

Saluting the BEST

The Canton Chamber of Commerce wants to give someone the business - as in Business Person of the Year.

The chamber is accepting nominations for its Business Person of the Year and Athena Awards. The respective awards are given annually to a top performer in the business community who is involved in making Canton a better place to live and work, and someone who is instrumental in furthering the achievements and goals of women in the workplace.

This year's honorees will be saluted during the chamber's May 3 luncheon at the Summit. Carmen Harlan, WDIV-TV news anchor, will be the keynote speaker.

The Observer Newspapers sponsors the Business Person of the Year Award.

The nomination deadline for both awards is the close of business on Tuesday, April 18. For more information or to receive a nomination form by fax, call the chamber at (734) 453-4040.

IN THE PAPER TODAY

ENTERTAINMENT

Popular music: Paradime can hold its own among the best hip-hop artists. The Livonia rapper was nominated for two Detroit Music Awards. /E1

REAL ESTATE

It matters: Go with your feelings when you hire someone to sell your home. /F1

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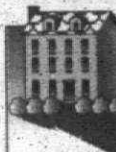


The first place to visit when you're looking for a new place to live? The Real Estate ads in today's HomeTown Classifieds!



To place a classified ad: 734-591-0900

Home project is mired in mud



Canton residents Dax and Linda Patel are caught between concrete and a hard place - and out \$6,000 for an incomplete patio. Their first contractor has apparently abandoned the job and others are reluctant to pick it up.

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
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When Dax and Lina Patel contracted Pearce Exterior Services to build a patio, they viewed it as the final piece to their dream home in Canton's posh Fairways West subdivision.

Nine months later, the couple is out more than \$6,000 and the patio is far from complete. Worse yet, reputable contractors are reluctant to finish the job left by Pearce Exterior.

"He left me with a big mess that nobody will touch unless they can rip us off, too," said Lina Patel. "Big companies won't do the work. Small companies want to rip you off."

Pearce Exterior Services is based in Holland, Mich. The Observer attempt-

ed to contact the firm's owner, Michael Pearce, for this story but was unsuccessful. The phone number of the business was listed as disconnected late Tuesday afternoon.

The Patels were not new to Canton when they moved into their 3,300-square-foot home just west of Beck Road in November 1998.

The family lived in the Glengarry subdivision for five years, in fact, after moving from Pennsylvania. They decided to stay in the township for a number of reasons.

"We were very happy with Canton," said Lina Patel. "It's in the center of everything. We liked the library and the Summit. We had a great neighbor-

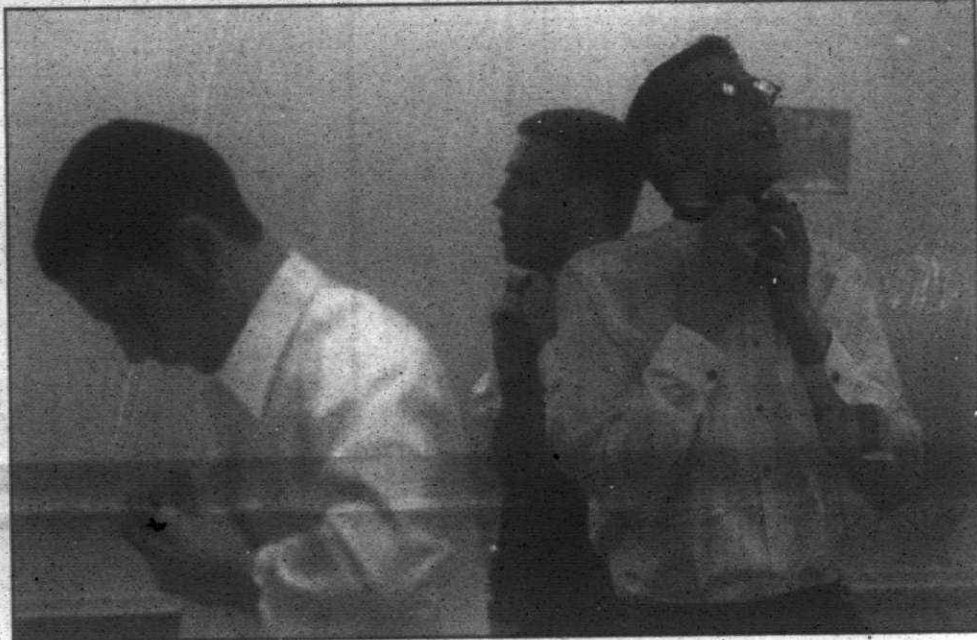
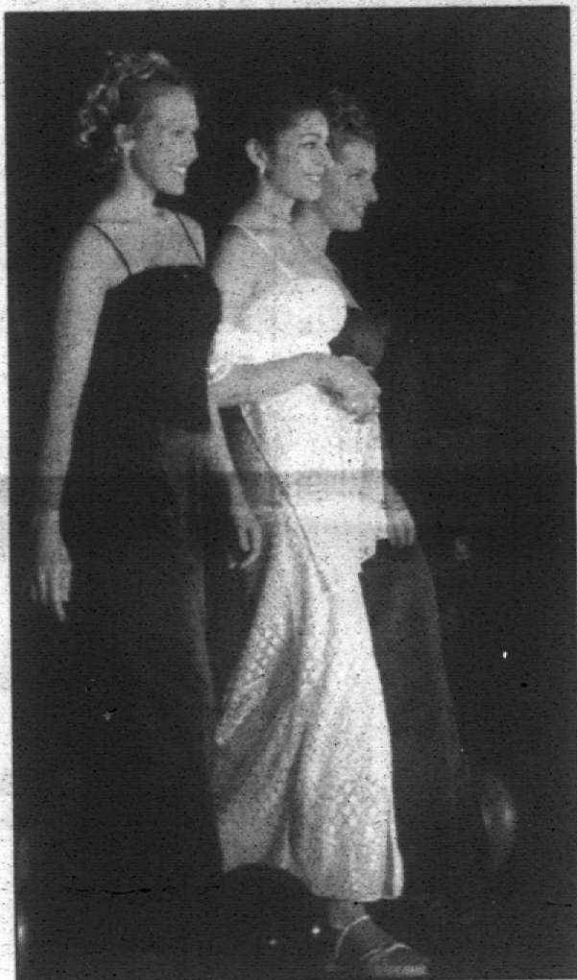
Please see PATIO, A4



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Unfinished: Linda Patel shows off the mound of dirt that was supposed to be the patio at her new home.

Getting a sneak peak at prom night



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Dressing to the nines: Dan Souphis (right) adjusts his bow tie while changing tuxedos with Drew Owens (center) and Bryon Kindernay backstage at the annual prom fashion show last week in the Plymouth Canton High School cafeteria. Pictured at left, Michelle Bernard (from left) Puja Amin, and Lauren Devine sashay onto the runway. For a story and more photos from this year's show, please turn to page A9 in today's Observer.

Police: Shoplifter, 11, assaults store manager

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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An 11-year-old Canton boy was arrested March 16 after assaulting a convenience store manager.

The middle school student, whose name is being withheld by the Observer, will face charges of assault and

retail fraud in juvenile court or at 35th District Court in Plymouth, Canton Police Sgt. Charles Raycraft said.

"We will make a determination later this week," he said as to who would hear the case.

The incident occurred at a 7-Eleven convenience store on Canton Center Road near Warren March 16 at approx-

imately 4 p.m., according to township police reports.

The boy walked into the store, took two boxes of cookies and concealed them in his jacket, reports said. The 11-year-old then left the store.

Ruhit Patel, a 51-year-old manager, stopped the boy in the parking lot. Reports said he told the 11-year-old to

return the cookies.

The boy gave back one of the boxes, reports said. Patel, who declined to comment on the incident, then took him back in the store and told him he was going to call his parents.

The boy refused to give his parents

Please see ASSAULT, A6

Supply wars Office Depot is second retailer to hit town

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
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Metro Detroit's 16th Office Depot store is scheduled to open Saturday along Canton's Ford Road business corridor - making it Canton's second large office supply store to open in the township within six months.

Office Depot joins competitor Office Max, located on 43195 Ford near Morton Taylor. Office Max opened in September 1999.

Canton Supervisor Tom Yack said the competition would be a good thing.

"Here we've gone from having no office supply stores a year ago to two," Yack said, adding "It's nice to see the last portion of the Super Kmart site developed."

Yack said Canton residents had to go to Westland to shop for office supplies before Office Max and Office Depot opened.

"It was always kind of inconvenient to go to Westland - now we'll have a choice of two" office supply stores, he said.

A public grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony is planned for noon Saturday at the store, at 41690 Ford Road. Office Depot is located next to Super Kmart at the corner of Haggerty.

The 30,000-square-foot store will sell office and school supplies, business machines and computer hardware and supplies. Services provided at Office Depot include printing, copying, faxing, personalized checks and business

Please see OFFICE DEPOT, A3

Canton Chamber kicks up its spurs for auction

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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Yeeehaw, partner, it's time to saddle up and get ready for the Canton Chamber of Commerce's Dinner Auction.

"Diamonds and Denim" is the theme for the 12th annual event, which will be held March 31 at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Festivities begin at 7 p.m.

"We want everyone to have a good time," said auction chairman Tony Kwilos, "and come dressed in costume. Ten gallon hats are welcome. The closer you look to Garth Brooks, the better."

About 140 items will be auctioned either live or silently. From trips to jewelry, it'll be a virtual bonanza,

'Ten gallon hats are welcome. The closer you look to Garth Brooks, the better.'

-Tony Kwilos,
auction chairman

according to Kwilos.

"We'll be auctioning two Red Wings' playoff tickets along with a signed Steve Yzerman hockey stick," he added.

The auction is the chamber's largest fund-raising event each year. A golf outing is also held each August, but it raises substantially less.

Please see AUCTION, A6

Thief strikes in Hockeytown

A pair of Detroit Red Wings tickets were stolen from a 31-year-old Brighton man in Canton recently, according to town-ship police reports.

The tickets, valued at \$150, were stolen from the man's jacket on March 14. Reports said the jacket was in an office trailer at a home construction site at Ford and Beck roads.

Police have no suspects.

Damaged vehicle

A 23-year-old Ypsilanti man's 2000 Ford pickup truck was deliberately damaged Friday in Canton, reports said.

The vehicle was parked at a Lot's Road motel between 1:30

COP CALLS

a.m. and 2 p.m. Reports said an unknown person scratched the paint on the driver's door and flattened a tire.

Damage was estimated at \$300, reports said. Police have no suspects.

Equipment stolen

More than \$600 worth of equipment was stolen from a Canton man's storage shed recently.

Reports said the shed was pried open. A tool box (\$90) and heater (\$525) were stolen.

The incident occurred between

March 4 and Friday, reports said. The 32-year-old Canton man is a resident of the Sherwood Mobile home park near Michigan Avenue and Haggerty Road.

Music mayhem

Canton police arrested an unidentified woman Friday for attempting to steal a compact disc from Dearborn Music on Ford Road.

The woman, who reports didn't identify, set off an alarm when she tried to leave the store, reports said. A CD valued at \$13.99 was discovered. She was subsequently arrested and taken to the Canton Police Department.

The incident occurred at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Busted

A 20-year-old Plymouth man was arrested in Canton Friday

after police discovered marijuana in his car.

Reports said the man, who was driving a 1993 Buick Regal, was pulled over near the intersection of Lilley Road and Barchester Street, which is south of Warren, at about 6 p.m.

The 20-year-old wasn't wearing a seat belt, reports said. Canton police arrested him when he was unable to produce a driver's license. An officer subsequently searched his vehicle and found a small amount of marijuana, reports said.

Domestic violence

A 19-year-old Canton woman was the victim of domestic violence Friday, according to reports.

The woman's ex-boyfriend came to her home on Stacey Street at about 4 p.m. An argument about their child ensued and resulted in the 20-year-old man punching and kicking her, reports said.

The man, whose residence wasn't given in reports, left after assaulting the woman.

CARRIER OF THE MONTH: CANTON

TIMOTHY PAUL FINCH

Timothy Paul Finch, 13, has been named Carrier of the Month for March by the Canton Observer.

Timothy delivers the Canton Observer in the McIntyre Manor subdivision. He has been delivering the Observer since September, 1998.

The East Middle School seventh-grader's favorite subjects are Physical Education and Social Studies. His hobbies are playing baseball, coin collecting, and playing Ping-Pong. He was accepted into the TAG Program (Talented and Gifted) four years ago.

Timothy wants to go to Florida Tech University to become an Aeronautical/Aerospace Engineer.

Earning money and the special friendships that he establishes with customers are some of the things he likes about his route.

Communication with people is

n If you want to be a Canton Observer carrier, please call

591-0500



Timothy Paul Finch

one skill that he has developed.

Timothy is the son of Frank

and Kathy Finch.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUNDESMARK

Grand opening: Office Depot on Ford Road opens for business Saturday. The store will add 40 jobs to Canton's employment base.

Office Depot from page A1

forms, computer installation and rentals, as well as delivery and credit.

Store hours are 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

"I think it's going to be a nice addition to the community," said David Griffin, president of the Canton Chamber of Commerce. "We're certainly delighted to have another business opening in town - it shows how vibrant

the community is."

Eileen Dunn, vice president of investor relations and public relations for Office Depot, said about 40 employees are expected to be employed at the Canton store.

Canton was chosen as a Office Depot site because of its high number of small businesses - Office Depot's target customers. "This particular location met the criteria for our target mar-

ket," Dunn said. "It had a significant amount of small business counts."

To celebrate the opening, Office Depot will donate \$1,000 in gift certificates to the Detroit Urban League. Additionally, a donation of \$500 will be made to the Livonia Church. Choralations of Churchill High School, according to a press release. The Choralations are also scheduled to perform.

Man tries to lure girl into van

BY BRAD KADIRICH
STAFF WRITER
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Proper training may have paid off for a 10-year-old Plymouth girl Thursday.

The girl was approached around 5 p.m. by a man driving a van in the area of Harvey and Carol in the city of Plymouth. The driver demanded the girl get into the van, and the girl promptly ran home to tell her mother.

"The little girl did exactly the

right thing," Plymouth police Sgt. Steve Hundesmark said. "She went home and reported the event to her mother, who immediately called the police."

The driver is described as a dark-skinned white male around 40 years old with short black hair, a beard and mustache. According to Hundesmark, he was driving an "older, rusted, faded red van with no windows in the back."

"We went out there, but there was no sign of the vehicle or the

person," Hundesmark said. "We're asking anyone who might have seen the van or the person to report it."

More importantly, he said, parents should advise their children to avoid any vehicle or person matching the descriptions. "Actually, they should avoid anyone or anything suspicious looking," Hundesmark said.

Anyone with any information about this incident can call the police department at (734) 453-8600.

Officials see gains with post office move

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
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Township officials say they hope the United States Postal

Service's recent moving of mail sorting operations to the Canton post office will bring improved customer service.

Elizabeth Najdich, USPS communications specialist, said on-site mail processing has begun at the Canton post office, involving about 20 to 23 employees. Canton mail sorting was previously done at the Westland post office.

"Everything we do is to improve customer service," Najdich said.

Service has been an issue with customers since before the post office opened in 1998. Many customers have reported problems with mail delivery, some com-

plaining about receiving mail as late as 7:30 p.m.

Canton Clerk Terry Bennett has said that at times, she has gone to the post office to pick up mail herself so that the township can process it in a timely manner.

"If (bringing sorting to Canton) will improve service to our residents, then I think it's a good idea," Bennett said. "I'm for it if it means mail gets delivered in a timely manner."

In other post office news, the USPS is still moving ahead with plans to purchase nearly one acre of township land to build an additional parking lot, according to Canton Supervisor Tom Yack.

Postal officials have said the parking lot will be used by employees.

"They're going to make an appraisal," Yack said, adding that the process could take seven to 12 weeks.

The post office purchased 4.6 acres from the township for \$474,720 in 1996. The land purchased was part of Griffin Park.

Yack said there should be no trouble approving the land sale to the USPS at the township board level.

"If (building the parking lot) improves customer service in any fashion, I'm sure our board will support it. It doesn't mean we'll give (the land) away," Yack said.

Driver education registration is Saturday

Registration for this summer's Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Driver Education Program will take place at 8 a.m. Saturday, March 25 at the Canton High School Cafeteria.

This will be the only registration day.

If the student/parent cannot

register on this date, someone else may register for that person. Registration is scheduled on a birth date basis. Any students who will be at least 14 years and 8 months old prior to the first day of class (a birth date before Nov. 21, 1985) will be eligible for this summer's

driver education program.

Registration forms can be picked up in either the Canton or Salem High School general offices. This year there is a charge of \$166 for this program payable upon registration. This includes a workbook.

CANTON 6

First 10 min. of 4-5:30 p.m. (Canton 6)
\$3.50 (includes 4 min. to 5 p.m. daily)
Only \$4.25 Matinee before 4 p.m.
Kids Seniors & Evidence all day Tuesday
\$5.50 with Student ID after 4 p.m.
\$4.25 Late Shows Fri & Sat (Digital Stereo)
No Fees or Tuesday discounts
Unlimited Free Drink & 25¢ Corn Nuts
MOVIE GUIDE
FREE SPRING MATINEES!
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 11AM
1st ANTE (PG)
DUDLEY DO RIGHT (PG)

WHOLE NINE YARDS (R)
1:00, 3:10, 5:10, 7:20, 9:20
ERIK BRONCKOVICH (R)
11:45, 1:50, 2:15, 4:20, 4:45, 6:50,
7:15, 9:20, 9:45
FINAL DESTINATION (R)
12:30, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:40
MISSION TO MARS (PG)
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:25
NINTH GATE (R)
11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

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One year (Sr. Citizen).....\$38.00	One year (Sr. Citizen).....\$44.00
Newsstand.....75¢ per copy	One year (out of State).....\$90.00

All advertising published in the Canton Observer is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department. The Canton Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, (734) 591-2300. The Canton Observer reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer & Eccentric! ad takes have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute that acceptance of the advertiser's order.



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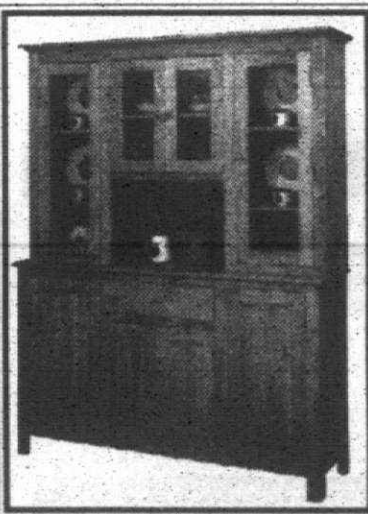


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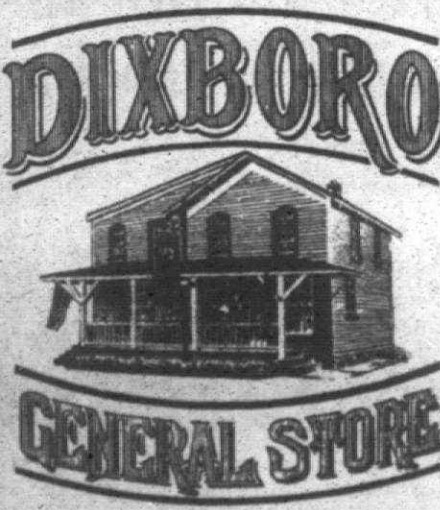
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Friday until 8, Sunday 11-5

CANTON CONNECTION

Cheap reads

This weekend you can fill your bookcase at bargain prices. The Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center, will hold a used book sale Saturday and Sunday. Hours are 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday. Hardcover are \$1 and paperback 50 cents. There will be some specially priced items as well. The library raised \$14,000 at its Big Used Book Sale in February.

Good shot

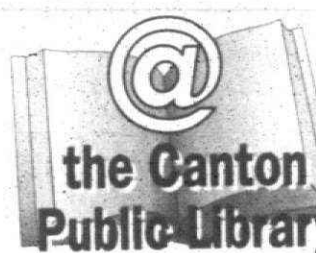
Canton resident Bradley Harbison won in his age division at the recent district and regional Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest. Bradley, a fourth-grader at St. Raphael School in Garden City, went on to compete this month in the statewide competition near Grand Rapids. He is the son of Linda and Gordon Harbison.

Republicans elect officers

The Canton Republican Club elected officers for 2000 at its annual meeting this month. State Rep. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, was re-elected president. Herb Scott was re-elected vice president. Serving as treasurer will be Steve Conley. Robert Bovitz was elected secretary. Melissa McLaughlin, Canton Township trustee and a member of the township planning commission, was named recording secretary. Following the election of officers, committee members were appointed.

Commitment to excellence

Catherine Brozek of Canton Township recently received a Commitment to Excellence Award from Bank One. Brozek is a manager at the Orchard Lake-Maple branch of Bank One in West Bloomfield.



Did you know?

■ The library will be closed on Friday, March 24, to tie in with the water service and move the fire hydrant that would otherwise be in the middle of the youth department?
■ Sunday, March 26, is "Make Up Your Own Holiday Day?" It's a day you may name whatever holiday you want.
■ For quicker postal service processing, you should print your addresses in capital letters and use at least 12-point type.

Construction update

The library expansion is well under way with the first phase involving the youth department on the west side of the building. Visit the proposed floor plan and

our photo album of the expansion at our Web site: www.metronet.lib.mi.us/canton/updates/index.html

Web Watch

Check out these Web sites:
■ www.mamta.com
■ www.chatdictionary.com
■ www.webinfosearch.com
■ www.lycos.com/roadmap.html
■ www.pewebopadia.com

Q&A

Q: What was "Near Miss Day?"
A: On March 23, 1989, a mountain-sized asteroid passed within 50,000 miles of earth, a very close call, according to NASA. Impact would have equaled the strength of 40,000 hydrogen bombs, created a crater the size of the District of Columbia and devastated everything for 100 miles in all directions.

The source for this information is "Chase's 2000 Calendar of Events."

Tasteful mysteries

Here are some whodunnits in

which food plays a central role.

■ "Thyme of Death" by Susan Wittig Albert
■ "The Blue Corn Murders" by Nancy Pickard
■ "Prime Cut" by Diane Mott Davidson
■ "A Taste for Murder" by Claudia Bishop
■ "Funeral Food" by Kathleen Taylor

Good reads

Here are some books that are bound to make you feel better.
■ "Rum Punch" by Elmore Leonard
■ "A Superior Death" by Nevada Barr
■ "Slaughterhouse Five" by Kurt Vonnegut
■ "A Town Like Alice" by Nevil Shute
■ "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" by Betty Smith

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

Domestic violence shelter seeks volunteers

First Step project on domestic violence and sexual assault seeks volunteers. Become a volunteer and help other people while putting an end to domestic

violence and sexual assault in your community.

First Step has been active in the effort to end violence in Western Wayne County and

Downriver communities for more than 20 years. Volunteer opportunities are available for women and men. For more information, call (734) 416-1111, ext. 223.



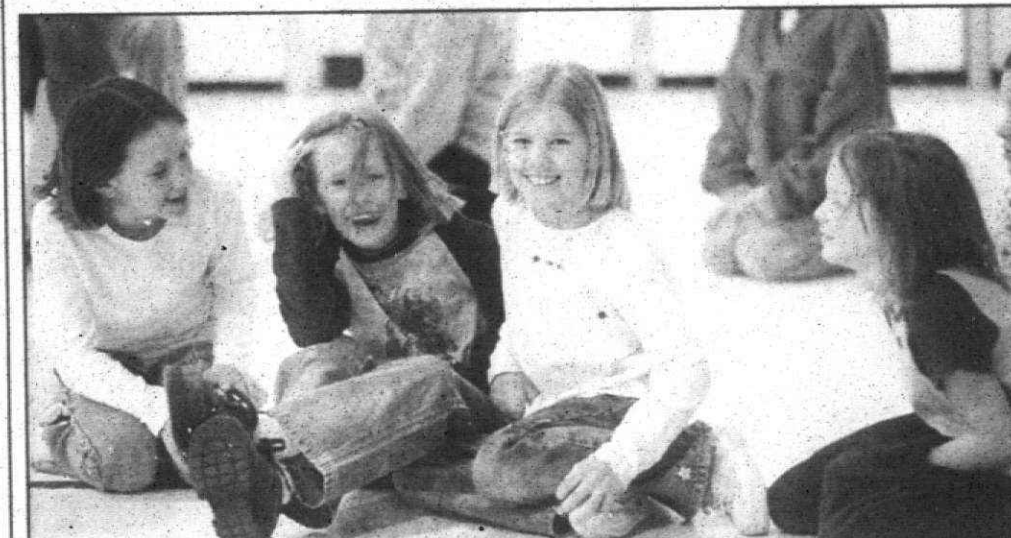
Putting their heart into it at Hulsing

Students in the third, fourth and fifth grade at Hulsing Elementary School in Canton put their hearts into a recent project.

As part of the school's Hoops for Heart Marathon, the students participated in relays during a week's worth of Physical Education classes and collected pledges from family and friends for the fund-raiser, which will benefit the American Heart Association.

Physical Education instructors Dave Fedewa and Mark Copp led the program and coordinated collecting funds.

Ready, aim... Nicole Martin, 9, has her eyes on the prize as she attempts to sink a basket during the Hoops for Heart marathon.



Waiting their turn: Stephanie Lacasse, 9, (from left) Amber Nickell, 9, Briana Beyer, 8, Beth Sample, 8, and Eileen Hail, 8, watch their teammates during a relay.

Yeah, you look cool.

Everyone will want to be seen in embroidery from Monkeywear.

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Black tank top, cotton/nylon/spandex, \$56.

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Pink dress, cotton/nylon/spandex, \$102.

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Patio from page A1

hood." They found their home just a bit too small, however, and decided to upgrade in brand new Fairways West. Patel said it was very exciting to oversee construction of their new home despite a difficult builder.

"He was hard to work with," she commented. "But he builds good homes."

After a few minor disagreements, the Patels closed on the \$325,000 home and moved in late fall of 1998. It was the fourth time the couple had been through the process of building a new home.

"My husband told me, 'this is your final dream house,'" Patel said.

The couple began focusing on the home's exterior in early 1999.

Landscaping, sod, a sprinkler system and a patio were among the projects they planned to have done last spring and summer. Problems soon arose.

The Patels hired a firm to do all of the work. But the landscaping wasn't completed without a lot of headaches and until the end of June.

They then decided to go elsewhere for sod, sprinkler and patio work. That's where Pearce Exterior comes in.

Dax and Lina hired the Holland-based firm last July based on the recommendation of several neighbors.

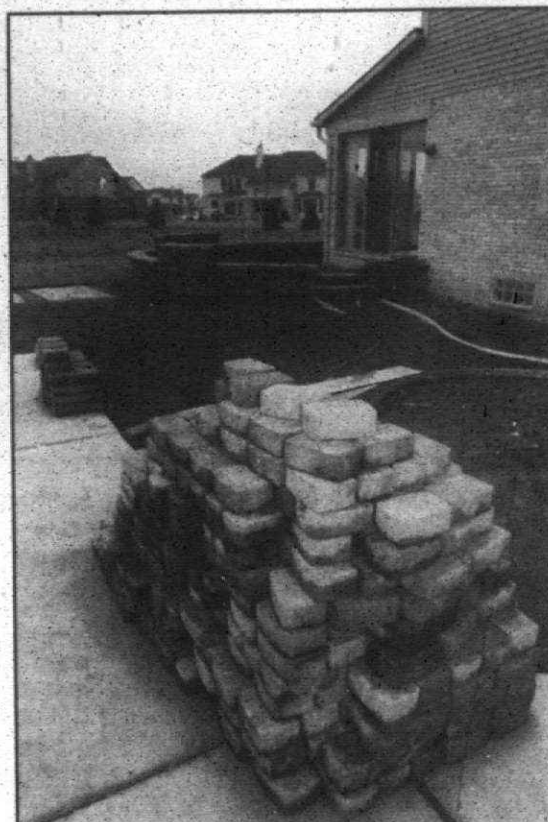
"They were very happy with him," said Lina Patel. "I watched him work. He seemed like he was working very hard."

Asse Suthar said Pearce landscaped and built a patio for their home. She said she and her husband contracted him in May 1999. Pearce completed work in August.

"He did a very good job," said Suthar, who added that Pearce's work schedule was sporadic. "Whenever he worked, he was good."

Kathy Woelcke, another neighbor of Patel, also had landscaping and a patio done by Pearce Exterior. She said they hired Pearce in early spring last year and he finished in August.

"His work is very good," Woelcke said. "He just took a long time."



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSBACH

The Patels, unfortunately, tell a different story.

The couple sat down with Michael Pearce on July 2 and signed a contract. It called for a patio with wall, walkways and benches. A price of \$8,200 was quoted.

Lina Patel said they gave Pearce 45 percent, or \$3,690, as a down payment at the initial meeting. Work was to begin by late July. Pearce didn't show until Oct. 13.

"We never hounded him," said Patel. "We never called him. We knew he was finishing other jobs in the neighborhood."

Pearce and his crew worked Oct. 13-15 and Oct. 20. The wall was built and dirt dumped in where the patio was supposed to go.

Pearce never returned after Oct. 20. It wasn't until early winter that the couple became suspicious. Meanwhile, Pearce had collected a second installment of \$2,870 on Oct. 12.

Patel said Pearce promised numerous times after Oct. 20 to complete the job, but didn't. She said he made excuses about why he couldn't come.

"My van broke down. My wife is sick. My dad passed away," said Patel. "All the time we were very patient with him and very understanding."

In early January, the couple went so far as to send Pearce a certified letter urging him to complete the work. It fell on deaf ears, though.

Despite dozens of phone calls and the letter, the Patels haven't heard from Pearce since last fall. Calls to the Better Business Bureau and state of Michigan haven't helped. So now the Canton couple is considering litigation.

"It's my way of saying I did all that I could," said Patel. "It's too many times I've been ripped off."

Piled up:
A stack of unused building materials sits outside the Patels' home in Fairways West.

CHRISTOPHER E. CLOUGH

Services for Christopher E. Clough, 23, of Farmington Hills were March 14 at the Vermeulen Funeral Home, Plymouth with the Rev. Keith Moyers officiating.

He was born Dec. 1, 1976 in Southfield. He died March 10 in Farmington Hills. He was a cook.

Survivors include his parents, Earl H. of Farmington; brother, Daniel (Joan) Eaton of Romulus; many uncles, cousins, aunts; and one niece and nephew.

Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

GERALD O. FUELLING

Services for Gerald O. Fuelling, 74, of Plymouth were March 18 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth with the Rev. Dean Klump officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

He was born April 30, 1925 in Detroit. He died March 15 in Grand Rapids. He was an automotive engineer for Ford Motor Co. for 44 years.

He came to the Plymouth community in 1955 from Wayne. He was a member of the United Methodist church of Plymouth. He was a Mason at the Wayne Masonic Lodge. He had a summer residence in Black Lake, Mich. He loved golfing, bowling, and baseball.

He graduated from Wayne Memorial High School.

Survivors include his wife, Florence of Plymouth; three children, Gary (Gretchen) of Grand Rapids, Kathy (Patrick) Dougherty of Sault Ste. Marie, Keith (Debbie) of Westminister, Colo.; two brothers, Richard (Dorothy) of Fairfield Glade, Tenn., Melvin (Celia) of Ocoee, Mich.; twin sister, Geraldine (Jim) Keon of Westland; sister-in-law, Carol Wootton and Mary Wootton; 11 grandchildren, John, William, Andrew, Kathryn, Shannon, Kelly, Tara, Brigitte, Ryan, Brandon, Karli; and three great-grandchildren, Madison, Megan and Jordan.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

THOMAS H. WARD

Services for Thomas H. Ward, 60, of Plymouth Township will be March 20 at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Westland, with Rev. Drexel E. Morton of St. Michael Lutheran Church officiating.

He was born July 31, 1939 in Detroit. He died March 15 in the V.A. Hospital of Detroit. He

was in the armed forces.

Survivors include his mother, Alberta McLean; two sisters, Dona Ladach, Kathy Sajdak; and three brothers, Robert Ward, Stephen McLean, and Kenneth McLean.

THOMAS A. CHRISTOFF

Services for Thomas A. Christoff, 47, of Plymouth were March 17 at St. Mary Catholic Church, Wayne with the Rev. Jack H. Baker officiating.

He was born Dec. 12, 1952 in Detroit. He died March 14 in Livonia. He was a design engineer for Ford Motor Co./Visteon and was a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers.

He was a graduate of John Glenn High School in Westland, and received his bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan in 1974. He had lived in Plymouth since 1986 and previously in Livonia.

Survivors include his wife, Judith Ann (Mireles) Christoff of Plymouth; parents, Alan and Mary Christoff of Westland; three daughters, Diana Christoff of Ypsilanti, Maria Christoff of Plymouth, Alicia Jean Christoff of Plymouth; two sisters, Debra Christoff of Dearborn, Susan Christoff of Dearborn; and one brother, Glen (Mary) Christoff of Livonia.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, Midwest Affiliate, Dept. 77-3968, Chicago, Ill. 60678-3968.

MARGARET J. CLINANSMITH

Services for Margaret J. Clinansmith, 90, of Ypsilanti (formerly of Salem Township) will be 4 p.m. Saturday, March 25 at the First United Methodist Church of South Lyon.

She was born March 14, 1909 in Onaway, Mich. She died March 12. She was a member of the Sunshine Club.

She was preceded in death by two brothers. Survivors include

her husband, Walter Clinansmith of Ypsilanti; four children, Bruce (Sally) Presley of Ypsilanti, Walter (Birdie) Clinansmith of Plymouth, Joanne (Norman) Ladd of Coldwater, Beverly (Robert) Coe of Coldwater; sister-in-law, Doris Avis; 28 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and four nephews.

