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Commission OKs Electropolitan



The Canton Planning Commission Monday recommended approval for coin-operated devices at a planned entertainment complex on Haggerty. The township board will have the final say on the proposed complex.

BY LILLY A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

A roar of cheers filled the air from family and supporters of George Marvaso as he approached the podium Monday after the Canton planning commission recommended approval for

use of coin-operated devices at Electropolitan, an adult-style "theme park" planned for Haggerty between Ford and Cherry Hill.

"I thank God, thank the planning commission, my support team and my devoted family. I want to build some-

thing Canton is proud of," exclaimed Marvaso after moving one step closer to owning one of the country's largest amusement complexes.

However some Canton residents still don't see the development, similar to the national Dave & Buster's chain, as a positive addition to their neighborhood.

Kathleen Lekki of Bedford Villa Condominiums, who lives across the street from the proposed complex said, "Not only is the traffic my concern, my prob-

lem is possible crime coming into the area and too many people's home values going down."

Another Bedford resident, Lynn Ott, suggested the complex would be better off on Michigan Avenue where other entertainment complexes are located.

"We are going to get drunk people coming out of there, I want the center but not right across from the subdivision," Ott said.

The planning commission voted 5-0

Please see **ELECTROPOLITAN**, A2

Arts center moving forward

Related editorial, A14

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
sdaniel@oe.hometown.com

What's in a name?

A lot if you're trying to establish a center for music, dance, drama and education. "Partnership for the Arts" is the moniker the center, which would likely be located in Canton, will carry if it becomes reality.

"We wrestled with it for quite awhile," said Partnership for the Arts Board of Directors Secretary Joan Noricks. "We didn't want it to be geographical, but we did want it to be inclusive. We wanted to embrace what's really going on."

And there is a lot going on.

The board is in the process of hiring a consulting firm. The firm will conduct a needs assessment and prepare a business plan.

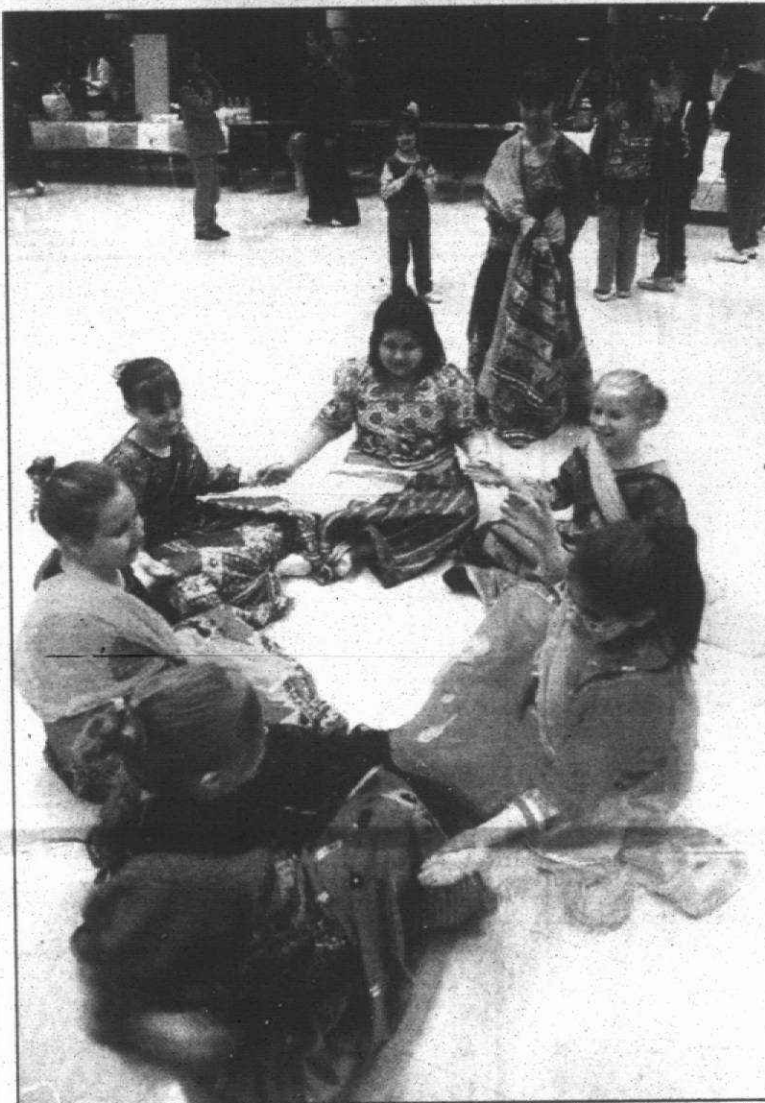
Other arts groups, such as the Center for Creative Study and the Michigan Opera Theater, will be contacted during the needs assessment. Consultants will gauge their commitment to using a Partnership for the Arts facility and what they're willing to pay, said Noricks.

That will help the firm devise a business plan. Noricks said it will give the board a firmer grasp of exactly what kind of facility could be built and self-sufficient.

"We really want to get this going," said Noricks. "We hope to have the

Please see **ARTS CENTER**, A4

Scouts promote cultural awareness



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMANN

Thinking Day: Members of Girl Scout Troop 1234 dressed in authentic Indian costumes Friday to take part in Scout Cluster No. 1's annual Thinking Day at Hoben Elementary School in Canton. The costumes were donated by a University of Michigan professor. Scouts also shared samples of Indian rice and performed a dance as part of the exercise in cultural awareness, said troop leader Cathy Seay-Ostrowski.

Police arrest 2 teens for armed robbery

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
sdaniel@oe.hometown.com

A 44-year-old Canton woman was robbed at knife-point in her driveway late Saturday night.

The Briargate Court resident was uninjured. Police apprehended two suspects, both juveniles, shortly after the incident.

"This is a severe armed robbery," Canton Officer Leonard Schemanske said. "It doesn't get much worse than this."

The teen suspects are both Canton residents. One is a 15-year-old and the other is 14.

Because both are minors and the woman was uninjured, Schemanske said Wayne County Juvenile Court would likely handle the case.

According to court records, a preliminary hearing for both teens will be held Saturday. Charges will then either be dropped or a trial date will be

set.

Armed robbery normally carries a felony charge with a multiple-year penalty, Schemanske said. He was unsure of what type of punishment, if any, the teens would face in connection with the robbery.

The incident began shortly before midnight when the two teens ran across the woman's lawn and approached her. Schemanske said she was taking bags out of her car when the boys arrived.

One of the teens told her, "Give me your bag. Give me your purse," police reports said.

The woman originally said no. But one of the teens, who threatened her with a kitchen knife that had a four-to-five-inch blade, snatched the purse.

At that point, Schemanske said she began to scream. Her husband came out of the home and the two teens ran

Please see **ROBBERY**, A2

Gershwin gets a '90s twist



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMANN

Players on stage: Wes Farrow as New Yorker "Bobby Child" holds Nicole Reitz as Deadrock resident "Polly Baker" in the Plymouth Players production of "Crazy for You," the '90s musical revision of the 1932 Broadway show featuring music by George and Ira Gershwin. Performances of "Crazy for You" are scheduled for March 19, 20 and 26, 27. The March 26 performance is a dinner-theater fund-raiser for the Educational Excellence Foundation, with tickets at \$35. Tickets for the other shows are \$7 each. For ticket information, call (734) 416-7723.

Public Safety dispatch center goes high-tech

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
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It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out where accidents most frequently occur in Canton — namely Ford Road.

But a new piece of technology will

help township police to accurately track more specific information about those accidents.

Exact locations, time of day and kinds of law violations are just a few types of data that will now be analyzed and plotted on a map.

"It will be a lot more cost-effective

and efficient," Canton Police Captain Laura Golles said of the department's new Computer Aided Dispatch system.

It will save a lot of trees, for one thing. The thousands and thousands of incident reports officers write each year will become computerized as part of the program.

"The ultimate goal," Golles said, "is to go paperless."

It will reduce the need for storage space for old incident reports, she added. That becomes a key issue as the department expands, Golles said.

Please see **DISPATCH**, A5

High-speed chase ends with arrests at airport

Canton police apprehended two 18-year-old men Friday evening after a high speed chase.

The incident began at about 7:30 p.m. A township officer was heading eastbound on Geddes Road when a vehicle described as a white Mazda approached heading westbound, reports said.

Officers clocked the car as doing 86 miles per hour. At that point, they turned around and began pursuit.

The vehicle continued west before turning southbound on to Denton Road. Canton officers gave chase, but lost some ground when a third vehicle got between them and the suspect, reports said.

The Mazda continued on Denton until it dead-ended at Ecorse. Police were then able to stop the car on an access drive to Willow Run Airport.

Both 18-year-old men, which reports failed to identify further, were then arrested. An off-duty Wayne County sheriff's deputy assisted.

According to reports, the duo said they were headed to an adult dancing establishment in Ypsilanti. The also told police that they simply wanted to out-run them.

The chase lasted approximately 2.5 miles, reports said. No injuries were reported.

Kidnapping
A parental visit turned into kidnapping Sunday, according to township police.

A female resident of Stony-

COP CALLS

brook Apartments in Canton told police that her son's father didn't return him after a scheduled visit. It was later learned that the man had taken the boy to a relative's home in Illinois.

Canton Police contacted local law enforcement in Illinois. The child was picked up Monday and is in the process of being returned to the mother in Canton.

Township police are continuing to investigate the incident and may file charges against the father for kidnapping.

Larceny
A 28-year-old Northville man was the recent victim of larceny by conversion.

He purchased a 1980 Chevy from a Canton man on March 4, police reports said. He received the vehicle's title and, in return, gave the Canton man \$4,000. About \$3,000 of that was to fix mechanical problems with the car, reports said.

The Canton man allegedly gave the \$3,000 check to a mechanic to do the work. A few days after the purchase, the Northville man attempted to locate the mechanic, but couldn't, reports said.

He tried for several days to contact the Canton man and the mechanic but was unsuccessful.

Fraud
A female resident of Stony-

ty College of Education.

He was selected to receive the Alumni Association K-12 Administrator of the Year Award. Wol-

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PHOTO BY RON POKNEY

New Discovery: Sunday's groundbreaking for the new middle school in Canton drew a crowd of community leaders. Pictured are (from left): state Sen. Thaddeus McCotter; Lowell teacher Alan Kohring; school board member Mark Horvath; school board member Carrie Blamer; Lowell principal Roche LaVictor; school board member Judy Mardigan; state Rep. Bruce Patterson; Lowell Student Council president Katie Thompson; Canton Supervisor Tom Yack; school board President Mike Maloney; board member Elizabeth Givens; board member Sue Davis; school board members Roland Thomas and Darwin Watts.

Groundbreaking from page A1

teet Ron Fanning of Fanning/hovey Associates, who noted at least 60 bid packages were sent out to prospective contractors in two days. "The market is pretty tight right now, so we'll have to keep our fingers crossed on the numbers."

Voters last October approved an \$18.1 million bond proposal to build the new middle school, which will replace Lowell.

With interest on the bonds, the total project budget jumps to more than \$19.7 million. That includes \$15 million for construction costs; \$775,000 for instructional technology; \$775,000 for construction contingencies; and \$600,000 for educational equipment.

Discovery Middle School will be the first new middle school constructed in 30 years in the

Plymouth-Canton school district. It will be the largest middle school in the district at 127,000 square feet, with a planned capacity of 765 students. The opening is planned for the beginning of the 2000-01 school year.

Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack praised the cooperative efforts between the township and school district.

"We can really celebrate the support that both units of government have towards each other," Yack told the crowd. "I can name about 15 different programs ... that we work cooperatively with the Plymouth-Canton school district and administrative staff."

Cheers went up among the crowd, many by staff members from Lowell who helped in

designing Discovery, when the ceremonial first shovels of dirt were overturned.

"This is a big day in the life of the Plymouth-Canton school district," said Lowell math teacher Al Kohring. "I've been teaching 24 years, and this will be a nice way to finish out my career."

"This is so exciting," added chorus teacher Joann Gustafson, who has been teaching 32 years. Gustafson is one of a handful of teachers who began at Lowell 18 years ago, when Plymouth-Canton began leasing the school from Livonia.

"We call ourselves the Pilgrims because we came on the Mayflower 18 years ago," quipped Gustafson. "It looks like we're going to make it to the New World, Discovery."

Arts center from page A1

consultant retained by May."

The needs assessment and business plan should then take about three months to put together, she added. Noricks said both are crucial.

A recent six-month feasibility study, which was funded by the Canton Community Foundation of which Noricks is the executive director, revealed that proper funding for a 500-800-seat center does exist.

Potential donors said they wanted to see a strong business plan in place before they opened their checkbooks, said Noricks. The center would primarily operate on donations and user fees.

Despite the move forward on hiring a consultant, Noricks said the board is still being very careful.

"We're being very cautious," she said. "We're not letting our

passion blind us. We don't want another George Burns Theater."

That closed Livonia facility was unsuccessful in bringing live theater to the area.

Thus far, the Partnership for the Arts Board includes a dozen local leaders.

Canton Supervisor Tom Yack, Detroit Renaissance President Paul Hillegonds and Richard Lewiston, a local developer, are among the board members.

Noricks said the center is looking for a cross-section of folks.

"I don't think we're done yet," she said in terms of adding board members. "There's not a maximum number. We are pleased with the people that have said yes so far."

Paperwork for establishing Partnership for the Arts as a nonprofit business has already been filed.

"It's about a six-month process to get that status," said Noricks. "But you can move forward once you apply."

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, school officials have recently said.

Under such an agreement, the district would lease land and infrastructure, for \$1, to the center. Students would benefit from having a performance theater and areas for lessons on campus.

Dispatch from page A1

Officers will eventually write their reports in the field and send back to the department via a modem.

"Supervisors will review the report after it's sent and either sign off on or send it back to the officer for revision," Golles said.

The new CAD and records management system was designed by software maker HTE. It'll replace a system used since the early 1980s.

Between new software, hardware (14 laptop computers will soon go into patrol cars), training and phone service, the system will cost about \$700,000, Golles said.

About one-fourth of that money will come from grants. Canton's Public Safety Department has recently received from the federal government. The rest will come from police and fire department fund balances.

The captain said it's money well spent. It will cut duplication of effort dramatically, Golles said.

Under the old system, dispatchers would take and enter service call information. The exact same information was often re-entered by booking clerks at an arrest was made.

Under the new system, everything is connected. When a call comes in now, a service number is automatically assigned.

Dispatchers enter the same data as they did before. But anyone in the department, whether it's a booking clerk or the arresting officer, now has the ability to call the file up and add information. No more duplication of efforts, in other words.

"It's more efficient in terms of information flow," Golles said. "It will reduce redundant data entries."

A portion of the new system has been up and running for about a month.

Police Dispatcher Mike Quinn said training was intense. But using the new CAD system has pretty much gone off without a hitch.

"The first day I used I didn't have a problem," the 10-year veteran said.

Where he previously had one screen to enter information on, Quinn now must manage four or more data windows at one time.

An added benefit is having an on-line map of the township. Quinn said it makes it easier to direct officers in the field.

"It's easier to see where things are," he commented. Eventually, dispatchers will be able to see the location of each patrol car on their computer screens through an automatic vehicle location system, Golles said.

After a dispatcher enters incident location information, the computer will suggest patrol cars for response based on their locations.

The new CAD system will keep Canton's police department on the cutting edge of technology, Golles said.

"We're trying to get ahead of the game," she added.

Golf pro gets raise, new title

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

Pheasant Run Golf Club is undergoing some changes.

The township's upscale 18-hole course isn't being reconfigured. Operations and management are, however.

Head Golf Pro David Horstman is adding course maintenance and food/beverage responsibilities. Canton's Board of Trustees approved a 15 percent raise, from \$44,886 to \$51,619, for him Tuesday.

"That's what I've done in the past," said Horstman, who has been with the course since it opened in 1995. "It's what I know how to do. I think it's what I

excel at."

Talk of reorganization began last summer after the course's superintendent left. Having started in turf management and with experience in running food/beverage, Horstman pitched the idea to Canton officials.

After some study, Administrative and Community Services Director Dan Durack thought the move made sense. He believed the township could do a better job of providing food service to its golf course patrons and make more money with Horstman at the helm.

"We felt it was time for a change," said Durack, who oversees both township courses. He felt Horstman was the best option for the new job.

"Dave has a proven track record," Durack said. "He has done a great job."

Horstman's pay increase won't throw Pheasant Run's budget out of whack, he added. There's now no need to fill the superintendent's position, which saves the township salary and fringe benefit money, said Durack.

Horstman will delegate some authority to a head groundskeeper, an assistant golf pro and a food/beverage manager. He's currently in the process of filling those positions.

"If you have the correct people in place," Horstman added, "this job becomes much more efficient."

Put on your Sundae best

Join us Sunday, March 21, at either of our New Locations:

HENRY FORD MEDICAL CENTER - Plymouth
14300 Beck Rd. 12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.
OR
HENRY FORD MEDICAL CENTER - Canton
6100 Haggerty Rd. 1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.



Expect more from your physician.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Child ID finger printing by AAA Michigan
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- Appearance by Plymouth Whalers Mascot, Slapshot
- Blood Pressure and vision screenings
- Free Drawings for Pistons, Tigers, Red Wings and Whalers tickets
- Make your own ice cream sundaes and root beer floats
- Meet the staff
- Dedication of the Community Room
- Canned food drive for First Step, a United Way agency working to end domestic violence

Our urgent care will be open regular hours to serve you.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call Canton at (734) 981-3200 or Plymouth at (734) 453-5600.



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CANTON

42695 Ford Rd.
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Changes eyed for Hines Park, nature preserve

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
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The William Holliday Forest Nature Preserve in Westland may obtain a new board walk and trail repairs, while park facilities throughout Hines Park will be continued to be made accessible for the disabled.

The Wayne County parks master plan listed these improvements for funding this year. The five-year plan was released to Wayne County commissioners in February.

Hurley Coleman, director of Wayne County parks, said the plan serves two purposes.

"We get to look at Wayne County parks and what we'd like to see in 2004 and 2010. It's a dynamic plan of action. It gives a good evolution of where we are."

"We've gone through the master plans from local communities and look at what Wayne County ought to be doing. We've got 43 communities in Wayne County, so there is only a limited amount of what we can do."

Coleman said the parks department uses the report to help lobby the state Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environmental Quality to obtain grants through

land trust and federal land conservation funds. One of the applications calls for an approved five-year plan, Coleman said. "That requirement forces communities to take the time and think of the scope of their projects," Coleman said.

The plan highlighted many of the \$31 million in improvements made since 1997. Approximately 82 percent of the funds needed for the five-year action plan for parks and recreation improvement came from the special five-year property tax, approved by voters in August 1996 and scheduled to expire in 2001. The remaining funds came from grants and the Wayne County general fund.

About 51 percent of the money from the tax, grants and general funds were spent in Wayne County parks, including 22 percent spent in all the parks, and Hines with 16 percent. The remaining 49 percent went to "Partnership Parks," such as historic Fort Wayne, Mariner Park and Chandler Park in Detroit.

"These (partnership parks) will range from cooperative improvement of existing local

PARK MASTER PLAN

parks, that will have regional significance, the example there is the Chandler Park Aquatic Center (in Detroit), and the maintenance and programming functions as performed at Crosswinds Marsh (in Sumpter Township)."

Coleman hopes the plan lays the groundwork for property acquisition. "We ought to be buying into areas for passive recreation in areas of development."

"In the past we were not able to do this because of a lack of resources."

Wayne County is not actively pursuing property, yet, but Coleman identified Brownstown and Sumpter townships as areas Wayne County may be interested in.

Property acquisition would help connect Hines Park and the Lower Rouge Parkway where private land holdings "disrupt the flow and continuity of the park," according to the report. Land acquisition would assist with the protection of water resources, particularly along tributaries along the Rouge River and the Detroit River.

Such a program would help protect historically significant sites, such as the Hines Drive bridge over Plymouth Road in Livonia, where Ann Arbor Road begins. That bridge was recently nominated by the State Historic Preservation Office as a historical site.



FILE PHOTO BY BRIAN MITCHELL

Park programs: The annual Mud Day, sponsored by Wayne County Parks, is one of many activities which draws hundreds of youngsters and their families to picnic and recreation areas in Hines Park.

Other ongoing projects in Hines Park were highlighted in the plan:

- Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, a renovation of a mill

once owned by Henry Ford, will review the history and nature of the region in exhibits;

- Expenditures include a bike path, new backstops and bleachers, soccer fields, basketball courts and ice rinks;
- 1,000 picnic tables, new grills and trash receptacles and mobile stage.

Commission, prodded by MCI and AT&T, ordered Ameritech to provide "dialing parity," and the Court of Appeals agreed. But Ameritech won't give up.

"A customer in Southfield calling Ann Arbor would have to dial an extra seven digits, in addition to the number," said David Voges, an assistant attorney general representing the state PSC in March 11 oral arguments before the high court.

He referred to the 10-10-288 or 10-10-321 prefixes a caller must dial in order to have the mid-

Phone companies battle for middle-distance business

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER
trichard@oe.com

MCI, the long-distance telephone company, and Ameritech Michigan, the local telephone system, are slugging it out in the state Supreme Court over the middle-distance business.

In telephone jargon, the prize is the "IntraLATA" market — middle-distance calls to a neighboring town or county, though not long-distance. Ameritech has long grip on IntraLATA.

The Michigan Public Service

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He referred to the 10-10-288 or 10-10-321 prefixes a caller must dial in order to have the mid-

distance IntraLATA call handled more cheaply by a long-distance company instead of Ameritech.

"There's no doubt that requiring an extra seven digits has taken a large bite out of competition," added Peter Lark, another assistant-attorney general.

Lark noted that in recent years Ameritech Michigan's flat rate went up 20 percent, from 15 to 18 cents per minute while Ameritech Illinois' rate fell from 12 to 7 cents per minute.

Under the PSC-ordered "dialing parity," a caller wouldn't

have to dial the seven-digit prefix in order to use MCI or AT&T. Dialing parity was supposed to start Jan. 1, 1996.

The Supreme Court tries to decide cases within a year of hearing oral arguments. Easy decisions come out in a few weeks. Difficult ones like MCI take many months.

Arthur LeVasseur, AT&T's attorney, added that the PSC ordered a 55 percent discount by Ameritech "to the extent its orders weren't applied." He added, "The Court of Appeals

found in 1997 that the Public Service Commission had authority to set a 55 percent discount rate. There's a constitutional issue."

Ameritech attorney Peter Ellsworth replied, "Competition goes both ways." He complained that a federal law says Ameritech must provide mid-distance dialing parity when it is allowed into the long-distance market. So far that hasn't happened.

"The inability of Ameritech to compete in InterLATA (long dis-

tance) is a severe disability. It (Ameritech) has absolutely no ability to offer a package," Ellsworth told the justices.

Under federal law, said Ellsworth, there's a "linkage" between competitive markets for long-distance and mid-distance business, "but Ameritech never was granted relief to compete."

"In 1996 the U.S. Congress and the Michigan Legislature wrestled with the problem. Congress linked IntraLATA par-

Please see PHONE, A11

Scraft to hold blood drive March 25

Every 20 seconds, someone in southeastern Michigan needs blood.

Transfusions are life giving, not only for accident and emergency victims, but for hospital patients, people with sickle cell anemia, cancer, heart disease, leukemia and other major illnesses.

You can help meet this need by donating blood Thursday, March 25, at Schoolcraft College's Redcliff College. The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be stationed in the Community Room from noon to 9 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call (734) 462-4400, Ext. 6470 or 5050.

Walk-in donors are welcome. The Redcliff Center is located 1751 Redcliff, just south of Ford Road between Wayne and Meridian roads, in Garden City.

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DeHart, Kelly say tax break bill is nothing but corporate welfare

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

Sen. Bill Bullard's new business tax break ran into a couple of rough spots before landing this week on Gov. John Engler's desk for signing.

Bullard, R-Milford and chair of the Senate Taxation Committee, won 32-4 approval in the Senate on Feb. 25 and 93-15 approval in the House March 9.

His SB 102 would allow local units — cities, villages and townships — in an "eligible distressed area" to exempt all new personal property of a business relocating there. Bullard said the goal is to encourage businesses to locate in older urban areas.

"Another form of corporate welfare," said Rep. Eileen DeHart, D-Westland. "My communities are in jeopardy of losing business to a neighboring community who fits the criteria of being 'distressed'."

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Added Rep. Ruth Ann Jamnick, D-Ypsilanti: "There is no provision for repayment to the taxing units if a corporate decision is made to move to another community, county or state."

Rep. Tom Kelly, D-Wayne, also voted no. They were the only three area House members to dissent.

In the Senate, the four dissenters were all Republicans, including John J.H. Schwarz of Battle Creek. They made no on-the-record protests, however. All area senators of both parties voted yes.

Bullard's bill defines an "eligible distressed area" as one that has seen population drop since 1970, has poverty and unemployment rate higher than the statewide average, and has an area certified by the state as a

"neighborhood enterprise zone."

SB 102 also provides: To be eligible for the tax break, businesses must employ at least 25 and be in the manufacturing, mining, research and development, wholesale or office operations.

Ineligible would be retail stores, professional sports stadiums or portions of a business used for retail trade.

"Personal property" includes machinery, equipment and inventory.

The Senate Fiscal Agency didn't calculate potential tax losses, but it noted that school districts would be "held harmless" — that is, the state would pay their guaranteed per-pupil foundation allowances.

A business planning to move

Please see TAX, A11

Free shuttle service on tap for patrons at O&E job fair

Free shuttle bus service will be available to those attending the Observer & Eccentric/HomeTown Newspapers Job Fair on Wednesday, March 24, at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

The 18-seat shuttle bus will run in a continuous loop from Madonna University, located on the corner of Schoolcraft and Levan Roads, to Laurel Manor, located on Schoolcraft, just south of I-96. Job fair attendees who wish to catch the shuttle bus will be able to park for free at Madonna University's southeast corner parking lot and board the bus. The bus will make a complete loop every 15

minutes. This service is available from noon to 5 p.m. on the day of the job fair. Job fair hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

"Due to the overwhelming success of our September 1998 job fair, we realized that a shuttle bus service was needed in order to grow this event," said Rick Ficorelli, director of marketing for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

"We anticipate an even larger attendance at the March job fair, and the shuttle bus service should help us realize that goal. We hope that those who come to the job fair and find limited

parking at Laurel Manor, will drive one mile to Madonna University and catch the free shuttle."

This free shuttle bus service is provided courtesy of the City of Livonia Community Transit. For more information, contact Kurt Sonoras at the City of Livonia (734) 466-2700.

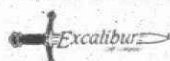
The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers publishes 15 twice-weekly community papers in western Wayne and Oakland counties. The HomeTown Newspapers publishes papers in Northville, South Lyon, Brighton, Novi, Northville, Milford and Livingston County.

