

Canton Observer

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Church is spreading word to Siberia

■ GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
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Geneva Presbyterian Church is helping to build a place of worship in Siberia.

The Canton church has committed \$50,000 over the next two years for a project in Divnogorsk, a town of about 50,000 in central Siberia. Funds to build the church are coming directly out of Geneva worshippers' pocketbooks and hearts.

"I think it's wonderful," the Rev. Bryan Smith, pastor, said. "The gospel talks about spreading the message."

Spreading the message is exactly what Geneva has done in Canton for the past quarter century. A group of 20 families has grown to nearly 400 worshippers since 1974.

Using contemporary and traditional styles, Geneva serves a youthful congregation, Smith said. He has led the church since 1992.

"I feel good about where the church is going right now," Smith said. All indications are that Geneva is moving in a positive direction.

In June, work will begin on a 7,500-square-foot addition. Six classrooms, additional office space, a new kitchen and entrance extension will be included.

Smith said the expansion, the church's second since 1986, will increase Geneva's size by more than 60 percent.

"We hope to break ground in mid-

Please see CHURCH, A4

Rain, rain, go away ...



April showers: Sarah Krupinski, 5, decked out in appropriate rain gear, makes her way to afternoon kindergarten class at Miller Elementary in Canton during typical April weather last Wednesday.

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMANN

Ice time moving closer

■ Several area firms are bidding to become the operator of a planned ice arena at the Canton Softball Center on Michigan Avenue. The township board will vote on the selection by early May.

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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A developer/operator for Canton's upcoming ice arena will be selected within the next two weeks.

According to Griffin Properties President of Development Bob Turner, the search has been narrowed to "several" local firms. A recommendation will be made to the township well before the May 26 deadline, he added.

"We want to choose somebody that will get the job done," said Turner, who declined to name finalists.

Canton Supervisor Tom Yack agreed. He said the township wants a developer/operator with a solid track record.

"We want them to demonstrate the capacity financially and from a business standpoint show that they can be successful," Yack said.

Southfield-based Griffin is helping Canton develop ice and soccer arenas as well as a golf dome at Canton Softball Center on Michigan Avenue east of Beck Road.

The board of trustees unanimously approved an agreement between the township and Griffin at an early March meeting.

A \$25-million project, it represents a much different plan than had been discussed for more than a year by Griffin and the township.

Developer Scott Griffin had hoped to build a \$100-million "Sportstown USA"

Please see ICE ARENA, A2

Senior business expo targets active market

BY RICHARD PEARL
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Up to two dozen area businesses and agencies that have products or services of interest to senior citizens and their families are expected to participate in Canton's first Senior Business & Service Expo.

The free event, open to residents 55 and older and their families, will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 1, at the township's Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway.

Businesses in the fields of health, safety, finance, real estate, recreation and retirement living will be among those present, according to exposition co-sponsors The Canton Senior Program and the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

The 17 companies and agencies already signed up include these from Canton: McMurray Insurance; Engraving Connection; Millennium Security Services; SuperBowl bowling center; Magic Medical; Oakwood Health-Care; Clean Air Technology Inc.; Waltonwood of Canton; Brackney Chiropractic; Canton Foot Specialists; and Evola Music.

Also participating are Coldwell Banker Preferred Real Estate of Ply-

mouth (two offices); Liberty Park, Hidden Pond and Brookhaven senior citizen communities of Westland; The Senior Alliance, Wayne; and Wingate Management of Southfield, which operates two Canton senior residential complexes, Willow Creek Apartments and Clark East Tower Apartments.

The event is the outgrowth of numerous requests from businesses "asking to have the opportunity to talk to seniors" about what they offer, said Ryan Ambrozaitis, chamber director. "This is a wonderful opportunity for businesses to get in front of senior citizens, as well as give them (seniors) a chance to stop in and meet the various

Ryan Ambrozaitis
—Canton Chamber of Commerce

Please see EXPO, A2

Standing on ceremony



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

Young leaders: Christa Henkel (from left), Rebecca Hunemorder, both from West Middle School, and Sarah Matheny, from Central Middle School, show off their graduation certificates from Youth Leadership Canton. The three were part of the first 28-member class to go through the program. Certificates were presented at a Recognition Day banquet April 14 at Summit on the Park. Also recognized was the 12-member committee responsible for putting together the Youth Leadership program.

I-275 rebuild to start Monday after week delay

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
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Postponed because of rain. That isn't what the box score read about a Tigers baseball game this week; rather it is the reason why the nearly 200,000 motorists who use I-275 each day have not seen lane reductions and traffic crossovers yet.

The April rains have created delays in construction this week on this year's \$49 million resurfacing project of I-275 between I-696 in Farmington Hills and Five Mile Road in Livonia, just north of the I-96/M-14 interchange.

Construction originally scheduled to begin April 19 was delayed at least one week.

"Due to the wet conditions, and additional rain on the way for the next several days, I-275 construction will not begin until Monday, April 26," said Robin Pannecouk, spokeswoman with the Michigan Department of Transportation.

"(Contractors) need to pave temporary shoulders and all the crossovers. Their equipment won't work efficiently on this kind of soil with all the water that's there." As of Tuesday, rain remained in the weather forecast through the weekend.

Motorists can expect to see a closures of the "loop" exits on Monday. In about two weeks, if contractors complete crossover and temporary lanes on the northbound side and the weather cooperates, southbound drivers will be

crossed over to the northbound lanes just north of Grand River in Farmington Hills, then back to the southbound side south of Five Mile Road in Livonia.

Southbound traffic will be crossed over for the next three months so that the southbound lanes can be resurfaced. Motorists can expect traffic delays in that construction zone as the freeway's four lanes will be reduced to three.

The traffic gridlock is expected to extend to westbound I-96 in Livonia, as the two-lane exit from that freeway onto northbound I-275 will be narrowed down to one lane. Congestion is expected in Farmington Hills as one lane of the two-lane ramp from westbound I-696 to southbound I-275 will

be closed.

Loop ramps from westbound M-5 to southbound I-275 and from westbound I-696 to eastbound M-5, which connect to this ramp, will also be closed.

Temporary crossover exits will be installed and marked for motorists accessing Six Mile, Seven Mile and Eight Mile roads.

The loop ramps at those "Mile Road" interchanges, along I-275 will be closed until at least October, and with weather delays, that period may be extended to November. These ramps include westbound Six Mile to southbound I-275, eastbound Six Mile to northbound I-275, westbound Seven Mile to southbound I-275, northbound I-275 to westbound 7 Mile, and westbound Eight

Please see I-275, A2

Preschoolers learn fire safety



Interesting getup: Kayla Ludwig (center) is not sure what to make of Canton firefighter Steve Borgelt, in his full turnout gear and breathing apparatus. The Canton Fire Department brought a truck and rescue vehicle to the Truesdell preschool last week to teach the children about fire safety and not to be afraid of firefighters if they should ever be caught in a fire situation. Hamza Ansari and Satima Mallick are at left.

Expo from page A1

businesses all at one time," he said.

He concurs

Bob Schone, president of Millennium Security, agreed with Ambrozaitis. Schone, whose company offers electronic security systems and service - including burglary, fire and health surveillance - only last month changed its name from ProStar Security.

That put Schone in the position of having to introduce his business, which has only been in Canton for a year anyway, to the public all over again.

And seniors as well as others "are leery of strangers knocking on the door. So this (Senior Expo) gives me the opportunity to introduce them to my company in a safe, nonthreatening environment," he said.

"I've wanted to do this for a long time," said Dianne Neihengen, coordinator of Canton's Seniors Program, noting "we wanted our seniors and their families to be aware of the many

excellent products and services available to them."

However, she said, she'd been frustrated in presenting such a program because of a policy prohibiting them, for fear the public would assume official endorsement of the businesses.

But a few months ago, after repeated requests from businesses, she approached the chamber. "They thought it was a win-win situation" for the seniors program, the chamber and the local business community, Neihengen said.

She believes the expo will be "a good indicator that we're doing what we need to do," pointing out that the majority of people in her programs are 60 and older.

Response has been so good, she said, that "now we have an idea for another kind" of exposition: A social services fair, held on a separate day and featuring only service agencies and organizations, some of whom she is already hearing from regarding such an event.

Ice arena from page A1

concept at Michigan Avenue and Haggerty. It was to include the ice and soccer arenas, a seven-court basketball facility, the golf driving range, movie theaters, an indoor/outdoor recreational facility and restaurant.

While Griffin couldn't acquire enough land to include the movie theaters, he presented plans for the rest of the project to the township last December.

That's when Canton officials sold Griffin on moving the development to the softball center.

Numerous advantages of the move are thought to include:

- A central location for recreational facilities.
- A viable year-round restaurant on-site.
- Potential traffic problems on Haggerty are eliminated.

■ The deal is contingent upon Griffin securing a suitable developer for the ice arena by May 26. Turner said his company will have no trouble meeting that deadline.

■ Existing parking makes development costs lower.

For Griffin, the deal meant the right to purchase the original 19.4-acre Haggerty Road parcel. Turner said the parcel will be developed as a research park to fit current zoning.

The deal, however, is contingent upon Griffin securing a suitable developer/operator for the ice arena by May 26. Turner said his company will have no trouble meeting that deadline.

"I'm very confident," he added. Griffin Properties had already

spent time and money screening developer/operators when the project was slated for Haggerty and Michigan Avenue. Continuing that process for the new site allows for faster development, Turner said.

"We had such a head start on Canton," he added, "that it made sense for us to follow through."

The ice arena will contain at least two sheets of ice for hockey and skating. Turner said more complete details about the arena will be released when the developer/operator is named.

Trustees already approved the sale of eight acres for a soccer arena at the softball center site. The 120,000 square foot soccer arena will feature three fields.

A separate 80,000-100,000-square-foot golf course will be part of that development.

A "common" site plan for the soccer and ice arenas "will likely be presented to Canton trustees next month," Turner said.

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TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

Published: April 22, 1999

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Still in bloom

Greenhouse springs to life on family's 165-year-old homestead

BY BETH SUNDRA JACHMAN
 STAFF WRITER
 bjachman@ec.homecomm.net

In 1834, Stephen Smith took a trip down the Erie Canal from New York and homesteaded on some farmland.

Now, 165 years later, the Smith family is still working on part of that land - as Clyde Smith and Sons Greenhouse and Farm Market - in Westland.

"I've lived here all my life," David Smith Sr., Clyde's son and a great-grandson of Stephen, said, adding that he was born on the property rather than in a hospital.

"I used to farm with my dad," Smith, 69, said. In those days the family farmed 250 acres.

Clyde Smith died in 1984.

But even before his death, the family started using greenhouses and cutting back on what was growing in the fields.

The switch to greenhouses gave the family more control over the success of each growing season, according to David Smith Sr.

So the family tradition continues as Smith's children are active in the business - David Jr., Barbara and Carol - as well as a couple of grandchildren who are just starting out in the business.

The family business still grows lots of vegetables, but sells them for plants. They also grow an impressive variety of flowers in their 35 greenhouses. A big box store may carry four or five colors of petunias, while the Smiths carry 40 colors. The Smiths also carry 40 or 50 kinds of geraniums, which come from patented stock.

A seasonal business, the payroll gets up to about 90 people in May and on through the summer.

The store's focus also changes as the gardening supplies of early spring give way to pro-

duce during summer and into fall and then to Christmas items after Thanksgiving. Then the cycle starts all over again with plantings in the greenhouses in January.

A peak season is from Mother's Day to Memorial Day as people do their planting.

To chart what's selling, the Smiths keep a diary on what they grow and sell, David Smith Sr. said.

Gardening shows on television also influence what is grown and sold. Hydrangeas get mentioned a lot and the business is selling four or five times as many as it used to, David Smith Jr. said.

But sometimes people get sold

dubbed "Lucy" to transplant young plants.

Meanwhile, nearby, a crew was transplanting by hand. Nancy Krueger of Canton Township works on transplanting young plants.

"It makes spring come real soon working in here," she said.

Fellow worker Dee Zalewski of Westland has worked at a variety of jobs at Clyde Smith in her 30 years with the company.

"I love it. It's a pleasure to work around flowers," she said. "The Smiths are like family."

Nearby, Rudy Almaraz of Westland has worked for the Smiths in a variety of jobs since he was 7 or 8 years old. He's now 53.

He's been there since Newburgh Road was a gravel road, he said.

Westland has changed a lot since the early days of the Smith farm.

During the Depression, children would work the farm to earn money for their families.

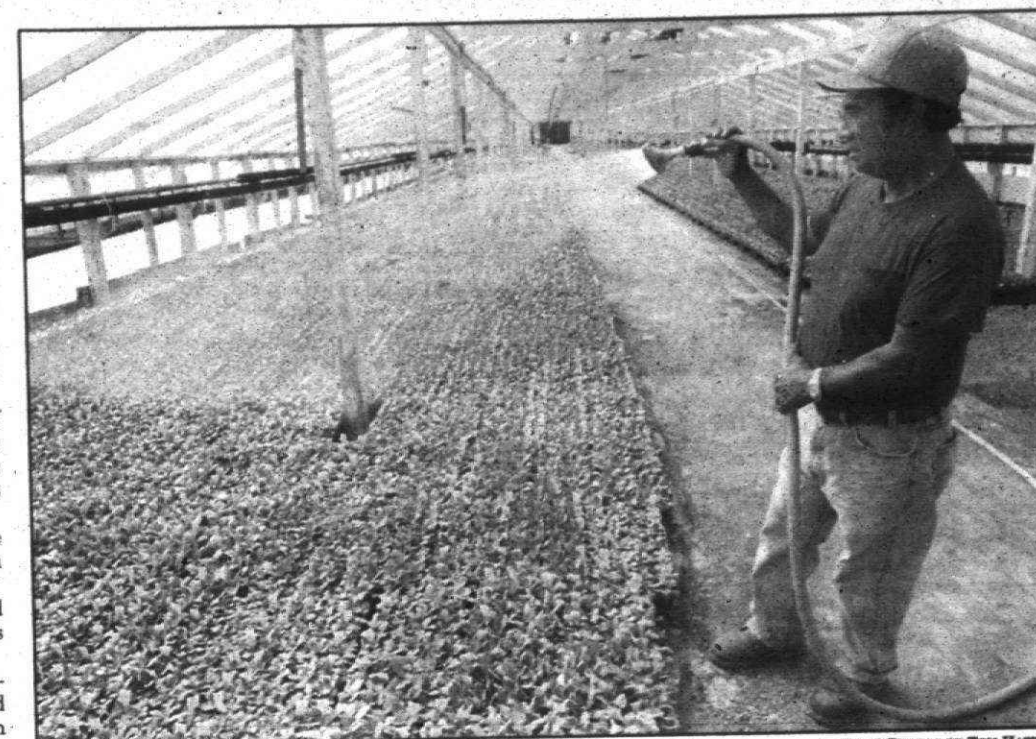
Also, the family used to rent surrounding land to farm on, Smith said. "The whole area's built up," said David Smith Sr., who has many memories of the farm, including finding hundreds of

Indian arrowheads in the fields as a kid and watching as hundreds of WPA (Works Progress Administration) workers reed the channel of Tonquish Creek.

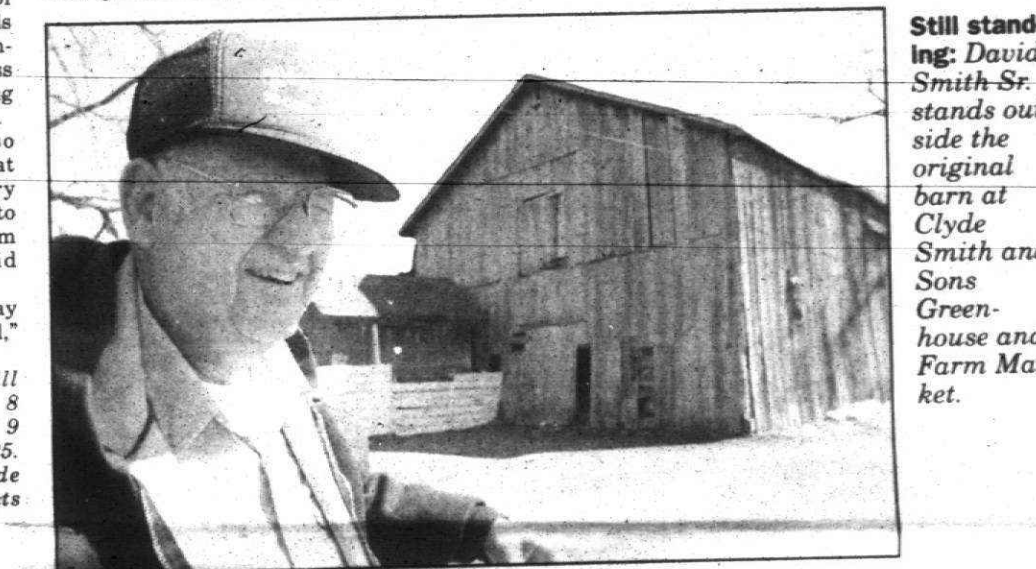
The Smiths' business also included a chestnut orchard at one time. They used to carry chestnuts on the Interurban to Western Market and sell them for 90 cents a pound, David Smith Sr. said.

"It was farmland all the way to Greenfield when I was a kid," he said.

Clyde Smith and Sons will hold an open house 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, April 24, and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, April 25. The open house will include tours, seminars, refreshments and door prizes.



Watering work: Arnulfo Almaraz has worked for Clyde Smith and Sons since 1973. Here, he waters petunias in one of the greenhouses. At left, Dee Zalewski (left) of Westland, who has worked for Clyde Smith and Sons for 30 years, and Sue Hallmark of Westland, who has worked for the business for 10 years, transplant young plants. Behind is Mary Knotts (left) of Redford, newly hired, and Kathy Evans of Canton, in her first year.



Still standing: David Smith Sr. stands outside the original barn at Clyde Smith and Sons Greenhouse and Farm Market.

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@ the Canton Public Library
 Did you know?
 ■ Today, Earth Day, first observed on April 22, 1970, is a global celebration this year with more than 142 countries participating? It's a day set aside to reclaim the purity of the air, water and living environment.
 ■ During the month of March, a total of 591 new library cards were issued to children during First Grade Round-Up.
 ■ New York was the first state to require license plates on all automobiles on April 25, 1901?
 ■ Chilies are the main ingredient in Ben Gay?
 Picture books for kids
 Here are some illustrated books for young readers available from the Canton Public Library:
 ■ "The Beastly Feast" by Bruce Goldstone
 ■ "Cow's Can't Fly" by David Milgrim
 ■ "If You Give a Pig a Pancake" by Laura Numeroff
 ■ "Look to the North: A Whirlwind of Giving and Who Serve as Role Models for Others."
 The dinner will be open to the public, and reservations at \$30 per person can be made by calling (734) 721-7044.
 Bokus, in a press release, commented on this year's honorees. "Glenn Shaw's leadership in establishing the Westland Community Foundation has raised the level of charitable giving in this community to a new high level, and more importantly has enabled valuable grassroots groups and projects to obtain necessary funding."
 Organizations and citizens

Y in Westland to honor resident
 The Wayne-Westland YMCA will honor Canton resident Glenn Shaw Jr. and Celestine Sanders at its annual recognition dinner 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 29, at the Hellenic Cultural Center.
 Westland District Judge Charles Bokus, board chair, announced the honorees and commended them as "dynamic volunteers who have done so much to help the lives of many families in our Wayne-Westland communities."
 The YMCA's recognition dinner, in its 23rd year, honors volunteers who best exemplify a

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Nearly half of county roads to get some repair

P·A·R·I·S·I·A·N

'Wishes' event draws a crowd



Ready to bid: Nancie Petrucci holds up a basket, one of the many items up for bid during Monday's live auction for the Make-A-Wish Foundation at Ginopolis Parthenon restaurant. She was seeking mother Nancy's opinion on the item.

The family of a 7-year-old girl fighting cancer will get a trip to Disney World thanks to the generosity of some 200 Plymouth-Canton area residents and Canton dentist John Robison.

"Rainbows and Wishes," the second annual Make-A-Wish fund-raiser hosted Monday by Robison at Ginopolis Parthenon Restaurant in Plymouth Township, generated an estimated \$33,000, the dentist said. Robison estimated the dinner-auction will be able to donate about \$20,000 after expenses to the Make-A-Wish organization.

"To see what these kids and their families go through and to know we can offer something that will alleviate that - if only temporarily - that makes it worth it," Robison said.

This year's beneficiary was a Wayne County girl diagnosed with Burkitt's lymphoma, a cancer that affects the abdominal area. She has requested a trip to Disney World in Orlando, Fla., the same wish as last year's beneficiary.

Make-A-Wish doesn't reveal beneficiaries' names. Robison said he relied a lot on

patients, clients and other personal contacts to help meet his goal, which has become something of a personal mission. "It helps to have a previously established relationship," he said.

"And these people really came through," the dentist added. Some \$25,000 in donated items were auctioned off Monday. They included:

■ Dinners for two from several area restaurants, including Station 885 in Plymouth and L-Bis-teca, steak house in Plymouth Township;

■ Cruises donated by Carlson Wagonlit Travel of Plymouth and a vacation at the Garland Golf Resort in Lewiston, Mich., donated by Plymouth Air-Cooled Equipment Co.;

■ Watercolors signed by Plymouth artist Johnnie Crosby.

Robison said planning is already under way for next year's event and a dozen people attending Monday's dinner are joining the effort.

He also credited his wife, Marilyn, for spending countless hours to help make the event a success.



At the buffet: Patrons line up for appetizers during an auction for the Make-A-Wish Foundation Monday at Ginopolis Parthenon restaurant in Plymouth Township.

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUSCHMAN

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING MEDIAONE TELECOMMUNICATIONS PERMIT APPLICATION

PLEASE take notice that a public hearing as required by the Plymouth Township Telecommunications Ordinance will be conducted regarding the Telecommunications Permit Application filed by MediaOne Telecommunications of Michigan, Inc. at the regularly scheduled Plymouth Township Board Meeting to be held on April 27, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. at Plymouth Township Hall located at 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

L88009

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

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

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TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

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Sealed bids will be received by the Office of the Clerk, Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, MI 48188 until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, May 6, 1999, at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud for the following:

PURCHASE OF ONE (1) GOLF CAR TYPE UTILITY VEHICLE

Specifications are available in the Finance & Budget Department. Bid must be enclosed in an envelope which has been sealed and clearly labeled with the words (GOLF CAR TYPE UTILITY VEHICLE), time and date of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

L880188

CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON 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, May 3, 1999, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

PHEASANT RIDGE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) - FINAL PLAN - CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NOS. 019 99 0015 004, 019 99 0016 701, 019 99 0017 000, 019 99 0018 000, and 019 99 0019 000. Property is located on the northeast corner of Warren and Ridge Roads. Second Public Hearing.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, April 29, 1999 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

L880191

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

Sealed bids will be received by the Office of the Clerk, Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, MI 48188 until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, April 29, 1999, at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud for the following:

ATHLETIC FIELD BLEACHERS

Specifications are available in the Finance & Budget Department. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

L880192

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

Sealed bids will be received by the Office of the Clerk, Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, MI 48188 until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, May 6, 1999, at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud for the following:

PURCHASE OF ONE (1) HEAVY DUTY UTILITY VEHICLE

Specifications are available in the Finance & Budget Department. Bid must be enclosed in an envelope which has been sealed and clearly labeled with the words (HEAVY DUTY UTILITY VEHICLE), time and date of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

L880190

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

Sealed bids will be received by the Office of the Clerk, Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, MI 48188 until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, May 6, 1999, at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud for the following:

PURCHASE OF ONE (1) TRIPLEX GREENS MOWER

Specifications are available in the Finance & Budget Department. Bid must be enclosed in an envelope which has been sealed and clearly labeled with the words (TRIPLEX GREENS MOWER), time and date of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

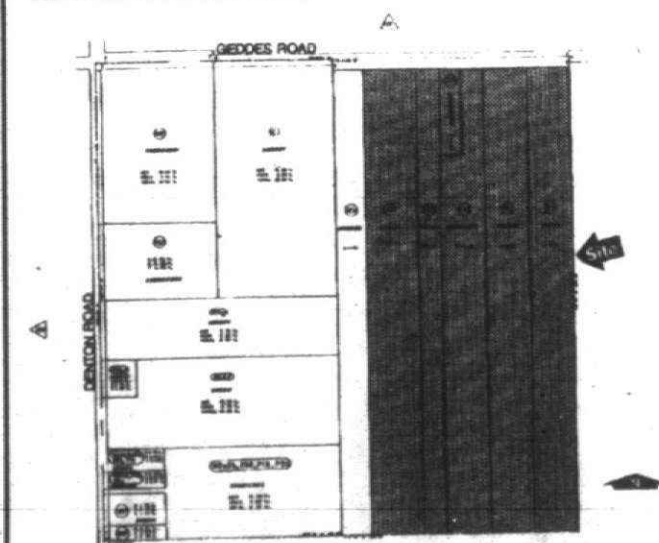
L880190

CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON 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, May 3, 1999, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

GROSS REALTY GROUP REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NOS. 126 99 0001 000, 126 99 0002 000, 126 99 0003 001, 126 99 0003 002, 126 99 0004 000, AND 126 99 0005 000 FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL, TO R-6, SINGLE FAMILY ATTACHED RESIDENTIAL. Property is located on the south side of Geddes Road between Denton and Beck Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, April 29, 1999 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

L880192

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:

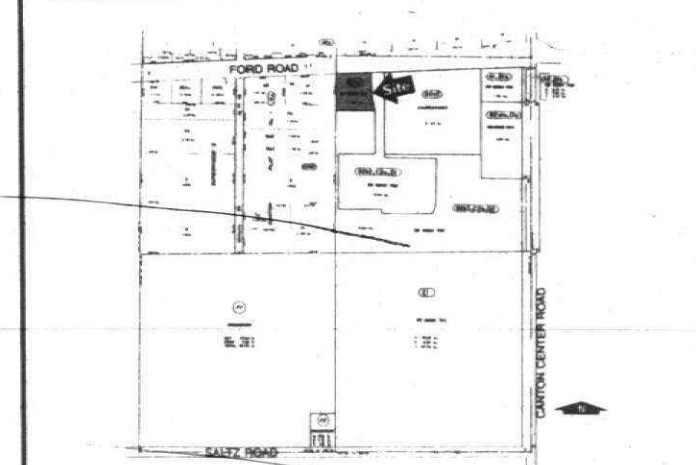
David Medley
ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton
1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188
(734) 397-5435

L880200

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Monday, May 3, 1999 at 7:00 P.M. in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road to consider a request for the following special land use as provided in Section 27.03 of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance:

BELLE TIRE SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR AN AUTOMOBILE REPAIR GARAGE AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 16.02B.8 FOR PARCEL NO. 061 99 0003 701. Property is located on the south side of Ford Road west of Canton Center Road.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, April 29, 1999 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

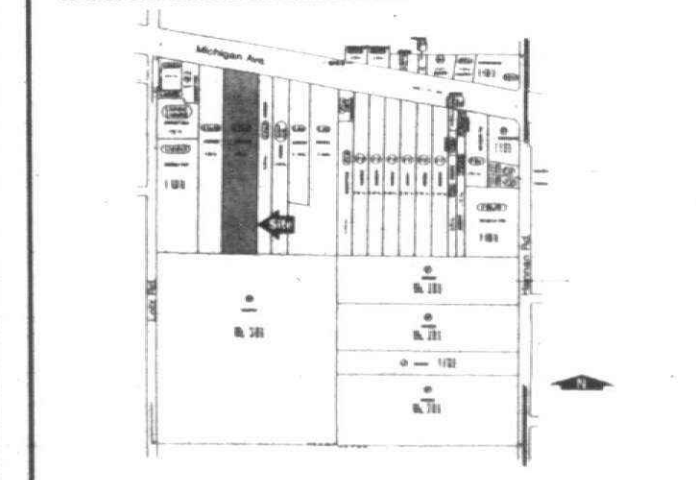
VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

L880197

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Monday, May 3, 1999 at 7:00 P.M. in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road to consider a request for the following special land use as provided in Section 27.03 of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance:

JARRATT ASSOCIATES SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR TWO (2) HOTELS WITH BANQUET FACILITIES, AND A FREE-STANDING RESTAURANT, AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 22.02B.4 FOR PARCEL NO. 141 99 0029 000. Property is located on the south side of Michigan Avenue between Lotz and Hannan Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, April 29, 1999 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

L880198

CAPITOL CAPSULES

Sports bill

Gov. John Engler is seeking policy changes to blur the lines between school districts and between public and private schools.

