physically. The other is their unwavering conviction that of they or their children were called upon again they would make the same sacrifices. And just what are they sacrificing for? Better houses? More money? Newer schools? Nothing more than the simple right to be heard and to vote. This is why I can't accept the bond issue for the school. There were over 700 people who were not heard. If we accept this, then we say fair and free elections are not as important as the outcome. We teach our children that the ends justify the means. We diminish the sacrifices. We diminish ourselves. A lot of people would say that it was simply too bad that some were lost, or that the cost of a new election was too great, or that the votes that were recorded properly came out in favor so let's leave it at that. To these people I say the price is too high, and shame on those of us who think it not. I would like to live in a community where our educators and leaders had the courage to stand up, even in the light of a supposed victory, and proclaim that this is not

right. I would relish an educational system that taught right and wrong and honesty, not by lecture but by example. I'm ashamed that we don't live in such a place, and it saddens me that I have to explain to my children that "getting yours" should not be their most important concern. If we build a school with money gathered like this we build a monument not to freedom and true education, but one that says to those who sacrificed for us, "Our needs matter more than you." And I just can't bear to do that. David Bard Canton

Enlightening writing
I am very appreciative of the writing Tim Richard does for the Observer. He gives the facts and they always help me understand a certain political situation and the workings of politics in this state which I would not have without his enlightenment. I hope he is able to do this kind of writing for some time to come. In the Dec. 10 issue, he wrote about Judge Myron Wahls who knew he was dying of cancer, yet ran for another six year term and was voted in. Turns out he just wanted to line the pockets of his grandchildren. He died before he went into office, so he collects \$200,000 insurance with his grandchildren as beneficiaries. That probably means an increase in insurance rates and that means I have to pay for some of that in the future. What a legacy he leaves for the rest of us. It may be legal, but is it ethical? Worse than this, he deprived us of our franchise. Now the governor, not the voting public, will appoint someone to fill his place. It may be legal, but is it ethical? We are aghast at the ethical practices of the president. How about those in our own back yard? Thanks, Tim. This was enlightening. Rev. John K. Sefcik, retired Redford

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

May your days be merry and bright for the holidays

This has been a great holiday season, right from the start. We had family in from Pennsylvania for a visit at Thanksgiving, and my husband, Mark Rembecki, and I decided to go to Laurel Park Place in Livonia. Saturday, Nov. 28, representatives from Angela Hospice were there to dedicate the organization's tree. Among those honored or memorialized on the tree are the Brown and Rembecki families. That Saturday, we sang Christmas carols and did some more caroling Sunday, Dec. 6, in downtown Plymouth's The Gathering by Kellogg Park. The mall that Saturday was crowded with holiday shoppers, but many of us took time to remember loved ones with kind thoughts rather than gifts. Of course, there's nothing wrong with giving kind gifts, too, but it's all too easy to let the commercial focus dominate the season.

Our Christmas shopping's done. That's nice, because it'll give us time to focus on the true meaning of the season. That may or may not include celebration of Jesus' birth for you. For all, however, it includes the love of family, friends, neighbors and colleagues. My friend in San Diego, Deborah Pantoni, celebrates Hanukkah rather than Christmas but still looks forward to the season. She's a registered nurse who does home health care, so she's accustomed to helping others. Her husband, Tony, is Catholic, so their holiday celebration is a celebration of combination. My husband has done his annual bell-ringing for the Salvation Army in Plymouth. He always enjoys that, as it helps him to help others. He was blessed this year with relatively mild weather. As we've gotten older, Mark and I



JULIE BROWN

appreciate even more the time spent with loved ones. The gifts, although still nice, somehow seem less important. We hope to visit more with family, friends and colleagues this year. There are our lovely neighbors, Graham and Mary Martin; they invited us to a dinner at their church, Lake Pointe Bible Chapel, and we enjoyed our time together Saturday, Dec. 5. Earlier that day, our family saw the

Whistle Stop Players of the Plymouth Community Arts Council perform "The Velvetene Rabbit." What a great group of kids! It was great to see the Martins and other neighbors, and I hope we get to see more of our neighbors this holiday season and beyond. They'll be busy, but I hope we find time to visit. There are the friends we've gone too long without seeing. Christmas may not be the best time of year to see them, but I vow to visit soon after. Of course, family's right up there. My mom and I spent time together Wednesday, Dec. 9, at the Plymouth Branch, American Association of University Women holiday party at the Plymouth Historical Museum. My mom, Lynette Brown, is a member of the Oakland Branch and serves on the AAUW state board. All of those at the museum that night brought gifts to give to women and children at First

Step. I know retailers depend on the Christmas/Hanukkah season to balance their books, and I'm not suggesting that we give up on gift-giving. It's just nice to know that sometimes the best gift you can give is one of time and love. Not all are able to give gifts to loved ones, due to financial constraints. For many, this season is just another time to worry about putting food on the table. Organizations such as the Salvation Army help them to make the yuletide brighter. So let the shopping continue (I know there will be some great sales after New Year's), but remember the needy and those you love most. Julie Brown of Plymouth Township is a copy editor for the Observer Newspapers. She can be reached via e-mail at jbrown@e.homecomm.net, by letter or by calling (734) 953-2126.

Yes, even the Bible has words of compassion for prisoners

At any suburban social gathering, when the talk turns to prisons, you'll usually hear, "Lock 'em up and throw away the key. Prisoners got no rights." Michigan's prisons, in the 1980s and part of the '90s, were run under court orders from U.S. District Judge Richard Ensen because the state was ignoring the inmates' rights. Ensen is a doctrinaire Kennedy liberal, a former Peace Corps administrator who didn't give a thought to what a solution cost. If in his Solomonian wisdom he thought it was needed, then by the powers he would order it, and the state would pay. It cost taxpayers billions. It was an expensive lesson. Too bad we still haven't learned it. Tracy Neal was lead plaintiff in a 1996 women inmates' class action suit against the Michigan Department of Corrections, MDOC Director Ken

McGinnis, wardens and officers at "facilities" in Plymouth Township and Coldwater. The inmates charged male officers had sexually harassed them, watched them perform basic hygiene and body functions, patted them down in their private parts, retaliated when the women complained, and requested sexual favors in return for good-time credits and educational opportunities. That's no way to treat a female, even if she may not be a lady. When I wrote about this case last summer, I reported the Court of Appeals ruled they had a constitutional claim but no claim under the Civil Rights Act. That changed Nov. 24 when the same panel reversed itself. Actually, Oakland's own Hilda Gage switched her vote and came down with Judge Barbara MacKenzie on the side that it is indeed a Civil Rights Act case. The narrow legal question was



TIM RICHARD

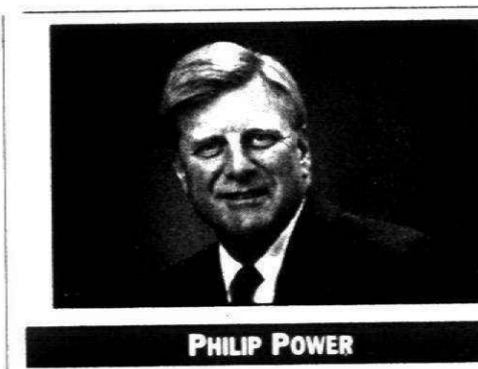
whether a prison is a "public service" subject to civil rights laws. Last summer the Court of Appeals said no. This time, it said yes, 2-1. A Washtenaw circuit judge issued an injunction against further misbehavior by male prison guards but awarded no money. MDOC, McGinnis, the wardens and Officers Portman and Robey appealed. The same court panel got the case in fall.

"The constitutional equal protection guarantee applies to prisoners," said MacKenzie and Gage. Inmates may be denied the right to vote, but "a prisoner of the state does not lose all his civil rights during and because of his incarceration..." (The due process and equal protection clauses follow him through the prison doors.) And: "Nowhere does the language of the Civil Rights Act purport to preclude its application because of a person's status as a prisoner or inmate." Gender note: The majority opinion was signed by two women judges, MacKenzie and Gage; the dissent by a male judge, Peter D. O'Connell. No wonder so many women voters are ganging up to elect women judges. It will be interesting to see if MDOC seeks to appeal to the state Supreme Court. It will be even more interesting to see if our new female attorney general, Jennifer Granholm,

appeals for her clients or follows her campaign slogan and tells McGinnis' bully boys to forget it. There is some advice for Granholm in Holy Writ. At the Last Supper (Matthew 25), Jesus told us the King of Heaven would separate the sheep (good) from the goats (bad) and say to the sheep: "Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom... for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me." I have a hunch certain legislators and officials in Engler's Department of Corrections will wind up with the goats. Tim Richard reports on regional and state events. His voice mail number is (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1881.

Campaign contributions raise questions about impartiality

As the year winds down, newspapers are in the habit of running stories purporting to list the biggest news stories of the year. My candidate for inclusion comes from a squib written in November by David Ashenfelter of the Detroit Free Press: "Pundits thought Michigan Supreme Court Justice Clifford Taylor would be the first high-court candidate to break the million-dollar campaign fund-raising barrier." "But campaign finance reports filed last week show Maura Corrigan broke the barrier first, raising \$1,004,495 in a successful effort to win one of three \$124,770-a-year seats on the court. Corrigan, chief judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals, spent all but \$8,052 of her money, mostly for ads. "Corrigan, a Republican nominee, raised more than a third of the money in the campaign's final month from the Michigan and Detroit Regional chambers of commerce, Michigan Bankers Association, Michigan Association of Home Builders, Michigan Restaurant Association, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Michigan, Michigan Doctors and Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan. "Taylor raised \$943,863." Of course, it's hardly surprising that the tidal wave of special interest money, previously focused largely on the Michigan Legislature, has now engulfed our state's highest court. It's logical for the bigwigs who run the political action committees. After all, if buying influence with legislators works, why not judges? The probable result, of course, is that public attitudes regarding the impartiality of decisions from the Supreme Court will quickly become just about as alienated and cynical as public opinion now holds votes in the state legislature. Certainly, the longest-running scandal in our public life is the infestation of special interest money in election campaigns. Poll after poll shows conclusively that ordinary folks figure that candidate after candidate is bought and paid for by wealthy special interest groups. The results are predictable. Voter turnout, already low by historical standards, continues to drop. Respect for the integrity of our political institutions declines. Interest in "direct action" outside of the political system increases. What to do about it? Good question. Do-gooder organizations have tried for years to get lawmakers, whether in the U.S. Congress or the Michigan Legislature, to enact campaign finance reform. Ha! Only the most naive among us would believe that politicians elected by spe-



PHILIP POWER

cial interest money actually would vote to end the system that elected them. Others of a more legalistic turn of mind have tried to find ways to prove that campaign contributions represent very thinly disguised bribery. Odd, isn't it, that the same lawmakers who gladly accept campaign contributions also enact the laws that make it tough to get a bribery conviction? If you look carefully, you will find that the laws on bribery in Michigan are very narrowly defined, requiring a specific, provable quid pro quo, a direct link between a vote and a contribution. There may be another device: conflict of interest. The Michigan conflict of interest statutes forbid public officials from making money by virtue of holding office. Is it, therefore, a conflict of interest for a judge who in October accepts a big campaign contribution from the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, to rule next March on cases involving the Michigan Chamber of Commerce? I wonder. And dare I to wonder, at this Christmas season, whether champion fund-raiser Supreme Court Justices Corrigan and Taylor will see fit to recuse themselves from sitting in judgment when cases involving their list of big contributors come to the court? Don't hold your breath. Philip Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@online.com

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:
Do you think that President Clinton should be impeached?

Cecile Ray, Plymouth

"I don't feel that he should be impeached at this point. There are a lot of other things that need to be attended to."

Alma Blacker, Garden City

"No, I don't think he should be impeached because there are more important matters... than this sexual thing."

Toni Gurrerie, Plymouth

"I don't necessarily agree with his personal life but, you know what? We all make mistakes."

Colleen Wood, Canton

"No, I don't. They asked him if he lied and he said no. He didn't have sexual relations. Oral sex and regular sex are two different things."

We asked this question at the Plymouth post office and Plymouth Manor.

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Courts from page A17

decisions better if they're located closer together.

The Senate passed the bill 24-11. The House approved the Senate bill 67-27. Here is how area senators voted:

YES - Bill Bullard Jr., R-Milford, John Cherry, D-Clio, Mat Dunaskiss, R-Lake Orion, Bob Geake, R-Northville, George Hart, D-Dearborn, Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township, and John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek.

NO - Loren Bennett, R-Canton, Mike Rogers, R-Brighton.

ABSENT - Alma Smith, D-Salem.

Peters said he voted for the bill because it also contained money to demolish the old Clinton Valley Center, a 19th century mental health facility in Pontiac. "Part of the land will go to Oakland County government. The remainder will be sold to a private developer because (the city of) Pontiac wants upscale residential housing," he said.

