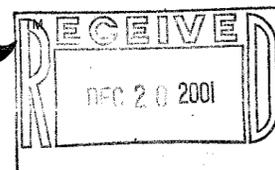


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Canton Observer



Your hometown newspaper serving Canton for 27 years

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Thursday, December 20, 2001

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Canton, Michigan

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IN THE PAPER TODAY

ENTERTAINMENT

Singing frogs: *Catch The Adventures of the Frog Prince, a musical version of the Grimm's fairy tale through Dec. 30 at Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn./B1*

HOMETOWN LIFE

Happy Harley-Day: *Debbie Kunewych and Pat Kososki couldn't think of a better way to give a Christmas gift bought at Motor City Harley Davidson than to have it gift-wrapped in paper featuring images of the famous motorcycle maker, so they decided to set up shop at the Farmington Hills Harley dealer and do the gift-wrapping themselves./C5*

CLARIFICATION



Ben Popp, the Telegraph Operator was gummed by the Quick Whiskers, played by Tyler Troszak, in Bentley Elementary School's performance of Christmas at the O.K. Corral on Tuesday night. The third-graders played to a packed house of parents, friends and siblings.

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Homes selling well at Cherry Hill

BY DOUG JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

Can you sell something as big as a new house sight unseen?



Many have been sold to buyers looking at paper plans only.

And, surprisingly, they are being sold to local people. Biltmore Homes, for example, report the first three move-ins in January will be from Garden City, Westland and Canton.

Ivanhoe Huntley's Aaron Pergament said that 90 percent of lookers have

been from Canton, and that the firm's first three move-ins will be from Canton (two) and Dearborn Heights (one).

"Customers love the idea of the community. It's going to be like living in Greenfield Village," Pergament said.

The three builders - Biltmore, Curtis, and Ivanhoe Huntley - have been selling homes since last January.

Biltmore's townhouses and homes are by far the most complete and the models are all furnished. Two of Ivanhoe's models were being furnished this week, the cottage and village homes. Two others (estates and manor homes or condos) will be furnished later; Curtis models won't be furnished until early spring.

"Some buyers have taken advantage of current pricing," said Gary Denning, sales and marketing manager for Biltmore.

"They have been sold on the concept,

and don't mind buying without seeing a furnished model."

Many visitors

Denning said Cherry Hill Village is "our flagship project." A large contingency of lookers have been through the Biltmore models he said, from as near as Plymouth and as far away as Seattle and Florida.

Eventually, 1300 homes on about 350 acres will be built at all four corners of the two roads, in at least ten phases. For comparison, there are about 3,000 residences in the city of Plymouth.

The village square park as well as others in the first phase are done; eventually their will be 22 miles of sidewalks, trails and paths for walking and biking. Plans call for at least 80 acres in the development to be open

Please see **CHERRY HILL, A4**

Cherry Hill Village quick facts

The village has a welcome center and general information can be received at (734) 340-3575.

■ Biltmore's number is (734) 340-3660.

■ Ivanhoe Huntley's number is (734) 667-3590.

■ Curtis Building Company's number is (734) 340-4663.

■ The CHV welcome center is open from 11 to 5 p.m. every day; the three builders have open houses from noon until 5 p.m. every day. They will go to noon to 6 p.m. hours in the spring.

On its way Plans for new gym in Canton underway



BY JACK GLADDEN
STAFF WRITER
jgladden@oe.homecom.net

Plans for a \$1 million, 20,000-square-foot gymnasium in Canton moved a step closer to reality this week.

Greg Spicher, who with his wife, Eileen, owns Splitz Gymnastics on Ronda Drive just north of Koppernick, said they will appear before the Canton Planning Commission on Jan. 7 to present their proposal for a new facility near Joy and Lilley.

"We're going through the permit process now," Spicher said. "Things are going pretty much as we expected."

The new building would be on Old Lilley just north of Golden Gate Shopping Center and south of the Auto Mall on Joy.

When the Spichers opened their current facility five years ago, they started with about 60 students.

"We've got about 300 or 350 now," Spicher said. "We haven't had to turn a lot of people away or anything, but we're at capacity."

The new building will be specifically designed as a gymnasium, and will include such features as an in-ground loose foam pit for practicing difficult skills and more lighting.

If all goes according to plan, Spicher hopes to break ground for the new building in March and finish by August.



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Leap of faith: Above, Allison McMinn is in the Tiny Monkey class (moms and tots) at Splitz. Right, Morgan Stemler of Plymouth, 8 1/2, from left, Kristen Muir of Plymouth, 7, Lauren Martin of Canton, 7, Vittoria Miller of Plymouth, 8, Hayley Benson of Plymouth, 8 1/2, and Alyson Wilson of Livonia, 12, cheer on a team mate as they practice for an upcoming competition recently at Splitz Gymnastics in Canton.

Please see **STALEY, A4**

Patterson ponders run for State Senate

BY DOUG JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

House Majority Floor Leader Bruce Patterson (R-Canton) has authorized his campaign advisors to form a State Senate exploratory committee.

An exploratory committee will allow Patterson to examine the feasibility of running for the 7th District State Senate seat. The process includes meetings with party and civic leaders during the next few weeks, Patterson said.

The new 7th includes Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton Township, Van Buren, Sumpter and Huron townships as well as several downriver communities.

State House, Senate, and U. S. Congressional districts were all redone following the 2000 census.

Initial estimates say the new district

is about 55 percent Republican, which means Patterson would have to count on doing well in Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

Patterson currently represents nearly forty percent of the new 7th, giving him a distinct advantage over potential challengers.

Patterson can also run for the house one more time from the 21st House District.

"Right now I am working the process," he said, to see if the House run or a jump to a Senate seat would be best.

Patterson has ties to the Plymouth community because his three children all graduated from Plymouth-Canton schools, and he was a board member on the district's Educational Excellence Foundation.

Please see **PATTERSON, A2**

UAW local aids neediest families

BY JACK GLADDEN
STAFF WRITER
jgladden@oe.homecom.net

Members of UAW Local 845, from the Sheldon Road Visteon plant, were on the road early today (Thursday, Dec. 20) delivering 200 food baskets to be distributed to needy families in the area.

Roger Caldwell, president of Local 845, said this was the 14th year that the union has run the program.

"If people in our plant know of a needy family, they let us know about them," Caldwell said. "They don't have to be destitute; we do a lot of senior citizens, anyone having a rough time."

Caldwell said John Blackwell Ford works with the local on the project, and all food is purchased from Meijer.

"Meijer makes sure we get a nice discount on everything we buy," he said. "Last year that discount made a difference for an extra 25 children."

He said the Visteon plant usually contributes \$1,200 to the project, Blackwell Ford donates \$500, but about 80 percent of the money comes from "standing at the front door of our plant" getting donations from both hourly and salaried workers.

This year's total bill for the baskets was just over \$5,800.

Each basket provides a complete dinner for eight, including a frozen turkey, stuffing, green beans, oranges, apples, potatoes, dinner rolls, cookies, candy canes and toys for the kids.

Among the organizations receiving

Please see **UAW, A9**

Shoplifter caught in parking lot

A Canton police officer was in the right place at the right time Monday afternoon.

About 3:45 p.m. the officer had pulled in to the Super K parking lot on Ford Road when an employee from the store ran toward the patrol car.

The employee said someone had just stolen some merchandise and was leaving the parking lot in a van. The officer saw a van matching the description in the bank parking lot next door.

The van, which was driven by a woman, pulled out of the bank lot and back in to the Super K

COP CALLS

lot where a man and child ran toward it and jumped in. It started to leave the lot again when the police officer stopped it.

Inside the van were the missing items: a Microsoft Xbox valued at \$299.99 and a box of two Xbox games valued at \$99.85.

Computer taken

A resident of the 42100 block of Carriage Cove told police someone smashed the passenger side window of her car while it was

parked in her carport sometime between 11 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 a.m. Monday. A computer, valued at \$700, which she had left in the back seat was missing.

Vandalism

A resident of the 45400 block of Muirfield reported that at about 11:30 p.m. Saturday someone threw a rock and broke a pane of glass in the double-pane window adjacent to his front door.

And more vandalism

A resident of the 49300 block of Claymore said he had parked his car in front of his house Friday night. When he woke up Saturday morning, someone had smashed out the rear window of the car.

- Jack Gladden

Patterson from page A1

"I've watched Plymouth and Plymouth Township grow and have gotten to know a lot of people in these communities," Patterson said.

"I have worked very hard to be a good representative for the people of my district," Patterson said.

The former Wayne County Commissioner is a lawyer and serves as his party's house majority floor leader in Lansing.

He was recently asked to put his name "in the hopper" for the job of U.S. attorney for eastern Michigan. "I was encouraged to apply by the governor," he said. The job went to someone else.

The Legislature is out of session until Jan. 9. Number one priority when they return, Patterson said, will be the budget shortfall for 2002-2003, expected to top \$1 billion.

"All items" including school aid will be up for review Patterson said.

"I've taken on tough assignments such as setting educational funding at record levels, providing home heating assistance for truly vulnerable per-

sons, overhauling telemarketing laws, protecting senior citizens through nursing home reforms, updating election laws, and strengthening anti-terrorism laws, just to name a few issues," he said in a prepared statement.

"I've enjoyed my service as a legislator and House Floor Leader, but it is possible to do more for my community on these and other issues in the State Senate," Patterson said.

"I am deeply appreciative that community leaders in Western Wayne county and the downriver areas are encouraging me to run for the State Senate."

"I owe it to the people of the 7th District to fully explore the extent to which there is support for my candidacy before I make an official announcement of my intentions."



Bruce Patterson

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Holiday hours, trash pickup days

Due to the upcoming holidays, several offices will either be closed or working with modified hours.

All township offices will be closed on Dec. 24 and 25 and Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. They will resume normal business hours on Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

The Canton Public Library will be closed Dec. 24 and 25 and Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

Summit on the Park will be open from 8 a.m. to noon on Dec. 24. It will be closed on Dec. 25. The Summit will be open from 8 a.m. to noon on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

Normal trash pickup will take place on Dec. 24 and Dec. 31. There will be no pickup on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. Collections for Dec. 26-29 and Jan. 2-5 will be one day behind schedule. Normal Wednesday pickup will take place on Thursday, etc.

Gallimore blood drive

Gallimore Elementary School, 8375 Sheldon Road in Canton, will host an American Red Cross blood drive Thursday, Jan. 10 from 2 p.m. until 8 p.m. To schedule an appointment please call Sheila Stirsman at 207-8425.

CANTON CONNECTION

Chamber events:

The Third Thursday breakfast in January (Jan. 17) will feature reports from the school superintendents from the three school districts that serve Canton: Kathleen Booher (Plymouth-Canton), Greg Baracy (Wayne-Westland) and Larry Tabor (Van Buren).

Community events

The semi-formal Canton Winter Ball, sponsored by the Canton Community Foundation, will be Friday, Jan. 18. Cocktail reception is at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 8 p.m. and dancing by 9:30. The event will be held at Laurel Manor, 3900 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Phone (734) 398-5000.

Book discussion

The Friends of the Canton Public Library coordinate and host informal discussions of contemporary books each month in the library's meeting room. The January book discussion selection will be *The Gunslinger* by Stephen King. Copies will be available at the Canton Public Library.

Habitat warming

As Plymouth celebrates the 20th anniversary of the ice festival, Habitat for Western Wayne County will be on hand to help.

The Penn Theatre will feature a one-time showing of the Wizard of Oz in its special, re-released version on the first night of the festival, Jan. 16. Habitat volunteers will serve hot and cold refreshments donated by area businesses. For information, call 459-7744.

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 SPY GAME (R) 11:20, 1:45, 6:45
 HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG) 12:10, 3:10, 8:20, 9:15
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Battani, Darow receive awards

Ron Battani and Brian Darow were honored by the Canton Rotary Club Monday as the firefighter and police officer of the year, respectively. A noon luncheon was held at the Roman Forum Restaurant on Ford Road, between Lilley and Haggerty.

The Rotary, which strives to improve the quality of life for Canton residents, has been presenting awards to deserving police officers and firefighters since 1990.

According to Canton Public Safety Director John Santomauro, Battani and Darow are true professionals.

"They represent real American heroes in what they do," he added. "Firefighting and law enforcement can be a constant emotional drain. But both still have a smile every day and a positive attitude."

Battani has been with the Canton Fire Department for 14 years. Besides fighting fires and providing emergency medical services, he is active in charity

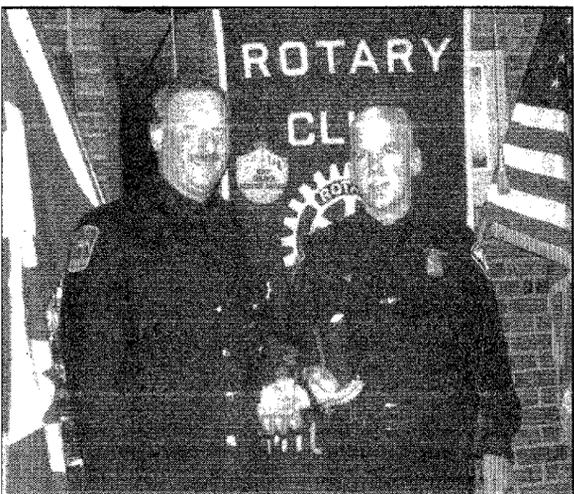
work and the department's clown unit. Battani also maintains all of the small engines in the department and keeps equipment in working order.

In all, Battani has about two decades in fire service. Despite his experience, the job is still challenging, he said.

"There's always new ways of doing things," he said. "There's always new technologies and new products for us to use. Every fire is a little different, too."

Darow has been with the Canton Police Department since 1987. He has several assignments including Special Enforcement as a motorcycle officer, a training instructor and as a lead investigator on the department's Accident Investigation Team.

"He understands the philosophy of the department and exemplifies it in his position as a police officer," said Santomauro. "He displays a high level of professionalism, which is a standard for all officers to aspire to."



Honored: Canton Firefighter Ron Battani (left) and Police Officer Brian Darow accept their awards as Firefighter and Police Officer of the Year from the Canton Rotary Club Monday.

Court phone program aids abuse victims

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

Just as wireless phones proved to be valuable tools in piecing together what happened on the hijacked aircraft on Sept. 11, they can also be valuable for victims of domestic violence who need to call 911.

Plymouth's 35th District Court and Ann Arbor Wireless, 606 S. Main, have teamed up to make sure emergency situations involving domestic violence do not turn into tragedies.

In 2000, the court, which serves Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton and Northville, heard 160 domestic violence cases.

Kerry Erdman, 35th District Court administrator, said the court will decide who gets the phones on a case-by-case basis. Court officials will interview domestic violence victims to determine their need and desire for mobile phones. The court will consider the victims' financial need as well.

"To be completely honest, this is something we hope we never have to use," Erdman said. "So many people have (mobile phones) nowadays — this will

give domestic violence victims some security.

"I suspect in most cases there's a good possibility they'll have (mobile phones) already," he added.

Two Samsung digital phones, which will be provided to the court and to the victims free of charge, will only be able to dial 911 and will not be able to receive incoming calls, said Bill Davidson, store manager at Ann Arbor Wireless. The business will initially provide the court with two phones and will provide more if necessary. The Verizon Wireless network will provide the service.

Davidson said the court contacted the business directly about providing the free phones. Ann Arbor Wireless also provides free phones to domestic violence victims through the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department.

"It's working out very good," Davidson said of the program, which was launched in Ann Arbor last year.

"The safety and well being of people is important to us — we always want to try and help."

Cops beef up holiday traffic enforcement

Canton's Police Department will step up its traffic enforcement efforts Dec. 21-23 as part of the "You Drink & Drive, You Lose" campaign sponsored by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning.

The program, which is open to all law enforcement agencies in Michigan, focuses on getting drunk drivers off of local roads. A second round of increased enforcement will occur June 28 to July 7 of next year. Agencies participating in the program will be eligible to win an in-car video

camera.

Participating agencies enter this competition by reporting all traffic enforcement statistics occurring during the two time periods. Operating Under the Influence of alcohol arrests, speeding violations and seat belt violations are just a few of the statistics.

Police departments must also outline media coverage utilized in conjunction with their enforcement efforts. Winners are randomly drawn from all participating agencies.



Seniors tear up the dance floor at the annual St. Nick Frolic held at the Summit last Thursday.



Dolores and Leroy Hrlac of Canton dance away at the annual St. Nick Frolic held at the Summit last Thursday.

Seniors kick up their heels at St. Nick Frolic

About 250 Canton seniors enjoyed the annual Christmas party last week. The St. Nick Frolic was held at the Summit Wednesday afternoon, and featured a turkey dinner, entertainment by Jerry Robotka and his orchestra, as well as songs by the 68-member Madrigal, Chamber and Dulcissima Singers of Plymouth-Canton and Plymouth-Salem high schools. Dancing followed the meal and entertainment.

Seniors are reminded the senior program will be closed from Dec. 22 through Jan. 1. Normal hours resume Wednesday, Jan. 2.

The free tax consulting service which begins in February will begin taking appointments on Jan. 7. Appointments are necessary but arrangements can be made for the homebound; call 394-5485.

Senior day trips and extended trips continue in 2002. The next day trip is Jan. 23, 2002 with a bus trip to Gerald Ford Museum (Abraham Lincoln Exhibit) in Grand Rapids. The Windsor Casino trip is Jan. 30.



Seniors mingle at the annual St. Nick Frolic held at the Summit last Thursday.

Student station will air 'Acoustic Cafe'

The radio show *Acoustic Cafe* has found a new Detroit-area home at 88.1-FM.

Acoustic Cafe is radio's best international showcase for new acoustic music. You'll hear two hours of great music from some of the best singer-songwriters in the business, including rare acoustic cuts, classic tracks, plus exclusive, live in-studio interviews and

performances each week. Detroit area listeners can hear *Acoustic Cafe* at 9 a.m. Friday.

"This is part of our effort to offer the best new music first," said Jake Bugeja, 88.1-FM's program director, "We're excited to add *Acoustic Cafe* to our programming line-up."

88.1-FM's current program schedule is

available at www.wsdpradio.com. The station can also be heard on-line at the Web site.

WSDP (Salem High School) has been serving the Plymouth-Canton community since Feb. 14, 1972. The station will celebrate its 30th birthday next year.

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Cherry Hill from page A1

space. The overall project includes public buildings like a performing arts center, as well as shops and apartments, Ben Galindo, Biltmore salesman said. "You can definitely call this a neighborhood. You will know your neighbors. The village is very pedestrian-friendly."

Galindo said all ages have been through the models, "young families up to retirees."

"They are buying condos that won't be built until 2003."

Biltmore has sold 37 units, Ivanhoe 44, and Curtis 22.

Biltmore is offering 26 floor plans for either townhomes, cottages, village homes or estate homes. Ivanhoe will have five models with 31 floorplans. Curtis will have three models with 11 floorplans but they are custom builders and can adapt to buyers wishes.

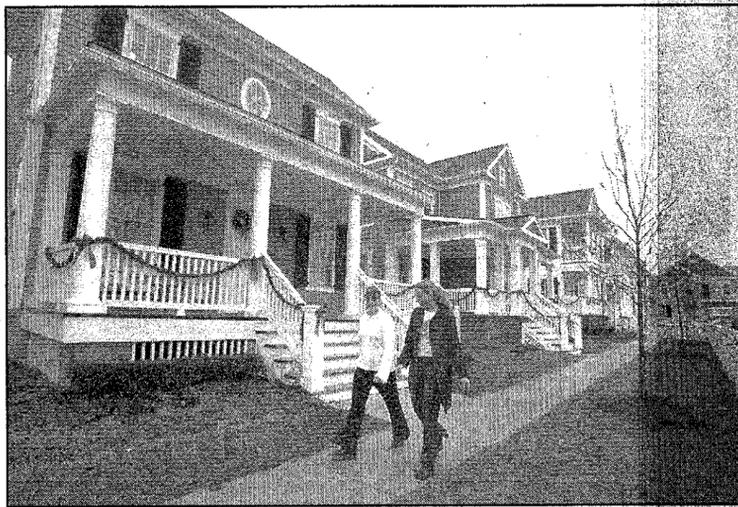
Biltmore's furnished models were done in partnerships with decorators from Crate & Barrel, Scott Shuptrine, Ethan Allen and UpstairsDownstairs (from Birmingham).

The Cherry Hill district plan was approved by the township almost exactly two years ago. The project incorporates existing historical resources including the Cherry Hill School and the Bartlett-Travis House. The building currently being built

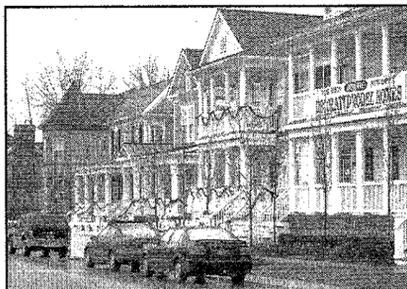
behind the old one-room schoolhouse is Canton's new, 14,000 square foot Human Services Center, scheduled to open this summer.

"Cherry Hill has the look of a great, traditional neighborhood," Denning said. "And we are pleased the township is bringing some of their buildings here, and happy to work in cooperation with them."

The most famous neo-traditional village is probably Disney's Celebration in Orlando. CHV was designed by the Memphis firm of Looney Ricks Kiss, known for their ability to evoke small town atmospheres in modern developments.



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL
Salespeople Lynn Heathcock, left, and Amanda Borquist walk along some of the homes of Cherry Hill Village located near the intersection of Cherry Hill and Ridge Roads.



Model homes: Cherry Hill Village located near the intersection of Cherry Hill and Ridge Roads. These are the models constructed by Biltmore.

Staley from page A1

didates — we just cannot go wrong."

The other eight hopefuls included Cheryl Dove, technology consultant; Joanne Lamar, schools and band booster; Fred Libbing, former high school counselor; Robert Nelson, Livonia business owner; Michele Ruppel, consultant; Carol Saunders, former adult education coordinator; Philip Sugg, president-elect of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce; and Roland Thomas Jr., a former board member.

Staley cited her volunteer work with several school district committees as her primary qualification as a school board member. District committees on which she has served include the Community School Council, Housing and Facilities Committee, Athletic Advisory Committee, Plymouth/Canton High School Baseball Booster Club, 1997 bond committee, hiring committee for superintendent, central office administrators, principals and teacher and Hoben Elementary PTO.

Staley, a 15-year Canton resident and a native of western New York, also cited having three children at all three school levels — elementary, middle and high school — as another important qualification as a board member. Her three children are Matthew, a high school senior; Kate, a seventh-grader at West Middle and Benjamin, a fourth-grader at Isbister Elementary.

"I'm familiar with parents, teachers and administrators at all three levels," Staley said while addressing the board. "I would bring an open mind to all district business."

Staley was selected from a pool of nine trustee hopefuls. All candidates had opportunities to give introductory and closing speeches and answered a series of questions directed by school board members. Question topics included budget cuts, pressing district concerns, high school improvement and qualifications as a board member.

Staley will serve the remainder of trustee Steve Guile's term. Guile resigned to become mayor of Beaverton, which is northwest of Midland.

Staley began serving as trustee immediately, casting her vote on action items including the ratification of a tentative agreement with plant engineers; tentative agreement with alternative education/English as a Second Language teachers and a bid award for office, media center and classroom furniture at Plymouth High School.

There will be three board seats to fill in June. The four-year terms of Susan Davis and Darwin Watts will end. Davis, who will have served eight years on the school board, has already announced she will not seek reelection. Watts has yet to indicate if he will run for a second term.

WSDP plans class for middle school children

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' radio station WSDP will offer an introduction to radio class for middle school students (grades 6-8).

The class will be held Tuesdays from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., beginning Jan. 29 and will run for seven weeks (there will be no class the week of Feb. 19). It will be taught at the WSDP studios at Salem High School. Topics to be covered include news, production, on-air announcing and promotions. Bill Keith, WSDP Station Manager, Jody Gross, Assistant Manager, and WSDP student Jake Bugeja will teach the

class. The class is offered through Community Education.

It was first offered in 1996. Three of the students who took that class eventually joined the WSDP staff. One of last year's class members is also now a member of the station's staff. "It's a great chance for students to get hands-on experience in radio before they get to the high school," said Keith.

The class is limited to nine students. Each one that completes the class will receive a WSDP T-shirt and certificate. The class is \$60. Call Community Education at (734) 416-2937 for more information.

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OBITUARIES

MARIE MCNEAL

Services for Marie McNeal, 71, of Canton were held Dec. 17 at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home Canton Chapel. Burial was at Glen Eden Cemetery in Livonia.

Mrs. McNeal was born Jan. 25, 1930 in Hartsville, S.C. and died Dec. 17 in Canton. She worked as a homemaker.

Survivors include husband, Alfred (Al) McNeal; son, Ron (Brenda) McNeal; daughter, Trisha (Guy) Duffiny; and daughter, Nada (Kevin) Cooper.

Arrangements made by L.J. Griffin Funeral Home Canton Chapel.

NAYOMA E. BRYAN

Services for Nayoma Bryan, 92, of Plymouth were held Dec. 17 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. Jim Calkins officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth.

Mrs. Bryan was born Sept. 8, 1909 in Obion County, Tenn. and died Dec. 14 in Livonia. She was a homemaker. For several years she worked for the Daisy Air Rifle Company in Plymouth. She came to the Plymouth community in 1947 from Union City, Tenn. She was a member of the Church of Christ in Plymouth.

Survivors include daughter, Grace Hicks of Plymouth; sister, Alline Hagen of Tennessee; sister, Mammie Lee Kendall of Tennessee; brothers, George Tidwell of Missouri and W.T. Tidwell of California; 11 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Church of Christ or the Hospice of Michigan.

Arrangements made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

DENELDA MAY HORNIK

Services for Denelda Hornik, 75, of Plymouth were held Dec. 17 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church with the Rev. John J. Sullivan officiating. Burial was at Knollwood Memorial Park in Canton.

Mrs. Hornik was born Feb. 21, 1926 in Detroit and died Dec. 14 in Livonia. She was a homemaker. She was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church.

Survivors include husband, Benjamin L. Hornik of Plymouth; mother, May Ruth; daughter, Trudy Daberko of Westland; son, David (Sharon) Hornik of Salem, Conn.; daughter, Sandra (Everett) Bowen of Idelwild, Mich.; son, Paul (Diane) Hornik of West Bloomfield; grandsons, Jason Daberko and Daniel Hornik; granddaughter, Stephanie Hornik; great-grandson, Noah Daberko; and great-granddaughter, Elizabeth Daberko.

Arrangements made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

ROBERT W. WASHBURN

Services for Robert Washburn, 80, of Plymouth were held at the McCabe Funeral Home Canton Chapel.

Mr. Washburn was born July 7, 1921 in Springfield, Mass., and died Dec. 12 in Livonia.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Eleanor Washburn.

Survivors include sons, Robert Washburn of Connecticut and William Washburn of Plymouth; daughter, Rita Deumann of Lake Orion; and four grandchildren.

Arrangements made by McCabe Funeral Homes, Inc.

THOMAS A. MC NISH

Services for Thomas McNish, 64, of Plymouth were held Dec. 19 at St. Mary of Redford with the Rev. Ronald Williams officiating. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

Mr. McNish was born May 12, 1937 in Detroit and died Dec. 17 in Superior Township. Mr. McNish was vice president and secretary of CMS Energy Corporation. He served in the US Army.

Survivors include wife, Susan K. McNish of Plymouth; son, Thomas W. (Judy) McNish of Jackson; daughter, Elizabeth M. (Alan) Schultz of Jackson; son, Joseph S. (Billie Jo) McNish of Springport; step-daughter, Jenifer K. (Donald) Reynolds of Raleigh, N.C.; step-son, Michael Swaringen of Ypsilanti; brother, William (Carol) McNish of Farmington Hills; sister, Mary McNish of Farmington; brother, Larry (Joan) McNish of Royal Oak; sister, Karen (Thomas) Harte of Southfield; 10 grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may

be made to Notre Dame General Scholarship Fund, Annual Fund Office, 1100 Grace Hall, South Bend, IN 46556.

Arrangements made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

MARTHA ELLEN DAVIS

Services for Martha Davis, 89, of Sarasota, Fla. (formerly of Plymouth since the early '30s), were held Dec. 20 at the First Baptist Church of Plymouth with the Rev. Michael Bryan officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth.

Mrs. Davis was born Oct. 12, 1912 in Wabash, Ind. and died Dec. 15 in Sarasota, Fla. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Plymouth. She sang in the choir for 45 years,

and taught Sunday School for 35 years. She was president of the Women's Missionary Fellowship, member of the Executive Board of the American Baptist Women of Michigan. She also was a member of the Executive Board of the Michigan Baptist Convention. She was on the Executive Board of the Michigan Interfaith Council on Alcohol Problems (MICAP).

She was a member of the Plymouth Citizen's Committee on Open Housing, Plymouth Citizens Committee for decent literature and member of the Plymouth Community Arts Council. She spoke in churches, schools, and service clubs on rocks and minerals. She was a member of

the Plymouth Women's Club, and a life member of the Plymouth Historical Society. She moved to Sarasota nine years ago from Plymouth. She wintered in Ruskin, Fla. for two years before moving to Sarasota.

She was preceded in death by her husband, the Honorable Dunbar Davis (former 35th District Judge in Plymouth).

Survivors include daughters, Kay (John) Westwood of Sarasota, Fla., and Susanne (Michael) Steffes of Livonia; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be given to the First Baptist Church of Plymouth

Arrangements made by the

Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

FABE A. MIRTO

Services for Fabe Mirto, 90, of Plymouth, will be held Dec. 29 from Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Mr. Mirto was born July 16, 1911 in New Haven, Conn. and died Dec. 16 in Plymouth. He was founder and owner of Mirto & Co. Insurance and Financial Services since 1953. He was born and raised in Torrington, Conn. In 1951 he moved to Detroit and in 1953 settled in Plymouth. He was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, served in World War II and a graduate of Yale University School of Music. He and Edith were married for 62 years.

Survivors include wife, Edith A. of Plymouth; sons, Gary (Kimberly) Mirto of Brighton and Bruce (Carolyn) Mirto of Plymouth; grandchildren, Elyse Mirto of California, Danielle Mirto of Brighton, Rachaelle Mirto of Brighton, Heather Mirto of Plymouth; and Erin (Jason) Moorhouse of Plymouth; sisters, Helen Bayer of New Haven, Conn., and Theresa (Lester) Ponak of New Haven, Conn.; and brother, Guido Mirto of New Haven, Conn.

Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice.

Arrangements made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

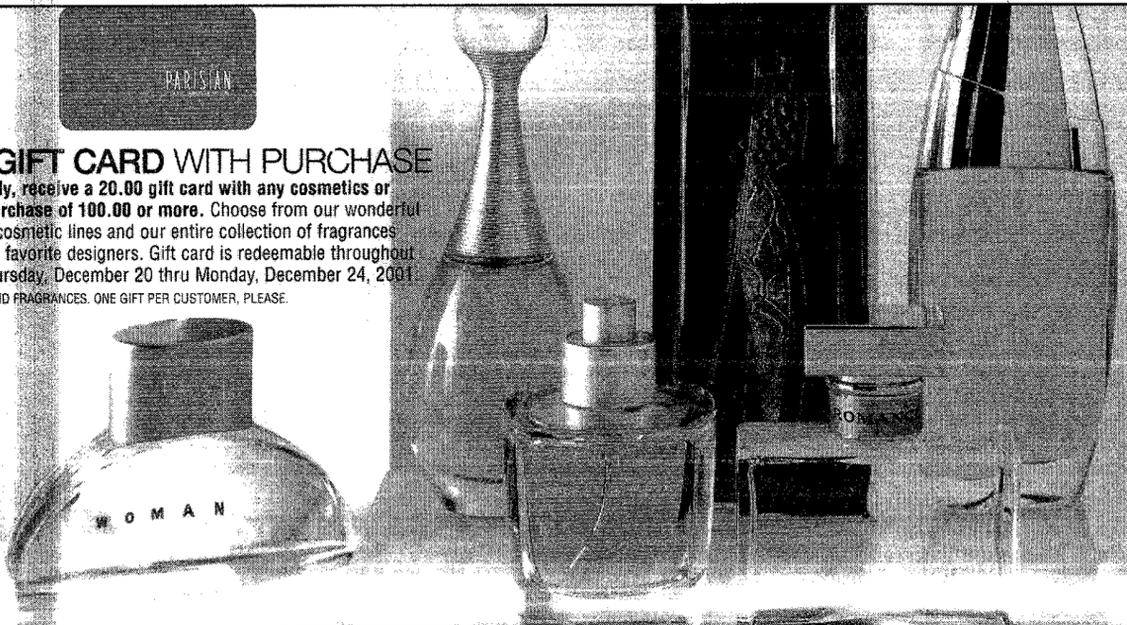
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Huron-Clinton Metroparks offer wide range of winter fun

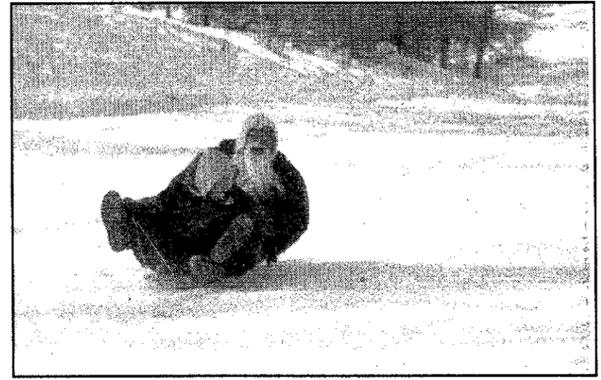
The snow season is approaching, and the Huron-Clinton Metroparks are getting ready for wintry days of frosty fun. Ten Metroparks provide season cross-country ski trails and five of those parks rent ski equipment.

Kensington Metropark near Milford has more than 12 miles of groomed trails suitable for novice, intermediate and advanced skiers on scenic, hilly terrain and through wooded areas. Phone 1(800)477-3178, (248)685-1561, (248)685-9332.

Willow Metropark near New Boston has more than six miles of groomed trails, mostly over flat terrain and including nearby Oakwoods and Lower Huron Metroparks. The Ski Touring Center, open weekends for ski rentals, features a heated lounge and snacks. Phone (734)697-9181 or 1(800)477-3182.

Ski rentals weekdays at \$4 for a complete set for four hours. On weekends and holidays a complete set of equipment rents for \$8 for four hours.

Trail use is free, except for the required vehicle entry permit, with the operation of all facilities depending upon weather conditions. Cross-country ski maps and/or brochures are available at most Huron-Clinton Metroparks. Metropark vehicle entry permits are required (annual: Regular, \$15, senior citizen, \$8; or daily, \$3 weekends and holidays, \$2 weekdays. For cross-country skiing conditions, which may vary from park to park, contact the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority at 1(800)234-6534 or contact the offices directly.



Great ride: Dakota Bird of Plymouth Township and his grandfather, Francis Drake of Westland take a new direction down the advanced hill at Kensington Metropark last winter.

Another popular winter activity is sledding. Kensington offers two toboggan runs and separate beginning, intermediate and advanced sledding hills. A special bunny hill for young children feature moguls for airborne fun. Snowboards are prohibited.

Food service will be available at the winter sports area and a nearby shelter has picnic tables and grills. Hours are 11 a.m. to dusk weekdays and 10 a.m. to dusk weekends and Christmas vacation week, weather permitting. Call 1(800)477-3178 to confirm when the sledding and toboggan runs are open.

Ice skating is offered at the ice rink on Kent Lake. Weather and ice conditions permitting, the ice rink is open weekdays 11 a.m. to

9 p.m. On weekends and during the week of Dec. 26, the ice rink hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Willow Metropark has sledding hills located near Washago Pond and at the Chestnut Picnic Area. Sledding hours are 10 a.m. Snowboards are not permitted on any hill in the park. Ice skating is also available at Washago Pond dawn to dusk.

Lower Huron Metropark in Belleville has three natural ice rink surfaces at interconnected ponds located in a ravine at the Foxwoods Picnic Area. Skating is permitted until 9 p.m. daily (weather permitting). Lights and wood for rinkside fires are provided and heated restrooms are nearby.

The parks also offer quieter wintertime pursuits.

Kensington has a Farm Learning Center offering horsedrawn sleighrides or hayrides, weather permitting on weekends from noon to 4 p.m. and daily during Christmas vacation (Dec. 26 through Jan. 6). You can also try your hand at milking a cow at 3 p.m. daily.

The Interpretive Center and nature trails are popular for watching wildlife. The Nature Center is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday and 1-5 p.m. Monday. The center is closed Christmas and New Year's Day.

Lower Huron Metropark has two nature trails for walking and more than four miles of paved hike-bike trails.



Slip slidin': Sean Baluha of Plymouth Township tries a sledding him at Kensington Metropark last winter.

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Legislators introduce package of anti-terrorism bills

State Rep. Laura M. Toy joined Michigan House and Senate leaders today to unveil a bipartisan anti-terrorism package that is intended to enhance public safety, provide law enforcement with new tools to investigate threats and strengthen the state's response to emergencies.

The comprehensive plan was developed during the past several weeks by policymakers in the executive and legislative branches of Michigan government. Toy joined Senate Majority Leader Dan DeGraw, House Speaker Rick Johnson, House Democratic Leader Kwame Kilpatrick and Senate Democratic Leader John Cherry in announcing the bicameral proposal on the three-month anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

common-sense approach. Her bill, one of the key components of the package, expands the definition of vulnerable targets in the explosive chapter of Michigan law to include stadiums, critical transportation infrastructures and public building with maximum occupancy of 50 or more people.

"We have many vulnerable targets in Michigan, such as the Soo locks, our beloved Mackinac Bridge, airports and tunnels," said Toy, R-Livonia. "It's important that they are protected."

"This package is about public safety and protection. We've been reviewing our current laws over the past few months and finding ways to strengthen and improve them. In addition, some of the bills in this package are dealing with new areas. It's unfortunate that so much has

changed since Sept. 11, but we can't ignore what must be done."

The package creates a new crime of terrorism under Michigan law, including bills that:

- Freeze and forfeit assets used to commit a terrorist act,

- Create criminal penalties for hindering the prosecution of terrorism, such as acting as a lookout or providing a disguise, and

- Require individuals convicted of certain terrorism-related offense to reimburse units of government for response costs.

Penalties for these offenses, if death results, would be imprisonment for life without parole.

The package also includes several proposals regarding Michigan transportation systems and border crossings. These measures would:

- Mandate that flight schools conduct criminal background checks on all students,

- Require applicants for driver licenses and personal ID cards to be U.S. Citizens or legal aliens,

- Urge Congress to increase the number of customs inspectors and immigration agents at Michigan's four international border crossings, and

- Establish "pre-clearance" procedures that require individuals entering the United States to pass through customs before departing Canada.

Other public safety measures include:

- Punishing those who poison or contaminate food or water supplies with a harmful substance or those involved in a contamination hoax, and

Establishing Michigan as a member of the multi-state Emergency Management Assistance Compact and encouraging local municipalities to develop statewide mutual aid agreements.

"Today, we unveiled this pack-

age with leaders from both parties and from both chambers," Toy said. "This is a united effort to combat terrorism. I'm very proud to be a part of it."

Toy said she plans to see action on the new measures after the holiday break.

Cell phone company has free headsets

Cellular & More, Michigan's largest growing wireless retailer, is on its way to distributing 10,000 hands-free headsets this holiday season. Only 2,500 headsets remain in inventory.

The universal headsets will be given away at all 11 retail locations throughout Michigan. No purchase is necessary. Customers who wish to upgrade their headsets to a different model will be given a \$20 credit toward the upgrade. There is a limit of one free headset per customer.

"Safety is a key issue when using a mobile phone. As a leading wireless services retailer, we feel a responsibility to the community to provide a tool to enhance safety while using our products," said Rob Emery, president/CEO of Cellular & More. "We do not condone talking on the phone while driving. We understand, however, that situations arise when using the phone while driving is necessary. Hands-free headsets allow drivers to keep both hands on the wheel while using their phone."

Cellular & More offers the following tips to drivers when it is necessary to make or receive a call while driving. First, if possible, pull over or into a parking lot. It is much safer to converse when the car is at a complete stop and your focus is not split between driving and talking.

Second, if you are stressed or frustrated when taking or mak-

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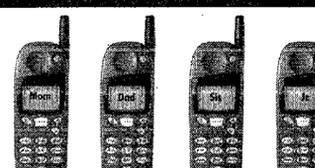
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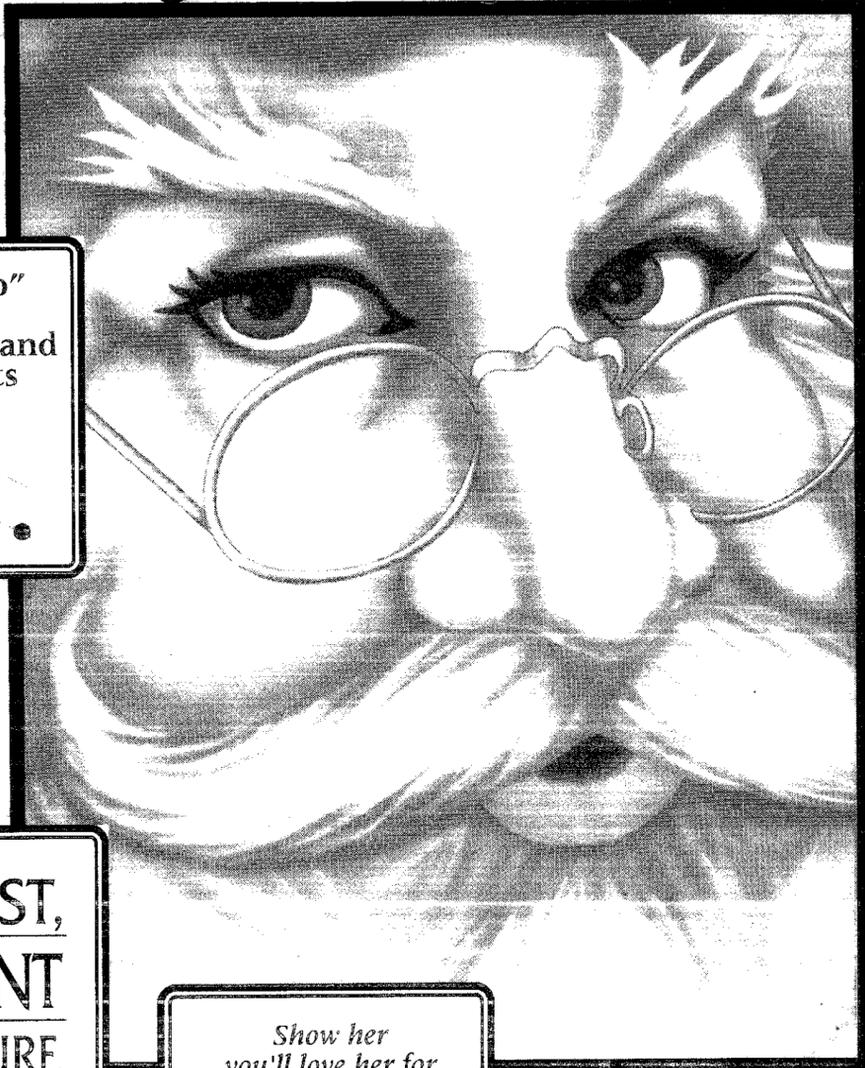
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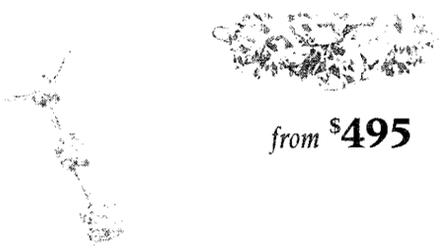
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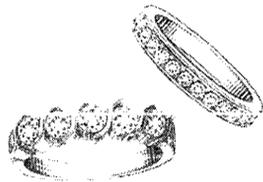
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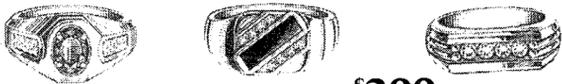
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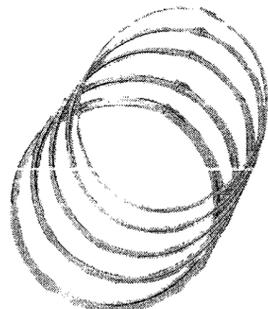
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The shop that rocks

School store has holiday items

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

Looking for a unique place to buy your holiday gifts? One of the best-kept secrets throughout Plymouth-Canton Schools is the Rock Shop at Salem High School.