Engler's vehicle is a called a "supplemental" appropriations bill because it would supplement the regular \$10 billion school aid bill with \$188 million.

Big item is requiring K-12 public schools to allow students from charter schools, private and "home" schools to participate in sports and other extracurricular activities in their district of residence.

The idea is encountering fierce opposition from public school coaches and school administrators. The big fear: It's a foot-in-the-door of parochialism.

The state PTA bulletin this week reported that "A groundswell of opposition has spurred House Republicans to issue the 'abandon ship' order" for this portion of the bill. Two of the 15 Republican sponsors have withdrawn their support.

■ Watercolors signed by Plymouth artist Johnnie Crosby. Robison said planning is already under way for next year's event and a dozen people attending Monday's dinner are joining the effort.

He also credited his wife, Marilyn, for spending countless hours to help make the event a success.

A second big item is a new "blended" method of counting pupils, whereby several counts throughout the school year would be made. Purpose is to reward schools that retain students beyond the first week of classes.

A school "day" is defined as at least five hours beginning in fiscal 2001 (Oct. 1, 2000). Anything less will be counted as a fraction of a day.

Engler also calls for "schools of choice" beyond intermediate (county) district boundaries. "Finally, there's more money for schools. Basic funding in fis-

cal 2000 will go to \$5,652, with no district receiving less than \$5,550. The bill is in the House Appropriations Subcommittee on School Aid.

Environment checks

The state Senate gave four more years of life to an Environmental Response Act but rejected a Democratic amendment that 5 percent of sites be inspected by the state.

Senators voted 38-0 to extend the "sunset" on the act to June 5, 2003. It requires that a person pay a \$750 fee to the Department of Environmental Quality when applying for exemption from liability for hazardous substance cleanup costs. The exemption can be given to someone who becomes owner or operator of a contaminated site after June 5, 1995.

There's no on-site inspection by DEQ," said Sen. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township. His amendment requiring that a 5 percent sample of all sites seeking exemption was defeated 16 to 22. All 15 Democrats and Republican Dave Jaye of Macomb County voted yes. The other 22 Republicans voted no.

Peters said the law can be abused by a company's overstating the amount of pollution in determining the baseline for contamination. "That gives them a free ride to pollute," he said.

Sponsor Ken Sikkema, R-Grandville, said the Peters amendment could backfire. As written, his bill "gives a company an incentive to do a good assessment: If they don't detect contamination, they become liable. If (Peters' amendment) would be harmful to require DEQ staff to do useless audits that detract from their mission."

Refer to Senate Bill 420 when writing to your state representative.

ive, State Capitol, Lansing 48909-7514.

New bills

New state legislative bills have been introduced by:

■ Sen. Mat Dunaskiss, R-Lake Orion - to prohibit the attorney general from filing "frivolous" suits against gun manufacturers. Dunaskiss seeks it as an amendment to the AG's budget bill. "If we allow government to hold gun makers liable for the felonious actions of some criminals, what's next? Will we sue automakers because of the felonious driving of some drivers?" Dunaskiss said.

■ Sen. George Hart, D-Deerborn - requiring state inspectors from Consumer and Industry Services to survey nursing home residents to see if they are happy with facilities. It's a companion bill to another measure to create a nursing home consumer rating index.

■ Rep. Nancy Quarles, D-Southfield, to require inflationary increases in the homestead property tax credit, currently a maximum \$1,200 credit on the income tax. Her amendment was inserted in another tax bill. If it had been passed last year, she said, the credit in 1999 would have been \$1,219.

Meanwhile, the House unanimously passed a bill by Rep. Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, to regulate investigations by county medical examiners of suspicious deaths involving a fire. It was prompted by a Southfield case where a woman was beaten to death by her husband, who set fire to the house. Her death was ruled accidental until the state fire marshal ruled it was arson. HB 4084 goes to the Senate.

Refer to Senate Bill 420 when writing to your state representative.

Projects from page A5

craft, resurface 0.6 miles, \$125,000
Farmington, Five Mile to Seven Mile, resurface two miles, \$1.7 million
Five Mile, I-275 to Levan, resurface 1.25 miles, \$774,000
Five Mile, Merriman to Middlebelt, resurface one mile, \$857,900
Hines Drive, Plymouth Township limit to Plymouth Road, resurface 0.5 miles, \$100,000
Joy, Farmington to Morriman, resurface one mile, \$693,500
Middlebelt, I-96 to Five Mile, resurface one mile, \$696,000
Middlebelt, Plymouth Road to Joy, resurface one mile, cost not available
Plymouth Road, Eckles to Ann Arbor Road, resurface one mile, \$459,000
Seven Mile, Wayne to Farmington, reconstruct and widen one mile, \$3.2 million
Inkster, I-96 to Five Mile, resurface one mile, \$695,652
West Chicago, Inkster to Beech Daly, resurface one mile, \$207,000

resurface one mile, \$695,652
Plymouth Township
Haggerty, Ann Arbor Road to Plymouth, resurface one mile, \$304,000
Hines Drive, Wilcox Road to township limit, resurface one mile, \$284,000
Lilley Road, Joy to 0.3 miles north, resurface, \$66,000
Main Street, Joy to Ann Arbor Road, resurface 0.72 miles, \$750,000
Ridge, Ann Arbor Road to Powell, pave gravel, 0.75 miles, \$766,400

Redford
Five Mile, Inkster to Beech Daly, resurface one mile, cost not available
Inkster, I-96 to Five Mile, resurface one mile, \$695,652
West Chicago, Inkster to Beech Daly, resurface one mile, \$207,000

West Chicago, Telegraph east to Detroit city limit, resurface 0.65 miles, \$145,000

Westland
Joy Road, Farmington to Mer-riman, resurface one mile, \$693,500
Hines Drive, Merriman ramp to Inkster, resurface two miles, \$400,000
Farmington, Ann Arbor Trail to Joy, resurface 0.26 miles, \$60,000

Bridge improvements
Canton Center over the lower Rouge River, \$750,000
Geddes over Fowler Drain, \$500,000
Morton Taylor over Willow Creek, \$3.1 million (includes road)

Haggerty over Middle Rouge, \$500,000

Repair from page A5

Motorists can view a complete listing of Wayne County's road construction projects on the County's Web site at www.waynecounty.com, as well as the following road construction-related information:

■ Construction status: Biweekly updates will be posted

to inform motorists of the progress of each county project, including expected lane closures and estimated completion dates. A digital map of construction projects also will help motorists avoid construction zones.

■ Project design status: See

how far along upcoming road projects are in the design process and when they are expected to be put out for bids.

■ Five-year federal aid list. See which federal aid-eligible roads are slated for repairs through 2003.

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School schedule

Senate bill discourages districts from starting before Labor Day

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER
trichard@oe.homedomain.net

Schools would be discouraged from starting classes before Labor Day under a bill before the Michigan Senate.

If passed, the bill would require that public schools and academies be closed on the Friday before Labor Day for the years 1999-2001. That would set up a four-day Labor Day weekend but wouldn't prevent a pre-Labor Day opening.

Meanwhile, a seven-member task force would be created to report back to the Legislature and governor by the end of 2000.

The Senate Labor Committee reported out the bill April 14 on a 3-2 party line vote. Supporting it were Republicans Loren Bennett (chair) of Canton, Joanne Emmons of Big Rapids and Leon Stille of Spring Lake.

"It's a local control issue," objected Democrat Gary Peters of Bloomfield Town-

ship, joined by Burton Leland of Detroit.

Sponsor is Walter North, R-St. Ignace, whose district includes some of Michigan's prime vacation land — the eastern Upper Peninsula and the northeastern counties of the lower.

Resort owners have pushed for a post-Labor Day opening. They argue that August openings cut off a choice hunk of their summer season.

The task force would be required to study "the economic and educational impact" of (1) no classes on the Friday before Labor Day and (2) no opening until after Labor Day.

The governor would appoint members. They would be picked from lists submitted by teachers unions, Michigan Association of School Boards, Michigan Association of School Administrators, the Travel Michigan unit of the Jobs Commission, Travel Commission, Michigan Chamber of Commerce and general public. Peters submitted the

amendment to let the Michigan Education Association and Michigan Federation of Teachers nominate teacher members.

A similar bill, sponsored by then-Rep. Pat Gagliardi, D-Drummond Island, died in the House last session. It was generally opposed by area school districts because:

■ School calendars often were part of collective bargaining contracts.

■ Teachers wanted to make K-12 calendars match university calendars so they could work on master's degrees during summer.

■ The state has mandated a longer school year.

■ Schools need flexibility to make up for closures during "snow days."

Refer to Senate Bill 53 when writing to your state senator, State Capitol, Lansing 4909-7536.

Memorial service set for shooting victims

A memorial service is scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday at the mausoleum at Mount Hope Memorial Gardens in Livonia in memory of people killed in Tuesday's shooting at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo.

Two heavily armed young men opened fire in a suburban Denver high school, that left at least 15 people dead and injured at least 25 others in what police there described as a suicide mission.

Karen Green, manager of

Mount Hope, set up the memorial service for metro Detroiters to lend their support through prayer for victims, their families and survivors of the shootings.

People attending the memorial service can sign a registry book to be sent to Columbine High School. A special fund—The Columbine High School Family Fund in care of Greater Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, 661 W. Eight Mile Road, Detroit, MI 48203 — has been established.

Pastors or other members of the Archdiocese of Detroit are expected to speak at the service. Green has invited members of the public, whether they are high school students, counselors or principals, to speak as well.

Businesses also have donated items for the service, Green said. For information about the service, donating to the victims' fund or donating goods for the Saturday service, contact Green at (734) 522-2200.

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Paul Leduc



Kirk Falvey

Presented by Paul Leduc, Financial Consultant, and Kirk Falvey, Estate Planning Attorney

FARMINGTON HILLS Tuesday, April 27, 1999 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. (afternoon) LONGACRE HOUSE 24705 Farmington Rd. (Between 10th & 11 Mile Rds.)	WATERFORD Wednesday, April 28, 1999 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) WATERFORD TWP. PUBLIC LIBRARY 5168 Civic Center Dr.	NORTHVILLE Thursday, April 29, 1999 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) NORTHVILLE CITY HALL 215 W. Main St.
LIVONIA Monday, May 3, 1999 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) LIVONIA CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY 32777 Five Mile Rd. (E. of Farmington Rd.)	BIRMINGHAM Tuesday, May 4, 1999 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) BIRMINGHAM COMMUNITY HOUSE 380 S. Bates St.	CLARKSTON Wednesday, May 12, 1999 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) INDEPENDENCE TWP. LIBRARY 6495 Clarkston Rd.

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Generous bidders help make auction best yet for Madonna

Auction-goers were in a bidding mood last Friday at the 11th annual Madonna University Around the World Scholarship Dinner Auction.

"The auction was a tremendous success," said Andrea Dodge, director of marketing and public relations.

"Madonna University grossed \$300,000 which is the largest proceeds Madonna has ever realized through the auction," said Nodge, adding that "proceeds from the car raffle will go toward renovation of the residence halls and the auction proceeds will be used for scholarships for Madonna students and other special projects."

Some 450 guests enjoyed din-



STAFF PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

Raising funds: Sister Mary Francilene, president of Madonna University, is joined by Lina and John DeL Signore, owners of Laurel Manor and general chairs at last Friday's fund-raiser.

ner at the Laurel Manor in Livonia and were generous with bids. A suite for 20 at the Joe Louis Arena for a Red Wings playoff game went for \$19,500. The item was donated for auction by William and Bridget

Please see AUCTION, A11



Helping out: Auction-goers included Madonna trustee William T. Phillips (left), his wife Bridget, Richard Asztalos, MaryLou and Dan Andrews, Livonia residents and honorary chairs for the event.

Welcome to the Marriott

Concierge wins top honors for hospitality

BY RENÉE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER

For the past six years, Livonia resident Nancy Tressler has arrived at her job as concierge at the Livonia Marriott at 6:30 a.m. determined to make everyone who walks through the hotel's front door feel welcome their entire stay.

She keeps the complimentary tea and coffee in the lobby hot and the gift shop well-stocked. She delivers morning papers, picks up prescriptions, tracks down wayward laundry, and makes reservations for dinner and appointments for haircuts.

Come 3 p.m., the end of her workday, she judges her effectiveness.

"I want everybody to go out the door with a smile on their face. I want to make sure I've taken care of all their needs."

Tressler's efforts haven't gone unnoticed. She was recently named "Michigan Concierge of the Year" by the Michigan Hotel and Motel Association and "Lodging Employee of the Year" by the American Hotel and Motel Association for 1998.

Haydn Kramer, the hotel's market general manager, accumulated guests' letters of praise and nominated Tressler for the initial award. "It was easy to write a compelling piece about Nancy. She's dedicated to our hotel."

Tressler also won the "Rose Award" in 1997, the Metropolitan Detroit Convention & Visitors Bureau's top prize for service.

A 5-foot bundle of energy with salt-and-pepper hair and a quick smile, Tressler, 54, patrols the hotel lobby and restaurant. Mostly, she's on the lookout for meeting-weary business people and other new guests.

A giving nature



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Honored: Nancy Tressler of Livonia has been named "Michigan Concierge of the Year" by the Michigan Hotel and Motel Association for her efforts at making guests at the Livonia Marriott feel welcome. For guests, she has done everything from sewing a button on a shirt to decorating Christmas trees in the rooms.

She is a born nurturer. She has brought balloons and chocolate chip cookies to a sick 3-year-old boy and delivered roses and candy to husbands' rooms at their wives' requests. She has even done guests' laundry.

"I once took a man's shirt home. He needed it for a 7 a.m. meeting and had missed the laundry pickup. He also needed a button. I found one that matched in my sewing box and

sewed it on. I washed the shirt, ironed it and took it up to his room at 6:30 a.m. the next morning."

One Christmas a few years ago, she received a call from a man requesting that a suite be decorated with three Christmas trees for his stay that evening. He wanted a tree in the living room, another in the bedroom and a third in the bathroom.

Tressler decorated the trees,

trimmed the mirrors with garland and lights, and filled the rooms with flowers and votive candles. "I think it was a very private party."

Above and the call of duty? Not at all, said Tressler, adding that there are no official limits to her duties. If a guest wants champagne on the nightstand and chocolates on the pillow, she does it. She has carte

Please see CONCIERGE, A11

Come See Master Artist Hand-Decorate Furniture Treasures

Master Artist Tom Jahn from Jasper Cabinet Company will demonstrate his highly specialized skills and create one-of-a-kind curios, entertainment centers, credenzas, secretaries and chests at our Novi store. Each heirloom quality treasure will be autographed by Mr. Jahn and will be available for immediate purchase. He will also hand-paint your name on a Jasper jewelry box, FREE with Jasper purchase.



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at all Newton stores on hand-decorated cabinets in cherry, oak and mahogany finishes.

Demonstration at Novi Store —

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Sunday Noon - 5pm

Register to win a FREE hand-painted jewelry box. No purchase necessary.

Newton

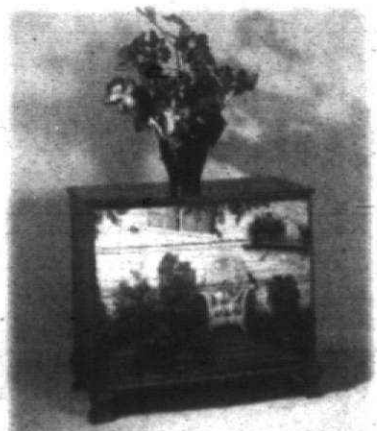
FURNITURE

Good Price. Good Furniture. Good Idea.

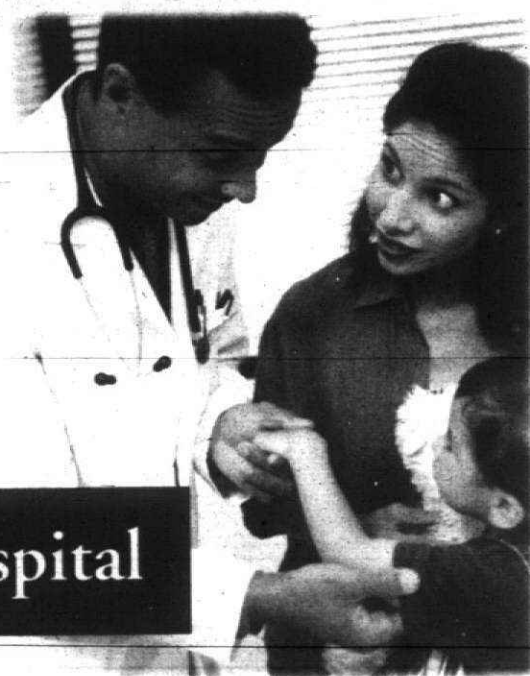
Novi On Service Drive at 12 Oaks Mall (248) 349-4600	Sterling Heights On Van Dyke, between 16 & 17 Mile (810) 264-3400	Livonia On Middlebelt between 5 & 6 Mile (734) 525-0030
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Our Urgent Care Center, for minor injuries and illness, has a dedicated casting room and x-ray equipment to help take care of life's little emergencies quickly. And, if your condition turns out to be more serious, you're already at a full-service hospital.

In fact, the St. Mary Hospital Emergency Center can check the state of your heart. Our new Chest Pain Evaluation Unit quickly evaluates, tests and monitors your heart — without admitting you to the hospital.

St. Mary Hospital Emergency Center. Emergency medicine that's state-of-the-art and state-of-the-heart.



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Campaign ending: Dorothy Pitsch rolls a wheelchair up the ramp to Carol Sheff and Tom Fry. When the Daimler-Chrysler semi-trailer is loaded it will be driven to a prison in Kentucky where inmates will rebuild the chairs. About 600 wheelchairs have been collected by Wheels for the World. Semis provided by DaimlerChrysler, and staffed by company volunteers will accept wheelchairs 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 24, and noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 25, at Oakland Community College, at the Orchard Lake Road entrance, south of I-696. Pitsch, Wheels for the World Detroit area chairwoman, spearheaded the campaign that represents 10 percent of what JAF (Joni and Friends) Wheels for the World has collected worldwide since 1992.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

You've Lived A Life Of Dignity, Independence And Choice.

At Botsford Commons' Assisted Living Center You Don't Have To Change A Thing.



Announcing the opening of Botsford Commons Assisted Living Center. This innovative facility, located in an historic

and newly renovated Albert Kahn-designed

building in Farmington Hills, offers a caring environment for those who need support to maintain daily living routines. Residents receive assistance only with the services needed and requested, encouraging each individual to remain as independent as possible in a safe and secure environment. Center residents retain privacy and comfort in individual apartments while their psychological and social needs are met through a variety of programs and group activities. Easily accessible community living, dining and social areas complement comfortable accommodations with private



baths and generous space for treasured personal furnishings. The center features a chapel, clinical offices and a full range of health care services including geriatric assessment programs. As an older adult, you've lived a life that has been one characterized by dignity, independence and choice: It should continue to be. When you choose Botsford Commons Assisted Living Center, you insure that the next chapter of your life is filled with the same richness of choice and independence to which you are accustomed and that you deserve.

For more information, call 248-426-6903.



28850 Grand River Avenue, Farmington Hills, MI 48336-5933

Organizers wrap up wheelchair drive

By DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

Organizers collected 600 wheelchairs to be donated to needy people around the world in an amazing five-month statewide drive.

Dorothy Pitsch, Wheels for the World Detroit area chairwoman, spearheaded the campaign that represents 10 percent of what JAF (Joni and Friends) Wheels for the World has collected worldwide since 1992.

Looking at the end of an exhausting campaign that involved more than 1,000 calls from people who had wheelchairs, the Farmington Hills woman has her sights set on the next drive.

"I'm sure there are a lot more out there for the next time that we do this," Pitsch said. "I'll give us a year, but I plan to do it again."

Semis provided by Daimler-Chrysler, and staffed by company volunteers will accept wheelchairs 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 24, and noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 25, at Oakland Community College, at the Orchard Lake Road entrance, south of I-696.

The wheelchairs came from individuals, as well as medical facilities, including Mitchell Home Medical Supplies in Ypsilanti, which donated 100 wheelchairs and parts. Shurgard Storage provided space throughout metro Detroit and Greg's Professional Painting in Novi donated an entire day picking up wheelchairs. And many of the wheelchairs came from people who wanted to make a difference in someone else's life.

Pitsch plans to track two wheelchairs and write a story for Life magazine explaining how they changed the recipients' lives. The magazine already ran an article about an 11-year-old Chinese girl who was immobile without a wheelchair. One of the chairs Pitsch will

follow belonged to Larry Brodow, 18, who died last July. His wheelchair was donated to a nun at the Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament in Farmington Hills.

"She fell and broke her leg and they thought she would never walk," Pitsch said. "The nuns prayed for her continuously, she was healed and the surgeons were amazed. And she doesn't require a wheelchair at all." Brodow's parents, who have worked tirelessly collecting wheelchairs from around the state, donated his chair to Wheels for the World.

The second wheelchair Pitsch will track belonged to Alex Graham, 17, of West Bloomfield. She died from bone cancer last January and her dying wish was for people to be considerate of others who have lost their hair and who are in wheelchairs.

With the help of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan, Graham made a 60-second public service announcement to remind viewers that sick kids want to be treated just like other kids and to remember that their illness isn't their fault. She asked people not to stare at disabled people.

At the end of the announcement she said, "Just give them a smile instead of a stare." Filmed two days before she died, the video was taken to her Beaumont Hospital room for her approval.

"The tears were flowing from the oxygen mask down her cheek," Pitsch said.

"By donating her wheelchair at least it will bring new life for another person. Her dad hugged me and he said Alex would love that."

"Jan (Glovak) and I have been totally blessed from this (the wheelchair drive) experience," Pitsch said.

To contact Pitsch, call (248) 661-3317 or Wheels for the World volunteer Jan Glovak at (248) 661-0964.

Center features astronomy program

Learn how to identify the Big Dipper, Little Dipper and Pegasus constellations and other celestial formations with guest astronomer Mike Best 7-9 p.m. Friday, April 30, at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland.

Best, the principal planetarium demonstrator of the Volbrecht Planetarium in Southfield, has been an astronomy enthusiast for 50 years. Participants can expect an informative evening beginning with an indoor slide presentation titled "Spring Skies and Space Update" followed by a discussion and outdoor star viewing, weather permitting. Refreshments will be available following the presentation.

Suited for ages 8 and above, the fee is \$2 per person and advance registration is required. This program has been made

possible through funding from the parks millage. The Nankin Mills Interpretive Center is located on Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. Parking is available off of Hines Drive, and can be reached even if the road is barricaded for flooding.

For information on this event or any other parks event, call (734) 261-1990.

The project is the final phase of the \$15 million Comprehensive Campaign which began in July 1994.

Sponsors of the 1999 auction were Don Massey Cadillac Inc., Northwest Airlines, Kincaid Printers Inc. and Al Long Ford. The auction was coordinated by Rose Kachowski, director of corporate development and special events, under the supervision of Sister Mary Lauriana, vice president for university advancement.

Auction from page A9

Phillips of Phillips Service Industries in Livonia. William Phillips is a Madonna University trustee.

Other high-bid items included two weeks in Italy in the town of Fonte D'Amore as guests of auction chairs, John and Lina DeSignore, \$10,000; dinner for 20 at Under the Eagle Restaurant in Hamtramck, \$2,500; week in Waikiki, Hawaii plus airfare via Northwest Airlines, \$2,400; and an eight-course dinner for six at Tribute in Farmington Hills, \$1,500.

Madonna alumna Christine

Lees of Grosse Ile won the 1999 Don Massey Cadillac Sedan DeVille. Tickets were sold at \$200 each. Lees is a 1989 graduate in allied health management and is presently working on her master's degree at Madonna.

The Kresge Foundation recently approved a grant of \$350,000 toward the renovation of the University Center and Residence Halls. The grant is made on a challenge basis to assist in raising the balance of more than \$1 million required to complete the project's funding by July 1, 2000.

Concierge from page A9

blanche permission to make her guests comfortable.

"Nancy is much more than a greeter. This is a person who captures and solves problems," said Kramer.

Family traits

Tressler believes a good part of her nurturing spirit comes from her grandmother, Anna Rose, who raised Tressler from 18 months after raising 15 children of her own.

"My grandmother overwhelmed me with love and spiritual guidance," said Tressler, recalling her daily treks to Mass with her grandmother. "I told my husband as long as I'm alive my grandmother will live through me."

Tressler's empathy extends to her co-workers, many of whom are younger. "I'm like a mother. Basically what I do is listen. They just talk it out. It keeps me young."

Tressler is modest about her awards. "I feel very humble about everything that's happened to me. I'm only one person, and it takes all of us together to make a good Marriott team."

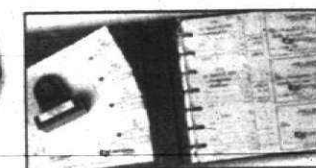
However, there's no doubt that Tressler loves her job and gives it 100 percent every day. "When I leave I say, phew, I think I did my best today."

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Plymouth Dog Jog '99

Saturday, May 8, 1999

Kellogg Park, Plymouth
Registration: 12 Noon
Dog Jog: 1:30 p.m.

SPECIAL APPEARANCE
"DOGMATICS"

Dan Morris Canine Precision Drill Team

All participants will receive a limited edition "Dog Jog '99" T-shirt and Bandanna.



Pooch Smooch Booth

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
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Steve Petix Clothier

Canton Center Animal Hospital
Gage Marketing
Vanessa's Flowers
Specialty Pet, Eukauba-IAMS - Plymouth
Invisible Fence of Metro West
First Security Title
Roose Animal Hospital
Water Club Grill Ann Arbor Rd. E. of I-275
Wilke's Community Pharmacy
Allegra Plymouth - Printing & Imaging

West Suburban Club to host state's largest stamp show

The 30th annual "Plymouth Show," sponsored by the West Suburban Stamp Club, will take place on Saturday and Sunday, April 24-25.

