tional heights.

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 74

www.hometownlife.com

Canton gets 'great rate' for bonds

BY JACK GLADDEN STAFF WRITER

Canton trustees last week received bids on a \$23 million bond project to fund the expansion of the Administration/Public Safety building and to partially fund the construction of the Performing Arts

Theater at Cherry Hill and Ridge roads. The low bid was awarded to UBS/Paine Webber at a net interest cost of 4.177330 percent.

"That's a great rate," said Township Clerk Terry Bennett. "It's four-tenths of a percent below the market."

Bennett said the original plan was to issue \$16 million in bonds for the expansion and \$8 million for the theater - a total of \$24 million.

"By combining the two projects, we were able to get a better rate," she said. We were able to reduce the debt by a million dollars."

Work on the administration building

expansion is already under way and groundbreaking for the theater is scheduled for May.

While the cost for the theater project is just over \$11 million, the township has received \$300,000 from the state and the balance will be raised by private funds through donations.

TRUSTEE APPROVES

Of the \$23 million projects, Trustee

Melissa McLaughlin said, "It's a lot of money. I think we're all a little nervous. But this is such a necessary thing for the community and the function of the organization. I hope we won't have to do anything more with this for 25 years."

It was just over 25 years ago that the present building was constructed, but it was a totally different era for the township.

PLEASE SEE BONDS, A7



The Park Players

Educational Park present the

Thursday-Sunday, April 10-13,

The Park Players of

musical, Guys and Dolls,

at the Salem High School

Plymouth-Canton

Logan Auditorium.

Guys and Dolls revolves around gambler Nathan Detroit, the organizer of the oldest established permanent floating crap game in New York. Nathan bets fellow gambler Sky Masterson that he (Sky) can't make the next girl he sees fall in love with him. Enter Miss Sarah Brown. a pure-at-heart Salvation Army-type reformer, and the stage is set for a series of hilarious complications as

Sky tries to win her over. Shows for Thursday through Saturday start at 8 n.m. and the Sunday matinee begins at 2 p.m. Tickets are on sale now. All tickets are \$8 (cash or check, please, no credit cards).

There are three ways to purchase 1) in person in the upper auditorium from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; 2) reserve tickets by phoning (734) 416-7723; and 3) one hour before show time at the auditorium.

For information, contact director Kristen Quesada (Kay-Sah-Duh), (734) 416-

School petitions

School election petitions are now available for anyone wishing to declare candidacy for the June 9 Plymouth-**Canton Board of Education** election.

Forms are available at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center on Harvey. Deadline for filing is 4 p.m. April 7. Petitions must contain at least 40 valid signatures of registered voters. The deadline to withdraw once you've filed is 4 p.m. April 10. For more information, call (734) 416-3095.

Youth shows

Canton Project ARTS and the township's Leisure Services department will be offering two more entertainment events for ages 12 and under.

The Youth Variety series events are \$3 per person, starting at 10 a.m. The shows run about 90 minutes.

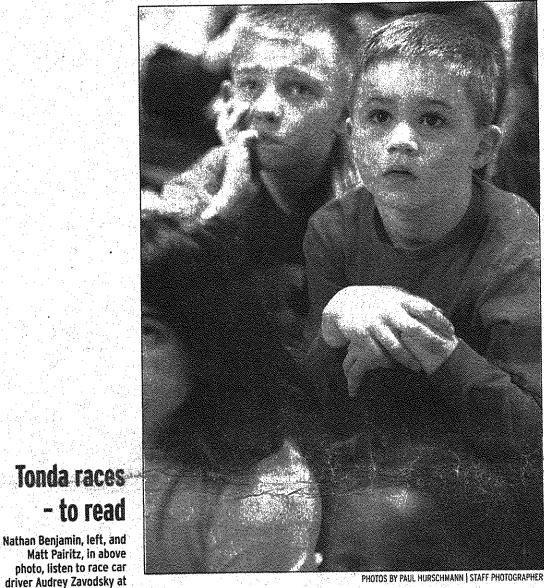
Upcoming shows include the Dream Machine Family Concert on March 22, and A New Breed of Magic with Jason Hudy on April 12.

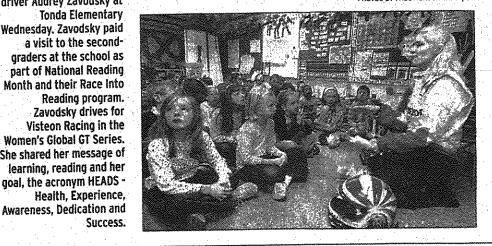
Advance purchase of tickets is suggested; call (734) 394-5460 for more details.

A night out

Field Elementary School will hold an unusual Ladies Night Out Friday, March 28.

A home show/craft fair will run 6-9 p.m. at the school, 1000 S. Haggerty (south of Cherry Hill). Space is still available. Call Becki Meyette at (734) 844-0832. Admission will be \$1 and baked goods and refreshments will be





Uncertainty is word for Canton opinions

War responses vary widely

BY DOUG JOHNSON STAFF WRITERS

The impending war with Iraq was on the minds of the 18 or so youngish adults at Theology on Tap Tuesday night at the Box Bar in Plymouth.

The group meets intermittently to discuss theological

issues and is sponsored by St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton. It is part of the parish's youth outreach ministry and is aimed at providing a relaxed atmosphere for 20- and 30-somethings

After a discussion of the topic for the day (How Do We Love God?), the group became an open forum on the war. Here are some of the comments:

Mike Horka: "I think we all are looking for the right

PLEASE SEE WAR, A10

Canton dog is tops

BY DOUG JOHNSON STAFF WRITER

The big crowds at the Detroit Kennel Club Show last weekend included plenty of folks wanting to see dog agility runs.

Dog agility events started in England in the late 1970s and are modeled in some ways after equestrian shows. The runs involve jumps, poles, teeter-totters, tunnels and weave poles: they are a test for both dog and handler, and have become a popular addition to the tradi-

tional conformation judgings. American Kennel Club and other sanctioned agility events have soared in popularity according to Jennifer Schilp owner of Media Matters, a Plymouth-based firm that

handles public relations for the Detroit Kennel Club.

Among the tops dogs at the show this weekend was Emma, an American Staffordshire Terrier, owned by Canton resident Rita Tyler. These terriers are one of several breeds often grouped under the term "pit bull."

Emma is an exceptional dog, Tyler said, and she and her dog have at least 30 working titles to prove it, although in last weekend's events Emma placed third.

The agility course is run against the clock, and in the class Emma runs with, there is no room for error. Currently, the Canton dog is the No. 1 dog

PLEASE SEE DOG, A7

Four brothers keep 50-year-old business going strong

BY DOUG JOHNSON STAFF WRITER

Mathison Hardware was founded 50 years ago by a TWA pilot who could see the growth coming for western Wayne County every time he took a plane in to Willow Run Airport.

Tonda races

Tonda Elementary

Reading program.

Zavodsky drives for

Health, Experience,

Visteon Racing in the

Wednesday. Zavodsky paid

a visit to the second-

graders at the school as

part of National Reading

Month and their Race Into

Women's Global GT Series.

She shared her message of

goal, the acronym HEADS -

Captain B. J. "Bud" Mathison liked what he saw from the air and started his company - now officially Mathison Supply Co. at 31535 Ford in Garden City.

He built the Canton store that is such a landmark along Canton Center Road in 1970 with the

help of his young sons.

Bud Mathison is gone, but his sons - Bob, and Jim in Garden City, Barry in Canton and Frank in Livonia - have kept the business going. The Livonia store on Plymouth Road opened in 1982.

Jim, Frank and Barry helped with the brick building with the giant Mathison Hardware sign in

"I guess I was about 21 and we worked on putting up the bricks," Barry Mathison recalled. "This basically is the same building that my father and the family had built in Garden City."

"Our dad could see the growth in the suburbs as he landed," Jim said. "I think we may be one of the oldest businesses in Canton still standing," Barry said.

Why is the store set back so far from Canton Center Road?

"We were told that Canton Center would eventually be a split boulevard," Jim said. "We didn't want to take any chances."

The Garden City and Canton stores are affiliated with Ace Hardware and do stock hardware items.



PAUL HURSCHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PLEASE SEE BUSINESS, A10 Frank, Barry and Jim Mathison like doing business here.

HANDYMAN to repair rental properties, must "Our phones were ringing off their hooks! The ad got the job done for us." G.G., West Bloomfield

Newsroom - (734) 459-2700 Newsroom fax - (734) 459-4224 Classifieds - 1-800-579-SELL Home delivery - (734) 591-0500

Homélow

Apartments Arts **Automotive**

Classified Crossword

Movies 81 **Obituaries** F4

Observer Life Real Estate E,F E6 Service Guide

Sports

EI F2

LOOKING AHEAD Spring into parties

In Sunday's Taste section: Read about springtime parties and what foods to serve your guests, whether it's a brunch or a simple gathering.



New Canton Location!



ACTIVITY NIGHT

Plymouth and Canton police teams are joining forces to host an annual activity night for Plymouth-Canton students.

Plymouth's DARE team and the Canton Police Teaching, Educating and Mentoring program members are sponsoring the activity night from 6-9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 29 at Skatin' Station II in Canton.

DARE/TEAM is an educational course conducted in the classroom by police officers to all fifth-grade students in the district. The program equips the students with the necessary life skills to resist peer pressure to experiment with drugs and alcohol.

All students are eligible to participate in the activity night. Since the activity night is the program's major fund-raiser, DARE/TEAM officials are asking students to collect \$30 in pledges, to be presented at the door. Prizes will be awarded based on pledge amounts raised. All proceeds remain in the DARE/TEAM program.

Complimentary pizza and pop will be provided. Questions should be directed to the DARE/TEAM office, (734) 354-3213 or (734) 394-5433.

FRIDAY LENTEN DINNERS

Looking for a meatless Friday dinner, but don't want to cook? Baked fish and pasta buffets have returned to the Summit on the Park Banquet Center every Friday now through April 18 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Bring the family and friends out to feast on a menu that includes salad, pasta, baked cod, vegetable, potato, rolls and beverages. Cost is \$8.50 per adult and \$5.50 for children 10 and under. Dessert is available at an additional charge. Call (734) 394-5480 for more information.

TINY TOTS PROGRAM

The Plymouth Salvation Army is taking registrations for its Tiny Tots Pre-School program for Fall 2003.

The program for 3-year-olds meets from 9:20-11:20 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. To be eligible for this group, children must turn 3 before Sept. 1.

1 ne group for 4-yearmeets from 9:20-11:30 a.m. on

CANTON CONNECTION

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. To be eligible for this group, children must turn 4 before Sept. 1, 2003.

For information or to sign up, call Peggy at (734) 453-5464. This unit of the Salvation Army also serves Canton Township.

GRIEVING

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 20, 2003

Canton's Griffin Funeral Home will host annual grief counseling workshops on two days this spring.

Tonight, Thursday, March 20, The Path of Grief will be discussed. Thursday, April 24, Pitfalls Along the Path of Grief will be the topic. Both sessions will be conducted free at the funeral home by Cathy Clough and the staff of Hope Center for Grief Support. The workshops run from 7-8:30 p.m. Call Griffin at (734) 981-1700 to sign up. If you decide to come at the last minute, that's OK, too. Griffin Funeral Home is at 42600 Ford Road.

"If you are an adult grieving after the death of a loved one, we hope you'll plan to attend, said David Griffin. "Learning to cope after the death of a loved one is difficult, but not impossible. "Knowing what normal grief feels like and what you may expect helps you deal with the pain and the emotions."

HOPPING

You're invited to join the Easter Bunny for his very first Breakfast at the Summit 9-11 a.m. Saturday, April 5, in the banquet center. A light continental breakfast will be served while the kids enjoy some strolling entertainment and visit with their furry egg-toting

Breakfast will be served 9-10 a.m. with open seating. The menu will include: danish, muffins, bagels, cereal, juice, milk and coffee. Tickets are on sale at the Summit's front desk now through April 2. Fee is \$7 for adults 11 and up; \$3.50 for children 3-10; and free for children 2 and under.

Tickets will not be sold at the door and seating is limited, so be sure to get your tickets early. Pictures with the Bunny are special Easter Photo Keepsake.

FIELD EVENT

Field Elementary School will hold an unusual Ladies Night Out Friday, March 28.

A home show/craft fair will run 6-9 p.m. at the school, 1000 S. Haggerty (south of Cherry Hill). Space (a small fee is charged) is still available. Call Becki Meyette at (734) 844-0832. Admission will be \$1 and baked goods and refreshments will be sold.

NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

State Rep. John Stewart has announced 1,263 nursing scholarship grants totaling \$632,000 are now available through local universities.

Specifically, students can apply to four area colleges and universities to receive scholarship funding: Schoolcraft Community College, \$80,000 for 157 eligible students; Madonna University, \$100,000 for 204 eligible students; Eastern Michigan University, \$260,000 for 516 eligible students; and University of Michigan, \$192,000 for 386 eligible students.

"As a member of the appropriations committee I worked hard to secure the money for these nursing programs," said Stewart, R-Plymouth.

"Michigan is facing a nursing shortage and this money will help ensure the safety of our residents." For further information regarding these scholarships, you may contact the nursing program at the above named colleges and universities. Stewart's office number is (517) 373-3816.

KIWANIS GOLF OUTING

The Kiwanis of Colonial Plymouth is planning its 21stannual Kiwanis Golf Outing and Feast. The event will be played on the Golden Fox course at Fox Hills Golf and Country Club in Plymouth Thursday, Aug. 7. Reservations can be made by calling Rob Noel, (734) 453-6000.

WILCOX ESSAY CONTEST

Continuing to fulfill Jack Wilcox's desire to benefit the plymouth Conton community encourage interest in local his

of youth, the Wilcox Foundation announces the continuation of a scholarship program for the high school seniors in the Plymouth-Canton school district.

Some \$36,000 will be awarded May 14-15 to 18 Plymouth-Canton students who research, then write an essay based on interviews with a Plymoutharea resident of the student's choice who is over 80 years of age and has resided in the community at least 40 years.

Three Plymouth-Canton educators and three members of the Plymouth-Canton community will serve on the panel of judges which selects the scholarship recipients.

According to Win Schrader, a member of the Wilcox Foundation Committee and director of the Scholarship Program, the program, unlike many scholarship programs, is not aimed solely at the top academic students.

"Rather, it is interested in promoting broad participation by Plymouth-Canton youth in learning about the history of Plymouth," Schrader said.

Accordingly, the criteria for selecting the participants is centered around the time and effort put into research, resourcefulness in tracking down sources of information and interest shown by the student. Two \$3,000 first-place scholarships will be awarded, as will 12 second-place scholarships of \$2,000 each. A random drawing will determine the recipients of four \$1,500 scholarships.

Additional contest information is available in the counseling offices of Salem and Canton high schools.

DDA WEB SITE OPENS

Canton's Downtown Development Authority has its new Web site up and running. It can be accessed at

www.cantonmi.org/DDA/DDA.asp or by going to the Canton Web site at www.canton-mi.org and clicking on the DDA link.

The site contains information on the district and various accomplishments of the authority. It also has links to the business guide and DDA newsletters, which are available

Officer charged in death of Canton man

The Dearborn traffic ordinance officer who was involved in a fatal crash with a Canton driver was arraigned on charges of manslaughter by motor vehicle Tuesday.

According to Lt. Walter Anhut of the Dearborn Police, the Michigan State Police completed their investigation last Thursday into the Feb. 17 accident that killed a Canton man, William Owen, 35.

The report was forwarded to the prosecutor Friday. Anhut said Agron Seiko, the 20-year old officer charged in the accident, is out on \$10,000 bond.

Seiko apparently joined in a police chase, ran a red light and hit Owen's car near the entrance to Ford Motor Company's research center in Dearborn. He had not been dispatched to the chase nor did he follow Dearborn procedures, according to the report. His assignment was parking enforcement and impounding cars. If convicted, the young officer could go to prison for up to 15 years. Anhut said Seiko is currently suspended from the force.

By Doug Johnson

Safe taken from pickup

A Belleville resident reported to Canton Police that someone stole a safe from the bed of his pickup truck on Monday while he was inside Home Depot on Michigan Avenue.

The man said he parked his truck in the parking lot and went into the store for about 20 minutes.

When he returned to his truck he encountered a store employee who said she saw two men take a box from the back of the truck and load it into a maroon mini-van.

The box contained a 400pound safe valued at \$420.

COAT VANISHES

Another Belleville resident told Canton Police she was in Bailey's Pub & Grille on Canton Center Road between 11:45 p.m. Monday and 12:30 a.m. Tuesday.

She said she left her coat sitting on a bench inside the restaurant and when she started to leave the coat was missing. It was valued at \$375.

WINDOWS SMASHED

A resident of the 41000 block of Larimore told police he legally parked his truck in front of his house about 3:30 a.m.

About 4 a.m. he said he heard a loud bang but looked out and saw no problems. About 5 a.m. he went to the

COP CALLS

truck and found the rear window of the cab was smashed. A large rock was lying in the bed of the truck.

■ A resident of the 41000 block of Allegheny reported that she parked her 1992 Ford Econovan in the street in front of her home about 7 p.m. Sunday.

When she went to the van about 8:30 a.m. Monday, the rear window was broken.

MOVING MYSTERY

A Canton resident reported that he and his wife has recently moved to Canton from Chesterfield Township and after the move three items turned up missing.

The missing items included a floor lamp valued at \$70 and a silver table setting valued at \$5,094.

THEFT FROM CAR

A resident of the 7300 block of Oakmont told police he parked his car in his garage about 11:30 p.m. March 14.

When he went to the garage at 8:30 a.m. March 15, someone had taken a laptop computer valued at \$2,000 from his car and other items valued at

jgladden@oe.homecomm.net

Community • Schools Kindergarten registration is the week of March 24 - 28



Reminder

Plymouth-Canton offers many outstanding kindergarten opportunities:

Computers, printers, and supervised internet access in every kindergarten classroom

Kindergarten Crew child care with free . shuttles to the location

Certified Early Childhood teachers

PLYMOUTH-CANTON

 High standards in early academic learning (see the back for details)

A curriculum aligned to the MEAP (Michigan Educational Assessment Program)

...and more!

For additional information:

Call your local elementary school or call the Kindergarten Hotline at (734) 416-7837

Are you a working parent who needs half-day child care?

Kindergarten Crew is available: A half-day child care designed for the kindergarten student. This child care program provides daily activities that enrich a child's growth and development through play-based activities.

Morning programs hours: 7 a.m. until afternoon kindergarten start time. Afternoon program hours: Morning kindergarten dismissal until 6 p.m. Locations at designated sites throughout the district. Children are transported by Plymouth-Canton Community School buses. For information regarding fees and locations, please call: Extended Day Program at (734) 416-6194

teacher () () Conclus () Co

Canton Applebee's makes autism

program part of their 'hood

Dad testifies on speed limits, son on business competitiveness

State Rep. Phil LaJoy, R-Canton, testified last week before the Michigan House **Transportation Committee** on his bill allowing townships to have a voice in setting speed limits on county highways.

Also, his son testified before a House/Senate committee on keeping Michigan businessfriendly.

House Bill 4133 allows a county road commission, the township board, and the director of the Department of State Police to determine safe speeds on county highways.

Currently, only county road commissions and the state police can decide speed limits on a county road in any given township.

LaJoy, a member of the transportation committee and a four-term Canton Township trustee, said transportation issues need to be dealt with at the township level in conjunction with the state.

"As a former trustee, I understand the importance of local control," LaJoy said. "Decisions should be made by the people directly affected. This is an important first step in giving township officials greater authority in transportation decisions.

Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack provided written testimony for the committee.

"Canton, as a township, currently has no voice in the speed limit decision-making process,"

Yack wrote. "We are limited, at present, to initiating an action to review an existing speed limit. To limit township officials, staff and residents to the current practice is to treat them as second-class

citizens. The bill was unanimously approved by the committee and now goes to the House floor for consideration.

On another matter, LaJoy invited his son, Chris, to testify at the first Joint Select Committee on Business Competitiveness hearing in Novi. Chris LaJoy is co-owner

service based in Plymouth.

invited to testify before the

in the future.

LaJoy said

policy."

opment.

LaJoy said.

state.

Local business leaders were

committee to provide input on

various opportunities to ensure

Michigan remains competitive

metro Detroit's business envi-

ing on business competitive-

ness the Legislature came to

southeast Michigan," Phil

"Local business and

political leaders have a vast

translate into good public

array of experiences that can

Chris LaJoy's testimony

focused on two issues - a new

Michigan Business Initiative.

in Michigan to conduct busi-

ness with other Michigan-

based businesses; and the

a medium for large companies

importance of workforce devel-

a platform for Michigan-based

companies to grow their busi-

"The return for companies

incentives in various forms like

tax credits or additional grant

between Michigan-based com-

panies and keep business in our

"A further investment in our

Chris LaJoy said other issues

like the single business tax, and

were addressed at the hearing.

CAD/CAM and high technolo-

The Joint Select Committee on business Competitiveness is

(House and Senate) committee

recommendations to maintain

and attract business investment

gy were we need to find new

funds. This initiative would

workforce will help attract,

workforce competitiveness

"We have to remain

competitive. There are

certain industries like

a bipartisan, bicameral

charged with outlining

and good-paying jobs to

Michigan.

tunities in Michigan."

grow and retain career oppor-

help build relationships

ness within the state," Chris

that participate would be

"This new initiative provides

ronment that for the first hear-

"I think it is a great tribute to

At Applebee's Restaurant, it's "eatin' good in the neighborof the LaJoy Group, a staffing

BY SUE MASON

But there's more to that than iust being an advertising jingle. Just ask the organizers of a fund-raiser to put a new playground in for youngsters housed in two programs at the Cambridge Center.

Led by Jerry Baez manager of the Applebee's in Canton Township, at least four of the chain's restaurants have partnered with the program to help raise the \$30,000 that's needed for the project and

"When I came across this, I knew we could do something to help," Baez said. "My heart went out to them and now we're committed to do whatever it takes.

"Applebee's core values and guiding principles are to work in the community and find a charity we can get behind."

"She's wrapped her arms around our program," Cindy Valdivia said.

"She feels very strongly that the kids need the playground and should have the playground, and they're going to help us.

The hope has been to start constructing a new playground in April for youngsters in the Cambridge Corners child care program and the annex of the Burger Center for Students with Autism.

However, with only \$8,000 collected of the \$15,000 organizers want to have in hand to purchase the main piece of equipment, construction most likely won't come until the fall.

Baez heard about the fundraising through "one of the little guys' mother" and enlisted the help of managers of Applebee's restaurants in Westland, Dearborn Heights



PAUL HURSCHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stars decorate the walls of Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar where manager Jerry Baez has been spearheading a campaign to raise money for a new playground for the Burger Center for Students of Autism Annex and Cambridge Corners, based at the Cambridge Center in Garden City.

and Belleville to raise the money.

She wants to get all seven stores in the chain's BIG Fun TRIP Council. BIG and TRIP spell out Applebee's philosophy - B is for balance between work and home, I for innovation, G for guest-driven, Fun for ... fun, T for teamwork, R for results, I for integrity and P for passion for service.

At the Canton restaurant, employees are donating \$5 to wear jeans to work and hanging up stars that customers have been buying for \$1 each. In just two weeks' time, they've raised

It's a good showing, considering organizers have been able to raise only \$8,000 since start-

ing the fund-raiser in October. 'It's wonderful," Valdivia said. "It's so wonderful to have that

kind of help. We've sold pizza

kits and pieced little bits together, so this is really going to help."

"Applebee's is great about being involved in the community, and encourages us to reach out to the community," Baez said. "We feel fortunate to help them and want to see them buy a playground equipment. That's why we've sistered up with the others stores to adopt the pro-

Some of us feel blessed to be involved with them."

Literally, a fast talker, Baez rattles off a bunch of other things that will be done to raise cash - car wash, guest bartenders, bowl-a-thon, golf outing, laser tag-a-thon.

But Baez also wants to build a relationship with the children who are doing artwork to display in the store. Employees also plan to take lunch to 15

students each month, beginning in April, and to have a group of students come to restaurant to eat.

"I know we can do this," Baez said. "Our people are excited about this and our guests are excellent. Canton is so warmhearted to wrap its arms such a good cause. It makes you feel good to reach out."

Valdivia agrees with her about the good feeling.

"It's just great when you walk in and the staff knows what you're doing," she said. "And what they're doing gives you such a remarkable feeling."

Residents who'd like to help make the playground a reality, can call Cindy Valdivia at the Burger Center annex at (734) 762-8445 or Sonya Griwicki at (734) 762-8440.

smason@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2112

Plan your weekend activities each Thursday with Arts & Entertainment

BANK REPOSSESSED CARS TO BE SOLD DIRECTLY TO THE PUBLIC North Brothers Ford Used Cars is Selected to Dispose of 228 Bank Repos And Other Used Vehicles for Only \$29 and Fees

Then Start Making Payments* Westland, Michigan . . . Banks repossessed cars and trucks are among the most hunted-for-bargains in the automobile industry. Unfortunately for John Q. Public, they're also the hardest to come by.

Banks often unload these repos to car dealers at rock bottom prices allowing dealers to resell them for retail value. But bargain seekers can take heart: This week Auto **Liquidators of North America** has selected North Brother's Ford Used Cars in Westland, Michigan to be the official liquidation site for 228 of these incredible bargains.

This Thursday & Friday March 20-21, North Brother's Ford Used Cars of Westland, Michigan will have 228 bank repos, lease returns, and other used vehicles for thousands below normal values and will pass those savings on to their customers.

"These have been acquired at incredible savings from banks (repos), Factory auctions and other sources," Brian Leon, Used Car Sales Manager of North Brother's Ford said. "Our creditors have asked us to sacrifice this inventory immediately - regardless of loss of profit. If that means selling these vehicles for near or below wholesale, then that is what we will do."

Every bank repo and other preowned vehicle will be available for just \$29 plus a fee* and then start making payments. "It's just that simple," said Leon. "To make these bargains even easier, we'll mark the payment right on the windshield. Just pick a car and a payment. You won't find a faster easier way to get a great deal on a pre-owned vehicle.'

Almost every type and price range will be available, from luxury, to 4x4's, to basic transportation. "With pre-owned vehicles near an all time high, chances are we will have what you are looking for in stock and

ready to drive home," Leon said. **Auto Liquidators of North** America has flown in extra financial staff from three states to assure North Brother's Ford Used Car's customers prompt, courteous service and the best financial terms possible. Leon said, "we will have over \$5 million in financing available for this event. So chances are we can arrange financing for just about anyone who is employed, regardless of past history."

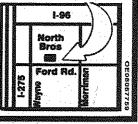
All trade-ins will be accepted with a minimum \$2000 guaranteed value and customers are encouraged to bring their titles or payment book to expedite immediate delivery of these vehicles.

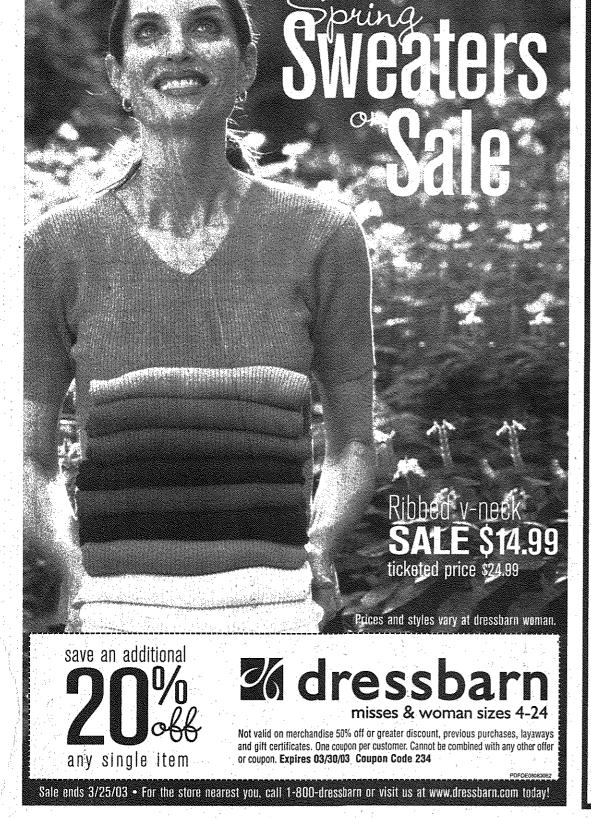
"The opportunity bargain hunters have been waiting for is here. Thursday & Friday in Westland. Every bank repo and other used vehicle is just \$29 and then start making payments. Customers won't find a faster easier way to save big money on a great used vehicle," Leon said.

After the mega-sale ends at 6:00 p.m. Friday, March 21st, North Brother's Ford will send many of these vehicles to auction. Any questions can be directed to 1-734-524-1263. North Brother's Ford Used Cars is located at 33300 Ford Rd., between Wayne Rd. & Venoy in Westland, Michigan. The hours of this sale will be Thursday 9 am-9 pm, & Friday 9 am-6 pm. "We hope to see everyone there and ready to drive away with the deal of a lifetime," said Leon.

**\$29 plus tax, title and fees, with approved credit.

Automotive Consulting Expertise 2002





Marie Elizabeth Krolicki

Services for Marie Krolicki, 83, of Canton were held March 18 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church with the Rev. George Charnley officiat-

Burial was at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia.

Mrs. Krolicki was born Oct. 4, 1919 in Glen Lyon, Pa., and died March 16 at Henry Ford Hospital. She was a homemaker and a member of St. John Neumann.

Mrs. Krolicki was preceded in death by her husband, Carl Krolicki, and son, Dennis Krolicki.

Survivors include grandchildren, Kevin, Jeff and Jason; great-grandchildren, Yukiko, Shean and Ken; sister, Elizabeth Axford; and dear inlaws, Richard (Virginia) Krolicki, Edward (Josephine) Krolicki, Theresa Krolicki, Margaret Connell, Joan (Charles) Remsberg, Geri Krolicki, Lucille (Frank) Detloff and Marlana L.

Krolicki. Memorial contributions made by made to St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren, Canton, MI 48187.

Arrangements made by Vermeulen Funeral Home. Fairy M. Rusch

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 20, 2003

Services for Fairy Rusch, 95, of Canton were held March 17 at the Vermeulen Funeral Home with the Rev. Jeff Crowder officiating. Burial was at Flint Memorial Park in Mt. Morris.

Mrs. Rusch was born Sept. 4, 1907 in Boone, Mich. and died March 14 in Plymouth. Previously from Flint, she lived in Canton for 12 years. She was a graduate of Flint Central High School, was a long-time member of Flint Central Church of the Nazarene.

She previously co-owned a roofing company in Flint. She loved to tend to her plants and do crafts, especially needlepoint. She loved fishing and traveling. She enjoyed a wonderful sense of humor and a quick wit that continued right until her last days. She faithfully served the Lord throughout her life.

Mrs. Rusch was preceded in death by her husband, E. Dave Rusch.

Survivors include daughter, Loretta E. Simpson of Canton; grandson, David S. Simpson of Canton; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Salvation Army-Plymouth, P.O. Box 6396,

Plymouth, MI 48170. Arrangements made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

Mary A. Bartosek

Services for Mary Bartosek, 98, of Canton, were held March 19 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church. Burial was at St. Hedwig Cemetery.

Mrs. Bartosek was born March 10, 1905 in Czechoslovakia and died March 16 in Westland. She was a homemaker.

Mrs. Bartosek was preceded in death by her husband, Carl L. Bartosek; and son, Jerry Bartosek.

M. (Bridget); daughter, Sylvia Gee; 10 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Share a "Memorial Tribute"

Survivors include son, Carl

with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com Arrangements made by L.J. Griffin Funeral Home Canton

Dorothy Swastek

Chapel.

Services for Dorothy Swastek, 73, of Canton were held March 19 at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church with the Rev. C. Richard Kelly officiating. Burial was at St. Hedwig Cemetery.

Mrs. Swastek was born

March 17, 1929 in Detroit and died March 15 in Superior Township.

Mrs. Swastek was preceded in death by her husband, Casimir Swastek.

Survivors include sons, David (Kathy) Swastek and Cas (Alice) Swastek; daughters, Mary Rose (Rob) Theis. Michelle Swastek and Anne (Andy) Seitz; brothers, Walter and Ted Solwik; and 10 grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen or Mother Angelica.

Arrangements made by McCabe Funeral Home Canton Chapel.

Dorothy Marie Ritzler

Services for Dorothy Ritzler, 84, of Chelsea, were held March 18 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. Edward Coley officiating. Burial was at Grand Lawn Cemetery in Detroit.

Mrs. Ritzler was born Jan. 20, 1919 in Detroit and died March 14 in Chelsea. She was a homemaker. She moved to the Chelsea community from Livonia in 2000. She was a member of the Newburg Methodist Church. Mrs. Ritzler was active in each of her husband's ministry churches.

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She was a former president of the United Methodist Women. She graduated from Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in home economics. She loved to cook and was an avid reader. She was a loving

great-grandmother. Mrs. Ritzler was preceded in death by her husband, the Rev. Leonard C. Ritzler.

wife, mother, grandmother and

Survivors include sons Ronald (Jill) and David Ritzler of Livonia; daughters, Connie Grady of Canton and Nancy Fisher of Wixom; 12 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Chelsea Retirement Center or to the **Newburg United Methodist** Church.

Arrangements made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

Joseph C. Toth

Services for Joseph Toth, 82, of Northville, will be held from 1-3 p.m., March 22 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

Mr. Toth was born March 31, 1920 in Detroit and died March 15 in Livonia. He retired from the Ford Motor Company as an inspector at the Rouge Plant. He came to the Northville community 13 years ago from Plymouth. He was a member of the S.L.P., loved bowling and golf, and was a veteran of the U.S. Army in World War II.

Mr. Toth was preceded in death by his daughter, Jo-Anne Toth; brother, Carl Biro; sister, Rose Bodnar; and parents, Rose and Julius Toth and Katie and Joseph Horvath.

Survivors include wife Marianne Toth of Northville; daughter, Lisa Toth of N.Y.; grandchildren, Yasmine Qazi and Jahangir Qazi; brother, James Horvath of Arizona; and sister Rose (Frank) Papp of Lincoln Park.

Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice or S.L.P.

Arrangements made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

Lillian Marjorie Fritz

A memorial service will be held in May for Lillian Marjorie Fritz, 81, of Plymouth.

Mrs. Fritz was born March 13, 1922 in Nuangola, Penn, and died March 16 in Plymouth. She was a homemaker.

Mrs. Fritz was preceded in death by her husband, Charles W. Fritz, Sr.

Survivors include daughters, Charlene L. Barringer, Susan E. (Lawrence) Temerowski, Lois E. Fritz, Laura J. (Scott) Frazier, and Elizabeth C. (Timothy) Hadjis; son, Charles W. (Rita) Fritz, Jr.; one brother; three sisters; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com.

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

Thomas Roberts Rowe, II

Services for Thomas Rowe, 52, of Farmington Hills, were held March 20 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. Paul Sutton officiating. Burial was at Southfield Cemetery.

Mr. Rowe was born July 1, 1950 in Detroit and died March 17 in Farmington Hills. He was employed by the Meijer store in Northville as a bagger. He attended the Southfield United Presbyterian Church. He has been affiliated with the community living centers since 1970. He loved his parakeets, Power Rangers, and Star Wars.

Mr. Rowe was preceded in death by his mother, Florence. Survivors include father, Raymond Rowe of Plymouth;

sisters, Sharon Rowe of Southfield, Nancie (John) Janitz of Plymouth, and Michelle Rowe of San Francisco, Calif.; and nieces, Elaine (Chris) Wildy of Detroit and Ellie Janitz of Plymouth.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Community Living Centers, 33235 Grand River, Farmington, MI 48336. Arrangements made by

Schrader-Howell Funeral

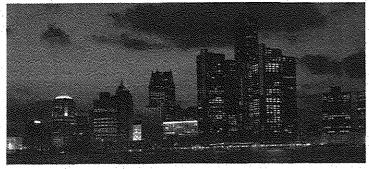
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Local arts officials hope state arts cuts are fair

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Arts advocates in Plymouth and Canton say while they don't like the 50-percent budget cut proposed by Gov. Jennifer Granholm, they hope the diminished funding will be distributed evenly across the arts community.

Angel Bakos, executive director of the Plymouth Symphony; Stella Greene, interim director of the Plymouth Community Arts Council; and Jennifer Tobin, performing arts coordi-

last week, organized by ArtServe Michigan, a statewide cuts are equitable," Bakos nonprofit agency which supports statewide arts organizations.

The group was addressed by Granholm, who nearly a week earlier proposed to cut arts grants from \$23.5 million to \$11.8 million.

"Here she was, telling us we were getting a 50-percent reduction in funding, and she got a standing ovation," said Bakos. "I certainly wasn't happy about the cuts, but we all have to face the music. And, we all

attended Arts Advocacy Day on have to be dealt with fairly.

"We need to make sure the added. "There are rumors that some organizations will be cut more than others."

The sentiment was echoed by Greene.

We recognize our place in the total scheme of the budget deficit, but the cuts need to be equitable," said Greene. "We would like to think it's not going to eliminate those groups that are traditionally funded in order to fund other aspects of the arts."

Bakos and Tobin also had an

opportunity to speak to a Senate committee on the arts.

"Some of you say the arts are not vital, but let me take you back to the weeks following Sept. 11," Tobin told the committee. "We turned to the arts and have clung to the arts to help us. Music has soothed our soul. Poetry, theater and film have helped us process. The visual arts have said the unspoken. Dance has given us hope."

Tobin said the 50-percent cut will be devastating to many organizations, but she's hopeful Granholm is true to her word, that she will increase funding

FRIDAY, MARCH 21 AND SATURDAY, MARCH 22

in the future, should the budget with the schools." permit it.

"She promised if there was any way possible during her term she would prove her dedication and respect to the arts," Tobin said. "I hope we see that, that times will allow that."

Bakos is hopeful the cuts won't affect the symphony's work with Plymouth-Canton schools.

"So much of our program is for children, which we do because the schools don't have money," Bakos said. "I would like to see us foster a coalition effort to collaborate our efforts

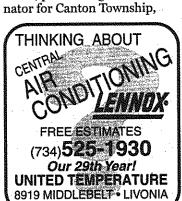
Tobin said she is optimistic the arts will continue, no matter what the outcome in Lansing.

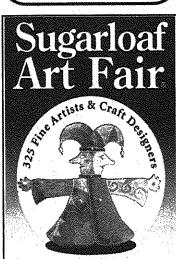
"Out of the worst of times the arts have flourished," she said. "It will happen whether or not there's money.

"Can you take the pen away from the author? The brush away from the painter?" she

questioned. "It's a wake-up call for all of us to step up."

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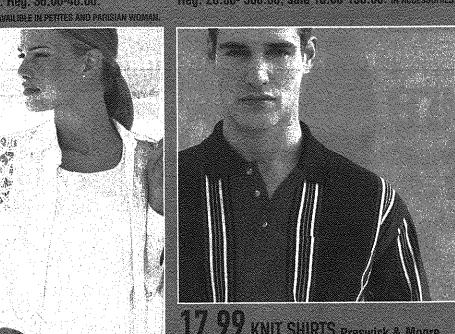
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Clink Landscaping wins industry honor

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 20, 2003

Clink Landscaping, a design/build landscaping firm in Canton, has won a design award for their work on the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library in Ann Arbor.

Unilock, Inc. from Brighton, honored Clink Landscaping with this annual award in the Paver Quilting category.

The original library patio was rendered unsafe after the roots from eight locust trees planted within the patio pushed up the 2-foot by 2-foot patio blocks. The blocks separated leaving their edges exposed creating a trip hazard.

Clink Landscaping replaced the failed system with architectural pavers manufactured by Unilock. Using different paver styles, an intricate design was incorporated into the patio using a technique called "paver quilting." It was this design,

The Wayne 11th

Republican Committee will

host Attorney General Mike

Cox as guest speaker at this

year's Lincoln Day Dinner

on April 10 at the Holiday

Inn at 17123 Laurel Park

and the significance of the library to the entire region, that caught the eye of the manufac-

Clink Landscaping, recently featured by the Observer papers for work on a memorial walkway in Redford, is a landscape contractor that has served the area for more than twenty years.

Employees handle any and all phases of landscaping. Clink Landscaping does all of its own work including interlocking paver patios and retaining walls, drainage and irrigation, landscape lighting, landscape design and installation, contract maintenance, and more. Thousands of trees and shrubs are in stock at the nursery, with landscape hard goods also for sale for pick up or delivery. Clink Landscaping is at 51333 Cherry Hill.

