

Canton Observer

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SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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IN THE PAPER TODAY

Super search: Finding a new Plymouth-Canton superintendent to replace Chuck Little won't be easy, according to one study./A2

OPINION

Time for a change: The federal tax system is so complicated that even honest taxpayers have difficulty keeping up./A14

COMMUNITY LIFE

Watching you: Mike Hammer wouldn't be caught dead there, but Russ Rheame has 15 students enrolled in his techniques of private investigating class at Henry Ford Community College./B1

AT HOME

Gorgeous grounds: Bloomfest, the largest indoor flower show in Michigan, abounds in beauty and offers something for everyone./D6

ENTERTAINMENT

Tonight Show Band: For 30 years, Doc Severinsen had a steady gig. Now he's on the road and, he says, "having the time of my life."/E1

Popular music: Sponge woos hometown with "New Pop Sunday."/E1

REAL ESTATE

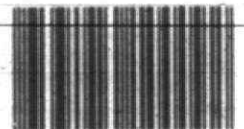
Quirky features: Houses with unusual attributes can be more difficult sells, but most properties eventually move./F1

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Hoppin' for a good time in Heritage Park



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMANN

At the hunt: Katie Babcock, 5, (from left) her brother Alex, 3, and Madelyn Momano, 2½ pose with the Easter bunny during the Easter Egg Hunt at Heritage Park in Canton Saturday. For more photos from the annual event, please turn to Page A3 in today's Observer.

New roof, old look for Canton museum

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

For the past two decades, the Canton Historical Society Museum has been something of a living anachronism. The former one-room school, which is more than 100 years old, was topped with a relatively modern-looking roof. But soon, it will get a new roof that will look like it just stepped out of the 19th century.

"It's something we've been looking forward to for a long time," Society member and Canton Trustee Melissa McLaughlin said. "We're very pleased the museum will have the appropriate

roof."

A cedar roof and new cupola will be installed for \$24,000. The Canton Township Board of Trustees approved the expenditure March 23.

Money will come from Canton's Historical Commission account.

The commission is responsible for maintaining township historical buildings and sites. The historical society, on the other hand, operates the museum and handles educational duties.

Replacing the museum roof is one of several repair projects undertaken in the past few years. Windows have been

Please see MUSEUM, A4

Senior returns: Tax preparers lend time, talents

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

Life hasn't been easy for Betty Austin lately.

The Canton senior recently recovered from a serious illness. She's feeling better these days, but the illness put a strain on her financial health.

Fortunately, getting her taxes done won't add to those problems. Austin and numerous others are taking advantage of Canton's senior center free tax help program.

"I'm a senior that doesn't have much money," she said. "This is really nice for me."

For Bob Gunberg, it's an opportunity for a more experienced person to handle the tax code's intricacies.

"I thought maybe they could give me a hand," the senior said, noting that he had always prepared his own taxes until this year. "I just hope I can give them all the information they need."

The tax program began in 1983 in

Canton. Senior Center Coordinator Dianne Neihengen said it's a federal and state-backed program that started in the late 1970s.

"It's a national program," she added.

The idea is to provide seniors with solid tax preparation help free of charge.

"Our preparers don't accept wages or tips of any kind," Neihengen said.

Each tax preparer receives six days of training on new IRS rules every year. AARP provides the training.

The senior center boasts a staff of six workers. Each average about one appointment per hour for a six hour shift.

"The majority come back year after year to help," Neihengen said. "They're well appreciated around here."

The program, which is held in the Summit's Parkview room, began in mid February and will conclude Tuesday with morning appointments. Nei-

Please see TAX RETURNS, A3

Residents flood hearing

■ Homeowners in the Canton Hills subdivision say a light industrial project will chase away area wildlife and could worsen flooding problems on their properties.

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

Homeowners in one of Canton's oldest subdivisions voiced opposition to a warehouse/distribution development Tuesday.

More than 50 Canton Hills residents packed a township hall meeting room for more than an hour. Potential flooding and destruction of wildlife habitat were main concerns.

"What he's trying to do here is inappropriate," North Drive resident Emily Brock said of Troy-based developer Frankel Associates. "He doesn't have the right to pollute and flood us."

The company owns 100 acres just east and west of Haggerty Road at Michigan Avenue. Haggerty Corporate Park would be used primarily for warehousing, distribution, light industrial and office space.

Frankel plans to develop the project in phases. Town-

Please see HEARING, A12

Bank project put on hold by planners

BY LILLY A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

It will be a while longer before customers can make deposits or apply for loans from a renovated doughnut shop on Ford Road.

The Canton Planning Commission Monday tabled the site plan for Flagstar Bank, which is moving to the former Donut Scene building at Ford and Sheldon.

Senior Planner Judy Bocklage said the commission tabled it until April 19 because they wanted the bank's

Please see PLANNING COMMISSION, A4

Oh, baby! Friday's the night for Y2K romance

BY LILLY A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

Pull out the Frank Sinatra CDs, light the candles and pull the phone off the hook. If you would like to have a Y2K baby, Friday is the day you should conceive for the delivery date of 01-01-00.

According to area obstetricians and gynecologists it sounds exciting to try for the stroke after midnight at the turn of the century but there are a lot of variables to consider.

"The odds are like playing the lottery," Dr. Michael M. Gatt of

Westside Obstetrics and Gynecology on Lilley Road said.

Besides conception, women would have had to have the first day of their last menstrual cycle on March 26 or 27 to be ovulating around April 8, 9 and 10. This is also assuming a 28-day cycle and that the mother will carry the baby 40 weeks and deliver on her due date, he explained.

"You would count back three months (from April 9) and subtract seven days and take in account an

Please see Y2K, A4



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMANN

A little help: Jack Grant of Plymouth (left) an AARP volunteer tax preparer, assists Bob Gunberg of Canton with his 1998 income tax return at the Senior Citizens Center in the Summit.

Study: Superintendent search not an easy task

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER
tbruscat@ecce.com

Finding a new school superintendent to replace Chuck Little could be a major task for the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education.

That's according to a study by the Michigan Association of School Boards, which finds that the top job in local school districts is losing its appeal.

Little announced last month he plans to leave the district, effective Aug. 1, for a job at Indiana University. The Plymouth-Canton school board will discuss the procedure by which it will look for a new superintendent at its April 13 meeting.

The study by the MASA states there are several factors which make the school superintendent a less desirable professional goal.

"The mounting pressure of accountability in public education is one of the top reasons," said William Keane, one of two Oakland University professors who contacted 370 school superintendents and about half that many assistant superintendents

'I would also expect the district to receive about 50 percent fewer applications for the job than it might have 10-20 years ago.'

William Keane
-Oakland University professor

for the study.

"A narrowing of the gap between superintendent compensation and the compensation of other administrators in the district is another top reason," he added.

Keane said the heavy time commitment, plus the growing number of single-issue school board candidates, are other reasons school superintendents are becoming short supply.

"For me, it was the high accountability and the heavy time commitment," said Little. He said wanting more time with his family was a major consideration for changing career paths. Little said the other two reasons given in the study weren't considerations for him, but said "people want to run school districts like a business, but they generally don't want to pay like

a business." Little was suggesting that someone in the private sector who ran a \$100 million corporation would probably get at least twice his \$120,000 salary.

Most of the Plymouth-Canton school board members weren't totally surprised when Little announced his resignation, noting he'd been in the district for five years and they expected him to leave soon.

"Most school superintendents stay an average five or six years in a district," said Keane. "I would also expect the district to receive about 50 percent fewer applications for the job than it might have 10-20 years ago."

"They certainly will be hoping for quality, not quantity. And, most likely a majority of the applications will come from out-of-state."

Canton resident named to environmental post

Laurie Jahn, a Canton resident was selected secretary for the Michigan Environmental Health Association. The organization held its Annual Educational Conference election at the Frankmuth Bavarian Inn Motor Lodge.

Jahn is a sanitarian with the Oakland County Health Division. She has a bachelor's degree in Environmental Health from Illinois State University and she is currently working on an MPA at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Roping them in at Gallimore

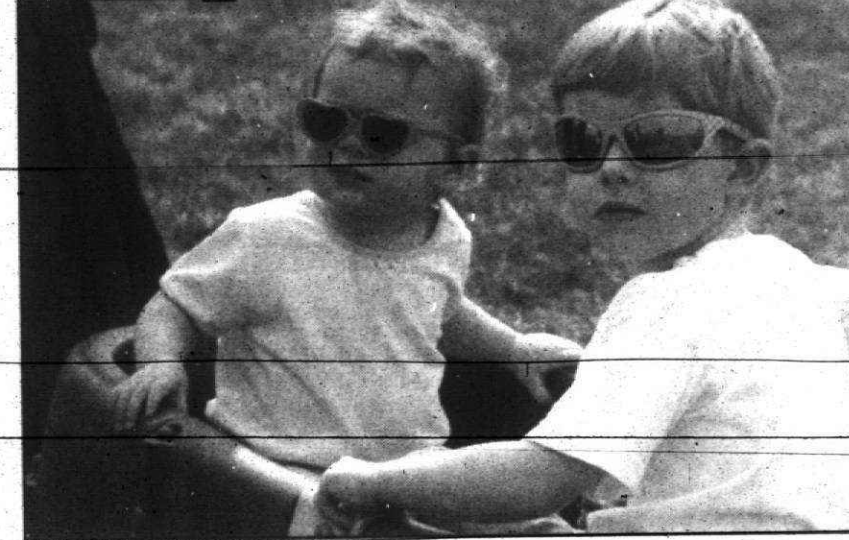


Home game: The Gallimore Roadrunner Ropers jump rope team performed for their fellow students recently at Gallimore Elementary. The team, which promotes physical activity, fitness and fun, performs at schools and events throughout western Wayne County. Pictured at left, Alec Spillard, 6, Sara Decima, 6, and Brian Ceglaz, 5, watch the rope jumpers.



Easter egg hunt draws a crowd

Big welcome: Spencer Bachle-da, 1, gets a closeup view of the Easter Bunny during Saturday's Easter Egg Hunt at Heritage Park. The township parks and recreation department hosts the annual event, alternating a ground-based egg hunt with a helicopter marshmallow drop.



It's spring: Julianne Bekker, 19 months, and her brother Justin, 4, arrive at the park prepared for sunny skies. At left, Olivia Gorsuch, 21 months, awaits the start of the activities in her Easter bonnet.

Unlocked car is easy target

A 42-year-old Canton man's vehicle was broken into in the early morning hours of Good Friday.

Township police reports said the man had returned home from work at about 1:30 a.m. His car was left unlocked and the garage door open.

An unknown person stole more than \$500 worth of items from the vehicle. A cell phone, planner and passport were among the items stolen, reports said.

Check fraud

A man trying to cash a check from a Detroit-based business at Meijer Friday was arrested by Canton police.

Store loss prevention officers reported to police that the check, which was for \$269.31, was fraudulent. Reports didn't identify a suspect in the incident except to say that he was a male.

It's the second time in a month the same man attempted to cash a fraudulent check. Reports said a warrant has been issued for the man's arrest regarding the first incident on March 9.

COP CALLS

Hit and run

A 26-year-old Canton woman's truck was damaged Saturday morning by an unknown person.

Police reports said her vehicle was parked at a Lilley Road business at the time of the incident. While inside the establishment, witnesses said a second vehicle struck the truck while attempting to park. The driver of the vehicle then drove off without attempting to identify himself. The truck suffered damage to its paint estimated at \$300.

Retail fraud

Police arrested a male suspect after he attempted to steal a computer "zip drive" from Super Kmart on Ford Road Saturday. The man, who reports failed to identify, was seen by a store employee putting the zip drive into his pants. He then attempted to leave the store without paying, reports said.

Loss prevention officers stopped the man and notified police. The merchandise was valued at \$74.97.

Area students receive Madonna scholarships

Madonna University business student, Marie Rosiewicz of Canton and Ryan Bayer of Plymouth were recently awarded scholarships from the Detroit chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors.

The Internal Audit Student Scholarship is awarded to a student who demonstrates scholastic achievement and community involvement. Each student will receive a \$250 scholarship for the 1999-2000 academic year.

Rosiewicz is a junior who is majoring in accounting at Madonna. Bayer is a senior, also studying accounting. He won the same scholarship last year.

Madonna University in Livonia offers more than 50 career-oriented undergraduate majors and 14 master's programs.

PSYCHIC FAIR
★ April 9th ★
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17123 N. Laurel Park
6pm - Midnight

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Tax returns from page A1
hengen said.
"We help 200 to 250 people every year," she said. "About 95 percent are Canton residents."
While volunteers strive to help, Neihengen said there's a limit to what they can do.
"The program isn't designed for someone with a large portfolio of assets," she said. "It's designed for an average person that has typical forms to fill out."
Tax preparer Ross Myers, a senior himself, said most folks file their return using Schedule A. The Canton resident hasn't run into many problems in filling out forms this year.
"Schedule D seems to be the biggest hang up," he added.
Myers, a retired supervisor at Ford Motor Company, has been providing help for the past six years. He also donates time and help to the Salvation Army.
"This was just another extension of that," Myers said of his work at the senior center. "It's something that helps me stay busy."
Ron Lieberman agreed. He likes to help seniors get tax refunds.
"That's the biggest fun," said Lieberman.
The Canton resident has been preparing taxes at the senior center for the past seven years. "It's a very rewarding thing," he said. "Most people are very appreciative."
Besides his work in Canton, Lieberman has been doing taxes for Westland residents a few days a week. He's ready to retire his pencil and calculator for the season.
"I'm waiting for the 15th," he joked.
Austin is just happy people like Lieberman and Myers are around to help. She said Myers

the Canton Public Library
Did you know?
■ National Library Week starts April 11!
■ Construction of the addition to the Canton Public Library is set to start Aug. 12.
■ A 1998 poll conducted by Gallup for the American Library Association found that nearly all respondents expect libraries to be needed in the future, despite the increase in availability of information by computer?
Fiction for kids
Here are new selections available from the Canton Public Library:
■ "Foster's War" by Carolyn Reeder
■ "Shipwreck Season" by Donna Hill
■ "Flying Solo" by Ralph Fletcher
Fiction for star-crossed lovers
Here are some selections available at the library:
■ "Cold Mountain" by Charles Frazier
■ "Bleeding Heart" by Marilyn French
■ "A Farewell to Arms" by Ernest Hemingway
■ "Second Nature" by Alice Hoffman
■ "Almost Paradise" by Susan Isaacs
Q&A:
Q: When and how is Easter Sunday determined?
A: Easter is one of the movable feasts of the Christian religion and falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after March 21. It can't come before March 22 or after April 25. This method of setting the date was determined by the first Nicene Council in A.D. 325.
The source for this information is the World Book Encyclopedia.
Web Watch
Check out these new Web sites:
■ <http://www.genealogytoday.com>
■ <http://www.operabase.com>
■ <http://www.eserver.org>
For your reading pleasure
Here are some non-fiction titles available from the library:
■ "Street Kings: Five Years Inside the Franklin Avenue Prison" by Douglas Century
■ "Earth Odyssey: Around the World in Search of Our Environment" by Mark Hertsgaard
■ "Stasi: The Untold Story of the East German Secret Police" by John O. Koehler
■ "Cigarette Wars: The Triumph of the Little White Slaver" by Cassandra Tate
■ "Always in Our Hearts: The Story of Amy Grossberg, Brian Peterson and the Baby They Didn't Want" by Doug Most
Hot topic of the week
■ Check it Out Yourself Day at the Library: The 3M Corp. is sponsoring "Check it Out Yourself Day" in honor of National Library Week April 11-17. This is an opportunity for patrons to become more self-sufficient in the library by checking out their own materials with the 3M Self Check System. Also, you can help the library win up to \$2,500 for new books.
The company hopes to encourage patrons to visit the library and discover the new technologies that open doors to adventure, new ideas and learning. Patrons now leave the library with the great books they just checked out themselves and with the satisfaction of knowing that they have given their library a chance to further develop its resources.
@ the Canton Library is compiled by Laura Dorogi of the library staff. The library is at 1200 S. Canton Center. For more information about library programs and services, call 397-0999.

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Planning commission from page A1

architect to take another look at the exterior of the building and they would like them to connect the parking lot of the bank and the old McAuley health building for easier access.

In other developments at Monday's meeting, commissioners:

- Recommended approval for special land use for expansion of Geneva Presbyterian Church;
- Recommended approval for special land use for an adult foster care facility;
- Amended township zoning ordinances.

All three actions now go before the Canton Township Board of Trustees for final approval.

Three phases of the Geneva Presbyterian expansion are planned for the church on Sheldon, north of Ford. They include: a building expansion, more parking spaces and the addition of 175 seats to the existing 225 worship seats.

The Crystal Creek Adult Foster Care Center received recommendation for approval of the site plans on the facility that will be on the west side of Lilley between Joy and Warren roads. The facility will be completed in phases with a total of three buildings with 108 rooms. The Foster Care Center received approval for recommendation two years ago but time limitations with the township ran out due to the center running into a slow-down concerning permits.

There were amendments to three township ordinances included a commercial, residential and kennel ordinance.

Planning commission meetings are open to the public. If there's new development in your neighborhood you may want to attend the public hearing. The commission meets the first and third Monday of every month at 7 p.m. in the administration building, 1150 S. Canton Center. Meetings are later broadcast on Canton's Government Access Cable Channel 15. For more information, call (734) 397-5390.

Y2K from page A1

average of a 16 to 24 hour labor

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OUT OF TOWNERS (PG-13)
1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU (PG-13)
1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15
FORCES OF NATURE (PG-13)
1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15
TRUE CRIME (R)
1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)
12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7, 9:20
CRUEL INTENTIONS (R)
3:20, 7:20
BABY GENIUSES (PG)
1:20, 5:20, 9:25

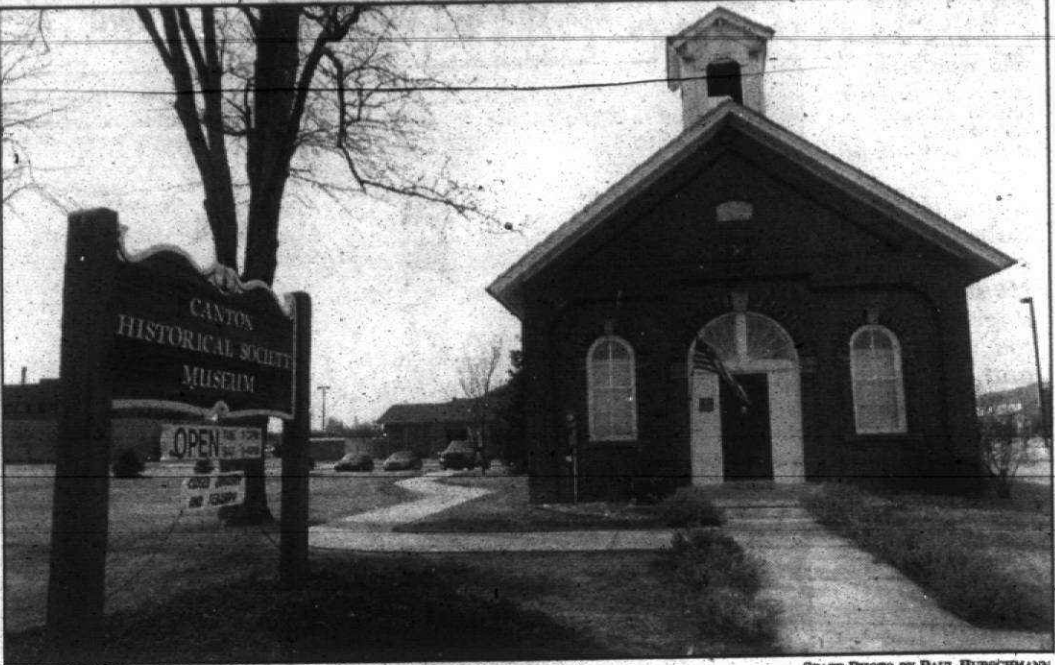
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Top Job: A new cedar roof for the Canton Historical Society Museum should be in place by June. The style will match the restored, 19th century one-room school-house.

Museum from page A1

restored, along with more minor items.

"With historical property," McLaughlin said, "there's always money to be spent. We try to do a little work every year so that they don't get away from us."

The building was constructed in 1849 at the corner of Canton Center and Proctor roads. It served as a school, amazingly enough, until the 1950s.

Originally built with wood, the building burned to the ground in the 1870s. It was rebuilt with brick by 1884.

McLaughlin said the building housed numerous events in the 1960s and '70s, such as the Canton Rotary.

In 1977, the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district donated it to the historical society to be used as a museum. Extensive renovations, which included plaster, floors, display boxes and the bathroom, were completed by 1982.

"It was in pretty tough shape," McLaughlin said. "It was in great disrepair."

Work on the roof is under way with construction of the cupola, a small tower that sits above the door. It typically housed the school bell, McLaughlin said.

Once the cupola is completed, work on the roof will begin. It's expected to take a month to complete work. The cedar roof should be installed by June.

Making such historical renovations wasn't possible when the museum was first renovated, McLaughlin said.

"The movement for historical preservation has grown in the last 10 years," she added. "Prior to that, it was scoffed at."

Canton has preserved three of its one-room schools. The Cherry Hill School was renovated in 1988 and Sheldon School in 1992.

"We've learned a lot over the years," McLaughlin said in regards to care-taking of the buildings. "We have the funds now to do things right."

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DEARBORN HEIGHTS
Tuesday, April 20
10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Cantfield Community Center
1801 N. Beach Drive
(Between Cherry Hill and Ford Rd.)
(Refreshments will be served)

ST. CLAIR SHORES
Tuesday, April 20
7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
St. Clair Shores Civic Center
20000 Stephans Drive
(Off North Little Black)
(Refreshments will be served)

LIVONIA
Thursday, April 22
7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
Livonia Civic Center Library
32777 Five Mile Rd.
(South side of Five Mile and East of Farmington)
(Refreshments will be served)

ALLEN PARK
Saturday, April 24
10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Greenfield Inn
30000 Enterprise Dr.
(Cross streets are Oakwood and I-94)
(Refreshments will be served)

WESTLAND
Wednesday, April 21
10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Melvin Bellay Recreation Center
36651 Ford Rd.
(Between Melvin Bellay and Wayne Rd.)
(Refreshments will be served)

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Ordinance calls for more audits of Metro, Willow Run

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer
kabrachy@ecce.com

Wayne County commissioners may act on an ordinance on Tuesday to place two auditors permanently at Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport.

Vice Chair Kay Beard, D-Westland, recently introduced the ordinance, which was sent to the commission's Committee on Audit. Once it is discussed, it may be referred back to the commission for its business meeting Tuesday.

The ordinance calls for a minimum of two auditors to be placed at the airport and also requires financial audits at both Detroit Metro and Willow Run airports at least once every two years, or as otherwise directed by the commission.

"We still haven't come to an agreement on funding," Beard said. Those positions may be funded from airport revenue, a cost allocation plan or by the county's general fund.

Beard's ordinance was proposed after Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy released a report in December, which disclosed that lease agreements

with the Cleveland-based APCOA, an airport parking operator, cost an average of \$28,000 per shuttle bus. APCOA leased the shuttle buses through financial agreements with various lending institutions, then collected reimbursements from Wayne County.

Dunleavy and his staff found that airport could have leased the majority of these vehicles for an average of about \$17,000 per vehicle.

WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION

Dunleavy also found that \$1.4 million in parking taxes were underreported between 1992 and 1997. The state Department of Treasury is reviewing the report and information and how the state statutes should be interpreted.

The auditor's role is an important function of Wayne County government, Beard said.

"We do have the authority to audit all the departments," Beard said.

County commissioners approved a three-year contract with APCOA on April 1. APCOA, the lowest bidder, received the contract after the county prosecutor's office reviewed APCOA's vehicle lease agreements.

George Ward, chief assistant prosecuting attorney for Wayne County, informed Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy that Wayne County is entitled to a \$509,647 refund claim on APCOA's 37 lease agreements with lending institutions for shuttle buses.

County commissioners approved a contract conditional upon the county and APCOA settling the refund claim, estimated in the range between \$380,000 and \$500,000, within 30 days.

Commissioners amended the agreement to require APCOA to retain all revenue and expenditure records for at least a five-year period.

APCOA also must provide the county with evidence of at least three competitive bids on all subcontracted activities and receive written approval from the airport staff prior to finalizing such contracts.

Area residents named to foster care review board

Four western Wayne County residents have been appointed to citizen volunteer boards created by the Michigan Legislature to review children's foster care placements.

The new board members are Rochelle Davis of Redford, Gregory Mays of Livonia, Larry Naser of Westland and Elizabeth Schneider of Canton. They participated in a two-day orientation training conducted by the Foster Care Review Board program in Southfield.

The Wayne County Foster Care Review Boards meet one day each month to review a sample of cases of children placed in temporary foster care. These reviews determine what efforts are being made by the juvenile court, the Michigan Family Independence Agency or private child-placing agency to develop and carry out a plan for permanent placement. The program is administered by the State Court Administrative Office.

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HENRY FORD ACADEMY

Charter high school offers diversity, new curriculum

STORIES BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI • SPECIAL WRITER
PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL • STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sarah Moran, a 10th-grader from Redford, walks by Henry Ford's birthplace, the Menlo Park laboratory where Thomas Edison worked and the Wright Brothers Cycle Shop on her way to classes every day.

The mini campus in the heart of Greenfield Village is a stark difference from the traditional classroom she would have attended at Redford's Thurston High School. Moran was selected in fall of 1997 as a ninth-grader to be among the first students to attend Henry Ford Academy, which is the first publicly chartered high school in the country sponsored by a global corporation and a major cultural organization that is based in a public museum.

Chartered by Wayne County's Regional Educational Service Agency, the academy is a working in partnership with Ford Motor Company and Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village to provide ninth- through 12th-grade classes in the buildings of Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village in Dearborn.

"There's a lot of diversity and individualism here," Moran said of her classmates.

Differences appreciated

Students in public schools tend to come from the same community, dress alike and act alike, she explained. The academy, on the other hand, draws students from 23 Wayne County communities, which allows for a lot of ethnic and socioeconomic differences. Moran believes the students tend to be more individualistic, too.

Similarly, there are big differences in the way classes are taught at the academy and what's done at many public schools, Moran said.

"Here there are a lot of newer and better ways of teaching," noted Moran, who wants to be writer or a professor.

"They can show us things instead of working out of books," she added.

The students wear dark blue shirts with the academy insignia and name tags on chains that look a lot like corporate employee identification badges. And while everyone comes from different backgrounds and experiences, Larry Holliday, academy dean, stresses that once they attend Henry Ford Academy they are expected to act "with dignity and appropriately." He uses the analogy

that once someone is hired by a company, they must do what's expected or they won't last long.

The classrooms, or learning studios as they are referred to at the academy, are set-up a lot like businesses, too. Tables seat four students who work in teams on projects and solving problems together. And there are no bells.

Ninth-grade classes are in the museum in a series of rooms that open with movable walls that allow students to apply different principals, like math and science, to one concept.

Employees at Ford Motor and the Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village also work together providing classroom speakers and mentoring programs. Tenth- and 11th-grade classes are held in a campus setting in the village, almost one mile from the entrance. Accommodations for 12th-graders are expected to be built within the year.



First class: (Above) Sarah Moran of Redford and Isaac Sudut, background, also of Redford, are in the first class that will graduate from the academy in 2001. (Top photo) The public can view this student quilt history project in the museum.

History of academy

The academy opened in the fall of 1997 with the first class of 100 ninth-grade students. This year there are 200 students in ninth and 10th grades, and ultimately there will be 400 students in grades ninth through 12th grades.

Surrounded by historical artifacts, the students learn to appreciate the work by famous inventors and trailblazers affecting every aspect of society.

Meanwhile, they are given an opportunity to apply new technological advances with Internet access in every classroom and invitations to Ford Motor Co. offices and plants where they learn how things in the business world are done.

For instance, one program allows students to use tools to measure and make frames. Then they go to Ford Motor Company's Design Center to see how vehicles are designed using computers.

Education at the Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village is nothing new, however. Founded by Henry Ford in 1929 as the Edison Institute, the museum and village's original intent was to serve as a school campus.

All of the buildings and artifacts that Ford painstakingly oversaw, are exactly what draws Andrea Neumann, a 14-year-old Redford resident, to the school.

"I was going to go to Mercy High

School until I was notified that my name was picked," said Neumann, who hopes to one day be an interior decorator or a teacher.

Referring to the 24 students in her classes, Neumann said, she likes receiving individual attention from teachers.

Attracted to setting

"It's a great school, because we get to see the museum all the time," she said adding that she wished there were more sports at the school. The Henry Ford Academy does offer basketball, flag football, baseball, softball and volleyball.

Isaac Sudut, a 16-year-old from Redford, said he learned about the academy from his grandmother who had read about the new school.

"I came to orientation and thought I might as well give it a try," he explained.

Sudut, however, is disappointed with what he believes was promised and what he is receiving at the school. He wants to learn more about technology and to have 24 hour access to the lap top computers.

He does, however, like that there are a lot of students from different cultures and backgrounds who attend the academy.

"And you get to learn from them," Sudut added.

The academy's business emphasis is what sets the school apart from other public schools, explained Joe Yeager, a 14-year-old ninth-grader from Livonia, who would have attended Stevenson High School.

He said, he and his family opted for the academy, because we wanted "to try something new." So far, Yeager said, he has enjoyed developing manufacturing products.

"No two days are exactly the same," according to a press release describing the academy. "With a campus so full of technology, information, tools and opportunities for learning, students engage in a variety of activities, from traditional academic studies to team-based projects. Each day ends with a reflection period, in which students and teachers use a variety of assessment processes to reflect upon the day's learning."

The students have free range of the museum and village before, during and after classes, according to Cora Christmas, academy principal.

"They literally have a field trip everyday," she said.

Walking through the village on a balmy spring afternoon, Christmas added: "I discover something new every day. Everything that surrounds them causes them to question, to think and learn. It's a learning experience with everything that they pass."



Campus: The 10th grade building is on the grounds of Greenfield Village.

How the academy works

Henry Ford Academy is like a private school in many ways except there is no cost to the students. There are no academic requirements either, and students who apply are picked by an audited lottery system. More than 400 students in Wayne County applied for the 1999-2000 school year, according to Cora Christmas, Henry Ford Academy principal. The chosen students will be notified by April 26.

Applications for the school year beginning in fall of 2000 will begin early next year. Only students going into the ninth grade are eligible, because most of the students are expected to continue their entire four year high school education at the academy.

Subjects include math, science, humanities, English, social studies, German, art, technology and physical education. The teacher to student ratio is one to 25.

Students are also evaluated on their personal growth and ability to work in teams and conduct themselves maturely in the classroom and on museum grounds during the school day.

As a public school, Henry Ford Academy receives state school aid funds and got start-up funding from Ford Motor Company, as well as ongoing support from Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village.

Considering all the academy has to offer, Christmas said, the setting as well as the heavy emphasis on math, science and technology is not for everyone.

The goal of Henry Ford Academy is to develop "a curriculum in math and science that prepares the students to function in the 21st century," explained Larry Holliday, academy dean.

Students are expected to not only learn the material, but be able to communicate their knowledge verbally and in written form, Holliday stressed.

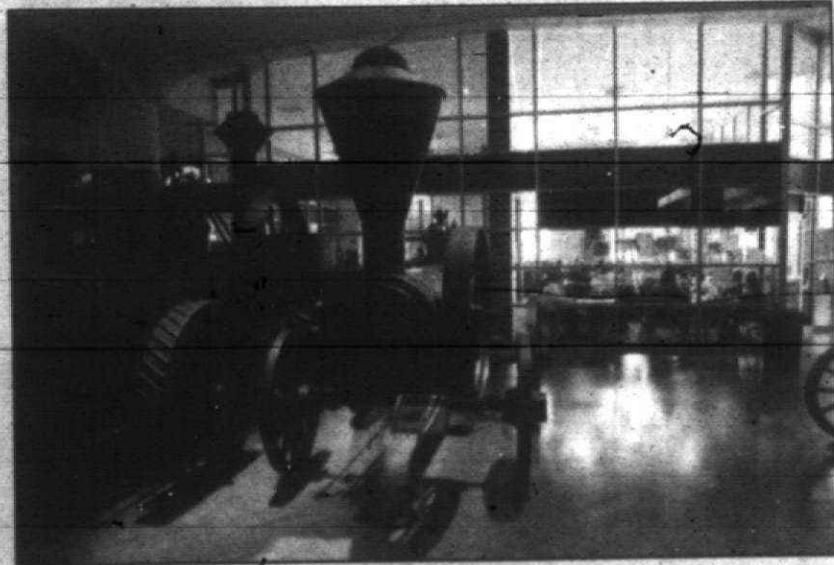
Oral presentations are commonplace in every classroom. One recent project about the colonization of America had the students consider the contributions made by the Europeans, Africans and Native Americans.