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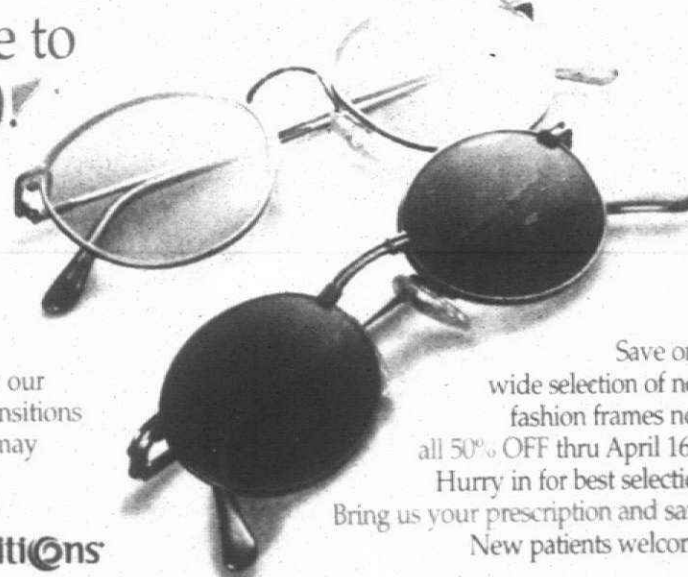
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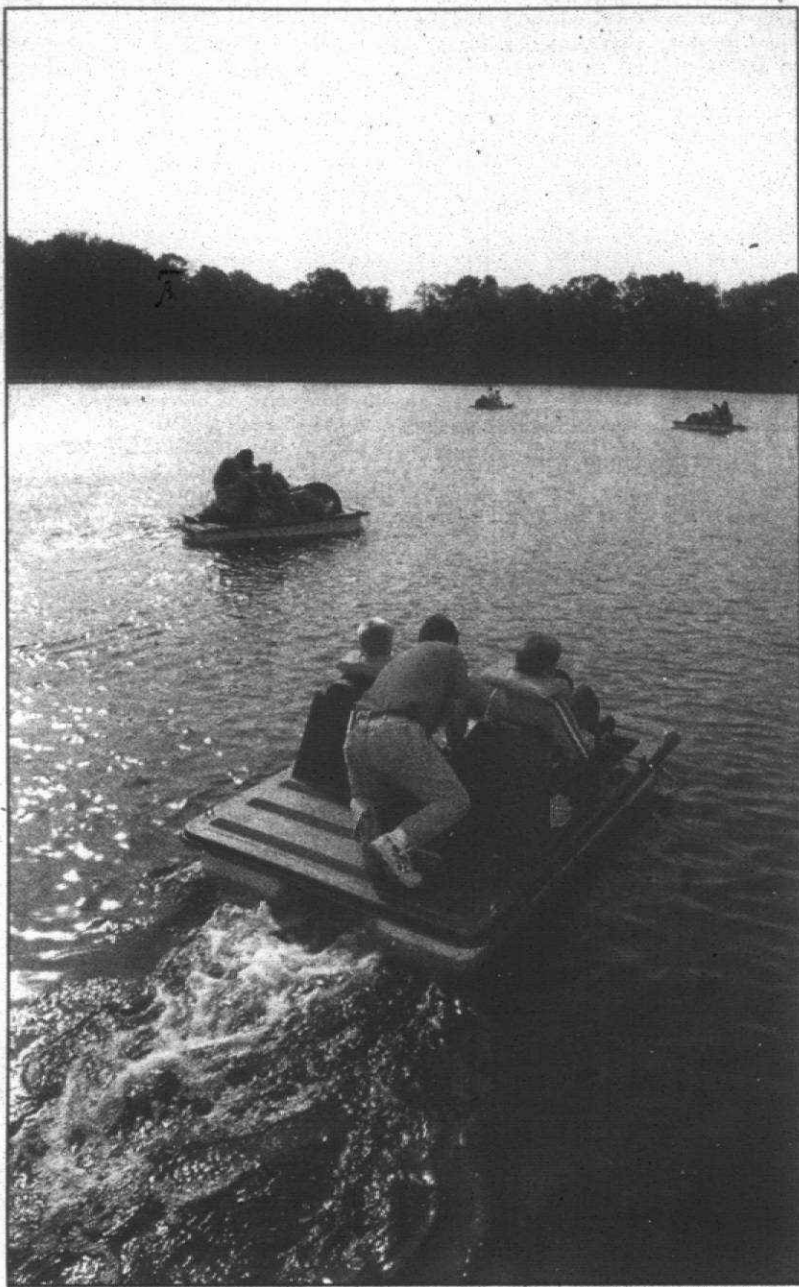
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Park users can reel in summer fun



FILE PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Paddleboat party: Youngsters enjoy a paddleboat during the official dedication of Newburgh Lake in October 1998. Paddleboats will be available for rental at Newburgh Pointe after Memorial Day, according to Wayne County Parks Director Hurley Coleman.

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
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You can get your fishing rod and reel ready for Newburgh Lake, but please, please, please don't eat the fish.

Newburgh Lake will be open for catch-and-release fishing this year, but public fish consumption advisories from the Michigan Department of Community Health will remain in effect.

Newburgh Lake, an impoundment of the Rouge River in the city of Livonia and Plymouth Township, was officially dedicated in October after a 19-month, \$10 million restoration project to remove contaminated sediments, but Memorial Day will mark the lake's actual reopening to the public for recreational activities.

Canoes and paddleboats will be available at Newburgh Pointe after Memorial Day. Residents can bring their own small boat to launch at the lake's public site, but they will need a permit. Motor boats will not be allowed.

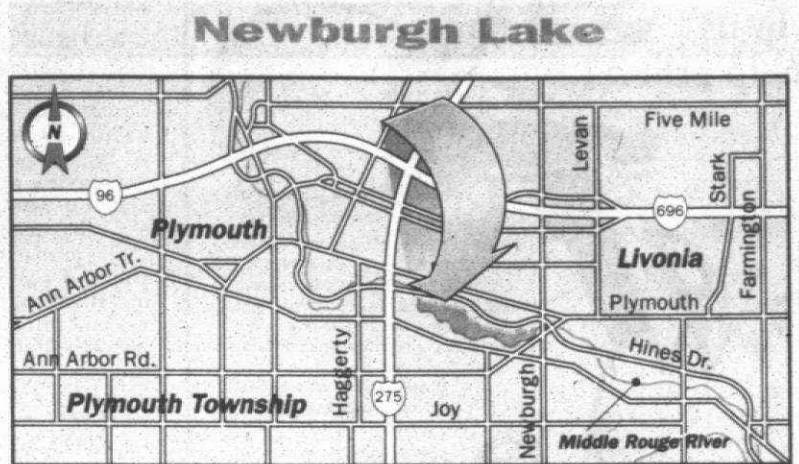
"Fishing will be allowed, but of course, they will have to follow the (Department of Natural Resources) rules," said Hurley Coleman, director of Wayne County parks. "We're not doing anything different from the DNR rules. For sportfishing, we'd always advise catch and release."

Fish advisories against consumption will continue this year for the middle branch of the Rouge River, including the impoundment of Newburgh Lake, below Phoenix Lake.

Gary Towns, district fisheries biologist, said the DNR encourages anglers to enjoy the lake, but they should, of course, follow state regulations outlined in fishing guides and advisories distributed when they purchase their fishing licenses. After the DNR had received requests from people who wanted to fish at the lake last fall, Towns met with county officials to discuss it.

"(Anglers) knew they weren't going to be able to catch any fish, if any at all, but they just wanted to wet a line and enjoy the park. There's no reason why they can't do that."

Towns doubts that any fish would



grow large enough this year to be "keepers." "If they do get to the legal size, we have these regulations and we will be patrolling it. Those regulations protect 'subregulated' fish."

Towns expects the fish to grow quickly and could reach legal size next year. "There's no reason for (recreational anglers) not to enjoy it."

Wayne County commissioners are expected to study a proposed list of parks fees next week at a meeting of the commission's Committee on Roads, Airports and Public Services, which will then return the fee schedule to the full commission for a vote, possibly for the following week.

The fees include a small-boating permit for \$5; canoe rentals from Newburgh to Nankin and Nankin to Merriman, \$10 each, or Newburgh to Merriman, \$15.

Coleman proposed \$100 fees for the daily rental of picnic shelters throughout the park system.

The canoe livery will be opened at the Nankin impoundment on Hines Drive just west of Ann Arbor Trail and, for the first time, at Newburgh Road. For the first time, canoeing will be permitted from Newburgh to Ann Arbor Trail.

A public health advisory against consumption will not be lifted by the Michigan Department of Community and Public Health until the fish are cleared of any possible contamination.

These contaminants that once

were present in Newburgh Lake — polychlorinated biphenyls — bioaccumulate in large fish, so if any PCBs were present, they would be evident in species, such as largemouth bass. Contaminants are not expected to be found in the fish, as 558,000 tons of sediment were removed from Newburgh Lake over the past two years. Approximately 250,000 tons were contaminated with PCBs.

Two fish kills over the last two years removed about 30,000 pounds of fish, some contaminated with the PCBs.

Newburgh was stocked last year with 50 gallons of fathead minnows, 10,000 bluegills, 4,000 largemouth bass, 3,000 catfish and 1,000 wall-eye. None of these fish would grow to a catchable legal size except for possibly the bluegill.

Those same fish are expected to be restocked this year, along with 4,000 northern pike, 300 crappie and 100 pumpkinseed sunfish. In 2000, 3,000 catfish and 2,000 northern pike will be restocked.

Coleman said county parks staff have discussed having Newburgh Lake as a recreational activity since 1989.

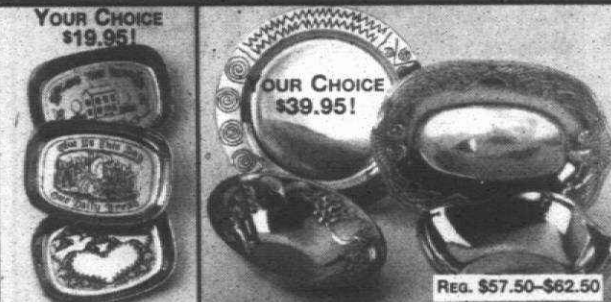
"So much is being done on the Rouge, it's an exciting thing for the people to go out there with their families. There's more recreational activities for them."

"Paddleboats and rowboats — that's great stuff."

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Landmarks

New projects add to Canton

Though two of the three are in the earliest planning stages, we like what we see in a diverse trio of projects planned for Canton.

A sports complex at the township-owned Canton Softball Center, a regional performing arts center and a new subdivision designed with the township's rural history in mind represent a welcome break from conventional development.

The Observer believes these types of projects will help establish Canton's identity as something other than a cookie-cutter suburb along the periphery of metro Detroit.

The sports complex is the closest of the three to completion. Originally planned for Haggerty, the public-private project was moved to the softball center site on Michigan Avenue after the township bought the property last fall. The existing baseball fields and restaurant will be complemented with an ice arena, 120,000-square-foot indoor soccer facility and, eventually, a separate golf dome.

An unusual consortium of developers and operators will be responsible for separate projects, including Griffin Properties (ice arena) and High Velocity Sports (soccer), an Oakland County partnership that includes Detroit Rockers coach-goatkeeper Bryan "Goose" Finnerty. The biggest challenge the sports complex could face is building a sense of continuity among its elements. The test will come next month when the softball center begins its first season under township ownership. The soccer facility could break ground in May and be ready as early as next fall, planners believe.

The performing arts center is quickly moving from exploratory stages to the drawing board. A feasibility study has been completed, and a regional board of people with an interest in the arts has been formed. Land owned by Plymouth-Canton Community Schools near the site of the new high school is one possible location for the center, which would seat 800

Development that provides real value to residents and makes the community distinctive will not only define Canton's image but could serve as a catalyst in keeping the sprawl mentality in check.

people. A key to the project is whether the center can generate enough revenue to pay for itself, Canton Supervisor Tom Yack has said.

Plans for Cherry Hill Village are the most intriguing. Troy-based Biltmore Development will build up to 1,200 single-family homes and other residential units in the area centered at Cherry Hill and Ridge roads. The neighborhood is rich in history and includes historic structures such as Cherry Hill School and the Bartlett-Travis farmhouse. Biltmore and the township are planning a neighborhood in character with those surroundings. Architecture will feature different shapes and materials. Homes will be closer to the street, and some garages will be set around the back.

Canton residents will have input in the development through a computer survey being done at several public locations in the township, including the administration building and library.

In his recent State of the Township Address, Yack said one goal over the last 10 years has been to make Canton a place where people locate for life, rather than a temporary outpost on the suburban frontier that people flee for "greener pastures" once the value of their home appreciates. He might be hard-pressed to admit it, but Yack's comments are in line with environmentalists and others speaking out against urban sprawl.

Development that provides real value to residents and makes the community distinctive will not only define Canton's image but could serve as a catalyst in keeping the sprawl mentality in check.

Welfare move unconstitutional

To get a handle on this welfare drug test question, ask yourself: What percentage of drug users would you have to find to justify invading everyone's bloodstream or urine sample?

That's the constitutional heart of the debate over requiring all welfare recipients to be tested. Here's what the Michigan Constitution says:

"The person, houses, papers and possessions of every person shall be secure from unreasonable searches and seizures. No warrant to search any place or to seize any person or things shall issue without describing them, nor without probable cause supported by oath or affirmation."

That's a high, tough standard. Law enforcement people must swear they have probable cause to believe someone has drugs before obtaining a warrant.

But the bills passed by the state House of Representatives fall far short of that standard. House Bills 4090 and 4091 give the state Family Independence Agency authority to run three pilot sites to test welfare recipients for drug use. One test area would be urban, another rural, the third in Wayne County.

If a welfare client refuses to take the test, he's punished by loss of benefits — no trial.

The sponsor, Rep. Lauren Hager, R-Port Huron, calls it "tough love and compassion in its purest form. A welfare client who is shown to be addicted is offered state-paid treatment." That's wise. Welfare should do more than subsidize people. The new welfare system is designed to get people on their feet, not, in the words of the bills' sponsors, to pay for their addiction.

The program wouldn't be cheap. The House Fiscal Agency said 175,000 tests a year would be given. At an average cost of \$3,000, treatment would total \$78.7 million. The Family Independence Agency (FIA) said it's unclear whether Medicaid would reimburse the state.

Despite his reputed fiscal conservatism, Gov. John Engler, who is making his second request for the welfare drug tests, isn't afraid to spend money. Remember when he ended "general assistance"? He didn't just put the money into other programs. He used it to match welfare federal grants and signed the biggest welfare bill in Michigan's history.

But back to our original question: What percentage would have to test positive for

What percentage of drug users would you have to find to justify invading everyone's bloodstream or urine sample? That's the constitutional heart of the debate over requiring all welfare recipients to be tested.

drugs to justify testing everyone? FIA estimates 15 percent will test positive. Elsewhere, we read of 20 percent testing positive.

Michigan has run into this kind of constitutional problem before. In the mid-1980s, Gov. James Blanchard advocated vehicle check lanes to catch drunken drivers. Cops would figure out which bars would generate lots of drunken drivers on which roads and stop every one passing by.

The courts shot it down for precisely the constitutional reason we cited — there was insufficient "probable cause" to justify stopping every driver.

Moreover, we note that supporters of HB 4090-4091 rejected an amendment requiring all state officials, including the governor and 148 legislators, to submit to drug tests. What's sauce for the welfare goose could well have been sauce for the legislative gander, particularly since lawmakers from both parties have been nailed for drug usage over the years.

One could argue that job applicants at private firms often are required to pass a drug test. It seems the constitution doesn't apply in business. So be it. Requiring a welfare recipient to pass a drug test can be viewed as practice in getting a job in the corporate world.

But we still bump into Sec. 11 in the state constitution's Declaration of Rights: "The person ... unreasonable searches and seizures ... probable cause supported by oath or affirmation."

Reps. Nancy Quarles, D-Southfield, and Tom Kelly, D-Wayne, bucked their colleagues in voting against the drug test bills. We applaud them for reading the Michigan Constitution, which their oaths of office require them to uphold.

The bills probably will be passed. The courts may well call them unconstitutional. The unsavory mess could be avoided if we would all read our constitution and take it more seriously.



LETTERS

Supervisor responds

In the Feb. 25 Canton Observer, Mr. Robert Bilkie Jr. commented on the recent name change of the junior baseball organization.

The action taken by the junior baseball league to change its name simply reflects changing realities. Canton is now the 20th largest community in Michigan and its elected leaders recognize the importance of creating a positive quality of life for its residents. As a result, Canton's leadership has for the past 10 years placed an emphasis on recreation.

As stewards of our taxpayers' funds it is the Board of Trustees' responsibility to represent the best interests of its constituents. For many years Canton has supported in a meaningful way youth sports. The purchase of Canton Softball Center brought to a head the ongoing issue of commitment levels on the part of the municipalities. It is a disservice to Canton residents that they be expected to carry the recreation responsibility for other municipalities. It is clear that Canton residents and its elected Board of Trustees have a different attitude toward recreation than does Mr. Bilkie's community. This difference can best be illustrated by comparing the two communities' recreation expenditures over the last six years. During that period Plymouth Township has spent about \$500,000 on capital improvements to its only park, while Canton was investing over \$25 million on a variety of recreation facilities including the development of three new parks.

During the same period Canton spent in excess of \$2.5 million each year on operation, while Plymouth Township spent a few thousand dollars. For many years, the City of Plymouth and Canton Township have provided the area with virtually all recreation facilities and programs. Another example of the difference in recreation funding philosophy and community support can be seen in the recent defeat of a dedicated recreation millage in Plymouth Township. Clearly Canton and Plymouth Township residents and their leaders have a different philosophy and approach as it relates to recreation and leisure. It can be expected that as Canton's population grows it may be necessary to offer programs, services and facilities exclusively to Canton residents. As long as recreation facilities and programs are offered by neighboring communities there will be no incentive for the residents of Plymouth Township or its elected leaders to meet the recreation needs of its community.

We make no apologies for offering our residents one of southeast Michigan's finest recreation programs. We make no apologies for making the youth of our taxpayers a priority. We also make no apologies for protecting the financial interests of our taxpayers. We will continue to respond to the recreational and leisure needs of Canton residents through the

planning, acquisition and construction of new recreation/leisure facilities.

Thomas Yack
Canton Township supervisor

MIOSHA gutting takes toll

John Engler has gutted MIOSHA since taking office in 1990. The agenda is directed at making MIOSHA a consultant rather than an agency that has the power to inspect, enforce, and penalize those that do not comply. Safety will be provided by "Voluntary Employer Compliance." In reality, it means "No Safety!" Job safety is a priority, and a workers right to life should not end when they punch a time clock.

We're fighting for our lives ... to the families who lost a loved one a friend, it's our heartfelt sympathy to you we send.

Your loved one went to work one day ... Now they're gone ... with God they stay.

They went to work with hopes and dreams ... Instead their lives ended in violent screams. Safety and inspections, Business did not heed, Profits are the roots of this selfish greed.

Human life, "They" say, cannot compare, Companies continue to show us, "We Don't Care."

To John Engler I show my cold stone stare, No empathy or compassion, do you even care?

Our workers are dying for an honest day's pay, But dear Johnny keeps saying, "Get out of my way."

Indifference does not make this crime go away, It causes injury and death, which workers will pay.

Noncompliance in safety is our biggest fear, But our strong voices fall on Bureaucrat deaf ears.

We all have a right to come home each day, It's a crime that safety violations stand in the way.

The families, with tears, place a rose on the grave, How senseless, how tragic, a life we could have saved.

In memory, for those we've lost and those we fight to save.

Patrice Smith and Laurel Tondreau
Livonia

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Personal freedom shrinks as government expands

Slavery was a key issue in the Civil War. But there were also two other main themes: secession and states' rights.

Abraham Lincoln's chief goal in the war was to keep the union together. Early in the struggle, he said if he had a choice of freeing the slaves and letting the country fracture, or keeping the union together with slavery intact, he'd pick the latter.

Lincoln was so dedicated to the thought of preserving the union, he didn't even think of the Civil War as a war. He saw it as an insurrection by the Southern states that had to be put down at all costs.

South Carolina, of course, was the first to secede. Ten more states were close behind. America's bloodiest war, which went from 1861 to 1865, followed.

From the rebels' perspective, the "War between the States," as many Southerners still call it, was about the right to govern themselves.

According to Compton's Interactive Encyclopedia, the North favored a loose interpretation of the Constitu-

tion that would grant the federal government expanded powers.

The South, on the other hand, wanted to reserve all undefined powers to the states, Compton's says. The South also took exception to the federal government's right to prohibit slavery in Western territories.

Leaders felt it would severely limit the number of slave states coming into the union and, eventually, lead to the destruction of their economic system, Compton's stated.

Why the history lesson you ask?

A recent conversation with Canton Supervisor Tom Yack reminded me of these Civil War issues. As he said from his self-proclaimed soap box, these issues are still relevant today.

While Yack isn't calling for secession or saying the South was right, for heaven's sake, he thinks the federal government has gotten too far "off the beaten track."

"They think they can solve everybody's problems from Washington, D.C.," he said. "I look at the Constitution and what the federal government was supposed to do, first and fore-



SCOTT DANIEL

most, was protect us all from outside forces.

"They've failed to even protect us from others. This latest espionage rumor is a prime example."

Yack was referring to China's alleged attempt to steal nuclear weapons secrets. He said the feds should be worrying about these types of matters and leave more mundane matters to local government.

"They ought to be holding national summits on why they're not doing

their jobs in protecting us from other countries," Yack added. "It just blows my mind. Where are people's heads?"

"The federal government has no business talking about urban sprawl, congestion of roads or schools. Those are all local issues and they ought to be solved locally."

Yack believes community leaders and citizens are best qualified to handle these kinds of problems.

"They're the best people that can solve them," he said, "assuming they have the resources."

"The problem is that the federal government is taking so much of the resource away from local government."

Yack calls it a redistribution of wealth.

"They collect all the money in the pot and then they're doing it out. They're giving us our own money back after they taken off the top some percent for bureaucracy and then they're giving it back to us with their ideas in mind. What they think is the right way to go. It's nuts, it's crazy."

I tend to agree with the supervisor.

I'm not saying that we should hear-ken back to colonial or Civil War days, but I think the federal government encroaches in our lives too much. It has gone too far.

The sad thing is, I think many people almost expect it. When something goes wrong they say, "What's the government doing about it?"

It's not an attitude that developed overnight. Our country began moving that way under Franklin Roosevelt in the 1930s and moved even further under Lyndon Johnson in the '60s.

What folks fail to realize, I think, is that for every service, every program, every subsidy the federal government supplies, a piece of personal freedom is lost.

"Help," at least as the government defines it, comes with strings. Those strings are in the form of dollar bills they take out of your paycheck.

Scott Daniel is a staff writer for the Canton Observer. He can be reached via e-mail at sdaniel@ec.hometown.com or by phone at (734) 459-2700.

LETTERS

Renee Schmoel, Marybeth Turner, Nancy Bitzarakis, Linda Hensley, Mary Lou Nagy, Cyndi Burnstein, Tom Cotner, J. Walworth, John Campbell and many more ...
Plymouth Salem staff

Many qualified workers

I just read Philip Power's column, "GOP leads way in job training," in the Observer dated Feb. 11 and feel compelled to reply.

First of all, I was impressed by his opinions. However, I must challenge the statement: "The current shortage of qualified workers is already viewed by business folks as Michigan's biggest economic problem. Employers can't find qualified, skilled workers."

I am a qualified,

skilled legal secretary who retired too early after almost 13 years at my last place of employment. I do conduct myself in a professional manner and dress appropriately. I find it very difficult to believe that the job market for qualified workers is in such poor condition because I have responded to newspaper ads, been interviewed, by one and/or three people at the same time after having been tested for several hours and leaving feeling very confident that all went well, only to be advised that I was not chosen.

Upon inquiry as to why, I was given very vague answers leading me to believe that my unspoken age was the deterrent. The law prohibits discrimination because of age and thus, the employer evades the issue rather

than risk a lawsuit charging age discrimination.

Is this not strange considering that the mature worker usually is more efficient, dependable and trustworthy? During these past months that I have been looking for part-time employment, I have encountered far too many inefficient people holding down jobs who cannot and/or will not answer a simple question, i.e., bank tellers who do not know the employer's policies, a manager who clearly states that she does not know anything about the subject of my inquiry. I know that I am fully qualified, but obviously I cannot work in the minimum wage neighborhood.

Florence Ziarnik
Livonia

Principal thanked

In recognition of Principal's Week Feb. 8-12, the staff of Plymouth Salem High School would like to thank our principal, Jerry Ostoin, for his dedication to the safety, dignity and education of the students in our community. His passionate commitment to a generation of students and staff at PCEP are a genuine source of Salem Pride!

The staff includes: Cindy Bastion, Diane Gaubatz, Betty Schaar, Jennifer Hawk, Dodi Higgins, Joanne Hart, Lisa Pearl, Michael Seneker, Alvin Dvorsky, Scott Thomas, Diane Holmes, Mary Robinson, Mary Anne Eppley, Jan Carney, Harriet Wolbrink, Mary Ann Becker, Barbara Meteyer, Ted Balaj, R. Gould, Janelle Stec, Martin Authier, Amy Welken-Hill, Helene Ross, Christine Forley,

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Blanchard's choice is our loss

I wasn't all that surprised when I got the fax from Jim Blanchard.

"I thought long and hard about once again serving the people of Michigan in Washington but have decided not to seek election to the Senate for personal and professional reasons."

For months, Blanchard had been considering running against Republican freshman Sen. Spencer Abraham.

Like most potential candidates, Abraham has been working on fund-raising. Aiming at a \$9 million war chest for his campaign, last week he raised \$1 million at a single event in Livonia. But Abraham was widely regarded as vulnerable, especially to Blanchard, a skilled campaigner and still a popular former governor who served with distinction as ambassador to Canada.

Blanchard's departure from the race says more about the sad state to which our politics has descended than it does about Abraham's relative vulnerability. Over the weekend, Blanchard and I talked at length about his decision and about how the current state of politics affected it.

Power: "It seems as though state-of-the-art politics has turned into little more than an exercise in fund-raising."

Blanchard: "I'm afraid that's true. (U.S. Sen.) Carl Levin told me he went to 250 fund-raisers for his last campaign, and I know that I'd have to do something close to that if I decided to run. Politicians today tend to look at people as though they're walking wallets. It's gotten completely out of hand."

Power: "Moreover, the kind of mud-slinging and personal abuse would make anybody but the toughest flinch before getting into a big race."

Blanchard: "There's a rule of thumb in politics: You have to want to get elected to whatever office you're running for with every atom of your heart and every piece of your soul. If you have any hesitation at all, it's wise not to do it."

Power: "Campaigns used to be regarded as an opportunity for public debate about issues and a chance for people to show what they're like. Has that changed, too?"

Blanchard: "Entirely. I got into politics because of ideas and people. Ideas to help people. But people, especially, I love old-fashioned campaigning because it puts you directly in touch with people. Media campaigns are just the reverse. They take the candidate away from the people, and they're the main reason politics has gotten so expensive and requires so much fund-raising."



PHILIP POWER

Power: "So how are you going to contribute? Are you going to withdraw entirely from public service?"

Blanchard: "No. I'm going to be working hard to elect (Vice President Al) Gore. I can live a life of public service, accomplish a lot, have a lot of fun without all the invective and hate, without running for elective office. That's why I wrote the book on that experience. I wanted to show young people it's still possible for folks to contribute to society in other ways than running for office."

Blanchard's answers to my questions — thoughtful, humane, practical — helped persuade me that his decision not to make the race for the Senate was the best decision for him ... and the worst outcome for the people of Michigan. Because, whether you're a Democrat or a Republican, people like Jim Blanchard are exactly the sort who should be making the race for significant office in our country.

No doubt the Democrats will come up with a credible candidate to run against Sen. Abraham. But the net effect of what has happened to our politics in recent years is to have deterred from running for public office precisely the kinds of able, effective, thoughtful and sane people who should be in positions of responsibility in a democracy. Sadly for the republic, the field is increasingly being left to the insecure and the egomaniacal, the wealthy and the celebrities with high name ID and the passionately ideological.

Is this why I'm not surprised Geoffrey Fieger is talking about running for the Senate?

Phil Power has known Blanchard for years and served as chair of job training while Blanchard was governor. Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail: ppower@econline.com

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Senate takes action against drunken snowmobilers

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

The Michigan Senate moved quickly this month against drunken snowmobilers, drugged welfare recipients, and aliens registering to vote.

Points charged

Snowmobilers with serious violations would be charged "points" on their driving records under Senate Bills 125-126, which the Senate passed 34-1.

"Snowmobilers are running around, killing themselves and others," said Sen. Harry Gast, R-St. Joseph, sponsor of the measure.

Added Sen. Don Koivisto, D-Ironwood: "Two factors account for the increase in accidents: increased speed and alcohol."

Drinking is involved in 60 percent of accidents and excessive speed in 80 percent, added Sen. Walter North, R-St. Ignace.

Only Sen. Chris Dingell, D-Trenton, voted against the measures. He sought a three-year "sunset" on the bills, so their effect could be re-examined, but the Senate shot down his amendment 7-17.