The show will be in Central Middle School at Church and Main in downtown Plymouth. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 24, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 25. Admission and parking are free.

The exhibition is the largest stamp show in Michigan, with more than 2,800 exhibit pages on display. The Plymouth Show is a qualifying show for the American Philatelic Society's "World Series of Philately."

The exhibit Grand Award winner will compete in August for the 1999 national championship at "STAMPsHOW '99" in Cleveland, Ohio against winners from 34 other national shows.

In support of the show Michigan Gov. John Engler has issued a proclamation declaring the week of April 18-24 as Michigan Stamp Week.

A 41 dealer bourse will offer stamps, covers and supplies in the bourse area for both the new and experienced collector. The dealers themselves come from 13 states and Canada.

The club is offering a set of two cachet covers honoring the 150th anniversary of the Saint Andrews Society. There will also be a U.S. stamp raffle and a number of seminar and society meetings.

Young stamp collectors are always welcome at the "Plymouth Show." This year's program will offer stamp-related games and free stamps for each junior collector.

The United States and United Nations will have on-site post office substitutions open during show hours to sell their current issues.

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Saturday and Sunday

April 24 & 25

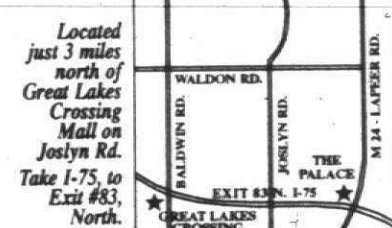
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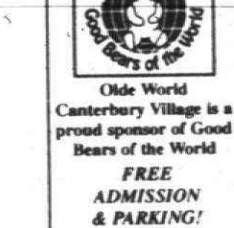
BY GANZ

ARTISTS

Lorraine Chien

Mary Holstad

Carol E. Kirby



Prizes & Give-Aways!

Did she cause his death? WATCH COURT TV FOR THE ANSWER.



Jenny Jones became famous for putting people on the hot seat. Now it's her turn as a Michigan jury decides who is liable for the murder of Scott Amedure. Don't battle the crowds downtown at the courthouse... watch the trial live with the experts on Court TV.

The Jenny Jones Civil Trial
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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD PROCEEDINGS

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, April 13, 1999 at 1150 South Canton Center Road. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to return to an open session at 12:03 p.m. All votes were unanimous. A check called the meeting to order and led the Board of Trustees to a closed session for the purpose of discussion of employee negotiations, pending litigation and property purchase. Motion carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL (Closed)
Members Present: Bennett, Burdick, Kirchgatter, Lajoie, McLaughlin, Sheffery, Yack
Staff Present: Durack
Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to return to an open session at 12:03 p.m. All votes were unanimous. A check called the meeting to order and led the Board of Trustees to a closed session for the purpose of discussion of employee negotiations, pending litigation and property purchase. Motion carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL (Open)
All Members Present
Staff Present: Durack, Machnik, Minghine, Santomaro, Rorabacher, Voyles, Zerkalnik
ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
General Calendar Item No. 14, Approval of Lease Agreement with Cleats, Inc., was added to the agenda. Motion by Bennett, supported by Lajoie, to adopt the agenda as amended. All votes were unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Motion by Bennett, supported by Sheffery, to approve the Minutes of March 23, 1999 as presented. All votes were unanimous.

PAYMENT OF BILLS
Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by Lajoie, to pay the bills as presented. All votes were unanimous.

EXPENDITURE RECAP
General Fund 101 \$ 440,186.81
Fire Fund 206 \$3,691.13
Police Fund 207 109,319.75
Community Center Fund 208 38,389.38
Police Fund 211 \$1,230.25
Street Lighting Fund 219 22,994.30
Cable TV Fund 230 2,889.72
Community Improvement Fund 246 56,686.58
E-911 Emergency Funds 261 1,198.30
Special Investigative Fund 267 6,749.00
Federal Grants Funds 274 1,082.00
State Projects Fund 289 371.53
Downtown Dev. Fund 290 790.50
Police Benefits 298 3,705.06
Bld. Auth. Construction Fund 489 2,975.94
Water & Sewer Fund 592 521,569.81
Construction Reserve 702 9,629.17
Total All Funds 101,297,471.31

CONSENT CALENDAR
Motion by Bennett, supported by Lajoie, to remove from the table and publish the Second Reading of the amendments to the Electrical Ordinance No. 77(B) to become effective upon that publication on April 22, 1999. All votes were unanimous.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 77B ELECTRICAL ORDINANCE SUMMARY

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 77, ELECTRICAL ORDINANCE, FOR SAFEGUARDING LIFE AND PROPERTY BY REGULATING AND PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, FIRE ALARM ELECTRICIANS, JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIANS, FIRE ALARM SPECIALTY TECHNICIANS, SIGN SPECIALTY CONTRACTORS, MASTER ELECTRICIANS, JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIANS, APRENTICE ELECTRICIANS AND FIRE ALARM SPECIALTY TECHNICIANS, PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR AN ELECTRICAL EXAMINING AND APPEALS BOARD AND ITS POWERS AND DUTIES; PROVIDING FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE RECIPROCAL ELECTRICAL COUNCIL, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF AVOIDING UNIFORMITY OF ORDINANCES, ELECTRICAL RULES, LICENSING, EXAMINATIONS AND GENERAL RULES; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. This section amends Ordinance No. 77 as follows:

Section 1.1. Short Title
This section titles this Ordinance as the "Electrical Ordinance".

Section 2. Definitions
This section defines "Apprentice Electrician", "Board", "Department", "Electrical Equipment", "Electrical Contractor", "Electrical Inspector", "Electrical Journeyman", "Electric Sign", "Electrical Wiring", "Fire Alarm Contractor", "Fire Alarm Specialty Technician", "Fire Alarm System", "Johibite", "Master Electrician", "Minor Repair Work", "Municipality", "Outline Lighting", "Owner", "Sign Specialist", "Sign Specialty Contractor", "Sign Specialty License", and "Related Sign Wiring".

Section 3. Electric Inspection
This section grants jurisdiction to the Electrical Examining and Appeals Board over the inspection of electrical installations, empowers the Board to promulgate and recommend rules and regulations concerning electrical work in the Township and provides that the Board of Trustees shall appoint an Electrical Inspector.

Section 4. Fees for Inspection
This section provides that the Board of Trustees shall establish fees for permit, license registration and examination.

Section 5. Right of Access to Buildings
This section provides that the Electrical Inspector shall have access to buildings in the exercise of his or her official duties and authority to connect electrical supply available for current is dangerous or may interfere with the work of the Fire Department.

Section 6. Permits
This section makes it unlawful to install, alter or repair electrical equipment without a permit, and provides that permits may be issued to Licensed Electrical Contractors, Licensed Fire Alarm Contractors, Licensed Sign Specialty Contractors and a bona fide owner of a single family residence, no part of which is used for rental or commercial purposes.

Section 7. Contractor's Requirements
This section prohibits any person, firm or corporation from engaging in the business of electrical contracting, fire alarm contracting, or sign contracting unless first licensed by the state or appropriate municipality, and prohibits any person other than a Master Electrician or a person licensed, employed by and working under the direct supervision of an Electrical Contractor's License, Fire Alarm Contractor's License or Sign Contractor's License, to execute any electrical wiring, except for work indicated in Subsections (g), (I)-(n), and provides that a license or permit is not required to execute work specified in Subsections (a)-(f) and (h).

Section 8. Inspection
This section requires the person, firm or corporation installing wiring, to notify the Township Building and Inspection Services Department, and provides that the Electrical Inspector shall inspect any installation in conformance with this Ordinance, to issue a Certificate of Inspection, and provides that all wires to be hidden from view must be inspected prior to concealment.

Section 9. Re-inspection
This section provides that the Electrical Inspector may, when authorized by state law or ordinance, make periodic re-inspections of wiring, devices and material installed within the Township, and if found to be dangerous or unsafe, to notify the person, firm or corporation owning, using or operating the device to make necessary repairs and/or changes within fifteen (15) days, and to disconnect electrical service if found to be defectively installed.

Section 10. Construction Requirements
This section prohibits the issuance of a Certificate of Inspection unless electrical installation conforms with the provisions of this Ordinance, the rules, regulations and regulations of the Michigan Public Service Commission, the regulations of the National Electrical Code, the Township Building Code, and the N.F.P.A.'s 71-74 for Fire Alarm Systems, and are deemed to be prima facie evidence of approved methods.

Section 11. Approval Materials
This section makes it unlawful to use any electrical device or equipment unless of good design and construction, and provides that devices and equipment approved by recognized authorities, such as U.S. Bureau of Standards, Electrical Testing Laboratories, Underwriters Laboratories, or Factory Mutual, may be approved by the Electrical Inspector.

Section 12. Record and Review
This section requires the Building and Inspection Services Department of Canton to keep complete records of all permits and inspections, and provides that an owner or agent, after receiving written notice from the Electrical Inspector, shall, at or part of an electrical installation is condemned, may, within five (5) days, petition for a review by the Electrical Examining and Appeals Board.

Section 13. License and Registration for Electrical Work
This section establishes the membership of the Electrical Examining and Appeals Board.

Section 14. Sign Specialist
This section provides that such Board shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees of the Township of Canton, and that the Board shall examine all applicants for Electrical, Fire Alarm and Sign Specialist Licenses, and shall examine all registrants for Apprentice Electricians and Fire Alarm Specialty Technician Apprentices.

Section 15. Sign Specialist License
This section provides that applicants for Journeyman and Master Electrician Licenses, Fire Alarm Specialty Technician Licenses, and Sign Specialist License shall designate their residence address as their legal address; all applicants for contractor licenses shall designate their principal place of business as their legal address.

Section 16. Sign Specialist License
This section provides that all Electrical Contractors, Fire Alarm Contractors, Sign Specialty Contractors, Master Electricians, Journeyman Electricians, Fire Alarm Specialty Technicians, Sign Specialists, Apprentice Electricians and Fire Alarm Specialty Technician Apprentices shall have their legal addresses within the corporate limits of the Township, shall secure their license or registration from the Township.

Section 17. Sign Specialist License
This section provides that the Board shall prepare application forms, prescribe the examination, and meet on call of the WestWayne Waukegan/Oakland Electric Examining Board to hold examinations for Journeyman, Master Electricians, Fire Alarm Specialty Technician License, and Sign Specialist License.

Section 18. Sign Specialist License
This section sets forth, in part, the subject matter of the examination for the Electrical Contractor's License, Fire Alarm Contractor's License, and Sign Specialty Contractor's License.

Section 19. Sign Specialist License
This section provides that all application and examination forms be in English, and that all applicants be able to read and write the English language.

Section 20. Sign Specialist License
This section provides a person holding an Electrical Contractor's License, Master Electrician's License, Electrical Journeyman's License, or Apprentice Electrician's registration shall not be required to hold any specialty license to examine a Fire Alarm Contractor's License.

Section 21. Sign Specialist License
This section makes it unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to engage in the business of Electrical Contractor, Fire Alarm Contractor, or Sign Specialty Contractor without first having procured the appropriate contractor's license.

Section 22. Sign Specialist License
This section sets forth the requirements and criteria to obtain a Fire Alarm Contractor's License.

Section 23. Sign Specialist License
This section sets forth the requirements and criteria to obtain a Sign Specialty Contractor's License.

Section 24. Sign Specialist License
This section sets forth the requirements for the registration of Apprentice Electrician, the requirements for the registration of Journeyman or Master Electrician to register Apprentice Electrician on the jobsite.

Section 25. Sign Specialist License
This section sets forth the requirements for a Fire Alarm Specialty Technician's License, the consequences of failing to pass the Fire Alarm Specialty Technician examination two times within two years, and the conditions for renewal of said license.

Section 26. Sign Specialist License
This section sets forth the requirements for an Electrical Journeyman's License, the consequences of failing to pass the Electrical Journeyman examination two times within two years, and the conditions for renewal of said license.

Section 27. Sign Specialist License
This section sets forth the requirements for a Fire Alarm Specialty Technician's License, the consequences of failing to pass the Fire Alarm Specialty Technician examination two times within two years, and the conditions for renewal of said license.

Section 28. Sign Specialist License
This section sets forth the requirements for a Fire Alarm Specialty Technician's License, the consequences of failing to pass the Fire Alarm Specialty Technician examination two times within two years, and the conditions for renewal of said license.

Section 29. Sign Specialist License
This section sets forth the requirements for a Fire Alarm Specialty Technician's License, the consequences of failing to pass the Fire Alarm Specialty Technician examination two times within two years, and the conditions for renewal of said license.

Section 30. Sign Specialist License
This section sets forth the requirements for a Fire Alarm Specialty Technician's License, the consequences of failing to pass the Fire Alarm Specialty Technician examination two times within two years, and the conditions for renewal of said license.

Section 31. GENERAL
This section provides for deviation from requirements, plans and specifications, installation procedures, 24 hour notice before inspections are required, inspection before commencing, availability of blue prints on the job, representative for inspection, posting of notices of inspection, code interpretations, special event requirements, certificate of inspection, and advertising.

Section 32. FILING OF PERMITS
This section provides for the requirements of electrical permits, temporary permits, additions to permits and additional permits.

Section 33. DEFINITIONS, PERMIT REGULATIONS, FEES
This section provides for the following definitions of adopted from Chapter 1, Article 100 of the National Electrical Code of 1986: "approval", "Electrical Contractor", "Master Electrician", "Journeyman Electrician", "NEC 1996 Edition", "Owner", "Person", "Portable Electric Sign", and "Scoreboard".

Section 34. This section provides for Permit Regulations, revocation and expiration of permits, incomplete installations, inspection of partial installations, owner's notification to the inspection authority, refunds, transfer of permit, and owner completing work started by contractor.

Section 35. This section provides for Permit fee.

Section 36. EFFECTIVE DATE
This amendment to the ordinance shall become effective upon publication in the Canton Observer on April 22, 1999.

Section 37. This section provides for the requirements of electrical permits, temporary permits, additions to permits and additional permits.

Section 38. This section provides for the requirements of electrical permits, temporary permits, additions to permits and additional permits.

Section 39. This section provides for the requirements of electrical permits, temporary permits, additions to permits and additional permits.

Section 40. This section provides for the requirements of electrical permits, temporary permits, additions to permits and additional permits.

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Roads '99 projects will ease commute

Some thoughts to ponder while waiting to make that left turn onto Ford Road: It may not seem like it this orange barrel-strewn spring, but traffic congestion throughout Canton should ease somewhat by this time next year. Wayne County will launch nearly \$8 million worth of road improvements throughout the township during the upcoming construction season. That figure doesn't include the Canton Center widening, which got under way last year and has a targeted completion date of June.

The most noticeable project - extension of Morton Taylor from Ford to Warren - will be under way by late summer. On the planning books for years, the Morton Taylor project will put a road where none existed before and provide an alternative for north-south drivers clogging Haggerty, Lilley, Sheldon and Canton Center roads.

Other major projects include:

- Widening Cherry Hill to five lanes and Lilley to three lanes at the Lilley-Cherry Hill intersection;
- Widening Haggerty to five lanes from Warren to Ford;

- Paving Beck Road from Cherry Hill to Ford;
- Resurfacing portions of Belleville, Canton Center, Geddes, Joy and Sheldon;
- New bridges over the Lower Rouge River on Canton Center and the Fowler Drain on Geddes.

The work is being done under the "Partnership '98" program, in which the county picks up 80 percent of the costs with the township contributing the remaining 20 percent.

Even Canton officials - who in previous years loudly criticized the level of support - have acknowledged the county's recent largesse. "If they want to give us \$8 million every year we'll take it," said Canton Supervisor Tom Yack.

Yack though remains skeptical that these projects are a long-term solution to Canton's road woes and we agree. The township's traffic volume will continue to grow along with its population and development, particularly in the northwest and southwest portions.

A dedicated, local road millage - rejected twice by voters in the last four years - may yet be on Canton's horizon.

911 investigation a good move

While the Observer was greatly dismayed over events that led to the inadvertent loss of recorded 911 calls, we applaud the Canton Public Safety Department's effort to determine a cause for the incident and avoid its repetition.

The snafu began after Canton resident Kim Mandry voiced a complaint over unprofessional treatment by a 911 dispatcher following a March 24 call. Mandry wanted a police check for her mother, a custodian working alone at Walker-Winter Elementary on Michigan Avenue.

The Observer, under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, requested to listen to the recorded conversation between Mandry and the dispatcher. Canton police officials say that while trying to retrieve the recording for the newspaper, several days worth of calls, including Mandry's, were accidentally erased by

another dispatcher.

John Santomauro, Canton Public Safety director, has said an internal investigation is already in progress and should be complete within 30 days. Once a cause is determined, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken, Santomauro said.

The Observer hopes the director follows through on his promise. And we firmly believe the results of the completed investigation should be made public.

Residents should find comfort in the fact that the department is up front about admitting a mistake and apparently serious about correcting it. Confidence in township public safety services has always been a high priority with those who choose to live in Canton. The department's accountability goes a long way toward fulfilling that confidence.

State 'road rage' bills off target

Oh, wow! More "tough new laws." This time the Michigan Legislature's target is "road rage."

As if passing a law could make drivers stop going 20 mph over the speed limit, running red lights, tailgating, passing on the right, cutting off others entering a freeway from a ramp, crowding another driver literally off the road, flashing headlights to intimidate another, flipping "the bird" and on and on, *ad nauseum*.

Two bills to enact tough new laws against "criminal road endangerment" are currently on the state Senate's calendar. They appeared to be moving quickly early in March, but then the sponsor, Sen. William Van Regenmorter, R-Jenison, stopped the forward motion.

Road behavior, particularly in southeastern Michigan, is disgraceful. You notice it driving north from Ohio, where drivers usually observe speed limits, particularly on US 23 and I-69. When they hit the Michigan line, however, down goes the right foot, and up comes ... "road rage."

On I-96, the bad behavior drops a bit at Brighton and becomes rare after the Portland exit, west of Lansing. On I-75 northbound, it becomes safer once you're past Standish. In Ontario, you can breathe a sigh of relief a few miles east of Windsor.

So what can be wrong with passing ever more laws?

The bills define "criminal road endangerment" as any three of the above-listed offenses that would likely harm another vehicle, a motorcycle, bicycle or pedestrian. Any three.

Penalties would escalate for repeat offenses, for displaying a firearm, or for causing injury or death. Maximum: four years in prison, a fine of \$5,000, license revocation and six "points."

We see two problems:

■ Catching the miscreants who drive so crazily. Drivers routinely travel at 85-90 mph on I-96 and I-696 without the flashing blue lights of the police interfering. On surface roads, the chances you will be stopped for slipping

ping through as a light turns red are a whopping 500 to 1. There just aren't enough patrol cars to dampen the current bad driving. There is nothing in SB 287 and SB 390 that we can see to put more patrol cars on the freeways and roads.

■ Getting a conviction. Ask any student if we have a system of trial by jury, and the student will say "yes." False. We have a system of attorney negotiations. Something like 95 percent of misdemeanor and felony cases never go to trial because the accused either pleads guilty, or a high-priced attorney negotiates a deal.

We predict few "criminal road endangerment" cases ever will result in convictions. With the high stakes of prison time and stiff fines, an accused will find it financially feasible to hire a lawyer and negotiate downward to just one or two offenses. A prosecutor won't want to take the chance of going to trial and losing, so he'll negotiate.

Few "road rage" types drive rusty pickup trucks. Most have nice, new, fast cars and good jobs. The attorney will ask the judge to be lenient because the driver has a responsible job and often a family that would become innocent victims if he were sent to the slammer.

We got a laugh out of the poll conducted for the Michigan State Safety Commission in which drivers were asked to rate themselves: 61 percent rated themselves "above average," a mathematical impossibility.

So what can we do about "road rage?"

Put more patrol cars on the roads. We may have to forego that income tax cut from 4.4 to 3.9 percent.

Find methods of holding up genuinely bad drivers for public ridicule. In part, that's the job of the media, but it would help if state police could somehow make information available to all the competing media.

Legislators certainly spend enough on publicity for their bills. They should be able to allocate more to publicizing some of the crazier drivers.

Four-legged fan



Go Chieffs: Kita, a 7-year-old Akita mix, owned by Liane Kufchock of Northville, sports a red cape with a "C" for Plymouth Canton High School at the recent Mangan track meet. Kufchock is the host parent of senior Juan Cortez, an exchange student from Argentina who participated in the high jump.

LETTERS

Lawsuit draws praise

I am sorry to hear that Jerry Vorva's efforts to stand up for our fundamental voting rights have come to an end.

I commend his valiant endeavor to see common sense should have dictated that a new vote should have taken place. His actions are a testament that after some 200 years we are still fighting for our vote to be counted. After all wasn't that what the framers intended our nation to pursue? To this day it is a struggle to be fairly represented.

It is pathetic that 716 of my fellow citizens' votes have been thwarted and denied a chance for a new vote on the school bond issue. The Constitution guarantees us a right to vote; however it appears that it does not guarantee us a trustworthy system. You can take that tidbit on your next trip to the voting booth.

Fred A. Ferracciolo
Canton

We don't belong in Kosovo

This letter is submitted as another view point to the letter of Michael Gerou dated April 8 entitled "Stop Genocide."

Generally speaking, wars are fought for either land and/or assets. Military forces' primary mission is protection of the state, commonly referred to as acting on behalf of the nation's "best interests." Any time spent in a peace-keeping mode is time away from the primary training vehicle, "war fighting."

In this century, a review of history would indicate that no aggressive nation has been successful in its expansion efforts for its cause. Rather than win, the aggressive nation has lost!

Thirty years post-Vietnam, the United States finds itself by a commander in chief who's resume would kindly refer to himself as a "pacifist."

The United States military forces in the late 1990s cannot repeat a Desert Storm operation nor can it fight a philosophical-in-theory two-war front. The plain facts are that the military is stretched to the max: doing more with less and hoping that two enemies do not simultaneously threaten our existence.

Genocide is defined by Webster's as "the deliberate and systematic destruction of a racial, political or cultural group." It's best

example in American history is what the WASPS did to the Indians!

Since we chose to not get militarily involved in the deaths of approximately 800,000 people in Rwanda to find myself asking why we are getting deeper and deeper into a "European problem."

As a combat veteran at the ground level in Vietnam, I believe that Ronald Reagan's Secretary of Defense, Casper Weinberger, said for American involvement one should consider: a failure to declare war, the enemy determination, any peace movement, any potential Russian and/or Chinese support, a lack of commitment by the US, a critical media, poor strategy and poor politics.

A careful review of the aforementioned statements would indicate to me that at the present time we do not belong in Kosovo! Furthermore, where was our warmonger in the White House really 30 years ago? American should be intently listening to the voice of Arizona Sen. John McCain and not the commander in shame/chief!

Roger L. Kehier
Plymouth

It's all in the name

Listeria kills people. Irradiation kills Listeria, and virtually all other bacteria, but it is feared more. Nuclear activists made the word "radiation" cause terror. America dismantled safe power plants and returned to coal and gas. Pollution, explosions and death have resulted, but we have been saved from atomic energy.

Electricity has been used safely for 100 years, but some still wonder where it goes when the switch is turned off. Microwave ovens are as common as toasters, but cause panic in people who will comfortably stare at a television tube.

Irradiation of meat will save more lives than pasteurization of milk, but it may need to change its name. Gamma Clean, Rays are Us, Micro Germ are a few suggestions.

Hank Borgman
Farmington

Canton Observer

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OUR MISSION: "Because we publish community newspapers, we think about community journalism in a fundamentally different way than our bigger competition. They consider themselves to be independent from the stories and communities they cover, swooping in to write the unusual or sensational and then dashing off to cover something else. We regard ourselves as both accurate journalists and as caring citizens of the communities where we work."

— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Call of The Goofball excludes enjoying the great outdoors

The Goofball and his buddies arrived from the Detroit area about 1:30 a.m. on an August night in 1996. Their destination was the Ambrose Lake State Forest Campground in Ogemaw County.

That's up north, but not very far north, about 10 miles from West Branch, maybe a three-hour trip from the Detroit area on I-75. So The Goofball must have left home after dark.

I know the area a bit. It's not far from the Rifle River campgrounds. I've scouted campsites in the past but rejected most because they are contaminated by people like The Goofball whose chief source of recreation is a gas-guzzling vehicle. Other writers also have reported how the hillsides in that part of the state are being ripped up by motorized vehicles.

The Court of Appeals opinion says the group intended to do off-road riding. The Goofball knew he was supposed to pay a camping fee but didn't. Prior to reaching the campground, they ate a pizza (no camp food over an

open fire for these softies) and bought a case of beer. The Goofball said he had "three or four beers" before arrival, the court record says.

"At approximately 2:30 a.m., plaintiff (the court's name for The Goofball) started his off-road vehicle (ORV), with the intention to warm up the vehicle and check out the path and to come back and gear up and then head out." Plaintiff was not wearing any safety equipment, including a helmet.

The Goofball checked out the path and headed back to the campsite, traveling on the left side of the road, "when he suddenly struck something. The impact with the object caused the ORV to become airborne, and vaulted plaintiff's body forward into a tree. From his point of contact with the tree, plaintiff was thrown to the center of the road and severely injured.

"The object plaintiff struck was a cedar post. Such cedar posts are used throughout the campground, and at other campgrounds around the state,



TIM RICHARD

The Court of Appeals opinion says the group intended to do off-road riding. The Goofball knew he was supposed to pay a camping fee but didn't.

to prevent people from driving through certain areas of the park. The posts stand approximately 18 inches high, are approximately 6 to 12 inches in diameter, and are placed approximately 2 feet apart."

Get this: In the middle of the night, The Goofball has drunk beer, operates an off-road vehicle without a helmet, makes a racket for the forest creatures, hits a post that is intended as a barrier - and sues us, the taxpayers, with a claim against the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

The Goofball argues that his route was some kind of highway. Under a doctrine going back to Henry II of England, government is immune from most lawsuits except, in Michigan, for defective highways. In the Court of Claims, the judge throws out the suit.

The Goofball seeks a reversal in the Court of Appeals. Judges Stephen Markman, Joel Hoekstra and Brian Zahra are unimpressed with The Goofball's logic, saying:

"We conclude that the natural grassy area is not an improved portion of the highway. Consequently, the cedar post that plaintiff struck constitutes an installation outside the improved portion of the highway." They affirmed the Court of Claims

judge. I would have fined The Goofball for whatever damage he did to the cedar post, the tree he hit and the grass he landed on, and charged him for the ambulance run and the law enforcement officer who investigated; then maybe tack on a \$1,000 charge for the Non-Game Wildlife Fund for disturbing the wildlife. Then I'd confiscate his ORV, or what's left of it, until he paid part of the \$100,000-plus salaries of the three appellate judges.

Certainly it was no way to enjoy Michigan's environment. The conventional method is to sit around a campfire, sip a beer, pick the guitar until 9:30 or 10 p.m., then listen to the coyotes howl or the owls hoot until beddy-bye time.

It's more fun than being airborne when you hit a tree.

Tim Richard reports on the local implications of state and regional events. His voice mail number is (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1881.

LETTERS

More to the story

In my last letter, I asked each member what they plan to do to resolve the problems we, as a school district, are having in regard to spending taxpayers dollars on non-education matters. No response yet, but now another question.