Working in groups of four, the students illustrated what they learned by creating hand made quilts that are on display in the museum. Their project went a step further than those done at most public schools, because the exhibit had to pass all museum standards, which meant the students worked closely with museum curators and presenters.

Best of all for the students, their work is on display for the 1.1 million visitors from around the world who visit the museum annually.

"One of the responsibilities we have, in working with Ford Motor Company, is developing a replicable model and looking at this school being developed nationally," Holliday said.

For more information visit the academy's Web site at www.hfa-academy.org. Or call the school at (313) 982-6200.



On view: The ninth-grade class is in the Henry Ford Museum and students sometimes have museum visitors looking in on them during the day.

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I-275 from page A7

lanes, but entrance and exit lanes will be lengthened to allow for easier access and exits.

Decks on the Grand River, Five Mile, Six Mile, Seven Mile and Eight Mile bridges will be repaired. Crews have already started to work under the Eight Mile bridge.

The longer and straighter entrance and exit ramps will be closed temporarily while they are reconstructed. Each interchange will be closed on an alternating basis so that no more than one interchange area will be closed. For example, when Eight Mile is closed, Seven Mile and Six Mile interchanges will be open.

Robert Schron, Livonia's city engineer, said workers with John Carlo, who the Michigan Department of Transportation hired as the main contractor, are expected to install detour signs directing motorists "where the most appropriate detour would be."

When the Seven Mile interchange is closed, detour signs will direct motorists to take Six Mile or Eight Mile, Schron said.

Pannecouk indicated that the contractor will do much of the concrete breakage and removal during daylight hours to try to avoid a lot of nighttime noise.

In Livonia, Wayne County has scheduled resurfacing projects on Seven Mile between Wayne and Farmington roads and on Farmington between Five Mile and Seven Mile roads. That second project will affect motorists traveling from downtown Farmington - who may think they can use Farmington Road as an alternative route to I-275 - to drive to Livonia.

Choose your route

Other possible detours include Novi Road to Eight Mile, then east to Haggerty or Newburgh. That route may work best for commuters driving from western

or northern Oakland County. Motorists traveling northward from western Wayne County communities may take Newburgh as an alternate route, but Haggerty will be resurfaced between Ann Arbor and Plymouth roads in Plymouth Township, so that will pose difficulties for Canton or Plymouth commuters coming to Livonia, such as Kramer.

He isn't that concerned about his drive, but wants to ensure his hotel guests are informed. "Most of these people understand that our roads need repair," Kramer said. "We'll try to anticipate it as much as possible in our reservations and book them on arrival. We hope to let them know about alternate routes to get to Six Mile Road."

Pannecouk advises motorists: "They should begin to think of where they frequently drive, and think of alternative routes. They should try different things to see

what works best for you." Pannecouk said MDOE will keep people informed on the projects' status through changeable signs along the freeway, and the overhead Michigan Intelligent Transportation Signs on the freeway bridges. "They can visit our Web site, and we will keep the public informed through radio, TV and newspapers," Pannecouk said.

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey has a little of what he called homespun advice: "Have patience and look forward to a better tomorrow."

Motorists can learn more about construction projects in the Detroit area by contacting MDOE's Web site at www.mdot.state.mi.us/index.htm. For local projects, check out Wayne County's Web site at www.waynecounty.com and click on Roads.

Economic development board gets under way

The Michigan Economic Development Corp. began operations April 5, as a Board of Directors meeting in Ann Arbor officially launched the new public agency.

The board immediately hired Doug Rothwell, formerly the CEO of the Michigan Jobs Commission, as president and CEO.

Under an executive order of Gov. John Engler, MEDC takes over the state's economic development function from the Michigan Jobs Commission, which the governor abolished.

"This new structure will enable us to have an even quicker, more flexible economic development focus. Ultimately, that means more jobs, and better jobs for Michigan residents," said Beth Chappell, former senior vice president of AT&T and now president of the Chappell Group (Bloomfield Hills), who was elected board vice chair.

The board's chair will be Rick Snyder, former president of Gateway Computer and now president of Avalon Investment (Ann Arbor).

The Michigan Economic Development Corp. will allow us to spend more time helping grow the exciting new industries of the new economy, while still providing the same services the Jobs Commission had in place,"

replaced by the construction "hot-spot" list. By today, Roach expected a construction list will be featured on that site as well.

Currently, the county will provide a monthly update of major road projects in the design phase with county engineers and contracted consultants.

The county's road inventory book in a digital format will be entered onto the site within the next two months, Roach said. "With that, people can pick any section of road, and they can find out the year of the pavement, condition rating, traffic volume and speed limit," Roach said.

Business and church groups also can go on-line and apply to "Adopt-A-Road."

People can view a map outlining which Wayne County roads which have been adopted, then submit an online permit application form to adopt the road.

Nature preserve needs help for spring projects

The Holiday Nature Preserve Association offers participants a spring calendar of events ranging from nature hikes to river cleanup.

Scheduled activities include:

■ **Spring Fever Hike** - Get rid of those winter blues by getting out and looking at the world at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 10. Meet at the Koppernick Entrance to the Preserve. Koppernick Road is located off of Hix Road north of Warren, turn to the west, and follow Koppernick just barely past the second bend in the road. For information call (734) 522-8547. The event is free.

■ **Earth Day Cleanup** - Volunteers are asked to meet at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 24, to spruce up the preserve. Meet at the Hix Park Entrance to the Preserve, located just north of Warren on the west side of Hix. Hot dog lunch will be served afterwards. The event is free. For more information, call (734) 522-8547.

■ **Rouge Rescue** - Come join us for River Day beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 5. This includes the annual Rouge Rescue cleanup, hikes, and activities designed to improve the health of the complete Rouge River Watershed ecosystem. Meet at the Service Merchandise Parking lot at Cowan Road behind Westland Mall. For information call (734) 522-8547.

■ **Mother's Day Hike** - Mom, let the kids cook today, and come enjoy this annual

stroll through the woods at 9 a.m. Sunday, May 9. Held in conjunction with the Sierra Club, this tour will highlight the gorgeous spring flowers found here in Michigan. Non-moms are welcome. Meet at the Service Merchandise Parking lot at Cowan Road behind Westland Mall. Event is free. For information call (734) 522-8547.

■ **Pre-Rouge Rescue Tour** - Come join association members at noon Sunday, May 23, as they explain the River Day expansion of the annual Rouge Rescue. Learn where the Holiday Nature Preserve Association will be cleaning up, and where it will be progressing beyond cleanup to improving the environment. Meet at the Service Merchandise Parking lot at Cowan Road behind Westland Mall. Event is free. For information call (734) 522-8547.

■ **Rouge Rescue** - Come join us for River Day beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 5. This includes the annual Rouge Rescue cleanup, hikes, and activities designed to improve the health of the complete Rouge River Watershed ecosystem. Meet at the Service Merchandise Parking lot at Cowan Road behind Westland Mall. For information call (734) 522-8547.

■ **Mother's Day Hike** - Mom, let the kids cook today, and come enjoy this annual

Pace of urban sprawl will slow - SEMCOG

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER
trichard@ec.econet.com

Developers will continue to pave over land in southeastern Michigan in the next 25 years, though not at the pace of the last 30 years.

That and other findings emerge from a statistical report by SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments. While shrinking family size was the cause of most development in the past, population growth will be the chief cause in the future.

SEMCOG's study is called "Land Use and Land Development in Southeast Michigan" and was written by staffers Jim Rogers and Xuan Liu. The densely worded report comes to few conclusions and lacks the expressions of horror at "urban

sprawl" and loss of open space that have marked the seven-county agency's reports over the last decade.

Some findings that emerge: ■ Development will continue at 1 percent more land per year, twice as fast as population growth, 0.5 percent per year, between 1995 and 2020. That's a slower development rate than in 1965-95, when development of land increased by 72 percent, or 2.4 percent a year.

■ In 1995, Oakland County, with about half of Wayne County's population, actually had more developed land - 444.5 square miles versus Wayne's 437 square miles. By 2020, Oakland will have developed 582 square miles and Wayne 467.

■ Livingston County is witnessing the fastest relative boom. SEMCOG's tables report acres. For ease of reader under-

standing, this newspaper has converted the numbers to square miles by dividing acres by 640.

SEMCOG's report doesn't give details on the loss of farmland. It lumps "Cultivated Land/Brushland/Grassland" into a single category, obscuring whether it's wheat or weeds that are being developed.

The farther one gets from Detroit, the more land is eaten up by an individual housing unit. In 1995, Livingston County single-family lots had a density of 0.87 units per acre; St. Clair, 1.11; Monroe, 1.13; Washtenaw, 1.3; Oakland, 1.73; Macomb, 2.57; and Wayne, 3.8. The regionwide average was 2.18 units per acre.

Causes of development will change over the next 25 years. Main factors:

■ Smaller households spurred development of 278 square miles

from 1965-95; they will spur development of 104 square miles from 1995-2020.

■ Population growth led to development of 114 square miles from 1965-95; population growth will move to first place, leading to 161 square miles of development by 2020.

■ Offices, commercial and industrial development has consumed 116 square miles from 1965-95; this will decline to 59 square miles by 2020.

As of 1995, some 33 percent of the region's 4,607 square miles were developed. By 2020, development will be using 41 percent of the total. Total population is 4.8 million.

Staff studied 1995 aerial photos to monitor development. The agency's Web site is: www.semco.org

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Hearing from page A1

ship approvals have already been granted for utilities and a loop road on the site.

Canton Community Planner Jeff Goulet said the first of three, 30,000- to 80,000-square-foot buildings is currently under engineering review. Each building and new phase will need site plan approval from the township, he added.

Tuesday's meeting was a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality public hearing. The developer is seeking a wetlands permit to fill in 2.5 acres west of Haggerty for future buildings.

DEQ Field Representative Andrew Hartz conducted the meeting and will make the ultimate decision on the permit. He has 90 calendar days to make a ruling.

Hartz listened to a dozen Canton residents before concluding the meeting.

Sharon Wasik said the developer's plan to replace lost wetlands at the site was inadequate.

"Mitigated wetlands are a poor substitute for nature," she added. "I'm opposed to disturbing the wetlands in any way."

Brook described the area as "northern rain forest." Numerous types of animals, such as

■ 'There's plenty of opportunity to move the buildings off of the wetlands. It's a disgrace if you put them there, in my opinion.'

Jim McCarthy
Canton Hills resident

deer, foxes and geese, call the 2.5-acre wetland home, she said. Brook described the mitigation area as "burnt out farm dirt" that wouldn't support wildlife to nearly the same level as the wetlands.

"What he's mitigating is property that's not to him," she said. "They're not doing an equal exchange on anything."

Several other residents said it isn't uncommon to see several deer near their homes each day. Jim McCarthy felt a little project rearranging could save the habitat.

"There's plenty of opportunity to move the buildings off of the wetlands," he said. "It's a disgrace if you put them there, in my opinion."

Still other residents believed the development would exacerbate flooding problems.

Roger Gallierine said his Hunters Court property gets as

much as two feet of water on it for months at a time. Rerouting water to make room for the development might make it worse, he said.

"They can't predict with certainty where the water will go," said Gallierine.

Jim Leight, a sub resident for nearly 40 years, agreed.

"If you disturb flow of the water in any way," he said, "we're going to get more water in our back yards."

Goulet said that's likely not the case, however.

The township, he explained, wouldn't allow a developer to negatively impact residents with its drainage plan. Goulet said a retention pond and complete drainage system on the site should actually help flooding problems.

"If anything," he commented, "it will improve conditions, not worsen them."

Canton teen wins contest

Patricia Cauchi of Canton won first place in the 1998-99 Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club Essay Contest. The topic of the essay contest was "Paths to a Healthier America." Cauchi's essay was entitled "Lifting Weight: A Girl's Journey." She attends Canton High School. First-place honors netted Cauchi a \$300 prize.

Central takes top honors in German competition

Fifty students in Central Middle School's German classes won more awards at a German Day competition than any of the other 20 schools that competed. These included 18 high schools and two other middle schools.

Central took first prize in the plays and was one of two schools chosen to perform their play on stage in front of 1,000 students from across the state. They brought home German posters, books, CD's and T-shirts as prizes.

Central's two TV commercials, one from each of Joy Large's classes, took first and second place. In solo categories, Maja Stojkovic took first in extemporaneous speaking and Doug Davidson took second in extemporaneous reading.

Central's video "At the Dentist" (Beim Zahnarzt) received second place honors from more than 50 produced and submitted to the University of Michigan German department. They were judged best in memorization and tied for linguistic ability.

Brandon Szczomak, Cody Lobenzher and Julie Darow produced the video.

Central's winning play "Little Red Riding Hood in the Ghetto" (written by Joy Large) included: Anna Petrovich, Dan Nikolic, Ilire Alla, Stephanie Kivell, Shannon Dunnigan, Carl Fanning, Steve Kress, Jason Master, Tiffany Erickson, Terrance Baker and a choir.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMAN

Prize winners: The cast of "Little Red Riding Hood in the Ghetto" took first prize. Pictured are (clockwise, from left): Terrence Baker as the Pizza Man, Tiffany Erickson as the Receptionist, Dan Nikolic as the Wolf, Stephen Kress as the Policeman, Stephanie Kivell as Mother, Shannon Dunnigan as Grandma, Anna Petrovich as Red Riding Hood, Jason Master as the Beggar, and Ilire Alla as the narrator.

Ilire Alla, Stephanie Kivell, Shannon Dunnigan, Carl Fanning, Steve Kress, Jason Master, Tiffany Erickson, Terrance Baker and a choir.

The first place commercial included: Doug Davidson,

Danielle Mocer, Melissa Allen, Scott Schneider, Ashley Dean, Aaron Paul and Beau Tomlinson. The second place commercial included: Anna Islan, Kelly Vanston, and Nicole Genrich.

Salem teachers get MichCon grant

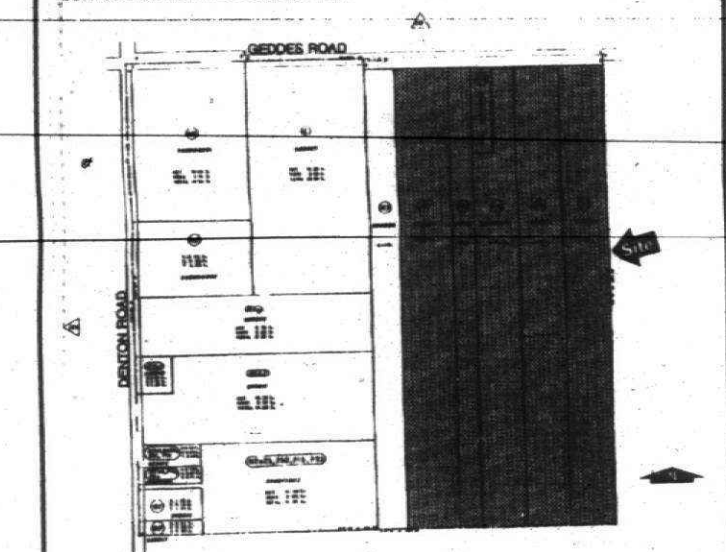
MichCon has awarded a \$250 grant to Marcia Lizzo & Jennifer Hawk of Plymouth Salem High School in Canton. The grant will be used to fund the Writing

Creative Children's Books with Science Themes project. Mich-Con's Educational Mini-Grant Program supports new and innovative approaches to learning that complement the core K-12 curriculum. The grants help teachers pay for special projects that are not in their school's budget.

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 3, 1999, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

GROSS REALTY GROUP REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NOS. 126 99 0001 000, 126 99 0002 000, 126 99 0003 001 000, 126 99 0003 000, 126 99 0004 000, AND 126 99 0005 000 FROM R-6, RURAL RESIDENTIAL, TO R-6, SINGLE FAMILY ATTACHED RESIDENTIAL. Property is located on the south side of Geddes Road between Denton and Beck Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, April 29, 1999 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman
Publish: April 8 and 22, 1999

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 19, 1999, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

'GREENBROOK VILLAGE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT-AMENDMENT #2. CONSIDER REQUEST TO AMEND THE AGREEMENT DATED JANUARY 8, 1974, TO ALLOW FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUMMIT CREEK APARTMENTS, PHASE 2 (FORMERLY HIDDEN WOODS OF CANTON APARTMENTS), 42 UNITS ON 5.1126 ACRES AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NO. 106 99 0005 000. Property is located on the east side of Canton Center Road between Palmer and Geddes Roads.



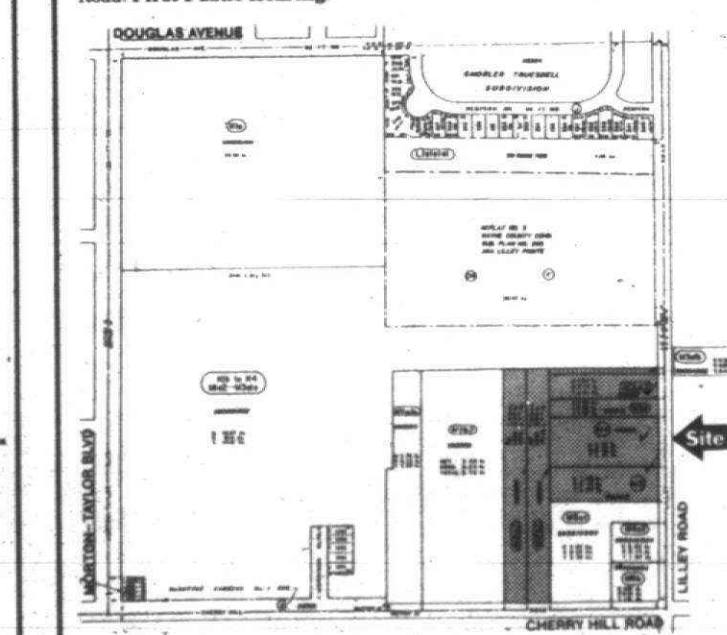
Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman
Publish: March 25 and April 8, 1999

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

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WALTONWOOD AT CHERRY HILL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) - PRELIMINARY PLAN - CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NOS. 055 99 0098 000, 055 99 0010 000, 055 99 0011 002, 055 99 0012 000, 055 99 0013 000, 055 99 0014 000, AND 055 99 0015 000. Property is located north of Cherry Hill Road and west of Lilley Road. First Public Hearing.



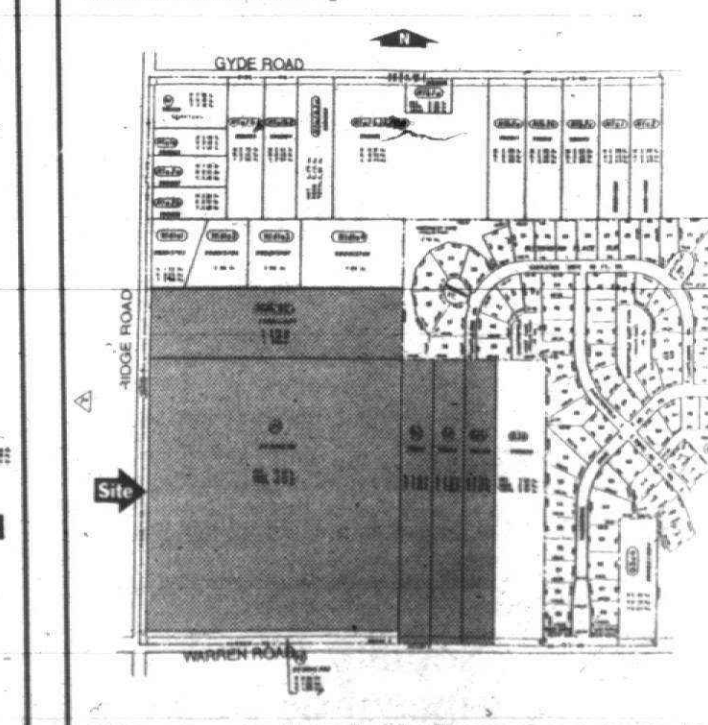
Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman
Publish: March 25 and April 8, 1999

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 3, 1999, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

PIESANT RIDGE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) - FINAL PLAN - CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NOS. 019 99 0015 004, 019 99 0016 701, 019 99 0017 000, 019 99 0018 000, AND 019 99 0019 000. Property is located on the northeast corner of Warren and Ridge Roads. Second Public Hearing.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, April 29, 1999 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman
Publish: April 8 and 22, 1999

JOSEPH MICHAEL ROZA

Services for Joseph Michael Roza, 78, of Plymouth were April 8 in St. John Neumann Church with the Rev. Jack Quinlan officiating. Local arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home, Plymouth Township. He was born July 30, 1920, in Detroit. He died April 2 in Plymouth. He was a plumber. He was a member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Agatha Roza. Survivors include his wife, Cora Marjorie Roza of Plymouth; four daughters, Patricia (Jack) Sluka of Walled Lake, Karen (William) Ripp of Northville, Bonnie (Andy) Skrzynski of Austin, Texas, Betty (Louis) (Theresa) Roza of Ypsilanti; two sisters, Bernadette Kolpack of Missouri, Joanne Roza of Florida; one brother, Henry Roza of Arkansas; 12 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Karmos Cancer Institute, Plymouth Region, 485 S. Main, Plymouth, MI 48170-3446 or to Community Hospice Services, 32932 Warren, Westland, MI 48185.

GERALD A. WEISE
Services for Gerald A. Weise, 59, of Warren were April 3 in the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth, with the Rev. Jerry Yarnell officiating. Burial was in Cadillac Memorial Gardens.

Westland.

He was born Aug. 18, 1939, in Ann Arbor. He died April 1 in Troy. He was a press operator at A.G. Simpson (Automotive Parts) in Sterling Heights for 15 years. He came to the Warren community 15 years ago from Westland and Canton. He served in the Army Infantry in Germany. He loved antique cars.

He was preceded in death by his father, Edward C. Weise. Survivors include his mother, Marian (Jan) Hendricksen of Canton; one brother, Donald (Jacqueline) Weise of Fairfield, Glade, Tenn.; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial may be made to the charity of your choice.

ELIZABETH 'BETTY' STOTT
Services for Elizabeth "Betty" Stott, 68, of Plymouth were April 6 in St. John's Episcopal Church with the Rev. William B. Lupper officiating. Burial was in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Livonia.

Local arrangements were made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth.

She was born Sept. 19, 1930, in Detroit. She died April 3 in Livonia. She was a homemaker. She came to the Plymouth area in August 1959. She was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth. She was also a member of the St. Margaret's Guild and sang in the choir. She loved family and especially grandchildren. She loved to shop and go to movies. She

also loved to camp and travel.

Survivors include her husband, Frank of Plymouth; two daughters, Mary (Keith) Gransden of New Hudson, Linda Quigley (Tom Rawson) of Fenton; two sons, Steve Stott of Plymouth, Dan (Phyll) Stott of Plymouth; two brothers, James Wood of Farmington Hills, Douglas Wood of South Lyon; two sisters, Joyce Richardson of South Lyon, Leona Gransden of California; 11 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorials may be made to the family of Elizabeth Stott.

EDWARD V. BUDD
Services for Edward V. Budd, 87, of Plymouth were April 7 in the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth, with Sanford Burr officiating. Burial was in Forest Hill Cemetery, Ann Arbor.

He was born May 1, 1912, in Northville Township. He retired at age 75 from Electrical Apparatus in Howell. He came to the Plymouth community in 1940 from Ann Arbor. He was a member of the Plymouth Rock Lodge No. 43, F & A.M. for many years. His love and knowledge of Great Lakes ships sent him regularly to Sault Ste. Marie.

Survivors include his son, Richard Noll of Phoenix, Ariz.; and two daughters, Sandra Noll of Plymouth and Suzanne Noll of Novi.

Memorials may be made to American Diabetes Association.

GEORGE WILLIAM VALSA JR.
Services for George William

Redford since 1954.

Survivors include his wife, Ilene of Plymouth; one daughter, Patricia (John) Calocassides of Lathrup Village; one son, Ronald (Sandra) Budd of Troy; three sisters, Mary DuMontier of Texas, Valerie Mitchell of East Pointe, Suzanne Kane of Mount Pleasant; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or the charity of your choice.

CLIFFORD C. NOLL
Services for Clifford C. Noll, 86, of Plymouth were April 7 in the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth, with Sanford Burr officiating. Burial was in Forest Hill Cemetery, Ann Arbor.

He was born May 1, 1912, in Northville Township. He retired at age 75 from Electrical Apparatus in Howell. He came to the Plymouth community in 1940 from Ann Arbor. He was a member of the Plymouth Rock Lodge No. 43, F & A.M. for many years. His love and knowledge of Great Lakes ships sent him regularly to Sault Ste. Marie.

Survivors include his son, Richard Noll of Phoenix, Ariz.; and two daughters, Sandra Noll of Plymouth and Suzanne Noll of Novi.

Memorials may be made to American Diabetes Association.

GEORGE WILLIAM VALSA JR.
Services for George William

Valsa Jr., 55, of Canton were

April 8 in St. Matthew Lutheran Church with the Rev. Gary D. Hendapohl and Rev. Kurt E. Landst officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery. Local arrangements were made by L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Canton.

He was born April 7 in Chicago, Ill. He was a human resources manager.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Russell. Survivors include his wife, Maryanna; one daughter, Kristin V. (Ron) Johnson; parents, George Sr. and Libby Valsa; one brother, Jim (Anne); and one grandson, Andrew.

Memorials may be made to the Church General Fund, Henry Ford Hospice-Plymouth, or the American Brain Tumor Association.

ROBERT JOSEPH BURGH JR.
Private services for Robert Joseph Burgh Jr., 73, of Tiffin, Ohio, were March 29 in Turner-Engle Funeral Home with the Rev. Rob Breitgang officiating. Burial was in Greenlawn Cemetery.

He was born March 13, 1926, in Boston, Mass. He died March 26 in Toledo, Ohio. He was a member of Wayne Hall Dods.

Wayne, as a sales manager. He was a member of St. Mary's in Wayne. He was a member of AMVETS and VFW. He was a graduate of Wayne High School. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy during World War II and spent three years in the South Pacific.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Bruce Victoria, and one son, Everett Burgh; and his parents, Robert Joseph Burgh Sr. and Virginia Tubby. Survivors include his wife, Lois M. (Beitel) Burgh; four children, Robert Joseph Burgh III of Minneapolis, Minn., Barbara (Lanny) Henderson of Canton, Vicki (Larry) Wood of Canton, Diane (John) Thom of Tiffin, Ohio; two stepchildren, Steven (Andrea) Orwig of Cleveland, Ohio, Glenn (Kim) M. Orwig of Tiffin, Ohio; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

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Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
Sealed bids will be received by the Office of the Clerk, Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, MI 48188 until 10:00 a.m. Thursday, April 22, 1999, at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud for the following:

NINE (9) AUTOMATIC PITCHING MACHINES
Specifications are available in the Building Department. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk
Publish: April 8, 1999

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

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CONCRETE LEVELING
Specifications are available in the Finance & Budget Department. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk
Publish: April 8, 1999

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ONE SPORTS UTILITY REEL MOWER
Specifications are available in the Finance & Budget Department. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk
Publish: April 8, 1999

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THREE (3) MEDICAL VEHICLE RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS
Specifications are available in the Finance & Budget Department. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk
Publish: April 8, 1999

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ONE INFED POWER RAKE
Specifications are available in the Finance & Budget Department. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk
Publish: April 8, 1999

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TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk
Publish: April 8, 1999

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
Elizabeth M. Givens, Secretary
Publish: March 22 and April 5, 1999

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools cordially invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a proposal for the purchase of 30 new school buses. The proposal should include all costs associated with the purchase and delivery of school buses. You may participate by bidding on only one type of vehicle or all four vehicle types. Specifications and bid forms can be obtained at the front desk of the E.J. McLeiden Educational Center located at 545 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. Questions can be directed to David Rocker at the Transportation Department at 734-416-3037. Sealed bids are due on Wednesday, April 28, 1999 at 4 p.m. and should be directed to Daniel Phillips at the E.J. McLeiden Educational Center at the address above. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
Elizabeth M. Givens, Secretary
Publish: April 8 and 15, 1999

What's the word on americast?

It's so much better
than anything I have ever had before."

Jane Miller

Farewell Little went a long way for us

None — so the saying goes — is irreplaceable. But the next Plymouth-Canton Community Schools superintendent will have his or her work cut out to match Chuck Little's effort and accomplishments of the last five years.

Little will leave Plymouth-Canton in August for a new job at his alma mater, Indiana University. The job will put him back in the classroom and in front of the Indiana legislature as a lobbyist for education issues. It is a career change for Little, 54, who said last week he will gain some new work perspectives and more time to be with his family.

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education will begin mapping out a replacement plan at its April 13 meeting.

Little's tenure in Plymouth-Canton has been dominated by major issues:

■ The explosive growth of the district and ongoing efforts to expand classroom space.

■ The implementation of Proposal A and its effect on district finances.

■ Less-than-perfect labor relations between teachers and the top-level administration.

The district has made progress in all three areas — some considerable, some incremental — since Little arrived from upstate New York in 1994.

In a district where voters have traditionally been millage-stingy, two bond issues for new construction have been passed in recent years. They have resulted in plans for two new elementary schools, a new middle school and the eventual construction of a third high school to alleviate congestion on the PCEP campus. While the superintendent certainly can't take

all the credit for these successes, much of what Little has done helped educate the public and remove barriers between voters and the school community.

Little has also been at the front of the movement to focus attention on Proposal A and its negative consequences for expanding, suburban districts. Plymouth-Canton hosted a forum and panel discussion among legislators and educators last March that drew hundreds of people to Canton's Summit on the Park. The effort has yet to pay off, although an education bill currently being debated in Lansing would change the way student head counts are done and help growing districts.

The Plymouth-Canton Long Range Planning Committee, which involves residents as well as school employees, is another Little-inspired project designed to help the district get a better grip on future finances.

Little was also a key proponent of the Labor Management Team, a steering committee formed in 1997 that began looking at potential contract issues long before teachers and the district headed to the bargaining table last year. The end result was a much smoother contract negotiation and a settlement in weeks as opposed to months.

Little's tireless promotion of educational issues and the Plymouth-Canton district will be missed as well. If there was a breakfast or evening meeting anywhere in the community with education even remotely on the agenda, you could count on the superintendent making an appearance.

The Observer wishes Chuck Little well in his new job. A real challenge lies ahead for the school board in picking his replacement.

The case for real tax reform

The good news, as we head toward next Thursday's tax deadline: new tax credits, deductions and other changes have pushed the average refund to \$1,823, according to returns filed with the IRS through February.

The bad news: the government estimates those changes have lengthened the amount of time it takes to fill out an itemized tax return by two hours or more.

The worst news: unofficial Tax Freedom Day for 1999 (the number of days an average person must work to pay his or her entire tax burden) falls on May 10 — later than ever.

The great tax debate of the 1990s has centered on who pays and how much. The last major tax "reform" proposal signed into law in 1997 dealt with cuts in the capital gains tax and added the tax credit for children, which takes effect this year for 1998 returns. A federal budget surplus has made Republicans in the current Congress seeking additional income tax cuts to keep the economy stimulated.

The IRS had to develop 11 new forms and revise 177 others for 1998 returns to accommodate the changes. The agency spent an undetermined amount of time correcting returns that were filed earlier this year that listed qualifying dependents but failed to include the child tax credit.

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 promised a simpler system with fewer rates. It has largely been rendered ineffective by subsequent changes authorized by Congress. To be fair, the economic expansion and the growth in individual investment in the stock market

through 401 K plans and mutual funds has contributed to our annual April 15 marathon.

But with the focus on making the system equitable, the goal of keeping it simple has been buried under a quagmire of rules, regulations, forms and tax schedules. In a nationwide poll conducted last month for the Associated Press, 66 percent of 1,012 respondents said the federal tax system is too complicated. That was up by nearly 20 percent from a similar poll conducted in 1996.