If the bills become law, they would take effect in October of 2000. They would treat off-road offenses the same as motor vehicle offenses. The would require

the Secretary of State to record on a violator's driving record:

■ Six points for manslaughter, negligent homicide or felony resulting from operation of a snowmobile or off-road vehicle (ORV).

■ Six points for operating a snowmobile or ORV under the influence of alcohol or controlled drugs, or allowing another to operate under the influence.

■ Four points for operating while visibly impaired.

■ Up to 93 days in jail for violations. Currently, the jail term is 90 days. The extra three days bring this law into line with other state laws.

One bill amends the vehicle code; the other, the natural resources act.

The bills go to the House. Refer to SB 125-126 when writing to your state representative, State Capitol, Lansing 48909.

Welfare testing

Sen. Chris Dingell, D-Trenton, threw a monkey wrench into Gov. John Engler's effort to have welfare recipients tested for drugs.

A pair of bills would allow the Family Independence Agency to test the program in three areas. Clients who test positive would

be required to enter a treatment program or lose benefits.

The Senate passed House Bills 4090-4091 by 25-10 votes, but a two-thirds vote is required to give the bills immediate effect as soon as they are signed by the governor.

Dingell voted yes on both but withheld his vote on SB 4091, leaving 24 votes for immediate effect, one shy of the two-thirds requirement. Result: Unless Dingell changes his mind soon, the bills may not become law until about April of 2000.

All Republicans and four Democrats voted yes.

Among those voting no were area Democrats Dianne Byrum of Onondaga, John Cherry of Clio, George Hart of Dearborn, Gary Peters of Bloomfield Township and Alma Smith of Salem.

Byrum objected that the cost of the program was underestimated. "You cannot take the same number of dollars, divide it among clients and have the same level of service," she said.

The Senate Fiscal Agency estimated cost of testing at \$172,300 to \$1.6 million. Sen. John J.H. Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, put the cost of individual tests at \$50.

The bills say the Legislature

intends to implement the laws statewide by April 1, 2003. Currently the state has 287,400 welfare clients, of whom one-third are estimated to be adults eligible for testing. The laws wouldn't apply to those 65 or older.

Aliens blocked

A quirk in the federal Motor Voter Act allowed some aliens to register to vote in Michigan, and the state Senate is moving to correct the problem.

The Senate passed 35-0 a bill by Beverly Hammerstrom, R-Temperance, to prohibit the Secretary of State, other registrars, city and township clerks from offering noncitizens the opportunity to register to vote.

Motor Voter became federal law after a bitter partisan debate in the U.S. Congress. President George Bush vetoed it in 1992. President Bill Clinton signed it in 1993 after a Democratic Congress repassed it. Republican Gov. John Engler sued unsuccessfully to block it.

It requires state welfare, unemployment and public health agencies, as well as driver's license agencies, to offer their customers a chance to register to vote. Hammerstrom, a former township clerk, said many aliens, not understanding the system, "would sign everything put before them. This (bill) pro-

tections them from trouble." Her bill would prohibit state agencies from offering a person the opportunity to register if the person had submitted a written document saying he or she was not a U.S. citizen.

The bill goes to the House. Refer to SB 312 when writing to your state representative, State Capitol, Lansing 48909.

Beware of ties

Lawmakers are working on measures to prevent tie votes at everything from the township park board level to the state Senate itself.

The first is called the West Bloomfield case, because that Oakland County township has seen 3-3 tie votes on its elected park commission. So last week:

■ The Senate passed 35-0 a bill amending the election law to allow the township board to set the number of parks commissioners to be elected. Sponsor of SB 336 is Bill Bullard Jr., R-Milford.

■ The House passed 100-7 a companion measure changing the township parks law to require an odd number of parks commissioners — as few as five, as many as nine. Sponsor of HB 4011 is freshman Rep. Marc Shulman, R-West Bloomfield.

The bills are tie-barred, meaning both must be passed in order to become law.

Schoolcraft's Waterman is site of beekeepers' school

The 61st annual Bee School, sponsored by the Southeastern Michigan Beekeepers Association in cooperation with the Schoolcraft College Beekeepers Club and the Cranbrook Beekeepers Club, is scheduled 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 17, in the Waterman Campus Center on Schoolcraft's campus.

Featured speakers are Zachary Huang from Michigan State University, speaking on "Social

Organization of the Honey Bee Colony," and Roger Hoopingarner, a retired professor from Michigan State University.

Nonmembers must pay a \$5 registration fee at the door, and attendees should bring a dish to pass and table service for the noon potluck lunch.

For information, call Roger Sutherland at (734) 668-8568 or Jim Goodrich at (248) 628-0321.

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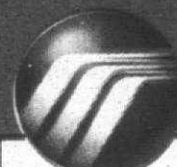
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JACK GLADDEN

A doorknob, broomstick and privacy

It started about 10 o'clock one night when The 10th-Grader came downstairs and said, "Dad, I can't get in my room!"

"Of course you can," I said. "You're 15 years old."

"No," she said, starting to get irritable. "I can't open the door. The doorknob doesn't work."

"Oh, for heaven's sake. Let me see." I trudged up the stairs, a little irritated myself. "Doorknob doesn't work. Right."

The door was closed. It usually was, even years ago when it was her brother's room. It's a privacy thing with teenagers.

I put my hand on the knob and turned it. It turned. But the door didn't open. I tried again. And again. The knob was turning, but it wasn't moving the bolt, which was firmly in place in the doorjamb.

"Well, time for the old screwdriver trick," I said to the cat, who was watching me with great interest.

Down three flights of stairs to the basement, then back up with an assortment of screwdrivers in hand.

Let's see, what size do I need for that little hole that you put the screwdriver in to unlock the door when the bratty little toddler has locked himself in the bathroom?

Uhhh, there's no hole there. Just a solid doorknob. Wait a minute!

There's a hole in the bathroom doorknob, but not this one. Why not? Well, of course, this one doesn't lock.

'The broomstick falls out if I don't keep a towel stuffed in there. I need a doorknob.'

But it doesn't open, either.

Now what?

Maybe the old credit card trick. Nope, I'd have to take the molding off to get a credit card or even a screwdriver inside that latch.

Nothing to do but take the doorknob off. That's easy enough.

"What in the world's going on up here?"

It was The Feminist. Checking things out.

"I'm trying to get this door open. That's what."

"Why don't you just take the doorknob off?"

"I did that already. But the bolt is jammed into this doohickey in the wall. It won't turn, it won't slide, it won't budge."

"Maybe if you try jiggling the door..."

"It won't jiggle. It's jammed too tight. Give me a hammer."

"Be careful."

"There. It's open. Look at this. That latch is cheap plastic. It just broke apart and jammed everything up."

"Uh, Dad?"

"Now what?"

"There's a hole in my door."

"Of course there is, I took the doorknob out."

"I need a new one."

"Not tonight."

"But I can't shut my door."

"You'll survive."

Is it morning already? Must be, I can smell the coffee.

"Dad!"

"What?"

"I need a doorknob."

"I know. I know. But ... what's that in your door? I can't open it."

"It's a broomstick."

"And why do you have a towel stuffed in the hole?"

"The broomstick falls out if I don't keep a towel stuffed in there. I need a doorknob."

"She's right, you know. You really should get her a doorknob. It's been six weeks. Besides, I want my broom back."

"Oh, all right. I'll go to the hardware store tomorrow."

"How hard is it to install a doorknob? You had enough trouble getting the old one out."

"Should be simple enough. Just a couple of screws. Uh-oh."

Please see GLADDEN, B2



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

Diners at Mama Mia's Restaurant in Livonia may hear some strange noises coming from the back room five times a year. Singing, dancing and laughing radiates through the eatery.

As absurd as it sounds, it's a group of metro Detroit-area Laurel and Hardy fans, collectively known as the Dancing Cuckoos, celebrating the movie stars' legacy.

"I'm sure they hear us when we're singing our Cuckoos song, our 'Sons of the Desert' song. If nothing else, we do it loud," said Rose Lahiff, "corresponding Cuckoo" and Canton resident.

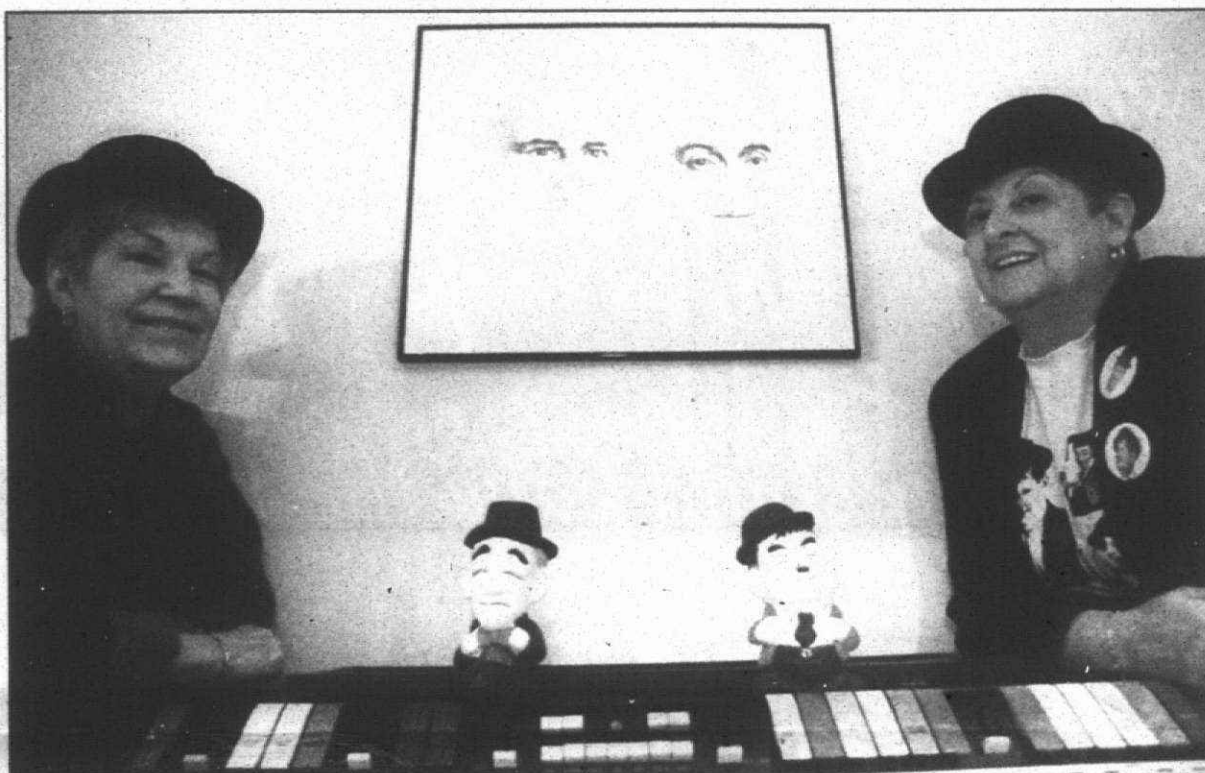
The Dancing Cuckoos is the local chapter or "tent" of Sons of the Desert, a national fraternal organization devoted to the memory of the persons and films of Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy. It is named for the Laurel and Hardy film of the same name.

Lahiff joined the Dancing Cuckoos 15 years ago, but some of the members have been around since the group's inception in 1965. The Dancing Cuckoos was the second tent formed after Sons of the Desert was founded in 1964 by Orson Bean, Al Kilgore, John McCabe, Chuck McCann and John Municion.

"When they started in New York, it was men-only membership. I think it's only been about the last 15-18 years that women could come. Women could come as guests on certain nights and then they started allowing them membership. They joined the '90s, what can I say?" Lahiff said.

All of the tents have taken their names from a Laurel and Hardy film with the exception of the Dancing Cuckoos, which is named after the duo's theme music.

"This is an international organiza-



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHMANN

Following tradition: Derby hats are only part of the costume Dancing Cuckoo members Jean Senkowski of Westland and Rose Lahiff of Canton don in memory of their favorite comedians, Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy.

tion and every second year they have a convention that's an international event," Lahiff said. "Last year Jean (Senkowski, fellow Cuckoo) and I went to England. The convention was in Birmingham, England, we had the opportunity to go to Ulverston, which is a small community not too far from Birmingham, but that's where Stan Laurel was born."

Between 300-400 Laurel and Hardy fans invaded Ulverston.

"They literally closed down the

town for us," Lahiff recalled. "They had policemen out there directing traffic. The lord mayor came. People were lining the streets applauding us. We were walking around singing Laurel and Hardy songs with our paper umbrellas and our fezzes or Derbies. We had a wonderful time."

The Cuckoos have a knack for making spectacles of themselves.

"Last year at Redford Theatre they had a Laurel and Hardy weekend. We got up on the stage and joined hands before the movies started and sang 'We are the Sons of the Desert' in front of all the people who had come to see the movie," Lahiff said.

Longtime fans

Growing up in Detroit, Lahiff remembers watching Laurel and Hardy movies as far back as 5 years old.

"I suppose because it's so absurd," she explained about why she's a fan. "It's absolutely funny. It has no relationship to real life whatsoever. It's definitely a stress reliever."

She learned about the club from friends who took her to a meeting for her birthday. She did her part in spreading the Cuckoos' wings. She recruited her friend, Jean Senkowski of Westland eight years ago.

"It's just good clean fun," Senkowski said. "You can't go in there with a sad face. You don't stay that way very long. There's no way you cannot laugh. You go around and see a bunch of grown ups sitting there with Derbies and fezzes and sitting down eating their dinner. And then getting up, joining hands and singing their songs and going through this mish-mash we call business."

Meetings begin with dinner at 6:30 p.m. followed at 8 p.m. by the "non-sense meeting" filled with jokes, political satire and announcements.

"If anybody has anything they want to say, they get up and say it," Lahiff said. "We usually toast Laurel or Hardy or members of the various casts. We show old Laurel and Hardy flicks."

The Dancing Cuckoos also raffle off Laurel and Hardy memorabilia, which fills the basement of Lahiff's home. The group generally meets the third Thursday of the months of September, November, January and March. This year, however, the May meeting will be replaced by "Mae Busch Night," a gala celebration of Laurel and Hardy, Friday, May 21, at Vassel's Banquet Hall, 26750 W.

Please see CUCKOOS, B2

A bit about the Cuckoos

The Dancing Cuckoos, a Laurel and Hardy appreciation organization, holds their next meeting on Thursday, March 18, at Mama Mia's, 27770 Plymouth Road, west of Inkster Road, Livonia. The evening begins with 6 p.m. dinner (at your own expense), followed by the 8 p.m. "business" meeting and movies.

Membership for The Dancing Cuckoos is \$20 a year, however, the meetings are open to the public.

The group meets the third Thursday of September, November, January, March and May. This year, the May meeting will be part of the gala party, "Mae Busch Night," on Friday, May 21, at Vassel's Banquet Hall, 26750 W. Eight Mile Road, Southfield.

The evening begins with cocktails at 7 p.m. and dinner at 8 p.m. followed by entertainment and dancing. Tickets are \$35. For more information, call Rose Lahiff at (734) 981-2798 or visit <http://members.aol.com/rozla/cuckoos.html>.



Parenting Awareness Month

BY TERESA VANBOURGONDEN
GUEST COLUMNIST

Is your child getting enough academic attention in school? Are your doctors paying enough attention to the welfare of your daughter? Do you sometimes feel overwhelmed with the challenges of parenting and wonder if there's anyone who could help?

Because your children are your most precious possessions, you want to make sure they have access to the support they deserve. You may sense that your children aren't getting their needs met by others who are responsible for their care, like doctors, teachers or day care workers.

This article is meant to serve as a guide for advocating for your child, whether it be for a more appropriate school placement, for more intensive medical attention, or for more community support. Knowing how and when to advocate for your children will help

them reach their full potential now and as they grow into adulthood.

Get the facts: We know that no child is perfect and sometimes children get into trouble. We also know that every child has possibilities. To effectively advocate for your child to realize those possibilities, you need all the facts.

If your child is having difficulties in school, ask for documentation supporting these difficulties. If your child is having medical problems, ask for literature on the medical condition and possible courses of treatment.

At Lifespan Clinical Services, for example, a mother brought in her child for an assessment for respite care because he was diagnosed with a developmental disability.

During the evaluation, the social worker realized that the mother did not know what constituted a developmental disability. She also did not know that her child was entitled to a number of services because of his disability.

Having thorough information is the first step in

making a plan of action for your child.

Know your rights and responsibilities: In every system - medical, educational, and mental health - the individual has both rights and responsibilities. When advocating for your child, it is necessary to be fully informed regarding these rights.

For example, a father at a local elementary school disagreed with the special education placement for his daughter. However, he did not realize that he had the right to not sign the forms, placing his daughter in the specialized classroom.

The father was frustrated that, in his opinion, his child was inappropriately placed. The school did not realize the extent of the father's frustration because he had signed the forms, agreeing to the placement.

For information on your educational rights and responsibilities, contact your local school board. For medical rights, contact your local hospital or department of health. For mental health rights, contact your local Department of Community Mental Health.

Please see PARENTING, B2

Being an effective advocate for your child

Cuckoos from page B1

Eight Mile, Southfield.
"Mae Busch Night" is a mini convention. We're presenting a "Fine Mess Award" to somebody who's really goofed up some way. Hopefully, one of the nominees will come to accept the award," Lahiff said slyly. She wouldn't reveal the names of the nominees, but said they are "dignitaries."

Absurdity at its best
The basic premise of all the tents is the members to agree to disagree. The bylaws were approved by Laurel, but "being the type of organization that we are, it's never been ratified," Lahiff said.

"Once a year somebody will stand up and say, 'It's time we discuss the constitution and consider ratifying the articles.' They never seem to get beyond the first one," Lahiff explained. "It's a good humor type of argument about yes and no, or why and why not."

All the articles contradict each other. Article Six says "Despite his lack of authority, the grand

sheik or his deputy shall act as chairman at all meetings and will follow the standard parliamentary procedure in conducting same." The next article says Article Six is ridiculous.

"It's an absolute hoot," Lahiff said. Despite all the friendly arguments, the organization's members, which average at age 40 and older, get along swimmingly.

"The people who belong to this organization are very outgoing,

very friendly. They just accept everybody at face value. I don't think a harsh word (has been said). It's just a great group of people," Lahiff explained.

And anybody is welcome - even skeptics.

"Anybody who likes Laurel and Hardy - if they think they don't like them, they're still invited to come because by the time they're done they'll like the club," Lahiff said. "We have greeters, so that when anybody walks in, they're not just left to (fend for themselves)."

Parenting from page B1

Access community agencies: Community agencies can provide an enormous amount of support for families. They often have extensive resource lists that will link you with the appropriate programs for your child.

Whether you're looking for an after-school program that provides tutoring or an evening program that works with troubled adolescents to examine their consequences and make better decisions, community agencies can help.

They also provide families with the opportunity to communicate with other families, to share information, and to provide support. The support and information parents receive from community agencies can be invaluable in addressing a child's needs.

Communicate with individuals working with your child: Open communication is the key to having a good working relationship with those who are assisting your child. Teachers, doctors and counselors need to know that you are invested in the growth of your child. They

also need to know when you have particular concerns.

Attendance at parent-teacher conferences, counseling sessions, and doctor appointments will afford you the opportunity to gather needed information and to relay concerns. It also allows all of the individuals involved to work as a team toward common goals and to provide consistent feedback to the child.

A mother who received family counseling from Lifespan Clinical Services, for example, wanted her child to identify his goals and steps to achieve them. She invited everyone who works with her child to attend a planning meeting, including his teacher, counselor and school social worker. The group assisted the child in identifying his strengths, weaknesses and goals. They then helped him to develop a plan for achieving his goals.

At the end of the meeting, the child stood up, without any prompting, and thanked each person for caring enough about him to come to the meeting. Working as a team, with open communication, allows those involved to work with the child for the child.

Involve your child: Despite parents' best intentions to provide a supportive environment for their child, their plans will not succeed, if the child is not involved. The child should be informed of the need for more assistance.

Include your child in the process by having him identify his personal goals and express his anxieties regarding the process. Invite the child to team meetings, such as the Individualized Educational Planning Committee in school or a meeting with the family doctor.

Some discussions and issues are meant for adults only. There are a few times the child should not be invited:

- When the discussion is too advanced for the child
- When the individuals involved are antagonistic towards one another.
- When the discussion will focus more on someone else than the identified child.

The child should not feel that his life choices are being decided solely by others. Children need to feel that those involved with their personal issues are people who truly care about their welfare. It is always difficult to decide how much the child should be involved, but the guiding principle should be to keep the child's best interests at the center of your decisions.

Advocating for your child is a necessary role that each parent plays at some time. For your most important roles. But your child will be grateful that you care enough to do it.

Teresa VanBourgonien is the program manager of Respite Care at Lifespan Clinical Services, a program of Starfish Family Services.

Lifespan Clinical Services provides resources to assist children, individuals and families through guidance, counseling, crisis assessment and respite for families of developmentally disabled individuals. Call (888) 355-LIFE for more information on Lifespan Clinical Services.

CRAFTS

Listings for the Crafts Calendar should be submitted in writing 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 information, call (734) 953-2131.

MADONNA UNIVERSITY
Madonna University will hold its 14th annual spring arts and crafts showcase 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 20, in the Activities Center on campus, Schoolcraft and Levan, Livonia. The show will feature a variety of handmade arts and crafts, including pottery, jewelry, paintings, textiles, woodworking, plastic and cross-stitch. A raffle with a grand prize of \$1,000 and five additional \$100 prizes will be held at 4:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at \$1 each at the door. Admission will be \$2. For more information, call (734) 432-5603.

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
The Livonia Franklin High School Patriots Club craft show will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 20, at the school, 31000 Joy, Livonia. There will be more than 75 crafters, and a raffle to support athletic scholarships. Admission will be \$1 and no strollers will be allowed.

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Simmons-Feldkamp

Frieda J. Simmons and David Simmons announce the engagement of their daughter, Amy, to Eric J. Feldkamp, the son of Robert J. Feldkamp and Diane Hoffman-Cook, both of Canton. The bride-to-be is employed at the Delphi Automotive world headquarters in Troy.

Her fiancé is a specialist in U.S. Military Intelligence. He is stationed in Washington, D.C.

A June 1999 wedding is planned.



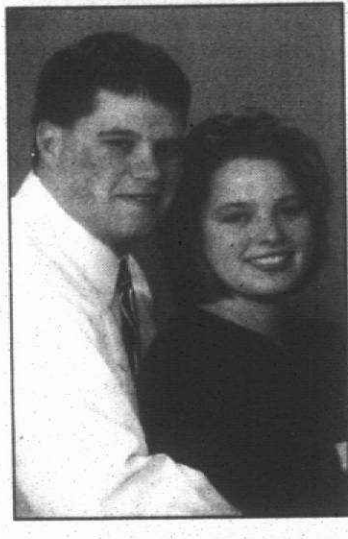
Schafer-Shingler

Glen and Sue Nicholas of Taylor announce the engagement of their daughter, Suzanne Marie Schafer, to Jeffrey Joseph Shingler, the son of Roger and Jan Shingler of Wixom.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School. She is employed at Frito-Lay Inc.

Her fiancé is a 1991 graduate of Edsel Ford High School and a graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in construction management. He is also employed at Frito-Lay.

A June wedding is planned at Hope Lutheran Church of Farmington Hills.



Galindo-Krahe

Ricardo Galindo and Helen Galindo, both of Livonia, announce the engagement of their daughter, Cheryl Frances, to Raymond Joseph Krahe, the son of Ruth Krahe Buettner of Cleveland, Ohio, and the late Raymond Adam Krahe.

The bride-to-be is a 1984 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 1988 graduate of Kalamazoo College with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and computer science. She is employed as a lead technical specialist for United Parcel Service in Ramsey, N.J.

Her fiancé is a 1990 graduate of the New Jersey Institute of Technology with a bachelor's degree. He is employed as a professional engineer for URS Griener Woodward Clyde in New Jersey.



An April wedding is planned at St. Colette Catholic Church in Livonia.

Papciak-Barnett

Edward and Joan Papciak of Novi, formerly of Plymouth, announce the engagement of their daughter, Laurie, to Kevin Barnett, the son of George and Jacqueline Barnett of Phoenix, Ariz.

The bride-to-be is a 1986 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and a 1991 graduate of Western Michigan University.

She is employed as a SAP consultant for Deloitte Consulting.

Her fiancé is a 1981 graduate of Arcadia High School in Phoenix and a 1986 graduate of Arizona State University. He is employed as a systems analyst with ASML of Tempe, Ariz.

An April wedding is planned at Arizona Community Church in Tempe.

Toomey-Yeskie

Jerry Toomey of Ann Arbor and Sally Haynes of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie Marie, to Christopher Harry Yeskie, the son of Carol and Howard Yeskie of Canton.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School. She is employed by Signature & Associates.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School. He is employed by the Ford Motor Company.

An October wedding is planned at Risen Christ Lutheran Church, Plymouth Township.



Lewandowski-Romps

James and Donna Lewandowski of Pinellas Park, Fla., announce the engagement of their daughter, Lisa Marie, to Kenneth Ronald Romps, the son of Gregory and JoAnna Romps of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1987 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and a 1994 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a master's degree in science. She will earn her doctoral degree in clinical psychology in August from Bowling Green State University.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and a 1993 graduate of Wayne State University with a bachelor's degree in accounting.



He has been employed by United Parcel Service since 1981.

An October wedding is planned at St. Thomas a' Becket Church in Canton.

Davis-Haran

Scott William Davis and Joanne Theresa Haran were married Oct. 23 in Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth by Deacon Don Leach.

The bride is the daughter of Jim and Tina Haran of Marshall, formerly of Livonia. The groom is the son of Ken and Jan Davis of Ashley.

The bride is a 1991 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 1995 graduate of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, with a bachelor's degree in geology. She works for McLaren/Hart Engineers Midwest Inc. in Novi.

The groom is a 1991 graduate of Ithaca High School and a 1995 graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He works at the Ford Motor Co. in Dearborn.

The bride asked Patti Ann Waldrop to serve as matron of honor, with Debbie Carrel, Kathleen Nettie and Danielle Paul as the bridesmaids and Meredith Carrel as the flower girl.

The groom asked Dave Dais to



serve as best man, with Robert Stipak, Chris Peel and Marc Holcomb as groomsmen and Patrick Carrel as the ring bearer.

The couple received guests at a reception at the Mayflower Meeting House in Plymouth. Following a trip to the Hawaiian islands of Oahu, Kauai and Maui, the couple is making their home in Plymouth.

Barczak-Murphy

David and Cathy Barczak of Jackson, Mich., announce the engagement of their daughter, Lori, of Canton to Donald Murphy, also of Canton, the son of Lawrence and Margaret Murphy of West Rotunda, Fla.

The bride-to-be, a graduate of Northwest High School, attended Central Michigan University. Her fiancé is a graduate of Grosse Ile High School, Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree and Wayne State University with a master's degree.

A September wedding is planned at Dixboro First United Methodist Church in Dixboro.



Weber-Fox

Allen and Joan Weber of Redford announce the engagement of their daughter, Michelle Jean, to David Norman Fox, the son of Stuart and Jean Fox of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a 1985 graduate of Redford Thurston High School. She is employed as a bank teller at NBD Bank.

Her fiancé is a 1975 graduate of Thurston High School. He is employed as a press operator at Masco Tech Braun.

A May wedding is planned at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Redford.



Koth-Posch

Mr. and Mrs. Donald B. Koth of Plymouth Township announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristyn DeAnn, to John David Posch, son of Joseph L. and Margaret A. Posch Jr. of Grosse Pointe Shores.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit. She is self-employed.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Loyola University of Chicago. He also is self-employed.

A May wedding is planned for Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral Church in Detroit.



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He was awarded the Grand Prix d'Interpretation at the International Organ Competition of the Prague Spring Festival in Czechoslovakia. Dr. Kibbie will be dedicating the recently enlarged Phelps-era Casavant Organ at Ward Church Sunday afternoon, March 21st at 4:00 p.m. Dr. Kibbie will be joined by Ward's Chancel Choir and a brass ensemble. Refreshments will be served in the church's hospitality center following the concert.