The student-run retail store doesn't make its money selling just pens and pencils to students, like many school stores before it. The Rock Shop can help fill your Christmas stocking with gifts such as TY Beanie Babies, Vita Bath soap and lotions, Salem outerwear, Michigan and Michigan State memorabilia, and Carhartt clothing.

And, why would anyone shop the Rock Shop?

"We don't raise our prices as much over cost as the big retail stores," said Jenny Catterall, 17, a senior from Plymouth Township and the store's marketing manager. "As soon as we get new merchandise we advertise it through our televised commercials and poster boards."

Students who take marketing classes receive an opportunity to work in the Rock Shop. And many, like the store's bookkeeper, Brad Kaufman, plan to use the experience they get today for

the future.

"This is the perfect experience I need, especially for college," said Kaufman, 17, a senior from Plymouth Township. "I'm a couple of steps ahead because I know what it's like in the real business world."

Marketing teacher Byron Richardson has been overseeing the store for 31 years. There are approximately 30 students who work in the Rock Shop, rotating duties like baking cookies, working the sales counters, advertising, and even vacuuming the store.

"Nearly 60 people applied for the program, and they have to go through interviews, receive teacher recommendations, and have a good attitude to be accepted," said Richardson.

"We try to make it a total program, like any real business," he added. "We teach students to interact with adults, who we encourage to come in with our weekly specials. Real businesses deal with people, advertising and charities."

Richardson makes sure that some of the profit goes to charity. This year, students put together travel bags for the homeless in Detroit, and helped

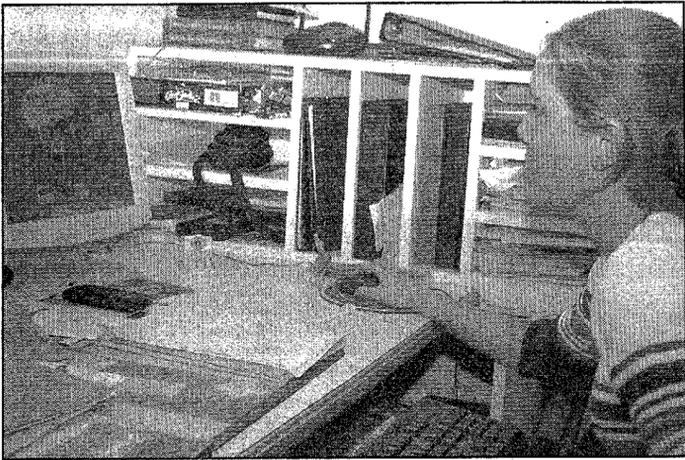
non-profit groups like Operation Good Cheer and Cystic Fibrosis. Additional profits go towards purchasing equipment and computers to operate the store.

"I'm going into business, and maybe become a marketing teacher," said senior Kurt Runchey of Plymouth. "By working here I've learned how to deal with customers and run a register, which helps with my co-op job at Specialty Pet Supplies."

Megan Sergeichik, a sophomore from Canton, gets her snacks at the Rock Shop.

"It's fast and easy," she said. "The chips and Skittles are cheaper than the vending machines."

The Rock Shop's daily store hours are 10:19 a.m. to 11:55 a.m. Extended holiday hours include Dec. 20, from 7:30 a.m. to 1:55 p.m. The store is open Dec. 21 from 7:30 a.m. until noon. Visitors should sign in and obtain a pass in the second floor offices before going to the Rock Shop.



Getting carded: Rock Shop marketing manager Jenny Catterall, a 17-year-old Salem senior, goes over the design of a Christmas card the Rock Shop staff designed and will sell for the holidays.

Making change: Cashier Dan "Flip" Boilan helps Canton senior Michelle Carrico with her purchase at the Rock Shop at Salem High School. The store is opening its doors to the public for the Christmas holiday shopping season.



UAW from page A1

baskets to distribute this year are First Step in Canton, First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti, Thurston High School in Redford Township, Active Faith in South Lyon and the Westland Free Methodist church.

The baskets are assembled at the Local headquarters at Joy and Cherry Hill on Wednesday - except for the turkeys.

"At 5 a.m. Thursday we go to Meijer to pick up 200 frozen turkeys," Caldwell said. "The baskets are ready to go at 6 a.m."

Workers getting off the midnight shift stop by to pick up the baskets and deliver them to the

appropriate places, usually to the areas in which they live.

"We try to limit the distance for delivery to 30 or 40 miles," Caldwell said. "But about five years ago a young lady who didn't realize the distance had a

basket for a family in Alpena." (That's over 200 miles away in the Thumb area.)

"We didn't let them down," Caldwell said. "We just replaced the frozen turkey with a canned ham and UPS'd it overnight."

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Local charities do well even with downturn

Some messages are too important to be delivered just once or even twice.

A scant 14 weeks ago, people across the nation emptied their pockets and piggy banks, charged on their credit cards and even opened their veins to help people affected by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks put their lives back together.

But today, right here in Canton Township, some of our neighbors still need our help.

Even so, the news for local charities has been generally good.

Recently the Canton Goodfellows collected money with their annual newspaper drive, exceeding their goal despite being prevented from selling on street corners.

One Canton business, Auto Craft Collision, even gave the Goodfellows \$2500 they had raised to help make sure there was "no Canton child without a Christmas." A special Observer thanks goes to the good guys at AutoCraft on Michigan Avenue.

And, the local Plymouth Community United Way (which includes Canton) exceeded its goal of \$1.1 million recently.

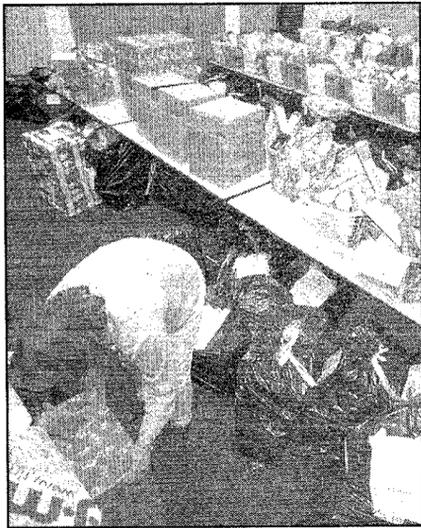
The Salvation Army needs bell ringers, especially for the day before Christmas. Might be a good idea to help while the weather's still bearable. Also, as of last week the Army still needed some families for their adopt-a-family program.

Wise Solutions, a Canton software company, helped out this year as employees work in pairs of twos for the Salvation Army as bell ringers. This is their fourth year helping the Army.

The Army also partnered with the Observer to operate our annual Cheer Club, a drive to collect toys and non-perishable food for the Army's holiday basket program. Thanks to our many readers who donated to the Cheer Club.

In Plymouth the American Cancer Society Discovery Shop are still accepting clothing donations for resale. Donate now to be in time for 2001 tax deductions if you itemize.

In the coming days, you'll no doubt be



Donations: Groups such as the Goodfellows have come through with help for charities.

hit with requests for more donations from every imaginable corner, because hard economic times hit hardest among those with the very least. Nationally, charitable organizations are losing donors who have been "downsized" as unemployment reaches levels unseen in 20 years.

We thank you for your support Canton/Plymouth organizations in these tough times.

For the future, if you have nothing to spare materially, you can give of your time and talents. Offer to help make fund-raising phone calls, stamp envelopes, baby sit a child whose mother or father can't afford daycare.

Whether you celebrate Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Christmas or just being alive, this is the time of year when people need your help the most. As temperatures dip and winter sets in, it's time to gather around the fires of civility and compassion.

Because - for some people - a long, hard winter is headed this way.

GOP 'reform' cuts choice

Talk about chutzpah.

First the Republican dominated Legislature gerrymandered the state's legislative and congressional districts to guarantee themselves healthy majorities for the next 10 years. Then last week, they voted to eliminate straight-party voting, which will in effect disenfranchise many traditionally Democratic voters.

The ban on straight-party voting came in a package of voting reforms. The rest of the package cleans up some confusing procedures and clarifies methods for determining qualified voters.

Republican legislators argue disingenuously that eliminating straight-party voting forces voters to take more care in their decisions. What it actually does is take away the voter's option of voting for all the candidates of a party whose principles the voter supports.

It will also create long waits in congressional elections as voters are forced to vote for each office individually. In traditionally Democratic Detroit, this will lead to frustration for many voters who will decide not to wait. Of course the GOP legislators and the GOP governor know this and that's why they did it.

It will also force local election officials to purchase more voting equipment to handle the lines.

Another recent piece of legislation would put school elections on the same calendar as other elections, which, while commendable in many ways, will create an even longer ballot.

But apart from the practical problems this creates, this legislation is an attack on the party system and on the right of voters to choose what they want to do.

The party system has become an important part of our democracy. Some people claim there is little difference between the two parties. Both parties avoid political and economic extremes. Both parties support a free market economy. Both parties pledge allegiance to the U.S. Constitution.

Still, the parties represent different perspectives on regulating the economy,

civil liberties, the role of government, the role of religion in public life and many other issues. Voters understand those party differences. They know which party is closest to their personal viewpoint and want to vote for candidates from that party.

Some voters will consider the personal merits of a candidate from another party and choose to split their ballots. Former Gov. William Milliken was a beneficiary of ticket splitting. Voters understood that his personal philosophy was somewhere in between the traditional values of the two parties and Democrats felt comfortable voting for him.

Michigan has given its voters the choice.

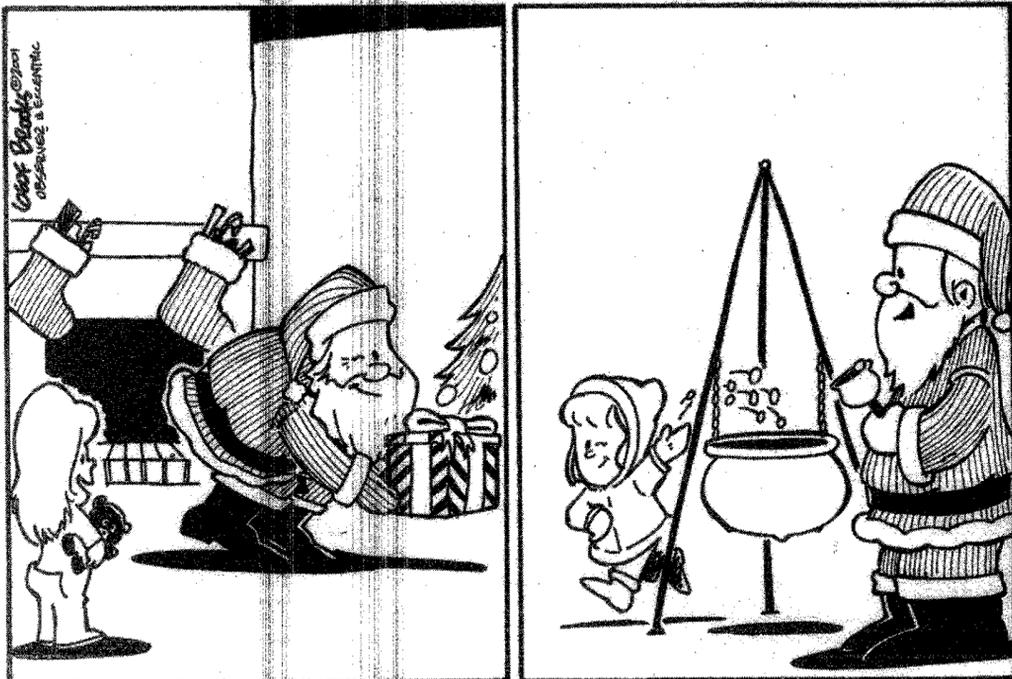
State Rep. Jim Plakas (D-Garden City) and his fellow Democrats tried unsuccessfully to put the issue on a statewide ballot to let voters decide if they wanted the option taken away from them (and are now mounting a petition drive).

"For more than 100 years, voters in Michigan have had the option of voting a straight ticket," Plakas said. "The Republicans who support eliminating this option have never been able to present evidence that shows straight ticket voting is a problem in our state. This is nothing more than a political ploy to decrease voter turnout in the 2002 election."

Township, city and county clerks have already voiced their strong opposition to the ban. Following the debacle of last year's presidential election, many states have sought to effect meaningful election reform. House Democrats proposed such reforms as an Election Day holiday, a vote-by-mail election system and a proposal to make sure that senior citizens wait no more than 30 minutes to vote. None of these amendments made it into the package.

What the GOP did instead was pass a "reform" that takes away choice, creates frustration and confusion and ends up disenfranchising voters. Shame on them!

GIVING...



... THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

LETTERS

Statement misleading

I regret that Mr. Maloney made a statement that could contribute to further misunderstanding in the community ("Former board president won't be charged," Observer, Dec. 16). The paper he refers to is by no means a "master plan." It is a collection of ideas and possibilities to explore over coming years. It centers around my proposal that the district adopt a more "family friendly" philosophy by offering parents more educational choices, many at their local schools.

Mr. Maloney's concern about school district finance is appreciated but misdirected. Since the spring of 2000, the board and I have worked successfully to improve business and budgeting practices that had become standard procedures during prior years when Mr. Maloney served on the Board of Education.

Patricia Brand, who became the district's Executive Director of Business Services in July 2000, completed many of these improvements. Plante & Moran delivered its audit report to the board this fall and praised P-CCS for its best audit in years and commended the work of Ms. Brand's department.

Further, contrary to Mr. Maloney's statement, I have not proposed an elimination of the Talented and Gifted (TAG) Program. Mr. Maloney knows this as he served as the audience at the August Board of Education retreat where I presented a brief overview of these ideas, and he used the Freedom of Information Act to secure an in-progress copy of the report I was preparing for the board.

My proposal, even in the draft form which he received in August, proposed a 50 percent expansion of TAG. I am puzzled why he would continue to state that my intent is otherwise.

Kathleen Booher
School Superintendent

A thank you

Once again, you've given Lindsey (Cerilli) and the rest of our family the special gift of friendship and love, made all the more special because even as everyone has returned to school and prepared for the holidays, you're still with us!

All of your generous donations of time for our "benefits," donations to the bone marrow and blood drives, your many gifts and good wishes have made a difficult time much easier. And now we have the additional gift of realizing how much all of our friends mean to us - even those friends we haven't yet met, but who have made room for us in their hearts.

Lindsey's benefit breakfast at Boulder's, the roller-skating benefit at Skateland West, the Pennies for Patients drive, will all go a long way toward helping us beat Lindsey's leukemia. She is in remission now, still in treatment at Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, but she's feeling much better, all with your help.

This entire experience has shown our family how very lucky we are to have friends, family and a community like this one. Thank you for your generosity, compassion, and support!

The Cerilli Family,
Canton

Editor's note: Lindsey is a student at Bentley Elementary School in Canton.

Malott on cloning

Mike Malott really has all the Red-Herring out for display doesn't he? His most recent column begs the question "What's so wrong with cloning humans?"

Mr. Malott shared in his column that he questions why laws forbidding human cloning should carry penalties heavier than bank robbery. And in a later paragraph, Malott worries that Michigan will become "unattractive the state can be to genetic researchers and research firms" should penalties stiffen for human cloning.

It seems that Malott is worried more about money than he is about morals. It appears as if this is where we need to get to the point with Malott's article even if he fears mentioning it.

Science is a odd with religion here. A segment of our society seems willing and ready to "play GOD" in the laboratory.

When you construct a human being for the sole purpose of harvesting "spare parts," aren't you creating a slave race of people to serve others? Are clones equal to their creators (man) and will they have a soul? These are questions that must be answered before this is allowed to happen. And I doubt very highly that the one being than can answer these questions writes columns for the Observer & Eccentric newspapers.

Our lawmakers are wise to do everything that they can to make the cloning of humans illegal. And the stiffer the penalty the better, if creating a subordinate culture for organ or tissue harvest isn't slavery and an abomination before GOD, I don't know what is.

Frank Finch
Canton

Edit wrong

Your editorial opinion that "gay display ruling is a win-win decision" is wrong. Interim superintendent Ken Walcott was right - but of course it's not the popular view, which is don't say anything, because you will be accused of hostility towards those who are different.

Just because you are different, you are not automatically right, and please stop using the word diversity. It's so overused it means nothing. We are all diverse just by our being Americans.

Finally, where do you get the idea that "acceptance" is a moral value? You can tolerate many ideas, but you don't have to "accept" them as your moral code.

Kathy Israel
Plymouth

Promote diversity

In response to the negative letters regarding the gay display ruling: Those of us whose children have had the privilege of having Mr. Chiumento as a teacher know that he is a very well respected, effective teacher.

His concern for all students and their well being should not be described as an "agenda." And I understand that Mr. Salbenblatt is a compassionate, caring man who puts students first. My children have attended the Plymouth Canton Community Schools, not only because of the academics but because of the diversity.

Our teachers and schools should support acceptance and fair treatment of every student. Parents who are uncomfortable with the concept of accepting all people have the option of sending their children to private schools that support that agenda. There, your children can grow up thinking that everyone is just like them.

I prefer the real world, and having my children learn that being different isn't something to be afraid of.

Kathy Collop
Plymouth

Afghan concert

We are very pleased with the results of the Dec. 8 concert at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth.

Music4Life was a benefit concert for Afghan children, an answer to President Bush's call for aid. More than \$1000 was raised to help out the kids. It was from noon to 3:30 p.m. and we had more than 200 people supporting our cause and listening to the great variety of music. The bands that participated were from Plymouth Canton/Salem High School and volunteered their talents. These bands were: Kah-Nih-Gets, Plight, Mercury Shoes, Silent Spent and Avenue. We had a great mix of people come out to see, from infants to seniors.

We would like to thank our World Geography teacher, Mr. MacGregor, for giving us the opportunity and inspiration for the concert. Also, John Macy at the Penn Theatre, National Ladder and Scaffolding Inc., Co., the Observer for covering the concert (especially Tony Bruscato) and for placing stories in the paper, Don Alley for taking pictures at the concert, the Community Crier and the Journal for placing ads in their papers, all the people who work at the Penn Theatre, the parents and others that set up the scaffolding for the concert, the talents that played, and of course, all the fans that attended the concert. You are the people who really made this happen. A very special thanks goes to the parents who gave up their time, and maybe their hearing to come and chaperone for us. We really appreciate it.

Lauren Green
Katie Patterson
Rachel Russell
Plymouth-Salem High School
World Geography Class

Share your opinions

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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OTHER OPINIONS

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Idea of visiting committee has merit for U-M Regents

'Tis the season, and just in time for the New Year, they're changing the guard at the University of Michigan.

Leaving (for the presidency of Columbia University) is Lee Bollinger, who was a popular and visionary leader at the U-M during his relatively short tenure. Arriving as interim president is B. Joseph White, the respected former dean of the Business School.



Phil Power

Bollinger's departure from the U-M has been the subject of intense speculation, some having to do with his compensation (substantially less than football coach Lloyd Carr) and some having to do with the workings and personalities on the eight-member Board of Regents. Bollinger has been giving end-of-term interviews to various newspapers, not directly criticizing the board but suggesting it could benefit from additional perspective to do its job better, perhaps through a visiting committee made up of alumni and other friends and donors to the University.

In an interview published last week in the Ann Arbor News, Bollinger said, "Every great institution has people other than the formal governing board who devote a good segment of their lives and their energies to the success of their institution, and who bring to those discussions very special talents and capacities. We do not have that."

He suggested the essentially political process that produces the governing boards of the Michigan's Big Three universities may not always produce the best boards to govern universities.

"If you tried to run this university like a department of transportation or a business, it would be a disaster. ... These are fragile places, with a very distinctive culture and intellectual atmosphere. ... A sense of some disconnection from the pressures of political and commercial problems is essential," said Bollinger.

For years, many have argued that the odd way we select members of university governing boards in Michigan could stand improvement. Most voters have no idea of the qualifications and positions of candidates.

As a result, who gets elected is essentially a crapshoot. Perhaps that's why very few other states elect members of their university boards.

Gov. Engler says he wants to appoint board members, perhaps subject to confirmation. Sen. John Schwarz says a better system would be to add seven appointed members to the eight-member

board elected boards, thereby producing a hybrid board of 15. In either case, changing the way boards are selected in Michigan would require amending the Constitution, not an easy matter.

So maybe Bollinger's idea of an advisory visiting committee has some merit. I saw a version work well while I served as a Regent. Farris Womack, then the financial vice president of the University, created an investment advisory committee to advise him in managing the U-M's portfolio, stocking it with business and investment heavyweights.

The advisory board had two purposes. One was to advise the vice president about investments. The other was to educate individual members of the board about the complexities of financial and investment strategy.

Everything worthwhile has a hidden agenda, of course. And the hidden agenda in this case was to intimidate into silence one particularly obtuse and unknowing regent who had a long history of trying to micromanage investment decisions. Watching Al Taubman bluntly tell this guy he didn't know what he was talking about is one of my happiest memories of my time as a Regent! And - surprise! - pretty soon that regent quit messing with investment decisions.

The people who serve as U-M regents put in an enormous amount of unpaid time and effort for the University, and they never get much credit for all their work and caring. Most of them, in my experience, have been unusually able and dedicated men and women. But like any other small board - especially one that is the product of the political system they need all the help and advice they can get.

Obviously, the regents won't want to dilute their responsibilities in governing the University. But having available to them a group of experienced people who also care deeply for the U-M might give them some valuable perspective and balance.

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

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Terry Ahwal Morris

McNamara: Politician and humanitarian

The first time I met Wayne County Executive Edward H. McNamara, I was a 20-year-old college student in the city of Livonia I had only lived in this country four years and he was the Mayor of Livonia - the most powerful man I had ever met. Nervous, I went to the mayor's office early! Fifteen minutes before the meeting, his secretary told me that Mr. McNamara wanted to talk to me. Fearing that the meeting was canceled, I thought, "Here goes my chance to meet with my first politician." Instead, he was apologizing to me because he was going to be five minutes late. I knew then that I was about to meet a great human being.

During his time as mayor of Livonia, our paths crossed many times. In the 1970s, when it was very unpopular for a politician to align himself or herself with the Arab Community, Edward H. McNamara forged a relationship that is still thriving today. This is one example of a man who often did the unpopular thing for the right reason.

As he announces his intention not to seek reelection, people will reflect about his leadership and his major accomplishments. There are many. He took a county with payless paydays and turned it into a prospering county. He built a world-class airport, a safe and wonderful park system, and greatly improved our roads. These and numerous other achievements will continue to thrive and be talked about because of the system he set in place.

For years I heard about McNamara, the legend, the powerful man, the guy with a great political machine - but very few people talk about his kindness and his humanity.

As one of his aides, I have seen another side, the one where his motto is "Anything can be accomplished when you don't care who gets the credit." Many of the things that were accomplished in Southeast Michigan were done because he was the silent force behind the scene. He not only convinced Mayor Archer to build the two stadiums, he led the team. When the cameras were turned on, Ed McNamara moved aside and gave the mayor the limelight. The projects he has worked on and continues to work on are too numerous to mention, but every one of these projects are done for the betterment of our community.

Ed McNamara lives with a simple mission: that everyone is important and everyone can make a difference. He also believes that no issues are too small if it affects our citizens. Since he took office, he intensified the role the county takes in helping nonprofits in our commu-

nity. Today, because of his help, Habitat for Humanity, United Way, United Negro College Fund, March of Dimes, Black United Funds receive direct contribution on annual basis from our employees. He not only lends his name, he personally participates in raising funds for them. Some of these fund-raising initiatives are requested but he initiates most. Last year he worked with Kroger Stores and raised \$25,000 for the Salvation Army after he discovered the idea on a trip to Arizona. He recognizes his power and uses it to benefit our community.

His kindness does not stop at helping recognized charities. During the Kosovo crises McNamara mobilized the community, and along with WJR and the Archdiocese of Detroit collected 4,000 blankets and \$250,000 in one week and sent it to the refugees. The list goes on and on. Each one of us has a story to tell about his kindness and compassion. Most people talk about what needs to be done. He just does it.

Immediately after Sept. 11, 2001, after dealing with Wayne County's security and the closure of the airport, Mr. McNamara reached out to the Muslim Community to assure them of his support and his commitment for their safety. He was not the only person who reached out to the Muslim and Arab community, he was the only one who reached out to them without media fanfare. He truly felt their pain and he truly wanted to protect them.

The uninformed media like to paint Edward McNamara as a politician who benefits from his office. The reality is Edward McNamara is one of those rare human beings whose tireless work will continue to affect this region for generations to come. For those of us who are privileged to work with him, we truly learn the true meaning of public service. Whenever he is given an accolade for a county's achievement he always attributes the success to his staff. However whenever there is a mistake he takes the blame. "The Buck stops here." No excuses.

He works like a mother hen to protect his staff. He believes in his staff and their ability to make a difference in people's lives. He only requires that his staff continue to try and not lose their mission of public service.

He recently announced that he would not seek re-election. The next year he will work to ensure that his predecessor will receive a healthy county, but I am sure that he will continue with his humanitarian efforts for the rest of his life.

Terry Ahwal Morris is the Deputy Director of Administration Wayne County. She lives in Canton Township. She serves on the boards of the Livonia Family YMCA and Mission Health. She is a vice president of Habitat for Humanity.

More phone choices save consumers money

As Michiganians sort through competing offers from local telephone service providers, one thing is clear: consumers are reaping the rewards of having more choices.

In fact, in October, the United States Telecom Association named Michigan a "competition friendly state," heralding the state telecom industry's successful transition to local competition. Already, new competitors operate more than one million local phone lines in Michigan.

While our state benefits from huge gains in local competition, Michiganians still don't receive the best long-distance prices and service around - something that can only come through full telecommunications competition.

According to Consumer Action, AT&T and MCI WorldCom increased their basic rates by as much as 13 percent last year.

In states like Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Kansas, New York and Texas - where full telecommunications competition is underway - consumers are saving millions on local and long-distance calls. New Yorkers alone are saving an estimated \$700 million this year - up to \$324 off some families' phone bills.

Michigan consumers are closer to realizing those same benefits. SBC Ameritech is working diligently with the Michigan Public Service Commission to ensure our state's local market is open to competition. SBC must show federal regulators that the local market is open before being approved to offer long-distance.

When SBC is approved to offer long-distance service in Michigan, competition will increase, consumers will have more choices, better prices, and innovative services and offerings. It's that simple. Now is the time to open our long-distance market to full competition.

Diane L. Webb

Diane Webb
Director
External Affairs



Diane Webb

For more information on this and other telecommunications issues, visit www.connectmichigan.org.



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Water quality improvement project grants available

The Department of Environmental Quality is accepting grant applications for nearly \$21 million in water quality improvement projects through the Clean Michigan Initiative.

Applications are due Jan. 31, 2002. Funding is expected to be available before July 2002.

Local matching funds ranging from 25 percent to 50 percent of the grant award are required. In-kind services are eligible for consideration as a local match.

The application package summarizes the four activities to be funded. They are:

- Implementing approved watershed management plans developed under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System wastewater discharge permit for storm water discharges from municipal separate storm sewer drainage systems

(also known as a voluntary storm water permit.) About \$4.5 million will be available to implement water quality protection or improvement activities in DEQ-approved watershed plans developed under these permits. Eligible entities are communities operating under a voluntary permit. It requires a minimum 50 percent match.

- About \$4.6 million will be available to implement activities in DEQ-approved watershed plans whose emphasis is on protecting high-quality waters, including establishing permanent easements, implementing vegetative and structural best management practices, implementing information/education strategies and institutional policies, and implementing other activities for the long-term protection of water quality. It requires a minimum

25 percent match.

- Implementing water quality recommendations in Remedial Action Plans (RAPs) and Lakewide Management Plans (LaMPs) developed under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. The RAPs have been developed for 14 Areas of Concern as listed in the grant application package. The LaMPs are avail-

able for lakes Michigan, Superior, Huron, Erie as well as Lake St. Clair. About \$6.7 million will be available. A minimum 25 percent match is required.

- Implementing programs to identify and require the elimination of illicit connections to municipal separate storm sewer systems. Approximately \$5.4 million will be available for own-

ers and operators of municipal separate storm sewer systems, including those covered under a voluntary storm water permit. The highest priority for these funds is to implement programs that identify and require the elimination of illicit connections that are part of an overall plan to address water quality on a watershed basis. A minimum 25

percent match is required.

The package is available by contacting the DEQ's Nonpoint Source Unit at (517) 373-2867. It also can be downloaded from the Internet at www.deq.state.mi.us/swq/ by selecting the "Grant Application Packages" link. For more information contact Amy Peterson at (517) 373-2037, or be e-mail at petersa1@michigan.gov.

Phones from page A1

ing a call while driving, tell the person on the other line you will call him/her back.

Third, if it's not safe, let your voicemail take the call. Most service comes equipped with voicemail and caller ID. Return the call later.

Locations in our community areas participating in this program are: Corporate Headquar-

ters, 31330 Schoolcraft (at Merriman), Livonia (734) 422-7414; Livonia, 33833 Plymouth Road (west of Farmington Rd.), Livonia (734) 266-2300; Canton, 44011 Ford Road (three blocks east of Sheldon), Canton (734) 981-7440; and Plymouth, 903 W. Ann Arbor Road, Suite B (just west of Main), Plymouth (734) 354-6000.

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COMING UP

FILM



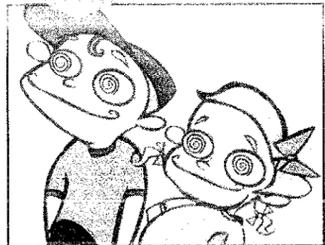
Jim Carrey stars as an ambitious Hollywood screenwriter who loses his job and identity, only to find new courage in the heart of a small town, in *The Majestic*, opening this weekend. Check local theaters for show times.

STAGE



It's the last weekend to catch the Stagecrafters production of *Annie*, at the historic Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. Bill Glace plays Daddy Warbucks and Maura Donovan is Annie in the musical, staged at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21-22, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 23. Tickets are \$16. Call (248) 541-6430 for reservations.

FESTIVAL



Don't expect to see any Disney-like beauties or beasts at Spike & Mike's Sick & Twisted Animation Festival, through Dec. 30, at the Magic Bag, 22920 Ferndale. The festival of new, edgy and downright perverse animation starts at 9:30 p.m. today. Shows also are at 9:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 23 and at 8 and 10:30 p.m., on Friday, Dec. 21, Saturday, Dec. 22, and Dec. 26-30. All shows are \$7 and available at the door. The 10:30 p.m. shows are for age 21 and over. Early shows are for age 18 and over. (248) 544-3030.



Santa comes to Henry Ford Museum/Greenfield Village through Christmas Eve Monday, Dec. 24. For information, call (313) 271-1620

Kiss and tell

Princess puckers up to a lot of frogs to find her prince



Tricky toad: Tim Wolf (left), Kirk Hanley and Scott Abbott help Patrick O'Reilly (center) figure out how to trick a princess into kissing him and breaking the spell.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
lchomin@oe.homecomm.net

It's not easy being green. Just ask Stephanie Nichols, one of the tap dancing amphibians in *The Adventures of the Frog Prince*. The musical version of the Grimm's fairy tale continues to Sunday, Dec. 30, in the Anderson Theater at Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn.

In addition to jumping for joy as a dancing frog, Nichols takes on an evil persona as the sidekick of a witch who casts a spell on a prince and turns him into a leaping Lothario.

"The challenge is the quick changes. The play's very physical and the hour's up before we realize it," said Nichols, a Troy resident who has toured the U.S. and Europe with theater companies. Summers she teaches and directs children actors at the Marquis Theatre in Northville.

"The tap dancing frogs come out when the Frog Prince is singing and dance with him. It's kind of like a chorus. There are two evil characters in the play. One of them is me as the witch's henchman. We're the bad guys but it's humorously written so kids get a kick out of them.

"It's a musical comedy with some things that are hilarious, bumbling pirates, and the Frog Prince who really is a song and dance man and fun to watch."

Dancing comes easy to Patrick O'Reilly. Long before he landed the role as Frog Prince in the September Productions play, he was hoofing his way across the stage at Churchill High School in Livonia. It's there he fell in love with theater while a student in the Creative and Performing Arts program. O'Reilly went on to earn a bachelor of fine arts degree at Wayne State University. Since then he's performed at the Bonstelle Theatre, Michigan Opera Theatre and on the Theatre Arts Productions dinner train. Six nights a week audi-

ences can find him on the Walled Lake dinner train doing everything from murder mystery to cabaret and comedy. In January, he'll teach acting at Miss Barbara's School of Dance in West Bloomfield.

"For children's theater this is really involved. There's lots of dancing, tap and swing," said O'Reilly, a Farmington resident who minored in dance at Wayne State. As the Frog Prince O'Reilly uses every trick in the book to get the Princess, played by Lise Lacasse of Royal Oak, to kiss him.

"We opened in November and the kids, they've loved it. From age 2 1/2 to high school they've had a good time and there's also adult humor."

Theresa Weiss wrote the whimsical play with all ages in mind. She also wrote lyrics and music for those tap dancing frogs. Assistant producer and stage manager Stacey Griffins of Garden City keeps them all on their toes.

"People come out beaming," said Weiss, who founded September Productions 9-years ago. Weiss earned her degree in music and theater from Eastern Michigan University and currently teaches music in Ferndale Public Schools. "We've done this six years and audi-

The Adventures of the Frog Prince

What: September Productions presents a whimsical version of the Grimm's fairy tale
When: 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 22-23 and Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 27-30
Where: Anderson Theater in Henry Ford Museum, 20900 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn
Tickets: \$6, call (313) 271-1620

ences in schools and community centers have loved it. It's a Grimm's fairy tale with pirates and tap dancing frogs and colorful costumes by Deb Cutter. One woman left crying saying she never so much joy in one room.

"I write with a Disney or Muppet movie mindset. The moral of the story is to accept people for who they are. It's not so much the princess doesn't want to kiss a frog, but a prince. She doesn't like princes just because they're princes."



Tap dancing toads: Patty Ward (left) and Stephanie Nichols join Frog Prince Patrick O'Reilly (center) for a chorus line in a musical comedy at Henry Ford Museum.

ENTERTAINMENT CAREERS

Local actors persevere despite hardships of the craft

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

From playing a package of underwear in a television commercial to landing roles in feature movies and appearing all over theaters in Michigan, Thomas Mahard, is a local actor who is able to make most of his living at the art he loves.

But, like so many other area actors, sometimes he has to pick up other work to pay the bills. Mahard also teaches acting at Oakland University, paints houses and is a sculptor.

At 50, he has been acting in Michigan since 1979 and before that in Los Angeles. Longevity and fortitude, he said, have helped him survive in the competitive job that beckons him on stage or in front of cameras.

"The longer you stay in the business the easier it is to get work," he said.

"People get to know you and there is a drop off of the people who can't take it. There's a tremendous amount of competition among 20 and 30 years old. After you realize the sacrifices and how difficult it is to make a living, by the time you get to 50 there have been a lot of people weeded out of the business."

Theater goes will recognize Mahard from Meadowbrook Theater, Attic Theater, as well as

lots of commercials and industrial films for the car companies. His resume also includes spots in feature movies, like *Hoffa* and the made for T.V. movie, *Word of Honor*, which was filmed in Detroit.



On television: Actor Scott Crownover was featured in a Marathon gasoline commercial which ran locally last summer.

He works with a couple of acting agencies that ferret out auditions for parts.

"There could be anywhere from five to 25 people there for one audition and I get a certain percentage of those jobs," according to the Flint resident who has also lived in Detroit and Ann Arbor.

His schedule included *Murder on the Nile* at Meadowbrook in late September and then it was off to a performance in *Born Yesterday* at the Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea, with Jerf Daniels directing. But, he never knows what he'll play next - like the package of underwear in an upcoming commercial for the Michigan Lottery.

"With all the training I've had, sometimes you just get what's out there," he said. "When I was younger I was anxious to get older, because



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

For work: Actor Scott Crownover of Novi shows off the photo that accompanies his resume.

Please see ACTORS, A2

Actors from page A1

it seemed like all the good parts were for older men and now I'm looking at parts that I'm too old for."

Scott Crownover, a 29-year-old Novi resident, is just starting his career as a full-time actor. He's been in the business for six years.

"I'm directed by God," he said. "I wouldn't have the strength to do it if I wasn't. It's an incredibly tough business and you have to have the faith that something is going to come up and that you're supposed to do it. I decided this is what I was going to do no matter how hard it would be."

Crownover has landed parts at Meadowbrook, Jewish Ensemble Theater in West Bloomfield, Performance Network in Ann Arbor and a lot of summer theater, as well as out of state venues.

When there just weren't any parts, Crownover took side jobs, like working as a substitute teacher to pad his income.

"I haven't had to do that a lot," he said. "I'm very, very fortunate."

He's also a member of the unions, Screen Actors Guild and Actors Equity Association, that

stipulate if actors work a certain amount of hours they have to be paid a certain amount of money. However, some theaters can't afford to pay union wages.

To stay in the business, Crownover said, actors must believe they have a special talent.

"It's true, you only have one life," he said. "Go for it. Try community theater and different venues while you're working. It's exciting, but be prepared because, there is no job security in acting. You're always waiting for another job. You have to work hard."

Charlotte Leisinger knows the feeling of not having a lot of parts available.

At 59, she's been acting for 40 years, but she had to hold a full-time day job to earn money. She worked for Ameritech, got an early retirement when she was 53 and went to graduate school to earn her master's degree in acting.

She's been a full-time actor ever since.

Her major in college was theater, but after she graduated, she said: "I had to make a liv-

ing." "The only people who should go into this job should do it because if they don't do it you don't breathe right," she added. "If you're older, it can be frustrating, because there aren't that many parts. The biggest thing is looking for the next job. Acting can be very rewarding. When it goes right there's nothing better."

While she has done a couple of commercials, her true love is to be on stage.

"I didn't retire to sell Ford," Leisinger said. "I retired to do parts in plays."

So, like so many other actors, she calls the actor's union hot line to hear the list of auditions.

"That's basically how it goes - smiling all the time," she said. "If you only do stage work in the Detroit area, you're homeless. Most of the theaters around pay \$200 a week with usually six performances Thursday through Sunday. Some are more. Some are less. Meadowbrook pays more. It's impossible to eat and house yourself with that."

A lot of her friends who work as actors hold jobs, like delivering newspapers, waitressing and walking dogs.

"And if they get a call for out of town jobs they can leave without hurting anyone desperately," Leisinger said.

Sandra Love Aldrich always wanted to be an actress. But, she too, had to find a day job to make her dream come true.

"I do primarily live stage and most people who do just live stage unfortunately can't make a living," she said. "Most people keep their 9 to 5 jobs which means you're limited to theaters where they rehearse in the evening."

Three years ago she took an early retirement as a teacher in the Detroit Public School District, so she could pursue her real passion - to act full-time. Being a black, female, actor, she said, limits the number of roles.

"I couldn't quit my job, because there wasn't enough work to sustain me," explained Love

Aldrich, who is a single mom of two children.

She studied at the Detroit Repertory Theater, which does nontraditional casting - they don't look at skin color when casting parts.

"We can do a show where I'm black, my mom is white and my husband can be Puerto Rican," she said.

Over the years, Love Aldrich has worked with Detroit Repertory Theater, Plow Shares, Meadowbrook, as well as Wayne State University's Hilberry and Bonstelle theaters among other gigs including dinner theaters. She's also a member of the Actors Equity Association.

Love Aldrich knew she wanted to act when she auditioned for a place in a workshop at the Detroit Repertory Theater. She was older than the sea of young "ingenue types, but I didn't let them threaten me - believe me it was very noticeable."

"It was the mother's speech from *Raisin in the Sun*, and one person was nodding his head in agreement and smiling from ear to ear and I knew what it was like to be an actor," she said describing her fist flirt with acting. "It was the audience appreciation. I got the admiration in his smile. I studied about two years at the Rep. They kicked me out and they said it was time for you to see if you can get work."

Her work honing her craft wasn't over. Newspaper reviews of her first part were lousy, cutting to her heart by saying she had no business even being on stage. After the reviews, she had to muster the courage to keep performing.

"You can't let it get to you, difficult as that may be," she said. "You decide, I don't care."

You can imagine her feelings of vindication, she said, when the same newspaper reviewers voted her the best actress award nine years later.

Player's Guild presents comedy

Beau Jest, the Players Guild of Dearborn's third season production opens Friday, Jan. 11 at the theater in Dearborn.

This comedy explores the universal theme of how children become adults. The story features a nice, single Jewish girl, Sarah Goldman, with a problem - the men she's interested in aren't Jewish, much to the dismay of her parents who want her to marry a "nice Jewish man."

When the girl hires an actor to play her "nice Jewish fiancée," she weaves a complicated web of lies as her "fake" relationship grows deeper and more complex. At the same time her real boyfriend, kept secret, watches as she grows to the point of making a lasting commitment and accepting the consequences of going against her parents' wishes.