Memorials may be made to Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48103-8944.

Local arrangements were made by the Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon.

ELEANOR OLIVER

Services for Eleanor Oliver, 67, of Plymouth Township were held March 22 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth, with Pastor Norman D. Long officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth.

She was born July 10, 1932, in Plymouth and died March 18 in Plymouth. She was a cafeteria manager for the Plymouth-Canton Schools for 20 years. She came to the Plymouth community in 1959 from Livonia. She loved bingo, crossword puzzles and reading books. She was also an excellent cook and baker.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Hope Oliver. Survivors include her husband, Harold of Plymouth; three sons, Charles Oliver of Plymouth, William Oliver of Plymouth and Gary (Debbie) Oliver of Livonia; two brothers, Robert (Terri) Cramb of Fraser, Mich., and Richard (Joan) Cramb of West Branch, Mich.; her mother, Inez Cramb of Plymouth; and six grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the American Lung Association or Angela Hospice.

GLORIA JANE TERRIER

Services for Gloria Jane Terrier, 55, of Westland were held March 23 at the Schrader-How-

ell Funeral Home, Plymouth, with the Rev. Tom Kirwan officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth.

She was born April 24, 1944, in White Earth Township, Minn., and died March 19 in Wayne. She was a homemaker. She came to the Westland community in 1922 from Plymouth and was a member of St. Raphael Catholic Church in Garden City. She loved to collect Beanie Babies with her grandchildren. She also enjoyed collecting Native American memorabilia.

She was preceded in death by her two brothers, Earl and Leonard Bellanger. Survivors include her husband, Michael of Westland; two sons, Dave (Bar-

bara) Booth of Livonia and Dale Michael (Leeann) Booth of Plymouth; three sisters, Gladys Shroff of Ft. Wayne, Ind., Florence Parks of Ky., and Delores Campbell of Ft. Wayne, Ind.; three brothers, Kenneth Bellanger of Westland, Peter Bellanger of Livonia and Edward Bellanger of Ft. Wayne; and four grandchildren.

THELMA L. FERGUSON

Services for Thelma L. Ferguson, 85, of Plymouth were held March 18 in Northrop-Sassman Funeral Home, Northville, with the Rev. Louise R. Ott of Novi United Methodist Church officiating. Burial was in Rural Hill Cemetery.

She was born Aug. 23, 1914, in Farina, Ill., and died March 16

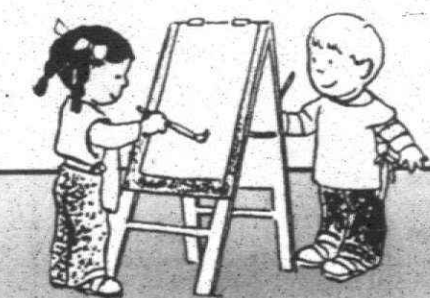
in Plymouth. She was a 70-year resident of Northville. Prior to her retirement she was a sales clerk in a dime store. She was a member of Novi United Methodist Church and was a very active member of the Association for Retarded Children.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Esly Nirider and Anne Dixon; and her husband, Clyde K. Ferguson on Oct. 10, 1990. Survivors include her three children, Dennis Ferguson of Plymouth, Joanne Jacobs, Ph.D., of Northville and William Ferguson of Plymouth; one brother, Cecil Nirider of Brighton; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorials may be made to Novi Methodist Church.

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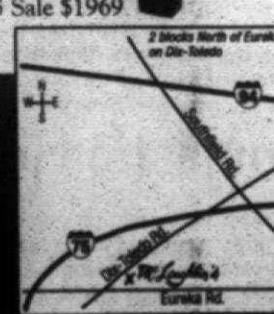


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Chamber narrows search for executive director

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER
hneedham@oe.homedecor.net

The Canton Chamber of Commerce has narrowed down its search for a new executive director to 25 candidates and is expected to begin interviewing finalists in April.

Chamber President David Griffin said Monday that the search committee received 75 applications and narrowed them down to 25. Applicants making the cut have received questionnaires and are expected to turn them in by the beginning of April.

The questionnaires ask candidates about their managerial experience and why they would like to be more involved in the community.

"When the questionnaires come back, then we'll have face-to-face interviews with the top qualified candidates," Griffin said. Then the search committee will select the top three or four candidates and send their questionnaires to an Ann Arbor consulting firm for further evaluation.

"When the evaluations will come back from this firm, they will give us a recommendation," Griffin said.

The timeline for final candidate selection will depend on a large part on scheduling, so Griffin said he could not give an exact hiring date.

Turnover has been a particular concern with the chamber.

The new director will be the chamber's third in less than four years. Ryan Ambrozaitis, the chamber's most recent executive director, resigned in January after serving 18 months.

"We are certainly looking at an increase in salary," Griffin said of the chamber's attempt to make the position more attractive.

"The economy is a revved up economy - of course salary is going to be re-evaluated. We

want to make sure this person's going to be in it for the long haul," Griffin said.

He said the exact salary is being discussed by the search committee and will depend on how much the candidate requests.

"A lot depends on the market," he said. "We're all aware that salary is a concern."

Market forces

"It really is an attempt to use market forces to achieve advances on a consumer product," Bownes added.

But Duggan had a different view.

"My problem is, is it (the agreement) tough enough?" he asked.

"When a gun is used in a crime, we can trace it and find out what dealer it came from," he acknowledged. "We want a provision that, when a dealer is selling large numbers of guns to kids and criminals, 'we want the sales to the dealer stopped.'"

As things now stand, he said, a special commission would have three to five years to make such a decision - a process that is "much too slow and cumbersome," he said.

"How fast government can move on a dealer" who violates the agreement's code of conduct - which triggers such an investigation - "is our only point of contention," Duggan said.

While he gave New Orleans credit for the safety issues in the suit - such as the gun locks which Smith & Wesson agreed to install - Duggan said it was Wayne County that "expressly put in" the code of conduct which Smith & Wesson said it would require its dealers to sign. The code says dealers won't sell to kids or felons.

"We are well-satisfied with the safety issues" part of the agreement, Duggan said, and he praised the Clinton administration.

Archer "was the first one to indicate he would like to encourage other companies to follow" S&W by making it and others who join it "the companies of choice for weapons to law enforcement" bodies, Bownes said.

Continuing

suit draws mixed views

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STAFF WRITER
rpearl@oe.homedecor.net

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While board Vice Chair Kay Beard declined comment due at least in part to what she said was a lack of documentation from Deputy Executive Michael Duggan on his decision, Commissioner John J. Sullivan supported the move.

A third commissioner, Kathleen Husk, opposes continuing the suit but favors the gun locks that are part of the settlement.

Sullivan, D. Romulus, said that "Personally, I agree with continuing" the lawsuit against Smith & Wesson and the others because "gun locks aren't going to be used by most of these people."

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Among other things, the nation's largest gun manufacturer also will, within 12 months, make handguns inoperable by children under age 6 and, within 24 months, have internal locking devices on the guns. It also will add a second "hidden" serial number to thwart criminals who try to erase them.

Sullivan, whose district includes the City of Wayne, part of Westland and all of Canton Township, said if someone "got the gun for safety (purposes), they're not going to want a gun lock on it."

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What's needed is to "stop selling guns to felons and minors," Sullivan said, citing videotapes by the sheriff's department showing dealers making such transactions.

"That kind of thing needs to be stopped and there really hasn't been any kind of guarantee" by the agreement that it will, he said.

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"I don't shoot from the hip," she said. "I like to know whereof I speak."

Furthermore, she cautioned, "This is an election year and a lot of people say and do a lot

of things."

See GUNS, A8

Auction from page A1

Last year, the chamber netted about \$20,000 from the auction.

"We hope to do that well again," said Kwiolos.

If planning counts for anything, the chamber should exceed that mark.

The Diamonds and Denim theme was developed shortly after last year's auction. It was chosen for several reasons, said Kwiolos.

"Country and Western is easy," he said. "We can do a lot of things with it."

After picking the theme, work began in September and kicked

into high gear in December, Kwiolos said. Securing donations and sponsorships as well as overseeing printing, decorations and the dinner menu took a lot of work by a lot of people, he said.

"We'll start putting up decorations at Laurel Manor on Thursday," Kwiolos added. "It's a two-day job."

Two dozen items will be auctioned live.

Trips to Orlando and the top of the Mackinac Bridge will be up for bids. A pig roast to feed 250 people will likely be the most expensive item at about \$5,000,

said Kwiolos.

The silent auction will feature more than 100 items. Bidders will have several sections of items to choose from.

A sports corner will have golf, skiing and other recreational equipment. Bicycles and an outdoor gym are featured for kids while handymen will have a variety of tools to bid on.

The silent auction works similar to a "50-50" draw. Patrons purchase tickets and place them in a barrel. A drawing from each barrel determines a winner.

"We have just about as many

items as last year," Kwiolos said. "We have a few more in the live auction and a few less in the silent auction."

He expects about 400 to attend the auction.

Patrons will be treated to a buffet style dinner. Pasta, chicken, beef, vegetables, salad and desert will be served, Kwiolos said.

Tickets for Diamonds and Denim, \$65 per person, are still available. Call (734) 453-4040 to make a reservation.

Assault from page A1

phone numbers out, however. Reports said Patel then told him he was going to contact police.

At that point, reports said, the boy attacked Patel. The 11-year-old punched and kicked him in the stomach and chest.

A struggle followed, reports said. The boy then grabbed a bottle, held it up and said "back off, I'm leaving," according to reports.

A Canton police officer arrived at that point. He wrestled the boy to the ground, hand-cuffed him and arrested him, reports said.

Township police have three possible routes in dealing with the boy.

He can be sent to the Wayne County youth home in Detroit. Raycraft said. The 11-year-old would appear in front of a juvenile court judge and face possi-

ble remand to the youth home. Children that commit crimes such as assaults, domestic violence and incidents with weapons are typically sent downtown, Raycraft said.

"If it's serious enough," he added, "we do attempt to put them into the youth home."

Less serious offenses are handled by the district court. Juveniles often get probation or are referred to local help agencies, said Raycraft.

Despite the recent rash of violence in schools, he doesn't believe crime among children is on the rise in Canton.

"I wouldn't say that there's more," Raycraft commented. "There's always been a certain amount of juvenile crime with assaults, retail fraud and larcenies."

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
REQUEST FOR BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center St., Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 10:00 a.m., April 6, 2000 for the following:

LEASE OF ONE (1) 2000 FORD EXPLORER, 4DOOR, 4WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLE

Specifications are available in the Finance and Budget Dept. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the bid name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT
Clerk

March 23, 2000

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
CDBG PROGRAM AMENDMENT

On March 7, 2000, the Board of Trustees approved amendments to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to (1) create a new FY 1999 activity for the community-wide reconstruction of existing sidewalks for curb cuts to facilitate wheelchair access; (2) to cancel FY 1999-98 Harrison Drain Improvements (\$340,593), Canton Commons Ballfield Improvements (\$10,000), and FY 1994 First Step Building Acquisition (\$30,000); and (3) to reprogram funds from the canceled projects plus up to \$125,000 from FY 1999 Human Services Center Expansion to the new activity, for a maximum total reprogramming of \$505,593. Written comments or requests for information should be directed to: Gerald Martin, Development Specialist, Resource Development Division, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48186, (734) 397-5392.

TERRY BENNETT
Clerk

March 23, 2000

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CONSIDERATION OF TERM OF LIQUOR LICENSE (48.623) FOR HAPPY DAYS, INC. AND WHIRLY BALL - CANTON TOWNSHIP, L.L.C.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to Liquor License Ordinance Number 114 of the Charter Township of Canton that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 28, 2000, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

To hear and take testimony which shall result in a recommendation for renewal, non-renewal or revocation of the resolutions approved by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton regarding the approval of Liquor License to Whirly Ball - Canton Township, L.L.C. for a Class "C" Liquor License with Dance Permit and Entertainment Permit. Approved above "ALL OTHERS" on July 14, 1998 and regarding the approval for a new Class "C" License to be issued above "ALL OTHERS" to be issued to Frank T. D'Dane, Happy Days, Inc., on January 10, 1995.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend and will be offered an opportunity at said hearing to voice any comments they may have regarding this request. Written comments may also be submitted to the Township Clerk's Office prior to the hearing date.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

March 16 and 23, 2000

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Duggan happy with gun deal but wants control on sales

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
rpearl@oe.homedecor.net

Is it tough enough? That's what Wayne County's deputy chief executive wanted to know Friday about what he termed the "historic agreement" reached between the nation's largest gun manufacturer and the host of governments suing it and its competitors over gun control.

The question also was why Michael Duggan announced that Wayne County would continue its suit and not be a party to the agreement pending Wayne County Circuit Judge Joanne Stempien's decision on a motion by Smith & Wesson and other gun makers to dismiss the county's \$400 million suit.

His move was counter to that of the City of Detroit and Mayor Dennis Archer who, along with a host of other participants in the suit against gun makers, agreed to the settlement worked by the Clinton Administration.

Said Archer press secretary Greg Bownes, "The president (Bill Clinton) and the mayor (Archer) struck a very good deal with Smith & Wesson to encourage responsible gun ownership and to make guns safer than they are now."

Archer "was the first one to indicate he would like to encourage other companies to follow" S&W by making it and others who join it "the companies of choice for weapons to law enforcement" bodies, Bownes said.

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Furthermore, she cautioned, "This is an election year and a lot of people say and do a lot

of things."

See GUNS, A8

'Lot of credit'

"They deserve a lot of credit," he said. "This is an historic agreement. But the point of contention is the enforcement, he said.

"We're just going to make it (the agreement) a lot better," he said.

"We (Wayne County) don't want the money, we want them to make safe guns and we want to keep the dealers and the gun shows from selling to underage buyers or felons or to those buying on behalf of felons."

"If we get that, we'll settle," Duggan said.

While Stempien "could dismiss (the lawsuit) at any time, I think we'll sit down with Smith & Wesson and work something out," he said. "We want them to cut off the dealers faster."

"We want them to act." County Executive Ed McNamara supported Duggan's decision "100 percent."

Saying Duggan "pretty much did this on his own" and crediting him with bringing Detroit into the suit, McNamara called the settlement "a giant step forward."

"But I also think there should be more policing of gun dealers," he said. "Nobody wants that kind of responsibility in part because of the expense and because you may open yourself to some kind of liability."

Nevertheless, he expressed confidence that, "If Smith has gone this far, being the size they are," they'll go further toward policing their dealers.

Asked about enforcement efforts of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, McNamara said the agency is

"trying to do what they can, but they're somewhat limited."

"Our concern with the plan is it's still too liberal with regard to getting guns into kids' hands for use in felonies," he said.

But Bownes, Archer's press secretary, said the mayor feels "The deal we have struck has gone further than any legislation we could have dreamed of."

And if "one entity (Duggan) feels it can change an entire industry, more power to him."

"The mayor's position is to take responsible steps by gun manufacturers and not bully and posture for something further down the road."

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And if "one entity (Duggan) feels it can

Bill clears way for new construction at state fairgrounds

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

The way has been cleared, legislatively, for renovation and new construction at Michigan's state fairgrounds, on Woodward near Eight Mile in Detroit.

Guns from page A7

things" — an apparent reference to Duggan's announced candidacy for county prosecutor.

"It's an election for all of us as well," she added, "for all county-wide officials except the county exec," Ed McNamara.

Other offices on the county level besides prosecutor to be decided in the November general election will be for clerk, treasurer, register of deeds and sheriff, she noted.

However, Beard was careful to avoid connecting Duggan with the current dispute the commission has with the county's executive branch over paying legal fees in the gun control lawsuit.

"His name is nowhere in that," she said.

McNamara asked the commission to pay \$60,000 in expenses to a Southfield law firm.

The firm specializes in bankruptcy matters and was brought in because one of the gun manufacturers, Davis Indus-

tries of California, is in bankruptcy proceedings.

"We have great concern about that and want a lot more information about that before" making any decisions," said Beard.

County corporate counsel Edward Euell Jr. said the firm was able to keep the county's "entire lawsuit" against Davis "out of bankruptcy," where it likely would receive a less favorable decision, he said.

Husk, R-Redford Township, said she is "definitely against that gun suit" because "there are laws already in place to prosecute."

"It's expensive for the county to sue, so if there are laws already in place, I prefer for us to go that route," she said.

She supports the gun locks because "I don't want guns out on the street."

House Bill 5341, which would turn control of the state fairgrounds over to Michigan's Department of Agriculture and allow administrators there to lease the property for private development.

That would legally clear the way for fairgrounds General Manager John Hertel to complete a deal he has reportedly been negotiating with Joe Nederlander, whose family operates the Fisher and Masonic Temple theaters in Detroit.

There has been talk that the project could include construction of a new 500,000-square-foot exposition hall, according to state Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, and Sen. Bill Bullard, R-Highland. Along with media reports of such a project, an expo hall has been mentioned in meetings, they said.

Bullard and Cassis are concerned about the deal, saying a publicly subsidized new exposition hall there could present unfair competition to the Novi Expo Center, a privately-funded exposition hall which just unveiled plans for a new building itself.

That's not correct, according to DeVuyst. The only plans for new construction at the state fairgrounds are for the construction of a new horse arena. Currently, horse shows are held in the ice arena inside the State Fair Coli-

seum building, he said. Dirt has to be trucked in to cover the floor before the show and carted out afterwards, an enormous job, he explained.

Space for exposition events would be in the Coliseum, which would be renovated under the plan. The building was just given a \$3.2 million renovation last year.

Another building on the fairgrounds would be nearly demolished and replaced, but DeVuyst could not specify which building that would be.

The bill itself does not include any details. The legislation simply transfers responsibility for the fairgrounds from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture and gives officials there the authority to determine which buildings may be demolished in order to make room for improvements.

DeVuyst said the bill allows for any private group to lease the grounds. But he concluded Nederlander is the most likely one to get the lease, because he already has plans in the works.

The bill won approval in the House on a 103-1 vote and in the Senate by 32-4 March 16. The legislation has been sent to Gov. John Engler for a signature.

The goal is to make the state fairgrounds self-supporting. The state fair has needed subsidies from the state to stay in opera-

tion in years past. Last year, the state fair turned a \$22,000 profit for the first time, according to DeVuyst.

To alleviate concerns about subsidizing development that would compete with other expo

halls, an amendment was added to the bill barring the facilities from being rented for shows at less than market value.

That should alleviate the concern, said Blair Bowman, president of the Novi Expo Center.

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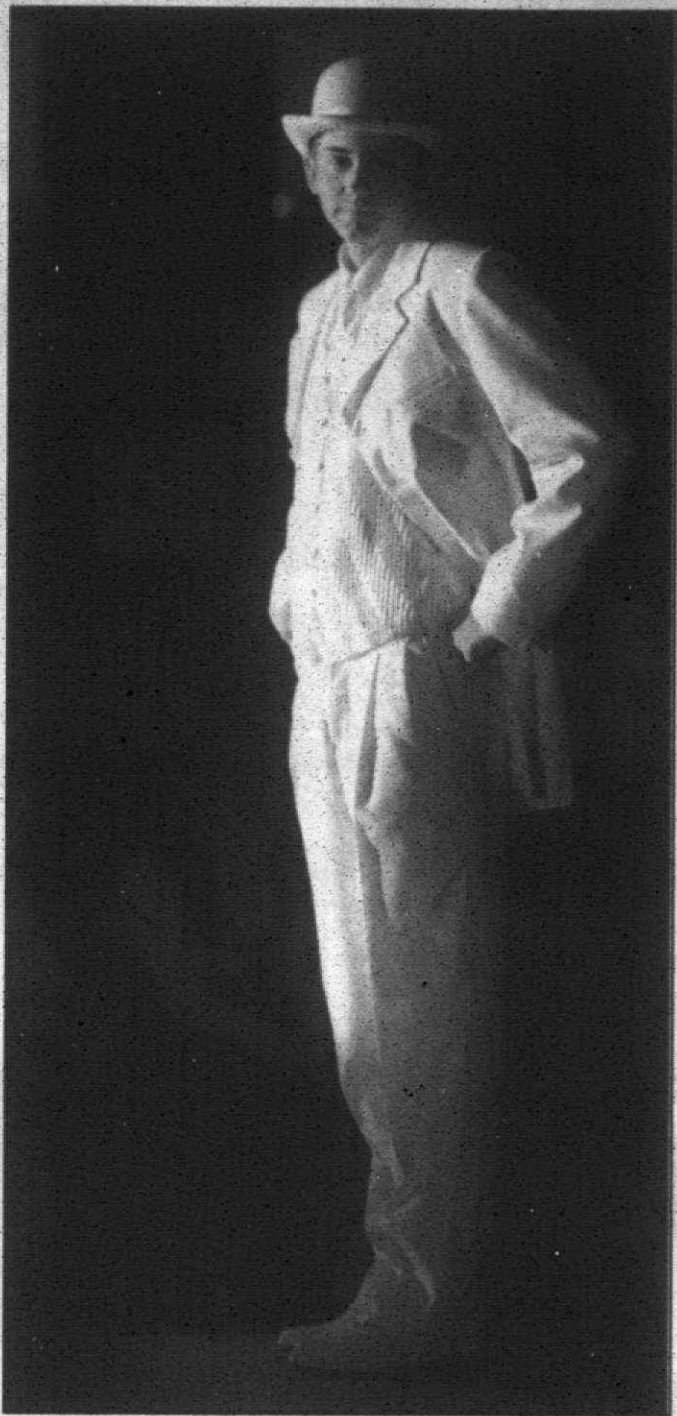
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Going formal: Jon Merrick poses in a white tux and tails at the Plymouth Canton Prom Fashion Show 2000 last Tuesday in the Canton Cafeteria.

STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN



Group performance: Ryan Silva (from left), Jon and Dave Merrick, Rick Rodriguez and Drew Owens act out their choreography from the boy band, 2Gether, symbolizing the song, "U + Me = Us."

Dressing the part

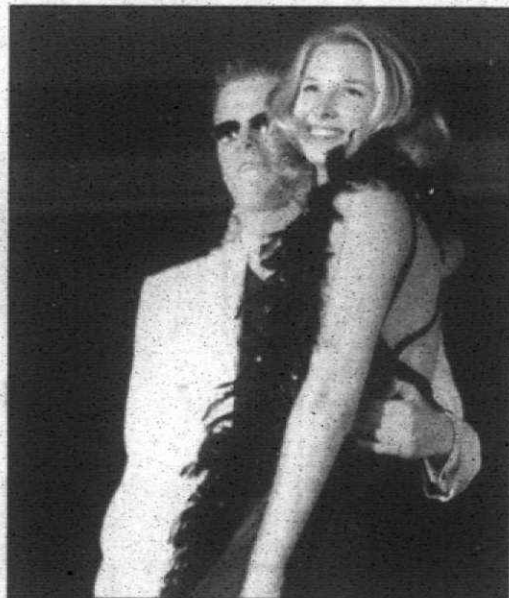
Fashions highlighted in annual show

There were zoot suits, ties and tails and gowns galore – and memories. The occasion was the 2000 Plymouth Canton Prom Fashion Show Tuesday in the cafeteria at Plymouth Canton High School.

The show, created by the Salem Student Congress, was dedicated to the memory of Rachael C. Maurer – a senior who lost her life in a car accident late last summer. Rachael had been elected as Mayor of the executive forum, and had been instrumental in the 1999 show.

Senior Megan Bohr assumed the duties of mayor following Rachael's passing. "I knew it wouldn't be easy, but it was something I had to do," she said in the program's notes. "Even though she's not here, the show must go on and I know she'll still be with me."

Choreographer Aileen Balatico and Student Activities Advisor Lauren Cummings guided the process of the spring show featuring tuxedos from Randazzo Tuxedo, Canton Tuxedo and Steve Petix, and dresses from Cache, Gantos and David's Bridal. Images Salon in Plymouth donated hair styling services to all of the girls in the show.



On the runway: Jason Meineger poses with Megan Kleinow.



Styling: Ken Bazman struts his stuff in a zoot suit.

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

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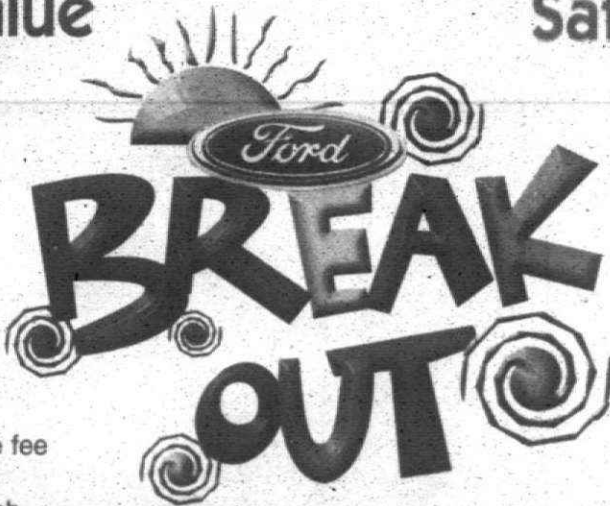
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Panel hears seniors' concerns

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
rpearl@ecce.com

Iris Cameron recalls the pharmacist who told her, "Hold on to your hat when I tell you the cost" of the cancer medication prescribed for her.

When its price was added to that of the three others she has to take, it made the Westland woman think that "these golden years are getting kind of rusty."

Cameron, a perky native of Ireland who came to this country after World War II as the bride of a Westland serviceman, was among about 50 residents of the Thomas F. Taylor Towers senior residence center on Marquette in Westland and others who attended a hearing Monday on what Michigan needs to do to help seniors remain in their homes longer.

As it happened, issues relating to medication and also to transportation were added to a list being compiled by the group that conducted Monday's meeting: the House Democratic Party's In-Home Care Task Force, a panel of state representatives.

Co-chaired by Westland Rep. Eileen DeHart and Clinton Township Rep. Paul Gielegem, the task force has been holding hearings around the state in recent weeks. Final sessions will be April 10 in Grand Rapids and April 17 in Flint.

The panel's goal is "not to just have the talk, but to walk the walk," said DeHart, who expressed confidence state legislators will be open to task-force ideas because it's an election year "and senior power is the most awesome power, as far as voting is concerned."

"I think this year (senior issues) will have more momentum than in other years," said DeHart, who is being term-limited out of office.

She said Monday's hearing brought out personal stories that "tore at my heart" but are, in fact, "not isolated" instances. "They happen all over the state," she said.

Transportation and medication issues joined such previously raised topics as the need for caregiver tax credits; in-home caregiver pay rates; training and background checks; assistance for in-home-care renovations; expansion of Medicaid waivers and the streamlining and coordinating of the reporting process.

Speakers told the panel Monday about seniors living alone, with no family or friends able to help them, who can't get transportation for treatment, who get unqualified, untrained help from in-home service providers, and who sometimes get conflicting medications from physicians treating them for different problems who don't communicate with each other and with pharmacists.

Hearing the public: In-Home Care Task Force members State Reps. Tom Kelly (left to right) and Patricia Lockwood, Westland Mayor Robert Thomas, State Reps. Eileen DeHart (co-chairman), Doug Bovin, Paul Gielegem (co-chairman) and Donna Aberlich, legislative assistant to Rep. Gielegem, start the proceedings at the hearing.

in-home care providers "telling you what you want to hear about their services, then sending people so unqualified that, in her case, her mother "would have been better off in a nursing home."

Wojcik told how the changing personnel provided by one such service kept her at her mother's side every day.

DeHart responded with, "We want to make sure every person is taken care of as if (the caregivers) had 24-hour-a-day oversight."

Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek, outgoing director of the Westland Friendship Center and a 23-year veteran of the city's seniors programs, told panelists funding is needed for emergency situations in which homebound seniors can't get to treatments.

She said some seniors can't find public transportation to hospitals and doctors' offices in Livonia, for example, because Westland's Nankin Connector bus service's consortium with Wayne, Garden City and Inkster doesn't cross into Livonia.

"We cannot afford to send a staff person in our van to sit and wait" sometimes four hours while a senior gets chemotherapy or radiation for cancer or a blood transfusion for leukemia, Kozorosky-Wiacek said.

Starting such a shuttle service also would cost too much, she said.

At present, the program only allows vouchers three times per year. She'd like to see more vouchers and also have the program expanded to include those now left out.

"A lot of people miss it (the income level limit) by \$200-300" per month, she noted. "Some prescriptions are so high, it's exorbitant," she added.

Said DeHart, "If we don't use the tobacco money for health care" as originally decreed and instead use it for MEAP scholarships, as is now the case, "we're going to lose that money."

Another problem is the lack of a pharmaceutical log which would better coordinate the prescription process.

In some cases, speakers told the panel, physicians in different facilities and specialties prescribe medications for the same

Making his case: Thomas Taylor, executive director at Thomas F. Taylor Tower, speaks at the in-home care task force hearing.

What you want?
Pat Wojcik of Westland told of



Attentive audience: Senior citizens Lillian Lang (left to right, front), Juanita Ballely and Dorothy Wilson, (behind) Ann Petroni and Mollie Prouty listen to the in-home task force.

Seniors from page A10

said. But perhaps some money could be provided by Westland and the state that would get a transportation company to offer service by appointment, she suggested.

\$10, not \$50
That way, she said, "Instead of it costing (a senior) \$50, it would only cost around \$10."

Rep. Doug Bovin of Gladstone noted some seniors in the Upper Peninsula have to use four buses to cover 80 miles between hospitals.

Kozorosky-Wiacek also spoke against Gov. John Engler's plan to replace MEPPS, the Michigan Emergency Pharmaceutical Program for Seniors.

MEPPS, a voucher program providing free medication, should be expanded with money from the tobacco settlement to "extend how many times a year they (seniors) get" vouchers, she said.

At present, the program only allows vouchers three times per year. She'd like to see more

'I think this year (senior issues) will have more momentum than in other years.'
Rep. Eileen DeHart
D-Westland

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SESSION III - 1:15-2:15 p.m.
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Make a difference School boards offer the chance

It's a tall order. The code of ethics for the National School Boards Association includes the following:

■ Attend all regularly scheduled board meetings insofar as possible, and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings;

■ Recognize that I should endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held board meetings;

■ Render all decisions based on the available facts and my independent judgment, and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;

■ Encourage the free expression of opinion by all board members, and seek systematic communications between the board and students, staff, and all elements of the community.

While that may seem a lot to ask — especially for what amounts to an unpaid volunteer — there are dedicated people in the community who have made the commitment. Elizabeth Givens and Judy Mardigan are two of them.

Givens and Mardigan will seek re-election to the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education on June 12.

The Observer would like to see others in the community step forward and join them on the ballot. And not just because issues surrounding education have moved to the front burner in Michigan and across the nation.

Just take a look at your last property tax bill. The largest number on it goes to the Plymouth-Canton school district.

The requirements to run for the school board aren't all that tough. Nominating petitions are available for any resident of the district who is registered to vote from the E.J. McClelland Educational Center, 454 S. Har-

vey in Plymouth. Candidates must obtain 27 signatures of valid school district voters and return petitions by 4 p.m. April 10.

For information, call Liz Adams, elections clerk, at (734) 416-3095.

For Canton residents who live in the Wayne-Westland district, the deadline is also April 10. Petitions require valid signatures from 20 registered voters and may be obtained from the district election offices, 3001 Fourth St. in Wayne Memorial High School's art annex.

In Wayne-Westland, board President Robin Moore isn't seeking re-election, while colleague Richard Eisiminger, appointed last year, will seek a seat.

Residents from either district who want to vote in the school board election — but who aren't registered — have until May 15 to register at their local city or township clerk's office, according to elections officials.

Certainly, voting in the June 12 election is important, but perhaps it's time also to consider running for a seat. Consider that more than one of four Americans is involved in formal education of some kind, with expenditures totaling 7.5 percent of the gross domestic product. Furthermore, 81 percent of all Americans over age 25 share the experience of high school graduation, and public schools continue to enroll almost nine out of 10 students.

Those facts come from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement. Closer to home, Plymouth-Canton is looking to finish construction of new schools approved with the 1997 and 1998 bond issues and Wayne-Westland is seeking a bond improvement program of its own.

The deadline's approaching, so consider a run for your local school board.



LETTERS

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, that's why we offer this space for your opinions. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity we ask that you provide a contact telephone number and if mailing or faxing a letter, please sign it. Letters can be mailed to: Tedd Schneider, Canton Editor, 794 South Main, Plymouth, MI 48170, faxed to Tedd at (734) 459-4224 or emailed to tschneider@oe.homecomm.net

Article was misleading

We are writing in response to the article in the February 24 issue of the Observer titled, "Magic Words: Harry Potter books attract readers, debate."

In this article, Stephanie Angelyn Casola uses a quote from Lina Garrett stating that "a number of the (Plymouth-Canton) media specialists stated (at a dinner this fall) that they would not purchase the Harry Potter series for their libraries because they couldn't bare (sic) to face the furor that was bound to erupt."

This is simply not true. Every one of the elementary school media centers has all three books of the Harry Potter series available for students to check out. We have loved this series from the time the first book was published and have been strong proponents in encouraging children to read the series.

We are surprised that the Observer would include such a derogatory quote without first checking its validity. In addition, a related article in the paper belies the statement when it discusses in depth the popularity and the staff support of the Harry Potter series at Field Elementary School in Canton.

As media specialists, we are strong supporters of children becoming lifelong readers. We believe that the Harry Potter series is a wonderful and exciting group of books that will help achieve this goal. We are delighted that the Observer printed several articles on children's books and hope this trend continues. However, please correct the false statement that the Plymouth-Canton media specialists do not support the Harry Potter series.

