

Thursday December 24, 1998 anton Observer Serving the Canton Community for 24 years

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OLUME 24 NUMBER 48



Dear Santa: We asked Canton kids to send us their letters so we could forward them to the North Pole. See what's on their Christmas wish list./A3

#### OPINION

Santa stress: It wasn't all ho, ho, ho for the big guy in 1998, as this editorial missive from the alleged jolly one himself reveals. / A10

#### COMMUNITY LIFE

Yule want to know: Read how Dec. 25 was picked as the day to celebrate Christ's birth. It's been celebrated on the 25th day of just about every month at different times in history./B1

#### AT HOME

Muralist: Artist Jennifer Gushen's business, Faux Unique, provides elaborate murals for homes. The U-M grad loves the "endless possibilities" of blank walls and ceilings. Her work is detailed in today's At Home. /D4

#### ENTERTAINMENT

Movies: Meet Kent Culotta of Plymouth, one of the animators who worked on the animation for "The Prince of Egypt," now playing at metro Detroit movie theaters /E1

# Arts center gets state grant

The State of Michigan will provide seed money for a nonprofit organization that would be set up to run a regional performing arts center in Canton. Current plans call for

BY SCOTT DANIEL STAFF WRITER

A state of Michigan grant will help create a nonprofit organization that would run a regional performing arts center in Canton.

The township will receive nearly \$27,000 from the Department of Consumer and Industry Services, accord-

the center to be adjacent to a new high school.

ing to Supervisor Tom Yack. He said funds will be used to help build the nonprofit and hire consultants to create a business plan for the potential

> center School chief likes idea, A2

"It looks like the performing arts center will happen," said Canton Community Foundation Director Joan Noricks. "That what's exciting."

The foundation has spearheaded a two-year drive for the creation of a center. A foundation steering committee was formed more than a year ago and consisted of members of local arts agencies, such as Canton Project ARTS, the Plymouth Community Chorus and Plymouth Theatre Guild.

A six-month feasibility study, which was funded by the foundation and completed in October, revealed that proper funding for a 500-800-seat center does exist.

Canton has informally committed \$2 million to the project. It's hoped that

other municipalities such as Plymouth and Northville townships as well as the city of Plymouth will come on board later

The Plymouth-Canton Community School District may play a key role in the creation of a center.

Discussions of locating the facility adjacent to the district's new high school at Beck and Joy roads have taken place, schools Superintendent Chuck Little recently said.

The district would lease land and infrastructure, for \$1, to the center while students would benefit from hav-

Please see ARTS CENTER, A2

# BAUER t Erin Davison, 11, of Canton, looks through the cage of her helmet as she follows the during a recent practice of the 12-and-under girls hockey league at the Plymouth Cul-enter ice rink. **Hockey** town Under-12 league scores with Canton area girls

girls playing organized hockey for the first time this winter. The under-12 Stingrays compete in the Little adeline Salvaggio became a Caesar's league, which boasts 10



# Mesquite Creek shuttered quietly

BY SCOTT DANIEL STAFF WRITER sdaniel@oe.home

After less than a year in business, Mesquite Creek has closed its doors.

Owners of the Ford Road steakhouse vacated the building Thursday after falling behind on rent and taxes. Property owner David Khoury expects a new restaurant to open at the site, which is just east of Canton Center, within six months.

"I'm not sure about the type of restaurant that will go in," he commented. "But I'm open to all suggestions.

Please see CLOSING, A2

### New school to break ground in March

BY TONY BRUSCATO

Music: For the rock band **Kiss**, playing The Palace of Auburn Hills on New Year's Eve is all about loyalty./E1

#### INDEX

Compus Notes		. A
B Classified Indes		P
Real Estate		
Crossword	4	
diatas		
Home & Bervice		6
Automotive		6
# Opinion		A10-1
Galender		
Biporte		C
Heal Estate		

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watching Red Wings games in TV with her dad

These days, the 11 year old is sing more than just watching. As a prward for the Plymouth-Canton tingrays, she's making passes and un lu

"It's fun to compete," said Salvag-io. "I think I've improved a lot. I as as slow at the beginning of the cason. Now I'm skating better."

he's one of more than a draen

ams around the metropolitan area. "In the beginning," coach Becky Jones said, "I had no idea what would happen. We had 14 girls try-out in August. I was surprised more didn't tryout."

While the game is being played more and more among high school, college and women over 30, youth ockey is struggling to grow. As it stands now, Stingrays play-

Please see HOCKEY, A4

Done for the day: Kelly Bargowski, 10, of Canton, unlaces her skates following a recent practice.

#### thruscato@oe.homecomm.net

Groundbreaking for the new Ply mouth-Canton school district middle school has been set for March 14, 1999

Trustees had considered a January date, but decided to wait until spring.

The groundbreaking is on a Sunday. in an effort to get those involved in passing of the Oct 3 bond issue for the new school involved in the ceremonies. A starting time for the festivities has

Please see NEW SCHOOL, A3

the wa

# **Canton's rural Christmas traditions**

#### BY VIRGINIA BAILEY PARKER SPECIAL WRITER



Too bad Norman Rockwell didn't know about Canton - he'd have found lots of Christmastime scenes to paint. Well, there

may not have been any pictures painted, but longtime residents' reminiscences create vivid images of Canton's country Christmases of yesteryear

One holiday story comes from Helen Morton Crich ton Parks' sarly childhood in Sheldon Corners, the cory hamlet that was at Michigan Avenue and Shel don Hoad. Her story reveals the best part of living in the farming community everyone knew everyone eise. In that neighborhood there lived a blacksmith and his family, who were Catholic

"In these days, Catholics were not allowed to step inside a Protestant church. I can remember that always on Christmas Eve, we left our church door open, and the children could stand on the steps When the adults passed out the candy, they always went out and passed the kids a sack of candy, too. I can rememher seeing them standing out there watching the pro-

Christmas is a time when both joy and sentimental recollections abound. Avis Blackmore Waldecker, who

Tense see TRADITIONS, AS



Decked out: Julien's was dressed up for the holidays in this photo taken in the 1950s. The store was a familiar landmark at Ford and Canton Center roads until it was torn down in 1997

# Little: Proposed regional facility 'a great addition'

#### BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton school Superintendent Chuck Little believes a regional performing arts center located at Ply mouth-Canton Educationa Park would be a positive addi-tion to the high school com-

"It would be a great addition with the new high school," said Little. "Think of all the money we wouldn't have to spend for land for a performing arts center, since the school district would be leasing the property for a dollar a year. And, we're going to have to improve the site anyway, so

it's perfect." Little believes the area for people in our area and also wants and needs the center. "We think we can create tle, who is among a group

enough interest by focusing on attempting to make the dream culture and education, so that a reality. "We're in the process

### Arts center from page A1

ing a performance theater and areas for lessons, Little said. Before any such plans can be firmed up, Noricks said the

nonprofit must be created. The foundation is in the process of selecting a board of directors for the organization.

Don Soenen, president of the Plymouth Symphony, has already been named chair, Noricks said. The nonprofit will raise money for construction of the center and then manage it after completion.

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be named, said Noricks.

Tuesday, the township board unanimously authorized Yack to enter a grant agree-

A primary purpose of the grant is to hire a consultant to create a business plan for the center. That's vital in securing

Grant funds may also be

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Goodynam cire store

SN 1996 Cener Excellance Award

#### of putting together a commit-tee of people who have the ability to reach some of the financial support from the state, as well as some of the very powerful brokers of culture and education who want to see this happen in western Wayne County

The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1998

Little said the group is looking at "foundations and corporate support ... so we can create an auditorium without a tax impact on anyone."

Little is looking at making the performing arts center a self-supporting business venture.

"We can make it an attractive teaching place. There are places all over the area that teach music and dance," added Little. "Performing groups in the area need a place for drama and performing. We just don't have enough audito-

### help conceptualize the center. wind up with 700 seats and a

Yack hopes that fund-raising will begin within a year. He thinks the performing arts center will become a reality. "Based on the feasibility

study," Yack added, "I think it can be done.'

Canton police cited four town

ship businesses Thursday for

selling either alcohol or tobacco

As part of the department's

ongoing enforcement program, a

check of a dozen businesses was

done with the help of underage

Palermo's Restaurant was the

only business cited for selling

to minors.

decoys.

rant," he added. "I think they just put a poor management staff in there. "As far as I'm concerned, they served the best steaks in town. It's a shame they couldn't make a go of it." Mesquite Creek, which was

Khoury, who runs three met-

ropolitan Damon's The Place For

Ribs restaurants, was disap-

"They're an excellent restau-

pointed about the closing.

Bistro/Big Boy location on Ford Road.

Closing from page A1

owned by Great Lakes Restaurant Group, operates an eatery of the same name in Clarkston. Representatives of the company failed to return Observer phone calls by press time. It's the second restaurant

that's failed at the site in less than two years. Misty Duck Bistro closed in June of last year after slow sales. "I hope it's just a coincidence,"

survive."

Canton Supervisor Tom Yack

business has changed greatly in October. The judgment would the township.

Out of business: Mesquite Creek lasted less than a year in the former Misty Duck

when all we had was fast food, Johnson's and Roman Forum," Yack said. "The Outback Steakouse changed the restaurant industry's perspective on Canton. It opened their eyes."

Since then, numerous chain restaurants and others have opened shop. "There's a lot of competition,

said Yack. "Only the strong shall Mesquite Creek, which opened

in mid-January, wasn't strong enough to survive. George Shea, an attorney for

Khoury, said Great Lakes was behind in real estate and sales tax payments as well as rent. Other accounting data was also missing, he said. Khoury filed for and received a

consent judgment from 35th Dis-An aficionado of Mesquite trict Court Judge John MacDon

Creek, he thinks the restaurant ald against Great Lakes in midhave compelled the company to "I can remember 10 years ago pay back taxes and rent and evict them from the property. But, Shea said, an agreement

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCH

was worked out to allow the restaurant to make payments and stay in business. "Both sides agreed," he said.

"but they didn't follow through." Shea filed another motion last week to evict Mesquite Creek. But the attorney said Great Lakes vacated "voluntarily." "We took possession Satur-

day." said Khoury. He believes a restaurant can thrive at the location despite growing competition. Other establishments will actually pull patrons in. Khoury said.

"Canton's become an eclectic community where people have a variety of dining choices," he added

and grabbed her by the throat.

Police later took the man into

#### Christmas spirit?

A 49-year-old township man reported Christmas decorations displayed in his front yard vandalized in the early morning hours of Saturday. An unknown person stole a fig-

ure of baby Jesus and did about \$100 worth of damage to a reindeer figure to the home in the

Township sets holiday hours Canton Township offices will will reopen at 8:30 a.m. Monday, will be closed today and Friday.

The library will be open Saturday and Sunday. Summit on the Park will close

#### CANTON TOWNSHIP ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

center will be open for swimming reopen Monday, Dec. 28. and other activities during regular weekend hours, 8 a.m. to 10

p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. to 9 be made today. Canton Waste doesn't make pickups on Fri-The Canton Public Library days.



The Western Townships Utili a.m. Saturday. The community ties Authority will be closed today and Friday. Offices will Regular garbage pickups will



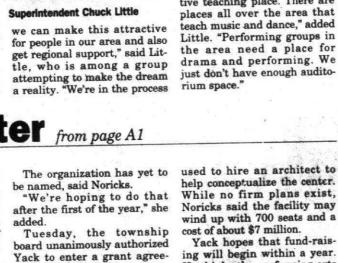
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postmenopausal women. According to short-term studies, raloxifene was associated with a 55% reduction in new breast cancer cases when taken over a period of one month to three years. Raloxifene is part of a new class of drugs known as selective estrogen receptor modulators, which work like estrogen in some parts of the body. While it increases bone-mineral density and lowers cholesterol, it does not carry ERT's drawback of possible raising the risk of breast and uterine cancers. For those of you who have been weighing the benefits versus the risks of

hormone replacement therapy, now you can have your cake and eat it too (metaphorically). If you're in your forties, now's the time to begin planning your menopause management strategy. To schedule a consultation, call 313:565:9510; evening appointments available. You'll find our offices eniently located at 1711 Monroe. P.S. We hope you have a wonderful holiday with your family.



# ment with the state. funding, said Noricks.

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Canton Observer

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other establishments checked. Speedway, Clark and Shell gas stations, each on Ford Road, were all cited for selling tobacco. Smokers Express was the only business that didn't sell tobacco

Hunan Empire and Outback

Steakhouse were among the

The police department conducts random check of Canton businesses about once per

**Destruction of property** 

A 28-year-old Canton man had more than a thousand dollars worth of damage done to his car in the early morning hours of

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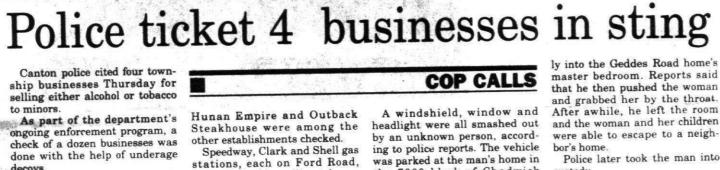
because it was "all over." The man then forced his fami-

p.m. Sunday.

Road. **Domestic violence** A woman and her children were forced to leave their home Friday evening after an altercation with her husband.

Police reports said the man came home intoxicated and began arguing with the woman. The man allegedly threatened to kill her and their children 45000 block of North Spring.

#### COP CALLS A windshield, window and headlight were all smashed out by an unknown person, according to police reports. The vehicle was parked at the man's home in the 7000 block of Chadwick custody.



Dear Santa Claus... Robin Hood I will leave cookies for you on I have been very good this year. I've The North Pole got plenty of mail this got good grades in the table year, and much of it came from Observer Thank-You, school and I bring in Jeremy readers. These letters were penned - and the mail, and pick up the toys my sispenciled and crayoned — by youngsters ters dump out. Please bring lots who answered our call for Letters to of legos and a Game boy. How old is Rudolph? How old are you Dear Santa. I am a good big brother to my twins. In response, Santa Claus said he Will you bring me Thank you very much. Jordan Peerbolte ppreciates the good wishes and hopes to tovs Ryan Sartorius fill many of the requests. He urges kids to Dear Santa. keep being good and remember the milk My name is Alaina and cookies Dear Santa, and I am four. I Me and my brother chad have want to say that I've "Merry Christmas!" Santa added. een good all year. I would like been good; I've boom box and Backstreet Boys played with my baby ape and Peter Rabbit. My sister Carra, and I rother would like trucks and help mommy around the house. ractors. I love you, Santa. Also hope that you bring lots of toys. would like, clothes, Pooh P.J.'s ike Barbies or a doll house. We and both Raggedy is my Christmas list, it is not Dear Santa Claus, will leave you whatever cookies ames, toys, Tweety Bird things very long so hopefully you will Ann playsets. This How are you and Dear Santa. Limited Too things, and Body we make and some milk. does not have a hard time finding Mrs. Claus doing? year I will give you When is it going to Rudolph really have a shiny glitter these things. I would like a CD five cookies instead do you have lots of snow? Could I P.S. You can heat your tea up nose? When I see you at a store player, gold jewelry, a yo-yo, a snow there? It has of three! Thank You! please have a will shake your hand and I will in our microwave! not snowed in Can elevision and an Annie doll Love. playstation and Susan Amanda not be shy. ton, Michigan yet. flick, and a micro Love, Gotta go now, bye! Vipier Christmas is my favorite holi-Chelsea Davis nachines army tank Thank you for the toys you're Kyle Stazesymsk day because I like to give and gonna give me! Dear Santa, receive gifts. How long does it I Love You! What happened to take you to deliver all of those Alaina Peerbolte Rudolph? Dear Santa Claus, presents? I bet it takes all night Merry Christmas! I hope you bring me skates, a I want some lego's Aaron Diebe Love. Dear Santa. sled, video games and a watch. and some blocks. I Shelby and Chad Dear Santa, I want a porcelain would also really like See you soon, Congigilo Damon Ross Davis How are you oll I have been a house, a castle, and doing? For Christ-Dear Santa, a really neat black Allen Elementary School good. mas I would like Can you make car. I really like to Love. Dear Santa any kind of Spice finding my stocking Courtney play golf and I want a golf I Love You, you Girl merchandise. presents a mystery? Hannah Diebe Farme Dear Santa, would like any Bar are my friend. I 2 I want to know want a hunting suit bie merchandise or platforms how big your eleves and pants, and a ha Dear Santa. Sincerely. are and how brite **Taylor Fisher** and shirt because I I have been good Dear Santa. does Rudolph's nose want to be like my Does Rudolph the this year. I want the shine? Dear Santa, lad. Red Nose Reindeer Barbie play house, Love. I think I've been a good boy Love still have a red nose? Jared Diebel all the Spice girls, Kurt Straksymski, this year. Will you please bring I sure hope he does Barbies, and an some cookies and milk. me these toys? because I think that American Girl. 1) Godizilla Toy it is very cute. Here Love. Dear Santa Claus **Cassie Jordan** 2) Rad robo I want Sabrina Digital Diary 20 00 00 00 00 000 0000, Media ne presents ~~~~~~~ **CATCH THESE** Web Watch der" by Elliot Roosevelt Check out these new Web Party to Murder" by **GREAT ACTS!** Michael Underwood sites: 0 "Christmas Stalkings" by http://www.nutritionnewsfo-Steve King and the Dittilie Charlotte MacLeod cus.com Midnight Celebratio http://www.mbayag.org David Syme http://www.allherb.com Heard any good books latethe Ganton Concert Pianist http://consumerdigest.com Nickelodeon http://www.gameguides.com Here are some books on audio Public Librar tape available from the library: Hot topic of the week "Homeport" - Roberts Village Players Theater "Exposure" - Anthony Boxing Day. Ordinarily Cinderella observed on the first day after First Among Equals Sheila Landis Trio **Did You Know?** Christmas, now a legal holiday Archer Dec. 25 is also known as Jazz vocalists ■ "You Belong to Me" - Clark in Canada, United Kingdom and "No-L" Day? People who do not "Range of Motion" – Berg many other countries. Formerly The Amazing Egghead wish to send Christmas cards a day when Christmas gift boxe but who want to greet their were "regularly expected by a Children's Theatre of Mich Q & A: friends, send out cards listing Q: Who started New Year's postman, the lamplighter, the Kids music the letters of the alphabet in dustman and generally by all esolutions? Kathy Kosins order, but with a gap where th A: Four thousand years ago, those functionaries who render Rhythm & blues "L" would be the ancient Babylonians made services to the public at large, Monday marks the 266th Ginka Gerova Ortega resolutions part of their New without receiving payment from anniversary of the first issue of Flutist Year's celebrations. While two of any individual." When Boxing Richard Saunders (Benjamin the most popular present-day Day falls on a Saturday or Sun-And More, More, More!!! promises might be to lose weight day, the Monday or Tuesday ~~~~~~~ Franklin)? and quit smoking, the Babyloni- immediately following may be ans had their own two favorites: proclaimed or observed as a MEDIA Christmas mysteries to pay off outstanding debts and bank or public holiday. Here are seasonal selections @ the Canton Library is com to return all borrowed farming SPONSORS piled by Laura Dorogi of the tools and household utensils.

available from the library Gooseberry Fool" by James The source for this information McClure is "Extraordinary Origins of 1200 S. Canton Center. For more ■ "Murder at the Old Vic-Everyday Things" by Charles information about library pro arage" by Jill McGown Panati

 Merry Christmas, Mur. dock" by Robert J. Ray "White House Pantry Mur

New school from page A1

not been set.

Last fall, voters approved an Public Schools for the past 18 feet, the new middle school will \$18.8 million bond issue for the years. Livonia officials will end be larger than any of the current new school, to be constructed at the arrangement with Plymouth middle schools. It will also be the corner of Hanford and Can- Canton in the summer of 2000 as the first built in Canton ton Center roads. All the money. it restructures its own needs.

The new middle school will expires, to avoid costly classroom ceremonies replace Lowell Middle School, alternatives such as split shifts which has been leased by Ply- and extended school days

mouth-Canton from the Livonia At an expected 126,000 square No name has yet been chosen

except for \$500,000 which is Plymouth-Canton administra- for the new building. However being used to purchase buses. tors are confident they're on school board trustee Roland will go towards construction and schedule to open the building in Thomas asked the administra equipment costs for the new time for the 2000-2001 school tion to have one ready to year, the same time the lease announce before groundbreaking

library staff. The library is at

grams and services, call 397-

# Canton health facility gets CAT scanner

scanner at the new Canton and abdominal conditions Health Building for the conve-

Saint Joseph Mercy Health CAT scanners use computers would have to make a trip t System has installed a Comput- and rotating X-ray tubes to help. Ann Arbor can take advantage of erized Axial Tomography (CAT) physicians diagnose head, chest the diagnostic radiology services

nience of Western Wayne County SJMHS is investing in the Can-munity residents. It is the only CAT ton community like this," said scanner in the Plymouth-Canton Canton physician David Seaman. "Patients who formerly

right here in Canton It is a "I'm really pleased that great service to have in our com

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nutting green so I can practice. also really like to play puzzles. so I want a match'em high pipes puzzle game. Since I have been a really good boy this year, I want a lot of presents. I Love you a lot and I'll be waiting for you and I won't forget to put out

Zack Duce



(C)A3

ers will have to leave town to mpete when they hit 13. There's so many girls out

here that want to play hockey," ones said, "(but) what do they

Until recently, young girls had to play with boys. Jones said there's no problem until players get to "pee wee" level (11-12-years-old) when checking is first

"There was nowhere for girls to go after that," said Jones, a Plymouth resident. "Now there's a place for them to go." The Little Caesar's U12 league

is broken into two divisions. with elite teams competing in one and newer squads in the other. Plymouth-Canton competes in the second division with the likes of Ann Arbor, Detroit

and St. Clair Shores. The Stingrays play each divi-

sion rival three times and upper

Members Absent: Sheffert

Staff Present:

level teams once. The team will play 24 games this season at the Plymouth Cultural Center, Compuware Sports and Yost arenas. Thus far, the Stingrays are 1-7-1 overall and 0-5-1 in the league. After a slow start, Jones said her squad is playing much better and keeping most games

"St. Clair Shores beat us 9-0 in October," she said. "(Dec. 7) we tied them 3-3."

Many players had difficulty skating when practice began in September. Not any more,

"I'm incredibly impressed with how quickly they've improved," said Jones. "The girls are picking it up fast."

Besides working on skating skills, the coach had to assign homework in the early going. "Some of the kids didn't know what icing was," said Jones. "My

League coach Becky Jones (center) vells out instructions during recent STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUI

nomework was for them to learn the rules and watch games on TV. It was homework players didn't mind. But Salvaggio said watching isn't the same as play-

"It looks a lot different when you're on the ice," the Canton nt said She likes to work on her stickhandling and shooting skills. What's the best thing about hockey

ractice

Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to approve the following budget amendments for the Police Overtime Account: ncrease (Decrease) Appropriations:

#207-301-708-0000 \$75,000.00 olice Overtime tion to Fund Balance #207-301-999-0010 (75,000.00) This budget amendment does not increase or decrease the Police Fund

Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to approve the following budget amendments to increase the Fire Civilian Salaries Account budget:

Increase (Decrease) Appropriations #206-336-705-0000 \$ 33,000.00 Transfer to Fund Balance #206-336-999-0000 (33,000.00) This budget amendment does not increase or decrease the Fire Fund

ing

GENERAL CALENDAR Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to remove from the table special land use consideration for a concrete recycling facility located on the south portion of property tax EDP #132-99-00003-702. All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to adopt the resolution granting special land use for a concrete recycling facility located on the south portion of property tax EDP #132-99-0003-702. All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to adopt the resolution approving rezoning of certain property identified by property tax EDP #024-99-0007-000 from RR, Rural Residential, to R-1, Single-Family idential All Aves present.

Motion by Bennett, supported by Burdziak, to adopt the resolution granting preliminary approval of the Morgan Creek Planned Development

Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to adopt the resolution Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughin, to adopt the resolution approving the special land use and site plan for the proposed Taco Bell. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to adopt the resolution granting site plan approval for the proposed Orchards Condominiums. Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to adopt the resolution approving the final cost adjustment for ProCoil Corporation Industrial Facilities

Exemption Certificate 97-402 for real property. All Ayes present. RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL COST ADJUSTMENT

#### FOR PROCOIL CORPORATION INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION

CERTIFICATE 97-402 FOR REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, ProCoil Corporation has requested that Canton Township approve final costs for real property improvements of \$4,839,260.00, which is an increase over 10 percent of the original estimate of \$3,377,000.00; WHEREAS, completion of the new facility is calculated to and will at the time of issuance of the certificate have the reasonable likelihood to retain, create or prevent the loss of employment in Canton Township; and, WHEREAS, the aggregate SEV of real and personal property exempt from ad valorem taxes within the Charter Township of Canton, after granting this certificate will not exceed 5 percent of an amount equal to the sum the SEV of the unit, plus the SEV of personal and real property thus

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton that the increase in actual costs for the real property portion of the Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate 97-402 for ProCoil be approved as \$4,839,260.00, as requested.

Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to approve the hiring of three additional firefighters for the Canton Fire Department. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to waive the formal bidding procedures and contract ATS for installation of 12 additional phone lines or the Community Watch system, total amount of project not to exceed \$12,000. All Aves present.

Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to approve the attached Fellows Creek Bridge Construction Maintenance and Acquisition

agreement. All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to approve the creation and filling of a Cable Television Technician position. All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Burdziak, to approve the attached Canton Softball Center Acquisition Agreement and to authorize the required

earnest money. All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to award the contract for site ing for the Canton Human Services Center Building Siegal/Tuomaala Associates, in the amount of \$8,300 plus a 10 percent contingency for a total of \$9,130. All Ayes present.

Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to approve the recommendation of the Merit Commission to increase the salaries of the non-union classified employees by 4 percent across-the-board and to increase the salary grade ranges for the non-union classified employees by 4 percent. These increases shall become effective January 1, 1999. Further, to approve the establishment of a two-tier system for PTO accumulation and PTO cash-out; an increase dental coverage from a 60-40 plan to an 80-20 plan with \$1,000 per year maximum per eligible employee and dependents and 50-50 orthodontic coverage with \$1,000 lifetime maximum to age 19; and the change in mileage reimbursement wording. All changes to be effective January 1, 1999. All Ayes present.

Motion by Bennett, supported by Burdziak, to award the bid to expand and refurbish the Municipal Services Offices to The Ronsen Company in the amount of \$40,904.00 plus a contingency of 10 percent for a total not to exceed \$44,995.00 as foll exceed \$44,995.00 as follows: \$15,000.00 from the Fund Balance (this is the same amount budgeted in

1998 which was unused and reverted to the Fund Balance at the end of the 1998 fiscal year \$14,000 from the 1999 MSD Capital Outlay Account #101-305-977-0000,

\$15,995 from the Water/Sewer Capital Outlay Account #592-441-977-0000,

All Aves present.

contract to Carlisle Wortman Associates in the amount of \$29,930.00 for

and studies to implement the strategies of the Cherry Hill Area Plan. Further, to authorize the carryover of \$30,000.00 budgeted in account #101-803-818-0000-Contracted Services-Historic District Commission to cover

Engineering Position pending approval by the Merit Commission. All Ayes

to Ford at no cost to Wayne County. All Ayes present.

the \$1.75 Cleaners. All Ayes present.

Supervisor Yack said that the next regular meeting of the Board will be Tuesday, December 22, 1998 at 7:00 P.M.

ADJOURN Motion by Bennett, supported by La.Joy, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 P.M.

on December 15, 1998. The full text of the approved minutes will be available following the next regular meeting of the Board on January 11,

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

1.871218

"Scoring the goals," said Sal-raggio, who added that she has er own special celebration after hitting the back of the net. "I sually lift my stick in the air." As a defensemen Olivia Par

nan, Olivia Penbaker's job is to stop the o team from scoring. But that icesn't mean she has forgotten bout offense

"I like defense because I get more scoring opportunities," the Plymouth resident said. "There's nore room to work."

rebaker is new to the ice but not hockey. She played ller-hockey for several years. It's the same game, but a bit

erent, she says. "Ice skating is a little harder," nnehaker said. While the Central Middle

School sixth grader would like to win more games, having fun is just as important. "I have a lot of friends on the

team," said Pennebaker. "We all get along really well." The Stingrays feature a host of

other talented players. Lauren O'Connell is the team's top scorer. She has scored as

many as six goals in a game. "She's got great puck-handling skills." Jones said.

Salvaggio, Amber Keranen and Sarah Skonjeczny are three players who have improved

"I've never seen anybody with more heart," Jones said of the Nikki Potter and Erin Davison

are two top defensemen. Both play smart hockey and are unky," said Jones. Kristi Lewis, meanwhile, is a

jack-of-all-trades. She plays both forward and defense and is one of the Stingrays best all-around Lynn Loechili is Plymouth-

Canton's goalie. Kristen Schwan, Amanda Rowley, Danielle Lupu and Kelli Bargowski are the Stingrays other top players. Jones said th\ team still has

room for a few more players this season. Those interested must sign up by Dec. 31. For more information, call

Jones at (248) 543-8181.

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH SUMMARY OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

ORDINANCE **ORDINANCE NO. C-98-10 A** 

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION OF THE ACCESS TO ANY ONGOING USE OF PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY BY TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROVIDING FOR A PERMIT AND PERMIT FEES PROVIDING FOR A RESERVATION OF RIGHTS; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR A PERMIT APPLICATION PROCEDURE; PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL PERMIT FEES; PROVIDING FOR THE USE OF THE PUBLIC EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY BY A PERMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR INSTALLATION, CONSTRUCTION AND/OR RELOCATION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROVIDERS FACILITIES; PROVIDING FOR LIABILITY AND INSURANCE; PROHIBITING THE NMENT OF A PERMIT; PROVIDING FOR REVOCATION AND REMOVAL OF FACILITIES: PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES;

PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF. THE TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

Purpose. The purpose of the Ordinance is to regulate the access to and ongoing use of Public Utility Easements and Rights-of-Way by ications providers.

Reservation of Rights. The issuance of a permit to a telecommunications provider does not waive the Township's right to require a franchise in the future or the right to claim a taking if a elecommunications provider claims it has the right to use public rights-of way without compensation. In addition, a telecommunications provider ma request the Township to enter into a consent agreement for the use of the Public Utility Easements and Rights-of-Way in place of a permit.

**Definitions.** Key terms, including "Telecommunications Provider," Telecommunications Services," and "Telecommunications System" are

Permits. The procedures for submitting and reviewing an applicatio for a permit are described. When an application is filed, it is reviewed for administrative completeness. After an application is complete, the Township may request additional information from the applicant. Within 75 days after an application is determined to be administratively complete, a public hearing is held on the application by the Township Board (or a committee or hearing officer designated by the Township Board). After the public hearing, the Township Board then approves, approves with conditions, or denies the application within 90 days after the application was determined to be administratively complete. The Township Board may not unreasonably deny a permit. The Township Board may grant a modification or waiver of Ordinance requirements under certain limited

Annual Permit Fees. A telecommunications provider pay annual fees fixes by resolution of the Township Board. The fees must not exceed the fixed and variable costs to the Township of maintaining the Public Utility Easements and Rights-of-Way. A telecommunications provider may opt to pay an annual fee of 1 percent of its annual gross revenues from the telecommunications system within the municipality, in lieu of the annual fee established by the Township Board.

Duration of Permit: Renewal. A permit is granted for a five (5) year term. An application for renewal of a permit follows the same process as the

Permit Terms and Requirements. A permit is non-exclusive. A telecommunications provider is authorized to use the Public Utility Easements and Rights-of-Way only as authorized in the permit. A telecommunications provider may expand its system by obtaining approval of an amended permit which may be granted administratively rovisions also address overlashing and "as built" maps, priorities of use of the Easements and Rights-of-Way, and future use of the Easements and lights-of-Way by the Township.

Use of Public Rights-of-Way by Permittee. These provision regulate the use of Public Utility Easements and Rights-of-Way by telecommunications providers. These regulations include the following requirements: no undue burden or interference with present or future use of the easements and rights-of-way, restoration of easements and rights-of way, limitations on pavement cuts, marking of telecommunications facilities, relocation of facilities due to right-of-way works, etc.

Liability and Insurance. These provisions require a telecommunications provider to provide and maintain certain insurance coverages, to name the Township as an additional insured, and to indemnify the Township against liability arising from the acts or omissions of the provider.

Assignment: Revocation and Renewal. A telecommunications provider may not assign a permit or transfer control of its business without prior written consent of the Township which shall not be unreasonably withheld. The Township may revoke the permit for failure to comply with the provisions of the permit or the Ordinance and for other specified easons. Upon revocation of a permit, or upon expiration of a permit which is not renewed, the telecommunications provider must remove its facilities rom the Public Utility Easements and Rights-of-Way.

Miscellaneous. The Township reserves its police powers to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and reserves the right of reasonable control of the Public Utility Easements and Rights of Way pursuant to the

Civil Infraction Enforcement A violation of the Ordinances a civil infraction, subject to a civil fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$5,000, plus costs and sanctions. Repeat offenses are subject to a civil fine of \$1,000 - \$10,000 (first repeat offense) and \$2,000 - \$20,000 (second and

subsequent repeat offenses) Repeal. The Section provides for the repeal of all conflicting

Severability. This Section provides that the Ordinance is severable, and if any portion of this Ordinance is declared invalid for any reason, the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall remain valid.

Effective Date. This Section provides that the Ordinance shall take full force and effect upon publications.

The above is a summary of proposed Ordinance No. C-98-10 A considered for first reading at the December 15, 1998, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth. It will be submitted for second reading at the regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 1999. The Ordinance, in full, is available in the Clerk's Office for public perusal at 4235 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, during ness hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday regular business hours 8 Phone No. 453-3840 X224.

MARILYN MASSENGILL, CMC Clerk, Plymouth Charter Township

1870840

Publish: December 24, 1998

的生活和主义的问题。

Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to approve awarding a the preparation of design guidelines, architectural standards and market the cost of these services. All Ayes present. Motion by I ennett, supported by Burdziak, to create and fill an Associate

present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Burdziak, to execute the agreement with Wayne County that will authorize the Township to acquire the necessary right of way and construction easements for Beck Road paving Cherry Hill

Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to accept the change to the unit factor classification system determined by Engineering Services for

OTHER

Publish December 24, 1998

All Ayes present. The above is a synopsis of actions taken at the Regular Board meeting held

pending litigation and employee negotiations. All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to return to an open session at 7:05 P.M. All Ayes present. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. ROLL CALL - OPEN SESSION rdziak, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin,

Durack, Machnik, Santamauro, Ron Witthoff, Counsel

Members Absent: Shefferly Durack, Machnik, Santomauro, Rorabacher, Zevalkink Staff Present: Durack, Mach

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

BOARD PROCEEDING

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of

Canton was held Tuesday, December 15, 1998 at 1150 South Canton Center Road. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

McLaughlin, Yack

Members Present: Bennett, Burdziak, Kirchgatter, LaJoy (arrived 6:20),

Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to move from an open session to a closed session at 6:08 P.M. for the purpose of discussion of

Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to adopt the agenda as presented. All Ayes present. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to approve the Minutes of ar 24, 1998 and December 1, 1998 as presented. All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to approve the Minutes of December 3, 1998 as pres PAYMENT OF BILLS nted. All Ayes present

Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by LaJoy, to pay the bills as presented.

All Ayes present. Expenditure Recap

time and their n

CONSENT CALENDAR

371-708-000 \$10,000.00

All Ayes present.

1999). All Ayes present.

Increase Revenues: Proceeds from Bond Sale

crease Appropriation and Issuance Costs

Total

Transfer to Fund Balance

Decrease Revenues Appropria from Fund Balance

Decrease Appropriation Building Construction

All Aves present.

Fund from \$1,449,180 to \$3,949,180.

Land Improvements

This budget am

Motion by Be

All Ayes pre

udget for the

the Clerk's office to the Elections Departmen

General Fund	101	\$330,574.94	
Fire Fund	206	37,121.03	
Police Fund	207	63,213.89	
Community Center Fund	208	27,561.55	
Golf Course Fund	211	9,312.18	
Street Lighting	219	16,917.16	
Cable TV Fund	230	2,308.36	
Community Improvement Fund	246	65,248.88	
E-911 Emergency Funds	261	16,248.00	
Federal Grants Funds	274	1,340.10	
State Projects Fund	289	93,824.32	
Downtown Development Auth	294	75,083.11	
Retire Benefits	296	7,305.06	
Bld. Authority Debt Fund	369	400.00	
Bld. Auth. Construction Fund	469	5,387.42	
Water & Sewer Fund	592	125,772.11	
Tonguish Creek Storm Drain	804	1,955.32	
Koppernick Corp Park	812	1,536.32	
Palmer Paving SAD	863	337.50	
Total - All Funds		\$881,447.25	
BOARD MEMBER REPORTS			
		1 12 Hours had their enny	

stee Burdziak announced that the Good Fellows had their annual pape

Trustee Burgzak announced that the tool renows had then and paper sale and collected \$4,000 with an additional \$4,000 in donations. He said that the Good Fellows would be providing for 74 local families and 14 individual seniors. Mr. Burdziak thanked everyone who contributed their

Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to approve the following budget amendment in the General Fund to appropriate funds for additional overtime expenses in the Building & Inspections Services division of

All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to approve the following budget

Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to establish the Canton Township

Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to establish the Canton Township Board of Trustees meeting schedule for 1999 as follows: First, Second Third and Fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188. All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, that the request from DF&R OPERATING COMPANY INC. to transfer ownership of 1998 Class C licensed business located at 39895 Ford Road, Canton, MI 48188, Canton Township, Wayne County from DF&R Besteurants. Inc. be considered for

Township, Wayne County from DF&R Restaurants, Inc. be considered for

approval. It is the consensus of this legislative body that the application be

Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to approve the Township Supervisor's nomination of Ralph Welton to fill the vacancy on the Canton

Supervisor's nomination of rainin weiton to fill the vacancy on the Carlon Historic Commission for a term to expire April 30, 2001. All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to adopt the resolution approving the final plat for Cobblestone Ridge Subdivision No. 2. All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to adopt the resolution granting an

additional 6-month extension to the approval of the tentative preliminary plat for the proposed Hidden River Estates Subdivision (expiring May 12,

Canton Township Planning Commission, term to expire December 31, 2001.

Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to approve the following budget amendment in the Building Authority Construction Fund to adjust the

#469-000-695-0000

#469-900-900-0000

#469-900-974-0000

#469-900-996-0000

All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to approve the following budget amendment in the Golf Course Fund;

All Ayes present. Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to approve the following budget amendment in the Capital Projects Building Construction Fund:

This budget amendment decreases the Capital Projects Building Construction Fund budget form \$116,846.00 to \$95,295.54.

Increase Revenues: Appropriations from Fund Balance #211-000-699-0000 \$ 12, 328

ett, supported by LaJoy, to reappoint Karl Zarbo to the

\$2,500,000

\$ 37,500

\$2,425,000

\$ 37,500 \$2,500,000

reases the Building Authority Constructi

#211-697-959-000 \$ 12, 328

\$402-000-699-0000 \$21,550.46

#402-302-975-0000 \$21,550.46

Increase (Decrease) Appropriations: Overtime - Elections Department #101-191-708-0000 \$2,720.48

Overtime - Clerk's Office #101-215-708-0000 (\$2,720.48)

ded for issuance. All Ayes present.

Building Permits #101-000-477-0000 \$10,000.00

in the General Fund to transfer Overtime budget funds from

Overtime-Building & Inspection Services #101-

# **Impeaching Clinton** Rivers opposed it, but calls Dems' bus visit 'inappropriate'

#### BY RENÉE SKOGLUND STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D-Ann transgressions into Arbor, is not against punishing President Bill Clinton; she is impeachagainst impeaching him. offenses "Impeachment is used to pro-

tect the country. It is not meant also said to punish the wrongdoer.' there is a Rivers said the impeachment Catch-22 criteria of high crimes and missituation demeanors was not met during in trying the historical vote in the House Clinton of Representatives Dec. 19 and while he Clinton should face conseremains quences by trial in court of law, in office. not in the Senate. She voted "Recogagainst all four Articles of nize that peachment. the Presi-President Clinton was

impeached on Article I (lying to dent as a Federal grand jury) and Article III (obstruction of justice). A majority vote was not reached on Article II (lying i. the Paula Jones civil suit) and Article IV (misuse of power).

Adhering to both the spirit and the law of the Constitution is paramount, said Rivers. "The system works because people have to tell the truth. But I also don't want us to diminish the Constitution. We can't make up our own responses to presidential misconduct. We have to operate under the framework of the Constitution.

Emotions must be held in check, she added. "No matter

### Cold weather increases emergency calls to AAA

Cold air and snowy conditions across the state continue to cause an increase in emergency road service calls, according to AAA Michigan. Motorists are advised to use extra caution when they travel during cold weather.

As of noon Tuesday, the Auto Club reported 2,600 road service calls handled, well above normal levels, with a 24-hour period normally averaging 1,500-2,000 calls.

To help motorists avoid unnecessary delays, AAA Michigan offers the following cold weather car care tips:

Park your car in the garage. If you have no garage, or if it's full of lawn equipment or another car, put a tarpaulin over th car or put a plastic trash bag between the door (or window glass) and the frame.

To avoid frozen door or door locks, buy a lubricant that is available in most auto supply

stores. Heat your key (a pocket) lighter works nicely), but remember to wear gloves or hold the key with pliers.

Use a hair dryer, but make sure the extension cord is one graded for outdoor use and the wall socket is grounded.

Fill a plastic jug or bag with hot water. Hold it against the door panel or lock area. But don't throw hot water on the car. It. too, will freeze.

Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid fuel-line freeze-up

Test your battery load strength to determine its cold weather cranking power



how angry and disappointed we are, those emotions don't transcribe his

Rivers

The system works because people have to tell the truth. **But I also** don't want us to diminish the

Constitution. Lynn Rivers –Ũ.S. representa tine

the chief officer controls all federal prosecutors. If prosecution occurred in office, he would be in control of his own prosecution. We don't have a prosecutor who is not ultimately accountable to the president.

While most of the postimpeachment communication from Rivers' constituency (Canton, Plymouth, part of Livonia, Westland, Garden City, Inkster, part of Dearborn Heights and some downriver communities) has been against impeachment, there is a strong pro-impeachment minority

She acknowledges this minori-

(\*) (\*)

OCYOS

comedy

club

5-

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Join the West Side's Best Comedy Club

The Original Joey's

has two reat packages to

of fun with comedy, food,

music, dancing and much more!

choose from for a night full

Comedy Club in Livonia

Join us on the main

evel for our NEW

dining and dancing

734-261-0555

for Your New Year's Eve Bash!

RILL

package at Kicker's All American Grill

with a LIVE BAND from 10 p.m.- 2 a.m.

· Featuring dinner specials by our house chef

· Free rides home sponsored by MADD

Continental breakfast

For details and reservations call.

ty may be disappointed in her vote, but said it was a question of Constitutional law.

Rivers joined fellow Democrats who walked out of the House during the impeachment in protest over tabling the motion for censure for parliamentary reasons. However, she did not join Democrats who were bussed over to the White House in a show of support for President Clinton after the vote "The rally was absolutely inappropriate. This wasn't a partisan

She explained that rallies tra-Please see RIVERS, A6

9.

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# Year's end is a good time to look for tax deductions

cial three part series of articles on year-end tax planning

BY GARY KLOTT A year-end shopping spree for tax deductions may not be as much fun as holiday shopping at Tiffany's or F.A.O. Schwarz. But scavenging for last-minute ways to pick up extra deductions for your 1998 income tax return can pay big dividends next April

And hunting for deductible expenses to pay won't take much time out of your holiday schedule. In most cases, you can pick up hundreds or thousands of dollars in extra deductions simply by writing a few checks. The possibility of Congress

enacting major tax legislation next year may provide extra incentive to chase after deductions this holiday season. Nailing down deductions tions every year. For examthis year could prove to be an especially valuable move if certain tax proposals become

Under one proposal, which was recently approved by the House, an estimated six million married couples who now itemize their deductions would no longer find benefit in itemizing. The proposal would sharply

increase the standard deduc-

This is Part Two in a spe-al three part series of arti-effort to provide relief from If you're looking to the so-called "marriage enalty," which causes many two-earner couples to pay more tax than they would as

single individuals. Some Republicans are also pushing for an across-theboard cut in income tax rates. If tax rates were lowered. deductions would become less valuable

Regardless of what happens on Capitol Hill, grabbing extra deductions for your 1998 return by prepaying some of next year's expenses isn't just a tactic to grab the tax savings a year sooner. In many cases, you have to take advantage of deductible opportunities when they arise because you may not get the chance later. The reason is that most people aren't able to qualify for certain types of deduc-

ple, most taxpayers aren't able to deduct job and investment expenses every year because such "miscellaneous" expenses are deductible only if you itemize and only to the extent they exceed two percent of adjusted gross income So you have to take maximum advantage of the deductible opportunity in those years when you do

qualify

If you're looking to reduce your adjusted gross income in order to meet the income-eligibility requirements for one of the new law tax breaks such as the tax credits for families and college tuition. only a few types of personal deductions will help. Included are those for jub-related moving expenses, contribu-tions to deductible retirement accounts, alimony payments and student loan int

But itemized deductions such as those for charitable contributions and state taxes - won't affect your adjusted gross income level.

Of course, itemized deductions are still worth pursuing since they will lower your tax bill

#### **Deduction shopping** list

Here are some ways to earn extra deductions for your 1998 return.

Charity donations: If you lan to make a charitable donation in the near future, consider making it by Dec. 31 if you expect to be able to itemize deductions this year.

If your donation is going to sizable, consider donating stocks, mutual fund shares or other assets that have gone Please see TAXES. A7

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# Airport officials expect heavy holiday traffic

Officials at Wayne County's Detroit Metropolitan Airport are forecasting above average passenger loads from now until the end of the holiday season. While traffic will not match the numbers of travelers during the Thanksgiv-ing weekend, flight loads are expected to be high and passengers are reminded to plan ahead and leave themselves plenty of time when traveling.

Heavy travel days are expected on some airlines today (Christmas Eve), Thursday, Jan. 31, and Sunday, Jan. 3.

County offices closed

All Wayne County offices will be closed today (Thursday) and Friday for the Christmas holiday.

Many county offices and departments will be closed through Monday, Jan. 4, except for those handling essential services, such as the Wayne County Sheriff's Department and the Department of Public Services road division for snow removal.

Some county offices will be open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, including the county treasurer and the clerk's office, but only for limited services, such as marriage license applications, and for legal filings for Wayne County Circuit Court. Residents should call county offices first to check the holiday hours

All offices will close again on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

County offices, including the county executive and county commissioners, will re-open Jan.

Rivers from page A5

ditionally follow political issues that have been worked "all the way through, after a long, hardfought battle.

Rivers said she was uncomfortable with the "sports-like" atmosphere on the House floor throughout the impeachment proceedings, with the Republicans "hooting and cheering" during voting on the inquiry and the laughing on the House floor while voting on the Articles

"It just felt wrong to me. This is about more than any other legislative fight we might have

Here is a list of travel tips from Detroit Metro officials:

Travelers are advised to plan on arriving at the airport two hours before a domestic flight and three hours before an international flight at peak times on the busiest days. Passengers can expect crowded curb fronts, longer check-in lines and backups at the passenger screening check points due to sheer number of passengers. For up-to-the-minute parking infor-

mation, call the airport's toll-free park-

ing hotline (featuring a live person, not a recording) at 1-800-642-1978. The airport also houses an overflow parking lot available throughout the holiday sea-

Curb fronts are reserved for active loading and reloading only. Anyone picking up a friend or a relative should plan to park in a short-term lot and meet travelers at the gate. Motorists will not be allowed to wait at curbside. Unattended vehicles may be ticketed and towed.

Wrapped gifts should not be taken along, because security will ask that they be opened. Save on disappointments and delays by wrapping gifts only after you arrive at your destination

Passengers 18 years of age and older should be prepared to present a valid photo identification at the checkin counters. Passengers without photo identification should call their airline for specific check-in instructions.

Remember to pack valuables such

as jewelry, cameras, medication, pass Many airlines are limiting carry-on lug-

gage on full flights. For identification, have ID tags filled out, both on the inside and outside of your bags. Remember to remove hooks and straps to avoid damage and do not leave luggage unattended.

For airport information, tune to 920 AM within three or four miles of the airport.



This is about the Constitution. This is about the leadership of our country. I was unhappy with the way both sides have handled themselves throughout this.

Rivers said the origins of today's acute partisanship may reach through Watergate to the late 1940s, when the trend for greater political negativism in political campaigns began. The end result: "We demonize our opponents."

Moral relativism remains alive and well in the political arena, according to Rivers. "Every bad behavior can be explained away by the bad behavior of someone else.

When asked if speak-elect Bob Livingston, R-Louisiana, sudden pre-impeachment vote resignation over an extra-marital affair was an altruistic act for the good of the Republican party, Rivers offered little comment. However, she noted he resigned only after the affair had been disclosed.

She added: "Newt (Gingrich) didn't resign until after he was censored.'

Rivers condemned the alleged arson of political signage at the campaign office of U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg (R-West Bloomfield) in Farmington Hills the. night of Dec. 19.

We vote. That's how we handle our differences."

Rivers forecasts further political polarization and negativity for the nation. "We have a system now people are withdraw-ing from," she said, adding that as "moderate voters pull away, extremists from both parties will develop louder voices.

# SALE STARTS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26 ENDS JANUARY 3



NM STORES CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY AND OPEN NEW YEAR'S DAY THE SOMERSET COLLECTION 248 643 3300 FOR SPECIAL HOUDAY HOURS CALL STORE OR BOUNDEMAND FOR STORE EVENTS CALL TOLL-FREE TABB NAM EVENTS

Savings off existing sale prices. Selected merchandise only. Designer jewelry, Prada and CHANEL\* women's ready-to-wear, Prada men's clothing and sportswear, Men's Box Sale, toys, epicure, candy, and Christmas Glories not included. No adjustments for prior sales

#### \*A7

# State wants more tests before hill is capped

create the hill more than 40 years ago

also has contaminated it. The hill con-

tains lead, arsenic and other heavy

metals, discovered during sampling in

Farmington Hills completed a remedial action plan for Wayne County

Department of Public Services to tack-

le the contamination problem and

make the hill usable for winter and

In June 1998, NTH Consultants of

#### BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER kabramczyk@oe.homecomn

Officials at the Department of Enviromental Quality want Wayne County to complete more ground water and soil tests before they approve Wayne County's plans to construct a clay cap on Middlebelt Hill.

The DEQ wants soil tested around the hill's perimeter — near ground water in the lower aquifer of the hill and near Barnes Drain, a Rouge River tributary located just west of the site, said Steven Kitler, project manager in the DEQ's environmental response division.

"In it's present form, (the proposal) won't be approved," Kitler said. "They don't do a decent job at detailing how the proposed remedy is protective of

### Taxes from page A5

To get approval, we need to cover all the bases. One is that the cap is effective in the protection of health and environment. The proposal doesn't address ground water.' Steve Kitler

-project manager for Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

1991.

the human health and environment and applicable to environmental laws." DEQ officials also want quality control measures included in the proposal, including assurances the soil foll used

including assurances the soil fill used to cap the hill will be "clean" and rodent activity will be controlled. Earlier, soil samples showed woodchucks burrowing into the hill exposed contaminants in the hill.

Garbage and other waste that helped

.5 .

up in value. You'll get a bigger tax break than if you simply give cash.

So long as you've owned the shares more than one year, you'll be eligible to claim a charitable deduction for the current market value of your donated shares. In addition, you won't have to pay any capital gains tax on the appreciation.

Contrary to popular perception, donating securities isn't just for wealthy people making huge philanthropic bequests to major charitable organizations. "I have one client who gives essentially 20 shares a year to the local church," said Thomas Ochsenschlager, a Washington, D.C. tax partner at the accounting firm of Grant Thornton.

When deciding which shares to donate, try to pick those shares that would save you the most in capital gains tax. For instance, if you're considering selling shares with gains of \$10 and \$50, donate the shares with the \$50 gains.

Be sure any shares you donate have been held more than one year. If you donate shares held one year or less, your charitable deduction will be limited to what you originally paid for the shares — not their appreciated value.

Check your closets: Besides checking your investment portfolio for charitable donations, check your closets, attic and

basement for old clothing, furniture and appliances that can be donated to groups that help the needy.

To substantiate your contributions should the IRS later question your deduction, make a list of the items you'll be giving away and have the charity sign it, says David Rhine, national director of family wealth planning at the accounting firm of BDO Seidman in New York. He recommends the list contain a full description of each item (such as one Brooks Brothers men's suit); the date of purchase; its original cost; its condition (such as good, fair, poor, worn once, worn twice); and its estimated value now (which is what it would sell for in a consignment or thrift shop).

State taxes: Make an estimated income tax payment to the state by Dec. 31 to cover any remaining balance of state income taxes you expect to owe for the 1998 tax year. By paying now, you'll be eligible to deduct the payment on your 1998 return instead of your 1999 return.

Don't get carried away when making your estimated payment in hopes of pumping up your deduction. The IRS contends your payment must be based on a reasonable estimate of what you expect to owe. "If you expect to owe \$2,000, you can't make a \$10,000 payment to get a bigger deduction," said

Thomas Beneventi, a Chicago area tax partner at the accounting firm of McGladrey & Pullen.

Job and investment expenses: If you expect to be able to write off "miscellaneous" itemized expenses, pay your professional association dues, subscriptions to trade and investment publications and other job and investment-related expenses before year's end. The miscellaneous category also includes tax preparation fees.

So if you plan to buy a tax-preparation guide or software program to help with your 1998 return next tax season, buying it by Dec. 31 will make the cost deductible on your 1998 return.

Don't bother prepaying expenses more than a year in advance. The IRS generally won't allow you to deduct on your 1998 return prepayments of expenses beyond 1999.

For instance, if you take out a twoyear subscription to an investment newsletter, only the portion of the cost that extends through 1999 will gualify for a deduction on your 1998 return. You'll have to wait until you fill out your 1999 return in the year 2000 to deduct the rest of the subscription cos<sup>+</sup>.

Medical expenses: Pay outstanding medical bills and health insurance premiums by Dec. 31 if you expect to be eligible to write off medical expenses,

summer recreation

Wayne County officials want to top the hill with a 12-inch clay cap in areas where contaminants have reached the surface so the hill can be used for sledding in the winter and picnicking during the summer. The project is expected to cost \$1 million and take six weeks. If approved, construction is expected to start in spring of 1999.

Kitler expects to submit a letter to Wayne County outlining the DEQ's concerns in early January so Wayne County can amend its plans.

Kitler and other state officials conducted a public hearing in Westland in early November on the project. DEQ district supervisors met with Kitler on Dec. 17, and concurred with most of his assessments of the project. 'To get approval, we need to cover all the bases," Kitler said. "One is that the cap is effective in the protection of health and environment. The proposal doesn't address ground water."

County officials also must examine and test more samples near the Barnes Drain, which also has refuse nearby. "They need to show that the refuse observed is localized and is not connected with any activities on the hill," Kitler said. "All that can be completed in a short time frame.

"It appears to be refuse (at Barnes). That's been largely collaborated by the DEQ staff."

DEQ officials also want rodent control because the cap proposed will be 2 feet thick, which could be penetrated by a burrowing animal, Kitler said.

which are generally deductible only if you itemize and only to the extent they exceed 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income.

To make the most of the deductible opportunity, consider scheduling and paying for elective treatments before year's end, such as orthodontia work for your child, and eyeglass exams. Also consider year-end purchases of any medical items you'll need in the near future, such as prescription drugs, eyeglasses, orthopedic shoes, dentures and hearing aids.

Phone bill: If your final phone bill for the year includes charges you're eligible to deduct — such as long-distance calls related to your business, volunteer charity work or your investments — pay the bill by Dec. 31 to make the costs deductible on your 1998 return.

#### When shopping doesn't pay

Before you start chasing after yearend tax deductions, be sure your efforts won't be in vain. You may find that rushing to pay deductible expenses by Dec. 31 is a waste.

For instance, if you don't expect to have enough deductible expenses to itemize on your 1998 return, try to wait until after Dec. 31 to make your charitable contributions, pay medical bills and other itemized expenses in case you're able to make use of the deductions next year. (On 1998 returns, married couples filing jointly will need more than \$7,100 in deductible expenses in order to itemize their deductions rather than claim the standard deduction. The itemizing threshold for single individuals is \$4,250 and for heads of household, \$6,250.)

If you expect to be thrust into a higher tax bracket next year, waiting until after Dec. 31 to pay deductible expenses may also be the best strategy. Your deductions will be worth more when you're in the higher tax bracket.

Waiting may also the best course if you expect to fall victim to the "alternative minimum tax" (AMT) this year. The AMT renders many deductions worthless - or worth much less than usual.

Under the AMT calculation, many types of expenses that are normally deductible - such as state taxes and most types of "miscellaneous" itemized expenses - aren't eligible for any deduction. Other expenses that are deductible under the AMT provide much less tax savings than under the regular tax formula.

The AMT inflates the tax bills of higher-income taxpayers who claim sizable amounts of various tax breaks.

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TAU BETA PI

BY SCOTT DANIEL STAFF WRITER

amune to crime.

Even places of worship aren't

That fact was illustrated in the

early morning hours of Saturday

when someone broke into Resur-rection Catholic Church in Can-

ton and stole a computer valued

at about \$800, according to

police reports. "It's disconcerting," said the Rev. Richard Perfetto. "But it's a

The church, which is on War-

ren Road near Ridge, opened its doors in 1995. Perfetto said the

church has suffered through one

other incident since then, a 1996

no more than a winged angel in

the Christmas play, and that

very big public out there."

preak-in.

lor's degree in business manag

State University. While at

ment from the Seidmann School of Business at Grand Valley

Grand Valley, he was a member

of the rowing team. He competed in the Royal Henley this past

July in Henley on Thames, Eng-

land, in the heavyweight eight.

Elaine Ranus of Plymouth

was among 11 Madonna Univer-

the Who's Who Among Students

Colleges. Nominations are based on scholastic and community

achievement. More than 1,900

all 50 states, the District of

this elite recognition.

Columbia and several foreign

nations nominate students for

nstitutions of higher learning in

sity seniors who were listed in

in American Universities and

WHO'S WHO

# **Church reports break-in**

We would gladly

take the computer back

without any questions.'

**Rev. Richard Perfetto** 

to the church's office and took one computer CPU.

Perfetto believes the alarm scared off the intruder before more items could be taken. The computer was a valuable piece of quipment to the church because it contains vital parishioner and accounting records. "We would gladly take the

computer back without any questions " Perfetto said. Besides the broken window,

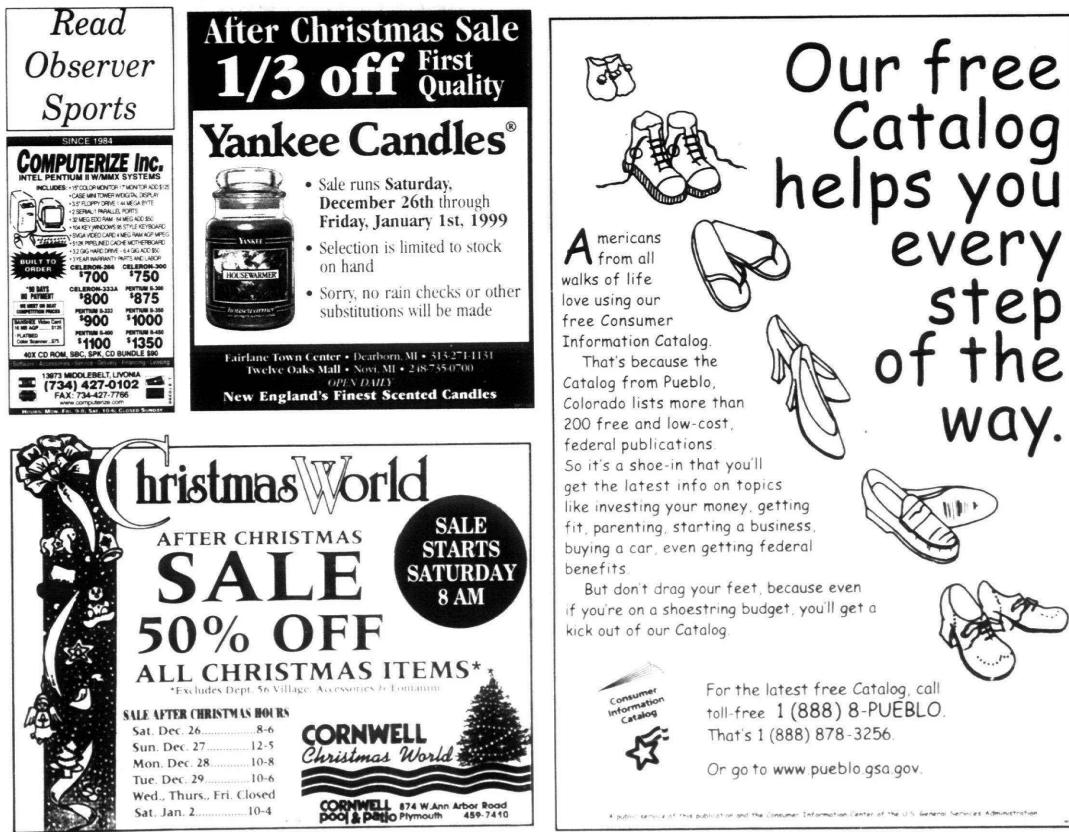
replace, he said no other damage was done to the church.

one with information may con Schemanske at (734) 397-5344.

brought wonderful winter fun. "Between Christmas and New Year's, we'd get a skating party together," Simons said. "We'd either start at Lilley Road or Sheldon Road, and go skate to Wayne Road, to the bridge there. We'd try to make that one by noon, and we'd make hot chocolate. We'd roast some marshmal

lows, then someone would bring hot dogs and buns with them. But it would be a big day." These holiday images - a local businessman hauling his Christmas tree around town, a church opening its doors on Christmas Eve to all children, the merriment of school pageants and a mother giving her family memo ries to treasure - are wonderful because none were about material things; the presents given were time and love. That was the magic that inspired Rockwell's paintings. And as long as we share these gifts of the heart, we will always best will always

Virginia Bailey Parker is a local historian and author. She is a member of the Canton Historical Society.





#### BY PAT MURPHY STAFF WRITER

initially

cials

back.

Police have no suspects. Any tact Canton Officer Leonard

"They tried to take some desks," he said, "but were unsucwhich will cost about \$150 to 'Last week's incident occurred at about 1 a.m. That's when Canton police received an alarm call from the church's monitoring

There was no sign of forced entry, reports said. Once inside, the thief smashed out a window

I remember Mrs. McKinstry -

she started laughing; you could

**CAMPUS NOTES** gan-Ann Arbor, majoring in echanical engineering, and a 1997 graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School.

IONORS PROGRAM Local student Theron Stinar has been accepted into the honors program at Albion College. Stinar is the son of Kyle J. Stinar of Canton and a graduate of

Plymouth Salem High School. The honors program at Albion College is designed for students interested in challenges and opportunities which go beyond the traditional lecture and laboratory courses.

exemplary character. Schrieber has also been inducted into the Theodore V. Barker, a 1994 Golden Key National Honor graduate of Plymouth Salem High School, completed a bache-

**Traditions** from page A1

To submit your academic

honor or graduation announce-ment to Campus Notes, send the

material, printed or typewritten, to: Campus Notes, Plymouth-

Canton Observer, 794 S. Main, Plymouth, Mich. 48170.

Ryan Schrieber, son of Tom

and Karen Schrieber of Ply-

mouth, has been elected for

membership into Tau Beta Pi.

Tau Beta Pi is a national engi-

neering honor society represent-ing the highest honor an engi-

neering student can achieve.

Membership is awarded on the

basis of high scholarship and

Society. He is a second-year stu-

dent at the University of Michi-

grew up here and later taught in several of our one-room schools. recalls one priceless gift. "We had a Christmas without our father in 1916 because he had to go to Montana to care for his brother, who had been ill and had an operation. That year, we didn't have a Christmas tree, but mother went to the pasture and cut down a thorn bush - a prickly ash - and brought that in. It was a lovely tree. We trimmed it

with everything we had." Although the story ends with the sad note that her mother passed away before the year was out, the warmth of that country Christmas was her last, precious gift, which Avis has cherished

for 82 years.

Sweet story Another story comes from

Heloise Travis Dunstan, whose grandparents added the gracious, wrap-around porch on the Bartlett-Travis House. Dunstan gives us a glimpse of one festive radition in that home.

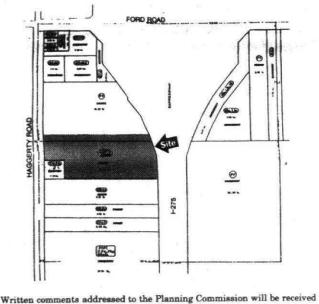
"The women, especially, would save little things that they got during the year to put in a grab bag. When you bought so much stuff from the peddlers that came to the house, you got some things free. So the free stuff whether wrapped or not - was put in a grab bag. They did not have enough money to buy everybody a gift, but everybody got one because they grabbed the

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

grab bag."

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held or Monday, January 4, 1999 at 7:00 P.M. in the First Floor Meeting Room of inistration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road to consider a request for the following special land use as provided in Section 27.03 of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance

ELECTROPOLITAN, INC. SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR A SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR PARCEL NO. 050 99 0015 000 AND PART OF PARCEL NO. 050 99 0013 000 AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 17.02B.7 FOR COIN-OPERATED AMUSEMENT DEVICE ESTABLISHMENTS. Property is located on the ast side of Haggerty Road between Ford and Cherry Hill Roads.

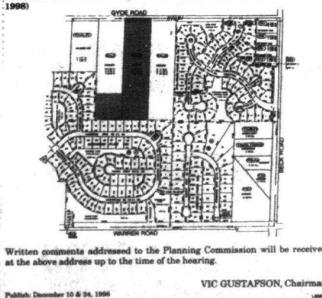


at the above address up to the time of the hearing VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman Publish: December 24, 1998

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 4, 1999 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

MCCARTY/SKORINA/JABARA REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 020 99 0005 000 AND PART OF PARCEL NO. 020 99 00004 000 FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL, TO R-2, SINGLE PAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located on the south side of Gyde Road between Beck and Ridge Roads. (Rescheduled from December 7,



#### The sense of community spirit shines through man of the late George Simons' holiday stories from the 1930s-40s. One was about Clarence Fischer and the traveling Christmas tree. Fischer bought a tree and the trimmings to Sheldon School for the kids to decorate for their Christmas program. "He'd take the

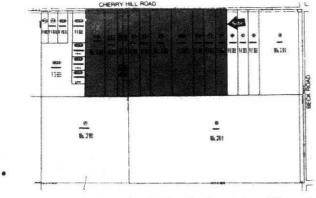
tree from the school down to the church, then we'd redecorate it. After that, he would take it home. That was the Christmas tree for his home." Canton had its own version of the "Best Christmas Pageant Ever." Elsie McKinstry Fulford

remembers the one-room school holiday programs featuring recitations and singing; parents improvised for the sets. "The neighbors' sheets were brought in to use as curtains. We strung a wire across and pinned it to make it so you can slide it back and forth. All the children had a part; none were left out, if it was

> CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Monday, January 4, 1999 at 7:00 P.M. in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road to consider a request for the following special land use as provided in Section 27.03 of KIRKWAY SUBDIVISION SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER

REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR PARCEL NOS. 077 99 0005 000, 077 99 0006 000, 077 999 0007 000, 077 99 0008 000, 077 99 0009 000, 077 99 0010 000 , 077 99 0011 000 AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 11.02B.13 FOR SINGLE-FAMILY DETACHED CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT. Property is located on the south side of Cherry Hill Road between Beck and Denton Roads.

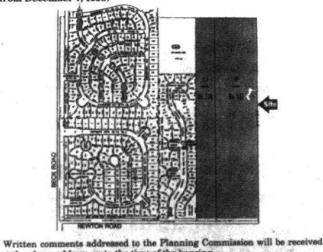


Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing. VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman Publish: December 24, 1998

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 4, 1999 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance: THE LINKS OF PHEASANT RUN WEST PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

DISTRICT (PDD) - CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE, INCLUSIVE OF PARCELS 110 99 0001 000 AND 110 99 0002 000. Properties are located on the north side of Newton Road east of Beck Road. Preliminary Plan-1st Public Hearing (Rescheduled mber 7, 1998)



at the above address up to the time of the hea VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman Publish: December 10 & 24, 1998

was true at church, too." hear her all over the place." The audience enjoyed them-Play's the thing selves so much that word spread, Simons remembered how he and the students were invited to and the rest of Frank Trotts' stupresent the play at Walker dents began reading and School, "but you know," Simons rehearsing plays right after said, "it would never have Thanksgiving. They made the props and built an extension for

cessful."

the teachers' platform, which stretched across the front of the school, making the perfect stage. The whole neighborhood showed up for these performance. There was a lot of hilarity with missed lines, ad libbing, and

and a woman. "I had to put a

turned out the same the second time. Trinkets and sweet treats made the season merry for the voungsters. Students received little gifts, such as pencil boxes, at school. More surprises came at church. At Fry's general store kids were invited to reach into a

bushel basket filled with paper bags of holiday treats - an orange, peanuts and hard candies. Of course. Santa always brought presents, like small boxes of candy. "To this day,"

> ty special for kids who came from large farm families, especially during the lean Depression years.

wrapped. Christmas vacation

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

The Charter Township of Canton will receive sealed bids in the Building Department, 2nd Floor, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton , MI 48188 for the sale of property parcel #004-99-0023-0000. That part of the outheast 1/4 of section 1 described as beginning at a point on the east line of said section distant south 889.10 ft from the east ½ corner of section 1 and proceeding thence north 89 degrees 34 minutes 50 seconds west 659 ft thence south 132.20 ft thence south 89 degrees 34 minutes 50 seconds east 659 ft to the east line of section 1 thence north along said east line 132.20 ft to point of beginning, section 1 containing 2 acres town 2 south, range 8 east. Bid must be submitted to Aaron Machnik, Municipal Services Director in a sealed envelope, clearly marked "Sale of Parcel #004-99-0023-0000, name of bidder, date and time of bid opening and be received no later than 10:00 a.m., January 7, 1999 at which time they will be opened publicly.

The Township of Canton reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, in whole or in part and to waive any informalities therein. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services. TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk Publish: December 24, 1998

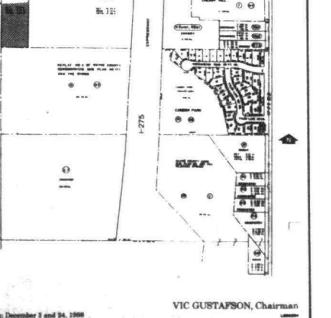
#### CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

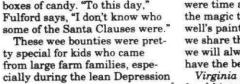
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY MICHIGAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 168 of the Public Acts of 1959 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Comprehensive Plan of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 4, 1999 at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensiv

TALLA FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT - CONSIDER REQUEST TO AMEND THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP FROM MEDIUM HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO LOCAL SHOPPING FOR THE SOUTH 400 FEET OF PARCEL NO. 094 99 0007 000. Property is located on the southeast corner of Cherry Hill and Haggerty Roads

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing. CHERRY HILL ROAD 1960 0 0 勤.1計



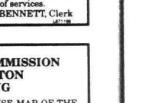


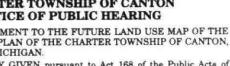
These wee bounties were pret-

Fun outdoors

Not all pleasures came gift-

have the best of Christmas.



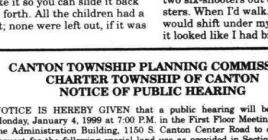


other mishaps in one play that took place in the Old West. Simons contributed some of the unwitting comedy when he played the parts of a ranch hand

dress on, and I forgot to take the two six-shooters out of my holsters. When I'd walk, the pistols would shift under my skirt, and it looked like I had big hips. And

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance.



## A 'lot' of Charity Local organizations benefit from the sales of older vehicles

How's this for a success story: A customer buys your product and — in a year or so — gives it

Detroit that gets most of its product - old cars - from Oakand County donors.

"We wouldn't call those old cars 'clunkers' " said John Kruse, manager of the organization's lot on the south side of Eight Mile Road near Lahser. "Although that's what they are

"After we work on those cars, they're 'transportation spe-

Charity Motors recently donated \$5,000 to each of 10 charitable organizations in Oakland County. Before the end of the year, it expects to make similar contributions to organizations in Detroit. Wayne and Macomb counties Those contributions bring the

total amount donated to charitable organizations to more than \$4 million since 1995, the

attended Oakland Community College before obtaining a business degree from Wayne State. Radio commercials tell how

Charity Motors works. People with clunkers - running or nonrunning - donate the vehi-That's happened more than cles and receive a tax deduction once at Charity Motors, the non- in exchange. Benevolence and tion, said Frazier, but so is the tax deduction.

In 1998, the organization will (compared with 7,500 the previous year), Frazier predicted, December, as the end of the tax year approaches.

While about 10 percent of those vehicles are sold for scrap, most are refurbished and sold as "transportation specials." The average transportation special sells for under \$400, according to Frazier, or at least 50 percent below blue book value.

Frazier quoted the most recent figures from accountants at Plante & Moran which he said show 75 percent of the proceeds go to charity, 14 percent to fund raising and 11 percent for administration.

Most of the proceeds from year Charity Motors was orga- each car go to the charity selectnized, said spokesperson Rick ed by the donor, said Frazier. Frazier, a Troy resident who Some specify a Boy Scout Troop.

while others select organizations like the American Cancer Foundation or Catholic Social Services.

Charity Motors functions, in some respect, like the United Way, acknowledged Frazier. Rather than making a donation to a specific organization directprofit organization based in good will are part of the equa- ly, a donor gives the car and stipulates the beneficiary.

Other organizations still accept vehicles, Frazier said. accept almost 11,000 vehicles But Charity Motors - using the economy of scale — is the most value, and we simply write it efficient, he insisted. "We have down. including 1,000 or more in the mechanics, we have the dealer licenses and we have the sales organization," he said.

That sales organization is very important, said Frazier. Charity Motors makes a significant contribution by providing inexpensive transportation to people who might not otherwise be able to afford one, he said.

"Some of our buyers (for lack of a reliable alternative) might not be able to get to a job otherwouldn't be able to take their kids to the zoo or to the park." Occasionally, a person who bought a transportation special

history and credit needed to buy a newer car — donated it back, Frazier said.

"They realize what having transportation means," he said "But they also want that tax deduction

To qualify for a tax deduction, the vehicle owner estimates the value of the vehicle and Charity Motors writes that amount on the letter of donation needed to satisfy the Internal Revenue Service, Frazier said. "We have blue books to help determine the value of the car." he said. "but the owner estimates the

"Most of the time, it works," Frazier said.

When asked about tax deductions for cars or other items donated to charity, a tax preparation specialist for H&R Block said determining the value of the item is crucial.

Donating a car to charity definitely entitles the donor to a tax deduction, said Carolyn D. Kellev. a tax preparation specialist for the H&R office in the Oakwise," Frazier said, "some land Mall in Troy. "As long as the value of the item is reasonable, the IRS will allow the deduction," she said.