Her parents are clueless, unlike her brother the psychologist who seems to have caught on. Eventually Sarah is forced to confront her parents with the truth when she is faced with losing the man she finally realizes she loves.

The show features Emily Tyrnion as Sarah Goldman, Jeff Flannery as Bob Schroeder, Pat Kennedy as Chris Kringle, Jerry Salas as Joe Goldman, Tom Sparrow as Abe Goldman, and Diana Reynolds as Miriam Goldman.

Paul Vandevent directs the eight performances of *Beau Jest*. Curtain 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 11-12, Jan. 18-19, Jan. 25-26; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20 and Jan. 27.

Call (313) 561-TKTS, or visit www.playersguildofdearborn.org.

Magic Bag presents animation festival

The Magic Bag in Ferndale presents *Spike & Mike's Sick & Twisted Animation Festival* through Sunday, Dec. 30. Launched in 1993, the first festival unleashed *Beavis and Butthead* for the first time to unsuspecting metro Detroit audiences.

The Mike Judge shorts *Frog Baseball* and *Honky Problem* were hits. Recent festivals highlighted the premiers of *The Spirit of Christmas* and *Frosty*, early works from *South Park* creators Matt Stone, Trey Parker and award-winning animator Don Hertzfeld (*Ah L'Amour and Rejected*).

Spike Decker and Mike Gribble have been producing and showcasing new animation for over two decades. The Sick & Twisted show plays to sold-out houses regularly around the country and was even referenced in a recent episode of *The Simpsons*.

Here's the festival schedule:
■ Friday-Saturday, Dec. 21-22 - two shows. First show, doors open 7:30 p.m., film 8 p.m. Sec-

ond show, doors open 10 p.m., film 10:30 p.m.

■ Sunday, Dec. 23 - Doors open 8 p.m., film 9:30 p.m.

■ Wednesday, Dec. 26-Sunday, Dec. 30 - two shows. First show, doors open 7:30 p.m., film 8 p.m. Second show, doors open 10 p.m., film 10:30 p.m.

All shows are \$7, age 18 and older for shows before 10 p.m., age 21 and older for shows after 10 p.m. Tickets available at the door, night of show, only.

The Magic Bag is at 22920 Woodward Ave. in Ferndale. Call (248) 544-3030 for details.

Mark your calendar. Tickets are on sale for the Anti-Blues Festival, Friday-Sunday, Jan. 4-6. The festival, a benefit for the Detroit Blues Society, features Robert Jr. Lockwood on Jan. 4, Koko Taylor, Jan. 5 and a Guitar Showdown with Larry McCray on Jan. 6. Tickets \$15-\$25. Call number listed above, or visit www.themagicbag.com for information.

NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION at

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Join Jim Harrison on a culinary adventure

BY VICTORIA DIAZ
SPECIAL WRITER

The Raw and the Cooked: Adventures of a Roving Gourmand

By Jim Harrison
(Grove Press, \$25)
Frankly, I can't always tell what Jim Harrison is talking about, or where he's going with his words. However, in this collection of his food columns (which appeared in such magazines as Esquire, Men's Journal, and Smart), he's great fun to follow around, just to see where he'll lead us.

On these pages, he's like a loquacious dinner companion, holding forth on such diverse matters as curative foods ("the violent pasta dish ... puttanesca" will brush away boredom, and "for ... depression you must go to Rio ... and eat a roast slice from the hump of a Zebu bull"), hunting woodcock near his home in upper Michigan, dining on bear

BOOKS

(the fat tastes a bit rancid), the howling pain of gout, the delights of Zingerman's in Ann Arbor, and the culinary thrills at the Lark in West Bloomfield.

From time to time, Harrison hangs out and sips with movie folk like Harrison Ford, Danny DeVito, or Jack Nicholson. This came about because he writes screenplays now and then — although it is clear here that screenwriting is not one of his favorite activities. He also pals

around with famous "foodies" such as the French gourmand-writer Gerard Oberle, and Mario Batali of TV's food channel. (At Batali's Babbo in New York, Harrison tells us he once had "what was easily the best meal I have ever had in an American restaurant." It was, he recalls, "a mystical experience," consisting of such tasty treats as calamari, anchovies, lamb's tongue, goose liver ravioli, barbecued squab, grilled quail, duck bacon, and on and on and on.)

Of course, we are to take some of his pronouncements with a

suspicion of salt. Could he be kidding us, do you think, when he speaks of "a bill under consideration in the (Michigan) legislature that would allow Republicans to beat poor folks with ... cudgels on Monday afternoons during the ... winter months"? And I'm not at all sure that Harrison finished off an entire piglet all by himself, and at one sitting. Or that he and Orson Welles once enjoyed a repast of "a half-pound of beluga with a bottle of Stolichnaya, a salmon in sorrel sauce, sweetbreads en croute, a miniature leg of lamb ... , with

five wines, desserts, cheeses, ports." Ah well, who knows? Like many suspected full-of-baloney folk, he's a riot as company.

The book also brings with it a distinct bonus. It contains a memorable recipe for that plain-and-simple dish (even disdained as downright lowly by some Italians): spaghetti and meatballs.

If you tend toward heartburn and dyspepsia, perhaps it would be best to avoid "The Raw and the Cooked," though. It's one heavily-ladled food-and-wine adventure after another after another after another, thickly

textured and richly flavored (and colored) via Harrison's sometimes fatty prose. Here is a piece titled "Thirty-three Angles on Eating French," for instance. And here is Harrison, railing against the greed of his government, while personally indulging his own appetites to gluttonous extremes. Finally, here is one of the most repellent accountings of a snake (burp, gulp) dining on a hapless toad you'll ever encounter.

Victoria Diaz is a freelance writer who lives in Livonia.

Curl up and read this holiday season

(NUE) - Whether it's wrapping presents, trimming the tree or feasting on magnificent meals, the holiday season is traditionally about spending time with family. With so much going on, keeping kids reading over these hectic months may be difficult.

But the holiday season is a perfect opportunity to encourage children to renew or continue their love of reading. After all, ever since Clement C. Moore penned "The Night Before Christmas" bedtime stories have been part of the holiday tradition.

There's no better time of year to take an hour out of your busy schedule to snuggle up in

Ever since Clement C. Moore penned "The Night Before Christmas" bedtime stories have been a part of the holiday tradition.

bed with the family and read. That's why the National Center For Family Literacy has teamed with Snuggle fabric softener and Snuggletime.com to provide these tips to encourage families to continue reading throughout the holiday season:

1. Begin a family tradition by giving your child a new book to mark each holiday season. As your child grows, you will build a special collection to remind you of past holiday seasons. Classic favorites include: "The Snowman" by Raymond Briggs and "The Snowy Day" by Ezra Jack Keats.

2. Diversify your child's book collection. Purchase storybooks that explain other holiday traditions. Most bookstores and libraries have collections of books related to Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Christmas. Use these books to help teach children about how holiday time is spent in other families. Suggested books include: "Hershel And The Hanukkah Goblins" by Eric Kimmel and "The Story of Kwanzaa" by Donna Washington.

3. Purchase a magazine subscription for your child. Magazines are a fun alternative to books and are great tools to help expand your child's knowledge on a wide variety of topics and current issues throughout the year. Some suggestions include: "Highlights," "Sports Illustrated for Kids" and "National Geographic World."

For more tips or other suggested books, visit Snuggletime.com, an award-winning Web site designed to offer children and parents a safe and entertaining environment where they can spend time together sharing and learning.

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THEATER

CENTURY THEATRE: *Fully Committed* continues 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, and 1:30 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, Detroit. \$27-\$37.50. (313) 963-9800

DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE: *Missizy and the Angel Tree* continues to Dec. 30, 8:30 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays, 3 and 8:30 p.m., Saturdays and 2 and 7:30 p.m., Sundays, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. \$15. (313) 868-1347

GEM THEATRE: *Dinner with Friends* continues 2 p.m. Wednesday, 8 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, Detroit. \$27.50-\$37.50. (313) 963-9800

JEWISH ENSEMBLE THEATRE: *Talley's Folly* continues to Dec. 30, Dec. 20-23 and 26-30, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday and Sunday, 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. \$16-\$28. (248) 788-2900

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE: *A Christmas Carol* continues to Sunday, Dec. 23, at the theater on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester. \$28-\$40. Ol' Ebenezer Scrooge asks audiences to learn from his lessons and bring non-perishable food donations to the theater during the run of *A Christmas Carol*. (248) 377-3300

COMMUNITY THEATER

STAGECRAFTERS: *Annie* continues to Dec. 23, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 21-22, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 23, at the Baldwin Theatre, Royal Oak. (248) 541-6430

THEATER GUILD OF LIVONIA-REDFORD: Presents the holiday family musical *Babes in Toyland* through Saturday, Dec. 29, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, 2 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, Dec. 26-29, at the theater, 15138 Beech Daly in Redford. \$5 (313) 531-9554

COLLEGE THEATER

HILBERRY THEATRE: The comedy *Season's Greeting* continues in rotating repertory to Feb. 2, at the theater, Detroit. \$12-\$20. (313) 577-2972

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

DETROIT PUPPET THEATER: *Cinderella*, a marionette ballet version of the popular story, 2 p.m. Saturdays in December, at the theater, Detroit. \$7, \$5 children. (313) 961-7771

MARQUIS THEATRE: *Charlotte's Web* 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 29-30, and Jan. 5-6, 12-13 and 19-20, and Wednesday-Friday, Dec. 26-28, at the theater, Northville. \$7.50. No children under age 3. (248) 349-8110

SPECIAL EVENTS

RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR: Starring the Rockettes, times vary, continues through Saturday, Dec. 29, Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$15-\$57.50. (313) 471-6611

NEW YEAR'S EVE

BIRD OF PARADISE: Ramona Collins, Monday, Dec. 31, (\$50, \$75 a couple), at the club, Ann Arbor. (734) 662-8310

ANN ARBOR COMEDY SHOWCASE: Tim Walkoe 8 p.m. (\$25.50) and 10:30 p.m. (\$29.50) Monday, Dec. 31, at the club, Ann Arbor. (734) 996-9080

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CLUB: Fred Greenlee, also Mark Sweetman Monday, Dec. 31, \$6 Thursday, \$12 Friday, \$14 Saturday. (248) 542-9900

CLASSICAL

DETROIT CHAMBER WINDS & STRINGS: The Mystic Trumpeter concert 8:30 p.m. (8 p.m. reception), Friday, Dec. 21, at Hagopian World of Rugs, Birmingham. \$19, \$10 students age 12 and under. (248) 559-2095



Traditions of the Season: Greenfield Village comes to life with the sights and sounds of Christmas past. Learn about holiday traditions over the last 150 years while picking out a tree or balsam wreath at the Greens Market. The 12 Nights of Christmas continues 6:30-9:30 p.m. with lantern-lit tours of eight historic buildings where Christmas cooking fills the air. Or take the Holiday Express as Henry Ford Museum focuses on travel with a locomotive theme 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily at 20900 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn. Admission prices vary. Call (313) 271-1620.

CHORAL

LIVONIA CIVIC CHORUS: Present their 37th annual holiday concert 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 23, in Churchill High School Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia. (734) 427-5397 or send e-mail to gross2gross@aol.com

AUDITIONS/OPPORTUNITIES

BIRMINGHAM CONCERT BAND: Looking for new musicians for the 65-member adult band, all instruments welcome especially low brass and percussion, rehearsals on Wednesday in Groves High School bandroom. (248) 474-4997, (248) 647-7586 or visit the Web site at birminghamconcertband.com

LIVONIA CIVIC CHORUS: Looking for singers. The chorus begins rehearsals for a spring concert 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, at Frost Junior High in Livonia. All voice parts are needed. (734) 427-5397 or send e-mail to gross2gross@aol.com

LIVONIA YOUTH PHILHARMONIC: If you are a musician in grades 1-12 with at least one year of experience and interested in playing with a youth orchestra, the Livonia Youth Philharmonic is holding auditions for its winter semester beginning Jan. 5, openings available in most sections. (734) 591-7649 or online at www.LYPM.org

POPS/SWING/CABARET

BIRD OF PARADISE ORCHESTRA: 9 p.m. Monday, at the Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. (734) 662-

8310 (big band, swing, bop)

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: The Colors of Christmas, Peabo Bryson, Sheena Easton, Michael McDonalds and Oleta Adams join the orchestra for performances 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 21-22, and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 23, at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. \$15-\$62. (313) 576-5111

JAZZ/BLUES

MARK ARSHAK: 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 21-22, at Edison's, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

RON BROOKS TRIO: 9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, at the Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$5 cover. (734) 662-8310

LOS GATOS: 9 p.m. Wednesday, at the Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$5 cover. (734) 662-8310

RAMONA COLLINS: Friday-Saturday, Dec. 21-22 (\$10, \$7 students); Monday, Dec. 31, (\$50, \$75 a couple), at the Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. (734) 662-8310

MATT MICHAELS TRIO: With guest vocalist Barbara Ware, 8-11:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26, at Ron's Fireside Inn, 28937 Warren Road, two blocks east of Middlebelt Road. (734) 762-7756

LARRY NOZERO JAZZ QUINTET: Perform 8 p.m. to midnight Mondays, at Mitch Housey's Food & Spirits, Livonia. (734) 425-5520 or visit the Web site at www.larrynozero.com

TONY POPE'S N'ORLEANS SIX: 3-6 p.m. every other Saturday, at S.K. Brewer's Food and Spirits, Southfield. \$6 cover. Food available during show and dinner hour. (248) 476-2674

RJ'S RHYTHM ROCKERS: 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at Edison's,

Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

SUNNY WILKINSON: Friday-Saturday, Dec. 28-29, at the Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$10, \$7 students. (734) 662-8310

FOLK/ACOUSTIC

LARRY ARBOUR: 7 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, at Flying Fish Tavern, 17600 West 13 Mile, east of Southfield Road. (248) 647-7747

WORLD MUSIC

PAT MCDUNN: 8-11 p.m. Friday, at Duke Humphries, Rochester Hills. No cover. (248) 601-1100 (Irish)

DANCE

MOON-DUSTERS: Ballroom dancing to live bands, featuring swing, fox trot, waltz, cha-cha and Latin, 8:30-11:30 p.m. Saturdays, at the Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road at Five Mile. \$5. (248) 967-1428

RHYTHM N' SHOES: Weekly ballroom/Latin dance party with DJ, 8:30-10:30 p.m. Thursdays, at the Union Ballroom, Ann Arbor. \$2. (734) 763-6984

COMEDY

ANN ARBOR COMEDY SHOWCASE: Monica Carter, Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 20-22; Devin McPeck, Thursday-Saturday,

Dec. 27-29; Tim Walkoe, Monday, Dec. 31, at the club, Ann Arbor. (734) 996-9080

FOX THEATRE: Rick Smiley headlines the Def Comedy Jam, with Mike Epps, Ricky Harris, Honest John and DJ Showtime, 9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 30, Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$32.50-\$42.50. Tickets for Sept. 15 performance will be honored. (248) 645-6666

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S: Jim Hamm, Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 20-23, at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CLUB: Mike Green, Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 20-22; Fred Greenlee, also Mark Sweetman Monday, Dec. 31, \$6 Thursday, \$12 Friday, \$14 Saturday. (248) 542-9900

SECOND CITY: New on Tuesdays, *Law & Disorder* and *Standing on Ceremony*; Jammin' Wednesdays features *The Best of Second City*; *Mayor-Go-Round* showtimes on Thursday-Sunday at Second City-Detroit. Ticket prices and showtimes vary. \$5-\$20. (313) 965-2222

MUSEUMS AND TOURS

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE: *Mostly Music*, a hands-on, interactive exhibit that offers opportunities to listen to music from different eras and countries, and experiment with various instruments while learning about harmony and dissonance, tone and pitch, and rhythm and synthesizers, continues to Jan. 6, at the museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. \$7 adults; \$4 children ages

4-17, students with ID and senior citizens ages 65 and older; free for children ages 3 and younger. 1-877-462-7262 or www.cranbrook.edu

DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM: *Polish Presence in Detroit* exhibit continues, at the museum. Free with regular museum admission. (313) 833-1419

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS: Continues its Friday night programming 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, at the museum. (313) 833-7900

HENRY FORD MUSEUM/GREENFIELD VILLAGE: Enjoy walking through the village at night during the Twelve Nights of Christmas, lit by glowing lanterns the walking tour features eight historic buildings where traditional holiday cooking is ongoing. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday through Dec. 22 \$12, \$8 for children through age 12), IMAX movies 'NSync and Super Speedway continue at the museum, Dearborn. (313) 271-1620

MEADOW BROOK HALL: Tours continue through June 1:30 p.m., Monday-Sunday, and 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Sunday, teas 3-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15, Feb. 19 (\$30, prepaid reservations required), at the hall in Rochester. Reservations required. (248) 370-3140 or www.meadowbrookhall.org

LIVE MUSIC

AL HILL TRIO: 8:30 p.m. Thursday, 336 Main, Plymouth. (734) 454-6500

ALICIA KEYS: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, State Theatre, Detroit. \$35.75-\$43.25. (248) 645-6666

BARENAKED LADIES: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, Palace of Auburn Hills. \$35-\$47.50. (248) 645-6666

BARRY MANILOW: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 15-16, Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$17.50-\$67.50. (248) 645-6666

B.B. KING: With Bobby Blue Bland, 8 p.m. Friday Jan. 18, Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$30-\$37.50. (248) 433-1515

BLACKJACK: 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, at The Rookie Sports Cafe, Wayne.

BLUESAIRMEN: 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, at The Overture Sports Tavern, Inkster.

BRIAN MCKNIGHT: With Tyrese, 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, Fox Theatre, Detroit. (248) 433-1515

CHARLATANS UK: With Starsailor, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. \$15. (248) 645-6666

THE CLIMAX DIVINE: With Nice Device, Atalaya, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27, Magic Stick, Detroit. 18 and older. \$7. (313) 833-9700

CREED: *The Weathered Tour*, With Puddle of Mud, Monday, Feb. 11, The Palace of Auburn Hills. \$36.50-\$42.50. (248) 645-6666

CROSBY, STILLS, NASH & YOUNG: *Tour of America*, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, The Palace of Auburn Hills. \$43-\$88.50. (248) 645-6666

DARK STAR ORCHESTRA: 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27, Royal Oak Theatre, Royal Oak. \$16-\$19. All ages. (248) 645-6666

DETROIT COBRAS: With Dirt Bombs, Ko & The Knockouts, 9 p.m. Monday, Dec. 31, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$12. (313) 833-9700

GORDON LIGHTFOOT: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 27, Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$37.50-\$42.50. (248) 645-6666 or (734) 763-7KTS

GREAT BIG SEA: Saturday, March 16, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. \$25. (248) 645-6666

GREG ALLMAN AND FRIENDS: 9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 3, Royal Oak Theatre, Royal Oak. \$28. (248) 645-6666

HATEBREED: With Martyr A.D., Poison the Well, Sworn Enemy, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$12. (248) 645-6666

HELLTOWN TOUR: With Project Born, Sol, Hell's Kitchen, 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, Emerald Theatre, Mt. Clemens. \$13-\$15. (586) 913-1920

HIP HOP SMACKDOWN: Featuring Ja Rule, Jadakiss, Juvenile, Petey Pablo, Trick Daddy, Mister Cheeks, Eclipse and Ms. Toy, 7 p.m.

Please see next page

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) 591-7279

Continued from previous page

Saturday, Dec. 29, Cobo Hall, Detroit. \$29.50-\$39.50. (248) 645-6666

HIS NAME IS ALIVE: With Taj Bell and dj-on, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, Magic Stick, Detroit. 18 and older. \$10. (313) 833-9700

ISLEY BROTHERS: With The Dramatics, 9:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 31, Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$47.50-\$102.50. (248) 645-6666

JAGUARES: 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$27.50. (248) 645-6666

JIMMY ATTO: 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, Coyote Club, Pontiac. Free. (248) 332-HOWL

JUDAS PRIEST: With Anthrax, Iced Earth, tour is rescheduled to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19, The Palace of Auburn Hills. \$18.50-\$29.50. Tickets for the original date(s) will be honored or may be refunded at the point of purchase. (248) 645-6666

KEN MURPHY TRIO: 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, Fox & Hounds, Bloomfield Hills. All ages. Free. (248) 644-4800

THE KINGSNAKES: With 2 Days Straight, B-Line, 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, Token Lounge, Westland. \$3. 21 and older. (734) 513-5030

LUTHER VANDROSS: 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8, Fox Theatre, Detroit. (248) 645-6666

MARDUK: With Kataklysm, Amon Amarth, Diabolic, 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13, Shelter, Detroit. All ages. (248) 645-6666

THE M-80S: 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 31, Royal Oak Theatre, Royal Oak. Tickets \$10 except New Year's Eve Show, \$35 advance. 21 and older. (248) 645-6666

MICHAEL QUEST: 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, Jan. 5, Coyote Club, Pontiac. Free. (248) 332-HOWL

MORPHIC: With Inner Recipe, Thursday, Dec. 20, Emerald Theatre, Mount Clemens. (734) 996-8555

PENNYWISE: 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, State Theatre, Detroit. All ages. \$13.75. (248) 645-6666

PETER, PAUL AND MARY: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 11, Detroit Opera House, Detroit. \$42.50. (248) 645-6666

RANDY VOLIN & SONIC BLUES: 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 21-22, Fox & Hounds, Bloomfield Hills. All ages. Free. (248) 644-4800

THE SCENE CASUALTIES: Featuring members of the Parka Kings, Telegraph, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. \$5. (248) 645-6666

SUICIDE MACHINES: With For Dire Life's Sake, Before I Go, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$10. (248) 645-6666

SUPER DIAMOND: Neil Diamond tribute band, Thursday, Jan. 24, Royal Oak Music Theatre, Royal Oak. \$12-\$13. 21 and older. (248) 645-6666

THE TEMPTATIONS REVIEW: Featuring Dennis Edwards, The Coasters featuring Carl Gardner and The Contours, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26, The Palace of Auburn Hills. \$14-\$29. (248) 645-6666

12 ANGRY STEPS: Break up show, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, Magic Stick, Detroit. 18 and older. \$7. (313) 833-9700

THE VON BONDIES: CD release with The Buzzards, The Modey Lemon, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$7. (313) 833-9700

WAYNE "THE TRAIN" HANCOCK: With The Orbitsuns, 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$12. (313) 833-9700

YO LA TENGO: With Outrageous Cherry, Slumber Party, 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 31, Majestic Theatre, Detroit. 18 and older. \$22.50. (248) 645-6666

DETROIT ARTISTS MARKET

Still need a few last minute gifts? Why not make it art. The Detroit Artists Market Holiday Show continues through Saturday, Dec. 22, in the gallery at 4719 Woodward at Forest, just down the street from the Detroit Institute of Arts. For information, call the artists market at (313) 832-8540.

DAM offers one-of-a-kind gifts to fit almost any budget. Items include jewelry by Sharon Bida and glass by Don Schneider. Both are Plymouth artists. And if you can't make it to Detroit, Schneider offers jewelry, vessels, paperweights, dreidels, and ornaments at his York Street Glassworks, 875 York in Plymouth's Old Village.

Schneider is offering 10 percent off everything in the gallery/studio through Christmas Eve, and 20 percent off ornaments Friday-Monday, Dec. 21-24. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through Christmas Eve, or by appointment by calling (734) 459-6419.

MUSICAL FEASTS

Support the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and learn to cook traditional Estonian pancakes at the same time when you purchase *Musical Feasts*, a new 192-page cookbook. Five categories offer recipes for brunch and appetizers, pasta, desserts, main dishes, and side dishes including the sinfully rich chopped chicken liver pancakes by DSO music director Neeme Jarvi. The recipes, in general, reflect the cultural diversity of the orchestra, its guest conductors, Volunteer Council members, and audiences. It also features recipes from top local chefs including Jim Lark of The Lark, Jimmy Schmidt of The Rattlesnake Club, Takashi Yagihashi of Tribute, and Michael Connery of The Hill Seafood and Chop House.

The book is \$30 and available by calling the volunteer office at (313) 576-5597 or visiting the Web site at www.detroit-symphony.com.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

More than \$60,000 in prizes will be awarded this year in the International Open Amateur Contest. The contest is open to everyone and entry is free. Deadline for submissions is Dec. 31. Only one entry per person of an 8 inches by 10 inches or smaller unmounted photo in color or black and white. All entries must include photographer's name and address on back, the category and title of photo. Categories include: people, travel, pets, children, sports, nature, action, humor, portraiture or other. Mail to: The International Library of Photography, Suite 101-2612, 3600 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, MD 21117, or submit online at www.picture.com

FRANKLIN VILLAGE BAND

Adult musicians from southeastern Michigan are invited to join the Franklin Village Band. All instruments are welcome, but there is a special need for flutes and clarinets. The band rehearses Monday evenings in the Franklin Community Church social hall on Franklin Road between 13 and 14 Mile roads. For more details, call Bill Prisk at (248)474-8869 or Bob Zimmerman at (313)535-4119.

MICHIGAN FINE ARTS COMPETITION

Cranbrook artist Nick Cave juries the 2002 competition. Slides are due by Jan. 3. Results mailed Feb. 11. For more information, contact the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center at (248) 644-0866, Ext. 103.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The family of recently deceased artist Ricki Berlin has established a fund to honor her memory at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center. Current and future artists seeking scholarship funds for classes at the Art Center are invited to write their request to Deborah Callahan, education coordinator, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, 1516 S. Cranbrook, Birmingham, MI, 48009.

SINGER AUDITIONS

The Cantana Academy chorale period-

ically accepts experienced singers in all vocal ranges to join the chorale. Auditions can be scheduled by calling (248)358-9868. Singers should bring a prepared piece of a classical nature and be ready for sight reading. The audition should last no more than 15 minutes.

ART WITH A VIEW II

VSA Arts of Michigan is still looking for venues for its *Art With a View II*, a biennial art exhibit that tours the state. The exhibit features the paintings, clay, sculpture and collage of five professional Michigan artists with disabilities. For more information or to book the show, call Judy Calloway at (313) 832-3303 or send e-mail to vsami@ic.net.

ART CLASSES

ANN ARBOR ART CENTER

Offers adult and youth courses including ceramics, jewelry making, figure sculpting and drawing, Renaissance painting, tilemaking, mosaics, glass blowing, pottery, puppetry, clay on the wheel and more. 117 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734)994-8004, Ext. 111.

ART OF LIVING STUDIO

Offers classes in drawing, scarf-dyeing and awakening your artistic vision, book conversation and poetry nights. 11 S. Broadway, Lake Orion. (248) 693-3632.

ART MUSEUM PROJECT

Public non-credit studio art classes and workshops are offered at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. 4901 Evergreen, No. 1165AB, Dearborn. (313) 593-5058.

D & M STUDIOS

Offering painting and drawing classes for senior citizens on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Drawing and open studio will be 1-3 p.m. Classes at 8691 N. Lilley, Canton, and The Summit, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.

VISUAL ART ASSOCIATION OF LIVONIA

Classes in various arts forms including oil, watercolor, pastel and drawing at the Jefferson Center, Room 16, 9501 Henry Ruff, Livonia. Call Mary Ann Adams at (734) 464-6772.

ARGENTINE TANGO CLUB OF DETROIT

Tango group classes are offered weekly at various locations. For information on workshops and classes, call (313) 724-3262.

BALLET WORKSHOP

Suzanne Hawkins' Ballet Workshop offers ballet classes for teens and adults in beginning through advanced levels on weekday mornings in Sterling Heights and Rochester. Also on Sunday mornings at 132 Varner Hall, Oakland University Rochester campus. (248) 652-3003.

DEBORAH CHASE SCHOOL OF DANCE

Accepting new students for a comprehensive program in dance, art and musical theater. 29820 Joy, Livonia. (734) 513-2004 or 421-4212.

DETROIT BALLET

Classes in child and adult classical ballet, tap and jazz. Adult beginners welcomed. Classes offered at the Betty Johnston Dance Studio in Farmington Hills at Folsom and Nine Mile Road. (248) 474-3174.

DEBBIE FELTON'S ACADEMY OF DANCE

Taking registrations for fall enrollment. 16312 Middlebelt, Livonia. (734) 524-0104.

EVENTS

MEADOW BROOK HALL

Offers Tea on Tuesdays, the third Tuesday of each month, 3-4:30 p.m. Reservations required. (248) 370-3140.

FOR KIDS

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

Offering dance classes for preschool children at the Oak Park campus, 15110 W. Ten Mile Road. (248) 967-4030.

METRO DANCE

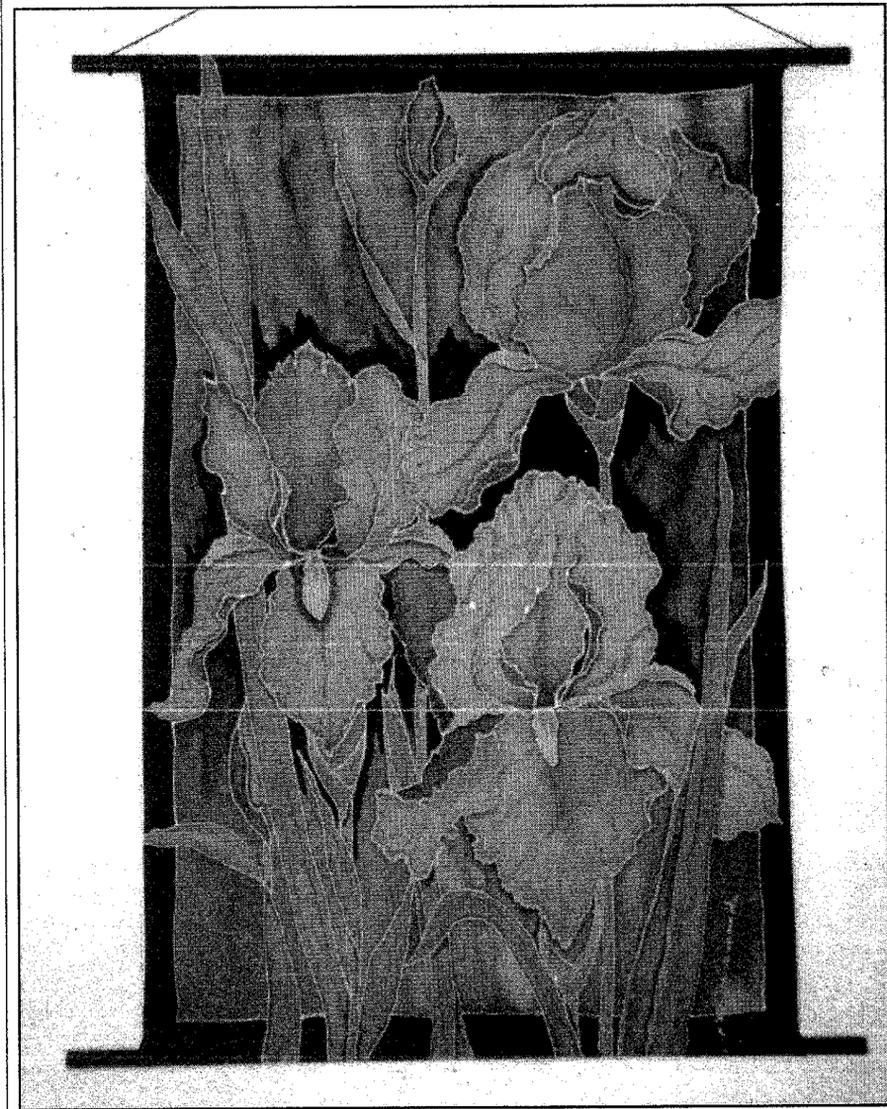
Enrolling now for creative movement for 3- and 4-year-old boys and girls and ballet and tap classes for 5 and 6-year-old boys and girls. 541 S. Mill, Plymouth. (734) 207-8970.

VILLAGE MUSIC

Offers early childhood music classes for ages newborn to 8 years through the Kindermusik program. 130 E. Liberty, Plymouth. (734) 354-9825.

GALLERY EXHIBITS

DANCE



Fiber exhibit: This silk painting by West Bloomfield artist Virginia Garza is one of the fiber works featured in the Michigan Surface Design exhibit through Thursday, Dec. 27 at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 North Sheldon Road. Call (734) 416-4278 for more information.

(ON-GOING)

ANN ARBOR ART CENTER

Through Jan. 7 - Revolving Art in Gallery 2. 117 West Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734) 994-8004.

CASS CAFE

Through February - Scapes: An exhibition by Allen Berke. 4620 Cass, Detroit. (313) 831-1400.

CARY GALLERY

Group show with Frank Brugos, Monica Leaning, Dorothy Linden, Julie Mahoney, Catherine Peet, Todd Richter, Sharon Stchur and James Talliana through Jan. 2. 226 Walnut, Rochester. (248) 651-3656.

JANICE CHARACH EPSTEIN GALLERY

Through Dec. 31 - *Portraits of Honor*, a documentary on Holocaust survivors in the Detroit metropolitan area by photographer Charles Silow. 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. (248) 661-1000.

CREATIVE ARTS CENTER

Through Dec. 28 - A photography exhibit mapping *World Religions in Metropolitan Detroit*, presented by The Pluralism Project at The University of Michigan-Dearborn. 47 Williams, Pontiac. (248) 333-7849.

CPOP GALLERY

Through Dec. 30 - Bob Burdette and Richard Borge. 4160 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 833-9901.

THE DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Through Dec. 31 - *Artists Take on Detroit: Projects for the Tricentennial*. 5200 Woodward, Detroit. (313)833-7900.

EXHIBIT A

Through Dec. 22 - *Human/Nature* by Mark Pomilio. 288 E. Maple, Birmingham. (248) 258-9282.

FORD GALLERY

Exhibition by John Lonsway, through Dec. 21, 114 Ford Hall, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti. (734) 487-1268.

HABATAT GALLERIES

Through Dec. 31 - Works by Mary Shaffer and Jay Musler. 4400 Fernlee, Royal Oak. (248) 554 0590.

ROBERT KIDD GALLERY

Through Jan. 12 - A two-person exhibition by realist painter Dennis Wojtkiewicz and sculpture Lisa Clague. 107 Townsend, Birmingham. (248) 642-3909.

LAWRENCE STREET GALLERY

Through Dec. 28 - *Celebrate Clay: 2001*. 6 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 334-6716.

LIVONIA ARTS COMMISSION

Through Dec. 28 - *Four Women*. *Directions in Clay* features the work of Debbie Liberman, Margaret Nowak, Nancy Chevalier-Guido and Donna Williams. Fine Arts Gallery, Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road east of Farmington Road, Livonia. (734) 525-3017.

MANISCALCO GALLERY

Through Jan. 5 - *Truth, The Exhibition*, featuring works by Kyle Stone, Vito Valdez, Mark Jackson, Jac Purdon, Jessica Flint, Michael Cooper III, and Amanda Maniscalco. 17329 Mack, Detroit. (313) 886-2993.

MEADOW BROOK ART GALLERY

Through Dec. 23 - *Transitions In Time* by Lynn Galbreath and *Rituals* by Sally Schlüter Tardella. 208 Wilson Hall, Rochester campus of Oakland University. (248) 370-3005.

PAINT CREEK CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Through Dec. 21 - *Printmaking Show*, an exhibition showcasing printmaking artists in the Main Gallery. Showing concurrently in the First Floor Gallery is *New Works in Sculpture* by Grand Rapids artist David Greenwood. 407 Pine Street, Rochester. (248) 651-4110.

PEWABIC POTTERY

Through Dec. 31 - *Earthly Treasures*, an annual holiday invitation. 10125 E. Jefferson, Detroit. On Dec. 2 stop by the Pewabic booth in front of the Detroit Institute of Arts during *Noel Night-Detroit Cultural Center*. (313) 822-0954.

REVOLUTION

Through Jan. 19 - Jean-Pierre Larocque: Recent Work. 23257 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. (248) 541-3444.

SYBARIS GALLERY

Through Jan. 19 - *Head Turners*, an exhibition of turned wood. 202 East Third, Royal Oak. (248) 544-3388.

WASHINGTON STREET GALLERY

Through Dec. 22 - *A Matter of Perspective* by Lynda Cole is a digital installation presenting perspectives in reaction to the World Trade Center attack. 215 E. Washington St., Ann Arbor. (734) 761-2287.

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Through Dec. 21 - *Up from the Streets: Detroit Art from the Duffy Collection*, is on display in the Elaine L. Jacob and Community Arts galleries. 480 W. Hancock and 5400 Guillen Mall, in Detroit. (313) 577-2423.

WOODS GALLERY

Through Dec. 31 - Santa Fabio's Friends and Family. 26425 Scotia, Huntington Woods. (248) 548-0460.

WORKSHOPS

SUNDAYS @ 1

The Ann Arbor Art Center brings fun to the family during *Sundays @ 1* which run 1-2:30 p.m., *African Pottery* Dec. 16; *Winter Solstice Celebration* Dec. 23; and *Yes! Mosaics Again!* Dec. 30. A series of holiday gift making workshops will be held in December. Make cards Dec. 23. 117 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734)994-8004, ext. 111.

YOUNG AUTHORS

The Young Authors Program of The Detroit Writers Guild will conduct workshops through May 2002 for children grades 3-12 from noon to 3 p.m. the third Saturday of each month at The Schoolhouse, 19363 Livernois, Detroit. The free workshops will consist of poetry, essay and short-story writing. (313) 272-7083.

ICE CARVING WORKSHOP

Learn the art of carving a sculpture from ice at a workshop 1-4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 North Sheldon at Junction. Instructor Richard Teeple, who teaches ice carving at Henry Ford Community College, will show students the fine points of using hand and power tools for creating everything from animals to figures. The cost is \$30, \$25 non-members. Call (734) 416-4278.

GIFT IDEAS

ANN ARBOR ART CENTER

The art center's Gallery Shop will feature holiday gifts through Dec. 31. Gallery shop purchases support area artists and Art Center outreach programs. 117 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734) 994-8004, Ext. 118.

TOUCH OF LIGHT

Presents a Holiday Glass Show through Dec. 24. Perfume bottles, sculpted bowls, vases and one-of-a-kind paperweights on sale. Gift certificates available. 23426 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. (248) 543-1868.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Open Wednesday, Dec. 19

THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

Elijah Wood stars as Frodo, a young hobbit who by inheriting a seemingly innocent magic ring, finds himself launched on a perilous quest to save all of Middle Earth from encroaching evil. Featured players include Elijah Wood, Sir Ian McKellen, Sean Astin, Sean Bean, Cate Blanchett, Orlando Bloom, Billy Boyd, Martin Csokas, Brad Dourif, Bernard Hill, Ian Holm and Christopher Lee.

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 21

THE MAJESTIC

Set in 1951, a blacklisted writer loses his memory in a car accident and ends up with a new life in a small town, mistaken as a soldier who died in World War II — the son of the owner of the local movie theater. Stars Jim Carrey, Martin Landau, Bob Balaban, Karl Bury, Bruce Campbell, Jeffrey DeMunn, Catherine Dent, Amanda Detmer, Allen Garfield and Laurie Holden.

HOW HIGH

Two stoners smoke pot that has the unusual effect of increasing their IQs to the point that they're able to get into Harvard University. However, when they run out of their Super Mary Jane, they're left to fend for themselves at the prestigious institution without herbal aid. Stars Method Man, Redman, Hector Elizondo, Fred Willard, Chris Elwood, Dennison Samaroo, Al Shearer and Lark Voorhies. Directed by Jesse Dylan.

KATE AND LEOPOLD

A team of scientists accidentally transported a late 19th-century man, Leopold, through time to the future. Now they must try to figure out how to return him to the past. The ex-girlfriend of one of them, Kate, gives Leopold a tour of New York. Stars Meg Ryan, Hugh Jackman, Natasha Lyonne, Breckin Meyer, Liev Schreiber, Charlotte Ayanna and Bradley Whitford. Directed by James Mangold.

JIMMY NEUTRON: BOY GENIUS

Little Jimmy Neutron, boy genius, may be the smartest kid in the world, but he

still has to deal with the same things that every other kid does. He's aided by his robotic dog, in his adventures that bring him into conflict with aliens. Character voices include Patrick Stewart and Martin Short.

JOE SOMEBODY

Tim Allen plays Joe, a divorced corporate Everyman whose dead-end professional lives are turned around after the office bully publicly humiliates him in front of Joe's daughter. As Joe trains for a rematch, and give himself a makeover, he begins an unexpected ascent up the corporate ladder. Eventually, Joe realizes he doesn't need revenge or to become someone else to earn his daughter's respect and win the heart of a co-worker. Featured players include Julie Bowen, Kelly Lynch, Hayden Panettiere and Greg Germann.

Scheduled to open Tuesday, Dec. 25

IN THE BEDROOM

The story of a doctor from Maine and his wife who teaches a high school chorus

group. They are forced to struggle with the grief and emotional bludgeoning that comes their way when their son becomes involved with an older woman. Stars Tom Wilkinson, Sissy Spacek, Nick Stahl, Marisa Tomei, Justin Ashforth, Karen Allen, William Mapother, Celia Weston, William Wise. Directed by Todd Field.

THE SHIPPING NEWS

A struggling newspaper writer, Quoyle, returns to the small fishing town in Newfoundland where his family has long lived in, with his two young daughters, after a traumatizing experience with their mother. Stars Kevin Spacey, Julianne Moore, Cate Blanchett, Dame Judi Dench, Scott Glenn, Rhys Ifans, Pete Postlethwaite and Jason Behr. Directed by Lasse Hallström.

ALI

Cassius Clay (Will Smith) was a smart-talking, fast-stepping ball of fire, in the ring, and out, who lit up professional sports in the 1960's, eventually dropping his slave name and becoming Muhammad Ali, and refusing to go to Vietnam. Featured players include Will Smith, Michael Bennett, Giancarlo Esposito, Jamie Foxx and Jada Pinkett Smith.

IMPOSTER

Based on Philip K. Dick's 1953 short story, this futuristic drama tells of a time when Earth is at war with an alien race. The action turns on the character of Spence Olham (Gary Sinise), one of many scientists researching new weapons that could defeat the enemy. Arrested by the

secret service and taken to the moon, Spence is told he is a robot, planted on Earth by the aliens. What follows is a journey of self-discovery in which the question is posed: "Am I human? Or am I just programmed to believe I am human?" Featured among the ensemble are Madeleine Stowe, Vincent D'Onofrio, Tony Shalhoub and Mekhi Phifer.

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 28

CHARLOTTE GRAY

This is the story of Charlotte Gray, a Scottish woman who joins the French Resistance during World War II in an effort to find her RAF pilot lover who was shot down in France. Along the way, she has an affair with a French resistance fighter. Stars Cate Blanchett, Billy Crudup, Michael Gambon and Rupert Penry-Jones. Directed by Gillian Armstrong.