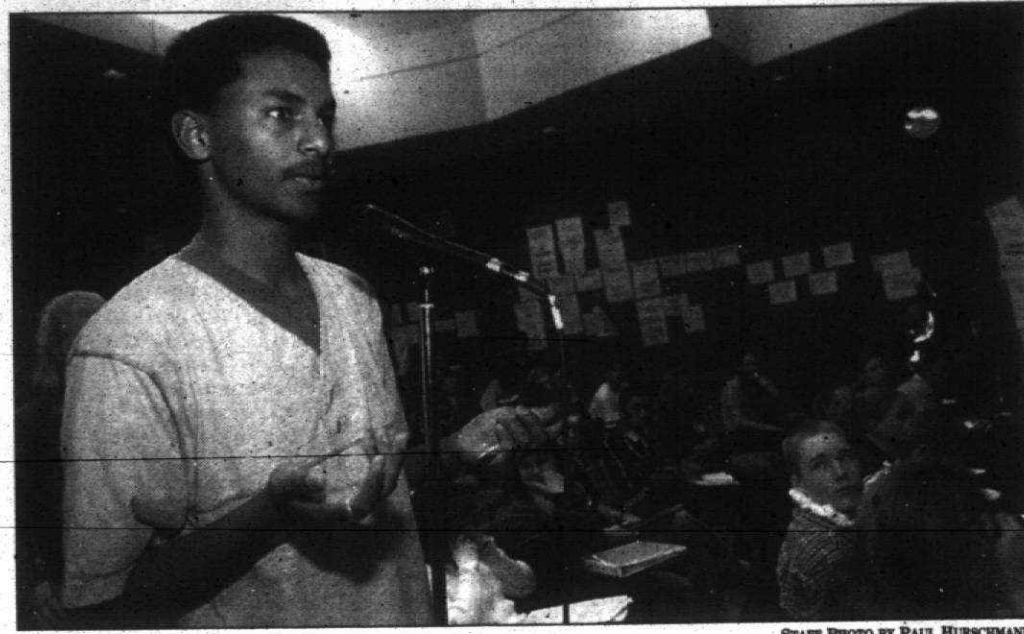
This is no petty matter. The federal government has levied income taxes on individuals at various times since the Civil War and continuously since the 16th Amendment to the Constitution was passed in 1913. The current pay-as-you-go method, around since the 1940s, relies heavily on voluntary cooperation. Compliance — even by honest tax filers — becomes more difficult in direct proportion to the complexity of the task.

Lower compliance means lost revenue for the government, more cost as the IRS tracks down wayward taxpayers and tax rates that remain artificially high to keep the revenue stream constant. It's a vicious circle.

Is it time to throw out the entire tax code and start over? We'll see.

The proof will come the next time a presidential candidate proposes a flat tax or a national sales tax. If we use the proposal as a jumping off point for serious debate — instead of just arguing about whose pockets will be picked — we'll know the time for real tax reform is at hand.

Conflict in Kosovo draws reaction at home



Current events: Andy Tessema, 18, of Canton poses a question last week during a forum at Plymouth-Canton High School. Students in the PCEP Close-Up program heard from an Albanian-American and an area peace activist about the U.S.-backed military intervention.

LETTERS

Many thanks

Our fifth-grader is among the group of Isbister students who recently returned from Space Camp in Florida. We would like to express our gratitude to a number of people for their part in this wonderful experience for our son.

First, we would like to thank the benefactors and Wayne County RESA for providing the funding necessary to allow the program to occur. This educational opportunity extended beyond the academic and technical skills attained by our son. We feel, that in addition, he also gained a tremendous sense of camaraderie, cooperation, teamwork and independence.

Next we would like to express our thanks to Tony Brusato, the Observer reporter, for his informative articles and great pictures both in the newspaper and on the Web page available to us through Internet access. How wonderful it was to be able to see the happy expressions on the faces of those kids!

We would also like to thank the Space Camp staff for their leadership and commitment to our children and the knowledge that they shared with them.

Finally, and most importantly, we would like to thank the Isbister staff members, Lee Harrison, Linda Guenzel, Vail Cicisila, Tracy Racer and Jeff Quattro. In addition to their regular teaching duties, these staff members put in countless hours of preparation prior to camp including organizing materials and team groupings, speaking with the various media visiting the school, counseling parents, and preparing the children. Once at camp, these staff members continued their commitment to the children by learning with them, sharing meals with them, keeping tabs on them, helping with homesickness, and providing support when needed. A voice mail message box was established and updated once or twice a day to keep parents informed of daily events. This was a tremendous comfort to parents who were many miles away from their children. The thoroughness and professionalism exhibited by this staff is to be commended. We consider ourselves fortunate to have our children attend a school with such outstanding staff members.

Space Camp was a wonderful experience for our son. Many thanks to all of you who helped to make it happen.

Bob and Joanne Kokoszka
Plymouth

Fire lanes are important

I am writing this letter to commend the Canton Police Department for ticketing patrons of Bruegger's Bagels on Ford Road in Canton for parking in marked fire lanes.

I am a frequent patron of this establishment, live in the neighborhood and, like most citizens, always park in designated areas. Every time I go to Bruegger's, there are several self-centered people who have parked in the fire lane.

Good job, Canton Police! Most of us comprehend the importance of a fire lane for everyone's benefit. We appreciate your support in helping keep our community safe.

Now! Can we get you to start assisting the ordinance department in maintaining the beauty of our township by reporting ordinance violations to the ordinance department?

Carole Jacobs
Canton

Judge's argument weak

While I do not share Tim Richard's entirely negative view of the Federalist Society, neither am I impressed by the society's appallingly weak position on abortion, as conveyed, and affirmed, by Judge Henry Saad. In fact, I am deeply disturbed that any jurist or legislator subscribing to a position so clearly lacking in moral discernment has risen to such a level of public service.

The Constitution (Amendment 5) reads, "No person shall be...deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." An appeals court judge, or any other member of an organization of which the "central tenet...is intellectual honesty," who claims that the Constitution does not address "the abortion issue" is sadly lacking in intellect, making "the honesty issue" irrelevant. More importantly, to make such a claim betrays a moral vacuity that has become the norm in a society divorced from its historic conscience.

Ted Gomulka Jr.
Livonia

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

Letters should be mailed to: Editor, The Canton Observer, 794 S. Main, Plymouth, 48170.

Canton Observer

TEDO SCHNEIDER, COMMUNITY EDITOR, 734-459-2700
SUSAN PROSEK, MANAGING EDITOR, OBSERVER-NEWSPAPERS, 734-953-2149
HUGH GALLAGHER, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR, 734-953-2118
PES KNOESPEL, ADVERTISING MANAGER, 734-953-2177
JIM JIMMERSON, PUBLISHER, 734-953-2100
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MARK WARREN, CIRCULATION DIRECTOR, 734-953-2117
RICK FICORELLI, MARKETING DIRECTOR, 734-953-2150

HOMETOWN COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK, INC.
PHILIP POWER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, JEANNE TOWAR, VICE PRESIDENT/EDITORIAL, RICHARD AGINIAN, PRESIDENT

OUR MISSION: "Because we publish community newspapers, we think about community journalism in a fundamentally different way than our bigger competition. They consider themselves to be independent from the stories and communities they cover, swooping in to write the unusual or sensational and then dashing off to cover something else. We regard ourselves as both accurate journalists and as caring citizens of the communities where we work."

— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Foundation is a good way to become vested in Canton

For some time, we've heard that Canton is "community." Since a community's greatest resource is its residents, I encourage each person to give a little thought to their role in the "community," including their opportunities and responsibilities with other residents.

As a resident of Canton, I am continually impressed by the quality of the people who live and work here. Also, I am pleasantly surprised by the ever increasing number of families making Canton their home from all over the world. Clearly, Canton's focus on the community's quality of life has made Canton one of America's "destination locations" for relocating families. This presents unique opportunities. Of course, opportunity comes with responsibility.

The privileges intrinsic to Canton provide dynamic opportunities for Canton's newest and oldest residents alike which, if taken, can further enhance our community and benefit our residents. For example, with so many new residents from around the globe, "locals," or long-term residents have a chance to make a first and lasting impression on newcomers by acting as a concierge or welcome wagon of sorts. Certainly the Canton Newcomers, as an organization, makes every effort to make new residents feel welcomed. This, however, is

a job for everyone. Sharing a little "local knowledge" about our area's tremendous resources or little things (like restaurants, cleaners, schools, etc.) can make a big difference. After all, some may not make Canton home for long, but it should feel like home all along. Even after they've moved.

Other than that it's the right thing to do, there are several reasons for my suggestion. First, many of these are short-term transferees taking a brief step in their climb up their respective corporate ladders. These career-oriented dynamos are, or will become, important decision-makers in their companies and our economy. Once here, they have a lot to offer in their community and are a great addition to our greatest resource (residents). By getting to know them, and helping them get to know the community, the likelihood of their participating in and contributing to our community is greatly improved. Canton's future can be strengthened with all the "cross-pollination" of their ideas, experiences and resources. Their base of knowledge about successful and innovative projects, programs, developments from around the nation and world can be used to cultivate and enrich the mosaic of Canton's quality of life.

Second, these transient "movers and shakers" will have an impact on the future reputation of the Canton

GUEST COLUMNIST



BRYAN AMANN

community. As they move to new areas, or talk with other prospective newcomers in their own companies, their impression of Canton may be the only information others have to rely on. If for no other reason than to selfishly protect our property values by the steady influx of newcomers, you should be concerned about how the impressions of others affects our image. More important, if we want to continue to attract some of the best and the brightest from around the world, we need to make every effort to capitalize on our resources.

Of course, we locals need to continually examine our "investment" in our community. Otherwise, we shouldn't expect newcomers to invest their "2 cents." You can invest in the community in a number of ways, many of

which don't involve money. Toward this end, the nonprofit Canton Community Foundation was founded years ago to identify our community's resources and its needs. The Canton Community Foundation can assist a person who would like to volunteer in a program for youth, the elderly, the environment, the symphony, the theater guild, domestic relations, neighborhood beautification, the arts, etc. You name it! Canton has it. If not, maybe it is worth starting something. In addition, there are neighborhood associations, churches, schools and hospitals who are looking for volunteers. If you live in Canton but do business elsewhere, join the Canton Chamber of Commerce anyway. Get involved!

Whether you are a "local" or a "newcomer," the Canton Community Foundation can help you start investing in yourself and the community today. Share your interests with us and we'll get you connected.

For those who consider making charitable financial donations and would like to see their charity put to use in the Canton community, the Canton Community Foundation can help. We have worthwhile programs and activities at work throughout our

community that can always use additional funding (no matter how little). We are also able to establish endowments for specific worthwhile projects if an individual or company wishes to donate accordingly. The foundation is equipped to help start separate charitable or non-profit organizations for worthy causes. One recent example was the Partnership for the Arts Inc., which is studying the feasibility of a community performing arts center.

By getting active, volunteering or donating in the community, you are investing in your community and yourself. The personal rewards will easily outweigh the contribution. Your knowledge of and exposure to the community will grow allowing you to be a better ambassador for Canton. Whether you are a "local" or "newcomer," you can make a lasting impression on the Canton community. Just ask yourself: If not you, who? In return, the Canton community will make a lasting impression on you.

If you would like any information on the Canton Community Foundation, please contact us at (734) 398-5000.

Bryan L. Amann is an attorney living in Canton and the chairman of the Canton Community Foundation.

LETTERS

Hugh Sarha Middle School

I would like to put my two cents in to make a suggestion on the name of our new middle school or possibly the new high school.

In the past, the schools in our district have been named after school superintendents and teachers. It seems that we are slipping away from that and heading toward something new.

I would briefly like to tell you about

a young man who was a local sports hero and a student of Plymouth Salem High School. His name was Hugh Sarha, a young man from the 1960s and 70s, who was well-known and respected for his athletic abilities. I believe that his shot put record has not been broken until this day.

Hugh Sarha answered the call of his country and was off to Vietnam in 1968. Somewhere in Vietnam, his patrol was pinned down by the North Vietnamese, putting them in harm's

way.

Hugh broke away from the patrol and got behind the enemy and laid down such heavy fire that the enemy backed off and his patrol broke free and they were saved.

In the process of returning to his patrol, he was hit by enemy fire and also hit a mine, known as Bouncing Betty.

Hugh was flown to a field hospital, where he lost his arm. He died two weeks later.

He has always been my hero. I didn't personally know him, but I knew of his courage and selfless act to save the lives of his patrol. The lives that he saved could have been your brother, son or husband. This was a kid who had the same goals and dreams that your child has, but laid there for two weeks in a field hospital knowing that his life was done.

Hugh Sarha never had a chance to even get off of the ground. When a prominent person of the school dis-

trict has their name put on a school it is a great honor. They have given many years and dedication to bestow that honor.

Hugh Sarha gave his life to preserve all of the principles that we Americans live by and reaped no benefits. Hugh Sarha should be the new name for the new middle school.

John Poppas
Plymouth

Campus reveals world of hope

Last week, my 17-year-old son, Nathan, and I participated in the rite of spring, junior year. We went on the road together, just the two of us, visiting colleges.

It was an emotional time for me. The symbolism of the journey — driving down the road of life together — got stronger when I realized that the end of the road for Nathan was the start of the process by which he ultimately would leave home and become an independent adult.

So as we stood in the small circle around the student volunteer tour guide, I felt so proud of my fine son and at the same time so protective and so anxious that he do well. Don't interfere, I kept saying to myself as I hung back at the edge of the group; this is Nathan's trip and he has to do it on his own.

So while he was off talking with the other kids and checking out the campus in the mysterious way that only 17-year-olds possess, I sat under the oaks and watched the Frisbee players on the green grass and the classes gathered outdoors around the professors in the new spring sun.

There were all kinds of kids. Black kids from the big cities and blond farm boys from the country. Asian girls with coffee-colored skins and Jewish boys with yarmulkes tight to their heads. One had a Palestinian headdress and another green hair.

I couldn't help reflecting as I sat there. Here are all these kids, of all different backgrounds and types, all come together at college, that most American of all institutions.

And — so amazing and so American — they are all getting along together. Sure, there were a few all-black groups and a few all-girl clusters. But mostly it was just a lot of different kids, all together, all having a good time at college in the warm spring.

How different it would be today, I thought, in Kosovo, where the sky is gray and the mud deep and the hatred and fear between Serbs and Albanians is so savage and sharp. Or in Rwanda, where Tutsi and Hutu have hated each other for generations and still — even on the far side of a genocide — hate each other with undiminished fury. Or in Israel and Palestine, or between Armenians and Turks. Or between the various tribes in Somalia.

The list goes on and on.

It seemed to me, sitting there under the oaks watching the college kids happy and at peace, that what I was seeing before me was one of the truly unique blessings of America. And I nearly wept with gratitude and, well, patriotism.

Somewhere, by some mysterious alchemy, here in the New World we seem to have a shot at



PHILIP POWER

Here are all these kids, of all different backgrounds and types, all come together at college, that most American of all institutions. And — so amazing and so American — they are all getting along together.

overcoming the historic hatreds that arise and have arisen for centuries, almost literally from the soil of the history and geography of the Old World. Once people have moved to a new land, complete with different history and altered geography, it's harder to nurse historic hatreds.

Another part of it, I suppose, is the extraordinary opportunity for all that America offers. A rising tide lifting all boats doesn't require zero-sum hatred for individual success.

Of course, I'm too old and probably too cynical not to realize that people in America still hate each other, often with just as much passion as elsewhere. But plainly what is fundamentally different about America is that those hatreds usually arise out of specific personal circumstances and not out of generic animosities that have been nurtured for generations and probably will never be resolved.

And so as I sat on the grass and reflected about my son and offered up my little prayer for him and his success, the verses from the base of the Statue of Liberty rose in my memory:

"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.

The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me:

I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at: ppower@online.com

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:
Where will you go for spring break?



We asked this question at Plymouth Salem High School.

"A cabin in Grayling, Mich. There's no electricity, no how water. Just a bunch of friends having a good time."

Matt Wong
Plymouth



"I'm vacationing in Canton. I have to work at the Big Boy."

Melissa Brookline
Canton



"I'm going to Cancun with about five friends."

Spencer Erickson
Canton



"South Padre Island (Texas). Just to hang out with a lot of friends."

Erin Kenney
Canton

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COMMON SENSORS



JACQUE MARTIN-DOWNS

A valuable lesson about labeling kids

When I was in sixth grade, the teacher told the students that our graduation ceremony from elementary to "junior high" would include a famous tradition that had been passed down since the school opened in the 1930s. This ritual was entitled The Prophecy.

The idea was that the class would predict what they thought each person would be when they grew up. Although I cannot remember the details of how we gained consensus, I do remember that we determined Mark was going to be an astronaut (something we hardly knew about in 1961), Chris was going to be a writer, Laurie was going to be a teacher, and I was going to be a hostess.

A hostess? I hardly understood what that meant, except that it didn't sound electrifying and heady. So I went merrily on my way, thinking that maybe it was June Cleaver, or Lucy Ricardo (on a good day).

Thankfully, my mother never kidded me about my hostess designation. Had my mom also agreed that maybe I was going to be a hostess, I may very well have been one today. In fact, she encouraged me to write, to dance, to play tennis and, of course, study the harp, which became my major in high school and college. My ultimate goal for myself was the become a studio harpist at Universal Studios. Obviously, I'm not there yet!

I tell you that story only to say, that we can have an enormous impact on our children when we pigeonhole them into roles that do not necessarily benefit them.

Not written in stone

People's character and personalities are not immutable ... written in stone. But unfortunately, when a child begins to get cast in a role, he or she becomes more and more like the ascribed attribute. You've no doubt heard people referring to their child as a dawdler, a scatterbrain, a regular-talking-machine, a poor listener, a brat, not wrapped too tight and probably other things not so nice.

While I was running a small group of second-graders one time, a staff member stopped me in the hall to give me "the lowdown" on one of my little charges. He described the little boy as troublesome and a jack-in-the-box.

"Good luck trying to get him to sit still."

As I look back on the boy, I remember thinking that he was a busy little person. I preferred "busy" over the other qualities.

After reading "How To Talk So Kids Will Listen," I used six keys from the book that helped me enormously. First, I looked for opportunities to show him that he really could sit still and attend to the project we were doing. I would compliment him for it with, "You really know how to sit quietly."

Put him in charge

Second, I put him in charge of helping another boy who could not read the directions. He liked being the boy's "mentor."

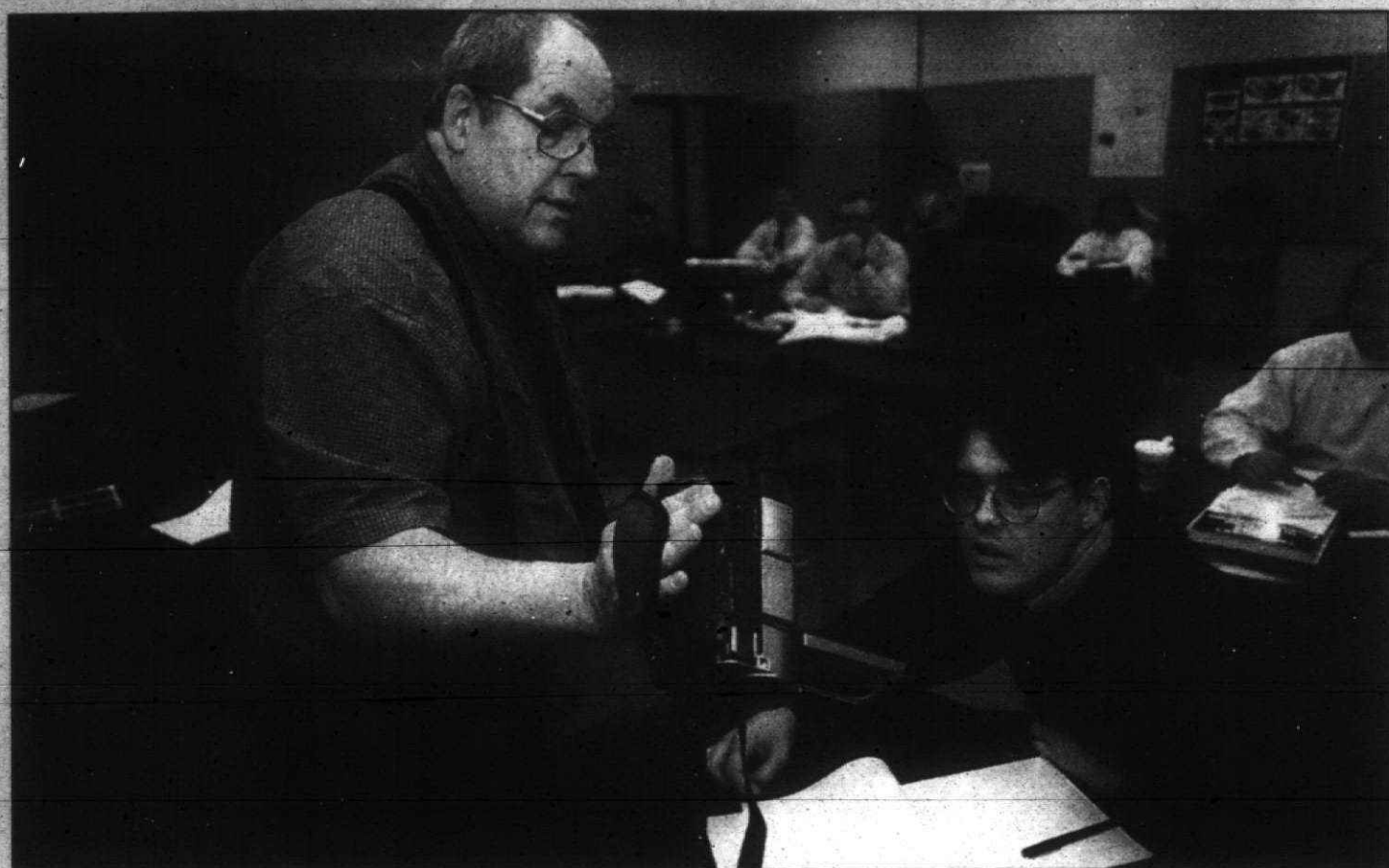
Third, I would walk behind him as he walked back to his class, and I would tell my aide, how great he was in the group and how he really knew how to sit still. You could almost see his smile from the back of his head.

Fourth, I would model respectful manners while I was with the group, and ask the same from them. "Uh, oh, John. I didn't hear you ask for the scissors using your magic words." He, and the others quickly caught on and had excellent behavior through the eight weeks.

Fifth, when I saw him "losing it," I reminded him of how I knew he could sit quietly and wait his turn as he had done so well the prior week.

And last but not least, I was clear about my expectations for him, and nine times out of 10, he lived up to

Please see SENSORS, B2



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Tricks of the trade: Russ Rheume shows Ben Bunnell, a student, how a night vision video camera works during a class at Henry Ford Community College.

Private eyes get college treatment

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

Russ Rheume calls it his "crack cases." His videotaped collage of his career as a private investigator is straight out of an episode of "America's Dumbest Criminals."

One man claimed to have back problems yet was lifting heavy drywall. Another man who also had a bad back pushed his lawn mower to the side of the yard after he ran out of gas. There's one thing that these videotaped cases have in common - most of the subjects are bending over.

"This job is not what it's all cracked up to be; I throw that in to add a little humor," he said.

Humor is the key ingredient in his "Techniques of Private Investigating" class at Henry Ford Community College. The tape always makes his students laugh and makes them feel comfortable in his classroom. After all, private investigators have to feel

comfortable with their jobs.

The class is in its second semester at HFCC. Last winter, only seven students enrolled in the class. Now, a year later, Rheume, a Livonia resident, has 15 students.

"Most of them are criminal justice and security majors, but really anybody can take this class," he said. "Right now, this is innovative. They're the first formal college to have an associate's degree specializing in private investigating. Before, it used to be criminal justice; now it's criminal justice and divided into security and private investigation."

Jackie Marsh of Dearborn will be the first graduate of the program. Marsh, a Colorado native, heard about the class through an advertisement in PI Magazine and moved to Dearborn to attend HFCC.

"I love Russ' class. It's kind of hard to believe, but I remember him saying once that they always do 'bowling checks' on people to see if people bowl.

A lot of people who have injuries bowl," she said with a laugh. "It was kind of ironic because where I work I had a case where the claimant bowled. And I was like, 'Oh, that's the stuff that Russ teaches.'"

"I thought Russ was full of baloney and I had to eat it."

Shooting for psychology

Rheume took his aspirations to become a psychologist all the way to college. After earning a degree in psychology, Rheume went to Detroit Diesel to work on computers. Bored and yearning to work with people, he moved to General Motors' workers compensation department in June 1969.

Eventually, he left GM to work for several detective agencies and as a worker's compensation insurance adjuster. In 1975, he was a self-employed insurance adjuster.

"Then I had to get my license," Rheume explained. "Somebody

squealed and said I was doing detective work, so at that point I had to work for somebody for three years. I took my business and I worked for somebody else's license and got my own."

There are three ways to be certified as a private investigator. A potential PI can earn a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, work for a detective agency for three years full time, or be a former police officer.

As the owner of Special Inquiry Company in Livonia, Rheume focuses on detective work. Attorneys and insurance companies are his primary clients.

"What I do is workers compensation fraud and also liability. That covers anything that's not work related like slip and falls, car accidents, all those kinds of things," he said.

Rheume also does background checks and investigation work for suspicious spouses or significant others.

Please see DEGREE, B2

True detective stories ... not quite Mike Hammer

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



After nearly 30 years in the business, Russ Rheume is filled with stories about detective work.

An insurance company hired Rheume to investigate a claim involving a man who said he was disabled and couldn't work with his hands and arms.

"He worked for an auto dealer Bonding cars. He went to court and said, 'I can't work at all,'" he said. "We went through our activity check found out he was singing (at a restaurant). I went there with my secretary. I asked him, 'Gee you're

great. We have a family reunion every year. We had a Texas theme last year, we want to go Mexican this year.' So he put on a show just for me and my videocamera. We showed this in court."

His first case wasn't that easy. At age 25, Rheume was sent out to investigate the possible theft from a meat-packing company in Eastern Market. The president of the company thought that the security guard was in on it, so he arranged for Rheume to enter the facility at night.

"I was dressed in 'grubbies,' I literally had to sneak in the place," he said. "I didn't have a gun or anything. I was just a kid walking in there. I had a key to get into the president's office."

"At night, it was kind of scary. You're going to think I'm making this up but the other guy in the

car, he has one arm. He's my boss."

So Rheume snuck in, climbed up a ladder through dirty pipes, hid behind a door, avoided the rats and entered the room.

"It's a slaughterhouse. The animals are hanging. There's this big giant walk-in refrigerator. There's rubber doors to go in and out of. Nobody's supposed to be going there at night. At 3 a.m., two guys roll barrels into there and that was my cue to leave."

He ran through the slaughterhouse but before reaching the car, he was stopped dead in his tracks - "There were all these animal heads with eyes looking right at me."

He exited the building just in time to see the

Please see STORIES, B2

Power Team puts oomph behind message

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

They bill themselves as "the world's greatest exhibition of power, strength, speed, inspiration and motivation." 18 guys who do everything from splitting cement blocks in half with their hands to turning Louisville Sluggers into toothpicks.

They're a big hit in the South and the members of Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City are hoping for the same when four members of "John Jacobs and The Power Team" visit the church in May.

"They've been doing this for 20 years; they're very popular throughout the South and are just moving north," said Carl Hengstebeck, who with the pastor, Rev. Wayne Parker, and Jeff Keith are organizing the visit. "This is their first time in this area. They'll be Jackson in April and have been in Monroe and Roscommon before that."

The Power Team members - Greg Mead, Russ Clear, Aundre Simms and Tony Evans - have a two-fold mission when they arrive in Garden City May 19-23. During their five-day stay, they will perform and give testimony at 7 p.m. each night at the church, 2055 Merriman, south of Ford Road.

Organizers anticipate an overflow crowd each night. There will be seating for 500 in the church and an additional 200-300 in the building next door where their performance will be shown on closed-circuit television.

During the day, they will switch to a message about self-esteem, drug and alcohol abuse, teen pregnancy and the need for academics that organizers hope will be delivered to students in 10-12 area schools.

"At the church, they'll do big feats and talk about God, but in the school assemblies, they won't talk about God," said Hengstebeck. "One of the men (Clear) is a former white supremacist

and his testimony about how he felt then and how he feels now brings tear to your eyes."

"Students who have heard them rate them very highly. They've been endorsed by more than 40 mayors, governors and senators and their program is considered the No. 1 anti-drug assembly in the country."

The church has been working to bring the group to town after Parker saw them perform in Monroe 1 1/2 years ago. He told Hengstebeck about them and what they did and asked if he was interested. Hengstebeck said yes. Keith was recruited to help earlier this year.

Costly endeavor

Bringing The Power Team members to town is a costly endeavor. The church is flying them in from Dallas, Texas, providing their

Please see POWER TEAM, B2



CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND CANTON

WEEKEND

SAT WORKSHOP

■ SAT I college entrance examination workshops are offered by Oakland University College of Arts and Sciences. Workshop meets on Saturdays for three weeks starting April 10 on the Oakland University campus in Rochester. Cost is \$145. For a brochure and to register, call (248) 370-3125.

FABULOUS FABLE FACTORY

■ Whistle Stop Players present "The Fabulous Fable Factory," 8 p.m. Friday, April 23, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, April 24, and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 25, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 525 Farmer, Plymouth. Mike Prager from Memory Lane Antiques will be the guest speaker. Seniors may bring one or two pieces, but not jewelry. Michigan Eye Center will hold an eye screening from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the United Home Health will check blood pressures 12:30-3:30 p.m. at the Cultural Center. For more information, call (313) 453-1234, Ext. 236.

SWING DANCE CLASS

■ The Dance Connection in Canton is sponsoring "Swing Dance" classes for adults and teens. The classes will be on Saturday, April 24. Beginner swing class is 3:30-4:30 p.m., and the intermediate class is 4:30-5:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person. Classes will be conducted by Tim Smola, a former Mr. Dance of Michigan and currently a member of the Peter Sparing Dance Company in Ann Arbor. For more information, call (313) 562-1203 or (734) 397-9755.

ANNUAL AUCTION

■ New Morning School, a nonprofit parent cooperative school in Plymouth Township, will be hosting its 23rd annual auction, "Western Extravaganza," 5 p.m. to midnight Saturday, April 24, in Laurel Manor, Livonia. Cost is \$55, which includes dinner, open bar, live and silent auction. Auction items include jerseys autographed by Detroit Red Wings Sergei Fedorov, Steve Yzerman, Brendan Shanahan and more; trips to Las Vegas, Vail, Colorado, Disney, Lake Tahoe; and whitewater rafting and more. Proceeds benefit the individualized programs at New Morning School. For more information and reservations, call the school at (734) 420-3331.

AROUND TOWN

CANTON SOFTBALL CENTER

■ The Canton Softball Center is now registering teams for adult leagues and its Early Bird Classic Softball Tournament 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.

GENERAL MEETING

■ The Vietnam Veterans of America general meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 12, at 9318 Newburgh, between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail in Livonia. All veterans on active duty Jan. 1, 1959-May 7, 1975, regardless of duty station are eligible. For more information, call Don Dignan at (313) 845-3752 or at (734) 525-0157.

FOSTER CARE

■ A foster parent orientation will be held 6:30 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.

ANNUAL AUCTION

■ Madonna University will hold its 11th annual "Around the World Scholarship Dinner Auction," on Friday, April 16, at the Earhart Manor Banquet and Video Conference Center, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Proceeds from the auction will provide scholarship opportunities for Madonna University students and will support other projects, making higher education accessible to a diverse student body. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a silent auction followed by dinner and a live auction. The goal for this year's auction is to raise in excess of \$280,000. The general admission ticket price is \$75 and includes dinner, open bar and the live and silent auction. Gold Inner Circle seating tickets are available for \$125 and allow special seating near the center stage. Winner of the grand prize raffle ticket will own a 1999 Sedan DeVille from Don Massey Cadillac. No more than 750 raffle tickets will be sold at \$200 each. The official sponsors of the 1999 auction are Don Massey Cadillac Inc., Northwest Airlines, Kimcraft Printers Inc., and Al Long Ford Inc. For more information, call (734) 432-5588 or 432-5421.

