



Daylight
saving

Spring forward
Set your clock
ahead one hour
Sunday at 2 a.m.

IN THE PAPER
TODAY

OPINION

Metro shuffle: Yes, experience should be required for airports director. /A12

AT HOME

Way to grow: Bloomfest will offer a bounty of garden beauty and inspiration. /D6

ENTERTAINMENT

Cartoon-like: Plymouth native Kent Culotta was on the animation team that created "The Chief" character in Dreamworks latest release, "The Road to El Dorado." See his artwork come to life at movie theaters this weekend. /E1

REAL ESTATE

Getting safe: Building owners learn how to prevent and handle disasters. /F1

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Looking for a new job?
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today's
HomeTown Classifieds



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STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

Tough times: Canton resident Linda Urban grieves for her husband, Gary, who was shot and killed during a robbery last November.

Picking up the pieces

Urban family copes with dad's tragic death

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
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In the minutes after her teenage son, Joe, goes to bed, Linda Urban is terrified.

She talks well past midnight to friends on the phone for support. She prays for sleep to come. She does anything — anything — to keep her mind from returning to the evening of Nov. 10, 1999.

It's the day Linda Urban lost her best friend. Her lover. Her confidant, partner and husband of more than 20 years, Gary.

"The house is quiet at night," said the 42-year-old Canton woman. "It's almost deafening."

"I can lie there and try to sleep, but

can't. I can't turn my mind off. I just keep reliving it over and over."

Gary Urban closed the Dearborn Heights Ponderosa Restaurant where he worked as a manager at about 10:25 p.m. on Nov. 10.

Before he could get into his car, police believe a man robbed him and shot him seven times in the back with a .25-caliber handgun.

Somehow, Urban was able to go back inside the restaurant, on Telegraph Road south of Warren, and call 911. A police detective arrived moments later, Urban, 45, told him what happened but couldn't describe the killer.

He died at about 10:45 p.m. at Garden City Hospital of multiple wounds.

Three Detroit men are charged with Urban's murder.

Lance Ray Rodgers, 20, James Erick Lee, 21, and Vernard Meadows, 20, are currently being held without bond in the Wayne County jail.

Each faces first-degree murder, armed robbery and conspiracy to commit armed robbery charges. Rodgers also has one count of felony firearm against him.

The latest in a series of hearings will be held Friday at Wayne County Circuit Court. A trial date could be set for later this spring.

Linda Urban hopes all three men will be tried together soon. She's pleased with work done by Dearborn Heights Police and Assistant Prosecutor Joe Jansen thus far.

"He has kept me up to speed when

Please see **TRAGIC DEATH**, A6

Bad frog croaks

LICENSE REVOKED

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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A liquor license for a once controversial tavern development is in the process of being revoked.

Canton Trustees Tuesday recommended Bad Frog's Class "C" license be revoked by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. Site plans for the bar, which was to be located on Michigan Avenue near Sheldon and Geddes, had been approved in 1998.

"I hope the liquor license will die a natural death," said Henry Moore, president of Woodlands of Canton Homeowners Association. "Hopefully a more compatible use can be found."

Happy Days Restaurant was first proposed for the site in 1995. A liquor license was subsequently granted.

The concept changed to the Bad Frog Tavern a few years later. Residents raised concerns because of a beer label pictures that showed a frog with a middle finger salute.

Parking was also an issue. The tavern's lot would've been adjacent to homes along Geddes Road.

Construction of the tavern never

Please see **BAD FROG**, A4

Canton seniors go for Van Gogh



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

At the DIA: Constance Woodrich (left) and Harriette Hafer look for memorabilia in the Detroit Institute of Arts gift shop following their tour through the "Van Gogh: Face to Face" exhibit. For a story and more photos from the day trip, please turn to Page A9 in today's Observer.

Deal near for WTUA treatment plant expansion

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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It took six months longer than anyone would've liked, but it appears a deal between Canton, Plymouth and Northville townships and the Ypsilanti Community Utility Authority is imminent.

Talks were continuing this week and a tentative agreement may be in place by the authority's April 11 meeting, Western Townships Utilities Authority Operation Manager Tim Faas said. The deal calls for an expansion of the Ypsilanti wastewater facility and would give the townships a stronger voice in YCUA operations.

The deal calls for an expansion of the Ypsilanti wastewater facility and would give the townships a stronger voice in YCUA operations.

"I think it's in all of our best interests," Canton Supervisor Tom Yack said. "It's the most cost-effective approach for them and us."

Plymouth Township Supervisor

Kathleen Keen McCarthy agreed.

"It's a win-win for all of us," she said. WTUA currently sends about nine million gallons of waste water to Ypsilanti. Other flows go to Detroit.

YCUA's plant, located in Ypsilanti Township, has a current capacity of 29

Please see **WTUA**, A4

Dodson ground breaking



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

Popular choice: Retired principal George Dodson gets a hug from a supporter during ground breaking ceremonies Tuesday for the Plymouth-Canton elementary school that will carry his name. A story on the event is on Page A2 in today's Observer.

Participants gearing up for May 'Relay for Life'

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
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Canton's second annual Relay for Life walk for cancer research is expected to draw twice as many participants as last year's event in Heritage Park.

For a 24-hour period beginning at dusk May 20, walkers from about 35 different teams consisting of family members, business colleagues, church members and others will begin taking steps toward finding a cure for cancer.

Rosemary Andrews, community development director with the American Cancer Society, said so far 30 teams have signed up for the Canton Relay for Life. This year's walk will begin at dusk Saturday, May 20.

"We expect to double our participation this year," Andrews said. The cost for registering a team, which consists of about 12 to 20 people is \$150 per team. There are still openings for

teams available.

Someone from each of the teams is expected to be walking at all times during the 24-hour period.

Andrews said about 150 cancer survivors will be among the first walkers in the cancer survivor "Victory Walk." They will stride along paths lit by symbolic luminaries, which are being sold for \$10 a piece.

"(The luminaries) will be lit in memory and in honor of people who have died of or are battling cancer," Andrews said.

"All the money raised goes to fund cancer research and cancer education," Andrews said of the Relay for Life, which has raised more than \$120 million since its beginning in 1985. Eighteen Relay for Life events are planned throughout southeast Michigan.

Some programs funded by Relay for Life proceeds include "Smokescreen," geared toward steering sixth-graders away from tobacco, and "Tell a Friend,"

Please see **RELAY**, A4

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School building under way

The honor of having a new elementary school named after him took one step closer to reality for George Dodson Tuesday.

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials broke ground in an afternoon ceremony on the new George Dodson Elementary School. The new building will be located at Cherry Hill and Beck Roads in Canton. It is scheduled to open in August 2001.

Dodson, a former principal at Gallimore Elementary School, was on hand for the groundbreaking ceremony.

"This is a very special and very happy day for me," he said. "For the many years I have worked with children in the Plymouth-Canton community, I know them to be intelligent, energetic and happy with a need and desire to learn. This building, this public school structure, fulfills the housing needs toward that objective."

"This groundbreaking represents the future place for children to start their educational journey," he added. "I am honored that it will be called the George R. Dodson Elementary School."

The ground breaking was the first in the tenure of new superintendent Kathleen Booher, who



Getting started: George Dodson lifts the first shovel Tuesday while teachers, students and Plymouth-Canton Community Schools staff looks on

also gets to oversee the construction of a third high school.

"I've also had the honor of

meeting this wonderful person (Dodson) this building is going to be named after, and I understand completely the sentiments

for this being named George Dodson Elementary," Booher said.

Man stops for lunch, loses truck to thief

A 35-year-old Dearborn Heights man's truck was stolen from the parking lot of Mexican Fiesta Restaurant on Ford Road Friday, according to township police reports.

The man was eating lunch at 2:30 p.m. and left the restaurant an hour later. He soon discovered his 1999 Dodge pickup gone, reports said.

The vehicle was parked on the south side of the building, which sits at the corner of Sheldon and Ford. Police have no suspects.

Retail fraud

A 16-year-old Canton girl was arrested for trying to steal clothing from Kohl's Department Store March 23.

Reports said a store loss prevention officer spotted the girl taking shorts and a shirt into a fitting room. When she left the room, the items were missing, said reports.

COP CALLS

The officer then checked the fitting room and found price tags from the garments and hangers. Reports said the loss prevention officer then confronted the girl.

Canton Police later arrested her for retail fraud. Reports said she was then released to a parent and issued an April 24 appearance ticket 35th District Court in Plymouth.

Security?

Canton Police arrested a security guard on duty at a home construction site early Friday morning for possession of marijuana, according to reports. A township officer was on routine patrol at Central Park west of Beck Road when he spotted a parked vehicle. The officer found the security guard asleep in the car, reports said.

He knocked on the window to talk to the man, who wasn't identified in reports, and noticed a smell of marijuana. Reports

said the security guard offered the officer a "joint."

He was then arrested and transported to Canton's police department. A background check of the security guard revealed two convictions for armed robbery and another for cocaine possession.

The security guard must now appear at 35th District Court in Plymouth on April 25.

Equipment stolen

A citizen's band radio and a sheet of paper were stolen from a 23-year-old Canton man's car early Friday morning, reports said.

His 1973 Chevy was parked near his home in the 8000 block of Brook Park between 7 p.m. March 23 and 7:30 a.m. Friday.

The items stolen were valued at \$114. Reports said the Canton man had a difficult time starting the car because of wires that were cut during the break-in. Police have no suspects.

Officials: Little change likely in cable merger

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
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Canton and Plymouth cable customers, who have made their payment checks out to Continental Cablevision, Ameritech and MediaOne in recent years, might begin making payment checks out to Comcast by next year.

Canton, Plymouth, Township and Northville cable customers are currently serviced by two cable companies — MediaOne and Ameritech.

That could change with telephone giant and cable provider AT&T last year winning a bidding war against Comcast to buy MediaOne for \$60 billion.

Bill Black, director of public affairs for Comcast, said AT&T has written a letter of intent stating that they would transfer MediaOne properties to Comcast in a trade. The deal would likely take effect by the year's end.

"We're not sure when a definitive agreement will be signed," Black said.

If Comcast does acquire the AT&T cable properties, services should not be affected.

"Comcast will be offering the

same services in (MediaOne) service areas," Black said. Plans are to begin offering high-speed Internet access to downtown Detroit customers by this summer.

Cable rates should not be affected by the change, either, he said. "Normally a transfer of ownership does not have an effect on rates."

Paula Peters, corporate communications manager with MediaOne, declined to comment specifically about the potential Comcast deal.

"We have nothing to say yet," Peters said. "We haven't been told that a merger is going to happen."

The proposed trade with AT&T is part of an effort to create big regional clusters — including a large one in Michigan.

Comcast could more than double its customer base in the deal and end up controlling 48 percent of Michigan's cable systems.

Patricia Andrews Keenan, spokeswoman for AT&T's regional office in Chicago, referred comment to both MediaOne and Comcast.

High school book drive planned for April 3-14

The Plymouth Canton High School Senate and Plymouth Salem High School Congress will hold a book drive to collect new or gently used children's books for deserving schools.

Students will be collecting

every second-hour class from April 3-14. The program is being promoted in honor of National Reading Month/National Library Week. All collected books will be donated to an elementary and middle school in Detroit.

Canton man is winner

Daniel Tanielian, 52, of Canton, won \$800 plus the \$250 Confetti Cash bonus from the Michigan State Lottery.

Tanielian, a machine repairman at Ford Motor Co. in

Wixom, said he has always enjoyed sending in lottery entries and believed he would one day be a contestant on the show.

Ticket deadline is Sunday for annual author luncheon

The deadline to order tickets for the annual Book and Author Luncheon hosted by the Friends of the Canton, Plymouth, Novi and Northville libraries is Sunday.

Author and Detroit News columnist George Cantor will be the guest speaker for this year's luncheon, which is Thursday, April 13, at the Fox Hills Country Club in Plymouth Township.

Cantor's most recent book, "Bad Guys in North America," will be available, as will several travel books written by Cantor. Cantor has been a sports writ-

LIBRARY FRIENDS

er, travel writer editorial writer and columnist at the Detroit Free Press and News for more than three decades.

Tickets are \$20 each and are available at all four libraries or may be ordered by mail addressed to the Friends of the Plymouth Library, 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth 48170. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The order deadline is Sunday, April 2.



Did you know?

■ Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. on Sunday, April 2? Be sure to turn your clocks forward one hour.

■ John Ford shot the outlaw Jessie James in the back on April 3, 1882?

■ In 1960, the film "Ben Hur" won 10 Oscars?

■ Hyman Lipman patented the first pencil with the eraser top in 1858?

■ April is Home Improvement Month?

■ In 1848, the Massachusetts legislature passed legislation enabling Boston to levy a tax for a public library? This created the funding model for all public libraries in the U.S.

Construction update
The steel has been delivered and placement of the exterior walls has begun. Visit the proposed floor plan and our photo album of the expansion at our Web site:
www.metro.net/lib.mi.us/canton/updates/index.html

Web Watch

Check out these Web sites:
■ www.intellichealth.com
■ www.mountvernon.org
■ www.everythingforparents.com
■ www.reflect.com
■ www.2glow.com

Q&A

Q: Who was Calvin Graham?

A: The boy who became known as the "baby vet" during World War II, Calvin Graham enlisted in the Navy at the age of 12. As a gunner on the USS South Dakota, he was struck by shrapnel during the battle of Guadalcanal in 1942 but still helped pull fellow crew members to safety. The Navy gave Graham a dishonorable discharge, revoked his disability benefits and stripped him of his decorations, including a Purple Heart and Bronze Star, after discovering his age. Some 46 years later, through congressional efforts, he was granted an honorable discharge and won back all but the Purple Heart.

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

Tasteful mysteries
Here are some whodunnits in which food (or beverage) plays a central role.

■ "The Butter Did It" by Phillis Richman
■ "The Cornbread Killer" by

LIBRARY FRIENDS

Seating for the 14th annual luncheon starts at 11:30 a.m. A cash bar will be available.

Previous luncheon speakers have included Judith Guest, Mort Crim, Neal Shine, Jack Driscoll, S.K. Wolf and Ryan Langan.

Proceeds from the event will be shared by the four sponsoring Friends organizations and used for the benefit of their respective libraries.

Lou Jan Temple

■ "A Quiche Before Dying" by Jill Churchill
■ "Mint Julep Murders" by Carolyn G. Hart
■ "Silence of the Hams" by Jill Churchill

Good reads

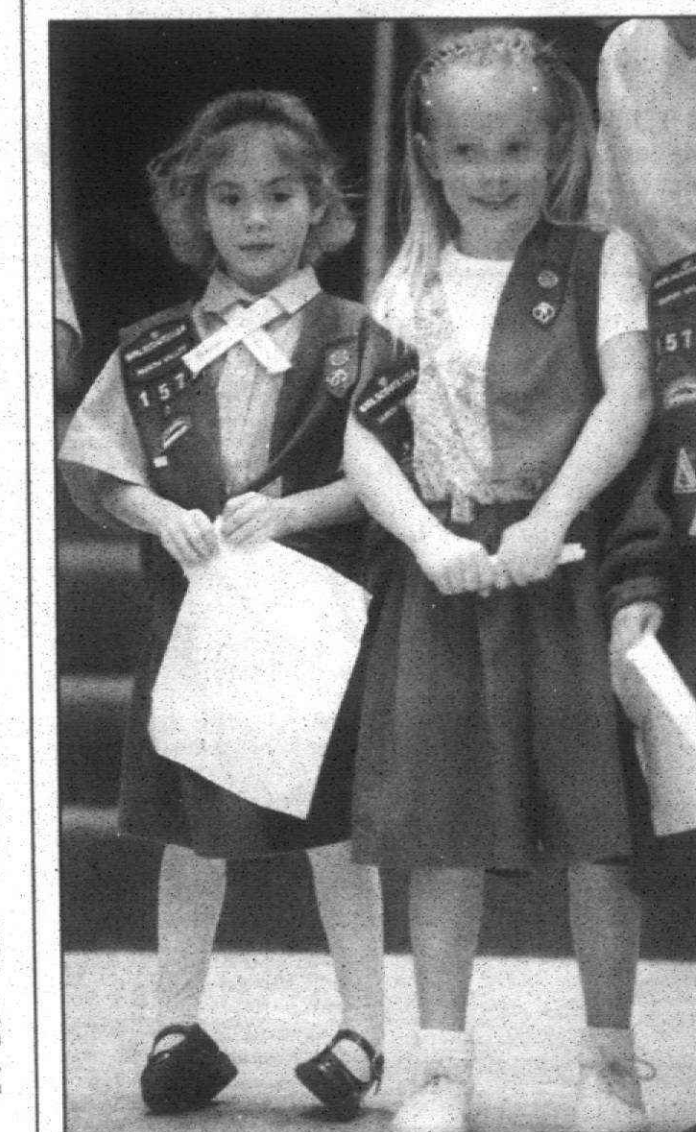
Here are some books that are classic page-turners

■ "The Select" by F. Paul Wilson
■ "The Shining" by Stephen King
■ "Stranger in a Strange Land" by Robert Heinlein
■ "Watership Down" by Richard Adams
■ "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee

Hot topic of the week

■ "Star struck" Though the library can't offer you the video versions of the Academy Award nominees for best picture yet, the library does have previous Academy Award-winning films on video. Also on library shelves: film reviews, film star biographies, Oscar telecast information and Web page connections to your favorite films and the Academy Awards. Come in and "check out" a classic!

© 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.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN
Musical number: Girls in Brownie Troop 1572 pose for a group photo for their parents following their song during a Girl Scout Thinking Day celebration at Hoben School. In the photo at left, Sarah Limbach (left) and Allie Carter, both 6, wait and smile after finishing their group's activity.

Thoughtful Brownies, scouts bond at Hoben

Members of Brownie Troop 1572 got together for a Girl Scout Thinking Day celebration at Hoben School earlier this month.

About 100 Girl Scouts and Brownies from kindergarten through sixth grade, respectively, and their families enjoyed the event.

Thinking Day recognizes Lord Bayden Powell and his sister who founded the Boy Scouts and the original Girl Guides of England, and the birthday of the Girl Scouts in the United States.

The event is actually a day where the girls think about scouts around the world, and the celebration gives them an opportunity to present a taste of the cultures in other countries through food, costume, music and dance.

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WTUA from page A1

million gallons per day. WTUA's flows are expected to rise well beyond that capacity within five years.

The local authority has been left with the options of helping Ypsilanti expand or build its own treatment facility.

In September, WTUA voted for the later at a cost of about \$130 million. But those plans were put on hold late last fall for a last-ditch negotiation effort with Ypsilanti.

Talks have been on-going since. After several months of little progress, the two sides began moving closer together in late January.

"I think they finally realized that we're their biggest customer. If we go away and do our own plant, it wouldn't be a good thing for them."

He told WTUA board members Monday that a deal was nearly complete. The board may vote on

'I think they finally realized that we're their biggest customer. If we go away and do our own plant, it wouldn't be a good thing for them.'

—Tim Faas,

WTUA operations manager

a tentative agreement next week, he added.

From there, final terms would be drawn up and each township's board would have to approve it. If all goes as planned, Faas said, design work for the project would begin in July. The agreement would virtually cement the authorities' relationship, he added.

"Once we do this," said Faas,

"it's going to be hard to get out of. This is a big commitment for everyone."

The deal includes:
■ A voice in YCUA business affairs. While the townships wouldn't have a vote on the authority's board, "contractual mechanisms" would give them a measure of control over expansion and operational costs, Faas said.

"With composting, for example, it wouldn't happen without significant input from us," he commented. "We would have a say in any decision that affects costs of operation, maintenance and capital."

■ The addition of a 17-million-gallon per day treatment facility. The building would sit adjacent to the current plant on YCUA's 50-acre parcel in Ypsilanti Township.

■ It will cost approximately \$110 million to construct, said Faas. WTUA would be responsible for \$80 million and YCUA the remaining portion, he added.

■ The townships would receive one million gallons of temporary space from YCUA in

its current plant. The additional capacity would handle any excess flows until the new facility is built, Faas said.

WTUA would have about 25 million gallons worth of total capacity when the project was complete, said Faas. If projections hold true, he said that would satisfy the townships' needs for the next 20 to 30 years. The deal would also give WTUA the right to help in any further expansions, Faas said.

Yack said WTUA never wanted to build and operate its own waste water plant. He said there will be economy of scales by having all facilities together.

"They run a good plant," Yack added.

Bad Frog from page A1

started, however. Canton Supervisor Tom Yack said the township didn't hear from Bad Frog owners after they received planning approvals in 1998.

Neither he nor trustees were thrilled when the project changed from a family dining concept with Happy Days to Bad Frog.

"The board felt a bit deceived about the development," Yack added.

Revoking Bad Frog's liquor license would allow for a new project within the township.

"This is our attempt to bring to the liquor control commission's attention that they're not

worth a (license) extension," said Yack.

The commercial area is bordered by Michigan, Geddes and Canton Center. First Federal Bank, Dunkin' Donuts/Baskin Robbins and Metro Power Sports are located near the site.

Moore said his association isn't against an additional business moving in.

"But we need a business that doesn't serve alcohol until 2 a.m. in the morning," he commented. "We want something that allows its neighbors not to hear loud voices and cars late at night."

Along with Bad Frog, trustees recommended that a liquor

license for Whirlyball, Canton Township, also be revoked.

The facility was to be located on the north side of Warren, between Haggerty and I-275. Whirlyball is a recreational game likened to playing basketball, jai-alai and hockey while driving bumper cars.

The company has three other Whirlyball locations in West Bloomfield, Clinton Township and Rochester.

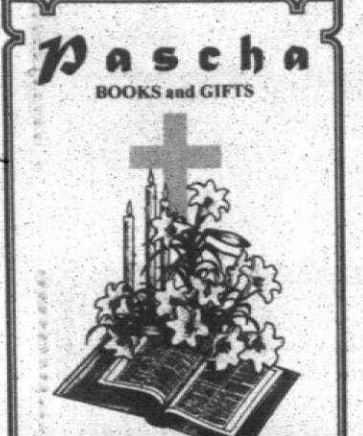
A two-court, 4,000-square-foot facility was to include two party rooms, a lounge area and full kitchen.

Relay from page A1

which encourages regular mammograms to screen for breast cancer.

Those interested in forming Relay for Life teams can call Rosemary Andrews at (248) 483-

4333. For more information, visit the Web site at www.cantonrelay.atfreeweb.com.



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MUPPETS FROM SPACE (G)

MY DOG SKIP (PG)

1:00, 3:00, 5:00
COLUMBUS MUST DIE (R)
12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:20, 9:30
OCEAN BROCKOVICH (R)
11:10, 11:45, 1:50, 2:15, 4:20, 4:45,
9:50, 7:15, 9:20, 9:45
O FINAL DESTINATION (R)
12:30, 2:40, 5:15, 7:30, 9:40
MISSION TO MARS (PG)
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35
NINTH GATE (R) 7:00, 9:30

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SOME FREESIA ADVICE

Freeseas may well rank foremost among the least-known, best-loved flowers in the florist's shop. This delicate and beautiful trumpet-shaped flower arranges itself in a series of blooms at the end of a gently curving stem. The flowers open in sequence in colors ranging from white, yellow, and orange to pink, red, and purple. And as if the paper-like delicacy of its petals were not enough, freesia has a heady scent that makes it a favorite for wedding bouquets. Freeseas look absolutely lovely in same-flower arrangements, or they combine beautifully with other flowers to add a romantic quality to mixed bouquets. If you are not already acquainted with freesia, be sure to familiarize yourself with its beauty.

Calling all nature lovers! Get all the sights and scents of nature with a uniquely uplifting gift of flowers arranged by the professional designers at HEIDE'S FLOWERS & GIFTS. Whether you're looking for a gift or flowers to adorn a function, visit us at 995 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth. To arrange worldwide wire service, call 453-5140. Your satisfaction is always assured.

HINT: Choose freesia stems with at least one flower open and three or four others showing good color.

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Children's author started young

BY LAURIE HUMPHREY
STAFF WRITER
lhumphrey@ec.econet.net

When the neighborhood children were playing hide-n-go-seek, Lisa Wroble was playing Dr. Seuss.

"I read a lot when I was a kid, and I didn't want the books to end. So, I would write continuing chapters," said Wroble, a full-time children's author and part-time librarian in Redford Township. Now 36, she is looking back to her first experience at authorship, before the age of 10.

Unlike Dr. Seuss however, Wroble targets her writing to students in upper-elementary through middle school. Additionally, most of her work is non-fiction.

She said she prefers writing non-fiction first and foremost because of the preparation.

"I have an opportunity to learn all these new things," said the Eastern Michigan University graduate, "and if you want to write, you need to keep learning." That would explain why she took an 18-month correspondence course in publishing while attending EMU as a Language Arts major. She minored in children's literature.

"When I got into college, I knew I wanted to get into publishing, but there really was no opportunity at Eastern," she said. "My dad found this correspondence class in a magazine through the Institute of Children's Literature in Connecticut."

After she checked out the legitimacy of the class and the company, she enrolled.

"It helped me a lot," she said. Among other things, the correspondence course showed her how to reach editors and how to get her things published.

"I'm constantly writing letters to editors and improving my craft," she said. "It takes a lot of dedication and perseverance, and rejection is always part of the process, even for known writers."

Second reason

The second reason she prefers writing non-fiction is because it allows her more freedom in word choice. Children's authors have to write to a younger audience, and while it may not sound that difficult to write for youth, she argues that it is challenging.

"Children are influenced easily, so you have to be cautious of what you are saying or writing," she said, "especially in fiction, where the reader will model himself after the character."

While the author is selecting words and topics which cannot be misinterpreted or too suggestive, authors have to also make sure the meaning is clear.

"It's difficult to explain concepts in very simple terms. At the same time, it can't be condescending," she said. This is one reason why it may take an author one year to write one book.

Success story

To date, Wroble has 11 books in print and two on the way. Three are currently out of print, or collectors items.

The Plymouth resident got her first break in 1989 at 26 years old. She had two pieces published in two separate issues of "Touch Magazine," a religious publication out of Grand Rapids.

It would be another two years before her next article was published. It would be another eight years before she published her first book.

"At that time, I was still working full-time, so I started looking for other jobs I could do, which wouldn't be as draining," she said.

The public relations executive turned technical writer took a job as a secretary for a construction company, working 30 hours a week. That was still too much for her when combined with the 35 hours of freelance writing. So, in the fall of 1996, she became a youth librarian in Redford Township.

"If you want to do this (write), you have to give up a lot," she said. Stability, money and friends night-out have to be sacrificed, at least in the beginning. "My friends are very supportive. They still invite me out even though I don't always go," she said. "But there is still time for fun," she added.

It is all about prioritizing according to the Plymouth-Salem High School graduate. "You will find the time if you want to do it," she said.

She gives this advice to students in her creative writing class through Plymouth Commu-

'It takes a lot of dedication and perseverance, and rejection is always part of the process, even for known writers.'

—Lisa Wroble

nity Education. She also encourages them to read as much as they can, both on the industry and the books for their target market; to take a class on writing; and to never give up.

Aspirations

Wroble continues to set goals for herself in light of her success. Short term, she would like to go

back to some fiction pieces she started many years ago. This summer, she will also become an instructor for the Institute of Children's Literature in Connecticut. She will instruct for the course via her home computer.

Long term, she would like to complete a librarian-teacher type manual which can add excitement to history lessons.

"I want to make the history come alive for the students," she said. "Maybe in a year or so (I'll write it)."

Wroble admits she has a soft spot for historical pieces so it shouldn't be a surprise that her favorite work is "Kids During the Great Depression." It was part of a six-book series that she had three months to write in 1997. Since then, five books have been added to the series entitled "Kids Throughout History."

"It's like that," she said, "either you have all kinds of projects going on at once or you're wondering when the next project will come along."



Author and librarian Lisa Wroble, of Plymouth, reads to children at the Redford Township Library.

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Tragic death from page A1

anything has happened," Urban said. "I think he'll see justice is served."

A 'cold, rainy night'

She knew within minutes after Gary was shot something wasn't right.

The restaurant's alarm company called about 10:30 p.m. Urban was always the first to be notified when an alarm went off.

"I told them he wasn't at home," said Linda.

Dearborn Heights Police called 10 minutes later.

"They said Gary had been hurt," she said. "They asked me if I knew the way to Garden City Hospital."

Linda got Joe out of bed, jumped into her van and flew to the hospital.

"It was a cold, rainy night," she said. "It was a miserable night."

A few minutes later they were at the hospital and sent to a private waiting room. Shortly before 11 p.m., the boy and his mother learned Gary was gone.

"I know they did everything they could," said Urban. "But it just wasn't enough."

A 'normal' day

Nov. 10 started out like most others for the Canton couple.

Linda arrived home from her work as an instructional aide at Fiegel Elementary School at about 2:30 p.m. Gary already had dinner ready, beef stroganoff, when she arrived.

"He was good about taking care of everything and everybody," said Linda Urban.

They talked for awhile before Gary got ready for work. He left for Ponderosa about 3:30 p.m. It was the last time Linda saw her husband alive.

"I gave him a kiss good-bye," she said. "It was a very normal day."

She remembers her last words to Gary.

"I said, 'love you, see you tonight,'" Linda said. "I'm glad I said that."

Picking up the pieces

Daily life, of course, has changed greatly for Urban since her husband's passing. Mostly, it's the little things.

Gary handled the lion's share of cooking and cleaning, she admits. He took care of the bills, too.

"It was difficult at first," said Linda Urban. "I wasn't accustomed to doing it."

"It's coming along. It's a challenge. I've had to learn how to budget my time better."

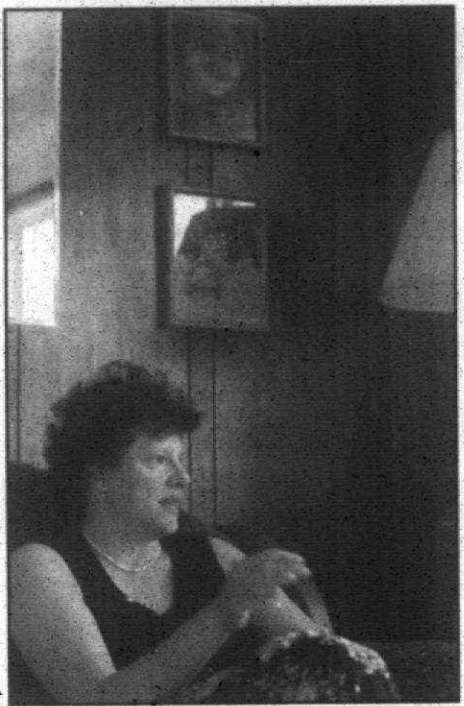
A little voice helps keep her going.

"I can hear Gary tell me, 'Take care of business and make sure everyone is OK,'" said Linda.

Financially, she and Joe are doing all right. Ponderosa has continued to pay her husband's salary.

"They've been very good," Urban commented, "very generous."

It helps take a load off of her



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMAN



Quiet time:
Linda Urban talks in her living room about adjusting to life following her husband's murder outside the Dearborn Heights Ponderosa restaurant where he was manager. Pictured below, portraits of Julie (from left), Dan and Joe Urban adorn a table.

home when their father died.

Linda talks with both about three times each week. She encourages them to follow their dreams and not worry about home. She also asks her children to share their feelings about their dad.

"All the kids need to deal with it in their own way," she said.

Each has done just that.

"Julie is still very emotional about it," said Urban. "There are many days when she calls she's crying."

Dan keeps his feelings inside a bit more.

"He's trying to be very strong," Linda said. "I've been amazed at how strong he has been."

The youngest, Joe, has struggled at times. His grades dropped at first, his mother said. Playing basketball over the winter months proved to be a kind of therapy for the teenager, however.

"It was a good physical outlet for him," said Linda.

Like his brother, Joe has tried to be strong. Urban remembers an incident shortly after her husband's death.

"I could hear him in his room," said Linda. "He was trying to explain to the dogs why Gary wasn't coming home. He said he would take care of them. It just about broke my heart."

Time

Linda Urban doesn't know what the future holds for her.

She has moved from being numb and not thinking past the next second to at least acknowledging tomorrow. But it's still not easy.

"There are many days I'd like to pull the covers over my head and not get up," she said. "But you have to force yourself to function. I have to show Joe that your life goes on."

Gary is still helping, too.

"I talk to him," said Linda Urban, "usually when I've had a tough day. I tell him how much I miss him. I ask him to help the kids through their tough days."

Coping

Despite the help, dealing with Gary's death is a daily ordeal for each family member.