"But if somebody says their after establishing the work 1978 Chevy is worth a \$10,000 deduction." Kellev said, "he (or she) can expect to do some explaining.



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFI Clunker check: Mechanic Willie Mines and John Kruse, Charity Motors administrator, look over a 1981 Pontiac Firebird at the lot near Eight Mile and Lahser.

**Now Taking Reservations** 

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4 pm-8 pm Regular Menu 9 pm-2 am Party Package

Dancing 4 Course Dinne

**\$75 Per Person** 

gne Toast and Party Favon

14900 Beck Rd. - Plymout Located off M-14 & Beck Rd.

includes: Live Entertain

GINOPOLIS PARTHENON

NEW YEAR'S

X · V

**EVE GALA** 

0

### Manager: Let the used car buyer beware

#### BY PAT MURPHY STAFF WRITER pmurphy@oe.hoi

donated clunkers into "transportation specials," according to manager John Kruse, who oversees the nonprofit organization's tion as well as our own." car lot on Eight Mile near Lahser.

But Kruse is among the first to caution sized. customers that used cars are a risky "Cars can break down at any time," he

vehicles take pride in the product, Kruse ent car.

said. "But we get them running, we don't recondition them.

"There are no warranties or guarantees,"

Vehicles are sold "as is," Kruse empha-No customer is stuck if the car he or she investment, subject to mechanical failure. purchases dies two miles away from the car lot or simply quits the next day, Kruse next. said. "If that happens, we work with the He and the mechanics working on the customer and they're likely to get a differ-

But buying a "transportation special" is fraught with uncertainty, he acknowledged. A buyer is much better off if he or Charity Motors specializes in turning he said. "As a matter of fact, we advise she is mechanical and can do some work customers to bring a mechanic with them on their own, Kruse said, "or if they have at the time of purchase - for their protec- an uncle or neighbor who is mechanically inclined.

But the same principals hold true for used cars purchased at more traditional outlets, said Kruse. "A car can be running fine one minute, and blow a gasket the

"Anybody who buys a used car should be aware of that possibility," he said. Buver beware, the old axiom states

# **Observer** Newspapers **OPINION**

# Ho, ho, ho Santa shares 1998 message

Editor's note: Every year, along with the Christmas cards, we get a few of those "Christmas letters" from people telling us more than we want to know about their activities over the past year. Ordinarily, we wouldn't pass these missives on to our readers. But this year, one of them was from someone rather special.

#### Dear Friends

A10(F\*)

Well, 1998 has been a busy year for the Claus Clan. Seems like every year my list of good little girls and boys keeps growing. We added an extra shift to the workshop in January just to get enough toys ready for this year's trip.

So far, we've managed to keep production on schedule, but it's getting harder and harder to find elves who are willing to work those long hours without a full benefits package.

It was a little tense around here for a couple of months, but after some negotiating things are getting back to normal. The elves seem satisfied with an extra week's vacation and a new 401(k)

It didn't help matters when those protesters from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals showed up in March waving signs that said "Free the Reindeer." Donner and Blitzen had a talk with them and told them the reindeer didn't feel "enslaved," that they liked pulling the sleigh and delivering toys to boys and girls. Said it made them feel good about themselves.

The PETA people left after a couple of days, maybe because of that talk or maybe because we don't get too much TV coverage here at the North Pole. Before they left, though, one of them threw a can of red paint on my fur coat. It's a good thing they left after that. Old Vixen was so mad she was sharpening up her antlers and getting ready to go after them herself.

Speaking of the sleigh, Mrs. Claus bought me one of those computerized on-board navigation systems so I could find my way around better. I told her I didn't need it since I've been delivering toys for a few hundred years now and I've never gotten lost yet. But she said she'd feel more comfortable if I used it.

We installed it and took the sleigh for a test flight in March, but it just didn't work right. Every time Rudolph's nose lit up, the computer thought it was a red traffic light and brought the sleigh to a stop. Mrs. Claus finally agreed to get rid of the navigation system as long as I kept a cellular phone and a beeper on board. She's worried about sleighjackers. When we got back to the workshop after the

test sleigh ride, I had e-mail from some group called ASH. They said they were concerned about smoking and health and if I didn't dispose of that stump of a pipe that I had been seen with, I could no longer be a role model for children. They even threatened to start a "Santa is a smoker" campaign and get rid of me just like they got rid of Joe Camel

There was another e-mail from the Center for Science in the Public Interest. They said that obesity was one of the leading causes of health problems and until I lost some weight, I was sending the wrong message to kids. They said that when kids left me cookies and whole milk on the mantel - especially milk that had been unrefrigerated for hours - I was just encouraging their unhealthy eating habits. They wanted to know what I was going to do about it.

I asked Mrs. Claus what she thought, and she told me to lose the pipe and while I was at it to lose some weight. She said I was so fat that every time I laughed my belly shook like a bowlful of

I told her I thought the extra pounds and the fur coat and the pipe made me look like a right jolly old elf, but Mrs. Claus said that I was out of touch with modern times, that jolly was out and good health and nutrition were in. I promised her I'd try to reform - right after Christmas.

Well, I have to go now. There's a sleigh full of toys waiting to be delivered and this fat, out-oftouch old elf doesn't intend to disappoint the kids. Happy Christmas to all!



## Gospel meaning is timeless

A popular item among many Christian teens Ais a bracelet displaying the letters "WWJD" which stands for "What Would Jesus Do?"

The idea of modeling your life after Christ has been around for awhile, going back about 30 years this side of the first Christmas. A noble goal, but always a challenge. Have you ever thought that it would be much easier to know What Would Jesus Do if Christ were born in our lifetime?

Certainly, it would be much easier to spread the Gospel in the 20th century with the advantage of the powerful mass media we enjoy high-speed, full-color presses, satellites, tele phone and cable TV with fiber optics, and the Internet.

Have you ever wondered if Jesus would use the Internet? What if you wandered into your favorite chat room and found Him there? With such a spur of the moment encounter, what would you talk about?

And what if Jesus had his own home page on the World Wide Web? What would he place on it? The Beatitudes, the Last Supper discourse, a transcript of His trial, a complete set of parables? Would more people read it online than

have offline? If news of the Star in the East reached us quicker, and if we could get a better view, would we follow the star like the shepherds or the kings?

Although it would be easier to spread the Gospel in this century we really don't have any assurance that the Good News would be accepted any more now than for any other point in time. If Christ were alive today, he certainly would be an outcomes-based person, more interested in acceptance of his creed than mere rapid distribution.

Are Christians in 1998 any more prepared than persons of any other era to accept Christ's teachings, such as:

Admit that you are a sinner and ask forgiveness. Forgive those who have wronged you

before seeking forgiveness for yourself Love your neighbor as much as yourself.

Love your enemy. Feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

Be a humble servant.

Maybe God knew what He was doing after all when He selected Mary and Joseph, Bethlehem and Nazareth, and the world they lived in some 2,000 years ago. God must have known that for all our high-powered communication tools, humans today aren't better equipped to accept the challenge of Christmas.

And that's just as well. At least now when we fail, we don't have to look Christ straight in the eye and try to rationalize our shortcomings. Yes, it's probably easier and more comfortable for Christians to celebrate Christmas than to live through it.



ARKIE HUDKINS

#### Appoint judges

Occasionally we agree and this is one of those times. Judge Myron Wahls saw an opportunity to pick up 200 grand for his kids just by running. being elected a foregone conclusion, and went

for it. After all, isn't that the name of the game now? Greed? Grab all you can when you can.

When a vacancy occurs, maybe some type of merit system should be involved in the filling of that vacancy, but the real problem exists at election time and here is where the Observer and all newspapers could help. We don't know between elections who we are responsible for putting in office therefore we vote in the dark for almost all of our judges.

It becomes a name recognition game. I like to watch the rulings of the various judges, especially on major and/or controversial issues, however, 99 percent of the voters don't even know which judges in office are

from their district since we don't replace all the judges at every level at every election. I would love to have the Observer, as a community service, print the names of every court and which judges are serving in each of those courts that are dependent, in full or partially, for the voters. Then we know who to watch for future elections. This could be done for each of the cities that the Observer serves. It might be

You might even print a little history about them, i.e. the judge who, several years ago, sentenced a person who had a long record to only six months in jail for the crime of rape. I would even be willing to pay a little more for that particular issue, if expense is the prob-

a help toward weeding out some of the incom-

petent

I would hope this suggestion would be given serious consideration.

> Charles K. Benton Garden City

Movie offends aving finally seen "Life Is Beautiful," I am writing this letter of anger and outrage to

protest the film's attempt to romanticize the Holocaust. As well, I am disgusted by the widespread adulation and positive press that the film has received.

Unlike the movie, the Holocaust was not a romantic comedy. Life was not beautiful in the camps. Even Charlie Chaplin apologized in

the '60s for his 1940 "Great Dictator," noting that he never would have made it had he known the extent of Hitler's depravity. Six million Jews were raped, tortured, bru-

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1998

alized and murdered. That's not funny! The Holocaust in many ways is beyond comprehension hence most films trivialize the horror. In addition, since "Life is Beautiful" is so well-done, it engages our sentiments and attracts our sympathies while obscuring the ultimate abomination

But no amount of slapstick comedy can make slave labor and murder attractive.

The film is so effective in its mission to disguise the tragedy and make six million deaths palatable that after two hours audiences are ready to accept the ridiculous. As the Allied forces approach, the Germans hurriedly destroy evidence before they flee. But, if "Life Is Beautiful" is to be believed, they had time to take our comedic hero, Guido, around the corner and execute him out of sight, no doubt to avoid offending audience sensibilities. We need to confront reality rather than

obscure it with romantic comedy and happy Dan Greenberg

**Farmington Hills** 

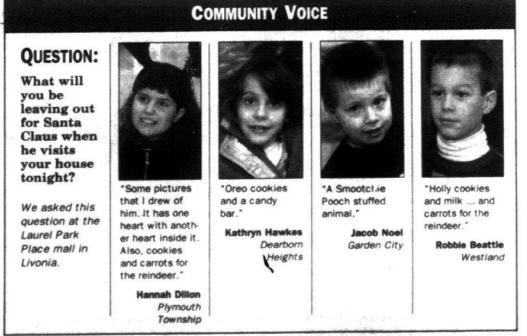
#### Clinton must go

endings.

The liberal press insists that our country would be in for stress and turmoil should Clinton be impeached. On the contrary, impeachment of Bill Clinton would be the best thing that has happened to our 50 states in decades. The cleansing and upholding of the rule of law could set in motion the steps that need to be taken to strengthen the business nity, return us to the family values an morality we used to cherish, and build our military once again to a formidable fighting force.

An added bonus would be the twofer we would get with Clinton's demise. No more Hillary Clinton! The transparent crusade for children's rights, 12-year-olds having equal family rights with parents, the warehousing of small children, the socialist gibberish of villageization and globalization could be sent packing with the lady some call so bright that she didn't know that Bill Clinton might have dallied with Monica after 22 years of continuous marriage infidelity!

Neil Goodbred, Grumpy Livonia



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- Philip Power

ing is willy-nilly. One side argues: Detroit and the older cities have been abandoned by the wealthy and middle classes and are stuck with the poor folks who need more social services. Detroit et al. already have taxed themselves heavily and deserve state consideration for their "relative tax effort."

### Merger a shocker to Santa and his once-merry workforce

**POINTS OF VIEW** 

ews release: North Pole, Decem-ber 1998 – Gigantico Toys Inc. and Santa's Workshop confirmed their merger plans in a press conference yesterday. The proposal calls for the closing of three toy factories (including the North Pole Plant) and the elimination of 9,000 jobs.

Most of the affected employees are elves. Gree D. Execk, spokesman for Gigantico, said the job cuts are a small price to pay in exchange for long-term profitability.

"The streamlining effort combined with the capital buying power of the new, larger corporation will go a long way toward restoring unit holder con-

fidence." Mr. Execk went on to express the company's sincerest regrets for the timing of the cuts, with Christmas just a week away. Santa's Workshop President in Charge of Operations, Santa Claus, was present, but had no comment.

Gigantico's Vice President in

Charge of Eliminating Human Resources fielded questions. Q. "Why is it necessary to cut so

many jobs?" A. "The overall lack of inflation has made it difficult for us to raise prices to generate better revenues, thus leaving us very little choice but to cut

overhead through streamlining operations." Q. "Oh ... Doesn't that just raise

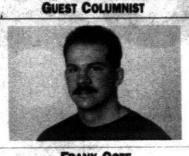
the price of everything in the world for those people who will no longer get a paycheck?"

A. "Uhmmmm ... Are there any more questions? Yes, in the back there.

Q. "Thank you, yes. Why are elves so darn small anyways?"

A. "Well, you see, the very nature of the elf experience and its relation to our perception of proportional reality must first be juxtaposed with the delegating factors of the ..."

Q. "ARGHHH!!! OK, OK, never



#### FRANK COTE

mind. Won't closing these plants devastate these communities? It seems like you're pulling the rug out from under these people's lives."

A. "These communities will go on why, the increase in alcohol sales alone will support local merchants, and our figures project a definite demand for family counseling centers. bankruptcy attorneys and pawn shops. When we closed our East Pittsburgh Heights plant last Christmas,

local mortuaries posted record profits as suicide levels skyrocketed." Q. "Gigantico posted record earnings last year, and paid stockholders a healthy dividend. Why the desperate need to raise profits?"

A. "What do you mean, WHY?!!! Because it's out there to be made! Because we CAN!! What are you, some kinda socialist?"

Q. "No, no, I just thought it might be enough to make a healthy profit while maintaining economic structure in the communities that helped you build the Gigantico empire. Don't you owe it to these people? Are they just lifeless liabilities to the faceless, heartless corporate entity that Gigantico has become?"

A. "Goodness, no. These people have been a critical component of the company machine for many years now. This is why each and every laidoff person will receive this 'I labored most of my life helping my employer

build a first-class worldwide corporation and all I got was fired, and this lousy T-shirt' T-shirt! I have time for just one more question. Q. "What will become of our mar-

velous economy once every company in the world has unemployed as many people as possible?

A. "Hmmmm ... maybe I can expand on that elf question from earlier. You see, their small size makes them well-suited for work in hollow trees, baking cookies, perhaps, which is where many of the displaced workers may indeed find work, unless of course the cookie company has its state of the art automated cookiemaking system online, in which case it will only take one elf to do what it

once took 20 to do ... " He yelled from his limo as it drove out of sight, "Merry profits to all, and to all a good night!"

Frank Cote, a Westland resident, is married and has two children.

# Revenue sharing is one idea whose time has now expired

n no issue are Michigan lawmakers at each other's throats more ferociously than the annual local looting of the state treasury called "revenue sharing."

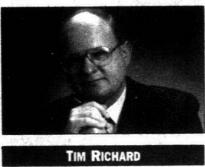
They can't agree on what spreading out \$1 billion of state taxes is supposed to accomplish. Hence, the loot-

Detroit et al. have major costs of replacing infrastructure, but it's socially more economical to help them with repairs than to sink water, sewers and streets into "greenfields." It goes on: Sending more to rural townships will encourage "urban sprawl," the paving over of farmland

with no population increase. Besides, rural townships levy only a mill or two often have volunteer fire depart ments, and find their wells and septics are adequate. If they want to expand services, they should either vote more taxes as we cities have done or incorporate as cities with charter authority to tax 20 mills - no need to share state revenue.

The other side argues: Detroit is losing population but continues to have its aid protected; Detroit has 10 percent of the state's people but soaks up 25 percent of the shared revenue. Every service in the state gets cut in a recession except Detroit's revenue sharing.

It goes on: People vote with their feet. Rural townships are experiencing normal, market-driven growth. The money should follow the people. Township residents shouldn't have to shoulder the full cost of new infrastructure while we perversely reward



Detroit for levying sky-high taxes. There's no way to reconcile the

opposing views. How did we get into this mess? In the early 1970s, the Legislature replaced eight business taxes with a "single business tax." Wiped out were

the corporate income tax, franchise fee ... and the local property tax on business inventory and equipment. So the rationale became: Since the

state wiped out a local tax, it should replace that money by sharing some of its own revenue. Thus, 14.5 percent of the SBT is allocated to counties, cities, townships and villages.

Who deserved to get the lion's share? Obviously, units that lost the most business property taxes - for example, the "golden mile" industrial corridor emanating from the west side of Detroit, through Redford Township, Livonia and Plymouth Township. Rural townships lost little and therefore got little shared rev-

Times change. Detroit has lost much of its industry, which has scattered across the state.

The 1998 eight-year renewal of revenue sharing is a boon for rural townships, despite some compromise on the part of the Grand Rapids crowd. Detroit is held flat at \$334 million a

But Clinton County's Eagle Town-

ship will see its share rise 34 percent over eight years; Eaton County's Carmel Township, 47 percent and Kalamo Township 55 percent; Ionia's village of Portland, 39 percent; Livingston's Unadilla Township, 41 percent, while the city of Brighton creeps up just 6 percent.

In Wayne County, Sumpter Township will soar 69 percent over eight years while the charming cities of Northville and Plymouth rise just 6 percent apiece.

Revenue sharing today is a bad idea. Get rid of it. Phase out the statutory part of it and save the state \$1 billion. Then give the people a \$1 billion tax cut, and let their local governing boards decide whether it's necessary to ask a local millage to facilitate "growth."

Tim Richard reports on the local implications of state and regional events. His Touch-Tone voice mail number is (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1881.

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# Community Li

#### The Observer

INSIDE: **Bridal Registry** Page B6

Page 1, Section 5



Audio-visual: Storyteller Linda Day relies on her voice and facial and hand gestures to tell her stories to luncheon goers at Schoolcraft College.

### Storyteller's tales capture holiday spirit

#### BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

Linda Day knows how to tell a good story. A professional storyteller, she can leave her audience laughing over childhood antics or in quiet contemplation over the moral of a story.

A popular closer for Schoolcraft College Women's Resource Center's fall luncheon series, Day chose to entertain her audience with the Richard Paul Evans story of "The Christmas Candle" and a lighthearted recounting of her sledding antics with her childhood friend, Corky - "His name was Carl, but his mom would say he was such a corker, so he was Corky McCray.

"When I come to the Women's Resource Center, it makes me go find a new book," said Day, launching into a story. Her voice alternating between the seemingly unpleasant Thomas and the old candlemaker, Day recounted Evans' morality tale about charity

Thomas is headed home on a dark, bitterly cold Christmas Eve when he stops a candlemaker's shop for a candle for his tin lantern. He pushes aside a beggar at the door of the shop and entered, finding it filled with rows and rows of "beautiful Christmas candles.

"But Thomas had no use for them; he wanted just a plain old candle," she said. " 'All I need is illumination,' Thomas told the candlemaker. 'Ah, illumination is all you need, so maybe I can help you out,' the candlemaker said, handing Thomas a candle.



# **Christmas Day** Who decided that Christ was born on Dec. 25

K, it's Christmas Eve. The last batch of cookies has been baked, the last present wrapped and the "some assembly last required" toy put together. The tinsel has been tossed

on the Christmas tree with care, and the Nativity scene neatly arranged in a place of prominence beneath it. Time to sit back and savor the solitude before the hubbub of Christmas Day.

How about an eggnog to soothe the soul and while you're sipping, how about an imponderable: Whose bright idea was it anyway to celebrate Christ's birth on Dec. 25?

Apparently, no one, except maybe the man himself, can say for sure whether Jesus was really born on Dec. 25. Fact is, it was chosen because it already was a pagan holiday in ancient times.

Around the third century, there was an attempt to fix the Christ's birthday by tying it to a festival of the Nativity kept in Rome in the time of Bishop Telesphorus (between A.D. 127 and 139). It seems some Christmas observances of the Roman church can be attributed to the bishop.

There's also a story of Christians being massacred in the catacombs on the day of the Nativity between A.D. 161 and 180, but again, the exact year isn't known, and similar events supposedly happened in A.D. 300 at

Nicomedia during the reign Diocletian appears to be a reliable measure of the day Christ was born.



wise men from the East, being celebrated 12 days later. Although questioned for several generations by the Eastern church, the Roman day became universal in the fifth century.

That acceptance coincided with a decline in heathen worship and the adaptation of harmless activities to enrich Christian symbolism.

They included Saturnalia. the great Roman holiday in remembrance of the supposed "Golden Age;" Sigillar-ia, the Feast of Dolls, in which dolls and other toys, mostly earthenware, were given to children; and Brumalia or Dies Natalis Invicti Solis - the Birthday of the Unconquered Sun, when the days became longer after the solstice.

Finally, there was Kalende Januarii, the New Year's Day, when everyone exchanged gifts and which also tied in with Juvenilia, the special festival of childhood and youth.

All of these days seemed to easily come together into one big Christian celebration and their ancient significance crossed over into the light of the Gospel. But the year of Christ's birth raises questions just as does the day. It, too, is not a definite.

The 753rd year A.U.C. (Anno Urbis Condita - from the building of the city, for example, Rome) is agreed upon as the traditional date. But that's too late, if you look at the Gospel of Matthew, which says that "Jesus was born in Bethlehem of

Ho, ho, ho: Day's sledding antics as a child brought plenty of laughter from the audience.

"It is only 4 coppers, that is all, but perhaps you may find it costly,' the candlemaker responded.

Thomas threw down four coins and the candlemaker handed his the candle. With a peculiar smile, he told Thomas, 'Merry Christmas to you.' "

#### Strange encounters

On his way home, Thomas encountered three people. In the light of the candle, the first looked like his mother. Poorly clothed, he wrapped his cloak around her, but when she backed out of the light, he saw she was just a beggar woman.

The second was young man who looked like his brother in the light of the candle. In need of a place to stay, Thomas gave innkeeper six pence, his knapsack and pants to cover the one shilling cost of the room. And when the man left the circle of light, he saw that it wasn't his brother, but a young beggar man.

"What a peculiar night, what a strange night,' Thomas thought as he walked to the house where he lived," said Day, her voice conveying the chilliness of the night.

A young girl ran up to him and asked if she could have something to eat. She was no older than his sister,

Please see STORIES, B2

#### Many questions

While it was believed the birth of Christ did take place on the 25th of the month, which month is uncer-tain and the date's been assigned to every month at one time or another. During the time of Clement of

Alexandria (before 220) five dates in three different months of the Egyptian year were said to be the Nativity

date

And in the third century, it was a common belief that Christ was born on the winter solstice, based on an interpretation of some prophetic Scriptures and an idea that the Annunciation and the Crucifixion both occurred on the same day -March 25.

Another third century set of writings, The Apostolic Constitutions, indicate the Apostles ordained that the feast be kept on the 25th day of the ninth month which, at that time, lished in 1661, suggested that in the early Christian ages, the winter solstice fell on the 8th of the Kalends of January - Dec. 25 - although it isn't accepted universally by modern-day students, who put the 8th of Kalends somewhere between the end of July and the end of October.

The Roman church finally settled on Dec. 25 as the birthday of Jesus Christ after the great persecution that took place around A.D. 310, which connects the visitation of the

Judea in the days of Herod the king." Herod died in A.U.C. 750.

Matthew's writings also suggest that some time must have elapsed between the birth of Christ and the death of Herod to have been for a visit from the wise men, the retreat to Egypt and the Slaughter of the Innocents

The Gospel of Luke raises still another matter. It is not clear whether Tiberius Caesar's 15th year

Please see DEC. 25, B2

# Chrismon tree becomes part of celebration

When members of New Life Lutheran Church gather for Christmas Eve services this evening, decorating the chapel will be a special Christmas tree

The tree is decorated with handmade white and gold Chrismon ornaments.

Thirteen members of the congregation - Beverly Conklin, Jan Stutzman, Arlene McGarry, Sharon Messmer, Irene Ford, Barbara Becker, Jeanette Burman, Maureen Kall, Jane Allen, Mary Berends, Nicole Berends, Kathy Stutzman and Karen Rickerman - made more than 50 ornaments for the tree.

"It was my dream," said Jan Stutzman of Garden City, who organized the creative effort. "I've always had one before and it's just not Christmas without a Chrismon tree.

A Chrismon - a combination of parts of two words, Christ and monogram - is a monogram of Christ. Many of the designs come from the earliest Christians, which used them to identify themselves to one another, to designate the meeting places of the church and to sometimes show nonbelievers where they stood.

The ornaments also are always done in white and gold. White is the liturgical color for Christmas and refers to the Lord's purity and perfection. Gold relates to His majesty and glory

Please see CHRISMONS, B2



Gather around: Sue Stutzman (right), holding her grandson Evan, 3, is joined by the Rev. Ken Roberts (from left) Kathy Stutzman. Jeanette Burman and Barbara Becker around New Life Luther an's Church's Chrismon tree

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHMANN

#### Chrismons from page B1

Working from patterns devel-oped by members of the Luther-an Church of the Ascension in Danville, Va., Stutzman created kits containing primarily gold and pearl beads and assorted gauges of fine gold wire, bought at stores locally and by mail order. Old jewelry provided some of the hard-to-find piec

Designs on New Life's tree nclude the Latin cross with and without the Alpha and Omega, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet and a symbol of the Savior's divinity; the Cross of Victory, representing a world united in Christ and the triumph of the Lord over earthly sin, and Chi Rho, the first letters of Christ in the Greek alphabet or the Latin phrase Christus Rex 16115 Beck, between Five Mile for Christ the King, to name a and Six Mile, Northville Town-

"We tested the patterns and then prepared kits for those who the Chrismons for a tree when wanted to work at home," said the congregation finds a perma-Stutzman who spearheaded the nent home, but opted for a small project. "Most of the time we met tree in the chapel. The Rev. Ken in homes of our members. It Roberts dedicated the tree at gave us a chance to get to know worship services on Dec. 13.

ly nice relationships have grown out of these sessions." The group started making the ornaments in the fall of 1997. Stutzman found the work "an exciting experience," and that members who had never done something like that before were "off and running once they got one ornament under their belt."

"They'd finish one and want to do more," Stutzman said. "They'd say, 'Give me a harder one to do.' And those who did them have gone out and got their own materials to make more." A new congregation in the Ply-mouth area, New Life Lutheran Church is conducting services temporarily in the chapel at Our Lady of Providence Center,

Stutzman's idea was to collect each other better and some real- There wasn't a dry eye in the

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**NEW YEAR'S EVE** 

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place, she said. "With the enthusiasm for the project, Stutzman expects that they'll keep needing a bigger tree

each year. me day, we'll have a building with a big high ceiling and huge tree," she said. "Our church is small and we are very grateful

Stories from page B1 but Thomas thought, "No, I'll not

let the light shine on her, I know what will happen."

When Thomas arrives at his home, his family is happy to see him, but ask what has happened to all of his things. He tells them he gave them all away and about the "good advice" the old man

gave him. " 'The candlemaker said if I took the candle it would be costly,' he told his family," Day said, adding that "we can see what the old man meant, if we think about it deeply. We all come from one great family."

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Ib.

Lady of Providence. They have help us to grow." been very nice to us. But our In addition to the Chrismon been very nice to us. But our problem there is visibility; we have trouble letting people know

permanent site that would allow us space to have everything in one place. We would welcome turing flute, piano and guitar, to be able to worship at Our any kind of a site that would will begin at 6:45 p.m., with wor-

> On the lighter side, Day point-ed out that no one had told the homemade jelly. Livonia resident that girls "couldn't have boys as friends." recounting a winter escapade lot with, especially in the winter. As 9-year-olds, they decided to take on the big boys and successfully sled down the 17th Street

elling her grandparents. "When I walked into the living

the sled would be there," said Day. "I called Corky and he said Yep, I knew it would be there.' " The duo parlayed 37 cents into a quarter bar of paraffin to wax

the runners of the sled like the far, so using a knife, they

"We ran it up and down the runner, up and down the runner," said Day, "It was a little with Corky, the friend she did a sticky, but it still wasn't enough.

They needed more, so they used their mothers' "candles for dress up," and when that wasn't enough, they opted for birthday candles

"When my mom asked where all the little strings came from, I said 'I don't know,' " Day said.

The preparations done, they waited for the big snow storm that closed school for the day and sent the sledders scurrying to the top of the 17th Street Hill. Day and Corky carted the Red Flyer up the hill and waited in the bushes until the older boys

Day had a plan. Starting at the Wilsons' driveway, Corky would run with the sled to the top of the hill, throw it down and climb on. Day would give him a big push and hop on top for their

removed the paraffin from the stepped out of their hiding place tory.

8181.

and ran to the top of the hill. where Day gave McCray a push and climbed on.

"We must have been going 70, 80 miles per hour, I think. The wind was blowing our hair back," Day said. "I thought, This is gonna be a great day, we're making sledding history."

A third of the way down the hill, they screeched to a halt. Day asked what happened, but all Corky could do is roll over

and repeat, "The sled, the sled." "I looked and there was no sled under Corky," Day said. "His jacket was split open, its buttons gone, and his T-shirt was up under his arms. White stripes from the ice and red stripes from the snow marked his bare chest." The sled, Day discovered was still at the top of the hill, buried in four feet of snow.

"When I gave Corky that mighty shove, I buried the sled," said Day, her voice tinged with the sound of triumph. "And that was the day Linda Day rode When it was time, they Corky McCray into sledding his-

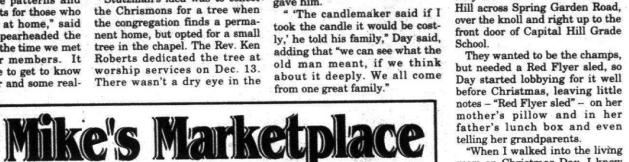
the world.

NEW OFFICERS SWING PARTY



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room on Christmas Day, I knew

Dec. 25 from page B1

the death of Augustus in A.U.C. 767. The real meaning of his

mation about the Nativity places it around A.U.C. 749 to 753. Matthew's account of the "Star in the East" and then over Beth-

lehem has been called an atmo-

Augustus in the Empire, or from was destined for greatness.

is counted from A.U.C. 765, gested to astronomers that some- spring. The church adopted it as angel Gabriel, and added nine Nowhere does it say that months to it to come up with

Thus, Christ Mass, later called

Christmas, was first celebrated A.U.C. 747 and the end of on Dec. 25 in the year 354, according to several sources. - Compiled by Sue Mason.

when he was connected with one born in Judea at that time the date of Mary's visit by the Christ was born exactly at the Dec. 25 as the day of Jesus' remark about the census isn't time the "star" appeared, but it birth. known (Luke 3:1), and his infor- is safe to say His birth took place some time between the middle of A.U.C. 749, for example 7 B.C. and 5 B.C The aforementioned March 25 information courtesy of the spheric meteor and at best sug- date was the pagan festival of www.christmas.com Web site.



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5

BORDERS OUTLET

had all taken a few turns. older boys did, but it didn't go ride into "sledding history."

Christmas Eve at New Life Lutheran will feature harpist and vocalist D.I. Turner leading "We pray for some kind of a the special instrumental music at the candlelight Communion

humanity.

Area churches prepare to celebrate birth of Christ a.m. Christmas Day, Dec. 25. Special music will precede Christmas Stary Handbell Choir and Christmas Day, Dec. 25; Bayer, Handbell Choir and Christmas Day, Dec. 25; Bayer, Handbell Choir and Christmas Cay, Dec. 26; Bayer, Christmas Cay, Chri

ship at 7 p.m. A special children's message - "The Very First Christmas" - will be illustrated with overhead transparencies. Church goers should follow luminaries and signs to the Our Lady of Providence chapel. For more information, call the Rev. Ken Roberts at (734) 459-

"Silent Night" is a song heard around the world on Christmas" Eve. Although the words were canwritten by the poet-priest-musi- dle-cian Joseph Mohr in 1816, it was light not until the music was added by Franz Gruber on Dec. 24, 1818, that "Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!" became a gift to all

Its popularity can almost be termed "miraculous." After all, the words were written by a modest curate and the music composed by a musician hardly known outside the province where he resided.

There was no celebrity to sing at the world premiere and no spread the fame of the carol. Its message of heavenly peace has crossed all borders and language barriers, conquering the hearts of Christmas-celebrating people everywhere.

And there is no doubt that 180 years after it was written, "Silent Night" will be heard at church services in western Wayne County and throughout

Newburg United Methodist Church which will have its family celebration with carols and candle-lighting at 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. The service will feature the Cherub and Children's choirs, stories, drama and carols for families with young children.

Child care will be provided. The 8:30 p.m. candlelight service. "What Makes Christmas Joy so Great?", will feature The Youth Choir and Cantabile Bells, carols and the Rev. Melanie Lee Carey, with the Chancel Choir singing at the 11 p.m. candlelight service. The Rev. Tom Bradley will preach, and there will be Holy Commu-

The First United Methodist Church will have a traditional

Listings for the Religious News ments will be available at 10 should be submitted in writing p.m. The evening will conclude no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-7279. For more infor mation, call (734) 953-2131.

Congregation Beit Kodesh recently held an installation of officers for the 1999-2000. Elect ed were Jeffrey Kirsch as president. Martin Diskin and Al Gittleman as vice-presidents.

Joanne Rabinowitz as corresponding secretary, Julie Abel-Grippo as recording secretary and Bill Cottrell and Aaron Engel as trustees for four years.

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.

#### NEW YEAR'S EVE

St. Paul's Lutheran Church will have a New Year's Eve service at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, at the church, 20805 Middlebelt Road, Farmington Hills. The sermon will be "Celebrate the Old -Await the New."

Ward Presbyterian Church will celebrate New Year's Eve with an evening of fellowship. beginning at 9 p.m., at the church, 40000 W. Six Mile Road, Northville. The evening will fea-

ture Ward's own Contemporary Trio and Friends. Light refresh-



service at 7 p.m. and traditional candlelight service with Commu-

nion at 9 p.m. Christmas Eve. Dec 24, at the church 6443 Merriman, Garden City. On Sunday, Dec. 27 and Jan. 3, there will be one service at 10:45 a.m

Memorial Church of Christ will have its Christmass-communication systems to mas Eve service at 7 p.m. Dec. 24 at the church, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. There will be the singing of Christmas carols and "Grandpa" telling a

Christmas story Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will have a 3 p.m. service for children and families and a

7:30 p.m. candlelight service Christmas Eve. Dec. 24, at the church 37775 Palmer, Westland. The Nativity of the Lord will be celebrated with a festival service at 10 a.m. Christmas Day,

Dec. 25. Cookies and hot spiced cider will be served at 9:30 a.m. ■ The Sunday School children will present "The Birth of Christ" for the 6 p.m. 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

Unity of Livonia Church will service at 7 p.m. Dec. 24 at the church, 28660 Five Mile, Livo-

Church will have a traditional Latin Mass 8 and 11 p.m. at midnight Dec. 25 at the church, 23310 Joy, Redford. Confessions will be heard 10:45-11.40 p.m. and carois will begin at 11 p.m. Christmas morning Mass will be at 9 a.m. Dec. 25. with confessions heard 8-8:45

🖬 St. Timothy Presbyterian Church will have a candlelight Communion worship service at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 24 at the church, 16700 Newburgh, Livonia. A nursery will be provided.

■ Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church will have Christmas Eve services at 4, 5 and 7 p.m. Dec. 24 at the church, 40000 W Six Mile, Northville. The candlelight services will feature harpist Onita Sanders. The Rev. Dr. James McGuire will be preach-

Rosedale Gardens Presbyte rian Church will have a family service at 5 p.m. and a candlelight Communion service at 10 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at the church, 9601 Hubbard at West Chicago, Livonia.

St. Agatha Catholic Church will its children's liturgy at 4:30 have a special Christmas Eve p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, and Mass at midnight Christmas Day, Dec. 25, at the church. 19750 Beech Daly, Redford, Ser-St. Anne's Roman Catholic vices also will be at 8 and 11

vices at the First Presbyterian Church, Church and Main streets in Plymouth. Family worship will be at 3 and 5 p.m., with lessons, carols and candlelight worship planned for

will

Christmas Eve

Ser-

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A children's Mass will be held at 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, in the gymnasium of Resurrection Catholic Church, 48755 Warren Road, Canton. Masses also are scheduled for 4:30 and 10 p.m. in the church and at 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day, Dec. 25.

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church will have a family service at 5 p.m., carols and candlelight service at 9 p.m. and a traditional Communion and candlelight service at 11 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at the church,

27475 Five Mile, Livonia. Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church will have a family Dec. 24, and at 10:30 a.m. 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 chil-

dren'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

pecial music instrumentalists will unfold the Eucharist at 10 a.m. precede Christmas story through song, Dr. William C. scripture and prayer. A pre-ser-vice concert of organ, handbell and instrumental music will gin at 10:30 p.m.

at the Livonia campus and will feature uplifting music with choir and instrumentalists

People are invited to hear ebrate Jesus' birth with Communion and candlelight at 7 and 11 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia. Nursery will be provided at the 7 p.m. service. The Rev. Carla Thompson Powell will officiate

Merriman Road Baptist Church will have a traditional candlelight service at 7 p.m. and traditional candlelight service with Communion at 9 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at the church, 6443 Merriman Road. Garden City. On Christmas Day, Dec. 25. and New Year's Day. there will be one service at 10:45 a.m

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit will have two ser- Church, there will be a family vices with Holy Eucharist at service with Communion at 5:30 5:30 and 11 p.m. Christmas Eve, p.m. and traditional candlelight-Christmas Day, Dec. 25, at the the church, 9300 Farmington church, 9083 Newburgh, Livo- Road, Livonia. nia.

The Sunday School program will be a part of the Christmas Dec. 24 at St. Matthew Lutheran A candlelight service with Communion will be at 10:30 p.m. Communion also will be a part of the 10 a.m. worship service Christmas Day, Dec. 25

📱 St. Andrew's Episcopa Church will have carols at 7 p.m., family Eucharist (baby-sitting provided) at 7:30 p.m., carchurch, 16360 Hubbard, Livonia. mas Day, Dec. 25.