BLACK HAWK DOWN

The story centers on the harrowing true



Somebody: (Tim Allen, right) demonstrates some bizarre moves to his disbelieving karate instructor, Chuck Scarett (Jim Belushi) in "Joe Somebody", opening Friday at metro Detroit movie theaters.

account of a group of elite U.S. soldiers sent to Mogadishu, Somalia in October 1993 as part of a U.N. peacekeeping operation. Their mission: to abduct several top lieutenants of a Somali warlord as part of a strategy to quell the civil war that is tearing away at the country. The carefully planned mission goes terribly wrong, resulting in the U.S. military's single biggest firefight since Vietnam. Featured among the ensemble are Josh Hartnett, Tom Sizemore, Ewan McGregor, Ron Eldard and Jeremy Piven.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

<p>National Amusements Showcase Cinemas</p> <p>Showcase Auburn Hills 1-14 2150 N. Opdyke Rd. Between University & Walton Blvd 248-373-2660 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed Thurs, Fri, Sat.</p> <p>NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP OCEAN'S 11 (PG13) NP BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG13) NP ABCD (UNR) SPY GAME (R) BLACK KNIGHT (PG13) NP HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG) THE WASH (R) SHALLOW HAL (PG13) HEIST (R) LIFE AS A HOUSE (R) MONSTERS, INC. (G) THE ONE (PG13) DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE (PG13) SERENDIPITY</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Showcase Westland 1-8 6800 Wayne Rd. One blk S. of Warren Rd. 313-729-1060 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed, Thurs, Fri, & Sat.</p> <p>NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP VANILLA SKY (R) NP HARRY POTTER (PG) SPY GAME (R) NP OCEAN'S 11 (PG13) MONSTERS, INC. (G)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>United Artists Theatres Bargain Matinees Daily, for all shows starting before 6:00 PM Same day advance tickets available. NV - No V.I.P. tickets accepted</p> <p>United Artists West River 9 Mile 2 Blocks West of Middlebelt 248-788-6572</p> <p>VANILLA SKY (R) NV NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R) NV OCEAN'S 11 (PG13) NV BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG13) SPY GAME (R) BLACK KNIGHT (PG13) HARRY POTTER & THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG) MONSTERS, INC. (G)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>SHALLOW HAL (PG13) MONSTERS, INC. (G) MONSTERS, INC. (G) DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE (PG13)</p> <p>Waterford Cinema 16 7501 Highland Rd. S.E. corner M-59 & Williams Lake Rd. 24 Hour Movie Line (248) 666-7900 CALL 77 FILMS #551 WE'VE TRIPLED OUR LOBBY AND ADDED FIVE NEW SCREENS. THE ONLY THEATRE IN OAKLAND COUNTY WITH THE NEW DOLBY DIGITAL EX SOUND SYSTEM AND MORE... CHECK US OUT!! OUR EXPANDED PARKING LOT IS NOW OPEN. FREE REFILL ON POPCORN AND POP</p> <p>ENTER TO WIN! HARRY POTTER MOVIE! SEE THEATRE OR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS</p> <p>NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R) NP VANILLA SKY (R) NP OCEAN'S ELEVEN (PG13) BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG13) OUT COLD (PG13) SPY GAMES (R) HARRY POTTER & THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG) SHALLOW HAL (PG13) LIFE AS A HOUSE (R) MONSTERS, INC. (G)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES Visa & Mastercard Accepted</p>	<p>\$1.00 Ford Tel \$1.50 313-561-7200 11:00 till 6 pm After 6 p.m. \$1.50 Ample Parking - Telford Center Free Refill on Drinks & Popcorn Please Call Theatre for Showtimes</p> <p>TRAINING DAY (PG13) ZOOLANDER (PG13)</p> <p>Ford Wyoming Drive-In Theatre Dearborn (313) 846-6910 Children Under 12 are Free Electric in Car Heaters</p> <p>ALWAYS TWO BIG PICTURES TOGETHER</p> <p>LORD OF THE RINGS: THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING (PG13) BONES (R)</p> <p>NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R) DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE (PG13)</p> <p>BLACK NIGHT (PG13) BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG13)</p> <p>HARRY POTTER (PG) TRAINING DAY (R)</p> <p>MOVIES START AT DUSK</p> <p>Cinemark Movie 16 The Best Seat in Town 28600 Dequindre Rd. Warren, MI 810-558-8207</p> <p>AMERICAN PIE 2 (R) CATS AND DOGS (PG) IRON MONKEY (PG13) JEEPERS CREEPERS (R) JOY RIDE (R) JURASSIC PARK 3 (PG13) ON THE LINE (PG) BAT RACE (PG13) RUSH HOUR 2 (PG13) SCARY MOVIE 2 (R) SHREK (PG) THE GLASS HOUSE (PG13) THE PRINCESS DIARIES (G) TRAINING DAY (R) TWO CAN PLAY THAT GAME (R) ZOOLANDER (PG13)</p> <p>MONDAY THRU FRIDAY FIRST SHOW OF THE DAY 5:00 ALL SHOWS \$1.50 EXCEPT FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AFTER 6:00 PM ALL SEATS \$2.00 BARGAIN TUESDAY. ALL SHOWS AFTER THE FIRST SHOW \$1.00</p>
<p>Showcase Dearborn 1-8 Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3449 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri, Sat, & Sun.</p> <p>NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R) NP VANILLA SKY (R) MONSTERS, INC. (G) BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG13) OCEAN'S 11 (PG13) HARRY POTTER (PG) BLACK KNIGHT (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star John-R at 14 Mile 32289 John R. Road 248-585-2070 No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP VANILLA SKY (R) NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R) NP OCEAN'S 11 (PG13) BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG13) BLACK KNIGHT (PG13) SPY GAME (R) HARRY POTTER SORCERER'S STONE (PG) SHALLOW HAL (PG13) MONSTERS, INC. (G)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Birmingham 8 Uptown Birmingham 8 211 S. Woodward Downtown Birmingham 248-644-3456 NP Denotes No Pass Engagements Order movie tickets by phone! Call 644-3456 and have your VISA or MasterCard ready! (A \$1.50 surcharge per transaction will apply to all telephone sales)</p> <p>NP VANILLA SKY (R) NP AMELIE (R) NP BETTER THAN SEX (R) SIDEWALKS OF NEW YORK (R) LIFE AS A HOUSE (R) SERENDIPITY (PG13)</p> <p>CALL 644-FILM FOR INFORMATION CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Main Art Theatre III 118 Main at 11 Mile Royal Oak 248-542-0180 call 77-FILMS ext 542 (DISCOUNTED SHOWS!!) TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE OR PHONE 248-542-0180 VISA AND MASTERCARD ACCEPTED</p> <p>COME UNDONE (UNR) THE MAN WHO WASN'T THERE (R) INTIMACY (UNR)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES Children Under 6 Not Admitted</p>	<p>Maple Art Cinema III 4135 W. Maple, West of Telegraph Bloomfield Hills 248-855-9090 DISCOUNTED SHOWS!!</p> <p>LA BUCHE NOVOCAINE (R) FOCUS (PG13) AMELIE (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>
<p>Showcase Pontiac 1-5 Telegraph-Sq. Lake Rd. W. Side of Telegraph 810-332-0241 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri, Sat.</p> <p>NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP OCEAN'S 11 (PG13) BLACK KNIGHT (PG13) NP HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Rochester Hills 200 Barclay Circle 853-2260 No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP VANILLA SKY (R) NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R) NP OCEAN'S 11 (PG13) BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG13) BLACK KNIGHT (PG13) SPY GAME (R) HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG) SHALLOW HAL (PG13) MONSTERS, INC. (G)</p> <p>STUDENT DISCOUNT AVAILABLE WITH VALID SCHOOL ID.</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>BIRMINGHAM PALLADIUM 12 Up Town Palladium 12 250 North of Old Woodward Ave. Downtown Birmingham 248-644-FILM</p> <p>Featuring 12 stadium seating auditoriums with state-of-the-art wall to wall curved screens, Dolby Digital surround sound, two giant concession stands, valet parking, Little Caesar's Pizza, Ray's Ice Cream and the all new Premiere Entertainment Auditorium.</p> <p>MATINEE MOVIES \$5.75</p> <p>NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R) NP OCEAN'S ELEVEN (PG13) BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG13) HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG) SPY GAME (R) MONSTERS, INC. (G)</p>	<p>Oxford 7 Cinemas, L.L.C. Downtown Oxford Lapeer Rd. (M-24) (248) 628-7100 Fax (248)-628-1300</p> <p>DETROIT'S LOWEST FIRST RUN PRICES.</p> <p>AMC Livonia 20 Haggerty & 7 Mile 734-542-9909</p> <p>CALL THEATRE FOR FEATURES AND TIMES</p>	
<p>Showcase Pontiac 6-12 2405 Telegraph Rd. East side of Telegraph 810-334-6777 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri, Sat.</p> <p>NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG13) SPY GAME SHALLOW HAL (PG13) THE HEIST (R) LIFE AS A HOUSE (R) MONSTERS, INC. (G) DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Southfield 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off I-696 248-353-STAR No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>FOR SHOWTIMES AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE CALL 248-372-2222 WWW.STAR-SOUTHFIELD.COM</p> <p>NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R) NP VANILLA SKY (R) NP OCEAN'S 11 (PG13) BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG13) BLACK KNIGHT (PG13) SPY GAME (R) HARRY POTTER SORCERER'S STONE (PG) THE WASH (R) SHALLOW HAL (PG13) MONSTERS, INC. (G) DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>MJR Theatres Brighton Towne Square Cinema 16 8200 MURPHY DRIVE Located at Brighton Towne Square behind Home Depot CALL (810) 88-FILMS #548 New 16 Screen State-of-the-Art Cinema All Stadium Seating*All Big Screens All Digital Sound</p> <p>NP NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R) NP VANILLA SKY (R) NP OCEAN'S ELEVEN (PG13) BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG13) SPY GAMES (R) OUT COLD (PG13) BLACK KNIGHT (PG13) HARRY POTTER & THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG)</p>	<p>Livonia Theatre 29584 7 Mile Rd. Livonia 248-426-6300</p> <p>RUSH HOUR 2 (PG) SUMMERIC PARK III (PG13) JURASSIC PARK III (PG13) LEGALLY BLONDE (G)</p> <p>OPEN WEEKENDS ONLY DUE TO FURTHER RENOVATIONS. WILL BE OPEN WITH FULL WEEK SCHEDULE AS OF THANKSGIVING WEEK.</p> <p>FOR SHOWTIMES CALL (248) 426-6300</p>	

KEVIN SPACEY JULIANNE MOORE JUDI DENCH AND CATE BLANCHETT

BASED ON THE PULITZER PRIZE WINNING NOVEL BY MICHAEL Ondaatje
MIRAMAX FILMS PRESENTS A SCOTT GLENN PRODUCTION THE SHIPPING NEWS WITH KEVIN SPACEY JULIANNE MOORE JUDI DENCH AND CATE BLANCHETT
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AMC FORUM 30	AMC LIVONIA 20	BIRMINGHAM 8
LANDMARK'S MAIN ART	STAR GRATIOT	UA COMMERCE STADIUM 14

Film about novelist is worth a look

BY MATT WOLF
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

A wordsmith losing control over words: That's the central irony propelling *Iris* to a sorrowful conclusion that may leave viewers struggling for words.

Iris Murdoch, of course, wasn't your ordinary Englishwoman of letters. Some regarded her as the second-greatest British female novelist of the 20th century (after Virginia Woolf). She prolifically wrote on moral philosophy — until Alzheimer's cut short her art, then her life. She died in 1999 at 79.

Despite a heavy-hitting British cast headed by Kate Winslet, Jim Broadbent and Judi Dench, you're left wishing the film gave a better sense of Murdoch's work.

But then, it's challenging for filmmakers to dramatize a life of the mind.

Director Richard Eyre and co-writer Charles Wood's response is to set the ailing Iris and John Bayley (Dench and Broadbent) against their younger selves, from four decades earlier at Oxford, where the stammering young John (Hugh Bonneville) first meets the independent-minded Murdoch (Winslet).

The movie crisscrosses between time periods, evoking the constants of the couple's life together as well as the discontinuity.

At first, the telltale signs are tiny. In the pub over beer, she says something twice. Not long afterward, Iris looks puzzled by the very word "puzzled."

And while young John and Iris are seen cavorting about in swimming ponds and on bicycles, the older John surrenders ever increasingly to panic as Iris swims — metaphorically speaking — out of view.

Eyre and Wood adapted their script from *Iris: A Memoir and Elegy For Iris*, two memoirs from Bayley, Murdoch's husband of more than 40 years until her death. (Since then, he has married Audi Villers, a family friend of both Bayley and Murdoch's since the mid-1960s.)

And yet, *Iris* stands apart, because of the integrity and understatement that its performers bring to the material.

Dench and Winslet are superbly matched as two generations of one astonishingly alert mind, the feisty younger woman turning easily into the bohemian older wit.

The two men, if anything, make an even better match, the sexual and social timidity of Bonneville's younger John fold-

"A RING TO RULE THE SCREEN!"
Peter Jackson's fierce, imaginative movie takes high-living risks and inspires with its power and scale.
David Auer, NEWSWEEK

THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

AMC FORUM 30	STARTS TODAY	AMC LAUREL PARK
AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC WONDERLAND	BEACON EAST
CANTON 6	MJR SOUTHGATE 20	NOVI TOWN CENTER 8
PHOENIX AT BEL AIR CREEKFRS	SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS	SHOWCASE DEARBORN
SHOWCASE PONTIAC 1-5	SHOWCASE STERLING HEIGHTS	SHOWCASE WESTLAND
STAR FAIRLANE	STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING
STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS
STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE STADIUM
UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER	UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12	No passes or coupons accepted.

Please see IRIS, B7

Check out these top yule family films

According to a recent survey by Blockbuster, 50 percent of respondents named the Jimmy Stewart classic *It's A Wonderful Life* as the number one movie they plan to watch during the holiday season, and 21 percent picked it as their choice if they could own only one holiday video.

However, while *It's A Wonderful Life* and other holiday classics like *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* and *Miracle on 34th Street* might be at the top in people's hearts, data actually shows that more recent movies like *A Christmas Vacation*, *Home Alone*, and *The Santa Clause* are favorites at the video rental counter.

Watching holiday movies is a seasonal tradition for two-thirds of Americans, according to the Blockbuster survey. "Classics like *It's A Wonderful Life* have been favorites for many decades and are always popular in our stores," said Dean Wilson, chief merchandising officer, worldwide, for Blockbuster.

It's hard to imagine anyone but Jimmy Stewart as George Bailey in *It's A Wonderful Life*, but, according to recent national survey by Blockbuster, Nicholas Cage would be the top choice to play Bailey if the movie were remade.

By a margin of six percent those surveyed thought that Cage

would be the best choice for a modern-day George Bailey (27 percent). George Clooney was the second among all respondents with 21 percent, but was the top choice of women.

Next was Kevin Spacey (19 percent), followed by Bruce Willis in fourth place (13 percent).

"Jimmy Stewart beat out the beloved Santa Claus as movie watchers' all-time favorite holiday character," said Wilson. "Those are hard shoes to fill."

When asked for their favorite holiday movie character or star, survey respondents said:

- Jimmy Stewart
- Santa
- Scrooge
- Rudolph
- Bing Crosby

Whether it's *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Frosty the Snowman*, Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* or *Christmas Vacation*, holiday movies have become an integral part of the season's celebrations, according to survey results.

Here's Blockbuster's list of top-renting holiday movies:

- Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*
- *Christmas Vacation*
- *A Christmas Story*
- *Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer*
- *Jack Frost*
- *White Christmas*

- *Frosty the Snowman*
- *Charlie Brown Christmas*
- *It's A Wonderful Life*
- *Miracle on 34th Street*

If you were going to attend a Christmas party with a famous actor/actress, Blockbuster survey respondents said they would most like to be seen with:

Top male celebrities

1. Harrison Ford (tied) Mel Gibson and George Clooney
2. Tom Cruise (tied) Denzel Washington, Bruce Willis and Brad Pitt

Top female celebrities

1. Julia Roberts
2. Sandra Bullock
3. Halle Berry
4. Goldie Hawn (tied) Jennifer Aniston and Nicole Kidman



Tender moment: Karolyn Grimes and James Stewart in *It's A Wonderful Life*.

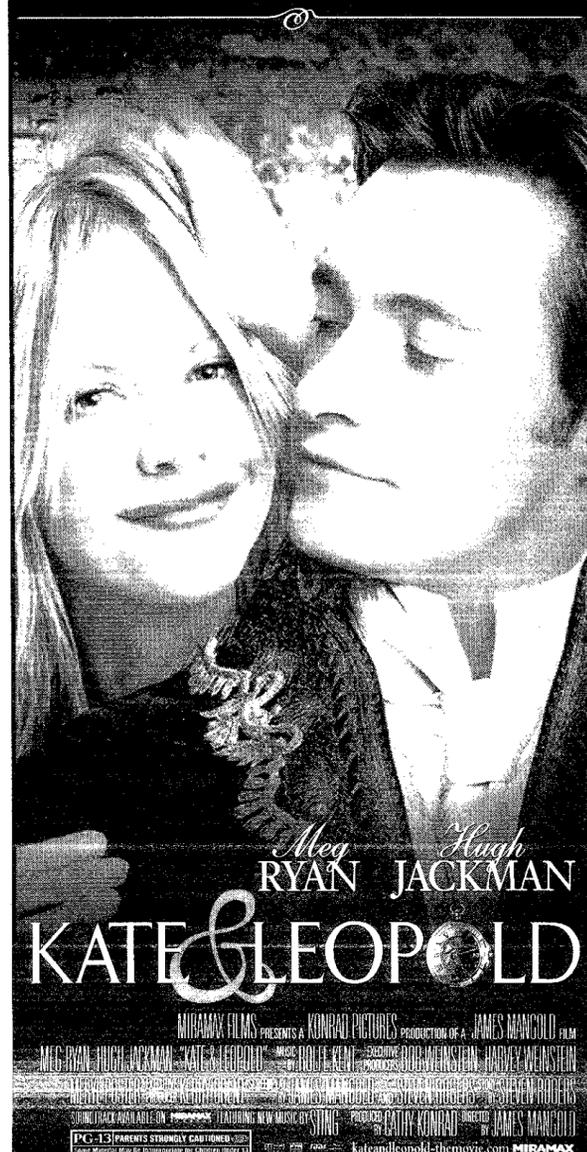
Iris from page B6

ing neatly into Broadbent's superlative portrayal of a man so emotionally reined in that he can read of love but not speak it. (The National Board of Review has already named Broadbent best supporting actor, and rightly, both for this film and for *Moulin Rouge*.)

The film's last irony is that even as *Iris* is watching language slip away, John is acquiring words too late.

Iris, a Miramax release, is rated R for sexuality/nudity and some language. Running time: 90 minutes.

If they lived in the same century, they'd be perfect for each other.



THIS CHRISTMAS, CHIVALRY MAKES A COMEBACK.

OPENS CHRISTMAS DAY AT THESE THEATRES!

AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	BIRMINGHAM PALLADIUM 12
CANTON 6	MJR SOUTHGATE 20	NOVI TOWN CTR. 8
SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS	SHOWCASE PONTIAC 1-12	SHOWCASE STERLING HTS.
SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR FAIRLANE 21	STAR GRATIOT
STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR JOHN R	STAR ROCHESTER
STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE STADIUM 14

"TWO THUMBS UP FOR 'OCEAN'S ELEVEN.'"

EBERT & ROEPER

"JACKPOT! Pure fun from start to finish." - LEAH ROZEN, PEOPLE MAGAZINE

"Ocean's Eleven" hits you like a shot of pure oxygen." - OWEN GLEIBERMAN, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

"It's 'The Dirty Dozen,' 'The Sting' and 'Mission: Impossible' all rolled into one." - MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN, THE WASHINGTON POST

"Soderbergh and the ensemble cast get so much right, it should be a crime." - OWEN GLEIBERMAN, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

"Class A exercise in cool. One of the year's ten best." - PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE MAGAZINE

clooney damon garcia pitt roberts

OCEAN'S ELEVEN

www.oceans11.net America Online Keyword: Oceans 11

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED

NOW SHOWING AT THESE THEATRES!

AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC WONDERLAND
BEACON EAST	BIRMINGHAM PALLADIUM 12	CANTON 6
MJR SOUTHGATE 20	NOVI TOWN CTR. 8	PHOENIX AT BEL AIR CTR.
SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS	SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE PONTIAC 1-9
SHOWCASE STERLING HTS.	SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR FAIRLANE 21
STAR GRATIOT	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR JOHN R
STAR LINCOLN PARK	STAR ROCHESTER	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE STADIUM 14	UA WEST RIVER

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MOVIE

America Online Keyword: Oceans 11 www.oceans11.net Moviefone.com

A HOLIDAY TREAT!

Joe Somebody

The Comedy For Everybody

STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21

AMC LAUREL PARK 734-492-9200	AMC LIVONIA 20 734-542-9909	AMC WONDERLAND 261-8100
MJR SOUTHGATE 20 734-284-3455	NOVI TOWN CINEMAS 8 248-344-0078	STAR FAIRLANE 313-240-8389
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MI. 313-791-2420	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING 248-454-0368	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE 248-589-2070
STAR ROCHESTER HILLS 248-933-2221	STAR SOUTHFIELD 248-983-8572	STAR TAYLOR 287-2200
UA COMMERCE STADIUM 248-960-6801	UA WEST RIVER 248-844-FILM	UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12 248-944-FILM

NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED.

"TWO THUMBS UP!"

EBERT & ROEPER

THE MAJESTIC

Sometimes your life comes into focus one frame at a time.

CASTLE ROCK

PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED

STARTS TOMORROW AT THESE THEATRES!

AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	BIRMINGHAM 8
MJR SOUTHGATE 20	QUO VADIS	SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS
SHOWCASE PONTIAC 1-12	SHOWCASE STERLING HTS.	STAR FAIRLANE 21
STAR GRATIOT	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR JOHN R
STAR LINCOLN PARK	STAR ROCHESTER	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE STADIUM 14	UA WEST RIVER

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MOVIE

America Online Keyword: The Majestic www.majesticmovie.com www.castle-rock.com Moviefone.com

BLASTING INTO THEATRES THIS FRIDAY!

JIMMY NEUTRON BOY GENIUS

GENERAL AUDIENCES ALL AGES ADMITTED

STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21

AMC FORUM 30	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20
AMC WONDERLAND	CANTON 6	MJR SOUTHGATE 20
NOVI TOWN CENTER 8	PHOENIX AT BEL AIR CENTRE	SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS
SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE STERLING HEIGHTS
SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR FAIRLANE	STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE
STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8
STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR
UA COMMERCE STADIUM	UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER	UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12

NO PASSES OR COUPONS ACCEPTED

"VANILLA SKY" IS AN OUT-THERE EROTIC THRILLER WITH MIND-BENDING SECRET NO REVIEW SHOULD GIVE AWAY.

It's a bold leap that gives Tom Cruise one of his most challenging roles. Cameron Diaz is sensational." - ROLLING STONE, PETER TRAVERS

"TOM CRUISE GIVES AN OSCAR CALIBER PERFORMANCE, in a movie that reverberates with the unexpected and the surprising." - CBS-TV, DAVID SHEEHAN

"SO THOUGHT-PROVOKING YOU'LL WANT TO SEE IT TWICE. A light dream-ride with Tom Cruise that you won't forget." - FOX-TV, JIM FERGUSON

"TOM CRUISE SOARS IN A PASSIONATELY ROMANTIC THRILL-RIDE. A brilliant mind-blower." - CBS-TV, JEANNE WOLF

"CAMERON DIAZ IS MESMERIZING. It's the best work she's ever done." - FOX NEWS CHANNEL, BILL MCCUDDY

"A TRUE MOVIE EXPERIENCE. VISUALLY, EMOTIONALLY, SPIRITUALLY." - CBS-TV, CRAIG KOOP

"VANILLA SKY" TAKES YOU ON AN AMAZING JOURNEY. Tom Cruise in his best performance ever in the most thought-provoking film of the year." - FOX-TV, BILL ZWICKER

"STAGGERINGLY NOW! Brutally honest and heartfelt." - NORTHWEST CABLE NEWS, RICHARD REID

"DARINGLY DIFFERENT. A mind-bending sensory experience unlike anything you've ever seen." - WESTWOOD ONE RADIO, BILL BRECKLI

TOM CRUISE VANILLA SKY

www.vanillasky.com

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UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR ADULT GUARDIAN

SEXUALITY & STRONG LANGUAGE

For rating reasons, go to www.filmratings.com

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AMC FORUM 30	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20
BIRMINGHAM 8	MJR SOUTHGATE 20	NOVI TOWN CENTER 8
SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS	SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE PONTIAC 6-12
SHOWCASE STERLING HEIGHTS	SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR FAIRLANE
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE
STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE STADIUM	UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER

NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED

Palm Restaurant opens in Troy

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

Palm Restaurant that opened Dec. 13 in Troy, may be new to the area, but it's number 25 in the upscale national chain of restaurants acclaimed for steaks, jumbo lobsters, and classic Italian specialties.

Bruce Bozzi and Wally Ganzi are third generation co-owners of the Palm Restaurant empire that their grandfathers founded on Manhattan's Second Avenue in 1926. It took family management until 1972 to open a second Palm in Washington D.C., largely due to the encouragement of then Ambassador to the United Nations, George Bush, who complained about the lack of "good American fare" in the nation's capitol. The following year, the Manhattan Palm expanded to Palm Too, across Second Avenue, to keep up with demand.

Name a major U.S. city today, and you'll likely find a Palm.

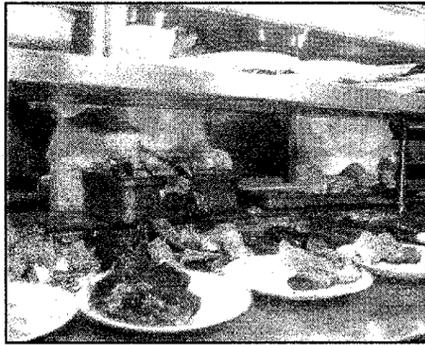
"The Palm is about stability," said Corporate Executive Chef Tony Tammero. "I've worked for the owners for more than 30 years. National expansion occurred during this time. Although we're upbeat and friendly, we don't pretend to follow food trends. We're about quality and the best of the best. I think 75 years in business upholds our philosophy."

General Manager Tom Brewer, a Philadelphia native, who has been with the Palm for four years, now calls Troy his home. He admitted that Palm's owners first considered a Troy location eight years ago.

"It's a great food town and that's why we want to be here," he noted.

Cartoons and caricatures

Those who loved the atmosphere of Detroit's legendary London Chop House for its wall art caricatures, will take an instant like to the Palm Restaurant's ambiance. If you're too young or new to the area and didn't know the London Chop House, you'll find the cartoons,



Ready to go:
Chefs prepare several dishes for the dinner rush at the new Palm Restaurant in Troy.

caricatures, old photographs and Palm restaurant clips, from various national and local newspapers, interesting.

Caricatures are drawn from photos sent to Bronwyn Bird in Philadelphia, whose exclusive client is Palm Restaurant. For the Troy location, they've drawn Mayor Matt Pryor and Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, plus other personalities who have impacted metro Detroit sports and various walks of life.

You, too, could be part of the living mural. Brewer indicated that if you become recognized as "one of the family" and into the spirit that drives a Palm Restaurant, you might be invited to submit your photo. Even if not for this reason, you may want to inquire about the 837 Club, the frequent diner rewards program. The "837" originates from the Second Avenue address of the original Palm.

Club and clubby. Those, too, are words to describe the atmo-

sphere. But that does not mean stuffy. Just comfortable. White tablecloths — yes — but much that's laid back. And while we're on the right words, what's the deal about Palm which sounds Floridian or Hawaiian? The original owners wanted to call the restaurant Parma, but because of their Italian accent, the registrar mistakenly thought they were saying Palm!

What's on the menu?

Michigan State University Hotel and Restaurant Management School grad Chef Jarad Bissel, who spent more than three years at Detroit's Duet restaurant, is in charge of culinary aspects. When busy, that means satisfying about 260 diners in a short time span.

Although the straightforward menu is steaks, chops, seafood, Italian specialties with appetizers, salads, and side dishes served family style, Chef Jarad will have specials.

"In January, once we're settled

and running smoothly," he said, "diners can expect that I'll be offering my own pulled mozzarella in a salad, savory crepes, and risotto which I'd like to see on the menu."

Most popular lunch-only salad is Sesame Seared Ahi Tuna with Field Greens and Soy Vinaigrette Dressing. Linguine with white or red clam sauce, that includes 10 to 12 clams per serving, is a steal at \$12.

At dinner, the 18-ounce Prime Aged New York Strip is the number one ordered item at all Palm restaurants. It can be split to serve two without a plate charge. Plates come without vegetable or potato garnish. They are served a la carte and family style for two or more. The signature side is Half & Half, cottage fries that are more like thin potato chips and fried onions, which serves four easily. Italian Specialties stem from the owners' classic recipes passed on through generations. Sauces are freshly made daily.

If you leave a little tummy room, the finale is tray-presented desserts, including authentic New York cheesecake, homemade Key Lime pie, Tiramisu, Creme Brulee topped with mixed berries, and a seven-layer chocolate cake.

Eleanor Heald is a Troy resident who writes about restaurants, food, wine and spirits for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. To leave her a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1864#.

Palm Restaurant
Where: 5600 Crooks Road, Troy (248)813-7256
Open: 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday-Friday, 5:30 p.m.-11 p.m. Saturday, 5-10 p.m. Sunday
Menu: Prime aged steaks and jumbo (3 pounds and larger) Nova Scotia lobsters and Italian specialties
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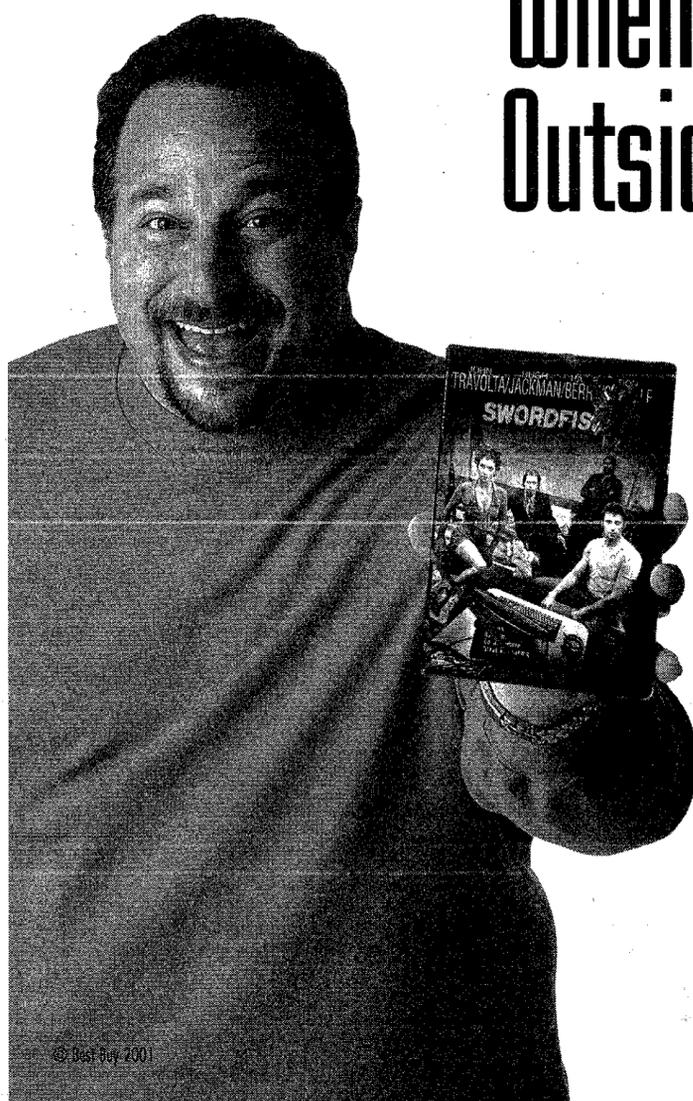
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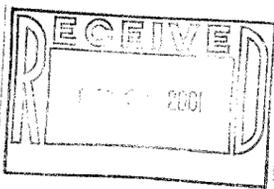


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At Home

Thursday, December 20, 2001

The hunt for last-minute gems

BY JENNIFER FOLEY
STAFF WRITER

From daggers to wooden children's toys, Sandra Collins has art for a spectrum of customers from collectors to those just looking for a well-crafted gift.

In fact, variety tends to be the driving force of her life and the reason she opened not one, but two galleries in Birmingham.

Collins grew up in Hawaii, known for its picture perfect weather, but she has no intentions of moving away from her Birmingham home before the temperature begins to plummet.

"I really do enjoy the change of season and the change of clothing," Collins said. "It's just far more interesting to me."

Sandra Collins Gallery mainly features the highest level of contemporary art craft. Mediums include wood, glass metal clay and fiber. In Gallery Nikko, customers will find handcrafted, imaginative pieces in a wide variety of styles for varied budgets.

"In my primary gallery you have much more serious pieces and people really think before they buy down here," Collins said. "And I just wanted to do something fun."

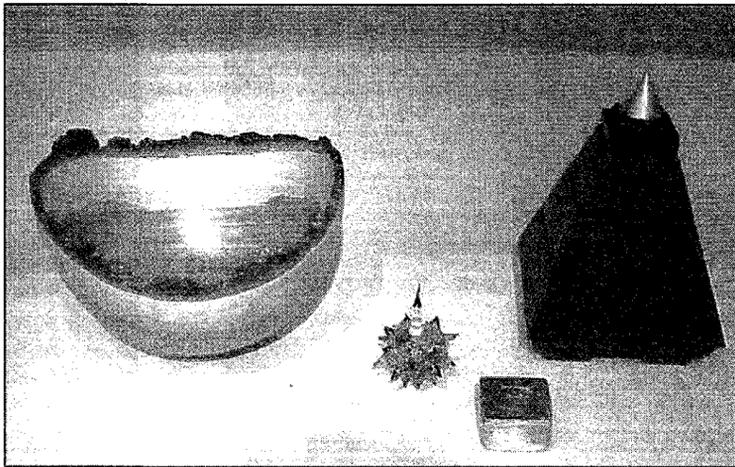
Gallery Nikko features handmade wooden toys, colorful fleece blankets and other baby to toddler items from large stuffed puppets to moccasins, and gifts for weddings and graduations. The gallery also features holiday items like hand-blown glass ornaments, gifts for men such as jewelry boxes, cufflinks, and pen desk sets and gifts for women including jewelry, wooden box purses and unusual hand knit scarves.

"I found a lot of wonderful artists that do fabulous wooden toys," she said. "They're very well-made at reasonable price points."

Prices range on average from \$10 to \$150 at Gallery Nikko. The lower prices can be a draw for younger buyers.

"If you expose youth to well-made hand-crafted items that becomes part of their life style," Collins said.

Her education in art history at the University of Michigan, followed by Michigan. After working as a curator of arts at the DIA, a desire to research the contemporary art and craft scene led her to open



Bowls and bottles: This one-of-a-kind walnut, natural edge, classic bowl retails for \$130. Another good choice for any woman is the lamp-worked glass perfume bottle, \$200. The pewter box has an intricate berry design delicately stamped on the top, \$37. Or the "Rasputin" three-layer box incorporates wood and recycled wood turnings. It is also hand painted using colorful automotive lacquers and metallic finishes. A variety of styles and sizes are available. Retail for \$195.

the Sandra Collins Gallery and later, Gallery Nikko, located one floor above.

The thrill of the hunt

Collins enjoys the hunt to find the perfect art for her galleries. In fact, that's mainly what led her to plunge into custom made knives as an art form.

"My husband has thrown knives for years. He had these custom made throwing knives," said Collins, who also throws knives as a hobby.

"I just became aware that there was this field out there that no one really had researched," she said. "We are the only gallery (in America) that recognizes the knives as an art form and we exhibit art knives. No other gallery exhibits this medium."

Love them or hate them, there's no middle ground when it comes to the impression custom made knives leave on customers, Collins said. But the work that goes into them drives her love for the art.

Custom knife designers even make the metal for the blade.

Sandra Collins Gallery is the exclusive representative in the United States for South Carolina jewelry artist Llyn Strong who makes interchangeable jewelry sets. She has a patent on her modular line of jewelry which features parts that can be linked together or attached to other jewelry.

"It's a very sophisticated concept in which you can interchange and exchange pieces," Collins said. "It's really a versatile system and it allows you a lot of flexibility."

Whether you're looking for an expensive piece or one a little less pricey, gallery employees will be able to give you the background on the piece and the artist.

Nikko is located at 470 N. Old Woodward in Birmingham. Gallery hours in December are Tuesdays - Saturdays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Thursdays until 8:30 p.m. or by appointment.

Three area inventors sell family game

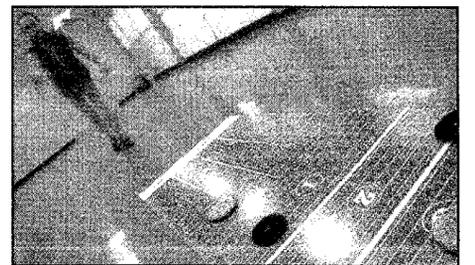
Here's a gift that is fun for practically everyone in your life — from the boss to the kids.

And it was invented by three Oakland County men who've shared a friendship since high school.

The invention is a game called Aeroshuffle, presented by Timeless Toys, created by friends and business partners Chris Hoffman, Larry Hoffmann (no relation) and Brian Russell. It's a competitive indoor/outdoor aerial shuffleboard game with bean bags as discs that can be played with two, three or four players ages 8 and up.

It's a perfect game for families, or groups of friends, who are looking for fun to get them through the winter months.

So fun is the game that it's taken Hoffman, Hoffmann and Russell quite a few years to get the game



Playing a round: One of the games co-creators Larry Hoffmann plays a round of Aeroshuffle.

public — one partial reason is that they're always too busy having fun playing their creation.

Aeroshuffle contains a bumping bean bag discus that can be tossed or slid onto a 28- by-72 inch reinforced vinyl playing surface. Similar to shuffleboard, it has a scoreboard where players can use pennies, nickels or dimes.

"It's fun, it's competitive and can get really exciting," Chris Hoffman said. "And it takes skill."

The game is already a hit at the Clawson Teen center where Chris Hoffman's teenager works — teens there have been playing the game constantly.

"We also like that it's gender friendly and age friendly. Older can beat the younger and vice versa," he said.

Chris Hoffman, who's father was also a toy inventor, says he has other creative game ideas swimming in his head. But, for now, Aeroshuffle is his main focus.

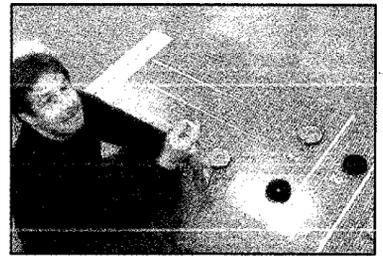
Hoffman, along with pals and business partners Hoffmann and Russell, said they came up with the idea together ... it just evolved over time, he said. The men all have careers and Aeroshuffle is their "side" project that seems like an obvious success.

The men get together every year for an annual summer canoe trip — realizing the importance of friendship. Like a vacation, Aeroshuffle, being that it can be played as teams, is great for bonding.

The creators hope the game is one that families will want to play during the holiday break. So far, it's selling well.

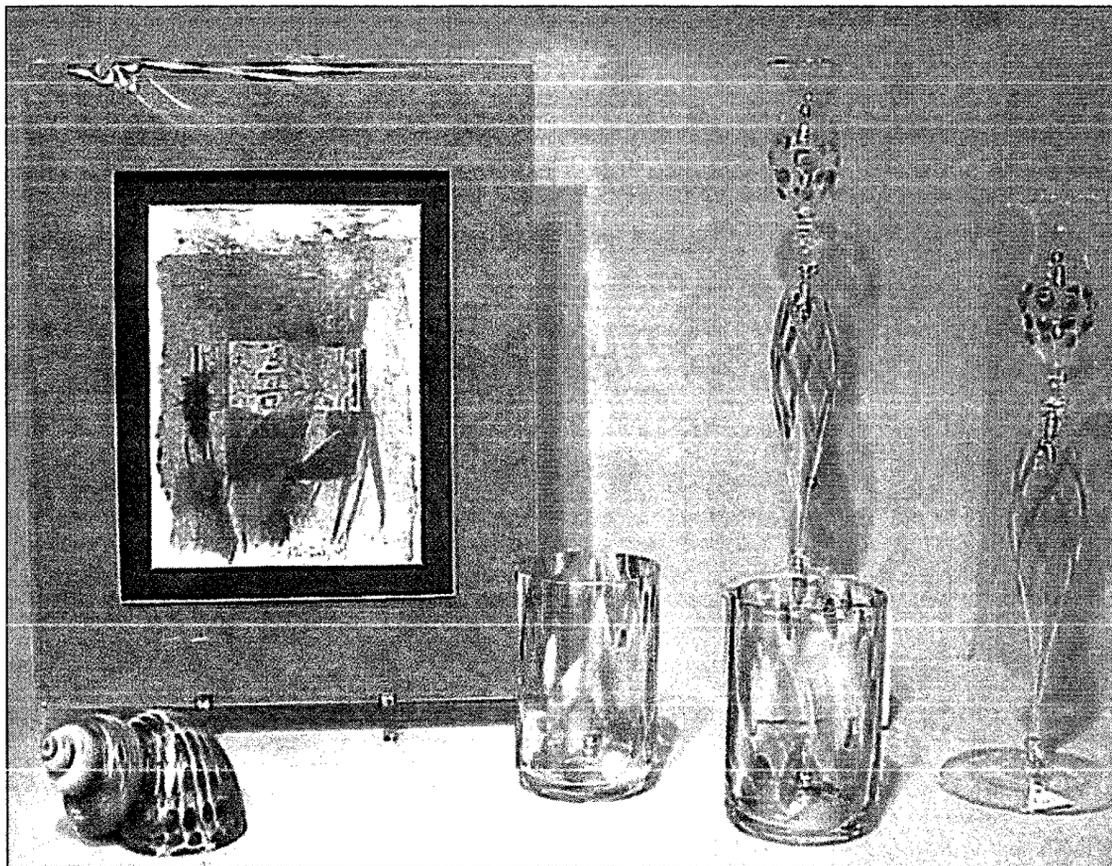
Aeroshuffle can be purchased at Adventures in Toyland on Maple in Birmingham and Metro Sports of Michigan on 14 Mile in Clawson. Or at www.tmt toys.com

-Staff writer Lana Mini



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER

Fun and games: Chris Hoffman sits with Aeroshuffle, a new game he and his partners invented and which is now out in time for the holiday.