The Urbans' older children Julie, 20, and Dan, 18, are in the Navy. Both were far away from

mind, she added.

"I certainly don't want to worry about how we're going to pay our bills," Urban said.

Many others in the community have helped as well.

Co-workers from Fiegel still

bring food over. A local mechanic takes care of her vehicles for no charge. Contributions have been made to Joe's college fund.

"It has been overwhelming," said Linda.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 10:00 a.m., April 13, 2000 for the following:

PURCHASE OF SOFTBALLS FOR CANTON SOFTBALL CENTER

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 reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

Published: March 30, 2000

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF MEETING MERIT SYSTEM COMMISSION March 27, 2000

5:15 P.M. - Treasurer's Conference Room, 1150 S. Canton Center Road
Call To Order
Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of February 28, 2000
Correspondence

AGENDA

1. Additions to Agenda
2. Personnel Director's Report
3. Adjourn

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

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

Published: March 30, 2000

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON "NOTICE TO CUT NOXIOUS WEEDS"

TO THE OWNER OR OCCUPANT OR ANY PERSON OR PERSONS, FIRM OR CORPORATION HAVING CHARGE OF ANY LAND IN THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON:

Notice is hereby given that all noxious weeds growing on any land in the Charter Township of Canton, Wayne County, Michigan must be cut and destroyed on or before the first day of May, the first day of June, the first day of July, and the first day of August in each year and/or as needed and as often as may be necessary to prevent same from going to seed. Any owner, occupant, or person having charge of any such land must notify the Township that such weeds have been destroyed within three (3) days of such cutting. Any person failing to comply with this notice shall be liable to the imposition of the penalties set forth in Ordinance #64 of the Charter Township of Canton, Wayne County, Michigan and shall be liable for all expenses incurred by the Township in destroying said noxious weeds, which expenses, if unpaid by the Owner or occupant, shall be spread against the property on the next County and State tax roll or the next general Township tax roll and/or place a lien upon the property to secure the collection of such expense. The Township of Canton may notify by certified mail with return receipt requested, the owner, agent or occupant as shown on the current County and School tax roll, of any land on which said noxious weeds are found growing. Such notice shall contain a summary of the provisions of this section of the Ordinance. Failure of the Township to give such notice shall not, however, constitute a defense to any action to enforce the payment of any penalty provided herein or any debt created hereunder.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD

TERRY G. BENNETT
Clerk

Published: March 30, 2000

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD PROCEEDINGS MARCH 21, 2000

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held on Tuesday, March 21, 2000 at 11:50 S. Canton Center Road. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bennett, Burdzick, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Sheffery, Yack

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Director Santomauro, Lt. John MacDiarmid, Lt. Patrick Nemcek, Lt. Eddie Tanner, Officer Ken Winkler, Officer Brian Darow, Officer Dan Woodward, Autumn Kucka

PUBLIC SAFETY TECHNOLOGY

Lt. John MacDiarmid explained the technology the department is using. This includes the following:

AIT (Accident Investigations Team)

This team is called out on to investigate all serious or fatal accidents and for any accident involving township vehicles.

It is comprised of two command officers; a Sergeant and Lieutenant. It consists of 7 investigators who must complete 17 specific courses to reach the highest level of training.

These courses range from basic investigation to technical reconstruction. It requires 220 hours to reach a level 9 which is basic reconstruction. It further requires 350 hours to finish all 17 courses.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS APPLICATION

The computer software program currently in place to track complaints and disciplinary action replaces the manual system of writing complaints by:

Employee name

The complainant name

The date the complaint was closed.

A brief summary of the complaint.

The action (founded or unfounded).

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

The purpose of the Special Enforcement Program utilizes a Rapid Response Unit whose primary purpose is to reduce traffic accidents and crime through a high-visibility and directed patrol. The unit works in two modes: reactive, which responds to calls/complaints by saturating an area and taking swift enforcement action on all violations; and pro-active, which is high-visibility patrol in parks, major intersections, schools, and special events.

DECOY OPERATION

The Special Enforcement Unit also maintains the Decoy Operation. The Decoy Operation sends minors into local establishments to attempt to purchase alcohol or tobacco products. Publicity related to the decoy operation has made business owners in the area more aware of the seriousness of alcohol and tobacco sales to minors.

NML Petition Initiative

The Michigan Municipal League has started a campaign entitled "Let Local Votes Count," which proposed an amendment to the Michigan Constitution requiring a 3/4 vote in each chamber of the legislature on any bill that would preempt, restrict or eliminate local governing authority. The campaign needs to gather the signatures of 400,000 Michigan voters by July 10, 2000 in order to place the question on the November 7, 2000 statewide election ballot. If passed in November of 2000, the bill would then be retroactive to March of 2000.

State Senator, Loren Bennett was present to explain his interpretation of the Michigan Municipal League petition initiative. He said that if this amendment to the constitution is passed, he sees a constant battle between cities and townships. The State Chamber is opposed and leading the fight against this amendment.

UPDATE

Senator Bennett gave an update to the issue that the Detroit News called attention to in their "Metro Cities in fight to keep unsafe trucks off Roads" article. There has been no vote thus far as an agreement could not be reached. There has been a new compromise where the Library would receive 50% of the fine and the local community would receive 50% of the fine with no strings attached.

ADJOURN

Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to adjourn at 8:35 P.M.

Motion carried unanimously.

The above is a synopsis of actions taken at the Regular Board meeting held on Mar 21, 2000. The full text of the approved minutes will be available following the next regular meeting of the Board on March 28, 2000.

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

Published: March 30, 2000

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR PET
by Elizabeth Routson, D.V.M.

HYPERTHYROIDISM IN CATS

Hyperthyroidism - an overproduction of hormones usually swelling of the thyroid gland - is extremely common in cats eight years old and over. It affects cats in two ways. The cat becomes extremely hungry and may even break into a cupboard or jump on the table to eat its owner's food. Ironically, the cat loses weight despite its voracious appetite. Hyperthyroidism also directly affects a cat's nerve tissue, causing restlessness or even aggression. It causes enlargement of the heart and hypertension, which basically puts the body into overdrive. Treatment may involve an antithyroid drug, though long-term use of medication is not ideal. The thyroid may be removed or treated with radioactive iodine to destroy its hormone-making tissue.

For more advice about normal eating patterns and good nutrition for your cat or dog, contact PARKWAY VETERINARY CLINIC. Our knowledgeable staff can describe routine animal care, including diet and exercise guidelines, for new pet owners. When your pet is ill, we will carefully examine the animal and thoroughly explain any recommended treatments. Visit either of our two locations at 41395 Wilcox Rd. in Plymouth, tel. 734-453-2577, or 5750 Lilley Rd. in Canton, tel. 734-981-4400. We're open six days a week for your convenience.

P.S. A side effect of hyperthyroidism is that it compensates for kidney failure, which is common in older cats.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
April 13, 2000**

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals THURSDAY, April 13, 2000 AT 7:30 P.M. The meeting will be held in the First Floor Meeting Room in the Township Administration Building located at 1150 S. CANTON CENTER ROAD. The following Agenda will be discussed:

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag
Roll Call: Blaylock, Cisek, Demopoulos, Johnson, Redfern
Acceptance of Agenda

1. Joel & Susan Goddard, 46839 Creech's Bend Canton, MI 48188/734-495-1337, requesting a variance of Zoning Ordinance Article 26.01 Schedule of Regulations Intent & Scope of requirements (Tabled from October 14, 1999 and postponed March 9, 2000) Parcel #111-04-0199-000. (Building)
2. Patio Enclosures, Inc. 40480 Grand River, Suite A, Novi, MI. 48375 (248/473-3980) Representing Otha & Josephine Harris, 45111 Lombardy Dr. Canton, MI. 48187 for property at same address are requesting a variance of Zoning Ordinance Article 26. Schedule of regulations for rear yard set backs.(Tabled from March 9, 2000) Parcel #007-01-0584-000. (Building)
3. Scott Gardner Gardner Signs, Inc 3800 Airport Hwy. Toledo, Ohio 43635 1-800-537-2236 representing Standard Federal Bank Home Lending Center, 8529 Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI. 48187 for property for same address are requesting a variance of Zoning Ordinance 120 section 7.4 schedule of regulations for additional sign. (Tabled from March 9, 2000) (Building)

(Approval of March minutes)

TERRY G. BENNETT
Clerk

Published: March 30, 2000

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

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 168 of the Public Acts of 1959 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Comprehensive Plan of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 1, 2000 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan:

VOIGHT/SUMMERS/INGH FUTURE LAND USE AMENDMENT - CONSIDER REQUEST TO AMEND THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP FROM VERY LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (1 UNIT/ACRE) TO MEDIUM HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (8 UNITS/ACRE) FOR PARCEL NOS. 106 99 0005 000, 107 99 0001 001, AND 107 99 0002 001. Property is located on the east side of Canton Center Road between Palmer and Geddes Roads.

**ZONING MAP
SECTION 27**

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, April 27, 2000 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

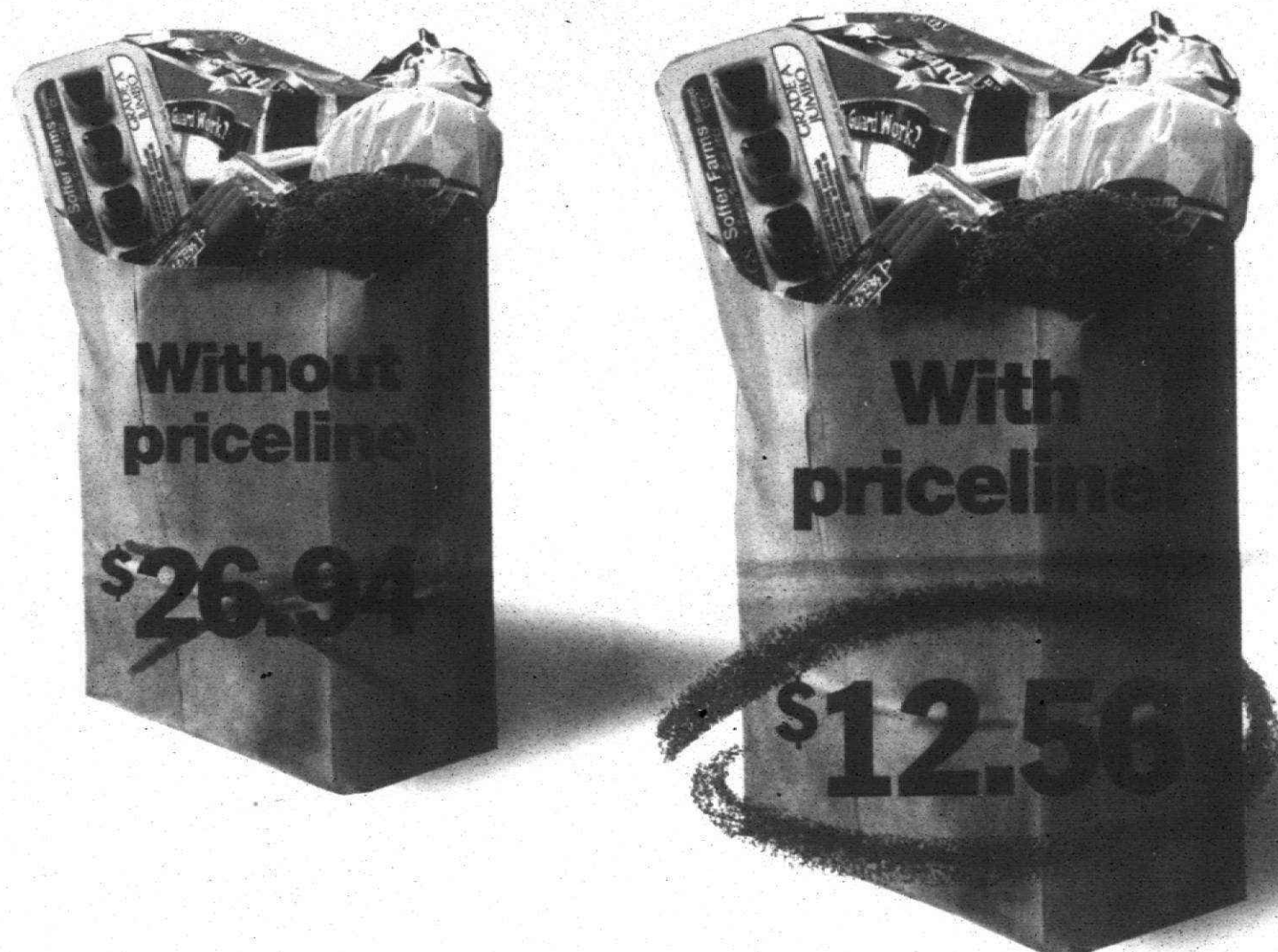
VIC GUSTAFSON
Chairman

Published: March 30, and April 30, 2000

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OBITUARIES

GEORGE THOMPSON BAILEY

Services for George Thompson Bailey, 91, of Livonia were held March 24, at the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth with the Rev. James Skimins and the Rev. David Owen officiating. Burial was at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens in Novi.

He was born on June 27, 1908 in Denver. He died on March 22 in Ann Arbor. He came to the Livonia community in 1950 from Dearborn.

Mr. Bailey was a technical illustrator for Nash-Kelvinator in Detroit. He retired in 1971. After he retired he did free-lance work for the American Society of Tool and Die Engine Manufacturers.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth. He was a member of the Plymouth Rock Masonic Lodge No. 47 F. & A.M., as well as a member of the Plymouth Chapter of the Eastern Star No. 115.

He first joined the Masonic Lodge in Dearborn (the Olive Branch) then he transferred to the Plymouth Lodge. He was chaplain for the Plymouth Rock Lodge for many years. He was a life member of the Masonic Lodge.

He was an artist and enjoyed painting landscapes with acrylic and watercolors.

Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Dorothy Bailey of Livonia; one daughter, Jackie Bailey of Livonia; two grandsons, Mark (Kim) Jahn of Commerce Township and Todd Jahn of Radford, Va.; two great grandchildren, Reece and Chelsea Jahn of Commerce Township.

Memorials may be made to Plymouth Rock Lodge No. 47, F. & A.M.

Arrangements were made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

MARY O. DAVISON

Services for Mary O. Davison, 93, formerly of Plymouth, will be 11 a.m., Monday, March 27, at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main, Plymouth with the Rev. Karen Lewis officiating.

Visitation is 2-9 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at the funeral home. Eastern Star will have a service at 7 p.m. Burial will be at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth.

Mrs. Davison was born Oct. 9, 1906 in Branch County to Frank and Della (Braman) Davis. She died March 23, at Alpena General Hospital in Alpena, Mich.

Mrs. Davison was a 1925 graduate of Plymouth High School, a life member of the Plymouth Eastern Star, life member of the Plymouth Grange and a member of St. John Episcopal Church in Plymouth.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William; six sisters and three brothers.

Survivors include one daughter, Barbara (Thomas) Stone of Rogers City; one son, William (Dorothy) Davison of Portland, Tenn.; 10 grandchildren, many great grandchildren and great-grandchildren and one sister, Ethel (Lawrence) Blunk of Plymouth.

Memorials may be made to the charity of choice.

Arrangements were made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

BARBARA NELSON

Services for Barbara Nelson, 58, of Ann Arbor were March 26, at the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Phil Rogers officiating.

She was born Feb. 4, 1942, in Detroit. She died on March 24 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Superior Township.

She was preceded in death by her father, Clemens Teodecki and mother, Hattie Teodecki.

Survivors include one daughter, Kimberly A. Nelson of Farmington Hills; one son, Randall F. Nelson of Plymouth; one sister, Kathie (Michael) Trombley of Grand Blanc; one brother, Gregory Teodecki; one grandson, Riley F. Nelson of Plymouth.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, 29350 Southfield Rd. Suite 110, Southfield, MI 48076.

Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth.

LELAND CURTIS RORABACHER

Services for Leland Curtis Rorabacher, 85, of Salem Township were March 23 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church with the Rev. Doc Ortman officiating. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

He was born Dec. 23, 1914, in Salem Township. He died March

20 in Ann Arbor. He was the former owner of the Dundee Casting Company (an aluminum casting foundry) in Dundee, Mich. He owned the company from the early 1950s to the late 1980s. He was a lifelong Plymouth resident.

He was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth. He was a member of the 12-point club - a deer hunting club established in 1946 in Sidnaw, Mich. He loved deer hunting. He enjoyed fishing. He took up owning race horses and he liked jogging the horses. He also loved gardening.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Henrietta Rorabacher.

Survivors include two sons, Dennis (Dorine) Rorabacher of Lawrenceburg, Ind. and David "Tony" (Ruby) Rorabacher of Northville; one daughter, Mary Jane "Janie" (Aaron) Smith of Jackson; 13 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Karmanos Cancer Institute or a Mass offering.

Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

DONALD F. TOTTON

VFW Services for Donald F. Totton, 75, of Romulus, formerly of Plymouth were March 27 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth with Robert Dale Totton officiating. Burial was at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Livonia.

He was born on July 17, 1924 in River Rouge. He died on March 25 in Westland. He owned and operated the Texaco gas station at Schoolcraft and Wilcox from 1950-1978. He also owned and operated the Plymouth Ice Service and Equipment Co. during those years. At one time he owned a Sunoco gas station.

He came to Plymouth in 1950 from the Downriver area and later moved to Romulus.

He was a member of the Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW Post No. 6695. He was a past commander and past chaplain. He was previously a member of the VFW Post in River Rouge. At one time, he was a member of the Plymouth Elks. He worked with the VFW Post on Charles Street while growing up.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ann; one son, Donn; and two brothers, William R.V. Totten and Edwin Leo Totten. Survivors include one granddaughter, Dawn; one brother, Robert "Dale" (Vickie) Totten of Dearborn Heights; two sisters, Aletha Gourlay of California and Frances Ann Smith of Erick, Okla.; his former wife, Marie, and many nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

LOIS N. LITTLE

Services for Lois N. Little, 77, of Las Vegas, formerly of Plymouth, will be 10 a.m. Friday, March 31, at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

She was born on April 14, 1922 in Clare, Mich. She died on March 24 in Las Vegas. She came to the Plymouth community in 1966 from Detroit. She lived in Plymouth from 1966 to 1983. She was a homemaker.

She did some secretarial work for several companies. She loved to play bridge. She enjoyed bowl-

ing, sewing, family gatherings, traveling, reading, and being with her grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, William Little of Las Vegas; three daughters, Barbara (Jay) of Seattle, Kathleen (Frank) of Plymouth, Patricia (Mark) of Detroit; six grandchildren; Katie and Emily Walker of Plymouth, Adam and Ellen Lezotte of Detroit, Patrick and Christopher McDonnell of Seattle; one sister, Maxine Vershaye of Warren; one sister-in-law, Jean Sinclair of Carlsbad, Calif.

Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

SHIRLEY ROSBURY

Services for Shirley Rosbury, 75, of Florida were March 29 at the Troy Oaks Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Burial was at Oakview Cemetery in Royal Oak.

She was born on Feb. 27, 1925 near Rosenberg, Mich. She died on March 25 in Florida.

She graduated from Yale High

School in Yale, Mich. in 1942. After high school she moved to Detroit where she met her husband, Vere, in a community orchestra. Their 56th wedding anniversary is Tuesday, March 28.

She raised three children and later worked as a branch auditor for Standard Federal Bank. She and her husband moved to Bloomfield Hills in 1970. She was very active in the Troy Oaks Congregation of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

She is survived by her husband, Vere; one daughter Carol (David) Rodwell of Canton; two sons, Keith D. (Lorraine) Rosbury of Frisco, Texas and Blake (Lori) Rosbury of Concord, Ohio; six grandchildren, Paul, Eric and Timothy Rodwell and Andrew, Cassandra and Megan Rosbury; three great grandchildren, Brooke, Hannah and Nathan Rodwell.

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ALL IT TAKES IS A LITTLE TCF BANK

Colorful trip

Van Gogh exhibit at DIA is big draw for area seniors

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

Sitting in a cafe at the Detroit Institute of Arts Wednesday, Lottie Kesner looked as if she had run a marathon.

Her posture was a little off, her eyes a bit drawn. But it was to be expected, really. The Canton resident had just spent several hours studying and absorbing "Face to Face," an exhibit of works by the Dutch 19th century artist Vincent van Gogh.

"I have to digest it all," she said, sipping a soft drink. "It's quite overwhelming."

Kesner was one of more than 40 Canton senior citizens to

tour the exhibit, which runs through June 4. A large DIA crowd didn't seem to bother or deter the group from enjoying van Gogh.

"It widened my horizons to art," Kesner said. "I knew very little about it before."

Her husband, Horst, agreed. "I never knew much about him, only his name," he said. "I'm quite impressed. I would say he's a great artist."

Harold Mack doesn't consider himself an art connoisseur, either. But he picked up a few things about van Gogh's style.

"I like his work because of the bold brush strokes," Mack said, "and vivid colors he uses."

Detroit is the first stop on a three-city tour for the exhibit. It will move on to Philadelphia and Boston for engagements later this year.

"Face to Face" focuses on van Gogh's portraits.

Galleries of drawings comprise the first half of the exhibit. The other portion displays his many oil paintings, including the famous impressionistic self-portrait.

Most of van Gogh's drawings are exquisitely detailed.

"Head of a Peasant Woman with White Cap" provides an example. Through pencil and black chalk, van Gogh captures the woman's feeling of apprehension and her attempt to stay warm with a tug of her coat.

Such subtleties weren't lost on the seniors.

"He thought he could do more with portraits," Mack said.

Many from the group prepared for the trip with an hour lecture on van Gogh at the Summit last week. A video and numerous slides of the artist's work were shown.

"It helped me get more out of it," said Lottie Kesner.

Cost of the trip was \$20 for seniors, which included transportation and exhibit ticket. Canton Senior Center Coordinator Dianne Neihengen said her group was anxious to go.

"We have a very high level of interest in the arts," she added. "We try to go (to the DIA) at least once per year."

Shirley Ann Klucka and Alice Drayton, artists in their own right, were eager to see van Gogh.

Klucka started painting after her children went off to college and hasn't stopped since. She enjoys doing landscapes. Klucka considered the trip a chance to compare notes.

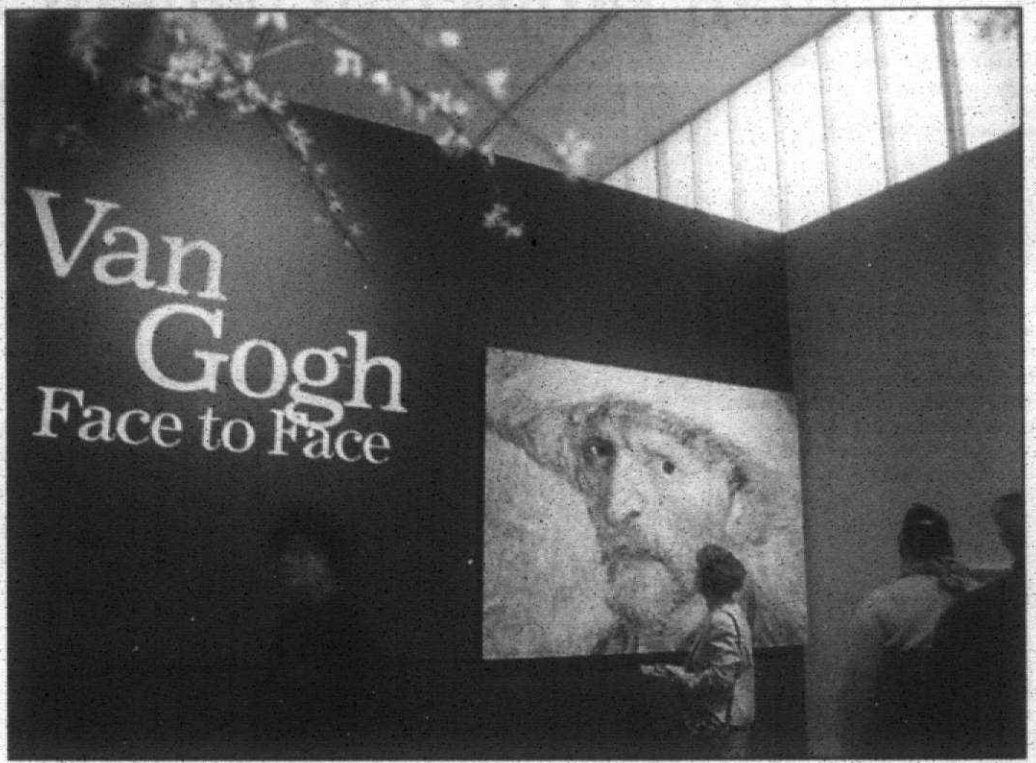
"I've copied Monet just for the study of it," she said. "I think you learn from every artist you come in contact with."

Drayton is a little less serious. She likes to do watercolors and face painting for children. The quality of the Canton resident's work has remained steady over the years.

"Some of my early pictures are as good as my newer ones," said Drayton.

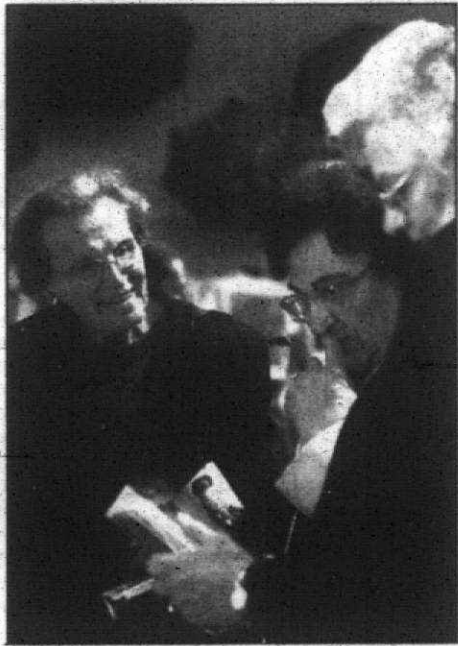
Tickets for Face to Face are \$16 for adults Monday through Friday and \$18 on weekends. Tickets for children ages 6 to 17 are \$8. Children under 5 are free.

For tour hours or more information, call the DIA's van Gogh hotline at (313) 833-7971.



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

Self-portrait: Visitors are greeted with an oversized lithograph of one of van Gogh's most famous and loved self-portraits, and a time line of his life as they wait to enter the exhibit. This self-portrait, purchased by the Detroit Institute of Arts in 1922, is the first painting by van Gogh to have entered an American public collection.



A memento: Maryann Jason (from left) Mary Bellino and Gerry Groff check out the souvenir shop following their tour of the exhibit.



Listening in: Lu Domzal (left), and Rosalyn Monticciolo listen to DIA Director Graham Beal on the audio tour.



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Roads

Spate of projects is real change

Those orange barrels will be everywhere in Canton this spring and summer. Which is all the more remarkable when you consider the road construction climate in the township just a few short years ago.

We remember Canton voters turning down local tax proposals dedicated to improving township roads not once – but twice in less than two years.

We recall informal surveys following the second defeat in 1998 where voters said the roads were Wayne County's responsibility.

And we remember heated words between Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack and county officials over how much county money was – or wasn't – dedicated to road maintenance. We even have a foggy recollection of state Sen. Loren Bennett's "investigation" of county road spending and his call for reform from Lansing.

Flash forward to spring 2000. According to a story in Sunday's Canton Observer, Wayne County will spend \$16.25 million on more than a dozen road maintenance and construction projects scheduled to start in the township this year. That represents nearly 30 percent of the county's entire road budget, according to spokesman John Roach.

Some of the major projects include:

- Widening and reconstruction of Canton Center from Ford to just south of Warren. (The segment between Ford and Cherry Hill was finished last year);
 - Widening Haggerty from Ford to Warren;
 - Rebuilding and widening the Cherry Hill-Lilley intersection;
 - Construction of the "missing link" on Morton Taylor, between Warren and Ford;
 - Paving over numerous stretches of dirt road, including work on Lotz, Denton and Beck;
 - Rebuilding of bridges over the lower Rouge River on Canton Center and over Fowler Creek on Geddes.
- This unprecedented level of progress on relieving Canton's traffic-choked roads can be tied to a confluence of events. Mostly, credit a solid local and state economy. It has boosted road repairs through the 4-cent per gallon gas tax approved by the Michigan Legislature two years ago. But Yack and other officials deserve praise too for toning down the rhetoric and creating a better political climate.
- No doubt township drivers will find reasons to curse at every construction slowdown this summer. But they ought to remember what the alternative could have been – no construction barriers and no relief in sight.

Airport 'no training ground'

Wayne County officials have a golden opportunity to do something right at Metro Airport – for a change. Unfortunately, loud hints coming from the county executive's office last week indicate just the opposite.

Alas, when it comes to the morass on Merriam otherwise known as Metro, disappointment more than shock describes our reaction to each turn of events.

We speak, of course, of the announced resignation of Dave Katz, the county airports director and top gun at Metro for the last two years. And we speak of the apparent "plan" (we use this term loosely) by Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara to quickly name a successor, without the benefit of a national search.

On Wednesday, Katz said he would be leaving May 1 to head up a golf center in Auburn Hills that he co-owns with several partners, including his boss (McNamara).

Katz's tenure has been at best a mixed bag of hits and misses. He can be credited for at least having enough public relations savvy to realize the airport's image has been anything but world class and for attempting to do something about it. Customer service agents are visible and helpful. Bathrooms and restaurants have been spruced up. But Metro still shows up near the bottom of satisfaction surveys among frequent travelers.

Even more troubling are continuing questions on the airport's internal workings, most notably how contracts are let. The issues of who gets airport contracts and the murky bidding process aren't going away soon, with construction of the new midfield terminal heading toward completion and an ongoing investigation by the state legislature.

Given the job as a political plum with no airport experience, Katz should perhaps be cut some slack. Neither was he helped by the dominance of Northwest Airlines as the airport's primary tenant, a situation that hopefully will begin to change once Northwest moves most of its gates to the new terminal. But as long as Wayne County oversees the air-

The Observer believes a national search for someone with experience running a comparable facility makes sense.

port, the McNamara administration will get the credit or blame for what goes on there.

The Observer believes appointment of an interim airports director (the county also has jurisdiction over Willow Run Airport) with a concurrent national search for someone with experience running a comparable facility makes sense. Some national experts and local lawmakers agree.

"There are a lot of very good people out there who would bring in an awful lot of good ideas," said Linda Green, vice president for the International Council of Airports, North American Region, a Washington-based trade organization.

"Our goal is to make Metro a world-class airport. It should not be a training ground at this point," said Wayne County Commissioner Kathleen Husk. Commission approval is required, whoever the executive chooses as airports director.

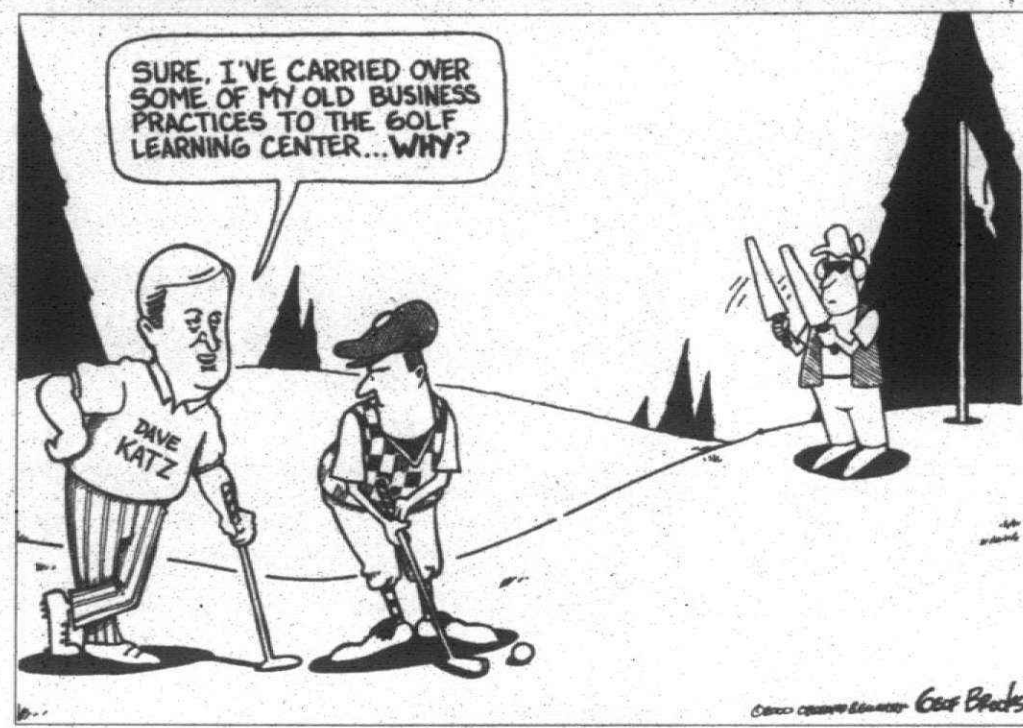
McNamara, though, seems set on finding a local replacement for Katz – quickly. Staffers and others associated with the executive said the process was well under way and the choice would be revealed in a matter of weeks or even days. It will be someone with airport experience they assure.

