

Canton Observer

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IN THE PAPER
TODAY

COMMUNITY LIFE

In triplicate: Santa had his lap full last week when the parents of triplets and members of 3-4-All brought their children to Wonderland Mall for a visit. /B1

More to it: Big beautiful women and big handsome men have a place to meet and mingle, thanks to Kim Zager's More to Adore social club. /B2

ENTERTAINMENT

Light show: Find out why the Detroit Zoo's "Wild Lights" is becoming a popular destination. /E1

Dance: The Henry Ford Community College Full Circle Dance Company, led by Diane Mancinelli of Livonia, will be "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree." /E1

REAL ESTATE

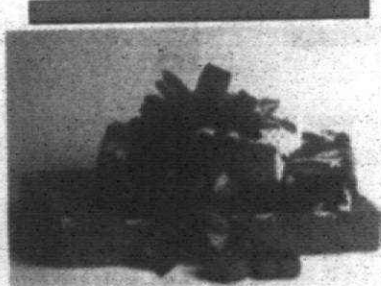
Moving time? Home sales slow down during the holidays but don't come to a halt. We look at the who and why of December house buying. /F1

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Wrap up the holidays in style with gifts from our great gift guide!
It's right here in your HomeTown newspaper!



Booher is choice to lead district



Berkley Schools Superintendent Kathleen Booher has been named by the Plymouth-Canton school board as its top choice for local school chief. A contingent from the district will visit Berkley before a contract is offered.

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER
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The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education followed the lead of the Superintendent Selection Committee and named Kathleen Booher, Berkley

Schools superintendent, as its number one choice to become the district's next CEO.

Booher was a unanimous selection by trustees, and the only one of the three finalists they'll continue to pursue at this time.

The next step will be for trustees and community members to make a site visit to Berkley, talking with teachers, administrators, community leaders and business people about Booher to decide if a contract will be offered.

Trustee Steve Guile said he received a glowing reference from Birmingham Schools Superintendent John Hoeffler.

"He had nothing but positive things to say about her, and said she would be a great asset to our district," said Guile. "She also has broad support

throughout Oakland County."

"I think she has the drive and qualifications to lead us where we want to go," added Trustee Darwin Watts.

Trustee Judy Mardigian said she

Kathleen Booher

Please see **SUPERINTENDENT**, A14

Waiting for Santa



He's the man: Alyssa Burris, 5, (left) and Madison Lewis, 4, hold hands while awaiting their turn to see Santa at the first session of Brunch with Santa at Summit on the Park Sunday. In the photos at far left, Jessica Bolz, 16 months, takes a look up at the jolly fat man upon whose lap she has just been placed ... but realizes she doesn't know who this red-suited man is ... and struggles to get away and back to momma's arms.

STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHMANN

Canton man, 53, killed in crash

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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A 53-year-old Canton man was killed Monday night after crashing his Dodge Caravan into the rear end of a tractor cab on Ford Road.

Robert Stewart Puttock III was transported to St. Mary Hospital in

Please see **CRASH**, A10

Tough time for victim's family

UPDATE

BY BRAD KADRICH
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Ordinarily at Christmas, the smell of pierogies would be wafting from the kitchen of Helen Klocke. She'd be making Belgian waffle cookies, one of the family's favorite treats.

Please see **TOUGH TIME**, A4

Oh, Christmas Tree!

BY RENÉE SKOGLUND
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According to the Michigan Christmas Tree Association, more than 4 million Christmas trees will be harvested in Michigan this year, with 1 million going to in-state buyers.

Michigan is the fourth ranking Christmas tree-growing state in the nation, but it grows a larger variety, 13, than any other state.

The most popular varieties are Scotch, white and Austrian pine; Douglas, Fraser, canaan, concolor and balsam fir; and blue,

Norway and white spruce. However, when it comes to your Christmas tree, beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

"There's a tree for everybody," said Mary McCreedy, whose parents own Braun's Tree Farm in Ann Arbor. Rest assured, there are no "ugly" trees, she added. "We really don't have any. We trim them every year."

Cutting down a fresh Christmas tree has become a yearly ritual for many families. "A lot of people just want the experience of cutting their tree. They make it an outing. People spend hours here," said McCreedy.

Of course, there was the man who dashed up to Braun's a few days before Christmas, quickly cut down a \$20 tree, then bought a

\$180 tree stand. McCreedy says her family still laughs at that incident.

Tree farm owners advise cutting your tree soon. Their stock thins out closer to Christmas, especially for the popular firs. So, pile the kids in the car, leave the dog at home (need you ask why?) and head out to the snowy hills of the wild yule yonder.

To help you in your quest for the "perfect tree," we have listed some area tree farms, as well as information on tree types and care. To obtain a copy of the MCTA Choose & Cut Guide, call (517) 322-5511 or mail request to MCTA, PO Box 1215, Okemos, MI 48805-1215.

Tree farms

- **Thornhollow Tree Farm**, 44387 Hull Road, Belleville. Take I-94 to Exit 190 (Belleville Road); go south through town; take Sumpter Road one mile south to Hull, turn left to farm 1/2 mile on right. Weekdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and weekends 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Scotch pine only, \$26 any size. (734) 699-3709.
- **Braun's Tree Farm**, 796 Warren Road, Ann Arbor. Three miles north of Ann Arbor on Warren Road between Whitmore Lake Road and Pontiac Trail. Tuesday-Thursday, noon-dark; Friday-Sunday, 10 a.m. to dark. Pines, \$20; spruces and firs, \$5 to \$7 a foot. (734) 663-2717.
- **Urquhart's Tree Farm**, 230 S. Steinbach Road, Dexter. From Ann Arbor, take Jackson Road seven miles west to Steinbach Road (two miles west of Baker Road and Exit 167 on I-94); then south. 66 miles to farm. Wednesday-Friday, 3-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (734) 433-8733.
- **Arend Tree Farm**, 3512 Notten Road and I-94, Chelsea. Take I-94 to Exit 156 (Kalmbach Road), follow signs to farm. Scotch pine, blue spruce, douglas fir, \$20-\$35. (734) 475-7584.
- **Mosher's Tree Farm**, 7155 N. Territorial, Dexter. Farm is located six miles west of US-23. Weekdays, 1-5 p.m. and weekends, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. White spruce and Douglas fir, \$30 any size. (734) 426-5271.
- **Sun Tree Farms**, 440 Judd Road, Saline. U.S. 23 to Willis, west to Platt Road, south to Judd, west to farm. Weekends only, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Scotch pine, \$24; blue spruce, \$35; and pre-cut Fraser fir, \$35-\$40. (734) 429-3666.

Tree types

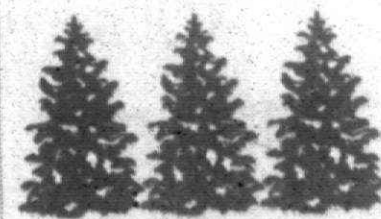
- **Austrian pine**: Dark green needles, 4-6 inches long; retains needles well.
- **Blue spruce**: Dark green to powdery blue needles, 1-3 inches long; good form; best needle retention among species, although it will drop needles in a warm room. Can live in nature 600-800 years.
- **Scotch pine**: Stiff branches and dark green needles, 1-3 inches long; holds needles for four weeks; keeps aroma throughout the season. Most popular Christmas tree.
- **Balsam fir**: Short, flat, long-lasting needles; dark green with silvery cast; soft, feathery appearance; very fragrant. During the Civil War, the resin was used to treat wounds.
- **Douglas fir**: Blue to dark green needles, 1-1 1/2 inches long; good fragrance; needles have sweet scent when crushed. Can live in nature for 1,000 years.
- **Fraser fir**: Dark green needles, 1/2-1 inch long; good needle retention, nice scent.
- **White pine**: Blue green needles, 2-5 inches long; retains needles throughout the holiday season; very full appearance; little or no fragrance; less allergic reaction than more fragrant trees. State tree of Michigan and Maine.
- **White fir or concolor fir**: Blue-green needles, 1/2-1 1/2 inches long; nice shape and good aroma; good needle retention. Can live in nature 350 years.

Tree care

- Nothing "saps" the holiday spirit more than bringing a tree indoors and finding out it's too tall. Measure your ceiling height and the tree before you buy it.
- Trees sold on retail lots have been cut weeks earlier. They may have come from out of state and have been exposed to drying winds in transit. Shop early before the best trees have been sold.
- Look for green trees with few browning needles. The needles should not fall off if you run a branch through your hands. Raise the tree a few inches off the ground and drop in on the butt end. Green needles should not fall off.
- Make sure base of tree is straight and 6-8 inches long so it will fit easily into the stand.
- Store the tree out of the wind or in an unheated garage until you're ready to put it up. Make a fresh 1-inch cut on the butt end and place the tree in a bucket of warm water.
- When you bring the tree indoors, make another fresh 1-inch cut and place tree in a stand that holds at least 1/2 gallon of water. Maintain water level around tree base to prevent resin forming on cut end. Once resin forms, the tree will not absorb water and will quickly dry out.
- To water a tree that's been decorated and surrounded by presents, buy a funnel and a 3-4 foot length of vinyl tubing. Attach tubing over funnel outlet, then fasten funnel/tube with a twist-tie or twine in an out-of-the-way but reachable part of the tree.

Tree trivia

- The use of evergreen trees to celebrate the winter season predates the birth of Christ. The first printed reference to Christmas trees appeared in Germany in 1531.
- Using small candles to light a Christmas tree dates back to the middle of the 17th century.
- Thomas Edison's assistant, Edward Johnson, came up with the idea of electric lights for Christmas trees in 1882.
- Christmas tree lights were first mass produced in 1890.
- Teddy Roosevelt banned the Christmas tree from the White House for environmental reasons.
- 32.4 million families purchased a real tree in 1998.
- An acre of Christmas trees provides the daily oxygen requirements of 18 people.
- Artificial trees will last for six years in your home, but for centuries in a landfill. Source: Michigan Christmas Tree Association and the University of Illinois Extension Service.





STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HUBBARD
Checking out: Stacey Beaudreau punches in her debit card info as she pays for her purchases at the new Farmer Jack grocery store in Canton, with daughters Nicole, 4, (left) and Etise, 2. Dan Johnson (far left) assists with the bagging of the items.

Canton's newest supermarket stresses selection, convenience

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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Full-service meat and seafood counters, a bakery, coffee shop and family deli are just a few features of Canton's newest grocery.

Farmer Jack opened the doors of its \$6-million Canton Center Road and Cherry Hill store Wednesday. According to Sales Director Martin Schumacher, township patrons will be the store's top priority.

"We believe in one-stop shopping and convenience for our customers," he said. "We want to fulfill all of their needs with quality products."

The 53,000-square-foot facility will employ about 150 people. Store officials and local dignitaries held a ceremonial ribbon cutting Tuesday.

Township Supervisor Tom Yack said Farmer Jack and sur-

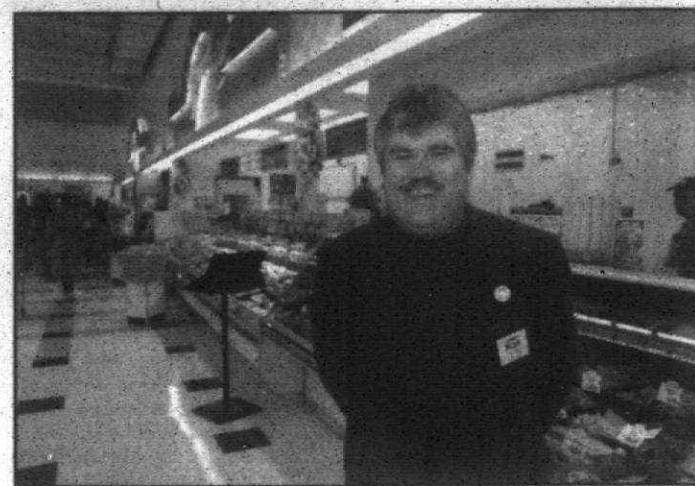
rounding shops will provide an important retail link for Canton. "It's the gateway to the western portion of the community," he commented. "It's the last commercial corner as we move west."

Blockbuster Video, Dairy Queen, a Learning Center and pizza restaurant will make up a second 12,000-square foot building in the "Farmer Jack Commercial Center," Canton Community Planner Jeff Goulet said. Both the grocery and the retail buildings are brick.

"A lot of attention was paid to this project," said Yack. "It really is a great addition to the community."

While much attention was paid to store design, Manager Alan Piotrowski said the emphasis will be, well, food. "We want the product to shine," he commented. "That's why we're here."

Abundance and freshness will



All smiles: Store manager Alan Piotrowski, standing near the meat department, smiles as he oversees the grand opening.

be another focus, Piotrowski said.

Customers will be treated to aisles and aisles of fresh fruits and vegetables. It is, in fact, the first thing patrons are likely to notice when entering the store.

But it won't be the last. A "Grab 'n Go" shop will be featured in the deli. Lunch or dinner customers can pick up ready-made sandwiches, pizza, salad and deserts.

A soup and salad bar is also nearby. Customers will be able to pay for items at the "Deli Express" cash register.

Then there's the "Eight O'clock Coffee Cafe." Patrons can take a time out from shopping and enjoy fresh baked goods and flavored specialty coffees.

Speaking of baked goods, Farmer Jack will feature Bakers Square pies. Fourteen varieties will be available throughout the

year and be priced exactly the same as restaurant pies.

"Photo Cakes" are another highlight. Exact, high-quality reproductions of any photograph can be made on a cake. A special computer printer-like machine uses food dyes on a sugar paste sheet to create the reproductions.

A full service meat counter will feature black Angus beef and top quality luncheon meats.

Schumacher said his company is definitely aiming at upscale clientele with such features.

"Canton has one of the highest income levels in southeastern Michigan," he added.

A self-serve recycling station, U.S. Post Office outlet, pharmacy and Old Kent Banking Center are other services offered at the Farmer Jack.

The store will be open 24 hours, seven days a week.

Candlelight vigil Sunday to focus on deceased kids

BY TONY BRUSCATO
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Barb Kilgore of Canton said there's never a day she doesn't think about her son, Michael, who died suddenly at home in March 1998.

"I think about him a lot. Sometimes it feels like a nightmare," said Kilgore, remembering the day Michael died at age 16 from Lung QT Syndrome. "The pain never goes away, but you have to go on and live your life in a different, positive way."

To remember Michael, and all the other children in the area who have died, Kilgore is organizing a candlelight vigil on Sunday, Dec. 12. The day has been designated International Children's Memorial Day, and the vigil will be held at 7 p.m. at Kellogg Park in Plymouth, sponsored by the local chapter of Compassionate Friends.

"It gives family and friends a place to go to be with other parents to show their grief," said Kilgore, a member of The Compassionate Friends, a support group for grieving parents. "We hope to let the community know that our kids live in every one of us. Their light continues to shine by the lives they touched. They made an impact on others in both life and death."

However, Johnson feels events like Sunday's candlelight vigil and groups like Compassionate Friends help the grieving process.

"Family and friends are wonderful, but sometimes they can't understand the daily struggle,"

said. "Those at the vigil and the support group are all walking in our shoes. They have a huge connection. We don't have to explain how we feel or our actions because they've been there."

Kilgore, who offers her support to students whenever a classmate dies, said many look at life differently following a sudden death.

"I don't think they take life for granted like they used to," said Kilgore.

Kilgore said thus far she has more than 100 names of children who have died that will be read during ceremonies, which will also include music and the reading of poems.

Parents who would like to have the names of their deceased children read at the candlelight vigil on Sunday can contact Barb Kilgore at (734) 455-8679 or e-mail her at TKilgore99@aol.com.

The Plymouth Symphony will again join forces with the Plymouth-Canton Ballet and the Plymouth Canton Educational Park Madrigal Singers to present the classic fairy tale, "The Nutcracker Ballet."

This year's performances will be at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11; and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12. All performances will be held at the Plymouth-Salem High School auditorium. Tickets are \$17 for adults and \$10 for children; all seats are reserved.

Emily York, a 13-year-old Canton resident, will perform at the 2 p.m. matinee, Dec. 11.

York attends the Joanne's Dance Extension located in Plymouth. The 7:30 p.m. Saturday show and the 3 p.m. Sunday matinee will be performed by 12-year-old Haley Albertsen from

Livonia. Albertsen attends Bunny's Dance Studio.

Tom Job, a 15-year-old from Brighton, will perform the part of the Nutcracker. Job attends the Gloria Dance Studio. Dawnell Dryja and Quailan Nagel, both performing courtesy of the Cincinnati Ballet Company, will share their talents as the Sugar Plum Fairy and the King.

Dawnell Dryja is a former member of the Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company and resident of Canton. Dryja has danced professionally since the age of 17 and currently is a member of the Cincinnati Ballet. Dawnell began her career with the Metropolitan Ballet Theatre of Detroit and upon moving to Ohio, performed with the Dayton Ballet in a variety of roles.

More than 150 musicians, dancers, and singers join together to celebrate this classic.

The Plymouth Symphony League will host its "Sugar Plum Fairy Tea" following the 2 p.m. Dec. 11 and the 3 p.m. Dec. 12 performances.

At the tea, the audience has the opportunity to meet and talk with members of the ballet and orchestra as well as enjoy tasty refreshments. Tickets are \$5. Sponsors are Art Van Furniture, Ford Motor Company, Co-op Services Credit Union, Panasonic and the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs.

For more information or tickets, call the Symphony office at (734) 451-2112. Tickets are also available at: Crystal Diamond Setters in Plymouth, Dearborn Music in Canton, Evola Music in Canton, and the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company.

A special day for these holiday shoppers



Nap time: Candice Williams, 8 months, can't keep up with her mom while Christmas shopping at Target in Canton Tuesday.

At right, Conductor Kay Baldwin leads the Agape Christian Academy Band, during special morning activities for senior citizens and disabled shoppers.



Shopping serenade: Agape senior Carrienne Chrenko, 17, plays the flute with the band.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON PLANNING COMMISSION 2000 MEETING SCHEDULE

At the Meeting of October 4, 1999, the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton adopted the following meeting schedule for 2000:

January 10, January 24, February 7, February 28, March 6, March 20, April 3, April 17, May 1, May 15, June 5, June 19, July 10, July 24, August 14, August 28, September 11, September 25, October 2, October 16, November 13, December 4, and December 18, 2000. The second meeting of each month will be scheduled as necessary.

The meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road.

VIC GUSTAFSON
 Chairman

Publish: December 9, 1999

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR PET

by **Elizabeth Routson, D.V.M.**

NEUTERING YOUR CAT

Most veterinarians concur that neutering a cat will result in a more affectionate, friendly, and pleasant pet. Neutered males become less likely to spray urine, an habit that intact males utilize to establish territory and attract females. Because they no longer have a mating urge, males will also stop roaming in search of females, a practice that could last for days. Finally, they will be much less prone to fighting and howling. In female cats, spraying ends heat cycles and the difficult behavior triggered by them, such as efforts to escape the house to find a mate, restlessness, crouching, and howling. Both males and females become more interested in people after being neutered, as the urge to breed is removed.

Be a responsible pet owner - please spay or neuter your dog or cat. **PARKWAY VETERINARY CLINIC** provides comprehensive veterinary care, including dermatology, dental, surgical, inoculations, and check-ups for pets. Our knowledgeable staff can advise you about routine care for your pet to keep it happy and healthy. Visit either of our two locations at 41395 Wilcox Rd. in Plymouth, tel. 734-455-2577, or 5750 Lilley Rd. in Canton, tel. 734-981-4460. We're open six days a week for your convenience.

P.S. Neutering is the most common surgical procedure cats undergo. In many cases, it extends the cat's life and reduces the likelihood of future medical problems.

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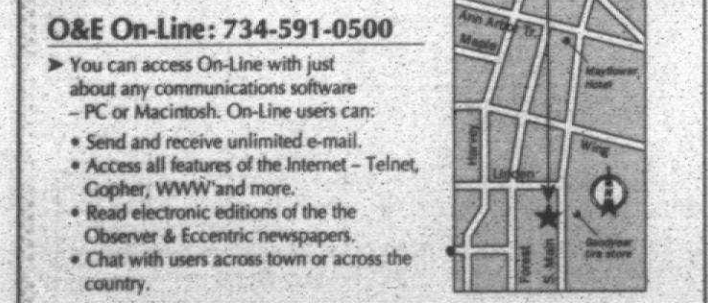


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THE Observer NEWSPAPERS

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 Sun. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

It's 12:00 a.m., January 1, 2000

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Police have few clues in Klocek murder probe

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER
sbuck@ec.homecomm.net

While her family waits and wonders, the investigation into the murder of Plymouth Township resident Helen Klocek seems to be no closer to being solved than it was when it happened nine months ago.

And while that might be frustrating to the family, the lack of published information is in some respects necessary, according to police professionals. Information given out during an investigation can help or hinder a case, according to Detroit Police Lt. William (Billie) Jackson of the Homicide Division.

Detroit police want to hold back certain facts in order to evaluate the authenticity of tips, Jackson said.

"The killer knows what happened," he said.

The police and Klocek's family are still searching for clues into what led to her death March 2.

About 11 a.m. that day Klocek, 84, was seen at the Three Brothers Restaurant on Joy Road, her favorite restaurant.

Later in the day, a witness driving west on Joy Road in Detroit said she saw a woman who resembled Klocek looking confused as she drove a white Ford Escort east on Joy Road. An African-American man was seated in the front passenger seat and looked like he was giving her directions, the witness told police. The witness also recalled that the man's seat was reclined.

When Klocek's car was found in the Grand River and Southfield Road area, the front passenger seat was in the same reclined position, said Detroit police Sgt. Ike Smith, the origi-

Tough time from page A1

She'd have shopped with her daughters, Barbara Zurawick of Canton and Irene Buckshaw, stopping with great delight in the toy departments. She'd have had who knows how many meals at Three Brothers, her favorite restaurant.

But thanks to the random violence perpetrated by an as-yet-unknown assailant, it's no ordinary Christmas for Helen Klocek's family. The 84-year-old Plymouth Township resident is gone now, brutally murdered in March, her battered and beaten body dumped in a Detroit alley. Her 1992 Ford Escort was found at Grand River and Southfield, torched in a church parking lot.

Klocek's body was found about 10:30 p.m. March 2 in an alley at the rear of 18616 Joy Road in Detroit, Smith said. "I know she wasn't there earlier because some people said they walked through the alley at 7:30 p.m.," he said.

Police said Klocek died as the result of blunt force trauma.

"She was beaten something bad," Smith said. "She was beaten and abused. Somebody had jumped on her chest."

Klocek's death stands out in Smith's memory among all the cases he has investigated during his 25 years in the police department.

"That's because of the severity of the assault and the fact that this was an older person," Smith said.

Klocek's family recently ran several advertisements, costing hundreds of dollars, in the Plymouth Observer. The ads read: "We need your help. Did you see our great-grandmother on March 2 of this year?"

"We haven't received any tips (as a result of these ads)," Jackson said. "Not a person has called other than the media. We have people out there beating the bushes on this today. We have closed cases that are 15 years old."

All tips and rumors are checked out, Smith said. The leads his investigators are following up on now were generated by their own leg work, he said.

"There's nothing that will close this case in a couple of days," Jackson said. He doesn't want to give false hopes in the meantime.



Family mourns: Daughters Barbara Zurawick (from left) of Canton and Irene Buckshaw with their mother, Helen Klocek, of Plymouth Township, in a photo taken shortly before Helen's slaying last March.

afraid to get involved, if they could let us know anonymously.

died. All the uncertainty tortures them daily.

"Not knowing (the details) is the hardest part," Buckshaw said. "How long did they have her? Was she scared? Did she die quickly?"

Her niece agrees. Klocek's granddaughter, Michelle Shaughnessy, led the decision to advertise for tips in an effort to end the wondering.

"Not knowing what happened, and the fact that it did happen, just plays in your head like a video," she said. "It automatically rewinds, and then starts playing again."

The family believes the abduction and perhaps the murder took place in Plymouth, because Klocek rarely left the area. The few places she frequented were local: the Farmer Jack on Joy Road; Three Brothers and, occasionally, a trip to Westland Mall to get her hair done.

Klocek still drove, and kept everything important to her in her purse. The family also believes that her desire to maintain a measure of independence may have cost her her life.

Events of March 2
The last time anyone saw Klocek alive was leaving Three Brothers around 11:30 a.m. March 2. She was so well known there, she could walk in, pick up her own menu and seat herself. Her body was found in an alley around Joy and Telegraph at 9:30 that night. What happened in the intervening 10 hours is anyone's guess. The family doesn't know whether she made it back to her apartment, or whether her car was stolen early in the day, or whether she knew what was happening before she

Valued her independence
"She valued her independence," Zurawick said. "She always said she had a lot of years left."

"She was feisty, and her purse was her life," Buckshaw added. "She could have fought."

Now the family fights - for answers, for closure. A reward is being considered, and will be offered soon in a further attempt to dislodge something from someone who may have seen what happened. The reward is a good idea, according to police professionals.

"Money talks," said Detroit police Sgt. Ike Smith, who investigated the case after it first broke. "People want money."

If that's what it takes, the family is willing to do it. Anything to stop the wondering.

"She filled a void in my life because I'd lost my husband in December (1998)," Zurawick said of her mother. "It's been a tough year for all of us."

Battle over charter cap goes down to wire

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Gov. John Engler and House Republicans failed in their attempts last week to raise the cap on the number of charter schools allowed to operate in Michigan, but they also promised to come back and try again this week.

Just a handful of votes shy of the number needed for passage, proponents like sponsor Rep. Paul DeWeese, R-Williamston, Speaker of the House Chuck Perricone, R-Kalamazoo, and Engler spent the week in intense negotiations trying to win over the last few reticent members of their own caucus, including Rep. Gerald Law, R-Plymouth.

Law said there is so much wrong with the latest draft of the bill that "they would have to tear whole pages out of it to make it acceptable to me."

His primary concern is over a lack of financial accountability. Although charter schools are considered to be public schools - allowing them to draw financing from the state school aid fund in return for not charging tuition - many operate like private schools. In the past, charter schools have refused to turn over audits to the state.

"Tell me what kind of salaries you are paying the principal. Tell me what kind of salaries you are paying the teachers. You could go to a public school and get all that information. Like it or not, you could get all of it," Law said. "We are spending \$210 million on charters, and I'm telling you that I don't know how that money is being spent. And we are just getting warmed up."

Rep. Patricia Godchaux, R-Birmingham, is another of those Republicans opposing the plan. She said charter schools draw money away from public schools. She also noted that charter schools could get around the current caps by seeking authorization from a school district or community college. Only those authorized by universities are capped, she said, but charter schools prefer working through universities.

On Tuesday, Nov. 30, DeWeese said he was short only "a couple of votes" and he was adjusting his bill line by line to win them over. On Wednesday, Dec. 1, Republicans put the fifth rewrite of the bill to a test, but it fell a half dozen votes shy. The board was cleared before the vote was tallied or recorded, a practice which has become standard procedure in the House when leadership wants to keep a bill alive. "Every time he (DeWeese) changes a word to get one vote, he loses another," House Majority Floor Leader Andrew Raczowski, R-Farmington Hills, explained.

On Thursday, Dec. 2, which was considered to be the deadline if additional charter schools are to be opened next fall, Perricone announced that Republicans would put off another attempt. He said he was rejecting an offer by House Democrats to trade passage of the raised charter school cap in return for killing off a bill which would eliminate residency requirements for city workers. "I make that kind of trade for anything... Residency is a completely separate issue," Perricone

explained. Exactly who initiated talk of the trade isn't clear. Perricone said Democrats are demanding it. Minority Leader Mike Hanley, D-Saginaw, said it was the governor who first offered it, which the governor's office denied.

It may have been more than just moral outrage that caused Perricone to toss out the trade. "There were eight Republicans who were ready to bolt if Chuck

Perricone deals," Rep. Bob Gosselin, R-Troy, said. "They were ready to bolt because he was just talking to the Dems. He'd have lost more votes than he would have gained."

To open new charter schools next year, the bill would have to pass by Dec. 31 allowing the raised cap to go into effect in April. The legislature is scheduled to adjourn Dec. 9, and that means there will no longer be time for a required five-day lay-

over between house and senate ... unless lawmakers decide to ignore their own rules.

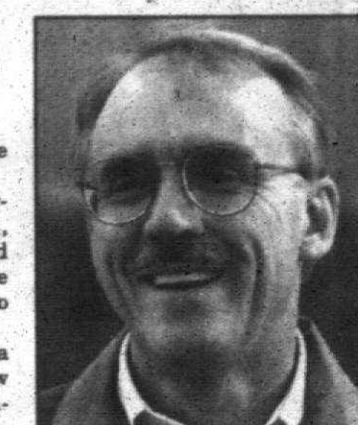
"They'll find a way," Gosselin said, stating confidently that the bill can still be passed before legislators take off for Christmas break.

House Bill 4706, initially introduced by Rep. Lamar Lemmons, D-Detroit, but now significantly rewritten, would raise the cap on charter schools set up through universities from 150 to

200 next year. After that, the cap would increase 25 per year.