Tickets still available for Friends luncheon The Friends of the Canton, No registration is required, Plymouth, Northville and Novi and all are welcome.

public libraries will hold their annual book and author luncheon April 10 at St. John's Golf and Conference Center in Plymouth Township.

Ticket sales run until March 31. Lunch tickets are \$25 and are now available at the four libraries. The event opens at 11 a.m. with a cash bar and the meal is at noon.

Michigan author Bonnie Jo Campbell will be the speaker. Her latest book, Q Road, has been widely praised in reviews. The story revolves around a May-December romance and is set in a rural southwest Michigan. Campbell makes in home near Kalamazoo.

Her appearance is being sponsored by the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers in addition to the four friends groups.

PURTAN

Radio personality Jackie Purtan (Purtan's People on WOMC 104.5FM) will wrap up "March is Reading Month" festivities by making a special guest appearance at the Canton Public Library.

Purtan will read three favorite children's stories in the Children's Library at 5:30 p.m. Monday, March 31.

For more information, call the Children's Information Desk at (734) 397-0999.

TEENS

Teens (grades 6-12) can register through Friday March 21 for the next "Book and Pizza Club." I Know What You Did Last

Summer by Lois Duncan (which was the basis for the teen-slasher flick starring Jennifer Love Hewitt and Sarah Michelle Gellar), will be discussed on Saturday April 12 at

Teens will receive their own copy of the book, and as much pizza for lunch as etiquette (and the library budget) allows.

INTERNATIONAL

March is International Month and to celebrate the Canton Public Library is serving up a soupçon of this and ein bisschen of that: dancing, stories and crafts from around the world.

The festivities begin at 7 p.m. on Tuesday March 25. Bharatnatyam (Indian dance).

Irish step dancing, and Chinese dancing will be performed by children and adults from the metro-Detroit area.

At 7:30 p.m., storyteller Yvonne Healey will perform Stories from the Heart of the World.

And at 8:10 p.m., children can learn to make (temporary), henna tattoos and flags from the international community.

No registration is required for this free event.

FRAMING

The best photo in the world can be diminished by the way it is displayed, just as a not-sogreat photo can be enhanced by its presentation.

"Make Your Own Picture Frame" at the Canton Public Library on Saturday, March 29 at noon, and show your pictures to their best advantage.

This free program is open to teens in grades 6-12 only. For further information or to register, phone (734) 397-0999.

BUNNIES

Third and fourth graders can make new friends, enjoy a snack or two, and talk about fantastic books at the Canton Public Library.

The next "Book Buddies" meeting will be on Thursday, April 3 from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Registration by phone or in person started Monday, March

The April "Book Buddies" selection will be Bunnicula, Deborah and James Howe's comical "rabbit-tale of mystery."

LIBRARY ROUNDING 'EM UP

March is Reading Month, and by the time it's over, more than 1000 six- and seven-year olds will have experienced a time-honored tradition at the Canton Public Library: First Grade Round-Up.

For some, it's their first ever visit; for others, a familiar trek to a favorite place. Either way, these kids from 13 area public and private schools will be treated to a library tour, a puppet show, and a special storytime. Some will receive their very first library card.

The twelfth annual First Grade Round-Up began Monday, March 3, and will continue through Friday, March

MYSTERIES

There's always something special going on at Secondhand Prose, the Canton Public Library's used book shop.

In March, it's "Buy 2, Get 1 Free" on travel and mystery

Most paperbacks sell for 50 or 75 cents, and hardcovers for

Secondhand Prose is closed Tuesdays and Sundays but open other days as follows: Mondays, and Wednesday through Saturdays 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and Monday and Thursday evenings 6-8 p.m.

For more information, contact Marcia Barker at (734) 397-0999.



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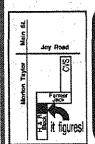
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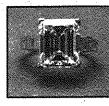
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DOG

FROM PAGE A1

on the Staffordshire Terrier Club of America's Top Ten in AKC agility.

"She did her run in 37.20 seconds this week," said Tyler, who also owns a male AmStaff, called Tyler, after her last name.

"Speed is the essence of this sport," Tyler said. Top breed in these events is usually the border collie, a "very intense dog, tough to beat," Tyler said.

Tyler works her dog at home in the backyard with jump and standard course devices, and the neighborhood kids come out to watch.

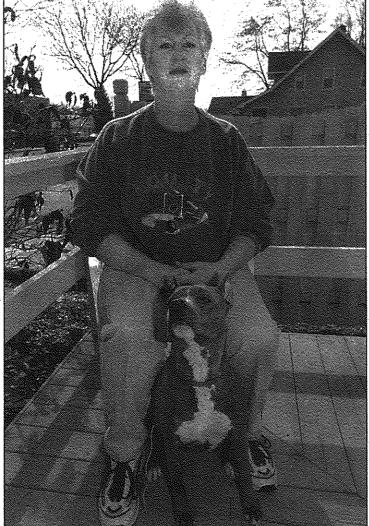
Tyler is a firm believer in obedience training for all dogs, and is acutely aware that some of these dogs have been abused and trained for fighting.

This breed needs something to do," Tyler said. "It's an active animal, a high-drive dog that needs to be kept busy.

Emma is a poster child for well-trained dogs, pit bull or otherwise. She rests quietly while her master explains the breed, the agility runs and the shows and titles the pair have

"Some of these dogs are made overly aggressive with all kinds of tactics," she said. "Some are tortured, abused with electrical shock and drugs. I want to show that this is a wonderful breed, not at all the monster seen on TV."

The agility runs varied over the three days of shows. The dogs don't get a practice run, and the owners themselves only get a quick look-see just before. Emma ran the courses - dif-



PAUL HURSCHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rita Tyler of Canton sits with Emma, her American Staffordshire Terrier, Monday after the two competed in the Detroit Kennel Club Dog Show at Cobo Hall over the weekend.

ferent each time — twice each Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

"The stands were filled at Cobo watching us," Tyler said.

Tyler also works for the Canine Community Center in Warren, an agility and obedience school run by Linda

training award-winning working dogs. djohnson@oe.homecomm.net (734) 459-2700

continuing to learn the craft of

Brady. Tyler teaches here,

but also takes classes,

More condos get site plan OKs

Canton planning commissioners, working with a short agenda Monday night, approved site plan requests for two condominium projects that would add 187 more single family units to the western portion of the township.

Rustic Ridge Condominiums would consist of 97 lots on the south side of Saltz Road between Beck and Ridge.

As a part of the project, the developer has agreed to pave

the remainder of Saltz Road from where Arlington Park stops to Ridge Road. That would mean the entire length of Saltz between Beck and Ridge would be paved.

A continuous sidewalk will also be constructed along Saltz. including in front of the remaining single-family parcels.

Cranford Park, north of Cherry Hill and east of Denton, would include 90 lots with a

density of 1.8 units per acre with 18 acres of open space.

The plans include construction of an access path to the proposed elementary school site so students could walk to the school without going onto Cherry Hill Road.

They also include plans for a nature viewing area in the wetland with interpretive trails available for use by the school.

By Jack Gladden

BONDS

FROM PAGE AT

"At that time, the board met at the old fire hall on Canton Center and Cherry Hill, McLaughlin said. "They shared space with the fire station and the assessor's office. It was a pretty primitive environment."

Canton's population in 1970 was 11,026, compared to more than 80,000 today.

'In the mid-70s, the country was going through a tremendous recession," she said. "The federal government decided to try to create jobs and inject some economic stimulus."

For a short time, the feds made money available to communities for capital improvement projects. Canton applied for the funds and the current administration building was constructed in 1974 - all with federal money.

"When the township moved into the building," McLaughlin

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said, "they were essentially on the first and second floor. Recreation services was in the basement and the entire third floor was empty."

Police headquarters was in a building on Geddes between Sheldon and Canton Center that was originally intended to be a fire station, according to Canton Fire Chief Mike Rorabacher.

In the late '70s, a group of residents pushed for a public library for Canton and asked if illd use the third floor of the building. In 1979, voters approved a library millage and on Oct. 20, 1980, the library opened in the third floor space.

But as the township saw a surge in growth during the 1980s and '90s - the population jumped to 48,616 in 1980 and 57,040 in 1990 - both the library and the township began to outgrow their quarters.

In 1985, a new wing housing the police department and public safety administrative offices was added.

In 1986, voters approved a second mill to build a separate building for the library just

south of township hall. After the Summit on the Park was constructed in 1995, recreation services was moved into that building.

ON THE GROW

Even so, with the growth in population – and the associated growth in services provided by the township - the old building simply became too cramped and about four years ago township officials began discussing

plans for an expansion. McLaughlin, who at that time was somewhat skeptical of the need to expand, now says it has to be done.

"The idea is that this is a time when we have the financial wherewithal to do these projects," she said. "The idea is to try building these community assets while we can afford it."

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EDITORIALS ■ LETTERS ■ COLUMNS

OUR VIEWS

P-C board needs viable candidates

Matters such as a war, and the economy, and budget troubles dominate the international, national and state

But if you asked us to pick the top local story of 2003 so far, it would be the schools.

And if you asked us what has generated the most reader interest based on letters to the editor every week, it would

Budget shortfalls and possible layoffs. A dispute between a school principal and some members of a parent-teacher organization. A BB gun brought to school that momentarily shuts down the P-CEP campus.

Your response to these stories confirms what we already suspected - that in the city of Plymouth, and in Plymouth and Canton townships, there is tremendous interest and concern about all the schools.

That's why an approaching deadline 15 days from now is so important. Monday, April 7, is the deadline to file nominating petitions to run for the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education.

Both Marcy Staley's and Mark Slavens' terms will end. Staley will not seek re-election, but Slavens will. Others need to join Slavens in the race for the two, four-year terms on the board.

Two six-year terms on the Schoolcraft Community College Board of Trustees are also on the ballot. Schoolcraft's in-district area includes anyone living in the Plymouth-Canton school district, as well as Northville, Clarenceville, Livonia and Garden City.

To get on the ballot for the Plymouth-Canton board, you need 40 signatures on a nominating petition; the signatures must come from valid, registered voters of the district.

Candidates must be registered voters in the district but if the 40-signature rule doesn't appeal to you, you can also just pay a \$100 fee.

We are hoping for a full slate of candidates for the June 9 election, filled with dedicated men and women from all three communities.

There is plenty on the board's plate, not the least of which is the state budget crunch and its local impact on such things as staffing, books and supplies, and athletics and activities for students.

Then there is the need for new schools, especially an elementary school for the Cherry Hill area of Canton, and the wish for a swimming pool at the new Plymouth High School.

Take the plunge, and make a run for the school board. Just last year, 11 people were on the ballot for three seats, giving voters what we all ultimately want: viable choices.

Bipartisan sprawl council good idea

Comedians would likely suggest the only thing stopping Detroit and southeast Michigan's development sprawl is Ann Arbor, Brighton and Port Huron.

The issue of smart land use has caught the attention of several governors, including ours. Jennifer Granholm has convinced her fellow Democrats and the Republicans across the aisle that — on this issue, at least — their interest can coincide.

She has appointed a 26-member Michigan Land Use Leadership Council. Their first meeting is Monday in Lansing, and more meetings will be held in our area in late April. Co-chairs are former Republican Gov. Bill Milliken, and former Democratic Attorney General Frank Kelley, both strong politicians with real-world savvy.

"The ... Council will be instrumental in developing a cooperative, common sense approach to how we use our land. There is a tremendous need to protect our forests and farms, prevent the unplanned and unwise growth that chokes suburban communities and threatens our water quality, and to breathe new life into our cities and older suburbs," Granholm says.

We agree there is a need. But watching governments try to control sprawl is an achingly painful process because so much of what government does creates or gives birth to sprawl.

There have been some pluses in our suburbs, projects like the redevelopment in Redford at the Volney Smith school site, and the denser housing planned in downtown Plymouth for the Wilcox and Daisy building projects. Cherry Hill Village in Canton has owners of pretty expensive homes swapping bigger yards for parks, and for a "small town" feel with unobtrusive shops and a community theater.

We will watch with interest as the council takes up this issue. To what extent are they willing to take part in dispelling the American myth that "all growth is good?" The larger myth may well be the very idea that government can stop sprawl at all, because the real discipline will start there.



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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.



Salem High School seniors Greg Angel (first place) and Chris Jagalla (second place), broadcasters at student-run WSDP 88.1, received sports broadcasting awards from the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Foundation, a testament to the quality of work being done at the station, staffed by students at Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools.

LETTERS

Charge was ridiculous

I am writing in response to the article you wrote on March 9, "Teen learns expensive lesson with park pen prank." First of all I would like to say this is ridiculous.

The same kid, Charles Savino, was in an accident New Year's a year ago with my best friend, Eric Dodsworth.

They were driving down Warren Road between Haggerty and Lilley when a drunk driver, Joseph Paul Bandy, crossed over the lines and struck them head-on, killing Eric and severely injuring Chaz.

Bandy was charged and convicted of four felonies. The sentencing date was Friday March 7. Joseph Paul Bandy received 3-15 years in prison, but is out free on a personal bond until the appeal. Appeals take years. Why is it that someone plays a stupid little joke over a pen and gets \$300 in court fines and possibly goes to jail when Joseph Paul Bandy can drink and drive and kill someone and not have to pay anything and not even go to jail?

In the article on March 9, 2003 (Chief Wayne Carroll) said, "From behavior, I don't think this young man has any respect law enforcement." Would you? Law enforcement wonders why people dislike the police so much. The way the law is carried out is not fair!

In the article (Chief Carroll) said "I think we would have lost respect if we had taken any other action." No, you are wrong. People who knew of the accident that took Eric Dodsworth's life and severely injured Chaz, and are familiar with this ink cartridge incident, NOW have lost respect for the police.

The Plymouth Police are saying that a \$1 pen is more important than a human life. It is so stupid to charge Chaz over it, and it's stupid for you to write that article like you did. You did half of the investigation. You don't know the whole reason why people distrust law enforcement. If you knew all that about the accident would your article be different? I bet a lot of people who read that story agreed with you thinking it was a punk teenager messing around, but print this article and I bet it will change their minds, too.

In the article you stated that Chaz went to talk to this officer because Chaz thought that this officer related to the younger people. Chaz thought this office was a friend, and with good friends you can joke around. After Cop wasted effort this incident the police have ruined their relationship with the younger people. Any hopes of the police ever gaining a relationship with the young adults in this community has been eliminated, all because of this stupid and ridiculous charge against Chaz.

I always thought a human life was more important than a \$1 ink cartridge for a pen, but I guess that is not the case in Plymouth!

Nicole M. Ziewacz Canton

Fiegel is fine

I would like to respond to an article "Fiegel principal and PTO clash" (Canton Observer, Feb. 20). Four of the six members on the PTO board resigned over dis-

agreements with the principal. I guess when you have "friends" at the Observer that story is considered "front page news."

I've been a parent at Fiegel for 11 years and an employee (paraprofessional) for five years. I'm not one to complain or make a scene. I am not a public speaker. I tend to stay at the sidelines. I just like to do my job (which I love) and volunteer in my children's classrooms (when I can). After seeing that article, though, I could not keep quiet anymore. I feel I have to write in support of the Fiegel staff and principal.

In response to the comment "about providing input and action to improve the educational environment at Fiegel." Well, for the past six months the majority of the PTO complaints have been about the lunchroom rules. So what do the playground and lunchroom have to do with the "educational environment" at Fiegel? All we've been hearing for the past six months is ... "we have too many rules, it's the kids free time and they should be able to do as they wish." At least that's how it's come across to me and I know the other aides feel the same way. Why do we have rules on the playground and in the lunchroom? The number one reason ... for the safety of the children and that will never change!

Another comment was, "how much violence there is on the playground at recess." That sounds like our Fiegel playground is a war zone! I agree there is hitting, punching, kicking, but these actions are addressed each and every day. Yes, the children are disciplined for their inappropriate behavior. Yes, it's not always the same discipline because each situation can be different. Also, the majority of these "physical scuffles" are normal elementary children's behavior.

Now speaking only as a parent, I have nothing but respect and admiration for the teaching staff and the principal. I've come to know many of them through my children, as well as working as a staff member. The principal and teachers truly care about our children's education. I see and witness it every time I walk into the school building. So, in my opinion, there doesn't need to be any changes in the "educational environment" at Fiegel.

Sharon Przytulski

Thanks for the great story in the Observer

("Teen learns expensive lesson with park pen prank," March 9). This just shows what a joke the Plymouth (police) are.

They act like it was up to the court to go after the kid. Well, why did the cop waste the time to write the report in the first place? Had a bad day? How many people were shot, raped or had a car stolen while he wrote this? It sounds like they place this right up there with real crimes.

No wonder this country is looked at so badly. It's a circus paid for by our tax dollars. Send these cops off to a place with real crimes. Maybe they could actually make a difference.

Michael Lavander

Justice not served

After reading "Teen gets expensive lesson with pen prank," (Observer, March 9) I felt obligated to write a response.

Understand, I don't know anybody involved so my opinion is not biased by any knowledge of the individuals involved. I have total respect for our law enforcement community and the job they do; however, I cannot believe the insanity of their actions. I wonder how they would have responded had a citizen called and told them, "Somebody stole a refill from my ink pen." Nobody will EVER convince me they would have pursued it.

I recall a personal incident a few years back when some teens egged my home, mistakenly believing another teen lived there. My neighbor witnessed the entire incident and had great descriptions of the perpetrators, vehicle and license number.

I immediately called the police and filed a report, with my neighbor providing very good eyewitness evidence. Weeks later, having heard nothing, I called to inquire about the status. I was told the prosecutor determined it was not worth pursuing. Understanding the costs involved, I accepted his judgment, because my thinking was driven by the emotions of the moment.

We live in a world where rational minds must prevail. Using Chief Carroll's logic, a stolen french fry is STILL a crime and must be reported and addressed. I'd like to think our law enforcement leadership led by better example than that exuded in the "stolen refill incident." I was disappointed the prosecutor involved was not named, because he/she are equally guilty of wasting taxpayer dollars in such ridiculous pursuit of justice, and should have been equally "glorified" in the story.

Finally, were I Officer Poules, I would have simply written this one off as "the kids got the best of me." You need thicker skin, or should expect a very frustrating career in public service. You may think by getting a \$300 judgment against Mr. Savino you salvaged your "respect." Unfortunately, you've accomplished the opposite.

> Richard Bantau Canton

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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QUOTABLE

"Our dollars deserve a voice. The suburban communities send a lot of money, a lot of trust toward Detroit water. Water is a necessity and they are our lifeline. It is only fair these communities have a say in how this vital utility is managed and protected. The suburban population has to be represented in some fashion. I hope it isn't seen as a bad thing that the suburbs want a voice in how it's managed."

- Canton Township Trustee Melissa McLaughlin, talking about bills pending in Lansing that would change how the Detroit water board is governed.

Universities or prisons which are more important?

hich is more important: educating young people or warehousing criminals? Most people, I believe, would say the return on investing in young minds far outstrips

the costs of jailing felons. Indeed, for many years, the state of Michigan spent more on universities than on prisons.

But if Gov. Jennifer Granholm's budget proposal for the 2004 fiscal year that begins Oct. I is adopted by the Legislature, for the first time Michigan will spend more on the corrections system than on our universities. The difference may be small, but the symbolism is enormous.

Granholm's proposed budget for state prisons totals \$1.723 billion, while her spending plan for the 15 public universities in Michigan (plus various scholarship programs) comes to \$1.715 billion.

How has this happened? In part, it's because appropriations for higher education have been cut by almost 12 percent over the past two years, while spending for the corrections system has held steady. Five years ago, for example, state spending on higher education was \$1.6 billion, while outlays

for prisons totaled \$1.4 billion.

To her credit, Granholm's budget proposals for the corrections system include a number of cuts. She calls for improvements in the parole system, so once released on parole inmates don't go back to prison. She wants a system of drug courts for drug or alcohol addicts who commit crimes, on the idea that treatment programs are cheaper than prisons. And the governor wants to change the law so that non-violent prisoners would be placed in lessexpensive community placement facilities several months before their scheduled release; she says this step alone would free up 1,400 prison beds.

Make no mistake about it. Prisons in Michigan are expensive. Some authorities say that it costs the state \$80 a day per prisoner. Others say that the annual cost of the system runs at more than \$25,000 per inmate.

Peter Luke, the Lansing columnist for Booth Newspapers, points out in a column last weekend that Michigan locks up enormous numbers of nonviolent offenders who are sentenced to two years or less. He cites statistics from Corrections Department Director William Overton, that 56 percent of new inmates were sentenced to 24 months or less. Last year, the state's prisoner intake jumped by 15 percent to 11,047 new inmates.

Legislators have for years argued that a public sick and tired of increasing crime rates is insisting on spending whatever it takes to lock 'em up. But crime rates are down, costs to run the corrections system keep going up, and even legislators

How has this happened? In part, it's because appropriations for higher education have been cut by almost 12 percent over the past two years, while spending for the corrections system has held steady. Five years ago, for example, state spending on higher education was \$1.6 billion, while outlays for prisons totaled \$1.4 billion.

are beginning to realize it makes little sense to keep people who commit non-violent crimes in very expensive prison cells.

On the other hand, Gov. Granholm's 2004 budget cuts another 6.7 percent, or \$154 million, for state support for the 15 public universities and 29 community colleges, plus reduces merit scholarships from \$2,500 to \$500. This is on top of last year's cut of 3.5 percent across-the-board reduction for higher education.

According to Michael Bolus, executive director of the Presidents Council of the State Universities of Michigan, state universities now receive around the same funding they got in 1998-99, without any adjustments for inflation. "How can you not have higher tuition when we're being cut like this?" he asks, while pointing out that Michigan universities get about \$1,000 less per student from the state than universities in neighboring states.

MSU President Peter McPherson says his school has 6,000 more students than it did 10 years ago, yet the same number of faculty. U-M President Mary Sue Coleman says she wants to save money, but she is also aware that merely cramming more kids into a classroom is not necessarily what either the kids or their families want. When I was a regent at U-M, I kept pointing out that the university was doing all kinds of things to save money - privatizing services, cutting non-academic staff — but it wasn't emphasizing cost containment in its PR.

Be that as it may, the core of the debate over Gov. Granholm's budget will be whether it's more important for the state to spend money on warehousing felons or educating young people. As far as I'm concerned, college beats the slammer every time around.

Phil Power is the chairman of the board of the company that owns this newspaper. He would be pleased to get your reactions to this column either at (734) 953-2047 or at ppower@homecomm.net.

LETTERS

Great women

March is National Women's History Month. It was established to recognize and celebrate women's accomplishments. And I would like to tell you about four great women who live and work here:

Jennifer Tobin shares her energy and devotion to the arts with all of us, but especially children. Many, many children have been a part of the Plymouth Community Arts Council's Children's Theater over the years. My oldest son, Andrew, 20, now a college student, was part of the first group of Whistle Stop Players. Jennifer shares her love of performing with kids, not so they will become great actors, but because she knows the arts are magic. She knows that when children are involved in the arts, it helps them become the best children they can be.

Jennifer's last official act as director of the arts council was to write a letter of recommendation for my middle son, John.

Christina Deininger is one of the newer teachers at Central Middle School. She's also a new mother. In addition to teaching math and science, she's taken on extra duties as a coach for the Math Counts team. which my youngest son, Mark, is a part of. She spent the first day of winter break at a Math Counts Regional Competition with her students at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Jenny Melkvik is a math teacher and Math Counts coach at East Middle School. She also spent the first day of winter break at the Math Counts Regional Competition. Jenny proudly sat in the first row with her students during the competition. More than 100 students from a dozen schools participated, and six of Jenny Melkvik's students finished in the top

Cathy Sobie is a parent of two teenage girl and does day care for Plymouth-Canton teachers, including Mrs. Deininger's little girl - which means that Mrs. Deininger and other teachers can spend time helping other people's kids, like my son.

These women have many things in common, but their greatest accomplishment is their dedication and willingness to share their talents and time with children every day. They do so because they know it's important.

Debbie Madonna

Insensitive comment

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With two children in the Plymouth-Canton Schools, I've been following the direction of possible budget cuts coming our way. I read with interest your article in the March 6 Observer regarding the cuts. That interest quickly turned to outrage at the insensitive and, frankly, contemptible statements made by Chuck

Canton Education Association.

When he states, "If you ask me, the answer is no, not a dime" when questioned about possible concessions by the union in our latest budget crunch. I was astonished. Perhaps it was the "not a dime" part of his comment that pushed me over the edge.

The audacity of this teacher's representative to make such comments when people are being laid off left and right, unemployment in our country is at a high and our country looms on the edge of war.

Not a dime huh, Mr. Portelli? You made that statement with such authority that I had to investigate this a little further. Perhaps you can answer a question for me. The average teacher's salary in 2001 in our district was \$55,892 (my figures were obtained from Standard and Poor's), and let's remember that salary is based on 9.5 months of work.

Within these 9.5 months, teachers receive four weeks of vacation plus numerous other holidays off and umpteen half-days. That salary is equivalent to a yearly salary of \$70,600, well above average. Back to my question, I'm wondering why then, with our teachers being paid on average more than 92 percent of the other districts in the state of Michigan, our MEAP scores aren't indicative of such quality?

Within the state there are 46 districts (approximately 10 percent) reporting higher MEAP scores. Of those 46, only 12 have higher salaries. Of the 46 districts performing better, the average teachers salary is \$51,525, considerably less than our average.

It would appear to me, and quite possibly to others, that we aren't getting what we're paying for. It would appear that our teachers should give back to our schools based on job performance. Do I honestly feel that way? Not really. It's just about as absurd as Mr. Portelli's comments and thoughts.

I apologize to all the wonderful teachers I've met over the years my children have been in Plymouth-Canton Schools. This man, however, is, I'm assuming, elected to his position as president of your union and with attitudes expressed like that, do you expect us parents/taxpayers to sit idly by?

I don't necessarily object to teachers being fairly paid but I DO object to the union viewing our school system as a "job's entitlement program" with little or no regard for our children's education and future! You may have done a huge disservice to the very teachers you represent, Mr.

You can bet there will come a day when times are better and you'll be holding your hands out asking for a bigger piece of the pie. Come that day, you should hope that the parents and board members offended by your comments made in these 'lean' times aren't still around to defeat that request and remind everyone of your unwillingness to work with

Robin Wilson



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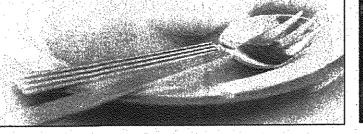
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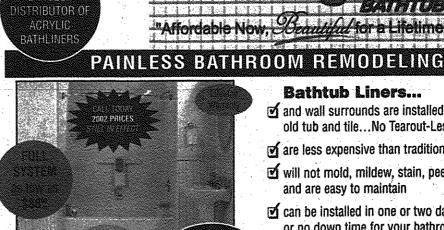
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Program begins at 1:00 PM Sunday, March 23, 2003



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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 20, 2003

PAUL HURSCHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PCAC is Music in the Park, the

art volunteer program in every

school, Members First concerts

"No matter how tough the

your community committed to

making sure everyone has the

embrace the arts and the artist

who also serves as the group's

Community School principals

(Tonda Elementary) helped to

within him or her," said Greene,

opportunity to explore and

director of development.

Jerry Ostoin (Salem High

School) and George Belvitch

raise nearly \$700 for PCAC

Blues Brothers. Guests were

asked to raise their bid num-

bers and pledge \$25 each to

Friday's event, "Passions of

12th-annual dinner and auction

held to support the Plymouth-

based arts group. Co-chairs of

the event were Diane Harrison

and Sandy Stephan. Committee

Costanza Nancy Pilon

Jennifer Tobin and Kathy Ny.

members included Susan

Motley, Emily Sherman,

Therese Gall, Pat Oldford,

Past: A 70s Bash" at St. John's

Conference Center, was the

help ease the cuts recently

made by the state.

with their rendition of the

Plymouth Canton

times, PCAC is right here in

and countless exhibits.

Myron Berbay of Plymouth, in costume as Elvis, left, meets three angels, in the form of Kathy Powers, Laura Leist and Yvette Dixon striking a familiar

Auction raises money to help ease state arts cuts

BY SUE ROSIEK STAFF WRITER

More than 350 guests showed their passion for the arts Friday raising \$40,000 to support the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

Sports and vacation packages seemed to draw out the passion and the wallets of auctiongoers. A weeklong getaway to Puerto Vallarta, a vacation home in South Haven and a University of Michigan football game and tailgate party for 10 netted the arts group nearly \$4,500. They were just three of some 22 items featured in the live auction by Joe Carli of J.C. Auction Services.

Businesses and individuals throughout the area contributed live and silent auction items for guests to bid on. The successful bidders left the auction with art, jewelry, vacation packages, furniture, sports memorabilia and gift certificates for food and services.

Stella Greene, PCAC interim executive director, told auctiongoers that these are tough financial times for the arts with deep cuts expected from Lansing

"But PCAC has always viewed Leslie Greeneisen, Nancy challenges as an opportunity to Hillegonds, Sandy Wright, nng a better way to reach yo in new and innovative ways.

FROM PAGE A1

answers. This seems like a nowin situation. When we invade we may injure a lot of innocent people. I don't know what the right thing to do is."

Cristie Golson: "I don't know what is in their (Iraqi's) hearts. There is probably a group over there sitting around a table right now thinking about us. There are a lot of things we can do. Are we imposing the death penalty on an entire country?

Lucy Taylor: "Violence should be the last resort. I hate the thought of war. War will affect our children deeply. But I know that I am not the cause of this war, and I will take that knowledge to the grave."

The discussion was animated but controlled. It was led by Neumann lay minister Gene Kijek, who used what teachers call the Socratic method, asking questions to lead the discussion to the next step. The minister

"What is the legal and moral right the U.S. has to wage this invasion? Is the moral imperative that people in the United States have been killed?'

Gourmet dinner completes workshops series

It's time to treat yourself to a relaxing Girls Night Out.

Join your friends at the Summit Banquet Center on Monday, March 24 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for a dinner prepared by Summit Gourmet, with your choice of chicken marsala or pasta primavera. While you dine, enjoy the piano melodies of Vlademir Kalmsky. Following dinner, popular comedienne Jill Washburn will help you laugh all of your worries away. Registration for the event is \$28 per Canton resident and \$33 per nonresident. Dressy-casual attire is recom-

mended. Girls Night Out completes Canton Leisure Services' Workshops for Women Series, which was held each Monday during March.

For more information call len Eubanks at (734) 394-5460.

"I know our CEO (the Pope) has several times appeared and opposed the war," Kijek said. "He has said there is no moral or legal right for this strike. Violence should be the last choice. Remember, the Pope rarely gets involved in politics.

"I have questions? I don't have answers. Our faith will help us and bring us closer together," the minister said.

Other Canton people who had comments from various locations around town:

John Spencer, who served in Vietnam for a year in 1966, is treasurer of the Plymouth/Canton Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans.

"I'd rather we don't go to war," he said Wednesday morning. "Been there, done that."

Spencer served as a longshoreman in the Army, unloading cargo from ships in Cam Ranh Bay.

Spencer said he still has sour feelings about the way the U.S. government handled the Vietnam War. "Certainly we support our

ans support our troops, whether or not we support the action over there." Paul Moran of Canton and a

troops and I think most veter-

school district employee: "It's

A makeshift sign reading, "Free Country, Free Flags," offers passersby a little token of patriotism at Tyme Auto Sales on Plymouth Road in Plymouth Wednesday.

time to go to war. We've waited and been very, very patient. Iraq is a viable threat, and we've given them every opportunity to make some kind of concession. They're not interested in that, and sadly the time

"I think the U.N. is a joke," said Navy veteran Dave Cade of Plymouth Township, who served as a mechanic from 1974-1978. "We pump a lot of money into the U.N., and we get nothing out of it. This is long overdue. It's been going on

has come."

for 12 years, and it's time to be done with it."

djohnson@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 459-2700

Staff writers Tony Bruscato, Jack Gladden and Brad Kadrich contributed to this story.

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TEARS OF THE SUN (A)

RI/SAT LS 11:40

1:30, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:15

BUSINESS

FROM PAGE A1

The company's primary business is bath fixtures. Among their favorite products are the Bertch line of cabinets, the US Marble line of countertops and the Jason AirMasseur line of tubs. Showers with body sprayers are also big sellers. The Jason tubs are made by a founder and namesake of the Jacuzzi company.

Jim, Frank and Barry Mathison all admit that the big Home Depot and Lowe's stores have cut into their hardware business. "We have to watch what we keep in inventory," Jim said. "Some of the smaller suppliers have been hurt."

"Our niche is higher-end bathroom sales. You go to Home Depot and the tubs are up on the wall. Here, you can see them down on the floor and even sit in them," Frank said. The brothers say customers

come from as far away as Little Rock, Ark., and closer to home, like Frankenmuth or the Upper Peninsula. The family has lived at one time or another in Wayne, Nankin Township (now Westland) and Plymouth.

They were at the big Cobo Hall home show this week, and Barry had a booth at the recent Canton Township Home Expo.

The brothers know that after about 15 or 20 years in a house, a couple will come in and want to redo the bathroom. * They also get customers

who come in and order all their fixtures for a new custom house.

'We have some local contractors we recommend for installations," Barry said. "We check them out thoroughly. Our reputation is on the line.

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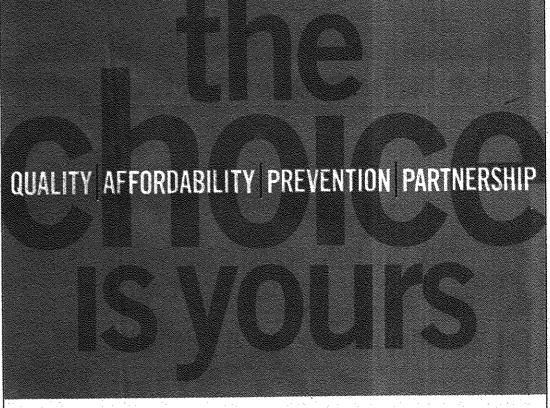
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Motown 🔣 Motown

Oakland Community College presents The Optimistics and The Fabulous Motown Entertainers at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 28, at Smith Theatre on the OCC Orchard Ridge campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road. Farmington Hills. Tickets \$15, call (248) 522-3667.

CD releases

Join the Twistin Tarantulas at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 22, to celebrate the release of their third CD, *El Destroyo*, at the Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Admission \$7, call (248) 544-



3030 or visit www.themagicbag or www.twistintarantulas.com for details.

Book signing

 Stop by Paint Creek Center for the Arts, 407 Pine St., Rochester, at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 29, for an open house reception honoring Ballet Master Jacob Lascu. He'll be signing copies of his new book, Two Lives in Two Worlds, which highlights his life in Romania, and as a ballet master. For more information, call (248) 651-4110 or visit www.pccart.org.

Guitarist

Brook Williams will be at Trinity House, 38840 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia, at 8 p.m. Friday, March 21, to celebrate the release of his new CD Nectar. Recorded in Nashville, the CD features some of the city's finest roots musicians, Williams' buttery voice and rockin' guitar playing. Lisa Papas opens the show. Tickets \$10, call (734) 464-6302.

Just for kids

Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main St., Northville, presents The Emperor's New Clothes at 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, March 22-23. Tickets \$7.50, call (248) 349-8110.

Fairy tales

Can an orchestra really sound like Cinderella's clock striking midnight; depict a beautiful Firebird saving a young man from evil monsters; or evoke scurrying rats following a pied piper through the streets of Hamelin? When they're playing music written by worldfamous composers, it can. Audiences will hear works inspired by fairy tale favorites written by Mendelssohn, Prokofiev, Stravinsky and more at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 23, at the Michigan Theatre in downtown Ann Arbor. The hourlong concert by the Ann **Arbor Symphony Orchestra is** preceded by an "Instrument Petting Zoo." Recommended for children ages 5-8, and all ticketholders are welcome. Admission is \$10 adults, \$5 children. Call (734) 994-4801 or online at www.a2so.com.



Swing is among the numerous ballroom and Latin dance styles performed in 'Burn the Floor.'

Burning ever brightly

Ballroom dancing entertains on stage and inside local studios

BY NICOLE STAFFORD

vocal track suggestively asks "Do you" want to dance with me?" bouncing off the polished wood floor inside Dance Elite Ballroom Studio in West

It's standing-room only. For there are at least 75 onlookers, amateur ballroom dancers from all over metropolitan Detroit, gathered around the chand lit dance floor. They expect to see, rather than hear, the answer to the question and they're right.

The reply is a hip-gyrating, quick-stepping, heart-pounding, applause-inspiring salsa from four Burn the Floor cast mem-

A handful of the 32 internationally acclaimed dancers have stopped by to judge a competition of local dancers and preview their upcoming Detroit performances, Friday-Sunday, March 28-30, at the Fox Theatre.

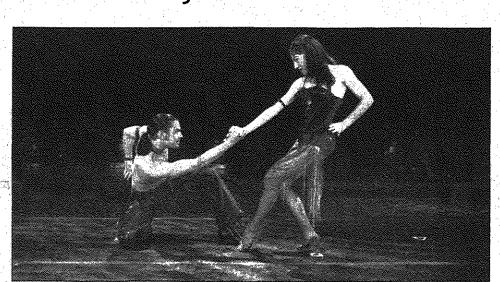
The exhibition turnout goes to show ballroom dancing is still burning, not a fad on the way out.

The preview goes to show Burn the Floor is no ordinary two-hour showcase of ballroom and Latin dance. Yes, it's rhumba, samba, cha cha cha, waltz, jive, jitterbug, swing, mambo, salsa, tango and quickstep.

But it's theatrical, extravagant and sultry in a way grandmother could not have

"It's ballroom spliced with a more modern flavor," says Rebecca Sugden, a cast member judging the dance competition and Australia native. "It has more edge."

Enhancing the 32 dancers' hot moves are stylish costumes from the likes of Gucci and Versace and lighting and sound on par with big-time rock 'n' roll concerts.



'Burn the Floor,' opening March 28 with five performances at the Fox Theatre, takes ballroom and Latin dancing to sultry, sensational heights.

So enrapturing is the show, audience members have been known to jump on the stage, Sugden says, adding, "We do try to get people on their feet by the end of the night. Ballroom dancing is great fun andanybody can do it. It's like a secret society, but we're bringing it out into the public."

FEELING FREE

Susana Cieslinski of Clinton Township, who along with partner Rich Jaramillo of Farmington Hills won the night's local competition, is already convinced ballroom is for her. She says she's addicted and loves Burn the Floor.

"I've seen Burn the Floor twice. I even have the videotape," she says. "Watching it inspires

me. I want to get the feeling they get." Cieslinski learned Latin dance several

PLEASE SEE DANCE, 85

BURN THE FLOOR

What: A theatrical ballroom and Latin dance presentation featuring championship dance couples.

When: 8 p.m. Friday, March 28; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, March 29; 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, March 30.

Where: Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

Tickets: \$15-60, at Fox Theatre and Joe Louis Arena box offices or any Ticketmaster outlet. Ticketmaster can be reached at (248) 433-1515 or visit www.ticketmaster.com. For group tickets, call (313) 471-3099. For event information, call Olympia Entertainment at (313) 983-6606 or visit www.olympiaentertainment.com.

KC still full of sunshine

'Shake Your Booty' with disco king

BY EILEEN MCCARVILLE STAFF WRITER

Harry Wayne Casey known to fans as simply KC -

is still shaking his booty. "Yes, I'm still shaking it. It's a little bigger now," laughed Casey, who formed KC and the Sunshine Band in the '70s. "I was 150 pounds back

"It's a 190-pound booty now but it's in proportion," said Casey, 52, from his home in Miami, which he shares with golden retrievers Boston and Candy.

These days "get down" may be more of a command for each pooch to stay put than 70s disco jargon and a line from one of his classic hits, Get Down Tonight. The infectious party song is one of four number one singles the Sunshine Band had in the span of one year - the only group to have done so other than The Beatles. Others include, of course, Shake Your Booty, That's the Way (I Like It) and Boogie Shoes.

Though he retired in 1985 - following recuperation from a head-on collision and his father's death - Casey decided to return to the music scene a few years a after a gig on the former Arsenio Hall show gave him the motivation to do so.

"I just started doing it again. I just put my mind back into the mode," he said.

KC and the Sunshine Band are set to shake at Dearborn's

PLEASE SEE KC, B7



Harry Wayne Casey is known to fans as KC.

Cranbrook science museum shows off treasured collections

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Boys and girls swarm a glass case at Cranbrook Institute of Science for an up close look at a snake submerged in a jar of alcohol. The Southfield Christian Academy students seem spellbound as they listen patiently to Mike Stafford then flood him with questions. This was the reaction the Bloomfield Hills museum director was hoping for. Before long he'd lead them like a pied piper through the

PLEASE SEE CRANBROOK, B3



JERRY ZOLYNSKY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Stafford tells the story of King Tut's throne at the front of the Treasures exhibit. Cranbrook founders George and Ellen Booth (pictured on camel back) were in Egypt when the tomb was discovered in 1922 and tried unsuccessfully to purchase it. Later, they commissioned the reproduction shown here.