To which we ask: where? Flint? Willow Run? Tiny Mettetal in Canton Township? Hardly the kind of background befitting someone asked to keep tabs on some of the nation's busiest runways.

Worse yet, this hurry-up-and-get-it-approved approach smacks of another political payback in the works. Such a move certainly wouldn't be in the best interests of airport users or county taxpayers.

We can only hope the county commission asks tough questions – and hears the right answers – before signing off on a new director. Doing otherwise will further tarnish one of Wayne County's potential jewels.

Geof Brooks



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.hometown.com.

Support for Pathways

The adolescent years can be some of the toughest moments in a family's life not only for the adolescent, but also for siblings, schools and parents. Sometimes the adolescent struggles with many unresolved problems that peak during these very emotional times.

These struggles can often go unnoticed by families, or they can explode into family conflict, school problems, even legal problems.

Some adolescents with previous behavioral and emotional problems that have not successfully been treated earlier in the child's life, can, at these times, become overwhelming to family, school and the surrounding society.

It is no secret that many high schools unwillingly provide opportunities for adolescents to access drugs. Plymouth Canton High School, unfortunately, is no exception. Some of the above described students will succumb to peer pressure, or even seek out harmful substances in order to create an escape from what seems to be overwhelming feelings, emotions and behaviors. The drugs add to the chaos in the adolescents' environment destroying relationships, education and home environment. If left untreated, lives can be changed negatively forever, sometimes even leading to imprisonment or death of the adolescent.

There are many programs in the surrounding Metropolitan Detroit area that help families work through these hard times.

Growth Works is one good program that assists families one to three times a week in a family counseling setting. They teach the family how to work with the child and how to set healthy boundaries.

Growth Works also works with behavioral or emotional problems and not just substance abuse issues. There are children that will respond well to this type of treatment. In our experience, the adolescents that had a good strong foundation previously, or those that did not have any previous behavioral disabilities seemed to respond to this type of program.

Growth Works works for some families, but our child still had access to negative, harmful influences. He learned how to sit through the hours without cooperating. We had the same results with psychologists, psychiatrists and school counselors. Even with personal, persistent, wonderful efforts of his teacher he seemed unreachable and unsafe in his environment outside the home.

There are also short term inpatient establishments that most insurance will pay for. These are facilities such as Brighton Hospital. (Stays at) these facilities usually last about two weeks and many adolescents that learn the system can move in and out easily without changing the basis of their problems, nor their drug use.

Many turn back to familiar behavioral and emotional issues and/or drugs upon release. There is only one long-term treatment program in our own backyard. This program currently receives adolescents from all over Michigan, Indiana and Ohio. It is called Pathways Family Center in Southfield. This is the place our family was led to after many years of evaluation, counseling and various programs.

Pathways removes the adolescent from the environment where harm was accessible; that is, it moves the adolescent to a place where they can no longer access their drugs, negative influences or areas where they were able to manipulate and control.

In this new environment, they are out of harm's way and their emotions, feelings, behavior problems and emotional disabilities can be dealt with under supervision at all times.

Unfortunately, even our high school cannot offer that during the day due to the volume of students, class sizes and sadly, available illegal substances.

The adolescents are always in classroom, group, family or individual counseling during the day. In the evening, the adolescents go home with foster families that have been a part of the program. These groups of children are on different levels in the program.

There are many programs available that need to become more accessible to our families and communities. The programs are not in competition with each other; they are all there to help adolescents and their families.

That is what counts. That is what is important. Our faith, family, friends, teachers, church and Pathways have all been a Godsend and we hope this gives our family a chance to a better future for ourselves and our adolescent.

We hope this gives other families and adolescents hope and a path to follow. Please support these programs and thank you for listening to our story.

A. Graham
Canton

In Canton Township, it's no longer a black and white issue

Canton is certainly no hotbed of racial politics. After all, it's tough to play the race card when the deck – in terms of residents and the government that represents them – is predominantly white.

But that doesn't mean issues of race or ethnicity don't come into play here. When conflicts do arise, they're likely to be subtle ones, not flash-points leading to major upheaval. Or they occur between people who haven't typically defined racial conflict in America – which in the last 50 years has been seen mostly as a black-white problem.

Which is why something that Canton Public Safety Director John Santomauro said recently stuck with me, creating an uneasy tug in the pit of my stomach. Santomauro, discussing the controversial practice of racial profiling by police in an Observer

story earlier this month, said essentially that while racial discrimination was wrong, good cops know when something looks out of place.

"The reality is in police work we're guided by what the law requires us to do. We're also guided by our experience as a police officer," Santomauro said. The public safety director went on to say the problem might lie more in a patrol officer's conduct after a traffic stop than in his decision to initiate the stop at all.

This to me is the troubling part. Racial profiling isn't about an officer treating a driver with courtesy or respect when he asks to see a driver's license and registration. It's about what happens in the cop's head in the few seconds before the overhead lights are activated. Was the driver breaking a law? Was there a reasonable suspicion on the officer's part of illegal



TEDD SCHNEIDER

behavior?

Or did the driver just seem "out of place." Wrong car. Wrong clothes. Wrong neighborhood. Especially wrong neighborhood.

The problem with that line of thinking is that the neighborhood is changing. No doubt Canton will still

have a white majority when the 2000 census is complete. And the percentage of African-Americans isn't expected to rise dramatically.

But according to census bureau estimates, township's racial mix is likely to include a larger percentage of people with Asian, Indian, Native American and Hispanic backgrounds. In 1990, those groups combined to make up about 6.5 percent of Canton's 57,040 residents.

The guess is that the township's minority population, including African-Americans, could double. That would mean about 9,000 Canton residents checked a box other than "white" on their census form.

A survey of some 1,000 drivers last December by the Lansing firm EPIC-MRA found that African-Americans are 1.21 times more likely than white drivers to be stopped by police and

15.5 percent more likely to receive a ticket after having been stopped. The survey didn't cover other minorities.

Even Santomauro acknowledges the existence of racial profiling in general and other discriminatory practices by police. But he said there have been few race-based complaints about Canton Police. The department has been diligent in using a computer to track current and past complaints back to 1986 to check for any pattern against an individual officer, he said.

Santomauro is right when he says "leadership sets the tone for what is tolerated and what's not." Canton drivers have a right to think cop hunches based on the color of their skin aren't part of that equation.

Tedd Schneider is the community editor of the Canton Observer. He can be reached at (734) 459-2700 or via e-mail at: tschneider@oe.hometown.com.

He has a family – he should be with that family

Imagine, if you will, the mother of your child is from another country, and she decides the United States simply isn't the place for her and her child to live.

Imagine she takes your child and heads home, undertaking a perilous journey to get there. She dies en route, and your child witnesses the tragedy. He gets to his destination, and some of your own family members take him in.

You begin to make preparations for the boy's return to you here, in the good U.S. of A., when suddenly your family members in the foreign country say, "Whoa, there. Not so fast. We think the American government is corrupt and inhumane, and we can't bear to send little Johnny back to that country."

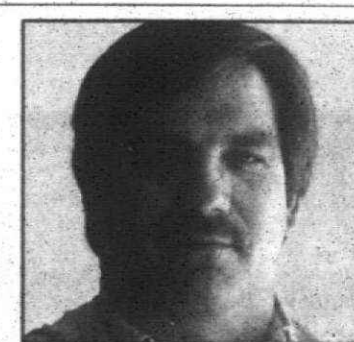
Months pass. Politicians get involved – politicians embroiled in election-year panic, who are looking for something, anything, to invigorate their campaigns. The foreign country government simply won't listen, won't get off its collective duff and do anything about your child.

Meanwhile, the child appears to be bonding with your family members over there.

Imagine the sense of loss. You've always been a good father. You can't help the politics of the U.S.; after all, you don't control the government. It's not your fault. All you want is your child back. But the people in the foreign country swear that'll never happen, because returning a child to a government like ours would do the child irreparable harm.

"Who do they think they are?" you rail. "What arrogance of that country to believe it could possibly be superior to the United States. How dare they?" Things have never seemed more bleak, especially when the foreign government refuses to show any courage at all in returning your child to you. The attorney general says, "You guys work it out," instead of going in, getting your child and returning him to your loving home. And all you can do is watch your life being analyzed on television as the helpless feeling in the pit of your stomach grows by the minute.

Day by day, the realization comes to you: "I'm never going to see my son again."



BRAD KADRICH

Have you closed your eyes? Have you imagined that scenario playing itself out in your life? Have you told yourself how many heavens and how much Earth you would move to get your son back?

Good. Maybe NOW you have some sense of what things must be like for Juan Gonzalez, the Cuban whose little boy, Elian, has been held a political captive in Miami since his mother's ill-fated run for freedom last November.

Relatives in Miami don't want to return the boy to a country run by Fidel Castro.

Politicians have used and abused this case to try and curry favor with voters. Even Vice President Al Gore weighed in during a campaign stop Tuesday, saying judicial options should be exhausted before Elian is returned to his father.

The fact that Elian is a political pawn isn't lost on local eyes, either. "It's a very complex thing, and I don't think there's any one answer," said Paulette Winsom, who is trying to establish a Human Rights Group in Plymouth. "Unfortunately, he's being used as a political tool. He does have a family, and he should be with that family."

Apparently that idea is lost on some people. I actually heard some ambassador say Tuesday night that "every day Elian spends in the United States is another day he spends in freedom."

Where do we get such hubris? What makes us this arrogant, that we could deny a man, who by all accounts is a good and loving father, reunification with his son?

Somebody tell me: Aren't we the coun-

try that allowed slavery for its first 100 years? Aren't we the same country whose judicial system returns babies to crackhead mothers and drug-dealing fathers to preserve the sanctity of the natural family?

I agree Castro is despicable, and the boy's life would be better if he were here, materialistically. I agree the United States is the best country in the world. And none of that gives us the right to determine this boy's fate. It is our fundamental belief that parents know what's best for their children.

It's time we lived up to that belief. It's time to send Elian back, and ease the pain – for everyone.

Editor's Note: Anyone interested in helping Paulette Winsom get her human rights group off the ground in Plymouth can call her at (734) 416-9288.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the Plymouth Observer. He can be reached at 459-2700, or by e-mail at bkadrich@oe.hometown.com.

Traditional schools will pay for the sins of charter schools

After listening to many of the candidates who are vying for elected office this year



MARTHA TRAFFORD

glibly endorse charter schools, after watching the manipulative marketing ploys and the availability-is-limited hype being used to sell this notion to the public and the politicians, one could wrongly conclude that

charter schools are the magic elixir to remedy the perceived shortcomings of our public schools. Perhaps the charter school "cure" is far worse than the "disease" for one Wayne County school district.

The financial resources of the Inkster Public Schools have been primarily devoured by eight charter schools that feed off their host district. Eventually, the loss of nearly 800 students and their per-pupil state aid to charters and other schools of choice forced the district to accept cash from a national for-profit education management company, Edison Schools, rather than face a state takeover of their school district.

With many of our school districts already facing uncertain futures because of the budget constraints imposed by Proposal A, with 13 charter schools and six traditional districts already operating with deficits, it would be unwise for our state legislators to increase the number of charter schools.

There are many misconceptions and a basic lack of information among the public regarding charter schools.

A recent poll by Public Agenda, the non-partisan opinion and research group, found that 81 percent of the general public, 79 percent of parents and 52 percent of parents of school children said they knew "very little" or "nothing" about charter schools.

The charter schools we already have in Michigan do not offer students a better public education.

Studies by Michigan State University and Western Michigan University indicate that charters usually mirror the curriculum and achievements of their traditional public school counterparts.

Charter schools are not about providing opportunities for students but about giving opportunists the chance for a big slice of the

American public education pie. If you want to start your own for-profit public school, there is a gold mine of opportunities for you right here in Michigan.

Michigan ranks behind only Arizona in having the most liberal charter school laws, according to their own charter school advocacy group, The Center for Education Reform.

Seventy percent of Michigan's charter schools are run by for-profit education management organizations, or EMOs, compared to just 10 percent nationwide. EMOs are allowed to skim up to 10 percent off the student foundation grants for their management fees. No questions asked, since EMOs are private businesses.

Like their HMO counterparts in the health care field, EMOs do what they can to avoid offering their services to the more costly "customers."

So, 75 percent of our current charter schools spend nothing on special education students. Instead, they rely on the traditional local public schools to provide for special education students. Of course, not a cent of the foundation grant is returned to the traditional districts to pay for educating special needs students in charter schools.

If having a choice of where to get a public education is so desirable, then imagine what would happen if we applied choice to other areas of publicly financed services.

How about taking some of the money for public libraries and giving some people the chance to start their own "more accountable" public libraries?

Would the police and fire departments in our communities give up some of their taxpayer-financed budgets to allow some neighborhoods to create their own public security and safety services and keep 10 percent of taxpayer money for management fees?

More than likely we would see the quality of all our public services decline and/or our taxes increase to cover two police and fire departments and two public libraries, one traditional and the other charter.

If we wouldn't allow the quality of our other community services to be thus compromised, why are we allowing this to happen to our community schools?

With more choices and competition, there will be winners and losers. Most people haven't read about the 8,000 charter school students across our nation who now face a questionable educational future. The calls to their Arizona-based

EMO, The Tesseract Group Inc., are going unanswered. Within the past few months, the CEO and financial officer of Tesseract resigned, it laid off employees and closed three charter schools.

When the profits on charter schools aren't realized quickly enough for the opportunists who manage them, does anyone believe they will care about the students they have victimized along the way? Free market public school academies, housed in privately owned buildings on private land, raise other troubling concerns.

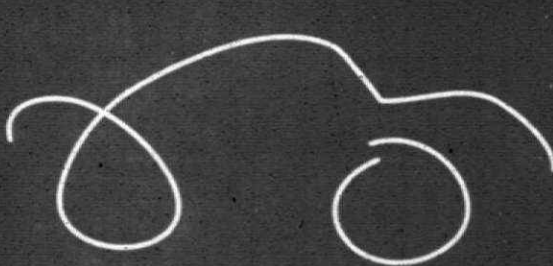
If a charter school management company,

such as National Heritage Inc., which wants to build in Canton, incurs financial difficulties, who pays the delinquent property taxes? What happens to the building and the equipment? How are the property values of the others who live in the area affected by this possible business failure?

We must focus our public resources and our efforts on doing what's best for our kids. Let's support the public schools we already have.

Martha A. Trafford is a Canton resident and retired educator.

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COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION: What is your toughest spring cleaning chore?

We asked this question outside the post office on Pennin Street in downtown Plymouth.

I don't have one, because my husband does them all. He's retired, and it's his gift to me.
Eunice Mitchell
Livonia

Windows. They're so hard to reach.
Joe Savage
Plymouth

The (whole) house. It's time consuming.
Fred Crouch
Plymouth

The basement. It seems to accumulate all the things I didn't use the rest of the year.
Mary Ann Saint
Plymouth

Canton Observer

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— Philip Power

George Ward begins his run for prosecutor

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

George Ward, chief assistant prosecutor for Wayne County for 14 years, has made it official. He's seeking the Democratic nomination for county prosecutor in the Aug. 8 primary.



Ward

That puts the Plymouth Township resident in the race against both Michael Duggan, deputy county executive, and state Sen. Virgil Smith.

Ward, whose unofficial candidacy has been known for some time, claims the support of his boss, Prosecutor John O'Hair. O'Hair isn't seeking re-election.

Stating the "first and most important issue" in the election is experience, Ward said he is the only one with experience in prosecution.

He stated the "whole range of past airport abuses" in contracts at Metro wouldn't have become public if the prosecutor

"had been the alter ego" of the county executive.

If elected, Ward plans to increase "substantially" the number of youths ages 6-16 in Detroit, Highland Park and Hamtramck in adult-supervised sports and recreational activities and also to institute "structure to the prison day."

Regarding prison policy, he said, "It makes no sense" that the time offenders spend in custody "more resembles how they lived before" prison "than how we want them to live when they get out."

A 1963 graduate of the University of Detroit and, in '66, of the University of Michigan Law School, Ward has taught law at Detroit College of Law/Michigan State University since 1970.

He was elected president of the Wayne County Charter Commission in 1980, became chief assistant county prosecutor in 1986 and is serving as president of the Irish-American Lawyers of Michigan.

He and wife Margaret have five children.

Ward's campaign office is at 19268 Grand River Ave. in Detroit. Volunteers may call (313) 543-1940.

House passes bills to regulate porn shops

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homedcomm.net

Owners of pornography shops in Michigan, "adult entertainment establishments," found out they have few friends in the state legislature last week.

Lawmakers passed a series of bills, the main pieces of a 13-bill package, aimed at bringing such shops under control by licensing them. Those licenses could be revoked if inspectors find the business to be a "hazardous site," one with high risk sexual activity going on on the premises, or a public nuisance. It would also give residents who live around such businesses the power to sue on the basis the businesses have become a nuisance and recover attorney fees should they win.

The main bill, House Bill 5124, was approved by representatives in a 92-13 vote last week. Opponents mainly objected that the system would require some businesses to have duplicate licenses, because some already hold Class C liquor licenses.

But sponsor Rep. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, noted that not all adult entertainment businesses have liquor licenses, so his bill would address the remainder.

Other pieces of the package passed 104-1. The sole dissenter, Rep. Clark Bisbee, R-Jackson, felt license fees were too high, perhaps as much as \$13,000 for

a single business. But Bisbee supported most of the rest of the package.

He also pointed out that the law as written would allow only residents to recover attorneys' fees against the businesses. That would be unfair, he said, unless businesses were also allowed to recover attorney fees if they prevail. Bishop said he agreed with that last point and will work to amend the bills in the Senate when they are taken up there.

But Bishop felt the license fee amounts were correct. Licensing will be conducted through the Department of Consumer and Industry Services, and when it is done reviewing applications, issuing licenses and inspecting all the adult bookstores, adult motion picture theaters, adult cabarets, massage establishments, exotic dance studios, encounter studios, sensitivity studios, model studios and escort services in the state, it is expected to have expenditures of \$4 million to \$4.4 million.

The bill simply divides that amount among the businesses to be licensed. As estimated, the price could come to \$13,000 for a license, Bisbee pointed out.

"To an individual, the fees that businesses pay sometimes sound high," Bishop countered. "But when you look at it relative to the industry, to the multi-billion dollar industry it is, to the money these types of businesses

make, it's not that much."

And Bishop argued that taxpayers should not end up paying for the licensing of these businesses.

Bishop argued the package is intended to help communities control adult entertainment stores. Communities have found it ineffective to attempt to ban them or to zone them into certain areas. Yet, crimes rates, rape, prostitution and high risk sexual activities often increase in a neighborhood after such businesses open their doors, according to Rep. Laura Toy, R-Livonia.

She sponsored the portion of the package that calls for Department of Health inspections of the facilities. Adult entertainment stores can then be ordered to fix health code violations found on their premises within a period of time, or their

licenses may be revoked.

Bishop explained that licensing would not apply to all businesses with adult materials for sale, such as convenience stores that may have a rack of adult magazines. To require a license, a business would have to allocate more than 20 percent of its floor space to adult entertainment.

The main portion of the package, which includes HBs 4327, 5124-34 and 5469, now moves to the Senate.

Most of the bills passed in 105-0 votes. On the main bill, 5124 area representatives Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, Tom Kelly, D-Wayne, Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, Andrew Raczkowski, R-Farmington Hills, and Laura Toy, R-Livonia all voted yes.

Student program needs hosts

Male and female high school students (15-18 years old) from many countries are in need of a Host Family. The students will be arriving in August for the beginning of the school year. Some students will be here for the full school year and others just the first semester. All students have medical insurance, their own spending money, are

proficient in English and have a strict code of conduct to follow. All students are in the top 20 percent of their classes.

For more information on the program and to sign up as a host family, call James Ouzts, Area Representative at 248-887-9549 or Unique Advantage Exchange Program at (248) 634-8415.

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COMMON SENSORS



JACQUE MARTIN-DOWNS

A lot learned from teen focus groups

Recently, I had the opportunity to conduct focus groups with middle and high schoolers in a community in order to gain some insights about kids today.

We talked about their fears and anxieties, what they believe is going well for teens, how they cope with traumatic events that happen in their community, who their role models are, whether they feel substance abuse is a problem for teens, who they find to be trustworthy and programs they would like to see started in their community.

There were distinct differences between the way middle school and high schoolers thought as well as differences between parochial and public students. When asked how students in their community cope with sad or scary things that happen, the high school students commented that they would more frequently turn to their peers before adults if they needed to talk.

Middle schoolers still rely on their parents for support, but reported that they will discriminate as to what they tell them. The parochial students said that prayer services were held as a way to support the students when something bad happens, and that they were very reassured by that kind of support.

When asked what students felt was going well for them, the parochial students' consensus was that private school students had more self-discipline and less stress about their looks because of the dress code.

Middle schoolers from the public schools reported feeling safe in their schools (some attributed it to the Columbine awareness), and much delight over their new freedoms (because they were no longer elementary students). They also appreciated teachers treating them like adults as well as good school counselors. High school students were not as verbal on this question except to say that teens are generally joining in and doing things together.

On the topic of who are their role models, all the focus groups were very forthcoming about the great role models they had in school. These included teachers and coaches. Beyond school, they mentioned parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents. No one commented about sports or high profile media figures, except for injured stars like Mike Utley and Christopher Reeve.

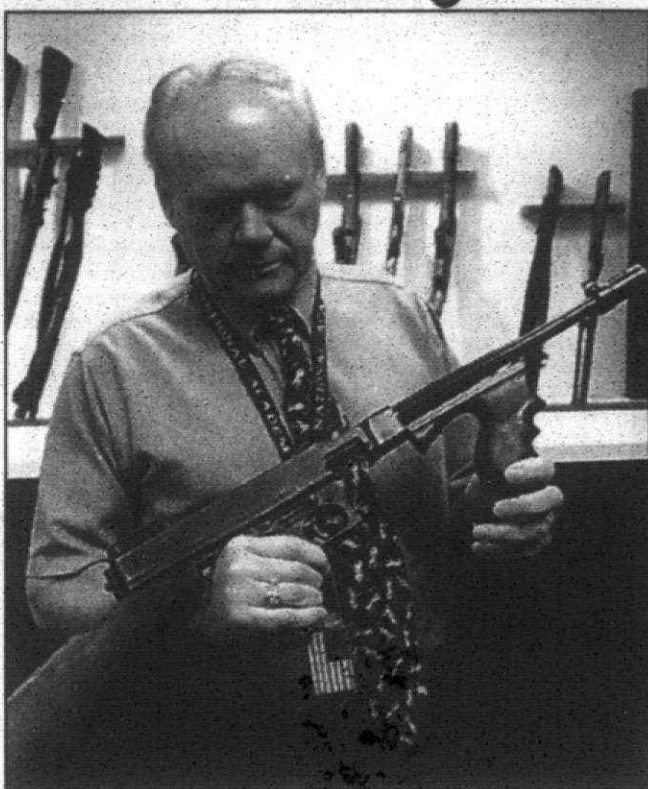
When asked about substance use and abuse in their school, there was a clear difference between public and private responses. The private schools felt that drug and alcohol use wasn't a problem because no one would even think of using it. The females offered that they "tell on" the boys in school when they are doing things that are wrong, yet half the students said they wouldn't tell an adult if someone was experimenting with drinking.

The public school students appeared more complacent about substance use, as if to say, it's the way of the world. The middle schoolers knew that there was smoking in school; they even offered that lots of the parents are using drugs, alcohol and cigarettes, too. They believe that those in charge are not consistent in cracking down on offenders including the party store owners who sell to minors.

Some mentioned that movies are a bad influence for kids. The high school students seemed even more lackadaisical about the use and abuse in their schools. Students brought out that more than half of their school uses illegal substances. No one disagreed. Others commented that it is a source of entertainment to pass the time, while some thought that it counteracts a lot of depression. Everyone from one of the high school focus groups knew more than one depressed person.

Finally, they were asked what pro-

Please see SENSORS, B2



Vintage weapon: Special Agent Lee Anderson, the FBI's police training coordinator, shows off a Thompson submachine gun, known on the streets as a "Tommy." The gun was most used during Prohibition.

The reception room of the Federal Bureau of Investigation offices on the 26th floor of the P.V. McNamara Building in downtown Detroit is appropriately subdued, an interior decorator's equivalent of "just the facts, ma'am."

On one wall is a picture gallery of Special Agents who died in the line of duty. On the opposite wall, thick, bullet-proof glass protects the receptionist and clerks. No one gets beyond this room unless they have a pass ... or have been arrested and are waiting to be photographed and fingerprinted.

Welcome to the FBI, one of the world's most recognized acronyms, an organization whose motto is "Fidelity, Bravery and Integrity."

Jennie Emmons, 30, and Brian Young, 32, are relatively new agents. Originally from Princeton Junction, N.J., Emmons, who has a bachelor's

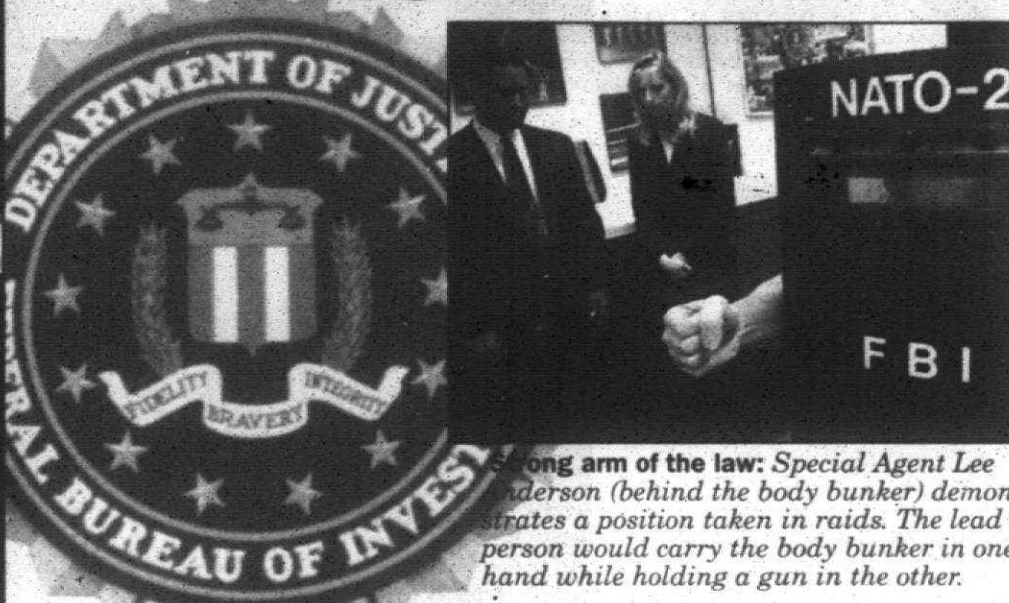


Most wanted: Special Agent Jean Wynn explains what it takes to get on the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list. She referred to them as "smooth talkers."

FBI profile

- The FBI was founded in 1908 as the Bureau of Investigation. J. Edgar Hoover became director in 1924. A Congressional enactment gave the present Federal Bureau of Investigation its name in 1935.
- On Oct. 11, 1925, Edwin C. Shanahan became the first FBI agent killed in the line of duty.
- The St. Valentine's Day Massacre of Bugsy Moran's gang on Feb. 24, 1929, by the rival Al Capone gang in Chicago spurred the eventual creation of the FBI Laboratory in 1932.
- The forerunner of the FBI Academy was established in 1935 with a class of 23 police officers. The present academy opened in 1972 on the U. S. Marine Base at Quantico, Va.
- The "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" program began in 1950.
- Louis J. Freeh, the present FBI Director, was sworn in in September 1993.
- The FBI investigates more than 260 federal statutes and conducts sensitive national security investigations. Investigations include: organized crime, white-collar crime, public corruption, financial crime, fraud against the government, bribery, copyright matters, civil rights violations, bank robbery, extortion, kidnapping, air piracy, terrorism, foreign counterintelligence, interstate criminal activity, and fugitive and drug-trafficking matters.
- Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the FBI has 56 field offices, 400 satellite offices known as resident agencies, four specialized field installations and 32 foreign liaison posts.
- The FBI has approximately 11,400 Special Agents and over 16,000 other employees who perform professional, administrative, technical, clerical, craft, trade or maintenance operations.

Inside the FBI



Strong arm of the law: Special Agent Lee Anderson (behind the body bunker) demonstrates a position taken in raids. The lead person would carry the body bunker in one hand while holding a gun in the other.

BY RENÉE SKOGLUND

• STAFF WRITER •

PHOTOS BY MATT TAPLINGER

'For me, this was the top of the line. I wanted to do it so bad. For any kind of pressure they put on me externally, I put double on myself. I really wanted to make it through.'

—Jennie Emmons
Special Agent

degree in political science and a master's degree in forensic science, joined the bureau three years ago. She is assigned to the domestic terrorism squad, one of several squads that make up the Detroit office.

Young, a former Army infantry officer, has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a few semesters of post-graduate school. He also brought eight years experience as a police officer with the Indiana State Police and the University of Indiana police department when he signed on with the bureau in 1996. He serves on the counter-intelligence squad.

Both agents are in top physical condition and excellent marksmen. Special Agent Jean Wynn, who is in charge of recruitment, said Emmons hits her target more than 95 percent of the time. "That's superlative. She's a natural. She's in the stratosphere."

When it comes to hiring Special Agents, the FBI, the principal investigative arm of the United States Department of Justice, seeks — and finds — the best. Although there is no typical hiring year, out of the 9,000 applications received nationwide last year, 700 agents were hired.

"If you look at history, in the case of every great investigator — whether in science, law or criminal justice — they keep the goal in mind in spite of obstacles. To be an FBI agent, you have to have integrity, be tenacious and pay attention to detail," said Wynn.

A challenge

After graduating from college, Emmons sought a non-traditional career for women. She found one in the FBI. Founded in 1908, the FBI first granted the title of Special Agent to a woman in 1972. Today, 16.9 percent of the bureau's 11,604 agents are women.

Emmons spent seven months in San Francisco after graduating from the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va. She was then transferred to Detroit, where her husband, a fellow agent she met at the academy, already had been assigned. The 16-week training at the FBI Academy was difficult but challenging, she said.

"For me, this was the top of the line. I wanted to do it so bad. For any kind of pressure they put on me externally, I put double on myself. I really wanted to make it through."

In the academy's defensive tactics class, Emmons put on a pair of boxing gloves and faced a male opponent. "One (punch) hit me, the walls started to close and I started to go down," she recalled. Refusing to give in, she let loose and started fighting back. "The instructor said, 'That's exactly what I wanted to see.' I had made progress."

Emmons learned much more in that class than how to defend herself; she learned the meaning of team spirit, FBI style.

She recalled a particular incident that happened within the first few days of class. The class had been divided into opposing teams, and the new and eager recruits were yelling and cheering for their teammates. "The instructor told us to stop," said

Emmons. "He said we had not developed a 'sincere affection' for each other." She remembers his admonishment to "conduct yourself with quiet professionalism."

It was that quiet, competent professionalism that eventually convinced Brian Young to apply to the FBI. "I had a desire to get into federal law enforcement, but it wasn't with the FBI," he said.

His focus changed after he worked with the FBI on a protection detail for Attorney General Janet Reno when she spoke at the University of Indiana's law school in 1995. He developed a close friendship with an older, experienced agent who told him he was FBI material. The agent encouraged Young to apply to the bureau.

"Just the way these agents treated me as a professional, the whole experience just overwhelmed me. I applied, and about nine months later I was in the academy," said Young.

In addition to serving on the counter-intelligence squad, Young is part of a joint terrorism task force. As a member of the task force, he works with officers from the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, U.S. Secret Service and the Michigan State Police.

FBI work is far different from police work, said Young. There are longer hours, sometimes spent outside in 20-degree weather, and less daily regimen. "Nothing is the same two days in a row. You may think you're working 8 to 4, and then you get a page at 6 a.m. Now the 8 to 4 is blown out of the water."

