

Meet the Candidates

You are invited to attend a Candidates Night for the 2000 Plymouth-Canton Board of Education election, sponsored by the Plymouth and Canton Observers and the Livonia League of Women Voters, which includes the Plymouth and Canton community.

FORUM

The forum will be conducted from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 25, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main.

Candidates seeking election to two four-year terms include incumbents Liz Givens and Judy Mardigan, and newcomers James Donahue, Kathleen Payne and Carl Battistelli.

The forum will be moderated by Anne Marie Graham-Hudak of Canton, a member of the League of Women Voters.

Call the Observer at 459-2700 for more information.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Tapestry: Plymouth artist uses quilts to tell stories. /B1

Friday's Child: Matthew Ramey serves as role model for teens. /B1

AT HOME

Nursery times: Gardeners might know what colors and sizes of flowers and shrubs they want this month, but Mother Nature dictates whether these purchased perennials will survive in the soil you have. /D6

ENTERTAINMENT

Community theater: Plymouth Theatre Guild's current production, "Squabbles," is very enjoyable and the detail and care that went into it is evident from the set design down to the costumes. /E3

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Storm takes its toll in Canton

4,800 residents lose power; parked plane flips at Mettetal

BY SCOTT DANIEL
AND HEATHER NEEDHAM
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Tuesday night's vicious thunderstorm inconvenienced thousands in Canton, closed schools and caused minor damages.

High winds, heavy rain and hail were reported in the township starting shortly after 8 p.m. A total of 4,800 Canton residents lost power initially, according to Detroit Edison Spokesman John Austerberry.

"About 1,500 remain without power," he said early Wednesday. "We should have the vast majority restored by (Thursday night)."

No injuries were reported as a result of the storm. Local businesses suffered no major damages either, Canton Fire Chief Mike Rorabacher said.

At Mettetal Airport, however, a Cessna 150 single-engine plane flipped over on its top, leaving it sitting upside-down in a field. No one was in the plane at the time.

Airport manager Doug Kitze said the plane's owner was alerted.

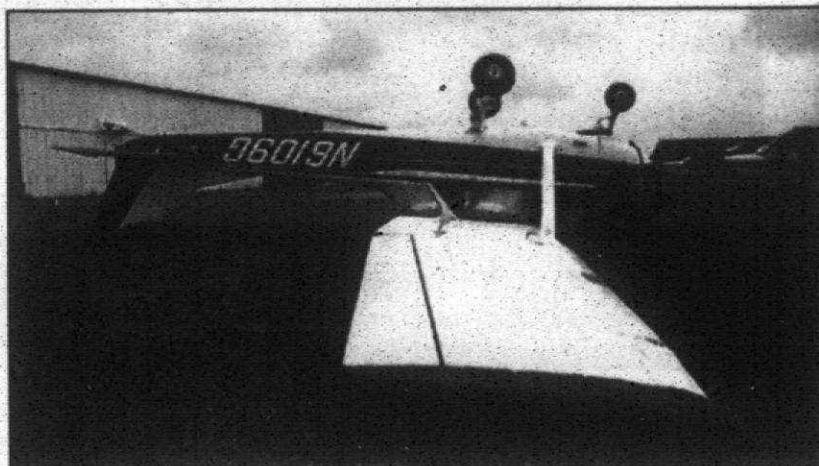
"He knows about it and we're just waiting to see what (the insurance company) has to say," he said.

No other damages were reported at the airport, which sits at Joy and Lilley roads.

"Our roof stayed on this time," Kitze said jokingly. "We've had the roof peel up before."

Meanwhile, Central Middle School students were excused from classes Wednesday because their school was without power. Plymouth-Canton's Starkweather Center canceled day

Please see **STORM**, A5



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Turbulence: This Cessna 150 single-engine plane flipped over in a field at Mettetal Airport. No one was in the plane at the time.

REEL FUN DAY



STAFF PHOTOS BY RANDY JACOBS

I got one: Tim Johnson, 4, and his dad Greg Johnson of Canton get a closer look at their catch Saturday. In the photo above, Jocelyn Lamoureux, 5, (left) and her friend, Alexis Scully, 4½, both of Canton, try their luck at catching one of the trout released into the Heritage Park ponds.

Catch 'em if you can at the fishing derby

Crowds of eager anglers descended on the three ponds at Heritage Park Saturday for the annual Kids Fishing Derby sponsored by the Canton Parks and Recreation Department.

Township officials stocked the ponds with more than 1,300 Rainbow Trout and then stood back as boys and girls up to age 15 tested their fishing skills.

Those who managed to hook one received prizes in lieu of the actual fish.

Boosted by good weather, the event drew a large crowd. Advance registrants paid \$1 each to fish during a one-hour time block.



Fish story: Young anglers across the pond try to land a big trout. It got away.

Students help save trees at site

BY TONY BRUSCATO
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Salem High Principal Gerald Ostoin and retiring ecology and zoology teacher Art Durow led a contingent of students last week in moving hundreds of trees that were threatened by the construction this summer of a new high school at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

"For the past few years we've pur-

NEW HIGH SCHOOL

chased 500 trees a year and planted them in the acreage around the current high schools, before we knew there was going to be a third high school," said Ostoin. "So, we're scrambling right now to replant the trees where we think they'll be most appropriate. With all the construction traffic from bulldozers and

other heavy equipment, we figured we'd lose them."

Teachers and students joined forces May 3 to move 285 trees, some of which have grown to be four-feet high and others only a foot tall, to areas not expected to be disturbed by construction. Ostoin said there are approximately 600 trees still to move out of harm's way.

"We'll try to get some service

Please see **TREES**, A6

Township fills new director's position

LEISURE SERVICES

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
AND SCOTT DANIEL
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sslaughter@oe.hometowncomm.net

Ann Conklin will be Canton's first Leisure Services Director.

The Independence Township Parks and Recreation leader will start June 13. Canton Supervisor Tom Yack said Conklin will be a good fit.

"She's a workaholic," he added. "I like that. She's very eager. She really wants this job."

Conklin edged Kim Fallow, Wayne's Parks and Recreation Director, for the position. Her hiring brings a six-month process to a close. Yack thinks the township was as thorough as possible in its selection.

"We don't know how we could've done more," he said. "We've done a lot."

Conklin had been Independence's parks and recreation director for 11 years.

"It's a wonderful opportunity," she said.

Please see **NEW DIRECTOR**, A5

Police bust pit bull fight ring

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
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Two local men are facing felony charges in connection with a pit bull fighting event Saturday in the township's southern end.

Ronald J. Wroble, 33, of Canton and Jeffrey D. Pepper, 36, of Belleville were arraigned on charges of animals attending a fight and animal fighting Monday at 35th District Court in Plymouth.

Both counts are four-year felonies. Wroble and Pepper each posted a \$4,000 bond and were released pending a preliminary examination on May 15.

As many as 20 people attended the dog fights on Lotz Road south of Michigan Avenue, according to Canton Police Sgt. Charles Raycraft. He said charges could be brought against several more

Canton Police raided a home on the 4000 block of Lotz shortly before 10 p.m. Saturday. The raid followed an anonymous phone tip

Please see **PIT BULL**, A6

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Road rage incident reported

A 22-year-old Canton man's truck was damaged after a recent driving confrontation, according to township police reports.

He was headed east on Ford east of Canton Center shortly after 7 p.m. Friday when a car driven by a Ypsilanti man "cut him off," reports said. The Ypsilanti man turned east on Ford from southbound Canton Center. The Canton man honked his horn. Reports said the Ypsilanti man responded by stopping his 1993 Mercury Marquis, getting out and pounding on the front fender of the Canton man's car. He then left without further incident.

About \$200 worth of damage

was done to the Canton man's Chevy pickup.

Wallet stolen
A 48-year-old Dearborn man's wallet was reported stolen from this 2000 Ford F150 truck while he was working in Canton Friday.

Reports said the man was at a home construction site in the 1500 block of Heron Circle.

Busted
A 19-year-old Ypsilanti man was arrested Saturday for possessing marijuana.

A Canton Police officer was stationed on eastbound Michi-

gan Avenue east of Beck with radar equipment. The Ypsilanti man was clocked doing 73 mph in a 55 mph zone, according to reports.

The officer pulled him over at Dewitt Street, which is west of Belleville Road. He asked the Ypsilanti man if there was "anything he should know about" in his 1995 Ford Taurus.

A search of the car revealed marijuana. The Ypsilanti man was arrested. He posted a \$300 bond and must now appear at 35th District Court in Plymouth on June 6.

Tune-less

More than \$1,000 worth of music equipment was stolen from a 20-year-old Canton man's car between Friday night and Saturday morning, according to reports.

The 1985 Ford Mustang was parked at the man's home in the 5000 block of Fordham. A CD player (\$550) and numerous CDs (\$500) were stolen.

Paint job

An 18-year-old Canton man told police his 2000 Saturn was scratched early Friday morning. A long scratch mark was made on the driver's side door an extended to the trunk.

Damage was estimated at \$700.

Commissioner considers stepping down

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
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Bob Wade has turned in planning commission materials to the Planning Services department, possibly indicating his pending resignation from the commission for health reasons.

Wade, 67, has served on the Canton Planning Commission since January 1994 when he was appointed to replace Phyllis Johnson, who had resigned. Wade missed all but one meeting this year. He was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer during a routine physical late last year and has reportedly been receiving aggressive treatments.

Bob Wade has served on the Canton Planning Commission since January 1994. He was diagnosed with cancer late last year.

Wade's daughter, Sue Wade, said last week he was out of town with her mother, Barb, receiving treatment. She would not say where he was, but said he should be back by mid-month.

"He's doing as well as can be expected," Sue Wade said Wednesday. "He's doing just fine."

Community Planner Jeff Goulet confirmed May 3 that Wade had been in the Planning Services department recently.

"He did bring some stuff back in," he said. "But as far as I know, he's still on the roster."

Commissioner Melissa McLaughlin said Wade and his wife had planned to take a trip to Turkey in early January, but canceled the visit after he received the cancer diagnosis.

"He's been making aggressive attempts to bring this disease under control," she said.

Wade co-founded Wade-Trim, a Taylor-based civil engineering firm, 27 years ago. Wade-Trim has other Michigan offices in Bay City, Cadillac, Detroit, Flint, Gaylord, Grand Rapids and Indian River as well as in Tampa, Fla., and Cleveland.

He was retired from Wade-Trim when he began serving on the commission, McLaughlin said.

"He's quite ill," she said. "We've all been holding our

breath that he would be able to continue his role as a planning commissioner. Bob is an extremely responsible and thoughtful planning commissioner."

McLaughlin said appointing someone to replace Wade, if he resigns, wouldn't be taken lightly.

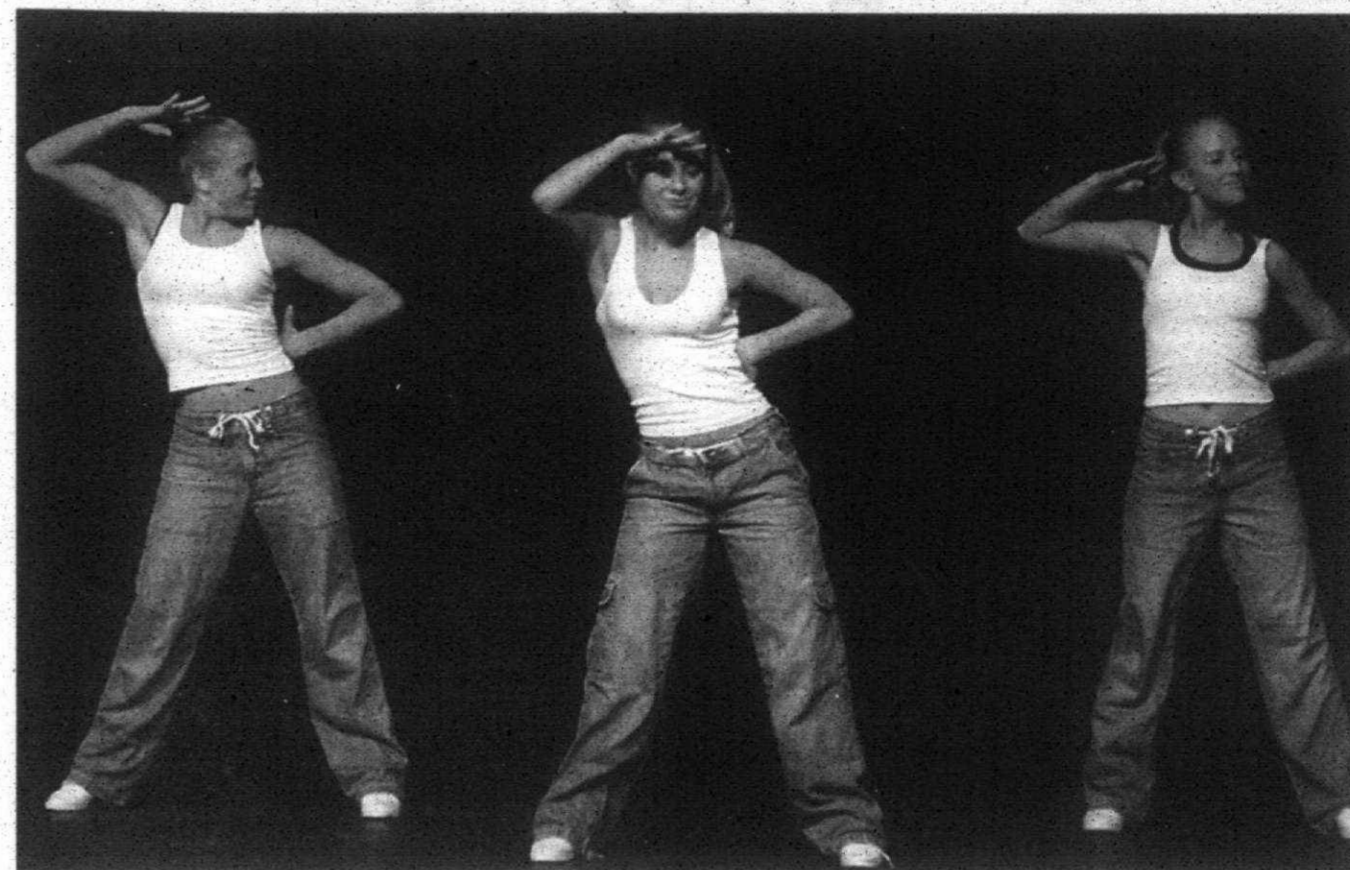
"Finding a planning commissioner is not the easiest task," she said. "It's a tough job that requires a lot of homework. It is a difficult job and it's a technical job."

In addition, planning commissioners must be willing to put themselves in the crossfire of controversial issues.

"Sometimes you get showered with people who are mad at you."

Replacing Wade would be particularly difficult because of his expertise in engineering. He is known for impressing petitioners with his knowledge, McLaughlin said.

"He'd start talking technically with them and their eyes would get really wide."



Getting ready: Rockette All-Stars Jessica Sandoval, 18, Becky Murray, 18, and Kristen Janz, 17, all of Plymouth, rehearse their routine, "Jump Around." In the photo below right, Laura Novkov of Canton, 18, talks with her mom while eating a salad during the dinner break from their rehearsal.

Rockettes roll

Salem pompon squad shines in talent show

BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN
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The Plymouth Salem Rockettes held their annual variety show over the weekend with performances Friday and Saturday at the Salem High School auditorium.

In addition to the pompon team the Rocks cheerleaders and other local talent (including some of the pompon team's parents) provided entertainment.

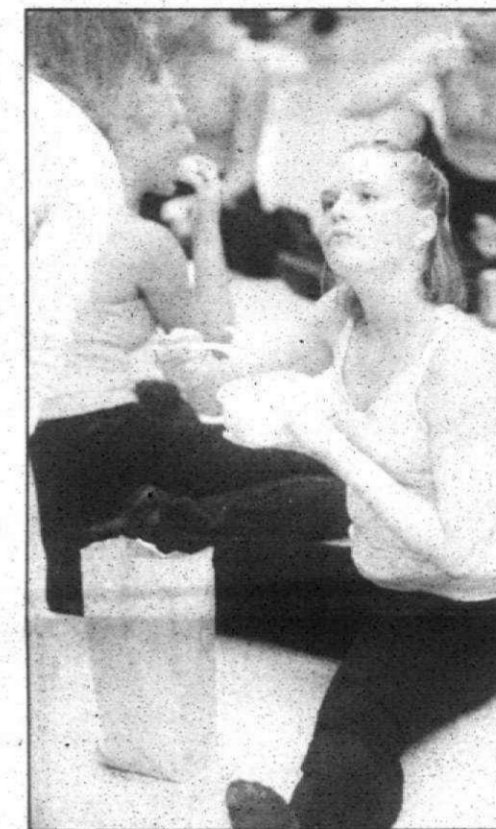
The Rockettes, who finished third overall at national competition the last weekend of January at Disney World in Orlando, Fla., out of 50 teams, were looking forward to performing for their local audience.

"The girls were really pumped

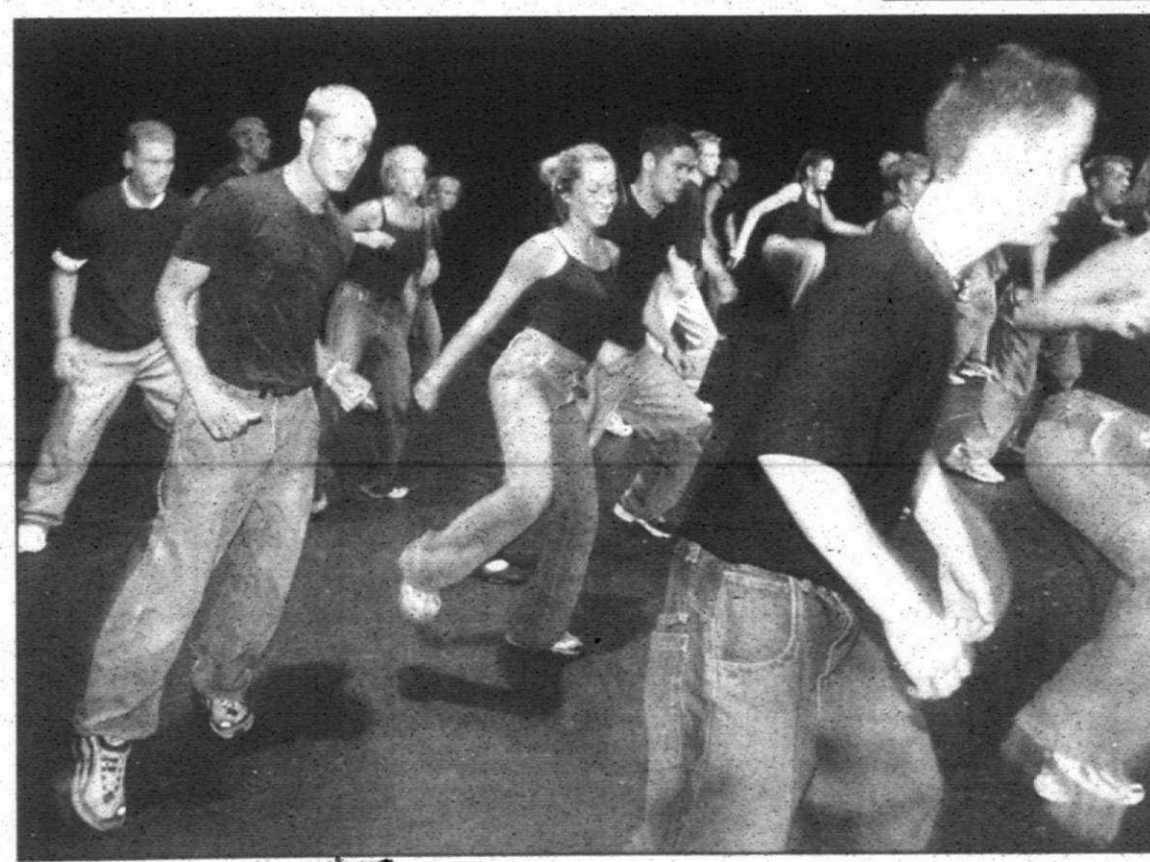
about the show," said coach Aileen Balatico, in her sixth year with the team. "They're really excited about all they accomplished this year and they're really excited to show people what they've done. We did so well at nationals, and we had a strong finish to the year's competition placing second at the Palace in statewide competition."

The Rockettes will also perform at this year's Canton Liberty Festival in late June and at the Plymouth Good Morning USA Fourth of July Parade. After that, they'll attend summer camp at Michigan State University in July.

Auditions for next year's squad will be held next week at the Salem gymnasium.



Guys and gals:
Ryan Cook of Plymouth, 19, (left) and Rachel Hawraney of Plymouth, 15, join the rest of the squad and "the Fellas" as they rehearse "Who's the Black Sheep?"



Phone scammers use senator's name

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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State Sen. Loren Bennett was the victim of an apparent phone scam last week.

The Canton Republican's name was used in calls to several township residents May 1. The calls indicated each had won tickets for a cruise vacation and would be entered into a weekly sweepstakes for \$1,000 cash.

The catch came when the caller asked for a \$35 check for "handling fees."

"Evidently," said Bennett, "to make their claim sound more credible, the caller is saying that I am a co-chair of the organiza-

tion awarding the prize." He said he has absolutely no connection with the telemarketing firm or whoever is making the calls.

"People are being cheated," Bennett said. "That's why I've worked so hard to communicate that this is a scam."

Canton Trustee Melissa McLaughlin received one of the bogus calls. She said the first part of the message was automated.

"I blew it off and hung up the phone," McLaughlin added.

Minutes later she heard from a neighbor who received a similar call. McLaughlin said her neighbor went further into the

message, however, and talked to a person.

When the woman asked if she could pick up her cruise tickets from Bennett personally, the telemarketer hung up. McLaughlin and her neighbor filed a police report with Canton police shortly afterwards.

She believes the calls were a scam and that Bennett's name was used to help pull it off.

"Loren is very well known in Canton," McLaughlin added, "and we are in his (Senate) district."

"This is a new type of scam to my knowledge," said Canton Police Sgt. Charles Rayercraft. He said the complaints are

being investigated. But without information about the telemarketing company or phone records "there's not a heck of a lot we can do," Rayercraft said.

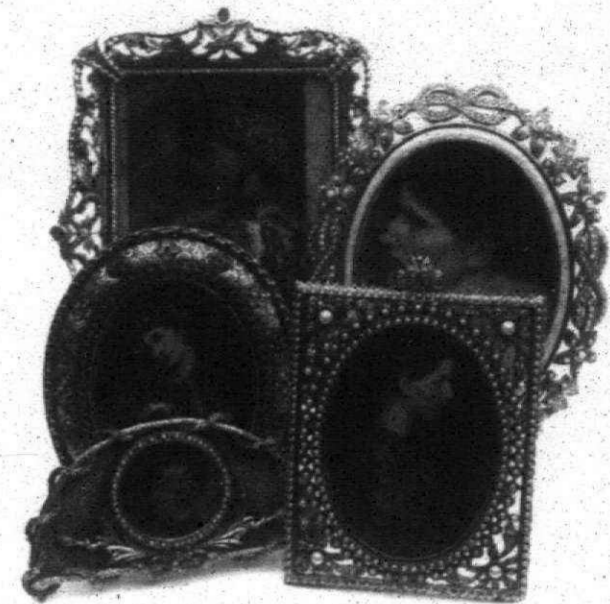
Bennett said he has asked the state attorney general's office to look into the matter. He also contacted Ameritech to see if the calls could be traced.

"It's frustrating to me," Bennett said. "I'm so anxious to get to the bottom of this."

The entire incident caught him off guard, he added.

"I've never heard of this before," Bennett said. "It's really surprising to me."

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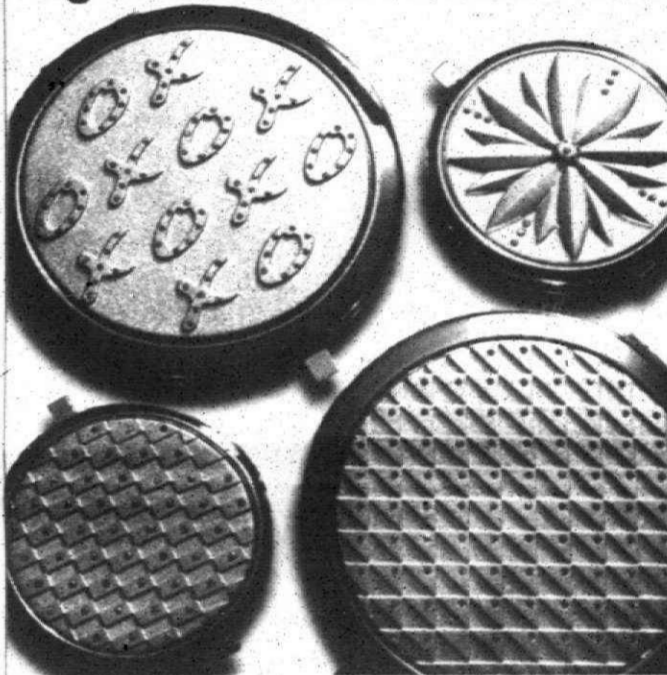
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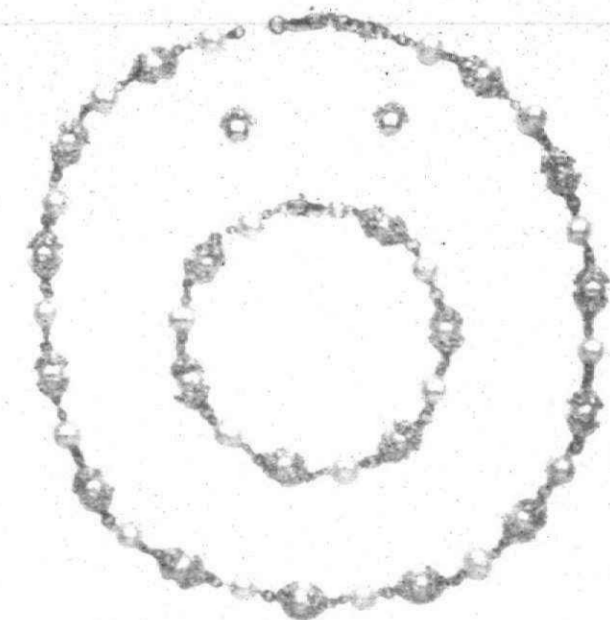
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Pit bull from page A1

participants. Police raided a home in the 4000 block of Lotz shortly before 10 p.m. Saturday. Raycraft said an anonymous phone call tipped the department off to the fights.

Police reports said 15 to 20 people took off running into woods adjacent to the home when officers arrived. Officers were only able to apprehend Wroble and Pepper. Numerous vehicles were towed from the home, reports indicated.

Inside the home, police found a "Florida"-type room where the dogs fights were held, said Raycraft. The room's floor and walls were carpeted and Moody, he added.

"It appeared as if several fights had taken place," said Raycraft, "and that there was going to be a series of fights."

A dozen pit bulls were removed from the home and taken to an area animal shelter. One dog was in very bad shape,

Raycraft said, and had lost a lot of blood.

Other animals had visible wounds and scars, he said. Six of the dogs taken belonged to Pepper, Raycraft said.

"We're trying to determine owners for the rest," he added.

It's the first incident of dog fighting in Canton Raycraft could remember.

Michigan Humane Society Cruelty Investigator Deborah MacDonald said it's not an uncommon practice in the suburbs, however. She has worked on cases in Dearborn, Belleville, Wayne and Sumpter Township, she said.

Three types of pit bull fighting exist in metropolitan Detroit, MacDonald said.

"Street" fighting generally involves young dog owners and is done out in the open. Typically, pit bulls are not bred or trained for fighting, MacDonald said.

"We see more street fighting in



Did you know?

- Mother's Day is Sunday, May 14?
- Barbados is the only country where McDonald's has gone out of business?
- On Friday, May 12, the Olympic Flame will be lit at Olympia, Greece. The flame will be lit at noon on the altar of the temple of Hera using a mirror reflecting the sun's rays.
- Nylon hose went on sale at stores throughout the country on May 15, 1940?

Library construction update

Visit the proposed floor plan and our photo album of the expansion at our Web site: www.metromet.lib.mi.us/canton/updates/index.html

Web Watch

Check out these Web sites:

- www.fabulousfoods.com
- www.minorleaguebaseball.com

■ www.myrateplan.com

■ www.blindly.com

■ www.unclaimedbaggage.com

Q&A

Q: When did the first McDonald's open?

A: The first franchised McDonald's was opened in Des Plaines, Ill., on April 15, 1955. Ray Kroc had gotten the idea from a hamburger joint in San Bernardino, Calif., run by the McDonald brothers. On opening day a hamburger was 15 cents. The Big Mac, which was introduced in 1968, was 49 cents; the Quarter Pounder, introduced in 1971, was 53 cents. By the late 1990s, there were more than 25,000 McDonald's in 115 countries.

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

For teen readers

Here are some new books for teens available at the library:

- "Making Beautiful Hemp and Bead Jewelry" by Mickey Basket
- "Got Issues Much? Celebrities Share Their Traumas and Triumphs" by Randi Reisfeld and Marie Morreale
- "Behind the Wheel" by Janet S. Wong
- "High School Survival" by

Greg Gottesman and Daneil Baer

■ "On Relationships" by Kimberly Kirberger

Good reads

Here are some books that are classic page-turners:

- "Shades of Grace" by Barbara Delinsky
- "The Street Lawyer" by John Grisham
- "Wishes" by Jude Deveraux
- "Things Fall Apart" by Chinua Achebe
- "Waiting to Exhale" by Terry McMillan

Hot topic of the week

■ There is still time to stop and see the flowers. Head to Holland, Mich., where it's tulip time through Saturday, May 20. This is a time to promote the tulip and to preserve the Dutch cultural heritage in the city of Holland. Check out the tulip festival. Web site at www.tuliptime.org for specific information on the festival, attractions, shows, parades and things to see and do.

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

Trees from page A1

clubs and other organizations to help on a weekend or two," he said. "We have the land, so we need to do something to save the trees."

The majority of the trees are blue spruce, with some white pine and others red pine. "All those trees will die if we don't move them," said Brandon Redding, 18, of Canton, who spent part of his day helping to move trees. "That area out there has been a good classroom and now it's going to be destroyed."

"Plymouth and Canton are becoming so populated," said Dave Kushman, 18, also of Canton. "It's nice to help out and

■ "Plymouth and Canton are becoming so populated. It's nice to help out and save something instead of watching it be destroyed."

Brandon Redding
student

save something instead of watching it be destroyed."

For 32 years, Durow has used the acreage at The Park as an outside classroom.