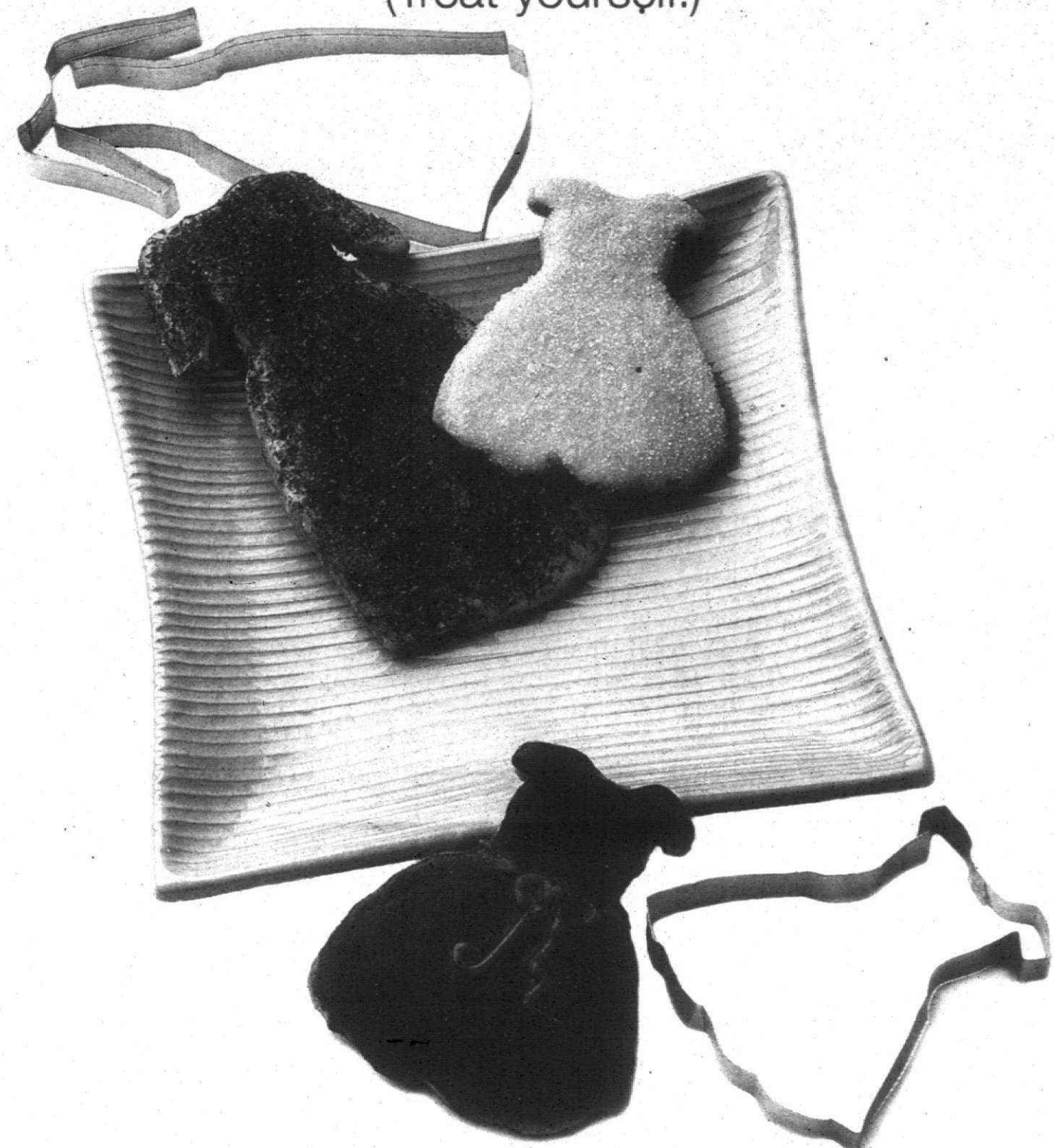
With 140 such schools in operation now, John Truscott, spokesman for the governor, said some 100 more schools are already seeking permission to open.

The bill would also create a new oversight board and allow for new charter schools specifically designed for "at risk" students.



Rep. Gerald Law

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Stiff penalty for pretending to be a doctor

It will soon be a 15-year felony to practice medicine without a license, as a result of two bills signed into law recently by Gov. John Engler.

It always was illegal, but the penalties were not as severe, a fact that came clear last year when Dennis Roark of Sterling Heights was charged with acting as a thoracic surgeon despite having never graduated from college.

The prosecutor had to charge Roark with "uttering and publishing" for faking credentials in order to get a hefty penalty, said Jack McHugh, legislative aide to Rep. Bob Gosselin, R-Troy. Roark is serving 6-15 years after pleading guilty to that charge.

"The penalties were nothing very tough. The judge said in this case (acting as a surgeon without a license) it was more like a rape," McHugh said.

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Airport ads take a lighthearted approach

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabracyk@oe.homedm.net

Maybe you've heard the radio ads.

David Katz sits down for a Thanksgiving meal, far away from his job as director of Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport, presumably to enjoy turkey in the traditional fashion with family members.

Soon it starts. First, his mother-in-law starts in on him about airport parking, then his brother chimes in about always getting lost at the airport. Katz reminds them about airport upgrades and conveniences: a new message sign, a parking hotline and parking exits.

The ads are a way for Katz and airport officials to acknowledge the public complaints and sometimes critical perceptions of the airport, but Katz uses the spots to update the public. Katz has a little fun with it, too, ending the spot with the line that he

'Why would we go with the self-effacing, humorous approach? To do something amusing, and poke a little fun at ourselves. We felt people would listen to us more.'

Mike Conway
Airport spokesman

could eat a "little more turkey and a lot less crow" during the next holiday.

"Why would we go with the self-effacing, humorous approach?" asked Mike Conway, airport

spokesman. "To do something amusing, and poke a little fun at ourselves. We felt people would listen to us more."

Airport officials found the ads a good way to inform the public about credit card express lanes for quicker ways to leave the parking deck, a parking hotline (1-800-642-1978) and a giant message sign informing motorists entering the airport about parking.

The idea for the ads came from

the ad agency of Solomon Friedman Advertising in Bloomfield Hills with consultants at Caponigro Public Relations of Southfield.

Airport officials wanted the humor so the ads wouldn't sound like officials are "preaching" to the public, Conway said.

"We recognize the airport is crowded," Conway said. "But we're giving them good, new information to help them through the holidays."



Dave Katz

Santa Claus makes visit to LightFest

Children have a chance to visit with Santa Claus at Wayne County's LightFest until Dec. 24.

Santa's temporary residence is the Warrendale Picnic Area at the end of Wayne County LightFest, which county officials call the Midwest's longest drive-through holiday light show, now open 7-10 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday, through Dec. 31, with the exception of Christmas Day. Photos with Santa, food concessions and a gift shop are available at the Warrendale site.

Wayne County's LightFest exhibits displays along 4 1/2 miles of Hines Drive from Merriam Road in Westland to Warrendale Picnic Area in Dearborn Heights.

Each display features animation. This year visitors can expect to see parachuting reindeer, Santa's sleigh ascending into the sky and a ball shot over the Inkster Road bridge. Displays include the Lochness Monster and a giant poinsettia wreath.

This year marks the third season that Santa has appeared at the Wayne County LightFest. His helpers at the Dearborn Rotary Club have ensured that he spread Christmas cheer to all the children who stop and see him at his pavilion. A \$5 donation for photos with Santa is suggested, and will benefit the Rotary's outreach efforts on local and international levels.

A \$5 minimum donation per car also helps keep Wayne County LightFest operating. There is an additional charge for commercial vehicles and buses, which are encouraged to pre-register.

For more information on Wayne County LightFest or to arrange bus/limo tours, call (734) 261-1990.

Author speaks at seminar on hospice care

Dr. Alan Wolfelt, author and educator, will headline the seminar, "Hospice, Death, Grief and Mourning," 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28, at St. John's Center for Youth and Family in Plymouth. The workshop is designed for clergy of all faiths, as well as deacons, pastoral care ministers and caregivers. Seminar sponsors are Madonna University's Hospice Education Department, Hospice of Michigan and St. John's Center.

Wolfelt is a clinical psychologist and director of the Center for Loss and Life Transition in Fort Collins, Colorado and Toronto, Canada.

Cost of the seminar is \$35 a person; if two or more people attend from the same facility, the fee is \$30 per person. Registrations received after Dec. 17 are \$40. Seminar fee includes continental breakfast and lunch.

For information about the seminar, contact Dr. Kelly Rhoades, Madonna University Hospice Education Department, at (734) 432-5471.

(Everyone needs a new look for the holidays!)



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Tax break for utilities may cost communities millions

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabrancyk@homecomm.net

Communities and schools in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties may lose \$116 million in tax revenue, according to leaders from those counties, because of a change in the state's computation of the values of gas and electric utility property (equipment holdings).

The Big Four — Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer, Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, and Macomb County Chairman John Hertel — spent Wednesday meeting with local municipal, township and school officials in those three counties to gather support for a lawsuit they expected to file this month against the State Tax Commission.

The commission adopted personal property multipliers in November. The multipliers give the public utilities a reduction in personal property taxes, based



Edward McNamara: Wayne County executive.

on studies county officials said were submitted by the utility companies. The tax schedules result in values that are "sub-

stantially below market," producing a cut of 25 percent in taxes for electric companies and 32 percent for gas companies, county officials said.

The commission cut valuation multipliers, using a "net book value" for the utilities' distribution and transmission equipment and materials, based on the actual, original purchase price of the equipment minus depreciation. That tax classification did not include land or easements.

Historically, assessed values have been based on the property's current market value minus depreciation.

County officials expect to argue in court that the new method is unconstitutional because the new valuation method applies only to gas and electric utility property.

All other businesses in the state will continue to be assessed using the current-value method, not only giving the utilities an unfair business advantage, but dramatically eroding local tax

bases throughout the state, officials said.

"The state constitution guarantees uniformity in taxation," said Gary Evanko, director of Wayne County's assessment and equalization division. Wayne County government would lose \$8.2 million over four years.

Evanko said local communities would lose the following revenue due to the assessment reduction over four years, which includes the utilities' assessment appeals still pending, for these western Wayne County communities:

Livonia, \$482,126; Westland, \$445,897; Redford, \$306,357; Garden City, \$172,531; Canton, \$98,708; city of Plymouth, \$78,981; and Plymouth Township, \$75,144.

Evanko said school and college districts also would lose the following for the same time period: Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency, \$2 million; Wayne County Community College, \$990,744; Schoolcraft College, \$207,901; Wayne-West-

land, \$1.2 million; Livonia, \$1 million; Plymouth-Canton, \$834,691; South Redford, \$250,943; Redford Union, \$233,578; Garden City, \$198,308; Clarenceville, \$62,705.

Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara said there aren't many options for local governments and school districts when it comes to replacing the lost revenue.

"Most communities are right up against the Headlee cap and can't raise their local tax rates to make up the shortfall," McNamara said. "Schools and cities will have no choice but to cut back on services."

Archer said the city of Detroit and schools stand to lose \$21.8 million. Archer said the group of leaders "had nothing against" utilities. "We're talking about basic fairness," Archer said. "We don't want the utilities to be hurt, but we don't want to be hurt, either."

Detroit Edison spokesman Scott Simons said Edison

received communications from Oakland County about tax estimates, and believed the Oakland County figures were inflated.

"Sixty to 70 percent of any potential refund (appealed assessment) also would be reimbursed by the state of Michigan through the school fund program," Simons said. That information, however, could not be confirmed with state officials.

Generally Edison comprises less than 0.5 percent of communities' tax bases, Simons said.

Bridget Medina, press secretary for the state Department of Treasury, said the commission had a constitutional obligation to ensure the multipliers were accurate. "These haven't been updated in 30 years," Medina said.

The commission actually recommended tables that reflected a smaller depreciation rate than what was recommended by a consultant, Medina said. Differ-

See TAX BREAK, A9

Bill bars principals from joining unions

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMECOMM NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

School principals will no longer be allowed to join unions, or collectively bargain for pay and benefits, under a bill passed by the state House.

Lawmakers voted 56-54 to approve Senate Bill 663, sponsored by Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton.

He introduced the legislation when principals in Detroit schools joined teachers on the picket lines this fall. He contends they still had a management responsibility to be running the school buildings, even while teachers were out.

"There ought to be a clear distinction between labor and management. If principals are unionized, there is no clear management in the district. And that's not healthy," he said.

Bennett contended that principals, and teachers, will be "paid twice" for their time on the picket line. Because they receive an annual salary, they do not lose pay for time out on strike, he argued. But they do pick up extra pay when the school year has to be extended to make up for the time lost to the strike.

Federal law already bans school district administrators from joining unions, Bennett further contends. His bill will merely repeal the section of state law that allows the exception here.

Rep. Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, argues it is one more case of the state overriding local controls. If local school districts do not want their administrators joining unions, that can be accomplished at the school board level.

Rep. Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, said he does not believe the state should tell any employee group it does not have the right to collectively bargain. Democrats have noted that management in other areas of government are allowed to unionize, such as supervisors in police and fire departments.

House Democrats further charged the bill was racially motivated on the part of Republicans, a charge to which Republicans objected.

Bennett's bill would prohibit supervisory personnel in school district and "confidential secretaries" from unionizing, as well as principals. The ban would apply not only to those who have a management role in the district — those who have the authority to hire and fire — but also to all frontline supervisors, those who simply direct work groups, he said.

Since representatives amended the bill before passage, the

Tax break

from page A8

ent items or company assets deserve different depreciation rates in their values, Medina said.

"Computers are vastly different than automotive equipment," Medina said. "They can't be lumped together and depreciated at the same rate. It's like apples and oranges."

The county leaders want local communities to pass a resolution opposing the special tax break for utilities. If community leaders wished to join the counties in the lawsuit, they would be charged 1.5 percent of the anticipated revenue lost in legal fees.

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey said Livonia was interested in joining the lawsuit. "I think we should seek uniformity and fairness," Kirksey said. Budget cuts would be difficult for the city, Kirksey added.

"(The new valuation) means other individuals will pick up the burden and that's not fair," Kirksey said. Kirksey expects the issue will be discussed Friday at the Conference of Western Wayne meeting in Plymouth.

Richard Reed, an attorney retained by the three counties and Detroit, would like a complaint filed by the end of the month.

"We just want the same techniques used for valuation that are used for every other taxpayer in the state — the same methods that are used for you and me."

Schoolcraft registers for winter term

Registration is in progress for Schoolcraft College's winter semester, with classes beginning Friday, Jan. 7.

This winter, students interested in music and sound can choose Music 102, Music on the P.C., a new class in which they will learn about music and technology and create their own compositions.

In Biology 242, Human Genetics, students will learn fundamental genetic concepts, and gain an understanding of genetic diseases, gene therapy,

forensic science and genetic engineering.

Students who enjoy computer-based learning can enroll in any one of four sections of English Composition 10. The computer class is targeted at students who want more writing experience than the traditional lecture class affords. Math 51, Beginning Algebra, and Math 112, Intermediate Algebra, also are available on the computer.

The college offers a variety of methods to register, including phone-in and walk-in. Registration

forms are available in the winter schedules or through the Office of Admissions.

New students must meet with a counselor before registering. Phone-in registration continues through Dec. 29 by calling (734) 462-4800 except Sundays and holidays; and walk-in registration is available Dec. 6-29. Students may register from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the holiday break Dec. 27-29.

To register in person, go to room 200 of the McDowell Center 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday

through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays. Radcliff Center walk-in registration is 1-7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8.

Schoolcraft College offers 65 career programs with specific job-related skills, ranging from accounting to welding. Its more-than-50 transfer programs prepare students to go on to a four-year university.

For information, call (734) 462-4426. Schoolcraft College is at 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile roads, just west of I-75.

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SAVE 40% Cold weather accessories including gloves, mufflers, scarves and more. Reg. 8.00-75.00, sale 4.80-45.00.

SAVE 40% Parisian brand boxed jewelry. Reg. 15.00-25.00, sale 9.00-15.00.

SAVE 30% Famous-maker handbags. Reg. 59.00-110.00, sale 41.30-77.00.

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SALE 14.99 Preswick & Moore flannel shirts. Reg. 25.00.

SAVE 40% Select leather outerwear. Reg. 250.00-425.00, sale 150.00-255.00.

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SALE 24.99 Select famous-maker flannel shirts. Reg. 34.00.

SAVE 40% Select Preswick & Moore dress shirts. Reg. 45.00-55.00, sale 27.00-33.00.

SAVE 50% Select famous-maker dress shirts. Reg. 49.50, sale 24.75.

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SAVE 50% Famous-maker solid and pattern dress slacks. Reg. 60.00-65.00, sale 30.00-32.50.

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OBITUARIES

ELSIE BUCKBERRY

Services for Elsie Buckberry, 97, of Plymouth (formerly of Belleville) were Dec. 7 at Trinity Episcopal Church with Fr. John R. Hagen officiating. Burial was in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock.

She was born June 14, 1902. She died Dec. 3 in Lourdes Nursing Home. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William; and one great grandson, Jeffery A. Linstrom. Survivors include her daughter, Elsie A. (Donald) Overy; two sons, Otto W. (Virginia) Buckberry, Marshall J. (LaDora) Buckberry; eight grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Local arrangements were made by the Uht Funeral Home.

STANLEY J. STAFIEJ

Services for Stanley J. Stafiej, 85, of Canton were Dec. 8 at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Can-

ton, with Fr. Leonard Partensky officiating.

He was born Nov. 10, 1914, in New York, N.Y. He died Dec. 5. He worked for an automotive company as a job setter.

Survivors include two sons, Richard (Carole), and Stan; two brothers; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

BERNARDA SCERRI

Services for Bernarda Scerri, 72, of Fort Mill, S.C. were Dec. 7 at St. Gemma's Catholic Church, Detroit, with the Rev. Mark S. Brauer officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Mausoleum, Southfield.

She was born Nov. 21, 1927, in Malta. She was a member of St. Gemma's Parish for more than 40 years. Having moved to Fort Mill recently, she was a member of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church. She was a loving mother and grandmother and a devoted wife.

Survivors include her husband, Pius Scerri of Fort Mill,

S.C.; two sons, Anthony (Lorna) Serri of Fort Mill, S.C., and John Scerri of Westland; three daughters, Rosalie Scerri of Westland, Mary (Iloyd) Duston of Plymouth, and Margaret (William) Stafford of Navato, Calif.; and one grandchild, Chelsea Scerri of Fort Mill, S.C.

BERNADINE HAYWOOD

Services for Bernadine Haywood, 82, of Plymouth were Dec. 6 at Santeu Chapel with the Rev. James F. Kean of Our Lady of Victory officiating. Burial was in St. Hedwig Cemetery, Dearborn Heights.

She was born Aug. 2, 1917, in Detroit. She died Dec. 3 in Superior Township. She was a secretary.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Sylvia M. Liddell. Survivors include her son-in-law, John Liddell; three grandsons, John (Ronald) Liddell, Michael (Kitty) Liddell, Robert Liddell; and two great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to

Angela Hospice.

JAMES F. DESKA

Services for James F. Deska, 67, of Farmington Hills were Dec. 4 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington with the Rev. Larry Austin officiating. Burial was in Woodmere Cemetery, Detroit.

He was born Jan. 23, 1932, in Detroit. He died Dec. 1 in Farmington Hills. He retired in 1995 from Amera Mortgage Co. He was a banker. He was in the Navy. His hobbies included classic cars, antiques, auctions and golf.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara; one son, David (Dottie) of Canton; one daughter, Donna (Patrick) Rapin of Commerce Township; one brother, Richard of Livonia; and five grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Friends of McKenzia Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 530843, Livonia 48153.

Crash from page A1

Livonia shortly after the accident, which occurred at about 9:50 p.m. He was pronounced dead at the hospital.

"He was a very nice, likable person," said Lottie Ostrowski, who worked with Puttock at Frank's Nursery in Canton. "He'd do anything to help anybody."

She said he had just left the store prior to the accident. Ostrowski, a manager, said Puttock had worked part-time at Frank's for a little more than a month.

It was a second job for Puttock, she added.

"He was a great person to work with," Ostrowski said. "We always called him 'Big Bob' because we had three Roberts working here."

According to Canton Police officer Leonard Schemanske, the tractor cab was sitting in the center lane of Ford Road just west of Morton Taylor waiting to make a left turn into a strip mall.

Puttock pulled into the center lane from Frank's parking lot, also headed westbound, and struck the vehicle. Schemanske said it's unclear exactly what caused the accident.

"We don't think alcohol was a factor," he added.

Puttock wasn't wearing a seat-belt at the time of the accident, said Schemanske. His Dodge Caravan, a 1987 model, wasn't equipped with an airbag.

Puttock was able to walk away from the accident before collapsing, said Schemanske. He died of multiple head and chest injuries, according to the Wayne County Medical Examiner's office.

Puttock's family declined to

release survivor or funeral information.

Ostrowski said the Canton man did have plans for his future.

"He was going to get married after the first of the year,"

Ostrowski said.

Puttock was a hard worker. "He did what ever was asked of him," Ostrowski added. "He never complained."

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TRADING PLACES

Doing business beyond borders

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

John McConnell needed to know whether expanding his firm's transportation services in Mexico would be worth the time, trouble and expense.

As vice president of Sonora Logistics in Northville, McConnell helps run that firm with his wife, Alba, arranging for transportation of automotive goods and vehicles.

So the McConnells of Northville turned to Schoolcraft College. John McConnell consulted with the college's Export Resource Center to report on the amount of "heavy haul," or machinery and equipment, exchanged between the United States and Mexico.

McConnell will use that study for business planning and to obtain financing from banks. "Banks are

interested in the market, and how much demand there is," McConnell said.

"From a business plan perspective, (the export center) is an excellent resource of information. It's a great thing to have a facility that's close by that can assist small businesses."

Exports double

Indeed, all the world is a marketplace. Michigan's export growth of Michigan-produced goods and services has more than doubled in 12 years, up from \$12 billion in 1986 to \$31.4 billion in 1998.

With the Detroit area second only to Seattle as the largest exporter of American products and Michigan the sixth largest exporting state, Schoolcraft College is offering information and resources for small businesses whose owners wish to expand into foreign markets, but don't know



Trade talks: John McConnell of Sonora Logistics discusses export with Kerstin Angermeier, international trade specialist at Schoolcraft's Business Development Center.

where to start.

The college has initiated seminars ranging from international marketing to cross-cultural communication, and offers its Export Resource Center at the Business Development Center. When entrepreneurs complete the series of six seminars, they receive an

international trade certification.

Schoolcraft boasts that it has the only program in Southeastern Michigan that focuses on the entire export process and country-specific seminars. The college works as a "subcenter" under a regional center at Wayne State University and with the U.S. Small Business Administration in Detroit.

"World economies are becoming more and more interdependent with the restructuring of political boundaries, collapse of communism, opening of new consumer markets, historic trade agreements and World Trade Organization," said Vikram Mathur, international coordinator with Continuing Education Services.

Grants help out

The Export Assistance Center offered by Schoolcraft was established

Please see TRADING, A12

Foreign market seminars inform entrepreneurs

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

The world market is open to local businesses through the Export Resource Center at Schoolcraft College's Business Development Center.

The Export Resource Center specializes in helping company owners who are interested in capitalizing on international business opportunities. The center can also assist companies already in the international marketplace through information about exporting trends and potential expansion of their products and services into additional countries.

The center houses a video conferencing facility, an executive Internet lab and an export research library. Video conferencing allows business owners to communicate with overseas contacts, meet with potential buyers and present product demonstrations.

The Business Development Center also has created the International Trade Certification Program offering six seminars on international trade and four seminars on specific countries.

Alicia Jones, chief operating officer and owner of Word Communications in Oak Park, runs an Internet consulting firm with programs to train at-risk children about careers involving computers and the Internet. She attended the seminars wanting to identify foreign markets in which she could sell the program on CD-ROMs.

Jones credited Kerstin Angermeier, an international trade specialist at the Business Development Center, with finding a market, locating Albanian children in France who Jones identified as "at-risk" and "disengaged." Jones hopes the French school systems will buy the CDs. She has served the Detroit Public Schools and the Oakland Intermediate School District with her products.

"It's a tremendous resource without having to go there (France) in advance," Jones said.

"We asked them to identify a foreign market that met our growth projections."

Jones said Angermeier obtained demographics of France, and Jones learned at the seminars about exporting the CD-ROM, language barriers and tariffs. Angermeier also was familiar with

Please see SEMINARS, A12

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

The World Trade Organization failed to get an agreement last week on an agenda for a new round of global trade talks, as protesters disrupted discussions on Tuesday and Wednesday in Seattle.

Seattle was chosen as the site of the WTO conference as the United States' leading exporter of American products, but guess who is No. 2?

With \$27 billion in goods exported in 1998 — \$12 billion to Canada alone — the metro Detroit area shines as a nation's No. 2 exporter, with sales in transportation equipment and industrial machinery leading the way and helping fuel the local economy.

John O'Gara, an international trade specialist at Detroit's U.S. Export Assistance Center, says the Detroit and U.S. trade success with Canada can be attributed to its proximity to Michigan.

"They also are very similar to us,"

O'Gara said of the two countries in terms of language and culture.

"Mexico is close by, while western Europe has a similar culture."

Businesses also do well in Latin America, but the chances of success in trade depends on the product. Countries may protect certain industries, while the United States exercises economic and trade sanctions against Cuba, Iran, Iraq and Libya due to the political situations there, O'Gara said.

The number of U.S. small businesses that export has tripled in the last decade, and the biggest growth was seen in the smallest companies that employ fewer than 20 people. Small businesses now account for almost a third of all U.S. export sales.

A U.S. Small Business Administration — U.S. Department of Commerce study shows:

- Nearly 97 percent of U.S. firms that export are small businesses.
- Small businesses account for nearly 31 percent of total U.S. export sales.

Top merchandise exports to the world from the Detroit area for 1998

Exports listed here are over \$100 million • Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

IN BILLIONS

Transportation equipment	\$18.8
Industrial machinery and computers	2.6
Electric and electronic equipment	1.2
Fabricated metal products	1.1

Total manufactured products: \$26.7 Billion
Nonmanufactured commodities: \$315 Million
TOTAL: \$27 Billion

■ The number of small firms that export has tripled over the last decade, rising to 209,455 in 1997.

■ Very small companies — those with fewer than 20 employees — made up 65 percent of all U.S. exporting firms in 1997.

■ Non-manufacturing companies dominate exporting by small firms. In 1997, they accounted for 69 percent of all small exporters and generated 69 percent of exports.

■ Small business exporters pay 13 percent higher wages than non-export companies and tend to

IN MILLIONS

Primary metals	\$600
Scientific and measuring instruments	548
Rubber, plastic and metal products	422
Chemical products	357
Furniture and fixtures	292
Stone, clay and glass products	261
Food products	126
Apparel	120

stay in business longer.

■ Small business exporters pay 11 percent higher benefits than other companies for health care, pension plans and disability insurance.

Business owners can learn about resources on exporting, including market entry and financing assistance, through the SBA's office at (313) 226-6075, U.S. Export Assistance Center at (313) 226-3650 and Michigan Small Business Development Centers at (313) 964-1798. Information also is available at the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/oit/export.

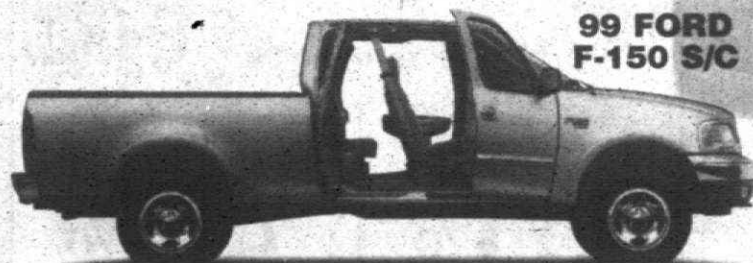
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Trading from page A11

in 1995 through a U.S. Department of Education grant of \$80,000 a year for two years, which was followed by another grant. The federal program was designed to improve the export infrastructure at community colleges and universities.

Four companies signed up for this fall's seminar. One wanted to send greeting cards to Asia; another wanted to ship nail polish to Europe, and a third wanted to ship goat cheese to Russia. Another wanted to ship machinery.

Many are small to mid-sized businesses whose owners don't know how to market internationally, said Kerstin Angermeier, an international trade specialist at the Business Development Center.

Companies also can learn about the World Trade Organization's regulations. They are the major regulators of what goes in and out of the country, Mathur said.

Companies must learn all they can about the potential "end

users" of a product, even the detrimental uses.

Angermeier cited the legal troubles of fines and jail time of McDonnell-Douglas officials for that firm's shipment of parts to China which U.S. authorities believed could be used in nuclear weapons. "If a small firm was hit with that (fines), they are done doing business," Angermeier said. "You have to know who the end user is for a product."

New customers

Mathur said China and India are difficult places to do business with their current political situations. "But once you are in them, it has tremendous potential," Mathur said. Together, those two countries have 2.2 billion people.

Angermeier adds that not all countries are necessarily easier to do business in just because they are English-speaking nations. "Great Britain is very different than the U.S.," Angermeier said.

Seminars from page A11

France, knew the language, and the country.

Without her help, "we would have spent months of research and development and thousands of dollars," Jones said. Jones hopes to check on potential markets in Africa and China.

Lisa Radwick, a licensing and product support manager at Avanti Press in Detroit, attended the seminars to learn about the export process. Avanti prints primarily greeting cards, and produces gift items, such as calendars and mugs.

Radwick is responsible for national sales and was exploring exporting licensing designs overseas.

"It's a very different list of things you need to be aware of," Radwick said of international trade. "Mistakes can be made and they can be very costly."

The seminar has provided Radwick with information about several resources on the Web.

"You learn about being careful about limited markets with distribution," said Radwick. "We don't have the opportunity to look at other options. Several red flags have been raised from the things I have learned."

"You think about things more and ask more questions, and don't

act so swiftly."

Radwick didn't get to learn everything she needed in order to export, but the resources were excellent, costs reasonable and gave them books and research assistance, Radwick said.

Seminars scheduled

International trade seminars in the winter of 2000:

■ **International Marketing** (Feb. 16 and 17): Includes product and company export readiness, conducting international market research and devising market entry strategies.

■ **International Finance** (Feb. 22 and 24): Considers letters of credit, other methods of payment, currency exchange rates (and risks), choosing a bank, and alternative financing options.

■ **International Logistics** (Feb. 29 and March 2): Addresses risk management, export procedures and documentation, electronic data interchange, and helps companies assess freight forwarders versus international logistics firms.

■ **Cross cultural communication** (March 7): Examines the role of culture in international business, including customs and etiquette, negotiations and decision making, hosting international visitors and living and working

abroad.

■ **Foreign Government Sales** (March 14): Explores how to do business with developing nations and helps create an effective strategy for foreign government sales. This session also addresses the role of multinational development banks and other appropriate U.S. agencies.

■ **Trade Agreements and Legal Aspects of Foreign Trade** (March 21): Reviews the roles of the World Trade Organization, regional trade agreements and various international trade-related organizations.

These seminars are offered 2-5 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Participants may register for either session.

Country specific seminars will be scheduled as follows from 9 a.m. to noon for Japan, March 18; Korea, March 25; Canada and Mexico, April 1, and Mercosur countries, April 8. Mercosur is a trade bloc of South American nations governed by a trade agreement by the same name; and includes Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Participants can register for all six core requirements and one country specific seminar for \$500 to receive a certificate of achievement. Individual seminars cost \$90 for each one.