Do you know how much has been given out in court settlements in the last 10 years? I have the figures for 1997. There were two. How much money did we pay out to purchase five years of retirement for a teacher? Why didn't we (the Plymouth-Canton School District) try to resolve this by working with the teachers or by following the Michigan Teacher Tenure Act? I feel with proper handling by our superintendent, we would not have had to use education money to

pay for a costly settlement.

I now agree with Mr. Goldman. It is not his settlement agreement, it is the Board of Education's. Yes, you are legally responsible for every aspect of education in our schools. You are responsible and accountable for all actions taken by all employees of the district. I have an idea, why don't you try talking to some of the employees?

In all the agreements it is stated "the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education (the board) mutually desires to resolve the tenure and grievance matters." How can you do this without looking at both sides? Have you talked with any of these people we are sending our tax dollars on? Yes, you can. It is legal, ethical and probably a very good idea. Why not try it? Dr. Little and Mr.

Goldman are not giving you all the facts.

How about conducting an exit interview with all employees who are leaving the district this year? Have a neutral party to do an exit summary with all employees. Ask them to tell the board how they feel about working in the Plymouth-Canton School District, and what they feel would be beneficial, to the district in the future in order to meet the goals of quality education for our young people. Try to get your information from more than one side.

Kenneth Smith
Plymouth

Another great season

Congratulations to Mr. Chuck Olson, Jim Mellis, Jim Shinn, and the Salem Swim Team for winning the conference finals swim meet on Friday, Feb. 27. This was the seventh year in a row that the Salem Swim Team has achieved their goal of winning the WIAA Championship.

What has made this group of young men special is the fact that even though the year began with the team feeling the loss of their teammate, Mike, and some having doubts about the team's ability, they worked hard to accomplish their goal. While there were some disappointments along the way with the loss of some dual meets; they focused on their goal: to win the championship. This is an example of a fine group of coaches and young men who proved that success can

come if you never give up.

Chuck Olson and his coaching staff should be commended. They had a year of changes, and they continued - as they have every year - to do a wonderful job coaching. These coaches not only teach swim skills but more importantly the students learn about teamwork, commitment, respect, and responsibility. These are life skills that will benefit the students forever.

Thank you to the team for letting our family be a part of your lives. Your remembrances of Mike during the season were a blessing to our family. Our best wishes and love will be with our "Swim Family" forever.

The Kilgore Family
Canton

Students need some protection

There were lots of student radicals on college campuses in the late 1950s and early '60s. I should know. I was one of them.

In those days, Tom Hayden (before he became a celebrity) and I were staffers on the University of Michigan student newspaper, The Michigan Daily. Together with a group of other activists, we launched in 1960 a campaign to get rid of Deborah Bacon, then the dean of women.

At that time, deans of women exercised a lot of power at college campuses all around the country. They set rules defining proper nonacademic conduct for coeds: drinking (mostly a no-no), dress (ladylike), dorm hours (in by 11 p.m. on weekdays, 1 a.m. weekends), sex (decidedly a no-no, but routinely ignored).

There were deans of men, too, who set nonacademic rules for male students. These were a lot looser - boys will be boys, after all - but you could get in trouble for things like rowdy or noisy behavior or having an unregistered car on campus.

Taken together, the rules governing nonacademic conduct for college students were based on the assumption that university authorities were acting as substitute parents - "in loco parentis" was the Latin phrase - while kids were on campus. And it was the notion that somebody had the right to set rules for us students that made us mad.

In due course, we got rid of Miss Bacon at U-M and, as well, the institutions of the dean of women and the dean of men. And over the next 10 years all around the country, colleges and universities gradually rid themselves of deans and ideas of *in loco parentis*.

By 1980, the idea that colleges had any business trying to govern the nonacademic behavior of their students was passé. University boards of trustees amended their rules.

Some - U-M among them - wound up with no rules whatsoever governing nonacademic conduct. If the kids violated the laws of Ann Arbor or Michigan, it was the cops' business to arrest and charge them.

The pendulum started swinging back about five years ago, when folks running colleges realized that students could do all kinds of nasty things and get away with it as long as they didn't break some nonuniversity law.

At the U-M, racist and gay-baiting fliers were occasionally distributed around the dorms. Some women were harassed and a few were raped. Thefts on campus increased.

The administration and the Board of Regents concluded that the safety and civility of the academic community were threatened. Against vehement protest, the regents in 1990 authorized armed campus public safety officers and



PHILIP POWER

later adopted a limited code of nonacademic conduct.

A bunch of well-publicized recent events on Michigan campuses suggest there is much more to do, especially with respect to alcohol.

The alcohol-fueled riot in East Lansing three weeks ago involved not only MSU students but also students from campuses all around the state. Last fall, a MSU student died of alcohol poisoning after he consumed 26 shots during a night of drinking to celebrate his 21st birthday. At Central Michigan University, another student fell out of his apartment and was killed.

Last fall, Courtney Cantor, a first-year student at U-M, fell to her death out of a window in her dorm in Ann Arbor. Traces of alcohol and a date-rape drug were found in her blood.

I was on the Board of Regents at U-M when Courtney Cantor fell to her death. A friend whose daughter is a first-year student in Ann Arbor, called me. "What can you do to assure me that your university is taking appropriate care of my daughter?" I couldn't fully answer his question.

I don't think Michigan colleges should return wholesale to the days of *in loco parentis*. But, equally, I am certain that university officials and boards of trustees have a greater responsibility to their students - and to the parents and families of these students - than merely warehousing them in dormitories or fraternities, letting them do what they will and hoping for the best.

There may be protests and pickets. But officials and governing boards should have the guts and wisdom to look at their rules of nonacademic conduct and carefully rewrite them.

In addition to being a student activist while an undergraduate at U-M, Phil Power served for 11 years on the university's Board of Regents. He is chairman of Hometown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at: ppower@oonline.com.

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Thief gets cigarettes

More than \$6,000 worth of cigarettes was stolen from H & I Smokers on Ford Road early Saturday morning.

According to Canton Police reports, an unknown subject(s) broke into the business through the front glass door. Officers noted glass and cigarette cartons lying on the floor.

Reports said both entry and exit were made through the front door. Lights were on in the interior of the shop when officers arrived.

Officer assaulted

A 35-year-old Canton Police officer was assaulted early Sunday morning while on a service call.

He was dispatched to assist three other township officers at Sherwood Mobile Home park. Officers were trying to get to a male resident who was in need

of medical attention, reports said.

The man, whom reports didn't identify, locked himself in a bedroom of the home and refused to come out. His 38-year-old fiancée, a Detroit woman, tried to talk him out of the room but couldn't.

Officers and the woman were in a narrow hallway of the home at that time. A township officer asked her to step out into the living room, said reports.

The woman yelled at officers to leave the home. Moments later she pushed the officer.

The 38-year-old was arrested for assault and battery of a police officer. She now faces a May 18 preliminary exam on the felony charge at 35th District Court in Plymouth.

COP CALLS

Retail Fraud

Two Westland men were arrested Friday on retail fraud charges.


A 20-year-old and 19-year-old went into the fitting room of Kohl's department store on Ford Road, according to reports. They each then tried to conceal clothing, including shirts and tennis shoes.

Store loss prevention officers stopped the duo. They were later transported to Canton's police department and charged with retail fraud.

Both men were released on \$100 bond.

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MOVIE GUIDE

OUT OF TOWNERS (PG-13)
1:00, 3:00, 5:05, 7:10, 9:10
GOODBYE LOVER (R)
12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:15
10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU (PG-13)
1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:30, 9:25
GO (R) 1, 2:55, 4:50, 7, 9
FORCES OF NATURE (PG-13)
12:35, 2:40, 4:45, 7:15, 9
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
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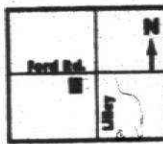
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COMMON SENSORS



JACQUE MARTIN-DOWNS

What do we value most?

Have you ever heard the name Tim Forneris? This 22-year-old man is seen by some as a hero, by others as a nut.

Tim's 15 minutes of fame came last summer when he retrieved Mark McGwire's 62nd home run ball and promptly turned it over to McGwire instead of keeping it.

Mr. Forneris has been belittled and ridiculed for doing such a "foolish thing" when he stood to make more than \$1 million by selling the infamous ball. Its brings us back to that same old discussion about what we value.

You can fairly quickly sum up what some of your friends value when you watch what they prioritize in their life. If it's their work, it comes before their family. If it's their money, they either hoard it or spend it on lots of "stuff." If it's health, they spend a serious amount of time and money on nutrition, physical fitness or doctors.

For Tim Forneris, in this instance, it was someone else's accomplishment that he valued. As Tim wrote in a letter to Time magazine, which admonished him for acting "impetuously and not treating found money seriously," he said, "My decision was by no means made on an impulse ... what did influence my actions was my family and my background."

"I have always been taught to respect others and their accomplishments. Life is about more than just money. It is about family, friends and the experience you have with them. Being able to return (the ball) to Mr. McGwire was a real honor and thrill. I still would not trade that experience for \$1 million."

As I was conducting a parenting workshop last week, I had one of the participants comment, "It's too bad more parents don't come out to hear this kind of information."

A dad in the audience, who happened to be the lone male in the group, raised his hand and offered, "My male friends at work scoff and laugh when I talk about going to seminars like this. Last week, when they found out I was watching 'Aladdin' with my kids instead of the Final

Please see SENSORS, B2

Heavenly hobby



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

Oh heavens: Virginia Saltarelli (at left) of Livonia admits her collection of angels doesn't quite rival the 700-plus angels Jean Draper of Farmington Hills has collected over the years.

Club has a soft spot for angels

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@oe.homecomm.net

Long before Roma Downey, Della Reese and John Dye earned their wings, Virginia Saltarelli, Jeanette Gabel and Jean Draper were being touched by angels.

So much so that they carry umbrellas and wear clothes adorned with the cherubic faces of angels. Look around their homes and you'll see mailboxes, flags, figurines, even books about angels.

Gabel has a signed angel shelf she bought for \$65 in Boca Raton, Fla., a lot of Lladro figurines, a woodcarved mirror from Italy and a plant stand, to name a few of the angelic furnishings in her Farmington Hills home. Of course, she has an angel wristwatch, earrings and broken china angel pin.

"Have you heard about the broken china jewelry?" Gabel asks her friends. "A friend in Maryland sent me a price for Christmas. The head and wings are made from broken china sent to a couple in Colorado who make it into jewelry."

"I have many, many, many angels. I've never counted them, I just enjoy them."

Draper who lives across the street from her, bought her first angel 48 years ago. It was a Swedish angel holding a candle that she bought for her son's first birthday.

"I probably have 700 angels plus my Christmas ornaments," she said. "A lot of mine are on open shelves. I don't get tired of dusting them because as I dust I think about where I got them or from whom I got them."

"And when people know you collect angels, you get books and everything," added Gabel.

Saltarelli, who recently moved to Livonia from the west side of the state, doesn't have as many as Draper and Gabel. Her collection numbers about 100 and many are still in packing boxes. She also reads "anything per-

taining to angels."

Club for collectors

The three women are members of the Great Lakes Chapter of the Angels Collectors Club of America which meets for lunch the second Tuesday of the month around the metropolitan area.

While the chapter covers in the entire state, its 15 members are from southeastern Michigan - Garden City, Livonia, Farmington Hills, Canton, Hartland and Detroit.

The chapter was started in 1994 by Sherry Moore of Canton when a few enthusiasts gathered at a Big Boy Restaurant. Word-of-mouth helped bring in other collectors.

"It's interesting because there's so many different kinds of angels," said

Saltarelli, who prefers very detailed angels. "Some members collect certain kinds of angels. One collects only wooden angels for her Christmas tree, one just Precious Moments angels."

Gabel and Draper collect all kinds of angels, from little bitty to big ones although Gabel doesn't described herself as a collector. She likes angels and likes getting them. She remembers buying one angel that cost just 89 cents.

"We'd shop and shop for them," said Gabel of shopping trips with Draper. "When we used to find one, it was a treasure."

Chapter dues are \$10 a year and local members must belong to the ACCA which has a \$20 membership fee. Each chapter member gets a turn

to pick where the chapter will meet for lunch. So far, the group has met at Jacobson's meeting room, the Leather Bottle Restaurant and local libraries.

"It's not a religious thing, it's non-denominational," said Saltarelli, current chapter president. "We've had speakers like the woman who owns an angel shop in Rockford and try to exchange information on shops that carry angels. We just like angels."

And one store the women enjoy shopping at in search of angels just happens to be Victorian Lace Elegance Ceramics and Country Accents on Grand River in Farmington, owned by chapter member Sandy Burkhardt.

The ACCA was organized in 1976 by Theo Marie Sponsler of Wheatridge.

Please see ANGELS, B2

A few facts about angels

- When we think of an angel, we imagine a beautiful winged human. That image can be attributed to works of art created by ninth through 17th century artists.
- Although many people now mistakenly associate angels with the Christian religion, evidence exists to support a belief in angels in almost every religion and culture; many of which pre-date Christianity by thousands of years.
- The Angel Magi of the Renaissance believed that angel magic was among the oldest forms of worship known to humans. The earliest recorded angel magic rituals were composed in ancient Chaldea around 3000 BCE.
- The Greeks believed in the existence of gods whose function was the same as Christian angels - they also believed in guardians, which they called 'daimons' - the



source of the word 'demon' because early Christians believed the angels and gods of other cultures must be devils in disguise.

■ It also was the Greeks who gave us word angel comes from their word "angelos," meaning messenger.

■ Ancient Egyptians believed that angels could be controlled by invoking the power of the names of greater angels and it was they who began the use of magical names as part of their angel magic prayers.

■ The Aryans who came to India and Persia around 2500 BCE believed in devas, meaning shining ones. The devas made their way into the Veda, a collection of sacred Hindu writings, and were closely aligned with elements of nature: earth, air, fire and water. Devas found their way into Zoroastrianism and from there evolved into angels.

Couples resolve problems with counseling

Helping out:

As a marriage counselor, Vilma Valente helps couples to get their relationships back on track.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@oe.homecomm.net

According to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, marriage is the relation between a husband and wife. The flip side is divorce, the real and legal dissolution of a marriage.

In between, there are people like Vilma Valente, a psychologist and marriage and family counselor, who helps individuals and couples get their relationships back on track.

But before that can happen, the parties involved many times need to overcome one thing - the stigma of marriage counseling.

"People hesitate to come in because they feel they should be able to do it on their own," said Valente. "They think, 'There must be something wrong with

me, if I have to get help."

Valente has been a counselor for 15 years, working with 10-15 people a week in her office in the Newman House at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Also on the faculty of the college's psychology department, Valente has a master's degree in marriage and family counseling from Wayne State University and a master's degree in education from the University of Detroit Mercy.

It was the program at WSU that attracted her to marriage counseling.

"I like to negotiate with people and help people negotiate with each other," she said. "Now I help people resolve their problems themselves."

Not surprisingly, it generally is the man who doesn't want to go for counseling.

Please see COUNSELING, B2

A-MAY-ZING MOM

Moms ... they're amazing people. Granted, they can't leap buildings in a single bound or stop a speeding train like Superman, but when it comes to juggling the demands of work, home and their children ... Well, they're just amazing.

In recognition of their amazing status, the Observer Newspapers is looking for the most "A-May-Zing Mom," living in Livonia, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton, Redford, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Westland or Garden City.

In 50 words or less, tell us why your Mom is so amazing. Be sure to include her name, address, telephone number and a photograph as well as your name, address and telephone number.

■ Entries should be sent to Sue Mason, The winner of "An A-May-Zing Mom" contest, will be announced in the Sunday, May 30, 1999, edition of the Observer. She will receive a complete makeover at Gerald's Salon in Northville Township, a \$200 ensemble from Bon-Loot in Northville and dinner for two (a \$50 value) at Ponte d'Amore Ristorante in Livonia.

And all eligible "A-May-Zing Mom" nominees will be recognized in the May 9 edition.

Counseling from page B1

seling. But usually, if one spouse starts, the other will get curious and start joining in, Valente said.

The right tools

And she finds couples are surprised that once they have the tools for a relationship, the rest seems to fall into place.

"It takes a lot of energy," she said. "A good relationship doesn't

just happen. It happens over time with the right tools."

Her counseling sessions run 45-50 minutes a week, although the time between sessions can gradually increase as the situation begins to improve. How long they are in counseling depends on the couple. Valente likes to see people for a minimum of three sessions.

"It depends on how much the

couple wants to do and when they're satisfied with the results," she said. "I've worked with some and they've resolved their differences in three sessions or three months."

Some people balk at the idea of counseling, fearing they will be told how to run their lives. That's part of the misconception of marriage counseling. A counselor, according to Valente,

"helps them realize where the problem comes from and how they can resolve it."

"In talking, we help them figure out what their problem stems from," she added. "Sometimes, they drift apart, sometimes, they focus entirely on the children. They do everything around the kids and don't leave time for themselves."

If that's the case, Valente will tell her clients they should do two days and two nights together without the children. If they don't do anything together, they can't build on their friendship, she said.

"Couples have to remain friends; they have to make time for each other," she said. "Once a week is ideal and a minimum is twice a month."

"Get a baby sitter, do whatever you have to do, but go out without the kids. You need to do something so you can talk to each other."

Valente may suggest books that are useful while helping the couple to work as a team and communicate with each other.

Last-ditch effort

In many instances, a spouse who is thinking about leaving a marriage decides to make "a last-ditch effort" to go to counseling, although some may not have the energy to resolve their problems.

"Working with a couple is a whole lot of fun, especially when both parties are willing to work," Valente said. "But sometimes you get a couple where one part-

ner wants to work on it and the other is already gone emotionally. Then you help that partner accept reality. It can be very difficult."

Sometimes, one spouse doesn't have the energy to save the marriage and decides on divorce. The marriage counselor can help the couple say goodbye and resolve issues involving the children.

"If both are committed, no marriage has to end in divorce," she said. "But it does take two."

"Each situation is as unique as the people involved. Their problems might have a common theme, but how they deal with them depends on the people involved."

For more information about marriage counseling, call Valente at (734) 464-2160.

Sensors from page B1

Four basketball playoffs, they mocked me with sarcastic remarks about how stupid I was. They think I am very strange."

Do these stories point up these two men's priorities? You bet. Sadly, a great number of people let their "feel good" instincts override a decent value system.

"Sure, I value my family," says Mike, a 33-year-old account executive. But Mike's actions speak otherwise. He spends 10 hours a

day at his office and another six hours on Saturday on the computer at home.

His wife used to appreciate the amount of money he brought home because of his hard work, but no longer. Her values about money changed when the first child was born. Unfortunately, he didn't and they now have enormous conflicts because of it. If you are a parent, there is a secret out there that may help

you set your priorities. Kids know by your actions what you value most. Let us hope that you have chosen them.

Jacque Martin-Downs is the coordinator of the Family Resource Center in Westland and has a private counseling practice. If you have a question or comment, write her at the Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or at her e-mail address: downsja@mail.resa.net

Angels from page B1

Cole...and Mary Matthews of Dallas, Texas. It has more than 300,000 members, including first lady Hillary Clinton and enthusiasts living in China, Sweden and Canada.

"It started when one of the founders read about the other in a newspaper," Gabel said.

ACCA holds biennial national conventions, featuring speakers, authors, banquet, visits to angel gift shops and field trips. One year, conventioners visited the Angel Museum in Beloit, Wis. Housed in an old church, the museum has 13,000 angels, including a number that were donated by talk show host Oprah Winfrey.

This year's convention will be Sept. 9-12 in Niagara Falls, N.Y., hosted by the Angel Collector's Club of Western New York.

"It's wonderful," said Gabel. "You get to see friends from all over. You can sign up for secret pen pals, the quote group ... Each month you send a quote to a member in the group. There's seven in our group."

It was Saltarelli's husband who found out about ACCA when he called to order an angel birdbath from a catalog. Draper learned about ACCA from an article a friend had found in an antique publication.

Saltarelli knows there are plenty of angel collectors in the

area and would like to add new members. She also knows the time the club meets can be a hindrance. She hopes that the chapter can get enough new members to start a group that meets in the evening.

"If you belong to the club, you always have someone to talk to about angels," said Saltarelli. "There's always a lot of unusual stories to tell about angels, and almost everybody who belongs has a strong belief in angels as well as love of collecting."

Angel enthusiasts interested in joining the Great Lakes Chapter can call Virginia Saltarelli at (734) 261-5636



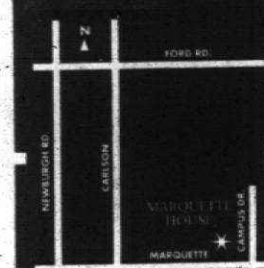
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Garden delights: Nancy Chapman (left) and Kathy Snyder look over topiaries that will serve as centerpieces on tables at the sold-out Catholic Central Mothers Club's annual fashion show.

CC Moms ready for annual show

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@oe.homedomain.net

It was an easy sell for Nancy Chapman and Kathy Snyder. In just 10 days, 760 tickets were sold for the Catholic Central Mothers' Club annual luncheon and fashion show.

Stated for Sunday, April 25, at the Ritz Carlton in Dearborn, guests will be treated to "An Enchanted Garden" theme, starting with the social hour at 11 a.m., followed by lunch and fashions provided by the shops of the Somerset Collection.

"The hardest part of this is to get someone to commit to the fashion show," said Chapman, who is co-chairing the event with Snyder. "You want to have a nice show for the guests so they want to come back, so I guess they must have enjoyed themselves last year because we sold out so quickly."

The garden theme will start in the reception area where there will be a bench and garden decor. Table decorations will feature topiary centerpieces, garden angel table favors and goodie

bags filled with seeds and garden items.

Even the invitations fit the theme. Found by Snyder, they feature garden angels and match the table favors.

The benefit got its start about 24 years ago as a card party held in the gymnasium of the high school, located on Outer Drive in Detroit at the time. The participants brought their own brown bag lunches and dessert and coffee was served.

Eventually, it evolved into a fashion show and moved to banquet facilities around the area. Being at the Ritz this year, marks the return to a popular spot, according to Snyder.

"We were at the Ritz for two evening shows about 10 years ago," she said. "The Ritz is wonderful presentation-wise. The moms wanted to come back and were happy we chose it this year."

For the fashion show, the Somerset Collection will showcase casual, everyday, sporty and evening wear. And for what has become a fashion show tradition,

14 Senior Board mothers will model evening dresses, escorted by their 15 sons (there's one set of twins) who will wear tuxedos provided by Steve Petix.

And if that's not enough, beneficiaries will have a chance to win some of the more than 150 raffle prizes. Cindy Patrick and Susan White have been coordinating acquisitions for the raffle and have jewelry, gift certificates, overnight stays, including one at the Ritz Carlton, Waterford crystal and CC spirit baskets among the prizes.

"I don't know how they do it," said Chapman. "They have \$15,000 in donated prizes and they're still working on it."

"Last year, we sold \$4,000 in raffle tickets the day of the show," added Snyder. "We didn't have enough raffle tickets and used cost check tickets. We raised around \$8,000 with the raffle."

The club raised about \$12,000 and Chapman and Snyder hope to hit \$15,000 this year. The money raised is used to purchase

items for the school. This year, the club will make a "sizeable contribution" to put air conditioning in the cafeteria, which doubles as a mini auditorium.

And even though the show is a sellout, there's still plenty to do. Chapman and Snyder and a cadre of volunteers, including many fathers and sons, will be at the Ritz at 7 a.m. the day of the benefit to help with the setup.

"It'll be a busy morning," said Chapman. "All of the committees, about 40 women, and any one else they can bring will be there."

The mothers of CC students are automatically members of the Mother's Club. It is "the gift of time" that they generously give to the school, according to Chapman.

"It's a wonderful group of ladies," she said. "Some of the mothers give 60 plus hours for an event. We had 30 women help do the mailings for this."

"There's nothing like the experience of being a CC mom. It's hard to describe."

Special honor MWF recognizes 5 women

Five women are on tap to be honored as Women of Achievement and Courage at benefit galas, sponsored by the Michigan Women's Foundation.

The accomplishments of Erma Henderson of Detroit, Pam Aguirre of Grosse Pointe Park, Elizabeth Upjohn Mason of Kalamazoo, Margaret Taylor Smith of Birmingham and Alicia Woodruff of Grand Rapids will be celebrated at the 10th annual dinners for Thursday, April 29, at the Amway Grand Hotel in Grand Rapids and on Tuesday, May 4, at The Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn.

Tickets for the dinners are \$150 each and can be purchased by calling the Michigan Women's Foundation at (734) 542-3845.

Both dinners are sponsored by the General Motors Corporation. During the past decade, the number of guest at the dinners have more than doubled and revenues have increased from \$47,000 to \$225,000.

This year, Detroit co-chairs Deborah Dingell, president of the General Motors Foundation, Geneva Williams, executive vice-president and COO of United Way Community Services, and honorary co-chair Trudy Duncombe Archer expect to attract more than 850 people at The Ritz-Carlton and raise more than \$150,000.

"This 10th anniversary of the dinner gives us much cause for celebration," said Dingell. "Funds raised at this year's dinner will allow MWF to directly support more critical programs serving women and girls in Michigan."

"At the same time, it is an opportunity for us to celebrate the outstanding contributions of women of our state, both over the course of the century and during our lifetimes."

Honorees are selected for their leadership, vision, passion and achievements. Henderson will receive the first ever Trillium Award for Lifetime Achievement from MWF at the dinner in Grand Rapids.

A renowned labor leader, civil rights activist and political pioneer, she has fought tirelessly throughout her lifetime to promote social justice and put an end to racism and discrimination.

Ironically, Henderson will receive her award in the very same establishment where in 1938 she organized a sit-in to end segregation at was then the Pantland Hotel.

A life of firsts, she was the first African American port secretary on the Great Lakes, the first woman trustee of Wayne County Community College and the first African American

woman in history to be sworn in as a member of the Detroit City Council, becoming its president in 1977.

Women of Achievement and Courage honoree Aguirre is CEO and chairman of the board of the Detroit-based Mexican Industries and benefactor of the Hispanic community. She has devoted much of her life fulfilling the company's vision as articulated by her father, the late Detroit Tigers all-star pitcher Hank Aguirre.

An author, Taylor Smith is the first female board president of the Kresge Foundation. A self-described volunteer, she has served as mentor for women and girls during her lifetime through her vision and leadership with the Detroit Medical Center, Legal Aid Society of Oakland County and New Horizons of Oakland County to name a few.

A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Duke University, Taylor Smith has endowed a directorship in women's studies at her alma mater and served on both the national board of Women and Philanthropy and the advisory council for the MWF.

Mason has log many decades of community involvement and philanthropy, stemming from a strong family tradition of volunteerism. The president of Upjohn National Leasing, her current focus is on the Women's Education Coalition which utilizes its million-dollar endowment to assist women in completing their education.

Woodruff a philanthropist and community volunteer, has served on the board of directors for Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women (GROW). Special Olympics and Grand Rapids Art Museum. As co-founder of the Grand Rapids Children's Museum, she was instrumental in articulating its vision for the future. She also has helped build three Habitat for Humanity homes.

The Michigan Women's Foundation was founded in 1986 to respond to the significant barriers and challenges that prohibit women and girls from reaching their full potential and to create a permanent financial for programs to help them. MFW promotes economic self-sufficiency and personal well-being for women and girls, so that they may maximize their contributions to society.