But Peters was unhappy about the high cost of the court building. "I voted for the Jaye amendment to strip down the court project.

Sen. Dave Jaye, R-Macomb County, stuck the "Taj Mahal" tag on the project. His amendment would have removed \$15 million for an underground parking garage and prohibited the building of a restaurant and restrooms not open to the public.

"This massive Judicial Palace costs around \$269 per square foot," Jaye said. "These arrogant judges are trying to stuff hard-working taxpayer dollars into this \$87.8 million project. Government leadership is trying to plow this palace through in the last six days of the 1998 session."

Jaye's amendment failed in an unrecorded vote.

Rogers joined another senator in protesting the high cost of the project but said, "I think we need a new hall of justice." He blamed the Department of Management and Budget rather than the courts for running up the project's cost.

Jury bill hailed

Michigan residents will find it harder to avoid jury duty under

House Bill 6287 that was reported out of the House Judiciary Committee.

Lists of potential jurors would be drawn from the Secretary of State's qualified voter file. That file includes registered voters, driver's license and state identification card holders.

Some people avoid jury duty by changing residences after they receive a court summons to appear for service. Others believe they can avoid jury duty by not registering to vote.

"Jury service is one of the most important roles that we have as citizens of a democracy," said Mallett, who supported the bill. "The diversity of the community reflected in jury service enhances impartial decision-making and is essential to public confidence in the justice system."

The bill was approved by the House 99-0 but it never made it out of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Observers expect it will be back next session.

County COO is finalist for Dallas deputy post

Victor Marsh, 41, the Wayne County Commission's director of administration and chief operating officer, confirmed Friday that he is a finalist for a deputy city manager vacancy with the city of Dallas.

The position pays \$123,000 annually.

"I am humbled and flattered by the national attention," Marsh said.

Marsh has run the legislative branch of the largest county in the state of Michigan and the eighth largest in America, with a \$2 billion annual budget, since

1995.

An honors graduate of the University of Michigan, Marsh has participated in two previous national searches out of nearly 20 invitations from both the private and public sectors over the past two years.

The city of Dallas is his third.

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| 30-Month/30,000-Mile Red Carpet Lease | |
| Capitalized Cost | 32,201 |
| Down Payment | 2,270 |
| Refundable Security Deposit | 450 |
| First Month's Payment | 429 |
| Cash Due At Signing (Net of Incentives) | 3,149 |
| \$0.15/mile over 30,000 miles | |

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JACK GLADDEN

Adventures in fine dining at Christmas

She's at it again. The Feminist, I mean. Planning our annual Christmas menu. I'm tired already.

It used to be simple. The in-laws would come over in the morning, we'd have breakfast and open presents (not necessarily in that order), I'd throw a ham in the roaster and The Feminist would tend to the kielbasa, the pierogi, the kapusta — all that Polish stuff that I couldn't even pronounce, much less cook. Those were the good old days.

Then the parents-in-law retired to Florida and The Feminist, who grew up in a Polish kitchen, decided we should branch out and try some different menus. I suggested going back to my southern roots for a change, but I couldn't sell anybody on fried eggs and ham with grits and red-eye gravy for Christmas dinner.

We went British for a couple of years, then Mexican, then Italian. And I found myself doing at least half of the cooking. Not that I minded particularly. I struggled through Beef Wellington, fumbled with Melton Mowbray Pie and grumbled my way through a "Big Night Timpano." But when she started making noises about going Greek this year, I refused.

"I'm not touching anything that involves grape leaves or phyllo dough," I said. "They'd fall apart on me."

Something new

"Maybe we could do something Jewish," she said.

We discussed that for awhile, but there were too many problems — both epicurean and ecclesiastical. Brede's just doesn't market any horseradish stamped "kosher for Christmas."

"I've got it," she said, after rummaging through two bookcases full of cookbooks. "Early American. Let's do an early American Christmas. What could be more traditional than that?"

"How early?" I asked. I thought she'd been hanging around those Civil War reenactors too much. I had visions of cast iron pots and kettles straddling a campfire in the backyard.

"Colonial," she said. "Let's do a Colonial Christmas."

"And what'll we cook?" I asked.

"I'll let you know."

I don't know why, but when I started thinking Colonial Christmas I conjured up images of roast goose, chestnuts and mincemeat pie. The Feminist had other ideas.

"Here," she said a few days later. "Here's the menu."

"Marchpane? Twelfth Night Cookies? Sally Lund bread? Chicken and corn chowder? What is this stuff?"

"It's all early American recipes. I found a bunch of books in the library."

"Indian pudding? Compound sallat? Syllabub? What the heck is silly bub?"

"It's called syllabub! It's a drink. It's made with cream and Sherry and wine and nutmeg. Sounds delicious."

"Where'd you find these recipes anyway?"

Please see GLADDEN, B2

To be or not to be ... a grandmother

The heirs have grown and gone off on their own, and there you sit, Mom, waiting ... wondering when they'll make you a grandmother.

Are you attracted to baby booties and diapers while your adult children are captivated by big screen TVs and the latest computer software?

Are you a grandma wannabe ... mother desperately seeking grandchildren?

If your preference is to be a grandmother now, not later, and want to talk about it, call Sue Mason at (734) 953-2131 or reach her by e-mail at smason@oe.homecomm.net and leave your name, city you live in and telephone number.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Happiness is: For Ouida Cash, chief executive officer of Starfish Family Services, getting a chance to be with the children enrolled in the agency's Head Start program is one of the perks of her job.

New name, but same mission

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@oe.homecomm.net

You might say Ouida Cash has a thing for starfish. She sports a large gold starfish pin on the lapel of her suit. Starfish of all sizes line a shelf in her office.

Then there are the business cards, emblazoned with a green and purple starfish on one side and the starfish story on the other side.

No, she's not a marine biologist, but her attraction to the sea creature has a lot to do with her new job as chief executive officer of Starfish Family Services.

"We looked at what other agencies called themselves; we looked in the Yellow Pages and found they all sounded the same," Cash said. "We wanted to stand out."

And stand out it does as one of the region's largest private nonprofit human services agencies, created by the July 1 merger of Youth Living Center in Inkster and Northwest Community Services in Livonia.

"It's a wonderful blending, a merger that created a wonderful relationship," said Cash, who was the executive director of YLC. "It was an opportunity to merge with an agency with no overlap. It was an end-to-end merger, and as a result, there were no layoffs."

In operation since 1975 as a private, nonprofit agency, YLC provided residential and community-based programs for young people up to age 21, as well as

Starfish FAMILY SERVICES

Making a difference one child, one family at a time

The story behind the name

A woman was walking the beach after a terrible storm. She noticed a young man ahead of her, picking up starfish and throwing them into the surf. When she reached the man, she asked him why he was returning the starfish to the ocean.

"With millions of starfish on the beach, what difference can you make?" she asked.

The young man smiled at the woman, reached down and picked up a starfish. Throwing it into the sea, he said, "It makes a difference to this one."

support, education and crisis programs for parents and the community.

NCS had served the community since 1968 as a outpatient mental health and chemical dependency clinic, offering counseling to individuals and families, placement and case management of out-of-home placement and respite care for people with developmental disabilities.

In need of a partner

Blending the two agencies

Please see STARFISH, B9

Service points in all directions

One of the main reasons for the creation of Starfish Family Services was the desire to expand and improve services for community families. It now provides more than 20 major programs in the areas of:

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

■ Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center — provides temporary shelter for teens in crisis and their families.

■ Early Head Start — builds physical and social development of infants and toddlers and strengthens parent-child relationships.

■ Even Start West — provides parenting and adult education, enriched child care and parent-child learning.

■ Head Start — provides preschool program for children and referrals for parents.

■ Child Development Center — provides safe, affordable child care for community families.

■ Safe Stay — making available 24-hour residential crisis and respite care for children.

■ Specialized adoption — finds suitable homes for children and teens who are the victims of physical and sexual abuse.

■ Specialized foster care — places severely traumatized children with caring foster families.

■ Youth Assistance Program — seeks to prevent at-risk youth from entering the juvenile justice system through structured programming.

CLINICAL SERVICES

■ Counseling services — provides outpatient therapy for individuals, families and groups, crisis assessment and emergency stabilization and chemical dependency/abuse treatment.

■ Placement and case management —

facilitates, coordinates and monitors the placement of adolescents requiring out-of-home treatment.

■ Developmentally disabled respite care services — provides respite and relief for families with developmentally disabled family members.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND RECREATION SERVICES

■ After Baby Comes (ABC) — supports first-time parents through phone calls and home visits from volunteer moms and dads.

■ ASSETS (Assisting Students to Succeed with Education, Training and Support) — helps at-risk junior high students build decision-making skills.

■ Grow and Learn Summer Camp — helps children develop skills in sports, art, gardening and foreign language and culture.

■ Kid's Club — offers after-school and weekend recreational, educational, cultural and arts activities.

■ LifeLines — educates youth about AIDS and other real-life topics through interactive presentations.

YOUNG ADULT AND ADULT SERVICES

■ Inkster Family Investment Center — provides broad support to public housing residents.

■ Inkster Home Works — gives young people experience in skilled trades by rehabilitating homes.

■ Operation Rebound — assists homeless and at-risk men with housing and employment.

■ Supervised Independent Living — assists young adults from residential care to independence.

Starfish Family Services is at 30000 Hively, Inkster. For more information about its services, call (734) 728-3400.

Gardens, gardening: good for your health

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@oe.homecomm.net

As Janet Macunovich sees it, gardens "just make us feel good." They not only smell good, but are good for people. Looking at photographs of gardens for just 10 minutes can lower your heart rate, she says.

And those alpha waves in the brain, the ones tied to creativity, innovation and stress relief, increase when you come in contact with nature.

"There is actual physical stress relief when you work in a garden" said Macunovich, an advanced master gardener, author, landscape designer and newspaper columnist. "You don't need an aerobic exercise class, all you have to do is swing a pickaxe or shovel mud in a garden."

A latest guest of the Livonia Town Hall series, Macunovich had some food for thought for her audience, looking at the non-plant aspect of gardens — why they fascinate people, how they reduce stress and how they can build family unity.

Dubbed "the lady with no lawns" because of the gardens around her Waterford home — they now cover 5,000 square feet — Macunovich has had a lifelong interest in gardens that became focused on perennials after she spent a summer in England in 1973.

Being known led to requests to design other gardens in 1980, so in 1985, she started Perennial Favorites, a garden and landscape design firm. Three years later, she left her job of teaching management training at Michigan Bell to work in the business full time.

"What attracts us to a plant is the mysterious magic that a little

tiny seed can become a big tree," she said. "Plants are not threatening. They don't talk back. And they're predictable — they grow flowers, they grow seeds."

Goats to grass

Front yards as we know them are a fairly recent invention, according to Macunovich. In the early 1900s, goats, chickens and the conveniences of home were out front. The lawn, if you could call it that, was swept with a broom.

But front lawns with gardens in the backyard caught on with the construction of Cranbrook House in the early 1900s by George and Ellen Booth. Garden clubs also started cropping up to encourage gardening, she said.

"Unfortunately, the trend today is to plant for now, plant everything big," Macunovich said. "People sitting on planning boards should be telling landscape architects to plant for tomorrow."

"I've been in classes where landscape architects are planning for a seven-year life expectancy and then we're left with the problems."

And with more people taking to their front porches these days, Macunovich suggests moving gardens to the front yard.

"A study done in Los Angeles found that the more percentage of green there is the less trash on the ground and the less graffiti on the walls," she said. "We have a feeling that somehow we are safer out among plants."

Macunovich, who "lives" with hundreds of species of plants, has several firm beliefs. One is that everyone should have a garden, no matter how small or what's in it.



Please see GARDENING, B1

Gardening from page B1

But gardeners should be diverse, adding different colors and smells to their gardens. And they should be proud of their efforts and share their treasures and failures. It helps build self-esteem.

On closer inspection, she discovered that Cory and his friends had put down AstroTurf and created a par three golf course, requiring a chip shot over the pond.

horticulture. Her formal education comes from hundreds of hours spent at seminars and workshops at botanical gardens and educational institutions.

The author of "Easy Garden Design" and "Caring for Perennials," she admits she'll never live in a place that doesn't have a winter season.

The Livonia Town Hall season will continue on Wednesday, Jan. 20, when Dr. Brian Ingalls of Northville will talk about the excavation of mummies in Egypt.

Gladden from page B1

"I told you. I brought some books home from the library." "Let's see. The Plymouth Plantation New England Cookery Book. 'Uh-huh. 'Pleasures of Colonial Cooking.' And what's this? Colonial Fireplace Cooking and Early American Recipes."

You're planning on cooking our Christmas dinner in the fireplace? "Don't be silly. The recipes have been adapted for a regular kitchen. But you didn't see the main course."