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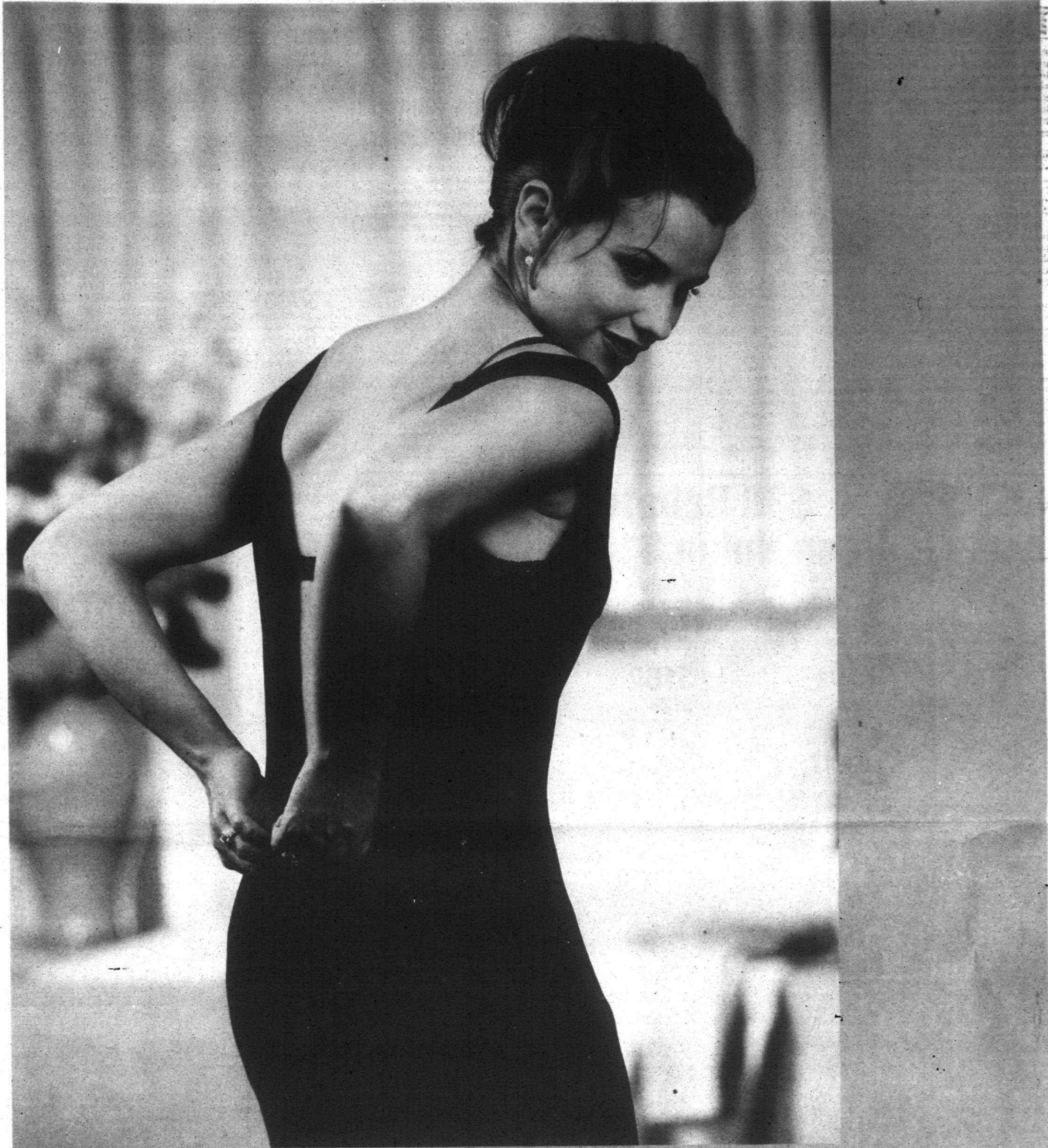
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Superintendent from page A1

liked Booher's vision for the high school and ideas on corporate grants, and feels the glass ceiling for women has been lifted in Plymouth-Canton schools. If offered a contract, Booher would become the district's first female superintendent.



Impressed: "She (Booher) did her homework," said Plymouth-Canton Trustee Judy Mardigian.

"What really impressed me was that she did her homework and knows who we are and what our challenges are," said Mardigian. "I'm excited about having a female superintendent, and I think she will inspire the girls and women of our district to reach a new level."

Board President Susan Davis said her reference check with Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) Superintendent Mike Flanagan, of Plymouth Township, indicated "she is a bright shining star. He sees her as intelligent, straightforward... a person who has leadership skills."

Board members chose Booher over William Weber, a Canton resident, who is assistant superintendent for South Redford Schools, and Phyllis Wilson, deputy superintendent of Columbus (Ohio) Public Schools.

work early and paid the district a visit earlier this year with interim Superintendent Ken Walcott.

After spending nearly five years (1994-99) in Berkeley as superintendent, Booher feels ready to move on.

"I feel very good about what we've accomplished in Berkeley," said Booher. "I think we've taken this district from being good to one that has made powerful, positive moves for kids. Kids are what it's all about."

There will be a number of challenges for Booher, including moving from a district with 4,300 students and an annual budget of \$32 million to Plymouth-Canton's 16,500 students and a budget of more than \$100 million.

Booher's current salary is \$111,000. Former superintendent Chuck Little was paid \$120,000 annually.

If the Plymouth-Canton school board offers her a contract after the site visit, Booher said she could probably wrap up her business with Berkeley sometime in February, shortly after the start of second semester.

@ the Canton Public Library

Did you know?

■ The first mass-produced Christmas cards were sent in 1843 by a wealthy British businessman to 1,000 of his friends and acquaintances.

■ Americans today exchange about 2.6 billion Christmas cards per year.

■ The earliest Christmas tree recorded in the U.S. was mentioned in the diary of Matthew Zahn of Lancaster, Pa. under the date Dec. 20, 1821.

■ More than 75 percent of households put up a Christmas tree.

■ People hang mistletoe in the doorway for the fun of stealing a kiss, but early Britons as far back as 700 BC believed the plant had many powers, including heightening fertility?

For your listening pleasure

Here are some books on audio tape available from the library:

■ "Other People's Children" by Joanna Trollope

■ "Personal Injuries" by Scott

Turrow
■ "Song of Solomon" by Toni Morrison
■ "White Oleander" by Janet Fitch
■ "The Tenth Justice" by Brad Meltzer

Youth department

Here are some new short stories for teens available from the library:

■ "Tomorrowland: Ten Stories About the Future" by Michael Cart
■ "Odder Than Ever" by Bruce Coville

■ "Time Capsule: Short Stories About Teenagers Throughout the 20th Century" by Donald R. Gallo

■ "Believing Is Seeing: Seven Stories" by Diana Wynne Jones

■ "My Land Songs: Stories from the Rio Grande" by Rudolfo Anaya

■ "Places I Never Meant to Be: Original Stories by Censored Writers" by Judy Blume

Q & A

Q: Who was Violet Jessup?
A: Violet Jessup was a crew member aboard the Titanic and the Britannic. She survived both sinkings and was also aboard the Olympic when it had the collision with the HMS Hawke.

The source for this information is: www.titanic.co.uk/britanic.htm

Web Watch

Check out these Web sites:

■ www.careers.wj.com
■ www.christmasrecipe.com
■ www.unesco.org/drg/letters

Scottish settings

Try these novels set in Scotland:

■ "All We Hold Dear" by Kathryn Lynn Davis
■ "Death of a Scriptwriter" by M.C. Beaton

■ "Fairy Tale" by Julian Hunter

■ "Highland Flame" by Lois Greisman

■ "Rob Roy" by Sir Walter Scott

Hot topic of the week

■ Ramadan: the Islamic Month of Fasting, Dec. 9-Jan. 7, 2000. This begins the Islamic lunar calendar date Ramadan 1, 1420. Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, is holy because it was during this month that the Holy Qur'an (Koran) was revealed. All adults of sound body and mind fast from dawn until sunset to achieve spiritual and physical purification and self-discipline, abstaining from food, drink and intimate relations. It is a time for feeling a common bond with the poor and needy, a time of piety and prayer.

At the Canton Library is compiled by Laura Dorogi of the library staff. The library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center. For more information about library programs and services, call 397-0999.

Movie Guide

OTOY STORY 2 (G)
12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00
POKEMON (G) 11:00, 3:00, 5:15
007: THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG-13)
11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
SLEEPY HOLLOW (R)
12:20, 2:35, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20
BONE COLLECTOR (R)
12:05, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:25
AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
11:45, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40
MUSIC OF THE HEART (PG)
7:15, 9:35

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Honored student: Mary Ann Holloway (center) is congratulated by Dr. Stuart Arends (right), dean, and Dr. Leon Levitt, professor, School of Business, on receiving the Meta and Bernard Landuyt Award for High Achievement.

Madonna gives honors to business students

Mary Ann Holloway of Farmington received the Meta and Bernard Landuyt Award for High Achievement at Madonna University's School of Business 15th annual Honors Convocation Friday, Nov. 19.

The award is the most prestigious honor a student may attain in the School of Business. It is awarded to a senior with a grade point average of 3.7 or above who has completed a minimum of 30 semester hours at Madonna University and 25 semester hours within the School of Business. The recipient must exhibit scholarly inquiry, critical thinking, professional growth, leadership qualities, participation in university and/or community activities and evidence of integrity, responsibility and strength of character.

In addition seven students received the 1999-2000 Highest Achievement Award in their major. The award is given annually to a student from each major who attains the highest GPA. To be eligible, each student must have completed 40 semester hours in the major, 30 semester hours at Madonna University and 15 hours within the past three semesters.

The honored students were Sandra Lesecki of Dearborn Heights, Linda Cosgrove of Livonia, Theresa A. Gentner of Livonia, Jeanette M. LaForge of Livonia, Denise R. Anderson of Northville, Ruth K. Hodges of Novi and Tanya L. Rabkina of Sterling Heights. Additionally, 63 students received High Achievement Awards which are given to stu-

dents who have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours at Madonna University and 15 hours within the major with a GPA of 3.5 or above.

Twenty-three students were inducted into the Epsilon Gamma Chapter of Delta Mu

Delta, a national honor society in business administration. The motto of the society is "Through Knowledge, Power." A School of Business faculty member, Dr. Jacqueline Stavros of Waterford, was also inducted into Delta Mu Delta as an honorary member.

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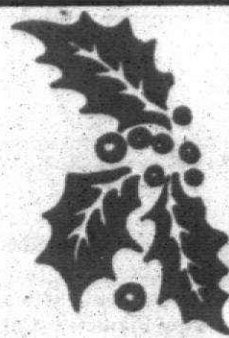
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HOOKED ON HISTORY



VIRGINIA PARKER

Yule legacy abides in gentle hearts

We approach a Christmas that is noteworthy as the last one of the 1900s.

Capturing the uniqueness of this December is quite a task. What compelling parallels between now and 2,000 years ago can I find? Moreover, since holiday stories are among the hardest to write, what new tale can I tell that isn't too sentimental?

Be that as it may, let me tell you a story for the season.

Once upon a Christmas Eve, bitter-cold night air nipped at noses, hurrying people inside. Ice glazed the sidewalks and streets of one particular Michigan town. The manager of a townhouse community there couldn't risk driving on dangerous roads to be with relatives many miles away.

Finding herself unexpectedly at home, she joined the residents in their cozy arts and crafts room, where festive tables were laden with bountiful holiday fare.

"Excuse me," one of the senior residents said. "I've forgotten something." Off she went, leaving the manager and the merry chatter of the gathering behind. Shortly afterward, the room fell silent as another resident began reading the story of the Nativity.

When the woman returned, she went to the manager and whispered, "Some people were at the front door, inquiring about a townhouse, so I let them in."

Drat, the manager thought. It's Christmas Eve, and I'm off duty. Worse, I'm sure I know who they are, and I'm going to have to tell them they don't qualify!

Dreaded meeting

Off she strode, bracing herself to deliver bad news. Sure enough, there was the young couple she dreaded meeting, with their four small children in tow.

The couple had spent their savings to move to town for a job, which then fell through. They lost an apartment they had rented and their security deposit. Things had started to look up when the husband found a new job.

"We have enough for the rent now," he said, hopeful for his family. But he and the manager both knew there was no money left over for yet another security deposit.

Through frosty windows, she could see the panel van that the family was living in. They looked so cold and weary, especially the 2-year-old boy, whose face and hands were red. Alas, though, corporate rules. The manager felt bad, but her hands were tied.

Just as she opened her mouth to say, "I'm sorry, but ...," the resident's voice from the next room broke through the momentary silence in the office.

"... And there was no room in the inn," the woman read.

The words of rejection died in the manager's open mouth. Instead, out tumbled, "Let me show you to your new home" as she reached for keys to an empty townhouse.

Please see HISTORY, B3



In triplicate: Santa hats in place, 23-month-old triplets Madeline, Natalie and Greg Gannon get wheeled into Wonderland Mall by their mom, Susan of Livonia.

Santa wishes come in 3's

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
scasola@oe.homecomm.net

They rolled through the parking lot in triplicate, with Santa hats bobbing all the way.

A group of about 17 families of triplets - known collectively as 3-4-All - got dressed in their holiday finest and strolled into Livonia's Wonderland Mall with mom and dad for a special visit with Santa Claus and some quality play time.

The special event, organized by mall marketing director Cathy Young, gave the children a special moment with Santa - who came in early and posed for pictures starting at 9 a.m. This was the first event of its kind at the mall.

"This was a perfect venue," said Young, smiling. "I know the group tries to get together as much as they can." She considered the day a success and may plan another day for triplets in the future.

It all started at Oakwood Hospital. Four mothers-to-be found themselves in one special situation. They were all about to give birth to triplets.

More than two years later, the moms connected with about 12 other sets of parents with triplets to exchange advice and give support. The group is building strong friendships all along the way.

Once a month the moms get together for dinner and conversation, and around the holidays they plan events with the children.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

'Let me go!': Gary Nayh of Northville holds a not-so-happy Brianna and Beatrice while mom Fran holds a crying Brittany as they get their picture taken with Santa. The triplets are 22 months old.

On Friday, giggles and chatter echoed through the corridors of the mall, which has been transformed into what it's calling a Winter Wonderland for the holiday shopping season. With a hearty "Ho, ho, ho, Merry Christmas," Santa posed for a group shot with the kids and led the group to an early lunch in the mall.

Although some people might think parenting three babies at once is a difficult task, all the parents agreed it's really triple the joy.

Just ask Lesley Merlino, a founding parent of Aftershock Times Three, one of the groups that makes up 3-4-All. The Farmington Hills resident was one of the original four moms and now writes a newsletter that keeps the group in touch

with events, activities and advice. She insists that "life is great."

"It's a lot of work, but it's worth it," said Merlino. "You get three times the love, three times the hugs, three times the kisses. It's really all worth it."

But imagine trying to feed three hungry babies at once, or put three sobbing infants to sleep at the same time.

Good thing Carole Kody is around to support them. The Canton resident and mother of 2-year-old triplets started Aftershock and saw many of the other mothers through their pregnancies.

She warned the mothers-to-be to stay off their feet, and once the little ones were

Please see TRIPLETS, B2

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More to Adore club gives big people place to gather

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@homecom.net

Kim Zager sounds a bit like Bob Barker when she talks about the private social club she started in February. "If you're a BBW, come on down. Ditto if you're a BHM. And if you don't have a BBW or a BHM to come to the dance parties with, no fret."

"I tell them to come and I'll introduce them to a whole table full of people," said Zager. "You don't necessarily have to like big women. If you want to come, you're not required to pick up somebody."

"However, big women are very cool to have fun with. We're really bubbly and light-hearted."

The "there" is Zager's More to Adore, a social club for people who weigh more than 200 pounds. The BBW is a big, beautiful woman and the BHM is a big, handsome male.

Through word-of-mouth, a hotline and newsletter, Zager has slowly built attendance, staging dances, swim parties, fashion shows and haunted hayrides for More to Adore members. The dance parties are held at the Dearborn Elks Lodge.

"Almost every month we do a dance and incorporate other things," said Zager. "We've had a large and lovely lingerie fashion show. In November, we did a Chubby Charity Clothes Swap and donated the money to the Red Cross's Disaster Relief Fund."

The first party in April attracted 85 people. By the October haunted hayride and bonfire,



STAFF PHOTO BY BRIAN MITCHELL

there were 125 people.

"I expected it would cost me money, but I broke even," she said. "A club is very expensive to run, so I use the admission to pay the expenses - the disc jockey, hall rental, refreshments and the toll-free hotline."

Spreading the news

Zager gets the word out through the More to Adore Web site, the hotline and newsletter, which has a mailing list numbering 198. And while participation is increasing, Zager is in need of a few more men. At the present the ratio is 3:1.

"A lot of men who come are in their 40s," she said. "They're at an age where they don't care what their friends think. But where are the 25-year-olds? There are so many women at the parties that the men have wonderful odds."

"I don't know how to reach the men who like big women. Some don't want to come alone, but if they do, I guarantee they won't be alone for long."

Social clubs like More to Adore, Michigan's BBW Connection, have been "around for ages," with the first ones starting up in New York. A large number can be found there and in California.

Come one, come all:
Kim Zager knows what she wants: big beautiful women and big handsome men to enjoy themselves at More to Adore, the private social club she started in April.

who go to the club should get something out of it. After the last party, it felt really good to sit back and have fun.

"My dad asked me what the reward was, if I wasn't making any money. This is the reward. I've made some wonderful friends and different connections."

The hometowns of the people who help her range from Grosse Pointe to Southgate to Sterling Heights and Royal Oak. More to Adore membership represents 79 cities in seven states - Michigan, Ohio, Texas, Illinois, New York, Indiana and Wisconsin - and Canada.

"I've had somebody from each of those places at a party," Zager said.

She also works "real close" with the local chapter of the National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance, a non-profit human rights organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for fat people. Information about More to Adore appears on the NAAFA Web site, and Zager makes announcements about NAAFA at the parties.

Zager also helps others develop the confidence she has. The lingerie show featured fashions by a woman from St. Louis, Mo., who makes clothing up to size 10X, and modeled by club members.

"The confidence level now of people from the time I met them is just incredible," she said. "People who have dreamed of being models have that opportunity. This is a private club where you can walk in with confidence and know everybody there is like you, and wants to be there."

"Most people who come say this how I'm going to be, but I try to reach out to those who feel insecure."

Big all of her life, Zager hasn't let that stop her from being on sports teams, active in youth groups and pledging and joining a college sorority.

"I tried, I always tried," she said. "I never let it get me down. I try to promote confidence at any size. I tell people to be proud of who they are. I have a girl help me now who never would dance. Now she does."

Encouraged by the response, Zager has looked all the dates for More to Adore parties next year. The club will close out 1999 with a holiday party 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Dearborn Elks Lodge, 25000 Michigan Ave., Dearborn.

For more information about More to Adore, call the hotline at (877) PARTY-XL (727-8995), visit the Web site at <http://www.geocities.com/MoreToAdore>, or send an e-mail to MoreToAdore@hotmail.com.

Triplets from page B1

born, gave them strategies to get the babies to sleep at night.

But Kody admits the group is worthwhile for her, too.

"It's the best," she said. "It's the one thing I look forward to every month. It's so great to know there's such support."

Like the other parents, Kody said the most important aspect of belonging to the group is the support, advice and friendship she receives from others in her situation.

"It makes such a difference because they can relate," she said. "They understand. It helps keep me sane."

Joann Alcantara of Redford agreed, admitting she was "scared to death" when she found out she was not having one baby,

but three at once.

"No one can really relate unless you have triplets," she said, adding that not even parents of twins can truly understand what parenting triplets is like. "The program is really great because they've all been through it."

So now when her little ones want to be held at the same time, and she finds she doesn't have enough hands to pick them all up, she sits on the floor and lets them all be close to her at the same time. It's just part of being a mom to triplets.

Susan Gannon of Livonia has had 23 months to get used to it. The mother of Natalie, Madeline and Gregory has made a lot of friends. And her children are

befriending other sets of triplets.

"The kids get together to play," she said. "We have a summer picnic, a Halloween party, a Christmas party. The rest of the year, it's mostly the adults (who get together)."

For Fran and Gary Nay of Northville, having triplets is a joy. Gary's best advice to parents about to have triplets is "have a schedule; do the same things at the same time. Routine is the key."

"It's a great group," added Kody. "I feel so blessed to know these people. It's the best support system."

For information about joining 3-4-All or raising triplets, call (248) 426-0466.

CRAFTS CALENDAR

MARYWOOD
Marywood Nursing Care Center will hold its Christmas bazaar and bake sale 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Dec. 10 at the center, 36975 Five Mile Road, Livonia. There will be gifts, resident-made crafts and goodies. For information on reserving a booth or donating baked goods, call Cassandra Fuller-Brown at (734) 464-0600.

HANDCRAFTERS
Handcrafters Unlimited will hold its 18th annual fall arts and crafts show 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 10, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 11 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 12 at the Northville Recreation Center, 303 W. Main St., Northville. More than 70 juried artisans will display their works. Lunch also will be available. Admission will be \$2. For more information, call (734) 459-0050.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN
St. John's Lutheran Church will hold a holiday boutique 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 11 at the church, 13542 Mercedes, east of Inkster Road and south of the I-96 Service Drive, Redford. Featured will be Christmas craft items, a white elephant sale, a used book table and a bake sale. Lunch also will be available. For more information, call the church at (313) 538-2660.

Western Townships Utilities Authority
Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Synopsis
4:00 p.m., Monday, November 29, 1999

Regular meeting called to order at 4:08 p.m.
Present: Thomas Yeck, Kathleen A. Keen-McCarthy, Richard Henningsen.
Agenda - adopted as amended.
Minutes of special meeting of November 2, 1999 - approved.
Minutes of study session of November 17, 1999 - approved.
Minutes of special meeting of November 22, 1999 - approved.
Schedule of operating expenses totaling \$1,554,261.99 - approved.
Operations & Maintenance Report for October 1999 - received and filed.
Operations Manager's Report for November 1999 - received and filed.
4th Quarter Revenue/Expenditure Preliminary Final Report (FY 98/99) - received and filed.
Annual MDOT Permit - approved.
Audit Engagement Letter - approved.
WTUA Business Plan Update received and filed and approval for Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith to represent both WTUA and Canton Township regarding site plan issues.
Closed Session - Discussion regarding attorney/client letter.
The regular meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Published: December 9, 1999

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Families find home that cares about their elder members

BY ARLENE PUNKE
SPECIAL WRITER

Judy Murray of Redford laid her worries to rest when she moved her mother into the Lutheran Home Livonia nursing home soon after it opened last fall.

"I wanted a place that would care about her, not just care for her," Murray said.

Lutheran Home Livonia is a nursing home with a "non-institutional" ambience and a small army of volunteers who help keep residents busy and involved.

Today, 93-year-old Inez Alegnani is comfortable in her cozy room at the nursing home and enjoys playing bingo, taking field trips with the other residents and attending chapel services.

"They need activities, they don't need to stay in bed all day," Murray said. "I can't ever remember seeing people in the hall slumped over."

Lutheran Home Livonia on Plymouth Road east of Middlebelt Road, recently celebrated its first anniversary with a worship service, followed by dinner and entertainment for residents, family members, staff and volunteers.

At present, the skilled-care section of the nursing home is at its capacity of 88 residents, with a waiting list. Openings are available in the 20-bed special care unit for those with dementia, memory loss or early-stage Alzheimer's disease.

"I'm pleased, it's very clean," said Millie Cosner of Livonia, whose mother, 97-year-old Hazel Hagen, moved to the facility in

July. The home is operated by Lutheran Homes of Michigan, a non-profit Christian organization that began serving the elderly more than 100 years ago. The organization, affiliated with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, also operates nursing homes in Monroe and Frankmouth.

Ministry for all
Although neither Murray nor her mother is Lutheran, both value the religious affiliation. Murray believes that link makes for more passionate care.

"This is a ministry for all people, not just Lutherans," said development director Patti Wachtel of Canton. "Our first concern is with residents' spiritual needs."

Lillian Pfeiffer recently moved into the special-care memory loss unit. During a recent visit, she was seen, sitting with a group of women, taking part in light exercise. She wore clean, comfortable slacks and a roomy sweatshirt. Her hair was freshly styled and her fingernails were covered in bright red polish.

"Her caregivers treat her royally," said Pfeiffer's sister, Ina Huerto of Livonia.

The organization is dedicated to developing and nurturing a cadre of caring volunteers, all of whom receive on-the-job orientation.

To date, more than 100 volunteers have embraced the Livonia facility, regularly donating their time to assist at parties, bingo, Bible study activities and field trips. Church groups have raised



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CAENIGRE

money and donated furnishings.

Senior citizen volunteers are being recruited to bake and donate cookies, which will be sold at a cookie walk at the nursing home 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15.

Virginia Meyers and Beverly Erickson, both of Redford, help with the monthly birthday parties attended by all the residents. Meyers belongs to Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church in Redford. Erickson is a member of Salem National Lutheran Church in Westland.

"I like to come and visit with the residents," Erickson said. The new facility replaces an aged, long-time nursing home that had been shut down some time ago. After Lutheran Homes

of Michigan acquired the site, a \$40,000 grant was awarded by the Plymouth Road Development Authority of Livonia to assist in the demolition of the old building.

"We wanted to encourage them to go forward with the removal of the old nursing home," said John Nagy, PRDA director. "We think the new facility is very attractive and we're delighted to have them."

Provide good care

Lutheran Homes of Michigan are licensed and certified skilled nursing care and home for the aged facilities. Anna Zwarka was the third person admitted to Lutheran Home Livonia and remained almost one year until

her death in August at age 95.

"They provided good care for her," said her daughter, Betty Boss of Livonia. "The staff always called her by name. That meant a lot."

As their mother's health declined, Boss and her five siblings spent hours at the nursing home. They took turns feeding her and sang hymns to comfort one another.

The staff sometimes brought them cookies and lemonade. The chaplain visited every day.

"They were very nice to us," Boss said. "We met a lot of nice people."

Murray visits her mother several times a week. For the residents' entertainment, she helped organize a fashion show, with music and clothes from bygone days.

"She's a great cheerleader for the home," Wachtel said of Murray.

Sunday school students from St. John's Lutheran Church in Redford recently came to the nursing home, dressed in Halloween costumes, to bring treats to the residents.

Stephen Parnell, 9, of Detroit, is at the nursing home often because his mother, Quinn Parnell, is employed as an activities aide. Stephen helps out by wheeling residents throughout the building.

At Lutheran Homes Livonia, residents live in one- or two-person rooms. The Rev. Ernie Labbs, 84, and his wife Irma, 85, moved in this past summer and share a room.

"It's an adjustment," said Irma Labbs. "We're used to being busy."

The couple have brought from their home a favorite recliner chair, a curio cabinet, containing treasured mementos and family photos.

Labbs, a retired Lutheran minister recovering from surgery, hopes to do ministerial work at the nursing home. His wife plans to teach Bible study classes.

The Labbs' daughter, Claire Schwiebert, is chairman of the board of Lutheran Homes of Michigan.

"It's nice my parents can be together," Schwiebert said. "The workers really seem to care. When I have to be away, I don't worry about them."

Efforts have been made to make the home attractive and comfortable for the residents. Walls are decorated with both secular and religious paintings. Several small seating areas have comfortable chairs and couches.

The chapel accommodates 68 wheelchairs. The large, elaborately carved altar, which once graced a Detroit church, was donated by Risen Christ Lutheran Church in Plymouth. The chapel's stained glass windows were made by Harry Flagg of Livonia.

Redeemer Lutheran Church in Dearborn donated \$2,300 to equip an on-site beauty and barber shop.

Courtyards allow residents to safely enjoy the outdoors.

"My mother enjoys looking out her window at the birds," said Millie Cosner.

The nursing home welcomes visitors and volunteers, according to Wachtel. For more information, call (734) 425-4814.

History from page B1

When the family stepped through their new front door, the 3-year-old daughter said, "Oh, Mommy, it's so warm in here."

Overjoyed, they returned to the office to sign the lease.

"We're having a little party, why don't you join us," the manager said. Later, the residents fixed containers of food for the family to take home, with lots of desserts for the kids.

Christmas morning the oldest daughter brought the manager a candy cane.

"This is from our tree. I wanted you to have it," she said, hugging the woman.

The manager looked perplexed. "Your Christmas tree?"

Busy Christmas Eve

It seems the neighborhood had been rather busy late Christmas Eve. Someone had contacted the mail carrier, who persuaded a friend to unlock his tree lot. A blue spruce was soon on its way to the new residents.

Neighbors up and down the street began taking a string of lights off each of their trees, and a few ornaments, too. Children in several homes were asked to choose a wrapped present to share. They gave without weigh-

ing which gift meant more or less to keep - except one little boy, who had wanted red mittens. He gave them to the toddler to warm his hands.

Invitations came from one set of neighbors to join them for breakfast, from another for church, and from a third for Christmas dinner.

On New Year's Eve, the woman and her children reappeared at the office. They laid out fried chicken in a basket lined with a red-and-white checkered cloth, homemade biscuits, corn on the cob, beans, hot chocolate and cake.

"We promised ourselves we would bring you lunch with our first paycheck," she said simply. And so, a holiday tradition was born. Each New Year's Eve, she quietly brings lunch for the staff, who, while they eat, retell the story of that special Christmas.

Now you may think this tale was spun from a story teller's mind because the line, "... no room in the inn," was too conveniently placed. But the story was not invented. As someone once told me, "Coincidence is just God's way of remaining anonymous."

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CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND CANTON

WEEKEND

OPEN HOUSE/BAKE SALE

■ The Canton Historical Society will host its annual Holiday Open House and Bake Sale from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the museum. The museum is located on Canton Center Road at Heritage Drive. The bake sale will feature a "politician's table" with homemade treats donated by local politicians. Books on Canton history are available. Sweet Corn Series buildings are also on sale. These include Cherry Hill Methodist Church, the Bartlett Travis House, the Canton Museum and the Seymour House. Parking is available at the rear of the museum. For more information, call (734) 495-0811.