And then there are the "zany" phone calls, he added. "Okay, pack your bag. We're sending you to the western part of the state. There's been a kidnapping."

Big guns

The Detroit FBI's impressive collection of shotguns and automatic

weapons includes the infamous Thompson (aka "Tommy"), the submachine gun favored by both the bad and the good guys during Prohibition. The FBI stopped using it in 1970. They currently use the much lighter MP-5.

Every agent carries a handgun, a 9 mm. semi-automatic, but it is often used as a secondary weapon. "When we go out on a raid we have shotguns and submachine guns because we always want to out-show and out-gun who we want to apprehend," said Special Agent Lee Anderson, the bureau's police training coordinator.

For raids, the bureau brings in its SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) team. Young, a SWAT team member, is modest about his marksmanship. "Most agents are excellent shots," he said. "Let's say to be in SWAT, you must be consistent."

Special Agent Jean Wynn, who currently handles recruitment for the Detroit office, has 19 years of experience with the FBI. She worked on organized crime for several years and truly enjoyed it. "Mob cases go back 100 years or more. There's a lot to it culturally. You have to learn how they think," she said.

She's also had a few "unusual" assignments, including fingerprinting a corpse, a former fugitive, in a casket. "You use a special tool when finger-

Please see FBI, B2

WANTED

On March 14, the FBI celebrated the 50th anniversary of its "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" program. Of the 458 fugitives who have appeared on the list since its inception, 427 have been captured. Of that number, 137 were apprehended because of tips from the public.

There are two criteria for getting on the list, said Special Agent Dawn Cienney:

- The fugitive must be considered dangerous to the public.
- There must be the possibility of public assistance in locating the fugitive.

Several years ago, a man touring the FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C. spotted his neighbor's picture on the "Top Ten" list. He reported it, and his neighbor was apprehended.

"He (the fugitive) was living in the suburbs with a barbecue pit," said Cienney. "Like they say, you can run, but you just can't hide from the FBI ... at least not forever."



Shop talk: Special Agents Brian Young and Jennie Emmons trade stories about personal career experiences in the FBI.

Sensors from page B1

grams the teens would like to see in the community. The answers were all over the map. Generally, the high school students reported that they would like to see teen hang-outs that included a pool, gym equipment,

FBI from page B1

printing a corpse. We would pull his hand away, and it would snap back." Wynn recalled her very first arrest in 1982. It was unexpected, and she had come to work wearing a skirt and heels. The suspect was a female who put up a fight. "The skirt is not the thing to have on when you have to jump over a couch."

No closed cases

Want to know what happened to Jimmy Hoffa? So does the FBI.

"It's still an open case here," said Special Agent Dawn Clenny, an agent for 21 years who now handles the bureau's media relations. "I get calls every week about Jimmy. We still follow up on leads as they come in. We never close a case. That's one of the famous sayings in the FBI. The Hoffa case is still pending."

Last summer, the FBI apprehended Harry Joseph Bowman, one of the bureau's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives." Bowman is the alleged leader of "The Outlaws," a notorious motorcycle gang with a presence in the Detroit area. He currently is in federal custody in Florida on racketeering charges, including conspiracy to commit murder and arson.

Apprehending a Top Ten fugitive is not a daily occurrence at the FBI, said Wynn. Agents spend many days interviewing, doing paperwork or pulling long hours on surveillance duty. They're subject to job transfers, and they can be sent anywhere in the state on a moment's notice. And most often, their investigations do not produce immediate results.

However, it's all worth it, said Young. "You have to be adaptable and tenacious. It can be rough. But it's also an opportunity to be a member of one of the most prestigious investigative organizations in the world."

Clothing donations sought for needy women

Gently used women's business attire is being collected as part of the "Clean Your Closet Week-end."

As more and more women look to enter the workforce, the need for external support to help them succeed is increasing.

By offering them appropriate

business apparel is one way to help. Residents are asked to drop off women's business attire in all sizes Friday, April 7 through Sunday, April 9 at all Art Van Furniture Metro Detroit stores including Ann Arbor, Dearborn, Taylor, Westland and Livonia.

Items needed include dresses, suits, skirts, dress slacks, blouses, blazers, shoes and scarves. Appropriate receipts for tax deductions will be available.

The clothes will be distributed to low-income women through the Dress for Success Agency.

Focus: Special Agents Jennie Emmons, foreground, and Jean Wynn listen intently during a meeting at the Detroit FBI office.

It is against FBI policy to identify where Special Agents live. For information about employment, contact Special Agent Jean Wynn at (313) 965-2323, ext. 4249. (For employment opportunities with the FBI see the Sunday, April 9 edition of the Observer Newspaper.)

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RELIGION CALENDAR

(734) 513-8413.

SPECIAL LENTEN SERVICES
Pastor Gregory Gibbons will present a series of Lenten services based on the theme "What Wondrous Love," at Lola Park Lutheran Church in Redford (14750 Lincoln - south of Five Mile and west of Beech-Daly). Services are held each Wednesday at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. The series will culminate in Holy Week. Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion will be held at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Two special Good Friday services will be held at 1 p.m. and then a Tenebrae service at 7:30 p.m. The celebration of Easter will feature services at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Breakfast at 9:30 a.m.

FAMILY BANQUET
St. John's Lutheran Church of Redford (13542 Mercedes, one block east of Inkster road/south of Schoolcraft) will hold its annual family banquet at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 1 in the church's Fellowship Hall. Following the catered dinner will be a mime show presented by Gospel Chalk artist and ventriloquist Ron Snow. Tickets are \$10, adults; \$5, children 10 and under; and children three and under, free of charge. Call (313) 538-2660 for ticket information.

SUNDAY SERVICES
Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington Sunday Services for April 2: Reverend Bob Renjiljan presents: "Are you more like a sunroom or an open porch?" This question is from a game played in small groups, to get to know each other. Rev. Renjiljan will use this question and others to help explore the idea of personal identity, and sharing oneself with others. Services and Sunday School at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. "Meet the Minister" sessions follow each service this week. 25301 Halsted Rd. (between Grand River & 11 mile) More info: (248) 478-7272 or www.wnet.net/~uucf/

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 April 3; gardening, April 10 and 17; cake decorating, May 1, 8, and 15; and Saturday May 20 candy making at 10 a.m.

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 (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.

EASTER CANTATA
"Embrace the Cross" by Claire Cloninger and Greg Nelson will be presented at the Easter Cantata at 6 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at the Gathering (Clareville United Methodist Church, under the direction of Kathy Gardinali and Brian Marr. Call (248) 474-3444.

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; Good Friday Tenebrae at 7:30 p.m. April 21; Easter vigil and baptism service at 7:30 p.m. April 22 and Easter Sunday services at 6 a.m. (sunrise communion); 8 a.m. communion service with choir; 9:45 a.m. instrumentalists and a joyful Eucharist; and 11:30 a.m. Christ is Risen!

LENTEN MEAL
St. Genevieve Parish of Livonia will offer a Lenten meal March 31 and April 7 and 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. St. Genevieve is located at 29015 Jamison St.

PASSOVER SEDER
Please join Congregation Bet Chavirin for our fourth annual Passover potluck seder. The seder will be held at the Hanford Clubhouse. The Clubhouse is located on Hanford between Ford and Warren roads. The seder will begin at 6:45 p.m. on Thursday, April 20. Our seder will be conducted by Rabbi Peter Gluck. Families are welcome. Call (734) 480-8880 to let us know what dish you would like to bring.

LENTEN BREAKFAST
The United Methodist Women of First United Methodist Church (6443 Merriman Road in Garden City) will serve their annual Lenten Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, April 15 in the church Fellowship Hall. The Rev. Melanie Carey, associate pastor of Livonia Newburg United Methodist Church will be the guest speaker. A donation will be taken at the breakfast and reservations would be appreciated. Call (734) 421-8628.

LENTEN WORSHIP
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church invites the public to reflect upon "Prayers of the Passion" during Wednesday evening Lenten services from 7:30-8 p.m. until April 12. Midweek anuses and confirmation instruction will be held from 6-7:20 p.m. during Lent. The church is located at 14175 Farmington Road next to Ford Field, just north of I-96.

BROADWAY HITS
Two evening shows of Broadway favorites will be performed at 7 p.m. Friday, April 7 and 8 at the Westland Stake Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (7575 North Dix Road in Westland). Featuring hits from "Guys & Dolls, Fiddler on the Roof, West Side Story, Annie, Oklahoma, The Secret Garden, The Music Man, Oliver, My Fair Lady and Les Miserables. Public welcome. Free admission. No tickets required.

Decision Consultants, Inc.
Business Communications Group
Central Distributors of Beer, Inc.
Comerica Bank
Henkel Surface Technologies
Plastomer Corporation
Diversey/Lever
Sam Kennedy
National City Bank
Salomon Smith Barney Capital Management
Aetna Financial Services, James G. Hamilton
Assembly Technology & Test, Inc.
Bendzinski & Company
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bergquist
Clark Hill, PLC
Loomis, Sayles & Co., LP
Michigan Institute for Neurological Disorders
PaineWebber
Plante & Moran, LLP
Plymouth Park Center
TCP Bank
Testron Corporation
Touch of Class
Valassis Communications
VISTEON - Sheldon Road Plant
Lt. Col. Richard C. Klug

Cash Raffle
\$3,000 first prize - \$1,000 second prize - \$500 third prize - \$100 fourth prize (5 winners) - \$25 ticket price
Need not be present to win. If less than 300 tickets are sold, prize will be 50% of gross ticket revenue with a minimum prize of \$1,250. License: RR56149

Deal for Wheels \$5,000 Check
Successful bidder takes the check to one of these participating car dealers:
Blackwell Ford
Dick Scott Dodge
Hines Park Lincoln Mercury
Hines Park Ford - Milford
Saturn of Plymouth/Farmington Hills

New Morning School 14501 Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170
This advertisement courtesy of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Johnston-Brown

Claire Johnston of Garden City announces the engagement of her daughter, Barbara Jean, to Steven Gerard Brown Jr.

The bride-to-be is a student at Pensacola Christian College in Florida and will graduate in May to pursue a career as a legal secretary.

Her fiancé, son of Pastor and Mrs. Steven Brown Sr. of Livonia, is a student at Pensacola Christian College pursuing a degree in criminal justice. He will graduate in May.

An August wedding is planned at Parkview Baptist Church.

Wooliver-Parker

John Wooliver of Trenton and Karen Fear of New Hudson announce the engagement of their daughter, Lisa Diane Wooliver, to Jamie Keith Parker of Canton.

The bride-to-be is a 1991 graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School and works as an accountant at the University of Michigan.

Her fiancé, son of Robert and Linda Parker of Canton, is a 1990 graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School and a 1997 graduate of Wayne State University, where he earned his bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. He works as an electrical technician at Acromag in Wixom.

A June wedding is planned at Walden Woods in Hartland.

DePlanche-Boucher

Jennifer Diane DePlanche of Belleville is engaged to Paul Joseph Boucher of Redford.

The bride-to-be is a Michigan State University graduate and works as a quality assurance manager for Ford Component Sales.

Her fiancé is a Michigan State University graduate who works as a remote technical trainer for Qualex.

An October wedding is planned at St. Michael Church in Southfield.

Robert and Frances Mrdjencovich announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristyn Ann Smyth, to John Joseph Latella of Southfield.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Garden City High School and works as professional singer. She recently signed a recording contract with Barrister Records and is working on a CD. She's also the National Anthem singer for the Detroit Tigers.

Her fiancé, son of Anthony and Victoria Latella of Clinton Township, is a graduate of Chippewa Valley High School. He obtained his masters degree from Walsh College in Troy and a law degree from Michigan State University's Detroit College of Law.

An October wedding is planned at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Brighton.

A June wedding is planned at St. Joseph Church in Port Huron.

Johnson-Maurin

Craig and Kim Johnson of Fort Gratiot announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer, to Matthew Maurin of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a student at Western Michigan University and works at RE/MAX Advantage as an office assistant.

Her fiancé, son of Pete and Charlene Maurin of Livonia, is a Western Michigan University graduate and works at Altair Engineering as a design engineer.

An October wedding is planned at St. Joseph Church in Port Huron.

Coletta-Liparoto

Vincent and Christina Coletta of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa to Stefano Liparoto of Ypsilanti.

The bride-to-be is a student at University of Michigan's Mechanical Engineering program. She will graduate in May and work for General Motors.

Her fiancé, son of Philip and Giovanna Liparoto of Rockwood, is a construction engineering student at Eastern Michigan University and will graduate in December.

An August wedding is planned at St. Kenneth Church in Plymouth.

Robert-Xvreb

Richard and Karen Roberts of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Katherine, to Steven Xvreb of Canton.

The bride-to-be is a 1991 graduate of Canton High School and attends Madonna University. She works for Community Federal Credit Union in Plymouth.

Her fiancé, son of Frank and Gail Xvreb of Whitmore Lake, is a 1989 graduate of Dexter High School and a 1994 graduate of Northern Michigan University. He works for GMR in Brighton.

Brazin-Mallis

James and Susan Brazin of Ann Arbor announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristine Nicole, to Robert Joseph Mallis of Ames, Iowa.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and a 1997 graduate of Grand Valley State University, where she obtained a bachelor of science degree in chemistry and biomedical science. She expects to receive her doctorate in biophysics from Iowa State University in May 2001 and works for Iowa State University as an assistant researcher.

Her fiancé, son of Stephen and Charlotte Mallis of Dunmore, Pa., is a 1986 graduate of Dunmore High School and a 1990 graduate of Pennsylvania State University, where he earned his

College in Troy and a law degree from Michigan State University's Detroit College of Law.

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An August wedding is planned at St. Kenneth Church in Plymouth.

CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND CANTON

WEEKEND

CRAFT-BAKE SALE

■ The seniors at Sheldon Place Apartments in Canton will hold a craft and bake sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at the complex, 2105 Sheldon Road. For information, call Ingrid (734) 981-7727.

PROJECT HEALTHY LIVING

■ Project Healthy Living, formerly Project Health-o-Rama, will be held on Saturday, April 1, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center. The center is located at 1600 S. Canton Center Road in Canton. Project Healthy Living offers free or low cost health screenings and tests to individuals age 18 and older. The Canton site will offer free blood pressure, height and weight, vision and glaucoma testing. Project Healthy Living is sponsored by WXYZ-TV Channel 7 and The United Health Organization, a United Way Community Service agency. For information, call (248) 424-8600 from 10:00 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

STORYTELLING

■ Plymouth Historical Society sponsors "First Sunday's" at 2:00, 2 p.m., Sunday, April 2, at the Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main Street. Ruth Burr will share the art of storytelling and teach children how to become storytellers. Come hear "Br'er Rabbit" and Ruth's famous "Spoonsterism" stories and learn how to tell and share your own stories. The program is free with museum admission; adults \$3, students \$1 and families \$7. Special drawing: Gift certificate from The Little Bookshop in the Park. For further information, call (734) 455-8940.

AUCTION

■ New Morning School, a Plymouth nonprofit, parent cooperative school for children through grade 8 will hold its 24th annual auction, Saturday, April 1, from 5 p.m. to midnight at Laurel Manor Banquet/Conference Center, 3900 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia. The cost is \$55 per person/advance registration required. For further information or ticket inquiries call the school at (734) 420-3331.

AROUND TOWN

KINDERMUSIK STORY TIMES

■ Kindermusik story times will be held Saturday, April 1, at 4 p.m. at the Little Book Shoppe on the Park, 380 S. Main, downtown Plymouth, (734) 455-5220 and Tuesday, April 3, at 9:30 a.m. at the Plymouth Coffee Bean, 854 Penniman, downtown Plymouth, (734) 454-0178. Parents and their children are invited to experience a free interactive 20-30 minute program of story-telling, music and movement during Story Time with Miss Karen. Karen Onkka Schanberger, a licensed Kindermusik educator at Evola Music, has more than 20 years teaching and conducting experience with students of all ages. Favorite children's books, simple instruments and imaginative songs and chants highlight the story times. Registrations are suggested, but not mandatory. For further information call Evola Music at (734) 455-4677.

TAI CHI CLASSES

■ New Beginner Tai Chi classes starting Monday, April 3, are offered under the sponsorship of the Taoist Tai Chi Society in Livonia and Bloomfield.

WOMEN'S WELLNESS FORUM

■ ReLiv International sponsors a free Women's Wellness Forum on Friday, April 7, at 7:30 p.m. at the Novi Hilton Hotel, 21111 Haggerty Road in Novi. The forum features speakers Dr. Carl Hastings, food scientist, and Dr. Stephen Pfeiffer, board certified family practice physician. To receive individual or group tickets, call Cheryl at (248) 486-6293.

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 March and April 21. The dinners served 4:30-7 p.m., include cold soup, 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

■ 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 Modern 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 \$47.50 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 at (734) 483-5600. The registration form can also be found at www.cantonmi.org. The Canton Softball Center is located on Michigan Avenue, west of Canton Center Road.

Scrapbook night for the Canton Newcomers



Getting together: Three Canton Newcomers - Lynn Jarrett (left) Lori Shaw (left, rear) and Ann Marie Vincent do some scrapbooking in Jarrett's Canton home. It's just one of the activities the Newcomers do on a regular basis.

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. 5110 for information.

HELPSOURCE

■ 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. Prospective students are welcome. For more information, call (734) 420-3331.

CALENDAR FORM

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

Event:

Date and Time:

Location:

Telephone:

Additional Info:

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Event:

Date and Time:

Location:

Telephone:

Additional Info:

Use additional sheet if necessary

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.

KIWANIS CLUB

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

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Fashion show benefits scholarship recipients

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON
STAFF WRITER

The Garden City Business and Professional Women will usher in spring at the seventh annual "Parade of Fashions" event Sunday, April 9 at Plymouth Manor.

Fashions will be presented by Unique Accessories, Plymouth; Dress Barn, Livonia; and Nicole's Revival, Westland. According to GCBPW President Beth Cicisila, raffie tickets are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5; prize winners can look forward to winning items such as a \$200 gift certificate from A-Team Travel and Tours; \$100 gift certificate, Orin Jewelers; and an overnight stay at Munro House in Jonesville, MI.

"That all my work came from this year because they have a great time and it's a lot of fun," said Cicisila. "We have some wonderful prizes this year and will be showing unique clothing and accessories from three different suppliers."

According to Cicisila, funds raised annually at the fashion show benefit scholarship recipients from Garden City High School and women from the community interested in entering the workforce.

This year, three community members will be honored including Kimberly Allen, Amy Feta and Madonna Bernard. The teen scholarship winner from Garden City High School is Joshua Morgan.

The president also noted that for the past four years GCBPW makes a donation to the Garden City High School Sea Camp program. Students travel to Florida for a hands-on learning experience focusing on ocean and its unique underwater environment. Registration begins at noon and the luncheon follows at 12:30 p.m.

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. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old; willing and able to travel to Downriver communities; and complete a 55-hour training program starting in April 2000. For information call (734) 416-1111 ext. 223.

Support Groups

■ Hands Across The Water will be presented by Hands Across The Water for all those waiting to adopt, Thursday, March 30. How to make the waiting period more manageable will be discussed. What do you have control of, what don't you, and how not to go crazy. 7-9 p.m., \$10 per person/\$15 per couple. To register or for more information, call (734) 913-0831. Hands Across The Water is at 2300 Washtenaw, Ste. 103B in Ann Arbor.

Hands Across The Water

■ Hands Across The Water holds its Adopting Older Kids (A-OKay) meetings the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. There is a \$5 fee; they also sponsor an Adoption Book Discussion Group the fourth Tuesday of each month from 7-9 p.m. This month from 7-9 p.m. Meetings are held at 2300 Washtenaw, Ste. 103B in Ann Arbor. For further information call (734) 913-0831.

Arthritis Foundation

■ Arthritis Foundation classes are being held now through May 16, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Arthur's Place, 47659 Halyard Drive, Plymouth. Fibromyalgia Self-Help Course is a seven-week course which meets once a week. The course teaches the following keys to successful self-management: basic fibromyalgia information, strategies for decreasing pain, how to relax and deal with stress, proper use of exercise, dealing with depression, good nutrition habits, problem-solving techniques and how to research unproven remedies. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$35 for non-members and \$10 for a non-member's spouse or friend. For further information call (734) 254-0500.

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.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HIRSCHMAN

Fine fashions: Garden City Business and Professional Women's Club First Vice President and Event Chair Carol Bielaniec, left, and President Beth Cicisila model fashions from Unique Accessories in Plymouth as a preview for the show. Carol wears a hand-painted cotton jacket dress, and Beth a three-piece cotton ensemble from Krakows of Vancouver.

Women hold a prominent place in Lutheran history

My assignment was clear. I was to make a presentation highlighting the important Christian thinkers from the first century AD until the present. I worked hard to research and present this assignment. On the day of my presentation I received many "well done's" from my classmates and instructor. I felt very good about what I had done until a voice from the only woman in the class and one of a handful at the seminary asked, gently but firmly, "Where are the women theologians?"

I was shocked! I wanted to say that all my work came from the fact that I had been able to find and there was hardly any mention of women at all. But I knew that was a cop-out. I had worked hard in my seminary community to help raise consciousness about the ordination of women issue. How could I have made such a glaring omission?

I did not know what to say at first, but I finally asked the instructor if I could have a week

to redo my assignment and I asked my female classmate to help me. If I asked her today if she remembered this event, I'm sure she would not. However, I do. It was one of those watershed moments in life.

The year 2000 marks the 30th anniversary of the ordination of women in the Lutheran church. After many years of struggle with scriptural texts and asking our Lutheran heritage about the office of those set aside to preach the Word of God and administer the sacraments, the Lutheran church concluded that it was the guidance of the Holy Spirit which led to this new thing.

In 1970, Elizabeth Platz was ordained into the Lutheran Church in America and Barbara Andrews was the first woman in the American Lutheran Church to enter the ordained ministry. In 1976, the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Church ordained its first woman clergy, Jan Otte-Murphy. These three Lutheran church bodies merged

Women hold a prominent place in Lutheran history

in 1988 forming the current Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Since then many women clergy have had significant impact on our church. We have globally, three women bishops and in our Southeastern Michigan Synod we are blessed with 30 women clergy; 17 percent of our active roster.

In the Livonia area we have two fine pastors serving: Carla Thompson-Powell at Timothy Lutheran Church in Livonia and Sharon Janot at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Redford. Holy Trinity was privileged to be served by Dana Runestad in the early 90s.

Women, of course, have enriched the life of the church from its very beginnings and their leadership role has been crucial in the Christian movement through the centuries. I personally have been deeply influenced by the writings and insights of such women as Hildegard of Bingen, Dorothy Day,

Phyllis Trible, Elizabeth Johnson and Elsa Tamez. Two of my most significant mentors for fashioning my personal ministry are two sainted laywomen, Dorothy Swanson and Doris Stock.

The presence of gifts of women has been at the same time both deeply pastoral and restless. Women in the ordained ministry have reminded us all that it is important to "cross" the concrete experiences of real human beings with the scriptures and our faith traditions. At the same time women clergy have challenged many of our biases so that our symbols, language, consciousness, institutions and structures might better reflect God's gracious, just intentions for all creation.

In light of all this my prayer continues to be: "Thanks be to God."

Pastor Dennis Bux ministers at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Livonia (39020 Five Mile Road).

FUNDRAISERS & BENEFITS

VEGAS NIGHTS

St. Agatha Church (19750 Beech Daly Road in Redford) 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.

MOM TO MOM SALE

The Tri-County Mothers of Multiples 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. 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 that week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (734) 421-1760.

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 fundraising 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 or \$100 per team. AirTouch Cellular and Papa John's Pizza are the co-sponsors with UCP. Participating businesses include Woodruff's, Lily's Seafood, Padded Cell, Casual Comfort, Dobie Jewelers, Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle, Billings Feed & Lawn Equipment, The Royal Oak Farmers' Market and Magpie.

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35667 West Eighth Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48152

CLASS REUNIONS

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please include the date of the reunion and the first and last name of at least one contact person, and a telephone number.

ALL SAINTS

Class of 1950
Is planning a "Millennium Reunion" for November 2000. Unable to located Margaret Kluk and Mary Frances Perdue. Any information, please call Veronica (248) 437-9735

BERKLEY

Class of 1950
Is looking for alumni.
(248) 932-1722, (248) 548-5359 or (248) 393-1233

BENTLEY HIGH

Class of 1970
30 year reunion, Saturday, Nov. 4.
Please contact Colleen Siembar (734) 455-1395.

BIRMINGHAM HIGH

Class of 1955
A reunion is planned for Oct. 27 at The Northfield Hilton in Troy. Call Pete Kass (248) 335-5472 or e-mail MESLK@aol.com

BIRMINGHAM GROVES

Class of 1965
Aug. 12 at The Community House in Birmingham.
(248) 433-2362 or by e-mail at JCRich47@aol.com

BIRMINGHAM MARIAN

Class of 1965
Aug. 12 at The Community House in Birmingham.
(248) 433-2362 or by e-mail at JCRich47@aol.com

BROTHER RICE

Class of 1970
A reunion is planned for July 29.
(248) 540-2917 or (248) 358-4490

BIRMINGHAM SEAHOLM

Class of 1970
A reunion is planned for July 1.

(510) 523-0906 or by e-mail at HubSpauld@aol.com

BISHOP BORGESS

Class of 1970
We're celebrating our 30th class reunion with a dinner dance to be held at the Italian American Banquet Center on Friday, Aug. 4. If you are a Bishop Burgess 1970 alumni who has not been contacted call Mary Parston at (810) 629-5257 or Mary Sherry at (248) 348-1104. Space is very limited. Respond now to make this reunion a reality. To find out more information visit the reunion Web site at www.bbhs70.com

BISHOP BORGESS

Class of 1975
A 25th year reunion is planned from 2-6 p.m. Saturday, June 17. Cost is \$5.
Contact Steve Anderson by e-mail at sparky39@prodigy.net visit their Web site at http://pages.prodigy.net/sparky39/borgess or write Steve Anderson, 11418 Arnold, Redford, MI 48239.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS LANSE

Class of 1979
March 4 at the Somerset Inn in Troy.
(248) 366-9493, press #2 or by e-mail at reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

BRIGHTON

Class of 1980
Aug. 26 at the Novi Hilton Hotel in Novi.
(248) 360-7004, press #5 or by e-mail at reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

CASS TECHNICAL

Class of 1964, 1965, 1966
35 year reunion Saturday, Nov. 18.
To get on a mailing list call Rita (248) 746-3340.

CASS TECH

Class of 1975

A 25th year reunion themed "A Sterling Affair," is planned for Aug. 5 at 6 p.m. at Cobo's Riverview Ballroom. A 3-day Bahamas cruise is also being planned for Nov. 9-12. Deposits are (\$100) per cabin and should be sent to E. Morton.
For information contact Lawrence Washington (313) 837-1901, Estelita Morgan (313) 559-7832 or write CT 75 - 25 Year Reunion, P.O. Box 8242, Bloomfield, MI 48302-8242.

CLARKSTON

Class of 1960
A reunion is tentatively planned for August.
(248) 627-4549, (248) 933-1670 or dlmiller@flash.net

CLINTONDALE

Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for July.
(810) 465-2388

COOLEY

Class of 1958
A reunion is planned for the weekend of Aug. 18, 19 and 20 over the weekend of the Woodward Dream Cruise at the Kingsley Inn in Bloomfield Hills. Call Eva Randlett at (248) 851-6929.
(313) 277-1316 or (248) 426-6888

DEARBORN FORDSON

Classes of 1960
January and June classes will gather for a reunion Sept. 9 at Park Place.
Call (313) 565-4322 or (248) 960-3671.

DEARBORN HIGH

Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for Aug. 12 at Henry Ford Museum/Lovett Hall.
Call David Gordon at (313) 278-7061 or e-mail dgordon@mich.com

DEARBORN HIGH

Class of 1980
A reunion is planned for Aug. 12 from 5:15 p.m. to 1 a.m. at The Fairlane Club.
Call Mary Baker Cicala at (248) 347-4598 or visit their Web site at http://www.gbjann.com/dhs80/

DENBY

Class of 1950
Seeking alumni for June 25 reunion at Penna's of Sterling.
Call (810) 773-3286 or (248) 585-2083

DENBY

Class of 1952
Alumni are being sought for the 50th reunion.
Please contact Marianne (810) 566-4641 or e-mail renickens@aol.com

DETROIT CENTER

Class of 1950
First reunion of the millennium. Class of 1950 (January and June) will hold a 50th reunion Saturday, Sept. 9 at the Novi Double Tree.
Call Dr. Martin Trotsky (248) 865-5012 or Rhoda Kutzen (248) 642-3135.

DETROIT CENTRAL

Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for April 8 at the Holiday Crown Plaza (near the airport).
Ask for Ed Dodson (734) 464-1692

DETROIT CHADSEY HIGH

Class of 1950-51
Reunion planned for Sept. 23. Looking for classmates from classes of 1950-51.
Call (313) 273-1589

DETROIT COOLEY

Class of 1980
A reunion is in the planning stage for the summer of 2000. If you would like more information please call Shirley Lipscomb

(313) 834-3010.

DETROIT FINNEY

Classes of 1970-72
A reunion is planned for April 1.
(313) 837-5880

DETROIT IVES ELEMENTARY

Classes of 1953-55
A reunion is tentatively planned for May.
(810) 644-4106, (810) 791-6998, (906) 847-3535 or (810) 728-4875 after 6 p.m.

DETROIT MACKENZIE

Class of 1949-51
July 29 at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland.
(734) 453-7561

DETROIT NORTHEASTERN

Class of 1950
A 50th reunion is planned for Nov. 2000.
Call Ted Potasnik (810) 268-1433 or Barbara Okarski Gibbs (734) 753-9013.

DETROIT PERSHING

Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for Sept. 9. Classmates are still being sought. Lillo Greer (313) 835-9642, Jerry Mulvaine (810) 773-3952, Sherry (Bailey) Forbush (248) 547-0664 or Joan (Mazey) Harrington (734) 595-7508 or at the Web site, www.jmctech.com/~justice/ind ex.htm

DETROIT REDFORD

Class of 1965
A reunion is planned for July 8.
(313) 937-3077 OR (734) 427-6047

DETROIT REDFORD

Class of 1950
A reunion is planned for June 10 at the Livonia Holiday Inn.
Please contact Lynn Ehrle (734) 459-9488.

DETROIT ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

Class of 1950 (classes of 1949 and 1951 also invited).
Reunion is scheduled for May 20.

Contact Kathleen Cottrell Jenkins at (248) 685-0734 or Barb Smith at (734) 722-1874.

DETROIT SOUTHWESTERN

Class of 1955
The Class of 1955 also invites classes of 1951 through 1959 for a reunion Saturday, Oct. 28 at Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland (7300 Merriman Rd.).
For reunion information call (248) 887-9774 or (810) 227-7167.

DETROIT WESTERN

Class of 1966
Is planning a reunion.
(248) 280-0053 or (517) 546-8874

FARMINGTON

Class of 1950
50th reunion Sept. 15-17, with a dinner at Vladimir's on Sept. 16.
Call Mary for details (248) 474-7822

FERNDALE

Classes of 1929-1958
Oct. 14 at Ferndale High School, 726 Pinecrest, Ferndale.
(248) 589-2609 or (248) 541-2476

FINNEY HIGH

Class of 1970, 71 & 72
A reunion is planned for Saturday, April 1 at The Warren Chateau Hall in Warren.
To attend and mailing list call (313) 837-5880.

FRANKLIN HIGH

Class of 1965
Get ready to party at Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia Sept. 23. Contact patuhitman@aol.com or (734) 522-4487 or (312) 440-1857 Pat Yankovich Whitman.

GARDEN CITY EAST

Classes of 1974 and 1975 are hosting a 25th reunion Saturday, Nov. 25, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel - Metro Airport. Contact Barry Harnos (Class of 1974) (734) 416-5583 or Vicky (DeSanto) Clark at (734) 421-5365 (Class of 1975).