"Sweet' main course "Sweetbread Pie? I don't think so." "Sweetbreads are marvelous. You've just never tried them before."

time. We're having Sweetbread Pie and that's it. Just look at all the stuff it's got in it. Artichoke hearts. Asparagus. Mushrooms. Chestnuts. It's sounds wonderful.

were illegal. It wasn't until the 1830s that ... "Don't try to change the subject. We're having Sweetbread Pie. Trust me, you'll like it."

Maria's Bakery advertisement featuring various pastries, breads, and catering services. Includes contact information for 115 Haggerty and phone number (734) 981-1200.

Teen wins RLL essay contest

A Livonia teenager is in line to receive a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond after winning the Right to Life-Lifespan of Metro Detroit's recent student essay contest.

The second-place winner was Heidi Lesner, 17, of Northville, a senior at Southfield Christian High School. She received a \$200 U.S. Savings Bond.

The bride is the daughter of Steve and Mary Jane Kremenski of Ridgefield, Conn., formerly of Canton. The groom is the son of Bill and Kit Devlin of Somers, Conn.

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Kopanakis-Vicheales

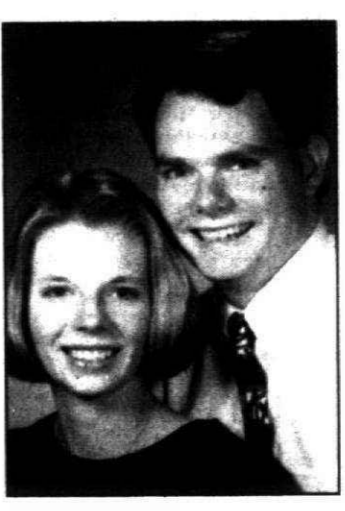
Bill and Jane Kopanakis of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Diane Marie, to Dorn Dewitt Vicheales, the son of Dorn and Sharon Vicheales of Fowlerville.



A May wedding is planned at the Nativity of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church in Plymouth Township.

Smith-Ackerman

Les and Margaret Smith of Niles, Mich., announce the engagement of their daughter, Sherilyn, to Daniel Ackerman, the son of Dan and Maria Ackerman of Canton.



A May wedding in Niles is being planned.

Devlin-Kremenski

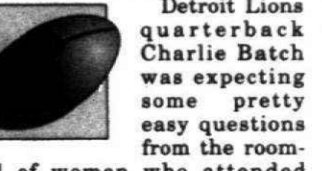
Steven Devlin and Michele Lynn Kremenski were married Aug. 7 in Ridgefield, Conn. The Rev. Randy Day of Jesse Lee Memorial Methodist Church officiated.



After receiving guests at the Lounsbury House in Ridgefield, Conn., the couple left for a honeymoon in Cancun, Mexico. They are making their home in Atlanta, Ga.

1st and 10 Women learn the fine points of football

BY CHRISTINA PUOCO christina@ee.home.com.net



Bobbi Conville of Canton and her friends were joking on the way to "Football 101" about how the class probably would be filled with "a bunch of dumb women."

black jeans and a gold chain, along with Bailey and Jett frequently chuckled at as women asked questions about football. Jett laughed when he was asked about his tackling techniques.

out there. Here we play until after Christmas." Good response Pam Darling of Redford said the event was much more than she expected.

"I was impressed with the amount of time they took for questions. A lot of women don't have a clue about football," Darling explained.

Sliding practice?

Another woman asked Batch if he practiced sliding, which he uses to try to squeeze out a few extra yards.

Joseph and Diane Ruggiero of Livonia announce the birth of Jessica Lynn Aug. 13 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins two siblings, Joe Jr., 15, and Jordan, 5.

Christopher and Kimberly Dobbs of Westland announce the birth of Angel Marie Aug. 14 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins two sisters, Amber, 3, and Brittany, 2.

David and Melody Graham of Grand Rapids announce the birth of Andrew Duncan Oct. 6 at Metropolitan Hospital in Grand Rapids.

Westland's Best Kept Secret is Out - A First-Class Retirement is Here and Affordable. Advertisement for The Grand Court retirement community, featuring amenities like 24-hr emergency system, meals, and social director.

Good food, great recipes ... read Taste

Our free Catalog helps you every step of the way. Advertisement for a shoe catalog, featuring various styles of shoes and contact information for Pueblo.

FOR THE CHILDREN, FROM SANTA. Advertisement for Somerset Collection shoes, featuring a Santa Claus character and promotional offers.

Marquette House advertisement for assisted living services. Includes contact information for Marquette House at 36000 Campus Drive, Westland, MI 48185.

Bridal Directory advertisement listing various wedding services including banquet facilities, limousine, and complete wedding packages.

Read Arts & Leisure Sunday

Religion from page B7

Christ* for the Christmas Eve service at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 20805 Middlebelt, at Eight Mile, Farmington Hills. The 11 p.m. service will include carols, candles, choirs and communion. There also will be a communion service at 10 a.m. Christmas Day. For more information, call the church at (248) 474-0675.

Unity of Livonia Church will celebrate Christmas with a candle lighting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, and a special Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24, at the church, 28660 Five Mile Road, Livonia. For more information, call the church at (734) 421-1760.

Harpist and vocalist D.I. Turner will lead, with special instrumental music, the Christmas Eve candlelight communion service of New Life Lutheran Church.

The special music, featuring flute, piano and guitar, will begin at 6:45 p.m., with worship at 7 p.m. A special children's message - "The Very First Christmas" - will be illustrated with overhead transparencies.

New Life Church worships temporarily in the chapel of Our Lady of Providence, 16115 Beck Road, between Five and Six Mile roads, Northville Township. For more information, call the Rev. Ken Roberts at (734) 459-8181.

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church will have a family Christmas Eve service at 5 p.m. Dec. 24 at the Canton campus, 46001 Warren Road, and at 7 p.m. at the Livonia campus, 14175 Farmington Road. The 5 p.m. service will feature special Christmas music by the worship team, while the Cherub, Choister and Hand Chime choirs will perform at the 7 p.m. service which will include a special children's message.

The 11 p.m. candlelight service will be held at the Livonia campus where worshippers will be given a votive candle to raise during the singing of "Silent Night." The Choir of Christ Our Savior, Handbell Choir and instrumentalists will unfold the Christmas story through song, scripture and prayer. A pre-service concert of organ, handbell and instrumental music will begin at 10:30 p.m.

Christmas Day worship with communion will begin at 10 a.m. at the Livonia campus and will feature uplifting music with choir and instrumentalists. For more information, call (734) 522-6830.

SWING PARTY
Single Spirit of Ward Presbyterian Church will have a 1940s Swing Party 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club, Merriman Road north of Warren Road, Westland. Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$40 at the door. For more information and tickets, call (248) 374-5920.

1st Congregational Church celebrates 150th anniversary

On Aug. 20, 1848, a group of 11 people gathered in an area in what would be the town square of the city of Wayne. Their purpose was to organize a church. One hundred fifty years later, the First Congregational Church of Wayne is remembering the group that met that day. The settlement of Wayne was nothing more than a clearing in the great forested plains.

Far away from civilization, the citizens of the village drew together, for they were all each other had. There that day were Dr. Julius M. Hume, Daniel Hall, Chancey Newell, Squire C. Merrill, Mrs. Lydia Pease, Electa Hall, Mrs. Thirza Kilborn, Mrs. Cynthia Merrill, Frances W. Pease, the Rev. J.S. Kidder and the Rev. Calvin Clark, a Methodist minister.

In the summer of 1849, a small group of Christians came together to start building the church, the first to be built in the community. It was completed in 1850.

Constructed with the meager resources that were available, the homesteaders passing through the village were in awe struck that such a church could exist in the wilderness.

It stood for 122 years and was an active part of the community. It was indirectly involved in the Underground Railroad before and during the Civil War, and provided office space for the draft board during World War I.

When the United States went to war again in 1941, the church, in association with the Red Cross, made medical bandages and quilts for the troops.

However, when the original New England-style edifice burned on Aug. 12, 1970, a new church was built on the site.

Starfish from page B1

started more than a year ago when NCS Director Sara Vandervoort decided it was time to find a partner. About to retire, she asked her friend Cash about her experience during a 1985 merger that created YLC.

Colleagues for more than 25 years, they were talking about how a merger was done when they realized that the two agencies should merge.

"Because of this end-to-end partnering, we are able to have a continuum of services," said Cash, who at one time served on the NCS's board of directors. "They had the clinical and the outpatient services in Canton, Garden City and Livonia. We had programs throughout southeastern Michigan with a focus on western Wayne County."

Starfish services are now available at 12 locations in Wayne County. In addition to Livonia, Garden City and Canton, services are available at sites in Westland, Dearborn, Wyandotte, Wayne and Inkster, where its administrative offices are based.

The agency now employs 300 people and has a \$10 million budget. Starfish expects to serve more than 10,000 people in its first year through the merger. It has 20 programs that offer in four categories - child and family services, clinical services, community education and recreation services and young adult and adult services.

"Of the values we talked about during the merger process, one was to make a difference one child, one family at a time," said Cash. "No one agency can do it all. We have to interlink to have a better net of services."

"The whole community has to pull together to help the children."

Bring in the kids
It may be apropos that Starfish is based in a former elementary school in Inkster. Abandoned for three years, YLC bought the building from the

Wayne-Westland Community Schools in 1987. It had been fire-bombed and used as a drug hangout, but YLC had other plans for the building.

"We saw it as our corporate headquarters, but when 100 kids showed up at the open house, it changed us," Cash said. "We decided not to wait until the children were taken away, but to help keep families together."

The agency invested \$1 million in renovating all but one wing of the school. That last area got a \$700,000 makeover this year, and the sounds of children can once again be heard in the building with the opening of a federally funded Head Start program for 350 Inkster youngsters.

"Everyone wins with this partnering with the public schools," said Cash. "We wanted to remain a community and family center and Head Start was the right fit for us."

"Community centers have to be not only in the community, they have to be of the community. We have to work at that and make sure we do our best."

Following a business philosophy, Starfish has a bottom line and a strategic plan like many corporations. The goal is to get a

maximum amount of its funds to the front lines, Cash said.

A majority of its money, 53 percent, comes from Wayne County, with another 24 percent from the state, 11 percent from insurance and client fees, 7 percent in donations from corporations, foundations and individuals, 3 percent from the federal government and another 2-3 percent from miscellaneous sources.

It is one of 37 organizations like the Detroit Institute of Arts chosen to be part of the Van Dusen Foundation Challenge. The Michigan AIDS and Skillman Foundations help fund its Lifelines youth theater and the Hudson-Weber Foundation has provided a grant to work with the chronically unemployed.

"We're running with the big boys," said Cash. "We're proud to be different. We see ourselves as the Apple computer of the human services agencies, and we think it's important families know we do things differently."

"The starfish legend symbolizes what we do as an agency. The new name, while unusual, is a perfect fit for our approach to serving individuals, children and families."

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Voices from page B3

Bar of Plymouth and Ed and Edee Joppich of Farmington Hills.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Shifferd of Westland announce the birth of **Kerstin LeAnn** Aug. 14 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins a brother, Grandparents are Don and Dorothy Shifferd of Wayne and Leon and Sharon Wagner of Westland.

Rod and Angie Golovoy announce the birth of **Matthew Robert Golovoy** July 22. Grandparents are Robert Weid of Midland, Rosemary Braun of Temperance and Mr. and Mrs. Amos Golovoy of Canton. Great-grandmothers are Marcella Sutton and Josephine Weid, both of Monroe.

Mark and Christie Frizzell of Westland announce the birth of **Derek Lee** Aug. 15 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins a brother, Joshua, 4, and a sister, Tiffany, 18 months. Grandparents are Bill and Brenda Dewulf and Gary and Denise Frizzell, all of Westland.

Dennis Leroy and Kathy Lynn Gardner of Livonia announce the birth of **Chase Leroy** Aug. 17 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins a sister, Chelsey Elizabeth, 4 1/2. Grandparents are Doug and Judy Gardner of Vermonville, and Gordon and Linda Glennie of White Lake.

William and Elizabeth Casey announce the birth of **Brendan John** Sept. 23 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. He joins a brother, Patrick Leahy. Grandparents are Ted and Robin Collins of South Lyon and Alice Casey of Dearborn.

Russell and Ruzica Cook of Canton announce the birth of **Shelby Rusa** Aug. 21 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins a brother, Justin, 18 months. Grandparents are Ronald F. Cook of Pontiac, Jackie Goodman of Davison, and Drago and Debrica Boznowski of Dearborn Heights.

Paul and Jackie Guajardo of Westland announce the birth of **Adam Tyler** Sept. 21 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. Grandparents are Tim and Kathy Catalano of Belleville and Valentin Guajardo and Gloria Salinas of San Antonio, Texas.

Jason and Tracy Nesler of Novi announce the birth of **Jordan Reese** Aug. 22 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Jordan has three siblings, Jacob, 2, Joey, 10, and Sarah, 8. Grandparents are Charles and Robera Nesler of Southgate, James Nesler of Westland and Dorothy Nesler of Romulus.