NUTCRACKER BALLET

■ Treat yourself and your family to an enchanted performance of The Nutcracker Ballet, a joint production by the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and the Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company. Show times and dates are as follows: 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11; 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11; and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at the Plymouth-Salem High School auditorium, 46181 Joy Road, Canton. More than 150 musicians and dancers will celebrate this classic holiday fantasy. There will be a Sugar Plum Tea in the cafeteria immediately following the two matinee performances. Sponsors include, Art Van, Co-Service Credit Union, Ford Motor Company and Panasonic. For more information, call (734) 451-2112.

DINNER SOCIAL

■ The Dearborn-Livonia Chapter of the U.S. Singles will host its next dinner social at 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at Ernestos, 41661 Plymouth Road, between I-275 and Lilly Road in Plymouth. Adults ages 45-plus wishing further information regarding this national organization's activities, please write to: Dearborn-Livonia Singles, P.O. Box 2175, Fort Dearborn Station, Dearborn, MI 48123.

CANDLE LIGHTING

■ There will be a candle memorial and dedication of a Christmas tree at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at Kellogg Park in Plymouth. The community is welcome to come and remember children who have died. For more information, or to register a child's name, call Barb Kilgore at (734) 455-8679 or e-mail at tkilgore99@aol.com. You need not be present to have a child's name included in the memorial.

HOLIDAY DOLL SHOW

■ There will be a "Holiday Doll Show" Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. Show hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5, and \$2 for ages 4-12. The show features dealers, collectors and doll artists selling new, used, antique, collectible dolls and doll accessories of all kinds. Call (734) 455-2110.

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

■ The Promiseland Children's Ministry of Canton Friendship Church will present the musical: "When Santa Bowed at Christmas" at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, in the gymnasium at the Summit. This event is free. A nursery will also be provided in the Pines Room. Please join everyone for cookies after the hour show.

CANTON GOODFELLOWS

■ The Canton Goodfellows will be collecting toys and non-perishable food items

until Tuesday, Dec. 14, to provide gifts and holiday food baskets for needy Canton families and senior citizens. The collection is now under way. Non-perishable food items needed include: Soup, canned pasta, canned fruits and vegetables, macaroni and cheese, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, snacks, treats such as candy and gum, holiday dinner trimmings including cranberry sauce, stuffing/dressing, instant potatoes, gravy, Jell-O, pudding, cake mixes and frosting. Please don't gift wrap toys as they must be sorted by age and gender. Donations may be dropped off at the Hanford Road Clubhouse in Sunflower Village, 45800 Hanford, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays.

TOY COLLECTION

■ Mel's Golden Razor Annual Toy Collection will take place until Dec. 18 at 595 Forest, Plymouth. There will be new and used toys for needy and handicapped children for Christmas. Call (734) 455-9057.

PLYMOUTH GOODFELLOWS

■ The Plymouth Goodfellows Association is seeking Plymouth and Plymouth Township families in need of assistance for the upcoming holiday season. The Goodfellows Association exists to ensure that no child will miss the opportunity of receiving a present for Christmas. Within the next few weeks, the Goodfellows will begin identifying families to receive assistance. If you are in need of help, or if you know of a family in need, please send the name, address, phone number and number of children in the family to: Plymouth Goodfellows Association, P.O. Box 700912, Plymouth, MI 48170. Contributions may also be sent to the Plymouth Goodfellows at the same address.

AROUND TOWN

ELECTION WORKERS

■ Canton Township needs precinct inspectors to work the polls on three Election Days in 2000. The dates are Tuesday, Feb. 22 (presidential preference primary); Tuesday, Aug. 8 (township and state primary); and Tuesday, Nov. 7 (presidential, township and state general election). Qualified applicants must be Wayne County residents, 18 or older, and registered to vote in their community. Pay ranges from \$125-\$145 for the day, with hours 6 a.m.-9 p.m. For an application, contact the clerk's office at (734) 397-5367.

EXHIBIT

■ The Plymouth Community Arts Council features "Spirit Earth," the recent watercolors of Todd Marsee, through Jan. 26 at the JWH Center for the Arts, 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to noon Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday and Friday and weekends by appointment. (Dec. 17 through the holidays by appointment only.) A reception to meet the artist is set for 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, at the Arts Council. Call (734) 207-3918.

CENSUS 2000

■ The U.S. Census Bureau is looking for people who want to earn some extra money while helping out their community. Enumerators are needed for the 2000 Census in Canton and neighboring communities. Enumerators spend most of their time locating addresses and conducting door-to-door interviews.

Event:

Date and Time:

Location:

Telephone:

Additional info:

Use additional sheet if necessary

Two Canton residents named YWCA achievers

Two Canton women played a prominent role in the YWCA of Western Wayne County annual Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon held on Nov. 5 at the Fairlane Club, Dearborn.

Autumn J. Kucha, Communications Specialist, Canton Department of Public Safety was one of six honorees inducted into the 1999 group of YWCA Women of Achievement in the category of Young Women. Vera (Dolby) A. Lieberman, Precinct Chairman, Charter Township of Canton was also honored as a nominee. She was nominated for her Volunteer Service.

Nearly 500 men and women gathered to hear Attorney General Jennifer Granholm's inspirational message urging women to use their wings and fly. Monica



Awardees: Autumn Kucha (left) and Dolly Lieberman during last month's YWCA Women of Achievement luncheon.

Gayle, WJBK Fox 2 Co-anchor was the mistress of ceremonies. The YWCA of Western Wayne County is a Torch Drive Agency

delivered to you. Call (734) 459-6829. ■ The Plymouth Symphony League is offering the 1999 Ultimate Entertainment Book, offering 50-percent discount coupons at hundreds of restaurants and discounts for many other services and events. The book is available from the Plymouth Symphony League by calling 453-3016. Copies are also available at the Plymouth Symphony Office, 819 Penniman, in downtown Plymouth. The Ultimate Entertainment Book is \$40, with all proceeds used to support the Plymouth Symphony.

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3000. Auction items will include trips, dining, clothing, furniture, and of course all kinds of art. Dance to the "Coursiers," back by popular demand. Entrees to select from include beef tenderloin, stuffed chicken, or orange roughy. Tickets are \$55 per person (\$20 is tax deductible). Advance sale tickets are only \$50 each if purchased before the end of the year. Call the PCAC at (734) 416-4278.

ME & MY SHADOW

■ New Morning School has openings for its winter 2000 "Me & My Shadow" program. This is an introductory class for 2, 3 and 4 year olds and their parents. Parent and child participate in music, play activities, art and readiness projects, snack and story time. Two Saturday morning sessions begin on Jan. 15 and one Monday evening session begins on Jan. 17, 2000. New Morning is certified by Michigan Department of Education. For more information contact the school at (734) 420-3331. New Morning is at 14501 Haggerty, just north of Schoolcraft Road.

DISCUSSION GROUP

■ "Shooting the Breeze," a new discussion group, will meet in the Senior Center at the Summit to discuss such timely topics as politics, education, arts and music, local Michigan happenings, influential people, movies and TV, sports and environmental concerns. Each discussion period will last for one hour, one time per week. Anyone interested in discussing any of these topics may join the "Shooting the Breeze" group. A donation of \$8 for the entire list of discussions is requested. For more information and to register, call Diane Neihengen at the Senior Center at (734) 397-5444.

KIWANIS CLUB

■ The Plymouth Kiwanis Club meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the new City Limits Bar & Grill on Ann Arbor Road. Call Charles Miller at (734) 455-4782. ■ The Plymouth Kiwanis Club meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the new City Limits Bar & Grill on Ann Arbor Road. Call Charles Miller at (734) 455-4782. ■ The Plymouth Kiwanis Club meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the new City Limits Bar & Grill on Ann Arbor Road. Call Charles Miller at (734) 455-4782.

NURSERY OPENINGS

■ Plymouth Children's Nursery Co-op has a few openings left in its 3- and 4-year-old classes. PCN has been established for over 30 years and is committed to providing a nurturing environment for children with supportive parent participation. Call (734) 455-6250. ■ First Baptist Church of Plymouth-Canton Kindergarten still has openings for their winter session enrollment. Call (734) 354-9109. ■ Garfield Co-Op still has openings for children 18 months to 5 years. Garfield Co-Op is located in Livonia, at Case Elementary, 94633 Munger, south of Six Mile and west of Farmington Road. Call (734) 462-0135.

VILLAGE MUSIC

■ Village Music is registering new students for Kindergarten classes beginning the week of Jan. 24. Kindergarten is music education and joyful learning for the whole family, not just for young children. Call now for classes for new-borns to 7 years old. For more information, call Norma Atwood at (734) 354-9925. Early registration is encouraged.

CANCER SOCIETY

■ American Cancer Society needs volunteers. Call (248) 557-5353, ext. 336.

ALZHEIMER'S

■ The Alzheimer's Association is seeking volunteers to provide companionship to people experiencing memory loss. Call Adam Sterling, (248) 557-8277 for information.

SUPPORT GROUPS

■ Starting Over is a group for widowed men and women younger than 45. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of the month at Plymouth Church

of Christ. Call (734) 662-5999.

ARBOR HOSPICE

■ Arbor Hospice sponsors grief support programs that are open to the public. If you would like more information or to sign up, call (734) 662-5999.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS

■ Community Hospice and Home Care Services has a drop-in grief-support group that meets 6:30-8 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month. Call Becky Rouse at (734) 522-4244.

COUNTERPOINT

■ Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families. Call (734) 663-5005.

ANGELA HOSPICE

■ Angela Hospice offers free monthly grief support groups for people who have experienced the loss of a loved one. All groups meet at the Angela Hospice Care Center in Livonia. For meeting dates and times, call Ruth Faver, (734) 464-7810.

VOLUNTEER WORK

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

■ Plymouth-Canton Head Start, in Central Middle School, is looking for volunteers to help in the classroom with large-group activities, to assist children during recess, participate in the Learning Centers and assist during meal times. If you have a morning or afternoon free Monday through Thursday, call 416-6196.

■ Angel Care, a volunteer organization, is looking for volunteers to sew, crochet, knit, etc., blankets and burial gowns to donate to local hospitals for infants who have died. Contact Mary Piontek for patterns and information, (313) 534-6496.

■ Hospices of Henry Ford Health System needs volunteers in Canton and Plymouth. Volunteers can help by visiting patients, either at their home or a nursing home, to offer emotional support, companionship and comfort. Call (313) 582-2382.

■ William Beaumont Hospital Hospice is looking for volunteers to support the care of people with terminal illnesses and their families. Call (734) 455-6250. ■ Head Start needs volunteers to help in the classroom with large-group activities, to assist during meal times and participate in the learning centers with subjects such as art, computer and library. If you have a morning or afternoon free Monday through Thursday, call (734) 416-6196. Senior citizens and retirees in the Plymouth/Canton area are welcome.

■ Volunteer drivers are needed for New Morning School's Swim/Gym program at the Livonia YMCA 8:30-11:30 a.m. Fridays. Volunteers may also help in the pool if desired. Call (734) 420-3331. New Morning School is located at 14501 Haggerty, just north of Schoolcraft.

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Graff-Prim

George and Judy Graff of Adrian, formerly of Livonia, announce the engagement of their daughter, Dawn Marie, to Jason Lee Prim, the son of Julie Verbanic of Taylor and Alvin Prim of Arlington, Texas.

The bride-to-be is a

RELIGIOUS NEWS

'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) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2131.

SINGLE POINT

Single Point Ministries of Ward Presbyterian Church will have the Rev. Neil Ellison talk speak on the topic of prophecies that led up to Christ's birth and why He needed to come. TIO meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Knox Hall of the church, 4000 W. Six Mile Road, Northville. Coffee and cookies will be served and a free will offering will be taken. For more information, call the Single Point office at (248) 374-5920.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Newburg United Methodist Church will have its ASL Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Auction at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, in Guthrie Hall of the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. All proceeds will sup-

port a summer work trip to Appalachia. For ticket information, call the church office at (734) 422-0149.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Congregation Beth Chaverim will celebrate Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, at 7:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10. The celebration will be held at Cherry Hill Methodist Church at Cherry Hill and Ridge roads in Canton. For more information, call the CBC hotline at (734) 480-8880.

BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST

Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance for divorced and separated Christians, will have a progressive hors d'oeuvre party Saturday, Dec. 11. Call Reggie at (734) 421-0135 or Val at (734) 729-1974 for information.

The group also meets at 10 a.m. Sundays for breakfast at the Redford Inn, Five Mile west of Beech Daly, Redford, and 11:15 a.m. for Mass at St. Aidan's Church, Farmington Road north of Six Mile, Livonia.

Call Val at (734) 729-1974 for coffee and conversation at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Archie's Restaurant, Plymouth Road west of Middlebelt Road, Livonia. Call Mary at (734) 722-2612.

COOKIE WALKS

Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W. Seven Mile Road, will have an assortment of 40 different cookies, a selection of sweet breads, candies, nuts and frozen foods (pierogi and stuffed cabbage) on sale at its cookie walk on Saturday, Dec. 11. Doors will open at 9 a.m. and stay open until everything is sold. The price will be \$8 per pound. For more information, call the church at (248) 476-3432.

Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia, is reviving its tradition of a cookie walk Saturday, Dec. 11. Church members are providing the cookie selection for the walk which starts at 9:30 a.m. and ends when the last cookie is sold. The money raised will go to designated charities. For more information, call the church at

(734) 421-7249.

Garden City United Methodist Church will have its cookie walk 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the church, 6443 Merriman Road at Maplewood, Garden City. Sponsored by the United Methodist Women, cookies will be sold at \$8 for a large tin and \$6 for a small tin. For more information, call the church at (734) 421-8628.

The First United Methodist Church, 3739 Newberry, across from the Wayne Post Office, Wayne, will have a different kind of cookie walk 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11. There will be homemade specialty cookies, candies (fudge, pralines, peanut brittle and more) and specialty dog treats. Prices will

be \$4 for small tins, \$6 for medium tins and \$12 for large tins. Specialty tins at various prices will be available, and the candies will be sold by the pound. Special orders for whole or half pumpkin rolls also will be taken. To place an order or for more information, call the church office at (734) 721-4801.

'SOULFUL CELEBRATION'

There will be "A Soulful Celebration," starring Kirk Franklin, Hezekiah Walker, Kelly Price, Karen Clark-Sheard, Crystal Lewis, animated, Marvin Sapp and Darwin Hobbs, with Sheila E. as musical director, at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit. Tickets cost \$50, \$35, \$25 and \$15 and are

available at the Joe Louis Arena box office and all Ticketmaster outlets. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-8668 or on-line at www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets also will be on sale at the Cobo Arena box office the day of the show only. For more information, call the Olympia Entertainment event hotline at (313) 983-6606.

BLOOD DRIVE

Newburg United Methodist Church will have a Red Cross blood drive 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, in the west end of Guthrie Hall of the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call Larry at (734) 522-1977 or Sandy at (734) 422-0149 or (734)

Please see RELIGION, B9



A new face: The Rev. Luther Werth, second vice-president of the Michigan District, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and pastor of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia, recently administered the rite of installation to the Rev. Steven Eggers, the new associate pastor at Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church in Redford. On hand for the ceremony were (from left) the Revs. Tim Halboth, Werth, John Meyer, Robert Beyer, Eggers, Laurence Witto, Vic Halboth and Rich Zeile. Following the Oct. 17 ceremony, the congregation hosted a welcome dinner for the Eggers family in the school gymnasium.

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Music from page B7

p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile Road, west of Inkster Road, Livonia. There's a suggested donation of \$7.50 at the door. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

The Sunday School and weekday school children of Faith Lutheran Church are explaining the symbolism of Christmas in their Advent pageant, "Christmas Is Coming," at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 19, at the church,

30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia. The program includes music, bell ringing, singing and more. For more information, call (734) 421-7249.

The children and youth of Newburgh United Methodist Church are acting out the story of Jesus' birth as seen through the eyes of the stable animals, in their Christmas pageant, "The Mouse's Tale." Performance times are the 9 and 11 a.m. worship services

Sunday, Dec. 19, at the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-0149.

The children of the Sunday school are participating in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church annual Christmas pageant at 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 19, at the church, 16360 Hubbard, between Five and Six Mile roads, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 421-8451.

Religion from page B8

464-8286 for a blood donation appointment.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Garden City Presbyterian Church is offering a contemporary worship service at 9:15 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the church, 1841 Middlebelt Road, between Ford and Cherry Hill roads, Garden City. The contemporary service offers upbeat music and an informal atmosphere. It's offered the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

JESUS'S BIRTHDAY

Monday, Dec. 13, is the deadline for signing up for a "Happy Birthday, Jesus," party at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile Road, east of Merriman Road, Livonia.

The annual event will be held from 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 18, and is open to children ages 4 through the sixth grade accompanied by a parent or guardian. There will be games, crafts, a Christmas story and cake. The program is free of charge, but reservations are necessary. Call (734) 422-6038.

ADVENT SERVICES

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church has Advent Bible study at 7 p.m. Monday, now through Dec. 20, and 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, following Advent vespers at 6:30 p.m. through Dec. 21, at the church, 39020 Five Mile Road, Livonia. For more information, call the church at (734) 464-0211.

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church's Advent service will be 7:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, at the church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Drama, music and a brief message will focus on

the events in Bethlehem 2000 years ago.

There will be a fellowship dinner 5-6 p.m. The cost of the meals will be \$3.50 for adults, \$2 for children age 3-12 and free for those age 2 and under. For reservations, call (734) 522-6830.

Trinity Lutheran Church will have an Advent supper and service Wednesday, Dec. 15, at the church, 8820 Wayne Road, between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. There will be a simple supper at 7 p.m. and worship service at 7:30 p.m., which will center around remembering the hungry and needy of the world. The midweek offering will go to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. For more information, call (734) 427-2290.

HEALING SERVICE

The Church of the Risen Lord is presenting a healing service at

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, at the church, 821 N. Newburgh Road, south of Ford Road, Westland.

The service, led by the Rev. Gary Seymour, is part of the series of healing services, "Rise and Come Forward," offered on the third Wednesday of the month at the church. This month's theme is "Do Not Be Afraid for Nothing Is Impossible with God."

For more information, call the church office at (734) 397-1132.

TLC STORYTIME

Timothy Lutheran Church will have a TLC Storytime for children 3-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, at the church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia. Kids are invited to bring their parents to hear Christian stories and snacks. The books chosen are for age 3-10. For more information, call the church at (734) 427-2290.

Cultural center hosts 'Holiday Doll Show'

Are you looking for that special gift? One that brings back fond memories of Christmas past, or perhaps to create a memory that will last a lifetime.

The Plymouth "Holiday Doll Show" Sunday, Dec. 12, will feature dealers, collectors and doll artists, selling new, used, antique, collectible dolls and doll accessories of all kinds.

The show will be held at Dec. 12, at the Plymouth Cultur-

al Center, 525 Farmer St. Show hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for children ages 4-12. There will be one of a kind porcelain dolls, an opportunity to create a family treasure, doll accessories, doll making supplies and information on doll making classes.

For more information, call R.R. Promotions Inc. at (734) 455-2110.

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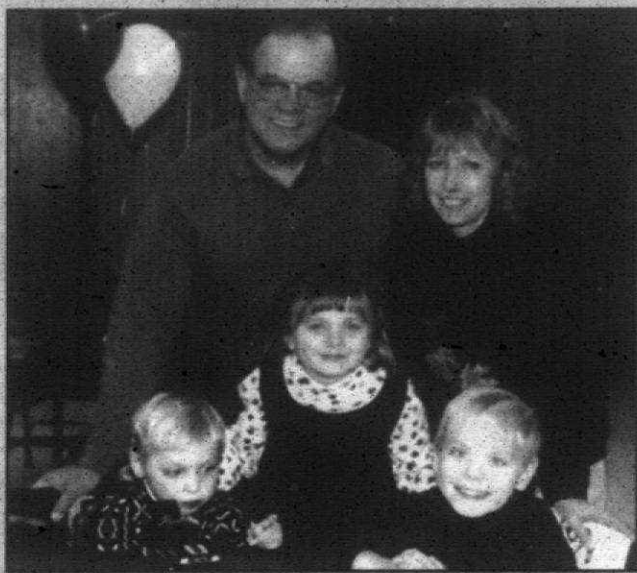
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It's party time



PHOTOS BY RONALD FOSKEY

For adoptees: Andy and Patty Miller-Zelinka (top photo) and their children Dylan, 4, Rachel, 6, and Andrew, 9, joined Jackie Blackwood and daughter Tashia in celebrating at a Christmas party hosted by John and Linda Hinkle of Adoptees Help Adopt International in Westland.



Parents and their children may experience an interactive programs of seasonal story telling, music and movement during Story Times with Miss Karen in December.

Favorite children books, simple instruments and imaginative songs and chants highlight the story times. Registrations are suggested for the Story Times.

Karen Schanerberger, a licensed Kindermusik educator at Evola Music in Canton, will appear at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, at Baby! Baby! Children's Resale Shop, 153 E. Main St.,

Northville. Call Baby! Baby! at (248) 347-2229 for registration information.

She also will appear at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, at the Little Book Shoppe on the Park, 380 S. Main St., Plymouth. Story Times are planned for the first or second Saturday of each month at the store. Call (734) 455-5220 to register.

Schanerberger also be at the Plymouth Coffee Bean, 884 Penman, Plymouth, at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 4. Story Times are planned for the first Tuesday of each month at Plymouth Coffee

Bean Call (734) 454-0178 to register.

Schanerberger has more than 20 years teaching and conducting experience with students of all ages. Evola offers Kindermusik Village for newborns to age 1, Kindermusik Our Time for children age 1-3 years and Growing With Kindermusik for children age 3-5 as well as group piano and violin classes.

Registration is open for the winter/ spring group classes at Evola Music, 7170 N. Haggerty. To register for classes or for a free brochure, call (734) 455-

4677, or visit the Evola Web site at www.ismi.net/kindermusikatevola.

Kindermusik programs provide early childhood learning opportunities through innovative music and movement curricula. Each child is encouraged to learn at his or her own pace.

Kindermusik also offers a broad assortment of activities to promote language development, social interaction, cognitive development and coordination and to awaken a child's imagination.

Voices from page B5

announces the birth of **Alexa Nicole** Aug. 28 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She has two siblings, Ryu, 6, and Brandon, 4. Grandmother is Judy Haworth of Westland.

Todd and Brenda Buehler of Redford announce the birth of **Justin Dennis** Aug. 28 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He has a brother, Jesse, 4 1/2. Grandparents are James and Dell Hallam of Dearborn Heights and Mark and Louise Grossman of Melbourne, Fla.

Anastase Canelopoulos and **Denise Elkins** of Canton announce the birth of **Emily Sophia** Aug. 29 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital.

She has a brother, Scott, 5. Grandparents are John and Emily Canelopoulos of Westland and Janet and Jimmy Elkins of Garden City.

Angelique Leksche and **Scott Eatmon** of Plymouth announce the birth of **Jamey Marie** Sept. 10 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins siblings Shelby, Josh and Brandon. Sue Leksche of Plymouth is her grandmother.

Kenneth and Carrie Gartner of Redford announce the birth of **Andrea Grace** Sept. 12 at Providence Hospital in Southfield. She has a brother, Nathan Tyler, 9, and sister, Haley Rose, 3. Grandparents are Lois and Dan Gartner of Livonia, Joanne

McClanahan of Dearborn Heights and the late Joseph McClanahan. Great-grandmother is Ella Beck of Dearborn.

Doug and Dianna Worsley of Canton announce the birth of **Makenna Rae** Sept. 14 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins sister Alexis Taylor, 3. Grandparents are Carol Worsley of Garden City, Dennis and Judy Worsley of Westland, Lou and Cindy Moore of Garden City and Sheryl and Clem Ciluffo of Brighton.

Daniel and Carrie Snyder of Redford announce the birth of **William McNeill** Sept. 15 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Gil and Becky Snyder of Hiawassee,

Ga., and Ron and Linda Nesmith and Phil Culler, all of Garden City.

Timothy and Rebecca Jager of Westland announce the birth of **Hayley Anne** Sept. 16 at Providence Hospital of Southfield. Grandparents include Deborah Rais of Livonia and Richard and Linda Jager of Tawas. Great-grandmother is Sylvia Camilleri of Livonia.

Keith and Christine Yancy of Livonia announce the birth of **Adrienne Margaret** Sept. 17 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins sister, Meredith, 4. Grandparents are Foster and Helen Yancy of Dearborn and José and Doris Mauricio of Inverness, Fla.

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Observer Sports

The Observer

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P/C Page 1, Section C

Thursday, December 9, 1999

C.J. Risak, Editor 734-953-2108, cjrisk@oe.homecomm.net

on the web: <http://observer-eccentric.com>

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Gymnasts place high

A pair of gymnasts from Splitz Gymnastics Academy in Canton both proved superior at last Saturday's USAG Level 5 State Meet in Bay City.

Alyssa Kelly of Plymouth won the vault in the 10-year-old division with a score of 9.275. Kelly also placed second in the all-around with a 36.175; she was second on the balance beam (9.20), fourth in floor exercise (8.975) and seventh on the uneven parallel bars (8.725).

Christa Smutek of Livonia was unbeatable in the eight-year-old division. Smutek won all four individual events, making her the all-around champion as well with a score of 36.375. Smutek won the beam (9.1), the vault (8.975), the bars (8.95) and the floor (9.35).

AAU hoop tryouts

The Western Wayne Wildcats have a series of tryouts coming up for their various basketball teams when the new year arrives.

Jan. 3: 11-and-under ('88), 6-7:30 p.m. at Tonda Elementary; 12-and-under ('87), 7:30-9 p.m. at Tonda Elementary; 13-and-under ('86), 8-9:30 p.m. at Pioneer Middle School.

Jan. 4: 14-and-under ('85) and 15-and-under ('86), 6-7:30 p.m. at Pioneer Middle School; 16-and-under ('83), 17-and-under ('82) and 18-and-under ('81), 7:30-9 p.m. at Pioneer Middle School.

Jan. 5: 11-and-under ('88), 12-and-under ('87), 8-9:30 p.m. at Pioneer Middle School; 13-and-under ('86), 7-9 p.m. at West Middle School.

Jan. 7: 16-and-under ('83), 17-and-under ('82), 18-and-under ('81), 6-7:30 p.m. at Pioneer Middle School; 14-and-under ('85), 15-and-under ('84), 7:30-9 p.m. at Pioneer Middle School.

For further information, call Bob Blohm at (734) 414-8156 or Fred Thomann at (734) 484-7746.

Winter hockey leagues

A new over-50 hockey league, to be called "The Silver Sticks Hockey League," is now forming. Games will be played Tuesday mornings at the Arctic Pond Ice Arena in Plymouth.

There will be free coffee and donuts after all the games. The season starts Jan. 18 and will last 10 games plus the playoffs.

Cost is \$165 per player. To register, call John Wilson at (248) 471-0658, or e-mail him at john@rspi.net

Hoop tryouts

The Livonia Starzz will have tryouts for their 15-year-old girls team from 1:30-3 p.m. Dec. 18 at St. Edith's gym, located across from Ladywood HS in Livonia. There will be a \$10 fee.

For further information, call Nathan Jerome at (734) 484-4439.

Soccer sign-up

The Canton Soccer Club will have open registration for its spring season from 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16 in the lower level meeting room at the Canton Township Hall.

The league is open to boys and girls, five to 19 years-old. Costs range from \$45 to \$100, depending on age and division, and is due at time of registration.

Registration forms are available at the Summit at Heritage Park. For more information, call the Canton Soccer Club at (734) 455-9946.

RU hockey clinic

Redford Unified's hockey coach Pete Mazzoni is conducting a Christmas Clinic for youths Monday, Dec. 28 and Tuesday, Dec. 29 at Redford Ice Arena. Time each day is 3 p.m.

Cost is \$12 per session and includes ice time and T-shirt for each participant.

If interested call Mazzoni at (248) 960-0273 or (313) 592-3408.

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.

Salem grad helps Notre Dame reach final

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

It was a thrill that would be difficult to match: Reaching the NCAA Finals and playing for a national championship.

Mia Sarkesian did it. The former all-state soccer star from Plymouth Salem was an integral part of Notre Dame's surge to Sunday's title match opposite long-time collegiate soccer kingpin North Carolina.

Never mind that the Irish lost, 2-0. Not many teams have beaten the Tar Heels over the years.

"It was very exciting," Sarkesian said from South Bend, Ind., on Tuesday after returning from Santa Clara, Calif. early Monday morning. "I just wish we could have pulled it off."

Just getting that far was quite an accomplishment

SOCCER PROFILE

for Notre Dame, ranked third in the nation going into the tournament. Santa Clara was the nation's top-ranked team; North Carolina was second.

The Irish, who finished 22-4, had to play both on the same weekend.

For Sarkesian, who 18 months ago was trying to help Salem get past teams like Livonia Stevenson and Plymouth Canton, it was a dream realized.

"We were playing in front of crowds of 14,000," she



Mia Sarkesian
starter for Irish

said. "It was just awesome."

While getting there was something special, earning a starting spot made it even more memorable. Sarkesian did it by utilizing her superb skills, and then putting them to use when most needed.

"Technically, she's very strong," said Notre Dame coach Randy Waldrum. "She has the ability to find the seams in a defense, and then to find her teammates with her passes."

"And although she didn't score a lot of goals for us, the ones she did score were huge. Mia picked the right times to get her goals."

Foremost on that list was the Stanford game. Sarkesian, whose role was as a defensive center midfielder, scored three goals and assisted on three others for the Irish this season.

Please see **SARKESIAN, C5**

A slow start Canton, Salem fall in season-openers

As season-openers go, this was rather ordinary — at least when considering the teams involved.

Wayne Memorial came out on top this time around, edging Plymouth Canton 58-55 Tuesday at Wayne.

"It was a white-knuckler, like we usually have with them," Coach Chuck Henry of the Zebras said. "It was a well-played first game by both teams."

Canton coach Dan Young didn't especially share that view.

"We had our chances," he said, "especially down the stretch. We had opportunities to take the lead and get stops."

"Our kids played extremely hard but we just couldn't get it done down the stretch. We had a lot of chances."

The Chiefs held a two-point lead entering the fourth quarter but the Zebras pressed out to a three-to-five point advantage and maintained it to the end.

Wayne got off to a 17-9 start in the first quarter. Canton came on to whittle that down to a point at halftime. An 18-13 fourth quarter settled the issue.

"We're both similar in style," Henry said. "We play tough man-to-man defense."