WOMEN PAINTERS

■ The Ann Arbor Women Painters present, "Can We Talk?" 7 p.m. Monday, April 19, at the Earhart Manor Clubhouse, 835 Greenhills, Ann Arbor. A panel of artists from the Ann Arbor Women Painters will talk about issues. The public is welcome. For more information, call (734) 663-2825.

ANTIQUE APPRAISAL CLINIC

■ The Plymouth Historical Museum will host Ernest DuMouchelle Art Gallery in Detroit at an Antique Appraisal Clinic 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 20. DuMouchelle is the Detroit area's leading authority on antique appraisals and currently travels with the PBS Antique Roadshows as one of their appraisers. This is the 12th annual clinic hosted by the museum. Call the museum to reserve an appointment time at (734) 455-8940. Appointments will be made every 20 minutes and you may bring up to five handheld items or a photo with measurements and details for larger items. Appraisals are \$6 per item for an oral appraisal or \$10 per item for a professional written appraisal. All proceeds benefit the Plymouth Historical Museum and its programs.

LEGAL FAIR

■ Wayne County Neighborhood Legal Service presents a free community legal fair sponsored under a Canton Township Community Development Block Grant 6:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 21, at the Canton Township Services Building, Michigan and Sheldon. Attorneys will provide legal discussions and individual consultations on legal issues such as: elder abuse, grandparents' rights, family law, estate planning, consumer and public benefits/tax assistance. For more information, call (313) 562-1203 or (734) 397-9755.

BOOSTER GROUP

■ In preparation for the upcoming approval of the high school hockey teams, the Booster Group needs volunteers interested in being board members, fund raising, working on games and organizing functions. Past experiences as a booster member is not necessary. All volunteers are welcome, including those who do not have children playing hockey or in high school. The group is also interested in any contributions from local businesses and corporate sponsors. This is a new program to allow more students to participate in an athletic program for their school. Call Kathy Lash at (734) 453-6518.

LOGO CONTEST

■ The Canton Liberty Fest is running a contest for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools students to design the logo for the annual event. The first-place winner will receive a Liberty Fest package including a \$100 Savings Bond, T-shirts for the entire family, Summit passes and other prizes. The winning logo will be displayed on T-shirts and promotional materials for this year's festival in June and the winning designer will have his/her photo in the Observer Newspapers. The contest is open to students in the third-eighth grades. The design should fit the front of an adult-sized T-shirt and use a

CALENDAR FORM

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

Event: _____
Date and Time: _____
Location: _____
Telephone: _____
Additional Info.: _____

Use additional sheet if necessary

MILITARY NEWS

To submit your military announcement, send the material, printed or typewritten, to: Plymouth Canton Observer, 794 S. Main St., Plymouth, MI 48170.

GRADUATED

Army Spec. Kevin C. McGurk has graduated from the 61-day Ranger training course at the U.S. Army Ranger School, Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. The training phases are conducted at Fort Benning, in the mountains of northern Georgia, and in the Florida swamps at Eglin Air Force Base, Valparaiso, Fla. The course is designed to develop confident and capable small-unit leaders. Additional emphasis is placed on developing combat functional skills for planning and conduct-

ing ground, airborne, and waterborne patrolling operations. The trainees perform individual and collective tasks and missions in tactically realistic environments under mental and physical stresses experienced during combat conditions. McGurk is an infantryman with the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Hunter Army Airfield, Hinesville, Ga. He is the son of Linda M. Murphy of Toledo, Ohio, and Jim McGurk of Plymouth. The specialist is a 1991 graduate of Amherst Steele High School, Amherst, and a 1996 graduate of the University of Cincinnati, Ohio. Army Reserve Pvt. Richard A. Gronczewski has graduated from the wheeled vehicle repair course at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen, Md. The students were taught to troubleshoot, repair, replace and adjust all related and associated electrical, mechanical and hydraulic components, systems, and assemblies of wheeled vehicles and diesel power plants/packs. Use of publications, tools and diagnostic equipment were also included in the training. Gronczewski is the son of Richard M. Gronczewski of Plymouth. He is a 1990 graduate of Garden City High School. Army Pvt. Laurence C. Anderson has graduated from the automated logistical specialist advanced individual training course at Fort Lee, Petersburg, Va. The soldier was trained in the

maximum of five colors. Deadline for entries is May 1. Drawings may be submitted to D & M Studio, 8691 N. Lilley, Canton 48188.

RELAY FOR LIFE

■ The 1999 Plymouth-Canton Relay for Life, a 24-hour run/walkathon to raise money for the American Cancer Society, will be held May 8-9 at Heritage Park in Canton. Teams consist of 12 or more people who divide up the relay so that a member is on the track at all times. Team members are asked to raise \$100 each to participate. There will be entertainment and refreshments for the duration of the event. Student volunteers are also needed. For information on participation or sponsorship, call Gloria Peterson at the ACS Great Lakes Division, (248) 557-5353. For information on becoming a volunteer, call Debbie Zevalink, (734) 397-5381.

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. 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 Magdon. For more information, call (734) 398-7557.

DANCE CAMP

■ Michigan Dance Express will be holding their summer dance camp program at Camp Connection in Fenton. The camp is designed for dancers ages 8 and up and who want to experience traditional camping experiences along with exciting dance classes. Dance classes will be held in ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, modeling, swing and more. Campers will also participate in boating, swimming, hiking, and games. The camp runs from July 25 through July 29. Space is still available. For more information, call (313) 562-1203 or (734) 397-9755.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County is looking for volunteers to help build three homes in Inkster this year. Volunteers will do site preparation on weekends, beginning Saturday, April 10, to get ready for the site's dedication on May 1 and the Building Blitz June 13-26. Volunteers will work 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and 1-6 p.m. Sundays until the blitz. The home sites are in the Cherry Hill-Middlebelt area. The base site will be at the intersection of Glenwood and Division, south of Avondale and west of Middlebelt. Both skilled and unskilled help is needed for the project as well as financial and materials donations and meals for the workers. Habitat for Humanity volunteer Barbara Fichtenberg estimates that 50-60 volunteers are needed each day to complete the homes. A building committee meeting for anyone interested in helping will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 14, at St. Kenneth's Catholic Parish, Haggerty, south of Five Mile, Plymouth Township. A volunteer committee meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, for people interested in helping develop volunteers, maintain the volunteer data base, schedule people or help with the telephone calls or Web site. For more information or to schedule a workday or provide a meal, call the Habitat office at (734) 432-7700 or visit its Web site at http://online.habitat.org. Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County, a local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, works in partnership with people in need to build and renovate decent, affordable housing. Founded in 1995, the western Wayne County affiliate has built four homes with the help of volunteers and the hundreds of hours of labor - "sweat equity" - contributed by the partner families. Once completed, the homes were sold to the partner families at no profit and with no interest charged. The "mortgage" payments go into a revolving fund for

Wish you were here

Chilly break: Canton sisters April (second from left) and Amber Sawyer (holding Observer) met up with cousins Megan Maguire of Cleveland (left), Dalton Hornung (right) and Shane Hornung of Kennesaw, Ga., at Disney world in Orlando, Fla., during a recent break from school. The late February temperatures ranged from 30 to 50 degrees, not much warmer than Michigan, the Sawyers noted.

Chilly break: Canton sisters April (second from left) and Amber Sawyer (holding Observer) met up with cousins Megan Maguire of Cleveland (left), Dalton Hornung (right) and Shane Hornung of Kennesaw, Ga., at Disney world in Orlando, Fla., during a recent break from school. The late February temperatures ranged from 30 to 50 degrees, not much warmer than Michigan, the Sawyers noted.

Redford writer finds her niche is romance novels

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

Ask Shelly Thacker what was her favorite place in the world as a child and she'll tell you it was the library. Reading was a treat for her.

Her girlhood dreams were to be a writer and a jockey, but she grew too tall. Then it was a writer and veterinarian, but she couldn't stand the sight of blood, so she switched to writer and actress.

When she told her junior high school guidance counselor she wanted to be a writer, he laughed.

"He said, 'Why do you want to be a writer? Writers don't make a living,' the author of nine romance novels told her audience at the second of the Schoolcraft College Women's Resource Center winter luncheon series. "And my career interest inventory test came out as a forest ranger."

"I believe I was born to write, but nobody is meant to be a writer, you have to learn how to be one."

Thacker stuck with her dream, writing poetry and short stories in high school and doing public relations work for two years for Crittenton Hospital after earning a degree in English from Albion College.

But in 1986, she decided to try her hand at freelance writing for magazines. While those were the "salaried days" for her and her husband, they were her happiest days because she could devote herself to writing full time.

A year later, she discovered the Greater Detroit Romance Writers of America where she met a 100 or so friendly people who spoke her language and didn't think she was crazy.

She learned a very important lesson from those writers - "Writing will work for you, if you work at your writing" and she started writing her first book.



Shelly Thacker

Discovering her genre

Initially, Thacker had resisted reading and writing romance novels, but after friends gave her a copy of "Wolf and the Dove" to read, she discovered her genre.

"I wouldn't have been caught dead reading it, but I devoured that book in a couple of hours," she said. "I love the genre. I love history. I love a good love story. It's boy meets girl, boy loses girl, boy gets girl back."

It took 2 1/2 years for her to write her first novel, which she had titled "Falcon on the Silver Wind," and just four days for her publisher to find a publisher interested in a two-book contract.

Considering "an average publisher gets 10,000 manuscripts a year of which only a handful get published," the fact took her on so quickly was nothing short of a meteoric happening.

Avon first changed the book's name to "Stolen Bride," but settled on "Falcon on the Silver Wind." A Scottish romance in the tradition of "Braveheart," it was released

in 1991. The book was an Romance Writers of America Golden Heart finalist and winner of four national awards. It received 4 1/2 stars as "a compelling, memorable romance" from Romantic Times.

Romance novels are a \$1 billion-dollar industry, even though the genre has been like "the Rodney Dangerfield of the publishing world," Thacker said. Forty percent of the paperback books published are romance novels.

"We're finally getting respect we deserve," she added. "The genre has matured. It's much more sophisticated and well-crafted. It's the only popular entertainment that addresses an essential message ... not that love conquers all, but how love empowers."

Romance novels deal with themes important to women. It's women writers writing for women. And the authors, agents and publishers, for the most part, are women, Thacker added.

Thacker moved to Dell in 1997, which will release her ninth book "Into the Sunset," a romance set in 1878 Colorado, on May 11.

Fame and fortune?

Hooked on romance writing, Thacker admits that she does not live the lifestyle of the rich and famous, it's more like "lifestyles of the middle class and modestly famous." Proceeds from her first book was the down payment of their first home in Redford. Most books make \$3-5,000, she added.

She's not certain where her ideas come from and guesses they're from "everywhere." And as a writer, she works a traditional 9 to 5 day, except when under deadline which means working nights and weekends.

While her husband prefers nonfiction, he does help in the publishing process, reading galley proofs. It helps having a fresh pair of eyes look at the book one last time, checking for errors and typos.

"A lot of things can happen in the publishing process and usually it happens in the galley stage," Thacker said. "It's the most difficult time for me. It's like sending a child to the first day of school. It's the final

stage." Thacker has gained an international reputation and her books have been released in Italian, French, Chinese and Russian, to name a few.

She gets fan mail from places like Europe, Australia and Taiwan and gets e-mail from all over the world.

"I cannot do this, I can't stop writing as much as I can't stop breathing; it's that much of a part of me," Thacker said. "Even if the publisher didn't pay me, I'd still write."

The final WRC luncheon will be 11:30 a.m. Friday, April 16, in the college's Friedman Center, Haggerty Road south of Seven Mile. Bob Milne will entertain with his ragtime piano playing.

Luncheon tickets are \$14 each and are available in advance only by calling the resource center at (734) 462-4443.

Meet the author

Shelly Thacker's newest book, "Into the Sunset," will be in bookstores on May 11. Published by Dell, the book is a sensual Western set in 1878 Colorado. A U.S. marshal tracks down a desperate lady on the run who killed his brother. Trapped in a snowbound mining town, the lawman and his prisoner engage in a battle of fierce wills and fiery passions until he loses his heart and faces an impossible choice: Do his duty and bring her to justice or set her free and become an outlaw himself.

Thacker has scheduled several book signings in the metropolitan area as part of the book's release:

- 4-6 p.m. Thursday, May 13, at Books Connection, 19043 Middlebelt, Livonia.
 - 6-8 p.m. Friday, May 14, at Read It Again Books, 39733 Grand River, Novi.
 - noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 15, at The Book Exchange, 1600 S. Rochester Road, Royal Oak.
 - 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, May 19, at Aunt Dee's Book Bag, 365 S. Broadway, Lake Orion.
 - 1-3 p.m. Saturday, May 22, at Paperbacks & Things, 8044 Wayne Road, Westland.
- Fans of Thacker's books can find out more by writing her at P.O. Box 1022, Novi 48376 or visiting her Web site at shellythacker.com or <http://www.shellythacker.com>.

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Habitat for Humanity in need of volunteers

Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County is looking for volunteers to help build three homes in Inkster this year.

Volunteers will do site preparation on weekends, beginning Saturday, April 10, to get ready for the site's dedication on May 1 and the Building Blitz June 13-26. Volunteers will work 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and 1-6 p.m. Sundays until the blitz. The home sites are in the Cherry Hill-Middlebelt area.

The base site will be at the intersection of Glenwood and Division, south of Avondale and west of Middlebelt. Both skilled and unskilled help is needed for the project as well as financial and materials donations and meals for the workers.

Habitat for Humanity volunteer Barbara Fichtenberg estimates that 50-60 volunteers are needed each day to complete the homes. A building committee meeting for anyone interested in helping will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 14, at St. Kenneth's Catholic Parish, Haggerty, south of Five Mile, Plymouth Township.

A volunteer committee meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, for people interested in helping develop volunteers, maintain the volunteer data base, schedule people or help with the telephone calls or Web site.

For more information or to schedule a workday or provide a meal, call the Habitat office at (734) 432-7700 or visit its Web site at <http://online.habitat.org>.

Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County, a local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, works in partnership with people in need to build and renovate decent, affordable housing.

Founded in 1995, the western Wayne County affiliate has built four homes with the help of volunteers and the hundreds of hours of labor - "sweat equity" - contributed by the partner families.

Once completed, the homes were sold to the partner families at no profit and with no interest charged. The "mortgage" payments go into a revolving fund for

skills and knowledge required to receive, store, issue, ship, and account for subsistence supplies. The training included ration breakdown, and commissary functions such as price changes, inventory, displays, and security. Anderson is the son of Lawrence C. and Linda R. Anderson of Canton. He is a 1998 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School.

Army Pvt. Michael R. Reeves has arrived at Fort Knox, Ky., to complete basic combat training. Reeves is the son of Richard M. Reeves of Plymouth and grandson of Beatrice A. Reeves of Plymouth.

Army Pvt. Laurence C. Anderson has graduated from the automated logistical specialist advanced individual training course at Fort Lee, Petersburg, Va. The soldier was trained in the

Camp Corner Directory

Every Summer thousands of children look forward to camp...

....Give them the opportunity to experience yours with an advertisement in our 1999 Summer Camp Corner.

ARTSTART SUMMER CAMP
Creative Experiences for Children • Age 3-9
• Art • Music • Drama • Water Play
• Science • Outdoor Activities • Water Play
• Computer Special Visitors
31195 W. 13 Mile • Farmington Hills
248-626-2850 • Open • 9am to 6pm
Full & half days available

New Morning School
Discovery Days
July 7-25 • Ages 3-10
Science & Math Camps
July 12-August 13 • Ages 6-12
734-420-3331

BASKETBALL AMERICA SUMMER CAMPS
• T-shirts • Basketballs • Prizes • Awards
257 W. Clarkson Rd. • Lake Orion
1-800-954-5757 or 1-248-693-5555

Northville Montessori Center Summer Day Camp
15709 Haggerty Road
734-420-0924 • Preschool
248-345-5093 • Elementary
Extended Hours Available

Livonia Family YMCA
Day Camp
10 Weeks
June 14-August 20
Ages 3-14
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ROCHESTER HILLS STABLES
Summer Day Camp
• Two English riding lessons daily
• Horse care on the farm
• Horse shows on the farm
• 3 Two-Week Sessions
• One-Week Sessions
June-August 8:30-3:30 p.m.
(810) 752-9520 / (810) 752-6020

The International School Day Camp
Ages K-8th
• French • Spanish & English
• Sports • Science • Art • Music
(248) 851-7372
28555 Middlebelt Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI 48334

Sail Into Summer!
Camp Westminster
on Haggerty Lake • Since 1925
Canoeing, Biking, Sailing!
Develop Faith and Self-esteem.
www.campwestminster.com
(313) 341-2697 ex 204

All Girls, K-12
Day Camps • Science, music, sports, animals and more for about \$15 per day. Sites in 20 local communities.
Resident Camps • Horses, farm animals, boating, nature study, bike trips, cookouts and adventure!
For a free camp booklet, call 800.326.0109, x218.
Girl Scouts.
Where Girls Grow Strong™

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

RELIGIOUS NEWS

Holy Trinity installs new associate pastor

At one time its interim pastor, the Rev. Joel Brandt will be installed as associate pastor at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Livonia on Sunday, April 11.

Brandt studied history, literature and philosophy at Northwestern University, earning a bachelor of arts degree in 1983. He also studied New Testament Greek at Trinity Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, before beginning seminary studies at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, Ill.

He spent one year on a parish internship at First Lutheran Church in Shawnee, Mission, Kan., before graduating from the Lutheran School

of Theology in 1987 with his master of divinity degree.

Ordained on Feb. 11, 1988, he was called as assistant pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Ypsilanti. He completed service there in 1992 and enrolled in the graduate library studies program at the University of Michigan, receiving his master's degree in 1994.

From 1994 to 1998, he served as the founding director of the John E. Biersdorf Library at the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit, working to establish a new library collection to serve the growing ministerial studies program. He is still a member

of the ETS faculty.

Since 1992, he also served as interim pastor at the Southwestern Michigan Synod-parishes of Zion in Ann Arbor, Holy Trinity in Livonia, Timothy in Livonia, St. Mark in Ypsilanti, Good Shepherd in Royal Oak and Shalom in Pinckney.

Brandt is a member of the Synod Youth Committee, Professional Leadership Support Committee, Lutheran AIDS Support Network and American Theological Library Association. He recently joined the Synod's Ecumenical Committee.

Married, he and his wife, Susan Carter, have four children. They live in Ypsilanti.



Rev. Joel K. Brandt

Corps volunteer in Poland at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 14, in the Activity Center at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Suchara, who has a doctoral degree, taught at a university in Warsaw. Now 80 years old, she joined the Peace Corps at age 70.

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group of Church of Today West will meet 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 15, at the Novi Public Library, 45245 W. 10 Mile. Nov. Church of Today West holds worship services at 10 a.m. Sundays at Meadowbrook Elementary School, Meadowbrook Road south of 13 Mile. Barbara Clevenger is the senior minister. For more information, call (248) 449-8900 or visit the Web site at www.cotwest.com.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other April 16-18 at the St. John's Family Life Center, 44011 Five Mile, Plymouth Township. The registration fee is \$50. Call Bill and Carol at (248) 528-2512 or Dan and Debbie at (810) 286-5524.

BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST

Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance for divorced and separated Christians, will have line dance lessons at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, Hagerty South of Five Mile Road, Plymouth Township. There will be no charge.

GRIEFSHARE PROGRAM

St. Michael Lutheran Church will host a special weekly seminar and support group, GriefShare, for people who are grieving the death of someone close to them, 7-9:15 p.m. Sundays, beginning April 18. The seminars will run for 13 weeks at the church, 7000 Sheldon Road, Canton, and will provide information about recovering from grief and renewing hope for the future.

The cost for materials will be

Please see RELIGION, B5

Listings for the Religious News 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) 593-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2131.

PRAYER GROUP

St. Edith's Prayer group will meet at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 8, in the church meeting room, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. The evening of praise, Scripture and singing will feature the Rev. Denis Theraux, associate pastor at St. Edith's. For more information, call Cecile at (734) 591-3947 or Paul at (734) 462-9648.

ROMANCE SALES

Clarenceville United Methodist Church will have and bake sale 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 8, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, April 9, at the church, 20300 Middlebelt, Livonia.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church will have a rummage and bake sale 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 8, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 10, at the church, 20805 Middlebelt, at Eight Mile, Farmington Hills. Saturday will feature a bag sale. Baked goods and light lunches will be available.

Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church will have a rummage sale 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 10, at the church, 9600 Levee, between Beech Daly and Inkster roads, Redford. The bag sale will be 1-2 p.m., and a snack bar will be available.

St. Timothy Presbyterian

Church will have its annual rummage sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday-Friday, April 15-16, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 17, at the church, 18700 Newburgh, south of Six Mile, Livonia.

The Women's Guild of St. Maurice Church will have its spring rummage sale 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 15, at the church, 32765 Lyndon, east of Farmington Road, Livonia.

FRIEND DAY
Warren Road Light and Life Free Methodist Church will have Friend day Sunday, April 11, at

the church, 33445 Warren Road, Westland. Marvin Jones will be the special musical guest at the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services.

At 5 p.m. that day, the church will hold Y2K Night and have an expert speak about the problem. Ice cream and snacks will be served. For more information, call the church at (734) 458-7301.

CAREGIVER PROGRAM

Members of the Aid Association of Lutherans Branch 3233 at Timothy Lutheran Church will sponsor "Taking Care: Easing the Role of the Family Care-

giver," a program for those who will care and who will be involved in helping aged parents or relatives who have become impaired or ill. 11:45 a.m. Sunday, April 11, in the Christian Education Room of the church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia. For more information about the program, call James Willey at (734) 464-0451.

"HOME-COMING" SERVICE
The Rev. Jimmy Lawson of Community Free Will Baptist Church will conduct a "Homecoming" Service Sunday, April 11, at the church, 33031 Cherry Hill Road, Westland.

Services will begin with Sunday School at 10 a.m., followed by the morning worship at 11 a.m. Dinner, served in the church gymnasium, and fellowship and singing in the church sanctuary will follow. For more information, call the church at (734) 721-9040.

The church also will have a revival, featuring the Rev. Paul Ange of South Carolina, at 7 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, April 25-28.

RADIO DEDICATION

Cardinal Adam Maida will preside over dedication ceremonies for Detroit Catholic Radio at a 2 p.m. Mass Sunday,

April 11, at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 5775 Merriman, Garden City.

The ceremony highlights the success DCR has seen since it began broadcasting in September as WCAR 1090 AM. The station was purchased by a group of local investors last May.

DCR programming includes daily Mass, educational and event talk shows and community calendar of events.

"WIND AND FIRE"
Life in the Holy Spirit Seminars will be presented at 7 p.m. Mondays, April 12-May 17, at St. Bernadine of Sienna Church, 31463 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. For more information, call the church at (734) 522-0138.

FARMINGTON AGLOW

Farmington Aglow International, a network of caring women, will meet 7:30-9:30 p.m. Monday, April 12, at the Farmington Hills Library. Penni Schwendenmann, president of the Canton-Westland Aglow, will bring a word of hope to women burdened with guilt, carrying a heavy load and weary. For more information, call Karen at (248) 682-3733.

GUEST SPEAKER

Helen Suchara will speak about her experiences as a Peace

Main Street gets interim pastor

Main Street Baptist Church in Canton has called Livonia resident Wayne Vann to serve as its interim pastor. Vann assumed the duties on March 7. This is his third interim pastorate.

Vann became a home missionary in 1990 and has led the men's ministries with the Baptist State Convention of Michigan for eight years.

He worked as the special projects and events coordinator for the Greater Detroit Baptist Association prior to his assignment at Main Street Baptist.

Vann is credited with organizing the Michigan Baptist Disaster Relief Team which does mass feedings following a disaster. In 1992, he took several teams to south Florida in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew, helping serve more than 168,000 hot meals to those in need.

Because of his work, Vann was awarded Livonia's first annual Humanitarian Award.

Prior to becoming a home missionary, Vann was a successful marketing representative for the largest small business organiza-

tion in the United States, the National Federation of Independent Business. He became top producer in Michigan and received several awards.

Vann is known as having a tremendous faith in God, demonstrated in his walk of faith.

"We've all grown in our faith as it's always exciting to see what God is going to do next," said Vann. Main Street Baptist Church is at 8500 N. Morton Taylor Road, Canton.

DTE Energy
Presenting Sponsor

DETROIT BLOOMFEST

Unlike any other event in Detroit's history, it's a community-wide celebration that magically brings together flowers, fantasy, art and science.

- 18 gorgeous gardens spanning over 55,000 square feet, featuring thousands of perennials, bulbs and flowering shrubs.
- A Children's Village full of the magic of gardening and hands-on "edutainment."
- Over a dozen cultural organizations participating with their own events and programs.
- A Gardener's Marketplace for shoppers.
- 75 lectures, seminars and workshops.
- Garden sculptures, floral displays...and much more.

For ticket information, visit our web site at www.bloomfest.com.
Or call (313) 235-BLOOM.

Cobo Center, April 8 through 11
10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Thursday through Saturday
10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday

BAPTIST

BETHLE BAPTIST TEMPLE
29475 W. Six Mile, Livonia
525-3664 or 261-9276
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Family Hour 7:15 p.m.

April 11th
11:00 a.m. Guest Speaker
6:00 p.m. Guest Speaker
"A Church That's Concerned About People"

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
5403 S. Wayne Rd. • Wayne, MI
(Between Michigan Ave. & Van Born Rd.)
(734) 728-2180
Virgil Humes, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Praise Service 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Victory Baptist Church
A new church preaching the old-fashioned gospel. Meet in the former Ward Chapel at 6 Mile & Farmington Rd. in Livonia.
SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES
Worship 11:00 & 5:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 7 p.m.
Pastor Brian Brewer (248) 473-4483

Grand River Baptist Church
54500 Six Mile • Livonia, MI
(Between Farmington Road and Levan)
734-261-6950
Sunday School All Ages 9:30am
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-96 & Telegraph • West of Midland Inn) • 352-6200
9:15 Family Sunday School Hour • Wednesday 7:00 p.m. "Family Night"
10:00 a.m. - Pastor Calvin C. Ratz
Been There, Done That! Now What!
6:30 p.m. - Rev. Chad Pfeiffer
24-Hour Prayer Line 248-352-6205

EPISCOPAL
ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16360 Hubbard Road
Livonia, Michigan 48154
421-8451
Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Dinner & Classes
Saturday 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
Sunday 7:45 & 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages
Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available
The Rev. Robert Clapp, Rector

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE
PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
68601 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 453-1885
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: 455-3196

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

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
14 Mile Road • Farmington Hills
(248) 661-9191
Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Child Care provided for all services
Sunday School for all ages
at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Activities for 4-6 year olds at 6:00 p.m.
Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
1160 Pennington Ave.
Plymouth • 453-0326
Rev. John J. Sullivan
Mass: Mon. 8:00 a.m. Sat. 1:00 p.m.
Sun. 8:00, 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.
9:00 p.m. Late Mass

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
48755 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187
451-0444
REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO
Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

WEEKEND LITURGICAL SCHEDULE
Sundays: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.
Sundays: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.
Sundays: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.
Sundays: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH
291 E. SPRING ST.
SUNDAY
9:00 a.m. Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.
Bible Study for all ages
Pastor Frank Howard - Ch. 453-0323

WEEKEND LITURGICAL SCHEDULE
Sundays: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.
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LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Luther A. Werth, Sr. Pastor
Rev. Robert Bayer, Assist. Pastor
Two locations to serve you —
LIVONIA
14175 Farmington Rd.
(N. of 98)
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
(734) 522-6630
Visit our Web Site at <http://www.cocsa.edu/~lmcoc>

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
20805 Middlebelt (Corner of 6 Mile & Middlebelt)
Farmington Hills, Mich.
WORSHIP SERVICES
Saturday Evening 6 p.m.
Sunday Morning 9:30 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30
Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
9600 Levee • So. Redford • 857-2454
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
857-2523

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
3003 Hanna Rd., Wayne (Corner of Glenview & Hanna)
(734) 471-1990
Sunday Morning Worship Services
Traditional Services 8 & 11 a.m.
Contemporary Service 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School (Children & Adults) 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m.
Rev. Dr. Robert J. Schell, Pastor
Rev. Maria Matheson

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
6820 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

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9405 Henry Rd. at West Chicago
Livonia 48150 • 421-5408
Rev. Donald Lintner, Pastor
9:15 Adult Class
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
and Youth Classes
Nursery Care Available
-WELCOME-

CONGREGATIONAL
Mt. Hope Congregational Church
30325 Curtis Ave., Livonia 48154
off Middlebelt between Six and Seven Mile
Sunday Services - 11am and 7pm
Wednesday Bible Study - 7pm
Pastor - Kenneth MacLeod - tel 313-421-0780

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Society of St. Pius X
Traditional Latin Mass
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 334-2121
Priest • Phone (810) 794-9511
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

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
30800 Six Mile Rd. (E. of Livonia & Middlebelt)
Chuck Songist, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Worship & Church School
11:15 a.m. Adult Study Classes
Nursery Provided • 422-9038

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
29887 West Eleven Mile Road
Just West of Middlebelt
248-476-8560
Farmington Hills
"Saturday at the Park"
Contemporary Worship
Saturday at 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Worship at 9:15 and 11 a.m.
Church School at 9:15 and 11 a.m.
Rev. Benjamin Bohm
Rev. Kathleen Giff
Rev. James Bergquist
Rev. Robert Brough
Mr. Marvin Roush

NEWBURGH 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
April 11th
Dramatic & Musical
Presentation of the
Holocaust
by Newburgh Youth
Rev. Thomas G. Badley,
preaching
call our website www.globe-ecg.org/newburgh

United Methodist Church
10000 Beech Daly, Redford
Between Plymouth and W. Chicago
Bob & Diana Gaudin, Co-Pastors
313-937-3170
3 Styles of Creative Worship
8:00 a.m. - Cozy, Traditional, Beale
9:30 a.m. - Contemporary, Family
11:00 a.m. - Traditional, Full Choir
Sunday School
9:30-Adults; 11:00-Children-Adults
Scripture/John 20:24-29
Focus/Thomas
Rev. Bob Gaudin, preaching

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church
40000 Six Mile Road
Just west of I-75
Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor
Worship Services, Sunday School
8:30, 10:30, 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 • 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
WNUZ-FM • 103.5

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church
40000 Six Mile Road
Just west of I-75
Northville, MI
248-374-7400
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8:30-9:45 a.m.
Evening Service
6:00 p.m. in the Chapel
Nursery Provided
Services Broadcast • 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
WNUZ-FM • 103.5

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
"1999" Trinity's
Year of Prayer
Countdown
to "2000"
10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
5 Miles W. of Sheldon Rd.
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 27-Cent Road)
Plymouth • 453-5252
Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Family Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Pastor David Martin
Hugh McMaster, Lay Minister

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
3003 Hanna Rd., Wayne (Corner of Glenview & Hanna)
(734) 471-1990
Sunday Morning Worship Services
Traditional Services 8 & 11 a.m.
Contemporary Service 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School (Children & Adults) 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m.
Rev. Dr. Robert J. Schell, Pastor
Rev. Maria Matheson

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Arbor Hospice sponsors Pathways support group

Arbor Hospice and Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home will offer New Pathways, an eight-week support group for adults who are experiencing grief due to the death of a loved one.

The group will meet 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, April 15-June 3, at the First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile,

Northville.

Group members will learn about the grief process while gaining emotional support. Pre-registration is requested, but not required, and can be completed by calling Arbor Hospice's Arbor Center in Northville at (248) 348-4980 or (800) 783-5764.

The agency also is offering a

grief support group for adults who've experienced the loss of a parent. The group will meet 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays for six weeks, May 6-June 10. Pre-registration also is requested.

Arbor Hospice offers various age and loss specific groups in locations throughout southeastern Michigan, including groups that address the special needs of grieving children.

Its Suicide Loss Group meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Monday of the month at Risen Christ Lutheran Church, 46250 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Township, while Starting Over for widowed men and women 45 years and younger meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month at the First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, Plymouth Township.

B'Tweeners for widowed men and women 46 years and older meets the third Wednesday of the month at St. Timothy Presbyterian Church, 16700 Newburgh, Livonia, and at dinner at 6:30 p.m. the first Monday of the month at the Water Club Grill Restaurant, 39500 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Township.

Bereavement resources also are available at the Arbor Center, now located at 113 E. Dunlap, Northville.