Totally

Free

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preach about "The True Spirit of Christmas" at services Christmas Eve. Dec. 24, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 W Christmas Day worship with Ann Arbor Road, west of Plycommunion will begin at 10 a.m. mouth. The family celebration with Christmas pageant will be at 3:30 and 5:15 p.m. A nursery for children age 3 and under will be provided. A praise celebration the Christmas story told and cel- will be at 7:30 p.in. (nursery for ages 5 and under provided) and candlelight celebration at 11

p.m Emmanuel Lutheran Church will have candlelight services at 4. 6. 7:30 and 11 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at the church 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia. For more information, call the church at (248) 442-8822.

Geneva Presbyteriar Church will have family services at 4 and 5:30 p.m. and candle light Communion services at 7 and 9 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at the church, 5835 N. Sheldon, Canton. For more information, call the church at (734) 459-

At Christ the King Lutheran services at 7:30 and 11 p.m. at-

Risen Christ Lutheran Church will have candlelightworship at 4:30, 7:30 and 9:30 Eve family service at 6:30 p.m. p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at the church, 46250 W. Ann Arbor Church, 5885 Venoy, Westland. Road, Plymouth. Worship will be at 10 a.m. Christmas Day, Dec. 25.

St Michael Lutheran Church will have its family worship at 7 p.m., worship with communion at 9 n m and a candlelight Communion service at 11 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, at the church, 7000 Sheldon, ols at 11 p.m. and worship at Canton. Worship with Commu-11:30 p.m. Christmas Eve, at the nion will be at 10 a.m. Christ-

No Bones

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## with a Watch Night Service at

11 p.m. Chimes will ring in the New Year and close the service just after midnight. The evening is free of charge. For more information, call the church at (248) 374-5956.

#### SPECIAL PROGRAM Dan Bergen and his son and

daughter, Nicholas and Alicia will minister in a program of praise and worship at 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 3, at Calvary Bap tist Church, 43065 Joy Road, between Lilley and Sheldon roads, Canton. Bergen has been in concert and

church ministry for more than 20 years, singing and playing piano and in churches and colege across the country. Nicholas, an alumnus of Cedarville College, Nicholas, who sings and plays the alto saxrecording of 10 songs on saxaphone, entitled "Upon This Rock," last year. Alicia is age 13 and sings and plays the violin. Bergen blends contemporary worship songs with great hymns

commitment of a vital, lifechanging relationship with Christ. A free will offering will be taken For more information, call the church at (734) 455-0022.

NEW BEGINNING "Moving On" will be the topic

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IGTTAL GRANDS

**RELIGIOUS NEWS** when New Beginnings, a grief support group meets at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, east of Merriman, Livonia, at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7. The program is for people suffering as the result of the death of a loved one.

There are no fees. Anyone may attend any or all sessions as they feel the need. For more information, call the church office at (734) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7903, or Rosemary Kline at (734) 462-3770.



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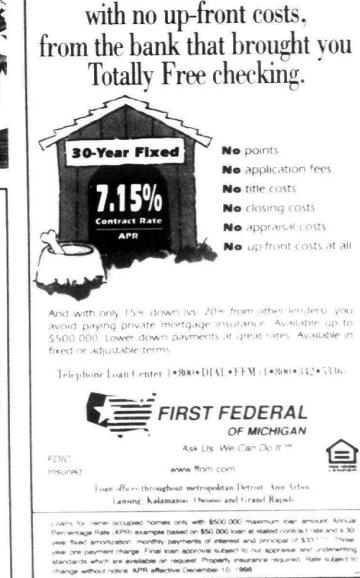
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WEEKEND SINGLES' EVENTS

Single Place holds a walk in the park 10 a.m. every Saturday at Heritage Park, Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in arming

Single Place holds the following social events every Sunday: worship 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary; brunch 12:30 p.m. at Northville **Crossing Restaurant** 18900 Northville Road Northville; coffee and cards 6 p.m. at Tuscan Cafe, 150 I. Center, Northville. n Suburban Singles holds a single mingle dance 8 p.m. every Wednesday in the nnie Brook Country Club located on Telegraph Road, south of Eight Mile, Redford. Proper attire, no eans. Ages 21 and up. Admission is \$4, and \$3 before 8:30 p.m. For more information, call (313) 842-

0443 Suburban Singles holds an after dinner dance 7-11 p.m. every Sunday in the Bonnie Brook Country Cub. located on Telegraph Road south of Eight Mile. Redford, Proper attire, no jeans. Ages 21 and up. Admission is \$4, \$3 before 7:30 p.m. For more information, call (313) 842-7422.

#### HOLIDAY DANCE

The Westside Singles will hold a holiday dance from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 26 in Burton Manor, Schoolcraft Road, west of Inkster Road in Livonia. Admission is \$5 and \$3 before 8:30 p.m. There will be a D.J., budget bar, and hot and cold Hors d'oeuvres. 21 and over please, dressy attire (no jeans). For more information, call (734) 981-0909. NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

The Westside Singles will hold a New Year's Eve Dance from 7:30 p.m. to 2 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 31 in Burton Manor, Schoolcraft Road, west of Inkster Road in Livonia. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Hot and cold appetiz ers will be served. There will be a fruit and dessert table. Pizza after midnight, continental breakfast, balloon drop at midnight. party hats and noise mak ers. Top 40 and current hits will be played by a D.J. Tickets available at Burton Manor, (734) 427-9110 For more information, call (734) 981-0909.

#### VARIETY SHOW

The Plymouth Canton Chiefettes will hold a variety show at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, at Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium in Salem High School Tickets may be purchased from any Chiefette or at the door. Cost is \$5 for adults, and \$3 for student

TOY & HOBBY EXPO The Toy & Hobby Expo returns 3-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, at the Novi Expo Center, located at I-96 and Novi Road (exit 162). The show will feature operating displays, including the world's argest mobile model railroad display. Vendors and collectors will be selling new, used, antique and collectible toys and hobby supplies. Admission is \$6 for adults, and \$3 for children 4-12. Parking is \$4. For more informa

#### AROUND TOWN AFTERS NEEDED

(734) 455-2110.

Madonna University is accepting applications from crafters for its 14th annual Spring Arts & Crafts Showcase, to be held 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 20, in the Activities Center

on campus. The show will ature a variety of handnade arts and crafts, cluding pottery, jewelry, intings, textiles and oodworking. Booth space s available for \$50. Booths with electricity are limited and are an additional \$5. Exhibitors may purchase up to three spaces. Crafters will receive a \$5 discount if their form is received before Feb. 1. For an appli cation or information, call

#### (734) 432-5603. PLYMOUTH YMCA

The Plymouth Community Family YMCA is offering classes for preschool-age children through adult. Most of these classes begin the week of Jan. 4. Classes include: Active Older Adults (ages 55 and up) Water Exercise, Youth and Girls' Basketball Instructional League, Youth Instructional Floor Hockey League, Youth Instruction al Indoor Soccer League for ages 5-12, Bumper Bowling or ages 4-6, Flute Classes for beginning through advanced, Youth Golf Lessons for ages 5-11, Introductory to Dance for ages 5-8, Ballet & Jazz Combination, ages 8-10, Karate for male and female, ages 8 through adult. Driver's Education. **Bumble Bee Indoor Soccer** for ages 4-5, Y Pucks and Y Hoops for ages 4-5, Yoga classes for teen to adult novice or advanced practitioner, Step & Sculpt Fitness Class, and Aquatics classes for ages 6 months through 12 years of age. The YMCA is also offering a Basketball Travel League for ages 8-9, 10-12, and 13-15 years of age plus a Hockey Travel League for ages 9-12. Call Plymouth Community YMCA at (734) 453-2904 for further information or to register with Visa or MasterCard. CHOIR AUDITIONS

The Schoolcraft College Community Choir will hold auditions for new members at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12 and 19, in the Forum Building on the Livonia campus. All voice parts are velcome. To schedule an udition or for more infornation, call choir President Shari Clason at (248) 349-8175 or Schoolcraft's Liber-Arts Department at

#### SEMINAR Saint Joseph Mercy

(734) 462-4435.

Health System is sponsor ing a free seminar 1-2 p.m. Vednesday, Jan. 20, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. The seminar will be on the causes of memory loss and ways to regain and retain the ability to remember. The presentation, "Remarkable Memory **Retaining and Regarding** Your Memory." Dr. Bharati

Srivastava, M.D., a boardcertified internist who speializes in geriatrics, will lead the seminar. Refresh ments will be served. The ntation is part of the Senior Health Series offered by Saint Joseph Mercy Health System. PAINT WORKSHOP

D & M Studios located on 8691 N. Lilley Road. Canton, will hold an all day maint workshop for chiliren ages six and up, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 29, Wednesday, Dec. 30, and Thursday, Dec. 31. Bring a lunch. Cost is \$15. For more information, call (734) 453-3710. SNOWMOBILE SAFETY

The Canton Public Safety Department and Summit on the Park will be ffering a snowmobile safe y course this winter for ildren between the ages of 12-17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 16, in Summit on the Park, Proional Development Center. Cost is \$20 for res-

days and Fridays, and to 7

p.m. Monday and Thurs-

days, with the exception of

Dec. 21 when the office will

close at 5 p.m. All offices

will be closed Dec. 24

through Jan. 3. Classes

begin the week of Jan. 11

able and will be accepted

through Dec. 18. Students

may enroll in day, evening

and weekend classes, and

non-admitted students

must obtain a permit to

register from the admissio

office. Transfer students

are welcome. There is no

application fee. For more

admissions office at (734)

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Westland, Quality educa-

tion offered with parent

involvement. Low tuition

tion, contact Michelle at

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Mile. The seminar is open

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charge. The seminar will

include saving taxes with

There will be an

(734) 459-9720.

a.m./p.m. Elementary

(734) 421-6196.

through 5 years old. Locat-

information, call the

SCHOOL OPENINGS

432-5339.

Fax-in registration is avail-



dent, \$25 for non-resident. If you are 12-17 years of age it is required by law to become certified with snowmobile safety to ride snowmobiles off parent's private property. Students will be asked to show proof of age before class. A social security number will also be required at the time of registration. Check-in will start at 8:30 a.m., and class will start promptly at 9 a.m. Bring a sack lunch

#### and a drink. For more information, call (734) 397-5110. TAE KWON DO

There will be a Tae Kwon Do class from 4:15-5:15 p.m., in Summit on the Park, Multi-Use Room for all ages. Session I is on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Jan. 19-Feb. 18 (five weeks): Session II is on Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 2-April 1 (five weeks). Fee is \$40 for annua for residents; and \$48 for non-residents. This class is designed for all ages. Come participate with your child or on your own. The five-week class is designed to teach self defense but helps develop self confidence, self discipline and self esteem. Students will learn fundamental basics. forms, one-step sparring

and traditional free-spar ring. Taught by Senior Master Instructor Christopher Covert, a sixth degree black belt of Olympian Chung Do Kwan. REGISTRATION Madonna University's registration for Winter 1999 term is in progress

and continues through Fri day, Jan. 8, for new and returning students. Office hours will be held 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednes-

> The Canton Observer welcomes Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Canton Observer, 794 South Main Street, Plymouth, MI. 48170, or by fax to 734-459-4224. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 459-2700 if you have any questions.

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appreciation, drawing and sketching, children's theater, paper art, creative writing, live model drawing session, batik, art lectures, yoga, Tai Chi, etc. For a complete schedule or for more information, call (734) 416-4278. COURTS Schoolcraft College offers handball, paddleball, rac-

quetball and wallyball courts available for evening play Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Friday at Schoolcraft College. A \$35 fee reserves a court and equipment for 15 weeks beginning the week of Jan Enrollment is limited and courts are scheduled for doubles play. Particinants must furnish their own locks and towels. For more information, call Con-

tinuing Education Services

#### Physical Fitness at (734) 462-4413.

YMCA YOUTH The Plymouth Community Family YMCA is accepting registrations for classes. The classes are youth travel basketball league for grades three-eight; girls' instructional basketball league for grades three-six; introductory to dance, ages 5-8; creative movement for preschoolers, ages 3-5; active older adult water exercise, youth travel floor hockey for ages 9-12, and step aerobics fitness class and aquatics. For more information, call the Plymouth YMCA at (734) 453-2904.

#### **SKI TRIP**

Schoolcraft College EdgeRunner Ski Club is sponsoring a Blue Mountain, Ontario, skiing trip Feb. 5-7. The trip includes two-night condo accommodation, two day/night lift passes, two breakfasts, one dinner, hot tubs, saunas. and more. The club offers this trip at a price of \$159 for members and \$189 for non-members. Trip partici pants must be 18 years or older to attend. For more information, call EdgeRun ners at (734) 462-4422. KIWANIS

Plymouth-Canton Morning Kiwanis invites those interested to 7 a.m. Tuesday breakfasts at the Water Club Grill, Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275 in drop-in grief support group Plymouth Township, For more information, call (734) 453-1373.

#### KOEZE NUT SALE

The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County is sponsoring a fund-raiser of Koeze nuts. The proceeds are used for local and international service projects dedicated to world peace, providing community service and improving the status of women worldwide. Orders can be delivered at your convenience. For more information, or to order. call Candy Martin at (248) 348-1410 or Kay Diggs at (734) 459-8374.

#### MEDILODGE GROUP

The Medilodge Group Inc. has made available to local clubs and organizations a representative to assisted living, long-term care, services available, eimbursement under Medicare and other topics If interested, contact the administrator or admissio director at West Trail Nursing Center at (734) 453-3983.

#### VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The VFW No. 6695 Ladies Auxiliary of Plymouth is looking for a vol unteer age 12-15 who has done exceptional volunteer work. Two \$1,000 savings bond are awarded nationally. For more information, notify Ann Smith at 453-1529.

#### ADULT DAY CARE

Adult Day Care is a weekday program, open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., serv-

ing seniors who need some assistance but don't need to be in a nursing home. The program is designed to give eeded relief to the caregiver while providing an enjoyable, activity-filled day in a relaxed, supervised, friendly environ ment. Trained profession als assist with the restroom, medications and offer a hot lunch. Transportation and financial assistance are available For more information, cal the Plymouth site at (734 451-1455 or the Livonia site at (734) 591-2216.

#### SUPPORT GROUPS STARTING OVER

Starting Over is a group for widowed men and women under the age of 45. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of the month at Plymouth Church of Christ. For more information, call (734) 662-5999

#### PARKINGON'S MEETING

The Parkinson Education and Support Group of Washtenaw County will meet on Sunday, Jan. 10 in the Education Center. The guest speaker will be Susan A. Titus, Executive Director of the Michigan Parkinson Foundation. She will tell the group what the organization has to offer. She will also be interested in hearing what types of resources our group would like to have available to them through the Michigan Parkinson Foundation. The Parkin son Education and Support Group of Washtenaw Coun ty meets in Ann Arbor at the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, Building 5305, near Parking lot P, on the second sunday of the month from 1:30-4 p.m.

#### ARBOR HOSPICE

Arbor Hospice sponsors a variety of grief support programs open to the public. If you would like more information or would like to sign up, call (734) 662-

#### **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

Community Hospice and Home Care Services has a The group meets 6:30-8 p.m. every third Wednes day of the month to support and affirm people grieving a loss through death. To learn more, call Becky Rouse at (734) 522-4244

#### WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

Community Hospice & Home Care Services offers those recovering from the death of a partner a chance to gather and share their feelings of grief. A trained facilitator guides members through topics ranging from loneliness, sadness, guilt and anger, as well as learning to rebuild a new life. The meetings, which are free, take place 1-3 p.m. every first and third Wednesday of the month To learn more or to register, call Becky Rouse at (734) 522-4244.

#### DIVORCECARE

DivorceCare recovery seminar and support group meets at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Can ton every Sunday. Check-in is at 7 p.m. Child care is provided through fifth grade. The church is at 7000 Sheldon, Canton. DivorceCare features nationally recognized experts on divorce and recovery topics. Seminar sessions include facing anger, facing loneliness depression, new relation ships, KidCare, and forgiveness. There is a onetime registration fee of \$10 For more information, cal Bernice at (734) 459-3333.

■ The Schoolcraft College Sunday Health Club is an excellent way to keep those

members can use three gyms, six racquetball courts, weight machines, adult must accompany children under 16, and nonswimmers must be 45 inches tall at the shoulder to use the pool. The Health Club begins Jan. 3 and continues until March 28. For more information, call Continuing Education Services Physical Fitness at (734)

462-4413. School on Sheldon Road in LSAT Canton will be accepting

Prepare for the Law applications for fall classes School Admission Test (LSAT) with a workshop offered by Oakland Univergrades one-three. Applicasity College of Arts and Scitions are also being taken ences. Workshop meets on for grade four. Class sizes Saturdays for three weeks starting Jan. 9 on the Oakland University campus in For more information, call Rochester, Cost is \$300. For a brochure and to register, call (248) 370-3125.

ARTS COUNCIL

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HEALTH FACILITIES

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#### The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1998

#### WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

#### **Fricke-Pigula**

Rochelle M. Pigula and Kevin C. Fricke were married Sept. 5 at St. Agatha Catholic Church in Redford. The Rev. Thomas Slowinski officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Robert and Patricia Pigula of Farmington Hills. The groom is the son of Frank and Marge Fricke of Livonia.

The bride received a business administration and liberal arts associate degree from Oakland Community College. She is cofounder of Internet Real Estate.

The groom received his bachelor of arts degree in radio/television/film from Wayne State University. He is employed as a television weather anchor at an ABC-TV affiliate in Madison, Wis

bride asked Diane The Williams to serve as her matron of honor with Lynn Williams and Theresa Pigula as bridesmaids.

The groom asked Scott MacKinnon to serve as best man with

#### Daigle-Markell

Philip and Susan Daigle of Berkley announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Anne, to Kevin Ryan Markell, the son of Jack Markell of Livonia and the late Kathleen Markell.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Berkley High School and



Bryan Wheeler and Gary Fricke as groomsmen.

The couple received guests at Southfield Manor in Southfield before leaving on a one-week cruise of the southern Caribbean. They are making their home in Madison, Wis.

Michigan State University. She is employed by the University of Michigan Hospital.

Her fiance is a graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School in Redford and Michigan State University. He will begin working at the Ford Motor Co. in Dearborn in January

An August wedding is planned in the Rose Garden at Greenfield Village in Dearborn.

A. 4



respite care home for children, from an organization representative.

Last year, Bergmans said, the girls bought for a mother and her children

"We had a little different circumstances last year. The girls brought in clothes and toys," she said. "We had baby supplies, too - diapers and wipes, a backpack,

diaper bags, that kind of thing."

Volunteer work is a major part of Brownies and Girl Scouts. Troop 645's last service project was going to Waltonwood of Canton Assisted Living to host a Halloween party.

"They sang some songs. We gave them refreshments and played bingo and all the girls

Holiday cheer: Canton Brownie Troop 645 members Emma Williams, 6, (from left), Courtney Stevens, 8, Linsey Cerilli, 6; and Laura Morgan, 6, show off the Christmas gifts they purchased for needy families. School.

dressed up," said Bergmans, who co-leads the troop with Gail Crosby, Marcie Herman and Diane Goethals.

"Many adult women have said their first experience with volunteer work was in Girl Scouting. It's one of the things that makes Girl Scouts stand apart from other organizations," Luttrell added





#### Doyle-Tullio

John and Mary Doyle of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Mary Katherine, to Michael Patrick Tullio, the son of Antonio and Mary Tullio, also of Livonia

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# Brownies brighten others' holiday

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO STAFF WRITER

children.

gift.

thing about Girl Scouting is that the girls are encouraged to look

Because of confidentiality

laws, the girls were not given the

children's full names, just the

first names, ages and clothing

sizes, according to Troop 645

Prior to picking names, the

Brownies learned about Starfish

Family Services and Safe Stay, a

24-hour residential crisis and

leader Christina Bergmans.

outward during the holidays."

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Ladywood High School and Madonna University. She is employed as a sixth grade teacher in the Livonia Public Schools.

Her fiance is a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School. He is employed by National Computer Resources Inc. in Wixom as a network specialist.

A June wedding is planned at St. Aidan Catholic Church in Livonia.

#### **Craig-Barker-Cook**

Michael Jeffrey Craig of Glasgow Village, Mo., and Diana Barker-Cook of Westland were married Oct. 24 at First Free Will Baptist Church of Plymouth. The Rev. Milford Byrd officiated

The bride is the daughter of June Best of St. Petersburg, Fla. The groom is the son of the late Earl and Virginia Craig.

The bride is a graduate of Torrejon Air Force Base High School in Spain. Formerly a secretary for Realty World of Canton, she now works as a secretary for a Christian hospital in Glasgow Village, Mo.

The groom is a graduate of Riverview High School in Kansas City, Mo. He is employed as a bio-medical engineer.

The bride asked Lana Olson and Samantha Craig to be her attendants. The groom asked Jim Chuhran and Sean Craig to be his attendants.

After greeting guests at First Free Will Baptist Church's reception hall, the couple left for a honeymoon in Branson, Mo. They are making their home in Glasgow Village.

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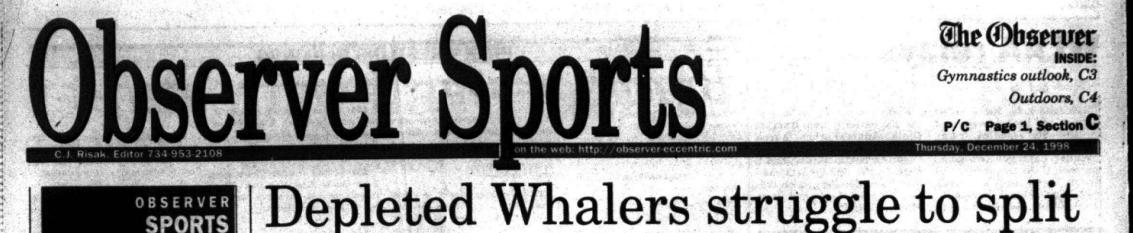
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# SPORTS SCENE

#### League leaders

Plymouth Canton graduate Nick Hurley, a sophomore guard for Madonna University's men's basketball team, is leading the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference in steals, averaging 3.1 per game. Hurley, who is averaging 12.6 points per game, also ranks third in assists at 4.5 per game.

Other leaders among the Crusaders are Mike Massey, fourth in scoring (18.0 points), and Mike Maryanski, seventh in both scoring (14.6) and rebounding (6.57). Madonna is 4-11.

In the WHAC women's basketball rankings, Madonna senior Katie Cushman leads the league in both assists (5.9) and steals (2.6); she's 11th in scoring (12.4).

Chris Dietrich is sixth in scoring (15.5) and third in assists (3.5) for the Lady Crusaders, 9-4 overall.

#### Soccer signup

The city of Plymouth's Recreation Department is taking registrations for spring youth soccer 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday all through January at the Recreation office (525 Farmer in the Plymouth Cultural Center).

All registrations require a birth certificate. Cost for 6-, 7- and 8-year-olds is \$40 for city of Plymouth residents and \$60 for non-residents; for 9 yearolds and above, the cost is \$45 for residents and \$75 for non-residents.

For more information, call (734) 455-6620.

#### **AAU tryouts**

The Western Wayne Wildcats AAU girls basketball teams will be having tryouts throughout the first week of January.

■ The 17-18 division will meet 8-9:30 p.m. Jan. 4 at Pioneer Middle School (located on Ann Arbor Road between Canton Center and McClumpha).

On Jan. 5, the 15 year-old division will meet 6-7:30 p.m.; the 16s will meet at 7-8:30 p.m.; and the 17-18s will meet from 8-9:30 p.m., all at Pioneer MS.

On Jan. 6, the 14s will meet 7-8:30 p.m. at West Middle School (located at Sheldon and Ann Arbor Road), and the 16s will meet from 8-9:30 p.m. at Pioneer MS.

On Jan. 8, the 11-12s will meet from 6-7:30 p.m. at Pioneer MS; the 13s will meet from 6-7:30 p.m. at Central Middle School; the 15s will meet from 7:30-9 p.m. at Central MS; and the 14s will meet from 7:30-9 p.m. at Pioneer MS.

For further information, call either Fred Thomann at (734) 459-7315 or Blohm at (734) 459-1763

The true test of a team is how it handles itself when faced with adversity. The Plymouth Whalers are entering a segment of their season when they will be put to the test; how they handle it could define their season.

And so it begins. If the Plymouth Whalers are going to

make a run at the best record in the Ontario Hockey League, this is the time they'll have to come through. Six of their next seven games will be on the road, a tough enough obstacle. But there are other hurdles adding to

the difficulty. The Whalers will play six games in an eight-day stretch, beginning Dec. 27

at Brampton. And they will do it with five of their top players — forwards Harold Druken, David Legwand and Tomek Valtonen, and defensemen Nikos Tselios and Paul Mara — on leave. All five are playing at the World Junior Hockey Tournament in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and likely won't be available to the Whalers until Jan. 8.

Their absence was felt last weekend, when Plymouth struggled to a 4-2 win over OHL newcomer Mississauga Fri-day at Mississauga, then lost 4-2 at

Samia Saturday. Against the Ice Dogs Friday, Plymouth certainly missed the offensive capabilities of Druken and Legwand, who have combined to score 56 goals. The power play suffered in particular without Tselios and Mara at the blue line.

Adam Colagiacomo did his share for the Whalers, scoring one goal (his 19th) and assisting on the other three. Rick Smith scored twice, bringing his season total to 11, and Randy Fitzgerald had a goal and an assist.

Plymouth led 2-0 after one period

and 3-1 after two, but Mississauga pulled to within one with a power play score by Adam Nittel at 9:39 of the third period. Smith's second goal, with 2:05 remaining, clinched it for Plymouth - which isn't saying a whole lot, considering the Ice Dogs are the OHL's worst team, with a single victory to their credit this season.

Rob Zepp was in goal for the victory; he made 28 stops. Josh Evans made 38 saves for Mississauga.

Saturday's game at Sarnia was a far bigger challenge. The Whalers opened the scoring, getting a power-play goal from Fitzgerald early in the second

Please see WHALERS. C4

# Victory, at last Mistake-free Rocks collect WLAA Relays crown

#### BY C.J. RISAK STAFF WRITER

As veteran Plymouth Salem swim coach Chuck Olson said, "That's why we have this meet — so you can learn from it.

Olson was talking about the Western Lakes Activities Association Relays, the annual league get-togeth-er that Salem hosts. While it may provide a look at what each team has to offer, it usually has little bearing on the WLAA Meet at the end of the ason

Examples Livonia Stevenson won last year's relays, and Plymouth Canton won the two previous two years. The WLAA champion at season's end each time, however, was Salem.

What the Rocks learned during those relays meets was that mistakes can kill a team's chances. Certainly Salem had the firepower and depth to win the relays the past three years, but didn't. Why?

Disqualifications, usually for leav-ing the starting blocks early. If a team has a first- or second-place finisher DQed and scores no points, in a meet that totals just 10 races, it's chances of winning are mortally wounded.

The Rocks didn't make that kind of mistake last Saturday and the result was a good one - for them. They won three relays and captured the firstplace trophy.

"We were just a bit stronger at the end than anyone else," said Olson. "And no one got DQed."

Any explanation for that? "We didn't really do anything different," the Salem coach replied, adding in jest, "This year we decided not to emphasize starts and it worked out well.

Maybe not practicing something is

all that separated first and third. The Rocks' total was 244; Stevenson was right behind with 233, and Canton wasn't much further back with 224. North Farmington, too, cleared 200 points, scoring 207 (see meet results).

day was slim - in fact, 20 points was

"This is the first time in many years it's been this close," said Stevenson coach Doug Buckler. "I thought the meet went well. The whole league swam pretty darn good. We had one first and four seconds.

Canton's improvement certainly concerned Buckler. "Canton has depth and is much better this year, even though they graduated some good talent.

But, Buckler noted: "Chuck (Olson) is still the team to beat. (Salem's) won it six times in a row. But we've got four teams, along with Northville, that will be right in there for the league title."

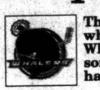
Salem won the 400-yard freestyle, the 400 individual medley and the 200 medley relays, and finished sec-ond in the 200 backstroke, 500 scendo free and 200 free relays.

One relay meet record was set: Canton's Justin Allen, Aaron Reeder, Trey Gercak and Don LeClair won the 200 back relay in 1:45.69, shattering the previous mark of 1:47.32 set by Livonia Churchill in 1994.

Andrew Locke, Brian Mertens, Jim Peace and Dan Jones combined to win the 400 free relay for Salem (3:32.75), and Eric Lynn, Aaron Shelton, Kevin Crabill and Paul Perez teamed for a first in the 400 individual medley relav (4:02.90).

Matt Casillas, Jason Rebarchik, Mark Witthoff and Locke were winners for the Rocks in the 200 medley relay (1:47.05). Point of interest: Locke was the only swimmer on two ming relays for Salem, a tribute to the team's depth - which has always been the difference between Salem and the rest of the WLAA. Stevenson, which was without two swimmers who were involved in an auto accident last Thursday (neither was seriously injured), won the 500 crescendo free relay with Brad Buckler, Justin Ketterer, Mike Malik and Keith Falk (4:31.00).





#### **Racquetball league**

A men's racquetball league is now forming, with play to be at Body Rocks-Racquetime 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

#### 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.

#### 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.

an answer, but don't count on it. Olson doesn't.

If the Rocks had an added incentive, it was that no current team member had ever won this thing. "The seniors had never won it," Olson said. "I didn't even know it. They told me afterwards."

What the relay results told was that this, indeed, would be a much closer race for the WLAA title. Salem's margin of victory last Satur-

Please see WLAA RELAYS, C2

### Defense carries SC; Madonna loses a pair

A suffocating man-to-man defense led Schoolcraft College to a 56-51 women's basketball victory Saturday at Lansing Community College.

"We won the game with our defense," Schoolcraft first-year coach Karen Lafata said. "We held them to 18 points in the first half.

"We went straight man-to-man and our pressure on the ball was really intense."

The Lady Ocelots, who improved to 6-3 overall, got 14 points, including a pair of threes, along with six rebounds from Antone Watson (Detroit Henry Ford).

Stacey Cavin (Dearborn Heights Crestwood) added 12 points and 12 rebounds, while Jackie Kocis (Lake Shore) and Jamie Lewandowski (Warren Fitzgerald) each added 11 points. Samantha Thiesen (Warren Woods Tower) grabbed 11 rebounds.

#### WOMEN'S HOOP

Mahalia Smith led Lansing (6-4) with 14 points.

Schoolcraft shot 20-of-63 from the floor (32 percent) and outrebounded Lansing, 45-33. They also hit 14-of-24 free throws and committed 20 turnovers

Lansing had 21 turnovers, made 19-of-53 shots from the field (35 percent) and connected on 11-of-18 free throws

"We seemed to struggle when we had the lead," Lafata said. "But we hung on to win It was a good team effort. I was happy with the effort."

#### Madonna stumbles

At least there was something good to come out of the weekend for Madonna University's women's basketball team.

The Lady Crusaders were jolt-

Please see WOMEN'S HOOP, C2



Scoring chance: Kristi Fiorenzi, a Canton HS grad, had 13 points against St. Francis.



Double-winner: Aaron Reeder was a part of both of Canton's first-place relays, including the 200-yard backstroke team that set a WLAA Relays meet record.

> **COLLEGE BASKETBALL Ocelots** win is 8th in a row

Unbeaten Schoolcraft College used a balanced scoring attack to offset the 33-point performance of Lake Michigan's Jamalka Butler en route to a 105-82 men's basketball victory Saturday at SC. The Ocelots improved to 8-0 with its second vic-

tory of the year over Lake Michigan, which ed to 2-6.

dropped to 2-6. The Ocelots led 54-31 at halftime and 61-33 early in the second half when the Lake Michigan's Dylan Fox went down with a neck injury. The game was suspended for nearly 20 minutes wait-ing for EMS personnel to arrive.

Fox was later treated and released from St.

Mary Hospital. Five Ocelots scored in double figures led by 6t-8 Matt Bauman (Livonia Franklin), who talied 15.

Mike Murray and Derek McKelvey contributed 13 and 12, respectively, while Dave McGlown and Lamar Bigby each added 11. Mike Peek had nine.

Please see MEN'S HOOP, C2

### WLAA relays from page C1

#### Canton had one other win, to go with its record-setter. The Chiefs' Reeder, Jon Heiss, Kurtis Hornick and LeClair were first in the 400 medley relay (3:55.43).

Walled Lake had two wins, too, with Chris Gawronski and Elliot Myers in the diving (410.95 points) and Gawronski, Derek Zerber, Rob Walker and

> WLAA SWIM RELAYS Saturday, Dec. 19 at Salem HS

Team results: 1. Plymouth Salem 244; 2. Livonia Stevenson, 233; 3. Plymouth Canton, 224; 4. North Farmington, 207; 5. Northville, 177; 6. Walled Lake, 138: 7. Westland John Glenn, 115; 8. Livonia Churchill, 112; 9. Farmington, 94; 10. Livonia Franklin, 89; 11. Farmington Harrison, 52.

#### **Event results**

400-yard mediey relay: 1. Plymouth Canton (Aaron Reeder, Jon Heiss, Kurtis Hornick, Don LeClair), 3:55,43: 2. Northville, 3:57.77; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 4:00.13: 4. Plymouth Salem, 4:00.96 5. North Farmington, 4:02.29 6. Westland John Glenn, 4:10.82; 7 Livonia Franklin, 4:39.98; 8. Walled Lake, 4:40.06; 9. Livonia Churchill 4:41.85; 10. Farmington, 4:52.76; Farmington Harrison, DQ.

400-vard freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth Salem (Andrew Locke, Brian Mertens, Jim Peace, Dan Jones), 3:32.75; 2. Livonia Stevenson, 3:33.00; 3. Livonia Churchill, 3:45.25; 4. Plymouth Canton, 3:48.43; 5. North Farmington, 3:49.00; 6. Northville, 3:51.63; 7. Farmington,3:54.69; 8. Walled Lake, 4:03.05; 9. Livonia Franklin, 4:29.37; 10. Westland John Glenn, 4:51.61; Farmington Harrison, DQ.

200-vard breaststroke relay: 1. Northville (Mark Kowalski, Jason Ballou, Matt Schlanser, Brett Johnson), 2:02.21; 2. Livonia Stevenson, 2:03.97: 3. Plymouth Canton, 2:04.21; 4. Plymouth Salem, 2:12.51: 5. North Farmington, 2:13.87: 6. Westland John Glenn, 2:15.34; 7. Walled Lake, 2:16.87: 8. Farmington, 2:18.57: 9. Livonia Churchill, 2:31.83; 10. Farmington Harrison, 2:32,42; 11. Livonia Franklin: 2:38.83.

200-yard backstroke relay: 1. Plymouth Canton (Justin Allen, Aaron Reeder, Trey Gercak, Don LeClair), 1:45.69 ton Harrison, 2:22.25. (new meet record; old record, 1:47.32 by Livonia Churchill, 1994); 2. Plymouth Salem, 1:56.95; 3. North Farmington, 1:58.36; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 2:09.60; 5. Livonia Churchill, 2:13.36; 6. Westland John Glenn, 2:21.32; 7. Northville, 2:32.86; 8. Walled Lake, 2:36.04; 9. Livonia Franklin, 2:53.91; Farmington Harrison, Farmington DQ.

200-yard butterfly relay: 1. North

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Ryan Conroy in the 200 free

(1:37.54). North had one win, coming in the 200 butterfly from Brandon Digia, Adam Farber, Aaron Rycroft and Mark Wachsberg North had one win, co (1:45.14). Northville also had a first, in the 200 breaststroke from Mark Kowalski, Jason Ballou, Matt Schlanser and Brett Johnson (2:02.21).

Farmington (Brandon Digia, Adam Far ber, Aaron Rycroft, Mark Wachsberg). 1:45.14: 2. Livonia Stevenson, 1:49.68 3 Westland John Glenn, 1:51.40; 4, Plv mouth Centon, 1:53 53: 5. Walled Lake 1:54 88: 6. Farmington Harrison. 1:57.69: 7. Plymouth Salem, 2:02.05 8. Livonia Franklin, 2:21.99; 9 Northville, 2:26,98; Livonia Churchil Farmington, DO.

One-meter diving relay: 1. Walled Lake (Chris Gawronski, Elliot Myers) 410.95 points; 2. North Farmington. 330.65; 3. Plymouth Salem, 276.00; 4. Westland John Glenn, 273.00: 5, Plv mouth Canton, 221.50; 6. Livonia Stevenson, 207.85; 7. Livonia Franklin, 177.25; 8. Northville, 140.35.

400-yard individual medley relay: 1 Plymouth Salem (Eric Lynn, Aaron Shel ton, Kevin Crabill, Paul Perez), 4:02.90 2. North Farmington, 4:04.38; 3. Ply mouth Canton, 4:05.97; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 4:19.18; 5. Northville 4:40.52; 6. Livonia Churchill, 4:49.37; 7. Farmington, 5:18.77; 8. Walled Lake, 5:34.84; Livonia Franklin, Farmington Harrison, Westland John Glenn, DQ.

500-vard crescendo freestvie relay: 1 Livonia Stevenson (Brad Buckler, Justin Ketterer, Mike Malik, Keith Falk) 4:31.00; 2. Plymouth Salem, 4:44.43 3. North Farmington, 4:46.46; 4 Northville, 4:50.11; 5. Livonia Churchill. 4:54.70; 6. Plymouth Canton, 5:02.19; 7. Livonia Franklin, 5:14.91; 8. Waller Lake, 5:22.69; 9. Farmington, 5:49.68; 10. Westland John Glenn, 6:31.24; Farmington Harrison, DQ.