Stunning: Traditional hand blown glass candlesticks, \$62; hand blown glass watercolor tumblers, \$28; and hand blown glass shell paperweight with iridescent shell, \$100, would make good gifts. The "Longevity" hand-dyed rice paper collage retails for \$130.

INSIDE

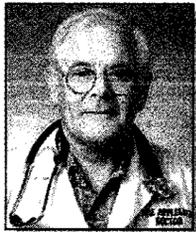


MARTY FIGLEY

Holiday blooms

Gardenia and other plants make wonderful holiday gifts.

Garden Spot, Page C2



JOE GAGNON

The Appliance Doctor

The Appliance Doctor says be safe for a happy holiday.

Appliance Doctor, Page C3

INSIDE THIS SECTION

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Holiday houseplants bring pleasure



MARTY FIGLEY

Many houseplants make perfect Christmas gifts and will bring much pleasure for a long time. After all the holiday trappings have been put away, blooming houseplants will add a nice fresh accent to your home.

A year ago I received an African gardenia, *Mitrostigma axillare*, from my friend Julia Janiak, and it is blooming for the third time in just one year. It has stayed small and is still in its original pot.

I keep it in a bathroom that has a north-facing window and a skylight, water it when necessary (always letting the water run through to the saucer), and fertilize it a couple of times a year in spring and summer. The pretty, star-shaped, white flowers have a delicate perfume.

Edith Hoffman of Southfield gave another interesting plant to me. It has an upright rosette of dark, olive green, lance-shaped foliage with a deep, iridescent maroon underside.

This "Moses in the cradle," *Rhoeo bermudensis*, has an unusual habit of blooming. Above each leaf base a number of small, white flowers are tucked between two large bracts. You have to look carefully to see the little babes.

I keep my plant in a west window covered by closed Venetian blinds. I water when the soil is dry and fertilize occasionally.

Christmas cactus

These plants have been very easy to care for, sometimes neglected, and are still going

strong. Here is some information about traditional plants sold for Christmas gifts that will be sure to please the recipient:

The Christmas cactus (*Schlumbergera bridgesii*) is popular now. It needs to be kept in bright light, especially when it is in bud. It's best to resist the urge to move the cactus from that location at this time to prevent bud drop.

In its native Brazil, the Christmas cactus grows on trees and water drains readily; this then is the clue to use a soil that drains well.

After the plant has flowered, prune it by cutting off a few of the "links" or sections from each stem tip. Water when the top half of the soil in the pot feels very dry. Discard excess water. Fertilize with a product for flowering houseplants, following package directions, from early spring through summer.

The Christmas cactus and her cousins, the Easter and Thanksgiving cacti, are often confused. Here's how to tell one from the other: The Christmas cactus has scalloped margins, and its blooms are generally found at the stem tips only. The Easter cactus is more likely to bloom between the stem segments, as well as at the stem tips. The Thanksgiving cactus has two to four pointy teeth along the margins of the stem segments, and blooms are generally found at the stem tips.

Poinsettia

The ever-popular poinsettia needs no description. The flowers of this plant are actually the tiny yellow berries, not the colorful bracts.

When choosing a poinsettia, look for tightly clustered, small central flowers with a crisp and bright foliage. When the green foliage is down to the soil line, it indicates the plant has active,



Blooming gifts: Plants, such as this African gardenia given to Marty Figley, make lovely holiday gifts.

healthy roots.

Water thoroughly when soil is dry to the touch; discard excess water in the saucer. Poinsettias need at least six hours of natural light, bright enough to read by, to retain color. Shield from direct sun rays.

Average house temperatures of around 72 degrees and night temperatures around 60 degrees are ideal. Poinsettias will appreciate an application of flowering houseplant fertilizer every two weeks.

Others

Amaryllis grows best in warm temperatures, but the flowers will last longer in temperatures ranging from 60 to 70 degrees.

Water them generously, which helps maintain sufficient weight in the pot to balance the heavy blooms. When the blooms wither,

cut off the stalk near the neck of the bulb, and move the plant to a sunny, warm window.

Kalanchoes can survive dry air, considerable heat and even dry soil because they are succulent plants and hold water in their leaves. They will last quite a long time and should be treated the same way as poinsettias. Adequate light encourages good flowering.

There you have it. Do check the soil when you take the plant home (or when you receive a plant).

A good way to do this is to pinch a little of the surface soil with your fingers. It should feel moist, but not muddy-wet. Add water when the surface soil begins to feel dry.

Take a look at the different flowers in the nurseries when shopping - who knows what beauty you may find!

I wish you all the safest and happiest holiday during these solemn times. As Tiny Tim says, "God bless us every one!"

Gift idea

Need a special holiday gift? Give a gift that will be remembered for many years. There is still space on my river cruise to Holland, Belgium and the Florid . Price is all-inclusive; Call Jean at The World of Travel at (248) 203-0022 for a brochure and to register.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

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JOE GAGNON

You and I can get into a vehicle today and drive across every highway and small road across America, and what we will see are millions of Christmas decorating lights lighting up the country.

We will also read about the many fires that occur at this time of year because some of the installations have proven to be unsafe.

I installed my house lights the other day and I had to take a long strip of garland and reverse it because I ended up with an electrical plug that I couldn't connect something to. In other words, the two prongs were sticking out into the weather where a bird or animal could touch them.

Even worse, a human being could be electrocuted if someone were to brush against the end of the cord. The many sets of lights

I installed were attached to the overhangs of the house by looping them over screws placed at so many feet and I thought about all the movement on these wires brought on by winter windy conditions.

I used a small strip of the great American cure-all, Duct Tape, to secure each wire connection to the screws. This way I know the wire won't rub off its plastic coating and short out against the screw on the side of the house.

A shorted wire on something metal can cause a form of arcing that will travel directly into the house frame. This can take hours or days to cause a fire. I took Duct Tape and sealed all ends of the cords and connections making sure that each one of these tape jobs didn't contain a pocket for water to collect.

From the outside I stepped inside the house and installed lights on the three Christmas trees that Valorie decorates with a Martha Stewart touch.

With all the other things plugged into wall outlets I make sure that there is not too much

load on the circuits.

After putting everything in the on position for an hour I hold the many cords in my hands and if they feel too hot, it's time to make a change.

The one thing I always do is shut off the exterior lights when we retire for the night and always shut off the inside lights when we go out.

The smoke and fire detectors all have new batteries installed and any lights placed under cupboards which produce heat are moved.

By the time you read this column there will already have been house fires across America which took the lives of family and little children.

It is not going to be a very happy time of year for them and yet most of these fires could have been prevented using a little care.

The cold weather is yet to come and already my phone is ringing off the hook with calls

from homeowners who wonder why their clothes dryers are not working correctly. The common cause is the dryer vent line which is plugged with lint or as most frequently happens in the fall, a dead critter.

Why should a little animal or bird dig a hole when there is already one on the side of your house.

I don't have to be a squirrel to know that there is heat coming out of that hole and I want to live in there during the winter months.

As the most intelligent form of life on earth we should realize that the house is closed up tight to prevent cold air from coming in. This also means that we are breathing the same old air over and over again.

What have you done lately to make sure it is as clean as possible. Sometimes it's as simple as cleaning or changing the furnace filters.

In my home we always have a

window cracked open because I do want some fresh air coming in. Is it any wonder that the flu season begins when we shut off the fresh air supply to our homes?

Smart thinking, safety and good health are many times, in the way we look at things.

I wish you a lot of logic for the

New Year and a Very Happy Holiday Season.

Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard Saturday and Sunday on 760 WJR. He is a member and past president of the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals. His phone number is (313)873-9789.

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And then in a twinkling I heard from the room a clatter, a bang and the drop of a broom. I went to the basement and what did appear? SANTA'S IN OUR FURNACE! What... no chimney this year?

Warm wishes to all, and to all a warm night.

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Doggie, it's cold outside

BY SUSAN STEINMUELLER
STAFF WRITER

When winter comes, Dr. David Smith finds that he cares for a lot more paws.

Smith, veterinarian at the Rochester-based Leader Dogs for the Blind school, said that salt on the sidewalks can irritate the paws of his canine patients, and poses one of the biggest health problems he sees when winter comes.

"The pads can crack and dry," he said. "When winter comes, dogs should limit their travel through salted areas when possible."

For those who walk their dogs in salted areas, he recommends that afterwards, "wipe the pads off with a moistened, clean cloth." And, if the area is excessively irritated, see a veterinarian. Excessive redness, or the dog licking or chewing at their feet, can indicate a problem.

The school serves the blind and deaf/blind from around the world. It was founded by a group of Michigan Lions Club members and trains and provides Leader Dogs to help the visually impaired, at no cost to eligible applicants.

It's not only Leader Dogs that need special care during winter. Smith also offers the following general tips for preparing Michiganders of the canine kind for winter:

For outdoor dogs

Leader Dogs are always inside dogs, for social and working reasons as well as health reasons.

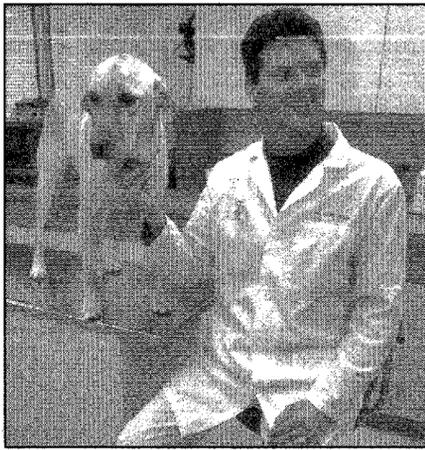
"We do not recommend having dogs outside constantly," said Smith.

But if a companion animal is outside, Smith said it's important to be sure the animal is in a sheltered area, out of wet conditions.

To do that:

- Provide a doghouse or some type of shelter that is large enough for pets to stand and turn around. A shelter this size will allow pets to stay dry and warm, due to the output of an animal's body heat. A shelter that is too large will allow heat to escape and will not provide the same warmth as a smaller shelter.

- Line the shelter with hay or a similar substance instead of blankets or towels. When a cloth cover is wet, it will retain the moisture and will no



STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN STORMZAND

Special care: Dr. David Smith of Rochester's Leader Dogs for the Blind says that dogs need special care in winter. He is pictured with his dog, Jody, an ex-Leader Dog who accompanies him to work.

longer be a warm, insulating surface. Change the hay or straw periodically.

- If possible, acclimate animals to the environment slowly, a few hours at a time. Gradually increase the length of time so pets are not shocked by the outside conditions.

- Avoid metal pans as water dishes. The metal element causes the water to freeze faster than a plastic container. Water should be changed frequently to avoid freezing, or supply heated water buckets.

- Although a garage provides a reasonable amount of shelter from wind and snow, it does not provide warmth. If a pet is going to maintain residence in the garage, place a thick carpet or a thick blanket or bed in the garage for the animal to lay on or to buffer the cold of the cement floor.

For walking or playing outdoors:

- Instead of salt on the sidewalks, try sand or kitty litter, which also creates a safe travel for humans and animals.

- Remove snow clumps from between pet's pads and toes. The most vulnerable areas on a dog are the paws and ears, and it is very important to keep these areas free of debris.

- Avoid extended exposure to the elements. A good rule of thumb to follow is if it is too cold for people, it is too cold for pets.

- Walking or playing outside for approximately 30 minutes or so is acceptable as long as proper care is taken with the animal once back indoors.

Realistic expectations prevent holiday stress

BY SUSAN FRICK CARLMAN
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

It's the season of goodwill, of giving and caring and joyful celebration.

Unfortunately, for many people the year-end holidays also bring the season of stress.

But here's the good news: Much of it is stress we put on ourselves. It follows that we can take it off as well.

"From my experience, the biggest pitfall people run into is trying to repeat the past," said Virginia Morgan Jones, a clinical psychologist.

Many of us set ourselves up for disappointment by trying to fit today's holiday into the framework we bring from our past, Jones said. It especially becomes a problem when we expect others to fit themselves into our memories, and then take it personally when they don't comply.

It's a good idea to try to zero in on the essence of each tradition, and what makes it special. A collection of heirloom holiday ornaments, for example, might be a treasure, but if their owner detests putting up the tree every year, it makes more sense to arrange them on a bed of evergreen boughs on a coffee table or sideboard, Jones said.

"Part of it is identifying what is positive, but it's also identifying the negative aspects so they can be avoided," she said. "It's letting the holidays bring their own meaning and their own joy, as opposed to scripting it."

Another route to a fulfilling holiday experience is being willing to consider new ways to celebrate the season, even if it means letting go of some old ones.

"We manage to open ourselves

■ 'One thing you can do to avoid stress is to realize what's important and recognize what the holiday season is all about.'

Eileen Cole
—Social Worker

to new inventions and habits at other times of the year, but during the holiday season we aren't as willing to do that," Jones said. "Sometimes adding a new tradition ends up reflecting what your life is like now."

Remaining focused on the big picture is also a good idea, according to social worker Eileen Cole.

"If you do get really stressed, think, 'Is this going to matter in five years?' If the pie burns, ask yourself if anyone is really going to care several years down the road," she said.

Maintaining a reasonable sense of perspective is key.

"One thing you can do to avoid stress is to realize what's important and recognize what the holiday season is all about. You need to look past the societal pressures that emphasize gifts and the material side of it," Cole said.

Of course, gifts and material goods are part of the tradition in most households. They can't be erased from the holiday game plan, but they can be kept in realistic balance.

One way to do that is to be mindful of the joy to be found in doing good deeds for others. Jones encourages reaching out to those who could use a little extra human touch, even if it's just a

matter of looking in on a neighbor who doesn't get out much, or placing a phone call to someone who has no family nearby. The benefits of gestures like that can go both ways, she said.

Cole believes the concepts of goodwill and caring and joyful celebration are especially important to heed when it comes to kids.

So meeting our families' real needs is one more step that can be taken toward a minimally stressful holiday. Other tactics are more practical, like making lists.

"Move into the holidays consciously," Jones advised. "Make lists that show what you want to do, what needs to be done and what you don't want to have happen."

Cole suggests making lists of tasks that remain to be accomplished, and crossing them off daily so that a sense of satisfaction can be felt at the progress being made.

And it's also helpful for others to be helpful. Both therapists recommend delegating duties; there's no reason for one person to bear the lion's share of the considerable work that goes into making the holidays bright for all. Although we can't expect others to meet arbitrary expectations that fit into our memories, we can expect specific help if we ask for it.

"You have to understand that you're not going to be 10 different people," Cole said.

Finally, the gift of self-consideration is something that shouldn't be left off the list; Jones urges her clients to make time for solitude and some kind of leisurely activity when they need it.

FUND RAISING & BENEFITS

If you want like to submit an item for the fund-raising & benefits calendar fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Fund-raising, Observer, Newspaper, 3015 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

COOKBOOK SALE
Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia has new cook-

books featuring their favorite recipes — just in time for the holidays. \$10 each or three for \$25. Available from June Stepa at the 10 am coffee hour at the church office 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Call (734) 422-0149.

TREE OF LIFE

The Angela Hospice annual Tree of Life will be on display at Laurel Park Place in Livonia through Dec. 31. The tree

extends its branches to those who wish to give a gift of remembrance by adorning the tree with an angel wing ornament bearing the name of loved one living or deceased. If you are unable to attend call (734) 464-7810.

5K FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Runners, walkers and families are invited to register for the fourth annual Festival of Lights 5K run and walk and Kid's Kilometer to take place the evening

of Jan. 5. All events are on paved roads and pass by the more than 3 million lights of the St. Nicholas Light Display. Day care is provided for pre-registered only and space is limited. The event is a fund raiser for Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley. Call (734) 482-4388 or visit www.athleticventures.com

CORNISH PASTIES

Newburg United Methodist Church is making and selling

Cornish pasties as a fund-raiser. Pasties are \$2.50 each and can be ordered by calling (734) 422-0149 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Jan. 8-9. Call-in orders only. Do not leave any orders on the answer machine or by fax or e-mail. Pick up times are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 17 and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 18. The church is located at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Order early. Only 1,000 pasties will be made.

COMMUNITY HOSPICE RAFFLE

Community Hospice & Home Care Services, Inc. of Westland is hosting a raffle for a 1968 Red Ford Fairlane. All proceeds benefit Community Hospice & Home Care Services, Inc. Tickets are \$5 each. The drawing will be held 3 p.m. Aug. 25, 2002. You need not be present to win. Call Heather (734) 522-4244.

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SQUEEZE THE DAY



LYNN WALDSMITH-PAWLIK

Do you believe in magic?

A woman I was talking to the other day told me she 5 years old when she stopped believing in Santa Claus. Apparently she wised up at an early age because her older siblings had felt it was their duty to set her straight. How sad, I thought, to be only 5 and no longer believe in the magic of that jolly old elf. She too, seemed remorseful about it when she told me, as though she had been cheated out of a sizable chunk of her childhood.

But I held out till the bitter end. I still vividly remember my cousin, Marc, who was a few years older than me, playing a joke one Christmas Eve that nearly traumatized me for life. Our house was full of relatives and it was getting late, though no one was getting ready to leave yet and none of the kids was ready for bed. Knowing I was a steadfast believer in Santa, Marc opened the front door and gave me some shattering news.

"Look Lynn," he shouted, pointing up at the starlit sky. "There goes Santa! He's not coming to your house because you're still awake and we're still here!"

I flipped out. I began running around the house, begging my aunts and cousins to leave, crying uncontrollably and actually pushing people toward the door. Marc and everyone else couldn't stop laughing, but I was totally convinced that I wouldn't have a Christmas at all.

You would think an episode like that would have humiliated me into wising up right then and there, but it didn't. By the time I was in fourth or fifth grade all my friends were telling me there was no such thing as Santa Claus. But I still refused not to believe in him.

I remember another Christmas Eve after that when I forced myself to stay awake as I sat at the top of the stairs. I was waiting for Santa to come because I had bet my best friend \$1 the he was real. When she discovered me there, my mother quickly put me to bed despite my protests and explanation of the wager. Unfortunately I fell asleep before he came, just as I did every year. Finally, a few days later, my mom gently broke the news to me.

"Oh," I said, fighting back tears and feeling a wave of sadness and betrayal rising up inside of me. "But there is an Easter Bunny, right?"

My mother shook her head sadly. "Well, there's really a Tooth Fairy, right?" I was grasping for anything I could find. It couldn't all be a lie. Could it?

Now I know there are some parents, thankfully not many of them, who tell their kids there's no such thing as Santa from the get-go. The idea being that perpetuating the myth will somehow psychologically scar their kids and that parents should be honest and truthful with their children at all times.

But if I got over it, anybody can. And I wouldn't have had it any other way. Because over time I began to see Santa in a different light. I gradually started to believe in him in another way — for his power to transform Christmas for children from the ordinary to the extraordinary. And for his ability to help us grown-ups see Christmas through the eyes of a child.

I have a daughter who's 5 now and she's already beginning to ask some astute questions about St. Nick. Can he still fly his sleigh if there's no snow? How can he get in our house if we have no fireplace? She knows that some of the Santas at the shopping malls are not real. They're just giving the old guy a hand because it's too hard for him to be in so many places at one time.

That's why I was relieved to hear her say when we were getting ready to go to a Breakfast with Santa at Smith Elementary: "We're the lucky ones 'cause the real Santa is coming to our school!"

So, yes Virginia, there really is a Santa Claus. Take it from one who ought to know.

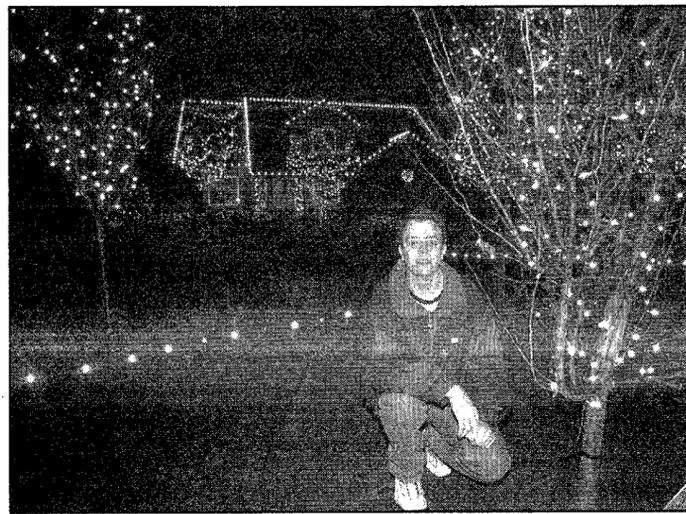
(Lynn Waldsmith-Pawlik is a Plymouth free-lance writer and mother of two children. You may e-mail her at pawwald@mediaone.net.)



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Getting help: Festive holiday lighting was designed and installed on this Westland home by Bill Hack of Bill's Outdoor Care Christmas Decor in Canton.

There's always next year for outdoor lights



Bright future: Brighten the hearts of family, friends and neighbors with festive holiday lighting — the theme for owner Bill Hack (above).

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER
kkuban@oe.homecomm.net

If you were too busy to get the Christmas decorations up this year, Bill Hack can help you out of a pinch next year.

The 23-year-old Canton resident owns Bill's Outdoor Care and Christmas Decorum. Like the name suggests, the company designs and installs customized Christmas decorations for both residential homes and businesses.

For an average of \$1,100, Hack and his crew of six employees will and install all the lights and other decorations. After the holidays are over, they will box everything up. The customer keeps all the supplies, including the lights, timers, and extension cords.

According to Hack, a 1996 graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School, the cost for the service drops significantly the following year because the initial price includes the cost of all the supplies.

The company, which also plows snow in the winter, mostly decorates outdoors, but has begun doing interior work, as well. Hack and his crew put

up Christmas trees and string decorative garland along bannisters, for example.

Hack said every job is different and he tries to base each job on the customer's preferences.

"We sit down with them to see if they have any ideas about what they are looking for. We give them a couple different options and really try to work with them," he said.

While many people ask for schemes with white lights, Hack said customers this year also want patriotic themes, which he attributes to America's war against terrorism.

"This year everybody has been asking for a red, white and blue color scheme. They want a combination of those colors in their lights," he said.

Two weeks ago, Hack was still hearing from people in need of last-minute help.

"It's getting late in the holiday season, but we're still getting some calls. We've been doing quite a bit of work actually," he said.

For more information, contact Hack at (734) 397-8219.

Happy Harley-days

Harley ladies wrap up Christmas fund-raiser

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER
kkuban@oe.homecomm.net

Have a happy, Harley holiday this year!

Debbie Kunewych and Pat Kososki couldn't think of a better way to give a Christmas gift bought at Motor City Harley Davidson than to have it gift-wrapped in paper featuring images of the famous motorcycle maker.

So the ladies decided to set up shop at the Farmington Hills Harley dealer and do the gift-wrapping themselves.

Along with their fellow members in the Ladies of Harley Motor City Chapter, Kunewych and Kososki are asking for donations for the holiday service, which they will pass on to the Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan.

gan. More than 30 members of the chapter are taking turns wrapping gifts on weekends until Dec. 22.

Last year the chapter raised \$1,700 wrapping gifts, and the goal is to exceed that amount this year.

"It's been going very well so far. We've already raised more than \$1,000. Our goal is at least \$2,000," Kunewych said.

Do you have to be a Harley dude to do your Christmas shopping at Motor City Harley Davidson? Not at all, said Donna Hammer, who works as



Holiday helpers: Members of The Ladies of Harley Motor City Chapter are accepting charity donations for their free gift-wrapping service. Posing with Santa are club members (from left) Sharyn Hughes of Redford, Debbie Kunewych of Livonia and Pat Kososki of Dearborn.

an administrative assistant at the dealership.

"Harley is very in, and it's corporate people. It's not just the old-time riders. It's doctors and lawyers and Indian chiefs."

Hammer said the dealership carries everything from bike accessories and men and women's clothing to Harley Barbie and Harley G.I. Joe. There's also a big selection of clothes for Harley tots.

"Oh, there's lots of baby clothes, absolutely adorable things," said Hammer.

Although the Ladies of Harley Motor City Chapter holds a number of charitable events during the course of the year, Kunewych said the gift-wrapping is one of the most rewarding because of their appreciation for the Children's Leukemia Foundation.

"This is just something we wanted to do. It has been a wonderful thing. People have been very generous. In fact, some people who haven't even had any gifts wrapped have donated money. It's such a good cause," Kunewych said.

The Children's Leukemia Foundation

of Michigan is a 50-year-old non-profit organization that provides information, emotional support and financial assistance to families that have been affected by leukemia.

Glenn Trevisan, the non-profit organization's executive director, said the efforts are definitely appreciated. About 80-percent of the organization's budget comes from such donations.

"This kind of effort is very meaningful to us," he said.

"We are here to serve the public, so to have community involvement is an affirmation about what we are doing and that the community is behind us. Volunteer efforts like this really helps us spread our efforts."

The women will be at the store 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. Motor City Harley Davidson is located at 34900 Grand River in Farmington Hills.

For more information about the gift wrapping contact the dealer at (248) 473-7433. To make donations to the Children's Leukemia Foundation call (800) 825-2536 or visit the group's Web site at www.leukemiamichigan.org.

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 17810 Farmington Road • Livonia • (734) 251-1960
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 Sunday School & Bible Classes For all ages 9:45 a.m.
 Sunday Worship Services
 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
 Pastor James Hoff
 Pastor Eric Steinbrunner

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
 5 Miles W. of Sheldon Rd.
 From M-14 take Gottfredson Rd. South
734-459-9550
 Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor
 Worship Services
 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.
 Education Program
 9:45 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.
 Nursery & Children's Programs at All 3 Services
 FREE CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church
 40000 Six Mile Road
 "Just west of I-275"
 Northville, MI
 248-374-7400
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor
 Worship Services
 Sunday School
 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M.
 Contemporary Service • 8:45 A.M.
 Evening Service • 7:00 P.M.
 Nursery Provided
 Services broadcast 11:00 a.m.
 Sunday • WMUZ 560 AM

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

ST. TIMOTHY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, USA
 16700 Newburgh Road
 Livonia • (734) 464-8844
 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Family Worship: 11:00 a.m.
"Are We There Yet?"
 Rev. Dr. Janet Noble - Richardson, Pastor

GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
 5835 Sheldon Rd., Canton
 (734) 458-0013
 Sunday Worship & Sunday School
 9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.
 Education For All Ages
 Childcare Provided • Handicapped Accessible
 Resources for Hearing and Sight Impaired
 www.genevachurch.org

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)
 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
 (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)
 (734) 422-0494
 First Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
 Second Worship Service 12:30 p.m.
 Nursery Care Provided
 We Welcome You To A Full Program Church
 Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor
 Rev. Kolbe Hubbsman, Associate Pastor

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Main & Church • (734) 453-6464
PLYMOUTH
 8:30, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
 Nursery available all services
 Dr. James Skimins Senior Minister
 Dr. Jennifer Saad Interim Associate Minister
 Carole MacKay Director of Christian Education
 Accessible to All

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago
 Livonia 48150 • 421-5406
 Rev. Larry Hoxey, Interim Pastor
 9:15 a.m. Adult Classes
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
 and Youth Classes
 Nursery Care Available
 -WELCOME-

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills
 (248) 661-9191
 Sunday Worship
 and Children's Church
 9:15 a.m. Contemporary
 11:00 a.m. Traditional
 Child Care provided for all services
 Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF FARMINGTON
 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills
 248-478-7272 www.uufarmington.org
 A 150-Year-Old Historic Landmark
 A Welcoming Congregation
 Rev. Alexander Fiegel, Minister
 Services & Sunday School 9am & 11am

UNITED METHODIST

"Building Healthy Families..."
 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship
 4:30 p.m. - "Connections" -
 Contemporary Worship
 Dynamic Youth & Children's Programs
 Adult Education
 Child-Care Provided
 Pastors: Dr. Dean Klump, Rev. Deborah Leach
First United Methodist Church of Plymouth
 45701 N. Territorial Rd. (West of Sheldon Rd.)
(734) 453-5280

Clarenceville United Methodist
 20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
 474-3444
 Pastor James E. Britz
 Worship Services 10:15 AM, 6:00 PM
 Nursery Provided
 Sunday School 9 AM
 Office Hrs. 9-2 pm

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
 30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)
 Chuck Sonquist, Pastor
 10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School
 Logos Youth Club
 www.gbpm-umc.org/stmatthews-livonia
 Nursery Provided • 734-422-8038

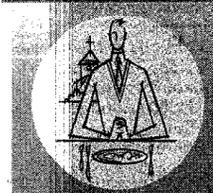
Catch the Spirit at Aldergate
United Methodist Church
 10000 Beech Daly, Redford
 Between Plymouth and W. Chicago
 Bob & Diana Goudie, Co-Pastors
 313-937-3170
3 Styles of Creative Worship
 8:00 a.m. - Cozy, Traditional, Basic
 9:30 a.m. - Contemporary, Family
 11:00 a.m. - Traditional, Full Choir
 Sunday School
 9:30 - Adults 11:00 - Children, Youth, Adults
Mary and Baby Jesus
 Luke 2:1-17

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 Stephen Ministry Congregation
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
 between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
 422-0149
 Worship Service
 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
 Sunday School
 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
 Rev. Thomas G. Batley
 Rev. Barbara E. Welbaum
 visit our website: www.newburgumc.org

Grace and Gratitude

The words "grace" and "gratitude" both come from the Latin word "gratus", which means favorable or pleasing, and from which we get the expression "gratis", which means a gift or favor that is freely given. We see the connection between God's grace and our gratitude in saying grace, which is expressing our gratitude for God's freely-given gift of food. How easy it is to forget, and thus to be unwittingly ungrateful, for all the wonderful things in our lives that come to us freely by the grace of God. Our families and friends, our health and wellbeing, indeed our very lives and the world we inhabit are truly gifts from our heavenly father. These are given freely to us and our Lord expects nothing in return, except our love and gratitude. Surely, this is a testimony to God's overflowing and abundant love for all of us. We do well to remember the ultimate source of this great bounty-our loving and gracious God. In turn, we should imitate his love through our charity to others.

O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good; because His mercy endureth for ever.
 King James Version - Psalm 118:1



SINGLES MINGLE

If you would like to submit an item for the singles mingle calendar fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Singles Mingle, Observer Newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

SINGLES CRUISE
New Hope Center for Grief Support is planning a seven day Caribbean cruise for widows and widowers aboard Princess Cruise Line's "Sea Princess." The cruise will leave Detroit Jan. 27, 2002 and cruise the southern Caribbean with stops at Barbados, St. Thomas, and other ports of call. Call (248) 348-0115.

DIVORCE SUPPORT
The Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College sponsors a Divorce Support Group from 7-9 p.m. at the McDowell Center (room 225). Call (734) 462-4443. Group meets the second (discussion) and fourth (speaker) Tuesday of the month. Upcoming schedule includes:
■ Group discussion, Jan. 8, Jan. 22, Feb. 12, Feb. 26, March 12, 26; April 9, April 23.
■ New group for those divorced over 1 year. Meets from 7:30-9 p.m. across the hall from WRC, Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 14, and April 11.

BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST
■ Monthly meeting Jan. 17 as the deacon and head of the Archdiocese of Detroit Dept. of Youth and Family will be the guest speaker for ministry and prayer. Topic: *When God Speaks Your Name*. No cost.
■ 10 a.m. Sundays a brunch is served at Redford Inn (Beech Daly and Five Mile Road).
■ 11:30 a.m. Mass at St. Aidan Church (Farmington Road north of Six Mile).
■ Tuesday's: Coffee and Conversation at 7 p.m. at Thomas' Family Dining (33971 Plymouth Road) Livonia.
■ New Year's Eve Dance Dec. 31 at St. Robert Bellarmine. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets will be \$20 if purchased in advance. \$25 at the door.
■ Monthly dinner Jan. 3, 6:30 p.m. at Pick-A-Bone Rib House & Saloon, 30325 Six Mile, Livonia. Call Mary Selwa (734) 722-2612.

WESTSIDE SINGLES DANCE
Every Friday WestSide Singles hosts a dance at Burton Manor in Livonia (Schoolcraft west of Inkster Road) from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Must be over 21 — dressy attire (no jeans). Upcoming dances are: Dec. 21 and 28. Open to the public. A deejay will play Top 40 music and current hits. Appetizers will be served (hot/cold). Early admission special \$4 before 8:30 p.m. and \$6 after. Call (734) 981-0909. There will be a special New Year's Eve Dance 7:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dec. 31. Hot/cold appetizers, fruit/dessert table, continental breakfast, balloon drop at midnight, etc. Call (734) 427-9110 for tickets or (734) 981-0909.

SINGLE ADULT MINISTRIES
Talk It Over meets from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Cost \$6. Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.
■ Christmas caroling, 7 p.m. Dec. 21. Call the SPM office.

PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS
Parents without Partners, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the single-parent family. We offer educational, social, and

recreational activities for single parents and their children. Dues \$30 per year. Call Ann Arbor Chapter #38 call (734) 973-1933 or visit the Web page at www.aapwp.org:
■ Singles Dances. Public is invited to attend. Zal Gaz Grotto, 2070 W. Stadium, Ann Arbor. Music by DJ Imperial Sound. Cash bar. Non-smoking dance area. Sponsored by HVRC-Parents without Partners, Inc. Dance 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., \$7.00 non-member, \$5.00 members. Call (734) 973-1933.

TALK IT OVER

TIO meets the second Friday of each month in Knox Hall from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Free will offering. Coffee/cookies served. Call (248) 374-5920.

METROPOLITAN PROFESSIONALS
The MSP invite you to meet new friends, dance and socialize from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. There will be a Top 40 D.J., cash bar and hors d'oeuvres (8-9 p.m.) The ballrooms are non-smoking.
■ Euchre, pinocle, bridge and dinner from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Cowley's Old Village Inn, every Monday. (33338 Grand River, Farmington). All skill levels.

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

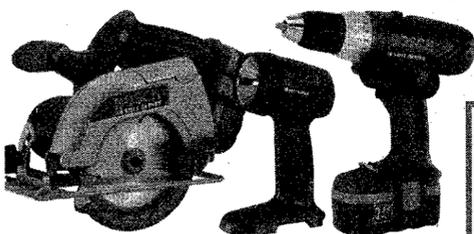
YOUNG SINGLES
Attention young singles ages 17-29. Join us at the Christian Singles Music Cafe every Saturday from 7-11 p.m. at The Jesus Center, 20911 Inkster Road in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 478-1410 for information.

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

SINGLE POINT MINISTRIES
Single (30 years and older) and feeling alone? Coming join us. Single Point Ministries of Ward

Evangelical Presbyterian Church (40000 Six Mile Rd. - west of Haggerty in Northville) invites you to join over 550 single adults each and every Sunday morning at 11:30 a.m. in Knox Hall for fellowship and encouragement. For information or a newsletter call (248) 374-5920.

FARMINGTON PROFESSIONALS
A non-profit social group for singles ages 25-45 who share common interests and look to form new friendships. All events are open to non-members. Call (248) 851-9909 or visit www.fsp.org.



Includes 2 batteries, 18-tooth carbide tipped blade, rip fence, 1-hour charger, and carrying case

18 Volt 3-Tool Combo Pack
• 1/2" Drill/Driver and 5/8" Circular Saw
• Multi-positional flashlight • 18 Volt motor • 1/2" keyless chuck • 2-speed gear shift #89442

BOSCH
\$299



Includes 2 batteries, case, and charger

14.4 Volt Project Pack
Drill/Driver and Circular Saw
• Drill 0-700 rpm • Variable speed/reversing
• 3/8" keyless chuck • 7 torque settings • 5/8", 4,000 rpm circular saw • Left side blade design
• 50° bevel capability #94141

SKIL
\$99



Includes 2 battery packs, charger, carrying case, double ended bit

14.4 Volt, 3/8" Cordless Drill Driver Kit
• 0.475/1-1.450 rpm • 2 Amp/hour batteries
• Keyless chuck with 360 in./lbs. maximum torque
• 20 position clutch including solid lockup #108993

\$129



Includes: charger, two batteries, carrying case and double ended bit

9.6 Volt Cordless Drill/Driver
• 1,100 rpm • Keyless chuck • 2 speed gear box • Clutch with 19 positions #178011

\$79



Includes 2 batteries, case, charger, 360° side handle, double-ended bit

14.4 Volt Drill/Driver with Hammer Action
• 0-350 / 0-1400 rpm; 16,800 bpm
• Hammer and drilling action • 2 speeds #94246

\$79



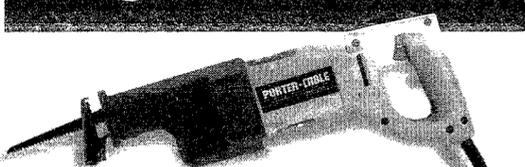
3/8" VSR Drill
• 4 amp; 0-1,300 rpm • Mid-handle design with 2-finger trigger • Lock-on button for continuous use #19678

\$29



Improving Home Improvement™

Save up to **30%** on last minute gift ideas!



All-Purpose Tiger Saw
• 10 amps; 0-2,400 spm • Electronic variable speed switch
• Includes blade, Allen wrench and manual • 11/8" stroke
• 100% ball bearings • Efficient reciprocating cutting action • Pivoting front shoe • Universal bladeclamp with efficient 7 rake angle #84931

\$89



4 1/2" Disc Grinder
• 8.2 AMP motor • 10,000 rpm • Tool-less adjustable wheel guard
• Quiet Cool™ air flow design generates less noise and runs cooler
• 4.4 lbs. • 1550-max watts out • 5/8-11" Spindle thread #168306

\$79



Quicksand™ Random Orbit Sander
• 2.4 amp; 12,000 rpm • 120 volts, AC only • Sandtrap dust collection canister • 100% ball bearings • Includes 150G disc and operating manual • Uses popular "hook and loop" 5-holed abrasives #77346

\$49



1/4 Sheet Palm Grip Finishing Sander Kit
• 2 amp motor • Dust collector canister • 14,000 orbits per minute at 1/16" orbit • Standard pad accepts stick-on regular abrasives • 100% ball bearing construction • Includes 120G abrasive sheet, paper punch, heavy-duty plastic carrying case and operating manual #52389

\$39



Includes belt pouch

6 Piece Multi-Tool Set
• Stainless steel multi-tool and knife constructed of good quality steel
• Plastic strip on each handle means more comfort #122703

\$9.96



Reinforced corners for durability
• Molded foam, compartment protects contents • Adjustable dividers can be moved to customize compartment size #24981

\$19.96



Powerful 15 Amp motor
• Ultra-positive stop at 9 settings; 15, 22.5, 31.6, and 45° left and right and 0°
• Horizontal D-handle design for easy and comfortable operation #88366

\$279



D-handle router • 1 1/2 HP motor • Mounting bracket
• Dedicated base for under table applications • Stand for operator convenience • Accepts 3 HP routers #181608

\$199



6 amp • 650 watt motor • 500-3,000 rpm • Electronic cruise control maintains speed under load • Quick fix tool free blade change system • Non-marring base plate #145827

\$69



1.15 amp • 5,000-30,000 rpm • Deluxe window case • Dramel chuck • Right angle attachment #179458

\$69

STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF WAYNE FAMILY DIVISION
R.J. JENKINS P-15498 Attorney, 33580 Five Mile Road Livonia, Michigan 48154
PATRICIA J. McMILLEN Plaintiff vs. LESLIE RAYMOND McMILLEN, Defendant.
EX PARTE ORDER FOR SUBSTITUTE SERVICE
At a session of said Court held in the City of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, on November 14, 2001
Upon the Plaintiff's ex parte verified Motion for Substitute Service, the Court being fully advised.
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Plaintiff be allowed to effect constitutional service of here Complaint for Divorce against Leslie Raymond McMillen by publishing a copy of this Order allowing substituted service in a newspaper established, published and circulated in Wayne County, Michigan for three consecutive weeks, and by mailing a copy of this Order to the Defendant by registered mail, return receipt requested, and by ordinary mail, both addressed to his last known address. This should be accomplished before the last publication.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Defendant is hereby notified that he has 28 days from the date of final publication of this Order to file an answer or take other action as permitted by law at the Wayne County Circuit Court, located at Two Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, 48226.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a failure to file such an answer or take other action as permitted by law within the time specified above may result in a default being granted and the Plaintiff being granted a Judgment for the relief requested.
LITA MASINI POPKE, Circuit Judge
CATHY M. GARRETT, Wayne County Clerk
Prepared by: R.J. Jenkins P-15498, Attorney at Law, 33580 Five Mile Road, Livonia, Michigan 48154, (734) 427-3060.
Publish: November 29 and December 6, 13 and 20, 2001

Monroe (Frenchtown Twp.) 2191 North Telegraph (734) 384-8478 **Westland 6555 Newburgh Rd. (734) 728-6620** **Howell 1100 South Latson Rd. (517) 548-3475** **Bloomfield 1801 S. Telegraph Rd. (248) 338-2566** **Southgate 3/4 Mile South of Eureka Rd. on Trenton Rd. (734) 284-6843**

Please call the store nearest you for days and hours of operation.