FIND

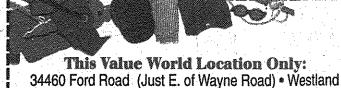
What: Treasures of the Institute Collection

When: Through May 4, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, until 10 p.m. Friday

Where: Science Institute at Cranbrook, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills

Tickets: Free with museum admission \$7, \$5 ages 2-12 and seniors. No charge for children under 2, (877) 462-7262 or www.cranbrook.edu

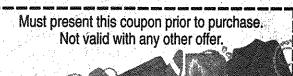
Related event: Archaeology Day 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 29



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Kids invited to 'Fiddle Around' with DSO musicians

BY EILEEN MCCARVILLE STAFF WRITER

It's tot time for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra - which believes children are never too young to discover the joys of

music. The Detroit Symphony Orchestra re-introduces its "Tunes and Tales for Tots" concert series - Saturday, March 22, at Seligman Performing Arts Center in Beverly Hills.

Basic musical concepts, an introduction to orchestra instruments, and lots of spectacular music are featured during the concerts designed for children age 3-6. Younger and older children, and adults are welcome.

Kicking off the series, in Beverly Hills, is Fiddlin' Around featuring the DSO Ambassador Quintet, which invites kids to "string along" for a ride on the Orange Blossom

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 20, 2003

The quintet - consisting of two violins, viola, cello and bass - will also perform Old MacDonald, Vivaldi's Spring movement from The Four Seasons, Copland's Hoedown from Rodeo, Rodgers and Hammerstein's My Favorite Things from The Sound of Music, and Strauss' The Laughing Song from Die Fledermaus (The Bat).

Larry Hutchinson, bass player for the Ambassador String Quintet, said Fiddlin' Around will introduce children to string instruments, "one by one. The other themes are using your imagination, and using music to guide your imagination."

Another plus is an introduction to the instruments as soon as tots arrive. Members of DSO's Civic Orchestra, composed of high school and college students, will be on hand in the lobby. They'll let kids experience the instruments up

"So it's an intimate connection for these kids before they even walk into the auditorium. They can touch (the instruments), pull the bows," said Hutchinson.

"We've done this program a couple of times already in other places. All humility aside, it's a great show," he said, laughing. We also spend a lot of time working out the narration and how it's presented, which is extremely important when you're dealing with young children. We're real proud of it."

CutTime Players, an eightmember ensemble from the DSO (violin, bass, flute, clarinet, bassoon, trumpet, trombone and percussion) will perform at Pack Your Bags on April 12 in Wyandotte, and

Peter and the Wolf in Grosse Pointe Woods, April 26.

Pack Your Bags, written by Rick Robinson, DSO string bass player and a CutTime Player, features each instrument in a composition that depicts different parts of the world. For example, the flutist plays the Japanese folk song Sakura .

Peter and the Wolf tells the story of Peter and his pets - a bird, duck and cat. A wolf invades his menagerie and tries to escape with the animals. Peter organizes a hunt to find him. Each character - including a hunter and Peter's grandpa - is performed by a different instrument.

Robinson arranged the original production so CutTime Players could participate. For instance, "the duck is normally done by an oboe but we had a bassoon," he said.

Peter and the Wolf is a popular tale, "but we are blessed with children from the Grosse Pointe Academy joining us and it's really cute," Robinson said, explaining there will be "visual" characters as well.

The musical tale works because the music portrays the characters so well. And every little musical phrase portrays the action very well," Robinson said. "I think, especially in these times, when it's hard to bring people into orchestra concerts, visual stimulation becomes as important as good music.

"I should add that, in all the concerts, we always demonstrate the instruments one at a time, how they make sound. But we tend to get some older children (youngsters from the DSO's youth orchestras to demonstrate), especially if the families have mixed age groups."

TUNES AND TALES FOR

TOTS

What: A concert featuring the **Detroit Symphony Orchestra Ambassador Quintet**

When: 11 a.m. Saturday, March

Where: Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 W. 13 Mile Road, Beverly Hills

Tickets: \$7, "babes-in-arms," ages 2 and under, free, (313) 576-5111. Tickets will also be sold at the door if they are still available.

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Schoolcraft revives 'Lend Me a Tenor'

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Jim Hartman can't stop laughing even after sitting through seven weeks of rehearsals for Lend Me a Tenor, the Schoolcraft College Theatre production opening Friday, March 21.

Hartman decided to revive the Ken Ludwig comedy after it was such a hit with audiences the last time around.

"It's hysterical," said Hartman, director and head of the theater program. "We did it six years ago and it sold out before it was cast and we had to add a show. I just love the play, the zaniness. It's a play of mistaken identity, very fast paced, almost a farce. It's a funny show, an adult show with adult themes and some cursing. It's going to make audiences laugh until their

sides hurt."

Hartman's relying on the actors to deliver the color and fast-paced punch lines. Unlike the 1997 production, he's designed a stark white set as a neutral backdrop for the eight-member cast.

"I'm looking for the costumes and actors to add color," said Hartman. "They're bringing color to the performance through characterization. At rehearsals I'm constantly telling them to bring up the energy. They're learning if you're not tired when you go home you haven't done your job here."

Brian Taylor knows the amount of energy it takes to play the Italian tenor superstar Tito Morelli. He was cast in the same role six years ago. A graduate of Plymouth Salem High School, Taylor's performing in his 16th show at Schoolcraft College.

"I spend a whole act knocked unconscious," said Taylor. "It's so fun to do. The play's set in the 1930s at the Cleveland Grand Opera Company. Tito Morelli has a lot of lady fans and brings his wife with him to the performance. They argue off and on and there's a mix-up with medication and alcohol and he's thought to be dead. Another actor takes over as Othello and wears his costume. My character comes around and goes and gets another costume and starts running around. People think they're talking to him and they're not. It's hilarious.

"It's really fun, a fast, fun evening. You've heard the saying 'it's a laugh a minute.' It really is."

Ichomin@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2145

'LEND ME A TENOR'

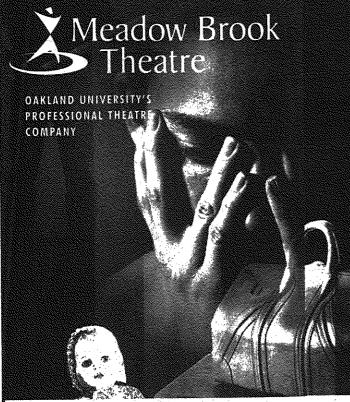
When: 6 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 21-22, and 28-29 (dinner theater), and 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 4-5 (performance only)

Where: Liberal Arts Theater, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile roads, Livonia

Tickets: \$22 dinner theater, \$10 performance only, call (734) 462-4400, Ext. 5457

JIM JAGDFELD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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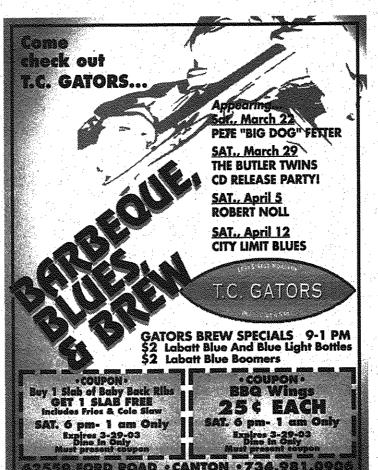
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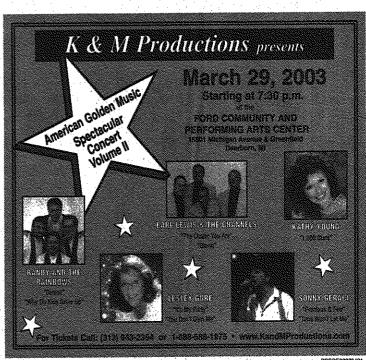
MBT RATING: Suitable for middle-school age and older

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Carol Lipinski (left), Jessica Duffey and Joseph Fournier rehearse a scene from "Lend Me a Tenor."





Plan your weekend activities each Thursday with Arts & Entertainment

CRANBROOK

FROM PAGE B1

exhibit of usually hidden objects. For the first time in decades, visitors can see Treasures of the Institute Collection, which spotlights the rare and mysterious wonders of 12 areas of scientific study from anthropology to geology, ornithology, entomology, mammalogy, and paleontology.

The exhibit continues to Sunday, May 4. On Saturday, March 29, Stafford will give an in depth tour of the collection as part of Archaeology Day.

"It's our first major exhibit in three decades, the first time in 72 years we've focused on the collection," said Stafford. "We have 5,000 square feet here and generally rotate traveling exhibitions. Treasures showcases our primary interest and

makes a statement about the breadth and depth of our collection.

"The founders of Cranbrook, George and Ellen Booth were dedicated students of Egyptology. They were in Egypt

in 1922 when King Tutunkhamun's tomb was discovered. That's a photo of them on camel back. George tried to buy King Tut's throne from the British government and when they turned him down he had the replica at the front of the exhibit done."

A timeline shows the history of the institution and the Booth's 1926 trip to purchase 277 minerals in Denver.

"Minerals were one of the founding collections of the Institute," said Stafford. "George Booth collected them world-wide."

Hundreds of objects tell the history of cultures and nature through artifacts and specimens. A birch bark canoe hung

from the ceiling demonstrates the skill of the craftsman who created it from a single piece of bark. There's a 1890 bear totem from Vancouver, British Columbia, an Arapaho Bison headdress from the late 1800s, gold jewelry from 1000 A.D., Roman glass, a tusk from the toothed whale known as the Narwhal, an African sword, and Japanese Samurai Armor.

Want to learn more about the botany of Michigan? In addition to looking at dried plants in the exhibit, visitors are welcome to use the resources of the museum for research.

The exhibit only tells a portion of the story. Stafford is quick to point out highlights an extinct passenger pigeon from 1900s, and large elephant bird egg from Madagascar that belonged to an emu-like species hunted to extinction at beginning of the 1700s.

The ornithology collection

'We're a learner's museum. We're all lifelong learners. We have stuff if you're 6 foot 2 inches or 3 foot 2 inches."

Mike Stafford Cranbrook Institute of Science

tells the story of how the natural world is disappearing from certain areas," said Stafford. "The Carolina parakeet was the only parrot native to the U.S. and is now extinct. We can only show I percent of the collection. The idea is to get people interested in natural history, draw them in with objects and specimens. They're blown away by the size of the elephant bird egg and it makes them want to

"Many objects are too fragile or to valuable to bring out.

That's why we're having Archaeology Day. We'll bring out Inca gold, 17th and 18th century trade silver, spears, swords, feathered dresses from Paraguay, It will be an up close and personal experience. Visitors can learn about archaeology. We'll demonstrate how stone tools are made and they'll have a chance to get their hands dirty in a simulated archaeological dig."

The ability to see nature and the rocks Mandy Maitland is learning about at Southfield Christian School is the reason her mother Holly agreed to chaperone the field trip to the museum.

"They're enjoying it," said Maitland of Bloomfield Hills. "They're curious, asking a lot of questions. It's fun seeing things through kids' eyes, to see their excitement about a basket.

Stafford points to baby turtles in a glass case and

explains the jagged edges on their backs warn passersby of snapping tendencies. It's apparent this father of six loves spending time with the children.

"I feel a degree of frustration as head of science," said Stafford who was appointed director in November after seven years as a curator. "I knew what was here. I saw kids of this age, their excitement, taking them into the collections and decided to do the exhibition. The Institute is headed in an exciting new direction. We want to appeal to kids tuned out to the natural world. We're in the science and learning business. As a father I see the impact of the museum on my own children. We're a learner's museum. We're all lifelong learners. We have stuff if you're 6 foot 2 inches or 3 foot 2 inches."

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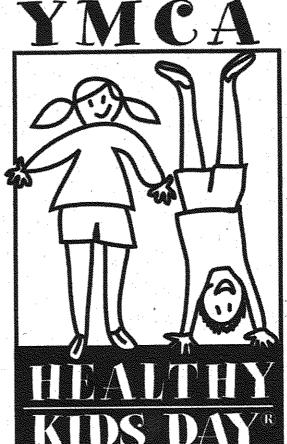
JERRY ZOLYNSKY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Stafford looks at some ancient baskets with Mandy Maitland (left) of Bloomfield Hills and Hannah Morris of





te and time may vary by branch



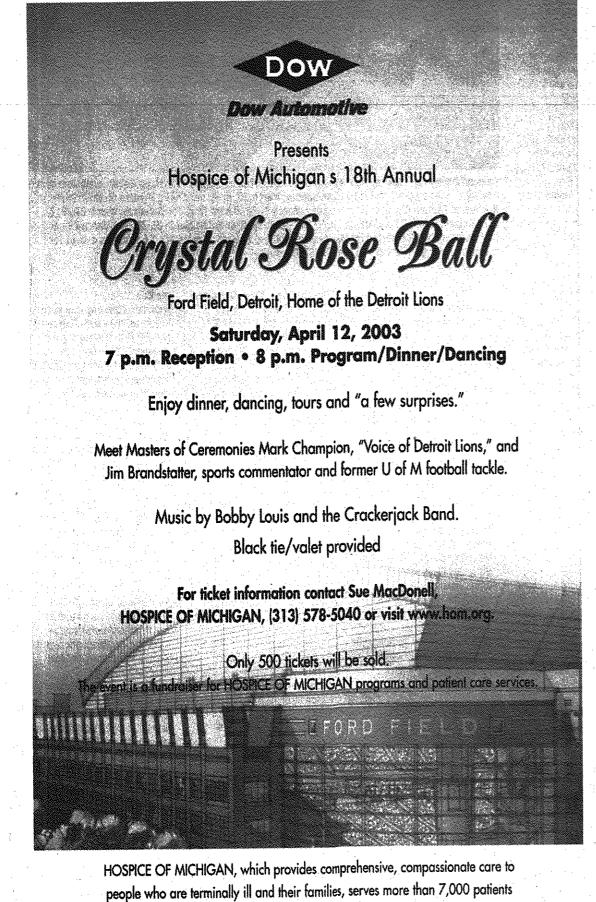
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YOUR GUIDE TO SUBURBAN ENTERTAINMENT

PROFESSIONAL THEATER

Century Theatre

8-Track: The Sounds of the '70s 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 1:20 p.m. limited Thursdays, 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 1:30 p.m. Sunday, 333 Madison, Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800

Gem Theatre Shear Madness, 333 Madison, Detroit, \$24.50 to \$34.50. (313) 963-9800

Jewish Ensemble Theatre Peter Sagal's Denial, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday and Sunday, 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday through March 30. Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple at Drake, West Bloomfield. \$18-\$30, senior/student discounts. (248) 788-2900 The Diary of Anne Frank 3 p.m. Sunday, March 23, Scottish Rite Cathedral Theatre, Masonic

\$6 students. (248) 788-2900 The Detroit Opera House RENT, inspired by Puccini's La Boheme, through March 23, at Detroit Opera House. \$20-\$55.50 (313) 872-1000

Temple, 500 Temple, Detroit. \$10,

Meadow Brook Theatre Wait Until Dark, continues to April 13, Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Rochester Hills, \$19-\$38. For times (248) 377-3300 Fisher Theatre

Porgy and Bess, through March 30. \$30-\$65, (248) 645-6666. For information and directions, (313) 872-1000 or www.nederlanderdetroit.com

Planet Ant Theatre

The Ball & Chain Gang, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, continues to March 30, 2357 Caniff Ave. Hamtramck. \$15/\$10 students. (313) 365-4948x1

COMMUNITY THEATER

Clarkston Village Players

Run for Your Wife, a comedy by Ray Cooney, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, through March 22, Depot Theatre. \$10, Thursday, \$12 Friday-Saturday. (248) 625-8811 or ww.clarkstonvillageplayers.org

Main Stage Theatre Guild

The musical Two by Two 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 21-22, 4 p.m. Sunday, March 23, Livonia Mall, Seven Mile Road at Middlebelt, \$8, \$5 students and seniors. (586) 344-7774 Ridgedale Players

Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up? 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 21-23, March 28-30. \$15 adults, \$14 students/seniors, (Sunday), (248) 988-7049, www.ridgedaleplayers.com

Bioomfield Players The Wiz, 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday,

March 21-22; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 23. Bloomfield Hills Lahser High Theatre, (248) 433-0885 Village Players

Cyrano De Bergerac, 34660 Woodward, Birmingham, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 21-22, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 23, \$15. (248) 644-2075

Broadway Onstage Live Theatre Breaking Legs 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. select Sundays, through March 29, 21517 Kelly,

Eastpointe, \$14 (810) 771-6333 Knox Auditorium/First Presbyterian Church

Charlotte's Web 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 21-22; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 23, 1169 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. \$8/adults. \$5/students/seniors (248) 644-2087, Ext. 151

North Rosedale Park Players Inside Out: Park Players Celebrates 50 Years of Musical Theater, a play by Sarah Hedeen,

March 28 to April 12. For reservations, call (313) 538-2336 CAPA A Chorus Line, 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 20-22,

Churchill High School, Livonia, \$10 adults, \$8 students/seniors. (734) 744-2650.

COLLEGE THEATER

Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Theatre presents

A Company of Wayward Saints 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, April 9-12, Smith Theater on campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. \$7, \$5 seniors and students. (248) 522-3422



Farmington Players present the fast-paced comedy "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 21-22, March 28-29, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 23, at the new Barn Theater on 12 Mile Road, west of Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Tickets \$13, \$10 students, \$10 seniors for Sunday matinee. Call (248) 553-2955. Part of the new Hayloft Series, the production raises money for the purchase of curtains for the new stage. Pictured are Rita Montpetit (left), Tim Timmer and Tony Castellani.

Oakland University

Anything Goes, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 20-22, March 27-29, 2 p.m. Sundays, March 23 and 30, 10 a.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, March 25-26, Varner Studio Theatre, on the Rochester campus, \$12 general, \$6 students, all seats \$5, March 25-26, (248) 645-6666, or one hour before performance at the door.

DINNER THEATER

Genitti's

News Flash, an uproarious spoof of a local newscast, continues through April, at Genitti's, 108 E. Main, Northville, \$45, includes seven-course dinner and show. (248) 349-0522

CHILDREN'S THEATER

Genitti's

Sleep Over, April 5 at Genetti's, 108 E. Main, Northville. \$14.95, \$12.95 children. (248) 349-0522

SPECIAL EVENTS

Yanni book signing

The Foundation for Modern Greek Studies welcomes Yanni to the Royalty House, 8201 E. 13 Mile Road at Van Dyke in Warren. 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 29. He will be signing copies of his new book In Words. There is no

charge, the public is welcome. (248) 596-9667.

Author's Panel and Roundtable Event features authors and publishers 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 29, Plymouth District Library, \$30, includes lunch. Call (734) 416-4278

Collectible Toy Show Monaghan K of C Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 23, \$3, (children under 12 free), (734) 747-7192.

BENEFITS

For the Love of Art

Car Hop, theme dance in 1950s attire at a "diner" dinner with silent and live auctions of artful items 7:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday. April 12, RSVP by April 4, at Fox Volkswagen, 773 S. Rochester Road, Rochester, \$75, \$100 patron donors. Proceeds benefit Paint Creek Center for the Arts Building Fund. (248) 651-4110 Luncheon on the Aisle

Learn behind the scenes secrets about professional theater and watch a portion of a rehearsal for the play Meshuggah Nuns 11:30 a.m. Friday, April 25, Meadow Brook Theatre, Oakland University, Rochester, \$75, \$30, \$28 seniors over age 62 and groups of 10. Proceeds benefit the theater. (248) 375-0850



Cecil Cilek (left), Topper Pennington (standing), Jim Teegarden (seated) and Anthony Marsalese rehearse "Side Man," a play about the turmoll in the family of a jazz musician as his career falters at the dawn of rock n' roll. The St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook production runs 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 21-22, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 27-29, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 23, at the playhouse 400 Lone Pine, west of Cranbrook Road, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets \$13, \$11 students and seniors. Call (248) 644-0527 or order online at www.stdunstanstheatre.com. Because of the use of cigarettes and mature language the production is intended for ages 18 and older.

CHORAL

Metropolitan Singers Third annual Free Family Concert and Sing-A-Long, 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 23, Southfield Civic Center, Room 115, 26000 **Evergreen at Civic Center Drive** (10 1/2 Mile Road), special guests The Choirsters and Children's Hand Chime Choir from St. Genevieve, Livonia. (248) 545-8743, (248) 932-0390

Detroit Concert Choir "Celtic Treasures" concert 4 p.m. Sunday, March 23, at St. Clare of Montefalco, 1401 Mack at Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park \$12 seniors and students. (313)

CLASSICAL

882-0118

Royal Oak Community Orchestra Spring concert 8 p.m. Friday. March 21, Royal Oak Kimball High School Auditorium, corner of Crooks and Normandy (13 1/2 Mile), \$8, \$5 seniors and stu-

dents. (248) 988-6991 **BBSO** Features Young Artist Competition winner violinist Rachel Keathley performing Goldmark's Violin Concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op. 28, First Movement. 7 p.m. Sunday, March 23, Temple Beth El, (248) 645-

Birmingham Musicale Pianists Yuki and Tomoko Mack, harpist Christa Grix and the Christa Grix Jazz Trio, 4 p.m. Sunday, March 30, First Baptist Church, 300 Willitsw St., Birmingham, (\$20 general), (\$35 patron), (\$50 benefactor), to benefit the musicale's scholar-

CONTEMPORARY

ship and philanthropic pro-

grams, (248) 642-2386.

Lettie Aiston and Friends Music by women composers 8 p.m. Saturday, March 22, at Varner Recital Hall, Oakland

University, Rochester. \$15, \$8 students and seniors. (248) 267-

JAZZ/BLUES

CAB with Glenn Poorman, 7 p.m. Thursday, March 20, 208 First St., Ann Arbor, \$25, (734) 996-8555. www.blindpigmusic.com

Barbara Ware

3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 20, and 4 p.m. Monday, March 31, at

MAKING CONTACT

Please submit items for publication in Going Places to Linda Chomin two weeks in advance of event. Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or fax (734) 591-7279

Joe Weaver, blues & R&B singer, Friday, March 28, 27522 Northwestern Highway,

Copper Canyon Brewery Southfield, (248) 223-1700

COMEDY

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor \$5-\$10 (734) 996-9080. Improv Comedy Jamm Night! Improv Comedy troupe, Beer Money, 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 26, \$5, The

BOOKSTORE HAPPENINGS

West Bloomfield Barnes & Noble Elliot Feldman will be doing a signing/reading of his novel, Sitting Shiva, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 20, 6800 Orchard Lake

WORLD

Dance recital

Polish Centennial Dancers and the Radomianie Polish Folk Dance Ensemble, 2 p.m. Sunday. March 23, Clarenceville High School, Middlebelt north of Seven Mile Road, \$8, (734) 266-9109, www.pnacentennialdancers.org

MUSEUMS, PARKS AND TOURS

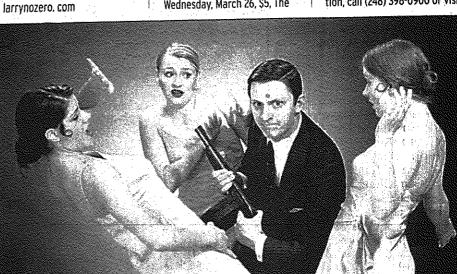
Nankin Mills Interpretive Center Live animal display-hands on activities for kids, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail in Westland, east of Hines Drive. Free (734) 261-

Detroit Institute of Arts Continues its Friday night programming, at the museum, 5200 Woodward Ave. With admission \$4, \$1 children, no charge for Founders Society members, Call (313) 833-8499 for exhibition information, (313) 833-7900 for general information or visit the Web site at www.dia.org

Detroit Science Center Digital Dome Planetarium Show, weekends, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, at 5020 John R, Detroit. (313) 577-8400,

www.detroitsciencecenter.org Detroit Zoo Kids will love The Arctic Ring of

Life, which features a 70-foot see-through acrylic tunnel where polar bears swim around visitors. \$8 adults, \$6 seniors and children. For more information, call (248) 398-0900 or visit



Oakland University's Music, Theater and Dance Department present "Anything Goes," a musical comedy with songs by Cole Porter through Sunday, March 30, in Varner Studio Theatre on the campus in Rochester. Curtain 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 21-22, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 27-29, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 23 and March 30, 10 a.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, March 25-26. The March 29 performance will be interpreted for the deaf and hard of hearing. Tickets \$12, \$6 students except for matinees when all seats are \$5. Call (248) 370-3013.

Sklar Brothers, 8 p.m. Thursday,

8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-

Joey's Comedy Club

Saturday, March 20-22, \$7-\$13

Chas Elstner, 8 p.m. Thursday,

March 20, \$8, 8 p.m. and 10:30

p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 21-

22, \$15, 36071 Plymouth Road,

Livonia, (734) 261-0555,

www.joeyscomedyclub.com

SOCIAL DANCING

Rosie O'Grady's

Tim Flaharty, Marvin Conrad and George Bennett-Tuesday Night Open Blues/Jazz Jam, 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tuesday, Rosie O'Grady's, 175 W. Troy Street, Ferndale. (248) 591-9163

Motor City Casino, Detroit. 6:30

Clarkston, (248) 620-9300. 7:30

p.m. Wednesday, March 27, with

Fireside Inn. 28937 Warren Road.

two blocks east of Middlebelt.

8 p.m. to midnight Monday at

Mitch Housey's Food & Spirits,

Livonia. (734) 425-5520, www.

Mesquite Creek Steakhouse,

Matt Michaels Trio at Ron's

Larry Nozero Jazz Quintet

(734) 762-7756

p.m. Tuesday, March 25,

Vince James Trio Compari's, 8-11 p.m. Wednesdays, 350 S. Main, Plymouth, (734) 416-0100

Matt Michaels Trio

8-11:30 p.m. Wednesday, at Ron's Fireside Inn, 28937 Warren Road, two blocks east of Middlebelt. (734) 762-7756

Music Menu

The Brothers Groove, Thursday, March 20, The Orbitsun's, Friday, March 21, John Sinclair and his Motor City Blues Scholars featuring Jimmy McCarty and members of the Howling Diablos, Saturday, March 22, Johnny Bassett and the Blues Insurgents, Sunday, March 23, 511 Monroe, Greektown, Detroit, (313) 964-6368.

Moon-Dusters Ballroom dancing to live bands,

featuring swing, fox trot, waltz, cha-cha and Latin, 8:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Livonia Civic Center,

15218 Farmington Road at Five Mile Road, \$5. (248) 967-1428. Rhythm 'N' Shoes

Weekly ballroom/ Latin dance party with disc jockey, 9-11 p.m. Thursday, 2172 Franklin Road, north of Square Lake Road, east of Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills, \$7, \$6 members. (248) 334-0299

All Star Dance Parties 7 p.m. Sunday (one hour Cha Cha lesson by Glen Clark) through April, \$6, ballroom dancing 8-11 p.m., \$6, \$10 for both, White Heather Club, 150 Vester, Ferndale. (313) 521-6564

A-1 Dance Parties 8 p.m. to midnight, Thursday, Top 40s, Oldies, Line Dances. requests, Italian Cultural Center,

Warren. \$6. (313) 521-6564

the Web site at www.detroitzoo.org. Now open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The zoo is at 8450 W. 10 Mile at I-696 and Woodward, Royal Oak. The Detroit Zoo is always looking for volunteers. To volunteer or for more information, call Sue Kingsepp at (248) 541-5717.

Henry Ford Museum Museum hours are 9 a.m. to 5

p.m. Monday-Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, \$8.50-\$13.50. (313) 271-1620. For IMAX ticket prices and show times, call (800) 747-IMAX (4629). Meadow Brook Hall

Tours 1:30 p.m. Monday-Sunday. and 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, cost is \$12.50, \$8.50 seniors over age 62, \$6 children under 12, children under 2 free; Tea on Tuesday \$35, at Meadow Brook Hall on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester. For information, visit the Web site at www.meadowbrookhall.org Plymouth Historical Museum

New permanent Abraham Lincoln exhibit, Images of Lincoln, acquired from Michigan collector Weldon Petz, at the museum, 155 S. Main. \$3, \$1 students ages 5-17, \$7 a family. Hours are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday and Saturday-Sunday, (734) 455-8940

Did you miss the deadline for Thursday's Classifieds?

You have a second chance to make Thursday's edition, if you call us by noon on Wednesday we'll put your ad in a special mini-directory, "Too late to Classified," which appears in Arts & Entertainment. Call 1-800-579-SELL (preferably by deadline) to place your ad.

A Day to Discover and Dream about Mars

BY ALICE RHEIN CORRESPONDENT

The Atkins and Zone diets may be chic among celebrities, but did you know that on Mars, a 150 pound person would only weigh 57 pounds? See, it's gravity that weighs you down, it couldn't possibly be all those paczki you ate earlier this month.

And you know how you're always wishing there were more hours in a day? A Mars day is 24.6 hours – more than half an hour extra to get things done.

Lots of facts about Mars will be revealed Sunday, March 22 when the Exhibit Museum of Natural History on the campus of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor hosts "Journey to Mars Discovery Day."

The all ages event features talks by former astronaut Tony England and NASA educator Jim Fitzgerald. A quarter-scale model of a Mars Habitation module will be parked outside the museum, and a live feed from the Michigan Mars Rover Team test site in Utah will be viewable in the museum's rotunda.

Students from the U of M College of Engineering will have hands-on activities, and there is also a planetarium show narrated by Star Trek's Patrick Stewart that is recommended for children in grades four and up. Families also have the opportunity to enter a contest to win a trip with the Michigan Mars Rover Team.

"Kids are always interested in Through April, the Museum has a the next launch is expected by

the unique aspects of weightlessness," says Fitzgerald, an aerospace education specialist who provides NASA workshops and presentations in Michigan and Ohio. "They are fascinated by the details of daily life such as eating, sleeping and, of course, going to the bathroom in space. Students always ask about going to the bathroom and get a big laugh out of the description of the astronauts' waste management activities."

Well, kid or not, who hasn't wondered about that?

The Discovery Day is one of several events and lectures centered around the red planet (which is actually butterscotch in color, the red comes from the rust in Martian rocks and dust).

photography exhibit in the rotunda featuring many photos taken using Viking Orbiter data and facts about Mars and its moons, Phobos (meaning "fear" in Greek)

and Deimos (meaning "panie"). The "discovery day" has become a popular annual event at the museum and drew more than 1,200 visitors last year. Washtenaw County libraries also have activities to coincide with the "Journey to Mars" theme.

Though the tragedy of the Space Shuttle Colombia is still fresh with NASA, and all Americans, the space program is also known for moving forward.

"Inspire the next generation of explorers...as only NASA can," is one of its stated missions.

For NASA's mission to Mars,

this summer, and will land in January 2004, if all goes as scheduled. "NASA is in the business of developing technologies and doing research that will enable humans to expand their presence away from the Earth," says Fitzgerald.

And that often begins with a child's fascination with space. So what advice does Fitzgerald give for children who dream of traveling in space?

"Keep dreaming. This is where motivation, aspiration and determination begin," he says. "We have built our dreams of spaceflight on the shoulders of the dreams of others in the past and our own. Exploration and innovation are both seated in the realm of the possibilities that we consider in our dreams."

DISCOVERY

What: Journey to Mars Discovery Day

Where: The Exhibit Museum of Natural History, University of Michigan, 1109 Geddes, Ann Arbor

When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 22

Information: Call (734) 764-0478 or on the Internet visit

www.journeytomars.org

Admission:

No charge, planetarium shows are \$3 per person

FROM PAGE BI

years ago in local nightclubs. Today, it's her primary source of entertainment; she dances every Friday and Saturday night. A few years, she danced three and four times a week. "It's my release, my therapy, it's my chance to let it all out and feel free," she says.

While traditional dance clubs offer patrons the same type of recreational and social release, Cieslinski says, at 35, she's too old for the bar scene.

"I need to have a more mature scene," she says. "This is social, but it's not a booty

'Here, you have people who actually know the steps. At a club, it's booty shaking."

Cheryl Hackett ballroom dancer

bar where people are dancing by themselves and getting picked up,"

TWENTY-SOMETHINGS, TOO

Perhaps not surprisingly, Cheryl Hackett, a competition contender and 21-yearold University of Michigan student from Northville, appreciates ballroom dancing for the same reason.

"It's different from the clubs. It's something you can do to be social," says Hackett, who donned a white ball gown for the competition.

"Here, you have people who actually know the steps," she says. "At a club, it's booty shaking."

Once more, women and men can dance together without feeling it means something more, Hackett says.

NEVER TOO OLD TO DANCE

The oldest Burn the Floor cast member may be 35, but today's ballroom boom draws older, as well as younger, generations. And many in the older crowd are beginners, too.

Among those who turned out for the Burn the Floor preview and competition were 70-year-old Bill Zorney of Northville and his partner, 61-year-old Bobbie Kahlbaum of Westland. The two have been dancing regularly for about three years. Recently, they began classes at Dance Elite Ballroom Studio.

"We dabble in all styles," Zorney says of the couple's ballroom odyssey.

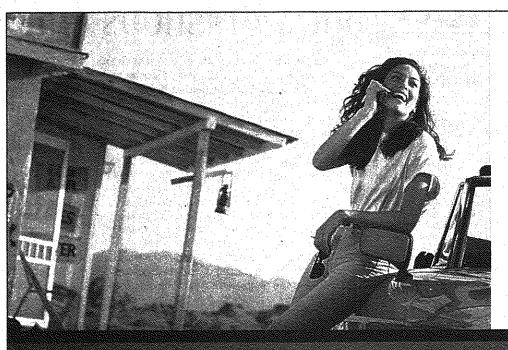
"Some day we hope to be able to do all the styles," Kahlbaum adds.

Neither are inclined to describe their progress on the dance floor, but both regularly take classes and attend open dances Friday and Saturday nights. Zorney frequently turns out for a Wednesday morning senior class followed by open dancing, as well.

We like the music and the physical activity," he says. "It's challenging, but it's enjoyable."

"It makes you feel elegant and graceful," she says. Who could ask for more?

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11. 22.

110

Lights, camera, Oscar! Even Detroit adores the Academy Awards

STAFF WRITER

There may be no official red carpet downtown, but Oscar night is more than idle television-viewing in metropolitan Detroit.

In its 75th year, the Academy Awards generates as much buzz and excitement as the Super Bowl. This year's show, Sunday, March 23, with local telecast on WXYZ-TV Channel 7, has local movie fans, film experts and theater managers talking, planning and guessing.

"Part of the attraction of the Academy Awards is its lure as a media event. It's right up there with the Super Bowl." said Lawrence Jeziak of Southfield, a local film expert who teaches film studies at Oakland Community College. "It's part and parcel of the American fascination with watching."

REALITY WORKS

David MacGregor, a screen writer who teaches at Wayne State University, agrees that the Academy Awards ceremony is a major media event, but goes a little farther on why the public feels compelled to watch.

"Because it's real," he said. "It's about genuine human emotion, and it doesn't matter who it is. If an actress is surprised she won an Oscar, that's real."

Indeed, Hollywood stars in trueto-life action seems to be the latest in reality television; just consider the popularity of ABC's I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here.

PICKS AND THE PICKING

Although MacGregor and Jeziak are fairly cynical about the award part of the Oscars — both said the most deserving nominees frequently don't win - they relish making predictions and talking up their

Jeziak picks Chicago to win for best picture, "The first musical to win a best picture Oscar since Oliver in 1968," he said.

For best actor, he predicts Adrien Brody's performance in The Pianist, will win, and for best actress, he's pulling for Julianne Moore in Far From Heaven. In the best supporting actress category, Meryl Streep is sure to win, he said.

For best director, he had much

to say and a popular belief about the fate of director Martin Scorsese to dispel: "Roman Polanski deserves the Oscar. He won't get it. Martin Scorsese deserved the Oscar in 1991 for Goodfellas. The Academy gave the Oscar to Kevin Cosner for Dances With Wolves — the greatest Oscar injustice of the decade. However, the Academy will not attempt to redeem itself by giving an Oscar to Scorsese this year."

Sorry Mr. Scorsese, Jeziak picks Rob Marshall, director of Chicago, to

But if you think Jeziak spends too much time in movie land, consider MacGregor's pre-Oscar rituals. MacGregor, a Livonia resident, annually participates in an Oscar

pool. Apparently, his predictions annually win the pool, too.

His strategy is a sure-fire mix of up-to-the-minute research and a killer attitude: Keep tabs on current events, surf Internet sites - oscarwatch.com is the best one - and turn a very cold shoulder on films close to the heart.

"I'm brutal," he said. "You have to pick who you think will win, not who deserves to win."

So far, MacGregor is leaning toward Chicago for best picture and Meryl Streep for best supporting actress. Everywhere else, he's unde-

"It's early yet," he said. "The odds change daily."

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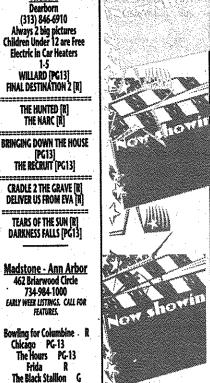
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Creative Artists Grant deadline and workshops announced

Applications for the 2004 Creative Artist Grant program are available at ArtServe's offices by mail or online. Workshops will be held in Rochester, Ann Arbor and Detroit in March and April.

Visual arts, traditional arts, dance, theater, opera & musical theater and inter/multidisciplinary are eligible disciplines.

The Creative Artist Grant supports the creation of new works of art or the completion of a work of art in progress by individual artists residing in Michigan with funding provided by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. The application is a two-step process. The first step includes a simple form and submission of samples of artwork and resume. The second step is by invitation of the review panel and includes the proposed project, budget and public service.

The Creative Artist Grant program features alternating year discipline eligibility. For 2003 grant applications will be accepted in visual arts, traditional arts, dance, theater, opera & musical theater and inter/multidisciplinary categories. This brief initial application carries a deadline of 6 p.m. Friday, May 9, (this is NOT a postmark deadline). Following a peer panel review, artists meeting certain criteria will be invited to submit the more detailed Step 2 application for their project.

To receive a Step 1 application by mail, send a self-addressed envelope 9-by-12-inch or larger bearing 57 cents in postage to CAG FY03, ArtServe Michigan, 17515 W. Nine Mile Road, Ste. 1025, Southfield, MI. 48075-4426. Th application may be downloaded from the library at www.ArtServeMichigan.org. Questions may be directed to Christine Schefman, Director. Artist Services, at (248) 557-8288 Ext. 14 or artists@ArtServeMichigan.org.

Workshops for the Step 1 application will be

held in Rochester on Wednesday, March 26, and Ann Arbor on Tuesday, April 29. See schedule below for details.

The Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs serves to encourage, develop and facilitate an enriched environment of artistic, creative, cultural activity in Michigan. Its goals: to strengthen arts and culture; support arts education; recognize, reflect and celebrate cultural pluralism and broaden cultural understanding; establish and facilitate communications networks; increase visibility and awareness of the arts and culture; encourage new, creative and innovative works of art and expand and develop funding resources.

ArtServe Michigan, an independent statewide organization, builds support for the arts, artists and cultural activities among citizens of Michigan through advocacy, education and services. We envision a time when arts and cultural activities are highly valued, enriching the daily lives of individuals and communities throughout the state. To that end, ArtServe works to create an environment supportive of arts and cultural activities, encourages quality education in the arts in both schools and communities, and provides needed support services for artists, commu-

nity arts organizations and cultural institutions. An RSVP is required for all workshops. Call Christine Schefman (248) 557-8288 Ext. 14 or send e-mail to artists@artservemichigan.org.

7-8-30 p.m. Wednesday, March 26, at Paint Creek Center for the Arts, 407 Pine Street, Rochester, MI.

7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, at Ann Arbor Public Library, Multi-purpose Room, 343 South Fifth Ave, Ann Arbor.

Play raises many questions about freedom of speech

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Evelyn Orbach's still struggling with the dilemma Peter Sagal poses in Denial. But that's OK with the West Bloomfield director who brought the emotionally-charged play to the Jewish Ensemble Theatre stage. Presenting controversial issues is what good theater is all about; it's just that as a Jew this one strikes closer to home.

Set in contemporary times, the play, which continues through March 30, follows a professor whose book denies the Holocaust ever happened, denies the Nazis ever murdered 6 million Jewish men, women and children in concentration camps during World War II. When the government indicts Bernard Cooper (played by Aaron Alpern of Chicago) for inciting violence, he seeks the help of ACLU attorney Abigail Gersten (Rebecca Covey of Chicago).