"It's a good teaching environment to learn about trees, flowers, insects, amphibians, reptiles... it's all there," said Durow. "We got a lot of kids involved. It certainly was a fun day. I had some students ask me if the relocated trees are going to live," said Durow. "Look at the alternative... if we don't move them they won't live - guaranteed."

"I hope they learn there's a lot of hard work in taking care of the environment," he said. "And, if we do our job right, they can come back some day and show their kids and grandkids they helped in this project and made a difference."

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Presented by
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Canton planners meet Mondays

The Canton Township Planning Commission meets on the first and third Monday of each month at the administration building, 1150 S. Canton Center. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. and are open to all. Get agendas from the planning department.

Say it with Flowers

by Steve Mansfield
FLARED ARRANGEMENTS WITH FLAIR

When selecting a vase for flowers, it becomes immediately obvious that the diameter of the vase's mouth will have a bearing on the type and quantity of flowers that will be used in it. For instance, an elegant vase with a flared mouth will call for tall, strong, supple flowers that are best suited to its shape. Tulips come immediately to mind. Fill the flared vase three-quarters full with water, then insert between seven and ten tulips with stems that are about twice the height of the container. Spiral the stems around the inner edge of the vase, so they follow its angle and lean over the edge. Add more stems until they form a dome shape above the container.

Whether someone has a veritable wardrobe of vases to suit every need or none at all, everyone enjoys fresh flowers. Mugs, glasses, and bowls can all be used creatively to display fresh cut flowers. At HEIDE'S FLOWERS & GIFTS, 995 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, we offer a stunning selection of flowers as well as unique gift items. Don't forget Mother's Day is on May 14th. To arrange delivery or worldwide wire service, call 453-5140. Satisfaction is always assured.

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HINT: The floral display described above should be slightly wider than it is high.

Ozone expected to set record highs this summer

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOUSTON NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@houston.com

"Ozone Action" days always occur on warm, cloudless, "gorgeous" summer days.

"The sky is bright blue. It's the kind of day we wait for all winter long," said Anita Blasius, manager of public outreach for the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments. "Some folks think that if they can't see it, it's not a problem. You can see smog, and that tells you the air is dirty, but you can't see ozone."

■ **'Our polls show 80 percent of the residents in southeast Michigan recognize the program and 77 percent participate in Ozone Action days in some way, taking some action. The most popular way is by not mowing the lawn. What a surprise. Our motto is grab the lawn chair, not the lawn mower.'**

Anita Blasius
SEMTA

Ozone season

The ozone season, running May through September, is likely to be another record-setter this year, according to Jeff Jaros, senior meteorologist for the air quality division of the MDEQ. He expects to see more than the record of 25 Ozone Action days set in 1999.

The reason is that the weather is expected to be hot and dry. No, Jaros said, it is not a result of global warming. Rather, it is due to low precipitation levels during the winter and spring months.

Light snow falls after January and little rain during the spring have left the soil in southeastern Michigan relatively dry. Moisture in the ground typically has a cooling effect, Jaros explained, carrying heat away as it evaporates. But since the ground is dry this year, higher than normal temperatures are forecast for the region.

Jaros said he does not expect it to be as bad as the summer of 1988, when Michigan set a record for the number of days over 100 degrees. But he does predict temperatures to be above normal. And there is a possibility that the drought now being experienced in other parts of the

country could occur here, too, later in the year.

Ozone is created when hydrocarbons - from automobile and lawn mower exhaust, industrial emissions, gasoline vapors and even fumes from household cleaning chemicals - react with oxides of nitrogen and sunlight.

Residents can have a significant impact on ozone levels by taking the recommended steps to reduce hydrocarbon emissions on days designated as Ozone Action days.

Auto emissions

An estimated 58 percent of ozone comes from auto emissions, Blasius said. Residents can reduce that by driving less. "Linking trips" helps cut emissions because car engines produce less exhaust once they are warmed up, DeGuire said.

Gasoline fumes account for 8 percent of the ozone. Waiting to fill up car tanks until dusk will help cut down on that portion of the problem.

If you must get gas, at least don't top off the tank, advised Blasius, a Canton resident who also serves as the manager of the coalition's ozone program.

"When you fill up all the way," she said, "you just push all those fumes right back out of the tank

and into the atmosphere."

Another 7 percent of the ozone levels come from lawn mower and motorboat exhaust, which have engines with no pollution controls.

"Our polls show 80 percent of the residents in southeast Michigan recognize the program and 77 percent participate in Ozone Action days in some way, taking some action. The most popular way is by not mowing the lawn. What a surprise!" Blasius said, laughing. "Our motto is grab the lawn chair, not the lawn mower."

Residents can use Ozone Action days as an excuse to put off other chores as well. Household cleaners, degreasers and paints all add to the hydrocarbon content in the air. In fact, Blasius said, household chemicals account for another 7 percent of the ozone in the air.

Regulations help

Industries do contribute to the problem, according to DeGuire, but regulations have reduced their emissions drastically in recent years. There are 130 sources of industrial hydrocarbon emissions in the region, and they can be made to shut down on high ozone days, she said. Still, it is not unusual for high ozone levels to occur on Saturdays, when those businesses are already closed.

The majority of ozone comes from residents.

The Clean Air Coalition's six-year-old Ozone Action effort is a "premier" program, DeGuire said. It was one of the first in the country and has served as a model for similar programs in western Michigan and elsewhere in the Midwest.

The program gathers together meteorologists from the state MDEQ and the private sector, who meet daily to talk about weather conditions predicted for

What you can do to reduce ozone levels

- Tips for reducing pollution on Ozone Action days:
- Avoid using gasoline-powered lawn and garden equipment. Mow lawns the day before or after an Ozone Action day.
- Avoid refueling cars on Ozone Action days. If refueling is necessary, fill up after dusk and don't "top off" the tank. Avoid spilling gas when you are at the fuel pump.
- Reduce automobile use whenever possible. Plan to car-pool, use public transit, bike, walk or combine errands to reduce emissions.
- Stay out of congested traffic and long lines at the drive-through window. Idling engines release a lot of emissions.
- Brown bag it at work instead of driving to a restaurant for lunch.
- Keep speeds down and accelerate slowly.
- Keep all of your engines (car, boat, lawn mower) well-tuned. They'll burn cleaner.
- Make sure your gas caps are on tight. Replace them if they are missing. Park in the shade to avoid evaporative emissions from a sun-heated gas tank.
- Conserve energy at home and at work. In the long term, it helps to reduce the emissions associated with energy production.
- Avoid using oil or solvent based paints, degreasers or lighter fluids.
- Opt for water-based cleaning and painting products whenever possible.
- Apply paint with rollers and brushes instead of sprays. It cuts down on fumes.
- Enjoy summer barbecues, but avoid using charcoal lighter fluid.
- Consider natural gas, propane or electric grills as alternatives the next time you replace your backyard or patio barbecue.
- Try telecommuting. If you work from home, you save yourself the commute and clear the air.
- Take advantage of teleconferencing. Why drive to a meeting when you don't have to?
- Stay informed. Ozone Action days are announced during weather reports on both television and radio and in local newspapers. Advisories are posted on the Internet at www.semcog.org. They are also announced on a hotline, 1-800-633-3AIR.

the following day. If the conditions are right, they'll issue an advisory, which is disseminated by SEMCOG.

Residents can look for advisories over the Internet by checking the SEMCOG home

page at www.semcog.org. Advisories are also issued by phone, at 1-800-633-3AIR.

Television and radio stations and local newspapers also frequently carry ozone advisories as part of their weather forecasts.

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Engler seeks 5 percent cut in phone, electric charges

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@hometownnews.net

As state lawmakers get ready to debate the restructuring of Michigan's telephone and electric utilities, Gov. John Engler has lost patience.

"I'm tired of waiting," he said, proposing a 5 percent immediate reduction in telephone company and electric utility charges. "I want Michigan customers to get a rate cut now."

"It's been nine years since the enactment of the Michigan Telecommunications Act, which sunset at the end of this year. The intent of the act was to spur competition among all telecommunications services which in turn would reduce costs. But competition for services remains anemic and Michigan consumers are paying for it - with many rates that are among the highest in the region. In almost all cases, Michigan's prices for basic services as well as enhanced and toll services are higher than those in surrounding states," Engler said.

Engler's goals

He called for immediate passage of legislation to accomplish several goals:

- Enact a 5 percent rate reduction on all intra-state services until 2003, or until the Michigan Public Service Commission determines that a competitive market has been created.

- Quick resolution of disputes. "We need marketplace competition, not committee room fights or courtroom litigation," he said.

- Sanctions for "non-competitive behavior. State tools for enforcement should be sharpened."

- "We need to require providers to vigorously compete. This gives us, as customers a choice among providers," he said.

Engler said he hoped his proposals would break a "legislative logjam." Likewise, he contended the state House and Senate have moved too slowly on restructuring of the electric industry.

"The legislative debate has taken too long. The complexity of the issue precludes resolutions of the issue. The Michigan Public Services Commission did design a plan for electric restructuring. It was approved in June 1997, but that plan fell to a court challenge. Since then, numerous states have passed legislation, but Michigan has not. The legislature can't agree, and the PSC can't act. The bottom line? Michigan is falling behind in electric restructuring."

Reaction mixed

For the electric industry, Engler called for a 5 percent reduction in rates with rate cap guarantees for 10 years, or until the PSC concludes that a competitive market has been created in that industry, too.

Critics of the utilities approved of the governor's plan.

"The governor's proposal sounds like every thing the small business community has been asking for and we look forward to seeing the details," Barry Cargill, vice president of the Small Business Association of Michigan, said. "It's very appropriate for the governor to exercise his leadership to break the logjam."

On the other hand, the utilities were less receptive. Scott Stevenson, president of the Telecommunications Association of Michigan, which represents local telephone companies in Michigan, said he did not believe the governor's proposals would lead to more competition.

"I am certain that to have the government, rather than the free market, set prices will not lead to more competition," he said.

Rep. Robert Gossefin, R-Troy, was positive about Engler's plan. "now the governor has weighed in with a plan to quickly give the state Public Service Commission the tools it needs to 'kick open the door' to local phone competition," he said.

He gave credit to other lawmakers from Oakland County for spurring the governor's response. "The Oakland County House delegation took the matter into their own hands, by holding a hearing on the issue in Pontiac. Dozens of angry citizens showed up to complain about excessive 'local long distance' charges, local calling areas that have shrunk to 'postage stamp size,' and as one citizen put it, the fact that 'I can call Hawaii

■ 'The intent of the act was to spur competition among all telecommunications services which in turn would reduce costs. But competition for services remains anemic and Michigan consumers are paying for it - with many rates that are among the highest in the region.'

Gov. John Engler
Proposes rate cuts

for less than Farmington Hills," he said. "My Oakland colleagues deserve credit for spurring the Lansing establishment on the issue. They had the guts to take

on The Phone Company, probably the most powerful special interest lobby in Lansing."

A number of bills have already been introduced to address both

telephone and electric utility restructuring.

Bills introduced

Rep. Marc Shulman, R-West Bloomfield, and Rep. Mary Ann Middaugh, R-Paw Paw, have introduced a two-bill package, House Bills 4804 and 5721, that would give the PSC the authority to expedite complaints when competing phone companies have difficulty getting their services to customers. The package would also prohibit "multi-state" providers, such as Ameritech, from charging more to Michigan subscribers than they do for the

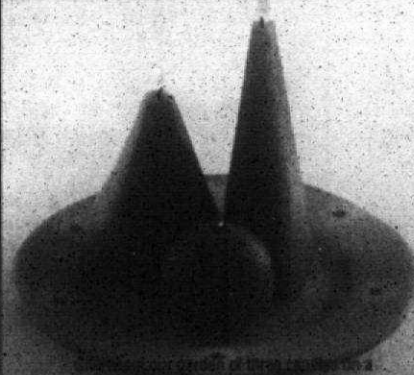
same services in other states. Further, the bills would outlaw "cramming," adding charges to phone bills for services not approved by customers, and require that rates be posted on the Internet.

Rep. Mike Kowall, R-White Lake, has introduced legislation to outlaw cramming. House Bill 5474 would levy a \$10,000 fine to a phone company for the first offense of adding a charge not authorized by a customer. A second offense would carry a \$50,000 fine.

A variety of other bills have been introduced, including

toughening sanctions against "slamming," switching a customer's long distance carrier without permission.

Sen. Mat Dunaskiss, R-Lake Orion, has also introduced legislation to address telephones, although his bill is intended to simply repeal the telecommunications act. Aides say that is his "starting position," and the senator will add back regulations as they are shown to be needed. Ameritech favors the Dunaskiss proposal. Dunaskiss has also offered legislation to deregulation and restructure electric utilities.



mother's day sale

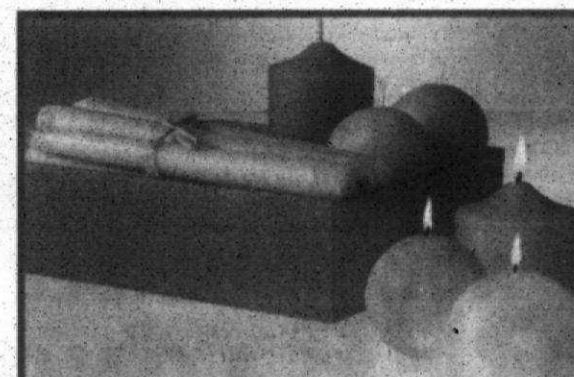
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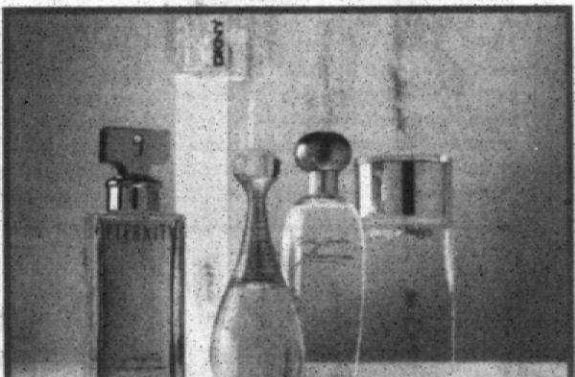
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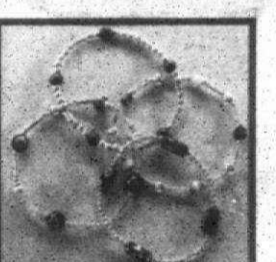
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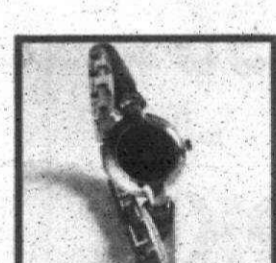
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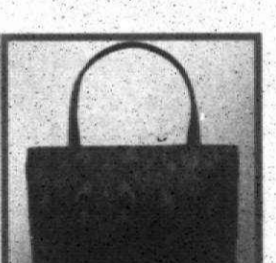
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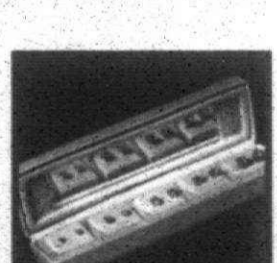
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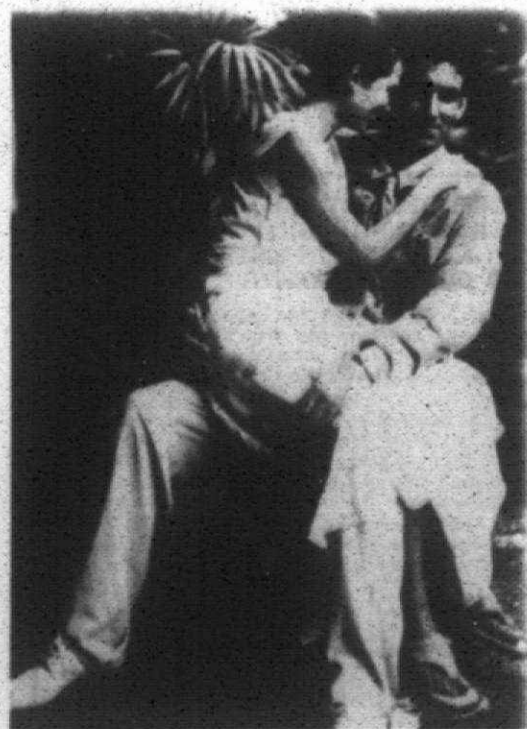
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MADD sponsors Hines 5-K run Saturday

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
rpearl@oe.com

Friends and family of the late Caryn Casaz are hoping for dry weather this Saturday.

And it's not because they don't appreciate an occasional drought-buster like Tuesday night's.

Rather, it's because May 13 is the scheduled fifth annual "Run from the Heart" 5-Kilometer Race/Walk in Hines Park, held

in memory of Casaz, the 23-year-old marathon runner who was training for a race in 1995 when she was struck and killed in the park by a drunk driver.

The course for the annual free event, held every Mother's Day weekend, passes the spot where Casaz was hit.

Victor and Mary Casaz of Chicago, Caryn's parents, will again participate, as will Caryn's sister, Christine Byndas, who coordinates the event with the

sponsoring Wayne County chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

While Christine, a marathoner like her late sister, runs the course Saturday, her children will walk it with their grandparents.

"It's a family affair," says Jenny Lozano, MADD-Wayne County chapter administrator.

Registration Saturday is to begin at 8 a.m. at the Nankin Mills shelter on Edward Hines Drive at Ann Arbor Trail, with the competition at 9.

No entry fees are charged, but donations are welcomed, she says.

Proceeds go to the chapter's victim services for families of those killed or injured by drunk drivers.

The top finisher overall and the best female and male finishers get prizes.

The MADD Race/Walk, the

Post Office collects food for the Gleaners

DETROIT/PRNewswire -- Gleaners Community Food Bank is reminding Detroit area residents to leave nonperishable food items at their mailbox on Saturday, May 13.

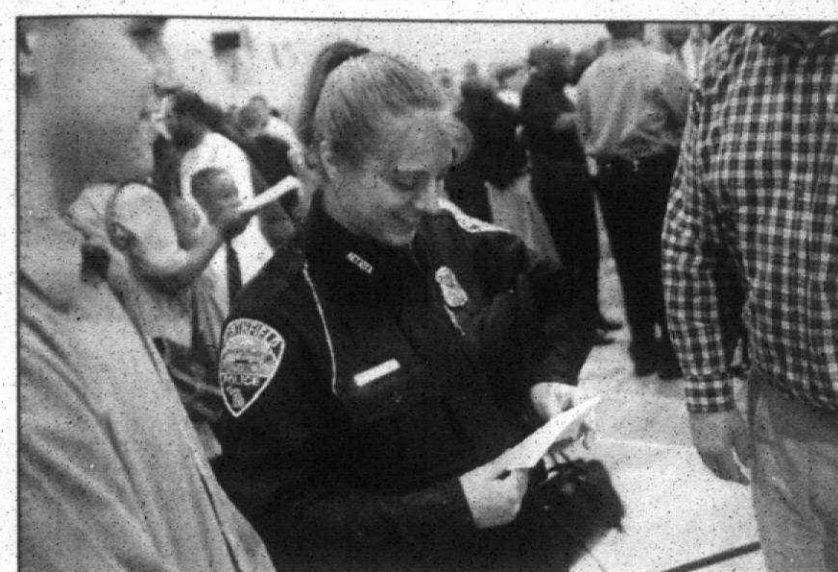
The 8th Annual National Association of Letter Carriers/United States Postal Service Food Drive will collect the food to help families in need in the community and take the donations to the Post Office to be delivered to Gleaners Community Food Bank that day.

Gleaners Community Food Bank has reserved space for the more than 300,000 pounds of food expected to be collected by the Letter Carriers. Last year, more than 376,000 pounds were collected bringing

the total to 1.9 million pounds collected over the past eight years.

"Delivering the mail, in addition to the food items, represents a serious commitment on the part of our local letter carriers who see firsthand the impact of hunger on children and seniors," says Rick Loewenstein, president of Gleaners Community Food Bank.

"The Postal Service is a neighbor in every community," says John Taliek, Lead Executive/District Manager for the Detroit District Postal Service. "I am quite proud of the charitable and humanitarian efforts put forth by our employees."



New officer:
Susan
Dittmer, a
recent graduate
of the
Northfield
Police Academy,
reads a
card given to
her by her
father Rolland
and mother
Mariene as
her friend
Scott Singleton,
a state trooper, looks
on.

STAFF PHOTO BY MATTHEW TAPLIN

Schoolcraft police/fire academy graduates a 'very special' group

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
rpearl@oe.com

Some 113 "very, very, very special" young men and women passed a milestone Friday night at Schoolcraft College.

As hundreds of family members and friends cheered, 64 were graduated from Schoolcraft's police academy and 49 from its fire academy. It was the second annual combined commencement for the two programs.

The grads were praised by guest speaker Rich Fisher, the WKBD-TV50 news co-anchor, who said that "People who want to serve their communities" in those jobs "are very, very, very special people."

Fisher, whose father was a Detroit police officer for 26 years, noted the work is dangerous and said police and firefighters are both "looked up to and

taken for granted."

He called police officers and firefighters "the most underpaid professionals."

Of the 64 graduating the Wayne County Regional Police Academy police program at Schoolcraft, 18 had full-time positions with nine area police departments - Adrian, Ann Arbor, Belleville, Erie, Farmington Hills, Oak Park, River Rouge, Taylor and West Bloomfield.

Another 20 are reserve officers with the Berkley, Dearborn, Madison Heights, Northfield, Northville Township, Southgate, Walled Lake, Wayne and Wyandotte departments.

Jerry Flowers, River Rouge deputy chief, coveted his three graduates, saying it is "hard to find and keep recruits" because other departments seeking qualified minorities often hire away some of them.

Eight of the 49 fire academy graduates had jobs with the Ann Arbor Fire Department.

Not to worry, said Livonia Fire Lt. Clyde Rivard: "The next three to five years is going to be a great time in the job market for firefighters."

That's because many Vietnam veterans who joined the fire service in the 1960s and '70s are retiring, said Rivard, Schoolcraft's fire technology program coordinator.

Among those hoping he's right is Jodi M. Auvil of Redford Township, one of the five women among 25 part-time students earning certificates.

Auvil, a former resident of Garden City, takes night classes while working part-time at Tyme Auto Sales in Plymouth and the North Jefferson Avenue DaimlerChrysler Jeep plant.

The fire academy? "I love it," she said.

Madonna holds basketball camps

Madonna University's All-Star Basketball Camps for boys and girls ages 8 to 15 will run Monday, June 12, through Friday, July 7.

The camps' features include guest speakers, camp championship tourney, a personal written evaluation, shooting instruction, passing and receiving the ball drills, offensive footwork, movement without the ball and much more.

There will be two camps for boys held at Madonna, both camps will run 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The first camp for boys will be Monday, June 12, through Fri-

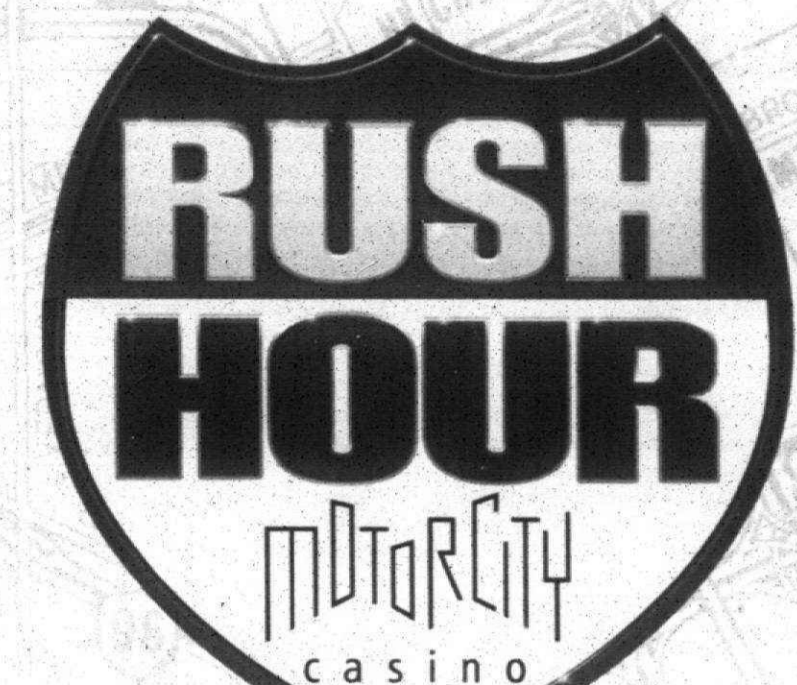
day, June 16, and the second camp will be Monday, June 19, through Friday, June 23. A third camp for boys will be held at Fairlane Christian in Dearborn Heights on Monday, June 26, through Friday, June 30. There will be one camp for girls at Fairlane Christian from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, July 2, through Friday, July 7, with the exception of Tuesday, July 4.

The cost for the boys camps held at Madonna University is \$130 and the cost for both the boys and the girls camps at Fairlane Christian is \$120. For more information, call Coach Bernie

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Cruising Attitude, not age, is key

With last weekend's sudden arrival of Michigan "summer," the cruising season in downtown Plymouth is upon us. It's an annual rite of passage for area teens, including many who make the trek from adjacent Canton.

The welcoming arm City of Plymouth Police Chief Dick Miller extended to would-be cruisers leaves us wondering if the chief has ever heard the old adage, "Be careful what you ask for, because you might get it."

Certainly his attitude toward cruisers had to have raised some eyebrows downtown. We would imagine the cops on the streets, especially those who have battled this problem for any length of time, were thinking something akin to, "What is he thinking?"

But we actually agree with the good chief. People of all ages should feel welcome in any community — as long as their behavior is appropriate.

Therein lies the rub, we think. As would be expected in a group as large as the one that cruises Plymouth's streets, there are always a few who ruin what can be a fun experience for the others. Loud music, beer bottles being

tossed from cars, urinating in public ... these are a few of the complaints area business owners have voiced over the years.

And rightly so. Residents and business people shouldn't be expected to have their passage blocked along sidewalks. They shouldn't have to suffer verbal abuse from a few teens who don't know the meaning of "responsible behavior." They shouldn't have to close their windows in a vain effort to block out the throbbing strains of music emanating from a constant stream of traffic.

Residents and city officials also shouldn't have to clean up after the cruisers. There shouldn't be a bunch of beer bottles and empty cigarette packages and used condoms lying around for others to pick up. These are city streets, not the confines of a garbage dump somewhere.

Perhaps Plymouth's Downtown Development Authority Director Melanie Purcell said it best: "Common courtesy is welcome."

That's all it takes, and even the youngsters who hang around downtown are old enough to respect that. Hopefully, they will.

Voluntary smoking ban is best

No butts about it, if you're a nonsmoker, and want to enjoy a smoke-free dinner out, there are plenty of restaurants in southeastern Michigan to choose from. Which leads us to question whether a state law banning smoking in Michigan bars and restaurants is practical, enforceable or really necessary.

House Bill 5645, proposed by Rep. Raymond Basham, D-Taylor, would ban smoking in all Michigan restaurants, and bars that serve food, but not private clubs. It is similar to legislation enacted in California two years ago and Maine in 1999.

Both states have encountered mixed results under the policy. Business has increased (the solid economy is a contributing factor) but so have costs associated with enforcement. It's too early to put a value on health care savings, although a study by the Journal of the American Medical Association did find that female California restaurant staffers suffered higher mortality rates from heart and lung diseases commonly associated with second hand smoke.

The Observer believes a more reasonable approach is offered with the restrictions already in place here or the encouragement of a "voluntary" ban such as the one in Wisconsin.

Basham's bill would amend the Michigan Public Health Code, which currently requires food service establishments with a seating capacity of less than 50 to designate 25 percent of those seats for nonsmokers. Restaurants with seating capacity of 50 or more, must designate half of the seating for nonsmokers.

We note that those figures are minimums. The actual size of non-smoking sections in many area restaurants substantially exceeds the requirements. Others, ranging from Thomas' Family Dining in Livonia to Thai Kitchen in Farmington and Plymouth's Café Bon Homme have eliminated smoking altogether.

In fact, the number of smoke-free restaurants in Michigan has increased from about 1,900 to more than 2,500 in the last three years, said Rob Gifford, executive director of the Michigan Restaurant Association.

Still other restaurants have improved their ventilation systems, and limited smoking to certain areas such as the bar to make non-

A proposed state law prohibiting smoking in restaurants and bars that serve food strikes us as impractical, unenforceable and unnecessary.

smokers more comfortable.

In Wisconsin, the number of smoke-free restaurants has grown from 65 in 1992 to some 1,100 today, according to Restaurant Report, an on-line trade journal. Most reported a modest increase in business after dropping their smoking sections, the journal reported.

In Michigan, local health departments are charged with enforcing the state's smoking guidelines. This would remain unchanged under Basham's proposal. The proposed legislation requires investigation within five days of a complaint and correction by the establishment within two days after a determination has been made that a complaint is valid.

Penalties may include the suspension of food service operations until compliance is achieved.

We're not sure where that leaves a local restaurateur dealing with a citizen complaint about another patron's behavior. Or an employee's decision to violate the law, for that matter.

Local public health dollars are better spent promoting programs that help Michiganders get and stay healthy. Dollars spent policing restaurants are dollars taken away from developing programs that help lower the risk factors for chronic disease in Michigan, including those caused by smoking.

We agree, nonsmokers should be given a choice, and protected from secondhand smoke. Current law provides for that. Nonsmokers have options in southeast Michigan — they can request seating in nonsmoking areas, or patronize only restaurants that ban smoking. Restaurants are in business to make money. If enough customers demand a ban on smoking, restaurant management will comply. It's simply good business.

Restaurants should decide for themselves if they want to ban smoking from their establishments. They shouldn't be forced to.

Geof Brooks



THE DIA TAKES ACTION TO END THE HOWDY DOODY CUSTODY CRISIS.

LETTERS

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

Opinions hit mark

I am writing to express my positive reaction to two columns on the Points of View page of the April 27 issue of the Canton Observer concerning the naming of the new high school. School board president Susan Davis ably explained the rationale behind the decision, and Plymouth Community Editor Brad Kadrich's "Changing of the names at schools isn't end of the world" was very well written.

I have tried to stay away from the controversy surrounding the naming of the new high schools, although months ago I did call the administrative offices of our school district to give my suggestion of "Plymouth." My reasoning was that there should be a high school with that name, since Plymouth-Canton High School has become known as "Canton" and Plymouth-Salem High School as "Salem."

Our three children attended both schools and graduated from Canton (Plymouth-Canton). After reading the rationale (including the original intent for the naming of schools at the Educational Park) behind the school board's decision, I agree with it more than ever. The problem with using Superior in a school's name is that it would sound like it is "of higher quality" (from Webster's dictionary).