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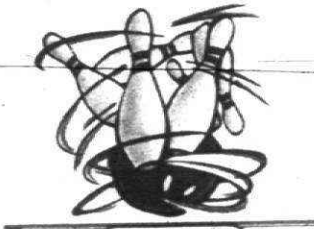
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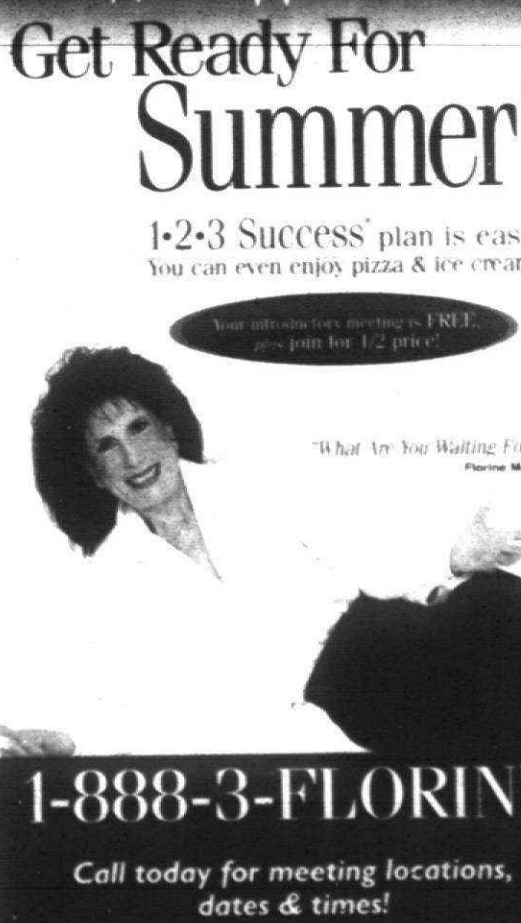
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Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
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Evening Worship 8:00 P.M.
Wed. Family Hour 7:15 P.M.

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

YOUTH AWANA CLUBS

April 25th

11:00 a.m. Guest Speaker

6:00 p.m. Guest Speaker

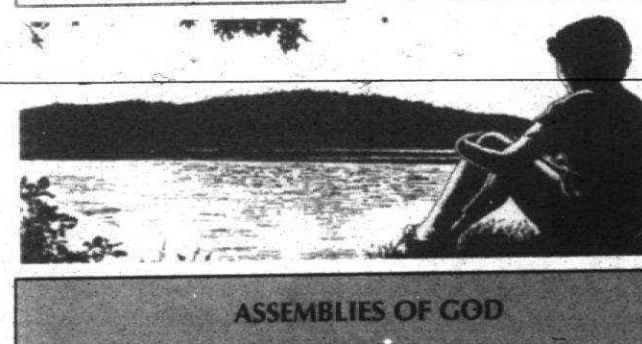
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Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Grand River Baptist Church
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734-261-6950

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Sunday Worship Service 10:45am
Pastor Herb Wilson



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Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
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Sunday Evening - 8:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.

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(734) 394-0357

New Service Times
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Wednesday - Family Night - 7:00 p.m.

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Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:45 am
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2885 Middlebelt, corner of Middlebelt & Farmington Hills, Mich.
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Sunday School & Sunday School 10:30
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30
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Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Thursday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER 7PM
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CHRISTADELPHIANS

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

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Timothy Lutheran Church
8820 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2280
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9:00 a.m. Adult & Children's
Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Family Worship

NewLife Lutheran Church

NewLife Lutheran Church
Children's Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
(with nursery)
Sunday Fellowship - 11:00 a.m.
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Sunday 8:00, 10:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M.
5:00 P.M. Late Teen Mass

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Sundays: 1:00 & 3:30 p.m.

Full Gospel Church of Plymouth
291 E. Spring St.
2 Blocks E. of Main • 2 Blocks E. of M
SUNDAY 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 6:00 PM
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Classes for all ages
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Lifeline Contemporary Service
11:00 Traditional Service
SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED
8:30-9:30 A.M.
Sunday School for All Ages

Risen Christ Lutheran
46250 Ann Arbor Road
(1 Mile West of Shadon)
Plymouth • 453-5252

Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Family Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Pastor David Martin
Pastor Michael Martin, Lay Minister

St. Michael Lutheran Church & School
800 Huron St. • West corner of Huron & Huron
(734) 728-1880

Sunday Morning Worship Services
Traditional Services 9 & 11 a.m.
Contemporary Service 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Wednesday Night Service 7 pm
Rev. Dr. Robert J. Schulte Rev. Marie Wellhausen

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ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
14175 Farmington Rd. • Livonia • 425-0260
Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.
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Pastor: Gary D. Headolph, Administrative Pastor
Pastor: Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor
Pastor: Jeff Bohner, Interim Pastor

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Sunday Morning Services 9:00 am & 11:00 am
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May thru October • Monday Night Service • 7:00 p.m.
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474-3444

Worship Service: 10:15 A.M. 6:00 P.M.
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 A.M.
Office Hrs. 9-5

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
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(734) 453-5280

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between Wayne & Newburg Rds.
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Tuesday 6:30 p.m.

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248-374-7400

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

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8:50-9:45 A.M.
Evening Service
6:00 P.M. in the Chapel
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Livonia • 474-3444

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

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20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
474-3444

Worship Service: 10:15 A.M. 6:00 P.M.
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 A.M.
Office Hrs. 9-5

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Just West of Middlebelt
Farmington Hills
424-8760

Worship & Sunday School
at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
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36500 Ann Arbor Trail
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Worship Services & Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 a.m.

"Using What We Have"
Rev. Melanie Lee Carey, preaching
Contemporary Worship Service
Tuesday 6:30 p.m.

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10:30 a.m.
We Welcome You To A Full Program To Church
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Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 A.M.
Office Hrs. 9-5

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"Using What We Have"
Rev. Melanie Lee Carey, preaching
Contemporary Worship Service
Tuesday 6:30 p.m.

visit our website: www.gpc-umc.org/newburg

Teens gather at Silverdome for 'Acquire the Fire'

More than 70,000 teenagers from throughout the United States, Canada, England and Jamaica will gather at the Silverdome in Pontiac Friday-Saturday, April 23-24, for "Acquire the Fire's Day One."

Sponsored by Teen Mania Ministries of Garden Valley, Texas, the gathering will put a new teen image before the nation — young people who are not ashamed of their belief in Jesus and who are ready to lead their generation into the new millennium.

"Day One" will feature heart-pumping messages from Philadelphia Eagle Irving Fryar and national Christian leaders E.V. Hill, Jack Hayford, Josh McDowell and Ryan Dob-

son, the contemporary Christian rock sounds of the Newsboys, Fred Hammond, Out of Eden, Third Day and Rebecca St. James and dramatic skits with state-of-the-art multimedia and pyrotechnics.

The event will culminate when participants sign a "Teenage Bill of Rights," asserting their values — sexual purity, personal accountability, families with both parents present, purpose, respect for authorities and caring about other people — and intention to move the nation forward with honor and integrity.

"Because of their sheer numbers alone, this generation of teenagers — just as their Baby Boomer parents — will set the course of the nation in the next

millennium," said Ron Luce, president and CEO of Teen Mania. "While Madison Avenue and Hollywood see these teenagers as a profitable target market, we concentrate our attention to help them profit and ultimately the nation — by building a personal foundation in Jesus Christ."

"They want to lead their generation, not follow it, and send an encouraging message to teenagers everywhere that they are not alone and that God loves them."

"They are passionate about their faith and want to boldly assert their decision to chart their own course and define their own values, rather than passively accepting the labels assigned

to them by popular culture." A leadership summit for youth pastors will be held simultaneously at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Over the last 10 years, Teen Mania has hosted more than 500,000 teenagers in "Acquire the Fire" events around the country.

The two-day youth conventions employ biblical teaching, contemporary praise and worship and skits to challenge young people to become WorldChangers for Jesus.

Since the first "Acquire the Fire" eight years ago, Luce has witnessed a groundswell of teenagers looking to break out of the popular culture mold and take their own message of faith

to the world. Luce oversees Teen Mania's mission training through the Global Expeditions program and Teen Mania Academy and has taken the gospel to more than 50 countries. He also hosts the weekly "Acquire the Fire," shown on the Trinity Broadcasting Network and New Inspirational Network and other North American outlets.

"It's time to stop pretending that everything is OK and start rescuing these teenagers from the suitcase that says 'whatever goes,'" Luce said. "We want to rally around them as they proclaim they will not let the world steal their innocence, pervert their minds, confuse their morals or distort their destiny."



Ron Luce

RELIGIOUS NEWS

Listings for the Religious News should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2131.

"Y2K CHALLENGE"
Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church will present a panel discussion and information forum, "The Y2K Challenge," 7-9 p.m. Thursday, April 22, in the sanctuary of the church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township.

Concerns as to what individual can do to prepare for Y2K, and what problems to expect will be addressed by the panel that will include Y2K consultants and a representative from the Emergency Management Division of the State Police. The goal is to present a range of views on what to expect concerning the Y2K situation.

For more information, call the church's evangelism department at (248) 374-5937.

"SPRING INTO AUCTION"
St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School of Farmington Hills will present "Spring into Auction" Friday, April 23, at Livonia VFW Post 3941, 29155 Seven Mile. The auction will support the sports, music and technology programs as well as aid the church's evangelism department. Tickets cost \$25 each with tables of eight available for \$175. For more information, call Glenn Schult at (734) 522-8117.

RUMMAGE SALES
The Women's Service Club of Meadowbrook Congregational Church will hold a rummage sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 23, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 24, at the church, 21355 Meadowbrook, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile in Novi.

Adlersgate United Methodist Women will have their annual spring rummage sale 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 24, at the church, 10000 Beech Dale, Redford. White elephant, kitchen equipment, small appliances, toys and books will be sold in Wesley Hall. Clothing

of all sizes will be in the Fellowship Hall with special women's garments in the Boutique. Proceeds will be used for church and district missionary projects.

The United Methodist Women of the First United Methodist Church of Garden City will have their annual rummage sale 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 24, in the Fellowship Hall of the church, 6443 Merriman. Lunch will be available, and a 2 bag sale 1-2 p.m.

Newburg United Methodist Church will have a spring rummage sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 30, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 1, at the church, 6500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Clothes, housewares, toys, furniture, craft items, Christmas store, jewelry and more will be featured.

MOM'S SALES
St. Edith St. Kenneth M.O.P.S. will have a Mom's Sale 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 24, in St. Edith Parish Hall, 15089 Newburg, Livonia. Admission will be \$1. Gently used children's clothing, toys, books and furnishings as well as maternity clothes will be sold. For more information or to rent table space, call Michele at (734) 432-6978.

Table space is available through Thursday, April 29, for St. Theodore Parish's annual Moms to Moms Market 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1. The resale fair will be held in the church social hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland, and will feature gently used baby and children's clothing, toys and miscellaneous equipment plus maternity items. For more information, call (734) 425-4421 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

"PROSPERITY PLUS"
Unity of Livonia will present "Prosperity Plus," a seminar for anyone who is interested in changing life for the better, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 24, at the church, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia.

The seminar will feature master prosperity teacher Edwene Gaines and cover such topics as setting, meeting and exceeding

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NEW VOICES

Amber Rose Carranza of Westland announce the birth of **Cheyenne Jade** Dec. 7 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Urbano and Terry Carranza of Westland.

Monty and Jill Mullins Jr. of Westland announce the birth of **Taylor Madison** Dec. 19 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins three sister, Linzie, 5, Alysa, 3, and Mary, 5. Grandparents are Monty and Ava Mullins, Jack Ball and Dorothy Oliver, all of Taylor.

Raymond B. and Lynn S. Danol of Westland announce the birth of **Raymond Chase** Jan. 20 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital-Oakland in Pontiac. He

joins two sisters, Colette, 22, and Brittany, 10. Grandparents are Ken and Pauline Kunkel of Northville, Donald and Dorothy Musser of Royal Oak and Frank and Shirley Bartosh of Belleville. Great-grandparents are Reno and Josephine Capra of Westland and Angeline Musser of Jackson Center, Pa.

Michael and Linda Robb of Redford announce the birth of **Dale Matthew** Dec. 8 at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. He joins a sister, Rose, 3. Grandparents are Evelyn Robb of Livonia and Arnold and Barbara Johnson of Walled Lake. Great-grandmother is Rose Calcagno of Garden City.

David and Kate Bale of Can-

ton announce the birth of **Annabelle Safia** Dec. 19 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins two siblings, Stevie, 13, and Shelly, 12. Grandparents are Margaret and Stuart Bale and Josephine Rugg, all of the United Kingdom.

Alan and Janice Erickson of Livonia announce the birth of **Alicia Kelsey** Dec. 8 at the University of Michigan Hospitals in Ann Arbor. Grandparents are Ken and Barbara Kelsey of Farmington Hills and Jerry and Carol Erickson of St. Clair. Great-grandmother is Betty Listerman of Farmington Hills.

Jeff and Jessica McGrath of Westland announce the birth of **Kaitlin Marie** Dec. 23 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins a brother, Tyler, 2. Grandparents are Frank Rincon of Westland, Dennis McGrath of Westland and Sharon Holcomb of Gainesville, Ga.

David Johnson and Amy Prevo-Johnson of Plymouth

announce the birth of **Sullivan Conall** June 9 at St. Joseph Hospital, Ypsilanti. Grandparents are Sue Pryor of Jackson Gary and Kay Prevo of Livonia. Great-grandparents are Mildred Limmer-Jackson, Katy and Jerry Stanley and Helen Bradley, all of Livonia.

Michael and Renee Bone of Canton announce the birth of **Jessica Ann** Dec. 24 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins a brother, Kyle Anthony, 2 1/2. Grandparents are Dave and Donna Bone of Canton and Pam and Ron Ryan of Plymouth.

Charles Alex and Debra Ann Bezzina of Livonia announce the birth of **Ethan Marion** Nov. 15 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti. Grandparents are Earl and Laurel Nelson of Grosse Ile and Carmelo and Josephine Bezzina of Farmington Hills.

Jeremy and Jessica Luttrell of Redford announce the birth of **Shannon Keith** Dec. 28 at the

Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Shannon joins a brother, Dakota Joseph, 5 1/2. Grandparents are Dan and Barb Osowski of Farmington Hills and Paula Speer of Piggott, Ark.

Keith and Renee Postler of Redford announce the birth of **Kelsey Marie** Dec. 8 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. She joins three siblings, Ashley, 8, Brandon, 5, and Alex, 3. Grandparents are Dan and Paula Peterson of Livonia, Marion Postler of Redford, and the late Harry Postler. Great-grandparents are Harlley and Marie Trygg of Inkster.

Kevin Lucas and Rebecca Baleja of Canton announce the birth of **Kayley Jordan Lucas** Dec. 29 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins a brother, Mitchell, 5, and Kyle, 3. Grandparents are Jim and Debbie Lucas of Ypsilanti, Linda Gildea of Westland and Walter Baleja of Belleville.

James and Renee Scherer of Canton announce the birth of

Brendan Michael Jan. 2 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. Grandparents are John and Irene Rothermel of Canton, and Joe and Marilyn Scherer of Taylor.

Michael and Deborah Gase of Dearborn Heights announce the birth of **Zachary Louis** Dec. 30 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins a brother, Jacob, 3. Grandparents are Ron and Bonnie Pietryka of Garden City and Ed and Valerie Sinnamon of Livonia.

James Brooks and Lisa Frederick of Redford Township announce the birth of **James Henry Brooks Jr.** Jan. 15 at Sinai Hospital in Detroit. Grandparents are Mike and Patricia Frederick of Redford, Melody Burton of Redford, and Gary Brooks of Lincoln Park. Great-grandmothers are Betty O'Neil of Detroit, Doreen West of Garden City, and Audrey Frederick of Redford.

Scouts' Bailer named to Leadership America

The executive director/chief executive officer of the Michigan Metro Girl Scout Council has been selected to participate in the 1999 American Issue Forum of Leadership America.

The selection process for Leadership America is highly competitive and the inclusion of Penny Bailer in the 1999 forum reflects her status as an established leader in Detroit's community and professional arenas.

Leadership America brings together 100 women nationwide in a yearlong series of intense professional development sessions held in three cities across the country. It unites women of high achievement and diverse geographic, ethnic, cultural and professional backgrounds as they explore national and global issues.

Bailer has been the CEO of the Michigan Metro Girl Scout Council for 15 years. She has received the 1997 United Way Executive of the Year award and is on Crain's Detroit Business's 1997 list of Detroit's Most Influential Women.

Among her many community service activities, Bailer is a member of the Council of Schools of the 21st Century, member of the Board of Directors of New



Penny Bailer

Detroit Inc. and appointee of Mayor Dennis Archer to his seven-member Mayor's Education Task Force and a steering committee member for Detroit's Promise: The Alliance for Children.

The Michigan Metro Girl Scout Council is the fourth largest in the United States and provides leadership and cultural development opportunities for more than 40,000 girls in Wayne and Oakland counties.

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OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Good vault

Amy Sonnanstine, a 1997 graduate of Plymouth Canton now in her sophomore year at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, placed eighth in the pole vault at the North Coast Athletic Conference Indoor Track Championships. Sonnanstine's finish helped her team take a fifth in the nine-team meet.

Now competing outdoors, Sonnanstine has thus far finished second twice in the pole vault and taken a third in the 400-meter hurdles. She qualified for the all-Ohio meet last weekend, where she placed fifth in the pole vault.

Kids fishing derby

Canton Parks and Recreation Services is sponsoring its annual Kids Fishing Derby from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, May 1, at Heritage ponds, which will be stocked with rainbow trout.

Prizes will be raffled off each hour. Fee is \$1 per child to be paid the day of the event. Girls and boys age 15 and under are eligible.

Advance registration is required in person or by phone for a single one-hour time slot per entrant. It runs April 20 through April 29.

Open registration the day of the event will be available if space permits.

Participants are responsible for their own equipment and bait. Check-in for each time slot ends 10 after the scheduled hour.

Call 397-5110 if you have questions.

Royal Blue Classic

The IHM Sisters will host their fourth Royal Blue Classic women's golf outing Wednesday, June 30, at Fox Hills Golf & Country Club.

The shotgun start scramble is open to golfers of all levels and is available in nine-hole or 18-hole packages for \$100 and \$175, respectively. Price includes cart, beverage, lunch, dinner, door prizes and silent auction.

Those wishing to attend without playing golf may attend the cocktail reception with hors d'oeuvres beginning at 3:30 p.m., followed by the silent auction, raffle and dinner. This package costs \$50.

The Royal Blue Classic raises funds for the IHM Ministry Fund supporting people in need. Corporate sponsorships are available.

For more information or to reserve a tax deductible ticket, call (248) 433-0950 during weekly business hours. Registration ends June 11.

Tennis lessons

The Canton Parks and Recreation Services will offer tennis lessons for juniors and adults, beginning April 27.

The lessons for beginners will be Tuesdays, from 6-7 p.m. for juniors (7-15 years old) and from 7-8 p.m. for adults (16 and over), starting April 27 and continuing through June 1 at Griffin Community Park. Lessons for intermediate adults will be 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, from April 29 through May 20. All lessons will be conducted by Kristen Harrison and her staff.

Cost is \$30 for Canton residents and \$35 for non-residents.

Register at the Parks and Recreation offices, located at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit on the Park, in Canton. For more information, call (734) 397-5110.

Titan baseball outing

The fourth annual University of Detroit-Mercy baseball alumni and friends golf outing beginning with a shotgun start at 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 15 at Bogie Lake Golf Club, 11231 Bogie Lake Road, White Lake.

All proceeds go to UDM baseball.

The cost is \$100 per person (includes 18 holes, cart, beverages, lunch and dinner).

Hole sponsorships are available (signage provided by UDM). Program ads are also available for \$25.

Checks should be made payable to: UDM Baseball and mailed to: Bob Miller, Jr., Golf, 15050 Golfview, Livonia, MI 48154.

For more information, call (734) 464-0808 or (734) 941-7847.

Anyone interested in submitting items to Sports Scene or Sports Roundup may send them to sports editor C.J. Risak, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or may FAX them to (734) 591-7279.

Canton clubs Raiders, 3-1

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

It was a typical Plymouth Canton performance: Exceptional pitching, near-flawless defense, advantageous offense.

The Chiefs have used those ingredients to concoct a fantastic start to their baseball season. Wednesday's 3-1 come-from-behind victory over defending Western Lakes Activities Association champion North Farmington was Canton's ninth win in 10 games, and its third straight without a loss in the conference.

It also provided Canton with something else: revenge. Twice last season the Chiefs were beaten by the Raiders, the last time the most painful — a 5-3 defeat in the district semifinals, a game Canton led 2-0. During the season, the Raiders dealt the Chiefs a 5-4 loss.

"We felt confident against them last year," said Canton coach Scott Dickey. "We thought we should have beaten them then."

There was no sign of panic or lack of confidence this time out, even after North scored first on a solo home run by Jason Melvin in the second inning.

It was the only error Canton pitcher Jon Johnson would make. Indeed, the Chiefs' pitching has been exemplary all season, and it was no different in this game. Johnson tossed a four-hitter to improve to 3-0; he did not walk a batter and struck out eight.

"We've been pitching really well," said Dickey. "And our defense is much improved."

Johnson is only part of the Canton mound equation. Ben Tucker improved to 4-0 with an outstanding 1-0 victory over Walled Lake Western Monday, and Kevin Tomasaitis is another returning veteran.

While the Chiefs' defense has been equally impressive — according to Dickey, they had not committed an error in their previous five games before committing one against North — their offense is often challenged to produce runs.

They haven't disappointed often, although they've managed just four runs and seven hits in its last two games. Against North, the Chiefs turned two hits and an error into two runs in the fourth inning to take the lead.

Steve Lueck opened the inning with a hard smash that hit North first baseman Paul Kammer in the face, knocking him out of the game. Lueck then stole second and moved to third on Oliver Wolcott's bounce out to short. Phil Ross delivered the run with a deep sacrifice fly to right field.

But Canton wasn't through. Johnson aided his own cause by slamming a long fly to right-center field that Raider center fielder Justin Goodwin reached near the fence but couldn't glove. The ball fell for a triple.

A two-out ground ball to third by Jason Evans followed. Melvin's throw to first was in the dirt, however, and the ball dribbled away from first baseman Matt Kelmigian, allowing Johnson to score the go-ahead run.

Johnson, meanwhile, was almost untouchable.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

Unbeatable: Jon Johnson won his third-straight game of the season, stopping North on four hits without issuing a walk. He struck out eight.

He did not allow a baserunner in the fifth and sixth; in the seventh, Joe Cortellini's error put a man on, and Melvin got a one-out single to give the Raiders runners at first and second.

But a fly to right and a grounder back to the mound ended North's threat.

The Chiefs managed just five hits, with Lueck getting two of them. They scored their final run in the sixth when Oliver Wolcott led off the inning with a base hit. After a sacrifice bunt attempt

failed, Brad Smigielski repaced Wolcott on the basepaths. Smigielski moved to second on Johnson's ground out, then came around to score on Jason Evans' grounder that got past shortstop Evan Feldman and dribbled into the outfield.

Dickey predicted that "if our pitchers keep throwing strikes, I'm confident that our defense will hold up. It's just a matter if Ben, Kevin and Jon can keep pace."

It all sounds so good.

Lukasik's 3-hitter gives Salem a win

Plymouth Salem struck for five runs in the fourth inning Monday at North Farmington, and that proved more than enough with Jason Lukasik firing a three-hitter.

The Rocks improved to 3-5 overall with the 7-1 victory; they are 1-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association. North is 1-1 in the WLAA.

Richard Stankou's two-run single with the bases loaded was the key hit in the fourth. Nick Eichler also had two hits and an RBI; Mike Hoben had two hits and scored a run; Joe Rizzi had a run-scoring double; and Geoff

BASEBALL

Bennett had a double and scored twice.

Lukasik gave up three hits and three walks, striking out seven in evening his record at 1-1. Garry Penta took the loss for North.

Canton 1, W.L. Western 0: Ben Tucker tossed a three-hitter and Brad Smigielski, pinch-running for Oliver Wolcott, scored the game's only run

on a pair of Walled Lake Western errors in the sixth inning to keep Plymouth Canton perfect in the WLAA's Western Division Monday at Canton.

Tucker improved to 4-0 with the win, giving up three walks while striking out 10. The Chiefs are 2-0 in the division.

Canton had just two hits in the game, singles by Andrew Copenhaver and Phil Ross, but no hit was needed to score the game's only run. Wolcott opened the sixth with a walk; Smigielski came in to run for him

and, on his attempt to steal second base, the ball skipped past the second baseman and into center field, allowing Smigielski to break for third. The throw from the outfielder was then overthrown, and Smigielski scored.

Eric MacDonald took the loss for Western. He struck out six.

Salem 9-10, Seaholm 5-4: Chris Longpre got things started for Salem in Saturday's first game against visiting, non-league opponent Birmingham.

Please see **BASEBALL, C4**

Salem reigns over the April Showers

Plymouth Salem's girls track team followed a strong performance at Saturday's West Bloomfield Invitational with a first-place finish at Tuesday's April Showers Relays, hosted by Ypsilanti HS.

Salem scored 134 points to outdistance runner-up Ypsi (92), which was fifth in the state last year.

"We got off to a good start, and that bothered them," said Salem coach Mark Gregor of the Braves. "They kind of faded after that."

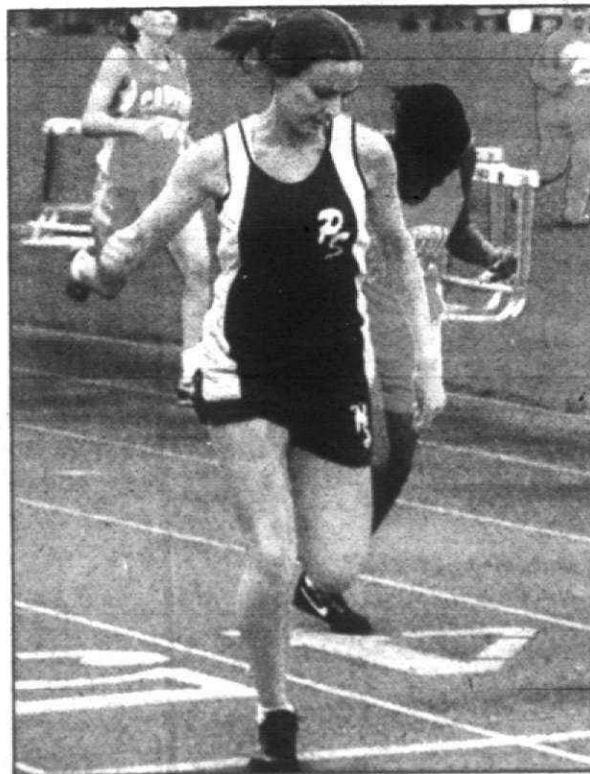
The Rocks finished first in seven of the 16 events; they had seconds in five others, and third in four more.

Tiffany Grubaugh was Salem's leader in the field events; she teamed with Miranda White to win the discus relay (a total of 198-feet, 2-inches) by tossing 121-6, and she combined with

Paula Tomlin for a first in the shot put relay (74-0 total) with a school record-tying effort of 38-2, a mark she set three days earlier at West Bloomfield.