*We guarantee our everyday competitive prices. If you find a lower everyday or advertised price on an identical stock item at any local retail competitor that has the item in stock, we'll beat that price by 10% when you buy from us. Just bring us the competitor's current ad, or we'll call to verify the item's price that you have found. Cash/charge card and carry purchases only. Competitor's clearance, special order, discontinued, clearance, liquidation and damaged items are excluded from this offer. On parcel off sales we will meet the competitor's price. Limited to reasonable quantities for home use and one-time order quantities for cash and carry purchases. Current in-store price. Price guarantee honored at all Lowe's retail locations. Labor charges for product installation are excluded from our price guarantee offer in our states with an installed Sales Program. Visit store for complete details. Prices may vary other January 5, 2002. If there are any special variations. See store for details regarding product warranties. We reserve the right to limit quantities.
†Promotional restrictions through focused subcontractors. Lowe's contractor license numbers: AK #21665, AZ#151744, CA#710619, CT#RHC00558102, FL#FC037668, HI#BC22289, IL#RHC00558102, IN#RHC00558102, MI#RHC00558102, MN#RHC00558102, MO#RHC00558102, NY#RHC00558102, OH#RHC00558102, OK#RHC00558102, OR#RHC00558102, PA#RHC00558102, RI#RHC00558102, SC#RHC00558102, TN#RHC00558102, TX#RHC00558102, VA#RHC00558102, WI#RHC00558102, WY#RHC00558102.
‡Promotional restrictions through focused subcontractors. Lowe's contractor license numbers: AK #21665, AZ#151744, CA#710619, CT#RHC00558102, FL#FC037668, HI#BC22289, IL#RHC00558102, IN#RHC00558102, MI#RHC00558102, MN#RHC00558102, MO#RHC00558102, NY#RHC00558102, OH#RHC00558102, OK#RHC00558102, OR#RHC00558102, PA#RHC00558102, RI#RHC00558102, SC#RHC00558102, TN#RHC00558102, TX#RHC00558102, VA#RHC00558102, WI#RHC00558102, WY#RHC00558102.
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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER 11, 2001

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, December 11, 2001, at 1150 South Canton Center Road. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Members Present: Bennett, Burdziak, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack Members Absent: Shefferly Staff Present: Director Conklin, Director Duraek, Director Machnik, Director Santomauro, Tom Casari, Ed Olson

Tour of New Fleet Service Center- 1120 S. Canton Center, Canton The Board of Trustees convened at Township Board Meeting Room at 7:02 PM. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Members Present: Bennett, Burdziak, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Shefferly, Yack Members Absent: None Staff Present: Director Machnik, Director Durack, Director Santomauro, Director Minghine, Director Conklin

Motion by Bennett, seconded by Kirchgatter to approve the agenda adding a closed session at the end of the agenda for the purpose of discussion of pending litigation. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 27, 2001. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bennett, supported by Shefferly to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 4, 2001. Motion carried unanimously. Barbara Owston, 7320 Admiralty Dr. came to the Board of Trustees to express her concern over the need to build more fire stations. Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by McLaughlin to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Expenditure Recap for December 11, 2001 General Fund 101 \$ 407,063.89 Auto Theft Grant 289 \$ 30,682.40 Fire Fund 206 \$ 44,222.64 Downtown Dev Aut. 294 \$ 28,113.39 Police Fund 207 \$ 97,389.44 Post Employment 286 \$ 15,073.02

Summit Operating 208 \$ 50,527.54 Cap Proj- Road Paving 403 \$388,678.30 Golf Fund 211 \$ 16,970.21 Bldg Auth Construction 469 \$ 47,777.39 Street Lighting 219 \$ 15,749.66 Water & Sewer Fund 592 \$ 60,612.90 Cable TV Fund 230 \$ 1,782.34 Trust & Agency Fund 701 \$ 6,816.00 Community Improv. 246 \$ 17,969.71 N Haggerty Storm 853 \$ 141.85 E-911 Utility 261 \$ 386.28 N Haggerty Paving 862 \$ 195.65 Auto (WWATEE) 267 \$ 9,789.40 E Palmer Paving 863 \$ 337.50 Federal Grants Fund 274 \$ 10,988.21 Beck Rd. Paving 864 \$ 312.50 Total-All Funds \$1,620,068.81

Presentation: Presentation of Quilt to the Canton Community by Dollie Lieberman Consent Calendar Item 1: Consider Final Plat Approval Central Park South Subdivision #2

Motion by Bennett, second by Kirchgatter to approve the Final Plat for Central Park South Subdivision # 2. Motion Carried unanimously. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Final Plat Approval for Central Park South Subdivision No. 2

WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor, Mr. Ken Bullis, has requested final plat approval for Central Park South Subdivision No. 2 to be located on Geddes Road between Beck and Denton Roads (Tax ID #'s, 115-99-0001-000, part of 115-99-0003-000, and 115-99-0004-000); and, WHEREAS, the Community Planner and Township Engineer have reviewed the final plat and made a determination that it is generally consistent with the Subdivision Control and Zoning Ordinances; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby approve the request of the project sponsor, Mr. Ken Bullis, to grant final plat approval for the proposed Central Park South Subdivision No. 2 subject to compliance with any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to any conditions recommended by the Planning and Engineering Divisions, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Item 2: Reimburse General Fund for cemetery expenses and close Cemetery Fund 711

Motion by Bennett, second by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment which closes Cemetery Fund 711 by transferring the balance to General Fund:

Fund Balance Appropriations 101-000-699-0000 \$ 48,075 This budget amendment increases the General Fund budget from \$22,101,601 to \$22,149,676.

Increase Revenues: Appropriations from Fund Balance 711-000-699-0000 \$ 48,075

Increase Appropriations: Reimburse General Fund 711-276-965-1010 \$ 48,075 This budget amendment establishes the Cemetery Fund Budget at \$ 48,075 for this year. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 3: Budget Amendment- Close Capital Projects Fund 815

Motion by Bennett, second by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment which will transfer \$81,652 from Capital Projects Fund 815 to the General Fund as payment for interfund construction loans, transfer the remaining balance in Capital Projects Fund 815 to Debt Service Fund 865 and will close Fund Capital Projects fund 815.

Increase Revenue: Contribution from South Haggerty Paving 101-000-676-8150 \$ 81,652

Increase Appropriations: Fund Balance Appropriation 101-000-699-0000 \$ 81,652 This budget amendment increases the General Fund budget from \$22,101,601 to \$22,183,253.

Increase Revenue: Transfer from SAD Construction Fund 865-000-676-8150 \$ 344,800

Increase Appropriations: Fund Balance Appropriation 865-000-699-0000 \$ 344,800 This budget amendment increases the South Haggerty Debt Service Fund 865 budget from \$326,880 to \$671,680.

Increase Revenue: Fund Balance Appropriation 815-000-699-0000 \$ 426,452

Increase Appropriations: Transfer to General Fund 815-500-965-1010 \$ 81,652

Transfer to SAD Debt Fund 815-500-965-8650 \$ 344,800 This budget amendment establishes the Capital Projects Fund 815 budget at \$426,452. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 4: Budget Amendment- General Fund- Finance and Budget Department

Motion by Bennett, seconded by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment in the General Fund, Finance and Budget Department:

Increase (Decrease) Appropriations: Overtime 101-223-708-0000 \$ 10,000 Finance-Capital Outlay 101-223-977-0000 (10,000)

This budget amendment does not increase or decrease the General Fund budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 5: Authorization to Pay Bills through the End of 2001.

Motion by Bennett, seconded by Kirchgatter to authorize the payment of the Township's bills on December 28,2001, as normally scheduled, subject to prior review by the Clerk and Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 6: Budget Amendment -Police Fund

Motion by Bennett, seconded by Kirchgatter to approve the following Budget Amendment in the Police Fund for the purchase of a new digital recording system for the Public Safety Communication Center:

Increase Revenues: Federal Grants- Local Law Enforcement Block Grant #207-000-507-0000 \$28,188

Increase Appropriations: Capital Outlay- Equipment #207-301-977-0000 \$31,188 Transfer to Fund Balance #207-301-999-0000 (3,000) Total: \$28,188

Motion carried unanimously.

Item 7: Budget Amendment- General Fund- Elections Department

Motion by Bennett, seconded by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment in the General Fund, Elections Department to provide fund to pay wages and benefits of election workers in the November 6, 2001 Special Election for the Wayne County Community College District.

Increase Revenues: Appropriation from Fund Balance #101-000-699-0000 \$ 3,485.00

Increase Appropriations: Election Worker's Per Diem- Elections

#101-191-709-0000 \$ 3,435.00 Fringe Benefits- Election #101-191-720-000 \$ 50.00 This budget amendment increases the Elections Department budget from \$46,500.00 to \$49,985.00, and the General Fund budget from \$22,101,601.00 to \$22,105,086.00. Motion carried unanimously. Item 8: Appointments to the Phelps House Historic District Study Committee Motion by Bennett, seconded by Kirchgatter to appoint Ralph Welton, Steve Foley, and Greg King to the Phelps House Historic District Study Committee. Motion carried unanimously. Item 9: Consider Approval of Brocardo/Kirkway Property Split & Combination (Lots 46 & 47) Motion by Bennett, seconded by Kirchgatter to approve the property split and combination for Lots 46 and 47 in Kirkway Subdivision (Tax ID #'s 077-03-0046-000 and 077-03-0047-000) as shown on the survey dated 8-16-01 and legal description dated 11-17-01. Motion carried unanimously. Item 10: Second Reading of Council For Community Excellence Ordinance No. 153 Motion by Bennett, seconded by Kirchgatter to remove from the table for the second reading and second publication of Council for Community Excellence Ordinance No. 153.

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON SUMMARY OF COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE ORDINANCE NO. 153

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE CANTON COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE; PROVIDING FOR THE GENERAL PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CANTON COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE; PROVIDING FOR THE ELECTION AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS; PROVIDING FOR MEETINGS, PROCEDURES AND COMMITTEES IN THE OPERATION OF THE COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR THE FILING OF AN ANNUAL REPORT; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDAINS: SECTION 1. GENERAL PURPOSE.

This section provides for recommendations by the Council to the Township Board for enhancement of the Township, projects that support the vision of excellence and acknowledgment of enhancement of community excellence projects.

SECTION 2. CANTON COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE. This section establishes the Canton Council for Community Excellence whose actions and authority are limited to the purposes as set forth in Section 1.

SECTION 3. MEMBERSHIP. This section provides for 11 members appointed by the Supervisor and approved by the Board of Trustees; term office, termination, quorum, conduct of business and liaison with the Township Board.

SECTION 4. ELECTION AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS. This section provides for the election and duties of officers of the Council.

SECTION 5. MEETINGS. This section provides for conduct of meetings, require compliance with the Open Meetings Act, a schedule of meetings and special meetings.

SECTION 6. PROCEDURES AND COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL. This section provides for annual reports to the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 7. ANNUAL REPORT. This section provides for annual reports to the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 8. REPEAL. This section provides that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY. This Section provides that any unenforceable section can be severed from the rest of the Ordinance.

SECTION 10: SAVINGS CLAUSE. This Section provides that adoption of this Ordinance does not affect proceedings, prosecutions for violation of law, penalties and matured rights and duties in effect before the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION 11: PUBLICATION. This section provides that the Clerk for the Charter Township of Canton shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE. This section provides that the ordinance shall become effective upon publication as required by law.

Copies of the complete text of this Ordinance are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188, during regular business hours. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 11: Second Reading of Ordinance No. 152 Repealing Beautification Commission Ordinance No. 147. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to remove from the table for the second reading and second publication of Ordinance No. 152 repealing Beautification Commission Ordinance No. 147.

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 147 SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 152

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION ORDINANCE, ORDINANCE NO. 147; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCE NO. 147; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDAINS: SECTION 1. REPEAL OF ORDINANCE NO. 147.

This section provides that Ordinance No. 147, the Charter Township of Canton Beautification Commission Ordinance, be and is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. REPEAL. This section provides that all other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance, except as herein provided, are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. This section provides that should any provision or section of this ordinance be held invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of the remaining provision or sections.

SECTION 4. PUBLICATION. This section provides that the Clerk for the Charter Township of Canton shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This section provides that this ordinance shall become effective upon publication of the second reading.

Copies of the complete text of this Ordinance are available at the offices of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan, 48188, during regular business hours. Motion carried unanimously.

General Calendar Item 1: Consider Duncan Rezoning Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request to rezone the east 1.16 acres of parcel # 098-99-0019-702 from R-6, Single-Family Attached Residential, to R-2, Single-Family Residential District. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 2: Consider Goff/Newton/Streamco Rezoning Motion by Bennett, seconded by McLaughlin to approve the request of Singh Development to rezone 40 acres of land located north of Geddes Road between Beck and Denton Road from RA, Rural Agricultural to R-2, Single-Family Residential District.

RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Rezoning Request of Singh Development

WHEREAS, the petitioner has requested 40 acres of land located north of Geddes Road between Beck and Denton Roads be rezoned from RA, Rural Agricultural to R-2, Single-Family Residential District ; and, WHEREAS, the requested rezoning WOULD be in conformity with the Future Land Use Policies of the Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Canton Township Planning Commission recommended APPROVAL ; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby APPROVE the request of the petitioner to rezone certain property identified by property tax EDP #s 116-99-0003-000, 116-99-0004-000, and 116-99-0005-000 from RA, Rural Agricultural to R-2, Single-Family Residential District. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 3: Consider Cepela Rezoning Motion by Bennett, seconded by McLaughlin to approve the request to rezone 5 acres of land located east Ridge Road between Joy and Warren Roads from RR, Rural Residential to R-1, Single-Family Residential District.

RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Rezoning Request of Norman Cepela

WHEREAS, the petitioner has requested 5 acres of land located east of Ridge Road between Joy and Warren Roads be rezoned from RR, Rural Residential to R-1, Single-Family Residential District ; and, WHEREAS, the requested rezoning WOULD be in conformity with the Future Land Use Policies of the Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Canton Township Planning Commission recommended APPROVAL ; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby APPROVE the request of the petitioner to rezone certain property identified by property tax EDP # 018-99-0009-002 from RR, Rural Residential to R-1, Single-Family Residential District. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 4: Consider Site Plan for Kroger Grocery Store Motion by Bennett, seconded by McLaughlin for site plan approval for Kroger Food and Pharmacy to be located on Canton Center Road north of Michigan Avenue.

RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Site Plan for Kroger Food and Pharmacy

WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor, Mr. Bryan Amann, has requested site plan approval for Kroger Food and Pharmacy to be located on Canton Center Road north of Michigan Avenue, identified as part of tax EDP #129-99-0001-703; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed the site plan and made a recommendation to approve the request to grant site plan approval, as summarized in the attached written analysis and recommendation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby approve the request of the petitioner Mr. Bryan Amann, to approve the site plan for the proposed Kroger Food and Pharmacy subject to any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to any conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 5: Consider Ravensfield Preliminary Planned Development District Motion by Bennett, seconded by McLaughlin to approve the request to grant preliminary approval of the Ravensfield Planned Development District.

RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Ravensfield Preliminary Planned Development District

WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor, Mr. Curtis Kime, has proposed the development of a residential Planned Development District to be known as the Ravensfield PDD, located south of Geddes Road and east of Palmer Road (Tax ID #126-99-0008-002 and part of 126-99-0007-000); and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission, at a public hearing, reviewed the proposed Preliminary Planned Development District Agreement, and recommended APPROVAL of the Ravensfield Preliminary Planned Development District, conditioned upon the revision of the plans to include dense evergreen plantings along the west and south property lines of the existing home, additional internal pathways, exploration of alternative architectural elevations and assurance of maintenance access to all detention basins and based on the following findings of fact as summarized in the attached written analysis and recommendation:

- The design demonstrates consistency with the spirit and purpose of the Zoning Ordinance and Master Land Use Plan.
The proposal is in general compliance with Township regulations. All requested modifications are outlined in an attachment to the agreement.
The project has demonstrated that it meets the open space requirements of the PDD regulations.
The density of the proposed development does not exceed the maximum density allowed by the PDD regulations for attached single-family residential uses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does APPROVE the request of the project sponsor, Mr. Curtis Kime, to grant preliminary approval of the Ravensfield Planned Development District, based upon recommendations made by staff and the Planning Commission as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 6: Consider Preliminary Site Plan for Forestview Site Condominiums Motion by Bennett, seconded by McLaughlin to approve the request for preliminary site plan approval for Forestview Site Condominiums to be located on Forestview Private Road, south of Joy Road.

RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Preliminary Site Plan for Forestview Site Condominiums

WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor, Mr. Aldo Stenta, has requested preliminary site plan approval for Forestview Site Condominiums to be located on Forestview Private Road south of Joy Road, identified as part of tax EDP # 021-99-0013-711; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed the site plan and made a recommendation to approve the request to grant site plan approval, as summarized in the attached written analysis and recommendation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby approve the request of the petitioner Mr. Aldo Stenta to approve the site plan for the proposed Forestview Site Condominiums subject to any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to any conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 7: Consider Amending Wade-Trim and Associates' Contract to Provide Engineering Consulting Services to Canton Township Motion by Bennett, seconded by Burdziak to amend the agreement with Wade-Trim and Associates for engineering consulting services, approve the new billing rate multiplier of 3.0 in lieu of a base fee schedule and authorize the Township Supervisor to execute the enclosed agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8: Approve Sale of Property Located on Haggerty Road Motion by Bennett, seconded by LaJoy to approve the sale of parcel # 098-99-0028-001 for approximately \$2,482,920.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 9: Approval to Increase Purchase Order for B & V Construction, Inc. Motion by Bennett, seconded by LaJoy to approve an increase to Purchase Order No. 28912 for B&V Construction's contract by \$13,000. Funds are available in the Police Department Capital Outlay Account 207-301-977-0000 Range. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 10: Approval to Enter Into a Service Agreement With Motorola for the New CAD Console Motion by Bennett, seconded by Shefferly to authorize the Township Clerk to sign a five-year service agreement with Motorola, Schaumburg, Illinois to provide service to new CAD console at a cost of \$23,512.92 annually. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 11: Approval of specialized Transportation Contract with Huron Valley Ambulance, Inc. Motion by Bennett, seconded by Shefferly to approve the specialized Transportation Services Agreement with Huron Valley Ambulance, Inc. for the period of January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2004. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 12: Create and Fill Cable TV Technician Position Motion by Bennett, seconded by McLaughlin to eliminate the part-time Cable TV Assistant position and to create and fill Cable TV Technician position. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 13: Authorize Payment for Rental of a Generator to Operate Pump House on the New Nine Motion by Bennett, seconded by LaJoy to authorize the payment of \$46,857.20 to Cummins Michigan Power Inc. for rental of a generator and fuel to operate the pump house on the new nine. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 14: Incentive Award for Jim McNellis Motion by Bennett, seconded by LaJoy to award an \$1,800 incentive award to Jim McNellis for exceptional work beyond his normal daily responsibilities. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 15: Award Bid for Printing of Silver Threads Newsletter Motion by Bennett, seconded by Shefferly to award the funding for the Silver Threads newsletter to the lowest quote - National Wholesale Printing Corporation, in the amount of \$8,580. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 16: Adopt Victory Park As the Official Name of the Canton Softball Complex Motion by Bennett, seconded by LaJoy to adopt Victory Park as the official park name of the Canton Softball Complex. Motion carried unanimously.

RELIGION CALENDAR

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

UPCOMING

ADVENT MUSIC
A Christmas luncheon will follow the Dec. 23 service at 10 a.m. The Handbell Choir will appear Dec. 24 6:45-7:30 p.m. An organ recital will conclude the advent musical series at 7:30 p.m. featuring Gini Robison, Christmas Eve service 7:30 p.m. Call (313) 534-7730.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
The children of St. Paul's Lutheran Sunday School will present their Christmas Service during the 9:15 a.m. Dec. 23 worship service. Other events include: The family celebration of Christ's birth 6 p.m. Christmas Eve. Holy Communion will be celebrated. The *Festival Christmas Eve Candlelight Service* with Holy Communion is 11 p.m. and 10 a.m. Christmas Day there is a *Christmas Festival of Joy* communion service. St. Paul's Church is located at 20805 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills.

SPECIAL WORSHIP PROGRAM
First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman, Garden City, will have special programs at both worship services Sunday, Dec. 23. *The Children's Pageant* will be presented at 9:30 a.m. worship service. They have practiced long and hard for the

opportunity to share the message of this holy season. At the 10:45 a.m. worship service the Chancel Choir will perform *Journeys of Promises* by Joseph M. Martin.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman Road, Garden City will host a candlelight service 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church will host Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 4, 5:30 and 11 p.m. Dec. 24. 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-7400.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN OF REDFORD
The Christmas Eve candlelight worship service is at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 24, in the church at 13542 Mercedes, one block east of Inkster, south of Jeffries (1-96) service drive, Redford. The service will include special choir music, congregational singing and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. (313) 538-2660.

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS
The Rev. Alexander Riegel presents "The Jesus You Can Have" on Dec. 23 at Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington, 25301 Halsted Road, north of Grand River. Services, Sunday school and nursery at 9 and 11 a.m. Christmas Eve services are at 6 and 8 p.m. on Dec. 24. (248) 478-7272.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP
Holy Ascension Eastern Catholic Church announces it's holding it's Christmas Worship Service at 9 p.m., Monday, Dec. 24. Call (313) 584-1424, or see our Web site at www.holyascension.org. Holy Ascension Eastern Catholic

Church is a new and growing parish located at 16115 Beck Road, between 5 and 6 Mile, in Northville. The church facility located on the grounds of Our Lady of Providence Resident Center.

NEW YEARS SERVICE
St. Paul's Lutheran Church will host a New Year's Eve Service of Holy Communion 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 31 featuring festival settings of hymns. St. Paul's is located at 20805 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 474-0675.

CLASS OFFERED
First Presbyterian church, 701 Church, Plymouth, invites you to attend The Alpha Course, starting 6 p.m. Jan. 10. This 10-week introduction to the Christian faith includes an informal dinner and small-group discussion each week. To learn more call (734) 453-6464.

RAISING CHILDREN
Raising Children in Today's World will be presented by Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. There will be four topics to choose from Jan. 12. Session start 9-10:25 a.m. Dr. Paul Melrose, "Raising Children with Good Self-esteem;" and Dr. Wes Brun, "Raising Children with Good Morals." The next session 10:40 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. Dr. Patricia McCluskey, "Helping Children Deal with the Loss of a Loved One;" and Dr. Paul Melrose, "Helping Children Deal with Television and Violence." Event is free to all parents. Call (734) 422-0149.

FAITH IN COMMUNITY
Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City will host a series of intergenera-

tional workshops designed to encourage and support faith-nurturing relationships among people of all ages. The monthly two-hour session begins at 3 p.m. Jan. 20 with large and small group discussions, activities and crafts. A soup supper will follow. There is no charge. Call (734) 427-3660 for information or e-mail Suanne Anderson suanneand@home.com

ONGOING

MEMBERS SOUGHT
Canton Christian Fellowship is a multi-ethnic church seeking individuals and families who are interested in helping a bible based, evangelical Christian church grow and meet the needs of the Canton community. We currently have 11 families that make up our church and we can use more help! If you are interested in the adventures of a start up church in Canton, please call Pastor David Washington Jr. at (734) 414-0856. Canton Christian Fellowship has been in existence for a year. The church is affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention of Michigan.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Canton Calvary Assembly of God invites the community to attend their services throughout the week. Morning worship, 10:30 a.m. Sunday; home groups every second/fourth Sunday 6 p.m.; family Bible study, 7 p.m. Wednesday; Royal Rangers 7 p.m. Wednesday; youth group 7 p.m. Wednesday; Power Prayer Friday 7 p.m. Nursery provided at all services. Call (734) 455-0820 or visit the church at 7933 North Sheldon in Canton (between Warren and Joy).

OPPORTUNITY FOR WIDOWERS
First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland will host an opportunity for widowers to share time together with the Lord. The group's weekly meeting is 9:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesdays at the church (across from the Wayne post office, one block west of Wayne Road). The study book used is *The Bumps Are What You Climb On* by Warren Wiersbe.

ANTIOCH LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL
Antioch Lutheran Preschool has openings for 3-year-olds Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9 and 11 a.m. (33360 West 13 Mile Road) in Farmington Hills. Call Sharon Detter (248) 626-7906.

SPIRITUAL STUDY GROUP
We meet each Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the MSU Tollgate Education Center in Novi to read and discuss *A Course in Miracles*. A \$5 donation includes refreshments. Please call (248) 624-7555.

TERRORISM
September 11th. We too sorrow? An answer to Billy Grahams "mystery:" Why does God permit evil? Send for your free booklet, *Why Does God Permit Evil?* Write for a free brochure: Associated Bible Students, P.O. Box 2153, Dearborn, MI 48123.

FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL
Parents and kids will attend the same class environment, giving more opportunities for family faith sharing and continuation of Sunday school themes in everyday life. 9 a.m. at Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-2290.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CLASS
Community Bible Class, a weekly study group, will begin meeting at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 West Six Mile, Northville. The public is invited to join in the study of the life of Christ as he is presented in the four gospels. This class is for everyone (both men and women) who desire to study God's word. We have over 16 denominations and 61 local congregations represented. Small group discussions are from 9:20-9:55 a.m., singing, praise, and teaching begins at 10 a.m. A children's ministry is provided for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. Call at (248) 374-5978.

MOM'S MORNING OUT
Thursday mornings - year round, the Mom's Morning Out group meets from 9-11 a.m. at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. We have openings for all ages. We ask that you work once a month and help with our fund raiser (Mom-to-Mom sale annually). Call (734) 422-0149.

THE HOMEWORK CLUB
First United Methodist Church of Wayne, 3 Town Square, will host a homework club to help students K-12 on Wednesdays. Certified teachers and other staff will be on hand to help your child. Homework help, 5-6 p.m.; family dinner, 6-6:30 p.m.; family video lesson, 6:30-7:15 p.m. Parents must register their children to attend the homework help sessions. Call (734) 721-4801.

SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS

Notice is hereby given that the following units will be sold to the highest bidder by open auction on January 4, 2002, at approximately 9:30 a.m. at Shurgard Storage, located at 2101 Haggerty Road, Canton, MI 48187. 734-981-0300.

- #4056 Greenshields - Many Misc. Boxes and Bags, Misc. Household Items.
- #2044 Houle - Basket of Toiletries, 2 Boxes.
- #6238 Lovett - Bed Frame, Books, Cabinet, Curio Cabinet, Vanity, Misc. Boxes, 1 Bag.

Publish: December 20 and 27, 2001

L1086177

SHURGARD SELF STORAGE CENTERS

Notice is hereby given that the entire contents of the following storage units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of an open bid on January 4, 2002, at approximately 9:00 a.m. at Shurgard Storage Centers located at 41889 Joy Road, Canton, Michigan 48187

- Unit 508 MILLER - Dresser, Mattress
- Unit 415 MANNING - 5 Tool Chests, Dresser, Bike, 20 Misc. Boxes
- Unit 211 HASKINS - Dodge Truck, Stereo, Dishwasher
- Unit 588 BEER - 20 Misc Boxes, Curio Cabinet, Kitchen Table

Publish: December 20 and 27, 2001

L1086229

**Continued from Page 8C
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
BOARD PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER 11, 2001**

Item 17: Leisure Services Budget Adjustments
Motion by Bennett, seconded by Burdziak to approve the following budget adjustments.

- Increase 101-270-705-0000 Salaries and Wages Full Time Parks - \$64,077
\$43,877 appropriated from fund balance as a result of transfers and new positions
\$20,200 appropriated from fund balance
(Incorrect charges to various divisions and transfers)
- Increase 101-270-708-0000 Overtime - Parks - \$42,000
\$42,000 appropriated from fund balance
(Increased activity, special events, construction projects and snow removal)
- Increase 101-270-720-0000 Fringe Benefits - Parks - \$10,000
\$10,000 appropriated from fund balance as a result of transfers and new positions
- Increase 101-691-705-0000 Salaries and Wages Full Time Recreation - \$58,000
\$58,000 appropriated from fund balance as a result of new positions

Motion carried unanimously.
Item 18: Request Approval to Increase Purchase Order for TMP.
Motion by Bennett, seconded by Kirchgatter to increase the original purchase order for TMP by \$3,051.74. Funds are available in account #236-760-818-0000. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussion of pending litigation at 8:25 PM. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bennett, seconded by Burdziak to return to open session and Adjourn at 8:45PM

The above is a synopsis of the actions taken a regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees on the Charter Township of Canton held on Tuesday, December 11, 2001. The Full text of the approved, including comments will be available following the next regular board meeting held on January 8, 2002.

THOMAS J. YACK- Supervisor
TERRY G. BENNETT- Clerk
Publish: December 20, 2001

L1086220

**PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF ADOPTION
ORDINANCE NO. 83.114**

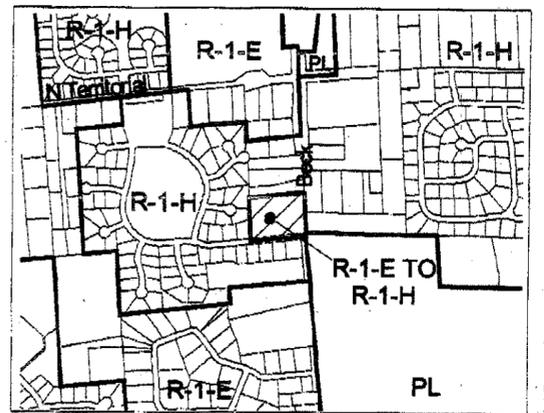
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP.

THE TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

Part I. The Zoning Ordinance No. 83 of the Plymouth Charter Township, is hereby amended by amending the Zoning Map, by changing those areas indicated on the Amended Zoning Map No. 128, attached hereto, and made part of this Ordinance.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION, SEE TAX RECORDS BASED ON TAX I.D. NOS. 037-99-0001-000



**ORDINANCE NO. 83.114
AMENDED ZONING MAP NO. 128
PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

Part II. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED. Any ordinance or parts of Ordinance in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed.

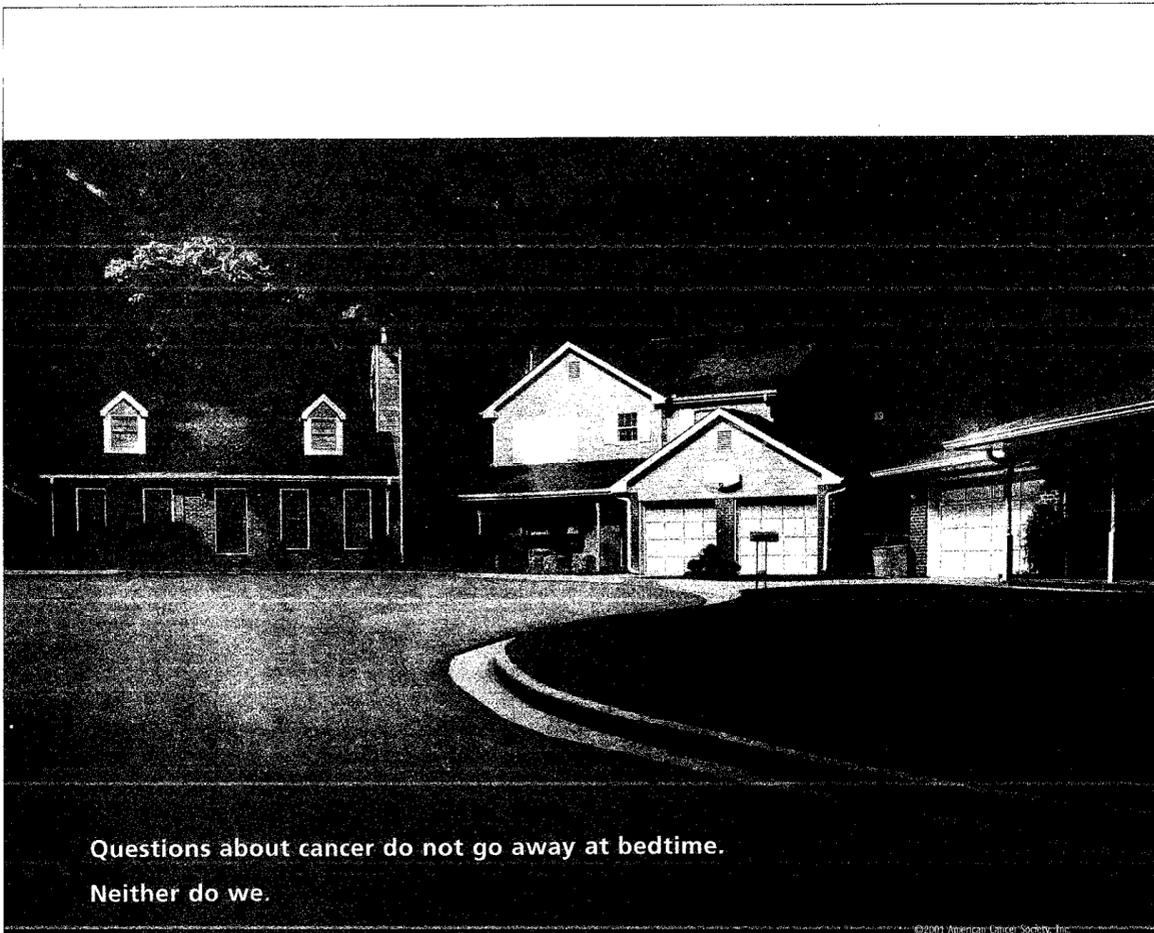
Part III. EFFECTIVE DATE. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to take effect on December 13, 2001.

Part IV. ADOPTION. The Ordinance was adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth by authority of Act 184 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 1949, at a meeting duly called and held on November 13, 2001, and ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by law.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees on December 11, 2001.
Effective Date January 11, 2002

Publish: December 20, 2001

L1086223



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Neither do we.



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Hope. Progress. Answers. / 800-ACS-2345 / cancer.org

L1086222

DALLEY CARPET

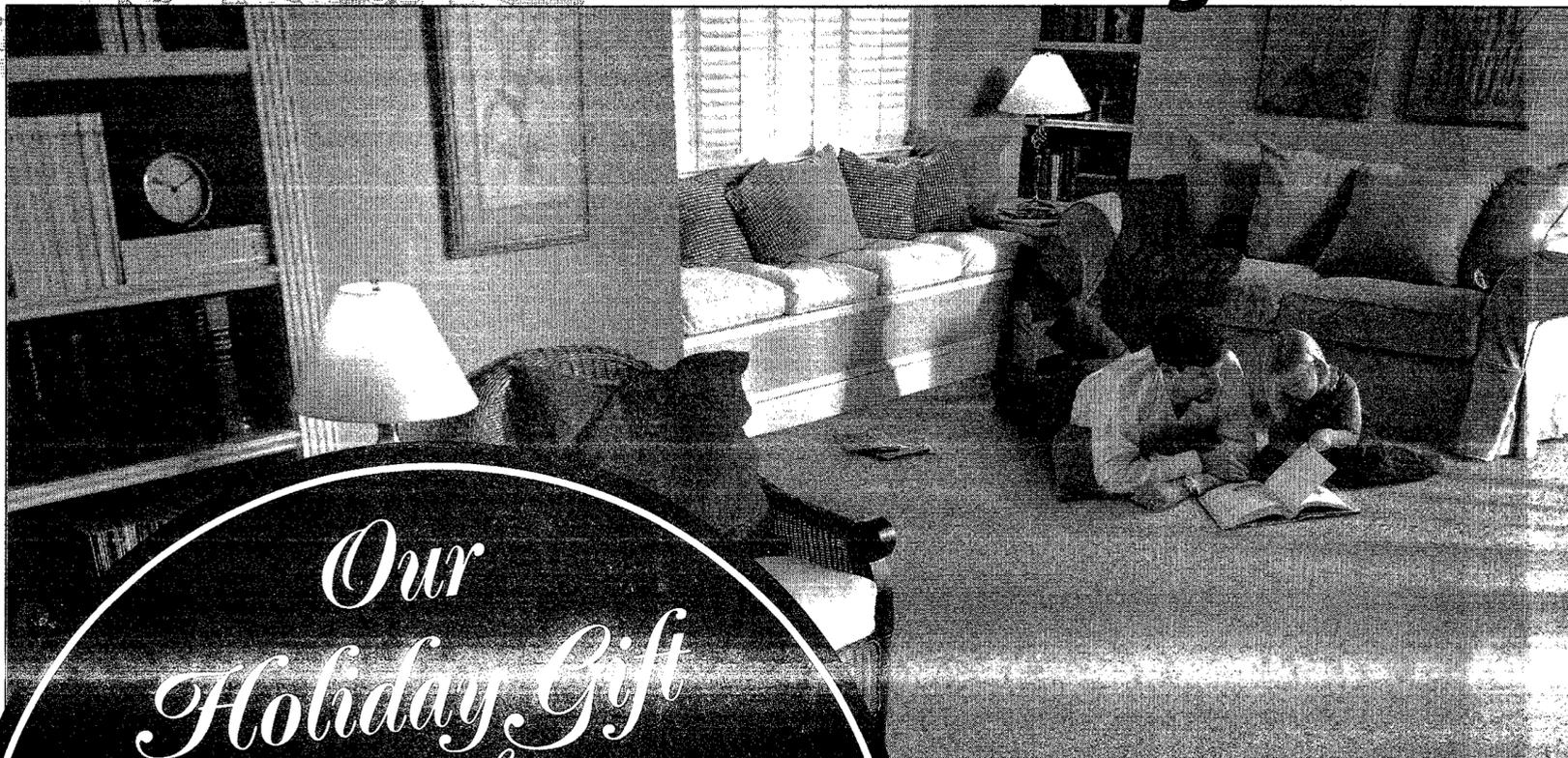
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Holiday

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VINYL
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CERAMIC
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DALLEY CARPET

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248-478-0255

CANTON
44555 Joy Road
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Nikon Coolpix 775 Digital Camera
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Nikon lens quality for sharp, clear pictures, built-in scene modes, one touch upload to the web, view photos instantly on LCD screen, 3x zoom.



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All stores open until 5pm
Christmas Eve



SAMSUNG
CAMERA

Samsung Fino 105
\$99 Reg. \$169

35MM Autofocus camera with 38-105 zoom, quartz date, includes battery and case.

Holiday Special



OLYMPUS

Olympus Camedia D100 Digital Camera
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1.3 megapixels for sharp prints, built-in multi-mode flash, auto connect USB, 2x seamless digital zoom.

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Instructional books for beginners through advanced on a variety of photographic subjects.

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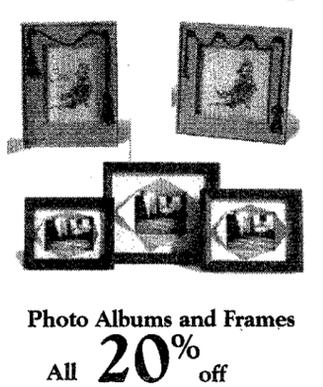


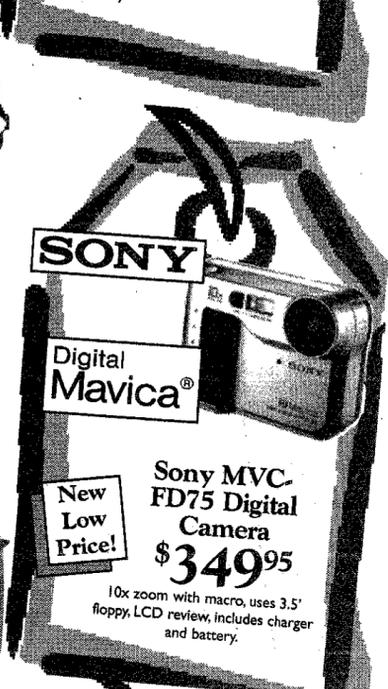
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CLASS REUNIONS

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, one contact person, and a telephone number. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

CATHOLIC CENTRAL

■ Class of 1961
For information about the Girls Catholic Central of Detroit 40th reunion, call Jan Seefeld (248) 398-7777 or Nancy Nowak Kush (313) 291-1165.

CHADSEY

■ Class of 1952
A "golden anniversary" reunion is in the early planning stages. Alumni are being asked to call and share their interest in attending a reunion. Call Florence A. Azzopardi (313) 937-1246.

CHERRY HILL HIGH SCHOOL

■ Class of 1981
20+1 year reunion is planned for Cherry Hill High School in Inkster. Saturday, Feb. 9, 2002. Contact: Heidi (Galbraith) Erlanson for more details. Call (248) 735-8671 or e-mail heidima@yahoo.com

DETROIT REDFORD

■ January 1952
Get ready to celebrate our 50th. We are close to setting a date of May 18, 2002 for the party. Call ASAP Gina Stocker Alexander, (313) 535-8575 or e-mail ginaalex2@aol.com or Marlene McGregor Ruppenthal (248) 855-9010.

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

■ Class of 1991
Call (800) 677-7800, visit www.taylorreunions.com or e-mail: info@taylorreunions.com or culbertson@taylorreunions.com or write: Taylor Reunion Services, P.O. Box 597, Dallas, TX 75221-9929.

GROVES

■ Class of 1971
We're looking for interested alumni to help organize our 30th reunion. Call Linda Miller (952) 942-9559 or e-mail kmiller@sprynet.com or send name and number to Linda Miller, P.O. Box 44203, Eden Prairie, MN 55344

HOLY REDEEMER

■ Class of 1962
Classmates call Frank S. Barkovich regarding the class reunion in 2002. Call (734) 397-8777.

LIVONIA STEVENSON

■ Class of 1972
A 30 year reunion is planned for Aug. 9, 2002. The reunion committee is taking inquiries. Call Kathy (Guilbault) Harris (734) 462-1772 or Paul St. Henry (734) 591-6081.

MARIAN HIGH

■ Class of 1996
Contact Jennifer Latimer (248) 646-9060 or Tina Malloy (248) 433-1795.

MCFARLAND JUNIOR HIGH

■ Class of 1966
Classmates are being sought for a 35th reunion. Call Karen (810) 573-7145, Vickey (517) 548-5133 or e-mail misst27@aol.com

NORTH FARMINGTON

■ Class of 1991
A 10-year reunion is in the planning stages. We are looking for classmates. Call Reunions Made Easy (248) 592-9565.

OSBORN HIGH SCHOOL

■ Classes of 1960-63
Reunion is planned for June 1, 2002. Call (248) 746-3305.

PERSHING

■ Class of 1952
A 50th reunion is planned for June 22, 2002 in Farmington Hills. Call Ron Burin (248) 623-2454, e-mail rburin@prodigy.net or Fred Neilson (352) 365-1483 or pershing52@aol.com
■ Class of 1962
Perishing High School - Detroit, Class of 1962 and 1961 summer school graduates are invited to a 7 p.m. June 15, 2002 reunion at the American Polish Century Club, 33204 Maple Lane, Sterling Heights. Call Frieda Luttschyn (810) 643-5619; Jo Corriere (586) 566-2644; Carol Kraus (734) 878-6943; and Chaine Corso (517) 546-8145.

PIONEER ANN ARBOR

■ Class of 1991
The committee is updating addresses/ phone numbers of class members. Call (800) 677-7800, visit

www.taylorreunions.com or e-mail: info@taylorreunions.com

SOUTHFIELD LATHRUP

■ Class of 1971
A 31st reunion is planned for Aug. 3, 2002. Call Mark Luria (248) 661-9505 or e-mail markluria@aol.com

ST. ANDREW-DETROIT

■ Class of 1961
"Flyer" alumni of the 1961 class are being sought for a 40th reunion. Send name, maiden name if applicable, address, city, state, zip and phone number to: 1961 Reunion, 23890 Joey Drive,

Brownstown Township, MI 48134 or call (734) 676-1934.