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Tomlinello Royal Oak Free Initial Consultation & Exam</p> <p>Dr. Lefkowitz Ferndale Free Initial Consultation</p> <p>Dutac Hair Fashions Farmington Hills 10% Off Reg. Price Cuts & Rusk Products</p> <p>Farrell Reis Birmingham \$5 Off Any Hair Service</p> <p>Family Dental Center 734-427-9300 Livonia 10% Off First Visit & Free consultation</p> <p>Great Nails Berkley 10% Off Any Service</p> <p>House of Optical Royal Oak 15% Off Complete Pair of Eyeglasses</p> <p>Medical Center Pediatrics DMC W. Bloom/Bing. Farms Special Offer for New Patients, Call for Details</p> <p>Milanes Barber & Stylist Berkley \$1 Off Haircuts + \$5 Off Highlights & Colors</p> <p>Partners Salon 478-2849 Farmington Hills 10% Off Color Services, 10% Off Massage, Haircut</p> <p>Ph.D. Psychologist Westland 50% Off 3 Visits - No Ins. with Disc. - \$65 each</p> <p>Posh Salon Southfield 20% Off All Services</p> <p>Shear Radiance Sheridan Square Garden City 10% Off First Service</p> <p>Sir David's Hair Salon Westland 20% Off of Hair & Tanning Products</p> <p>Spunkys Womens Gym Clawson 15% Off Any Membership</p> <p>The Gallery of Hair Royal Oak 10% Off All Services</p> <p>Vanish Electrolysis Ferndale 10% Off Second Treatment</p> <p>\$ Coffee, Bagels & Bakeries</p> <p>Mary Dennings Cakes Westland 10% Off Special Order Cakes</p> <p>New York Bagel Ferndale \$1 Off Any Food Purchase of \$5 or More</p> <p>\$ Day Care</p> <p>Hands & Hearts Around the World Garden City 10% Off 1st Month Tuition</p> <p>\$ Dry Cleaners & Laundry</p> <p>Huntington Woods Huntingdon Woods 10% Off Incoming Orders for New Customers</p> <p>J.S. Prestige Cleaners on 5 Mile Livonia 20% Off Dry Cleaning (No Other Coupons)</p> <p>Mal Kai Cleaners All Locations Free Sealer or Pant W/59.95 Incoming Cleaning</p> <p>Park Ave \$1.75 Cleaners 844-8091 Canton \$1.50 Per Item for Dry cleaning</p>	<p>Rags to Riches Cleaners Clawson 15% Off Dry Cleaning Only (Min. \$25 Order)</p> <p>Touch of Class Plymouth 15% Off All Dry Cleaned Garments</p> <p>White Cleaners & Coin Laundry Berkley 30% Off Incoming Dry Cleaning Orders</p> <p>\$ Entertainment</p> <p>Detroit Zoological Society Royal Oak 10% Off All Membership Packages</p> <p>\$ Financial Services</p> <p>James B. Williams, CFP Livonia 50% Financial Plan + Inv. Fees</p> <p>Kozak Consulting Co., Inc. Westland 10% Discount Off 1999 Income Tax Prep</p> <p>Tax Time Westland Free Electronic Filing with Paid Return</p> <p>\$ Florists & Gifts</p> <p>Home Royal Oak 10% Off Purchase (not to be combined w/other offers)</p> <p>Kelvins Floral Expressions Ferndale 10% Off - Excluding Wire Orders</p> <p>Mary Jane Flowers Royal Oak \$5.00 Off Any Purchase Over \$10.00</p> <p>Steve Codens Flowers Southfield Free Delivery in Metro Detroit Area</p> <p>The Green Bee Royal Oak 10% Off Purchase over \$10</p> <p>\$ Home Improvement</p> <p>ABC Plumbing Clawson \$20 Off Service or \$25 Off SNR</p> <p>American Blind and Wallpaper Factory Plymouth 10% Off Order \$50 Min. Mention Code HE10</p> <p>Bergstroms Inc Plumbing & Heating Livonia \$15 Off Service Calls 734-522-1350</p> <p>Berkley Plumbing Berkley \$15 Off Plumbing Repair/Sewer Drain Service</p> <p>Beyer Heating & Cooling Inc. Ferndale 10% Off Air Conditioning Special</p> <p>Burton & Sons Garden City \$15.00 Off Service Call 734-427-3670</p> <p>Burton Plumbing & Heating Wayne 10% Off All Materials Service/Store</p> <p>Carousell Building and Painting Westland \$10.00 Off All Labor, 15% Seniors</p> <p>Casemore Electric Inc. Royal Oak \$25.00 Off Any Electrical Work Over \$200.00</p> <p>Coacha Carpet Care Ypsilanti 10% Reg. Scheduled Services, Carpet, UPH, Ducts</p> <p>Colby's Decorating Center 968 Newburgh Westland 10% Off All In Stock Merchandise</p> <p>Horton Plumbing Plymouth Free Laundry Tub & Faucet with Repipe</p> <p>I Do Windows 313-927-4990 Redford First Clean Free with Pre-Paid Service</p> <p>KTP Designs Inc. Berkley One Hour Free Interior Design Consultation</p> <p>Kroll Window Garden City \$300 Off 3 or More Windows</p> <p>New Beginnings LLC 734-513-0755 Livonia 10% Off Painting Two or More Rooms</p> <p>Sumner Plumbing & Sewer Royal Oak \$15 Off Service or SRS \$20 Off</p> <p>United Temperature Livonia Furnace Cleaning & Inspection \$57.00</p> <p>\$ Insurance</p> <p>Jensenmann Insurance Westland Gift for Comparing Home & Auto Insurance</p> <p>\$ Jewelers</p> <p>Bright Jewelers 44344 Cherry Hill 734-844-2404 Canton 50% Off 14K Gold Chains</p> <p>Chinn Jewelry Royal Oak We Will Pay Your Sales Tax Excluding Loose Diamonds</p> <p>Dobie Jewers Westland 1/2 Off Ring Sizing (excluding platinum)</p> <p>Miners Den Royal Oak Free Watch Battery (One Per Customer)</p> <p>O & D Bush Jewelers 734-455-3030 Plymouth 50% Off All Silver Jewelry</p> <p>Woods Pleasant Ridge/Royal Oak 1/2 Off Ring Sizing (excluding Platinum)</p> <p>\$ Landscape & Maintenance</p> <p>American Power Wash (734) 722-7278 Westland 1251 S. Wayne Rd. 20% Discount over \$120.00</p> <p>Billie Outdoor Care Canton Commercial Snowplowing Contract 10% Off</p> <p>D. A. Alexander & Co. Livonia 10% Discount</p> <p>Outdoor Fun Store Co. Wayne 10% Off Purchase of Any Wooden Playset</p>	<p>OV's Landscaping 734-728-8030 Westland \$150 OFF Sprinkler System over \$1500</p> <p>Saxtons Garden Center Plymouth 10% Off All Hand Garden Tools</p> <p>\$ Pizza</p> <p>Cottage Inn Pizza Birmingham 2 Large Pizzas w/One Item \$12.99</p> <p>Mafias Deli & Pizzeria 734-981-1200 Canton \$5.00 OFF a \$50.00 Purchase (excluding tobacco & alcohol)</p> <p>Papa Romanos Ferndale \$1.00 Off Bambino Bread with any purchase</p> <p>Pizza One Ferndale 2 Small Pizzas for \$8.99 + tax</p> <p>Railios Pizza Royal Oak \$1.50 Off Large Square Pizza</p> <p>Vizzys Pizza Palace - We Deliver 722-3333 Westland 2 Large Reg. Pizzas with 1 item & Jumbo Bread \$14.75</p> <p>\$ Restaurants</p> <p>Alexander The Great Westland 10% Off Entrees - Not Valid on Specials</p> <p>Barba Pasties Livonia 10% Off When You Buy 4 Pasties</p> <p>Burger King 120 S. Merriman Rd. Westland 99c Double Cheese Burger w/any purchase</p> <p>Burger King 237 S. Wayne Rd. Westland 99c Double Cheese Burger w/any purchase</p> <p>Beehive Family Dining Wayne 20% Off Any Order</p> <p>Christine's Cuisine Ferndale 10% Off Any Dinner Entree (Carry Out Only)</p> <p>Clubhouse BBQ Ferndale Free 2 Liter of Faygo with Any Purchase (\$7 Min.)</p> <p>Code 35 Coffee Cafe Inc. 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OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Ambassadors clinch

The Compuware Ambassadors clinched first place in the North American Hockey League's Eastern Division with a 6-1 win over the Rochester Junior Americans Friday.

Two goals by Todd Bentley, a goal and two assists from Andy Burnes, a goal and an assist from Andy Green, single goals from Alex Sawruk and Matt Rutkowski, and three assists from Ryan Lessneau propelled the Ambassadors.

That win, combined with a 7-1 trouncing of the Cleveland Barons March 22, improved the Ambassadors' record to 37-14-3 (77 points).

Against Cleveland, the Ambassadors got two goals and two assists from Ryan Webb, two goals and one assist from Sawruk, and goals from James Wisniewski (from Canton), Daniel Knapp and Mark Cannon.

Craig Kowalski was in goal for both wins, stopping 41 of 43 shots to earn NAHL Goaltender of the Week honors for the second-straight week. It is the third time this season Kowalski has been honored.

For the season, he has a 32-12-3 record with a league-high 48 appearances, with a 2.41 goals-against average, a .922 save percentage and four shutouts. Kowalski has committed to attend Northern Michigan in the fall.

Women's golf league

A women's Friday morning golf league will get underway May 8 at Fellows Creek Golf Course in Canton. All ability levels are welcome; individual handicaps will be established.

Tee times begin at 9 a.m. The 16-week season costs \$15 to register and weekly greens fees. There are no residency requirements.

For more information, call (734) 397-5110.

Not this time! Whalers romp

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

Enough all ready.

Twice the Plymouth Whalers had met the Guelph Storm in a first round Ontario Hockey League playoff series. And twice they had been thoroughly frustrated.

The Whalers, who rose to the top of the OHL with a 17-game winning streak that stretched from the end of January to mid-March, had lost just five times since December. Losing twice in three days was inconceivable.

And unacceptable.

"We had hit a hot goaltender," said Whalers' coach Pete DeBoer, referring to Guelph's Chris Madden.

Madden's miracles were a no-show in the third game of the series, played Wednesday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena. Indeed, Madden was sent packing midway through the second period after giving up five goals.

His replacement, Craig Andersson, wasn't any more effective as the Whalers swarmed the goal and simply overwhelmed the Storm in posting an 8-0 victory.

"This," said an obviously relieved DeBoer, "was a big-time turnaround. It's just what the doctor ordered."

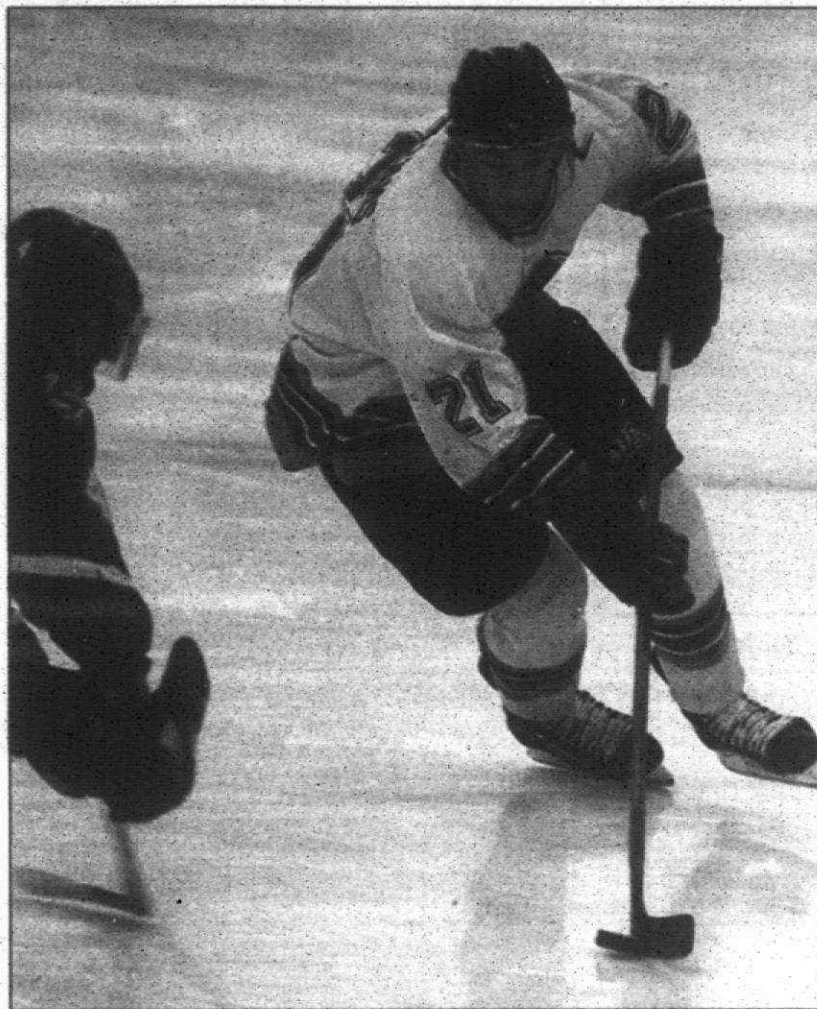
"We had trouble scoring goals (in the first two games) and we got eight of them tonight. Rob Zepp had given up a few goals and tonight he got a shutout."

"You couldn't have ordered a better script."

The guys who co-authored this best-seller (at least it was to Whaler fans) with Zepp were Justin Williams, who single-handedly chased Madden by scoring three goals against him, and Steve Weiss, who also connected for a hat trick.

Williams, who led the Whalers in goals with 37 during the regular season but had been shutout in the first two playoff games, had six points in this one.

The Whalers started the game slowly, almost cautiously. But they started



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMANN

Unstoppable: Justin Williams proved to be just that, riddling the Guelph defense for three goals and three assists in leading the Whalers in an 8-0 rout.

to roll about six minutes in and the Storm couldn't keep pace.

A turnover by Guelph at mid-ice, forced by Weiss, led to the Whalers' first goal — scored by Weiss, who

knocked in a rebound of a Williams' shot with 12:35 left in the first. Shaun Fisher also assisted.

With 7:05 left in the period, the Whalers made it 2-0 with a power-play

goal by Williams on a play started by Damian Surma behind the net. He pushed the puck to Fisher at the point, and Fisher found Williams in the slot for the scoring shot.

With less than a minute left in the first, a Williams' takeaway and pass to Randy Fitzgerald, positioned directly next to the Guelph net, resulted in a third goal.

If the Storm still believed a comeback was possible, the opening 10 minutes of the second period convinced them otherwise.

Williams scored twice in the first 8:16, slamming in his own rebound on the first. On the second he calmly skated through the slot, waiting for Madden to commit. After the Guelph goalie obliged, Williams put his shot top shelf, making it 5-0.

After that, Madden retired to the bench, replaced by Andersson. Both sides got feisty and the rest of the game was marred by a half-dozen fights, which led to 10 misconduct penalties.

All the goal-scoring, however, belonged to Plymouth. Surma finished a charge to the net by Fisher and Cole Jarrett, making it 6-0 with 6:08 left in the second, and Weiss capped a 2-on-1 break with his second goal of the game with 2:16 left in the second.

Weiss' third goal came just 52 seconds into the third period, tapping in a pass from Fisher. He totaled five points in the game, with Fisher getting four assists and Kris Vernarsky and Jarrett adding two apiece.

The resurgence wasn't due to any major alterations, DeBoer said. "We changed the lines around a little bit," the Whalers' coach explained. "But being down 2-0 (in games), I didn't think it was a good time to start changing things too much."

The Whalers, who have outshot opponents regularly all season, had a 42-31 advantage this time. "If we can outshoot them, I like our chances," said DeBoer.

Please see WHALERS, C5

GIRLS TRACK PREVIEWS

Rocks have the stuff to keep WLAA title

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

It's a constant complaint among coaches of any spring sport: Seniors become pre-occupied with graduation and everything that goes with it and either give a half-hearted effort or decide not to play the sport at all.

Plymouth Salem's girls track team is fortunate enough to avoid that. The Rocks have enough senior leadership to recapture the Western Lakes Activities Association championship for a fourth-consecutive year, and more than enough young talent to make some noise at the state meet.

But let's not elevate expectations beyond reach before the season has even started.

Still, it must be difficult for Salem's Mark Gregor — entering his 13th year as the varsity coach — to hide his optimism. He knows he has a well-stacked deck to deal, and the last thing he wants

Please see SALEM TRACK, C2

Young Chiefs must improve to move up

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

There are a few losses but lots of newcomers for Plymouth Canton's girls track team. The question is, can the additions offset the subtractions?

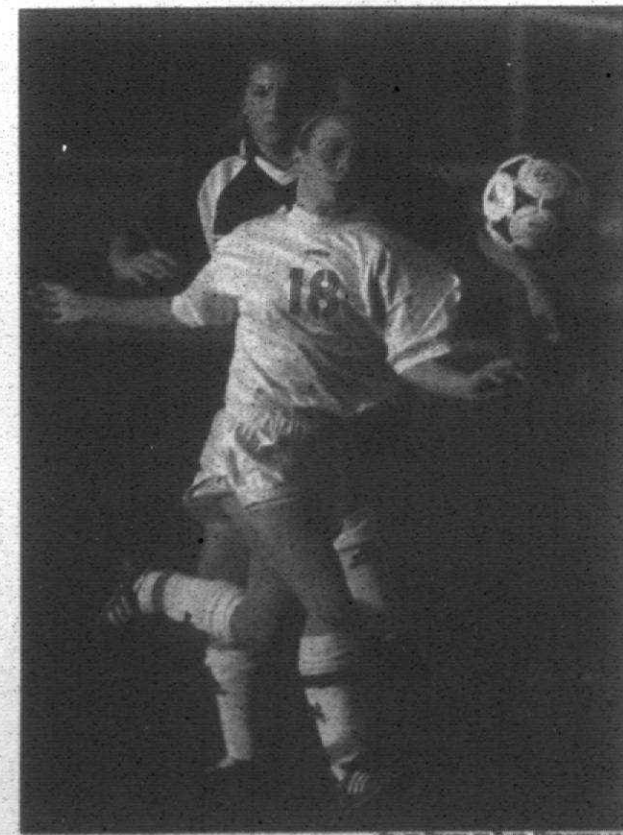
Among those who have graduated are hurdler Crystal Alderman, thrower Jenny Sciberras, mid-distance runners Jaclyn Bernard and Kelly Tabaka, and distance runner Lark Haurert.

Those are a lot of points. Alderman won the 300-meter hurdles and placed fifth in the 100 hurdles at last season's Western Lakes Activities Association Championships, and Sciberras placed third in the shot put.

With them the Chiefs finished seventh in the 12-team league. John Venning, Canton's coach, is hoping to at least match that finish.

"I'm guessing that's about where we'll be this year," he said.

Please see CANTON TRACK, C2



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMANN

Initial goal-scorer: Kellee Mullin (18) powered past the Novi defense to score Plymouth Salem's first goal of the year.

Salem starts with a victory

They only managed to score a single goal, but that was enough to give the Plymouth Salem Rocks a 1-0 victory over Novi in its season-opening girls soccer match Monday at Salem.

The win gave new Rocks' coach Joe Nora a victory in his opening game. "I was very pleased," he said. "We didn't dominate, but we played well. We did a good job knocking the ball around."

The only goal of the game was scored midway through the opening half, when Salem's Kellee Mullin knocked one in with an assist going to Jami Coyle.

That proved to be enough, in part due to a strong defensive effort and a shutout performance in goal turned in by Jill Dombrowski.

Scoring goals was a bit of trouble for Salem last season. It's a problem Nora does not see repeating.

"I don't foresee it being a problem," he said. "We practice finishing every day."

"We had a lot of shots on goal (against Novi) but not that many quality chances. As the game went on, our offense played better."

Salem returns to action tonight in a game that's been changed from Friday to Thursday. The Rocks will host Ann Arbor Huron at 7 p.m. tonight.



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*Harbor Golf Club is open for limited daily play during membership build-up period.

Salem track from page C1

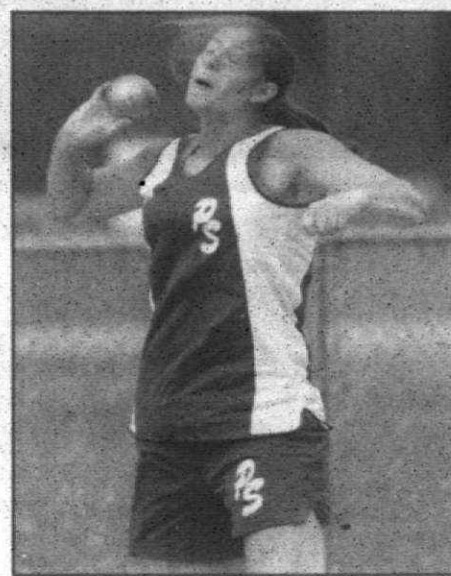
to upset the equilibrium. "I think this team has a chance to be better than last year's, but there's a lot of things to consider," said Gregor. "They need to realize what it takes to compete up a level."

"Sooner or later, they'll have to compete with someone as good or better than they are. They're going to have to deal with that." Results from last year's state regional and state meet provide Gregor with all the fuel he needs to light that fire. After edging rival Livonia Stevenson for the WLLA title, the Rocks finished third at the state regional — behind Stevenson and Detroit Cass Tech — then ended up 11th at the state meet.

The reason for their state meet position rested solely with current senior Tiffany Grubaugh. Grubaugh captured the state championship in the discus and placed third in the shot put, scoring all 16 of Salem's points.

"Every state qualifier we had from last year is back," noted Gregor. "And all of them except Tiffany have nothing to show for it."

That should provide enough motivation for the upperclassmen, and they in turn should provide the underclassmen with insight and leadership. If the mix comes out right, the Rocks



State champ returns: Salem's Tiffany Grubaugh won the state title in the discus and placed third in the shot put at last season's state finals. She accumulated 16 points, but that accounted for all of the Rocks' scoring, something that must change this season.

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMAN

could indeed be a force to be reckoned with.

It starts, of course, with Grubaugh, the defending discus and shot put champion in the WLLA and the region. "As a junior, she took it as far as she could and she's still hungry," said Gregor. "She's amazing the way she approaches things."

Four others share the team co-captainship with Grubaugh: Aisha Chappell, Rachel Jones, Brynne DeNeen and Miranda

White.

Chappell was fourth at the WLLA meet in the high jump and 100-meter hurdles, fifth in the 300 hurdles and ran on the 4x400 relay that placed second. "If there's anything tougher than those four events, I don't know what they are," said Gregor. Jones came within the blink of an eye of winning two events at the WLLA meet. She finished first in the 200 meter dash, but got edged by Walled Lake Western's Crystal Kuzma in the 100 (both ran a 12.7). "No one works harder than Rachel," insisted Gregor.

DeNeen placed seventh in both the long jump and 400 at the WLLAAs, and White took sixth in the discus at the WLLAAs and is a solid 400 and 800 runner.

Two other seniors who will contribute are Val Brown in the hurdles and Kristin Kukahn in the 400, 800 and hurdles.

Autumn Hicks is one of several impressive juniors. A state qualifier in four events last season (she placed ninth at the state meet last season), Hicks was second in the 400 and third in the high jump at the WLLAAs in '99.

Michelle Bonior took third in the 100 at the WLLA meet; she'll also throw the shot put and run in the sprint relays. Katie Gerst is a thrower who has worked her way up to a position as a potential scorer; Erikem Amable, a transfer from Flint who joined

the team last year, could help in the 400, the high jump, and perhaps the shot and discus; and Jessica Bobee, a pole vaulter.

The talent already listed should be enough to challenge for the WLLA title with. But Salem has much more.

Sophomores include Celena Davis, who finished sixth in the 100 last season at the WLLAAs; Kim Wood, a 1,600 runner who placed fifth in the league in '99; Melissa Drake, who was fifth in the 200 and is versatile enough to run anything from 100-400 meters as well as long jump and pole vault; Mary Lou Liebaw, the team's top high jumper and a 200-400 runner; Kelly Holka, a hurdler; Lori Cairo, a shot putter; Jessica Shamberger, a sprinter and long jumper; Kelly Solano, a middle-distance runner coming off a knee injury suffered in soccer last spring; and Angela Florn and Jennifer Jedlick, both pole vaulters.

With all that, Gregor will be tested to find spots for some talented freshmen, like Erin Jensen (800 and 1,600), Jennifer Early (shot put, discus) and Susan Woodward (sprints, long jump).

"From top to bottom, this is a real competitive group," said Gregor.

The coaching staff, he feels, will keep the team focused. Dave Gerlach, Salem's girls cross country coach, will handle distance events; Tom Garrett and Dana Driscoll will coach sprinters; Jay Blaylock handles the throwers and sprint relays; Ken Constantino works with the pole vaulters; and Gregor will concentrate on the high jumpers, hurdlers and 4x400 runners.

The Rocks will have to be focused to compete with Stevenson. "Every year in the Lakes (Division), Salem and Stevenson end up battling," Gregor said. "Stevenson has some outstanding kids back. They'll be a very formidable rival for us."

Gregor knows problems could surface. "I always said two things could slow them up: injuries or sickness, or if they start thinking they're better than they are."

That's where the senior leadership and those coaches should make a difference. How much of a difference time will tell.

Canton track from C1

Of course, predictions this early in the season are difficult to make — particularly with a team as young as Canton's. The junior class figures to be prominent, although there is a group of talented seniors who should contribute as well.

Distance runners Amy Dupuis and Lisa Ferguson, thrower Kim Yount and high jumper/middle-distance runner Elizabeth Lanning are the most promising of the seniors. Dupuis finished eighth in the 3,200-meter run at the WLLA finals last season.

Lanning missed last season with what turned out to be a stress fracture in her shins.

Several of this year's juniors scored at the '99 WLLAAs. Meredith Fox was fifth in both the 100 and 400 runs, and she anchored Canton's first-place 1,600 relay.

Indeed, three members of that relay return: joining Fox are Kristian Schilk and Terra Kubert, both juniors. Only Alderman is missing.

Those three should help make Canton strong in the middle-distance events, together with sophomore Tekla Bude — she placed eighth in the 400 at the WLLAAs last year.

Another junior standout is Amy Driscoll, who placed sixth at the WLLAAs in the long jump. This season, Driscoll will also high jump and pole vault, and run almost any race. "She works extremely hard," said Venning. "She can run almost anything."

Juniors Amy Rogerson and Milyn Matheny will work to fill the void in the hurdles left by Alderman's graduation; Rogerson also runs middle-distance, as does Sheri Leventhal, another junior.

Bude leads a strong group of sophomores. She'll run sprints and perhaps the hurdles as well. Other sophomore hurdlers are Amy Fitzsimmons, Jessie Myka and Julie Rotrumel; Rotrumel is a middle-distance threat, too.

The Chiefs middle-distance to distance crew will also feature a lot of incoming freshmen. Erica Stoney, Jessica

Lively, Pam Reaser, Sarah McCormack and Tonda Shimb were cross country runners last fall and should help in the longer races. Lindsey Karimie, another freshman, is a hurdler.

All told, there are 75 kids out for girls track at Canton and, as Venning pointed out, "Most of them are hanging in, they're sticking it out."

Still, the Chiefs don't appear to have the overall talent of Plymouth Salem or Livonia Stevenson, the two teams that figure to battle it out once again for first in the WLLA.

Salem's captured the last three conference championships, but Stevenson has outrun the Rocks at the last two state regional meets.

"I think Salem's stronger this year than last year," said Venning. "And Stevenson still has (Andrea) Parker, and they had a great cross country team."

It should be fun, it should be a fun year, Salem and Stevenson should be the class of the league. Then it's a free-for-all.

The two Walled Lake schools, Western (third in the WLLA last year) and Central (fifth), could still be formidable. Westland John Glenn, which placed fourth last season, has suffered several losses and may falter some.

But Venning thought both Livonia Churchill and Northville could be difficult opponents. As for his own team:

"We'll be strong in the 400, and in the 1,600 relay," he estimated. "In the 800 we look pretty good."

The young depth we have in the distance events will get nothing but better. They're getting stronger all-around. And our pole vault might be decent."

Still, there are lots of questions to be answered. "We have to improve our sprinters and our hurdlers," Venning said. "If we want to make any noise in the WLLA, we have to get better in those events."

With untapped talent, it's always difficult to gauge.



Dave Moss
Redford CC



Jason Moul
Redford Unified



Brandon Kaleniecki
Redford CC



Brian Williams
Redford CC



Ryan Yost
Redford CC



Jim Spiewak
Redford CC



Adam Krug
Livonia Churchill



Matt Lee
Farmington Unified



Mark Nebus
Livonia Stevenson

6 all-staters on All-Observer

BY OBSERVER STAFF

Four years ago, Pete Mazzoni was at a crossroads.

He had just been hired to coach Redford Union's fledgling hockey team, but still wanted to give college football coaching a try.

So he quit the job before the season started, spent some time at Defiance (Ohio) and at Albion College.

"But I decided that it wasn't what I wanted to do," Mazzoni said. "I wanted to get back into teaching."

A spot opened up at Redford Union along with the coaching spot for the hockey team — now combined

with Thurston High School to form the Redford Unified team.

Nice career choice. After going 19-4-2 in the Unified squad's first year, RU went 22-2-1 this past season and went as high as No. 4 in the Division I rankings.

It also earned Mazzoni the spot as the Observer's Hockey Coach of the Year.

Mazzoni might have been the best on the bench, but there were several players who earned their way onto the Observer's All-Area Hockey Team.

Introducing the top 12 players in Observerland regardless of position.

FIRST TEAM

Dave Moss, Catholic Central: Moss was a leader in many ways for the

ALL-OBSERVER HOCKEY

FIRST TEAM

F: Dave Moss, Sr., Redford CC
D: Jason Moul, Sr., Redford Unified
D: Brandon Kaleniecki, Sr., Redford CC
D: Brian Williams, Sr., Redford CC
D: Ryan Yost, Sr., Redford CC
F: Jim Spiewak, Sr., Redford CC

SECOND TEAM

F: Adam Krug, Jr., Livonia Churchill
F: Matt Lee, Sr., Farmington
D: Mark Nebus, Sr., Livonia Stevenson
D: Nate Jankowski, Jr., Liv. Churchill
D: Dave Sellin, Sr., Redford Unified
G: Kevin Mathews, Jr., Liv. Stevenson

THIRD TEAM

G: Ben Durne, Sr., Redford CC
F: Brad Wolfe, Jr., Plymouth Canton
F: Josh Garbutt, Jr., Livonia Franklin
F: Mike Perano, Jr., Liv. Stevenson
F: Brad Heraghty, Sr., Farm. Unified
D: Sean Sporkak, Jr., Liv. Churchill

FOURTH TEAM

F: Kevin Moads, Sr., Red. Unified

F: Joe Morneau, Sr., Redford CC
F: Alex Piotrowski, Sr., Liv. Stevenson
G: Ryan McBroom, Jr., Liv. Churchill
G: Logan McLean, Sr., Farm. Unified

COACH OF THE YEAR

Pete Mazzoni, Redford Unified

HONORABLE MENTION

Redford Catholic Central: Joe Hillebrand, John Bosters, Derek Gierlich, Brett Johns, Dorelle Franklin, Brandon McCullough, Sam Dismuke, Paul Stathos, Rob Williams, Chris Garbutt, Chad Van Hulle, Livonia Stevenson: Bryan Dery, Mark Blazek, Matt Calus; Plymouth Canton: John Bockstanz, Jeremy Majzak, Rick Laabrook, Brad Aronov, Ryan Zelinak, Sean Deppe; Plymouth Salem: Steve Nigdel, Mark Yagel, Mike Thachukay, Dan Valentin; Farmington Unified: Ross Patterson, Preston Picard, Kevin Temerowski, Tom Close.

Shamrocks as they clinched their third state championship in four years. The senior forward was named first team All-State in Division I and the All-State Dream Team by the coaches association.

Moss, who will play next season with the St. Louis Sting of the North American Hockey League, had 16 goals and 30 assists for CC with a plus-minus rating of plus-27. He scored a hat trick in the Shamrocks' 6-1 semifinal win over Troy.

"He's got great hands and a great feel for the puck," said CC coach Gordie St. John. "At 6-2, he's got tremendous reach, he picks the corners well."

Jason Moul, Redford Unified: Moul was the spark for Unified this season.

He led the squad with 32 goals and added 38 assists in leading the team to the Michigan Mega Conference title.

Not only did Moul, a senior, make the Division I all-state team, but received more votes than any other forward.

Brandon Kaleniecki, Catholic Central: Kaleniecki had the kind of season that some players can only dream about.

Kaleniecki, a senior forward, led the Shamrocks in goals with 26 and scoring with 56 points, was named Division I first team All-State and was a solid con-

didate for the Mr. Hockey Award by the coaches association. He'll have a chance to hone his skills next year, by joining Moss with the St. Louis Sting.

"He was the heart of the whole team," said St. John of the Shamrocks' most valuable player. "He went from a kid who couldn't do two pushups to one of the strongest players on the team. He's the most wonderful success story in the world."