Elementary Media Specialists
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools:
Jane Cottey, Marsha Payne, Anne Alatala, Julie Johnston, Karen B. Ensor, Pat McDonald, Anthony Corrigan, Barbara Greareyn, Mary Jo Abad, Darla Minuth, Connie Keller, Tricia Hackney, Dorothy Eden

Apology offered

I would like to issue a blanket apology to the media specialists of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools for my inadvertently offensive remark that appeared in the article re: Harry Potter on Feb. 24, which, taken out

of context, did not convey my intent.

I was trying to express that having suffered through book challenges myself, I can empathize with succumbing to community pressure. This one sentence from a lengthy letter totally missed the points I intended to make which were: 1) Every parent has the right/obligation to monitor/censor what their own child reads; 2) Parents do not have the right to censor what other people's children read; 3) Those who would consider challenging a book's inclusion in a school library, please read it first. The old adage, "Don't judge a book by its cover" can actually apply to books.

As a group, the media specialists from the Plymouth-Canton School District are to be commended for exemplifying the ideals set forth by the American Library Association and the Library Bill of Rights. Their primary concern has always been to encourage students to love reading, as well as teaching them to become "information literate" members of society, often under circumstances that are not conducive to this mission.

Linda Garrett

Census is invasive

There is no longer any pretense over the fact that we have been and are slowly losing our heritage, which means loss of individual freedom and individual privacy as guaranteed by our constitution.

The present census form is a direct assault on everything for which this country stood and stands. Where is the outrage? Are we slowly moving from the Age of Affluence to the Age of Apathy? Is the census form 2000 merely a testing ground for government to determine in the new millennium to what extent it can nose into our individual and private lives?

It is said that the census now is to accumulate as much data as possible in order to more intelligently disseminate fiscal packages in the future — with our money of course. It was Alston Chase who wrote, "When the search for truth is confused with political advocacy, the pursuit of knowledge is reduced to the quest for power."

George M. Haddad
Franklin

Canton Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Gunlock agreement only a start for control crusaders

Several months ago Mike Duggan, deputy Wayne County executive, was invited to meet with Observer editors. While the conversation covered many topics, it was clear that Duggan was most fired up about the county's lawsuit against gun manufacturers and about what he saw as the lax oversight of gun dealers by the manufacturers.

This was an issue that was also driving Duggan's ambition to run for county prosecutor. He sees the prosecutor's position as a perfect "bully pulpit" for pursuing issues like gun control through the courts.

Last week, Duggan's crusade achieved its first victory in the deal reached by Smith & Wesson with the federal government. Yet, as grateful as Duggan was for this breakthrough, he was unwilling to join others in signing off on the agreement. To Mike Duggan this was just a first step.

The plucky Irish pol allowed that it

was one of his best St. Paddy's days. He was enthusiastic about what the agreement will do, especially a provision for gunlocks.

But why let Smith & Wesson off the hook when we can still get them to do more through continuing to pursue them in court. For Duggan the issue remains oversight of gun sales by gun dealers.

Duggan has good reason to be leery and wary of gun manufacturers and their support groups. We've reached an extremely shrill and dangerous period in the national dialogue on guns, in which the Smith & Wesson agreement is but a brief whiff of fresh air and momentary sanity.

It was only a few days before that Wayne LaPierre, vice president of the National Rifle Association, railed on national television that President Clinton was "willing to accept any level of violence" to pursue his political agenda. LaPierre argues that the



HUGH GALLAGHER

gun laws already in effect, the same gun laws that the NRA opposed in the past, were not being aggressively enforced and that's why a 6-year-old boy gunned down a 6-year-old girl.

It was only a few days before this agreement that silent John Engler finally came forward to opine that it was bad parenting that led to the shooting. Very perceptive. After an

initial statement of remorse, Engler had generally retreated from comment on the incident, sending out the word that the president's display of sympathy to Kayla Rolland's mother was just show biz and beneath his dignity. But, most certainly, guns had nothing to do with the little girl's death. Nor did Engler's cutbacks in social services.

It was only a couple weeks before that House Speaker Chuck Perricone responded to a question about pending gun legislation with a coldness unexpected even from him. He anticipated the reaction of liberal Democrats by saying they wanted to make "politics" out of the shooting, even as he made politics out of the shooting — signaling the gun lobby that the Legislature would fight gun legislation, no matter how reasonable.

Of course, the Democrats wasted no time making Perricone a prophet by citing the shooting to push for the

legislation that has lain dormant for months. And though the bills wouldn't have stopped the Mount Morris shooting, the Democrats couldn't be blamed for trying to get a wedge in.

Now we have some tangible progress because of suits filed across the country by counties, cities and states. Detroit has agreed to join in the settlement, while Duggan and Wayne County take their wait and see position.

At the heart of Duggan's concern is preventing the sale of guns to minors and felons, exactly the problem in the Mount Morris shooting, at least as that incident concerned gun access.

We're willing to wait with Mike Duggan and see what happens.

Hugh Gallagher is managing editor of The Observer Newspapers. He can be reached by phone at (734) 953-2149, by fax at (734) 591-7279 or by e-mail at hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

World makes little sense when Brittney outprices Barry

I saw something in the paper the other day that made me wonder, "What kind of world are we living in?"

Over the weekend, I noticed how often events left me asking myself that same question. So I decided to try and figure it out.

What kind of world are we living in when:

■ Brittney Spears can command \$40 per ticket, but Barry Manilow only gets \$12? OK, those were lawn seats, but still ...

■ The Plymouth Chamber of Commerce asks for male volunteers to dance in a Secretaries' Day extravaganza, and only two brave souls respond? Chamber maven Fran Toney asked yours truly, but surely there's an ordinance against that?

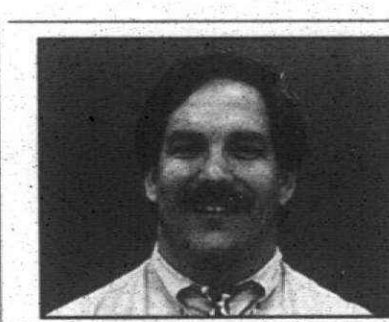
■ Parents like the mom and dad of Plymouth basketball player Mark Bolger and Mt. Morris Township first grader Kayla Rolland will spend the

rest of their lives grieving over the untimely, unexplainable loss of their children, and this bonehead in Clinton Township actually tries to sell his 10-month-old daughter for \$60,000 to support a drug habit?

The guy reportedly told his 5-year-old son to "kiss your baby sister, because you're never going to see her again." First, I was stunned that this guy had other children. Secondly, I was reminded of the old saying, "You have to have a permit to own a gun or a license to drive a car, but any idiot can become a parent."

■ An 11-year-old Canton kid gets caught in the act of palming a couple of packages of cookies, then, instead of just owning up to the theft, he tries to kick the crap out of the 50-ish store manager?

■ Barbara Walters is allowed to claim she asks "the tough questions?" Asking John and Patsy Ramsey if they killed their daughter might have



BRAD KADRICH

been the easiest question she asked the parents of the young beauty queen. What are they going to say? "Sure, we killed her, and now we're on national television." C'mon.

■ The Miami Dolphins would rather go with Damon Huard than Dan Marino? (OK, I understand this one, but it still bugs me.)

■ It takes 25 minutes to go through the drive-thru window for "fast" food?

■ My bracket has Arizona all the way to the Final Four in the NCAA tournament (for entertainment purposes only, of course), and the Wild-cats lose to WISCONSIN? Ditto Temple, which I had going all the way to the title game, where I picked them to lose to Michigan State.

■ Every political candidate in every race says, "We have to get away from the negative campaigning" out of one side of their face, then says, "My opponent is a scum-sucking dog" out of the other side?

■ People see the U.S. Census form and have to worry about where their information is going to end up?

■ Our only choices for president are going to be Al Gore and George W. Bush? Is Pat Paulsen running again?

■ Regis Philbin can dominate the top 10 television ratings every week?

■ A 6-year-old can get hold of a gun to shoot another 6-year-old in the first place?

■ Country music becomes the most

■ The guy reportedly told his 5-year-old son to "kiss your baby sister, because you're never going to see her again." First, I was stunned that this guy had other children. Secondly, I was reminded of the old saying, "You have to have a permit to own a gun or a license to drive a car, but any idiot can become a parent."

listened to format? Of course, Hank Williams turns over in his grave every time some of these new "country" artists sing, so it's not really country music, but still.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of The Plymouth Observer. He can be reached at (734) 459-2700, or by email at bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net

Keep politics from trashing MEDC

I spent an afternoon last week down at Wayne State University listening to the annual meeting of the board of directors of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Attentive readers will recall that the MEDC was created last year as a public corporation, confected out of the old Michigan Jobs Commission and the Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center to serve as a single responsible point of contact for all economic development activities in Michigan. No longer a department of state government (with all the attendant restrictions), the MEDC is able to function much like a private corporation, but still enjoy state funding and be subject to legislative oversight.

Disregarding all the bureaucratic mumbo-jumbo, the bottom line is that the MEDC is widely recognized as one of the nation's most effective economic development outfits. Consider these successes:

■ Competing with Ohio, MEDC helped pave the way for General Motors to put the new assembly plant for the Cadillac Catera in Lansing. GM will invest \$500 million in Michigan to create 1,511 jobs.

■ When Chrysler "merged" with Daimler-Benz, a big-time issue turned on where to consolidate North American financial operations for Chrysler Financial. Daimler's operations were in Cleveland and New Jersey; Chrysler's in Auburn Hills. MEDC helped guide the consolidation to Auburn Hills, where a \$77 million investment brought with it 1,294 jobs.

■ Webvan Group Inc. is a fascinating new concept in grocery marketing, whereby folks can order their groceries — dinner, even! — on the Web and have the stuff delivered within an hour or so to their door. The Midwest distribution center for Webvan wound up in Livonia (\$47 million investment, 900 jobs) instead of Ohio, thanks to the MEDC.

■ When the Robert Bosch Corp. was casting around for a place to put research and development for the Bosch Braking Systems Corp., MEDC jumped in and helped bring the 475 jobs and a \$37 million investment to Farmington Hills. Not bad for a new little public corporation!

As is the case with most organizations, success has more to do with effective leadership than with organizational structure and bylaws. MEDC has been lucky to be led by Doug Rothwell, president and CEO, who used to run the Michigan Jobs Commission. Rothwell has steered the MEDC through the political thickets and the economic waters with great foresight. His sidekick as board chair is Rick Snyder, a quintessential no-necktie hard-charger who chucked in a career as chief operating officer of Gateway Computer and moved to Ann Arbor a few years ago where he set up Avalon Investments, a venture capital firm.

The meeting I attended last week seemed



PHIL POWER

broadly representative of this record. Snyder and Rothwell deftly moved the 60-odd board members through what looked a lot like a standard corporate agenda, including "1999 Corporate Objectives and Results" and "Strategic and Operating Plan Review."

A representative of Anderson Economic Group presented a Michigan business climate benchmarking study that suggested Grand Rapids and (surprise!) Saginaw had the best overall business climate.

A policy agency and therefore a political creation of the Engler Administration, the MEDC is led by a 17-member executive committee appointed by the governor to eight-year staggered terms. Given the origin of the institution, it's not surprising that the current group is overwhelmingly Republican.

But now that MEDC has established a solid track record and John Engler is part way through his last term as governor, it's time for folks to start thinking about how to assure its survival under the next administration, whether Republican or Democratic.

This is not a trivial matter. The tendency in most new administrations is to trash predecessor creations, whether effective or not, on the spurious grounds of "not invented here." I saw this firsthand in the 1990s, when the newly-elected Engler administration trashed a first-class job training structure I helped organize for the Blanchard administration, only to recreate virtually the identical set-up a couple of years later. The net effect: Wasted time and money.

The MEDC and the Engler administration could do succeeding administrations and countless Michigan citizens a favor by making broadly representative appointments to the MEDC Executive Committee. Better political balance at the top will provide the MEDC a fighting chance to sustain this important Michigan institution when a new administration takes power.

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

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

How far do you think Michigan State can go in the NCAA basketball tournament?



John Johnson
Plymouth



Darlene Bublin
Plymouth



Charles Thomas
Southfield



Betty Lewis
Plymouth

We asked this question outside the Plymouth post office on Penniman.

"I really haven't been following it, but I hope they go all the way."

"I think they're going to go all the way."

"I hate to say it, because I'm an Ohio State fan, but I think they're going to win it."

"They'll probably go all the way."

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It's Schmoo time for students at area school

By TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER
tbruscato@oe.homecomm.net

Just as the swallows return to Capistrano, the Schmoos have returned to Bird Elementary.

After an eight-year hiatus, the Schmoos invaded Bird school earlier this month, which ironically was also the beginning of reading month.

"We came to school one morning and there was an invasion," said Mary Robb, inside the media center she runs at the school.

The Schmoos are available for adoption by students, but with very stringent rules.

"When you adopt a Schmoo, you promise to read to them, write to them, write about them and hug them," said Robb.

Thus far the invasion of the Schmoos to increase reading and writing this month has worked.

"Parents are saying the kids are coming home and writing like crazy," added Robb. "The program promotes creativity. The students are reading, writing and constructing houses and beds for their Schmoos."

"They were all over the ceiling and shelves, and now they're almost all gone," said Kacy Moran of Plymouth. "We adopted them all."

■ **'When you adopt a Schmoo, you promise to read to them, write to them, write about them and hug them.'**

—Mary Robb,

Bird School Media Center

"It makes me want to read more," added Jansan Falcusan of Plymouth. "It makes you want to read with them. They keep you company."

"My Schmoo sleeps in a crib next to my bed. And, he has a couch and a chair where he eats," said Kara Gregory of her

white, fluffy Schmoo.

Robb said not all the Schmoos are the same, and there's a way to determine which Schmoo is the one for a particular student.

"If the Schmoo is looking at you and says 'I want to go home with you,' that's the one you pick," she said.

The money raised from the sale of the Schmoos goes to buy more books for the Bird media center.

"You can never have too many books," said Jane VanSteenis, Bird Elementary principal. "It's really a terrific project, and we have very supportive parents."

"As a motivator to reading and writing, the Schmoo project is great," she added. "While we always instill the importance of

reading and writing, this just moves it up to another level."

The Schmoo invasion was so popular that even high school students, who remember the first invasion, have returned to Bird to celebrate the second invasion.

Will there be another invasion of the Schmoos? Only Robb knows, and she'll be retiring at the end of the school year after 18 years in the district.

Students in competition

What does it take to design, build and market a new vehicle?

These are questions that 19 students from the William D. Ford Career/Technical Center's technical program are prepared to answer. They will compete in the DaimlerChrysler Build Your Dream Vehicle Program.

The students were chosen as semifinalists in the Southeast Michigan Region. They will conduct an oral presentation for a panel of DaimlerChrysler judges March 20 at the Automotive Hall of Fame in Dearborn. The local students will compete against seven other teams.

The students, who attend Wayne Memorial and John Glenn high schools, as well as the Tinkham Center, have been challenged to create an innovative design that is safe, environ-

mentally friendly and ergonomically attractive.

If they win the competition, the students will compete with teams from across the country at the National Build Your Dream Vehicle Finals in May at DaimlerChrysler headquarters in Auburn Hills.

Participants include: Dane Chadwick, Josh Wade, Brad Trent, Chris Doan, Todd Heim, Roy Sanger, Derek Sullivan, Chantique Pringle, Jessica Curran, Amanda Robinson, James Johnson and Dyamon Shaw, from John Glenn; Mike Lyscas, Adam Moore, Ken Stone and Angela Talbert, from Wayne Memorial; Mike Conner and Lucas Roberts, from Tinkham.

Coaches are Jim Schirmer, Susan Wilk, Zach MacLean and Dave Drew.

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BARI BERKOWITZ

Quiz helps you check the status of your marriage

How is your marriage? Have you checked on the status of it lately? Take this quick quiz to find out more.

Do you nurture each other? Are you emotionally intimate? Can you be vulnerable with each other? Can you share your deepest feelings without fear of being attacked? Are you supportive of each other? Do you have common goals? If you have said, "no" to all or most of these, then it may be time for a relationship evaluation.

Almost all married couples run into a few bumps in the road along the winding marital path. But the key to a good marriage is to not let it get so bad that it is beyond repair. In a healthy and satisfying marriage, partners have taken the time to learn good relationship skills. The key word here is "learn."

Most likely when you took your marriage vows, you lacked expertise in the communication skills department. The behavior we bring to our relationships is often a reflection of the atmosphere in which we were raised. If you witnessed a controlling and overbearing mother, you probably have picked up on pieces of that behavior. If your father gave your mother the silent treatment rather

■ 'Make a commitment to spend time applying relationship skills. Try a weekly marriage meeting to work on listening and communicating honestly. Discuss what is positive about the partnership ...'

than working through conflicts, there is a good chance that you would repeat this behavior in your own relationship.

A loving, exciting marriage does not happen by itself. It is constant, but worthwhile daily work. If your union is not all that you had hoped it would be, take some time to think about the following relationship skills that lead to an atmosphere of love and support. A fulfilling marriage begins with you.

Partners should choose to encourage each other. In lasting relationships, spouses feel empathy for one another and are supportive of each other's dreams and goals. Try to understand how things look and feel to your partner.

■ Make a commitment to spend time applying relationship skills. Try a weekly marriage meeting to work on listening and communicating honestly. Discuss what is positive about the partnership rather than focusing completely on the negative.

■ Share opinions rather than focusing on who was right and who was wrong. Avoid name calling, sarcasm and low blows.

■ Take time to understand the family atmosphere in which you were raised. If you need help in dealing with unresolved personal issues, seek counseling.

■ Conflict is an unavoidable and necessary part of marriage. In healthy relationships, partners have worked out an effective and fair process for working through inevitable disagreements and problems. Show mutual respect.

■ Have fun together on a weekly basis. Stressful jobs, children and other responsibilities can zap the energy out of the best of relationships. Remind each other why you fell in love and why this marriage is worth the effort.

Most important, try to maintain a good sense of humor.

Bari Berkowitz, M.A. is a psychologist, wife and mother of three. She can be reached at nbajt@mediaone.net for comments or suggestions for this column.

Cultural experience

Students get wrapped up in Samoan studies

■ A classroom of fourth-grade students at Field Elementary School in Canton recently completed a project on Samoa and its people. The lesson culminated with a guest speaker who brought several native heirlooms and artifacts as well as sharing his own personal experiences about the culture.

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

At Field Elementary School in Canton, fourth-graders felt like they traveled far from home, without ever leaving their classroom.

The four separate fourth grade classes came together on the afternoon of Tuesday, March 7 to learn about a culture that is quite different from their own — the Samoan culture.

Robert Engle, chair of the music department at Northwest College in Seattle, visited the school to teach the eager group about the time he spent living in Hawaii and immersing himself in a different culture.

Having lived in Hawaii for 27 years, he's mastered three Polynesian languages and performs both Polynesian and popular music. A high school friend of Field Elementary fourth grade teacher Pattee Rupert, Engle agreed to share his experiences with the class.

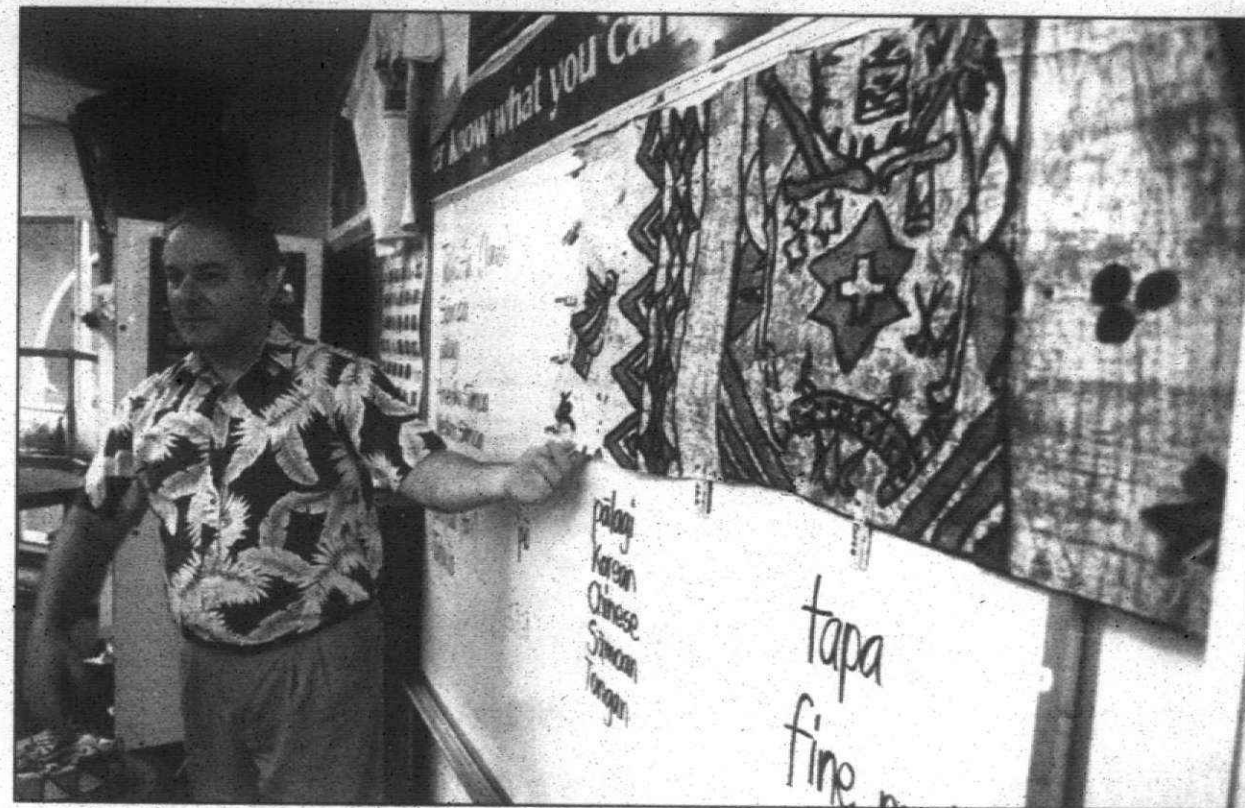
He taught the children a dance, called a sasa, and showed them original items associated with Samoan culture, including a rugby shirt commonly worn by an all-Samoan team in New Zealand.

That wasn't the only traditional item of clothing he brought. Corey Davis was chosen to try on a lavalava. "He wanted to call someone up to try that blue thing on," said Corey. "So he wanted me to. I think it's called a lavalava. I tried it."

"This is one thing I didn't know about. It said in the book, America is spelled differently, with a 'k'. I think it was cool."

Rupert said the presentation matches fourth grade curriculum for social studies, where they are learning about all regions of the United States. She said she can teach her class about how the Midwest was once mostly farmland. She can now show her class that Samoans still live that way.

"This is still kind of pure," she



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

explained. "They love it. They have looked at the native dress."

She's incorporated it into other subjects. In math, the students calculated the distance from Canton to Samoa and learned about the different time zones, which they would need to know to call someone in Samoa. For reading class, they read a Samoan legend and created a booklet which illustrated its meaning. The booklet was woven like a mat, or "ie toga," an heirloom-like gift given in Samoa.

"I'm really proud of them," added Rupert.

So was Engle, even though he's used to working with older students.

"They seem to be tuned into what we learned," said Engle, who lived in Hawaii from 1972 to 1999. "They could find it on the map."

He explained the differences between two different countries, American and Western Samoa. Western Samoa gained its independence from New Zealand in 1963. Citizens of American

Learning tool: Above, Robert Engle, chair of the music department at Northwest College in Seattle, visits Field Elementary teacher Pattee Rupert's Canton classroom to talk about the Samoan culture.

Right, Engle wraps a traditional Samoan lavalava around student Corey Davis who volunteered to model the garment before his classmate.

Samoa need a visa to enter Western Samoa. Later Engle answered their many questions.

The special visit ended appropriately with a special treat — pineapple and coconut — common to Polynesian cultures. Engle said he hopes the children will take with them "just the general idea that people are different. They have different ways of doing things that are just as important to them."



Students reach community through good deeds

■ HELPING HANDS

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON
STAFF WRITER

Giving can be one of the most rewarding actions in life that benefits not only the receiver, but the donor as well. Western Wayne Skill Center students are finding themselves on the giving end of good deeds thanks to the "Lend a Hand" program initiated at the Westland school in February.

According to WWSC Program Specialist Barbara DeGrazia, students are encouraged to volunteer by reaching out to their community and performing an act that benefits someone in need. The idea was initiated by members of the Leisure Volunteer Committee of which DeGrazia is the chairman.

"We prepare our students for four life roles — family, work, leisure and citizen. This program emphasizes outreach and has been pretty well received by students. We have also encouraged our parents to get involved and find ways for their child to help others."

To date there are more than 40 paper hands adorning a wall that reads "Good Things Happen to Those People Who Care." The acts are recorded and then acknowledged school-wide. DeGrazia said the acts of kindness range from students shoveling neighbors' walks and driveways in the winter to laundry folding, running errands, volunteering at the Humane Society, house-sitting and more.

"Our kids have traditionally been on the receiving end of a helping hand ... it's good for them to be on the giving end and for them to recognize how important this is in their growth and maturity as an adult," said DeGrazia.

The Western Wayne Skill Center is a special education center that provides vocational evaluation



Above and beyond: Western Wayne Skill Center students recently held a pop drive and raised \$381. They used the money to purchase items such as soap and diapers to donate to First Step in Plymouth. Some of the students who participated are (pictured above from left) Danielle Broquet, Jonathan Boulton, Ryan Varley and Betsy Palmer.

and special education vocational training at a job-entry level in such areas as clerical support, industrial, food and retail service, child development and custodial. Half and full day programs serve a wide range of handicapped students from the age of 16 to 26.

Three examples of some of the outstanding efforts made by students include:

■ Michele Sheridan raised \$235 for the Livonia Parents of the Visually Impaired at their annual Bowl-a-Thon event. The money will benefit blind children from Western Wayne County.

■ Larry Hibbard was recognized for the commitments he's made to his church including visiting shut-ins, delivering meals and maintenance upkeep at the church.

■ Megan Pomaranski is known at the Western Wayne Skill Center as a helper. She routinely offers assistance to her teachers, classmates and the administration. "She's done a lot of good things throughout the school."

Focus

DeGrazia said the most critical emphasis for students is placed on learning and mastering universal life and employability skills and that much of their education comes from working out in the community.

The WWSC program specialist said throughout the year the school promotes other programs that involve charity outside the school including a pop drive organized by Life Skills teacher Paul Barach. The students raised \$381 and purchased toiletries, diapers, food and pajamas for the First Step shelter in Plymouth.

In November families of the skill center who are in need benefit from the generous donations collected by students during a canned-food drive. WWSC families receive full turkey dinners at Thanksgiving thanks to the items the students gather.

"In May the students bring in pet food and all of the items are donated to the Michigan Humane Society," said DeGrazia.

The "Lend a Hand" program will conclude in April with a school assembly at which all of the students, who earned the honor of placing a hand on the wall, will be acknowledged. After five acts of kindness a student receives a star on the wall.

"We hope to do this from year to year," said DeGrazia. "The students have really come to look forward to having their hand put on the wall and in finding ways to help others."

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CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND CANTON

WEEKEND

VEGAS NIGHT
■ The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Vegas Night from 4:30 p.m. until midnight Saturday at 150 Fair St., Plymouth (Off Lilley Road). There will be black jack, roulette, other games of chance, a cash bar and food. Proceeds go to the general fund. For more information, call (734) 453-9833.

DRIVER'S EDUCATION

■ Registration for the Driver's Education Program summer 2000 will take place beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, March 25, in the Canton High School Cafeteria. This will be the only registration day. If the student/parent cannot register on this date, someone else may register for that person. Registration is scheduled on a birthdate basis. Any student who will be at least 14 years, 8 months old prior to the first day of class (a birthdate before Nov. 21, 1985) will be eligible for this program. All of the pertinent information is included on the registration form which must be completed and returned on March 25. Registration forms will be distributed to students at the beginning of March. Additional registration forms can be picked up in either the Canton or Salem high school general offices. This year there is a charge of \$166 for the program, payable at registration. This includes a workbook.

LEGAL FAIR
■ Wayne County Neighborhood Legal Services presents a free community legal fair. The fair, paid for with a Canton Township Community Development Block Grant, features attorneys and individual consultations on legal issues such as: Elder abuse, grandparents' rights, family law, estate/life planning, consumer and public benefits/tax assistance from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the Canton Humane Services Building, 44237 Michigan Ave. For more information or to register, call (313) 937-8291.

ORIENTATION
■ Arbor Hospice is seeking volunteer bakers/food preparers, greeters, fund-raisers and office workers. Arbor Hospice is also looking for volunteers interested in helping terminally ill patients and their families with activities such as meal preparation, errands, reading and eating. A volunteer orientation will take place from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday, March 25, at Arbor Hospice Residence, 2366 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor. To register for the orientation or for more information, call the Arbor Hospice Volunteer Services department at (734) 662-3741, ext. 143.

GRIEF AFTERCARE SUPPORT
■ Vermeulen Funeral Homes offers a monthly Grief Aftercare Support Group meeting for those who have recently experienced the death of a family

member or close friend. The next meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at the Plymouth location on W. Ann Arbor Road, between Sheldon and Beck. The meeting will be led by Wes Baldwin of Pointe Care Counseling, a grief counselor and former associate pastor. For more information, call (734) 459-2250.

AROUND TOWN

BREAKFAST BUFFET
■ The Knights of Columbus sponsors a breakfast buffet every Sunday from 8:30 a.m. until noon at 150 Fair St., Plymouth (Off Lilley Road). Menu includes, eggs, hash browns, ham, bacon, Belgian waffles, fruit, toast, cereal, juice and coffee. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. For more information, call (734) 453-9833.

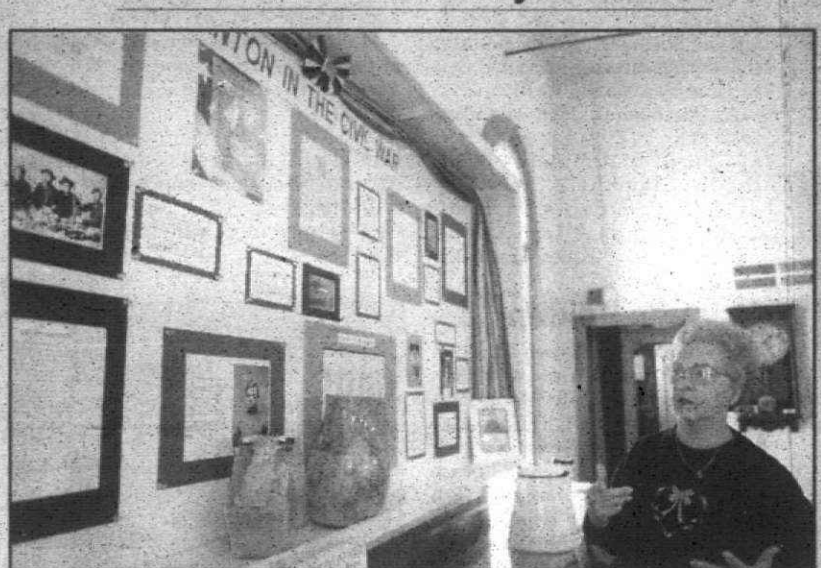
DINNERS FOR LENT
■ Summit on the Park in Canton offers pasta and fish buffet dinners every Friday between now and April 21. The dinners, served from 4:30 to 7 p.m., include Cole slaw, two pastas, baked cod loin, potato vegetable, roll and dessert along with a choice of beverage. Cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children. Call the Summit at (734) 397-5110 for information.

BOOK SALE
■ The League of Women Voters serving Canton, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, Wayne, Westland and Livonia is working to make this year's April Book Sale another successful fund-raising event. New batches of used books always are needed. The public is encouraged to donate used books by calling Esther Friedrichs at (734) 427-0222 or (734) 421-4420 and leaving a message with the League of Women Voters. Hardcover and paperback books in different categories of nonfiction and fiction for all ages are accepted as well as recent magazines.

DANCE CLASSES
■ The Joanne Winkelman Hulce Center for the Arts is sponsoring kids dance classes starting April 3. There will be Hip Hop, Combo Dance, Budding Ballerinas, Beginning Ballet, Jazz, Tap, and Mom and Tot. In addition, there will also be ongoing drop-in studio for adults and drawing sessions once a month. For more information, call (734) 416-4278.

SOFTBALL REGISTRATION
■ The Canton Softball Center began spring league registration on March 1. Leagues are offered for Men's (B, C, Super D, D, E) Women's and Co-Ed (Competitive, Recreational) divisions Sunday through Friday beginning April 10. The spring season will offer a five-week double-header league plus playoffs. The cost is \$475 per team plus umpire fees. Full payment must accompany registration and league space is limited. Summer registration will begin on May 1. For more information, call the Canton Softball Center

Historical Museum ready for season



A little history: Bonnie Berg of the Canton Historical Society shows a display of Canton's Civil War participants and other artifacts at the Canton Historical Museum. The museum is scheduled to open this spring following repairs to the ceiling and floors. Regular museum hours are 1-5 p.m. Tuesdays and Saturdays. Call the museum at (734) 397-0088.

at (734) 483-5600. The registration form can also be found at www.canton.mi.org. The Canton Softball Center is located on Michigan Avenue, west of Canton Center Road.