200-yard medley relay: 1. Plymouth Salem (Matt Casillas, Jason Rebarchik Mart Witthoff, Andrew Locke), 1:47.05; 2. Livonia Stevenson, 1:49.38; 3. Farmington, 1:51.52; 4. Northville, 1:52.86; 5. North Farmington, 2:00.69; 6. Plymouth Canton, 2:01.72; 7. Westland John Glenn, 2:10.52; 8. Livonia Franklin, 2:12.33: 9. Livonia Churchill, 2:12.69: 10. Walled Lake, 2:13.84; 11. Farming-

200-yard freestyle relay: 1. Walled Lake (Chris Gawronski, Derek Zerber, Rob Walker, Ryan Conroy), 1:37.54; 2. Plymouth Salem, 1:38.70; 3. Farmington Harrison, 1:42.53; 4. Plymouth Canton, 1:53.81; 5. Livonia Stevenson, 1:56.91; 6. Farmington, 2:00.80; 7. Livonia Franklin, 2:02.70; 8. Northville, 2:07.26; 9. North Farmington, 2:14.16; 10. Livonia Churchill, 2:15.30; Westland Joh

The weekly Observerland wrestling ankings are compiled by four area oaches. The panel includes Marty Itounian (Livonia Churchill), Jim Carlin (Redford Union), Dave Chiola (Garden City) and Bob Moreau (Livonia Steven

The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1998

#### TEAM RANKINGS 1. Plymouth Salem 2. Redford Catholic Central

#### 3. Livonia Stevenson. 4. Redford Thurston. 5. Garden City.

#### NDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (by weight class)

103 pounds: 1. Joe Moreau (Livonia stevenson); 2. Chris O'Hara (Redford CC): 3. Josh Gunterman (Livonia Steven-

BOYS BASKETBAL

Monday, Dec. 28

PCA at Lenawee Tourney, TBA

(Roundball Classic at U-D Jesuit)

Redford CC vs. Cincy Hughes, 1:45 p.m

Salem vs. Det. Northern, 8 p.m.

(Riverview Gab. Richard Tourney)

st. Agatha vs. Tay. Kennedy, 6 p.m.

Grosse lie vs. Riv. Richard, 7:30 p.m.

(Traverse City Central Tourney)

Sag. Arthur Hill vs. Holland, 6 p.m.

Canton vs. T.C. Central, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 29

T.C. Central Tourney, 6 & 7:30 p.m.

PCA at Lenawee Tourney, TBA.

Wednesday, Dec. 30

Riv, Richard Tourney, 6 & 7:30 p.m.

Wayne vs. Det. Cass Tech. 8 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

Saturday, Dec. 26

ndent's Classic at Cobo)

son); 4. Kyle Pitt (Plymouth Canton); 5. (RU); 5. Jeff Albrecht (John Glenn). ssey (Garden City)

112: 1. John Mervyn (Plymouth Salem); 2. Mike Kassabri (Wayne (Canton); 4. Dave Azzopardi; 5. Jeff Memorial); 3. Pat Sayn (GC); 4. Ronnie Thompson (Salem); 5. Jesse Purdor (Westland John Glenn).

119: 1. Jon Gregg (Wayne); 2. Vinnie Zoccoli (GC); 3. Jim Gourlay (Redford Union); 4. Justin Schafer (Farmington Hills Harrison); 5. Zack Yaffai (Steven-

125: 1. Dustin Obeid (Stevenson); 2. Trevor Clarke (N. Farmington); 3. Justin Beseler (Wayne); 4. Steve Vasiloff (Livonia Churchill); 5. Jeff Wheeler (Redford CC).

130: 1. Tony Lema (Farmington); 2. Dave Lemmon (Clarenceville): 3. Marty Dendrinos (Salem); 4. Sean Donaldson

> (Schoolcraft Christmas Tou Conestoga vs. Waubonsee, 5 p.m. Schoolcraft vs. St. Clair (Ont.), 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27 Schoolcraft Tourney, 3 & 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2

Flint Mott at Schoolcraft 3 p.m. Oakland CC at Delta 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS Saturday, Dec. 26 (Schoolcraft Christmas Tourney) Schoolcraft vs. Elgin (III.), 1 p.m. Lakeland vs. Kennedy (III.), 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27 Schoolcraft Tourney, 1 & 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29 (Taylor, Ind. Univ. Tournament

Madonna vs. Ohio Dominican, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30 Taylor Univ. Tourney, 1 & 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2

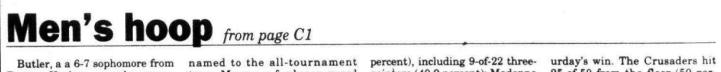
#### Women's hoop from page C1 saders had a 40-37 halftime lead but fell

ed twice at their Holiday Hoops Tournament, getting upended by Kalamazoo College 93-84 Friday and then losing the consolation game to St. Francis (Ind.) 123-111 Saturday. The two losses left Madonna with a 9-4 mark.

The good news was the selection of sophomore forward Kathy Panganis as Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference player of the week. The Allen Park HS graduate averaged 18 points and 10.7 rebounds in three games last week for Madonna: for the season, she's averaging 11.8 points and 5.7 rebounds.

Indiana-South Bend, which upset St Francis 94-58 in the other opening-round game, ended up as tournament champion with an 84-73 triumph over Kalamazoo Saturday. The Titans' Amie Burger was named tournament MVP after scoring 47 points and making eight steals in her team's two victo-

In Madonna's loss to Kalamazoo, the Cru- In Saturday's consolation game, St. Fran-



Benton Harbor, scored a game- team. Massey, a freshman guard pointers (40.9 percent); Madonna 25-of-50 from the floor (50 perhigh 33. Bill Powers and John respectively.

#### Madonna splits

Madonna University's men's basketball team salvaged a split out of its trip to the Kalamazoo College-hosted Micro Vane, Inc. Holiday Classic last weekend, losing to the host Hornets 64-61 Friday then beating Concordia

College in the consolation game, 87-73 Saturday.

**2年基点有点有点有点有点有点有点有点有点有点**有少少。



the Crusaders; Mark Mitchell had 15 points and four steals; Massey totaled 13 points, four assists and four steals; and Nick

Kalamazoo got 22 points from Joe Grant and 15 from Joe Wicklander

significantly against WHAC foe ers and 12 from Derrick Nelson. Concordia, and it showed in Sat-

Langer (John Glenn); 4. Kurt Spann (Wayne); 5. Tony Rachoza

135: 1. Josh Henderson (Salem); 2.

140: 1. Imad Kharbush (Stevenson);

2. Jim Shelton (Canton); 3. Dan LeClerc

(Clarenceville); 4. Tom Mahon (Farming-

145: 1. Mike Carter (Churchill); 2.

Ryan Shiplett (Livonia Franklin); 3. Ken

Raupp (Wayne); 4. Josh Fee (GC), 5.

152: 1. Mitch Hancock (Redford CC);

160: 1. Robert Demsick (Canton); 2.

Brian Barker (Stevenson); 3. Pete

Flint Mott at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.

Oakland CC at Delta, 1 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Sunday, Dec. 27

(UD-Jesuit Tourney at City Arena)

Red. Unified vs. S. Lyon, 4 p.m

U-D Jesuit vs. Lansing CC, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 28

U-D Tourney at City Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 30

Churchill at G.P. South, 7:25 p.m

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUI

Whalers at Brampton, 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 27

Tuesday, Dec. 29

Ply. Whalers vs. London

at Compuware Arena, 3 p.m

Wednesday, Dec. 30

Whalers at Owen Sound, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 1

2. Brandon LaPointe (Churchill); 3.

Kevin Stone (Canton); 4. Mark Ostach

(Farmington); 5. Eddle Traynor (GC).

ton); 5. Jake Taylor (Harrison);

Mike Falzon (Stevenson)

THE WEEK AND

prey to the Hornets' 20-of-34 shooting spree

local standouts: senior guard Kelly LaCosse,

a Farmington Harrison graduate, blistered

Madonna with 32 points (including 4-of-6 on

three-pointers), seven rebounds and five

steals, and sophomore forward MaryJane

points, grabbed 12 boards and dished out

seven assists. Both were named to the all-

Jennifer Stefanski also had 15 points for

Madonna got 17 points, five assists and

two steals from Katie Cushman; 17 points

from Chris Dietrich; 16 points and nine

boards from Panganis; and 12 points from

Valade, from Farmington Mercy, scored 19

Much of the damage was done by a pair of

in the second half (58.8 percent).

tournament team.

Kalamazoo.

Lori Enfield

Nate Wensko (Wayne); 3. John Pocock

Usher (Thurston),

171: 1. Brian Hinzman (GC); 2. Eric Toska (Franklin); 3. Javonn Perkins (John Glenn); 4. Ben Lukas (Farmington); 5. Adam Marcum (Clarenceville).

189: 1. Walter Ragland (Clarenceville); 2. Steve Myslinski Franklin); 3. Andy Wood (Farmington) 4. Jeff Sinning (Churchill).

215: 1. Broce Naysmith (Redford CC); 2. Will Baker (RU); 3. Bryant Lawrence (Thurston); 4. Steve Garrett (Franklin); Ollie Muscarella (RU).

Heavyweight: 1. Casey Rogowski (Redford CC); 2. Charlie Hamblin (Salem); 3. Josh Rose (Clarenceville); 4. Mike Gaffke (Churchill); 5. Brian Brinsden (Farmington).

> Whalers at Belleville, 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2 Whalers at Barrie, 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 3 Whalers at Oshawa, 6:30 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL Saturday, Dec. 26 Portage Northern Tourney, TBA Tuesday, Dec. 29 Bedford Tournament, 8:30 a.m.

W. Bloomfield Inv., 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30 UM-Dearborn Tourney, 9 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 2 W.L. Central Invitational, 9 a.m.

PREP WRESTLING Wednesday, Dec. 30 Salem Invitational, 9 a.m.

TBA -- time to be announced

cis played with a vengeance and Madonna did nothing to prevent it. The Cougars rolled to a 66-52 halftime lead and never let up; for the game, they converted 44-of-83 floor shots (53 percent) and 30-of-36 free throws (85.7 percent)

Six players scored in double-figures for St. Francis: Brenda Schlegel led with 31 points. followed by Shannon Dunbar with 17, Amy Parrett and Dawn Depew with 15 apiece, Charity Richardson with 11 and Julie Yoder with 10. All 11 Cougars scored in the game.

Madonna got 29 points and six assists from Dietrich: 22 points, seven rebounds and three steals from Panganis; 18 points, 10 assists and two steals from Cushman; 13 points from Kristi Fiorenzi (from Plymouth Canton); and 10 points from Jennifer Jacek. Tournament splits left St. Francis at 10-3 and Kalamazoo at 4-4: Indiana-South Bend

improved to 8-5 with two victories.

time lead to win going away shots from the field and 11-of-12 ished with eight points, sever. free throws, grabbed six rebounds, four assists and four rebounds, dished out three

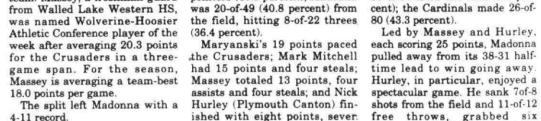
> Maryanski had 13 points. eight boards and two blocked

Madonna's shooting improved 13, got 17 points from Ken Flow-



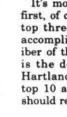
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assists and made eight steals.

Concordia, which slipped to 3-



### BY C.J. RISAK

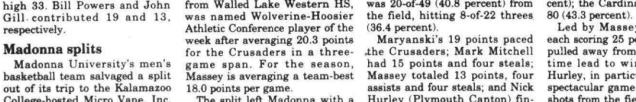
STAFF WRITER

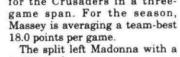
The split left Madonna with a Hurley (Plymouth Canton) fin-

Friday against Kalamazoo, the Crusaders led 26-25 at halftime,

but the Hornets' superior shoot-Madonna's Mike Massey and ing spelled the difference. They Mike Maryanski were both made 25-of-52 floor shots (48.1

steals.





4-11 record.

# Chiefs may have talent to battle best

#### BY C.J. RISAK STAFF WRITER

Last season ended on an up note for this season. Plymouth Canton's gymnastics team. The Chiefs rallied from a sixth-place finish at the Western Lakes Activities Association meet (out of eight teams) to place second at the regional and qualify for the state meet. Canton placed 12th at state.

Canton continue its surge back toward premier squads?

accomplishment, considering the caliber of the opposition. Northville-Novi is the defending state champ; both

The Chiefs have the talent to challenge for a spot with that trio. "This is a very good team," said Canton coach John Cunningham. "I'm very impressed with it in general. There's a lot of potential to move up."

CANTO

Leading the returnees are junior Liz The question now, of course, is: Can Fitzgerald and sophomore Amy Driscoll, Fitzgerald placed second at the top, to a place among the state's the regional in the Division I allaround, scoring 35.85; Driscoll, who It's more than possible. First things had a 33.75 all-around at the WLAA first, of course; just placing among the top three in the WLAA would be an prior to the regional and could not compete

Also back are sophomore Kristen Schilk and seniors Michelle Hartland and Brighton placed in the Farnsworth and Bobbi Jones. top 10 at state last season. All three Farnsworth and Driscoll are team co-

aders," said Cunningham. "Both have the potential to be 36-point allarounders, or better."

The Canton coach was also impressed with Schilk, who had a a whole different attitude." 31.25 all-around at last year's WLAA meet. "She's going to be very good," he said. "She's improved a lot since last vear.

What has been equally impressive to Cunningham is the performances of his newcomers. Freshmen Maggie Bett, Jill Rakovitis and Courtney Hebda should all contribute considerably this season; so, too, should first-year team members Jessica Krueger and Lauren Christianson, both sophomores.

At their season-opening quad meet last Thursday at Ann Arbor Pioneer. the Chiefs were less than impressive. They placed third, getting outscored by in the league. Hartland, according to Pioneer (127.65) and Plymouth Salem

"Liz and Amy will be team (scoring) ing ahead of Ann Arbor Huron they could have an injury and still be (118.65).

"That was a bit of a shock treatment," said Cunningham. "They came into (last Saturday's) Vassar meet with and Salem and Novi-Northville.

The team score reflected it. Canton outpointed the visiting Vulcans 131.35-123.45, with Fitzgerald scoring 9.0 in the floor exercise, 8.8 on the uneven parallel bars, 8.5 on the balance beam and 8.7 in the vault, and Driscoll adding scores of 8.8 on floor and 8.6 in vault. Schilk had a 32.45 all-around total

"Often I've had teams performing at their peak at the beginning of the seaisn't halfway there yet."

Still, as good as Canton might be, it may not make a noticeable difference in the state has." Cunningham, "is going to win the state group the Chiefs fit.

(127.00); Canton totaled 123.65, finish- title. They're so deep and so strong,

Then there's Brighton and Farming

"This is the toughest league in the state," Cunningham summarized. "No other league has this kind of depth."

Canton is deep, too, despite the loss of Holly Graham, Nicole Vaagenes and Natalie Wood to graduation. As far as competing with the elite in the WLAA - it's possible, but that potential will have to surface quickly.

A good barometer will come Feb. 6. when the Chiefs host the Canton Invitational. "I think it always comes down son," said Cunningham. "This team to that," said Cunningham. "I invite in as many really good teams as I can, and I get a feel for what everyone else

It should also tell where in that

### should remain among the state's top 10 Rocks seek to move up in the WLAA, state

Expectations are high for Ply mouth Salem's gymnastics team. Will the Rocks return to the level that carried them to the state championship in 1993? No at least not vet. While better than last year's team, which finished last in the Western Lakes Activities Association, Salem cannot expect to make a run at the league's top teams.

Those teams - Hartland, Brighton and Northville-Novi remain among the state's best. Northville-Novi won the state title last season, with Hartland

sixth and Brighton ninth. The reason the Rocks will be better, and the reason they can't expect too much, is that more than half the team consists of freshmen. There are only four 118.65. seniors among the 22 team members; 13 of them are freshmen.

SALEN "Last year was a learning

year for me and the girls as well," said second-year coach Melissa Hopson, a 1995 Salem grad who was a member of that state championship team. "We've lost a lot from this (program). compared to when I was here. "But this year could be different. The girls are very positive.

There's a big support on the team for each other Salem opened its season a week ago with a quad-meet against Ann Arbor Pioneer, Ann Arbor Huron and Plymouth Canton. The results were encouraging: Pioneer finished first with 127.65 points, followed by Salem with 127.00 and Canton with 123.65. Huron was fourth with

"We did very good," said Hopson. "We had three very strong

Drake and April Aquinto. Although all-around scores were not tabulated. Drake definitely would have earned the top mark. She was first in both the floor exercise (9.15) and balance beam (8.75), and she tied for top honors in the vault (8.6). Her uneven parallel bars routine earned her a second (8.8). She had a 35.3 all-around score.

performances."

Two of those performances

came from freshmen - Melissa

Aquinto, while not scoring as high, was definitely solid: 8.7 in the floor, 8.15 in the bars, 7.9 in the vault and 7.65 in the beam for a 32.40 all-around total. One of Salem's seniors, Janine Schmedding, was equally solid with scores of 8.15 in the floor, 8.0 in the vault, 7.65 in the bars and 7.25 in the beam for a 31.05 all-around. "She's got a lot of talent." said

our hopefuls."

better itself. "There's a lot of

room for improvement," she said.

"We've got work to do but we

should do well this year. I've got

a lot of optimism for this team.

We do have more depth.'

improve the team."

Indeed, Salem's hopes for suc- were costly; when top gymnast Aquinto. Schmedding could be a with an ankle sprain, Salem had force, too, said Hopson. "Janine's trouble scoring 120. got a lot of potential. As a senior, she's putting her best foot for-That problem should not reoc-

ward and is really trying to cur this season. "Last season was quite a learning experience Hopson knows how important for me," said Hopson. "Nothing eadership will be if Salem is to comes easy."

Floor "is probably our strongest event," she added. "The girls have the scores to do very well in the event."

strength - "If we can stay on," That alone should help the Hopson said. Falls in beam team field.

Hopson of Drake. "She's one of Rocks. Last season injuries dur- throughout last season were ing the stretch run of the season costly for the Rocks.

Bars, on the other hand, could cess really rely on Drake and Lindsay Hawraney went down be a problem for the young Salem team, which must develop the upper-body strength needed to master the event.

"I think we have a good chance to be up there in the league. Honson said. "I see us being up there

The Rocks don't return to action until Jan. 9 when they host the Salem Invitational, which will include such state Beam, too, is an event of powers as the Rochester schools. Hartland and Brighton in its 19-

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is send us your question and if it's asked on WXYT radio, you'll receive all sorts of neat Lion stuff: WXYT

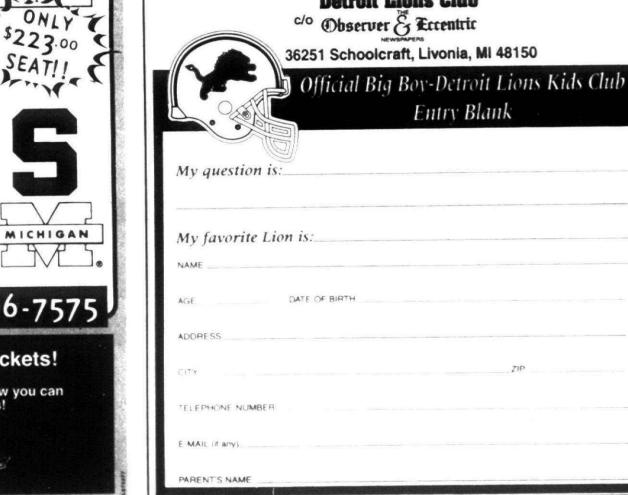
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Tune in WXYT 1270 AM every Monday at 8 p.m. to hear whether your question was

chosen You must be 12 years old (or younger) to be a Lions Club member.

Just fill in the entry blank below and mail it to:

### **Detroit Lions Club**





#### SHOWS

CAMPER, TRAVEL & RV The 16th annual Pontiac Silverdome Camper, Travel & RV Show will be held Jan. 27-31 at the Silverdome. BOAT, SPORT AND FISHING

The 16th annual Pontiac Silver-dome Boat, Sport & Fishing Show will be held Feb. 17-21 at the Silverdome.

### CLASSES

FLY TYING Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tyers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

#### ACTIVITIES **GANATCHIO TRAIL**

Come and explore the Ganatchio Trail, which runs from Windsor to Tecumseh parallel to the Lake St. Clair shore, during this program, which begins at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 27. The event is sponsored by the Southeast Michigan Group Sierra Club. Participants should meet at the tourist information center on Route 3, south of the bridge in Windsor. Call (313) 581-7579 for more information

#### SEASON/DATES

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th and small ass season closes Dec. 31. EER

The second archery season runs through Jan. 3. A special firearms antlerless-only deer season runs through Jan. 3 on private land only in much of the Lower Peninsula. Check the DNR's Hunting and Trapping Guide for exact locations of the Guide for exact locations of the late hunt.

GOOSE There will be a special late Canada goose season Jan. 9-Feb. 7 in the southern Michigan Goose Management Unit. Check the 1998-99 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide for specific oundaries. ROUSE A special late season runs through Jan. 1 in the Lower Peninsula. RABBIT/HARE Rabbit/hare season run through

March 31 statewide. SOUIRREL Squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

#### CLUBS SOLAR

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

CLINTON VALLEY BASS

# Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gan-der Mountain in Waterford. Call

The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1998

Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more info **METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS** Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call ninic Liparoto at (248) 476-

5027 for more information. CHIGAN FLY FISHING The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494

#### for more information. FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center. Refreshments will be served and visitors are welcome. For information call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843. FISHING BUDDIES

#### Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets monthly in Rochester

Hills. The meetings are open to all anglers. Call (248) 656-0556 for more information. BASS ASSOCIATION The Downriver Bass Association a non-tournament bass club,

#### meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the

Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for more informa-

#### MEETINGS

The monthly meeting of the state Natural Resource Commission will be Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 13-14, at the Lansing Center (Wednesday) and the Steven T. Mason Build ing (Thursday) in Lansing. Per-sons who wish to address the commission or persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation should contact Teresa Golden at (517) 373-2352 one week in

#### ARCHERY **JUNIOR OLYMPICS**

idvance.

The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junio **Olympic Archery Development** Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

#### JUNIOR ARCHERS A weekly program for junior

archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

#### SHOOTING RANGES BALD MOUNTAIN

**Bald Mountain Recreation Area** in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 31 are 10 a.m. to sunset Saturdays, Sundays and

Wednesdays. On Mondays and

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	(	iM Employeess	& Family (GM	(S)	. /	5
\$0 Down Payment						
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Term by payments are based on a 36-month/36,000-mile lease.	Excess Milenge Mileage charge of \$.20 per mile over 36,000 miles.	*Approval based on tier through primary lending source.	

A DIFFERENT KIND of COMPANY. A DIFFERENT KIND of CAR.

Tuesdays only the sporting clay course is open, noon to sunset Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenshield Rd., which is three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills off M-24. Call (248) 814-9193 for more information. PONTIAC LAKE

#### Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range urs are 10 a.m.to 5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Road. Call (248) 666-1020 for more informa tion

#### **ORTONVILLE RECREATION**

Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are 12 -5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Road. Call (248) 693-6767 for more nformation.

#### METROPARKS **METROPARK REQUIREMENTS**

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

THE FUNNY FARM This one-hour program for ages 3 and older includes farm stories, activities, live critters and much more and begins at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, at the Kens-

> Saturn of Ann Arbor 734-769-3991

Saturn of Farmington Hills 248-473-7220

Saturn of Lakeside 810-286-0200

Saturn North 248-620-8800

Saturn of Plymouth

Saturn of Trov -643-4350

aturn of Warren 810-979-2000

gton Farm Center. **BIRD COUNT** 

#### Help census the park's bird pop-ulation during this program, which begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 2, at Kensington.

CHICKADEE IN THE HAND Learn all about chickadees dur-

ing this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 2, at Stony Creek.

TEA TRACKIN' Learn about animals and their

tracks, then track up a t-shirt during this program, which begins at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 3, at Kensington.

**1998 PERMITS** The 1998 Huron-Clinton

Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 (\$8 for senior citizens). The annual boat launching perm its are \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens) Call (800) 47-PARKS for more information.

#### OAKLAND **COUNTY PARKS** COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS

Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for nore information

#### NOVIE MATINEE

Enjoy some popcorn and the photography of some of Michigan's best film makers during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2, at Independence Oaks

# CC rally tips Rice

**Redford** Catholic Central's hockey team remained undefeated but it took a third-period rally to remain that way on Saturday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena

The Shamrocks scored two third-period goals to rally from a 3-2 deficit and beat host Birmingham Brother Rice, 4-3, in a Metro Hockey League game.

The win raises CC's record to 9-0 overall, 6-0 in the Metro. The Shamrocks couldn't seem to solve the goaltending of Rice's Aaron Jones despite enjoying nearly a 2 to 1 shot advantage. The Shamrocks scored a pair of power-play goals but also gave

up two breakaway goals. Senior forward Keith Rowe scored two goals for the Shamrocks, including the game-winner with with less than two min

utes remaining. "I'm worried when I'm ahead, imagine how I feel when I'm behind," CC coach Gordie St. John said.

CC scored first on a goal by Todd Bentley, assisted by David Moss and Jim Spiewak with 10:17 left in the first period.

But Rice took a 2-1 lead with a pair of goals in the last 4:28 of the first period, including one with seven seconds remaining.

"We let down defensively and they came to play, just played well as a team," St. John said. "(Rice's second goal) was a heart stopper, gave them momentum coming into the next period."

CC tied the score at 2-2 on a goal by Rowe, assisted by Ryan Yost, with 6:56 left in the second period. The Warriors regained a one-goal lead, however, with an unassisted goal midway through the second period. Yost's goal, assisted by Bent-

lev, with 4:40 left in the third period tied the score at 3-3. The Shamrocks scored the game-winner with a goal by Rowe assist ed by Brad Holland and Spiewak, with 1:20 left

#### Whalers page C1

period. But the Sting answered with scores by Ryan VanBuskirk and Peter Cava against Plymouth goalie Robert Holsinger. making it 2-1 heading into the third period.

Greg Willers clinched it for Sarnia with an empty-net goal with 47 seconds remaining. Holsinger made 26 saves for

the Whalers; Greg Hewitt had 32 saves for the Sting. Plymouth, now 25-5-2, plays at Brampton Sunday before returning for a 3 p.m. game Tuesday

against London

734-453-7890 Saturn of Southfield 248-354-6001 Saturn of Southgate 734-246-3300

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AD OF THE WEEK

VINTAGE WHE Visionary dreamer. optimist, music is sweeter shared, sitm. blue-eyed, blonde, with distinctive qualities, 57 educated, rithy 50e and financially secure. Seeking active, gentlemen who is sweet and warm. 40-60 \$27,009

1-800-518-5445

LOVE IN THE NEW YEAR Attractive, financially/emotionally s-ecure DWF, young 50, 54', brown/ blue, N/S, enjoys movies, dining, sports, travel and romance. Seeking handsome, sincere, caring, financially secure, compassionate SVM, 45-55, be freedethin, lawdion b 178, #2083

for friendship, leading to LTR 12/2083 SILLY HEART SEEKS SILLY HEART

SEEKS SILLY MEART Happiness makes file better. Funny. tree-spirled, successful SWF, 30, 57' blonderblue, two sons, seeks humor-ous, turthul, tree-spirled SWH, 35-50, for eternal happiness and LTR. 12:064 OUTGOING FEMALE Sensitive, upbeat SWF, 46. medium heipt/weight, seeks same in man. Call soon. 12:139. DOWN-TO-EARTH Attractive, fit, tun-toving, outgoing SWPF. 27: anjoys traveling, working out, movies, Red Wings, quiet nights, much more. Seeking confident, ave-nge/attractive SWPM, 25-35, with sense of humor. 12:0265 ROMANCE, PASSION.... Honesity and laughs are what I have to offer. Smart, beautiful, successful, well educated female 30. If you are a successful, kind, sincere doctor You should call me. 17:201

RN SEEKS HEALTHY RELATIONS Classy, slender, youthtid, playful, intel-ligent, professional SWF, 5'4', blonds/brown, homeowner, no depen-dents, N/S, social drinker, seeks edu-cated PM, 45+, emotionally/financial-veoure, Loft meet fivorthe and see

dents, N/S, social drinker, seeks adu-cated PM, 45-, emotionally/financiai-ly secure. Let's meet for coffee and see what happens. 321469. PARST TIME AD DWF, 39, 512, 1058b bionde/blue, mother of one, enjoys movies, dining inicut, loves to laugh. Seeking attrac-tive, humorous, loving, honest DWM, 38-42, with children/ful head of hair, finerdehip finst, LTR. 37 1897 TEDOY BEAR WANTED SWF, blondeigreen. 55. medical pro-

SWF, bionde/green, 5'6', medical pro-lessional, looking for teddy bear 45+ with good communication skills, who is

with good communication skies. We an athletic event watcher, enjoys win-ter sports. Good sense of humor a

all abrets Good series of humor a must. 171804 WHAT A COMBINATION Tall, thin, hery-tempered SF, 30, bionder-blue Passionate lover, great friend impressive to look at Even bet-ter to converse and/or debate with Did I mention confident? Call me. 171/15 MAKE BEALTISE MAISSE

MAKE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC

MAKE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC DWF 44, financially secure, professional musician, sery classry bionderbue romantic Seeking an outgoing, secure college-educated S/DWM, 35-50, pais-sion for life, for a possible LTR 10:600 BEAUTIFUL SMILE Very attractive, athletic, slender, degreed DWF, 49, 577, enjoys sports, concerts, moives, lauphter Seeking

degreed DWF, 49, 57", enjoys sports, concerts, movies, laughter Seeking tal, athletic, healthy, degreed, spon-taneous, honest, widowed or DWM 48-53, with sense of humor. Bir-mingham area, 27,1588 WATING FOR YOUR CALL Widowed WF, 60, 52" bondeblue. NS social dinker financially/emotionally secure, seeks honest, caring man 58-65, good sense of humor. Tai 1253 YOUNGER MAN DESIRED For romance and interesting times Degreed, kind. We'll enjoy travel, fine dining, movies theater, concerts. cud-

ding Call scon 1907 SLENDER & STYLISH Active independent, intelligent, amb-flous, tooks 306, 5/8 Birmingham homeowner seeks professional, with R, handsone, unencumbered, maile counterpart, 6/4, for extreme hun romance and adventure 107.1803 LET'S PLOW TOGETHER This firitatious blue-eyed blonde would love to take and en your truck. There is something about a man in a truck 30-43, who loves huds and is a thrac-tive and easygoing 11.186 PRETTY, 45, NO KIOS Bright, sweet, playful DWF, 5.81

Bright sweet playful DWF 5.8 275lbs, curvy blonde enjoys arts beaches sports movies reading Seeking male friend/lover to share

beaches sports movies reading Seeking male friend/lover to shar time, taiking, fiirting, etc. 10 1625 SEEKS CONFIDENT, SECURE MAN

dining movies theater c dling Call soon 1271907

To listen and respond to any Personal Scene ad, call 1-900-773-6789 Call costs \$1.98 a minute. You must be 18 or older. Follow the simple directions and you will be able to hear more about the people whose ads interest you. Or, you can browse ads by category. With one call you can leave as many messages as you like. You may call any time, 24 hours a day. Service provided by TPI: 1-800-518-5445. COWBOY WANTED DWF, wants a financially secure cow-boy, over 50. over 53", weight unim-portant, smoker, social drinker. Must be a two-stepper, 97:2053 SEEKING SENSE OF HUMOR DWF, 43, madium build, N/S, seeks a S/DWM, 43-50, N/S, employed, who likes children, outdoors, sports. for a possible LTR. 97:1998 TALL, ATTRACTIVE DBF, 39, 5"8", enjoys dancing, jazz, affection. Seeking SBM, 400+, 6"+, who wants more than just the phys-ical. for LTR. Serious replies only please if 1995 WANT TO FALL IN LOVE? SWF 38, brownhazel, enjoys cooking going up North, boating, dancing seeks humorous, trustworthy, sensi tive, physically fit, Catholic SWM, 35 40, 6-, NS, for friendship, possibil LTP, #1655.

my

40, 6'+, N/S, for friendship, possore LTR 921855 STILL LOOKING SWF. 28, 5'7, enjoys dining out, dart, Red Wings, and more. Seeking SWM, 25-35, who is not alraid of a commit-ment. 97 1656 TAKE A CHANCE Wortsmeit lach y vourg 63, blond/blue,

TAKE A CHANCE Widowed lady, young 63, blondblue, enjoys movies, theater, dining inout, animals, walking, swimming, works, part-time, tree to spend with loving, caring white gentleman, 60s. 121657 FULL-FIQUREDPLUS-SCZED FINANCIALY Sectors, 121657 FULL-FIGUREDPLUS-SCZED FINANCIALY Sectors, 121657 WHERE ARE YOU? Employed, addre DWF, 59, 547, 145bs, with varied interests, has searched lar and wide or a SWM interested in LTR. 1 haven't lound you yet. 121365 SHARE MY LIFE Earthy, easygoing, independent, ore-athey, young-at-heart SWF, 46, 5107. enjoys antiques, animals, and log cabins. Seeking affectionate, secure gentieman, 6+, who enjoys the out-doors. 121997 EXPRESSIVE pieasel 17 1995 S2 YEAR-OLD PROFESSIONAL Pretty: successful, humorous, charm-ing, interesting, giving female, 52, encyor movies, plays, concerts, fine during, course to the successful, sin-cere VM, 4575, Plasses repy, 17162 GENTLY USED Biorde tady, tate 50, 537, 1230s, encys life, Seeking genteman, mid-50e-60s, to encyor, life with, fining thirst, 171906 SLIGHTLY USED Successful, tate 50, 537, 1230s, encys life, Seeking genteman, mid-50e-60s, to encyor, life with, fining thirst, 171906 SLIGHTLY USED SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT SF, 36, hoves animals, gardening, spectator sports, laughing, seeks SM, NS, no kids, tor new start, possible LTR. 171805 TEACH ME SOMETVING NEW Attractive SVF, 27, NS, social dinker, a little heavy, enjoys travel, movies, heater, more, seeks attractive linan-ciallylemotionally secure SVM, 28-38, NS, with similar interests. 171967 PRETTY NATURE LOVER SWF 43, 757, 1270s, studying allen-nicods walking, amging natural heath, laughing, speaking ruth, tife fim spurited, poised DWF, 59, S7, seeks man of integrity, S8-65, NS, ordinaric and time, of headthp, leading to LTR, 171908 ARE OU READY TO SOAR... on eagles wing? Do you believe all times are possible including linding that special someone? If you dare to believe Go call and leifs fly together. Seeking SBCM, 40-40, 17109 COFFEE, TEA, OR ME? Tal, attractive lawd, HW proportonste, with great sense of humor and lois of TLG to share. Seeking tall, intelligent, romantic, unality mails, S54, with high standards, who enjoys various activ-ties. 17926 PEST TME AD Attractive widowed BF, 41, 57, NS, enjoys movies, concerts, dinner and travel. Seeking honest, dispendable beck, 40-40, for theorem and lois of TLG to share. Seeking tall, intelligent. Tomantic, and time of the program. Seeking SBCM, 40-40, 07 theof SCM, 50-44, for theorem and lois of TLG to share. Seeking tall, intelligent.

EXPRESSIVE

EXPRESSIVE Youthful, active, energetic, outgoing SBF, 58, 54, seeks to meet SM with similar traits for triondship possible relationship, 121 1536 WANTED: BEST FRIENDLOVER SWF, 47, 517, 125/bs, prethy, great sense of humor, enjoys romance, laughter, fun in the sun. Seeking tail, handsome, secure SWM, 42-52, who's not afraid commitment. NDrugs or ajcohol. 121 1537 COMPANION

COMPANION FOR HOLIDAYS FOR HOLIDAYS Pretty, proportionale, 54 years young lady who lovel life, travel, earth/ocean, Still believes in kindness and sharing. Seeking tall, intelligenet, emotionally/ financially secure, healthy gentlemain to enjoy the wonders of life with ttp123 FREENDS FIRST DVF, 31, red/green, size 8, enjoys some sports, Nascar, dancing, quiet nights, and time with son. Seeking S/DWHA, 28-38, H/W proportionate, with same interests. for frends first,

with same interests, for friends first possible LTR. 11473 LET'S HORSE AROUND Urban cowgirl, 40, 5'7", 1 brunette/brown, horse owner, ioves volleyball, wally ball,

loves volleyball, wany king, travel, country skiing, biking, hiking, travel, Seeking tall, fit male, 35-45, N/S, with similar interests 12:1345 SOULMATE SEARCH Attractive, passionate BF, seeks or special man, 35+, to be friend, love and companion. I know you are o there seeking me. \$1346

LOOKING FOR MR. RIGHT Educated, financially secure SBPF enjoys travel, reading, intelligent cor-vensation. Seeking honest, sincer SPM, preferably a graduate/medic student. 1271351

BCM, 40-49, for friendship, 121821 SINGLE WHITE MON Independent SWF, 38, 533, 113bs, smoker, NO, enjoys the simple life, lock music, comedy clubs, movies, filtness, outdoors, hunting, fishing, Seeking confident, emotionally/infrancally stable SIVM, 38-45, NO, for LTR, 121802 A PINCH OF JUNGLE FEVER Complex preference, not novelby DWF, 39, pretty, independent, happy, sensu-al woman of substance, seeks finan-cally/emotionally secure black gende-man, late 30e+, for monogamous, phys-ical and spintual happress, 375890 PROVERBS 3:15 41, 587, 135Bs, NS, non-drinker Christian, brunette, seeks company of quality gentleman, for sharing and car-ing. Boomfield area, 37,179 GREAT PERSONFUN COULD CONNECT... with tail. HW proportionate. secure ethical, nice-booking guy, 47+, with hair Pretty, dark-haired SWPF. 40ieh 5.4\* 115bs, with vaned interests great legs and good heart. would like to taik with you. 27:1378

ATTRACTIVE BLONDE LADY Black lemale, a young 50, affectionate employed, N/S, social drinker, wide variety of interests. Seeking mature mate, who's turn and affectionate, 46-54, N/S, with no hang ups. T21720 LOOKING FOR SANTA SV/F, 44, 577, brown/hazet, N/S, enjoy sports, jazz, C&W, quiet times at home. Seeking romantic, honest, fam-ily-oriented S/OWM, 38-54, 57° - N/S All calls will be answered. T29198 PRETTY European-born, refined giving, loving, educated, young 60ish, 5.5° good fig-ured, N/S, many interests, seeks gen-tieman, 65-75, with sense of humor. caring, intelligent, secure, N/S, for last-ing relationship 21297 R.S.V.P

Black female, a young 50, affectionate employed, N/S, social drinker, wide

BROWN-EYED ITALIAN

escaping on weekends and lively conversation Friends first. Rochester area 12:1772 SWF - BUILT TO LAST 1963 immedie edition Shapely, sporty model enjoys romantic, sporthaneous excursions or koking ambitrus SWM to contains terms racquiet, bocks ods yoga mat Seeking ambitrus SWM to corplicit across life's roads 12:1718 STARTING OVER DVF 4.3 510°, NS, NOrugs easy going, overweight, South Lyon Area enjoys swimming, waiking, bowing

n.o.v.r an invitation to meet this attractive DWF 44. If you are an attractive S/DWM. 38-N/S, smart, sincere, fun, no games guy Let the party begin! 121299 LOOKING FOR A WALK. Outgoing single mom, 38 brown/ brown Likes movies, theater dancing, long walks, good conversation Seeking handsome male, dark hair/brown, 35in the clouds with you SW enjoys dining out, casinos, live enter-tainment. Seeking SM 50-63 a good listener, for dating and companionship 1290 handsome maie dark har/bown, 35-45, who is romantic, sincere, honest, with a sense of humor 171721 Shapely WF. 48, brunette, no depen-dents, seeks intelligent, educated WM, who enjoys looking at the stars, escaping on, weekends, and lively brunestere the constructions for the the stars.