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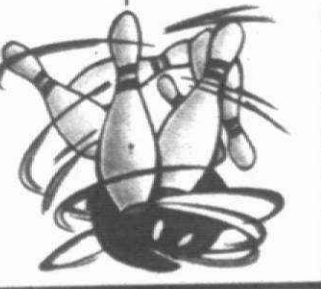
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WEEKEND

HEALTH-O-RAMA
■ Project Health-O-Rama, a morning of free and low-cost health screening services, will be 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 20, at the St. Joseph Mercy Canton Health Building, 1600 S. Canton Center at Summit Parkway in Canton. Free tests include blood pressure, hearing, vision, body composition, depression screening, massage therapy, podiatry screening, nutrition counseling and health education. There are fees for a blood panel, other blood testing and take-home test kits. Participants must be 18 or older and bring a driver's license or other identification. For information, call St. Joseph Mercy at (734) 712-5206.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES
■ Stations of the Cross will be held 6 p.m. Good Friday, April 2, at the Knights of Columbus, 150 Fair, between Ann Arbor Road and Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth. The stations will be held outdoors if weather permits. The fish fry will be following Stations of the Cross. Speaker will be the Rev. David Lesniak, former associate pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. For more information, call the Knights of Columbus at (734) 453-9833 2-10 p.m.

GAME & CARD PARTY
■ The Plymouth Symphony League is sponsoring a game and card party 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, April 16, in The Golden Fox at Fox Hills Country Club, Salem Township. There will be a luncheon and fashion show at noon. Pastries and coffee will be served. There will also be door prizes, raffles, bridge playing, mahjongg, and Chat & Stitch. Tickets are \$25. Reservations should be made by April 5. For more information, call (734) 451-5598.

AROUND TOWN

PRESCHOOL OPENING

■ Garfield Co-op still has openings for preschool. Programs for children 18 months to 5 years old. Located in Livonia, at Cass Elementary, 34633 Myunger, south of Six Mile and west of Farmington Road. For more information, call (734) 462-0135.

ADDITION

■ The Plymouth Christian Academy is hosting a dinner-auction 5:30 p.m. Friday, March 19, in Burton Manor, Livonia. The theme is "Wild About Education." The dinner-auction will have both live and silent auctions. Proceeds will go to building of a new multipurpose room. For more information, call (734) 459-3505, Ext. 148.

OPEN HOUSE

■ Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran School will hold an open house for preschool 7 p.m. Monday, March 22, and for kindergarten 7 p.m. Tuesday,

March 23. The preschool is located on Cherry Hill, two blocks west of Lilley. For more information, call (734) 981-0286.

LENTEN PROGRAMS

■ The Plymouth Ministerial Association's 1999 Ecumenical Lenten Program, "The Cross: The Gift of Life," will take place in the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 W. Church, corner of Main. The program will take place on each Wednesday of Lent, through March 24. All the services will take place at First Presbyterian Church, but various member churches of the association will be leading the noon service, followed by a bread-and-soup lunch provided by another church. Donations to the lunch will be sent to Habitat for Humanity. Residents of the Plymouth area and people employed in Plymouth are invited to attend. For more information, call 453-0326.

■ The Plymouth Ministerial Association welcomes the Plymouth community to the Ecumenical Lenten Gatherings held every Wednesday through Lent at the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth at 12:05 p.m. with a worship service followed at 1:30 p.m. lunch of soup and bread. The members of the following churches will provide the worship and the lunch: March 24, worship by First Baptist Church and lunch by First Methodist Church.

GOP WOMEN'S CLUB

■ The Suburban Republican Women's Club will hold its monthly meeting 11 a.m. Thursday, March 25, at Bobby's Country House in Livonia. Former talk radio host Marie Kaugler will speak on "Detroit Politics." The cost is \$11. For more information, or for reservations, call (248) 471-5559 by Monday, March 22.

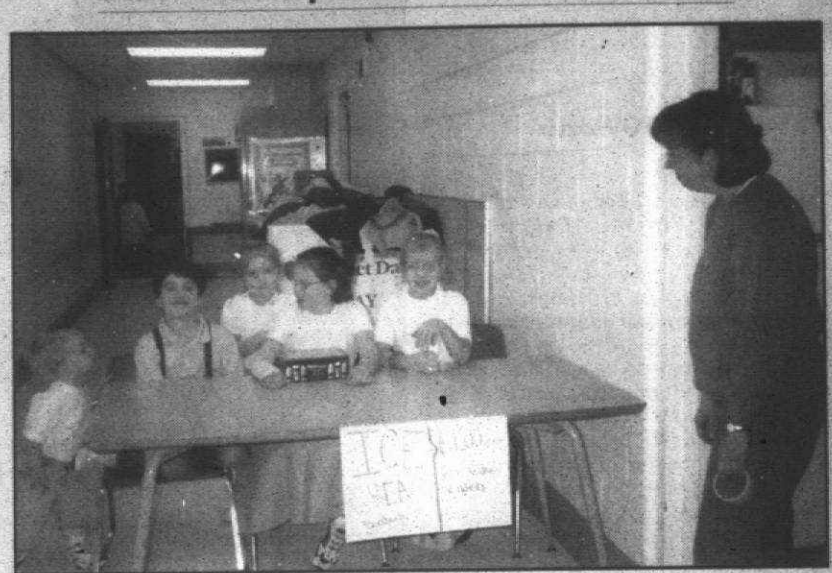
HEALTH FACILITIES

■ The Schoolcraft College Sunday Health Club charges \$4 a visit. Individual membership fee is \$32. Family membership is \$70 for 13 weeks of unstructured activity in a fully equipped physical education facility. Club members can use three gyms, six racquetball courts, weight machines, the pool and the sauna. An adult must accompany children under 16, and nonswimmers must be 45 inches tall to the shoulder to use the pool. The Health Club continues until March 28. For more information, call Continuing Education Services Physical Fitness at (734) 462-4413.

GIFTS IN A JAR

■ Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will hold an additional session for "Gifts in a Jar." The class will be 7-9 p.m. Monday, March 29, in Plymouth Canton High School, Room 105, Course number 362A. Students will get 50 layer mix recipes, such as chocolate chip cookies, cranberry spicer mix, etc. All are designed to fit layer on layer into a standard 1-quart canning jar. Bring a

Students help make wishes come true



Fund-raiser: Alex McGee (seated from left), Maureen Wood Sophie Stephenson and her younger brother and sister (standing) collect \$1 each for sundaes to help the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Students at Farrand Elementary School collected spare change totaling \$1,372.50 for the foundation, a group which gives children with life threatening illnesses opportunities to make special wishes come true. Farrand's student council spearheaded the effort for a two-week period.

clean 1-quart jar. Materials are \$5. Fee is payable to teacher for ingredients. Tuition is \$19. For more information or to register, call (734) 416-2937.

YOGA CLASSES

■ Learn yoga as union of mind, body and spirit. Blend breathing exercises, physical postures and relaxation using guided imagery and meditation. This is a seven-week series starting April 5 through May 26 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Canton Health Building, Canton Center Road at Palmer. Classes are offered Monday mornings or Wednesday evenings. Cost is \$60 for seven classes or \$10 for drop-ins. Classes are given by Dr. Jacqui Magan. For more information, call (734) 398-7557.

SOFTBALL LEAGUES

■ The City of Plymouth Recreation Division will run the following adult softball leagues this spring/summer: Men's Slow Pitch, Women's Slow Pitch, Coed Slow Pitch and Men's Modified. Season starts April 26. For more information, call the city of Plymouth Recreation Division at (734) 455-6620.

THE CANTON SOFTBALL CENTER

■ The Canton Softball Center is now registering teams for adult leagues

and its Early Bird Classic April 10-11. The center is owned and operated by Canton Township. Spring, summer and fall leagues are planned for men, women, coed and masters. There are resident and nonresident leagues. League entry requires a \$100 per team deposit, with the balance to be paid at the managers' meeting. Cost to register for the tournament is \$125 per team, plus additional \$25 for non-USAA registered teams. For more information on leagues and tournaments at the Canton Softball Center, call Jeff Bradley, (734) 483-5600, Ext. 2 or 3.

TAX COUNSELING

■ Free tax counseling for seniors will continue until April 13 in the Parkway Room at the Summit on the Park, Canton. Appointments are necessary. Morning and afternoon appointments are available with tax counselor volunteers. Arrangements can be made for home visits to the homebound. This program is sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons. For more information, call (734) 397-5444.

FOSTER CARE

■ A foster parent orientation will be held 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 13. Judson Center Foster Care Adoption Division of Wayne County is seeking candidates interested in obtaining their foster care license. Interested candidates will provide temporary, yet daily, care to children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned. Judson Center Foster Care provides foster care placements for children between the ages of newborn and 18 years old. Donations of clothing, bikes and beds are always welcome. Foster parents can be married or single and receive financial assistance from the State of Michigan. For more information, call (248) 443-5000, Ext. 141.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

■ The League of Women Voters serving Canton, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, Wayne, Westland, and Livonia is working to make this year's April book sale another successful fund-raising event. New batches of used books always are needed. Donate used books by calling Esther Friedrichs at (734) 427-0222 or Marge Gade at (734) 261-3191. Hardcover and paperback books in different categories of nonfiction and fiction for all ages are received.

■ The Plymouth Community Family YMCA is offering classes for preschool-age children through adult. Classes include: Active Older Adults (ages 55 and up) Water Exercise, Youth and Girls' Basketball, Instructional League, Youth Instructional Floor Hockey League, Youth Instructional Indoor Soccer League (March 29-April 3). Monday daytime classes are in the Canton Gymnasium Center, 8016 Sheldon Center, between Sheldon and Canton Center, south of Joy and north of Warren. All other classes, including Monday evening classes, are held in the First Baptist Church of Plymouth, 45000 N. Territorial, just west of Sheldon. For more information on classes or registration, call Lori Nelson at (734) 354-9109.

KINDERMUSIK

■ Kindermusik classes will continue through May 8. No class will be held during Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' Easter break (March 29-April 3). Monday daytime classes are in the Canton Gymnasium Center, 8016 Sheldon Center, between Sheldon and Canton Center, south of Joy and north of Warren. All other classes, including Monday evening classes, are held in the First Baptist Church of Plymouth, 45000 N. Territorial, just west of Sheldon. For more information on classes or registration, call Lori Nelson at (734) 354-9109.

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ARTS COUNCIL

■ The Plymouth Community Arts Council has a full schedule of classes and workshops for all ages: sculpture, watercolor, dance, decorative painting, pottery, film 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.

PEER EDUCATION PROGRAM

■ The Churchill Peer Education Program will be offering a spring break awareness presentation. Peer educators are students who are trained by First Step to give presentations about rape and sexual assault. This is an informative meeting to create awareness about the possibility of dangers during spring break. Parents and students are encouraged to attend. For more information, call (734) 523-9205 2-4 p.m.

ART CLASSES

■ D&M Studios in cooperation with Canton Parks and Recreation and Plymouth Parks and Recreation (with classes at all three sites) offers fine art classes for the preschooler through adult to include preschool sessions, home-schoolers, student and teen drawing and painting, cartooning, student and teen studio art, high school level oil/acrylic/watercolor, basic skills in drawing, advanced drawing skills, adult pastel and adult charcoal. For more information, call (734) 453-3710.

PLYMOUTH YMCA

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NURSING CENTER

■ The Medilogic Group Inc. has made available to local clubs and organizations a representative to discuss topics that include assisted living, long-term care, services available, reimbursement under Medicare only. If interested, call administrator or admission director, West Trail Nursing Center at (734) 453-3983.

HISTORICAL MUSEUM

■ The Canton Historical Museum will be open for the 1999 season. Hours for the museum are 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays. Guided tours are available. The museum is on Canton Center at Heritage Drive. Parking is at the rear of the building. Displays include items from Canton's agricultural past, household items and clothing from earlier eras, and pictures of Canton's 10 country schools. Taped conversations with some longtime Canton residents are available. Books on Canton history are on sale; these include "Cornerstones - A History of Canton Township Families," "Canton's Country Schools" and "Tales from Canton." Sweet corn series buildings are also on sale. For more information, call (734) 397-0088.

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Zonta Club members step out in style for First Step

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

In the four years since it was started by Zonta Club of Farmington/Novi Area, the First Step Stepping Out in Style has generated more than \$100,000 for First Step Western Wayne County Project on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

And if Beverlee McAllister and her fellow Zonta club members have their way, the Sunday, March 21, benefit will attract 900-plus people and top last year's \$30,000 donation to First Step.

"Each year, we've been able to increase attendance by 20 percent," said McAllister. "We had 900 last year, but have branched out. We have people coming from Auburn Hills, Rochester, Bloomfield Hills... Part of the reason is the cause and part of it is because it's a fun evening."

The fifth annual benefit will be 6-9 p.m. at the Parisian store at Laurel Park Place, Six Mile and Newburgh, Livonia. Tickets cost \$25 each and are available in advance by calling McAllister at (734) 453-0822 or by faxing her at (734) 455-6125. Tickets also will be available the door.

The evening will feature informal modeling of petite and women's plus sizes and men's wear as well as a 7 p.m. fashion show, featuring the latest spring styles.

Entertaining guests will be a caricaturist, singer/guitarist Ryan Winkler, the Ad Libitum string quartet from Farmington High School, the Motor City Mix quartet of the Sweet Adelines and a disc jockey from Silver Sounds in Canton. Also making an appearance will be Miss Michigan Laura Welling.

Twenty restaurants will be providing the strolling supper. Participants will include Carlson Catering Co. of Taylor, Catering by Sayers/BBQ Man of Redford, Coffee Beanery, Macaroni Grill, Outback Steakhouse, Real Seafood Grill, Rio Bravo Cantina,

Schoolcraft College Culinary Gourmet Club and Villa deRoma of Livonia, Great Harvest Bread Company of Northville, Schulz Cap 'N' Cork, Plymouth Fish-Seafood Restaurant and the Water Club Seafood Grill of Plymouth, Michigan Star Clipper Dinner Train of Walled Lake, Putter's Restaurant and Corner Pub of New Hudson, TGI Fridays of Novi, 10th Street Market-Bakery and Catering of Wyandotte and Two Unique Caterers and Event Planners of Bloomfield.

This is a great chance to sample new places like Putter's in New Hudson," McAllister said. "You might be out on a Sunday

drive and want to stop for something to eat and know about the place."

There also will be a raffle with prizes ranging from cash, gift certificates for lunches and dinners to free hotel stays and other exciting raffle prizes. Beneficiaries also will be entitled to a 15 percent discount on purchases at Parisian during the evening.

Zonta Club of Farmington/Novi Area is a chapter of Zonta International, worldwide service organization of female executives in business and the professions working to improve the status of women.

Proceeds from Stepping Out in Style will be used to support and

enhance the services and programs offered by First Step. The nonprofit agency offers crisis intervention and assistance to the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in 35 western Wayne and Downriver communities.

First Step recently moved its offices to 44567 Pinetree Drive, Plymouth. For more information, about its programs, call (734) 416-1111.

"One of the reasons we've been able to make the money we have for First Step is because everything is donated," McAllister said. "It shows there's a lot of people who are interested in a nonviolent world."

ANNIVERSARIES

Dziekan

Raymond and Lillian Dziekan of Garden City recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a family gathering at the home of son and daughter-in-law Ryan and Linda Dziekan of Brighton.

The couple exchanged vows on Nov. 20, 1948, at Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Church.

The Dziekans have six other children - Shirley and Jim and Howard, Shirley O'Neil, Jim and



wife Nancy of Livonia, Gary and wife Jennifer of Plymouth and the late Suzanne Dziekan.

They also have 13 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Kassel

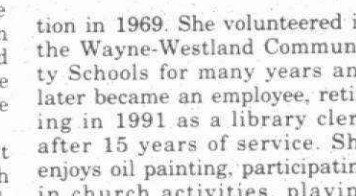
Glenn and Winifred Kassel of Westland will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on March 27 at a dinner party at Montana's Steak and Seafood House in Westland. The party was given by their family and friends.

The couple married on March 27, 1949, in Warren, while he was serving in the Army. They moved to Wayne in 1951 and to Westland in 1963.

The Kassels have seven children. All are college graduates, and three served in the armed forces. They also have eight grandchildren.

Interested in politics, Glenn Kassel also enjoys operating the Sims Real Estate Agency in Wayne, which he has owned since 1955. He is active in the Knights of Columbus in Wayne and the Salvation Army.

Winifred Kassel studied art at Detroit Cass Technical High School before she married and, when her children were old enough, returned to school to complete her high school education.



tion in 1969. She volunteered in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools for many years and later became an employee, retiring in 1991 as a library clerk after 15 years of service. She enjoys oil painting, participating in church activities, playing cards and visiting her family.

The Kassels also were involved in the Boy Scouts in the 1960s and 1970s.

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Performance benefits SandCastles

Tevey once again will be scheming to marry off his five daughters in pre-Revolutionary Russia when the Village Players present a benefit performance of "Fiddler on the Roof" 7:45 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, at the Village Player Theater, 725 Chestnut, Birmingham.

The one-time evening performance will benefit SandCastles, a grief support program for children and families and a division of Hospices of Henry Ford Health System.

"Fiddler on the Roof" takes place in 1905 in Anatevka, a small Jewish village in Russia. The story revolves around Tevey, a dairyman, and his attempts to preserve his family's traditions in the face of a changing world.

When his oldest daughter, Tzeitel, begs him to let her marry a poor tailor rather than the middle-aged butcher that he has already chosen for her, he must choose between his daughter's happiness and those beloved traditions that keep the out-

side world at bay. Tickets cost \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under age 12. For ticket information or to purchase tickets, call Jean Buttrick Cooper or Lorrie Chopra at (313) 874-6881.

The proceeds will help SandCastles in the opening new programs for children and families who have lost a loved one through death. Programs currently are offered in Southfield, St. Clair Shores, Clinton Township and Downriver.

Women Hibernians host Heritage Day

Your Invitation to Worship

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

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

BAPTIST

BETHEL BAPTIST TEMPLE
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525-3664 or 261-9276
Sunday School 9:30-10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.
Wed. Family Hour 7:15 P.M.

March 21st

11:00 a.m. Dr. Richard Freeman
6:00 p.m. Dr. Richard Freeman
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(734) 728-2180
Virgil Humes, Pastor
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Wednesday Praise Service 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday Children's & Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Welcome to the service of...
First General Baptist Church
42990 Cherry Hill-Canton, Michigan 48118
Sunday Worship 2:00 p.m.
Dr. Del Maco, Church Planter
(248) 673-9085

Grand River Baptist Church
54500 Six Mile, Livonia, MI
Between Farmington Road and I-75
734-261-6950
Sunday School all Ages 9:50am
Sunday Worship Service 10:45am
Pastor Herb Wilson

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Brightmoor Tabernacle

Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, pastor
26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI (I-666 & Telegraph • West of Holiday Inn) • 352-6200
9:15 Family Sunday School Hour • Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Family Night
10:00 am Pastor Dong Rhind
6:30 pm Pastor Calvin Ratz
24-Hour Prayer Line 248-352-6205

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WE REALLY DO. SEE YOU THIS SUNDAY.
Tri-City Christian Center
Michigan Ave. & Harmon Rd.
326-0330
Sunday 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE
PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
4801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1282
Sunday School • 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship • 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening • 6:00 P.M.
Family Night • Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 455-3198

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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(734) 394-0357

New Service Times
Sunday Worship Services - 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday - Family Night - 7:00 p.m.
Agapé Christian Academy - K through 12

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Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
(734) 522-6830

CANTON
46001 Warren Road
(West of Canton Center)
1 Mile West of Sheldon
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
(734) 414-7422

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
20805 Middlebelt, corner of 8 Mile & Middlebelt
Farmington Hills, Michigan
Rev. Lawrence Witte
WORSHIP SERVICES
Saturday Evening 8:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning 9:15 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30
Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
9600 Levee • So. Redford • 357-2424
Rev. Lawrence Witte
WORSHIP WITH US
Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Thursday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Christian School Kindergarten-8th Grade
937-2233

CHRISTADELPHIANS

CHRISTADELPHIANS
Sunday Memorial Service 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School 11:30 A.M.
Bible Class - Wednesdays 7:30 P.M.
36516 Parkdale, Livonia
425-7610

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church
8820 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290
Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Adult & Children's Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Family Worship

NewLife Lutheran Church
Sunday Worship & Children's Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (with nursery)
Sunday Fellowship: 11:00 a.m.
Our Lady of Providence Chapel
16115 Beck Rd. (between 5 & 6 Mile Rds.)
Pastor Ken Roberts (ELCA)
734 / 459-8181

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Society of St. Pius X
Traditional Latin Mass
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
1 Block E. of I-666 & Telegraph • (313) 354-2121
Priest's Phone (810) 784-9511
Mass Schedule:
First Fri. 7:00 p.m.
First Sat. 9:30 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
1160 Penniman Ave.
Plymouth • 453-0526
Rev. John J. Sullivan
Masses: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 A.M. Sat. 5:00 P.M.
Sunday 8:00, 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M.
5:00 P.M. Life Time Mass

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
48755 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48117
451-0444
REV. RICHARD A. PERETTO
Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

OUR LADY OF SORROWS PARISH
23816 Power Rd. at Shawwassee
(South of I-75, between Farmington & Grand Lake Rds.)
Farmington, MI 48336

WEEKEND LITURGY SCHEDULE
Sundays: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.
1:00 & 5:30 p.m.

We Welcome You To Celebrate With Us
Pastor Frank Howard • Ch. 455-0252

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Countdown to "2000"

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From M-14 take Goddard Rd. South
734-459-9550
Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor
8:00 Prayer & Praise Service
9:30
Lifeline Contemporary Service
11:00 Traditional Service
SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages

Risen Christ Lutheran
46250 Ann Arbor Road
(1 Mile West of Sheldon)
Plymouth • 453-5252
Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Family Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Pastor David Martin
Hugh McMartin, Lay Minister

St. Michael Lutheran Church & School
2001 Hansen Rd., Wayne (corner of Glenwood & Hansen)
(734) 728-1900
Sunday Morning Worship Services
Traditional Services 8 & 11 a.m.
Contemporary Service 9:30 a.m.
Nursery School: Children & Adults 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m.
Rev. Dr. Robert J. Schultz Rev. Marie Wellhausen

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
1 Bk. N. of Ford Rd., Westland
425-0260
Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.
Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
Monday Evening Service 7:00 P.M.
Gary D. Headspott, Administrative Pastor
Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor
Jeff Burpee, Principal O.C.E.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD
2500 GRAND RIVER & BECH Daly
525-0296
Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
Rev. Victor F. Heltzer, Pastor
Rev. Timothy Heltzer, Assoc. Pastor

REFORMED

Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church
14750 Kinloch • Redford Twp.
532-8655
Pastor Gregory Gibbons
Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
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10:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.
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and Youth Classes
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Chuck Sorensen, Pastor
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11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes
Nursery Provided • 422-6538

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29887 West Eleven Mile Road
Just West of Middlebelt
248-476-8860
Farmington Hills
Sunday Worship at 9:15 and 11 a.m.
Church School at 9:15 and 11 a.m.
Rev. Kathleen Groff
Rev. Jane Bergquist
Rev. Robert Bough
Mr. Melvin Rookus

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Evening, 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room - 4455 Harvey, Plymouth
Sundays 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. • Thursdays 7:30 p.m.
453-1676

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
422-0149
Worship Services & Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Sermon Series for Lent
Putting Your Life On The Line
March 21st
"The Highest Cost of Loving"
Rev. Thomas G. Badley, preaching
Contemporary Worship
Praise Band-Drama
5:00 p.m.
visit our website: www.gbp-enc.org/newburgh

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9:30 a.m. - Contemporary, Family
11:00 a.m. - Traditional, Full Choir
Sunday School
9:30-Adults, 11:00-Children-Adults
Close Encounters of the JESUS Kind
Scripture/John 9:1-38
Dramatic Monologue:
The Blind Man

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4000 Six Mile Road
just west of I-75
Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor
Worship Services, Sunday School
8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M.
Contemporary Service
8:30-9:45 A.M.
Evening Service
6:00 P.M. in the Chapel
Nursery Provided
Services Broadcast • 9:30 - 10:30 A.M.
WMUJ-FM • 103.5

PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
9415 Meridian • Livonia
Sunday Worship Services
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:45 a.m.
School Grades - Pre-School - 8
Church & School office
422-6930

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16700 Newburgh Road
Livonia • 464-8844
Family Worship 11:00 a.m.
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http://www.undial.com/~sttimothy

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Church School & Nursery 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
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Women legislators honor Baker Eddy

The National Foundation of Women Legislators has honored the late Mary Baker Eddy, founder of The Christian Science Monitor, with the 1999 Media Award.
John Selover, manager of The Christian Science Publishing Society, accepted the award at the foundation's annual awards luncheon.
"What has been considered an 'untold story' of the contributions and achievements of

Mary Baker Eddy, with the help of this honor, is now becoming more of a 'told story,' Selover said.
During National Women's History Month this month, The Christian Science Reading Room at 445 S. Harvey St., Plymouth, is featuring this remarkable pioneering woman.
Mary Baker Eddy established a sound basis for faith and balanced journalism during the 19th century, a time

when women's opportunities were severely limited.
In the face of life's challenges, she never gave up, even in her own life where she faced and overcame homelessness, poverty, divorce and chronic poor health. Her desire to find freedom, purpose and individual worth led to the discovery of a system of healing that she later recorded in her best-selling book, "Science and Health With Key to the Scriptures."

"We welcome everyone to come and explore the life and ideas of Mary Baker Eddy here in our reading room," said Sharon Ross, librarian of the Plymouth reading room. "Science and Health," The Christian Science Monitor and other works by and biographies about Mary Baker Eddy are available at the Plymouth Christian Science Reading Room.

games, activities, storytelling and a chance to visit your favorite Holy Land "sites" and get snacks in the Saints' Cafe. For more information, call the religious education office at (734) 421-5240.

MUSICAL DRAMA
Covenant Community Church will present a musical drama, "Who Will Call Him King of Kings," at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 21, at the church, 25800 Student, north of Five Mile, Redford. Admission is free, and a nursery will be provided. A cafe reception will follow. For more information, call the church at (313) 535-3100.

SISTERHOOD
The Sisterhood of Congregation Beit Kodesh will meet 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 23, at the synagogue, 31480 W. Seven Mile, Livonia. The Passover Seder will be discussed by Anita Cottrell, president. Refreshments will be served.

PARENTS DISCUSSION
Timothy Lutheran Church's Parenting Book Discussion Group on parenting will be held at four different times once a month - 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, March 24-25 and April 28-29, at the church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia.

The group will begin with Thomas Lickona's "Raising Good Children." The church will supply the books as long as participants register at least one week in advance. For more information, call (734) 427-2290.

LENTEN SERVICES
Lola Park Lutheran Church will have midweek Lenten services at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford. The Rev. Gregory Gibbons will preach on the general theme of "Only Jesus." Each service will be followed by a fellowship time featuring light refreshments. For more information, call the church at (313) 532-8655.

GLORY OF EASTER
Temple Baptist Church's annual "The Glory of Easter" performance will be held 7:30 p.m. Fridays, March 26 and April 2, 6 p.m. Saturdays, March 27 and April 3, 1 p.m. Sunday, March 28, at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 28, at

Please see RELIGION, B8

FISH FRY
St. Edith Parish will have Lenten fish fries 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, March 19 and 26 and April 2, at the church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. The menu will include baked and fried fish, shrimp, pierogi, french fries, macaroni and cheese, salad bar, desserts, coffee, tea and pop. For more information, call the church at (734) 464-1222.

"JOURNEY OF HOPE"
"The Journey of Hope... from Violence to Healing," a program on forgiveness, will be presented at 6 p.m. Lenten soup supper Friday, March 19, at St. Hilary Catholic Church, 23901 Elmira, Redford. Murder victim family members will share their personal spiritual journeys and discuss their opposition to the death penalty. There is no charge. People planning to attend should call (313) 533-1560.

SINGLE POINT MINISTRIES
Single Point Ministries of Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville Township will host a Stepping Stones Seminar 7-9 p.m. Friday, March 19, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 20, at the church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville.