ADOPTION
■ Oakland Family Services is looking for foster and adoptive families in this area. Foster parents provide a temporary family. Adoptive parents provide a permanent family for children who do not have families of their own. Oakland Family Services is in Pontiac. There are many school-age children who are in need of families. If you have an interest in helping to provide for children in our community, call Vicki Landsman Peterson at (248) 858-7215, ext. 236.

HELP/SOURCE
■ Plymouth Family Services Help Source is offering a 12-week program for compulsive overeaters. The program will be led by a certified eating disorder therapist and registered dietitian. For more information, call Cathie, Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. at (734) 453-0890.

ADULT SOFTBALL
■ The city of Plymouth Recreation Division will be running the following

Adult Softball Leagues this spring/summer: Men's Slow Pitch, Women's Slow Pitch, Co-ed Pitch and Men's Modified. Season starts the week of May 1. For more information, call the Plymouth Recreation Division at (734) 455-6620 or check the web at: www.ci.plymouth.mi.us

SCHOOL OPENINGS
■ New Morning School in Plymouth has vacancies in the Primary/Kindergarten and Middle School for the 2000-01 school year. NMS is a parent cooperative that fosters individualized/independent learning, self-esteem, and positive interpersonal skills. Open houses for Primary/Kindergarten will begin at 9:15 a.m. and last approximately 90 minutes on Tuesday, April 18. Middle School open house is April 5.

PROGRAM
■ "Raising Strong and Confident Daughters" is a program that will cover topics such as avoiding cultural and peer pressures for girls to look good and please others; understanding why some young girls with healthy bodies think they are fat; encouraging girls to have and voice their own opinions and keeping girls on track with academics and sports. It is presented by two social workers who are also co-owners of the program. The program will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, March 23, 30, April 6 and 13, at Saint Joseph Mercy Health Center. To register or for more information on fees and programs, call the Saint Joseph Mercy Healthline at (734) 712-5400 or (800) 231-2211.

Canton Township. Children between the ages of 2 1/2 and 5 are eligible. For more information, call (734) 981-3990.

■ Registration for Spring Kindermusik classes is now in session. Spring classes are held from May 1 through June 5 at the First Baptist Church of Plymouth, 45000 N. Territorial (just west of Sheldon). Sign up early and receive a free Kindermusik beach ball. For more information, call (734) 354-9109.

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OPEN HOUSE

■ Cherry Hill Internal Medicine will have an open house from 3-6 p.m. Thursday, March 30, at Cherry Hill Internal Medicine, 42287 Cherry Hill, Suite D, Canton. Dr. David Margolis and Dr. Michael Schaefer invite the community to visit their new practice. Guests will have the opportunity to tour the facility, enjoy complimentary refreshments and meet the physicians and staff. Cherry Hill Internal Medicine is currently accepting new patients, including adolescents ages 12 and up. Convenient evening and weekend appointments are available. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (734) 981-1086.

CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
■ Teens (ages 13-17) can lend off the mid-winter blues with the upcoming event "Make Your Own Book," at 8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 6, at the Canton Public Library. Make an entire journal or scrapbook to take home. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call Stefania at (734) 397-0999, ext. 128, or e-mail her at stefan@metronet.lib.mi.us

CONFERENCE
■ Dr. Robert Evans will present a free seminar series entitled "Medicine and Morality: Decision Making in a World Without Absolutes," from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Sunday, April 2, and at 7 p.m. April 3-5 at Calvary Baptist Church, Canton, 43065 Joy Road. The conference will cover issues such as human cloning, euthanasia and end-of-life decisions. For directions or for more information, call (734) 480-3969.

T-BALL REGISTRATION
■ The city of Plymouth Recreation Division will be registering from April 3 through April 21 for the 5- and 6-year-old T-Ball League. Children must have been born July-December 1993, January-December 1994, January-July 1995. Registration will be at the recreation office at the Cultural Center, during office hours from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Birth certificate is required. The season runs seven weekends, running June 24-Aug. 12. No games July 1. For more information, call the city Recreation Department at (734) 455-6620, or connect with the Web site at: www.ci.plymouth.mi.us

GED TESTING
■ GED testing will be offered through the Plymouth-Canton Adult Education Department. Evening testing will take place from 5-10 p.m. Monday, April 17, and Wednesday, April 19. The test will also be offered during the day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, and Thursday, April 20. It is a two-day test. The test will be held at Starkweather Education Center, 550 N. Holbrook, Plymouth. Registration fee is \$75. Please register early. If registration is too low, one or both tests could be canceled. For

more information or to register, call (734) 416-4901.

AARP TAX HELP
■ AARP will sponsor free federal and Michigan income tax preparation for elderly people at the locations listed below. Work is performed by counselors qualified by the IRS. An appointment is required. Assistance is available 9 a.m. until noon and 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays at Canton Recreation Center, 4600 Summit Parkway, Canton, by appointment at (734) 397-5444; from 9 a.m. until noon and 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays at Northville Senior Center, 215 W. Cady, Northville, by appointment at (248) 349-4140; and Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and 1:30-4:30 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library, 233 S. Main St., Plymouth, by appointment at (734) 453-1234.

SERVICE CENTER
■ The Michigan Works Service Center provides the Employer/Employee Connection for Washtenaw County. Job-seeking assistance is provided daily 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Face-to-face job fairs with instant interviews are held 9:30 a.m.-noon Thursday mornings. Free services include distribution of job position information, candidate referrals, resume preparation, interviewing assistance along with Internet access, computer use and free faxing. For more information, call (734) 481-2517.

CENSUS 2000
■ The U.S. Census Bureau is hiring enumerators for the 2000 census. Enumerators spend most of their time locating addresses and conducting door-to-door interviews. They work evenings and weekends. This temporary job will last up to two months. Census workers are paid \$13-\$15 per hour and are reimbursed for mileage. Bonuses are available. Call (888) 325-7733.

MOPS MEETING
■ Plymouth Baptist Church holds Mothers Of Preschoolers meetings 9:15-11:30 a.m. the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Mothers with their children, kindergarten-age and younger, may attend for a time of fellowship and fun with other mothers. Childcare is provided. The church is located at 42021 Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth, Call (734) 453-5534.

M.O.M. MEETING
■ Meet Other Mothers (M.O.M.) presents guest speakers and discussions 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. the second and fourth Fridays of the month. Baby-sitting is provided. Call Kim at (734) 459-7035 or Shannon at (734) 354-0191.

M.L.T.I.
■ Moms In Touch International is for mothers to meet weekly, for one hour, to pray for their children and schools. The goal is to form a group for each school in Plymouth-Canton. If you are interested or have any questions, call Karen at (734) 397-2771.

Listings for the Funds & Benefits
There will be someone to take your order Tuesday, March 28 and Wednesday, March 29 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call in orders only. Do not leave any orders on the answering machine. Any orders faxed, e-mailed or left on the answering machine will be ignored. Pick up times are on Thursday, April 6 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, April 7 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The church is located at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Order early - 1000 pasties will be made and there is a maximum order of 25.

VEGAS NIGHTS
St. Agatha Church will be the host site of a "Vegas Nights" event from 7 p.m. to midnight Friday, March 31 and Saturday, April 1. Free admission. Black jack, craps, big wheel, roulette, and 50/50 raffle. Call (313) 531-0371 for information.

MOM TO MOM SALE
The Tri-County Mothers of Mul-

CHURCH FUND-RAISER
Clarenceville United Methodist Church is selling Entertainment passbooks to raise money for the church. The coupon books cost \$40 and are available by calling Jim Robinson at (248) 347-1535 or the church office at (248) 474-3444.

WHALE OF A SALE
The Farmington Area Mothers of Twins will be hosting their annual "Whale of a Sale," from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Finnish Cultural Center, 35200 W. 8 Mile Road in Farmington Hills, Saturday March 25. The sale is a service to club members who have many double items that young children need. This sale is also a great place for the public and expectant parents of multiples to find items they need. Cash only please.

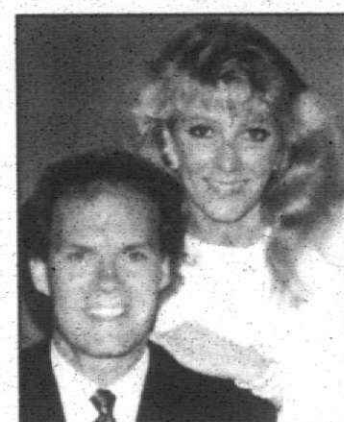
PASTIE FUND-RAISER
Newburg United Methodist Church is making and selling cornish pasties as a fund-raiser. Pasties are \$2.50 each and can be ordered by calling into the

Singing couple to share songs, experiences at April concert

Toby and Barb Waldowski have been thrilling audiences in concert with their talent that combines music and powerful lyrics.

The pair will be in concert at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, April 9 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia. Ministry work has been a full-time job for them with an impressive schedule that includes recordings, features in musical publications and over 3,800 concerts since 1976. They have also appeared on the Billy Graham Crusades and heard around the world during the "Hour of Power" telecast with Robert H. Schuller.

Toby is an accomplished songwriter, lyricist, pianist, singer and speaker. Barb's voice has been referred to as "liquid silver" with a three octave range. Their repertoire consists mainly of Toby's compositions making their presentation fresh and unique. They currently reside in Irvine, Calif., with their son Jesse, 17, and daughter, Olivia,



Talented: Toby and Barb Waldowski are scheduled to perform in April.

If you are interested in attending the performance there is no cost. St. Paul's is located at 27475 Five Mile Road, one block west of Inster. Call (734) 422-1470 for information.

FUND-RAISERS & BENEFITS

church office (734) 422-0149. There will be someone to take your order Tuesday, March 28 and Wednesday, March 29 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call in orders only. Do not leave any orders on the answering machine. Any orders faxed, e-mailed or left on the answering machine will be ignored. Pick up times are on Thursday, April 6 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, April 7 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The church is located at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Order early - 1000 pasties will be made and there is a maximum order of 25.

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MOM TO MOM SALE
The Tri-County Mothers of Mul-

ties will sponsor a Mom-to-Mom spring/summer clothing, equipment and toy sale from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, April 1 at the William Costick Activities Center (Shannon Hall). Cash only please. No checks. Great selection of gently used clothing, equipment and toys. Wm. Costick Center is located at 28600 Eleven Mile Road in Farmington Hills (located east of Middlebelt - enter at Gate 4). \$1 donation. Public welcome.

RUMMAGE SALE
United of Livonia (28660 Five Mile Road) will hold a rummage sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 1 and April 2 after morning services to benefit the church. Donated items may be brought to the church beginning Sunday, March 19 and through that week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (734) 421-1760.

ST. AGATHA VEGAS NIGHTS
St. Agatha will hold Vegas Nights from 7 p.m. to midnight Friday March 31 and Saturday,

April 1 at 19750 Beech Daly Road in Redford. Free admission. Black Jack, craps, roulette, big wheel, and 50/50 raffle. Food and bar. For more information call (313) 531-0371.

SPRING TO LIFE BENEFIT
The University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center and Ford Motor Company will join forces for the 10th annual Spring to Life brunch and art auction at noon Sunday, April 2 at the Morris Lawrence Building on the campus of Washtenaw Community College. Tickets range from \$90/person to \$250. Proceeds benefit cancer research and patient care programs at U-M. To make a reservation call (734) 615-0665.

INDOOR OPEN
United Cerebral Palsy of Metropolitan Detroit is presenting the first ever INDOOR OPEN to benefit UCP from 12 to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 8. This unique fund-raising event is a nine hole indoor miniature golf

outing, where each hole is located in one of nine participating businesses located in Downtown Royal Oak. Golfers can pick up registration forms for the event at any one of the participating businesses or call UCP at (248) 557-5070 or (800) 827-4843. The cost is \$25 per golfer of \$100 per team. AirTouch Cellular and Papa John's Pizza are the co-sponsors with UCP. Participating businesses include Woodruff's, Lily's Seafood, The Padded Cell, Casual Comfort, Dobie Jewelers, Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle, Billings Feed & Lawn Equipment, The Royal Oak Farmers' Market and Magpie.

MONOPOLY GAME
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (37775 Palmer Road) in Westland will offer life size monopoly from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 8 for \$5 per person for one-half hour of play. This is a fund-raiser for a mission trip for the high school youth of Prince of Peace.

St. Aidan's presents 'An Evening with Simon Peter'

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON
STAFF WRITER
kmortson@home.com

Combine theater, theology and John Dzwonkowski's lively personality and you have a one-man show fit for Jesus himself.

A Livonia resident who has worn many hats both professional and personally, Dzwonkowski will don the garments of apostle Simon Peter during a 90-minute dramatic performance on the historical account of Jesus, April 2-3 at St. Aidan Church.

Dzwonkowski, who wrote the two-act program titled "An Evening With Simon Peter," has been involved with both theology, having studied for nearly a decade with

the Catholic Foreign Mission priesthood in New York, and theater, participating as an actor, director, producer and manager of hundreds of educational songs, plays and skits involving biblical themes.

"This has been very important to me but it's also been a fun hobby that I've gotten a lot of satisfaction from too," said Dzwonkowski, who works in public relations in the home health care field.

"I hope the program serves as both an inspirational and educational tool for churches looking for different ways to supplement their teachings."

Dzwonkowski, 49 and the father of three, calls his dramatic craft his "contribution to making the world a better place."

The full theatrical performance is presented from the perspective of Simon Peter, who speaks at length about his close friend - the Messiah.

Lauded as "thought provoking, intriguing and emotional," "An Evening With Simon Peter" brings Jesus to life through the eyes of the apostle he named "The Rock."

Dzwonkowski says his venture he named Rock & Eagle Seminars stems from playing Simon Peter (The Rock) and sharing the name John, another apostle who wrote one of the gospels and was referred to as an eagle by Jesus.

Presented by the Women of St. Aidan.

Please see ST. AIDAN, B5

Detroit Lutheran Singers to perform in Livonia

The public is encouraged to attend a special concert titled "Celebrating God's Grace" by the Detroit Lutheran Singers, a professional metropolitan Detroit choir, at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 26 at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church of Livonia.

DLS since 1973 will begin the concert with three settings by Bach, Haydn and Langlais of the text "Kyrie Eleison" ("Lord have mercy"). Compositions from a broad range of composers will include Brahms, Morley and Poulenc to Berger, Hairston, Dawson, Paul

Manz and George Beverst. "Barry Rose's anthem 'Morning Glory, Starlit Sky' will be performed," according to church spokespersons. Live Drake tickets are available for \$5 by calling Lois Drake at the church office, (734) 522-6830. Christ Our Savior is located at 14175 Farmington Road.

700 audience members to their Christmas concerts in Detroit.

Tickets are \$10 at the door (\$7 for seniors and students). Advance tickets are available for \$5 by calling Lois Drake at the church office, (734) 522-6830. Christ Our Savior is located at 14175 Farmington Road.

CAMPUS NOTES

To submit your academic honor or graduation announcement to Campus Notes, send the material, printed or typewritten to: Campus Notes, Plymouth-Canton Observer, 794 S. Main, Plymouth, Mich. 48170.

ADMISSION
Concordia College, Ann Arbor is pleased to announce that Sheila Friedrichs of Canton has met the qualifications required and has received an offer of admission to the Accelerated Degree Program for the Fall of 2000.

DEAN'S LIST
Adam J. Delezenne of Canton was named to the Dean's List at Lee University in Cleveland, Tenn. He was among 770 Lee students named to

the Dean's List with honors for the fall semester. Students achieving a GPA between 3.7 and 4.0 were placed on the list. He is a freshman and has a GPA of 3.78. Delezenne, a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School, is the son of Dennis and Linda Delezenne.

Lark Hauernt, Christopher Machnacki of Canton and Andrew Oleszkowicz and Katherine Zopf of Plymouth were named to the Dean's List at Alma College for the Fall 1999 semester. Students who achieve a 3.5 or better grade point average during a term, while carrying a minimum of 13 credits are named to the Dean's List. Melissa Ponder, Robert Richards, Jessica Rasmussen, Jennifer Harper, Katherine Tighe, Christina Brian, Matthew Derda, Stephen VanKerckhove, Darren Neubauer,

Carrie Smith, Michael Davis, and Natalie Simms of Plymouth with Rebecca Newton, Lorissa McKay, Molly O'Connell, Carla Kitter, Brandon Nomersheim, Bryan Kelm, Cristina Bailey, Candice Wallace, Stephanie McKee, Sheila Elliott, Divya Arya, William Juergens, Melissa Teeters, Kristen Adler, Bree Ann Stopera, Bethany Bray, Kevin Stone, James McDonald, Andrea Neaga, Brian Haas, Kimberly Truzzi, Alicia Richie, Gregory Rocheleau, Cynthia Schubert, Timothy Siler, Maurcem McEachern, and Matthew Erickson of Canton were all named to the Dean's List at the University of Michigan-Dearborn for the Fall 1999 semester. Students on the Dean's List must earn a minimum of 3.5 grade point average while carrying at least 12 credit hours in a semester.

WHO'S WHO
Jennifer Storm of Canton, who attends the University of North Dakota, will be featured in the 2000 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges."

GRADUATES
Justin Carinci, Anne K. Gakbraith, Colleen M. Kirby, Colleen M. McAlinden, Patrice L. Reppenhagen, and Tara N. Schuler of Canton and Peggy E. Agusti, Rebecca L. Goff, Courtney E. Henigan, Erica Karrer, and Sherry L. Soenen of Plymouth graduated from Western Michigan University at the end of the fall session of the 1999-2000 school year.

DTE Energy Detroit International BLOOMFEST

April 6-9, 2000
Cobo Convention Center
Thursday, April 6 - Saturday, April 8 10 am - 9 pm
Sunday, April 9 10 am - 6 pm

Presenting Sponsor

DTE Energy

DTE Energy Detroit International Bloomfest, the largest flower show in the region, invites you to explore "Garden Places. City Spaces. More for Living." Featuring:

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- Tips for better living with an organic focus on wellness including herbal remedies and aromatherapy
- Garden art and sculpture from artists around the country
- An 8,000 sq. ft. Children's Village
- An eclectic marketplace with one-of-a-kind garden finds
- Cultural events and programs for gardeners at every level

Join us for this premier Detroit event celebrating the multi-cultural heritage and beauty of our international gateway.

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Tickets available at Michigan Kroger stores and Heath Smart Drugstores in Windsor or call 313.235.BLOOM • www.bloomfest.com

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For information regarding advertising in this directory,
Please Call Rich Viculin (734) 953-2069

For Church Page Changes, Please Call:
Jean Etherington (734) 953-2160
THE FRIDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION

BAPTIST

BETHEL BAPTIST TEMPLE
29475 W. Six Mile, Livonia
734-525-3664

Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.
Wed. Family Hour 7:15 P.M.

"A Church That's Concerned About People"

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST
YOUTH AWANA CLUBS
DR. RICHARD FREEMAN
PASTOR

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
5403 S. Wayne Rd., Wayne, MI
(between Michigan Ave. & Van Buren Rd.)
(734) 728-2180

Virgil Humes, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:00 p.m.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

New St. Paul Tabernacle Church of God in Christ and Grandmont-Rosedale Park Christian Day School
Bishop P.A. Brooks, Pastor & Founder
15340 Southfield Drive at Fenikel & Grand River
313-835-5329
SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

March of Faith Telecast
38 - WOLB Broadcast Times
Saturday's 9:30 P.M.
Sunday's 8:30 P.M.
RADIO BROADCAST:
1:40 A.M. - WED.
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY:
8:45 A.M. TO 9:00 A.M.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: <http://www.nspst.com>

WISH YOU WERE HERE!!

WE REALLY DO SEE YOU THIS SUNDAY.

BECAUSE WE CARE.
Tri-City Christian Center
Michigan Ave. & Hannan Rd.
326-0330
Sunday 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL

Mt. Hope Church
3333 Schoolcraft, Livonia • 734-457-7200
(between Middlebelt & Merriman)
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Nursery Care Available
"The Church You've Always Longed For."

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room - 443 S. Hannan, Plymouth
Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. • Thursday 7-9 p.m.
453-1676

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
1600 Westland Blvd., Westland, Michigan 48154
(248) 661-9191

Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m. Contemporary
11:00 a.m. Traditional
Sunday School for all ages
Wednesday Supper (6:00 p.m.)
& Programs for All Ages
Youth Group & Adult Small Groups

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16300 Hubbard Road
Livonia, Michigan 48154
421-8451

Mon-Fri 9:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Dinner & Classes
Sunday 8:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist
Sunday 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
10:00 A.M. Christian Education for all ages
Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available
The Rev. Alan Bradenstien, Jr., Rector

GOD WELCOMES EVERYONE

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Luther A. Werth, Sr. Pastor
Rev. Robert Bayer, Assist. Pastor
— Two locations to serve you —

LIVONIA
14175 Farmington Rd.
(N. of I-96)
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
(734) 522-6830

CANTON
46001 Warren Road
(West of Canton Center)
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
(734) 414-7422

Visit our Web Site at <http://www.ccaa.edu/~lmcms>

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
20805 Middlebelt Corner of 8 Mile & Middlebelt
Farmington Hills, Mich.

WORSHIP SERVICES
Saturday Evening 8 p.m.
Sunday Morning 9:15 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
9600 Levee • So. Redford • 313-937-2424
24510 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121
Mass Schedule:
First Fri. 7:00 p.m.
First Sat. 8:30 a.m.
First Sun. 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
1160 Pennington Ave.
Plymouth • 453-0326
Rev. John J. Sullivan
Masses: Mon-Fri 9:00 A.M., Sat. 5:00 P.M.
Sunday 8:00, 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M.
5:00 P.M. Life Time Mass

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

ST. GENEVIEVE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL
29015 Jamison Ave., Livonia
East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Schoolcraft Rd.
MASS: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sat 9:00 a.m.
Tue. 7:30 p.m. • Sat. 5 p.m.
Sun. 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. & 12:00 noon
734-427-5220

A new Eastern Catholic parish is being formed to serve Christians residing in the far western suburbs of Detroit.
St. Nicholas Eastern Catholic Church
Rev. Wayne Ruchty, pastor
Services are celebrated in accordance with the Byzantine Rite. Liturgy in English is held every Sunday at 1:30 pm at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 201 Northfield Road, Plymouth, Michigan

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
17810 Farmington Road • Livonia • (734) 261-1360
May thru October - Monday Night Service • 7:00 p.m.
Sunday School & Bible Classes For All Ages 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship Services 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Pastor James Hoff
School Grade K thru 8
Church & School office: (734) 522-6830

PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
48187 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187
451-0444
Rev. Richard A. Perretto
Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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Pastor James Hoff
School Grade K thru 8
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Sunday School & Bible Classes For All Ages 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship Services 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Pastor James Hoff
School Grade K thru 8
Church & School office: (734) 522-6830

Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church & School
14750 Kinloch • Redford Twp.
313-532-8655

Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Midweek Lenten Services 10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
School Grade K thru 8
Phone for Enrollment Info
WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

CHRISTADELPHIANS

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

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Stephen Ministry Congregation
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
422-0149

Worship Services
9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School
9:20 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

"Surprise Of The Last Week"

"2000 Together"
Children and Choirists Musical

Rev. Thomas G. Bailey
Rev. Heloise Lee Curry
Rev. Edward C. Colby
visit our website: www.newburgumc.org

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
5 Miles W of Sheldon Rd.
From M-14 take Griffiths Rd. South
734-459-9550
Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor
8:00 Prayer & Praise Service
9:30
Lifeline Contemporary Service
11:00 Traditional Service
SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages

WARD
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
40000 Six Mile Road
"Just west of I-275"
Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Worship Services,
Sunday School
8:30, 10:30, 11:30 A.M.
Contemporary Service
8:30-9:45 A.M.
Evening Service
6:00 P.M. in the Chapel
Nursery Provided
Now On The Radio 8:30 a.m.
Sunday - WYUR 1310 AM

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ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH, USA
16700 Newburgh Road
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Sunday School for All Ages 9:30 a.m.
Family Worship 11:00 a.m.
"Keeping in Step - Kindness"
Rev. Dr. Janet Noble-Richardson, Pastor
http://www.uspsd.com/~sttimothy

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5835 Sheldon Rd., Canton
734-3444
Sunday Worship & Sunday School
9:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Education For All Ages
Childrens' Program • Handicapped Accessible
Resources for Hearing and Sight Impaired

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
Between Middlebelt & Farmington Hills
(734) 422-0494

Worship Service & Sunday School
10:30 a.m.
We Welcome You To A Full Program Church
Rev. Richard Perry, Pastor
Rev. John Hollingsworth, Associate Pastor
Visit our Website at <http://www.rosedalegardens.org>

COMMUNITY CHURCHES

CrossWinds COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday Worship Celebration: 10:30 a.m.
Nursery provided • A willing music team
46271 Ford Rd. • Canton 734-981-8408

Orchard Grove Community Church
Sunday, 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.
Chris Cramer, Pastor
Located in OLD ORCHARD THEATRE
28125 Orchard Lake Road
Farmington Hills
248-334-3700

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
2500 GRAND PAVIL at BEECH CANYON
REDFORD TWP.
Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
Rev. Victor J. Hubert, Pastor
Rev. Timothy Hubert, Assoc. Pastor

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF CHRIST

NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9435 Henry Road at West Chicago
Livonia 48150 • 421-5405
Rev. Donald Lintelman, Pastor
9:15 a.m. Adult Classes
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
and Youth Classes
Nursery Care Available
-WELCOME-

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
30900 Six Mile Rd. (at Merriman & Middlebelt)
Livonia 48150 • 421-5405
Rev. Jean Lee, Pastor
Worship Services 10:15 A.M., 6:00 P.M.
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 A.M.
Office Hrs. 9-5

Clareville United Methodist
20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
734-3444
Worship Services 10:15 A.M., 6:00 P.M.
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 A.M.
Office Hrs. 9-5

"Building Healthy Families..."
9:00 & 11:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship
4:30 p.m. - "Connections"
Contemporary Worship
- Dynamic Youth & Children's Programs -
- Adult Education -
- Child-Care Provided -
Pastors: Dr. Dean Klump, Rev. Tonya Anson
313-937-3170

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth
45201 N. Terminal Rd. (west of Sheldon Rd.)
(734) 453-5280

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Stephen Ministry Congregation
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
422-0149

Worship Services
9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School
9:20 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

"Surprise Of The Last Week"

"2000 Together"
Children and Choirists Musical

Rev. Thomas G. Bailey
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Movies can teach us lessons if we're paying attention



Les Hardin

SPiritually SPEAKING

I'm a huge movie fan! I love the movies! I have ever since I was a kid. Even though I fall into that "Gen X" age group (and share many of its mindsets!) I can still remember when VHS machines gained their prominence. I still remember "Beta" tapes! I distinctly remember one fall weekend in rural Kentucky, after my cousins got their first VHS machine (the only one in the extended family) spending the afternoon watching "Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan" while my cousins did more constructive things outdoors in the awesome weather.

I love the movies! I love the drama, the suspense, the humor. And I especially love some of the lessons that movies can teach us, if we're paying attention.

Case in point: "First Knight." Sean Connery, playing King Arthur, stands up at a meeting of Arthur's Round Table Knights and is immediately confronted by his nemesis, Malagant - a former knight who left to pursue his own kingdom. Malagant challenges Arthur's leadership, accusing him of creating laws which put the citizens of Camelot in slavery to Arthur's dream. And the response is classic! Arthur stands to his feet, pounds his fist on the table and declares, "There are laws which enslave men and laws which set

them free." True? Absolutely! And I can demonstrate it from the pages of Scripture.

James declares that the Law of God "gives freedom" and that you will be blessed if you live by it (1:25). Paul demonstrates that the law of righteousness sets us free from the law of sin and death (Rom. 6:15-23). Jesus said that his "yoke" was easy, and that his burden was light (Matt. 11:30).

Too many times in ministry I'm approached with the idea that to do what God is asking, to really put to practice what he's asked us to do in his Word, is simply too controlling, enslaving and an infringement upon my personal freedom. But the longer I live, the more I study and the more I see, both in current events and in my own per-

sonal experiences, the more I realize that God has not given us these rules to enslave us. He's given us these rules to set us free.

Jesus said, "I have come that you might have life, and more of it!" and that Satan is the one who wants to take it from you (John 10:10). And I find it true that if I simply submit myself to God's plan, in the end, it's what's best for me. He who is slave to the compass has the freedom of the seas. And yet, if I said that sailing by the compass was infringing upon my personal freedom, I'd be lost at sea and dead in three days."

Is there any wonder why as a nation we're lost in the sea of immorality and dying a rapid spiritual death when we won't submit ourselves to the one navigational instrument by which we could have avoided all this mess in the first place?

"There are laws which enslave men and laws which set them free." I submit to you that God's law, as recorded for us by the writers of Scripture, is of the latter. They set us free.

Reality check

I recognize that Hollywood is not the bastion of moral purity that I had hoped it would be. I'm not saying that there are other sources of God's thinking outside the Judeo-Christian Bible. I distinctly believe there are.

I'm not saying Hollywood is the pinnacle of Christian theology, to replace meditation upon the Scriptures. I don't expect it to be any kind of a factor towards positive change in this nation. To be quite frank, I would consider most of what originates from Hollywood as pure moral filth. Garbage. However, I do affirm, along with the apostle Paul, that the knowledge of the one true God is evident throughout the universe (Rom. 1:18-21; 32). And if Hollywood gets it about this, don't you think it's worth you and I looking at?

Les Hardin has served as the Minister of Christian Education at Memorial Church of Christ in Livonia (35475 Five Mile Road, Livonia) since August 1997. He grew up in Kentucky and resides with his wife and three children in Livonia. He can be reached via e-mail at memorialchurchofchrist@juno.com

Listings for the Singles Calendar
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 or e-mail kmortson@oe.com.

PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS
The Wayne-Westland #340 Chapter of Parents Without Partners will be hosting their monthly dance March 24 at Burton Manor in Livonia (Schoolcraft Road between Middlebelt & Inkster at I-96 service drive). Admission is \$5 for members; \$7 for non-members. For more information call (734) 285-9227 or (734) 398-5135.

SINGLES WELCOME
Bethany Suburban West is a

Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance to divorced or separated Christians. Call (734) 981-4553 about the divorce recovery workshop. Monthly meetings are held the third Saturday of every month at 8 p.m. at St. Kenneth's Church, Haggerty Road (south of 5 Mile Road).

■ Tuesday's BSW goes to The Wayne-Westland #340 Chapter of Parents Without Partners. Free child care provided; Light-house Cafe, a coffeehouse setting, is offered 7-10 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month in Knox Hall. The cost is \$5; all events provided by Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

SINGLES WELCOME
Bethany Suburban West is a

Attention singles - Christian Singles Today Interactive Saturday Fellowship is held from 7-11 p.m. at The Church of the Savior (Five Mile Road at Newburgh) in Livonia. Call (248) 478-1410 for information.

YOUNG SINGLES
Attention young singles ages 17-29. Join us at the Christian Singles Music Cafe every Saturday from 7-11 p.m. at The Jesus Center, 20911 Inkster Road in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 478-1410 for information.

WESTSIDE SINGLES DANCE
Every Friday WestSide Singles hosts a dance at Burton Manor in Livonia (Schoolcraft west of Inkster Road) from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Must be over 21, and dressy attire (no jeans). Open to the public. A deejay will be playing Top 40 music and current hits.

Single Adult Ministries

ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH, USA
16700 Newburgh Road
Livonia • 734-464-8844
Sunday School for All Ages 9:30 a.m.
Family Worship 11:00 a.m.
"Keeping in Step - Kindness"
Rev. Dr. Janet Noble-Richardson, Pastor
http://www.uspsd.com/~sttimothy

GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
5835 Sheldon Rd., Canton
734-3444
Sunday Worship & Sunday School
9:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Education For All Ages
Childrens' Program • Handicapped Accessible
Resources for Hearing and Sight Impaired

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
Between Middlebelt & Farmington Hills
(734) 422-0494

Worship Service & Sunday School
10:30 a.m.
We Welcome You To A Full Program Church
Rev. Richard Perry, Pastor
Rev. John Hollingsworth, Associate Pastor
Visit our Website at <http://www.rosedalegardens.org>

SINGLES MINGLE

10 a.m. at the Redford Inn on the northeast corner of 5 Mile and Beech Daly roads in Redford, followed by mass at 11:15 a.m. at St. Aidan's Catholic Church on Farmington Road in Livonia. Call (734) 729-1974.

■ Divorce Recovery Workshop (eight consecutive weeks) to begin at noon. For information call Diane at (734) 981-4553.

■ Singles Dance April 1 at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church Hall located on the corner of West Chicago and Inkster Road. Doors open at 8 p.m. \$8 charge includes refreshments. Proper attire please.

■ Coffee & Conversation every Tuesday at 7 p.m. Contact Diane at (734) 981-4553 for location.

■ Pinchle every other Friday, contact Diane for location.

CHRISTIAN SINGLES

Appetizers will be served. Early admission special \$4 before 8:30 p.m. and \$6 after. For information please call (734) 961-0909.

WEDNESDAY SUBURBAN SINGLES
Wednesday Suburban Singles Dance Parties Inc., meet every Wednesday at The Warren Chateau Banquet Center (10 Mile Road one block east of Mound) in Warren from 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Open to the public - ages 21 and up. Proper attire is recommended (no jeans). The Single Mingle Dance costs \$5; \$4 before 8:30 p.m. For information call the hotline at (313) 842-0443.

SUNDAY SUBURBAN SINGLES
Sunday Suburban Singles Dance Parties Inc. meets every Sunday at The Warren Chateau Banquet Center in Warren from 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Call (313) 842-0443.