Brian Williams, Catholic Central: A pair of goals in the championship game was a perfect way to cap the season for Williams.

The senior forward scored 20 goals — including a team-leading four power-play goals during the regular season — and added 23 assists for the Shamrocks this year and earned first-team All-State honors for his efforts.

As far as pure talent goes, he might be one of the most talented in the state for his age," said St. John. "He's got the quickest feet in the state. He's just a tremendously talented kid."

Ryan Yost, Catholic Central: At 5-9, 165 pounds, Yost wasn't the bigger player on the ice, by any stretch. But he played big and came up with big games in anchoring a CC defense that yielded just 44 goals and 447 shots in the regular season.

In all, the senior had five goals and a team-leading 35 assists on the season.



Kevin Marlowe
Livonia Stevenson



Dave Sellin
Redford Unified



Nate Jakubowski
Livonia Churchill

He also led the squad with a plus-minus rating of +47 and earned all-state first team honors.

"He became a real offensive force for us in the second part of the season," St. John said. "Playing defense, you have to have a feel for the game. He had the ability to control the pace of the game and that's what you look for in a defenseman."

Jim Spiewak, Catholic Central: Spiewak is the lone junior on the team, but his play landed him a spot on the all-Observer team as well as all-state first team honors.

He scored 13 goals and 14 assists during the year and had three power-play goals during the regular season with a plus-minus rating of +31.

"He's just got a great work ethic and is an extremely strong, physical player," said St. John. "In terms of underclassmen, he's the leader. When times got tough, he had the ability to turn it up a notch."

SECOND TEAM

Adam Krug, Livonia Churchill: The 5-foot-9, 150-pound junior center finished the year with 12 goals and 27 assists in 24 games for the Division I regional champions.

"Adam is a smart player, very crafty," Churchill coach Jeff Hatley said. "He's a tough little guy. He played with a broken arm his freshman year and had a very bad collarbone, around 40 percent, against CC in the quarterfinals. He'd have to be dead to take him out of the lineup."

The team captain was also an All-Western Lakes selection.

See OBSERVER HOCKEY, C4

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Chiefs 18th at relays

There weren't a lot of points scored by Plymouth Canton's boys track team, but considering the wide-ranging field of competition, the Chiefs' performance was pretty good.

Canton scored 11.5 points to place 18th out of 59 schools. All of the Chiefs' points were scored in field events: Jordan Chapman tied for second in the high jump, clearing 6-foot-2, and Ugo Okwumabua placed fourth in the long jump with a leap of 20-3.

"In my opinion, we're ahead of where we were last year at this time," said Canton coach Bob Richardson.

Richardson was also pleased with the non-scoring performances of four relays. Jack Tucci, Ricky Singh, K.J. Singh and Jerry Gaines went 3:40.9 in the 4x400-meter relay; Gary Lee,

BOYS TRACK

Nate Howe, Jamie Bonner and Doug Kurth went 1:41.1 in the 4x200. Tucci, K.J. Singh, Howe and Gaines went 3:50.8 in the sprint medley relay; Tucci, John Schmidt, Matt Dukes, Scott Gillen and Jon Mikos went 11:51.2 in the distance medley.

The official time of the distance medley was 12:30.2, but then it was learned teams in that heat actually ran an extra 200 meters.

Canton runs at the Pioneer Indoor Track Invitational Saturday. The meet is hosted by Ann Arbor Pioneer HS and will be run at the University of Michigan Fieldhouse.

Madonna wins WHAC opener

Madonna University's softball team got its Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference season off to the right start.

On Tuesday, MU swept visiting Siena Heights, 11-2 and 5-4, in its first two WHAC games of the season in a twinbill at Ladywood High School.

A six-run first powered the Crusaders (14-5 overall) to the opening game win as Jenny Tenyer fanned six in five innings to raise her record to 4-2.

Vicki Malkowski went 2-for-3 with two doubles and four RBI and Lauren Barker went 3-for-3, scored twice and drove in a pair of runs.

In the second game, Madonna rallied from a 3-0 deficit in the bottom of the fourth, scoring five runs with the help of three walks and three wild pitches.

Angela Litwin (from Plymouth Canton HS) went 2-for-3 and delivered a clutch two-run single in the rally as Siena Heights

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

dropped to 6-8-1 overall.

Jenny Staup raised her record to 5-2 with 6 2/3 innings of eight-hit ball. Tenyer checked off a Saints rally at one run by getting the final out to earn her first career save.

Sunday at Livonia Ladywood, Madonna used a four-hit, no-walk performance by Tenyer to edge Saginaw Valley State 2-1.

Barker's two-run double in the second inning proved to be all the offense the Lady Crusaders would need. Carrie Shay matched Tenyer tossing a four-hitter with no walks.

In Sunday's second game, the Cardinals ended Madonna's 10-game win streak by beating the Crusaders, 7-1. Tanya Liske suffered her first loss of the season (after five wins), surrendering three runs on six

hits and two walks in 4 1/3 innings. Kelly Prill got the win for Saginaw Valley. Stacie Wilson and Emily Cunningham had two hits apiece for Madonna; Cunningham had the Crusaders only RBI.

On Saturday, Madonna swept a pair at Olivet College, 6-3 and 8-0. In the opener, Liske got the pitching win, allowing one earned run on four hits and two walks; she struck out three.

Litwin had two hits (including a double) and two RBI, and Malkowski and Kristy McDonald (Redford Thurston) each had two hits and an RBI to pace Madonna's hitters.

In the second game, Staup pitched a six-hit, one-walk shutout; she struck out six vs. Olivet (9-5-1).

McDonald had a triple among her three hits with two RBI, and Malkowski had three hits, including a solo home run. Cunningham, Stacie Wilson and Meghan Quinn each had one hit and an RBI.

Observer hockey from page C3

"Adam is a good playmaker, the kind of guy who makes everyone around him better," Hatley said. Matt Lee, Farmington Unified: The sophomore forward led the Flyers in scoring with 21 goals and 24 assists and was the team's most valuable player.

Lee was a tremendous playmaker, according to coach Glenn Breuhan, and was Farmington's go-to player on the power play.

"To me he's a Wayne Gretzky-style player," Breuhan said. "He's so fluid in his skating, and he sees the ice so well. He can make a scoring chance out of nothing."

"He's a very responsible defender; he's one of the first guys back. You get everything out of Matt Lee every night. He gives you 100 percent all the time."

Mark Nebus, Livonia Stevenson: The 6-0, 190-pound senior played both forward and defense for the Spartans.

In 21 games, Nebus had eight goals and 23 assists with 24 penalty minutes.

He was also voted All-Western Lakes and made All-State as a junior.

"Mark is a special kid, our captain, a leader on and off the ice with a 3.0 grade-point average," Stevenson coach Mike Harris said. "Mark moved back to defense from center to make the team better defensively."

"He's a fabulous hockey player, tremendously strong

with excellent skating skills and explosive speed."

Stevenson's co-MVP was selected to represent Team Michigan, an elite high school team, in the National Hockey (III) Showcase.

Nate Jakubowski, Livonia Churchill: The 5-10, 180-pound junior captain was a standout on defense for the Chargers.

Jakubowski was named to the All-Western Lakes team.

"Nate is a good athlete," Hatley said. "He brings a good attitude. He's a good leader."

"He's an offensive defenseman who likes to get in the rush and create chances. He's also a physical player."

In 24 games, Jakubowski had seven goals and 17 assists.

Dave Sellin, Redford Unified: If Moul was the heart of RU's squad, then Sellin was its soul. With 19 goals and 46 assists, Sellin was second on the team in scoring and in the Mega.

Sellin, a senior defenseman, earned honorable mention All-State honors and racked up an eye-popping plus-minus rating of +86.

"Dave has great vision," said Mazoni. "He sees the ice as well as anybody. If he gets into trouble, he finds

a way to escape. He did everything — was on the power play, our No. 1 penalty killer — and got as much ice time as possible."

Kevin Marlowe, Livonia Stevenson: In 19 games, the 5-10, 170-pound junior netminder had a 12-5-1 record with three shutouts.

His goals-against average was 1.68. He allowed 32 goals in 21 games. He also had two assists.

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SEASON/DATES

Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

CLASSES/CLINICS

FLY TYING
Ply 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.

MORE 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

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, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. (indoor); and Friday fun league, 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS
Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. membership meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month at Knights of Columbus, St. Pius X, 6177 Chicago Road, in Warren. The public is welcome. More information can be obtained by calling Ed Wilczek at (810) 757-7365 or club president Ray Banbury at (810) 598-0310.

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.

OUTDOORS CALENDAR

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 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 Chumley 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.

Whalers from page C1

Friday's game in Guelph will be a key matchup in this series. The Whalers can't afford to fall behind 3-1 in games; they must prevent the Storm from regaining momentum and continue to outshout them.

On Wednesday, Guelph certainly didn't match their previous efforts. Another day did the Whalers — fortunately.

Guelph 4, Plymouth 1: Chris Madden continued his mastery over the Whalers by stopping 39 of 40 shots to push the Storm's series lead to 2-0 Monday in Guelph.

The Storm took an early lead, with Brent Kelly scoring at 2:07 of the first period (Joe Gerbe assisting). Lindsay Plunkett

made it 2-0 with a goal at the 14:11 mark (Morgan McCormick, Charlie Stephens assisting).

The Whalers closed the gap to 2-1 when Shaun Fisher got a goal at the 15:32 mark, with assists from Stephen Weiss and Jon Billy. But it was the only time Plymouth could solve Madden.

The Storm increased their lead to 3-1 with a goal from Matt House (from Stephens) with 1:59 left in the second period. Plunkett's second goal of the game, scored with 23 seconds remaining to play, capped Guelph's triumph (Kevin Dallman, Bo Subr assisting).

Rob Zepp had 16 saves for Plymouth.

Guelph 5, Plymouth 2: The combination of Chris Madden in goal and Eric Beaudoin on the ice was too much for the Whalers in Saturday's OHL playoff opener at Compuware Arena.

The Storm upset the league's regular-season champion with Beaudoin scoring a hat trick and Madden stopping 31 of 33 shots.

Guelph scored twice in the second period and, after the Whalers rallied with a pair of power-play goals early in the third to knot it at 2-2, the Storm netted three unanswered goals to wrap up the victory.

Beaudoin and Kent McDonell, who also had two assists, got second-period goals for Guelph. Randy Fitzgerald and Stephen

Weiss got the power-play markers for Plymouth, with Damian Surma assisting on both. Weiss also assisted on Fitzgerald's goal, and Shaun Fisher assisted on Weiss.

Kevin Mitchell's goal 22 seconds after Weiss had tied it allowed the Storm to regain the lead. Beaudoin took care of the rest, getting a power-play goal at the 11:24 mark and an empty-net marker with 38 seconds left.

Rob Zepp had 30 saves in goal for the Whalers.

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Women seeking Men

GOOD GIRLS LOVE BAD BOYS

SF, 43, blonde/blue, seeks attractive, fun, down-to-earth, LTR. Truck owner & plus. Let me rock your world! #2012

DARE TO DREAM

Feminine, attractive, young-looking DWF, 52, 5'10", blonde/blue, N/S, single mom, independent, creative, sincere, loves adventure, travel, outdoors, family, entertaining, intelligent conversation. Seeking tall, attractive SWPM, single dad, similar in age/interests. #2024

WE CAN MEET

Sweet, sincere, honest, hardworking SWF, 37, 5'4", blonde/green, enjoys camping, walking, candlelight dinners, cuddling, movies, and sports. Looking for SM, 35-56, to share good times and romance. #1992

LOVE IS ALIVE

Sweet, lovable, innocent SF, 20, looking for a loving guy for friendship, dating, and more. #2011

TOMATO GROWER

Good-looking, down-to-earth, caring, compassionate SWF, 51, seeks gentleman, 50-60, who likes sunsets and gentle rain, for committed relationship. #1998

GREEK GODDESS

Attractive DPCF, 42, mother of two, enjoys cooking, the outdoors, and more. Seeking a mature, loving, moral SCM, 35-50, for LTR/possible marriage. Sense of humor a +. #1999

LOOKING FOR MR. RIGHT

Easilygoing and honest SWF, 6, blonde/blue, HW proportionate, two children, N/S, social drinker. Seeking S/DWM, 28-36, for possible LTR. #1756

ATTRACTIVE, SLIM PERFECTIONIST

Catholic SWFP, 35, 5'7", 135lbs, blonde/blue, N/S, never married, seeks attractive, educated, romantic, physically fit, successful Catholic SWPM, 32-38, N/S, never married, for friendship first, possible LTR. #1999

BLUE-EYED BEAUTY...

So I've been told. Down-to-earth, not materialistic, slim, pretty SWF, 25, 5'5", 115lbs, seeks tall, short, rich, poor SM for friendship and possibly more. Oakland County. #1876

HORSEMAN WANTED

SWF, 35, 5'11", blonde/green, full-figured, one 13 year-old son, enjoys horseback riding, horse shows, music, family time, seeks "horseman" SWM, 30-40, for friendship, dating, and more. LTR. Kids ok. #1421

ADVENTUROUS

SWF, 28, enjoys reading, traveling, dancing, family time. Seeking family-oriented, outgoing, commitment-minded SWM, for romance and monogamous LTR. #1778

LOVES TO DANCE

Light-skinned SBF, 5'5", 145lbs, no kids, loves dancing, reading, working with people. Seeking SM with similar interests for dating, possible LTR. #1976

ATTRACTIVE/PASSIONATE DR.

Brunette, 30s, never married, N/S, with great smile and zest for life, likes to travel. Seeks sincere, intelligent, successful, financially secure, gentleman, SWM, 37-45, with a graduate degree. #1696

ROMANTIC & PASSIONATE

Attractive, plus-sized SWF, 35, enjoys long walks, comedy, reading, and animals. Seeking fun, intelligent, communicative SWM to enjoy time with. #1911

GENTLEMAN BIKER

SF, 33, HW proportionate, long reddish-brown/blonde-green hair, enjoys Harley's, outdoors, fishing, travel. Seeking gentleman with similar interests. #1659

SEEKING THAT SPECIAL YOU

SWF, 36, seeks WM, 32-39, 5'5", who's a friend of the bar scene, likes sports, for serious committed relationship. #6304

SECOND TIME AROUND

Fun-loving, attractive, widowed WF, 50, 5'2", 120lbs, blonde/blue, loves dogs, dancing, camping, long drives, good books, PBS specials, and more. Seeking outgoing, family-oriented SM, 60+, N/D, drug-free, with similar interests. #1929

SEEKING

Ultra-feminine, petite, slim, European blonde, with very sophisticated tastes, seeks highly successful SWM, 50-60, for possible LTR. #1900

A NEW YEAR, A NEW START

Cute, honest, caring, secure, old-fashioned SWFP, 49, 5'11", blonde, loves holding hands, laughing, walking, boating, dining, travel, seeks nice-looking, slim SWPM, 50-60, N/S, who is short in stature but in heart. #1989

LET ME BE YOUR SUNSHINE

Intelligent, easygoing, widowed WF, 51, 5'7", blonde/blue, N/S, social drinker, financially/mentally secure, enjoys playing cards, movies, dining, long walks, and fireplaces. Seeking SWM, 55-65, for companionship. #1928

SOPHISTICATED HAPPY

Fit, bubbly, outgoing SF, 5'8", blonde/brown, N/S, enjoys golf, hiking, travel, theater. Seeking tall, financially/emotionally secure gentleman, 48-55, who exhibits qualities of a true friend. #1709

SEEKING MY SOULMATE

Energetic DWF, young 46, 5'2", blonde/blue, like nature, waterfalls, baseball, tennis, alternative medicine. Seeking SWPM, 36-49, N/S. #1990

FOXYS SENIOR

Youthful, fit SWF, 60, 5'2", 135lbs, blonde/brown, loves traveling, reading, political awareness, all aspects of entertainment. Seeking an outgoing, lively, honest, healthy, financially secure, good-looking, youthful SWM with high morals, for monogamous LTR. #1770

LET'S GET TOGETHER

Attractive, energetic, friendly, honest SWFP, 40, 5'3", 110lbs, blonde/blue, enjoys art, long walks, gardening, biking, nature, some sports. Seeking an open, communicative, caring SWM with similar interests, for friendship first. #1222

THIS IS ME

SF, 5'11", 110lbs, long blonde/blue, has children, loves bowling, concerts, movies, dining, boating. Seeking SM with similar interests, for LTR. #1504

GROWN-UP BOY

Classy, very attractive, down-to-earth, slim SWF seeks intelligent, financially secure SWM, 48-54, brown or dark hair, who likes to have fun. #1339

THE ONE FOR ME?

Good-looking, slim SF, 40, 5'3", brown/brown, good sense of humor, one daughter, likes movies, dancing, comedy clubs, dining out, reading, plays, fishing, animals. Seeking S/DWM with time for a relationship. #1939

ABC'S

Attractive, bubbly, curvaceous DWF, 46, blue-eyed blonde, professional musician with passion for life, seeks intelligent, romantic, emotionally/financially secure SWM, 40-55, 5'10", N/S, for possible LTR. #1878

ROMANTIC SOULMATE

Tall, attractive DWF, 5'10", blonde/brown, passionate about life, is searching for that one special man, 48-54, financially/emotionally secure, who loves life, sports, fun and romance. #1879

HONEYBUCKLE ROSE

SF, my age is vintage wine, 5'8", slender, blue eyes, Jewish and a coal-miner's daughter too, enjoys cooking, baking—how about a sample? Seeking best friend, real and fun conversation. #5602

ATTRACTIVE WIDOW

Intelligent, slender, tall WF, 53, ladylike, warm-hearted, smoker, seeks tall gentleman, 50-60, who enjoys traditional manners, the intelligent, interested in sharing romantic dinners, conversation, and laughter with me. #5061

COMPANION & BEST FRIEND

SWF, 5'4", 138lbs, blonde, N/S, seeks SWM, 45-58, who's young-looking and energetic like myself. A little bit country, a little bit rock-n-roll, can be humorous as well as serious. #1695

LOOKING FOR MR. RIGHT

SWF, 35, 5'7", HW proportionate, blonde/hazel, likes biking, tennis, camping, outdoors, dancing, and animals. Seeking an honest, considerate, family-oriented man for possible LTR/marriage. #1887

SEXY REDHEAD

Easilygoing, fun-loving DWF, 49, 5'8", 138lbs, great legs, no kids, Belleville housewife, animal lover, enjoys gardening and nature. Seeking DWPW, 50-60, 6', N/S, social drinker, for LTR. #4997

A RARE FIND

Attractive lady seeks companionship of professional gentleman, 40-50, who enjoys theater, museums, exhibits, excursions. Lost messages 1/10-1/11, please call me. #1257

HOCKEYTOWN GIRL

SWFP, 5'7", brown/brown, never married, Catholic, loves hockey, movies, concerts, dining, dancing. Seeking SWPM, 39-45, similar interests, for friendship, dating, possible LTR. #1977

THE ICON IS LOVE...

Very pretty, curvaceous, professional SBCF, 38, variety interests, seeks handsome, loyal, passionate, fit SBCM of integrity, 30-40, N/S, for one-on-one dancing and romance. Serious only. #1995

SEEKING HONEY GUY

SF, 5'2", 135lbs, light brown hair, student, no kids, loves basketball, swimming, gymnastics, reading, cooking, walks. Seeking sweet, fun-loving, family-oriented guy for serious relationship. #1951

SEXY SINGLE

SBF, 40, 5'10", 165lbs, black/brown, light caramel complexion, self-employed, 2 kids, loves singing, dancing, jazz, cooking, having fun. Seeking dark, handsome, single SM, 40+, 6', for friendship first, possible LTR. #1968

BRIGHT & CHARMING

Intelligent, inquisitive SF loves movies, dancing, singing, writing poetry, meeting new people. Seeking open-minded man who wants to be with a nice person for friendship. #1971

AD/WESTLAND AREA

Attractive DWF, 40, 5'2", 115lbs, blonde/green, college-educated, enjoys movies, reading, beaches, traveling. Seeking honest, caring SWM, 40+, 5'10", for friendship first. #1960

FRIENDSHIP/COMPANIONSHIP

Friendly, kind-hearted SBF, 45, 5'5", 200lbs, enjoys simple things in life: picnic, walks in the park, movies, television, seeks SWM, 35-40, for friendship possible LTR. N/S, N/D. #1974

ENJOY LIFE WITH ME

Fun-loving SF, 41, no dependents, seeks fun-loving, affectionate gentleman, N/S, over 40, to share interests. Race open. #1958

LIFE IS GRAND

Pretty SWF, 5'7", 130lbs, spiritual, non-religious; degreed, energetic, very youthful 40ish, child-like delight. Seeking similar SM to share pleasures of emotional intimacy, joy, hiking, meditation, yoga, openhonest communication, mutual trust. LTR. #1213

STARTING OVER WITH YOU

Easilygoing, overweight DWF, 44, 5'10", N/S, N/D/Drugs, enjoys outdoors, walking, bowling, cards, some sports. Seeking honest, loyal SWM, N/S, N/D/Drugs, for relationship leading to marriage. #2780

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR LOVE

SWF, 52, 5'6", medium build, brown hair, enjoys fine dining, reading, jazz music, family gatherings, walks in the park. Seeking degreed SWPM with similar interests, for monogamous LTR. #1205

SINCERE AND CURVY

DWPF, 5'8", blonde, two grown children, seeks romantic white gentleman, 49-60, fairly sophisticated, financially/emotionally secure, interested in fun times and sports. #1112

STILL SEARCHING

Attractive DWF, 5'8", brown/brown, thin, fun to be with, enjoys movies, dining out, the outdoors, and fishing games. Seeking attractive, tall SWM, 33-40, with similar interests, for friendship, maybe more. #1476

SEEKING FRIEND

Independent DW mom of 2, 40, 5'10", brown/hazel, enjoys movies, sports, hiking, camping. Seeking committed LTR partner, a man who can cook and is not into playing games. #1886

BEAUTIFUL SMILE

Athletic, attractive, young-looking DWF, 5'1, 5'7", HW proportionate, brown/brown, college-educated, great sense of humor, enjoys sports, dining out, concerts, movies, travel, quiet evenings. Seeking tall, healthy, family-oriented SWM, 50-55, N/S. #1889

HOPELESS ROMANTIC

Energetic, beautiful SBCPF, 5'5", 145lbs, loves and trusts God, enjoys exercising, traveling, entertaining, movies. Seeking prosperous, driven gentleman with similar interests, N/S, HW proportionate for friendship. Southfield area. #1874

YOUNG ATTITUDE

SWF, pretty, sensitive, and compassionate, enjoys arts, music, dancing, and shopping. Seeks tall, handsome, good looking, classy SWM, 50-60. Let's enjoy the finer things in life together. #1872

TOO CHARMING

Hard-working and energetic SWF, 40, 5'8", HW proportionate, curvy, enjoys music, dancing, physical activities. Seeking an outgoing, affectionate, family-oriented SWM, 37-55, for friendship first. #1873

SENSUAL SPIRITED SWEET

Petite DWF, 5'7", looking for love again with romantic, trustworthy, very fit, emotionally/financially secure, non-smoking SWM, 55-65. Let's enjoy dining, movies, travel, theater, weekend getaways. #1831

ARE YOU READY FOR...

Attractive, charming, active, open-minded, pleasantly plump, widowed WPF, 58, red/blue, enjoys concerts, plays, talk, movies, seeking tall, passionate, humorous SWM, 45-60, for dating. LTR. #1835

SEEKING

Tall, teddy bear SWF, 44, smoker, social drinker, seeks financially secure gentleman, 48-55, who knows how to treat a lady, for one-on-one relationship. Garden City area. #1808

ARE THERE ANY GOOD ONES LEFT?

Seeking romantic, affectionate, honest SWM, 39-45, who would like to meet a good woman, 39, for a possible LTR. #1783

A RARE FIND

Pretty, curvy SWF, 33, 5'4", entrepreneur, lots of fun, enjoys movies, plays, concerts, traveling. Looking for sincere, successful WM, 45-75. Float your boat, meet your day, answer my ad today. #3738

LOVELY, PASSIONATE, LADY

Bright, European, 55, seeks tall gentleman for fun and conversation. Travel, adventure, nature, honesty, are some of my pleasures. If you are a like person, let me pleasantly surprise you. #1792

TOUCH OF CLASS

Soar into a LTR with classy, attractive DWF, 5'3", 130lbs, sexy eyes, blonde, romance and adventure. Seeking SWM, tall and 45+. Sincere replies a plus. #1789

CUTE, CLASSY, BLONDE

DWF, late 50s, seeking companion for romantic dining, dancing and theater. Possible LTR. #1788

THE EYES HAVE IT

SWF, 40+, 5'6", attractive, hardworking, independent, seeks SWM who's handsome, tall, employed. Must have a great sense of humor and love animals, for friendship first. #6126

DANCING THROUGH LIFE

Energetic, fun, passionate, secure DWF, 48, seeks SM with similar attributes, for friendship and romance. #1759

LOOKING FOR LOVE

Attractive, emotionally/financially secure, honest, caring DWF, young 50, 5'4", brown/blue, N/S, looking to live again. Seeking SWM for concerts, dining, movies, sports, travel, together, for friendship leading to LTR. #1755

SHARING TIME

Attractive SWFP, 5'2", 110lbs, brown/brown, N/S, down-to-earth, with great humor, enjoys golfing, dining, theater, seeking Handsome, SM, 45-52, to spoil and pamper me, North Oakland area. #1746

BE MY VALENTINE

Cute DWF, full-figured, smoker, financially secure, seeks SBCWM, 43-53, who likes beaches, Vegas, traveling, for LTR. Serious only. #1711

LOOKING FOR LOVE

Plus-sized woman, 51, brown/hazel, enjoys movies, long walks. Seeking kind, friendly, good-hearted man to share laughs and life with. #1721

COULD IT BE YOU?

SWFP, seeks Mr. Right, 45-55, who likes golfing, movies, dancing, quiet dinners at home or on the town, and has a flair for spontaneity. Could it be you? #1700

HONEST, FUN, CARING

Widowed SF, 56, 5'2", light brown/hazel, HW proportionate, likes doing just about anything, music, books, dining, movies, theater, sports. Seeking a SM for companionship, possible LTR. #1487

STARTING OVER

Affectionate retired SM, 49, 5'5", blonde/blue, likes dining out, movies, walks in parks, television, and evenings in. Seeking nice lady to have some fun with. #2021

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PERSONAL SCENE

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Men seeking Women

COUNTRY GIRL DESIRED... for LTR, possible marriage. DWM, 35, 5'8", 150lbs, single father of eight-year-old son, enjoys rodeos, horse shows, family time. Seeking S/DWF, 28-42, with similar interests. Children ok. #1325

ATHLETIC JOCK TYPE

Rugged, athletic, tall, muscular SWM, 40, 6'3", 235lbs, brown/blue, clean-cut, degreed, enjoys Las Vegas, road trips, outdoors, good sense of humor. Seeking friendly SF for companionship. Age/race open. #14018

NEW SPECIAL GAL

Clean-cut, down-to-earth DW did, 46, 6'1", 180lbs, brown/green, smoker, automotive professional, wears glasses, enjoys golf, bowling, movies, walks, romance. Seeking new best friend, 37-48, for loving, caring, sharing relationship. #1757

STARTING OVER

Affectionate retired SM, 49, 5'5", blonde/blue, likes dining out, movies, walks in parks, television, and evenings in. Seeking nice lady to have some fun with. #2021

YEAH, BABY!

Easilygoing, honest, enjoyable SWM, 38, 5'8", 165lbs, brown/brown, no dependents, happy homemaker, likes sports, dining, pool, bowling, and having fun. Seeking pretty SF, 25-45, slim-medium, no dependents, for possible LTR. #1980

IN OR OUTGOING

Retired male, 37, father of 3, independent, financially secure, likes movies, fun, dancing, going out, sports. Seeking beautiful, nice, compassionate woman who likes to have fun. Pocaterra, please call back. #1066

NO GAMES

100% nice guy, 0% loser. SWM, 30, 5'10", fit, engineer with simple tastes, has everything in life he needs except you to share it with. No pressure, will call at. #1997

ITALIAN STALLION...

47, attractive, muscular, versatile, romantic, seeks classy, slim, very attractive, successful SWIAF. Under 45, for friendship, possible relationship. #2155

SEEKING LATINA

SWM, 35, 6'3", dark/blue, great sense of humor, enjoys sports, movies, and concerts. Seeking attractive SHF with no children, for dating and possibly more. #1944

EDUCATED ATHLETE

SWPM, 44, 6'1", 180lbs, red/160lbs, athletic build, likes golfing, skiing, tennis, biking, movies, dining. Seeking FF, 35-45, 5'8", HW proportionate, N/S, who shares interests, for mutual enjoyment of each other's company. #1669

OLD-FASHIONED ROMANTIC GUY

DWM, 35, extremely fit, very giving, honest and sincere, loves animals and kids. Seeking slim, WHIAF, soft, feminine, sweetheart, soulmate, for LTR. #1913

FORTHRIGHT AND FAITHFUL

Handsome, professional DWM, 39, 5'10", 180lbs, with brown/dark brown, enjoys travel, skiing, golfing and dining out. This gentleman seeks an attractive, fun-loving and family oriented SWCF, 29-36, for dating. Potential LTR. #1870

LOYAL, HONEST, SINCERE GUY

College-educated, spontaneous, handsome, fun-loving SWM, 53, 6'1", 190lbs, believes in loyalty, integrity, honesty, and respect. Seeking S/DWF, 35-49, physically fit, slim, for LTR. West side preferred. Kids ok. #1834

THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Spend "A Day in a New Century Garden" at the 2000 Ann Arbor Spring Garden & Flower Show, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Ann Arbor, 1-94 to Exit 174, then south. Admission \$10 adults, \$9 seniors, \$5 children (age 12 and under), call (734) 434-8004.

SATURDAY



"Let Your Spirit Soar," a celebration of visual and performing arts at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, (west of Middlebelt), 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Highlights include children's workshops 10 a.m. to noon, concerts 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and an art exhibit. No charge with the exception of a Kingdom Heirs gospel concert at 8 p.m. Concert tickets \$8, call (248) 476-8860.

SUNDAY



The first Athena Women's Music Festival 1-4 p.m. at Amer's, 312 State Street in Ann Arbor showcases the talents of local folk-pop artists including headliner Lori Aney. No charge, call (734) 761-6000 for more information.



Hot Ticket: Garth Fagan brings his troupe, "Garth Fagan Dance," to the Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts in Detroit, Thursday-Sunday, March 30 to April 2. Tickets \$30-\$40, call (313) 963-2366 or (248) 645-6666.

EL DORADO

ANIMATOR BRINGS COLORFUL CHARACTERS TO LIFE

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

Not many people make a definite career choice at age 9. But Dreamworks animator Kent Culotta took one look at "Sleeping Beauty" and knew just what he wanted to do.

"I loved the way that one looked," said the Plymouth native. "I saw everything that came out at that time. It was a cumulative effect."

Culotta studied graphic design at Michigan State University, where he learned to use an animation camera. After earning his bachelor of fine arts degree, he moved to California and completed graduate school coursework in animation at UCLA.

Now a Glendale, Calif., resident, Culotta has had a hand in "Pinocchio and the Emperor of the Night," and recent favorites like "Who Framed Roger Rabbit," "The Little Mermaid," "Rescuers Down Under" and "Beauty and the Beast." He adds characters like Roger Rabbit and Droopy, Ariel and Ursula, and Belle to his list of experience with character model clean-up and assisting other animators.

Truly realizing his longtime dream, Culotta became an animator for Dreamworks' "The Prince of Egypt" and furthered his skill with Dreamworks' latest release "The Road to El Dorado."

The City of Gold

"The Road to El Dorado" tells the story of two wide-eyed friends, the discerning Tulio (Kevin Kline) and the free-spirited Miguel (Kenneth Branagh), who in 1519 stumble upon the legendary city of gold known as El Dorado. Mistaken by High Priest Tzekel-Kan (Armand Assante) for revered gods, the bumbling con men believe they've found the road to fortune and glory.

But their lies begin to unravel and time runs short as Spanish explorer Cortes approaches and Tzekel-Kan threatens an evil takeover of El Dorado. It's the pure-hearted ruler, known as the Chief (Edward James Olmos), who's onto their scheme but aids them every step of the way.

With the help of Chel (Rosie Perez), a stunning and smart native, good triumphs over evil. Like Elton John sings, "All will be revealed/On the trail we blaze," and friendship becomes more valuable than all the gold in El Dorado.