Gary Sprague, executive director of KIDS HOPE ministries, will speak to children in grades one-12 whose birth parents are divorced, separated or never married. This workshop will aid in the emotional, relational and spiritual healing of children who live in single parent families and help the kids know that even difficult situations can turn into hope. The cost is \$15 per child or \$30 per family.

MOM TO MOM SALE
Sacred Heart Church will have a Mom to Mom sale 10 a.m. to 1

p.m. Saturday, March 20, at the church, 29125 W. Six Mile, east of Middlebelt, Livonia. Second-hand children's clothes (newborn and up), baby furniture and maternity items will be sold. Admission will be \$1. For more information and table rental, call Jennifer at (248) 426-8227.

STORYTIME
Timothy Lutheran Church of Livonia is hosting TLC Story-time for children and their parents 3-4 p.m. Saturday, March 20, at the church, 8820 Wayne Road, between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail. The books are chosen for children ages 3-10, but kids of all ages are welcome to participate. For more information, call the church at (734) 981-5350.

BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST
Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance for divorced and separated Christians, will have a St. Patrick's Day dance 8:30 p.m. Saturday, March 20, at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, Hagerty, south of Five Mile, Plymouth Township. The charge of \$8 includes refreshments. Call Val at (734) 729-1974.

DINNER-DANCE
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will have a dinner-dance Saturday, March 20, at the church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. Music will be by Carolyn Cherney and the Blue Mountain Rockers.

Representatives of Hegira will present a program on drugs for junior and senior high students and their parents on Sunday, March 21, at the church. For more information, call the

church at (734) 722-1735.

PRAYER GROUP
The Madonna University Prayer Group will meet 6 p.m. Sunday, March 21, on the Ground Floor Patio Room 1, on campus, Schoolcraft and Levan, Livonia. Ben Stapel of the Detroit Charismatic Center will be the guest speaker. For more information, call Cecile at (734) 591-3247 or John at (734) 422-5611.

IN CONCERT
Canton Free Methodist Church will present the special contemporary instrumental music of Mike Jones 11 a.m. Sunday, March 21, at the church, 44815 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. For more information, call the church at (734) 981-5350.

LENTEN PROGRAMS
St. Matthew's United Methodist Church will have a potluck dinner and performance Sunday, March 21, at the church, 30900 W. Six Mile, Livonia. Dinner will be at 6 p.m. and will be the seventh annual Potluck Dinner. Cost will be \$3.50 for adults, \$2 for children and \$14 maximum for families. The choral group from Canton's Geneva Presbyterian Church, Geneva Convention will perform. Proceeds will benefit the Society of St. Andrew. Registration is required. For more information, or to sign up for the dinner, call the church office at (734) 422-6038.

BIBLE FAIR
St. Maurice Religious Education will sponsor a Bible Fair 3-5 p.m. Sunday, March 21, in the parish hall of the church, 32765 Lyndon, Livonia. There will be

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March 20 - April 3 - All Day

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GRAND RAPIDS

NEW VOICES

Ronald and Nichole Esch of Westland announce the birth of **Joshua Thomas** Nov. 15 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins a sibling, Ronald, 2. Grandparents are Sharon Esch, Ron Esch, Marilyn Williams and Thomas Tetreault.

Erin M. Meek of Westland announces the birth of **Parris John Meek** Dec. 9 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. Grandparents are Charles and Elizabeth Morgan of Westland and Jerry Meek of Ypsilanti.

John and Paulette Donahue of Westland announce the birth of **Justin Taylor** Nov. 15 at the Birthing Center of Garden City. He joins a brother, Brandon Joshua Roberts, 2 1/2. Grandparents are Larry and Peggy Armstrong of Cedar Springs, Lor-

raine Donahue of Redford and Thomas Donahue of Milford.

Jim and Brooke Walton of Plymouth announce the birth of **Aaron Henry** Dec. 7 at Oakwood Hospital/Annapolis Center-Wayne. He joins a sister, Abbi. Grandparents are Jim and Dawne Fournier and Don and Mary Walton, all of Livonia.

David and Connie Boyd of Westland announce the birth of **Michelle Renae** Nov. 16 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins two sisters, Hannah Mae, 2, and Rebecca, 1. Grandparents are John and Hanny Lear of Westland.

Ron and Karen Ainsworth of Garden City announce the birth of **Raymond Alan** Dec. 7 at Oakwood Hospital/Annapolis Center-Wayne. He joins two sisters, Jessica, 20, and Amber, 3.

Grandparents are Robert and Candace McHale of Westland, Louise and Jack Bostwick of Dearborn, Mary Ainsworth of Carson City, Nev., and Richard Ainsworth of Riverside, Calif.

Joshua Lee Chadwick and Melissa Jeanann Holman of Westland announce the birth of **Cheyenne Elizabeth Chadwick** Nov. 17 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins a brother, Christopher Lee Chadwick, 4. Grandparents are Bob and Mary Hunt of Garden City.

Ed Pawczuk and Tracey Bailey of Westland announce the birth of **Sydney Michelle Pawczuk** Dec. 10 at Oakwood Hospital/Annapolis Center-Wayne. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. James Bailey of Hudson, Mich., and Mr. and Mrs.

Chester Pawczuk of Westland.

Marc and Monica View of Canton announce the birth of **Matthew Scott** Nov. 18 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins a sister, Macayla, 3 1/2. Grandparents are Larry and Mary Rasmussen of Canton, Dennis and Dee Szymanski of St. Clair Shores and Mr. and Mrs. Henry View of Farmington Hills.

Jim and Sharon Stanley of Redford announce the birth of **Joseph Robert** Nov. 9 at Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills. He joins a sister, Katerina, 3. Grandparents are Robert and Marie Hamel of St. Clair Shores and the late Josephine and Matt Stanley.

Dan and Lisa Vega announce the birth of **Allison Theresa** Jan. 3 at St. Mary Hos-

pital in Livonia.

Christopher and Tammy Law of Redford announce the birth of **Christopher William Jr.** Nov. 23 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins a sister, Jessica Jade, 15 months. Grandparents are William and Trina Law of Kauai, Hawaii, and George and Janece Gomolak of Westland.

Ron and Dorene Vensko of Livonia announce the birth of **Mallory Edith** Dec. 29 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. Grandparents are Aurel and Jill Schryer of Dearborn Heights, Marie Zammit of Lexington, Mich., and John Vensko of Uniontown, Pa. Great-grandmother is Mary Lashock of Deltona Beach, Fla.

Randy and Candace Brouwer of Redford announce the birth

of **Shellby Nicole** Nov. 25 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins a sister, Savannah Renea, 22 months. Grandparents are Dick Brouwer, Shirley Klenn and Vince Klenn.

Patrick and Lisa Dufour of Westland announce the birth of **Victoria Rose** Aug. 11 at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. She joins a sister, Kaitlyn, 2 1/2. Grandparents are Ted and Marie Chorney of Livonia and David and Noreen Dufour of Amherstburg, Ontario, Canada.

Paula Gearin of Westland announces the birth of **Michaela Cathleen** Jan. 7 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. Grandparents are Mike and Barb Gearin of Livonia. Great-grandmother is Winnie Shorkey of Avon Park, Fla.

Religion from page B7

the church, 49555 N. Territorial, Plymouth Township. This year's play is "A Soldier's Choice." Tickets are \$10. For more information, call (734) 414-7777 or visit www.temple.net.org.

LENTEN BREAKFAST

The First United Methodist Church of Garden City will have a Lenten breakfast 9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 27, at the church 6443 Merriman. It will be a time of meditation and breakfast, followed by a program featuring Joseph Jessup, tenor, soloist and guitarist.

A program for women sponsored by the United Methodist Women, there is no charge, but a donation will be accepted. Reservations are requested and can be

made by calling (734) 421-8628.

SILENT-LIVE AUCTION

Meadowbrook Congregational Church will have a live and silent auction 7-10 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at the church, 21355 Meadowbrook, Novi.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for sign-in and preview of all items. Admission will be \$5 for adults, children 12 year and under free. Admission includes, refreshments, hors d'oeuvres, desserts and beverages and a chance to win a variety of door prizes. Trips, dinners and sports memorabilia will be among the items auctioned off.

For more information, call (248) 348-7757.

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL

The Praisemaker Choir of Memorial Church of Christ will present their musical, "Two by Two," 6:30 p.m. Sunday, March 28, at the church, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia.

The children, in costume, will sign songs about Noah and his ark. The directors are Mike and Shona Vincent, Dave and Diane Jacobs, Jim and Leslie Buchanan and Paul Pilat. For more information, call the church at (9734) 464-6722.

CONGREGATION SKATE

Hosanna Tabor Lutheran Church will have an afternoon of roller or in-line skating Sunday, March 28, at the Skating Station II, Joy Road between Haggerty

and Lilley roads, Canton. Skate times will be 1:30-4:30 p.m. and cost \$4.50 plus \$2 skate rental. For more information, call the church at (313) 937-2424.

NEW BEGINNING

New Beginnings, a grief support group, will have its regular meeting 7 p.m. Thursday, April 1, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, east of Merriman, Livonia. The program is for people suffering as the result of the death of a loved one. There are no fees.

People 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.

SPECIAL PROGRAM

Ronald C. Smeenge will present the one-person play, "Pontius Pilate," based on the historical novel by Paul L. Maier, at continental breakfast and service Maundy Thursday, April 1, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia.

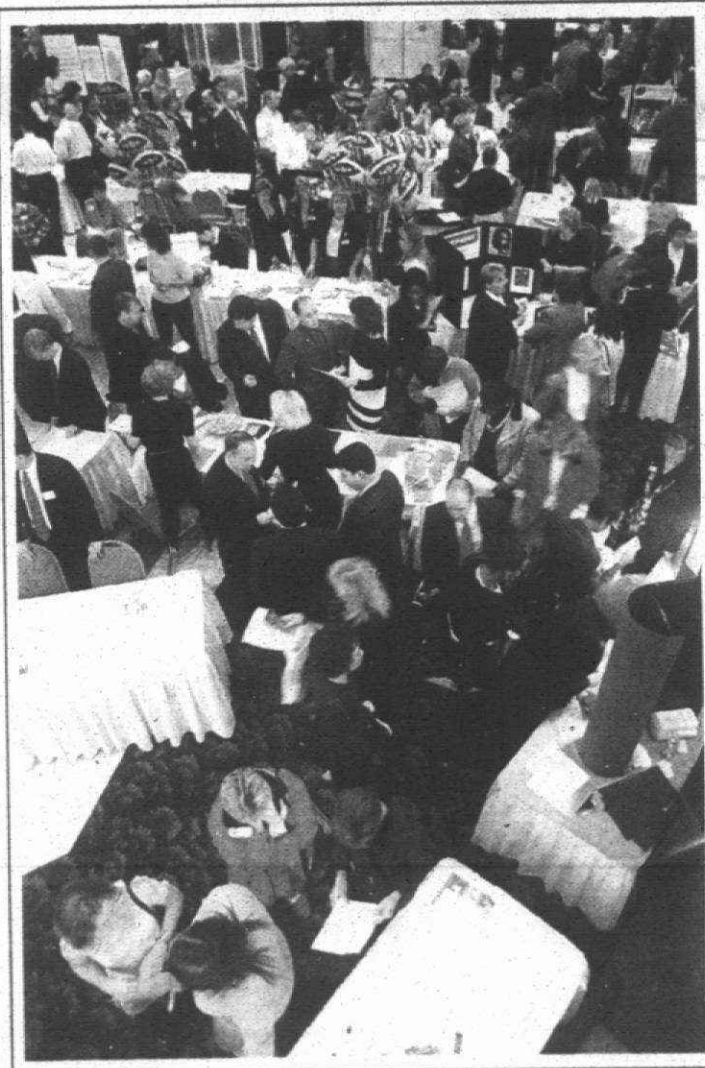
Sponsored by St. Matthew's United Methodist Women, the continental breakfast will be at 9:30 a.m., followed by the program at 10:15 a.m. A nursery will be provided free of charge. Tickets cost \$5 each and are available in advance only through Monday, March 22. For reservations, call (734) 422-6038.



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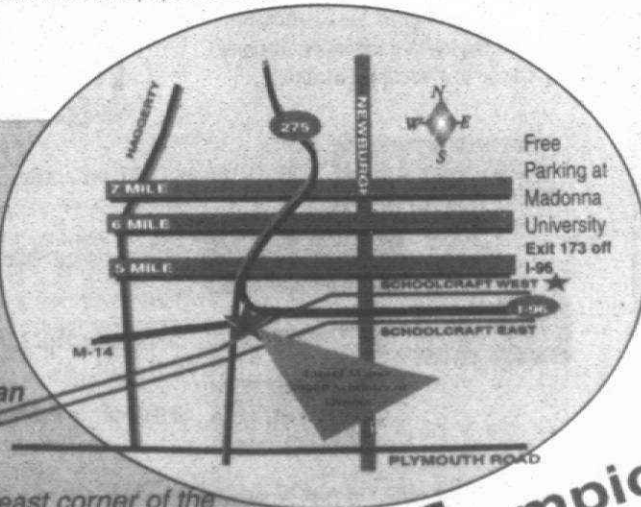
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Accountants Connection
Accountant Source Temps
Accountemps
Advo, Inc.
Alternative Living Services
American Express Financial Advisor
Building Communications
Broder Brothers
Capital Investment
Career Pro Center
Century 21 Town & Country
Charter Township of Canton
Comerica
Contempra Staffing
Con-Way Central Express
Cyber Source, Inc.
Dart Development
DADCO
Denny's
D.O.C. Optics
Dorothy Day
Draw-Tite
E & F Manufacturing
Eddie Bauer
Edward C. Levy Company
English Gardens
Entech Personnel
Express Personnel (Wayne)
Farmer Jack Supermarkets
F.C.I. Automotive
First Federal of Michigan
First Investors Corporation
Flagstar Bank
Garden City Hospital
Graybar Electric
Hagopian World of Rugs
Huntington Management
Harper Associates
Interim Personnel
Jacobson's
Jawood Management
Jewish Vocational Service
Jabil Circuit
Kohl's
K.P.M. Group
Krogers
Lenscrafter
Lord & Taylor
L.S.G. Sky Chef
Management Recruiters of Livonia
Mattress & Futon Shoppes
McDonald's Corporation
McDonald's (Hammer Management)
Meijer, Inc.
Metropolitan Title Company
M.S.X. International
Net Planet
New Horizon
Nordstroms
Northwestern Mutual Life
Office Mates 5 of Ann Arbor
Office Team
Old Kent
Olde Discount
Orchard Lake Country Club
Parisian
Payroll One
P.D.C. Glass of Michigan
Phoenix Group
Pinkerton Security
PlastiPak
Posa-Cut Corporation
Powerline, Inc.
Presbyterian Village of Redford
Providence Hospital & Medical
Prudential Preferred Financial
Rainbow Rascals
Rainbow Rehabilitation
Regent Street of West Bloomfield
Republic Bancorp Mortgage, Inc.
Ritz-Carlton Dearborn
Rock Financial
R.S. Electronics
Roush Industries
Saks Fifth Avenue
Service Center Corporation
Senitech Services
Silverman Companies
Skyway Precision
Smith Security
Snelling Personnel-Livonia
Southland Corporation
Special Tree Rehabilitation
Staffing Services
Staff Pro America
T.J. Maxx
Translins Management
United Home Care Services
Village Green
Virginia Tile
Wall Michaels RF Center
Wendy's
Westec Security
Wyndham Garden Hotels

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Counsel JVs perfect

Can't get better than perfect. And that's just what the Our Lady of Good Counsel Boys A junior varsity basketball team was this season.

The Good Counsel JVs posted a 20-0 record, winning the St. Clare pre-season tournament, the Dearborn Divine Child Christmas Tournament, and the St. Valentine post-season tournament. They were also perfect in West Suburban League play, and — to cap off their season — they were voted the Catholic Youth Organization's Sportsmanship Award, selected by opposing coaching staffs.

Team members include Andy Case, Dave Coppiellie, Dave Hall, Kyle Gendron, Tony Leon, Greg Marrone, John Napolitano, Dave Neu, Andrew Riedy, Tim Schroeter, Jon Smart, Tim Storch and Brian Whiting.

Sharks win crown

The Mighty Sharks of the Plymouth-Canton Hockey Association are the 1998-99 league champions in the Little Caesars Mite B Division III. The Sharks, coached by Rick Cigile, posted a 15-1-1 record.

Team members are Don Barlow, Joseph Beard, Ryan Blakey, Ryan Cigile, Zachary Cisek, Kenny Durham, Nicholas Gennety, Spencer Hall, Joshua Hope, Matthew Hull, Steven Manser, Ryan May, Brendan Muir, Brett Shanley, Patrick Smiatacz and Bradley Wilhelm. Assistant coaches are Dave Smiatacz and Don Barlow; the team manager is Craig Manser.

Cushman honored

Katie Cushman, a senior guard on Madonna University's women's basketball team, has been named to the NAIA Division II All-American Scholar-Athlete team for the second-straight year.

Cushman, a Flint Powers HS graduate, will complete her double-major in criminal justice and sign language studies in May. She has a cumulative 3.73 grade-point average. Cushman also holds virtually every offensive record at Madonna, including all-time leading scorer.

To be named to the all-academic squad, a student-athlete must be at least a junior, have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or higher, and be a significant contributor to their team.

Football meeting

A meeting to help organize the three football teams sponsored by Our Lady of Good Counsel will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 14 at Our Lady of Good Counsel, located at 1062 Church in Plymouth. The meeting is for all boys in third through eighth grades who want to play football, and their parents. Those eligible are members of the following parishes: Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Kenneth, Our Lady of Victory, St. Mary's of Wayne, St. Richard, St. Thomas A'Beckett, Divine Savior, Resurrection, St. James and St. John Neumann.

The third/fourth grade team will be coached by Ed Jeffery; the fifth/sixth grade team will be coached by Mark Zygomtonwicz; and the seventh/eighth grade team will be coached by Mike Girsakis. A summer camp with the OLGC coaches and others from local high school and college staffs is scheduled for August.

For more information, contact Mike Girsakis at (734) 427-6270.

Plymouth T-Ball

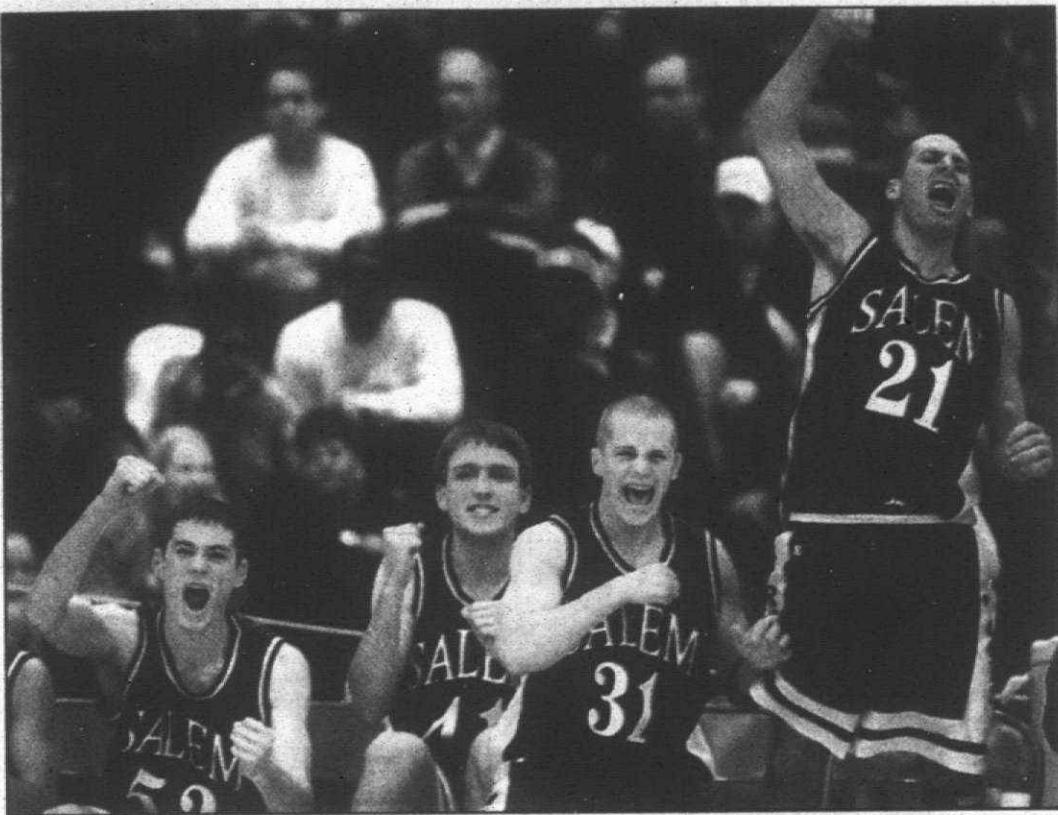
The city of Plymouth Recreation Division will have registration for its 5-6 year-old T-Ball League from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., April 12-30 at the Plymouth Cultural Center. Cost is \$55, with Plymouth city residents receiving a \$35 discount. The season lasts seven weeks, from June 19-Aug. 7. A birth certificate is required; those eligible must be born from July-December 1992; January-December 1993; and January-July 1994.

For more information, call the Recreation office at (734) 455-6620.

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

Taking flight!

Rocks knock out Northern, 70-68



BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR
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The final buzzer was sounding, and still the outcome was in doubt.

This Class A state regional semifinal played Tuesday ended the way it should have — without certainty. At least not until the shot Detroit Northern's Tony White launched from just past the half-court line a moment before the buzzer blasted had banged off the rim, coming perilously close to being a game-winner.

Instead, it just provided a thrilling climax to a game that had been packed with them. Indeed, the final minute alone had more turning points than some teams witness in a season.

But this game ended as it should have: With the team that had dominated most of the way on top.

Plymouth Salem 70, Northern 68.

The Rocks, now 19-4, return to Birmingham Groves at 7 p.m. tonight to play Southfield-Lathrup (now 21-3) for the regional championship. The Chargers defeated North Farmington 65-41 in the other regional semi.

Northern finishes 17-7.

Now for those last-minute turning points.

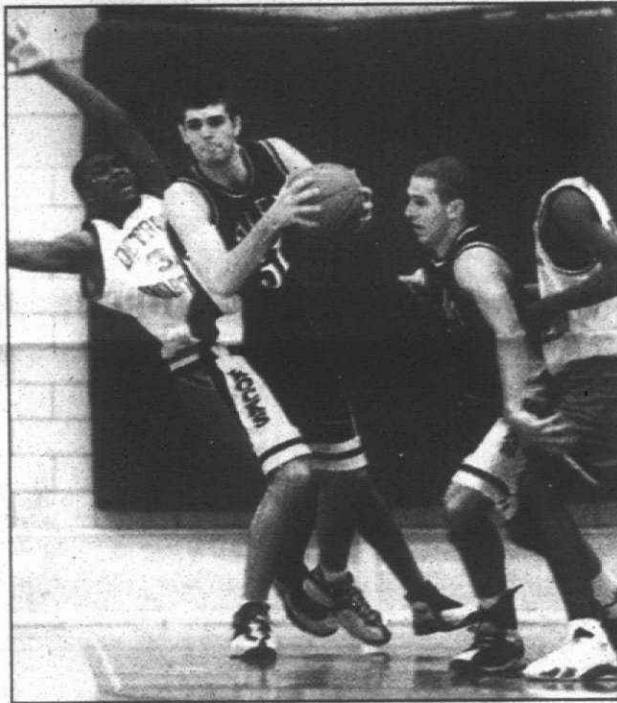
With 3:20 left in the final quarter, Salem led 65-60. But a turnover and an offensive foul helped the Jay Hawks score seven-straight points (five by White) to give them a 67-65 lead with 55 seconds remaining.

That turning point was followed by a missed jumper by Salem's Adam Wilson and a missed one-and-one free throw by Northern's Gary Solomon, the latter with 42.4 seconds left. After a timeout, the Rocks worked the ball into the paint to Rob Jones, and he was fouled by Brynell Jones (his fifth). Rob Jones made both, and the game was tied at 67-all with 25.6 seconds to play.

Turning point No. 3: Northern's White dribbled toward the top of the key, and Jake Gray dove in to knock the ball away. Aaron Rypkowski retrieved it and sped downcourt with the final seconds ticking away, but his layup was blocked by Shannon Pope, who was whistled for his fifth foul with 6.8 seconds remaining. Rypkowski missed his first from the line, but hit the second, and the Rocks were up 68-67.

Turning point No. 4: Solomon tried to split the Salem defenders near half-court, but lost control of the ball — and the whistle blew again, this time signalling a foul on the Rocks' Mike Korduba. Solomon tied the game at 68-all with his first shot, but he missed his second with 3.4 seconds to

At the top: Without doubt, Salem played one of its best games of the season to beat Detroit Northern in Tuesday's regional semifinal — something that Rob Jones (21), Andy Kocolowski (31), Andy Brandt (41) and James McCaffrey could cheer about. Tough play by Tony Jancevski (below, with ball) helped the dream come true.



go. Which led to turning point No. 5: Wilson took the inbounds pass and tried to get in position for a last-second shot, and was inexplicably fouled by White with .5 left. Wilson hit both, leading to White's last-ditch, half-court shot that barely missed.

And that led to delirium on Salem's bench.

It was a huge win for a team that started the season fast, then fell into a funk midway through and is just now coming out of it. "We played as well as this earlier this season," said Rocks' coach Bob Brodie. "Even better — the first time we played (and beat) Northern, we played better."

"But we played just as hard tonight as we've ever played."

A quick start got the Rocks on track early, and they were never derailed.

"We jumped out on them big early," said Brodie. "The dif-

Please see ROCKS, C4

Kicking Mules finish Salem's tourney run

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

They went just about as far as they could go.

Temperance-Bedford defeated Plymouth Salem's volleyball team, 15-10, 15-7, Tuesday night in the quarterfinals of the Michigan High School Athletic Association tournament.

Still, the Rocks' first season with Tom Teeters as coach has to be judged a success.

"We set some goals at the start of the season," said Teeters, whose teams in recent seasons have been kicked out of the state tournament by the Kicking Mules. "We wanted to go where no Plymouth Salem team has gone in 23 years."

"We wanted to take the regionals, which no Salem team had done since 1977. Obviously, once we'd done that we wanted to go to the final four."

"It didn't happen but this was an accomplishment since two-thirds of the starters from last year had graduated."

"This was a big burden off our backs

and will help the team next year and in the future."

Andrea Pruett and Angie Sillmon stood out for the Rocks, 48-11-1, but Temperance-Bedford blocked so many of their hits it looked like Coach Jodi Manore had gotten a copy of Teeters' play book.

But maybe she's played Teeters' teams so many times she has his style down pat. And has the players to execute it, of course.

Midway through the first game Sillmon put on an exhibition worthy of Flo Hyman or Rita Crockett, stars of perhaps the best women's volleyball team the U.S. has ever seen — its 1984 Olympic Gold Medal winners.

Sillmon rallied Salem from a 12-6 deficit with a sterling four-point string in which she had two kills, a block plus a pair of blocked shots which preceded one of her kills.

Plymouth pulled up to 12-10 but Shayna Munson buried a hit to return the momentum to Bedford. Eight side-

Please see SALEM, C5



On the defensive: Salem's Aleshka Marquez digs one out — something the Rocks did a lot of against the Kicking Mules.

PCA repels 'Skins rally

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR
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In retrospect, it's perfectly understandable.

Here the goal embedded in the young minds of the Plymouth Christian Academy Eagles was clearly visible, dangling enticingly before them. All that separated them from it was a 32-minute stretch of basketball.

It would be easy to look beyond those four quarters to what lay ahead. But that's not what PCA did in its Class D regional semifinal against Camden-Frontier Wednesday at Hillsdale College.

The Eagles played some tough, unbeatable basketball — for the better part of two quarters, anyway. Then their vision shifted.

And it very nearly cost them. At the end, however, PCA regrouped and managed to hold off the Redskins for a 49-46 triumph.