Other Salem wins came in the 4x800-meter relay, with Annemarie Vercruysse, Becky Phelan, Shannon Will and White (10:20.3); the sprint medley relay, with Michelle Bonior, Jessica Shamberger, April Aquinto and Melissa Drake (2:00.5); the 4x100 relay, with Bonior, Shamberger, Drake and Rachel Jones (51.7); the 4x400 relay, with Autumn Hicks, Brynne DeNeen, Drake and Jones (4:15.9); and the mixed medley relay, with Elikem Amable, Rachel Brown, Megan Salata, Lisa Jasnowski and Marylou Liebau (4:34.0).

The Rocks were second in Please see **GIRLS TRACK, C4**



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

Double-winner: Salem's Rachel Jones was on two winning relays Tuesday, the 4x100-meter and the 4x400.

BOYS TRACK

Rocks 1st at Elks

For Plymouth Canton's boys track team, it was a solid performance. For Plymouth Salem's, it was even better.

At the Dearborn Elks Relays last Saturday, Salem finished atop the 11-team field with 51 points. Dearborn was second with 44, followed by Redford Catholic Central with 34, Temperance Bedford with 32 and Canton with 21, a point ahead of Birmingham Brother Rice (20).

In past years, the Rocks had always split their team so they could compete at both the Mansfield (Ohio) Relays and the Elks. This time, only one team — the 4x1,600-meter relay — traveled to Mansfield to run on Friday. The foursome of Bobby Cushman, Donnie Warner, Jon Little and Nick

Please see **BOYS TRACK, C4**

DeBoer chosen as top coach

Peter DeBoer, coach and general manager of the Plymouth Whalers, was named winner of the Matt Leyden Trophy, presented annually to the Ontario Hockey League's Coach of the Year.

DeBoer earned the award by guiding the Whalers to the top record in the OHL (51-13-4, 106 points). Also, the Whalers finished the regular season ranked No. 1 in the entire Canadian Hockey League, which also includes the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League and the Western Hockey League. It was the first time in the Whalers' franchise history they had been ranked No. 1.

All-Rookie goalie

Robert Esche, who helped guide the Plymouth Whalers into the third round of the OHL playoffs last season, was named to the American Hockey League's All-Rookie Team. A sixth-round draft choice of the Phoenix Coyotes in 1996, Esche — playing with the Springfield Falcons — had a .905 save percentage this season in 54 games.

Rocks get 2 victories in division

Scoring goals a problem?

Not lately for Plymouth Rocks' girls soccer team. The Rocks struggled a bit early, it's true; in their first three games, they managed just three goals in posting a 0-2-1 record. But that scoring slump is over.

Salem followed a 7-0 pasting of Western Lakes Activities Association Lakes Division rival Westland John Glenn last Wednesday with a 3-1 victory over another divisional foe — Farmington — Monday.

"We finally came out and scored some goals," said Salem coach Doug Landefeld, his team now 2-2-1 overall and 2-0 in the division. In the win over Glenn, he said, "We finished goals early in the game and that always helps."

In Monday's win at Farmington, the Rocks led 1-0 at the half and 3-0 until, with two seconds left in the match, a Falcon was awarded. Emilie Villemonte con-

HOCKEY

Ambassadors can clinch

The Compuware Ambassadors are one game away from a clean sweep in the Robertson Cup Championship Series and the overall North American Hockey League title after beating the St. Louis Sting twice last weekend in St. Louis in the best-of-three series.

The Ambassadors, who were the NAHL's regular-season champs, can clinch the title Friday at Compuware Arena. Game time is 8:35 p.m.

On Friday, the Ambassadors beat the Sting 7-4. They followed that with a 5-1 triumph Sunday.

In Friday's win, Compuware opened up a 4-1 lead after one period but saw that melt away in the first six minutes of the second, as St. Louis rallied to tie it at 4-all. Jim Abbott, who had two goals for the Sting, got

CHIEFS' TOURNAMENT TITLE IS A SIGN OF GOOD THINGS

As sure as green grass in the spring, every year somebody fills those gaping vacancies left by last season's departed players.

Plymouth Canton lost its top two players from last year's successful squad, No. 1 singles Shah Singh and No. 2 Vinnie Ikeh.

But darned if two players didn't step up for coach Barb Hanosh and fill those vacancies, her Nos. 3 and 4 singles players from last year.

It showed at the Monroe Invitational March 27, where the Chiefs finished first with 21 points by reaching the finals in the six-team tournament in six of eight flights — and winning five of them. Plymouth Salem was second with 12 points.

In singles play, No. 2 Scott Mincher beat Lee Cho of Woodhaven 6-2, 6-4; No. 3 Ritchie Ikeh defeated Eric Dover of Monroe 6-0, 6-2; and No. 4 Chris Foss bettered Milind Chinnay of Woodhaven 6-3, 6-1, all of them earning firsts for Canton.

Jason Darrow and Chris Houdek beat Drew Thomas and Jeremy McBroon of Fenton 6-2, 6-4 in the No. 1 doubles final, and Matt Schmidt and Mike Bruder topped Yibo Ling and Jon Machnacki of Salem 6-2, 6-1 in the No. 2 doubles final.

"It was a good tournament for us," said Hanosh. "And it was against a good group of competitors."

"We won this year. All the players walked away with a medal. But what I thought was really impressive was this: I knew going into the second round we had good shot at winning."

"But their focus or drive was just on what was next. That's overall growth as an athlete, looking at the immediate and not the final grouping."

"I've always been impressed with what great kids I've got."

No. 1 singles Matt Nagy lost in the finals to Sacha Ballesteros of Monroe, 1-6, 7-8 (7-0), 6-1. At No. 3 doubles, Phil Shedd and Brian Balfour bested Woodhaven's Jim Giyulai and Otto Ali 7-5, 4-6, 6-2, and at No. 4 Brad Kreger and Sean Depp defeated Jaakko Jaaskelainen and James Holtman 6-3, 6-0 to earn each of them a third-place finish.

COLLEGE SPORTS

MADONNA SOFTBALL

Janell Leschinger put Madonna University's softball team on the right track last weekend, and kept them there all the way to the championship of the University of St. Francis (Ill.) Spring Classic Tournament.

The Lady Crusaders won four of five games, with Leschinger earning three of the victories — including a tournament-starting 14-0 no-hitter against Tri-State University Saturday. Leschinger surrendered just two walks and struck out five.

Kristy McDonald (from Redford Thurston) led the offense in the romp, collecting three hits and three runs batted in. Courtney Senger also had three hits and two RBI, Vicki Malkowski got two hits and an RBI, Jamie Cook (Westland John Glenn) had three hits and scored three runs, Tanya Liske contributed two hits and two RBI, and Kelly Zurawski had a hit and two RBI.

Saturday's second game was just the opposite of the first — except that Madonna still won, by a 5-4 margin. Leschinger got the win in relief of Janell Schmidt; Leschinger did not give up a hit, walked two and struck out two in two innings.

Madonna won the game with two runs in the bottom of the seventh. Cook was the hitting hero with three hits and an RBI. McDonald added a triple and an RBI, and Missy Bako (from Garden City) chipped in with a hit and an RBI.

BASEBALL

Madonna gets a split following a sweep

The road trip to Spring Arbor College Tuesday started well, but finished poorly for Madonna University's baseball team.

The Fighting Crusaders used a strong pitching performance by Jeff Warholik and clutch hitting by Derrick Wolfe and Darryl Rocho to beat the host Cougars 5-3 in the opening game of their Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference double-header.

The split left the Crusaders with a 16-16 overall record, 6-8 in the WHAC. Spring Arbor is 18 overall, 5-7 in the conference.

Warholik went the distance in winning the opener to even his record at 3-3. He allowed three unearned runs on six hits and five walks, striking out three. Warholik also had a single and a run batted in.

Wolfe went 3-for-3 at the plate with two RBI and Rocho had two hits and two RBI.

SOFTBALL

Leschinger lifts Crusaders to title

Madonna 1-5, Cornerstone 3-2: Janell Leschinger rebounded from a loss in relief in the first game against the team that led the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference through the weekend by beating them in the second game Tuesday at Madonna.

Leschinger allowed one hit and two runs (one earned) in one inning in the first game, in relief of Janell Schmidt, who gave up just one run on three hits and two walks, with one strikeout. Madonna managed just three hits in the defeat of winner Tarrah Brown; Missy Bako singled in the Crusaders' only run.

In the second game, Leschinger tossed a three-hitter, surrendering two runs (none earned) and one walk, with five strikeouts. Her record is 13-5.

Jen Walker had three hits and an RBI, Vicki Malkowski had three hits and Kelly Zurawski had two hits and two RBI in the game. Kristy McDonald added a double and a single, with one RBI and Courtney Senger had a double and an RBI.

Brown absorbed the loss for Cornerstone, which is 19-9 overall, 10-6 in the WHAC. Madonna is 22-18 overall, 7-7 in the conference.

SOFTBALL

Salem rolls past North; Ladywood gets a sweep

It was getting a bit too close, so Plymouth Salem slammed the door on any possible North Farmington comeback by scoring six runs in the fifth inning en route to a 9-1 softball triumph in a Western Lakes Activities Association Lakes Division game Monday at Salem.

The win evened the Rocks' record at 1-1 overall; they are 1-0 in the Lakes.

Amanda Sutton got the pitching win; she tossed a seven-hitter, walking just one and striking out two. The only run she surrendered was in the top half of the fifth, after Melanie Stein singled and worked her way to third base, scoring on a fielder's choice.

That narrowed the Rocks' lead to 2-1. But in the bottom half of that inning, Kristen Kukahn started Salem's rally with a walk. She went to second on a passed ball and, after Katie Kelly also walked, both runners moved up a base, to second and third, on a wild pitch. After Heather Sonntag struck out, Sutton's fielder's choice scored a run.

Dawn Allen then got Salem's third walk of the inning, and Bea Ferguson singled to score two runs. Jessica Chapman was hit by a pitch and Maureen Buchanan doubled, scoring two more runs. Marnie

SOFTBALL

Salem rolls past North; Ladywood gets a sweep

Jones brought home the sixth marker of the inning with a base hit.

"We were more aggressive at the plate, which is nice to see," said Salem coach Bonnie Southerland. "And we had some extra-base hits."

On Saturday, the Rocks host the second-annual Salem Invitational Tournament, with six teams competing. The tournament opens at 8:30 a.m. with Salem playing Detroit Country Day and Livonia Franklin meeting Farmington. At 10 a.m., Dearborn plays Salem and Northville goes against Franklin, and at 11:30 a.m. Dearborn faces Country Day and Farmington plays Northville.

The tournament semifinals are at 1:30 p.m., with the championship at 3 p.m.

Ladywood 2-10, Divine Child 8-3: Shelly Moros hurled a three-hitter in the nightcap to give Livonia Ladywood a split after Dearborn Divine Child had handed the host Blazers their first defeat of the season in the opener.

Moros walked two and struck out five to gain the second-game win. It made Livonia Ladywood 3-1.

Sara Thiesmeyer smacked a solo home run; Melanie Grewe had a double and two RBI.

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Girls track

The shuttle hurdle relay, with Stacy Schmieding, Val Brown, Lara Savitskie and Aisha Chappell (1:09.9); the 4x200, with Hicks, Shamberger, DeNeen and Jones (1:49.7); the 3,200 medley, with Heather Whittington, Sarah Jensen, Shannon Miller and Melaine Mester (10:54.4); the distance medley, with Vercureux, Will, Phelan and Kim Wood (14:09.6); and the thrower's 4x200 relay, with Grubaugh, Tomlin, Emilie Nicolau and Jessica Bobbe (2:03.7).

Finishing third for the Rocks were Chappell and Hicks in the high jump relay (9-8 combined); Shamberger and DeNeen in the long jump relay (29-4 3/4); Kelly VanPutten and Nina Nowicki in the pole vault relay (12-0); and the 3x300 hurdle relay of Chappell, Val Brown and Danielle Guerin (2:33.7).

The meet was the fourth competition in six days for Salem, which split its squad for the West Bloomfield Invitational and the Lady Chief Relays (hosted by Plymouth Canton) Saturday. On Thursday, the Rocks will make it five-in-a-row when they host Westland John Glenn in a Western Lakes Activities Association dual meet, starting at 5:30 p.m.

"It's been a busy stretch," said Gregor. What helped make Salem successful Tuesday, however, was the girls' competitive spirit. "I think the biggest for Tuesday was that some of the kids were disappointed with the way they performed Saturday," Gregor said. "It was hard to be disappointed with the way they performed Saturday, but it was hard to be disappointed with the way they performed Sunday."

The long jump team of Driscoll, Bude and Schill placed sixth with a combined total of 40-1 1/2, and Kelly Tabaka, Amy Fitzsimmons, Jessie Myks and Crystal Alderman teamed to finish sixth in both the shuttle hurdle relay (1:15.3) and the 300 hurdle relay (3:45.9).

The Chiefs travel to Northville for a Western Lakes Activities Association dual meet at 3:30 p.m. Thursday.

Baseball

from page C1

Seaholm. Longpre followed Archie Kenny's double leading off the Rocks' half of the first inning with a two-run home run, and Salem was on its way to a two-game sweep.

Jason Lukasik also had a home run, with two hits and two runs scored in the game. Nick Eicher contributed two hits and Richard Stankou collected two hits and three RBIs.

Steve Gordon worked 6 2/3 innings to get the win; he allowed five runs on four hits and a walk, striking out seven.

In the second game, Chris Trott started on the mound and earned his first victory win, working four innings and allowing two runs on four hits and a walk, striking out seven.

Steve Stiles two-run homer was one of the big blows in the game for Salem; Joe Rizzi added two hits and an RBI, and Mike Hoban had an RBI single.

Canton 10, Crestwood 0: Plymouth Canton got one game in, anyway, of a scheduled double-header Saturday against non-league foe Dearborn Heights Crestwood, and the results were certainly satisfactory.

Jon Johnson kept the Chiefs' stretch of solid pitching going by blanking the Champs. Johnson, who improved to 2-0, allowed just three hits and did not walk a batter; he struck out eight.

Andrew Copenhaver paced the offense with two hits, including a triple, two runs batted in and two runs scored. Steve Luck added two hits, two runs scored and an RBI; Phil Ross had a double and two RBIs; Jon Cortellini had two hits and an RBI; Johnson had two hits and a Bryan Kay had a hit and scored two runs.

Canton broke open a tight game with a

five-run fifth inning that extended its lead to 7-0. The Chiefs added three more in the sixth.

S'field. Christian 11, PCA 3: It was a game until the seventh, when Southfield Christian put seven runs on the board to pull away from host Plymouth Christian Academy Tuesday.

The loss left PCA with an 0-3 overall record and an 0-1 mark in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. Southfield Christian is 3-2 overall, 1-0 in the MIAC.

PCA trailed 4-0 going into the bottom of the fifth, after Southfield Christian had broken up a scoreless duel with a four-run fifth. Dave Shumaker got PCA on the board with a two-run homer; it was his second hit of the day.

The deficit was trimmed to 4-3 in the sixth when Derric Iseensee singled, stole second, went to third on a ground out and scored on a sacrifice fly by Jim Morrison. Iseensee also had two hits in the game.

Scott Maddock took the loss for PCA; he allowed four runs in 5 2/3 innings. Andy Power (five runs in 1 2/3) and Travis Yonkman (two runs in 2/3) followed him to the mound.

Redford CC 6-2, Brother Rice 2-0: Catholic Central senior Mark Cole delivered key hits in both ends of a double-header sweep Saturday OF visiting Birmingham Brother Rice.

Cole had a bases-loaded single to drive in three runs in the 2-0 first game win. He led a solo home run — the Shamrocks' only hit in the fifth inning of the 2-0 second-game win.

Seniors Anthony Tomey and Dan Duffey

picked up complete-game pitching victories in the first and second games, respectively.

Tomey threw a five-hitter with five walks and nine strikeouts in raising his record to 2-0. The Shamrocks scored three runs in the third and five in the fifth in support of their hard-throwing right-hander.

Cole's bases-loaded single got past the Rice outfielder for an error, sending him to second and letting three runs score. He was credited with two RBIs.

Adam Kline, who was hit by a pitch, Bob Malek, who walked, and Matt Loidas, safe on a fielder's choice, scored ahead of Cole.

Tomey added an RBI single and Mario D'Herrin picked up an RBI on a ground out for the Shamrocks.

In the second game, Duffey struck out 10 while allowing three hits and six walks in earning the shutout. The Shamrocks scored on four straight walks in the third, the fourth issued to Casey Rogowski, and Cole's solo homer in the fifth.

The sweep improved the Shamrocks to 6-0 overall, 4-0 in the Catholic League Central Division.

Malek was twice by pitches after being hit on the elbow April 13.

CC coach John Salter thinks teams are pitching Malek tight, but not purposely hitting him.

"One was a curve ball, it's not like they're throwing at him," Salter said. "He's just having a streak of not being able to get out of the way."

Malek made a fine running catch in centerfield in the second game, spun and threw out a runner who was caught leaning too far off first base for a double play.

(To submit items for consideration in the Observer & Eccentric! send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; fax information to (248) 644-1314 or send E-mail to bpark@oe.homecomm.net)

FUND-RAISERS

TU BANQUET
The Paul H. Young Chapter of Trout Unlimited is holding its 35th annual fund-raising banquet on Thursday, April 22, at the Royal House in Warren. Tickets are \$40 per person and \$75 for couples. The event includes a prime rib or broiled whitefish dinner, raffles, auctions, door prizes and more. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. For tickets and more information, call (248) 594-8283.

FISHING TOURNAMENTS

SALMON STAKES
The 21st annual River Crab Salmon Stakes charity fishing tournament and raffle will be held Saturday April 24 in St. Clair. Money raised through the sale of \$10 raffle tickets will benefit the Blue Water Mental Health Clinic and other programs that help troubled children, adults and their families statewide. Raffle prizes include a trip for two adults and two children to Mackinac Island, use of a private suite for a Detroit Tigers baseball game, a weekend for two in Chicago, \$500 in gift certificates to Chuck Muehr restaurants, and a limousine ride and dinner for two at a Chuck Muehr restaurant. Ticket sales are also good for \$10 off dinner for two or Sunday brunch at participating Chuck Muehr restaurants. There are also cash prizes for the

anglers, boats and clubs who catch the biggest salmon and trout on tournament day. Tickets are available at Charley's Crab in Troy, Meriwether's in Southfield, Muehr's Sea Food Tavern in West Bloomfield, Big Fish in Dearborn, Big Fish Too in Madison Heights, Gandy Dancer in Ann Arbor, or by calling the River Crab at (800) 468-3727.

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

SPRING BREAK FOR BICYCLING
Learn the basics of body mechanics, bicycle mechanics and bicycle touring during this class, which is sponsored by Working Wheelers Cycling Club and begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, at Eastern Mountain Sports in Farmington Hills. Space is limited and the registration deadline is Saturday, April 24. Call (248) 553-7764 for more information.

BOATING SAFETY
Members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will be on hand to explain boating safety and what they look for during a boat inspection, during the regular meeting of the Metro West Steelheaders, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

WOMEN'S FLY FISHING
River Bend Sports Shop in Southfield is sponsoring a Women's Fly Fishing School on Sunday, May 23. Participants will spend a fun-filled day learning the basics of fly fishing including lessons in casting, knot tying, reading the water, playing, landing and releasing fish, entomology and fly selection and more. Cost is \$125 per person and class size is limited. Call Pat Rofe at (248) 350-8484 for more information and to register.

FLY FISHING SCHOOL
The River Bend Sports Shop in Southfield is sponsoring several fly fishing schools in the upcoming months. Held at the Hunters Hunt Club in Dryden and Hunters Creek Hunt Club in Metamora, the schools include lessons in basic fly fishing techniques including casting, knot tying, reading the water, playing, landing and releasing fish, entomology and fly selection and more. Classes are scheduled for April 25, May 8 and 16, June 6 and 19, July 11 and 25, Aug. 15 and 29, and Sept. 12. Class size is limited. Call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474 to register and for more information.

MOUNTAIN BIKING
Join author Mike Terrell and learn where to go mountain biking in the northern Lower Peninsula during this class, which begins 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, at REI in Northville. Call (248) 347-2100 for more information.

FLY TYING
Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tiers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

MORE FLY TYING
River Bend Sport Shop in Southfield offers fly tying classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced tiers. Classes will be held at various times in May, June and July. For more information and to register call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474.

ACTIVITIES

SEVEN LAKES HIKE
Enjoy a scenic 5-mile hike through the Holly Recreation Area with members of the South-east Michigan Group, Sierra Club on Saturday, April 24. Participants should meet at 11:30 a.m. behind the Marathon Station at 12 Mile Road and Telegraph. Call Liz Allingham at (313) 581-7579 for more information.

PAINT CREEK HIKE
Take a fast-paced hike over level terrain along the Paint Creek Trail with members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on Sunday, April 25. Participants should meet at noon behind the Michigan National Bank on 14 Mile Road, east of I-75 (south edge of the Oakland Mall). Call June Cox at (248) 435-9522 for more information.

SEASON/DATES

FREE FISHING
Michigan's annual Free Fishing Weekend will be held June 12-13.

TROUT
Trout season opens April 24 on designated streams, rivers and lakes.

FLIES-ONLY TROUT
A special catch-and-release, flies-only trout season runs through Friday, April 23, on a special section of the Huron River at the Proud Lake Recreation Center. Call (810) 685-2187 for details.

WALLEYE
Walleye season opens April 24 on inland waters of the Lower Peninsula.

SAUGER
Sauger season opens Saturday, April 24, on inland waters of the Lower Peninsula.

MUSKY
Musky season opens Saturday, April 24, on inland waters of the Lower Peninsula.

PIKE
Northern pike season opens Saturday, April 24, on inland waters of the Lower Peninsula.

CLUBS

FLY TYING
The River Bend Sports Shop Fly Tying Club meets every other week in Southfield. Call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474 for more information.

CLINTON VALLEY BASS
Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and nonboaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Visitors are invited and refreshments will be served. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843 for more information.

FISHING BUDDIES
Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester Hills. The meetings are open to all anglers (boaters and nonboaters). Call (248) 656-0556 for more information.

HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS
The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Rd., Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at

(734) 285-0843 for more information.

SOLAR
The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR), a nonprofit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

ARCHERY
3D LEAGUE
Royal Oak Archers will hold a 15-week 3D league beginning at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, on its walk-through range in Lake Orion. Call (248) 693-9799 or (248) 589-2480 for more information.

MOTHER'S DAY SHOOT
Oakland County Sportsman's Club will host a Mother's Day 3D shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday, May 9, on its walk-through range in Clarkston. Mothers shoot free. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

LIVONIA RANGE
The newly renovated Livonia Archery Range is open to the public. The range features seven field lanes and one broadhead lane and is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Livonia residents shoot free of charge. The range is located on Glendale Ave., east of Farmington Road. Call (734) 466-2410 for more information.

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Cultural Center to host 1st-ever high school figure skating championships

BY MARTY BUDNER
STAFF WRITER
mbudner@oe.homedom.net

With the popularity of figure skating rising like a triple loop these days, it only seemed like a matter of time before the sport danced into the competitive world of high school sports.

Well, the time is now. The Michigan High School Figure Skating Championships will debut Saturday at the Plymouth Cultural Center Ice Arena (525 Farmer Road). Some 73 skaters representing at least 10 schools, including a combined team from the Birmingham Public Schools, will be among the participants.

The 11-team Birmingham Unified team has practiced at the Birmingham Ice Arena for the past two months in preparation for the state championship which is sanctioned by the United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA).

Team members, including co-captain Bethany Grabel, are eagerly looking forward to the competition. Grabel has skated

for 13 years, participated in a dozen ice shows at the Birmingham Ice Arena and tested successfully from level-to-level over the years.

This, however, will be her first full-scale skating competition.

"I skate for fun, basically. I skate about two or three days a week and I'm not much of a competition girl," said Grabel, a senior at Birmingham Seaholm High School. "There's a little bit of nervousness, but I'm used to the nerves because I've been involved in a lot of ice shows."

Skaters will compete in three different categories - spinning, jumping and freestyle skating. In each of those categories, skaters compete against people of their own abilities and levels. Each team will be allowed five skaters in the spinning and jumping categories, while the music-accompanied freestyle competition can include up to 10 skaters per team.

Scores will be posted by appointed rinkside judges, just as they are in national and inter-

national ice skating competitions. Each individual score will be added towards a team score, and the team registering the highest score at the end of the competition will be declared the inaugural state high school figure skating champions.

"I'm not really sure what to expect since this is the first time (for the championships)," said Ann Endres, skating director for the City of Birmingham who is co-coach of the Birmingham Unified team with Lori Anderson.

"We just want to make a good showing and, of course, have every one skate at their best and see how it all turns out."

Endres explained how this skating championship will be different from other meets. All individual scores in this competition count towards a total team score. Regular figure skating competitions, of course, highlight individual scores and winners.

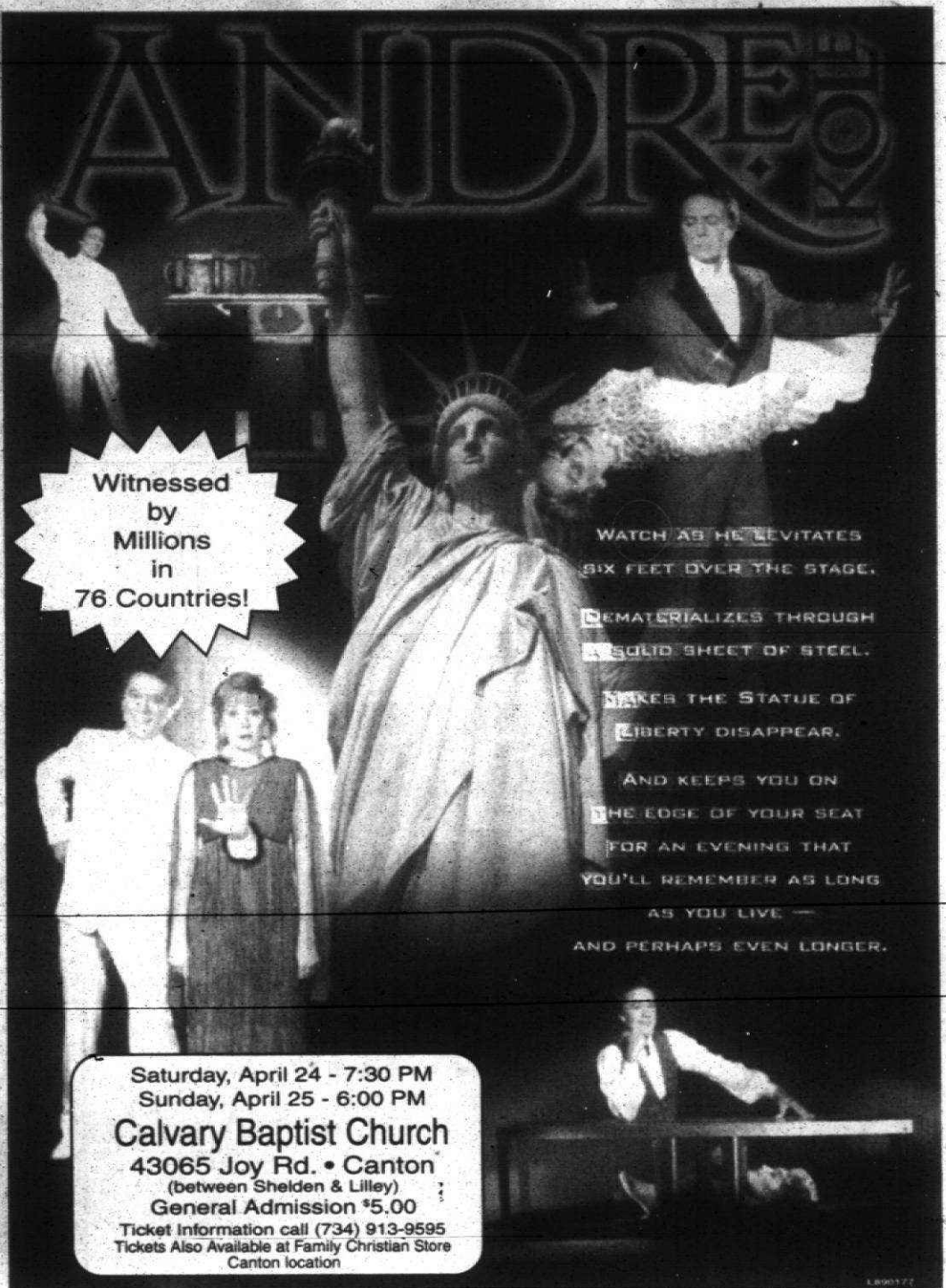
"Skating is generally such an individual sport," said Endres. "This competition brings a team concept to the sport where the

girls are still doing individual elements but their scores all get added together to come up with one aggregate score that is for

the team.