 LOOKING FOR LOVE
LOOKING FOR LOVE
DW mother of three 5'7' H/W pro-portionate, brownblue enjoys hockey
timing music dancing movies. Seek dining music dancing ing sincere honest fur S/DWM 34-45 5/8\*+ SUWM 34-83 30- The tonate Must love kids. T1292 ALMOST HAVE IT ALL Everything going for you, but someone to share life with? I'm looking for some-one like myself. Professional attrac-tive articulate spiritual adventurous the articulate spiritual adventurous

harridark eyes 121289 R U 4 ME? DWF 57 54 12516 kong brown biue enjoys movies restaurants crafts dancing reading Seeking SRWMM 55-65, with similar interests Freidsing first, possible LTR 121284 LOOKING FOR MR, RIGHT Easygoing SWF 31 57 medium build darkhazel never married two dauchters (4 and 9). Seeking clean

DWF 43,510° N/S N/Drugs lease going, overweight, South Lyon Area encycly swimming, walking, bowing cards past, traveling, Seeking honeat (syall SVM, N/S, N/Drugs 01/21) GREAT PERSON A dtractive BF 50,551 '50bs, N/S edu cards deropkyed no dependents seeks fe one great male 48-55, HW proport honate N/S a must for monogamous relationship. Race open must live alone No hang-upsbaggage 1798/3 pW SBF college graduate N/S loves amo SBF college graduate N/S loves and samas T1252 sender redgreer N/S enjoys music moves load and samas T1252 sender redgreer N/S enjoys music moves load and samas sender s

biking rollerblading ice skiing cuddling Seeking e with similar background interests for tr future 121814

GOOD THINGS/ SMALL PACKAGES Well-packaged emotionally, sportual-ty and intellectually, petite DPF, charis-matic, adventurous, passionate about the likes the subtime to outrageous. Seeking a SM, for a monogarnous relationathy. <u>TT 1970</u> ONE-OF-KIND Employed, educated BF, 50, 5°C, 147/bs, no dependents, seeks mature make, 46-55, settled but sho to be with. Must be romantic. No baggage. No hang-ups. NS mandatory. <u>TT 1906</u> SLEEPLESS IN LIVONIA DWF, 27, 531, fun-loving, caring, loves movies, driving, Bod Winga, Seeking a fun-loving, caring gentleman, 24-33, for a relationship <u>TT 199</u>

Trans Conception of the second second

SHARE MY DREAMS Ruggedly-handsome, humerus, retired DWM, 51, 61°, horneowner, enjoys gardening, hunting, Appalachians and fishing. Seeking honest widowed or S/DWF, with good morais. Let's build a log horne logether. Senous replies only. 37:1818 SMILE WTTH ME Caring, attentive, friendly, handsome SMILE WITH ME Caring, attentive, friendly, handsome SWPM, dark blond/large gorgeous blue tal, R.NS, seeks attractive, slim, monogamous SWF, under 46, for possible LTR. No prima donnas, please. Talk to you soon... 179636

Way to Have a

Merry Christmas.

The Single Best

18 8

1700

CHARACTER MATTERS. Thoughiluiness, understanding, sin-ority, everyday warmth coupled with romartic pilly are paramount to a quai-ity, monogamous, transitic relation-ship, Athletic, articulate SWPM, 617. seeks You: silm, trim, petite WF, for monogamous LTR 372140 LOYAL Tall, honest, humorous, financially stable, silm DWM, 54, 647, N/S, in good physical condition. Would like to meet a siender lady, 42-50, for com-panionship, possible LTR. 379541. DEAR FRIEND Fil, lonest, dining, numing, bowd-ing, seeks 41 git1, 35-47, N/S, Simmrosdium build a plus. 572047 FOR X-MAS & THEREAFTER Semi-relind, secure, unencumbered, acive DWM, 617, tim, enjoys Taved, di-ng out, animat, timester Tavel. Seeking attactive SF, average height, siender

To place your FREE Personal Scene ad, call 1-800-518-5445 or mail us the coupon

active DWML 61" term, enjoys travel, dri-ing out, animais, theator, travel, Seeking attractive SF, average treight, silender, degreed, for possible LTR, 122080 EASYGOING Very attractive, athletic SVML 27, 51'0; 170105 seeks attractive, fit SWF, 23-35, who enjoys exercising, shoot-ing poot, movies and pian old hun and dating LTR. 10:64 BETHOVEN IS NERNE Friendly, outgoing SVMA, 26, 5'11', 1700bs, smoker, enjoys camping, fish-ing, hunting, bowling, movies, Seeking SW/SF, 18-30, with similar interests, for finandship, possible LTR. No games, please, Kids ok, 11:1999 SEEKS EURO/RUSSIAN LADY Good-looking, SVM, 40, 5'8', 1550s, who enjoys movies theater symphony dining out, forg walks, concerts, opera art, romance, travel, seeks, siender, pretty SWF, interested in LTR, 12'1710 PLAIN JANE OKI

Delightful, down-to-earth SWM, 43, seeks female, age/race unimportant. for playful friendship and possible romance Please call me \$1994

A

200 0

HOPELESS ROMANTIC Down-to-sarth, intelligent, passionate, honest, very giving, andnere SVM, 35, edvernely III, knows how to treat a lady, loves kds. Seeking alim, sch, feminine, sweetheatried SVI/AF, solumate. For monogamous LTR, ST1714 CNDC... singers SVM, 37, onjoys music, movies, lauchter, and seectator sports. Seeking

SWM, 23, 510°, 175lbs, into candle movies, cuddling, walking, campin concerts, aports, flowers, travel, poem Seeking SWF, 20-40, with same inte Concerts, aports, Kovers, travel, poems, Seeking SWF, 20–40, with same inter-ests, SmokerAdds ok, 21561 LOCKING FOR MS, RIGHT SWM, 60, 557, 1650s, enjoys walks, dring out, fee markets, movies, at ga-leries, anything, seeks petite lady, 55-60, siender to medium build. 21364 ARE YOU OUT THERE? SM, 38, 5117, 1900s, long brown brown, NS, social drinker, enjoys rolerblading, bowling, dancing, taking, cuddling, walking in the rain, storms, seeks SF with similar interests. 21365 TOSS CAUTON TO THE WIND Athletic, articulate, attractive, nomatic SF, 18-24, for romantic, pae-sonate relationship, No games. 21365 NICE GUYS FINISH LAST Handsome DWM, 48, 6, 155bs, brownblue, mustacher, 2 college children, smoker, social drinker, seeks attractive, sim SWF, 40-52, for triend-shipl.TR 211905 FUNI-OVING Honest SWM, 42, seeks full-figured, affectionate, adventurous SF, for honest SWM, 42, seeks full-figured, affectionate, adventurous SF, for honest SWM, 42, seeks full-figured, affectionate, adventurous SF, for honest SWM, 42, seeks full-figured, affectionate, adventurous SF, for hon, ornatic times, travel, and con-versations, possible LTR AI calls answered 21:1903 VERY ATTRACTIVE SWM, 28, 5111, 175105, brownblue, very outgoing, professionatily em-ployed seeks attractive SWF, 16-35, HW proportionate. Must be outgoing and enjoy sports. 21:1904

ployed seeks attractive SWF, 18-35. HW proportionate Must be outgoing and ergoy sports. 11904 GOOD-HEARTED Sincere: fun. affectionate SWM. Solsh, seeks female, 45-65, who would love ettention Big smiles assured All calls answered. Height and weight unim-portant 11999 PROBABLY NOT YOUR TYPE DWM, 50, 518°, 145/bs. graybrown, smoker, boater, cat lover. Seeking a companion/friend in SWF, 40-52 for possible relationship. 21 900.

EASY TO LOVE! C. professional SWM, 35, has Romantic, professional SWM, 35, has everything now except you. Like me, please be Catholic, N/S, never mar-ried, unbelievably affectionate. Capture

sWF for dating, friendship, pose TR. 21

MILUCE ASTERNA A LUS Sincere thoughtful, trim athietic degreed understanding SWPM 39 611 1900s seeks very slim trin Middle Eastern/white ternale to monogamous, passonate LTR 371770 LIVONIA AREA CHI SE like second control re SWM 55 likes movies sports draining quiet times Seeking 43-55, N/S, N/D for compan-

ry caring, attractive, outgoe SWM, 46, with a variety o ists, loves to be romantic and c Seeking same in petite SWF hendship maybe more 179363

BE MY PARTNER

ng no dependents eclect movies music and more Se emotionally available SWF EXTREMELY DELIGHTFUL harp cosmopolitar 590M 4 having mysteries and ad

ste Gommunica Nas fit Nexible (

laughter, and apectator sports. Seeking SWF, 27-38, for friendship, possible LTR. Kindness, honesty, and straight-forwardness, are important. 271106 HOPELESS ROMANTIC credit card number, then use the service for as long as you like. The time will be billed directly to your card at \$1.98 per minute.

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STARTING OVER Honest, hard-working, old-fashloned SWM, 37 57, 175lbs, blackbrown, enjoys sports, music, movies, quiet evenings at home. Sceking old-lash-ioned, honest, attractive, SIOWF, 25-40, for LTR. Children ok. 171969 STARTING OVER Hard-working, honest, sanailve, hu-morous DWM, 42, 57, 165bs, with 3ch dren, envise occiden actions enfinish

and when prompted, enter your

VISA

Observer & Eccentric

SEND ME AN ANGEL Open-minded, warm-hearted, full-time father of gorgeous little girt, by Novi, seeks 30iet, warm-hearted female's smile to fill our day. Lakes, travel, enowmobiling, and workouts. 19196 TALL & ATTRACTIVE Humorous, attractive SWM, 37, 64\*, seeks attractive SWM, 37, 64\*, seeks attractive SWM, 37, 64\*, seeks attractive SWM, 2740, who enjoys comedies, movies, waking, or just fun Phymouth area NormAL SWM, 39, brownbrown, NS, enjoys camping, goff, family type activities, seeks F, 35-45, for frendehip, fun and romance, 11816

seems r. 35-45, 10t mendaring, 10t and romance. 201816 TOGETHER FOREVER Caring, affectionate, loving DWM. 52, 57, lovies lake activities, skiing, movies, and quality times together. Seeking petter-medium SF, 40-50, tor thendahp. pentie-medium SF, 40-50, for thendamp, possible long-term monogamous rela-tionship. Race unimportant. 371548 LIFE IS AN ADVENTURE Passionately diverse SWM, 31, 637 2300bs, who is a romantic at heart, seeks an attractive, passionate, sweet SWF to share life's adventures together of the two about one over \$100b

companion/friend in SWF, 40-52 Tor possible relationship, 37: 1900 Handsome, trim SWPM, 39, 510' 170bs, great shape, enjoys outdoors, volleyball, rock music, biking, danong, custodial and of 12 year-old son Seeking attractive, siender independent temale, with similar interests. 379618, COCONING TOO LONG? Me too' Let's get social for the holidays Handsome, hand-working, humorous SWM, 45, varied interests seeks not gai, who's time has come

e gal, who's time has com

ried, unbelievably affectionate Capti re my heart lorevent 1271820 GOOD LOOKING Attractive SWM, 35, 6, 190lbs, brownblue, professionally employed, Garden City, homeowner, enjoys din-ng out, movies, seeks an attractive Club, be date thereafted provelation

MIDDLE EASTERN & PLUS

LOOKING AT YOU

thendship, maybe more tradicts WEST SIDE AREA Attractive financially secure DWM 46 611 1851bs brownbuie moustache NIS light dirinker eneoys dancing movies music 80s Seeking attrac-tive sender honest SWF, 38-50, who s

JUST RIGHT 4 U? Sophisticated resourceful free wheeling entreprener interesting lively lady 30 TRUE GENTLEMAN



SEARCHING FOR THE ONE Good-looking, honest, intelligent SWCM, 44, 5107, 1850b, blondblue NS, never married, with good sense of humor. Appreciates classifyle walks, fire sides, music, and small towns For LTR. Ng games, 121,379 CALL MY DAD Varm kind sensitive, down-to-earth DWPM 39, 597, brown/hazet, custo-dial parent of two, social dinker, enjoys cooking, Cedal Point, camping, socializing, Seeking, DWF, with loas, tor comparisonable, servous relationship, Wast Bloomfield, 129536 PLAIN AND SIMPLY PUT Wanted one easygoing, the female,

PLAIN AND SIMPLY PUT Wanted one easygoing, fun lemale under 43, N/S, under 140lbs, who enjoys movies, bowling, walks, guile brees, for monogamous relationship I'm 34, 63, 250lbs, Please call if inter related. #1723.

(m)34 b.3. 25005 Prease can in mer-ested 31723 STRONG SHOULDER, GOOD EAR FR, attractive, young-at-heart DVM mod 406 637 1900s enjoys travel out-doors: qualit evenings, seeks cute fem-inme counterpart, 35-45, for friendship.

possible LTR Canton area. 21773

TR Age open 12

BIG TEDDY BEAR

unterpart, 35-45, for mendship

Widowed SM, 51, 55", with one crass at home, seeks marriage-minded, kind, caring, loving, romantic woman, for LTR, 1371716

VERY FRIENDLY SWM. 30, seeks someone to lose weight with 1 play tennis, racquetball and use Nauhus equipment. All calls answered. 122143

CALL AND FOLLOW THROUGH spunky attractive, servo 1 WF, 5'3' seeks SWM, 60-

NO who likes pets long drives fam-lies, natures, dinners, dancing 127959 OUTGOING & FRIENDLY Active, widowed WF 73, N/S enjoys Active widowed WF 73, N/S enjoys dancing cards traveling looking for outgoing affectionate WM who is self sufficient, but desires compan-onship IT 1980 ADVENTUROUS Passionate romanic widower WM, 70, 6 165bs, sense of humor, enjoys big band music travel dining romanice and dancing Seeking passionate WF 60s medium build for lowing relation-ship Westsche IT 1539 SE FUED GENTI FALL

ship Westside 101539 SEEKING GENTLEMAN Caring warm-hearted SWF 61 5 1420s average tooks great person-aith high moralitivatues enjoys traiv el movies tong walks cooking dining out. Seeking romantic SWM 60+ tor companionship possible LTR 1019912 SOPHISTICATED SENIOR

SOPHISTICATED SERVICE Affecton-rate widowed WF 62 5.5: 135bs seeks kind caring SWM 65-70 who likes movies driving out long, prives theater television for possible relationship 00:527



GUIDELINES: Anyone seeking a long-term monogamous relationship may advertise in Personal Scene. Abbreviations are permitted only to indicate gender preference, race, religion: We suggest your ad contain a self-description, age range, lifestyle and avocations. Ads containing explicit is excepted. The Observer & Eccentric reserves the right to reject any advertisement. You must be 18 years of age or older to place an ad in The Observer & Eccentric. No ads will be published seeking personal Scene ad The advertiser assumes complete liability for the content and all replies to any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against. The Observer & Eccentric as a result thereof. The advertise content and all replies to any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against. The Observer & Eccentric as a result thereof. The advertiser assumes to indemnify and hold. The Observer & Eccentric and its employees and agents harmless from all costs, expenses (including reasonable attorney fees), liabilities and damages resulting from or caused by the publication or recording placed by the advertiser or any reply to any such advertisement. By using Personal Scene, the advertiser agrees not to leave his/her telephone number, last name, or address in his/her voice message.



SWPM 40.6 seeks special silm trim

NON-SMOKER Very active healthy SM 6/ young graduate student wh through earning and learning social activities to balance sc work load Seeking SF 1220 HAPPY NEW YEAR WITH YOU

Fit handsome honest open m SBM 35.5.11 seeks two-minde

AMBITIOUS BUSINESSMAN ofessional sincere romantic DWM 5.10° seeks honest woman with rise of humor for dining out dan

UNCLAIMED TREASURE Exceptional practical playful caring tall handsome SWPM 40 ish dar

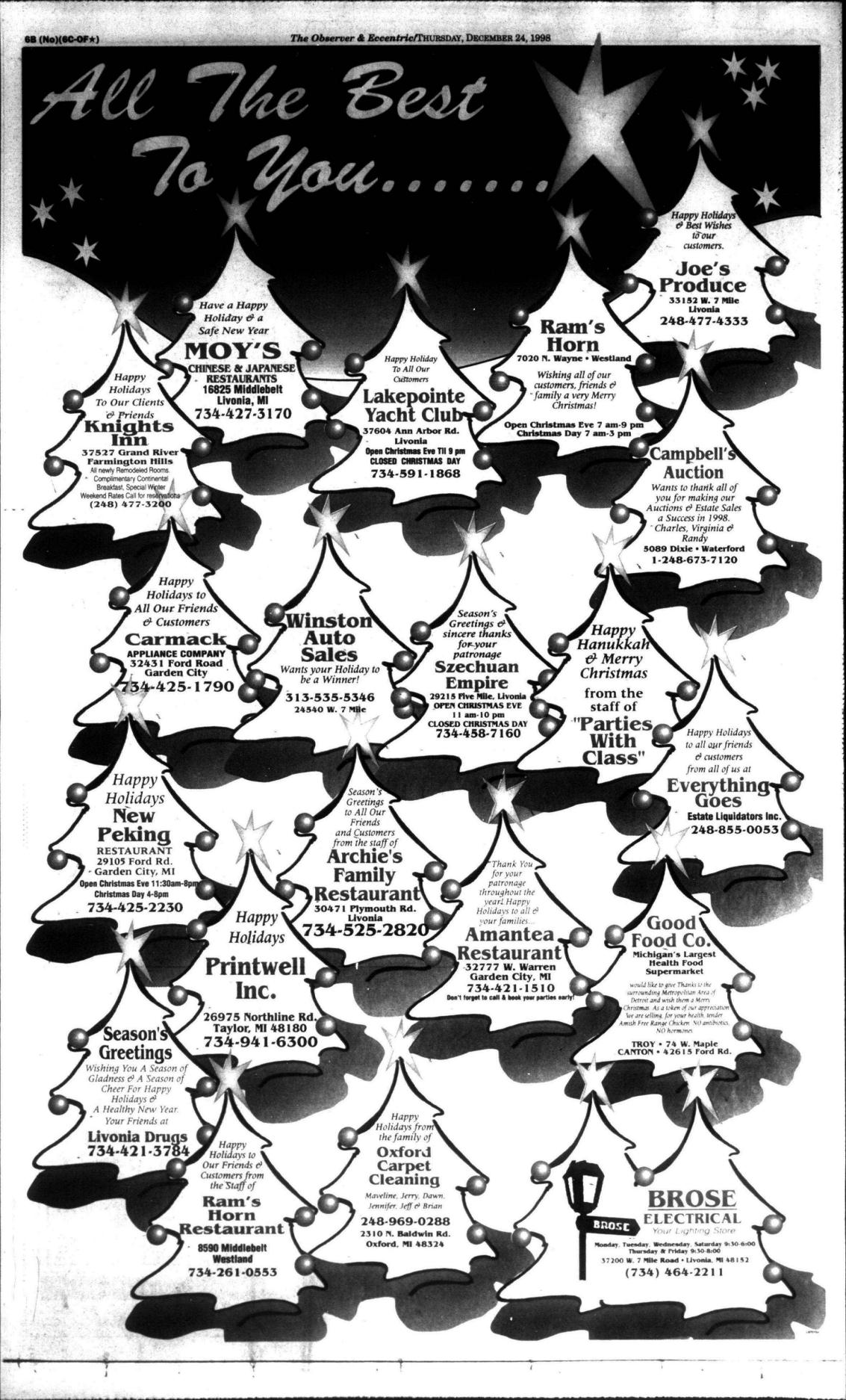
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bondenlarge blue seeks afhach

Seeking a

ture humor and good convi Seeking retried SWF 506 share life, adventures 17101 IMAGINE SWPM 42:5181 Communicat

Spiritual growth-minicled carrig under-standing happy SWM 41 seeks sta-bie proportional open-minicled SWF 32-42 Mothers are welcome 121990 PLAY WITH ME Fun to play with you might become attached lovable affectionate DWM 47 5131 you can take me tor walks or show to your herds collegie degree papers available upon request 121102 ShARE LIFE Sincere carring, fit, active SWM 6 170bs, NS, collegie graduate hoster parent enjoys the outdoors, travel cut ure humor and good conversation BIG TEDDY BEAR Romantic affectionate withy intelligent SWM, 36, 510°, brownhazel, koves, travel movies/theater, music laughter Seeking queen-sized beauty who loves to laugh Race open 271344 KIND-HEARTED Intelligent passionate sensual Intelligent passionate sensu thoughtful tunny good-looking te well-built SWM mid 30s looking 1 sweet, easygoing decent FLORIDA VACATION MATE fandsome SWM businessma acations in Florida seeks ad-pus SWF with fun-loving persi



# Entertainment

### Observer & Eccentric'

Page 1, Section E

THE WEEKEND

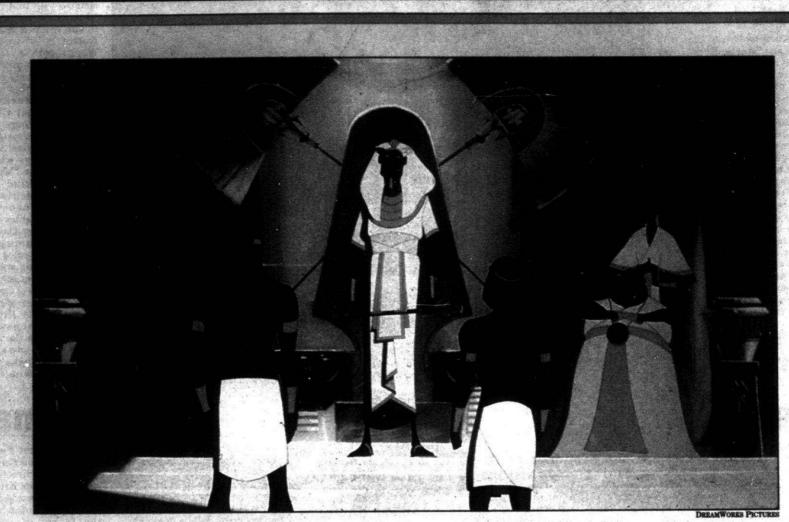
To most people, Joe (left) is a myth and a legend. To his only friend, Jill (Charlize Theron, center) he is a protector and companion. Zoologist Gregg O'Hara (Bill Paxton, right) thinks he's the most amazing creature on the planet in "Mighty Joe Young," opening today at metro-Detroit movie theaters.

SATURDAY

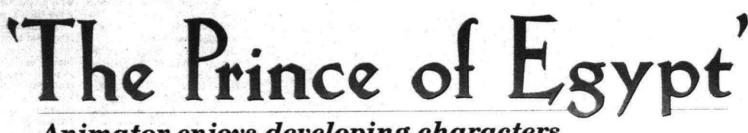


Booth Colman leads a cast of 35 in Meadow Brook Theatre's annual holiday spectacular, "A Christmas Carol," at the theater on the campus of Oakland University. Tickets \$25 for 2 p.m. show, \$36 for 6:30 p.m., call (248) 377-3300.





Duty first: Pharaoh Seti (Patrick Stewart, center) lectures Rameses (Ralph Fiennes, left) and Moses (Val Kilmer) for their irresponsible behavior as the Queen (Helen Mirren, far left) and the court magicians Hotep (Steve Martin) and Huy (Martin Short) look on in "The Prince of Egypt."



### Animator enjoys developing characters

BY KEELY WYGONIK STAFF WRITER kwygonik@ce.homecomm.n

Animators draw characters, but to be really good, they have to know something about acting too.

"An animator is an actor with a pencil," said Kurt Culotta, one of 350 animators who worked on "The Prince Egypt," the story of Moses, now playing at metro-Detroit movie theaters. "It helps to feel the characters when you're drawing them."

Culotta worked on the character Pharaoh Seti for whom Patrick Stewart of Star Trek fame gives voice, but he is proudest of two minor characters he designed himself – a young Hebrew girl and her grandmother. "They first appear in the Exodus scene," said Culotta. "The grandmother slips, and the little girl

takes her by the hand and says, 'come on, let's go.' You see them crossing the Red Sea.

crossing the Red Sea. The little girl is afraid, and the grandmother takes her by the hand. When they cross the sea, you see them hugging each other."

A 1978 graduate of Plymouth Salem High

School, Culotta grew up in Plymouth and dreamed of one day becoming an animator. "I can't remember not drawing," he said. "My earliest memories are of drawing. I've wanted to be an animator since I was 9. I always watched Disney cartoons and the Disney show every Sunday night." He earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from Michigan State University and worked for an advertising agency before deciding to move to California to follow his dream.

Culotta enrolled in the UCLA graduate film program and majored in animation. Before finishing the program he got a job, and one job led to another. In September

of 1995 he began working at DreamWorks Pictures in Glendale, Calif., which produced "The Prince of Egypt."

"For a long time I worked as a clean-up artist," he said. "That's the person who cleans up the drawing, puts in buttons and other

extensive training program at DreamWorks that included acting and drawing classes. "I didn't quite have the tools an actor has," said Culotta. "It helps to try and understand motivations of actors. The class helped me understand how to look for more subtle ways of expressing emotion. Sometimes in trying to figure out the acting we will act out the scene and watch it on videotape. Sometimes real actors do it, it helps, it might add some natural elements. You find yourself saying 'I didn't realize I breathe that way or had that expression on my face."

Because he didn't know any little girls, Culotta watched the movie "Annie" to see how little

nn, ma. id, **"An animator is** er an actor with a

pencil." Kurt Culotta Animator

up in Ply- of 19 fone day Dream r. "I can't Calif... " he said of Ego

See Santa Claus before he leaves town at the "Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the Rockettes," at the Fox Theatre, 2111 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Performances 1 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$10 to \$52.50, call (248) 433-1515.



You'll find collectible dolls, bears, and toy trains at Toy & Hobby Expo '98, Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 26-27 at the Novi Expo Center, I-96 at Novi Road. Call (248) 348-5600 for more information. details. An animator figures out the motions."

Before beginning work on "The Prince of Egypt," he attended an girls ran. This attention to detail is what makes "The Prince of

Please see ANIMATOR, E3

#### POPULAR MUSIC

### **ROCK 'N' ROLL ALL NIGHT** Loyalty brings Kiss to The Palace New Year's Eve

#### BY CHRISTINA FUOCO STAFF WRITER cfuoco@oc.homecomm.n

For the rock band Kiss, playing The Palace of Auburn Hills on New Year's Eve is all about loyalty.

"Detroit really took us to heart earlier than any other city; even before New York. And we're very serious about stuff like loyalty and not forgetting our friends," said bassist Gene Simmons, who affectionately calls himself "Uncle Gene."

"We never turn our backs on people and places that were there for us. We will be there for them. Things like loyalty are very important words for us. We have a song called 'Detroit Rock City.' We don't have one called 'New York Rock City.'"

New York, he said, turned its back on rock 'n' roll, instead opting to support "disco bands," he said.

"Name a major rock band that came out of New York. There's the New York Dolls, they never made it. The Ramones, they never made it. Nobody But there's a lot of disco bands, a lot of R&B and this and that," he said.

"Out of Detroit there was Grand Funk Railroad, Ted Nugent, Bob Seger, some very important stuff; real meat and potatoes kind of music Detroit's a city that was more about content than style. Style, it's OK to have, but style is like a dog chasing its own tail. It moves, but it goes nowhere fast."

Simmons said when Kiss plays live, the band makes it feel like the first time for everyone. Kiss's 1998-1999 jaunt, "The Psycho Circus 3-D Tour," is the first 3-D concert. Simmons swims over the audience, Peter Criss taunts fans with drumsticks, guitarist Ace Frehley pokes his instrument at the audience, and rhythm guitarist Paul Stanley spits guitar picks from in between his red-painted lips It's true, in-your-face rock 'n' roll.

And what would a Kiss show be without Stanley's trademark screeching "We don't (care) about the Rock 'n'

Please see KISS, E3



Ringing in New Year: Kiss – Ace Frehley, Peter Criss, Gene Simmons, and Paul Stanley – brings its "Psycho Circus 3-D Tour" to The Palace of Auburn Hills.

#### E2(NO-OF\*)

"You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown," continues through Sun-day, Dec. 27. at the Fisher The-

atre in Detroit. Tickets \$26.50 to

The word went out: "You're a

Good Man, Charlie Brown" was

being souped up for a Broadway run. But nobody expected their

stroke of casting genius: Bill Gates as Charlie Brown! The

program claims that Anthony

Rapp, not His Microsoftness,

plays Charlie Brown, but have

you ever seen them in the same room together? Just look at this guy and tell me I'm wrong.

Anyway, the 1967 off-Broad-

way "Peanuts" musical has, indeed, been refitted. And as one

who has played both Linus and Snoopy locally, I heartily con-

gratulate the production team

for their loving and true-to-the-

original expansion. Whether you

have or haven't seen it before, or

even been in it, "Charlie Brown"

is an evening of pure "Happi-

\$49, call (248) 645-6666.

BY JON KATZ SPECIAL WRITER

You'd be a blockhead to miss 'Charlie Brown' musical

a newly-extended rabbit-chasing

bit with Snoopy, complete with

musical spy themes from "Peter Gunn" to "Peer Gynt." Rapp, Wong and Ilana Levine

as Lucy are each so true to the

author's intent. We're all holding

the string with Rapp when that

kite crashes. And who amongst

us can help sighing when Linus

disarms his super-crab sister

with "You have a little brother

But - and you all knew this

was coming - it's the Snoopster who dances off with most of the marbles. As a dog, Roger Bart is "de man." Whether it's atop a

hydraulic doghouse-er, Sopwith Camel-dodging the Red Baron, or singing and dancing for his

supper in the show-stopping

"Suppertime" (which has been

totally redone as "Joe Cool chore-

ographed by Bob Fosse"), Bart gets four barks.

It's questionable if this delight

fully and appropriately small

production will be supported by

Broadway crowds paying Broad

who loves you?"

# 761-1451.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

STAFF WRITER

the zoo

scale exhibits, is scheduled to

Executive Director, Stagecrafters, 415 South Lafayette, Royal Oak, MI 48067.

For a background packet on Stagecrafters and the history of the Baldwin Theatre, call (248) 541-8027.

The Award Package for the winning logo design includes -Logo unveiled at opening of upcoming Stagecrafters Main Stage production, media coverage, pair of 99-00 Main Stage eason tickets, pair of 99-00 2nd Stage season tickets, Plaque with winning design permanently displayed in vestibule of theater, Stadium jacket with logo and set of four coffee mugs with

log. "The Board of Directors of Stagecrafters is looking for a new corporate image that meets our image today and where we are headed in the future," said Foltin. "This logo (which may or may not include type-face) has to be attractive, immediately recognizable, or easily identifiable. present a positive image for Stagecrafters, translate well into black and white, and say something unique about the organiza-

The contest is open to all members of Stagecrafters as well as members of the community All submissions will be confidential The membership of Stagecrafters will vote on the winner in an upcoming newsletter.

Stagecrafters mailed approximately 1,000 Gala-in-a-Boxes, a small cd-size box promising a party inside. It's a fund-raiser for the Stagecrafters Building Restoration Fund.

If you haven't received a Galain-a-Box and would like to make contribution to Stagecrafters. call (248) 541-8027



On stage: Kristin Chenoweth (Sally, left to right), B.D. Wong (Linus), Anthony Rapp (Charlie Brown), Stanley Wayne Mathis (Schroeder), Roger Bart (Snoopy), and Ilana Levine (Lucy) in a scene from "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown.

nal. The show, after all, is pre- the famed comic strip, with out like so many peas on a spoon

sented in part as a live version of Schulz's words of wisdom dished (Lucy: "My Aunt Marian was

Show," is performing at Memphis Smoke in Royal Oak. The Witch Doctors are part of the New Year's Eve party at Karl's Cabin in Plymouth, where a special holiday menu will be available.

Sink that darn film

Titanic costume party. "There was a couple here for Halloween who had the greatest Titanic ghost costumes. They were all blue and had icicles hanging out of their hair. They're coming back so they can get double use out of their costumes," said Rene Greff, the owner of Arbor Brewing Company.

Greff and her husband are renting their costumes from Fantasy Attic in Ann Arbor.

and white." "They've got some of the Titanic costumes. The dress that she wore with the blue hope diamond. That's what I'm wearing. My husband's going to dress up as the captain, she said.

deck hands and more just tradiant class. Our daytime dishwasher always does all the major decorations for our party. He's been working for months on stuff ing the brewery look underwater.

Have Your Early

New Years Eve Dinner Here

veteran of the "Jenny Jones It's going to be really fun."

Kiss

The creative minds at the Arbor Brewing Company in Ann Arbor are hoping to sink the "Titanic" obsession with its anti-

tional 1920s formal wear. Some people are doing the Irish peas-

"Some people are doing like

Animator from page E1

the father of Rameses and

Moses. In film versions, Pharaoh

seems very stern and unap-

proachable. In "The Prince of

Egypt," he is a fatherly figure

who disciplines his sons yet for-

"I think "The Prince of Egypt"

is special because it's a little dif-

ferent from other animated

films," said Culotta. "They tried

to tell a story with more complex

emotions. If the film was made

earlier, they might have made

Moses the hero and Rameses the

villain. Even though you care

more for Moses, you realize that

and wants to be with him. You

plex emotions, it's not just black

gives their pranks

tank in the wings to get that to miss it.

ight. Never try to discuss mar-

hances with that red-haired girl

The original Clark Gesner

dded harmonies. And, there are

ophy" is a kind of "Hakuna

by the show's musical supervisor,

The character of Sally (Charlie

Brown's feisty little sister) is

Andrew Lippa of Oak Park.

dous. "My New Philos-

about two con men aboard Egypt" different from other animated films you may have seen. Cortes' ship and the adventures Under the direction of superthey have. He lives two miles from work vising animator Kristof Serrand, and likes his new office with a Culotta also worked on the aniview of a manmade waterfall. mation for Pharaoh Seti who is "DreamWorks has been wonder

new, and Chenoweth almost way prices for Broadway specta-

walks off with the show playing cles. But right here, right now,

her. A tiny powerhouse who and with just a few perfor-

apparently sucks on a helium mances left, you'd be a blockhead

ful, they spoil us rotten," he said. His advice to anyone dreaming of being an animator is to "just draw and draw from life. So you really know how things are put together go outside and draw people, life drawing classes are essential. The best animators draw all the time."

He'll be spending Christmas in California and will then fly to Massachusetts to be with his brother Mark and his family His parents John and Lynn still live in Plymouth.

"The last time I was home was two years ago," he said. "I miss Rameses still loves his brother the seasons. I like snow, and love fall, but I've become acclifeel sorry for him. They're commated to California." Ultimately, Culotta said he

would like to do his own short

#### Culotta is busy at work on his next project for DreamWorks - animated films. He'd also like to "El Dorado," a comedy adventure do a children's book. Stagecrafters draws on community for help

Stagecrafters in Royal Oak is submitted in black and white or holding a contest for a new logo. color. Include your name on a like building little life rafts, and Submissions should be post- separate sheet of paper, but in he's got all these plans for mak- marked no later than Jan. 15 the same envelope as the design. and contain the following ele- Mail your entry to Cate Foltin

> ments Stagecrafters name, the worlds "Baldwin Theatre" are optional, Royal Oak, Michigan, 2-part design: a) logo with the word "Stagecrafters" and b) with

Submit your designs on 8.5 by 11-inch paper. Designs can be



11-9 "Baldwin Theatre." NIGHTLY DINNER SPECIALS **December Special** Complementary SOPAPILLAS MEXICAN SAMPLER <sup>3</sup>10.95 Fajita, 2 Tacos, Cheese Enchilaa, El Padre, Burrito, Sove \$4 Tostada, Beans and Rice. Dine-In • Coupon Expires 12/31/98 Not valid with any other offer. "Cute cast, fun show"

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Roll Hall of Fame. We just plan I 'The thing that infuriates me is a lot of bands get up on stage and charge full price while giving 'n' Roll Hall of Fame, we were you very little. We give you what you want.'