The comedic adventure-fantasy is



Ruling powers: The Chief and Tzekel-Kan believe ancient gods have arrived in El Dorado in a scene from "The Road to El Dorado."



A way out: The Chief, animated by a team including Plymouth native Kent Culotta, speaks to Miguel and Tulio who are eager to take their gold and leave El Dorado.

brought to life by a host of animators like Culotta. From the streaming rivers and rushing ocean waves, to the lush rain forest and sparkling city of gold, the latest in high-tech animation draws fire from the sketches of imagination and colors it in with vibrant, realistic movements, heart-felt emotions and life lessons.

"I just think it's a great way to tell a story," said Culotta, who worked on the animation for the Chief. "There's just so many things you can do... It's a very rich medium."

Paving his own road

In the mid 1980s when he was beginning his career, animation was in a sort of slump, confined to television cartoons like "He-Man" and considered to be "kiddie stuff." Culotta

didn't realize then that he was on the cusp of a cartoon renaissance spurred by companies like Walt Disney Feature Animation.

"When I started it was very difficult to get a job," he said. Now film and television are flooded with traditional and computer animation. It isn't just restricted to Saturday morning cartoons anymore.

While computer animators also worked on "The Road to El Dorado," Culotta draws by hand. His only contact with computers is shooting his drawings with a computer-operated camera. While he sees the industry moving closer to computers, he said, "I love having a pencil in my hand."

That pencil did not serve as lead animator for the character, so Culotta did not set the tone and mannerisms of the Chief. But he did help bring the Chief to life onscreen. "My job is to try to assimilate (the lead animator's) version of it and make it my own as well."

As often happens, the Chief became a different sort of character in the final product than he was originally intended to be. "He started out mainly as a comic figure and ended up being more the straight man," said Culotta. What animators initially pictured as a cartoon-like Jackie Gleason became a much more serious, profound character of enormous proportions and keen observations. "He's a good guy; he never really believes these are the gods they pretend to be."

Please see **EL DORADO**, E2



Orchestra: Conductor Nan Washburn and the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra.

Orchestra 'pops' for a good time

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
lchomin@oe.homecomm.net

Looking for fun, laughs, a good time? Then Nan Washburn wants you to take note of the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra's approaching Pops Dinner Concert and Auction Friday, April 7 at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

If you love a South American beat or music from movies such as "Pocahontas" and "E.T.," the Plymouth Symphony conductor thinks you're gonna love "Spring Fling: Dance & Romance."

A major fund-raiser for the orchestra now in its 54th season, the evening features silent and live auctions of items ranging from a chance to conduct the orchestra to season tickets and an evening at Genetti's dinner theater. A raffle will award a first prize of \$1,000 and a second prize of two airline tickets.

"It's a fun, fun event with a great meal and a combination of dance and romance tunes that are favorites, but with a sprinkling of some exotic things," said Washburn. "It's important for the community to support the orchestra and it gives the orchestra a chance to let their hair down a little bit. There'll be auction items that they might get a good deal on and an auction winner who'll get to conduct Sousa."

Program

The evening program includes such popular tunes as Alan Menken's "Color the Wind" and "Carmen Suite No. 1" by Georges Bizet. But count on Washburn to add her own color to the program. Orchestra members have been working hard to learn the difference between a western and eastern glissando for Mao Yuan's "Dance of the Yao People." They'll play the work right after "Summer-time Fantasy for Flute and Orchestra," an adaptation of a Gershwin song by Ronald Foster. PSO principal flutist Deborah Rebeck Ash

Please see **ORCHESTRA**, E2

BALLET

Dancers sparkle in enchanting 'Swan Lake'

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
lchomin@oe.homecomm.net

Eric Johnston is enchanted with Tchaikovsky's classic ballet, "Swan Lake" because it has all the elements of a good love story — a prince falls in love with a girl he hopes to save from spending the rest of her life as a swan.

Johnston, a Farmington Hills resident, dances the role of Prince Siegfried in addition to directing the production by Eric Johnston's Detroit Ballet Sunday, April 9 at the William M. Costick Activities Center. The timeless tale, which debuted in St. Petersburg in 1895, features Sally Wood as Odette, the White Swan.

"It's a compilation of the four-hour 'Swan Lake' with highlights of the story," said Johnston. "They talk about fundamentals of human relationships apart from human love."

History

This is the eighth "Swan Lake" Johnston's directed although he's danced in the ballet many times. A dance student from age 4, Johnston knew he wanted to eventually join a traditional ballet company. In his early teens, he learned the basics from George Zorich, a former principal dancer with Ballet Russe de Monte

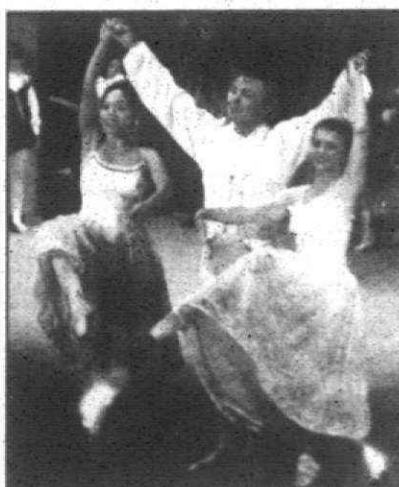
Carlo, at the Betty Johnston Dance Studio owned by his mother in Farmington Hills. He went on to train at the American Ballet Theater School, the Harkness Ballet and University of Cincinnati where he earned a bachelor of fine arts degree.

Johnston has been a member of the Cincinnati Ballet Company and London Ballet Theater, London England. He returned to Detroit in 1985 to teach at the school his mother, Betty began 50 years ago. Johnston also teaches at the Birmingham Dance Academy. He founded Eric Johnston's Detroit Ballet 13

years ago as a bridge for dancers hoping to one day perform with a professional company.

Johnston's Detroit Ballet presents four productions a year including "The Nutcracker," and children's ballets such as "Peter and the Wolf" and "The Sorcerer's Apprentice."

"Ballet goes in and out of popularity depending on if there's a Baryshnikov or a Margot Fonteyn in the spotlight," said Johnston who received the Farmington Area Arts Commission's Artist-in-Residence award in 1993. "If I don't do it, nobody will. We're losing the tradition of a ballet company. I'm an artist. If I don't speak, ballet will be lost and



Classic tale: Eric Johnston (center) and company members in a scene from Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake."

these ballets say things."

Passion

It's apparent Johnston, who's 44, still has a passion for dancing. He's frequently a principal in the company's productions.

"Dance isn't like a painting," said Johnston. "Dance will never happen again. There's something beautiful when they're dancing honestly — you'll see right into their hearts."

Caroline Coleman appreciates Johnston's commitment to ballet. The Farmington Hills resident danced her first "Swan Lake" at age 7 as one of the pages. Now 14, Coleman dances in the Swan Corps who accompany the White Swan, and as one of the princesses hoping to marry the prince. A dancer since age 4, Coleman is performing in her fourth "Swan Lake." She's currently understudying the role of the White Swan. She also takes part in the lecture/demonstrations Johnston presents to students in Detroit and Pontiac schools as part of the Omni Arts in Education program. He's made 400 appearances so far.

"That's what I like about Eric's productions," said Coleman, an East Middle School student. "He'll create roles and when you're not in it, you're an understudy. And I like to go to schools to present it. A lot of the kids haven't seen dance before."

Music

As a musician, Coleman has played Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker" music before. Her flute and piano playing help her evaluate the score before it comes time to put on her dancing shoes.

"It's been a lot of rehearsal and blocking and coordinating the dancers," Coleman said. "Knowing the music, you can appreciate what you're dancing to. Sometimes it's frustrating but you work at it to see if you can kick your leg higher or turn an extra time. Then if you can do it, it's a really great feeling."

'Cactus Flower' delivers laughs Orchestra from page E1

Schoolcraft College's Theatre Department presents "Cactus Flower" through Saturday, April 8. Show is sold out, but you can be placed on a waiting list for available tickets, call (734) 482-4596.

BY ROBERT WEIDEL
SPECIAL WRITER

Beginning with a lie isn't the way to begin a relationship. Unless, of course, the object is a screwball, comic farce. Which is just what the Schoolcraft College production of "Cactus Flower" delivers. Playwright and librettist, Abe Burrows, "Guys and Dolls," "Can-Can," "How to Succeed in Business" and famed "play

doctor" used his fertile bag of theatrical tricks to fill "Cactus Flower" with funny lines and situations. Brian Taylor (Dr. Julian Winston) turns in his usual solid performance as a swinging bachelor dentist with a Park Avenue clientele. His little black book would rival Hugh Hefner's. He's adept at covering one lie with another, then saying, "thank God I still have something left, my integrity." Jerri Doll, is stunningly funny as his ditz, main squeeze (Toni Simmons) with her New Yorker accent. She likes honest men, and is attracted to Julian, because he admits he is married with three kids when they meet. That, of course, is an

artful dodge, to juggle his many girlfriends. When Julian breaks a date, Toni falls in a suicide attempt (it's their first anniversary). In a panic to prove his love, Julian promises to divorce his wife. The fun begins when Toni demands to see the wife and to soothe her guilty conscience for breaking up a home. Brenda Lane is splendid as the dentist's spinster nurse (Stephanie) and substitute wife, who blossoms after the boss pays attention to her. Christopher Curd (Igor) is very good as Toni's neighbor who saves her from suicide, and ultimately wins her love. Timothy McKernan (Harvey) gives a nice performance as

Julian's buddy who assists in the elaborate plans to deceive Toni. The most definitive character of the evening is created by Benjamin Kari as (Senor Arturo Sanchez) a would-be Latin lover. Colleen Greenwell has the look of a Park Avenue lady of means in several elegant costumes. John Abair Jr., Ryan-Iver Klann, Tiffany Byars and Trish Kero round out the cast in fine fashion.

Even though Washburn's working hard to present a fascinating, multi-cultural program for the dinner/audition, she's also busy working out details for next season.

Washburn, who's in her first season with the orchestra, is excited about the music the Plymouth Symphony will perform in 2000-2001. This fall, look for more composers to talk about their work before concerts in which their compositions are presented.

Which brings Washburn back to the topic of money. The dinner/audition is vital if the orchestra is to raise the \$220,000 operating budget needed to deliver the new programs. In addition to revenue from ticket sales and donations from individuals and corporations, fund-raisers like the dinner/audition help bring music into the community. So instead of spending another boring Saturday night at home, get out and have some fun. Enjoy yourself and support the orchestra all at the same time. The Plymouth

mouth Symphony League already has. The fund-raising arm of the orchestra recently presented Washburn with a check for the \$25,000 they raised by holding card parties and a Holiday Home Walk.

"This year we had big successes with jazz and our March 18 concert featuring accordionist Peter Soave was sold out," said Washburn. "Certain pieces people love to hear. We brought in a composer into town and the audience loved hearing her talk about what went into the piece. We're also building the orchestra so we get better and better. We're working with repertoire to expand the orchestra's skill. Doing the Duke Ellington was a stretch but went over well with the audience. We're excited about the new season."

'Spring Fling: Dance & Romance'

What: The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra's annual Pops Dinner Concert and Auction to raise funds for the orchestra.

When: 6 p.m. Friday, April 7

Where: Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia

Tickets: \$45, \$25 for children through grade 12. Reservations required, call (734) 451-2112

Theater Company makes a play for new works

BY KEELY WYOGNIK
STAFF WRITER
kwyognik@homecomm.net

If there's such a thing as a theatrical saint, Jan Radcliff might be it.

"She's put her heart, mind and soul into this venture," said Livonia playwright David MacGregor. "She's interested in the creative process."

Radcliff, a Birmingham resident, is one of the founders of Heartland Theatre Company, producers of the fourth annual Play by Play 12-hour marathon, on Saturday, April 1 at Roeper School in Birmingham.

MacGregor's comedic play, "Revelation," will be among the 22 original works, ranging from 6 to 15 minutes. The plays will be presented twice between noon and midnight, an average of three to four plays each hour.

"We provide a venue to showcase new plays," said Radcliff. "We keep discovering new people."

Play by Play is Heartland Theatre Company's only fund-raiser. The event features the combined work of more than 100 writers, actors, directors and the-

ater artists.

Among those expected to attend are people from the Screen Actor's Guild, artistic directors of local and regional theater companies, theater buffs, and of course, relatives of those people performing on stage.

"It does expose actors who regularly work at the Detroit Repertory Theatre and other venues to new audiences," said Radcliff. "We asked them to list where they're performing next in their biography."

Heartland Theatre's focus is on developing and nurturing the artistic theater company. "We're not defining content," explained Radcliff. "We're interested in the process of writing plays."

But something happened over the last four years. They found that audiences "were blown away by the level of talent," said Radcliff. "I'm blown away by the talent and quality of the scripts we receive. We got 120 short scripts from all over Michigan and the world, the 22 we selected are really quite remarkable."

Play by Play has also become a place where people in the theater community network with one another.

Play by Play

What: Features 22 new works by local and regional authors. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

When: noon to midnight Saturday, April 1. Seventh inning stretch 6:30-7 p.m.

Where: Roeper School, Adams Road campus, between Maple and Big Beaver Roads, (three blocks north of Maple on west side of Adams Road), Birmingham.

Cost: All day admission \$20, hour-by-hour tickets \$5. Tickets sold at the door on day of marathon, first come, first served. Cash or check only. Call (248) 988-1094, Ext. 1 or (248) 433-1233 for more information. Proceeds support Heartland Theatre Company's writing programs and productions.

"They're so involved in plays that they don't get to see other people's work," said Radcliff. "This gives them an opportunity to watch and support that work. It creates a sense of community."

Radcliff will present "A Big Girl Now," a drama about a woman who has put her father into a private-care residence, and how she feels about leaving him.

Actor Mary Rychlewski will perform in Radcliff's play.

"It's beautifully written, honest," said Rychlewski, who co-founded Heartland with Radcliff. "It's about her own guilt for not being there when her father

was well. Now it's up to her to make him comfortable, and how she feels about having to leave him."

MacGregor, who teaches English and a film class at

Wayne State University, participates in the marathon because it's just plain fun.

"Writing plays is a long tortuous process," he said. "To get people to look at your play makes it complete."

Playwrights seeing their works on stage is much like the feeling an artist gets when their work is exhibited.

"If you've never been to the theater before, you'll learn how important it is," said Rychlewski. "How it brings up issues, makes you laugh and cry. If I get you into the theater and you like it, you'll come back."

Heartland Theatre Company works with artists year-round encouraging them to develop new scripts. Two of this year's

playwrights participated in Heartland's Young Playwright's program at Fitzgerald High School in Madison Heights.

If you can't attend the marathon, but want to make a tax deductible donation, send checks to Heartland Theatre Company, P.O. Box 2014, Birmingham, MI 48012

Retreat

This year the group is presenting a Writer's Retreat for anyone interested in learning about the craft of dramatic writing. Friday-Sunday, May 5-7 at the Skyline Conference Center in Almont, Mich. The cost is \$200 per person.

For more information, call (248) 988-1094, Ext. 1 or (248) 433-1233.

El Dorado from page E1

He's sort of the smartest character in the film.

The smartest character and the one which most closely reflects the logic of the audience in unraveling the story.

A shining example

Culotta said it takes patience, craftsmanship, acting ability and an observant eye to become an

animator. It can take as long as four years to complete one animated film — from the spark of the idea to the time it hits theaters. Animators don't begin working until a story is roughly worked out and production has begun.

Culotta finally saw the completed version of the film about two weeks ago and enjoyed it.

"It's interesting," he said. "When you work on a film, usually you can see only the faults." Once the story, animation and background music come together, what seemed to be lacking works out in the end.

The film features music by the Oscar-winning team of "The Lion King," Elton John, Tim Rice and composer Hans Zimmer, who col-

laborated with John Powell on the score.

Though "The Road to El Dorado" opens in metro Detroit movie theaters Friday, March 31, Culotta is already working on his next project with Dreamworks. What began with one sleeping beauty has led down a long road for the animator, a road that seems to be paved in gold.

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—New York Times

Concert ticket prices \$30, \$60, \$115, \$135, \$165, and \$250. Tickets are available at the Detroit Opera House box office and all ~~concession~~ ticket centers, including Hudson's and Harmony House stores. To charge tickets by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

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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WHAT'S COOKING

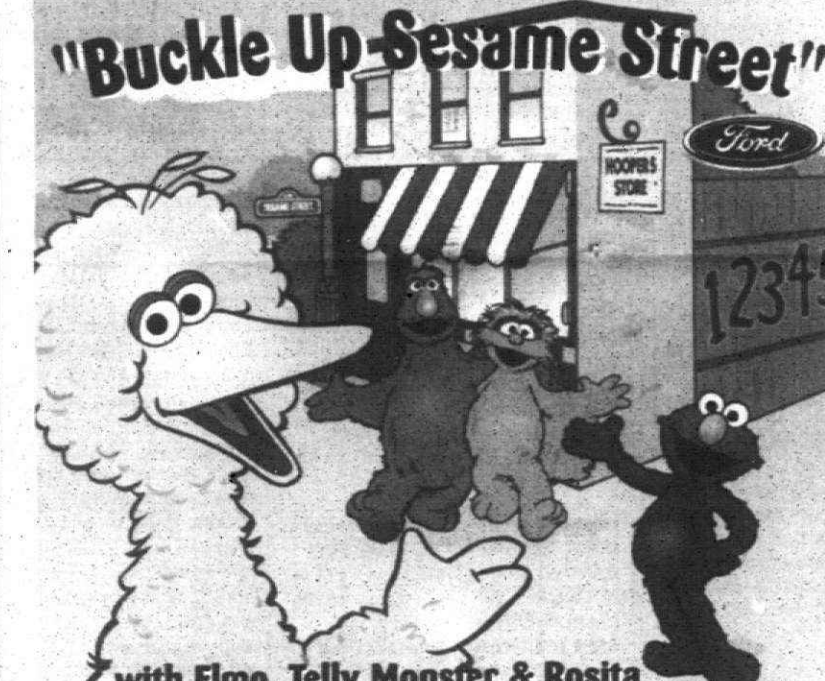
Check out the new menu at Panini Cafe & Grill, 42087 Ford Road, (between Haggerty and Lilley) Canton, (734) 981-7000.

Owner Adib Yassine has introduced more vegetarian items, combos and sandwiches. The Middle Eastern style restaurant offers freshly squeezed juices, a

variety of salads, soups, appetizers, sandwiches, and entrees. Panini Cafe & Grill is open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

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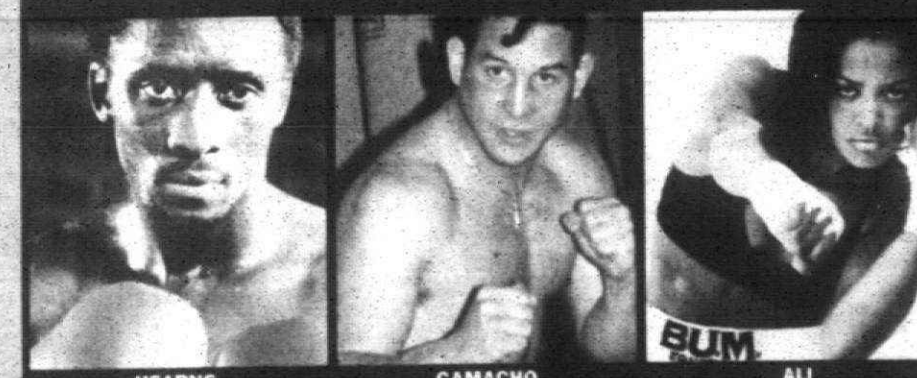
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A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

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 de 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. Saturday, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, 33 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800

JET: Arthur Miller's "Broken Glass," March 30-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 Davis Theatre, lower level of the Jewish Community Center, West Bloomfield. \$15-\$25. (248) 788-2900

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE: "Chagall's Arabian Nights," a love story inspired by the art of Marc Chagall by Meadow Brook Theatre Playwright-in-Residence Karim Alrawi, matinee and evening shows through Sunday, April 9, at the theater on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester. \$19.50-\$35. (248) 377-3300

COLLEGE

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE: "Cactus Flower," dinner theater performance 6:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 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 Theatre, 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: "Silkhot" by Kim Yagied, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 30-April 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at the Trueblood Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$14. (734) 764-0450; "Cabaret" 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 6-8 and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 9, at the Power Center, Ann Arbor. \$18, \$14, \$7 students. (734) 764-0450

WSU BONSTELLE: "Godspell" opens Friday, April 7 and runs to Sunday, April 16, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, Detroit. \$10-\$13. (313) 577-2960

WSU HILBERY: "Our Town," 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 30-31; "Five by Ten" continues to May 6, at the theater, Detroit. \$11-\$18. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATRE

FIRST THEATRE GUILD OF BIRMINGHAM: "The Pied Piper of Hamelin," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31-April 1, and 2 p.m. 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 seventh annual 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

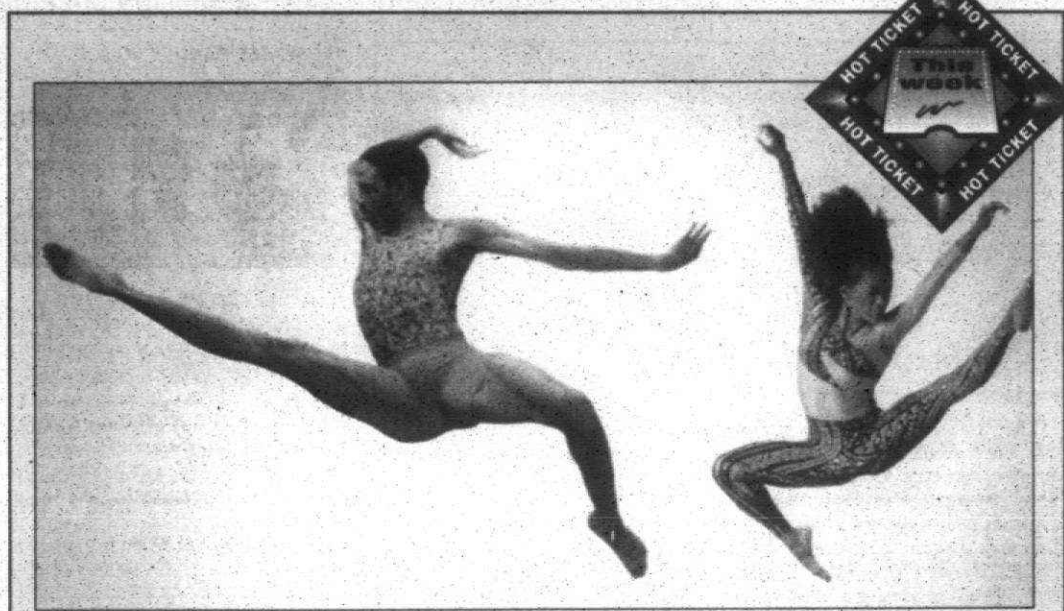
PARK PLAYERS OF NORTH ROSEDALE PARK: "The Wizard of Oz" 8 p.m. Saturday, April 1, 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 7-8, at the North Rosedale Community House, Detroit. \$15/\$13. (313) 835-1103

RIDGEVALE PLAYERS: "Oklahoma!" March 30-31 and April 1, Friday-Saturday shows 8 p.m., 3 p.m. Sunday, at the theater in Troy. (248) 988-7049

STAGECRAFTERS: "Barefoot in the Park," continues to Sunday, April 9, signed performance for deaf Thursday, April 6, at the Baldwin Theatre, Royal Oak. \$12-\$14. (248) 541-6430 or for TV assistance (248) 541-6796

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE: "The Trial of God" opens Friday, April 7 and runs to Sunday, April 30, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, Livonia. \$8 10 Friday-Saturday, \$5 Sunday. (734) 464-6302

VILLAGE PLAYERS: "Sherlock Holmes" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31-April 1, at the theater,



Dancing shoes: Detroit's Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts presents the energized, gravity-defying spectacle, "Garth Fagan Dance," Thursday-Sunday, March 30-April 2. Fagan is the Tony Award-winning choreographer of Disney's hit musical "The Lion King." The Wayne State University graduate and his latest revue have earned accolades including the New York Governor's Arts Award. "Garth Fagan Dance" blends jazz, Afro-Caribbean, ballet and modern dance in an exotic way. Tickets \$30-\$40, call (313) 963-2366 or (248) 645-6666.

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 \$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-Friday, March 30-March 31, and 2 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at Churchill Hill School, Livonia. \$7, \$5 students/seniors. (734) 523-8841

MARQUIS THEATRE: "The Pied Piper of Hamelin," 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through April 30, and 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, April 24-28, at the theater, Northville. \$7.50. (248) 349-8110

PUPPETART: Celebrates Puppetry Month with guest artists, 2 p.m. Saturday, April 1, 8, 15 and 22, at the Detroit Puppet Theatre, 25 E. Grand River, \$7, \$5 children. (313) 963-7777

BENEFITS

WHISTLE STOP PLAYERS: The musical, "The Adventures of Beatrix Potter and her Friends," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31-April 1, and 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, April 1-2, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, \$5, tickets suggested. (734) 416-4278

YOUTH THEATRE: "Jekyll and Hyde," 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, April 8, and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 9, at Music Hall, Detroit. \$8 advance, \$9 at door, \$8 Saturday morning Pre-Show Playshop. (313) 963-2366

SPECIAL EVENTS

BLUES CLUES LIVE: Join Blue, Steve and friends on a quest for the most spectacular place. Ten performances, times vary, Wednesday, May 3, Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$14.50-\$25.50. Includes a notebook and crayons. (248) 433-1515

BINDER CROSSINGS: A multi-layered artist concert featuring dance, poetry, animation and music, 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, in Rackham Auditorium in Ann Arbor. Free. (734) 747-8885

FRIENDS OF POLISH ART: Celebrate Easter with a traditional "Swienconka" meal and a demonstration of Easter palm weaving 2 p.m. Sunday, April 16

at Polonus Restaurant, Wyandotte. \$30 advance reservation by April 9. (248) 549-4527. If you wish to participate in the art of Easter palm weaving bring scissors and some palms for braiding.

EARTH DAY CONFERENCE: Detroit Audubon Society's annual conference begins with 7:30 a.m. bird walk, at the Belle Isle Nature Center, followed by 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. program at Central United Methodist Church. Detroit. \$15 programs/awards, \$10 child; \$10 program only, \$6 child. (248) 545-2929/(313) 928-2950

MOTOR CITY EXTRAVAGANZA: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at the Knights of Columbus, Livonia. \$2. (248) 426-8059

SPRING HOME & GARDEN SHOW: 2:10 p.m. Thursday-Friday, April 6-7, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, April 8, and until 7 p.m. Sunday, April 9, at the Novi Expo Center. \$4, \$3 seniors/children ages 6-12. (248) 862-1019 or www.builders.org

FAMILY EVENTS

AMAZING MARLO MAGIC SHOW: 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday, April 1 in the Food Court at Wonderland Mall, Livonia. Free. (734) 522-4100

ROYAL HANNEFORD CIRCUS: 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, April 6-7, 11 a.m. Friday, April 7, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 8, and 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, April 9, at the Palace of Auburn Hills. \$5-\$12, \$4 opening night. (248) 645-6666, group sales (248) 371-2055

RAISE THE ROOF:

A 25-hour band playing marathon, begins 5 p.m. Friday, March 31, in Pease Auditorium, Ypsilanti. Free. Proceeds will go to Huron Valley Habitat for Humanity and the Eastern Michigan University Bands. Anyone wishing to make a contribution should call (734) 487-1430

TASTE OF THE NATION PERFORMS: Strolling dinner and preview gala of Share Our Strength's Taste of the Nation (May 7), 7 p.m. Friday, April 7, at the Somerset Collection, Troy. \$125, black tie. Proceeds to benefit anti-hunger efforts at Forgotten Harvest, Gleaners Food Bank, Food Bank of Oakland County, and the Detroit Entrepreneurship Institute. (248) 557-2510

CLASSICAL

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

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Czech conductor Libor Pesek leads the orchestra in music performances by Czech conductors 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 30-31, and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, April 1; Estonian conductor Eni Kias leads

the orchestra in "Don Juan" and "Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks," 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, April 7, 8:30 p.m. Saturday, April 8, and 3 p.m. Sunday, April 9, at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. \$19-\$50; "Overtures" pre-concert buffet dinner followed by concert Friday, April 7. (313) 576-5111

HARP HEAVEN: "Music for One to Eight Harps" with guest violinist Paul Kantor and fustat Christopher Kantner 11 a.m. Saturday, April 1, at the Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$12, \$9 general seating, includes croissants, coffee and juice. (734) 769-2999

SPRING FLING: DANCE & ROMANCE: The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra's annual Pops Dinner Concert and Auction, 6 p.m. Friday, April 7, Laurel Manor, Livonia. \$45, \$25 for children through grade 12. Reservations required, call (734) 451-2112

ST. CLAIR TRIO: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at the Henry Ford Estate-Fair Lane, Dearborn. (313) 593-5330

UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY: Moscow Virtuosi and violinist/conductor Vladimir Spivakov 8 p.m. Friday, March 31, at Rackham Auditorium, Ann Arbor. \$26-\$40. Czech Philharmonic Orchestra 8 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor. \$14-\$46. (734) 764-2538

POPS/ SWING

DOUG DEMING & THE BLUE SUIT BAND: 8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 6, at Edison's, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

GEM JAZZ TRIO: Performs 7-11 p.m. Fridays Saturday, at the Century Club Restaurant, Detroit. (313) 963-9800

STEVE LACY-ROSSELL RUDD QUARTET: 8 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31-April 1, at the Bird of Paradise, 312 S. Main (new address), Ann Arbor. \$20 advance. (734) 662-8310

RANSEY LEWIS TRIO: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday through March, at Dunley 2 River Place, Detroit. (313) 259-0909

THE SPRING SWING: Concert celebrating Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Benny Goodman and the Andrews Sisters, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 1, and Pops Concert featuring Barry Baker playing the music of Gershwin, Ellington and more on the Barton Theatre Organ, at the Redford Theatre, Detroit. \$10. (313) 531-4407

AUDITIONS/ OPPORTUNITIES

BARBARA ANN KARMANOS CANCER INSTITUTE: Auditions for singers and dancers (men and women ages 18 and up) for annual dinner 6:30-10 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, March 29-30, additional talents like acrobatics and juggling an asset, bring one-tempo song, either Broadway-style or operatic, at First United Methodist Church, Royal Oak. (248) 738-0272

DETROIT SYMPHONY SUMMER INSTITUTE: Auditions for the intensive two-week training (July 16-30) for Michigan musicians ages 12-25, Monday-tuesday April 3-4, at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. (313) 576-5164

HENRY FORD MUSEUM & GREENFIELD VILLAGE: Auditions for 9 positions for spring shows (May 9-June 15) and 30 positions for summer shows June 17-Aug. 20, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 12 and 4-8:30 p.m. Monday, March 13, at the Anderson Center Theatre inside

Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn. (313) 982-6044

PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Is looking for an executive director/general manager to work with the music director and board to provide the vision and plan for the growth of the organization and provide primary leadership in development, fundraising, marketing and promotion activities. For more on the description/requirements or an application, visit the Web site at www.plymouthsymphony.org

SOLO CONCERTO COMPETITION: The Bohemians Club (also known as The Musicians Club of Greater 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 CofLlinks@aol.com

SUMMER SYMPHONY OF ANN ARBOR: Auditions begin Saturday, April 19 and run for three week-ends at Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti. For six performances of three programs scheduled May 18 to Aug. 6. To receive an audition packet, call (734) 741-9418, general orchestra information. (734) 677-4831

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

DANCE

AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE: "Swan Lake" 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 30-April 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at the Detroit Opera House. \$17-\$62. (313) 237-5115

CONTRA DANCE: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 1, open jam for string and other musicians of all levels 4-6 p.m. free, at the Pittsfield Grange, Ann Arbor. \$7. (734) 665-7704

DANCE GALLERY STUDIO: Discussion/demonstration on dance with guest Moore & More Dancers of Detroit, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at the studio Ann Arbor. Free. (734) 747-8885

DETROIT DANCE COLLECTIVE: The dance company celebrates its 20th anniversary with a gala concert, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 8, champagne reception for patrons begins 6:30 p.m., at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, Detroit. \$16.50 concert; \$35 concert and reception for patrons. No charge for afterglow following performance. (313) 963-2366

EISENHOWER DANCE ENSEMBLE: Entertainers and Exits. Dances for a New Millennium," 8 p.m. Friday, April 7, in the Smith Theatre at Oakland Community College, Farmington Hills. \$16. (248) 471-7667

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING: 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, April 4, at the Chapel Hill Condo Clubhouse, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 662-5158

GENDER FREE CONTRA DANCE: 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2 (1:30 p.m. beginners lesson) at the Pittsfield Grange, Ann Arbor. \$6, \$5 students. (734) 975-2312

HEARING IMPAIRED LISTENERS FAMILY/COMMUNITY DANCE: Hearing impaired and non-hearing impaired children, families and friends welcome 1-3 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at the Pittsfield Grange, Ann Arbor. \$4, \$7 family (scholarships available). (734) 741-8998

HIT AND RUN: DANCES FOR A NEW CENTURY: Performed 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31 and April 1 at Oakland University's Dance Company at Varner Recital Hall on campus in Rochester. \$10, \$8 seniors, \$5 students. (248) 730-3024

GARTH FAGAN DANCE: Thursday, March 30 to Sunday, April 2 at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, Detroit. Performances 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, \$30-\$40. (313) 963-2366/(248) 645-6666

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, 28600 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills. \$8, \$5. (248) 473-9570

WSU DANCE: An the Cohn-Hadow Center for Judaic Studies and Congregation Beth Am presents a dance workshop 9:30-11 a.m. Sunday, April 9, and a dance recital "Revisiting Judaism through the Art of Dance" 2:30-4 p.m. Sunday, April 9, at Congregation Beth Am, West Bloomfield. (313) 577-2679/(248) 851-6880; also a dance workshop 2 p.m. Monday, April 10, at the Maggie Alseebe Dance Studio on the campus of Wayne State University, Detroit. Reservations required. (313) 577-4273/(313) 577-2679

FOLK/ BLUEGRASS

BUDDY AND JILL MILLER: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, at The Ark, Ann Arbor. \$13.50. (734) 763-TKTS

ONE FLIGHT UP: Performs as part of Folk Vespers series 8 p.m. Thursday, April 2, at First Baptist Church, Birmingham. Free. (248) 644-0550

ODETTA: 8 p.m. Friday, March 31, at The Ark, Ann Arbor. \$17.50.