Michael and Kimberly Jackson of Plymouth announce the birth of **Garrett Stanley** Sept. 16 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. He joins a sister, Lauren. Grandparents are Stan and Gail Spaw of Plymouth and Garrett and Myrtle Jackson of Sebewaing.

Jason Highland and Amy Stickler of Westland announce the birth of **Alicia Nicole Highland** Aug. 23 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Joe and Eraina McMillan, and Dave and Linda Highland, all of Westland.

Kathleen Kendall of Garden City announces the birth of **Steven William** Sept. 10 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. He joins sisters, Jennifer and Karen. Grandmother is Teressa Bono of Melvindale.

Alan and Julie Ramsdorp of Livonia announce the birth of **Clare Marie** Aug. 23 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins a sister, Haley Margaret, 1 1/2. Grandparents are Bill and Constance Ramsden of Tucson, Ariz., and Don and Margaret Rathgeb of Livonia.

Jody and Carrie Ketola of Garden City announce the birth of **Bethany Ruth-Ann** Oct. 6 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. She joins a brother, Steven James. Grandparents are Steve and Bonnie Ketola of Britton and James and Charlene Nance of Westland.

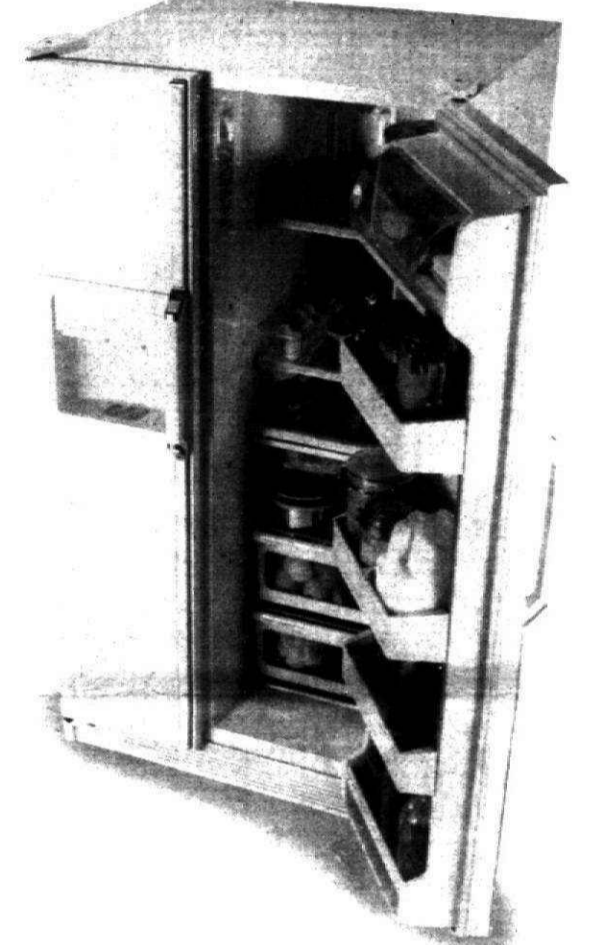
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DEARBORN: 21747 Michigan Ave
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BEST BUY

Now that's a great idea!

Newsletter helps parents get involved in school

When it comes to helping your child have a good school year, it's not so much what you know as who you know.

That's an insider tip from veteran parent Linda Wacyk who has launched a new bi-monthly guide, called "Michigan Learning," that equips parents to maximize their child's education.

Recent surveys show that many parents feel overwhelmed with all they have to do. They find it hard to make time to be involved in their children's education. In addition, they often feel intimidated by professional educators who seem to have all the answers and fail to invite parents into the process.

"It is amazing to me that the same parents who would willingly dive in front of a car to save the life of their child will avoid going to school to talk to a teacher," said Wacyk, who has four children scattered between third grade and college. "We forget how much power we have to improve how schools serve our children."

The key, she said, is knowing the right people. And the people to know are your child, your child's teacher and other parents.

"As a parent you know your child better than anyone else," said Wacyk. "Parents who take advantage of that relationship—by always asking about their child's school work and trying to customize opportunities to meet their unique needs — see consistent gains."

According to Wacyk, parents need to introduce themselves to their child's teacher. That shows that school is important, and parents build a relationship with the teacher, making it easier to share information and work together to help their children learn.

The nonprofit mission of "Michigan Learning" is to give parents easy ways to keep track of their children's progress and evaluate their needs. The guide gives parents six things teachers wish parents knew about preparing their children for school.

Parental influence

Research shows that what a parent does at home is a more important influence on student success than a parent's education, social status or income. Here are a few proven tips from parents of successful learners. At home, parents should:

- Actively organize and monitor your child's time, both in and out of school. Stay informed about kids' pastimes, performance and homework expectations at school.
- Help with homework. Ask questions and check to see that work is complete and provide whatever tutoring the student needs.
- Discuss their child's experiences in school, both good and bad. Make decisions together about projects and courses.
- Read at home. Parents who model reading and read with their children powerfully influence their child's success at school.

With the school, parents should:

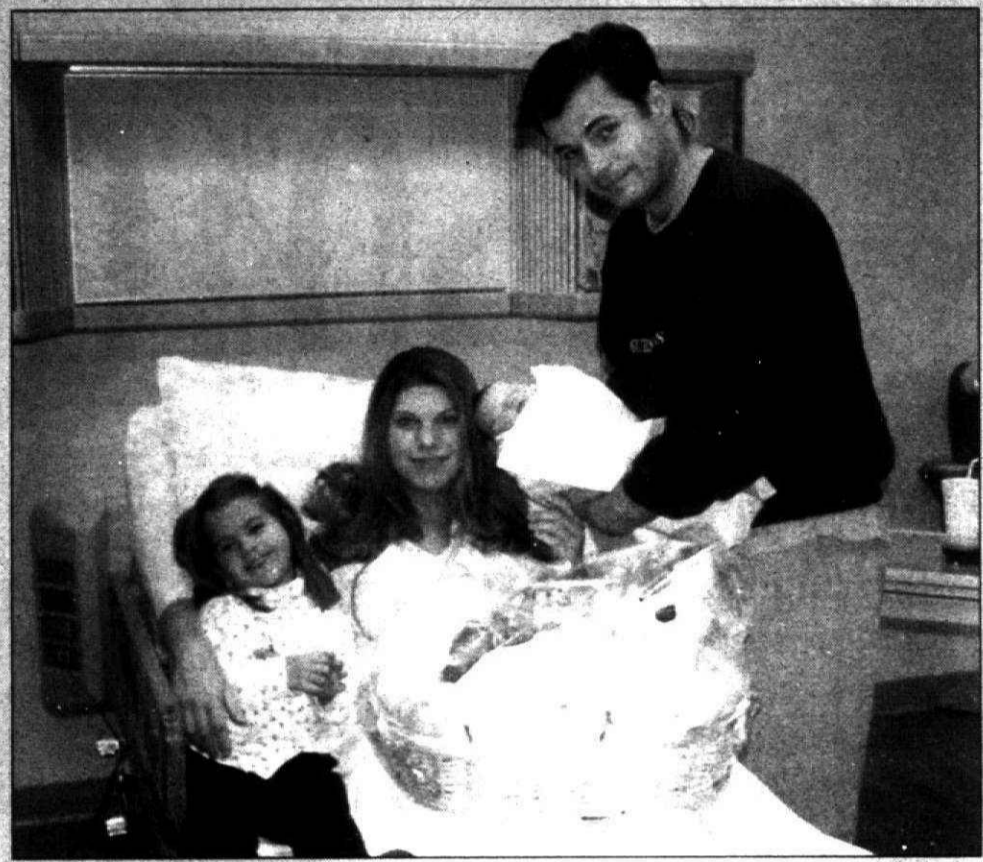
- Be sure your child is enrolled in a challenging course of study that best meets his or her needs for the future.
- Keep in touch with the school. Don't wait for the school to talk to you. See that children are assigned meaningful homework in appropriate amounts and are challenged to do their best.
- Ask more from schools. Challenge them to create new ways for parents to get involved. Compare your school's goals and standards with emerging academic and occupational standards.
- Use community resources like enrichment programs, recreation and sports teams and religious youth groups to help your child fill in after-school hours and build a strong network of supportive adults.
- Encourage businesses to adopt policies that allow families to spend more time in school, form partnerships with schools, donate money, supplies or expertise, and participate in school-work efforts.

Parents can get a free premier copy of "Michigan Learning" by calling (800) TEACH-MI. More "how-to" data also is available at its Web site, <http://teachmi.org/learning>.

"Perhaps the most important thing 'Michigan Learning' will do is to give parents a forum where they can swap stories and strategies with parents across the block or across Michigan," Wacyk said. "Connecting with other parents can multiply your effectiveness. 'Michigan Learning' is all about parents helping parents improve education."

Birthday surprise

For now arrival: When Kristen Pfeifer of Dearborn gave birth to the newest family member, Julia, on Oct. 31, little did she know that the scouts had a surprise for her. Members of Brownie Troop 401 of Isbister Elementary School in Plymouth Township donated a gift basket for the first baby girl born at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia on Girls Scout founder Juliette Lowe's birthday.



Methodist Home Society has Christmas wish list

With Christmas just a week away, the Methodist Children's Home Society of Detroit is hoping people will get in the spirit of giving now to make yuletide merry for the many children for whom it cares.

The children are of various ages and backgrounds who have been separated from their families due to abuse, neglect or abandonment.

Their wish list includes:

- New clothing — socks (men's sizes 10-13), thermal underwear (men's small, medium and large), clothes (infant sizes, 2T-4T and sizes 4-6), team (or Nike) T-shirts, sweat shirts and baseball caps, thermal insulated gloves, raincoats and swim trunks.
- Personal items — wallets, personal grooming products, small suitcases, duffle bags, book bags, gym bags and watches.
- Educational items — encyclopedia sets (1995-current), thesaurus, dictionary, flash cards, sports books and adventure stories.
- Arts and crafts — school glue, construction paper, poster board, glitter, crayons, cake bags, pastry bags and decorator tips, color pencils and markers, paint brushes, tempera and poster paints, plastic thread and beads and alphabet beads to string.
- Miscellaneous items — basketball pumps, basketball nets, ball inflating needles, batteries, videos (rated G, PG and PG-13), basketball cards, baseballs and footballs, hand-held games, non-violent Nintendo 64 games, used musical instruments, stuffed animals, bike helmets, inline skates and protective gear for skating.

For more information about early holiday giving to the children of the Methodist Children's Home Society, call Kristen Hill at (313) 531-4060.

CLASS REUNIONS

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric! Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric! Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please include the date of the reunion and the first and last name of at least one contact person, and a telephone number.

BIRMINGHAM GROVES
Class of 1989
A reunion is planned for July 17 and a reunion picnic for July 18. (248) 737-1398 or erdcarlson@aol.com.

BISHOP BORGESS
Class of 1989
A reunion is planned for August 1999. (313) 271-3050, Ext. 189 (days), (248) 552-8020 (days), or (248) 723-1907.

CHERRY HILL
Class of 1983
Reunion and alumni family picnic is planned for August. (734) 729-8783.

DEARBORN FORDSON
Class of 1989
Aug. 14 at Hawthorne Valley Country Club, Westland. (248) 366-9493, press #8.

DETROIT CENTRAL
January-June classes of 1944
May 23 at the Hotel Baronette, Novi. Marcia Pollock, 29393 Laurel Woods Drive, No. 201, Southfield 48034.

DETROIT COOLEY
Class of 1950
A reunion is being planned. (313) 421-3150 or (734) 525-2503.

DETROIT PERSHING
Classes of 1949-53
Are planning a reunion. Send name, address and telephone number to Fred Kashouty, 21528 Raymond, St. Clair Shores 48082 or call (810) 294-7512 or (313) 881-2023.

DETROIT REDFORD
Class of 1949
May 15 at Plum Hollow Country Club. (248) 476-4957 or (248) 644-7540.

DETROIT WESTERN
Class of 1949
A reunion is planned for May 15. (248) 476-4957 or (248) 644-7540.

DETROIT SOUTHEASTERN
Class of 1959
A reunion is planned for Sept. 25. (313) 884-1243.

Classes of 1950s-1960s
A themed reunion cruise is planned for Holland America's Westerdam, sailing from Ft. Lauderdale on March 13. (248) 646-3979 or (810) 777-4266.

DETROIT WESTERN
Class of 1949
Is planning a reunion. (313) 274-3214.

GARDEN CITY WEST
Class of 1968
A reunion is planned for September 1999. (517) 522-4893, (734) 213-4350 or (248) 486-5170.

HENRY FORD TRADE
Class of 1949
A reunion is planned for June 1999. (313) 565-2392 or (734) 261-8546.