Granholt headlines Girl Scout luncheon

Michigan Attorney General - and former Girl Scout - Jennifer Granholt will be the keynote speaker at the eighth annual "Tomorrow's Power" Corporate Luncheon to benefit the Michigan Metro Girl Scout Council.

The luncheon is scheduled for noon Tuesday, April 27, at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center in Detroit. Tickets are \$50 each and table sponsorships range from \$500 to \$2,500.

Honorary co-chairs of the luncheon are Walter Watkins Jr., president of NBD Bank, and Marnette Perry, president of The Kroger Co. of Michigan.

Granholt made history last

year when she was the first woman to be elected state attorney general and the first new attorney general in 37 years.

During the luncheon, the scout council will present its 1999 Corporate Girl Scout Volunteer of the Year awards. The award provides an opportunity for employers and the council to recognize outstanding corporate employees who generously give of their time and talent to make a significant positive impact on the lives of girls.

Luncheon tickets are available by calling Diane Puhl, director of corporate and family giving, at (313) 972-4475, Ext. 445.

Religion from page B7

\$13, and baby-sitting will be provided. For more information, call the church at (734) 459-3333.

INSTRUCTIONAL WORKSHOP

The Christian Education Committee of Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church will offer an instructional workshop, "Exploring Personal Styles," 6:30-8 p.m. Sunday, April 18 and 25, at the church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia. The workshop will be taught by William Dunphy and will cost \$7 for materials. Registration is required and can be completed through April 11 by calling the church office at (734) 422-4094. Child care will be provided.

MISSIONS RALLY

"How Shall I Hear Without a Preacher" will be the theme of the Faith Promise Missions Rally Sunday, April 18 and 25, at Memorial Church of Christ, 34575 Five Mile, Livonia. The Faith Promise goal for 1999 is

\$67,000.

Don Tingle, executive director of Muslim Hope, who has been working in the Ukraine, Iran and Afghanistan, will speak at morning services on April 18. Barry Smyth will update members on the new church work at West Detroit Church of Christ at 6:30 p.m. that day.

Kevin Dooley, executive director of F.A.M.E. (Fellowship of Associates of Medical Evangelism) will speak at the morning worship services on April 25.

'SPRING INTO AUCTION'

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School of Farmington Hills will present "Spring into Auction" Friday, April 23, at Livonia VFW Post 3941, 29155 Seven Mile. The auction will support the sports, music and technology programs as well as aid the church and school operations. Tickets cost \$25 each with tables of eight available for \$175. For more information, call Glenn

Schuldt at (734) 522-8117.

MOM'S SALES

St. Edith/St. Kenneth M.O.P.S. will have a Mom's Sale 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 24, in St. Edith Parish Hall, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Admission will be \$1. Gently used children's clothing, toys, books and furnishings as well as maternity clothes will be sold. For more information or to rent table space, call Michele at (734) 432-6978.

Table space is available through Thursday, April 29, for St. Theodore Parish's annual Moms to Moms Market 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1. The resale fair will be held in the church social hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland, and will feature gently used baby and children's clothing, toys and miscellaneous equipment plus maternity items. For more information, call (734) 425-4421 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

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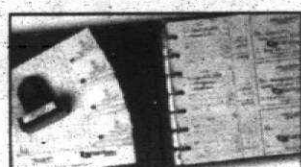
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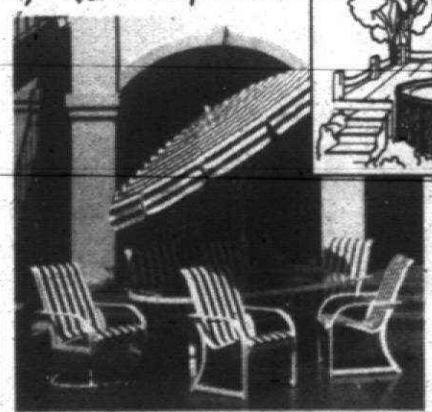
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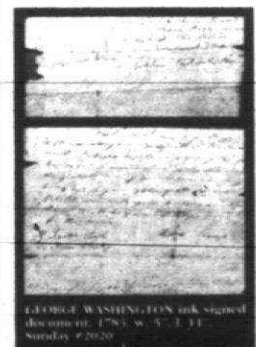
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GEORGE WASHINGTON (1732-1799), oil on canvas, 11" x 15", 1799, \$2000



Pablo Picasso, (1881-1973), 1907, oil on canvas, 11" x 15", 1907, \$2000

Exhibition Hours:
Friday, April 9th: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 10th: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 11th: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 13th: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 14th: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 15th: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

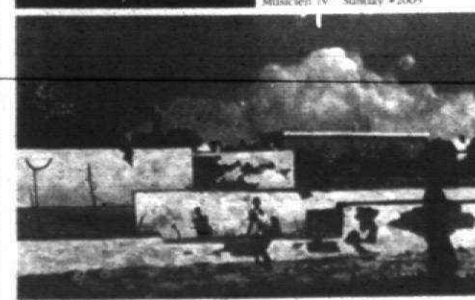
Free Parking Wednesday Evening Exhibition



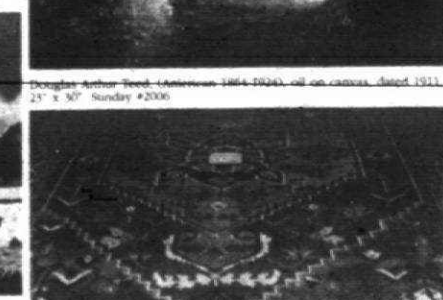
William Shaver, (English 1788-1879), oil on canvas, 11" x 15", 1879, \$2000



Douglas Arthur Reed, (American 1864-1924), oil on canvas, dated 1911, 25" x 30", Sunday \$2000



Hugh Lee Smith, (American 1916-1990), oil on board, 1954, 25" x 35", "The Walls" Sunday \$2000



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OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

OSU gymnast tops

Ohio State gymnast Doug Stibel of Canton won the horizontal bar at the Big Ten championships March 26-27 with a 9.837 score.

Stibel was fourth in the All-Around with a 57.100 total and was selected All-Big Ten.

An All-America pick last year, Stibel won the horizontal bar five times this season, the vault four times and took three All-Around titles.

He tied his career best on the still rings (9.650) and holds three teams bests on the vault (9.800) and horizontal bar (9.950).

U-13 Hawks win

The U-13 Michigan Hawks won the girls National Indoor Championship in a recent three-day tournament.

The Hawks, coached by John Buchanan, defeated five teams and outscored them by a combined 34-6.

They beat Syracuse (N.Y.), 8-0; Ohio Premiere, 6-2; Cleveland Cobras, 7-0; Syracuse Scorpions, 6-2; and Cleveland Internationals, 7-2.

Team members include Melissa Dobbyn and Kyle LaPorte of Livonia; Nicole Cauzillo and Whitney Guenther of Northville; Kathryn Cumming and Jenny Szymanski of Troy; Erin Doan of Dearborn; Jordan Falcusan of Plymouth; Nikki Hermann, Deanne Kubas, Kelly McMann and Marureen Pawlak of Novi; Jill Kehler of Flint; Sabrina Muet of Bloomfield Hills; Marissa Sarkesian of Canton; and Erica Rose of Farmington.

Assistant coach is Tiffany Graves and manager is Linda Cauzillo.

Madonna awards

Shorstop Derrick Wolfe and right-hander Janell Leschinger of Madonna University were honored as Player and Pitcher of the Week in baseball and softball, respectively, by the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Wolfe batted .667 (8-for-12) in six games last week with two home runs, five RBI and eight runs scored. He was on base all but four times in 18 plate appearances.

Leschinger won the softball award for helping the Crusaders to 8-2 for the week. She went 5-0, striking out 34 batters in 35 innings and compiling a 2.80 ERA.

CCJBBA registration

The Canton Community Junior Baseball and Softball Association is still accepting player registration for its summer boys and girls programs.

Registrations must be received April 20 so applicants can be assigned a try-out time. Tryouts are April 24 for leagues holding drafts and players are accepted only on an as-needed basis once teams are set.

Applications for leagues with no tryouts can be taken right up until the start of their season.

Applications can be obtained at the township offices in Plymouth, Canton and the City of Plymouth, or downloaded from the league's Website, www.pcbbl.com.

For questions about boys leagues, call 455-1984; girls questions call 981-5170.

Tennis instruction

Canton Parks and Recreation Services is offering beginner and intermediate tennis instruction for ages 7-adult starting the week of April 27 at Griffin Community Park.

The Session I Beginner session runs six weeks starting April 27 and ending June 1. Beginning juniors (age 7-15) are slotted from 6-7 p.m. with beginner adult (ages 16-up) lessons running from 7-8 p.m.

Session I Intermediate instruction runs April 29-May 20, four weeks. The session is from 6:30-8 p.m.

Fee is \$30 for Canton residents and \$35 for non-residents. Instruction is certified professional Kristen Harrison and her staff. Space is limited.

Registration at Summit on the Park begins April 15 from 6-7:30 p.m. for residents and April 19 for non-residents.

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.

Whalers get on track, 7-3

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR
cjrisak@oe.homecomm.net

The final score indicates a lop-sided, cruise-control, that's-more-like-it kind of game. Plymouth Whalers 7, London Knights 3.

Don't believe it. Whalers' coach Pete DeBoer doesn't.

"They're a hard-working team," DeBoer said of London after his Whalers scored three times in the last 3:21 to turn a close home game into a rout. "We only scored two goals in each of the first two games, and that's uncharacteristic of us. We kept the pressure on them (tonight) and finally got some to go in."

The win narrows Plymouth's deficit in games to 2-1 (see accompanying story). The two teams meet again at 7:30 p.m. Friday in London, followed by a 7:30 p.m. game Saturday at Compuware Arena.

Adam Colagiaco and Harold Druken scored two goals apiece to pace the offense, and goalie Robert Holsinger made three superb stops in the first period to keep the Whalers in front.

But they were never in complete control, were never able to pull away from the pesky Knights, until Colagiaco intercepted an errant pass deep in London's end late in the game. He skated in on goalie Gene Chiarello all alone, swerving left and knocking the puck past him to put Plymouth up 5-3 with 3:21 left.

Two more goals followed. Colagiaco scoring into the empty net with 53.5 seconds left on a pass from Damian Surma, and Jason Ward icing it with another goal after intercepting a pass and beating Chiarello with 18.4 seconds left.

"We had it at 4-3, and we had some good chances around the net," said London coach Gary Agnew. "We just didn't get them in. We had some great scoring chances early, but we didn't capitalize."

Those missed opportunities came back to haunt the Knights. Three times in the first eight minutes of the game, they skated in on Holsinger alone; three times — one 2-on-1 and two 1-on-one breaks — they came away goal-less.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMAN

Top-drawer: The Whalers' Harold Druken (left) drives a shot past Knights' goalie Gene Chiarello and into the net to make it 2-0 in the first period. Druken had two goals in the game.

"He was great," said DeBoer of Holsinger's early performance. "I thought their goaltending was good, too, and that's what you need in the playoffs."

For the first two games, that's what London had used to frustrate the Whalers. Chiarello had faced 77 shots, compared to 62 for Holsinger. The Knights' goalie had made 73 stops, propelling his team to a pair of 3-2 overtime wins.

This game was even more lopsided in shots, with Plymouth pelting Chiarello with 42 while allowing just 25. "If you're not getting any chances, you'd better worry," said Agnew.

And yet, when London's Richard Pitirri rifled a shot past Holsinger to make it 4-3 with 14:38 still left in the game, it was the Whalers who were worried. With good reason.

"If we'd gone down three-games-to-

none, and were faced with having to win four in a row, that would have been very, very tough," said DeBoer. "Hopefully, this (win) will be a momentum-switcher. Hopefully, we can go there and get one, and get the home-ice advantage back."

London's failure to cash in on its scoring chances early in the game came into sharper focus when, on the game's first power-play, the Whalers struck. A Nik Tselios shot from the left point was poked in by Randy Fitzgerald with 7:37 left in the first period, making it 1-0.

It took just 44 seconds for Plymouth to double its lead. Chiarello made a kick save on a Colagiaco shot, but the rebound came right to Druken for a tap in to make it 2-0 with 6:53 left in the period. London had yet another great chance late in the period, a 3-on-2 break, but Holsinger again made the stop to preserve the Whalers' 2-0 lead after one.

Some sloppy defense resulted in Lon-

don's first goal at the 17:22 mark of the second period, with Pitirri centering to Krys Barch for the goal. But the Whalers answered immediately, Druken taking a pass from Colagiaco and drifting past Chiarello unchecked before knocking it past him to restore Plymouth's two-goal cushion with 16:52 left in the period.

The score reached 4-1 on a pretty play set up by Ward, who skated in front of the net, then centered back to Julian Smith for the goal with 14:27 left. But London refused to surrender, with Joel Scherban slipping a failed clearing pass past Holsinger to narrow it to 4-2 with 8:26 left in the second.

The loss bothered Agnew, but not as much as the future. "I'm not concerned with their falling," he said. "I'm concerned about their getting back up. We have to worry about the game Friday."

Wednesday's game was the biggest of the season for the Whalers. Now, Friday's game is.

Knights jolt Whalers with 2 wins in OT



The Plymouth Whalers may have carried the play but London carried the scoreboard in the first two games of their best-of-seven Ontario Hockey League Western Conference semifinal.

The Knights won a virtual replay of the series opener Monday night when Tom Kostopoulos completed a hat trick with a goal 53 seconds into overtime to give London a 3-2 victory over the Whalers.

The game was a near carbon-copy of the opener in that London jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead, saw Plymouth come back to tie and then put a stake in the Whalers' heart early in the extra period.

"We have to start scoring some goals," Coach Peter DeBoer of Plymouth said. "We've had chances and we have to bury some."

"We've been working hard and if we keep on we'll start getting some breaks."

A hooking penalty at the end of the third period gave London a power play to start overtime.

Goalie Robert Holsinger made several great stops before Kostopoulos shoved in a rebound of a Richard Pitirri shot from point-blank.

Kostopoulos scored on a power play with the game 44 seconds old, netting the puck on a breakaway.

He made it 2-0 at 8:27, also on a power play. Rico Fata fired from the left point and Kostopoulos got the deflection.

Killing consecutive penalties seemed to inspire the Whalers in the second period. Plymouth got on the power play and Eric Gooldy redirected a Paul Mara shot through Gene Chiarello's pads.

Jason Ward had an apparent tying goal waved off moments later as the puck was blown dead.

The Whalers carried the play most of the third period and finally scored when Damian Surma tied the score with a shot just under the crossbar at 14:06.

KNIGHTS 3, WHALERS 2 (OT): A goal by Krys Barch 34 seconds into overtime Saturday night gave the London Knights a 3-2 victory over the Plymouth Whalers in the opener of their best-of-seven OHL playoff series.

Barch also assisted on the first goal of the game, a power play marker by Jay Doyle 3:04 into the game.

Richard Pitirri stunned the Whalers just 42 seconds later with a short-handed goal to give the Knights a 2-0 lead.

Plymouth drew within a goal at 7:13 on Harold Druken's goal and tied the score at 6:58 of the second period on Adam Colagiaco's marker.

Plymouth put 37 shots on London goalie Gene Chiarello while London had 27 at Robert Holsinger.

Canton to rely on pitching, defense

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

Coach Scott Dickey is hoping strength up the middle can get his Plymouth Canton baseball team out of the middle of the pack in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"I usually don't say a whole lot," said Dickey in his John Wayne best. "But I feel pretty confident with our infield this year."

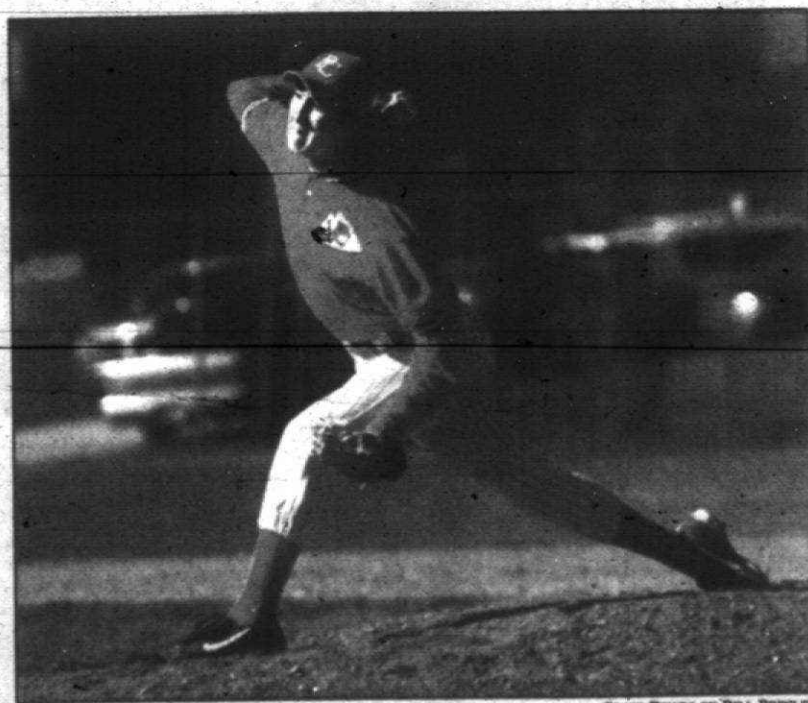
"I feel we had one of our best groups last year and we return three of the four."

"One of our strengths will be up the middle."

The three starters who return are sophomore shortstop Oliver Wolcott, who hit .300 and drove in 13 runs as a freshman; second baseman Andrew Copenhaver, who hit .315 and drove in 11 runs; and third baseman Joe Cortellini, who batted .288 after baseball season.

"Copenhaver," Dickey said, "hit leadoff for us last year and will stay there this year."

The Chiefs have a somewhat large squad this season and one of the reasons is that many of the reserves or alternates are talented enough to



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRIDGES

A reason to be confident: Plymouth Canton has its top two pitchers returning from last season, including righthander Kevin Tomasaitis, who had a 4-3 record.

Chiefs open with sweep

Pitching and defense are like a flat-bed railroad car — they'll take you a long way if you just hop on and ride.

Plymouth Canton's baseball team showed a little bit of both Tuesday in its first two games of the spring season and took a double-header from visiting South Lyon, 9-1 and 8-5.

"For our first games," Coach Scott Dickey of the Chief said, "I was happy with our defense and pleased with our pitching."

"We only walked one batter in two games. We were happy to get two wins."

Canton plays two games today at 3:30 p.m. at Saline.

Ben Tucker went the distance in the opener, striking out 10 and not walking a batter in his six-hit effort. The senior right-hander allowed a solo home run in the third but by that

Please see CHIEFS SWEEP, C4

Madonna falls just short of sweep

Oh, so close. Madonna University didn't let a disappointing double-header loss to Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference rival Indiana Tech last Friday derail them for too long. The Fighting Crusaders bounced back and came within an inning of sweeping a pair from highly-regarded Aquinas College in Grand Rapids Tuesday, thumping the Saints 19-8 in the first game before surrendering three runs in the eighth inning of the second to lose, 8-7.

The split left Madonna with a 12-11 overall record, 2-4 in the WHAC. Aquinas is 19-3 overall, 3-1 in the conference.

Daryl Rocho, who has sparked as Madonna's closer, had trouble with his control in the second game. He pitched the final 1 2/3 innings and walked five batters, issuing three straight to force in the game-tying run in the seventh. In the eighth, Rocho walked two more and had a pair of wild pitches, with Brock Place scoring the game-winning run on the last of them.

Madonna outlast Aquinas 13-6 in the game, with Rocho clubbing his eighth homer of the season, a two-run shot, followed by a solo homer by Jeff Warholik in the Crusaders' four-run sixth that gave them a 5-3 lead.

Derrick, who had three hits in the game, also had a solo homer in the first (his sixth). Delano Voletti added two hits and Nick Dedeuk had a two-run single in the top of the eighth that put the Crusaders up 7-5.

E.J. Roman started on the mound for Madonna and worked the first 5 1/3 innings, allowing four runs (three earned) on four hits and two walks, with two strikeouts.

The first game was a slugfest, with the Crusaders using a 10-run fourth inning to wreck the Saints. Rocho had an incredible game, slugging a three-run homer in the second, then driving in five runs in the fourth with a sacrifice fly and a grand-slam home run. He totaled three hits and eight RBI.

Todd Miller also had three hits, with one RBI; Dave O'Neill had two hits, scored four runs and had an RBI; Bob Hamp had a hit and two RBI; and Voletti had a hit and three RBI.

Bob Mason went the distance to earn the win, making him 2-3. He gave up seven earned runs on nine hits and four walks, with eight strikeouts.

Indiana Tech 8-11, Madonna 7-9; Madonna

Knight-led Cards collect 2 from Lady Crusaders

Even though it was day time, Concordia College had a good Knight.

Two good Knights, in fact, as the Cardinals swept a double-header from Madonna, 5-2 and 7-6, Tuesday to improve to 4-1 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference and drop the Crusaders to 5-8.

Carrie Knight pitched seven tough innings for Concordia College in the opener, allowing no earned runs and six hits.

First baseman Jenny Knight was 2-for-3 with a double and RBI for Concordia (13-11) while Kristy Kennedy had two hits and drove in a run.

Courtney Senger and Kelly Zurawski had two hits apiece for Madonna (16-11).

Tanya Liske gave up 10 hits in seven innings to drop to 3-3. In the second game, Carrie Knight had to come in relief of the starter, working the final 4 1/3 innings to get the win. She is now 8-6.

Jenny Knight hit a home run and drove in four for the Cardinals.

Third baseman Kruzal had three hits and drove in two runs. Vicki Malkowski and Senger each had two hits while Senger also had two RBI.

Janelle Schmidt (3-2) lasted just five outs for the Crusaders, giving up seven hits and four earned runs. Missy Bako finished up.

Madonna 5-4, St. Francis

With state champion Hartland and Brighton among its members, the Western Lakes Activities Association is arguably the best gymnastics league in the state.

Farmington, which finished fourth in the WLAA, was again the best team in Observerland and its lone state qualifier.

Farmington was sixth of 12 teams at the state meet.

"The last three years we talked about building a tradition at Farmington," coach Jeff Dwyer said. "Brook and Anna have been a huge part of that. They certainly brought us back to where we are very competitive."

"I want to thank them for that. Without those two, we couldn't have done it. In the past three years, they've worked all year round, and that shows their dedication."

Brook Rubin, senior, Farmington: Rubin concluded an outstanding four-year career by finishing 13th in the Division II all-around competition at the state meet.

She also was second on beam (9.2) and tied for 10th on bars (8.7). Her all-around total was 34.80.

In the Western Lakes meet, Rubin was fifth on bars (8.7), seventh on vault (8.55), 11th on floor (8.85) and 14th on beam (8.15). She was fourth in the all-around competition (34.25).

"She's been our leader the last two to three years," coach Jeff Dwyer said. "This is a very deserving award for her."

Rubin was Farmington's top all-arounder a year ago, but she conceded that position on the team to freshman

Longtime standouts finish on top

The 1999 All-Observer gymnastics team serves as a final salute to several longtime area standouts and an introduction for the next wave of talented gymnasts.

This year's eight-member squad consists of four seniors, including three-time honorees Brook Rubin of Farmington and Liz Fitzgerald of Plymouth Canton.

Westland John Glenn's Jessica Beach and Farmington's Anna Clark were second-team members last year and end their careers by being selected for the first team.

The other half of the all-area team consists of underclassmen. Glenn sophomore Nicole Simonian also moves up from last year's second team.

She along with the freshman trio of Farmington's Chelsea Keesling and Plymouth Salem's Melissa Drake and April Aquino are in the vanguard of new Observerland stars.

With state champion Hartland and Brighton among its members, the Western Lakes Activities Association is arguably the best gymnastics league in the state.

Farmington, which finished fourth in the WLAA, was again the best team in Observerland and its lone state qualifier.

Farmington was sixth of 12 teams at the state meet.

"The last three years we talked about building a tradition at Farmington," coach Jeff Dwyer said. "Brook and Anna have been a huge part of that. They certainly brought us back to where we are very competitive."

"I want to thank them for that. Without those two, we couldn't have done it. In the past three years, they've worked all year round, and that shows their dedication."

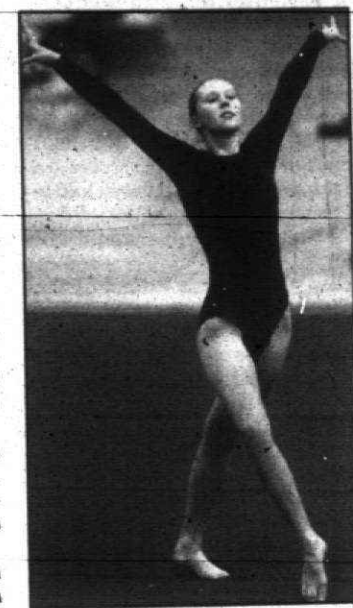
Brook Rubin, senior, Farmington: Rubin concluded an outstanding four-year career by finishing 13th in the Division II all-around competition at the state meet.

She also was second on beam (9.2) and tied for 10th on bars (8.7). Her all-around total was 34.80.

In the Western Lakes meet, Rubin was fifth on bars (8.7), seventh on vault (8.55), 11th on floor (8.85) and 14th on beam (8.15). She was fourth in the all-around competition (34.25).

"She's been our leader the last two to three years," coach Jeff Dwyer said. "This is a very deserving award for her."

Rubin was Farmington's top all-arounder a year ago, but she conceded that position on the team to freshman



Above the rest: Liz Fitzgerald was Canton's top gymnast for three years. She was first in the WLAA on the bars.

Chelsea Keesling.

"It didn't really bother her; Brook is that type of person," Dwyer said. "She saw it as being good for the team. That was a big sign of her maturity."

"She was also one of the hardest workers in the gym. I didn't have to worry about her in meets; I could always rely on her consistency."

"In four years, she didn't miss a meet. She'd been injured but never enough to keep her out of a meet. That was one of her goals; she wanted to compete in every meet and she did. She's a tough individual, and her determination paid off at the state meet."

Chelsea Keesling, freshman, Farmington: Keesling burst onto the high school scene and established herself as one of the top gymnasts in Observerland, as well as the state.

In Division I state-meet competition, Keesling tied for ninth place on beam (9.1), 10th in floor exercise (9.25) and 11th on vault (9.1).

In the Western Lakes meet, she was third on beam (9.3), fifth on floor (9.45), 11th on vault (8.65) and 13th on bars (8.25). She was seventh in all-around scoring (35.65).

"Chelsea is a very talented girl," Dwyer said. "For her to come in as a freshman and be thrown into the limelight as the No. 1 all-arounder, she handled it very well."

"She could've had a big head or become a little arrogant, but that's not her personality at all. She's just a sweet, hard-working girl who deserves everything she gets."

"She's also one of those girls you didn't have to worry about, as far as preparing for a meet or how she was going to do. She always came ready to

compete."

Anna Clark, senior, Farmington: Clark improved each year and had her best season in 1999. She was a solid all-around gymnast who helped to make Farmington the strongest team in the area.

Clark had an outstanding performance in the Western Lakes meet, finishing second on floor (9.2), fourth on beam (9.0) and sixth on vault (8.6) in Division II. She was fifth overall with an all-around score of 34.10.

"She got a lot better this year," Dwyer said. "All of a sudden, she was scoring points on floor and beam. She was definitely one of our top four scorers throughout the year."

"Anna didn't make it to state, but she was very close. It was a matter of tenths in a couple events. I wanted her to get some recognition that way, but it didn't happen."

"I hope being all-area lets her know she's recognized as one of the top all-around gymnasts on the team. Without her, I don't think we would've had a chance. She was every bit as important."

Clark handled the disappointment of not qualifying for state individually well, Dwyer added.

"She's pretty level-headed," he said. "One thing that makes Anna as good as she is, is she doesn't have a lot of highs or lows. She took things in stride and lived with results, and that's the best thing you can do in any sport."

Jessica Beach, senior, Westland Glenn: Beach was a four-time qualifier for the state meet, placing third on floor, 10th on bars and ninth all-around this year in Division II.

She also was a regional champion on vault this year and a regional floor exercise champion as a sophomore.

In the Western Lakes meet, Beach was third on floor (9.15), third on beam (9.05), fifth on vault (8.7) and eighth on bars (8.55). She was second in the all-around with a 35.45 total.

She also is a member of the John Glenn cheerleading squad and is a pitcher on the softball team.

"Jessica had an outstanding year, her best of the four," Glenn coach Debbie Hosien said. "She worked very hard to achieve her goals and always performed to her best ability."

"I couldn't be prouder of her. We're definitely losing a great athlete with a great personality."

Nicole Simonian, sophomore, Westland Glenn: Simonian, now in her eighth year of gymnastics, qualified a second time for the state meet. She competed on bars at state a year ago, but she was in all events this year.

In the regional meet, she was third on vault (9.0), fifth on bars (8.85) and sixth overall (34.85). At the state meet, Simonian received a medal for her vault, scoring 8.9 and placing among the top 10.

She also was fifth on vault and fourth overall (34.55) at the Plymouth Canton Invitational.

ALL-OBSERVER GYMNASTICS

FIRST TEAM

Brook Rubin, senior, Farmington; Chelsea Keesling, freshman, Farmington; Anna Clark, senior, Farmington; Jessica Beach, senior, Westland Glenn; Nicole Simonian, sophomore, Westland Glenn; Liz Fitzgerald, senior, Plymouth Canton; Melissa Drake, freshman, Plymouth Salem; April Aquino, freshman, Plymouth Salem.

SECOND TEAM

Lauren Ouellette, sophomore, Farmington; Jamie Milleto, junior, Farmington; Kristin Ulewicz, freshman, Farmington; Kristen Costantino, soph., Westland Glenn; Maggie Best, freshman, Plymouth Canton; Jennie Scherding, senior, Plymouth Canton.

HONORABLE MENTION

Salem: Allison Bracht; Canton: Kristen Schick, Jill Rakoultis, Michelle Farnsworth; Glenn: Pamela Bean, Jill Calka, Hilary VanDusen; Farmington: Liz Stoler, Jerry Galbraith.

Observer's Best Gymnasts 1999

"Nicole is a very focused gymnast," Hosien said. "She worked hard to accomplish everything she has done, and she had a great season."

"She has two years left, and we are expecting some big things from her."

Liz Fitzgerald, senior, Ply. Canton: Fitzgerald was Canton's team leader and top gymnast for the last three years. She was voted the team's most valuable gymnast this year.

Fitzgerald qualified for state on vault; bars and floor, earning all-state honors on bars with a 10th-place finish.

She is the Western Lakes Division II champion on bars (9.05). In that meet, she also placed fifth on floor (9.1), sixth on beam (8.7), 10th on vault (8.15) and third overall (35.00).

Melissa Drake, freshman, Ply. Salem: Drake qualified for the Division I state meet as an all-arounder. Her best finish was 16th place on bars (8.7), but she also had solid scores of 8.9 on floor and 8.75 on vault. Her all-around total was 34.05.

In the Western Lakes meet, Drake was fourth on bars (9.05), ninth on floor (9.25), 10th on beam (8.4), 13th on vault (8.6) and 10th overall (35.30).

Drake's best scores this year were 9.45 on floor and 9.25 on bars and beam. She was voted Salem's most valuable gymnast.

"Melissa is a very good dancer, so she expresses herself well on the floor," Salem coach Melissa Hospen said. "That's probably her best event. She seemed to score best on floor all season. Melissa has a good attitude and is a hard worker."

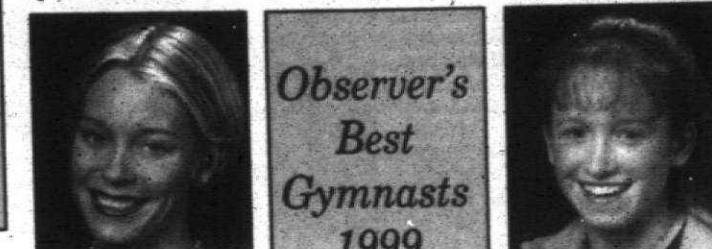
April Aquino, freshman, Ply. Salem: Aquino had an outstanding state meet in Division II, placing seventh as an all-arounder (35.25).

Also at the state meet, she was fourth on floor (9.1), seventh on beam (8.9) and 11th on vault (8.85).

Aquino's best scores included 9.25 on floor and beam and 9.15 on vault.