If you would like to announce an upcoming craft show, bazaar, or arts boutique - items can be sent to: Crafts Calendar, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI, 48150 or e-mail kmortson@oe.com.

TOUCH OF SPRING
The Athletic Booster Club of Clareville High School will host "A Touch of Spring - Craft Boutique" from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 25. Over 150 juried crafters will display items. Admission is \$2. No strollers please. Baby-sitting, raffle and snack bar. Clareville High School is located at 20155 Middlebelt Road in Livonia.

FESTIVAL OF ARTS
Nativity Episcopal Church presents the "Festival of Arts," show including paintings, sculpture, acrylics, jewelry, watercolors and more. Friday, March 31, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 7-10 p.m.; Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Sunday service including Al Jacquez and Friends (Gospel Vocalists). The gallery is open from noon to 4 p.m. Nativity is located at 21220 W. 14 Mile Road in Bloomfield Township. Call (248) 646-4100 for information.

SPRING SPECTACULAR
Livonia Stevenson High School (38500 W. Six Mile Rd./2 block west of Farmington Rd., 2 miles north of I-96) will be the host site of the "Spring Spectacular

exclusive, 96-page book "How to take great photo's with any camera." Limited space is available. Call to reserve a spot, Terry Saenz (734) 981-6577.

GARDEN GALA CRAFT SHOW
Crafters are needed who specialize in yard and garden related crafts for the first "Garden Gala," May 20, at Memorial Elementary School in Garden City. If you are interested in participating call Rhonda, (734) 762-0183.

CHELSEA SUMMER FEST
Applications are currently being sought for arts and crafts vendors at the Chelsea Summer Fest, July 28 and 29. Booth hours are Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. If you are interested in obtaining a booth, contact Penny (734) 433-0354 or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 580, Chelsea, MI 48118.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

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 or e-mail kmortson@oe. htmecomm.net

AN EVENING WITH HUNGER

Friday, March 24 at Christ the King Lutheran Church at 9300 Farmington Road featured guest speakers will be David Hacker from the Hunger Action Coalition of Michigan and Bill Winkler from Gleaners Food Bank. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. by sharing a portion of soup and bread. The speakers will begin to inform us about their agencies and their battles against hunger at 7 p.m. Public is welcome. Call Ricky Brogdon at (313) 937-8710.

GOSPEL TRIO

The Chapels Gospel Trio will be in concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 24 at The First United Methodist Church of Plymouth (45201 North Territorial Road west of Sheldon). Free will offerings will be taken. Call (734) 414-6409.

EVENING CLASSES

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Westland (37775 Palmer Road) has several fun classes planned through the month of May on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. They include basket weaving, March 27 and April 3; gardening, April 10 and 17; cake decorating, May 1, 8, and 15; and Saturday May 20 candy making at 10 a.m.

REDEEMED TREASURES

Redeemed Treasures Thrift Shop (sponsored by the Detroit Teen Challenge) is open most Saturday's from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. year round. Located at 20740 Grand River (1.5 miles east of Telegraph). While browsing have your car washed and detailed for a donation. Call (313) 531-0111 Monday through Friday or Saturday at (313) 535-1359.

SUMMER CAMP

Registration has begun at Christ Our Savior in Livonia for summer camp and fall classes. We offer Christian programs for children ages 18 months to kindergarten during the school year and up through age eight during the summer. For information please call Wendy at (734) 513-8413.

MESSIAH IN THE PASSOVER

"Messiah in the Passover," is a presentation from a table set with traditional items of the Passover Seder. The historic and symbolic significance of each item is explained. "Messiah in the Passover," emphasizes the

connections between the Old and New Testaments, the Jewish roots of the Last Supper and the origins of Christian Communion. You will understand why "Christ our Passover" took the "cup after supper" and the "unleavened bread" and said, "this is my body ... this cup is the New Covenant in my blood." Program begins at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 26 at Clarenceville United Methodist Church (20300 Middlebelt Road) Livonia.

LENTEN SERVICES

Lenten services will be held at Good Hope Lutheran Church (28680 Cherry Hill - Garden City) each Wednesday before Holy Week at 7 p.m. preceded by a soup supper at 6 p.m. Other worship services include 7 p.m. Thursday, April 20; 7 p.m. Friday, April 21; vigil of Easter worship at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 22 and Easter Sunday worship at 8:20 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, April 23.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

St. John's Lutheran Church of Redford will hold mid-week worship services on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and Thursdays at 7 p.m. during Lent. Wednesday dates are March 29, April 5 and 12. Services will be held in the Chapel. Thursday services will be preceded by light supper at 6 p.m., worship at 7 p.m. Dates are March 23 and 30; April 6 and 13. All services will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion. St. John's Lutheran is located at 13542 Mercedes, one block east of Inkster Road. Call (313) 538-2660.

LENTEN SERVICES

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday night at 7 p.m. at St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church (23310 Joy Road in Redford, five blocks east of Telegraph). Phone (313) 534-2121. A video tape of one of Bishop Fulton J. Sheen's retreats will be shown in the Church hall following the Stations each week of Lent. All are invited to attend.

LENTEN DINNERS

St. Agatha Church (19750 Beech Daly) of Redford will offer Lenten dinners on Ash Wednesday and every Friday during Lent. 3-8 p.m. Dine in and carry out. Senior discount from 3-5 p.m. Children's menu available. Call (313) 531-0371.

LENTEN SERVICES

St. James Presbyterian (25350 W. Six Mile Road) in Redford Township will hold Lenten services every Wednesday evening through April 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Maundy Thursday services, including communion, are at 7:30 p.m. April 20. For more information call (313) 534-7730.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (39020 Five Mile Road in Livonia) will offer Lenten service at 6:45 p.m. every Wednesday through April 12. Palm Sunday service is April 16 at 8:30 and 11 a.m.; a prayer vigil service will be held during Holy Week at 7:30 p.m. April 18; April 19, healing service at 7:30 p.m.; April 20 is Maundy Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; Good Friday Interfaith service at noon April 21.

LENTEN MEAL

St. Genevieve Parish of Livonia will offer a Lenten meal March 24, 31 and April 7 and 14 from 5-7 p.m. Menu includes baked fish, potato and all you can eat soup and salad. Macaroni and cheese as a children's meal. Cost is \$6 for adults; \$3.50 for children ages 6-12 and 5 and under eat free.

SPIRITUAL ELDERING WORKSHOP

The Holy Trinity Lutheran Church workshop is meant for members of the church who want to use their life experience to nurture, heal or impact a younger generation and this world. The workshop will be held 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays, March 28 and April 4, 11 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile Road, Livonia. The registration fee for the series is \$30. Call (734) 464-0211.

DIVORCE & BEYOND

The Friends Group of St. Thomas Church in Ann Arbor is conducting a Divorce and Beyond Workshop on Wednesday evenings from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. beginning March 22nd. Call Virginia Mikola at (734) 994-9194 or Gerald Black at (734) 741-1874 for information and registration. Cost is \$20, which includes "Divorce and Beyond," a book by James Grotteman, CSC and Leon Haverkamp, MSW.

ECUMENICAL LENTEN GATHERINGS

"Opening Our Hearts to Christ - Jubilee 2000" will begin with noon services on the Wednesdays of Lent followed by a luncheon of bread and soup. All services will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 710 Church St. in Plymouth. Worship leaders/lunch providers are as follows: March 29, First Baptist (First Baptist); April 5, Saint Kenneth (First United Methodist); and April 12, Salva-

tion Army (Salvation Army).

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

March 29 and April 5, 12 at 7 p.m. at Timothy Lutheran Church of Livonia (8820 Wayne Road). Weekly prayer and discussion about the five-session "God is Here," video series from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

GOSPELFEST 2000

The New Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist will be the host site of "Gospelfest 2000" in its 10 year. It is a one day musical and spiritual workshop whose mission is to bring healing and unity to our communities through the joyful celebration of the gospel of Jesus

Christ. The event begins with registration at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 25. A mass choir rehearsal begins at noon and continues until 4:30 p.m. The evenings celebration begins at 6 p.m. Admission is free. For information call (313) 868-7240.

DINNER W/THE FILMORES

On Sunday, March 26 at 4:30 p.m. Unity of Livonia (28660 Five Mile Road) will be hosting a dinner featuring healthy and delicious original recipes, many of which are vegetarian, from Unity Inn in Missouri. Dinner will be served on a love offering basis. After dinner there will be a discussion of the original writ-

ings of the Fillmores, the founders of the Unity Church. Call (734) 421-1760.

JUBILEE JOURNEY

Come to the Jubilee Journey "A Carnival of Saints" from 3-5 p.m. March 26 at St. Maurice Parish Hall, 32765 Lyndon, Livonia. Celebrate your faith, enjoy the fun and check out the food. Call 421-5240 for information.

SPIRITUAL RETREAT

A Spiritual Weekend Retreat titled, "A New Century - A New Beginning," will be held March 31-April 2 at St. Johns Center in Plymouth. Call Jeff (313) 381-0731 or Arlene (810) 776-2621.

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St. Aidan

from page B5

"Simon Peter" will take the stage at 6:30 p.m. with one 15-minute intermission. The performance includes music, theatrical lighting, Dzwonkowski in full costume and acts featuring "Yeshua, The Healer and Worker of Miracles," "Judas and the arrest at Gethsemane," "The Crucifixion," and "The Morning of the Resurrection."

A religious educator who studied with the Maryknoll Fathers of New York and ministered in Bolivia and El Salvador, Dzwonkowski has gone to great lengths to change the program when new research in the area of biblical archeology, Jewish and Christian biblical history and scriptural theology is dis-

covered.

The program climaxes with a "rather realistic, yet painless" crucifixion" of a member of the audience.

"I do this with the help of several audience members to illustrate to people how it was done," said Dzwonkowski. "The performance closes with the resurrection. I hope people go away having laughed, felt inspired, maybe shed a tear or two and say they learned something they never knew before."

St. Aidan Church is located at 17500 Farmington Road in Livonia. Tickets are \$3 per person and \$5 per family. For more information call (734) 425-5950.

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Masters sparkle

The Plymouth-Canton Cruisers Masters Swim Team competed in the West Bloomfield Masters Extravaganza Swim Meet March 5 and came away with several top-notch performances.

In the 25-29 age division, Amy Churchman won the 50-yard and 100-yard breaststroke events and took second in the 50 and 100 freestyles. Michelle TenBroeke finished first in the 50 free and was second in the 200 and 500 free.

And Ed Churchman won four events: the 50 and 100 butterfly, and the 50 and 100 free.

In the 30-34 division, Abby Briggs was a winner in the 50 free, took second in the 50 breast and 100 free. Paul Bingham took top honors in the 50 and 200 butterfly, was second in the 100 fly and third in the 50 free. And Jon Jipping was second in the 100 backstroke, third in the 50 back and fourth in the 50 free.

In the 35-39 division, Sarah Eubanks was first in the 100 free, the 100 breast and the 200 individual medley.

Brian Foust was a double-winner in the 50-54 division, taking first in the 50 and 100 back; he was also second in the 200 back.

Several Cruisers are planning to attend the Masters State Swimming Championships in mid-April in Holland.

Dietrich All-American

Madonna University's Chris Dietrich, a senior, became the first Lady Crusader basketball player to earn NAIA All-American honors when she was given honorable mention NAIA All-American status.

A 5-foot-8 guard, Dietrich started all 27 games for Madonna, averaging a team-best 15.3 points a game. She shot 40 percent from the field and 80 percent from the free-throw line, averaged 3.5 assists and 2.5 steals, and was third on the team in rebounds with four a game.

Dietrich finished her career ranked second all-time in scoring, assists and steals for Madonna.

Bray letters — again

Mark Bray, a senior at Hope College and a Plymouth Canton graduate, earned his fourth letter in basketball, one of only 14 athletes to do so.

Bray averaged 8.9 points, 3.2 assists and 3.0 rebounds per game this season.

Heat are hot

The Plymouth Heat went undefeated in winning the Milford Police Athletic League's annual 3v3 Basketball Tournament March 18-19 in Milford.

The Heat, competing in the sixth-grade division in the double-elimination tournament, beat last year's champion, St. Matts, in the final. Team members are Matt Czajkowski, Eddie Duggan, Kyle Gendron and Steve Paye. The team is coached by Charlie Paye.

Spring Ice Show

The Plymouth Figure Skating Club will host its annual Spring Ice Show, entitled "Let's Talk About Love," at 7 p.m. Friday, March 31, and 1 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth.

Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for seniors and children under four-years-old.

The show will feature the PFSC's learn-to-skate program skaters and the freestyle skaters in individual and group performances. Also performing will be the PFSC's six Gems on Ice synchronized skating teams, including the three national qualifying squads that recently competed in the Synchronized Team Championships.

For more information, call (734) 420-0462.

CYO football meeting

The Catholic Youth Organization will have a meeting for those boys in grades 3-8 who want to play CYO football at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 4 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church.

All boys interested in playing are invited to attend this informational meeting. Our Lady of Good Counsel is located at 1062 Church in Plymouth.

For more information, call Mike Girakis at (734) 454-0847 or at (734) 427-6270.

A possible contender?

Canton could be on fast track to title contention

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

For the past few years, the goal for Plymouth Canton's boys track team was the same: Make progress, take aim at the Western Lakes Activities Association Western Division title, and hope to finish in the top half at the WLAA meet.

The first two of those goals remain intact. But the last — well, a top-six finish won't be good enough. The Chiefs should be better than that, although coach Bob Richardson will concede nothing.

Not in this league.

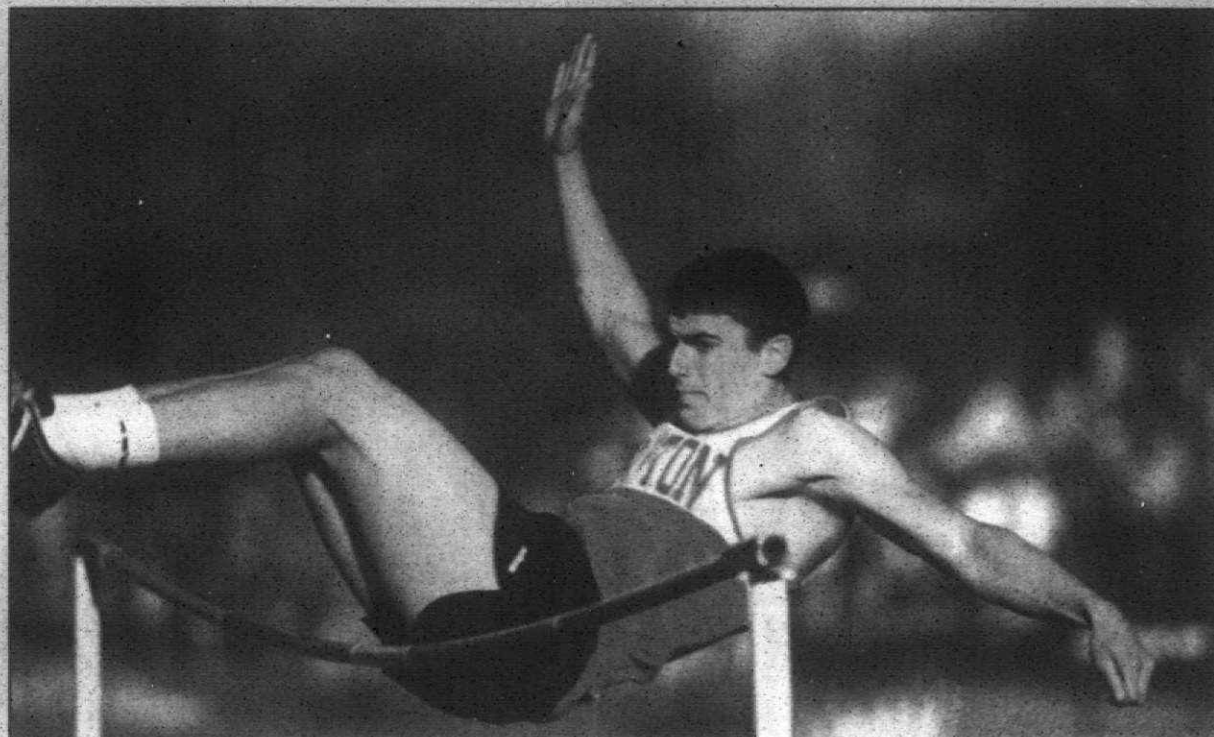
"I really think this is our best team since '93, when we won the league," Richardson said. "Our goal will be to finish in the top three (at league)."

That actually could be a bit pessimistic, considering the Chiefs' potential. They've lost six to graduation from last season's squad, but only middle distance runners Steve Blossom and Jason Rutter were among the team's top scorers.

This season's success will start with the seniors. "We have our largest senior group in school history," said Richardson, who's been connected to Canton's track program since 1979.

There are 18 of them, with Asa Hensley, Nathan Howe, Karamjit Singh and Jack Tucci serving as team captains. Singh, a sprinter, placed fifth in the 100-meter dash at last year's conference meet.

Hensley will be in the shot put and discus, Howe runs sprints and Tucci



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Defending champ: Canton's Jordan Chapman cleared 6-feet to win the WLAA championship as a sophomore last spring. Chapman will seek to defend his title and help the Chiefs challenge for the league crown this spring.

will be in the 200 and 400.

Other seniors who will be counted on to contribute are Jamie Bonner and Gary Lee in the sprints; Brian

Szwejkowski and Ben Cool in the shot and discus; Jim O'Brien in the hurdles; Jim Korona in the distance runs; and Aaron LaBeau in the middle dis-

ance events.

While the seniors will be counted on for leadership as well as skill, the

Please see CANTON TRACK, C6

Salem needs to rebuild to challenge

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

Two years ago, Geoff Baker knew what to expect. He knew his Plymouth Salem boys track team would be formidable, and it was, winning the Western Lakes Activities Association championship and the state regional title as well.

Last year he wasn't as certain. He had a solid nucleus returning, but he had lost quite a bit, too. The final league standings reflected it: Walled Lake Central first, Livonia Churchill second, Salem third.

So what about this year?

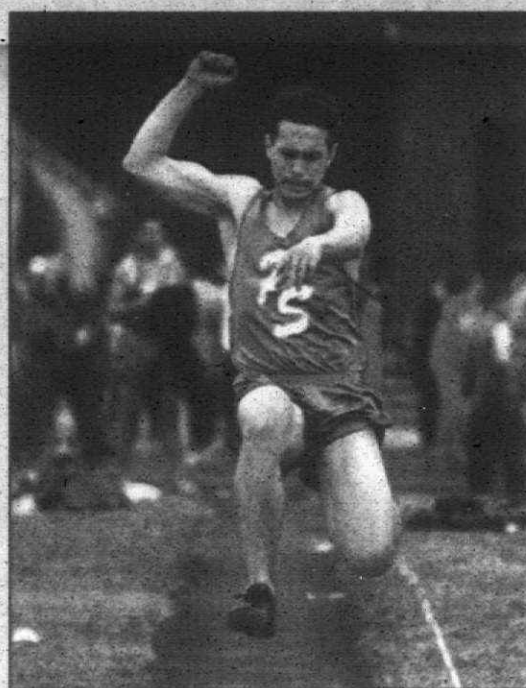
Well, most of the lineup that accounted for the bulk of last season's WLAA meet points are gone. Which means even more uncertainty ahead for the Rocks.

"I guess you could say it's a rebuilding year this year," said Baker. "We're a little thin, compared to the way we were able to stack meets before."

"We've got 70 kids out, I just don't know what kind of talent we have. There are a lot of young kids."

Baker then listed those who are gone: Nick Allen, Jon Little, Craig Little, Matt Anderson, Bobby Cushman, Chris Mason, Mike Shull, Mark Sheehan, Ryan Thomas, Dave Clemons, Andy Brandt — and, tragically, Mark Bolger, who also ran cross country.

A member of Salem's basketball team, Bolger passed away during halftime of a game last January. In his memory, the Salem and Plymouth Can-



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Veteran returning: Ryan Silva is one of the few Salem returnees with experience. Silva will compete in the long jump.

ton coaches have agreed to alter the name of the annual Mangan Meet, pitting Salem against Canton, to the Bolger/Mangan Memorial Meet. The meet will be Thursday, April 6.

There are some key returnees: Gabe Coble, a senior, was fifth in the long jump at last season's WLAA meet; Mark Snyder, also a senior, was third in conference in the shot put; and Pat Johnson, another senior, placed eighth in the 100-meter dash at the WLAA as a junior.

Other returnees who figure to make an impact are seniors Ryan Silva in the long jump, hurdles and sprints, Dave Boucher and Kevin Dunn in the throwing events, Jim Brzuch in the pole vault and Mike Carpenter in the distance events; juniors Donnie Warner and Manvir Gill in the distance events, Rob Showalter in the hurdles and 400, and Greg Kubitski in the pole vault and distance events; and sophomore Dan Dwenger in the pole vault.

Since pre-season workouts began just 10 days ago, rating the newcomers is difficult. But two who figure to help matters are senior Archie Kinney, a football player who played baseball last spring, and Steve Shull, a freshman. Both will run sprints.

Salem opens its season Saturday at the Huron River Relays, hosted by Eastern Michigan. Two years ago, the Rocks won it; last year they placed seventh.

This year "we'll be hard-pressed to get points," said Baker. "This year we're just going to work

Please see SALEM TRACK, C6

Whalers regain top spot

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

Well, maybe this can be classified as a payback of sorts.

After all, last season everyone connected to the Ontario Hockey League figured the Plymouth Whalers — the regular-season champions and one of the Canadian Hockey League's premier teams — would be a favorite to win the Memorial Cup.

Then along came the London Knights in the second round of the OHL playoffs and, in an agonizing seven-game series that included three overtime games, the Whalers were eliminated.

This season, no one expected the Whalers to be much of a contender for anything outside of a playoff berth. Four players from last season's team — David Legwand, Harold Druken, Paul Mara and Jason Ward — graduated and are currently playing in the NHL. Several others had also moved on.

So what happened? How did the Whalers achieve the impossible by repeating as winners of the Hamilton Spectator Trophy, presented to the OHL's regular-season champion?



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Top scorer: Justin Williams (21) picked up his game substantially, leading the Whalers in scoring with 37 goals and 46 assists, a total of 83 points.

"We didn't expect it," said Whaler coach/general manager Pete DeBoer. "It's been real surprising. Coming into the season, we were just hoping to

make the playoffs."

The Whalers' season goals started to be reshaped in December. Early in the

Please see PLAYOFFS, C2

Whalers' loss followed by a pair of wins



This has to rate as one of the best weekends of the season for the Plymouth Whalers.

Yes, their win streak was snapped at 17 on Friday night when they let a 3-0 lead get away in a 5-3 loss at Guelph. It was an experience the Whalers hadn't suffered since Jan. 29.

An emotional downturn was certainly possible, particularly since they had games on Saturday and Sunday, too, and against opponents with better records than Guelph.

But the Whalers rebounded admirably, taking command against the Windsor Spitfires Saturday in a 5-1 victory at Compuware Arena and then following it with a hard-fought, come-from-behind 3-2 triumph at Sarnia Sunday.

The two Whaler wins clinched

Please see WHALERS, C2

Scoring's been lost, but CC seeks improvement

By PAUL BEAUDRY
STAFF WRITER
pbeaudry@oe-homecomm.net

It's a tale of two leagues for Redford Catholic Central's lacrosse team and the Shamrocks who have the story ends with improvements in both circuits.

CC finished third in both the Michigan Scholastic Lacrosse Association and the Midwest Scholastic Lacrosse Association. The Michigan High School Athletic Association does not sponsor championships in the sport due to insufficient number of schools offering lacrosse.

And new coach Darren Murray thinks his team can improve in both leagues.

"That's something we're shooting for," said Murray. "We lost a lot of scoring from last year, but we've got some good players to replace them."

CC was 8-7 in the 32-team Michigan SLA, advancing to the league semifinals, and just 2-7 in the Midwest SLA — made up of 16 teams in the Midwest, including the Shamrocks, Brother Rice, Detroit

Playoffs from page C1

month they were struggling to remain at the break-even plateau. But that changed; as the younger Whalers adapted to the game, the team started making strides — small ones at first, then bigger and bigger, culminating in a 17-game win streak that was topped last Friday by Guelph.

Plymouth was in third place in the OHL's West Division and struggling to maintain that position in December. By mid-February, they were first in the division and climbing.

"We made very few changes," said DeBoer, when asked if the team made some sort of blockbuster move. "We just have such a young team, there was room for improvement."

Improvement is one thing. But developing the kind of consistency that leads to a 33-5-1 record since Dec. 1 (which the Whalers are) is usually something reserved for a veteran squad.

DeBoer credits the players who did return for providing the necessary leadership. "We have four key guys who turned down a chance to play in the pros," said DeBoer, referring to team captain Randy Fitzgerald, Shaun Fisher, Eric Gooldy and goalie Rob Zepp.

Much was also expected from others who played smaller roles on last season's star-studded team. Fisher, a defenseman, was one.

"Last year," DeBoer explained, "we had a group of superstar players, then things dropped off a bit. This year we're more balanced."

"I think (Fisher) got overshadowed last



Pete DeBoer
Whalers coach

He has become one of the most productive defensemen in the OHL.

But others have filled the void created by the loss of so many stars. Justin Williams leads the Whalers in scoring with 37 goals and 46 assists (83 points); next best is Damian Surma with 34 goals and 44 assists (78 points).

The rookies who have made the biggest impact are Stephen Weiss, the Whalers' first-round pick in '99, with 24 goals and 41 assists (65 points); Tomas Kurka, who has 36 goals and 28 assists (64 points); and Steven Morris, with 13 goals and 18 assists (31 points).

The Whalers don't score as many goals as last season, but the defense, led by Fisher

and goalie Zepp, has helped overcome that. For the second-straight year Plymouth will lead the OHL in goals surrendered (167, with one game left); Zepp, through last weekend, was 36-11-3 in goal with a .903 save percentage and a 2.38 goals-against average, with three shutouts.

"We don't score as many goals as last year, so we've had to rely on our defense," said DeBoer.

It's all very nice, sure. DeBoer admits it, but he knows there's another step to take, especially after last year's disappointment.

"We're hoping the playoffs are more productive," said DeBoer. "One thing we've learned is that the regular season doesn't mean very much. Last year taught us that."

It also taught DeBoer not to focus too heavily on what the opponent does. Anyway, going into Friday's final regular-season game, the Whalers could be facing Kitchener, Brampton or Guelph on Saturday.

"They're all tough teams," said DeBoer. "Any of the three will be a difficult opponent. In the first round, we're going to concentrate on what we're going to do and just stick to the formula that got us here."

"It's really impossible to prepare for three teams anyway."

That 17-game win streak showed DeBoer that, if the Whalers "play our game and do not do anything differently, we'll do all right."

That's the plan, at any rate. But if any team has gone well beyond the plan set for it at the beginning of the season, it's the Whalers.

Whalers from page C1

their second-straight Ontario Hockey League regular-season title. Plymouth improved to 45-18-4 (95 points), four more than both the Barrie Colts (who have one game remaining) and the Ottawa 67's (who have finished their season).

The Spitfires, who started the season so well, were no match for the Whalers Saturday. Following a scoreless first period, Plymouth scored three times in the second, with Justin Williams, Stephen Weiss and Tomas Kurka getting goals. Williams' marker was short-handed, while Kurka scored on the power play.

Kurka's second power-play goal of the game at the 7:51 mark of the final period put Plymouth ahead 4-0. Windsor ruined Rob Zepp's shutout when Frank Sinacori scored with 2:43 remaining. Steven Morris got the

Whalers' final marker with 41 seconds left.

Weiss and Shaun Fisher each had two assists in the game and Kurka had one. Zepp stopped 20 shots while his Windsor counterpart, Ryan Aschaber, had 38 saves.

Windsor was 34-31-2 through Sunday.

Sunday's game at Sarnia was a bigger test for the Whalers. The Sting had been playing well coming into the weekend, and it was Plymouth's third game in as many days.

Sarnia struck first, getting two power-play goals in the first period from Alexander Butyrin and Maxim Rybin. They were sandwiched around a power-play marker by the Whalers' Williams (his team-leading 37th of the season), with assists by Damian Surma and Fisher.

The Sting's 2-1 lead stood until the final period. With 6:57 elapsed, Surma knotted it at 2-1 with his 34th goal of the year; Williams assisted.

Fisher then got the game-winner, a power-play goal with 6:11 left in the game. It was the 17th goal of the season for Plymouth's top defenseman.

Zepp had 33 saves in pushing his record for the season to 36-11-3. Greg Hewitt made 26 stops for the Sting.

The Whalers' final regular-season game is at London Friday. They open the OHL playoffs as the No. 1 seed, at home Saturday, against either Guelph, Brampton or Kitchener.

Ambassador is top goalie

Craig Kowalski of the Compuware. Ambassadors was named the North American Hockey League's goalie of the

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Hockey sign-up

Registration is now under way for adult spring recreational hockey leagues.

The Rockets (over 21 years) will play Sundays and Thursdays at the Artic Pond Arena in Plymouth; the Plymouth Masters (over 40) will play Sundays and Wednesdays at the Plymouth Cultural Center; the Golden Eagles (over 49) will play Sunday and Wednesday nights at the Artic Pond.

The season runs April 2-May 11. To register, call or FAX name and address to John Wilson at (248) 471-0658, or E-mail him at: john@rsipi.net.

Golf league

The Canton Parks and Recreation Men's Golf League will begin April 26 at Fellows Creek

Golf Course in Canton. A 27-hole facility, Fellows Creek offers three nine-hole courses and a clubhouse with a pro-shop and restaurant.

The 18-week league season costs \$420, which includes all league greens fees, prize money, league outing and awards. Play will be on Wednesdays, with 5-6 p.m. tee times; golfers will be paired as two-man teams for league play.

The league is limited to 36 golfers and is limited to Canton residents only until March 31. There will be a league meeting at 6 p.m. April 19 at Fellows Creek to discuss league rules and regulations.

Register between 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday at Canton Parks and Recreation Services, located at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

For more information, call

(734) 397-5110.

Soccer clinics

EuroUSA Futbol will give coaches clinics for club, teams, small groups or individuals featuring experienced trainers and coaches from around the world.

Clinics can be at Schoolcraft College or place of choice. For further information, call Joe Kurta at (734) 658-3995.

Northville leagues

The Northville Parks and Recreation Department has several league programs open to non-residents.

Adult men's basketball league — Play will be Sundays, from April 30-June 18. Entry fee is \$320 per team for eight games; referee fees are extra. Non-residents are \$15 each. Call (248) 349-0203 for more information.

Adult women's basketball league — Play will be Tuesdays or Thursdays from April 18-June 8. Cost is \$310 for eight games; referee fees extra. Non-residents are \$15 each. Call (248) 349-0203 for more information.

Adult men's softball league — Play will be Tuesdays, May 9-Aug. 8. Cost is \$345 per team for 12 games; umpire fees extra. Non-residents are \$15 each. Call (248) 349-0203 for more information.

Adult women's softball league — Play will be Tuesdays or Thursdays from April 18-June 8. Cost is \$310 for eight games; referee fees extra. Non-residents are \$15 each. Call (248) 349-0203 for more information.

The enemy is here: It's us



PAUL BEAUDRY

A nondescript man in his 50s was waiting in line to pay for his newspaper and at the last minute turned to grab a pack of cigarettes.

In the time it took for him to turn his body 90 degrees and grab the pack, a woman in her mid 30s — every bit the stereotypical soccer mom (the soccer ball decal in the rear window was a definite tipoff) — zoomed to his left and thrust her money at the clerk to pay for gas.

What followed just stunned me.

"EXCUSE ME," boomed the man. "But I was here first."

"I'm just paying for gas," countered the soccer mom. "The sign on the pump said to 'pay first.'"

"I don't care," said the man, his face now turning a noticeable red. "I was here first. You can get in line behind me."

"I'm just paying for gas," said the woman, not backing down an inch and her voice changing from a statement to a command. "That's all I'm doing."

She threw her money down on the counter, walked to the door and said something that has stayed with me much longer than it probably did her.

"I hope those cigarettes give you lung cancer."

Let's recap here. Someone cuts in line, is called on it and tells the person who challenges her "me first" attitude that she wishes cancer upon them.

Is that what we've become? What's worse, is that the kind of example we're setting?

You're in my way and inconveniencing me so not only am I going to treat you as if you don't exist, but going to wish you dead.

There is a person I know down South who is an outstanding softball player. Really good, in fact. So much so that just about every tourney her team enters, she wins the Most Valuable Player award. So good, that she was a hands-down selection for a select team of players from around the nation.

A couple of years ago, she

started having problems breathing when she used her allergy inhaler. It was determined that the steroids in the inhaler were causing her lungs to shut down.

Someone else on another team found this out and began going out of her way to weaken her. She put together a combination of steroids, an over-the-counter aspirin-type medicine called Anasid and a third drug that is masked by the other two.

Over the course of that time, the woman, who used to be a nurse, has gone out of her way to get the poison into the player's system — putting some in a drink when no one is looking, having a teammate put the drug under her nails and scratch her sliding into second, walking by with an inhaler and spraying the aerosol around her.

The police have a good idea what is going on but can't catch the woman, who went into hiding shortly after a warrant went out for her arrest. Meanwhile, the player refuses to back down.

And the woman's friends have kept up the mission of getting drugs into the player's system whenever she appears at a softball field — whether it's to watch or play.

Now, the player spends her days in the hospital on medication to fight the mystery drug, her nights in a futile effort to sleep, her whole day in a labored effort to breathe. Doctors are having problems treating the poison because they don't know exactly what it is. Softball is becoming a distant memory.