HIGHLAND PARK
Class of 1969
Is planning a reunion. (313) 864-5943, (313) 583-5418 or (313) 867-3201.

January-June classes of 1950-51
Are planning a reunion. Send name, address and telephone number to Fred Kashouty, 21528 Raymond, St. Clair Shores 48082 or call (810) 294-7512 or (313) 881-2023.

LADYWOOD
Class of 1988
March 13 at the Italian-American Club of Livonia. (313) 255-8078.

LIVONIA BENTLEY
Class of 1964
July 24 at the Holiday, Laurel Park, Livonia. (734) 416-5993 or Tink@mediano.net.

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
Class of 1979
Aug. 7 at the DoubleTree Suites, Southfield. (248) 366-9493, press #3.

MADISON
Class of 1974
A reunion is planned for April 24. (810) 795-0266 or (248) 548-6044.

NORTH FARMINGTON
Oct. 2 at the Double Tree Suites, Southfield. (248) 360-7004, press 2.

NORTVILLE
Class of 1979
July 10 at Italian America Club, Livonia. (800) 677-7800 or by e-mail at reunions@taylorpub.com.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
Class of 1980
A reunion is planned for Dec. 26. (202) 546-4377 or kbrady48@erdc.com; (734) 455-5475 or gearn@pcsa.k12.mi.us; or ebdoherly@aol.com.

PLYMOUTH
Class of 1969
Aug. 6-8 at the Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi. (248) 446-1028 or Karlanecast@aol.com, or (734) 420-3811 or PHS1969@aol.com.

PLYMOUTH CANTON
Class of 1979
Aug. 7 at the Holiday Inn-West in Livonia. (734) 397-8766 or www.reunion-works.com.

REDFORD UNION
Class of 1979
Aug. 28 at the Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi. (313) 592-8537 or (734) 416-0807.

Class of 1949
Is planning a reunion for September 1999. (313) 937-9329 or (734) 427-4208 or (248) 349-1331.

ROCHESTER ADAMS
Class of 1989
June 5 at the River Crest in Rochester Hills. Cost is \$50 per person. (248) 393-1151, (248) 968-8313, (248) 852-5744 or (248) 952-0444.

ROCHESTER ADAMS
Class of 1979
Aug. 7 at the Somerset Inn, Troy. (248) 366-9493, press #6.

TRENTON
Class of 1989
Aug. 28 at Arnold's Banquet Center, Riverview. (248) 360-7004, press 6.

WALLED LAKE CENTRAL
Class of 1979
A reunion is planned for July 24. (248) 363-8211 or (248) 366-3337.

WALLED LAKE WESTERN
Class of 1979
Aug. 14 at DoubleTree Guest Suites, Southfield. (248) 366-9493, press #1.

WATERFORD
Class of 1979
Is planning a reunion. (248) 674-3946.

WAYNE
Class of 1950
Is looking for classmates for its 50th class reunion. (734) 428-8379 or (734) 721-8036.

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Class of 1983
Sept. 26 at Roma's of Garden City. (248) 360-7004, press 1.

ANNIVERSARY

Gonsior

John and Esther Gonsior of Garden City celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 25 by renewing their wedding vows at St. Mel's Church, followed by a reception at Hawthorne Valley in Westland.

The couple exchanged vows on Oct. 23, 1948, at St. Hedwig Church. She is the former Esther Plawewski.

The couple has two children — Sandra Belch of Canton and Randolph of Westland. They also have five grandchildren.

He retired 19 years ago from Chrysler Corp. where he was a quality control supervisor. He is a member of the Polish Legion of American Veterans and the American Legion.



She is the former manager of Lee's Hallmark. Their interests include bowling and music.

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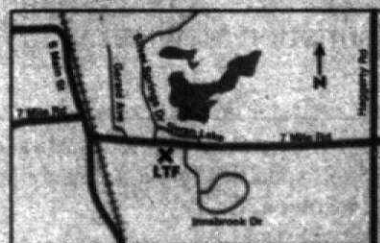
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OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Racquetball league

A men's racquetball league is now forming, with play to be at Body Rocks-Racquettime in Livonia. Sponsored by Canton's Parks and Recreation Services, play will be at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, beginning Jan. 13. The league will last 13 weeks.

Cost is \$100, which includes all league court time and awards. There are no residency requirements. Players will be divided into divisions, depending upon ability level.

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

Ten Star basketball

Registration is now on for the Ten Star All-Star Basketball Camp, which is open to boys and girls 10-18 years old. Players are selected by invitation only. Past participants include Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Christian Laettner.

Camp locations are Marion, Ind.; Raleigh, N.C.; Center Valley, Penn.; Atlanta, Ga.; Bristol, Va.; Delaware, Ohio; and Mobile, Ala. College basketball scholarships are available for the most advanced players.

For an evaluation form, call (704) 372-8610 anytime.

New soccer refs

Training sessions for new soccer referees are scheduled for four consecutive Saturdays in January and February at the Westland Bailey Center, located on Ford between Newburgh and Wayne.

Each class will run from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; referees must attend all four classes. A certification test will be given at the final session.

Classes are Jan. 23, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and Feb. 13, and are open to those 12 and older.

Cost is \$43. Call (734) 459-4875 to register. Class size is limited.

Hitting camp

The Double Diamond Baseball School will hold a winter hitting camp from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday and Monday, Dec. 20-21 (ages 8-13), and from 4-7 p.m. Sunday-Monday, Dec. 20-21, at Madonna University.

The two day camp will focus on developing proper swing mechanics, increasing bat speed and power. The camp features two full-length batting tunnels, tee work, short-toss drills and instruction from top high school and collegiate coaches (videotaping for each participant).

The cost is \$90 per player. Payment is due no later than Dec. 16 to guarantee a spot (enrollment limited).

For more information, call Madonna head baseball coach Greg Haeger at (734) 432-5609.

Baseball camp

Barbaro Garbey, a member of the 1984 World Champion Detroit Tigers, will be an instructor for the '98 Put One In The Upper Deck Christmas Camp (ages 8-12 and 13-16) Monday through Thursday, Dec. 28-31, in Northville.

Instruction in hitting, pitching, throwing mechanics, fielding and base running will be offered four days, two hours per day.

The cost is \$120.

For more information, call (248) 349-0008.

Drop-in hoops

The City of Plymouth Recreation Division will offer open gym for basketball from 6:45-9:45 p.m. Mondays at Central Middle School beginning Jan. 4. Cost is \$4 per person. City of Plymouth residents will receive a \$1 discount with identification.

For further information, contact the City of Plymouth Recreation Division at (734) 455-6620.

Travel baseball tryouts

The Waco Wolves, a 10-under travel baseball team, will conduct tryouts for the 1999 season on Sunday, Jan. 3. The team will play up to 50 games, including tournaments in Knoxville, Tenn. and Chicago.

For information, call Bill Hardin at (313) 562-4667.

Anyone interested in submitting items to Sports Scene or Sports Roundup may send them to sports editor C.J. Risak, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI, 48150, or may fax them to (734) 591-7279.

Rocks upset Belleville on last shot



Plymouth Salem's early-season schedule has hardly been filled with patsies. What it has been filled with is success — including Tuesday's impressive win at Belleville, a team that reached the state finals last season.

Now that's something to cherish.

Plymouth Salem showed it will again be a power to be reckoned with in boys basketball, certainly in the league and very likely beyond that, by beating Belleville — a Class A state finalist

last season — 54-52 Tuesday at Belleville.

Aaron Rypkowski supplied the heroics, nailing a jumper from the free throw line with one second left to secure the victory. The Tigers never got off a shot in that final second.

"I feel good about that," said Rocks' coach Bob Brodie, relishing his team's 3-0 start. "Those are quality teams we played."

And beat. A year ago, Salem struggled through two losses to start the season; the Rocks quickly rallied, however, to finish 19-4.

It's obvious that, even though Salem has lost five starters from last year's squad, it is still a powerhouse — and a mentally-tough one, too. Belleville jumped all over the Rocks to start the game, building a 16-4 lead in the first

quarter.

Salem trimmed that to 16-9 by the end of the quarter, then put on a defensive display in the second, limiting the Tigers to a single basket to go up 22-18 at the half.

The Rocks continued to play strongly in the third quarter, outpointing Belleville 17-10 to extend their lead to 39-28. But the game wasn't over — not hardly.

"They clawed their way back into it,"

Please see HOOP WRAP, C4

No giving up



Gettin' after it: Madonna's Kathy Panganis grabs this rebound away from Central State's Jessica Williams, something Panganis did often enough. She finished with a game-high 16 rebounds, and she also led the Lady Crusaders with 17 points. Her efforts were instrumental in Madonna's come-from-behind victory over the 23rd-ranked team in the NAIA Division I.

STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Madonna rallies to beat Marauders

BY C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER
cjrisak@oe.homecomm.net

COLLEGE HOOP

What a time to lose perhaps the key player on your team.

It was exactly the situation Madonna University's women's basketball team faced when it was learned that senior forward Mary Murray, a leader for the Lady Crusaders both on the floor (second in scoring with an 11.9 average) and off, had suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament in her knee and would be lost for the season.

The injury occurred Dec. 4 in the opening game of the Concordia College Tournament. The final diagnosis wasn't confirmed until last Thursday; she'll undergo surgery in approximately a month.

"That's a big loss," said Madonna coach Marylou Jansen. "Mary's been a real leader on this team, one of those steady-eddies."

Losing a player of Murray's caliber could, and probably would, cripple most teams. Few possess the depth to survive such a calamity.

Madonna has proven to be one of the few.

On Monday, the Crusaders illustrated their resolve when they hosted Central State University (from Wilberforce, Ohio), the 23rd-ranked team in the NAIA Division I. Madonna led once — at 2-0 — until the game's final minute, when it counted most.

Overcoming a 10-point, first-half deficit, the Crusaders kept coming after the Marauders and finally caught them when Chris Dietrich was fouled by CSU's Sheba Harris on a three-point try. Dietrich hit all three to knot it at 69-69 with 1:51 to play; that was followed by a Kathy Panganis free throw that gave the Crusaders their first lead since the game's initial basket, with :54 remaining.

Two more Dietrich shots from the line gave Madonna its 72-69 triumph.

"This was big, emotionally," Jansen said. "Losing Mary, and this was finals week, so the kids were mentally tired. Different people stepped up tonight, like (Michelle) Miela and (Carissa) Gizicki off the bench. There wasn't one

Please see WOMEN'S HOOPS, C3

OHL HOCKEY

Whalers get 2 wins and add a player

Not that they're in any trouble, but Plymouth Whalers' coach Pete DeBoer isn't one to allow his team to rest on their collective laurels.

Not if there's a path open to improvement.

The Whalers won twice last weekend, following a lackluster 4-3 win over host Sault Ste. Marie Friday with a decisive 7-2 triumph against the Erie Otters Saturday at Compuware Arena. The victories improved Plymouth's Ontario Hockey League record to 24-4-2, first in the West Division.

But keeping the Whalers on track won't be easy, not with defensemen Paul Mara and Nik Tselios and forwards David Legwand and Harold Druken leaving to try out for their respective countries in the World Junior Championships.

In an effort to keep the Whalers in high gear, DeBoer traded a 1999 fourth-round draft choice to the Brampton Battalion for defenseman Mark McMahon. McMahon is a 6-foot-2 overage player (he's 20); his procurement allows Plymouth to fill its overage allotment of three.

McMahon started the current season playing for the Florida Everblades in the East Coast Hockey League. He had one goal and four assists in 13 games for the 'Blades. Last year, as a member of the Kitchener Rangers, McMahon enjoyed his best season of junior hockey, collecting 12 goals and 38 assists (50 points). He also had 175 penalty minutes in 61 games.

A fifth-round selection of the NHL's Carolina Hurricane, McMahon joins Rick Smith and Troy Smith as the Whalers' overage players.

Last Saturday against the Erie Otters, Plymouth scored four unanswered goals in the second period to break open a tie game. Rick Smith accounted for two Whaler goals, with Jamie Lalonde, Damian Surma, Druken, Legwand and Kyle Chapman also getting goals. Surma, Lalonde and Legwand also had assists, while Eric Gooldy and Adam Colagiaco had two assists

Please see WHALERS, C5

Canton wrestler gets 75th



Big winner: Rob Demsick went 5-0 at the Novi Round-Robin Dual Meet Tournament Saturday, allowing him to surpass the 75 career-wins mark.

As far as the team record goes, Saturday's trip to the Novi Round-Robin dual-meet tournament was unproductive for Plymouth Canton's wrestling team.

But from the start of the season, Chiefs' coach John Demsick had said his team might not fare well in dual meets. And even though they went 0-5 at Novi to fall to 1-8, there were promising performances.

Two Canton wrestlers posted 5-0 records for the day, winning all of their matches. That included Robert Demsick, who surpassed the 75-match win total for his career — something his father and coach, John Demsick, estimated had not been done by a Canton wrestler "in 15 years."