"We're not a real big team. We pretty much pressured the whole game. We just do what we do, hopefully pretty well."

Taron Smith led both teams with 19 points for Wayne, guard Gary Johnson scored 13 and guard Shane Nowak 12.

Center Jason Waidmann's 18 points led Canton while Kenny Nether, a transfer from Southfield, contributed 12.

The Zebras hurt themselves in the fourth quarter by missing seven of nine free throws and made only 12-of-21 in the game while the Chiefs sank 21 of the 29 they attempted.

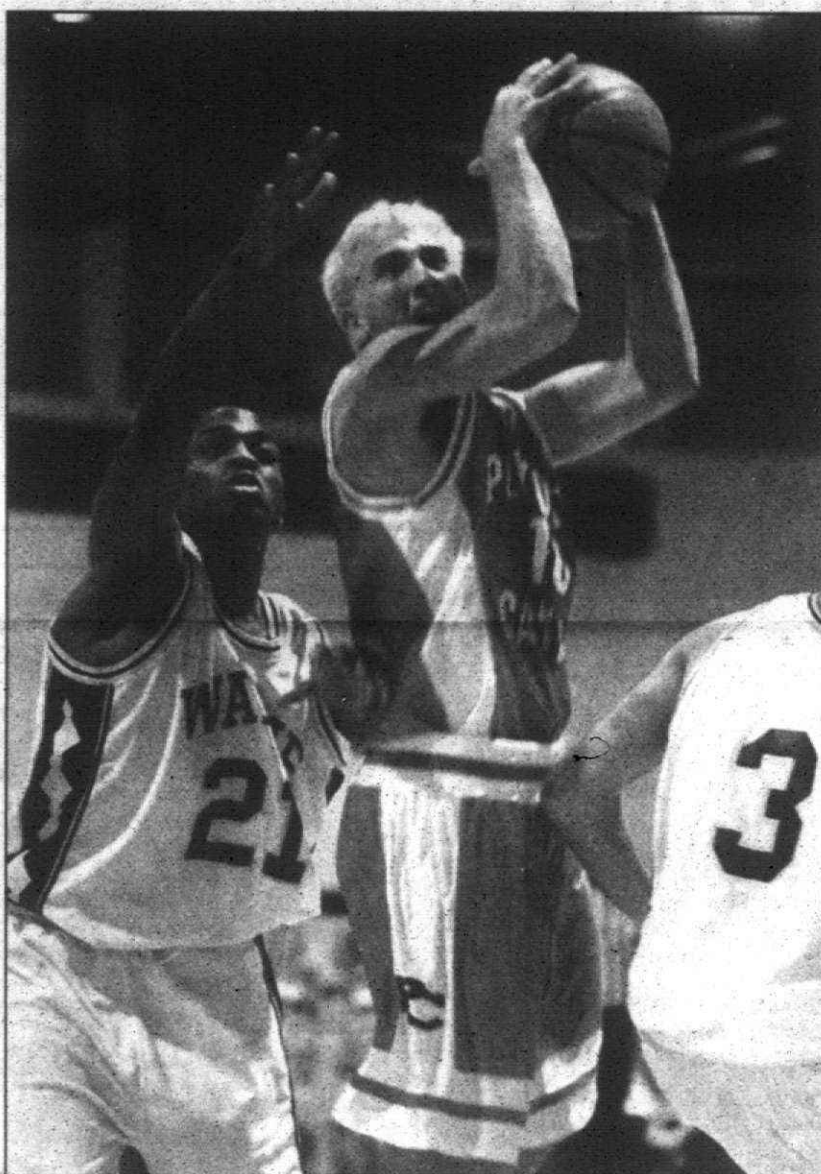
Canton cut Wayne's lead to a pair inside a minute but the Zebras padded it back by making free throws.

"They made a free throw with 12 seconds left," Young said, "and we got a good look but it didn't go down and we had to foul."

"It just didn't go our way at end."

Monroe 64, Salem 59: A fourth-quarter rally fell short for Plymouth Salem in its season-opener Tuesday at Monroe.

The Rocks trailed 37-26 at the half and were still behind by a dozen in the



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMANN

Threading it: Canton's Mike Major (with ball) slices between Wayne defenders Jermaine Garner (at left) and Earl Brinston on his way to the basket in Tuesday's season-opener.

third quarter. They battled back, however, trimming the Trojans' lead to five (50-45) heading into the final quarter.

With 1:30 left in the game, Salem had knotted the score with Monroe at the free throw line. The shot was missed, but the Trojans rebounded.

Salem fouled again, the free throws were converted, and it was never tied again.

"We made a nice comeback," said Salem coach Bob Brodie. "We had to

Please see **BASKETBALL, C5**

VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

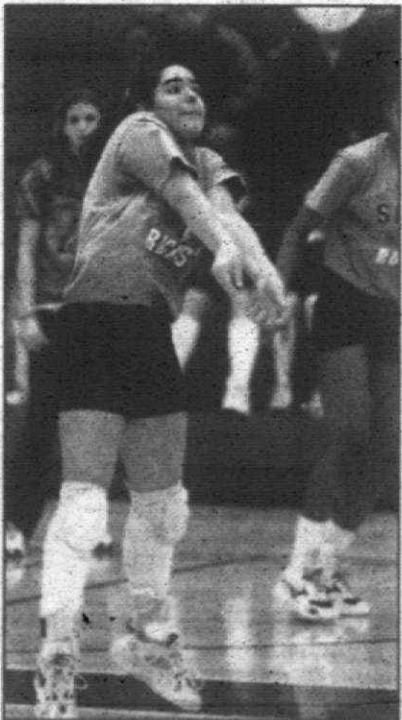


PHOTO BY LIZ CARNEGIE

Key part: Amanda Suder could be a major Salem contributor.

Rocks agenda begins with a rebuilding job

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

Last February, Plymouth Salem did something previous Rock volleyball teams had never managed to do — advance to the state quarterfinals.

Winning district and regional titles was a major accomplishment. But that was last year, Tom Teeters first as Salem's coach.

The challenge will be different this year. Because the cast from that team, which posted a 48-11-1 record, has for the most part graduated.

Some big-name players are gone: Angie Sillmon, the 5-foot-10 hitter with superior athletic skills, accepted a volleyball scholarship to Western Michigan; Amanda Pruett, a 6-1 hitter, is playing basketball for Miami Universi-

Please see **SALEM VOLLEYBALL, C4**



PHOTO BY LIZ CARNEGIE

Set up: Angie Germain will be counted on as Canton's setter.

Newcomers should elevate Chiefs' fortune

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

Perhaps a corner has been turned.

Or at least it's been reached. Plymouth Canton's volleyball team has struggled to remain at the break-even point for several seasons; by the time the state tournament begins, odds are long that the Chiefs will survive the districts.

Cynthia Montgomery, starting her third season as Canton's varsity coach, believes this could be a break-through season. And she feels that way even though she's lost several key members from last year's team.

"I am very, very excited about this year," she said as the Chiefs prepared for their season opener Dec. 15 at Ann Arbor Huron. "This is the best team

Please see **CANTON VOLLEYBALL, C4**

1st in a while: Canton claims tourney title

Has the millenium arrived already?

A calendar would tell you it's still more than three weeks away, but apparently Plymouth Canton's wrestling team has decided not to wait for the century to change before altering their fortunes.

The Chiefs have struggled through more than a decade of mediocrity, but this season they are without doubt off to their best start in that span. After opening their campaign with dual-meet wins over Plymouth Salem — their first win over the Rocks in 12 years — and Farmington last Thursday, the Chiefs traveled to the Falcon Invitational Saturday, hosted by Sterling Heights Henry Ford II, and finished first.

WRESTLING

The last time something like this happened, as best as Canton coach John Demick can tell, was 15 years ago. "It's a bit miraculous really, happening a bit before our time," he said.

"Things are starting to fall into place for us. The wrestlers know of nothing that needs to stop them from giving their most and setting limits aside."

"We are really having fun." At Saturday's Invitational, Canton outscored host team Henry Ford 192-172 to win the



Something to be proud of: The Chiefs were ebullient after winning the Falcon Invitational last Saturday.

title. A distant third was Sterling Heights Stevenson with 136, followed by Anchor Bay with 132, Harper Woods with 96.5, Marine City with 90.5, Utica Eisenhower with 77 and Warren Mott with 40.

Seven Chiefs reached the finals, with three winning titles, and Canton boasted 11 of 14 wrestlers in the final four.

Weight division championships went to Kyle Pitt at 103 pounds, Greg Musser at 130 and John Pocock at 140. Doy Demick (119), Scott McKee (152), Phil Rothwell (215) and Derek McWatt (heavyweight) each finished second.

"We'll see tougher competition next week, facing Williamston, a

team rated sixth," said Demick. "However, you can't beat a first-place win. It's a big step up from our fourth-place finish (at last year's Falcon Invite) we were proud of last year."

Canton travels to the Novi Round Robin Tournament, which starts at 9 a.m. Saturday.

Also last Saturday, Canton's first-year wrestlers competed at the Ann Arbor Pioneer Novice Invitational, with four of them placing in the top five. Brad Kreger (112 pounds) earned a second; Rod Schnettler (103) and Ozzie Wagner (215) each got fourth; and Eric Rose (140) fought back after losing his opening match to win four in a row and finish fifth.

PREP WRESTLING RANKINGS

OBSERVERLAND PRESEASON 1999-2000 WRESTLING RANKINGS
Team: 1. Redford Catholic Central; 2. Plymouth Canton; 3. Plymouth Salem; 4. Farmington; 5. Livonia Stevenson.

INDIVIDUAL WEIGHT CLASSES
103 pounds: 1. Josh Gunterman (Stevenson); 2. Kyle Pitts (Canton); 3. Scott Massey (Garden City).
112: 1. John Mervyn (Salem); 2.

Brian Clement (Livonia Churchill); 3. Carlos Gammons (Redford Union).
119: 1. Ron Thompson (Salem); 2. Jesse Purden (Westland John); 3. (tie) Pat Say (Garden City), Jon Simmons (Farmington) and Chris O'Hara (Redford CC).

125: 1. Rob Ash (Salem); 2. Vinnie Zoccoli (Garden City); 3. (tie) Jon Gregg (Wayne) and Dave Teets (John Glenn).

130: 1. Greg Musser (Canton); Jeff Albrecht (John Glenn); 3. Brian Marsh (Wayne).
136: 1. Josh Henderson (Salem); 2. Jon Pocock (Canton); 3. (tie) Allen Waddell (John Glenn) and Brandon Templeton (Garden City).

140: 1. Josh Fee (Garden City); 2. Jay Wheeler (Redford CC); 3. Steve Dendinos (Salem).
145: 1. Jeff Usher (Redford Thurston); 2. Jay Abshire (Redford CC); 3. (tie) Steve Abar (Churchill) and Dan LeClerc (Clarenceville).

152: 1. Mike Carter (Churchill); 2. Mark Ostach (Farmington); 3. Mike Falzon (Stevenson).
160: 1. Mitch Hancock (Redford CC); 2. Imad Kharbush (Stevenson); 3. (tie) Eric Kelley (Redford Union) and Mike Murtland (Farmington).

171: 1. Eric Toska (Livonia Franklin); 2. John MacFarland (Stevenson); 3. (tie) Jason Hilliker (Redford CC) and Craig Medos (Garden City).
189: 1. Eric Puninski (Stevenson); 2. Ben Lukas (Farmington); 3. (tie) Steve Rotenheiser (Clarenceville) and Tom Allen (Churchill).

215: 1. Kalen McPherson (Clarenceville); 2. Kyle Domagalski (Farmington); 3. Nick Smith (Wayne).
275: 1. Brian Brindson (Farmington); 2. Josh Rose (Clarenceville); 3. (tie) Brad Tinney (Clarenceville) and Ollie Muscarella (Redford Union).

Note: The weekly Observerland wrestling rankings are compiled by a panel of four coaches including Bob Moreau (Stevenson), Marty Altounian (Churchill), Jim Carlin (Redford Union) and Dave Chiola (Garden City).

Chiefs split in WLAA

Livonia Churchill bounced back nicely from its first loss of the young hockey season.

Churchill exploded for four third-period goals Tuesday night, with Tom Sherman completing a hat trick, to defeat Western Lakes Activities Association rival Plymouth Canton, 6-1.

Last Saturday at the Plymouth Ice Arena, Canton scored twice in the third period to defeat Northville 3-1.

The Chargers (3-1 overall) improved to 3-0 in the WLAA while the Chiefs (3-3 overall) dropped to 1-2 in league play.

Jeff Andes scored an unassisted goal at 8:48 of the opening period to give Churchill a 1-0 lead but Canton tied the score at 9:16 on a Matt Ringer goal from David Kominsky and Eric Mayer.

"The Canton team really played well in the first period," coach Jeff Hatley of Churchill said. "They did a nice job in their zone."

The deadlock lasted all of two minutes, though, as Sherman started his natural hat trick with a goal, assisted by Jason

HOCKEY

Turri, at 12:09. Sherman notched his second goal at 8:04 of the third period, assisted by Andes and Sean Smith, then completed his scoring for the evening by knocking in a rebound at 10:10. Turri and Nate Jakubowski drew the assists on Sherman's third goal.

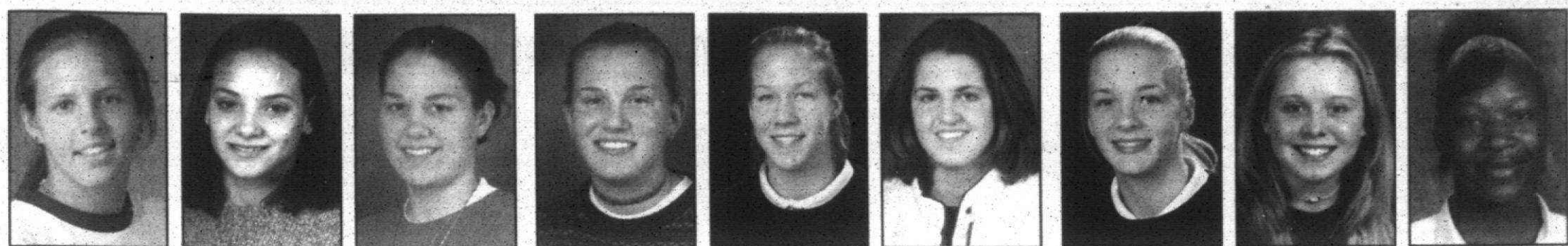
Ryan McDonnell, assisted by Nate and Aaron Jakubowski, made it 5-1 just 20 seconds later and at 14:18. Andes completed the scoring by redirecting an Adam Krug shot.

"Coach Dan Abraham is doing a really good job with their team," Hatley said. "He has them playing good positional hockey."

Last Saturday, the Chiefs got a first period goal from Nick Norville (assisted by Kominsky) but Northville tied it on a marker from Adam Dilley.

The game-winner was scored in the third period by Brad Wolfe.

Arsnov made 32 saves in goal for the Chiefs.



Tiffany Grubaugh
Plymouth Salem

Janine Guastella
Plymouth Canton

Kelly Grenan
Redford Thurston

Samantha McComb
North Farmington

Michelle Harakas
Livonia Ladywood

Tera Morrill
Livonia Franklin

Melissa Harakas
Livonia Ladywood

Kelly Taylor
Farmington Harrison

Joel Cytburn
Bishop Borgess

Top of the class

Grubaugh, Guastella among Observer's best

Tim Szakal and Patricia Rich were named co-coaches of the Redford St. Agatha girls basketball program this season.

Rich had one year of previous coaching experience to Szakal's seven.

But ask Szakal who learned the most and he'll say he did. Szakal only coached boys basketball previously. He spent the last four seasons as the high school boys varsity assistant coach after coaching the St. Agatha fifth and sixth grade boys for three years.

Rich's experience included one season as an assistant varsity girls basketball coach at the high school and a season as the seventh and eighth grade girls coach.

When girls varsity coach/athletic director Dave Feldman left before the school year for similar positions at Centerline St. Clement, Szakal and Rich decided to combine titles.

Their first year with the girls varsity was a smashing success as the Aggies rolled to a 22-2 record, winning the Catholic League C-D Division and Class D district championships. The Aggies won a regional semifinal before losing in the regional final to Portland St. Patrick's, the eventual state champion.

They have been named Overland Co-Coaches of the Year.

"I was a little apprehensive (about taking the job)," Szakal

1999 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM FIRST TEAM
Samantha McComb, 5-8 Sr. G, N. Farm.
Tiffany Grubaugh, 5-9 Sr. F, Ply. Canton
Janine Guastella, 5-8 Jr. F, Ply. Canton
Kelly Grenan, 5-8 Sr. G, Red. Thurston
Michelle Harakas, 5-0 Jr. F, Ladywood

SECOND TEAM
Tera Morrill, 5-10 Sr. F, Liv. Franklin
Melissa Harakas, 5-8 Jr. G, Ladywood
Carrie Brankiewicz, 5-7 Jr. F, F.H. Mercy
Kelly Taylor, 5-7 Jr. G, F.H. Harrison
Joel Cytburn, 6-1 So. C, Bishop Borgess

THIRD TEAM
Kelly Jaskot, 5-6 So. G, Ply. Salem
Stephanie Crews, 5-8 So. G, John Glenn
Anna Morrill, 5-8 Jr. F, Ply. Canton
Bree Pestalancio, 5-10 Sr. F, Salem
Suzie Robie, 5-7 Sr. G, F.H. Mercy

FOURTH TEAM
Sonia Lousia, 5-2 Sr. G, St. Agatha
Becky Zak, 5-11 Jr. C, F.H. Harrison
Amanda Lantz, 5-7 Jr. G, Ply. Canton
Dawn Allen, 5-8 Jr. F, Ply. Salem
Erica Cotton, 5-8 So. G, Red. Thurston

CO-CHIEFS OF THE YEAR
Tim Szakal, St. Agatha
Patricia Rich, St. Agatha

HONORABLE MENTION
Ladywood: Liz Obrecht, Kristen Barnes; Churchill: Stacy Seifick, Deanna Defoor; Franklin: Liz Cochran, Kerstin Marshall; Stevenson: Lindsay Gussick, Katie King; Chertok: Amy Henry, Margie Henry; Plymouth Christian Academy: Laura Clark, Crystal Marti; Lutheran Westland: Anna Roff, Kelly Pruchnik; Clarenceville: Jessica Kennedy, Rachael Koehn; Wayne Memorial: Sheila Honeycutt; Westland John D'Amico: Samantha Crews, LaToya Chandler, Lucy Catalano; Westland North Valley Lutheran: Stacie Graves, Rachel Zahm; Hamilton: Carolyn Knutson, Emily Jackson, Gayle Ternes; Avana Richmond; Maggie Condon; North Farmington: Staci Russell, Christina Colombo, Jehan Hinds; Farmington: Julie Kimmel, Danielle Lewis; Mercy: Liz Cash; Redford Thurston: Julie Stoll, Amy Webster; Bishop Borgess: Stacy Cobbs, Amber Taylor; Garden City: Taryn McCleod, Jill Merriman; Redford Union: Debbie Hitt, Karen Hillson.

CO-CHIEFS OF THE YEAR
Tim Szakal, St. Agatha
Patricia Rich, St. Agatha

said. "But I couldn't think of a bigger mistake if I had turned it down. I learned a lot from the girls. We met our goals and exceeded them."

Szakal and Rich said the leadership of seniors Sonia Lousia, Kerry Shivers and Krystal Dennis, a transfer from Redford Bishop Borgess, eased the transition.

Rich and Szakal are 1993 graduates of St. Agatha, friends since grade school. Each excelled in sports at St. Agatha, not on the same teams, of course, and enjoy seeing the game from the coach's seat.

Rich also was a star thrower on the Central Michigan University track team. She earned a teacher's degree and is in her second year teaching seventh grade at St. Agatha.

"The big difference as coach is suddenly you're in the role of making decisions, the role of guidance," Rich said. "All the kids were excellent, especially the seniors."

Szakal, an excellent student of the game, is someone Rich turns to for help in X's and O's. Szakal has always looked up to John Penbert, the varsity boys coach at St. Agatha, and Jim Murphy, his former boys varsity coach.

FIRST TEAM
Tiffany Grubaugh, 5-9 Sr. Forward, Plymouth Salem: Sure, Grubaugh could have scored more — she did as a junior — but she was needed to do so much more for the Rocks. Her success was evident in their record: 22-2 and unbeaten in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"She is such a great passer," said her coach, Fred Thomann. "The double-teams she saw made for easy baskets for others."

Was that her best ability? Not according to Thomann.

"She loved to be in pressure situations," he said. "I think her teammates looked to her to hit the key shot."

"She's very versatile. There's so many different ways she can beat you."

Grubaugh averaged 16.7 points, 5.5 rebounds and 3.5 assists a game. She was first team All-WLAA, and has signed with Wayne State.

Grubaugh's ball-handling and passing could make her a point guard in college. Her scoring ability — she can hit the three, can jump to the basket and has a strong pull-up jumper — could make her a good off-guard.

"She'll be a cornerstone player in (WSU's) program," said Thomann.

Janine Guastella, 5-8 Jr. Forward, Plymouth Canton: A first-team choice on the all-Western Lakes Activities Association squad, Guastella was a major reason the Chiefs finished third overall in the conference and reached the WLAA Tournament final.

"She was our most athletic player," said Canton coach Bob Blohm. "She's great in the open court, she has a good first step and she's good off the dribble."

Carrie Brankiewicz
Farmington Mercy

Patricia Rich
Co-coach of the year

Tim Szakal
Co-coach of the year

Guastella averaged 14.5 points, six rebounds and 4.5 steals a game for the Chiefs, who finished at 14-7. Blohm expects her to be even better in her senior year.

"She's going to get better in the half-court game and she'll improve her jump shot," he predicted. "She's a determined kid."

Samantha McComb, 5-8 Jr. Guard, N. Farmington: McComb became the all-time leading scorer at North Farmington this year, surpassing the 1,000-point plateau and finishing the season with 1,299. And she still has another year to go!

McComb averaged 25.9 points per game this year, making 165 of 199 free throws (83 percent), 47 of 144 three-point attempts (33 percent) and 132 of 199 field goals (66 percent).

"And she's starting to go to her left a bit more, too."

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CORRECTION NOTICE

In our December 9 insert, we advertised Vigilante 2nd Offense for Dreamcast as available. Due to a manufacturing delay, this title will not be available. However, we will be offering rainchecks on this title.

We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.

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The Senior Alliance (TSA) seeks proposals for the facilitation of a unique fund raising event to be held in the Fall of 2000.

TSA, established in 1980, provides in-home & community service to the older population in Western & Southern Wayne County & is governed by a 35 member Board and has a staff of 46.

Proposals are due by January 6, 2000. Bidders will be requested to make a half-hour oral presentation on January 12 at TSA. For more information call Mike Sinowski at (734) 722-2830.

Published December 9, 1999

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P5/70R-32 \$40

FISK CLASSIC
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All-Observer from page C3

258 shots inside the arc (51 percent). She did it all for the Raiders (13-9), who were district tournament runners-up for the third year in a row. She also averaged 10.5 rebounds, 3.6 assists, 4.2 steals and 2.2 blocks.

McComb, who never fouled out of a game, was the second-leading scorer in Oakland County. She's an all-area short-stop in softball and a good student with a 3.9 GPA.

"She has incredible court wisdom, offensively and defensively," coach Linda Perkins said. "She's a great leader and great teammate. She has the ability to do everything. She helps everybody else to be better."

"She's just a natural leader on the floor, because she sees the floor so well. Her intelligence shows up on the floor, because she's making the quick decisions you need to make in a fast-paced game like basketball."

Kelly Grenan, 5-6 Sr. Guard, Redford Thurston: Grenan was a threat to score any time she passed half-court, pouring in more than 40 three-point baskets while averaging 22 points per game.

She scored in double figures in every game as a senior for the Eagles, including 16 against eventual Class A quarter-finalist Belleville in the Mega Conference championship game. She scored 12 of the Eagles' 20 points against eventual Class B state champion Detroit Country Day in a 52-20 district championship loss.

She had a career-high 34 points, including six three-point baskets, against Taylor Truman. Grenan, who played her freshman year at Livonia Ladywood, also averaged five rebounds, two steals and two assists per game.

"In all my years of coaching, she is probably the purest outside shooter that I've ever had," Thurston coach Mike Schutte said. "She's worked extremely hard on perfecting her game."

Michelle Harakas, 6-0 Jr. Forward, Liv. Ladywood: Michelle paced the Blazers in scoring, averaging 12 points per game. She also averaged seven rebounds, two steals and two assists per game.

Harakas, an All-Catholic League pick, shot 70 percent from the free throw line and 37 percent from the floor.

Four times Harakas averaged double figures in scoring and rebounds. She notched a career-high 30 points in a first-round Catholic League playoff win over Riverview Gabriel Richard.

"Michelle was our main go-to player inside," Ladywood coach Andrea Gorski said. "This year she stepped up and developed a nice outside jump shot. She also handles the ball for us."

"She was double-teamed a lot. She's a smart player and a good passer. She can bring the ball up or play the post. She can guard the 6-2 girl or the 5-2 point guard."

SECOND TEAM

Tera Morrill, 5-10 Sr. Forward, Liv. Franklin: The four-year varsity player scored 1,029 career points, including 353 this season for a 16.8 per game average.

Morrill, a second-team All-Observer pick last year and All-WLAA Western Division selection, had a season-high 29 points against North Farmington.

This season she made 74 percent of her foul shots and made 51 percent from the field.

She was also the Patriots' top rebounder, averaging 11.7 per game.

"Tera was a very dependable player with natural basketball instincts for somebody who has only played since the eighth grade," Franklin coach Gary Warner said. "This year she took over a leadership role and became more aggressive on the boards over last year."

"She was our go-to player when we need points, but she would also distribute the ball."

Melissa Harakas, 5-6 Jr. Guard, Liv. Ladywood: Probably the Blazers' most versatile player, Harakas averaged 11 points, three rebounds, five steals and four assists per game.

The All-Catholic League pick shot 69 percent from the free throw line and 39 percent from the floor.

"Melissa played three different positions for us before we put her at the point-guard spot at the end of the season," Gorski said. "She was by far our best defender. She was all over the court. She had all kinds of deflections and steals."

"Towards the end of the season she shot the ball really well and was a very aggressive player. She was our do-everything kind of player."

Carrie Brankiewicz, 5-7 Sr. Forward, Farmington Hills Mercy: Brankiewicz made the All-Catholic first team after averaging 13.6 points and 9.5 rebounds. She was a tenacious and relentless player for the Marins.

"She's the type of player every coach would like to have 15 of," coach Kristin Wright said. "She gives 15 percent every single practice and game."

"The great thing about Carrie is she can play every position on the floor. She can bring the ball up or play the post. She can guard the 6-2 girl or the 5-2 point guard."

Brankiewicz, who is also an all-area volleyball player, has a 4.0 GPA and is the No. 1 student in her class.

Kelly Taylor, 5-7 Jr. Guard, Farm. Harrison: Taylor earned All-WLAA honors while averaging 12 points, five rebounds, 3.2 steals and 1.6 assists. She led the Hawks (14-8) in scoring for the second year in a row and was second in rebounding.

Taylor shot 33 percent (74-of-227) from the floor overall, 31 percent (29-of-94) from three-point range and 49 percent (51-of-105) at the foul line.

In her varsity career, Taylor has averaged 10 points, nearly four rebounds and 2.3 steals.

"Kelly is one of the toughest players I've ever coached at Harrison," coach Pete Mantyla said. "She rebounds, defends, competes hard and is very versatile offensively."

Joel Clyburn, 6-foot So. Forward, Redford Bishop Borgess: The athletic forward scored 12.3 points and grabbed 7.8 rebounds per game in her second year as a starter.

It was her shot blocking, however, that had even the tallest of her opponents leery of her presence.

Clyburn averaged 4.7 blocks per game while shooting 48 percent from the field and 72 percent from the free throw line.

"She's probably the best shot blocker we've had," Borgess coach Dave Mann said. "She really developed as a scorer this year, as our top go-to kid. She's going to be one of the great ones in our program, right up there with (former all-stars) Alysha Smith, Maxann Reese and Adriane Bryant when she's done."

Canton volleyball from page C1

I've ever coached here."

How good are they? Montgomery noted that most played on a junior varsity team that was among the top four teams in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"I'm going to have an almost new first team this year," she noted. "I had to cut two seniors."

Three key losses to graduation from the 1998-99 team that finished 5-6 in WLAA matches were Liz Elsner, Jennifer Sciberas and Carrie Kovachevich.

Three senior starters from last season return: outside hitters Anna Keil and Lisa Baker, and setter Angie Germain. Two other seniors, setter Kim Theeke and outside hitter Krysta Tinsley, are also back.

Those five should provide invaluable experience — particularly Germain, who started at setter last season. "I'm very glad to have her back for one more year," said Montgomery, noting it was Germain's third year on varsity.

And Tinsley has been impressive in pre-season workouts.

Those five should provide invaluable experience — particularly Germain, who started at setter last season. "I'm very glad to have her back for one more year," said Montgomery, noting it was Germain's third year on varsity.

Salem volleyball from page C1

ty in Ohio; Laine Sterling was an all-conference setter for Henry Ford Community College; Aleshka Marquez was a solid defensive player; and Erica Stein was a valuable all-around player.

All started last season. All must be replaced.

"They were well-skilled, great athletes," said Teeters, who has coached teams from Livonia Craneview and Livonia Ladywood to state championships and Schoolcraft College to an NJCAA championship. "(The replacements) have their work cut out for them."

There's no other way to describe it: Salem must rebuild. Reaching the status attained by

"She's my most improved player," the Chiefs' coach said. "She'll get plenty of playing time."

While supplying a much-needed foundation, the seniors are not the true reason for Montgomery's optimism. It's the newcomers.

"We still don't have much height," she noted, "but these girls are much leaner, they're in shape, and they're very athletic."

"I'm not saying they have more heart (than last season's team), but they are much better athletically."

Four juniors and a sophomore comprise the main body of new varsity players who figure to contribute significantly. Meghan Meier, Ashley Williams, Christina Kiesel and Mary Kryskas are the juniors; Courtney Jarman is the sophomore.

Meier, Williams, Kiesel and Kryskas are listed as outside hitters, but Montgomery said her lineup is anything but set. It may take most of the pre-holiday segment of the schedule to sort roles out.