From what I have read about the last school board meeting, some residents expressed their opinions well, with courtesy, while others yelled insults. Each one of the school board members has my respect for all the hours they spend and the stress they endure over the decisions that have to be made. I consider them as individuals trying their best to serve our school district. They are evidently being maligned for a decision which was made with requested input from the community and after much research.

Thank you for printing the school board's explanation for their decision to name the new high school "Plymouth" and for providing an additional perspective in your own column. Those nastily negative attendees at the school board meeting need to read such logical points of view.

Janet Sockolosky
Plymouth

Marchers on wrong track

I would like to commend those participants of the Million Mom March for exercising their rights to assembly and speech with regard to a subject they feel strongly about.

However, that is perhaps as far as my agreement with the Million Mom Marchers

will go. As a law enforcement officer, hunter and gun owner, I would pose a few points to ponder for your readers as well as for those who are advocating yet more restrictions on the law-abiding hunters and gun owners of this country.

The Million Mom Marchers say that they want "reasonable" gun laws passed. Summarizing a bit, they have asked for several things. They would like to have pistol purchases limited to one handgun per month. They also desire safe storage laws and mandatory trigger lock legislation. All of these, at face value, might sound "reasonable" to anyone who may not be familiar or associated with their right to firearms ownership.

However, if gun locks or "safe storage" laws are passed, how would they propose they be enforced? One scenario is that the law would be enforced only after a firearm is found unsecured/unlocked and is used to kill someone. Thus, the law prevents nothing. The other scenario, and the only solution — and one which I am not in favor of — would be to allow law enforcement personnel to enter gun owners' homes day or night for pre-emptive "inspections" of firearms storage. This would be a violation of personal freedom, rights and security.

As for one gun a month, even though I personally have no desire to buy one handgun per month, or one refrigerator, car or swimming pool, I would like to retain the right to do so. I would also point out that I have the right to peacefully assemble provided I secure a "permit." Should we also restrict peaceful assembly to one march per month? I certainly wouldn't support that, neither would most. Yet, our Bill Of Rights is being picked apart by these "reasonable" laws.

Gun lock laws and safe storage laws are all simply picturing efforts by politicians and gun control advocates who are concealing their true wants behind the word "reasonable."

These measures, within the parameters of our current constitutional republic are, if they are to be effective, unconstitutional. I truly wish the marchers a very safe and prosperous journey to our nation's capital. I commend them for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and am proud to call them fellow Americans. However, the real agenda of the proponents of such measures is simple. They want to completely disarm the law-abiding citizenry of America. And the only people who would benefit from that would be the criminals in our society.

Frank Finch
Canton

Canton Observer

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— Philip Power

Microsoft split will harm consumers in the long run

If Microsoft is forced to split into two companies, will there be a positive or negative result to the economy of the country, and to the idea of free enterprise for the American people? It is time for us to realistically consider the effects of the splitting of those monopolies that contribute so considerably to our daily lifestyle.

A quick look back at other large companies and successful entrepreneurs can help us decide whether it is good or bad for all concerned.

One of the most recent break-up demands was that of dear old Ma Bell. The hue and cry rang out strongly that AT&T must dissolve into several smaller entities for the good of the economy and for secure and proper business practices to continue. And the result was?

Originally seven smaller companies were formed. Those holders of AT&T

stock received large split options. Parts, equipment and service became a wide open field of confusion and disarray. Quickly, those objecting to the telephone magnate business formed competitive companies.

The general public now faced increases in the cost of services and products. Besides the inconvenience of dealing with new local and long distance companies, the annoyance now occurred of rivalry and struggle among the various newly formed phone companies. Now, those original "Baby Bells" have again either merged with other new companies or split again.

The same type of result was felt after some do-gooder decided it was unlawful and unproductive for electric light companies to be exchanging used light bulbs, and that the general public would be far better off if this service were to be discontinued and the people be "allowed" to purchase the

light bulbs of their choice. Thanks a lot, folks.

If Thomas Edison were working in his laboratory today, and thinking of those many, many items he was dreaming up for the use of the community, he would have been stopped very quickly from so many items being patented. There would probably have been a limit on how many products he could have submitted each year.

Alexander Graham Bell would have been told that after he invented and produced the telephone, he could not pursue any further developments into his work for the hearing impaired, for

GUEST COLUMNIST



SHIRLEY WELCH

he would be crossing over into other fields not closely connected with his main objective.

Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller would not have been able to achieve their status of being among the very richest people in the world for their work in the oil, railroad and steel industries.

It was free enterprise and personal ingenuity that resulted in the wealth and vast array of technology we have at our fingertips today. It was these private geniuses who made our lives so efficient and comfortable. Neither our country nor our world would enjoy a high standard of living without those and many others talents.

We should not be punishing Bill Gates for his intelligence and his willingness to strive to create and produce what he has. We should be ashamed that there is any thought to making him dissolve "the firm that Bill built." He used his God-given

intelligence, and we all benefited. Like Carnegie, Ford and Rockefeller (and so many others) he has been generous in his philanthropic endeavors.

If there are others who can compete, let them begin. It is not moral or fair to force the break-up of a corporation just because it has become successful. It is ironic that when large companies are "broken up" they are then merged into larger conglomerates such as Beatrice Co. or Philip Morris — to cite a few examples.

Our banking industry is quickly melting into huge megabanks, causing larger fees and less service. In the early 1950s political science professors in our colleges were predicting that eventually there would only be approximately 30 major companies controlling the entire economy. It seems that they were, indeed, right in their estimate.

Shirley Welch is a Livonia resident.

Attempts to restrict recall rights should prompt outcries

Attempt to enact gun control legislation that could be interpreted as a restriction on Second Amendment rights and folks will come out in droves to protest. Adopt a law that infringes on First Amendment rights to free speech and another group of citizens will give you very strong reaction.

But when lawmakers try to tighten down on the constitutional right to recall elected officials, it often meets with a collective yawn. Why Michigan voters aren't more protective of their right to recall has always been a mystery to me. Perhaps it's because it's the kind of right you rarely exercise, the kind you don't think about until you need it.

The right of recall narrowly survived another assault recently. Rep. Charles LaSata, R-St. Joseph, proposed tightening down on recalls in one of two ways. In one version, the only permissible reasons for recalling an elected official would be misfe-

sance, malfeasance or nonfeasance — essentially, doing the job in an unlawful fashion or not doing the job at all. Another proposal would have required that the official be recalled by more than the number of votes that put him or her into office in the first place.

LaSata's proposals were set aside last week by the House Constitutional Law and Ethics Committee, but it's not entirely dead. Lawmakers say the bill may come back if the representative can find additional votes.

Either version would seriously restrict the right of recall as it is presently included in the state Constitution. Article two, section eight, states: "Laws shall be enacted to provide for the recall of all elective officers except judges ... The sufficiency of any statement of reasons or grounds procedurally required shall be a political rather than a judicial question."

The phrasing of the provision is



MIKE MALOTT

important because the Constitution makes it clear recalls are supposed to be decided at the ballot box, not in the courts. Recalls are supposed to be a pressure

release valve for voters unhappy with their elected officials, not debates over the fine points of legalities.

Of course, that's also why they are unpopular with elected officials. Recalls can be conducted for reasons that aren't very good, and often they are. Locally elected officials — township board members, city council members, school board trustees — are the ones most often targeted, if only because the smaller number of signatures needed to get on the ballot makes local attempts more likely to

succeed. LaSata has said that recalls can get to be very troubling for a town. He noted that in one town, 24 recall attempts were made within a single year. Oakland County is another good example. Over the past five years, 68 attempts have been made to recall local officials, resulting in four elections and the ouster of one township official.

But if those numbers show recalls are indeed attempted often, they also show that they rarely succeed.

Already, the Legislature has put one artificial barrier in front of recalls. In place now is a law requiring the "reasons for recall" to get the approval of the county Elections Commission. Commissioners are supposed to judge those reasons solely on whether they are stated with "clarity."

That may sound reasonable enough, but in practice it becomes pretty arbitrary. For one, it takes the

recall into a quasi-judicial proceeding before the Elections Commission. For another, local officials and their attorneys, who spend their days talking and writing in legalese, suddenly seem to have trouble understanding simple sentences.

So do some Elections Commissioners.

In the end, as always, it is up to citizens to protect their own rights. And the right to recall a public official — no different really than the right of an employer to fire an errant worker — should be considered just as important as any other right in the Constitution.

They should not hesitate to protest when lawmakers attempt to take that away from them.

Mike Malott reports on the local implications of state and regional events. He can be reached by phone at (248) 634-8219 or by e-mail at mmalott@homecomm.net

Internet sales tax evens playing field for brick-and-mortar businesses

Whoever would have imagined a couple of years ago that an e-mail virus masquerading as a love letter would shut down computers all over the world? And those whose computers were infected last week now have a clear idea of just how dependent we've become on e-mail and computerized address books and JPEG picture files.

And that's just small beer compared to the profound impact the Information Revolution will have throughout our entire society.

Take taxes, for instance.

With more than a third of all homes in America hooked up to the Internet, home shopping is turning out to be the biggest growth sector in the entire economy. And when you're shopping on amazon.com and click the "execute order" button, the one thing you won't find on your screen is a line detailing how much sales tax you owe.

By contrast, when you shop at a local store in Michigan, you'll pay 6 percent state sales tax on most purchases, excepting things like food and medicine.

Most states and a few cities rely on the sales tax as a big part of their revenue base. Nationally, the sales tax produces around \$150 billion in taxes for states, which is about two-thirds of their total revenue. In Michigan, the sales tax last year produced \$6.4 billion, which is 17.5 percent of the total \$36.6 billion in total state revenue.

Up to now, taxpayers who shop from catalogs or over the Internet have found it easy to ignore the question of tax liability for their purchases.

But anybody who filled out the Michigan income tax forms last month knows that this year, for the first time, there is a question on line 30 asking whether you owe "use tax" (another term for sales tax) on purchases you made from another state on which no tax was collected. You could either check the box marked "no" — in which case you might have been cheating on your taxes — or you could turn to page 11 to calculate how much you owe.

Some people I know concocted an arbitrary — and low — number for their Internet purchases and computed a use tax obligation on this basis. Sure, they're cheating on their taxes. And no, they probably won't get caught.

So the Information Revolution, through the entirely new phenomenon of home shopping via the Internet, threatens to undo a very big chunk of the system of tax revenues throughout the entire country. Not surprisingly, this is producing a whole lot of strange bedfellows and



PHIL POWER

alliances.

Gov. John Engler, for instance, is normally a tax cutter. But he is also a governor who is responsible for maintaining the revenue base of his state. And state Treasurer Mark Murray estimates that something like \$100 million in Michigan sales tax revenue on catalogs and Internet sales was lost last year.

So Gov. Engler went down to Washington to urge Congress to pass a law requiring companies that sell by catalogs or the Internet to collect sales taxes at the time the purchase is made and remit them directly to the relevant state. His testimony was compelling, even in making the distinction between imposing new taxes (which he's against) and providing states with the ability to collect sales taxes already on the books (which he's for).

But the U.S. Congress, normally vigilant in maximizing revenue for the federal government, is not about to pass a law that most people would regard as a big tax increase, especially not in an election year. Moreover, a bunch of Engler's traditional (and very conservative) supporters — the Mackinac Center for Public Policy and the Michigan Federation of Young Republicans — are going after him as a big taxer, of all things.

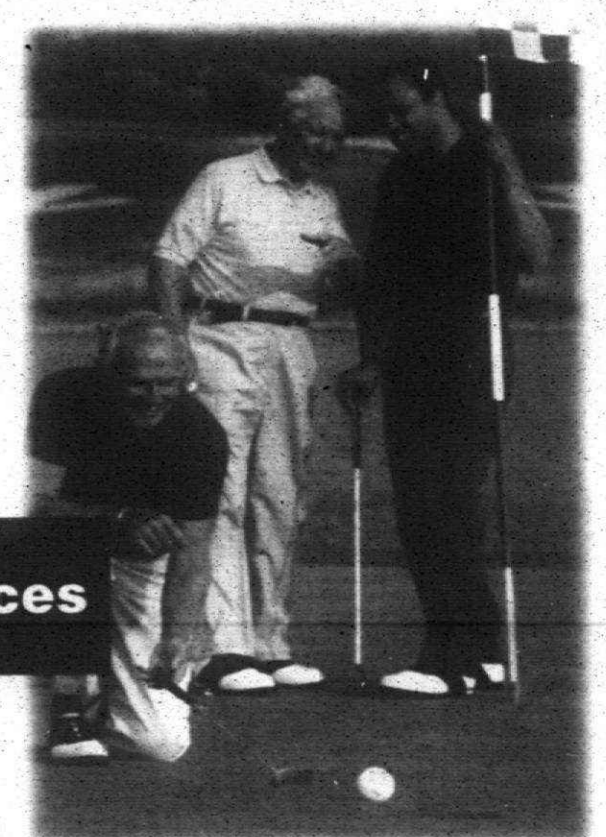
Engler replies that it's simply unfair to tax brick-and-mortar Michigan retail businesses but not tax Internet companies selling similar products. He's absolutely right.

But the topsy-turvy twists in the politics of the argument only demonstrate how profound the consequences of the Information Revolution will surely be as the years go by.

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

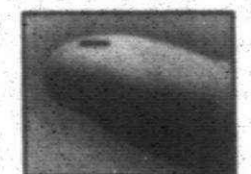
"I never thought I'd be playing golf so soon after my prostate cancer procedure."

Cancer Services



"Just recently, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer, the most common cancer found in American men. My doctor told me about the options for my early-stage cancer. There were a lot of treatment options, like surgery, external radiation or brachytherapy.

"Brachytherapy is a procedure that implants permanent tiny 'seeds' in the prostate to irradiate the cancer cells. It's simple enough to be done as an outpatient procedure. Most importantly, my doctor said it has produced excellent results. After reviewing all of the options, we decided to go with brachytherapy. I'm already back in the swing of things — without ever missing a tee time!"



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COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:
Do you think this weekend's Million Mom March will impact gun legislation?



Dave Mullins
Westland



James Williams
Plymouth



Debra Eaves
Northville



Jennifer Lawson
Redford

"Sure, I think if more people show concern about guns and gun control, the more effect it will have."

"I doubt it. If kids dying doesn't do anything for gun control, I doubt people marching will."

"I don't think there will be any effect. The NRA is just too strong."

"I think it's the same as other marches before. Any effect will be temporary."



Graduates gather: Schoolcraft President Richard McDowell addresses the graduating students during ceremonies at the Schoolcraft gymnasium.

STAFF PHOTOS BY MATT TAPLINGER

Schoolcraft graduates inspired

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

One of the largest graduating classes in Schoolcraft College's 36-year history heard similar prescriptions for happiness and fulfillment from two very different — but very successful — speakers Saturday night.

The two — Robert Thompson, multi-millionaire founder of Michigan's largest asphalt paving company, and Rev. George Shalhoub, pastor of southeast Michigan's largest Antiochian Orthodox church — each addressed the 1,087 graduates and their families and friends during the 35th annual commencement exercises in the college's gymnasium.

"Treat people right and know your business," but take time out for family, said featured speaker Thompson, whose generosity toward his former employees has become a modern business legend.

"Be alive for God and community and family," said Shalhoub, a Syrian native whose small

parish is today's 650-family St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church in Livonia. "Don't just live mainly for salary and careers."

Even the graduates were inspirational.

College President Dick McDowell spoke of several, including Anne Bolander of Westland and Crystal Kerr of Redford Township.

Bolander, he said, was born deaf but her family thought she was retarded and put her in an institution where children were routinely beaten, not allowed to show emotion, touch one another, laugh or have a name.

She was later released and eventually graduated from high school. Now a General Motors Corp. employee for 25 years, the 42-year-old Bolander is finally earned her degree at Schoolcraft after 15 frustrating years of trying at other community and four-year colleges.

Bolander's book of her experiences, *I Was #87*, is being published this month.

Kerr earned an occupational

therapy assistantship despite having a husband diagnosed with cancer, working full time nights at a Plymouth nursing home, giving birth to the couple's daughter and also taking care of home and hearth.

"Who needs to sleep?" joked Kerr, whose husband has since recovered.

Thompson, the former teacher, fighter pilot and entrepreneur told the crowd, "You can start with nothing, and you can be anything you choose to be."

With the support of wife Ellen, he created a business which sold in 1998 for \$450 million. The couple shared \$128 million of that with their loyal employees and families and also have provided scholarships at Schoolcraft.

Stating "All of us need both education and experience" to become confident people, Thompson told the graduates, "You have received an excellent start here at Schoolcraft."

Shalhoub, honored as a distinguished alumnus, said that's what Schoolcraft gave him.

Madonna grads told 'find a passion'

Eleanor Josaitis, executive director of Focus:Hope, told the more than 800 graduates of Madonna University Saturday to turn around and wave to the people who helped get them there.

She also admonished them to "find their passion and go for it."

Josaitis joined the other honorary doctorate recipients — business leader Frank Stella, chairman and CEO of Stella Products Co. and F.D. Stella International Co., and Major Gen. Lucius Theus, United States Air Force (retired) and president of The U.S. Associates and chief operating officer of The Wellness Group Inc. — in inspiring the graduates to set goals and follow dreams at Madonna's 53rd commencement at Calihan Hall at the University of Detroit Mercy.



Hi folks: Art Bardell of Livonia waves to his family as the ceremony begins.

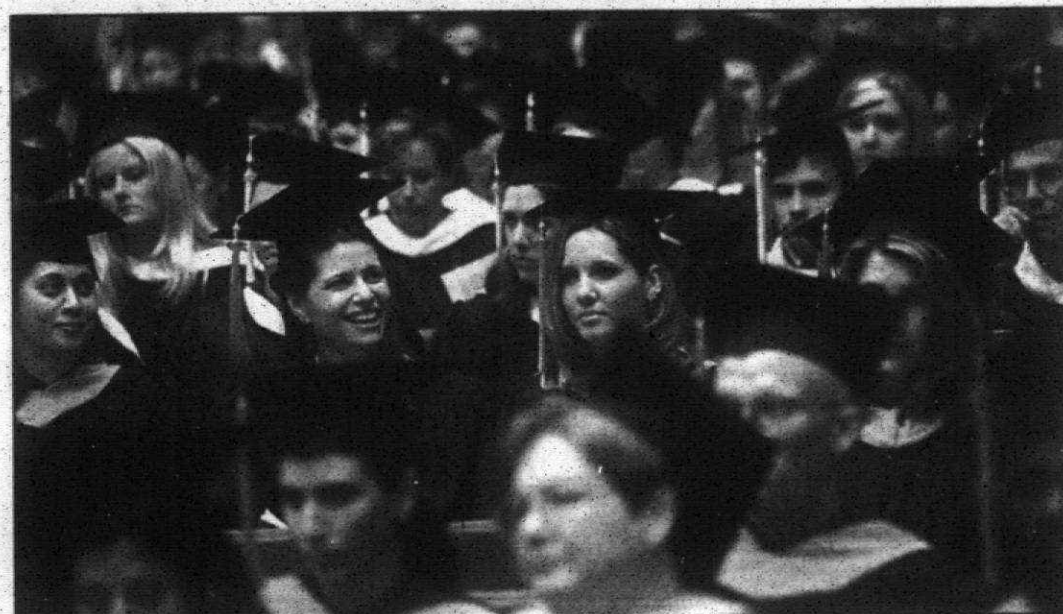
The university awarded approximately 508 bachelor's degrees, 373 master's degrees

and the rest associate degrees and special certificates.

Andrea Nodge, the university's director of marketing and public relations, was awarded the distinguished alumna award.

"It was a great honor. I've been at the university 15 years, actually became a student 17 years ago and stayed," Nodge said. "It's like Eleanor said, I found my passion and got into this position and I love it. People come and say 'Andrea you deserved it,' because they know how much my alma mater means to me. It's been wonderful to be rewarded for having a rewarding career."

The invocation was given by the Most Rev. Moses B. Anderson, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Detroit.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HIBBELN

Happy graduates: Hundreds of students awaited diplomas at Madonna University's 53rd Annual Commencement held Saturday.

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STEPHANIE CASOLA

First-time aunt learns a few simple lessons

As the youngest in a line of three daughters in my family, I've watched and listened as my sisters went first.

All of my life, I got used to seeing my oldest sister, Paula, make all the major life choices and accomplish many rites of passage. She was the first to drive, graduate high school, go to prom, move away to college, earn a master's degree, get a good job, get married to a wonderful man and buy a home.

She's been an inspiration and a guide to what my own future may hold. But of all the "firsts" I've seen,

Babies remind us of the simple necessities in life. The first sounds Angela began to make were giggles and coos. I knew she meant to bring humor and light-hearted joy into all of our lives.'

none has impacted me more than the one I witnessed first-hand just over four months ago.

When Paula — with her husband, Mark, at her side — gave birth to little miss Angela Kay Bruni, it was not only a first and an overwhelming delight, it was also a moment that has forever impacted our families. She's become the major source of entertainment at all family functions and no one can help but want to hold the sweet baby in their arms.

Since that very day, I've done my best to coax and repeat the words "Aunt Stephanie" whenever Angela and I are together. I think she's bound to spout out those four syllables any day now.

But in the meantime, I've decided to share a few lessons she's taught me so far on her journey into toddler-dom and beyond.

Be observant. Angela didn't scream when she entered the world. Not right away. She looked around and wondered who in the world all those people surrounding her could be. And you can't look into those bright, big eyes without knowing she's curious to learn about everything she sees.

Be patient. It doesn't really matter who's holding her as long as she's been fed and changed and had a good nap. She doesn't rush around — of course she hasn't yet mastered the ability to turn over, never mind crawl.

Casual serenity
But she seems to take everything in with a casual serenity only babies can truly possess. And that calm is contagious whenever someone else is near. I feel myself relax, my voice soften and my hand loosen to a gentle cuddling grip at the mere sight of her. In a world where rushing around seems necessary, this aunt has learned how to take things one step at a time.

Be happy. Babies remind us of the simple necessities in life. The first sounds Angela began to make were giggles and coos. I knew she meant to bring humor and light-hearted joy into all of our lives. Even her eyes have the ability to smile and there's no way to stop from smiling right back.

From these simple rules I've been reminded of the true pleasures in life — and the life that is separate from deadlines, schedules and life's little responsibilities. I've finally achieved something before my oldest sister, I am an aunt and now a godmother to this beautiful little girl we waited for so long.

Becoming an aunt is an inspiring experience. It's a title I wear with pride. I can hardly wait to hear her call me by name.

Happy Mother's Day to Paula Bruni, and to all new mommies and grand-mommies everywhere.

Fabric of life

Quilts tell stories of family history, milestones

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

Meena Schaldenbrand's exhaustive collection of quilts is like pages of a book telling the story of her life.

One quilt illustrates how Schaldenbrand and her brother, Pradeep, flew alone from India to meet their parents in the United States when she was 13. Another is a four-foot collage made from one-half-inch squares of her husband's face copied from a computer print out. Schaldenbrand laughs and sighs as she describes how difficult it was to coordinate the many different colors and fabrics to make the project work.

"Each quilt can be so different and so personal," she said.

Near and dear

But the one that holds the most emotion so far, Schaldenbrand said, is a recently finished graduation quilt for her daughter, Lisa, a 12th grader at Ladywood High School in Livonia.

Schaldenbrand painstakingly sewed swatches of material from Lisa's sleepers, dresses and other clothes, right up to a pair of jeans she still wears. The keepsake illustrates every milestone in her daughter's life, including her first earring, which is sewn into the fabric. It's another example of her mom's artistic flair and devotion to detail.

"A lot of people don't think of quilting as an art, but I sure do," she said.

The nearly 50 women who gathered to see Schaldenbrand's work during a Needlework and Textile Guild of Michigan workshop last week at the First United Methodist Church in Birmingham thought so, too.

"Rumpelstiltskin better hide," said Reva Barahal, who watched as Schaldenbrand quickly explained the myriad of stories behind the fabric and illustrations.

Jeanne Sarna of Troy said: "I think they're fabulous. She's constantly trying new things and is very successful and very talented."

The 120 guild members live throughout Michigan and represent a wide range of artistic venues, like beading, sewing, knitting and doll-making, just to name a few. They have four exhibits annually, including "A Spring Show," that ran through the first week of May.

After 20 years of hand and machine sewing, the 44-year-old Schaldenbrand said she stopped counting how many quilts she had when she reached 100, but knows "it's well over that." In fact, quilts replace pictures and other wall decor throughout her Plymouth home.



Talented: Meena Schaldenbrand and one of her colorful quilts. A small portion of the "Graduation Quilt" (below left) she made for her daughter. Schaldenbrand (right) talks with Judy Ginsberg of Farmington Hills and Jeanne Sarna of Troy.

Pulling quilt after quilt from more than eight bulging suitcases, Schaldenbrand gave the audience glimpses of her work and snippets about her life. Her mother, Shyama Manudhane, stood at her side helping her hold-up each quilt. A quiet humor filled Schaldenbrand's conversation and seemed to spill out from the colorful fabrics of her pictures.

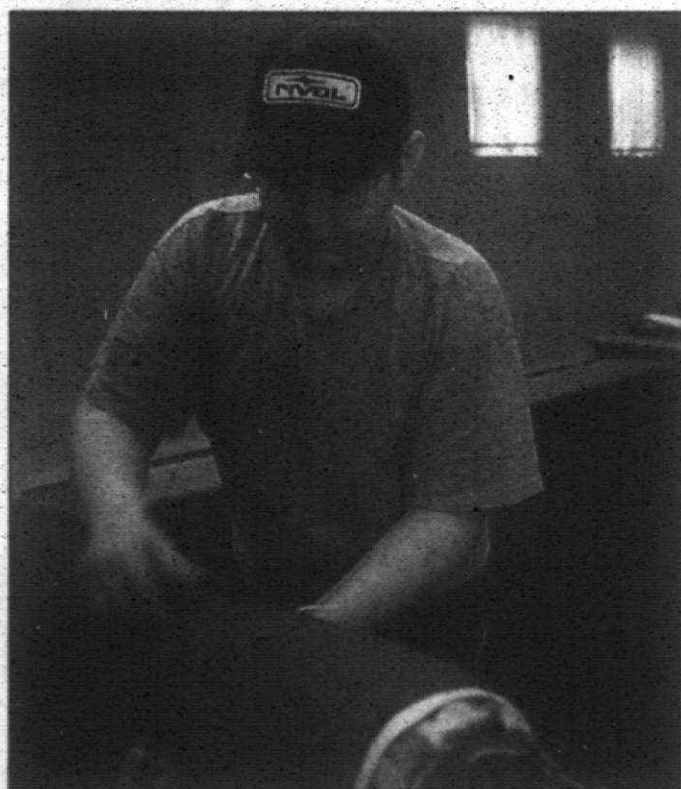
She described her first quilt as "ugly." The brown tones are much more drab than what followed, "but it's my daughter's favorite, because she dragged it around the house all those years."

One quilt illustrated moments in her daily routine, including a house with a three dimensional door that opened and closed and reminds her of the days her daughters always left the door open. Another panel is of an "invisible" washer and dryer.

"It's invisible, because only I can use it," she said. A few inches away lies a toilet with goldfish swimming in the tank, showing the demise of so many of her family's aquatic pets. The quilt includes hundreds of personal meanings and memories.

In fact, quilting became a creative outlet

Please see FABRIC, B2



Committed: Matt Ramey rolls up a sleeping bag he helped make. It will be distributed to the homeless.

DO UNTO OTHERS

Teen shows compassion for less fortunate

FRIDAY'S Child

The first Saturday of every month Matthew Ramey has the chance to make some new friends. It doesn't matter to Ramey that these individuals, mostly adult men, are homeless. And from the perspective of these men, it doesn't seem to be an issue that Ramey is just 14 — he's a man for looking beyond their situations and offering only friendship.

The teenager's parents, Darlene and Wayne, chose to expose their children to life in the Cass Corridor by initiating a project called "Mercy House."

The entire family, along with other relatives and members of their congregation

(Belleville Church of God), travel to Detroit, the first Saturday of every month to provide ministry and a hot meal to dozens of "street people" at the Mercy House.

"He greets the homeless without reservation. He makes them feel wanted and shows a lot of love. The people there know him," said Darlene Ramey, Matthew's mother.

Ramey, a student at Garden City Junior High School, lives with his parents, Darlene and Wayne Ramey, and siblings Amanda and Andrew in Garden City.

"Matthew has always exhibited a kind spirit," said Darlene of her eldest son. "He loves helping people and doesn't see a difference between color. He's color blind."

Rise and shine

The Ramey family rises early on this first Saturday in April and heads off to their former place of worship, Dearborn Church of

Please see FRIDAY'S CHILD, B2

Fabric from page B1

for Schaldenbrand when she was looking for something to occupy her time while her husband, John, was working on his residency at the University of Ann Arbor Hospital. She tried knitting and countless crafts, but nothing appealed to her until she took a quilting class.

"I hated sewing when I was younger," she said. "Quilts make me feel like I'm creative, which I never thought I was."

Schaldenbrand earned a bachelor's degree as a medical technologist, but quit when Lisa was born. Now she considers herself a quilter first. It was only natural that her two daughters, Lisa and Amy, 16, would find joy in quilting. Both girls have finished quilts that Schaldenbrand takes special pleasure displaying in their home and during demonstrations.

"I tell my kids that their inheritance will be of fabric and quilts," she said. "When I go shopping on vacation, I bring back fabric as my souvenirs. I love vibrant, colorful fabrics."

Making a quilt takes years, she said, but the most time consuming part is "dreaming of the idea." She usually spends "between nine months and one year fine tuning the designs."

"Sewing is the easy part," said



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JACOBSON

Variety: Schaldenbrand also quilts clothing.

Schaldenbrand, who feeds her creativity by being a member of the Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild, the Needlework and Textile Guild of Michigan, the American Sewing Guild and the Creative Clothing Club in Troy. She's also the leader of the American Sewing Guild in Plymouth, which meets on the first Thursday monthly at the First Presbyterian Church in Plymouth.

One quilt, representing innovations of the 1970s, took

months of research and planning and includes everything from a peace sign and a CD-ROM that is sewn into the fabric to Post-it notes. Another quilt shows how she would have lived her life if she had it to do over. The tropical scene means she would reside somewhere warm "because I'm always cold" and a frying pan charm indicates that "I would be a better cook and not burn my food so much when I'm sewing."

Family themes dominate the work and landscapes come in a close second. Others are the result of projects launched on the Internet. Quilters present themes and explain the rules, like what colors are wanted. Sewers are told how many squares, all in the same design, to contribute and the originator passes them along until everyone involved has a completed quilt.