"I always thought the issues it raises are important yet difficult," said Orbach. "Since 9-11 it's become so apparent all of our First Amendment rights in this country - freedom of speech, freedom of the press are all very important to us. Even if we disagree with what they say, they have a right to say it. But what if they say something dangerous and bring other people to their way of thinking. Being Jewish I'm aware of denying people their rights. The time was right to have this discussion. I don't know what the answer is but I want this discussion."

Walonda Lewis's character thinks the right to free speech should have boundaries, but Sagal's play has left the actress wondering. It's a question she

JEWISH ENSEMBLE THEATRE

What: Peter Sagal's Denial, a drama focused on defending the First Amendment rights of a professor who writes a book denying the Holocaust

When: Through Sunday, March 30. Performances 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday and Sunday, 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday

Where: Aaron DeRoy Theatre inside the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple at Drake, West Bloomfield Tickets: \$18-\$30, discounts for seniors and students,

Talkbacks: After every Thursday performance with ACLU and Anti-Defamation League representatives and various Stop Hate campaign partners.

never had to deal with while studying acting at Franklin High School in Livonia or Wayne State University from which she graduates this spring.

call (248) 788-2900

HEARING THE OTHER SIDE

"I play Stefanie, secretary to Abby. She's Abby's conscience," said Lewis. "At first she's torn about First Amendment rights. Abby's someone who she looks up to, but then certain things she can't tolerate. She can only go so far protecting the rights of others. It forces me to try to answer that question how far are you going to protect the rights of Nazis and terrorists. I'm still thinking but what I've come up with is it depends on the situation to discover the right thing to do. I hope the Thursday night Talkbacks after performances clarify this. I want my friends to come for the discussions, assert views and listen to others because this

play is about listening. It's about hearing that other side that you never want to hear." Sol Frieder knows the impor-

tance of First Amendment rights yet it's still hard for him to listen to the lies spread by Cooper through his writings. So when the opportunity arose to play a supporting role in the premiere of Denial at Long Wharf Theatre in Connecticut in 1995, Frieder couldn't say no. Like his character Nathan, the 83-year-old actor lived through the Holocaust. The horror of it has remained with him throughout his 45 years in professional theater.

"It's still alive in my mind," said Frieder, who was born in Germany and now lives in New York. "My parents perished in Poland. It's a good play but also well documented. It shows weakness and strength under any terrible condition. That it could happen anywhere."

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FILM BEAT

Film Beat lists what's playing at alternative film theaters, special movie events and local flicks. Offerings and movie schedules may change after press time, so be sure to call ahead. Film beat listings and movie information can be submitted to: Nicole Stafford, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 801 East Maple, Birmingham, Mich. 48009 or e-mail nstafford@oe.homecomm.net.

DETROIT FILM THEATRE, Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (313) 833-3237,

www.dia.org/dft. Adult admission, \$6.50, senior citizens, full-time students with valid identification and DIA members, \$5.50. Discount tickets available in book for five for \$25. Films screened Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, All Monday shows are in the evening.

March 21-23, Chihwaseon (South Korea), director Im Kwon-Taek shared the prize for Best Director at the 2002 Cannes Film Festival for this saga about renowned 19th century artist "Ohwon" Jang Seung-up, his wild lifestyle and struggle to define the border between profitable and true

artistry. March 24, Tosca (France), 2001, director Benoit Jaquot's film translation of the famous opera.

REDFORD THEATRE, 17360 Lahser in Detroit, call (313) 537-2560. Regular admission, \$3.

March 21-22, The Picture of Dorian Gray, 1945, a haunting Oscar Wilde story about a Victorian gentleman who stays eternally young but has an aging

portrait of himself in his attic, starring Donna Reed, George Sanders, Hurd Hatfield and Academy Award nominee Angela Lansbury - in black and white. BREW AND VIEW AT THE MAGIC BAG, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, www.magicbag.com, movie nights on Wednesdays and Thursdays in small theater setting with full bar, must be at least 21, doors open at 8 p.m., films start at 9:30 p.m., box office hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., \$2. Call theater for schedule.

MAIN ART THEATRE, 118 North Main at 11 Mile Road, downtown Royal Oak. (248) 542-0180. Adult evening admission \$8.50. Matinees before 6 p.m. and admission for seniors and children is always \$6.

March 28, Bend it Like Beckham, a comedy about bending the rules to reach your goal that explores the world of women's soccer. Set in Hounslow, West London and Hamburg, the film follows two 18-year-olds with their hearts set on a future in professional soccer.

OSCAR NIGHT PARTIES

March 23, An Academy Awards Evening, 7 p.m. Uptown Palladium 12 film theater, 250 N. Old Woodward, downtown Birmingham, \$30, call (248) 644-FILM or visit the box office. March 23, St. Dunstan's Red Carpet Party, 7 p.m., Star Southfield Entertainment Centre, 25333 W. 2 Mile Road, Southfield, general seating, \$30, reserved seating, \$40, to benefit St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook, call (248) 644-0527 or visit www.stdunstanstheater.com to order tickets.

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center on Saturday. The event is part of their 30th

FROM PAGE B1

anniversary tour. The group exploded into the music scene in the mid-'70s after a successful reign in Europe. They became one of the leading forces in pop music with sales of more than 100 million records. KC and his

Sunshines have captured three Grammys, nine Grammy nominations and the American Music Award for Best R&B Artist. Casey said he first broke into the biz at age 17-18, writing

songs with his musician pal Richard Finch, the band's bassist who now lives in Europe. His biggest influences were rhythm and blues artists like the (Young) Rascals, Blood, Sweat and Tears, Joe Cocker, and the Motown artists he listened to as a teenager.

He was, generally, a solitary listener. "I was the only white boy listening to this stuff," he

said. "All my friends were making fun of me."

HEART AND SOUL

As a white guy, who sounded black, he was told by a record company that "I would never have a shot at it (fame)" but that didn't deter him. "I didn't see it as a color thing. I just did it my way, with heart and soul."

It was during that time that Casey picked up the keyboard. He'd already had a few piano lessons. "I took some piano lessons as a kid until the teacher thought I knew more than her," he quipped. "That was the end of that." He admits to playing well by ear, and now relies on his DX-7 keyboard to plunk out

Though KC and the Sunshine Band had their first R&B hits with Blow Your Whistle (1973) and Sound Your Funky Horn (early 1974), they didn't hit their stride until their numberone smash, Get Down Tonight. A history on the band says the Sunshines realized "they'd caught lightening in a bottle."

Thus began a string of hits and their trademark funky sound. "We were the forerun-

LIKEN

What:

KC and the Sunshine Band

Where:

8 p.m. Saturday, March 22 Where: Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, Dearborn

Tickets: \$45 -\$55, available at the box office, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. To charge tickets by phone. call (313) 943-2354.

Visit KC online at www. kcandthesunshineband.com

ners of disco," Casey said. There was "no mirror ball" until the film Saturday Night Fever was released, but the band was already firmly entrenched in disco, and could rest a bit on their laurels and record some laid-back ballads.

However, KC and the

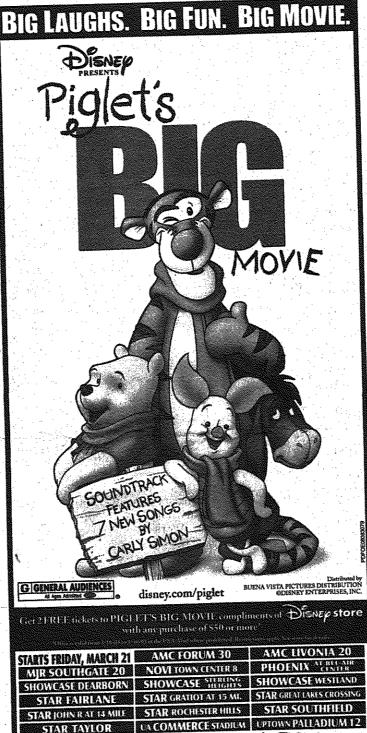
Sunshine Band are best remembered for their funky, upbeat thumpers. Figuring out their name was easy. KC sounded like Casey and the group was named the Sunshine Band in honor of their native Florida, the Sunshine State. "That was the proper name," Casey said, for their sunny, catchy music.

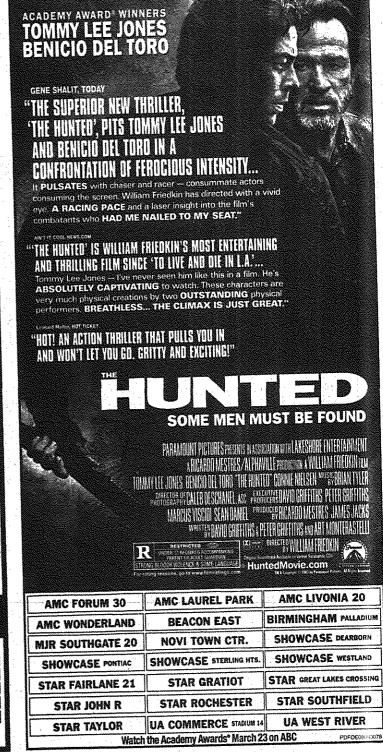
Today, those happy thumpers - which are a mainstay of many commercials and movies these days - are needed more than ever, he said. "People are ready for it, with all these bad things going on in the world. It really lifts people."

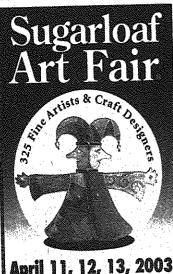
He's looking forward to being back in the Detroit area. Last time was two years ago at Pine Knob (DTE Energy Music Theatre). "I just love what I'm doing and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in Michigan."

The hairline has receded a bit, and Casey no longer wears his trademark shag. But it's still "dark brown," although some thought it was lighter during the band's heyday. The lighting in those days - much of it looming orange and yellow onto the disco stage - "made it look auburn," he said.

A first-rate edge-of-your-seat thriller loaded with suspense, whiz-bang action and creepy excitement." -Shawn Edwards, FOX-TV ERRIFYING EVERY BIT THE SUSPENSEFUL" GENIUS YOU WOULD EXPECT ABC NEWS Stylish "'DREAMCATCHER SCARY AND SUPERBLY ACTED." FAVES A HAUNTING SENSE KNX-CBS RADIO OF CREEPY TERROR. SSG SYNDICATE "A RIVETING "HAUNTING! Jenniter Brustle PREMIERE RADIO NETWORK Mose Persico, CTV MONTREAL DREAMCATCHER ALSO PLAYING FINAL FLICHT OF THE OSIRIS One of nine mind-bending short films from The Animatrix. AMC FORUM 30 STARTS FRIDAY AT THESE THEATRESI AMC WONDERLAND **AMC LIVONIA 20** AMC LAUREL PARK **CANTON 6** BIRMINGHAM PALLADIUM **BEACON EAST** SHOWCASE DEARBORN PHOENIX AT BEL AIR CTR. MIR SOUTHGATE 20 SHOWCASE WESTLAND SHOWCASE STERLING HTS. SHOWCASE PONTIAC STAR GREAT LAKES CROSS STAR GRATIOT STAR FAIRLANE 21 STAR LINCOLN PARK STAR ROCHESTER STAR JOHN R UA COMMERCE STADIUM STAR TAYLOR STAR SOUTHFIELD For More Information About This Movie







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What a difference a fine glass makes!

BY ELEANOR HEALD CORRESPONDENT

Do you enjoy wine to accompany an eating out experience? If that answer is yes, does the wine glass used by the restaurant make a difference? It

In 1973, Claus Riedel discovered that glass shape had a dramatic effect on the aroma and taste of wine. On this account, Riedel, the maker of the finest Austrian wine glasses, introduced its Sommeliers line of wine stemware. Slowly and controversially over time, the Riedel philosophy caught on.

Now nationwide, wine drinkers are literally forcing restaurateurs to pay attention. In their homes for years, consumers have been using Riedel glasses for their wines. They realize that they don't want to spend upwards of \$30 for a bottle of wine in a restaurant to drink from glasses that don't maximize pleasure.

Since the debut of Riedel wine stemware, Claus Riedel's son, Georg, significantly expanded the line. Yet, it was not until Georg's son, Maximillian, moved to the U.S. two years ago that he recognized the inroads Riedel's competitors were making in restaurants. Riedel therefore designed a new range of glasses, dubbed the Restaurant Series, specifically for use in restaurants and bars.

The new series is based on Riedel's acclaimed Vinum bowls. Produced with non-lead glass, suitable for restaurant dishwasher racks, they have a slightly wider base and a stronger, round, seamless stem, affording both elegance and durability.

MORTON'S COMMITS

BY MARY QUINLEY

place to dine.

RESTAURANTS/PUBS

available:

price \$7.95.

CORRESPONDENT

Recently Morton's, The Steakhouse made a corporate commitment to improve an

If you're searching for a

Lenten season, you might want to head to a local pub or eatery,

fraternal organization's meeting

Here's a sampling of what's

■ Hope's Fish & Chips -

and Inkster roads, Livonia,

28370 Joy, between Middlebelt

(734) 427-2130. Open: 11 a.m.

to 8 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday; noon to

8 p.m. Sunday; closed Monday. A variety of fried, baked and

broiled fish dinners, average

Plymouth Fish Seafood

Monday-Saturday. Shrimp, fish

& chips, scallops, ocean perch and more than 20 other fish

selections (prices vary). On Mondays, all-you-can-eat

grilled or fried cod (\$8.43).

Page's Food & Spirits -

23621 Farmington Road, one

Farmington, (248) 477-0099.

Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 1

a.m. Friday-Saturday; 1 p.m. to

eat fish & chips (\$10.95); baked or broiled cod, sautéed lake

Fox Hills Golf & Banquet

10 p.m. Sunday. All-you-can-

perch and Friday fish specials.

Center - 8768 N. Territorial,

7272. Open: 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Fridays. All-you-can-eat fish or

Red Robin Restaurant -

421-4081. Open: 11 a.m. to

36350 Warren, Westland, (734)

midnight Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Friday-Saturday,

11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday. Fish

& chips (\$8.99), clam strips and fries (\$7.99) and seafood

Canton, (734) 981-6877. Open: 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday,

7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. All-you-

can-eat fish & chips (\$7.95,

Johnson's Family Restaurant - 42400 Ford.,

pasta (\$10.99).

near Plymouth, (734) 453-

pasta dinners (\$8.75).

block south of Grand River,

Open: 11 a.m. to midnight

Market & Restaurant - 578

Starkweather, Old Village,

Plymouth, (734) 455-2630. Open: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

a neighborhood church, or a

meatless meal during the

overall dining experience by using the new Riedel stemware in all its restaurants. At Morton's Southfield location, it has met with diner enthusiasm.

"As a recognized leader in the steakhouse category," said Southfield Morton's General Manager Steve Salmon, "Morton's partnered with Riedel for the obvious reason that they make the best wine glasses in the world. Morton's believes the wine experience is greatly enhanced by using the best stemware and this translates into an overall dining experience, taken to a new level.

"Morton's chose a white wine glass that was crafted to enhance the enjoyment of Chardonnay and another for Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and other Bordeaux varietals. This is a correct fit for Morton's sales mix and guest profile. The company did exhaustive testing of different stemware styles and these were the choices that our guests made."

REPEATING THE TEST

As the Observer & Eccentric wine columnists, Morton's invited my husband, Ray, and me to try some red wines in the new Riedel restaurant stemware. We expanded the "test" to include other glassware, such as the beaded rim balloons, formerly used by Morton's, and thin-rimmed balloons from our home collection.

Hands down, the Riedel Restaurant Series significantly enhanced the following wines: 1999 Stag's Leap Wine Cellars Merlot \$80, 2000 Gaja Ca' Marcanda Magari \$123, 1996 Charles Krug Vintage Selection Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley \$60 and 1989 Chateau Gruaud Larose, St. Julien \$189.

Each wine tasted from Morton's former wine glasses had a low aromatic profile. Swirling wine to increase aroma perception in that glass

lighter appetite \$4.95). Lenten specials feature grilled trout, salmon and fried clams.

■ Senate Coney Island &

Restaurant, 34359 Plymouth,

4 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Fish &

chips (\$7.25), baked salmon

(\$8.45) Fridays only.

CHURCHES

April 18.

Livonia, (734) 422-5075. Open:

Unless otherwise noted, din-

Our Lady of Good Counsel

ners will be served at these locations on Fridays during

Lent, including Good Friday,

47650 N. Territorial.

Plymouth, (734) 453-0326.

and baked fish (adults \$6.50, seniors \$5.50, children \$4).

Beechwood, west of Merriman,

Serving: 4:30-7 p.m. except on

shrimp and fish-shrimp combo dinners (\$7), fish sandwich

Haggerty, Plymouth Township,

Good Friday 3-7 p.m. Fish,

■ St. Kenneth - 14951

plate (\$5.75).

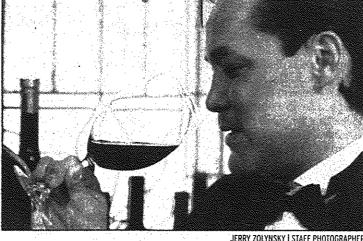
St. Raphael − 31530

two blocks north of Ford, Garden City, (734) 427-1533.

Serving: 5:30-7:30 p.m., excluding Good Friday. Fried

Restaurants, churches,

clubs offer Lenten fare



Morton's Steakhouse General Manager Steve Salmon takes in the aroma of a 1999 Crystal Valley Cabernet Sauvignon.

was impossible without wine overboard. Even though the glasses were squeaky clean, our balloons made each wine smell slightly stinky. The Riedels brought out high-toned aromatics and in the case of the Charles Krug, it was difficult to determine whether this wine the Riedel glasses. was corked until we tried it in the Riedel. One whiff; no debate; corked. The multiple layers of flavors revealed by

We wondered then, do elevated wine characters also

wines in the Riedels were sim-

ply amazing.

improve the impression of Morton's steaks? While sampling Morton's top-seller, the 14-ounce Double Cut Filet and the New York Strip, we repeated the wine tasting in the various glassware. The steaks were also enhanced by the wine in

We never recommend a Merlot with a great steak. Cabernet is the best fit. We'll not say that again! Yes, some Merlots are a lot like Cabs and the Riedel glass proved that with the Stag's Leap Merlot. It was a gorgeous, sumptuous

MORTON'S. THE STEAKHOUSE

Where: 1 Town Square, Southfield (248)354-6006. Open: 5:30-11p.m. Monday-Saturday, 5-10 p.m. Sunday Food style: USDA prime aged beef and lobster, among other specialties. Cost: A la carte menu with entrees \$20-\$34.

Reservations: Advised.

wine with the filet.

Why? Riedel wine glasses with fine, thin, polished-rim bowls direct wine precisely to the palate's correct zone and dramatically enhance perception.

Riedels are recognized among professionals as finelytuned instruments, shaped to deliver the best possible bou-

quet and wine taste. Morton's, The Steakhouse has taken a corporate lead in providing its guests, who order wine (and the plurality do) with an enriched wine and food experience. The next time you order a \$30 or higher bottle of

wine in a restaurant and are obliged to drink it in other than a fine, thin-rimmed glass, such as the Riedel Restaurant Series, ask management why.

Wine markup in restaurants can support the purchase of the best, durable glassware. High-end restaurants that are not using the latest high-tech glassware for expensive wines should ask, are we really interested in offering the best dining experience? Without top wine stemware, that answer must be "no."

Although Riedel Restaurant Series glasses are available solely to restaurants, the company's other collections, including Sommeliers (\$55-\$89), Vinum Extreme (\$28-\$30), Vinum (\$10-\$30), Wine (\$11-\$12.50), Overture (\$10), and Basic (\$10, designed to fit in a dishwasher), are available at fine wine merchants. For local retailers and more information, visit Riedel's Web site,

www.RiedelCrystal.com. Prices in parentheses represent the range per stem in the various series.

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#.



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(734) 420-0288. Serving: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Fish & chips (\$5), fisherman's platter (\$6), fried shrimp (\$6.75), kids' dinners (\$2.50). Dinners include salad, fries and beverage. Vegetable lasagna and clam chowder soup available. FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

■ Monaghan Knights of Columbus - 19801 Farmington,

FIXTURES FOR SALE!

Livonia, (248) 476-8385. Serving: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5-8:30 p.m. every Friday throughout the year. Fish & chips with coleslaw and roll (\$7.25); broiled haddock, perch, shrimp and frog legs available.

■ Elks Lodge – 31117 Plymouth, one block east of Merriman, Livonia, (734) 425-2246. Serving: 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5:30-8 p.m. Fish dinners (\$7-\$8.25), fish & chips (\$5.50), fish sandwich (\$4.25)

Mary Quinley is a Livonia resident and writes about food and travel for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

and kids' fish dinner (\$4.25).



Rose whispers

How does a rose become an All-America winner? Not easily, if you review the process of All-America Rose Selections. The winners emerge after two years of review in 27 test gardens



around the country. The 2003 winners include two colorful floribundas (Eureka and Hot Cocoa), a showy grandiflora (Cherry Parfait) and a sophisticated hybrid tea (Whisper, pictured

According to the All-America Rose Selections of Chicago, the copper-apricot flowers of Eureka are spectacular when fully open and

will attract rose growers. The roses will be available online, through mail order catalogs and at garden centers, nurseries and home centers for the 2003 growing season.

Rose lovers can learn more about rose gardening by attending a meeting of the Rose West Rose Society of Novi. It meets 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 4, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road (west of Novi Road). The society will present "City Rose Gardens." Diane Schrift of Birmingham will present a slide program of rose gardens. The meeting is free and open to the public.

For details on meeting American Rose Society members and about the program. call (248) 449-4626.

Make impact

Homeowners often wonder whether to start a small and inexpensive project or undertake a project requiring a major financial commitment. "Even a small change can

deliver a large visual improvement and give your spirits a boost," said Adam Helfman, president of Fairway Construction Co. of Southfield.

The following are some popular, yet smaller, home improvement ideas courtesv of Fairway that may be considered by homeowners:

Painting is a common home improvement. Use colors that work with the overall scheme on the walls. Lighter colors can be used to highlight the more attractive features of a home.

Colors can be used to set moods (what colors can make you feel happy, peaceful or energized?), change space perception or give the illusion of light.

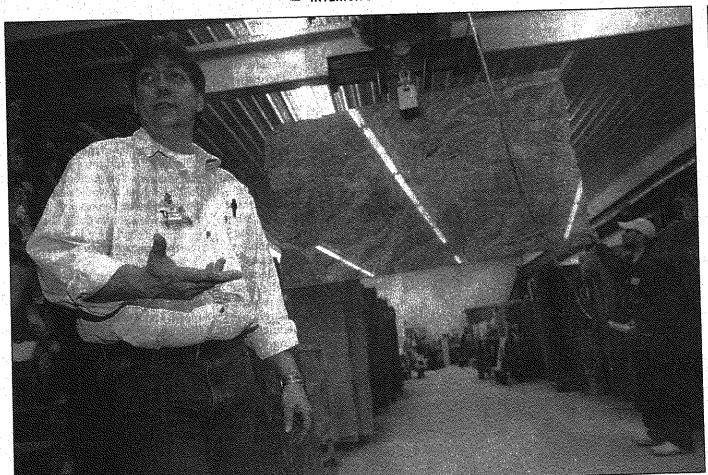
Paint one wall a different coordinating color than the others for an accent.

Dull rooms can spring to life with the addition of wood molding.

Moldings add depth and interest to walls, ceilings, doors and cabinets and can be adapted to just about any area of home

Housing additions don't need to be costly and timeconsuming.

Enclosing an existing patio to make a garden room can provide additional space.



Thaddius MacKillop, shop superintendent of the granite and marble shop of TJ Ceramic Tile Sales in Southfield, stands in the warehouse where hundreds of slabs of granite are kept, while Cliff Krupp moves a colorful slab.

The creation of a granite countertop might begin in a quarry in Italy, India or Brazil. Sticks of dynamite are placed inside a mountain. Workers scurry away from the work site. The charge is detonated, the mountain's face explodes and a 4- to 6 The charge is detonated. The charge is detonated. tain's face explodes and a 4- to 6-foot slab of granite is created.

STORIES BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER



MICHIGAN DESIGN CENTER

Granite can bring a touch of elegance while providing durability in any kitchen.

And you don't have to live in a rich neighborhood to afford it, O'Brien said. More granite is available,

he said. "More is being quarried, more and more quarries are accessible in more countries," O'Brien said. "It's a natural stone, so no two stones are exactly the same. It has an aesthetic value and each slab is unique."

Phil Mularoni, owner of Ceramic Tile Sales in

Southfield, Rochester and Farmington, called granite "the fastest growing commodity at the expense of Corian and synthetics. You always see a granite statue. It's impervious to any type

of acid." Lemon juice and vinegar can create spots if left on other kinds of countertop materials, Mularoni said. "The main component

of granite is quartz," he PLEASE SEE KITCHEN, C3

Creating beauty from rough edges

Once granite slabs end up at Phil Mularoni's warehouse at the Marble and Granite Shop inside TJ Ceramic Tile Sales in Southfield, they sit and wait for a customer to select one of them for a long-lasting and durable piece of beauty in their kitchen or bathroom.

Once workers know the dimensions, they can cut the granite by using a template in the shape of the counter in the customer's kitchen.

Mistakes cannot be made in the creation of the granite countertop. The machinery that fabricates the countertop and sinkholes are engineering marvels and highly specialized.

Florin Hrenic, a sawman and shop foreman who emigrated from Romania, operates a diamond-bladed saw at the shop. Water sprays on the blade where it strikes the granite, cooling it and

PLEASE SEE GRANITE, C3

Builders **Home Show** hits Cobo this weekend

If the 60-degree temperatures this week has given you a little get-upand-go for the spring weather, then take in the 85th annual Builders Home Show at the Cobo Conference Exhibition Center, Friday-Sunday, March 21-23. More than 300 exhibitors will be

offering the latest technology, products and services for spring home and garden projects at the show, sponsored by Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA), with presenting sponsor Standard Federal Bank.

Cobo Center is the place to be if you have a home or garden project planned for the spring, said Steve Perlman, BIA president, This show is the granddaddy of all home shows in Michigan.

Hundreds of the area's top experts will be on hand to answer consumer questions.

Making an appearance is Teresa Van De Veere Pratt, an award-winning faux-finish artist and muralist, who will demonstrate innovative painting approaches to revitalizing interior decor including walls, furniture, ceramics and picture frames.

Demonstration times are: Friday, March 21, 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 21, 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, March 22, 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m.

PLEASE SEE SHOW, C4

RHILDERS HOME SHOW

What: 85th annual Builders Home Show, part of the National Home and Garden Show series, featuring more than 300 exhibitors offering the latest products and services for the home. When: March 21-March 23: noon to 9 p.m., Friday, March 21; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, March 22; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday, March 23

Where: Cobo Center Tickets: Adults, \$7; seniors, \$6, children under 12 will be admitted free Features: The latest technology. products and services for kitchens, baths, doors, windows, remodeling, furniture, arts and crafts, home office, decorative accessories, spas, electronics, heating, cooling and

Other features:

appliances.

- Master painter/faux finisher Teresa Van De Veere Pratt presents faux finishing for home decorating "Hollywood style"
- Parade of Homes, featuring a pictorial display of new homes
- **WXYT's handyman and Observer &** Eccentric columnist Joe Gagnon, the Appliance Doctor
- WJR's Murray Gula will broadcast Saturday and Sunday,
- Treasure Chest contest with daily For additional information, please call

(248) 862-1019 or visit www.builders.org.

MARKET PLACE

Soon it will be cut into thin

slabs, either two or three cen-

timeters thick, then shipped to

the United States, where it will

end up in a warehouse where

customers can pick out a slab,

Granite has grown into one of

the hottest commodities in home

Julie Kudzia-Serilla, interior

designer at Genesee Ceramic Tile

at the Michigan Design Center in

"It's classy and elegant-look-

ing," Kudzia-Serilla said. "People

kitchens and around fireplaces."

popular colors, Kudzia-Šerilla

said. When compared to Corian,

it "isn't much more to do a gran-

"Demand has increased for

granite and the market is more

competitive," she said. "People

countertop, but they might do a

backsplash. Some are doing pow-

der rooms or bathroom vanities.

it, it's very strong. It's a natural

Bob O'Brien, general sales

manager for Kurtis Kitchens &

Farmington, said granite has a

"snob" appeal. "But the price is

now affordable," O'Brien said.

high-end appeal, or, as he puts it,

Bath Centers in Livonia and

"It's very hard. With quartz in

usually want to do a kitchen

Black and green with gold are

are using it in bathrooms,

Troy, said granite adds "a classy

remodeling and new construc-

probably for the kitchen.

ADDING ELEGANCE

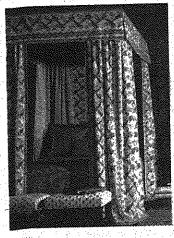
look" to the home.

ite countertop."

Submissions -

look."

Do you have a special item you'd like to showcase in Marketplace on the front of At Home? We'd like to feature it! Send a photo or slide of the piece, along with information, to: Ken Abramczyk, At Home editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.



Fashionable fabric

The Banyan cotton print, one of the Historic Deerfield Collection prints for spring 2003 by Brunschwig & Fils®, was adapted from a man's banyan (dressing gown), circa 1775-85. The print design, shown here, reflects the European taste for paired curvilinear forms interspersed with floral motifs. The original of this intricate pattern was hand-stenciled and fashioned in India. For information, call the Brunschwig & Fils showroom at Michigan Design Center in Troy, (248) 649-0505, or visit www.brunschwig.com.

ASKO available



ASKO high-performance, stackable washer/dryer units that look great, take up less space and use less water and energy are available at Intramode, 400 Grand River in Detroit. The washers and dryers are made primarily of stainless steel parts and have stainless steel tanks. ASKO's washer uses its own heater that heats the water to more than 200 degrees and maintains a hotter temperature than regular units. Hotter water, and a spe-

cial washing action that lifts and drops clothes into heated water hundreds of times during the wash cycle, requires less detergent. The wash cycle is a little longer than that of the average washer, but drying time is less because more water is extracted during the spinning cycle. The dryer is self-venting. Call (313) 964-6990 or visit www.intramode.com.

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HOME AND GARDEN CALENDAR

Easy gardening

Janet Macunovich, a master gardener and newspaper columnist, will discuss "Making Gardening Easier" at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 23, at Presbyterian Village Westland, 32001 Cherry Hill, in Westland, at a free gardening seminar and open house. Refreshments will follow the lecture. For reservations, call (734) 728-5222.

Pruning

Classes offered by the Michigan School of Gardening include the three-session Pruning Trees and Shrubs, beginning Monday, March 24,

at 29429 Six Mile in Livonia, just west of Middlebelt in the Milo Shopping Plaza. Fee is \$92.50. Register early. Seating is limited. Some classes have pre-requisites. For more information, call (248) 4-GARDEN or visit www.michigangardening.com.

Customer appreciation

Ethan Allen will present Customer Appreciation Days Saturday-Sunday. March 22-23, at area stores, including Livonia (phone (734) 261-7780), Novi (phone (248) 380-7900) and Ann Arbor (phone (734) 995-5585). Special events and promotions will be featured.

Home improvement

The Builders Home Improvement Show will run Friday-Sunday, March 21-23, at Cobo Center in Detroit. The show will have more than 300 exhibitors, who will display products and services for kitchens, baths, windows, doors, spas, remodeling, interior design, home offices, furniture, arts and crafts, decorative accessories, electronics, heating, cooling and appliances. Hours are noon to 9 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call (248) 862-1019.

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BERGSTROM'S Chory Hate KAST

Before repairs, ask about labor charge

onsumers sometimes have problems with contractors that can't be resolved after

the fact, especially when homeowners get hit with an expensive bill. Here is a letter I received

from Doug in

Redford who

questions the

charged him by

a heating com-

pany. "My fur-

nace went out

amount

Appliance Doctor

Joe

Gagnon

Monday afternoon," Doug writes. "I called the company that installed the furnace at 7 p.m. on Monday. We decided over the phone that the draft

inducer needed to be replaced. "Since the parts warehouse was closed, he scheduled my repair in the morning. They arrived at about 9 a.m. and had the part installed and the cleanup completed in less than an hour. The part was under warranty so I was responsible to pay for the labor only. The charge was \$235. My wife called me, because she thought the charge too high.

"I spoke to the repairman and disputed the cost but he stuck to his guns and stated the charges were fair. I reluctantly agreed to pay the bill and my wife wrote the check. The charges seem about \$100 too high. In your opinion, was I overcharged?"

EXPENSIVE LABOR

Well, Doug, if you took this case to court, you would have a difficult time proving your case. Even if you removed the service call charge (trip charge) from the total of \$235, it still would show an expensive hourly labor rate. Some heating companies use a book rate per part and I've always believe that this method is a ripoff.

Apparently this is the same company who installed the furnace which makes me wonder whether you paid too much for the furnace when you bought it. The only thing you can do now is what any company doesn't want you to do: Tell all your family and friends not to use this company that you no longer trust.

The draft inducer that was replaced was not a tough job to do for a qualified heating technician and it certainly shows their hourly labor rate to be extremely high. Your letter points to an important fact that consumers should ask whenever calling for any kind of service: What is your hourly labor rate?

DRYING TIME

Jim and Kerry write ... "I have a Hotpoint gas dryer that is about 10 years old. It seems to take a lot longer to dry the clothes now. Is it worth repairing? Can I do it myself?"

Jim, I hope this answer saves you about \$400 and that you take Kerry out for a nice dinner on me. A great majority of service calls on dryers are related to the vent line on the back.

Any time a consumer has a

problem with slow drying, they should go directly to the vent line and check it. The air must move through the dryer and get to the outside. If you slow down this air movement, you've got a problem. (The service industry across this country is getting rich off calls like these.)

There is nothing difficult about taking the vent line off and cleaning it. You should also know that a dirty vent line can be responsible for starting a fire, which occurs over 15,000 times a year in the United States.

While doing this simple job, go outside with a toothbrush and clean the hinges on the trap door where the air is propelled to the outside. You would be surprised at how many service calls are performed by technicians to remove a dead squirrel looking for a new home.

The animals will crawl down the vent line and either walk right into the fan blade or bite on a red or blue wire at which point they expire rather quickly. Now after a few weeks you begin to smell an offensive odor in your clothes that just went through the dryer.

I strongly suggest that if this should ever occur with your dryer, that you not be looking over the service technicians shoulder when he corrects the problem. It is not a pretty sight.

Joe Gagnon can now be heard on WWJ-950 and WXYT-1270. He is a member and past president of the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals. His telephone number is (248) 455-7281.



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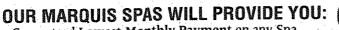
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said. "On the MOHS scale, which is the scale of hardness to minerals, it is second only to diamond. It is very difficult to scratch and resistant to heat, so if you set down a hot pan, you're not ruining the counter-

top.
"It has an intrinsic beauty, it's practical and it's virtually indestructible."

Jeff Klein, controller with Architectural Stone in Troy,

"People like the durability, it's unique and now it's come down in price the last three years," Klein said. "The materials and supplies are cheaper, and we can pass that along. The demand has increased."

The granite countertop market exploded in the last few years. Mularoni believes granite countertops became more affordable when the price of diamonds declined.

Granite is second only to diamonds in hardness, so diamond blades are used to cut

That decline in diamond cost made the blades more affordable, thus the cost of manufacturing granite also fell and the process of cutting the granite shortened with the availability of more blades. "It made the availability go up geometrically, so the price went down," Mularoni said.

Homeowners also sought more natural themes in their homes, whether it was natural stone or materials. Granite prices can range from just under \$40 a square foot to \$70 a square foot, depending on the color. "The scarcity of a material also determines the price," Mularoni said.

Greens and golds are the two most popular colors, Mularoni said. "And 90 percent of our sales are for kitchen countertops," he said. About 70 percent of sales are for kitchen remodels with the remaining in new homes.

Customers should look at their slab before buying it, Kudzia-Serilla said.

"You get veins and varying blotches of color you won't get from other countertops," Kudzia-Serilla said. "Sometimes people are never comfortable with that.

They definitely want to look at their own slab. Every piece of slab is different. Each piece will be different. There's so many types of granite and marble, there's a huge range of col-

Customers look for lots of variations in granite, whether it is earth tones or the darker colors. "They like the blacks, browns and grays," Klein said. "These are popular with our customers."

A basic kitchen remodel can cost about \$5,000, but that can increase dramatically depending on the size of the kitchen.

The cut of the granite also varies, depending on personal taste. Some like the waterfall

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look, as the granite looks thicker; others like a beveled edge.

Ogee and bullnose are two of most popular edges, Kudzia-Serilla said. "An ogee edge is a little more formal than the straight edge, and the bullnose is a little more contemporary," she said.

Many new homes use granite. "It's a good-selling point," Kudzia-Serilla said. "It's kind of cool to see how many different ones they have. It's neat. You have a lot of different options if you want to do something different."

Granite also adds value to the home. "Most of the time if the house has it, it is mentioned right in the real estate ad," Mularoni said. "It's a luxury item. It's perceived as a luxury item and perceived as a practical item, so it's the best of both worlds."

Granite obtains its beauty as an igneous rock formed with magma.

"When the surge of magma melt the boulder or minerals, it becomes part of the flow," Mularoni said.

O'Brien said kitchen remodels should cost about 10-15 percent of the home's value. Homes with minimum value of \$150,000 to \$180,000 can probably get the return on the granite investment.

"If you have a home valued at \$350,000, you'd better put granite in," O'Brien

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FROM PAGE CI

preventing chips in the granite surface. The water also prolongs the life of the \$500 blade.

"He'll use templates to measure it up and determine the seam, cut it and get a matchup of the vein and get it ready to polish," said Thaddius MacKillop, the shop superintendent. "He'll get all the cuts in sequence. He tries to minimize the waste factor and determines where the seams

Across from Hrenic, Ketan Sompura, who came to the U.S. from India, operates a CNC (computerized numerical control) machine that cuts sinkholes in the counter, similar to a router.

Sompura inputs the coordinates of the sinkhole into the machine. A hole is bored into the granite, then the router blade continues running to the sink's outer edge, then the hole is cut and completed. The process takes about a half hour to cut a sink hole.

"This machine will do architectural design," MacKillop said. Nine different end cuts can be performed by the 'router" bits, such as a quarter bevel, quarter bullnose or half bullnose. "This machine can do in two hours what two men can do in a 10-hour shift."

Some customers use granite remnants to do a bar, small bathroom sink or another

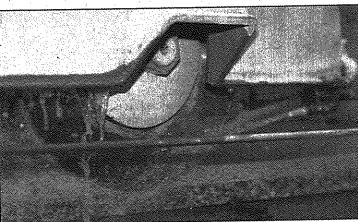
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A diamond saw blade is cooled by water as it rips through a piece of granite.

small area.

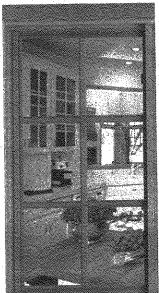
On the other side of the shop, Ketan Sompura's uncle, Krishna Sompura, hand-polishes the sharp edges on another piece. "A saw can cut them, but when you have a shape or design with no seams, it has to be done by hand," MacKillop said. Small strips of backsplashes sit nearby, while Ahmad Alsaheri runs shaping machines on smaller pieces. Faruk Karasuljiz, who came from Bosnia, helps retrofit and repair machines as the

mechanic on the machines. Three common slabs are Baltic brown, uba tuba gold and verde butterfly. "We have probably 300 different kinds of granite marble," MacKillop

The slabs begin as a roughedged piece of rock, but are hewn by craftsman from all over the world who work to create countertops of beauty and durability.

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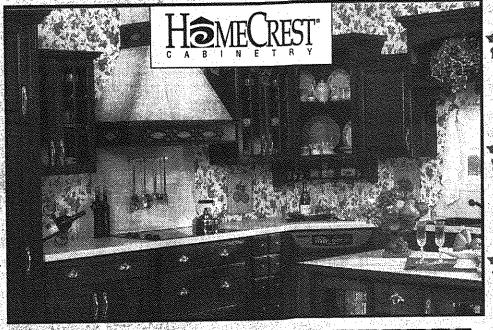
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FROM PAGE CI

Van De Veere Pratt has conducted projects in theaters, arenas and museums across the nation. Her works include projects for the MTV Music Awards and the Microsoft Catch the Wave Conference. Pratt has also appeared on The Home Shopping Network.

Show attendees can also see the Garden Marketplace, featuring blooming and flowering landscaped gardens. A Parade of Homes display will be on hand featuring a pictorial array of new homes.