Robert Demsick was competing in the 160-pound division, teammate Kevin Stone, at the 152 division, was equally productive, going 5-0 on the day. Demsick is 10-1 this season and Stone is 11-1.

Please see WRESTLING, C2

VOLLEYBALL

Surprise! Salem tops Ladywood

BY C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER
cjrisak@oe.homecomm.net

Too early for key matches and showdowns — isn't it?

Last weekend, both Plymouth Salem and Livonia Ladywood opened their volleyball seasons at the Midland Invitational. If any season-opener can have serious repercussions, this was one.

Both schools have new coaches. Former Ladywood coach Tom Teeters is now at Salem; Larry Wyatt, who was the Blazers' junior varsity coach last season, has taken over Ladywood's varsity.

The two local rivals — Salem has never beaten Ladywood in post-season play — were in the same pool at Midland. The stage was set.

And, at least for now, it was Salem that emerged

Please see SALEM VOLLEYBALL, C2

VOLEYBALL PREVIEW

Team to watch

Canton could be surprise team in the WLAA

BY C.J. RISAK STAFF WRITER

By the time Cynthia Montgomery's first season as volleyball coach at Plymouth Canton came to a close, there must have been a sigh of relief from some onlookers. The way players were dropping, another couple of weeks might've resulted in an empty roster.

of optimism. Despite their injuries last season, they still finished 6-5 in Western Lakes Activities Association matches. What Canton lacked last season was a dominant player with size. Unfortunately, that hasn't changed.

Won't it become one? "We hope not," the Canton coach answered. "We're not going to let it be a problem." What the Chiefs do have is strength. "Our girls are really strong. We have some hard hitters," Montgomery noted.



Key contributor: Liz Elsner will be a force at the net for Canton this season.

Salem volleyball from page C1

The Rocks handled Ladywood in their pool showdown, winning 15-11, 15-0, a win that put them into the tournament semifinals against host Midland. They won that as well, beating the Chemies 15-4, 15-2 — setting up a rematch with Ladywood, which edged Reed City 13-15, 15-13, 15-10 in their semifinal, for the tournament title.

to look at this long-term." Which means, with perhaps as many as four other regular-season meetings ahead, the Rocks shouldn't get too excited. "It was good that we got tested," Teeters said. "I saw some things we're looking to improve upon."

Suder, who led Salem with 44 kills (and a .320 kill percentage) and 41 digs. Others who excelled were Angie Sillmon with 19 kills, 12 service aces, 39 digs, three solo blocks and 10 block assists; Andrea Pruett, with 13 kills; Jill Dombrowski, with 11 kills, 19 digs, three solo blocks and three block assists; Michelle Ginther, with 10 kills, 11 aces and 31 digs; and Laine Sterling, with 30 assists to kills and 15 digs.

Wrestling from page C1 "In the past 10 years, we've only had a few wrestlers that have reached the 50-win career mark," said coach Demick of his son's mat record, which stood at 78 wins by day's end. "It would appear it's been 10-15 years since we've had anyone with 75 wins. It's a big accomplishment for Canton."

Advertisement for the 3rd Annual Elysia Peffley Foundation Skate-A-Thon at Joe Louis Arena. Includes details about the event, ticket prices, and a photo of the arena.

Advertisement for the 3rd Annual Elysia Peffley Foundation Skate-A-Thon at Joe Louis Arena. Includes details about the event, ticket prices, and a photo of the arena.

SWIMMING PREVIEW

Salem still rates as team to beat in WLAA

BY C.J. RISAK STAFF WRITER

Numbers are not. Interest isn't. And don't think Plymouth Salem is about to step aside and relinquish its role as the dominant force in Western Lakes Activities Association swimming just because there are "only" 36 swimmers out for the team.

SALEM

solidly at last year's WLAA meet: Brian Mertens, who was third in the 500 free (4:53.87) and ninth in the 200 free (1:52.55); Aaron Shelton, who took 12th in the 100 back (1:00.10); and Paul Perez, who finished eighth in both the 200 IM (2:07.47) and 100 butterfly (57.07).

SALEM

Others to watch include a trio of top-grade sophomores who all performed well at last year's WLAA meet: Brian Mertens, who was third in the 500 free (4:53.87) and ninth in the 200 free (1:52.55); Aaron Shelton, who took 12th in the 100 back (1:00.10); and Paul Perez, who finished eighth in both the 200 IM (2:07.47) and 100 butterfly (57.07).

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Women's hoops from page C1

person who didn't give us good minutes. "That was the difference — our depth." It did seem as if CSU ran out of gas down the stretch. The Marauders led by as many as eight in the second half, the last time at 51-43 with 11:42 left.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

Table listing various sports events for the week ahead, including Boys Basketball, Prep Hockey, Women's College Basketball, and Men's College Basketball.

WRESTLING RANKINGS

Table listing wrestling rankings for various weight classes, including 103 pounds, 119 pounds, 135 pounds, 151 pounds, 171 pounds, 187 pounds, 215 pounds, 242 pounds, 286 pounds, and 313 pounds.

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Adrian shoots down Rockets; Lakeland handles Spartans

Matt Kohn poured in a game-high 24 points Tuesday, propelling host Adrian to a 61-57 non-league boys basketball victory over Westland John Glenn.

The Rockets improved to 3-0 with the victory, while Glenn drops to 1-2. Glenn trailed 31-25 at halftime and 46-39 at the end of the third quarter. The Rockets couldn't get any closer than four in the final period.

Brad Doyle contributed 12 points for Adrian. Junior guard Eric Jones paced Glenn with 21, while Bill Fodor added 15.

The Rockets made just five of 13 free throws, while Adrian was 11 of 15.

Lakeland 83, Stevenson 63: Jason Wees and Shawn Houck each tallied 17 points Tuesday, lifting White Lake-Lakeland (2-1) to the non-

Madonna, S'craft get wins

A six-game losing streak came to a close Monday when Madonna University rolled past St. Mary's College 89-65 in Orchard Lake.

With the win, the Fighting Crusaders improved to 3-10; St. Mary's is 5-10. Three Crusaders reached double-figures in scoring by halftime, as Madonna cruised to a 51-24 lead at the intermission.

Madonna's Maryanski turned in his best performance of the season, collecting 29 points (7-of-12 on threes) and 10 rebounds. Mike Massey added 20 points, and Hurley totaled six points, four assists and three steals.

On Saturday against Southeast, the Crusaders made it more of a battle — they trailed 41-39 at the half — but still came up short. Southeast won on superior shooting from three-point range (12-of-24, 50 percent).

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COLLEGE HOOPS

23 turnovers while committing just 15. Four players reached double-figures in scoring for Bethel, led by Eric Brand's 33 points (and 17 rebounds).

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12 points, six assists and two steals. Jeremy Murphy led four Southeast players to score in double figures, netting 31 points.

D.B. Ledbetter had 15, Sean Smith 14 and Kris Hurt 12 (and 13 rebounds).

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HOCKEY Spartans pummel Farmington, 9-0

Livonia Stevenson notched its fourth-straight shutout Tuesday with a 9-0 victory over Farmington Unified in a Suburban High School Hockey League game.

Stevenson is now 5-1 overall and 5-0 in the SPSHL, while Farmington drops to 0-8 and 0-5. The Spartans, who have outscored their Suburban opponents 40-2, outshot the Flyers 47-3 over the first two periods.

Stevenson tallied three goals in each period. Dan Cieslak led the way with four goals, while Keyan Tait added four assists.

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PREPS

"If we can stay together as a team and remember that, everybody can accomplish more, and we should have a strong finish."

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Chargers pound Pats

As one of two returning seniors with experience on the Livonia Churchill boys basketball team, it's part of guard Justin Jakes' job to provide the leadership on the floor.

But in the first half Tuesday against visiting Livonia Franklin, Jakes didn't do much right as he missed all seven of his shots.

The second half was a different story as Jakes scored 12 of his team-high 14 points to lead the Chargers to a come-from-behind 56-43 victory.

Justin got off to a rocky start but he put the game away for us tonight with his penetration, big shots and some key dishes, Churchill coach Rick Austin said.

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BASKETBALL

After falling behind 5-0, the Patriots hit three straight triples to take a 9-7 lead after the first quarter.

Churchill failed to make a basket in a 9-30 stretch of the first half as Franklin extended its lead to 16-8. The Patriots opened their biggest lead of the game at 22-12 with 1:20 remaining in the first half after a three-pointer by senior guard Jason Burke.

Burke nailed a trey as the buzzer sounded to give Franklin a 26-19 lead.

Burke, who started the first two games and scored 21 in Franklin's opener, came off the bench to lead the Patriots with 16 points.

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Hoop wrap from page C1

said Brodie of Belleville. With three minutes left, the Tigers had caught Salem, setting up a battle to the buzzer.

With three minutes left, the Tigers had caught Salem, setting up a battle to the buzzer.


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Whalers from page C1

apiece. The game was tied at 2-2 after one period before Plymouth took command.

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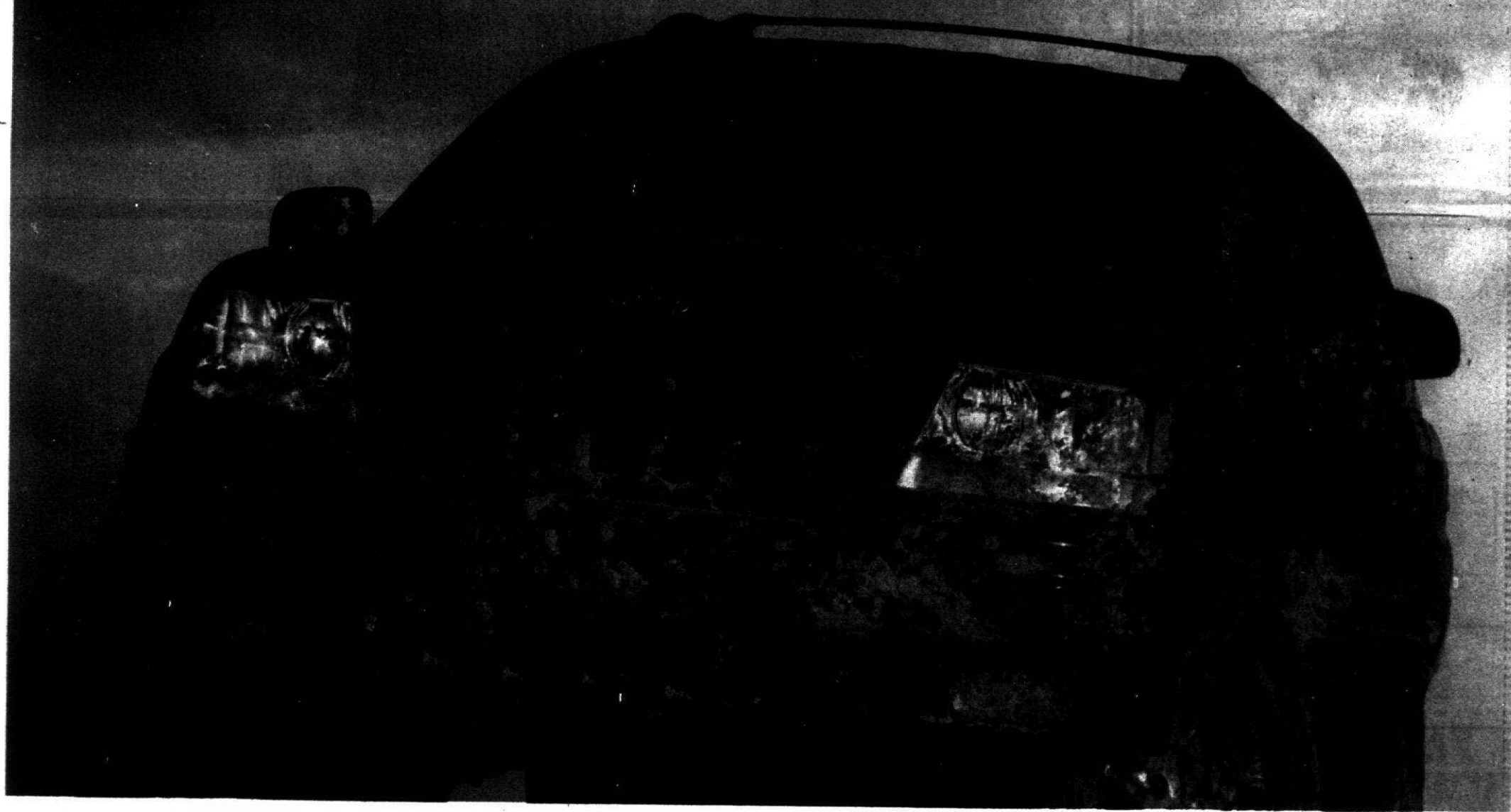
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makes for seemingly effortless four wheeling. On-road, it rivals luxury sedans." Of course, the fact that Jeep vehicles have now won these prestigious awards seven times overall didn't hurt either. To see this award-winning 4x4, visit your Jeep retailer or, for more information, call 1-800-925-JEEP or visit us online at our Web site, www.jeep.com.