COMEDY

ELDRADO COUNTRY CLUB: Big Daddy Fitz with Tim Costello & Dee Proffitt, 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31-April 1, at the club, Concorde Township. (248) 624-1050

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB: Angel Salazar, also Mark England Thursday-Saturday, March 30-April 1; Kerry White Wednesday-

(734) 763-TKTS

CHORAL

ARCHIGLAS: A concert of religious music by the acappella choir from St. Petersburg, Russia, 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 31, at St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church School & Activities Center, Redford Township. Goodwill donation. (313) 937-2120/(248) 855-3247

CHRIST CHURCH CHORAL: Perform Bach's "Passion According to St. Matthew" with Jeffrey Sherman speaking the role of St. Matthew 4:30 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at the church, Bloomfield Hills. Free. (248) 644-5210

VANGUARD VOICES: All acappella performance 7 p.m. Sunday, March 26, Guardian Lutheran Church, Dearborn. \$10, \$7 students seniors. (313) 317-6566

MUSEUMS AND TOURS

SPIRIT OF FORD: Environmental Celebration continues through April at the interactive automotive science and technology experience with exhibits and theaters for all ages. Electric Ranger test drives on weekends, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, across from Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, Dearborn. \$6, \$5 seniors, \$4 ages 5-12. (313) 317-7474

LIVE MUSIC

BRYAN ADAMS: 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 3, State Theatre, Detroit. \$29.50-\$39.50. All ages. (248) 645-6666

THE ALLIGATORS: 9 p.m. Friday, March 31, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 3505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (734) 721-8609; 10 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Memphis Smoke, Royal Oak. (248) 543-4300

LORI AMEY: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Borders Books and Music, Birmingham. All ages. Free. (248) 203-0005; 1-4 p.m. Sunday, April 2, Athena Women's Music Festival, Amer's, Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (734) 761-6000; 8 p.m. Friday, April 7, Borders Books and Music, Utica. Free. (810) 726-8555; Saturday, April 15, Espresso Royale, Ann Arbor. All ages. Free. (734) 662-2770

PATO BANTON AND REGGAE REVOLUTION: 9 p.m. Friday, April 21, Majestic Theatre, Detroit. \$15-\$20. (313) 833-9700

JOHNNIE BASSETT AND THE BLUES INSURGENTS: 10 p.m. Thursdays, Music Menu, Detroit. (313) 964-6368

BENIEMAN: With Kirk Davis and Silver Cat. Juggling by Strictly Roots, 9 p.m. Friday, April 7, Majestic Theatre, Detroit. \$20. (313) 833-9700

B SIDE PLAYERS: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Shelter, Detroit. Free. 18 and over.

BIG BARN COMBO: With Gint Join Jesters, 9 p.m. Friday, March 31, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$7, 18 and over. (313) 833-9700

BLINK-182: With Bad Religion, Fenix TX, 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 9, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$25. (248) 645-6666

BLUE CATS: Thursday, March 30, Oxford Inn, Novi. (248) 305-5856

THE BROTHERS GROOVE: 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 31, at Edison's, Birmingham. Free. (248) 645-2150

JIMMY BUFFETT & THE CORAL REEFER BAND: 8 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

CAT POWER: With Kristiva, 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

B. COOKE AND PRIME NUMBERS: 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555

CUBANISMO: 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 10, The Ark, Ann Arbor. \$25 advance. (248) 645-6666

DETROIT SYMPHONY SUMMER INSTITUTE:

Auditions for the intensive two-week training (July 16-30) for Michigan musicians ages 12-25, Monday-tuesday April 3-4, at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. (313) 576-5164

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA:

Czech conductor Libor Pesek leads the orchestra in music performances by Czech conductors 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 30-31, and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, April 1; Estonian conductor Eni Kias leads

8 days a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Stephanie Casola; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7929. Items must include the date, time, venue, admission price and a telephone number.

353-2757 (jazz duo).

BB KING: With Bobby Blue Bland, 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor. \$20-\$35. (248) 645-6666

KING KONGA: 10 p.m. Thursday, April 6, Fifth Avenue Billiards, Royal Oak. (248) 542-9922

KNEE DEEP SHAG: With Electric Boogaloo, 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 31, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 996-8555

MICHAEL KNOTT: 8 p.m. Friday, March 31, Trinity House Theatre, Livonia. \$10, \$8 for members. (734) 464-6302

KORN: With Staind, DJ C-Minus, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, Livonia. 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor. \$20-\$35. (248) 645-6666 or (248) 377-0100

DICK DALE: With Dusty 45's, 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$15. (313) 833-9700

MORRIS DAY AND THE REAL TIME: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 9, Royal Oak Music Theatre, Royal Oak. \$22.93. (248) 645-6666

D'ANGELO: With Mos Def, 8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, April 22-23, Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$40.47-\$50. (248) 433-1515

THORNETTA DAVIS: 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 7-8, Fox and Hounds, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800

DEATHGIRL.COM: With Six Clips, The Katies, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 15, The Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$6. (313) 961-MELT

DEEP SPACE SIX: 9:30 p.m. Thursday, April 6, Karl's Cabin, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450

DIRTY THREE: With Shannon Wright, StormStress, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$10. (248) 645-6666

D.O.C.: With Powerface, MOC and Diegrinder, 6 p.m. Sunday, April 2, Shelter, Detroit. \$6. All ages. (248) 645-6666

CHRIS DUARTE: 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, Magic Bag, Ferndale. \$12. (248) 544-3030

EKOOSTIK HOOKAH: With Zen Tricesters for Mash Bash 2000, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, April 1, Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$16.50. (734) 668-8397

FEMI KUTI: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$13 advance/\$15 day of show. (248) 645-6666

FOSSIL CIRCUS: 10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31, April 1, Bogey's Bar and Grill, Walked Lake. (248) 669-1441

FU MANCHU: With The Stepfings, 8 p.m. Friday, March 31, 7th House, Pontiac. All ages. \$10. (248) 645-6666

CHARLIE GERRINGER: 8 p.m. Friday, April 7, Borders Books and Music, Auburn Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 335-5013

GIVE: With Jill Jack, Scott Fab, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 15, Magic Bag, Ferndale. (248) 544-3030

GOLDIE AND MC RAGE: 9 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Motor, Detroit. \$10 advance. \$5 and older. (248) 645-6666

GOVT MULE: With North Mississippi Allstars, 9 p.m. Saturday, April 1, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. \$15. (248) 645-6666

GROOVE COLLECTIVE: 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$12. (734) 996-8555; 9 p.m. Friday, April 7, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$12. (313) 833-9700

GUSTER: With Luna and Josh Rouse, 8 p.m. Thursday, April 6, Majestic Theatre, Detroit. \$12. (313) 833-9700

GROOVE ROOMMATES: 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 4, Fox and Hounds, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800

STEFON HARRIS: 8, 10:30 p.m. Thursday, April 6, Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$15. (734) 662-8310

DAVID HOLLAND QUINTET: 9, 11:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 7-8, Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$20. (734) 662-8310

HOMEGROWN: 6 p.m. Friday, April 7, The Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$10. (248) 645-6666

JOHN LEE HOOKER: With John Hammond and Larry McCray Band, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 27, Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$25. \$75. (734) 668-8397

HOT WATER MUSIC: With Elliot and Inside Five Minutes, 7 p.m. Saturday, April 1, The Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$8. (248) 645-6666

IMMUNITY: 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 31, Library Pub, Novi. (248) 349-9110

INAPACT: Friday-Saturday, March 31, April 1, Oxford Inn, Novi. \$5. (248) 305-5856

JIMMIE JACKSON & THE BLUES CONNECTION: 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31-April 1 Fox and Hounds, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800

JAZZHEAD: 10 p.m. Sundays, Music Menu, Detroit. (313) 964-6368; 9 p.m. Monday, April 3, Oberon Opening Day Party at Fifth Avenue Billiards, Royal Oak. (248) 542-9922

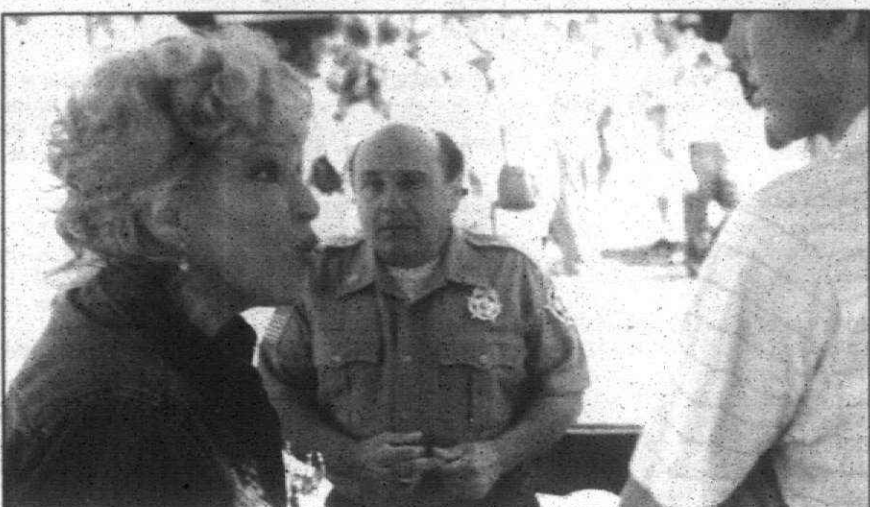
JUST FOR FUN: 8 p.m. Friday, April 14, Borders Books and Music, Auburn Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 335-5013

MARVIN KAHN AND KEITH V

MOVIES

Hearty laughs keep 'Mona' from 'Drowning' in absurd comedy

Comedy: Bette Midler stars as Mona Dearly (left), Danny DeVito as Chief Rash, and Casey Affleck as Bobby Calzone in "Drowning Mona."



PETER SOREL/DESTINATION FILMS

By BOB THOMAS
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Early in "Drowning Mona," Bette Midler commands her son's battered yellow Yugo and barrels down a country road. As she approaches a turn at the top of a cliff, she discovers to her horror that the brakes have been disconnected. She crashes through a fence and flies through the air, landing in the Hudson River and a damp grave. What's this? The Divine Miss M relegated to a bit part? No, she returns in flashbacks that illustrate that her character, Mona Dearly, is the opposite of divine. She is a superwitch who spreads misery to all around her. "Drowning Mona" takes place in the New York hamlet of Verplanck, where all the inhabitants seem to have IQ's in the lower double digits. Most of them drive rattletrap Yugos, remnants of a long-ago promotion by the car

company. Only police chief Wyatt Rash (Danny DeVito) seems to be a bit higher on the intelligence scale. He quickly deduces that at least a half-dozen people might have been motivated to disable the yellow Yugo and assure Mona's demise. The suspects include: Mona's husband Phil (William Fichtner) and son Jeff (Marcus Thomas), who have endured years of her calamity; the trampy diner waitress Rona (Jamie Lee Curtis), who is having a hot affair with Phil and would like to see Mona out of the picture; Jeff's partner in a landscape firm, Bobby Calzone (Casey Affleck), who has been cheated and persecuted by Mona. Even the chief's daughter, Bobby's fiancée Ellen (Neve Campbell), might have a motive for offing Mona. Fashioning a murder farce

with dull-witted characters in absurd situations requires skill, and writer Peter Steinfield and director Nick Gomez come through remarkably well. Some dry patches remain, but there are enough hearty laughs to offset them. The ensemble actors give it their all, and that's as it should be in an absurdist comedy of this sort. Bette Midler has never been nastier, and Jamie Lee Curtis and Neve Campbell play their brainless roles with straight faces. Casey Affleck as the picture of innocence is a real find; he could give Leo a run for his money. Danny DeVito, whose company coproduced the film, provides some much-needed sanity amid all the nut cases. The Destination Films release was produced by Al Corley, Bart Rosenblatt and Jonathan Weisgal.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, March 31

HIGH FIDELITY
An adaptation of Nick Hornby's best seller, the film features John Cusack as a thirty-something owner of a second-hand vinyl shop who's forced to confront his arrested adolescence when his long-time girlfriend leaves him.

and Hill Harper. 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.

THE CLOSER YOU GET
At the State Theatre in Ann Arbor. The single men of a small village in Ireland hatch a scheme to entice American women to the annual village dance. The

'High Fidelity' re-mixes pop music, love



STEPHANIE CASOLA

If there's one place in the world I feel most at home, it's a record store. Growing up I was constantly accused of spending too much money on cassettes. I remember rushing from school to the record store to buy a tape the day it came out and knowing the songs word-for-word by lunchtime the next day. There's just something so personal about shopping for music — perusing the alphabetized rows, scanning for that record you always wanted. Shoppers are all in search of a quick pop-music fix.

In any case, record stores fall into roughly two categories these days. You have your polished, ultra-modern houses of music, filled with neat rows of CD bins, flashy lighting and life-size posters. You can bet a well-dressed thirty-something guy will be hovering around the high-tech listening booths, his hands gently cradling the headphones and clicking to whatever track radio stations are offering up for mass consumption. The employees may not be familiar with popular music beyond the likes of Britney Spears. Then there's the dimly-lit, somewhat disheveled indie record shop, found on an unassuming street corner. It lives up to its name by carrying actual selections on vinyl and attracts a more diverse crowd of music lovers who won't mind hunting for just the right album. They'll strut in, pull out their wallets-on-a-chain and buy the latest, most obscure recording possible. Call it a subculture strictly defined by musical preference. Its employees are a reflection of those customers, their minds brimming with disposable music fads.

Tune in to "High Fidelity"
While both varieties of record stores are scattered about the metro area, the latter is a focal point and setting for the latest Touchstone Pictures romantic comedy "High Fidelity," directed by Stephen Frears. Set at Championship Vinyl, a struggling independent Chicago record shop, the film's hero, owner Rob Gordon (John Cusack) banters hilariously with his employees; the mild-mannered Dick (Todd Louiso) and obnoxiously opinionated Barry (Jack Black), who's known for harassing customers into buying his picks and bullying others right out of the store. Pop music is an obsession for

them — and there's a little Rob, Dick and Barry inside of all of us. Those who religiously consume pop music are particular about what they like and when they like to hear it. This is depicted onscreen when Barry bursts in, takes Dick's CD out and replaces it with "Walking on Sunshine," while gyrating rhythmically about. He upssets everyone else and the tape is ejected.

For me, quality listening time occurs in my car. I adopt a short attention span. Sometimes I want to belt out Fiona Apple songs and pretend I can sing in tune. Sometimes I want to slide in Ben Folds Five and hear my friends yell out the words we know by heart. The rules of the car stereo are simple — you know if you like it by the second note, you don't change the station if someone's singing along and sometimes you just have to keep driving until the song is over.

Please See FIDELITY, E7

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www.tickets.com

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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@mediatone.com

Rollins Band ready to 'go again'

By STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
scasola@oe.com

Since he burst onto stage as the fiery frontman for Black Flag in 1981, Henry Rollins has never truly faded from the public eye. He just shifted focus. Musical performances metamorphosed into powerful spoken-word acts, writing books and even making the occasional movie appearance. At the onset of 2000, Rollins is back where he truly belongs — onstage with his band.

After fans were left craving new music for two years, Rollins Band finally offers up "Get Some Go Again," a raunchy rock album that features all-new bandmates: guitarist Jim Wilson, bassist Marcus Blake and drummer Jason Mackenroth. Alone, the trio is known as the Los Angeles-based Mother Superior. A fan himself, Rollins produced Mother Superior in the studio and later asked them to contribute to his latest effort.

The union proved to be a new beginning for Rollins. Pounding out a hard and fast 24 songs by spring 1999, the revamped Rollins Band didn't hesitate to test out new material in a live setting. "We went out with this band no one had seen," said Rollins in his unmistakable and

■ 'It isn't rocket science, it's rock 'n' roll. It isn't hard to play. It's hard to play well.'

Henry Rollins
Rollins Band

quite commanding voice. "People were great. It was very encouraging." The musical spirit Rollins shares with his new bandmates was an essential ingredient in continuing his music career. "If you can build up a real interest and confident rapport, you can just put it out there and thrive," he said. "I'm having a good time."

"Get Some Go Again," the first album Rollins ever produced for himself, is a testament to how this reconfigured foursome thrives. "I had a very definite sound in mind, very low-fi. A spare, clean, powerful thing. I think too much stuff obscures the music. I think a lot of bands dull the music as a textural backdrop."

The album is many things, and dull is not one of them. He had such a definite idea of what he wanted to accomplish. Not only did Rollins choose to work with a new band, he incorporated the help of a few friends — make that

a few very notable friends. "I've known Scott Gorham (Thin Lizzy) kind of since summer of '96," said Rollins. "I did a show with him in Dublin. He asked me to come over and sing a song with the band. He's a wonderful guy, a cool dude. We became kind of pals. So I sang with him on 'Are You Ready?' It's the one song Thin Lizzy never did a studio version of, and so I got the idea to do it."

"Are You Ready?" is the only cover song that appears on "Get Some Go Again," and Rollins thought for a moment it wouldn't happen. Gorham turned down many offers to perform on covers of Thin Lizzy material by other bands, but he agreed to do it for Rollins. Rollins sent him a tape. Gorham laid down the guitar tracks and sent it back.

"It's a very distinctive song," said Rollins. "You can pick him out of a windstorm. It's obviously huge for us. It's such a thrill."

When it came to songs like

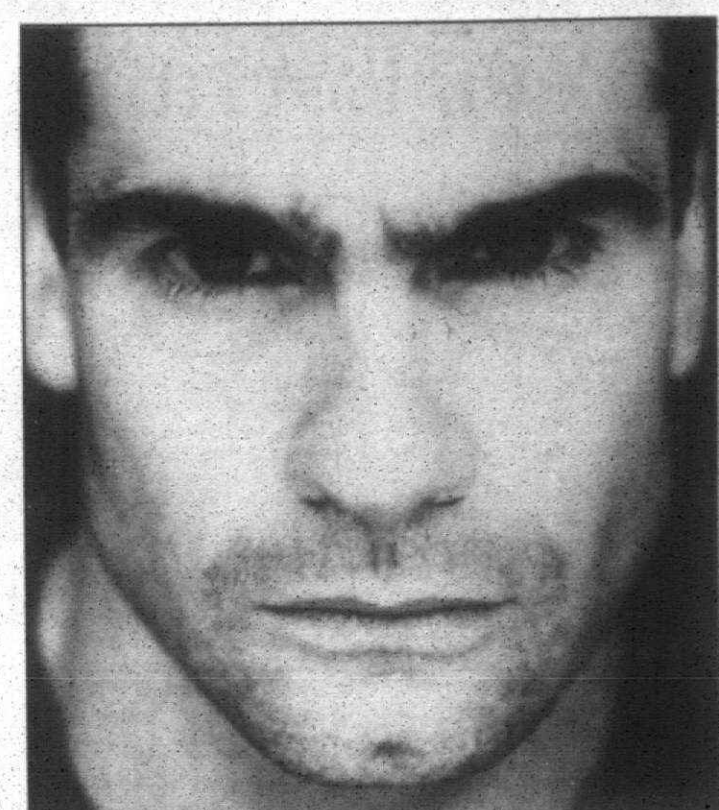
"L.A. Money Train" and "Hotter and Hotter," Rollins found more inspiration, this time a bit closer to home. The MC's Wayne Kramer is his neighbor. "He's always ready to play," said Rollins. "He's rock 'n' roll, ready to go."

In one day and one take of live improvisation, "L.A. Money Train" made it to CD. Keeping the furiously fast spirit alive, Kramer and Rollins wrote "Hotter and Hotter" in 10 minutes. "It isn't rocket science, it's rock 'n' roll," said Rollins. "It isn't hard to play. It's hard to play well."

He has a theory about performing rock music. "When you're in a band, basically, you're in a cover band but you wrote the songs. It's like sex and food, but it's fun."

He's just as passionate about spoken-word performances, which give him even more freedom to speak his mind. "To perform music, you really have to find it in yourself every night. That's where the real thing comes in. How much you are in love with that music, that's where it really is. With talking, I got nothing but latitude."

The intense "L.A. Money Train" may be the closest to Rollins' spoken-word performances that listeners will get on this album, but he hasn't come



Henry Rollins of Rollins Band

close to giving it up. "It's not like a shuck, not like comedy. I go out with a basic foundation of points I want to make ... I let the inspiration of everything take over and jam on some idea."

Let Rollins Band inspire you in raw, rock fashion, 6 p.m. Friday, March 31, St. Andrew's Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$12 advance, \$15 day of show. (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com

Fidelity from page E6

When Cusack's character says: "What really matters is what you like, not what you are like," it makes some sense. We're drawn to people we have things in common with, and music serves as the perfect common ground. Pop music is a passionate medium. Who hasn't wanted to be the subject of a song? In "High Fidelity," Rob admits: "I want to live with a musician. She'll write songs at home and maybe include one of our jokes in the liner notes."

Who hasn't thought this way

while reading the inside cover of a CD and giggling over the nicknames and inside jokes? It's an extension of that record store culture we've all experienced and it sounds good to me.

"High Fidelity" opens in metro Detroit theaters Friday, March 31.

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@oe.com

STAY TUNED...

Well, it looks like another first for Lori Amey — the first Athena Women's Music Festival, that is. The local folk-pop goddess will headline the show 1-4 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at Amey's in Ann Arbor. She'll be joined by singer-songwriter Pamela West, folk vocalist Shell, Amber Leona Jackson, Laurel Federbusch and Jenny Boyer. Sounds like some beautiful music. Call (734) 327-2041.

On the louder end of the rock

spectrum, there's something supernatural on the horizon. When it comes to science fiction and industrial metal, one word comes to mind: Forge. The Detroit band is gaining notice in magazines like "Sci Fi" and online sites like "Science Fiction Weekly," because of its second release "Trials," on Static Records. Now the band's blasting off on tour. Look for them at a club near you.

— BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA

"Two Thumbs Up! THIS IS THE RIDE YOU WANT TO TAKE! LIKE 'SCREAM', BUT A LITTLE BETTER."

Roger Ebert and Joyce Kabanek, ROGER EBERT '97 MOVIES

"BONE CHILLING! TERRIFYINGLY REAL! A SUPERIOR THRILLER!"

Kevin Thomas, LOS ANGELES TIMES

FINAL DESTINATION

AMC ABBEY 8	AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC FORUM 30
AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC SOUTHWEST 10
AMC WOODLAND	BEACON EAST	BIRMINGHAM 8
CANTON 6	MJR SOUTHWEST 20	NORWEST
NOVI TOWN CENTER 8	QUO VADIS	RENAISSANCE 4
SHOWCASE AUBURN	SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE FARMINGTON 10
SHOWCASE FARMINGTON	STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MI.	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING
STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHWEST
STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCIAL STADIUM	UNITED WEST RIVER

NO PASSES OR COUPONS ACCEPTED

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

Showcase Auburn Hills 1-14
2150 N. Oakdale Rd.
Between University & Walton Blvd.
248-375-2660
Bargain Matinees Daily. All Shows until 6 p.m. Continuous Show Daily. Late Shows Wed-Thurs, Fri, Sat. NP DENOTES NO PASSES

NP WHATEVER IT TAKES (PG13)
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NP ERIN BROCKOVICH (R)
NP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
MISSION TO MARS (PG)
NINTH GATE (R)
THREE STRIKES (R)
MY DOG SKIP (PG)
THE WHOLE NINE YARDS (R)
PITCH BLACK (R)
WONDER BOYS (R)

Showcase Dearborn 1-8
Michigan & Telegraph
313-561-3449
Bargain Matinees Daily. All Shows until 6 p.m. Continuous Show Daily. Late Shows Fri, Sat, & Sun. NP DENOTES NO PASSES

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WONDER BOYS (R)

Showcase Pontiac 1-5
Telegraph & Lake Rd. W. Side of Telegraph
810-333-0241
Bargain Matinees Daily. All Shows until 6 p.m. Continuous Show Daily. Late Shows Fri, Sat, & Sun. NP DENOTES NO PASSES

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DINING

Sweet Lorraine's takes on stunning new look

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

Sweet Lorraine's Café in Southfield completed a face-lift this month.

Passersby are doing more than gazing. They're saying, "Wow" to this inviting exterior beckoning them inside to try the innovative cuisine of Lorraine Platman, a staple since the doors first opened in 1984.

Platman and her business partner, husband Gary Sussman, are sole owners of the mini empire that began with her first specialty, desserts, and the opening of the Madison Heights Sweet Lorraine's Deli & Café in 1982.

The dessert concept provided the name Sweet Lorraine's. An Ann Arbor location was opened in 1993 and the new century anticipates a mid-April opening of a breakfast, lunch and dinner café in the Livonia Marriott.

Southfield's Sweet Lorraine's ultra-modern new look is the creation of Edward Shinn of Identity & Architectural Services "ID&AS" in Redford.

Window artwork is an ode to the deep bond between Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso, giants of the modern art movement. Each paid homage of sorts to the other.

One did "The Dance" and "Seated Woman," then the other translated it into his own. This duel plays out on the front and side of both corners. The eclectic details echo the feel and taste inside the café.

That feel, although now eight years old and scheduled for a minor makeover later this year,

Sweet Lorraine's Café

Where: 29101 Greenfield (north of 12 Mile Road) in Southfield
Open: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday; 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday

Menu: World-beat cuisine with emphasis on fresh, seasonal ingredients from local purveyors
Cost: Lunch \$6-12; Dinner \$7-19

Reservations: Only for parties of six or more; (248) 559-5985

Credit cards: All majors

You should also know: Jazz Night 6:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday. The 1999 Zagat Guide rated Sweet Lorraine's one of Michigan's Top 10 restaurants, the restaurant also received the Wine Spectator Award of Excellence

Other locations

■ **Sweet Lorraine's Deli & Café** - 1451 14 Mile Road, Madison Heights. Open for lunch only. (248) 585-0627

■ **Sweet Lorraine's Café** - 303 Detroit Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 665-0700

■ **Sweet Lorraine's Café** - Marriott Hotel, 17100 N. Laurel Park Drive, Livonia. Scheduled to open in mid-April for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Sweet Lorraine's Uncorked

Gary Sussman, business partner and husband of Lorraine Platman, has constructed an interesting wine list. He recommends:

■ Wild Mushroom and Chevre Pizza with 1998 Cloudy Bay Sauvignon Blanc

■ Pecan Chicken with 1997 Chalk Hill Chardonnay

■ "French Onion" Steak Tenderloin with 1997 Kathryn Kennedy Lateral (a California red Meritage wine)

is upbeat and urban chic in Mediterranean yellow with dashes of deep blue and green, warmed by clothless wooden tables and colorful tableware.

French-style posters serve as stylish wall art. Planned interior remodeling will add a cozy bar and lounge area to this already comfortable bi-level eatery.

The self-trained Platman maintains she honed her skills "in an apartment at Six Mile and Woodward." She credits her art background and management of

an art gallery as aiding her in viewing food as an art expression.

A diner easily picks up on contemporary approaches and twists on classics.

Meatloaf has no meat. It's soy protein served with sundried tomato sauce, roasted garlic mashed potatoes and broccoli.

Caesar Salad made without eggs is topped with crispy fried clams. Flavors and texture are extraordinary.

Lunch and dinner menus have

common threads, but as might be expected, there's an expanded offering of deli-style sandwiches and burgers at lunch, along with a broad variety of lunch-size salads among the main courses.

Brie Portabello Melt is one sandwich that is also a dinner-time favorite.

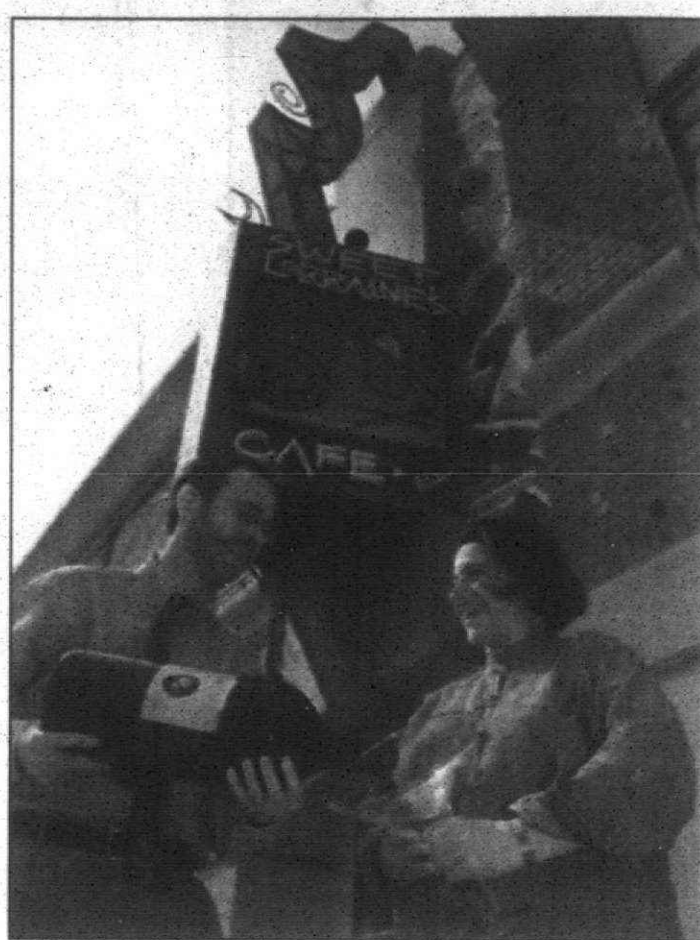
At dinner, most popular "Starters" are Classic Quesadilla, a cilantro-chili tortilla, Monterey Jack and queso cheeses with sides of tomato-corn salsa, guacamole and sour cream. Wild Mushroom and Chevre Pizza topped with caramelized onions is a close second.

Lorraine's Special Salad with gorgonzola cheese, fresh pears, hazelnuts and dried cranberries is the top "Side." Pecan Chicken, Maple-Cured Atlantic Salmon and French Onion Steak Tenderloin are atop the list of favorite main courses.

Leave room for dessert from a presentation tray. Choose either the Apple Brown Betty or Something Wonderful, a warm triple chocolate brownie with Ray's White Russian ice cream and Kahlua Chocolate Sauce.

Sweet Lorraine's new look serves to illustrate the innate vision and spirit of its owners to offer diners flavorful, globally-inspired cuisine.

Eleanor Heald is a Troy resident who writes about dining, food and wine for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. To leave her a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1864.



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDELD

Vintage look: Marriage and business partners Gary Sussman and Lorraine Platman toast to the new look of Sweet Lorraine's, which underwent recent indoor and outdoor renovations.

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