The Eagles, 21-3 overall, now have the opportunity to fulfill their pre-tournament goal: They go up against Adrian Lenawee Christian at 7 p.m. Friday at Hillsdale for the regional title. Lenawee is 23-0 on the season and ranked second in Class D.

"Our team goal at the start of the tournament was to try and get back to the regional final and play the No. 2-ranked team again," said PCA coach Doug Taylor. "I mean, how many teams get a chance to play a team that good?"

"They're a great team. They do everything well."

The two regional finalists aren't strangers. PCA lost to the Cougars 65-51 Dec. 29, giving the Eagles their first loss of the season. A 12-game win streak followed for PCA, with a league championship and a first-ever state district title. Still, that loss to Lenawee Christian lingered.

But to get to the Cougars, the Eagles had to get past Camden-Frontier. Initially, that did not look to be a problem. PCA roared out of the gate against the smaller, slower Redskins (now 11-12); indeed, it appeared this game would degenerate into an early blowout. The Eagles blanked C-F 15-0 in the first quarter; it was 19-2 with less than 4 1/2 minutes left in the half, with the 'Skins making just 1-of-8 floor shots and committing nine turnovers.

But on a team noted for its three-point shooting, such surges can be quickly reversed. "We just wanted to tease them," said C-F coach Dave Follis. "Actually, we had a lot of mental mistakes for our team. And we came out real tight in the first quarter."

With all five PCA starters on the bench, the 'Skins started their comeback with 2:30 left in the first half, facing a 28-10 climb. They started their trek by scoring the last eight of the half to make it 28-18 at the break.

By the end of the third period, C-F had made it a six-point game, thanks to eight points from Chad Heller. When the senior forward nailed two more shots to start the fourth quarter, it was a one-basket game — and the young Eagles (just two seniors) were rattled.

Aaron Smith took over for Heller after that. His two baskets, the second a triple, in a 40-second span put the 'Skins ahead, 43-42, with 3:33 left in the game.

If players are defined by such situations, PCA found a few. The Eagles wasted no time in retaliating, with Mike Huntsman scoring consecutive baskets and Evan Gaines making a steal and scoring. The six-point run put them up 48-43 with 1:52 left.

It wasn't over — not yet. Smith nailed another three to narrow the gap to two with 1:07 to go, but rebounding by Derric Isensee and Huntsman, and the quick hands of Jordan Roose, sealed the outcome. Roose hit the first in a one-and-one free throw situation with seven seconds left to increase PCA's lead to three; after C-F's Heller rebounded the miss, Roose stole the ball and time ran out.

Roose finished with 13 points and seven assists, while Huntsman had 13 points and eight rebounds. Isensee totaled 11 points and seven boards, and Gaines had 10 points. Heller finished with 18 points; Smith had 10.

Salem matmen solid at state

For two of the three Plymouth Salem wrestlers who advanced to compete in the Division I state individual wrestling championships last weekend at Detroit's Joe Louis Arena, it was a good showing.

For both heavyweight Charlie Hamblin and 112-pounder John Mervyn, it started out well, too. Hamblin, a senior who finished second in the state to Redford Catholic Central's Casey Rogowski last year, beat Nic LaFare of Davison 6-4 in his opening match.

Mervyn, a junior, enjoyed similar success with an opening-round 13-2 triumph over Adam Cross of Rochester Adams.

But both lost their next matches, Hamblin getting pinned by Utica's Aaron Lambert in 1:07 and Mervyn losing to eventual champion Eric Gervais of Grand Haven 7-5.

Salem's third competitor, Ron Thompson, another junior who wrestled at 112, got off on the wrong foot but fought his way back

STATE WRESTLING

with a strong finish. Thompson lost his opener, 19-4, to Scott Walker of Flushing.

In the Wrestlingback bracket, Thompson excelled, pinning Harry Durbin of Royal Oak Kimball in 2:00 and Brooks Cozart of Howell in 4:14. That put him up against Mervyn, who defeated Brian VanEman of Rochester 9-6 in his first Wrestlingback bracket match.

Mervyn beat his Salem teammate, 11-8, which left him in the running for a possible third-place finish. But he lost to Flushing's Walker, 7-0.

Mervyn did win his final match, however, besting Craig Shuttick of Rockford 7-0 to place fifth. Thompson was also successful, bouncing back from his loss to Mervyn to pin Randy Jackson of Saginaw in 4:25. Thompson finished seventh.

Mervyn's final match record is 45-7; Thompson finishes at 47-16.

Hamblin's stay at state was shorter. He lost his first match in the Wrestlingback bracket 7-3 to James Pack of Rochester Adams and was eliminated. Hamblin ended up with a 32-10 record.

Rogowski, meanwhile, captured his second-straight heavyweight state title and kept his unbeaten match record alive, beating Kyle Crockey of East Lansing, 11-6 in the final.

CC teammate Mitch Hancock reached the final at 152, but lost to Brad Anderson of Forest Hills Central in the final, 8-6 in overtime.

Also, Livonia Stevenson's Josh Gunterman ended up with a state title at 103, beating Jordan Earley of East Kentwood 2-1 in the final.

STATE INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING RESULTS

STATE INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

AREA WRESTLERS RESULTS

March 13-14 at Joe Louis Arena

DIVISION I

Casey Rogowski, heavyweight, Redford Catholic Central (1st place): pinned Andy Izler (Grand Ledge), 5:04; defeated Ted Bowersox (Northville), 19:4; dec. Jim Kilcoyne (Portage Central), 7-3; dec. Kyle Crockey (East Lansing), 11-6. Final record: 46-0.

CHARLIE HAMBLIN, heavyweights, Plymouth Salem (did not place): defeated Nic LaFare (Davison), 6-4; pinned by Aaron Lambert (Utica), 1:07; lost to James Pack (Rochester Adams), 7-3. Final record: 32-10.

JOHN MERVYN, 112, Plymouth Salem (5th place): defeated Adam Cross (Rochester Adams), 13-2; lost to Eric Gervais (Grand Haven), 7-5; defeated Brian VanEman (Rochester), 9-6; defeated Ron Thompson (Saginaw), 11-8; lost to Scott Walker (Flushing), 7-0; pinned Craig Shuttick (Rockford), 7-0. Final record: 45-7.

RON THOMPSON, 112, Plymouth Salem (7th place): lost to Scott Walker (Flushing), 19-4; pinned Harry Durbin (Royal Oak Kimball), 2:00; pinned Brooks Cozart (Howell), 4:14; lost to John Mervyn (Saginaw), 11-8; pinned Randy Jackson (Saginaw), 4:25. Final record: 47-16.

MITCH HANCOCK, 152, Redford CC (runner-up): dec. Chris Schuyler (Saline), 16-1; dec.

Brandon Cooper (Holt), 5-4; dec. Doug Norton (Romeo), 10-5; lost to Brad Anderson (Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central), 8-6 (OT). Final record: 47-4.

BRECK NAYSMITH, 215, Redford CC (3rd place): p. Jon Rugenstein (Bay City Western), 4:12; dec. Josh Adams (Temperance Bedford), 7-3; lost to Pat DeGan (Clarkston), 17-4; dec. Vic Moyé (Bay City Central), 17-4; dec. Mike Delonge (Flint Carman-Ainsworth), 8-2. Final record: 35-4.

STATE SWIM RESULTS

Salem finishes 12th at Class A state meet

Just like the Western Lakes Activities Association season.

The three boys swimming powerhouses in the WLA were weren't among the top teams in the state, it's true, but they made it interesting in a battle between themselves — and Livonia Stevenson's Josh Gunterman ended up with a state title at 103, beating Jordan Earley of East Kentwood 2-1 in the final.

The Spartans scored 39 points to edge WLA rivals North Farmington, which was 11th with 36 points, and Plymouth Salem, which placed 12th with 35.

The Rocks had one swimmer reach the individual championship final: Andrew Locke, who qualified with the second-fastest time in the 50-yard freestyle (21.19). However, in the final, Locke placed sixth in 21.97 in a race that separated second and sixth by .85.

North's Matt Zald was fifth in 21.63.

Locke was 17th in the 100 free (48.49).

Salem did score in two of three relays. The Rocks' 200 free relay team of Mike Johnson, Aaron Shelton, Matt Casillas and Lock was fifth in 1:27.29. Their 200 medley relay team of Eric Lynn, Paul Peres, Locke and Shelton placed 10th in 1:40.07.

Other state qualifiers for Salem were Casillas in the 200 free (29th, 1:50.08) and Brian Mertens in the 500 free (21st, 4:59.23). The Rocks' 400 free relay team was disqualified.

Plymouth Canton failed to score. Its 200 medley relay team was 20th (1:41.90), its 400 free relay was 17th (3:19.67) and its 200 free relay team of Kurtis Hornick, Justin Allen, Don LeClair and Chad Williams finished 15th (1:30.19). Individually, Hornick was 20th in the 50 free (22.55) and Aaron Reeder was 29th in the 100 backstroke (58.27).

Shamrock star secures 2nd-straight title

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER
skowalski@oe.homecomm.net

The next championship Redford Catholic Central's Casey Rogowski and East Lansing's Kyle Crockey vie for will be of the team variety when they become football teammates at Central Michigan University.

But on Saturday, they battled only for themselves in the Division I individual state wrestling tournament at Detroit's Joe Louis Arena.

Rogowski secured his second-straight state championship and two-straight undefeated seasons with an 11-6 win over Crockey in the finals of the heavyweight division.

Each finalist has accepted foot-

WRESTLING

ball scholarships to CMU, which faced this match at Sabu.

Crockey has a playing weight of about 285 pounds in football which means he had to cut weight just to be eligible for the 275-pound division.

Rogowski dismissed Crockey in methodical fashion. The two were tied 0-0 after the first period.

Rogowski will be glad to have him as a college teammate.

"He's the biggest guy I've ever wrestled," Rogowski said. "You think 285 pounds and you think fat, but he wasn't. He was about 6-2, 6-3 and really put together."

Rogowski was teary-eyed but none of the tears fell.

"I was too tired to cry," he said.

To reach the finals, Rogowski had to beat a familiar opponent, Portage Central's Jim Kilcoyne, in the semifinals. After falling behind early, Rogowski rallied for a 7-3 victory.

"He got ticked because he got

taken down on his back," Rodriguez said.

Rogowski beat him earlier in the year, too.

"He was more prepared this time, knew what was coming, what I had," Rogowski said. "He came out more fired up, used more stuff the second time."

Rogowski began the three-day tournament with a pin in 5 minutes, 4 seconds against Andy Isler of Grand Ledge and a 19-4 technical fall victory over Northville's Ted Bowersox.

The first match was delayed about 1 1/2 hours because Joe Louis Arena had to be cleared due to an asbestos scare. The wrestlers bided their time next door at Cobo Arena.

Rodriguez said the long delay on the first day of matches hurt Rogowski more than his opponent.

"If you are a state champion and all I'm thinking about is getting at you, it's to the underdog's advantage," Rodriguez said. "It's a head game."

This is the first year the finals were held in Detroit and though attendance records were set, Rodriguez liked the old two-day format at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena.

He's not alone.

"Three days dragging it out is way too much," Rodriguez said. "Just get it over with."

Rogowski is a three-sport star for the Shamrocks, spending spring on the baseball team. He took up wrestling as a freshman as something to do between seasons.

Then he started to like it. "I took it up just as an in between thing to keep in shape," he said. "It helped with my balance. When I got in the room I decided I wanted to be a three-sport (three-time state champion)."

Rogowski had to settle for being a two-sport athlete after failing to make the state tournament as a 189-pounder in his sophomore year.

When asked if he'll ever have another wrestler like Rogowski, Rodriguez said "Yeah, his brother."

Ryan Rogowski is a freshman on the CC wrestling team and big brother thinks he has a promising future.

"He saw what I did so I told him it's his turn next year," Casey said.

Rogowski is 91-0 over the last two years, including 46-0 this year.

From day one, he was the prohibitive favorite to defend his championship. He surprised the field in his junior year, winning the state title despite not being ranked No. 1 throughout the season.

"It's just like a great relief that it's over, I accomplished all I wanted and all my worrying is done," Rogowski said. "It's a lot harder being the favorite."

Rogowski is the Shamrocks' ninth repeat state champion.

"He's an awesome wrestler and so were the other eight before him," said CC coach Mike Rodriguez, who shed tears while hugging Rogowski afterward.

"When you're close to a young man like Casey it's just tearful."

Rogowski was teary-eyed but none of the tears fell.

"I was too tired to cry," he said.

To reach the finals, Rogowski had to beat a familiar opponent, Portage Central's Jim Kilcoyne, in the semifinals. After falling behind early, Rogowski rallied for a 7-3 victory.

"He got ticked because he got

STATE HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Double-winner CC wins title; Rowe is top player

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
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Redford Catholic Central senior Keith Rowe will take home a trophy from the 1998-99 season but the one he'll cherish most is the one that will stay in the school's trophy case.

Shortly after the Shamrocks defeated East Kentwood 2-0 in Saturday's Class A hockey championship at the Flint IMA, Rowe learned he won this year's Mr. Hockey award.

The trophy honoring the year's top senior will look nice at home but he'll look forward to returning to school on occasion to get a glimpse at the state championship hardware.

Rowe also played on CC's 1997 state champion team when he was more of a follower than leader.

"This year I was more of a part of it as a leader," said Rowe, who led the Shamrocks in assists and was fourth in goals scored. "What I took more pride in is my leadership skills. I matured as a person, not just as a hockey player. I think we have the hardest working team in the state and it shows. We worked through the summer, running hills in 90 degree weather."

Rowe said his biggest influence in hockey growing up in Redford Township was Joe Job, his coach for five years with the Detroit Diesel Power travel teams. A 3.1 student who

scored 22 on his ACT, Rowe plans on playing either for a junior A program or attending a prep school next year.

Former CC player Scott Curtin was the Mr. Hockey recipient two years ago.

"It's really an honor and I'm happy for it," Rowe said. "Team awards come first but I'll take individual awards, too."

Jim Spiewak, a sophomore sensation, scored both CC goals, which weren't easy to come by against East Kentwood's senior goaltender Gary Olson.

Olson stopped 39 shots and was helped a couple times when CC shots rang off the goal post.

"They're a good team, real fast, and have done it all year," Olson said. "They deserved it. I'm very exhausted. I can hardly walk right now."

East Kentwood, which lost a non-league game to the Shamrocks 4-2 earlier in the year, managed only 10 shots at CC junior goalie Ben Dunne.

As dominant as CC was, East Kentwood nearly tied the score at 1-1 with 4:16 left in the second period when Dunne made brilliant saves on a breakaway by Eric Jensen and the rebound shot by Mike Lenhertz.

After a scoreless first period the Shamrocks opened the scoring with a goal by Spiewak, assisted by Todd Bentley and David Moss 41 seconds

into the second period.

Spiewak finished the two-on-one after taking a perfect pass from Bentley and firing the puck over Olson's outstretched legs.

"I skated into the zone, the defenseman faded off to Bentley, the goalie went down and I just chipped it over him," said Spiewak, who finished the season with 11 goals and 19 assists.

Spiewak added an insurance goal at 13:11 of the third period, picking up a loose puck and driving a wrist shot past Olson from close range.

Bentley had the assist on that goal, too.

"To be honest with you I didn't see the second one go in," Spiewak said. "It was a little luck."

This was the Shamrocks third state championship in Gordie St. John's six seasons as coach, and the school's fourth overall. They finished the season with a 29-1-1 overall record.

East Kentwood finished at 23-7-1.

"This goalie did a great job, held them in the game, but right to the end we were very patient tonight," St. John said. "It was frustrating that we couldn't put it in and we hit the pipe a couple times. Tonight we played three solid 15 minute periods. I was throwing four lines at them and they had two and a half for 45 minutes and that makes a difference."

Whalers clinch 1st



Let's just get to the playoffs, shall we?

The win over the Windsor Spitfires last Thursday proved to be pivotal for the Plymouth Whalers — at least considering the circumstances that followed over the weekend.

The Plymouth Whalers came up flat in a pair of performances, losing twice at home — 3-1 to the Guelph Storm Saturday and 6-1 to the Spitfires Sunday.

The losses dropped the Whalers to 50-13-4 overall, but they remained atop the overall Ontario Hockey League standings with 104 points (two more than the Barrie Colts) and, with one game remaining, clinched the top spot in the upcoming OHL playoffs.

Guelph, first in the OHL's Midwest Division, is 43-21-2; Windsor, last in the West Division, is 23-38-6.

Unfortunately, it did mean Plymouth's term at the top of the Canadian Hockey League polls was short-lived. The Whalers dropped to third.

Robert Holsinger made 17 saves in goal against Guelph, but gave up a power-play goal to Eric Beaudoin in the first period and second-period goals to Kevin Mitchell and Joe Gerbe. Jamie Lalonde scored for Plymouth on the power play in the third period, ruining the shutout bid by Storm goalie Craig Anderson (40 saves).

In the loss to the Spitfires, Holsinger surrendered three goals in the first two periods and Rob Zepp allowed three more in the third. They combined to make 21 saves. Ron Vogel allowed one goal and made 45 stops for Windsor.

Nikos Tselios scored Plymouth's only goal in the third period. Jason Polera and Jeff Martin each scored two goals for the Spitfires.

The Whalers final game of the regular season is Friday at Brampton.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS					
East Division	W	L	T	Pts.	
Ottawa 67's	47	13	6	100	
Bellefonte Bulls	39	21	6	84	
Oshawa Generals	39	24	2	80	
Peterborough Petes	37	24	5	79	
Kingston Frontenacs	20	42	4	44	
Central Division	W	L	T	Pts.	
Barrie Colts	48	13	6	102	
Sudbury Wolves	23	35	8	54	
North Bay Centennials	22	39	6	50	
SSM Greyhounds	20	40	6	46	
Miss. Ice Dogs	4	58	3	11	
West Division	W	L	T	Pts.	
Plymouth Whalers	50	13	4	104	
Sarnia Sting	36	25	5	77	
London Knights	33	30	4	70	
SSM Greyhounds	31	28	7	69	
Windsor Spitfires	23	38	6	52	
Midwest Division	W	L	T	Pts.	
Guelph Storm	43	21	2	88	
Owen Sound Platers	39	23	5	83	
Erie Otters	29	33	4	62	
Kitchener Rangers	22	38	6	50	
Brampton Battalion	8	55	3	19	

son is Friday at Brampton.

Ambassadors still 1st

The Computware Ambassadors knocked off the Chicago Freeze 5-1 Sunday in Chicago to stay in first place in the North American Hockey League with a 34-11-6 record, one point ahead of the Soo Kewadin Casino Indians (36-15-1).

Josh Bowers collected a goal and an assist, and Mark Mink, Pat Brush, Nick Schrader and Rob Globke added single goals for the Ambassadors, who host the Indians in a showdown for first place Saturday and Sunday at Computware Arena in Plymouth.

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location in Comerica Park.
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(Guarantee your opening day ticket and final game ticket in historic Tiger Stadium.)

Call the season ticket hotline at **313-963-2050**
21-game packages start at just \$168

21 Games	By	Amount	By	Amount
21 Games	By	\$420	21 Games	\$375
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Opening Day tickets included in every plan!

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COLLEGE HOCKEY AT "THE JOE"

Fri., March 19 Semifinals
Seed #1 vs. Seed #4
5:00 PM
Seed #2 vs. Seed #3
8:30 PM

Sat., March 20 Championship Game
7:30 PM

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A Division of Chrysler

Tickets are \$22.50, \$16, \$12 and \$8
and are on sale now at the Joe Louis Arena Box Office,
all **TICKETMASTER** locations or charge by phone at
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EVERY SATURDAY & SUNDAY HOME GAME
INCLUDES: 1 TICKET, 1 HOT DOG, 1 T-SHIRT & 1 SODA

Saturday • March 20
7:30 PM
vs. Houston
• Vipers Collectors' Poster to the first 5,000 fans
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The Westland Chamber of Commerce's Third Annual Jobs & Careers Fair will put you in touch with thousands of job seekers. The Fair will include all types of businesses: retail, manufacturing, engineering, professional, health care, trades, financial, office/clerical, organizational and many more!

This is the third year for this highly rated job fair. The previous two years have been "SOLD OUT". Recruiters and job seekers rate the job fair very high for convenience and success in finding qualified job candidates. Call the Chamber TODAY for information on how to be part of the Fair.

PARTICIPATION WILL BRING YOU THE FOLLOWING ADVANTAGES:
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OUTDOORS CALENDAR

(To submit items for consideration in the Observer & Eccentric's Outdoor Calendar send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; fax information to (248) 644-1314 or send E-mail to barker@ee.home.com.net)

FUND-RAISERS

SAFARI CLUB
Southeast Michigan Bowhunter Chapter of Safari Club International will hold its eighth annual fund-raiser banquet and outdoor party beginning at 4 p.m. Saturday, March 20, at Laurel Manor in Livonia. The banquet features a family-style dinner, open bar, outfitters, manufacturer booths, auctions, raffles, hunting and fishing equipment and much more. Tickets will be sold at the door. Call (248) 585-1415 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS
Metro-West Steelheaders will hold its annual fund-raising dinner-dance beginning at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 20, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Westland. Activities include raffles, art work sales, dinner, and a silent auction. Tickets are \$20 per person. Call (313) 476-7145 or (248) 366-9527 for tickets and more information.

DRAYTON NATURE CENTER
The Drayton Plains Nature Center is holding a bowlathon fundraiser, 1-4 p.m. Sunday, March 28, at Century Bowl in Waterford. Proceeds from the event will be used at the nature center, which features 137 acres and is open to the public. Call (248) 674-2119 for more information.

WHITETAILS UNLIMITED
The Clarkston Chapter of White-tails Unlimited will hold a fund-raising banquet beginning at 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 9, at the Deer Lake Athletic Club in Clarkston. The event will feature a buffet dinner, an auction, door prizes, sporting equipment, limited edition wildlife and outdoor art. White-tails Unlimited collects and much more. Proceeds from the event will be used for conservation and youth related projects. Tickets are \$55 each, \$95 for couples and \$35 for juniors 15 and under. Deadline to purchase tickets is March 29. To order tickets or for more information, call Tom Bushong at (616) 781-8430.

WILD TURKEY FESTIVAL
The Pere Marquette Chapter of the Michigan Wild Turkey Hunters Association will hold its annual Wild Turkey Festival on

Saturday, March 27, at Baldwin High School. The festival features seminars on calling, gear, the use of decoys and other hunting techniques. There will also be door prizes, raffles and giveaways. Proceeds from the event will be used exclusively for MWTHA's winter feeding program. For more information call Jim Maturen at (616) 832-2575.

TURKEY HUNTER'S WORKSHOP
The Traverse Bay Chapter of the Michigan Wild Turkey Hunters Association will hold its annual spring workshop on Saturday, April 10, at the Northland Sportsman's Club in Gaylord. The workshop will feature presentations by the DNR's new upland gamebird specialist, Al Stewart, local wildlife biologists and veteran turkey hunters. There will also be door prizes, raffles, a kids calling contest and more. Proceeds from the event will be used exclusively for MWTHA's winter feeding program. For tickets and more information call Rick Riley at (616) 549-2179.

FISHING TOURNAMENTS
SALMON STAKES
The 21st annual River Crab Salmon Stakes charity fishing tournament and raffle will be held Saturday April 24. Money raised through the sale of \$10 raffle tickets will benefit the Blue Water Mental Health Clinic and other programs that help troubled children, adults and their families statewide. Raffle prizes include a trip for two adults and two children to Mackinac Island, use of a private suite for a Detroit Tigers baseball game, a weekend for two in Chicago, \$500 in gift certificates to Chuck Mue restaurants, and a limousine ride and dinner for two at a Chuck Mue restaurant. Ticket stubs are also good for \$10 off dinner for two or Sunday brunch at participating Chuck Mue restaurants. There are also cash prizes for the anglers, boats and clubs who catch the biggest salmon and trout on tournament day. Tickets are available at Charley's in Troy, Meriwethers in Southfield, Mue's Sea Food Tavern in West Bloomfield, Big Fish in Dearborn, Big Fish Too in Madison Heights, Gandy Dancer in Ann Arbor, or by calling the River Crab at (800) 468-3727.

ACTIVITIES
HIGHLAND MIKE
Join members of the Southeast

SEMINARS
HUNTER EDUCATION
Wayne County Sportsman's Club is accepting registration for two upcoming hunter education classes. The two-day sessions will be held Saturday and Sunday, March 27-28, and April 17-18, at the WOSC clubhouse and grounds in Romulus. Cost is \$12 per student and includes text, equipment, range fees and lunch. Call (313) 532-0285 for more information and to register.

FOOTWEAR
Learn how to choose the right boot or shoe for different outdoor activities during this class, which begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, at REI in Northville. Call (248) 347-2100 to register and for more information.

BACKCOUNTRY COMMUNICATION
Learn about the new two-way radios, their features and how they can help you out in a back-country adventure during this class, which begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, at REI in Northville. Call (248) 347-2100 for more information.

STEELHEAD FISHING
Metro-West Steelheaders will present a free seminar on steelhead fishing beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, at Garden City High School. The seminar will include discussion on river and lake fishing, trolling, drift boats, planer boards and other offshore tactics. The seminar is held as part of the regular monthly meeting of the Metro-West Steelheaders fishing club and the public is welcome to attend. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

YOUTH FLY FISHING
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club will host its annual Youth Fly Fishing School from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at the Walleye Lake Outdoor Education Center. Cost is \$25 per person and class size is limited. To register and for more information call Dale Ross at (734) 420-2233.

FLY TYING
Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tiers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

COYOTE
Coyote season runs through April 15 statewide.

FREE FISHING
Michigan's annual Free Fishing

Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a moderately paced hike through the woods of Highland Recreation Area on Sunday, March 21. Participants are asked to meet at 11:30 a.m. in the shopping center parking lot behind McDonalds on Telegraph Road, about 1/2-mile north of Square Lake Road in Bloomfield Hills. Call (810) 294-7789 for more information.

PAINT CREEK MIKE
Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a six-mile hike along the Paint Creek Trail on Sunday, March 28. Participants are asked to meet at noon behind the Michigan National Bank on 14 Mile Road, just east of I-75, in Troy. Call Mike Scanlon at (313) 884-2214 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 Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

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 Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN 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 Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Visitors are invited and refreshments will be served. All Jim Kudel at (734) 591-0843 for more information.

FISHING BUDDIES
Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester Hills. The meetings are open to all anglers (boaters and non-boaters). Call (248) 656-0566 for more information.

HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS
The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Road, Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 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

Weekend will be held June 12-13.

RABBIT/HARE
Rabbit/hare season run through March 31 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.

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CLUBS
SOLAR

(734) 676-2863 for information.

MEETINGS
NRC

The monthly meeting of the state Natural Resource Commission will be Wednesday and Thursday, April 7-8, at the Four Points Center, 4960 Towne Center Road, Saginaw. The commission will be taking public comment on 1999 deer season regulations. Persons 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 advance.

ARCHERY
JUNIOR OLYMPICS
The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (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) 885-2110 for more information.

SHOOTING RANGES
BALD MOUNTAIN
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap), sporting clays, 5-stand, rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are 10 a.m. to sunset Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays. On Mondays and Tuesdays only the sporting clay course is open, noon to sunset. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenfield Rd., in Lake Orion. Call (248) 478-1494 for more information.

PONTIAC LAKE
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Road. Call (248) 666-1020 for more information.

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) 695-8767 for more information.

METROPARKS
METROPARK REQUIREMENTS
Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, (800) 477-7758; Indian Springs, (800) 477-3192; Kensington, (800) 477-3178.

MAPLE'S SWEET STORY
Visit the sugarcush and see how maple trees are tapped and the sap collected, then stop by the sugarcush and watch as the sap is boiled into maple syrup during this program, which will be held noon-3 p.m. weekends through the end of March at Kensington. A similar program is being offered at Indian Springs.

BLUE RIDGE WILDERNESS
Hiker, photographer and nature enthusiast Kathy Thornton will take you on a journey through the Blue Ridge Mountains during this program, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 19, at Stony Creek.