While she doesn't enter contests as a rule, Schaldenbrand has won national and local competitions, including first place in the Kaye Wood Star-maker Challenge that came with a \$3,000 sewing machine and a surfer from a local contest. But it isn't the prizes that motivate Schaldenbrand, who approaches each project with the enthusiasm of a child at a new game.

"I run down to my sewing room the minute my family leaves in the morning, and I don't come up until they come back," she said. "I go to play in my play room so to speak."

The Needlework and Textile Guild of Michigan meets the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Birmingham. For more information about the group call Colleen Ryan-Peters, 734-475-5851.

Friday's Child from page B1

God, to assemble and sew sleeping bags for homeless people. Matthew has no reservations of spending his Saturday serving others rather than playing with friends or sleeping late.

After several hours of work, Matthew and his parents drive

'Matthew has always exhibited a kind spirit. He loves helping people and doesn't see a difference between color. He's color blind.'

Darlene Ramey
—Matt's mother

back to Garden City to arrange the food they'll take to Detroit. The family and their fellow parishioners prepare an entire meal for the shelter, which opens every Saturday thanks to the efforts of members of four churches, who serve food on a rotating basis.

"We make a hearty meal ... something we'd be proud to serve at home," said Matthew. "A few weeks ago we cooked 150 pieces of chicken at home to take to the Mercy House, and in the summer we have the Great Cass Cook-out. We start at 7 a.m., cleaning up the park and setting up tents. We have a big barbecue and pass out drinks and listen to music. It's great for everyone."

The family is in charge of preparing a menu and shopping for all the ingredients. From setting out plates and cutting up vegetables to serving hot/cold drinks and locking the doors after the last person is fed, the family is driven by their commitment to God.

Four years ago the pastor of the Ramey's church in Dearborn, approached them with the idea to serve and minister to homeless people and they "jumped at

the chance," according to Darlene.

Since, they have brought the idea to their new congregation in Belleville and are passing on their convictions to their children. It's Matthew, however, who shows the greatest affection for his service.

"All of our children care about what we do but Matt has always been more sensitive to the plight of others," said Wayne Ramey.

Frame of mind

"Some kids at school ask me why I'd want to go to Detroit. 'Aren't you afraid of getting shot?' they say. That's ridiculous. They don't give a hoot about anyone but themselves. I love the people of Detroit. It's a great place. I'd go there every day if I could. I think it's a privilege to be able to serve meals to others."

The Rameys also spend their Thanksgiving at Mercy House preparing and serving a meal with all the traditional trimmings. Matt said this past year they chose to stay at home and opt out of their annual volunteer roles. "It just wasn't the same. It felt empty. It wasn't special ... just another dinner at home."

So they are planning to spend this holiday season back at Mercy House.

The Garden City teen hopes to do missionary work overseas when he's old enough and would like to play professional hockey.

His mom remembers his earlier career aspirations however. "When he was in preschool he was asked what he wanted to be when he grew up. The other children said policeman, mailman, doctor. Matthew said he wanted to be a millionaire so he could help all the needy people in the world. To this day, I think if Matthew became a millionaire, he would give it all away to the people he came in contact with at Mercy House."

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BRE COMMUNICATIONS, LLC DBA McLeod USA, INCORPORATED

PLEASE take notice that a public hearing as required by the Township of Plymouth Telecommunications Ordinance will be conducted regarding the Telecommunications Permit Application filed by BRE Communications, LLC d/b/a McLeod USA, Incorporated at the regular Township Board Meeting to be held on May 23, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. at Plymouth Township Hall located at 42350 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, May 23, 2000, at 7:00 P.M. in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, as a part of its regular meeting.

The purpose of the public hearing will be to consider a request from Schuler Incorporated for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for real and personal property for a new facility to be located at 7145 Commerce Blvd., Canton, Michigan within the Northeast Canton Industrial Development District, the legal description of which is as follows:

Part of the SW 1/4 of Section 1, part of the NE 1/4 of Section 12, and Part of the NW 1/4 of Section 12, T2S, R8E, Canton Township, Wayne County, Michigan, described as follows:

Commencing at the S 1/4 corner of Section 1, T2S, R8E, thence N 02°07'49" W 85.50 feet along the N 1/4 line of Section 1, thence S 88°45'59" W 49.51 feet to the westerly right-of-way of Commerce Boulevard (99' wide) and the point of beginning; thence along said westerly right-of-way the following three courses: S 02°07'49" E 10.08 feet to the beginning of a curve concave to the NE, having a radius of 548.50 feet; and southeasterly 323.08 feet along the arc of said curve through a central angle of 33°41'13" (the chord of said curve bears S 18°08'25" E 318.44 feet); and S 89°49'02" E 96.71 feet; thence S 88°45'59" W 93.54 feet to the easterly right-of-way of I-275 Expressway (width varies); to the beginning of a non-tangent curve concave to the SE having a radius of 11334.16 feet to which point a radial line bears N 82°08'15" W; thence northeasterly 311.25 feet along the arc of said curve and said easterly right-of-way through a central angle of 01°34'13" (the chord of said curve bears N 07°38'52" E 311.24 feet) to the south line of Section 1; thence N 88°45'59" E 22.32 feet along said line and easterly right-of-way to the beginning of a non-tangent curve concave to the SE having a radius of 11334.16 feet to which point a radial line bears N 82°08'15" W; thence northeasterly 311.25 feet along the arc of said curve and said easterly right-of-way through a central angle of 01°34'13" (the chord of said curve bears N 07°38'52" E 311.24 feet) to the south line of Section 1; thence N 88°45'59" E 22.32 feet along said line and easterly right-of-way to the beginning of a non-tangent curve concave to the SE having a radius of 11334.16 feet to which point a radial line bears N 82°08'15" W; thence northeasterly 311.25 feet along the arc of said curve and said easterly right-of-way through a central angle of 01°34'13" (the chord of said curve bears N 07°38'52" E 311.24 feet) to the south line of Section 1; thence N 88°45'59" E 22.32 feet along said line and easterly right-of-way to the beginning of a non-tangent curve concave to the SE having a radius of 11334.16 feet to which point a radial line bears N 82°08'15" W; 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CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND CANTON

WEEKEND

DINNER SOCIAL
The Dearborn-Livonia Chapter of the U.S. Singletons will host their next dinner-social at 5:30 p.m., Friday, May 12, at Ernesto's-Hillside Inn, 41661 Plymouth Road, Plymouth (between I-275 and Lilley roads). Adults ages 45 and up wishing further information regarding this national organization's activities please write to: Dearborn-Livonia Singletons, P.O. Box 2175, Fort Dearborn Station, Dearborn, MI 48123.

USED BOOK SALE
Friends of the Plymouth District Library will hold a social used book sale May 11-13. Hours are: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Thursday, May 11; 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, May 12; and 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, May 13. The items to be sold include many beautiful coffee table books, foreign language books, video and audio cassettes, CDs and books with large type. This will be a great place to shop for favorites at bargain prices as well as special gifts. Proceeds will be used to finance new library projects. For more information, call (734) 455-0782.

GARAGE SALE
The Second Annual Garage-Rummage-Craft Sale will be held from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m., Friday, May 12, and from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., Saturday, May 13, at Risen Christ Lutheran Church, 46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth (one mile west of Sheldon Road). Table space is available or your items can be sold on commission. Donations of items also are appreciated. Proceeds will benefit the Building Expansion fund. For more information, call the church office at (734) 453-5252.

SENIOR PARTY
P-CEP will have its all-night senior party beginning at 9 p.m. Sunday, June 11, at Plymouth Salem High School. This party is open to all P-CEP graduating seniors. Tickets are \$35 and are available at the schools.

GOLF OUTING
The fifth annual New Morning School Golf Outing will be held Friday, May 19, at the Warren Valley Golf Course. This is a charity golf outing for the benefit of New Morning School. Community members are welcome. For more information, call (734) 420-3331 or e-mail newmorn@mediacore.net.

BOOT CAMP FOR DADS
Saint Joseph Mercy Health System will offer a workshop for men who are becoming fathers for the first time. "Boot Camp for New Dads" is designed to build pride and confidence in caring for a new baby. First-time fathers will get hands-on experience in holding and comforting a baby with the help of "veteran" dads who bring their own babies to class. New dads will also get practical information on parenthood, baby care, becoming a family and supporting the new mom. The next round of "Boot Camp" will be 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, May 20, at St. Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center. The cost is \$20 per person. To register or for more information on the program or other dates and locations, call the Saint Joseph Mercy Healthline at (734) 712-5400 or (800) 231-2211.

CARWASH
Vietnam Veterans of America will host a car wash from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., Sunday, May 21, at Main Street Carwash.

County Connection Chorus takes the gold



Medalists: County Connection Chorus, the area chapter of Sweet Adelines, won the Division A Regional competition recently in Cleveland. The chorus, which rehearses Tuesdays at the UAW Local 898 hall in Ypsilanti, performed renditions of "Back in the Old Routine" and "Old Friends, Old Friends" at the competition.

downtown Plymouth, Main Street between Ann Arbor Trail and Ann Arbor Road. Each car wash is for a donation. Proceeds go to the VVA general fund. For more information, call Don Dignan (734) 525-0157 or (313) 845-3752.

AROUND TOWN

CROCHET ANGELS
Crochet Angels is looking for people to make premie booties, hats and afghans for area hospitals. Items can be crocheted or knitted. For more information, call Lisa at (734) 326-7759.

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

VILLAGE MUSIC
Village Music has open registration for summer and fall Kindermusik classes. Summer classes will begin in mid-June, and fall classes will begin the week of Sept. 11. Early registration is recommended. Call now for registration materials. Village Music is located at 130 E. Liberty St. in the Old Village section of Plymouth. For more information or for registration, call Norma Atwood at (734) 354-9825.

DOG JOG
Plymouth Dog Jog 2000, presented by the Kiwanis Club of Plymouth, will take place Saturday, May 13. The two-mile route starts and ends at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth. Registration begins at noon. The jog/walk begins at 1:30 p.m. Registration fees are \$25 payable at the event. Registration forms may be obtained by calling (734) 459-7000 or stopping

by at "Doggie Central," 9450 S. Main St., Plymouth. Each registrant receives a newly designed T-shirt and bandanna. The registration form contains a place for pledges. All pledges and part of the registration fees go to the Michigan Humane Society. There are prizes for the most pledges and other contests.

ASTRONOMY GROUP
The Plymouth Library Astronomy Discussion Group will meet 7-8 p.m., Monday, May 15. Star gazers from 6 years to 106 are welcome. This month's topic will be "Black Holes." There will be door prizes, handouts, videos, and slides. For more information, call (734) 459-2378.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY
The Canton Historical Society will meet at 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 17, at Cherry Hill School, Cherry Hill Road at Ridge Road. Harold Sherman of the Yankee Air Force will speak on the building of the Willow Run Bomber Plant. Refreshments will be served. The public is invited to attend.

CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECK
Oakwood's Keep Kids Safe Team and Oakwood Annapolis Hospital are teaming up to sponsor a free Car Seat Safety Check. The event is 3-6 p.m., Thursday, May 18, at the West/Outpatient Lobby Driveway at Oakwood Annapolis. This is an important event because motor vehicle crashes are still the nation's leading cause of death and serious injury to children under the age of 14. Oakwood's trained child passenger specialists check each car seat for appropriate use, installation and placement, recall status, age and history. For more information,

call Oakwood at (313) 791-1494 or (313) 791-1488. Preregistration is not necessary.

ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC
The Junior Group of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit will hold its 17th Annual Goodwill Golf Classic on Monday, June 5, at the Wyndgate Country Club in Rochester Hills. Proceeds from the event help benefit Goodwill's employment and training services for people with disabilities and other special needs in the metropolitan Detroit area. The ladies' event kicks off with a morning shotgun start followed by a luncheon; reservations are available at a cost of \$195 per person. Luncheon-only reservations are \$40 per person. For more information or for reservations, call event chairperson, Linda Handyside at (248) 349-8407.

BICYCLE RIDES
Bike tours throughout the Plymouth community will start at 6:30 p.m. every Monday through September (except for three holiday Mondays). This low, low mileage bike ride (8-11 mph, 8-20 miles) will meet at the Comerica Bank back parking lot on Ann Arbor Road just west of Sheldon. Initial rides, which always return before dark, will start off at the low-mileage end and be geared towards basic bicycling abilities. For those seeking a more challenging ride, the AABTS is leading a bike tour which meets, starts and ends at the same place and time as the ride. Wearing helmets is strongly advised but not required. A multi-gear non-racer type bike is preferred but not necessary.

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

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

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

MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNATIONAL
Moms In Touch International is for mothers to meet weekly, for one hour, to pray for their children and schools. The goal is to form a group for each school in Plymouth-Canton. If you are interested or have any questions, call Karen at (734) 397-2771 or Elaine at (734) 459-3896.

KIWANIS BREAKFAST CLUB
The Plymouth-Canton Kiwanis Breakfast Club meets 7 a.m. every Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth. Guests are welcome. Call Charr Briggs at (810) 406-8489.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS
Community Hospice and Home Care Services hosts ongoing grief support services for adults experiencing a loss through death. The meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month from 1-3 p.m. at the Plymouth office of CHCS (127 S. Main St.). For information, call (734) 522-4244.

plete a 55-hour training program starting this month. For information call (734) 416-1111, ext. 223.

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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

STARTING OVER
Starting Over is a group for widowed men and women younger than 45. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of the month at Plymouth Church of Christ. Call (734) 662-5999.

GRIEF AFTERCARE SUPPORT
Vermuelen Funeral Homes offers a monthly grief aftercare support group meeting for those who have recently experienced the death of a family member or close friend. For more information, call (734) 459-2250.

ARBOR HOSPICE
Arbor Hospice will offer New Pathways, a six-to-eight-week support group for adults who are experiencing grief due to the death of a loved one. The Ann Arbor group will meet Tuesdays, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. or Wednesdays, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., through May 24 at the Arbor Hospice Residence, 2366 Oak Valley Drive in Ann Arbor. The Northville group will meet Thursdays 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. through May 25 at First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile in Northville. For adults grieving the death of a parent, a support group will meet in Ann Arbor, Thursdays, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., through May 25 at the Arbor Hospice Residence. Arbor Hospice also offers various age- and need-specific support groups, including groups that address the special needs of grieving children. Arbor Hospice also offers a support group for loss of an adult child. A seven-week support group will meet from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., through May 18 in Ann Arbor. To register or for more information, call (734) 662-5999 or (313) 383-8800.

REUNIONS
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LAKE ORION HIGH
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Pastor follows God's guidance to march in D.C.

On May 14 this year my husband and I will join at least a million people in Washington, D.C., for the Million Mom March. This event is to advocate for common sense gun laws for our nation.

Several people in my congregation and in our community have asked me why it is that I am attending this event. Here is some of what I have said.

I'm going to the Million Mom March first of all because I am a mother of two children and because I care about children. Whatever position one takes about guns, the fact is that children are most often the victims

of the violence in our society. They may be hurt or killed themselves or their parents/caregivers may be the ones hurt or killed.

Either way, they are forever and irreversibly impacted by the violence in our country. I am going on the Million Mom March because I think we need to stand up for children and be their voice. According to statistics from the Million Mom March Web site (www.millionmom-march.com), "Gun homicide is the second leading cause of death for young people ages 15-24." I find this unacceptable and want my children to know that I

tried to do something about this deplorable statistic.

I am going on the Million Mom March because I am tired of comforting people who are victims of violence. As a pastor I spend a great deal of time helping people deal with their grief as they face the loss of loved ones. My job puts me in situations where I have to answer questions about "why did this happen?" and "how could a loving God allow this kind of violence to take place?" My answer is that I believe God deplores this violence. And God is weeping right along with these parents and relatives.

Yet as I work with families coping with the aftermath of violence, I too wonder why we as a society continue to see violence as a way to solve our problems. I wonder why we seem to value human life so little. I am going on the Million Mom March because I believe God has called us to a path of peace.

When I was 16, my best friend shot and killed herself in her home, using a gun that belonged to her family. To this day, I continue to mourn her loss and I wonder if there had not been a gun available to her that day, would she still be here. I am going on the Million Mom March

in her memory.

Follow faith
Finally, I am going on the Million Mom March because I believe my faith calls for me to take a stand. I see this as a justice issue. I am a follower of Jesus and I know He would not have been passive about this issue.

A few years ago, bracelets and T-shirts with the initials W.W.J.D. on them became very popular. The letters stand for "What Would Jesus Do?" The T-shirts and bracelets were created so that people could have a visible reminder of how to make

decisions.

When faced with difficult issues, one was called to ask, "What would Jesus Do?"

I believe he would march with us and call for peace. I am going on the Million Mom March because it is what Jesus would do and where he leads me I will follow.

Rev. Melanie Lee Carey has served as associate pastor of Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia since June of 1993. She grew up in Chelsea, Mich., and lives with her husband and children in Livonia. She can be reached via e-mail at Melaneelee@newburgumc.org

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WELCOME TO LIVONIA

Mail Copy To:
Observer & Eccentric! Newspapers • 6251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150
For information regarding advertising in this directory,
Please Call Rich Mucum (734) 933-2869

BAPTIST

BETHEL BAPTIST TEMPLE
29475 W. Six Mile, Livonia
734-522-3664

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

"A Church That's Concerned About People"

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST
YOUTH AWANA CLUBS
DR. RICHARD FREEMAN
PASTOR

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
5403 S. Wayne Rd. • Wayne, MI
(Between Michigan Ave. & Van Buren Rd.)
(734) 728-2100

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

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

New St. Paul Tabernacle Church of God in Christ and Grandmont Rosedale Park Christian Day School
Bishop P.A. Brooks, Pastor & Founder
15340 Southfield Drive at Fenkel & Grand River
New St. Paul Tabernacle Church
The Place Where "The Word of God is Taught" With Clarity for Practical Lifestyle Application

313-835-5329
SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

March of Faith Telecast
38" WADL Broadcast Times
Saturday 9:30 P.M.
Sunday 4:30 P.M.
Sunday 6:30 P.M.
RADIO BROADCAST:
1:30 A.M. - WED.
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
8:45 A.M. TO 9:00 A.M.

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

OPEN

Yep! We're Still Open.

Just in case you were wondering we're still open and eager to meet you. Go ahead, stop by this Sunday. You'll be glad you did.

Because We Care.
Tri-City Christian Center
Michigan Ave. & Hannan Rd.
326-0330
Sunday 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL

Mt. Hope Congregational Church
30300 Schoorcraft, Livonia • 734-425-7280
(Between Middlebelt & Merriman)
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Service
Sunday Service
"The Church You've Always Longed For."

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Evening Service 7:00 p.m.
Reading Room - 447 S. Warren, Plymouth
Open Daily
Call For Hours
453-1676

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
15 Mile Road and Oakridge, Farmington Hills
(248) 661-9191

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

GOD WELCOMES EVERYONE

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

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

LIVONIA
14175 Farmington Rd.
(N. of I-96)
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
(734) 522-6630

CANTON
46001 Warren Road
(West of Canton Center)
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
(734) 414-7422

Visit our Web Site at <http://www.cccs.edu/~lcmss>

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CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Traditional Latin Mass
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
St. Anne's of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121

First Fri. 7:00 p.m.
Sat. 9:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.
Confession Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
1160 Penman Ave.
Plymouth • 453-0326
Rev. John J. Sullivan

Masses: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 A.M. Sat. 5:00 P.M.
Sunday 8:00, 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M.
5:00 P.M. Life Team Mass

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
801 Westwood • Livonia
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:45 a.m.
School Grades • Pre-School - 8
Church & School Office
(734) 422-6930

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
17810 Farmington Road • Livonia • (734) 261-1930
May We Outlive - Monday Night Service - 7:30 p.m.
Sunday School & Bible Classes For All Ages 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Morning Service 10:30 a.m.
Sun. 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon
734-427-5220

EPISCOPAL

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16800 Hubbard Road
Livonia, Michigan 48154
421-8451

Mon-Fri 9:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Dinner & Classes
Saturday 10:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist
Sunday 7:45 & 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
10:00 A.M. Christian Education for all ages
Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available
The Rev. Alan Brandtford Jr., Rector

Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church & School
14750 Kinkaid • Redford • Tel. 313-532-8655

Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Morning Service 10:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.
School Grades K-8
Phone for Enrollment Info
WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

CHRISTADELPHIANS

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

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
5 Miles W. of Shedd Rd.
From M-14 take Gottfredson Rd. South
734-459-9550
Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor

8:00 Prayer & Praise Service 9:30
Lifeline Contemporary Service
11:00 Traditional Service
SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church
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St. Mary opens new activity center

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

After 138 years, St. Mary Catholic Church honors a special addition this week.

The church, 4530 Michigan Ave. in Wayne, will dedicate its new activities center on Thursday, May 11. The center holds up to 750 people and is a representation of the church's continued growth.

Construction on the activities center began in April 1999, and its doors will officially open at the dedication ceremony, which follows a 7:30 p.m. Mass. Holy water will be sprinkled at the door and a ribbon-cutting ceremony will be performed by pastor Jack Baker.

"The purpose of (the building) is to gather together outside of church," he said. The addition offers more of a community perspective and chance for parishioners to come together, he said.

Pastoral Council Chairman Kenneth G. Hafeli said the project to build the \$2.5 million structure has been in progress for the past six years. Money was raised by pledge and a credit line from the archdiocese.

"It's going to be a proud moment for us," said Hafeli, a Westland resident and church member for 21 years. "It's a focal point as you come into the city from the east side. We now have an entire city block."

The activities center at St. Mary's includes a large multipurpose room with a basketball court as well as a stage and collapsible seating. Parish offices, which have been temporarily housed in a convent on church grounds, will be moved to the center, offering more space.

The center will be used for athletics, theater, dinners and other activities planned by the parish, which has a membership of more than 2,000. The dedication ceremony will allow visitors a peek at the building. Invitations have been sent to priests who have ministered at the church in the past as well as local and state officials. St. Mary's Choir and Bell Choir will offer music and light refreshments will be served. About 700 people are expected to attend.

Baker extended the invitation: "It's a celebration of the building. Everyone is welcome."

For more information, call (734) 721-8745 or check the Web at www.waynestmary.org

Jewish congregations host Town Hall

CANTON

The Jewish Community Council and the Detroit Jewish News are preparing to sponsor the third in a series of Town Hall meetings slated for Sunday, May 21.

Hosted by Congregation Bet Chaverim, the Plymouth/Canton Town Hall meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Summit on the Park Banquet and Conference Center, 4600 Summit Parkway in Canton.

The Town Hall meetings represent the first concerted effort by the organized Jewish community to reach out to residents living outside the Oakland County suburbs which have significant Jewish populations.

Developed in consultation with organizational partners and area residents, each Town Hall meeting offers participants the opportunity to learn about the various services provided by metro area Jewish organizations, discuss their needs and explore the

unique issues facing them as Jewish members of their community. Leaders from area congregations and agencies will be on hand to take part in the meetings and respond to questions.

The Summit on the Park Banquet and Conference Center is located west of Canton Center Road and south of Cherry Hill Road in Canton. For further information, call the Jewish Community Council, (248) 642-5393.

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CANTON
Canton Parks & Recreation
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Huron Valley Tennis Club
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HOMETOWN
Novi Parks & Recreation
734-347-0400
Brighton Athletic Club
810-229-2722

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RELIGION CALENDAR

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Registration for 2000-2001 Sunday School is being accepted for Congregation Beit Kodesh (31840 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia). Affordable tuition. Tuition assistance available to those who qualify. Call (248) 477-8974 for information.

SUMMER CAMP
Registration has begun at Christ Our Savior in Livonia for summer camp and fall classes. The church offers Christian programs for children ages 18 months to kindergarten during the school year and up through age 8 during the summer. Call Wendy at (734) 513-8413.

MOTHER/DAUGHTER CELEBRATION
Garden City Presbyterian Church will host a Mother/Daughter Spring Celebration at 6:30 p.m. (dinner) May 11 in Sutherland Hall. Entertainment will be provided by Virgil Norgrove and Friends "Ventriloquist Ventures." Mother's Day Boutique and handmade gift items will be available. Adults \$6; ages 6-12, \$4; and ages 3-6, \$3.

POTLUCK LUNCHEON
Enjoy a potluck luncheon with like-minded senior citizens (Wise

Guya N' Gals) at unity of Livonia Fellowship Hall (28660 Five Mile Road, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads) at 11:30 a.m. May 11. Max Nemazi will be showing slides of exotic animals on the famous Pacific Island of Galapagos where Darwin conducted his research on evolution.

UUCF SUNDAY PROGRAM
Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington Sunday Program for May 14 is titled "Parenting Sunday and Child Dedication." In honor of Mother's Day, but also with inclusion of all who might be parents. Pancake breakfast will be served by the Youth Group. "Meet the Minister" will be held after each service for visitors and others interested in finding out more about our church and Unitarian Universalism. Services and Sunday School at 9 and 11 a.m. UUCF is located at 25301 Halsted Road (north of Grand River). Call (248) 478-7272 or www.uucf.org

MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE
Unity of Livonia (28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads) will hold identical services honoring mothers for Mother's Day at 9:30 and 11 a.m. The services will be followed by a pancake breakfast. Mothers eat for free while adults are \$3 and children are \$1.50. Plants and flowers will also be available.

COFFEE WITH YOU
Gerry MacBean, mystic presenter, will host a night of poetry and sharing at Unity of Livonia (28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads) at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16. This is a new monthly series, Coffee with You — all are welcome. For more information call (734) 421-1760.

SCRIPTURE SERIES
A Scripture Series is being offered at Saint Colette Church (Newburgh Road between Six and Seven Mile roads) from 7-9 p.m. Thursday evenings, May 18: "Get into the act and take a letter," will be the topic discussed in the activities center. What is the Acts of the Apostles? What does it tell us about the early church? May 25: "Revelations about the Book of Revelation." Why is the Book of Revelation so frequently misinterpreted? How do Catholics understand this last book of the Bible? St. Ginny Silvestri, OSM, will be the guest speaker. Pre-register by calling (734) 464-4435.

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FUND-RAISING & BENEFITS

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

UNIQUE GIFT

Starfish Family Services is asking community members to donate \$100 in honor of their mother or another special "mother figure" in their life. The mother or other woman honored will receive notification of the tribute gift and a limited-edition ceramic art tile. People wishing to participate in this distinctive giving opportunity should call Starfish Family Services, (734) 727-3108.

ONGOING

Friends of Garden City resident Joe Ziurinkas, who recently died in a construction accident, are collecting donations for his children ages six and four. A former employee of Complete Health and Fitness, the business will be collecting monetary donations if individuals want to drop them off or send them to: Complete Health & Fitness, 35000 Warren Road, Westland, MI 48185. Checks should be made payable to: Anthony and Emily Ziurinkas. A 1989 graduate of Garden City High School, the administration office is also accepting donations. Money will be placed into a trust fund for the children's education. In the future Standard Federal Bank will be handling the fund.

FLOWER SALE

Approximately 500 potted plants will be available at the Friends of the Wilson Barn Annual Spring Flower Sale, including lilies, chrysanthemums, tulips, daffodils and small orchid corsages. Weather permitting there will be pony rides for children. Sale is the weekend of Mother's Day sale hours include: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. May 11-13 and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 14.

LONGEST DAY OF GOLF

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society (Michigan Chapter, Inc.) will host the MS Longest Day of Golf event May 1-31 to raise awareness and funds to benefit the Michigan Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Golf courses waive green fees for participating golfers on the day of their choice in May. Play as many holes as you can while collecting pledges to support MS. Call (800) 243-5767 to register.

MOM 2 MOM SALE

Spring is just around the corner and so is the St. Edith/St. Kenneth's MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) Mom's Sale. Rent a table at the sale and turn your child/children's gently used items into cash. Come to the sale to find just the right items for your nursery or child's needs. The sale will be held at St. Edith's Parish Hall from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 13. St. Edith is located just south of Five Mile on Newburgh Road. Call Karen to reserve a table (734) 266-6182.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

The First United Methodist Church (3 Towne Square) of Wayne will host their annual Spring Rummage Sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 11; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 12; and 9 a.m. to noon May 13. The church is located across from the Wayne Post Office. A bake sale will be held Thursday, May 11.

MOTHER/DAUGHTER CELEBRATION

Garden City Presbyterian Church will host a Mother/Daughter Spring Celebration at 6:30 p.m. (dinner) May 11 in Sutherland Hall. Entertainment will be provided by Virgil Norgrove and Friends "Ventriloquial Ventures." Mother's Day Boutique and handmade gift items will be available. Adults \$6; ages 6-12, \$4; and ages 3-6, \$3. All proceeds go to mission.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity Detroit's Second Annual Benefit Golf Outing and Auction will be held on Wednesday, May 17 at the

championship 18-hole Eagle Crest Resort and Golf Club in Ypsilanti. The event features a noon shotgun start with a reception afterwards, dinner buffet, and auction. Putting contest, longest drive and closest to pin contests, 50/50 raffle. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m.; lunch at 11:00 a.m. Reception, buffet dinner, and auction begin at 5:30 p.m. Individual golf tickets are \$125, a foursome is \$450. Includes golf, lunch, buffet dinner, and auction. All proceeds from the event benefit Habitat for Humanity Detroit. Contact the Habitat office at (313) 521-6691 for registration and information.

CARD PARTY

St. Mel Women's Club will hold a Springtime Card Party at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 17 (7506 Inkster Road, north of Warren). Smorgasbord dessert, door prizes, 50/50 raffle, raffle prizes and more. Men are welcome. \$7 donation. Call Lillian 274-8779 or Veronica 425-5699 for tickets.

CELIAC SPRUE 10K

The Tri-County Celiac Sprue support group will host a 10K walk for research Saturday, May 20 at the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House (1100 Lake Shore Road, Grosse Pointe Shores). TCCSSG is sponsoring the walk to raise funds for research to determine the prevalence of celiac disease. All proceeds will be sent to the University of Maryland celiac research programs co-directed by Drs. Alessio Fasano and Karoly Horvath. To register write: TCCSSG, 915 Ridgeview Circle, Lake Orion, MI 48362. All registrants will receive a t-shirt.

OAKWOOD/LOEKS GALA

Oakwood Healthcare System Foundation and the Loeks' Star Theatre-Fairlane will present a

Gala Event from 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, May 23 at Star Theatre-Fairlane (18900 Michigan Avenue) in Dearborn. The event features a reception with food stations donated by area restaurants; wine/beer/beverages; and ticket to the screening of a new premier movie, pop and popcorn. Admission is \$50 per person. For information call (313) 791-1234.