"In this sport there is so much individual competition and it's hard because sometimes you

have to compete against your friends," she said. "This time the friends are all on the same team, which is nice."



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Effective April 31, 1999, Health South Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center, Plymouth, Michigan, a certified rehabilitation agency, will cease operations and voluntarily withdraw from the Medicare program. Questions concerning patient transfers and medical records should be directed to the custodian of patient records, Michael Leither, P.T., at (734) 422-0693.

Publish: April 15, 18, 22, 25 and 29, 1999



NOTICE
CITY OF PLYMOUTH


Petitions are available at the City Clerk's office at 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170, for the four upcoming vacancies for the City Commission. If more than eight candidates submit petitions and qualify, there will be a Primary election held on Tuesday, August 3rd. The General election will be held on Tuesday, November 2nd, 1999. Candidates that receive high votes will qualify for three-four year terms and one-two year term. To qualify for the ballot you must be eighteen years of age and also be a registered voter in the City of Plymouth. There is a six month residency requirement to be eligible to hold elective office. (Charter Amendment 4.4 November 3, 1998). Candidate petitions are due May 11, 1999 at 4:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk at (734) 453-1234 ext. 234.

LINDA J. LANGMESSER, CMC/AE
City Clerk


Publish: March 14 and 25, April 11 and 22, 1999

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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY

Celebrate Spring Farm Days at Greenfield Village in Dearborn. Learn about chickens, help clear the fields of rocks, and watch as farmhands shear sheep of their heavy winter coats, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., call (313) 271-1620 for information.



SATURDAY



Singer Nancy Wilson performs 8 p.m. at the Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road, Southfield. Tickets \$30 and \$35, available at Southfield City Hall, 26000 Evergreen Road, or call (248) 645-6666.

SUNDAY

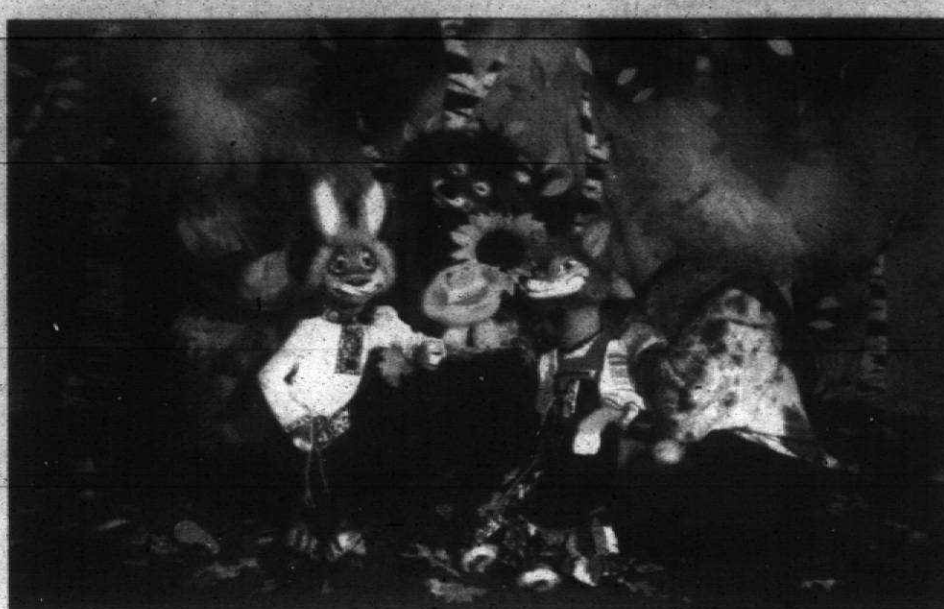


Popular jazz flutist Alexander Zonjic turns classical for "Two Flutes and a Piano," a 3 p.m. concert also featuring flutist Ervin Monroe and pianist Margaret Kapasi, in the shrine chapel on the campus of St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake Road at Commerce Road. Tickets \$15 and \$25, call (248) 683-1750.

HOT TICKET



The John Hancock Champions on Ice 1999 Tour featuring Olympic and World Champion figure skaters comes to Joe Louis Arena in Detroit, Saturday, April 24. Performances 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets \$25 to \$55 call (248) 645-6666.



Rehearsing: PuppetArt members rehearse for their upcoming production of "Kolobok" at the Detroit Puppet Theater.

Professional puppeteer: Igor Gozman (below), artistic director of PuppetArt, Detroit Puppet Theater, holds one of the puppets used in the troupe's production of "The Story of Esther."

Theater showcases puppet art

By KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER
kygonik@oe.homecomm.net

It's lunchtime in downtown Detroit on Tuesday. The sun is shining, the sky is blue, it's warm enough to walk around without a jacket, but there's no one on the corner of East Grand Boulevard near Woodward Avenue.

A fence surrounds the pit that used to be J.L. Hudson's across the street. It's a desolate scene. Alva Dworkin of Southfield waves to me as I approach what appears to be a vacant building, welcoming me to the Detroit Puppet Theater.

The theater is a dream come true for Igor Gozman and his wife Irena Baronovskaya of Auburn Hills, Natasha Khousid of Oak Park and Lyndmila Mikheyenko of West Bloomfield. Immigrants from the former Soviet Union, they met about seven years ago and formed PuppetArt, a troupe of professional puppeteers.

Inside the renovated space, formerly three storefronts, Mikheyenko is working with Diane Spratt, who recently joined PuppetArt, and Baronovskaya on a scene from "Kolobok," the Russian version of "The Gingerbread Man."

After a quick tour, Dworkin, who has been working with the group since 1995 and serves as its managing director, says "you know destruction is part of the creative process. Before you can create, you have to destroy. Think about it. An artist starts out with a blank sheet of paper, but until they ruin it, make a mark, it's just a blank piece of paper."

"I saw one of their puppets, and I was absolutely astounded," said Dworkin explaining how she met the puppeteers. "I knew they could be a big success."

A graduate of Cass Tech High School, Dworkin earned a master's degree in art education. She taught in the Detroit Public Schools and later nursery school. Before retiring she worked for the State of Michigan licensing nursery schools.

Dworkin is managing director of



PuppetArt and handles publicity, contracts and grants. "I beat the bushes to get jobs," she said.

It's absolutely a labor of love. "These are incredibly talented people who needed someone to help them," she said. Detroit has a long history of puppetry, and we're not just talking about the ones who pull strings at city hall.

The Detroit Puppeteers Guild, an organization devoted to the art of puppetry, was founded in 1946 and is affiliated with the Puppeteers of America Inc.

PuppetArt — Detroit Puppet Theater

Where: 25 E. Grand River (between Woodward Ave. and Farmer St.) Detroit.
Performances: Noon and 2 p.m.
What: Premiere of "Kolobok," a Russian version of "The Gingerbread Man," opens Saturday, April 24. Performances at noon and 2 p.m. "Kolobok" continues noon and 2 p.m. Saturdays through May 15.
Tickets: \$8 adults, \$6 children with the exception of the April 24 premiere. Tickets for this performance are \$6.50 adults, \$5 children. Proceeds from the April 24 performances benefit the Regional Puppetry Festival to be hosted by Detroit Puppeteers Guild. A puppet-making workshop follows all performances. The cost is \$8 per person. Call (313) 961-7777 for information.

Detroit Puppeteers Guild "A Day of Puppetry"

When: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 24.
Where: Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia.
Cost: Adult registration \$32.50 (includes 6 month membership in the Detroit Puppeteers Guild), Detroit Puppeteers Guild Members \$25, Teens (ages 13-18) \$20. Register at the door or call Nancy Henk, (810) 463-0480.
Highlight: There is a children's workshop performance package for children ages 7-12. Children will meet at 1 p.m. to make a puppet, then watch a 2 p.m. performance featuring magical surprises by the Amazing Clark, and Brad Lowe's presentation of "Rumpelstiltskin." There is a \$5 fee per child, registration limited to 25 children. Additional tickets for the 2 p.m. puppet show are \$3 each.

Puppetry is an ancient art. Puppets were found in Egyptian tombs. Haydn composed operas for marionettes, and Bernard Shaw wrote plays for them. Native Americans used puppets for magic effects and in religious ceremonies.

Dworkin introduced the puppeteers to the Guild, and they said, "these are our people."

Guild adviser Nancy Henk and her "Puppets to Go" performed at the Detroit Puppet Theater, which opened last July, on April 10.

"It's like a little miracle in downtown Detroit," said Henk about the Detroit Puppet Theatre. "In the larger downtown theater district you have this wonderful little theater devoted to puppets. It's been a dream for the people involved, and I've been happily watching their dream come true."

Dream

It's a dream that took over seven years to come true.

"I was a drama director in Leningrad," said Mikheyenko. She wanted to meet other Russian immigrants who, like her, were involved in theater in Russia. "I put up flyers in apartment buildings and other places," she said. Mikheyenko believes it was fate that brought the four puppeteers together. "I fell in love with the puppets," she said. "A puppet can do more than a live actor."

From the beginning, the group's

Please see PUPPETRY, E2

Jekyll-Hyde role challenge met by versatile actor

By HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

Twenty years ago actor Chuck Wagner was there at the beginning for the musical "Jekyll & Hyde."

Wagner was a student at the University of Southern California in 1979 when fellow students Frank Wildhorn and Steve Cuden devised a musical based on Robert Louis Stevenson's popular tale of good-hearted Dr. Jekyll who creates a serum that turns him into evil Mr. Hyde.



Chuck Wagner

"I did the original demo tape that was used to get a record deal. Then Colm Wilkinson got to do the album ...," Wagner said.

The show went through various changes over time. In the mid 1980s, established lyricist Leslie Bricusse ("Oliver," "Stop the World I Want to Get Off") signed on to write lyrics and reshape the book.

In 1991 Wagner got his chance to perform the lead role on stage in the world premiere production at Houston's Alley Theatre. The show opened on Broadway in 1997 to mixed reviews.

But it won a popular following of devoted fans who call themselves "Jekkiies." Wagner is now on the first leg of a yearlong national tour, playing at the Fisher Theatre through May 9.

Composer Frank Wildhorn has gone on to have wild success on Broadway with an astounding three musicals currently playing on the Great White Way — "Jekyll & Hyde," "The Scarlet Pimpernel" and "Civil War."

"I think Frank has a gift, the ability to write songs that are beautiful and emotional," Wagner said of his fellow USC alum. "You don't just hear them but feel them. But they're also simple and accessible to people."

The score includes the hit songs "Someone Like You" and "This Is The Moment."

Wagner has carved out a varied career since graduating from USC. He's performed as

a regular on soap operas, appeared on "The Dukes of Hazzard," starred in a movie called "Automan" and performed in several successful stage productions including national tours of Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" and as Javert in "Les Miserables." He also performed as Sir Lancelot opposite the original Lancelot Robert Goulet's King Arthur.

But the role of Jekyll and Hyde is a special challenge.

Please see JEKYLL-HYDE, E2

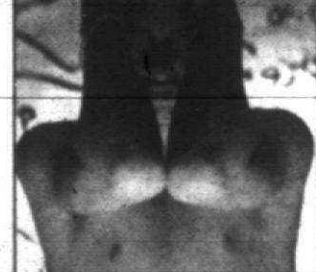
POPULAR MUSIC

Eminem is ready for controversy

By CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net

Marshall Mathers, otherwise known as Eminem, strolls into Harmonie Park Studios in Detroit, the picture of insecurity.

His hands are pushed deep into the pockets of his baggy jeans, his blonde-dyed head of hair is pointed down to the ground. Mathers can't seem to focus, glancing quickly around the small studio.



Returning home: Rapper Eminem, otherwise known as Marshall Mathers or Slim Shady, plays the State Theatre in May.

Mathers was there to perform for the now-defunct alternative radio station WXDG-FM and its "Edge Session," something of which he was unaware.

"I came here this morning and absolutely had no idea what I'm gonna do because nobody told me. But I can do what I want to do," he said.

"OK, listen. If I'm gonna do some freestyles and I'm gonna do a show, I'm gonna do a little performance there, everybody's got to stand up or this will be very boring."

The studio pumps an instrumental version of Eminem's hit "My Name Is" through the speakers. Encouraging the sound engineer to turn it up, Eminem

Please see EMINEM, E7

Esham hopes to follow peers

By CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net
Sitting back on a plush



Mixing it up: Detroit rapper Esham works the boards at Overture Studios in Novi.

couch in Overture Studios in Novi, rapper Esham Smith explained he's the real deal.

He described growing up on the mean streets of New York City and Detroit near Seven Mile and Hoover roads. Unlike Kid Rock and I.C.P., Smith said he doesn't call the suburbs home.

"When I talk about some (stuff) it's more realer than when another (person) talk about it. They just playin'," he said of rappers from the suburbs. "We can't get over the fact that we come from the ruins. Detroit is ruins. I don't care what anybody else say," said Smith, who calls himself "an extreme realist."

They should blow that

Please see ESHAM, E7

THEATER

Bonstelle romps with 'Once Upon A Mattress'

The Bonstelle, Wayne State University's undergraduate theater company, presents the rollicking musical "Once Upon A Mattress" 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 23-24, and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 25 at the theater, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (313) 577-2960.

BY SUZ SUCHTIA
SPECIAL WRITER

The rollicking, tongue-in-cheek humor of "Once Upon A Mattress," the musical version of the fairy-tale "The Princess and the Pea" makes for a fun, light-hearted evening of theater. The Bonstelle company has lavished enthusiasm and creativity into their final show of the season.

Unlike its tame origin, "Once Upon A Mattress," this production tells the "real" side of the story, with double entendres and adult humor. In a kingdom ruled over by a shrewish, domineering queen and a mute, lascivious king, no one may wed until Prince Dauntless shares his marriage bed. However, Mama has made sure that a dozen princesses to date have all failed their royalty tests. Matters become more urgent when Lady

Larkin informs Sir Harry that his impending fatherhood makes it imperative that a bride be found soon.

Sir Harry's quest produces a most unusual potential bride — the endearing, unconventional, and most-swimming Princess Winnifred, whose wildly offbeat personality excites Prince Dauntless, much to the queen's dismay.

The colorful and uninhibited role of Winnifred was made for junior Maribeth Monroe, whose exuberant personality has captured the Bonstelle stage this season. Whether belting out a song, kicking up her heels, delivering comic lines or sending the audience into gales of laughter with a well chosen facial expression, Monroe is the wonderful girl named Fred. Her senior year at the Bonstelle ought to be promising.

Suzanne Michelle Gouine as Queen Aggravain epitomizes the character you love to hate, with her intrusively funny invasion. Her glares, stares and pompous indignation brought delightful laughter from the house.

Caleb Gilbert as the Minstrel and Mark Shock as the Jester delivered strong performances,

and formed a comedic trio with the mute King Sextimus, played by Stephen Blackwell.

Junior Patrick O'Reilly of Livonia makes his Bonstelle debut as the shy, mama's boy Prince Dauntless. He makes a nice puppy-dogish, naive counterpart to Princess Winnifred over-the-top extrovert.

The songs are spirited and funny, from "Opening For A Princess," to the Spanish Panic dance, the not-so-quiet "Quiet" to the enthusiastic finale.

There are smooth, easy on the ears love songs, as well: "In A Little While," "Normandy," and "Yesterday I Loved You" with Lady Larkin and Sir Harry.

Princess Winnifred gets the house laughing with "Shy," and "Happily Ever After."

The costumes were striking and coordinated, with a basic white color scheme accented with bright jewel-toned colors. The ladies' hats had amazing wing spans, creating a delightful touch of whimsy. The set was very versatile, with the crew, dressed as royal pages, swiftly choreographing the scene changes.

comedy and the rapport it builds with audiences. "There's nothing like singing and acting. It takes you to the edge, you open your heart and feel the emotions. When that happens it's cathartic for the performer and the audience. It's a symbiotic relationship, very thrilling," Wagner said.

Wagner said "Jekyll and Hyde" is the most physically wearing role he's done. He will be sharing his music with audiences with a new CD, "Broadway Bound" which will include songs from the shows he's done.

Wagner said he enjoys musical

Puppetry from page E1

dream was to have their own theater.

"Puppetry is attractive and additive," said Gorman, the theater's artistic director. No other art form covers so many bases — painting, sculpture, drama, music and ballet. "Every production is original. The music and everything."

The puppeteers design the puppets, create sets and even music for their productions. After performances guests can attend a workshop to make their own puppets to take home.

"Puppets are a great opportunity to form a child's imagination, which adults are losing," said Gorman. "Puppets are useful tools, they can educate children and teach them how to behave."

"Kolobok," opening Saturday, is one of the first stories children learn in Russia. "Children learn how to behave," said Gorman. "They learn that they must do what their parents say. It's also

■ 'Puppetry is attractive and additive.'

Igor Gozmann
Detroit Puppet Theater CEO

quite musical."

Their goal is to host more guest puppeteers such as Henk, and build a larger audience that includes school groups who can visit the theater during the week. PuppetArt members also touring throughout the state presenting puppet shows at schools and other venues.

Another goal is to introduce children to other cultures through puppetry to introduce them to these cultural treasures. They're working on a Japanese story.

"We've created a theatrical atmosphere here," said Mikheyenko. "I think that's

important for children to experience. Puppetry is not just for children, it can be interesting for adults too."

The Detroit Puppeteers Guild is presenting "A Day of Puppetry," 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 24 at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

The event, co-sponsored by the Livonia Civic Center Library, offers an opportunity to learn more about the art of puppetry. There are a variety of workshops including Improvisational Marionette Theatre, Fun with Walk-Around Puppets, and How To's of Youth Puppet Theater.

A Children's Workshop/Performance Package for children ages 7 to 12 with Maureen Schiffman gives kids the opportunity to make their own puppet. Afterward, they will attend performances featuring magic by the Amazing Clark, "Rumpelstiltskin," presented by Brad of TV's Hot Fudge Show.

UMS announces '99-'00 season

The University Musical Society has announced its 121st season, which includes 79 public performances of 60 events in eight different venues.

Highlights include the first regional appearance since 1965 of the Berlin Philharmonic with Claudio Abbado directing; Yo-Yo Ma, Anne-Sophie Mutter and Murray Perahia; a series devoted to the music of J.S. Bach on the 250th anniversary of his death; the UMS debut of jazz legend Oscar Peterson; a women in dance series; Neeme Jarvi appearing with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra; and his other ensemble, the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra; Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra in a Swing Dance Tour; the Chieftains a week before St. Patrick's Day; and a return of "The Harlem Nutcracker" to the Detroit Opera House.

A season brochure will be mailed out to the mailing list, call UMS Box Office at (734) 764-2538.

For December: Handel's "Messiah," Dec. 4-5; Boys Choir of Harlem, Dec. 9; Frederica von Stade, Dec. 10; Gabrieli Consort & Players, Dec. 14.

For January: The Romero, Jan. 9; Bebe Miller Company, Jan. 15; Take 6, Jan. 17; Yo-Yo Ma, Jan. 20; American String Quartet, Jan. 23; Russian National Orchestra, Jan. 24; Barbara Hendricks, Jan. 29.

For February: Jazz at Lincoln Center Sextet, Feb. 4-5; Gothen-

burg Symphony Orchestra, Feb. 5; Meredith Monk's "Magic Frequencies," Feb. 9; Drummers of West Africa, Feb. 10; Martha Clarke's "Vers Le Flamme," Feb. 11; Anne-Sophie Mutter, Feb. 12; Estonian Philharmonic, Feb. 13; Murray Perahia, Feb. 16; New York City Opera's "Barber of Seville," Feb. 17-19; Christian Tetzlaff, Feb. 20.

For March: The Chieftains, March 8; Ballet d'Afrique Noir, March 9-10; English Consort, March 11; Ustad Ali Akbar Khan and Ustad Zakir Hussain, March 17; Oscar Peterson Quartet, March 18; American String Quartet, March 19; Thomas Quasthoff, March 20; Forgive-me, March 24; Mamas, March 25; Beaux Arts Trio, March 26; Moscow Virtuosi, March 31.

For April: Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, April 1; The Watts Prophets, April 8; Trisha Brown Company, April 12; Susanne Mentzer, April 13; Australian Chamber Orchestra, April 14; Bach's St. Matthew Passion, April 16; Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra Swing Dance Tour, April 22.

Tickets to the events are sold as part of series and individually.

For November: Emerson String Quartet, Nov. 5; American String Quartet, Nov. 7; Les Arts Florissants, Nov. 10; Theatre of Voices, Nov. 12; Paco de Lucia and His Flamenco Quartet, Nov. 19; Kremerata Baltica Soloists, Nov. 21; "The Harlem Nutcracker," Nov. 26 to Dec. 5.

For December: Handel's "Messiah," Dec. 4-5; Boys Choir of Harlem, Dec. 9; Frederica von Stade, Dec. 10; Gabrieli Consort & Players, Dec. 14.

For January: The Romero, Jan. 9; Bebe Miller Company, Jan. 15; Take 6, Jan. 17; Yo-Yo Ma, Jan. 20; American String Quartet, Jan. 23; Russian National Orchestra, Jan. 24; Barbara Hendricks, Jan. 29.

For February: Jazz at Lincoln Center Sextet, Feb. 4-5; Gothen-

MOT's 'Madame Butterfly' delicate and heart-rending

"Madame Butterfly" continues at the Detroit Opera House 8 p.m. April 23-24 and May 1, 2 p.m. April 25 and May 2. For ticket information, call (313) 237-SING (7464), all Ticketmaster locations or by calling Ticketmaster at (248) 645-6666.

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER
hgallagher@oe.homedomain.net

Puccini's "Madame Butterfly" has long been one of the most popular works in the operatic repertoire for its heart-rending portrayal of love and trust brutally betrayed.

The Michigan Opera Theatre's current production is so lush, delicate, precise and believable that it would draw a rush of tears from the most hardened heart.

"Butterfly" is the source for the hit musical "Miss Saigon" and tells a simple but gripping story. The year is 1904 and a callous but charming American naval lieutenant marries a beautiful, naive 15-year-old Japanese geisha Cio-Cio-San in a ceremony that he mocks. After he has



False love: Francesco Grollo as Lt. Pinkerton takes the hand of bride Cio-Cio-San, Sun Xiu Wei in the MOT's "Madame Butterfly."

abandoned her to return to the United States, she bears his son, knowing in her heart that her Lt. B.F. Pinkerton will return.

But when he does, it is with his American wife and plans to take his son, driving Butterfly to her last desperate act of ceremonial

suicide.

At the heart of this fine production on Saturday's opening night was Chinese soprano Sun Xiu Wei, who is not only a magnificent singer capable of soaring and beautifully controlled high notes but also an actress of fine subtlety capable of suggesting both joy and anxiety in a few facial and hand gestures. Her *Un Bel Di Veremo* is incredibly moving.

Francesco Grollo drew a hearty round of boos as he took his bows, a tribute to his perfect Pinkerton, all swagger, arrogance and, ultimately, cowardice in facing his deceit. Grollo's huge tenor embraces the rich romantic charm that makes Pinkerton's deception so real. He also looks the part of a young naval lieutenant and acts with the easy "we rule the world" attitude that was just beginning to make "ugly Americans" a common phrase.

The love drive here is a complex well of conflicting emotions that are vividly conveyed by these two outstanding performers.

Victor Ledbetter brings

warmth, rectitude and a deep sense of maturity to the role of the American consul Sharples, using his voice to brilliant effect. Kathleen Seger handles the emotional role of Suzuki with admirable restraint and then finally succumbing with a voice that pierces.

"Madame Butterfly" is Puccini's most melodious, sweeping and emotional opera. The music is rich, inventive, playful as it incorporates Japanese folk music and American marches. The orchestra, under Steven Mercurio, is in top form, drawing all the many nuances and warmly supporting the leads. The choral work is excellent.

Mario Corradi's direction is as delicate, suggestive and beautiful as a Japanese painting. The end of Act II is especially effective. Zack Brown's simple set of Cio-Cio-San's house and the lighting of Kendall Smith add to the perfection of this production.

Sun Xiu Wei and Francesco Grollo sing the leads April 24 and May 1. On April 23, 25 and May 2, the roles of Cio-Cio-San and Pinkerton will be sung by Natalia Dercho and Carlo Ventre.

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Jekyll-Hyde from page E1

"Anytime you play the full dichotomy of mankind, to be as good as you can be, and as bad as you can be, it's a challenge," he said.

"The interesting thing about this show is that both Jekyll and Hyde are delighted with their lives. Though his father's madness leads to his experiments, Jekyll is happy with his life and with his fiancée. And when Hyde is freed, he's delighted to be alive despite the evil things he does. There's a visceral joy to his excitement."

The role has been a favorite of many film actors. John Barry-

more, Fredric March and Spencer Tracy all did classic versions. Wagner said the musical draws on those old films for some elements of the story.

"The novel is very thin, a first-person narrative that doesn't go anywhere. There's no love interest," he said.

Wagner said Withorn added the part about Jekyll's father being insane to give motivation for his experiments. The good fiancée and the good-hearted prostitute were developed in several film versions and have become standard elements since.

Wagner said he enjoys musical

comedy and the rapport it builds with audiences.

"There's nothing like singing and acting. It takes you to the edge, you open your heart and feel the emotions. When that happens it's cathartic for the performer and the audience. It's a symbiotic relationship, very thrilling," Wagner said.

Wagner said "Jekyll and Hyde" is the most physically wearing role he's done. He will be sharing his music with audiences with a new CD, "Broadway Bound" which will include songs from the shows he's done.