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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



"The Prince of Egypt" a full-length animated musical about the life of Moses opens today at metro Detroit movie theaters.

SATURDAY



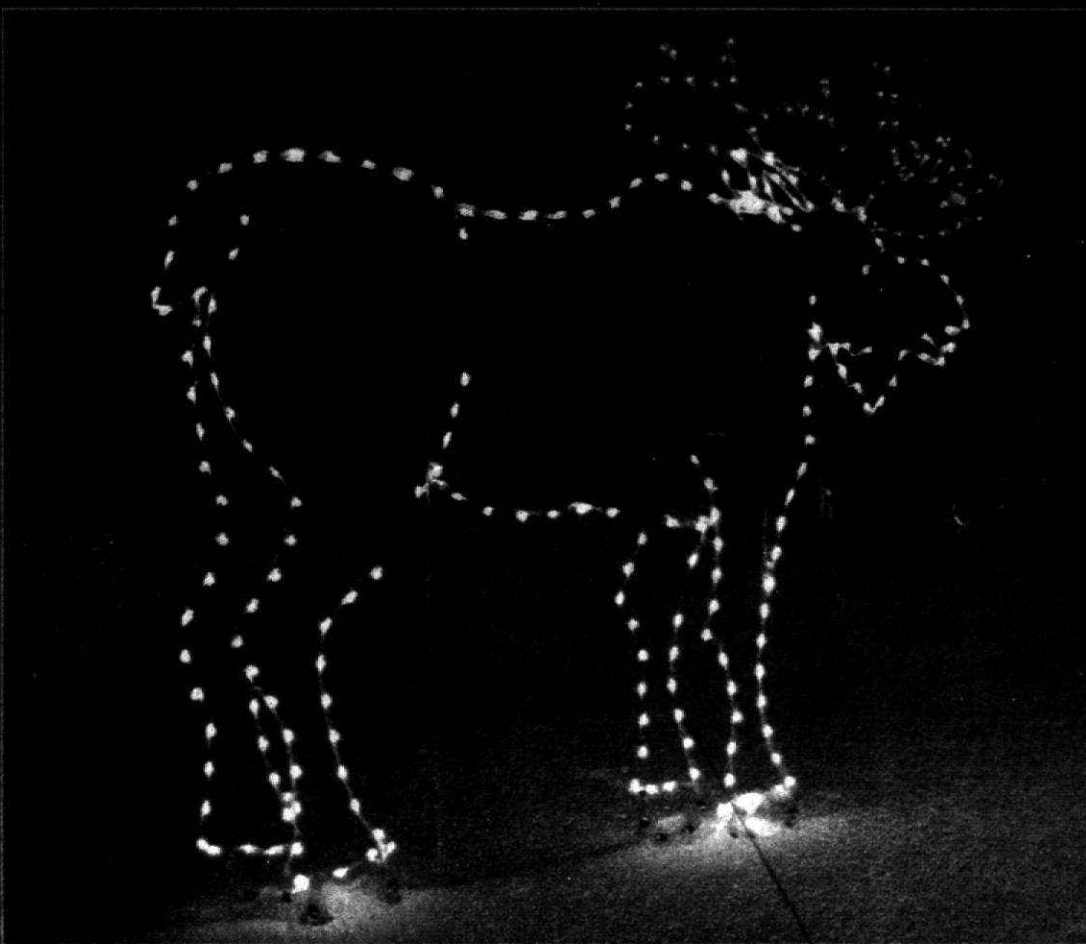
Mannheim Steamroller's holiday ice show - "The Christmas Angel," featuring the talents of Olympic and World skating champions, comes to Joe Louis Arena for one show only, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$50, \$35 and \$20, call (248) 645-6666 or (313) 983-6606.

SUNDAY



Placebo (pictured) along with Beck, Garbage, Kid Rock, Everlast and Marcy Playground perform 6 p.m. as part of "The Night 89X Stole Christmas" at Joe Louis Arena. Tickets \$20.89, \$25.89 and \$30.89. Call (248) 645-6666 for more information.

Wildlights



"Wild Lights"

WHAT: A dazzling display of animal sculptures formed by more than 400,000 lights.

WHEN: 5:30-8 p.m. Sundays-Thursdays, until 9 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays. Closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

WHERE: The Detroit Zoo, 8450 West 10 Mile Road at Woodward Ave., Royal Oak.

COST: \$3 adults, \$2 children ages 2-12, \$2 Detroit Zoological Society adult members, \$1.50 children members. Parking is free. Call the Wild Lights hotline for group rates and more information, (248) 541-5835.

Drive through light shows

The Wayne County LightFest is a sight to behold with 39 giant displays created with nearly a million lights. Now in its sixth year, the show runs nightly (7-10 p.m.) along four and one-half miles of Edward Hines Drive from Merriam Road in Westland to Dearborn Heights through Friday, Jan. 1. Drivers should enter at Hines Drive and Merriam.

The \$5 minimum donation per car goes toward keeping the lights on. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

Domino's Farms' St. Nicholas Light Display

includes new scenes featuring an animated nativity, animated St. Nicholas set, miniature tunnel of lights leading to indoor activities, and the 1930s Coca Cola Santa Claus 6-10 p.m. nightly through Thursday, Dec. 31. Along with the more than one million lights, visitors can see live reindeer, a collection of more than 20 custom decorated Christmas trees, the 13,000 square feet Winter Wonderland, a Christmas Around the World creche exhibit, an electric train big enough to give rides to children, and a children's hands-on art area. Minimum donation \$5 Monday-Thursdays; \$7 Friday-Sunday, \$50 for buses.

Proceeds benefit metro Detroit children and charities this holiday season. At the end visitors can stop by Santa's Shelter at the Warrendale Picnic Area for refreshments, gift shopping or to have a photo taken with Santa. Domino's Farms is at 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Drive, (off Earhart Road north of Plymouth Road), Ann Arbor, call (734) 930-4430.

Walk through display

Henry Ford Health System Lightfest features animated displays composed of a million lights nightly 6-10 p.m. Fridays-Sundays, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays until Christmas Day at the Wyandotte Shores Golf Course and BASF Waterfront Park on Biddle Avenue, (south of Eureka Road) in Wyandotte. Performances by Cat in the Hat storyteller, choirs, and dulcimer player through Tuesday, Dec. 22. For schedule, call (734) 324-4504 or (734) 282-6233 or visit the website at www.wyandotte.net/lightfest. The cost is \$2.50 adults, \$2 seniors, and \$1 children.

Zoo brightens the night with color

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
lchomin@oe.homecomm.net

"Lion!" shouted Katie Adams excitedly as she neared the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery at the Detroit Zoo. It was dark but the five-year-old Birmingham girl wasn't scared. She and her mom Nancy had just walked through an enchanted forest of 400,000 lights with no real lions in sight.

Pink and blue trees, a bear and bunny playing horns, dinosaurs and a volcano - these were some of the scenes the two oohed and aahed over in "Wild Lights," an awe inspiring production, sponsored by the Detroit Edison Foundation and supported by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, at the

zoo in Royal Oak.

"It's so beautiful," said Nancy Adams. "They add to it each year."

Half way down the path the lights lead visitors to the Reptile and Amphibian House where a blue Cuban lizard, gold Jamaican boa and green iguana add their own dazzle to the evening.

Sherrill Jackson, a Rochester Hills resident, was one of several docents in the house answering questions about the slithering creatures and telling about the hog nose snake that had shed the skin she was holding up for visitors to see.

"We want to show they have ribs and backbones just like we

Please see ZOO, E2



Hangin' around: This red panda bear waits for the move to its new digs at the Detroit Zoo.

HOLIDAY MUSIC

Hark the herald pop bands sing

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net

The pine scent of fresh Christmas trees, sparkling lights, lit Menorahs, snowmen and Santa Claus are enough to welcome someone into the holiday spirit.

But a non-traditional holiday celebration inspired Karen Newman, the flaxen-haired Detroit Red Wings "National Anthem" singer, to record her debut holiday album, "What Christmas Means to Me" (High Heel Records).

Last Christmas, WCSX-FM morning personality Jim Johnson invited Newman to sing with his Moron Tabernacle Choir at a local bar.

"It's just a bunch of listeners drinking beer at 7:30 in the morning. I had such a good time singing Christmas songs that I thought I wouldn't mind doing a Christmas album," said Newman, a Southfield resident.

So for eight to 10 weeks in July, Newman laid down tracks in a studio lined with Christmas lights to set the mood.

"Once we started to sing the songs, the feelings were so strong and so inspirational that we didn't need any of the trappings (to set the mood)."

The 10-song "What Christmas Means to Me" features traditional songs



New release: Karen Newman performs songs off her new holiday CD at Borders Books and Music in Birmingham.

("What Child is This?" "Ave Maria" and "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year") as well as three originals. A friend of hers from college, Phyllis Wolfe, wrote "From Bethlehem"

"I always felt that I would do this song. She came in to be there for sup-

port. When I sang the song, there were a lot of tears," Newman explained.

Keeping it in the family, Newman's goddaughter Katie Masters of Cave Creek, Ariz., flew in to sing back-up on "Christmas Eve on Woodward Avenue."

A portion of the proceeds from "What Christmas Means to Me," which is available in area record stores, benefits the Lady/Sergei Family Trust Fund. Newman will sign copies of "What Christmas Means to Me" during the Dec. 18 and Dec. 20 Detroit Red Wings games, and from 2-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, at Best Buy, 21051 Haggerty Road, in Novi.

"Winter Wonderland"

The jazz/pop duo of Sheila Landis and Rick Matle fought sweltering heat to get into the holiday spirit to record "Winter Wonderland" (SheLan Records).

"It was about 90 degrees out. We really had to work hard to get in the Christmas spirit. We called it 'Sweltering Christmas.' We just got into the music and pulled down the shades," said Landis, who along with Matle lives in Rochester Hills.

Landis and Matle concentrated on

Please see BANDS, E2

Top 25 holiday songs

As a prelude to the upcoming 85th anniversary of the founding of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, President and Chairwoman Marilyn Bergman announced the Society's 25 most-performed holiday songs.

"These classic songs brighten the season year after year, and are a cornerstone of the ASCAP repertory," she said. "Most of them have been recorded in renditions by artists in every genre, yet each song retains the original stamp of its creators."

1. "White Christmas" by Irving Berlin
2. "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" by J. Fred Coots and Haven Gillespie
3. "The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire)" by Mel Torme and Robert Wells
4. "Winter Wonderland" by Felix Bernard and Richard B. Smith
5. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" by Johnny Marks
6. "Sleigh Ride" by Leroy Anderson and Mitchell Parish
7. "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" by Ralph Blane and

Please see SONGS, E2

HOT TICKET



Spend some time with Charlie Brown, Lucy, Snoopy and the Peanuts gang at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit where "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," is playing through Sunday, Dec. 27. Tickets \$26.50 to \$49, call (248) 645-6666.

'Star Trek: Insurrection' same old stuff, with new twists

BY JON KATZ
SPECIAL WRITER

I am a Trekker; don't call me a Trekkie. And only a true Trekker can tell you the problem that other Trekkers will have with "Star Trek: Insurrection." It's not a problem that will keep them away from this, the ninth film in the feature series, but it's one which makes us wonder how much loyalty will be left to support the next one. "Insurrection" draws too heavily upon plot lines from the original "classic" series, from "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and from its own previous films. The New York Times has correctly called it "a glorified TV episode."

Fans deserve and should demand more. And yes, we know "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" was based on an episode from the original series and saved the franchise. But it had Ricardo Montalban; more importantly, it expanded and continued the story rather than duplicating it for the big screen.

In "Insurrection," our TNG crew wars to the aid of android Lt. Commander Data (Brent Spiner), whose positronic brain has blown a gasket. He's been assigned to a cultural survey detail, observing the 600 inhabitants of an idyllic planet from the safety of holographically camouflaged suits (they've used the built-into-the-mountain "duck blind" before on TV, but the suits are a great addition). Data reveals himself to the natives - the Ba'ku - and holds them hostage the survey team which includes members of another race, the Son'a, led by Ru'afo (P. Murray Abraham).

We soon learn that there's a connection here, and it's more than just screenwriter Michael Piller's apparent thing for apotrophes. The Ba'ku planet's rings emit a radiation that regenerates cells in its adults, who are more than 300 years old. They are all gorgeous and have turned their back on technology to lead the simple life. It's a life admired, if not envied, by Enterprise Cap-



New "Trek": Brent Spiner, Patrick Stewart and Michael Dorn star in "Star Trek: Insurrection."