STROLL FOR EPILEPSY

The Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan will host the "Summer Stroll for Epilepsy" June 3 at Kensington Metropark in Milford. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. with continental breakfast; 9:30 a.m. awards presentation; 9:45 a.m. warm up and stretch routine; and 10 a.m. stroll around the lake. One lap is approximately four miles. Team up with family members friends and co-workers or walk as an individual with hundreds of other participants. Collect donations towards your own individual fund-raising goal. For a brochure to start collecting pledges call (800) 377-6226. The more money you raise, the better the prizes; and the more you help.

TOUR DE CURE

The American Diabetes Association will sponsor "Cure De Tour", an annual cycling fund-raiser to benefit both diabetes research and local programs Sunday, June 11 at Island Lake Recreation Area in Brighton. Early registration, \$15 (before April 19); \$20 (after April 19); \$25 (day of registration); and \$100 minimum pledge required. To register call (888) 342-2383.

GOLF OUTING FOR HOSPICE

The 7th annual "Living Every Day" golf outing, sponsored by the Community Hospice Foundation will be held Monday, June 12 at Washtenaw Country Club

in Ypsilanti. All proceeds from the event are designated for the "Hospice Home" project of Community Hospice & Home Care Services, Inc. of Westland and Plymouth. Cost is \$200 per individual golfer. Call for event details, (734) 522-4244.

HEALTHCARE CLASSIC

Golf pro Stacy Hollis will join more than 350 women in their support of women's healthcare through the Kelly Sorini Women's Healthcare Classic. The 8th annual all women's golf event will be presented by Oakwood Healthcare System June 19 at the Grosse Ile Golf & Country Club. Entry fee is \$175

per person. To register call (313) 791-1234.

GOLF CLASSIC

The fifth annual St. Mary Hospital Golf Classic will be held Friday, June 23 at Bay Pointe Golf Club, West Bloomfield to benefit breast cancer. New this year are two starting times of 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. for the 18-hole scramble. Both golfing groups will enjoy breakfast, driving range, buffer or sit-down dinner, locker room facilities and great prizes (week at a Florida golf resort). LPGA teaching professionals will be on hand for putting and driving clinics. Proceeds for the \$200 per person event are desig-

nated for breast cancer treatment, diagnosis and prevention programs at St. Mary Hospital. Corporate sponsors are available. Call (734) 655-2907 to register.

JULY FLEA MARKET

Vendors are needed for Good Shepherd Reformed Church flea market to be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 8 at Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland. (Next to Big Boy Restaurant on Wayne Road). Space available. Cost is \$20 per spot. Applications are available by calling Ray or Jackie Gagnon at (734) 722-7225.



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Read
Observer
Sports

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Players of the week

• Ben Tucker, a freshman at Kalamazoo College from Plymouth Canton HS, was named pitcher of the week in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association after tossing a three-hitter in the Hornets 5-1 win over Olivet College.

Tucker struck out five and walked two in evening his record at 3-3.

• Jenny Tenyer, a freshman pitcher for Madonna University's softball team, was named Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference pitcher of the week after tossing a five-hit shutout in the Lady Crusaders' 5-0 win over Saginaw Valley State.

Tenyer was 14-9 with a 1.45 ERA for the season.

All-WHAC baseball

The selections for the all-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference baseball team have been made, and a pair of Madonna University players were chosen.

Senior outfielder Derick Wolfe, from Tecumseh, and senior shortstop Todd Miller, from Farmington Hills (Birmingham Brother Rice HS), were Crusaders named to the team.

Wolfe led Madonna in batting average (.411), hits (60), doubles (16), triples (five), home runs (six), runs scored (48), walks (21), slugging percentage (.712) and on-base percentage (.509).

Miller hit .369 with a team-best 36 runs batted in. He had 11 doubles, 34 runs scored and committed just 12 errors in 48 games.

Junior pitcher Ryan Andrzejewski (Plymouth Salem HS), who was 5-2 with a 5.44 earned run average; senior pitcher Mitch Jabczynski, who was 4-4 with a 4.21 ERA; freshman first baseman Eric Lightle (Livonia Churchill), who hit .360 with three homers and 20 RBI; and junior outfielder Neil Wildfong (Plymouth Canton HS), who batted .360 with 20 RBI; were honorable mention selections.

Tennis camp

Plymouth Salem tennis coach Tom Kimball will offer a summer tennis camp for kids 10-18 years through the Plymouth Canton Community Education Department, starting in June.

Students interested in taking the camp will be offered 12 lessons on the following dates: June 21, 22 and 26-29, and July 5, 6 and 10-13. No make-up dates are scheduled unless more than two of the dates are cancelled.

Registration fee is \$60.

Beginners (ages 10-14) will meet from 9-10 a.m.; beginners (ages 14-18) will meet from 10-11 a.m.; and intermediate/advanced (ages 12-18) will meet 11 a.m.-noon.

Kimball, a USPTR instructor with eight years of coaching experience, will be assisted by USPTR certified player Matt Nagy of Canton HS and Salem HS standout Jason Meininger.

For sign-up information, contact the Community Ed department at (734) 416-4900.

Competitive cheer

All-Star Gymnastics in Northville will be holding tryouts for a competitive cheerleading and stunting team for girls in grades seven through 12 at 8 a.m. Sunday, May 21. Boys interested in trying out for the Senior squad, grades 10 through 12, are also invited to tryout.

No cheerleading experience is necessary, but it is helpful. Girls will be asked to learn a cheer, do jumps and basic tumbling.

For more information or to pre-register, call All-Star Gymnastics at (248) 380-5330.

Girls softball clinic

A clinic in the fundamentals of softball will be conducted by the Plymouth Canton girls softball varsity team and coaches from noon-4 p.m. Saturday, May 20 at the Canton softball field.

The clinic is for interested girls ages seven and over. Cost is \$25 per player.

Register with the Plymouth Canton Softball Parent's Club, 39601 Mayville, Plymouth, MI, 48170-4710.

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 rallies to grab title

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
STAFF WRITER
pbeaudry@oe.homecomm.net

The best track meets are decided by the last event.

Saturday's 30th Annual Observerland Relays certainly fit that bill.

Down 21 points to Redford Catholic Central with six events remaining, Plymouth Canton won three of the last six events to edge the Shamrocks and Farmington Hills Harrison to win its first crown since 1986.

"Because of the order of the events, I knew we were going to score well at the end," Canton coach Bob Richardson said. "If it was close we were going to have a chance."

Canton won the meet with 68 points, while Harrison was second with 64, CC was third with 62, North Farmington was fourth with 49 and

OBSERVERLAND

two-time defending champion Plymouth Salem was fifth with 42.

"I told Bob before the final results were announced that I didn't care who won between us," said Harrison coach John Reed. "Bob's been a great friend over the years and I was just as happy to see his kids win."

CC, on the strength of its field events and distance teams, led most of the meet — taking a 61-40 lead over both Canton and Salem with six events to go. Then Canton got hot with wins in the sprint medley and shuttle hurdle relays, with Harrison getting a win in the 400 relay and seconds in the 100 dash and shuttle

Please see OBSERVERLAND, C4



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Winning jump: Canton's Jordan Chapman cleared 6-feet, 4-inches at the Observerland meet Saturday, the best jump of the day.

Whalers pick up the pace

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

Well. Thank goodness it didn't go to overtime.

In a game that seemed to get uglier with the passing of every minute, the Plymouth Whalers salvaged one of the first two games played at Compuware Arena in the early stages of the Ontario Hockey League final, holding off the Barrie Colts to gain a 5-3 triumph Monday.

After Plymouth scored twice in the first 2:15 of the second period to open up a 4-2 lead, the game switched networks to a WWF sideshow station. Fights erupted at almost every stoppage — even after the game ended, with reportedly a Barrie assistant coach tangling with Whalers' head coach Pete DeBoer.

"This was a great hockey game," said DeBoer afterward. "It fits in with the first two games of this series, between two teams that have fought tooth and nail."

Question: Where was Colts' head coach Bill Stewart? Apparently at the team hotel in Windsor; Stewart was refused admission into the U.S. by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Services after reportedly smuggling a player with improper credentials into the country last year.

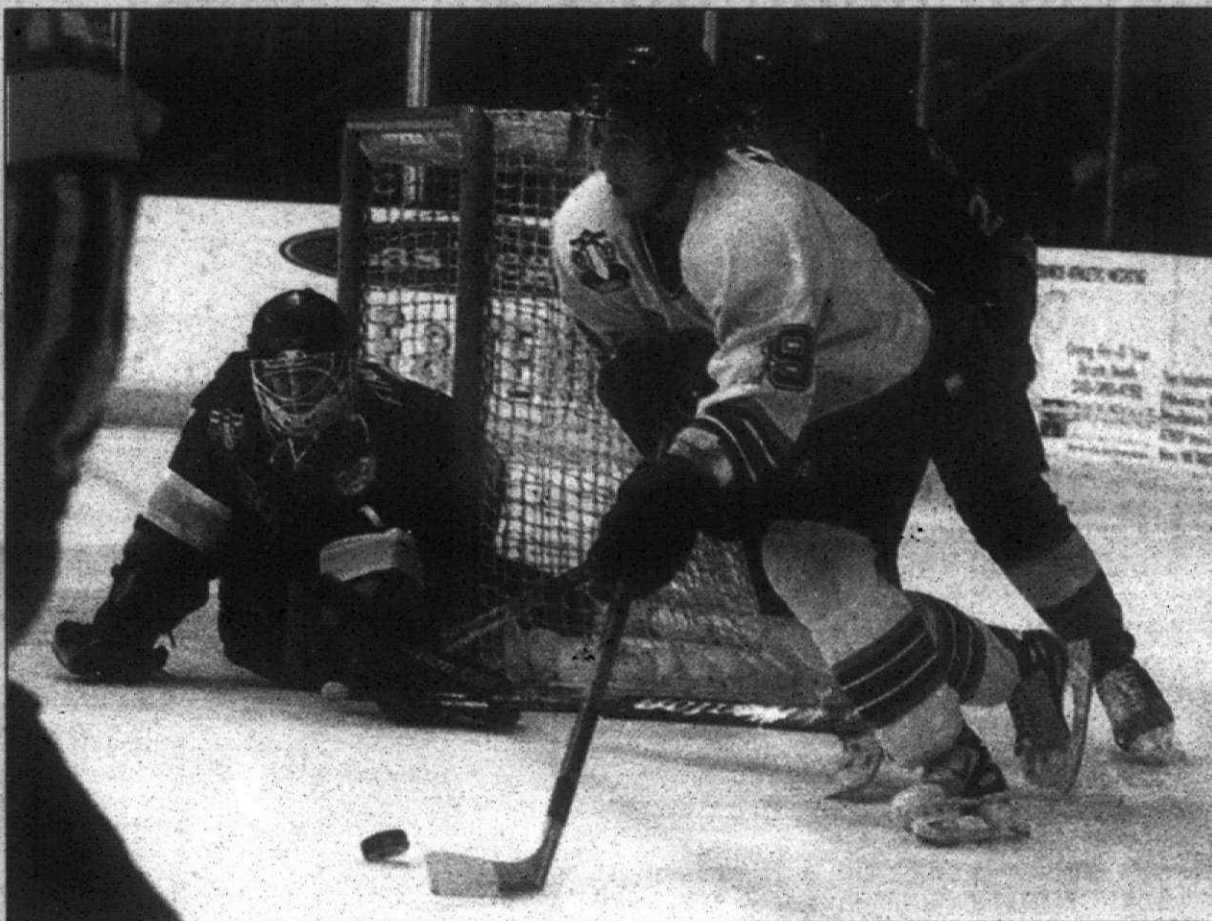
Pinpointing the difference thus far in this series, marginal as it's been, isn't difficult. The Whalers are getting some production from their offensive stars and Barrie isn't.

Certainly there was no indication of it at the game's start. Barrie carried the play through most of the opening period as Tim Verbeek — with older brother Pat, a Detroit Red Wing, in the crowd watching — scored twice to give the Colts the lead.

But the Whalers never let Barrie assume complete control. Yes, they scrambled at times defensively against one of the most potent offensive forces in the OHL, but they never allowed the Colts to take a two-goal lead.

And they never allowed the Colts'

Please see WHALERS: GAME 3, C3



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Maneuvering room: The Whalers' Tomas Kurka sweeps in front of the Barrie net with a defender draped on him and Colts' keeper Brian Finley keeping a close watch. Kurka later scored a goal.

Whalers can't quite catch Colts

The sell-out crowd packed in the Barrie Molson Center last night helped the Barrie (Ont.) Colts post a 6-3 victory over the Plymouth Whalers in Game Four of the Ontario Hockey League Championship Finals.

The series, tied at 2-2, heads back to Plymouth's Compuware Arena for Game Five at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

GAME FOUR

Denis Shvidki and Ryan Barnes staked Barrie to a 2-0 lead in the first period. Plymouth's Tomas Kurka narrowed that gap to 2-1 with a power-play goal just 8:10 into the period. Barnes and Mike Henderson scored

for the Colts in the second period to increase their lead to 4-1.

Two goals by Damian Surma, the first unassisted and the second from Justin Williams and Fisher, pulled the Whalers to within 4-3. But Barrie pulled away with goals by Mike Christian and Sheldon Keefe, the latter into an empty net.

Chiefs reign in 1st game; 2nd is Rocks

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

This was a double-header that could appeal to everybody.

One game was a pitcher's duel, the other a hitting contest. Errors weren't a decisive factor in either game. And, for those who straddle the fence in cheering for Plymouth Salem and Plymouth Canton — well, both teams got a win.

In the opener of Saturday's twin-bill, which featured a pennant presentation between games to Salem's 1991 and 1975 state championship teams, Greg Neino tossed a strong six innings in subduing the Rocks 5-2. Neino gave up two runs on two hits and six walks, striking out three to improve to 3-2.

Steve Gordon started and took the



PHOTO BY TOM HIBBELN

Opening victory: Canton players congratulate pitcher Brent Vasher (1) for closing out Saturday's first game, a 5-2 Canton win. The Rocks rallied to win the second game.

loss for Salem.

The Chiefs took the lead in the first inning, just as the civil defense sirens were going through their weekly test. With a runner aboard and two out, Jim Wisniewski

unloaded a long shot over the left field fence to give Canton a lead it would never lose.

The win didn't come easily, however. Salem narrowed the gap to a sin-

Please see BASEBALL, B7

SOFTBALL

Chiefs edge Rocks in 19-inning duel

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR
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The cost of victory, as it turned out, was steep indeed for Plymouth Canton's softball team.

When Canton and rival Plymouth Salem clashed in the final of Saturday's Canton Classic, no one could foresee what lay ahead. Both teams started their pitching aces — Laura Stewart for Canton and Liz Dekarske for Salem.

What followed was a classic duel between two strong teams, a duel that wouldn't be decided for 19 innings. With umpires ruling the 19th inning would be the last of the game, Canton managed to squeeze in a run with Brianna McNicholas scoring on the second wild pitch of the inning.

As it turned out, Canton's 1-0 victory in

Please see SOFTBALL, B5

Madonna powers to WHAC title

By C.J. RISAK
Sports Writer
cjrisk@home.com

Unexpected? To say the least — considering the streak Madonna University's baseball team carried into the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Tournament.

But the Crusaders came through when they had to, beating Aquinas College 8-4 in the WHAC Tournament championship game Tuesday at Battle Creek's Bailey Park.

The three-straight tournament wins put Madonna, now 28-23-1, in the double-elimination four-team NAIA Region VIII Tournament, 11 a.m. Friday at Indiana Wesleyan vs. Marian (Ind.). The other matchup pits Indiana Tech vs. Huntington (Ind.). The finals will be 4 p.m. Saturday.

"The kids really played well," said Madonna coach Greg Haeger. "They played great. They really didn't have a lot to play for the last 10 games, so we did some different things, had kids playing other positions. And it didn't work — we lost nine of 10."

But as Haeger said, it really didn't matter. One thing the Crusaders could do in that final, meaningless stretch was save their pitching, and it showed.

The Crusaders led all the way in the championship game, scoring four runs in the first three innings. When

BASEBALL

Aquinas closed to within 4-3, Madonna put four more runs on the board in the fifth, with Eric Lightle (Livonia Churchill) singling in one run and Bob Hamp — who was 4-for-4 in the game — slugging a three-run home run.

Hamp also had a double in the seventh and RBI singles in the first and third innings to finish the game with five RBI. Lightle and Derrick Wolfe each had two hits and an RBI (Wolfe hit a double and a solo homer, scoring three runs), and Neil Wildong (Plymouth Canton) added one hit and three runs scored.

The pitching win went to Dale Hayes (Westland John Glenn), boosting his record to 2-4.

Hayes worked seven innings, giving up four runs (one earned) on seven hits and four walks, striking out five. Eric Williamson tossed the last 10 innings, surrendering no runs on one hit, fanning two.

The loss went to Don Zomer (3-3).

It was a big win in a big game, to be sure, but the turning point for Madonna — perhaps for their season — came in the Crusaders' first tournament game against Spring Arbor Monday.

Pitching wasn't good in this one; Madonna found itself trailing the

Cougars 9-4 entering the bottom of the eighth inning.

But the offense saved the Crusaders. With two on and two out in the eighth, Wolfe smacked a three-run homer, trimming the five-run deficit to 9-7.

The ninth inning was equally dramatic. Todd Miller (Farmington/Birmingham Brother Rice) opened the inning with a double and Lightle followed with a two-run homer, knotting the score at 9-9.

Hamp then reached base on an error and moved to second on a sacrifice-bunt by Jason Brooks, bringing Roy Rabe (Livonia Stevenson) to the plate — and he unloaded a game-winning, two-run homer.

"They had us dead to rights," said Haeger. "They really did. Maybe their pitcher got a little tired. He started elevating his pitches and we really tagged them."

"That got us back rolling, back to where we were before those last 10 games (of the regular season)."

Wolfe went 4-for-5 with three RBI. Miller had three hits and two RBI. Lightle totaled two hits and three RBI. Mario D'Herin (Redford CC) had two hits, and Rabe had his homer and two RBI.

The pitching win went to Ryan Andrzejewski (Plymouth Salem), who allowed two runs (one earned) on four hits and three walks with three strike-

outs in 3 1/2 innings of relief.

Jeremy Stevens started, but he was tagged for seven runs (six earned) in five innings.

In its second game Monday, Madonna defeated Aquinas 7-3 behind the strong pitching Mitch Jabczenki and the Crusaders' 15-hit attack.

Jabczenki (5-4) allowed three earned runs on nine hits and three walks, striking out nine in nine innings.

Hamp had three hits and an RBI to pace Madonna's attack.

Wildong had two hits and two RBI. Lightle had two hits and an RBI, and Wolfe and D'Herin each had two hits.

If Madonna can keep both the offense and pitching clicking, it could extend its season.

St. Xavier 5-10, Madonna 2-0: Not much of a warm-up for the WHAC Tournament.

Madonna's trip to Chicago last week-end wasn't too successful. On Saturday, they were swept by St. Xavier University to cap the 0-for-4 trip.

In the first game, St. Xavier broke a 2-2 tie by scoring three runs in the fourth. Rick Dedeluck, pitching in relief of starter Randy Palmer, took the loss.

Derrick Wolfe had a perfect game at the plate, going 4-for-4 with a double. Roy Rabe (Livonia Stevenson) had two hits and Todd Miller had a double and an RBI.

In the second game, the Crusaders were limited to three hits in this five-inning mercy. Rabe had two of those safeties.

Mark Cole surrendered four runs on three hits and a walk in one inning pitched to absorb the defeat.

St. Xavier improved to 37-28 with the two sweeps.

St. Xavier 8-11, Madonna 3-9: Friday's results got the Crusaders weekend off to a poor start.

In the first game, Nick Newman gave up seven runs in four innings, something Madonna could not overcome. Newman took the defeat.

Dave Kwiatkowski (Plymouth Canton) had two hits and an RBI to pace the Crusader attack. Joe Rizzi and Jason Brooks each had two hits and a run scored, and Eric Lightle had a hit and an RBI.

In the second game, Madonna took an early lead by scoring three times in the first inning, but St. Xavier's seven-run third and four-run fourth ended that. Eric Williamson started and took the loss, allowing seven runs in 2 2/3 innings.

Offensively, Wolfe had two hits and two runs scored; Joe Pruchnik had a hit and two RBI; Mario D'Herin had a double and two RBI; and Miller, Cole and Bob Hamp each had a hit and an RBI.

Season ends for Crusaders; 2 losses knock them out

It was a short stay at the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Tournament for Madonna University's softball team.

The Lady Crusaders went two-and-out on Monday, losing to Cornerstone University 4-0 and then to Siena Heights University

SOFTBALL

4-1. Madonna ends its season with a 31-24 overall record.

The pitching wasn't bad for the Crusaders, but they man-

aged just seven hits and one run in the two games. In the opener, Cornerstone's Tarrah Brown stopped them on two hits and four walks, striking out seven.

Jenny Tenyer took the loss for Madonna; she allowed four earned runs on 11 hits and a

walk, striking out two. Stacie Wilson had both of the Crusaders' hits.

The game was a scoreless tie until the bottom of the sixth, when Tenyer weakened and surrendered four runs.

In Madonna's second game, its

only run in the tournament knotted the game at 1-1 in the fourth inning. Devon Fletcher scored it when Meghan Quinn was safe on an error.

Tanya Liske deserved a better fate; she pitched all six innings, allowing four runs (one earned)

on five hits and no walks, striking out four.

Angela Litwin (Plymouth Canton HS) had three of Madonna's five hits, one of them a double.

Errors plagued the Crusaders — they committed six in the two games.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL
Thursday, May 11
Ypsilanti at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Friday, May 12
Canton at W.L. Western, 4 p.m.
Salem at N. Farmington, 4 p.m.
Churchill at Northville, 4 p.m.
John Glenn at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
Harper Wds. at Cville, 4:30 p.m.
Luth. W's at Cedarbrook, 4:30 p.m.
(all double-headers)
Saturday, May 13
Crestwood at Canton, noon
Redford Union at Salem, 11 a.m.
PCA at Baptist Park, 11 a.m.
Ann Arbor at Luth. W's, 10 a.m.
Brother Rice at Redford CC, 11 a.m.
Warren Zee at Huron Valley, 11 a.m.
Thurston at Churchill, 11 a.m.

GIRLS SOFTBALL
Thursday, May 11
Wayne at Ypsilanti, 4 p.m.
Canton at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
PCA at A.P. Inter-City, 4 p.m.
Friday, May 12
W.L. Western at Canton, 4 p.m.

N. Farmington at Salem, 4 p.m.
Northville at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Franklin at Harrison, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Marian at Ladywood (2), 4 p.m.
Harper Wds. at Cville, 4:30 p.m.
Luth. W's at Kingswood, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 13
Bedford Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
Fred Pieper at Memorial Pk., 9 a.m.
(all double-headers)
Baptist Park at PCA, 11 a.m.
Ann Arbor at Luth. W's, 10 a.m.
Warren Zee at Huron Valley, 11 a.m.
Sunday, May 14
Fred Pieper at Memorial Pk., 9 a.m.

BOYS TRACK
Thursday, May 11
W.L. Western at Canton, 5:30 p.m.
Salem at W.L. Central, 3:30 p.m.
Northville at Churchill, 3:30 p.m.
Harrison at Franklin, 3:30 p.m.
Stevenson at John Glenn, 3:30 p.m.
Wayne at Fordson, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 13
Troy Athens Relays, 9:30 a.m.
Jackson N'west Invitational, 9 a.m.

Ann Arbor Invitational, 10 a.m.
A.A. Huron River Rat Meet, 10 a.m.
A.A. Pioneer Last Chance Meet, TBA.

GIRLS TRACK
Thursday, May 11
Canton at W.L. Western, 3:30 p.m.
W.L. Central at Salem, 3:30 p.m.
Churchill at Northville, 3:30 p.m.
Franklin at Harrison, 3:30 p.m.
John Glenn at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.
Wayne at Southgate, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 13
Troy Athens Relays, 9:30 a.m.
Jackson N'west Invitational, 9 a.m.
A.A. Pioneer Invitational, 10 a.m.

GIRLS SOCCER
Thursday, May 11
Mercy at Ladywood, 5:30 p.m.
Wayne at Lincoln Park, 7 p.m.
Friday, May 12
Canton vs. A.A. Huron
(at Concordia College), 6 p.m.
John Glenn at Dearborn, 4 p.m.
Aquinas at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Churchill at Brighton, 7 p.m.
Garden City at Franklin, 7 p.m.

Bishop Foley vs. Catholic Mem. (Wis.)
at Livonia Stevenson, 5:30 p.m.
St. Charles (Ill.) at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Saturday, May 13
Stevenson vs. Catholic Mem.
at M.H. Bishop Foley, 11 a.m.
St. Charles at Foley, 1 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL
NAA Region 8 Playoffs
(at Indiana Wesleyan University)
Friday, May 12
Madonna vs. Marian (Ind.), 11 a.m.
Huntington vs. Indiana Tech, 11 a.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
(best-of-seven)
Friday, May 12
Whalers vs. Barrie Colts
at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 14
(if necessary)
Whalers at Barrie (Ont.), 6 p.m.
Tuesday, May 16
(if necessary)
Barrie (Ont.) vs. Whalers
at Compuware Arena

TBA — time to be announced.

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Blindsided Colts crowd crease, slip away from Whalers

By ED WRIGHT
Staff Writer

Plymouth Whalers goalie Rob Zepp can't save what he can't see.

With that in mind, the Barrie Colts decided to turn the area in front of Zepp's crease into something resembling I-96 at rush-hour during Game Two of the Ontario Hockey League championship series Sunday night at Compuware Arena.

The traffic theory proved to be effective, as the Colts edged the Whalers 4-3 to even the series at 1-1. Two of the visitors' goals were the direct result of Zepp getting screened from the shot.

"Great goalies like Zepp are going to stop everything they see," theorized Colt forward Ryan Barnes. "So we figured we would try to make it difficult for him to see what was coming at him."

Playing before a crowd of 3,608, the Whalers nearly pulled off a startling third-

OHL PLAYOFFS: GAME 2

period comeback. Trailing 4-1, Plymouth tallied two goals in the final 3:30 to pull within one.

They pulled Zepp from the net and added an extra attacker with 1:11 to go, but all four shots they took in the final minute were stuffed by Barrie goalie Brian Finley, the sixth overall pick in the 1999 NHL draft by the Nashville Predators.

"We're in trouble when we have to come from behind, because we're a defensive hockey team," said Plymouth coach Pete DeBoer. "We're not at our best when we have to open it up, which we had to do tonight when we fell behind 3-1."

Barrie forward Rick Hwodeky opened the scoring at 11:35 of the opening period when he knocked a rebound shot past a diving Zepp. Hwodeky seemed an unlikely source of

offense — he was a scratch in the opening game of the series.

Plymouth knotted the game at 1-1 with just 32 seconds left in the first period when Eric Gooldy deflected a Shaun Fisher shot past Finley.

Barrie regained the lead at the 2:12 mark of the second period when Denis Shvidki controlled a loose puck at center ice and wristed a shot through Zepp's five-hole.

The Colts seemed to ice the game early in the third period on goals by Tim Branham and Matt Dzieduszycki to make it 4-1, the second coming with 7:01 remaining in the game.

However, George Nistas and Justin Williams both beat Finley in the game's final moments to make it interesting.

Fisher picked up two assists for the Whalers, and Gooldy had a goal and an assist. Tim Verbeek and Mike Henderson each had two assists for Barrie.

Plymouth outshot Barrie 38-27.

Whalers: Game 3 from page C1

biggest playmakers, Sheldon Keefe and Denis Shvidki — who combined for 89 goals and 227 points during the regular season — to score a goal. In fact, in the three games played, Shvidki has the only goal scored by this dynamic duo.

Much of the credit for that has to go to Whalers' goalie Rob Zepp, who was superb again Monday, making several magnificent stops — as did his counterpart, Barrie goalie Brian Finley. Both were pretty exceptional.

"I thought he was outstanding," DeBoer said of Zepp. "He was the best player on the ice tonight."

It didn't come easily. Verbeek's first marker came with just 2:14 elapsed in the first period, after Zepp stopped one shot only to have Verbeek find the rebound and shove it in.

Barrie was getting all the chances early — the game was nearly four minutes old before the Whalers got a shot on goal — and the Colts even managed to kill a one-minute long five-on-three penalty situation.

Perhaps the Colts were beginning to feel too confident. With nine minutes left in the opening period, Barrie went on the power

play. But it was the Whalers who took advantage, with Stephen Weiss outtracing a Colt defenseman to the puck in the Barrie end, then tapping it away from Finley and putting it over the sprawling goalie to give Plymouth a short-handed — and equalizing — goal.

Randy Fitzgerald assisted. The Colts continued to send players charging to the net, and that traffic in front paid dividends when Verbeek managed to tip a pass from Mike Henderson past Zepp, giving Barrie a 2-1 lead with just 1:41 left in the period. Ed Hill also assisted.

However, if this season has proven nothing else in the OHL, it's shown what determination can accomplish — and that's just what the Whalers' Justin Williams showed in carrying the puck past a pair of defenders into the Barrie end, then sending a pass from the left side to Kris Vernarsky at the top of the right circle.

Vernarsky's shot beat Finley, and with 44 seconds left in the first period the score was tied at 2-2.

It would remain tied for about the length of the between-period

assists.

"I just wanted to get on the scoresheet," said the Whalers' first-year player. "I've had a hard time. I talked it over (with some teammates) and decided to just keep it simple."

Kurka's goal apparently was the signal to change venues, from hockey to a WWF trypout. The Colts continued to persevere, even after a goal was disallowed with 6:57 left in the second period.

With 3:13 to go and Barrie on the power play, Mike Jefferson tipped in a shot taken by Michael Henrich; Ryan Barnes also assisted, narrowing the gap to 4-3 with one period left.

The Colts could never get the equalizer, however, although they kept Plymouth scrambling throughout the third period. Finally, with 13.1 seconds to play, Randy Fitzgerald scored into an empty net to insure the Whalers' triumph.

The fighting continued, even after the final buzzer. But what mattered — goals scored, not punches — had already been totaled.

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Softball from page C1

the title game of the tournament did not come cheaply. Coach Jim Arnold knew that Stewart, one of the state's best-kept secrets (something Arnold wouldn't mind retaining), needed more rest after Saturday's 32-inning (her total on Saturday) marathon. So he turned to Katie Conlon and freshman Renee Ross on Monday.

The result in a key Western Lakes Activities Association Western Division match-up with Livonia Churchill wasn't good — the Chargers avenged an earlier 3-1 loss to Canton by clubbing the Chiefs 10-3.

The result left a knot at the top of the division. Churchill, Canton and Farmington Harrison are all 4-1 in Western play; Canton is 14-5 overall, while Churchill upped its record to 10-2.