Jarman is another story. At 5-

foot-10, she's "probably my tallest girl," Montgomery said. A back problem has plagued her throughout workouts thus far, but once she's ready, she'll play at middle hitter.

So where is their strength? "Hitting, definitely," Montgomery replied. "We've had strong, tight hits (in practice). I don't want to sound overly confident, but yeah, we're better (than last year)."

Here's a problem, however. Canton may be improved, but the rest of the WLAA is hardly struggling. Livonia Churchill, Livonia Stevenson, Livonia Franklin and Plymouth Salem are all coming off superb seasons.

Some of these are "teams we've beaten before," Montgomery said. "We want to be back up at that level again."

She just might have the team to do it. But Montgomery is quick to caution: "Actions speak louder than words."

Getting to that level will be difficult; saying there will be even harder.

Basketball from page C1

make up a big deficit. We had some breakdowns defensively, a few offensively, but for the most part the kids played well."

"The key was not to fold, not to give up, and they didn't. It just wasn't meant to be."

Ryan Nimmerguth led the Rocks with 21 points; he also had nine rebounds. No one else, however, reached double figures in scoring. Matt McCaffrey and Nick Tuchman each scored nine, and James McCaffrey had five points and 10 rebounds.

Monroe was paced by Matt Wozniak with 18 points; Josh Griffin added 14 and John Webster scored 13.

Fairlane 62, Agape 57: Everything went Canton Agape Christian's way in its season-opener at Dearborn Fairlane Christian Tuesday — except shooting.

Poor accuracy cost the Wolverines a shut out victory, according to coach Keith Anleighter. "I thought we outplayed them, we had a lot less turnovers — we just couldn't hit," he said. "We shot very poorly (23 percent)."

Agape trailed 27-26 at the half, then fell behind by 11 going into the final quarter after Fairlane posted a 21-11 third quar-

ter. A 20-14 fourth period couldn't save Agape.

"We had a bad third quarter and then came back," said Anleighter. "But we had too much ground to make up."

Paul Anleighter led the Wolverines with 23 points. Julian Wetlin added 13. For Fairlane, Aaron Begley scored 26 points and Matt Anderson added 12.

The difference came at the free throw line. Agape was 14-of-16; Fairlane made 24-of-37 — 12-of-19 in the fourth quarter.

John Glenn 54, A.A. Huron 50: Westland John Glenn held host Ann Arbor Huron to 17 second-half points Tuesday to record a 54-50 victory.

Controlling the backboards was a big item for Westland John Glenn.

Center Yaku Moton scored 20 points and grabbed 19 rebounds while forward Ben Harris had 15 points and 21 rebounds.

Guard Eric Jones scored 11 points, eight in the second half, and had four assists. Junior Brent Vogle scored eight points.

Joey Sims led the River Rats with 15 points but was pointless in the fourth quarter. Andrew Martin scored 11.

Whalers from page C1

His second came at the 1:21 mark, assisted by Surma and Kevin Holdridge.

Randy Fitzgerald's sixth goal of the season, assisted by Nate Kiser and Williams, 4:16 into the second period pushed the Whaler lead to 3-0. Krys Barch put the Knights on the board 1:15 later with a power-play goal, trimming the Whaler advantage to 3-1.

Goody restored Plymouth's three-goal cushion with 4:20 remaining in the second period, assisted by Surma and Shaun Fisher.

Zepko had 32 saves for Plymouth; Gene Chiarello made 25 saves for London.

Ambassadors split

The Compuware Ambassadors at least managed to cool off the previously red-hot Texas Tornado and salvage one win in a three-game trip, beating the Tornado 3-2 Sunday.

Steve Swistak got the gamewinner for the Ambassadors,

scoring a short-handed goal — the third consecutive goal for Compuware. Tom Fortunate had 16 saves in the net in a relief role to earn the win.

For Texas, the loss was just its second in its last 21 games. A Jason Guerrie goal in overtime gave the Tornado a 4-3 win over Compuware last Friday; he added a goal and two assists in their 6-2 victory over the Ambassadors Saturday.

Mike Smith had three goals and two assists in the three-game series for Compuware.

Texas is 19-4 overall (38 points), first in the North American Hockey League's West Division. Compuware is 15-7-1 overall (31 points) and in third in the NAHL's East Division, but the Ambassadors are just two behind the division-leading Soo Kewadin Casino Indians (33 points).

Compuware plays at the Soo at 7 p.m. both Friday and Saturday.

Sarkesian from page C1

In their third-round match of the NCAA Tournament against the Cardinal, regulation was fading with no score having been posted as Notre Dame set up for a direct kick.

"I was just standing at about the 18 (yard-marker), and the ball was cleared out to me," she recalled. "I gave it a one-touch and hit it with my left foot into the net."

The goal proved to be the only score of the match, giving Notre Dame a 1-0 win and a berth in the quarterfinals opposite Nebraska. Sarkesian came through in that match as well, assisting on the game-tying goal that resulted in overtime — in which the Irish ultimately prevailed.

"There in the stretch run she came up big for us," said Waldrum. "She progressed magnificently. She made huge strides."

"Impacting in big games — that's what you want a player to do."

Sarkesian, who appeared in 20 games as a freshman with five starts, began this season sharing time in the midfield with freshmen Ashley Dryer and Nancy Mikacien. As the season wore on, Sarkesian's talents got her more and more playing time, she finished with 12 starts this season.

"In the role she's playing, you

hope your player will have the ability to find the seams and break down defenses," said Waldrum. "She did. She broke teams down with her passing."

Although Sarkesian played a major role in the success of the Irish this season, she wouldn't mind if it was altered. "Actually, I'd love to be more offensive," she said. "I'd probably like to be more of a key player."

Which means being even more involved in the offense, hardly a surprising wish since Sarkesian finished her prep career at Salem with 72 goals and 36 assists. In that time she was a state dream team member twice and was all-state three times.

Her offensive abilities have surfaced during the NCAA Tournament, something her coach has taken notice of. Still, Sarkesian knows there's more for her to do.

"I want to improve in all aspects," she said. "But what I really want to do is play quicker. Like our coach is always telling us, take a touch and if the pass is there, make it. Don't hold the ball too long."

Sarkesian's role is bound to change next season, that means she'll be expected to do more. It's something Sarkesian is looking forward to.

Despite losses, CC can shoot

Redford Catholic Central's top player last year, all-state guard Nick Moore, is now at Toledo. Multi-sport athletes Dave Lusky, Dan Jess, Chuck Cash and Anthony Toney also graduated.

But CC coach Rick Coratti returns outside shooting in 6-foot-4 guard Rob Sparks and 6-5 forward Matt Lorida. Sparks won't be able to play until at least January due to back surgery. Lorida could be one of the more versatile players in the area, able to rebound and play in the transition.

Sparks averaged double figures in points last year and Coratti believes he'll have a breakout season once he returns to the lineup.

"He played really well over the summer and was shooting well, turning into a pretty good leader," Coratti said. "The nice thing about him is he is a pretty good size guard, can handle and rebound."

The Shamrocks have some size and athleticism across the frontline with 6-5 varsity returnee Jeff Moore joining Lorida and

BASKETBALL PREVIEW

junior center Steve Larkin, who is 6-6.

"Between Steve and Jeff they give us good inside defense and rebounding," Coratti said.

Coratti called Lorida a "very good athlete, one that can go inside and outside."

Junior guards Mark Willoughby and Ryan Celeaky, both 6-2, and 6-foot junior guard Anthony Coratti also are potential starters. The three joined Larkin on a good junior varsity team last year.

The Shamrocks are also counting on quality minutes from 6-3 sophomore Tom Jakaki.

The Shamrocks finished 15-8 a year ago, losing to Southfield in the Class A district. The Shamrocks' depth also includes 6-2 senior forward Rod Hunt and 6-0 senior guard Steve Ivy.

"I think we're going to surprise some people," Coratti said. "We're a little quicker defensively. We're going to be young. We're going to start three juniors and Jakaki is going to play a lot, too. It's always exciting when you're young, so we'll see what happens."

"I know we have a pretty tough preseason but that we'll be tougher defensively. What we lose with Nick offensively we'll have to do a little more by committee."

"It's always a problem when you replace a player who's started three years that was of his caliber. But we're going to have more depth, so that's how we're going to replace him."

"We hope we can put up a few threats. That's always been our thing."

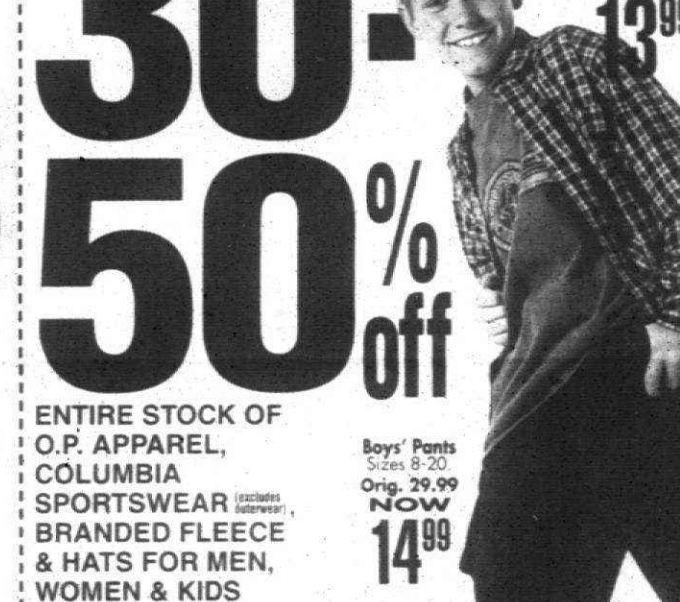
The Catholic (League, Central Division) is "always pretty balanced and tough," Coratti said. "We play (Orchard Lakes) St. Mary's before Christmas, and they're supposed to be one of the top teams in the state and a traditional rival. They're always tough."

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CC knocks off Churchill

When No. 1 plays No. 3, the higher rated team should win. Redford Catholic Central, the top-rated high school hockey team in the state, defeated No. 3 Livonia Churchill, 5-2, Saturday night at Redford Ice Arena. "I would say this year's CC team is better than their state championship team of a year ago," Coach Jeff Hatley of the Chargers said. The turning point came roughly midway through the second period, with the Shamrocks holding a 3-2 lead but the Chargers pressing hard in front of the Catholic Central net. The red light went on when the puck either clanged off the goal post or went in the net. Nobody could be sure and that was the crux of the argument. "There was a big discussion," Hatley said, "but nobody saw the play clearly. It was disallowed after a long discussion."

HOCKEY

Even afterward, opinion was split on whether the play was a goal or not. CC less settled the argument when Brian Williams scored with 10 seconds left in the second period; Brandon Kalenick and Ryan Yost assisted. Dave Moss scored 36 seconds into the third period assisted by Joe Hillebrand and Joe Moreau to assure CC of its fourth win in as many tries. The Shamrocks held a 32-19 edge in shots on goal. CC was whistled for two penalties and Churchill for only three. Churchill lost its first game of the season because it couldn't keep CC off the scoreboard early or late in each period. The Shamrocks scored 2:09 into the game, Kalenick getting the goal from Rick Buttery and Williams. They took a 2-0

COLLEGE SPORTS

Win 1, lose 2

Madonna's record slips to 2-9

A win was added to Madonna University's men's basketball record. Unfortunately, so were two losses. The Fighting Crusaders did manage to eke out an 80-77 victory Saturday over Indiana University-Southeast in the consolation final of the Mount Vernon Nazarene Tournament, played in Mount Vernon, Ohio.

That came a day after Berea College handed Madonna a 104-81 setback in the tournament opener. On Monday, the Crusaders traveled north to Northwood University, where the Timberwolves rolled to a 92-71 triumph. The 1-2 record — all on the road — in a four-day span left Madonna with a 2-9 record.

In the win over IU-Southeast, the Crusaders rallied behind a superb shooting performance turned in by Aaron Cox. The 6-foot freshman hit 10-of-11 floor shots en route to scoring 24 points; he also grabbed seven rebounds.

Mark Mitchell chipped in with 14 points and eight assists, Mike Massey had 13 points, and Chad Putnam (from Redford Thurston) contributed 10 points and a team-high eight boards. Sean Smith scored 23 for IU-Southeast. Kyle Simpson added 17 points, 16 rebounds and five assists, B.D. Ledbetter netted 11 points, and John Comer finished with 10 points and six steals.

Madonna converted 32-of-65 floor shots (49.2 percent), including 9-of-19 three-pointers (47.4 percent); IU-Southeast was 28-of-79 from the floor (35.4 percent). In the tournament opener against Berea, Madonna's fell behind 52-35 at the half and never caught up, despite a solid performance by Putnam: 21 points and five rebounds. Massey scored 12 points and dished out four assists, and Cox totaled nine (on 4-of-6 shooting).

Greg Laws topped Berea with 28 points. Scott Moore had 20, Kelly Day scored 18 and Charles Marshall netted 11. Free-throw shooting was the difference in this game: Berea made 24-of-32 from the line (75 percent); Madonna was 5-of-6 (83.3 percent). At Northwood Monday, another slow start doomed the Crusaders — they trailed 50-33 at halftime. Again, Cox came through with a solid shooting performance, hitting 8-of-12 floor shots and scoring 20 points. Putnam finished with 15 and Massey scored 11.

Eleven players scored for Northwood, four of them reaching double figures: Jeremy Hamlet with 15, Damon Lucas with 14, Sam Jones with 13 (and eight assists) and Anthony Chandler with 10 (and 10 rebounds). Plymouth Canton grad Ron Hunter, who just finished his

season with the Northwood football team (he was second team all-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference as a wide receiver), totaled eight points and seven rebounds in just 18 minutes.

The Timberwolves outbounded Madonna, 44-29.

Madonna women slip Strong defense carried Madonna to a big lead in the first half, but the Lady Crusaders couldn't maintain it and lost to Urbana University 69-65 Monday at Madonna.

The loss dropped the Crusaders to 5-4. Urbana is 5-3. Madonna built a 39-28 lead at the half, thanks to solid shooting (15-of-33, 45.5 percent) and a defense that limited Urbana to 8-of-32 shooting (25 percent). But that all turned around in the second half, with the Crusaders being outscored 41-26.

Urbana didn't improve its shooting that much — for the game, it made just 22-of-64 (34.4 percent) to Madonna's 27-of-65 (41.5 percent). But turnovers doomed the Crusaders: They had 28 to Urbana's 17. Lori Enfield paced Madonna with 19 points and 12 rebounds. Kristi Florenzi (from Plymouth Canton) added 12 points and 11 boards, and Carissa Gizicki totaled seven points, eight assists, six rebounds and four steals.

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SEASON/DATES

DEER The late archery season runs through Jan. 2 statewide. A late antlerless-only firearms season will be held Dec. 18-Jan. 2 on private and public land in Deer Management Unit 452. A late antlerless-only firearms season will also be held Dec. 18-Jan. 2 on most private land in the Lower Peninsula. Muzzleloading season runs Dec. 3-12 in the Upper Peninsula and Dec. 10-19 in the Lower Peninsula.

ELK Late elk special permit in limited areas of the northern Lower Peninsula.

GROUSE A special late grouse season runs through Jan. 1 in the Lower Peninsula.

PHOENIX A special late pheasant season runs through Dec. 15 in much of the southeastern part of the state.

RABBIT Rabbit season runs through Jan. 31 statewide.

SQUIRREL Squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

CLASSES/CLINICS Fly Tying Hook Line & Sinker bait shop in Lake Orion will hold fly tying classes every Wednesday and Thursday until the beginning of ice fishing season. Call (248) 814-9216 for more information.

ROD BUILDING Hook Line & Sinker bait shop in Lake Orion will hold fishing rod building classes every Wednesday and Thursday until the beginning of ice fishing season. Call (248) 814-9216 for more information.

FLY TYING Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tiers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASKETBALL
Friday, Dec. 10
Churchill at Redford Union, 7 p.m.
Dearborn at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Fordson, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Monroe at Canton, 7 p.m.
Lapeer East at Harrison, 7 p.m.
Crestwood at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Thurston at Melvindale, 7 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Ann Arbor, 7 p.m.
Claremontville at St. Agatha, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 11
(Country Day Showcases)
Redford CC vs. Belleville, 4 p.m.
Farmington, N. Farmington, TBA

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Friday, Dec. 10
Whalers vs. S.S. Marie
at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 11
Whalers vs. Erie Otters
at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 12
Whalers at Kitchener, 6:30 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY
Thursday, Dec. 9
Redford Unified vs. Allen Park
at Redford Ice Arena, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 10
Franklin vs. Churchill
at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
Canton vs. Farm. Unified
at Farm. Hills Arena, 7:30 p.m.
Stevenson vs. W.L. Central
at Lakeland Ice Arena, 8:20 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 11
Canton vs. W.L. Western
at Lakeland Ice Arena, 5:20 p.m.
St. Mary vs. W.L. Central
at St. Cultural Center, 7:30 p.m.

Redford CC vs. Park Tudor (ind.)
at Redford Ice Arena, 8 p.m.

MICHIGAN COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Friday, Dec. 10
Madonna at Bethel (ind.), 6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 11
Adrian JV at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.
Madonna at Bethel (ind.), 3 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Saturday, Dec. 11
Portage Northern Tourney, 8:30 a.m.
F.H. Harrison Invitational, TBA
TBA — time to be announced.

Note: The Observer has not received schedules from Redford St. Agatha and Canton Agape Christian.

OUTDOORS CALENDAR

(248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

ACTIVITIES

HOLIDAY POTLUCK Bring a dish to pass and join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club for a casual holiday dinner and planning meeting beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, in Troy. Call (248) 879-6004 for directions and more information.

WATERLOO WANDERING Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a hike at the Waterloo Recreation area beginning at 10:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12. Call (313) 562-1873 for directions and more information.

STONY CREEK TRAIL Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on the trails at Stony Creek Metropark during this program, which begins at noon Sunday, Dec. 19. Call (810) 294-7789 for directions and more information.

SHOOTING SPORTS

SPORTING CLAYS Wings & Clays will host a sporting clays shoot on Sunday, Dec. 19, at the Bald Mountain Range in Lake Orion. Call (248) 814-9193 for more information.

CLUBS

CLINTON VALLEY BASS Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoti at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Middle School, located on Middlebelt Road between Seven and Eight mile roads. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Visitors are invited and refreshments will be served. Call Jim Kujala at (734) 911-0843 for information.

FISHING BUDDIES Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester Hills. Meetings are open to all anglers (boaters and non-boaters). Call (248) 656-0556 for more information.

HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Rd., Flat Rock. Call Carol White at (734) 285-0843 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 8:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for more information.

SOLAR The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR), a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

FLY TYING The River Bend Sports Shop Fly Tying Club meets every other week in Southfield. Call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474 for more information.

PONTIAC LAKE Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (248) 666-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are 12-5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (248) 693-6767 for more information.

SHOOTING RANGES

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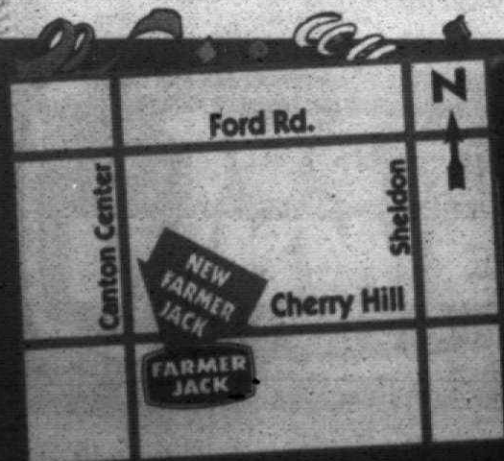
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NEWSPAPERS

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Keely Wygonik, Editor 734-953-2105, kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

on the web: <http://observer-eccentric.com>

Thursday, December 9, 1999

THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



The Detroit Symphony Orchestra presents a Holiday Festival, "The Colors of Christmas" 8 p.m. at Orchestra Hall in Detroit featuring Peabo Bryson, Dionne Warwick, James Ingram and Deniece Williams. Tickets \$26-\$55; call (313) 576-5111.

SATURDAY



Organist Tony O'Brien performs "The Magical Music of Christmas," with Maria Nazarenko, soprano, and Dwight Sheetz, baritone 8 p.m. at the Historic Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser Road at Grand River in Detroit. Tickets \$8, available night of performance at the box office.

SUNDAY



Sean Grier is the Giant and Adam Brown is Jack in the Stagecrafters' Youth Theatre production of the musical "Jack and the Giant," 2 p.m. at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. Tickets \$5 for ages 17 and under, \$7 for adults. All seats reserved; call (248) 541-6430.

HOT TICKET



Hot Tix: Stephen R. Buntrock and Erin Dilly star in "Martin Guerre" playing at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit through Sunday, Dec. 19. Tickets available at the box office, or call TicketMaster (248) 645-6666.



Pergola: This ceiling of lights brightens the way for visitors walking through a forest of colorful trees.

'Wild Lights'

Thrilling for young and old alike

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

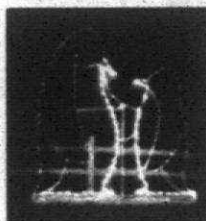
Maybe it's the more than 70 animal sculptures, many of them in pairs. Maybe it's because love heightens the senses. Whatever the reason, the Detroit Zoo's "Wild Lights" is becoming a popular destination for couples in love.

Ron Rotole and Cheryl Lobocki recently took time out from planning their June wedding to walk arm in arm along the half mile trail leading through the forest of 400,000 lights. The dazzling display continues through Sunday, Jan. 2.

"There's lots of places you can sit down and enjoy the atmosphere," said Lobocki, who grew up in Farmington.

"It was nice," added Rotole, a Plymouth resident. "It's really bright."

But beware — a life-sized polar bear raising his

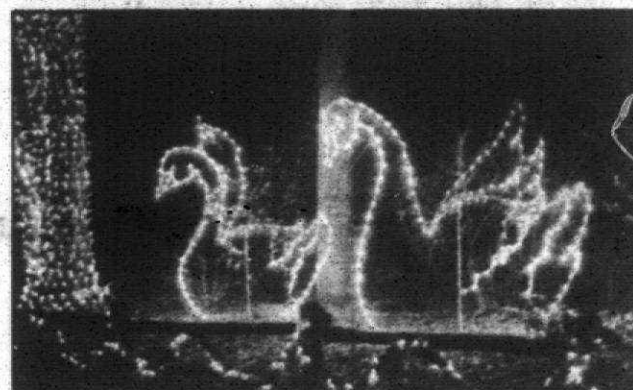


arms overhead could frighten some passersby. But he's the exception. The rest of the lions, elephants and kangaroos warm the heart with their playfulness. Paired up swans and mothers and their offspring, including the tiger and her cub that greet visitors to the display, speak of love and family.

Lobocki especially liked the monkeys swinging through the trees, the red leaping deer, fish jumping out of the water, and the sequentially lighting butterflies. She knows good art when she sees it. Lobocki, who graduated with a fine arts degree from the University of Michigan, is creative director for the Metropolitan Detroit Landscape Association in Bingham Farms.

"I like that they were animated because you

Please see **LIGHTS**, E2



Love is everywhere: (Above) Even the swans are paired up for "Wild Lights." (Below) This mother and baby penguin are two of the 70 animal sculptures on display at the Detroit Zoo.

Light Shows

■ **Wild Lights**, through Sunday, Jan. 2, 5:30 p.m.-8 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; and 5:30-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday (closed Friday-Saturday, Dec. 24-25 and Dec. 31-Jan. 1), at the Detroit Zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile Road at Woodward Avenue, Royal Oak. Admission \$4, \$3 children ages 2-12, and \$3 Detroit Zoological Society members, \$2 child members. (248) 541-5835.

■ **Wayne County LightFest**, through Thursday, Dec. 30, 7-10 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday (closed Saturday, Dec. 25), along four-and-one-half miles of Edward Hines Drive from Westland to Dearborn Heights, \$5 minimum donation per car helps keep the 39 giant displays lighted. (734) 261-1990.

■ **Domino's Farms St. Nicholas Light Display**, through Friday, Dec. 31, 6-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday (\$5 donation per car), and 5:30-10:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday (\$7 per car); 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Drive, off Earhart Road north of Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor. Proceeds benefit more than 60 Metro Detroit children charities. Visitors are encouraged to bring a donation of canned food for Ann Arbor Food Gatherers or Gleaners Food Bank. (734) 930-4430.

HOLIDAY SHOWS

Rockin' around the Christmas tree

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Santa Claus will be making special appearances this weekend to celebrate the holidays with good little girls and boys, as well as the Henry Ford Community Full Circle Dance Company, Birmingham Village Players, and Junior Actors of Ridgedale.

Full Circle Dance Company

Everyone's favorite holiday story, "Twas the Night Before Christmas," will be brought to life by the Henry Ford Community College Full Circle Dance Company 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10 and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 in the Adray Auditorium in the MacKenzie Fine Arts Center on HFCC's main campus, 5101 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. Tickets are \$5 at the door; call Diane Mancinelli (313) 845-6314 for more information.

Santa Claus will visit during the shows composed of eight dances. Featured pieces include the "Stocking Dance," set to Claude Bolling's "Fugace" and presented in black light, "Jazzy Santa," in which four elves worry about Santa falling off his

sleigh, and a toe-tapping "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree," number.

The dances, music and costumes were designed with children and families in mind. Approximately 3,000 children and adults attend this show annually.

Mancinelli of Livonia, HFCC dance instructor, is directing the production which features Redford residents Springer Underwood and Brittany Valente.

Birmingham Village Players

Join the Village Players in celebrating "A Taffeta Christmas," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at the playhouse, 752 Chestnut, (on the east side of Woodward Avenue, two blocks south of Maple). Tickets are \$8 adults, \$5, children ages 3-12. To make a reservation for the Dec. 10 or 12 performance, call (248) 644-2075. "A Taffeta Christmas" will also be presented during the First Night Celebration in Birmingham on Friday, Dec. 31 at the Village Players theater. New Year's Eve performances are 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Please see **SHOWS**, E2



Holiday event: Henry Ford Community College's Full Circle Dance Company, (standing left to right) Ann Marie Pizzimenti, Springer Underwood and Brittany Valente (both of Redford), Anna McMaster and Lori Moran, (seated, left to right) Natalie Gorman, William Spicher as Santa and Janeen Drugacz, bring the classic story, "Twas the Night Before Christmas," to life, Dec. 10-11.

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Stephanie Casola; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279

MOVIES

'Toy Story 2' offers a second great adventure for kids

BY MALCOLM RITTER
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) — They've done it again. The folks who brought you "Toy Story" now present "Toy Story 2," another clever, riotous tale of life in the toy lane.

There's no mistaking the sharp, detailed and stunning computer animation. Buster the pet dog has nearly four million hairs. And with the voices of Woody (done by Tom Hanks), Buzz Lightyear (by Tim Allen) and others returning from the 1995 original, it's easy to get back into the fun.

And there's lots of fun here.

Kids and adults will love the parody of "Star Wars" scenes, and chuckle at the special ways these toys meet the challenge of adventure. As Mr. Potato Head prepares to leave on a rescue mission, for example, his wife thoughtfully packs him his "angry eyes" in case he goes into battle.

"Toy Story 2" introduces us to a toy's greatest fear: being discarded. The phrase "yard sale" strikes terror. Woody manages to rescue a broken toy penguin from the 25-cent box on the front lawn. But Woody is then snatched by the evil collector Al McWhiggen (voiced by Wayne Knight), who recognizes him as a

'Toy Story 2' introduces us to a toy's greatest fear: being discarded. The phrase 'yard sale' strikes terror.

valuable collectible.

Of course, the toy gang sets out to rescue Woody. But when they finally reach him, they get a surprise. Woody has been seduced by the promise of immortality: a chance to go on display in a Japanese toy museum. Rather than waiting to be

discarded someday by his beloved owner, Andy, Woody "will be adored by children for generations," a toy in McWhiggen's collection says.

It sounds pretty good to a cowboy who's just been consigned to a dusty toy shelf by Andy's mother. But Buzz argues the other side of the case. "Life's only worth living," he reminds Woody, "if you're loved by a kid."

Clearly, Woody faces a dilemma. You can guess which way he goes. This is a Disney movie.

But even after that, there are more escapes, rescues and battles. One imaginative fight scene occurs in that deeply mysterious

place where your luggage goes right after it leaves the airline counter.

This film presents so much action that at times, a grown-up might feel a need for a break. Yet, these scenes are so studied with clever twists — as when a perky Toy Guide Barbie seizes control of our heroes in a toy store — that they remain a delight.

From its beginning, "Toy Story 2" dares to compare itself to the excitement of "Star Wars." Of course, watching animated characters risk their digital lives is much different from watching

flesh and blood in danger. But when Woody and a cowgirl escape from an airliner as it speeds down a runway, it's as thrilling as anything moviegoers have seen in any galaxy.

You can only catch your breath and look forward to "Toy Story 3."

"Toy Story 2," a Walt Disney Pictures presentation of a Pixar Animation Studios film, is directed by John Lasseter and produced by Helene Plotkin and Karen Robert Jackson. The screenplay by Andrew Stanton, Rita Hsiao, Doug Chamberlin and Chris Webb.

Local artists collaborate on CD to fight teen suicide



STEPHANIE A. CASOLA

There's one story that still gives singer-songwriter Jill Jack the chills. She recalls the day she met a young man in an Ann Arbor deli. He had overheard her conversation and asked if she

was a musician. After talking, she handed him a CD.

A couple days later, the teen was involved in a severe car accident.

One year later, Jack received an e-mail from the boy's father explaining that her music was instrumental in his recovery. "He used the song 'Watch Over Me' (the title track of Jill Jack's first CD) for his recuperation," she said. "It got him out of bed and really motivated him. It got him through the depression."

That story made her cry. As someone who tries to "show the light at the end of the tunnel" through her music, Jill Jack and her bandmates were prime

candidates for a CD compilation aimed at helping troubled youth. So when Scott Campbell, musician and owner of Nebula Records, contacted the band to contribute a song for "Counter Clockwise" — a CD of music meant to elevate awareness of teenage suicide in the metro area — the answer was yes.

"Music is a universal thing," said Jack, a Ferndale resident. "I love the thought that my music can help."