Gene Simmons

orchestra with conductor Neeme

Jarvi and violinist Alexander

The evening also includes din-

ner catered by Matt Prentice.

Once the big and little hands

strike midnight, there's dancing

on the stage with the Keith Sax-

Jazz fans get multiple choices

this holiday. David Sanborn is

bringing his show to the inti-

mate State Theatre in Detroit

twice on New Year's Eve.

Rachelle Ferrell plays the Music

Hall, and in Oakland County,

Alexander Zonjic, host of the

WVMV morning show, will sere-

nade diners at Baci in Pontiac,

while Shahida Nurullah visits

Families might want to check

into the "New Year Jubilee" in

Ypsilanti, or the alcohol-free

If disposable income isn't a

problem, blues man Bugs Bed-

dow is reprising his Blue Year's

Eve Party at the Kingsley Inn in

DON PEDROS

Redford resident B.B.

'First Night" in Birmingham.

Edison's in Birmingham.

Bloomfield Hills.

Markov at 9 p.m.

ton Orchestra.

Swinging in the New Year Not everyone is into explosions, fireworks, blood and 3-D effects. So don't fret, there's plenty of other opportunities to ring in the New Year.

Swing is the thing in several area clubs. "Al Capone's New Year's Eve Party," at the 24 Karat Club in Westland, includes a performance by Swing Syndicate, buffet dinner and champagne toast at midnight for \$10-

The Velvet Lounge in Pontiac is celebrating the repeal of prohibition with a complimentary toast at midnight and a performance by Superdot as part of the "Speakeasy New Year's Eve" event. Every year Pontiac drops a giant ball at midnight and The Velvet Lounge is offering a penthouse view of it.

For those with more discrimi nating tastes, The Detroit Symphony Orchestra is once again hosting its "New Year's Eve Gala" with performances by the



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#### ness" so right for the season. With the blessings of "Peanuts" creator Charles Schulz, director Michael Mayer incorporated 26 newer "strips" and kept only 13 from the origi-

Kiss from page E1

to be in the city that rock 'n' playing Cleveland. This feels to us like being home," Stanley told out a sold-out Gund Arena in Cleveland on Sunday, Dec. 6.

"I used to sit in a parked car at night. Sometimes I could hear this (Cleveland) radio station, WMMS. I would be in New York City and I knew something magcal was happening there. I knew I would always be here. You're making my dream come true." The tour is living up to Simnons' expectations.

"Not only is it cool, it's also very expensive, which is why other bands are cowards. They talk the talk, but they really don't walk the walk. Every band says we care about our fans, but they don't put their money where their mouth is," Simmons

The cost is reflected in the ticket prices - \$75 and \$100. "I don't necessarily buy the idea that ticket prices have to be low. Bands should charge whatever they think they should

make the decision whether they want to get it or not," Simmons "The thing that infuriates me is a lot of bands get up on stage and charge full price while giving you very little. We give you

what you want."

charge. People have the ability to

# Ark concert showcases Irish music, song, dance

Crossroads Ceilidh, an evening of Celtic music and dance, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30 at the Ark. 316 Main St., downtown Ann Arbor. Tickets \$10, call (734)

#### BY KEELY WYGONIK STAFF WRITER kwygonik@oe.ho

Growing up in County Clare, Ireland, Mick Gavin liked hanging around the old-timers who showed him how to play the fiddle. Sometimes they'd take him with them on trips to perform in other parts of the country.

"I guess I'm doing that now, said Gavin of Redford who is presenting Crossroads Ceilidh, an evening of Celtic music and dance Wednesday, Dec. 30, at the Ark in downtown Ann Arbor. "I love to see the kids playing. The funny thing about the music is you can't create good students -

if they want to play, they'll find The concert will feature a variety of Irish musicians and dancers including U.S. National Scottish Junior Fiddle Champion Jeremy Kittle champion Irish

dancers, Paul Cusak of Plymouth, who will soon be joining the cast of Riverdance. Mike Belvitch and Pat Quinn. Glengary Road will perform the music of Cape Breton Island, and Charlie Wilkie, Dawn

Hudek, Gavin, Terence McKinney and others will perform traditional Irish music and songs. "The Ark is a well-known folk



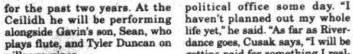
#### Fiddler: Look for Jeremy Kittle, U.S. National Scottish Junior Fiddle Cham-

pion, at the Crossroads Ceilidh. venue," said Gavin explaining why he chose the site. "There are

quite a few talented young peothese kids are finding. Kittle, 14, has been playing

classical violin since he was 5. "He called me, he got my name from the Ark and was looking for someone to teach him the fiddle," said Gavin. "He had a lot of background and also plays with the Saline Fiddler's Philharmon-

With Gavin's help, Kittle learned how to play the fiddle, Scottish Fiddle Junior Champion



uilleann pipes. "Tyler went to see 'Riverdance' and wanted to play pipes. He told his parents, and they found a set of pipes for him. He's really good on them. He's going to Ire-land this summer with his parents and to study pipes for a

Sean Gavin, 12, has been playing the flute for about nine months. "I've been listening to Irish music ever since I was a little kid, I just like everything about it," he said. "I think the concert's gonna be great. A lot of people have CDs of Celtic music, and enjoy listening to it."

Cusak, 18, a senior at Catholic Central High School is also looking forward to the concert. This has been a great year. In April he ple around, unfortunately, the won the All-World Dancing clubs around Detroit are not into Championships in Ireland. In promoting the kids and their July he tried out for, and was music, they have lost the art asked to join the Riverdance tour, a dream come true.

"I'll be attending a workshop on Feb. 28, and joining the tour this summer after I graduate. I'll tour for a year and see what happens," said Cusak. "Riverdance has put Irish dancing on the map. It's probably the most popular dance show in the world."

Cusak said he would like to but decided it would be a bit attend college and major in polit- wild, and wanted something parand has been the Great Lakes ical science. He hopes to get a ents could bring their children law degree and may even run for

haven't planned out my whole life yet," he said. "As far as Riverdance goes, Cusak says, "I will be getting paid for something I really like to do." He has been dancing since he was five years old. To get ready for "Riverdance" he's practicing as if he were preparing for a dance competi-

In March he performed at the St. Patrick's Day Fest at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland, which Gavin also organized

"He gives us an opportunity to put forth our talent," said Cusak. I enjoy dancing to his music and band. It's a lot of fun."

The concert will be very laidback. "It won't be organized," said Gavin. "If anyone in the audience wants to come up and sing or dance, they're welcome

Gavin describes a Ceilidh as just a gathering of musicians, dancers and singers. About 16 people will be performing including Gavin's other son, Michael. 22, who plays fiddle, guitar, and bouzouki, a long-necked string instrument that originated in Greece. "It's a cross between a banio and a guitar," said Gavin. "It's been in Ireland the last 40-50 years." He was thinking about doing

something for New Year's Eve,



Award-winning dancer: Paul Cusak, the first American male ever to win the All-Ireland senior Dance competition in 1997. and 1998 All-World Championship winner, will be participating in the Crossroads Ceilidh.

(NO-OF\*)E3

Youth Theatre, is a detective on the case of the "Vanish ing Amphibians," at the Detroit Zoo.

#### received the 1998 Governor's Award for Arts and Culture in "AM-TV: All Amphibians, All the Time" November and will perform at

Amphibians rarely come up in conversations, but the Detroit Zoo plans to change that with three new plays it's commissioned the Mosaic Youth Theatre to present Dec. 28-30 in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery.

The productions run in conjunction with the Smithsonian's traveling exhibition, "Vanishing Amphibians," on display in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery at

Where's Kermit? is just one of the subjects the youth theater addresses in the trilogy of short plays. A search for the Budweiser frogs further enlightens audiences about the decline of amphibian populations over the last 50 years. For some species. however, it's too late. An increase in UV-B rays resulting from ozone layer depletion, the effects of pesticides, fertilizers and herbicides and the introduction of predators and competitors has ed to their demise. Zoo director Ron Kagan said, that's why a National Amphibian Conservation Center, one of two large-

"We talked about funny ideas and came up with an Amphibian TV network," said Annette Madias, a Farmington Hills resi-Mosaic Youth Theatre. "What a attention." fun place to work. The kids

MONITORS

MODEMS

KEYBOARDS

& MUCH MORE

What: The Mosaic Youth Theatre presents three short plays deal ng with the plight of amphibians, held in conjunction with the Smithsonian traveling exhibition, "Vanishing Amphibians" which

When: 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 28-30.

Where: The Wildlife Interpretive Gallery at the Detroit Zoo. Wood ward Avenue and 10 Mile Road, Royal Oak

Cost: Free with zoo admission of \$7.50 adults, \$5.50 fo eniors/students, and \$4.50 children ages 2.12.

feed the animals or I went behind the scenes."

Gerry Craig, Wildlife Interpretive Gallery curator, was looking for creative ways to relay scientific facts when she commissioned the youth theater to write the plays about the disappearing amphibians

"It was great," said Craig. "There's a news reporter who tries to do an interview with Kermit the Frog and he's vanished, as have the Budweiser frogs. When they first brought back a draft, we decided what points were important- to open in the next two years at the what is an amphibian. Amphib- wasn't aware of, people all over ians always live near water, not the world counting amphibians. necessarily in it. They have soft moist skins that need water and lay their eggs in water. What we didn't realize was how much dent and managing director of Kermit was going to get their

Madias, youth theater founder

#### would come back to say 'I got to Rick Sperling, and members of the youth theater's Next Stage Company eventually came up with scripts to teach metamorphosis in "Leave It to Tadpole," a take off on the 1950s TV show "Leave it to Beaver." "The Case of the Vanishing Amphibians" is a whodunit which uncovers the reasons for disappearing amphibians, and the "Jerry Hopper Show" features an amphibian and reptile couple as bickering talk-show guests.

After we studied the materials Gerry gave us and saw the Smithsonian exhibit. I got on the Internet," said Madias. "There's a understand metamorphosis and lot of work being done that I

Founded in 1992, the Mosaic Youth Theatre is housed in the historic Fort Wayne in southwest Detroit. Comprised of youth from Detroit, Southfield, Farmington Hills, Bloomfield Hills, Dearborn, and Windsor, the theater

"Introduction to

the Internet"

BY DRIVEN INTERNET

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one of the Inaugural events in Lansing Sperling created Mosaic as a multi-cultural arts organization whose mission is "to develop young theater artists through comprehensive theatri cal training and to provide high quality performances for audi ences of all ages. "We try to work that mosaic of racial and economic diversity by bringing in kids who in their

everyday life might not come into contact with each other," said Madias. "We've see what happens when the city and the suburbs come together - black and white and Latino."

The Youth Ensemble consists of 105 students who auditioned in September for the 10 months of free theatrical training offered by Mosaic. There is also a 16member National Touring Company, and the eight member Next Stage Company, comprised of youth ages 17 to 23 who are paid "so they're able to go to col-

lege and have Next Stage as a



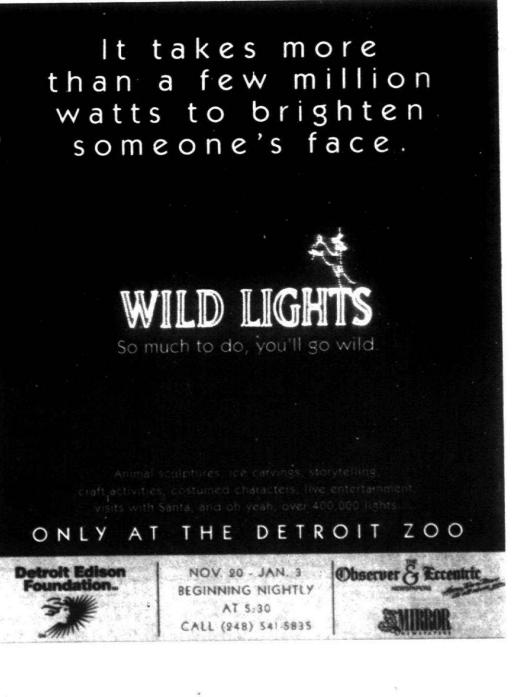
On the trail: Brian McIntosh, an actor with the Mosaic

part-time job Craig originally approached the multi-cultural youth theater of the Coral Reef in 1997. The outh theater had held a benefit it the Detroit Artists Market where Craig was then executive

director. lot of groups perform. We were in 1996.

looking for the right flavor and style to appeal to zoo audiences. The Mosaic Youth Theatre has a to collaborate on a production to high energy, hip, engaging style celebrate the International Year that appeals to teens as well as kids

Craig plans to expand the performing arts at the theater in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery "We were looking for someone Craig already has booked a varito collaborate with, to bring ety of entertainment from chamthese issues to the forefront, the ber music concerts to puppet plight of amphibians vanishing shows since the gallery opened worldwide." said Craig. "I see a in the renovated old bird house



ECEMBER 26-27 BUY 7 TRADE TRADE SELL SATURDAY 10-9 · SUNDAY 10-6 SELL LANN **OVER 150 SAVE UP** SOFTWARE TABLES HARDWARE **TO 70%** ADMISSION ONLY S2.00 PER CARLOAD! ACCESSORIES ON NEW AND USED PRODUCTS INCLUDING Why Pay \$5.00 Per Person! . . . . . . . . . . . . . 000'S OF C.D.'S FREE SHAREWARE GAMES . BOOKS SEMINARS SCANNERS

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Youth theater tracks vanishing amphibians continues to Jan. 10

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Suars a week

### A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

#### THEATER

DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE Ad Altare Del (Unto the Altar of d)," John Shea's play about faith, beauty and a priest who uses a hockey stick to straighter out sinners, through Dec. 31, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. 8:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. \$15. (313) 868-1347 or DetRepTh@aol.com FISHER THEATRE

"You're a Good Man. Charlie Brown," 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, at the theater, 3011 W. Grand Boulevard, Detroit. . \$26.50-\$49. (248) 645-6666/(313) 871-1132 GEM THEATRE

"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change," through Jan. 3, at the theater's new location, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesdays (\$27.50), 8 p.m. Thursdays (\$27.50), 8 p.m. Fridays (\$32.50), 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays (\$32.50), 2 p.m. Sundays (\$27.50) and 6 p.m. Sundays (\$19.50). (313) .963-9800

JET "Resident Alien," an intergalactic comedy of love and acceptance by Stuart Spencer, through Sunday, Jan. 3, at the theater 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield, (248) 788-2900 or http://comnet.org/jet

#### MEADOW BROOK THEATRE

"A Christmas Carol," continues to Sunday, Dec. 27, Wilson Hall, Oakland University campus, Rochester. \$25-\$36. (248) 377-3300

#### COLLEGE WSU HILBERRY THEATRE

"Scapin," in rotating repertory to Feb. 3; Charles Dickens' classic "A Tale of Two Cities," runs in rotating repertory to March 4, at the theater, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$17. (313) 577-2972

#### DINNER THEATER BACI ABBRACCI ITALIAN CHOPHOUSE

"Tony n' Tina's Wedding," an interactive theatre show with patrons having an Italian dinner. and dancing to a live band per forming traditional Italian wed ding songs, has an open-ended run, at the restaurant, 40 W. Pike St., Pontiac. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays. \$50 Thursdays and Sundays, \$55 Fridays and Saturdays, in advance at 8 W Lawrence St., Pontiac. Special New Year's Eve performances, 6 p.m. (\$75) and \$10 p.m. (\$100). Later show includes full-course dinner, party favors, and dancing. (248) 745-8668/(248) 645-6666 **GENITTI'S HOLE-IN-THE-WALL** 

Live interactive children's theater program, "Santa's Workshop," through Wednesday, Dec. 23, at the restaurant, 108 E. Main St., Northville, \$9.65 for children \$11.65 adults, includes lunch show, tax and gratuity. (248) 349-0522

#### YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

#### MADOUNS THEATRE

"Cinderella," 2:30 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, 9 and 16, 2:30 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 27 and Jan. 3, 10 and 17, and 2:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Dec. 28-31, at the theater, 135 E. Main St., Northville, \$6.50. (248) 349-8110

#### PUPPETART

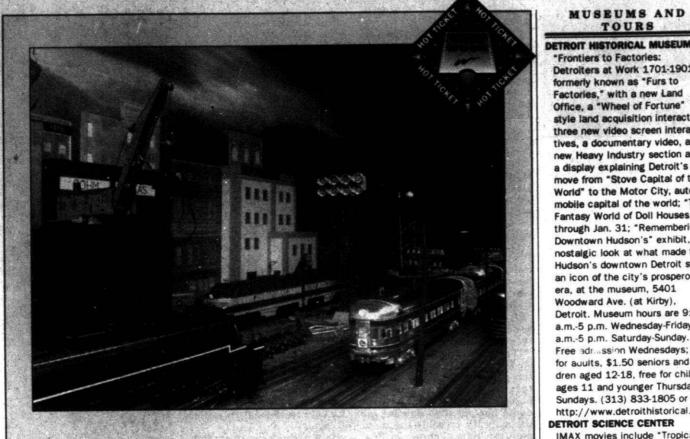
"Cinderella," 2 p.m. Saturday Dec. 26, 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, and 2 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 28-29, a the Detroit Puppet Theater, 26 E Grand River, between Woodward Avenue and Farmer Street. Detroit, (313) 961-7777

#### VILLAGE PLAYERS "Cinderella," 2 p.m. Wednesday

Dec. 30, 3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, and 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2. at the theater, 752 Chestnut, south of Maple, east of Hunter, Birmingham, \$8 Wednesday and Saturday, free Thursday to anyone with a \$7 First Night Birmingham button. (248) 644-

#### 2075 WILD SWAN THEATER

"The Cricket in Times Square." through Saturday, Jan. 2, Anderson Theatre at Henry Ford



Toys and Trains: The Wonderful World of Toy Trains, the world's largest bile model railroad display, will be featured at the Toy & Hobby Expo '98, Dec. 26-27 at the Novi Expo Center, I-96 & Novi Road (Exit 162). In addition to model trains, you'll find collectible toys, models, bears, and dolls, including Barbies and Beanie Babies. Paul Adams, who is known for his automobile and train art, and the recently completed Holiday Memories J.L. Hudson's Christmas 1951, will be showing and selling his works. Show hours are 3-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27. Admission is adults \$6, children ages 4-12, \$3. Parking \$4. Call (248) 348-5600 for information.

#### Museum, Dearborn. (734) 763-TKTS/(734) 995-0530/(248) 645-6666

#### SPECIAL EVENTS HELLFIRE WRESTLING

Professional wrestling from Psychopathic Productions, 7 p.m Sunday, Dec. 27, Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10. All ages. (313) 833-9700

#### BENEFIT

CONCEPT: CURE FASHION JAM Featuring cars designed by fashion designers such as a Chevrolet Cavalier Convertible by BCBG's Max Azria, an Oldsmobile Alero by Vivienne Tam, a Chevy Venture by Nicholas Graham for Joe Boxer, a GMC Sierra by Joseph Abboud, and a Pontiac Grand Am by Dana Buchman, music performances and visual displays to showcase the unveiling of five one-of-a-kind vehicles from GM. Sunday, Jan. 4, Detroit Opera House, Detroit. Benefits the Alexander J. Wall Comprehensive Breast Center a the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute. \$125; a limited number of 12-seat boxes are \$1,500. (248) 443-5800 before Dec. 29, or (313) 961-3500 afterward.

#### FAMILY EVENTS **KWANZAA CELEBRATION**

Featuring daily rituals and perfor mances, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26 to Friday, Jan. 1, at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African-American History, 315 E. Warren St., Detroit. Free with museum admission. (313) 494-5800 POOL FUN Jewish Community Center is host

ing a pool party at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 25 (free), and con cert by Ron Coden at 2:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 25 (\$3), at the **Jimmy Prentis Morris Building** 15110 W. 10 Mile Road, Oal Park. (248) 967-4030

#### AUDITIONS/ **OPPORTUNITIES**

PLYMOUTH ORATORIO SOCIETY Rehearsals begin 7:15 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4, First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth. "Mass in G" by Schubert, and "Chichester Psalms" by Bernstein will be performed. Scores may be purchased for \$7 and \$9, respectively. No auditons required. (734) 455-8353

JAZZ

14

#### TERRY CALLIER With Straight Ahead, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 2, in the main auditorium at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Avenue, \$25, \$20, \$15, (313) 833-4005 UDIE COCHILL QUARTET 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursday, Dec 31, at Duet at Orchestra Hall,

#### 3711 Woodward Ave. at Mack Avenue, Detroit. (313) 831-3838 HEIDI HEPLER AND MICHELE 7-10 p.m. Wednesdays to Saturdays at Encore in the Quality Inn, 1801 S. Telegraph

Road, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 335-3790; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, at Vic's Market, 42875 Grand River Ave., Novi (248) 305-7333 (vocal/piano/bass) KATHY KOSINS TRIO

#### 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham, Free, 21 and older (248) 645-2150

(vocals/piano/bass) SHEILA LANDIS AND RICK MATLE 5-8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, The Coffee Beanery, 152 N. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. (248) 646-6022

**ROBERT PIPHO** 8 p.m. Mondays in December Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Avenue at Mack, Detroit. (313) 831-3838 TAMMY RAFFERTY

9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26. Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 21 and older. (734) 662-8310 WALLACE RONEY QUINTET

8:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. Friday Saturday, Jan. 1-2, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$15 in advance. 21 and older. (734) 662-8310 URSULA WALKER AND BUDDY

BUDSON With Dan Kolton, 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursdays at Forte, 201 S.

Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free, 21 and older. (248) 594-

#### POETRY/ SPOKEN WORD

POETRY IN MOTION Featuring Detroit Black Writers Guild and their senior poetry editor Karen Williams, 7-10 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, at the Grand Cafe, 33316 Grand River, east o Farmington Road, Farmington. Free. (248) 615-9181/(248) 821-1919/(313) 299-9909

#### DANCE

CONTRA DANCE English Country dancing with live music by David West and Donna Baird, all dances taught, previous experience and partner not required, 7-9:45 p.m. Tuesday,

#### Dec. 29, at the Chapel Hill Condominium Clubhouse, 3350 Green Road, north of Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 662-

5158 RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

Featuring the Rockettes, through Wednesday, Dec. 30, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$52.50. (248) 645-6666 WOLVERINE SILVERSPUR

#### DANCERS 7:30 p.m. to midnight Thursday.

Dec. 31. Italian American Cultural Center, 28111 Imperial St., Warren. \$7, \$6 WSD members. (810) 573-4993

#### COMEDY

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB Hector Rezzano, Frank Turner, Alyce Faye and Joey Bielaska, Thursday, Dec. 31, at the club above Kicker's All American Grill 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 8 n.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 261-0555 JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT

#### PAISANO'S Derek Richards, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26 (\$10, \$22.95 dinner show pack age) during which he will record "Twas the Nightmare After Christmas" CD, and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27 (\$6); Norm Stulz, 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2 (\$10, \$22.95 dinner show pack age), and 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 3 (\$6), at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn, (313) 584-8885 MAINSTREET COMEDY SHOWCASE

314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734) 996-9080 MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE Stunt Johnson Theatre and David Glover, Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 24-

27: Dan Wilson and Kevin McPeek, Wednesday-Saturday Dec. 30-Jan. 3, at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak, 8:30 n.m. Tuesdays (\$5), 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays (\$6). 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays (\$12), and 7:30 p.m. Sundays (\$6). Prices

#### subject to change. (248) 542-9900 or http://www.comedycas tle.com

2222

SECOND CITY "Daimlers are a Girl's Best Friend," a fifth anniversary celebration show retrospective, 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays with additional shows at 10:30 p.m. on Fridays-Saturdays through Feb. 7, at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, \$17,50 on Fridays, and \$19.50 on Saturdays. (313) 965-

#### MUSEUMS AND TOURS

\*Frontiers to Factories: Detroiters at Work 1701-1901," formerly known as "Furs to Factories," with a new Land Office, a "Wheel of Fortune" style land acquisition interactive, three new video screen interactives, a documentary video, a new Heavy Industry section and a display explaining Detroit's move from "Stove Capital of the World" to the Motor City, automobile capital of the world; "The Fantasy World of Doll Houses," through Jan. 31; "Remembering Downtown Hudson's" exhibit, a nostalgic look at what made the Hudson's downtown Detroit store an icon of the city's prosperous era, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free adr., ssion Wednesdays: \$3 for auults, \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1805 or http://www.detroithistorical.org DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER IMAX movies include "Tropical Rainforest" at 10 a.m. Mondays Fridays, "Snecial Effects" at 1:10 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and "Everest" multiple showings seven days a week at the cente 5020 John R (at Warren). Detroit. Admission to Exhibit Hall is \$3 for adults \$2 for children ages 3-15 and adults ages 60 and older, free for children ages 2 and younger. IMAX films are additional \$4. (313) 577-8400 DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM Christmas hours, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Wednesday, Dec. 26-30; "Annual Ford Fleet Festival," 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 28-30 at the museum, 100 Strand Dr., on Belle Isle. \$2 adults, \$1 seniors and students; free for children ages 12 and younger (313) 852-4051 or http://www.detroithistorical.org HENRY FORD ESTATE The National Hisotric Landmark features a role-play of Clara Ford. wife of Henry Ford for 59 nine years, on the hour between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday-Thursday, Dec. 26, 28-31, and hourly 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday

Dec. 27, Pool Restaurant open for lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Wednesdau, Dec. 28-30. at Fair Lane, 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. \$7, \$6 seniors/students, children unde

age five free. (313) 593-5590 CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEUM "The Buffalo Soldier," a historica documentary on the African-American soldier in the U.S. Arm during the years 1866-1912, through Jan. 3, at The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warre Ave., Detroit. \$5, \$3 children ages 17 and younger, free for members and children younger than 5. (313) 494-5800. **HENRY FORD MUSEUM &** 

GREENFIELD VILLAGE Traditions of the Season continues through Sunday, Jan. 3. at the Village and Museum, Oakwood Boulevard and Village Road in Dearborn, just west of the Southfield Freeway and south of Michigan Avenue. Museum & Village open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Closed Christmas Day Admission, adults \$12,50 senior citizens 62 and older

\$11.50: children 5-12 years old \$7.50: children under five and members admitted free. Call (313) 271-1620 for more infor mation

#### POPULAR MUSIC

"ANTI-FREEZE BLUES FESTIVAL" With Larry McCray, Johnnie Bassett and the Blues Insurgents, Thornetta Davis and Black Beauty, Big Dave and the Ultrasonics and Robert Jones, 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 1, and Johnnie Johnson, Jim McCarty and Willie D. Warren with Mystery Train, The Butler Twins with Jeff Grand, The Reefermen and Randy Volin and the Sonic Blues, 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2. Magic Bag. 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale \$15 each night, \$25 for two-day pass. Benefits Detroit Blues Society. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com (blues) **GORDON BENNETT** 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Saturday.

Dec. 26, Hamlin Pub, 1988 S. Rochester Road, Rochester. Free 21 and older. (248) 656-7700

BIG DAVE AND THE ULTRASONICS 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St. Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (jump blues) "BLIND PIG SHOWCASE" With Bridget McCarty, Harbingers Mile, The Zoom and Big Budget Fiasco, 9:3C p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, Blind Pig. 206

208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Free 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (variety) HLUE ROSE 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, The

U. arn Club, 210 S. First St., Ann Arbor, Cover charge, 21 and older. (734) 332-9900 (blues) BLUE SUIT FEATURING ALBERTA ADAMS

9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty St., Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 451-1213 (blues) BLUES LIFE

9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, Duggan's Irish Pub, 6722 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, Free, 21 and older, (248) 625-3900 (blues) DAVE BOUTETTE

8-10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, Espresso Rovale Cafe, 214 S Main St., Ann Arbor, Free, All ages. (734) 668-1838 (singer/songwriter) BRANDED

10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30. Bullfrog Bar and Grill, 15414 Telegraph Road (one block north of Five Mile Road), Redford, Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 533-4477 (rock)

CONNIPTION With Bowlscraper, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 334-9292; 9 p.m. Friday Jan. 1, Blind Pig. 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (rock)

"EVOLUTION DANCE" With Kevin Saunderson, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 25, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit

\$25 in advance, \$35. All ages (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com (tech AL HILL

8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave. Bloomfield Hills, Free, All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

ELVIS HITLER 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, Lili's. 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. \$5. 21 and older. (313) 876-5555 or http://www.lilis21.com (rock)

LISA HUNTER 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26 Lonestar Coffee, 207 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham

Free. All ages. (248) 642-2233 (acoustic rock) STONEY MAZAAR AND THE

WESTSIDERS 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, Fo

and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues) MUDPUPPY

9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26. Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Mair St. Roval Oak, Free, 21 and older. (248) 543-0917 (R&B/blues)

#### MURDER CITY WRECKS

With Easy Action and the Gore Gore Girls, 9 p.m. Saturday. Dec 26, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave Detroit, Cover charge, 18 and older. (313) 833-POOL (rock)

#### MYSTERY TRAIN WITH JIM MCCARTY

9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, Bad Frog Tavern, 555 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 624-9400 (blues **KEANU REEVES BAND** 

With P.S. I Love You, former! known as Muscles, and Wolf Eyes, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26 Gold Dollar 3129 Cass Ave Detroit. Cover charge, 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or http://www.golddollar.com

#### (rock) SAX APPEAL

8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30. For and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, Free A ages. (248) 644-4800 (pop)

THE SIGHTS AND THE PORTERS 9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29. Mag Stick in the Majestic complex 4140 Woodward Ave . Detroit

Free. 18 and older.) (313) 833 9700 (rock) TELEGRAPH

With Fletcher Pratt, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, St. Andrew Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit Please see next page **U**days a week Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Christina Fuoco;

Continued from previous page \$4. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com (ska)

TPALE

(248) 377-0100 or

P.W. LONG'S REELFOOT

STEVE NARDELLA

ASHVILLE PUSSY

(rock)

http://www.palacenet.com

Stick in the Majestic, 4140

9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31,

older. (313) 961-MELT or

Thursday, Dec. 31, throughout

Ypsilanti. \$12.50 adults, \$5 chil-

dren ages 6-12, and free for child

advance; \$15 adults and \$5 chil

dren ages 5 and younger, in

dren at the door. (734) 483-

http://www.ypsilanti.org (vari-

9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursday, Dec

31, Edison's, 220 Merrill St.,

4444/(734) 995-7281 or

SHAHIDA NURULLAH TRIO

(248) 645-2150 (jazz

B.B. QUEEN ROADSHOW

10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31,

Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main

St., Royal Oak, Cover charge

With Marilyn Scott, 7:30 p.m.

and 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec

Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$25,

favors and champagne provided

for 11:30 show. (313) 961-5451

With Mudpuppy, 9 p.m. Thursday,

Woodward Ave., Detroit, \$20 in

With Queenbee, 9 p.m. Thursday,

Dec. 31, Alvin's, 5756 Cass

Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older.

http://www.alvins.xtcom.com

Performs as part of "Al Capone

Club, 28949 Joy Road, Westland

\$10-\$15, includes buffet and

champagne toast. 21 and older.

New Year's Eve Party," 9 p.m.

Thursday Dec 31 24 Karat

advance, 18 and older, (313)

http://www.99music.com

31. State Theatre, 2115

KIM SIMMONDS AND SAVOY

Dec 31 Majestic 4140

833-9700 or

(313) 832-2355 or

SWING SYNDICATE

(734) 513-5030

TWISTIN' TARANTULAS

With Wailin' Inc., and the

Reefermen, 9 p.m. Thursday

Dec. 31. Fifth Avenue, 215 W.

Fifth Ave., Royal Oak, \$40, \$70

couples, includes champagne

toast, buffet dinner and party

favors. 21 and older. (248) 542

10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, Karl s

Cabin, 9779 Gotfredson Road.

Plymouth \$10, includes party

favors, champagne toast. Cover

waived with dinner. Holiday menu

includes lobster tail, prime rib, 1

1 / 2 pound t bone, vegetarian

dishes, and fish 21 and older

Reservations preferred 1734

9.30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31

Baci: 40 W. Pike St., Pontiac

\$15 includes music 21 and

Ider (248) 253 1300 (jazz

NEW

YEAR'S

EVENTS

New Year's Eve Titanic themeo

at the restaurant bar, 114 E

Washington St. Ann Arbor

party 9 p.m. Thursday Dec. 31

Costumes are encouraged prizes

for best costume \$45 includes

tour course dinner live music

Brothers and Sisters of Love

with Gnettobillies and Original

ARBOR BREWING COMPANY

STUN GUN

(rock)

9922

WITCH DOCTORS

455-8450

ALEXANDER ZONJIC

includes champagne toast, party

favors. 21 and older. (248) 543-

vocals/piano/bass)

4300

(lazz)

BROWN

DAVID SANBORN

"NEW YEAR JUBILEE"

elebrates release of new CD v h party and performance, 9 p. 1. Satur lay, Dec. 26, Alvin's, 5756 Cas Ave., Detroit, \$5, 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or http://www.alvins.xtcom.com (rock)



1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, Jimmy Prentis Morris Building, Jewish Community Center, 15110 W. 10 Mile Road, Oak Park. Free tickets issued at JPM reception desk, (248) 967-4030 BENNY AND THE JETS 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31 O'Mara's, 2555 W. 12 Mile Road (at Coolidge Highway), Berkley.

Special menu ranging from \$16.95-\$36.95. Party favors and complimentary champagne toas at midnight, 21 and older, (313 730-1627/(248) 399-6750 (rock) BLUE ROSE

9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, Red Dog Saloon, 250 W. Summit, Milford, Free, 21 and older, (248) 685-2171 (blues) "BLUE YEAR'S EVE PARTY"

With Bugs Beddow Band, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dec. 31, Kingsley Inn 1475 N. Woodward Ave.. Bloomfield Hills. \$199 per couple includes appetizers, cocktails, dinner and dancing, 12 drink tick ets, party favors, toast at midnight and breakfast; \$289 per couple includes same plus overnight guest room. (248) 644-

1400 or http://www.bugsbeddow.com (blues) THE BLUESBURNERS 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31,

#### McCarthy's, 1600 W. Fort St., at 10th Street, Detroit, Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 496-0626 (rock/blues)

**RON BROOKS TRIO** With Stephanie from the Flint band Oasis, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, Bird of Paradise, 207 S Ashlev St., Ann Arbor, \$50, \$90 couples. (734) 662-8310 (jazz) DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA "New Year's Eve Gala," with con ductor Neeme Jarvi, violinist Alexander Markov, and the Keith Saxton Orchestra, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31. Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave. Detroit. Dinner catered by Matt Prentice and dancing on the stage with music by the Keith

Saxton Orchestra follow the con cert. \$50-\$75. \$100 box seats. (313) 576-5111 or http://www.detroitsymphony.co

#### JIMMY DILLON

9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, Amer's First Street Grill, 102 S. First St. Ann Arbor. \$50 for dinner and show, \$20 show only, benefits Ann Arbor Blues and Jazz Festival. 21 and older. (734) 213-6000

#### RACHELLE FERRELL

With Storming Norman Brown. 7:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts. 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$26. \$36, and \$50. Party favors and champagne for 11 p.m. (313)

#### 730-3490/(248) 645-6666 (jazz: HEIDI HEPLER/MICHELE

RAMO/TODD CURTIS 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursday, Dec 31, at Il Posto Ristorante, 29110 Franklin Road, Southfield, (248)

#### 827-8070 HOWLING DIABLOS

(R&B/rOCK)

With 60 Second Crush and Face 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31. Magic Bag. 22920 Woodward Ave Ferndale \$25 includes show hors dioeuvies and party favors 21 and older (248) 544 3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com

#### IMPERIAL SWING ORCHESTRA

930 pm Thursday, Dec 31 Blind Pig. 206-208 S. First St. Ann Arbor \$12 in advance, only at the Blind Pig 19 and older (734) 996 8555 (swing)

#### JIMMIE JACKSON AND THE BLUES CONNECTION

9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31 Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave . Bloomfield Hills Free Al ages (248) 644 4800 KISS

"The Psycho Circus 3D Tour with special guest Caroline's Spine, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31



all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric

Family affair: Todd Curtis (left) joins sister Heidi Hepler and brother-in-law Michele Ramo for their rare mix of music. They'll be performing 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursday. Dec. 31, at Il Posto Ristorante, 29110 Franklin Road in Southfield.

four-course beer sampler, and champagne toast at midnight. 21 and older. (734) 213-1393 or http://www.arborbrewing.com

CITY CLUB Goth club hosts New Year's Eve

#### party with local DJs, 9 p.m. Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. Thursday, Dec. 31, at the club in the Ramada Hotel, 400 Bagley St. (at Cass Avenue), Detroit.