"I will never, ever endanger the health of a kid for a softball game," said Arnold in explaining his decision not to pitch Stewart Monday. Conlon pitched four innings against Churchill, giving up nine runs on six hits and six walks. Ross worked the final two innings and surrendered one run on two hits and five walks, with one strikeout.

Paula McKernan led Canton's offense with two hits and two runs scored. Indeed, Stewart wasn't the only regular on the sidelines for Canton; according to Arnold, six starters were out of action.

Meghan Misiak earned the pitching win for Churchill, allowing six hits and three walks, striking out 14. The Chargers got key hits from Sarah Hennessey, who had a two-run double in the three-run first inning; Carly George, who had a three-run double in the four-run fifth; and Sheila Gillies, who had two hits.

Saturday's championship game against Salem lived up to the tournament's title: "Classic." Stewart, who has (according to sources) 175 strikeouts in 105 innings pitched, was — like her counterpart, Dekarske — superb.

Stewart allowed just four hits in 19 shutout innings and did not walk a batter while striking out 25. Dekarske gave up just seven hits and two walks, striking out 13.

"It was an outstanding performance," said Arnold of Stewart. "She can play."

Thanks to four Salem errors, Canton had more baserunners, but as Arnold said, "We just couldn't get them around. There were great defensive plays by both teams."

"I was amazed that both teams could be that focused for that amount of time."

Added Salem coach Bonnie Southerland, "It was a great game. I was really proud of my girls — they all played their hearts out. They wanted a winner. You couldn't as for any

more.

"Both pitchers played very well."

Jenna Perino started Canton's game-winning rally with a single. McNicholas hit into a fielder's choice, with Perino eliminated at second, but Chris Weber walked to put runners at first and second. Two wild pitches brought McNicholas in.

Amy Szawara had two of Salem's hits.

Canton reached the Canton Classic final by beating Dearborn Edsel Ford 21-4; Dearborn 1-0; and Livonia Stevenson 3-2. Salem got there by beating Edsel Ford 15-4; Williamston by a 5-0 margin; and Dearborn by a 6-0 final.

Anna Keil led the Chiefs' offense in the five-inning rout of Edsel Ford with three hits. Angie Neu, Michelle DeVos and Christina Kiessel each added two hits to Canton's 15-hit attack. Ross got the pitching win, in relief of Stewart (who started and pitched one scoreless inning); Ross gave up two hits in three innings.

In the Dearborn game, singles by Sarah Griffin and Megan Coultas in the third inning set up the only run. Coultas scored it on a wild pitch, with Stewart earning the pitching victory with a one-hit shutout; she walked one and struck out 15.

The triumph over Stevenson was the result of a two-run rally in the fourth that allowed Can-

ton to overcome a 2-1 deficit. Singles by Weber, Kiessel and DeVos resulted in one run, and a Conlon sacrifice fly scored what proved to be the game-winner.

Conlon started and gave up two runs on two hits and four walks in 2 2/3 innings; Stewart relieved and got the decision, tossing 3 1/3 innings of scoreless relief, striking out six.

In Salem's 15-4 victory over Edsel Ford, Dekarske was given the pitching win. Jen Allen had three hits and an RBI; Shae Potocki contributed three singles and two runs scored; Marnie Jones had two hits and three RBIs; Dawn Allen had two hits and an RBI; Erin Sonntag had a two-run double and a single; Kelly Jaskot had a double and an RBI; Katie Kelly had a double and a single; and Amanda Bilkie had two singles.

Jacqui Slebodnick tossed six innings of five-hit, two-walk shutout ball in the 5-0 win over Williamston. Dawn Allen had a two-run double in the third, Jen Allen tripled and scored a run on Jaskot's fielder's choice in the third, and Szawara had a single and an RBI.

Dekarske hurled four perfect innings before allowing a lead-off single in the fifth in the Rocks' 6-0 win over Dearborn. Salem scored three times in the first, added a single run in the third and two more in the fifth. Dekarske worked five innings, surrendering one hit and two

walks, striking out seven.

Szawara had a single and a double with one RBI; Jaskot had a triple and Dekarske had a single and an RBI.

The Chiefs' game against Westland John Glenn, scheduled for Wednesday, was postponed due to the weather until 4 p.m. today at Glenn. They host Walled Lake Western at 4 p.m. Friday. Salem entertains North Farmington at 4 p.m. Friday.

Salem 2, Stevenson 1: On Monday, Salem's Slebodnick tossed a three-hitter at Livonia Stevenson as the Rocks gained the WLAA Lakes Division triumph at Salem.

Salem improved to 12-5 overall, 3-2 in the Lakes. Stevenson slipped to 5-9 overall, 1-5 in the division.

Slebodnick did not walk a batter in improving to 7-0. Kelley Hutchins was tagged for two runs on 10 hits and a walk in absorbing the loss for the Spartans.

Katie Kelly had a triple and a single, and Szawara had a double and a single to pace Salem's hit attack. Slebodnick added two singles and Dawn Allen had a single and an RBI.

John Glenn 6, Salem 4: Two-run homers by Abby Massey and Stephanie Fedulchak in the first inning carried Westland John Glenn to the victory Friday over visiting Plymouth Salem.

Dekarske took the loss for the Rocks; she gave up seven hits and no walks, striking out 10; Fedulchak got the win for Glenn.

Kelly had two hits, including a double, for Salem; Szawara added a double and Slebodnick had a single and an RBI.

Ladywood 9-12, Regina 1-3: Livonia Ladywood evened its Catholic League Central Division mark at 5-5 by sweeping a double-header Tuesday at Harper Woods Regina.

Freshman hurler Shawn Fallon tossed a one-hitter in the opener. She struck out four and walked only two in a 9-1 win.

Kristen Barnes had three of Ladywood's 12 hits. Freshman Patty Kolinski added two hits, including a triple and three RBIs.

Ladywood (8-13 overall) unleashed a 15-hit attack in the nightcap as Cathie Rosperski had three hits and three RBIs to lead the way. Dawn Rini and Barnes each added two hits; while Jana Buemel, just called up from the JV squad, had a double and two RBIs.

Winning pitcher Shelly Moros went the distance, allowing five hits and five walks while fanning five.

In Saturday's Brandon North Star Tournament at Liberty Park, Ladywood finished with a 2-3 record, including a 5-0 loss to top-ranked Waterford Kettering.

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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Ethan Hawke (left to right), Diane Venora and Kyle MacLachlan star in *Hamlet*, opening today at metro Detroit movie theaters.

SATURDAY

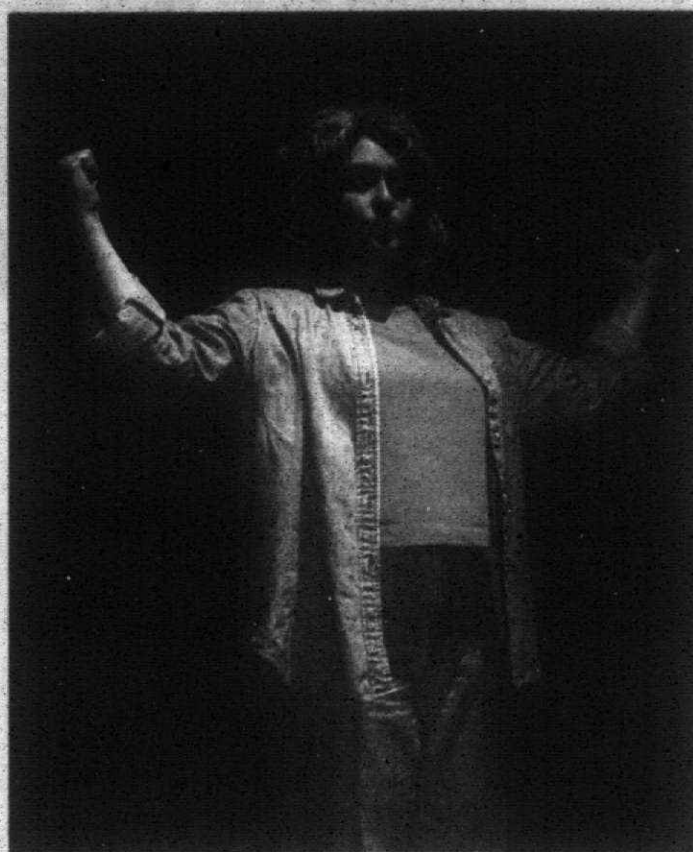


The Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra, the premier youth orchestra of Detroit, celebrates its 30th season, 3 p.m. with a concert at Orchestra Hall. Tickets \$4-\$5, call (313) 576-5111.

SUNDAY



Medeski, Martin and Wood perform 8 p.m. at Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Tickets \$22.50-\$33.50, call (248) 645-6666.



Comedic yin yang: Sally Bondi has won accolades for her comic portrayals of 12 characters in *Dreams of Martha Stewart*. Rob Dubac, below right, wrote and stars in *Male Intellect... an oxymoron?*

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER
fprovenzano@oe.homedcomm.net

Merely asking, "What do men and women really want?" usually opens the psychobabble floodgates. Out flows a stream of armchair analysis about love, and the nature of relationships delivered with Oprah-like, drive-thru efficiency.

The popular theory goes: Men are one-dimensional hedonists, and women, well, they're grounded all right. Grounded in making men's lives a miserable series of practical tasks.

And so it goes...

But who's fooling who? If the eclectic 1990's taught anything, it was that there's no use for stereotypes, and definitely a blurring of differences between the genders. Despite all the talk about diversity, men and

women share more anxieties than differences. In the spirit of new millennium-age male sensitivity and female liberation, two comedic plays — *Dreams of Martha Stewart* and *Male Intellect... an oxymoron?* — at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts peel away at the eternal question about what each gender desires. The revelations are neither simple or complicated. Just funny, and sometimes, painfully true.

While the play titles have a charming accessibility, don't expect anything remotely similar to male or female bashing. Playwrights Pamela Parker and Rob Dubac have constructed a range of truthful characters in their respective one-person plays.

Dreams of reflection

To her followers, she's known simply as "Martha." Perhaps there's some symbolic connection to the first mother of the country, Martha Washington. Then again, to those who find Stewart more than a bit irritating, perhaps not.

In the tradition of Betty Crocker and Donna Reed, Stewart is held up as the contemporary model of female domesticity. Of course, her uncanny sense of marketing and reinvention makes her firmly rooted in the cash-cow present.

For playwright Parker, the choice of Stewart was both symbolic and

Nothing but the truth?

COMEDIES LOOK AT WHAT MEN, WOMEN REALLY WANT



one made from admiration. "I find her fascinating. She's teaching how to be a better housewife, how to take something that might be shabby, and make it elegant," said Parker in her heavy Southern accent. (Although Stewart hasn't seen Parker's work, she has commu-

Please see GENDER, E2

Robert Bradley — discovered, uncovered

Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise sounds more like a story title than a five-piece band. Here's how the fairy-tale goes.

Three young Detroit musicians are playing in the studio when — much to their surprise — they hear a blind street-singer crooning outside. They approach him and after time convince the well-traveled Alabama native to join the band.

Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise may have been blessed with a fable-like beginning, but the band that's reinventing the soulful Motown sound says now is the *Time To Discover* what Detroit music is all about.

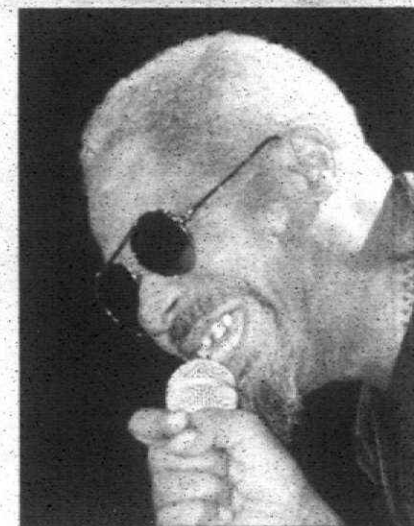
With a new album of the same name, and the addition of keyboardist and Detroit Music Award winner Tim Diaz, RBBS sounds stronger than ever. Of course radio and MTV exposure never hurts. Neither do tours with mega-stars like Dave Mathew's Band, Beck and Sonic Youth, appearances on *Conan O'Brien* or write-ups in *The New Yorker*. Let's start at the beginning.

Chapter one

Robert Bradley discovered music around age 6. "I realized I could carry a melody and started singing along with the radio," he said in a phone interview from Mt. Pleasant. Trained on tunes by Buddy Holly, Johnny Cash,

What: Celebrate with Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise at the CD release party for *Time To Discover*. When: 8 p.m. Saturday, May 20. Where: Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Tickets: \$15, call (248) 544-3030.

Please see BLACKWATER, E2



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Surprising: Robert Bradley was one of the performers at the 2000 Detroit Music Awards April 14 at Detroit's State Theatre.

THEATER

Director brings more realism to 'The Sound of Music'

BY KEELY WYONIK
STAFF WRITER
kwygonik@oe.homedcomm.net

Watching *The Sound of Music* on stage or TV is an emotional experience for a lot of people. It evokes memories, makes you want to "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," and say "I Have Confidence."

"I see people crying in the audience — it touches their emotions," said Jeanne Lehman who portrays Mother Abbess in *The Sound of Music* opening Wednesday, May 17, at the Masonic Temple Theatre in Detroit. "It reaches human values we can all relate to — love, hope in the face of adversity. The music is inspiring, it touches people in so many different ways."

Richard Chamberlain stars as Captain Georg von Trapp and Meg Tolin as Maria Rainer in this Broadway revival directed by Susan H. Schulman.

Lehman has portrayed Maria five different times in *The Sound of Music*, but this is her first time portraying Mother Abbess. She's enjoying the show and the part she's playing.

"Maria and Mother Abbess have a lot in common," said Lehman. "They both grew up in the mountains and have the same love of life and adventure. The Mother Abbess chose a more spiritual life, she sees herself in Maria."

The Sound of Music

When: Wednesday-Sunday, May 17-21; performances 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday; 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday; 1 p.m. Thursday; and 7:30 p.m. Sunday. Where: Masonic Temple Theatre, Detroit. Tickets: \$25-\$55, call (248) 645-6666.

Schulman and her creative team have brought more realism to this production. They visited the Nonnberg Abbey in Austria to learn how the nuns really lived.

"The nuns weren't honestly represented in the original play," said Lehman. "They don't stand around and sing. Work and prayer are spiritual commitments, they're all the same. The Mother Abbess is elected, it's very democratic."

There's lots of attention to detail in this *Sound of Music*, and more sense of place and time.

"While the creative team was walking around Salzburg our sound designer Tony Meola recorded the bells," said Lehman. "The bells the audience hears are actually the bells of Salzburg. The costumes are gorgeous."

To further understand her role, Lehman visited a Benedictine order in the U.S. "When they sing, the nuns became like one voice. They were radiant, their faces were glowing with their commitment."



JOAN MARCUS

At work: Jeanne Lehman and cast in a scene from *The Sound of Music*.

For her, *The Sound of Music* is not only a role to play, but a spiritual experience.

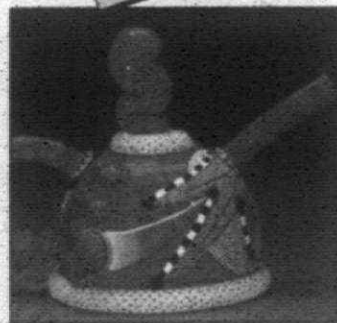
"I get to sing *Climb Ev'ry Mountain*," she said. "It's the most glorious song. I just love it. I never tire of it. It's a new experience every time I sing it, something I want to share. There's so much hope in this musical — it's an emotional journey for everyone."

Based on the book by Howard Lind-

say and Russell Crouse with music and lyrics by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, *The Sound of Music* opened at Broadway's Lunt-Fontanne Theatre on Nov. 16, 1959. The production won seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical, and ran for 1,443 performances.

The 1965 film version, starring Julie Andrews as Maria, earned five Academy Awards, including Best Picture.

HOT TICKET



Rebecca Zimmerman's colorful teapot is one of the items you'll see at the 19th annual Birmingham Fine Art Festival 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 13 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 14 in downtown Birmingham. Call (248) 644-0866 or (248) 644-1700 for information.

Blackwater from page E1

Marvin Gaye, Elvis Presley and Otis Redding, Bradley moved to Michigan with his parents in the 1960s, when he was a lot of good music going on.

So he started singing on the streets of Motown, finding some good spots where his voice would echo beneath the buildings. He was singing for almost 17 years before brothers Michael (guitar) and Andrew Nehra (bass) and drummer Jeff Fowlkes ever caught sight or sound of his talent.

"They were suburban guys," explained Bradley. So when asked to join the band, he first said no. "I didn't believe a word they said."

About six months later, he changed his tune and picked up the phone. It was the early 1990s, and Bradley was making \$500 to \$600 singing in Detroit's Eastern Market — he didn't exactly need another gig. But he split his time between singing for himself and jamming at White Room Studio with the band. That's where he met Kid Rock — who appears on two songs on *Time To Discover*. "He was Bob, just a white boy trying to rap," recalled Bradley.

In 1995, the band went from the studio to a music showcase in New York City. "Bob went with us," said Bradley. "He was the emcee at the show."

What's happened since then is no consequence to this music-made man. "I'm living for what's happening right now," he said with conviction. "I was always successful in my head. This here is just fame. That's all it is."

On *Time To Discover*, RBBS takes its recipe for success one step further, with 11 solid songs loaded with old-school soul and modern style. Bassist and Royal Oak resident Andrew Nehra was basking in the band's success and the flood of good press RBBS has received while at the Detroit Music Awards.

He said the new album took seven months to complete. "It was all pretty spiritual," he said. "To get perfection, it took time to find the magic and go that extra step."

Nehra, whose influences include The Temptations and Stone Roses, said notoriety for the Detroit bands is "way overdone." "People have been asleep."

"We just want to be happy with the music first," said Bradley of this album. "That's

the way we feel about it." Two of his favorite songs on the album remind him of his fiancée. *You and Me* and *Ultimate Sacrifice* reflect their relationship and impending May wedding.

Bradley said it's all about being "for real."

Another change reflected by the album is the addition of Tim Diaz, whom Bradley said fit right in. "He's one of the most talented musicians in the state of Michigan," said Bradley. "I ain't talkin' no jive."

And he ain't the only one talkin'. Scott Forbes, singer and guitarist of The Forbes Brothers, couldn't say enough about friend and musical colleague Tim Diaz, either. "He's so deserving," said the Farmington Hills resident after Diaz won the Detroit Music Award for outstanding rock

instrumentalist. "He is extraordinary. He writes great songs and plays several different instruments."

Forbes predicts RBBS will be "the next big thing" out of Detroit.

"Detroit is in my soul," said Bradley. "When I come to Detroit things happen." The band with his namesake is one reason the city is on this musical upswing.

"Back in the '60s, it was booming. Now it's jogging. We're hoping to get it running. We need to keep moving to really pump it up."

Take it from someone who's seen it before, Robert Bradley: "Detroit City, The Motor City, it's gonna rise again."

Stephanie Casola writes about popular music for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.



Time to Discover: Robert Bradley's *Blackwater Surprise* is Tim Diaz, Jeff Fowlkes, Michael Nehra, Robert Bradley and Andrew Nehra.

Gender from page E1

nicated her support for the play.) *Dreams of Martha Stewart* is Parker's first one-person play. She incorporated the stories of 12 characters with her friend and collaborator, actress Sally Bondi, in mind. Bondi has received a long list of impressive critical reviews for her portrayals.

The play, on a three-year run since debuting at the 1997 Piccolo Spalato Arts Festival in Charleston, S.C., follows a wife/mother searching for perfection. She's intent on living the "perfect life," including antiquing her bathroom, building her own loom and styling her hair à la Martha.

Unsatisfied without the real

thing, the unhappy housewife sets out for Turkey Hill, Conn. to come face-to-face with the real deal. The journey is more of a confrontation of the myriad faces of America, and an uncovering of the illusion behind the notion of perfection.

Among Parker's other plays is *A Higher Place in Heaven*, nominated for a 1995 Pulitzer Prize. Her work has been called distinctively in the southern literary tradition of writers such as Carson McCullers, William Faulkner and Harper Lee.

Clearly, Parker's most recent play is a more adventurous statement about American culture than her other stories, typically set in a southern milieu.

Dreams of Martha Stewart doesn't offer a *Saturday Night Live* type spoof. Rather, Parker has set out to illuminate what's behind Stewart's immense appeal.

"Since the beginning of time, there's been symbols of perfection," said Parker. "I want to show that we are good enough with who we are, if we can learn to appreciate and accept ourselves."

Similar to Parker's lead character, the protagonist in *Male Intellect*... is searching to discover what lies beyond the notion of perfection. In Dubac's story, however, it's the ideal of romantic love.

Jilted by the girl of his dreams, the lead character, Bobby, is all-too-ready to hear some homespun wisdom from five male characters who apparently know what women really want. Of course, they have their own illusions about how to avoid dealing with what women really want.

The advice ranges from the benefits of admitting that men are jerks to the attitude of "love 'em fast and leave them first." None of the five characters, Dubac was quick to point out, are autobiographical.

Clearly, *Male Intellect*... has struck a chord with audiences. Dubac has played to sold-out houses in Denver, and had an 18-month run in Chicago and a 10-month run in Boston before

heading into Detroit for seven performances.

The show, which is part stand-up comedy and part dramatic theater, has been called by some critics as "too stereotypical." Dubac simply cites the roaring approval of audiences as proof that his characters have more than one dimension. The appeal, he said, is that each of the characters represents a distinctive male perspective.

But the key is that Dubac's message — "Men can't live in the past and have to change" — is delivered with a heavy dose of humor.

"Men are so blatantly maladjusted," said Dubac. "It's not that we're lost, it's just that the tools we're using are outdated."

Dubac has been approached by television producers about adapting his play for a sit-com. Until now, however, he hasn't been pleased that producers have wanted to "dumb down" the material.

"They're looking at demographics, rather than the comedy," he said. "Hey, I know I'm not breaking new intellectual ground here. This isn't the *Vagina Monologues*. I simply wrote the play. My wife explained it to me."

And what about the ideal male role model?

"Hold on," said Dubac, "let me ask my wife."

You'll enjoy Plymouth Theatre Guild's 'Squabbles'

Plymouth Theatre Guild presents Squabbles, a comedy by Marshall Karp, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13 and May 19-20, and 6 p.m. Sunday, May 14, Water Tower Theatre on the campus of Northville Psychiatric Hospital, 41001 W. Seven Mile Road, west of Haggerty. Tickets \$10, \$7 children ages 18 and under, call (248) 349-7110.

BY DAVID MACGREGOR
SPECIAL WRITER

"I was born to squabble," declares Abe Dreyfus in the latest offering from the Plymouth Theatre Guild, and squabble he does. In fact, this comedy by Marshall Karp is called appropriately enough, *Squabbles*.

Abe, played with considerable vigor and gusto by Barry Levine, is a cantankerous elderly gentleman who has taken up residence with his daughter and her husband upon the passing of his wife. While we are encouraged to believe that Abe has a heart of gold, his exterior is formed of a much less precious material, and he is a character whose one-liners alternately provoke laughter

and sudden intakes of breath as he wallows in personal invective and political incorrectness for the sheer joy of annoying others. Either you like Abe or you hate him, or more likely, you love him one minute, then hate him the next.

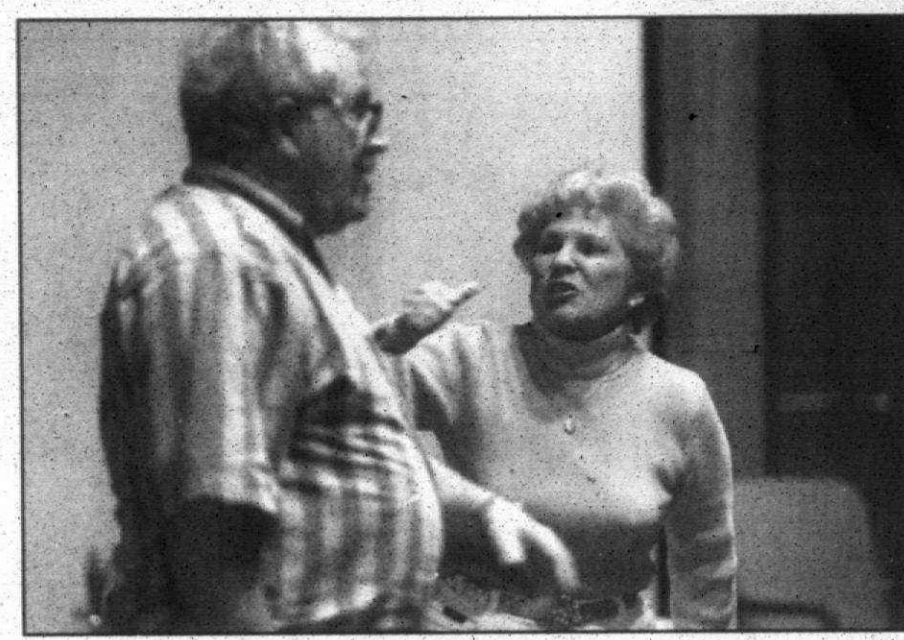
Abe's personality is clearly the driving force behind the play, and it is the job of his daughter Alice Sloan and her husband Jerry to rein him in as best they can. Alice is played with long-suffering grace by Nicole Ludwig, while Jerry, played by Robert Purcell, is relentlessly chipper and upbeat despite the best (or worst) that Abe can throw at him. Just when they seem to have adapted themselves to Abe's motto ("to argue is to live!"), the walls start closing in on them when Alice announces that she is pregnant.

Immediately after this, Jerry's mother calls with the news that she just burned down her house while making chicken soup. When Mildred Sloan moves in, Abe is appalled, but at the same time perversely appreciative of the fact that he finally has someone around him who will give

him an argument. Mildred, ably played by Dorothy Dunne, at first seems no match for the straining attacks of Abe, but her retorts grow increasingly pointed until Abe is getting as good as he gives.

Indeed, the sparks that fly between Abe and Mildred effectively put their children in the role of playing parents to their own parents, and there are many occasions when Abe and Mildred sound more like squabbling siblings than senior citizens. How it will all turn out is helped along by the ticking clock of Alice's pregnancy, because it is apparent that once the baby arrives, the house will simply not hold all of them. In other words, someone has to go. After much agonizing and debate, the solution to this dilemma may not surprise you, but it is as elegant as it is effective.

On its opening night, *Squabbles* played to a highly appreciative audience who gladly went along for the ride, and with good reason. Director Bob Weibel and producer Mary Lynn Kuna have put together a very enjoyable



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBBARD

Acting: Barry Levine (left) as Abe Dreyfus, and Dorothy Dunne as Mildred Sloan argue during a rehearsal of "Squabbles."

production and the detail and care that went into it is evident from the set design down to the costumes. The only problem one could point to is a sound system

which was, at times, not as cooperative as it could have been. Still, that is a relatively minor flaw in an otherwise fine production with a first-rate cast which

brings a considerable degree of craft and professionalism to the play. David MacGregor is a Livonia resident and playwright.

Clever set, great costumes, acting, singing in 'My Fair Lady'

The Players Guild of Dearborn presents The Lerner and Loewe musical, My Fair Lady, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13; May 19-20, May 26-27, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, May 14 and May 21 at the playhouse on Madison, near the southwest corner of Monroe and Outer Drive, in Dearborn. Tickets, \$14, senior citizen and student discounts available; call (313) 561-TKTS.

BY SUE SUCHTA
SPECIAL WRITER

The Players Guild of Dearborn presents the toe-tapping, feel-good musical, *My Fair Lady*, the next three weekends in May. From the ragged street vendors to the chic aristocracy, director Ron Deihl brought together a cast whose acting and singing is stellar and gave the show a lively, quick pace. The set is cleverly conceived and executed, and the costumes are breathtaking.

My Fair Lady is the story of an unconventional language professor who turns a poor flower girl into a lady by transforming her speech. As Professor Henry Higgins uncovers the princess inside Eliza Doolittle, she touches and changes his life as well. Ron Otulakowski is the consummate Higgins — articulate and rude in a gentlemanly way, delivering deliciously funny lines with impeccable timing and perfect aplomb. He improves the role each time he plays the part.

Otulakowski was well matched by Emily Trybny's Eliza Doolittle, whose flashing eyes, quick comebacks and resilient dignity bring class to the role. And oh, that girl can sing — a challenge made even more difficult by the demanding attention to precise accents required by her songs.

Dennis Decker, a newcomer to the stage, is a natural as Alfred P. Doolittle, a "common dustman" and Eliza's father. He conveys a placid pleasure in equal measure for both beer and his total lack of status in life.

Jeff Ostrowski, as a bright-eyed and devoted Freddy Eynsford-Hill, was vocally stronger in the second act than the first. He suffered the indignity of redundant pratfalls when one would have been sufficient. However, he brought a likely affability to the role, as Bill Rumley did to the role of Colonel Pickering.

The supporting cast, which includes Annette Riper of Westland as Mrs. Eynsford-Hill and Mark Ripper as Prof. Zoltan Karpathy, and chorus strengthen the show and deliver some of its finest moments.

The Cockney quartet was a vocal and visual treat. The Ascot race scene was delightfully entertaining with every mincing step and head toss choreographed with amazing detail. James Cape's incredible Ascot and Embassy Ball costumes were stars in their own right. His stunning black-and-white Ascot creations, capped by elegant hats, captured both the privilege and the wasteful frivolity of the ruling class.

His ball gowns painted a bright palette of sparkling color, adding richness and elegance to a Cinderella scene.

Diana Reynolds and her costume committee clothed the rest of the show with attention to detail and imagination, from

Eliza's simple but elegant nightgown to the careworn but colorful garments of the flower sellers.

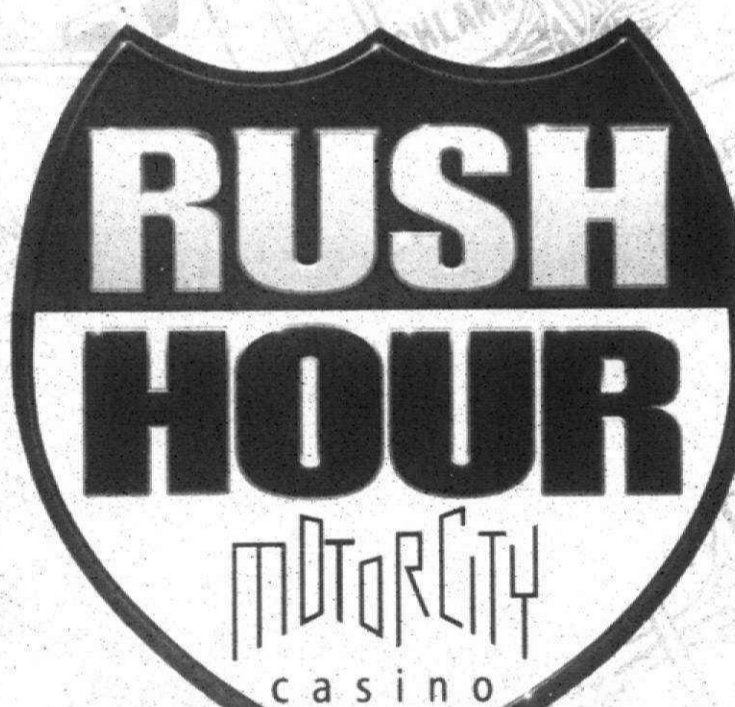
Chorus members handled their many costume and character changes with speed and talent, removing facial grime and becoming elegant socialites in rapid order.