Other highlights include appearances by local radio personalities and a Dear John contest where homeowners can enter to win a free bathroom makeover, courtesy of The Bath Shoppe at Mathison Supply of Livonia, Garden City and Canton.

Additional show features include advice, ideas and innovations for yard and garden projects, home repair and remodeling and a Treasure Chest contest with daily prizes.

Show hours are Friday, March 21, noon to 9 p.m.; Saturday, March 22, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday, March 23, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$6 for senior citizens. Children under 12 will be admitted free.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 20, 2003

For more information on the show, call (248) 862-1019, or visit www.builders.org

BIA also sponsors other home improvement shows, including the Spring Home & Garden Show, April 4-6 at the Novi Expo Center; and the Fall Remodeling & Furniture Show, coming this fall at the Novi Expo Center.

Headquartered in Farmington Hills, BIA is a trade association representing more than 2,200 builders, remodelers, multi-family property owners, developers and suppliers to the single family and multifamily residential construction industry. BIA is affiliated with the Michigan Association of Home Builders in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington D.C. Membership nationwide includes more than 210,000

individuals and companies.

Clothing storage system should fit you

Q: I have too many clothes and not enough space. My clothes are crammed in the closet and drawers won't close.

A: Clothes take up a lot of

of them.

We all have

clothing items

that don't fit or

wear. Often, we

clothes "just in

keep these



Domestic **Planner**

Diana Koenig

case" we can wear them again. These extra clothing items

end up stuffed in our drawers and crammed into our closets along with the clothes we want to wear. It is difficult to find the outfit you want to wear if you have to dig through a closet or drawer that is too full.

The best way to get more space for your clothes is to create a clothing storage system. In your system you need to make your accommodations fit your needs. Periodically evaluate your system. You may become pregnant and have a different set of clothes to wear. You may also discover better ways to organize.

Your system should include ways to do the following:

Keep closets and dressers from becoming overcrowded. ■ Put like clothing articles together.

■ Keep clothes in separate categories.

Here are some tips to get, and keep, your clothes organized. To keep closets and dressers

from becoming overcrowded: Sort through each article of clothing and make a decision to keep it or remove it

from your closet or drawer.

If there are clothes you haven't worn in a long time but aren't ready to part with, put them in a box and store it in the basement. You can make a decision on the items at a later time. Meanwhile, they don't take up valuable space.

Donate the other articles to charity or other family mem-

Hang your clothes in the

closet so they aren't touching. When clothes are bunched together in a closet, they wrinkle.

■ Store shoes in the original box on the closet floor or on shoe racks. You can store offseason shoes in their box on the closet shelf.

Buy plastic drawer containers from your local discount store. Use these in closets for extra drawer space. They are ideal for socks, stockings, tights, handkerchiefs and underclothing.

Allow for extra space in each drawer and closet. It will be easier to access items and there will be room for additional pieces.

Buy containers for storage under the bed. You can store the children's clothes that don't vet fit in a breathable canvas under the bed bag.

■ You can rotate seasonal clothes from bedroom closets to a basement closet or less accessible storage area. I store off-season clothes in two dressers in the basement.

To put like clothing articles together:

Arrange your dresses, blouses, shirts, slacks or suits together.

You can access a dress quickly with this system. You don't have to hunt through all of your clothes to find a specific

dress. You can just look through the section in your closet where the dresses hang.

Clip hair bows on a long ribbon. I have attached this ribbon to a hanger in the closet so the bows don't take up drawer space.

■ Hang hair ribbons from a hanger so they won't wrinkle and you will be able to find the one you want.

■ Separate socks by color and style into plastic containers in the dresser drawers. You can put white socks in one basket and dark socks in another. When you divide items, you conquer the messy problem.

To keep clothes in separate categories:

■ Arrange clothes in separate drawers. Dressers with small drawers are great because they are easier to maintain. If your dresser has large drawers, add small plastic containers to separate items.

Today's refrigerator bulletin: Keep your closets and drawers partly empty to separate clothing and keep them neat!

Diana Koenig is a writer, educator, speaker, consultant, and president of Domestic Planner® Direct Sales Company. Send your questions and success stories to: Diana Koenia, P.O. Box 1702, Manchester, MO 63011, e-mail dianakoenig@hotmail.com. Visit

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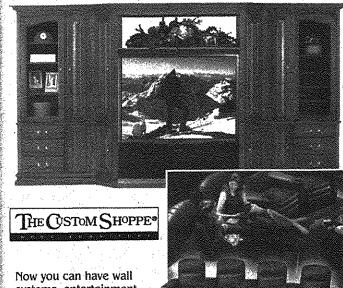
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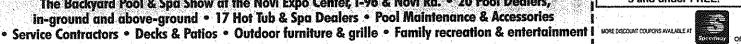
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Disability Talks

Tynan

Loop America is music to hearingimpaired ears

uring one of my Monday night moderated chat sessions at www.hearingexchange.com one of my online friends shared news of new technology helping hearing impaired individuals called Loop America — an assistive listening system that broadcasts sound directly through hearing aids.

Being a very curious person, I decided to research this new concept.

People with T-coil hearing aids (most behind-the-ear and in-the-ear hearing aids routinely come with telecoil sensors) have settings that can be adjusted in different hearing situations. For example, when I use the phone I switch to a setting that allows me to hear on the phone more clearly.

The loop system transmits magnetic energy to telecoilequipped hearing aids through a wiring system that can be installed in any venue including a home, church, theater, etc. This technology is predominantly used throughout the United Kingdom. In fact the UK Disabilities Discrimination Act says by the year 2004 any business or organization providing a service to the general public must put in place the Loop system.

The American Disabilities Act requires only businesses and government offices to offer FM headsets. Individuals wear the headsets to block out background noise and focus on the intended speaker. However, many individuals choose not to use the headset because it draws attention to their disabilities. Also, FM systems operate on differing frequencies, requiring receivers for each venue.

SUCCESS

David Meyers, a social psychologist at Hope College in Holland, Michigan, who is also hard of hearing, experienced the loop system in Scotland. While touring the 800-year-old Iona Abby, he changed the T-coil setting on his hearing aid and was amazed at how clear the speakers and musicians sounded. After experiencing this new technology first hand, he decided to bring it to the United States starting with his hometown of Holland.

Premotivation Audio in Michigan offers the same technology as its counterpart in England that manufactured the Loop system. It takes approximately two weeks to install the system and to train soundboard operators on its use. The Loop retails for \$1,100 (plus installation) for the system, which covers 5,400 square feet of space.

At the end of 2002 the Holland-Zeeland community was considered a model loop community. Many individuals, businesses, churches and public venues in Holland have installed the Loop system, including Hope College. Organizations like the Michigan Self-Help for Hard of Hearing People support this new and exciting technology. They take the position that all public places should be equipped with the Loop technology to help keep the hard of hearing public informed.

I am very impressed with this new technology because I see the potential it has to help so many people. Personally, I have always struggled to hear in crowded

PLEASE SEE TYNAN, C6

At home on the range

Ulserver life

Class teaches the difference between food fast and fast food

ow many cooks does it take to put together a simple meal of risotto with mushrooms, baked and/or breaded grouper and spinach with pancetta?

At the first cooking class sponsored by new business Bella Cucina last week, the answer was 12. It was great turnout for a class Bella



Kadrich

Cucina owner Beth Savastano didn't even advertise, which shows you the power of word of mouth.

Most of the students in the class

women, with one male journalist also on hand. They were there for various reasons, either because they knew Savastano or they wanted to learn a little more about cooking or simply because the class sounded like fun.

Or because his wife signed

Debra Elsholz, for instance, was walking down Ann Arbor Trail and saw Savastano's new store, with the mention of the cooking class in the window.

"I thought her store looked classy," Elsholz said, "The class sounded like something fun to do."

No matter the reason, the group that came together for Savastano's maiden cooking class since opening Bella Cucina a few weeks ago did the two things Savastano was hoping they'd do: 1) have fun; 2) not burn Our Lady of Good Counsel to the ground.

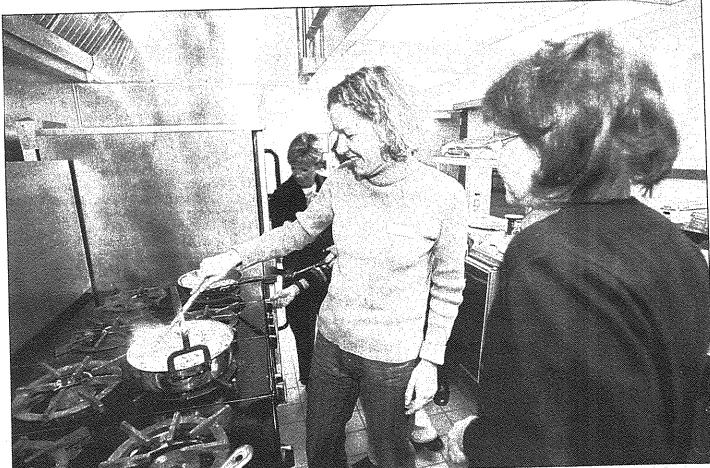
The first was accomplished because Savastano made it fun for those who took part. She divided the group into three groups, one for each part of the meal. However, all the students had a hand in making all the dishes. But grouping them was a way to

Once they headed for the kitchen, though, confusion reigned - at least for a little

while. "There are too many women in the kitchen, laughed Janet Olson. "There's too much talking and too much heat."

Eventually, the cooks fell into a routine and began

Amber Talaski and Claire Wolfe enjoy outside recess.



PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elke Ruf stirs the risotto (above). Mary Anne Napolitano (below, left) adds spinach to the pot as Mary Beth Soignet holds a tray loaded with the leafy vegetable. Sheryl Yee (bottom) works her magic on the pan-fried fish.

switching easily between the hot pan in which the risotto was cooking, the pan where cooks were frying breaded grouper and the hot oven

burning OLGC to the ground by not letting the male journalist near anything with a flame. Although he did help cook the risolio last few pieces of pan-fried grouper, the journalist's major responsibility - and one which he felt he handled nearly flawlessly - was sliclo mozzarella. He did get a hand from Elke Ruff, who

The journalist also got a lesson in cheese.

"The mozzarella you put on pizza isn't fresh," said has been Savastano's friend for some 30 years and who showed up in class to help it tastes so much better."

The class was designed, obviously, for its students to my lesson in cheese, I also fried cod can taste pretty good, as the grouper did at the end of this class.

Other students learned other lessons. Gilbertson taught Pam Cook a trick to breading the fish - keeping one hand dry. It was a lesson

where more grouper baked.

The second objective - not was basically accomplished ing tomatoes and fresh buffarescued the cheese.

Annemarie Gilbertson, who out. "This is fresh; that's why

learn something. Aside from learned fish other than deep-



Cook learned well, until she got a little distracted.

"I started talking to someone, and it was like walking and chewing bubble gum," Cook said, laughing. "I never would have used one hand for wet and one for dry."

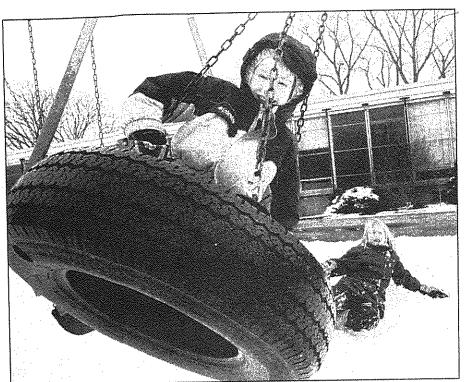
Mary Anne Napolitano finished the class with the hope of stemming the tide of her teenager's complaints.

"My son says to me, 'Please,

PLEASE SEE CLASS, C6



Gibson celebrates 30 years of meeting needs



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

Vivienne Lucksom knew there was something different about her son, Joshua.

It was his first year in school and he wasn't fitting in. He threw tantrums. He was already reading but he clammed up in the classroom. He didn't want to stand out from the other 25 children in class. He became with-

"I started out reading books on what is wrong with my kid. Šlowly I began to realize that he was gifted," Lucksom

The realization was a "rude shock," as it is for many parents who often mistakenly think they have a child with a discipline problem.

Lucksom of Southfield started looking for a school where Joshua, now 7, would be more comfortable.

Since coming to Redford's Gibson School, Lucksom has noticed a transformation.

The change was instant," she said. "He got his self-esteem back. He was

happy with who he is. He said the other kids get his jokes. He doesn't have to explain himself."

A NEW APPROACH

Gibson has been the answer for many parents with gifted children since the school was founded 30 years ago by educator Walter Gibson.

Gibson was a downriver elementary principal who became curious about the children who were repeatedly sent to his office for discipline.

"The only thing they had in common was that they were bright," said Suzanne Young, director of Gibson School.

He began working with counselors, teachers and parents on a curriculum geared to gifted children, who were often being disruptive because of bore-

dom and frustration. In 1972, he started his own school with 30 students in a church basement in Dearborn. The school's curriculum was experience-based with an emphasis

PLEASE SEE GIBSON, C6

FROM PAGE C5

on hands-on projects, experimentation, student-centered learning and cross-discipline.

"In 1972, it was pretty cutting-edge to do field trips to allow students to have more experiences," Young said. "It was cutting-edge to have classes with multiple ages. It was cutting-edge to have an integrated curriculum with teachers teaching around a topic, every teacher teaching about dinosaurs or space exploration. It's more common now but not in those

days." In 1975, Gibson began leasing its current building on Fenton Road from South Redford schools. The former Will Rogers Elementary became a haven for children with a special need.

The school currently has 67 students in the K-8 gifted program and 40 children in a child-development preschool, which is not intended for gifted children.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

To have a child admitted to Gibson's school for the gifted, parents are required to have their child take an IQ test with a licensed psychologist. The child needs to have a tested IQ of 130 or above, with some exceptions made for the youngest children. Parents are also required to bring their child to the school for a visit before a decision is

"We get to observe the child's interaction with students we have already and parents get to see how their child fits," said Young. "One woman came with her daughter and she saw her daughter skipping down the hall, and the mother started to cry. She said, 'She's happy."

Kelli Dade Haines of Livonia was well aware of the problems faced by a gifted child. When she was 2 years old, her parents had her tested when she said a polysyllab-

ic word that no one knew. Her parents were educators who knew something was special about their daughte They sent her to Roeper

Haines noticed the same qualities in her son Blake, 8. She spent a sample day at Gibson. She and Blake visited some classrooms.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 20, 2003

"He said, 'Mom, I really like it here, can I stay?" she said. Before Gibson, Blake was acting out his frustration.

"If you talk to any parent, it's the nightmare story of not fitting in," Haines said. "Blake was reading but he had trouble making friends because he knew the answers and the other kids think of him as a smart aleck."

At Gibson, Blake has been able to make friends. His best friend is Joshua Lucksom.

"He gets more involved. He puts himself into his projects. He's working up to his potential," Haines said.

Getting involved is an important part of the Gibson philosophy.

'We're sure to cover curriculum that the state requires, but deepen and broaden it and have integration of various disciplines," Young said.

When Margaret Mayer of Westland was looking for a school for her son, Christian, 6, she already knew a lot about Gibson. She attended the school in the late '80s and early '90s. In 1991, her eighth-grade graduating class had just 10 students.

"It was structured like other schools but you were more free to learn at your own pace and abilities," Mayer said.

She said the school gave her a chance to go "above and

beyond. Her son had been attending a Montessori school when she moved him to Gibson's preschool program. She began to notice that he was working above his age level and had him tested for admission to Gibson. She said he has been adjusting well to her old school.

RELATED THEMES

The school has five homeroom teachers; children are grouped together by age but can work with older children in areas where they have a special gift. In addition, the school has five special teachers for computer science, art, music, Spanish and physical education.

In the spring and fall, the school selects themes around which teachers can build a curriculum. Themes have included dinosaurs, oceans, the space program and this year's theme, "soaring into the

Field trips are another big part of the program, including two trips a year to the Detroit Institute of Arts.

The recent Columbia tragedy will be the focus of debates for the middle school students.

A popular interactive program is called "mini society," in which the children create their own community. One day they were creating products for sale, setting their prices in "shenanigans."

The school's library was recently renovated. A computer lab has 22 functioning computers but, as of yet, no Internet access. Young said that is a top priority.

The annual tuition is \$8,500 a year and is expected to go up slightly next fall. About 20 students are attending on scholarships based on financial need.

We have an endowment fund for scholarships. We don't want to be a school just for people of means," Young said.

The school has a \$500,000 endowment.

The school's board comes from a cross-section of the community's business and educational leadership but does not include parents. Parents, however, are an important part of Gibson. They serve on subcommittees and volunteer their time. Students come from 23 different communities throughout metro Detroit, including Livonia, Redford, Plymouth, Canton and Westland.

Jeanne Nance of Bloomfield Hills works in admissions for the school. She brought her son, Bill, now in high school, to Gibson when he was in the sixth grade.

"Everything was a debate with him. I had him evaluated, tried to work with a psychologist," she said. "We found Gibson when he was in sixth grade. Within a week he was anxious to go to school, excited. The whole family relaxed."

son learned at Gibson was that girls can be bright and be friends.

Young said it has been a challenge to attract girls to the school. The school sponsors an annual Girls' Conference (Girls are Gifted

A DIVERSE GROUP

The open, accepting environment of Gibson was important to Rocco Foggio as well.

Foggio, 24, of Farmington Hills, played football at Purdue, in the 2001 Rose Bowl and is now an National Football League free agent.

"The biggest thing was that black, white, Asian everyone got along," he said. "There were no racial issues. There was a commitment to teach children and help them get along. There was never any disruption at the school."

Foggio was attending a parochial school and feeling ostracized" because he was so far ahead of his classmates in reading and math. His parents checked several schools and decided on Gibson.

"The classes were a lot smaller. You got extra attention, because everyone is gifted in their own way," he said.

Adam Chalom remembers that when he was a student at Gibson in the '80s his two best friends were a Korean boy and the son of a Nigerian father and white American mother.

"I found it a supportive environment that allowed you to pursue what you were more interested in," he said.

He remembers doing detailed research papers on complex subjects when he was in the middle school

Chalom of Farmington is a rabbi at the Birmingham Temple.

For the parents, Gibson is a place for their children to be normal, to develop with other children like themselves and to grow at their own pace with strong support.

"It's a myth that gifted children learn on their own," said Lucksom. "They need as much help as a special ed

hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net (734) 953-2149

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Smith-Mueller

Mr. and Mrs. William M. Smith of Pasadena, Calif., announce the engagement of their daughter, Carolyn Louise, to John William Mueller, son of Virgil and Carolyn Mueller, formerly of Plymouth and currently residing in Henderson, Nev.

Carolyn is a graduate of Occidental College in Los Angeles and received her master's degree from UCLA.

John is a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and Western Michigan University.

He has lived in southern California for 12 years.

The wedding is scheduled at First Congregational Church, UCC in Pasadena, Calif., on April 26, 2003.

Williams celebration

Douglas and Frances Williams of Plymouth celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on March 20, 2003. The celebration took place at the Olive Garden Restaurant for about 50 or more of the family on March 16, 2003.

They were married on March 20, 1943, at Holy Rosary Church in Detroit. Because it was during Lent, they had to have special dispensation from the priest. After a series of mix-ups, including losing the marriage license, the priest agreed to the ceremony but only after the promise of getting a duplicate license on Monday was

Today, the happy couple enjoy their eight children (seven surviving), Nancy (Larry) Ray, Sharon (Joseph) Willerer, Patricia (Robert) Dicks, Mary (George) Wolfe, Barbara (Shawn) Tipton, Daniel (Roberta) Williams, and Mark Williams; 16 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

FROM PAGE C5

places due to the loud noise and confusion. Background noise makes it difficult to focus on the person who is talking to me.

As a society we need to investigate and find new ways to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities and I think the Loop system is a great solution. For more information visit www.hearingloop.org.

Carrie Tynan lives in Livonia. She writes a column for the Observer Newspapers on disability issues. Contact her by e-mail at carriewrites@yahoo.com or her Web site, http://clix.to/writer-fiction.

FROM PAGE C5

not your hamburgers again," Napolitano said. "I'm not a big cook. I'm trying to be a better cook."

Mostly, though, Savastano and Gilbertson wanted people to learn that just because you need to eat fast doesn't mean you need to eat fast food.

"That's the point," Savastano

said. "You don't have to settle for hamburgers just because you need it fast."

Bella Cucina's cooking classes are filled through May, but you can talk to her about possible openings in future classes by calling (734) 455-4232.

Plymouth Observer, and will never be confused with the Galloping Gourmet. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net or by phone at (734) 459-2700.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the



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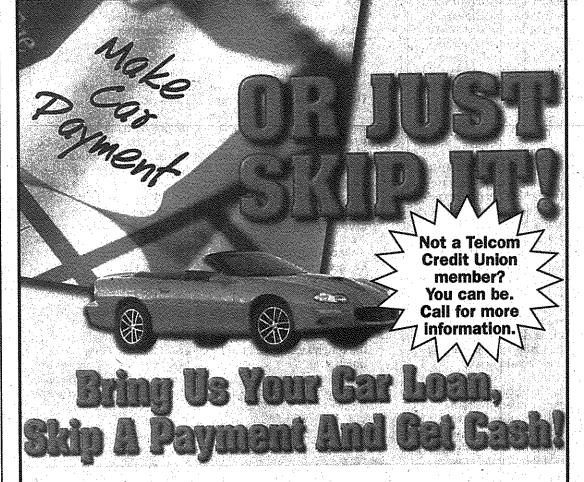
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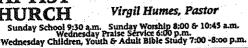


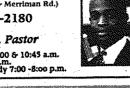
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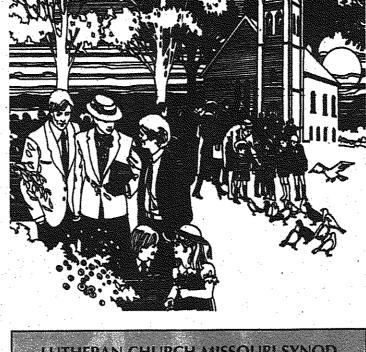
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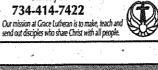
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Make Someone's Day!

When is the last time you told someone that they made your day? When we give someone an honest, well-deserved compliment such as this, it is also a blessing to us. It makes us aware of those who have been a positive influence in our daily lives. Ironically, the best way to "make someone's day" is to tell them how helpful they have been to you and that you appreciate their friendship. It seems we often forget to tell those who are closest to us that we value and enjoy their company. When it comes to praising people, there is usually nothing wrong with doing it in the presence of others. People don't usually like to "toot their own horn," so if we can do it for them by praising their actions, it usually will give them encouragement. Conversely, if you must criticize someone, it is almost always best to do that in private, making sure that the other person knows that you still value them despite your criticism. God wants us to use kind words which validate our fellow human beings, and to practice His Golden Rule of doing for others what you want them to do for you.

There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

R.S.V. Proverbs 12:18



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sale 14.99 Reg. \$18-20. men's tees from Nike® & adidas®

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Examine what you did to regain trust

About 2 months ago I snuck around and did some things that I was not supposed to do. Because of this, I lost my parents trust. Now 2 months later I have done everything to try



Jen

Jennifer Sawalha

getting so bored in the house while my other friends are out having a great time. What can I do to get my parents to trust me again? Trust Breaker, 17

Livonia

Many teens experience this and struggle to regain the trust of their parents. Once you break someone's trust, especially an authority figure, loved one, or a parent it can take months to regain it. Trust is almost always given out freely, but also the hardest thing to regain within any kind of relationship. Usually if you have broken someone's trust; one, you have made a really bad choice; or, two, you were only thinking of yourself when you proceeded to do what you were not supposed to do. I suggest you take a long and hard look at the things you did and figure why you did them.

Did you do them to be cool? Was it peer pressure? Then sit down with your parents and explain to them why you did these things, as well as let them know that you understand trust is something that is earned over a long period of time. Voice to them how you have thought long and hard about what you did and have grown from the entire experience. Ask them to please give you a chance to just do a couple things at first to help rebuild the trust.

Remember, when you are about to break the rules always think about the consequences and whom else your actions are going to effect.

I know this question probably seems weird, but can two people of the opposite sex be friends without being intimate? Friends or Mates, 16 Canton

There is never a question that is weird. You can definitely have friends who are the

opposite sex without being involved in an intimate manner. A matter of fact, I have many friends who are the opposite sex. It is perfectly natural and healthy to have friends who are not the same sex as yourself. You can learn a lot about life, relationships and friendships by having a diverse social circle. Friendship is very sacred and it is one of the most beautiful gifts in life that can be shared with people of all races, creeds, religions, and yes ... gender. Enjoy your friendships and learn to respect the limits of friendship. It will help you to become a more well rounded individual!

Dear Jen,

I have this friend who keeps losing weight. She is already so skinny and refuses to eat when she is at school. I am not sure if she is eating at all. Should I tell her parents? Do you think she has anorexia?

Concerned in Garden City, 17

Your concern for your friend's well being is valid. Anorexia can be extremely dangerous, and seems to be a growing problem among teenage girls and boys. It is definitely an issue that needs to be dealt with, immediately. I suggest that you talk with your school social worker about your friend and your concern for her health. The social worker can then assess the situation and talk to your friends' parents.

Anorexia is a very scary disease that can take complete control of one's life. It can cause many medical issues as well as mental health issues. Your friend will probably get very defensive about the issue when it is brought up, and may even be mad at you for bringing it to the others' attention. That is normal for someone suffering from this condition. Once she gets help and begins feeling better, she will realize your concern for her, and what a great friend you have truly been ... you could save her life. The following number is the National **Eating Disorder Crisis Number** for any further questions or concerns: (800) 382-2832.

Jennifer Sawalha of Livonia is a school psychologist for the Michigan Automotive Academy with a master's degree in psychology from the Center for Humanistic Studies. She can be reached by e-mail at JGSKarma@aoi.com.



Bergeron-Meikle

Renee Kelly Meikle of Wayne and Jay Bergeron of Wayne were married March 15, 2003.

Renee is the daughter of Linda and the late Rod Meikle of Westland. She is a 1994 graduate of John Glenn High School. She works at Domino's Pizza headquarters in the transportation department.

Jay is the son of Terry and Nancy Bergeron, and Relicia and Bob Barck. He is a 1992 graduate of Garden City High School. He is a journeyman



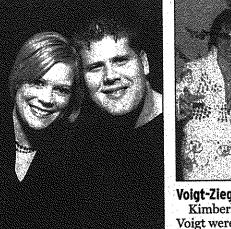
Webb-Jones

Briana Michelle Webb of Westland and Stephen Robert Jones of Westland announce their forthcoming marriage.

Briana is the daughter of Stuart Webb of Lexington, Ky., and Terry Lenhart of Toledo, Ohio. She is a 1999 graduate of Swanton High School, Swanton, Ohio. She is employed as a dental assistant with Preferred Dental Group of

Stephen is the son of Jim Jones of Westland, and Jean (Mobley) Jones of Novi, formerly of Redford. He is a 1988 graduate of Redford Union High School and a 2002 graduate of Lawrence Technological University where he received a bachelor of science degree in technology management. He is a senior engineer at Midway Products Group of Monroe.

The couple is planning an April wedding in Christ Lutheran Church, Monroe.



McLean-Shinkonis III

Richard and Mary McLean of Garden City announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristen McLean of Garden City, to Frank Shinkonis III of Garden City.

Kristen is a senior at University of Michigan-Dearborn. She is employed with Mutual of Omaha.

Her fiancé, Frank, is the son of Frank Jr and Marilyn Shinkonis of Farmington Hills. He is a graduate of University of Michigan-Dearborn.

The couple is planning to wed in July at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. They will be making their new home in Garden City.



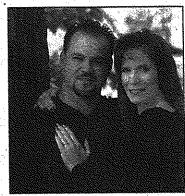
Voigt-Ziegler

Kimberly Ziegler and Jason Voigt were married recently in Las Vegas. "Elvis" serenaded at their marriage and also served as the entertainment DJ at a reception following the ceremony. Kimberly is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Ziegler of Pennsylvania.

Jason is the son of Mr. & Mrs. James Voigt of Livonia. He is a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

The couple went on a honeymoon cruise to Key West, Mexico and Belize.

Attending the wedding were guests from Pennsylvania, Michigan, New York, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Illinois, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, California and Germany.



Popur-Garner

Edward and Margaret Pobur of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kathleen M. Pobur of Sterling Heights to Matt Garner of Sterling Heights.

Kathleen attended Eastern Michigan University. She is employed at Kmart Headquarters as a corporate manager in loss prevention.

Her fiancé, Matt, is the son of Ronald and Judy Garner of James Creek, Pa. He graduated from Geneva College in Beaver Falls, Pa. with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He is employed at Kohl's Department Stores as a store manager.

The couple is planning an August wedding in St. Blase Catholic Church, Sterling Heights.



Tell us about your bonnet

In your Easter bonnet, with all the frills upon it, You'll be the grandest lady in

the Easter Parade.

- Irving Berlin

Do you have a frilly Easter bonnet tucked away in your closet? If so, we want to know about it, perhaps take your picture in it. If you no longer have the hat, maybe you have a picture of that long-ago Easter

when you were the grandest lady in the Easter Parade.

The Observer Newspapers is planning a special article on Easter bonnets for its Sunday, April 13, edition. Contact Renee Skoglund, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150; (734) 953-2128; fax: (734) 591-7279; e-mail: rskoglund@oe.homecomm.net. Contact her by Friday, March

RELIGION CALENDAR

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar. Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia 48150. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon

EVENTS

Family rosary

St. Maurice Church, 32765 Lyndon, Livonia, will offer the Family Rosary 1:30 p.m. Sundays. Call (734) 421-5240. Marriage encounter

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy, and renew their love for each other. The next weekend is April 11-13 at the St. John's Family Life Center, 44011 Five Mile Road, Plymouth. \$50 registration fee. For more information or to register, call Bill and Carol at (248) 528-2512 or Dan and Debbie at (810) 286-5524, or visit www.rc.net/detroit/wwme. **Crop circles**

Mystery of the Crop Circles, an awardwinning investigative video, will be shown 7 p.m. Friday, March 21, at Unity Church of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 421-1760 or e-mail: UofLivonia@aol.com.

Mighty man

John Jacobs, founder of The Power

Team and a motivational speaker, will present his program at the Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman Road, Garden City, 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, March 23. Jacobs - who stands 6'4", weights 320 pounds, can curl 350 pounds, and bend 3 inches of steel with his teeth - encourages people to live a life of excellence. Call

(734) 421-0472. Parish mission

St. Edith Parish, 15089 Newburgh Road, Livonia, will host a mission 7:30-9 p.m. Sunday, March 23, through Thursday, March 27. The Rev. Wally Hyclack of the St. Joseph Christian Life Center will present "Christian Challenged." Babysitting available for third grade and younger. Call (734) 464-1222.

Friendly service Plymouth Church of Christ, 9301 Sheldon Road, will host a Friend and Family Sunday on March 23. Refreshments served at 9:30 a.m. Worship at 10 a.m. A children's Bible program available for children ages 2-10. Call (734) 453-7630.

Family event

"Jillybean," the energetic and inspiring Jill Bryan, will perform at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster, Livonia, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 26. Bryan rededicated her life to God after finding herself "broken" at age 27. Call Cindy Korpela at (734) 422-1470. Reservations for groups of 10 or more available.





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In-line champs

The Mullet Hunters 14-andunder in-line hockey team finished last weekend with a 6-2 victory in the



NHL Rules Tournament chamoionship game against the Hyper Hawks

at the Skateplex in Sterling Heights. The Mullet Hunters were undefeated, with two wins

and a draw in three games played Saturday. The team had a well-balanced scoring attack and sound defense, backed up in goal by Scott Ozog, who allowed only eight goals.

The Mullet Hunters team includes Ozog (Novi): Ryan Lammers (Rockwood); Mike Hargreaves (Hartland); Kevin Etzel (Northville), Lee Downs (Commerce Township); Corey Perdue (Livonia); and Jeff Loos, Brandon Egglesfield, Nick Pesant and team captain Kevin Tollison (Canton). The team is coached by Jay Pesant: the assistant coach is Jerry Lammers and the team manager is Justin Pesant.

The NHL Rules Tournament is a regional qualifier tournament that stops in all NHL team cities. The National Championship for all regional winners will be June 27-29 at Total Roller Hockey in Wixom.

Pistons clinic

through-5 in the Plymouth-Canton school district are invited to attend a Detroit Pistons Basketball Clinic, scheduled for 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 5 at East Middle School, located at 1042 South Mill St. in Plymouth.

The object of the clinic is to improve fundamental basketball skills, such as ballhandling, passing, shooting, defense and rebounding. The clinic will be conducted by Steve Morland and the Pistons staff.

Space is limited; cost is \$20. Pay cash at the door; register 15 minutes prior to the start of the clinic.

Included in the clinic are trophies for the Pistons free throw championship, a free Pistons ticket, contests and prizes.

To confirm a spot on the sign-up sheet, call the clinic hotline at (248) 377-8653 and leave your name and phone number.

CYO meeting

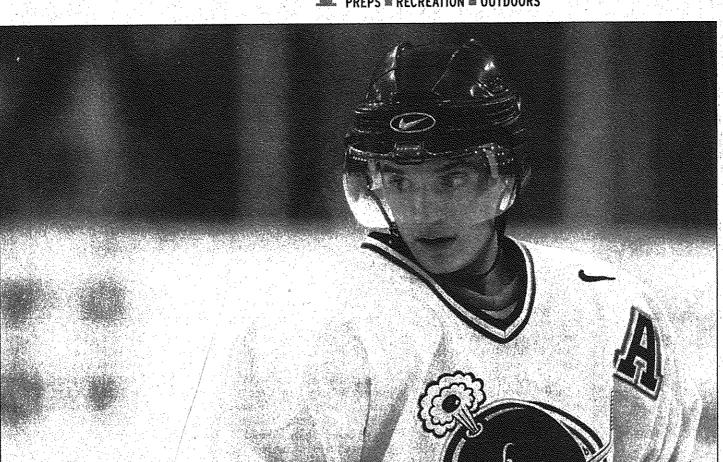
A meeting for parents of boys in grades 3-through-8 who are interested in playing football in the Catholic Youth Organization is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 2 at Our Lady of Good Counsel's gym. The school is located at 1151 William St., Plymouth.

The meeting is for boys in the following parishes: Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Kenneth, Our Lady of Victory, St. Mary's of Wayne, St. Richard, St. Thomas A'Beckett, Divine Savior, Resurrection, St. James and St. John Neumann.

For more information, call Joe Hamp at (734) 432-0031.

Correction

In the March 13 issue of the Observer, a wrestler in a photo on D3 was incorrectly identified as Salem's Mike Goethe.



Chad LaRose busted the Whalers' team record for goals in a season with 61 and led the OHL in power-play goals (23) and plus/minus rating (plus 51).

LaRose has other 'goals' in mind

BY C.J. RISAK STAFF WRITER

It was a special night, a special feeling for the Plymouth Whalers' Chad LaRose. Actually, his record-setting 61st goal

was overdue, according to LaRose. "I should have had 61 the night I got my 60th," he said, referring to a win over Saginaw the previous Sunday. "I could have had it plenty of times that night plenty of times.

It didn't come, however. So a threegame weekend to end the regular season awaited LaRose, three chances to get the

PROFILE

Whalers' record for goals in a season held by Sean Haggerty since 1995-96 until LaRose tied it.

Of course, one must remember records are only a part of the game, an interesting sidelight. Which is why, last Friday, when LaRose skated toward Sault Ste. Marie goalie Joey Biasucci with an open shot at the goal in the first period, he instead slid the puck across to a more wide-open Chris Thorburn for an easy tip-in and a 1-

Get the victory first. Records should come as part of that quest, not the other way around.

On Friday, he got another chance in the last few seconds of the second period. This time it was Thorburn getting the puck to an open LaRose on the right wing, and LaRose rifling a shot past Biasucci and into the lower left corner of

"I had thought about it," he admitted Tuesday of his pursuit of the record. "I was glad it came early in the weekend."

PLEASE SEE LAROSE, DZ

Whalers ready for a title run

Open OHL playoffs against the Attack

STAFF WRITER

There are a couple of good reasons to think this year's postseason won't be like last year's for the Plymouth

Remember that one? A lot of Whalers fans don't want to. After completing the regular season on cruise control, finishing with the Ontario Hockey League's best record, the Whalers were shockingly eliminated in the first round of the playoffs by the London Knights.

On Saturday, the Whalers will renew their quest for an OHL championship and a shot at the Memorial Cup, starting with a best-of-seven series against the Owen Sound Attack.

The differences between this year's team and last year's? Well, for one, the Whalers were not the OHL's best team in the regular season this year. They were second to Kitchener in the Western Conference and third overall in the OHL.

For another, they probably don't have the talent they had last season. Hey, after all, four guys from last season's squad are currently playing in the NHL.

And don't forget — since they aren't No. 1 in the conference, they won't have to go up against the No. 8 (and last) seed.

So where are the positives in all that?

PLEASE SEE WHALERS, D2

Poor-shooting Ocelots ousted by Rebels again

The chance slipped away.

The retribution Schoolcraft College's men's basketball team had sought, against Dixie (Utah) CC, the team that ended the Ocelots national title hopes by four points last season, never materialized.

The Rebels hit 13-of-23 second-half floor shots (56.5 percent) to pull away from SC for a 65-52 victory in the quarterfinals of the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I Tournament Wednesday in Hutchinson, Kan.

Dixie, now 29-5 and ranked 13th in the last national poll, advances to the NJCAA semifinals Friday against the winner of the Monroe (N.Y.) CC-vs.-San Jacinto (Tex.) CC game. SC, 31-3 overall and ranked seventh in the last NJCAA poll, plays the loser of that game tonight.

While the defending NJCAA champ Rebels were making 56.5 percent of their second-half floor shots, the Ocelots were making just 8-of-35 (22.9 percent) of theirs. The game was tied at 28-all at the half, thanks to a running three-pointer at the

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

buzzer by the Ocelots' Dion Sherrell.

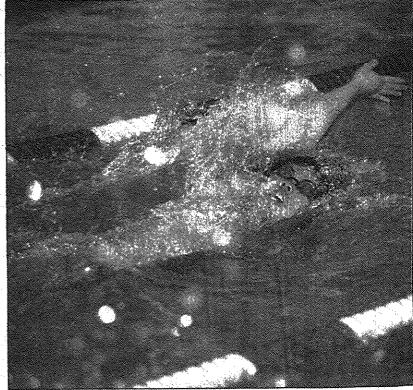
"Dixie deserved to win," said SC coach Carlos Briggs. "They executed well and exposed a couple of our weaknesses. They have a tradition and played with passion, something our team didn't do.

"We did not do a good job with ball reversal and did not get penetration. In my six years coaching at Schoolcraft, I think this is the lowest point total we've had. It was a combination of bad offense (by SC) and good defense (by Dixie)."

SC trailed 43-41 with 11:48 left in the game when the Rebels put together an 8-0 scoring run, pushing their lead to 10 points. The Ocelots never got closer than eight after

"It was a grueling game for both teams," said Dixie coach Jeff Kidder, whose team ruined SC's NJCAA title hopes last year with

PLEASE SEE SCHOOLCRAFT, D7



PAUL HURSCHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Yuhei Uno qualified for state meet in both the 100-yard backstroke and the 100-

Madonna keeps streak alive, wins Shawnee State tourney

Three more games, three more wins, and the Madonna University softball team is beginning to look every bit as good as coach Al White had hoped.

At the Shawnee State (Ohio) Tournament last weekend, the Crusaders knocked off Walsh University (Ohio) 6-5 in eight innings on Friday, then defeated host Shawnee State 7-0 on Saturday and Huntington Forrester 22-1 on Sunday.

The victories improved Madonna's record

Against Walsh on Friday, Jennifer Tenyer pitched all eight innings, allowing five runs (three earned) on eight hits, walking none and striking out 14. Aubrey Oliver took the loss for Walsh.

for the Crusaders, collecting two hits and

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

scoring three runs. Emily Cunningham and Krystle Shina (from Farmington Hills Mercy) each had two hits, one of them a double, and drove in two runs apiece, and Mary Warchuck had three hits.

Katie Foltz went 4-for-4, with two triples, and drove in two runs for Walsh.

On Saturday against Shawnee State, Sarah Golob improved her record to 4-2 by tossing a three-hit shutout. She walked five and struck out three. Molly Binz took the loss for Shawnee

Arin Fowler led Madonna's attack, going

Jamie Bobrowski slugged a solo home run 3-for-3 with a double and a home run, driv-

PLEASE SEE MADONNA, D4

Rocks, Chiefs top swimmers BY BRAD EMONS

STAFF WRITER

Jeff Shoemaker builds brick patios during his summer vacation.