Is this what we've become? I

am jealous of your talent, so instead of improving to your level, I'll cripple you. Instead of waiting my turn, I'll barge in front of you and wish you had cancer. I don't care if the light changed to red, I'm going to run it because I'm too busy to stop.

I am reminded of a line from the old comic strip, "Pogo," in which the main character says "We have met the enemy, and he is us."

I am not a Pollyanna. By

nature, I am more cynic than saint. OK, a lot more cynic than saint. But watching out for the little things in everyday life, I fear Pogo's more correct than his creator Walt Kelly ever thought.

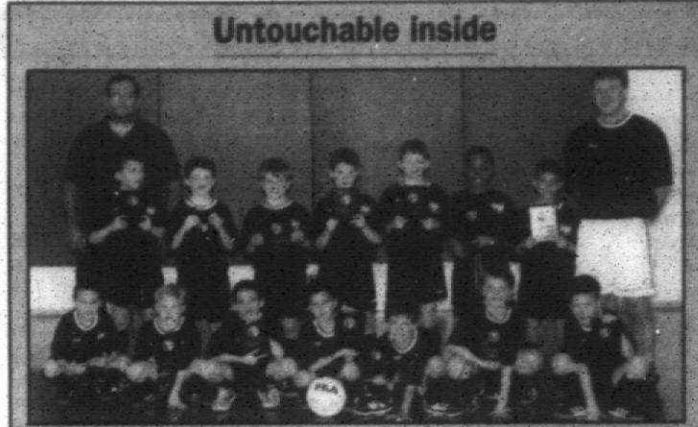
We are the enemy. What's worse is we don't even care — unless it happens to us.

Paul Beaudry is the Redford Garden City sports editor and can be reached at (734) 953-2106 or by e-mail at pbeaudry@oe-homecomm.net.

Extravaganza champions



Mite BB hockey: The Plymouth Power Sharks, a member of the Plymouth-Canton Hockey Association, collected the championship of the Cleveland Extravaganza March 3-5, beating the Buffalo Regals in the final. Ryan Rose scored the game-winning goal and was tournament MVP. Team members are: (front from left) Zach Osborne, Evan McCarthy, Joey Beard, Zach Cisek, Ben Symonow, and Ryan Rose. Standing, from left: Josh McGuire, Andy Sensoli, Jordan Emery, Zach Vukmirovich, Noah Fairchild, Patrick Patin, Kyle Zink, Shaun Lyons, and Steve Roselle. Back row, from left: Matt Zink, Jim Cisek, Eugene Patin (head coach), Dan Symonow and Paul Kaczmarek.



Untouchable inside: The Canton Oaks were unbeaten in their indoor winter season. Bottom row (from left): Phillip Rollinger, Mike Elmers, Alexander Covert, Anthony Eisenmann, George Demopoulos, James Abraham, and Joshua Hurst. Top row: (from left) Coach Greg Demopoulos, Daniel Radosevich, Evan Yodger, Austin Kaczanowski, Brian Ebert, Eric Caron, Trenton Buehls, Joshua Pascarella, and trainer Bill Joher.

Cereal City champs



Top gymnasts: The Sports Club of Novi Level 6 gymnastics team finished first at the Cereal City Classic Feb. 18-20 in Battle Creek. Team members are Nicole Roach of Canton, Chelsea Seiden and Jacquelyn Williams of Plymouth, Erica Schick of Livonia, Emma Platt of Novi, Amanda Green of New Hudson and Sarah Ilkhani-Pour of Northville.

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OBSERVERLAND GIRLS TRACK PREVIEWS

Livonia Ladywood
With only five seniors and three juniors returning from last season, Lee Shaw is in for a challenging first year as head coach at Livonia Ladywood.

"We have a very, very young team," he said.

A native of England, Shaw is taking over a squad that finished third in the Catholic League last season.

Also the coach of the school's cross-country team, Shaw replaces former coach Rod Sorenson.

While losing some important members from last year, including Suzanne Papalino (hurdles) and Erin Hayden (long jump, high jump), the team does have some key returns.

Most notable among these is senior sprinter Brianna Watson, who is the fastest runner in school history. Last season, Watson set a school record in the 300-meters with a time of 2:24.3 (third in Observerland).

"She is already being heavily recruited by colleges such as Eastern Michigan and Georgia Tech."

Shaw's other top sprinters are seniors Kelly Carey, Kelly Prednesky and Laura Yates, who was a Catholic League finalist in the 100.

The team's other major returnee is sophomore high jumper Alexis Noel.

Last season Noel jumped a personal best of 5-4, which was second among Observerland competitors. As a member of the Newburgh Track Club, Noel jumped 5-2, taking second at the Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association indoor championships last week in Ann Arbor.

Ladywood's top returning field competitor will be sophomore shot put thrower Megan Guadalupe, who finished sixth in the event at the Catholic League meet last season.

"Megan will improve a lot this season," Shaw said.

Shaw says he is "expecting some big things" from his distance runners, including senior Patty Simon, the team's top mile last season.

Newcomers Anna Plaganyi (freshman) and Stacey Schroeder (sophomore), who both ran for Shaw on the cross-country team this fall, will also contribute.

Shaw is also anticipating a strong year from senior middle distance runner Stephanie Cunningham, who starred for Farmington Hills Mercy as a freshman, but hasn't competed since.

"The bulk of our points are going to come from the seniors and Alexis Noel," Shaw said.

Expecting to keep about 55 girls, Shaw is still trying to determine who will compete where. In fact, he plans to let the girls try as many events as they want. In one such experiment, he plans to let Watson compete at least once in the long jump.

Shaw believes a blend of hard work and a fun atmosphere will result in a good league showing.

"I am hoping we can push to the front of the league," Shaw said. "Everybody has a shot right now. It all depends on the work you put in. There is a difference between training and just racing."

Livonia Churchill
Charger coach Kelly Graham is expecting this season to be a promising one for her veteran-filled team.

"Looking at what we have on paper,

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Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

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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.

NORE FLY TYING
River Bend Sport Shop in Southfield offers fly tying classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced tiers. Classes will be held at various times. For more information and to register call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474.

ARCHERY
OUTDOOR 3-D SHOOT
Royal Oak Archers, Inc. of Lake Orion, is presenting a recreational archery shoot on Sunday, March 19, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Located on Orion Road one-half mile west of Adams Road, Royal Oak Archers has 30 targets over 39 acres. Ask about the youth Archery Olympic classes and various adult competitions. For more information, call Dave Piet at (248) 545-8107, Pete Angel at (810) 938-1273 or Doug Waite at (248) 628-1076.

DETROIT ARCHERS OF WEST BLOOMFIELD
The Detroit Archers of West Bloomfield (5795 Drake Road) is hosting a number of leagues: 3-D indoor, Sundays, 6:30 p.m.; Monday bush league, 7:30 p.m. (men only); Tuesday target league, 7:30 p.m.; 3-D bow hunter, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. (indoor); and Friday fun league, 7:30 p.m. Open shoot hours are from 1-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and 6-10 p.m. Thursday. For more information, call (313) 825-2110.

LIVONIA RANGE
The Livonia Archery Range is open to the public. The range features seven field lanes and one broadhead lane and is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The range is also open Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment only through the end of November. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Livonia residents shoot free of charge. The range is located on Glendale Ave., east of Farmington Road. Call (734) 466-2410 for more information.

JUNIOR OLYMPICS
The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

CLINTON VALLEY BASS
Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7:30 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. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843 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 Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION
The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for more information.

OUTDOORS CALENDAR

METROPARKS
METROPARK REQUIREMENTS
Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178; Hudson Mills, 1-800-477-3191.

2000 PERMITS
The 2000 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 (\$8 for senior citizens). The annual boat launching permits are \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

POINTE PEELE ICE HIKE
Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a 2-3 hour hike at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills on Sunday. Call Don Dahlin at (248) 644-2746 for more information.

SHOOTING RANGES
BALD MOUNTAIN
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Hours for archery and clay target shooting are noon to sunset Mondays and Tuesdays; 10 a.m. to sunset Wednesdays; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Rifle range hours are 3 p.m. to sunset Mondays and Tuesdays; 10 a.m. to sunset Wednesdays; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenfield Rd., which is three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills off M-24. Call (248) 814-9193 for more information.

PONTIAC LAKE
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays 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 noon-5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (248) 693-6767 for more information.

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Open qualifying

Western Golf and Country Club in Redford is among eight sites around the state chosen to host qualifying for the 85th Detroit Newspapers Michigan Open.

The fields at all sites will be limited to 104 golfers and

Salem track from page C1

through a lot of meets and then try to be ready by big-meet time.

There will be a lot of changes this season, to be sure, but Walled Lake Central — the defending WLAA champion — and Livonia Churchill both figure to be at, or near, the top again.

Where Salem will place isn't certain. "We're going to be young," said Baker. "We've got some good quality seniors in Gabe (Coble) and Pat (Johnson) and Ryan (Silva). Hopefully we'll continue in our winning ways."

To do that, the Rocks "will need some of our young guys to surprise us. For freshmen, it's tough to come in and make an immediate impact."

"But we need some surprises to come out of our younger kids."

And although Baker thought

assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

On May 22, qualifying will be held at Greystone Golf Club in Romeo, Forest Akers Golf Club in East Lansing, Gull Lake Country Club in Richland and Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville.

On May 23, Western, Crystal

Central and Churchill would still be formidable, he added. "This league is wide open this year. Everybody has something."

That includes Canton, which has most of its lineup back from last year's team that finished fifth, as well as Farmington, North Farmington and Walled Lake Western.

Which leads to another change this season. The WLAA Championship meet will be a two-day combined affair, mixing the boys and girls meets together. The preliminaries will be Tuesday, May 23; the finals will be the following day. Both will be at Farmington HS.

"Coaches are going to have to come up with a different philosophy this year," noted Baker.

For Salem, there are a lot of questions that need to be answered before that one's addressed.

Canton track from page C1

junior class might provide the bulk of the points. There are more of them than any other class — 30 — and included in the group are a pair of defending WLAA champions, Jerry Gaines and Jordan Chapman.

Gaines won the 400 and Chapman was first in the high jump and second in the pole vault.

Another junior who could challenge the league's best in a couple of events is Chris Kalis, who was second to Chapman in the high jump at conference (both were state qualifiers).

Kalis also runs the hurdle events, while Gaines will do sprints. Chapman will compete in the long jump, too.

There are other juniors who should flourish. Ugo Okwumabua was eighth at the WLAA in the long jump last season; he'll do relays and the hurdles this year as well. Marty Kane ranks as the top 800 runner, now that Blom and Rutter have graduated; Kane was fifth at the WLAA's a year ago.

Brian Page tied for sixth in the pole vault last season, and he'll run middle distance as well. The distance runners in the junior class include Jon Mikozs, Brian Antonucci and Scott Gillen; the sprinters are Doug Kurtz, Mike Parker (a transfer from Redford Catholic Central) and Matt Duke; Kevin Palmer could contribute in the long jump; and Andrew McCully looks good in the shot put and discus.

Promising sophomores are hurdler Dane Kobus, sprinters Bharinder Singh and Ken Page, and mid-distance hopefuls Brandon McCrellan, Ross O'Hara

GOLF UPDATE

Mountain Resort in Thompsonville, The Fortrees in Frankfort and The Highlands in Grand Rapids will hold qualifiers.

Applications are available at the qualifying sites and the Michigan Section PGA office, by calling (734) 522-2323. The \$200 entry fee and completed application must be received at the Michigan PGA Office by Tuesday, May 9 at 5 p.m.

The eighth annual Mike Adray Memorial Golf Tournament will be held Wednesday, May 17, at Mystic Creek Golf Club at Camp Dearborn in Milford.

The tournament will benefit scholarships at Henry Ford Community College and has provided

Adray Golf Tourney

The eighth annual Mike Adray Memorial Golf Tournament will be held Wednesday, May 17, at Mystic Creek Golf Club at Camp Dearborn in Milford.

The tournament will benefit scholarships at Henry Ford Community College and has provided

176 scholarships for students in past years

The package features lunch, 18 holes of golf, dinner and silent and live auctions for \$195. A dinner/auktion only package is available for \$85. This year's prizes include a sponsorship to participate in the Van Patrick Golf Invitational, a set of Callaway Graphite irons and wedges, major appliances and weekend golf packages.

Registration will begin at 10 a.m., with a shotgun start at noon. Limited spots in the tourney are available and are on a first-come, first-served basis. For information on the outing, call HFCC's Office of Development at (313) 845-9880.

For information about contributing prizes for the event, call (313) 845-6493.

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930150

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDINANCE NO. C-2000-01 ALARM USER ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH CODE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 50, ALARM USER ORDINANCE, PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT OF CERTAIN FINES FOR EACH FALSE ALARM IN EXCESS OF THREE FALSE ALARMS OCCURRING WITHIN ANY ONE CALENDAR YEAR, PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES NOT CONSTITUTING A FALSE ALARM, PROVIDING FOR THE PROHIBITION OF ALARM SYSTEMS WHICH EMIT A SOUND AND/OR VISUAL SIGNAL FOR A PERIOD OF LONGER THAN FIFTEEN (15) MINUTES, PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATIONS THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF INVALID SECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS: SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO THE CODE: Chapter 50, Alarm User Ordinance is hereby amended to read as follows:

PART V - POLICE REGULATIONS

Chapter 50 Alarm User

- 50.010 Definitions.
- A. "Alarm System" is defined as a device or an assembly of equipment or devices arranged to signal the presence of a hazard requiring urgent attention and to which police officers and/or firefighters are expected to respond.
- B. "False Alarm" shall be defined as any alarm condition which is registered at the Police Department, Fire Department or elsewhere not resulting from the activity for which the alarm was intended.
- C. "Alarm User" is defined as any person on whose premises an alarm system is maintained within the Township except for alarm systems on motor vehicles. If, however, an alarm system on a motor vehicle is connected with an alarm system at a premises, the person using such alarm system is an alarm user. Also excluded from this definition and from coverage of this Chapter are persons who use alarm systems to alert or signal persons within the premises in which the alarm system is located of an attempted unauthorized intrusion or hold-up attempt. If such a system, however, employs an audible signal emitting sounds of flashing lights or beacon designed to signal persons outside the premises, such system shall be within the definition of an alarm system and shall be subject to this Chapter. (Ord. 94, Sec. 1, 12-15-86; amended)

50.020 False Alarm Fine.

A. The alarm user shall be required to pay a fine, as set forth in 50.020(c), for each false alarm in excess of three (3) false alarms occurring within the calendar year. The calendar year shall be defined as January 1 to December 31 of any given year. Upon the occasion of the second false alarm occurring within any one (1) year period, the alarm user shall be advised in writing by the Plymouth Township Police Department of the Township recording of the occurrence of the two (2) false alarms and shall be advised of the existence of this Chapter.

B. Alarm conditions caused by the following extenuating circumstances shall not constitute a false alarm and no false alarm fine shall be charged by the Township.

- (1) Alarm conditions being activated by persons working on the alarm system with prior notification to the Police or Fire Department of the Township.
- (2) Alarm conditions being activated by severe weather or other violent conditions beyond the control of the alarm user.
- (3) Alarm conditions activated by disruption or disturbance of telephone or other communication systems.

C. Notwithstanding any penalties provided for in the event of a conviction for violation of this Chapter, and notwithstanding whether or not a prosecution has been commenced, any person, corporation, partnership or other legal entity who uses, leases, installs or directs the installation of an alarm system described

in this Chapter shall be subject to the following fines:

- (1) First two false alarms requiring response by police/fire department, occurring within the calendar year. No fine
- (2) Third false alarm requiring response by police/fire department occurring within the calendar year. \$50.00
- (3) Fourth false alarm requiring response by police/fire department occurring within the calendar year. \$100.00
- (4) Fifth false alarm requiring response by police/fire department occurring within the calendar year. \$200.00
- (5) Sixth false alarm requiring response by police/fire department occurring within the calendar year. \$300.00
- (6) Any false alarm in excess of six occurring within the calendar year. \$500.00

50.030 Interference with Telephone Communications Systems.

No person shall sell, operate, adjust, arrange for or contract to provide a device or combination of devices that will upon activation, either mechanically, electronically, or by other means, initiate the automatic intrastate calling, dialing or connection to any telephone number assigned to any subscriber thereof by a public telephone company for the purpose of delivering a recorded message without the proper written consent of such subscriber (Ord. 94, Sec. 3, 12-15-86; amended)

50.040 Audible or Visual Signals.

No person shall use, install or direct to be installed any alarm system which emits a sound and/or visual signal for a period of longer than fifteen (15) minutes from the time of the initial signaling of the device(s).

50.050 Violation and Penalties.

Any person, corporation, partnership or other legal entity who violates the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined not more than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars or imprisoned not more than ninety (90) days, or both, at the discretion of the Court. Each day that the violation continues after due notice has been served in accordance with the terms and provisions hereof shall be deemed a separate offense.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.

If any clause, sentence, section, paragraph or part of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any person, firm, corporation, legal entity or circumstances, shall be for any reason adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, said judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to the legislative intent of this body that the Ordinance is severable, and that the Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid or unconstitutional provision not been included in this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES.

All Ordinances of parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 4. PUBLICATION.

This section provides that the Clerk for the Charter Township of Plymouth shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

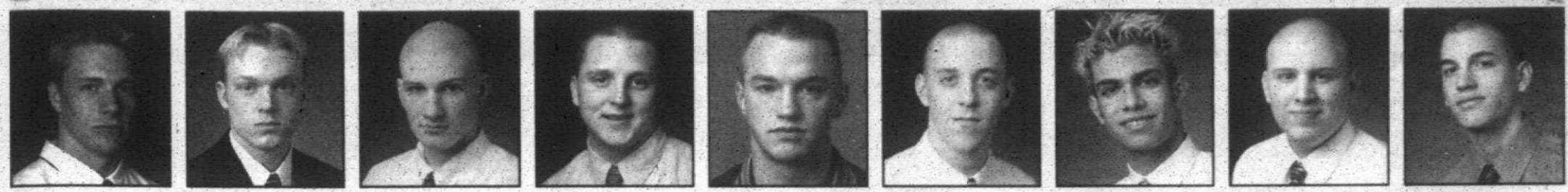
This section provides that this Ordinance, as amended, shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

SECTION 6. CERTIFICATION.

The foregoing Ordinance was approved by the Township Board Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth at its regular meeting called and held on the 14th day of March, 2000, and was ordered to be given publication in the manner required by law.

Introduced: February 29, 2000
Adopted: March 14, 2000
Effective: March 23, 2000
Published: March 23, 2000

MARILYN MASSENGILL, Clerk



Jim Gabriel North Farmington

Devin Hopper Farmington Harrison

Eric Lynn Plymouth Salem

Brad Buckler Livonia Stevenson

Chris Totten Garden City

Joe Bublitz Livonia Stevenson

Brandon DiGla North Farmington

Brian Mertens Plymouth Salem

Adam Farber North Farmington

A fast splash Observer swimmers rank with state's best

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR
cjrisk@oe.com

Some things just don't change: spring weather, the excellence of Detroit PSL basketball teams, and Plymouth Salem's dominance over the Western Lakes Activities Association in boys swimming.

The Rocks won their eighth-straight championship, and they did it with a lot of good young swimmers — which hardly brightens the future for the rest of the WLAA.

But that doesn't mean the rest of the league, or Observerland, is lacking in talent.

Livonia Stevenson's Joe Bublitz placed in the top five in two events at state meet, North Farmington's Brandon DiGla won both the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle at the WLAA finals, and the Raiders' Adam Farber won the 100 breaststroke at the WLAA meet and placed third in the event at state.

That's just some of what the area had to offer. For more, read on.

FIRST TEAM

Devin Hopper, 200 free, Farmington Harrison: Hopper made the all-area team a second time after posting one of Observerland's best times in the 200 free. He was second in the WLAA meet, placing third in the event.

Hopper qualified for state in three events: the 200 free, backstroke and 200 free relay. He finished 14th in the backstroke, breaking his own school record with a time of 55.49.

He previously swam for Farmington High before that team merged with Harrison High. He was a team MVP and high-point award winner the last two years.

Devin has been a tremendous asset to our swim team in the last four years and, as a captain this year, has made a dedicated effort in leading this new consolidated team," coach Ross Bandy said. "He will truly be missed by his teammates."

Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem: Lynn was a major reason the Rocks captured the WLAA championship. At the WLAA finals, the sophomore finished second in both the 200 individual medley (2:01.87) and the 100 backstroke (55.33).

At the state finals he placed 16th in both the 200 IM (1:59.67) and 100 back (55.67). He also swam on Salem's 200 medley and 400 freestyle relay teams.

"Eric really stepped up this year," said his coach, Chuck Olson. "He made a big impression on the WLAA as well as the entire state."

With another two years of high school swimming ahead of him, the future looks bright.

Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson: The senior, who had his senior season cut short because of knee surgery, won the WLAA title in the 50 freestyle (22.42). The Spartans' team captain was also a member of the second-place 400 freestyle relay and took second in the individual 100 freestyle (49.8) and 200 medley relay squad.

"Brad is one of the most competitive athletes I have coached," said his dad and coach Doug Buckler of the four-year letter winner. "He always stepped up in big meets and was our leader when it came to firing up our team. He is what all teams need when it comes to big meets. He will be missed and hard to replace."

Chris Totten, diving, Garden City: Totten proved to be the area's top diver and one of the best in the state. The senior qualified for the state meet in his four seasons in Garden City, finishing 15th both this year and 1998.

Totten was also tops in the Michigan Mega Conference too — winning Blue Division titles his first two seasons and White Division titles his last two. At the

ALL-OBSERVER BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING FIRST TEAM

200 freestyle
1. Devin Hopper, senior, Harrison-Henn.
2. Justin Ketterer, junior, Liv. Stevenson

200 individual medley
1. Eric Lynn, sophomore, Ply. Salem
2. Mike Nemer, junior, Liv. Stevenson

50 freestyle
1. Brad Buckler, senior, Liv. Stevenson
2. Aaron Shelton, junior, Ply. Salem

Diving
1. Chris Totten, senior, Garden City
2. Greg Brazunas, senior, Redford CC

100 butterfly
1. Joe Bublitz, junior, Liv. Stevenson
2. Brett Meconis, sophomore, Red. CC

100 freestyle
1. Brandon DiGla, senior, N. Farmington
2. Mike Johnson, sophomore, Ply. Salem

500 freestyle
1. Brian Mertens, junior, Ply. Salem
2. Ben Dzialo, freshman, Ply. Salem

100 backstroke
1. Jim Gabriel, senior, North Farmington
2. Brad Nilson, sophomore, Ply. Canton

100 breaststroke
1. Adam Farber, junior, North Farmington
2. Chris LaFond, senior, Redford CC

Wayne Invitational this year, his score of 474.00 was the highest-recorded score in any division of the Mega.

"Everywhere he went, he either set records or broke his own records," Cougars-coach Don Sweet said. "It happened at Trenton, Redford Union, Wayne and Taylor Truman in the (Mega White) meet."

Joe Bublitz, 100 fly, Liv. Stevenson: The area's most accomplished swimmer was listed among the top 10 in every individual event with the exception of diving. He finished third in the state meet in the 200 IM (1:52.07) and fifth in the 100 butterfly (52.12).

The junior also captured WLAA titles in the 200 IM, 100 backstroke and 400 freestyle relay, along with a second in the 200 medley relay. He also won the 200 IM and helped the Spartans score in the 200 medley relay at the state meet.

The four-time WLAA champ holds school records in the 200 IM and 100 backstroke. His time in the 200 IM qualifies him for All-America status.

"Joe is the best swimmer in the area by far," Buckler said. "He is very coachable and his desire to win is remarkable. He has been a coach's dream to be around. Joe is a leader and I will always remember Joe as one of the best swimmers I have ever coached."

"He will be a state champion next year and I look forward to watching him do it."

Brandon DiGla, 100 free, N. Farmington: DiGla was a double winner in the WLAA meet, finishing first in the 200 and 100 freestyle events. He made state cuts in both and swam his area-best time of 49.19 in the relay. DiGla was a second-team, all-area selection last year.

Brian Mertens, 500 free, Ply. Salem: Illness slowed but couldn't stop Mertens, a junior, from making a major contribution for Salem this season. He scored points in both the 500 free and 200 free at the WLAA finals, placing fourth in the former (5:01.42) and eighth in the latter (1:53.81).

A state qualifier in the 500 free, Mertens ended up 20th in 4:59.92. His best time of the season was 4:57.12. "Brian has been a real leader in practice, with a great work ethic," said Olson, Salem's coach, adding Mertens carries a 3.3 grade-point average.

Jim Gabriel, backstroke, N. Farmington: Gabriel was a state qualifier in the backstroke and had one of the area's best times at 55.47. He swam that in the WLAA meet, finishing third behind Stevenson's Bublitz and Salem's Lynn — the only area swimmers to go faster than Gabriel, who also had one of the fastest times in the 100 freestyle (49.96).

Adam Farber, breaststroke, N. Farmington

RELAY TEAMS

200-yard medley relay
1. North Farmington (Jim Gabriel, senior Jon Zald, Adam Farber, senior Chris Clayson)

2. Livonia Stevenson (Joe Bublitz, Mike Nemer, sophomore Brandon Truscott, Brad Buckler)

200 freestyle relay
1. Plymouth Salem (Aaron Shelton, Mike Johnson, senior Mark Witthoff, senior Dan Jones)

2. North Farmington (Brandon DiGla, Chris Clayson, Jon Zald, Adam Farber)

400 freestyle relay
1. Plymouth Salem (Mike Johnson, Mark Witthoff, Ben Dzialo, Eric Lynn)

2. Livonia Stevenson (Justin Ketterer, junior Robert Cambridge, senior Kevin VanTiem, Joe Bublitz)

Honorable Mentions (state qualifiers)
Ed Lesneau, junior, Redford-Catholic Central; Chris McFarland, junior, Westland John Glenn; Bryant Steele, sophomore, Catholic Central

ington: Farber was clearly the top breaststroke in Observerland, winning that event in the WLAA meet and finishing third in the state.

His final swim in the Class A championships was his best; he went 59.40 and set a school record. Farber was the only area swimmer to break one minute in that event. He also won the Oakland County title in the breaststroke.

Farber made a state cut in the butterfly, too, and ranked third in the area with a 54.15 time. He is a repeat, first-team selection in the breaststroke.

SECOND TEAM

Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson: The Junior finished fourth in the WLAA in the 200 freestyle (1:50.82) and took a third in the 500 freestyle (5:01.05). He also helped Stevenson win the 400 freestyle relay at the league meet and swam at the state meet in both the 200- and 400 freestyle relays.

"Justin just keeps on improving every year," Buckler said. "He's a very hard worker and a very good leader. I know his senior year will be very good and I look for him to score at the state meet next year."

"I enjoyed coaching Justin a lot and look forward to his swimming next year."

Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson: Also a junior, Nemer took fourth in the league meet with a state qualifying time of 2:03.85. He also placed second in the same WLAA meet in the 100 breaststroke (1:02.42) and was a member of the 200 medley relay team which took 10th in the state meet.

"Mike can and does do it all," Buckler said. "He is a very complete swimmer and will score at the state meet next year."

Chris LaFond, 100 breaststroke, Redford CC: A senior, LaFond had a solid performance at the state finals, placing 20th in 1:02.01. Another of his fondest memories of his senior season is his swim in the 100 breast in a dual meet against Livonia Stevenson. His come-from-behind victory assured CC's 104-82 victory.

"Chris has been an excellent competitor and leader," said Baker.

RELAY EVENTS

FIRST TEAM

200 medley, N. Farmington: Jim Gabriel, Jon Zald, Adam Farber and Chris Clayson won the WLAA championship and had the area's fastest time at 1:38.68, which was a state cut. Gabriel and Farber were members of North's second team, all-area medley relay last year.

200 freestyle, Ply. Salem: Junior Aaron Shelton, sophomore Mike Johnson, and seniors (and team captains) Mark Witthoff and Dan Jones placed second at the WLAA conference finals in 1:30.08, then went 1:28.75 in finishing 10th at the state finals.

"The freestyle sprinters made a statement of what teamwork is about, and they had a couple of great swims at state meet," said Olson.

400 freestyle, Ply. Salem: Mike Johnson, Mark Witthoff, Ben Dzialo and Eric

meet and placed 18th.

Brazunas holds the CC record for 11 dives. It was his third-straight year he qualified for the state meet.

"Greg has provided inspirational leadership for the whole team and given the team a lift with his diving," said Shamrock coach Jeff Baker.

Brett Meconis, 100 fly, Redford CC: This sophomore accounted for the single point registered by the Shamrocks at the state meet, finishing 12th in the 100 butterfly in 53.56 — his best time of the season. He also swam on CC's 200 medley and 200 free state-qualifying relays.

"Brett swam well all year in his best event," said Baker. "We expect great performances from him in the future."

Mike Johnson, 100 free, Ply. Salem: Johnson was one of Salem's top scorers at the WLAA meet, placing second in the 50 free (22.71) and third in the 100 free (50.00). He also swam on the 200 medley and 200 free relay teams.

A sophomore, Johnson just missed scoring at state meet in the 50, placing 13th in 22.40 — his best time of the season. He also swam on all three Salem relays. His best time in the 100 for the season was 48.77.

"Mike has had another outstanding season and continues as one of the area's best freestylers," said Olson. Johnson also carries a 3.7 GPA.

Ben Dzialo, 500 free, Ply. Salem: Dzialo is part of what appears to be a very promising future for Salem swimming. A freshman, he was the Rocks' only first-place finisher at the WLAA finals, winning the 100 butterfly in 55.13. He also placed second in the 500 free in 4:59.21.

At state meet, Dzialo placed 24th in the 100 fly in 54.85. He also swam on Salem's 200 medley relay team and 400 free relay team at state.

"Ben had an outstanding freshman year," said Olson, noting that Dzialo was Salem's leading point scorer and the third-leading point-scorer at the WLAA finals. "He trains as hard as he competes." He also has a 3.8 GPA.

OBSERVER BEST SWIMMING AND DIVING PERFORMANCES

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY
(state cut: 1:43.09)

North Farmington 1:38.68
Livonia Stevenson 1:39.03
Plymouth Salem 1:40.54
Redford Catholic Central 1:41.09
Plymouth Canton 1:41.60

200 FREESTYLE
(state cut: 1:49.39)

Brandon DiGlia (N. Farmington) 1:46.20
Joe Bublitz (Stevenson) 1:48.36
Devin Hopper (Farm. Unified) 1:48.83
Justin Ketterer (Stevenson) 1:50.68
Nick Markou (Redford CC) 1:51.10
Matt Wisniewski (Canton) 1:51.13
Jim Ross (Salem) 1:51.96
Brad Nilson (Canton) 1:52.26
Dan Price (Farm. Unified) 1:53.04
Brian Mertens (Salem) 1:53.65

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
(state cut: 2:03.99)

Joe Bublitz (Stevenson) 1:52.07
Eric Lynn (Salem) 1:59.67
Mike Nemer (Stevenson) 2:03.85
Brad Nilson (Canton) 2:04.21
Andrew Carlin (Redford CC) 2:04.25
Kevin VanTiem (Stevenson) 2:06.39
Aaron Shelton (Salem) 2:06.43
Adam Farber (N. Farmington) 2:06.54
Mike Kruszewski (Redford CC) 2:08.08

50 FREESTYLE
(state cut: 22.69)

Aaron Shelton (Salem) 22.23
Joe Bublitz (Stevenson) 22.31
Mike Johnson (Salem) 22.40
Brad Buckler (Stevenson) 22.42
Brandon DiGlia (N. Farmington) 22.49
Ed Lesnau (Redford CC) 22.51
Dan Zoumbaris (John Glenn) 23.03
Aaron Reeder (Canton) 23.20
Eric Lynn (Salem) 23.22
Matt Wisniewski (Canton) 23.24

DIVING

Chris Totten (Garden City) 295.00
Greg Brazunas (Redford CC) 260.80
Chris McFarland (John Glenn) 246.15
Dave Sutton (Redford Union) 225.60
Greg Kubitski (Salem) 219.45
Mark Moretto (Redford Union) 212.85
Scott Clark (John Glenn) 207.55
Blake Brunner (Canton) 204.50
Joe Rohde (Redford CC) 199.25
Derek Bell (John Glenn) 195.75

100 BUTTERFLY
(state cut: 55.59)

Joe Bublitz (Stevenson) 52.12
Brett Meconis (Redford CC) 53.56
Adam Farber (N. Farmington) 54.15
Bryant Steele (Redford CC) 54.70
Ben Dzialo (Salem) 54.85

Dave Sutton (Redford Union) 57.10
Brandon Truscott (Stevenson) 57.20
Rob Cambridge (Stevenson) 57.60
Geoff Lowes (Stevenson) 57.87
Andrew Carlin (Redford CC) 57.99

100 FREESTYLE
(state cut: 49.49)

Brandon DiGlia (N. Farmington) 48.19
Mike Johnson (Salem) 48.77
Joe Bublitz (Stevenson) 48.80
Ed Lesnau (Redford CC) 49.76
Brad Buckler (Stevenson) 49.80
Jim Gabriel (N. Farmington) 49.96
Brad Nilson (Canton) 50.03
Brett Meconis (Redford CC) 50.48
Kevin Ryan (Redford CC) 50.54
Justin Ketterer (Stevenson) 50.81

500 FREESTYLE
(state cut: 4:57.39)

Joe Bublitz (Stevenson) 4:55.41
Brian Mertens (Salem) 4:57.12
Ben Dzialo (Salem) 4:59.21
Justin Ketterer (Stevenson) 5:00.59
Robert Cambridge (Stevenson) 5:03.58
Jim Ross (Salem) 5:03.67
Andrew Carlin (Redford CC) 5:03.78
Tim Ryan (Redford CC) 5:05.44
Nick Markou (Redford CC) 5:06.06
Matt Wisniewski (Canton) 5:08.93

200 FREESTYLE RELAY
(state cut: 1:31.99)

Plymouth Salem 1:28.75
North Farmington 1:29.68
Redford Catholic Central 1:30.64
Livonia Stevenson 1:31.48
Farmington/Harrison 1:31.86
100 BACKSTROKE
(state cut: 56.39)
Joe Bublitz (Stevenson) 54.53
Eric Lynn (Salem) 55.33
Jim Gabriel (N. Farmington) 55.47

Devin Hopper (Farm. Unified) 55.49
Brad Nilson (Canton) 55.89
Aaron Reeder (Canton) 56.98
Aaron Shelton (Salem) 57.30
Nick Markou (Redford CC) 58.23
John Kerr (N. Farmington) 58.57
Garrett Stone (John Glenn) 58.67

100 BREASTSTROKE
(state cut: 1:02.99)

Adam Farber (N. Farmington) 59.40
Chris LaFond (Redford CC) 1:02.01
Mike Nemer (Stevenson) 1:02.42
Joe Bublitz (Stevenson) 1:02.42

Kevin VanTiem (Stevenson) 1:03.18
Jon Zald (N. Farmington) 1:04.85
Mike Kruszewski (Redford CC) 1:05.17
Ed Lindow (Canton) 1:05.45
Geoff Lowes (Stevenson) 1:05.70
Chris Clayson (N. Farmington) 1:06.95

400 FREESTYLE RELAY
(state cut: 3:23.09)

Plymouth Salem 3:15.71
Livonia Stevenson 3:19.49
North Farmington 3:20.09
Redford Catholic Central 3:20.93
Farmington/Harrison 3:26.68

Observer swim from page C7

Lynn placed third at the WLAA meet in 2:20.40, then qualified eighth at the state meet preliminaries in 3:15.71.