One of their finest numbers, *Get Me To The Church On Time*, showcased their talent and displayed choreographer Valerie

Mould's creativity and ability to add imagination to the dances on a relatively small stage.

David Reynolds's set design was cleverly versatile and overcame the handicap of limited space. Mary Beth Oravec's richly re-

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A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

THEATER

CENTURY THEATRE: "Always...Patsy Cline" continues to Aug. 27, at the theater, Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800/(248) 645-6666

FISHER THEATRE: "Cabaret" continues to Sunday, May 14, at the theater, Detroit. \$35-\$65. (248) 645-6666

FOX THEATRE: Michael Bolton stars in The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber Tuesday-Sunday, May 16-21, at the theater, Detroit. \$22.50-\$50. (248) 643-1515

GEM THEATRE: "Escanaba in da Moonlight," a comedy by Jeff Daniels, through June 25, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesday, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, 33 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE: "Crimes of the Heart" continues to Sunday, May 14, at the theater, Rochester. \$24-\$35. (248) 377-3300

MUSIC HALL: "Dreams of Martha Stewart" Friday-Sunday, May 12-14; "Male Intellect... an oxymoron?" Tuesday-Sunday, May 16-21, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday; 5 & 9 p.m. Saturday; 7 p.m. Sunday, at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, Detroit. \$27.50-\$37.50. 963-2366/(248) 645-6666

COLLEGE

WSU HILBERRY: "The Marriage of Figaro" runs in rotating repertory to Saturday, May 20. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATER

CAPA: Presents David and Lisa 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, May 11-13, and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 14 at the Theatre Guild of Livonia. Redford. The show is put on by the students in the Creative and Performing Arts program at Churchill High School in Livonia. (313) 531-0554

AVON PLAYERS: "Sweeney Todd," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13 and Thursday-Saturday, May 18-20, at the theater, Rochester Hills. \$15; student/senior/group rates available. (248) 608-9077

COMMUNITY THEATRE OF HOWELL: "Brigadoon," Saturday-Sunday, May 13-14, and Friday-Sunday, May 19-21, at McPherson Middle School. \$12, \$10 seniors/children. (517) 545-1290

EMPATHETHEATRE: 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 12, at Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$15, \$12, \$8 students/seniors. (734) 913-9733

FARMINGTON PLAYERS: "Kiss Me Kate," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, May 11-13 and May 18-20, and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 14, 21 and 27, at the barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. \$15, (248) 553-2955

GROSSE POINTE THEATRE: "West Side Story," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, May 11-13 and 18-20, and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 14, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial's Fries Auditorium. \$16. (313) 881-4004

PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD: "Squabbles," a comedy by Marshall Karp, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13 and May 19-20, and 6 p.m. Sunday, May 14, Water Tower Theater on the campus of Northville Psychiatric Hospital, 41001 W. Seven Mile Road, west of Haggerty. Tickets \$10, \$7 children ages 18 and under. (248) 349-7110

PONTIAC THEATRE IV: "Annie Warbucks," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13, and 2 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at Pontiac Northern High School. \$8, \$7 seniors/students. (248) 681-6215/(248) 737-9039

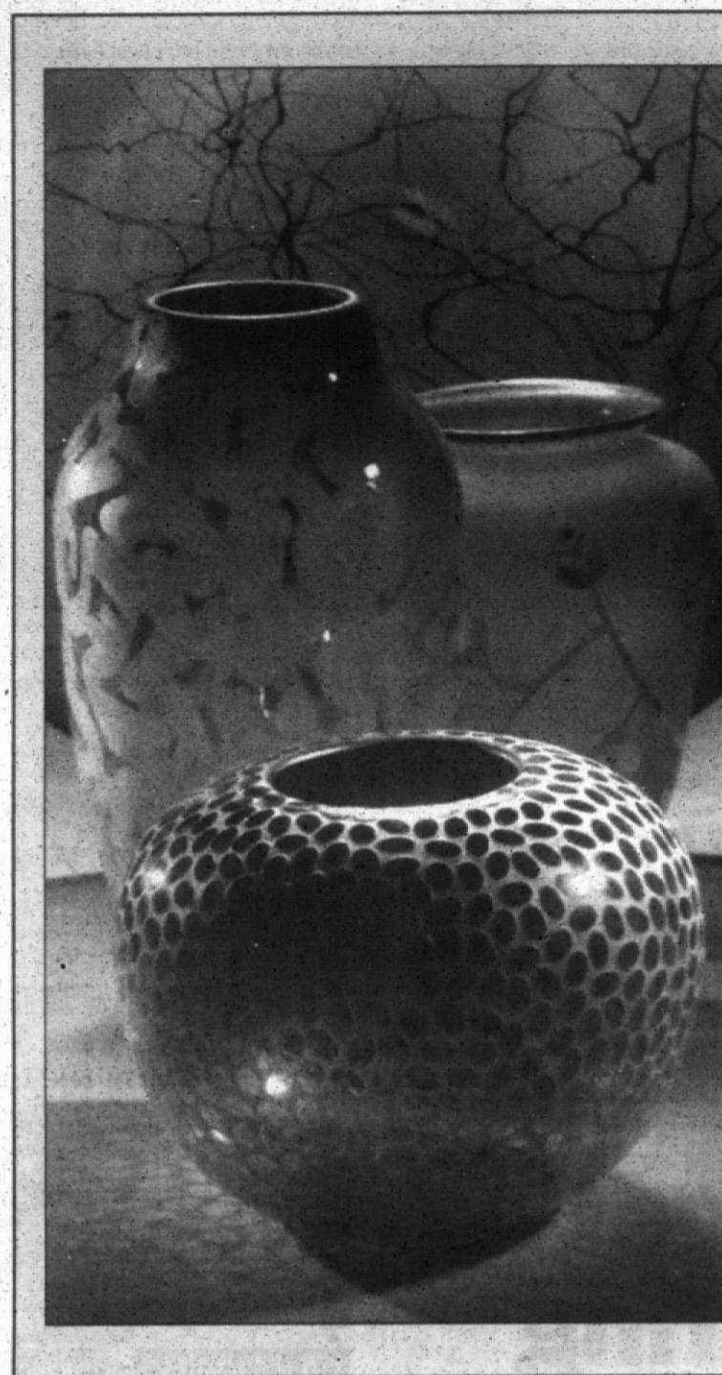
RIDGEDALE PLAYERS: "Moon Over the Brewery," May 12-13 and May 19-21, at the theater, Troy. 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday. \$11, \$10 seniors/students. (248) 988-7049

ROSEDALE COMMUNITY PLAYERS: "Guys and Dolls," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13, Upstage Theater, 21728 Grand River, Old Redford area of Detroit. \$13. (313) 537-7146 or (313) 532-4010

STAGECRAFTERS: "The King and I," opens May 12 and continues to June 4, American Sign Language performance Thursday, May 25, at the Baldwin Theatre, Royal Oak. \$14-\$16. (248) 541-6430

DINNER THEATER

MICHIGAN STAR CLIPPER DINNER TRAIN: "Angelina's and Bo's



Festival: Annette Baron of Ann Arbor will be showing her blown glass vases at the 19th Annual Birmingham Fine Art Festival, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 13, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 14. Baron is one of over 300 artists from all over the U.S. and Canada participating in the festival that takes place in downtown Birmingham's Shain Park and surrounding streets. Admission is free and there is parking in several downtown lots and parking structures. Parking is free on Sunday. For more information, call the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center (248) 644-0866 or the Birmingham Bloomfield Chamber (248) 644-1700.

COMEDY WEDDING

Comedy Wedding," presented by Theatre Arts Productions, 5 p.m. Sundays. Tickets \$69.50 per person, includes 3 hour train ride, five course dinner, and entertainment. (248) 960-9440

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

NOVI THEATRES CHILDREN'S ANNEX: "Charlotte's Web," 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 19-20, and 3 p.m. Sunday, May 21, at the Novi Civic Center Stage. \$10, \$8 advance. (248) 347-0400

PUPPETART: "Crane Maiden, a Japanese tale with marionettes and puppets in traditional Japanese costumes and masks. 2 p.m. Saturday, May 13, 20 and 27, at the Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River. \$7, \$5 children. (313) 961-7777

TEDD E. BEAR PRODUCTIONS: Nancy Gurney presents "Broadway Kids 2000," a new musical review, 2 p.m. Sunday, May 14, Aaron DeRay Studio Theatre at the Jewish Community Center, West Bloomfield. \$10, \$9 seniors, \$8 children. (248) 352-7172/(248) 354-0545

SPECIAL EVENTS

COLLECTIBLE TOY SHOW: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, May 7, at the Plymouth Community Center. \$5, kids under age 10. (734) 455-2110

ICE COMPANY 2000: Spotlights more than 100 skaters. 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, May 11-13, and noon 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sunday, May 14, at the Southfield Sports Arena. \$8.50-\$9.50. (248) 354-9357

MOTHER'S DAY CONCERT: Pianist Rick Roe performs 1-3 p.m. Sunday, May 14, at the main branch of the Ann Arbor District Library. (734) 327-4282

MOTHER'S DAY SALON: A feast of art, music, poetry and monologues, 3-6 p.m. Sunday, May 14, at the Robert Miesco Gallery, Grosse Pointe. (313) 886-2993

MUSIC: A LIFELINE FOR THE CENTURY: The Birmingham Musicale and Farmington Musicale present free concerts by school choruses and instrumental groups (elementary through high school), adult professional and amateur soloists and ensembles, and community choruses, through Thursday, May 11 during regular hours, at Tel-Twelve Mall, Southfield.

REDFORD THEATRE: "Edison the Man" starring Spencer Tracy, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13, organ overture at 7:30 p.m., at the Redford Theatre, Detroit. \$3. (313)

BENEFITS

SPRING FLEAS: C.J.'s Brewing Company and Southeast Michigan Wildlife Rehabilitation present a benefit for our wildlife friends, the brew extravaganza features six different brews and great food, 7-10 p.m. Monday, May 15, at C.J.'s Brewing Company, Commerce Township. \$25. (248) 366-7979/(248) 624-8274

CLASSICAL

URI CAINE'S MAHLER REVISITED: 8 p.m. Sunday, May 14, at the Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$10-\$25. (734) 769-2999

CATHERINE MANOUKIAN: The violinist performs 8:30 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at Hagopian Rugs, Novi. \$20. (248) 861-9225

DETROIT SYMPHONY CIVIC ORCHESTRA: The orchestra presents its 30th anniversary Gala Concert, 3 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$4-\$55. (313) 576-5111

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Neeme Jarvi conducts Tchaikovsky's "Piano Concerto No. 1," 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, May 11-12, and 8 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. \$14-\$66. Introduction to classic series features the concerto and explores the role of the soloist, 3 p.m. Sunday, May 14. \$22. \$30. (313) 576-5111

MICHAEL GEORG: The classical guitarist performs 8 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at the Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$10-\$25. (734) 769-2999

SPRINGFEST: Presented by Chamber Music Ann Arbor and Kerrytown Concert House, program theme is J.S. Bach's 250 years of influence, 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 16 and Thursday, May 18, at the Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. (734) 769-2999

OPERA

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE: "Tosca," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13, and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 14, at the Detroit Opera House. \$18-\$98. (313) 237-5111

SINGING: (248) 645-6666

VERDI OPERA THEATRE OF MICHIGAN: The finals of the sixth annual Italian Songs and Arias Vocal Competition for Michigan high school students takes place 4 p.m. Sunday, May 7 at the Italian American Cultural Center in Warren. \$7, \$5 seniors/high school students. (734) 455-8995/(810)

AUDITIONS/ OPPORTUNITIES

MICHIGAN THEATER AND DANCE TROUPE: Open auditions for dancers ages 16 and older. (248) 552-5001

RIDGEDALE PLAYERS: Auditions for "Taming of the Shrew" 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 22, at the theater, Troy. (248) 682-2175

CHORAL

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH: Presents Mother's Day choral and orchestra concert featuring Vivaldi's "Gloria," Bach's "Brandenburg Concerto No. 3," and Pachelbel's "Canon in D," 4 p.m. Sunday, May 14, at the church, Pontiac. \$15, \$10 seniors/students. (248) 334-4571

DETROIT CONCERT CHOIR: "Opera Stars Tonight," soloists and full chorus perform highlights from your favorite operas, 8 p.m. Friday, May 12, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, Grosse Pointe Farms; 8 p.m. Saturday, May 13, St. Hugo of the Hills Church, Bloomfield Hills. "Meet the Artists Reception" follows each concert, \$15 adults, \$12 seniors and students. (313) 882-0118

POLISH AND PROUD

POLISH AND PROUD: The Polish Alliance Dancers of Dearborn present their annual dance and language review, Polish and Proud: A Celebration of Our Children 6-30 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at St. Louis Middle School in Dearborn. The children will perform dances from various regions of Poland, in costumes from Poland or duplicated to closely match original designs. Authentic regional choreography is replicated as well. Guest artists, Polanie Dance Ensemble, an adult group who performed at last summer dance festival in Rzeszow, Poland, will be featured. (313) 581-3181/(734) 789-8801. Direct on-line requests to makt0212@aol.com

P.R.C.U.A. SYRENA DANCE ENSEMBLE: "A Polish Journey" dance recital, 7 p.m. Friday, May 19, at Academy Auditorium. \$5, \$4 students, seniors. (313) 563-1761

TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND DANCING: Led by Susan Kerra, Friday-Sunday, May 12-14, at the Pittsfield Grange, Ann Arbor. (734) 665-7704/(734) 747-8138

SPRING FLING: Dinner dance featuring the Mike Wolverton Band, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 17, at the Italian American Banquet Center, Livonia. \$20. (734) 762-6088/(734) 420-2402

BRASS

MOTOR CITY BRASS BAND: 3 p.m. Sunday, May 14, at the Southfield Centre for the Arts. \$10, \$8 students/seniors, \$25 a family. (248) 788-6618/(248) 424-9022

POPSWING

MICHAEL JAMES/DEBORAH JIMMERSON: Piano bar 7-11 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, and 8 p.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday, at La Bistecia Italian Grill, Livonia. (734) 254-0400

JIM PARAVANTES & COMPANY: 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday through May, at Andiamo Italia West, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 865-9300

JAZZ

SPENCER BARFIELD: With Richard Davis, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, May 11-13, at the Harlequin Cafe, Detroit. \$10. (313) 331-0922

COUNT BASIE ORCHESTRA: 8:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. Thursday, May 18, at the Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$25. (734) 662-8310

KELLY BROADWAY: With Ron Brooks Trio, 9:30 p.m. 11 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13, at the Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$7. (734) 662-8310

JAMES COTTON: 8 p.m. Thursday, May 18, at the Ark Ann Arbor. \$17.50. (734) 763-TKTS (blues)

GEM JAZZ TRIO: Performs 7-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, at the Century Club Restaurant, Detroit. (313) 963-9800

KISS THE COW: 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13, at Tom's Oyster Bar, Southfield. (248) 356-8881 (blues)

MATT MICHAELS TRIO: With John Cooper on trumpet, 8-11:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 17, at Ron's Fireside Inn, Garden City. (734) 762-7756

TONY POPE'S N'ORLEANS SIX: 3-6 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at Steak and Ale, Madison Heights. (248) 588-4450

STRAIGHT AHEAD: 8 p.m. Friday, May 12, at the Ark Ann Arbor. \$15. (734) 763-TKTS

URSULA WALKER/BUDDY BUDSON: With Dan Kolton, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, at Giovanni's, Pontiac. (248) 334-5241

FOLK/ BLUEGRASS

LARRY ARBOUR: 7 p.m. Friday, at the Flying Fish Tavern, Beverly Hills. (248) 647-7747

KRISTIN HERSH/VIC CHESNUTT: 8 p.m. Monday, May 15, at the Ark Ann Arbor. (734) 763-TKTS

LYNN MILES: 8 p.m. Thursday, May 11, at the Ark Ann Arbor. \$12.50. (734) 763-TKTS

LEE MURDOCK: CD release concert 8 p.m. Saturday, May 13, Wil Danforth opens the show, in Mama's Coffeehouse, at Birmingham Unitarian Church, Bloomfield Hills. \$10. (248) 542-2131

RICHARD SHINDELL: 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, at the Ark Ann Arbor. \$12.50. (734) 763-TKTS

DICK SIEGEL: 8 p.m. Friday, May 12, at the Green Wood Coffee House, Ann Arbor. \$8. (734) 665-8558

JAY STIELSTAL: In "Old Man in Love" 8 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at the Ark Ann Arbor. \$12.50. (734) 763-TKTS

WORLD MUSIC

FINNIGANS WAY: 9 p.m. Thursday, May 11, at Conor O'Neill's Traditional Irish Pub & Restaurant, Ann Arbor. (734) 665-2968

MASON & MCMURRAY: 9 p.m. Thursday, May 18, at Conor O'Neill's Traditional Irish Pub & Restaurant, Ann Arbor. (734) 665-2968

MOQUE DOYLE: 9 p.m. Wednesday, May 17, at Conor O'Neill's Traditional Irish Pub & Restaurant, Ann Arbor. (734) 665-2968

ZRAZY: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 14, at the Ark Ann Arbor. \$13. (734) 763-TKTS (Irish)

TERRI CLARK: 8 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 27, Meadowbrook Music Festival, Rochester Hills. \$15-\$30. (248) 645-6666

COMPANY OF STRANGERS: 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13, Cowley's, Farmington. (248) 474-5941

COUNTING CROWS AND LIVE: With Galactic, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$23.50-\$46. (248) 645-6666 or (248) 377-0100

THE CURE: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 10, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$20-\$45. Eight ticket limit per person. (248) 645-6666 or (248) 377-0100

CHARLIE DANIELS BAND: With Hank Williams Jr. and Little Feat, 7 p.m. Sunday, June 4, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$15-\$27.50. (248) 645-6666

DARK STAR ORCHESTRA: 9 p.m. Saturday, May 20, Majestic Theatre, Detroit. \$12 advance. (313) 833-9700. (Recreating an entire Grateful Dead show)

DEEP CUT: Open jam, musicians welcome 9 p.m. Sunday, May 14. U.S. 12/Wayne Brewery, Wayne. (313) 965-2222

DEF LEPPARD: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 29, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$28.50-\$38.50. (248) 645-6666

DETROIT ELECTRONIC MUSIC FESTIVAL: The first-ever, three-day, non-stop music festival will be held Memorial Weekend, May 26-28, Hart Plaza, Detroit. It features more than 60 electronic artists including: The Roots, Mos Def, Derrick May, Kevin Saunderson, Juan Atkins, Isovin 217, Kenny Larkin, Stacy Pullen, Richie Hawn, Space Time Continuum, Ectomorph, C98R.

THE BEACH BOYS: With Martha Reeves and The Vandellas, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 22, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence

WOLVERINE SILVERSPUR DANCERS: 7:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at the Italian American Cultural Center, Warren. \$7. (810) 573-4993

COMEDY

CUBICLE DOGS: Michigan's only comedy troupe dedicated to lampooning corporate life present "Mission Statement: Impossible," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12 to June 3, at Masonic Temple, Detroit. \$15. (810) 984-6336

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB: Billy Ray Bauer, Thursday-Saturday, May 11-13, at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, Livonia. (734) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S: Danny Wilson, Thursday-Saturday, May 11-14, at the club, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE: Mark Cordes, also Tim Rowlands, Thursday-Saturday, May 11-13, at the club, Royal Oak. (248) 542-9900

SECOND CITY: "Paradigm Lost" continues to May 28, 8 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday; additional shows 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday at 10:30 p.m. The 10:30 p.m. shows, and 8 p.m. shows Wednesday-Thursday, and Sunday, are followed by an improv set at no additional cost. \$10. Wednesday-Thursday, and Sunday: \$17.50 Friday, \$19.50 on Saturday. (313) 965-2222. (248) 645-6666 or online at www.ticketmaster.com

MUSEUMS AND TOURS

ANN ARBOR HANDS-ON MUSEUM: WalkWorks, a self-directed exploration of the exhibit galleries that invites families and young visitors to become Super Sleuths; the museum offers more than 250 interactive exhibits intended to make science fun, at the museum, Ann Arbor. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, \$6, \$4 children/seniors/students. (734) 995-5439

DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER: IMAX movies include "Tropical Rainforest," "Thrill Ride: The Science of Fun," "Whales," "Mysteries of Egypt" and "Everest," at the center, Detroit. Admission to Exhibit Hall is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3-15 and adults ages 60 and older, free for children ages 2 and younger. IMAX films are additional \$4. (313) 577-8400

DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM: Visit the newest exhibition "Folk Art of the Great Lakes" or "Racing on the Wind: Sailing on the Great Lakes," also a temporary exhibit on the construction and launch of the S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald, at the museum on Belle Isle, Detroit. Regular admission \$2, \$1 seniors/children ages 12-18 during the hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hershon, Donna Brook, Paul Violi, and Keith Taylor, 7 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at the Scarab Club, Detroit. Free. Creative Writing Workshops May 16 to June 24, (34) members, \$6 non-members. (313) 267-5300, ext. 338

POETRY/ SPOKEN WORD

THE WRITER'S VOICE: Celebrates New York City's Hanging Loose Press with reading by poets Robert Hershon, Donna Brook, Paul Violi, and Keith Taylor, 7 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at the Scarab Club, Detroit. Free. Creative Writing Workshops May 16 to June 24, (34) members, \$6 non-members. (313) 267-5300, ext. 338

DANCE

MOTOR CITY BRASS BAND: 3 p.m. Sunday, May 14, at the Southfield Centre for the Arts. \$10, \$8 students/seniors, \$25 a family. (248) 788-6618/(248) 424-9022

POPSWING

MICHAEL JAMES/DEBORAH JIMMERSON: Piano bar 7-11 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, and 8 p.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday, at La Bistecia Italian Grill, Livonia. (734) 254-0400

JIM PARAVANTES & COMPANY: 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday through May, at Andiamo Italia West, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 865-9300

JAZZ

SPENCER BARFIELD: With Richard Davis, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, May 11-13, at the Harlequin Cafe, Detroit. \$10. (313) 331-0922

COUNT BASIE ORCHESTRA: 8:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. Thursday, May 18, at the Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$25. (734) 662-8310

KELLY BROADWAY: With Ron Brooks Trio, 9:30 p.m. 11 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13, at the Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$7. (734) 662-8310

LIVE MUSIC

CHRISTINA AQUILERA: With Destiny's Child, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 24, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$38.50-\$25. (248) 645-6666

JIMMY BAKKER AND THE SOUNDCASTERS: 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13, U.S. 12/Wayne Brewery, Wayne. (313) 722-7639

JOHNNIE BASSETT AND THE BLUES INSURGENTS: 10 p.m. Thursdays, Music Menu, Detroit. (313) 964-6368

THE BEACH BOYS: With Martha Reeves and The Vandellas, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 22, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence

8 days a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Stephanie Casola; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279. Items must include the date, time, venue, admission price and a telephone number.

DOPE: With Primer 545 and Pimpdella, 7 p.m. Saturday, May 13, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. All ages. (248) 645-6666

BOSS DYLAN: With Phil Lesh and Friends, 7 p.m. Sunday, July 16, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$25-\$35.50. (248) 645-6666

RICK EMMETT: 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, May 18-19, 7th House, Pontiac. All ages. \$25-\$40. (248) 645-6666

GLENN FREY: 8 p.m. Saturday, July 8, Royal Oak Music Theatre, Royal Oak. \$42.50. (248) 645-6666

FUNTOWN: 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 19-20, Cowley's, Farmington. (248) 474-5941

FUTURESOUND TOUR: With Big Daddy Kane, Roc Aida, Jugganots, DJ Aye and Rishpop, 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$18. (248) 645-6666

KENNY G: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 15, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$15.50-\$32.50. (248) 645-6666 or (248) 377-0100

GANGSTER FUN: With Funktelligence and The Exceptions, 8 p.m. Saturday, May 13, Magic Bag, Ferndale. \$6. (248) 544-3030

MADISON GREENE: 8 p.m. Saturday, May 27, Trinity House Theatre, Livonia. \$10. (734) 464-6302

HARRINGTON BROTHERS: 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, 23, Fox and Hounds, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800

MICKEY HART BAND: Featuring Vince Welnick, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 18, Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$15-\$25. (734) 668-8397

JULIANA HATFIELD: 9 p.m. Friday, June 2, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$10 advance. (313) 833-9700

ROY HAYNES TRIO: Featuring Danilo Perez and John Pattitucci, 8 and 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 16-17, Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$20. (248) 645-6666

HEATWAVE: With Sister Sledge and Evelyn "Champagne" King, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 3, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$15.50-\$29.50. (248) 645-6666

DON HENLEY: 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 14, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$66 pavilion only. \$1 per ticket donated to Walden Woods preservation. (248) 645-6666 or (248) 377-0100

KRISTEN HERSH AND VIC CHESTNUT: With Rose Polenzy, 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 15, The Ark, Ann Arbor. \$15. (734) 761-1800

HIP HOP HAVOK 2: With Thik and Rotation, 5 p.m. Saturday, May 20, Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$8. (248) 645-6666

IMMUNITY: 10 p.m. Friday, May 12, The Deck, Detroit. Cover charge. (313) 965-2222; 10 p.m. Saturday, May 13, Cavern Club, Ann Arbor. Cover charge. (34) 332-9900, 10 p.m. Friday, May 26, The Deck, Detroit. Cover charge. (313) 965-2222

INDIGO GIRLS: 7 p.m. Saturday, June 17, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$15-\$27.50. (248) 645-6666

JENJAZZ: With Super TC and Porn Family, 8 p.m. Saturday, May 13, Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$6. (248) 645-6666

JOINT VENTURE: Featuring Holly and Kevin, 8:30 p.m. Sunday, May 14, U.S. 12/Wayne Brewery, Wayne. (313) 722-7639

MARYLIN KAHN AND KEITH VREELAND: 7 p.m. Thursdays, Le Metro, Southfield. (248) 353-2757 (Jazz duo)

TOWNSHIP: (248) 645-6666

KISS THE COW: 9 p.m. Friday, Saturday, May 12-13, Tom's Oyster Bar, Southfield. Free. (248) 356-8881

CLUB CIRCUIT

ALVIN'S: 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. 18 and older welcome. (313) 832-2355 or www.alvins.com

ARBOR BREWING COMPANY: 114 E. Washington St., Ann Arbor. Free. 21 and older. (734) 213-1393 or www.arborbrewing.com

THE ARK: 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. (734) 763-8587

ANDIAMO ITALIA WEST: 6676 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 865-9300

BEALE STREET BLUES: 8 N. Saginaw Street, Pontiac. (248) 334-7900

BIRD OF PARADISE: 312 Main Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 662-8310

BLIND PIG: 208 S

MOVIES

'Virgin Suicides' looks at bleak matter with beauty

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA

STAFF WRITER

scasola@comcast.net

With a title like "The Virgin Suicides," movie-goers may have a tendency to cringe, rather than embrace the directorial debut by Sofia Coppola. But judging by this poignant work, she seems poised to follow in her father's famous footsteps.

"The Virgin Suicides" offers a disturbingly beautiful look at five fair-haired sisters crushed beneath the strong-hold of a domineering mother and weak-willed father. Set among the lush tree-lined streets of Grose Pointe in the mid-1970s, the film welcomes viewers into the Lisbon home. Mr. Lisbon, a math

teacher (James Woods) and his wife (Kathleen Turner) keep a tight lock on its doors, and it's that stifling climate that ultimately leads to tragedy.

"Cecilia was the first to go," says the narrated voice (Giovanni Ribisi) in the opening line. The first, youngest and most delicate of the five girls, she was literally dying for freedom. You can hear it through the wandering voices of neighbors: "That girl wanted out of this house." Cecilia, 13 (Hanna Hall), Lux, 14 (Chelsea Swain), Mary, 16 (A.J. Cook) and Therese, 17 (Leslie Hayman) are the Lisbon sisters, all trapped by the conventions of

their upper-middle class family. But the film isn't about suicide, as much as it is about the life they left behind. Dealing with issues of repression, longing, sex and death, Coppola somehow paints a soft portrait of the beauty in life while exploring—in the most profound manner—rather than a public service announcement against suicide the film comments on how society can easily crush and overwhelm the innocence of life with its rules, expectations and fears.

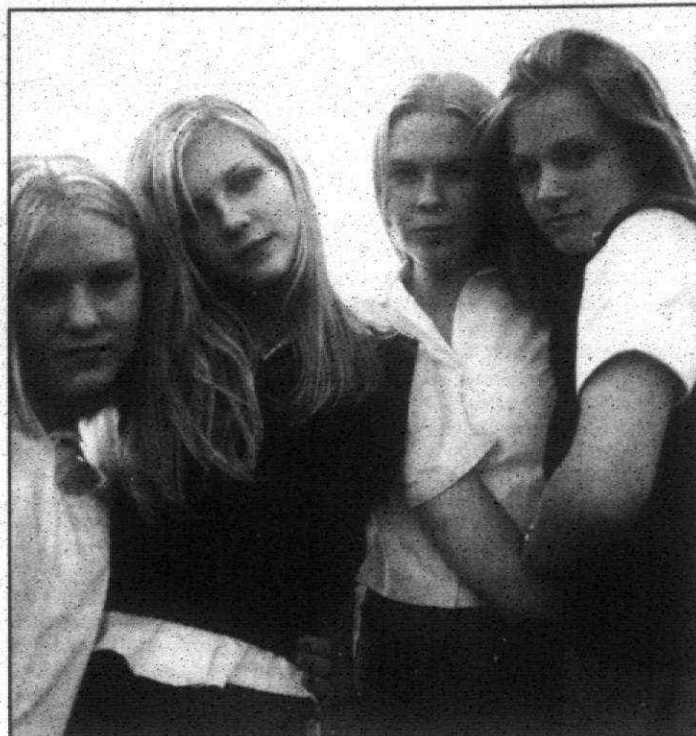
Told through the eyes of four young boys obsessed with the enchanting Lisbon girls, "The Virgin Suicides," flashes back to

a time when the automotive industry hit a lull and the air was ripe with adolescent curiosity. Young Tim Weiner (Jonathan Tucker) leads his friends in pursuing the mystery. The girls growing entrapment is represented symbolically through the oak trees which are cut down in the Lisbon's front yard. Parks officials insist they are diseased; that if the trees aren't cut down, the disease will spread.