April Aquino, Plymouth Salem; Melissa Drake, Plymouth Salem; Liz Fitzgerald, Plymouth Canton.



Jessica Beach, Westland John Glenn; Chelsea Keesling, Farmington; Anna Clark, Farmington.



Brook Rubin, Farmington; Anna Clark, Farmington; Nicole Simonian, Westland John Glenn.

April Aquino, freshman, Ply. Salem: Aquino had an outstanding state meet in Division II, placing seventh as an all-arounder (35.25).

Also at the state meet, she was fourth on floor (9.1), seventh on beam (8.9) and 11th on vault (8.85).

Aquino's best scores included 9.25 on floor and beam and 9.15 on vault.

She did not compete in the Western Lakes meet.

"April is willing to try anything — once," Hospen said, adding Aquino received Salem's Most Courageous Award. "She's fun to work with, willing to learn more, try more things and perfect what she has done."

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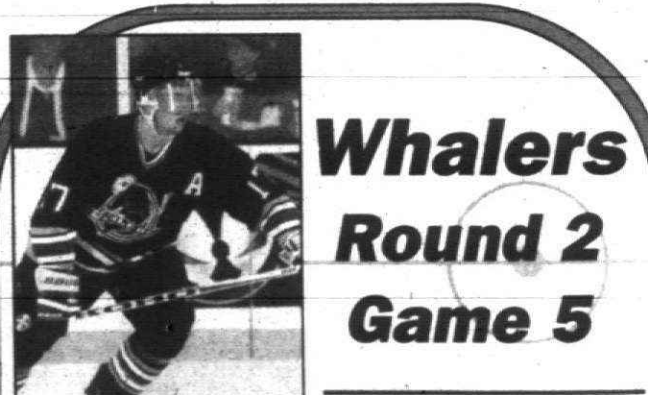
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The Observer & Eccentric! THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1999

Hard-hitting Malek picks MSU

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER
skowalski@oe.com

Redford Catholic Central senior outfielder Bob Malek is following his dream to Michigan State University, not to mention his mother, father and some cousins.

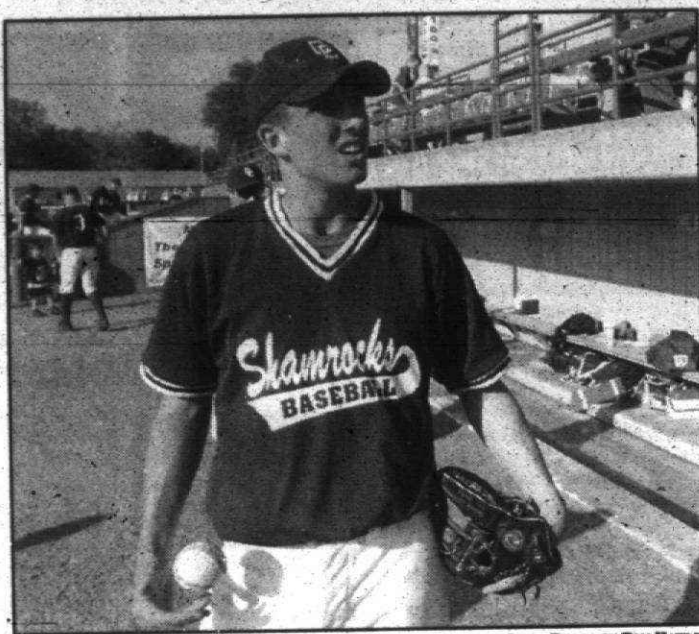
Malek signed a national letter of intent to play baseball at MSU, which is where his mother earned a teaching degree and father attended for a couple years. A couple of his cousins recently graduated from there as well.

Being familiar with campus helped but getting to know the Spartans' coaching staff clinched his decision. Malek picked MSU over the University of Michigan and Western Michigan University because it seemed there was more interest from the Spartans.

Malek gave them a lot to like, hitting a whopping .587 (61 for 104) with 55 runs scored, three home runs and 40 RBI as a junior for CC, which lost in the Class A semifinals.

MSU assistant coach Ed Turek, a CC graduate, was the primary recruiter of Malek. The Spartans were 25-27 last year. Ted Mahan's third season as head coach.

"I liked the coaches and I like the direction I think the team is headed," Malek said. "I could talk to (coach Turek) real nice. MSU was the one that was after me the most. They've seen me play more. That made it a little



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Family tradition: CC's Bob Malek, from Canton, decided to follow both his parents and several other relatives when he signed with Michigan State.

easier. I'm very happy to get it over with. I had the opportunity to sign and be done with that and concentrate on the season."

"I've always been a State fan. My mom (Debbie) graduated from there. My dad (Bob) went there. My cousins graduated from there. It's kind of been in the family."

In passing over WMU, Malek

receives some ribbing from one of his biggest fans and mentors, Jeff Kaiser, who runs an indoor baseball facility Downriver.

Kaiser pitched at WMU before spending several seasons in the Major Leagues.

"He puts some shots in at me every once in a while but he's happy for me," Malek said.

Malek also is a pitcher for the

Shamrocks but he'll likely stick to centerfield or rightfield at MSU, he said.

MSU has received some negative publicity lately because of student riots after the Spartans' recent NCAA men's basketball success. But Malek, who has a 3.0 grade point average and scored 22 on his ACT, can only help the school's image.

Malek stayed home instead of going on a senior trip with many of his teammates to South Padre Island over spring break. A leading candidate for the state's Mr. Baseball award, baseball is his top priority, even over break.

Malek attributed much of his success in baseball to his father and the coaches he's had.

"All the coaches have helped me along the way and my dad's been right there from the start—he's been the backbone to my success," he said.

Malek is one of four CC seniors expected to play Division I college baseball. Anthony Tomey and Dave Lusky will attend Eastern Michigan and Casey Rogowski at Central.

A summer teammate, Livonia Stevenson's Roy Rabe, is headed to Oakland University. CC coach John Salter notices the hard work Malek did in the off-season.

"He's gained about 15, 20 pounds from lifting in the winter," Salter said. "No one works harder than he does. He should have another good season."

Preview from page C1

Senior Dave Winter will back up Cortellini at third and precede him on the mound.

Junior shortstop Nick Stonerook can back up Wolcott and junior Jim Reddy will spell Copenhaver at second base.

First base is the only infield position which doesn't have a battle between two juniors, Jon Johnson and Mike Joppa. Both will play.

The platoon will extend at the critical catching position, where junior Bryan Kay and senior Mike Crudele will alternate.

Canton has just one returning starter in the outfield, senior Phil Ross.

Seniors Kevin Tomasaitis, Ben Tucker, Steve Lueck and Ron McCue will battle for playing time at the other two spots along with juniors Brad Smigielski, Jason Waidmann and Jason Evans.

Waidmann, like Cortellini and Reddy, comes to the baseball team straight from basketball. Tomasaitis, Lueck and Evans had the inside track for center and right in early spring practice but all are fighting for playing time.

Chiefs sweep from page C1

time his teammates had given him a 5-0 lead.

Left fielder Phil Ross smacked a two-run double in the sixth as the Chiefs sewed up the game with four runs.

Sophomore shortstop Oliver Wolcott went 4-for-4, scored two runs and drove in a pair.

Senior second baseman Andrew Copenhaver went 3-for-4 out of the leadoff spot, scored three times and drove in a run. He also stole a base.

Right fielder Steve Lueck went 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run. The Chiefs pounded out 13 hits and made one error.

In the second game, seniors Dave Winter and Joe Cortellini combined on a seven-hitter. Canton scored three in the third and four in the fourth to take a 7-2 lead that stood up.

Winter started and worked the first five frames to get the win.

Ross Smigielski and Tucker normally play left while Tomasaitis, McCue and Lueck can play center. Evans and Waidmann generally play right.

What makes Dickey feel more confident than last year's 16-16 season is that he returns his two top pitchers from last season.

Tucker went 5-4 for the Chiefs while Tomasaitis had a 4-3 mark. College scouts are looking at both players.

Dickey also intends to pitch Winter, Johnson, Cortellini, Kay and Wolcott.

Dickey believes Farmington Hills Harrison and Walled Lake Western are two of the teams to beat in the WIAA, and he'd like to see the Hawks "have won three of the last four years and they return a few players."

With decent pitching, strong infield play and a flock of outfielders he can mix and match with, Dickey is hopeful of getting Canton over breakers.

"I felt pretty good about the way we played at the end of last year," he said. "I was disappointed about losing to North Farmington in the districts. But they had three really good players."

He fanned nine, walked one and was charged with three earned runs.

Cortellini worked the final two, struck out two and didn't give up a hit.

The Chiefs had 11 hits and two errors with a whole new set of hitting heroes as they spotted the Lions two runs before retiring from behind to win.

Junior first baseman Jon Johnson sparked the three-run third with a two-run home run. He had two hits in the game, scored two runs and drove in three.

Junior second baseman Jim Reddy went 1-for-3 with an RBI, junior DH Nick Stonerook went 3-for-4 with an RBI and senior catcher Mike Crudele went 2-for-3 with a double.

Copenhaver went 2-for-4, had two doubles, and a pair of runs driven in.

FUND-RAISERS

WHITETAILS UNLIMITED
The Clarkston Chapter of Whittails 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, live and edited wildlife and outdoor art, Whittails Unlimited collectibles 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. To order tickets or for more information call Tom Bushong at (616) 781-8430.

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 upland gamebird specialist, Al Stewart, local wildlife biologists and veteran turkey hunters. There will also be door prizes, raffles, a calls 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.

FLY FISHING SCHOOL
The Riverbend Sports Shop in Southfield is sponsoring several fly fishing schools in the upcoming months. Held at the Huntsman Hunt Club in Dryden and Hunters Creek Hunt Club in

class, which is sponsored by Working Wheelers Cycling Club and begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, at Eastern Mountain Sports in Farmington Hills. Space is limited and the registration deadline is Saturday, April 24. Call (248) 553-7764 for more information.

BOATING SAFETY
Members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will be on hand to explain boating safety and what they look for during a boat inspection, during the regular meeting of the Metro West Steelheaders, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

WOMEN'S FLY FISHING
River Bend Sports Shop in Southfield is sponsoring a Women's Fly Fishing School on Sunday, May 23. Participants will spend a fun-filled day learning the basics of fly fishing, including lessons in casting, knot tying, reading the water, playing, landing and releasing fish, entomology and fly selection and more. Cost is \$125 per person and class size is limited. Call Pat Rofe at (248) 350-8484 for more information and to register.

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 Walled 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 tyers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

MORE FLY TYING
River Bend Sports Shop in Southfield offers fly tying classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced tyers. Classes will be held at various times in May, June and July. For more information and to register call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474.

FLIES-ONLY TROUT

Metamora, the schools include lessons in basic fly fishing techniques including casting, knot tying, reading the water, playing, landing and releasing fish, entomology and fly selection and more. Classes are scheduled for April 25, May 8 and 16, June 6 and 19, July 11 and 25, August 15 and 29, and Sept. 12. Class size is limited. Call (248) 550-8484 or (248) 591-3474 to register and for more information.

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CASS BENTON HIKE
Take a 6-mile hike with members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Sunday, April 11. Participants are asked to meet behind the Marathon Station at 12 Mile Road and Telegraph. Call John Kalem at (248) 681-9160 for more information.

PROUD LAKE HIKE
Take a 6-mile hike over varied terrain with members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Sunday, April 11. Participants are asked to meet behind the Marathon Station at 12 Mile Road and Telegraph. Call John Kalem at (248) 681-9160 for more information.

SAUGER
Sauger season opens Saturday, April 24, on inland waters of the Lower Peninsula.

MUSKY
Musky season opens Saturday, April 24, on inland waters of the Lower Peninsula.

PIKE
Northern pike season opens Saturday, April 24, on inland waters of the Lower Peninsula.

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

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Coaching legend dies

BY BRAD EMMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemmons@home.com

George VanWagoner, the winningest coach in Livonia high school boys basketball, died March 31 from heart complications in Mission, Tex.

VanWagoner, who in many respects defined boys basketball in Livonia, was just four days shy of his 71st birthday when he passed away.

And his legacy was more than the impressive 494 wins he amassed during his coaching stops at Gobles and Allegan, followed by his final 19 seasons at Stevenson.

"Kids — that's what always where his focus was when he coached," said his oldest son Paul, who played for his father during the 1968-69 and 1969-70 varsity seasons at Stevenson. "He was really concerned about them as people and he tried to provide as many opportunities for them to succeed in life."

"And of course, he never backed down as far as his competitiveness."

VanWagoner spent his retirement nine months a year in Mission, Tex., located in the Rio Grande, 40 miles west of Brownsville. He and his wife Beth spent the other three months in Allegan; located between Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids.

In Texas, VanWagoner did volunteer church work for Habitats for Humanity. He helped rebuild homes, whether it was roofing, digging ditches for septic systems or coordinating efforts for a new 40-acre development. He aided in setting up water and electricity systems, along with forming a governmental infrastructure for the new community.

"Dad didn't retire, he just retooled," Paul said. "He got involved in projects just across the border in Mexico, and even got up here into Kentucky and Indiana doing various projects."

VanWagoner's coaching record speaks for itself.

In 33 years he had only four losing seasons, going 494-202 overall, including one state championship, four regional and 13 conference titles.

BASKETBALL

Just two years removed from Western Michigan University, VanWagoner guided his 1982 Gobles team to a 25-2 record and the state Class D title.

"It was the same year Milan won the state championship in Indiana, which they eventually made into the movie 'Hoosiers,'" Paul VanWagoner said. "In some ways it was a similar story. Gobles had only about 17 boys in the school, but they had six or seven really good athletes and they ended up winning it all. They were a really tight-knit group."

VanWagoner was 58-10 in three years at Gobles, 158-60 in 11 seasons at Allegan and 278-137 at Stevenson.

As coach of the Spartans, VanWagoner guided his teams to five district championships and one regional crown.

Probably his most memorable season occurred in 1970-71 when he took a 7-11 team during the regular season and made a run all the way to the state Class A quarterfinals before losing to Campy Russell and Pontiac Central in a tightly-contested game at Birmingham Seasholm.

"That was the time Dean Smith started messing around with the 1-4 (attack) and dad tried it late in the season and it just turned out to be the right mix for that group," said Paul, who now resides in Potosky.

Another big win occurred in 1979 when the Spartans upset defending state champion Detroit Mackenzie in the regionals.

He capped his illustrious coaching career by winning his fifth district title at Stevenson during his final season (1985).

Among the fine players VanWagoner helped produce included Ted and Nick Exharos, Kelly Smith, Ron Hoekstra, Dave Hall, Bill Keyes, Gary Meszotte, Bob Shuka and Tom Domako (the latter who became Big Sky Conference Player of the Year at Montana State).

Two of his sons, Bruce, now residing in Holly, and Rich, a resident of Fort Smith, Ark., played at Livonia Churchill. His youngest son, Tom, who now

resides in Canton Township, played for his dad at Stevenson.

George VanWagoner also coached against nephew, Dave, the former varsity coach at Plymouth Canton.

"It was a shock . . . he was just a good guy," said Dave, who pinned three losses on his uncle during the 1983-84 season. "When you beat him, you knew you were beating the best."

George VanWagoner was a three-sport athlete and a graduate of Detroit Northwestern High School where he played for legendary Public School League coach Sam Bishop.

He went on to Highland Park Junior College, spent two years in the Army and did his undergraduate and graduate school work at WMU.

VanWagoner, a physical education instructor who also coached baseball, came to Livonia in 1966, the year Stevenson opened its doors.

He was inducted into the Michigan High School Coaches Hall of Fame in 1983 and the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan Hall of Fame in 1988. He is also in the high school sports halls of fame in Gobles and Allegan.

Besides his four sons, other immediate survivors include his wife of 46 years, Beth, a daughter, Mary, a resident of Houston, Tex., and a brother John of Northville Township. He also has six grandchildren.

Following his retirement at Stevenson in 1985, VanWagoner told the Observer: "I felt I've had one of the finest wives. She's been behind me 100 percent. She roots hard and lives and dies right along with the kids."

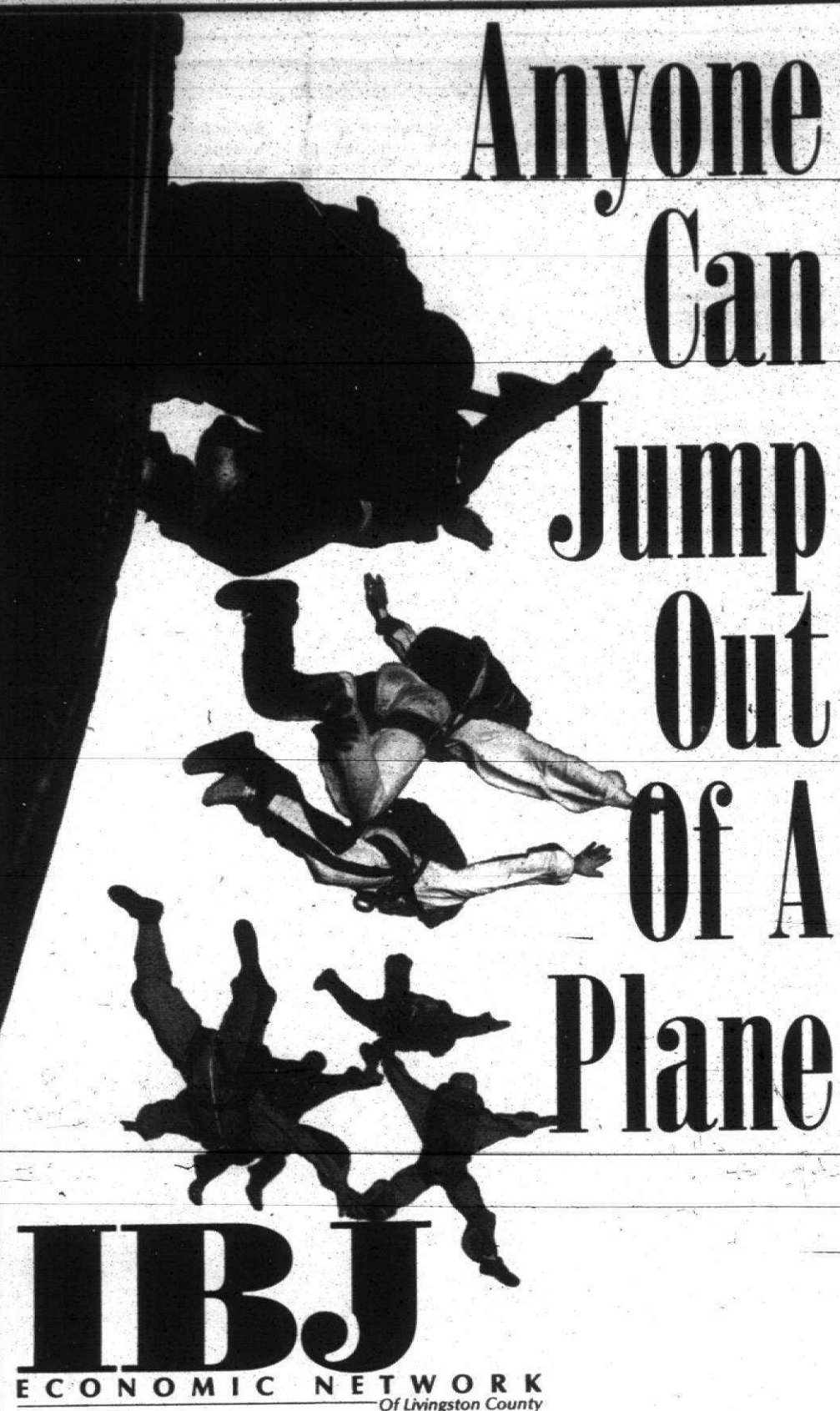
"I also have a great brother who roots for me."

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 8 at the Allegan United Methodist Church.

"My dad developed some very close relationships with the people of Allegan," Paul said. "They traveled a lot together."

Memorial contributions may be made to Dollars for Scholars, Allegan United Methodist Church, the Allegan Historical Society or ABC Missions in Mission, Tex.

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CHILD OF GOD
Outgoing, friendly DWCF, 49, 5'4", who resides in the Redford area, enjoys sewing, antiques and movies. She's seeking a compatible, Born-Again DWCM, 35-50. Ad# 4240

IT HAS TO BE YOU
Catholic DWF, 60, 5'6", who enjoys traveling, movies, the theater, walking, dancing and gardening, seeks a loving SWM, 59-64. Ad# 3138

LET'S CUDDLE
Catholic DWF, 59, 5'2", 125lbs., with blonde hair and green eyes, who enjoys family barbecues, picnics and more, seeks a Catholic SWM, 51-61. Ad# 1992

THE POWER OF LOVE
SWF, 57, 5'4", full-figured, who enjoys music, traveling, movies, long walks and more, is looking for a sincere, compassionate SWM, 52-62. Ad# 7141

BE MY COMPANION
SWCF, 56, 5'4", with blondish-red hair and blue eyes, full-figured, who enjoys reading and movies, is seeking a SWM, 55-62. Ad# 2433

WALKS WITH THE LORD
Get to know this vibrant, classy DWCF, 47, 5'6", with dark hair/eyes, if you're a SWCM who enjoys meeting new friends, dancing, dining out, movies and great conversation. Ad# 1236

MAKE THE CONNECTION
Looking for a long-term relationship? Make it happen with this DWCF, 33, 5'5", because she is searching for a Born-Again SWCM, 34-40. N/S. Ad# 8565

LET'S TALK
Settle down with this SWPCF, 47, 5'2", with brown hair/eyes, who enjoys cooking, travel and church activities. She's seeking a nice, Born-Again SWCM, 45-55, for a possible relationship. Ad# 3333

LOVE'S IN THE AIR
Sensitive, caring DWF, 52, 5'5", with auburn hair and green eyes, whose interests include cooking, movies, nature walks and dining out, is hoping to meet a SWF, 51-58. Ad# 1203

POSITIVE VIBES HERE
Leave a message for this personable DWCF, 50, 5'4", who enjoys rollerblading, bicycling and keeping active. She wants to meet an outgoing SWCM, over 47, for friendship first. Ad# 1199

COMPANIONSHIP
Outgoing, honest and fun-loving, describes this DWCF, 50, 5'9", looking for friendship with a SWCM, 45-55. Ad# 4536

GOD IS FIRST
Devoted SBC mom, 25, 5'9", who enjoys romantic dinners, movies, dancing and singing, wants to meet a family-oriented SBCM, 25-36. Ad# 6623

GREAT TIMES AHEAD
She's an outgoing and friendly DWF mom, 42, 5'3", who's looking to share life and great times with a SWCM, 37-48. Her interests include the outdoors, traveling, Bible study and hopes that yours do too. Ad# 1122

LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU
Self-employed SWF, 33, who enjoys walking her dog, the outdoors and more, is looking for an educated, hardworking SWM. Ad# 4734

IF YOU'RE A POLISHED...
Gentleman, call this humorous Catholic DWCF, 63, 5'6", N/S. She's seeking a Catholic SWM, 55-66, a good conversationalist, who enjoys travel, fine dining, shopping and more. Ad# 5454

START AS FRIENDS
Catholic SW mom, 40, 5'8", a brunette, who enjoys hockey, reading, bowling, baseball, long walks, dining out and romantic evenings is looking for a Catholic SWM, 30-50. Ad# 2828

SIMPLY YOURS
SWF, 50, 5'5", who enjoys music, the arts and more, is seeking a warm-hearted SWM, 40-60. Ad# 9114

CONSIDER ME
Personable, brown-eyed blonde DWCF, 50, 5'4", slender, is seeking an educated SWPM, 45-60, without children. Ad# 2323

IS THAT YOU?
Secure Catholic DWF, 48, 5'1", who enjoys long walks and weekend getaways, is seeking a warm, compassionate SWM, 46-54, who enjoys life. Ad# 2223

CONFIDENT
Very handsome and honest SWCM, 33, 6'3", 185lbs., with hazel eyes, is seeking a SWF, 25-41, for a possible relationship. Ad# 1201

REACHING OUT
Catholic DWF, 46, who enjoys dancing, quiet times at home, bowling, skating and NASCAR, is looking for a compatible SWCF, 25-50, without children at home. Ad# 1994

SHARING MY WORLD
Catholic SWF, 48, 5'3", is looking for a Catholic SWM, 40-55, without children at home, for fun and a possible relationship. She likes bowling and social events. Ad# 9642

MEANT TO BE
Sincere SWF, 49, 5'4", with green eyes, is looking to share interests and friendship with a caring, considerate SWM, 50-54. Ad# 3161

QUIET EVENINGS
Never-married SWCF, 33, 5'8", with brown hair and blue eyes, loves the outdoors, concerts, movies and line dancing. She seeks a never-married SWCM, 28-36. Ad# 2933

THE MARRYING KIND
SWCF, 35, 5'9", who enjoys dining out, movies, concerts, traveling and church activities, is seeking a SWCM, 30-45, for friendship first, possible long-term relationship. Ad# 2436

FAMILY-ORIENTED
Catholic DWF, 49, 5'7", with brown hair/eyes, who enjoys sports, concerts, movies, dining out and the outdoors, seeks an honest, sincere, Catholic D/WWM, 45-55. N/S. Ad# 5689

AMAZING GRACE
Born-Again DWCF, 44, of two, 36, 6'1", who enjoys church activities, working on cars and more, is seeking a well-rounded SWCF, 44 or under. Ad# 1944

CONFIDENT
Very handsome and honest SWCM, 33, 6'3", 185lbs., with hazel eyes, is seeking a SWF, 25-41, for a possible relationship. Ad# 1201

REACHING OUT
Catholic DWF, 46, who enjoys dancing, quiet times at home, bowling, skating and NASCAR, is looking for a compatible SWCF, 25-50, without children at home. Ad# 1994

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TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL
This Born-Again SWCF, 30, 5'6", 125lbs., with blonde hair and blue eyes, enjoys Bible study, is hoping to get together with a SWM, 25-45. Ad# 4856

AMAZING GRACE
WWCF, 50, 5'3", slender, with blonde hair and green eyes, enjoys dancing, movies, bowling and country drives. She seeks a handsome DWCM, 45-50. Ad# 2130

HOPES & DREAMS
DWF, 21, 5'2", with blonde hair and green eyes, enjoys the outdoors, theater, music and more. She is looking for a romantic SWM, 20-30, who likes children. Ad# 5253

SHARE HER DREAMS
Energetic, educated DWF, 27, 5'8", with blonde hair and blue eyes, who enjoys bicycling, working out, swimming and horseback riding, seeks a SWCM, age unimportant. Ad# 3919

DISCOVER ME
Catholic SWPF, 32, 5'11", who enjoys working out, reading and traveling, would like to meet a Catholic SWPM, 30-45. Ad# 1475

BE SURE TO SMILE
Spice up your life, be sure to call this friendly, sincere SWPF, 39, 5'5", who is hoping to hear from a considerate, honest SWM, age unimportant. She enjoys movies and music, dancing and spending time with friends. Ad# 7733

ALL THAT & MORE
Slender, upbeat SWF, 42, 5'6", who enjoys outdoor activities, country music and dining out, is looking for a possible relationship with a gentle, active SWM, 42-55, with a good sense of humor. Ad# 2665

ATTRACTIVE
Outgoing DWCM, 38, 5'7", 110lbs., a green-eyed blonde, who enjoys working out, dining out, movies, reading and the outdoors, is looking for a handsome SWCM, 37-45. Ad# 5165

GOOD LISTENER
Here's a laid-back, but fun DB mom, 34, 5', who's waiting to hear from you, a SBCM, 32-42, who loves children and going to church. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, long conversations and dining. Ad# 1234

GIVE LOVE A CHANCE
SWF, 35, enjoys gardening, animals and spectator sports. She would like to meet a SWM, N/S, who likes meaningful conversations. Hopefully, a serious relationship will develop. Ad# 3693

FRIENDSHIP
Catholic SWF, 31, 5'2", with red hair and green eyes, seeking a Catholic SWM, 30-38, who enjoys movies, the theater, music, biking, rollerblading and more. Ad# 1010

KINDRED SPIRIT
Outgoing, friendly DWF, 50, 5'6", medium-built, with blonde hair, who likes jazz and R&B music, concerts, dining out and quiet nights, is seeking an honest SBCM, 50-64, for a long-term relationship. Ad# 4224

NEW IN TOWN
Want to meet a great guy, then call this friendly DWCF, 29, 6'2", 125lbs., with brown hair and green eyes. He's seeking an outgoing SWF, under 40, who enjoys riding horses, outdoor sports and living life to the fullest. Ad# 3841

JUST FOR YOU
Good-natured, 40-year-old SWF, 42, 5'9", with brown hair and hazel eyes, enjoys outdoor activities, romantic dinners, dancing, long walks and more. He wants to share a long-term relationship with a sincere, caring SWF, 30-40. Ad# 5858

THE MARRYING KIND
Sny DWCM, 26, 5'10", 175lbs., with brown hair and green eyes, who enjoys movies, bowling, fishing and traveling, seeks a faithful DWF, under 26. Ad# 2328

HONESTY TOPS MY LIST
Reserved SWM, 39, 6', with blonde hair and blue eyes, who enjoys bike riding, dancing, dining out and the outdoors, seeks a SWCF, 32-44, for an honest relationship. Ad# 4275

FIND OUT TODAY
SWM, 41, 5'10", seeks an intelligent, honest SWF, 30-45, who enjoys music, writing, reading, drawing and painting. Ad# 1951

NEVER-MARRIED SWM
Professional SBCM, 37, 6'2", is looking to meet a slender, attractive, outgoing SWF for a monogamous relationship. He enjoys dining out, movies and working out. Ad# 1961

A GOOD GUY TO KNOW
Hoping to meet you soon is this friendly DWCM, 47, 5'11", who enjoys movies, sports, good conversation and dining out. Leave him a message if you're a DWCF, with similar interests. Ad# 8709

SEARCHING FOR LOVE
Good-hearted, affectionate SWM, 56, seeks a SWF, 45-65, who would love attention. Ad# 1233

ARE YOU COMPATIBLE?
Outgoing DWCM, 45, 6'2", would like to meet a kind SWF, 25-40, without children at home. He enjoys amusement parks, Bible studies, cooking, quiet dinners for two and conversation. Ad# 5550

SO AMAZING
A shy and reserved SWM, 38, 6'1", wants to break out of his shell. If you're a SWF, 18-39 and are athletic, value family life and want to meet a good man, you could be the one. Ad# 2580

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU
Born-Again DWCM, 48, 5'8", 155lbs., enjoys sports, music and is looking for a SWCF, 25-54, for a long-term, compatible relationship. Ad# 7876

CAN YOU RELATE?
He's a Catholic SWM, 42, 5'9", with brown hair and blue eyes, who's educated, employed and outgoing. He enjoys music, the arts and being around family and friends. He seeks a passionate and caring SWF, 27-42, who enjoys similar interests. Ad# 4242

ENHANCE MY LIFE
Tall, dark, handsome SWM, 40, 5'10", who enjoys sports and physical activities, is looking to share interests and a meaningful friendship with an outgoing, sincere, attractive SWF, age unimportant. Ad# 3931

SAYING MY PRAYERS
Outgoing, family-oriented, Catholic SWM, 24, 5'3", never-married, who enjoys the outdoors and sports, wants to meet a compatible, Catholic SWF, 21-28. Ad# 4322

JUST LIKE YOU
Professional SBCM, 36, 5'5", 155lbs., is seeking a humorous, outgoing, never-married SWF, 27-38, N/S, childless, who loves the Lord. Ad# 7474

MONOGAMOUS
Professional, Catholic DWCM, 42, 5'9", with brown hair and blue eyes, who enjoys dining out, movies, the outdoors and more, seeks a down-to-earth, Catholic SWF, 33-48. Ad# 2753

FRESH START
Humorous SWM, 38, 6', with dark hair and blue eyes, enjoys reading, dining out, golf and more. He is looking for an attractive SWF, 25-40, who has good values, for a possible relationship. Ad# 8860

DEDICATION OF LOVE
Never-married SWM, 41, 6', who enjoys dining out, movies, sports, working out and outdoor activities, is seeking a slender D/SWF, 25-40, with similar interests. Ad# 2799

JUST YOU AND I
Catholic SWM, 40, 6'1", 195lbs., with brown hair/eyes, is searching for a SWF, 29-39, to share laughter, photography, music, movies and more. Ad# 1907