These four have competed in the tradition of Plymouth Salem free relays — and with two sophomores and a freshman, the future looks good," said Olson.

SECOND TEAM

200 medley, Liv. Stevenson: The team of Bublitz, Nemer, sophomore Brandon Truscott and Buckler took second in the WLAA (1:39.03). Stevenson also took 10th in Class A (1:39.89).

"This relay team is very good, but will only get better next year with three of the guys returning," Buckler said. "Brad

(Buckler) will be missed in the freestyle with his time of 21.35, which will be hard to duplicate. But we have three guys at 22.2, so we know with hard work, this group will make All-State next year."

200 freestyle, N. Farmington: The Raiders won the WLAA championship with the team of Sernet Alver, Clayson, DiGlia and Zald swimming a 1:30.06. DiGlia, Zald, Clayson and Farber went 1:29.68 at the state meet, finishing 14th and having the second-best time behind Salem.

400 freestyle, Liv. Stevenson: The

foursome of Ketterer, junior Robert Cambridge, senior Kevin VanTiem and Bublitz won the WLAA title with a time of 3:19.55 and clocked a 3:19.49 in the state meet prelims.

"This relay team swam really well," Buckler said. "They came on at the end of the year to win the league meet and qualify for the state meet."

"With three of the four coming back, this relay should score at the state meet next year if they train hard. Their potential is great."

"Bublitz went 46.4 on the anchor this year. I look forward to watching them next year."

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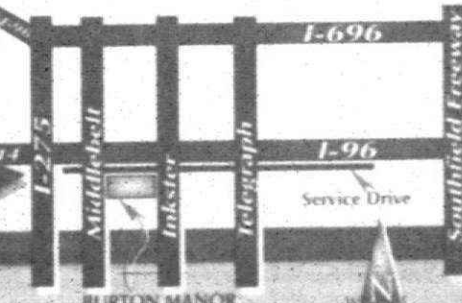


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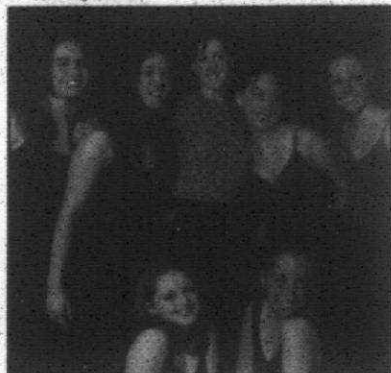
THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Tiffany Russell (left) as daughter, and Kiersten King as Aunt Mae in "Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery" by Shay Youngblood, 8 p.m. at the Sponberg Theatre on Eastern Michigan University's Ypsilanti campus. Tickets \$13, call (734) 487-1221.

SATURDAY



"Dance Collection 2000," a concert of ballet and modern dance works, 3 p.m. in the Plymouth Canton High School Little Theater, 8415 N. Canton Center Road, features Dance Ensemble West's senior company, (pictured), the apprentice, and junior companies. Donation \$9 per person, call (734) 420-4430.

SUNDAY



Tina Turner performs with Lionel Richie, 7:30 p.m. at The Palace, Auburn Hills.

Tickets are:
• \$85.25
• \$55.25
• \$35.25
Call (248) 645-6666, or (248) 377-0100.

REVEALING THE TRUTH

Forgiveness

DIRECTOR IS DOING HIS PART TO UNCOVER THE ATROCITIES OF WWII

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

When Shi-Zheng was back in China working with opera students when he realized none of them were aware of the massacre of their people by the Japanese during World War II. Disturbed by the revelation, Shi-Zheng concluded the rest of the world was probably just as ignorant about the 20 million Chinese estimated to have died as a result of the eight-year war.

As the new millennium approaches, Shi-Zheng is doing his part to uncover the atrocities, including the exploitation of Korean "comfort women" by Japanese soldiers, by conceiving a multi-disciplinary work which incorporates elements of traditional theater, dance and music. "Forgiveness," a contemporary examination of the conflicts, strives to reconcile the three countries in hopes of a united future.

Directed by Shi-Zheng, the work will be performed as part of the University Musical Society series Friday, March 24, at the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor.

"It's about making peace about the horror of World War II," said Shi-Zheng. "I'm emotionally attached to this piece. There's so much unresolved anger among the people. I want to bring this to the world's attention. The history of Asia is hardly taught. I wanted to inspire people to learn about what happened. Korea was also being colonized by Japan and Korean women were forced to be sex slaves for Japanese soldiers."

Based on a ghost story, "The Punishment of Zi Du," the work follows a warrior who betrays and kills his best friend. Zi Du is then haunted by his ghost.

"It's a ghost revenge story for how history comes back to haunt," said Shi-Zheng. "It means something has not settled in the past. It's about anger and revenge - the endless cycle of killing."

Co-commissioned by the University Musical Society, the Asia Society, Festival d'Automne in Paris, Hebbel Theater, Berlin, the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, and the Flynn Theater for the Performing Arts in Vermont, the project was three years in the making. The cast includes master artists of three of the leading performing art forms in east Asia. Japanese noh theater, which evolved over the 16th and 17th centuries, features a sonorous singing style, small gestures and even silence. Jingju (Chi-

nese opera) is colorful with acrobatics and flamboyant costumes. Korean salpuri dance is based on traditional shaman ritual. The music fuses traditional instrumentation from the three cultures. Composer Eve Beglarian uses Japanese drumming by Kenny Endo and Chinese plucked lute by Wu Man to create a soundscape with contemporary shading.

The final product mirrors Shi-Zheng's desire "to have the liberty to become an artist and to have enough distance to know where I came from." Shi-Zheng, who left China in 1987 to pursue a master's degree at New York University, was 7-years-old when the cultural revolution occurred in China. Shi-Zheng started to study traditional singing and eventually went on to study Chinese traditional opera as an actor.

New vision

"I wanted to create some new theater expression, a new vision with a new staging and new content about 20th century consciousness," Shi-Zheng said. "I'm fascinated with Japanese noh theater, which is 600 years old with masks and very minimal. There's restrained movement, but it describes great emotion."

When "Forgiveness" recently premiered at the Walker Art Center, Shi-Zheng held a question-and-answer period afterward in an effort to assess its impact.

"People wanted to know whether forgiveness is possible," said Shi-Zheng. "From the bottom of my heart, I'm longing for that to start fresh, to pass beyond hate and anger. In history, Korean, Chinese and Japanese cultures have benefited from each other and should continue to share."

University Musical Society programming director Michael Kondziolka expects Shi-Zheng's message to be well received in Ann Arbor.

Kondziolka began working with Shi-Zheng three years ago after learning about the 19-hour "Peony Pavilion" opera the 37-year-old director produced as part of the Lincoln Center Festival last summer. "Forgiveness" makes its New York premiere at the festival in July.

"I was interested in Chen as an artist and the power of the work as an artistic expression, but also as an education," said Kondziolka. "It's frightening how little we know. I was intrigued with his vision for this piece - the cultural and artistic issues he wanted to pursue - the interesting and conflicted history and just educating people through theater about these three distinct cultures."

"Forgiveness"

What: A contemporary multi-disciplinary theater work

When: 8 p.m. Friday, March 24

Where: Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor

Tickets: \$36, \$32, \$24, \$16. Call (734) 764-2538



"Forgiveness" unites the cultures of China, Japan and Korea in a contemporary work featuring elements of traditional theater, dance and music from the three countries.

Photo by Jack Vartoogian

POPULAR MUSIC

Ode to Paradime: Remember his name

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

In the mid-'80s, Freddie Beauregard could be seen break-dancing in the streets of Livonia. These days, the rapper known as Paradime can hold his own among Detroit's best hip-hop artists. With friends like Kid Rock and Joe C supporting him, it doesn't get much better.

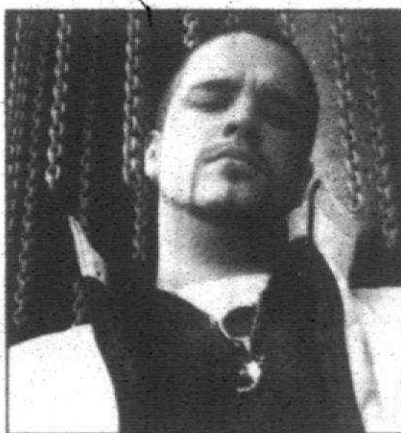
"They're the next Kid Rock and Eminem of Detroit," lauded Joe C. "Be on the lookout for Paradime."

When he's not working on material or performing, Paradime can be found at Innisfree Irish Pub and Grill in Garden City. That's where he was on Tuesday, March 14, when he spoke with the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers about his views of life and his future in hip hop.

Boom

With D.J. Mark EP always spinning at his side, Paradime's selling out - out of his self-produced full-length CD "Paragraphs" and out of tickets for shows at venues like Detroit's St. Andrews Hall. Like an explosion, the two burst onto the scene in the early '90s and have been collaborating on hip-hop rhymes and rhythms non-stop. It all started with a song called "The Burbs." "Ever since then, boom, it's been on," said Mark EP, a Westland resident.

But Paradime's music - backed by



Through his eyes: Freddie "Paradime" Beauregard of Livonia is up for two Detroit Music Awards and has earned widespread notoriety in the metro area's hot hip hop scene.

the band Plaidapuss - isn't something for hip-hop fans alone. "It's really true to life," said Paradime. Early hip-hop influences like Run DMC and House of Pain ring through in the CD, which took more than a year to complete. What started out as a 7-song EP grew into enough "Paragraphs" to write a novel, chronicling the life and thoughts of a man called Paradime. "It's like having a conversation with me on a dif-

ferent day," he said. "I really wanted to give people a real package for their money."

Rob Seale, a singer with the punk-pop band Wrist-Rocket and a fellow "Livonia" resident, wandered into the pub and showed his support for Paradime. Seale said hip-hop music is something kids easily relate to these days. "I just think, especially living in Detroit - not only the city - but in (suburban) schools, hip-hop is everywhere," he said. "From Catholic Central to Livonia Franklin, hip-hop is just at such an influx. It's just not on the street corner. (Paradime writes) about stuff I can relate to and all of the kids can relate to." Seale has known Paradime since they were kids: both attended St. Michaels School in Livonia.

His name is...

The moniker was derived from the Soundgarden song "Searching With My Good Eye Closed," written by Chris Cornell. In college, Beauregard listened closely to the lyrics: "And I'm on my way/ Looking for the paradigm/ So I can pass it off/ Is it on my side." He got hooked on the concept of a paradigm, defined on his CD as "kind of the way you see the world."

"I gave it my own twist," he said. "I needed something different, a name people will remember."

At the pub, employees and customers remember it well. And the bartenders know just what to serve him. In

Paradime's love-for-beer anthem "Ode to Guinness," he sings: "You can find me up at Innisfree/ Like yo Mickey, Guinness me." The song started out as a joke, with Paradime singing in R&B style. But it worked.

"That's just his personality," said Mark EP. "He's a funny guy. That's why it appeals to everybody. But it's not all sugar-coated."

Detroit Music Awards

"Ode to Guinness" is just one of 18 reasons for the success of "Paragraphs." "We're all out of it," said Paradime. The first single, "Broke," is nominated for Hip Hop Song of the Year and Paradime is nominated for Best Hip Hop Artist at this year's Detroit Music Awards, April 14. Paradime will perform at the show, which is being hosted by his friend and mentor, Kid Rock.

"One thing we learned from him was about a live stage show, give something to the crowd," said Paradime.

"No one wants to see a rapper," added Mark EP.

Done deal

Now signed to a production deal with Atlantic subsidiary Top Dog Records, Paradime's the talk of Detroit. Kid Rock is remixing songs like "Same Ol' Same" and "Broke" and helping promote Paradime. Watching Kid Rock, Eminem and the Suicide Machines go

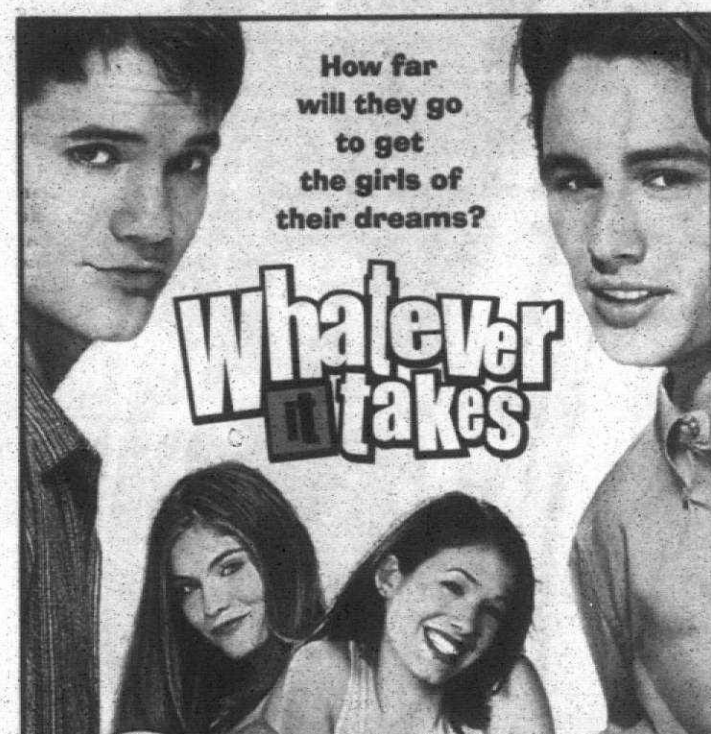
Please see PARADIME, E2

Paradime

from local celebrity status to the MTV rotation can be a motivating force for the rapper and his D.J. "It's good to see people you know make it happen," said Mark EP. "It gives you inspiration."

Like those artists before him, Paradime is ready to join the ranks of some unforgettable Detroit-made names.

Paradime performs with guests Cloud 9 and Super Action, 10 p.m. Thursday, March 23, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor 19 and over: \$4. Call (734) 996-8555. Check out www.bigsatwill.com.



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Concert features acclaimed quartet

The internationally acclaimed Takács Quartet will perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 25 at the Seligman Performing Arts Center on the Detroit Country Day School campus (13 Mile and Lahser roads).

Sponsored by the Deffenbaugh Foundation, the Takács Quartet is recognized as one of the world's leading string quartets. The concert is part of the Farmington Hills based Chamber Music Society of Detroit's concert series.

Since forming in 1975, the quartet has appeared regularly in every major music capital and prestigious festival.

For the past 17 years, the quartet has held a Residency at the University of Colorado at Boulder, where its members were given permanent faculty appointments in 1986.

Since the 1988-89 season, the ensemble has also been teaching and performing as fellows at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London.

Current quartet members include Edward Dusinberre, Roger Tapping and Karoly Schranz, all on violin; and Andrea Fejer, on cello.

The Takács Quartet's recording of the Bartok cycle received the Gramophone "Chamber Music Recording of the Year" award for 1998 and in 1999 was nominated for a Grammy.

What: The Takács Quartet
When: 8 p.m. Saturday, March 25
Where: Seligman Performing Arts Center on Detroit Country Day School campus (13 Mile and Lahser roads), Beverly Hills.
Tickets: \$18 to \$65, students \$15. Call TicketMaster at (248) 645-6666 or Chamber Music Society of Detroit at (248) 737-9980 for more information

Its subsequent recording release for Decca/London, with which it signed an exclusive recording contract in 1988, includes the Schubert "Trout" Quintet with Andreas Haefliger, on piano. In August, 1999, Decca/London released the ensemble's latest recording featuring Dvorak's *Quartet Op. 51* and his *Piano Quintet Op. 81*, also with Mr. Haefliger.

During the 1999-2000 season the Takács Quartet will perform more than 50 concerts in the U.S., including tours in Europe, Australia and Japan.

The ensemble opened the mostly Mozart Festival's Haydn Quartet Cycle with five concerts in New York City's Alice Tully Hall and performed again for the festival the next year in Avery Fisher Hall.



Sweet sounds: The Takács Quartet, one of the world's leading string quartets, visits the Seligman Performing Arts Center on Saturday.

The Takács Quartet first received international attention in 1977, winning first prize and the critics' prize at the International String Quartet Competition in Evian, France.

Thereafter, the Takács Quartet won the Gold Medal at the 1978

Portsmouth and Bordeaux competitions and first prizes at the Budapest International String Quartet Competition (1978) and the Bratislava Competition (1981). The quartet made its North American debut tour in 1982.

Pianist to perform at Hammell Music

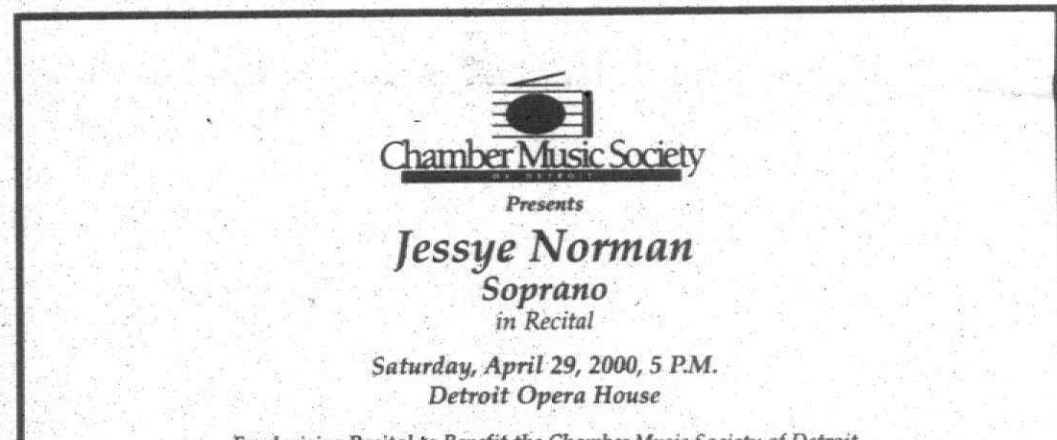
PRNewswire - Yamaha Corporation piano artist, Sue Downs, will present a free concert 7 p.m. Saturday, March 25 in the recital hall at Hammell Music's Bloomfield Hills location, 4110 Telegraph, south of Long Lake Road. Critics have described Downs performances as "a total unexpected joy."

Her listenable arrangements of popular songs by such great composers as Jerome Kern and Andrew Lloyd Webber plus film and Broadway classics are fresh and imaginative.

Downs will play a Yamaha Disklavier grand piano... a combination of traditional piano technology with cutting-edge digital enhancements. The result of the blend allows Sue Downs to

make audiences believe they are hearing not a solo performer but, at times, a jazz trio... a small orchestra... or even a rock 'n' roll band.

The concert is cosponsored by Yamaha and Hammell Music and is free, though telephone reservations to (248) 594-1414 are advised in order to guarantee seating. . .



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Ms. Norman will be the guest of honor at an afterglow fundraising reception and dinner at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History to benefit the museum. Tickets for the afterglow reception and dinner are \$150 and \$250. For dinner reservations or additional afterglow information, call the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History at (313) 494-5854.

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Imaginative premise misses flight at Meadow Brook

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER
fprovenzano@oe.com

It's painfully clear that the weakness of many plays is the lack of a compelling story. That's hardly the problem with *Chagall's Arabian Nights* at Meadow Brook Theatre.

On the contrary, shortly after it's been made clear the play will deal with the spiritual transformation of Marc Chagall, one of the 20th century's greatest artists, the promise of a noble tale elevates expectations.

What transpires, however, is several simultaneous narratives told amid a tangled web of oral

What: Premiere of "Chagall's Arabian Nights," a love story inspired by the art of Marc Chagall, by Meadow Brook Theatre Playwright-in-Residence Karim Alrawi
When: Matinee and evening shows through Sunday, April 9.
Where: Meadow Brook Theatre on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester Hills
Tickets: \$19.50-35. Call (248) 377-3300.

storytelling. Although there are special moments of mermaids, genies, talking trees and flying horses, don't expect the high-adventure of a magic carpet ride, the bravado of Sinbad the Sailor or a death-defying knife fight among thieves.

While *Chagall's Arabian Nights* offers an imaginative

premise, it loses its way in the fog and never quite takes flight.

Basically, the surrealistic play is the ambitious story of the famous painter who lost his spiritual connection to the lyrical world of lush color.

Struggling with his identity as a Jew and his loneliness since his wife's death, Chagall finds solace in the company of his for-

mer housekeeper-turned-lover, Virginia.

To inspire him, Virginia reads the famous Arabian tales. What unfolds, however, is far from inspiring.

A rotating stage and a minimal set hardly evoke imaginary flights to 15th-century Arabia. And there are few clues as to how the ancient tales transformed Chagall's vision, reinvigorated his artistry and rekindled his capacity to love.

Only the energy and occasional wit of Robert Morgan (Young Marc, Badr) rescues the play from a generally dispassionate performance. (Probably the result of portraying characters that are more like cut-outs than

three-dimensional human beings.)

In the languishing first act, for instance, long passages of exposition are employed to tell of Chagall's insecurities, including his fear of being discounted merely as a painter of angels.

Only the entrance of life-size puppets offers a reprieve. But their muffled voices do little to enhance the illusion, and only draw attention to the production clichés.

The second act is an improvement, only to be undermined by an abrupt, maudlin ending delivered with a neat bow and ribbon.

The play won the 1998 USA Plays Today Playwriting Award

in the category of best script suitable for family presentation.

But beyond the surprise appearance of the puppets and modest special effects, it hardly seems that most children - used to seeing *Star Wars* magic on the screen - would find engaging the unimpressive on-stage wizardry.

Perhaps something was lost when playwright Karim Alrawi adapted his award-winning play to the Meadow Brook stage.

In the end, "Chagall's Arabian Nights" doesn't deliver on the promise of the play's expectations, leaving only the hollow hype of "imaginative" special effects promoted in the pre-opening publicity.

Courage, passion, and love inspire great stories

BACKSTAGE PASS



There was a time, not so long ago, that great achievements did not necessarily stand the test of time. Without today's attention that surrounds even minor events, the most noteworthy individuals often had to rely on the retelling of a great story through the arts.

Through the ages, inspiring people have been immortalized by artists, playwrights, composers, and filmmakers.

And grace in light of the pervasive anti-Semitism of his heyday. "Hank Greenberg was an articulate, smart and wonderful man who was very upfront about being Jewish. His ability to navigate the waters during the tensions of the time establishes him as a hero, not just for his accomplishments on the field, but in the area of civil rights," says Elliot Wilhelm, curator of the Detroit Film Theatre.

Baseball film

"The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg" should generate plenty of interest in the Detroit area. Obviously, baseball fans will love this account of one of the greatest sluggers ever to play the game. Local history buffs will appreciate the wealth of archival footage of Detroit in the 1930s and 1940s. The film also showcases a number of well-known local folks, from Tiger broadcaster Ernie Harwell to politicians Carl and Sander Levin. But the most inspiring aspect of the film is Hammer's demonstration of dignity

Voices of Light

Through the ages, inspiring people have been immortalized by artists, playwrights, composers, and filmmakers. A new production bridges today's music with a silent film from the 1920s, "The Passion of Joan of Arc." Nearly 70 years after Carl Dreyer released his film, composer Richard Einhorn created an orig-

inal oratorio to the movie called "Voices of Light," which has been hailed as "a great masterpiece of contemporary music."

The film and oratorio with the Rackham Symphony Choir make a Detroit premiere Sunday, April 2, at the State Theatre. BACKSTAGE PASS classical music host Dave Wagner offers a preview in the March 26 program.

Love story

Sometimes, artists themselves become the subjects of other creative works, as in the case of the Meadow Brook Theatre production of "Chagall's Arabian Nights," which runs through April 9. At the root of playwright Karim Alrawi's latest work is a love story. While grieving the death of his wife Bella in the 1940s, artist Marc Chagall fell in love with his housekeeper, Virginia. It was Virginia's retelling of the classic "Arabian Nights" tales that helped inspire Chagall's striking illustrations. The artist's drawings are the origin for one of the most visually-stimulating productions you'll ever see, with Alrawi's use of larger-than-life puppets to portray flying horses, genies and mermaids.

Courage, passion, and love may be recurring themes in the arts, but it is the endless variations in how the great stories are told that keep the arts fresh, and the audiences entertained.



TANGO and FOLKLORE ARGENTINO

Latin and Argentine Tango Club of Detroit proudly present Live from Argentina

Malambo and Boleadoras "The Obsession!"
12 Dancers and Musicians on Stage

Friday, April 28th 8 PM to 10 PM
Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti
Phone (734) 487-2282
General Admission: \$40 Students w/ID \$25
www.tickets.com

Saturday, April 29th 7 PM to 9 PM
Royal Oak Music Theatre
General Admission: \$40 V.I.P.* \$50
Ticket Master (248) 546-6410
RoyalOakTheatre.com or purchase at theatre

Sunday, April 30th 3 PM to 5 PM
Capitol Theatre and Arts Center, Windsor
General Admission: \$40 (US) (\$50 Canadian)
V.I.P.* \$50 (US) (\$70 Canadian) Includes Afterglow
Ticket Office: (519) 253-7729

For more info call (313) 561-3236 or (313) 565-3329
AmyRay@mediaone.com

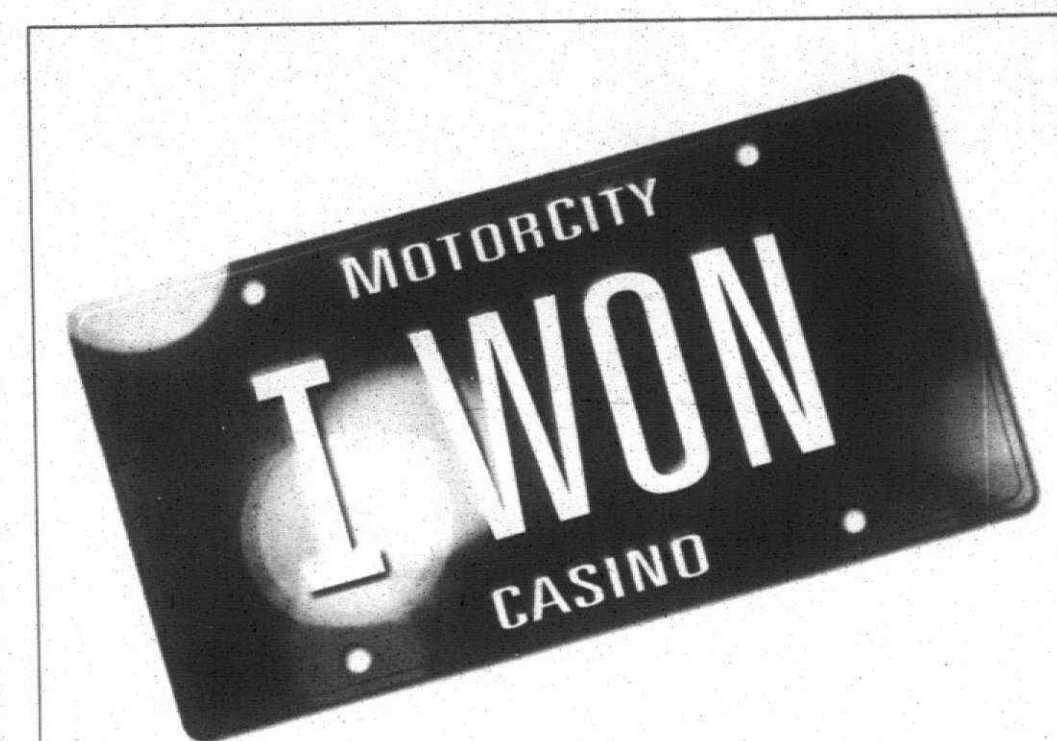
STARTS TOMORROW!
NOVI EXPO CENTER
BACKYARD POOL & SPA SHOW
MARCH 24-26, 2000

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NOVI EXPO CENTER
BACKYARD POOL & SPA SHOW
MARCH 24-26, 2000
\$100 OFF

SHOW HOURS
Regular admission: \$10.00
Children 6-14: \$5.00
Seniors 65+: \$5.00
Free admission: 10:00 pm - 11:00 pm
Free admission: 11:00 pm - 12:00 pm

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A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

THEATER

CENTURY THEATRE: "Always...Patsy Cline" continues to Aug. 27, at the theater, Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800/(248) 645-6666

GEM THEATRE: "Escanaba in da Moonlight," a comedy by Jeff Daniels, through June 25, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesday, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, 33 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800

JET: Arthur Miller's "Broken Glass," March 23-26, March 29-April 2 and April 5-9, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday and Sunday, 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday and Wednesday, in the Aaron DeRoy Theatre, lower level of the Jewish Community Center, West Bloomfield. \$15-\$25. (248) 788-2900

COLLEGE

EMU THEATRE: "Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 24-25 and Thursday, March 23, in the Spornberg Theatre, Ypsilanti. \$13 Friday-Saturday, \$11 Sunday. \$8 Thursday. (734) 487-1221

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE: "Cactus Flower," dinner theater performance 6:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 24-25 and March 31-April 1; theater performance only 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 7-8 and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2, in the Liberal Arts Theater, Schoolcraft College, Livonia. \$19 dinner theater, \$8 theater only. (734) 462-4596

UD MERCY THEATRE: "The King Korn Trio," March 30-April 16, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday except for April 2, in the McAuley Theatre on campus, Detroit. \$10, \$8 seniors/students. (313) 993-1130

UM THEATRE: "Silent" by Kim Fiedler, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 23-25 and March 30-April 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26 and April 2, at the Trueblood Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$14. (734) 764-0450

WSU HILBERRY: "Our Town," 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 28, and 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 30-31; "Five by Tenn" continues to May 6, at the theater, Detroit. \$11-\$18. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATRE

BIRMINGHAM TEMPLE PLAYERS: "The Wayside Motor Inn" 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25 (\$10 members, \$12 non-members), and 7 p.m. Sunday, March 26 (\$5 members, \$7 non-members), at the Birmingham Temple, Farmington Hills. \$10 members, \$12 non-members. (248) 477-1410

FIRST THEATRE GUILD OF BIRMINGHAM: "The Pied Piper of Hamelin," 8 p.m. Friday, March 24 and 31 and Saturday, April 1, and 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, March 25-26 and Sunday, April 2, at the theater, Birmingham. \$7, \$5 students/seniors. (248) 644-2087, ext. 151

HEARTLAND THEATRE COMPANY: "Play by Play Marathon" noon to midnight Saturday, April 1 with a 6:30 p.m. reception celebrating the theatrical community during the Seventh Inning Stretch, at the Rooper School, Birmingham. \$5 for one hour, \$20 all-day admission, all tickets sold at door. (248) 988-1094

RIDGEFALL PLAYERS: "Oklahoma!" March 24-26, 30-31 and April 1. Friday-Saturday shows 8 p.m., 3 p.m. Sunday, at the theater in Troy. (248) 988-7049

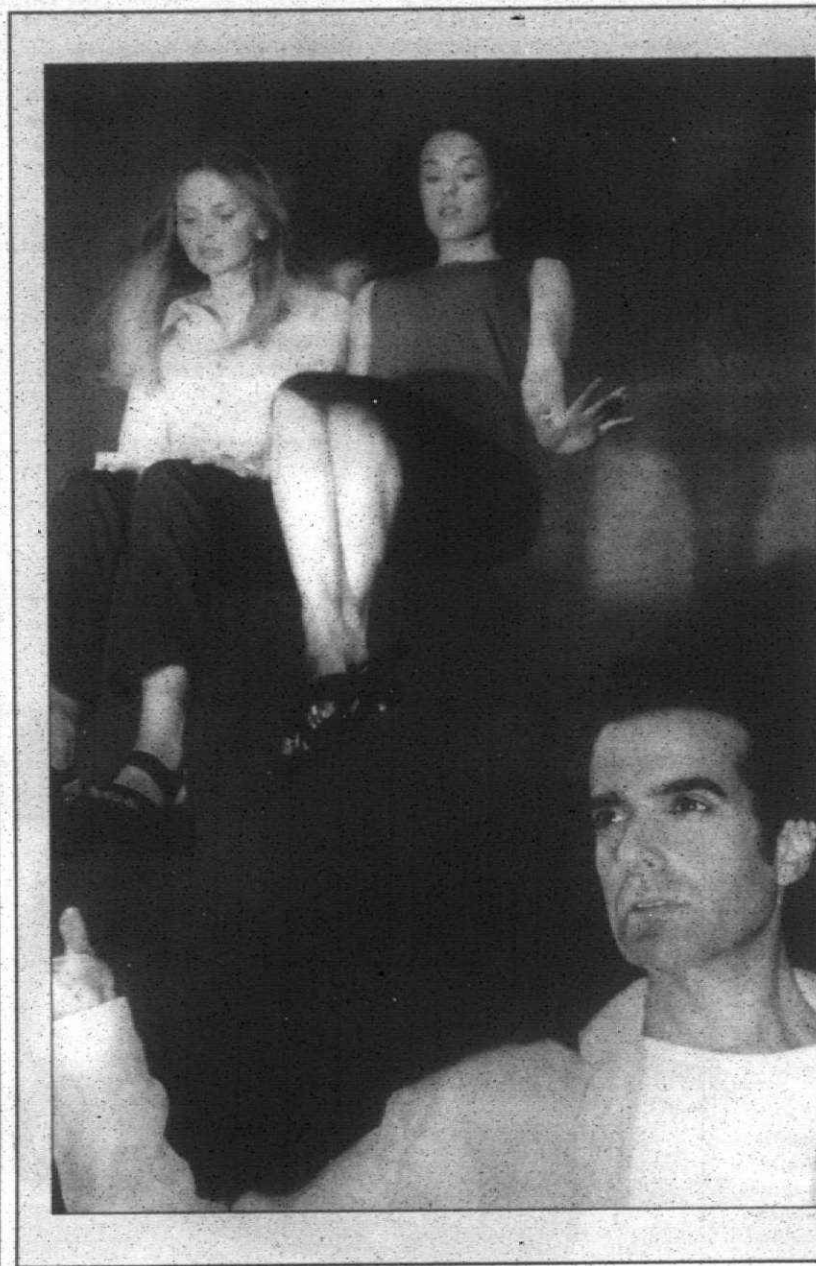
ST. DUNSTON'S THEATRE GUILD OF CRANFORD: "Foxfire," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 23-25, at the theater, Bloomfield Hills. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. (248) 644-0527

STAGECRAFTERS: "Barefoot in the Park," March 24-April 9, signed performance for deaf Thursday, April 6, at the Baldwin Theatre, Royal Oak. \$12-\$14. (248) 541-6430 or for TTY assistance (248) 541-6796

VILLAGE PLAYERS: "Sherlock Holmes" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 24-25 and March 31-April 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at the theater, Birmingham. \$12. (248) 644-2075

DINNER THEATRE

BACI THEATRE: "Flanagan's Wake," 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. Tickets



Splitting image: David Copperfield brings his magic to the Fox Theatre, 2111 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Friday-Sunday, March 24-26. Performances are 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday with additional shows 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets \$27.50, \$37.50 and \$45 available at Ticketmaster outlets, or call (248) 433-1515 to charge by phone. For more information, call (313) 983-6611.