COMMUNITY COMFORT SERVICE
If you are having problems with your heating or cooling systems, we suggest that you let the professionals at Community Comfort Service handle your heating and air conditioning service. This local company is a full service firm featuring complete residential and light commercial heating and air conditioning service.

COMMUNITY COMFORT SERVICE
Community Comfort Service is family owned and operated by Dave and Tom Knight. The owners know that in the heating and cooling industry, honesty, integrity, and experience along with state-of-the-art equipment are a must!

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Dr. Mark Alsaker * Dr. Judi Fleischer * Dr. Trish Madsen
Alsaker Animal Care Center is becoming more important each day to the veterinary community. The reason for this is they combine a good atmosphere for treatment with all the knowledge and skill of the veterinary profession.

Plymouth Physical Therapy Specialists
Jeff Sirabian, MHS, PT
Physical therapy has been around for thousands of years. Early Chinese and Roman civilizations used massage, water and heat to restore movement and relieve pain, not also as preventive health care. Physical therapists today are highly trained specialists promoting beneficial human health through a variety of programs.

George N. Atsialis, D.D.S., P.C.
Comprehensive And Modern Dentistry
It's a proven fact that good dental care is vital to your overall health, as well as your appearance. With today's emphasis on preventing dental problems before they start, there are many advantages in seeing a dentist on a regular basis.

Tri-Mount Companies Announces
Cascades Of Northville
A home is probably the largest investment you'll ever make, and there are many things to consider before choosing your home. Homeowners across the Metro-Detroit area have trusted Tri-Mount for years to provide that extra measure of personalized service.

Plymouth Inn/Plymouth Towne
All too often it has seemed that a nursing home is the only choice for someone who is unable to live independently. The Plymouth Inn located at 265 Haggerty Ave. in Plymouth, phone 734-451-0700, offers a sensible alternative.

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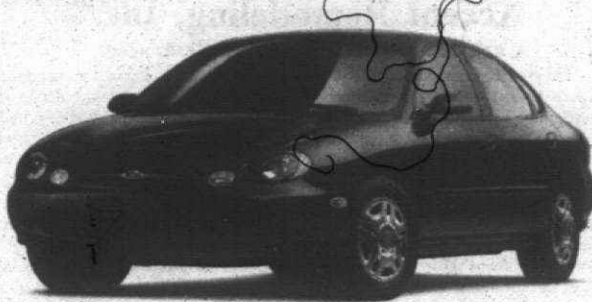


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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Margaret Exner (left to right), Mary Jane Pories, Mary Vinette and Nyima Anise Woods in "Impeachment and Cream," 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. at The Second City-Detroit. Tickets \$17.50, call (313) 965-2222.

SATURDAY



David Copperfield brings his show "U" to the Fox Theatre, 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Tickets \$45, \$37.50 and \$27.50, available at all Ticketmaster outlets, or call (248) 433-1515.

SUNDAY

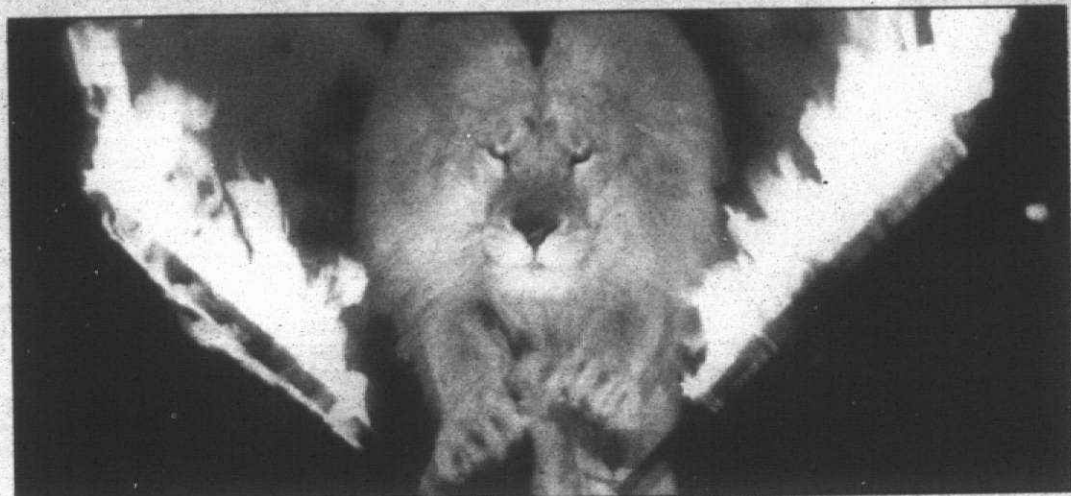


The musical "Annie" returns to the Masonic Temple Theatre, direct from Broadway. Performances 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$19.50 to \$49.50, and are available at the Masonic Temple Theatre and all Ticketmaster outlets. Call (248) 645-6666 to charge tickets, or (313) 832-2232 for information.

HOT TICKET



You can tune in the Academy Awards Ceremony on TV to find out if "Private Ryan," (pictured) wins the Oscar for Best Picture, or watch it with others at "Starry, Starry Night," 8 p.m. Sunday, March 21 at the Star Southfield Theatre. Tickets \$40 per person, or \$70 per couple. Proceeds benefit the Detroit Area Film & Television's scholarship fund, call (248) 547-0847 for tickets.



Hot act: All eyes turn to Andre when he steps into the ring with his Serengeti Lions.

UNDER THE big top

Clowning aside, Shrine Circus is serious fun

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

The Shrine Circus — "The Circus with a Heart" is celebrating its 91st year bringing laughter joy and smiles to children of all ages.

This year's spectacle begins with a multi-colossal light show of amazing animations, thunderous songs and 3D laser beams zapping through the air featuring the circus on parade.

You'll see Andre and his Serengeti Lions, Circus Elephants, the Flying Redpaths, and Boitchanivis, Bulgarian teeterboard specialists who take to the skies from four springboards.

There's always something amazing going on in the three rings. Other highlights include, California Benni's trampoline comedy, Justino the Juggling Genius who performs with authentic machete knives, hoops and flaming torches, and human cannonball David Smith-Captain Circus.

"It's our biggest fund-raiser,"



Clowning around: Friends will hardly recognize "Howie" Howard Zimmerman, one of the members of the Shriner's Clown Unit.

said Larry Ode, Potentate of the Moslem Shrine Temple and circus CEO. "The money from the circus is for the running of our temple, which enables us to do our work."

Shriner's have a soft spot for children, especially those that are handicapped or burned.

Through the generosity of the Shriner's and various community organizations, which sponsor school groups, thousands of under-privileged children, whose families can't afford the price of a ticket, get to see the circus.

"The tickets are very inexpensive," said Ode. "We want people coming."

John Thornhill of Farmington Hills, Assistant Rabban, will be Potentate, and in charge of the circus in the year 2001.

"It's for the children, we have fun and raise money," he said. "There's nothing that means

more to a Shriner than seeing a kid who was on crutches being able to walk."

Thornhill has been attending the Shrine Circus since he was a Boy Scout in the 1940s. "I give the clowns a lot of credit," he said. "They're all Shrine Clowns, and they work hard every year as part of the circus."

Hugh Laird of Redford enjoys clowning around as "Racer." A teacher for 17 years, and administrator for 20, Laird loves kids and nothing makes him happier than to see them laugh and smile.

The best part of being a clown is "I can be with kids, and I don't have to mark report cards," he said. A white face clown, Racer "always has fun, he loves kids and to play tricks on them," said Laird who retired five years ago from the Redford Union School District.

"You know the saying — when you grow up you want to run away and join the circus. Fortunately we get to in Detroit," said

Please see CIRCUS, E2



Aerial magic: The Flying Redpaths display one of the most daring aerial presentations ever witnessed on the flying trapeze.

Gypsy caravan brings celebration of culture, music

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

In the past Gypsy caravans would travel across Europe in brightly colored wagons. The Gypsies were both romanticized as vagabonds of the road and persecuted as thieves and "outsiders," victims of the churches, the Nazis and the Communists alike.

On March 26 another kind of Gypsy caravan comes to the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor, a celebration of the culture and music of the Gypsies or Roma, the people who originated in Rajasthan, India, and began moving across Europe in the Middle Ages. Their music is instantly recognizable for its speed, its lilt, its dancing spirit. And yet it is as varied as the lands where the Gypsies settled and the cultures they absorbed.

The Yuri Yunakov Ensemble plays a style called "wedding music."

"Wedding music is a style that became popular in Bulgaria in the 1970s and incorporated other styles of music. The new elements included Western instrumental influences, rock, jazz ..." said Carol Silverman, a folklorist and cultural anthropologist who sings with the group.

The music is rhythmically complex, incredibly fast and joyously upbeat. Silverman acted as translator during a telephone interview with saxophonist and band leader Yuri Yunakov.

Yunakov began winning a wide following in the 1970s when he joined with Bulgarian clarinet player Ivo Papisov, modernizing traditional Bulgarian dance music with western instruments and outside ethnic influences, which landed Yunakov in jail twice during the Communist era.

"Well, it was because of politics," Yunakov said. "Politics was tied to all of this music. At that time, the government prohibited Turkish and Rrom (Gypsy) music. ... The only kind you could play was Bulgarian and Russian. The government wanted to remove foreign impurity from the music."

But wedding music became too popular for government resistance. Yunakov and his band would play scores of weddings, attracting as many as 2,000 people, some standing outside in the street just to hear the music.

By the late 1980s, the government began to embrace the music and even held contests.

Ironically, the situation for wedding musicians has deteriorated with the end of Communism.

Please see GYPSY, E2

WHAT: Gypsy Caravan: Gypsy Culture from India to Eastern Europe and Iberia, featuring Taraf de Haidouks (Romania); Kolkov (Russia); Kalyi Jag (Hungary); Yuri Yunakov Ensemble (Bulgaria/Macedonia); Antonio Pipa's Flamenco Dance Company (Spain); and Musafir (Rajasthan, India)

WHERE: The Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor

WHEN: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 25

TICKETS: \$22-\$34. Call (734) 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

MAGIC

Guns, gorillas and bunny rabbits in store for Penn and Teller fans

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

The ever-quiet Teller isn't mum about the highlights of he and partner Penn Jillette's stint at the Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts.

"We're going to start a religion in which I am the messiah," Teller said matter of factly. "My proof of divine power is that I am capable of healing polyester with my mind. We'll move on from that to take you backstage in a sleight-of-hand routine, show you all the ins and outs of cigarette tricks."

"Get an audience member on stage and throw knives around him or her. I'm not telling you everything. There's a lot that goes on there. We're going to make a bunny rabbit disappear by throwing it into a chipper shredder. It's a splashy trick. Audience members don't get splattered. I'm not saying anything about me."

Just like the Energizer bunny, Teller keeps on going. As if he's reading from his agenda, Teller recalls calling the spirit of Houdini, a meeting with Mofo the Psychic Gorilla ("It's a talking gorilla head attached to a fax machine"), and a seemingly impossible trick.

"We'll stick Penn in a very small barrel and ram him full of conduit in a way that, well, it's earned Penn the nickname 'the amazing rubber boy.'"

In a daring game of chance, Jillette and Teller will shoot at each other.

"I suppose the most spectacular thing is we'll have a couple audience members up on stage and, unlike many other traveling shows we don't use any plants ever, and we usually ask for police people or military personnel or target shooters who examine some ammunition, load some guns, mark the ammunitions and hand the guns to us," Teller explained.

Please see MAGIC, E2

WHO: Penn and Teller

WHEN: Various times through Sunday, March 21, as part of the "1999 Just Off-Broadway Series"

WHERE: The Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit.

HOW: Tickets are \$22, \$25, \$27, \$32 and \$37 and can be purchased at the Fox Theatre and Music Hall box offices and all Ticketmaster locations. Discounts for groups of 20 or more are available by calling (313) 471-3099. For information about show times, call Olympia Entertainment guest information at (313) 983-6611.





Gypsy band: Taraf de Haidouks plays music that combines medieval ballads and Turkish-flavored dance tunes. The name of the group translates as "band of brigands."

Gypsy from page E1

"The situation in Bulgaria today is really terrible since 1989," Yunakov said. "The economic situation is so bad that people are not celebrating weddings which in the past was the basis for community organizing. There is hardly any work for wedding musicians."

He said where once 1,000-2,000 people would gather for a wedding to hear a live band, now weddings use recorded music. He said in the Thrace section of southern Bulgaria the musicians would play for six or seven hours while the people danced.

Listening to Yunakov's recent CD "Balada: Bulgarian Wedding Music" (Traditional Crossroads) the tempos are so fast and the rhythms so complex, it seems almost too fast for dancing.

When asked about this, Yunakov laughed heartily. "You've heard our CD and you know we are concert pieces," he said. "At a wedding, I keep the tempo down so people can dance to it. There are different repertoires for concerts and weddings where people dance."

Yunakov's band was constantly working weddings. Silverman said the band was sought after by everyone. Since 1994, Yunakov has lived in the United States where his schedule is a

little less frantic.

"He works many places and has played for three years at The Turkish Kitchen, an excellent restaurant in New York at 22nd Street and 3rd Avenue," Silverman said.

Yunakov plays a variety of ethnic events as he is proficient in Arabic, Turkish, Rrom and Albanian music.

"He really likes a lot of different kinds of music, any music that's played well," Silverman said.

That includes jazz. Yunakov said he relaxes by listening to sax player David Sanborn's "Smooth Jazz" radio program. He has even played with Sanborn on a television program. But Yunakov believes music is a two-way street.

"He listens to jazz a lot and takes elements from many sources but it is not a jazz musician," Silverman said. "He said it would be good for jazz musicians to take elements from his music as well. Bulgarian music is not to be thrown out."

The Gypsy Caravan is carrying the music of several cultures to 16 cities on the current tour. The Gypsy musicians bring their individual sounds from Russia, Hungary, Rumania, Spain, Bulgaria and from the Gypsy homeland of India.

'Annie' teaches strong life lessons

"Anne of Green Gables," a production of the First Theater Guild of Birmingham, runs 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 19-20 and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 21, in Knox Auditorium at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 Maple, between Southfield and Cranbrook Roads, Birmingham. Tickets are \$7 adults, \$5 seniors/students, (248) 644-2087, Ext. 151.

BY LIBBY PRYSEY
SPECIAL WRITER

The First Theater Guild combines a classic children's novel, enthusiastic actors, humorous dialogue, and a valuable lesson to produce an entertaining production—one that all will enjoy and learn from. "Anne of Green Gables" is a must see for all ages, even if the theater-goer has never read this timeless tale. It is easy to follow and enjoyable to watch from opening to closing curtain.

Many have read the story of Anne (with an "e") Shirley, a

young orphan who is adopted by Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert and comes to live with them on their farm, Green Gables. The Cuthberts and all the other townsfolk of Prince Edward Island learn to love Anne and all her mannerisms and actions, even though she can be a little eccentric. The audience as well develops a liking towards Anne and is immediately drawn to her charming personality. There is never a dull moment in Anne's adolescent life, which is filled with tea parties, classroom lessons and roof climbing.

Anne's dynamic character and personality would not be as impressive without the talent and acting ability of Christine Wearney, who brings her alive. Wearney, a freshman at Rochester High School, is delightful as Anne with her heartwarming gestures and pleasing voice. Wearney's character development is so good that the audience experiences Anne's growth from a jovial girl to a

mature young woman. Because of this, Wearney becomes a wonderful role model for aspiring actors and actresses as well as those who look up to Anne.

Helping Wearney create a heart-warming atmosphere at Green Gables are John Paul Andrew III (Matthew Cuthbert) and Kirsten Eklund (Marilla Cuthbert).

Alexandra Grossi plays the "bosom buddy" to Anne, Diana Barry, and also does a fine job in portraying her character. With Wearney she creates a delightful and entertaining atmosphere for the audience in their moments together. Sara Lennox, who plays Josie Pyle, Birmingham residents Meg and Kate Mathis, who play Ruby Gillis and Jennifer Taylor, who plays Prissy Andrews, all add to the classroom and tea party scenes with humor and smart remarks.

Other actors who enhance the production are Jessica McHann, Billy Dixon, Blair and Lane Brettschneider, Julie Cronk,

Betsy Cybert, Rebecca Hyke, Carolyn Klein, Brittany and Harold MacDonald, Megan and Katharine Smith, Jackie Klein, Sara Tennent, Jason Smith, Craig Hemming, Jimmy Tobias, and Amanda Walters.

With the help of these young, talented actors, humorous dialogue is delivered faultlessly and with enthusiasm, while the kids have fun on stage. This feeling helps theater-goers enjoy themselves as well.

The audience leaves with happy hearts and a life lesson. "Anne of Green Gables" teaches audience members that anything is possible and, above all, one must be true to himself before he can be true to anyone else. Anne demonstrates this when she conquers obstacles to accomplish her goals and begins to accept herself. What can be better than attending an enjoyable play and, at the same time, learning that everyone of us is valuable and important. That's the lesson in "Anne of Green Gables."

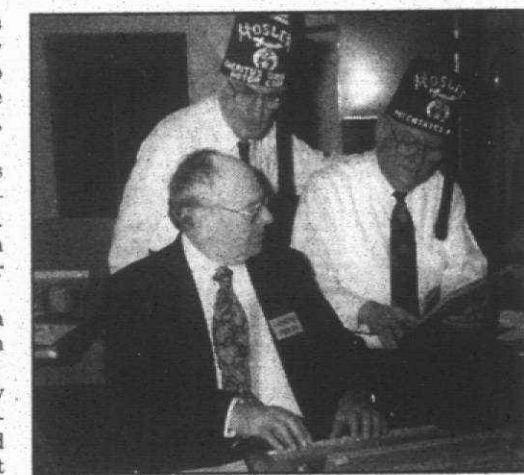
Circus from page E1

Laird. "We perform in the circus and do two acts. That's very unique, to actually be allowed to perform. Every once in a while we get to be in the center ring, that's the ultimate."

Laird and his fellow clowns are serious about one thing—helping children in burn centers. "All clowns support burn research," he said. "That's our big thing."

Charles Miller of Livonia "Chaz" directs the Shrine Clown Unit for the metro Detroit area. "For clowns, their biggest joy is working with kids, entertaining kids, especially handicapped kids," he said. The circus isn't the only show in town, these clowns are busy all year. "We do 10 or 11 parades in the summer, birthday parties and union picnics," said Miller. "At the circus, we deal with a lot of kids and sign thousands of autographs. I like mainly to just walk around and mix with the kids and have a good time."

At 4-foot-11, Howard Zimmer-



Shriners at work: Don Petty (left), Harry Postoian and Bill Green discuss the next issue of The Center Ring, the world's smallest newspaper.

Winston Miller

man "Howie" of Garden City, is someone kids relate to, "because I'm at their level," he said.

For him, "just being able to make the children smile," is reward enough. "So many children who come to the circus are underprivileged. It makes you feel good inside to know you

helped them smile and have a good day."

There's a lot of news to report, and Winston Miller of Farmington, photographer for the Center

Magic from page E1

"We then go to opposite ends of the stage and (sides) fire the guns at each other's faces and the bullets end up between our teeth. I believe it's the best magic trick that anybody in the audience has ever seen. It's fooled very knowledgeable magicians. It's a deeply amazing and wondrous sort of trick. It's a trick that had its origins in the bullet catch which is a trick that has killed off over 12 magicians in the course of history. We won't be killed, of course."

Longtime "team"

The duo met April 10, 1974, and performed together Aug. 19 to Sept. 3, 1975, during the Minnesota Renaissance Festival. Since then, they have become regular guests on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," "The Late Show with David Letterman," and "Live! With Regis and Kathie Lee." In addition to that, they have recurring roles as Drell and Skipper on "Sabrina, The Teenage Witch," and as attorneys Fenn and Geller on "The Drew Carey Show."

On Aug. 10, Penn and Teller kicked off their weekly variety series, "Penn & Teller's Sincity Spectacular," which airs at 10 p.m. Fridays on the FX cable channel.

Penn and Teller were offered the television show based on the assumption that they could take a variety show "somewhere it hasn't been before," Teller explained. "I think we've done that," he added with a laugh.

And it took plenty of brainstorming to achieve that.

"You don't come up with an hour's worth of material every week for 24 weeks without just ringing your brain dry of ideas," Teller said.

Teller explained that performing live and in front of a camera are two totally different animals. "It's just different because on TV the camera makes the choice of what you're looking at. In the live theater, you get to make the choice," he said.

In between bites of a chocolate bar, Jillette said he enjoys performing in two media—television and live. "As the cliché says, a change is better than a rest. Doing live and doing TV are very different. I love them both. It's really good. I have no trouble doing just live. I did it for years. It's what I intended to do. I would have a lot

of trouble just doing TV," he said.

"When you're doing a live show like Penn and Teller, which of course you're not, I am, you're becoming very big fish in a tiny little pond. There is nothing to get through to be able to do what you want. FX gives us complete power and anonymity. They don't bug us at all but still you're working with a team of 120 people. It's wonderful and terrific. But it's also nice to go back to a team, which Penn and Teller is, of six people. So I like both very much. It's nice that it works out."

Born in Philadelphia, Pa., and Greenfield, Mass., respectively, Teller and Jillette now reside in Las Vegas. Teller has lived there for five years and recently flew home from a performance to see Bob Dylan's show. "He's sort of regal and goofy at the same time," he said.

Jillette prefers to lay low. "How great is it?" Jillette said of Las Vegas. "I'll tell you if you don't drink—which I've never had a drink in my life—if you don't do drugs and you don't gamble, which none of those things I do, it's the perfect city. It's a cheap holiday on other people's misery, to quote Johnny Rotten. Your living is subsidized by bad math. People who are bad at math fly here and spend money. It's a great city where you can live really really fancy rich for no money."

Of course, he does make an exception to his strict lifestyle when he comes to Detroit. "Where's Detroit?" "I don't really look forward to going anywhere. I love being on the road, I love doing shows. But the way I've become perfect at being on the road is by not seeing cities as different from one another. I spend most of the time in my hotel room. I read, I play with my computer and go in and I do the show. There are exceptions to that. I think Detroit has good strip clubs in Windsor and so on. I do enjoy that now and again. I'll find good restaurants and so on. People think that when you're on the road doing a show, you're traveling around the world as a tourist. You're really kind of not."

Teller said there's only one thing about which to be excited on the road. "It makes us very happy to bring a brand new package wrapped in bows," Teller explained.

Village Players put heart into 'Fiddler on the Roof'

Village Players of Birmingham presents "Fiddler on the Roof," March 19-21 and 26-27. Performances 8 p.m. Friday-Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, at the playhouse, 752 Chestnut, Birmingham. Tickets \$14, call (248) 644-2075.

BY MARY JANE DOERR
SPECIAL WRITER

As far as musicals go, the Village Players seems to have become enamored with the creative team of Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick this year.

Last fall they produced a light hearted "She Loves Me." Now the company is presenting a heart-felt production of "Fiddler on the Roof."

Keeping the fiddler on the roof is a delicate show biz balance between the harsh realities of the show and its romantic sentiment.

Director Barbara Anne Gowans dwells on the personal relationships of the four love stories, down playing the cruel scenes between the soldiers and the Anatevka Jews.

The show centers on the families and not as much on the volatile politics of 1905 Russia.

Grace and Gloria: Gloria, Elizabeth Bradford of Plymouth (left) and Grace, Laura Gumina of Redford, play two women from opposite backgrounds who struggle with issues of living and dying.



Trinity House tackles tough issues

Trinity House Theatre presents Tom Ziegler's "Grace and Gloria" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sundays through March 28 at the theater, 3870 West Six Mile, west of I-275. Livonia. Some adult language. Tickets are \$10, \$8 for groups of 10 or more, (734) 464-6302.

BY SUE SUCHYTA
SPECIAL WRITER

Trinity House Theatre's touching and heartwarming production of "Grace and Gloria" has the potential to be their sleeper hit of the season. Don't be scared off by it being a play about death: the dialogue-driven play is more about life and the choices one makes. Director Trudy Mason has been blessed with a strong, believable cast, a compelling script and a talented technical team. "Grace and Gloria" is community theater at its finest.

Gloria is an agnostic, Harvard-bred New York business woman turned hospice volunteer, whose lawyer husband relocated them to the laid-back pace of Appalachia after the devastating loss of their 12-year-old son in a car accident.

Grace is a simple yet profound Appalachian woman who has outlived her husband and five

sons, never traveled more than 50 miles from her home, and is unable to read. However, her profound faith and her simple yet remarkably insightful observations about life allow Grace to help Gloria confront and understand her own personal demons.

Elizabeth Ladd Lee of Hazel Park plays the efficient yet insecure Gloria with her heart on her well-tailored sleeve. Although Gloria tries to maintain the aloof, detached composure she developed as a businesswoman, she ends up receiving more from Grace than she could have possibly imagined. Lee plays the role with both nervous energy and gentle compassion. Impeccably costumed and made up, she's both likable and annoying, and convincingly real.

Laura Gumina of Redford is outstanding in the role of Grace, weary yet regal, a queen holding court in her small Appalachian cabin with a homemade quilt as her mantle and Walkman headphones as her crown. A fall and a broken hip led her to the unexpected discovery of cancer, and she has gone home to spend her last few days in her rustic cabin to escape the antiseptic smell of the hospital and its well-meaning but condescending staff.

The chemistry between Lee and Gumina cements the strength of the budding relationship and provokes the liveliest dialogue. Grace brings Gloria down to reality by reminding her that "Glorie, honey, you didn't come here to see me through this, you came here to see me die."

As Gloria helps Grace with her physical needs, Grace helps Gloria deal with her emotional conflicts, reminding her that "each life is like one stitch in a sweater. If one stitch is gone, the whole thing is gone."

The set is a homey and comfortable rustic cabin with a working pump sink, an offstage oven that billows smoke when Gloria forgets to open the flue, and amazing attention to details through the props.

The sound effects are a major component of the play, as they create the realistic backdrop of encroaching bulldozers eager to level Grace's beloved farm.

Grandma Tzeitel and the chorus. The nine member orchestra supports well from the back of stage pit. Good placement for the sound.

Walter's role is made even more difficult because she must play opposite the inimitable Dan Castle. More than anything this show belongs to Dan Castle who plays and sings Tevye with a very fine voice. This time Castle has traded his traditional comedy for a no adlib, no shenanigans, no fiddling around role. From time to time, Castle throws a few sideways glances at the audience, drawing more humor out of the lines, but it is never out of keeping with the role or out of place. Perhaps "If I were a Rich Man" is a little low for his range but the later songs bring out a lovely richness. He plays the very kindly Tevye whose musings with God reflect our questions about life but with a kindly attitude toward his daughters.

With his humor and warmth as Tevye, his style of interaction with the daughters and Golde, more than anything else, Castle keeps this fiddler fiddling on the roof.

Liz Walters has the difficult part of playing Golde and she does it with a strong voice singing "Sunrise Sunset." Her Golde is a softer one than we are used to, in keeping with tone of this production. One of the best scenes in the show is the dream scene with Nate Topie as Model.

Theatre Guild's 'Little Foxes' is a well-cast production

Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford presents Lillian Hellman's "The Little Foxes," March 19-21, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, 15138 Beech Daly, south of Five Mile, Redford. Tickets \$10, \$9 seniors/students, call (313) 531-0554.

BY MAGGIE BOLEYN
SPECIAL WRITER

Greed, lies and warped family values. No, not 1999, but 1900 is the setting for Lillian Hellman's unsettling play "The Little Foxes." Presented by The Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford, under the direction of Cranbrook graduate Peter Sonberg, the turn of the 20th century set is a delight as we turn to the 21st century.

The set showed great care and attention to details such as the pitcher and wash basin as well as period photographs hanging on the walls.

The costumes are equally imaginative, with cast members working with Sonberg to create their own outfits. A feathered pink dress worn in the first scene is a real eye popper.

The cast members are all seasoned community theater performers, and were well cast in

their roles.

Annette Hissong as Addie the maid presented a solid performance as one of the few wholesome characters in this play. Morris Goodman, an attorney by day, was convincing as Cal the butler. Connie Fox, in the role of Birdie Hubbard, was very believable as the sad captive of her abusive husband Oscar Hubbard, played to perfection by theater veteran Thom Hinks. Hinks has a fine voice, and puts it to good use on stage as well as lending his time as a reader for the Detroit Radio Information service (a reading service for the blind). Hinks also serves as an Audio Describer for blind patrons at Meadowbrook Theatre.