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HONESTY COUNTS
Handsome DWCM, 44, 6'1", who enjoys youth ministry, outdoor activities, movies and more, is seeking a slender, romantic SWCF, 30-44, without children. Ad# 2843

MOMS WELCOME
Handsome and athletic DWCM, 39, 6'1", who enjoys traveling, and more, seeks a slender SWCF, 28-44, to share life with. Ad# 2116

NEVER GIVING UP ON LOVE
Don't miss out on meeting one of the good guys. This loving 36-year-old DWCF, 6'1", height/weight proportionate, with brown hair and blue eyes, is ISO a drug-free, good-natured SWF, under 45, who enjoys dining out and movies. Ad# 6883

SOMEONE SPECIAL
Professional SBCM, 37, 6'2", is looking to meet a slender, attractive, outgoing SWF for a monogamous relationship. He enjoys dining out, movies and working out. Ad# 1961

TAKE A LOOK
Self-employed, professional SWM, 30, 6'1", is looking to share a life with a slender, romantic SWF, who enjoys swimming, sunsets and spending time with friends. Ad# 3336

GO OUT WITH ME
Caring, affectionate and educated DWCM, 38, 6', is looking to meet a SWCF, under 38, who likes dining out, watching movies and going to plays. Ad# 1891

CALL SOON
Professional, upbeat SWM, 48, 5'11", N/S, enjoys keeping fit, traveling, fine dining and the theatre. He hopes to meet an attractive SWF, 38-52, with a good sense of humor. Ad# 7612

LOVE & LAUGHTER
Professional SWM, 28, 5'8", 155lbs., with brown hair and blue eyes, N/S, who enjoys biking, weight training, target shooting and music, seeks a Catholic SWF, 22-31, N/S, without children at home, for a possible relationship. Ad# 4475

ALL IN TIME
Outgoing, professional SWM, 34, 5'9", who enjoys outdoor activities and good conversation, is in search of a SWF, under 40, who enjoys life. Ad# 1478

NEED A COUNTRY GAL
Financially secure, fun DW dad, 38, 6'4", 215lbs., whose hobbies include baseball and boating, seeks a SWF, 28-40. Ad# 7234

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Ad of The Week

LOVE A BAKE
If you're looking for a beautiful, blue-eyed blonde who knows how to treat her man, look no more! Seeking SM, 35-43, who appreciates children, for wild times, and quiet evenings. #3521

To place your own free ad, call 1-800-518-5445

women seeking men

HUMOROUS & PASSIONATE
DWM, 28, 5'3", auburn/green, HW proportionate, loves good times, laughs, seeks S/DWM, 28-38, who loves children, for friendship, possible LTR. #3519

LOOKING FOR A HERO
Attractive, kind, affectionate, down-to-earth DWM, 36, 5'7", 120lbs, blonde/green, N/S, one child, enjoys running, warm weather, music, hiking. Seeking nice, financially secure S/W, 40-55, N/S, to enjoy life together. #2629

DREAM OUR MEMORY
Music is sweeter when shared. Slim, educated, financially secure, blue-eyed blonde, nifty 50s, 5'7", visionary dreamer, optimist with distinctive qualities, seeks active gentleman who is sweet and warm, age unimportant. #2089

SPRING FEVER
SWF, 27, 5'3", 125lbs, long blonde hair, enjoys reading, dining out, craft shows, movies. Seeking very humorous S/DWM, with similar likes. #3249

STARTING OVER
Widowed lady, young, 63, blonde/blue, enjoys movies, theater, dining out, animals, walking, swimming. Would like to spend time with loving, caring white gentleman, 60s. #3191

NO COUCH POTATOES
Slim DWM, 35, 5'10", blonde/blue, smoker, social drinker, mother of three, enjoys dancing, hockey, darts, sea-gazing, and travel. Seeking handsome, faithful, trustworthy S/W, 32-42, HW proportionate, with similar interests. #2410

LOOKING FOR FUN
Attractive SWF, 31, 5'10", blonde, who loves long walks, holding hand, movies, etc. Seeking tall SM, 33-43, who has morals and is looking for a fun relationship. #3369

A GREAT CATCH
Outgoing, sophisticated SF, 20s, 5'5", 115lbs, blonde/green, with model looks. Seeking SM with looks and a kind heart. You won't be disappointed. #2815

EASY ON THE EYES
Keep me laughing and I'm yours. Blue-eyed, blonde, 30, 5'6", 118lbs, attractive with a sharp mind and quick wit. Looking for the same. #2638

IS THERE ANYONE OUT THERE?
SWF, 25, 5'9", single mom, enjoys outdoors, movies, quiet times with someone special. Seeking honest, caring, employed SM, 27-34, 5'10", for LTR. No games. #3431

BEST KEPT SECRET
Attractive SWF, 30s, social drinker, who enjoys golf, sports, boating, travel. Seeking attractive, fit SM, 28-35, for LTR. #3372

VERSATILE
SWF, 41, seeks male, 30-40, interests horses, motorcycles, music, art, dancing, billiards, swimming, outdoors, exotic food, talking, dining out, travel. N/S. #3306

A STEP AHEAD
Cute, fit, honest SWF, 30, 5'2", N/S, rarely drinks, enjoys animals, sports, outdoors, humor, the zoo and romance. Seeking similar qualities in a S/W, 28-40, for LTR. No present/future kids. #1193

FIRST TIME AD
Very attractive, spiritual, shapely, precocious personality, 43, 5'4", with positive outlook, good values, loves life. Seeking well-rounded man for friendship, possible relationship. No games, please. #2242

OUTDOOR ENTHUSIAST
SWFP, 36, seeks SWP/SM, 30-45, N/S. Do you enjoy backpacking, skiing, outdoors, exotic food, plays and traveling? If so, I'd like to meet you. #3190

LOOKING FOR YOU
SWF, 28, 5'8", 160lbs, N/S, seeks SM, 28-36, who enjoys outdoor activities, travel, quiet evenings at home, for serious relationship. No games. #2966

LOOKING FOR A SOULMATE
Financially secure, college-educated SWF, 28, 5'3", brown/blue, enjoys music, movies, skiing, rollerblading, the outdoors, cuddling. Seeking soulmate, 27-33, with similar interests, for future relationship. #2910

TRUST ME, I'M WONDERFUL
Wanted to describe on paper, but trust me, I'm wonderful! Blue-eyed SWF, 34, with great smile, seeks sexy, intelligent man, 24-42, to fall in love with. #2816

BEAUTIFUL WILDFLOWER
Dazzling, blue-eyed brunette, 34, 5'4", 108lbs, with perky personality, professional career. Seeking rugged, tumbweed guy with great looks, successful career, strong character, and irresistible charm. #2817

A HEAD TURNER
Used to model to get through college, now I'm a lawyer. Attractive, outgoing, romantic female, 29, in shape, seeks pleasant, cultured, attractive man. #2819

JOIN ME
SF, 34, 5'4", brown/big brown, vegetarian, professional psychic, holistic healer, loves life, my children, nature, hiking, camping, yoga, values, integrity, accountability, emotional maturity are non-negotiable. For friendship first. #3522

HAPPY-GO-LUCKY
Attractive, easygoing, honest, romantic, slender DWM, 42, mom of two toddler boys. Seeking humorous, financially/emotionally secure, warm-hearted, sincere S/W, 38-45, N/S, for fulfilling LTR. North Oakland County. #3151

SOPHISTICATED LADY
Petite, honest, sincere, blue-eyed blonde SWF, 43, enjoys dancing, traveling, dining, walks, romantic evenings at home. Seeking gentleman, 30-50. #2322

SOME KIND OF WONDERFUL
Yes she is! Good-looking professional blonde, 40, medium build, enjoys getaways, plays, tennis, and the unexpected. Desires handsome, professional, N/S, with balance, acceptance, and boundaries. #3304

BEAUTIFUL...
degreed, thin, spunky, unique, loving SF, 44, 5'7", steel blue, naturally curly hair, into self-growth, meditation, nature, yoga, natural health, laughing, speaking truth and life. Seeking soul connection S/W, N/S. #29723

BLUE-EYED BLONDE
Attractive SWF, 50, 5'7", medium build, seeks commitment-minded S/W, 45-50. #2444

STARTING OVER
Easygoing, overweight DWM, 43, 5'10", N/S, N/Drugs, enjoys outdoors, walking, golfing, cards, pets, traveling. Seeking honest, loyal S/W, N/S, N/Drugs, for relationship leading to marriage. South Lyon area. #3182

UNCHAINED MELODY
Slim, attractive DWM, 51, N/S, with an active life style, seeks professional S/DWM, 50-60, 5'10", for C&W dancing, rollerblading, hanging out. Livonia area. #2534

CUTE CUBBY
WF, 46, looking for cute, chubby (or not), affectionate, intelligent WM, 40-50, with great sense of humor, who smokes good, and likes pizza without anchovies. #3060

URBAN COWGIRL SEEMS...
Urban cowboy, DWM, 40, 5'7", 145lbs, brown/brown, seeks S/W, 44-60, 25", with similar interests. #3152

LADY IN WAITING
Beautiful BCF, 47, mahogany complexion, N/S, enjoys all fun activities. Seeking handsome, Christian male, 40-55, with similar interests. #3152

ANGEL LOOKING
Outgoing, friendly, SBF, 45, 160lbs, enjoys music, movies, concerts, reading and conversation. Seeking S/W, 35-45, HW proportionate with similar interests. #3473

BLOND-EYED GIRL
Attractive SWF, 28, brown/brown, enjoys skydiving, camping, rollerblading, and conversation. Seeking S/W, 35-45, HW proportionate with similar interests. #3470

LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER
Attractive SWF, 35, 5'4", black/brown, thin to medium build, seeks attractive, tall, physically fit S/W, 30-40, enjoys the outdoors, movies, bookstores, road trips, working out, outdoor activities, friends first. LTR. #2052

CUTE GUY WITH SNOW PLOW
Sought by this head-turning, zany, brainy babe, late 20s, to share his time in the big city of love. #2813

RUNNING ON EMPTY
I drive around with my cats on the freeway. I make them wear little hats so I can use the car-pool lane. Too much time on your hands too? SWF, 28, brown/blue. #2814

LET'S START WITH COFFEE
Widowed WF, 60, 5'1", blonde/blue, N/S, social drinker, financially/emotionally secure, enjoys date in/out, theater, golf, playing cards. Seeking honest man, 58-64, with good sense of humor, to share the golden years with. #3381

PROFESSIONAL AND SEXY
N/S, yes that's me, looking for the same. Seeking S/W, 38-45, 5'5", 120lbs, blonde/brown, seeks SM, 50-65, must be in good shape and love life. Talk to you soon. #2903

LET'S MAKE THIS WORK
SWF, 38, 5'8", 160lbs, medium build, loves rollerblading, movies, dining out, long walks, and just about anything. Seeking man for LTR. #3042

I LOVE DOGS!
They're loyal, appreciative, and unconditional. Do you have these attributes? Attractive, witty, compassionate, hard-working SF, N/S, N/D, 40-53, for friendship, possible LTR. Interested? Come bark up my tree. #3425

DWM, 47, financially secure, health care professional, no dependents, seeks monogamous, loving, affectionate, S/DWM, 40-52, for golfing, movies, candlelit dinners at home, and committed relationship. Medical professional/fighter/air enforcement a plus! #3432

ONE MORE TIME!
Spontaneous SF, 53, red/green, smoker, looking for relationship with SM who doesn't want to play games. #3370

WAITING FOR LIGHTNING
Do you ever dream of light with her coat? Let her choose her favorite places? Willing to go forward with life? If so, give this attractive DWM, 56, a call. #2445

COFFEE, ANYONE?
N/S, active lifestyle, enjoys movies, concerts, rollerblading, and conversation. Seeking honest, sincere SM, 40-60, N/S, for companionship leading to relationship. #3363

BEST FRIENDS
Attractive, easygoing, humorous SWF, 52, 5'5", medium build, enjoys nature, walks, movies, dinner, travel, cooking. Seeking honest, caring, kind S/W, 50-60, who is over the past and is ready for possible LTR. #2415

SEARCHING FOR SOULMATE
SWF, brown/blue, 250lbs, enjoys dancing, quiet evenings, dining out, etc. Seeking S/W, 30-38, for friendship and companionship. Oakland county area. #3305

CLASSY COOKE
Youthful, sassy, sincere, creative, communicative, cocky, clever, charming, caring, Christian, SF, 47, auburn/blue, seeks professional, modest musician, with peachy priorities. No calls from crums, please. #3154

DANCE PARTNER WANTED
The classy romantic, attractive, fun-loving SWF, 60, 5'2", seeks honest, sensitive fit S/W, N/S, to share my heart and passion for life. #3192

A TOUCH OF CLASS
Sensuous, attractive DWM, black hair, sexy eyes, enjoys any activity with the right man. He is tall, sincere, 45+ and looking for a LTR. Serious replies only. #3187

SEEKING TALL MAN
SWF, 5'6", 120lbs, blonde/blue, nice figure, seeks funny, down-to-earth man, 36-42, strong physique, who can handle life's ups and downs. #2900

I GET ALL THE ATTENTION
Tall, blonde SF seeks sophisticated male to go to parties with and share life with. My friends hate going to parties with me because I get all the attention. #2818

WANT TO DANCE?
Professional SWF, 46, 5'8", medium build, no dependents, loves doing everything all sports, traveling, reading, and dancing. Seeking romantic, tall, drug-free man, N/S, who is not intimidated by independent woman. #3374

LAUGHING AND LOVING
Active, happy, positive SWFP, 53, business owner, health care schedule and retirement plans in two years. Seeking humorous, kind, considerate, lively man for fun and more. #3318

I'M A NUT
Me: adventurous like a macadamia; sweet as a praline, with a smile like a buttered nut. A primo cashew, slightly coconut, not a goober or fibber. 30-40. Educated and caring a plus. #2912

SEEKING EURO/RUSSIAN LADY
Good-looking SWM, 40, 5'8", 155lbs, enjoys movies, theater, walks, concerts, opera, art, romance, travel. Seeks slender, pretty SWF, interested in LTR. #3369

TRUE GENTLEMAN
Spontaneous, romantic, active, tall DWM, 36, father of 9-year-old son, seeks active, fit, special woman who appreciates being treated like a lady. #3307

FIRST TIME AD
Bi racial SM, 45, 6', 140lbs, long haired professional, no children, Christian male, 40-55, with similar interests. #3462

ONE OF A KIND
Outgoing, dynamic, very attractive DJF, 42, brown/brown, enjoys exercise, dining out, travel, and boating. Seeking very honest, very attractive, financially secure, compassionate S/W, 45-50, 6'2", for friendship, possible relationship. No games. #3093

FACE LIKE LINDA FLORENTHO
Vivacious, blue-eyed brunette, active, intelligent, quick-witted SWF, 41, 5'7", 140lbs, sense of humor, no children, enjoys Red Wings, bookstores, animals, antiquing. Seeking rugged, great-looking, financially/emotionally secure, relationship-minded guy, 40-45, 5'10"-6'2". #3089

SPRING INTO ROMANCE
Very loving DWM, young 50-54, brown/blue, N/S, enjoys movies, dining, concerts, sports, travel, and romance. Seeking honest, financially secure, compassionate S/W, 45-55, similar interests, for friendship, leading to LTR. #3098

BEAUTIFUL BROWN EYES
SBF early 40s, medium build, enjoys travel, movies, beaches. Seeking honest, financially secure SM, 44-60, 25", with many interests, including outdoors, music, dancing, working out. Seeking relatively slim, attractive, sincere WF, 35-45, for friendship, possible relationship. Children ok. #3466

LOOKING FOR COMPANIONSHIP
Very kind-hearted, honest, easygoing, very affectionate DWM, 47, 5', brown hair, with sense of humor, likes the simple things in life. Seeking S/DWM, 47-55, for friendship, possible LTR. #2811

LOOKING FOR MR. RIGHT
DBCF, 44, looks 28, green eyes, enjoys walking, reading, travel, plays, dancing and basketball. Seeking financially secure S/DWM, under 50, 6'. Must have God first. Children ok. #2724

DOCTOR WANTED
Very pretty SWF, mental health care technician, youthful 48, 5'5", slightly overweight, blonde/blue, seeks attractive S/W medical doctor, 40-60, for companionship. Troy area. #2720

INTERESTED IN ART?
Pretty SWF, early 40s, seeks sensitive, art-inclined S/W, 40-50, for possible relationship. #2632

IRRESISTIBLE
Intriguing, pretty, passionate DWM, 44, seeks handsome, smart, funny, romantic S/W, 38+, N/S, for great, one-on-one relationship. Are you ready? This could be it! No games, please. #2633

SEEKING TALL MAN
SWF, 5'6", 120lbs, blonde/blue, nice figure, seeks funny, down-to-earth man, 36-42, strong physique, who can handle life's ups and downs. #2900

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Outgoing, dynamic, very attractive DJF, 42, brown/brown, enjoys exercise, dining out, travel, and boating. Seeking very honest, very attractive, financially secure, compassionate S/W, 45-50, 6'2", for friendship, possible relationship. No games. #3093

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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Eve 6 (above) and Lit perform at St. Andrew's Hall in Detroit. Doors open 6 p.m. for the all-ages show. Tickets are \$12 in advance. For more information, call (313) 961-MELT or visit <http://www.961melt.com>.

SATURDAY



All aboard for an evening of "Twentieth Century Un-Limited" fun 8 p.m. at the Historic Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser Road, Detroit. Concert features organist Brian Carmody, Doug Jacobs and the Red Garter Band, and songstress Fran Carmody. Tickets \$8 at the door, or call (313) 537-2560.

SUNDAY



Legendary pianist Victor Borge performs with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, 3 p.m. at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$13 to \$45, call (313) 576-5111.

HOT TICKET



The Royal Hanneford Circus comes to The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. for eight performances Thursday, April 8 through Sunday, April 11. Tickets \$12, \$8 reserved and \$5 general admission. Call (248) 645-6666.

DOC Severinsen is happy to be on the road again

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

For 30 years Doc Severinsen had a steady gig. Same place, same time five nights a week for a national audience of insomniacs on "The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson."

Now, Severinsen, 71, is on the road 46 weeks a year and, he says, "having the time of my life."

On Friday, April 16, Severinsen will bring his All Star Big Band to Orchestra Hall and he promises a "hot" night. Two-thirds of the band are former players with Severinsen's Tonight Show Band.

"We'll get on stage and play swing, jazz, blues, lots of blues," he said. "A lot of these are the guys that created that sound. Ernie Watts on sax, Snooky Young and Conte Candoli, who played with Woody Herman and Stan Kenton, on trumpet. Bill Perkins on baritone sax. Eddie Shaughnessy on drums. Ross Thompson on piano and Barbara Morrison on vocals."

Tonight Show fans remember Severinsen as much for his flamboyant attire and witty repartee with Carson as they do for his often dramatic trumpet stylings, but Severinsen knows his way around the trumpet, which he calls a "glorious instrument but a jealous mistress."

Now that mistress is getting its fair share of attention.

Severinsen began playing when he was a 7-year-old in Arlington, Ore. Named Carl after his father, he picked up his moniker because his father was a dentist and Severinsen was known as Little Doc.

"As a kid in eastern Oregon, the only contact I had with music was the jukebox or the bus stop or the radio," he said. "Swing bands were the thing and I heard Tommy Dorsey, Harry James and Glenn Miller, I guess. Harry James played trumpet and certainly made an impression on me. Also Louis Armstrong and when I heard Dizzy Gillespie, that got to me. Miles Davis was someone I



Guest artist: Doc Severinsen and his All Star Big Band will play swing, jazz, and lots of blues during their concert at Orchestra Hall.

thought the world of. When I was with Charlie Barnet and I met Clark Terry, he was a big influence."

After a stint in the Army, the young Severinsen toured with the Barnet, Tommy Dorsey and Benny Goodman bands before settling down with a job as a staff musician at NBC in 1949. He joined the Tonight Show Orchestra under Skitch Henderson in 1962 and took over the band in 1967. The show made him famous and he admits to missing it — at first.

"When you go to a job that regularly and it's that big a deal, it's not exactly out of sight, out of mind. It was sweet sorrow," he said.

Now he finds his band right in step with the times as the country is experiencing a swing revival, though Severinsen said he's been drawing young audiences all along.

"They've been coming right along. I've taken this band out for the last 15 years and the first thing I noticed was how many young people there were," he said. "When the swing revival thing came about I was a little surprised but then I thought about how the young people came to hear us."

WHAT: Doc Severinsen and His All-Star Big Band perform as part of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Ameritech Jazz Series

WHERE: Orchestra Hall, Detroit.

WHEN: 8 p.m. Friday, April 16

TICKETS: \$15-\$46 may be purchased at the Orchestra Hall box office or by calling (313) 576-5111.

He said young audiences understand the music and appreciate what the band does. He said the music has a good beat and a blues background. "Why wouldn't it survive?"

A few years ago Severinsen experimented with fusion music, a blending of pop jazz with electric rock pioneered by Miles Davis, Chick Corea, Herbie Hancock and others.

"I really enjoyed doing that," he said. "But when I got the big band going, that was when I realized, this is where I belong."

The Big Band is only one aspect of Severinsen's busy musical life. He has recorded more than 30 albums in all musical formats. He also performs regularly with classical and pops orchestras, including the Detroit Symphony, as a trumpet soloist and as a guest conductor. He is also the principal pops conductor for the Minnesota Orchestra, the Milwaukee Symphony, the Buffalo Philharmonic and the Phoenix Symphony.

"But it's great to diesel up the old bus and get the guys and drop in somewhere," he said.

Big band music creates a special feeling for band and audience.

"When the big band is playing the right way, you can feel it coming up through the floor," he said.

And, as for television, he's not eager to return.

"No, god, no. Not from what I see there," he said. "Paul (Shafer of the Letterman Show) and his guys do a wonderful job and so do the guys on The Tonight Show. The job is what it is."

As for Severinsen, he'd rather be on the road again.



Conductor: Hubert Soudant, who will conduct the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg in an all-Mozart program on April 15, has definite ideas on how Mozart should be played.

Orchestra keeps Mozart's music alive and well

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born Jan. 27, 1756, in Salzburg, Austria. He began to play the harpsichord at age 3 and was composing by the time he was 6. The boy genius never stopped until his life was cut tragically short by rheumatic fever on Dec. 4, 1792.

Salzburg was an inspiration and source for Mozart's music and today continues to keep his music alive.

On April 15, Hubert Soudant will conduct the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg in an all-Mozart program at the University of Michigan's Hill Auditorium.

"Salzburg in winter is a very German town," said Soudant by telephone from Salzburg. "But in the summer, it is an Italian town. In Mozart there is a very great Italian influence in his music."

This warmth and emotion have made Mozart universally loved.

"His music is so universal, first of all," Soudant said. "He talks to the heart of the people in many ways. He's funny, happy, very sad, all kinds of human feelings are involved in his music. The success of Mozart's music is that it talks to everyone."

The Mozarteum Orchestra has a strong historical connection to the great composer beyond being located in his native city. The orchestra dates from 1841 when citizens of Salzburg, together with Mozart's widow Constanze, founded the "Cathedral Music

Please see MOZART, E2

WHO: Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg conducted by Hubert Soudant with Till Fellner, piano, Katharine Goeldner, mezzo-soprano.

WHAT: All Mozart program featuring Symphonies No. 25 in G minor and No. 36 in C Major; Piano Concerto No. 25 in C Major; and two operatic selections.

WHERE: Hill Auditorium on the campus of the University of Michigan as part of the University Musical Society series.

WHEN: 8 p.m. Thursday, April 15

TICKETS: \$16-\$45. Call the UMS Box Office at (734) 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

POPULAR MUSIC

Sponge woos hometown with 'New Pop Sunday'

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

When Vinnie Dombroski hits the stage, it's impossible to look elsewhere. Whether it be Dombroski's bright, mustard-colored vest, impossibly thin body, or charismatic stage presence, Sponge's lead singer is interesting to watch.

Fans feel the same way. During a performance at Guitar Center in Roseville last month, Dombroski sauntered into the crowd and nearly stepped on a young, suit-wearing teen. The youngster didn't seem to care. He just wanted to snap a photo. After a few expletives and a lot of trembling, the teen seemed able to get his shot.

Snapping his fingers toward the sky, Dombroski along with bandmates guitarist Mike Cross, bassist Tim Cross, drummer Charlie Grover, and guitarist/slide guitarist Joey Mazzola tore through hits like the drunken

slide guitar-laden "Wax Ecstatic" and the pop song "Molly (Sixteen Candles)."

But Sponge's visit was all about wooing its hometown crowd into buying "New Pop Sunday" when it hits stores this Tuesday. "New Pop Sunday" (Beyond) sticks closely with the pop formula of its debut "Rotting Piñata" (Columbia).

That was a move that, Dombroski and Mazzola explained, was calculated. The decision was based more on influences than the fact that the brilliant, bluesy sophomore effort "Wax Ecstatic" (Columbia) was largely ignored by the label.

"We always had pop influences from the very beginning of this band. The first album has got pop songs on it, as well as just like rock songs," Mazzola said.

With "New Pop Sunday," the slide guitar has been pushed to the background making way for hand claps.

Please see SPONGE, E2



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

Celebrating release: Sponge lead singer Vinnie Dombroski sings tracks off his band's latest album "New Pop Sunday" at Overture Studios in Novi. The performance was part of an "Edge Session" hosted by the now-defunct alternative station WXDG-FM 105.1 "The Edge."

8 days a week

A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

THEATER

THEATRE THEATRE
"Forbidden Hollywood," April 14-June 27, Gem/Century building, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays (\$29.50), 7:30 p.m. Thursdays (\$29.50), 8:30 p.m. Fridays (\$34.50), 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturdays (\$34.50), 1:30 p.m. Sundays (\$29.50), and 5:30 p.m. Sundays (\$24.50). (313) 962-2913

FOX THEATRE
"The Wizard of Oz," 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, April 8, noon, 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 10, and 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Sunday, April 11, at the theater, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (248) 433-1515/(313) 983-6611

GEM THEATRE

"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change," runs through June 27 at the theater, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-8800 or (248) 645-6666

MACOMB CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

"Meet Me in St. Louis," 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 15, and 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 16-17, at the center, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$30, \$27 students/seniors, \$80 family of four. (810) 286-2222/(800) 585-3737

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE

"The Rocky Horror Show," Wednesday-Saturday, April 14-May 9, at the theater in Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Rochester. \$24-\$35, previews April 14-16 \$19.50-\$35. (248) 377-3300

OPERA

ELIZABETH PARCELS

The Detroit coloratura soprano sings songs and arias by Mozart, Donizetti, Puccini, and others, offering a program of the music during a concert Tuesday, April 14, at the Forum Recital Hall at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile roads, Livonia. Free. (734) 462-4400, ext. 5218

VERDI OPERA THEATRE OF MICHIGAN
Canton Project Arts presents "Discover Opera," featuring live performances by the Verdi Opera Theatre preceded by an informative presentation "Opera: What, It's All About," and a display of rare opera posters, 3:30 p.m. (4 p.m. concert) Sunday, April 18, at the Summit on the Park, Canton. \$10. (734) 397-5417

COLLEGE

EMU THEATRE

"The House of Blue Leaves," this award-winning play is "a force about a middle-aged son attendant who longs to fulfill his dream of becoming a famous songwriter, Friday-Saturday, April 9-11, and Thursday-Saturday, April 15-17, 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, at Quirk Theatre on Eastern Michigan University's campus, Ypsilanti. \$7, Thursday, \$12 Fridays-Saturdays, \$10 Sunday. (734) 487-1221

UO MERCY THEATRE

"Biloxi Blues," Neil Simon's play set in a U.S. Army boot camp during World War II, Friday, April 9, to Sunday, April 25, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays, in the McAuley Theatre on the campus at 8200 W. Outer Drive, Detroit. \$10, \$8 seniors/students. (313) 993-1130

U-M THEATRE

Workshop production of "Orphan Train," a classic American melodrama about poverty, community, family and hope by Michigan playwright Dennis North, directed by Guy Saville of Purple Rose Theatre Company, through April 11, at the Truodend Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$14, \$7 (734) 764-0450

U-M THEATRE DEPARTMENT

"Candide," by Leonard Bernstein, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 15-17, and 2 p.m. Sunday, at Hartland Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. \$18 and \$15 reserved seating, \$7 student seating. (734) 764-0450

WSU HILBERT THEATRE

"The Playboy of the Western World," a literary classic from Ireland about a playboy who courts his way into becoming the romantic hero of a small peasant village, runs through May 8 in rotating repertory, at the theater, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$17. (313) 377-2972

WSU STUDIO THEATRE

"The Subject Was Roses," the Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning drama chronicles the homecoming of a World War I veteran, through April 18, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays, in the theater, 4743 Cass Ave., at Hancock, Detroit. \$8, \$6 students/seniors. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATRE

HARTLAND PLAYERS

"A Thousand Glories," 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, April 16-17 and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 25, at Hartland Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. \$18, \$7 students/seniors. (810) 220-3521

SHAKESPEARE

A workshop production of "The Tempest," April 8 to May 2, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sunday, at the celebration April 23-24 in honor of Shakespeare's birthday, at Planet Ant, 2357 Caniff, east of I-75, Hamtramck, \$10, suggested donation. (313) 365-4048

STREET PLAYERS

"Trey Magnolias" by Robert Harding opens 8 p.m. Friday, April 9 and continues 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, April



Family event: Tahar and his alligators are one of the featured acts in the Royal Hanneford Circus at The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Drive for eight performances Thursday, April 8 through Sunday, April 11. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 8; 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 9; 10:30 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 10, and 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, April 11. Tickets \$12 and \$8 reserved and \$5 general admission. All seats \$4 opening night. All seats for the Friday matinee are \$5. Children 12 and under and seniors 65 and over will receive \$2 off \$12 and \$8 tickets for all shows except the performance on April 8 and the 11 a.m. performance on April 9. Call (248) 645-6666.