ST. MATTHEW PARISH

■ 75th anniversary
A reunion will be held July 20, 2002 at Wyndham Garden Hotel in Novi. Contact Sam Carollo (313) 701-6520 or Anne McGraw-Mueller (313) 937-8324. Class of 1970 should call Colleen Haggerty Diamond (734) 522-6666. St. Matthew Parish in Detroit will be having a 75th anniversary reunion dinner dance on May 5, 2002. If you are a former parishioner, we want to hear from you! If you are a graduate

of St. Matthew Elementary School and 21 years of age or over, we want to hear from you! We want to invite as many former parishioners and graduates as possible, so please spread the word and help us find them. Contact Bob Spansky (St. Matthew, 1956) by e-mail (rspansky@msn.com) or telephone (313) 882-6738 Monday-Friday, 6-8 p.m.

ST. THERESA

■ Class of 1951
Classmates are being sought for a 2001 reunion. Call Mary Lee (Kuteron) Suchan (313) 291-

6359.

ST. VINCENT

■ Class of 1956
St. Vincent High School, Detroit, Class of 1956. Classmates sought to organize a reunion. Call Bob Haro (313) 299-0103 or email: haroberto@aol.com

WAYNE HIGH

The Wayne High School Class of 1952 is looking for lost classmates. Our 50th reunion will be held Saturday, May 18, at the Romulus Marriott Hotel near the Detroit Wayne Metro Airport. The first newsletter announcing

the reunion was mailed Oct. 12. If you or someone you know did not receive this mailing, please contact Marilyn (Anderson) McKinney through one of the following methods: address - 35564 Knight Dr., Farmington Hills, MI 48331-3523; (248) 478-1173; or e-mail mmckinne@umich.edu

WESTERN

■ Class of 1952
A 50th reunion is planned for Sept. 29, 2002 at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland. We're looking for classmates. Call Doris (734) 340-3584 or Scharlyne (248) 689-1471.

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Winter hitting

Madonna University's sixth-annual winter hitting camp for baseball will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 22-23 (ages 8-13); and 2-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 22-23 (ages 13-18), at the Activities Building.

The cost is \$110 per player. Checks should be made payable to: Madonna University, C/O Baseball Office, 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mi. 48150.

Enrollment is limited to a maximum of 50 campers per age group.

The camp features two full-length batting tunnels; three-to-one camper-instructor ratio; short toss drills and tee work; videotaping of each participant.

For more information, call MU coach Greg Haeger at (734) 432-5609.

N'ville P&R offerings

Northville Parks and Recreation department has several openings in different sports for the winter.

Men's winter basketball league: Sundays and Wednesdays leagues, A and B divisions. Entry fee is \$415 per team, 11-game schedule. Call Northville Parks and Rec at (248) 349-0203.

Men's over-35 basketball league: Sundays, starting Jan. 8. Cost is \$415 per team. Call Northville Parks and Rec at (248) 349-0203.

Women's winter basketball league: On Tuesdays, starting Jan. 15. Entry fee is \$405 per team, 11 games. Call Northville Parks and Rec at (248) 349-0203.

Adult volleyball leagues: Starting Jan. 21, a 12-week season; women's and co-ed competitive on Mondays, co-ed intermediate on Wednesdays. Cost is \$215 per team. Call Northville Parks and Rec at (248) 349-0203.

Women's Tuesday morning volleyball leagues: Teams formed from individual registrations. Play starts Jan. 15. Call Northville Parks and Rec at (248) 349-0203.

AAU girls basketball

Tryouts for the Western Wayne Wildcats AAU girls basketball teams are set for Jan. 8 and Jan. 10.

On both days, the 10 and 11-year-olds will try out from 6-7:30 p.m. at Central Middle School in Plymouth. The 12 and 13-year-olds will try out from 7:30-9 p.m. on the same days at the same location.

For further information, call Fred Thomann at (734) 484-7746 or Bob Blohm at (734) 459-1763 or at (734) 414-8156.

Baseball camps

Eastern Michigan University will again host winter baseball camps for boys and girls 8-18 years of age at Bowen Fieldhouse.

Camps will be Dec. 22 and 29, Jan. 19 and 26, Feb. 10 and 17 plus another on May 11. Workouts begin at noon at Bowen, or outside at Oestrike Stadium weather permitting, and conclude at 4 p.m.

Single day camps cost \$45, \$85 for two, \$120 for three, \$155 for four and \$175 for five or \$200 for all seven. Applications must be sent in a week prior to camps to avoid a \$10 late registration fee.

Coach Roger Coryell and his EMU staff will conduct the sessions, which feature position and team fundamentals. Topics include hitting and bunting, catching, baserunning, pitching, infield play, outfield play, strength and conditioning, arm and bat speed development.

To register or for more information and applications call (734) 487-0315, fax (734) 487-4568 or e-mail roger.coryell@emich.edu.

In-line hockey

The Skatin Station, 8611 Ronda Drive, Canton, is accepting registrations for its winter 2001-02 youth and adult in-line hockey leagues, along with winter 2002 youth leagues.

Age brackets are available for 16-and-under. Ages are determined as of Jan. 1, 2001. Youth cost is \$120 (includes 10 games, a jersey, championship shirts and referee fees). Winter 2002 youth evaluations will begin Jan. 5. Ages are determined as of Jan. 1, 2002.

For more information, call (734) 459-6401 or visit www.skatinstation2.com.

Adult leagues are also available for 17- and 30-and-over. For adult league information, call Dave Jackson at (734) 459-6401.

Salem 1st, Canton 2nd at Relays

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

One gap narrowed. The other increased. The gap Plymouth Canton swim coach Ed Weber hoped to slice into — the one separating his team and perennial Western Lakes Activities Association champion Plymouth Salem — did indeed shrink. But the gap between Salem and Canton, and the rest of the WLAA, seems to be growing.

Salem finished first at Saturday's WLAA Relays meet, which it hosted, scoring 265 points. Canton had 245, trimming the 36-point difference between the two in 2000 to 20.

WLAA SWIMMING

Still, that might be due more to the rest of the conference's faltering than Salem slipping. There's no doubting the Chiefs' ability, but there's no doubting Salem's, either.

Like last year, the Rocks again won five of the 10 relays, finished second in another and had two thirds. Canton had one win and seven seconds. North Farmington and Walled Lake Central, third and fourth respectively, each had two first-place finishes.

In fourth was Livonia Churchill, followed by Livonia Stevenson, Northville, Farmington Harrison/Farmington, Walled Lake Western, Livonia Franklin and Westland John Glenn. See statistical summary.

"That was what we wanted to do — win," said Salem coach Chuck Olson. "It's a fun meet, but it gets pretty competitive. We got medals (a top-three finish) in eight of the 10 events."

"We won, and I figured if we swam well we'd win."

Which they did. The Rocks set the standard early, winning the first two relays: the 400-yard medley relay, with Eric Lynn, Matt Showalter, Ben Dzialo and Jeff Nevi (3:51.25), and the 400 freestyle relay, with Mike Johnson, Mike Horgan, William Clark and Nick Dixon (3:31.41).

Things seemed to even out over the next five events, but Salem owned the final three, finishing first in all of them. Jim Franks, Clark, Dixon and Dzialo won the 500 free relay (4:34.42); Nick Yee, Casey Johnson, Lynn and Johnson were first in the 200 medley relay (1:46.32); and Danny Daniels, Kevin Kilgore, Matt Vivian and Matt Poniatowski

took top honors in the 200 free relay (1:40.37).

Although the Chiefs managed only one first-place finish, they were obviously in great shape with seven seconds. "Canton pretty much showed up and did exactly what they said they'd do," said Chiefs' coach Ed Weber. "They swam out of our minds. They went there and swam fast, and that was the ultimate goal."

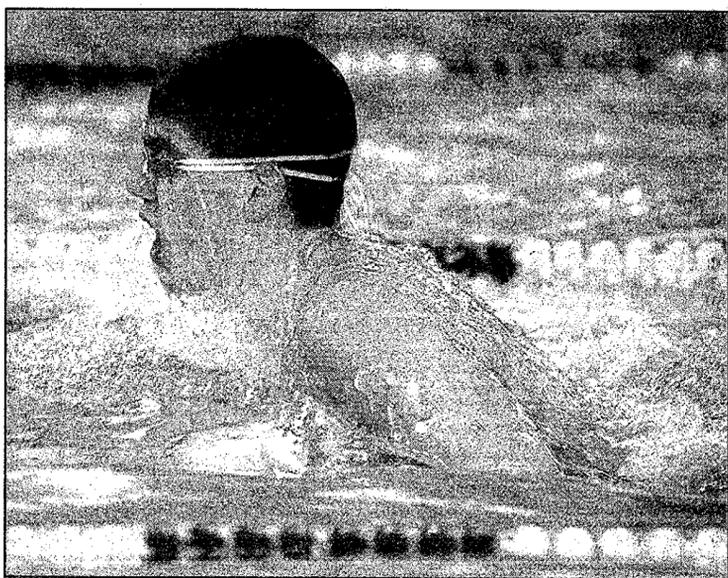
"They lived up to expectations, of what was being said about Canton swimming."

The Chiefs' win came in the 200 butterfly relay, with Ben King, Jordan Champine, Yuhei Uno and Matt Wisniewski placing first (1:47.10).

North got a first in the 200 backstroke relay, from Brian Clayson, Thomas Naughton, Jason Bank and Mohamad Bachrouche (1:50.80), and in the 400 individual medley relay, from Sermet Alver, Matt Newman, Clayson and Bachrouche (4:05.34).

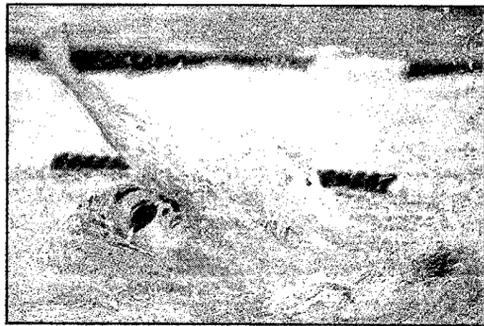
Central's victories came from Ryan Booms, Geoff Wrobel, Jared Auerbuch and Justin Fenwick in the 200 breaststroke relay (2:07.55) and from Brian Chrzanowski and Mike Maynard in diving (340.35 points).

If the meet sent any kind of message, Olson figured it was that the Rocks had to be careful. "We're going to have to swim well at the conference meet, because we're not going to get much help from the other teams in the conference."



Top time: Matt Showalter (above) helped Salem capture first in the 200 medley relay, while Brad Nilson (below) propelled Canton to a second-place finish.

STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL



Point-producer: PCA's Clay Welton (15) drives through the lane en route to two of his game-high 17 points.

STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

PCA storms past Urban Lutheran

A slow first quarter was followed by a strong second as Plymouth Christian Academy improved to 2-0 with a 64-44 victory over Detroit Urban Lutheran Tuesday at PCA.

The loss left the Vikings at 1-4.

The two teams ended the opening period tied at 8-all, but PCA went inside after that, outscoring Urban Lutheran 22-13 in the second to take a 30-21 lead at halftime. The Eagles continued to pull away in the second half, taking a 45-31 advantage into the fourth quarter.

"We were able to shoot a lot of free throws in the second quarter," said PCA coach Doug Taylor. "We got to the basket and we made our free throws. We were able to penetrate."

Underclassmen stepped to the forefront for the Eagles. Dan Carty and Aaron Ciborowski scored six points apiece in the pivotal second quarter, with Clay Welton going 4-for-4 at the free-throw line. PCA was 6-of-7 at the line in the period.

Welton, a junior, finished with a game-high 17 points; he also had eight

BASKETBALL

rebounds. Ciborowski, just a freshman, totaled 15 points and 10 boards, and Carty, a sophomore, finished with 13 points and four assists.

Urban Lutheran was also led by underclassmen. Freshman Leroy Purdy totaled 13 points, junior Jamil Crooks had 12 and junior Martay Fleming netted 11.

"We got some great play from Eric Schultz," added Taylor. "He really handled the ball well and ran our offense."

PCA is now idle until Dec. 27-28, when they play at the Adrian Madison Tournament. The Eagles will play Adrian Madison in one semifinal, with Lenawee Christian and Petersburg Summerfield clashing in the other.

A.A. Pioneer 60, Canton 49: The final score may seem lopsided, but this game wasn't.

"We were winning the whole game," said Plymouth Canton coach Jeremy Rheault of Tuesday's game at Ann Arbor Pioneer. "They took it from us in

the fourth quarter."

What the Pioneers (5-0) did was make their free throws — 27-of-38 to be exact (71 percent), including 11-of-15 in the final quarter when they outscored Canton 24-11 to overcome a two-point deficit after three quarters.

The Chiefs led midway through the fourth when their foul problems began to take their toll. "We had that game," said Rheault. "We matched up well with them."

"They're a very good team, they've got great shooters. But we were in foul trouble and they took it from us."

Canton led 17-6 after one quarter, but that lead disintegrated in the second under Pioneer's 16-7 barrage, trimming the Chiefs' lead to 24-22 at the half.

Billy Gazsi paced Canton (2-2) with 14 points. Andrew Meagrow added nine and Jason Priebe and Brendan Murphy scored seven apiece.

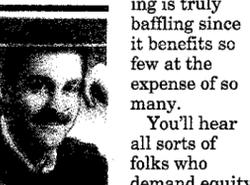
Pioneer got 19 points from Whitney Davis, who was 13-of-17 from the line, 10 points from Eric Williams and nine from Chris Wellinger.

Equity? Absurdity!

Court ruling against MHSAA: Bad news all around

Case closed. Worms' can opened.

Believe me, the U.S. District Court ruling issued Monday forcing the Michigan High School Athletic Association to alter its seasonal schedules ends nothing. Indeed, the ruling is truly baffling since it benefits so few at the expense of so many.



C.J. RISAK

You'll hear all sorts of folks who demand equity for girls in sports screaming this is their victory. If you believe in girls' athletics, if you believe in giving kids (whatever their gender) a chance to play, you'll realize that's a lie.

The bottom line is this: Fewer kids, male and female, will get a shot at competing.

This all started because a group of self-absorbed parents thought their daughters deserved athletic scholarships and they were being slighted by an association that scheduled the sport for the winter instead of the fall, when colleges and most other states played it. They felt their poor girls were out of the college recruiting pic-

CHANGE-UP

According to Monday's U.S. District Court ruling, high school girls sports' seasons in Michigan would be altered to coincide with the boys' seasons. These changes would go into effect in 2003-04, pending an appeal by the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

Sports affected are:

■ **Volleyball:** Instead of being played in the winter, it would be played in the fall.

■ **Basketball:** Girls would play basketball in the winter, the same time the boys play.

■ **Swimming:** Both boys and girls swimming would be in the winter.

■ **Soccer:** Both boys and girls soccer would be played in the fall.

■ **Tennis:** Girls tennis would switch from the fall to the spring, same as the boys.

■ **Golf:** Girls and boys would golf in the fall.

ture because all the scholarships were gone by the time they started playing.

The motives of the people who filed the lawsuit, who cloak themselves with a self-effacing Communities for Equity (CFE) label, are purely mercenary. It's doubtful a half-dozen volleyball players a year are affected by the system as it currently stands.

All they ever wanted was their kids to get a scholarship. Never mind how this ruling will affect thousands — that's right, thousands — of other athletes, male and female.

That doesn't mean a thing to them. *My kid coulda gotten a scholarship. She coulda been a star! I coulda been on Letterman!*

Start with girls basketball. Going by the letter of the law as dictated by CFE, they should play at the same time of year as the boys do, just like the colleges do.

Ask any veteran girls basketball player if she thinks she'll get as much media and recruiting attention if the seasons change and she'll say no. What will help the volleyball players will hurt the basketball players; Michigan female cagers currently

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

Talk about united fronts. There weren't many people in this area who agreed with the U.S. District Court's ruling Monday. Here's what some of them had to say:

"It will really affect girls' athletics the most. We're going to have to make more cuts. We'll be able to have 25-to-30 on each team. That means I'll have to cut about 10 or 15 boys and 40 or 50 girls."

"I fail to see where that's good for high school athletics."

"From what I've heard, every organization around the state is behind the MHSAA."

"I thought high school athletics was about participation. I don't think this is in the best interest of the high school athlete."

— Chuck Olson, coach Salem swimming

"When I was at Illinois and recruited out-of-state I thought Michigan's (basketball) season (in the fall) was fabulous. I loved it because it came during the evaluation period when none of the other states were playing."

"I don't feel girls basketball was hindered as far as recruiting. And I haven't seen research that says volleyball players here have any less opportunity for scholarships."

"The difference in the fall is we'll have three football teams and four soccer teams playing on the same field. Just the cost of maintaining, because of the wear and tear on the fields, and finding practice space is going to be a real challenge."

"We'll also have to make good use of our pool space for swimming and diving. It may also cut down opportunities for kids."

— Lori Hyman Livonia Stevenson athletic director

"Personally I have mixed feelings. But I have a hunch, considering the conservative nature of the higher courts, that it will get overturned. The MHSAA wants to do what it wants to do — they're saying let the states be independent."

— Mike Hughes, coach Churchill volleyball

Please see RISAK, D7

The best around

All-Observer girls basketball team is versatile and talented

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

Fred Thomann has coached Plymouth Salem's girls basketball team for the past 18 seasons. In that time, his teams have averaged nearly 18 wins a year.

Yet none of his previous teams managed to accomplish what this season's squad did. The Rocks went undefeated through the regular season, winning both the Western Lakes Activities Association regular-season title and the WAAA Tournament. They also captured their Class A district crown before finally losing in the regional tournament.

Salem's final record: 22-1. Which is why Thomann is this year's Observer coach of the year.

"We've had more talented teams," Thomann admitted. "But I've made it a point not to compare this team with other teams."

"This team won every close game. Now, often they weren't the prettiest of games. But they played great defense and they rebounded just enough. They got after the ball and put pressure on teams to make plays. Often, they couldn't."

Putting together a team that goes unbeaten through a regular season that includes a difficult non-conference schedule to go with a tough league slate takes both talent and luck. Salem had both.

This team was quick, this team was experienced, this team was versatile, and this team was well-coached. Which is why it was the best team Observerland had to offer.

Now here's the all-Observer selections



Fred Thomann
coach-Salem

ALL-AREA GIRLS BASKETBALL

FIRST TEAM

Liza Obrecht, Sr., Livonia Ladywood
Kelly Jaskot, Sr., Plymouth Salem
Mary Lou Liebau, Sr., Ply. Salem
Ayana Richmond, Sr., Harrison
Ruth Sventickas, Jr., Ladywood

SECOND TEAM

Deanna DeRoo, Sr., Liv. Churchhill
Maggie Condeni, Jr., Harrison
Whitney Johnson, Jr., F.H. Mercy
Kristen Lake, Sr., Plymouth Canton
Tara Charles, Sr., Bishop Borgess

THIRD TEAM

Briane Wolcott, Jr., Ply. Canton
Amy Henry, Jr., Canton Agape
Julie Kimmel, Sr., Farmington
DeJore Jones, Jr., Farm. Hills Mercy
Alesha Ockerman, Jr., Garden City

FOURTH TEAM

Ashley McCall, Jr., Liv. Franklin
Amy Szawara, Sr., Plymouth Salem
Kim Dennis, Sr., Red. St. Agatha
Lauren Menan, Sr., Huron Valley Luth.
LizAnn Charles, Soph., Borgess

COACH OF THE YEAR

Fred Thomann, Plymouth Salem

HONORABLE MENTIONS

North Farmington: Christy Stockton, Meghan Callahan, Jehan Hinds; Harrison: Jessica Condeni, Bryanna Porter, Merrill DeRose; Farmington: Randin Brown, Brittaney Coleman, Jaria Atkins; Mercy: Alexandria Marshall, Anne Roosevelt, Barb Maczka; Ladywood: Jana Beumel, Lauren Hesano, Amber Willoughby; Stevenson: Amy Hollandsworth, Lauren Trosell, Missy Bartnick; Churchhill: Robyn Johnson; Franklin: Jenie D'Annunzio; Lutheran Westland: Cristina Hilden, Katie Schewecke, Jenna Hess, Karen Abramczyk; Huron Valley Lutheran: Becky Schultz; John Glenn: Sara Pack, Jennifer Thuvette; Wayne: Renata Price, Ashley Britton, Amber Henn; Clarenceville: Lora Baeske, Marissa Martin; Salem: Shannan Miller, Stephanie Phillips; Canton: Jessica Johnson, Courtney Jarman, Christina Redd; Canton Agape: Lisa Ther; Plymouth Christian: Amy Brandt, Amanda Saagman, Kim Guilfoyle; Redford Union: Courtney Rudolph, Liza Perrelli, Shantia Brown; Borgess: Natasha Smith, Alychia Davis; Garden City: Teria Russell, Andrea Duna.

ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM

Liz Obrecht, senior, Ladywood: A broken foot cost the 6-foot-2 center, headed to the University of Missouri-Kansas City, four games and parts of two others during a five-week span.

Before the injury, Obrecht averaged 14 points and 10 rebounds. She finished with nine points and eight rebounds per game.

Obrecht, a three-year starter and All-Catholic League selection, shot 72 percent from the free throw line and 43 percent from the field.

"Liz was one in a million because of her attitude," Ladywood coach Andrea Gorski said. "It will be hard losing her because of her defensive presence and her leadership. She was a big reason for us going to the regional final."

Kelly Jaskot, senior, Salem: A four-year starter and an all-WLAA selection, Jaskot provided Salem with leadership at the point as well as a deep-shooting threat. She led the Rocks with 35 three-pointers and was second on the team in scoring, averaging 11.3 points a game.

Jaskot also led Salem in assists (4.1 per game) and steals (2.6). She grabbed 4.3 rebounds and had 1.0 blocks a

"She had so much experience, being a four-year starter," said Thomann. "She had three-point ability and had a willingness to take the tough shots. And she was a great assist player — she made it easier for others to score."

At present, Jaskot is talking to both University of Detroit Mercy and Ferris State about playing.

Mary Lou Liebau, senior, Salem: This was a pivotal year for Liebau. Her junior year had started with great promise, but an injury ended it after just a few games.

The senior forward, an all-WLAA choice, took advantage of her final year by leading the Rocks in scoring, with a 14.0 average, and in rebounding, with a 10.5 average. She hit 44 percent of her floor shots, averaged 1.3 blocks a game and was second on the team in steals with a 2.3 average.

"She was a tremendous inside-out player," said Thomann. "MaryLou had a nice three-point shot and she was great taking it to the rim. She created a lot of match-up problems."

"She was also a tremendous rebounder, and she made big shots in key games."

Liebau is considering attending and

playing at Oakland University.

Ayana Richmond, senior, Harrison: The Hawks started the season 0-6 while Richmond recovered from an injury. They were 12-4 when she returned and finished second in the WLAA.

The 5-foot-7 guard averaged 15 points per game, shooting 33 percent from the floor, 75 percent at the line and 35 percent from three-point range (26-of-74).

Richmond also averaged 4.4 rebounds, 3.5 steals and two assists. In a three-year varsity career, she scored 538 points for a 9.1 average. Richmond is fifth in career scoring and third in career steals with 143.

"Ayana continued to improve as a basketball player and a leader throughout her career," coach Pete Mantyla said. "She earned the respect of teammates, coaches, competitors and fans with her ability, effort, quiet confidence and humble demeanor."

"When facing pressure on the court or off, Ayana always responded with class. Ayana deserves a spot alongside the best players in our area and in Harrison's history. We will greatly miss this outstanding athlete and role model."

Ruth Sventickas, junior, Ladywood: The 6-foot forward led the 14-9 Blazers averaging 13 points and five rebounds per game. She shot 50 percent from the field and 74 percent from the free throw line.

Sventickas, a two-year starter, also made the All-Catholic League squad.

"Ruth was our best defensive player," Gorski said. "She could can guard any player or any position on a court. She really improved from a year ago."

ALL-AREA SECOND TEAM

Deanna DeRoo, senior, Churchhill: The 5-8 forward was a three-year varsity starter for the Chargers who scored 786 points during her career.

This season, DeRoo averaged 14.2 points per game and hit the 300-point mark. She made 43 percent of her field goal attempts (93-for-217) and 78 percent of her free throws (114-for-147). DeRoo also averaged 7.1 rebounds per game and had a total of 59 steals.

"Deanna was a tough player to stop," Churchhill first-year coach Rod Windle said. "She battled hard every night and provided leadership on the floor."

"She made players around her better. Defensively, she was our toughest player. She was a great role model for the post."

Maggie Condeni, junior, Harrison: A three-year varsity player, Condeni also played a key role in her team's success. The 5-foot-11 post player averaged 11 points and eight rebounds per game. She also blocked 25 shots and made 37 percent of her field goals.

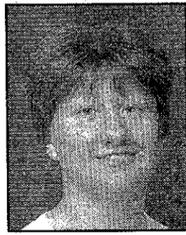
"What made her valuable is that she's strong on the blocks and can play out of the high post," Mantyla said. "She became a much better passer at the perimeter. We were real comfortable with her inbounding the ball against full-court pressure, which is tough for a lot of post players to do."

"Her leadership and commitment, along with Ayana, gave us something to build on. That was the foundation for our success this year."

Whitney Johnson, junior, Mercy: John-



MaryLou Liebau
Plymouth Salem



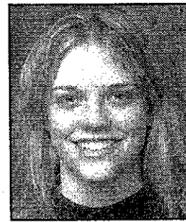
Kelly Jaskot
Plymouth Salem



Liz Obrecht
Livonia Ladywood



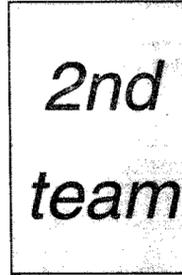
Ayana Richmond
Farm. Hills Harrison



Ruth Sventickas
Livonia Ladywood



Deanna DeRoo
Livonia Churchhill



Kristen Lake
Plymouth Canton



Maggie Condeni
Farm. Hills Harrison



Whitney Johnson
Farm. Hills Mercy



Tara Charles
Bishop Borgess

son was the leading scorer on a good team with a balance of ability and no one standout. The 5-foot-8 forward averaged 14.2 points and 7.1 rebounds a game. She made 43 percent of her field goal attempts (93-for-217) and 78 percent of her free throws (114-for-147). DeRoo also averaged 7.1 rebounds per game and had a total of 59 steals.

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"She made players around her better. Defensively, she was our toughest player. She was a great role model for the post."

"She anticipates well," coach Kristin Wright-Guinn said. "Her bread and butter is getting the steal and going down the floor for a layup."

"In a fast break situation, she's hard to catch; she's quick as lightning. Defensively, she has a sense for knowing when the ball will be passed and when to step in."

Kristen Lake, junior, Canton: Lake provided the Chiefs with a low-post presence that was as formidable as any in the WLAA.

The 5-10 center was exceptional in positioning herself near the basket and screening off the defender, then pivoting for a shot or dishing out for a jumper. She finished the season as Canton's leading scorer and rebounder, averaging

10 points and 7.5 rebounds a game.

"She's a really strong kid," said Canton coach Bill Richm. "What she has is a great strength down low and her ability to seal off the defender. She held on to the ball, made a read and reacted. If she got double-teamed, she could get the ball out of there. She was a good passer."

She was also an all-Western Division selection. Canton finished the season at 14-8.

Tara Charles, senior, Borgess: Charles was a four-year varsity player who did a lot of things for Jim Zabawski's young Spartan team. The guard averaged 15 points, five assists and four steals.

"She was a four-year varsity player, and team captain," said Zabawski. "She provided a lot of leadership for our team who had 10 players who never played before and she did a lot of things by way of drills and showing the girls how to do things right."

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 Churchill at Garden City, 7 p.m.
 Willow Run at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
 Wayne at Salem, 7 p.m.
 Brighton at Canton, 7 p.m.
 Allen Park at Thurston, 7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 21
 A.A. Huron at Redford CC, 7:30 p.m.
 Westside at Borgess, 7:30 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY
Thursday, Dec. 20
 Red. Unified vs. Marysville
 at Redford Ice Arena, 7:45 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 21
 Churchill at Cranbrook, 4 p.m.
 Franklin vs. Millford
 at Edgar Arena, 5 p.m.
 Canton vs. South Lyon
 at Ply. Cultural Ctr., 7 p.m.
(MIHL Showcase at Trenton)
 Stevenson vs. Brother Rice, 5:50 p.m.
 Redford CC vs. Marquette, 8:20 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 22
 Churchill at G.P. North, 12:50 p.m.
 Canton vs. W.L. Western
 at Lakeland Ice Arena, 2:20 p.m.
(MIHL Showcase at Trenton)
 Redford CC vs. Negaunee, 3:20 p.m.
 Stevenson vs. T.C. Central, 3:40 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING
Thursday, Dec. 20
 Canton at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
 Fordson at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.
 Garden City at Thurston, 6:30 p.m.
 Lincoln Park at RU, 6:30 p.m.
 Stevenson at Salem, 6:30 p.m.

PREP BOYS SWIMMING
Thursday, Dec. 20
 Willow Run at Garden City, 4 p.m.
 Wayne at John Glenn, 6 p.m.
 Redford Union at Thurston, 7 p.m.
 Dearborn at Salem, 7 p.m.

Crusaders' skid reaches 9

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

Write it off to youth. Or injuries. Or whatever.

Bottom line is, Madonna University's men's basketball team is not getting any closer to success than it was last year. Or the year before. Or the year before that.

MEN'S HOOPS

The Crusaders came up with a couple of good runs Monday against non-league foe Olivet, but not enough of them. And they played too little defense, allowing the Comets to fire at will from three-point range — which, as much as anything, was decisive in Olivet's 99-85 triumph at Madonna.

The loss was Madonna's ninth-straight; after a promising 3-1 start, they've fallen to 3-10. Olivet improved to 5-6.

"It got away from us," said Madonna coach Bernie Holowicki. "We lost the ball so many times. And we had some easy chances."

"It's an excuse, but we really miss Danny (Kurtinaitis). Noel (Emenhiser) is getting better, but he's really playing out of position."

Against Olivet, it often seemed most of the Crusaders were out of sync, if not out of position, much of the time. There were positive spurts, to be sure. The Crusaders led 14-7, overcoming a 5-0 deficit at the start thanks in part to a pair of three-pointers by Mike Massey.

That advantage disappeared in the next six minutes, which pretty much defined this game. Whatever surge Madonna mounted, Olivet answered with something better.

With 4:24 to play in the opening half, a free throw by Troy Ernsberger pushed the Comets' lead to 40-27. The gap hovered around double figures until the final minute, when three Olivet turnovers fueled a Crusader spurt, allowing them to close to within 45-42 at the break.

The second half started the same way for Madonna. "We came out flat to start the second half," said Olivet coach Steve Hettinga.

Indeed, the Crusaders scored the first five points of the half, giving them a 47-45 lead with 18:39 left. Then the Comets turned it back around once again.

In the next six minutes, they outscored Madonna 26-6 to open

up a 71-53 advantage. The Crusaders never got closer than 12 the rest of the game.

"We got some good looks (at the basket)," said Hettinga. "And we got some good distribution out there."

"We scrapped. We've got a lot of guys who hustle."

Olivet's three-point shooters were particularly impressive. The Comets converted 12-of-23 triples (52.2 percent), with Travis Gessner (19 points) nailing six of them and Travis Schellhammer (20 points) drilling four.

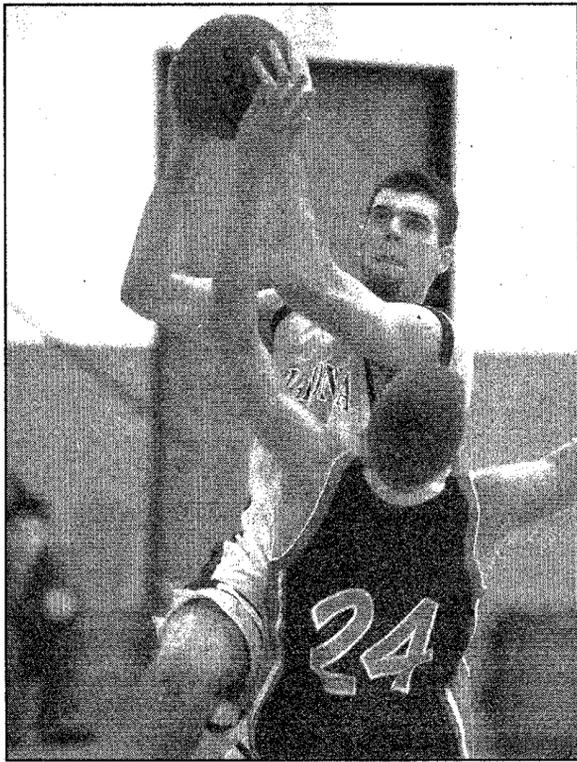
But it wasn't just what Olivet did. Madonna aided in its own demise, committing 29 turnovers that led to 31 points.

In that regard, Kurtinaitis' loss — he would have been the Crusaders' starting point guard — has hurt considerably. They have averaged an astronomical 23.2 turnovers per game this season; in the first three, in which Kurtinaitis played (he broke his leg playing for Madonna's soccer team), they averaged just 16.7.

It isn't getting any better, either. In the last five games, Madonna has committed an average of 27.8 turnovers.

"Our rebounding killed us, our defense killed us," said Holowicki, still looking for answers.

There weren't many found in this game. Massey did score 23 points and had four steals; Emenhiser had 20 points with five assists and four steals. Each of them hit four triples. Aaron Cox added 12 points and Tony Jancevski (from Plymouth



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Going up: Madonna's Tony Jancevski tries to go up and over Olivet's Patrick Dermeyer.

Salem) netted nine points, nine rebounds, four assists and three blocked shots.

Olivet had four others reach double figures in scoring: Troy

Ernsberger with 17, Thad Mitchner with 13, and Dan Smith and Patrick Dermeyer with 11 apiece.

Madonna is idle until the Hope College Invitational Dec. 28-29.

Madonna shocks No. 5 Bethel

It was close for a while, but Madonna University's women's basketball team clung to its lead against nationally-ranked Bethel (Ind.) College as tenaciously as Jay Leno clings to his ridicule of the Detroit Lions.

In the end, their tenacity earned the Lady Crusaders a 76-69 upset victory over Pilots Saturday at Madonna.

The win gave Madonna an 8-5 record. Bethel, previously ranked fifth in the NAIA's Division II, fell to 12-3.

A Kathy Panganis layup following a Carissa Gizicki steal gave the Crusaders a 25-16 lead with 6:29 left in the opening half, a lead they never lost. Madonna led 36-30 at the half, thanks in large part to a 26-13 advantage on the boards. Mahogany Fletcher

WOMEN'S HOOPS

(from Farmington Harrison) and Panganis each scored seven first-half points and Gizicki had five assists.

Bethel did trim Madonna's lead to 41-40 on two free throws by Brandy Swihart with 14:28 left in the game, but the Crusaders repelled the comeback, eventually stretching their lead back to nine with 10:47 remaining. The Pilots got to within three points on three occasions after that, but couldn't catch Madonna.

Fletcher paced the Crusaders with 16 points on 6-of-7 floor shooting, including 3-of-4 from three-point range. She also had four assists, five steals and two blocks.

Nikki Blaszak came off the bench to collect 12 points and six rebounds, and Panganis finished with 11 points and five boards. Gizicki had nine points, nine assists, five rebounds and two steals, and Lindsay Simmon totaled eight points, eight rebounds and two steals.

Swihart led Bethel with 20 points. Stacy Handschu had 14 and four assists.

Madonna is idle until Dec. 29, when it hosts Indiana Wesleyan at 3 p.m.

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Canton 2nd at own Invite

Plymouth Canton's wrestlers were good, but Dearborn Fordson had more of them. In the end, it earned the Tractors a first-place finish at Saturday's 10-team Canton Invitational.

The Chiefs scored 232 points to finish second to Fordson, which won with 262.5. Livonia Stevenson was third (195) and Ann Arbor Pioneer placed fourth (175).

Four Canton wrestlers earned first-place finishes. Doy Demsick took top honors in the 130-pound division, beating Derrick Favot

WRESTLING

of Fordson 8-4 in the final; Greg Musser won at 145 with a 16-0 trouncing of Ahmad Chami in the final; Shahein Rajae captured the 189 division with a 7-2 victory over Isaac Whitener of Inkster in the final; and at 215, a division limited to five wrestlers, Phil Rothwell emerged as the champ by pinning all four of his opponents.

Chris Hosey came close to victory at 140, but was edged in the

final by Fordson's Mike Saleh, 12-10 in overtime.

"We are pleased with the tournament, and though we showed we still need some work to be a well-rounded team, the guys worked hard and hung together," said Canton coach John Dem-sick. "It was special to see our guys perform so well in the finals. The whole team can hang their hat on how those guys looked. It gives us all something to work for."

The Chiefs wrestle at Livonia Franklin at 6:30 p.m. tonight.

WRESTLING RESULTS

PLYMOUTH CANTON INVITATIONAL WRESTLING Dec. 15 at Canton

Team results: 1. Dearborn Fordson, 262.50 points; 2. Plymouth Canton, 232; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 195; 4. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 175; 5. Allen Park, 136; 6. Ann Arbor Huron, 123; 7. New Boston Huron, 112; 8. Garden City, 69; 9. Inkster, 44; 10. Canton B team, 36.

Individual results

Heavyweight — Championship: Ben Chartier (AAH) def. Mike Robinson (LS), 13-2; **Consolation:** Joe Rewoldt (AAP) pinned Nick Cooper (GC), 1:18.

103 pounds — Championship: Dan McAuliffe (Stevenson) def. Jon Adgate (AAP), 5-3; **Consolation:** Hashim Zsien (DF) def. Steve Hogg (PC), 1-0.

112 pounds — Championship: Ghasan Hamka (DF) def. Mike Szor (AP), 2-1; **Consolation:** Josh Szekeley (NBH) def. Jacob Davis (GC), 12-9.

119 pounds — Championship: Wis-

am Majed (DF) pinned Brian Hofmann (LS), 3:35; **Consolation:** Devin Chard (AAP) def. Andy Roberts (PC), 7-5.

125 pounds — Championship: Jeff Ball (DF) def. Dan Leith (LS), 8-1; **Consolation:** Brent Konarska (NBH) def. Brendan Hatt (AAP), 6-5.

130 pounds — Championship: Doy Demsick (PC) def. Derrick Favot (DF), 8-4; **Consolation:** Jason Fischer (LS) pinned Joe Hearer (NBH), 3:26.

135 pounds — Championship: Ahmad Joumaa (DF) def. Marty Everin (AAP), 4-3; **Consolation:** Doug Novack (LS) pinned Steve Hosey (PC), 3:14.

140 pounds — Championship: Mike Saleh (DF) def. Chris Hosey (PC), 12-10; **Consolation:** Kyle Simpson (AAP) def. Sean O'Halloran (LS), 7-3.

145 pounds — Championship: Greg Musser (PC) def. Ahmad Champ (DF), 16-0; **Consolation:** Jon Pittman (AAH) def. Jeremy Sparks (GC), injury default.

152 pounds — Championship: Chris-

tian Sinnott (AP) def. Noah Wark (AAH), 14-4; **Consolation:** Matt Radley (LS) pinned Tim Iannettoni (AAP), 2:59.

160 pounds — Championship: Jason Thornsberry (NBH) pinned Brandon Sinnott (AP), 6:43; **Consolation:** Mike Bonner (PC) def. Dario Mainella (LS), 4-3.

171 pounds — Championship: Ali Berry (DF) def. Kyle McKay (AP), 3-2; **Consolation:** Marc Franklin (I) def. Brian Sheats (NBH), 9-5.

189 pounds — Championship: Shahein Rafae (PC) def. Isaac Whitener (I), 7-2; **Consolation:** Bernie Frascelli (NBH) pinned Kevin Domingo (LS), 1:13.

215 pounds — Champion: Phil Rothwell (PC), 4-0 record; 2. Austin Thompson (AAH), 3-1; 3. J.D. German (AAP), 2-2; 4. Bilal Baydoun (DF), 1-3; 5. Billy Theron (AAH), 0-4.

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Ocelots survive stiff road test

Schoolcraft College, ranked 10th in the latest NJCAA Division I men's basketball poll, survived a tough challenge on the road Saturday, squeaking by host Kankakee CC (Ill.), 69-67.

Schoolcraft improved to 10-0 on the year. Kankakee falls to 6-4.

"Their coach (Dave Holstein) said afterwards it was the best game they played all year, and to go in there and come out with a win says a lot about our team," Schoolcraft coach Carlos Briggs said. "What we have to do is maintain our focus because teams are going to come after us because of our national ranking."

SC MEN'S HOOPS

Kankakee had a chance to tie the game in the waning seconds, but Schoolcraft forward Ronald Dorsey blocked Rocky Collum's shot to preserve the win.

The Ocelots led 32-26 at half-time.

University of Detroit-Mercy recruit Rulon Harris led Schoolcraft with 13 points and six assists.

Mike Williams added 12 points and 14 rebounds.

Other scoring in double figures for the Ocelots included Javon Clark (12), Westland John

Glenn's Yaku Moton-Spruill (11) and North Farmington's Emir Medunjanin (11).

Medunjanin hit 4-of-5 shots from the floor including three 3-pointers. He also had five assists.

Ron Jones led Kankakee with 20 points, including five treys. Justin Williams, a 6-9 center, added 17.

Schoolcraft hit 28-of-57 shots from the floor (49.1 percent), while Kankakee made 24-of-51 from the field (47.0 percent).

The Ocelots were 6-of-8 from the free throw line, while Kankakee was 13-of-22.

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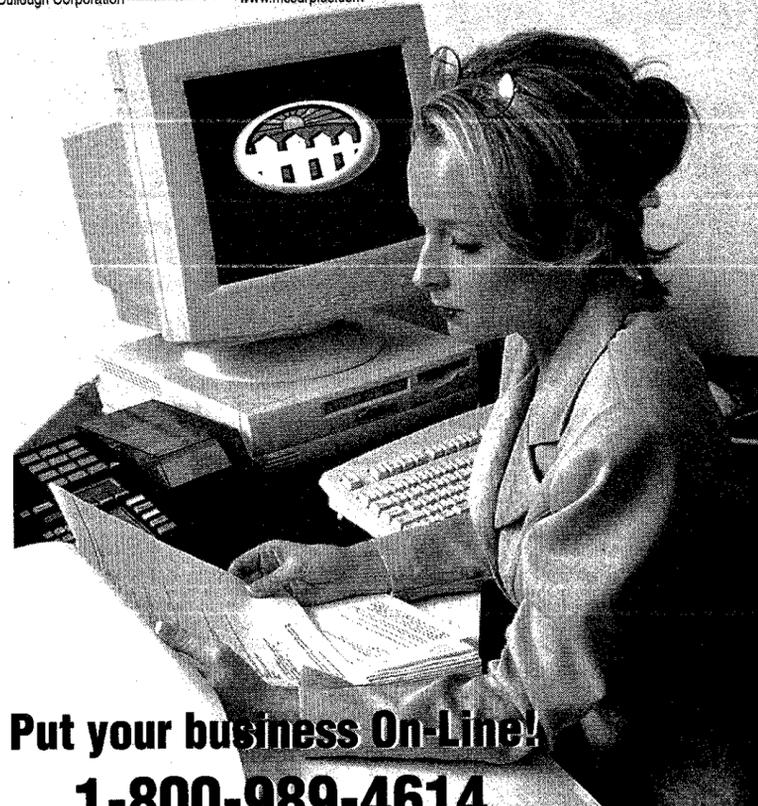
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Whalers tied up by Spits, Otters

The Plymouth Whalers were all tied up last weekend.