But the disease that began with Cecilia did spread throughout the home. The boys can only collect pieces of the Lisbon girls—lipstick, a diary, postcards—and try to fit them together to make sense of the events that destroyed their fantasies and an entire family.

James Woods gave a fabulous performance as the under-stated, devastated father who retreats into his collectable war planes and televised ball games. Kathleen Turner is chilling as the overbearing, nervous-minded mother. Her plight is described through the words of a whispering neighbor "You always wonder if there was something you could've done."

Danny DeVito, Michael Pare and Scott Glenn make notable cameo appearances in the film. But its true impact lies in its young, and somewhat unknown, cast. Josh Hartnett portrays Trip Fontaine, the football hero everyone wants to date—everyone except Lux. Jonathan Tucker and Anthony DeSimeone portray Tim and Chase, the wide eyes through which this story is told.



The Lisbon girls: Chelsea Swain, Kirsten Dunst, Leslie Hayman and A.J. Cook star in *The Virgin Suicides*.

Thanks to Coppola's careful attention to detail, from the red velvet suit worn to Homecoming to the sack-like flower-printed dresses Mrs. Lisbon sews for her daughters, the film never strays from its setting. Cinematographer Ed Lachman uses quick close-up glimpses of the girls in an amber glow, dreamlike sequences and mirages that blend reality with imagination to

make a seamless film. The deaths are jarring without offering an explicit look at the aftermath. With an original score by Air and a soundtrack packed with Todd Rundgren and Heart, "The Virgin Suicides" transforms Jeffrey Eugenides' novel of the same name into a hauntingly beautiful film bound to be remembered come Oscar time.

'Gladiator' recreates ancient Rome

BY JON KATZ
SPECIAL WRITER

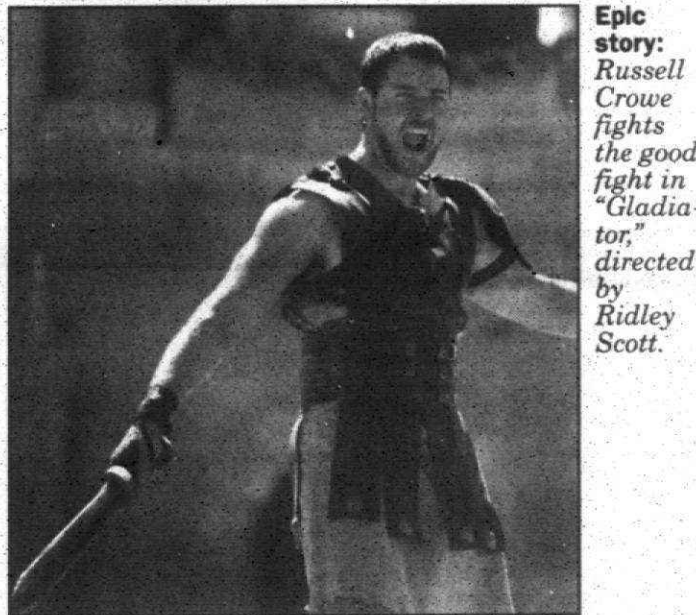
The Roman Empire, circa A.D. 180, was apparently run less like an empire and more like a family business. Sort of a Caesar and Son Inc.

"Gladiator," an epic on a scale rarely seen in four decades, is at its core the story of Son being passed over in favor of the hired help. Put into local perspective, imagine if Richard Golden had been told by his father that one of the optometrists, not him, was going to take over D.O.C.

"You are the son I should have had," aging Emperor Marcus Aurelius (Richard Harris) tells General Maximus (Russell Crowe). When spoiled and cowardly Commodus (Joaquin Phoenix) gets wind of Pater's plan, he does the old man in and comes his way onto the throne, ordering the execution of Maximus, his wife and son. Escaping his assassins, Maximus is caught by slavers and shipped to a training school for gladiators. There he vows to return to Rome, take his revenge on Commodus and fulfill Aurelius' dream of restoring the empire to the will of the people.

Lifting whole chapters from "Spartacus" and "Ben-Hur," "Gladiator" is nevertheless a major league legend of its own, thanks to bravura performances by Crowe and Phoenix and "Titanic"-like direction by Ridley Scott.

With computer graphic imaging, the kind that gave us the Titanic and its 2000 passengers and crew, "Gladiator" rebu



Epic story: Russell Crowe fights the good fight in "Gladiator," directed by Ridley Scott.

ancient Rome and put 35,000 cheering citizens into the Colosseum. Chilling overhead shots of the city give one the feeling of being in a helicopter time machine.

Yet for all its bigness, New Zealander Russell Crowe ("The Insider") fills his armor with a hero's heart and the physique to go with it. His Maximus is a family man, he doesn't seek the power offered to him, asking only to return home after years of war. Put a sword in his hand, however, and heads will roll along with a plethora of other body parts.

Crowe is a sensational champion and a worthy successor not only to Aurelius but to Charlton Heston and Kirk Douglas as

well. Commodus, meanwhile, is afraid of the dark and loses to his older sister Lucilla (Connie Nielsen). In some respects his scenes with sis are grosser than the bloodletting on the battlefield. Phoenix ("8MM") makes an appropriately oily heir apparent, according to vox populi when it suits his grand purpose.

In his final screen role, the late Oliver Reed plays the sympathetic gladiator procurer, the same role and with some shamelessly similar lines for which Peter Ustinov won an Oscar in "Spartacus." Reed died weeks before the end of shooting.

"Gladiator" is rated R for its graphic fight scenes.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, May 12

THE BFG KAHUNA
Contemporary drama tells of life on the road. Three determined industrial lubricant salesmen. Try to land the largest account of their lives, but only one is invited to a key convention where they can make their move. Stars Kevin Spacey, Danny DeVito and Peter Facinelli.

BATTLEFIELD EARTH
Adaptation of Ron Hubbard's sci-fi novel in which 10-foot aliens have taken over the world and forced humans to live underground. Stars John Travolta as the alien overlord of the conquered Earth.

HAMLET
Ethan Hawke plays a brooding filmmaker and heir to the Denmark Corporation in this modern version of the Shakespearean tragedy set in New York City.

HUMAN TRAFFIC
British reeve comedy about five friends who spend an intense weekend partying. Stars John Simm, Shaun Parkes, Danny Dyer, Nicola Reynolds and Andrew Lincoln. Written and directed by Justin Kerrigan.

EDISON THE MAN
1899 silent classic starring Spencer Tracy and Rita Johnson will be shown at the Historic Redford Theatre May 12-13.

THE LAST SEPTEMBER
Set in 1920s, a poetic portrait of the final days of British rule in Ireland. Stars Maggie Smith, Michael Gambon, Keely Hawes, David Tennant and Jane Birkin.

HELLO UP
Comedy stars Jamie Foxx and Nia Long as a couple enjoying their vacation through the Grand Canyon State. Foxx's bad luck begins when his fiancée leaves, his car is stolen and he's taken hostage at a convenience store. Also stars Barry Corbin, John Cullum, Jake Busey and Sarah Paulson.

SCREWED
Norm MacDonald is a disgruntled, underappreciated chauffeur who seeks revenge on his boss, along with help from his friend, David Chappelle. The foot-pool plan, kidnapping his boss' dog for ransom, backfires in their face—leaving his boss under the impression that her chauffeur has been kidnapped, rather than her dog.

EDISON THE MAN
1899 silent classic starring Spencer Tracy and Rita Johnson will be shown at the Historic Redford Theatre May 12-13.

Spring inspires art and music from the heart in Detroit

BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

of spring. It's a season that fosters meaningful reflection on important issues—such as the amount of time you spend stuck in your office.

Most of us are in a constant quest for the right balance of work, family, recreation and spirituality. When it seems that I'm doing a pretty lousy job of balancing all the things that matter to me, I usually find solace in the arts.

Maybe that's what photographer Russ Marshall had in mind when he drew upon his family's working class roots to document the evolution of labor and industry in an inspiring exhibit which runs through July 28 at the Henry Ford Community College gallery in Dearborn. This *Working Life* consists of stark black and white images that reflect his childhood memories of the coal

The first major event is the Greektown Festival, which runs from Friday-Sunday, May 19-21. It offers the finest in arts, food and music, with this year's bill featuring legendary rhythm and blues artist Sir Mack Rice.

mines near Pittsburgh and his more recent experiences in the auto plants of Detroit. Marshall's exhibit is made even more powerful by a series of working class poets who contribute works that accompany the photos.

The son of the late Michigan painter and alternative press co-

founder Ann Mikolowski has developed a unique tribute to his mother, who died last August. She left a treasure trove of canvases to Michael Mikolowski, who turned it into a heartfelt memorial by enlisting the talents of nearly 250 prominent artists who were friends and admirers of her work. On the next edition

of Detroit Public TV's *Backstage Pass*, airing at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 14, visual arts segment host Gerry Craig visits the Alley Culture Alternative Gallery to give viewers a look at this very moving remembrance and the loving story behind it.

Let's not forget the rejuvenating effect of experiencing the arts and the people-watching potential of the coming festival season. The first major event is the Greektown Festival, which runs from Friday-Sunday, May 19-21. It offers the finest in arts, food and music, with this year's bill featuring legendary rhythm and blues artist Sir Mack Rice, who also performs in the Detroit

Public TV studio for the May 14 episode of *Backstage Pass*.

I've been impressed with the growth of the Greektown Festival over its 10-year history. The pleasure of being part of such a community event is difficult to describe, but we know when we feel it, don't we?

If it has been years since you've been in the area, you'll be amazed at all that is new in downtown Detroit. It is uplifting to see the activity in the Greektown area, especially compared to a decade ago. Since it's a prime season for reflection, pause to imagine where we can be ten years from now.

SOUNDING OFF

MP4: DAYS SINCE A LOST TIME ACCIDENT

Michael Penn

Epic Records

Though *Lucky One*, the initial song on Michael Penn's latest album, might give the impression that his fourth release is merely a collection of overproduced pop drivel, nothing could be further from reality.

The satcharin lead—which, incidentally, is the only tune on *MP4: Days Since a Lost Time Accident* that Penn didn't produce—has some intriguing chord shifts, but the deeper tracks are what will satisfy fans of this wry songwriter.

Lately, it's been Penn's wife, Aimee Mann, who's taken the limelight, having received an Academy Award nomination for *Save Me* from her *Magnolia* soundtrack.

But with *MP4*, Sean's older brother shows that he can carve out intelligent lyrics and passionate observations while keeping within the confines of the four-minute pop song. His tunes seem perfectly formatted for mass radio play, and yet, except for his hit single *No Myth* with its winsome refrain, "What if I

were Romeo in black jeans," Penn's work gets little notice. His first two albums, *March* and *Free-For-All* aren't even in print. Perhaps *MP4* will change that. In *High Time*, Penn's hard-edged guitar punctuates his classic turns of phrase ("You've done bereaved and been bereft enough") as he resonates about heady life choices. Over-indulgent in *Perfect Candidate*, masks Penn's natural ability to enhance quirky lyrics with his low voice that easily swoops to falsetto, but he is still a master of sly narration. One can speculate that *Bucket Brigade*, the album's final cut, offers an example of what music would be like if Warren Zevon had been the fifth Beatle.

Bleak and haunting, yet oddly upbeat, it exits—leaving the listener with a bittersweet longing, and a taste for more of Penn's distinctive sound.

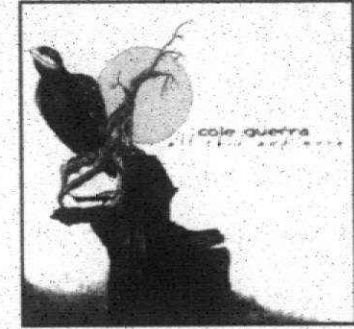
—ALICE RHEIN

ALL THIS AND MORE

Cole Guerra

Not Funny Records

This Southfield native headed to North Carolina, but his music never left us. On *All This and More* Cole Guerra gives a



glimpse of his East Coast state-of-mind through moody guitar work, delicate piano and his inspired words. With a little help from friends Jerry Kee on bass and drums, Mackie McKinney on bass, Guerra weaves this sentimental tapestry that sounds both autobiographical and all-too-familiar.

Songs like *Undone, You're Not Funny To Me*, and *Forever* are reminiscent of The Lemonheads on a sluggish day or perhaps early R.E.M. It's contagious music, the kind that spins around you with flecks of wit and heartfelt exasperation at love and life. *Believer* blends a beautiful arrangement of guitar and piano which holds a steady pace even as he sings, "And all she ever wanted was to see you around." Of course, he's not all weepy. *My Glass Mountain*

builds Guerra's conviction and aspirations. ("I will take my own way.")

But to experience Cole Guerra in his true element is to listen as he interacts with an audience—like a bunch of close friends—and watch him sing his heart out live. Guerra opened for Boston's The Push Stars on their last stop at Postle's 7th House. He's planning a visit back home this coming summer. Check out *All This and More* in the meantime, and welcome him back.

—STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA

COLOUR MOVING AND STILL

Chantal Kreviazuk

Columbia Records

The newest CD by the artist named Best Female Vocalist by Canada's prestigious Juno awards—over legendary singer Joni Mitchell, no less—has some interesting moments but is disappointing overall.

A beautiful pianist and stunning voice are the best features of Chantal Kreviazuk's latest release *Colour Moving and Still* on Columbia records, but the lyrics, riddled with clichés, are uninspiring and sometimes dull. ("I was a train wreck waiting to

happen on the way to nowhere," from the song *Before You*).

Drawing obvious inspirations from Tori Amos and Sheryl Crow, *Colour Moving* takes listeners through the loneliness and heartache experienced by Kreviazuk, but the storytelling just doesn't provide anything that other angst-ridden vocalists haven't already accomplished.

Produced by Jay Joyce, *Colour Moving* does have its highlights with Kreviazuk's eerily beautiful voice, sweet piano and scattered spiritual, earthy rhythms. Still, much of the CD is too Tori Amos-like with not as much self-discovery.

It is an exploration of the soul, the liner notes of the CD read. And, for what it's worth, the lyrics and range of emotion by Kreviazuk seem at least honest. Kreviazuk does have a worthy message to her music. So much of today's society is geared toward an unattainable goal of youth, beauty and wealth. This album explores love, loss, hardships and all the experiences in life that I think are real, true," she writes.

Is it worth the purchase? Barely.

Interesting songs like *Souls*, *M*, and *Ever*, obviously inspired by personal and witnessed love and loss—the kind of songs anyone suffering hardships can



relate to at some point of their life—are comforting. It's refreshing that an artist who has earned honors is still writing and performing songs with heart.

Chantal Kreviazuk performs 8 p.m. Thursday, May 11, Majestic Theatre, Detroit. Call (313) 937-9700.

—LANA MINI

STAY TUNED...

Fresh off a 7-week North American tour that included opening dates with *No Doubt*, *The Suicide Machines* are welcoming a new addition—sort of. Singer Jason Navarro's wife, Sandra, gave birth to Adele Grace April 25 at Huron Valley Sinai Hospital in Commerce, Mich. Congratulations to the new mom and dad! The band's taking a short break from touring, but there will be no *Suicide Machine* shortage on the airwaves—Hollywood Records will release the second single off their self-titled album, *Permanent Holiday*. While life may feel like a permanent holiday for the band whose roots stretch back to Livonia. They'll be gracing

the main stage for this year's *Van's Warped Tour* soon enough. Then it's off to Europe next fall.

Speaking of hard-working bands, *The Workhorse Movement* is looking forward to a June 6 release of their album *Sons of the Pioneers*, on Roadrunner Records. Touring with Kittle, *The Workhorse Movement* performed last night at Harpo's. For those who missed it, the band will be back June 3 to play St. Andrews Hall with Factory 81.

Just signed to Mojo/Universal Music Group, Factory 81 is ready to celebrate and will release *Mankind* on the label this summer.

Speaking of summer, the heat is on for *The Brothers Groove* as Chris Codish, Mike Caskey and Jim Simonson pack for a performance at Toronto's North By Northeast Music Festival. The word so far is that the band will play 11 p.m. Thursday, June

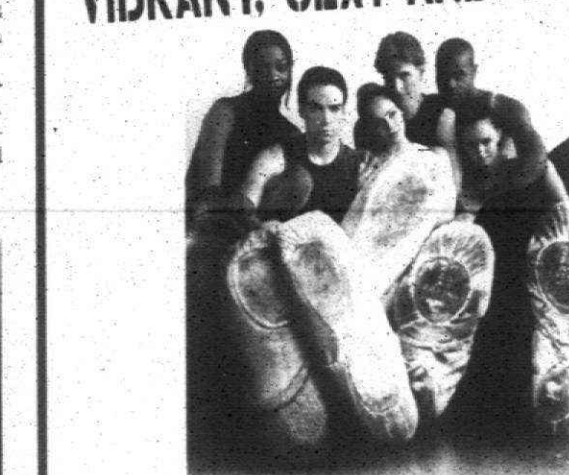
8, at Cafe Havana in the Canadian music capital. Fans of the groove can get together and caravan on down to show some support.

Those wacky guys who called themselves *The Neptunes* and then changed it to *The MoD*

Elevators just dropped the "s." Now they want us to call them *The MoD Elevator*. It's a good thing the band's music can stand alone, because keeping up with

all the name changes could become a full-time job. Ask the pop trio what'll be next when the band opens for *Versus* Friday, May 12, at Detroit's Gold Dollar.

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"A GREAT MOVIE THAT'S HARD TO RESIST!"

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"A GREAT MOVIE THAT'S HARD TO RESIST!"

DINING

Tango's Latin dishes 'bold, vibrant'

BY JOE BAUMAN
STAFF WRITER

JBAUMAN@OE.HOMECOMM.NET

Riding the wave of popularity of the Latin music scene, the Westin Hotel and Resort group has created a special Nuevo Latino menu being featured in all of its restaurants, including Tango's at the Westin Southfield-Detroit in Southfield.

Available through the end of May, the featured selections were created by Westin corporate executive chef Steve Peterson and consulting chef Mark Miller of the famed Coyote Cafe in Santa Fe, N.M., among others.

Local diners have been slow to warm up to the Nuevo Latino dishes, Tango's Executive Chef Siede Huschen said, but those willing to try something new have not been disappointed.

"The majority of our patrons are hotel guests who are looking for something safe, like a steak," said Huschen, who received his

What: Nuevo Latino celebration
Where: Tango's at the Westin Southfield-Detroit, located at Evergreen and the Lodge Freeway in Southfield
When: Through the end of May
Details: Call (248) 728-6558
Mother's Day Brunch - 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, May 14 in the hotel's Algonquin Ballroom. Cost (not including tax and gratuity) \$29.95 adults; \$14.95 children age 12 and younger. No charge for children under age 3. Every mom will receive a fresh long stemmed rose courtesy of The Westin. Buffet menu includes a carving station, choice of four entrees, breakfast station, salads, and desserts.

training in his native land of Germany before coming to the states 25 years ago. "The dishes offer a bold, vibrant flavor profile which are quite special."

Huschen took over as Tango's executive chef six weeks ago, after a five-year stint as executive chef at Cobo Hall. This is his second stint with the Westin group.

"At Cobo, the challenge was to prepare dinner for up to 10,000 guests," he said. "This restaurant allows much more flexibility in terms of what we can offer our

guests."

The brief Nuevo Latino menu offers several appetizers, including pork and plantain fritters, Chilean salmon ceviche with golden hominy and Ecuadorian shrimp and lobster ceviche.

Featured entrees include cumin-rubbed sea scallops with quinoa and fried plantains in a smoked barbecued mango sauce, and a spiced, seared strip steak with a mango mojo combining shallots, mango, garlic, orange and lime juice and spices.

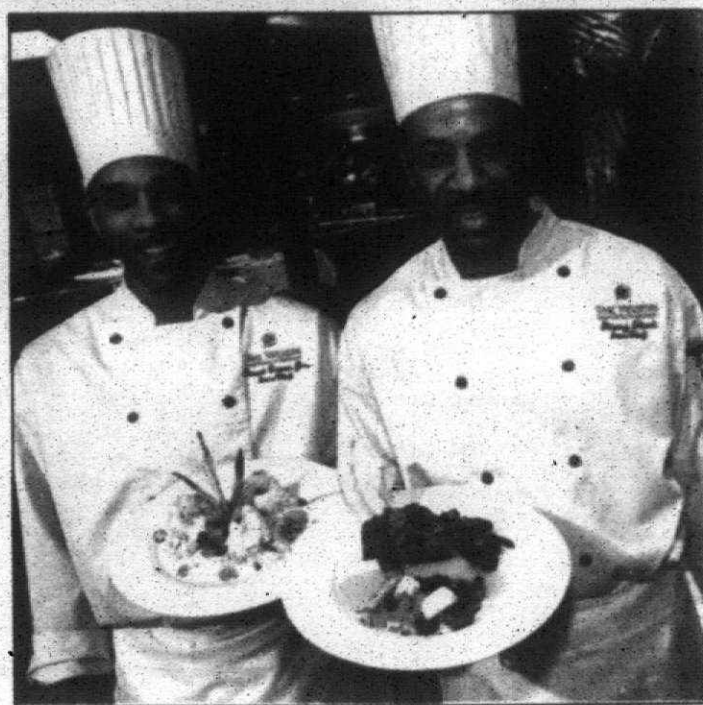
Highlighted desserts are a coconut pan dulce with cinnamon ice cream and a calabasa flan with fried plantain and ice cream.

The full-service bar is offering companion specialty drinks, including a suave margarita made with Cuervo 1800 tequila and Grand Marnier, and Fresco Nuevo, a combination of Kahlua, Grand Marnier, Cuervo tequila and cream, shaken and poured over ice.

A short list of Central and South American wines also are available by the glass.

Huschen said the Nuevo Latino theme is the first of a series of theme-menus that will be rotated throughout the year. The next one most likely will feature a North American theme, he said.

"We have a terrific kitchen staff that has worked very hard to present these authentic dishes," Huschen said. "We need more people to come out and try something new and special."



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLNISKY

Double your pleasure: Sous chefs Grant Green Jr. (left) and Stacey Short were specially trained to handle the restaurant's Nuevo Latino special menu.

Treat mom to brunch or dinner on her special day

BY RENÉE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER

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You've got the card and the flowers, but what about the dining reservations? With a bit of luck and some persuasive power, there are tables waiting.

"It's a tradition for lots of families," said Ann Barnes, reservation desk clerk, about Mother's Day at the Dearborn Inn. "The atmosphere is of old elegance. A lot of people like to dress. You feel special when you come here. We do go out of our way make holidays special."

Whether you and mom crave caviar at the Ritz Carlton, roast pork at the Dearborn Inn, wild game at Cousins Heritage Inn or a dozen desserts at Sweet Lorraine's, start dialing now.

The following restaurants are planning special menus and extra touches for Mother's Day:

Elegant

Dearborn Inn - 20301 Oakwood Boulevard (between Southfield Expressway and Michigan Avenue), Dearborn, (313) 271-2700. Serving in three restaurants: The Early American Room buffet plus entrée 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., adults \$35; children 6-12 \$17.50, children 5 and under free. The Dearborn Ballroom grand buffet plus entrée 1 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., adults \$32.50, children 6-12 \$16.25, children five and under free. The Ten Eyck Tavern entrées \$13.95-\$20.95. Limited reservations.

Hyatt Regency - 18600 Michigan Avenue (near Southfield Expressway), Dearborn, (313) 982-6830. Serving 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in two restaurants: Julio's, champagne brunch, adults \$34.95, children 4-12 \$16.95, children 3 and under free. Kafay's Place, brunch, adults \$27.95, children 4-12 \$13.95, children 3 and under free.

Brunch (breakfast, lunch and dinner fare) will be served in multiple stations throughout the restaurants. Call ASAP for reservations. Note: Julio's is booked until 2:30 p.m.

Ritz Carlton - 300 Town Center, Fairlane Plaza, Dearborn, (313) 441-2000. Buffet (including caviar, seven hot entrees and waffle and omelet stations) 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Presidential Ballroom, adults \$60, children 5-10 \$19, children under 5 free.

Reservations are currently filled; however, inquire about cancellations or unconfirmed reservations.

Cousins Heritage Inn - 7954 Ann Arbor Street, Dexter (Bakers Street exit 167 off I-94), (734) 426-3020. Entrees include fish, meats, poultry and game's (most likely antelope for Mother's Day) and soups. Everything home-made. All meals come with house salad, vegetable and starch, \$18-\$27. Seating at 1 p.m., 3-3:30 p.m. and 5:30-6 p.m.

This is white linen and candles dining in a restored 1855 house with elegantly wallpapered rooms. The restaurant was rated fourth best in Michigan in 1999 by readers of *Gourmet Magazine*. Reservations ASAP.

Upscale

Mackinnon's Restaurant - 126 East Main Street, downtown Northville, (248) 348-9470. Special Mother's Day dinner menu

served 1-5 p.m. \$18.95-\$28.95. Reservations appreciated.

Novi Hilton - 21111 Haggerty Road (off 8 Mile at I-275), Livonia, (248) 349-4000. Brunch with 30 hot and cold items (including prime rib and rack of lamb) 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom and Davinci's Restaurant; adults \$27.95, seniors \$25.95, children 6-12 \$14.95, children 5 and under free. Reservations ASAP.

Cafe Cortina - 30715 W. 10 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, (248) 474-3033. Seatings at 2, 4:30 and 7 p.m. Adult average menu price \$24; no children's menu, but staff will accommodate.

Ernesto's - 41661 Plymouth Road, Plymouth, (734) 453-2002. Brunch served 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m.; adults brunch \$18.95, children 6-10 \$8.95, children under 5 free. Adult dinner \$20.95.

Hawthorne Valley Country Club - 7300 Merriman Road (between Ann Arbor Trail and

Warren), Westland, (734) 422-3440. Breakfast 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Adults \$14.95, children 3-8 \$8.95, children under 3 free. Reservations still available.

Family friendly

Sweet Lorraine's at the Livonia Marriott - 17100 N. Laurel Park Drive, Livonia. Buffet 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; adults \$10.95, children 5-12 \$5.50, children 4 and under free. Regular menu also available: breakfast 7-11 a.m., lunch 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., dinner 4-11 p.m. Call (734) 953-7480.

Another buffet will be served in the hotel foyer 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. that includes the Sweet Lorraine's buffet plus roast beef with red wine or horseradish sauce, roast turkey, stuffed sole, chicken and mushrooms, etc., etc. Adults \$25.95, children 5-12 \$12.95, children under 5 free. Call (734) 462-3100.

Weber's Inn - 3050 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor (take exit 172 off I-94, turn left at light), (734) 769-2500. Buffet in ballroom 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and in dining room 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Adults \$15.95, children \$8.95. Reservations going quickly.

Marvin's Bistro - 15800 Middlebelt, Livonia, (734) 522-5600. Special Mother's Day menu includes prime rib, New York steaks, Marvin's stuffed filet, king crab legs, lobster tails and much more. Priced \$14.95-\$25.95. Entertainment by Wally Bilbison & Co. 3-7 p.m. All-mother's receive a flower.

Italian-American Club of Livonia - 39200 W. Five Mile Road, Livonia, (734) 953-9724. Family-style Mother's Day luncheon (beer, wine, pop included) 12:30-3:30 p.m. Member adults \$20, non-member adults \$25, children 6-12 \$10, children 0-3 free. Reservation deadline May 11. No tickets sold at door.

Summit on the Park - 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, (734) 397-6800. Mother's Day brunch 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. includes salads, meats, breakfast foods, luncheon buffet and a sweet table. Adults \$19.95, children 4-12 \$11.95, children 3 and under free. Reservations ASAP.

Corsi's - 27910 W. Seven Mile Road (between Inkster and Middlebelt), Livonia, (248) 777-4960. Mother's Day buffet includes pasta, meats, pizzas, soups, salads, desserts and much more. Adults \$13.95, seniors \$13, under 10 years \$9.95. Reservations please.

Farwell and Friends - 8051 Middlebelt (between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail), Livonia, (734) 421-6990. Serving mothers noon-9 p.m. Friendly atmosphere and friendly prices. Reservations appreciated.

Jack Dunleavy's Grill - 340 N. Main Street, Plymouth, (734) 455-3700. Mother's Day brunch includes ham, prime rib, turkey,


salmon, pasta and a zillion breakfast and dessert goodies. Adults \$19.95, children 5-12 \$9.95. Reservations appreciated.

Something different

The Century Club Restaurant in the Gem Theatre - 333 Madison Avenue, Detroit (near Fox Theatre on Woodward Avenue). A la carte Mother's Day brunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 3-6 p.m., \$7.50-\$11. Entertainment; "Escanaba in the Moonlight" shown 2 p.m. at \$29.50 and 6 p.m. at \$24.50. "Always ... Patsy Cline" shown 1:30 p.m. at \$29.50 and 5:30 p.m. at \$24.50. Call (313) 963-9000 for tickets and reservations.

Fox Creek Golf Course - 36000 Seven Mile Road, Livonia, (248) 471-3400. Mother's Day Golf & Dinner, nine holes with cart, shot-gun start 11:30 a.m., and buffet dinner (chicken, Italian sausage, broasted potatoes, etc.) \$25. Reservations available. Call ASAP.

MOTHERS DAY GOLF & DINNER



Sunday, May 14th

- 9 Holes with Cart
- Shot-gun Start (11:30a.m.)
- Buffet Dinner

\$25.00 per person

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Every Saturday Nite

Starting June 2nd

- 9 Holes with Cart
- Steak Dinner
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\$25.00 per person

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Sunday, May 14th

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• 8 oz. N.Y. Strip Steak and 4 Shrimp	\$15.95
• 8 oz. Prime Rib and 4 Shrimp	\$15.95
• 12 oz. Prime Rib	\$15.95
• 12 oz. N.Y. Strip Steak	\$15.95
• Veal Marsala over Fettuccine Noodles	\$13.95
• 8 oz. Prime Rib	\$12.95
• Whitefish with Rice	\$11.95
• Chicken Marsala with Fettuccine Noodles	\$11.95

All dinners include fresh baby carrots, garlic bread and baked potato (rice or pasta if indicated)

Child's Spaghetti **\$4.95**

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9 OZ. NY STRIP STEAK

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