And during the winter months, he's laying a solid foundation for the 39-member Livonia Stevenson boys program, which showed marked improvement this season, as the Spartans finished fourth in both the Western Lakes Activities Association Relays and season-end-

ing WLAA meet. Five-and-5 is not the greatest

dual meet result, but we don't have an easy schedule either," said Shoemaker, who was named by his colleagues Observerland Coach of the Year. "We swam Salem three times (sixth in Class A) and (Ann Arbor) Pioneer twice (the state champion).

"The boys stepped up quite well and did the best they could. They overachieved."

Shoemaker, in his second year,

guided the Spartans to a respectable 358-point, fourth-place showing in the WLAA meet behind champion Salem, runner-up Canton and third-place finisher Northville.

"The league meet was special, they got excited and swam extremely well," Shoemaker said.

Shoemaker, 33, served six seasons as Doug Buckler's assistant before taking the head coaching job last season. He teaches math at Stevenson.

A native of Grandville, Shoemaker placed sixth in the 50yard freestyle and seventh in the 100 breaststroke in the state meet as a high schooler.

He went on to earn All-America honors as Eastern Michigan University where he swam the 100 and 200 breaststroke, and the 50 freestyle. His senior year, he competed in the NCAA Championships. Shoemaker resides in Redford

with his wife, Erin. They have two

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WHALERS

FROM PAGE DI

Attribute it to lessons learned. "On last year's team, guys already had their pro contracts and we weren't playing particularly well down the stretch," Plymouth coach Mike Vellucci said. "This (year's) team has been playing very well down the stretch.

"This is a different makeup of kids. These guys are hungry."

Last year's disappointing finish should make them famished. This year's Whalers weren't expected to do much they'd lost nearly all their top scorers, half of their defensemen and their starting goalie but with the help of a few good moves and the development of

some other players, they have. Still, even though they won their fifth straight West Division title, the Whalers aren't likely to look past Owen Sound, their first-round oppo-

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 20, 2003

Not after last season's debacle. Besides, the Attack beat Plymouth in three of four meetings this season.

"They're well-balanced." Vellucci said. "They think they match up well with us. They're hard-working, they have some speed, and they're a disciplined, well-coached team."

Owen Sound finished fourth in the Midwest Division with a 27-30-7-4 record, scoring 206 goals while giving up 243. The Attack are led by Miguel Delisle with 35 goals and 44 assists (79

points), Brad Richardson with 27 goals and 40 assists (67 points), Matt Passfield with 36 goals and 30 assists (66 points), Pat Jarrett (brother of Plymouth defenseman Cole Jarrett) with 16 goals and 39 assists (55 points) and Mark Giordano with 18 goals and 30 assists (48 points).

John Ceci, obtained in a trade with Ottawa, has been solid in goal. He had a 25-13-4 overall record with a 2.77 goalsagainst average and a .908 save percentage. Among his wins was a 2-1 victory Feb. 22 over Plymouth at Compuware

Vellucci believes his current team is ready for the challenge, more so than last season's squad. "We have more balanced scoring," he said. "Scoring's never been our problem.

The Whalers, 43-14-9-2 overall, tied for third in the OHL in goals scored with 259 and were first in goals against with 174 ("For the fifth-straight season," Vellucci pointed out).

Chad LaRose helped make up for the loss of last year's leading scorers — Stephen Weiss, Damian Surma, Kris Vernarsky and Brad Yeo - by scoring a team-record 61 goals and leading the OHL in power**OHL PLAYOFFS**

First round Plymouth Whalers vs. Owen Sound Attack

Records: Whalers (No. 2 seed in Western Conference), 43-14-9-2; Owen Sound (No. 7 seed), 27-30-7-4.

Game schedule: 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena; 7 p.m. Sunday at Owen Sound; 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Compuware; 7 p.m. March 27 at Owen Sound; 7:30 p.m. March 29 at Compuware (if necessary); 7 p.m. March 30 at Owen Sound (if necessary); 7:30 p.m. April 1 at Compuware (if necessary).

Other first round OHL matchups - Western Conference: Kitchener Rangers (No. 1) vs. Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds (No. 8); Sarnia Sting (No. 3) vs. Guelph Storm (No. 6); Windsor Spitfires (No. 4) vs. London Knights (No. 5). Eastern Conference: Ottawa 67s (No. 1) vs. Mississauga IceDogs (No. 8); Brampton Battalion (No. 2) vs. Barrie Colts (No. 7); Peterborough Petes (No. 3) vs. Oshawa Generals (No. 6); Toronto St. Michael's Majors (No. 4) vs. Belleville Bulls (No. 5).

Teams are re-seeded for second round.

play goals (23) and plus/minus rating (plus-51). He totaled 117 points.

But unlike last year, when just one Whaler surpassed 30 goals (LaRose with 32) and four had 20 or more, this season's Whalers featured four players with 30 or more goals. Seven players collected more

than 50 points this season; five had that many last season.

So the Attack won't be able to concentrate on LaRose alone, not with Ryan Ramsay (33 goals, 55 assists), Karl Stewart (35 goals, 50 assists), Chris Thorburn (30 goals, 41 assists), John Mitchell (18 goals, 37 assists) and John Vigilante (15

goals, 24 assists) on the prowl. Also dangerous are défensemen Cole Jarrett (14 goals, 41 assists) and Canton's James Wisniewski (18 goals, 34 assists).

Another Whaler strength is goalie Paul Drew, who was surrounded by uncertainty entering the season simply because he had never been a No. I goaltender in the OHL before. He responded, however, leading the OHL in goals-against average (2.49) while posting a 29-12-7 record with three shutouts and a .911 save percentage.

Vellucci believes this season's team won't stumble. "They know," he said. "You can finish 50 points ahead of someone (in the regular season) and it won't matter. It all starts over again.

"I told them if we play our game, we'll be fine."

Vellucci then repeated the catch phrases his coaching staff has used all season: sticking to our system, keeping it simple, pay the price, etc. It all comes down to sacrificing for the good of the team.

If the Whalers do that, their run in the playoffs should last a good deal longer than last

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WESTERN CONFERENCE QUARTERFINALS WHALERS vs. OWEN SOUND ATTACK





FIRST ROUND HOME SCHEDULE GAME 1- SAT., MAR. 22 @ 7:30 p.m. GAME 3- TUES., MAR. 25 @ 7:30 p.m. *GAME 5- SAT., MAR. 29 @ 7:30 p.m. *GAME 7- TUES., APR. 1 @ 7:30 p.m.

*- If necessary in best of seven series

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CHECK OUT THE **CONFERENCE'S** TOP GOAL SCORER CHAD LAROSE, AS HE LEADS THE WHALERS THROUGH THE 2003 OHL PLAYOFFS!

COMPUWARE SPORTS ARENA M-14 & BECK RD. IN PLYMOUTH

LAROSE

FROM PAGE D1

LaRose has led the Whalers in goals scored the last two seasons. He finished this year as one of the most dangerous scorers in the Ontario Hockey League, totaling 117 points with a league-leading 23 power-play goals and a league-best plus/minus rating of plus-51.

Quite a remarkable career for a guy from Fraser who wasn't even drafted by an OHL team, instead playing in the USHL and verbally committing to play college hockey at Miami (Ohio) before he was spotted at the Top Prospects Tournament at Compuware Arena.

"I had a really good tournament," LaRose recalled.

The Sarnia Sting and the Whalers showed the most interest. LaRose knew some of the players on the Whalers, and

The Road

length of a football field for the rig

quickly to make a turn or exit.

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they convinced him it was a solid organization, so he signed with them as a free agent. Without doubt, it's worked out well.

"Point-wise, he's done better than we thought he would this year," Whalers coach Mike Vellucci said. "I knew he'd get 50 (goals), but 61 ...

"He's such a hard-working player, tireless. He had so many chances, he could have scored

LaRose, who will undoubtedly sign a pro contract at the end of the season, believes his success is linked to his ability to get open.

"Finding open ice," he answered when asked what his greatest strength was. "I try to create open ice for myself. And I've always been a good skater."

He's been skating, he said, since he was 2 years old. And while his goal-scoring skill is obvious, there are other abiliies that aren't.

Vellucci recalled a game earlier this season when LaRose had a chance to get 50 goals in 50 games. Playing at Owen Sound, the Whalers were up 2-1 late in the game when LaRose and Jimmy Gagnon broke in on an empty Owen Sound net.

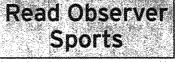
"He didn't just shoot it," Vellucci said. "They kept passing the puck back and forth. LaRose had a chance to get his 50th, but he said he wanted Gagnon to get his second of the year. I just wanted someone to score and give us a two-goal lead."

Which says something about LaRose, whose attention Tuesday wasn't on last week's accomplishments, but on the upcoming seven-game series against Owen Sound in the first round of the OHL playoffs.

We have to match their work ethic and capitalize on our opportunities," LaRose said. Thus far this season, he's

done both extremely well.

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Whalers top Kitchener in OT, then tie Windsor

Understand, Sunday's final Ontario Hockey League game of the regular season at Windsor Arena against the Windsor Spitfires really meant little to the Plymouth Whalers. Several top players, including 61-goal scorer Chad LaRose, defenseman Cole Jarrett and Ryan Ramsay, the team's second-leading scorer, sat the game out.

So a 1-1 draw wasn't too bad. The Spitfires got the game's first goal from John Scott Dickson at 1:37 of the third period; the Whalers tied it at 18:14 on a goal from Tim Sestito, with Brent Mahon and Mike Letizia assisting.

Jeff Weber turned away 36 hots for the Whalers in the tie. Ryan Ashaber had 23 stops for

Plymouth finished the season at 43-14-9-2, first in the OHL's West Division with 97 points.

On Saturday against the Kitchener Rangers, the topseeded team in the OHL's Western Conference, the Whalers got a goal from John Vigilante 2:43 into overtime to claim a 3-2 triumph in front of a sellout crowd at Plymouth's

Compuware Arena. Kitchener was 46-13-5-3

after the overtime loss.

Two power-play goals in the first period gave the Whalers a 2-0 lead. John Mitchell converted a pass from LaRose to score the first goal at 3:27 of the first period. Plymouth got its second power-play goal with just :15 left in the opening period from David Liffiton, who also assisted on the game-winner. Jonas Fiedler and Nate Kiser assisted.

The Rangers got two powerplay goals to knot it at 2-all, the first from David Clarkson at 10:23 of the second period and the tving score from Rafal Martynowski at 7:18 of the

Weber turned away 35 shots to earn the win. Carlo DiRienzo was in goal for Kitchener.

Plymouth opens the OHL Playoffs against the Owen Sound Attack at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Compuware Arena. The Whalers play the second game of the best-of-seven series at Owen Sound Sunday, then return to Compuware for the third game at 7:30 p.m.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

COACHES NEEDED

Plymouth HS needs a head pom pon coach and a head cheer coach. Those interested should FAX their resume to athletic director Terry Sawchuk at (734) 582-5700 or call him at (734) 582-5702.

IN-LINE HOCKEY

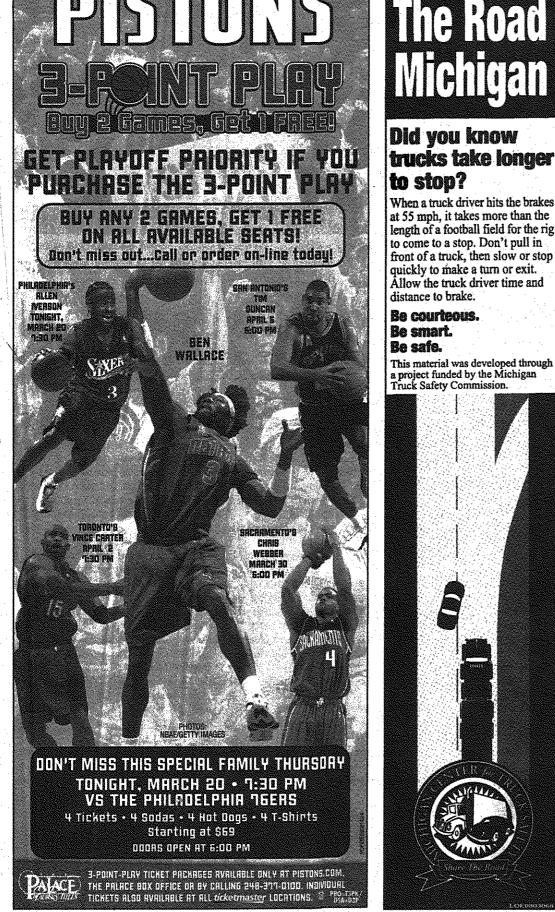
Skatin' Station II is now accepting registrations for its spring youth and adult (17 and over) leagues. Cost is \$120 for

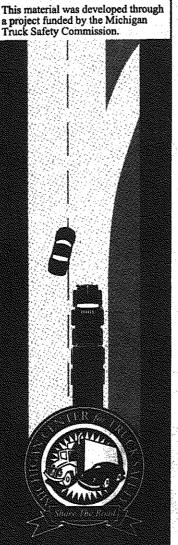
10 games, a jersey, championship shirts and referees.

Youth evaluations will continue March 29 and 30, depending on league. Ages are 📑 determined as of Jan. 1, 2003.

Adult 17-and-over leagues begin April 1. Individuals are welcome as well.

For adult information, call Tonia on Tuesdays or Thursdays at (734) 459-6401, or visit the Web site at www.skatinstation2.com. Skatin' Station II is located at 8611 Ronda Dr., Canton.









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MADONNA

ing in two runs and scoring two. Bobrowski had a double and two RBI, and Stacey Sexsmith and Crystal Little (Wayne Memorial) each had two hits, Sexsmith getting an

Sunday's rout of Huntington Forrester was stopped by the mercy rule after five innings. Tenyer ran her record to 7-1, allowing one run on six hits, walking none and fanning two. Michelle Skibbe took the loss for Forrester.

Little and Tara Turner led the 22-hit Madonna attack with three hits, three RBI and three runs scored; one of Little's hits was a triple, one of Turner's was a double. Golob also had three hits and three RBI; Kathryn Day (Livonia Ladywood) added three singles, two RBI and four runs scored; Tenyer, Elaine Rowe and Warchuck each had two hits and two RBI, with Rowe slugging a triple.

Madonna is scheduled to open the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference season with a double-header at Tri-State Saturday.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, April 3rd, 2003 for the following:

CANTON CABLE TELEVISION STUDIO MECHANICAL UNIT REPLACEMENT

Bid forms may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department counter or you may contact Mike Sheppard at (734) 394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

Publish: March 20, 2003

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, April 3rd, 2003 for the following:

PHEASANT RUN GOLF CLUB IRRIGATION ADD ON / EXPANSION

Bid forms may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department counter or you may contact Mike Sheppard at (734) 394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Publish: March 20, 2003

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk LOE08082814

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, April 3rd, 2003 for the following:

VICTORY PARK - DIAMONDS RESTAURANT NEW ROOF -ARCHITECTURAL SHINGLES

Bid forms may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department counter or you may contact Mike Sheppard at (734) 394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provi-

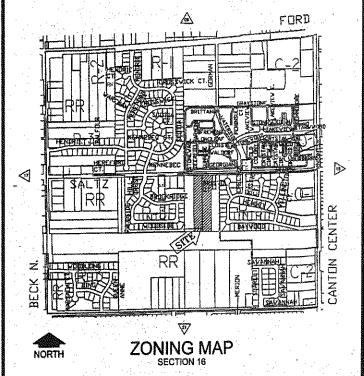
TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk Publish: March 20, 2003

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 7, 2003 in the Chestnut Room, at Summit On The Park, 46000 Summit Parkway at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

SCHAAR/GLASS REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 064 99 0003 000 AND 064 99 0004 000 FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL (1 DWELLING UNIT/5 TO R-3, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (3 DWELLING UNITS/ACRE) . Property is located south of Saltz between Beck and Canton Center Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, April 3, 2003. in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: March 13 and 30, 2003

SWMMNG

children, Zachary, 18 months old, and Zoe, six weeks.

With Stevenson moving up three places from a year ago in the Western Lakes, another three-place jump seems possible for next year. A promising freshman class could help.

"If they do the off-season training, we'll improve even more in the league, maybe even compete for a championship," he said. "That's the ultimate

WLAA champion Salem. coached by Chuck Olson, dominates this year's All-Area squad, putting all three relay teams on first team. Four individuals also earned first-team honors.

Introducing the 2002-03 All-Observer Boys Swim Team (as selected by the area coaches):

First team

Andy Grant, Livonia Churchill, 200-yard freestyle: The junior finished third in the Western Lakes meet in both the 200 freestyle and 100 freestyle. Grant, a state qualifier in the 200 freestyle, posted a season-best

1:48.92. He clocked a 50.74 in the 50 freestyle. "Andy has been eager to win from 'Day

been a great season and he can't wait until next year."

Rob Cyrek, Catholic Central, 200-yard individual mediey: Cyrek had the kind of sophomore season that a lot of seniors would dream about. He finished fifth in the state in the 200 individual medley (1:57.31) and was the Catholic League champion in that event. And he also swam on the 400 free relay team that finished 16th in the state. Cyrek is also a seven-time United States Swimming champion and a six-time YMCA national qualifier.

'We spend less time refining his strokes and more time training him," said CC coach Jeff Baker. "He's technically sound in all of his strokes, compared to other swimmers. He's a phenomenal talent I hope will go higher on the state stage in the future."

Matt Vivian, Salem, 50-yard freestyle: A senior, Vivian splashed to a second-place finish in the 50 free (22.91) at the WLAA Championships, and he placed seventh in the 100 free (51.59). At the state finals, he was part of three Salem relays that placed in the top 12, and he finished 25th in the 50 free in 22.59.

"Matt proved to be the fast, dependable freestyle sprinter that was necessary for the success at the WLAA and state meet for Salem," said Rocks' coach Chuck Olson of Vivian, who carries a 4.3 grade-point average

and is headed to Michigan next year. Dan Rais, Livonia Franklin, diving: A Class I gymnast, Rais also proved his worth as a diver by finishing 10th in the Division I state meet and fifth in the Ann Arbor Pioneer regional. Rais is a three-time state qualifier who fin-

ished runner-up in diving two straight years in the Western Lakes. His state meet total was 328.35 points (II

Expenditure

Recap for 3/11/03

One," Churchill coach Keith Niedbala said: "It's dives), while he scored 337.50 at the regional and 351.25 in the WLAA. He broke the Franklin pool record for six dives with a total of 249.05 (vs. Churchill). The junior placed first in five meets and was second fourth times. He also swam the 50 freestyle and on Franklin's 200 medley and 200 freestyle relay teams.

"Dan's got a lot of coordination, he's confident and has pretty good flexibility," Franklin coach Kevin Hafner said. "He'd like to be All-State (top eight) next year."

Ben Dzialo, Salem, 100-yard butterfly: Działo made his senior season a special one indeed. The Observer area's best swimmer, Działo - who made the state qualifying cut in six individual events - tied for second at state in the 100 butterfly (50.64) after placing second in the 50 free at state (21.52).

At the WLAA Finals, Dzialo was first in the 100 fly (53.10) and second in the 200 freestyle (1:47.04). He also swam in two conferencechampion relays and, at state, was part of two top-12 relays. His time at state in the 100 fly earned him All-American honors, and he is All-American consideration in the 50 free (21,52) and 100 free (46.77).

"Ben is truly a coach's dream," said Olson, "being highly respected by teammates and the opposition throughout the state and country."

In addition to his earning eight All-American and eight All-State awards, Działo is a 4.1 student who will attend Yale University in the fall.

Joe Le, Canton, 100-yard freestyle: The junior from Canton proved to be one of the best sprinters in both Observerland and, indeed, the state. At the WLAA Finals, he finished first in both the 50-yard freestyle (22.44) and the 100-vard free (48.55).

"He had his mind focused on those events

all year," said his coach, Ed Weber, "And when it came to state meet, I was surprised how well he did. He tapered extremely well."

That he did. Le improved his best time in the 100 free by .86, eventually finishing seventh. In the 50, Le was .12 faster, missing the

top 16 by .09. According to Weber, a faster year is already being planned. "It all depends on what

kind of shape we can keep him in," he said. Nick Dixon, Salem, 500-yard freestyle: Dixon's accomplishments over the past two seasons are remarkable indeed, but the best is yet to come, since he has just completed his sophomore season. Dixon won the 200 IM at the WLAA finals (2:02.54), then placed 10th in that event at state (1:58.84). In the 500 free. Dixon was second at conference (4:56.48). then shaved nearly 11 seconds off that time to finish sixth at the state meet (4:45.81). He was also part of two top-12 relay teams at state.

"Nick has continued to excel in-every stroke and at any distance," said Olson. "Nick has a great workout mentality which is displayed in his competitive success. The next two years should be exciting for Salem, as Nick has many goals yet to reach."

Dixon is a 40 student Yuhei Uno, Canton, 100-yard backstroke:

Uno's performance at state must've left him all tied up.

In a sport with touchpads that make timing accurate to within one-hundredth of a second. Uno (and the guys he was swimming against) managed to swim to a dead heat at state meet. And not just once, but Uno did it in both his events - the 100 butterfly and 100 backstroke. In the 100 fly - "That's his love," said Canton coach Ed Weber, "the fly. The 100 back is second with him" - Uno, a senior, tied Mike

PLEASE SEE SWIMMING. D5

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **BOARD PROCEEDINGS - MARCH 11, 2003**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, March 11, 2003, at 46000 Summit Parkway. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call Members Present: Bennett, Burdziak, McLaughlin, Zarbo, Kirchgatter, Yack, Shefferly / Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Director Minghine, Director Durack, Director Machnik, Director Santomauro, Director Conklin

Also Present: Students from the Canton Youth Leadership Government Awareness Program: Colleen Harder, Zachary Fairchild, Rachel Koelzer, Kelly Behr, Tim Kwiecien, Lauren Patterson.

Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the agenda with the deletion of G-7 from the General Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bennett, supported by Burdziak to approve the Regular Board Minutes of February 25, 2003. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the regular study session minutes of March 4, 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

Payment of Bills: Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by Zarbo to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried unani-

mously.			1000
General Fund	101	\$	362,859.30
Fire Fund	206		56,218.58
Police Fund	207		80,440.00
Summit Operating	208		52,300.26
Street Lighting	219		15,729.93
Cable TV Fund	230		6,132.36
Twp Improvement	246		1,737.90
E-911 Utility	261		1,263.50
Auto Forfeiture(wwa)	267		3,966.24
Federal Grants Fund	274		6,807.88
Auto Theft Grant	289		201.54
Downtown Dev Auth	294		58,576.29
Cap Proj-Summit Const	402	Jan. 1977	218,335.80
Cap Proj-Road Paving	403		74,144.85
Golf Fund	584		11,772.10
Water & Sewer Fund	592	6.00	824,214.33
Construction Escrows	702	. 22)	160,193.51
Post Employ Benefits	736		548.51
Total - All Funds		J-1984	1,935,442.88

RECOGNITION: Presentation of the 2002 Margaret Whitehead Senior of the Year Award to Ronald Lieberman was made.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Item 1. Special Community Event Status and the Installation of Signs for Henry Ford Hospital Support Group H.E.A.R.T.'s (Heart-Transplant Emergency Assistance Relief Team) Classic Car Show. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve special community event status for H.E.A.R.T's annual classic car show and permission to install signs advertising the event to be held on May 18, 2003. Motion carried

Item 2. Special Community Event Status and the Installation of Signs for the Tri-city Christian Center Mops (Mothers of Preschoolers) Mom 2 Mom Sale. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve special community event status for the Tri-City Christian Center MOPS Mom 2 Mom Sale and approval to install signs advertising the event. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 3. Enforcement of Township Ordinance No. 68. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the resolution, effective immediately, to allow enforcement at St. Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center, for traffic enforcement on private property, in response to their request and in compliance with Local Ordinance No. 68. Motion car-

Item 4. Budget Amendment - General Fund - Traffic Signal Costs. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the budget amendment in the General Fund to appropriate additional funds for school crosswalk maintenance costs.

Increase Revenues: Appropriation from Fund Balance #101-000-699-0000 \$16,600; Increase Appropriations: Utilities-Crosswalks #101-316-920-0000 \$16,600; This budget amendment increases the Public Safety Division budget from \$73,500 to \$90,100 and the General Fund budget from \$23,588,009 to \$23,604,609. Motion carried unanimous-

Item 5. Budget Amendment - Fire Fund - Capital Equipment. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment in the Fire Fund for the purchase of a remote server computer for Fire Station 2: Increase Revenues: Appropriation from Fund Balance #206-000-699-0000 \$ 5,488; Increase Appropriations: Capital Outlay-Computer Equip. #206-336-977-2580 \$5,488. This budget amendment increases the Fire Fund budget from \$9,099,822 to \$9,105,310. Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. Consider Canford Park Final **Planned Development District.** Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the petitioner, Mr. Bryan Amann, to approve the site plan for the proposed Canford Park Final Planned Development District 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 to said resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 2. Consider Amendment to the Cambridge Planned Development District. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the project sponsor, Mr. Bryan Amann, to grant approval of the Cambridge Amended Planned Development District, based upon recommendations made by staff and the Planning Commission as described in the analysis and recommendation included in the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 3. Consider Site Plan For Dearborn Federal Credit Union (Part of The Cambridge Planned Development District). Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the project sponsor, Mr. Bryan Amann, to approve the site plan for the proposed Dearborn Federal Credit Union 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 to said resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 4. Consider Arctic Rentals Rezoning. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request to rezone parcel #131-99-0010-000 from RR, Rural Residential to C-3, Regional Commercial District. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 5. Consider Rainbow Rascals Learning Center Site Plan. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the request of the Project Sponsor, Mr. Rick Hirth, to approve the site plan for the proposed Rainbow Rascals Learning Center, 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 6. Consider Changes to Entrance Landscaping for Hampton Ridge North (Formerly Heron Ridge North). Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the project sponsor, Mr. Jeffrey H. Brown, to approve the modified entrance landscape plan for Hampton Ridge North, based upon recommendations made by staff and the Planning Commission, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached to the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 7. Purchase of One Vehicle - Building & Inspection Services. "Removed from the agenda."

Item 8. Consider Extending the Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May, Inc. 2001 Engineering Contract Through 2003 for the Sidewalk Gap Program. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to extend the Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May, Inc. contract for the 2001 Sidewalk Gap Program through 2003 and authorize an additional amount not to exceed \$31,204.26 for the design and construction engineering necessary to complete the 2003 Sidewalk Gap Program. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 9. Consider Award of Bid to Pro-Video Systems, Inc. for the Purchase and Installation of Audio/visual Equipment for the Public Works Training Facility. Motion by Bennett, supported by Burdziak to award the bid for the audio/visual equipment to Pro-Video Systems, Inc. for \$48,628.53. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 10. Request Approval to Purchase 17 Stinger Spike Strips. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to waive the bidding process and approve the purchase of 17 Stinger Spike Strips from Federal Sign for a cost of \$7,170.60. Motion carried unanimously. Item 11. Purchase of 2003 GMC Envoy. Motion by Bennett, sup-

ported by Burdziak to approve the purchase of a 2003 GMC Envoy, using the Oakland County Cooperative Purchasing Program, not to exceed \$27,843.00. Motion carried unanimously. Item 12. Approval to Purchase Hose for the Canton Fire

Department. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the purchase of a rubber hose for the new pumper tanker from Halt Fire, Inc. for the bid price of \$10,000. Motion carried unanimously. Consider Request to Award the Design and Item 13.

Construction of Community Splash Playground Facility at Heritage Park. Motion by Bennett, supported by Burdziak to approve the purchase of a Community Splash Playground to Engan-Tooley-Doyle & Associates, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$135,000 from the Community Improvement Fund #246-750-970-0000. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 14. Request to Award Contract for Fertilization and Weed Control Program for Canton Township Site. Motion by Bennett, supported by Shefferly to award the contract for three applications of fertilizing and weed control of Canton Township sites for \$25,980 to TruGreen Chemlawn. Motion carried unanimously. Item 15. Award Contract for Goose Control at Pheasant Run

Golf Course and Park Facilities. Motion by Bennett, supported by Burdziak to waive the bidding procedure and award the Goose Control Contract to Gooseworks in the amount of \$14,250. Motion carried unanimously. Item 16. Request to Create and Fill Two Irrigation

Technicians. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to create and fill two Irrigation Technician positions within the AFSCME bargaining unit for the Leisure Services Department. Motion carried unanimously. Item 17. Award Housing Rehabilitation Contract. Motion by Bennett, supported by Shefferly to award the contract for housing

rehabilitation on Hannan Road to Environmental Maintenance Engineers, for a contract price of \$28,956 plus a ten percent contingency of \$2,896 for a purchase order total of \$31,852. Motion carried Item 18. Approve Request to Attend NPELRA 2003 Annual Training Conference. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the conference registration fee, transportation, hotel accommodations, and meal allowance request for David Medley to attend the

6-10, 2003 at a cost of not to exceed \$1,750.00. Motion carried unanimously. Item 19. Consider Purchase of Ricoh Aficio 1035 Combination Copier/fax Machine and HP Laser Jet 4200TN. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the purchase of a Ricoh Aficio 1035 copier with fax option at a cost of \$6,887.00, a 12 month maintenance contract at a cost of \$1,350.00 and purchase of an HP LaserJet 42000DTN printer at a cost of \$1,999.00. Total purchase is

\$10,236.00. Motion carried unanimously.

NPELRA Annual Training Conference in Newport Beach, CA on April

Item 20. Consider Blanket Purchase Orders to Hire Rose Moving & Storage, Ferndale Electric Company, Van Buren Electric And Allied Communications And The Purchase of Additional Computer Hardware Components in Connection The Administration Building Public Safety Expansion/renovation Project. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following Purchase Orders in the amount of \$20,000 each for Rose Moving & Storage, Ferndale Electric Company, Van Buren Electric, Allied Communications, and the purchase of additional computer hardware components associated with the relocation of departments throughout this phase of the construction/ renovation project at the Canton Township Administration Building. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 21. Proposal for 4540 Morton Taylor Rd., Canton, MI. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to deny the proposal made by the Luther Petty Estate, through Mary Jo Ball, Red Carpet Keim Viking, Inc., 14600 Pennsylvania, Southgate, MI 48195 for the purchase of Lot 259 (#133-01-0259-000) and lot 260 (#133-01-0260-000) located in eh Dye Brothers Subdivision. The purchase price being offered is \$5,000,00 for both lots. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 22. Approve Purchase of 2003 GMC Envoy. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the purchase of a 2003 GMC Envoy, using the Oakland County Cooperative Purchasing Program not to exceed \$27,843.00. I further move to approve the following fund transfer and budget amendment in the General Fund to provide funds for this purchase: Increase Revenues: Appropriation

#101-000-699-0000 \$21,343 / Increase Appropriations: Transportation-Supervisor's Office #101-171-860-0000 \$ (6,500) / Capital Outlay-Equipment #101-171-977-0000 \$ 27,843 = Total \$21,343. This budget amendment increases the Supervisor's Office budget from \$281,946 to \$303,289, and the General Fund budget from \$23,604,609 to \$23,626,952. Motion carried unanimously. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURN: Motion by Bennett, Supported by Zarbo to adjourn at

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

Publish: March 20, 2003

8:48 p.m.

Observer Classifieds sell (800) 579-SELL



Andy Grant Churchill



Rob Cyrek Catholic Central



Matt Vivian Salem



Dan Rais Franklin



Ben Dzialo Salem



Joe Le Canton



Nick Dixon Salem



Yuhei Uno Canton



Matt Showalter Salem



Mike Horgan Salem



Bill Clark Salem



Matt Jurcak Salem



Joe Aumiller Salem



Dan Jones **Catholic Central**

Coaches' Award.

State in the fall.

11th title in a row," said Olson.



Cody Stafford Stevenson

Andy Knisely, Plymouth, 100-yard breast-

stroke: In circumstances that were at best dif-

ficult, Knisely turned in a superb freshman

season for a first-year school - Plymouth -

that featured an all-freshmen team. And that

means Knisely will be a big part of their

tions available to them, Knisely still managed

to qualify for the Division II state final in the

100 breaststroke, where he swam his best

time (1:04.13). At a meet at Ann Arbor Huron,

he had times of 59.61 in the 100 butterfly and

2:13,13 in the 200 IM, both drops of more than

said Plymouth assistant coach Tonia Schade.

"He bought into our philosophy and it paid off

Le), 200-yard medley relay: It was a transi-

tional year for Canton in this event, and it did

n't quite turn out as well as hoped. Last year's

Chiefs' team qualified for state; with three

new members, this year's team narrowly

junior Faraoni and Le placed second (to

Uno." said Canton coach Ed Weber. "Actually,

At the WLAA Finals, Uno, junior Reasor,

"Next year, we're replacing just one guy,

missed the state cut - by .06, to be exact.

Salem) in 1:44.15.

"We worked hard all season on technique,"

Canton (Uno, Steve Reasor, John Faraoni,

nine seconds off his previous season-bests.

Although the Wildcats had few competi-



Garrett Baringhaus Stevenson



Andrew Carlin Catholic Central



Nick Stone John Glenn

FROM PAGE D4

Armour of Birmingham Brother Rice for 16th, both clocked at 54,45. Since that was the final qualifying spot, a swim-off was necessary.

Armour won it, although Uno did well: 54.48. He also tied for 21st in the 100 back ("His mind was in his fly swim-off," said Weber) with Roy Thompson of Monroe at 57.01. At the WLAA Finals. Uno was first in the 100 back (57,12) and was second in the 100 fly (55.36) to Salem's Dzialo.

"He's the hardest worker on our team," said Weber. "He was our captain. He has great

leadership.' Matt Showalter, Salem, 100-yard breaststroke: A senior, Showalter had a superb WLAA Conference meet, finishing third in the 100 breast (1:04.20) in a time that narrowly missed the state qualifying standard. However, Showalter was an integral part of a 200 med-

ley relay that finished seventh at state. "Matt had a great WLAA Conference meet and a state meet in the medley relay, being able to go a personal best time in the breaststroke and pushing the relay to exceed all

expectations. Showalter will attend Michigan State in the

fall. Salem (Dixon, Showalter, Mike Horgan, Vivian), 200-yard medley relay: Three seniors and a very talented sophomore made this team, as Olson put it, "exceed all expectations" at state. All four did very well, but the biggest surprises were supplied by Showalter, whose 27.5 split in the 50-yard breast was a personal best, and by Horgan, who swam the

50 fly instead of Dzialo and was excellent. The foursome won this event at the WLAA Finals (1:42.19), then placed seventh at the

state meet (1:39.90). a "These four swin ence meet and the state meet with outstanding performances that led to success for

Salem," said Olson. Salem (Vivlan, Bill Clark, Horgan, Dzialo), 200-yard freestyle relay: It was one success after another for these four seniors, the biggest coming at the end of the season. The Rocks splashed to a first place at the WLAA Conference Finals (1:30.80), then placed eighth at the state finals (1:28.76).

They also earned an All-State award and

All-American consideration at the MISCA meet. "It was an outstanding season that concluded at the Division I state meet," said Olson, "where all four seniors had personal

Salem (Działo, Jurcak, Joe Aumiller, Dixon). 400-yard freestyle relay: This mixture of the somewhat new talent with the experienced

Rocks who are used to winning proved a winning combination. Dzialo - who led off the this relay at state with a 46.77 split, one of the fastest times in the state this year - and Joe Aumiller are the seniors; Matt Jurcak and Dixon are sophomores.

They finished first at the WLAA Conference meet in 3:21.24, then placed 12th at state in 3:18.06, their best time of the season.

"The teamwork by these four was typical of the cooperation and effort of the 2003 Salem swim team," said Olson, which led to "an 11th consecutive WLAA championship and a sixth-place finish in the Division I state

Second team

Matt Jurcak, Salem, 200-yard freestyle: On a team that featured 13 seniors, Jurcak - a sophomore - represents the future for the

And a promising one it is. Jurcak qualified for state in the 200 free with a fourth-place finish and a best time of 1:50.02 at the WLAA Finals. He also placed 10th at conference in the 100 backstroke (59.38) and was part of the conference-winning 400 free relay team,

which also placed 12th at state. "Matt improved every time he competed during the season, in all strokes," said Olson, "The next two years Matt will be an even more important swimmer for Salem and Matt has shown he is up to the challenge."

Jurcak is also a 4.0 student. Joe Aumiller, Salem, 200-yard individual

mediey: Aumilier's performances improved dramatically when they were needed most at the end of the season. A senior, Aumiller dropped 5.55 seconds off his previous best time in the 200 IM at the MISCA meet to qualify for state, then splashed to a third at the WLAA Finals (2:04.64).

He also finished eighth at conference in the 500 free (5:11.27) and was part of the WLAA-winning 400 free relay, which placed

"Joe had an outstanding high school career and contributed more to the team success every year," said Olson. Aumiller also carried a 3.0 GPA.

Dan Jones, Catholic Central, 50-yard freestyle: Jones finished his senior year on a high note, earning all-Catholic honors, finishing third in the Catholic League in the 30

freestyle in 22.73. Jones was also a state qualifier in the 50 free and the 200 and 400 free relays and was a three-year letter winner.

"This is a case of hard work overcoming technical inefficiency," said Baker. "He was

single-minded when it came to training. He would get in his yards and just go. It worked really well for him, it was gratifying to see a kid like him get a state cut. He was a competi-

Cody Stafford, Livonia Stevenson, diving: The sophomore just missed going to the state meet after finishing 13th at the regional. He also took fourth in the WLAA (328.15 points).

His best six-dive total was 209.55 points. "Cody did a great job this season, Stevenson diving coach Michelle Kain said. "He just missed making it to 'states,' but hopefully he will make it next year.

"He worked hard and helped out the new divers. I am very proud of him and of his sea-

Garrett Baringhaus, Livonia Stevenson, 100-yard butterfly: The sophomore state qualifler finished third in the WLAA meet with a time of 55.36. He also placed fourth in the 500 freestyle at the Western Lakes meet with a time of 5:08.91 after going 5:07.96 in the pre-

Baringhaus also competed in the MISCA

"Garrett's excellent dedication and work ethic paid off with a state cut as a sophomore," Shoemaker said. "There is more to come from Garrett the next two years.

Andrew Carlin, Catholic Central, 100-yard freestyle: Carlin capped four years of All-Catholic honors by making the state cut in the individual medley and also finishing third in the Catholic League in the 100 free.

The team's captain also was a state qualifier in the for all four years on the team. 'He had the ability and put in the hard

work and it paid off," said Baker. "He's a tremendously talented athlete. He can get himself in shape in no time and he's ready to

Nick Stone, Westland John Glenn, 500-yard **freestyle:** Only a ninth-grader, Stone earned a third in the WLAA meet with a time of 5:08.55

after going 5:06,66 in the prelims. He also took fourth in the Western Lakes meet in the 100 backstroke with a clocking of 59.05 after going 58.65 in the prelims. He missed going to the state meet in the 100

backstroke by only one second. "Nick opened his high school career with an outstanding season," Glenn coach Jim Daniel said. "Nick is a very determined and hard-working swimmer. He will be at the state meet next year and we expect him to be very successful as he continues his high school swim career.'

Jeff Nevi, Salem, 100-yard backstroke: Nevi

capped his final year of swimming at Salem by finishing third at the WLAA Conference Final in the 100 backstroke (59.02) and by placing fifth in the 200 individual medley (2:09.05). Nevi's performance earned him the Salem "Jeff had an outstanding WLAA Conference meet in both of his individual events, which was what had to happen for Salem to win its Nevi, a 3.8 student, will attend Michigan

Jeff Nevi Salem



Andrew Knisely Plymouth



John Faraoni Canton



Steve Reasor Canton



Joe Zatkoff **Catholic Central**



Jeff Shoemaker Coach - Stevenson

Carlin, Cyrek), 200-yard

freestyle relay and 400-yard freestyle relay: The team was one of the most talented in the area, but will have to replace half the group for next year, losing Carlin and Jones to graduation. They finished 16th in the 400 free relay and just missed making the consolation

finals in the 200 free relay, coming in 17th. They might have had more success if

hadn't hurt his arm earlier in the sea-Something even better is expected for next . Son "He was the epitome of hard work over

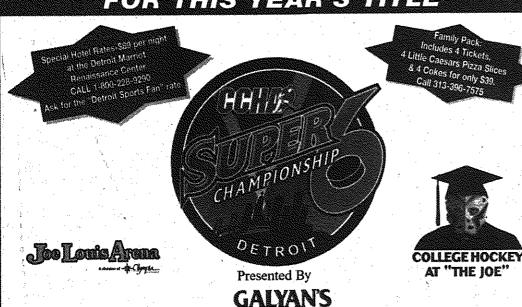
'He was out with a broken arm, but trained his lower body. He was in shape, more than swimming shape. And when he came back, he just dropped times."