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 18
"THE LAST EMPEROR"
Re-release of Bernardo Bertolucci's director's cut of the Academy Award-winning drama based on the life of P'u Yi, the child who was the last emperor of China.
"THE PRINCE OF EGYPT"
Feature-length animated musical about the life of Moses from Egypt's prince to delivering the Hebrews. Voice talents of Val Kilmer, Ralph Fiennes, Sandra Bullock, Michelle Pfeiffer.
"YOU'RE GOTTING THIS"
A romantic comedy about two book store owners, rivals who accidentally fall in love in cyberspace with Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan.

"MIGHTY JOE YOUNG"
An update of the classic 1949 RKO adventure film in which a zoologist stumbles upon a 15-foot gorilla while exploring in Central Africa. Stars Bill Paxton, Charlize Theron.
"PATCH ADAMS"
True story of a misfit physician whose unconventional approach to healing causes headaches for the medical establishment. Stars Robin Williams.

"DANCING AT LUGHNASA"
Exclusively at the Landmark Maple Art Theatre. The film adaptation of Brian Friel's 1991 Tony Award-winning play about five lonely sisters living a hard-scrabble life in rural Ireland whose world is shaken when their brother, a priest, returns from Africa a broken man. Stars Meryl Streep.
"DOWN THE DELIA"
An emotional and riveting story where big city meets small town, young meet old, parents reconnect with children, and life for everyone becomes something unexpected.
"THE FACILITY"
Science fiction thriller that blends teenage angst, cutting edge comedy and out of this world special effects as

Magic Bag hosts animation fest

The 6th Annual Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation continues through Sunday, Jan. 3 at the Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Admission is \$6 at the door, ID required. Doors open at 7:30 p.m./film 8 p.m. Must be 18 or older for shows before 10 p.m. and 21 or older for shows after 10:30 p.m. Call (248) 544-3030 for information, or visit http://www.sickandtwistedspike.com/sick.html.

The Magic Bag began hosting the Sick and Twisted festival in 1993, unleashing Beavis and Butt-head for the first time on unsuspecting Detroit audiences. Spike and Mike are California-based cartoon commissioners who have been producing and showcasing new animation for the past 20 years. The Sick and Twisted show plays to sold-out houses regularly around the

Singer lovin' every minute of sticking with Loverboy



Loverboy singer Mike Reno guarantees that his band's show at the Palace of Auburn Hills on Friday will be "a total blast." "We play all the hits. We can't get away without playing with our new members" he says. "We recorded this summer. We've got live performances in six venues. We did a couple in Texas, a couple in Myrtle Beach, and one at the House of Blues. There's a lot of good places." The 'good places' did not include Pine Knob Music Theatre, but Reno is looking forward to returning to the summer shed's sister venue The Palace of Auburn Hills. "We're going to play all the

Musical brings Peanuts gang together

"You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown," continues through Sunday, Dec. 27, at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit. Tickets \$26.50 to \$49. Call (248) 645-0666.
BY KEELY WYGONIK
kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

"Happiness is - two kinds of ice cream, finding your skate key, getting along."
"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," now playing at the Fisher Theatre, captures the magic of childhood through the eyes of the Peanuts gang. "Happiness," "Supper-time," and "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," are among the memorable songs in this musical that's not just for kids.
"We're catching people by surprise. They're not expecting a fulfilling show," said Anthony Rapp who plays Charlie Brown. "Happiness is finding a pencil," one in particular, said Rapp. "Charlie Brown finds the Little Red Head Girl's pencil and it has teeth marks on it. He discovers that she worships too. All the different characters are five, but they really view the world through adult eyes with a mixture of innocence. It's a day in the life of the characters, a series of vignettes."
Rapp, who created the role of Mark Cohen in the Off-Broadway, Broadway and London productions of "Rent," portrays Charlie Brown in show, which features book, music and lyrics by Clark Gesner. "He's the kid who's always sitting alone at lunchtime. He loses baseball games, but the thing I love about him the most is he never gives up. He always gives his heart and soul, and that's admirable."
Originally designed with minimal sets and costumes, the new production, which stops in Detroit as part of a six-city try-out before opening on Broadway in mid-February, has some surprises. "When you see Snoopy's dog house, it looks like a dog house," said Rapp.
Rapp is enjoying the show, and has fond memories of Michigan. "Two of the most amazing summers of my life were spent at Interlochen," he said. "It's an incredible, supportive atmosphere. People can go and meet other people who are like themselves. It's a beautiful setting, and wonderful to be around classical music to such a degree. It broadened my scope. I studied theater and voice, and appeared

in four different shows."
For those who have seen "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," besides sets and costumes, there are some other new things too. "The songs are great, and they've been slightly updated," said Rapp. "They've been given a little more energy and a boost. They're absolutely memorable songs."
"Beethoven Day," one of the new songs, which debuted when the musical opened in Detroit on Dec. 16, was written by Andrew Lipka of Oak Park, the show's musical supervisor. The song is sung by the character Schroeder.

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| AMC AMERICANA WEST | Starts Friday Dec. 18 | AMC BEL AIR |
| AMC LAUREL PARK | AMC LAUREL PARK | AMC SOUTHWEST CITY |
| AMC STERLING CTR. | AMC WUNDERLAND | BEACON EAST |
| BIRMINGHAM 8 | GCC NOVI TOWN CTR. | SHOWCASE STRONG HILLS |
| SHOWCASE DEARBORN | SHOWCASE STRONG HILLS | SHOWCASE STRONG HILLS |
| STAR ROCHESTER HILLS | STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE | STAR LINCOLN PARK 8 |
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THE BATTLE FOR PARADISE HAS BEGUN

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| AMC AMERICANA WEST | AMC BEL AIR 10 | AMC EASTLAND 2 |
| AMC LAUREL PARK | AMC LIVONIA 20 | AMC SOUTHWEST CITY |
| AMC STERLING CTR. 10 | BIRMINGHAM 8 | CENTRAL CANTON |
| MJR SOUTHGATE 20 | RENAISSANCE 4 | SHOWCASE STRONG HILLS |
| SHOWCASE DEARBORN | SHOWCASE STRONG HILLS | SHOWCASE STRONG HILLS |
| STAR ROCHESTER HILLS | STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE | STAR LINCOLN PARK 8 |
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| AMC SOUTHWEST CITY | AMC STERLING CENTER | BIRMINGHAM 8 |
| CENTRAL CANTON | MJR SOUTHGATE 20 | QUO VADIS |
| SHOWCASE STRONG HILLS | SHOWCASE STRONG HILLS | SHOWCASE STRONG HILLS |
| STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE | STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE | STAR SOUTHWEST CITY |
| STAR WINCHESTER 8 | UNIVERSITY CENTER COMMERCIAL TWP. 14 | UNIVERSITY CENTER COMMERCIAL TWP. 14 |
| UNIVERSITY CENTER COMMERCIAL TWP. 14 | UNIVERSITY CENTER COMMERCIAL TWP. 14 | UNIVERSITY CENTER COMMERCIAL TWP. 14 |

Watch ABC Christmas morning for the Walt Disney World Very Merry Christmas Parade

DINING

Farwell & Friends 'Deck the Halls' for holidays

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER
kwygolik@oe.homecomm.net

Twinkling white miniature lights, snowflakes dangling from the ceiling, wreaths, and Disney characters help create a Winter Wonderland at Farwell & Friends in Westland. This neighborhood restaurant, celebrating its 19th year, is all decked out for the holidays.

Alan Wasinski of Redford, a graduate of the Schoolcraft College Culinary Arts program, is in the kitchen cooking, while Bill Farwell greets customers at the door. It's not home, but it sure feels like it.

"I'm a people person, I just enjoy it," said Farwell who lives in Livonia. "We have lots of regulars. I greet everyone by name and they enjoy that."

Farwell also treats his help like a family too. Wasinski has worked at the restaurant 14 years; some of the waitresses have worked there for 15 years. "I treat help like a family," said Farwell. "We work as a family, and care about each other."

Everyone helped with the decorations, and they had a big party afterward with dinner and dancing. While the staff worked in the restaurant with family members, friends, and regular customers, Alan and his crew worked in the kitchen preparing a buffet. About 80 people attended the party.

"We decorate for all the holidays," said Farwell. "But Halloween and Christmas are the big ones." The restaurant will also be decorated for Valentine's Day and Easter.

To help customers get in the holiday spirit, there are sing-alongs on Sundays with song sheets.

Even if you're grumpy after a day of shopping, stopping at Farwell & Friends is sure to make you feel better. Kids are welcome, and enjoy looking at all the decorations.

"We change our menu every six months," said Farwell. "We're known for our prime rib and 20 ounce New York Strip Steaks. We also offer fresh seafood and fish daily, including crab legs."

Be sure to ask about the daily lunch and dinner specials. "We have a lot of regulars and the specials give them some variety," explained Farwell. "If the special goes over well we add it to our menu." Wednesday is Polish night, and the special combination plate includes kielbasa, pierogi, stuffed cabbage, potato pancake, soup or salad. Monday is Ladies' Night, ladies' dinner half price with purchase of second dinner of equal or greater value, or if you prefer, one pound Alaskan Crab Legs \$13.95 or 20 ounce New York Strip Steak \$10.95.

Everything is made fresh daily from scratch at Farwell & Friends including the sauces, desserts, and bread. "Al does the cooking," said Farwell. "He's here from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m."

Farwell & Friends offers quality food at reasonable prices. "Our portions are large," said Wasinski. "Everyone leaves here with a carryout box."

Holiday Dinner Specials, which are also available at

Farwell & Friends
Where: 8051 Middlebelt, Westland, (734) 421-6990
Open: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday-Saturday, noon to midnight Sundays, Lunch served 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., dinner 4-11 p.m. weekdays, 4 to midnight Sundays.
Holiday hours: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 24, closed Dec. 25, 4 p.m. to 4 a.m. Dec. 31, 2-10 p.m. Jan. 1.
Menu: Something for everyone, steaks, seafood, chicken, soups, salads and sandwiches. Children's menu available
Cost: Reasonable
Credit Cards: All majors accepted
Reservations: Recommended Friday-Saturday, and during the holidays
Carryout: Available
Banquet facilities: Call for details
Entertainment: Lost & Found performs 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday-Saturday, they play a variety of music including Oldies, Top 40, Big Band and Swing for listening or dancing
Highlights:
Sunday Christmas sing-along, 8-9:30 p.m.
New Year's Eve - Open House (order from regular menu) 4-8 p.m.; Party Package 9 p.m., special menu, party favors, champagne, live entertainment.
Holiday and Red Wing Hockey gift certificates available



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Holiday fare: Bill Farwell (left) and Chef Alan Wasinski present Crab Stuffed Portobello Mushrooms, Special Rebaked Potato, French Onion Soup in a Bread Bowl, Surf n' Turf with asparagus and Hollandaise Sauce, Cajun Chicken Caesar Salad, Strawberry Supreme Torte, and Parmesan Garlic Bread at Farwell & Friends.

lunch, include Lamb Chops with Rice and Mint Jelly, Mesquite Grill Porterhouse Pork Chop Over Rosemary Roasted Red Skin Potatoes, and Grilled Salmon Topped with Asparagus.

Top sellers include the crab stuffed mushroom appetizer, Fat Al - grilled ham sandwich, Swiss cheese, lettuce tomato, special sauce served on a grilled French Roll, Sauteed Perch, Crab Stuffed Shrimp, Baked Mostaccioli, Apple Baked Pork Chops, and Montreal Steak Bits.

Ask to see the dessert tray, which changes daily, Snicker's Pie and Caramel Apple Pie are some of the tasty choices.

A year ago in August, Farwell

and his partner Vince Spica opened J.B. Bamboozles, 32350 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington. The menu includes soups, sandwiches, salads, seafood, fresh fish, steaks, and chops and pizza.

J. B. Bamboozles is open 10:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. daily, noon to 2 a.m. Sunday. They will be open New Year's Eve 11 a.m. to 4 a.m. Call (248) 426-6454 for more information.

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NEW YEAR'S

■ **Cafe Bon Homme** - 844 Penniman, Plymouth (734) 453-6260.

From 5 p.m. to midnight an all a la carte menu has eight entree selections ranging \$29-33 and includes seafood, duck, lamb veal, steak and Wellington of beef.

■ **Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro** - 26053 Town Center, Novi (248) 380-8460

Want dinner with quiet jazz music? That's on tap at Diamond Jim's between 4 p.m. and midnight. Five special entrees accompanied by a salad range \$15-19.

■ **Opus One** - 565 East Larned Street, Detroit (313) 961-7766. Two seating periods 5 or 5:30 and 7:30 or 8 include offerings from the regular menu. A 9:30 or 10 p.m. seating at \$75 per person includes a four-course dinner from a special expanded menu. Also, at this time, you can listen and dance to the smooth sounds of B&B. Price includes party favors, but not beverage, tax or gratuity.