Sales of the disc benefit Common Ground Sanctuary's counseling and outreach programs. Campbell was instrumental in the project, and contributed his own tune "Turn Your Mind Inside Out." The compilation itself doesn't deal with the issue of suicide. It instead offers a body of material donated by a truly talented collection of artists. From legends such as Iggy Pop, New Order, to local stars such as MC5 and Detroit Music Award's Best New Band of 1999 — Stungun, the disc offers something for everyone.

"I picked what I consider to be the top local people," said Camp-

bell. A member of that elite group, Jack added that, "being selected is always a great honor."

Another honorable mention is Mike Rehfus, saxophonist for The Articles. Rehfus was approached for the project by a former classmate from his days at the Center for Creative Studies, Donna Hazen. Hazen contributed the artwork. "It sounded certainly like a worthwhile project," said Rehfus. "I've been involved with the project since its start. She sees it as a way to reach out to the community, as well as to educate on the issue of suicide."

Common Ground Sanctuary is based in Oakland County, though its services are not limited

to that area. "We get calls from all over the country," said Norton, a Southfield resident.

The money raised by CD sales is distributed to CGS programs including a victim-advocacy program, shelters like The Sanctuary, A Step Forward and Graduate Apartment Living, and street-outreach programs for homeless youth.

Variety: The Children's Charity, which is based in Southfield, contributed money. "I think it's something (youth) will relate to," said Jennie Cascio, executive director. "It's difficult to get the message to kids. Through the CD, they have all the information on the jacket; they're able to talk to kids in their own environment and atmosphere, so they know these services are available."

Norton noted the importance of music: "When someone is feeling really isolated, they can hear a song and think this person doesn't even know me, but he understands my life experience," she said.

For Howling Diablos' vocalist Tino, music is a way of speaking

to all people. "Music can change the world," he said. "It can make people stop and think about something. It's a powerful tool."

The Royal Oak-based Diablos contributed "Nobody In Detroit" to the disc. He hopes "everyone buys one so (CGS) can get a big fat check."

Rehfus had his own take on the issue: "Music and misery are kindred spirits. For a lot of kids, music is the only form of escape that can have positive ends."

"Counterclockwise" can be bought for \$10 at any Harmony House, Desirable Disc or Repeat the Beat location. Several Border Books and Music locations and independent record stores also carry it. The CD may be bought online at www.scottcampbell.net. Look out for live benefits and CD release parties in the new year.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola writes about popular music for the Observer & Eccentric. She can be reached at (734) 953-2130 or e-mail at scasola@oe.hometown.com. To send a fax, dial (734) 591-7279.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas Shawnee Hills 1-14 2150 N. Oakdale Rd. Bargain Matinees Daily 248-373-2660 All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat. NP DENOTES NO PASS NP STAR WARS EPISODE 1: THE PHANTOM MENACE (PG) NP END OF DAYS (R) NP TOY STORY 2 (G) NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) DOGMMA (R) POKEMON (G) THE BONE COLLECTOR (R) THE HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R) THE BEST MAN (R) THE SIXTH SENSE (PG13) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Star Southfield 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off 466 248-353-STAR No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 It is rated films after 6 pm FOR SHOWINGS AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE CALL 248-353-2222 WWW.STARSOUTHFIELD.COM NP TOY STORY 2 (G) NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13) DOGMMA (R) POKEMON (G) DOUBLE JEOPARDY (R) THE SIXTH SENSE (PG13) CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	United Artists Commerce Township 14 Located Adjacent to Home Depot Just North of the intersection of 14 Mile & Haggerty Rd. 248-960-8801 All Stadium Seating High Back Reclining Chair Seats Two-Day Advance Ticketing Would you like to see free movies? Then become a "FREQUENT VENTURER!" COME IN AND FIND OUT HOW Box Office opens at 4:00 pm Monday - Friday only CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES	Terrace Cinema 3400 Plymouth Rd. 313-261-3330 All shows \$1 except shows after 6 pm • All shows \$1.50 75¢ every Tuesday CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES
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Don't toy with me: Buzz Lightyear and Woody watch an episode of "Woody's Roundup" TV show, after discovering Woody is a highly valued collectible in Disney and Pixar's "Toy Story 2"

Here's your chance to be a movie critic

Be an Observer & Eccentric Newspaper Movie Watcher.

When you go to the movies, grade the movie — A for awesome, B for not bad, C for wait for the video, D for dumb, or E

for don't waste your time.

Add your comments; observe carefully, but don't be too eccentric in your views, and e-mail to kwygonik@oe.hometown.com.

Look for Observer & Eccentric Newspaper Movie Watcher grades/comments in the Dec. 23 edition of Entertainment.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 10

"THE LEGEND OF 1900"
Drama recounts the life of a piano player who is abandoned at birth on a Trans-Atlantic ship. His talent culminates in a rivalry of mythic proportions with jazz legend Jelly Roll Morton. Stars Tim Roth, Pruitt Taylor Vincent.

"DURCE BIGALOW MALE GIGALO"
Contemporary comedy tells of a down-on-his-luck guy who takes a job fish-baiting for a prominent L.A. escort. When the escort leaves the country on business, he leaves his clientele ripe for poaching. Stars Rob Schneider.

"TRAIN OF LIFE"
Set in the Holocaust, a village dreamer comes up with a crazy idea to save his village from Nazi invasion. Stars Lionel Abelson, Rufus.

"THE GREEN MILE"
Remarkable story of a guard in a South-ern prison's death row in 1935 and one

of the inmates over which he has

charge. Based on the 1996 serialized novel by Stephen King. Stars Tim Roth, Pruitt Taylor Vincent.

"ANNA AND THE KING"
Set in 19th century Thailand, the true story of the relationship between a British schoolteacher and the King of Siam. Based on historical information. Stars Jodie Foster and Chow Yun-Fat.

"CIDER HOUSE RULES"
Classic story of a young man's extraordinary journey: leaving home, finding love and finding his place in the world. Based on the best-selling novel by John Irving. Stars Tobey Maguire.

Scheduled to open Wednesday, Dec. 22

"ANY GIVEN SUNDAY"
Drama about an aging star quarterback who is induced to play hurt because a gifted and unprincipled young talent is seeking to replace him. The coach who struggles to remain true to

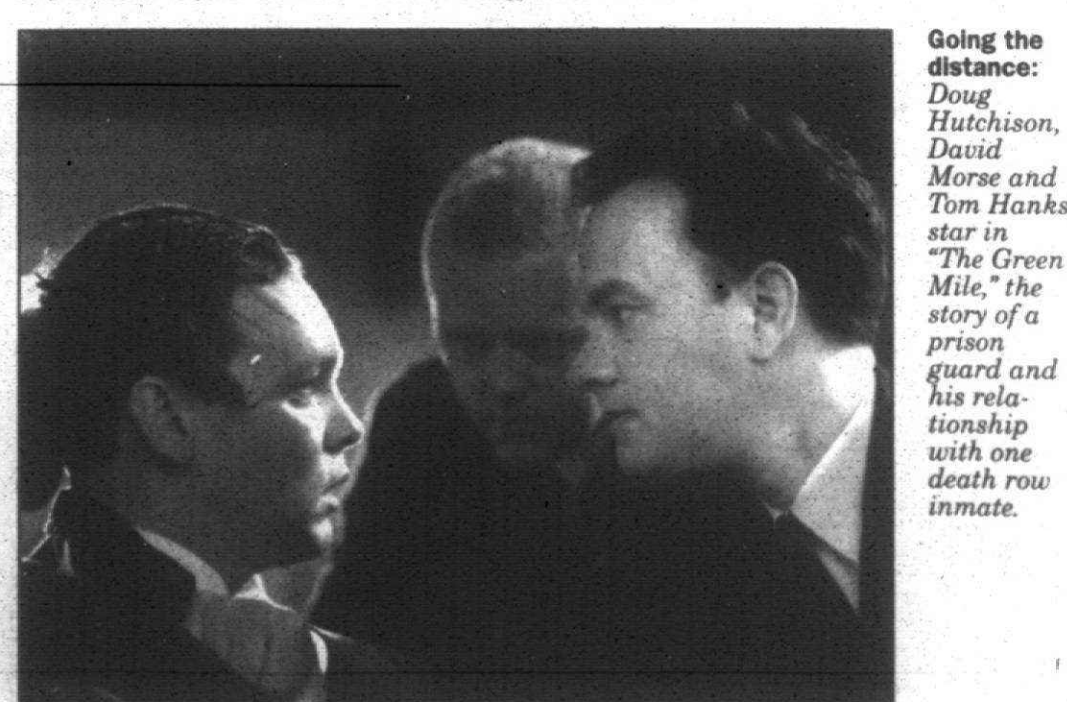
the ideals that drew him to his career,

and the ambitious young owner of the team. Stars Al Pacino, Dennis Quaid.

"LIBERTY HEIGHTS"
A dramatic look at the life and times of a Baltimore family in the mid 1950s which focuses on issues of religion, race and class distinction written and directed by Barry Levinson. Stars Adrien Brody, Bebe Neuwirth and Joe Mantegna.

Scheduled to open Saturday, Dec. 25

"MANSFIELD PARK"
Based on the book by Jane Austen, the story of a young woman from a poor family, sent to live with her wealthy cousins at their estate. The plan is to arrange a marriage that will assure her place in society, but her high spirited nature and ideas about love will make it a difficult proposition. Stars Frances O'Connor and Jonny Lee Miller.



Going the distance: Doug Hutchison, David Morse and Tom Hanks star in "The Green Mile," the story of a prison guard and his relationship with one death row inmate.

"INSANELY FUNNY!"
FROM THE PRODUCERS OF "BIG DADDY"

ROB SCHNEIDER is DEUCE BIGALOW MALE GIGOLO

He's not very good looking. But when the lights go out... he's still not very good looking.

STARS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC EASTLAND 5	AMC FORUM 30
AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC SOUTHWILD CITY
MJR SOUTHCOTE 20	QUO VADIS	CANTON CINEMAS
RENAISSANCE 4	SHOWCASE 4	SHOWCASE 4
STAR JOHN R. AT 14 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS
STAR SOUTHWILD	STAR TAYLOR	STAR TAYLOR
STAR SOUTHWILD	STAR TAYLOR	STAR TAYLOR

"THE MOST FUN YOU'LL HAVE AT THE MOVIES THIS YEAR!"
-STEVE OLDFIELD, FOX-TV

"WOW! WHAT A MOVIE... CAN I GIVE IT SIX STARS?"
-LARRY KING, USA TODAY

"CLEVER AND FIENDISHLY INVENTIVE, WITH A GREAT SENSE OF FUN!"
-KENNETH TURAN, LOS ANGELES TIMES

"TWO THUMBS UP!"
-BOB EBERT AND JOEL SINGEL, BOB EBERT & THE MOVIES

TOM HANKS TIM ALLEN
Disney • PIXAR
TOY STORY 2

AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC EASTLAND 5	AMC FORUM 30
AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC SOUTHWILD CITY
MJR SOUTHCOTE 20	QUO VADIS	CANTON CINEMAS
RENAISSANCE 4	SHOWCASE 4	SHOWCASE 4
STAR JOHN R. AT 14 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS
STAR SOUTHWILD	STAR TAYLOR	STAR TAYLOR
STAR SOUTHWILD	STAR TAYLOR	STAR TAYLOR

TIM BURTON HAS TAKEN AN AMERICAN CLASSIC AND CREATED AN AMERICAN CLASSIC.
Stunningly beautiful filmmaking. John Depp is amazing.
GOOD MORNING AMERICA

Sleepy Hollow

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AMC LAUREL PARK AMC LIVONIA 20 AMC SOUTHWILD CITY
MJR SOUTHCOTE 20 QUO VADIS CANTON CINEMAS
SHOWCASE 4 SHOWCASE 4 SHOWCASE 4
STAR JOHN R. AT 14 MILE STAR LINCOLN PARK 8 STAR ROCHESTER HILLS
STAR SOUTHWILD STAR TAYLOR STAR TAYLOR
STAR SOUTHWILD STAR TAYLOR STAR TAYLOR

Happy Holidays
from the staff of
THE Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

DINING

Lily's brings more than creative seafood to Royal Oak

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

Classy yet unpretentious and relaxed. That's Lily's, a new entry into Royal Oak's ever-expanding restaurant scene. Its niche is seafood, but a whole lot more including an on-premise microbrewery and house-made rootbeer and cream soda.

Brothers Bob and Scott Morton are operating investor partners joined by brothers Bill and Tom and father Jack as investor partners. Native Michiganders, the Mortons operated restaurants in the Jacksonville, Fla., area for 20 years. Now, as residents of Royal Oak, Bob and Scott have had their eye on its restaurant potential for a couple of years.

Diners are greeted by a well-weathered, friendly-looking wooden butler purchased from a Royal Oak policeman. From a newspaper ad, a 1920s antique bar was pulled out of a garage in St. Clair Shores. Given a modern facelift, it is a perfect backdrop for the surrounding blond-stained oak high-top bar tables and upholstered family-size booths and tables for four, highlighted by hunter green walls and ceilings with gray-green accents.

Picking up the copper of the brewing tanks are copper leaves on well-spaced dividers with grape bunch motifs. Upper Peninsula artist Rich Bronstein created a recycled metal ceiling mobile of a whimsical interpretation of "trash fish," including grouper, shrimp, barracuda and a giant gold fish. An old, restored ad for malt syrup from the Prohibition era graces one wall, creating another interesting piece of eye candy.

Stop looking around and get to the essence of Lily's! The same menu is offered during lunch and dinner hours. The house specialty is lightly-spiced Creole

Lily's Seafood Restaurant & Brewery

Where: 410 S. Washington (between Fourth & Fifth Streets), Royal Oak, (248) 591-5459.

Open: Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.; until 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday; and until 11:30 p.m. Sunday.

Menu: Grilled, sautéed and steamed fresh seafood, along with sandwiches and a late night menu after 11 p.m. daily.

Cost: Entrees and seafood platters \$14-\$23. Six-item kids menu \$3.25-\$4.

Reservations: Call after 5 p.m. to have your name placed on a preferred seating list for desired time that day.

Credit cards: All majors accepted.

Details: Full service bar, made-on-premise microbrews and handcrafted sodas.

Lily's Uncorked
Executive Chef Howard Sanders knows his food and wines. He pairs:

- Champagne Piper Heidsieck Brut with Baked Brie appetizer
- 1997 Bonterra Viognier and Grilled Salmon Filet
- 1996 Fife Merlot and Twin Tournedos

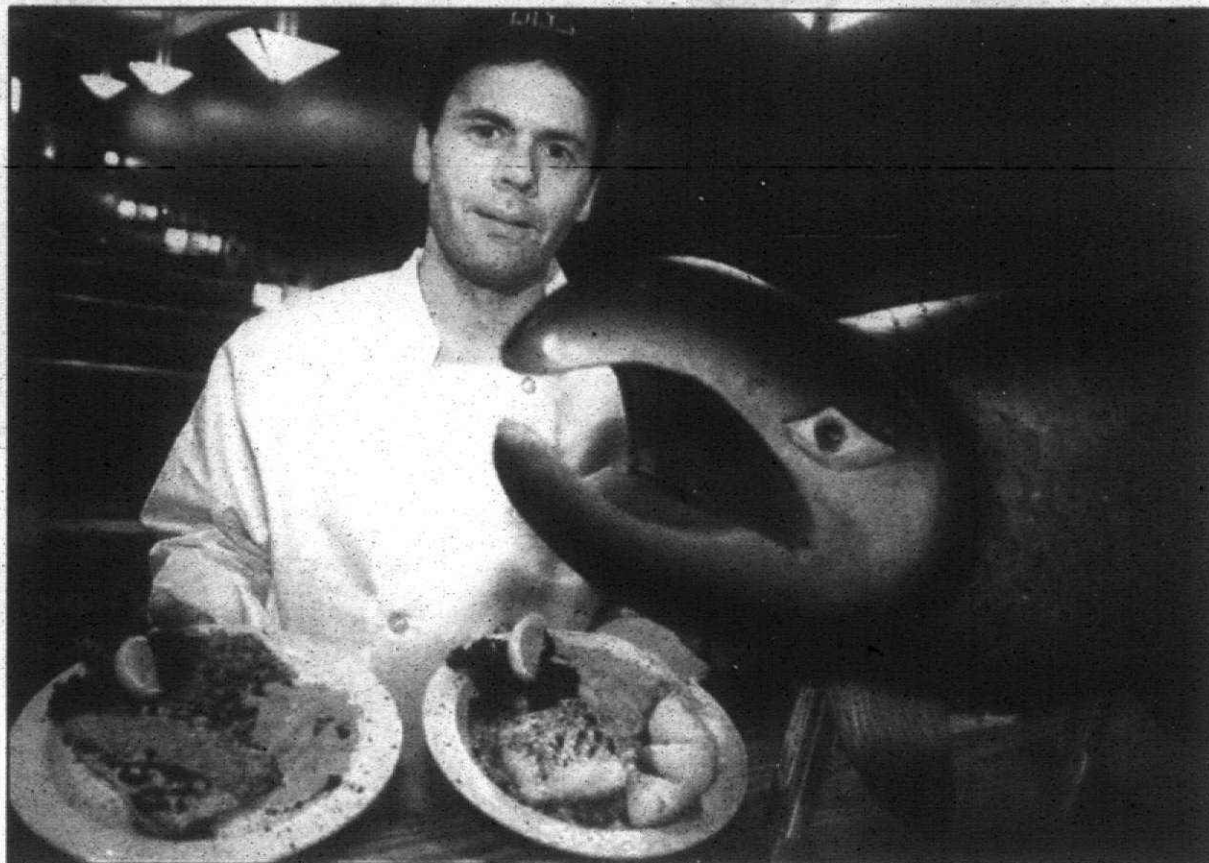
On tap at Lily's

Managing partner and professional brewer Bob Morton pairs his:

- Whitefish Bay Wheat Beer with Peppercorn Crusted Tuna
- Reggie's French River Red Ale and Lily's Creole Soup
- Strange Stout and Dark Chocolate Mousse Pie

Soup with chicken, crawfish, Andouille sausage, chunky vegetables and tomatoes. The most popular salad is Fusion, dressed and garnished with Huntsman cheese, cayenne-candied pecans and sundried Michigan cherries.

Two sandwiches are unique.



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLINSKY

Today's catch: Frank Stevelick presents two of the dishes you'll find on the menu at Lily's Seafood Restaurant & Brewery in Royal Oak.

Baja Blackened Catfish Wrap and Carolina Pulled Pork.

For starters, Prince Edward Island Steamed Mussels are traditional, sprinkled with Huntsman cheese. Southwest Shrimp in Three Pepper Cream Sauce has succulent sautéed tiger shrimp in a Marsala cream with Anaheim, serrano and jalapeno pepper essence. Pork and Scallop Satay with Spicy Coconut Peanut Dipping Sauce is a tasty oriental infusion.

While Lily's is obviously not an Italian restaurant, Pan Fried Spinach and Snow Crab Ravioli is the number one entree. But if you go to Lily's, go for seafood

such as Old Country Seafood Boil, more approachable than a classic French bouillabaisse or the seafood boatload Crustaceans Platter.

Behind all this succulent, savory food is Waterford resident, Executive Chef Howard Sanders who came to Lily's from his position as chef de cuisine at Tom's Oyster Bar on Royal Oak's Main Street. A transplanted Californian, he earned a culinary degree from the American Culinary Federation there.

Chef Howard has worked in restaurants since he was 14 and his 23 years experience is illustrated in the creative menu offerings.

Five desserts, including Royal Root Beer Float awash in house-made rootbeer, round out the dining experience - almost. I like the terry cloth napkins; they do the job!

Brewer Paul Kropp was trained on premise by pro brewers Bob and Scott Morton with experience in brewing in this country, Japan and South America.

Two specialty December beers, Brown Ale and Golden Pilsner are complemented by Lily's Light Ale, Whitefish Bay Wheat (German style), Reggie's French River Red Ale (very hoppy and mildly bitter) and Strange Stout, brewed in a porter style. If you

like chocolate, see On tap at Lily's (in the box) for

Bob Morton's unusual food selection with Strange Stout.

A huge private family investment has netted a creative dining experience.

The Mortons are well-aware that if they don't deliver, there are lots of dining choices in Royal Oak.

Eleanor Heald is a Troy resident who writes about dining, food and wine for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. To leave her a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1864.

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Dec. 31st - Call Now for Tickets (313) 872-1000

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Bring your Friends and Family* to celebrate the new Millennium with our family in an elegant atmosphere yet at an affordable price for everyone.
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Evening Featuring:
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You Could WIN!
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Sponsored by The Hearts of Livonia
Party Includes:
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From 10 pm to 4 am
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Includes tax & gratuities. Must be Paid in Advance!
Your Choice of These Complete Meals:
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HOLIDAY MEMORIES



The Observer
GIFT GUIDE
SECOND EDITION

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Bring this ad in for a free gift!

WELCOME TO OUR GIFT GUIDE

Like so many pretty ribbons, holiday memories are collected each year, stored in the heart, and brought out again and again. And like magic, they seldom lose their luster.

Fill your holidays with old memories while making room for the new. Take time for the little joys. They wrap your days in spools of silk and taffeta. Best wishes for a happy and memory-filled holiday season.

Cover photo: Features West Bloomfield resident Barbara Savanyu as Mrs. Claus in a St. John ensemble, including evening jacket (\$995), camisole (\$295), skirt (\$270) and earrings (\$130) from the Laurel Park Jacobson's. The setting is the Hill House parlor at Greenmead in Livonia. The parlor has been decorated for the holidays by the Sauk Trail chapter of the Questers.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHMANN

Out on a limb: The Plymouth Nursery, located on Ann Arbor Road west of Gotfredson, is stocking up on retro ornaments this year. They range in price from \$1.49 for the replicas of the tin signs, to \$40 for the Polanaise glass ornaments, including Betty Boop, the Cracker Jack box, classic bicycle and telephone. The bubble lights come in strands of seven for \$21.99.

ARTIST: BARBARA SAVANYU

PEG KNOESPEL

EDITOR: KIMBERLY GORMAN

SHERYL LABON

SENIOR: SUELYN TISHAW

RALPH ECHTINAW

COVER PHOTOGRAPHER

PAUL HURSCHMANN

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

TAMMIE GRAVES

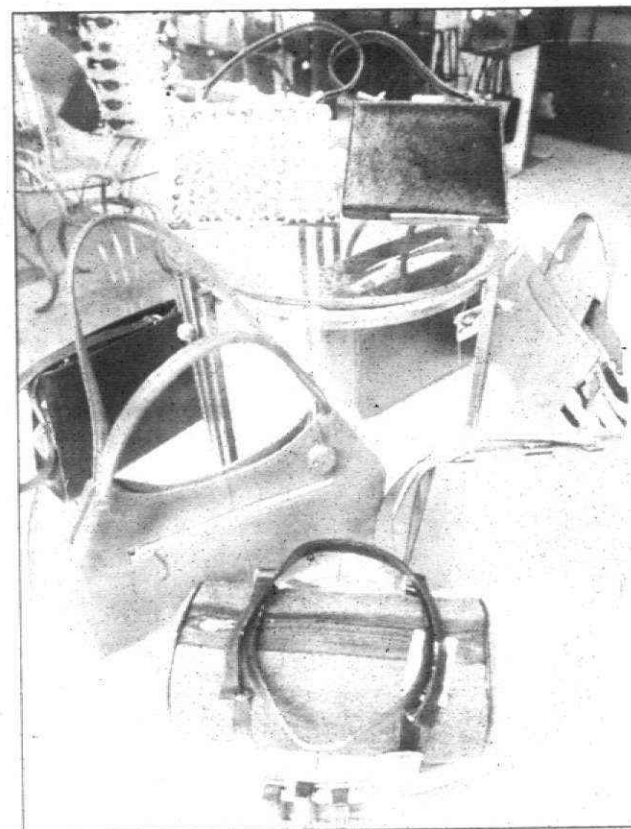
CONTRIBUTOR

RENEE SKOGLUND

COMFORT AND JOY

To have and to hold:

These beautiful purses from Parisian in Laurel Park Place should bring back memories from the '50s and '60s.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Feet jam-mies: Pam Milner of the intimate apparel department at Sears in Livonia Mall models some of the pajamas with feet now available in women's sizes. The ones she's wearing are 100 percent cotton flannel and go for \$25.



Livonia Schwinn Bicycle and Fitness Center

Christmas trees, presents, bulbs, lights and a kid's first brand new shiny two wheeler under the tree. Those wonderful memories of past Christmas's. Livonia Schwinn Bicycle and Fitness Center offers convenient, FREE layaway, storage and assembly of a vast array of bicycles for the kids in your family - big or small. We also have numerous stocking stuffer items like lock cycle computers, lights, horns, bells, clothes & more.

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1-800-246-1819

Bring in this ad and it is worth

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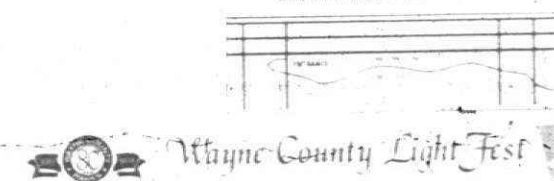
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And you thought you'd seen the brightest twinkle in her eyes!

[Not even Eileen's twinkling eyes could outshine the joy of a new Christmas tree. The twinkling lights of a new Christmas tree are the brightest twinkle in any home. The twinkling lights of a new Christmas tree are the brightest twinkle in any home. The twinkling lights of a new Christmas tree are the brightest twinkle in any home.]

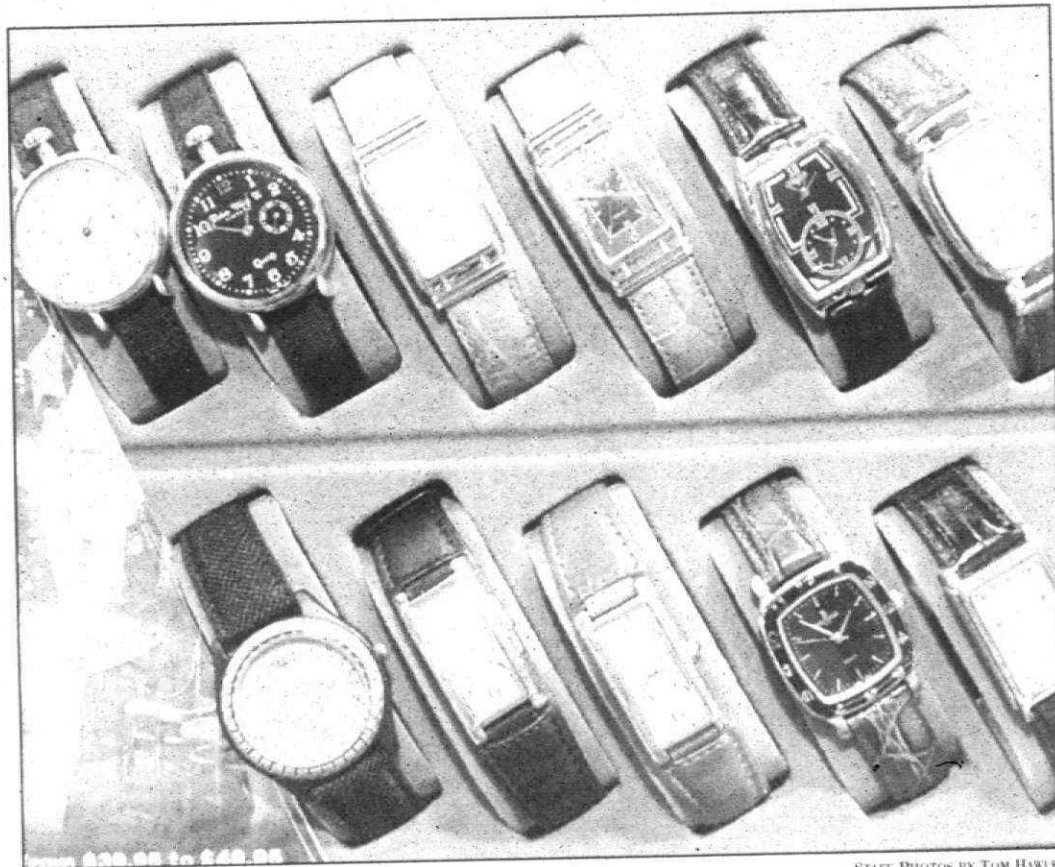
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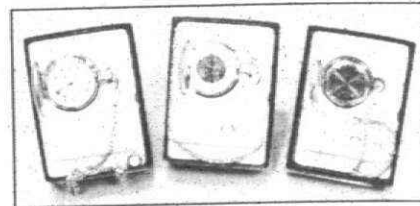
For more information call 734-261-1900

BACK IN TIME

Time machine: These watches by Dakota are specifically marketed as retro timepieces. They were photographed at Watch Works, a kiosk store in Wonderland Mall.