On Friday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena, the Whalers needed third-period goals from Cole Jarrett and Kris Vernarsky to tie the Windsor Spitfires, 2-2.

On Saturday at Erie, a back-and-forth, five-goal second period was followed by a scoreless third as the Whalers tied Erie, 3-3.

Plymouth still owns the top spot in the Ontario Hockey League with a 22-5-6-1 record (51 points) through last weekend, good for first in the West Division. Windsor is fourth in the division with a 14-16-3-2 mark (33 points), while Erie is 16-12-3-1 (36 points), third in the Midwest Division.

Windsor goalie Ryan Aschaber was outstanding in goal on Friday, stopping 41-of-43

OHL HOCKEY

shots on goal. Plymouth's Jason Bacashihua was equally impressive with 30 stops.

Frank Rediker opened the scoring for Windsor at 7:47 of the opening period. Craig Kennedy made it a 2-0 Spitfire lead with a power-play goal at 11:45 of the second.

Jarrett narrowed the gap to 2-1 at 3:59 of the third, with an assist from John Mitchell. Vernarsky tied it with an unassisted short-handed goal at 9:48.

Saturday's game at Erie started fast but ended quietly, as far as the offense was concerned. The Whalers took the early lead on a first-period goal by Chad LaRose (assisted by

Greg Campbell and Damian Surma).

The Otters battled back in the second with power-play goals scored 25-seconds apart, by Chris Berti and Sean Courtney. The Whalers responded with two goals of their own, scored by LaRose (from Jarrett and James Wisniewski) and Campbell (from Jarrett and Vernarsky), giving them a 3-2 lead with 12:44 still left in the second period.

The eventual game-tying goal came from Erie's Cory Pecker with 7:04 to go in the second.

Bacashihua made 30 stops in goal for the Whalers. Adam Munro had 31 saves for Erie.

The Whalers are now idle until after Christmas. Their next game is against Erie, at 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27 at Compuware Arena.

OBSERVERLAND WRESTLING RANKINGS

Team: 1. Redford Catholic Central; 2. Livonia Churchill; 3. Westland John Glenn; 4. Plymouth Salem and 5. Plymouth Canton.

103 pounds: Nick Naber (John Glenn); Matt Steintrager (Redford Catholic Central); Dan McAulliffe (Livonia Stevenson); Ryan Stump (Plymouth Salem); Steve Hogg (Plymouth Canton).

112: Ramis Bajrami (North Farmington); Gent Abdullai (Livonia Clarenceville); Jacob Davis (Garden City); Drew Conner (John Glenn); Matt Koziara (Redford CC).

119: Kefentse Mandisa (John Glenn); Dan Clement (Livonia Clarenceville); Peter Bobbee (Plymouth Salem); Craig LaBaron (RT); Ray Strata (Livonia Franklin).

125: Mike Goethe (Plymouth Salem); Brian Clement (Livonia Clarenceville); Harry Leipsitz (North Farmington); Sean Parker (John Glenn); Chris Hopkins (Redford Union).

130: Doy Demisick (Plymouth Canton); Jason Fisher (Livonia Stevenson); Steve Lenhardt (Livonia Clarenceville); Brandon Sammut (Plymouth Salem); John Gourlay (Redford Union).

135: Nate Dillard (Plymouth Salem); Phil Perry (John Glenn); Doug Novack (Livonia Stevenson); Chris Usher (RT); Matt Nolar (LW).

140: Nate Rodriguez (Redford CC); Chris Hosey (Plymouth Canton); John Dobbins (Wayne Memorial); Enrique Garcia (John Glenn); Chris Hopkins (Redford

Union).

145: Trevor Stewart (Redford CC); Greg Musser (Plymouth Canton); Tony Kennard (Plymouth Salem); Lev Merigen (Livonia Clarenceville); Chris McGione (Wayne Memorial).

152: Brian Marsh (Wayne Memorial); Matt Radley (Livonia Stevenson); Brad Gregory (John Glenn); Mike Siegrist (Plymouth Canton); Brandon Noble (LW).

160: Steve Wallace (Wayne Memorial); Nick Wroblewski (John Glenn); Dario Manella (Livonia Stevenson); Craig Blair (Plymouth Salem); Steve Schwarlose (Redford CC).

171: Brian Jones (Livonia Clarenceville); Chris Cracchiolo (Redford CC); Jack Sears (John

Glenn); Phil Portellos (Plymouth Salem); Jake Bongero (Redford Union).

189: Ryan Rowgowski (Catholic Central); Alex Murray (Livonia Clarenceville); Shahein Rajae (Plymouth Canton); Jake Fairchild (John Glenn); Josh Herington (RT).

215: Phil Rothwell (Plymouth Canton); Thom Vandenboshe (Livonia Clarenceville); Blaic Naysmith (Redford CC); Paul Bargerstock (Livonia Stevenson); R.J. Ramsey (Wayne Memorial).

Heavyweight: Tony Martinez (Livonia Franklin); Pat Clark (Redford CC); Jason LaDuc (Redford Union); Mark Robinson (Livonia Stevenson); Nick Renton (Wayne Memorial).

WLAA RELAY RESULTS

WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION SWIM RELAYS

Dec. 15 at Plymouth Salem

Team results: 1. Plymouth Salem, 265 points; 2. Plymouth Canton, 245; 3. North Farmington, 180; 4. Walled Lake Central, 164; 5. Livonia Churchill, 148; 6. Livonia Stevenson, 145; 7. Northville, 135; 8. Harrison/Farmington, 128; 9. Walled Lake Western, 102; 10. Livonia Franklin, 88; 11. Westland John Glenn, 65.

Relay results

400 medley relay: 1. Salem (Eric Lynn, Matt Showalter, Ben Dzialo, Jeff Nevi), 3:51.25; 2. Canton, 3:52.09; 3. North Farmington, 4:07.87; 4. Stevenson, 4:12.49; 5. Harrison/Farmington, 4:13.48; 6. W.L. Central, 4:14.81; 7. John Glenn, 4:18.93; 8. W.L. Western, 4:20.20; 9. Northville, 4:34.81; 10. Franklin, 4:47.79.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Mike Johnson, Mike Horgan, William Clark, Nick Dixon), 3:31.41; 2. Canton, 3:39.05; 3. Northville, 3:40.21; 4. North Farmington, 3:48.32; 5. Stevenson, 4:05.38; 6. John Glenn, 4:25.10; 7. W.L. Central, 4:43.92; 8. Churchill, 4:45.19; 9. Harrison/Farmington, 4:59.05; 10. Franklin, 5:14.78.

200 breaststroke relay: 1. W.L. Central (Ryan Booms, Geoff Wrobel, Jared Averbuch, Justin Fenwick), 2:07.55; 2. Canton, 2:09.50; 3. Salem, 2:09.92; 4. Churchill, 2:14.46; 5. Harrison/Farmington, 2:18.40; 6. Stevenson, 2:24.82; 7. Franklin, 2:27.81; 8. W.L. Western, 2:48.61; 9. Northville, 2:49.48.

200 backstroke relay: 1. North Farmington (Brian Clayson, Thomas Naughton, Jason Bank, Mohamad Bachrouche), 1:50.80; 2. Canton, 1:52.06; 3. Salem, 1:53.99; 4. W.L. Central, 2:00.12; 5. Churchill, 2:01.07; 6. W.L. Western, 2:05.81; 7. Stevenson, 2:23.00; 8. John Glenn, 2:23.80; 9. Franklin, 3:10.15.

200 butterfly relay: 1. Canton (Ben King, Jordan Champine, Yuhel Uno,

Matt Wisniewski), 1:47.10; 2. Churchill, 1:50.16; 3. W.L. Central, 1:52.25; 4. Salem, 1:52.47; 5. Harrison/Farmington, 1:55.66; 6. John Glenn, 1:55.95; 7. W.L. Western, 1:56.85; 8. North Farmington, 2:02.61; 9. Stevenson, 2:08.76; 10. Franklin, 2:18.43.

Diving relay: 1. W.L. Central (Brian Chranowski, Mike Maynard), 340.35 points; 2. Northville, 334.60; 3. Franklin, 325.35; 4. Stevenson, 298.35; 5. Churchill, 232.00; 6. Salem, 218.00; 7. Canton, 210.05; 8. John Glenn, 189.70.

400 Individual medley relay: 1. North Farmington (Sermet Alver, Matt Newman, Brian Clayson, Mohamad Bachrouche), 4:05.34; 2. Salem, 4:10.26; 3. Canton, 4:11.55; 4. Churchill, 4:24.30; 5. Northville, 4:34.60; 6. W.L. Western, 4:41.80; 7. Harrison/Farmington, 4:49.22; 8. Stevenson, 4:54.38; 9. Franklin, 5:13.65.

500 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Jim Franks, William Clark, Nick Dixon, Ben Dzialo), 4:34.42; 2. Canton, 4:38.13; 3. Northville, 4:39.53; 4. Harrison/Farmington, 4:46.21; 5. Stevenson, 4:54.68; 6. North Farmington, 4:56.26; 7. W.L. Central, 5:13.82; 8. Churchill, 5:27.98; 9. Franklin, 5:41.56; 10. W.L. Western, 6:23.92.

200 medley relay: 1. Salem (Nick Yee, Casey Johnson, Eric Lynn, Mike Johnson), 1:46.32; 2. Canton, 1:55.54; 3. Harrison/Farmington, 2:04.55; 4. Stevenson, 2:04.98; 5. North Farmington, 2:05.23; 6. Northville, 2:10.64; 7. Churchill, 2:23.02; 8. Franklin, 2:28.08; 9. W.L. Western, 2:33.32.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Danny Daniels, Kevin Kilgore, Matt Vivian, Matt Poniatowski), 1:40.37; 2. Canton, 1:41.14; 3. W.L. Central, 1:56.79; 4. North Farmington, 1:58.28; 5. Northville, 1:59.31; 6. W.L. Western, 2:09.73; 7. Churchill, 2:13.31; 8. Franklin, 2:36.45.

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Refreshments available in Warming Barn

Wreaths, Grave Blankets,
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Special Orders Too!

Free wrapping and shaking

We are OPEN DAILY 9-5 • We Honor all Tree Farm Coupons

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Huge varieties of fresh cut Fir Spruce, Pine including Premium Fraser, Concolor & Douglas Fir.
Limited Supply of U-Cut Scotch Pine

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Clarkston, MI

1-75 Clarkston Exit 91 North 2 Miles on M-15
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Closed Mondays

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FUN STUFF Weekends thru December 16th
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Only \$28 for **Scotch Pine**, \$38 for standard size **Spruce**, and \$58 for all **Firs**. Other sizes specially priced. Free shaking. Available: pre-cut trees from \$9 to \$90, roping, wreaths, tree stands, crafts.
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- White Spruce
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Open Daily 9:00am - Dusk

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Call 1-800-226-9660
\$2.19 per minute,
\$2.19 per call connect fee

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

Single white professional female, semi retired, 66, Gemini, work out of my home. Looking for a relationship with a kind hearted gentleman who's emotionally available and uncumbered, for friendship first, possibly more. Like travel, garden, shopping, interior decorating, flea markets, etc. BOX 12629

TRAVEL INTO MY HEART

Fun loving, good hearted, professional, never married, no children, white Christian female, 35, fit, red hair, fair skin. Enjoys concerts, movies, sporting and cultural events. Seeks white male, 35-42, sincere, humorous, romantic, financially secure. For serious relationship. BOX 12630

SHOOTING STAR

Divorced, white professional female, 57, 125 lbs, brown/black hair and eyes, dimples, looks 40 and stable. Seeking a divorced, white male, 50 to 63, attractive, 6', stable and a good sense of humor. BOX 31913

ARE YOU THE ONE?

Single black female, 29, looking for a white or Hispanic male who's financially stable, well educated and looking to have fun. BOX 32518

IT'S ALL RIGHT HERE

Classy, attractive divorced white female, 55, 130 lbs, dark hair, pretty eyes. Seeks a tall, handsome white male, 5'10" and over, who would like to have a relationship. BOX 32527

VIVACIOUS OPTIMIST

Petite, 51, attractive, white professional divorced mom. Enjoys working out daily, good conversation, music, sports, and is an optimist. Looking for a professional (college degree), divorced, white male, 40 to 55, physically fit, no beard or mustache, good sense of humor, non-smoker. Oakland County BOX 36058

GENUINE ONE FOR YOU

Attractive, honest, sincere, single, white professional female, 45, 105 lbs, 5'9", 140 lbs, fit, optimistic, well educated, affectionate, easygoing. Enjoys good conversation, good friends, travel, etc. Seeks white professional male, 38 to 55, fit, attractive, successful, fun, romantic. BOX 12292

SEARCHING FOR MY BOY

Someone to talk with, laugh with and someone to cry with. Please no games and no lies. Call me. BOX 12493

IN LOVE FOREVER

Single white female, 40, 5'4", brown hair and green eyes, 2 children, kind, easygoing. Seeking a single white male, 45 and up, who is kind, easygoing and looking for a long term relationship. BOX 32524

LET'S GET TOGETHER

You found her! Adorable, petite, prettier gentleman 48-50, full of life, great sense of humor, likes to have fun, outgoing, fun, call you, we regret it. Oakland County, BOX 25008

WHY HESITATE?

Single white female, 39, no children. Looking for a goal oriented, serious minded, single, grown up male for companionship and possible relationship. My interests include music, theater, movies, animals, theater, camping and music. BOX 14179

JUST A CALL AWAY

Tall, blond divorced white female, 58; medium build, non-smoker. In search of a very tall white gentleman, 60s to 60s, under 245 lbs, fit, honest, sincere, outgoing, independent and enjoys dancing, classic movies, winter walks. For friendship, possible long term relationship. BOX 14179

CAMPFIRE GIRL

Strawberry blonde, 28 yrs old, 5'9", never married. Looking for a man for friendship that is also marriage minded, outgoing and fun. I enjoy reading, theater, camping and music. BOX 14179

OAKLAND COUNTY GAL

Divorced female, grown children, long red hair, attractive, 51, nurse, smoker, 5'4", 155 lbs. Not into sports or mind games. Seeks honest male that I can have a relationship with. BOX 32503

SOMETHING IN COMMON?

Seems a little red headed in my mid 60's, 5'11", 148 lbs, good health, active, would like to meet a white male, 65 or over, who enjoys fishing, boating, going to nice casinos and comedy clubs. Let me know if I have something in common. BOX 10874

IT TAKES TWO

Young looking, 51, 5'4", slim, well proportioned. Marketing Representative, no children, non-smoker, social drinker, caring, romantic and humorous. Seeks an attractive, emotionally and financially secure for friendship leading to more. BOX 13950

LET'S SEE A MOVIE

33 yr old, single, white female blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'8", non-smoker, who enjoys working out, movies etc. Seeking 28-39, single white male to spend time with. Wayne county BOX 36089

GOOD FRIENDS & CHAT

I am secure, intelligent, educated, attractive, 32 yrs old, white female, not a nag. Seeks an older man who is secure and wise, for friendship and good conversation. BOX 11334

DOWN RIVER FEMALE

Single white female, 40, 5'7", weight height proportionate, brown hair, hazel eyes. Enjoys horseback riding, swimming, dining out, shopping, etc. Seeks a single white male, 35-42, for possible relationship. Wayne County, BOX 33719

LOOK NO FURTHER

Tall, slim and blonde, a model and teacher, would like to find a special man to share my life with. BOX 10586

IT TAKES TWO

Attractive white female, 58, 45 yrs old, 130 lbs, smoker, seeks attractive white male, 42 to 50, for a long term relationship. Farmington area. BOX 10788

SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE

Pretty, petite, passionate, divorced white female, 40-45. Seeks non-smoking, single white male, over 35, for dating and relating. Let's create sparks and watch them fly! BOX 25352

BEAUTIFUL

Intelligent, classy, lady, 50's, loves travel, boating, golf, tennis, walks on the beach and romantic dinners. Searching for male who is fun with similar interests. BOX 26072

NO GAMES

Single white female, 27, in search of a single white male, 29-39, financially, emotionally secure, family oriented, enjoys a wide variety of interests, like music, being by the water, reading, for friendship, possible relationship. Wayne County, BOX 26937

ATTRACTIVE BRUNETTE

Outgoing, petite, and live in Plymouth. Looking for an attractive, non-smoking, single white male, 48 to 58, who is trustworthy, emotionally/financially secure, with no dependents. Someone with a job in life. Wayne County BOX 27026

STARTING OVER

Single, divorced, 57, 36, 5'8", 120 lbs, with long brown hair, looking to meet a single male, 36 to 45, for casual dating and possibly more. BOX 26256

GO MUCH TO OFFER

Single white female, old-fashioned, with blue eyes and blonde hair, seeks man with Christian values for a long term relationship. BOX 12638

THE GOOD LIFE

Active white widow, honest, active, optimistic, affectionate, and a lot of fun. Seeks Catholic gentleman, 40 to 75, who has similar qualities. I am a senior looking to share life! BOX 10777

READY TO SETTLE DOWN

Divorced white female, 55, 130 lbs, white hair, brown eyes, likes movies, concerts and dining out. Looking for a tall, handsome man, 50 yrs or older, who would like a relationship. BOX 11120

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

Attractive, single white female, 54, 130 lbs, non-smoker, financially secure. Seeks gentleman, 45 to 60, non-smoker with old fashioned values, easy to get along with. I like oldies and antique collecting. BOX 11183

TOUCHING HEART

55-yr old, comfortable in Lewis and Clark, single white professional female, with great sense of humor, nice turned up nose, pretty inside and out, likes opera, boating, fine dining, people, children and animals. Looking for a cowboy who cares about people. BOX 12294

IT STILL BELIEVES

51, 5'11", 140 lbs, professional female, 46, 120 lbs, 5'11", 140 lbs, good sense of humor, 5'11", 140 lbs, professional female, 46, 120 lbs, 5'11", 140 lbs, good sense of humor. Who knows where it may lead? BOX 12403

THAT PERFECT MATE

Good looking, intelligent lady, 52, medium build, very light platinum hair. Looking for a man who is kind, caring, fun, outgoing, and has a good sense of humor. BOX 13942

SEEMS PERFECT MATE

Attractive, 49, widow, tall, intelligent, physically fit. Seeks male desiring travel, working out, bicycling, golf, mountain hiking, skiing, swimming, dancing, dining out, family, book reading, single white male, 45 to 60, with traditional values for a long term relationship. BOX 13942

POSSIBLE CONNECTION

An attractive brunette, 48, 5'4", 115 lbs, single, professional female, with great smile and good heart, enjoys family and friends, boating, Red Wings and you, if he has a good sense of humor, is humorous, caring, financially stable and emotionally available. Wayne County, BOX 25014

PRETTY ENTREPRENEUR

Quality, intelligent, professional, pretty, lots of fun, great conversationalist, 55, looking for sincere, successful Caucasian gentleman, 45-54, 70's, to be my mate. Find your best mate today. BOX 25322

QUALITY, QUALITY

Seeking a sincere, honest, no games played, non-smoking, social drinker, single white male, 40 to 50, divorced white female, 54, who likes to do almost everything. Looking for friendship, companionship, and a long term relationship. West side, Wayne County, BOX 25333

CUTE AND CLASSY

40's, 5'4", slim, degreed, non-smoking, fun, athletic, adventurous, caring, word trier, 56, divorced, with brown hair and big blue eyes. Seeking intelligent, degreed, slim, non-smoking, gentleman, 42 to 52, for water sports, nice looking, camping and music. BOX 26939

MY YOUR LADY

Attractive, 49, widow, tall, intelligent, physically fit. Seeks male desiring travel, working out, bicycling, golf, mountain hiking, skiing, swimming, dancing, dining out, family, book reading, single white male, 45 to 60, with traditional values for a long term relationship. BOX 13942

BUBBLY & CLASSY

Intelligent, fit, 56", brown eyed blonde, passionate about life and laughing, enjoys golf, biking, theater, boating and great conversation. Seeking 28-39, single white male to spend time with. Wayne county BOX 36089

GOOD FRIENDS & CHAT

I am secure, intelligent, educated, attractive, 32 yrs old, white female, not a nag. Seeks an older man who is secure and wise, for friendship and good conversation. BOX 11334

ARE YOU...

Looking for someone special, who is sincere, honest, and fun loving, could be me. I am a divorced white female, 54, non-smoker, who likes to do almost everything. West Side area. Let's talk! Wayne County, BOX 36084

LET'S ROLL!

Divorced white female, 48, tall and slender, looking for a gentleman who enjoys the outdoors and life, wants to travel, and is a honest and sincere. BOX 12761

LINE UP A LONG SHOT

20 yr old, single white female, 40, curvaceous, brown hair, blue eyes, no children, like watching basketball and taking long walks. Seeking attractive, black male, 25 to 30, BOX 10783

CHERISH ME!

51 yr old, 5'6", single female with auburn hair, brown eyes, outgoing, sensitive and caring. Looking for large built, white man, 50 to 60, who enjoys quality time with a special someone. BOX 12685

STYLE AND CLASS

Attractive, slender, tall and elegant, age 65, a smoker, intelligent, fun loving, warm hearted. Seeking a polite gentleman, 55 to 69, tall, intelligent, single, interested in quiet dining and conversation. BOX 10609

FINDER THINGS

Widow, black, petite female, 50th birthday, honest, sincere, and full of life. Seeking a gentleman, 48-58, tall, honest, truthful, who enjoys dining out, movies, concerts, travel and a fine dining life. Race an important! BOX 11250

FULL OF ENERGY

Widow, black, single, built female, 54, honest, sincere, trustworthy, fun loving, outgoing, and full of life. Seeks a gentleman, 48-58, tall, honest, truthful, who enjoys dining out, movies, concerts, travel and a fine dining life. Race an important! BOX 11250

LET'S CONNECT

Divorced white female, 55, pretty, perky, plump, sociable social worker. Seeking white male, 45-52, non-smoker, interested in dating and emotionally secure. Enjoys movies, theater, dining out, travel, reading, fishing and maybe something new. BOX 11541

A MUST READ

Blonde, good figure, pretty, owns home, no work, but a busy life, loves art and decorating. Life is interesting and fun. Seeking a non-smoker with a sense of humor, 67 to 75. BOX 12342

SUTTON AREA

Divorced white female, 41, average looks, slight full figure, nurse, home owner, mother of one seeks commitment-minded man to enjoy movies, concerts, skiing and home and life. BOX 12363

ME JANE, YOU TARZAN

Jane is tall, slender, feisty, lovable, enjoys outdoors, the river, sun, shine, moonlight, laughter, passionate, outgoing, and full of life. I am tall, trim and fit, handsome, 48-58, considerate, romantic, sensitive. Jane is lost in jungle without you. Call me and let me know your phone number. BOX 12385

FLOAT YOUR BOAT...

...Make you're day, answer my ad today! 68 yr old, white female, 120 lbs, single, professional female, with same interests. Who knows where it may lead? BOX 12403

JUST A CALL AWAY

I work for the federal government. I am a 67 yr old widow, 140 lbs, 5'4", I like to dance, sing, go to casinos, long walks, home life. I would like to meet a gentleman who is a social drinker and non-smoker for fun and companionship. BOX 12455

FILL THE VOID

43 yrs old, 5'3", 200 lbs, single female, great personality, love people, romance and dining. Seeks male, who's honest and down to earth. Looking for a nice guy to treat a lady. BOX 13968

FIRESIDE ROMANCE

Female, 29, single black female, no kids, non-drinker, non-smoker, looking for an older, single, white male also looking for a friend and long-term relationship down the road. BOX 13995

PRETTY LADY

Black female, tall, outgoing, intelligent, seeks man with integrity and can describe himself in a similar manner, then call. BOX 14054

SOONER THAN LATER

Single black female, 47, 140 lbs, looking for the ultimate soul mate who is not afraid of commitment, enjoys movies bowling and sports. Long term relationship. BOX 14061

TRUE LOVE WANTED

This tall, slender, sassy, down to earth woman is part tomboy and part diva. Looking for a gentleman who is fun, outgoing, and has a good sense of humor. BOX 14074

MOTOWN GAL

Looking for a kind, sincere, single or divorced male, 45 to 60, non-smoker, for long-term, monogamous relationship. I am 51 yr old divorced female. I love Motown music and classic soul. Believe in romance and enjoy simple pleasures. Down River area. BOX 14471

PROFESSIONAL MOM

Single white Christian professional female, 48, 124 lbs, attractive, with a heart of gold, great cook. Enjoys quiet times and movies, walks, nice looking, camping and music. BOX 14074

CUTE AND CLASSY

Single black female, mid 50's, enjoys jogging, concerts and walks in the park. Seeking a gentleman over 50, with similar interests. Oakland County, BOX 26066

ROMANTIC FEMALE

Single beautiful black female, 46, medium build, enjoys dining out, traveling and movies. Seeking male with similar interest, race unimportant for dating and possible relationship. Wayne County, BOX 26881

SONGS FROM THE HEART

Divorced white female, 47, 5'7", blonde/blue, vivacious, passionate, Christian church musician. Seeks white Christian male, non-smoker, 51" or taller, who is intelligent, articulate, romantic, sincere, honest with a passion for life. Oakland County, BOX 27014

JACQUELINE SMITH

I'm told often that I resemble her and Jackie Kennedy. Big, hazel eyes, auburn hair, great smile, very classy looking, 56's, mother, high energy person. Loves water, boating, fishing, travelling. Seeking non-smoking gentleman, 59+ plus, 48 to 58, with similar interests. Macomb County, BOX 27021

NEW BEGINNINGS

Single white female 47, 5'4", 178 lbs, never married, 3 grown children, who enjoys candlelight dinners, movies, homebody, seeking black male 48 to 52, for dating and possible relationship. Wayne county BOX 27024

30 SOMETHING

Degreed single Christian black female, 35, attractive with Hispanic descent, looks, marriage minded and loves Seinfeld, desires single Christian professional white male, healthy, degreed, 5'10" plus, 30 to 37, preferably slim. Macomb County, BOX 27026

COUNTRY GIRL

Divorced white lady, non-smoker, non-drinker likes horseback riding, has own horses. Enjoys camping, walking, boating, flea markets, old cars, movies. Seeks gentleman 57 to 65 with similar interest. Monroe County, BOX 3594

LOVELY BUT LONELY

Tall slender, attractive, romantic, fun lady seeks honest, loyal, romantic, flexible gentleman, that's 45 plus, over 5'10", and fun to be with. Let's start as friends first. Oakland County BOX 27034

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

Attractive white female, 58, 45 yrs old, smoker, seeks long term relationship with an attractive white male. Farmington area. BOX 27451

LIFE'S RICH PAGENT

Single white female, 47 yrs old, looking for an honest, sincere man to interact with on a daily basis. I am full figured with a large heart to share. I enjoy walks, long drives, cats, and quiet evenings at home. Reford area. BOX 29830

TRUSTWORTHY

Attractive, classy, divorced white female, 55, 130 lbs, dark hair, sincere, trustworthy, who enjoy concerts and dancing. Seeking tall, handsome male, 40 or older, to share with me all that life has to offer. For long term relationship. BOX 30203

THE HAPPIEST PLACE

On earth is the heart of this friendly, well widowed female, 63, seeking friendship in a male 60 to 70, non-smoker. Let's get together and see if we enjoy each others company. Oakland County, BOX 35991

A LADY OF CLASS

Vivacious, upbeat, very attractive, blonde female, a professional, 57, 115 lbs, upper 50's, seeking a professional, 60's, a professional, for dating, possible long term relationship. West Side. BOX 35996

50/50 RELATIONSHIP

Black male, 55, 185 lbs, employed, financially secure. Enjoys fishing, outdoors, cooking, socializing, casual dining out. Seeks white female, 30 to 45, slim build full figure, financially secure. BOX 12435

WANTED: FULL FIGURES

59, 155 lbs, interested in meeting single, full figured females for friendship first, dating next. Age, race, looks unimportant. BOX 12535

WHAT'S INSIDE COUNTS

Divorced white male, 55, 155 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, professional, honest, caring, sincere. Enjoys camping, swimming, long walks, walks, movies, amusement parks. Weight or looks are unimportant. BOX 12557

YOU FOUND ME

28 yr old Caucasian male, 6'2", 245 lbs, easy going, open minded, employed, non-smoker, occasional drinker, no children. Enjoys looking for an attractive, nice, fun, non-judgmental lady to get to know. Friendship, possibly more. BOX 12559

KICKSTART MY HEART

40 yr old single white professional male, 5'8", 180 lbs. Enjoys swimming, camping, the beach, long walks, movies, amusement parks. Seeks female, height weight and age are open. BOX 12603

LET THE GOOD TIMES...

Kick 44 yrs old, 5'7", 240 lbs, honest, easy going, like to have fun, karaoke, classic cars, country music, camping, motorcycles, fishing, movies, etc. Would like to meet a non-smoking, single, white woman between ages 37-47, with similar interests. BOX 12627

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Divorced white male, 6', dark hair, seeking that one lady who I can make happy in 2002. No heaves. West side. BOX 14025

TIED OF BEING ALONE

Widowed and lonesome male, 59, 168 lbs, social drinker, smoker, healthy, gentle and giving. Enjoys camping, fishing, travel, walking, games and quiet times at home. Seeks well put together female, under 60, with a nice personality. BOX 12547

I'M WAITING

44 yr old male, 6', 240 lbs, broad shoulders, good natured, romantic, spontaneous, good heart, works two jobs. Loves sports, animals, kids, long walks, cozy fires. Seeks down to earth woman, 40s. BOX 14162

INTERESTED...CALL!

54 yrs old, 5'10", 180 lbs, single male, brown hair, blue eyes, employed as a Psychology instructor, ambitious, hard working with a great sense of humor. In search of a single female for friendship. BOX 10929

GEMINI GIRL

Single white female, 47, slender, blonde hair, hazel eyes, enjoys golf, swimming, boating, people. Looking for a single white male, 42-53, who's genuine, down to earth, stable for dating, possible long term relationship. Wayne County, BOX 35938

SEEKS SOULMATE

Divorced black female, 39, brown complexion, full figure. Seeking her soulmate. We are both honest, head strong people who enjoy the same things such as, bowling, outdoor activities, sports, jazz and family oriented. Wayne County, BOX 35942

SEARCHING SOUL MATE

Single white female, 38, 250 lbs, non-smoker, looking for a single white male, 35-40, likes dining out, bowling, and quiet evenings at home, someone with the same interest. Oakland County, BOX 3594

ATTRACTIVE ITALIAN

Petite, divorced, white female, seeks honest and secure, single, white male, 49-55, who likes to laugh and have fun, for friendship, possible long term relationship, Dearborn area. Wayne County, BOX 35950

Cranbrook earns tie against Spartans

Livonia Stevenson coughed up the puck twice in its own end and it proved to be costly as the Spartans settled for a 2-2 boys hockey draw Saturday against host Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, the defending Division III state champions.

Stevenson is 3-1-1 overall, while Cranbrook is 2-6-2.

The Spartans took a 2-0 lead after one period.

PREP HOCKEY

Jamey Messer scored from Brian Shekell and Bret Veasey at 4:09. Adam Miller followed from Matt Calus and Dave Mifsud at 14:29.

In the second period, Matt Fritz took advantage of a giveaway to score for the Cranes at 11:32.

Drew Schmale then capitalized on a Stevenson defensive miscue at 11:57 when he chipped in a rebound. Cranbrook outshot Stevenson, 28-26.

NEW TRIER (III.) 5, REDFORD CC 2: On Saturday, visiting New Trier (Ill.) proved opportunistic Saturday in beating the three-time defending Michigan state champions at Redford Ice Arena.

New Trier, which has captured five straight Illinois state high school titles, took advantage of some CC (3-3) defensive errors.

"The game was a lot closer than the final score," said CC co-coach Todd Johnson said. "We were unable to convert. This is a typical start to our program's season. We're just not doing the little things to put us over the top."

The score was tied 1-1 after the first period thanks to a goal by Eric Reinhardt with assists from Mike Monterey and Ryan O'Dea.

New Trier scored twice in the second period. With four minutes left before the period ended, Brian Genrich scored with assists from Jeff Prough and Eric Reinhardt to bring the score up 3-2.

O'Dea couldn't score on a breakaway shot, but he did score on a rebound. Two more goals on the boards for the win. Shots on goal were 23-23. Doug Stoiniski was in goal for CC.

REDFORD CC 5, RICE 0: Redford Catholic Central sophomore John Garza earned his first shut-out Friday night with 15 saves as the Shamrocks hockey team beat Birmingham Brother Rice 5-0.

CC tallied three goals in the opening period — the first by Prough from John Perkovich with assistance by Steve Nelson. The second goal was scored by Jeff Davis assisted by Brandon Naurato and Pat Coldren. Genrich scored with an assist to Perkovich.

In the second period, O'Dea scored from Reinhardt and Sean O'Malley. The final goal was scored by Perkovich from Genrich and Prough.

OBSERVERLAND SPORTS IN BRIEF

LIVONIA YMCA HOOPS

The Livonia Family YMCA is offering winter basketball for ages 6 and up. Registration will be through Sunday, Dec. 23 or until leagues fill up.

The season runs Jan. 12 through March 9.

For more information, call (734) 261-2161.

FPS SEEKS COACHES

Farmington Public Schools has need for coaches in the following areas: girls track, girls soccer and boys diving. Anyone interested in the positions should contact Athletic Director Brian Swinehart's office at (248) 489-3352.

BASEBALL TRYOUTS

The WaCO Wolves 16-under and 14-under travel teams are still holding tryouts for the 2002 summer season.

Those interested should call Bill at (313) 562-4667 for 14-under and Lou at (734) 595-2975 for 16-under.

Tryouts will be scheduled in February for those interested in playing for Livonia Travel, an under-10 baseball team.

Livonia Travel will played 20 league games and three-to-five tournaments (not including postseason) beginning in mid-May. Home games will be in Livonia. Away games will be within a 20-mile radius. For information, call Brian Bolton (734) 464-4616, or e-mail bandbolton@att.net. You can also visit www.eteams.com/livtrav.

FLAG FOOTBALL

Total Soccer of Wixom will hold a 7-on-7 flag football

league. Games will be played every Thursday from Jan. 10 to Feb. 28.

Players must be 18-years-old and rosters have a 14-player maximum. There is a 16-team maximum.

The cost of \$799 per team and \$79 per individual. For more information, call (248) 669-9817 or e-mail totalballwixom@aol.com.

LIVONIA COURSES OPEN

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation golf course schedule has been revamped.

Whispering Willows will be open during throughout the winter months (weather permitting).

For more information, call (248) 476-4493.

BASEBALL COACHES CLINIC

Total Baseball, located at 30900 Wixom Road, Wixom, is staging a baseball coaches clinic 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15. Space is limited.

Featured speakers include Toledo Mudhens manager Bruce Fields, Central Michigan University assistant coach Stephen Jaksu and Lee Bjerke of the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

The cost is \$35. For more information, call (248) 668-0166 or register by email at totalballwixom@aol.com.

INDIVIDUAL BASEBALL LESSONS

The Bernie Carbo Premier Baseball School will be individual and small group lessons in power pitching, hitting and

fielding assisted by minor leaguer Mark Rutherford.

For more information, call Gordie Rutherford at (734) 421-4925.

REFS, INSTRUCTORS WANTED

The Livonia Family YMCA, located at 14255 Stark Road, is currently hiring individuals 18 and older to fill the responsibilities of sports instructors and referees.

Positions are available for basketball, inline hockey, soccer, volleyball instructors and referees. Training is provided, but candidates must possess a strong, outgoing personality, a general knowledge of sports, and desire to work with youth.

Hours are primarily after school and weekends, with some daytime hours available. The YMCA offers competitive wages and free membership to employees.

Applications are available at the front desk or to schedule and interview, call (734) 261-2161, Ext. 3325; or email evesev@ymcametrodetroit.org.

FISHING MEETING

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road.

Visitors are welcome. For more information, please call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843.

To submit items to the Sports Scene, write 36251 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, MI 48150, or send via fax to (734) 591-7279.

Canton earns dual-meet win

The competition may not have been the best, but the improvement made by Plymouth Canton's gymnastics team was duly noted by its coach.

"We had a very good meet," John Cunningham said after his squad posted a 133.50-107.40 dual-meet victory at Vassar Saturday. "Vassar's not a very good team, so it's not really a good

tying Ahern for fourth in the vault (8.3) and placing fifth in the bars (7.2); Brigid Fitzgerald, fifth in the floor (7.7) and sixth in the vault (8.25), and Katie Graham, fourth in the floor (8.1) and fifth in the beam (7.45).

Canton, 1-1 in duals, is idle until its dual at Hartland Jan. 8.

Huron edges Salem

Plymouth Salem's efforts fell short Thursday at Ann Arbor Huron, which edged the Rocks 137.50-137.15.

The loss left Salem at 1-1. Top all-around score for the Rocks came from Melissa Drake (35.05). Bethany Bartlett was next best for Salem (34.20), followed by April Aquinto (34.10) and Ashley Aquinto (33.40).

Leading Salem in the vault was Bartlett (9.0). Drake was next best (8.7), followed by April Aquinto (8.6). In the uneven parallel bars, Bartlett led the Rocks again (9.1), followed by Drake (8.9) and Ashley Aquinto (8.25).

In the beam, Drake paced the Rocks (9.05); April Aquinto was second (8.55) and Ashley Aquinto was third (8.2). And in floor, April Aquinto topped Salem (8.85), with Drake next (8.55) and Ashley Aquinto after that (8.4).

The Rocks' next meet is Jan. 5, when they host the Salem Invitational.

GYMNASTICS

comparison." Still, several Chiefs did well in the meet, including Audra Ahern, who won the balance beam with a score of 9.6 — just short of the school record in the event.

J.Q. Williams also sparked, winning the vault (8.65), the uneven parallel bars (8.5), the floor exercise (9.1) and the all-around (35.70). Williams was second in the beam (9.5).

Ahern tied for first with Williams in the floor (9.1) and was fourth in both the bars (7.3) and vault (8.3), taking second in the all-around (34.30). Jill Rakovitis finished second on the bars (7.65) and was third in the vault (8.4), the beam (8.1), the floor (8.4) and the all-around (32.55).

Other top scorers for the Chiefs were Laura Hamilton,

Risak from page D1

have the advantage of playing earlier in the school year than their counterparts in other states, thereby gaining more attention.

How many scholarships will the change cost the basketball players, CFE?

But those two sports aren't the real problem. Not that it matters to any of those people who filed the lawsuit.

In actuality, the sports that would be affected most are swimming, soccer, tennis and golf. The reason is a lack of facilities.

Chuck Olson, the longtime coach of Plymouth Salem's boys and girls swim teams, figures 50 percent of those who join his teams would have to be cut, simply because there wouldn't be enough room in the pool for both teams to practice.

So stagger the practice schedules, right? One earlier, one later?

Wrong. Club teams, like the Plymouth-Canton Cruisers, work out at Salem's pool too. Send them packing and you undermine the foundation of the district's swim program, which has reached state championship quality.

How many scholarships will that cost the swimmers, CFE?

Tennis would feel the same crunch. Each school only has so many courts to practice on. Put boys and girls teams working out at the same time of year and you create a logjam, which could only be resolved one way: cutting a lot of kids who, under the current format, would be playing.

As Olson said, "I thought high school athletics was about participation. I don't think this is in the best interest of the high school athlete."

Golf would face a similar challenge. Local courses can accommodate a few high school teams in the fall and spring seasons, but putting both at the same time of year could cause location problems. Golf courses are private enterprises; their objective is to make money. Flooding their facility with high school teams and leaving other golfers waiting is not in their best (business) interest.

Then there's soccer. What a mess that would be.

Example: Anyone familiar with soccer and Livonia knows how much one means to the other. Imagine Livonia Franklin's final soccer match of

the season, on a quagmire of a field that has accommodated four soccer teams (two boys and two girls) and three football teams in a 10-week span.

And when and where would those seven teams practice? Dad, I need the car tonight. Football practice is at 10 and we need the headlights.

But this is of no consequence to the CFE. Fair is fair. Why not change the boys seasons? Let them play soccer in the spring, they say.

Know what? I wouldn't even care if they did switch those seasons.

But the parents who back the CFE should. They should be careful. They should ask themselves what would serve their daughter's interests best, playing at the very end of her junior year when college soccer coaches have no other recruiting distractions, or three months later, when college coaches are trying to coach their team while recruiting in every other state in the country.

Mind you, I haven't even touched on the coaches who would lose jobs, like those who coach boys and girls teams of the same sport. And the lack of ade-

quate officiating.

Hey, other states manage, the CFE insists. It's the right way. Not necessarily better, but right. Participation be damned — this is the age of the elite athlete.

Anyways, it's only just begun. Even if the MHSAA's appeal is denied, it's easy to envision a lawsuit filed a year later by a disgruntled father whose all-star daughter lost out because she didn't get the media coverage she would have received if she'd played in the fall.

Or perhaps they'll be another committee formed, the Parents for Grieving Children, who will

file suits on behalf of those kids denied a chance to play high school sports due to a lack of adequate facilities.

Oh, it's a mess all right. Whenever self-interest groups use the judicial system to push their views to the forefront, with no regard for anyone else, no matter how many are hurt, the outcome won't be pretty.

It's the whining of the few over the needs of the many.

(Risak is the Plymouth-Canton sports editor for the Observer and can be reached at (734) 953-2108 or by e-mail at



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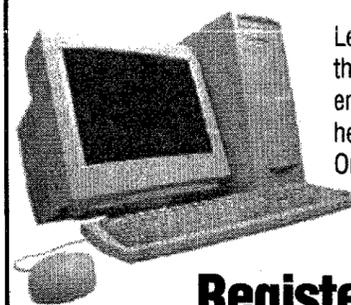
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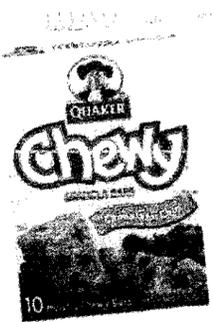
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