Joshua Ebi, in a marked contrast to his previous roles as Tiny Tim and Linus, was able to pull off the role of young wastrel Leo Hubbard quite well. The role of William Marshall, unsuspecting business partner of the Hubbard family, was well played by Dennis Day. Jeff Bartos is marvelous as Benjamin Hubbard, brother of Oscar. He has the smiling Southern civility routine that barely disguises hostility down pat.

Kristen Mudge as Alexandra Giddens, portrays a young

"Steel Magnolia" type, the only who has the gumption to stand up to the whole dysfunctional Hubbard family. Mudge works at Hancock Fabrics and put together very attractive costumes for her character.

Matt Eskola, in the role of Horace Giddens, Alexandra's father, a true Southern gentleman in a very poor health. His make-up and demeanor was quite convincing.

But, Lorretta Wilson, as Regina Giddens (née Hubbard), was the show stopper in both costume and character. Sister and business partner of Oscar and Benjamin, she is a Gibson Girl gone gonzo with greed. The twisted family and business relationships all center around this grasping character.

Whether she's leaving her ailing husband, Horace, to flounder on the stairs, or is flirting with William Marshall, Regina Giddens is always impeccably dressed and the clear matriarch of this scheming family. The complex relationships of the entire cast are a real treat to see.

To paraphrase a line from the play: "There are those who act upon a stage, and those of us who watch them."

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Edsel Ford and the Diego Rivera Murals at the Detroit Institute of Arts
by Karim Alraji

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THEATER AND MOVIES



Drama: Chris DeOni (Diego Rivera, left), Dan Kremer (Edsel Ford) and Kirsten Groux (Eleanor Ford) are featured in "A Gift of Glory."

Meadow Brook finds its role with 'Glory'

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER
provenzano@ec.homecomm.net

"Gift of Glory: Edsel Ford and the Diego Rivera Murals at the Detroit Institute of Arts," written by Karim Alrawi and directed by Debra L. Wick, runs through Sunday, April 4. Performances 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, except 6 p.m. Saturday, March 27; 2 p.m. Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday; and 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Meadow Brook Theatre, Wilson Hall, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills. Tickets: \$19.50-\$36, (248) 877-3300.

Few plays accomplish something better than the curtain rises. But Karim Alrawi's "Gift of Glory: Edsel Ford and the Diego

Rivera Murals at the Detroit Institute of Arts" is that rare original work whereby the promise of regional theater pays off.

Before the play opened at Meadow Brook on Saturday, Alrawi's story about the struggle behind the famous murals had already raised the quality of discussion about the integral role for regional theater as a place where local stories are dramatized.

That's hardly a small feat. "Gift of Glory" is set in Detroit during the economic depression of the 1930s, a time of unprecedented discrepancies of wealth. Another striking discrepancy is the emotional differences between Henry Ford and his only son, Edsel, who, at the time, was president of Ford Motor Co. When the elder Ford approves the action taken by his personal henchman, Harry Bennett, to shoot protesters at the gates of the Rouge Factory, the differences between father and son become irreconcilable.

Around the same time, DIA Director William Valentiner has asked Rivera to paint a mural at the museum. The Mexican-born Rivera is an avowed Marxist who is intrigued by the machinery of the Ford plants and the struggles of laborers.

Alrawi speculates that it was the Rouge incident where five workers were killed that served as the catalyst for Edsel Ford's mural.

In essence, Rivera's mural is more of a mirror that reveals the

soul of the working man. And it's no less of a capitalist than Edsel Ford who appears as Steinbeck's Tom Joad in a three-piece suit.

While the opening-night performance, at times, lacked the polish of a seamless drama, the play presented many layers for audiences to ponder.

To his credit, Alrawi doesn't flinch in rubbing away at the bigotry and ideological zealotry of the likes of Henry Ford, Harry Bennett and Father Coughlin, who were all opposed to the mural for their own reasons.

Ultimately, "Gift of Glory" isn't about a "painting," but the universal struggle between ruthless materialism and benevolent humanitarianism.

Ironically, this type of serious discourse has been strikingly absent at Meadow Brook, even though the theater is located on a university campus where academic freedom supposedly thrives. Alrawi's vigor and intellectual breadth is both challenging and refreshing.

In general, Alrawi's message is delivered with warmth, humor and at times, the tone of a history lesson. Sometimes explanations of historical details seem a bit starchy, yet at other times, the playwright masterfully blends information into a breezy dialogue.

New Yorker Chris De Oni as Rivera constructs a larger-than-life character whose lust for painting and fairness for the common man provides the play with a sense of urgency. Alrawi has created an utterly unlike-

able antagonist in Bennett, played with an icy cruelty by Hollis Huston.

But ultimately, the play's success depends on whether Dan Kremer's portrayal of Edsel Ford can rise to the level of inspiration.

In the quieter scenes, Kremer proves up to the task. But in the confrontations with Bennett, Father Coughlin and Henry Ford, too often Edsel doesn't show the kind of backbone to justify being the center of the drama.

Despite several wrinkles, "Gift of Glory" will encourage audiences to think more deeply about the manufacturing culture that many of us have mistaken for a more meaningful culture about aesthetics, ethics and social purpose. The culture in Detroit, as Alrawi boldly points out, is inextricably bound to the art of making automobiles.

Beyond Alrawi's drama of the mural lies the struggle within Detroit's first family, the power of art to represent the truth, and social upheaval in U.S. history. A discussion that seems extraordinary compared to today's pabulum.

That Alrawi was able to incorporate so many subplots into his story is both the play's strength and weakness. But on balance, "Gift of Glory" is one of the most compelling pieces of "regional theater" in recent years.

Perhaps Meadow Brook will begin to explore other stories that lie in the heart of the collective soul called Detroit.

Bullock, Affleck hold their own in amusing 'Forces of Nature'

BY JON KATZ
SPECIAL WRITER

Let's all agree on one thing: Sandra Bullock looks a lot better in her underwear than the late John Candy did in his. Any other advantages of "Forces of Nature" over "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" are also in the eye of the beholder.

"Nature" takes the "I've got to be somewhere soon, but this look I've been thrown together with is making it awfully hard" concept and gives us two beautiful people (Bullock and Ben Affleck) doing the work of two comedians (Candy and Steve Martin). Do they hold their own? Interestingly, yes.

Ben Affleck plays Ben, an uptight groom-to-be-headed from New York to Savannah, where the bride (Maura Tierney of "Liar, Liar") and her parents are busy putting up tents and mixing mint juleps. In the background we hear broadcast reports of a hurricane apparently bearing right down on their backyard.

While sitting in the plane writing his vows on a laptop, who should plunk down beside him but wild child Sarah (Bullock), a woman of such energy that one wonders why she needs a plane at all.

When the jet skids off the runway, Ben inadvertently saves Sarah's life, setting them on a course into troubled water. He couldn't wait for the next plane, no... off they go in a rented Geo with a guy named Vic. When that ends with a police bust in Virginia, they board the train. When that ends with the train going the other way, she snuggles them onto a Miami-bound bus of condo-hopping seniors. And with each succeeding disaster we learn more about what's waiting for the eccentric Sarah in Savannah, while Ben considers what's waiting for him there as well.

Along the way, they are beset



Romantic comedy: Sarah (Sandra Bullock) and Ben (Ben Affleck) pass themselves off as young marrieds to get a ride with a busload of senior "Sunseekers" heading South in "Forces of Nature."

by hail, fire, rain, lightning and the aforementioned hurricane, much of it computer-generated by the team that gave us "Twister." But the thing that takes the most beating in this film is the institute of marriage. Ben may end up soaking wet, but he is continually deluged by storm warnings from the matrimonially burned around him.

From his own grandfather to fellow passengers, we are led to believe that there isn't a single happily married person in the East Coast. It also doesn't help Ben's wedding bell blues when songs like "The Tender Trap" and "Love the One You're With" are playing nearby. Most of all, Sarah is quite an irresistible force herself.

To quote that famous forecaster Bob Dylan, "you don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows," and in a mar-

velous moment that mixes real time and slow-motion, Ben is blown in his life's direction at last.

Bullock is a whirlwind. Equally at home in thrillers ("Speed," "The Net") and romantic comedies ("Practical Magic," "When You Were Sleeping") she's unafraid to look like she just came in from the rain, and that attribute will keep the welcome mat out for some time to come. Affleck was cast in "Nature" before "Good Will Hunting" was released; talk about forecasting. Broad comedy may never be his thing, but he's just fine doing the straight conservative guy who's pulled into the maelstrom.

Together, they're an appealing pair who we'd enjoy seeing in further adventures. Let's see, maybe he's an astronomer and she's a dancer and there's this meteor coming...

Stagecrafters 'Light Up the Sky'

Stagecrafters is presenting the comedy "Light Up the Sky," by Moss Hart through Sunday, March 28 at the historic Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette in downtown Royal Oak. Tickets are \$10-\$12, all seats reserved. Call (248) 541-6430. A special dinner-theater package is available from Illusions Bar & Grill in downtown Royal Oak by calling (248) 586-1313.

In "Light Up the Sky," an idealistic young author (Wayne Dossin) is surrounded by the emotional people who have had a hand in getting his first play produced. The action takes place in the self-affectionate star's (Rosemary Gass of Southfield) hotel room before and after the play's out-of-town opening. Reeling through the hilarious scenes at a crazy pitch of ner-

Grammy-winner Alanis Morissette happy, peaceful

Wearing a red shirt, deep blue denim jeans and sitting cross-legged on the floor, Alanis Morissette confessed she's relieved that the loneliness has lifted.

"It feels heartening," Morissette said Wednesday, March 10, about her fans' deep understanding of her music. "I love that. When I write about my own experiences, especially when 'Jagged Little Pill' first came out and people related to it, it was comforting because a lot of times I felt like I was going through what I was going through on my own. It was very isolating. To realize I wasn't alone, it was beautiful."

Morissette held court with a small group of her fans who wined and dined at a "Town Hall" meeting sponsored by WXND-FM (105.1) "The Edge," held hours before her show with Garbage at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Fans were chosen based on questions they would like to ask Morissette.

One of those listeners was Sandy Robinson, 36, of Farmington Hills. She wanted to know if Morissette, whose "Jagged Little Pill" spoke bitterly of relationships, believes in soul mates. Prior to meeting Morissette, Robinson was curious to see how she treated fans.

"I want to see how she presents herself in front of a bunch of 'regular people,'" she said.

During the "Town Hall," the diminutive Morissette came across as spiritual and pensive yet slightly nervous.

Multiple Grammy winner Morissette, who's enjoying success with her sophomore album

"Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie" (Maverick), has been involved in the arts since she was 7, the age during which she took her first dance lesson.

"When I was little I really loved dancing. I started dancing when I was 7. My first dance class I had a broken arm, I just went in. I was really scared, but I loved it."

She moved onto songwriting at age 9, seeing it as the best way for her to express herself. Her early inspirations, as a child growing up in Europe and Canada, were "anything my father and mother were listening to" including ABBA, Bob Dylan and Carole King.

"When I was younger I remember driving in the backseat in the car with my family and hearing her voice and just really connecting with her."

As she grew older, she read books about psychology and then eschewed reading for fear of being influenced.

"I love writing probably more than I like reading other people's art. Some of the reasons for that may be that I don't want to be overly influenced perhaps and when I'm inspired I need to get it out of my system and I probably would watch more films. I would watch more films before I would read a poetry book. I think Leonard Cohen, I think it's amazing. Joni Mitchell, after 'Jagged Little Pill' I started reading her lyrics," she said of her platinum-selling debut.

Besides reading Mitchell's lyrics, Morissette indulges in snowboarding and yoga.

"Snowboarding" is a very

humbling experience especially when I was first starting to learn. It reduced me to being an 11-year-old again and allowing myself to not know what I was doing and to keep conceptually and literally falling, and just very free and zen. Just being up in the mountains there's so much clarity and fresh air and snow."

Clarity is what's important to Morissette nowadays. After the rigors of touring in support of "Jagged Little Pill," Morissette skipped the Grammy awards and went to India to learn yoga.

"I stopped thinking, which is a big one because there's always been a lot of kinetic energy around all the time and a lot of movement. For the first time ever when I stopped after the last tour, and went to India and learned a bit of yoga I stopped for the first time in my life and was able to be still and connect with who I believe God was and connect to friends and family in a way that I never have been able to before. Yoga was just a part of it for me to be in my body and see it as the instrument that it is."

Boredom setting in? Sitting around doing consecutive interviews can get old pretty quickly. To ease the boredom, Silverchair drummer Ben Gillies is all for getting a laugh—even at a writer's expense. Gillies answers the phone and begins chatting about the previous night's show in an accent that's a strange amalgamation of Australian, English and Dixieland.

"I'm only joking. That's not my accent," Gillies said.

On Tuesday, the once-teen phenom Silverchair released its third album "Neon Ballroom" which has already spawned the obvious 1999 hit, the Def Leppardesque, yet hipper, "Anthem for the Year 2000."

Guesting on the song "Emotion Sickness" is David Helfgott, the pianist who inspired the Oscar Award-winning film "Shine" and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. He described Helfgott as "nice" and "affectionate."

"Daniel" (Johns, guitarist/singer) wanted him on the song. He really wanted a manic piano player. I think we all just kind of decided that David Helfgott was the best guy for the job," said Gillies who said he falls asleep every time he tries to watch "Shine."

Already bored with the interview, Gillies is surfing the net. He tries to persuade a reporter to check out a Web page but doesn't offer any information except for the address. Later, it reveals cartoon characters doing what comes naturally, generally in a restroom.

"It's so fucking funny."

Silverchair and Lit perform Friday, March 19, at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. The show is sold out. For more information, call (313) 961-MELT or visit www.961melt.com. Silverchair's Web site is www.silverchair.com.

Joy and pain

Fraternity heroes Rob Base and DJ E-Z Rock return to the Detroit area on Friday with a full arsenal of hits including "Joy and Pain" and "It Takes Two"



Anthemic: Australia's Silverchair - from left, drummer Ben Gillies, bassist Chris Joannou, and vocalist/guitarist Daniel Johns.

and a new single.

"We do have a new single that we pressed up ourselves and put out that we probably will be performing that night," DJ E-Z Rock said of "Ready to Party."

A new album is in the works with a European producer, but it may see the light of day in the United States "eventually."

"Ready to Party" carries the same feelgood mentality of the rap duo's early hits.

"We still party. It's still the same party feel."

Rob Base and DJ E-Z Rock perform at 11 p.m. Friday, March 19, at La Boom, 1172 N. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake. Tickets are \$10 in advance. For more infor-

mation, call (248) 926-9960 or (248) 645-6666.

Christina Fuoco is the pop music reporter for The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. If you have a question or comment for her, you can leave her a message at (734) 953-2047, mailbox No. 2130, or write to her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or cfuoco@ec.homecomm.net.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, March 19

"KING AND I"
Animated musical telling of the story of the patient school teacher and the overbearing King of Siam. Stars the voices of Miranda Richardson, Ian Richardson, and Daryl Hammond.

"SHREK"
Isolated with eight others in a snow-bound fort in the Sierra Nevada, circa 1847, an army captain must fight his way within himself as well as his killer whimsies on men, Stars Guy Pearce.

"THE HARMONISTS"
The story of the rise and fall of the legendary Berlin ensemble The Comedian Harmonists, who at the end of the 1920s began an international career which, only a few years later, fell victim to racial Nazi policies.

Scheduled to open Friday, March 26

"20 DATES"
A young filmmaker is struck with an idea that had the potential to change his luck all at once: to make a movie that would chronicle his own dogged and indelicate quest for true love. The result, an insightful look at one hapless romantic's roller coaster ride through singlehood filmed in Candid Camera Style. Written and directed by Myles Berkowitz.

"DOUG'S 1ST MOVIE"
Animated film about the misadventures of Doug Funnie, an imaginative and quirky 12-year-old, who finds himself caught between saving the endangered

"monster" of Lucky Duck Lake and his burning desire to take Patti Mayonnaise to the school dance.

"ED TV"
Film about a video store clerk who agrees to be filmed all day, every day, by a 24-hour cable network. Stars Jenna Elfman, Woody Harrelson, Ellen DeGeneres, Elizabeth Hurley.

"THE MOO SQUAD"
A feature film version of the hit TV series about three rehabilitated juvenile delinquents who become undercover cops. Claire Danes.

"THE HARMONISTS"
The story of the rise and fall of the legendary Berlin ensemble The Comedian Harmonists, who at the end of the 1920s began an international career which, only a few years later, fell victim to racial Nazi policies.

Scheduled to open Friday, March 31

"THE MATRIX"
Science fiction tale about a society that lives to unknowingly provide energy for an artificial intelligence known as the Matrix until a few break free and set out to make changes. Stars Keanu Reeves.

"A WALK ON THE MOON"
A provocative and poignant romantic comedy about one New York housewife's personal sexual revolution during the summer of 1969.

WHAT'S EVERYBODY LAUGHING AT?

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DINING

Escape to New Orleans at Fishbone's Rhythm Kitchen Cafe

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

Mardi Gras is over, but New Orleans is still a nice place to escape. For those of us who can't just hop on a plane and go, it's a good thing there's Fishbone's Rhythm Kitchen Cafe.

With locations in Detroit, Southfield and St. Clair Shores, Fishbone's is about as close to New Orleans as you can get in metro Detroit.

"It's a place where we like to have fun, it's a restaurant with energy. It's not necessarily a quiet place," said John Furbush, general manager of the Southfield restaurant. He recently moved to the Detroit area from New Orleans. "We're trying to provide a dining experience. I have the music shipped in from New Orleans. Right now you're hearing vintage Louis Armstrong from the 1920s. We try to make it as authentic as possible."

Fishbone's offers plenty of atmosphere, from the lace curtains in the windows, to the murals on the wall, and potted palms. You'll feel like you stepped into another world. It's easy to get comfortable at one of the tables or booths, and forget it's Michigan and below freezing outside.

For those unfamiliar with New Orleans cuisine, Furbush recommends the brunch where you can try a little bit of this, and that. The brunch also offers an omelet station, waffles and other traditional breakfast fare.

"We have a number of stations at brunch — a hot line, dessert and salad," he said. "It's an opportunity to go after real New Orleans style dishes such as deep fried Cajun turkey, collard greens, and candied yams. If you

Fishbone's Rhythm Kitchen Cafe

Where: 29244 Northwestern Highway, (just north of 12 Mile Road), Southfield (248) 351-2925, fax (248) 351-2919.

Hours: Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to midnight Friday; noon to midnight Sunday; 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday brunch, 2-10 p.m. regular menu.

Menu: Taste of New Orleans, including Seafood Gumbo, Jambalaya, seafood, steaks, chops and chicken. Salads and sandwiches also available. Some vegetarian items.

Cost: Moderate. Sandwiches \$5.95 to \$8.95; Entrees \$9.95 to \$21.95.

Reservations: For parties of six or more

Credit cards: All majors accepted

Private parties: Semi-private space available for parties of up to 60 people.

Carry-out: Every item on menu available for carry-out. Also offer "Pans to Go" a carry-out service for groups and parties. All pans feed six to eight people.

Entertainment

■ 5-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Pamela Wise, piano jazz

■ 5-8 p.m. Thursdays, Henry Gibson, piano jazz

■ 5-8 p.m. Fridays, Harold McKinney, piano jazz; 8:30 p.m. to midnight, Pamela Wise and the Afro-Cuban All Stars, jazz with Afro-Cuban rhythms

■ 5-8 p.m. Saturday, Harold McKinney, piano jazz; 8:30 p.m. to midnight, Audrey Northington, jazz vocalist

■ 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Janet Tenaj, jazz vocalist

Other Fishbone's Rhythm Kitchen Cafe locations:

Greektown — 400 Monroe St., International Building, Detroit, (313) 965-4600

St. Clair Shores — 23722 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores, (810) 498-3000

went down South you'd be in heaven with this type of brunch." The cost for brunch is \$16.95 adults, \$8.95 children under age 12, and \$2.95 for children under two.

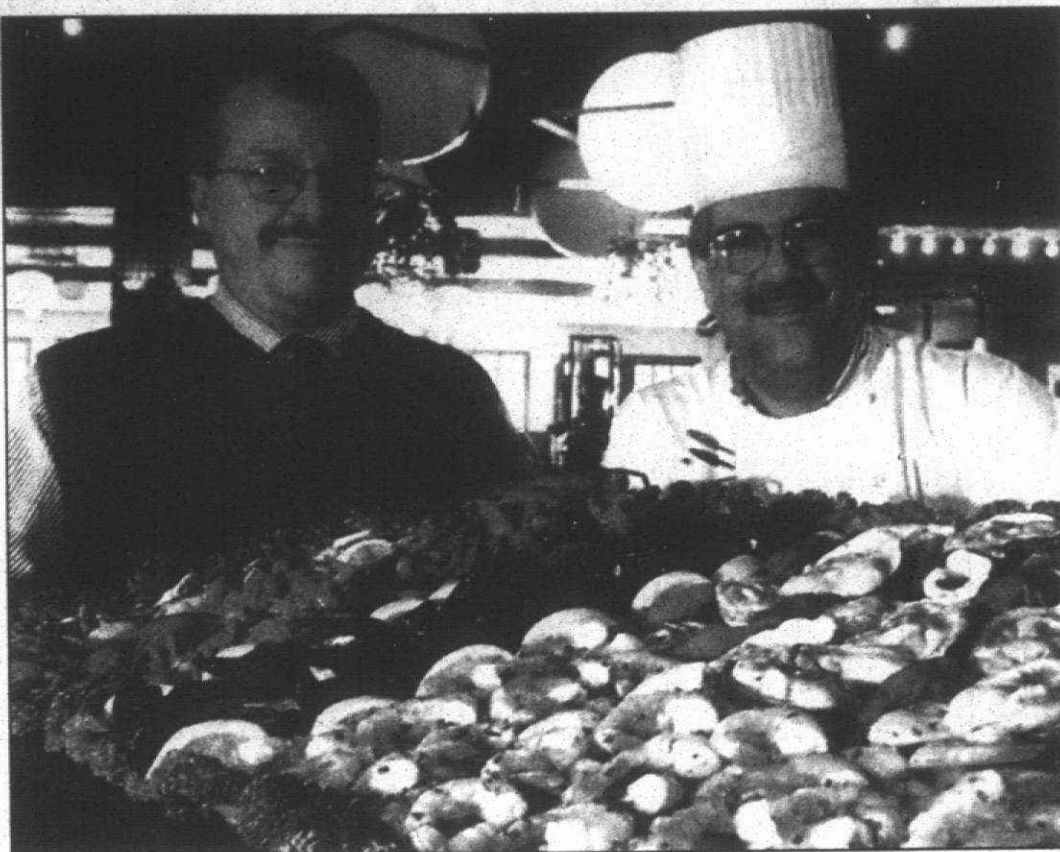
Starting with appetizers on the main menu, Furbush recommends New Orleans Bar-B-Que Shrimp served with a spicy butter/pepper sauce. Fresh crawfish, flown in from Louisiana, are also available. Catfish Beignets and Crab Cakes are other often requested appetizers. You can also order Crab Cakes as an entree. They're served with a lemon caper dill sauce.

Moving on, you've got to try

the Seafood Gumbo, "it's guaranteed to warm you up a little bit," said Furbush.

Fishbone's offers a selection of grilled "bronzed" steaks including Filet Mignon, Ribeye and Porterhouse. Scallops, catfish, snapper, pork chops, lamb chops and chicken are on the menu too. Bronzing is Fishbone's method of blackening food. They use a mild, flavorful blend of spices and herbs.

Crawfish Etouffee is a Fishbone's specialty along with Shrimp Creole, Zydeco Chicken, Chicken & Sausage Sauce Piquant, and Jambalaya. The Creole Baked Eggplant is a vege-



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Cool crustaceans: General manager John Furbush and Executive Chef Faiz Albanna at Fishbone's Rhythm Kitchen Cafe in Southfield.

tarian eggplant casserole baked with jalapeno jack cheese and marinara sauce.

Fishbone's is known for its Whiskey Ribs served with Dirty Rice and a vegetable. They also offer a variety of fried seafood selections such as shrimp, oysters, scallops, and catfish served with homemade fries and Charleston Slaw. If you can't make up your mind, try the Combo Mombo — a platter of fried shrimp, catfish, crab fingers and oysters.

For lunch, Furbush points to the Po-Boy sandwiches — fried shrimp, catfish, chicken, pork, or fried chicken. Another favorite is the Muffuletta sandwich — layers of Genoa salami, ham, Mortadella and Provolone topped with an olive salad on a large bun. "I'm a big fan, and our's is pretty close to what you'd find in the French Quarter of New Orleans," said Furbush.

If you're hungry for just a salad, Fishbone's aims to please with Galvez Shrimp Salad, Fried

Crawfish Salad, Pirate's Alley Olive Salad, and the familiar Caesar, Grilled Chicken, and Greek Salad.

Save room for dessert, made by Fishbone's own pastry chefs — Bourbon Street Bread Pudding, Banana Foster Sundae, Pecan Pie, Key Lime Pie, and Peach Cobbler.

Quench your thirst with a Blackened Voodoo beer. There are a number of bottled beers to choose from, premium wines, and specialty drinks.

Epoch Enterprises restaurants maintain ownership

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

Epoch Enterprises owns high-profile Tribute restaurant in Farmington Hills, also Too Chez in Novi and Forte in Birmingham. Negotiations related to sale of Larry Wisne's Progressive Tool and Industries automotive-allied company fueled speculations about the Wisne family's other business, Epoch

Enterprises.

In the March 31, Wine Spectator now in distribution, Tribute and Executive Chef Takashi Yagihashi became the first Detroit metro-area restaurant to receive expansive three-page coverage in this widely read wine and lifestyle periodical. Forte's executive chef Tim Voss is being touted in restaurant and lifestyle magazine cir-

cles as a rising star. Too Chez restaurant's Greg Upshur has received recognition by Food Arts and Nation's Restaurant News, a weekly trade publication for the restaurant and food industry.

Epoch's restaurants are now being represented by a Santa Monica-Beverly Hills public relations/advertising agency and this added to the rumor

mill. Does such publicity enhance the sale of Tribute and its sister eateries?

While Epoch president Toni Wisne remained unavailable for comment, Tribute's Maitre d' Mickey Bakst was willing to squelch rumors.

"I say this with the utmost certainty," he said. "Epoch is a complete and separate entity from Progressive Tool."

"Epoch is opening Latitude, it's new

Up North restaurant in the Bay Harbor complex. A chef is in the process of being hired. Epoch is also aggressively involved in the Lion's stadium project in Detroit.

"Tribute is like the Wisne family's baby. All the restaurants are an important part of the family's business ventures. The Wisnes are not selling any of their restaurants at this time."

WHAT'S COOKING

Send items for consideration in What's Cooking to Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, fax (248) 591-7279, or e-mail kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

CAFE HAWAII

A dance instructor from Dane Avenue — Social Dance Specialists, leads Cafe Hawaii patrons in a complimentary one-hour lesson of basic Salsa dance steps, 9-10 p.m. Fridays. Afterward, students are encouraged to stay as the dance floor opens up for a salsa dance party. For more information, call the restaurant, 22048 Michigan Ave. in Dearborn, (313) 724-2233.

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and dinner.

VEGETARIAN FEAST

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field Hills, (248) 646-7900, and Friday, March 26 at No. VI Chop-house and Lobster Bar, 27790 Novi Road, (248) 305-5210. Each feast begins at 7 p.m. The main course is wild mushroom and

root vegetable cassoulet with truffled Yukon Gold Duchess. The cost is \$34.95 per person, not including tax or gratuity. Call the restaurant of your choice for reservations.

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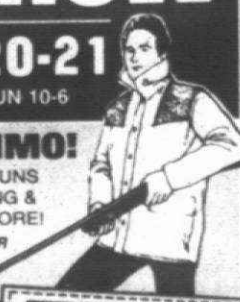
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