HONORABLE MENTION: Redford Union Dale Donahue, Scott Jankowski, Ken Petty, Matt Thielman (200 freestyle relay - Division 2 state qualifier.)

Staff writers C.J. Risak and Paul Beaudry contributed to this story.

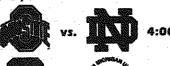
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DON'T MISS THE ACTION AS THE BEST IN THE CCHA BATTLE IT OUT FOR THIS YEAR'S TITLE



CCHA Championship Weekend

Thurs., March 20 Quarter-Finals



Sat., March 22

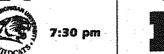
Third Place Game

Championship Game

Frl., March 21 *Semi-Finals

vs. Seed #4 4:00 pm

Teams will be reseeded after Thursday's games



Finals 4:00 pm 7:30 pm

Tickets are S25, S20, S18, S13, and S9 and are available at the Joe Louis Arena Box Office, all telephysics locations, including Hockeytown Authentics in Troy (no service charge), by logging on to collegehockeyatthejoe.com, or charge by phone at 248-645-6666. Great group rates available by calling 313-396-7575.

MONTH ANTION



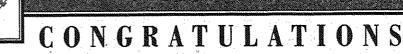












Catholic Central (Jones, Joe Zatkoff, coming obstacles thrown at him," said Baker.

Suburban Hockey

Observer & Eccentric

LAND SPIR



Congratulations to the Lakeland Pee Wee Spirit, Champions of the Sault Cabin Fever Tournament!



Observer & Eccentric



Individual registration is underway for the Suburban Spring Hockey League. West League games will be played out of Suburban Training Center in Farmington Hills and East League games will be played at the Onyx-Rochester Ice. Arena, Call (248) 478-1600 or visit www.suburbanhockey.com.





CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD PROCEEDINGS MARCH 13, 2003

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Thursday, February 13, 2003, at 46000 Summit Parkway. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call: Members Present: Bennett, Burdziak, McLaughlin (arrived at 5:10 p.m.), Zarbo, Kirchgatter, Yack, Shefferly.

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Director Minghine

Others Present: Joel Piell, Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone.

Adoption of Agenda: Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried by all members present.

GENERAL CALENDAR: ITEM 1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GENERAL OBLIGATION SALE OF \$23,000,000 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS FOR ADMINISTRATION/PUBLIC SAFETY EXPANSION AND PERFORMING ARTS THEATER.

Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve sale of \$23,000,000 Capital Improvement Bonds for the Administration/Public Safety Building Expansion and the Performing Arts Theater. Motion carried 6-1, (McLaughlin absent).

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS (LIMITED TAX), SERIES 2003

Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan (the "Issuer"), held on March 13, 2003, at 5:00 o'clock p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

PRESENT: Members: Bennett, Burdziak, Zarbo, Kirchgatter, Yack and Shefferly.

ABSENT: Members: McLaughlin

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Bennett and supported by Member Kirchgatter:

WHEREAS, the Issuer does hereby determine that it is necessary to acquire and construct certain capital improvements in the Township, consisting of additions, extensions and improvements to the Township's Administration and Public Safety Buildings, and the acquisition, construction; furnishing and equipment of a theater arts building together with necessary and related appurtenances and attachments (the "Projects"); and

WHEREAS, the cost of the Project is estimated to be not less than Twenty Three Million Dollars (\$23,000,000), and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems it necessary to borrow the principal sum of Twenty Three Million Dollars (\$23,000,000) and issue capital improvement bonds pursuant to Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001 ("Act 34") to pay the cost of the Projects; and

WHEREAS, notices of intent were published in accordance with Act 34 which provide that the capital improvement bonds may be issued without a vote of the electors of the Issuer unless a proper petition for an election on the question of the issuance of the bonds is filed with the Township Clerk within a period of forty-five (45) days from the date of publication and no petition was filed within said time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Authorization of Bonds: Bond Terms. Bonds of the Issuer designated GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS (LIMITED TAX), SERIES 2003 (the "Bonds") are authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal sum of not to exceed Twenty Three Million Dollars (23,000,000) for the purpose of paying the cost of the Project, including the cost incidental to the issuance, sale and delivery of the Bonds. The issue shall consist of bonds in fully-registered form of the denomination of \$5,000, or multiples thereof not exceeding for each maturity the maximum principal amount of that maturity, numbered consecutively in order of registration, dated as of March 1, 2003 or such other date as may be determined as the time of sale. The Bonds shall bear interest at rates to be determined at the time of sale thereof. The Bonds shall mature and be payable on October 1st of each year as follows:

Year	Amount	Year	Amount
2004	\$350,00	2014	1,150,000
2005	400,000	2015	1,250,000
2006	450,000	2016	1,400,000
2007	550,000	2017	1,500,000
2008	600,000	2018	1,600,000
2009	700,000	2019	1,700,000
2010	800,000	2020	1,800,000
2011	850,000	2021	1,900,000
2012	900,000	2022	2,000,000
2013	1,000,000	2023	2,100,000

The Bonds shall be subject to redemption prior to maturity in the manner and at the times and prices set forth in Section 6 hereof. Interest shall be payable to the registered owner of record as of the 15th day of the month prior to the payment date for each interest payment. The record date of registered owner for purposes of payment of interest as provided in this paragraph may be changed by the Issuer to conform to market practice in the future. Interest shall be payable to the registered owner of record as of the 15th day of the month preceding the payment date for each interest payment. The principal of the Bonds shall be payable at Bank One Trust Company, Detroit, Michigan which is hereby selected to act as the transfer agent for the bonds (the "Transfer Agent"). The Treasurer of the Issuer is hereby authorized to execute one or more agreements with the Transfer Agent on behalf of the Issuer.

The Bonds shall be issued in book-entry only form through The Depository Trust Company in New York, New York ("DTC").

- 2. Execution of Bonds. The Bonds of this issue shall be executed in the name of the Issuer with the facsimile signature of the Supervisor and Clerk of the Issuer and shall have the seal of the issuer, or a facsimile thereof, printed or impressed on the Bonds. No Bond shall be valid until authenticated by an authorized officer or representative of the Transfer Agent. The Bonds shall be delivered to the Transfer Agent to the purchaser of other person in accordance with instructions from the Treasurer of the Issuer upon the purchase price of the Bonds.
- 3. Transfer of Bonds. The Transfer Agent shall keep the books of registration for this issue on behalf of the Issuer. Any Bond maybe transferred upon such registration books by the registered owner of record, in person or by the registered owner's duly authorized attorney, upon surrender of the Bond for cancellation, accompanied by delivery of a duly executed written instrument of transfer in a form approved by the Transfer Agent. Whenever any Bond or bonds shall be surrendered for transfer, the Issuer shall execute and the Transfer Agent shall authenticate and deliver a new Bond of Bonds, for lake aggregate principal amount. The Transfer Agent shall require the payment by the bondholder requesting the transfer of any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to the transfer.

Unless waived by any registered owner of Bonds to be redeemed, official notice or redemption shall be given by the Transfer Agent on behalf of the Issuer. Such notice shall be dated and shall contain at a minimum the following information: Original issue date; maturity dates; interest rates; CUSIP numbers, if any; certificate numbers (and in the case of partial redemption) the called amounts of each certificate; the place where the Bonds called for redemption are to be surrendered for payment; and that interest on the bonds or portions thereof called for redemption shall cease to accrue from and after the redemption date.

In addition, further notice shall be given by the Transfer Agent in such manner as may be required or suggested by regulations or market practice at the applicable time, but no defect in such further notice nor any failure to give all or any portion of such notice shall in any manner defeat the effectiveness of a call for redemption of notice thereof is given as prescribed herein.

4. Limited Tax Pledge: Debt Retirement Fund: Deference of Bonds. The Issuer hereby pledges its limited tax full faith and credit for the prompt payment of the Bonds. The Issuer shall, each year budget the amount of the debt service coming due in the next fiscal year on the principal of and interest on the Bonds and shall advance as a first budget obligation from its general funds available therefor, or, if necessary, levy taxes upon all taxable property in the issuer subject to applicable constitutional, statutory and character tax rate limitations, such sums as may be necessary to pay such debt service in said fiscal year.

The Treasurer is authorized and directed to open a depository account with a bank or trust company designated by the Township Board, to be designated GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT BONDS (LIMITED TAX), SERIES 2003 DEBT RETIREMENT FUND (the moneys to be deposited into the Dept Retirement Fund to be specifically earmarked and used solely for the purpose of paying principal of and interest on the Bonds as they

In the event cash or direct obligations of the United States or obligations the principal of and interest on which are guaranteed by the United States, or a combination thereof, the principal of and interest on which, without reinvestment, come due at times and in amounts sufficient to pay maturity or irrevocable call for earlier optional redemption, the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds, shall be deposited in trust, this resolution shall be defaced and the owners of the Bonds shall have no further rights under this resolution except to receive payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds from the cash or securities deposited in trust and the interest and gains thereon and to transfer and exchange Bonds as provided herein.

5. Construction Fund: Proceeds of Bond Sale. The Treasurer is authorized and directed to open a separate depository account with a bank or trust company designated by the Township Board, to be designated GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS (LIMITED TAX), SERIES 2003 CONSTRUCTION FUND (the "Construction Fund") and deposited into said Construction Fund the proceeds of the Bonds less accrued interest and premium, it any, which shall be deposited into the Debt Retirement Fund. The moneys in the Construction Fund shall be used solely to pay the costs of issuance of the Bonds.

6. Bond Form. The Bonds shall be in substantially the following form:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - STATE OF MICHIGAN, COUNTY OF WAYNE

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

GENERAL OBLIGATION
CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT BOND
(LIMITED TAX), SERIES 2003
Interest Maturity Date of

Interest Maturity Date of

Rate Date Original Issue CUSI

October 1, ____ March 1, 2003

Registered Owner: Principal Amount:

The Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan (the "Township" or "Issuer"), acknowledges itself to owe and for value received hereby promises to pay the Registered Owner specified above, or registered assigns, the Principal Amount specified above, in lawful money of the United States of America, on the Maturity Date specified above, unless prepaid prior thereto as hereinafter provided, with interest thereon from the Date of Original Issue specified above or such later date to which interest has been paid, until paid, at the Interest Rate per annum specified above, first payable on October 1, 2003 and semiannually thereafter. Principal of this bond is payable at the designated office of Bank One Trust Company, Detroit, Michigan, or such other transfer agent as the Issuer hereafter designate by notice mailed to the registered owner not less than sixty (60) days prior to any interest payment date (the "Transfer Agent"). Interest on this bond is payable to the registered owner of record as of the fifteenth (15th) day of the month preceding the interest payment date as shown on the registration books of the Issuer kept by the Transfer Agent by check or draft mailed to the registered owner of record at the registered address. For prompt payment of this bond, both principal and interest, the full faith, credit and resources of the Issuer are hereby irrevocably pledged.

This bond is one of a series of bonds aggregating the principal sum of \$23,000,000, issued for the purpose of paying the cost of certain capitol improvements for the Issuer. This bond is issued under the provisions of Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, the Issuer's Charter, and a duly adopted resolutions of the Issuer.

Bonds of this issue maturing in the years 2004 to 2014, inclusive, are not subject to redemption prior to maturity. Bonds of its issue, or portions thereof in multiples of \$5,000, maturing in the year 2015 and thereafter may be redeemed may at the option of the Issuer, in any order of maturity and within any maturity by lot, on any interest payment date on or after October 1, 2014 at par and accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

In case less than the full amount of an outstanding bond is called for redemption the transfer agent presentation of the bond called in part for redemption shall register, authenticate and deliver to the registered owner a new bond of the same maturity and in the principal amount of the portion of the original bond not called for redemption.

Notice of redemption shall be given by transfer agent to the registered owner of any bond or portion thereof to be redeemed by mailing of such notice by first class mail not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date fixed for redemption to the registered owner at the address of the registered owner as shown on the registration books of the Issuer maintained by the transfer agent. No further interest payable on any bond or portion thereof called for redemption shall accrue after the date fixed for redemption whether presented for redemption or not, provided that funds are on hand with the transfer agent for such redemption.

This bond is transferable only upon the registration books of the Issuer kept by the Transfer Agent by the registered owner of record in person, or by registered owner's attorney duly authorized in writing, upon the surrender of this bond together with a written instrument of transfer satisfactory to the Transfer Agent duly executed by the registered owner's attorney duly authorized in writing, and thereupon a new registered bond or bonds in the same aggregate principal amount and the same maturity shall be issued to the transferee in exchange therefor as provided in the resolution authorizing this bond and upon the payment of the charges, if any, therein prescribed.

This bond, including the interest thereon, is payable as a first budget obligation from the general funds of the Issuer, and the Issuer is required, if necessary, to levy ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the Issuer for the payment thereof, subject to applicable constitutional, charter and statutory tax rate limitations.

It is hereby certified and recited that all acts, conditions and things required by law to be done, precedent to and in the issuance of this bond and the series of bonds of which this is one, exist and have been done and performed in regular and due form and time as required by law, and that the total indebtedness of the Issuer, including this bond, does not exceed any constitutional, statutory or charter debt limitation.

This bond is not valid or obligatory for any purpose until the Transfer Agent's Certificate of Authentication on this bond has been executed by the Transfer Agent.

IN WHITENESS WHEREOF, the Charter Township of Canton, by its Township Board, has caused this bond to be signed in the name of the Township by the facsimile signatures of its Supervisor and Clerk and a facsimile of its corporate seal to be printed hereon, all as of the Date of Original Issue.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON County of Wayne, State of Michigan

7. Said notice of sale shall be in substantially the following form:

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF SALE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON,
COUNTY OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN

GENERAL OBLIGATION - \$23,000,000 CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT BONDS (LIMITED TAX) SERIES 2003

SEALED BIDS for the purchase of the above bonds will be received by the undersigned at the office of the Township Clerk located at 1150 South Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188-1699, on Tuesday, the 13th day of March, 2003, until 11:00 o'clock a.m., Eastern Standard Time, at which time and place said bids will be publicly opened and read. Bids will also be received simultaneously and publicly opened and read at the offices of Bendzinski & Co., Municipal Finance Advisors, 607 Shelby, Suite 600, Detroit, Michigan 48226, or by fax at (313) 961-8200.

The Township Board will meat no later than 7:30 o-clock p.m., Eastern Standard Time, on that date to consider the award of such bids

ELECTRONIC BIDS: Electronic bids will also be received on the same date and until the same time by Bidcomp/Parity as agent of the undersigned. Further information about Bidcomp/Parity, including any fee charged, may be obtained from Bidcomp/Parity, Anthony Leyden of CLIENT SERVICES, 395 Hudson Street, New York 10014, (212) 806-8304. NO ELECTRONIC BID WILL BE ACCEPTED UNLESS THE BIDDER HAS SUBMITTED A FINANCIAL SURETY BOND IN THE AMOUNT DESCRIBED IN THE SECTION CAPTIONED "GOOD FAITH" BELOW.

Bidders may choose any means or location to present bids but a bidder may not present a bid in more than one location or by more than one means.

BOND DETAILS: Bonds of both issues will be registered of the denomination of \$5,000 or multiple thereof not exceeding for each maturity the aggregate principal amount of each maturity, dated March 1, 2003, numbered in order or registration, and will bear interest from their dates payable on October 1, 2003, and semiannually thereafter.

The bonds will mature on the 1st day of October of the years and

in principal amounts as follows:

Year			Amount	
2004			1,150,000	
2005	400,000	2015	1,250,000	
2006	450,000	2016	1,400,000	
2007	550,000	2017	1,500,000	
2008	600,000	2018	1,600,000	
2009	700,000	2019	1,700,000	
2010	800,000	2020	1,800,000	
2011	850,000	2021	1,900,000	
2012	900,000	2022	2,000,000	
2013	1,000,000	2023	2,100,000	
			_	

PRIOR REDEMPTION OF BONDS: Bonds of maturing in the years 2004 o 2014, inclusive, are not subject to redemption prior to maturity. Bonds of both issues, or portions thereof in multiples of \$5,000, maturing in the year 2015 and thereafter may be redeemed at the option of the Township, in any order of maturity by lot, on any interest payment date on or after October 1, 2014 at par and accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

In case less than the full amount of outstanding bond is called for redemption the transfer agent upon presentation of the bond called in part for redemption shall register, authenticate and deliver to the registered owner a new bond of the same maturity and in the principal amount of the portion of the original bond not called for redemption.

Notice of redemption shall be given by the transfer agent to the holders of any bond or portion thereof to be redeemed by mailing of such notice not less than thirty (30) days prior to the fixed for redemption to the registered owner at the address of the registered owner as shown on the registration books of the Charter Township of Canton (the "Township" in "Issuer"). No further interest payable on any bond or portions thereof called for redemption shall accrue after the date fixed for redemption, whether presented for redemption or not, provided that funds are on hand with the transfer agent for such redemption.

INTEREST RATE AND BIDDING DETAILS: The bonds shall bear interest at a rate or rates not exceeding 8% per annum, to be fixed by the bids thereafter, expressed in multiples of 1/8 of 1/20 of 1% or both. The interest on any one bond shall be at one rate only and all bonds maturing in any one year must carry the same interest rate. The difference between the highest and lowest interest rate on the bonds shall not exceed two percent (2%) per annum. No proposal for the purchase of less than all of the bonds or at a price less than 98.5% of their par value will be considered.

BOOK-ENTRY ONLY: The bonds will be issued in book-entry only form as one fully registered bond per maturity and will be registered in the same name of Cede & Co., as bondholder and nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, DTC will act as securities depository for the bonds. Purchase of the bonds will be made in book-entry only form, in the denomination of \$5,000 or any multiples thereof. Purchasers will not receive certificate representing their interest in bonds purchased. The book-entry-only system is described further in the preliminary official statement for the bonds.

TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRATION: Principal shall be payable at Bank One Trust Company, Detroit, Michigan, or such other transfer agent as the Township may hereafter designate by notice mailed to the registered owner not less than 60 days prior to any interest payment date. Interest shall be paid by check or draft mailed to the person or entity who or which is the registered owner of record as shown by the registered books of the township as of the 15th day of the month preceding any interest payment date. The bonds will be transferable only upon the registration books of the Township kept by the transfer agent.

The Bonds are issued for the purpose of paying the Township's share of certain capitol improvements in the Township. The Bonds will be first budget obligations on the Township, payable as a first budget obligation from the general funds of the Township including the collection of ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the Township subject to applicable constitutional, charter and statutory tax rate limitations.

The rights and remedies of bondholders may be affected by bankruptcy insolvency, fraudulent conveyance or other laws affecting creditor's rights generally now existing or hereafter enacted and by the application of general principles of equity including those relating to equitable subordination.

GOOD FAITH: A certified or cashier's check drawn upon an incorporated bank or trust company or a financial surety bond, in the amount of \$230,000 and payable to the order of the Treasurer of the Issuer, must accompany each bid as a guarantee of good faith on the part of the bidder, to be forfeited as liquidated damages if such bid be accepted and the bidder fails to take up and pay for the bonds. If a check is used, it must accompany each bid. If a Financial Surety Bond is used, it must accompany each bid. If a licensed to issue such a bond in the State of Michigan and such Bonds must be submitted to the Issuer's financial advisor prior to the opening of the bids. The financial surety bond must identify each bidder whose good faith deposit is guaranteed by such bond. If the bonds are awarded to a bidder utilizing a financial surety bond, then that purchaser (the" Purchaser") is required to submit its good faith deposit to the Issuer or its financial advisor in the form of a cashier's check (or wire transfer such amount) as instructed by the Issuer or its financial advisor in the form of a cashier's check not later than Noon, Eastern Time, on the next business day following the award. If such good faith deposit is not received by that time, the financial surety bond may be drawn by the issuer to satisfy the good faith deposit requirement. The good faith deposit will be applied to the purchaser to the purchase price of the bonds. In the event the Purchaser fails to honor its accepted bid, the good faith deposit will be retained by the Issuer. No interest shall be allowed on the good faith checks of the unsuccessful bidders will be promptly returned. The good faith check of the successful bidder may be deposited immediately by the issuer and payment for the balance of the purchase price of the bonds shall be made at the closing.

AWARD OF BONDS TRUE INTEREST COST: The bonds will be awarded to the bidder whose bid produces the lowest true interest cost determined in the following manner: The lowest true interest cost will be the single interest rate (compounded on October 1, 2003 and semi annually thereafter) necessary to discount the debt service payments from their respective payment date to April 1, 2003 in an amount equal to the bid price, excluding accrued interest.

LEGAL OPINION: Bids shall be conditioned upon the unqualified approving opinions of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C., attorneys of Detroit, Michigan, copies of which opinions will be printed on the reverse side of the respective issues of bonds, and the originals of which will be furnished without expense to the purchaser of the bonds at the delivery thereof. The fees of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. for services rendered in connection with such approving opinions are expected to be paid from bond proceeds. Except to the extent necessary to issue its unqualified approving opinions as to validity of the above bonds, Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. has not been requested to examine or review and has not examined or reviewed any financial documents, statements, or materials that have been or may be furnished in connection with the authorization, issuance or marketing of the bonds, and accordingly will not express any opinion with respect to the accuracy or completeness of any such financial documents, statements or materials.

TAX EXEMPTION: In the opinion of bond counsel the bonds will be exempt from taxation in the State of Michigan and from Federal income taxation subject in both cases to certain exceptions described in bond counsel's opinion. The bonds will not be "private activity bonds."

DELIVERY OF BONDS: The Township will furnish bonds ready for execution at its expense. Bonds will be delivered without expense to the purchaser Detroit, Michigan, or such other place as may be mutually agreed upon. The usual closing documents, including a certificate that no litigation is pending affecting the issuance of the bonds, will be delivered at the time of the delivery of the bonds. If the bonds are not tendered for delivery by twelve o'clock noon, Eastern Standard Time, on the 45th day following the date of sale, of the first business day thereafter if said 45th day is not a business day, the successful bidder may on that day, or any time thereafter until delivery of the bonds, withdraw his proposal by serving notice of cancellation, in writing, on the undersigned in which event the Township shall promptly return the good faith deposit. Payment for the bonds shall be made in immediately available funds. Accrued interest to the date of delivery of the bonds shall be paid by the purchaser at the time of delivery. Unless the purchaser furnishes the transfer agent with a list giving the denominations and names in which the purchaser wishes to have each issue of the bonds issued at least five business days prior to the date of delivery of the bonds, each issue of the bonds may be delivered in the form of a single certificate for each maturity registered in the name of the purchaser.

CERTIFICATE REGARDING ISSUE PRICE: The successful bidder will be required to furnish, prior to the delivery of the bonds, a certificate in form acceptable to bond counsel as to the "issue price" of the bonds within the meaning of Section 1273 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

CUSIP NUMBERS: It is anticipated that CUSIP identification numbers will be printed on said bonds, but neither the failure to print such numbers on any bonds nor any error with respect thereto shall constitute cause for a failure or refusal by the purchaser thereof to the

Continued on page D7

Ocelots beat Redlands in NJCAA opener

described as a game of spurts, Schoolcraft College outlasted No. 3-ranked Redlands (Okla.) CC 67-60 in the opening round of the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I **Basketball Tournament** Tuesday in Hutchinson, Kan.

"I take my hat off to Redlands," said SC coach Carlos Briggs. "They were like everyone said they'd be. They play tough defense and they get

after you. "But we never quit. We kept

fighting." Defense proved to be the decisive factor for the Ocelots. Certainly they started playing it well at the start, bolting to a 17-4 lead by the 12:45 mark of the first half. SC held Redlands (32-2 for the season), the defending NJCAA Division II champions, scoreless for the

REHAB 8K RUN

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

game's first 5:38.

After that, however, the Cougars took control, outscoring SC 25-10 in the rest of the half to take a 29-27 lead at half-

They picked up in the second half where they'd left off in the first, outscoring the Ocelots 11-3 in the first 3:22 for a 40-30 lead.

That's when SC took a timeout and Briggs switched his team to a variety of zone trap defenses.

on a 12-0 run, with a Ron

It worked. The Ocelots went

Dorsey basket putting them up 42-40 with 10:30 left. When back-up point guard Aaron Squirewell came off the bench to score their next five

points, the Ocelots were ahead

"We decided to change up our defenses, depending what personnel they had on the floor," explained Briggs. "Everybody was on the same page. We did a real good job recognizing who they had on the floor."

Marcus Bennett, SC's leading scorer during the regular season, was limited to seven points but he got five when it counted most, down the stretch. His three-pointer with 2:39 left and his short basket with 1:57 to go pushed SC's lead to 56-49.

After that it was a free-throw shooting contest, and SC made 9-of-12 - with James Holmes, who led the Ocelots with 20 points, hitting seven-straight.

Gary Johnson, from Wayne Memorial, added 13 points and Tovoris Baker finished with nine points and 12 rebounds.

Andre Scott had eight points, six boards and two blocks.

Redlands got 20 points and 10 rebounds from Taj Gray, 14 points and 10 boards from Yaphett King and 10 points from Jonathan Patton.

"Redlands played hard the whole game," said Johnson. "We had a little stretch offensively where we didn't score, but we also like to score off of our defense and our defense got us back in the game." Cougars' coach Steve Eck

wouldn't argue with Johnson's assessment. "It was a physical game and unfortunately, we weren't the physical people," he said. "That hurt us.

"If you don't rebound, don't defend, don't guard their threepoint shooters (SC was 8-of-18 from beyond the arc) and turn it over, you're not going to win."

True enough.

FROM PAGE D1

a 72-68 win. "We wanted to control the tempo as far as our half-court game.

"We don't have the troops to run up and down the floor. We've (played a half-court game) all year long. We can't run with teams like (SC). We only allow 63 points a game.

We did a terrific job rebounding and recognizing their shooters."

Andre Scott and James Holmes led SC with 11 points apiece. Scott, Tovoris Baker and Marcus Bennett had six rebounds each. Sherrell scored nine points and Gary Johnson (from Wayne Memorial) had eight. Baker and Bennett, the Ocelots' top scorers all season,

had six and four points, respec-

Dixie was paced by Terren Harbut with 19 points and 12 rebounds, Nick Hammer with 17 points and Chris Huber with 15 points.

The Rebels outrebounded SC 45-37 and made 23-of-47 (49 percent) floor shots. SC hit 20of-66 from the field (30 percent). "We couldn't create easy bas-

kets," said Briggs. "We couldn't

get (big) games from any of our

key guys. To win a game like this, the margin of error is slim. You have to knock down shots."

In the Ocelots' first two NJCAA Tournament games, they just didn't do it. The first time, a 67-60 win over Redlands (Okla.), they survived: against Dixie, the defending NJCAA champs, they didn't.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

The 12th annual Orothopaedic 8-kilometer run, 5K walk and half-mile Teddy Bear run (11-and-under) will be Saturday,

April 12, in Jackson. Post-race breakfast will be at Kuhl's Bell Tower Market.

The registration fee is \$10 (by April 4). For a printable online registration, visiting www.AthleticVentures.com.

Bob Gilmore at (517) 788-1121 (days) or (517) 782-2071 (evenings); or email rgilmore@voyager.net

MU VOLLEYBALL CAMPS

Madonna University will host a series of summer volleyball camps.

Cost is \$120 (\$90 for youth camp). Morning sessions will be from 8:30

For more information, call race director a.m.-noon — June 29-July 2 (Elite); July 7-10 (Setters); July 13-16 (Hitters).

Afternoon sessions will be from 1-4 June 29-July 2 (General Players); July 7-10 (Youth); July 13-16 (Defensive Specialty).

For more information and registration, call MU head volleyball coach and camp director Jerry Abraham evenings at (734) 254-0698 or the volleyball office at (734) 432-5612.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON PUBLIC HEARING

On Tuesday, March 25, 2003, at 7 p.m. in the Summit on the Park Banquet Center, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, Michigan, the Board of Trustees will consider:

SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION THROUGH THE MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND/LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND FOR PARTIAL FUNDING OF A PATH SYSTEM/NATURE TRAIL ALONG THE EDISON CORRI-DOR THROUGH FLODIN PARK WEST TO SHELDON AND SOUTH TO THE WAYNE COUNTY LOWER ROUGE RECRE-ATION CORRIDOR

The Summit on the Park Community Center is located at 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. Requests for information should be directed to Ann Conklin, Leisure Services Director, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, Michigan, 48188 (734) 394-5460.

TERRY BENNETT, Clerk

Publish: March 20, 2003

LOE0808283:

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

David Medley, ADA Coordinator Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road Canton, MI 48188 (734) 394-5260

Publish: March 20, 2003

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for the District-Wide Bathroom Tissue. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Dan Phillips in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746. For technical information, please contact Jerry York in the PCCS Maintenance Department at (734) 416-2955. Sealed bids are due on or before 2:30 p.m., Friday, March 28, 2003. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Friday, March 28, 2003 at 2:30 p.m. Bid Opening: Resolution Due: Tuesday, April 1, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. Board Review: Tuesday, April 8, 2003

Publish: March 13 and 20, 2003

L OE08080742

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, April 3rd, 2003 for the following:

FELLOWS CREEK GOLF COURSE MTS STACK CHAIRS

Bid forms may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department counter or you may contact Mike Sheppard at (734) 394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

Publish: March 20, 2003

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for Electrical Improvements for Fiegel, Isbister, and Miller Elementary Schools, East, and Pioneer Middle Schools, and Salem High School. Specifications and bid forms will be available on March 10, 2003 by phoning TMP Associates at (248) 338-4561. Sealed bids are due on or before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 25, 2003 and should be addressed to Dan Phillips, RE: Electrical Improvements Bid, PCCS E. J. McClendon Building, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

· Board of Education, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Bid Opening:

Tuesday, March 25, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. Resolution Ready for Board: Wednesday, April 2, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, 2003

Board Review: Publish: March 13 and 20, 2003

Publish: March 13 and 20, 2003

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for the *District-Wide Paper Towel*. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Dan Phillips in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746. For technical information, please contact Jenny York in the PCCS Maintenance Department at (734) 416-2955. Sealed bids are due on or before 3:00 p.m., Friday, March 28, 2003. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary **Board of Education** Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Bid Opening: Friday, March 28, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. Resolution Due: Tuesday, April 1, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. Board Review: Tuesday, April 8, 2003

REQUEST FOR BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, April 3rd, 2003 for the following:

RENTAL OF TENTS, TABLES AND CHAIRS

Bid forms may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department counter or you may contact Mike Sheppard at (734) 394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provi-

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

Publish March 20, 2003

sion of services.

Continued from page D6

E CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

purchase contract. All expenses in relation to the printing of CUSIP numbers on said bonds shall be paid for by the Township; provided, however, that the CUSIP Service Bureau charge for the assignment of said numbers shall be the responsibility of and shall be paid for by the

CONTINUING DISCLOSURE: As described more fully in the Official Statement, the Township will agree in the resolution awarding the Bonds to provide or cause to be provided, in accordance with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 (the "Rule") promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, (i) on or prior to the last day of the sixth month following the end of the fiscal year of the Township commencing with the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, certain annual financial information and operating data, including audited financial statements for the preceding fiscal year generally consistent with the information contained or cross-referenced in the Official Statement relating to the Bonds unaudited financial statements, or in the event audited financial statements are unavailable, (ii) respect to the Bonds and (iii) timely notice of a failure by the Township to provide the required annual financial information on or before the date specified in (i) above.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT: A copy of the Official Statement may be obtained by contacting Bendzinski & Co., Municipal Finance Advisors, at 607 Shelby, Suite 600, Detroit, Michigan 48226-3206, telephone 313-961-8220. The Official Statement is in a form deemed final as of its date by the Township for purposes of SEC Rule 15c2-12(b)1, but is subject to revision, amendment and completion of a final Official Statement. The successful bidder shall supply to the Township, within twenty-four hours after the award of the bonds, all pricing information and any underwriter identification determined by the Township to be necessary to complete the Official Statement.

The Township will furnish to the successful bidder, at no cost, two hundred (200) copies of the final Official Statement within seven business days after the award of the bonds. Additional copies will be supplies upon the bidder's agreement to pay the cost of the Township for those additional copies.

The Township shall deliver, at closing, an executed certificate to the effect that as of the date of delivery the information contained in the Official Statement, including revisions, amendments and completion's as necessary, relating to the Township and the bonds is true and correct in all material respects, and that such Official Statement does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

BOND INSURANCE AT PURCHASER'S OPTION: If the Bonds quality for issuance of any policy of municipal bond insurance or commitment therefor at the option of the bidder/purchaser, the purchase of any such insurance policy or the issuance of any such commitment shall be at the sole option and expense of the purchaser of the Bonds. Any increased costs of issuance of the Bonds resulting from such purchaser of insurance shall be paid by the purchaser, except that, it the Issuer has requested and received a rating on the Bonds from a rating agency, the Issuer will pay the fee for the requested rating. Any other rating agency fees shall be the responsibility of the

purchaser. FAILURE OF THE MUNICIPAL BOND INSURER TO ISSUE THE POLICY AFTER THE BONDS HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO THE PURCHASER SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE CAUSE FOR FAILURE OR REFUSAL BY THE PURCHASER TO ACCEPT DELIVERY OF THE BONDS FROM THE ISSUER. THE RIGHT IS RESERVED TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS.

ENVELOPES containing the bids should be plainly marked "Proposal

for Capital Improvement Bonds". Terry G. Bennett, Clerk, Charter

Township of Canton 8. Defeasance. In the event cash or direct obligations of the United States or obligations the principal of and interest on which are guaranteed by the United States, or a combination thereof, the principal of and interest on which, without reinvestment, come due at times and in amounts sufficient to pay at maturity or irrevocable call for earlier options redemption, the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the bonds, shall be deposited in trust, this resolution shall be defeased and the owners of the bonds shall have no further rights under this resolution except to receive payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the bonds from the cash or securities

and exchange bonds as provided herein. 9. Disclosure. The Township covenants it shall comply with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and exchange Commission (the "Rule") regarding continuing disclosure and herewith appoints the Director of Finance and Budget (the "Director") or his or her designee as its "Disclosure Representative" for purposes of complying with the Rule. The Director be and is hereby directed to provide annually a continuing disclosure undertaking pursuant to the

deposited in trust and the interest and gains thereon and to transfer

10. Useful Life of Project. The estimated period of usefulness of the Project is hereby declared to be not less than twenty five (25) years.

11. Tax Convenant: Qualified Tax Exempt Obligations, The Issuer shall, to the extent permitted by law, take all actions within its control necessary to maintain the exclusion of the interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), including, buy not limited to, actions relating to any required rebate of arbitrage earnings and the expenditures and investment of Bond proceeds and moneys deemed to be Bond proceeds. The Township hereby designates the Bonds as "qualified tax exempt obligations" for purposes of deduction of interest expense by financial institutions pursuant to the Code.

12. Authorization of Other Actions. The supervisor is authorized and directed to take all other actions necessary or advisable, and to make such other filings with any parties, to enable the sale and delivery of the Bonds as contemplated herein.

13. Rescission. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded. AYES: Members: Bennett, Burdziak, Zarbo, Kirchgatter, Yack, Shefferly NAY: Members: None ABSENT: Member: McLaughlin

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED. ITEM 2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALE OF BONDS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION/PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING EXPANSION AND PERFORMING ARTS THEATER. Motion By Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to award sale of \$23,000,000 of Capital Improvement Bonds (Limited Tax), Series 2003 Bonds to Publish: March 20, 2003

UPS/Paine Webber, Inc.; the lowest interest qualified bidder at a true interest cost of 4.177330%. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION REGARDING AWARD OF BONDS AND RATIFICATION OF BOND TERMS CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, COUNTY OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN Minutes of a special meeting of the Township Board of the Charter

Township of Canton, Country of Wayne, Michigan (the "Issuer"), held on the 13th day of March, 2003. PRESENT: Members: Bennett, Burdziak, McLaughlin, Zarbo.

Kirchgatter, Yack, Shefferly ABSENT: Members: None. The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member

Bennett and supported by Member Kirchgatter; WHEREAS, March 13, 2003, at 11:00 o'clock a.m., Eastern Standard Time, has been set as the date and time for opening bids for the purchase of the Issuer's Capital Improvement Bonds (Limited Tax),

AND WHEREAS, said bids have been publicly opened and read; AND WHEREAS, the bids attached hereto and made part hereof have been received.

AND WHEREAS, the bid of UBS/Paine Webber, Inc. has been determined to produce the lowest interest cost to the Issuer. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT.

1. The bid of UBS/Paine Webber, Inc., as above stated, be and the same is hereby accepted.

2. Checks of the unsuccessful bidders be returned to each bidders' representative or by registered mail.

3. The Issuer hereby covenants that, to the extent permitted by law, it shall take all actions within its control necessary to maintain the exclusion of the interest on the interest of the Bonds from adjusted gross income for general federal income tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), including, but not limited to, actions relating to the rebate of arbitrage earnings, if applicable, and the expenditure and investment of Bond proceeds and moneys deemed to be Bond proceeds.

4. All changers respecting the Bonds set forth in the notice of sale published in connection with the sale of the Bonds, including the increased principal amount of the Bonds, maturity schedule and other details relating to the Bonds be and are hereby approved and ratified. The Preliminary Official Statement relating to the Bonds be and is

hereby approved and ratified. 5. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby

are rescinded. AYES: Members: Bennett, Burdziak, McLaughlin, Zarbo,

NAYES: Members: None Kirchgatter, Yack, Shefferly

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURN: Motion by Bennett, supported by Shefferly to adjourn at 5:13 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

> THOMAS YACK, Supervisor TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk



BIGGER SAVINGS THAN YOU EVER IMAGINED. NOW UNTIL MARCH 31.

Big thinking leads to big rewards. That notion is especially true right now at your Lincoln Mercury dealer's Think Big National Sales Event. From now through March 31st, get big savings on every Lincoln and Mercury. See your Lincoln Mercury dealer now, where it really pays to think big.

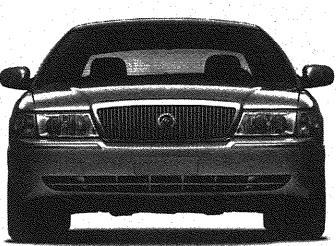


LINCOLN

MERCURY

Lincoln.com

mercuryvehicles.com

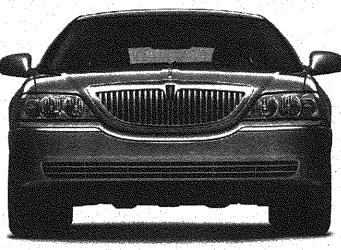


2003 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS

FOR A/Z/D-PLAN EMPLOYEES & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS: PRE-PAY A TWO-YEAR LEASE WITH ONE EASY PAYMENT OF

AFTER \$4,250 CASH BACK" FOR RETURNING LESSEES Security deposit not required. Excludes tax, title and license fees. GRAND MARQUIS A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT

\$18,061 AFTER \$4,250 A/Z CASH ***



2003 LINCOLN TOWN CAR

ANN ARBOR

Sesi

2100 W. Stadium Blvd.

at Liberty (734) 668-6100

ROCHESTER HILLS

Crissinan 1185 South Rochester Rd. Between Hamlin & Avon Rd.

(248) 652-4200

2003 LINCOLN TOWN CAR

Bob Maxey

16901 Mack Ave.

(313) 885-4000

FOR A/Z/D-PLAN EMPLOYEES & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS:

PER MONTH/ 36-MONTH LEASE

AFTER \$5,250 CASH BACK FOR RETURNING LESSEES.** DOWN

Includes refundable security deposit. Excludes tax, title and license fees. TOWN CAR A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT

\$31.771 AFTER \$5,250 A/Z CASH ***

VISIT YOUR METRO DETROIT

LINCOLN MERCURY

DEALERS.

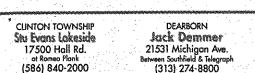
PLYMOUTH

Hines Park

40601 Ann Arbor Rd.

(734) 453-2424

"Visit thinkbigwinbig.com now through March 19 and have a chance to win a Grand Prize trip to New Orleans during the men's college basketball tournament a \$50,000 Second Prize or a \$25,000 Third Prize."