Wagner said he enjoys musical

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MOVIES

'Goodbye Lover' is entertaining and engaging

BY VICTORIA DÍAZ
SPECIAL WRITER

"Goodbye Lover" is the cinematic equivalent of a stylish fun house, filled with shadows, distortion, echoes, knotted turns and expensively dressed beings vaguely reminiscent of human replicas in Ridley Scott's "Blade Runner." Be advised that, as you enter the fun house, you would be wise to take very little at face value.

The movie stars Patricia Arquette as Sherry, Dunmore, an empty soul who is like a life-size performing doll acting out her life, intent on making the world her apple by acquiring money, money and more money. As the

story opens, she's selling toney real estate around town, but this gal is hungry when it comes to money. She's like a shark in the midst of a feeding frenzy, and no way are mere real estate commissions going to do it for her. Soon, we'll see what she has in mind (sort of) as a step up.

Enter her razor-edged husband, Jake, played by the sweet-faced Dermot Mulroney, who absolutely nails his slippery role. Jake is as steeped in alcohol as a fruitcake, but he fully shares his wife's appetite for moving up in the world and, together, they make a particularly deadly duo, even as he plays with the brightly colored toys he designs, even as she sings in the church choir.

And even as she "acts out" her sexual fantasies, indulging in a sizzling affair with her husband's older brother, Ben, played coolly by Don Johnson looking as if he just stepped from the glossy pages of GQ, Ben is an executive at a prestigious public relations firm called Iconage, who likes to remind his staff that "People worry that it's a dangerous...world; we've got to convince them that it's safe." Whether he actually believes the world is safe, or believes that's an empty lie, or doesn't know what he believes is beside the point. Preserving image is his life and his livelihood.

One of the most refreshing performances in the film comes

from Ellen DeGeneres, who plays a middle-aged detective named Rita Pompano, practically deadpan. If Pompano ever believed that such things as absolute truths existed, that was a long time ago. "Either the world's right side up or upside-down, it depends on how you look at it," she observes to another character. From the point of view of the veteran detective, the world is not a pretty sight.

In supporting roles, Mary-Louise Parker as a chameleon-like assistant at Iconage (watch her change her image as the film progresses), and Ray McKinnon as a true-blue detective add to the labyrinthine action.

Director Roland Joffe underscores his serio-comic study of the influence of image, presenting his story against a highly detailed backdrop. Television is everywhere (including the examining room at the morgue).

Movie-land photos figure prominently, as do tape recordings of saccharine show tunes and self-help advice. One of the most significant scenes in the film features a reflecting pool as its centerpiece. In numerous scenes, we view the action either through glass or as a slightly-disorienting mirror image, one or two steps removed from "reality."

Picture "Double Indemnity" and other 40's thrillers, especially some of those tangled love affair flicks with Joan Crawford. Add a touch of Hitchcock. Mix in a little Brian DePalma-Orson Welles influence. Stir it all together with a bit of "Death-trap," and the chilling, nightmare tang of Ridley Scott's "Blade Runner," and you have some idea of what "Goodbye Lover" is like. It seems influenced, as a matter of fact, by countless films, although this is not to say that it's tired or lack-

ing in surprise and suspense at all.

Joffe's steeply angled shots, override colors and imaginative lighting stylishly enhance this '90s story about a world gone askew. (At the film's conclusion, the director takes special pains, by the way, to bring us in and make us a part of the images we have been watching.)

"Goodbye Lover" started out as a stage drama created by Ron Peer, and evolved into a screenplay written by Peer and Joel Cohen and Alec Sokolow. Though it has a few implausible spots, its tight, taut tone and fast pace should keep most movie-goers entertained and engaged throughout. It's commentary on the thin, blurry images that appear to separate image from the real thing nowadays may even provide food for thought after these flickering bits of light have faded from the screen.

Altman's 'Cookie's Fortune' is leisurely, well-observed story

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

As leisurely paced as a Southern Sunday afternoon and as precisely observed as a Faulkner story, Robert Altman's "Cookie's Fortune" is the latest triumph for America's most idiosyncratic director.

Altman gave us a rainy, claustrophobic Savannah in last year's overlooked but intriguing "Gingerbread Man," from a story by John Grisham. "Cookie's Fortune" is also a gothic mystery of sorts, but it's more a study of small town relationships, idle moments, conversations. It's eccentric in the best sense.

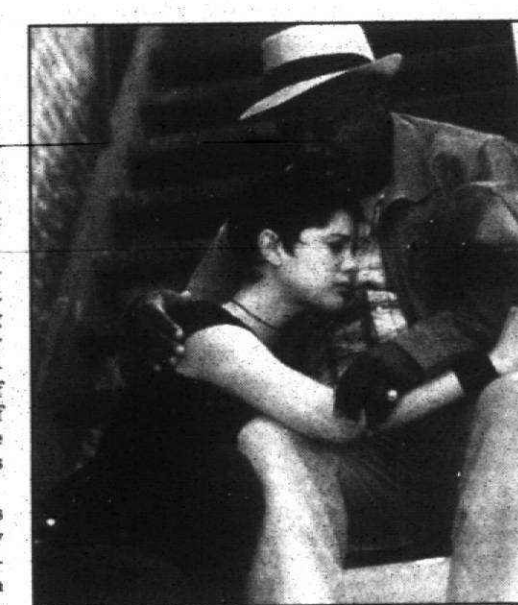
Jewell Mae "Cookie" Orcutt is a family matriarch in Holly Springs, Miss., living in a somewhat ramshackle old Victorian home with her black handyman Willis. They have warm relationship, kidding each other, keeping score on who one-ups the other. Then one day Cookie decides it's time to be reunited with her husband Buck. She covers her head with a pillow and shoots herself.

Willis is charged with murder, though the deputy sheriff, Lester, keeps telling everyone that he couldn't have done it because "I go fishin' with him."

Around this story screenwriter Anne Rapp and Altman populate the town with a fascinating cast of characters, played by a perfect group of actors.

The indefatigable Patricia Neal at 79 is still a luminous performer. She makes Cookie a woman of raw wit and good sense, with that touch of madness that descends upon us all with age.

When Cookie's suicide is discovered by her niece Camille, a simple gesture of resignation turns into a grave mistake. Glenn Close lets out all stops as Camille, one of those controlling, self-centered, crazed Southern



JOYCE RUDOLPH, OCTOBER FILMS

Friends: Liv Tyler and Charles Dutton as Emma and Willis share a trusting friendship in "Cookie's Fortune."

women, who once reigned supreme as belle of the ball. Camille won't accept suicide in her family. "How could you do this to me?" she says. Watching

Close recreate the crime that never happened is a lesson in fine acting. While trying to hide a suicide, Camille is also directing the church play, a version of Wilde's "Salome," improved by Camille.

There are so many fine performances here. Evil Camille's opposite is Charles S. Dutton's Willis, the soul of kindness. He's a quiet, intellectual man who offers help, sympathy and warmth to everyone. Dutton is a master at this sort of character and here he has a role that commands attention.

Julianne Moore is Camille's dim sister Cora, or so she seems. Moore plays Cora as a burnt-out case, a walking zombie of Southern clichés, a holder of deep secrets. Moore has proven that

she can play anything and here she catches us with quick smiles and darting glances. Watch closely.

Liv Tyler is Cora's wayward daughter Emma, at war with Aunt Camille who stays with Willis in jail a sign of solidarity with her old friend.

But jail is a loose place where the cell door is left open and Emma carries on with the young deputy played by Chris O'Donnell. Easy-going Lester is played by Ned Beatty with his usual warm befuddlement.

Add in Lyle Lovett as a voyeuristic catfish farmer, bluesman Rufus Thomas as saloon-keeper, Donal Moffat as a wise lawyer and Detroit's Courtney Vance as an exasperated investigator and you have a fine Southern

comedy in the best sense. Altman shows again why he is a rare treasure in American film.

'Metroland' tells of growing up

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

In 1963, Chris and Toni were Mods with an attitude, rebellious suburban boys with dreams of ooh-la-la in Paris and ditching their parents supposedly emotionally cramped lives at the end of the metro line.

"Metroland" is about the passage to adulthood, from snarling boyhood to accepting responsibility for yourself and others.

In a tradition of British films dating from the early 1950s, it offers a nicely detailed, intimate portrait of individuals in conflict with their own emotions set against the specifics of English social life.

By 1977, Chris is wearing ties and bell-bottomed suits and commuting on that same metro line to a job in the city. He's married to an attractive, level-headed wife and has a toddler daughter who seems to cry at the worst possible times. Toni is still out there in the big world, carrying on in an "open" relationship, jet setting about. He's returned to London to challenge Chris and agitate all his doubts and fan-

tasies. Philip Saville's film, screenplay by Adrian Hodges from a book by Julian Barnes, is told in three time periods — when the boys were 16, when Chris is 21 and playing at being an art photographer in Paris and in 1977.

Christian Bale gives an outstanding performance as the conflicted Chris. He's a wide-eyed, innocent, romantic in the always dangerous and beautiful Paris and a somewhat absent-minded 30-year-old father, yet aware of what he had but not yet aware of all he has.

The Paris scenes are a love story within a love story. It's a story of a callow young man who takes up with a free-spirited, sexy, beautiful French girl, the great English fantasy. What he doesn't realize is that she is innocent and as vulnerable as he is. Elsa Zylberstein is every young man's dream as Annick in her micro-mini skirts, her cigarettes, her peek-a-boo hairstyle, her sexual abandon. Ah! And this was the Paris of the student rebellion, the New Wave movies — the cafes at night, revolution in the air.

Emimen from page E1

nearly causes the speakers to pop.

Leading the group in a chorus of "Slim" and "Shady," Eminem's nickname, he freestyled through "My Name Is."

His impromptu lyrics honor Detroit. "I came back one time to make Detroit famous," he said. "Detroit, make this frickin' party hype."

"I want to give everybody props for showing Slim Shady love," he said.

Detroiters are showing its rappers a lot of love. Romeo native Kid Rock, known to his mother as Bob Ritchie, has hit platinum. Clown rapper I.C.P., who will release an album in May, have generated their fair share of controversy.

Eminem's "The Slim Shady LP" sold 500,000 copies within the first two weeks of its release. He performed live during MTV's "Spring Break" and returns to Detroit in May to play the State Theatre. Esham Smith, another Detroit rapper, is hoping to follow in their footsteps.

Kid Rock, Eminem and Smith are nominees at the Detroit Music Awards set for Friday, April 23, at the State Theatre.

"It's crazy, crazy," Eminem said of the hype that surrounds him. "It's like something you want to happen but you don't know if it's going to. You know what I mean? When it happens, it's like, whoa."

He attributes the success to "a couple reasons, probably. Just on the LP being timed right, and I feel right now kids are more into hip-hop now more than ever. I feel like I say a lot of things that a lot of people can relate to."

His Eminem/Slim Shady persona is a direct contrast to his awkwardness. Marshall Mathers' story has been well documented. The rapper, whose face stares out from the cover of the current Rolling Stone, spent his formative years in the Detroit area, the exact city is up for debate. Most claim that he grew up in a trailer park on the east side of Detroit. He has a toddler daughter with an on-again, off-again girlfriend.

He left Detroit for Los Angeles where he took second place in the rap Olympics. It was there he was introduced to his mentor, Dr. Dre of the gangsta rap group NWA and Aftermath Records.

"When I was coming up on the local scene, you know a lot of people wasn't trying to hear me. Thanks to the help of Dr. Dre, I'm thankful to come back and rep my city the right way," he said.

It was Dr. Dre who christened Eminem "Slim Shady."

"Slim Shady is like an alter ego, it's just like another name I gave my temper. It's like another way to describe my anger. It's like just a thing," Eminem said

Esham from page E1

up. All that's in there is ruins right now. I hate to say it like that but it is. Ruins. So you tell me how the music ain't gonna be as hard as the city."

"Mail Dominance" on Overcore/Gotham, a subsidiary of Overture Music in Novi, is Smith's latest collection of tales from the street. For "Mail Dominance," he looked to Overture Studios and producer Jade Scott Santos. The partnership worked well, according to Smith's manager Brian Major.

"To watch Esham work, he's truly a genius and I can't speak in enough superlatives to describe him. What was really beautiful was when he had an idea in his head of what a song should sound like, he'd articulate it to Scott, and Scott would translate that into the beat. Now you've got this slamming music loop that has been created in maybe two to three hours."

"Mail Dominance" explores several elements of hip-hop including slow grooves ("Slow Motion"), old school influences ("Outch Atmosphere"), speed raps ("Reload"), ballads ("Au Revoir") and funk ("King of Hearts"). "Whoa" is innovative and relentlessly catchy with its 1950s pop melody. Smith explained that he likes to mix it up.

"I kind of get sick of the same old type of rapping going on, and just the rhythms that people are using. I'm kind of like multi-posi-

tioned. I don't like the same position. I like to switch it up."

"Knucklehead" Smith

Smith learned about rap music from listening to the radio in New York, where his mother sent him after running into the law.

"When I went to New York, I was probably like 8 or 9 and I used to be stealing cars and being like a knucklehead. My momma she didn't like that. She thought I was hanging out with the wrong people so she sent me off to New York which is where my grandmother stayed," he said.

The radio stations there played rap on the weekend ranging from Run-D.M.C. to "rapper I had never heard of in my life."

"I just caught the vibe. It was a whole 'nother world. As the summer went on, and the year went on, when I came back down here I was rapping."

Upon returning to Detroit, where he attended Osborne High School, with his rapping skills, Smith and his brother started a record label.

"He opened a lot of doors for people, even in Michigan," Smith said about his brother.

"Groups like I.C.P., they don't want to pay homage. But people know very little about me so they just assume things about me. Maybe I'll kill them or something. I don't know," he added laughing.

One thing that has been said

after his performance. Rappers like Smith claim Dr. Dre only got involved with Eminem because he is white. Preparing for that, Eminem responds on "Role Model" off "The Slim Shady LP."

"Some people only see that I'm white, ignore a skill. 'Cause I stand out like a green hat with an orange bell," he raps.

Eminem's first hit is the catchy "My Name Is," but the clean version of the song on the radio and on MTV doesn't let on to the theme of the rest of "The Slim Shady LP." Throughout "Slim Shady," Eminem raps graphically about sexually transmitted diseases, HIV-infected women, driving around with his daughter while her mother's body is stuffed in the trunk, stealing, and drug use.

The cover of "The Slim Shady LP" shows Eminem and his daughter staring out into the ocean while a person's legs hang out of a trunk. It's not exactly fodder for water-cooler conversation, and Eminem knows this. He's ready for whatever controversy may come forth.

"I'm expecting that. I'm already getting a little bit but you know whatever comes my way, I'm like, whatever. It doesn't matter to me. I'm ready for it," he said.

about Smith is that he's a devil worshiper. His side project is Natas, satan spelled backward. Smith's management didn't respond to requests about the controversy.

But it was the dark imagery that pushed sales of Smith's 15 solo albums and the sixth with Natas past the 100,000 mark — all without a major marketing push.

"Nobody was doing this type of music. We were using dark imagery to the point where some of our records couldn't get into the store because of the album cover itself," he said. "Now they get albums out with darker imagery that we've tried to use on a rap album."

The plan is to bring Smith up from the underground with "Mail Dominance." Smith got a hint of mainstream success last year when a song of his, "Hot Body," from his "KICK! the Footz" album, appeared in and out of three scenes of the Warren Beatty film "Bulworth."

Despite this success, Smith hasn't inked a major label contract.

"A lot of the major labels feel threatened by Esham because they could look at his track record and see that he's already been successful. He doesn't need that external validation from a major label saying we're gonna make you a success. He already is one," Major said.

Big Dave brings it home



At Big Dave and the Ultrasonics' CD release party, celebrators packed the Blind Pig, danced cheered, and sang along with the music. That's a typical show for the blues band.

"It was a smash. We work at it. We work at getting people into it and getting active and enjoying themselves," singer/harmonica player "Big Dave" Steele said.

Now Big Dave and the Ultrasonics are spreading the bluesy message throughout the United States and Canada during a tour that includes stops in New York, Quebec, Minnesota, Oregon, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Arizona, Utah and California. The band, which will be on the road until Aug. 8, returns home to play three shows this weekend.

They are touring in support of "Big Dave and the Ultrasonics," their debut for Burnside Records and their third overall. Big Dave and the Ultrasonics inked a deal with Portland, Ore., -based label after meeting up with executives at a Portland festival.

"Burnside has a record store in Portland. They saw us and they wanted to sign us up on the spot," Steele explained.

"Big Dave and the Ultrasonics" was produced by Ron Levy, a well-respected member of the blues community. His credits include playing with Roomful of Blues, B.B. King and Albert King.

"It was really good for me personally. It was an excellent experience as far as working with a professional with a lot of experience, especially in blues. He does a lot of different kinds of music."

"He has a definite deep understanding of blues which is basically where I come from. He made a lot of good suggestions to me. He showed me a couple guitar licks which I started using. Also, he was very positive toward me, very encouraging and very positive about the way I sang. He just pumped me up a little bit and made me feel good about what we do. It was nice to hear."

Levy also encouraged the band to focus its arrangements.

Steele grew up in Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, and moved to Ann Arbor eight years ago to form Big Dave and the Ultrasonics with acquaintances.

"The four of us lived in a town in Pennsylvania where I went to school. We were just playing for fun and different people moved to different parts of the country. They persuaded me to move out here and start the band."

"I just enjoy the blues and that's one of the reasons I got persuaded to come here in the first place. There's a lot of good blues in the Detroit area — Johnny Bassett, Mr. B. George

Returning to town: In the midst of a U.S. tour, Big Dave and the Ultrasonics return to the Detroit-area this week.

Bedard, Madcat Ruth. There's a lot of excellent musicians that I continue to look up to."

Big Dave and the Ultrasonics perform at 9 p.m. Thursday, April 22, at Fifth Avenue, 215 S. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. There is a cover charge for the 21 and older show. Call (248) 542-9922 for more information; 9 p.m. Friday, April 23, Sisko's, 5855 Monroe Boulevard, Taylor. There is a cover charge for the 21 and older show. (734) 278-5340; and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, April 24, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. 19 and older. (734) 986-8555.

They return to play Karl's Cabin, 9779 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth, at 10 p.m. Thursday, June 10. (734) 455-8450. For more information about Big Dave and the Ultrasonics, e-mail the band at bigdave2@earthlink.net or music@burnsidedisc.com.

Misc.

Jason Fisher of Royal Oak raised more than \$500 at his show Saturday at the Xhodos Cafe in Ferndale for the family of Nick Schamanski, who died Sunday, April 11, in Auburn Hills. Fisher, who had played in a band with Schamanski years back, has released one CD.

Christina Fuoco is the pop music reporter for The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. If you have a question or comment for her, you can leave her a message at (734) 953-2047, mailbox No. 2130, or write to her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net.

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DINING

Stir Crazy Cafe opens in Great Lakes Crossing

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

With the speed that Italian restaurants opened in Metro-Detroit only a few years ago, Asian-influenced eateries are now sprouting up across the area.

The latest is Stir Crazy Cafe in District 6 at Great Lakes Crossing, Auburn Hills, that opened last Friday, April 16.

Since 1995, founder and president Gary Leff has successfully operated three Stir Crazy Cafes in the Chicago area. This is his inaugural in the highly competitive, moderately-priced eatery scene of southeast Michigan.

Leff, a Northwestern University MBA grad, who worked as a management consultant for Fortune 500 companies, conceived the Stir Crazy idea during a trip to Asia in 1992. Attracted to the many healthy ingredients and clean, bold flavors of Asian cuisine, Leff redirected his career to that of entrepreneurial restaurateur.

He says he chose the Great Lakes Crossing location because "Auburn Hills is an up and coming area with strong demographics, but presently under-served. Being near the 25-screen Star Theater complex is a great draw."

Location just inside the District 6 entrance is a big plus for diners who come to eat seriously-prepared food, but not wish it complemented by entertainment and the amped-up atmosphere offered at other eateries in the heart of District 6.

Adding to its stellar reputation as the area's busiest restaurant designers, JPRA Architects of Farmington Hills and the Ron Rea team, have come up with another savvy plan offering plen-

Stir Crazy Cafe
Where: Great Lakes Crossing, Auburn Hills, District 6 (off I-75 use either Joslyn Road or Baldwin Road South exits).
Hours: Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday until 11 p.m.
Menu: Fresh, creative Pan-Asian with noodle and stir-fry dishes. Create-your-own or sit-down full service.
Cost: Lunch \$7-10. Dinner \$8-14. Kid's menu, seven items \$4.5, including free dessert.
Reservations: Call ahead seating.
Credit cards: All majors accepted.

ty of visual stimulation, setting an Oriental mood. At a cost of \$1.5 million for the interior, soft maple wood stained a honey color, creates a glow sending your eyes upward to the lighting and the voluptuous silk fabric shades.

Stir Crazy's Crazy Buddha Bar with hammered iron wok torchieres, inspired by a wok and chopsticks motif, move your eyes to the large, gleaming exhibition kitchen with its four double wok stations. Wok cooks, under direction of Malaysian native and executive chef Wah Chew Boey, face diners creating their meal at the interactive food bar.

More eye candy on the walls — a bright "wok on the wild side" Oriental mural depicts among other activities, a colorful dragon opening chopsticks. Chinese characters printed in classical calligraphy send "crazy" messages to those able to translate them.

In one word, Stir Crazy Cafe is "cool." Add that it offers fresh, high-quality food at reasonable prices in a fun, yet sophisticated environment, and you have a happening place before or after shopping or a film at the new Star Theater.

Best food deals at Stir Crazy are on the limited lunch menu,

offered Monday to Friday from opening until 4:30 p.m. Prices then are 25 percent less than dinner, yet only downsized portion-wise by 10 percent.

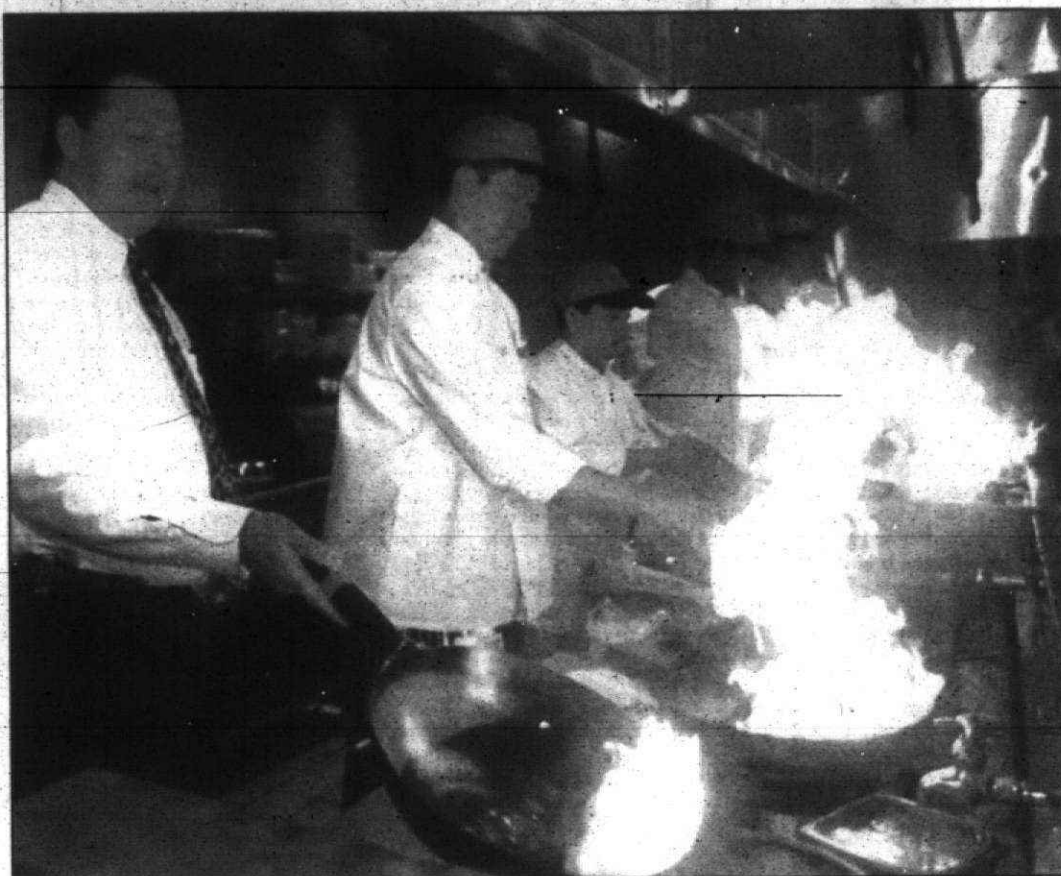
If as Midwesterners, we're anything like Chicagoans, top appetizer selections will be Crispy Sesame Calamari served with a wasabi cocktail sauce, Coconut Shrimp with a sweet and sour tamarind dipping sauce and classic, crispy, delicate Vegetable Spring Rolls with Thai sweet and sour sauce.

Chinese Chicken Salad is number one in this department and among noodle dishes, favorites are Pad Thai with Shrimp and Crazy Chow Fun with Shrimp, loaded with pea pods, bean sprouts, mushrooms and onions in a black bean sauce.

Wok-Tossed Entrees and Specialty Plate winners include Kung Pao Chicken, Ginger Beef, Sesame Chicken and Asian Cajun Tuna.

Some selections are marked with one (spicy) or two (very spicy) chilis. As a reference point from one who likes Asian dishes kicked up, Stir Crazy very spicy is moderate compared to Thai spicy.

For those who like to move around, create-your-own stir-fry



STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN STORMZANO

Fired-up: General manager Andy York (left to right), and Chef Wah Chew Boey work with other chefs to prepare orders at the newly opened Stir Crazy Cafe.

begins with all vegetarian at \$8. Depending on choice, chicken, beef, shrimp, fresh fish or calamari can be added for \$2 to \$3.50. Fill your bowl from the market bar, choose from two styles of rice and two types of noodles, then add a sauce from the selection of a dozen.

Among desserts, overwhelming first choice is Famous Banana Wontons, deep-fried with white chocolate, vanilla ice cream, and caramel sauce.

A large selection of beverages and specialty drinks, including seven bottled Asian beers, are available. Wine drinkers rejoice.

Any wine on the small but crafty list is \$5 per glass or \$18 per bottle. Each wine comes with a suggested menu item.

Looking to the future and late 2000, owner Gary Leff hopes to have more Stir Crazy Cafes, one in Birmingham and the other in Novi.

WHAT'S COOKING

Send items for consideration in What's Cooking to Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, fax (248) 591-7279, or e-mail kwygonik@oe.hopcom.net

COMEDY DINNER THEATER

Tony & Maria's Wedding, Saturday, May 8, Livonia American Club, 39200 Five Mile Road. Cost \$44.95 per person, call (800) 817-

6279 for information, reservations.

MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON

At the Italian American Club of Livonia, 39200 Five Mile Road Livonia, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 9. Family-style luncheon, music by the Eddie DeSantis Ensemble, adults \$25 per person, \$10 children (ages 6-12), \$3 children (ages 4-6), children age 3 and under, free. Call (734) 953-9724 for reservations/informa-

tion. No tickets sold at the door.

CORSI'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT AND BANQUET CENTER

Mom's Day Buffet, noon, 2 p.m. or 4 p.m. Sunday, May 9, 27910 W. Seven Mile Road. Adults \$12.95, seniors \$12, children under age 10, \$6. Call (248) 777-

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