THEATRE

10, April 18-17 and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at Hamilton Elementary School, 5625 Northfield Parkway, Troy. \$10. (248) 879-1285

DINNER THEATRE

BACI ABBACCI ITALIAN CHOPHOUSE
"Tony n' Tina's Wedding," an interactive theater show, with patrons having an Italian dinner, and dancing to a live band performing traditional Italian wedding songs, has an open-ended run, to benefit the Michigan Humane Society, (248) 852-7420

"COLLISION OF COOL"

A celebration of the next century of cutting-edge artists with rock, music and art, 5 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, April 17, at Cranbrook Academy of Art, 1221 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. To benefit the graduate art programs. (248) 645-3333

DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY GUILD

FLEX MARKET
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, April 10-11, all proceeds to benefit Detroit Historical Museum, at Historic Fort Wayne. Free. \$1 for parking. (313) 821-7195

PLANT GOLF MASTERS SHOOTOUT

11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 9-10, until 4 p.m. Sunday, April 12, at Bogue's Bay and Grille, 142 E. Walled Lake Dr., Walled Lake. Proceeds benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. (248) 669-1441

RIDGEBALL PLAYERS

Holds its annual auction 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at the playhouse, 205 W. Long Lake, between Livonia and Crooks roads, Troy. \$15, includes dinner; proceeds benefit a theater scholarship and building fund. (248) 988-7049

MARQUIS THEATRE

"Scholarship's Magic School Bus: A Bright Idea," an all original musical production based on the award-winning Fox-TV series and the best-selling book, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at the Truodend Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$14, \$13.50, benefits Crohn's and Colitis Research. (248) 645-6666/(313) 871-1132 group sales

NOVI THEATRES

"The Adventures of Peter Rabbit and His Friends," 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 16-17, and 3 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at the Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. 10 Mile, \$8, \$7 advance. (248) 347-0400

PAPER BAW PRODUCTIONS

"Jack and the Beanstalk," runs Saturday-Sundays to May 23, 1 p.m. Saturdays (lunch at noon) and 2 p.m. Sundays (lunch at 1 p.m.), at the Historic Players Club, 3321 E. Jefferson, between Mount Elliott and Westland, Detroit. \$7.50, includes lunch and show. (810) 662-8118

CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEUM OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

Students from Interlochen Arts Academy and their instructors will give workshops and a performance of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 10, at the museum, 335 E. Warren Ave., Detroit. (313) 494-5800/(616) 276-7804

YOUTH THEATRE

"The Secret Garden" New York's Theatreworks/USA turns the classic into a warm, compassionate play, 2 p.m. Saturday, April 10-11, and 11 a.m. Sunday, April 10, at Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$8, \$6 students/seniors. (313) 577-2972

BENEFITS

"AROUND THE WORLD"
Madonna University's silent and live auctions and dinner to benefit the school's scholarship fund and other projects, 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 9, at the Laurel Manor Ball and Video Conference Center, 39000 Schoolcraft

POPS/SWING

BIRMINGHAM TEMPLE CABARET
Ann Arbor's Kerrington Mesdames Deanna Reylea and Julia Busholm sing songs from and about Paris, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at the temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. \$18, \$15 seniors, \$12 students. Free. (248) 759-9338/(248) 288-2953

BOOTS RANDOLPH

8 p.m. Saturday, April 10, at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 seniors/students. (810) 286-2222/(800) 585-3737

VICTOR BORGE

With the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 8, 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 9-10, and 3 p.m. Sunday, April 11, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$13-\$45. (313) 576-5111

CAPITOL THEATRE

"Lost in the Stars," a revue of some of Broadway's classical musicals and contemporary shows, featuring Tracy Aron and Joe Cardinali, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 9-10 (15 adults), and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 11 (13 students and students), Daniel Patrick Kelly Theatre in the theater, 121 University Ave., Windsor, Paris, Canada. (519) 253-7729

COLIN JAMES BIG BAND

8 p.m. Sunday, April 11, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$10 in advance, 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com

THE PHOENIX ENSEMBLE

Presents a new music-theater piece "Relive the Magic: An Evening with Tony Amore," a musical for jazz orchestra inspired by the life, singing and mythology of Frank Sinatra, composer Andy Kirschner plays the aging, Sinatra-like crooner Tony Amore, 3 p.m. Sunday, April 11, at the Michigan Theatre, 603 Liberty St., Ann Arbor. \$15, \$10 students. (734) 763-8587

STARGILT DRIFTERS

10:30 p.m. Friday, April 9, Rochester Mills Beer Co., 400 Water St., Rochester, Free. 21 and older. (248) 505-0060 (western swing)

IRVING ORCHESTRA

8:15-11 p.m. Thursdays, at the Soup Kitchen, 1585 Franklin, Detroit. (313) 259-1374; 7:30 p.m. Sundays, at the Heidelberg, 215 N. Main, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 663-7758

AUDITIONS

SW PRODUCTIONS
Auditions for performers, dancers and singers ages 8 and up (males and females) for the semi-musical comedy drama theatrical stage play "When God Comes Down from Heaven," experience necessary. (313) 866-2375

"EXTREME GOLF"

The Golf Show Network show auditions for acts, 4-6 p.m. Thursday, May 6, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Variety acts must be three minutes or less and anyone younger than 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Accompaniment for any musical act must be acoustic, on cassette tape or compact disc. One act from each city will be flown to Los Angeles to appear live on "Extreme Golf" and get an advance of \$10,000 prize package. (312) 214-4520, ext. 26

KIWANIS KAWALERS

Canada's premier competing drum and bugle corps is looking for young performers (ages 14-21) for the upcoming summer tour July-August. (416) 241-2968 or http://www.kawalers.com

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN ARTS CONSERVATORY

Auditions for ages 10-18 for the conservatory's Theater Performance Ensemble production of "Jack and the Beanstalk," 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 14, students should prepare a two-minute comic monologue, a free fee is applicable for class placement; if accepted, at the conservatory, 5701 Canton Center Road, (north of Ford Road, off Maben Road), Canton. (734) 453-7590, ext. 315

LOUIS SMITH

8 p.m. Friday, April 16, competition winners perform with Eastern Michigan University Symphony Orchestra, at Peace Auditorium, College Place at West Cross, Ypsilanti. Free. (734) 487-2255/(734) 487-4380

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Shubert's Symphony No. 8 and Bruckner's Symphony No. 7, 10:45 a.m. Sunday, April 18, at the Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. \$12, \$5, (734) 769-2999 or kch@net.net

ITZHAK PERLMAN

7 p.m. Sunday, April 11, at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$62, \$55, \$48 students/seniors. (810) 286-2222/(800) 585-3737

PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

"Reed Finale: A Family Affair" features retiring conductor Russell Reed's sons David (violin) and Robert (cello) on a program of Shostakovich, Brahms and Respighi, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at Plymouth Stage with Reed, at Plymouth Stage High School auditorium, 46181 Joy Road at Canton Center, Canton. \$12, \$10 seniors/college students, free for students 12 and under, a selection of Celtic melodies, complimentary to ticket holders. (734) 451-2112

DAVID RUSSELL

The classical guitarist performs music by Giuliani, Loeffler, Daves, Womack and a selection of Celtic melodies, 4 p.m. Sunday, April 11, at Kerrington Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$20, \$15, (734) 769-2999 or kch@net.net

VERMILION STRING QUARTET

8 p.m. Saturday, April 10, program of Haydn, Verdi and Dvorak, in the Uta Jones-Johnson Theatre, Oakland Community College, Royal Oak. (248) 737-9890

CHORAL

COMMUNITY CANTOR ASSOCIATION OF TROY

Presents "White Cliffs of Dover," songs of World War II and starring Liane Nelson 8 p.m. Friday, April 16, at Troy High School, 4777 Northfield Hwy., Troy. (810) 978-8406/(248) 435-8307

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY CHOIRS

8 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at Peace Auditorium, College Place at West Cross, Ypsilanti. Free. (734) 487-2255/(734) 487-4380

MADONNA UNIVERSITY CHORALE

Under director David Wagner performs Gabriel Faure's "Requiem," Franz Beib's "Ave Maria," and the music of Maurice Durufle and Maurice Green, and featured are organist Joanne Vollerndorff and trumpeter William Beger playing the music of Alan Hovhaness, 4 p.m. Sunday, April 11, at Historic Christ Church, 960 E. University St., Ann Arbor. \$10, \$5 students/seniors. (734) 432-5708

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE

Show choir presents "Set the Night to Music" a program of song and dance 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 9-10, 30 p.m. Sunday, April 11, Varner Recital Hall, 39000 Schoolcraft

Oakland University Campus, Rochester. Tickets \$12 general, \$10 seniors, \$6 students call (248) 370-3013 or (248) 645-6666

JAZZ

IRON BROOKS TRIO
8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 9-10, 487-2255 or (734) 769-2999, Ann Arbor. \$5, 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

JUDI COCHILL

8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Friday, April 9, at Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. No cover. (248) 646-2150 (vocal/piano/bass/drums)

EMU JAZZ ENSEMBLE/LE COUILLERS

8 p.m. Saturday, April 10, at Peace Auditorium, College Place at West Cross, on the Eastern Michigan University campus, Ypsilanti. \$10, \$8 seniors, \$5 students, to raise funds for the university's jazz program. (734) 487-2255 or http://www.emich.edu/publi/music/musiclive.htm

GALACTIC

9:30 p.m. Thursday, April 15, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 or http://www.99music.com

GIACOMO GATES

9:30 p.m. Thursday, April 15-17, 9:30 p.m. Friday, April 16, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, April 17, 9:30 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at the Kerrington Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$15 in advance, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 or http://www.99music.com (Zydeco)

FOLK/BLUEGRASS

CULTURE VILLAGES
9:10 p.m. Saturday, April 10, Espresso Royale Cafe, 214 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (734) 668-1838 (bluegrass/swing)

CATRY FRANK AND MARCY MARKER

8 p.m. Thursday, April 15, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org (bluegrass/folk)

JAN KRIST

With Brooks Williams and Ric Hordnick, 7 p.m. Friday, April 16, Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia. \$15, \$13 for theater members. (734) 464-6302

JOHN MCCUTCHEN

8 p.m. Friday, April 16, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org

PAPERBOYS

8 p.m. Friday, April 9, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org

JIM PERKINS

9 p.m. Saturday, April 10, and Friday, April 11, 9 p.m. Saturday, April 11, 9 p.m. Sunday, April 12, Kercheval, Grose Pointe Farms. Free. All ages. (313) 886-8101; 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 14: Rochester Mills Beer Co., 400 Water St., Rochester. Free. 21 and older. (248) 505-0060

POETRY

OPEN MIKE SERIES
Features Linda Newk Foster (Living in the Fire) and Barbara Drake (Peace at Heart, An Oregon Country Tale), 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, at Barnes and Noble, Six Mile and Haggerty, Northville. Free

RAY WILKINSON AND MICHAEL MCCLURE

Spoken word performance, 8 p.m. Sunday, April 11, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Canceled. (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com

PLYMOUTH POETS

"Student Writers Night" featuring Peter Marcus, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 15, Coffee Bean Company, 844 Pennington St., Plymouth. (734) 459-7319

POETRY IN MOTION

Features Pat Trama, 8 p.m. Sunday, April 11, doors open at 6 p.m. with open mic, also 7 p.m. book release party for Marc Trama's "The Grand Cafe," 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Thursday, April 16, at Edison's 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. (248) 645-2150 (trumpet/piano/bass/drums)

LOUIS SMITH

8 p.m. Friday, April 16, competition winners perform with Eastern Michigan University Symphony Orchestra, at Peace Auditorium, College Place at West Cross, Ypsilanti. Free. (734) 487-2255/(734) 487-4380

SMITHSONIAN JAZZ MASTERWORKS ORCHESTRA

"Duke Ellington: A Centennial Tribute," 7 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$32, \$29, \$27 students/seniors. (810) 286-2222/(800) 585-3737

GORDON STONE TRIO

8 p.m. Thursday, April 15, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org

RICHARD TILTINGHAST/POIGNANT PLEOSTOMUS

The poet and the poet-musical group give performances of their collaboration of Poetry and Rock, Jazz and World Music, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 15, at University of Michigan League. (734) 763-4652; 7 p.m. Friday, April 16, at Borden's Inn, Novi-Town Center. (248) 437-0780

THE WRITER'S VOICE

Featuring nationally known New Jersey poets Elizabeth Anne Scowrone and Penelope Scowrone Schott, 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Free. 19 and older. (734) 996

SCREEN SCENE

Updated 'Out-Of-Towners' bring home laughs

BY JON KATZ
SPECIAL WRITER

In 1970, a lot of moviegoers bought into Neil Simon's image of New York as a black hole that can suck the life from "Out-Of-Towners" like Jack Lemmon and Sandy Dennis. It was a dark, dark movie from the master of comedy, with a beaten Lemmon waving a piece of paper and warning the whole city, "I've got all your names right here!" Now that the Big Apple has gone Disney and is making nice to its guests, the current version of "The Out-Of-Towners" downplays Manhattan as Evil Island. At the same time, it aggrandizes the notion that an ad man from Columbus, Ohio, can't find his

way out of a soybean field. As a native New Yorker who also served time as an ad man in Columbus, I've got a few bones to pick with Simon and with Marc Lawrence, who wrote this one. But that aside, the funny bone also gets a hearty workout thanks to the well-honed workmanship of Goldie Hawn, Steve Martin and John Cleeve.

Having just seen their youngest child off to college, Henry and Nancy Clark are off to New York. He, to save his career with a job interview the next day; she, to save their marriage with some spontaneity. It seems that while Henry (Martin) welcomes his empty-nester years as a chance to catch up on his reading, Nancy (Hawn) wants to

"suck the marrow out of life." Their differences are brought to the surface in the ensuing twenty-four hours as a lifetime of calamities befall them, not the least of which is getting to a fogged-in New York in the first place. Upon arriving luggage-less, they proceed to get mugged by a bogus Andrew Lloyd Webber, thrown out of their hotel by smooty manager Cleeve, join an encounter group of sexaholics, sleep in Central Park (and NOT get mugged!) and out of fairness we'll stop the list right there. Oh, just one more: Henry gets shipped a tab of acid while in jail. Now we'll stop.

Martin's Henry is just as victimized as Lemmon's ("See out

there? It's an entire city saying 'go home'"), but Hawn's Nancy is not the whiney, wimpy Sandy Dennis interpretation, no siree. Goldie's not taking anything from anybody, including a desk sergeant who's definitely picked the wrong blonde to mess with.

The Hawn-Martin partnership works better here than in 1992's "Housesitter," in part because they are partners, paddling together against the same currents. They are veterans with sharp instincts who know how to twist the line they're given just so to make it their own, complementing without compromising the other guy.

John Cleeve has done the same stiff Brit stuff since his Monty Python days, but who does it as well? All right, Sir John Gielgud in "Arthur," but who else? Somebody out there say Arthur Treacher? You're dating us both.

"The Out-Of-Towners" often goes over the top in its silliness (a fo-mo passing of a salami as a football), but also has some inspired gags like a rental car's navigation system gone haywire. Now that's something they should have saved for "The Out of Motowners."



Comedy: Henry (Steve Martin) and Nancy (Goldie Hawn) star in "The Out-Of-Towners."

This 'Squad' is lost in time

BY JON KATZ
SPECIAL WRITER

"One black. One white. One blond." In 1968, with that indelible catch phrase, a television series broke new ground, reflecting with true grit a generation's rage and frustration. The big screen remake of "The Mod Squad" is more like a broken record, with characters we've seen and platitudes we've heard all too often.

Set in the present, there's the ghetto dweller with no hopes of getting out, the rich kid who steals for kicks and the street-wise runaway. Linc, Pete and Julie are losers to everyone but LAPD Captain Adam Greer (Dennis Farina), who gives them one chance to pull themselves out of the pit.

"These kids can get into a thousand places we can't," Greer tells his snickering cop buddies. So undercover they go, to a nightclub where foul doings are afoot. "It feels like there's something wrong going down in there," says Julie (Claire Danes), with the kind of keen investigative insight that police training apparently doesn't teach.

But the real ugly stuff is "going down" right there in the police station, where some drugs have disappeared. Shades of "Surprise!" It looks like everyone's into it up to their badges except Greer and his three young punks. "This is like one of those dirty cop drug things," concludes Pete (Giovanni Ribisi). "Right on," answers Julie. Linc (Omar Epps) doesn't say much. Pete comes up with a brilliant strategy: "We need to get some evidence."

"Let's do it!" cries Julie. Linc



Cool: Giovanni Ribisi (left to right), Claire Danes and Omar Epps star as three juvenile delinquents with a shot at redemption in "The Mod Squad."

and on it goes. Director and co-writer Scott Silver stated that "we didn't want to alienate the older audience that fondly remembered the TV show but we had to make it for kids today who never heard of it."

Sorry, but he missed on both counts, taking down some talented young actors with him. The kids in the audience pretty much muttered "Aw c'mon" throughout. As for the first generation of "Squad" watchers, we'll take the original Pete's brooding over the new Pete's James Dean wannabe mumble, and the original Julie's dew-eyed hippie ears' little girl lost. Epps earns a toes-up versus maxi-Afro Clarence Williams III of the TV series. Their Lincs

are equally strong, equally unbridled in their urban anger.

Most confusing is the blending of eras on screen, whether intentional or accidental. Some of the bad guys still wear chains and love beads. The cars look like they should have Hubert Humphrey bumper stickers. Pete can't say two words without using "dude" or "bro." If the trio had been defrosted from the '60s like Austin Powers, fine, but the committee that cooked this up was using too many recipes at the same time.

The squad's final walk into the sunset of Venice Beach Pier is an obvious finish, including a nod to the original series that brazenly suggests a sequel. They should just keep walking.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, April 9

"TWIN DRAGONS" They're twins. One is a master of the martial arts and the other a master. Together they deliver non-stop action. Stars Jackie Chan.

"NEVER BEEN KISSED" A young looking reporter is given the assignment of going undercover to get a story in high school. Romantic comedy stars Drew Barrymore, David Arquette.

Scheduled to open Friday, April 23

"LOST AND FOUND" Comedy about finding your true love at any price, even if it involves a little dog napping along the way. Stars David Spade.

Scheduled to open Friday, April 30

"ENTRANCE" An insurance investigator sets a trap to catch a legendary gentleman thief who's never been caught. But things take a turn and now both the hunter and the prey may have to pay a high price for freedom. Stars Sean Connery.

"PUSHING TIT" Story of two air traffic controllers whose intense rivalry and penchant for one-upmanship threatens to unravel their careers, marriages and the planes in their airspace. Stars John Cusack, Billy Bob Thornton.

Scheduled to open Friday, April 16

"GOOD BAD 'N' HOT" Wacky and funny comedy about a string of days that were so bad that they were funny, and so numerous that they became a year. Welcome to the world of John Sweeney.

"AMC LYNCH" A comedy about a string of days that were so bad that they were funny, and so numerous that they became a year. Welcome to the world of John Sweeney.

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Guild hosts Women's Blow-Out

The Ypsilanti Video and Film-makers Guild is hosting the third annual Women's Film and Art Blow-Out Extravaganza, Saturday-Sunday, April 10-11 at the Riverside Art Center on Huron Street in downtown Ypsilanti. Hours are 7 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. Saturday and 6-10 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$10-\$5 at the door. Call (734) 483-9673 or visit the

Web site www.film-makers.com for more information.

The event features video, visual art, spoken-word performance and live music.

Local artist Sandy Lawson will introduce films about women who used art for social change.

Saturday and presents her one woman show at 6:20 p.m. on Sunday.

Web site www.film-makers.com for more information.

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Colin James back in swing with Little Big Band II



CHRISTINA FUOCO

When Colin James released his first album, "Colin James and The Little Big Band II," which hit stores earlier this year. It features James' masterful guitar work and covers of songs by Ray Charles ("Mary Anne"), Willie Dixon ("You Know My Love") and Cab Calloway ("C'mon With the C'mon").

"It's nice to be able to return and do an album when a few more people are pointed that way (swing/jump blues)."

A Vancouver resident, James is inspired more by "early rock 'n' roll" than swing.

"I guess when I started playing this stuff, it was really early rock 'n' roll that I was shining on; swing being a big part of that just because that's the way it was back then. But from Ray Charles to Jackie Wilson to Louis Jordan to that whole pre-rock 'n' roll era. It's got a lot of great music," said James who has opened for the Rolling Stones, Keith Richards and Stevie Ray Vaughan.

With "Colin James and the Little Big Band II," James added, "We really felt like we were swimming up stream. Although I didn't mind that because there's a kind of joy in feeling like you're doing something that was really different, you know? ... I think the worst thing that can happen is people going to listen to some music they might not listen to otherwise and people get hip to some of the great early

music. If that's the worst thing that happens, that's great."

Colin James and The Little Big Band performs Sunday, April 11, at the Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Tickets are \$10 in advance for the 18 and older show. For more information, call (248) 544-3030 or visit <http://www.colinjames.com>. James' Web site is <http://www.colinjames.com>.

Proud of record

As an elementary school student, Finger Eleven vocalist Scott Anderson learned early on to feel comfortable with himself.

"One of the bands I that I latched onto so early was Genesis and Peter Gabriel. In grade five or six, that's all I would listen to. But nobody really understood Genesis, especially when you're a 12-year-old kid. I used to write it on my binder. It was really geeky and I was totally comfortable with that," Anderson said with a chuckle.

Anderson, an Ontario, Canada, resident, attributes his musical tastes to his brother, Sean, the bassist for Finger Eleven.

"I was pretty lucky because Sean, who's my older brother, always had friends coming over with this great music."

Finger Eleven and its debut album "Tip" (Wind-Up Records) is closer to guitar rock than prog rock. It wavers between full-on

guitar assaults and moody vocals.

"The original ideas were conceived about a year or two ago," Anderson said about "Tip." "We've been changing and evolving with our boredom and it turned into what we put on the album."

"It was really nice to be so proud of something. You can't say that all the time."

Although he's proud of "Tip," Anderson explained that most people prefer the live show.

"It's got a great energy level to it. That's what most people latch onto. That reaction is immediate. You'll occasionally get someone who comes up to you and says, 'Wow.' They can identify with a lyric or two. That'll make my day."

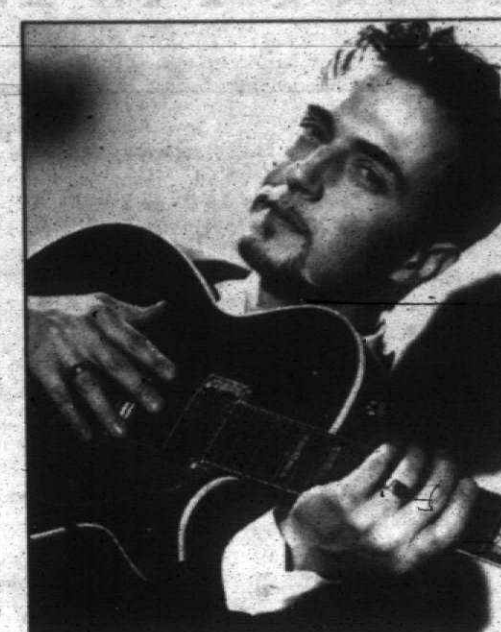
Finger Eleven and Buck Cherry perform Thursday, April 8, at The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Doors open at 6 p.m. for the all-ages show. Tickets are \$7. For more information, call (313) 961-MELT or visit <http://www.961melt.com>. Finger Eleven's Web site is <http://www.fingereleven.com>.

Misc.

The English rock group Gene Loves Jeezabel has released its latest album, "VII" (Robison Records), both to stores and on GoodNoise.com, an Internet site

for purchasing downloadable music. The new album is available in the MP3 (MPEG), Layer 3 format from GoodNoise.com for \$8.99 or \$9.99 per track. A single from the album, "Love Keeps Dragging Me Down," is available for a limited time for free download.

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 Road, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or cfuoco@ecnewspapers.com.



Returning: Jump blues artist Colin James returns to the Detroit area with his Little Big Band on Sunday, April 11, when he plays the Magic Bag in Ferndale.

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DINING

Diners rush to Risata before the show or game

BY KEELY WYGNIK
STAFF WRITER

kwygnik@oe.homedcomm.net

In a race to beat the clock, the staff at Risata works hard to get customers to the show on time.

"Everyone comes to dinner at the exact same time, and leaves at the same time," said executive chef George N. Kalergis. "It's really difficult to make sure everyone gets to the show on time."

Risata in the Second City Building on Woodward Ave. in Detroit is a popular dinner destination for people going to shows at the Fox, Detroit Opera House, and Orchestra Hall.

At lunchtime, the restaurant is filled with downtown office workers and construction workers busy at work on the new Tiger Stadium across the street.

There are three restaurants in the Second City-Detroit building. On the main floor is the Risata Lobby Bar. Risata is on the second level, and The 5 Hole, a sports bar, on the third.

Risata's lunch menu features daily specials, a variety of sandwiches and soups including a Burger of the Day. Fish and chips are offered on Fridays, and the Cajun Chicken BLT sandwich, Great Corned Beef Reuben, and Tuna Melt are lunch bunch favorites.

Kalergis, of Sylvan Lake, a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York, emphasizes "freshness and top quality ingredients."

He describes his dinner menu as American cuisine with international influences.

Risata
Where: 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit (in the Second City Building), (313) 964-5833.
Hours: Open 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Tuesday; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to midnight Friday; 5 p.m. to midnight Saturday; 5-8 p.m. Sunday.
Menu: American cuisine with international emphasis
Cost: Moderate
Reservations: Recommended for dinner
Cost: Soups, salads, appetizers and sandwiches (Risata Lobby Bar Menu), \$2.50 to 7.95; starters and salads (Risata menu) \$2.95 to \$9.95; pasta and grains \$10.95 to \$17.95; entrees \$13.95 to \$19.95.
Credit Cards: All majors accepted
Carry-out: Lunch only

Almond encrusted white fish is a great seller. "We get a lot of compliments on that," said Kalergis.

Grilled lamb chops are also popular. They're served with sundried tomatoes, wild mushrooms and au gratin potatoes.

Pasta dishes include Penne Pasta tossed with pan seared scallops with tomatoes roasted peppers and Creole sauce, Linguine with wild mushrooms, Prosciutto ham, tomatoes and scallions, and Fettuccine tossed with your choice of Pesto, Marinara or Alfredo sauce. You can also add chicken or shrimp for a little extra. Vegetarian offerings include Ratatouille tomato, pepper, zucchini, eggplant served over polenta.

The House Smoked Salmon fillet is served over a bed of lentil ragout, dill creme fraiche and crispy fried onions. The menu also offers a New York Strip Steak topped with Shrimp Scampi, fried onion mashed potatoes and a medley of vegetables, and Grilled Filet of Beef

with roasted peppers, garlic, Gorgonzola and au gratin potatoes. Chicken Marsala with wild mushrooms, herb risotto and medley of vegetables is another delicious choice.

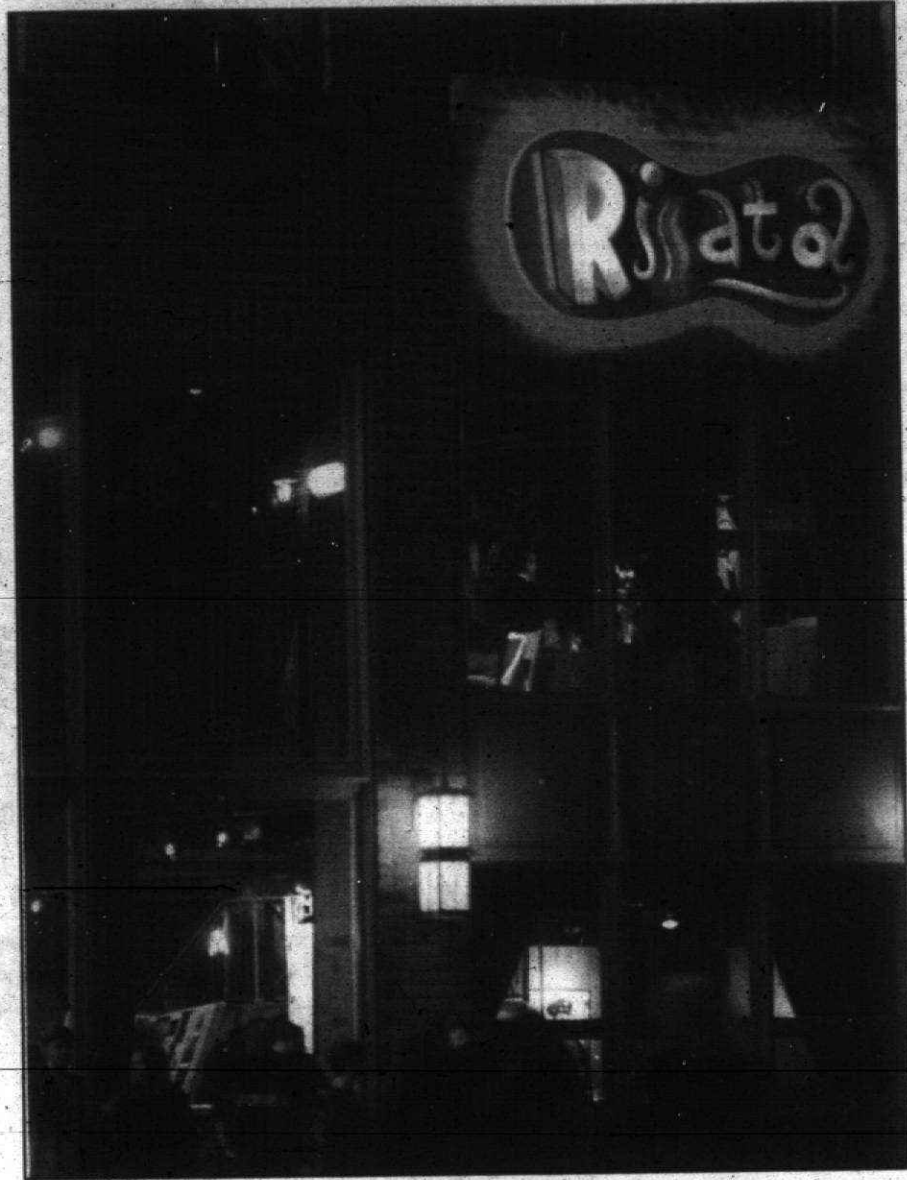
Your sweet tooth will be satisfied at Risata. Kalergis says the Sour Cream Apple pie is to die for. The Tiramisu is also very good.

The Lobby Bar Menu features a variety of soups, salads, appetizers and sandwiches.

On the third level, hockey fans gather at the 5 Hole. You can watch the game on TV, play pool, or video games. In the summer there's live entertainment on the third level deck. Bands perform Friday-Saturdays, beginning at 9 p.m. The 5 Hole is open 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Wednesday-Sunday.

The 5 Hole menu offers chicken wings, nachos, sandwiches and burgers.

"It's very quick food," said Kalergis. "It's gets crazy here during home games."



Dinner destination:
Before the show, or game, downtown diners flock to Risata in the Second City Building on Woodward to grab a quick bite to eat, or enjoy a leisurely dinner.

WHAT'S COOKING

Send items for consideration in What's Cooking to Keely Wygnik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, fax (248) 591-7279, or e-mail kwygnik@oe.homedcomm.net

SOUP'S ON!

New restaurant 207 S. Old Woodward, inside Lonestarr Coffee Co., downtown Birmingham (248) 642-SOUP began serving on March 29.

In celebration of their grand opening, owners Jay Rosett and David Trepeck are donating all profits from the weekend of April 9-10 to Detroit's Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

Soup's On! features eight gourmet soups daily served in 8 ounce, 12 ounce, 16 ounce and quart sizes. Six of the soups will rotate on a daily basis, and two popular mainstays will remain on the menu everyday. Customers will also be offered a wide variety of fresh-baked breads to accompany their soup

selection.

CHOCOLATE DEMO PROGRAM

Presented by world-renowned Pastry Chef Ewald Notter, Saturday and Sunday, April 10-11 at the Lark Restaurant. The class and lunch will begin at 10:45 a.m. and will end after dessert is served between 3:30 and 4 p.m. The cost is \$100 per person. Reservations are a must. Call (248) 344-2197.

STIR CRAZY CAFE

Chicago-based restaurant concept specializing in fresh pan-Asian cuisine will open its first Michigan restaurant Friday, April 16 at Great Lakes Crossing in Auburn Hills, Baldwin Road Exit off I-75 in the Great Lakes Walk section of the Mall near Entry No. 6.

The main attraction at Stir Crazy Cafe is a create-your-own stir-fry bar where guests can select from a wide variety of meats, vegetables, noodles, and homemade Asian sauces and then interact with a wok chef to

create their own stir-fry dish. The restaurant also features an extensive menu of fresh Asian inspired fare including crispy sesame calamari with wasabi cocktail sauce, wok seared tuna sashimi, sesame caesar salad, kung pao noodles and Stir Crazy's wonton banana dessert. Menu prices will range from \$6.95 to \$9.95 for lunch and \$7.95 to \$13.95 for dinner. The restaurant will be open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. The restaurant will unofficially open April 9-15 with a series of test servings with the proceeds going to Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County and United Way of Oakland County. Following a VIP Reception on April 13, the restaurant will officially open for business on April 16. For more information, call (248) 454-0400.

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(800)-BAGELME or visit the Web site www.einsteinbros.com

FIVE LAKES GRILL

Cooking Demonstration with wine and food pairings at Five Lakes Grill, 424 N. Main, Milford, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 17. Cost \$110 per person all inclusive. Chef/proprietor Brian Polcyn will conduct a formal two-hour cooking demonstration followed by the essentials of food and wine pairing presented by General Manager/Sommelier Ron Edwards. Call (248) 684-7455 for reservations/information.

P.F. CHANG'S CHINA BISTRO

Popular P.F. Chang's China Bistro in Somerset Collection South, Troy, does not take reservations, but has adopted "call ahead seating." Just give the restaurant a call (248) 816-8000 a half hour before you plan to arrive and if there's a wait list (which there will be on weekend evenings), your name will be added. Upon arrival, notify the host staff that you called ahead.

When your name reaches the top of the list, you'll be seated at the next available table.

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house & Lobster Bar. Enroll at (248) 646-0370 Extension 216 or any URC restaurant or Deli Unique.

OUTDOOR DINING

Big Rock Chop & Brew House, 245 S. Eton, (south of Maple) Birmingham (248) 647-7774; Paint Creek Cider Mill & Restaurant, 4480 Orion Road, Rochester (248) 651-8361 and the three East Side Mario locations 2273 Crooks Road (north-east corner of M-59) Rochester Hills (248) 853-9622; 31630 Plymouth Road (west of Merriman) Livonia (734) 513-8803 and 29267 Southfield Road (between 12 and 13 Mile Roads) in the Southfield Commons Shopping Center (248) 569-9454 have officially opened their patios.

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