ROSEVILLE **Bob Maxey** 29000 Gratiot at 12 Mile Rd. (586) 552-6000 21531 Michigan Ave. letween Southfield & Telegrap (313) 274-8800

SOUTHFIELD SOUTHGATE Southgate 24350 West 12 Mile Rd. 16800 Fort Street of Pennsylvonia (734) 285-8800 (248) 354-4900

DETROIT Park Motor 18100 Woodward Ave (313) 869-5000

STERLING HEIGHTS Crest 36200 Van Dyke (586) 939-6000 GARDEN CITY Siu Evons Gorden City 32000 Ford Rd. (734) 425-4300

A MONTH/36-MONTH LEASE

Bob Borst 1950 West Maple (248) 643-6600

Varsity 49251 Grand River I-96 at Wixom Rd. (Exit 159) Iwo Exits West of 12 Oaks Mall

950 East Michigan 9 Miles West of 1-275 (734) 482-7133

†NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. ODDS OF WINNING SECOND OR THIRD PRIZE ARE 1:524,288. Odds of winning other prizes depend on the number of eligible entries received. Must be 18 or older, a licensed driver, and reside in select Detroit counties. Sweepstakes ends March 26. See your local dealer or thinkbigwinbig.com for full details.*Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit financing. APR varies by term. For APR or cash back on a purchase, take delivery from dealer stock by 3/31/2003. ** Not all buyers will qualify for Red Carpet Lease. Some payments higher, some lower. Customers eligible for the \$500 renewal incentive on Grand Marquis and \$1000 renewal incentive on Town Car must terminate their new or used Lincoln Mercury RCL contract by 3/31/2003. Proof of ownership required.
*** A-Plan prices after cash back exclude taxes, title and license fees. Residency restrictions apply. Offers subject to change.



2003 LINCOLN LS

A/Z/D-PLAN EMPLOYEES & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS

2003 LINCOLN LS V-6 PREMIUM

(After \$1,750 cash back for returning lessees.) Includes refundable security deposit. Excludes tax, title and license fees.

LS BASE V-6 APLAN PRICE STARTING AT AFTER \$750 A/Z CASH



2003 MERCURY SABLE LS PREMIUM WITH NO-CHARGE LEATHER AND ABS A/Z/D-PLAN EMPLOYEES & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS

2003 MERCURY SABLE LS PREMIUM

(After \$2,500 cash back for returning lessees.) Includes refundable security deposit. Excludes tax, title and license fees. SABLE GS APLAN PRICE STARTING AT

\$15,789 AFTER \$3,000 A/Z CASH



2003 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER

A/Z/D-PLAN EMPLOYEES & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS

2003 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER V-6

(After \$2,500 cash back for returning Mountaineer lessees.) Includes refundable security deposit. Excludes tax, title and license fees. MOUNTAINEER BASE A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT-

\$25,490 AFTER \$2



2003 LINCOLN AVIATOR

A/Z/D-PLAN EMPLOYEES & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS

2003 LINCOLN AVIATOR LUXURY MODEL

A MONTH/36-MONTH LEASE (After \$2,000 cash back for returning lessees.) Security deposit waived. Excludes tax, title and license fees AVIATOR A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT

,382 AFTER \$1,000 A/Z CASH"



2003 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR A/Z/D-PLAN EMPLOYEES & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS

2003 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR LUXURY

Includes refundable security deposit. Excludes tax, title and license fees.

(After \$1,750 cash back for returning lessees.)

NAVIGATOR A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT -\$44,138 AFTER \$750 A/Z CASH ***

> (248) 305-5300 varsitylm.com YPSILANTI

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\$1,395,000 NORTHVILLE SURROUND YOURSELF IN ELEGANCE in prestigious Fox Hollow! Dramatic ceilings crown moldings, gourmet kit w/granite, magnificent mstr, ceramic & hdwd flrs, fin'd w/o bsmt. Numerous amenitles!(35WOO2)

248-348-6430



NORTHVILLE \$1,250,000 MAGNIFICENT HOME on exceptional lot backing to nature preserve in Fox Hollow! Dramatic ceilings, gourmet kit w/granite. Magnificent mstr ste, fin'd w/o bsmt. Numerous amenities!(54WOO2)

248-348-6430



\$799,999 **NORTHVILLE** PRESTIGIOUS GOLF COURSE COMMUNITY! Spectacular home w/nearly 4,200 SFI GR w/soaring ceiling, gourmet kitchen w/granite counters, dual staircase, butler's pantry & custom upgrades t/o. (87MER2)

248-348-6430



\$389,900 **PLYMOUTH** Built 2000 w/3120 square feet this impressive 4 BR, 3.5 BA colonial is simply the best deal in Plymouth. Offers great layout w/huge kitchen, 2 FP, 3 car garage, & morel!!(W51159)

734-591-9200



CANTON Stunning 4 BR, 2.5 Ba brick colonial End of a cul-de-sac in one of the largest lots in the sub. Includes gas FP, 6 panel drs, garden tub & sep shower in mstr, 1sr flr laundry, & part fin bsmt.(W1051)

PC 070692



CANTON \$302,900 Home Sweet Home! Lovely cape cod featuring a first floor master suite, 2 bedrooms upstairs, finished basement, Florida room & much morel (23N47326)

734-455-7000



MORTGAGE COMPANY iohnadamsmortgage.com Get approval for your MORTGAGE NOW! 888-404-8500



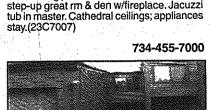
CANTON \$259.900 Lots of Room! Over 2162 squre feet with 4 large bedrooms. Family room is 23x13 w/fireplace. Built in 1988! Great Canton location. (K1107)

734-591-9200



\$257,900 CANTON COZY 3 BR, 2.5 BATH COLONIAL featuring kitchen w/island/snack bar. FR w/frpl & vaulted ceilling, fin'd lower level, new exterior paint & lights. Formal LR & DR. Move-in ready!(17RIV2)

248-348-6430



BELLEVILLE

WESTLAND

\$199,900 LIVONIA NICE COLONIAL IN LIVONIAI 1,600 SF. 3 BR, 1.5 baths, hardwood floors, new carpet, FP, fin'd basement with wer bar, CA Quick occupancy (23B48225) & morel (26LYN2)

\$229,900

CANTON Exceptional Condol 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath overlooking pond. Dramatic mirrored din rm, step-up great rm & den w/fireplace. Jacuzzi tub in master. Cathedral cellings; appliances





\$194,900 LIVONIA 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath ranch! Loaded with waterfront condo home on all sports
Belleville lake, 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths.
Quick occupancy (23B48225)

waterfront condo home on all sports
updates. All big updates are done. Home
shows very well. Call to see!(W20020)



\$199,900

BEAUTIFUL NEW RANCH ON ONE ACRE! Open & airy floor plan, Ig kitchen w/ plenty of counter & cupboard space. Lg pantry, 2-car garage w/lg workshop & full bsmt. Minutes to x-ways, city sewer. (80HEN2) 248-348-6430



FARMINGTON HILLS \$177,900 Great location in this complex! Great elevation sits back with a view, close to gar & extra parking. Kitchen has custom cabinets & skylight. Bsmt is prof finished. This condo is very clean!(C31132)

LOT! Just over 1400 SF, mostly hardwood floors, new kitchen cabinets & floor, all appliances included, newer turnace & siding, mstr with WIC. Farmington schools! 248-348-6430

COMFORTABLE 3 BR HOME ON LG

FARMINGTON



LIVONIA Quality built updated ranch tucked away on quiet tree lined street. 2.5 car attd garage, wide fenced lot, & Ig eat in kit. Clean, neutral,

734-591-9200

\$156.900

734-591-9200

734-591-9200

\$129,900

248-348-6430



\$174,000 CANTON 1600 SF, 1.5 bath brick colonial Plymouth Canton schools, has beautiful hardwood floors(2002). See the potential. Seller will look at all offers (A43608)

734-591-9200



Live At The Lake! 1800 square feet

\$169,900 CANTON Wow! Beautiful FP in liv rm, hrdwd foyer, 1st fir laundry, huge 2nd fir ba w/whirlpool sep shower stall, open to both BRs, c/a, blt 1998. Deck, bsmt, attd gar, & much morel(H4292)

HUGE HOME, HUGE LOT, HUGE

POTENTIAL 1800 Sq. ft, 4 BR, 2 full baths, newer white kitchen, windows, roof, siding,

ceiling fans, wiring, dry wall, top 1/2 added

1995, elec. Needs a little TLC. (F356)

734-455-7000

\$194,900

734-591-9200

\$154,900

734-326-2000

\$135,000

BELLEVILLE

PC 220192

NORTHVILLE

DR.(14NOR2)



\$159,900 **GARDEN CITY** VERY VERY CLEAN HOME & NICELY DECORATED Ideal family home w/lots of great & unique storage. Fam rm, liv rm, & den all in one home. Kit remodeled w/oak cabs & beautiful fir. Newer windows &

HERE IS A HOT ONE!! Older Belleville bungalow. 3 bedroom, 2 bath with full

basement, large 219 foot deep lot, 2 1/2 car

garage. Kitchen and baths remodeled. Walk to town. (E130)

734-326-2000

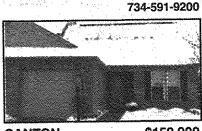
\$149,900

734-326-2000

\$134,900

248-348-6430

CANTON



\$159,900 CANTON Model Perfect! End unit- 1.5 story condo-1 car attached garage. Basement, entry level master suite, Corian counter tops, deck-built in 1999! One look and you will say sold!(23H3988)

LIVONIA

You'll want to call this house your home Extra sf w/4 season heated Florida rm. Newer rf, wndws, furn, elec, hwh. Nice open fir plan, lots of counter space in kit, fin bsmt. Great Livonia area & schools.(C28085) PC 070672

734-455-7000

\$149,900

734-455-7000

REDFORD

GARDEN CITY \$145,100 Single, a couple, or a family this home fits the needs 3 BR, 1.5 BA, many updates, open fir plan, clean and well maintained.(M32601)

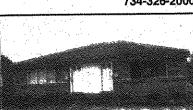
appliances, new kitchen, roof, brick, windows, floor, everything new. 1 yr home warranty.(R442) 734-326-2000

DEARBORN HEIGHTS \$154,999

RANCHWITH OVER 90' ACROSS FRONT

OF LOT Beautiful Dearborn Hgts home w/

2 full top of the line baths, built-in



WESTLAND GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!! Rent 1, live in 1. Rent both!! Each has 2 bedrooms, basement, appliances, reconditioned approx 2 yrs ago, new furnaces and C/A. Hurry!! Priced to

734-326-2000



\$128,000 DETROIT JUST IN TIME FOR SPRING BACKYARD BBQ Beautiful custom deck, fenced in back yard. Doorwall from master bdrm to concrete patio living rm has hardwood floors & huge bay window and much more!(A202)

WESTLAND \$127,000

Knockout bungalow in South Redford! Lrgr lot & updates galore. Beautifully decorated. Newer'rf, siding, furn, a/c, front

dr, most newer wndws, remodeled bath, updated kit, fin bsmt, & much more! (C13568)

734-591-9200

Updates galore in this 3 BR ranch! Oversized 2 car garage, newer kitchen, bath, windows, doors, a/c 2002. Come see for yourself!(K33732)

734-591-9200

WESTLAND \$125,900

STYLISH, AFFORDABLE GROUND

LEVEL CONDO! Move right into this super

ranch condo in one of Northville's most popular complexes w/pool. Neutral carpet,

light cabinets, great ceramic fir in kitchen &

MINT CONDITION, WESTLAND CONDO! 2 BR, 1.5 bath condo has oak kitchen, new carpet, vinyl flooring & freshly painted, vinyl windows, ceramic fover & huge mstr w/walk-in-closet.(92CAR2) 248-348-6430 **GARDEN CITY** \$130,900

Condo Living At Its Best! This 3 bdrm 1.5

bath Canton condo is available now! Partly finished bsmt. Upgrades galore. They

include kit, flooring t/o, furnace, C/A,

windows, deck and more (23F1951)

EASY LIVING In this well maintained 3 bedroom bungalow with full basement and 2 1/2 car garage. Enc porch to deck with hot tub. C/A. Newer carpeting, furnace & electrical.(L575)

734-326-2000

248-348-6430



TAYLOR \$99,900 INVESTORS TAKE NOTE! Quiet residential setting for nice income propertyl 3 BR, 1 bth ranch plus 1 BR, 1 bath apt over 2-car garage. New furnace in apt/ HWH in house in 2002. Lg yardl(62MAY2)

bedroom brick Redford ranch with full finished basement, 2 baths, central air & 2 car garage, large fenced lot and more. (O204) -PC 220502 734-326-2000

BE YOUR OWN LANDLORD in this 3

\$82,000 WESTLAND DIAMOND AMONGST THE OTHER GEMS this adorable condo has a professionally finished basement. Newer furnace & AC. Bathroom has been newly remodeled. Located on the curve of a private cul de sac.(S252)

734-326-2000

A R mio

NORTHVILLE
BREATHTAKING VIEWS ON 1.3 ACRES! Spectacular views bring the outdoors in! Spacious 4 BR, 3.5 bath ranch w/huge DR w/lp. Oversized LR, full find w/o bsmt, Perfect setting for entertaining (53MAI2)
\$389,000

734-326-2000

PC 070622

WESTLAND

OVER 1300 SQUARE FEET IN THIS CONDOL 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, 2 story, central air, basement, garage, breakfast rm, water included. Much morel(P35588) \$159,900

REDFORD

NICE 3 BR BRK RANCH, READY TO MOVE INI Neutral decor, tipdated kitchen, full basement, fenced yard, and garage. FHA terms (F20372) F2070212 734-591-8200

LEASEIIII Neat & clean, 3 BR ranch in great sub with sidewalks. 1.5 baths, full bemt, 2-car garage and tenced yard (35THO2) \$1,550 248-348-6430

Market Place

This Classification continues from Section E

7100 Estate Sales

RAINBOW ESTATE SALE 5275 Pond Bluff Dr., West Bloomfield (take Hauser N. 2nd street W. of Farmingtor Rd. off Walnut Lake.) Friday Mar. 21, 9am-3pm, Saturday Mar. 22, 10am-3pm, Sunday

Mar. 23, 10am-1pm, Full house estate sale. Contemporary & Oriental fur-nishings and accessories. The house is loaded! Street numbers honored at 9am Friday, www.rainbowestatesales.com

ROYAL OAK - Antiques, col horat bar Alliques, collectibles, glass, kitchen, knick-knacks, linens, medical supplies, jewelry, furniture, much more. Fri. 9-4:30, Sat. 9-? 1501 McLean, between Lincoln/10 Mil. 2 blks. W. of Camphyll Mr. pagester. Campbell. No pre-sales.

Garage Sales

LIVONIA 20108 Shadvside S. off 8 Mile, E. of Farmington. Thurs-Sat, 9-? Antiques, books, collectibles and more.

(7110)

(7130)

PLYMOUTH - ESTATE SALE 42115 River Oaks Dr. For details see ad under classification 7100.

Moving Sales

BEDROOM, 2 LIVING ROOM misc. furniture, decorator items. March 21, 22. Call for information. (734) 495-9268

Sat, & Sun, March 22-23, 10-4pm, Furniture-family room, living room, dining room, refrigerator, end tables, lamps, desks, tv's, mower, patio, grill, tools, sewing machine, organ, COLLECTIBLE PLATES, BASEBALL LITHOS, much morel 45443 Brunswick, off Canton Center, between Warren & Joy.

LIVONIA - snow blower, sectional sofa, 60" Projection TV, table & 4 chair dinette set, swing set. 734-425-2712 MOVING SALE - All must go!

Furniture, household items, clothing, toys. Fri, March 21, 9-3pm. Sat, March 22, 9-noon. 1337 Bradbury Drive, W. of Crooks, N. of Wattles (17 Mi), enter off Penrose Blvd., Troy. Moving Sale - Furniture small appliances, much more Sat-Tues, 9128 Nathaline Redford. 313-402-0140

MOVING SALE Troy. Lawn mowers, tools, snowblower small flatbed motorcycle trailer, rugs, pictures, drafting table, sewing machine, beds, sofa, chairs, vacuum, linens, bric a brac, stools, dishes,

DESIGNERS (6-12) St. John, Versace, Sonia R., Escada, Valentino, Leathers, Suedes, jewlery, purses and shoes. 248-661-0993

MINK: COAT beautiful dark brown, Size fits 10-14, \$1200. Florida bound, 248-476-6246

Household Goods

3 piece contemporary cornered sectional, good cond., \$200. Barcalounger recliner, gray, \$50. 734-981-6040

ABSOLUTE LOWEST PRICE Brand Name Mattressess High end leather furniture Call for appt. 734-231-6622

AMISH OAK wall unit, \$1,100. (2) Amish oak buffets, \$800. Queen bedroom set (3

pcs) \$1,200. 734-216-5629 ANTIQUE SIDEBOARD: Pine dining room with corner cup-boards; loveseat; triple dresser; 60 gallon aquarium set

248-879-1051

Baker, Kittinger, Drexel, Burnhardt & lots of Grand Rapids furniture items. Mahogany furniture for dining room, living room & bedroom, circa 1920's-1950's. Lots of oil paintings, chande liers, porcelain lamps, much

isc. Too much list!

Mahogany Interiors,
506 South Washington,

BEAUTIFUL CHIPPENDALE 10 PC mahogany dining sel \$5900.00. Carved King four \$5900.00. Carved King four poster bed \$1500.00. King carved Sleigh bedroom set. Mahogany office desk \$985.00. Hand painted 7 PC country dining set. Console tables. Bombay chests. French carved armoire. Large mahogany breakfront mahogany breakfront. Chippendale table and 8 to 10 chair sets. Tiffany style lamps, Windows and artistic accessories. AR Interiors, 607

Washington Downtown Open 7 days 248-582-9646 BEAUTIFUL CHIPPENDALE

10 piece mahogany dining set. King & Queen size mahogany four poster and sleigh bedroom sets. Mahogany office desk. Country dining set, round table, 4 chairs & china hutch. French carved Armoire Intaid sideboard. Console nniald sideboard. Console tables. Bombay chest. Drop front secretary desk. Tiffany style lamps, Windows and Artsy accessories. AR interiors, 607 S. Washington. Downtown Royal Oak. Open 7 days 248-582-9646

BED Full. Simmons adjustable w/massage, 3 yrs old+new mattress \$800, 734-455-4587

Bedroom Set - Complete (2 biks W. of Coolidge/N. of Wattles) to 4204 Sugar Grove Or Fel 8 23 10 4

Household Goods

Household Goods

regency

Appliances

TRADITIONAL DINING ROOM.

Hand painted Chinoiserie fin

ish: breakfront, 6 chairs, Baker

regency table. Replacement cost \$23,000. Sacrifice for

WOODWARD Bronze alu-

minum 48' glass-topped table w/4 matching chairs/loveseat. \$800, 734-462-2318.

AMANA heavy duty electric dryer, must sell, like new. \$300 or best. (248) 360-6317

under cabinet. Cost \$20. Mint \$5. (248) 338-4586

Gas Range by Kenmore, black,

w/digital display, 4 burners & working oven. Works great. \$125. 734-927-0029

GE WHITE fridge, Ice maker and all glass shelves, exc cond. \$150. (248) 444-7491

can opener, white

248-851-1513

(7180

Bedroom Set, 6 pc., exc. cond., \$1500; Oak end table \$75; Coldspot refrigerator, \$125; Panasonic Microwave, \$25. 734-737-0154

Bedroom sets - 2 king-size, 2 years old, (one white washed oak, one light oak) \$750 each. Large cherry computer desk, \$400. 248-891-2248

CABINET LIGHT OAK AMISH MADE 62" X 48" | X 12"D with mirrored back, 3 glass shelves, \$300.

CARPETING - 120', Dark rose, like new. \$300. 248-334-2860 DESK, large L-shape, cherry,

Denmark, w/leather executive chair, \$450 248-442-0317 **DINING ROOM SET - Antique**

Table, 6 chairs, buffet. Great cond. \$4000. 248-646-5329 DINING ROOM SET OAK Heavily carved. Table, self-storing leaves. 6 chairs, large buffet, china cabinet. \$4000. Call 248-273-6069.

DINING ROOM SET OAK, 64'I leaves, 4 side chairs and 2 arm chairs with upholstered seats, china cabinet, and buffet. \$499. 734-462-2318. ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

Dark oak with etched glass doors. Holds 36° TV, VCR, DVD, Receiver, \$300. 734-463-2318 ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

\$400. Bedroom set. Dining table, 4 chairs. \$600. Dining table, 4 chairs. \$400. Winston patio set \$500.

HIGH BACKED ENGLISH PUB BENCHES (2) 57°L x 48° H, each, padded back and seat. \$800/both, 734-462-2318 Kitchen Almond oblong

formica table with 1 leaf, & 4 almond leather swivel chairs \$900/best. 248-952-0686 KLAUSSNER Leather sofa, loveseat, chair & ottoman Neutral tones, mint condition \$4000/best. 248-625-6407

L shaped sectional; good cond; Best offer. (734) 464-7566

MOVED - Everything must go! I have what you need. 248-444-7491

MOVING SALE - Twin bedroom set, sleeper couch, chairs, white sectional, kitchen table/chairs + more. (248) 909-3645

Sola & Loveseat, Navy /Cream plaid, good condition \$100 each. 734- 459-8271

Sola & Wing Chair Trans Itional, Exc. cond. 6 mos. old \$1200/best. (586) 909-7471 room set, \$3500 new. Home office set, \$4500 new. Price Call Dee (734) 560-8760 office set, \$4500 new. Price neg, never used 248-348-9607

Appliances KENMORE FRIDGE 1999. Like

new w/ice & water maker, side by side. \$499. (313) 794-5767 REFRIDGERATOR Hotpoint white, 18 cu. ft. Excellent condition, very clean, \$195. 734-812-6113

STACKED Washer & Dryer Frigidalre, heavy duty, brand new, never used, Best Buy sells for \$760. Asking \$600. (734) 425-3089

STOVE - Glass top, \$200. Side by side refrigerator, \$400. (248) 685-2587

Pools Spas & Hot Tubs 📆0

POOL/SPA LIQUIDATION SALE New & Used! (586) 530-3355

7210 Bicycles

 WINTER FITNESS AIR DYNES IN STOCK Bicycle & Fitness Center 28860 W. 7 Mile

248-476-1818

Red

Wings Tickets

Cameras & Supplies

NEED CASH? Sell your photo equipment to Dave's Photo Emporium in Ann Arbor. 734-827-0080.

7320 Computers

CHAIN SAW Stihl 026 Pro 18" blade with carrying case, glove & extra chain. Approx. 1

Lawn & Garden Malerial

BLUE SPRUCE trees, 4 1/2 to 5 1/2ft. tall. Delivered and plant-ed, \$78 each. (810)720-5095

These are some of the lucky winners of four **Red Wing tickets** to the Observer & Eccentric SRO Club

Congratulations! And enjoy the game!

section.

Winners names have been chosen from all postcard entries and are published every Thursday & Sunday in your Home Town Classified section.

March 25th......Jay Waldman of Farmington Hills March 31th Jenny Michalec of Troy April 3rd......William Civello of Canton

Detoit

RedWings

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POSSIBLE CONNEC-

An attractive brunette, 49. 5'4", 115 lbs, single white professional female, with great smile and good heart, enjoys family and friends, boating, Red Wings and you, if height weight proportionate. humorous, caring, financially stable and emotionally available. Wayne County, BOX 25014

> PRETTY ENTREPRE-NEUR

Giving, loving, compassuccessful Caucasian be my soul mate. Float

FIND YOUR FUTURE Single black professional female, 32, 5'2", 143 lbs, brown hair and eyes, enjoys jazz, movies, dining out and travel. Seeks male, 45 to 55, for serious, long-term relationship.

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.

> **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 dependfor life. Wayne County BOX 27026

relationship.

Petite, white female, 63, 5'1", 128 lbs, brown hair and eves, non-smoker. attractive, talkative, good sense of humor. Seeks gentleman 60 to 66, non smoker, sharing the things in life we both enjoy, especially

36003 **ALL AMERICAN GUY** Single white female, 40, 5'5", non-smoker, brown hair, medium to husky, loving, caring, likes a variety activities, sports. Seeking a husky, honest, relationship. long-term

ATTRACTIVE WOMAN Soft spoken, non-smoker, white female, 5'11", size 11, wishes to meet a white male, 6'2", or taller, 49 or older, no games, no heavy drinkers. no drugs, height/weight proportionate. Wayne County BOX

Online Personals

fordestiny

http://livonia.webfriends.com

sionate, curvy, lots of fun. great conversationalist. 55 looking for sincere. centieman, 45-late 70's, to your boat, make your day. answer my ad today. BOX

BOX 25764

BOX 26066

LET'S CHILL 2GETHER! 30 vr old, single mother of one, enjoys movies, dining out, the mail and more. Seeks a single gentleman with similar interests, friendship first, possibly leading to a meaningful relationship. Must like chil-

dren! BOX 31000 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 Dearborn area, Wayne County BOX

SEEKING ITALIAN

travelling. BOX

white guy, 36-46, serious Macombe County, BOX.

make your own with

times:

I HAVE ELAN HONEST I'LL PLAY U A LOVE.. Tall divorced white male

Eclectic, attractive, slender, romantic, quality lady, enjoys most music, dancing, golf, tennis, boating, sports and theater. Seeks special, non-smoking, gentleman, over 59, and 5'10" plus, that is honest, loyal and fun. Oakland county. BOX 36061

men women

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LOOKING 4 THAT GIRL Hard working, divorced white male, 49, 5'8", 175 ibs. Looking to find an easy going, intelligent, pretty white female, mid to late 40s, nice shape and build, for a long term relationship. No games please. Redford area. **BOX 14640**

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Handsome, successful.

professional, 57, 18 on the

dance floor, 6', fit, looks

and feels younger, spiritu-

going, great sense of

humor, Multiple interests.

Seeks attractive, slender

female ready to enjoy life

STOP...LOOK...CALL!

Divorced white male, 49,

medium build, looking for a

single woman, late 40's

early 50's, shape, looks

important, that wants a

Loves the outdoors and

home cook meals. Stop

here and call and will talk

more! No games, always

calls back. Redford area.

IT TAKES TWO

Single white male, 44, dark

hair, blue eyes, mustache,

good shape, athletic.

enjoys sports, bowling and

more. Seeks single black

female who is happy and

ready to devote herself to

a relationship. BOX 10672

TIRED OF BEING

ALONE

working, divorced white

male, 49, 5'8", 175 lbs.,

seeking easy going and

intelligent, pretty white

female, in her 40's for a

possible long term rela-

tionship. I'm waiting to

hear from you. Redford

Area, Wayne County. BOX

CALL 4 MORE INFO

Single male is looking for a

single female for great

together. BOX

your man. Hard

BOX 25753

term relationship

to its fullest, BOX 25779

charismatic, easy

6'4", good physical condition, 56, non-smoker, selfemployed, honest, sincere, sense of humor. I would like to meet a slender lady, 45 to 53, who is easygoing, with good values, for companionship, and possible long-term relationship, BOX 35984

WISHFUL THINKING Single white male, 55, 6', 180 lbs. fit and attractive. Enloys sports, bike riding. theater, movies, and more, Seeks a single female, 40 to 55, height and weight proportionate, non-smoker who enjoy the outdoors during the summer time. **BOX 13831**

A SPECIAL GUY Divorced white male, 55, 5'10", medium build, suc-

cessful businessman. Enjoys candlelight dinners. flowers, plays, dancing, concerts, boating, travel, getaway weekends. Seeks family oriented people person with good sense of humor, BOX 14102

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go? Single white male, 44,

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and is looking for a sincere

relationship with genuine

warmth and affection if I

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met coffee, computers,

vegetarian foods. Looking

for soul sister for relation-

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..dance, flirt and have fun

with me. Single white

male, 40, someone to love.

Seeks involvement with a

good natured, fun to be

with, single white female,

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White male, 60, 5'10",

medium build, non-smok-

er, honest, sincere with a

good sense of humor.

Likes quiet evenings at

home, movies, flea-mar-

kets, classy car shows and

open to just about any-

thing. Seeks a single

female, 40 to 60, easy

going, slim to medium

build, outgoing who enjoys

being with that special

man for a long term rela-

FATHER OF ONE...

..in Livonia. Single white

father of one, 39, 6'1", 190

ibs, handsome, fit, fun,

honest, secure. Enjoys

reading, running, biking,

skiing, family activities and

much more. Looking for a

positive, fit and loving

female, for great relation ship. BOX 14942

tionship. BOX 10659

any age. BOX 10615

home-

representative.

ship, BOX 10433

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.Songl Single male, 48, light brown hair, blue eyes, employed, home-owner, smart, intelligent and handsome. Enjoys music, playing guitar, the outdoors. Seeking a single ladv. children okay, for a possible relationship. BOX

JUST BE YOURSELF Realistic, respectful, single white male, 45, believes in destiny and chemistry. Ready to embrace a special sweetheart. Looking tor a single white female. 36 to 56. BOX 26832.

IS THIS YOUR NAME? Divorced white male, early 50s, dark hair, blue eyes, 6', looking for Carol, Charlotte, Chris, Debbie, Diane, Denise, Donna, Joy, Karen, Kathy, Linda, Lori, Nancy, Pat, Sally, Sandy, and Sue. I'd like to meet you. Ages 38 to 54.

Possible long term relationship. West Sider, BOX 26039

SENSIBLE MAN

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enjoys dancing, theater,

movies, etc. Seeks friend-

single white female, 40's to

50's. Oakland County.

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white male, promotes

understanding and mean-

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act with on a daily bases.

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white male, 54, 5'7", silver

fox hair, 176 lbs. Loves

ocean beaches, spending

quality time together.

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monogamous relationship,

40 to 50, BOX 35913

BOX 35983

relationship-minded.

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Best Friend.

DREAMS

Divorced white male, 5'11". 49, athletic build, healthy, searching for a single white female, 38 to 44, with height/weight proportionate and a sense of humor, BOX 10554

ARE YOU OUT THERE? Single black male, west side of Detroit, own my home. Seeks down to 45, for friendship, relationship. I enjoy music, sports, romance, sharing and communicating.

FIND US

Single male, 5'9", 190 lbs, brown hair, hazel eyes, likes sports, dining out, going for walks, just about anything. Looking for a sinale female with similar interests for a possible relationship. BOX 13882

Metropolitan Seeks honest, good ends. BOX 14118

PLEASANTLY PLUMP? Go ahead and call open minded, single white male 39, easy to talk too, romantic and adventurous, Seeks single white female 24-42, for meaningful relationship. Wayne county BOX 25010

DO YOU QUALIFY? White male, 48, muscular, self secure. Seeking selective, classy, attractive white or Asian female, relationship. Wayne coun-

HERE'S A SURPRISE

45, good shape, nice looks. Enjoys outdoors, biking, boating, parks, and beaches. Seeks nice gal to share leisure time activities with. Oakland county BOX 36067 LIVE TO THE FULLEST

Divorced white male, 43, 6'4" enlovs movies. sports, traveling, dining out, and more. Looking for an athletic female, 36 to 45, over 5'6", and love living life to the fullest. BOX

A GREAT KISSER

Handsome, single white male, 32, 5'11", dark hair, green eyes, athletic, honest and confident. Enjoys outdoors, roller blading, biking and running, Searching for a single white female, 18 to 32, attractive, athletic, affectionate, honest with similar interests. BOX 10525

BLIND DATE

Single male, 50, 5'11", athletic, masculine, likes chilling out, fun times and dating. Seeks single female for dating and possible relationship, BOX 10552

WOMAN OF MY

QUALITY GUY

Let us share a glass of wine or cup of coffee. Divorced white male, 5'10", 55, business man in Detroit. caring woman, good sense of humor, people person. communications skills to share his enjoyment of plays, dancing, boating, get away week

attractive, financial and under 45, for long term ty. BOX 25970

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good looks, educated and energetic. Seeks an attrac-LET STAY 2GETHER... tive, friendly, lady to share For ever. Single white it with. Oakland County! male. 45. honest, faithful, trustworthy, caring, loving, **ABOVE AVERAGE GENT** up front, smoker, social Single white male, mid drinker, 6', 165 lbs, looking 40's, gets into travel. for a white female, 35-50, music, cars, photography, on the slim side, 100-140 sports, home decorating, lbs, who has the same etc., looking for an above qualities as I do. Looking average lady to partner

ALL AMERICAN TYPE Mature athletic type 50 **CALL FOR MORE INFO** plus, blonde 6'3", 205 lbs, Attractive, divorced white professional attractive male, 37, 61, 190 lbs, childdiverse interest active less, with brown hair, eyes. lifestyle. Seeks outgoing, Enjoys working out, sports, fit, attractive unencumand more. Seeks attractive bered single female. To

for a very serious relation-

ship, no head games.

Oakland County. BOX

female, 26 to 41, BOX

bowling and much more.

Seeking a single white

female, 18 to 40, for a long

term relationship. Children

are welcomed! BOX 26959

FULL FIGURED LADY'S

Divorced, white male, 43,

5'9", 165 lbs, blondish

brown hair, green eyes,

down to earth. Seeking a

single or divorced, white

female, 38 to 45, who is

down to earth and enjoys

the simple things in life.

For a possible relationship.

Wayne county BOX 27006

MUSCULAR FRIENDLY

Single white male, 44, 6'2",

215 lbs. brown blue, clean

cut, degree, never mar-

ried, no dependents, out-

going personality, enjoys

outdoors, working out, new

activities. Seeks friendly

single female, age location

open. Wayne County BOX

YOU AND I

This sweetheart is a socia-

ble single white male, 40,

well groomed, physically

fit; has many interests yet

open to yours. Seeks

friendly female friend and

possible lover, BOX 30914

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Intense special single

white male, helpful and

romantic. Seeks nice gal,

30 to 50, an outdoor lover,

for sharing of magic

moments under the moon-

light, by candlelight, etc.

Oakland County BOX

RING MY BELL

Divorced white male, 49,

5'8", 175 lbs. Looking for a

woman that wants a long-

term relationship. Shape

and looks important. I'll

return your call. Wayne

County. BOX 35922

27018

create sparks through dating, travel, long term relationship. Oakland county THERE IS TIME FOR US BOX 35995 Single white male, 34. **COMPATIBLE?** non-smoker, non-drinker, Single white professional drug free. Likes horse male, 45, 5'8", fit, no back riding, camping,

dependents. Catholic. communicative, introspective, enjoys varieties of music, movies, reading, thinking, etc. Seeking fit, white professional female. Oakland County. BOX 36037

CHANCE OF A LIFETIME Single white professional male, 45, 5'8", fit, communicative humorist, introspective. Enjoys bicycling, concerts, being outdoors. Seeking fit, emotionally available, single, white professional female, 28 to 42, to share a happy relationship. healthy Oakland County, BOX

36049 **ATTRACTIVE SWM 33** Professional, down to earth and fun loving guy who seeks an attractive female who enjoys life and likes to have fun! Oakland County, BOX 36054

MORE THAN FRIENDS Attractive, single white male, 40's, warm hearted and honest, enjoys travel, photography, concerts and the outdoors. Seeking a bold lady with a sense of humor. Oakland county. BOX 36064

ADVENTUROUS Passionate, furiny, intelligent, tall, handsome, well built, 6'3", 205 lb single white male, 36, looking for passionate, intelligent. attractive, fun female for romance and possible iona-term relationship. Oakland County. BOX

SAINT OR SINNER? Tender, tan, terrific white

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MERCEDES BENZ 1999 E320 AWD, exc cond., 32K, loaded + Bose, sunroof, phone, heated seats, \$29,500. 248-486-6561 MERCEDES, 1998 SLK - Red 8200 miles, loaded, \$35,000. MERCDES, 1989 300E Silver, moonroof, leather, 928 miles, \$9500. 248-608-0718 Porsche 1999 Boxster metal-lic black/gray, 40K miles.

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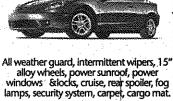
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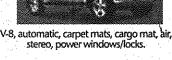
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2003 Honda Odyssey Performs Well

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Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

The Odyssey minivan is notable because it's only when Honda introduced the model in 1999 that there finally was a credible alternative to the Chrysler minivan that had essentially created and rather easily dominated the market since its debut a decade and a half earlier. It's with that comparison in mind – and because one of the vehicles in my garage is a Chrysler minivan – that I was eager to get me and my family into an Odyssey.

I drove a top-of-the-line 2003 Odyssey EX-L, which carries a sticker price of nearly \$31,000. After a week of everyday usage of the vehicle during a typical Michigan winter, I realized why this is the minivan that finally was able to wrest significant market share from the Chrysler products: Odyssey is much better in some important respects, such as under-hood responsiveness and use of interior space. Yet it had some drawbacks too, meaning it wasn't so markedly superior overall that I wanted to rush right out and swap it for my Town & Country Limited, Chrysler's best minivan.

First of all, we're talking minivans here, a payloadfocused genre that practically prohibits exciting styling. But even in that context, Odyssey disappoints. It has clean lines but is boxy to a fault, almost reminiscent of some of the clunky minivan wanna-bes that cluttered the market in the late Eighties and early Nineties.

Not surprisingly for a company whose lifeblood is engine expertise, Odyssey's strength is the performance of its 3.5-liter, 24-valve, V-6 engine, which produces 24 horsepower and is teamed with a five-speed automatic transmission. Odyssey accelerated quietly, quickly and effortlessly, especially compared with Chrysler's minivans – and even with three passengers inside. When you use a minivan as much as our family does, the importance of this feature can't be overemberized.



2003 Honda Odyssey's strength is in it's engine performance.

I was similarly pleased by the responsiveness of the four-wheel independent suspension, which was tight on curves and sufficiently damping on rutted dirt roads. However, I found the level of road noise a bit too high.

One area that presented problems was the doors. Upon closing, Odyssey's front doors sounded too tinny to me; I realize I'm the typical American male who likes to hear that heavy "thump" when I close a vehicle door, but my protest stands. The sliding side doors were even more annoying. The automatic-closing feature, of course, was great. But getting in and out is a real chore for passengers who'd rather open and close these doors manually. The Odyssey's instruction manual admits that the doors in this case "will be difficult to move" and says "this is normal" – but why not just change it? The rear hatch, however, opened effortlessly, quite a relief compared with the near-bench-press that it takes to open the hatch of the Town & Country.

Inside, Odyssey's ledger is mostly positive, but with a few significant negatives. Since Chrysler redesigned its minivans a couple of years ago, the driver's and front passenger's area seems pinched and less roomy; by contrast, the cockpit of the more rectangular Odyssey provides ample space. A particularly nifty feature is a tray between the front seats that locks up to provide drink holders and a shallow storage space or folds down to get out of the way. Odyssey also accommodates drivers like me who become two-fisted

drinkers on long trips, making a half-dozen drink holders accessible to the driver.

Further back in the vehicle, Odyssey continues its excellent space engineering. The two middle-row bucket seats can be separated or shoved right next to each other, to allow, for example, a parent easy access to a young child strapped into the rear seats. The third row of seats folds neatly back into a cargo well at the very rear of the vehicle. And the well itself lends Odyssey much more luggage space back there than Town & Country has.

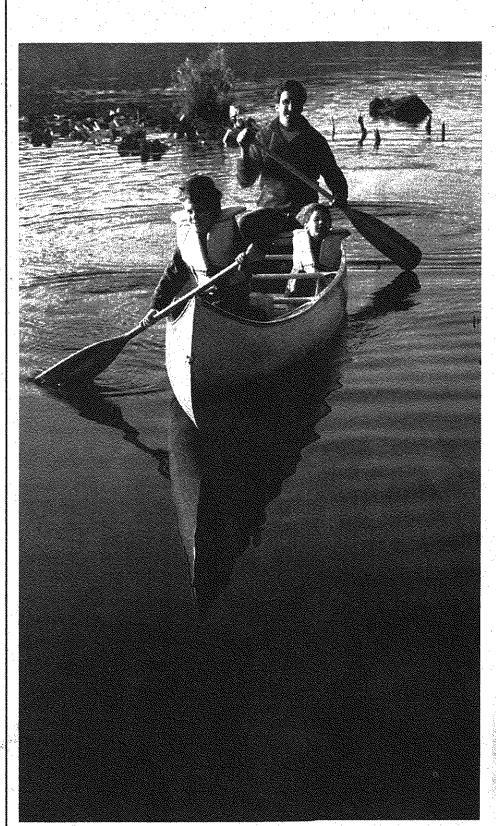
The biggest disappointment inside Odyssey is the dashboard screen and navigation system that is a new option for 2003. For one thing, imposing the screen in the middle of the dashboard pushed the controls that previously occupied that space, such as air conditioning and radio buttons, to uncomfortable extremes above and below the screen.

Even more annoying is that climate controls are divided between regular mechanical switches and touch-buttons on the screen. Thus, you can change the temperature by pushing buttons, but you have to proceed through a few menus on the screen just to change the fan speed.

Nevertheless, there is a reason that Chrysler no longer is synonymous with minivans. It's called Odyssev.

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