(\$25 Thursday and Sunday, and \$30 Friday-Saturday); and "Tony n' Tina's Wedding," 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Pontiac. (248) 645-6666

FOX LAIR DINNER THEATRE: Presents "Murder at the Howard Johnson's," a hilarious comedy runs Saturday nights only, 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner (show follows), at Fox Hills Golf Club, Plymouth. \$29.95. (734) 453-7272

RAMADA HOTEL DINNER THEATRE: "Fools," a comic fable by Neil Simon, on alternate Thursdays, 7 p.m. dinner, show follows, at the theater, Southfield. \$25. (248) 544-0283

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS: "Amahl and the Night Visitors," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 30-April 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at the theater, Birmingham. \$7, \$5 students/seniors. (734) 523-8841

MARQUIS THEATRE: "The Pied Piper of Hamelin," 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through April 28, and 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, April 24-28, at the theater, Northville. \$7.50. (248) 349-8110

PUPPETART: "Purim Spiel," a rod puppet musical based on the Book of Esther 2 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River. \$7, \$5 children. (313) 961-7777

UD JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL & ACADEMY: "West Side Story," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 23-25, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at Berkley High School Auditorium, Berkley. (313) 862-5400, ext. 280

SPECIAL EVENTS

ANTIQUE PHOTOS/PAPER AMERICANA/POSTCARDS SHOW: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at K of C Hall, Clawson. \$3. (248) 968-6910

BUILDERS HOME & FLOWER SHOW: 2:10 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 23-24, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, March 25, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at Cobo Center, Detroit. \$6.50, \$4.50 seniors, \$4 ages 6-12. (248) 862-1019 or www.builders.org

COLLECTIBLES SHOW: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at the Livonia Holiday Inn, \$3, children free. (734) 464-8493

NEW SHANGHAI CIRCUS: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, Clinton Township. \$10. (810) 286-2222

PHOTO SEMINAR: Canton photographer Ted Nelson is one of the presenters at the 37th annual

Photo Seminar Friday-Sunday, March 24-26 at Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn. Advance registration is suggested and will be accepted through Monday, March 20. (248) 474-6509 or (810) 775-3165

UM THEATRE: "Silent" by Kim Fiedler, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 23-25 and March 30-April 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26 and April 2, at the Trueblood Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$14. (734) 764-0450

FAMILY EVENTS

MARC THOMAS & MAX THE MOOSE: 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak. \$5, \$3 children to benefit Parents of Children with Down Syndrome. (248) 827-9135

CLASSICAL

ANN ARBOR FESTIVAL OF SONG: Concert of music by Brahms, Schumann and Wagner, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$5-\$7. (734) 769-2999

BACH RECITAL SERIES: By James Kibbie 4 p.m. Sunday March 26, 3:30 p.m. informal talk, in Blanche Anderson Moore Hall, University of Michigan School of Music, Ann Arbor. (734) 764-0583

BEAUX ARTS TRIO: 4 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at Rackham Auditorium, Ann Arbor. \$18-\$34. (734) 764-2538

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Salute to the 2000 Summer Olympics concert, plus a fund-raising dinner to salute the BBOS's 25th anniversary, 7 p.m. Saturday, April 2, Temple Beth El, Bloomfield Hills. \$5 adults, \$30 students for concert and dinner; concert only \$20 adults, \$15 students. (248) 645-2276

BOHEMIAN PHILHARMONIC: Wayne State University's music department will host a performance by the Bohemian Chamber Philharmonic 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28 in the Community Arts Auditorium, Cass and Kirby on the campus, Detroit. \$15. (313) 577-1795

MADONNA UNIVERSITY: Student music recital 3 p.m. Sunday, March 26, in Kresge Hall on campus, Livonia. Free, but donations to music scholarship fund accepted. (734) 432-5709

REDFORD CIVIC SYMPHONY: Presents their annual "Cabaret" concert 3 p.m. Sunday, March 26 at Thurston High School in Redford. Free.

SONGS OF LATE ROMANTIC MASTERS: Soprano Carolyn Bertrand, tenor Rupert DeSalis, clarinetist Keith Dwyer and pianist Lois Kaarpe perform music of Strauss, Wolf, Schumann, Debussy, Faure and Brahms, 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 28 at Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$5-\$10. (734)

Detroit), hosts its competition for orchestral instruments (high school and college students ages 16-22), must submit performance tape by April 1. For application, e-mail CoufLinks@aol.com

THEATRE GUILD OF LIVONIA REDFORD: Open auditions for singers, dancers and specialty acts, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 25, bring 3-5 minutes of prepared material, at the theater, Redford. (313) 531-0554. Performance dates May 5-6.

TONY 'N' TINA'S WEDDING: Auditions for female keyboardist/pianist who also sings, to hire as a substitute/understudy for performances at the Baci Theatre, 4-6 shows a week, Thursday-Sunday, also bass player needed for full-time. (248) 253-8843

JAZZ

GEM JAZZ TRIO: Performs 7-11 p.m. Friday-Saturdays, at the Century Club Restaurant, Detroit. (313) 963-9800

MATT MICHAELS TRIO: With saxophonist Larry Nozoro 8-11:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, at Ron's Fireside Inn, Garden City. \$5 cover in Jazz Room, waived with dinner order, \$5 drink minimum. (734) 762-7756

DAVID MURRAY/KAHIL EL/ZABAR: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, at Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$10-\$25. (734) 769-2999

ED SARATH & TIMSCAPE WITH KARL BERGER: 8 p.m. Friday, March 24, at Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$15. (734) 769-2999

JANET TENA: 9 p.m. Friday, March 24, at Tom's Oyster Bar, Southfield. (248) 356-8881

LARRY NOZORO: 8-11:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, Ron's Fireside Inn, Garden City. \$5 cover in Jazz Room, waived with dinner order, \$5 drink minimum. (734) 762-7756

SWAN LAKE: Eric Johnston's Detroit Ballet presents Tchaikovsky's classic tale 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, April 9, William M. Costick Activities Center, 28800 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills. \$8, \$5. (248) 473-9570

COMEDY

ELDORADO COUNTRY CLUB: Kirk Noland with a live phone show 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 24-25; Big Daddy Fitz with Tim Costello & Dee Profit, 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31-April 1, at the club, Commerce Township. (248) 624-1050

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB: Pete George, also Michael Jr., Thursday-Saturday, March 23-25; Angel Salazar, also Mark England Wednesday-Saturday, March 29-April 1, at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, Livonia. 8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday. Third Level Improv and new talent nights. 8 p.m. Sunday (5:15). (734) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB: Pete George, also Michael Jr., Thursday-Saturday, March 23-25; Angel Salazar, also Mark England Wednesday-Saturday, March 29-April 1, at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, Livonia. 8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday. Third Level Improv and new talent nights. 8 p.m. Sunday (5:15). (734) 261-0555

JIMMY BUFFETT & THE CORAL REEFER BAND: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$46 pavilion, \$23.50 lawn. Includes \$1 donation to SFC Foundation. (248) 645-6666

CAPTURE THE FLAG: With Moods for Moderns, Dead Seasons. 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555

CAT POWER: 8 p.m. Friday, April 7, Mill Street Lounge, Clutch Cargo, Pontiac. \$10. (313) 961-MELT

TRACY CHAPMAN: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 9, State Theatre, Detroit. \$27.50-35. All ages. (248) 645-6666

CHEF CHRIS BLUES BAND: 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Karl's Cabin, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450

CHIPS: 9 p.m. Saturday, March 25, Nankin Mill Tavern, Westland. (734) 427-0622

CLOUD NINE: With Supercation, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 23, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555

DEATHGIRL.COM: With Six Clips, The Katties, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 15, The Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$6. (313) 961-MELT

DONNA KRAUSS AND DONALD STATION: Featuring Jerry Douglas, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor. \$35, \$25. (248) 645-6666

DONNA KRAUSS AND DONALD STATION: Featuring Jerry Douglas, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor. \$35, \$25. (248) 645-6666

STEVE LACY & ROSWELL RUDD QUARTET: 8:30 and 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31-April 1, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. \$20 advance.

THE SCARAB CLUB: 8 p.m. Friday, March 30, Lily's Seafood Restaurant and Brewery, Royal Oak. (248) 591-5459

TONY LEVIN & CALIFORNIA GUITAR TRIO: With Richard Lee Johnson, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 13, Magic Bag, Ferndale. \$20. (248) 544-3030

BOBBY LEWIS: Wednesday, March 29, Oxford Inn, Novi. (248) 305-5856

LIQUID SOUL: 8 p.m. Friday, March 31, Magic Bag, Ferndale. \$12. (248) 544-3030

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MOVIES

'Wonder Boys' revels in life choices, hopes, dreams

By TED ANTHONY
AP NATIONAL WRITER

Grady Tripp has fallen, and he can't get up. What's worse, he seems to have no idea that anything's wrong.

In Curtis Hanson's wonderfully elegiac "Wonder Boys," based on Michael Chabon's book, Grady (Michael Douglas) is a daffy, gray-haired writer and Pittsburgh university professor whose first novel propelled him to literary heights. But his follow-up — well, that's another story.

It's not that he can't write. It's just the opposite: He can't stop. Page after page, he churns forth prose from his gut, writing and

writing as his real life sinks ever deeper into inertia.

His umpteenth wife has just left. His affair with the university chancellor (Frances McDormand) is at a crossroads. His agent (Robert Downey Jr.) is pushing him to publish — or perish professionally. One of his students, James Leer (Tobey Maguire), is melting down; another, Hannah Green (Katie Holmes), is trying to seduce him.

This is the premise for the three-day odyssey of angst and epiphany chronicled in "Wonder Boys," a memorable, melancholy ride through one lost soul's slow realization that he has outgrown the shine of his potential.

The prime reason for the movie's success is, somewhat surprisingly, Michael Douglas, an actor known more for evoking the testosterone side of male characters than the sensitive, self-aware side. As played by Douglas, Grady Tripp is a pot-smoking, womanizing, somewhat egomaniacal lit-crit snob who's brought into the praise that's been lavished upon him. But in the three days of his life that we see, the flip side is revealed — the place where the drugs and flings and lack of self-discipline have dumped him. It's not pretty.

What reveals it in stark relief is his relationship with James, a promising young writer having difficulty separating fiction from

reality. Grady takes James under his wing. But as Grady decays and his life unravels, he begins to wonder whether he's in any position to help James — indeed, whether he has any wisdom at all to offer a young version of himself.

Maguire is the perfect choice for James. He's a bemused take on the world, deployed so well in "Pleasantville" and "The Cider House Rules," takes on a different dimension here. The interplay of truth and deception that governs James' life gives Maguire a chance to branch out, to take the good-hearted characters of his previous films and give them a darker side to conquer. He looks to Grady for support, and finds Grady, equally confused, staring back at him.

As Grady's agent, Terry Crabtree, Downey rounds out the triumvirate of wonder boys. He, too, was a star in his profession, but

now he is barely hanging onto his job, thanks to Grady's unfinished manuscript. Seeing the three of them try to claw their way through their lives, each as blind as the other two, is quietly heartbreaking and feels absolutely genuine.

McDormand is her usual welcome presence, this time as a woman balancing the rigors of being a university chancellor with the juggling act that infidelity demands. Holmes, star of the hormones-and-learners-permits TV show "Dawson's Creek," shows again that her movie choices are wiser. She was great in "Go" and "Teaching Mrs. Tingle," and she's great here — as Grady's temptation, but also as his critic.

There is no strict "plot" to "Wonder Boys," simply a rolling, undefined feeling of forward movement that may not actually be forward — much like Grady's

life. The pacing is crucial. The textured neighborhoods of Pittsburgh, rendered in gray winter tones, also fit the mood perfectly.

"Wonder Boys" is a movie about tarnished hopes and making choices — not just the right ones, but the act of making choices itself. As Grady's book keeps growing, Hannah renders her opinion: "It reads as if you didn't make any choices at all."

That's what tends to happen in life. Good, caring men like Grady Tripp hurt themselves and the people they love by shutting down and refusing to make choices. To be happy, sometimes we have to make the tough choices.

That's one of the quieter wonders of it, and the exploration of it is the main reason that "Wonder Boys" turns out to be a relevant, moving piece of filmmaking.

Drama:
Michael Douglas as Grady Tripp and Frances McDormand as Sara Gaskell in a scene from "Wonder Boys."



FRANK CONROY

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open March 24
THREE STOOGES FESTIVAL
Through Saturday, March 25, the Historic Redford Theatre presents Jerome "Curly" Howard, Larry Fine and Moe Howard in this cinematic event. David Calandine will be the guest announcer.

HERE ON EARTH
A wealthy prep student and small town girl fall in love for the first time. When the girl finds she's terminally ill, the boy must decide whether to follow his heart or the future his father has chosen for him. Stars Leelee Sobieski, Chris Klein.

WAKING THE DEAD
Fielding Pierce is a congressional candidate who begins to question his sanity after "seeing" the love of his life, presumed dead, emerge 10 years after a terrorist car bombing. Stars Billy Crudup.

Scheduled to open Friday, March 31
HIGH FIDELITY
An adaptation of Nick Hornby's best-seller, the film stars John Cusack as the owner of a second-hand vinyl shop who's forced to confront his arrested adolescence when his longtime girlfriend leaves him.

THE SKULLS
Rob Cohen directs this film about an over-achieving student at an Ivy League college who joins a secret society called The Skulls with hopes to improve his popularity, not knowing the dangerous implications that will follow.

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Secret: Paul Walker and Joshua Jackson star in "The Skulls."

Film is a modern-day fairy tale

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

With a name like "Erin Brockovich," it's better to be good.

After delivering big box office with the sweet and pleasantly titled "Notting Hill" and bigger box office with the dumb and cloyingly titled "Runaway Bride" last year, Julia Roberts comes through with a salty, tough-as-glue-on-fingernails turn in her latest stab at a more dramatic role: as an uneducated but fiercely determined environmental crusader.

Cheers to Roberts and director Steven Soderbergh for not trying to hang an ear-catching title above the credits. Clunky as it sounds, "Erin Brockovich" fits the film like the title character's low-cut, skin-tight outfits.

The movie likely will pack in the crowds. Who wouldn't pay to see Hollywood's reigning gal talk trash, dress slutty, champion the little guy, and lead out obscene comeuppances left and right to snooty lawyers?

Roberts stars in the real-life story of Brockovich, a single mom with three kids, roaches in the kitchen, a ratty car, sky-high debts and no employable skills.

After an unsuccessful lawsuit against a rich doctor over a car accident, Erin elbows her way into a clerical job with attorney Ed Masry (Albert Finney), who handled her case. Co-workers complain about her call-girl attire, including gaudy makeup and short leather skirts, and Erin is perpetually in dutch with her boss because of her outspokenness.

But when pro bono files about a sickly desert family land on her desk, Erin uncovers a major

pollution scandal involving a utility and poisoned water.

She persuades the reluctant Masry, who has his eye on comfortable retirement, to pursue the case. Downright ignorant on scientific matters at first, Erin soon becomes expert on such toxic compounds as hexavalent chromium.

She sneaks onto utility land, grabbing water samples, plucking mutated frogs from ponds and running from security guards. Her earthy, unlearned demeanor wins over the 600-plus people affected by the tainted water.

"I hate lawyers," Erin tells them. "I just work for them."

Erin shamelessly puts her looks to work when the law firm needs records from the local water authority.

"What makes you think you can just walk in there and find what we need?" Ed asks her.

"They're called boobs, Ed," she replies.

The script is chock-full of choice, ribald exchanges between Erin and the lawyers, her co-workers and Aaron Eckhart as the biker with a heart of gold who moves in next door. He becomes Erin's romantic interest, and surrogate parent to her children when she begins to neglect them because of the case.

Roberts simply has never been better as she glares and swears her way through the movie, an R-rated Frank Capra heroine with pinpoint accuracy in cutting down to size anyone who needs cutting. She could serve as patron saint for everyone who has ever belatedly thought of a great retort and wished they could go back in time to deliver it.

Finney is fine in his usual gruff teddy-bear mode, and there's solid support from Eckhart, and Marg Helgenberger and Cherry Jones as two of the plaintiffs.

Soderbergh wisely keeps the courtroom scenes to a minimum. This is Erin's story, and the movie focuses on her dogged research, her empathy with the victims, the toll the case takes on her family and the esteem she gains as events unfold.

"I walk into a room and everybody shuts up to see if I've got something to say," Erin proudly says. "I've never had that before."

Slick as the movie is, questions of credibility arise. Erin Brockovich is not your typical trailer-trash mom. How could a woman so willful, intelligent, attractive and self-possessed fail so miserably — then abruptly spring full-blown to skewer the pricey legal windbags of a major utility?

The movie tries to give glimpses of Erin's early expectations and how she failed to live up to them. Lamenting the pocket change in her checking account, she wistfully recalls her days as a beauty queen in Wichita and how she dreamed of doing "something important with my life."

It's a half-hearted effort to explain away Erin's dire straits. As played by Roberts, Erin Brockovich had the goods all along, and it's a stretch to think she couldn't have pulled herself up by her bootstraps, even a little bit, beforehand.

At its core, though, "Erin Brockovich" is a fairy tale, with Roberts as a foul-mouthed Sleeping Beauty. Movie-goers will have great fun watching her awake.

On 'The Go': Detroit 5-piece ready for the road, stage



STEPHANIE A. CASOLA

'We're all a bunch of space bandits doing our own thing.'

Bobby Harlow
The Go

Bobby Harlow bounces up to the table in a hurried fashion and catches me off guard. It's just after 4 p.m. and the Royal Oak restaurant is still quiet, only the monotone sound of CNN hums behind me. Harlow — chestnut-haired singer of the Detroit-based five-piece, The Go — sheepishly admits he woke up around 3 p.m. and rushed to meet me for his first-ever in-person interview. Surely it's the first of many for The Go, a band that has quickly risen high above Detroit's rock underground.

The name suits them well. Harlow and bandmates John Krautner and Dion Fischer (guitars), Marc Pellis (drums) and Steve Noire (bass) made the fast track to the local music scene. Playing their first official gig at the Magic Stick in Detroit — a dream for most local musicians — The Go got off to an envious start. In just more than two years, the band established a reputation for its "must-see" live performances, recorded one demo, signed with Seattle's Sub

Pop Records, and released a debut CD. Now on tour with label-mates Nebula and Zen Guerilla, The Go is balancing a national tour and work on a second album. There's no stopping in sight.

Going, going... In 1999, "Whatcha Doin'" propelled The Go's music past live shows. "The first record was true Detroit rock 'n' roll. That was on purpose," said Harlow. "Suzy Don't Leave" and "Get You Off" is real Detroit rock 'n' roll."

Now working on a follow-up, Harlow said it's become more "like a concept record, without really going for a concept record." For someone with strong jazz influences, there's no telling where the band's music is going. "With the second record, I think people will still be able to recognize we're all a bunch of space bandits doing our own thing."

Those are our space bandits, and they're proud of their hometown. "I think we're just really

raw," said Harlow. "It's a part of everything coming from Detroit."

In the water Be it rock, rap, hip-hop or blues, Detroit music shares a universal quality. It's just not clear what ties everything together. "It's something that got into the water, a sort of style that I'm really proud of," suggests Harlow.

Proud to be part of this rock subculture, The Go is taking the city back in time. References to Iggy Pop and the Stooges and the MC5 abound when The Go is onstage. And that doesn't really bother them. "The MC5 made great music."

"We have good things in our music. That's why we sound the way we sound. We know about R&B. It's in our blood."

Additive The Go, with its abrasive, crunching guitars, intentionally muddy vocals and attitude to spare, is ready to get back on the

road. "Playing every night, it's a real addiction," said Harlow. "I come back from the road and start to really miss playing."

"People are responding really well to us in other cities. The first tour we played (shows) to a maximum of 100 people. This time we've been selling out."

Harlow has his own aspirations for the future of The Go. And they're sky-high. "I hope The Go turns everyone on with purist rock 'n' roll, the roots of rock 'n' roll being Chuck Berry."

Is that too much to wish for? Naah.

As our conversation wound down, Harlow headed into the brisk, windy Michigan evening. He rushed off to visit his grandmother, Connie Orders, who owned a flower shop in Birmingham.

I ask you, how rock star is that?

Go out and see The Go when they stop home on tour with Nebula and Zen Guerilla, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Magic Bag, Ferndale. \$8 in advance. Call (248) 544-3030.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola writes about popular music for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2130 or e-mail at scasola@ec.homecomm.net.



REB POP RECORDS

Getting the green light: The Go, fronted by Bobby Harlow, are back in town on a Sub Pop showcase tour.

STAY TUNED...

When it comes to debuting in Detroit, Rev can do it right. The band, featuring former Plain bandmates singer-guitarist Todd Price, bassist Mike Dolant and ex-Sponge drummer Charlie Grover, opened a fiery set for Lit March 15 at Saint Andrews Hall and left the audience reeling for more. Not knowing quite what to expect, the crowd was met with unbridled energy, tight, smashing rhythms

and melodies that stick long after the chords fade.

According to the Motor City Music Foundation, the 2000 Detroit Music Awards is shaping up to be a star-studded event, with Kid Rock and Twisted Brown Trucker set to host. At 7:30 p.m. April 14, Detroit's State Theatre will open its doors to a limited number of ticketholders and raise money for the Rainbow Connection

and the Motor City Music Foundation.

Performers on the bill include Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise, The Contours, a reunited Rhythm Corps, Paradime, Johnny Rodriguez & The Fiery Latin Jazz Band, Barbara Payton and house band Howling Diablos. Nominees will be honored in 11 categories and Distinguished Achievement Awards will be given to The Contours, The Frost, and the late radio personality Dave Dixon. See detroitmusicawards.com for more information.

—By Stephanie Angelyn Casola

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DINING

Barb's pasties – delicious, hearty meal in a crust

Consider yourself excused if you think the name of Barb's Copper Country Kitchen is "Barb's Pasties" because that's what the home-made (and illegal) sign out on Middlebelt Road in Livonia says.

TAKE-OUT GUY



RALPH ECHTNAW

Owner Barb Sell and her brother, Mike Jarvey, have a running disagreement with the city as to whether they can keep the makeshift sign at the curb.

But there's no disagreement in my office about the quality of Barb's pasties.

"Ralph, you have to remark about this crust," exclaimed health and business reporter Renee Skoglund. "This is a marvelous crust, a glorious, blond crust." (Renee used to write restaurant reviews.)

Assistant Managing Editor Keely Wygonik thought it was remarkable that the meat in her pastie had no gristle.

Sales Support Supervisor Linda Rigdon said her pastie "was like eating a bowl of hearty vegetable soup in a flaky pastry."

Internet Editor Emory Daniels was impressed that his pastie contained rutabaga. "With car-

Barb's Copper Country Kitchen
Where: 16310 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. In a strip mall on Middlebelt at Terrence between Five and Six Mile roads.
Phone: (734) 427-3717
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Menu: Beef, chicken and vegetarian pasties, vegetable beef soup, chili, lasagna, salads, potato salad and cole slaw.
Average lunch price: \$5
Credit cards accepted: None. Personal checks accepted

rots and rutabaga it's a legitimate pastie," he said.

Graphic Artist Tammie Graves said her vegetarian pastie was "very flavorful. I definitely would get it again. It's a meal in one." In fact, the next time Tammie ordered, she got five vegetarian pasties to take home for dinner. Her mom and sister were impressed. And the pasties were so big that even Tammie's husband, Al, couldn't eat more than one.

Managing Editor Hugh Gallagher said his tasted fine even without gravy.

Publisher Sue Rosiek could only eat half of hers because it was so big.

The only complaint I've had came from a receptionist, who said, "I know the gravy is out of a can."

Owner Barb Sell admits the gravy is from a can, but everything else is made from scratch.

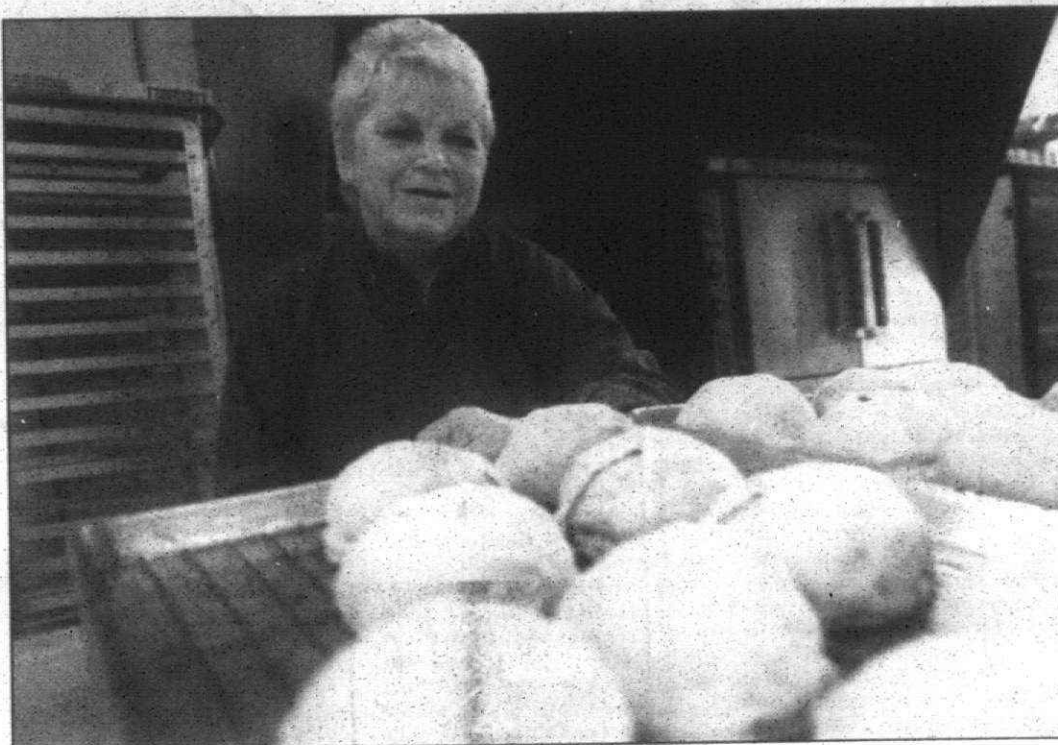
"Where can you eat a home-made product for that price?" (\$3.40) she said. "And pasties are a lot of work. There's only one way to peel a carrot, a rutabaga, an onion, and that's by hand."

As for the gravy, Barb said she prefers ketchup anyway. "My grandmother would turn over in her grave if she saw gravy on a pastie."

The original Barb's Copper Country Kitchen in Royal Oak has been in operation for 16 years and sells some 400 pasties per day. The Livonia location opened almost 2½ years ago and sells 200 pasties per day.

Barb's brother Mike runs the Livonia store. He keeps chicken and beef pasties ready to go at all times. But if you want a vegetarian pastie, call an hour beforehand so he can thaw one out for you.

There are other things on Barb's menu, and I wish I could



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Perfect pasties: Barb Sell, owner of Barb's Copper Country Kitchen, removes pasties from the oven at her Livonia store.

tell you about them. But no one at my office gets anything but the pasties.

Ralph Echtnaw welcomes your comments and questions about takeout food. Call him at (734)

953-2054. Or send e-mail to rechtnaw@oe.homecomm.net

Prentice to infuse Star Southfield eateries with local flavor

BY ALICE RHEIN
 STAFF WRITER
 ARHEIN@OE.HOMECOMM.NET

A healthy economy, bad timing and poor planning were to blame for the decision earlier this month by New York-based Ark Restaurant Corp. to bail out of the Star Theatre in Southfield, closing two restaurants and abandoning two still under construction, according to a local restaurateur.

"Ark made some very big mistakes. They are very strong in New York and Las Vegas, but they don't know the Detroit market and didn't do their homework," said Matt Prentice, of Unique Restaurant Corp., who signed a deal with the Star Southfield multiplex to take over and manage the four restaurants.

Prentice's group was approached to operate the restaurants during the project's planning stages, but at the time, told the theater it had no interest.

Prentice, who owns nearly a dozen local restaurants including Morels in Bingham Farms and Northern Lakes Seafood in Bloomfield Hills, agreed to the Star's proposal after Ark failed to meet its obligations as owner and operator of Volcano Grill, Z-Dim, Fat Anthony's and Starlight Brewery.

Through much media wooing, but very little marketing to the public, Volcano Grill opened in December, followed by Z-Dim in early January of this year.

But even early on, there were problems. Staff was difficult to attract, in part because of the low unemployment rate, and also

because few in the service industry were looking to switch jobs during the height of the holiday season.

But Prentice said it was Ark's mistaken philosophy of "what works in New York will work in Detroit" that brought the restaurants to a swift close. "Z-Dim, with its wild screens and dim sum, was very cool, but I knew this would never work. It wasn't Detroit. A friend even said it was too weird for SoHo," he said.

Plus, people in this area don't think of the theater as a restaurant. It's a whole mindset that Prentice doesn't think was taken

into consideration. Ark did not return calls for comment placed to its New York office.

But Prentice said the restaurant group paid dearly, estimating that Ark spent \$14 million on the failed venture.

"It was a pretty big mistake," he said.

Under Prentice's management agreement, the new venture won't cost him anything but a lot of hard work. He says finding employees once all the restaurants are ready to open will be his biggest obstacle.

"I'm going to need 300 people. That's the only thing that wor-

ries me," he said.

Plans are to keep Volcano Grill's southwestern theme, though the menu will be retooled, according to Prentice. But dramatic changes are in the works for Z-Dim, he added.

"That will become Mash, a restaurant focused on mashed potatoes which are very popular with Detroiters," said Prentice.

He is also looking into ditching the bizarre screen art and showing famous comedy clips instead.

"We are going to focus on

entertainment. We will have live entertainment at Volcano Grill and comedy at Mash," he said.

And after construction is complete, the Italian restaurant, Cosmo's Pizza, Pasta & Brew, will have family fun including clowns and kid-friendly food. The brew pub will offer a sports bar atmosphere.

No opening dates have been set, but Prentice hopes to have Volcano Grill up and running within a few weeks, with the rest to follow.

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