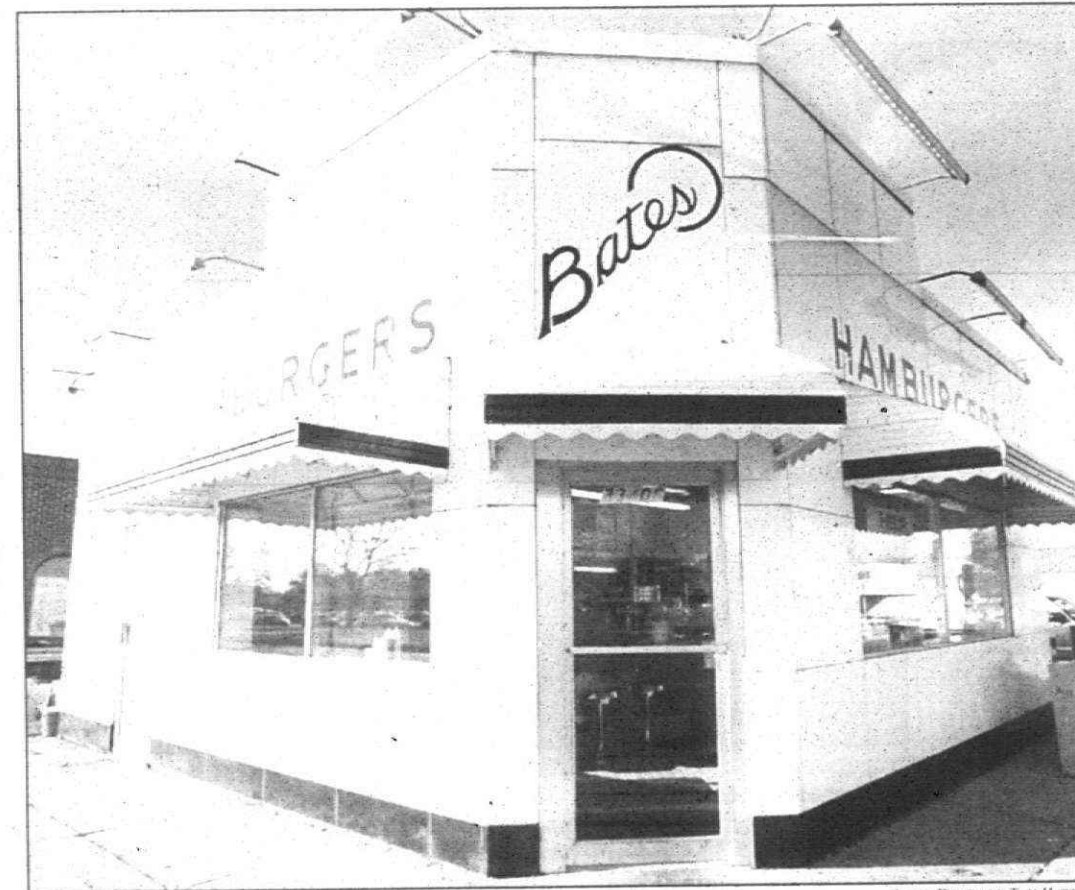


STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY



Watch me: Buy a pocket watch and have it engraved at Things Remembered, a modest shop in 12 Oaks Mall on Novi Road just north of I-96. At left is a silver plated quartz watch with chain for \$50. In the center is a pocket watch with skeleton details, quartz movement and a Walde-mar chain for \$70. On the right is a "Blue Sunray" watch for \$50. Have a name engraved on the watch for \$5. Have a message engraved for \$3 per word (\$5 minimum).

Cheeseburger, cheeseburger: Founded in 1958, Bates Hamburgers in Livonia hasn't changed much in 41 years. Nothing tastes better than a burger and coffee at 1 a.m. at Bates.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Relax and take a shopping break in Burger Heaven

Take a lunch break from your nostalgic holiday shopping by cruising to a past that's never gone away. three area restaurants with that retro art-deco look.

The Central City Diner is located on Canton Center Road north of Ford Road in Canton Township. Owner Randy Blaylock has captured the look and feel of the classic American Diner (except he doesn't allow smoking).

The Soda Jerk is located in a strip mall on the northwest corner of Sheldon and Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Township. Owner Nancy McKoon's aim was to recall the classic American soda fountain and grill. She has an authentic 1950s jukebox and waitresses who dance for the customers.

Bates Hamburgers is located on the northwest corner of Farmington and Five Mile roads in Livonia. Unlike our other two examples, Bates wasn't built to resemble something old. It is something old.

The overgrown hamburger stand looked modern when it was founded in 1958 by Noble Bates. He never

Please see **HEAVEN**, PAGE 6

GREETINGS

With our best wishes for the season goes our true appreciation for your generous support. We hope to have the pleasure of seeing you again often in the days to come. ~ Happy Holidays to all Our Friends and Neighbors! ~

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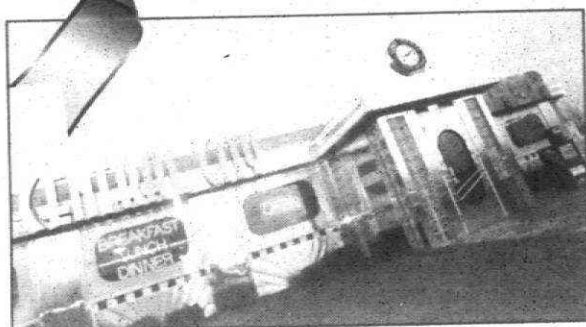
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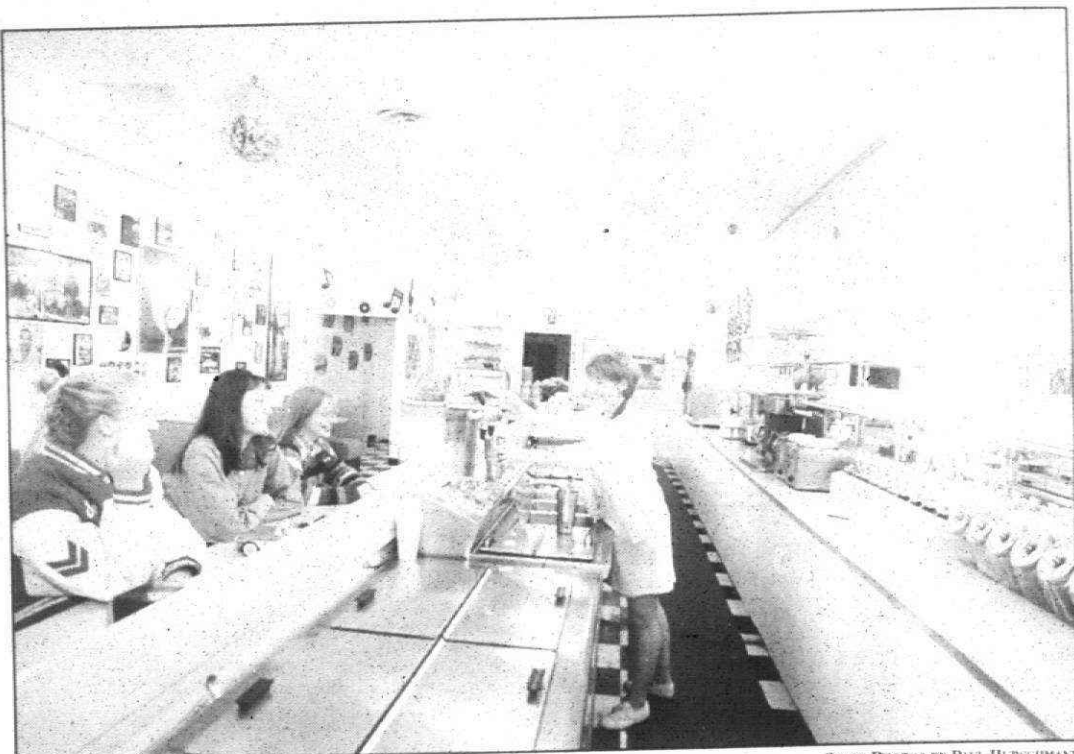
Where's Fonzie? The Central City Diner, located on Canton Center Road in Canton Township, was deliberately designed – inside and out – to resemble a classic American diner of the 1950s. All that's missing is the cast of Happy Days.

Heaven from page 5

changed a thing, and neither did his son, John Bates, who owns the restaurant now and one just like it in Farmington Hills.

From the stainless steel counter to the stools around the window and even the menu, Bates is pretty much the same place it was in 1958. (Still no public restrooms.) Only the times have changed.

Central City and Bates are open for breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days a week. The Soda Jerk is open for lunch and dinner Tuesday through Saturday.



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURCHMAN

Two scoops please: Nancy McKeon (at right) has capitalized on the retro movement by creating the Soda Jerk, an old-fashioned soda fountain in a strip mall on the northwest corner of Sheldon and Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Township. Her menu is heavy on ice cream but also includes burgers and fries.

REMEMBER THE GOOD OLD DAYS



STAFF PHOTO BY BRIAN MITCHELL

It's the real thing: If the nostalgic bent of the person you're shopping for leans in the direction of Coca-Cola, you'll almost certainly find what you're looking for at Coca-Cola Collectibles in Garden City. Owner Jeanne Rae stocks hundreds of Coke items, including the tray shown here and the actual beverage in the background.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Let's eat: These lunch boxes aren't as big as the ones you carried as a kid, but they look just like them. You could buy an original at auction for hundreds of dollars, or you could get one of these replicas for \$10.95 at a Hallmark store. Also available are Snow White, Lone Ranger, Barbie, Star Trek, Super Friends and Scooby Doo.

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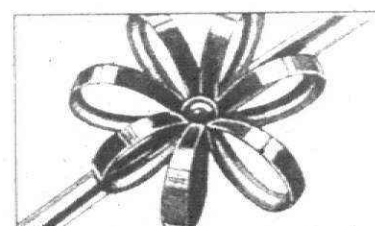
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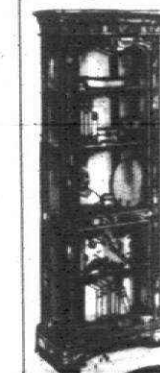
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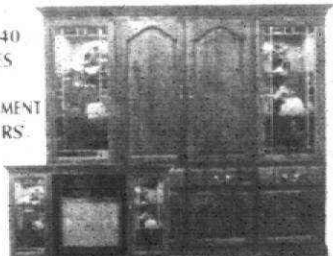
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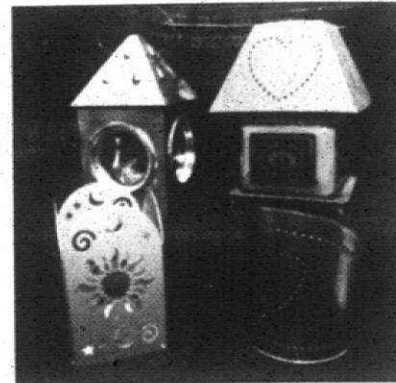
STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Soft glow: Forgot to buy kerosene? No problem. Nowadays you can buy oil lamps that burn liquid paraffin, which is cleaner burning and produces less smoke than kerosene. Prices range from \$15 to \$50 at the Scent Station in Livonia Mall.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Lamp light: Reproductions of old lamps that cost a fraction of what the originals sell for. From left, a Tiffany-style Dragonfly lamp (\$379) and "The End of the Trail" (\$79.99), which features a profile of artist Frederick Remington's famous tired Indian. Available at the Town Peddler Craft & Antique Mall on Plymouth Road between Levan and Stark in Livonia.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Heavely scents: Years ago, people punched holes in tin cans to create designs that would look nice when lit from within by a candle. Luminaries are coming back now in various styles and colors. Prices range from \$10 to \$30 at the Scent Station.

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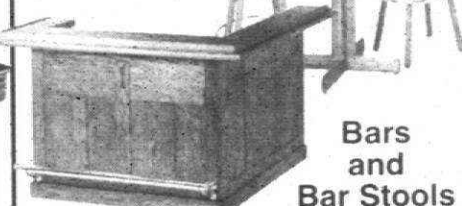
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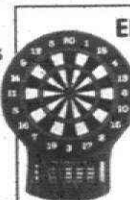
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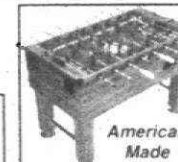
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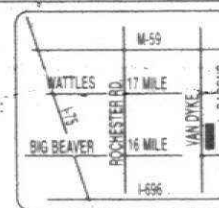
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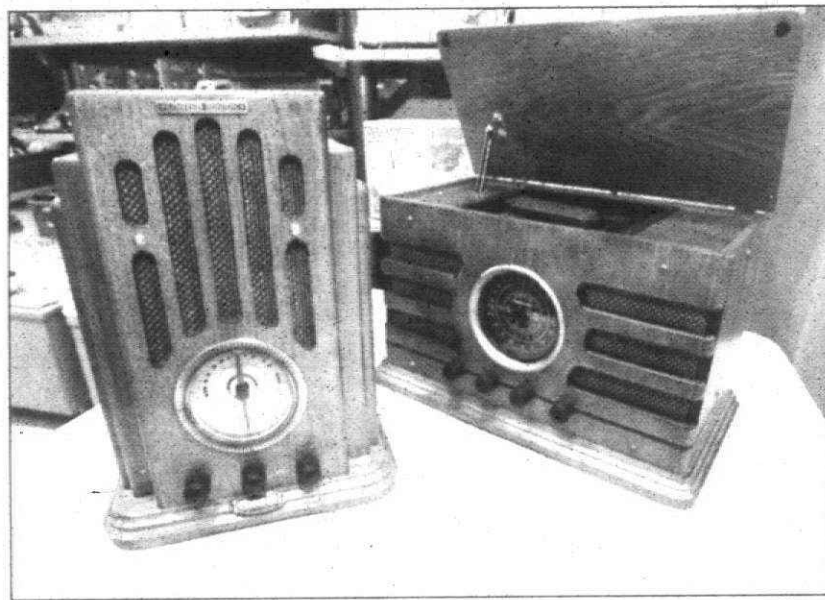
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ROCKIN' AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Yesteryear is here: These radios are made to resemble (from left) the 1939 Empire and 1936 Bluebird, but inside they're modern AM/FM cassette players. The Discovery Channel Store in 12 Oaks Mall sells the Empire for \$99 and the Bluebird for \$199.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

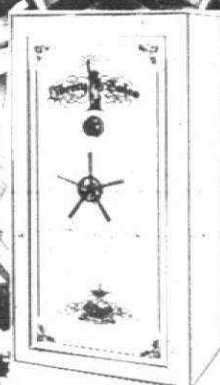
Got any quarters? What do you get for the person who already has a pool table, bar and big-screen TV in his finished basement? How about a real jukebox from Cleveland Coin Machine Exchange of Livonia? This NSM jukebox combines the classic look of the 1940s with modern compact disc technology. Check out the 100 CD capacity, 250-watt amplification and more than 100 programmable functions. How much? Only \$6,199.

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PEDALING BACKWARDS

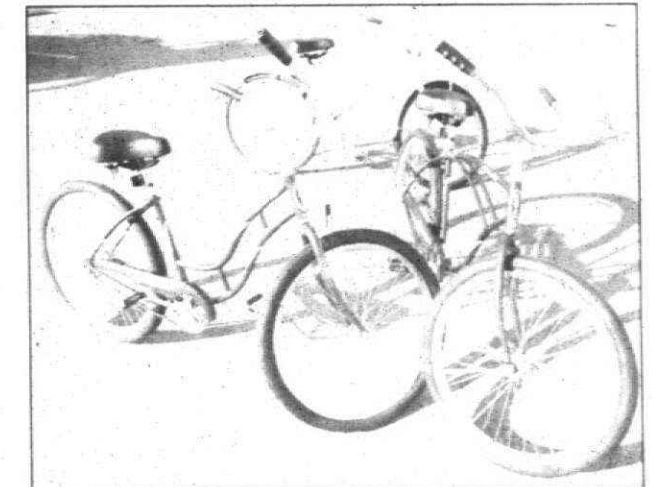
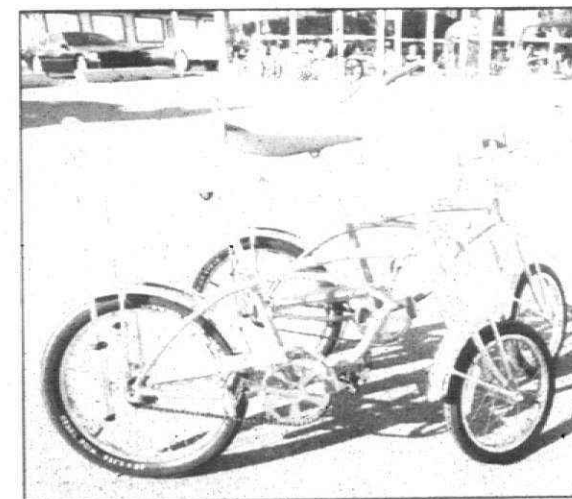


STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Let it roll: Schwinn has responded to the retro bicycle movement with several models, including (at left) the 1949 Black Phantom replica for \$2,000. The Cruiser Deluxe on the right is priced at \$450. All bikes on this page were photographed at Livonia Schwinn on Seven Mile east of Middlebelt (next to Leon's Restaurant).

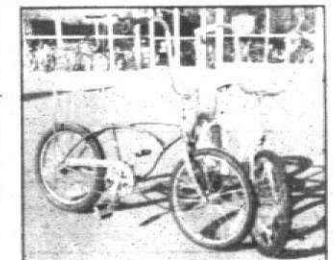
Banana seats:

Schwinn's Apple Krat and Orange Krat. These replicas have everything but multiple speeds and a stick shift on the horizontal bar, which the government will no longer allow. The price has come down from \$500 to \$425.



Cruising along: These 1955 Schwinn Cruisers are just plain comfortable and practical. The two without fenders are \$200. The other is a bit more.

Pedal pushing: Schwinn's replicas of the 1963 Sting-Ray for \$329 each.



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OH, CHRISTMAS TREE!



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

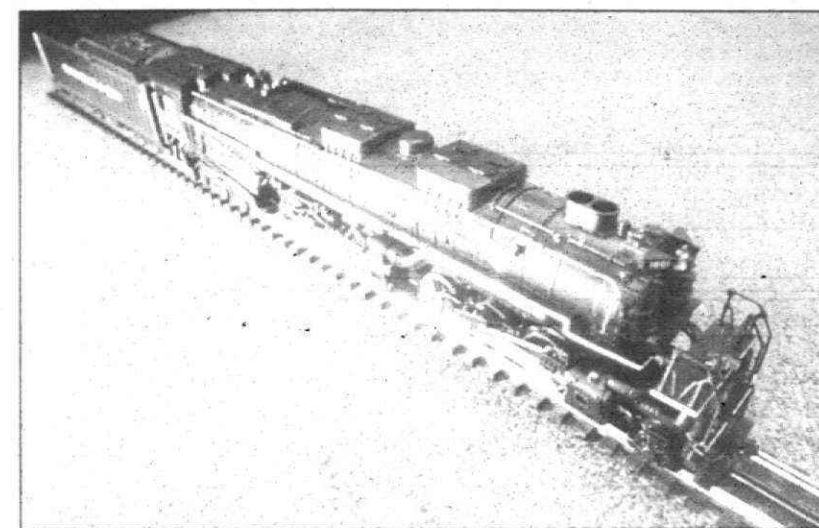
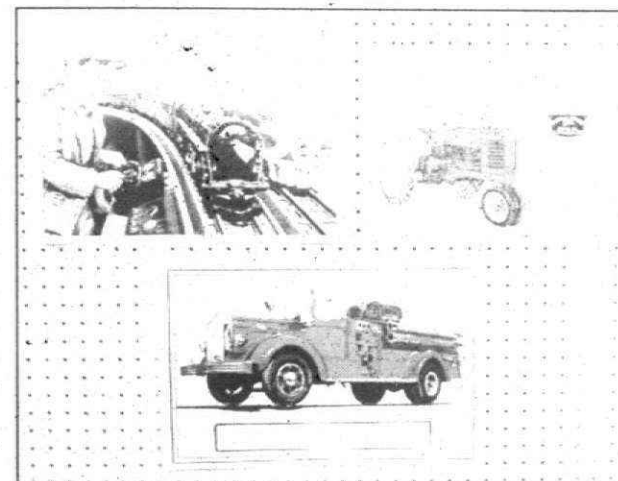
Boughs of jewels: ornaments range from \$1.49 for the replicas of the tin signs, to \$40 for the Polanaise glass ornaments.



Tall beauty: A seven-foot silver Christmas tree - \$159.

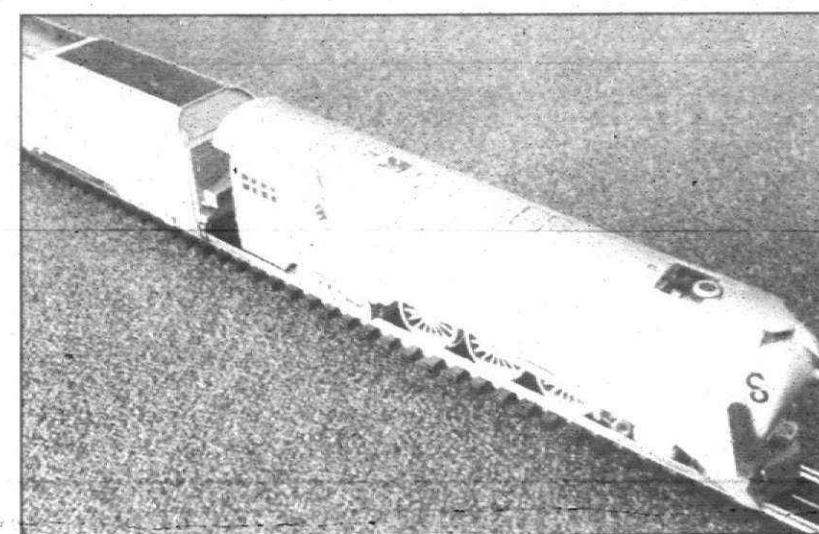
BACK TRACK

Give me a sign: Livonia resident Charles Reiser sells replicas of old signs like these at the Town Peddler in Livonia. Each sells for less than \$10.



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Choo! choo! Pretend you're running the Cannonball Express to Petticoat Junction with this Lionel Allegheny. The real one can be seen at the Henry Ford Museum. The small one shown here is available for sale at Ken and Sandy Andreoni's Merri-Seven hobby shop on the northwest corner of Merriman and Seven Mile in Livonia.



Riding the rails: Before there were bullet trains there were sleek babies like this streamline Hudson. The Lionel model shown here can be found at Ken and Sandy Andreoni's Merri-Seven hobby shop.

Happy Holidays

from the staff of

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GREAT GUY GIFTS

Gifts of Christmas past are in again

BY CHANDRA ORR
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

If you're like the rest of us, you're at your wits' end searching for a gift for the guy who seems to have everything. You know the one: You buy the same conservative blue tie for him every year.

Relax. This year you don't have to spend weeks searching for that perfect present only to end up with another gift certificate. On the cusp of the millennium, retro is in and novelty items reflecting the past make affordable, but memorable, gifts.

Got a music-lover on your list but don't know what new albums he wants? Get him vintage albums, in the form of drink coasters. Toscano, a mail-order company specializing in items inspired by times past, offers a set of drink coasters made from record labels of pre-World War II 78 RPMs. The coasters are cut from actual records and backed with felt. A box of four is \$29.95, but rest assured they won't be banished to the cupboard once the holidays are over.

Or, give the gift of real music: a replica 1920s AM-FM radio, also from Toscano. At under \$50 each, these affordable and functional radios will be a useful and unique addition to any man's office or study. You can find Toscano on the Inter-

net at www.designtoscano.com, or call for a catalog: (800) 525-0733.

Locally, you'll find replicas of 1930s radios at the Discovery Channel Store in 12 Oaks Mall.

A replica vintage phone is another great blast from the past that mixes retro style with modern functionality. The Metro Phone from Pottery Barn is a new twist on an old favorite. The chunky black and chrome telephone looks like the

rotary phones of the '40s, but features touch-tone keys and redial. A hidden drawer in the base of the phone holds notepaper. The Metro Phone is \$69. To order call (800) 922-5507, or surf over to www.potterybarn.com.

If vintage electronics are the gift you want to give, and price is no concern, check out Harry Poster's Web site (www.harryposter.com). This handyman transplants new color television parts into cabinets from the 1950s, '60s and '70s. Some TVs look like they were pulled out of the Jetsons' living room, like the portable, metal General Electric "Hot-point" from the mid-'50s, while others, like an RCA wood table-top set from 1948, look almost antique. Poster will

refurbish TVs on a special-order basis, but he also has a wide selection of sets that are ready to ship. The TVs range in price from \$150 to \$700, but most feature luxuries of modern sets, like channel surfing.

For the swank, styling guy on your gift-giving list, think pink. In the wave of cool cartoon character collectibles and the resurgence of styles from the '60s, the Pink Panther is making a big comeback. One of the original swing kids, the coolest of the cool cats, the Pink Panther is popping up on apparel like boxer shorts and neckties (available at Target) to bendable figures and yo-yos (available at Toys R Us). For more information and gift ideas, check out the Pink Panther's Web site: www.pinkpanther.com.

Inspired by swinger Austin Powers and his bachelor pad, but with the class and sophistication of James Bond, martini shakers are seeing a new peak in popularity. Reasonably priced stainless steel shakers are available from Crate&Barrel. These capsule-shaped bar classics cost \$23.95, or \$14.95 for a smaller version. Call (800) 323-5461 to order, or shop online at www.crateandbarrel.com.

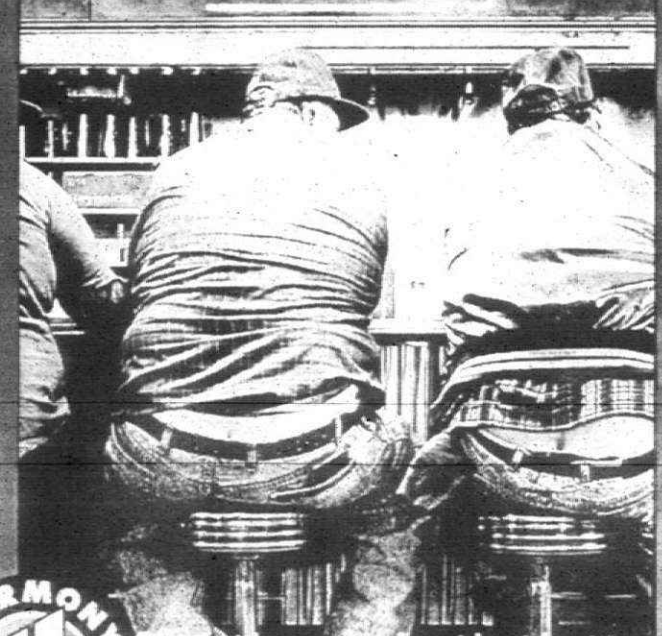
A campier version of the cocktail shaker, one shaped like a penguin, is available from Pottery Barn for \$29 (800-922-5507).

Let the traveler in your life take the whole cocktail lounge on the road with a travel bar, also from Pottery Barn. With a leather case, all the necessary tools like a corkscrew and bar towel, and room for three bottles, this gift definitely says 007. The travel bar is \$129.

Know someone stuck on the '80s? Perhaps nothing is more a token of that decade than Swatch, the company that took watches from apparel to fine art. Instead of trying to hunt down a pricey Swatch circa 1980, give one that is sure to become a sought-out collectible: the It's Here Swatch commemorating the new millennium. Featuring miniature monthly calendars for the year 2000 printed in black on a clear watchband, this Swatch is the perfect mix of '80s cool and the Y2K celebration. Find Swatch on the internet at www.swatch.com, or at major department stores.

Still stumped on what to give that hard-to-shop-for guy? The key is finding something that merges reflections of the past with the modern - something sure to inspire conversation. If you can't find anything, create something. For about \$30, Kinkos will turn your old photographs into a 12-month calendar for 2000. What better way to bring the past and future together?

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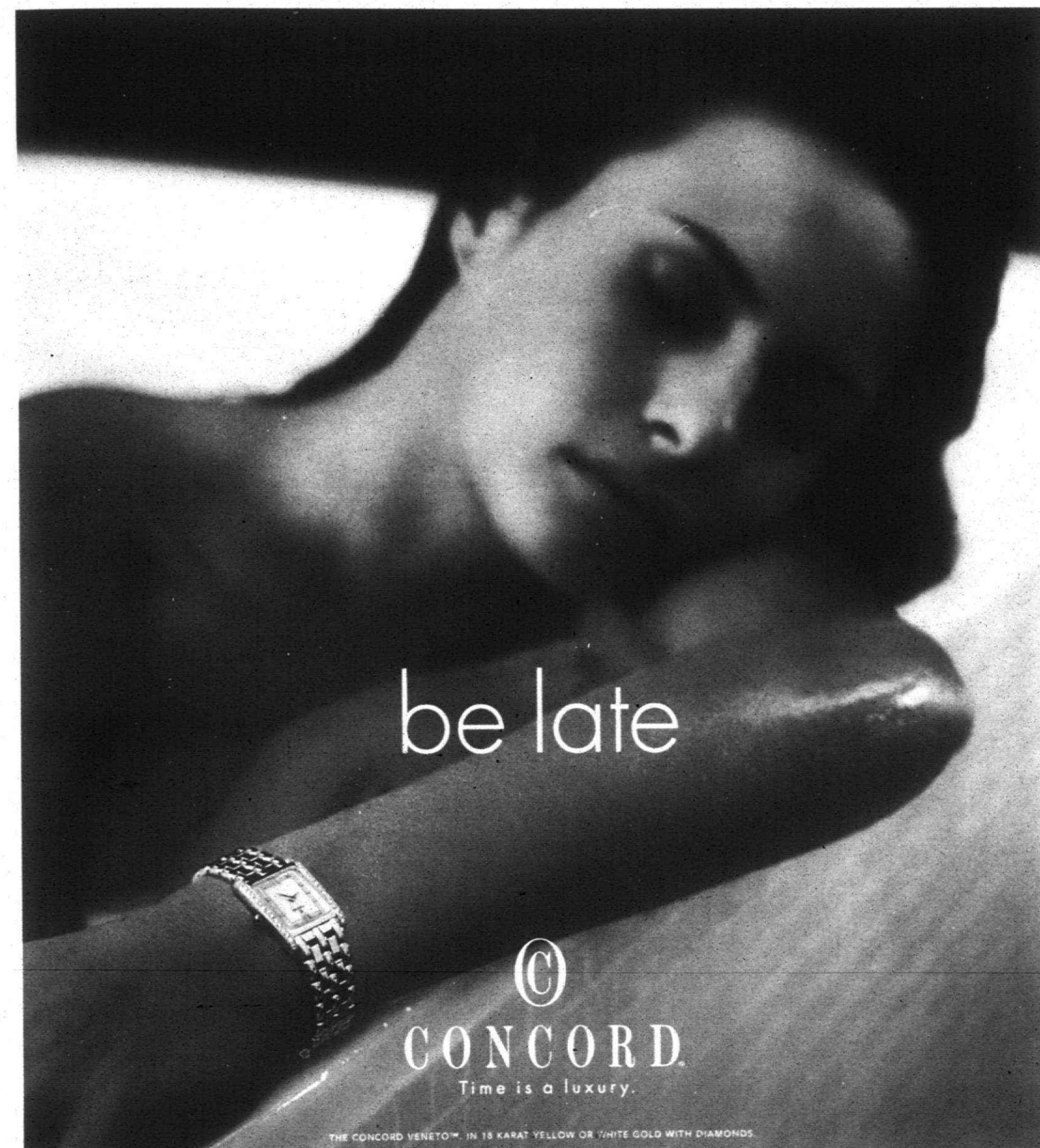
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