(313) 962-2300

JD'S MACOMB THEATRE "Swing, Jazz and Rock 'n' Roll" party with live music from an eight-piece swing orchestra, a jazz act, and rockers Tommy C and the Burnouts, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, at the club. 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. \$15, or \$25 per couple

21 and older. (810) 913-1921 \$35 and \$50. 18 and older. Party JEWISH ENSEMBLE THEATRE "Resident Alien," by Stuart Spencer, 6:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, Aaron DeRoy Theatre, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. \$35 includes champagne, hors d'oeuvres and "gizmos" for 6:30 p.m. show:

#### \$50 includes the same plus breakfast for 10 p.m. show (248) 788-2900

ROYAL OAK MUSIC THEATRE Fourth Street New Year's Eve party, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31. at the club, 318 W. Fourth St. Royal Oak, \$45 in advance, \$55 at the door, and includes buffet dinner, champagne toast, hats and party favors, and continental breakfast, 21 and older, (248) 645-6666/(248) 546-6410

#### VELVET LOUNGE "Speakeasy New Year's Eve." a celebration of the repeal of prohibition, featuring complimentary champagne toast, and a perfor mance by Superdot. 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, at the club 29 S. Saginaw St., Pontiac Cover charge, 21 and older

#### (248) 334-7411 WOLVERINE SILVERSPUR

#### DANCERS

7:30 p.m. to midnight Thursday. Dec. 31. Italian American Cultural Center, 28111 Imperia

#### St., Warren. \$7, \$6 WSD members. (810) 573-4993

CHARLES H. WRIGHT PARTY "Millennium Bound" features dancing with the Maestros of Music. Mike Brown and Joe Davison and Associates, perfo mances by the Buster Williams Ouintet Hazzi, Johnny Walker Quartet (jazz) Robert Penn Blues Band, Universal Expression Reggael, and Jazz Head Lacid azzi, complimentary champagne toast at midnight and party taxors 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday Dec 31 Charles H Wright Museum of African America History, 315 E. Warren St. Detroit Black tie optional \$70 \$125 per couple \$150 \$250 per ouple for VIP tickets which include access to a private lounge with complimentary char pagne and "high end" hors diveu res 313 494 5800

CLUB NIGHTS ALVIN'S

The Sugar Shack, ladies only dance night, 10 p.m. Sundays; The Hush Party with resident DJs Melvin Hill and DJ Cent, 10 p.m. Mondays; and Club Color, featuring funk and disco, 8 p.m. Wednesdays (free before 10 p.m.), at the club. 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older (313) 832-2355 or http://www.alvins.xtcom.com **BLIND PIG** 

"Swing-a-billy" night with dance lessons from 7-8 p.m. and a per formance by The Penthouse Playboys follows at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, with DJ De Villarreal, at the club, 206-208 S First St., Ann Arbor. \$6 in advance, \$8 day of show; "Solar" night, 10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30, at the club. \$6. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555

#### CLUTCH CARGO'S/MILL STREET "Flashback" night with "The Planet" WPLT on level two

(Clutch Cargo's), old school funk on level three, and techno and house on level four, 8:30 p.m. Saturdays, at the club, 65 E Huron, Pontiac, Free before 9 p.m. 21 and older. (248) 333 2362 or http://www.961melt.com

THE GROOVE ROOM Funk, hip-hop and top 40 with DJ Mac D, Thursdays. Women admitted free: "Love Factory" alternative dance night Fridays:

Alternative dance with DJ Matt

Saturdays: Alternative dance Tuesdays; gothic, industrial and retro with DJ Paul Wednesdays Free, at the club, 1815 N. Main St. (at 12 Mile Road), Royal Oak Free before 10 p.m. nightly, 21 and older. (248) 589-3344 or http://www.thegrooveroom.con

#### MAJESTIC THEATRE CENTER Good Sounds," with music by The Tonehead Collective and mages by Thomas Video, 9 p.m. Fridays at Magic Stick, 18 and Rock in Bowl happy hour with bowling, music and complimentary food from the Majestic Cafe. 5-8 p.m. Fridays at Garden Bow nm Fridays and DJ Gutterball p.m. Saturdays at Garden Bowl Free 18 and older. "The Bird s

Nest," punk rock night with live performances 9 p.m. Mondays at Magic Stick Free 15 and older "Soul Shakedown" with D Big Andy 9 p.m. Tuesdays at Magic Stick Free 21 and blde 313 833 9700

#### MOTOR LOUNGE

Back Room Mondays - service industries employee appreciation night 9 pm to ; am Mondays Free 21 and older Community Presents' with resident DIS 9 pm to 2 am Tuesdays \$3 18 and older . Maximum Overload 9 p.m. Fridays \$6, 18 and older Divine with Dis Mike Clark Mark Flash and Brian Gillespie p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturdays \$6.2 and older all at the club, 3515 Caniff Hamtrans F 1313: 396 COSO or http://www.motorde

#### ONE X

Men & Ment New York Style dance party with D. St. Ands. spinning high-energy, progressive house, 10 p.m. Fridays; "Family Funktion Internal Groove" DJ Alton Miller, 10 p.m. Saturdays at the club, 2575 Michigan Ave. in Detroit's Corktown area. Cove charge. 21 and older. (313) 964-

ST. ANDREW'S/THE SHELTER Three Floors of Fun" with hiphop and rap in St. Andrew's Hall, alternative music in The Shelter with DJs Dianna and Quig, and techno and dance in the Burns Room, 10 p.m. Fridays. \$3 before 11 p.m., \$5 afterward. 18 and older: X2K dance night. 10 p.m. Saturdays: "Incinerator," 9 p.m. Wednesdays in The Shelter. \$6 21 and older. St. Andrew's and The Shelter are at 431 E Congress, Detroit. (313) 961 MELT or

#### http://www.961melt.com STATE THEATRE

7040

Ignition" dance night, 9 p.m. Saturdays at the club, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (313) 961

#### 24 KARAT CLUB

"Latin Dance Night" with DJ Ronny Lucas, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursdays. \$3: Live music Friday and Saturdays (see popular music calendar): Swing lessons for advanced dancers. 8 p.m. Tuesdays (\$3 for 21 and older \$5 for 18 and older), and for beginners, 8 p.m. Wednesdays \$3 for 21 and older. \$5 for 18 and older), at the club, 28949 Road itwo blocks east of Middlebelt Road), Westland, (734) 513-5030

#### VELVET LOUNGE

"Decadia," a mix of music from the 1960s-1990s, 9 p.m. Thursdays, Free, 18 and older "Swing Night" with DJ Sonny spinning big band, swing and lounge, 8 p.m. Fridays, \$3: DJ Sonny spins big band, swing and Latin dance, 8 p.m. Saturdays \$3 21 and older: "SLAM" night featuring house and techno on the main and abstraction in beats 9 p.m. Sundays Free 18 and older. Intermediate and advance swing lessons 810 p.m. Mondays Free 18 and older Beginner swing lessons, 8-10 p.m. Tuesdays Free 18 and older and and West Coast Swing dance lessons 810 pm Wednesdays Free 18 and olde at the club 29 S Saginaw St Pontiac (248) 334 7411

#### ART GIFTS

CREATIVE ARTS CENTER Holiday Marketplace featuring items of all medial from glass ornaments to paintings and prints through Jan 2 47 Williams Street Pontiac 248 333 7849

#### PEWABIC POTTERY

Annual Holiday Instational Show "Farthy Treasures " continues. through Thursday, Dec. 31 10125 E. Jefferson Avenue Detroit 3131822/0954

#### PHOTO SALE

Featuring work by photographer Marci Silk through Dec 31 Call 248 544 1203

#### SWANN GALLERY

Holiday show featuring the multimedia works of Gloria Dunn, through Dec. 31, 1250 Library St., Detroit, (313) 965-4826, noon to 5 p.m. Saturday-Monday 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday.

#### CALL FOR ARTISTS

ANN ARBOR STREET FAIR Original juried art fair now accepting applications for 1999. Artists should send selfaddressed stamped envelope to the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair. P.O. Box 1352, Ann Arbor, MI 48106. Or call (734) 994-5260 Applications must be received by

#### Feb. 5. BIRMINGHAM CONCERT BAND

Adult musicians (woodwind, brass and especially percussion players) of all ages. Rehearsals are 7:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesdays beginning Jan. 7, at Groves High School, 13 Mile Road, west of Southfield Road, in Birmingham Call Bruce Kramer (248) 333 7519 for details.

#### FINE ARTS COMPETITION Call for entries for the 1999 Michigan Fine Arts Competition presented by the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, March 5 26. Open to artists at least 18

years old living and working in Michigan. Works in all media accepted. Cash prizes total \$9,000. Submit 35 mm color slides by Jan. 4, 1999. For details, contact Lizbeth Spink (248) 644-0866 Ext. 103. HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

Creative Arts Center, N. Oakland County, invites local artists to participate in its annual "Holiday Marketplace Gift Shop," through Jan. 2, 1999. Fee: \$15. 47 Williams Street, Pontiac, (248) 333-7849.

#### MADISON CHORALE

Open to singers from any commu nity. Auditions 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5. Wilkinson Middle School, 26524 John R. Madison Heights: (248) 548-6340. SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

#### COMMUNITY CHOIR

Auditions for new members 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 12 and Jan 19. room 530 of the Forum Building, Schoolcraft College 18600 Haggerty Road (betwee Six and Seven Mile Road), Call Shari Clason (248) 349-8175 or the college (734) 462-4435 to schedule an appointment

#### CLASSES & WORKSHOPS BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD ART

CENTER Offers a range of art classes. including children's holiday gift workshops. 1516 S. Cranbrook Road, Birmingham, call (248) 644-0866 for more information

#### CREATIVE ARTS CENTER

Winter classes for children, teens and adults begin Jan. 16. Eightweek courses include cartooning drawing, arts and crafts, paint ing, pottery, multimedia exploration, photography and blues guitar, Fees vary, 47 Williams Street. Pontiac. (248) 333-7849

#### DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Classes for adults, educators and outh. Call for details, (313) 833 4249. 5200 Wooktward Ave.

#### GEIGER CLASSIC BALLET ACADEMY

Newly refurbished dance studio opening for new enrollment 782 Denison Court, Bloomfield Hills. 12481 334 1300

#### KAMMUELLER DANCE CLASSES

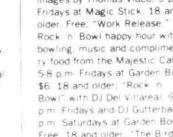
Advanced and professional classi cal ballet program 9 30 a m Monday Friday intermediate level Tuesday Thursday & Fridays at 11 30 am 5526 W Drake West Bloomfield 248 432 8699

#### PEWABIC POTTERY

Winter classes. Call for fees 10125 E Jefferson Detroit 313 822 (1954

#### PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS

COUNCIL Winter classes & workshops for all ages including sculpture watercolor dance decorative painting pottery film drawing children's theater creative wri ing and more 174 N Sheldon Road For schedule call 734 416 4278



No. Market

(NO-OF

'Shakespeare in Love' a treat for the heart

#### BY VICTORIA DIAZ SPECIAL WRITER

Young Will Shakespeare is suf-fering from a rather stubborn case of writer's block. Then, one evening, he spies a beautiful stranger across a crowded room and falls hopelessly, helplessly, maddeningly in love at first sight. This passion inspires him to sit right down and write one of the most enduring love stories of all time, "Romeo and Juliet." This, in a nutshell, is the fanci-

ful plot of director John Madden's new film, "Shakespeare in Love." Who knows if a smidgen of it is true? Who cares if the idea sounds slightly silly on paper? In and of itself, this

**National Amuse** 

Showcase Cinema

Showcase Auburn Hills 1-14

2150 N. Opdyke R

een University & Walte

810-373-2660

Bargain Matinees Dail All Shows until 6 pm

Continuous Shows Dai

Late Shows Wed Thurs. Fri. S

NP DENOTES NO PASS

P STAR TREK: INSURRECTIO

(PG) NP JACK FROST (PG)

NP PSYCHO (R)

NP BUG'S LIFE (G)

BABE (G)

HOME FRIES (PG13)

VERY BAD THINGS (R)

ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)

RUGRATS (G)

MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)

WATERBOY (PC13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Showcase Dearborn 1-8

Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3449

Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm

Continuous Shows Daily

" Late Shows Fri. & Sat. & Sur

NP DENOTES NO PASS

P STAR TREK: INSURRECTION

(PG) NP JACK FROST (PG)

NP PSYCHO (R)

NP BUG'S LIFE (G)

BABE (G)

ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)

STILL KNOW WHAT YOU D

LAST SUMMER (R)

WATERBOY (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Showcase Pontiac 1-5 Telegraph-Sq. Lake Rd. W Side o

Telegraph 810-332- 0241

Bargain Matinees Daily • All Shows Until 6 pm

Continuous Shows Daily .

NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP JACK FROST (PG)

NP BUG'S LIFE (G)

ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)

WATERBOY (PG13)

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Showcase Pontiac 6-12

2405 Telegraph Rd. East side o

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Continuous Shows Dail

Late Shows Fri. & Sat.

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NP STAR TREK : INSURRECTIO

(PG) PSYCHO (R)

BABE (C)

RUGRATS (G

MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)

VERY BAD THINGS (R)

CALL FOR COMPLETE ESTINGS AND TIME

Quo Vadis Warren & Wayne Kds

313-425-7700

Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows Until 6 pm

**Continuous Shows Dai** 

ERRY SPRINGER:RINGMA

ate Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.

NP JACK FROST (PG)

PSYCHO (R)

movie, scripted by Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard, is utterly captivating. It's lively. It's color-ful. It's witty. It's moving. And, hough it always seems authentically Elizabethan, it never ses touch with its 1990s audi-

What else could we ask as filmgoers? How about a cast that simply dazzles?

By all means, begin with Joseph Fiennes, who plays the young, smitten Bard of Avon with a kind of feverish intensity that seems just right, though you might expect it to grow tediou or to edge over-the-top. His dash-ing but slightly-grubby Shakespeare even seems to be just a bit of a ding-a-ling now and

PSYCHO (R)

A BUG'S LIFE (G)

BABE PIG IN THE CITY (PO

ENEMY OF THE STATE (R

RUCRATS: THE MOVIE (

REFEVER & ECCENTRIC

VOLVE COT MAIL (PC) N

JACK FROST (PG) NV STAR TREK: INSURRECTION

(PG) NV PSYCHO (R) NV

little goofy in the heat of passion, anyway, this only makes

him appear more human. As Lady Viola, the object of ardent affection, Gwyneth Paltrow supplies the requisite dreamy quality and ethereal beauty, as only she can. When she takes the stage as Romeo (in this story-within-a-story, Lady Viola disguises herself as a boy in order to act on the all-male Elizabethan stage), it's a bit of stretch to believe she'd fool anybody for long, however.

A superb supporting cast add just the right touches at just the right times. Dame Judi Dench is a slightly wigged-out Elizabeth I. Colin Firth, plays Lady Viola's

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cooly-calculating suitor, Lord Wessex. Ben Affleck, looking luscious as a gypsy fiddler, appears as the popular Elizabethan thes-pian, Ned Alleyn, and the sad-eyed Geoffrey Rush makes his mark as the sad-eyed and grimy theater owner, Philip Henslowe. True to the era, just about every other character in this movie

looks unwashed. It's almost impossible to emphasize how important the settings, costumes, lighting, makeup, and all other periphe als are in this movie. So central are they that one seriously hesitates even to refer to them as "peripherals."

Production designer Martin Childs, costumer Sandy Powell, and hair/make-up designer Lisa Westcott obviously believe that God is in the details. Some of the shots are so beautiful that they look as if they have been designed by Caravaggio. And we are provided with a look at everything from the jewel encrusted clothing to the sop in the teeming streets to the theaters, the pubs, the churches, brothels, markets, and country



Drama: Gwyneth Paltrow and Joseph Fiennes in "Shakespeare in Love."

houses. You'll even get a peek at speare in Love" is a feast for the the toothbrushes of the day.

eyes, and a treat for the heart.

nifer Lewis,

right). Justin

son Jeremiah,

Davis Jr. (right

friend, Hakim

and Darvel

is his best

Pierre Edmund

(front, left) stars

falls in love. Stars Joseph Flennes, Swyneth Paltrow, Geoffrey Rush. LAURIE SPARHAM/MIRAMAX FILM PATCH ADAMS" frue story of a misfit physician whose "LITTLE VOICE" entional approach to healing Magical musical comedy about the auses headaches for the medical power and perils of expression. Based ment. Stars Robin Williams on one of London's most acclaimed hit "DANCING AT LUGHNASA" plays, the story follows an aging but onthe prowl widow who never shuts up Exclusively at the Landmark Maple Art Theatre. The film adaptation of Brian and her reticent daughter, dubbed Little Voice or "LV" who barely speaks but Friel's 1991 Tony Award-winning play she does sing. Stars Michael Caine. about five lonely sisters living a hard-Scheduled to open Friday, January 8 scrabble life in rural Ireland whose world is shaken when their brother, a priest. "A CIVIL ACTION" Heartwarming returns from Africa a broken man. Stars True story about an attorney willing to comedy: In the Meryl Streep. risk everything to represent several fam ilies who seemingly lost their children to 1996 holiday "DOWN THE DELTA" leukemia because of a nearby toxic An emotional and riveting story where release "The waste dump. Stars John Travolta, big city meets small town, young meet Preacher's old, parents reconnect with children. Robert Duvall Wife," Whitney and life for everyone becomes some-Scheduled to open Friday, January 15 Houston (left) thing unexpected. THE THIN RED LINE The story of an American rifle compan stars as the "THE FACULTY" Science fiction thriller that blends during several months of one of the gospel-singing fiercest struggles of the twentieth centeenage angst, cutting-edge comedy wife of the Rev and out of this world special effects as tury - the Battle of Guadalcanal. Stars Henry Biggs Sean Penn, George Clooney, Woody Harthe students of Herrington High School struggle to save the world from alien reison, and John Travolta (Courtney B. Vance, center) and daughter of "A BLOCKBUSTER ADVENTURE!" Marguerite Coleman (Jen-



imagination, but I got to pick the



een a nuge mo the movies one to two times a week. If there are holiday movies showing at the theater, it's great. It helps you get in a holiday spirit. I have the usual classic holiday movies on tape Santa Claus,' 'It's a Wonderful Life,' 'Jingle Bells,' but nothing tops the experience of actually getting out of the house, going to the theater and immersing yourself into the story unfolding on the screen. I'm sure the pleasure I feel partially relates back to

> ed father. Thanks for prompting a good memory!" Teresa Allen of Livonia recentpurchased one of her favorite Christmas movies - "White

"I always used to watch it with mixed with honey, chopped almonds, and chocolate

"In-between, we would sip egg nog, watch 'White Christmas' singing along with all the songs. years, my father would take me This year. I had my children "Just thinking about the 'Leg to downtown Detroit to watch a watch it with me Initially, I times passed and how much I miss my mom Now, though, I'm glad I have this holiday movie to watch and share with my children I pointed out to my daugh-

BUG'S LIFE (G) JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R) A BUG'S LIFE (G) NV MEET IDE BLACK (PG13 BABE: A PIG IN THE CITY (C WATERBOY (PG13) ENEMY OF THE STATE ( VERY BAD THINGS (R NV ENEMY OF THE STATE (R) N HOME FRIES (PG13 GIFT GOOKS BY PHONE RUGRATS (G) NV ALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIM THE WATERBOY (PG13) (248) 372-2222 CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIME CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TH Showcase Nestiand 1-8 Star Winchester 1136 S. Rochester Rd, Wincheste Birmingham Theatre 211 S. Woodward One blk S. of Warren Rd. 313-729-1060 **Downtown Birminghar** 248-656-1160 Bargain Matinees Dail All Shows Until 6 pm 248-644-3419 to one under age 6 admitted for P Denotes No Pass Engageme Continuous Shows Dail PC13 & R rated films after 6 pm Late Shows Wed Thurs. Fri. & Order Movie tickets by phone NP JACK FROST (PG) Call 644-3419 and have your VISA NP DENOTES NO PASS A BUG'S LIFE (G) Master Card ready! (A 75¢ surcharg BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (PG) will apply to all telephone sales STAR TREK: INSURREC RUGRATS (G) (PG) BABE (G) HOME FRIES (PC13) NP YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG) MEET IOE BLACK (PG13 NP PRINCE OF EGYPT (PG) ELIZABETH (R) I STILL KNOW WHAT YO NP STAR TREK: INSURRECTIO RUCRATS (C DID LAST SUMMER (I (PG) MEET KOE BLACK (PG13) NP JERRY SPRINGER PSYCHO (R) WATERBOY (PG13) RINGMASTER (R) A BUG'S LIFE (G) STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID NP JACK FROST (PG) LAST SUMMER (R) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TH ENEMY OF THE STATE (R) LARE PIC IN THE CITY (PC) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIME RUGRATS (G) MEET JOE BLACK (PG13) **United Artists Theatres** Bargain Matinees Daily, for all sho CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIM **Star Theatres** starting before 6:00 PM Same day advance tickets availab The World's Best Theatre NV - No VI.P. tickets accepte Bargain Matinees Daily \$4.00 Al Shows Starting before 6:00 pr MIR THEATRES **United Artist Oakland** Now accepting Visa & MasterCan \$1.00 Ford Tel \$1.50 313-561-7200 " Denotes No Pass Engage Inside Oakland Mall 248-988-0706 Star John-R at 14 Mile 32289 John R. Road \$1.00 til 6 pm STAR TREK: INSURRECTION After 6 p.m. \$1.50 Ample Parking - Telford Center (PG) NV RUSH HOUR (PG13) NV Free Refill on Drinks & Popcon 810-585-2070 Please Call Theatre for I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU ne under 6 admitted for PG13 DID LAST SUMMER (R) NV R rated films after 6 pm PRACTICAL MAGIC (PG13) ANTZ (PG) NP PRINCE OF EGYPT (PG) NP YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG) THE SEEGE (R) BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (PG13) JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES United Artists 12 Oaks Inside Twelve Oaks Mall HOMEFRIES (PG13) RUGRATS (G) ENEMY OF THE STATE () 248-349-4311 SIEGE (R) Waterford Cinema II WATERBOY (PG13) 7501 Highland Rd. E. corner M-59 & Williams Lak PRINCE OF EGYPT (G) NV STAR TREK: INSURRECTION FAST, EASY, TICKET'S BY (PG)NV A BUG'S LIFE (G) NV PHONE 248-585-2070 24 Hour Movie Line (248) 666-7900 RUGRATS (G) NV CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIM CALL 77 FILMS #551 THE WATERBOY (PG13) N CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES Star Rochester Hills 200 Barclay Circle County \$3.25 (TWI LITE) SHOWS DAILY 853-2260 No one under age 6 admitted to United Artists West River PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm NP YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG13 NP STAR TREK: INSURRECTION Riock West of Middlebelt NP PRINCE OF EGYPT (PG) (PG) NP JACK FROST (PG) 248-788-6572 NP STAR TREK: INSURRECT (PG) PSYCHO (R) NP PSYCHO (R) PRINCE OF EGYPT (G) NV BABE IN THE CITY (G) YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG) NV FLIZABETH (B A BUC'S LIFE (C) JACK FROST (PG) NV ENEMY OF THE STATE (R) THE RUGRATS MOVIE STAR TREK: INSURRECTION THE WATERBOY (PG13 THE ENEMY OF THE STATE (A (PG) NV PSYCHO (R) NV MEET JOE BLACK (PG13) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIME THE WATERBOY (PG13) A BUG'S LIFE (G) NN ENEMY OF THE STATE (R) N ALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIM RUGRATS (G) NV THE WATERBOY (PG13) NV Visa & Mastercard Accepted Star Southfield 12 Mile between Telegraph a Northwestern, Off 1-696 CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES 248-353-STAR Terrace Cinema 30400 Plymouth Rd. No one under age 6 admitted to PG13 & & rated films after 6 pm

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# Readers share memories of favorite holiday movies

Here are some all-time hol-

#### BY KEELY WYGONIK STAFF WRITER kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

"It's a Wonderful Life." This is the season when we look for a "Miracle on 34th Street" and giggle at the memory of "Christmas Vacation." We asked readers to share memories of their favorite holiday movies. Get out your pencil

and paper, it's not to late to rent a video to enjoy with your family and friends. Check your local TV listings, too, to see what holiday movies will be aired. Emmett Hynes of Livonia emembers gathering around the

TV with his family to watch "March of the Wooden Soldiers," r "Babes in Toyland" with Laurel & Hardy. "A few years ago my sister gave me a Christmas gift of this tape," said Hynes about "Babes in Toyland." "To this day. I still watch this movie and I become a kid just for one hour; I'm 54."

My favorite holiday movie is "A Christmas Story," wrote Cindy Koene of West Bloomfield. "It is the story of a young boy, Ralphie. who wants a Red Rider BB gun for Christmas. Yet, each time he requests it, he receives the same time shared with her father answer, 'You'll shoot your eye going to the movies. out!' However, it is more than just a young boys yearning for a my family was to open Christcoveted toy. It is a humorous mas presents on Christmas Eve." tale of a family during the holi- wrote Gawthrop. "For many

Lamp,' the 'Stuck Tongue,' and movie on Christmas Eve day cried remembering all the good the 'Bumpus Hounds' brings a while my mother finished wrapsmile to my face. I usually watch ping presents and getting ready it every year during the holiday season. It is usually shown on vided attention and how special I your regular television stations felt! and is also available on tape. So "I can remember only two ter that she shares the name of if the holidays are dragging you movies that we saw - Mr. Magoo one of the actresses. 'Vera' down, rent this video, lighten up, and Li'l Abner. Not holiday (Veronica) Allen. She thought and laugh. The holidays are to be movies by any stretch of the that was pretty cool "

iday favorites picked by the people who recently present ed The Festival of Trees at Cobo Center in Detroit. All I Want For Christman The Bishop's Wife (1947) A Christmas Carol (1938) A Christmas Carol (1951 Christmas In Connect ut (1945) 🔳 Christmas In Connecti ut (1992) A Christmas Story (1983) Christmas Vacation Ernest Saves Christmas Home Alone (1990) Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992) Miracle on 34th Stree

1994)

Sharon Gawthrop of West-

"Growing up, the tradition in for the evening. I had his undi-

enjoyed

■ Miracle on 34th Stree

Christmas"

my mom at Christmas. She passed away four years ago." wrote Allen. "It is still hard for me to think of how much I miss her We would bake her Christland's favorite memories aren't mas 'S' cookies and make her of one particular movie, but of pinulata, an Italian sweet that is made with fried dough balls

#### The Observer & Eccentric/THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1998

#### COMING ATTRACTIONS



nture drama: "Mighty Joe Young," an awesome 15foot gorilla from Africa, is brought to a California animal preserve for his own safety, but threatened and confused in his new confines, the gorilla escapes, leaving a trail of destruction along Hollywood Boulevard.

domination.

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE"

Witty and fast moving comedy set in 1593 that follows the trials and tribula

tions of Will Shakespeare, a struggling

terrible bout of writer's block until he

young playwright who's suffering from a

#### scheduled to open Wednesday, Dec. 25

MIGHTY JOE YOUNG" n update of the classic 1949 RKO dventure film in which a zoologist tumbles upon a 15-foot gorilla while ing in Central Africa. Stars Bill n. Charlize Theron.

## 'Little Voice' marvelous entertainment

#### BY BOB THOMAS Associated Press Writer

The transformation is miraculous. One minute the fragile waif is so painfully introverted that she fits her nickname of Little Voice. Then she struts onstage with the confidence of a Vegas headliner and belts out tunes in the styles of Judy Garland and hirley Bassey. This stunning scene is the

high point of a marvelous British import, "Little Voice." And don't complain about a reviewer giving away a vital plot point; Little Voice's performance comes as no surprise, except in the polish of her delivery.

The story takes place in a eedy resort town in the north of England. The only entertainment can be found in a rundown nightclub, where the smarmy owner-emcee (Jim Broadbent) tells unfunny jokes and introduces failed rock groups and antiquated vaudeville acts.

Little Voice (Jane Horrocks) lives with her mother Mari (Brenda Blethyn), a motormouth

"JACK FROST' IS THE PERFECT HOLIDAY FILM

WONDERFULI

daughter is painfully withdrawn: she is constantly bombarded with belittling attacks. As a result, she spends most of the time in her attic bedroom. The girl's only solace comes

from playing the old 78s that she enjoyed listening to with her late father. The records feature the big-voiced female singers of another era.

A shy young electrician's helper (Ewan MacGregor) makes a repair call to the house and is intrigued by Little Voice. Until now his only after-hours interest has been his collection of homing

Whenever Ray Say (Michael Caine) comes to town, Mari lights up. She has had a longrunning romance with Say, a once-successful manager of musical acts. Now his clients are leserting him and his debts are

Say hears Little Voice singing in her room and figures he has discovered his gold mine. He

harridan desperately fighting bristles with confidence that he the songs, on camera with no lip harridan desperately fighting against age with booze and an occasional fling. No wonder the ber on the stage.

"Little Voice" was first written as a London play by Jim Cartwright, who designed it for the mimicry genius of Jane Hor- and Lies," is scorching as the rocks. So unerring are her reproductions of Garland, Bassey, Monroe, Dietrich and Merman that a note at the end of the film assures us there were no tricks, and that Horrocks herself sang guage and sexual innuendo

playing a man of outward charm and cold heart. Brenda Blethyn, Oscar-nominated for "Secrets ruthless mother.

The Miramax release was written and directed by Mark Herman and produced by Elizabeth Karlsen. Rated R for lan-

#### BBSO presents jazzy concert Jazz Up Your Holidays with Motown," and Tyzik's "The

the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27 at Temple Beth El, 14 Mile Road at Telegraph in Bloomfield Hills. Saxophonist Larry Nozero &

Friends will join the BBSO for the concert which includes classics, jazz and Motown. Tickets are \$20 adults, \$15 students, call (248) 645-2276.

Nozero will perform selections program also includes "The Gadby Shostakovich, Ravel's "La Valse," Norris' "The Magic of

Essential Ellington." Nozero's career has encompassed many musical styles from quartets to big bands. In 1997 he received special recognition for being inducted into the "Legends of Jazz International Hall of Fame," along with the "Spirit of Detroit Award" for his achievement, leadership and dedication

to improving the quality of life. He has toured with Ella from his new CD, "Warm." The Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn, Dizzy Gillespie, Stan Getz, Sergio Mendez, Stan Kenton and Henry

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#### E8(NO-OF\*)

The Observer & Eccentric/Thursday, DECEMBER 24, 1998

# Welcome the new year at Boulders

#### BY KEELY WYGONIK STAFF WRITER nm.net

Live music, thick deli sandwiches, ribs, pizza, burgers, South of the "Boulder" specialties including grilled fajitas, burrito and Chicken Quesadilla, salads, homemade soups, and specials such as prime rib, meatloaf and coconut shrimp are some of the items you'll find on the menu at Boulders Restaurant & Lounge in Plymouth. All entrees are served with soup or salad and fresh vegetable, choice of potato and hearth baked French role from Breadsmith Bakery in Plymouth.

Sandwiches are prepared with fresh hearth baked bread from Breadsmith Bakery, and served with a pickle and steak fries.

"It's a nice place for people to come listen to music, and we have good food," said Dave Daugherty of Canton who owns the restaurant with his wife, Michelle.

Chris Pounds, a graduate of the award-winning culinary arts program at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, is in charge of the

#### **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

■ Water Club Grill - 39500 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, (734) 454-0666.

New Year's Eve Gala Celebra tion, Prime Rib and Seafood Buffet, 6 p.m. (first seating, \$26.95 per person). Second seating 9 p.m., includes buffet, DJ, dancing until 1 a.m., party favors, and a champagne toast at midnight. The cost is \$35.95 per person. Cash bar, tax and tip not included. Water Club Grill will also be serving dinner in the main dining rooms 4 p.m. to midnight from their regular menu. Call for reservations/information.

Andiamo West - 6676 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 865-9300.

Gala New Year's Eve party in lower-level banquet facility beginning 8 p.m. at \$125 per person including tax and gratuity featuring open bar, six-course dinner, champagne at midnight, favors, band, special snack at 12:30 a.m. and breakfast at 2:00 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance for round tables seating 10, minimum of four guests.

Big Rock Chop & Brew House - 245 S. Eton, Birmingham (248) 647-7774.

A la carte menu including appetizers, soup, salad, main courses (ranging \$19-30), vegetable accompaniments and dessert. With any entree, onehalf pound Alaskan King Crab Legs or lobster tail can be added for an additional charge. For reservations 10 p.m. or later.

**Boulders Restaurant & Lounge** 

Where: 1020 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth (734) 459-4190 Open: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday-Saturday, noon to midnight, Sunday. Open Dec. 24 until 9 p.m. Closed Dec. 25 Menu: Dell sandwiches, burgers, ribs, Mexican dishes, soups, sal-

ads, pizza, and weekly specials such as prime rib, coconut shrimp, and meatloaf. Reservations: Recommended for parties of 8 or more

Cost: Reasonable, lunches \$5.95 to \$11.95, dinner \$7.95 to \$15.95

Credit cards: All majors accepted

Carry-out: Available Entertainment: Karaoke beginning 9:30 p.m. Wednesday; Easy Listening Favorites 6-10 p.m. Thursday; 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday-Saturday, variety of live music including R&B, Swing and Reggae. New Year's Eve: Live music beginning at 6:30 p.m. Dinner service

5-11 p.m. Appetizer menu, sandwiches and pizza 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. Party favors, champagne toast at midnight. Call for information.

kitchen. "We will be upgrading our menu with more entrees, he said. Pounds makes fresh soups every day. He even cuts the steaks. The new menu will feature chicken fettuccine, prime rib, and a couple of seafood dishes. "We're changing our specials to see what people want," said Dave.

He and Michelle met at a restaurant in Ann Arbor. They both managed restaurants and

ton on the Stone Terrace and

ring in the New Year with cham-

pagne toast and party favors at

no additional charge. Big Rock's fabulous upper level Got Rocks

lounge is first come, first served,

but be advised, it was packed

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

Mile Rd., Farmington Hills (248)

474-3033 Early diners can choose

from the open menu beginning at

■ Cafe Cortina - 30715 W. 10

last year at midnight.

beef.

dreamed of some day owning their own. On Sept. 2 they purchased the former Mr. B's.

"We cleaned it up a lot," said Dave. He made the new tabletops, and pictures he took in Boulder, Colo. decorate the walls. The chairs, ceiling tiles and ventilation system are also new

The parents of four children, Dave and Michelle wanted to create a homey atmosphere for

there's a special package, \$85 per

person including antipasto, pap-

pardelle with pomodoro and

hasil winter salad, choice of

entree from among salmon, veal

medallions, filet mignon or

French-cut veal chop, and com-

pleted with Napoleon dessert.

Also included are DJ dancing to

top 40s, party hats and cham-

Cafe Cortina is also offering a

Christmas Eve Dinner with live

holiday music, 6:30 p.m. Thurs-

day, Dec. 24. The cost is \$65 per

person. Entree choices include

Rack of Lamb with roasted pep-

pers and garlic, Filet of Sole "Meuniere" or Veal Medallions

"Limone" Imported Artichokes.

Call for information/reservations.

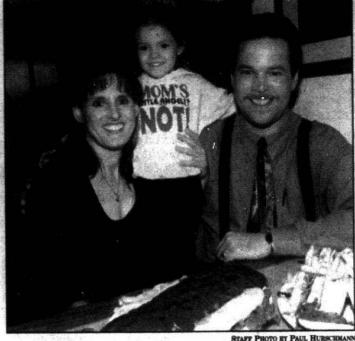
pagne at midnight.

their customers. They make a point to greet customers, and make them feel welcome. "I just like people," said Michelle.

If you're not in the mood for a big dinner or lunch, there are lots of appetizers to choose from including the Rocky Mountain Hot Spot Platter - chicken strips, Buffalo wings, potato skins and Mozzarella cheese sticks; Spinach Artichoke Dip, and Nacho Supreme. If you're in a hurry for lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, order the Soup & Half Sandwich Express Soup of the Day with Chef's choice half sandwich.

Watch the game on one of the two big screen TVs. There's also an area near the bar with dart boards and video games

Boulders be serving dinner on New Year's Eve from 5 to 11 p.m. The special menu includes Prime Rib, \$12.95; lobster tail, \$17.95; Prime Rib and lobster tail, \$25.95; Top Sirloin and lobster tail, \$23.95; Chicken Fettuccine Alfredo, \$10.95; Shrimp Fettuccine Alfredo, \$12.95; full slab ribs, \$15.95; Cajun Catfish, \$13.95, served with salad, choice of potato, vegetable and roll.



New restaurant: Michelle (left), Sabrina and Dave Daugherty in the dining room at Boulders, which is known for its Boulder Back Ribs and deli sandwiches.

There will also be a variety of desserts and appetizers to choose from.

Since opening in September, Dave and Michelle have been planning a grand opening in January.

trying to get the word out. "A lot

of people don't even know we're

here," said Michele. They're

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. Start with an appetizer at \$8 and add dessert for \$7.

**Excalibur** - 28875 Franklin Road, (corner of 12 Mile Road and Northwestern Highway), SouthFeld (248) 358-3355. New Year's Eve party (reserved seating by prepaid tickets only) with dancing and entertainment by The Warren Commission begins 9:30 p.m. at \$100 per person (not including liquor, tax or gratuity). Menu

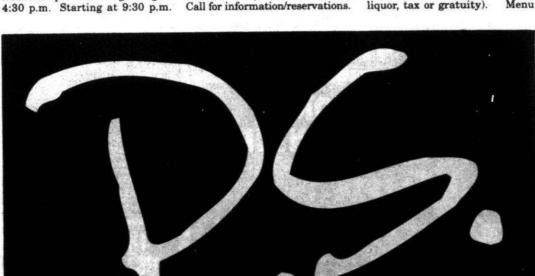
includes appetizer medley, mixed salad and choice of an entree from 2-pound lobster, veal porterhouse, sauteed chicken breast, swordfish or filet mignon,

completing with dessert medley. At the banquet center between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. at \$125 per person, same as restaurant menu but dancing and entertainment by The Jerry Ross Band.

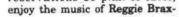
**Fox & Hounds** - 1560 North Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, (248) 644-4800.

Regular menu selections with entrees ranging \$18-25 will be offered. Reservations 10 p.m. and later will have party favors and midnight champagne toast. Pub entertainment throughout the evening.

■ 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.









The Botsford Inn



